

# FRIENDS

Oct - Dec 2016



## Outdoor, Hiking, and Camping Club

Visit our web site  
[www.friendshiking.com](http://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  
[mail@friendshiking.com](mailto:mail@friendshiking.com)

Webmaster:  
Randy Baker 602-616-9491  
[moovvoaz@friendshiking.com](mailto:moovvoaz@friendshiking.com)

Rich Flammang 623-980-9614  
[modelacoupe@att.net](mailto: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: October 3<sup>rd</sup>, November 7<sup>th</sup> (1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2017 planning meeting) and December 5<sup>th</sup>

## 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](http://www.friendshiking.com), for updates.

**WILLOW SPRINGS/PINE MOUNTAIN LOOP Day Hike - Prescott National Forest**Leader: Rich Flammang ([modelacoupe@att.net](mailto:modelacoupe@att.net))

Phone: 623-980-9614

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

This lollipop hike will string together four different trails to complete a 9.5 mile loop through the Pine Mountain Wilderness. This hike will take us through stands of the mountain's namesake, the Ponderosa Pine and offer stupendous views of Verde River Canyon, Mazatzal Mountains and Horseshoe Lake far in the distance. We will start on Nelson Trail #159, continue onto Pine Mountain Trail #14, then Verde Rim Trail #161 and finally to Willow Springs Trail #12. We will return to the trailhead via Nelson Trail #159.

**Sat, Oct 1**

Length: 9.5 miles R/T

Rating: Moderate

Elev. Change: 1,700'

**PRE-PICNIC Day Hike - South Mountain**Leader: Randy Baker ([moovyoz@friendshiking.com](mailto:moovyoz@friendshiking.com))

Phone: 602-616-9491

Work up an appetite by starting the day off with a short hike on the National Trail to Hidden Valley before the Club Picnic and Swap Meet. Details TBA at the next two monthly Friends club meetings on Mondays, September 12<sup>th</sup> and October 3<sup>rd</sup>. Stay tuned for additional details.

**Sat, Oct 8**

Length: 5 miles R/T

Rating: Easy

**CLUB PICNIC AND SWAP MEET - Tempe**Leader: Kurt Sedler ([kurt.sedler@cox.net](mailto:kurt.sedler@cox.net))

Phone: 602-339-8780

(literally!)

10:30 AM til.....

All current or prospective members, their families and friends are welcome, however, you must RSVP to Kurt by September 30<sup>th</sup> with a head-count if you and yours would like to be included. Before you commit, be certain you can attend, so as to minimize any waste. We will have volleyball & horseshoes as well as brats, burgers, salads & dessert – craft beer, soft drinks and water will be provided as well. We will also have door prizes and party favors. The food and drink are being paid for by your surplus Club funds, so there will be no charge at the event. Bring a blanket, **chair** and such..... as well as a few “warmies” if you plan to stay for the campfire.

**GEAR SWAP** - We will also have an ‘outdoor gear’ swap, so bring any surplus gear that you would like to sell, trade or donate. Trading (vs. selling) will be encouraged.

**Sat, Oct 8**

Length: N/A

Rating: Piece-o-cake

**GARDEN VALLEY / BLACK MESA LOOP - Superstition Mountains**Hike Leader: Vickie Scott ([Vickie.scott@onsemi.com](mailto:Vickie.scott@onsemi.com))

Phone: 602-244-4557 (cell)

**Please contact hike leader to RSVP****MEET in the Home Depot parking lot, Power Road, south of Hwy 60, 7:00 AM**

This loop hike takes you by way of First Water Trailhead, following Second Water trail (236) east to Garden Valley. Garden Valley is the site of a prehistoric Indian ruin where pot sherds litter the ground under a forest of chain fruit cholla cactus. In Garden Valley, the Black Mesa Trail (241) heads southeast up and over Black Mesa, descending into West Boulder Canyon. From West Boulder Canyon there are two possible return routes. This 9 mile hike requires moderate trail hiking skills and has numerous, but easy creek crossings.

**Sat, Oct 15**

Length: 9 miles R/T

Rating: Moderate

Elev. Gain: 1,050'

**CHIRICAHUA NATIONAL MONUMENT Day Hike & Car Camp - Southeastern Arizona**Leader: Stan Backenstoss ([sbackenstoss@gmail.com](mailto:sbackenstoss@gmail.com))

Phone: 480-620-3775

**Please RSVP with your intentions****MEET in the north IHOP parking lot, I-10 & East Ray Road, 10:00 AM**

After finding a good spot to camp we will hike the Natural Bridge Trail. In the morning we will continue hiking the high country trails in the park. Sunday we may do an optional hike before heading back to the Valley. \*If you just want to hike Saturday meet at the Echo Canyon TH around 9ish.

