



## McDowell Sonoran Conservancy Natural History Lecture Series: 2019-20

Mustang Library Auditorium 10101 North 90<sup>th</sup> Street Scottsdale, AZ 85258

### Saturday, February 23, 2019: 10:30 am Mustang

#### " From Heads to Scales...Fauna of the McDowell Sonoran Preserve"

The Conservancy has a mission to help sustain the McDowell Sonoran Preserve. Discover what animal life is known to thrive in the Preserve.

**Presented by:**

Ralph Lipfert, Lead Steward, Citizen Scientist, McDowell Sonoran Conservancy

Rick Pearce, Lead Steward, McDowell Sonoran Conservancy

**RSVP Requested:** Name/Date of Event to [educationrsvp@mcdowellsonoran.org](mailto:educationrsvp@mcdowellsonoran.org)

### Saturday, March 2, 2019: 1 pm Mustang Library

#### " Human History of the McDowell Sonoran Preserve...Part 2"

An exploration of the later human history found in the McDowell Sonoran Preserve. The Military, murders, wildfires, plane crashes and more...

**Field Study: Sunday, March 3, 2019 Browns Ranch TH 8:00a-10:30a**

**Presented by:** Dr. Mark Tebeau, Steward, McDowell Sonoran Conservancy, ASU

**RSVP Requested:** Name/Date of Event to [educationrsvp@mcdowellsonoran.org](mailto:educationrsvp@mcdowellsonoran.org)

### Tuesday, March 5, 2019: 5:30 pm Mustang Library

#### "Ethnobotany-Thriving and Surviving in the Sonoran Desert"

The people of the Sonoran Desert not only survived but thrived in the harsh environment of the Sonoran Desert. Join Legacy Steward Bernie Finkel as he shares the accumulated generational knowledge of these desert people and how they used plants to sustain themselves. Learn about the amazing properties of many essential desert plants, about gathering and processing procedures and ways in which the plants were utilized.

**Field Study: Sunday, March 10, 2019 Brown's Ranch TH 8:00a-11:00p**

**Presented by:** Bernie Finkel, Legacy Steward, McDowell Sonoran Conservancy

**RSVP Requested:** Name/Date of Event to [educationrsvp@mcdowellsonoran.org](mailto:educationrsvp@mcdowellsonoran.org)

### Tuesday, April 2, 2019: 5:30 pm Mustang Library

#### "Biotic Bonanza- The Desert Ecology of the McDowell Sonoran Preserve"

Tropical plants and animals in the Sonoran Desert? Really? Really! From rain and cold to hot and dry. From Juniper trees to Saguaro cactus. Temperature and moisture extremes. Are plants and animals struggling or thriving? How do plants and animals adapt to aridity, heat, salinity and budgeting? What is a desert? What is an ecosystem? What does geology have to do with desert life? Why is life in the Sonoran Desert the most diverse of the world's deserts? Find out more as we explore the relationships and interactions of desert organisms.

**Field Study: Saturday, April 6, 2019 Brown's Ranch TH 7:30a-10:00a**

**Presented by:** Jack McEnroe, Master Steward, McDowell Sonoran Conservancy

**RSVP Requested:** Name/Date of Event to [educationrsvp@mcdowellsonoran.org](mailto:educationrsvp@mcdowellsonoran.org)

## **Tuesday, May 7, 2019: 5:30 pm Mustang Library**

### **"Plants- Nature's Medicine Cabinet"**

Take a global look of the importance of plants and their physical properties and how they were used throughout the centuries to aid in man's wellbeing. We will start globally but then move to look at some of medicinal plants found in the McDowell Sonoran Preserve.

**Presented by:** Bernie Finkel, Legacy Steward, McDowell Sonoran Conservancy.

**RSVP Requested:** Name/Date of Event to [educationrspv@mcdowellsonoran.org](mailto:educationrspv@mcdowellsonoran.org)

## **Tuesday, June 4, 2019: 5:30 pm Mustang Library**

### **"Battle of the Little Big Horn" 143<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary**

How could a glamorous, highly regarded soldier lead over 200 troops to their doom on a hill slope in Montana? Was George Armstrong Custer responsible for the massacre at the Little Big Horn in June, 1876? Or were there others who should have been held accountable? Join the McDowell Sonoran Conservancy for an exploration of the iconic Battle of the Little Big Horn. This presentation, designed for those who are curious and want to know more about it, explores the political, military, cultural and technological issues attendant to the battle and the campaign that preceded it.

