



# INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES

## FEBRUARY 2017

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### Wednesday, February 1, 2017

#### **7:30 a.m. Hike – Discover the Hidden Treasures of the Palm Canyon Trail 2.5 Hours**

Life is everywhere in the desert – if you know where to look. Join Volunteer Naturalist Terry Hunefeld for a moderate 2-hour amble up part of Palm Canyon Trail. This “explore & discover” hike won’t make it all the way to the palm oasis, but you’ll have the option to continue on your own. We’ll look for desert birds, bighorn sheep and signs left by mammals, reptiles and insects. Bring binoculars and cameras if you have them – and, of course, water, hat, sunscreen and hiking footwear. Meet at the Palm Canyon Trailhead.

### Thursday, February 2, 2017

#### **9:00 a.m. Hike – Inside Truckhaven Rocks 3 Hours**

Join Volunteer Naturalists Mary Ekelund and Paul Larson for a moderate 3-mile hike up a wash into Truckhaven Rocks to a sandstone formation 4-5 million years old. These rocks are formed from sediments derived from local rock, are steeply tilted to the north, and have been called the “Swiss cheese” of our local desert. At one point we can climb up one of these tilted slabs for a great view. Bring water, snack, hat, and sturdy hiking shoes. Meet at the half-circle parking area at Mile Marker 36.2 on Highway S-22 heading East to the Salton Sea.

#### **10:00 a.m. Walk ♿ – Notice and Wonder 1.5 Hours**

Join Park Interpreters Regina Reiter and Aleese Golding to explore Nature journaling. We’ll observe the desert closely and record what we experience with very basic techniques of writing, drawing, and painting to focus on what we notice and what we wonder. No artistic ability required! Bring your own journal or use ours. Be prepared with water, sunhat, sunscreen. Lawn chair optional.

#### **1:30 p.m. Walk ♿ - Roving Naturalist in the Visitor Center Garden 1 Hour**

Find Volunteer Naturalist Terry Hunefeld (in his volunteer vest) somewhere in the garden to look for insects, mammals, reptiles and plants and explore their unique adaptations to life in the desert. Bring binoculars if you have them – and water, hat & sunscreen.

### Friday, February 3, 2017

#### **8:00 a.m. Hike – Plum Canyon 4.5 Hours**

Join Volunteer Naturalist Ann Keenan on a moderate 4 mile hike up Plum Canyon. We will enjoy a variety of plants, rocks and bends as we hike to a spectacular overlook. Wear boots, carry water, and bring lunch. Meet at 8:00 a.m. in the upper parking lot of the Visitor Center. From there we will carpool to the trailhead. Limited to 10 participants. Sign-up in advance at the Visitor Center.

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### Friday, February 3, 2017 (continued)

#### 1:00 p.m. Walk – Those Mysterious Holes

1 Hour

What animal built those holes along the trail? Who made those tracks? What other clues can we find to the plentiful life in ABDSP? Join Volunteer Naturalist Terry Hunefeld and get ready to do some detective sleuthing on an easy stroll around the Visitor Center gardens to see what we can see. Bring water, hat & sunscreen. Meet in front of the Visitor Center.

#### 6:00 p.m. Talk –An Introduction to Tracking I

2 Hours

Wildlife Survey Volunteer Training. If you've always wanted to learn more about identifying wildlife in San Diego County, then this is your chance! This FREE class prepares you to participate in San Diego Tracking Team (SDTT) surveys that monitor the wildlife in major space preserves and other critical areas. Our emphasis in this training will be the animals of our desert area. You will learn about basic track and scat identification, animal gaits, habitat fragmentation, survey transects, data collection protocols and conservation. At the end of the class, you will be able to sign up to join experienced trackers on some of SDTT's wildlife surveys throughout the San Diego area. Saturday morning we will go into the field (see Saturday, February 4). Get more information and sign up at the Visitor Center. For questions, please contact: Donna Ghosh: 858-342-7437; [donnaghosh@gmail.com](mailto:donnaghosh@gmail.com); or Beth Shugan: 760-767-5692; [bshugan@gmail.com](mailto:bshugan@gmail.com)

### Friday-Saturday, February 3-4, 2017

#### Education Program—Anza-Borrego *In Focus*: Earthquakes in Borrego Valley 2 days



Join ABF and Dr. Jamison Steidl for a lecture and field tour that will focus on both local earthquakes and faults in and around the Borrego Valley, as well as provide a more global view of earthquake myths and hazards in light of recent earthquake disasters. The field trip will be an introduction to earthquake monitoring in the internet age and a visit to the UCSB Borrego Valley Seismic Station and walk to view Lute Fault, at the base of the Santa Rosa Mountains. Talk is at 7:30 pm Friday at the Steele/Burnand Anza-Borrego Desert Research Center, 401 Tilting T Dr, Borrego Springs; \$5 at the door. Open to the public. For both the talk and Saturday field trip, \$60 Public / \$50 ABF Members, visit [www.theABF.org/events](http://www.theABF.org/events) or call 760-767-0446 ext 1004 for more information and to register.

