



Arizona Hiking & Travel Club

November 2017

Wednesday November 1, 2017 Surprise Bike Ride!

RATING: B LENGTH: 20-22 miles PACE: 12-14 mph

CO-LEADERS: Bev - 480 415-7147 and Don - 480 209-7963

Meet at Chaparral Park at Jackrabbit and Hayden Rds at 730am, start riding at 745am. We will be riding in the Scottsdale/Paradise Valley area on a combination of the Scottsdale Greenbelt and bike lanes on public roads with little traffic. Expect hills!!! Bring a minimum 1-2 liters of water. Helmets required. Cost to nonmembers is \$5. The ride will be cancelled in case of rain or high winds.

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 Wainwright 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.

Saturday November 4 - AHTC Adopt-A-Trail Event

RATING: Varies, but rewarding!

CO-LEADERS: Mark Miller - markm50@yahoo.com, 623-640-5375 and Nancy Spence - nancyactpar@cox.net, 480-357-0996

Our segment: Black Mesa Trail in the Superstition Mountains. The trail originates two miles from the First Water Trailhead and extends for three miles. We'll be trimming brush and cacti back from the trail using tools provided by the forest service.

The event will start at 8AM at First Water Trailhead, where there will be an orientation and sign in. From there we will divide into several groups based on desired hiking length (5 to 9 miles) and hike to Black Mesa Trail, where we will begin the trail maintenance. We will return to First Water by 2PM for sign out, and to enjoy a lunch of sandwiches and drinks provided by the club.

Bring and/or wear: long sleeve shirt, sturdy gloves and hat. Also bring 3 liters of water and snacks to enjoy while working.

There will be a car pool lead by Don Mowry. Meeting place will be at the Holiday Inn at Country Club and US 60. Meet at 7AM leave at 7:15.

Please RSVP to one of the leaders by Thursday, Nov. 2

Last year we had a great success with two teams of hard-working people! Join us for this opportunity of exercise, camaraderie, and contributing and getting dirty while improving our own special hiking trail.

Monday, November 6 – Mondays in the McDowells Exercise Hike: Gateway/Desert Park Loop

This month we'll resume our goal of hiking all 200+ miles in the McDowell Sonoran Preserve, focusing on the central part of the Preserve from the Gateway and Tom's Thumb Trailheads. Because a few of the hikes this month involve significant elevation gain, and most include great photo ops, we'll be hiking at a Medium pace of around 2.5 mph.

RATING: C+ LENGTH: 6.6 mi. ELEV. GAIN: 1,000 ft. PACE: Medium

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

Meet at 7:00 am (start 7:05) at the **GATEWAY TRAILHEAD** (18333 North Thompson Peak Road – go to www.mcdowellsonoran.org for further directions). We'll hike counterclockwise on the Gateway Trail across the saddle before descending to the Windgate Trail, from where we'll head north to the Desert Park Trail, a flat but very pretty hike through the Desert Park community back to the trailhead. Cost to non-members is \$5.

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

RATING: Fun

LEADER: Regina Marie Miskewitz 602-448-0684 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!!

Saturday, November 11th - Bluff Springs/Miner's Needle Loop Hike - Superstitions

RATING: B- LENGTH: 9 mi ELEV GAIN: 1000 ft. PACE: Medium

LEADER: Don Mowry - [480-209-7963](tel:480-209-7963)

Meet at 7:15 am (depart at 7:30) at the east side parking lot of the Holiday Inn at Country Club Drive and US 60. This is a beautiful loop hike where we'll begin up the Bluff Springs Trail, taking us through the scenic Barks Canyon and up Miner's Canyon to a saddle with great views of Miner's Needle and Coffee Flat Mountain. We will return via the Dutchman Trail #104 to the trailhead. Wear sturdy hiking boots, sunscreen, wide-brimmed hat or sunglasses. Bring snacks, lunch, electrolytes and plenty of water. Cost to non-members is \$5.

Sunday, November 12 – Green Mountain Trail to Guthrie Mountain – Tucson

RATING: B+ LENGTH: 8.0 mi. ELEV. GAIN: 2500 ft. PACE: Medium

LEADER: Bud Tasch – arizbunzer@msn.com – 303-868-0216

This on-trail hike travels through a mixed conifer woodland to summit a prominent peak on the southern edge of the Catalina Mountains. There are great 360-degree

views of the surrounding sky islands. There is an optional dinner stop after the hike at Bud's favorite Mexican restaurant, Nana's Kitchen, in Marana. Contact the hike leader for meeting time and location. Cost to non-members is \$5.

