Sunday, February 1, 2015

9:00 a.m. Hike - Roving Naturalist in Borrego Palm Canyon  
Volunteer Naturalists Mike and Jan Bigelow will be roaming the Borrego Palm Canyon Trail searching for bighorn sheep and other interesting features along the trail. Look for them in their volunteer vests as you hike to the palm oasis. This is not a guided hike.

11:00 a.m. Talk - Paleontology: A Broad Overview of Key Events in Anza-Borrego  
In this colorfully illustrated one hour talk, Paleontology Volunteer George Gough will discuss the underlying physical sequence of events that shaped the Anza-Borrego area over recent geological time and its influence over the plants and animals that lived here – mammoths, camels, and camels – like those depicted in the metal sculptures around Borrego Springs.

1:00 p.m. – Walk – Discovering the Archaeological History of the ‘Ehmuu Morteros  
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. The 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, 3.5 miles south of Highway 78, then 3 miles off of Highway S-2 on a dirt road.

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

4:00 p.m. Walk – Let’s Be Crepuscular  
You probably know “Nocturnal” animals, maybe “Diurnal” ones. Walk with Regina Reiter, Park Interpretive Specialist for an easy walk on the Trail to the Campground at dusk to explore the fascinating and surprisingly active hour between the dayshift and the nightshift of the animal world. Meet in front of the Visitor Center.

UNLESS NOTED, ALL PROGRAMS ARE FREE OF CHARGE AND HELD AT THE VISITOR CENTER (OPEN EVERY DAY 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.
Monday, February 2, 2015

9:00 a.m. Hike – Mountain Palm Springs  5 Hours
Join Volunteer Naturalists Paul Larson and Mary Ekelund for a moderate to strenuous 5-mile loop hike through several palm groves and Torote Bowl at the southern end of the Park. Bring water, lunch, binoculars, hat, sunscreen and sturdy footwear. Meet at the entrance to Mountain Palm Springs on Highway S-2 at mile post 47.1.

Tuesday, February 3, 2015

9:00 a.m. Walk – Spring Plant Walk  2 Hours
Enjoy and learn about the ingenuity of our SURVIVAL EXPERTS--OUR AMAZING DESERT PLANTS! Meet knowledgeable members of the Park's Botany Society for an easy, morning stroll in different locations in the Park. Leaders and destinations will vary. Bring water, sun protection, and sturdy shoes. Note: Additional dates may be added, so check with the ABF Store or the Anza-Borrego Desert State Park Visitor Center for the current schedule. Meet at Anza-Borrego Foundation (ABF) Store, 587 Palm Canyon Drive #110, Borrego Springs, CA 92004. $10 per person. Call Ashley at ABF for more details and to register: 760-767-0446 ext 1003

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 moderate 4-mile roundtrip hike on uneven ground.

Wednesday, February 4, 2015

8:00 a.m. Hike – Calcite Canyon Spectacular  5-6 Hours
Join Volunteer Naturalist Ted Caragozian and explore the sandstone canyon country around the Calcite Mine. We 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.

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DOGS ARE NOT PERMITTED ON TRAILS OR TOURS.
Thursday, February 5, 2015

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. Meets in the Discovery Lab at the Visitor Center.

3:30 p.m. Walk - Beaks and Feet: Birding Made Simple  1 Hour
If you’ve always wanted to learn about birds but thought it’s too complicated and only for birding experts, you’ll enjoy this simple way of appreciating the birds! Join Regina Reiter, Park Interpretive Specialist, in the Visitor Center Discovery Lab for this hands-on discovery session and get a close look at birds in and around the Visitor Center. For bird lovers 8 and up with no previous birding experience necessary. Bring binoculars if you have them.

Friday, February 6, 2015

9:00 a.m. Walk – Spring Plant Walk  2 Hours
Enjoy and learn about the ingenuity of our SURVIVAL EXPERTS--OUR AMAZING DESERT PLANTS! Meet knowledgeable members of the Park's Botany Society for an easy, morning stroll in different locations in the Park. Leaders and destinations will vary. Bring water, sun protection, and sturdy shoes. Note: Additional dates may be added, so check with the ABF Store or the Anza-Borrego Desert State Park Visitor Center for the current schedule. Meet at Anza-Borrego Foundation (ABF) Store, 587 Palm Canyon Drive #110, Borrego Springs, CA 92004. $10 per person. Call Ashley at ABF for more details and to register: 760-767-0446 ext 1003.

