

# FEBRUARY 2009

## INTERPRETIVE

## SCHEDULE



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### Sunday, February 1, 2009

#### 7:30 a.m. – Walk - ♿ - Beginner's Bird Walk

90 minutes

Join Volunteer Naturalist Ann Keenan for an easy walk around the Visitor Center Garden looking for the common birds of our desert. Meet in the Visitor Center parking lot. Please bring binoculars and a field guide if you have them. (This program will be cancelled if raining.)

#### 8:30 a.m. – \$\$ - Uneasy Crust: The Borrego Badlands - Geology and Paleontology Discovery Series

Instructor: Paul Remeika Fee: Member \$35; Non-member \$45

Meet at ABDSP Visitor Center parking lot. The Borrego Badlands area is one of the most seismic regions in California, and features one of the youngest and best-preserved fossil basins in North America. This auto tour is a must for any geology aficionado! Discover the fascinating geology and paleontology of the Anza-Borrego region through this series of four driving tours with a retired ranger who spent close to thirty years studying and writing about the geologic history of this area. **4WD required.** Bring plenty of water, lunch, camera, and be prepared for short adventure hikes along the way.

Call ABFI for more information: (760)767-4063

#### 10:00 a.m. – Talk - ♿ - Lifestyles of the Hot and Thirsty

30 minutes

Cactus and succulents have some amazing adaptations that help them survive in extremely hot and dry climates. This talk will reveal some little-known facts about how cacti work overtime to stay alive. Volunteer Naturalist Don Rideout will discuss the most common cactus species of Anza-Borrego as we stroll through the Visitor Center garden.

#### 11:00 a.m. – Talk - ♿ - Arachnophobia

30 minutes

Join Park Interpreter Nova Clarke in the Discovery Lab for a look at the eight-legged residents of Anza-Borrego. Find out about their role in the ecosystem and why there is no reason to be afraid of them.

### Wednesday, February 4, 2009

#### 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.

#### 10:00 a.m. – Talk - Culp Valley Tailgate Tour

1 hour

Ranger Rodriguez talks about why this area is one of her favorites in the park. Learn a bit of the history of the area and enjoy the beautiful views! Meet at Paroli Camp in Culp Valley: Take Hwy. S-22 west, up the Montezuma Grade; halfway up the mountain, the road becomes two lanes; take the left lane and look for the "Culp Valley Road" sign and turn left onto the dirt road. Follow this road west and take the left fork in the road.

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# FEBRUARY 2009

## INTERPRETIVE

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### Friday, February 6, 2009

**10:00 a.m. – Talk - ♿ - Camels, Sloths, and Seashells --ABDSP fossils**

**30 minutes**

Join Volunteer Naturalist Sandra Keeley in the Discovery Lab for a Powerpoint presentation about recent fossil finds in Anza-Borrego.

**7:00 p.m. - \$\$ - Talk - Goddess of the Night - Desert Skies Outdoor Lecture Series**

Anza-Borrego Desert State Park Visitor Center amphitheater. **Suggested donation \$5**

She's been known throughout the ages as Diana, Aphrodite, and Isis, and she's inspired us in poetry, art, song and science. Tonight we'll explore the many ways we are touched by the magical light of this great celestial goddess: the moon. Join popular astronomer and syndicated columnist Dennis Mammana as he enlightens and inspires us about the mysteries of the cosmos visible from the Anza-Borrego Desert. Each of these exciting programs will be followed by telescope viewing of the desert sky, weather permitting. Please dress warmly and bring a blanket on which to sit. While it isn't necessary, feel free to bring binoculars and a flashlight (covered with red cellophane to protect night vision).

**Call ABFI for more information: (760)767-4063**

### Saturday, February 7, 2009

**9:00 a.m. – Talk/Walk – What is a Borrego?**

**1 hour**

Join Park Interpreter Nova Clarke at the Borrego Palm Canyon trailhead to learn about our resident desert bighorns. From there we will wander part way up the canyon to learn a bit more about the ecosystem and perhaps see a bighorn.

