

Friday B hikes – Lynn Warren Coordinator/Leader

Friday September 25 - Sunrise Mountain Trail (Peoria). Rating B-. This is a 7-mile multi-loop hike with an elevation gain of 1200 ft. A close-in hike with good elevation and views of New River dam and mountains beyond. There are views of the community on one side, with the front of New River Dam in the background and mountain ranges beyond that. On the South side are views across the West valley. The trail itself is well maintained with three main hills to climb. Trail condition – average hiking trail, but the climbs are fairly steep. There is no park fee. Restrooms and water are at the trailhead. Driving distance is 56 miles RT. [SCG=4.9/1100/2.9].

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/CityofPeoria/Sunrise-Mountain>

Directions to Peoria Trails – Sunrise and Westwing

Drive North on Loop 303 and take Exit 125 (Happy Valley Pkwy/Vistancia Blvd)

Turn right on Happy Valley Pkwy and go to Lake Pleasant Road.

Turn left on Lake Pleasant Road.

Turn right on West Wing Parkway.

Turn right into Westwing Neighborhood Park.

There is no parking fee.

Restrooms and water are at the trailhead.

Friday October 2 – Quartz Mine/Skyline Summit/Skyline Crest/Valley Vista Loop (Skyline Regional Park – Buckeye). Rating B. This is a 8+ mile hike with an elevation gain of 1000+ feet. A slight variation on the usual loops to two peaks with great views of the valley. Excellent trails. Driving distance about 30 miles RT.

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Skyline-Park> Photos

Directions to Skyline Regional Park Trailhead

Go West on I-10.

Turn north (right) on Watson Road.

Drive to end of road and trailhead parking.

Facilities are at the trailhead.

Friday October 9 - Carney Springs to Peralta loop (Superstitions). Rating B+. This is a 7.5 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 2000 feet. Strenuous climb to the ridge above Carney Springs and scenic but challenging descent to Peralta Trail for the return. Carney Springs trail is a very steep, loose pebble/dirt trail that goes up to a saddle providing great views to the south of the Superstitions. The trail going across to the Freemont Saddle (and the Peralta trail) offers excellent views of Weavers Needle and the Superstition Mountains. There is some boulder hopping going down to Freemont Saddle. Once down the Peralta trail at the trailhead, you simply hike down the road about a mile to the Carney Springs trailhead. No restrooms at Carney Springs (Peralta has some) and no park fee. Driving distance is 140 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SuperstitionWilderness/Carney-SpringsPeralta-Loop> Photos

Directions to Superstitions - Lost Goldmine Trailhead

Take I-10 east to Hwy 60 east (HOV all the way).

Go 8.5 mi past Apache J to the Peralta Rd turnoff (approx. 32 mi. from I-10).

Turn left on Peralta Road.

The trailhead is about 7.6 miles north on the left.

The last 6.5 miles is on a well-maintained dirt road.

Restrooms are available .5 mile further at Peralta Trailhead.

Friday October 16 - Apache Wash-Sidewinder-Ocotillo Loop (Phoenix Sonoran Preserve - North Section). Rating B. This is a 10-mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 1500 ft. The loop combines several trails - the Apache Wash, Ridgeback, Sidewinder, and Ocotillo trails. An interesting loop in North Phoenix with views of Cave Creek and surrounding area. There are expansive views of the north side of Phoenix, Anthem, and Cave Creek. The hike goes through rolling desert terrain. Trail condition - this is a very good hiking trail with no rocks, stones, steps, etc. There are restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 80 miles RT.

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/CaveCreekRegionalPark/Apache-Wash-Trailhead> Photos

Directions to Phoenix Sonoran Preserve North (Apache Wash TH)

Take Loop 303 North to I-17.

Turn left (North) on I-17.

Stay right and immediately exit onto Dove Valley Road.

Follow Dove Valley Road as it changes name to Sonoran Desert Drive.

Continue for approx. 5.1 miles (from I-17).

Turn left into the Apache Wash Trailhead.

No Park Fee...Restrooms are at the trailhead.

Friday October 23 - 2nd Water/Black Mesa/Dutchman loop (Superstition Mountains). Rating B. This is a 9.3-mile loop with a 1000 ft. elevation gain. It is an interesting loop through scenic Superstition terrain...all trail. We will start at the First Water Trailhead, take the Second Water Trail to the Black Mesa Trail, and return on the Dutchman trail. There are restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee.

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SuperstitionWilderness/Garden-Valley-Loop/B-HikeSuperstitions-Garden-Valley-LoopLynnW2018-2019/i-QQkKfFb> Photos

Directions to Superstitions - 1st Water Trailhead (Driving distance is 126 miles RT).

I-10 east to Route 202 east (stay in HOV all the way).

Take 202 east to Brown Rd. (Exit 26).

