



# Arizona Outdoor & Travel Club

**May 2017**

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## **Saturday, May 6 – Derrick/Horton Loop Hike (Payson)**

RATING: B      LENGTH: 9 mi      ELEV GAIN: ~1800 ft      PACE: Moderate

Leader: Grace Chen – 858-663-5173 (cell); chenia@aol.com

Meet at 7:15 am (depart at 7:30) at Wendy's in Fountain Hills on Shea Blvd. just west of Highway 87 (Beeline Hwy).

Join us for this popular hike to Horton Creek. We will do the loop hike, hiking up the Derrick and Highline trails to Horton Spring and then returning to the trailhead on the Horton Creek Trail. With the rainfall this winter, the spring should be gushing. We will spend more time exploring the creek, spring and waterfalls along the way. Have your camera ready as we take in the beautiful scenery.

We will not rush down the hill unless it is raining or hailing! Bring sunscreen, plenty of water, lunch, snacks, camera and \$ for carpool. No dogs or children please. Cost to non-members is \$5.

## **Saturday, May 13 – Arizona Trail (Flagstaff)**

RATING: B      LENGTH: 7.2 mi      ELEV GAIN: Minimal      PACE: Moderate

Leader: Les Cherow – 602-826-1843; lescherow@yahoo.com

Meet 7:00 A.M. at the Park N Ride, South side of Bell Rd. just West of I-17. **WE NEED A CO-LEADER TO MEET THERE AND ARRANGE CAR POOLS.**

Carpool(s) meet Les at the Target Store at 1650 S. Milton Road in Flagstaff at 9:30 AM. We will begin the hike at Aspen Corner (1 mile from the Arizona Snowbowl, on the Snowbowl Road). Enjoy a cool hike on the Peaks segment of the Arizona Trail North from Aspen Corner. We will finish where the AZ Trail crosses FS Road 418 and will car shuttle back to Aspen Corner. Expect rolling terrain, mountain meadows, pine forests and magnificent Aspen groves with spectacular views of Humphries Summit, (Arizona's highest point). Dress appropriately for 9,000' elevation and bring at least 1 liter of water or ? No dogs please.

Dinner in Flagstaff following for those interested.

### **Saturday, May 27 – Mount Elden Loop Hike, Flagstaff**

RATING: A-      LENGTH: 12 mi      ELEV. GAIN: 3000 ft      PACE: Medium  
LEADER: Dan Rothman (480-773-5197 -cell)

Call hike leader for meeting time and location. Some of us may wish to drive up and spend Friday night in Flagstaff before the hike. The hike starts with a steep 3-mile ascent to Mt. Elden Lookout, with beautiful views of Mt. Humphreys and the entire Flagstaff area and beyond. We'll then continue our counter-clockwise loop hike around the Mountain on a series of excellent, generally low-gradient downhill trails through lush forests of pine and aspen. The last section of the hike, on the south side of the Mountain, will take us back to our cars via the Pipeline and Forces of Nature Trails. There are some exposed sections, so be sure to bring your sunscreen, plenty of water, sturdy hiking boots and rain gear. Cost to non-members is \$5.

### **Wednesday, May 31 – 7:00 PM**

#### **Hieroglyphic Trail – (Superstitions)**

RATING: C      LENGTH: 3 mi round-trip      ELEV GAIN: 650 ft      PACE: Slow  
LEADER: Catherine Schuyler - 480-984-4709 – [cschuyler@q.com](mailto:cschuyler@q.com)

Meet at 7:00 pm (depart at 7:15) at the Burger King on the northeast corner of Crismon Road and Southern in Mesa (10025 E. Southern Avenue). We will carpool to the trailhead in Gold Canyon. The pace will be slow and careful due to the nighttime nature of this hike by moonlight and flashlight on a rocky trail. Bring your usual hiking gear – a GOOD flashlight is a MUST! Cost to non-members is \$5. Guests and new members need to contact the hike leader prior to the hike. This petroglyph location was important to the ancient Hohokam Indians, who inhabited this desert region up to 1,500 years ago. Evidence of their settlement includes hundreds of petroglyphs etched into the dark, weathered surface of the basalt cliffs above the pools, some with very intricate designs. This scenic location is high enough for a long-distance panorama southwest over Gold Canyon and the Gila River plain and also provides close-up views of the jagged upper slopes of the Superstition Mountains to the north rising over 2,000 feet higher.