**10:00 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. – 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 fascinating new insights into the behavior of some species they already know.

**2:00 p.m. – Talk - ♿ - Dark Shadows**

**30 minutes**

Most creatures that live out here blend in with the desert but there are two dark birds that you might see circling overhead who have adapted to life out here without blending in. Join Park Interpreter Nova Clarke to learn more about these dark shadows.

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# FEBRUARY 2009 INTERPRETIVE SCHEDULE



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## Saturday, February 7, 2009

### 6:00 p.m. – \$\$ - Music Under the Stars With Rick Shea

Tickets are \$20 and a limited number of seats are available.

Rick Shea returns with a special concert at the Anza-Borrego Desert State Park Visitor Center Amphitheatre, sponsored by the Anza-Borrego Foundation and Institute.

No host bar, hors d'oeuvres. **Call ABFI for more information: (760)767-4063**

### 7:30 p.m. – Campfire - ♿ - Desert Plant Survival

**1 hour**

Ranger Nancy Wittig shares the amazing adaptations of how plants survive in the desert. Meet at the Borrego Palm Canyon Campfire Center.



## Sunday, February 8, 2009

### 8:00 a.m. – Hike - Roving Naturalist in Borrego Palm Canyon

**3 hours**

Volunteer Naturalist Toni Alexander 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.

### 8:30 a.m. – Walk – Bird Walk at Tamarisk Grove

**2 hours**

Search for birds of the season in the area of Tamarisk Grove Campground (including Yaqui Well) with Ranger Bob Theriault. Meet at the campground office, located on County Road S-3, near the junction with State Highway 78. Bring binoculars and sturdy shoes for this moderate stroll of up to 2 hours.

### 10:00 a.m. – Talk - ♿ - Modern Warrior/Ancient God..... The Scorpion

**30 minutes**

Join Volunteer Naturalist Gerald Ehly to learn more about the fascinating life of the scorpion and its significance to different cultures all over the world. Meet in the Discovery Lab.

### 12:00 p.m. – Talk – Tailgate Tours

**1 hour**

Join the only CA State Park pilot, Ranger Kelly McCague, for a special presentation about her responsibilities and see the plane up close. Program will meet and be conducted at the Borrego Springs Airport.

### 1:00 p.m. – Talk - ♿ - Where is that Wascally Wabbit?

**45 minutes**

Join Park Interpreter Nova Clarke to learn about the rabbits, roadrunners, and coyotes of Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. Find out what the cartoons get right and wrong. Meet at the Visitor Center Amphitheater.

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# FEBRUARY 2009

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### Thursday, February 12, 2009

#### 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 round trip 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.

#### 10:00 a.m. – Talk - ♿ - Those Rambunctious Ravens!

45 minutes

Can you tell Ravens from Crows? Do you believe the myths and poems about Ravens? Come hear Volunteer Naturalist Joan Rosen give an outdoor presentation in the Plaza about our Borrego Ravens and their lively times.

#### 11:00 a.m. – Talk - ♿ - Cahuilla Medicine Chest

45 minutes

Join Volunteer Naturalist Mike Bigelow in the Discovery Lab to learn about the medicine chest full of effective treatments that the Cahuilla people utilized long before the first Europeans arrived.

### Saturday, February 14, 2009

#### 8:00 a.m. – Hike - Roving Naturalist in Borrego Palm Canyon

3.5 hours

Volunteer Naturalist Toni Alexander 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.

#### 8:30 a.m. - \$\$ - Escape to Anza-Borrego: Calcite Canyon Scenic Area

5.5 hours

Instructor: Paul Johnson **Fee: Member \$35; Non-member \$45**

Meet at ABDSP Visitor Center flagpole

On the old maps of Anza-Borrego, the northeast corner of the park around the Calcite Mine was called Calcite Canyon Scenic Area. We will hike into two different canyons in this little-known area. The first hike is approximately 2 miles roundtrip and will visit the Sheep Tanks or Tinajas of North Palm Wash. The second hike, approximately 2.5 miles, will venture up a canyon with no name, but lots of impressive rock formations. The terrain will be rocky, involving some rock-hopping and a couple of scrambles up short, steep, rocky slopes. Participants should wear **STURDY SHOES OR BOOTS** (not flimsy tennis shoes or sandals) and be prepared for rough terrain. We will examine geologic formations, native plants, and the natural history of these remote canyons. 4WD required and carpooling encouraged. Bring lunch and water.

