



The Oasis

www.greatoutdoors.org/ps

Volume 5, Issue 11

November 2004

Bruce Maughan Appointed as Interim President



It's with great pride that the Core Group announces **Bruce Maughan** as interim president for the new calendar year.

Tim Carey is stepping down due to work related issues. Bruce will continue in Tim's footsteps as a leader. Please give Bruce your support and help in continuing to make this organization a great Palm Springs Pride Organization. The GOPS **would like to express its appreciation for Tim Carey's** dedication, hard work, and effort during his term as chapter president. He will be missed.

President's Message

I have an important announcement to make. I have changed positions in the Desert Regional Medical Center this past May. I am a registered nurse working in the operating room. The transition from Medical Intensive Care, 12-hour night nurse to surgical circulating 8-hour day nurse has been extremely difficult. Surgical management asked me to switch to the evening shift where the pace is not so fast and the opportunity to learn the roll of circulating nurse would be more conducive. The director of surgical services allowed me to leave work on Tuesday evenings so I could continue my volunteer services to the Great Outdoors and the Palm Springs Frontrunners & Walkers while I was on orientation for another 90 days. I have succeeded in my new roll and it has become more and more difficult to leave work on Tuesday evenings to attend meetings.

Therefore I informed the newly elected officers of the Great Outdoors, PS that I will be resigning as of this November meeting. Don't fret: Bruce Maughan has volunteered to fill out the remainder of my term and the Board has appointed him President beginning with the December meeting. I will continue to be as active as I have in the past but without being president and not attending evening meetings. I will remain hike leader par excellence! The way I wish the membership to thank me for my stewardship of the club this past year is to attend the November membership meeting, Tuesday, November 9th, 7:30 – 9:00 PM at which Jim Cornett will be our special guest. Come out to this meeting in droves so our guest speaker will experience the vitality of our Great Outdoors. Thanks so much for allowing me to serve you this past year. It was a privilege and a pleasure. See you on a hike.

Tim Carey



The General Meeting is at Desert Pride Center, Palm Springs 760 327-2313. The meeting is the second Tuesday of the month, November 9 from 7:30-8:00 PM for social hour, and member's meeting from 8:00-9:00 PM. The Core Group meets from 6:30-7:30 PM. The Center's address is 611 S. Palm Canyon Drive, Unit A., Palms Springs, CA.



Non-Members

We will add you to your newsletter mailing list free of charge for 3 months. Please note, however, that a two dollar fee will be charged on day hikes, 4x4 outings, and moonlight hikes effective Oct. 1, 2004.

ATTENTION

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

Museum Trail, Saturday, November 6 at 12:00 Noon

Celebrate Palm Springs Gay Pride by hiking to the picnic benches on the Museum Trail. Accessible from the corner of the Desert Museum's north parking lot, this trail rises above Palm Springs, with spectacular city views. Hikers may see large Chuckwalla lizards, quail, snakes and other wildlife in their natural desert environment.

Length: 2 miles
 Hiking Time: 2 hours
 Elevation Gain: 1000 ft
 Difficulty: Moderate
 Return: At 2:15 PM

Hike Leader: Tim Carey at 760 416-3102

Note: Start in the north parking lot of the Palm Springs Desert Museum

Oak Glen, Yucaipa, Saturday, November 13 at 9:00 AM

At an altitude of 5,024 ft. we will hike the Wildlands Conservancy's trail. This trail meanders through an evergreen forest, past several ponds that have migration ducks in winter, and under a canopy of deciduous black oak forest that opens onto a south-facing chaparral hillside. The return trail follows a willow-shaded stream onto a boardwalk that is replete with butterflies in season. We then walk to the Del Rios Ranch where we can have lunch—apple pie, crisps, cider, sandwiches, etc. Dogs allowed on leashes. We will also pick our apple tree for the year of 2004-2005.

Length: 2 miles
 Hiking Time: 1.5 hours
 Elevation Gain: 200 ft
 Difficulty: Easy

Travel Mileage: 38 miles; 54 minutes est.

