



# Arizona Hiking & Travel Club

**October 2017**

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## **Saturday, October 7 - Humphries Summit (Flagstaff)**

RATING: A    LENGTH: 9.6 mi    ELEV GAIN: 3200 ft    PACE: Slow to Moderate  
LEADERS: Les Cherow - 602-826-1843 - [lescherow@yahoo.com](mailto:lescherow@yahoo.com); Grace Chen - 858-663-5173 - [chenia@aol.com](mailto:chenia@aol.com)

Meet at the Bell Road Park-N-Ride on Bell Road just West of I-17 at 6:45 AM (depart at 7:00).

This might be your last chance to conquer Arizona's highest peak, Humphries (12,633'), before the snow flies! Option to turn around at Agassiz Saddle (hike in that case would be 7.6 miles R/T with a 2400' elevation gain).

Must be prepared for windy, cold weather (windbreaker/rain gear, gloves, ski cap, etc.). No dogs and no children please. Cost to nonmembers is \$5. Only guests and new members need to contact the hike leader prior to the event.

## **Wednesday, October 11 – General Membership Meeting (6:45 pm)**

**Note that, for the month of October only, our membership meeting will be on the second rather than the first Wednesday of the month.**

**Location: Granite Reef Senior Center, located in Scottsdale on Granite Reef Road just north of McDowell Road.**

**Critters! FAUNA OF THE DESERT.** Who doesn't enjoy observing wildlife, perhaps as long as it does not get too close. At our October meeting, Steve Dodd from the McDowell Sonoran Conservancy will present a program about our unique desert animals. Bring perfectly behaved children. Bring perfectly behaved grandchildren. We have plenty of seats.

## **Monday, October 16 – Mondays in the McDowells Exercise Hike**

*This marks the first of our "Mondays in the McDowells" exercise hikes. The McDowell Sonoran Preserve in Scottsdale includes approximately 200 miles of beautiful, well-maintained trails through landscapes ranging from flat Sonoran desert to steep mountains. During the coming fall through spring, we'll be*

*attempting to cover all 200+/- miles of these trails. The hikes will be on Monday mornings at **7:00 AM**, but pay attention to the trailhead where we'll be meeting, since there are 5 or 6 primary ones in the Preserve. Come out and join us for all or part of the effort. The pace of the hikes will always be listed as Fast (2.5 to 3.0 mph), though on the flatter trails this will probably seem like a Medium pace to most hikers.*

RATING: B-    LENGTH: 6.7 mi    ELEV GAIN: < 500 ft    PACE: Fast  
CO-LEADERS: Dan Rothman - [dwrr12@gmail.com](mailto:dwrr12@gmail.com) - 480-773-5197 and  
Mark Miller - [markm50@yahoo.com](mailto:markm50@yahoo.com) - 623-640-5375

Meet at 7:00 am (start 7:05) at the **GRANITE MOUNTAIN TRAILHEAD**, located in Scottsdale on 136<sup>th</sup> Street, 2 miles north of Dynamite/Rio Verde Road. This is a flat and easy hike to start things off. From the Granite Mountain trailhead, we'll follow the Maricopa Trail south to the Fraesfield Trailhead, then head back north on the 136<sup>th</sup> Street Express Trail, diverting along the way on the Morning Vista and Dixileta Trails. Cost to non-members is \$5

### **Wednesday, October 18 - Garden Valley & Hackberry Springs Loop Hike (Superstitions)**

RATING: C    LENGTH: 5.7 mi    ELEV GAIN: 500 ft    PACE: Medium  
LEADER: Jim D - [hikingstickjim@yahoo.com](mailto:hikingstickjim@yahoo.com)

Meet at 7:15 am (depart at 7:30) at the Burger King, just south of US 60 at the NE corner of Power Rd. and Superstition Springs Blvd. OR meet us at the First Water Trailhead no later than 8:00 am. This scenic loop hike is my favorite short Superstitions hike. Expect some rocky trail conditions, but not too difficult overall. We'll go from the First Water Trailhead to Garden Valley, follow a horse trail to Hackberry Springs, and then return to the First Water Trailhead. Bring plenty of water, snacks, sunscreen, sunglasses, hiking boots, and \$ for carpool. Cost to non-members is \$5. Only guests and new members need to contact the hike leader prior to the hike.