1:00 p.m. Walk - Rainbow Any Day  45 Minutes
Even when it's not raining, you can discover a rainbow of color in the desert. Join Park Interpretive Specialist Regina Reiter for a unique view of the desert nearby the Visitor Center, exploring how color occurs and reveals the details of the desert that we often only glimpse. Meet in front of the Visitor Center.
FEBRUARY 2015
INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES

Saturday, February 7, 2015

10 a.m. - Bike Ride- Bikes & Brews Glorieta Canyon Loop
5 Hours
Join Jim and Gary on one of their favorite rides: a strenuous 15-mile mountain bike trek that will pass a water tank, some amazing “Sky Art” sculptures, and up to the mouth of Glorieta Canyon. This ride has a lot of relatively steady uphill climbing but it’s all downhill from the top. There will be amazing vistas and a great ride in the back country of ABDSP. End back at your car for snacks and an ice-cold craft beer, included in the fee. $15 Public / $10 ABF Members. Visit www.theabf.org or call Ashley for more details and to register: 760-767-0446 ext 1003.

10:00 a.m. -11:00 a.m. - Solve the Desert Water Puzzle: Cart Program
10 Minutes ongoing
Do you know what it means to “take plenty of water” on your Park walks? Meet Park Interpretive Specialist, Regina Reiter, in front of the Visitor Center to solve The Water Puzzle and learn how to calculate your water needs while you’re visiting Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. You’ll also get some tips on how to locate the Park’s Desert Bighorn Sheep by discovering their watering habits! Stop by anytime between 10 and 11 to develop your “water aptitude”.

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

2:00 p.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.

3:00 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.

4:00 p.m. Walk - Desert Inspiration
45 Minutes
Join Regina Reiter, Park Interpretive Specialist for a brief sampling of poetry and prose inspired by the desert. Then, be inspired yourself by a short, inspiring walk near the Visitor Center. You may even compose your own poem! Meet in the Discovery Lab of the Visitor Center. Ages 10 and up.

7:30 p.m. – Campfire - Waiting for Rain
1 Hour
Get to know some of the surprised waiting for rain in the Anza-Borrego Desert. Hear about the winter rains (Equipatas) that decide if there will be desert wildflowers and the summer rains (Las Aguas) that bring flashfloods. Meet Ranger Heidi at the Borrego Palm Canyon Campground campfire center.

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FEBRUARY 2015  
INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES

Sunday, February 8, 2015

9:00 a.m. Walk – Spring Plant Walk  2 Hours
Enjoy and learn about the ingenuity of our SURVIVAL EXPERTS--OUR AMAZING DESERT PLANTS! Meet knowledgeable members of the Park's Botany Society for an easy, morning stroll in different locations in the Park. Leaders and destinations will vary. Bring water, sun protection, and sturdy shoes. Note: Additional dates may be added, so check with the ABF Store or the Anza-Borrego Desert State Park Visitor Center for the current schedule. Meet at Anza-Borrego Foundation (ABF) Store, 587 Palm Canyon Drive #110, Borrego Springs, CA 92004. $10 per person. Call Ashley at ABF for more details and to register: 760-767-0446 ext 1003.

10:00 a.m. Walk  Jojoba: A Model of Desert Survival  30 Minutes
The Jojoba plant is highly drought-resistant. Join Volunteer Naturalist Tony DeLorenzo at the Visitor Center to learn how the Jojoba plant has adapted to life in the desert and how to identify these adaptations in other desert plants. We’ll also discuss ancient and modern uses for this plant.

11:00 a.m. Walk  - Touch! Don't Touch  45 Minutes
The Fine Art of Sharing the Desert With Young Children. Parents and Grandparents, come along with your young children up to age 7 to explore the desert together with Park Interpretive Specialist Regina Reiter. Hear an inspiring story that teaches children how to safely and carefully touch the plants, rocks, and sand to awaken a sense of wonder. Meet in front of the Visitor Center.

12:30 Garden Walk  - Small World  1 Hour
Everyone is impressed with the vast dimensions and stunning vistas of Anza Borrego Desert State Park. The desert is equally impressive on a micro-scale. Stretch your perspective and explore the natural history of the Park up close and personal with Volunteer Naturalist Daniel Hellyer for a 1-hour easy walk. Meet at the Visitor Center.

