Mark your **November 6** calendar now!

Lecture Presentation by
Diana Lindsay
Of Sunbelt Publications
Marshal South
and the Ghost Mountain Chronicles:
A Voice in the Desert Wilderness
**Tuesday, November 6, 2007, 7:30 p.m.**

Join guidebook author and historian **Diana Lindsay** as she recounts the never-before-known story of Marshal South and his hermit family.

Diana is the editor and has written the foreword for *Marshal South and the Ghost Mountain Chronicles: An Experiment in Primitive Living*. Diana is a recognized expert on the Anza-Borrego Region. She is also past-president of the Anza-Borrego Foundation and Institute. Her newest book is a rediscovery of the magic of Marshal South. It contains all of South’s articles originally published in Desert Magazine from 1939 to 1948. Tuesday night’s presentation will include a PowerPoint lecture featuring both early films and photographs of the family on Ghost Mountain. South’s relationship with the Palm Springs’ hermit will be explored.

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**Palm Springs Chapter**

**Election Results 2007/2008**

Bruce Maughan, President
Peter Worline, V.P. Outings
Bill McPike, Treasurer

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**e-Newsletter available soon**

View the Great Outdoors Palm Springs chapter monthly newsletter like you’ve never seen it before—in full color. High-speed internet access required (DSL, Cable modem, etc). You will also need Adobe Acrobat Reader version 5.0 or higher. To install or upgrade, click on the “Get Adobe Reader” button on the left panel: [www.greatoutdoors.org/ps](http://www.greatoutdoors.org/ps)

- Easier to read
- Saves the club money
- Receive it days earlier than snail-mail

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**The Palm Springs Chapter of Great Outdoors presents**

**The All-Chapter October Campout and Conference**

**October 19-21, 2007**

The Palm Springs Chapter is hosting this year’s conference. We will be staying at the Cathedral Palms Resort, which combines “roughing it” in a comfortable location near downtown Cathedral City, hiking in the Palms Springs area, and any number of city activities. Cathedral Palms Resort has tent and RV sites with picnic tables, BBQs, and hook-ups. There are restrooms with showers and flush toilets, of course. The resort has a swimming pool and hot tub.

Saturday will feature a guided, interpreted day trip to an area near the Salton Sea to explore mud volcanoes, the ruins of old dry ice facilities and large outcrops of obsidian, among other things. Saturday evening will feature a hosted Caribbean Oasis feast and pool party with entertainment at a member’s home.

Be prepared to be attacked by a pirate! We’ll have some great prizes to be raffled – so, bring your dollar bills!

For those involved in the corporate meetings during the morning, there will be an afternoon hike to explore the Indian Canyons. On Sunday, after check-out, there is still time for a shorter hike or a shopping trip in downtown Palm Springs.

See page 6 for details

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The General Meeting is at Desert Pride Center, Palm Springs 760-327-2313. The meeting day is the first Tuesday of the month, October 2 from 7:45 to 9:00 pm. The Core Group meets from 6:30-7:30 PM. (business meeting) The Center’s address is 611 S. Palm Canyon Drive, Unit A., Palm Springs, CA.
**Red Tahquitz**

**Sunday, October 14 @ 9:00 am**

From Humber Park in Idyllwild, we will hike the Devil’s Slide to Saddle Junction. From there we will cross Tahquitz Meadow to join the Pacific Crest Trail. At a poorly marked spot, we will head toward the peak of Red Tahquitz. Surprisingly, there is an old abandoned trail to the top. The peak provides excellent views in all directions. We will enjoy lunch and the red rocks of the peak before returning by the same route. On a clear day, it is possible to see the late afternoon sun reflected on the Pacific Ocean as we descend the Devil’s Slide.

Note: An Adventure Pass or equivalent (America the Beautiful, etc.) is required for parking at the trailhead.

Length: 10 miles

Hiking time: 5 hours

Elevation gain: 2,600 feet

Difficulty: Moderately strenuous

Return at: 6:00 pm

Hike leader: Bruce Maughan @ 760.327.1789

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**Mud Volcanoes**

**Saturday, October 20 @ 8:45 am**

This is a guided hike to explore mud volcanoes at the Salton Sea. We will hike along beautiful seascapes and climb a lava volcano to reach the summit at minus 147 feet. If it erupts, we’re toast. We will discover active mud volcanoes, adobe ruins of a dry ice plant (in the desert?) and bubbling carbon dioxide pits. The day will include plenty of time to collect free obsidian and pumice. And we will park next to shaded picnic tables for lunch so you can use coolers.

