

## THURSDAY D HIKES 2021-22

### **Thursday, 9/23. Butterfield, Dysart, Toothaker, Estrella Mountain Reg. Park.**

This is a 4.2- mile loop hike with an elevation gain of about 400 ft. The Toothaker (TH) trailhead is on the west side of the Rodeo Arena. This is a shared trailhead with the Rainbow Valley Trail (RB). Very soon after starting on the path Toothaker Trail (TH) will split off to the south (left). In 1.1 miles you will come to the Dysart Trail (DS) junction. Turn left to go to Butterfield trail. Turn left again on Butterfield to get back to Toothaker. Turn right on Toothaker to return to the trailhead. Park on the west side of the Rodeo Arena. There are restrooms on this side with running water. There is a \$7.00 park entrance fee. Driving distance is approx. 20 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/EstrellaMountainRegionalPark/Toothaker-GadsenButterfield>

Directions to Estrella Mountain Regional Park - Toothaker/Rainbow TH. Turn left out the main gate onto Pebble Creek/Estrella Pkw (south) South of I-10, turn left onto Vineyard Ave. just across the Gila River. Turn right into Estrella Mtn Park and pay park fee of \$7.00 per vehicle. Drive around the park to the left. Trailheads and rest rooms are on the far (West) side of rodeo arena.

**Thursday, 9/30. Maricopa Trail-Tres Rios Wetlands.** Rating C/D. This is a 4-7 mile in and out hike with about 100' of elevation gain. This trail starts at Monument Hill just east of the Racetrack. Trail travels along wetlands with flowing water, lots of vegetation and opportunities for viewing many bird species. The Salt River and Gila River join just south of the park. It's a flat, easy, fun hike. If more elevation is desired, you can climb Monument Hill, which is to the right after you cross the pedestrian bridge. No entrance fee. No restrooms.

Directions to Tres Rios trailhead. Turn left out the main gate onto Pebble Creek/Estrella Pkw (south) South of I-10 Turn left onto Vineyard Ave. just across the Gila River. Continue past the Phoenix Raceway and turn right into a parking area just past the grandstand and before the river bridge.

### **Thursday, 10/7. Fantasy□Island North□Singletrack□(FINS) Tiki Man**

(Estrella□Mountain Ranch).□□Rating D.□ This is about a□4.0-mile loop hike with an elevation gain of about 400 ft on several trails in the eastern part of the FINS bike trails system. The trails meander through several desert hills with many rock formations.□ Tiki Man trail takes you to a Polynesian saloon on the mountainside, then thru Boneyard and Enchanted Forest. Trail condition - this is a very good biking trail, but the Tiki Man trail itself is narrow and steep. No park□fee. No restrooms at the trailhead.□ Driving distance is 27 miles RT .<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/EstrellaMountainRanch/Fantasy-IslandNorth>  
Suggested driver donation:

Directions to FINS - Fantasy Island Trailhead. Turn left out the main gate onto Pebble Creek Pkwy (south), which becomes Estrella Pkwy on the other side of I-10. Continue for approx. 12.5 miles from Eagle's Nest. Turn right on West Westar Drive. Go approx. 1.1 mi. and turn left into the parking lot (this turn is easy to miss so turn just before a one-level concrete maint building; there is also a tall steel tower for power lines). No restrooms. No park fee.

**Thursday, 10/14. Tuesday, 10/14/21. Dogbone Marty's Loop. Rating D.** This is a 4.5 mile lollipop loop on good, relatively flat, trails with about 300' of elevation gain. There are interesting rock formations and good views to the White Tanks to the North. No park fee and no restrooms at the trailhead.

Directions to Dog Bone Joe Fosse Trailhead (Buckeye) Go West on I-10 to Highway 85. Drive South on Hwy 85 for about 9 miles. Turn left opposite the Buckeye Hills regional Park (and Joe Fosse Shooting Range). Park on the left just before the fence. The trail starts on the other side of the fence heading left (parallel to Hwy 85). Caterpillar Hill View (Verrado). Rating D.