Drive east on Brown Rd. to Apache Trail (Hwy 88).

Turn left onto Apache Trail (Hwy 88).

Go past Lost Dutchman State Park and turn right at sign to First Water Trailhead.

Follow this dirt road approx. 2.6 miles to the end (past the horse parking on left).

Parking is free. There is a restroom at the trailhead.
(Brown Rd. is Lost Dutchman Blvd in Pinal County on the return)

Friday October 30 – Granite Dells, Constellation & Willow Lake Dells (Prescott). Rating B. This is an 8-mile multi-loop hike with an elevation gain of about 1000 ft. It is a scenic hike in the Granite Dells with lots of rock formations and views of the lake with Granite Mt. in the distance. There are lots of great views of the Granite Dells rock formations as well as Willow Lake and the mountains of Prescott. There are a couple of “fat man’s pass” like cuts through the rocks as well as a bridge across a portion of the rock formations. Trail condition - much of the trail is on granite boulders (they use white paint to park the trail) and there are many short hills to go up over and down. No park fee on Wednesdays. There is a restroom at the trailhead.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Prescott-1/Constellation> Photos

Directions to Prescott - Constellation Trails (Driving distance is 223 miles RT).
Drive North on Loop 303 to I-17.
Take I-17 north to Cordes Junction, Exit 262.
Turn North (left) on SR 69 to Prescott.
Turn right on Fain Road.
Take Exit 317 then left on SR 89.
Turn right into the trailhead parking lot.
Restroom at the trailhead. No park fee on Wednesdays.

Friday November 6 - Dogie Trail (Sedona). Rating B. This is an in-and-out hike of 11 miles with an elevation gain of 2200 ft. It is an easy hike down to the rocky Sycamore Creek but a somewhat strenuous climb back to the car. There are several nice red rock formations along the trail. Sycamore Creek is usually dry in this part of Sycamore Canyon but there could be a few pools of water. The road to the trailhead is approximately 10 miles of rough dirt road. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Cottonwood/Dogie-Trail> Photos

Directions to Sedona - Dogie Trail (Driving distance is 250 miles RT.)
Take 303 north to I-17.
Turn north on I-17.
Take exit #287 to Cottonwood.
Turn right on 89A in Cottonwood.
Drive 9 miles and turn left on Red Canyon Road (FR525).
Drive 3 miles and veer left onto FR 525C (just past MP 364)
Drive 9 miles to the trailhead.
The last 12 miles are on a dirt road (high-clearance vehicle recommended)
No restrooms. Trail immediately drops down to creek.

Friday November 13 - Hawes Loop Trail long option, Granite Reef Rec Area (Usery Mountain Park). Rating B. This is a 12.5-mile and 1900 ft. elevation hike with a variety of interesting views. The hike provides an interesting

combination of trails with outstanding views of Red Mountain and impressive saguaros. Most of the hike provides views of Red Mountain, the Granite Reef Dam and the park. The hike starts out about 100 ft. north of the parking lot--cross the street to the Hawes Trail (be careful crossing the street). Over the first 3 miles, the trail slowly rises about 400 ft through typical desert brush. Around the 5.4 mile point you will pass several large mansions. There are many large Saguaros in the center of the park, which forms a large bowl. The trail generally wanders around the edge of the bowl. Trail sequence is: start on Hawes, left on Saguario, left on Ridge, right on Granite to Granite Reef Rec Area.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/UseryMountainRegionalPark/Hawes-Loop-Trail> Photos

Directions to Hawes Loop Trail (Driving distance is 102 miles RT)

I-10 HOV east to Rt 202E (HOV left exit)

Rt 202E to Power Rd exit, turn left (North).

Go about 2 miles to bottom of the hill and turn left into Granite Reef Rec Area.

Free with Senior Pass...restrooms in the park area.

The trail starts across the street, about 100 feet north of entrance to parking lot.

Friday November 20 - Bell Trail (Wet Beaver Wilderness). Rating B. This is a 10.3-mile hike with 1900 ft. elevation gain. Experience the historic trail used to drive cattle to Flagstaff and visit the famous "Tongue" above a deep pool. This is a scenic hike along Beaver Creek and there is always water in the creek. Trail condition - the overall trail is excellent although the scamper up Bell rock includes an occasional hand on a rock. There is no park fee.

For the C hike: Hike 2.5 miles on an old jeep trail to the real trailhead. Take the Bell Trail and stay on it. You will see other trail junctures for the White Mesa Trail and later the Apache Maid Trail. Stay on the Bell trail. Later you come to the Bell & Weir Trailheads. Take the Bell to the left. It goes up a short rise and you travel along the mountainside below a cliff area. After a while the trail comes back to the stream at Bell Crossing. Stay on the left side and continue past Bell Crossing to a pool called Tongue of The Beaver. This is our break and turn around point and may provide some photo ops.