**Call ABFI for more information: (760)767-4063**

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# FEBRUARY 2009

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### SCHEDULE



**Saturday, February 14, 2009**

**10:00 a.m. – Talk – Tailgate Tours**

**1 hour**

Join Ranger Steve Bier to learn about The Great Southern Migration, a look at the Sonoran Rd., Mormon Battalion, and the Southern Emigrant Trail. Meet at the big pull out on the left side of S-2, below Campbell Grade. Campbell Grade is the hill just past Butterfield Stage Stop.

**10:00 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

**10:00 a.m. – Talk - ♿ - Lifestyles of the Hot and Thirsty**

**30 minutes**

Cactus and succulents have some amazing adaptations that help them survive in extremely hot and dry climates. This talk will reveal some little-known facts about how cacti work overtime to stay alive. Volunteer Naturalist Don Rideout will discuss the most common cactus species of Anza-Borrego as we stroll through the Visitor Center garden.

**1:00 p.m. – Talk/Walk – What is a Borrego?**

**1 hour**

Join Park Interpreter Nova Clarke at the Borrego Palm Canyon trailhead to learn about our resident desert bighorns. From there we will wander part way up the canyon to learn a bit more about the ecosystem and perhaps see a bighorn.

**2:00 p.m. – Walk - ♿ - Hardy Desert Survivors**

**45 minutes**

Join Naturalist 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.



**6:00 p.m. – Talk - ♿ - Photo Contest Awards Ceremony and Reception**

**3 hours**

Borrego Springs Performing Arts Center

Photo contest judge Paul Johnson will show images of the winning photos, and explain what went into the judges' decisions in determining award winners. A great opportunity to hear about what distinguishes a great image from all of the good photos submitted!

**Call ABFI for more information: (760)767-4063**

**7:30 p.m. – Campfire - ♿ - Mysteries of Anza-Borrego**

**1 hour**

Take a deeper look into the past. Join Ranger Josh for a trip into the earlier times of Anza-Borrego Desert State Park at the Borrego Palm Canyon Campfire center.

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# FEBRUARY 2009

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**Sunday, February 15, 2009**

**7:00 a.m. - \$\$ - Morning Light Photo Safari**

**3 hours**

Instructor: Paul Johnson

Fee: Member \$25; Non-member \$35

Meet at ABDSP Visitor Center Flagpole

Visit a Badlands overlook and scenic Hawk Canyon for tips on taking morning shots of photogenic rock formations. Bring camera, tripod, and interchangeable lenses if you have them. High clearance 4WD recommended; carpooling will be encouraged.

**Call ABFI for more information: (760)767-4063**

**7:30 a.m. – Walk - ♿ - Beginner’s Bird Walk**

**90 minutes**

Join Volunteer Naturalist Ann Keenan for an easy walk around the Visitor Center Garden looking for the common birds of our desert. Meet in the Visitor Center parking lot. Please bring binoculars and a field guide if you have them. (This program will be cancelled if raining.)

**8:00 a.m. – Walk – Tracking Walk**

**2 hours**

The desert is full of life, but most of it is hidden from the casual observer. Join Volunteer Naturalist-Tracker Karin Vickars 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.

**10:00 a.m. – Talk - ♿ - Where is that Wascally Wabbit?**

**45 minutes**

Join Park Interpreter Nova Clarke to learn about the rabbits, roadrunners, and coyotes of Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. Find out what the cartoons get right and wrong. Meet at the Visitor Center Amphitheater.