### Saturday, February 4, 2017


#### 8:00 a.m. Walk – Bird Walk

1.5 Hours



Join Volunteer Naturalist Ann Keenan for a walk around the Visitor Center vicinity looking for the common birds of our desert. All birding levels welcome. Meet in the Visitor Center parking lot. Please bring binoculars. Rain cancels.

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### Saturday, February 4, 2017 (continued)

#### 8:00 a.m. Walk —Introduction to Tracking II 4 Hours

This is the second part of the Wildlife Survey Volunteer Training. We will go into the field looking for tracks and scat and other sign of animals. Meet at the Visitor Center. Get more information and sign up at the Visitor Center. For questions, please contact: Donna Ghosh: 858-342-7437; donnaghosh@gmail.com; or Beth Shugan: 760-767-5692; bshugan@gmail.com

#### 2:00 p.m. ♿ – Junior Rangers 1 Hour

Special program for children ages 7-12 only. Discover secrets of the desert environment. Sign up at the Visitor Center as space is limited.

#### 6:00 p.m. – Photo Contest Opening Reception at Borrego Art Institute 2 hours



Join ABF and Borrego Art Institute for the Opening Reception of the Anza-Borrego Desert Photo Contest Gallery Display. See the photographs your fellow desert adventurers have taken here in Anza-Borrego Desert State Park, and vote for the People's Choice! Free and open to the public. Located at Borrego Art Institute, 665 Palm Canyon Drive, Borrego Springs, CA 92004.

#### 7:00 p.m. Campfire ♿– Animal Songs 1 Hour

Join Park Interpretive Specialist Regina Reiter for a lighthearted look at the sounds some of the Park animals make. You'll leave this interactive program with new appreciation for the animals and a song in your heart! Meet at the Borrego Palm Canyon Campfire Center.

### Sunday, February 5, 2017

#### 9:00 a.m. Hike - Roving Naturalist in Borrego Palm Canyon 3 Hours

Volunteer Naturalist Bonnie Clapp will be roaming the Borrego Palm Canyon Trail searching for bighorn sheep and other interesting features along the trail. Look for her as you hike to the palm oasis. This is not a guided hike.

#### 1:00 p.m. Talk – Coffee with a Ranger 1 Hour

Join the only CA State Park pilot, Ranger Josh, for a special presentation about his responsibilities and see the Park's plane up close. The program will be conducted at the Borrego Springs Airport. Meet him at the airport office.



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### Monday, February 6, 2017

#### 2:30 p.m. Hike – Stroll into the Sunset Wash

**3 Hours**

Sunset Wash is a picturesque example of the canyons that drain out of the Vallecito Mountains. Come join Volunteer Naturalist Ted Caragozian for a moderately-paced 3-mile exploration over somewhat rocky terrain. Meet at the entrance to Nude Wash, off Highway 78, about 0.25 mile east of call box 78-822 and just west of the road sign listing the mileage to Ocotillo Wells.

### Tuesday, February 7, 2017

#### 8:30 a.m. Hike – Weekly Members Hike

**3.5 Hours**



Meet at the State Park Store in the Mall. Join ABF for our weekly member hikes. Led by Park Rangers, retired Park Rangers, and various Park enthusiasts, these hikes take you to little-known but easily accessible spots throughout the northern area of the Park as a free perk for ABF members. Not a member? Ask about joining at the Visitor Center or State Park Store. For more information, visit [www.theabf.org/2017-member-hikes](http://www.theabf.org/2017-member-hikes) or call 760-767-0446 ext. 1003. No registration required.

#### 8:30 a.m. Hike – Elephant Tree Safari

**3 Hours**

The Elephant Tree, which is common south of the border, is rarely found in California. The largest “herd” resides in Alma Wash in Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. Come join Volunteer Naturalist Ted Caragozian for a moderate, somewhat rocky, 3-mile ramble to observe the Elephant Tree in its natural, alluvial-fan habitat. Meet at the Elephant Trees Trail parking area off Split Mountain Road. Participants without 4WD, high-clearance vehicles can park below the trailhead and walk the rest of the way up the one-mile dirt road.

#### 3:30 p.m. Hike – Sunset over the Mescal Bajada

**2 Hours**

Join State Park Volunteer Naturalist Terry Hunefeld for a moderate 2-mile round trip amble to the Bill Keyon Overlook featuring an enormous view across the Mescal Bajada toward Sunset Mountain (which can put on a colorful display near sunset). Bring binoculars and cameras if you have them – and water, hat, hiking shoes & sunscreen. Meet at the Yaqui Pass Campground on Highway S-3, one mile North of Tamarisk Grove Campground.

### Wednesday, February 8, 2017

#### 8:30 Hike – Little Surprise Canyon

**2 Hours**

Zigzag up Little Surprise Canyon with Volunteer Naturalist Kathy Bussey. Scramble past that huge boulder, hike up and down pebbly slopes. Reward: great views! 2 miles, moderately strenuous. Meet at the Hellhole Canyon parking lot off Highway S-22.