For the B hike: At Bell Crossing, cross the stream to continue the hike. After crossing the stream, you will start ascending towards the rim (1600 ft in 1.5 miles) and an interesting plateau.

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Category/Bell-Trail-Wet-Beaver> Photos

Directions to Sedona - Bell Trail, Wet Beaver Wilderness (Driving distance is 220 miles RT)

Take 303 North to I-17.

Turn left onto I-17 towards Flagstaff.

Exit I-17 at exit 298 (SR 179).

SR 179 goes to the left to Sedona, go to the right which is FR 618.

Take FR 618 for 2 miles and turn left onto FR 618A.

FR618A is rough but is only ¼ mile long and should be O.K. for cars.
Follow the signs to the trailhead...rest rooms at the trailhead.
There are McDonalds at I-17 exits 262 and 287.

Friday November 27 - Arnett Canyon & Picketpost Loop Trail (Superior).

Rating B. This hike is 11.5 miles with 1100 ft. elevation gain and is an interesting loop around this impressive mountain...could have some fall colors. Arnett canyon is similar to West Fork of Oak Creek canyon with a few creek crossings (seasonal), many cottonwood trees, and red rock formations. Telegraph canyon is a bare rock wash with lots of trees, and the rest is a typical desert hike with many Saguaros. There are lots of interesting views of the surrounding area - bring your camera. Trail condition - average hiking trail plus the creek crossings with some bushwhacking on the south side of Picketpost. Restroom at the trailhead. No park fee.

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Superior/Picketpost-Mtn-Arizona-Trail/Picketpost-Loop> Photos

Directions to Picketpost Trailhead (Driving distance is 160 miles RT)

Take I-10 east to Hwy 60 east (HOV all the way).

Go approx. 50 mi. and turn right just before Boyce Thompson Arboretum (watch for brown sign indicating Picketpost)

Follow signs for a couple of miles to the parking lot.

Restrooms are at the trailhead. No park fee.

Friday December 4 - Massacre Falls/Hidden Canyon (Superstitions). Rating

B. This is a 8.6-mile hike with an elevation gain of 1500 feet. It is an interesting hike to a canyon above the Praying Hands area, followed by a hike to a wide, dry waterfall as well as the overlook of the massacre site. There are great views of the valley and various rock formations as you travel along the trail. Trail condition - the first and last thirds are good hiking surfaces, with the middle third a boulder covered semi-bushwhack. There are no restrooms (though you can go 1.5 miles further up the road to the 1st Water trailhead which has restrooms and then return to the trailhead). No park fee from this trailhead.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SuperstitionWilderness/Massacre-Falls-Trail>
Photos

Directions to Superstitions - Crosscut Trailhead (Driving distance is 122 miles RT)

I-10 east to Route 202 east (stay in HOV all the way).

Take 202 east to Brown Rd. (Exit 26).

Drive east on Brown Rd. to Apache Trail (Hwy 88).

Turn left onto Apache Trail (Hwy 88).

Go past Lost Dutchman State Park and turn right at sign to First Water Trailhead.

Turn right and follow this dirt road approximately 1 mile.

Parking for the Crosscut trailhead is on the right.

The Praying Hands hike heads straight out on the Crosscut trail.

The Massacre Falls hike heads off to the left, right in front of the parking area.

Note: restrooms are at the First Water Trailhead, about 1.5 miles further along the dirt road.

(Brown Rd. is Lost Dutchman Blvd in Pinal County on the return)

Friday December 11 - Goldfield Mountains #7 - IQ Arch & Helmet Rock Loop Extended version (Goldfield Mountains). Rating B. This is a 9.8-mile lollipop hike with an elevation gain of about 1750 ft. The hike goes over a ridge with views of IQ Arch and Helmet Rock. It then goes around Helmet rock through a very colorful golden canyon. Trail condition - average hiking trail. This is a very scenic trail. There are no restrooms at the trailhead. No Park fee.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/GoldfieldMountains/IQ-Arch-and-Helmet-Rock-Loop> Photos

Directions to Goldfield Mountains - Willow Springs Canyon (#6 & #7 Trails) (Driving distance is 130 miles RT)

I-10 east to Route 202 east (stay in HOV all the way).

Take 202 east to Brown Rd. (Exit 26).

Drive east on Brown Rd. to Apache Trail (Hwy 88).

Turn left onto Apache Trail (Hwy 88).

Go past Lost Dutchman State Park.

Trailhead and parking are on the left side of the road, right in front of MP 204.

There are no facilities at the trailhead.

