

Apr - June 2009



Outdoor, Hiking, and Camping Club

Visit our web site
www.friendshiking.com
for current hike updates and
upcoming events



Thanks for the support from all our FRIENDS for making this club a success!

Welcome to Friends Outdoor, Hiking, and Camping Club. For over ten years, we have been adventuring into some of Arizona's most beautiful wilderness areas. In fact, we would like to think that we offer the most comprehensive selection of outdoor activities in Arizona. Our hope is to be the catalyst that gives people that "boost" that we all need to get out there and really SEE Arizona; meeting some new friends in the process. Each newsletter outlines hikes for a wide range of abilities from easy to strenuous. If you would like more detailed information on a hike, give the hike leader a call. If you are currently a Friends member, or interested in learning more about the club, please join us on a hike or at one of the monthly meetings.

Monthly Meetings

Friend's Outdoor, Hiking and Camping Club meetings are at Boulders on Broadway (530 W. Broadway Road, Tempe, AZ 85282). Anyone interested in finding out more about the club is welcome to join us for our monthly meeting.

MEETINGS START AT 7:00 PM

Dates are: Apr 6th, May 4th (3rd Quarter 2009 planning meeting) and June 1st

Membership

An annual membership in Friend's Outdoor, Hiking, and Camping Club is only \$15.00 per person. Non-members are always welcome on hikes (\$3.00 charge) or at the monthly meetings (free). The current club membership is about 60, made up of people from 26 to 50+, married and single, ranging from artists to engineers. Children are welcome on most hikes, but please bear in mind to match the hike & youngster appropriately. To join by mail: please send your membership check to: Friend's Hiking Club c/o Kurt Sedler – 50 East Myrna – Tempe, AZ 85284; including your name, address, and email address.

Hikers Responsibilities

Please know your limits and be sure you are capable of doing the hike that you attend. If you commit to attend a hike, please keep your commitment. Please ask the Hike Leader any question you may have prior to the hike. Please be prepared physically and gear-wise whenever you hike. Water, sunscreen, hat and jacket are a good starting point for your gear list.

Website

From time to time, details of a particular hike may change after the newsletter has been printed. e.g. Forest closures due to drought / fire danger. We will make every effort to alert club members via email, however, prior to attending a hike please check our website, www.friendshiking.com, for updates.

Club Contacts

Kurt Sedler 602-339-8780
mail@friendshiking.com

Webmaster:
Randy Baker 602-616-9491
moovyoaz@earthlink.net

Rich Flammang 623-878-6237
rich.flammang@honeywell.com

SALT RIVER RAFT TRIP - Eastern Arizona, Northeast of GlobeLeader: Kurt Sedler (mail@friendshiking.com)

Phone: 602-339-8780

Meeting place & time TBD. Contact Kurt to RSVP and for more details.

A full day rafting in the Salt River canyon in eastern Arizona. Optional short hikes along the river. Beautiful Canyon, Bald Eagles, refreshing cold water, class III – IV rapids, all just about 100 miles from Phoenix. We ride in 7 person rafts with professional guides at the helm. We have 2 rafts reserved for our group. Cost is \$120 per person, which includes the raft trip, shuttle, gear, lunch and the Apache Indian reservation permit. We must be at the river by 9:00AM. If there is sufficient interest, we may plan a Saturday day-hike and camping in the area on Saturday night. No prior rafting experience required.

Sun, Apr 5

Length: 10 miles of rafting

Rating: Easy floating btwn rapids

BELL/WEIR TRAIL - East of SedonaLeader: Don Mantell (dirkbag@aol.com)

Phone: 516-810-8024

MEET in Denny's parking lot, SW corner of I-17 and Bell Road, 8:00 AM. RSVP by Friday, April 10th if you plan to attend.

This trail was once used to drive cattle along from Flagstaff south. It is an easy walk paralleling Wet Beaver Creek. The trail runs alongside a natural riparian area of cottonwood, alder, ash, sycamore, cactus and blackberry bushes. It is relatively flat for two miles and then ascends a rocky path along the canyon's north wall and continues for awhile on a narrow bench, until it drops again to the bottom of the canyon, where a series of beautiful waterfalls and pools called the "Crack" are located. Bring plenty of water and something to eat on the rock ledges by the side of the pools. A stop at a local watering hole after the hike is always a possibility.

Sat, Apr 11

Length: 6.5 miles R/T

Rating: Easy

TAYLOR CABIN BACKPACK– Northwest of SedonaLeader: Kurt Sedler (mail@friendshiking.com)

Phone: 602-339-8780

Please contact the hike leader by April 12th to RSVP.

This is a fine hike through the remote red-rock canyons of the Sycamore Canyon and Red Rock-Secret Mountain Wildernesses. Taylor Cabin is an historic cowboy cabin built up against the side of a rock. The Dogie Trail offers hikers a chance to experience one of Arizona's spectaculans without all of the crowds. If solitude is what you seek, this could be the trail for you. The trail descends into the heart of the Sycamore Canyon Wilderness. For those who long for rugged beauty unspoiled and untamed by man, Sycamore Canyon is one of the few places in the southwest that can lay claim to such a lack of man's accomplishments. Javelina, deer, quail, and numerous other animals call this country home. Pinyon pine, juniper, Arizona cypress, brush fields and wildflowers are abundant.

