

FRIENDS

July - Sept 2016



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 twenty 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
mail@friendshiking.com

Webmaster:
Randy Baker 602-616-9491
moovyoaz@friendshiking.com

Rich Flammang 623-980-9614
modelacoupe@att.net

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: July 11th, August 1st (4th Quarter 2016 planning meeting) and September 12th

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.

GROOM CREEK DAY Hike & Optional Car Camp - PrescottLeader: Randy Baker (moovyoaz@friendshiking.com)

Phone: 602-616-9491

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

Groom Creek Trail (#307) is located in the Prescott National Forest. The trail leads continually uphill for 3.25 miles to the summit of Spruce Mountain which has picnic benches and an outhouse. If manned, we can visit the Fire Lookout Tower, which offers panoramic views of Prescott and Granite Mountain to the west, and Mingus Mountain and the San Francisco Peaks to the northeast. From the summit, we will continue on the well-signed trail as it turns southwest and follows the South Spruce Ridge for about 1.6 miles to the junction with Isabella Trail 377, which connects to Walker Road. TR 307 then begins a long, twisting descent down the mountain. The final portion bears northwest, crossing several old mining roads on the way to completing the loop back to the Groom Creek trailhead. For those interested, we will camp nearby in the cool pines. **Please RSVP with the hike leader by July 6nd, indicating if car camping or only day hiking.**

Sat - Sun, July 9 - 10

Length: 9 mile Loop

Rating: Moderate

Elev. Change: +/-2120'

LARGO-LAMPHIER LOOP Backpack - Near Alpine, AZLeader: Kurt Sedler (kurt.sedler@cox.net)

Phone: 602-339-8780

Phone or email hike leader with questions or to be included

Due to the significant drive-time to this area we will leave on Friday, backpack in a moderate distance and camp. Likely daily distances will be: Day 1) 4 miles – Day 2) 7-8 miles + optional 2 mile day-hike to the fire lookout – Day 5) 5-ish miles and return home.

Escape the summer's heat and head to this high-country Wilderness area – No RV's/Trailers or ATV's!

Lanphier Trail has it all - beautiful setting, trout pools, interesting names along its length, history, geology and great vistas from the mountain tops in the Blue Range Primitive Area.

Along the ridges of the **Largo Trail** you'll find good views of the north and eastern reaches of the Blue. From this exposed saddle, where semi-arid country plants such as mountain mahogany and ceanothus find the climate to their liking, the trail drops into Largo Canyon for the rest of its journey to the canyon rim. This major side canyon of the Blue is dry most of the year but still supports a healthy riparian community made up mostly of mature ponderosa and assorted hardwoods including bigtooth maple and Arizona alder.

Fri - Sun, July 15 - 17

Rating: Moderate Plus

Length: 16-ish miles over 2.5 days

KACHINA TRAIL Day Hike* - San Francisco Peaks, north of FlagstaffLeader: Vickie Scott (Vickie.scott@onsemi.com)

Phone: 602-373-3108

MEET in Denny's parking lot, SW corner of I-17 and Bell Road, 6:00 AM**Or MEET at Trailhead, 8:00 AM. RSVP with your meeting location**

Kachina Trail is a 10.4 mile moderately trafficked out and back trail located near Flagstaff, AZ that features beautiful wild flowers and is rated as moderate. Come prepared for rain. If the weather is good a strenuous option is Humphrey's Peak Summit Trail (9mi round trip; elevation gain 3,333ft; 9300-12,600ft). Libations in Flagstaff after the hike. *** Possibly a car camp or hotel option for Friday and/or Saturday nights.**

Note: Rated moderate due to distance and elevation (9300' - 8800')

Sat, July 23*

Length: 10.4 miles R/T

Rating: Moderate

Elev. Change: 500'

BARBERSHOP CANYON - MERRIT DRAW LOOP Day Hike & Car camp - near PaysonLeader: Phil Newell (philnewell@yahoo.com)