**Presented by:** Len Marcisz, Legacy Steward, McDowell Sonoran Conservancy.

**RSVP Requested:** Name/Date of Event to [educationrspv@mcdowellsonoran.org](mailto:educationrspv@mcdowellsonoran.org)

## **Tuesday, July 2, 2019: 5:30 pm Mustang Library**

### **"Magma's Last Gasp"**

More than a billion years ago, a huge bubble of 2,000<sup>o</sup>F magma got trapped 10km beneath our feet and began to cool. How did the magma die? Was it a natural death or murder? Who did it and how? One thing for sure – it took a while; since magma's really tough! Dan Gruber will guide you through this amazing journey, and you will learn what happened as the last bit of magma finally turned into solid rock.

**Presented by:** Dan Gruber, Legacy Steward, McDowell Sonoran Conservancy.

**RSVP Requested:** Name/Date of Event to [educationrspv@mcdowellsonoran.org](mailto:educationrspv@mcdowellsonoran.org)

## **Tuesday, August 6, 2019: 5:30 pm Mustang Library**

### **"Fauna of the MSP- Part 1 – Mammals"**

The Conservancy has a mission to help sustain the McDowell Sonoran Preserve. Discover what mammal life is known to thrive in the Preserve. Learn how the Conservancy participates in research projects to help manage the populations in the Preserve.

**Presented by:** Ralph Lipfert, Lead Steward, Citizen Scientist McDowell Sonoran Conservancy.

**RSVP Requested:** Name/Date of Event to [educationrspv@mcdowellsonoran.org](mailto:educationrspv@mcdowellsonoran.org)

## **Tuesday, September 3, 2019: 5:30 pm Mustang Library**

### **"Inspired By Nature"**

Mother Nature has forever been a designer. Just look around. A cursory view of our flora and fauna provides us with countless solutions for most any challenge. Can we, as humans, learn to be better designers by mimicking Mother Nature? Yes, by applying the principles of biomimicry. This presentation will show how Mother Nature can inspire us when we design.

**Presented by:** Jacques Giard, Master Steward, McDowell Sonoran Conservancy, Professor of Design at Arizona State University

**RSVP Requested:** Name/Date of Event to [educationrspv@mcdowellsonoran.org](mailto:educationrspv@mcdowellsonoran.org)

### **Tuesday, October 1, 2019: 5:30 pm Mustang Library**

#### **"Biotic Bonanza- Desert Ecology of the McDowell Sonoran Preserve"**

Tropical plants and animals in the Sonoran Desert? Really? Really! From rain and cold to hot and dry. From Juniper trees to Saguaro cactus. Temperature and moisture extremes. Are plants and animals struggling or thriving? How do plants and animals adapt to aridity, heat, salinity and budgeting? What is a desert? What is an ecosystem? What does geology have to do with desert life? Why is life in the Sonoran Desert the most diverse of the world's deserts? Find out more as we explore the relationships and interactions of desert organisms.

#### **Field Study: Saturday, October 5, 2019 7:45 am Browns Ranch Trailhead**

**Presented by:** Jack McEnroe, Master Steward, Citizen Scientist McDowell Sonoran Conservancy.

**RSVP Requested:** Name/Date of Event to [educationrsvp@mcowellsonoran.org](mailto:educationrsvp@mcowellsonoran.org)

### **Tuesday, November 5, 2019: 5:30 pm Mustang Library**

#### **"If Rocks Could Talk- Geology of the McDowell Sonoran Preserve"**

The rocks that make up the landscape of the Sonoran Desert reveal an amazing story about the world in which they were formed, their subsequent history, the impact of regional geology and the geological landscape on the formation of the Sonoran Desert. Learn about the massive forces that formed the Preserve and how the land we see today changed over geologic time.

#### **Field Study: Sunday, November 10, 2019 7:45 am Tom's Thumb Trailhead**

**Presented by:** Mike Nolan, Steward, McDowell Sonoran Conservancy.

**RSVP Requested:** Name/Date of Event to [educationrsvp@mcowellsonoran.org](mailto:educationrsvp@mcowellsonoran.org)

### **Tuesday, December 3 2019: 5:30 pm Mustang Library**

#### **"Flora of the MSP- Part 1 – Cacti and Trees"**

An exploration of the plant life found in the McDowell Sonoran Preserve. We live in the most diverse desert in the world. Learn more about the vegetation found in the McDowell Sonoran Preserve. This lecture will focus on Native Cacti and Trees in the Preserve.

