




The Oasis

www.greatoutdoors.org/ps

Volume 4, Issue 8


May 2003

Welcome New Members
 Richard Yount Anthony Berardo
 Bill Underwood Ed Edmond
 Darian Chambers
 Jason Rawls Ken Russel



The General Meeting is at Tomboyz Café 214 Arenas Rd. Palm Springs 322-9915.
 The meeting is the **first Tuesday of the month, 6 May**, from 7:00-8:00 PM for social hour, and the meeting from 8:00-9:00 PM.
10% discount to members at the Café.

Annual BBQ and Pool Party **Sunday, 11 May 2:00-6:00**

THE "NEW" RAFFLE RAFFLE

 Our Chapter has instituted a fabulous new Raffle. **TWO SUMMER PASSES FOR THE PALM SPRINGS AERIAL TRAMWAY!!** Worth \$100 bucks, these passes permit you and your partner/friend to get away from the desert summer heat any time, as often as you wish, during June, July and August. The temperature at the top of the Tram is about 30 degrees cooler than in Palm Springs. Ride up and down the largest revolving tram in the world. You can spend the day, or a few hours, hiking, picnicking, dining in the restaurant, enjoying a cool nap or reading a book. Or sipping margaritas at the bar. Or, if you prefer, contemplate your navel.
 The raffle chances are only one dollar! That's \$1. Buy a dozen! Give them as gifts. Treat yourself. **The prize winner will be drawn at our May 11th BBQ & Pool Party.**

Jimmy & Jim's
37675 Melrose Drive
Cathedral City
(2 blocks west of Cathedral Canyon off Hwy. 111)
 We know "thank you" isn't enough to express our pleasure at the increase in membership and participation in activities, so the Core Board has decided that this year's Annual BBQ and Pool Party on 11 May, will be a Member Appreciation Party. That's FREE to paid up members. Cost per guest is \$10. Besides a cool dip in the pool, and camaraderie, networking, games, and skimpy Speedo's, there will be Chef Jimmy's fabulous barbecue. You've just saved ten bucks.....so you can buy an extra ten raffles! (See Raffle Raffle) Remember - yes it's free to members, but **RESERVATIONS are a MUST!!!** It's difficult to plan on food without knowing how many mouths to feed....Call Now. **Jimmy Dunlap 328-8049 or email: twojimz@aol.com**



Your business card or add could be here. Ask Jimmy Dunlap for details. 328-8049 or twojimz@aol.com



All hikes meet at Tomboyz Café on Arenas Rd.
Bring plenty of water and a snack/lunch.

Caramba Overlook, Saturday, 10 May at 7:30AM

We will take the tram to the round valley station and then hike about 6 miles up and then down to Caramba Overlook. This of course means hiking back up the 800 ft. We will be treated to one of the most spectacular desert overlooks at Caramba into the searing deserts below. The view stretches eastward all the way to the Salton Sea, while encompassing the Santa Rosa Mountains to the south.

Length: 13 miles
Hiking Time: 8 hours
Elevation Gain: 3400 ft.
Difficulty: Strenuous
Return at 4:00 PM.

Meet at Tomboyz Café at 7:30 AM.

Trip Leader: Tim Carey 416-3102 or tbikenurse@aol.com.

Deep Creek, Wednesday, 21 May at 7:30 AM

Deep Creek is a *natural hot springs* on Bowen Ranch, a 350 acre easy-going naturist parcel surrounded by BLM land in the picturesque high desert near Hesperia, CA. It is a 2-hour drive from Palm Springs. There are 4 or 5 hot pools ranging in temps from the upper 90's to the low 100's. At this time of year the creek-which is more like a small river-should be swimmable. To go from hot spring to cool creek is a delight beyond words.

Leave Tomboyz Café on Arenas Road at 7:30 AM, spend about 6 hours and leave Deep Creek at 4:30 PM. Return about 6:30 PM

Trip Leader: Randolph Maxted 320-0331.

