



Deep Creek Volunteers

P.O. Box 5988, Orange, CA 92863-5988
Ron Mercer – Group Coordinator - Tel. (714) 771-3702
deepcreekvolunteers@hotmail.com
www.deepcreekvolunteers.com

FALL 2004

RECENT HOT SPRING EVENTS

Fall Newsletter Delayed *by Ron*

Let me start this newsletter apologizing for its delay. The intention of this letter is to share recent news and future events regarding these hot springs with DCV members and hot visitors.

I think it is more interesting if this letter is not one long monologue of articles from me but rather a true shared effort. I would like to see a regular feature from first time visitors to the springs, but so far in spite of much encouragement we have only seen a few. Articles on visits to other clothing optional places or resorts, other springs or personal naturist experiences are also welcome.

In the past I have asked a few people for articles some of which have appeared in previous editions. Others I am still waiting for, but I hope I will be able to share with our readers some day. However, there is no need to wait to be invited. If feel free to write an article and email it to info@deepcreekvolunteers.com. Our winter edition will be published straight after our January meeting so please send in anything you would like to share by mid January. With a little help from everyone, maybe in 2005 we can get on a more regular schedule.

September Clean Up Report *by Ron*

The last Saturday of October DCV organized their fall clean up. The USFS had also planned a clean up for the same day but had to call it off due to a scheduling conflict. DCV still went ahead and at 10 o'clock Celfire, Sycamore and Ron from DCV and Vaughn from Friends of San Onofre met at the Bowen Ranch equipped with trash bags, and started to clean our way to the springs.

After scouting around the lower parking lot we had filled our first two bags which we proceeded

to stow away behind some rocks a short distance down the trail.

We continued to make our way down to the springs making many stops to scavenge our way down the slope to retrieve trash that some less considerate visitors had thrown down the hillside instead of carrying it out with them.

A group of tourist from the Green Tortoise came past us and were somewhat surprised by our clothes free uniform. By the time we had made it to the top of Mofo hill we had left seven bags of trash stowed away behind rocks and under Juniper trees along the way.

Once at the springs, we all enjoyed a refreshing dip in the creek that was still warm enough for swimming. Wizard, Nakedman, Jaime, Carlos and Ron joined us for our monthly meeting.

After the meeting, we continued to collect some more trash around the springs, but fortunately, they were quite clean at the time. When the time came to leave we divided the trash and used the additional hands to help carry out the bags we left stowed on the trail.

We ended a great day with Wizard inviting us over to his home for Pizza, beer and watch the movie on the Burning Man Festival. Maybe one year we will have a contingent of DCV members going out to Burning Man together.

Paintball Fights *by Ron*

Unfortunately, one incident that we saw at the springs this fall was a couple of fellows with paintball guns shooting at each other on the hillside behind the springs.

The use of paintball guns at the springs may not be explicitly prohibited by USFS regulations nor addressed in DCV etiquette. However, it obviously is not good for the environment or respectful of the other visitors that are generally looking for peace and relaxation.

Luckily, on my next visit, I saw few marks on the rocks, but it remains to be seen how the USFS would interpret their use. The paintballs could probably be considered a hazardous material to the springs so they may issue a citation for having them down at the springs.

HOT SPRINGS AT THIS TIME OF THE YEAR

Fall at DCHS *by Ron*

Fall is a time of change down at DCHS. Due to the desert climate, September and October pass with few visible changes as the heat of summer still subsists for a while.

The summer heat has generally slowed the creek to a trickle, but rarely does the flow stop altogether like occurred this season. There were sections of the creek both up and down stream that totally dried out and some long-standing pools were reduced to a small stagnant pond or gone altogether. In addition the cattails grew right across the creek impeding the normal flow of water.

Eventually the cooler nights and earlier sunsets start to take over producing a gradual cooling of the creek waters. At the same time, many trees along the creek begin to dress in their beautiful fall colors as can be seen in the photo below.



Photo by Wizard

Visitors to the springs at this time of the year can enjoy both the warm water of the hot pools and a refreshing dip in the creek. However, visitors should not be misled by the warm sunny days as the weather can change suddenly and the

evenings and nights can get quite cold. Dressing in layers at this time of the year is very necessary. However these cooler temperatures make for a much more pleasant hike out and the combination of hot and cool water make fall one great season to visit Deep Creek Hot Springs. Come, enjoy, and remember to take your trash out with you!

OTHER NEWS

First Time Visit *by Ben*

We had a great time out at Deep Creek. We showed up on 12/26 and the weather was windy and cold but, calm and still down at the springs. A lot of people were around at the end of the day but, we camped at Bowen Ranch so we had the springs to ourselves in the evening. On Monday it was still chilly and windy we headed back home before the rains came. It was a great trip.

Deep Creek Volunteers has New Website *by Ron*

After over a year of piggybacking of Blacks Beach Bares, DCV finally has it's own website with its own domain and http address. Ralph Maese, who has been a member of DCV since last summer, hosts it. Please check it out at www.deepcreekvolunteers.com.

It has all the information and same page set up that was created by Lloyd Johnson at the Blacks Beach site. In addition to an online form for new members, a page for our newsletters, calendar of events and links to other related sites including the DCHS Forum.

We hope that the website will become a useful tool for both our members and the occasional visitor. The calendar should be of special use to members as it will allow you to click on an event of interest and set it up to send you a reminder email as many days in advance as you want.

Our previous site now has a forward notice to the new site. I would like to end with a special thanks to Lloyd that hosted our previous site at no cost to DCV as well as to Ralph who set up our new site and donated the registration of our domain.

Proposed 2005 Calendar of Events *by Ron*

January 29 – Regular monthly meeting
February 26 – Bring a friend potluck day
March 26 – Spring Clean-up Day

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April 30 – Regular monthly meeting
May 28 – Bring a friend potluck day
June 25 – Regular monthly meeting
July 5-10 – National Nude Week
July 30 – Regular monthly meeting
August 18-21 – Western Nourist Gathering at
De Anza Springs close to Jacumba
August 27 – Bring a friend potluck day
September 24 – Fall Clean-up Day
October 29 – Regular Monthly Meeting
December 10 – November/December combined
Bring a friend and potluck day