

FRIENDS

Apr - June 2019



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-one 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: April 1st, May 6th (3rd Quarter 2019 planning meeting) and June 3rd

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.

HELL'S GATE Backpack and Fly Fishing Extravaganza – Near YoungLeader: Craig Barnett (craigbhikin@cox.net)

Phone: 602-509-7532

Show and Go, no RSVP required**MEET in the south end of the Home Depot Parking Lot, US-60 & Power Road, 7:00 AM**

Hell's Gate is at the confluence of Tonto and Haigler creeks, where we will enjoy some great views. We will be traveling in from the east side, outside of Young. This is the shorter way in to Hell's Gate, but just as steep, dropping down into the canyon. I am taking the shorter route, because I am in hopes to explore the pools and waterfalls along Haigler and Tonto Creeks.

Sat – Sun, Apr 6 – 7

Length: 8 miles

Rating: Moderate

DUTCH OVEN JAMBOREE!Leader: Randy Baker (moovyoaz@friendshiking.com)

Phone: 602-616-9491

RSVP by email is required by March 31st to provide you with maps & details. Please include the name of the dish you will prepare.**This event is open to *paid* Friends Hiking Club members only.**

Anything you can make in your oven can be made in a Dutch oven, so get out your cookbooks and roll up your sleeves, and show off your Dutch Oven skills. For this event, everyone will be making one Dutch Oven dish, and we will feast on the results. I can also guide you through how to create your masterpiece (not to be confused with making it for you). I will provide the charcoal, you will provide the beer! Loaner Dutch Ovens are available. Additional instructions and place of event will be shared when you sign up.

Sat, April 13

Length: From car to charcoal

Rating: Cowboy Delight!

HOG HILL to WINTER CABIN SPRING LOOP Day Hike – FlagstaffLeader: Rich Flammang (modelacoupe@att.net)

Phone: 623-980-9614

RSVP with hike leader by April 13**MEET at McDonalds, I-17 and AZ Route 206, 8:30AM**

We will be combining a visit to Winter Cabin Spring via the Hog Hill trail, returning on the Kelsey and Dorsey Spring trails. The Winter Cabin trail winds through the Sycamore Canyon Wilderness. Although the cabin is still intact, the payoff is the panoramic views unveiled as the trees clear. Leaving the cabin, we will take the Kelsey trail, climbing northwest where it connects with the Dorsey trail and becomes the Kelsey-Dorsey Loop which will lead us back to our vehicles. High-clearance vehicles are recommended.

Sat, Apr 20

Length: 8 miles

Rating: Moderate

ORACLE RIDGE – RED RIDGE LOOP Day Hike and Car Camp – Mt. LemmonLeader: Norm Frasier (nfrasier1969@icloud.com)

Phone: 480-493-8429

RSVP by Monday, April 22nd**MEET in I HOP parking lot NE corner of 50th Street & Ray Road, west of I-10, on Friday, 8:00 AM**

Both ridges involved in this great loop hike on the North side of Mt. Lemmon offer great views of one of the mountain's overlooked gems: The Reef of Rocks. Combining Oracle Ridge Tr. #1 and Red Ridge Tr. #2 in a loop fashion affords great views, good workouts and some history of the mountain's past mining activity. We will encounter some areas of steepness on Red Ridge trail and hike a section of the AZT trail as well. There will be a section with those pesky thorny plants, so pants are recommended. At Catalina camp, we are afforded the remains of a past mining operation, and a cabin still stands. Get ready for a work out and views to die for. Saturday camp, please bring a dish to pass. We will find disperse camping on Bigelow road.

Fri – Sun, Apr 26 – 28

Length: 8.5 mile loop

Rating: Moderate +

Elev. Gain: 2,600 ft *

* accumulated

BRINS MESA – SOLDIER PASS Loop Day Hike – SedonaLeader: Dave Kinzer (dkinz@hotmail.com)

Phone: 480-612-5323

RSVP with hike leader by Monday, April 29th**MEET at Jordan Road trailhead, 9:30AM****\$5.00 Red Rock pass required, available at trailhead. America the Beautiful annual pass or Senior Pass works too.**

A scenic climb in the heart of Sedona. Last chance before summer! We will follow the Brins Mesa trail, ascending to Brins Mesa and great views of Sedona. We descend using the Soldiers Pass trail in a red rock canyon, then hike past the sacred pools and the Devil's Kitchen, a large sinkhole. We will return to the trailhead using the Cibola Pass trail, which makes a short 200ft ascent over Cibola Pass. Refreshments at a local establishment following the hike.