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# INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES

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## Wednesday, February 8, 2017 (continued)

### 10:00 a.m. Walk ♿ – Notice and Wonder

**1.5 Hours**

Join Park Interpreters Regina Reiter and Aleese Golding to explore Nature journaling. We'll observe the desert closely and record what we experience with very basic techniques of writing, drawing, and painting to focus on what we notice and what we wonder. No artistic ability required! Bring your own journal or use ours. Be prepared with water, sunhat, sunscreen. Lawn chair optional.

### 1:30 p.m. Talk ♿ – Cosmic Recycling: Geological Highlights of Anza-Borrego 1 Hour

Southern California has a rich and varied geological history. Volunteer Naturalist Ted Caragozian will relate some of the fascinating local lore and how it ties into the larger picture. Meet in the Discovery Lab at the Visitor Center.

### 3:00 p.m. Walk ♿ – Desert Scents

**1 Hour**

Enjoy an easy stroll through the visitor center garden with Volunteer Naturalist Ingrid Coffin. Use your senses on this plant exploration program that meets at the Visitor Center entrance.

### 3:30p.m. Hike – Sunset/Moonlight Hike

**5 Hours**

Join Volunteer Naturalist Ted Caragozian for a desert hike to enjoy the sunset over the mountains and return under the nearly full moon to get a different perspective of the desert at a surprise location. Bring warm clothes and a flashlight (to be used only if necessary). We will cover as much as six miles and the daylight portion will involve walking over uneven ground. Limited to 15 participants – please sign-up at the Visitor Center and include your phone number to receive meeting details.

### 5:00 p.m. Walk ♿ – Let's Be "Crepuscular"!

**1 Hour**

You probably know "Nocturnal", maybe even "Diurnal" animals. Walk with Regina Reiter, Park Interpretive Specialist, near the Visitor Center at dusk to explore the fascinating and surprisingly active hour between the day and the night. Meet in front of the Visitor Center.

## Thursday, February 9, 2017

### 9:00 a.m. Hike – Harper Flat

**3.5 Hours**

Join Volunteer Naturalists Paul Larson and Mary Ekelund on a moderate 3-mile hike up Pinyon Wash to Harper Flat. There will a few large boulders to negotiate at the beginning of the hike, but the wash provides enough water to support many beautiful desert plants. Meet at the intersection of Pinyon Wash and Highway 78 in order to carpool in 4WD vehicles for a few miles back to the trailhead.

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## Friday, February 10, 2017

### 9:00 a.m. Hike - Roving Naturalist in Borrego Palm Canyon

**3 Hours**

Volunteer Naturalist Celeste Doughty will be roaming the Borrego Palm Canyon Trail searching for bighorn sheep and other interesting features along the trail. Look for her as you hike to the palm oasis. This is not a guided hike.

### 10:00 a.m. Talk ♿ – Paleontology Lecture

**2 Hours**

Join the Paleontology Society for their monthly lecture in the Visitor Center Discovery Lab. Dr. Monte Marshall, SDSU Professor Emeritus, Geological Sciences will talk about *The Geologic Evolution of the Gulf of California, the Salton Trough and the San Andreas Fault System*. Open to the public.

## Saturday, February 11, 2017

### 9:00 a.m. Social Hike – Hikes & Hops in Canyon Sin Nombre

**4 Hours**

Join ABF Education & Outreach Coordinator Ashley Kvitek for an explorative hike in the Park! This five-mile route will lead us through Canyon Sin Nombre in the southern area of Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. Breathtaking and colorful rock formations will be coupled with an adventure into a slot canyon before we head back to the cars. \$20 Public / \$15 ABF Members. Visit [www.theabf.org/events](http://www.theabf.org/events) or call Ashley for more details and to register: 760-767-0446 ext 1003.

### 9:00 a.m. Hike – Cool Canyon

**4 Hours**

Join Volunteer Naturalists Brian and Susie Jones on a strenuous 3-mile round trip hike up Cool Canyon. We'll hike up some dry waterfalls in the higher country where the flora is different from that of the desert floor and observe some of the lizards that live there. Meet at the intersection of Highway S-2 and the first dirt road to the west, just south of the Anza-Borrego Desert State Park boundary sign beyond Shelter Valley. Driving time is about 45 minutes from the Visitor Center, and 4WD is not required. Hike is limited to 15 people; *please sign up at the Visitor Center*. Bring water, hat, snacks, and sturdy hiking shoes. Hiking sticks are optional. Rain cancels.

