



EXPLORATIONS

EXPLORATIONS PROVIDE VEHICLE AND BASE CAMP SUPPORT. MODERATE TO STRENUOUS DAY HIKES AND CAMPING ARE A PART OF THESE PROGRAMS.



EL MORRO PLATEAU ©2011 Gene Balzer

Canyonlands and Landscapes of the Upper Escalante

The Escalante River drains from the high Aquarius Plateau down to Glen Canyon. Day hikes from our vehicle-based woodland camp to Circle Cliffs, King Bench, and The Gulch will venture into rugged terrain and rimrock landscapes. We will experience diverse natural environments, prehistoric Fremont Culture rock art and field sites, and the surprises of wilderness exploration.

Archaeologist Don Keller and Naturalist Ann Walka

MAY 14-19

\$1150 members, \$1200 nonmembers

El Morro National Monument

The sandstone promontory of El Morro, New Mexico has long been home to ancient Zuni people and a stop for historic travelers. Experience historic Spanish inscriptions dating to AD 1604 and the Ancestral Pueblo site Atsinna on this camp trip to the El Morro National Monument. Included are photography workshops led by Gene Balzer and insights into Pueblo culture from MNA's Danson Chair of Anthropology Kelley Hays-Gilpin.

Anthropologist Kelley Hays-Gilpin and

Photographer Gene Balzer

JUNE 9-11

\$750 members, \$800 nonmembers

Canyon de Chelly and Canyon del Muerto

From our camp on the Wilson family's farm and orchard in the heart of Canyon del Muerto, we will venture into Canyon de Chelly for short day hikes. A longer day of up-canyon and trail hiking will take us into one of the Southwest's outstanding concentrations of rock art and cliff dwellings. We will visit White House, Mummy Cave, Antelope House, Spider Rock, and Twin Trails.

Archaeologist Don Keller and Navajo Guide

Dave Wilson

SEPTEMBER 24-28

\$1150 members, \$1200 nonmembers

Readings, weather information, and equipment recommendations will be provided prior to all trips.

For more information and the latest additions to the Ventures 2012 schedule, go to mnaventures.org.

For reservations, call 928.774.5213, ext. 203 or e-mail ventures@mna.mus.az.us.



Museum of Northern Arizona
3101 N. Fort Valley Road
Flagstaff, Arizona 86001
The mission of the Museum of Northern Arizona is to inspire a sense of love and responsibility for the beauty and diversity of the Colorado Plateau.
mnaventures.org



2012

**EXCURSIONS • EXPLORATIONS
EXPEDITIONS • ENCOUNTERS**



Canyonlands and Arches

From a home base of the Gonzo Inn, explore the geology and natural history of the colorful, expansive mesas and buttes of Canyonlands National Park and delicate rock formations in Arches National Park. Wayne Ranney leads short day hikes through this slick rock country around Moab, Utah.

**Geologist and MNA Trustee
Wayne Ranney**
APRIL 9–13
\$1650 members
\$1700 nonmembers

EXCURSIONS
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HOTEL BASED. EASY TO
MODERATE DAY HIKES
ARE GENERALLY PART OF
THESE PROGRAMS.

ESCALANTE ©2003 Mike Powers

Exploring Escalante

Explore the intriguing geology and diverse landscapes of Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument and experience some of its finest and little-known gems on short day hikes. Daily adventures begin and end in the comfort of the Boulder Mountain Lodge, with fine dining available at the acclaimed Hell's Backbone Grill.

Geologist and MNA Trustee Wayne Ranney
APRIL 16–20
\$1450 members, \$1500 nonmembers

Highways to History

Join us for a road trip along Route 66, and Highways 93 and 89. Discover the social, political, and economic processes that shaped the modern road system in northern Arizona, while enjoying spectacular scenery with overnight stops in Kingman and Wickenburg.

MNA Archaeologist Kim Spurr
AUGUST 24–26
\$700 members, \$750 nonmembers

The Bluff Region of Southeast Utah

From a comfortable home base at the historic Recapture Lodge, we will drive out by day to explore rock art sites, cliff dwellings in the canyons of Cedar Mesa, natural vistas in the surrounding red rock landscape, and the great prehistoric structures of Hovenweep National Monument.