Hike leader: Craig Courtright 760 318-8957

Please wear hiking boots and warm clothing if weather is cool.

The Araby Trail, Sunday, November 14 at 9:00 AM

This trail climbs above the Bob Hope Estate and the home of Steve McQueen. There are numerous switchbacks with a fairly hefty elevation gain at about 800 ft. At the highest point, the trail is 1,000 ft above Palm Springs affording a drop-dead view of the city.

Length: 6 miles
 Hiking Time: 3 hours
 Elevation: 800 ft.
 Difficulty: Moderate
 Return at: 1:30 PM

Hike Leader: Randolph Maxted at 760 320-0331

Meet in front of Tomboyz Café on Arenas Rd. at 9:AM for carpooling arrangements.

Garstin, Shannon, and Henderson Trails Saturday, November 20, 9:00 AM.

This will be a big loop starting on the Henderson Trail, which is named in honor of Earl Henderson, a past president of the Desert Riders. Henderson trail is situated at the top of Smoketree Mountain. The trailhead is located near the east end of Bogert Bridge on Bogert Trail. Shannon Trail, is named for the daughter of a past Desert Rider's president, Ray Corliss. This steep ascent is as precipitous as it is breath-taking. Descent, on the Garstin Trail, features beautiful views from many points. Named for former Desert Rider's trail boss, D.V. Garstin

Length: 7 miles
 Hiking Time: 4 hours
 Elevation Gain: 700 ft.
 Difficulty: Moderate
 Return: 2:00 PM

Hike Leader: Tim Carey at 760 416-3102

Snow Creek to Pacific Crest Trail, Saturday, November 27 at 9:AM

This hike begins near I-10 where the Pacific Crest Trail crosses desert terrain before reaching the foothills of San Jacinto. We will then climb the north face of these mountains. The views are spectacular as the trail ascends above Snow Creek Canyon.

Length: 10 miles
 Hiking Time: 5 hours
 Elevation Gain: 2,000 ft.
 Difficulty: Moderate/Strenuous
 Return at : 3:00 PM

Hike Leader: Doug Quigley at 760 202-4936

Moonlight Hike Sunday, November 28 at 6:00 PM ; See page 3 for details

Featured Guest Speaker
November 9th Meeting

James Cornett will speak at our November 9th General Meeting. Jim writes a Sunday column for the Desert Sun. His columns cover a wide range of topics regarding the flora and fauna of the Desert Southwest .



MOONLIGHT HIKE

Sunday November 28, 6:00 PM

Hike the south end of the South Lykken trail to the picnic benches. This will be easy and slow because of the twilight. There is a mysterious road off the southwest mountains overlooking Andreas Canyon, noticeable because of the moving vehicular headlights moving in the distance. We will meet in the parking lot of the Starbucks, South Palm Canyon and Sunny Dunes for better parking ease.

Length: 2 miles
Hiking Time: 2 hours
Elevation Gain: 400 feet
Difficulty: Easy
Return: 8:00 PM
Hike Leader: Tim Carey at 760 416-3102
Note: Bring a flashlight.

GAME NIGHT
NOVEMBER 8TH
6:30 PM-9:00 PM

At **Allen Zimbleman's**, tel: 760 416-6304
606 Bedford Drive, Palm Springs

Directions:

Ramon Road to Compadre (between Farrell and El Cielo)

South on Compadre 1 block to Theresa Drive.

East 2 blocks to Bedford, right on Bedford

Bring any games you might want played, and a snack or dish for our increasingly good potlucks (but cut out those peanut butter filled crackers-they all go in the trash.) **Rick Opler**, Game Coordinator
760 325-8666 or e-mail: rqupler@msm.com

THANK YOU!

A big thanks to **Tom Fudacz** who opened his home for last month's End of Summer BBQ. It was greatly appreciated.

