

# NOVEMBER 2009 INTERPRETIVE SCHEDULE



## Sunday, November 1, 2009

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

3 Hours

Volunteer Naturalist Bonnie Clapp will be roaming the Borrego Palm Canyon Trail searching for bighorn sheep and other interesting features along the trail. Look for her in her Volunteer Vest as you hike to the palm oasis. **This is not a guided hike.**

## Thursday, November 5, 2009

### 11:00 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 Visitor Center Discovery Lab

## Friday, November 6, 2009

### Three Day Anza-Borrego Photography Workshop \$\$

3 days

Instructors: Ernie Cowan and Paul Johnson

Fee: Members \$295; Non-members \$325

November 6-8, 2009. Improve your skills through three days of intensive field and classroom sessions with two professional photographers who have been viewing Anza-Borrego from behind the lens for many years. Advance registration required. Call ABI for more information: (760) 767-4063.



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.

# NOVEMBER 2009 INTERPRETIVE SCHEDULE



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**Saturday, November 7, 2009**

**8:00 a.m. – \$\$ – Hike of the Month: Rattlesnake Canyon**

**5 hours**

Instructor: Bob Theriault     Fee: \$10

Join Ranger Bob for this inaugural hike in our new Hike of the Month series! You'll hike around Lute Ridge and part way into Rattlesnake Canyon. Advance registration required. Call ABI for more information: (760) 767-4063.

**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.

**11:30 a.m. – Talk - ♿ - Tracks Tell Tales**

**45 minutes**

Tracks tell the fascinating stories of the lives of our animal neighbors in the Anza Borrego Desert. Meet our Volunteer Tracker-Naturalist Karin Vickars and start to learn to read these tales of life -- and death -- in the desert. Meet in the Discovery Lab.

**12:00 p.m. – Talk - ♿ - Tailgate Tour**

**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. Take Palm Canyon Drive east from Christmas Circle to S22. Airport on the left.

**1:00 p.m. – Hike – Discovering the Archeological History of the Morteros**

**2 Hours**

Discover the hidden secrets of an ancient Native American village site. Join Volunteer Archeologist 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, 3 miles off Highway S-2.

**1:30 p.m. – Walk - ♿ - Welcome to the Desert**

**45 Minutes**

Allow 45 minutes for this easy garden walk that introduces you to the plants and animals of the desert. Meet with a staff Interpreter/Naturalist at the Visitor Center entrance.

**7:00 p.m. – \$\$ – Rain of Fire (Desert Skies Outdoor Lecture Series)**

**2 hours**

Instructor: Dennis Mammana     \$5 suggested donation

Get ready for winter meteor showers! Popular astronomer Dennis Mammana enlightens and inspires us with the mysteries of the cosmos, followed by telescope viewing, weather permitting. Dress warmly and bring blanket and flashlight to the Nierenberg Plaza at ABDSP Visitor Center. Call ABI for more information: (760) 767-4063.

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# NOVEMBER 2009 INTERPRETIVE SCHEDULE



**Sunday, November 8, 2009**  
8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. – Class

6 ½ Hours



## Wildlife Survey Training Class

Learn to read the exciting stories written on our desert sand and help to ensure the protection of our critical wildlife habitat. Experienced tracker/naturalists from the Anza-Borrego Tracking Team (ABTT) will provide a lively day of free training to prospective wildlife survey volunteers. Training will combine an outdoor hands-on morning and a brief afternoon session in the Visitor Center Discovery Lab. Completion of the day entitles you to participate in tacking transects across San Diego County, and you will be expected to sign up for one wildlife survey transect.

Bring enthusiasm and curiosity, hat, sunblock, water, sensible footwear and lunch unless you plan on going to a local restaurant. Meet at the Visitor Center parking lot.