(Brown Rd. is Lost Dutchman Blvd in Pinal County on the return)

Friday December 18 - Marcus Landslide/East End/Tom's Thumb Loop (McDowell Sonoran Preserve) Rating B+. This hike provides a strenuous workout with close-up views of Tom's Thumb after a climb up the steep East End trail. It combines multiple trails into a "B" level loop of approximately 10.6 miles with 2,150 ft. elevation gain. It first climbs from the north to Tom's Thumb on a short but steep trail and then proceeds south on East End (very steep)-Windmill-Coachwhip-Pemberton-Boulder-Marcus Landslide in a CCW loop, eventually passing in front of the Marcus Landslide area. ("B" hikers typically do this hike in a CW direction.) There are great views to the east and north including the Superstitions and Four Peaks areas, plus views of impressive granite boulders and the fountains at Fountain Hills. No park fee. Restrooms are at the trailhead (no water).

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/McDowellSonoranPreserve/Marcus-LandslideRock-Knob-Loop> Photos

Directions to McDowell Sonoran Preserve - Tom's Thumb Trailhead (108 mi. RT)

Take Loop 303 North to I-17.

Turn left (North) on I-17...immediately take exit 222 right onto Dove Valley Road.

Follow Dove Valley Road about 10 miles (becomes Sonoran Desert Dr.)

Take Cave Creek Road North (left).

Turn right on Dynamite Rd. (becomes Rio Verde).

Turn right on Alma School Road.

Turn left on Jomax Road.

Turn right on 118th St.
Turn left on Ranch Gate Road.
Turn right on 128th St.
Stay left as the road runs into the parking lot.
There are restrooms but no water at trailhead.

Friday December 25 – Christmas – No Hike

Friday January 1 - Hackamore Trailhead Loop (Goldfield Mountains). Rating

B. This is a 9-mile lollipop loop hike with an elevation gain of 1250 ft. This is a hike to an interesting arch overlooking the scenic Goldfields...mostly trail with easy bushwhacking to the arch. The B version goes by Cottonwood Spring (usually wet), then goes up to and past the second arch. There are views of lots of golden mountains on this hike. No restrooms. No park fee.

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/GoldfieldMountains/Hackamore-Trailhead> Photos

Directions to Goldfield Mountains – Hackamore TH (#4 Trail) (Driving distance is 120 miles RT)

I-10 east to Route 202 east (stay in HOV all the way).
Take 202 east to Brown Rd. (Exit 26).
Drive east on Brown Rd. to Apache Trail (Hwy 88).
Turn Left on AZ 88 (Apache Trail) and continue for 0.8 mile.
Turn left on Hackamore Road (just past the Apache Junction sign).
Drive to the end of the road.
Park at trailhead (road blocked)...No restrooms at trailhead.

Friday January 8 - Dog Bone - Chloe's Charisma Loop (Buckeye). Rating B.

This is an in-and-out hike of 10.6 miles with an elevation gain of 800ft. The hike will take a relatively flat trail to the interesting rock outcropping known as Batman, followed by lunch at the memorial site for bicyclist Chloe. The Dog Bone trail system is a sister bike trail system to FINS. This hike combines several trails on the far eastern side of the Dog Bone biking area on the west side of Buckeye. While the overall hike is through typical desert terrain, there are several interesting rock formations as well as views of the surrounding mountains. You will see a rock formation that looks like Batman's head. Near the beginning of the hike, there are 3 Saguaros that look like old versions of our club logo – a subtle reminder that we ourselves are no longer young. There is the extension to Chloe's Charisma – a ghost bike memorial. Trail condition – while this is a biking area, the surface is somewhat rough in places. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee.

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Buckeye-Dog-Bone-Trails> Photos

Directions to Dog Bone Trailhead (Buckeye) (Driving distance is 50 miles RT)

Go West on I-10 to Highway 85.

Drive South on Hwy 85 for about 7 miles.
Turn left on Robbins Butte Game Road.
Turn left at the sharp turn and immediately right on Narramore Road.
Just before the wash, turn left onto a dirt road.
Park on the right about a block down the road (where it widens).
Hike back to Narramore Road...the trail starts across the road slightly to the right.

Friday January 15 - Daisy Mountain (Anthem Area) Rating B. This is a 7.2-mile lollipop loop hike with an elevation gain of 1600 ft. It is an interesting hike to two rounded peaks just east of the outlet mall...the first peak requires a strenuous climb and has an American flag on top...all trail but a steep descent from peak 2. The first 2 miles go through a rolling hills area before heading steeply uphill. There are two summits on this trail - the first one has a US flag on it, while the second, slightly higher summit is Daisy Mountain itself. There are great views of the Anthem and Cave Creek area. No park fee. No restrooms.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Anthem-Area/Daisy-Mountain> Photos

Directions to Daisy Mountain Trailhead (Driving distance is 70 miles RT)

Take 303 North to I-17.
Take I-17 North (left).
Turn right on Anthem Way and go .2 miles to first traffic light.
Turn left on Navigation Way and drive .6 miles.
The TH is on the left at the intersection of Navigation Way and Livingstone Way.
Take the first right off Livingstone (Rushmore) and park on south side of street.
There are no restrooms at trailhead.