## **LOOKING AHEAD**

### **INTEREST ONLY**

#### **Lynx/Watson Lake Camp, Bike, Hike and Kayak**

**June 20 to June 23, 2017**

Leader: Catherine Schuyler – 480-984-4709 – [cschuyler@q.com](mailto:cschuyler@q.com)

Co-leader(s) needed for help with various activities

We will drive up to Prescott on the morning of the 20<sup>th</sup> and set up camp at Lynx Lake (36 sites). Hotels, motels and B&B's available in Prescott for those not wishing to camp. Make your own reservations for camping and other

accommodations. A "C" rated hike and/or bike ride will be offered on the afternoon of the 20<sup>th</sup>. On the 21<sup>st</sup>, you have your choice of hiking, biking, kayaking and/or birding. The 22<sup>nd</sup> we will hike the circumference of Watson Lake (5.8 mi round-trip, 767' accumulated elevation gain, rated B- due to some scrambling). On the 23<sup>rd</sup> we will relax with a paddle or short hike and then pack up and leave for home. Optional dinner each evening in Prescott. Please contact Leader listed above for additional information on this activity.

**Wednesday, September 6 – General Membership Meeting (6:45 pm)**  
**Location: Granite Reef Senior Center, located in Scottsdale on Granite Reef Road just north of McDowell Road.**

Come join us at our September General Membership Meeting, as we look forward to the cooler weather just around the corner and kick off a wonderful series of fall speaker programs. Mark your calendars now for this meeting and the happy hour to precede it.

The Superstition Area Land Trust is a very important player in conserving the natural Sonoran Desert open spaces throughout our beautiful Superstition wilderness. As our metropolitan area spreads and becomes more densely populated there is more pressure on these natural resources. Charles Goff, president of SALT, has been very involved with efforts to keep this precious area available for our enjoyment. Come to our September meeting and learn about enjoying this area, how it is maintained and financed to remain viable, and how you may very well be able to help the cause.

You'll also hear details about the club's new Adopt-A-Trail project (Black Mesa Trail in the Superstitions), including specifics regarding our scheduled November trail maintenance day and related activities.

**Saturday, September 15th to Friday, September 28th, 2017**  
**Bike and Barge along the Danube**

RATING: Moderate Activities: Bike Riding, sightseeing, eating, and having fun!

LEADERS: Bev 480 415-7147, [blkoslow@yahoo.com](mailto:blkoslow@yahoo.com) and Ray

[BikeBargeEurope@aol.com](mailto:BikeBargeEurope@aol.com)

Sept 15, 2017-Sept 23, 2017 Bike and Barge along the Danube

Sept 24, 2017-Sept 28, 2017 Sightsee in Berlin, Germany

The first portion of our trip is a 4 country self-guided bike ride along the Danube River - which is the most popular European bike and barge trip being offered by our outfitter. Our hotel and restaurant for 7 nights and 8 days is our barge called the MS Normandy. Our days will be spent riding on well-marked bike paths along the Danube River through Austria, Germany, Slovakia, and Hungary. The bike paths will take us past castles, Danube National Park, the Hungarian Danube

Bend, and the capital cities of Vienna, Bratislava, and Budapest. Along the way, we will stop to see some local sights, perhaps do a little shopping, grab a snack, etc. before meeting our barge in the late afternoon/evening where we can unwind and socialize with other passengers before retiring to our double occupancy cabins on the barge. Where will we get our meals, you ask? The Barge is also our restaurant where we will get three great meals a day (breakfast and dinners will be served on the barge, and we will have sack lunches while riding).

After the bike and barge, we're off to Berlin for an additional 4 nights and 5 days sightseeing, bike riding, taking a river cruise, visiting museum island, Checkpoint Charlie, The Holocaust Museum., The Brandenburg Gate, etc. Meals for this portion of the trip are NOT included in the overall cost.