**Thursday, 10/21. Hassayampa River Preserve (Wickenburg). Rating D.** This is a series of short trails totaling 3.2 miles with one hill overlooking the preserve that has an elevation gain of about 200 ft. The preserve is one of the two areas where the Hassayampa River flows above ground. There are lots of tall palm and cottonwood trees as well as lush undergrowth. Over 50 bird species call this home for part of the year. The best time to go is spring (March). Open F/S/S May 15 to Sept 15. Open W/T/F/S/S Sept 15 to May 15. There are restrooms in the visitor's center. Park fee is \$5.00 per person. Driving distance is 80 miles RT.

Directions to Wickenburg - Hassayampa River Preserve. Take Rte 303 north (right) to U.S. 60. Turn west (left) onto U.S. 60. The Preserve is on the left near Milepost 114. Distance is 80 miles RT. There are restrooms at the preserve. Entrance fee is \$5.00 per person. The Preserve opens at 8:00 AM Sept-May

**Thursday, 10/28. Frog Tank/Beardsley/Morgan City Wash.** □ Rating D. □ This is □ a 4 mile □ lollipop loop hike with an elevation gain of about 450. □ The hike starts out at the north end of the □ Frog Tank □ Trail, between areas 10 & 11. □ It goes □ down hill □ to the Beardsley trail, turns right for .2 miles, then turns left to go along an interesting canyon. The canyon ends at the Morgan City Wash Trail signs. □ We then turn left and follow the trail through MCW before reconnecting with the Beardsley trail. □ Turning left on Beardsley we return to the □ Frog Tank □ trail and back to the trailhead. □ There is a very nice dry waterfall area just off the Beardsley trail with some interesting rock formations. □ MSW is an interesting "jungle" area with a running creek. □ Trail maintenance has recently been completed to make MSW a very nice hike through the "jungle" area. The hike can be extended to a C level hike by adding the Roadrunner trail to the Nature center (not open as of 5/2016). □ Restrooms with water are at the trailhead. □ Park fee is \$7.00. □ Driving distance is 80 miles. Suggested drivder donation: □

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/LakePleasantArea/Morgan-City-Wash-Maricopa> □

Directions to Ramada 12 (Frog Tank), Lake Pleasant Regional Park

Take Loop 303 north to Lake Pleasant Road. Turn left (north) on Lake Pleasant Road to Arizona 74. Turn left (west) and continue to Castle Hot Springs Road (Lake Pleasant Regional Park turnoff) and turn right (North). Go 2.1 miles to the park, turn right on Lk Pleasant Access Rd...Pay \$7.00 park fee. Turn Right on South Park Road...the trailhead is on the left at the top of the hill. (TH is a large parking lot overlooking the lake, park on the right near restrooms).

**Thursday, 11/4. Mule Deer/South Trail/Goat Camp Loop (White Tanks).** Rating D. This is a 4 mile loop hike that goes from the library with an elevation gain of about 350 ft. The hike meanders through typical Sonoran desert vegetation. Restrooms can be found in the library. Trail condition - average hiking trail. There is a \$6 park fee per car, which can be paid in a self pay box near the junction with the Mule Deer Trail. Driving distance is 30 miles RT.

Directions to White Tank Mountains Regional Park. 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 for all trailheads (except from the library which is \$2.00 per hiker). Restrooms are at the trailhead for each of the hikes (inside the library for the hikes from the library). Trail goes off the end of the sidewalk on the left of the building. Bajada trail can be accessed at Picnic Area #3 ("D" hikes).

**Thursday, 11/11. Maricopa/Estrella Foothills (SR/PA) from Estrella Foothills HS parking lot to EMRP boundary. Rating D challenge.** 5.6 miles. 160' elev gain. This hike is longer than most D hikes. Crosscut Trail from Park boundary to Pederson is .8 miles. Trail starts in the EFHS park parking lot and follows the Sr trail north, then the PA trail east to the EMRP boundary. It can be extended into the park to a turnaround point at the Pederson trail. Typical desert hiking trail with views of the Estrella Range. Rest rooms at the trailhead. Driving distance is 27 miles RT. Suggested driver donation:

Directions to Estrella Foothills Park - High School Trailhead

Turn left out the main gate onto Pebble Creek Pkwy (south), which becomes Estrella Pkwy on the other side of I-10.

Continue into and through the Estrella Mountain development.

Turn left into the parking lot just before the Estrella Foothills High School building.

Park at the far end of the parking Lot.

Restrooms are on the left by the ballpark. No park fee.

