

Thursday April 7, 2022

8am-4pm Festival Check in at the Robert Fowler Building, 139 S. 4th Avenue

9am-10am Leave No Trace Seminar in Robert Fowler Building Free

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2pm – 3pm Rafting the Mighty Colorado. Adventurer and storyteller Jay Meierdierck will entertain you with awesome photos and funny stories about his more than a dozen rafting trips through the Grand Canyon. You will learn about the Canyon from the bottom to the top and what it takes to be a rafting guide. He will share such secrets as what you use an ammunition box for besides ammunition.

4pm – 6pm Birds and Beer: Meet at the Territorial Prison State Park parking lot. Nancy Meister will set up a scope to view flocks of birds coming back to the river to roost. Then we will caravan back to Prison Hill Brewery on Main Street to try the new IPA brewed especially for the event. No Host. Remember to drink responsibly and have a designated driver for the trip home.

6:30pm-7:30pm Bird Trivia Yuma Landing Restaurant, No Host Bar and Restaurant Service.

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Friday April 8, 2022

9-10am Moody Garden Demonstration Garden: Janine Lane, horticulturist with the University of Arizona, will be your guide in the garden which is planted in native and desert adapted plants. Janine will help you with suggestions on plants for your garden and answer questions about water and fertilizing issues in the desert southwest. Meet at Robert Fowler Building, 139 S. 4th Ave. to caravan to the area. Free. No transportation or meals.

10:30am-1pm Yuma Proving Grounds Museum: Daniel Steward, YPG biologist, and Bill Heidner, Museum Curator on the Yuma Proving Grounds Military Museum, will greet you at the museum. Daniel will talk about the birds of the area. Mr. Heidner will present "Birds of the Army." There will be a guided tour of the facility and time for you to peruse the museum exhibits on your own. Meet at the Fowler building 139 S 4th Ave. Transportation and snacks will be provided. Limit 12 Cost \$30 per person

1:30 -2:30pm Wings Over Yuma: Yvonne Peach, owner of the Yuma Landing, will entertain you with stories of the first plane to land in Arizona, right here in Yuma, and Yuma's role in training pilots for WWII and of course the extraordinary flight of Bob Woodhouse and Woody Jongeward that began August 24, 1949, and ended Oct 10, 1949. Meet at the Fowler Building 139 4th Ave. 1:30pm.-2:30pm. Cost per person \$6.00 Pie & ice cream included.

2 – 3pm Colorado River History: Tammy Snook, City Historian, will present the story of the past, present, and future of the Lower Colorado River, and Yuma's unique role in the settlement and development of the Southwest. Free. Meet at the Robert Fowler Building, 139 S. 4th Ave. Meal not included.

6pm – 9pm Dinner under The Stars: Dinner served outdoors at the Yuma Civic Center Terrance, 1440 West Desert Hills Drive (off Avenue A). \$40 per person limit 100 people. No transportation.

Saturday April 9, 2022

7am – 1:30 pm Imperial National Wildlife Refuge: Al Borgardt, will lead the tour of the refuge. Expect to see ducks, shorebirds and listen to the rails. At the refuge headquarters is a viewing tower, desert tortoise enclosure and several hummingbird feeders. Meet at the Robert Fowler Building, 139 S. 4th Ave. Lunch and transportation included. Cost \$40 per person, maximum 12 people.

7am – 10am East Wetlands Birding: Carla van Traa will lead a bird and nature walk in the East Wetland Park. Expect to see Abert's Towhees, Spotted Sandpipers, hummingbirds, flycatchers, woodpeckers, Verdins, and perhaps some warblers. Meet at the Robert Fowler Building, 139 S. 4th Ave. to caravan to the area. Free. No transportation or meals provided. (Maximum 20 guests)

7am – 1:30pm Betty's Kitchen/Pratt Forest: Mark Keuchel will lead the group to an area that historically was a shanty town complete with restaurant and the spillway of the first dam on the Colorado. Now the area includes a cottonwood/willow restoration area, desert vegetation trail, and views of the Colorado River. Expect to see towhees, thrashers, sparrows, ducks, shore birds, and perhaps some pelicans. Free. No meals or transportation provided. Meet at the Robert Fowler Building, 139 S. 4th Ave. to caravan to the area.