### 9:00 a.m. Walk - Pictograph Trail

**2.5 Hours**

Join Volunteer Naturalist Judy Stewart on a moderate 3-mile round trip hike through a beautiful desert valley to a panoramic overlook. Along the way, we will look at a large rock that displays fragile artwork from hundreds of years ago. This is one of the rare cultural sites that is accessible to the public. We will also experience beautiful views from the dry fall at the end of Smuggler Canyon. We will meet at 9am at the entrance to the Blair Valley primitive camp, off Highway S2, near milemarker 23, at the Butterfield Stage sign. We will then drive to the trailhead. Bring water, hat, sunscreen and comfortable walking shoes. *Suggestion: Stay for the Morteros Trail walk at noon.*

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### Saturday, February 11, 2017 (continued)

**10:00 a.m. Ranger Auto Tour – Mud Caves** **2 Hours**

Join Ranger Don for a 4WD auto tour of the Vallecito Creek and Arroyo Tapiado area. 4WD is required. Meet him at the Mountain Palm Springs Primitive Campground at milemarker 47 on Highway S2, about an hour south of the Visitor Center. **Rescheduled for February 26.**

**12:00 p.m. Hike–Discovering the Archaeological History of the ‘Ehmuu Morteros** **2Hrs**

Discover the hidden secrets of an ancient Kumeyaay Native American village site. Join Volunteer Archaeologist and Naturalist Sam Webb to explore both rock art and historic milling features. This 1.5 mile hike is over uneven terrain. Be sure to bring the usual water, hat, and sturdy footwear. Meet at the Morteros trailhead in Blair Valley, about 3 miles off Highway S-2 on a dirt road (turn into Blair Valley near Mile Marker 23).

**2:00 p.m. ♿ – Junior Rangers** **1 Hour**

Special program for children ages 7-12 only. Discover secrets of the desert environment. Sign up at the Visitor Center as space is limited.

**3:00 p.m. Walk ♿ – Those Amazing Desert Plants!** **1 Hour**

Explore the Visitor Center garden with Park Interpreter Sally Theriault and discover some of the unique strategies that help plants survive here. Meet in front of the Visitor Center.

**5:00 p.m. Talk ♿ – Moon Features Come Alive** **1 Hour**

Come inside the Visitor Center for a demonstration of the reason we see the shape of the moon change each month and learn about the features that make the “Man in the Moon.” Join Park Interpretive Specialist Regina Reiter for this interactive program in the Visitor Center Discovery Lab.

**6:00 p.m. Talk ♿ – The Moon Rises!** **1 Hour**

Watch the sky during the hour of the Moon’s rising. Bring out your lawn chair, binoculars and a red-filtered flashlight and meet on the Visitor Center Roof, the “Bridge”, for star and moon gazing. Dress warmly for welcoming this month’s moon.

**7:00 p.m. Evening Ranger Program ♿ – Getting the “Bad” Out of the Badlands** **1 Hr**

Join Ranger Mike *at the Bow Willow Primitive Camp* for an evening campfire program to explore the Badlands. Find out why the Badlands aren’t so bad. Accessible by 2WD.

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### Sunday, February 12, 2017

#### 9:00 a.m. Hike – Roving Naturalist in Borrego Palm Canyon

**3 Hours**

Volunteer Naturalist Bonnie Clapp will be roaming the Borrego Palm Canyon Trail searching for bighorn sheep and other interesting features along the trail. Look for her in her volunteer vest as you hike to the palm oasis. This is not a guided hike.

#### 10:00 a.m. Ranger Hike – Walking Phantom Trails

**1 Hour**

Join Ranger Heidi for a hike into the Mine Wash Village Site to learn about the intertwining history of the people of the Park. Meet her at the Mine Wash Village Site about a mile up Mine Wash Road from the intersection with Highway #78. 4WD is not required.

#### 11:00 a.m. Talk ♿ – Coyote: Song-Dog or Trickster?

**1 Hour**

Have you heard them at night? Have you seen them? They're in the park... and in town, too. Native Americans admired them for their crafty intelligence & stealth – thus their legends about “The Trickster.” How much do you really know about these ghostly creatures? Join Volunteer Naturalist Terry Hunefeld as we look at the good, the bad and the ugly and sort out fact from fiction about these amazing wild animals. Meet in the Discovery Lab at the Visitor Center.

#### 1:00 p.m. Walk ♿ – Those Amazing Desert Plants!

**1 Hour**

Explore the Visitor Center garden with Park Interpreter Sally Theriault and discover some of the unique strategies that help plants survive here. Meet in front of the Visitor Center.

### Monday, February 13, 2017

#### 9:00 a.m. Hike – Coachwhip Canyon

**3 Hours**

Experience a natural desert setting to a vista of the valley with Volunteer Naturalists Marie & Lee Holly and Dan Jellis. Meet at the trailhead of Coachwhip Wash at mile marker 34.8 on S22 to carpool due to limited parking. Bring at least 2 liters of water, a hat, snacks, hiking sticks (optional) and wear sturdy shoes.

#### 10:00 a.m. Botany Talk ♿ – Desert Extremes

**1 Hour**

Join the Botany Society for their monthly public lecture. Daniel Winkler, Graduate student at the University of Irvine. He will present the results of his thesis work on Desert Extremes and Plant Communities out of Balance. Meet in the Visitor Center Discovery Lab. Open to the public.