ATTENTION

Households with 3 members receiving one newsletter
Dues shall be: \$65 Regular or \$55 (3 seniors)

YARD SALE

A Yard Sale will be held on the 22 of January at the home of Richard Lucik and Samuel Smith. See the December issue for complete details.

Save your articles for this important fundraiser.

NEW MEMBERS
WELCOME

Elliott Collier

Alexander Contreras



Red Canyon Trail

October's 4x4 scouting trip took us down ridges into canyons where we were almost trapped. After great effort, rubber burning, and dust churning angst, we somehow managed to make it back up. On the actual 4 x 4 trip, we did not attempt that again, but were rewarded with vistas of rugged beauty. Large towers of conglomerate mud rising from the valley floor; a red ochre color painting the canyon walls, adjacent to a former Kaiser iron mine.



Ed Emond has planned another great 4x4 outing for Sunday 21, November, 2004 (pictures below)

Join the Great Outdoors for our Chapter's sixth 4x4 off road adventure this year. We will drive down I-10 to the Joshua Tree National Park exit then head towards Mecca on the Box Canyon Road. The trail is easy and contains no boulders or loose rock to traverse as in some previous trips. The trail goes through the Orocopia Mountains Wilderness area. At the end of the trail we will cross over the Coachella (water) Canal and follow various roads back to Highway 111 and then back home.
Ed Emond (760) 202-7413 or ED@dc.rr.com



