



INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES

NOVEMBER 2015

Saturday, October 31, 2015

7:30 p.m. Stargazing ♿ – **Enjoy Anza-Borrego's Dark Night Sky!** **1.5 Hours**

Fall evenings are perfect for Stargazing at the Visitor Center! Explore constellations and learn about the importance of dark skies everywhere. Bring a chair or blanket to sit on, binoculars if you have them (you'll be amazed at the view!) and flashlight (red lens is preferable, to preserve night vision). Telescope viewing if weather permits. Meet at Nierenberg Plaza and Amphitheater.



Tuesday, November 3, 2015

8:30 a.m. – Member Hike - Free ABF Member Hike **3.5 Hours**



Join ABF for our weekly member hikes. Led by Park Rangers, retired Park Rangers, and other Park enthusiasts, these hikes will take you to little known but fairly easily accessible spots throughout the northern area of the Park. These hikes are a free perk for ABF members. Not a member? Join at the Visitor Center or State Park Store, or online. For more information, call 760-767-0446 or visit www.theabf.org/2016-member-hikes. No advance registration required.

Friday, November 6, 2015

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 in her volunteer vest as you hike to the palm oasis. This is not a guided hike.

Saturday, November 7, 2015

10:00 a.m. Walk (or Talk) ♿ - **Desert Drug Store** **45 Minutes**

Join Certified Interpretive Guide Abby Barker to discover the Native American drugstore, the creosote bush. This is an easy walk around the visitor center garden. If the weather is too windy or hot, Abby will do a power point program in the Discovery Lab.



1:30 p.m. Talk ♿ - **The Pollen Path: Seasonal Movements of Native Americans** **1 Hour**

Discover the amazing secrets of the Native Americans who lived in the area that is now Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. Join Volunteer Naturalist Steve Russell in an exciting journey through the past and take a look at how early residents migrated to take advantage of different food supplies.

UNLESS NOTED, ALL PROGRAMS ARE FREE OF CHARGE AND HELD AT THE VISITOR CENTER
(OPEN DAILY 9 AM to 5 PM) ♿ DENOTES PROGRAMS ACCESSIBLE TO DISABLED.

PLEASE CALL AHEAD FOR SPECIAL NEEDS ACCOMMODATION, (760) 767-4205.

DOGS ARE NOT PERMITTED ON TRAILS OR TOURS.



INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES

NOVEMBER 2015

Monday, November 9, 2015

10:00 a.m. & Desert Biodiversity and Climate Change

1 Hour

Dr. Travis E. Huxman, director of the Steele/Burnand Anza-Borrego Desert Research Center in Borrego Springs and professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at UC Irvine, will speak to the ABDSP Botany Society about “Desert Biodiversity and Climate Change.” Dr. Huxman studies plant evolution, plant physiology, eco-hydrology and the ecosystem consequences of climate change. His talk will highlight some of the interesting life-history strategies and physiological syndromes in desert plants. Admission is free, and the public is invited. Visitor Center Discovery Lab.

Tuesday, November 10, 2015

8:30 a.m. – Member Hike - Free ABF Member Hike

3.5 Hours



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Thursday, November 12, 2015

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.

Friday, November 13, 2015

7:30 p.m. Talk & – Enjoy Anza-Borrego’s Dark Night Sky!

1.5 Hours

Fall evenings are perfect for Stargazing at the Visitor Center! Explore constellations and learn about the importance of dark skies everywhere. Bring a chair or blanket to sit on, binoculars if you have them (you’ll be amazed at the view!) and flashlight (red lens is preferable, to preserve night vision). Telescope viewing if weather permits. Meet at the Visitor Center.



Saturday, November 14, 2015

7:30 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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INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES

NOVEMBER 2015

Saturday, November 14, 2015 (continued)

8:30 a.m. Hike – Ghost Mountain

2 Hours

Experience the Marshal South story on this trek up Ghost Mountain with volunteer naturalist Dan Leidecker. 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, a snack, hat and sturdy footwear. Meet Dan at the Blair Valley entrance (turn off highway S2 near mile marker 23).