For more information contact [karinvickars@hotmail.com](mailto:karinvickars@hotmail.com)

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

3 Hours

Volunteer Naturalist Bonnie Clapp will be roaming the Borrego Palm Canyon Trail searching for bighorn sheep and other interesting features along the trail. Look for her in her Volunteer Vest as you hike to the palm oasis. **This is not a guided hike.**

### 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. Meet in the Visitor Center Discovery Lab.

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# NOVEMBER 2009 INTERPRETIVE SCHEDULE



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## Thursday, November 12, 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.
- 10:30 a.m. – Talk** ♿ **Camels, horses and sloths --ABDSP fossils** **30 minutes**  
In this 30 minute slide presentation investigate recent fossil finds with Volunteer Paleontologist and Naturalist Sandra Keeley. Meet at the Visitor Center Discovery Lab.

## Saturday, November 14, 2009

- 8:30 a.m. – \$\$ – Macro Photography Class** **8 hours**  
Instructor: Paul Johnson Fee: Members \$35; Non-members \$45  
Learn to take more effective close-up shots from a pro! This is a brand-new category in our annual photo contest. Advance registration required. Call ABI for more information: (760) 767-4063.
- 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 - ♿ - 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 – ♿ -Mountain Lions** **30 minutes**  
Investigate the habits and habitats of our top predator, the mountain lion, with Volunteer Naturalist Grace Clark, and discover how you can protect yourself while protecting them at the same time. Meet in the Visitor Center Discovery Lab.
- 6:00 p.m. - \$\$ – Music Under the Stars, with the “Sand Daddies”** **3 hours**  
Tickets \$15 each. Call ABF for more information: (760) 767-4063.  
Dance the night away with this favorite local band's mix of popular tunes. Refreshments and no-host bar. Nierenberg Plaza at ABDSP Visitor Center. Advance registration required.

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# NOVEMBER 2009 INTERPRETIVE SCHEDULE



## Sunday, November 15, 2009

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

**3 Hours**

Volunteer Naturalist Bonnie Clapp will be roaming the Borrego Palm Canyon Trail searching for bighorn sheep and other interesting features along the trail. Look for her in her Volunteer Vest as you hike to the palm oasis. **This is not a guided hike.**

## Thursday, November 19, 2009

### 9:00 a.m. – Hike – Squeeze through the Slot

**3 Hours**

Join Volunteer Naturalists Mary Ekelund and Paul Larson on a moderate 3-mile round trip hike through a winding slot canyon with rugged walls, overhanging rocks, and some surprising wild flowers. You will have to negotiate some tight squeezes and a short climb up a very steep hill. Be sure to bring the usual water, hat, and sturdy footwear. Meet at Buttes Pass Road, 1.5 miles east of Borrego Springs Road on Highway 78.

## Friday, November 20, 2009

### 11:00 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 Visitor Center Discovery Lab.



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# NOVEMBER 2009 INTERPRETIVE SCHEDULE



## Saturday, November 21, 2009

- 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.”
- 12:00 p.m. – \$\$ – Desert Sky Photography for Beginners** **1 hour**  
Instructor: Dennis Mammana      Fee: Members \$35; Non-members \$45  
If you enjoy photography and are fascinated by the night sky, this hands-on course is for you! Learn to capture sunsets as well as nighttime photos of the stars, moon and planets. Advance registration required. Call ABI for more information: (760) 767-4063.
- 12:00 p.m. – Hike – Discovering the Archeological History of the Morteros** **2 Hours**  
Discover the hidden secrets of an ancient Native American village site. Join Volunteer Archeologist 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, 3 miles off Highway S-2.
- 1:30 p.m. – Walk - ♿ - Welcome to the Desert** **45 Minutes**  
Allow 45 minutes for this easy garden walk that introduces you to the plants and animals of the desert. Meet with a staff Interpreter/Naturalist at the Visitor Center entrance.
- 7:30 p.m. – Campfire ♿ - Ranger Surprise** **1 Hour**  
Join Ranger Steve Bier at the Borrego Palm Canyon Campfire center for an evening campfire program.
- 7:30 p.m. – \$\$ – Early Naturalists in Anza-Borrego** **1 hour**

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# NOVEMBER 2009 INTERPRETIVE SCHEDULE



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Instructor: Nicholas Clapp \$5 suggested donation

From early drawings to exquisite glass replicas, discover how early explorers and scientists documented the desert's unique natural history. Borrego Springs Performing Arts Center. Call ABI for more information: (760) 767-4063.