### **Saturday, October 21 - Hatchery/Highline Hike (Payson)**

RATING: B    LENGTH: 8.75 mi    ELEV GAIN: 1350 ft    PACE: Moderate  
Leaders: Bev - 480 415-7147 - [blkoslow@yahoo.com](mailto:blkoslow@yahoo.com) and Patty - 602-620-7406  
Contact either leader for meeting time and location. If you have never approached Horton Springs on the Mogollon Rim from the backside, you have to join us for this hike. We will begin on the Hatchery Trail, which runs into the Highline trail, to Horton Springs. The trail bends and turns and rolls up and down. You will love the scenery as you hike through a plush manzanita forest, across a meadow of tall grasses and ferns, make two creek crossings (each way), and see picturesque rock formations. Once we hike the almost 4.5 miles to Horton Springs, and take a lunch/snack break, you will have the option of hiking back the way we came, or shortening the hike by a half mile by hiking down the Horton

Springs Trail. Bring a minimum 2-3 quarts of water, salty snacks, and wear sturdy hiking boots/shoes. Water shoes are not necessary as we can easily rock hop across the water. Cost to nonmember is \$5.

**Sunday, October 22 - Granite Mountain (Prescott)**

RATING: A LENGTH: 8.4+ mi ELEV GAIN: 1700 ft PACE: Medium

LEADER: "Missed The Turn" Mark - 602-725-4993- [mnashley@yahoo.com](mailto:mnashley@yahoo.com)

"Dang it Granite, I love you." No this hike will not be a tribute to "Rock Horror" but since this month included three other Granite Mountain hikes near a different Granite, "Missed the Turn" invites you to a late October hike up Prescott's Granite Mountain. I have not re-hiked this trail to check on recovery conditions because the valley and the ascent portions of this hike were exposed. It will be cooler in October but not everyone enjoys a moonscape. Check with the leader the Thursday before the hike by 8 pm. Be prepared for late fall conditions at that altitude. 3 liters of water plus some snacks. Cost to non-members is \$5.

**Monday, October 23 – Mondays in the McDowells Exercise Hike**

RATING: B LENGTH: 9.5 mi ELEV GAIN: < 1,000 ft PACE: Fast

CO-LEADERS: Dan Rothman - [dwrr12@gmail.com](mailto:dwrr12@gmail.com) - 480-773-5197 and Mark Miller - [markm50@yahoo.com](mailto:markm50@yahoo.com) - 623-640-5375

Meet at 7:00 am (start 7:05) at the **GRANITE MOUNTAIN TRAILHEAD**, located in Scottsdale on 136<sup>th</sup> Street, 2 miles north of Dynamite/Rio Verde Road. We'll do a circumference hike around Granite and Cholla Mountains, stopping along the way to explore some of the most interesting features in the McDowell Sonoran Preserve, including Cathedral Rock, the Amphitheater and Balanced Rock. The trails are great and the sights are beautiful. Cost to non-members is \$5.

**Thursday, October 26– See Canyon Fall Foliage Photo Hike (Payson)**

RATING: B LENGTH: 7 mi ELEV GAIN: ~2000 ft PACE: Medium

LEADER: Grace Chen - 858-663-5173 - [chenia@aol.com](mailto:chenia@aol.com)

Meet at 7:15 am (depart at 7:30) at Wendy's on Shea Blvd. in Fountain Hills, just west of the Beeline Hwy. Ready for some fall colors and photo ops? We cannot predict nature but hopefully the timing is right. Join us for this iconic fall hike up and down this canyon. The view is always different on the way down. We will take our time to enjoy the fall foliage and capture the beauty. This will not be a looking at your feet hike but up and around to compose your best shots. Free tips will be given if desired. Please note that this is still a challenging hike, ascending ~2000 ft in 3.5 miles. We might take the spur trail to See Canyon Spring on the return if the group desires. Bring plenty of water, camera, spare battery, sunscreen, snack/lunch and \$ for carpool. Cost to nonmembers is \$5. Only guests and new members need to contact the hike leader prior to the event.

