

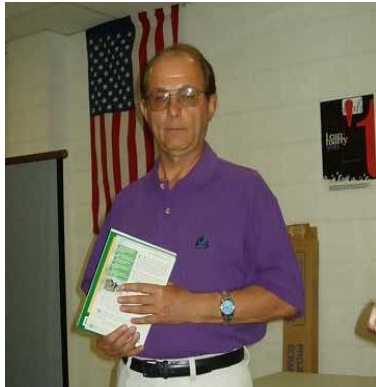


# The Oasis

February, 2007

Volume 8, Issue 2

[www.greatoutdoors.org/ps](http://www.greatoutdoors.org/ps)



**Philip Ferranti**  
author of

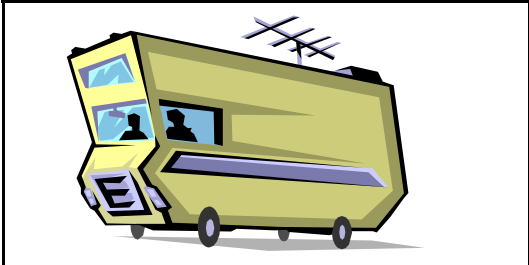
### “120 Hikes in and around Palm Springs”

returns Tuesday, February 6 as our guest speaker. Philip will be talking about his newest book and is going to lead us on a **double hike in March**: two distinct hikes in one day, one of which very few go on or know about.



### Pipe's Canyon Preserve

**Volunteers are needed**  
**Ranger Chip Cline, at Pipe's Canyon Preserve**, needs two volunteers per week to help **water newly planted pinon pines** at the preserve. The volunteers would spend 2-4 hours watering trees on one day per week: Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday. If you can help, please call **Chip Cline @ 760.365.3128**



**Lou Shea** will be our guest speaker at the March general meeting.

Lou is the **Wagon Master** for all RV trips done with the Great Outdoors. His focus will be regarding those who are interested in buying an RV, members wanting to camp with the RV's and planning 4x4 trips with RV at a central location.

GREAT OUTDOORS PALM SPRINGS

**Welcome New Members**

- Mike Alpha   John Beck  
Corey Derby   Jeff Dongvillo  
Carl Fisher  
Todd Johnson   Carlos Melendez  
Ed Scarry   Ron Thomas

### 4 X 4 Vehicles and Drivers needed

On Saturday, February, 17, Great Outdoors/PS will be doing a combination 4 x 4 / hike to Biskra Palms near Indio. Access to this area requires a 4 x 4 vehicle once we leave the pavement, but the drive is not long. We would like to get a commitment from the 4 x 4 drivers at this time, so Patrick Hinrichsen can reserve seats for this outing. Please call :  
**Patrick Hinrichsen**  
**@760.329.8502 or e-mail @ Palmspringsfred@aol.com**



### Big Morongo Canyon Clean-Up!

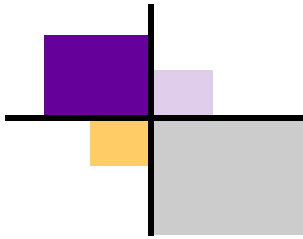
**Volunteers are needed** to help clean-up hiking trails in the Big Morongo Canyon Preserve. The clean-up is scheduled for Thursday, February 15, 2007, from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. This is our first time up there this year, so let's have a good turnout. If you can help call:

**Doug Quigley @ 760.202.4936**

**Non-Members**  
We will add you to our 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.

**When it's time to renew your membership, please turn in the form with your payment. It is extremely important!**

The General Meeting is at Desert Pride Center, Palm Springs 760- 327-2313. The meeting month, is the first Tuesday of the month, February, 6 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. The Center's address is 611 S. Palm Canyon Drive, Unit A., Palms Springs, CA.



**“ GOT HIKE? ”**

Most hikes meet in front of **HUNTER’S Video Bar** on Arenas Rd., Palm Springs, unless otherwise specified. Bring plenty of water and a snack or lunch.

**Moonlight Hike, Magnesia Falls, Friday, February 2 @ 7:30 pm**

**See page 3**

**Lost Palm Oasis, Saturday, February 10 @ 9:00 am**

The Lost Palms Oasis near Cottonwood Spring, is the largest group of palms in Joshua Tree National Park. The trail runs through washes and across plateaus with subtly varying terrain and vegetation. At the end, there is a short, steep trail down into the canyon. We will plan on spending at least an hour at the oasis to allow time to explore up and down the stream bed. On the return, we will take the side trail to Mastodon Peak, with a unique petroglyph at the top for those willing to scramble to the summit, and Mastodon Mine and Winona Mill.