**Fri - Sun, Oct 21 - 23\***

Length: 8+ miles R/T

Rating: Moderate

**MADERA CANYON CABIN and HALLOWEEN Hike - Catalina Mountains/Tucson**Leader: Kurt Sedler ([kurt@ibmmonitors.com](mailto:kurt@ibmmonitors.com))

Phone: 602-339-8780

**Please contact hike leader to RSVP****MEET in the north IHOP parking lot, I-10 & East Ray Road, 7:00 AM**

We will be hiking and ‘cabining’ in Madera Canyon, south of Tucson and hiking in the adjacent Santa Rita's. Driving down Saturday will take a bit less than 3 hours. We will head directly to the trailhead to begin the hike, returning to the cabin Saturday afternoon in time for happy hour and other frivolities (like dinner). With 1,500 square feet of indoor space, including two bedrooms, one full bathroom, two living rooms, and a fully-equipped kitchen, the Kent Springs Cabin accommodates up to 8 people comfortably. It also has a large deck overlooking a seasonal creek, and parking is available on site. Cabin rental cost will be equitably divided – a \$25 per person deposit is required. The cabin is furnished with a queen bed, a bunk bed, a roll-away single bed, and a double futon couch. Halloween costumes will be encouraged and we will have a potluck supper. We will divvy up the meal requirements as the roster is ascertained.

**Sat - Sun, Oct 29 - 30**

Length: 8 - 10 miles +/- TBD

Rating: Moderate +

**HIGHLINE TEMPLETON LOOP Day Hike - Sedona**Leader: Dave Kinzer ([dkinz@hotmail.com](mailto:dkinz@hotmail.com))

Phone: 480-612-5323

**RSVP hike leader via email, more detailed driving instructions will be returned****Self organized carpooling in Denny's parking lot, SW corner of I-17 and Bell Rd. 7:00AM****MEET HIKE LEADER at Yavapai Vista trailhead, 8:45AM**

Repeating last year's hike, but two weeks earlier for better fall colors. Sweeping panoramic vista of most of Sedona's major landmarks, this hike starts at the Yavapai Trailhead (\$5.00 Red Rock pass required, available at the trailhead) and proceeds up the first of two moderate ascents on the Highline bicycle trail. Views open up to the east and north as we ascend to a saddle where Little Park and the Verde River Valley come into view. A moderate descent is followed by 1/4 mile of very steep descent on slickrock as we begin to circumnavigate Cathedral Rock. A short hike on the Baldwin Trail past the west of Cathedral brings us to the Templeton trail, which descends to Oak Creek. Lunch stop in the shade of the trees lining this area. After lunch, we ascend switchbacks for views of expensive homes in the Back 'o Beyond area. Continuing with a slight ascent around the North and East faces of Cathedral brings us to the Hermit trail, which continues back to the trailhead. Bring refreshments and something to BBQ at the hike leader's Sedona home at the conclusion of the hike. This is some of the best hiking Sedona has to offer. \* Rated plus is for steep downhill

**Sat, Nov 5**

Length: 7.1 miles R/T

Rating: Moderate + \*

Elev. Change: 1,200' (est)

**PERRY MESA RUINS Day Hike & Optional Car Camp**Leader: Randy Baker ([moovyoz@friendshiking.net](mailto:moovyoz@friendshiking.net)) Phone: 602-616-9491Co-Leader: Grace Ege-Moody ([moodyhd@cox.net](mailto:moodyhd@cox.net)) Phone: 602-725-2492**RSVP hike leader 7 days prior to the hike via email for to ensure a spot and shuttle planning.****Paid members only and no dogs, please.****MEET in Denny's parking lot, SW corner of I-17 and Bell Rd, 7:00 AM**

The Agua Fria National Monument is located about forty miles north of Phoenix, along the east side of Interstate 17. The Monument contains 71,100 acres (111 square miles) and more than 450 archeological sites. The pueblos on Perry Mesa were constructed using a technique known as "massed room block," in which field-stone walls stabilized with mud mortar were roofed over with timbers, sticks, mud and straw. The roofs have long since disappeared, however, and time, weather, and modern-day looters have reduced most of the walls to piles of rubble. They are still quite impressive: some of the sites contain over one hundred rooms, and are surrounded by a multicolored carpet of broken pot sherds. Many of the ruins have clusters of petroglyphs nearby, some of which contain thousands of images. There is also evidence of extensive agriculture over large areas of both mesas, including cleared fields and terraces and berms for controlling rain runoff for crop irrigation. On Saturday BLM volunteer Grace Ege-Moody will guide us into some of these hidden treasures that few get to explore. For those interested, we will camp that night near Horseshoe Ranch along Bloody Basin Road. Note access to these sites requires high clearance vehicles, but the hiking is easy.