Monday, November 13 – Mondays in the McDowells Exercise Hike: Bell / Windgate Loop

RATING: B+ LENGTH: 9.9 mi. ELEV. GAIN: 2,200 ft. PACE: Medium

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

Meet at 7:00 am (start 7:05) at the **GATEWAY TRAILHEAD** (18333 North Thompson Peak Road – go to www.mcdowellsonoran.org for further directions). This very popular hike includes a counterclockwise loop along the Gateway, Bell and Windgate Pass Trails. The climb to Bell Pass (Elev. 3,204 ft) is invigorating and the scenery throughout the hike is great. On the way back, we'll take a short diversion along the Horseshoe Trail back to the trailhead. Cost to non-members is \$5.

Monday November 13, 2017 Tempe/Chandler bike ride

RATING: B LENGTH: 22 miles PACE: 11-13MPH

CO-LEADERS: Bev - 480 415-7147 and Deb - 602 709-0516

Meet at the NE corner of Arizona Mills adjacent to LegoLand at 7:45am and begin our ride at 8:00am. Our ride will be along the Western Canal that begins at Arizona Mills and meanders through Tempe, Mesa, and Chandler, past a golf course, and a couple of parks. We will be riding in an easterly direction for 11 miles, stopping in a nice park with picnic tables and bathrooms. After a quick rest and snack, we'll head back the same canal path to our vehicles. Bring 1-2 liters of water and a small snack. Helmets required. Cost to nonmembers is \$5. Ride will be cancelled in case of rain or high winds.

Thursday November 16 – Dogie Trail Sycamore Wildness Sedona

RATING: B LENGTH: 11 mi ELEV GAIN: 2100 ft. PACE: Medium

LEADER: David Thompson – 201-315-3530 – david@dlthompson.com

Meet at 7:00 am (depart at 7:15am sharp) at the parking lot behind Denny's, right next to the Park-and-Ride at the southwest corner of the Bell Road exit to I-17. We will hike the Dogie Trail (Trail #116) to Sycamore Creek. The hike is through Juniper and Pinon Pines and as we gain elevation Ponderosa Pines. We will cross the Sycamore Creek at 10 miles until we reach the Sycamore Basin Trail surrounded by Sycamore and Cottonwood trees for lunch. After lunch, we will return on the same route. Bring plenty of water, sunscreen, snack/lunch, and \$ for carpool. The last mile of the road (FR 525C) to the trail head requires high clearance vehicles. No children or dogs please. Cost to non-members is \$5.

Friday, November 17 - Boulder Canyon Loop Hike – Superstitions RATING: A (due to trail conditions) LENGTH: 16 mi ELEV GAIN: 800 ft. PACE: Slow LEADER: Cathy Schuyler – [480-984-4709](tel:480-984-4709) - cschuyler@q.com
Meet at the Burger King, 10025 E. Southern Avenue at Crimson Road at 7:00 am (start 7:15). We will take the Dutchman First Water Trail #104, then Boulder Canyon Trail #103 and do the 22 creek crossings. Lunch at Calvary turn off, then continue to Second Water trail #236 and up the hill to Indian Garden back to the parking lot at First Water. Optional dinner afterwards. Hat, sunscreen, snacks, poles and water for your needs. This is a "take our time" hike so if you have other things to do that day, don't join up for this. Non-members call hike leader.