Lost Horse Mine Trail—Sunday, 25 May at 9 AM

This hike is located in Joshua Tree National Park. The trail leads to an abandoned gold mine while which operated from the 1890's to 1930. The scenery is spectacular, ranging from vistas of the low desert (Colorado Desert) to vistas of the high desert (Mojave Desert).

Length: 4 miles
Hiking Time: 3 hours
Elevation Gain: 600 ft.
Difficulty: Easy

Meet at Tomboyz Café at 9 AM.

Return at 2:00 PM. There is a **\$10 per vehicle** admission fee into the park..

Trip Leader: Dwayne Hannon at 416-2312.

Cinco de Mayo Game Night

Monday, 5 May - 6:30 PM

Brian Batchley & Fredy Gerber

73860 Shadow Mountain Rd # 5

Palm Desert

Bring some Mexican munchies and a beverage, your sombrero and poncho. Contact Brian & Fredy at

776-1679 or two.slackerboys@gte.net

Directions: Going

East on Hwy. 111 make a right on El Paseo. Turn right on San Luis Rey. Turn left on Shadow Mountain Rd and you are there.



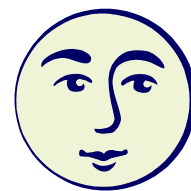
**BOWLING
PALM SPRINGS
LANES (RAMON
AT LANDAU)**

**MON. 26 MAY FROM
2:00-4:00 PM.**

Contact Doug Quigley at 202-4936

Senior (55+) discount

\$2.50 per game.



MOON LIGHT HIKE

WED. 14 MAY—7:30 PM

We will be hiking up CHINO CANYON and back down on Panorama Road near the Las Palmas area in north Palm Springs. It

is a pleasant area with great views of the tram road and the north valley.

Length: 2 miles
Hiking Time: 2 hours
Elevation Gain: 300 - 400 ft.
Difficulty: Easy to Moderate

Meet in the parking lot of the Desert Pride Center. Park in their lot or on the side street Wawona at Vista Chino. The center is on N. Palm Canyon at Vista Chino. **We will leave there by 7:30 PM.**

Trip Leaders: Carroll @ 321-8723.

Bob @ 328-6303 or catcitybob@aol.com.

Palm Springs and San Diego Chapters present:
Idyllwild County Park Camp Out
22-23 August 2003

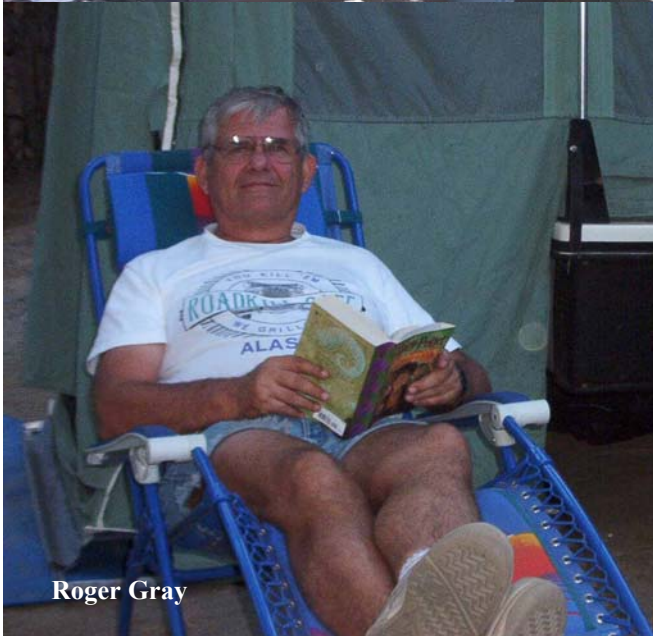
Our President-Craig



August is the time to escape the heat to the cool pine forests of Idyllwild. The village is a little over 5,000 ft. in the San Jacinto Mountains with warm days and cool nights. The campground is nestled in the pine forest within walking distance of the village where you will find many quaint shops, a hardware store, a grocery store, fresh bakeries and restaurants. The campground offers hot showers (\$.50), clean restrooms, picnic tables and fire rings. The cost is \$25 per member, \$30 RV (no more than 30 ft.), \$35.00 non-members. RVer's must contact Jimmy Dunlap prior to registering due to space limitations.