Monday, February 9, 2015

9:00 a.m. Walk  - Early Bloomers  1 Hour
Join Park Ranger Jeri Zemon for an easy stroll to see what’s blooming along the Campground-Visitor Center Trail. Meet at the trailhead near Campsite #71. Parking is limited, so walking or carpooling is recommended.

10:00 a.m. Talk  – Management of Invasive Red Brome Grass  1 Hour
Environmental Scientist Evan MacKinnon will discuss the physiology of Red Brome, an invasive grass. He will discuss the threat it poses to park habitat, as well as plans to manage it.

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FEBRUARY 2015
INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES

Wednesday, February 11, 2015
9:00 a.m. Walk – Spring Plant Walk 2 Hours
Enjoy and learn about the ingenuity of our SURVIVAL EXPERTS—OUR AMAZING DESERT PLANTS! Meet knowledgeable members of the Park's Botany Society for an easy, morning stroll in different locations in the Park. Leaders and destinations will vary. Bring water, sun protection, and sturdy shoes. Note: Additional dates may be added, so check with the ABF Store or the Anza-Borrego Desert State Park Visitor Center for the current schedule. Meet at Anza-Borrego Foundation (ABF) Store, 587 Palm Canyon Drive #110, Borrego Springs, CA 92004. $10 per person. Call Ashley at ABF for more details and to register: 760-767-0446 ext 1003

Thursday, February 12, 2015
11:00 a.m. Walk - Rainbow Any Day 45 Minutes
Even when it’s not raining, you can discover a rainbow of color in the desert. Join Park Interpretive Specialist Regina Reiter for a unique view of the desert nearby the Visitor Center, exploring how color occurs and reveals the details of the desert that we often only glimpse. Meet in front of the Visitor Center.

Friday, February 13, 2015
9:00 a.m. Hike – Plum Canyon 4 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 a snack. Meet at Plum Canyon off Highway 78, west of S-3. From there we will carpool to the trailhead. Limited to 12 participants. Sign up at the Visitor Center.

9:15 a.m. Talk - Taphonomy: From Life to Fossils 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.

1:00 p.m. Walk - Beaks and Feet: Birding Made Simple 1 Hour
If you’ve always wanted to learn about birds but thought it’s too complicated and only for birding experts, you’ll enjoy this simple way of appreciating the birds! Join Regina Reiter, Park Interpretive Specialist, in the Visitor Center Discovery Lab for this hands-on discovery session and get a close look at birds in and around the Visitor Center. For bird lovers 8 and up with no previous birding experience necessary. Bring binoculars if you have them.

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FEBRUARY 2015
INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES

Saturday, February 14, 2015

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 Marshal South Homesite Trailhead in Blair Valley (turn off Highway S-2 near Mile Marker 23 and follow the dirt road almost 3 miles). This hike will end before the ‘Ehmuu Morteros hike begins, making it possible for participants to enjoy both.

9:00 a.m. Walk – Spring Plant Walk  2 Hours
Enjoy and learn about the ingenuity of our SURVIVAL EXPERTS--OUR AMAZING DESERT PLANTS! Meet knowledgeable members of the Park's Botany Society for an easy, morning stroll in different locations in the Park. Leaders and destinations will vary. Bring water, sun protection, and sturdy shoes. Note: Additional dates may be added, so check with the ABF Store or the Anza-Borrego Desert State Park Visitor Center for the current schedule. Meet at Anza-Borrego Foundation (ABF) Store, 587 Palm Canyon Drive #110, Borrego Springs, CA 92004. $10 per person. Call Ashley at ABF for more details and to register: 760-767-0446 ext 1003

9:00-11:00 a.m. Cart Program- Solve the Desert Water Puzzle  10 Minutes ongoing
Do you know what it means to “take plenty of water” on your Park walks? Meet Park Interpretive Specialist, Regina Reiter, in front of the Visitor Center to solve The Water Puzzle and learn how to calculate your water needs while you’re visiting Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. Stop by anytime between 10 and 12 to develop your “water aptitude”.

11:00 a.m. Talk - 🤝 Mystery Cat: Anza-Borrego’s Elusive Mountain Lion  45 Minutes
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.

12:00 p.m. Walk – 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. The 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, 3.5 miles south of Highway 78, then 3 miles off of Highway S-2 on a dirt road.