**Note: Drivers Wanted
Passengers Welcome**



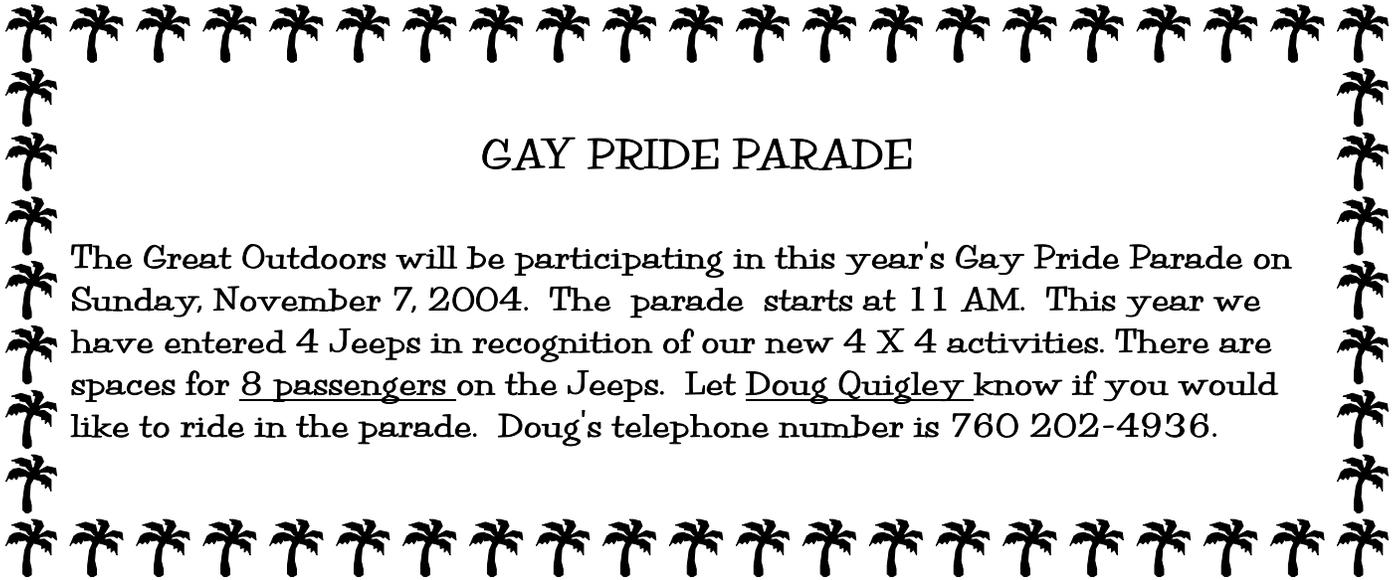
CALIFORNIA GREAT OUTDOORS INC. PRESENTS

FOUR WHEELING –ANZA BORREGO

WINTER JAMBOREE 2005 JAN 13-17, 2005

Look for information in up-coming issues of The Oasis

Contact: Mark Legassie at mark@legassie.com or 323-822-3046



GAY PRIDE PARADE

The Great Outdoors will be participating in this year's Gay Pride Parade on Sunday, November 7, 2004. The parade starts at 11 AM. This year we have entered 4 Jeeps in recognition of our new 4 X 4 activities. There are spaces for 8 passengers on the Jeeps. Let Doug Quigley know if you would like to ride in the parade. Doug's telephone number is 760 202-4936.



Great Outdoors Christmas Party December 9th, 2004

This year's Christmas party is a potluck affair. Members and guests are requested to bring their favorite main entrees, side dishes, salads or desserts. GO will provide plates, napkins, cups, cutlery, water, soft drinks, and ice. People may bring their own beverages if they wish. This is a free event for Great Outdoors Palm Springs members. Guests are invited, but need to make a \$10 donation. Please RSVP no later than December 6th to Robin Ptacek at (760) 328-9888. We will have a "white elephant" gift exchange (please limit items to under \$10.) Those who bring a wrapped gift will be allowed to receive a gift from Santa.

- Time:** 6 PM to 9 PM
- Place:** Palm Springs View Estates Club House
- Directions:** From Palm Springs, go east on Hwy 111. Turn left on Golf Club Drive. Go 2 blocks and make a right on Bolero to the guard house. Continue until you reach club house on the left.



BORREGO PALM CANYON" ANZA-BORREGO DESERT STATE PARK NOVEMBER 24th-29th,2004

Great Outdoors is hosting a **Thanksgiving** weekend trip to Anza-Borrego Desert State Park at the Borrego Palm Canyon campground just 3 miles west of the town of Borrego Springs. Anza-Borrego Desert State Park is a vast and intriguing region covering a third of San Diego County, stretching from the Santa Rosa Mountains south to the Mexican border. To the east lies the Salton Sea. The Anza-Borrego area derives its name from the Spanish explorer Juan Bautista de Anza and the Spanish word for bighorn sheep, Borrego.

CAMPGROUND INFORMATION - We have reserved 3 group camp sites for camping with tents only. We have parking available but for only 18 cars, excess vehicles may unload at our group camp site, but must park in the overflow lot at night. Our site has running water, bathrooms with flush toilets and coin operated showers (bring quarters). Sites include BBQ pits and shaded picnic tables. Leashed dogs are permitted in Anza-Borrego State Park, but may not be left unattended at the campsite and are not allowed on most trails. The group sites are only for tents. RV's and trailers are not permitted to park in this group area. The weather should be in the 70's to 80's during day and in the low 50,s at night, there is always a chance of wind in the desert. Think about rain, but I would not count on it, a tarp under your tent is recommended. Bring plenty of sun block, good shoes, a sun hat, warm summer cloths as well as long sleeve shirts and a light to medium jacket for the evening.

Borrego Springs- The town of Borrego springs is just 2 miles away, there is a medium sized market, several cafés and there used to be a bicycle rental shop(do not know if it is still there), there are plenty of open miles to ride bikes if you like. There are also several motels (resorts) in town if more comfort is preferred.

RV and TRAILER INFO...RV sites consisting of both full and partial hookups and unimproved sites are available in the Borrego Palm Canyon campsite area. Note that the RV sites are about a 1/2 mile away from the group tent sites. You will need to make your own reservation for an RV or Trailer site. The number to call is (800) 444-7275 for reservations. It is suggested you call early to book a site. The cost for joining the Friday wine and cheese tasting(bring your favorite wine, we provide the rest) and Saturday night turkey dinner is only \$10.00 per person.