**10:00 a.m. – Walk – Unsolved Mysteries of Mine Wash**

**90 minutes**

Join Ranger Jeri Zemon to see the remains of a Kumeyaay village site. We will look for clues about the daily life of the people who once lived there. Easy walk. Directions: from Tamarisk Grove Campground turn east on Highway 78, continue 2.7 miles to Mine Wash. Road. Drive 1 mile on this passable dirt road to the parking area.

**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 fascinating new insights into the behavior of some species they already know.

**1:00 p.m. – Talk/Walk – What is a Borrego?**

**1 hour**

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# FEBRUARY 2009 INTERPRETIVE SCHEDULE



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## Sunday, February 15, 2009

### 3:00 p.m. - \$\$ - Evening Light Photo Safari

3 hours

Instructor: Ernie Cowan

Fee: Member \$25; Non-member \$35

Meet at ABDSP Visitor Center Flagpole

Get tips from an expert on using afternoon light effectively in photographs of stunning places such as Fonts Point. We'll catch the sunset with our cameras. Bring tripod and interchangeable lenses if available. 4WD is needed; carpooling will be encouraged.

Call ABFI for more information: (760)767-4063

## Monday, February 16, 2009

### 10:00 a.m. – Talk - ♿ - Rambling Rodents

30 minutes

Join Park Interpreter Nova Clarke to learn about the common rodents of Anza- Borrego including the packrats, mice, and squirrels and why they might end up visiting you at your home or the campground.

### 11:00 a.m. – Talk - ♿ - In Search of the Elusive Elephant Tree

30 minutes

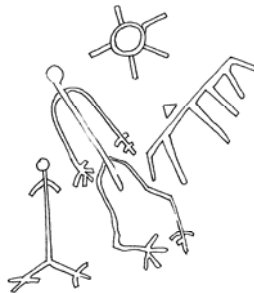
The seldom seen, endangered elephant tree survives in only a few scattered and isolated spots in California. Join Volunteer Naturalist Karen Cormier at the Visitor Center to find out how to identify these distinctive trees, hear why Native Americans valued the trees, and discover where you can look for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

## Wednesday, February 18, 2009

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

2.5 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.



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### Friday, February 20, 2009

**11:00 a.m. – Talk - ♿ - “Song Dog” ... The Wiley 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.



### Saturday, February 21, 2009

**7:30 a.m. – Talk - The Borrego Hawk Watch Experience**

**1 hour**

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.

**10:00 a.m. – Talk - ♿ - 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. – Talk/Walk – What is a Borrego?**

**1 hour**

Join Park Interpreter Nova Clarke at the Borrego Palm Canyon trailhead to learn about our resident desert bighorns. From there we will wander part way up the canyon to learn a bit more about the ecosystem and perhaps see a bighorn.

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

**1 hour**

Discover the wonders of Anza-Borrego Desert State Park! Join Park Ranger Steve Bier at the Borrego Palm Canyon Campfire Center to explore the natural desert world.

**7:30 p.m. - \$\$ - ♿ - Ursula Tania, Storyteller/Dancer**

Borrego Springs Performing Arts Center

**Suggested donation \$5**

Back by popular demand from last year's Archaeology Weekend, Ms. Tania will mesmerize you with her storytelling, music, and dance. **Call ABFI for more information: (760)767-4063**

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# FEBRUARY 2009 INTERPRETIVE SCHEDULE



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## ARCHAEOLOGY WEEKEND Anza-Borrego Desert State Park Visitor Center Borrego Springs, California February 21-22, 2009

Join us for a celebration of over 75 years of preserving cultural resources with a weekend full of field trips, lectures, activities for kids, demonstrations, an ice cream social and silent auction! Unless otherwise indicated, all events and lectures take place at ABDSP Visitor Center, and are free of charge. Proceeds from Field Trips benefit Colorado District Archaeology Society. **Please visit [www.theabf.org](http://www.theabf.org) or call (760) 767-4063 for more information and field trip registration.**

### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

#### Saturday, February 21

##### Saturday Events

**9-4:30** - Silent Auction at the Begole Archaeological Research Center. Bidding closes at 4:30 pm. Winning bids announced at 5:00 pm. (Winners need not be present)

**9-4:00** - Native American basket and pottery display and demonstrations. Craft items will be for sale.

**9:30-4:00** - Walking tours to the Archaeology and Paleontology Labs.

Groups depart from Visitor Center front door approximately every half hour.