Friday January 22 – Javelina Summit Loop (Skyline – Buckeye). Rating B+.

This hike is a 10.1-mile, 2550 ft elevation gain hike. This is a strenuous hike on one of the newer trails to Javelina Summit...great views of the valley and the golf course below. The hike will combine trails QM, Tortuga, Javelina Summit, Lost Creek, Turnbuckle and Valley Vista Summit. Trail condition - good hiking trail. No park fee. Restrooms are at the trailhead.

Directions to Skyline Regional Park Trailhead (Driving distance is 30 miles RT)

Go West on I-10.
Turn north (right) on Watson Road.
Drive to the end of road and trailhead parking.
Facilities are at the trailhead.

Friday January 29 – Gary’s Canyon – Inner Canyon of Saddle Mountain (Tonopah). Rating B.

This is a 7.5-mile hike with an elevation gain of 1000 ft. It is a conventional northwest loop with a spur in-and-out into an interesting canyon with high cliffs of “conglomerate”. There are great views of the rugged rock formations that comprise the mountain. Trail condition - the early part of the trail is a very good surface, but the last mile is along the side of the formation, is

composed of loose stones, and is hard to follow. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee.

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-10/Saddle-Mountain-Tonapah>

Directions to Saddle Mountain North (Tonopah) (Driving distance is 90 miles RT)

Go West on I-10 to 411th Ave (Exit 94)

Turn left across I-10 and drive 2.9 miles to the end of 411th Ave.

Turn right on W Salome Hwy.

Drive 5 miles and turn left on W Courthouse Road.

Drive 2.4 miles and turn left on an old jeep road (FR 8209)

Drive past the kiosk taking the right fork.

Drive 1.4 miles to an intersection with a fence and park.

There is no real trailhead (and no facilities).

Friday February 5 – Piestewa Peak Trails 200/202/8A/100/1A/304

(Piestewa Peak). Rating B+. This is a 9.6-mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 3000 ft. This "grand tour" hike is all trail but long and strenuous since it finishes with a steep climb to Piestewa Peak...beautiful views. It provides views of Scottsdale, Paradise Valley and downtown Phoenix. It passes through an interesting quartz field. 202 gives you an option of going around a mountain or up through a saddle. No park fee. Restrooms and water are at the trailhead.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/PhoenixMountainsPreserve/Circumference-sSummit> Photos

Directions to Piestewa Peak Trailheads (Driving distance is 66 miles RT)

Take I-10 East.

Exit onto Piestewa Peak Freeway (SR 51) north (right, exit 147)

Turn right on Lincoln Drive/Glendale Road (exit 5).

Turn left on Squaw Peak Drive (2nd stop light).

Drive to the end of the road (Apache Ramada).

The trails begin here. Restrooms are at the trailhead.

Friday February 12 - Waddell/Ford Canyon/Willow Springs/Mesquite

Canyon Loop (White Tank Mountains). Rating B. This is a 10-mile loop hike starting on the Waddell trail with an elevation gain of 1600 ft. It is a scenic hike through rugged terrain with a tiny amount of scrambling. The Ford Canyon Trail begins the rocky scenic hike along the side of the canyon to large boulders and dam on the wash. The trail continues up onto a ridge and then down to pick up the Willow Springs trail that connects with the Mesquite Canyon Trail and return.

Restrooms are at the trailhead. Park fee: \$7.00 per vehicle. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountainRegionalPark/Ford-Canyon-Mesquite> Photos

Directions to White Tank Mountains Regional Park (Driving distance is 30 mi. RT)

Take 303 North (right).

Exit at Northern (next to zoo) and turn left (West).

Turn right on Cotton.

Turn left on Olive and follow it to the park gate.

Park fee is \$7.00/car...park at Picnic Area #7.
Restrooms are at the trailhead...Take the Waddell Trail to the Ford Canyon Trail.

Friday February 19 - Brown Mountain/Cathedral Rock/Balanced Rock Loop (McDowell Sonoran Preserve) Rating B. This hike is 10.8 miles with an elevation gain of 1250 ft. It is an interesting loop through the impressive terrain of Brown's Ranch, including a short spur hike to the top of Brown's Mt. There are great views of the surrounding mountains (Weaver's Needle, Four Peaks, Tom's Thumb, etc.) as well as great rock formations along the trail. There are many different cacti species here and late spring could be very colorful after good winter rains. Trail condition -verygood hiking trail. There is a nice restroom at the trailhead and no park fee.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/McDowellSonoranPreserve/Brown-Mountain-Photos>

Directions to McDowell Sonoran Preserve - Brown's Ranch Trailhead (Driving distance is 100 miles RT)

Take Loop 303 North and drive to I-17.