Length: 3 miles

Hiking time: 4 hours

Elevation gain: 100 feet

Difficulty: Easy

Return at: 4:30 pm

Hike leader: Patrick Hinrichsen @ 760.660.0719

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**Murray Canyon Trail**

**Saturday, October 20 @ 1:00 pm**

The trail goes south from Andreas Canyon before heading southwest up Murray Canyon. There may be some water in the creek, but we should be able to cross it easily unless we have some heavy rain shortly before the hike. There are nearly a dozen stream crossings because this scenic canyon is relatively narrow. The trail ends at a pool below some short waterfalls.

Note: There is an $8.00 admission fee to Indian Canyons. ($6.00 seniors.

Note also: We will meet at the conference site and direction can be found elsewhere in this newsletter. The starting time is approximate and will be adjusted to accommodate the conference attendees who are involved in Saturdays morning’s conference meetings.

Length: 5 miles

Hiking time: 3 hours

Elevation gain: 400 feet

Difficulty: Moderate

Return at: 5:00 pm

Hike leader: Bruce Maughan @ 760.327.1789

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The day outing to the mud volcanoes and the half-day hike in Murray Canyon described above are being held in connection with the all-chapter conference that weekend. You may participate in either outing without registering for the conference or paying any fee. You just need to be at the conference site at the time specified above. On the other hand, members of the Palm Springs chapter are encouraged to participate more fully in the conference. Please see the conference notes and registration form elsewhere in this newsletter for a complete description of the conference activities. In addition to the options described on the registration form, another has been added. If you would like to participate in the Saturday afternoon tea and the dinner and entertainment that evening, you may register and pay $15. If you select this new option, you may also attend the Friday evening meet-and-greet. Remember, the deadline for registration is October 10. Join us that weekend for a great time with members of Great Outdoors from all 5 chapters!
**Moonlight Hike**

**Pushawalla Trail**

Wednesday, October 24 @ 6:30 pm

We’ll carpool out to the Coachella Valley preserve and hike the Pushawalla ridge trail for 2 or 3 miles. This trail gives us great vistas in all directions with views of Mt. Jacinto, the lights of the eastern valley and the relative darkness of Sky Valley. The moon won’t be quite full, so it will be well up in the sky, lighting the trail and the various oasis below.

**Meet at Hunters.**

Bring water and flashlight.

Peter Worline @ 760.668.2400

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**Game Night**

**Wednesday, October 10 @ 6:00 pm**

**Bill McPike**

690 South Campadre Rd.

Palm Springs

760.778.7851

Pool available

Bring dish to pass, a beverage and any games you wish to play.

**Directions:** Ramon to Compadre, south to 680 Campadre

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**Miniature Golf**

Monday, October 29 @ 1:00 pm

**Location:** Boomers, 67-700 East Palm Canyon, Cathedral City

Doug Quigley @ 760.202.4936

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**End of Summer Pool Party**

Saturday, November 10 @ the home of Ed and Gardner

**Pool and Jacuzzi will be heated**

Driving directions and address, etc. in the November issue.

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**Welcome New Members**

Greg Kole  
Larry Lambert  
Mark Moffett  
Christopher North

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**Bill Cook**

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**DESSERT COMPUTER SERVICES**

**Andre Lapierre**

Computer Technician

2250 South Palm Canyon Dr

Unit 41

Palm Springs, CA 92264

Phone: 760.641.3865

E.mail: Andre@mpcbytes.com
Great Outdoors

Palm Springs 4 x 4
GET DOWN AND DIRTY

Information? Yahoo Email Group at:
http://groups.yahoo.com/Groups/GOPS4X4

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 (we use channel 20 when possible)
- 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, disconnected (Trails rated 2 and above on the 4+ scale rating system and where applicable on the 10 scale.)
Get Unplugged in

**Saline Valley, Death Valley**

**October 25-28 (more or less, as you please), (This is a clothing optional campsite)**

Great Outdoors Palm Springs will be car camping at the Warm Springs in Saline Valley, the most remote part of Death Valley National Park. There you will be able fill your days with a whole lot of nothing: no radio, no TV, no internet, no phone, no electricity, no flush toilets. But you won’t find yourself bored because you can fill that nothing with endless, clothing-optional bathing in numerous pools filled with naturally hot spring water. There you will meet the “citizens” of Saline Valley, who are visitors like yourself who come from all parts of the globe to partake of this uniquely beautiful, isolated and friendly spot.

The Warm Springs bubble up near the middle of this 50-mile long desert valley, where the climate is similar to that of Coachella Valley, including possibly strong winds. There are mountain vistas in all directions, and the night sky is without compare. There will be a full moon while we are there.

Beginning in the 1960s, before the area was included within Death Valley, volunteers built concrete tubs and a shower. Those improvements, which would could not be built in the national park today, are accepted by the park service. As is the clothing-optional nature of the area. Nudity is certainly not required, and the area is quite family-friendly. You will meet all sorts of interesting, friendly people, some of whom have been coming to the Warm Springs for decades.