### **Saturday, October 28 – Ned Surratt Memorial Hike (Phoenix Mountain Preserve)**

RATING: C+    LENGTH: 6.8 mi    ELEV. GAIN: < 800 ft    PACE: Medium

CO-LEADERS: Dan Rothman - [dwrr12@gmail.com](mailto:dwrr12@gmail.com) - 480-773-5197 and

Tom Prose - [tprose@cox.net](mailto:tprose@cox.net) - 602-595-7868

Meet at 7:30 am (start hiking at 7:45) at the 40<sup>th</sup> Street Trailhead of the Phoenix Mountain Preserve, located one mile south of Shea Boulevard at the end of 40<sup>th</sup> Street. Join us for this hike on trails where Ned spent countless hours. The trails pass through scenic Sonoran landscape in the middle of Phoenix, but with no signs of the City to detract from the views. We'll head out southward from the trailhead toward Piestewa Peak on the Yates Trail (#8), then complete a moderately paced, clockwise loop on Trail #304, the Perl Charles Trail (#1A), and the Charles Christensen Trail (#100). Bring plenty of water, snacks, and wear sturdy hiking boots. There will be no guest fee for this hike, so feel free to bring friends as we remember Ned in his "backyard."

### **Monday, October 30 – Mondays in the McDowells Exercise Hike**

RATING: B    LENGTH: 10.2 mi    ELEV GAIN: < 1,000 ft    PACE: Fast

CO-LEADERS: Dan Rothman - [dwrr12@gmail.com](mailto:dwrr12@gmail.com) - 480-773-5197 and

Mark Miller - [markm50@yahoo.com](mailto:markm50@yahoo.com) - 623-640-5375

Meet at 7:00 am (start 7:05) at the **GRANITE MOUNTAIN TRAILHEAD**, located in Scottsdale on 136<sup>th</sup> Street, 2 miles north of Dynamite/Rio Verde Road. We'll explore the very northeast section of the McDowell Sonoran Preserve on today's hike, heading north from the Granite Mountain Trailhead on the 136<sup>th</sup> Street Express Trail to the Hawknest Trail, then returning on the High Desert, Renegade, Desperado, Coyote, Granite Mountain Loop and Bootlegger Trails. Along the way, we'll see some very interesting desert flora, including an impressive crested saguaro. Cost to non-member is \$5

## **LOOKING AHEAD**

### **Wednesday, November 1 – General Membership Meeting (6:45 pm)**

**Location: Granite Reef Senior Center, located in Scottsdale on Granite Reef Road just north of McDowell Road.**

**England's Coast-to-Coast Walk.** Did you think that England was flat? That it rains all the time? Learn otherwise as AHTC members Cat Colby and Dan Rothman take you on a 195-mile hike (or "walk" as the English call it) across the country from the Irish Sea to the North Sea. The famous Wainright Coast to Coast Walk passes through beautiful mountain peaks and waters in the Lake District; rolling river valleys and farmlands in the Yorkshire Dales; and expansive heather plateaus and scenic woodlands in the North York Moors. Along the route, you'll see postcard villages, famous historic landmarks, farms with seemingly never-

ending stone walls, and stunning landscapes throughout. Not to mention the dramatic coastal cliffs on the west (St. Bees) and east (Robin Hood's Bay) ends of the journey. Cat and Dan will describe the hike itself, including preparation and provisions, as well as the logistics regarding travel, lodging and dining. Come and join us for a great combination of travel and trekking.

**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!!

**Wednesday, January 3 – General Membership Meeting (6:45 pm)**

**Location: Granite Reef Senior Center, located in Scottsdale on Granite Reef Road just north of McDowell Road.**

**ICE.** An early Antarctic explorer said, "Below the 40th parallel there is no law. Below the 50th parallel there is no God. Below the 60th parallel there is no common sense and below the 70th parallel there is no intelligence whatsoever. In January, Dianne Luce will share her adventure in Antarctica, below the 65th parallel. You will see photos of red jellyfish, humpback whales, fur seals, different species of penguins, albatross, etc.

Snow and ice have their own lives. And they are magnificent. Enjoy photos of black ice, blue ice, glaciers, icebergs (with several different adjectives), calving of glaciers, etc. Come and enjoy.

## 2017 AHTC 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: **Bonnie Tasch** 303 868-7360  
E-mail: azcograygirl@gmail.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

AHTC 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 AHTC 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 AHTC sponsored activities.

Consumption of alcohol during an AHTC 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 AHTC tee-shirt.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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 Hiking & Travel Club™ (AHTC), 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 AHTC-sponsored activities.

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

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

**Mail to: AHTC, 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.