

Junior Ranger Benefit Concert

Borrego Springs, CA - Anza-Borrego Foundation is pleased to announce a night with songwriter Tony Feathers, with all proceeds to benefit Anza-Borrego Desert State Park's Junior Ranger Program.

Tony will perform a one-man benefit concert for ABF at the Borrego Springs Performing Arts Center on Friday, March 7th, at 7:30 pm. Tickets may be purchased for \$15 at the State Park Store next to Calico's on Palm Canyon Drive. All proceeds go to support the Junior Ranger Program. "To me, this is the best and most important community outreach program we have at the Park" says Tony.

As a Park Volunteer for the past five years, Tony has shared his children's songs with the Junior Ranger Program, a ten-week educational program conducted each year for the fourth graders at Borrego Springs Elementary School. The goal of the Junior Ranger program is to introduce children to the natural wonders of the park and their own role in preserving these wonders for the future.

Tony says he originally planned to lead interpretive programs for adults in the park, but that the children won his heart from the very beginning. "It's the highlight of my year" he said.

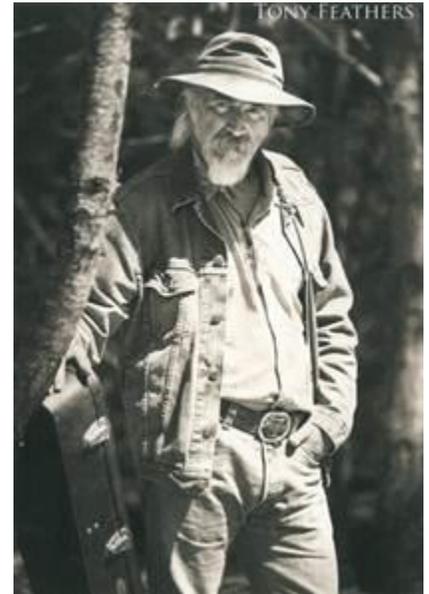
"The last place I thought I would end up is on stage with a guitar." But early on the songs started to pour out. Self-taught on the guitar, Tony says, "I don't consider myself a musician, but I do try to do enough to wrap my words and stories in melody, and to get my point across." With roots in the Appalachian Mountains, his grandfather played the fiddle and his grandmother wrote poetry. "Those two forces seemed to come together for me. It's not what I tried to do, it's just what seemed to happen" says Tony.

His first CD, 'Everybody Loves Their Life,' receives good radio play on public radio. "Having never tried to write commercial music or sought commercial success, being played on public radio was my greatest compliment," Tony says.

Over the past few years, Tony has performed in various venues from American stages to live radio, benefit concerts for various causes, small town festivals, and our own PAC stage in two Christmas specials. He also placed in the National Chris Austin Songwriting Competition in Wilksboro, North Carolina. "That's the most prominent songwriting competition in the country, and my greatest honor and thrill," says Tony.

Now with a new band, a new CD in production, and a growing performance schedule, Tony says he cherishes every moment he can spend in Borrego Springs.

Tony would like to thank ABF for their support of our beautiful park and especially this particular program. So come out and enjoy, we hope to see you there.



Anza-Borrego Foundation is the nonprofit cooperating association for Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. The mission of Anza-Borrego Foundation is to protect and preserve the natural landscapes, wildlife habitat, and cultural heritage of Anza-Borrego Desert State Park for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations. ABF's education programs provide high quality, in-depth educational courses to over 1,300 visitors each year. www.theabf.org