Trip Leaders:

Jimmy Dunlap 760 328 8049 or twojimz@aol.com
Steven Snodgrass 619/459-5699 or
GreatOutdoorsSD@aol.com



Roger Gray

Hauser Geode



Hauser Geode Beds Camping Trip

Everyone arrived by noon on Friday. We carpoled to the Nancy Hill Opal Mine and spent 2 hours of digging and breaking open nuggets and nodules containing Fire Opals. Our next stop was at Pebble Terrace fossil beds where we spent another 2 hours searching for fossilized and other interesting rocks. On Saturday, we got up early, had breakfast and off to Hauser Geode Beds. We spent over 6 hours combing the hill-sides and mountains for geodes. We found quite a few other rocks like bacon agate, quartz, crystals, and red obsidian to name a few. Everyone came home with plenty of rock souvenirs. We look forward to seeing you next year on this exciting camping trip.

**The Board of Directors of
California Great Outdoors, Inc.**
invites you to attend
**The 25th Anniversary Celebration
All Chapter Jamboree**

**Quaking Aspen Campground Sequoia National Forest
May 23 through May 26, 2003—Memorial Day Weekend**

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the founding of California Great Outdoors, and what better way to celebrate than by spending the Memorial Day weekend on a camping trip with 150 members and friends in one of the most scenic locations in California. We have reserved all four group-sites in one of the most awesome places in the Southern Sierra mountain range. We will be camping next to a flowering meadow with pine trees almost 100 feet tall. At an elevation of 7000 ft, we are surrounded by a forest of Ponderosa pine, cedar, Douglas fir, and yes, even Quaking Aspen. To see these trees shimmering in the afternoon sun is a sight you will never forget. Nearby are groves of Giant Sequoia, breathtaking panoramic views of the Kern River Valley and many tributaries to the rivers that form waterfalls, slides, and secluded swimming holes known only to the locals (and us!). Bring a camera because the scenery will turn you into an Ansel Adams. There are so many things to do within driving and hiking distance from our campsite, a long weekend is essential, and you still won't see everything. Each day there will be road trips to see the local sights. At night, we'll have walks to see the stars at Dome Rock. When your feet won't carry you any more, there is a packed agenda of fun activities at the campsite. There will be singing around the campfire (do you play an instrument? Bring it!), and socializing with a hot cup of cider or hot chocolate. During the day Bingo and other games (with prizes), and raffles (with more prizes) will keep you going. To celebrate the founding of the club back in 1978, Saturday night will be '70s night: dress-up as they did back then and then enjoy a traditional Memorial Day Weekend Barbeque. If you really want to get carried away, you can be a contestant in our version of two of the Game Shows from that era: *The Gong Show* and *The Price is Right*. Keep reading for details on how to become a contestant and win fabulous prizes. If some solitude is what you seek, trails around the meadow and forest will soon have you completely alone with only the sounds of the birds. You can ride a bike, go fishing, or just kick back and watch the clouds drift by while lying in the tall grass of the meadow. California Great Outdoors was formed by volunteers as a non-profit organization so that members of the Gay and Lesbian Community could get together and enjoy the natural wonders of our State. We have been doing this in many ways this past twenty-five years, and it doesn't get much better than spending Memorial Day weekend in the Southern Sierras. Come celebrate our past, and be a part of our next twenty-five years. It won't be as much fun without you.

Registration deadline: May 16, 2003

Fees	Members	Non-members
1. Campsite:	\$10	\$10
2. Outing Fee:	\$5	\$15
3. Food:	\$10	\$10
4. RVers deduct:	\$10	

**Trip Notes and Registration forms available at the General Meeting or contact Jimmy Dunlap at 328-8049
email: twojimz@aol.com**

Let's get a Palm Springs contingent to travel together!

