

## Arizona State Parks and Trails

### ORACLE STATE PARK Calendar of Events:

For reservations, call (520) 896-2425

#### ONGOING WEEKENDS:

**Self-guided tours of the historic Kannally Ranch House:** Visit the park office/gift-shop and take a self-guided tour through the multi-level Kannally family home. The Mediterranean-Revival Style ranch house built 1929-1933, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

**Guided Tour of the historic Kannally Ranch House begins at 11am every Saturday and Sunday**, for the drop-in public. 45-minute duration. Alternate times and days may be added by reservation.

#### **Lee Kannally paintings exhibit** continues

An exhibit of impressionist-style paintings by self-taught cowboy artist, Lee Kannally, is on display at the Kannally Ranch House. Nearly 30 oils are included in the exhibit, thanks to the Oracle Historical Society and Friends of Oracle State Park.

#### **Wildlife Slide Show**

See what's showing up at waterhole cameras in the park.

#### UPCOMING EVENTS:

**Saturday, October 14: Friends of Oracle State Park Fall Party, 3:00p-6:00p.** The Friends of Oracle State Park are hosting this event as a THANK YOU to Friends members who have supported the organization and the park, and to encourage new membership. **Arizona Craft Distillers Guild** will be at Oracle State Park for the afternoon, to offer a variety of tastings of adult beverages – beer, wine and spirits – created from around the state. The public is invited to join and learn how to get involved with Friends of Oracle State Park, while enjoying hors d'oeuvres by Oracle Patio Cafe, and **live music** at the Kannally Ranch House. The music will feature an Oktoberfest inspired duo, with Arleen Watkins on accordion, and Evan Dain on bass and tuba. They will play a lot of German songs and sing some in German and in English. Polkas, waltzes, schottische, foxtrots on the swing side – and they welcome dancers!

**Saturday, October 21: Guided Hike, begins at 8am**, with volunteer guide, Gaston Meloche. Hike the Arizona Trail Loop, approximately 6 miles. Begin at the Kannally Ranch House, and hike the Wildlife Corridor Trail to the Arizona Trail, and back on the Manzanita Trail. Reservation required (520) 896-2425, by Friday 10/20 at 2pm; free with park admission.

**Also, Saturday, October 21: Mineralogy Program, 12:00pm.** Join local mineralogist, Wolfgang Mueller, for a program in the living room of the Kannally Ranch House on gems, minerals, and the copper industry of Arizona. The talk will feature rocks associated with regional mining operations and gems transformed for lapidary uses. A reservation is suggested; free with park admission.

**Sunday, October 29: Poetry and Live Music Event, 12:30pm-4:00pm. Poetry Reading and Book-signing, 12:30-1:30pm** in the living room of the Kannally Ranch House, with Heidi Blankenship. Heidi hiked the Arizona Trail writing poetry along the way. Her new book will be available and is titled Memorizing Shadows; Inspiration from the Arizona Trail. The program will be followed by an afternoon of live music on the upper patio of the ranch house.

**Music in the Park, 2:00pm-4:00pm**, Eric Schaffer and the Troublemakers perform a unique blend of

Alternative Folk/Americana with great harmonies. Thanks to **Friends of Oracle State Park** for sponsoring the music. The event is free with park admission. A reservation is suggested for the 12:30pm program (520) 896-2425.

**Saturday, November 4: Bird Talk and Guided Walk, 3:00pm.** Begins with a one-hour presentation in the Kannally Ranch House living room, followed by a guided bird walk for 90 minutes, ending by sunset, about 5:30pm. Bird enthusiast, Kathe Anderson, returns with a new program on **“Woodpeckers and Wrens”**, We often take woodpeckers and wrens for granted, but they are really remarkable birds. The program will introduce both families of birds (think about why they are showcased together), and offer some uncommon facts about 5 common Arizona species of both woodpeckers and wrens. The program is designed for audience participation, with the hope that we'll have time for birders to share their own woodpecker and wren stories. Please call for a reservation (520) 896-2425; free with park admission.

**Sunday, November 5: Birding and Breakfast, 7:30am.** Kathe Anderson offers an early morning guided bird walk at the park beginning at 7:30am. Following the two-hour walk, participants will be treated to a special breakfast offering on the patio of the Kannally Ranch House, courtesy of the **Friends of Oracle State Park**. The group will review the morning sightings while enjoying coffee, treats and great views. \$10 includes the park entrance fee. Reservation required, please call (520) 896-2425.

**Saturday, November 11: Cowboy Poetry, 3pm** with John Medley, at the Kannally Ranch House. John has been writing 'southwest flavored tales' for the past 40 years. In the past few years he has offered up campfire readings he calls "Western Stories that Rhyme", instead of cowboy poetry. He explains, "To call yourself a cowboy poet requires a workin' acquaintanceship with live horses and cattle and I've been on a horse twice in my life and ran out of quarters both times...We all wanted to grow up to be Cowboys an' Cowgirls an' live in the Myth of the West." Please call for a reservation (520) 896-2425; free with park admission.

**Saturday, November 18: Music in the Park, 2pm-4pm**, featuring the Blue Prairie Dogs, a southwest flavored family friendly folk and western group from Tucson. Bring your dancing shoes! Sponsored by **Friends of Oracle State Park**; free with park admission.

**Sunday, November 19: Geology of the Catalina Mountain Region, 11:00am** with Bob Scarborough. The program will begin in the living room of the ranch house with a talk on the geology of Oracle State Park, San Pedro River Valley, Galiuro range and local mountains. Following the presentation, Bob will lead a geology trail walk for the first 15 participants. 11am – 2pm for both the talk and guided walk. Please call for a reservation (520) 896-2425; free with park admission.

**Saturday, November 25: Guided Hike, begins at 8am**, for approximately 8 miles, led by volunteer guide, Gaston Meloche. Hike the Windmill Loop Trail, starting at the Kannally Ranch House and Wildlife Corridor Trail, returning up the Kannally Wash. A reservation is required (520) 896-2425, by 2pm the day before, 11/24. Free with park admission.

**Sunday, December 3: Holiday Wreath-making Workshop, 1:00pm-4:00pm.** Make your own holiday wreath using plant material gathered at Oracle State Park, including soapberry, mistletoe, buckwheat, manzanita, juniper and more. Space is limited; please call for a reservation (520) 896-2425. The workshop fee of \$12 includes park admission.

**Sunday, December 17: Bighorn Basics, 1:00pm.** Join Oracle and Catalina State Parks Volunteer, Richard Boyer, as he presents information about the Bighorn Sheep in Arizona. Many of the tools we use can be compared to the tools the Bighorn Sheep use to survive in mountainous areas of Arizona. Also, learn more about the Bighorn Sheep Reintroduction Program and recent releases of sheep into the Catalina Mountains. Free with park admission; Reservation suggested.