

Arizona State Parks and Trails

ORACLE STATE PARK Calendar of Events:

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, (520) 896-2425.

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, September 23: Solar Eclipse Tour and Star Party, 5:30-9:00pm. Mike Weasner of the Oracle Dark Skies Committee, will share a power-point presentation in the living room of the Kannally Ranch House, beginning at 5:30pm. He will offer a slide show report on his total solar eclipse experience as part of an August Sky and Telescope Tour. A solar eclipse occurs when the Moon passes between Earth and the Sun. On August 21, 2017, a rare total solar eclipse was visible along a path across the United States; first seen from land in the US at Oregon's Pacific coast, and then progressed eastward along a path through Oregon, Wyoming, Nebraska, Kansas, Tennessee and South Carolina. A **Star Party will follow the program, and from 7pm-9pm,** telescope viewing and night sky interpretation will be offered, thanks to Tucson Amateur Astronomers Association. No reservation is needed for the star party; however, please call for a reservation, (520) 896-2425 for the 5:30pm program; free with park admission.

Saturday, September 30: Phenology Bingo, 3:00pm. Join a Talk and Walk beginning at 3pm, with plant specialist, Hilary Cox. Meet in the Kannally Ranch House living room for a 45-minute power-point slide show to learn more about the National Phenology Program that allows public participation in scientific research, connecting people with nature to benefit our changing planet. Phenology refers to key seasonal changes in plants and animals from year to year – such as flowering, emergence of insects and migration of birds – especially their timing and relationship with weather and climate. Park visitors can help monitor seasonal changes and add observations to the national database. There will be an optional short group trail walk following the presentation, to participate in a “Phenology Bingo” activity, and special prize for the winner. Please call for a reservation (520) 896-2425; free with park admission.

Saturday, October 7: Common Butterflies in Southern Arizona, 3:00pm. Join butterfly enthusiast, Larry Fellows, of the Southern Arizona Butterfly Association for a power-point slide show presentation in the living room of the Kannally Ranch House. SEABA's mission is to advocate for butterflies and their habitats through conservation, education and recreation. Please call for a reservation (520) 896-2425; free with park admission.

Sunday, October 8: Ocean Conservation in the Sonoran Desert Region, 12:30-1:30pm. The Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum is currently in the process of focusing their interpretive and conservation efforts educating the public about ocean conservation. The Sonoran Desert region that the museum interprets includes the Sea of Cortez and over 900 desert islands. It's a fascinating region, extremely biodiverse and many local people do not realize that it's located in their very own backyard. Join Julie Xelowski-Brooker, Marine Biology Education Specialist for the Arizona Sonora Desert Museum, who will also share details of the museum's new Stingray Touch Exhibit. Please call for a reservation (520) 896-2425; the program is free with park admission.

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 around the state. The public is invited to join and learn more about Friends of Oracle State Park and how to get involved, while enjoying hors d'oeuvres and live music. More details to be announced.

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.

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.