



Friends of the Desert Mountains
Scott Segal ssegal@desertmountains.org
760-862-9084

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 13, 2009

Wildflower Celebration 2009
Free Photography Workshops
Brought to you by Friends of the Desert Mountains

PALM DESERT, CA – Want to learn how to use that digital camera you got for Christmas, or how to take award-winning photos of desert wildflowers?

Learn from a pro, who will conduct short, free photography workshops at the upcoming Wildflower Celebration 2009, slated for Saturday, February 28, at the Santa Rosa & San Jacinto Mountains National Monument Visitor Center.

Photographer Bob Fletcher will give an introduction to digital photography at his 10 am workshop, followed by a 12 noon session on macro photography on the basics of close ups, composition, lighting, and exposure.

At 2 pm he will discuss landscape photography, best use of lenses, isolating an image within an image and other secrets of taking award-winning landscape photos.

In addition to free photography workshops, Wildflower Celebration 2009 will feature guided interpretive hikes & nature walks, live music, wildlife and landscape art, frontier displays, live animals, and book signings by renowned local authors, and activities for kids with appearances by Smokey Bear.

Last year the Wildflower Celebration drew over a thousand visitors and, thanks to the recent rains, organizers are expecting this year's event to be even more exciting and colorful.

The Santa Rosa & San Jacinto Mountains National Monument Visitor Center is located at 51-500 Highway 74, Palm Desert, California, just four miles south of Highway 111. Free parking will be available at St. Margaret's Episcopal Church, 47-535 Highway 74, with free shuttle service to and from the National Monument Visitor Center.

- 30 -

About Friends of the Desert Mountains

Friends of the Desert Mountains is a Palm Desert-based non profit organization dedicated to protecting the magnificent mountains, scenic vistas, recreation trails and natural open spaces that make up the Coachella Valley. The mission of the organization is to secure, acquire and preserve lands in the Coachella Valley and the surrounding mountains, and to support education, conservation and research in the Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument. To date, Friends of the Desert Mountains has acquired more than 35,000 acres of land throughout the Coachella Valley.

Let's be Friends.