

FRIENDS

Apr - June 2017



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 fifteen 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.

Club Contacts

Kurt Sedler 602-339-8780
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Webmaster:
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Rich Flammang 623-980-9614
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Monthly Meetings

Friend's Outdoor, Hiking and Camping Club Meetings are held 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: April 3rd, May 1st (3rd Quarter 2017 planning meeting) and June 5th

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 (\$5.00 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, please bear in mind to match the hike & youngster appropriately. Well behaved dogs are also welcome, again, please match the hike & dog 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.

LEBARGE CANYON Beginner Backpack – Superstitions MountainsLeader: David Simon (david.simon@cox.net)

Phone: 480-220-8419

MEET in South End of the Home Depot Parking Lot - SE Corner of US60 & Power, 7:00 AM**RSVP for car pool**

From Peralta Trailhead, via Bluff Springs trail to LaBarge Spring. Labarge Spring is one of the more reliable springs in the Superstitions, located in a grove of tall trees on the east side of Labarge canyon near the junction with Bluff Spring Canyon. Returning the same way, or enjoying the longer return via Red Tanks, Whiskey Spring and/or Dutchman Trail. Bring pruning shears to help keep the trails clear.

Sat – Sun, April 1 – 2

Length: 12 miles R/T

Rating: Beginner Backpack

Elev. Change: 1000' +/-

GOLDFIELD'S WILLOW SPRINGS CANYON Day Hike – Superstition MountainsLeader: Stan Backenstoss (sbackenstoss@gmail.com)

Phone: 480-620-3775

MEET in South End of the Home Depot Parking Lot - SE Corner of US60 & Power, 8:00 AM

Great time for wildflowers! Wonderful Sonoran vegetation and beautiful rock formations are to be seen on this hike over slick rock trails and into Black Glass Canyon. We return via the Willow Springs wash and end with a short jaunt through a wonderful little canyon leading to an ancient Hohokam camp.

Sat, April 8

Length: 8 miles R/T

Rating: Moderate-

WILSON MOUNTAIN TRAIL #10 Day Hike – SedonaLeader: Kim Hemmersbach (hemmersbachkim@gmail.com)

Phone: 480-343-4509

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

The parking lot by the trailhead can fill up fast, so require an RSVP by April 13th in order to work out carpooling, which will be essential.

This trail is going to take us up Wilson Mountain, but starting on the Southern side located at Midgely trailhead. It's up from the start and levels out some to afford us an opportunity to catch our breath. While climbing and climbing, we will be afforded opportunities for looking at famous Sedona Red Rock formations and to be rewarded with an impressive view a top Wilson Mountain, which is flat. You will also catch views of San Francisco Peaks along this trail. Come enjoy this cardio workout so you can treat yourself to jelly beans on Easter.

Sat, April 15

Length: 11 miles R/T

Rating: Moderate

Accumulated Gain: 2700'

SQUAW FLAT Day Hike – MazatzalsLeader: Denise Osborne (deniseosborne196@gmail.com)

Phone: 480-241-9297

MEET in Target parking lot at 16825 E. Shea Blvd, Fountain Hills, 7:00 AM

This hike leads through the rugged country in the Saddle Mountain area at the southern end of the Mazatzal Wilderness. We start out hiking on an old mining road that is the South Mountain Trail passing through a saddle and then heading north to another saddle. This trail travels along the east slopes of a ridge which has some good views of Sycamore Canyon to the east. We continue on to the east side of Saddle Mountain until we start descending toward McFarland Canyon. At the junction of Thicket Spring Trail and Copper Camp Trail we will take Copper Camp up McFarland Canyon. This trail is forested with Arizona cypress. There should be water at Squaw Flat Spring in the bed of McFarland Canyon. We will switch to Sheep Creek Trail just beyond the spring and this leads to the rim at the head of Sheep Creek, the turnaround point on this hike. This point offers sweeping views of the southern portion of the Mazatzal Wilderness.