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## Tuesday, February 14, 2017

### 8:30 a.m. Hike – Weekly Members Hike

**3.5 Hours**



Meet at the State Park Store in the Mall. Join ABF for our weekly member hikes. Led by Park Rangers, retired Park Rangers, and various Park enthusiasts, these hikes take you to little-known but easily accessible spots throughout the northern area of the Park as a free perk for ABF members. Not a member? Ask about joining at the Visitor Center or State Park Store. For more information, visit [www.theabf.org/2017-member-hikes](http://www.theabf.org/2017-member-hikes) or call 760-767-0446 ext. 1003. No advance registration required.

### 11:00 a.m. Hike - Roving Naturalist in Borrego Palm Canyon

**3 Hours**

This is not a guided hike. Volunteer Naturalist Aleese Golding will be roaming the Borrego Palm Canyon Alternate Trail searching for bighorn sheep and other interesting features. Look for her in her volunteer vest and join in her exploration.

## Wednesday, February 15, 2017

### 7:30 a.m. Hike – Discover the Hidden Treasures of the Palm Canyon Trail

**2.5 Hours**

Life is everywhere in the desert – if you know where to look. Join Volunteer Naturalist Terry Hunefeld for a moderate 2-hour amble up part of Palm Canyon Trail. This “explore & discover” hike won’t make it all the way to the palm oasis, but you’ll have the option to continue on your own. We’ll look for desert birds, bighorn sheep and signs left by mammals, reptiles and insects. Bring binoculars and cameras if you have them – and, of course, water, hat, sunscreen and hiking footwear. Meet at the Palm Canyon Trailhead. Day Use Fee is waived for this event.

## Thursday, February 16, 2017

### 9:00 a.m. Hike – Mine Wash Vista

**3 Hours**

Join Volunteer Naturalists Mary Ekelund and Paul Larson on a drive back into mine wash where we will continue on foot for a 4-mile roundtrip hike with ever-changing sights around each bend. We will need to climb a couple of 4-foot dry waterfalls on our way to a spectacular view of Shelter Valley. Be sure to bring the usual water, hat, and sturdy footwear. Meet at the beginning of Mine Wash Road, 2.7 miles east of the Tamarisk Grove intersection on Highway 78. Rated moderately strenuous.

### 10:00 a.m. Walk ♿ – Notice and Wonder

**1.5 Hours**

Join Park Interpreters Regina Reiter and Aleese Golding to explore Nature journaling. We’ll observe the desert closely and record what we experience with very basic techniques of writing, drawing, and painting to focus on what we notice and what we wonder. No artistic ability required! Bring your own journal or use ours. Be prepared with water, sunhat, sunscreen. Lawn chair optional.

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## Friday, February 17, 2017

### 8:00 a.m. Hike – Rainbow Canyon

**6 Hours**

Join Volunteer Naturalists Hank Barber and Ann Keenan for a strenuous hike up Rainbow Canyon. We will climb several colorfully banded dry waterfalls, experience early wildflowers, and lunch at an overlook into Blair Valley. Bring water, lunch and wear hiking boots. Meet in the outer area of the Visitor Center parking lot. Hike is limited to 12 people. Sign up at the Visitor Center.

### 8:30 a.m. Hike – Yaqui Well Loop

**2.5 Hours**

Discover desert diversity with Volunteer Naturalist Kathy Bussey on a moderate 2-mile hike along Yaqui Well Trail. Travel through a profusion of cacti, then dense mesquite thickets. Meet outside Tamarisk Grove Campground. Bring a hat and water, and wear sturdy shoes.

## Friday-Saturday, February 17-18, 2017

### Education Program--*Anza-Borrego: In Focus- Why is it Called That?*

**2 days**



Most common names in the Park are based on historical events or characters, natural or cultural features, or geographical names. We will explore names in each of these categories to see why and how popular park places were named. Some of the names include: Indianhead, Fish Creek, Fonts Point, Alcoholic Pass, Coyote Canyon, Nude Wash, and even the name of the Park. A loop hike in Coyote Canyon will explore a popular riparian area, a desert valley and canyon, and give us an intimate look at local place names. Talk is at 7:30 pm Friday at the Steele/Burnand Anza-Borrego Desert Research Center, 401 Tilting T Dr, Borrego Springs; \$5 at the door. Open to the public. For both the talk and Saturday field trip, \$60 Public / \$50 ABF Members. Visit [www.theABF.org/events](http://www.theABF.org/events) or call 760-767-0446 ext 1004 for more information and to register.

## Saturday, February 18, 2017

### 7:30 a.m. Hike -- Roving Naturalist on the Palm Canyon Trail

**2 Hours**

Find Roving State Park Volunteer Naturalist Terry Hunefeld (in his volunteer vest) somewhere on the Palm Canyon Trail looking at the life that is everywhere in the desert – if you know where to look. We'll keep an eye out for desert birds and bighorn sheep and study the signs left by mammals, reptiles and insects. Bring binoculars and cameras if you have them – and, of course, water, hat, sunscreen and hiking footwear. This is not a guided hike.