**Sat - Sun, Nov 12-13**

Length: +/- 6 miles

Rating: Easy

**BARNHARDT TRAIL - Mazatzal Mountain**Leader: Stephenie Russey ([coyote.howls@hotmail.com](mailto:coyote.howls@hotmail.com))

Phone: 480-390-9972

**No RSVP necessary****MEET in Target parking lot at 16825 E Shea Blvd Fountain Hills, 7:00 AM**

Walk the Barnhardt Trail up to the waterfall and back. Along the way there will be towering cliffs, waterfalls and picturesque canyon vistas. We will be going as far as the Big Kahuna Falls for an out and back hike, although the trail continues on and eventually connects with the 29 mile long Mazatzal Divide Trail #23. I will find a place to eat and drink after the hike. Trailhead is approximately 55 miles from Target.

**Sat, Nov 19**

Length: 6.25 miles R/T

Rating: Moderate

Elev. Change: 1,600'

**WATSON LAKE RAMBLE - Prescott**Hike Leader: Don Mantell ([dirkbag@aol.com](mailto:dirkbag@aol.com))

Phone: 516-810-8024

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

This perennial favorite is a walk circling a most picturesque lake located a short distance east of Prescott in the Granite Dells. It features trails that wind in and around gigantic granite boulders revealing breathtaking views of this unique lake. Some climbing is involved but the total elevation is limited. It is a great place for walking a dog, biking, and if it's not too cold, kayaking. We can choose to visit the village of Prescott and check out one of their many restaurants after the hike.

**Sat, Dec 3**

Length: 5 miles R/T

Rating: Moderate

**PROSPECTOR LOOP Day Hike - Fountain Hills/McDowell Sonoran Preserve**Leader: Denise Osborne ([deniseosborne196@gmail.com](mailto:deniseosborne196@gmail.com))

Phone: 480-241-9297

**MEET in Target parking lot at 16825 E Shea Blvd Fountain Hills, 8:00 AM**

We will start in Fountain Hills at the Dixie Mine trailhead, hike into the McDowell Sonoran Preserve and switch to the Prospector Trail, pick up the Bell Pass Trail to the Windmill Trail to the Coachwhip Trail and back to the Dixie Mine. This starts out flat with rolling washes. You gain elevation gradually on the Prospector. The majority of the elevation gain is on the Bell Pass. The rest of the trail rolls in a downhill grade back to the trailhead. We will partake of refreshments after the hike.

**Sat, Dec 10**

Length: 9.6 miles R/T

Rating: Moderate

Elev. Change: 1,000'

**TURKEY CREEK TRAIL #92 Day Hike - Sedona**Hike Leader: Kim Hemmersbach ([hemmersbachkim@gmail.com](mailto:hemmersbachkim@gmail.com))

Phone: 480-343-4509

**MEET in Denny's parking lot, SW corner of I-17 and Bell Road, 8:00 AM Sharp**

The seldom used trail offers vistas and interesting geology. We will start out on an old road to Turkey Creek Tank. The trail continues, crossing normally dry Turkey Creek and begins a gradual climb through pinyon pine and juniper. We will have a short, steep climb to the lip of House Mountain, a long extinct shield volcano. There are fine views of nearby red rock formations as well as more distant vistas north toward Wilson and Secret Mountains. The trail reaches the crest at nearly 3 miles and begins a gradual descent over basaltic lava. Soon the view over the ancient, heavily eroded caldera opens up and you can see the west vent as well from which the mountain derived its place name. We have options to continue exploring other geologic beauties of House Mountain. Afterwards, we will enjoy refreshments at a local Sedona establishment and talk about how we haven't finished our Christmas shopping yet.

**Sat, Dec 17**

Length: 7-ish miles R/T

Rating: Moderate

**PASS MOUNTAIN TRAIL & BBQ - Usery Mtn Recreation Area**Leader: Randy Baker ([moovyoaz@friendshiking.net](mailto:moovyoaz@friendshiking.net))

Phone: 602-616-9491

**MEET at Usery Mtn Recreation Area campground, 9:00 AM**

The trail is a pleasant loop around the parameter of Pass Mountain the Usery Mountain Recreation Area, with 700 ft. of mostly gradual elevation change. From the trail, there are awesome views of the Superstition, Goldfield, Mazatzal, and Usery Mountains, and an excellent overview of Fountain Hills and the Verde River. Bring something to BBQ, your favorite beverage and a dish to share...let's start 2017 off by putting our best "boot" forward.

**Sat, Jan 7**

Length: 7.2 miles

Rating: Moderate minus

Elev. Change: 800'

**CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR ANY HIKE CHANGES...[www.friendshiking.com](http://www.friendshiking.com)**

**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 November 7<sup>th</sup>  
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

