

**Desert Symposium 2009**  
**Desert Studies Center, Zzyzx**  
**April 24-25, 2009**

Friday, April 24		
Morning:		
7:30	Continental Breakfast	
9:00	Welcome, Remarks & Memoriam	Dr. William Presch
9:10	Feller	Zzyzx – Sounds of Silence. <b>Walter Feller, <a href="mailto:m@aeve.com">m@aeve.com</a></b>
9:30	Crowe	A perspective on desert vehicle recreation and the proposed expansion of the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Training Center. <b>Richard Crowe, Beaumont, CA</b>
9:45	Nolan	Desert writers: the conservationists. <b>Ruth Nolan, M.A.</b> <i>Associate Professor of English, College of the Desert; Editor, California Desert literature anthology (forthcoming from Heyday Books/Berkeley, fall, 2009)</i>
10:00	Wilshire and Nielson	War in our back yards. <b>Howard Wilshire, Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility, 3727 Burnside Road, Sebastopol, CA 95472 (<a href="mailto:howardgw@comcast.net">howardgw@comcast.net</a>) and Jane Nielson, Sebastopol Water Information Group (<a href="mailto:jenielson@comcast.net">jenielson@comcast.net</a>)</b>
10:15	Nielson and Wilshire	America's resources and garbage. <b>Jane Nielson, Sebastopol Water Information Group (<a href="mailto:jenielson@comcast.net">jenielson@comcast.net</a>) and Howard Wilshire, Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility, 3727 Burnside Road, Sebastopol, CA 95472 (<a href="mailto:howardgw@comcast.net">howardgw@comcast.net</a>)</b>
<b>10:30</b>	<b>BREAK</b>	
10:45	Lange	Natural formations and cultural behavior III. <b>Frederick W. Lange, PhD. RPA, Senior Cultural Resources Manager, LSA Associates, Inc. (Riverside Office), <a href="mailto:fred.lange@lsa-assoc.com">fred.lange@lsa-assoc.com</a></b>
11:00	Weaver	Medicinal plants of the Mojave Desert. <b>Melody Weaver, Ph.D., NP, George C. Page Museum, Los Angeles, CA 90036, <a href="mailto:mldy_weaver@yahoo.com">mldy_weaver@yahoo.com</a></b>
11:15	Cornett	Population dynamics of the Joshua tree ( <i>Yucca brevifolia</i> ): twenty-one year analysis, Upper Covington Flat, Joshua Tree National Park. <b>James W. Cornett, JWC Ecological Consultants, P.O. Box 846, Palm Springs, CA 92263, <a href="mailto:jwcornett@aol.com">jwcornett@aol.com</a></b>
11:45	Van Curen	Competing mesquite and creosote dune systems near Stovepipe Wells. <b>Richard (Tony) Van Curen, UC Davis, <a href="mailto:ravancuren@ucdavis.edu">ravancuren@ucdavis.edu</a></b>
<b>12:00</b>	<b>LUNCH BREAK</b>	
1:15	Presch	<b>Announcements; FT carpooling; FT phone list</b>