7am – 10am Bird and Nature Walk at Sunrise Park: Chase Choate, Environment Director for the Quechan Tribe, will lead a bird and nature walk along the bank of the Colorado River. Learn more about the uses of native plants and the importance of the river to the original inhabitants of area. Meet at Robert Fowler Building, 139 S. 4th Ave to caravan to the area. Free. (Maximum 15 guests), no meals or transportation provided.

10am – 11am. Casa de Coronado Museum (Yuma History Museum): Yvonne Peach will provide a tour of the Casa de Coronado Museum, located by the office at the Coronado Motor Hotel. The museum showcases the history of tourism in Yuma, the growth of Yuma as a city, and the development of the Best Western Brand and the historic Coronado Motor Hotel over the last 80 years. It features historic tourism pamphlets and brochures about Arizona and Yuma, travel guides, furniture and appliances from the early 1900's, plus historic items of Yuma's history. Free. No meals or transportation provided. Meet at the hotel, 233 S. 4th Ave.

11am – 12 noon. Birds & Plants Walk. Deirdre MacDonald and Karen Reichardt will lead a walk in the West Wetlands. Expect to learn the common and scientific names of native and desert adapted plants. Birds that might be seen are hummingbirds, towhees, hawks, thrashers, verdins, and warblers. Meet at the Robert Fowler Building, 139 S. 4th Ave. to caravan to the area. Free. No meals or transportation provided.

1pm – 2pm. Edible Native Plants: Val Morrill will to you on a garden walk through the Yuma Conservation Garden. You may sample some of the native plants that sustained indigenous people in this area before the Spanish arrived. Meet at the Robert Fowler Building, 139 S. 4th Ave. to caravan to the area. Free. No meals or transportation provided.

2 – 4:30pm Cocopah Museum & Fry Bread Tasting: A tour of the Cocopah Tribe Museum and Cultural Center on the west Reservation, led by tribal members, followed by a cooking demonstration where participants will make their own Cocopah style fry-bread. You may also get to try the ancient recipe for screwbean mesquite tea and learn the names of various birds in the Cocopah language. Meet at the Robert Fowler Building, 139 S. 4th Ave. Transportation and Fry Bread included. Cost is \$40 per person, (Maximum 20 guests).

4 – 9 pm Bat Viewing: Bea Vicarra will lead the group to see hundreds of bats soar overhead as they begin their evening feast in the winter sky. Meet at Robert Fowler Building, 139 S. 4th Ave. Transportation is provided but you will need a flashlight, comfortable shoes for a short climb over gravel, and a folding chair. Cost \$30 per person. Limit 12 people. Meal not included.

Sunday April 10, 2022

6am – 3pm. Sonny Bono Salton Sea National Wildlife Refuge: Al Borgardt, master birder, will lead the tour. The first stop is Unit 1. Expect to see thousands of snow geese, sandhill cranes, pelicans, ducks, shorebirds, and hawks. At the Refuge Headquarters there is an easy one mile walk along ponds full of ducks and geese. On the way expect to see desert birds such as quail, verdins, and flycatchers. At the shoreline of the sea, enjoy the peeps, stilts, avocets, and other shorebirds probing in the mud. At the end of the trail, there is a hill providing a great overlook of the area and its interesting geology. Meet at the Fowler Building, 139 S. 4th Ave. Transportation and lunch provided. Maximum guests 12. Cost \$40 per person.

7am – 2pm. Senator's Wash: Biologist Daniel Steward will lead the tour to Senator's Wash in hopes of spotting a loon. Stops along the way include Imperial Dam and West Pond. Birds expected are ducks, grebes, egrets, herons, vermilion flycatcher, and shrike. Meet at the Fowler Building, 139 S. 4th Ave. Transportation and lunch provided, cost is \$40 per person (maximum guests 12)