Cost for Bike and Barge = \$1975 double occupancy. (Single Supplements are available for an additional \$400) Cost for Berlin portion of the trip is \$527. Airfare to/from the United States is additional. You are welcome to join us on either portion of the trip, or the whole thing.

The bike and barge is currently full, but please contact Bev to put your name on the waiting list as cancellations do happen.

#### **Thursday, November 9, 2017 - Tour of Tovrea Castle at Carraro Heights**

RATING: Fun

LEADER: Regina Marie Miskewitz 602-448-0684 [regina\\_miskewitz@yahoo.com](mailto:regina_miskewitz@yahoo.com)

Meet at Tovrea Castle Visitor Center/Gift Shop at 8:45 AM. Address: 5025 East Van Buren, Phoenix, Arizona 85008. There is good parking. Tour starts at 9 AM and will be ~ 2-hours.

COST: \$15.00 a person. Contact the leader to reserve a place on this tour (limited to 12 individuals, first-come basis.) Payment is due as you reserve your spot, make checks payable to AzOTC.

Due to popular demand (the February 9, 2017 filled-up almost immediately after it was announced) we have added another tour date for this historic site visit here in the valley.

Have you ever wondered about the wedding-cake-like structure one sees when driving along the 202?? Then join us for a tour of Tovrea Castle and Cactus Gardens and get a first-hand look at the Castle and surrounding Cactus Gardens and Outbuildings as we learn about this unique and historic Phoenix landmark. Tovrea Carraro Society Docents will guide us back in time as they introduce us to the three families that homesteaded the land, designed and constructed the Castle and Cactus Gardens, and made the Castle their home while sharing interesting, fact-filled stories about the property and its history. We are able to bring water on the tour as long as it is in a closed container. Photography is allowed; Flash photography is not permitted within the Castle.

For those interested, after the Tour, we will enjoy an early-lunch at Gertrude's at the Desert Botanical Garden.

There are 24 spots, so please reserve early!!

## 2017 AzOTC Officers

President: **Mark Miller** 623-640-5375  
E-mail: markm50@yahoo.com

Vice President: **Cathy Schuyler** 480 984-4709  
E-mail: cschuyler@q.com

Treasurer: **Felix Puskaritz** 480 981-3612  
E-mail: felixpuskaritz@msn.com

Secretary: **Jeri Anderson**

### Member Representatives

**Mark Ashley** 480 661-5963  
E-mail: mnashley@yahoo.com

**Don Mowry** 480 209-7963  
E-mail: dgmowry@gmail.com

**Larry Ashcroft** 602-789-9548  
E-mail: ashcrofbks@yahoo.com

### Past President

**Dan Rothman** 480-991-1647  
Email: dwrr12@gmail.com

### Webmaster

**Greg Cravener** 480 797-2450  
E-mail: gcravener@gmail.com

### Database Administrator

**Don Mowry** 480 209-7963  
E-mail: dgmowry@gmail.com

### Membership Meeting Program Director

**Diane Luce** 602-321-3836  
E-mail: 2lucelatrek@gmail.com

### Public Relations Committee Chairperson

**Larry Ashcroft** 602-789-9548  
E-mail: ashcrofbks@yahoo.com

### Activity Committee Chairperson

**David Thompson** 201-315-3530  
E-mail: david@dlthompson.com

### Coordinators

The following are Volunteer Activity Coordinators. Contact them if you need information or help arranging your activity. Please coordinate your activity schedule through the appropriate Volunteer Activity Coordinator.

Hiking: **Jim Dickover** 602-639-2702  
E-mail: hikingstickjim@yahoo.com

Adopt-a-Highway: **Marilyn Schrab** 480 473-2565  
E-mail: marilyn.redbird@gmail.com

Bicycling: **Karl Weinrich** 602 667-3243  
E-mail: kfw300@gmail.com

Social: **TBD**

All activity write-ups MUST be submitted to the proper Activity Coordinator for review and approval before they are sanctioned events. Activities can be submitted to Activity Coordinators by e-mail. They are submitted to an Activity Coordinator, not to the Webmaster.