Saturday, November 18 - AZ Trail Hike from Bushnell Tanks Trailhead RATING: B LENGTH: 10 mi ELEV GAIN: ~1500 ft. PACE: Medium LEADER: Grace Chen - 480-767-1727.
Meet at 7:30 am (depart at 7:45) at Wendy's on Shea Blvd. (east of Saguaro Blvd.) in Fountain Hills. Join us for this in-and-out hike on this AZ Trail section starting at Bushnell Tanks Trailhead. There are two stream crossings (hopefully it will be relatively dry) so be prepared for some rock hopping and possible wet feet. Otherwise, this improved portion of the trail is nearly wide enough for an ATV. This section of the AZ Trail undulates a bit. Come for an enjoyable hike and let's see what hidden treasure we can discover. Bring sunscreen, hat, boots, water, lunch, and snacks. Hike will be canceled in case of rain. Cost to nonmembers is \$5

Monday, November 20 – Mondays in the McDowell's Exercise Hike: Marcus Landslide and Feldspar Trails RATING: C LENGTH: 5.0 mi. ELEV. GAIN: < 500 ft. PACE: Medium CO-LEADERS: Dan Rothman - dwr12@gmail.com - 480-773-5197 and Mark Miller - markm50@yahoo.com - 623-640-5375
Meet at 7:00 am (start 7:05) at the **TOM's THUMB TRAILHEAD** (23015 North 128th Street – go to www.mcdowellsonoran.org for further directions). Approximately 500,000 years ago, a landslide involving over 200 million cubic feet of granitic rock broke off the McDowell Mountains and flowed eastward for over 1 mile. The resulting debris field now stands about 100 feet above the valley floor. The Marcus Landslide Trail circumvents this debris field and includes numerous interpretative geologic signs. The trail also offers great views of the McDowell Mountains, Four Peaks and Weaver's Needle. On the way back, we'll also hike the Feldspar Trail and see many more boulders and interesting rock formations, including several very distinct "mushroom" rocks. Cost to non-members is \$5.

Saturday, November 25 - Hackberry Springs to Cave Hike (Superstitions) RATING: B- LENGTH: 6 mi ELEV GAIN: 800 Ft PACE: Medium Leader: Bev - 480 415-7147 - blkoslow@yahoo.com

We will meet at Burger King on Superstition Springs Blvd and Power Rd (this is south of the US60 off the Power Rd Exit) at 7am, depart at 715. We'll begin our hike at the overflow parking lot just before the First Water TH in the Superstition Mountains. We'll walk along a relatively new trail to First Water Trailhead, continue past some ruins, go through Garden Valley (also known as the Valley of Cholla), through a small saddle, and along a rolling trail. Just after getting to the junction that goes downhill to the springs, we'll take a one-mile side trip to a little-known cave that we can actually enter. After an in-and-out to the cave, we'll continue our loop downhill to Hackberry Springs and along several dry washes before returning to our cars. Bring salty snacks and a minimum 2 quarts of water. If you plan to go into the cave, please bring a flashlight. Sturdy hiking boots and sticks are recommended. Cost to nonmembers is \$5

Monday, November 27 – Mondays in the McDowells Exercise Hike: Tom's Thumb Loop from the North

RATING: A LENGTH: 10.7 mi. ELEV. GAIN: 3,300 ft. PACE: Medium

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

Meet at 7:00 am (start 7:05) at the **TOM'S THUMB TRAILHEAD** (23015 North 128th Street – go to www.mcdowellsonoran.org for further directions). If you haven't already burned off the Thanksgiving turkey, this hike will do it. Tom's Thumb is one of the most distinctive and well-known hiking and rock climbing destinations in the Phoenix area. We'll ascend to the formation from the trail on its north side, enjoy the great views from there for a while, then resume by descending the steep but well maintained East End Trail. From there we'll proceed up and down from Windgate Pass before intersecting and returning to Tom's Thumb from the south, and finally descending to the trailhead below. Cost to non-members is \$5.

Wednesday, November 29 - Weavers Needle Crosscut (Superstitions)

RATING: A- LENGTH: 8 mi ELEV GAIN: 2200 ft. PACE: Medium

LEADER: David Thompson - 201-315-3530 - david@dlthompson.com

Email or call leader for meetup details. We will start at the Peralta Trailhead. Our hike takes us up the Bluff Springs Trail to the Terrapin Trail. Just before we reach Weavers Needle we will take an interesting route back to the Peralta Trail. We will bushwhack/scramble across the valley on the south side of Weavers Needle. The fun continues with a very steep rock scrambling descent. The Peralta Trail lies just ahead. If you aren't comfortable with being off trail and scrambling, this hike is probably not for you. Pants are recommended. Bring plenty of water and snacks. No children or dogs please. Cost to non-members is \$5.00.

LOOKING AHEAD

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

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 31st each year, good through December 31st 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.