



FEBRUARY 2014 INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES



Saturday, February 1, 2014

7:30 a.m. Walk - Bird Walk (Rain cancels)

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.

8:30 am- Hike- Clark Lake Petroglyphs

4.5 Hours



Join us as we hike across the desert floor, into and out of the wash bottoms, to the Clark Lake Petroglyph site with Chuck Bennett. This site lies at the base of the Santa Rosa Mountains just east of the mouth of Rockhouse Canyon. The petroglyphs, interpreted as an early Cahuilla type, are embedded in the reddish-brown patina of the boulders at the base of the mountains. The fee is \$35 / \$25 for ABF Members. Call 760-767-0446 for details and registration.

11:00 a.m. - ♿ - Junior Rangers

45 Minutes

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

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).



7:30 p.m. - Campfire- ♿ Ranger Encounters!

1 Hour

Join Ranger Don Strampfer to explore the multitude of remarkable experiences a Ranger might encounter while patrolling Anza-Borrego Desert State Park’s great expanses! Meet at the Borrego Palm Canyon Campfire Center. P.S. Campfire songs are always a possibility.

UNLESS NOTED, ALL PROGRAMS ARE FREE OF CHARGE AND HELD AT THE VISITOR CENTER (OPEN DAILY).

♿ DENOTES PROGRAMS ACCESSIBLE TO DISABLED. PLEASE CALL AHEAD FOR SPECIAL NEEDS ACCOMMODATION, (760) 767-4205.



DENOTES PROGRAMS OFFERED BY OUR COOPERATING ASSOCIATION, ANZA-BORREGO FOUNDATION. FUNDS SUPPORT INTERPRETATION AT ANZA-BORREGO DESERT STATE PARK. **DOGS ARE NOT PERMITTED ON TRAILS OR TOURS.**



FEBRUARY 2014 INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES



Sunday, February 2, 2014

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

3 Hours

Volunteer Naturalist Mike Bigelow 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. Hike – Voices, Visions, and Views of Alcoholic Pass

3 Hours

Hike Alcoholic Pass! Join Volunteer Naturalists Ron & Peg Poitras to experience and discover the prehistory, history, and present day journey of those who have used this trail for food, water, work, and fun. This is a 3-hour excursion into the pass. Meet at the north end of DiGiorgio Road. This is a strenuous but relatively short hike, bring water, snacks and wear hiking boots.

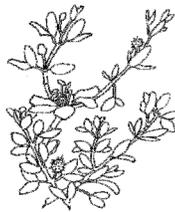
11:00 a.m. Talk ♿ - “Song Dog” ... The Wily Coyote

45 Minutes

Have you heard them at night? Have you seen them...even during the day? Coyotes are increasing their range and increasing their numbers, and they're right here in Anza-Borrego and in town too. Join Volunteer Naturalist Thad McManus as we explore the myths and realities of our desert neighbor.

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

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.



Tuesday, February 4, 2014

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

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FEBRUARY 2014 INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES



Wednesday, February 5, 2014

8:30 a.m. Hike – Elephant Safari

3 Hours

The Elephant Tree, which is common south of the border, is rarely found in the U.S. The largest “herd” resides in Alma Wash in Anza-Borrego. 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 in low-clearance vehicles can park below the trailhead and walk the rest of the way up the one-mile dirt road.

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.

2:00 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.

Thursday, February 6, 2014

9:00 a.m. Hike – Harper Flat

4 Hours

Join Volunteer Naturalists Paul Larson and Mary Ekelund on a moderate 3-mile hike up Pinyon Wash to Harper Flat. There are a few large boulders to negotiate at the beginning of the hike. 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.

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.

Saturday, February 8, 2014

8:00 a.m. Auto Tour- Faults & Figures: San Andreas Fault and Corn Springs Petroglyphs 9 Hours



This trip will offer an opportunity to visit two of the more dramatic places in the Colorado Desert: the San Andreas Fault and the outstanding petroglyph site at Corn Springs. Join Paul Johnson on a trip to touch the San Andreas Fault, see the spectacular Painted Canyon and then head to the Corn Springs Petroglyphs. The fee is \$70/\$60 for ABF Members. Call 760-767-0446 to register.

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FEBRUARY 2014 INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES



Saturday, February 8, 2014 (continued)

8:30 a.m. Hike –Ghost Mountain

2.5 Hours

Experience the Marshal South story on this trek up Ghost Mountain with Volunteer Naturalist Dan Leidecker. The hike is steep but relatively short (one mile up, one mile down) and offers a glimpse into the family's life on this remote mountain top. Bring water, a snack, hat and sturdy footwear. Meet at the entrance to Blair Valley, about a 45 minute drive from the Visitor Center.

11:00 a.m. - ♿ - Junior Rangers

45 Minutes

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

1:00 p.m. Walk ♿ - 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 bad or hot, Abby will do a power point program in the Discovery Lab.

