



The Oasis

www.greatoutdoors.org/ps

Volume 5, Issue 8

August 2004

Lined up and ready to roll.....

It was another exciting and fun-filled outing. Our web-master, Ed Emond, has pulled off another successful 4x4 outing. This time it was "Old Dale Road" in Joshua Tree National Park. We covered about 25 miles of dirt and rocky road bed and traversed two deserts in JTNP, the Colorado and the Mojave. Our drivers abilities were tested as they navigated large boulders and avoided leaving the narrow trail (aka falling off the cliff) as the 4x4s skirted up the mountainside. The temperatures were in the low 100's and we were lucky to have a light breeze.



Next 4x4 Trip—Brooklyn Mine Trail See page 4



Steve Kupferman, geologist with the BLM, spoke at our General Meeting July 6 about the recent predictions of a major earthquake in the Coachella Valley prior to September 4, 2004. Steve touched on the Keilis-Borok Team's predictions of a 6.5 or greater earthquake. He also mentioned some of his favorite hiking places in the area. Judging by the Q & A period after the presentation and the large number in attendance, our club members showed keen interest in the topic.

**Guest Speaker for September 7th
Joe Aquanno**

Palm Springs Mounted Police Search and Rescue Unit



The General Meeting is at the new Desert Pride Center. Palm Springs 327-2313. The meeting is the first Tuesday of the month, August 3 from 7:30-8:00 PM for social hour, and members' meeting from 8:00-9:00 PM. The Core Group meets from 6:30-7:30 PM as usual. If you wish to bring snacks etc, you may do so. The Center's address is 611 S. Palm Canyon Drive, Unit A. Palm Springs, CA.



Most hikes meet at Tomboyz Café on Arenas Rd. unless otherwise specified. Bring plenty of water and a snack or lunch.

Hikers are advised to refrain from smoking on outings during this season of high fire danger.

There will be no Moonlight/Evening Hike this month.

4X4 Brooklyn Mine, Sunday August 8 9:00AM
(See page 4)

Wellmans Divide, San Jacinto Wilderness Saturday August 14 at 7:25 AM.

Spectacular views of the East Valley and Hemet Valley from Wellmans Divide. Tram ride to Long Valley. From there to Round Valley and on up the Divide. This is the halfway point to San Jacinto Peak which makes this hike a try out for next month's hike to the top of San Jacinto! We will carpool from Tomboyz to the Tram. Bring lots of water, food and tram fee.

Length: 6.4 miles
Hiking Time: 4 hours
Elevation Gain: 1200 feet
Difficulty: Moderate
Return Time: 1:30 PM

Trip Leader: Tim Carey at 760-416-310

Idyllwild County Park Campout, August 20-22 (See page 3)

Devil's Slide to Tahquitz Peak Lookout, Sunday, August 22 at 7:25 AM

From this trail, the hiker gets to see great views of Marion Mountain, Suicide and Lily rocks in a short distance of 2.5 miles, reaching Saddle Junction. From there, the next mile-plus, there is a gradual ascent along a ridge that affords dramatic views of the desert to the north and the flanking eastern slopes of San Jacinto Mountains. Reaching a crossroads of several trails, we will take the one to the South up to Tahquitz Peak Lookout. This section of the hike is dominated by the steep slopes of less-forested granite mountains. We retrace our steps back to the Humber Park starting point. Carpool from Tomboyz to Idyllwild, then to the trail head at Humber Park.

Length: 10 miles
Hiking Time: 6 hours
Elevation Gain: 2,500 feet
Difficulty: Strenuous
Return time: 4:30 PM
1 hr & 15 min car ride to the trail head.

Leader: Tim Carey at 760-416-3102

Big Morongo Canyon Preserve Walkabout, Saturday, August 28 at 9:AM.

This is a great way to beat the Desert Heat. The preserve is part of a 29,000 acre area developed and monitored by the Bureau of Land Management and the Nature Conservancy. The area is diverse with lots of lush vegetation and easy hiking/walking trails.

Length: 3 miles
Hiking Time: 2 hours
Elevation Gain: 200 feet
Difficulty: Easy
Return at: 1:30 PM

Trip Leader Ed Emond at 760-202-7413



Dry Lake at Elevation 9000' Mt. San Gorgonio in back

President's Message

Election time is here! All members have the opportunity to elect leaders for the coming year. The election process begins with nomination of members at the General Meeting in this month (August). Balloting will be held during the September General Meeting with the newly elected officers taking over in October. All positions are for one year. Ideal nominees should be seriously interested in the goals of the Great Outdoors, able to meet once or twice a month, and be willing to do the tasks necessary to keep the club in good standing. The current officers: President, Secretary, and Treasurer are the elected positions. All members are eligible for nomination. If you are interested in planning and organizing events for the chapter, whether in an elected, appointed or in an as-needed basis, please step forward. The rest of our CORE group who give tirelessly are appointed so let's get involved. Appointed positions needed are Board Representative and Game Night Coordinator. This is a democracy so all members are encouraged to participate in Great Outdoors. It has been a great year for our chapter because of you...Let's stay strong!

Tim Carey, GOPS Chapter President



Left: Gardner explains to the group about acid washing.

Above right: The trail home was a dusty one.

August 8 - 4x4 trip : Join the Great Outdoors for our fourth 4x4 (4 wheel drive) off-road adventure this year. Current plans are to start off on the Brooklyn Mine Trail (at Highway 62) and then cross over and return on the Old Dale Road trail from Highway 62 and repeat some of the Old Dale Road trail from our last trip on the way back to Highway 62.