Visit us on the web at  
[www.azotc.com](http://www.azotc.com)

## Activity Rating Guide

AzOTC activities are gauged by the following chart. Please consider the rating below and also the pace prior to signing up for an activity. "MEDIUM" (or unlisted) hikes have a pace of 2.0 - 2.5 mph. A "FAST" pace is greater than 2.5 mph. A "SLOW" pace is less than 2.0 mph.

### Hike Ratings

Rating	Miles	Elevation Gain
A+	20+	4,000+ ft.
A	16-20	3,000-4,000 ft.
A-	14-16	2,500-3,500 ft.
B+	12-14	2,000-2,500 ft.
B	10-12	1,500-2,000 ft.
B-	8-10	1,100-1,500 ft.
C+	6- 8	800-1,100 ft.
C/D	2- 6	400-800 ft.

### Bicycle Ride Ratings

- A** 30-50 miles on flat terrain or 20-35 miles with hills. Road may have heavy traffic.
- B** 15-30 miles on flat terrain or 10-20 miles with hills. Roads may have traffic.
- C** 10-15 miles on flat terrain, or 10 miles with hills. Quiet streets or bike paths.

Equipment for A & B rides consists of a lightweight bicycle with multiple gearing, water bottle, tire pump, extra tube, repair kit, helmet and riding gloves. We also suggest bike shorts. Riders will not be left by the wayside, but are expected to be self-sufficient. A buddy system is in effect for the last two riders. Equipment for C rides consists of a bicycle in good, safe repair, water bottle, tire pump, extra tube, repair kit, and helmet. C rides will have a leader and a "sweep".

Members, please pay attention to the activity rating given a hike or bike ride. The ratings were designed to give participants an indication of the difficulty of an activity in advance. Some hikes and bike rides sponsored by AzOTC are arduous and can be dangerous for less experienced members. It is extremely important that members wear suggested clothing and carry required equipment (hiking boots, helmets, gloves, etc.). If you have any questions or doubts about the difficulty of the activity or your ability to participate safely, please contact the activity leader. We want everyone to have an enjoyable and safe time on AzOTC sponsored activities.

**Consumption of alcohol during an AzOTC bike or hike activity is prohibited.**

**REMEMBER!** A free membership can be earned by leading 8 activities per calendar year. Sign up 3 new members in a calendar year and earn a free AzOTC tee-shirt.

**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP – ARIZONA OUTDOOR AND TRAVEL CLUB**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

How did you find out about AzOTC? \_\_\_\_\_

The annual membership fee is due on December 31<sup>st</sup> each year, good through December 31<sup>st</sup> the following year.

**New Member**

The prorated amounts listed below are for new members only

<u>Join Date</u>	<u>Individual</u>	<u>Family</u>
Prior to 3/31	\$20.00	\$30.00
4/1 to 6/30	\$15.00	\$22.50
7/1 to 9/30	\$10.00	\$15.00
10/1 to 12/31	\$5.00	\$7.50

**Renewal Member**

Individual Membership — \$20/year       Family Membership — \$30/year

Change of Address

I would like to lead/co-lead an activity:  Yes

Interests:  Hiking  Biking  Backpacking  Camping  Canoeing  Travel  4x4

Other

I/We, intending to be legally-bound members of the Arizona Outdoor & Travel Club™ (AzOTC), do hereby, for myself, my family, and my heirs, release all rights and claims for personal injuries or damages I/we incur while participating in AzOTC-sponsored activities.

Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Other family member: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to: AzOTC, PO Box 21951, Mesa, AZ 85277**

**Guest Policy**

We welcome guests! Please give us a try! We encourage guests to participate in activities (rules and space permitting). Non-members are charged \$5 for all activities that are free to members. Selected activities are open to members only. For paid activities, non-members will be assessed an additional fee based on the cost of the activity. Guests must always call activity leader in advance, sign a liability release and be aware of the ACTIVITY RATING.