Sat - Sun, Apr 18 - 19

Length: 16 miles in total

Rating: Moderate backpack

ROCK SPRINGS DAYHIKE - Near Black Canyon CityLeader: Randy Baker (moovyoaz@earthlink.net)

Phone: 602-616-9491

MEET in Denny's parking lot, SW corner of I-17 and Bell Road, 9:00 AM

This hike utilizes portions of the new Black Canyon Trail System, which follows a prehistoric Native American pathway. We will start on the new Horseshoe Trail near Rock Springs, which heads west, gradually climbing through a saguaro forest before descending to the Agua Fria River. We will then follow the river downstream as it meanders through a canyon full of lush Cottonwoods and Sycamores. When reaching a bend known as Horseshoe Bar, we will follow an old mine road east up to the I-17 frontage road, and then head north to Rock Springs for lunch. Note the river may require shallow crossings, so plan on getting your feet wet. For more info see <http://www.bctaz.com>

Sat, Apr 25

Length: 4.0 +/- miles

Rating: Easy +

Elev. change: 300'

TABLE TOP TRAIL - Southwest of PhoenixLeader: Rich Flammang (rich.flammang@honeywell.com)

Phone: 623-878-6237

MEET in I-HOP rear parking lot, NW corner of Ray Rd. and I-10, 6:30 AM

We will hike Table Top trail to the summit of Table Top Mountain, which is located 45 miles southwest of Phoenix. The elevation change will be 1900 ft as we climb to the summit at 4300 ft. The hike begins as a pleasant stroll through a magnificent saguaro forest. The section wanders up a gentle valley between rugged low hills. From here the trail will begin to climb. Once at the top of Table Top the Bradshaw Mountain will be visible to the north and the Santa Catalina and Santa Rita Mountains to the southeast. Along the way, we may see Cooper's hawk, red-tailed hawk, prairie falcon, Gambel's quail, or turkey vultures. Mule deer, javelina, desert bighorn sheep, coyote, and antelope jackrabbits are also present within this 43,400-acre wilderness. Bring plenty of water, snacks, sunscreen and a hat, it'll be warm!

Sat, May 2

Length: 7 miles

Rating: Moderate/Difficult

**Remember to carpool when possible and share the cost of the drive!
With the current price of gas, the Club's recommendation for carpooling is now
20¢ per mile. Thanks to all hikers who are willing to drive!**

WILSON MOUNTAIN DAYHIKE and/or CABIN WEEKEND - Sedona

Leader: Don Mantell (dirkbag@aol.com)
Phone: 602-466-1517 or 516-810-8024

Sat - Sun, May 9 -10

Length: 5.6 miles

Rating: Moderate+

Please contact the hike leader to RSVP for the hike - Logistical details will be provided

This hike heads straight for some of the most panoramic views in the Oak Creek Canyon/Sedona area. The majority of the 2100 foot climb is packed into the first mile or so of the hike. You'll have more reasons than just exertion to stop and take a breather along this route, however. The views start as soon as you leave the car and they just keep getting better. At the top you'll be rewarded with views that stretch over hundreds of square miles of scenic canyon country and include Oak Creek Canyon, Sedona, Coffee Pot Rock, Capitol Butte, Sterling Canyon and the Verde Valley.

For cabin RSVP's and/or details and photos, please contact Kurt@ mail@friendshiking.com or 602-339-8780

We have reserved the beautiful **Crescent Moon Ranch House** for the night of the 9th - Adjacent to Red Rock State Park, this historic ranch house sits directly on the bank of Oak Creek and offers commanding views of Cathedral Rock. It offers three bedrooms, three bathrooms, showers, a large great room, two kitchens and an enclosed sun porch. We will have a pot-luck supper on Saturday followed by one of Fred's dutch oven desserts; then board games, cards, stories and more! The cost of each private bedroom (double bed) is just \$65.00 per couple - the enclosed porch and great room offer abundant floor or cot sleeping, or you are welcome to sleep outside, listening to the nearby creek. Cost is just \$10.00/person. Paid Club members have priority - 12 persons max.

CABIN LOOP CAR CAMP - Mogollon Rim

Leader: Randy Baker (moovyoz@earthlink.net)
Phone: 602-616-9491

Sat - Sun, May 16 - 17
(+ optional Friday night)

Length: 7 miles Sat

10 miles Sun

17 miles TOTAL

Rating: Moderate +

Meeting place & time - T.B.D. Please contact Randy by May 18 to participate.