Turn left (North) on I-17.

Stay right and immediately take exit 222 going Right onto Dove Valley Road.

Follow Dove Valley Road about 10 mi. (name changes to Sonoran Desert Drive).

Take Cave Creek Road North (left).

Turn right at first light on Dynamite Blvd (later changes to Rio Verde).

Turn left on Alma School Road.

The road dead ends at the trailhead...restrooms at the trailhead.

Friday February 26 - Ben Avery & Arch Loop (Eagletail Mountains). Rating B.

This is a 10.7-mile hike with an elevation gain of 1150 ft. It is a variation of a lollipop which includes a double arch and petroglyphs near Indian Spring (dry). There are views of Courthouse Rock for most of the hike. From the trailhead, it is 3.6 miles along an old jeep trail and in a wash to over 100 Native American petroglyphs. The trail to the petroglyphs is easy hiking. To get to the arches you follow an old road, then go through a wash before bushwhacking up a steep hill of loose rock and stones to reach the arches. Trail condition - good hiking trail to the petroglyphs then a semi-bushwhack to the arches and back. There are no facilities at the trailhead and no park fee.

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/EagletailMountainsWildernessAr/Eagletail-Mountains-Arches> Photos

Directions to Eagletail Mountains - Ben Avery Trailhead (Driving distance is 130 mi. RT)

Go West on I-10 to Exit 81 (Salome Road).

Turn South (left) across I-10.

Turn right on Harquahala Valley Road and go 6.0 miles.

Turn Right on Centennial, a straight dirt road (to the left is Courthouse Road).

Go 7.0 miles to a 3-way intersection (BLM Wilderness sign on the left).

Take the right fork, which parallels a natural gas pipeline.

Go 4.0 miles. There is a BLM Wilderness sign off to the left about 50 ft.
Turn left and go 1.5 miles to trailhead.
The last .4 miles requires a high clearance vehicle, but you can park on the side and hike to the trailhead, adding .8 miles to the total hike.
The final 12.5 miles is on dirt roads, but the roads are good until the final .4 miles. No facilities at the trailhead; rest stop on I-10 between Buckeye and exit 81.

Friday March 5 - Saddle Mountain Loop Trail (Tonopah). Rating B. This is a 7-mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 1000 ft. It is a strenuous hike up the south side and challenging bushwhack down the steep north side through impressive but rocky terrain. The trail works its way up to the main saddle of Saddle Mountain with extensive views to the west (Eagletail Mountains) and south. It then goes down a steep incline and around Saddle Mountain to complete the loop. There are great views of the rugged rock formations that comprise the mountain. Trail condition - the early part of the trail is a very good surface, but the last mile to the saddle is along the side of the formation is composed of loose stones and is hard to follow; over the saddle, it is very steep with lots of loose rocks; the last part is an easy trek along an old jeep road. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee.

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-10/Saddle-Mountain-Tonopah> Photos

Directions to Saddle Mountain North (Tonopah) (Driving distance is 90 mi. RT)

Go West on I-10 to 411th Ave (Exit 94)

Turn left across I-10.

Drive 2.9 miles to the end of 411th Ave.

Turn right on W Salome Hwy.

Drive 5 miles and turn left on W Courthouse Road.

Drive .8 miles and turn left on an old jeep road (FR 8211)

Park near the kiosk.

There is no real trailhead (and no facilities).

Friday March 12 - Kiwanis/National/Gila West/Ruins/National/Ranger/Los Lomitas Trails Loop (South Mountain). Rating B+. This is a 9.7-mi. loop with an elevation gain of 2000 ft. It is a strenuous hike with lunch at the fireplace ruins, followed by a steep climb up to the National Trail for the return. This is a way to incorporate the trail system to the south of the National Trail. It is a 1.45-mile gradual climb up the Kiwanis Trail from the parking lot to the National Trail, then up past the ramada to the top of the hill in just over .5 miles to the Gila West Trail. Follow the Gila West trail around the first hill top, then down a steep hill to a junction with a service road. This section should be about 2.1 miles. Turn right down the service road and enter a wash for about 1 mile. To your right there will be a path out of the wash point to the ruins. Follow this path to the southwest corner of the ruins and start the climb back up on the "Ruins Trail" to the National Trail. This is a 1.2-mile climb and will get your heart pumping. At the junction with the National Trail turn right and follow it for 2 miles to the Ranger Trail. Turn left onto the Ranger Trail and go down the hill and across Summit Road to the Los Lomitas Trail in almost 1.5 miles. Turn right on the Los Lomitas Trail for a 1-

mile hike back to the parking lot. Restrooms are at the Ranger Station. No park fee.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-4/KiwanisNationalGila> Photos

Directions to South Mt. Park (North) Main Entrance (Driving distance is 60 mi. RT)

Take I-10 east to I-17 south (exit 143B).