**Thursday, 11/18. Fat Man's Pass from the West (South Mountain).** Rating D+. A 4.5 mile out and back hike with an elevation gain of about 600 ft. It follows the National Trail starting at the Buena Vista lookout, looping at Hidden Valley through boulders and rock tunnels, and returning on National Trail. Interesting, fun hike, with a few large boulders to climb over and slide down. Trail condition - mostly an uneven surface of rock so you need to keep your eyes on the trail. Several "drop your poles and slide on your butt" areas. Restrooms are at the park office. No park fee. Driving distance is 70 miles RT. [SCG=5.0/750/2.6]. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-4/Fat-Mans-Pass-West> Suggested driver donation:

Directions to South Mountain Park (North) Main Entrance

Take I-10 east , Take Exit 138. SR-202 Loop south .Take either the Baseline Rd or Dobbins Rd exit and turn left onto them. Turn right onto Central Avenue into South Mountain Park Go through the South Mountain Park guard shack (no fees) Go through another guard shack to the Park Office area. Restrooms available here. Proceed up the Summit Road about 6.5 miles following the signs to Buena Vista Parking area. Trailhead is at the Buena Vista Parking area.

**Thursday, 11/25. Thanksgiving. Ford Canyon View (White Tank**

**Mountains).** Rating  D,  4.5 mi out & back on the same trail with an elevation gain of about 500 ft. This is a scenic hike to a point with views of the white rocks in Ford Canyon.  There are restrooms at trailhead. Park fee is \$7.00 per vehicle. Driving distance is 30 miles RT.  [SCG=6.7/1300/3.6].  suggested driver donation:

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountainRegionalPark/Ford-Canyon-Mesquite>

Directions to White Tank Mountains Regional Park.  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 for all trailheads (except from the library which is \$2.00 per hiker).  Drive to Ford Cyn Rd, turn left and proceed to Area 9 Ford Cyn TH. Restrooms are at the trailhead

**Thursday, 12/2. Sonoran Loop - Competitive Track – Middle Version** (White Tank Mountains).  Rating D.   This is a  4.8 mile  loop hike with an elevation gain of 250 ft. This is a one-way competitive bike trail with a few ups and downs through washes. The high point gives you nice views back to the east.  A short detour on the second half of the hike takes you to a Crested Saguaro.  There's a porta-john at the trailhead. There is a \$7.00 park entrance fee.  Driving distance is  approx  30 miles RT. Suggested driver donation: <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountainRegionalPark/Sonoran-Loop>  <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountainRegionalPark/Competitive-Loop>

Directions to White Tank Mountains Regional Park

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 for all trailheads (except from the library which is \$2.00 per hiker).  Restrooms are at the trailhead for each of the hikes (inside the library for the hikes from the library).  Sonoran Loop Trail is at the end of the main road, slightly right off the end of the paved road. The restroom on this hike is a porta-john.

**Thursday, December 9, 2021. McDowell Sonoran Preserve. Latigo, Dare a**

**Sarah Loop.** Rating D. 5.2 miles, approx 500'. Very good hiking trails on the west end of the park, with one of the best examples of a crested Saguaro. Latigo, Rock Pile, Dare A Sarah trails wind around a newly opened area of the Preserve. Driving distance about 85 miles.

Directions to McDowell Sonoran Preserve - Pima-Dynamite Trailhead . Directions to McDowell Sonoran Preserve - Pima-Dynamite Trailhead Take Loop 303 North and 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. Cross Pima Rd, trailhead driveway a short distance on the left.

**Thursday, December 16, 2021. Sidewinder/Octillo Loop (Phoenix Sonoran Preserve - North). Rating D+** This is a 5.3 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of about 550 ft. The hike goes through typical desert terrain around a hill from the new trailhead off Carefree Highway with views of the Phoenix Sonoran Desert, Cave Creek and Anthem. New trailhead off Carefree Highway with a large box fan for cool down after the hike. Trail condition - average hiking trail surface. Restrooms are at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 80 miles RT. <https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/PhoenixSonoranPreserve-1/OcotilloSidewinder-Western-Loo> Directions to Phoenix Sonoran Preserve North (Desert Hills TH) Take Loop 303 North and drive to I-17. Turn left (North) on I-17. Turn right (east) on Carefree Highway. Continue for several miles. At 700 W Carefree Hwy, turn right into Trailhead parking. Restrooms are at the trailhead. No Park fee.