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 as we take a look at how early residents migrated to take advantage of local food supplies.

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FEBRUARY 2015
INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES

Saturday, February 14, 2015 (continued)

2:00 p.m. Junior Rangers
   Special program for children ages 7-12. Discover secrets of the desert environment. Sign up at the Visitor Center as space is limited.

4:00 p.m. Walk 🏞️ Let’s Be Crepuscular
   You probably know “Nocturnal” animals, maybe “Diurnal” ones. Walk with Regina Reiter, Park Interpretive Specialist for an easy walk on the Trail to the Campground at dusk to explore the fascinating and surprisingly active hour between the dayshift and the nightshift of the animal world. Meet in front of the Visitor Center.

5:00 p.m. Gallery Exhibit 🎨- Opening Reception of Photo Contest Winners
   Join us on February 14 from 5-7 p.m. for the opening reception of our exhibition of winning contest entries at Borrego Art Institute. Step into the gallery to see the winners, plus all other entries and vote for your favorite. Adult and youth photos with the most votes receive our “People’s Choice Award.” Free of charge and open to the public. Visit www.theabf.org or call Ashley for more details and to register: 760-767-0446 ext 1003.

7:30 p.m. – Campfire 🎥 - Ranger Surprise
   Join Ranger Richard at the Borrego Palm Canyon Campfire Center for an evening campfire program.

Sunday, February 15, 2015

8:00 a.m. Walk – Birds of Tamarisk Grove
   Join Becky Rusk, the Tamarisk Grove Campground Host, and/or Park Aide Beau for a stroll around the campground to look for birds. Meet at the campground office. Bring binoculars, if you can.

8:30 a.m. Hike - Roving Naturalist in Borrego Palm Canyon
   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.

9:00 a.m. Walk - 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 4 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.

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FEBRUARY 2015
INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES

Sunday, February 15, 2015 (continued)

9:00 a.m. Walk – Spring Plant Walk  2 Hours
Enjoy and learn about the ingenuity of our SURVIVAL EXPERTS--OUR AMAZING DESERT PLANTS! Meet knowledgeable members of the Park's Botany Society for an easy, morning stroll in different locations in the Park. Leaders and destinations will vary. Bring water, sun protection, and sturdy shoes. Note: Additional dates may be added, so check with the ABF Store or the Anza-Borrego Desert State Park Visitor Center for the current schedule. Meet at Anza-Borrego Foundation (ABF) Store, 587 Palm Canyon Drive #110, Borrego Springs, CA 92004. $10 per person. Call Ashley at ABF for more details and to register: 760-767-0446 ext 1003

10:00 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.

1:00 Garden Walk - Small World  1 Hour
Everyone is impressed with the vast dimensions and stunning vistas of Anza Borrego Desert State Park. The desert is equally impressive on a micro-scale. Stretch your perspective and explore the natural history of the Park up close and personal with Volunteer Naturalist Daniel Hellyer for a 1-hour easy walk. Meet at the Visitor Center.

Monday, February 16, 2015

9:00 a.m. Hike – California Riding and Hiking Trail Loop  3 Hours
Join Paul Larson and Mary Ekelund for a moderately strenuous 3-mile hike up the California Riding and Hiking Trail to a wonderful view over the basin to the east. We'll see some interesting plants and geological features along the way and return via the old trail. Meet at the Hellhole parking lot on S-22, 1/2 mile west of the junction with Palm Canyon Drive. Bring water, hat, and sturdy hiking boots.

10:00 a.m. Talk - Ancient Kitchens: The Original Granite Countertops  40 Minutes
Join Archaeology Volunteer and Naturalist Susan Gilliland and discover how to recognize and where to experience these beautiful food preparation sites scattered throughout the park.

11:00 a.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. Who knows? We may even find some interesting things blooming!

1:00 p.m. Walk - Jojoba: A Model of Desert Survival  30 Minutes
The Jojoba plant is highly drought-resistant. Join Volunteer Naturalist Tony DeLorenzo at the Visitor Center to learn how the Jojoba plant has adapted to life in the desert and how to identify these adaptations in other desert plants. We’ll also discuss ancient and modern uses for this plant.

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Tuesday, February 17, 2015
11:00 a.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.

Wednesday, February 18, 2015
9:00 a.m. Hike – Ash Wash 4 Hours
Join Volunteer Naturalists Paul Larson and Ted Caragozian 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 end of the pavement north on DiGiorgio Road.