2:00 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 as we take a look at how early residents migrated to take advantage of different food supplies.

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

1 Hour

Join Ranger Steve at the Borrego Palm Canyon Campfire Center for an evening campfire program.

Sunday, February 9, 2014

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

3 Hours

Volunteer Naturalist Mike Bigelow 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.

11:00 a.m. Talk ♿ - Borregos in Their Park

1 Hour

If you haven't had the opportunity to get up close and personal with the namesake of the Park, or even if you have seen the Desert Bighorns, you can learn what makes these animals the favorites of Park visitors. Join Volunteer Naturalist Thad McManus and explore the world of the Desert Bighorn.

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FEBRUARY 2014 INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES



Monday, February 10, 2014

10:00 a.m. Botany Lecture - Origins of the Anza Borrego Desert

1 Hour

Biologist Tom Oberbauer will present a lecture, sponsored by the ABDSP Botany Society, on how the climate has changed since the last ice age, and how it has affected plants and wildlife in the region. The public is welcome, and there is no charge. Meet in the Visitor Center Discovery Lab.

Wednesday, February 12, 2014

3:00 p.m. Hike – Sunset/Moonlight Hike

5 Hours

Join Volunteer Naturalists Ted Caragozian and Paul Larson 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). Limited to 15 participants – please sign-up at the Visitor Center and include your phone number to receive meeting details.

Thursday, February 13, 2014

9:00 a.m. Hike – Lower Willows

5 Hours

Join Volunteer Naturalists Ted Caragozian and Paul Larson for a moderately strenuous hike in lower Coyote Canyon, including Coyote Creek, the rocky Bypass Road, and hopefully a variety of birds. Meet at the end of the pavement at the north end of DiGiorgio Road.

Friday, February 14, 2014

9:00 a.m. Paleontology Lecture - Taphonomy

3 Hours

Dr. Lyndon Murray, District Paleontologist, will present this lecture as part of the Volunteer Paleontology lecture series. Open to the public. Meet in the Discovery Lab at the Visitor Center.

Saturday, February 15, 2014

9:00 a.m. Hike - Hornblende Canyon

6 Hours

Join Volunteer Naturalist Hank Barber on a strenuous hike in Hornblende Canyon. We'll look for wildflowers along the way as we enjoy one of the most beautiful, but over-looked, canyons in the park. Bring hiking stick(s), ample water, hiking boots and lunch. Meet at the entrance to Blair Valley. Hike is about 5 miles. Sign-up at the Visitor Center; hike is limited to 12 people.

11:00 a.m. - Junior Rangers

45 Minutes

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

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FEBRUARY 2014 INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES



Saturday, February 15, 2014 (continued)

1:00 p.m. Walk ♿ - Hardy Desert Survivors

45 Minutes

Join Certified Interpretive Guide Abby Barker as she introduces you to some unique and amazing hardy desert survivors in the garden, the desert plants. This is an easy walk around the Visitor Center Garden. If the weather is too bad or hot, Abby will do a power point program in the Discovery Lab.

2:00 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 as we take a look at how early residents migrated to take advantage of different food supplies.

7:30 p.m. - Campfire ♿ Ranger Encounters!

1 Hour

Join Ranger Don Strampfer to explore the multitude of remarkable experiences a Ranger might encounter while patrolling Anza-Borrego Desert State Park's great expanses! Meet at the Borrego Palm Canyon Campfire Center. P.S. Campfire songs are always a possibility.

Sunday, February 16, 2014

7:30 a.m. Walk - Bird Walk (Rain cancels)

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. .

8:00 a.m. Hike- Rattlesnake Canyon Hike

9 Hours



Much more of a hike than a nature walk, this 10-mile strenuous trek will follow Rattlesnake Canyon into the Santa Rosa Mountains. Join Mike Puzzo and prepare to sweat as you wind your way up the sculpted canyon and are rewarded with views of the beautiful desert landscapes on the way out. The fee is \$45 / \$35 for ABF Members. Please call 760-767-0446 for registration and details.

10:00 a.m. Talk ♿ - In Search of the Elusive Elephant Tree

30 Minutes

The seldom seen, endangered elephant tree survives in only a few scattered and isolated spots in California. Join Volunteer Naturalist Karen Cormier at the Visitor Center to find out how to identify these distinctive trees, hear why Native Americans valued the trees, and discover where you can look for elephant tree herds "in the wild."

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FEBRUARY 2014 INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES



Sunday, February 16, 2014 (continued)

11:00 a.m. Talk - What Kind of Bird is That? – Basic Birding in Borrego

45 Minutes

Visitors to Anza-Borrego Desert State Park often ask about birds they've seen. There are over 300 bird species found in the Park, but there are a few that visitors will almost always see. Join Volunteer Naturalist Thad McManus in the Discovery Lab to learn about the most commonly seen birds in the Park, as well as where to find them. Novice birders can easily learn 15 different species, and more experienced birders will learn some new fascinating insights.