**Thursday, 12/23. Verrado North Trail (White Tank Mountains).** Rating D. This is a 4.4-mile lollipop loop hike towards Dead Man's Pass, then to the Petroglyphs, returning on a two-track road. The first part of the hike is rather flat then you parallel a wash and follow it up to a point that will give you nice views of the west side of the White Tank Mountains. Good hiking trails. No facilities at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 18 miles RT. Suggested driver donation: GAIA map.

### **Directions to Trailhead at Verrado West**

Go West on Indian School Road.

Turn left on Acacia Way (just past the high school).

Turn right on Lost Creek Drive

Parking for the trailhead is at the end of Lost Creek Drive.

You walk between the green and a tee on the Raven at Verrado golf course to get to the trailhead.

**Thursday, 12/30. Coldwater Trail to Saddle.** (Estrella Mtn Reg Park). Rating D. This is a 4.6 mile in and out hike to a saddle that will give D hikers a view into the southern area of the park . Trail is a wide road for about a mile, then a scenic 4WD road to the saddle with a gradual climb of about 350'. PortaPotty at trailhead. Park fee is \$7. Driving distance is 20 miles RT. Suggested driver donation:

### Directions to Estrella Mountain Regional Park

Turn left out the main gate onto Pebble Creek/Estrella Pkw (south) South of I-10, turn left onto Vineyard Ave. just across the Gila River. Turn right into Estrella Mtn Park and pay park fee of \$7.00 per vehicle. Park at Coldwater trailhead near rodeo arena.

**Thursday, 1/6. Petroglyphs/South of Border (SOB) Loop (Verrado) Opt A.** Rating D Challenge. This is a 4.9-mile loop hike with elevation gain of 600'. Take the single-track trail at the entry point staying left through a wash to the Petroglyph rock. Climb right to the saddle and take the SOB trail to the left at the saddle. SOB will cross Lost Creek Road and continue to the parking lot. This trail is all single-track. Trail condition - A very good hiking surface. No facilities at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 18 miles RT. Suggested driver donation:

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountains-Verrado/Petroglyphs>

Directions to Trailhead at Verrado West

Go West on Indian School Road.

Turn left on Acacia Way (just past the high school).

Turn right on Lost Creek Drive

Parking for the trailhead is at the end of Lost Creek Drive.

You walk between the green and a tee on the Raven at Verrado golf course to get to the trailhead.

**Thursday, 1/13. Walking□Jim□Trail (Hells Canyon Wilderness).**□ Rating D.□An□4-4.5 mile□hike with an elevation gain of 400 ft.□ The trail parallels a mostly dry creek and offers a wide variety of vegetation (from cottonwood trees to Saguaro cactus) and wildlife (wild burros,□etc).□ No restrooms.□ No park Fee.□ Driving distance is 80 miles. Suggested driver donation:

RT.□<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/LakePleasantArea/Walking-Jim>□

Directions to Walking Jim Trailhead

Take Loop 303 North to 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 onto Castle Hot Springs Road and follow 5.0 miles to a pullout/parking area on the left (This is about .2 miles before you come to a "T" intersection).

The trail goes off the left end of the parking area.

No restrooms at the trailhead.

**Thursday, 10/20. Waddell Canal Trail, Maricopa Trail. Rating D challenge.** 6.1 miles, 530' Elev.

This segment of the Maricopa Trail starts at the Beardsley CSR lot below the Lake Pleasant Dam, and takes you under Hwy 74, then parallels the Waddell Canal between Lake Pleasant and the Old Carefree Highway near the Pleasant Valley Airport. There are multiple climbs and descents, with views to the west of the Agua Fria River basin. No restroom facilities at the trailhead. Driving distance is 64 mi. Suggested driver donation:

Directions to Beardsley CSR TH.

Go left (west) on Indian School to Loop 303.

Turn right (north) on 303 to Lake Pleasant Road.

Turn left (north) on Lake Pleasant Road to Hwy 74.

Turn left (west) and drive past MP 22.

Turn right on Beardsley CSR Road a couple of hundred yards past MP 22.

Drive about a quarter mile to the Maricopa Trail trailhead on the left (just as the road turns right).