### 8:00 a.m. Walk – Bird Walk

**1.5 Hours**

Join Volunteer Naturalist Ann Keenan for a walk around the Visitor Center vicinity looking for the common birds of our desert. All birding levels welcome. Meet in the Visitor Center parking lot. Please bring binoculars. Rain cancels.

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### Saturday, February 18, 2017 (continued)

#### 9:00 a.m. Bike Ride – Bikes & Brews to Sheep Canyon

**3 Hours**



Gary & Jim are at it again, this time with a ride through Lower Coyote Canyon from the end of the blacktop to Third Crossing and continuing on through Collins Valley into Sheep Canyon. This is a strenuous 18+ mile ride that includes a 6 mile climb at the start through some sand, rocks, and water crossings. \$20 Public / \$15 ABF Members. Visit [www.theabf.org/events](http://www.theabf.org/events) or call Ashley for more details and to register: 760-767-0446 ext 1003.

#### 10:00 a.m. Talk ♿ – Murders and Unkindnesses

**1 Hour**



Join Volunteer Naturalist Jeff Salton to discover the remarkable differences between Crows and Ravens and explore some of the mystery and intrigue in the world of birds.

#### 2:00 p.m. ♿ – Junior Rangers

**1 Hour**

Special program for children ages 7-12 only. Discover secrets of the desert environment. Sign up at the Visitor Center as space is limited.

#### 7:00 p.m. Campfire ♿ - Howling Coyotes: Serenaders of the Desert

**1 Hour**

Ever wonder who it is that sings you to sleep at night in your tent? Join ABF Education & Outreach Coordinator Ashley Kvitek for an exploration into the life of the coyote, one of the most vocal of our desert inhabitants. We'll work together to find the answer to one of the most burning questions: Why do coyotes howl? Meet at the Palm Canyon Campfire Center.

### Sunday, February 19, 2017

#### 9:00 a.m. Hike – Ash Wash

**4 Hours**

Join Volunteer Naturalists Ted Caragozian and Dan Jellis for a moderately strenuous hike over uneven and rocky ground to a spectacular exposure of the 760,000 year-old Bishop Ash. Wear sturdy shoes; bring water and a light lunch. Meet at the end of the pavement north on DiGiorgio Road.

#### 9:00 a.m. Ranger Walk – The Slot Canyon

**1 Hour**

Meet Ranger Steve at the entrance to The Slot on Buttes Pass Road to learn and share in some of Anza-Borrego Desert State Park's extraordinary backcountry locations. We will Speak of Ancient Voices, sift through stories in stone, and seek the Wild in wildlife. Check at the Visitor Center for road condition.

#### 11:00 a.m. Talk ♿ – What Gives Ravens Their Star Quality?

**45 Min.**

Enjoy finding out how the intelligence and personalities of ravens have inspired their starring role in myths and legends around the world. With Volunteer Naturalist Karen DeLorenzo you will discover a new way to look at these mischievous (and maybe even wise) birds. Meet in the Discovery Lab at the Visitor Center.

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# INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES

## FEBRUARY 2017

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### Sunday, February 19, 2017 (continued)

#### 1:00 Talk & – Bighorn Sheep: Symbol of Desert Wilderness 1 Hour

Join Volunteer Naturalist Tony DeLorenzo to find out about bighorn sheep. Where did they come from? What is their history here in the desert? What are their prospects for the future? Meet in the Discovery Lab.

#### 7:00 p.m. Talk & – Enjoy Anza-Borrego's Dark Night Sky! 1 Hour

Winter nights are perfect for Stargazing. Explore constellations and learn about the importance of dark skies everywhere. Bring binoculars if you have them, flashlight (red lens is preferable) and your imagination! Look for Sally Theriault, Park Interpreter on the roof of the Visitor Center.

### Monday, February 20, 2017

#### 3:00 p.m. Hike – Lute Fault 3 Hours

Earthquake geology, local history and desert plant life will be the focus of this hike. Meet Volunteer Naturalist Ted Caragozian at the call box across from Thimble Trail on S-22 at Mile Marker 31.9. Bring water and sturdy shoes for this 2-3 mile roundtrip hike on uneven ground.

### Tuesday, February 21, 2017

#### 8:30 a.m. Hike – Weekly Members Hike 3.5 Hours



Meet at the State Park Store in the Mall. Join ABF for our weekly member hikes. Led by Park Rangers, retired Park Rangers, and various Park enthusiasts, these hikes take you to little-known but easily accessible spots throughout the northern area of the Park as a free perk for ABF members. Not a member? Ask about joining at the Visitor Center or State Park Store. For more information, visit [www.theabf.org/2017-member-hikes](http://www.theabf.org/2017-member-hikes) or call 760-767-0446 ext. 1003. No advance registration required.