**9:30-3:00** - Kids Activity Area. Fun-Table, Archaeological dig, arts & crafts.

**12-1:00** - Native American uses of desert plants. By: Abby Barker

**3-5:30** - Free Ice Cream Social, with announcement of silent auction winning bids at 5:00. Begole Archaeological Research Center.

**7:30 p.m.** - Native American Program – Ursula Tania, storyteller/dancer at Borrego Springs Performing Arts Center. **\$5.00**

**Note – A film on the Archaeological Resources Protection Act will be shown throughout the day in the theatre**

##### Saturday Lectures

**10-11:00** - Cultural Preserves: The who, what, where, when, why. By: Joan Schneider, Ph.D. Associate Park Archaeologist

**11-12:00** - Pottery Symposium: A review of the Pottery workshop held on Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> Moderated by: Sue Wade, Colorado Desert District Archaeologist

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- 1-2:30** - Site Stewardship: The role of Site Stewards in protecting and preserving Cultural Preserves. By: Patty McFarland, State Archaeologist, and Volunteer Site Stewards: Chuck Bennett, Bernie Haskell, Bob Veborg, Ruth & Davis Otis, Toni Kastelic
- 2:30-3:30** - Piedras Grandes – An overview of a proposed Cultural Preserve. (Preview of a ABFI field trip on Sunday) By: Joan Schneider, Ph.D. Associate State Archaeologist.
- 3:30-4:30** - Vallecito Valley – An overview of a proposed Cultural Preserve. (Preview of a ABFI field trip on Sunday) By: Sue Wade, Colorado Desert District Archaeologist.

### Sunday, February 22

#### Sunday Events

- 9-3:00** - Native American basket and pottery display and demonstrations. Craft items will be for sale.
- 9:30-1:00** - Kids Activity Area. Fun-table, archaeology dig, arts and crafts.
- 9:30-12:00** Walking tours to Archaeology and Paleontology Labs. Depart from Visitor Center doors every half hour.
- 10-2:00** Display of desert plants that were used by Native Americans for food, clothing, & medicine. By: Marge Hatcher.

**Note – A film on the Archaeological Resources Protection Act will be shown throughout the day in the theatre**

#### Sunday Lectures

- 11-12:00** - Site Stewardship Program: Meet some of the Parks Site Stewards as they talk about their sites. By: Nick Clapp, Stan Rohrer & Deborah Corbett, Trudy & Lloyd Richard, Mel Sweet & Brian Fallgren

#### Sunday Field Trips

##### **9-3:30 - Piedras Grandes (Big Rocks)**

Join Park Archaeologist Joan Schneider at this soon-to-be designated Cultural Preserve. Discover the wealth of cultural resources, including the “Horse & Rider” Pictograph. It was chosen as one of the first Cultural Preserves for good reason – find out why!

##### **10-2:00 - Vallecito Valley**

Vallecito Valley has attracted human occupation for thousands of years. Archaeologist Sue Wade will conduct a tour of the Campbell Ranch property, describing its history as a desert ranching operation. Discover the importance of the Valley’s cienega (marsh area) to the prehistoric peoples, who regularly visited the area to hunt and collect plant foods. Find out why the Park plans on designating a part of the property as a Cultural Preserve.

**All field trips require pre-registration and payment. For reservations call ABFI at (760) 767-4063.**

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### Sunday, February 22, 2009

**8:00 a.m. – Hike - Roving Naturalist in Borrego Palm Canyon** **3.5 hours**

Volunteer Naturalist Toni Alexander 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.