Outdoor Experience Certification

After one wet weekend, which made the creeks and waterfalls flow at both Monrovia Canyon Park in the Angeles Mountains and Circle X Ranch in the awesome Santa Monica Mountains, we had two beautiful ones. That made a nice backdrop for the two sites for this year's Outdoors Experience Program. Twenty-nine participants all received Day Activity Certification at Phase I and twenty-four people received Full Trip Leader Certification.

Thanks to our Instructors Dan Grutzmacher, Mario Voce, Wayne Winstead, Roger Gray and Kendall Rabun, we had a very successful program.

The following people from the Palm Springs Chapter who attended and what they achieved:

Roger Gray	Day Hike Certification and Full Trip Leader Certification
Jim Huot	Day Hike Certification and completed all of Phase I
Jimmy Dunlap	Day Hike Certification and completed all of Phase I

May 2003

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	X	X	7	8	9	10 X
11 X	12	13	14 X	15	16	17
18	19	20	21 X	22	23	24
25 X	26 X	27	28	29	30	31

Palms Springs Chapter - May Events

May

5	Game Night	6:30 PM
6	General Meeting	8 PM
10	Caramba Overlook Hike	7:30 AM
11	BBQ & Pool Party	2-6:00 PM
14	Moon Light Hike	7:30 PM
21	Deep Creek Hike	7:30 AM
25	Lost Horse Mine Trail	9 AM
26	Bowling	2 PM

ALL CHAPTERS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

CHAPTER	DATE	EVENT	LEADER/CONTACT
OC/LB	5/02-05	Lake Havasu Tent, RV & Boat Craft	Wayne: 909 685 6715
LA	5/08-11	Yosemite Housekeeping Cabins	Timothy: 323.913.3386 Glen: 323.550.8003
SD	5/09-11	Palomar Mountain	Steve: 619.459.5699
OC/LB	5/08-11	Sespe Wilderness Backpack	Joel: 562.434.5264
OC/LB	5/09-12	Half Moon Bay Tent & RV	Wayne: 909 685 6715
CORP	5/23-26	Quaking Aspen (25th Anniv.)	Paul: 818.789.4123
OC/LB-LA-SB/VC	6/06-08	Upper Oso	Mario: 562.431.4760 Mark: 323.822.3046 Brian: 805.740.1677
SD	6/13-15	William Heise County Pk - Julian	Steve: 619.459.5699
SB/VC	6/27-29	Wheeler Gorge	Brian: 805.740.1677
OC/LB	6/27-29	Eastern Sierra Beginner Backpack	Rob: 949.497.6897

More information available at: www.greatoutdoors.org/calendar.html

Palms Springs Core Group
<http://www.greatoutdoors.org/ps>

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Great Outdoors Palm Springs
PO BOX 361
Palm Springs, CA 92263
May 2003
Address Correction Requested



BBQ & Pool Party
11 May



*Great Outdoors rounds guests!
How do I join?*

Simply fill out this form and send it in.

- Yes. I want to join Great Outdoors. Please enter my membership in the category checked below.
- I am not ready to join Great Outdoors but would like additional information.
- Renewal

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

- \$25 Regular
- \$20 Senior (60 years or older)
- \$45 Couple (**\$40 2 Seniors**)
- \$100 FRIENDS OF GREAT OUTDOORS includes T-shirt and two free outings

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____ Email _____

By joining Great Outdoors and/or attending the club's events, I acknowledge that in order for Great Outdoors to assume full legal responsibility it would have to charge higher fees than it does now. I waive the right to ever lay claim for injuries I might suffer before, during or after any Great Outdoors event. My guests will agree to these principles in writing before attending events.

Signature _____ Date _____

Send this form and check made payable to:

GREAT OUTDOORS
P.O. Box 361
Palm Springs CA 92263