## Sunday, November 22, 2009

**9:00 a.m. – \$\$ – Marshal South, Ghost Mountain, and Environs** **5.5 hours**

Instructor: Diana Lindsay Fee: Members \$35; Non-members \$45

Get to know more about Marshal South and his world through this extended exploration of Ghost Mountain and beyond. Advance registration required. Call ABI for more information: (760) 767-4063.

**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. Meet in the Visitor Center Discovery Lab.

## Thursday, November 26, 2009

**11:00 a.m. – 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 one hour easy walk. Meet at the Visitor Center.

## Friday, November 27, 2009

**11:00 a.m. – Display ♿ - Usefulness of Desert Plants** **3 Hours**

Stop by the visitor center and see the items made from desert plants past and present. Volunteer Naturalist Marge Hatcher will be available for questions about the garden plants around the visitor center and elsewhere in the desert. She will be featuring the products of the Prickly Pear in this program.

**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

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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.

**1:30 p.m. – Walk - ♿ - Welcome to the Desert**

**45 Minutes**

Allow 45 minutes for this easy garden walk that introduces you to the plants and animals of the desert. Meet with a staff Interpreter/Naturalist at the Visitor Center entrance.

**Saturday, November 28, 2009**

**9:00 a.m. – Event ♿ - Fall Botany Festival**

**FALL BOTANY FESTIVAL** at the Visitor Center Garden. See next page.

**8:00 a.m. – \$\$ – Perennial Desert Plants**

**4 hours**

Instructor: Paul Johnson      Fee: Members \$25; Non-members \$35

An easy trip to visit a variety of shrubs, trees, and cacti and discover their amazing ability to survive and even thrive in the desert for years! Advance registration required. Information (760) 467-4063.

**9:00 a.m. – Hike – Voices, Visions, and Views of Alcoholic Pass**

**3 Hours**

Hike Alcoholic Pass! 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 with Volunteer Naturalists Ron and Peg Poitras. Meet at the north end of DiGiorgio Road. This is a strenuous but relatively short hike, bring water, snacks and wear hiking boots.

**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.

**11:00 a.m. – Display ♿ - Usefulness of Desert Plants**

**3 Hours**

Stop by the visitor center and see the items made from desert plants past and present. Volunteer Naturalist Marge Hatcher will be available for questions about the garden plants around the visitor center and elsewhere in the desert. She will be featuring the products of the Prickly Pear in this program.

**7:30 p.m. - ♿ - Campfire – Bats of Borrego and Beyond**

**1 Hour**

Bats are in the air, everywhere! Find out why these mysterious night flyers are disappearing and how you can help protect them. Meet Ranger Jeri Zemon at Borrego Palm Canyon campfire center.

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# NOVEMBER 2009 INTERPRETIVE SCHEDULE



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**Sunday, November 29, 2009**

**11:00 a.m. – 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 one hour easy walk. Meet at the Visitor Center.

## **FALL BOTANY FESTIVAL**

**Saturday, November 28, 2009**

**9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. ♿**

Everybody loves the desert wildflowers in the spring. But did you know that the spring bloom gets its start with the shorter, cooler days of fall?

This is the start of our rainy season, bringing relief from the hot dry days of summer for both plants and animals. Come to the FALL BOTANY FESTIVAL at the Visitor Center Garden to learn about the amazing native plants of the Anza-Borrego desert and their role in the ecology of the desert. Plants suitable for the home garden will be on sale, as well as plant books and other items of botanical interest. Volunteer naturalists will be on hand to lead tours of the garden, to answer questions about plants, and to help you identify some of the plants you see in this desert wonderland.

Author Maureen Gilmer will talk about her book “Palm Springs Style Gardening” and how to garden in the desert. Visitor Center Discovery Lab from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.



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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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