Evening Campfires - Come prepared to tell your best jokes or camping stories. Please bring 2 or 3 bundles of fire wood for the group campfire. Great Outdoors has arranged a variety of activities designed to help you explore the Park's natural surroundings and enjoy the camaraderie we are known for.

Wednesday, November 24th _____ Beat the traffic and arrive early.

Thursday, November 25th _____ Arrive anytime to set up camp. The day is unscheduled allowing you to visit and enjoy the local area. Local hikes, car tours and sightseeing are available based upon demand and interests.

Friday, November 26th _____ Arrive anytime to set up camp. The day is unscheduled allowing you to visit and enjoy the local area. Local hikes, car tours and sightseeing are available based upon demand and interests. Late afternoon-evening wine and cheese tasting ,bring that special wine or beverage you like . We will provide the rest.. 6:00 p. m. Potluck Dinner. - We will share a pot luck dinner tonight. Bring enough to feed 4 people and remember we often end up with too many desserts. We will provide plates and utensils.

Saturday, November 27th _____ 9:30 a.m. Hell Hole Canyon Hike. A roughly 6 mile roundtrip intermediate 3 hour hike that begins in an open wash and eventually takes us to a shady palm oasis. 9:30 a.m. Borrego Palm Canyon Hike. A roughly 3 mile roundtrip easy 1-1/2 hour hike that begins as a self-guided nature trail and ends up at a grove of palms. It is possible to spot the elusive Bighorn Sheep on this hike. 9:30 a.m. Car Tour - If there is sufficient interest, a car tour will be organized to go visit the surrounding area. 6:00 p.m. Turkey dinner with all the trimmings. Great Outdoors will provide the complete dinner all you need to bring is something to drink.

Sunday, November 28th _____ Stay late and leave on Monday after the traffic has died down.

HOW TO GET THERE - From Los Angeles/Orange County, take I-5 South to Oceanside, then Highway 78 East to County Road S-3 and then north to Borrego Springs. Or take I-15 South to Temecula, then Highway 79 South, continuing through Warner Springs to County Road S-2 South and then to County Road S-22 East to Borrego Springs. Suggest you invest in a good map to get a better visual. **CAR POOL** - It is a GO policy to make a minimum negative effect on the environment by car pooling to our outing locations. As the group campsites have only 18 parking spaces, car-pooling is recommended. **REGISTRATION and CANCELLATION** - For additional information or questions on this outing, call Mike Roth @ 562-597-1537 Or e-mail me at icemikL@gte.net. In order to plan for Saturday's dinner, we would like all registrations to be received by November 10, 2004. However, it is okay to call after the 10th to see if there is still space available. Full refunds up to November 10th, no refunds after the 13th.

Trip fee's are: \$30.00 for members, \$35.00 for non-members and \$10.00 for day use

Trip leader: **Michael Roth** contact at **562-597-1537** or E-mail at **icemikL@gte.net**

Palm Springs Chapter November Events

6	Museum Trail	12:00 NOON
7	Gay Pride Parade	11:00 AM
8	Game Night	6:30-9:00 PM
9	General Meeting	8:00 to 9:00 PM
14	The Araby Trail	9:00 AM
20	Garstin Trail	9:00 AM
21	4 X 4 Trip	9:00 AM
24-29	Borrego Palm Canyon Weekend Trip	
27	Snow Creek	9:00 AM
28	Moonlight Hike	6:00 PM
29	Bowling	2:00-4:00 PM

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OWLING:

MON. NOV. 29, 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 760 202-4936

Hiking Safety

If you're going hiking in the mountains or canyons, emergency officials offer these safety tips:

Bring and drink plenty of water.

Wear proper foot gear.

Make an itinerary and stick to it

Make sure someone knows when you are to return, and tell that person to call authorities if you are late.

Avoid hiking alone.

Have a signaling device, such as a flashlight.

Take a map and compass, jacket, hat, sunscreen, blanket, snacks, and a cellular phone.

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

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Great Outdoors Palm Springs
 PO BOX 361
 Palm Springs, CA 92263
 November 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