**Thursday, 1/27. Black Canyon Trail – Table Mesa□Segment□to River (I-17 Exit 236)** Rating D.□ This is a 4 mile in and out hike with an elevation gain of about 300 ft.□ The hike goes to the Agua Fria river and returns.□ It goes through typical rolling desert terrain with distant views of Lake Pleasant.□ There is a small stand of wild palm trees along the trail.□ Trail condition - a good biking trail.□ No rest rooms at the trailhead.□ No park□fees.□ Driving distance is 90 miles RT.□ Suggested driver donation:  
<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/BlackCanyonNationalRecreationT/Table-Mesa-Loop>□

Directions to Black Canyon Trail – Table Mesa Trailhead

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.

**Thursday, 2/3. Maricopa Trail□- Lake Pleasant East (Lake Pleasant).**□ Rating C-.□ This is a 4 mile in and out hike with an elevation gain of 500 ft.□ The hike goes across the front of the Lake Pleasant dam about half mile away.□ It goes through several washes as it climbs up above the level of the dam.□ It goes below, though not under the Arizona Canal (you□have to□do the hike to□see□why).□ Lots of typical desert brush including many types of cactus.□ This trail can be combined with the Morgan City Wash trail to form a nice□7 mile□hike.□ No restrooms at the trailhead.□ No park□fee.□ Driving distance is 64 miles RT.□ Suggested driver donation:

Directions to Maricopa Trail TH (Lake Pleasant) . Go left (west) on Indian School to Loop 303.

Turn right (north) on 303 to Lake Pleasant Road. Turn left (north) on Lake Pleasant Road to Hwy 74.

Turn left (west) and drive past MP 22. Turn right on Beardsley CSR Road a couple of hundred yards past MP 22. Drive about a quarter mile to the Maricopa Trail trailhead on the left (just as the road turns right). No park fee, but no facilities at the trailhead.

**Thursday, 2/10. Toothaker/Dysart/Butterfield Loop** (Estrella Mountains).  
Rating D. This is a 4.2-mile loop hike with an elevation gain of about 400 ft. The Toothaker (TH) trailhead is on the west side of the Rodeo Arena. This is a shared trailhead with the Rainbow Valley Trail (RB). Very soon after starting on the path, the Toothaker Trail (TH) will split off to the south (left). In 1.1 miles you will come to the Dysart Trail (DS) junction. Turn left to go to the Butterfield trail. Turn left again on Butterfield to get back to the Toothaker. Turn right on the Toothaker to return to the trailhead. Park on the west side of the Rodeo Arena. There are restrooms on this side with running water. There is a \$7.00 park entrance fee. Driving distance is approx. 20 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/EstrellaMountainRegionalPark/Toothaker-Gadsen-Butterfield>

Directions to Estrella Mountain Regional Park - Toothaker/Rainbow TH

Turn left out the main gate onto Pebble Creek/Estrella Pkw (south)  
South of I-10, turn left onto Vineyard Ave. just across the Gila River.  
Turn right into Estrella Mtn Park and pay park fee of \$7.00 per vehicle.  
Drive around the park to the left.  
Trailheads and rest rooms are on the far (West) side of rodeo arena.

**Thursday, 2/17. Fantasy Island North Singletrack (FINS) North loop** (Estrella Mountain Ranch). Rating D. This is about a 4-mile loop hike with an elevation gain of about 460 ft on several trails in the Western part of the FINS bike trails system. The trails meander through several desert hills with many rock formations. There is an interesting area - an enchanted forest of stuffed animals. Trail condition - this is a very good biking trail. No park fee. No restrooms at the trailhead. Driving distance is 27 miles.  
Suggested driver donation:

RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/EstrellaMountainRanch/Fantasy-Island-North>

Directions to FINS - Fantasy Island Trailhead

Turn left out the main gate onto Pebble Creek Pkwy (south), which becomes Estrella Pkwy on the other side of I-10. Continue for approx. 12.5 miles from Eagle's Nest.  
Turn right on West Westar Drive. Go approx. 1.1 mi. and turn left into the parking lot (this turn is easy to miss so turn just before a one-level concrete maintenance building; there is also a tall steel tower for power lines). No restrooms. No park fee.