Naturalist Ann Walka and Archaeologist Don Keller
OCTOBER 22–26
\$1200 members, \$1250 nonmembers



SAN JUAN RIVER ©2003 Julie Sullivan

EXPEDITIONS
EXPEDITIONS ENTER
REMOTE REGIONS BY FOOT
AND/OR BOAT. WILDERNESS
CAMPING IS PART OF THE
EXPERIENCE.

San Juan River Raft

Explore the lively San Juan River along its free-flowing reach from Bluff to Mexican Hat and on down to Clay Hills at the head of Lake Powell. Outstanding Basketmaker rock art and Pueblo cliff dwellings, historic trails and pioneer routes, and deeply carved canyon formations and side canyons highlight this 83-mile run of river relished by explorers of all ages.

JUNE 1–6
\$1600 members
\$1650 nonmembers



BISON MAN ©2007 Anne Marie Craig

Grand Gulch Backpack

Grand Gulch is the longest of five canyons carving through Cedar Mesa, Utah. A backpack into Grand Gulch and Bullet Canyon will feature early Basketmaker rock art galleries, as well as the storage sites and the canyon-side dwellings of the later Pueblo occupants. This haunting country contains a high concentration of the best known prehistoric sites in the region.

Archaeologist Don Keller
MAY 1–6
\$1000 members
\$1050 nonmembers

Fable Valley Backpack

This backpack trip and field seminar in Utah's Dark Canyon Primitive Area features day hiking from a central base camp to a variety of wild habitats. We will experience 300 million-year-old rock strata, campsites of the 2,000-year-old Basketmakers, little-visited cliff dwellings of the Mesa Verde Pueblo, early Ute and Navajo features, and historical stock trails which are evidence of the longtime human use of the valley.

Archaeologist Don Keller
SEPTEMBER 10–15
\$1000 members, \$1050 nonmembers

Grand Canyon Rim-to-Rim Backpack

Experience the Grand Canyon rim to rim and through time as we hike along the North Kaibab and Bright Angel Trails camping at Cottonwood, Phantom Ranch, and Indian Gardens. On this adventure, you will explore the human history, geology, and ecology of this spectacular gorge. This is a strenuous backpack with significant elevation loss and gain.

Archaeologist Tim Gibbs
OCTOBER 8–13*
\$1200 members, \$1250 nonmembers

**Trip dates are tentative until three months prior to departure, when MNA is eligible to confirm dates with the National Park Service. Please wait for confirmation from Ventures staff before booking travel arrangements.*



ENCOUNTERS
ENCOUNTERS ARE DAY TRIPS
WITH VAN SUPPORT. EASY TO
MODERATE HIKES ARE PART OF
THESE PROGRAMS.

SAN FRANCISCO PEAKS ©2004 Ernie DeVries

Flagstaff Volcanoes

This is an evening presentation and two-day tour through Flagstaff's volcanic landscape, and includes stops at San Francisco Mountain, Grand Falls, Red Mountain, Wupatki, and more. Moderate hiking involved.

Geologist Dr. G. Kent Colbath
APRIL 27–29 and OCTOBER 5–7
\$300 members, \$350 nonmembers

Natural History of the San Francisco Peaks

Join us for a morning presentation and field trip featuring the geologic history and ecology of the San Francisco Peaks with stops at Hart Prairie, Little Springs, Arizona Snowbowl, and a ski lift ride to timberline. Easy to moderate walking involved.

Biologist Stewart Aitchison
AUGUST 18
\$175 members, \$225 nonmembers

Photography Day Trips* Rock Art Canyon Ranch

This photography workshop will feature the Anasazi petroglyphs of Rock Art Ranch in beautiful Chevelon Canyon. Join us for an evening presentation followed by a day trip to the site.

Colorado Plateau Photographer Gene Balzer
APRIL 13–14
\$225 members, \$275 nonmembers

**Please see the Ventures website for more photography day trips.*