Sat, May 4

Length: 4.8 miles

Rating: Moderate

Elev. Change: 800 ft

Remember to carpool when possible and share the cost of the drive!**Thanks to all hikers who are willing to drive!****CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR ANY HIKE CHANGES...www.friendshiking.com**

EAST MOUNTAIN TRAIL #214 Day Hike – Pinal Mountains (Globe)Leader: Kim Hemmersbach (hemmersbachkim@gmail.com)

Phone: 480-343-4509

Show and Go, no RSVP required**MEET in the south end of the Home Depot Parking Lot, US-60 & Power Road, 7:00 AM**

Beginning at Pioneer Pass Trailhead below Pinal Peak, trail quickly enters the pine forest of upper Pinal Creek canyon. The trail proceeds to climb higher on the north slope to catch wonderful views of the Pinal Pass area, and the vast expanse of the San Carlos Apache Reservation. There are some good views of Pinal Peak to the west and then a gradual descent along the spine of the ridge which will eventually lead to switchbacking down to the floor of Pinal Creek. At the bottom of the switchbacks, the trail encounters a large sycamore tree, at the base of which is Bear Paw Spring. Return the way you came, or hike 1.55 miles up forest road 112, back to the Pioneer Pass Trailhead. We will grab a bite to eat somewhere in Globe.

* Out and Back

Sat, May 11

Length: 8 – 10 miles *

Rating: Moderate

WET BEAVER CREEK HIKE & CAR CAMP – Verde ValleyLeader: Randy Baker (moovyoaz@friendshiking.com)

Phone: 602-616-9491

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

Wet Beaver Creek is an oasis among the desert terrain of the Sedona area. With beautiful cool pools of water, it's a great place for hikers to cool off. The trail first follows an old jeep trail & then starts to climb for a short distance along the red rock canyon walls. Many of the rock formations are the same as you would see in the Grand Canyon. Wet Beaver Creek was named in the top ten best swimming holes in the U.S. by National Geographic Explorer Magazine. Wear clothes that you can get wet in because we will cool off before the hike back to the cars. Afterwards we will move north and car camp near Apache Maid Mtn. off Stoneman Lake Road. **And on Sunday, below**

Sat. May 18

Length: 7 miles R/T

Rating: Easy +

OVERLAND EXPO WEST – South of FlagstaffLeader: Randy Baker (moovyoaz@friendshiking.com)

Phone: 602-616-9491

MEET location for non-campers TBD 9:00 AM **

The Overland Expo West is a unique event for do-it-yourself adventure travel enthusiasts, with classes for 4-wheel-drive and adventure motorcycling, the Overland Film Festival, roundtable discussions, demonstrations, food, and a large expo featuring over 300 vendors of adventure travel equipment, camping gear, bikes, vehicles, and services. **Note: All tickets *MUST* be purchased ONLINE in advance (not at the gate).** \$15 Sunday Day Pass goes on sale [early March](#). ** Included parking at Ft. Tuthill County Park is limited, we may have to shuttle from NAU. <https://www.overlandexpo.com/west>

Sun. May 19

Length: Fun

Rating: Easy

MEMORIAL WEEKEND EXTRAVAGANZA – CottonwoodLeader: Brian Carson (bacarson333@gmail.com)

Phone: 602-818-9349

EXACT DETAILS TBA!

What to expect, you ask? How about a Cottonwood Pub Crawl? Camping Friday through Monday...perhaps at Dead Horse State Park? Hikes on Saturday and Sunday? Perhaps a swim? How about a luxury campsite brunch on Monday? Sounds like fun? Interested? Stay tune for additional details as they become available.

Fri – Mon, May 24 – 27

Length: A weekend's worth!

Rating: Extreme Fun!

MOGOLLON RIM VISTA LOOP Day Hike – Mogollon RimLeader: Denise Osborne (deniseosborne196@gmail.com)

Phone: 480-241-9297

Show and Go, no RSVP required**MEET in Target parking lot at 16825 E Shea Blvd Fountain Hills, 7:00 AM**

This hike is a loop hike involving 4 trails. It starts at the 260 Trailhead and head up the Military Sinkhole Trail #179 with a gentle climb for the first mile. We will go through some maples, which hopefully will provide some fall color. As the forest thins, we emerge onto an exposed ridge and merge with an abandoned military road. This climbs uphill without switchbacks and will get your quads working. Just below Rim Road we hit a signed junction and will switch to the Rim Lakes Vista trail (#622). We will go for a ways until we come to one of the major "tourist" spots that has plenty of room for parking for those who come for the views. We will continue 3.3 miles on Rim Lakes Vista trail to the Drew Trail (#291). At this point we head 1.8 miles downhill to pick up the Highline Trail #33), turn left and hike 4.1 miles back to the 260 Trailhead. After the hike, we will have refreshments on the way back to Fountain Hills.

Sat, June 1

Length: approx..11.7 miles

Rating: Moderate

Elev. Change: 1.023 feet

Help keep the Club on its feet!

Attend the next planning meeting on April 1st with suggestions of trails to explore and areas to visit. Interested in leading a hike?

Your participation is welcomed!