11:00 a.m. Walk ♿ - Garden Walk

45 Minutes

Join Visitor Center Interpretive staff member who will take you on a stroll through the Visitor Center Garden to discover some of our special desert plants.

1:30 p.m. Talk ♿ - The Pollen Path: Seasonal Movements of Native Americans

1 Hour

Discover the amazing secrets of the Native Americans who lived in the area that is now Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. Join Volunteer Naturalist Steve Russell in an exciting journey through the past and take a look at how early residents migrated to take advantage of different food supplies.

Sunday, November 15, 2015

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

3 Hours

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

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

2 Hours

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).

Tuesday, November 17, 2015

8:30 a.m. – Member Hike - Free ABF Member Hike

3.5 Hours



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INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES

NOVEMBER 2015

Thursday, November 19, 2015

9:00 a.m. Hike – Pictographs – What Were They Trying to Say? 4 Hours

Join Volunteer Naturalists Paul Larson and Mary Ekelund on a moderate 3-mile roundtrip hike through a beautiful desert valley to a panoramic overlook. Along the way, we will look at some interesting plants, morteros and rock art. Meet at the entrance to Blair Valley, about a 45 minute drive from the visitor center.

Friday, November 20, 2015

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.

Saturday, November 21, 2015

9:00 a.m. – Bike Ride – Bikes & Brews Down Grapevine Canyon 5 Hours



Join ABF for a bike ride that ends with a donated brew! Our enthusiastic ride leaders, Jim and Gary, will lead us on a two-wheeled, 14-mile adventure starting from Ranchita and ending at Tamarisk Grove Campground. This ride will require a shuttle, so please register in advance. Need a bike? Visit Bike Borrego in the Mall for a rental. \$20 Public/\$15 ABF Member.

Visit www.theabf.org/events or call Ashley for more details and to register: 760-767-0446 ext. 1003.

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

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. Walk ♿ - Garden Walk 45 Minutes

Join Visitor Center Interpretive staff member who will take you on a stroll through the Visitor Center Garden to discover some of our special desert plants.

Tuesday, November 24, 2015

8:30 a.m. – Member Hike - Free ABF Member Hike 3.5 Hours



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INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES

NOVEMBER 2015

Thursday, November 26, 2015

9:00 a.m. Hike - Badlands Bench with a View

3 Hours

Join Volunteer Naturalists Paul Larson and Mary Ekelund for a moderate 2 ½ mile hike up a badlands wash to a memorial bench with a marvelous view. Learn about some interesting plants and geological features along the way. Meet at the intersection of Inspiration Wash and S-22 by driving east on S-22 past mile marker 28 for 1/2 miles.

Friday, November 27, 2015

7:30 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.



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

3 Hours

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

Friday and Saturday, November 27-28, 2015

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Seventh Annual Botany Festival Native Plant Sale All Day . . . While They Last!

A wide variety of plants native to our desert will be for sale, starting Friday morning and continuing on Saturday until the plants are gone! Front patio at the Visitor Center.



Saturday, November 28, 2015

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

3 Hours

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

10:00 a.m. - ♿ - Seventh Annual Botany Festival Lecture – Desert Gardening.

1 Hour



Desert Gardening expert Teresa Everett from Moosa Creek Nursery will give a talk in the Discovery Lab on desert gardening. Her presentation starts at 10 a.m. Admission is free, and the public is invited.

2:00 p.m. – Junior Rangers (Special program for children ages 7-12 only)

45 Minutes

Discover secrets of the desert environment. Sign up at the Visitor Center as space is limited.

7:30 p.m. – Campfire - ♿ - Ranger Surprise

1 Hour

Come to the Borrego Palm Canyon Campfire Center and enjoy an evening campfire program!

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Sunday, November 29, 2015

8:30 a.m. Walk – Box Canyon

4 Hours

Walk with volunteer Naturalists Mike and Jan Bigelow as we trace the journey of the Mormon Battalion's arduous trip through Box Canyon in 1847. This is an easy 2 mile walk, out and back, with an option for a short climb up out of the canyon (moderately strenuous) to the historic monument overlooking the canyon. Meet at the Visitor Center parking lot to car pool. Walking shoes, hat, water, and a snack are recommended. Rain cancels.

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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