**Thursday, 2/24. Maricopa Trail North (White Tank Regional Park).** Rating D. 4.5-5 mile out and back hike with >200' elevation gain, trail in excellent shape. Start at the White Tanks Trail Staging Area; Follow signs for Maricopa Trail/Mule Deer Trail to gate, leave the Park and proceed 2-2.5 miles along the Maricopa Trail and return. Great views of the White Tanks Mountains and lots of wild flowers in the Spring. Porta potty at trailhead. Park fee is \$7 per car. Driving distance is 30 miles RT. Suggested driver donation:

Directions to White Tank Mountains Regional Park□

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 for all trailheads□

**Thursday, 3/3. Wild Burro/Pipeline□trails to floating Bridge** (Lake Pleasant Regional Park). Rating D.□□This is 4.4 mile in and out hike with an elevation gain of 500 ft.□ The hike starts out at the Twisted Talon parking area and goes north to a floating bridge. The□Wild Burro□trail goes along the lake around a small cove before□rising up□to the□Pipeline□Trailhead and then on to an unusual floating bridge.□ There is a good chance to see□wild burros on this trail.□ Restrooms and water are at the trailhead.□ Park fee is \$7.00.□ Driving distance is 80 miles RT. Suggested driver donation:

□□<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-12/Wild-Burro-Trail-DougJ-Photos>□

Directions to Ramada 9 (Wild Burro), Lake Pleasant Regional Park

Drive north on 303 to Lake Pleasant Road. Turn left (north) on Lake Pleasant Road to Arizona 74.

Turn left (west) and continue to Castle Hot Springs Road and turn right (North).

Go 2.1 miles and turn right onto Lake Pleasant Access Road. Pay \$7.00 park fee then turn right on South Park Road. Turn left on Desert Tortoise Road and drive about .25 miles.

Trailhead is on the left. Restrooms are at this trailhead.

**Thursday, 3/10. Granite□Mountain North (McDowell Sonoran Preserve, Scottsdale).**□ Rating D.□ This is a 4.2 mile in-and-out hike with an elevation gain of 300 ft.□ There are lots of interesting Saguaro cacti,□granite□rock formations, and distant views of the surrounding mountains. This is one of the best trail surfaces of any hike we do - Scottsdale has done□an excellent job with their McDowell Sonoran Preserve trails.□□ No restrooms at this trailhead.□ No park□fee. Driving distance is 110 miles RT. Suggested driver donation: .□<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/McDowellSonoranPreserve/Granite-Mt-North>□

Directions to McDowell Sonoran Preserve - 136th St Trailhead. Take Loop 303 North 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 Rd about 10 mi as it changes name to Sonoran Desert Dr. Take Cave Creek Road North (left) and turn right at next light on Dynamite Blvd Follow Dynamite (name changes to Rio Verde) and turn left on 136th Street. Drive to the Granite Mtn Trailhead on the left. Restrooms at the TH

**Thursday, 3/17. Coachwhip - Cholla Loop (Thunderbird Conservation Area: Glendale).** Rating D+. This 4.1-mile loop hike has an elevation gain of about 600 feet. There is an option to add about a mile by doing the Flatlander loop. This trail has many areas of

loose cobble and some areas of solid rock (poles would be helpful when navigating the loose areas). There is fairly steady elevation gain for the first 1.5 miles but no steep areas. The trail provides panoramic views of the Glendale area including some very large and well-appointed homes. There is no park fee...Restrooms are at the parking lot. Driving distance is 50 miles. Suggested driver donation:

Directions to Thunderbird Park

Take 101 North. Turn left (north) on 59th Ave.

Turn Left into parking lot of Thunderbird Park.

Turn immediately left at yellow gate and park a block down, near the restrooms.

The trails start by going right in front of the restrooms and cross the street near the park entrance.

**Thursday, 3/24. Old Intro Hike (Verrado). Rating D.** This is a loop hike of 3.6 miles and 400" elevation gain. Turn North on Cat Rd then take trail to the left at the end of a sidewalk. Trail climbs a rocky outcropping and continues thru a wash and along petro ridge to the Petroglyphs Rock. Then climb to a saddle and proceed down a rocky trail to the 4-way junction with Lost Creek Rd, turn left and return to the parking area. No facilities at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 18 miles RT. Suggested driver donation:

Directions to Trailhead at Verrado West. Go West on Indian School Road. Turn left on Acacia Way (just past the high school). Turn right on Lost Creek Drive Parking for the trailhead is at the end of Lost Creek Drive. You walk between the green and a tee on the Raven at Verrado golf course to get to the trailhead.