* due to distance/elevation

Sat, Apr 22

Length: 9.4 R/T

Rating: Moderate *

Elev. Change: Approx. 2500'

FIRST WATER LOWER CREEK SHUTTLE Day Hike – Superstition MountainsLeader: Stan Backenstoss (sbackenstoss@gmail.com)

Phone: 480-620-3775

MEET in South End of the Home Depot Parking Lot - SE Corner of US60 & Power, 8:00 AM

Starting near the beginning of First Water Canyon on Canyon Lake we will drop down into the First Water drainage and work our way back to the staging lot at First Water Trailhead. Steep canyon walls and cooling pools of water will await us. Bouldering and cobble hopping will be enjoyed by all and some wading may be required so plan your footwear accordingly; after all this is a water hike. Some people may even wear a bathing suit!

Sat, April 29

Length: 5.8 miles R/T

Rating: Easy +

Elev. Change: 300'

SMITH RAVINE Day Hike – PrescottLeader: Chris Maglanes (az2all@hotmail.com)

Phone: 602-818-7221

MEET in Denny's parking lot, SW corner of I-17 and Bell Road, 7:00 AM**No RSVP required. Due to limited parking at trailhead carpooling is encouraged (170 miles R/T)**

Smith Ravine trailhead is located along Walker Rd. 5 miles south of 69 past Lynx Lake in Prescott.

The beginning of the hike is exposed for a short time before reaching the pine trees. It's a pleasant walk through the woods as we gain in elevation. The trail ends at the road leading to Spruce Mountain. We then have the option of taking the road to the top.

Sat, May 6

Length: 6 miles (+ Opt. 2 miles)

Rating: Moderate

Elev. Change 900' (+ Opt. 600')

YEAGER CANYON LOOP Day Hike - Prescott/JeromeLeader: Rich Flammang (modelacoupe@att.net)

Phone: 623-980-9614

MEET in Denny's parking lot, SW corner of I-17 & Bell Road, 7:00 AM**Show and Go, no RSVP required.**

This will be a counterclockwise loop hike in the Mingus Mountain area. Starting at the Upper Yeager Canyon trailhead #28, followed by the Little Yeager Canyon Trail #533 and then the Yeager Cabin Trail #111. From the upper trailhead we descent a steep and rocky trail, dropping 1300 feet to the bottom of Yeager Canyon and Highway 89A. Turn left onto Little Yeager Canyon Trail #533 and start climbing the west rim of Mingus Mtn in a series of switchbacks. Turn left and follow the trail to Yeager Cabin Trail #111. We will probably stop for a rest and lunch break somewhere in this area before hitting the Yeager Cabin Trail. We will hike north through a heavy forest cover of pine and oak, gradually descending along a canyon tributary before beginning to climb to the canyon headwater, tie back into Trail #28 and return to our starting point.

Sat, May 13

Length: 6.8 mile loop

Rating: Moderate plus

Elev. Change: 2600'

SECRET MOUNTAIN TRAIL Day Hike and Car Camp – Flagstaff/SedonaLeader: Dave Kinzer (dkinz@hotmail.com)

Phone: 480-612-5323

MEET in Denny's parking lot, SW corner of I-17 and Bell Rd, 7:00 AM**RSVP hike leader via email, more detailed driving instructions will be returned.**

Beautiful walk along the rim overlooking Sedona's Secret Mountain Wilderness area. Dizzying views of red rock pinnacles, canyons and wind sculpted forms surrounded by green juniper & pine forest. The trail first overlooks Loy Canyon, then wraps around East to see what Secret Canyon has to offer. The elevation does not change much over the course of the hike, but there are lots of ups and downs as you weave your way through arroyos and viewpoints along the way. There is a bit of a drive to get to the trailhead. From Flagstaff we head south on dirt road for about 30 miles. After the hike we will car camp in the cool pines of the Coconino forest near the trailhead.