Thursday, February 19, 2015
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.

3:00 p.m. Talk - Wildlife Survey Techniques 1 Hour
San Diego Tracking Team instructors, Karin Vickars and Mac McNair will present a lecture on basic track and scat identification, animal gaits and more! This is a must for volunteer naturalists and of great interest to everyone who wants to learn more about the habits of the animals in our park. Meet in the Discovery Lab with the Naturalist Society. Everyone is welcome.

Friday, February 20, 2015
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 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.

9:00 a.m. Walk – Spring Plant Walk 2 Hours
Enjoy and learn about the ingenuity of our SURVIVAL EXPERTS--OUR AMAZING DESERT PLANTS! Meet knowledgeable members of the Park’s Botany Society for an easy morning stroll in different locations in the Park. Leaders and destinations will vary. Bring water, sun protection, and sturdy shoes. Note: Additional dates may be added, so check with the ABF Store or the Anza-Borrego Desert State Park Visitor Center for the current schedule. Meet at Anza-Borrego Foundation (ABF) Store, 587 Palm Canyon Drive #110, Borrego Springs, CA 92004.$10 per person. Call Ashley at ABF for more details and to register: 760-767-0446 ext 1003.

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Friday, February 20, 2015 (continued)

1:00 p.m. Walk - Rainbow Any Day  45 Minutes
Even when it’s not raining, you can discover a rainbow of color in the desert. Join Park Interpretive Specialist, Regina Reiter, for a unique view of the desert nearby the Visitor Center, exploring how color occurs and reveals the details of the desert that we often only glimpse. Meet in front of the Visitor Center.

7 p.m. - Presentation - Charlie Kelly Discussion, Book Signing and Movie  2.5 Hours
Join Charlie Kelly, ABF and Bike Borrego on Friday February 20 for a book signing, discussion and viewing of Klunkerz - the award-winning documentary on off-road cycling, focusing on the San Francisco Bay Area in the late 1960s and 1970s, featuring interviews with pioneers of the sport and the even more obscure characters who influenced them, including never before seen archival footage and photographs. $25 / $20 for ABF Members. Visit www.theabf.org or call Bri for more details and to register: 760-767-0446 ext 1006.

7:30 p.m. Talk Enjoy Anza-Borrego’s Dark Night Sky!  1.5 Hours
Winter nights are perfect for Stargazing at the Visitor Center! Explore constellations, search for planets, and learn about the importance of dark skies everywhere. Bring a chair or blanket to sit on, binoculars if you have them, flashlight (red lens is preferable) and your imagination! Look for Regina Reiter, Park Interpretive Specialist, on the roof of the Visitor Center.

Saturday, February 21, 2015

7:00 a.m. Hike - Mike’s Hikes: Villager Peak Summit Adventure  10 Hours
This all-day adventure will be strenuous, tough and, most importantly, long. As is the norm with strenuous desert hikes, the views will make your effort worthwhile! Experience the transition from desert to montane ecosystem, with the peak dotted by pinyon pines. The group will follow a ridge trail that is often not much of a trail at all. This cross-country trek includes some very steep sections with loose footing throughout. The hike is 13 miles out and back, with an elevation gain of 5,000 ft.—so come prepared for a large temperature difference between the start of the hike and the summit. $45 / $35 for ABF Members. Visit www.theabf.org or call Ashley for more details and to register: 760-767-0446 ext 1003.

9:00 a.m. Hike – Elephant Knees  1 Hour
Join Volunteer Naturalists Ted Caragozian and Paul Larson for a strenuous hike up to a remarkable outcrop of marine fossils about 4 million years old and a great view of the Fish Creek Badlands. Meet at the junction of Fish Creek Wash and Split Mountain Road at the end of the payment. We’ll carpool from there in 4WD vehicles.

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Denotes programs accessible to disabled. Please call ahead for special needs accommodation, (760) 767-4205.
Dogs are not permitted on trails or tours.
FEBRUARY 2015
INTERPRETIVE ACTIVITIES

Saturday, February 21, 2015 (continued)

10:00 a.m.- Bike Ride- Grapevine Canyon Mountain Bike Ride
Join Charlie for a bike ride through Grapevine Canyon, a 14 mile strenuous bike ride through scenic dirt roads, springs and cactus gardens ending at Tamarisk Grove for lunch. $25 / $15 for ABF Members. Visit www.theabf.org or call Bri for more details and to register: 760-767-0446 ext 1006.