#### **Field Study: Saturday, December 7, 2019 8:45 am Brown's Ranch Trailhead**

**Presented by:** Roger Riepe, Lead Steward, Chair- Construction and Maintenance McDowell Sonoran Conservancy.

**RSVP Requested:** Name/Date of Event to [educationrsvp@mcowellsonoran.org](mailto:educationrsvp@mcowellsonoran.org)

### **Tuesday, January 7, 2020: 5:30 pm Mustang Library**

#### **"Fauna of the MSP- Part 2 – Amphibians, Reptiles and Birds"**

The Conservancy has a mission to help sustain the McDowell Sonoran Preserve. Discover what animal life is known to thrive in the Preserve. Learn how the Conservancy participates in research projects to help manage the populations in the Preserve.

#### **Field Study- Bird Walk: Sunday, January 12, 2020 8:45 am Tom's Thumb Trailhead**

**Presented by:** Rick Pearce, Lead Steward, Citizen Scientist McDowell Sonoran Conservancy.

**RSVP Requested:** Name/Date of Event to [educationrsvp@mcowellsonoran.org](mailto:educationrsvp@mcowellsonoran.org)

## **Tuesday, February 4, 2020: 5:30 pm Mustang Library**

### **"Rust, Dust, Crust ...Discovering Desert Surfaces"**

The Hills are Alive! If you think the desert floor is all dust, gravel and rocks, then you haven't taken a good look beneath your feet. The desert's surface is full of life in the form of soil crust, lichen and desert varnish – the living things that probably cover more of the desert than any single kind of plant. These organisms have much in common — they're all alive (yes, even varnish), they have some components that are neither plant nor animal and living filaments that are crucial to their existence. We'll explore these life forms and how they enrich and protect the desert surface.

### **Field Study- Sunday, February 9, 2020 8:45 am Lost Dog Wash Trailhead**

**Presented by:** Dan Gruber, Legacy Steward, McDowell Sonoran Conservancy

**RSVP Requested:** Name/Date of Event to [educationrsvp@mcdowellsonoran.org](mailto:educationrsvp@mcdowellsonoran.org)

## **Tuesday, March 3, 2020: 5:30 pm Mustang Library**

### **"Flora of the MSP- Part 2 – Wildflowers and Shrubs"**

An exploration of the plant life found in the McDowell Sonoran Preserve. We live in the most diverse desert in the world. Learn more about the vegetation found in the McDowell Sonoran Preserve. This lecture will focus on Wildflowers and Shrubs in the Preserve.

### **Field Study: Saturday, March 7, 2020 7:45 am Brown's Ranch Trailhead**

**Presented by:** Roger Riepe, Lead Steward, Chair- Construction and Maintenance McDowell Sonoran Conservancy.

**RSVP Requested:** Name/Date of Event to [educationrsvp@mcdowellsonoran.org](mailto:educationrsvp@mcdowellsonoran.org)

## **Tuesday, April 7, 2020: 5:30 pm Mustang Library**

### **" Desert 101"**

The Conservancy has a mission to help sustain the McDowell Sonoran Preserve. A geological and ecological overview of what lives in the McDowell Sonoran Preserve, and how the flora and fauna survive and thrive.

**Presented by:** McDowell Sonoran Conservancy.

**RSVP Requested:** Name/Date of Event to [educationrsvp@mcdowellsonoran.org](mailto:educationrsvp@mcdowellsonoran.org)

## **Tuesday, May 5, 2020: 5:30 pm Mustang Library**

### **"Nature As Therapy"**

Lost your mojo? Not as creative as you used to be? Do you have a feeling of malaise? Learn how to apply the latest international research on the benefits of spending time in nature to improve your overall well being. Specific tools and a prescription will be discussed to help you use nature to improve your happiness, creativity and health.

**Presented by:** Toni Vallee, Lead Steward, Katy Lindberg, Lead Steward, McDowell Sonoran Conservancy.

**RSVP Requested:** Name/Date of Event to [educationrsvp@mcdowellsonoran.org](mailto:educationrsvp@mcdowellsonoran.org)

## **Tuesday, June 2, 2020: 5:30 pm Mustang Library**

### **"The McDowells, the Sonoran Desert, and Post-War Development in Scottsdale"**

Learn how both the McDowell's and the Sonoran Desert provided opportunity and obstacles to the development of Scottsdale in the decades following World War II. We will use the history of the McDowell Sonoran Preserve to explore the urban and environmental history of both Scottsdale and the broader Phoenix region.

**Presented by:** Mark Tebeau, Steward, Sonoran Conservancy, ASU

**RSVP Requested:** Name/Date of Event to [educationrsvp@mcdowellsonoran.org](mailto:educationrsvp@mcdowellsonoran.org)