There are two pools very near where we will camp, and additional pools with more shade just a half-mile walk away.

Besides the bathing in the springs, those who come with 4-wheel drive vehicles may organize day trips to explore parts of Saline Valley or even go out of the valley into other parts of Death Valley National Park. We will probably be treated to the thrill of low-flying Navy jets buzzing the area as they train. Cairn-building and rattlesnake chasing are sports we’ve enjoyed on previous visits to Saline Valley.

At night we may get some company from the wild burros who wander there.

You can tent camp or bring an RV, but your vehicle must be able to traverse at least 40 miles of sometimes rough dirt road to get to the springs. **A high clearance vehicle with good tires** (and a good spare tire) **is required**. There is no cell phone service in the valley, so if your vehicle breaks down you will need to repair it yourself or wait for another vehicle to come along. It can be safer to drive in groups.

There is a camp host at the Warm Springs who can contact the park service in the event of an emergency, and there is a landing strip as well, so we won’t really be as isolated as the Donner party.

Bring everything you need for the length of your stay, including drinking water, firewood and extra gasoline if you expect to be exploring the valley in your vehicle.

Some say the water at the springs is safe to drink, but if you intend to rely on that, be prepared to filter it to be sure. The park service has built pit toilets, but bring your own toilet paper. In addition, every visitor is asked to bring **2 gallons of chlorine bleach** which will be used to clean the tubs.

I will provide driving directions to anyone who needs them. In addition, I am willing to lead a group of vehicles in via the beautiful northern route. We’ll meet in Big Pine for that. Perhaps someone who prefers the southern route will volunteer to lead a group that way from Olancha. (**Editors note:** I will be going in the south end, let Ron know what your preference is. **Pat**)

**Contact:** Ron Gilbert: 760.218.2802  E-mail: rbgilbert@gmail.com or www.greatoutdoors.org/ps  for trip notes and registration form
Bring your camping gear, the ten essentials, firewood, food (Friday dinner, Saturday lunch), warm/cool weather clothing and a swimming suit. The average temperatures in Palm Springs for the last half of October range from 90° to 60°, with record temperatures ranging from 105° to 45°. Carpooling is recommended to reduce gas costs and parking.

Directions: From LA, take the Date Palm exit on I-10, and go south until you reach Dinah Shore Drive. Turn right (toward the mountains) on Dinah Shore. Turn left on Cathedral Canyon Drive. Continue south to Cathedral Palms Resort at 35901 Cathedral Canyon Drive, Cathedral City, CA 92234.

Please note: You will need to time your arrival at the resort. The resort will allow tent campers to arrive and set up until 11:00 pm. RVs arriving after dark will be required to set up in the overflow area until the next morning. The park has had too many RVs back over things in the dark.

Register: Print the registration form online*(see below) and send with check (payable to Great Outdoors) to Great Outdoors, P.O. Box 361, Palm Springs, CA 92263.

Fees: Camping fees (tent or RV, member or non-member) include Friday’s Welcome meet-and-greet, continental breakfast (both Sat. & Sun.), mud volcano or afternoon outing, Afternoon Tea, pool party, Saturday’s hosted Caribbean dinner (bus shuttle included) and evening entertainment.

Sat. Day Events Only fee ($10) includes Friday’s Welcome meet-and-greet, mud volcano or afternoon outing and Afternoon Tea.

RV fee ($20) is for each RV for both Fri. and Sat. nights.

T-Shirts – we will have a special custom conference t-shirt available at $12. Be sure you order in advance!

Click on calendar on the left side of page, scroll down to October events and then trip notes for this event.

Print out the registration form and mail to the address given.
Proposed schedule of activities

The yearly schedule of activities is subject to change, so please check the newsletter or web site for the most up-to-date information about the chapter’s activities.

In addition there is always room to add new activities, so if you are interested in leading a hike, a camping trip, 4x4 or another outing, please contact:

Craig Courtright @ 760.318.8957 or any other member of the Core Group.

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

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: Patrick at the above e-mail address. Ads should be submitted in jpg format if possible.
Great Outdoors sounds great!

How do I Join?

 Simply fill out this form and send it in.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

- $25 Regular
- $20 Senior (60 years or older)
- $40 Couple (2 Seniors)

If you are renewing enter your membership # ______  

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

- $25 Regular

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E-mail___________________________

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State___________________________

ZIP___________________________

Address________________________

Signature_______________________

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

Date___________________________

Send this form and check made payable to:

GREAT OUTDOORS

P.O. Box 361

Palm Springs, CA 92263

QUESTIONS?

Write us at: GOPSinfo@gmail.com

October, 2007

Great Outdoors Palm Springs

P.O. Box 361

Palm Springs, CA 92263

GREAT OUTDOORS

Palm Springs

PO BOX 361

October, 2007