Phone: 602-689-4950

MEET in Target parking lot, 16825 E Shea Blvd Fountain Hills, 6:00 AM sharp**Or meet at Trailhead, FR145, 2 miles north of FR300 (Rim Road), 9:00 AM****RSVP for Camping and/or Day Hiking (with your meeting location)**

We will be heading up to the cooler temps of the Coconino NF for a camping and hiking weekend. Some of us will be heading up on Friday to establish camp and maybe enjoy a shorter hike on one of the many local trails close to Dane Canyon, which will also be our approximate camp location. This area is nicely wooded with small canyons crisscrossing the landscape many have flowing water in them. On Saturday we will be going on an adventure as we complete a loop taking in Barbershop Canyon and Merrit Draw. Fair warning, this hike will primarily be off-trail, will involve some bush whacking, a little scrambling and climbing over downfall. But you will be rewarded with pristine forest, wild flowers and wildlife as we follow our route. Not much elevation gain and plenty of daylight, so not a death march as we can take our time. High possibility of rains at this time of year, so come prepared. I will be going up Friday but will co-ordinate any day-hikers leaving Saturday. I will also provide campsite location once I have pre-hiked, and Trailhead location for day hikers.

Fri - Sun, Aug 5 - 7

Length: 13.5 mile Loop

Rating: Moderate Plus

Elev. Change: 1500'

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

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

ARIZONA TRAIL Backpack - Passage 28 - Northeast of PaysonLeader: Kurt Sedler (kurt@ibmmonitors.com)

Phone: 602-33-8780

Phone or email hike leader with questions or to be included.

EARLY Saturday departure or come up early and camp the evening before.

The Arizona Trail, the dream of Flagstaff teacher and hiking enthusiast Dale Shewalter, is a nearly 800 mile non-motorized trail that traverses the State from Mexico to Utah and is intended to be a primitive, long distance trail that highlights the state's topographic, biologic, historic and cultural diversity. It is divided into 33 'passages'. The Blue Ridge section of the Arizona Trail stretches across meadows, forests, and canyons from the top of the Mogollon Rim to Arizona Highway 87 near Blue Ridge Campground. The trail's route across the Mogollon Rim Ranger District begins at General Springs Cabin on the Mogollon Rim and terminates north of Blue Ridge reservoir. This passage is 'easy' as it is nearly flat, having an elevation *loss* of 500' from beginning to end. Note: this is a one-way shuttle hike. Shuttle is *about* 90 minutes.

Sat - Sun, Aug 13 - 14

Length: 15.4 mi. over 2 days

Rating: Easy backpack

EAST CHEVELON CREEK TRAIL Day Hike - Mogollon RimLeader: Rich Flammang (modelacoupe@att.net)

Phone: 623-980-9614

Sat, Aug 20

Length: 6 miles

Rating: Easy to Moderate

MEET in Target parking lot, 16825 E Shea Blvd Fountain Hills, 6:00 AM

This unmarked trail starts at the base of the Woods Canyon Lake dam. The hike follows an unsigned fisherman's path and crisscrosses the creek as it extends along grassy meadows between forest lined banks. It is an easy trek at the cool high elevation of 7460'. The trickling creek and shallow pools of water in the bottom of Chevelon Canyon, feed a lush forest teeming with plant and animal life. A potential add on will be a loop trail that completely encircles Woods Canyon Lake. Bring raingear as summer storms are likely.

We'll have a BBQ at the trailhead when the hike is completed, so bring something to burn, something to share, a chair and your beverage of choice.