Sat – Sun, May 20 – 21

Length: 10.6 miles R/T

Rating: Moderate

Accumulated Change: 2000'

SS CRAIGIN RESERVOIR (Blue Ridge) Camp, Paddle and Hike – Mogollon RimLeaders: Vickie Scott (Vickie.scott@onsemi.com) 602-373-3108Rich Flammang (modelacoupe@att.net) 623-980-9614**RSVP Required by E-mail by May 25th for driving instructions**

This event has it all! Camping, hiking and paddling all in one weekend. Gather Friday evening at Red Rock Campground for tall tales around the campfire. Get an early start Saturday for a 5 mile paddle across SS Craigin Reservoir to a secure landing spot for the water craft. Climb a ridge and hike approximately 2 miles cross country (no trail) to an Indian War monument for the "Battle of Big Dry Wash". We will pay our respects to those brave heroes that fought in that 1882 conflict and return to our canoes/kayaks for the paddle back to our camp and a well-deserved cookout dinner. Sunday will be an opportunity for additional paddling on the reservoir before heading back to the desert heat.

Fri – Sun, June 2 – 4

Length: 5 miles to 2 miles *

Rating: Moderate

UPPER WOODS CANYON Day HikeLeader: Kurt Sedler (kurt.sedler@cox.net)

Phone: 602-339-8780

MEET in Denny's parking lot, SW corner of I-17 and Bell Rd, 6:00 AM

Woods Canyon spans over 20 miles end to end. According to USGS topographical maps it originates somewhere between Fair & Gash Mountain, or possibly Brollier Park. But...the most exciting part is where it rips into mother earth near I-17 then heads down towards the Village of Oak Creek. This is the section we will be hiking. The hike is not on a trail, there are boulders so it will be somewhat slow-going, there is a short (50 yd.) swim and maybe a wade or two (it's JUNE!), there also is interminable beauty and..... no people! Although I plan for the hike to be just 6.5/7 miles or so out-and-back (you can cut it shorter if you'd rather), it is arduous to some, so plan on hiking maybe 8-9 hours including rest stops and lunch, etc. Water proofing your pack is suggested. I have a couple of spare drybags for loan. * to Advance (bouldering, etc.)

Sat, June 10

Length: 7 miles R/T +/-

Rating: Moderate ++ *

HUMPHREY PEAK Day Hike and Car Camping – FlagstaffLeader: David Simon (david.simon@cox.net)

Phone: 480-220-8419

MEET on Friday, June 16th, Albertson's, Carefree Highway & I-17, 4:00 PM**Contact hike leader for Saturday morning rendezvous information.**

Day-hike 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. After summiting Humphreys Peak, we will descend via Humphreys Trail, and return via the Kachina Trail. Camping will be dispersed, with no improvements. Optional backpack, dry camping Fremont Saddle. NOTE: Schultz tank is 6 miles north of Flagstaff on gravel roads passable by car.

Fri – Sun, June 16 – 18

Length: 20+ miles R/T

Rating: Very Strenuous

Elev. Change: 3500'

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

BEAR WALLOW TRAIL #63 Backpack – White MountainsLeader: Paul Hiegel (improvehomes@gmail.com)

Phone: 623-243-2009

MEET in South End of the Home Depot Parking Lot - SE Corner of US60 & Power, 6:00AM**RSVP with Hike Leader**

This is a beautiful hike in the White Mountains. Bear Wallow Wilderness is a lush valley with a perennial stream running through it located south of Hannagans Meadow. The stream is clear with occasional Apache trout darting around. This is the area of the 2011 Wallow fire so there will be damage to the forest but still should be plenty of nice country to explore. The drive to the trail head is about 5 to 6 hours so this is the reason for the early departure. We will start hiking Friday and return back on Sunday for our drive back.

Fri – Sun, June 23 - 25

Length: 16 miles R/T

Rating: Moderate +

Elev. Change: 2000'

**Remember to carpool when possible and share the cost of the drive!
Thanks to all hikers who are willing to drive!**

Help keep the Club on its feet!

**Attend the next planning meeting on May 1st
with suggestions of trails to explore and areas to visit**

**Interested in leading a hike?
Your participation is welcomed!**

Friends Hiking, Camping, and Outdoor Club

C/O Kurt Sedler
50 East Myrna
Tempe, AZ 85284