1:30	Newlander	Assessment of plant height and cover using LIDAR in the Mojave Desert. <b>April Newlander</b> , <i>California State University, Fullerton, CA</i>
1:45	Brown	Water level monitoring in the southern Amargosa. <b>Brian Brown</b> , <i>Amargosa Conservancy, <a href="mailto:dates@chinaranch.com">dates@chinaranch.com</a></i>
2:00	Sorrells	The Ashford brothers, their lives as miners in Death Valley and as residents of Dublin Gulch. <b>Susan Sorrells</b> , <i>PO Box 67, Shoshone, CA 92384, <a href="mailto:sesorrells@earthlink.net">sesorrells@earthlink.net</a></i>
<b>2:15</b>	<b>BREAK</b>	
2:30	Madrak	Reproductive ecology of female Sonora mud turtles ( <i>Kinosternon sonoriense</i> ) in Montezuma Well, Arizona: optimal egg size in a suboptimal environment? <b>Sheila Madrak</b> , <b>Jeff Lovich</b> , <b>Charles Drost</b> , <i>U.S. Geological Survey, Flagstaff AZ 86001</i> ; <b>Anthony Monatesti</b> , <i>National Park Service</i> , <b>Dennis Casper</b> , <i>National Park Service, Montezuma Castle National Monument, Camp Verde AZ 86322</i> ; <b>Mohammed Znari</b> , <i>Department of Biology, Semlalia, Cadi Ayyad University, Marrakech, Morocco, <a href="mailto:znari@ucam.ac.ma">znari@ucam.ac.ma</a></i>
2:45	Bonaccorsi and McKay	Microbial biomass in clays from arid/ hyper-arid regions: testing for habitability in desert Mars analogs. <b>Rosalba Bonaccorsi</b> , <i>NASA Ames Research Center, Moffett Field CA, 94035, SETI Institute, Mountain View CA 94043 <a href="mailto:rbonaccorsi@mail.arc.nasa.gov">rbonaccorsi@mail.arc.nasa.gov</a></i> and <b>Christopher P. McKay</b> , <i>NASA Ames Research Center, Moffett Field CA 94035</i>
3:00	Knott, et al.	<b>The Kit Fox Hills, Death Valley, CA: a propagating pressure ridge adjacent to the Northern Death Valley fault zone</b> , <b>Jeffrey Knott</b> , <i>CSUF Department of Geological Sciences, Fullerton, CA, <a href="mailto:jknott@fullerton.edu">jknott@fullerton.edu</a></i> ; <b>Andrei Sarna-Wojcicki</b> , <i>US Geological Survey, Menlo Park, CA</i> , <b>Joseph C. Liddicoat</b> , <i>Barnard College, New York, NY.</i> , <b>Alan Deino</b> , <i>Berkeley Geochronology Lab, Berkeley, CA</i>
<b>3:15</b>	<b>BREAK</b>	
3:30	Miller and Dudash	Chronology of pluvial Lake Coyote, California, and implications for Mojave River paleohydrology. <b>David M. Miller</b> , <i>U.S. Geological Survey, Menlo Park, CA 94025, <a href="mailto:dmiller@usgs.gov">dmiller@usgs.gov</a></i> , <b>Stephanie L. Dudash</b> , <i>Montrose, CO 81401</i>
3:45	Garcia et al.	Geochronology and paleoenvironment of pluvial Harper Lake, Mojave Desert, California. <b>Anna L. Garcia</b> , <b>Jeffrey R. Knott</b> , <i>CSU Fullerton, Department of Geological Sciences, Fullerton, CA</i> , <b>Jordon Bright</b> , <i>Northern Arizona University, Department of Geology, Flagstaff, AZ</i> , <b>Shannon Mahan</b> , <i>US Geological Survey, Earth Surface Processes Team, Denver, CO</i>
4:00	Lee et al.	Evaluation of minor and trace elements of the Wilson Creek Formation, Mono County, California. <b>Daniel Lee</b> , <i>CSU Fullerton, Department of Geological</i>

		<i>Sciences, Fullerton, CA; Elmira Wan, David Wahl, Andrei M. Sarna-Wojcicki, US Geological Survey, Tephrochronology Project, Menlo Park, CA; Jeffrey R. Knott, CSU Fullerton, Department of Geological Sciences, Fullerton, CA</i>
4:15	Copenhaver	Gamma-Ray measurements of fissures along the Owens Valley Fault scarp at Lone Pine, Inyo County, California. <b>George C. Copenhaver, Jr.</b> , <i>Consulting Geologist, P.O. Box 191171, San Diego, CA 92159, glcopenhaver@cox.net</i>
4:30	Bishop	Evidence that the Big Pine fault is not a segment of the Owens Valley fault and its significance for northern Owens Valley active tectonics. <b>Kim M. Bishop</b> , <i>California State University, Los Angeles, 5151 State University Dr., Los Angeles, California, 90032, kbishop@calstatela.edu</i>
4:45	Schafer	The Art of Nature: images from the wildlands of southern Nevada. <b>Sharon K. Schafer</b> , <i>artist /naturalist, skydancestudio@earthlink.net</i>
5:00	Feller	A photographer's exploration. <b>Walter Feller</b> , <i>m@aeve.com</i>
<b>5:30</b>	<b>Social</b>	
<b>6:30</b>	<b>Dinner</b>	
<b>7:30</b>	<b>David R. Jessey, Keynote Speaker</b>	Tectonic implications of basaltic volcanism within the central Owens Valley, California
	<b>REMEMBER</b>	<b>Your vehicle needs to be full of gas/food/drinks by Friday night.</b>
7:00	Saturday morning	Eat Breakfast, make your lunch, pack car and <b>Clean Dorm Room.</b> Trip departs at 8:45 A.M.