10:00 a.m. Hike - Milling around Mine Wash
Join Volunteer Naturalist Hank Barber for a fascinating and unforgettable look at how the ingenious desert Indians used plants for food, clothing, shelter, and medicine. We will discuss how the Indians used mesquite, agave, creosote bush, and other plants. We’ll stop at a mesquite grove in Yaqui Wells, then visit an important Kumeyaay village site at Mine Wash and see bedrock mortars, slicks, basins, and rubs used for milling food. We will hike through an Ocotillo forest and have lunch along an ancient trail. Please bring lunch, hat and ample water. High clearance, 2-wheel drive is necessary. Meet in the outer area of the Visitor Cener parking lot by 10 a.m.

11:00 a.m. Walk – Beaks and Feet: Birding Made Simple
If you’ve always wanted to learn about birds but thought it’s too complicated and only for birding experts, you’ll enjoy this simple way of appreciating the birds! Join Regina Reiter, Park Interpretive Specialist, in the Visitor Center Discovery Lab for this hands on discovery session and get a close look at birds in and around the Visitor Center. For bird lovers 8 and up with no previous birding experience necessary. Bring binoculars if you have them.

2:00 p.m. – Junior Rangers
Special program for children ages 7-12. Discover secrets of the desert environment. Sign up at the Visitor Center as space is limited.

3:00 p.m. Walk – Jojoba: A Model of Desert Survival
The Jojoba plant is highly drought-resistant. Join Volunteer Naturalist Tony DeLorenzo at the Visitor Center to learn how the Jojoba plant has adapted to life in the desert and how to identify these adaptations in other desert plants. We’ll also discuss ancient and modern uses for this plant

7:30 p.m. - Campfire – Who are the Creatures in Your Neighborhood?
Meet Ranger Steve at the Borrego Palm Canyon Campground campfire center.

Diurnal, Nocturnal, Desert Life
Relies on temperature to make livin’ right!
Come to campfire with Ranger Steve
Learn things about Desert Creatures you won’t believe!

UNLESS NOTED, ALL PROGRAMS ARE FREE OF CHARGE AND HELD AT THE VISITOR CENTER
(OPEN EVERY DAY 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.
Sunday, February 22, 2015

8:00 a.m.– Auto Tour- Gas, Geese and Gryphons: Natural History of the Salton Sea 8 Hours  
On this tour we hope to see thousands of snow geese and other migratory waterfowl, geothermal power plants, vast salt and mud flats, 50 million barnacles and some strange and mysterious geologic features that are making quite a splash. $70 / $60 for ABF Members. Visit www.theabf.org or call Ashley for more details and to register: 760-767-0446 ext 1003.

8:00 a.m. Walk – Birds of Tamarisk Grove 1 Hour  
Join Becky Rusk, the Tamarisk Grove Campground Host, and/or Park Aide Beau for a stroll around the campground to look for birds. Meet at the campground office. Bring binoculars, if you can.

9:00 a.m. Walk – Spring Plant Walk 2 Hours  
Enjoy and learn about the ingenuity of our SURVIVAL EXPERTS--OUR AMAZING DESERT PLANTS! Meet knowledgeable members of the Park's Botany Society for an easy, morning stroll in different locations in the Park. Leaders and destinations will vary. Bring water, sun protection, and sturdy shoes. Note: Additional dates may be added, so check with the ABF Store or the Anza-Borrego Desert State Park Visitor Center for the current schedule. Meet at Anza-Borrego Foundation (ABF) Store, 587 Palm Canyon Drive #110, Borrego Springs, CA 92004. $10 per person. Call Ashley at ABF for more details and to register: 760-767-0446 ext 1003

10:00 a.m. Hike – Culp Valley Walk 2.5 Hours  
Take a walk on one of the favorite loops of Anza-Borrego that passes a historic spring, an awesome scenic overlook, and beautiful boulders. Meet Park Interpretive Specialist, Regina Reiter, at the entrance to Culp Valley Campground between Mile Markers 9 and 9.5 on highway S-22. This hike is rated moderate. Wear sturdy shoes, long sleeves, and a sun hat. Bring a trail lunch and 2 quarts of water to carry plus another quart to leave in your car for afterward.