**Length:** 9 miles  
**Hiking time:** 4 hours  
**Elevation:** 1,300 feet  
**Difficulty:** Moderate  
**Return at:** 5:00 pm  
**Hike Leader:** Bruce Maughan @ 760.327.1789

**Eisenhower Loop at Living Desert, Tuesday, February 13 @ 8:00 am**

The Eisenhower Loop Trail at the Living Desert provides us a panoramic view of the valley overlooking the cities of Indian Wells and Palm Desert. We will have lunch at the picnic table. Meet at Hunter’s to carpool. Those “down valley” can meet us at 8:45 at the Living Desert ticket office. With my pass I can get the group in at \$6.00 each (50% off). If anyone wishes to enter the Butterfly Exhibit, it will cost an additional \$2.00 per person at the exhibit

**Length:** 6 miles  
**Hiking time:** 3 to 4 hours  
**Elevation:** 700 feet  
**Difficulty:** Moderate  
**Return at:** At your leisure after the hike.  
**Hike Leader:** Bill Bulger @ 760.202.0457



*Scott Connelly and Boswell preview Biskra Palms for their February 17, 4 x 4 and hike outing.*

**Biskra Palms, Saturday, February 17 @ 9:00 am**

On this new outing, 4 x 4 and hiking contingents will travel by Jeep to explore a proposed state park north of Indio. The site, protecting several oasis including Biskra Palms, can only be reached by 4-wheel-drive jeeps or pickups. At the oasis we will hike to discover fantastic views, artifacts of a failed resort, prehistoric Indian trails, 5 million-year-old evidence from when the Pacific covered the area, and a “dome

**Length:** 3 miles  
**Hiking time:** 3 hours  
**Elevation G/L:** 100 feet  
**Difficulty:** Easy  
**Return at:** 2:30 pm  
**Hike leader:** Scott Connelly @ 760.324.5001  
Patrick Hinrichsen @ 760.329.8502



oasis.” Participation for members without a 4 x 4 pickup will be limited to available jeep space and accepted on a first-come basis by emailing **Patrick Hinrichsen @ “PalmSpringsfred@aol.com”** or calling **760.329.8502**. Contact Pat to offer a ride or if you need a ride.

**Araby, Wednesday, February 28 @ 9:00 am**

This trail climbs above the famous houses of Bob Hope and Steve McQueen. There are numerous switchbacks with a fairly hefty elevation gain of about 800 feet. At the highest point, the trail is 1000 feet above Palm Springs, affording a great view of the city.

**Length:** 7 miles  
**Hiking time:** 4 hours  
**Elevation gain:** 800 feet  
**Difficulty:** Moderate  
**Return at:** 2:00 pm  
**Hike leader:** Doug Quigley @ 760.202.4936

4  
X  
4

# GREAT OUTDOORS PALM SPRINGS

<http://groups.yahoo.com/GOPS4X4>



When trips are announced, we try to make room for passengers on a space available basis. They usually go fast, so, sign up early when trips are announced.

Have you gone out on a 4x4 trip you'd like to share with our group? Please consider leading a trip. We'll help organize it. Ed 760-202-7413



4 x 4 Pride San Diego  
and  
GO-PS 4 x 4  
@ Ocotillo Wells

Photos:  
Ron Gilbert  
Ed Emond, Scott Connelly



Above: Winning Andy out of a problem.



Desert Geeko  
760-641-3865

Computer Repair and up-grades!

Full Service Computer Technician

Home or Business

Software or Hardware

Wireless Networking

Reasonable Rates

Andre Lapierre  
PC Technician

For your safety, as well as the safety of others, here is a short list of the equipment you should have on your 4x4.

- Seat belts for all passengers
- CB radio
- Full size spare & suitable jack
- Fire extinguisher
- Tow strap (no metal hook)
- Tow attachment **FRONT** and **REAR**. Very important!
- Reliable 4 WD vehicle with 2 speed transfer case
- Anti-sway bar disconnects disconnected for Trails rated 2 and above.



## TRUCKHAVEN 4 X 4 Run: Tom

We met at the designated spot at 9:00 am, we had 2 TJ's a YJ and a Cherokee.