This terrific 2 day loop will take us into and through the tall pines, aspens and fern glens of the Mogollon Rim. The hike follows the original trails constructed by both the forest service and local pioneer ranchers in this area. These trails linked the network of cabins used by forest rangers in the early 1900s, and include the Barbershop, U Bar and Houston Brothers Trails. **We will depart the Valley sometime late on Friday (or Saturday A.M. for early risers)** and camp near Dane Spring Cabin on Friday night. On Saturday morning we will drive to the Barbershop Trail trailhead to start the hike, and return to our car campsite for Saturday night. On Sunday we will return to the starting trailhead using the U-Bar and Houston Brothers Trails. **Non-campers are welcome to hike EITHER Saturday or Sunday; why stay home?** For more information see: <http://www.hikearizona.com/decoder.php?ZTN=797>

CLOVER CREEK BACKPACK - Near Verde Valley

Leaders: Linda Wilkes (wilkes.linda@mayo.edu) 480-225-3094
Erin Sulzer (militarybratt1975@yahoo.com) 602-677-2716
(Best to call anytime on Thursdays or Fridays)

Sat - Sun, May 23 - 24

Length: 8 miles R/T

Rating: Easy to Moderate

MEET in the Target parking lot on Shea, west of the Beeline Highway, 7:00 AM. RSVP prior to hike, this is a beginner's backpack.

West Clear Creek Wilderness is located in the Coconino National Forest. Clover Creek is surrounded with forests full of pine trees, swimming and fishing holes along with beautiful and secluded locations. We will pack in on the old road for less than a half mile and when reaching the old washed out bridge we will turn west and follow the creek to the trail. There will probably be water in the creek so bring extra socks and plan on getting wet! We will be camping overnight so bring appropriate gear. Contact the hike leaders with any questions.

BARNHARDT TRAIL DAYHIKE - South of Payson

Leader: Bob Waskowich (rwaskowich@cox.net)
Phone: 602-769-2515

Sat, May 30

Length: 12 miles R/T

Rating: Moderate

Elev. change: 1800'

MEET in the Target parking lot on Shea, west of the Beeline Highway, 7:00 AM

This trail, just south of Payson, wanders through the forest with a running creek below, up a side valley, traversing the creek several times. The trail offers some exceptional views of the area surrounding Mazatzal Peak. Afterwards, we will have a late lunch in Payson.

MINGUS RIM LOOP - Mingus Mountain, near Jerome

Leader: Rich Flammang (rich.flammang@honeywell.com)
Phone: 623-878-6237

Sat, June 6

Length: 3.8 miles R/T

Rating: Moderate

Elev. change: 1470'

MEET in Denny's parking lot, SW corner of I-17 and Bell Road, 7:00 AM

This hike uses trails and a short section of dirt road to loop over the nearly 8000 foot summit of Mingus Mountain. Highlights include sweeping views of the Verde Valley, the Verde Rim, and the Mogollon Rim. The entire sweep of the Verde Valley lies before you with the Mogollon Rim as a backdrop. Be sure to bring your camera for the views will be great. After the hike, we will head into Jerome to sample the local fare at one of their many watering holes.

Apr - June 2009 (continued)

WEATHERFORD/INNER BASIN/WATERLINE - North of Flagstaff

Leader: Dave Simon (david.simon@cox.net)

Phone: 480-220-8419

MEET in the Albertson's parking lot, Carefree Highway and I-17, 4:00 PM on Friday

Contact hike leader for Saturday morning rendezvous information.

This is a dayhike with car camping Friday and/or Saturday nights. A one day turnaround is not recommended. Beginning at Schultz tank, we will ascend via the Weatherford trail, once a roadway for Model T Fords to take to the peak. From Fremont Saddle, we will descend on the Inner Basin trail to the Waterline trail and return. Camping will be dispersed, with no improvements.

Fri - Sun, June 12 - 14

Length: 20+ miles

Rating: Very Strenuous

Elev. change: 3000'

SEVEN FALLS - Near Tucson

Leader: Rikki Ellingsworth (rellingsworth@msn.com)

Phone: 480-233-2945 (cell) 602-334-1513 (home)

MEET at Fry's Electronics, 48th Street and Baseline, 7:00 AM

This is an easy 4 mile hike up to Seven Falls in Sabino Canyon Recreation area. Plan for an all day hike. We will hike to the falls, have lunch, play in the water, hike back and finish up with pizza at Bazil's in Tucson.

Sat, June 20

Length: 8 miles R/T

Rating: Moderate

Elev. change: 650'

RELAXING CAR CAMP ON THE RIM - Mogollon Rim

Leader: Fred Sutter (fsutter@interwrx.com)

Phone: 602-620-5456

Contact Leader for more details and to RSVP

A weekend car camp up on the Rim, final location will be provided closer to trip to accommodate weather, we will go fishing, do a little dutch oven cooking, play horse shoes, ride quads, and generally have a relaxing weekend in the woods. Kids and dogs are welcome.

Sat - Sun, June 27 - 28

Length: Whatever you want

Rating: Fun and Relaxing

CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR ANY HIKE CHANGES...www.friendshiking.com

Friends Hiking, Camping, and Outdoor Club

C/O Kurt Sedler

50 East Myrna

Tempe, AZ 85284