MT. GRAHAM Day Hike & Car Camp - Pinaleno Mountains, southwest of Safford.Leader: Don Mantell (dirkbag@aol.com)

Phone: 516-810-8024

Fri - Sun, Aug 26 - 28

Length: 10.2 miles R/T

Rating: Strenuous

MEET in the south end of the Home Depot parking lot, US-60 & Power Rd., 7:00 AM

Our destination is a 9,100 feet high camp ground surrounded by Engelmann spruce and massive Douglas Firs, stretching along a sparkling creek. So, need a break from the heat? This is it! High temps may top out at 85 and will drop to mid-50's overnight. We will head out of the furnace on Friday and head to the hills. We will hike down the Arcadia Trail, after first topping out at 10,022 on Heliograph Peak. The trail will take us through stands of Engelmann Spruce and Douglas Fir down to Bigtooth Maple, Arizona Walnut, Gambel Oak and Ponderosa Pine. Exact details to follow, contact hike leader for more information. **RSVP by Aug 24th**

EAST MT. BALDY TRAIL Day Hike & Car Camp - White MountainsLeader: Dave Kinzer (dkinz@hotmail.com)

Phone: 480-612-5323

Fri - Sun, Sept 9 - 11

Length: 14 miles

Rating: Moderate Plus

Elev. Change: 1900'

MEET in Target parking lot at 16825 E Shea Blvd Fountain Hills, NOON Friday**RSVP with hike leader by Sept 7th**

ESCAPE to cool country for the weekend. Leaving Friday at noon and heading for the white mountains of eastern Arizona. We will hike the East Baldy Trail (#95) Saturday. This hike ascends for 7 miles thorough meadows, ponderosa pine forest, interesting rock formations, and panoramic views. Bring a dish to share for dinner Saturday evening and enjoy the campfire camaraderie. There will be a short add-on hike Sunday morning. Potential for rain and estimated temperatures of 40 to 70, so prepare accordingly.

SOUTH MOUNTAIN FULL MOON HIKE - South PhoenixLeader: Randy Baker (moovyoz@friendshiking.com)

Phone: 602-616-9491

Sat, Sept 17

Length: +/- 6 miles

Rating: Easy ++

Elev. Change: 1000'

MEET at the Telegraph Pass trailhead, E. Desert Hills Parkway & 6th Street, 7:00 PM**Please RSVP with the hike leader before Sept 8. Space may be limited on this popular annual hike.**

When the moon hits your eye like a big pizza pie, that's Night Hiking.

When you hike down the trail with dust on your tail, you're in South Mountain.

When the world seems to shine like you've had too much wine, it's time to retire à su casa!

From the Telegraph Pass Trailhead, we will climb to the National Trail. From there we will head southwest on the Pyramid Trail, then descend on the Gila Trail to our waiting shuttle vehicles, then head back to trailhead. Afterward we will enjoy food and refreshments at a nearby Gin Joint. Note: Be sure to bring plenty of water, and a good flashlight or headlight.

Monsoon weather will be prevalent this quarter...hike prepared for rapid weather changes

CATALINA MOUNTAINS - GREEN MOUNTAIN Day Hike & Car Camp - northeast of TucsonLeader: Kim Hemmersbach (hemmersbachkim@gmail.com)

Phone: 480-343-4509

MEET in the north iHOP parking lot, 5020 E Ray Rd, I-10 & Ray Road, Noon SHARP**Please RSVP by Wednesday September 21st**

The plan on Friday is to locate our camp somewhere along Bigelow Road where we will spend Friday and Saturday night. Saturday we will hike Green Mountain Trail #21. We will start our trek along Green Mountain trail and begin shortly to ramble through Bear Canyon. Then climb to Bear Canyon Saddle with great views and rocky seats allowing you to take a break while taking in the views. From Bear Canyon Saddle, the trail descends for a few miles while we await a second climb up to San Pedro Vista to enjoy yet again the spectacular views. We then re-trace our steps back to where we started. This will be a great opportunity to get out of the heat one last time before Fall starts. Plan for afternoon showers/possibly storms, so bring your rain gear and don't forget to put the fly up on your tent (ask me why I mention that). For camp on Saturday, we will have a potluck so bring a dish to share.

Fri - Sat, Sept 23 - 25

Length: 8.5 miles out & back

Rating: Moderate

Elev. Gain: 2000'

Due to 4th of July and Labor Day holidays, the monthly meeting will be held on the 2nd Monday of July and September

Help keep the Club on its feet!

**Attend the next planning meeting on August 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