We started the run at about 9:15 and headed toward Palm Wash meandering through the twisties. Everyone was pretty well equipped and we didn't encounter any trouble until the Eagles Peak area, where Scott's white TJ got high centered at the top of a 200 ft climb, just about 20 ft from the top. Gus climbed up behind him and tugged him off and he backed all the way down, pulling him forward was not an option. We waited for them at the top for about 15 minutes but wondered what could have happened, radio contact was poor. They finally caught up with us near Goodyear Hill after having to do some more winching. From here we headed east to climb some nasty crevices near 86. Since this was probably the final voyage for my XJ's tortured uni-body I decided to climb into the worst crevice I have ever seen. It was virgin, no tracks, after a couple of wheel stands and laying it on the right door and then the left, I made it through. Damage was left door pushed in, and rock rail on right damage, mirror damage, and a whole lotta fun. This was a great day, and I want to thank all the guys who showed up, and oh yeah! the "Chargers" won!

**Tom, Trail Leader**



## TRUCKHAVEN 4 X 4 Run: Scott

We had 4 jeeps and were finished in time for the 1:00 pm kickoff of the "Chargers" game. The leader, Tom, runs "Off Road Recovery and Towing". He said there is a very detailed map of this area available at the Borrego Springs Discovery Center or Ranger Station. I got stuck twice. First at the top of a hill, high centered in the ruts at the top. Had to be pulled backward off the high center and then backed down and went around on a detour. Second time stuck near the top. The lead jeep winched me up and over.

**Happy New Year, Scott**



**Scott getting winched**



GREAT OUTDOORS PALM SPRINGS

**MOONLIGHT HIKE**  
Friday, February 2  
7:30 pm



We'll do a short (2-3 miles) hike in Rancho Mirage to Magnesia Falls. Rather than a vista point with views of the city, this hike takes us to a spot surrounded by hills that block out city lights, enhancing the night time sky. If you prefer, you can meet us at the "trailhead," the YMCA at 71-251 Mirage Road, Rancho Mirage, before 8:00 pm

Water, Flashlights recommended.

Hike leader: Ron Gilbert @ 760.218.2802  
rbgilbert@gmail.com

GREAT OUTDOORS PALM SPRINGS

**MINIATURE GOLF**  
Monday, February 26  
1:00 pm



Location: Boomer's  
67-700 East Palm Canyon  
Cathedral City

Cost: \$7:00 Per Person

Contact: Doug Quigley @ 760.202.4936

**Palm Springs Core Group**  
<http://greatoutdoors.org/ps>

- President**  
Bruce Maughan  
760.327.1789  
Brmaughan@dc.rr.com
- V.P. Outings**  
Craig Courtright  
760.318.8957  
Gpsgocraig@aol.com
- Treasurer**  
Bill McPike  
760.778.7851  
Preston9@dc.rr.com
- Secretary**  
Scott Connelly  
760.324.5001  
Mscottconnelly@aol.com
- Board Representative**  
Doug Quigley  
760-202.4936  
GrtOtdrsDoug@aol.com
- Newsletter Designer/Publisher/Editor**  
Patrick McNeil  
Richard Cabitto  
760.770.6040  
newsletter@dc.rr.com

**FEBRUARY**

2	Moonlight Hike	7:30 pm
6	General Meeting Philip Farranti	7:30 pm
10	Lost Palm Oasis	9:00 am
13	Eisenhower Loop	8:00 am
17	Biskra Palms	9:00 am
21	Game Night	6:00 pm
26	Miniature Golf	1:00 pm
28	Araby	9:00 am



**Bill Cook**  
REALTOR®  
Cell 760-567-7831  
Office 760-327-3990  
Fax 760-327-3991  
E-mail bcook@windermere.com  
Web BillJCook.MyWindermere.com



Windermere

Windermere Real Estate/Coachella Valley  
850 North Palm Canyon Drive  
Palm Springs, California 92262  
[www.windermerecoachellavalley.com](http://www.windermerecoachellavalley.com)

GREAT OUTDOORS PALM SPRINGS

**GAME NIGHT**  
Wednesday, February 21  
6:00 - 9:00 pm



Hosted by  
**Bill McPike**  
680 S. Compadre Road  
Palm Springs  
760.778.7851

Bring a potluck dish or snacks to share, your beverage and any table games you'd like to play

**Directions:** Ramon to Compadre, South to 680 South Compadre

Web Site Administrator

Ed Emond  
760.202.7413  
EdEmond@gmail.com



Articles for this newsletter should be submitted as Microsoft Word attachments via e-mail by the 15th of the month to:

**newsletter@dc.rr.com**

If you wish to purchase advertising space in "The Oasis" please submit your inquiries to the above e-mail address. Ads should be submitted in jpg format if possible.



Great Outdoors Palm Springs  
PO BOX 361  
Palm Springs, CA 92263  
February, 2007  
Address Correction Requested



*Great Outdoors rewards great!*

*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: [Gpsgocraig@aol.com](mailto:Gpsgocraig@aol.com)  
Phone: 760.318.8957