#### 8:30 a.m. Hike – Calcite Canyon Spectacular 5-6 Hours

Join Volunteer Naturalist Ted Caragozian and explore the sandstone canyon country around the Calcite Mine. You will follow the Middle Fork of Palm Wash up over some small dry falls to a slot canyon, check out the mine, and see a demonstration of calcite's interesting optical properties. Meet at the Calcite Mine Road, mile marker 38.1, East on Highway S-22. Parking is available on both sides of the highway. Wear sturdy footwear, a hat, and carry water. This hike is rated moderately strenuous.

#### 11:00 a.m. Hike - Roving Naturalist in Borrego Palm Canyon 2 Hours

This is not a guided hike. Volunteer Naturalist Aleese Golding will be roaming the Borrego Palm Canyon Alternate Trail searching for bighorn sheep and other interesting features. Look for her in her volunteer vest and join in her exploration

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# INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES

## FEBRUARY 2017

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### Wednesday, February 22, 2017

#### 9:00 a.m. Hike – Ghost Mountain

**3 Hours**

Join Brian & Susie Jones to experience the Marshal South story on a hike up Ghost Mountain. The hike is steep but relatively short (1 mile up, 1 mile down) and offers a glimpse into the family's life on this remote mountaintop. Bring water, snack, hat and sturdy footwear. Meet Brian and Susie at the Blair Valley entrance (turn off highway S2 near mile marker 23). Limited to 15. Sign up in advance at the Visitor Center.

#### 2:00 p.m. Talk – Cosmic Recycling: Geological Highlights of Anza-Borrego

**1 Hour**

Southern California has a rich and varied geological history. Volunteer Naturalist Ted Caragozian will relate some of the fascinating local lore and how it ties into the larger picture. Meet in the Discovery Lab at the Visitor Center

### Thursday, February 23, 2017

#### 9:00 a.m. Hike -- Earthquake Valley Panorama

**4 Hours**



Join Volunteer Naturalists Paul Larson and Mary Ekelund for a moderate 4-mile hike up Plum Canyon to an overlook high over Earthquake Valley. Discover some interesting plants and geological features along the way. Meet at the entrance to Plum Canyon off Highway 78.

#### 10:00 a.m. Walk – Notice and Wonder

**1.5 Hours**

Join Volunteer Naturalist Aleese Golding to explore Nature journaling. We'll observe the desert closely and record what we experience with very basic techniques of writing, drawing, and painting to focus on what we notice and what we wonder. No artistic ability required! Bring your own journal or use ours. Be prepared with water, sunhat, sunscreen. Lawnchair optional.

#### 1:00 p.m. Walk – Desert Scents

**1 Hour**

Enjoy an easy stroll through the visitor center garden with Volunteer Naturalist Ingrid Coffin. Use your senses on this plant exploration program that meets at the Visitor Center entrance.


### Friday, February 24, 2017

#### 11:00 a.m. Talk – CDAS Archaeology Lecture

**1 Hour**

Join Diana Lindsay, well known desert writer as she shares the story of "Marshal South and the Botts Affair; Fact or Fiction". Marshal South was a controversial writer, poet and artist who homesteaded on Ghost Mountain where he and his wife Tonya raised three children during their experiment in primitive living in the desert. Come and find out the rest of the story... Meet in the Visitor Center Discovery Lab. Open to the public.

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# INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES

## FEBRUARY 2017

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### Saturday, February 25, 2017

- 7:00 a.m. – Strenuous Hike – Mike’s Hikes to Sombrero Peak** **10 hours**  
Visible on the skyline from many points in the southern area of the Park, Sombrero Peak is a standout and our only Mike’s Hike to venture this far south. We will start out from the Bow Willow Campground and continue on a 12-mile journey to the summit of this aptly named peak. You must register in advance for this program, no exceptions. Go to [www.theABF.org/5peaks](http://www.theABF.org/5peaks) or call 760-767-0446 ext 1003
- 8:00 a.m. Walk – Tracking Walk** **3 Hours**  
The desert is full of life, but most of it is hidden from the casual observer. Meet members of the San Diego Tracking Team at the entrance to the Visitor’s Center. Together we will explore the desert around us, finding and learning to read animal tracks and sign during a one- to two-hour walk in Palm Canyon
- 9:00 a.m. Ranger Walk – Bill Kenyon Trail** **2 Hours**  
Join Ranger Carina on a walk on uneven ground to a beautiful desert overlook. Meet at Yaqui Pass Campground, on Highway S-3, 1 mile north of Tamarisk Grove Campground. Please wear sturdy shoes and bring water.
- 12:00 p.m. Hike: Discovering the Archaeological History of the ‘Ehmuu Morteros 2 Hrs**  
Discover the hidden secrets of an ancient Kumeyaay Native American village site. Join Volunteer Archaeologist and Naturalist Sam Webb to explore both rock art and historic milling features. This 1.5 mile hike is over uneven terrain. Be sure to bring the usual water, hat, and sturdy footwear. Meet at the Morteros trailhead in Blair Valley, about 3 miles off Highway S-2 on a dirt road (turn into Blair Valley near Mile Marker 23).
- 2:00 p.m. ♿ – Junior Rangers** **1 Hour**  
Special program for children ages 7-12 only. Discover secrets of the desert environment. Sign up at the Visitor Center as space is limited.
- 7:00 p.m. Evening Ranger Program** **1 Hour**  
Join Ranger Lauren for a program all about Tarantulas. Meet her *at Arroyo Salado Primitive Camp*. Please bring your own chair(s).
- 7:00 p.m. Campfire - Mystery Cat: Anza-Borrego’s Elusive Mountain Lion** **45 Min.**  
Join volunteer naturalist Don Endicott for a 45-minute multi-media introduction to the natural history of the Park's seldom seen apex predator. Don's talk will describe the amazing attributes and signature behaviors of our big cats, show how relationships between Mountain Lions and people changed over time, and outline their key contributions to a healthy wilderness environment.