**Thursday, 3/31. Gray Fox/Ironwood/Ford Canyon (White Tank Regional Park).□ Rating D.□□** This is a□3.7 mile□lollipop hike with >200' elevation gain, good trail condition.□ Start at the Gray Fox Trailhead in the Competitive Track parking area. Turn right for a short distance to the Ironwood Trail, turn left on the Ford Canyon Trail, turn left on the Ironwood Trail to Gray Fox and return to parking lot.□ Hike could be extended by taking Ford Canyon to the road and returning to Ironwood.□ Park fee is \$7 per car.□ Driving distance is 30 miles RT.□□□ Suggested driver donation:

Directions to White Tank Mtn Reg Park.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□□ Grey Fox Trail is at the end of the main road, left off the end of the paved road.□

The restroom on this hike is a porta-john.□

**Thursday, 4/7. Maricopa Trail South (White Tank Regional Park).□ Rating D.□□**5 mile out and back hike with >200' elevation gain, trail in excellent shape.□ Start at the White Tanks Library/Visitor Center or the□Sout□Trail; take Mule Deer Trail South to the Maricopa Trail out of the Park. Turn around at the Beardsley Canal and return to the

visitor center.□ Restrooms at the visitor center.□ Driving distance is 30 miles RT.□  
Suggested driver donation:

Directions to White Tank Mountains Regional Park□ 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 parking lot for the library and Visitor Center. Park fee is \$7.00/car for all trailheads□□ Restrooms are at the trailhead□□□

**Thursday, 4/14. Dogbone Marty's Loop.** Rating D. This is a 4.5 mile lollipop loop on good, relatively flat, trails with about 300' of elevation gain. There are interesting rock formations and good views to the White Tanks to the North. No park fee and no restrooms at the trailhead.

Directions to Dog Bone Joe Fosse Trailhead (Buckeye) Go West on I-10 to Highway 85. Drive South on Hwy 85 for about 9 miles. Turn left opposite the Buckeye Hills regional Park (and Joe Fosse Shooting Range). Park on the left just before the fence. The trail starts on the other side of the fence heading left (parallel to Hwy 85).

Thursday, 4/21. **Turnbuckle-Granite Falls Loop Trail + Redtail Loop** (Skyline Regional Park - Buckeye). Rating D+. This is a loop hike of about 4.2 miles with an elevation gain of about 600 ft. This is one of the trails in Buckeye's Skyline Regional Park. There are great views of the area from the saddle. There are several optional trails to the tops of the ridges. No park fee. Restrooms are at the trailhead. Driving distance is 30 miles RT.

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

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.

**Thursday, 4/28. Pipeline□Canyon□to Bridge + Yavapai Point Trails** (Lake Pleasant Regional Park).□ Rating D+.□ This is a□4.9 mile□hike in Lake Pleasant Regional Park with an elevation gain of 500+ ft.□ The hike goes from Area 3 on the□Pipeline□trail to the floating bridge.□ It then returns to the Yavapai Point trail and goes up to the point, before returning to Area 3.□ There are excellent views of the lake from the top of Yavapai Point.□ It's a good□spring□wildflower hike if we get any winter rains.□ And keep your eyes peeled for wild burros - there are many in the area.□ Restrooms are at the trailhead.□ There is a park fee of \$7.00.□□ Driving distance is 80 miles RT. Suggested Driver donation: □□  
[SCG=4.0/800/2.3].□□□

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Other-12/Pipeline-Yavapai-Cottonwood>□

Directions to Ramada 3 (Pipeline North), Lake Pleasant Regional Park

Drive north on Loop 303 to Lake Pleasant Road. Turn left (north) on Lake Pleasant Road to Arizona 74. Turn left on Hwy 74 (west) and continue to Castle Hot Springs Road (Lake

Pleasant Regional Park turnoff) and turn right (North). Turn right on Castle Creek Drive (T intersection where pavement ends). Pay \$7.00 park fee...Turn right on Cottonwood Lane. Restrooms are at the trailhead.