11:00 a.m. Talk  
Paleontology: A Broad Overview of Key Events in Anza-Borrego 1 Hour  
In this colorfully illustrated one hour talk, Paleontology Volunteer George Gough will discuss the underlying physical sequence of events that shaped the Anza-Borrego area over recent geological time and its influence over the plants and animals that lived here – mammoths, camels, and camels – like those depicted in the metal sculptures around Borrego Springs.

1:30 Garden Walk - Small World 1 Hour  
Everyone is impressed with the vast dimensions and stunning vistas of Anza Borrego Desert State Park. The desert is equally impressive on a micro-scale. Stretch your perspective and explore the natural history of the Park up close and personal with Volunteer Naturalist Daniel Helyer for a 1 hour easy walk. Meet at the Visitor Center.

4:00 p.m. Walk  
Let’s Be Crepuscular 1 Hour  
You probably know “Nocturnal” animals, maybe “Diurnal” ones. Walk with Regina Reiter, Park Interpretive Specialist for an easy walk on the Trail to the Campground at dusk. Meet in front of the Visitor Center.

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Denotes programs accessible to disabled. Please call ahead for special needs accommodation, (760) 767-4205.  
Dogs are not permitted on trails or tours.
Monday, February 23, 2015
9:00 a.m. Hike - Earthquake Valley Panorama  3 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.

Tuesday, February 24, 2015
3:00 p.m. Talk - The Borrego Hawk Watch Experience  1.5 Hours
Discover the hawk watch phenomenon with Volunteer Naturalist and hawk watcher Joe Hopkins. Meet at the Visitor Center flagpole to caravan out to the site, observe hawk watchers on duty, and we hope, see migrating raptors. Bring binoculars, water, snacks, and appropriate clothing.

4:00 p.m. Talk – Sand Mammoth  1 Hour
Sandra Keeley will present a 45-minute talk with slides that investigates the discovery, excavation, field removal, and lab preparation of the recent Sand Mammoth fossil find.

Wednesday, February 25, 2015
9:00 a.m. Walk – Spring Plant Walk  2 Hours
Enjoy and learn about the ingenuity of our SURVIVAL EXPERTS--OUR AMAZING DESERT PLANTS! Meet knowledgeable members of the Park's Botany Society for an easy, morning stroll in different locations in the Park. Leaders and destinations will vary. Bring water, sun protection, and sturdy shoes. Note: Additional dates may be added, so check with the ABF Store or the Anza-Borrego Desert State Park Visitor Center for the current schedule. Meet at Anza-Borrego Foundation (ABF) Store (next to Calico's), 587 Palm Canyon Drive #110, Borrego Springs, CA 92004. $10 per person. Call Ashley at ABF for more details and to register: 760-767-0446 ext 1003

Thursday, February 26, 2015
9:00 a.m. Walk – Spring Plant Walk  2 Hours
See Description for Spring Plant Walk, Wednesday, February 25. $10; meet at ABF Store.

10:00 a.m. Hike – Roving Naturalist in Borrego Palm Canyon  2 Hours
Volunteer Naturalist Aleese Golding will be roaming the Alternate Trail in Borrego Palm Canyon searching for interesting features along the trail. Look for her in her vest. This is not a guided hike.

1:00 p.m. Walk - Rainbow Any Day  45 Minutes
Even when it’s not raining, you can discover a rainbow of color in the desert. Join Park Interpretive Specialist Regina Reiter for a unique view of the desert nearby the Visitor Center, exploring how color occurs and reveals the details of the desert that we often only glimpse. Meet in front of the Visitor Center.

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Thursday, February 26, 2015 (continued)

2:00 p.m. Talk – Colorado Desert Archaeological Society   1 Hour
Talking Stone: Rock Art of the Cosos with Dr. Alan Garfinkel Gold, Ph.D. Hidden away in the canyons of a top secret military base on the edge of the Mojave Desert is the largest concentration of rock art in North America. Created over thousands of years by a now vanished culture, it represents the oldest art in California. The film, Talking Stone, explores the remote canyons and mysteries surround these amazing images.

4:00 p.m. Walk – Let’s Be Crepuscular   1 Hour
You probably know “Nocturnal” animals, maybe “Diurnal” ones. Walk with Regina Reiter, Park Interpretive Specialist for an easy walk on the Trail to the Campground at dusk to explore the fascinating and surprisingly active hour between the dayshift and the nightshift of the animal world. Meet in front of the Visitor Center.