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# INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES

## FEBRUARY 2017

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### Sunday, February 26, 2017

#### 9:00 a.m. Walk - Pictograph Trail

2.5 Hours

Join Volunteer Naturalist Judy Stewart on a moderate 3-mile round trip hike through a beautiful desert valley to a panoramic overlook. Along the way, we will look at a large rock that displays fragile artwork from hundreds of years ago. This is one of the rare cultural sites that is accessible to the public. We will also experience beautiful views from the dry fall at the end of Smuggler Canyon. We will meet at 9am at the entrance to the Blair Valley primitive camp, off Highway S2, near mile marker 23, at the Butterfield Stage sign. We will then drive to the trailhead. Bring water, hat, sunscreen and comfortable walking shoes.

#### 10:00 a.m. Ranger Auto Tour – Mud Caves

2 Hours

Join Ranger Don for a 4WD auto tour of the Vallecito Creek and Arroyo Tapiado area. 4WD is required. Meet him at the Mountain Palm Springs Primitive Campground at mile marker 47 on Highway S2, about an hour south of the Visitor Center. Rescheduled from February 11.

#### 11:00 Talk ♿ – Bighorn Sheep: Symbol of Desert Wilderness

1 Hour

Join Volunteer Naturalist Tony DeLorenzo to find out about bighorn sheep. Where did they come from? What is their history here in the desert? What are their prospects for the future? Meet in the Discovery Lab.

#### 1:00 a.m. Talk ♿ – What Gives Ravens Their Star Quality?

45 Min.

Enjoy finding out how the intelligence and personalities of ravens have inspired their starring role in myths and legends around the world. With Volunteer Naturalist Karen DeLorenzo you will discover a new way to look at these mischievous (and maybe even wise) birds. Meet in the Discovery Lab at the Visitor Center.

### Tuesday, February 28, 2017

#### 8:30 a.m. Hike – Weekly Members Hike

3.5 Hours



Meet at the State Park Store in the Mall. Join ABF for our weekly member hikes. Led by Park Rangers, retired Park Rangers, and various Park enthusiasts, these hikes take you to little-known but easily accessible spots throughout the northern area of the Park as a free perk for ABF members. Not a member? Ask about joining at the Visitor Center or State Park Store. For more information, visit [www.theabf.org/2017-member-hikes](http://www.theabf.org/2017-member-hikes) or call 760-767-0446 ext. 1003. No advance registration required.

#### 11:00 a.m. Hike - Roving Naturalist in Borrego Palm Canyon

3 Hours

This is not a guided hike. Volunteer Naturalist Aleese Golding will be roaming the Borrego Palm Canyon Alternate Trail searching for bighorn sheep and other interesting features. Look for her in her volunteer vest and join in her exploration.

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# INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES

# FEBRUARY 2017

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## DESERT SAFETY

✓ **Carry water AND drink it**

Saving your water for the hike back has led to death in Anza-Borrego. Drink plenty of water before you leave home, while you hike, and on the return route. If you feel thirsty, it is already too late. Drink lots of water and drink often.

✓ **Make sure your vehicle is desert-ready.**

Equip your vehicle for the desert. You should always carry extra water, a shade tarp, a shovel, a tire pump, and extra food.

✓ **Prepare yourself.**

In addition to carrying water, you should have protective clothing, sunscreen, a hat, a good map, food and a first aid kit which includes a comb and tweezers.

✓ **Do not split up the group**

Stay together. Never leave anyone behind to rest.

✓ **Have a plan.**

Leave all your trip information with a friend. Tell him/her your destination, the route you intend to follow, your expected return time, a description of your vehicle with license plate number, and the time by which he/she should notify park authorities in case you do not return.

✓ **Leave snakes alone.**

Many venomous snakes live in the desert. If you threaten them, they may strike. It is illegal to harass, catch, or kill any snake within Anza-Borrego. If bitten, remain calm and seek immediate medical attention.

✓ **When emergencies happen:**

Stop. Stay calm. Seek shelter. If you are with your vehicle, remain there; do not leave it. Signal with mirrors, white cloth, whistle (three short blasts on a whistle, pause, then three more, repeat frequently), and put your hood up. It is much easier to find a vehicle in the desert than a person!!!

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