Information and sign-up : Ed@dc.rr.com Telephone: 760-202-7413



Pictures from the Southfork Trail to Dry Lake Hike led by Bill Bulger.



New members

- Paul Brooke
- Vic Fimbres
- Lars M. Funke
- Evan M. Gerling
- Stanley R. Hammerman
- Patrick Hinrichsen
- Richard Lucik
- David J. Lutes
- John Steven Schumacher
- Samuel Smith



END OF SUMMER BBQ

The Free Members BBQ pool party will be Saturday September 18. **Tom Fudacz** is hosting the event at his private Avondale Country Club home in Palm Desert. This is a **member only** event because there is a limit of 70 people. Hours will be 3-5 social. Eating at 5 and will end at 7 PM. Craig Courtright will take all RSVP's at 760-318-8957. There will be 2 shade canopies, pool, Jacuzzi, and fun. Ok to bring a cooler if you wish. All GO members who have active memberships as of August 30 (**check your membership expiration date on your newsletter mailing label**) will be entered in the raffle with two tickets. Increase your chances at the August and September meeting by buying them at the regular price. Full details of the BBQ Pool Party in September newsletter.

GreatOutdoors

PALM SPRINGS

2004 Idyllwild Camp Trip August 20th – 22nd

**Come enjoy this special weekend –
refresh your mind and spirit amidst
the natural beauty 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.

AMENITIES: We have 9 campsites that can accommodate up to 3 tents each with a maximum of 6 people per site. Restrooms and pay showers are within walking distance. Each campsite has fresh water.

ACTIVITIES: Friday on your own with a campfire in the evening. On Saturday there will be a day hike scheduled for 10:00 AM. The afternoon tea will be at 3:00 P.M. followed by bingo. The traditional POTLUCK will be at 6:00 P.M. Prepare your favorite dish to feed 4-6 people.

PETS: Dogs are allowed for \$2.00 per day, which must be paid upon park entry.

PARKING: Only 2 vehicles per campsite are allowed. Additional vehicles must park in the overflow lot at an additional \$2.00 per day. Carpooling is encouraged! Parking is on a first come basis.

CHECK IN/CHECK OUT TIME is 2:00 PM.

COST: \$25 members \$35 nonmembers

CANCELLATION POLICY: No refunds after 14 August.

DIRECTIONS:

From LA, take I-10 E to Banning and exit Hwy. 243 to Idyllwild. At the first stop sign when you enter Idyllwild, turn right on Pine Crest. At the next stop sign turn right onto Riverside City. Playground Rd. Follow this into the campground.

From Palm Springs, take Hwy. 74 in Palm Desert to Hwy 243. Just after the sign Strawberry Creek, look for the sign Idyllwild Park and turn left onto Riverside City. Playground Rd.. The turn is on a curve and easy to miss. Riverside City. Playground Rd. will take you into the campground.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT: Craig Courtright (760) 318-8957

RESERVE YOUR SPACE NOW. Complete the Reservation Form and Mail Today!



MOONLIGHT HIKE

NO MOONLIGHT OR EVENING HIKE THIS MONTH!

GAME NIGHT AUGUST 9

Game Night for August will be at **Don Adam's** home at 816 Fair Circle in Las Palmas area of PS Monday, August 9 from 4:30-9:00 PM. Bring an appetizer, a salad, a main dish or a dessert. Don't forget to bring your favorite beverage, your bathing suits and a towel.

Bring your favorite board games.

Directions: From North Palm Canyon turn west on Vista Chino, go all the way to the end. Make a left on Monte Vista. Go thru 2 stop signs. Continue on until reaching Leisure Way where you turn right. Make first right on Fair Circle. **Tel: 760-320-2774.**

New Game Night Coordinator Needed

Duties include finding homes each month for Game Night and in the warmer months, homes with pools for combination Game Night/Pool Parties and submitting the necessary information for publication to the newsletter publisher and editor. If you're interested or need more information, please contact Tim Carey, President at 760-416-3102 or TBikeNurse@aol.com

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OWLING:

MON. AUGUST 30, FROM 2:00-4:00 PM.



Event location: Palm Springs Lanes.
Ramon-Landau Streets, Cathedral City.
Notes: \$8.00 per person, senior (55+)
Discount of \$2.50 per game.
Contact Doug Quigley at 202-4936



TARBELL, REALTORS
PALM SPRINGS PALM DESERT LA QUINTA DHS CC
THANK YOU, GREAT OUTDOORS
FOR HELPING SO MANY PEOPLE
ENJOY OUR BEAUTIFUL VALLEY
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760-774-5620

Palm Springs Chapter August Events

- 3 General Meeting 8-9:PM
- 8 4X4 Brooklyn Mine Trail 9:AM
- 9 Game Night 4:30-9:00 PM
- 14 Wellmans Divide 7:25AM
- 20-22 Idyllwild County Park Campout
- 22 Devil's Slide 7:25 AM
- 28 Big Morongo Canyon Preserve 9:AM
- 30 Bowling 2-4 PM



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

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Great Outdoors Palm Springs
 PO BOX 361
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 August 2004
 Address Correction Requested



Great Outdoors wants you!

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**)

I do/do not want my name/address on the roster to be shared with members of group. (**Circle** the appropriate answer.)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

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

QUESTIONS? Write us at: Billbulger@aol.com

Phone: 760-202-0457