Friday, February 27, 2015

8:30 a.m. Walk – Henderson Canyon   5.5 Hours
Join volunteer naturalists Celeste Doughty and Ann Keenan on a moderately strenuous 6-mile exploratory hike up Henderson Canyon. There will be some rock scrambling. We expect to see wildflowers, colorful rocks and other spectacular desert features. Bring water and lunch. Meet in the upper parking at the Visitor Center at 8:30 a.m. to carpool to the trail head. This hike is limited to 10 participants. Please sign up in the Visitor Center.

9:00 a.m. Hike – Harper Flat   4.5 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.

7:30 p.m. Talk – Enjoy Anza-Borrego’s Dark Night Sky!   1.5 Hours
Winter nights are perfect for Stargazing at the Visitor Center! Explore constellations, search for planets, 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 on the roof of the Visitor Center.

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February 28 & March 7
9 a.m.- Workshop- Paddle and Anvil Pottery 7 Hours
In this workshop, Tony Soares will demonstrate paddle and anvil pottery-making techniques and guide participants in the process of creating their own olla using hand-dug clay from the area. The first day of this two-day workshop is devoted to learning how the clay is made, how paints are made and used to decorate pottery, and building your own pot. After the pots have had a week to dry, participants return to paint their piece before the pots are fired using traditional pit firing (weather permitting). Participants will see traditional designs used on prehistoric ollas from the Anza-Borrego region and paint designs on their pots with authentic pigments. The class will also offer the opportunity to make a supportive ring from palm fronds to stabilize your pot when on display. All materials provided. Limited to 10 participants. $160 / $150 for ABF members. Visit www.theabf.org or call Ashley for more details and to register: 760-767-0446 ext 1003.

Saturday, February 28, 2015
8 a.m.-Hike- Flat Cat Canyon Hike 7.5 Hours
Join Phil Roullard on a strenuous hike to the first palm grove of Flat Cat Canyon, located just north of Hellhole Canyon. Enjoy the rugged desert habitat and keep your fingers crossed for the possibility of seeing bighorn sheep as you go up in elevation. Once in the canyon, you’ll walk along a sandy wash, boulder hop, and wade your way through vegetation until you reach a native grove of California fan palms. This tough 5-mile hike has an elevation gain/loss of 1,800 feet. $45 / $35 for ABF Members. Visit www.theabf.org or call Ashley for more details and to register: 760-767-0446 ext 1003.

9:00-11:00 a.m. Cart Program - Solve The Desert Water Puzzle 10 minutes ongoing
Do you know what it means to “take plenty of water”? Meet Park Interpretive Specialist, Regina Reiter, in front of the Visitor Center to solve The Water Puzzle and learn how to calculate your water needs while you’re visiting Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. You’ll also get some tips on how to locate the Park’s Desert Bighorn Sheep by discovering their watering habits! Stop by anytime between 9 and 11 to develop your “water aptitude”.

11:00 a.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.

1:00 Garden Walk - Small World 1 Hour
Everyone is impressed with the vast dimensions and stunning vistas of Anza Borrego Desert State Park. The desert is equally impressive on a micro-scale. Stretch your perspective and explore the natural history of the Park up close and personal with Volunteer Naturalist Daniel Hellyer for a 1 hour easy walk. Meet at the Visitor Center.

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DOGS ARE NOT PERMITTED ON TRAILS OR TOURS.
Saturday, February 28, 2015 (continued)

2:00 p.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.

4:00 p.m. Walk 🪳 Let’s Be Crepuscular  
1 Hour  
You probably know “Nocturnal” animals, maybe “Diurnal” ones. Walk with Regina Reiter, Park Interpretive Specialist for an easy walk on the Trail to the Campground at dusk to explore the fascinating and surprisingly active hour between the dayshift and the nightshift of the animal world. Meet in front of the Visitor Center.

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 Campground Campfire Center. P.S. Campfire songs are always a possibility.

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WILDFLOWER INFORMATION

Want to know where flowers are blooming?  
- Call the Wildflower Hotline at 760-767-4684  
- Sign up for our email list at www.theabf.org  
- Check at the Visitor Center for the latest updates  
- Check the State Park website at http://parks.ca.gov

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FEBRUARY 2015
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.

✓ 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!!!

✓ 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.

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