

# Big Bend

## Ranger Programs

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Big Bend National Park  
Rio Grande Wild & Scenic River



### February 7-13, 2016

#### Sunday, February 7

**3:00 PM Guided Walk – “Life at the Windmill”** The desert may seem to be an impossible place to live but a significant number of living things thrive in this extreme environment. Join Ranger B. Smith for an hour of discovery and exploration into the secret, and not so secret, stories of life at the windmill. Meet at Dugout Wells, six miles south of Panther Junction Visitor Center. Bring water and a hat. ¼ mile. 1 hour.

**7:30 PM Evening Program – “Rattlesnake Country”** With their sharp fangs and venomous bite, rattlesnakes are often feared by humans. Join Ranger C. Rinas to test your knowledge of these reptiles and learn how to safely enjoy the outdoors now that you’re in rattlesnake country. Meet at the Chisos Basin Amphitheater. Wheelchair accessible. Bring a flashlight. 1 hour.

#### Tuesday, February 9

**9:30 AM Guided Walk – “Chasing Birds”** Birds, birds, everywhere! Join Volunteer P. Spruell on a bird walk exploring the Chisos Basin, wandering through the campground, and even finding the water treatment plant – a premier basin birding site! Meet in the Chisos Basin Amphitheater parking lot. Bring water and binoculars if you have them. 1 mile. 1 - 1 1/2 hours.

**3:00 PM Guided Walk – “Our Most Precious Resource”** Water brings life to the desert. Join Ranger C. Rinas to learn more about this precious but limited resource. Meet at the Rio Grande Village Nature Trail, across from Campsite 18. Water and sun protection recommended. 3/4 mile walk. 1 hour.

#### Wednesday, February 10

**9:30 AM Guided Walk – “Birds Do Crazy Things”** Observe Texas specialty birds and explore some of their unique behaviors. Stroll Rio Grande Village area (approx. 1 mile). Meet Volunteers J. and S. Ewan at Rio Grande Store parking lot. Please bring water and binoculars if you have them. 1 hour.

**9:30 AM Guided Walk – “The Birth of the CCC”** There was a cry that came from our country in the 1930’s; a cry of hunger, poverty, and lack of work. Franklin D. Roosevelt heard this cry and strove to do something about it, creating the Civilian Conservation Corp. Join Ranger K. Eckert to learn more about the creation of the CCC, and see their lasting handiwork here in Big Bend National Park. Meet at the Chisos Basin Trailhead. 1/3 mile walk. Wheelchair accessible. 45 minutes.

#### Thursday, February 11

**3:00 PM Guided Walk – “Hot Springs, a History”** From prehistoric camp to healing resort, the hot springs on the Rio Grande have been a focal point for communities throughout history. The art and homes they left behind reveal their stories. Join Ranger J. Woerner to learn more about the history of the Hot Springs. Meet at the Hot Springs store (50 yards from the parking lot). Bring water, a hat, and good walking shoes. 1 mile. 1 hour.

#### Friday, February 12

**7:30 PM Evening Program – “Band on the Run”** Who were the nomadic Plains Indians that were amazing equestrians, savvy traders, but also marauders and thieves? Join Ranger K. Eckert to learn more about the Comanche and their way of life, with story telling that will engage the senses. Meet at the Chisos Basin Amphitheater. Wheelchair accessible. Bring a flashlight. 1 hour.

#### Saturday, February 13

**9:30 AM Guided Walk – “The Way We Walk”** Many of us have enjoyed hiking on trails, but have you ever thought about how or why these trails were built? Join Ranger J. Woerner for a closer look at the work and thought behind trail building. Meet at the Chisos Basin Trailhead. Bring water, a hat, and good walking shoes. 1/2 mile. 45 minutes.

**7:30 PM Evening Program – “Some Endangered Evening”** Is it dark where you live? Can you see as many stars as you once could? A dark night sky is an important factor in the lives of living creatures planet-wide, a way for humans to connect to days past, when artificial light was non-existent. Join Ranger B. Smith for an evening about evenings. A telescope will be set up to view a celestial object. Meet at the Rio Grande Village Amphitheater. Bring a flashlight. Wheelchair accessible. 1 hour.