Exit I-17 at 7th Ave.

Turn right on 7th Ave to Baseline.

Turn left on Baseline to Central Ave.

Turn right onto Central Ave.

Follow Central into South Mountain Park.

Meet at park office / restrooms.

Caravan to Kiwanis trailhead.

Friday March 19 - Black Canyon Trail – Little Pan Loop/Table Mesa Trailhead(I-17 Exit 236) Rating B. This is a 9.7-mile lollipop hike with an elevation gain of about 900 ft. It covers three segments of the Black Canyon Trail – the Table Mesa, Little Pan, and Williams Mesa segments. The hike crosses the Agua Fria river twice, so be prepared for water depending on the season you hike it. It goes through typical rolling desert terrain with distant views of Lake Pleasant. Trail condition - a good hiking trail. No rest rooms at the trailhead. No park fee.

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/BlackCanyonNationalRecreationT/Little-Pan-Segment> Photos

Directions to Black Canyon Trail – Table Mesa TH (Driving distance is 90 miles RT)

Take Loop 303 north to I-17.

Turn left onto I-17 (north) toward Flagstaff.

Take exit 236 (Table Mesa Road).

Turn left crossing over I-17, then immediately turn right.

(Pavement ends within a mile; 2.5 miles of unpaved road to the parking area)

Keep **right** at the first Y (1.2 mi. from I-17--road going left goes into a quarry).

Keep **left** at the next Y (1.6 mi. from I-17).

Go another 1.9 mi. to a side road on the right (3.5 mi. from I-17).

Turn right on the road and the trailhead parking is immediately on the left.

No restrooms at the trailhead.

Friday March 26 - Goldfield Mountains #8 - Horns of a Dilemma trail (Goldfield Mountains). Rating B. This is a 7.5-mile hike with an elevation gain of 1300 ft. It is a scenic hike up past the Horns of a Dilemma with views of Saguaro and Canyon lakes. The "C" version (6 mi/900 ft) goes up a narrow canyon below the horns and then up to a saddle opposite the horns before returning to the trailhead. The saddle offers great views of the horns and two lakes. The "B" version adds a hike up to the Horns of a Dilemma with expansive views of both Saguaro Lake and Canyon Lake as well as the area between them. Trail condition – no real trail, just a rough, semi-bushwhack hike. No park fee. No restrooms.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/GoldfieldMountains/Horns-of-a-Dilemma> Photos

Directions to Goldfield Mountains - Mailbox TH (Driving distance is 130 mi. RT)
I-10 east to Route 202 east (stay in HOV all the way).

Take 202 east to Brown Rd. (Exit 26).

Drive east on Brown Rd. to Apache Trail (Hwy 88).

Turn left onto Apache Trail (Hwy 88).

Go past Lost Dutchman State Park.

Trailhead and parking are on the left side of the road, right by a mailbox (just past MP 208, before the road makes a big turn to the right).

Parking is free. There are no facilities at the trailhead.

(Brown Rd. is Lost Dutchman Blvd in Pinal County on the return)

Friday April 2 – Agua Fria Trail I (I-17 N). Rating B. This hike is 8.5 miles with an elevation gain of 1200 ft. It is a trail through a burn area to interesting terrain in the Agua Fria riverbed...the trail was "improved" by our summer hikers and cleared by nature. No facilities at the trailhead.

Directions to Aqua Fria National Monument (116 mi. RT)

Take Loop 303 north to I-17.

Turn left onto I-17 (north) toward Flagstaff.

Take the first exit north of Sunset Point Rest Area.

Turn right and park...no facilities...no park fee.

Trail starts at the parking area.

Friday April 9 - Granite Mountain Hotshots Memorial Trail (Yarnell). Rating B. This is a 7.5-mile in-and-out hike with an elevation gain of 1825 ft. The trail is a memorial to the Hotshots firefighting team from Prescott who lost their lives fighting the 2013 Yarnell Hill fire. It goes up over the ridge where they lost their lives and includes plaques for each of the 19 fire fighters who died there. Trail condition - the trail is a good hiking surface but goes steadily up right from the parking lot, along the ridge and then 1 mile down to the memorial. Restrooms at the trailhead...no park fee...only 10 parking spots.

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Granite-Mountain-Hotshots-Memorial-State-Park> Photos

Directions to Granite Mountain Hotshots Memorial State Park (Driving distance is 160 mi. RT)

Drive north on Loop 303.

Take Hwy 60 west toward Wickenburg.

Turn right on Hwy 93/89 (toward Las Vegas).

Turn right on 89 and drive toward Yarnell.

Just before reaching Yarnell, follow the brown signs to the park (left turn).

The park has 10 parking spots and a restroom...no park fee.