### Wednesday, February 25, 2009

**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.

### Thursday, February 26, 2009

**10:00 a.m. – Talk - ♿ - Those Rambunctious Ravens!** **45 minutes**

Can you tell Ravens from Crows? Do you believe the myths and poems about Ravens? Come hear Volunteer Naturalist Joan Rosen give an outdoor presentation in the Plaza about our Borrego Ravens and their lively times.

**11:00 a.m. – Talk - ♿ - Cahuilla Medicine Chest** **45 minutes**

Join Volunteer Naturalist Mike Bigelow in the Discovery Lab to learn about the medicine chest full of effective treatments that the Cahuilla people utilized long before the first Europeans arrived.

### Saturday, February 28, 2009

**7:30 a.m. – Walk - ♿ - Beginner’s Bird Walk** **90 minutes**

Join Volunteer Naturalist Ann Keenan for an easy walk around the Visitor Center Garden looking for the common birds of our desert. Meet in the Visitor Center parking lot. Please bring binoculars and a field guide if you have them. (This program will be cancelled if raining.)

**8:00 a.m. – Hike - Roving Naturalist in Borrego Palm Canyon** **3.5 hours**

Volunteer Naturalist Toni Alexander 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.

**9:00 a.m. – Hike – Hornblend Canyon** **3 hours**

Hornblend Canyon is a little gem hidden in the Anza Borrego ...it’s not even on the maps! Come and explore this wonderful canyon with Volunteer Naturalist Thad McManus. We will see interesting geologic formations, flowers, and bushes in bloom, a wild beehive, and a large number of moteros and metates. This hike is rated as “fairly strenuous”, since we do climb up or around some dry waterfalls, but the pace will be moderate so we can look and see. Total distance is 3 miles. Bring water, something to eat and a good hat. Meet at the Box Canyon Memorial, 8.6 miles south of Scissors Crossing on S2.

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ALL PROGRAMS ARE FREE OF CHARGE UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED. PROGRAMS ARE HELD AT THE VISITOR CENTER UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED.

**DOGS ARE NOT PERMITTED ON TRAILS OR TOURS.** ♿ DENOTES PROGRAMS ACCESSIBLE TO DISABLED. PLEASE CALL AHEAD FOR SPECIAL NEEDS ACCOMMODATION, (760) 767-4205.

# FEBRUARY 2009

## INTERPRETIVE

### SCHEDULE



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**Saturday, February 28, 2009**

**9:00 a.m. - \$\$ - Slots, Canyons, and Vistas of Canyon Sin Nombre**

**7 hours**

Instructor: Diana Lindsay

Fee: Member \$25; Non-member \$35

Meet at Carrizo Badlands Overlook, on Highway S2

Join Diana Lindsay for some moderately difficult hiking in the beautiful canyons accessible from Canyon Sin Nombre, and take in stunning vistas from the top!

Bring lunch, water and sunscreen. **4WD high clearance recommended.**

**Call ABFI for more information: (760)767-4063**

**10:00 a.m. – Talk/Walk – What is a Borrego?**

**1 hour**

Join Park Interpreter Nova Clarke at the Borrego Palm Canyon trailhead to learn about our resident desert bighorns. From there we will wander part way up the canyon to learn a bit more about the ecosystem and perhaps see a bighorn.

**10:00 a.m. – Military Wash Experience Tailgate Tour**

**1 hour**

Join Ranger Jim to discuss the history of Rake Station at Military Wash. Meet at the restroom of the Arroyo Salado Primitive Campground off Highway S22, MM 34.8

**4WD required.**

**10:00 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.

**11:00 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.”

**2:00 p.m. – Talk - ♿ - Where is that Wascally Wabbit?**

**45 minutes**

Join Park Interpreter Nova Clarke to learn about the rabbits, roadrunners, and coyotes of Anza-Borrego Desert State Park. Find out what the cartoons get right and wrong.

Meet at the Visitor Center Amphitheater.

**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.

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# FEBRUARY 2009

# INTERPRETIVE

# SCHEDULE



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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.
- ✓ **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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