MUNDS CANYON + BLUES & BREWS Day Hike and Car Camp – FlagstaffLeader: Kurt Sedler (kurt.sedler@cox.net)

Phone: 602-339-8780

Sat – Sun, June 8 – 9

Length: 6.5 miles R/T

Rating: Moderate *

Please email trip leader with your RSVP.**Hike leader will be in Flag early Friday to secure our camp area, and WILL MEET HIKERS IN THE SHELL STATION OFF OF EXIT 322 – MUNDS PARK AT 8:30AM.**Concert tickets (if you would like to attend) are YOUR responsibility. See: <https://flagstaffblues.com>**Munds:** A rugged, non-technical canyon with seasonal water flow and some short falls. Expect water-polished basalt rock, with pools and moderate vegetation to navigate. The canyon gradually deepens and a couple of miles down hits a nice section of basalt narrows. Then the yellow Coconino sandstone starts to appear and there is a nice section with a waterfall and narrows, which can be bypassed on the left. This is probably the most scenic section and our likely turnaround point. **Then:** Off to the Flagstaff Blues and Brews concert/festival. **Then:** After the festival we will be camping in the forest near Flagstaff. * but with boulder-hopping/clamoring.**GRANITE MOUNTAIN TRAIL #261 Day Hike – Prescott**Leader: Garth Newby (GarthKevin@hotmail.com)

Phone: 623-451-8023o

Sat, June 15

Length: ~ 8.25 miles

Rating: Moderate

Elev. Change: +/- 1,500 ft

MEET in the Denny's parking lot, SW corner of I-17 and Bell Rd, 7:30 AM

If you enjoy a real rock concert, then this is a hike for you. As part of the Prescott National Forest, Granite Mountain Wilderness (appropriately named) is a picturesque area containing a little bit of everything that great Arizona hiking has to offer. The cooler temperatures and shady juniper forest make for a perfect combination of beating the heat. We will take trail 261, Granite Mountain Trail. The hike begins as a shady wonderland with immediate views of the vertical rock ledges of the Granite summit to your right. Shortly after you exit the shady section, elevation begins in the form of well graded and gradually ascending switchbacks. Large boulders serve as guardians to the picture-perfect landscape scenery that only nature can create. I saw a few boulders that are bigger than some of the new tract homes in Phoenix. At the 1.6-mile mark, you will come to wooden gate at Blair Saddle. Here trail # 261 intersects with the other connecting trails in the system. Here you will take a right turn to stay on #261. It is clearly marked by a sign. The trek on the way to the point offers more shady pines and some magnificent level rock slabs carpeting the ground. Once at the top we can spend some time climbing the rocks and exploring. Afterwords we will head into Prescott for some food and libations.

MT. GRAHAM Day Hikes and Car Camp – SaffordLeader: Don Mantell (dirkbag@AOL.com)

Phone: 516-810-8024

Thurs – Sun, June 20 – 23

Length: varies by hikes

Rating: Easy to Moderate

RSVP by June 18 by phone or email**MEET at the south end of the Home Depot Parking Lot. US-60 and Power Rd, 8:00AM**

Mt. Graham, at 10,724 ft., is the highest peak in the Pinaleno Mts south of Safford and has become has become a favorite of the club. It features a beautiful ride of 29 miles with breathtaking views from a winding, mostly paved road. The road is Rt.366 (Swift Trail) which rises over 6,000 ft.to the campground. There are a number of campgrounds available. We will stop at Soldier Creek CG which is located less than a mile past the visitor center. Many hikes are available ranging from easy to challenging. You might choose a short hike to a fire tower, or a longer one to a distant waterfall. There are many options that are sure to please. Bring warm clothing for cool nights and rain gear for the probability of wind and rain.

BONANZA BILL – TIGE RIM LOOP Day Hike and Car Camp – Eastern ArizonaLeader: Norm Frasier (nfrasier1969@icloud.com)

Phone: 480-493-8429

Fri – Sun, June 28 – 30

Length: 10 mile loop

Rating: Moderate

RSVP to hike leader by Monday, June 23rd**MEET in Target parking lot at 16825 E Shea Blvd Fountain Hills, on Friday, 11:00 AM**

This loop hike explores some of the more remote reaches of the Blue Range. Trailside vegetation starts out as ponderosa pine mixed with Gambel oak and mature juniper near the trailhead. The overstory varies with elevation and exposure through a broad range of trees and shrubs, from scrub oak and pinyon-juniper communities on the steep slopes and cliffs to the east, to ponderosa pine and mixed conifers such as white fir and Douglas-fir in Steeple Creek Basin. Tige Canyon and Bonanza Bill Trails join about 1.3 miles south of Hinkle Spring, virtually on the Arizona/New Mexico line.

Friends Hiking, Camping, and Outdoor Club**C/O Kurt Sedler**

50 East Myrna

Tempe, AZ 85284

