

DEAR DAC MEMBERS:

A great new opportunity for you! Our education team is planning a monthly training program called the Desert Awareness Naturalist Series (DANS) for 12-15 people to learn all aspects of our educational programs by giving the in-depth information you'll need along with the methods and strategies to deliver it in an exciting, inspiring way to all ages! A team of experts in each specific field will share relevant information while our certified interpretive guide (CIG) will help you organize and present it using state of the art interpretive techniques. This training will allow you to become part of the *Desert Awareness Naturalist* team!



Each desert focused educational outing will be held the 3rd Monday of each month starting in October and running through April, from 9-12 noon at various locations. It will involve walking, (distances defined), traveling as far as Wickenburg to the West, Rio Verde to the East, and many areas in between.

The training outings will include:

- Mining history in the Cave Creek area- Museum and Jewel of the Creek area
- Predator/Prey relationships of desert wildlife and the fragmentation of wildlife populations due to development- Southwest Wildlife Conservation Center
- Saguaro anatomy, physiology and characteristics (Cave Creek regional park area)
- Geology of the northern foothills area in and around Wickenburg area with the Wickenburg Conservation Foundation
- Archaeology using Sears Kay preserved site as the focus with additional exploration
- Botanical Adaptations of the desert plants across the Sonoran Desert

This DESERT AWARENESS NATURALIST series is only available to MEMBERS of the Desert Awareness Committee. A member is defined as *dues paid* and is involved in at least 3 activities over the course of a calendar year. Activities include the prickly pear fest, walk, talk, & taste, desert discovery days, seminar assistants, education presentations, outreach programs, writing article for publication, participation in Desert Defenders activities, etc. The DAN series will begin in October so be sure to sign up early!

Cost: **NO COST TO MEMBERS!** (first come first served)

Registration must be completed by contacting Brenda, Tammy, or Diane. Dues are \$25/annually (yes, they went up \$5 for 2023) payable in January. To register and renew dues, dues are paid through the www.hollandcenter.org website under donations, Simply add "DAC dues" in the comment line. (we are working on a direct membership button)

CONTACTS for questions: Brenda Olive, Tammy Teegardin, Diane Vaszily, Abby Hemingway