(If lot is full, no parking on the road...have to go to Yarnell for shuttle: \$5/hiker)

Friday April 16 – NEW HIKE - Governors Peak-Spring Valley-Governors Peak-Garfias Wash-Spring Valley Loop (Lake Pleasant). Rating B+. This is a 10.6-mile hike with an elevation gain of 1700 ft. and provides an opportunity to practice route-finding skills on this interesting and scenic loop which is 2/3 trail and

1/3 bushwhacking. The hike combines a hike to Governors Peak with a return via Garfias Wash. The views are magnificent in all directions. If this is your first trip in the area you will likely be salivating at the options in the western range of Hells Canyon Wilderness! No restrooms and no park fee.

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/LakePleasantArea/Spring-Valley-Loop> Photos

Directions to Governors Peak/Spring Valley Trails (Driving distance is 97 miles RT)

Take Loop 303 north and exit at Lake Pleasant Road.

Turn left on Lake Pleasant Rd and follow until it ends at AZ 74.

Turn left on AZ 74 (Carefree Highway).

Go west to Castle Hot Springs Road (the Lake Pleasant turn off).

Turn right on Castle Hot Springs Rd and follow 5.2 miles to the "T" intersection.

Turn left and follow 5.0 miles to pullout on left side of dirt road. The last mile is on the creek bed and there is a cattle guard at the end, so you can't miss it.

Parking is just past the cattle guard on the left.

The hike starts by continuing up the road about 50 yards and cutting across the creek bed on the left. (From the parking area, directly across the creek, you can see cairns in the creek bed and in a gap in the bushes you can see the sign-in box.)

Friday April 23 - Wilson Mountain – North Trail (Sedona). Rating B+. This is a 11.2-mile hike with an elevation gain of about 2500 ft. It is a challenging but beautiful hike up the north side to the top of the highest peak around Sedona. Trail condition – average hiking trail. Restrooms are at the trailhead. No park fee with Golden Age pass.

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Category/Wilson-Mountain> Photos

Directions to Sedona - Wilson Mountain North Trail (Driving distance is 256 miles RT)

North on Loop 303 to I-17.

North (left) on I-17 to exit 298 (Rte. 179).

Take Rte. 179 west (left) 15 miles to 89A.

Take Rte. 89A north (right) and continue up Oak Creek Canyon approx. 5.2 miles.

Turn left into Encinoso picnic area parking (trailhead).

The parking fee is \$5.00 per car (Red Rock Pass) or free with a Golden Age Pass.

There are McDonalds at I-17 exits 262 and 287...restroom at the trailhead.

Friday April 30 - Dana's Arch Loop (Wickenburg). Rating B-. This is a 6-mile lollipop loop with a short steep side hike up to the arch. The elevation gain is about 1000 feet. It is an interesting loop through rocky terrain with an opportunity to take a selfie with the arch. The trail is very rocky in places and goes through a sandy wash for part of it. You can see parts of Wickenburg and the old Renegade mine, as well as Vulture Peak and other surrounding mountains. There is a Crested Saguaro about 50 yards below the mine (on the right as you look up the road to the mine). The vegetation is dense in some areas and would provide many wildflowers

in the spring after winter rains. Dana's arch is an interesting arch reachable by going up to a saddle on the left and hiking across a fairly flat ridgeline. Trail condition - about half of the hike is on a good trail, the rest is in a wash or up a hill to the arch. No restrooms and no park fee.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Wickenburg/Twin-Peaks-Danas-Arch> Photos

Directions to Wickenburg - Twin Peaks Trailhead

Take Rte 303 north (right) to U.S. 60.

Turn west (left) onto U.S. 60.

Stay on U.S 60 for 2.5 miles after the first stop light in Wickenburg.

Turn south (left) at the next stoplight onto the Vulture Mine Road.

Then drive 4.2 miles to the trailhead turnoff (right, just after mile marker 22).

The last .7 miles is a dirt road but is passable by cars.

Follow the main track as it goes slightly left...it dead-ends just before a wash...park here (option...since the road is rough, can park earlier and hike farther).

There is no restroom at the trailhead (stop at McDonalds in Wickenburg).

Friday May 7 – NEW HIKE - Corona de Loma-Midlife Crisis Loop (South Mountain). Rating B+. This is a 12.5-mile hike with 2100 ft elevation gain. A long, strenuous loop with great views of South Mountain and Phoenix.

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-4/Midlife-CrisisNationalFatman-Pass>

Photos

Directions to South Mountain Corona de Loma trailhead (Driving distance is 60 mi. RT)

Take I-10 east to I-17 south (exit 143B).

Exit I-17 at 7th Ave.

Turn right on 7th Ave to Baseline.

Turn left on Baseline to Central Ave.

Turn right onto Central Ave.

Follow Central into South Mountain Park.

Meet at park office / restrooms...no park fee.

Caravan to trailhead (trailhead is at the Buena Vista Parking area).