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).

Monday, February 17, 2014

10:00 a.m. Hike – Happy Trails

3 Hours

Meet up with “Doc and Francis Beaty” (Volunteer Naturalists Ron and Peg Poitras) for a moderate 3-mile walk down an old cowboy trail and enjoy tales about the lives and times of the Coyote Canyon farmers and cowboys. Meet at 9:00 am at the Visitor Center (third parking lot) for carpooling to the site. Bring water, a snack if desired, walking shoes, sun protection and a hat.

4:00 p.m. Talk – Hawks and Other Birds

1 Hour

Birder Hal Cohen will give a talk at the monthly Naturalists Meeting held in the Visitor Center Discovery Lab. The public is invited.

Thursday, February 20, 2014

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.

2:30 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 round trip hike on uneven ground.

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FEBRUARY 2014 INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES



Friday, February 21, 2014

8:00 a.m. Hike – Calcite Canyon Spectacular

4.5 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.

7:30 p.m. Talk - Stargazing with Binoculars (rainy or cloudy weather cancels)

1.5 Hours

Meet at the Visitor Center to discover how binoculars can help you explore the beautiful night sky! Dress warmly and bring binoculars, if you have them, and a flashlight (red lens preferable). We will also have a telescope set up for viewing.

7:30 p.m. Concert- Classical Guitar Concert with Michael McCormick

2 Hours



Classical guitarist Michael McCormick, a Borrego Springs resident and loyal ABF member and Park supporter, returns to the concert stage at the Borrego Springs Performing Arts Center for the sequel to last spring's sold-out smash success: the first-ever benefit concert for ABF. The evening's solo guitar recital will include music by Saint-Luc, Bach, Turina, Bennett, Takemitsu, Ponce, Rodrigo and Sor. Call 760-767-0446 for tickets at \$20. All proceeds from this event shall be donated to the Anza-Borrego Foundation.

Saturday, February 22, 2014

8:30 a.m. Hike –Ghost Mountain

2.5 Hours

Experience the Marshal South story on this trek up Ghost Mountain with Volunteer Naturalist Dan Leidecker. The hike is steep but relatively short (one mile up, one mile down) and offers a glimpse into the family's life on this remote mountain top. Bring water, a snack, hat and sturdy footwear. Meet at the entrance to Blair Valley, about a 45 minute drive from the Visitor Center.

9:00 a.m. Hike – Elephant Knees

6 Hours

Join Volunteer Naturalists Ted Caragozian and Paul Larson for a strenuous hike up to a remarkable outcrop of marine fossils that are about 4 million years old. At the top, there will be a great view of the Fish Creek Badlands. Meet at the junction of Fish Creek Wash and the end of the pavement on Split Mountain Road. We'll carpool from there in 4WD vehicles.

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Saturday, February 22, 2014 (continued)

2:00 p.m. Walk ♿ - Garden Walk

45 Minutes

Join Certified Interpretive Guide Abby Barker as she takes you on a stroll through the Visitor Center Garden to discover what is in bloom.

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

1 Hour

Join Ranger Jennifer at the Borrego Palm Canyon Campfire Center for an evening campfire program.

Sunday, February 23, 2014

11:00 a.m. Talk ♿ - “Song Dog” ... The Wily Coyote

45 Minutes

Have you heard them at night? Have you seen them...even during the day? Coyotes are increasing their range and increasing their numbers, and they're right here in Anza-Borrego and in town too. Join Volunteer Naturalist Thad McManus as we explore the myths and realities of our desert neighbor.

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

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.

Thursday, February 27, 2014

9:00 a.m. Hike – Cool Canyon

4 Hours

Join Mary Ekelund and Paul Larson on a cool trip up Cool Canyon. We'll hike up many dry falls in the higher country where the flora is different from that of the desert floor. Meet at the intersection of County Highway S-2 and the first dirt road to the west, south of the park boundary sign just beyond Shelter Valley. Four-wheel drive is not required. Bring water and wear sturdy shoes.

2:00 p.m. Talk ♿ – Archaeology Lecture

1 Hour

Join the Colorado Desert Archaeology Society for "What Ollas Can Tell Us" by Susanne Griset, Ph.D, Principal Investigator SWCA Environmental Consultants, Tucson Arizona. As a recipient of a Robert Begole Grant, Dr. Griset is analyzing whole vessels from ABDSP. Many of these ollas are currently displayed in the cases in the Discovery Room at the Visitor Center and each has a story to tell. Following the lecture the monthly meeting of the Archaeology Society will be held. Members of the public are invited to both.

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FEBRUARY 2014 INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES



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.
- ✓ **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.
- ✓ **Do not split up the group**
Stay together. Never leave anyone behind to rest.
- ✓ **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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