



Arizona Hiking & Travel Club

January 2018

Monday, January 8 - Mondays in the McDowells Exercise Hike: Hawk's Nest Loop Hike

*This month we'll be back to hiking in the Northern Region of the McDowell Sonoran Preserve, this time though from the **Brown's Ranch Trailhead** located at 31301 N. Alma School Parkway, approximately 1.5 miles north of Dynamite Road (go to www.mcdowellsonoran.org for further directions). The trails here are generally flat and easy on the feet, so our pace will be officially fast (2.5 mph to 3.0 mph), though actually fairly relaxed. Note that our meeting time this month will again be 7:30 am.*

RATING: B+ LENGTH: 13.2 mi ELEV. GAIN: 800 ft PACE: Fast (2.5-3.0 mph)

CO-LEADERS: Dan Rothman - dwrr12@gmail.com - 480-773-5197 and

Mark Miller - markm50@yahoo.com - 623-640-5375

Meet at 7:30 am (start 7:35) at the **BROWN'S RANCH TRAILHEAD**, located at 31301 N. Alma School Parkway, about a mile and a half north of Dynamite Road (go to www.mcdowellsonoran.org for further directions). This hike will take us to the very north end of the Preserve on trails that include Upper Ranch, Corral, High Desert, Divide, Hawk's Nest and Buckshot. The pace will be brisk, but the trails are flat and generally not rocky. Bring plenty of water, snacks, electrolytes and wear sturdy hiking boots.

Tuesday January 9 - Horse Thief Trail – Hawes Trail System

RATING: C+/B- LENGTH: 7.25 mi ELEV GAIN: 600 Ft Pace: Slow to Med

LEADER: Bev - 480 415-7147 - blkoslow@yahoo.com

Meet at the Park and Ride on the SE corner of the Loop 202 and Power Road in Mesa (just east of the traffic light at Power and Preston Roads) at 7:30 am, depart at 7:45 am. The Horse Thief Trail, aka Wild Horse Trail, in the Hawes trail system off of Power Road is a pleasant, relatively flat trail with so few rocks you can complete the whole hike without stepping on one. The trail twists and rolls in a lollipop shaped hike among saguaros, mesquite and other desert plants with Red Mountain as it's backdrop. And why is it called Horse Thief/Wild Horse Trail? This area is where the wild horses along the Salt River bed down at night. If you have any questions regarding the meeting location, please call/email Bev. Bring a minimum of 2 quarts of water and salty snacks.

Saturday, January 13 – Bell Rock / Courthouse Butte / Cathedral Rock (Sedona)

RATING: B+ LENGTH: 12 mi ELEV. GAIN: 1200 ft PACE: Fast

LEADER: Dan Rothman - dwrr12@gmail.com - 480-773-5197

Meet at 7:00 am (depart 7:15) at the Park-and-Ride at the southwest corner of the Bell Road exit to I-17. We'll hike to and visit some of the most well-known and beautiful

landmarks in Red Rock Country, including the Courthouse Butte Loop, Bell Rock and Cathedral Rock. Those wishing to will have the opportunity to scramble up Bell and Cathedral Rocks. The pace will be from 2.5 mph to 3.0 mph. Check the weather and dress appropriately. A Red Rock Pass (\$5/car) or National Parks Pass is required at the trailhead. Afterwards, we'll have the option to stop for something to eat in Sedona or Oak Creek. Wear sturdy hiking boots and bring plenty of water.

Monday, January 15 - Mondays in the McDowells Exercise Hike: Brown's and Cone Mountain Loop

RATING: B- LENGTH: 8.7 mi ELEV GAIN: 900 ft PACE: Fast (2.5-3.0 mph)

CO-LEADERS: Dan Rothman - dwr12@gmail.com - 480-773-5197 and

Mark Miller - markm50@yahoo.com - 623-640-5375

Meet at 7:30 am (start 7:35) at the **BROWN'S RANCH TRAILHEAD**, located at 31301 N. Alma School Parkway, about a mile and a half north of Dynamite Road (go to www.mcdowellsonoran.org for further directions). We'll be climbing to the peak of Brown's Mountain, from where there are excellent views of the McDowell Sonoran Preserve and points north, and circumventing the appropriately named Cone Mountain. Although the trails emanating from Brown's Ranch Trailhead are generally flat, the 500-foot ascent up Brown's Mountain will catch your attention. Bring plenty of water, snacks, electrolytes and wear sturdy hiking boots.

Saturday, January 20, 2018 -Picket post Circumference Hike (Superior)

CO-LEADERS: Bruce Wilczynski - [815-540-5522](tel:815-540-5522) - bruceandroni@gmail.com and

Grace Chen - [480-767-1727](tel:480-767-1727) - chenia@aol.com

RATING: B LENGTH: 9 mi ELEV GAIN: 766 ft PACE: Medium

Meet at 7:45 am (depart at 8:00) at the Burger King on Power Road just south of Hwy 60 (NE corner of Power Road and Superstition Springs Blvd.) or meet at 8:30 am at the Picketpost trailhead. Join us for this beautiful hike around the circumference of Picketpost in a clockwise manner. This is undoubtedly one of the most beautiful hikes recently completed by the leaders. At this time of the year, there should be water in the creeks, little water falls and pools for beautiful reflections. We will cross Arnett Creek, hike along Telegraph Canyon before joining the Arizona Trail. We will hike back heading north through the Alamo Canyon. Hiking poles are highly recommended for stream or creek crossings. Bring snacks, lunch, water, and electrolytes. Don't forget to bring your camera! Only guests and new members need to contact the hike leader prior to the hike.

Monday, January 22 - Mondays in the McDowells Exercise Hike: Stagecoach Loop

RATING: B+ LENGTH: 13.4 mi ELEV. GAIN: 500 ft PACE: Fast (2.5-3.0 mph)

CO-LEADERS: Dan Rothman - dwr12@gmail.com - 480-773-5197 and

Mark Miller - markm50@yahoo.com - 623-640-5375

Meet at 7:30 am (start 7:35) at the **BROWN'S RANCH TRAILHEAD**, located at 31301 N. Alma School Parkway, about a mile and a half north of Dynamite Road (go to www.mcdowellsonoran.org for further directions). The McDowell Sonoran Preserve has just added a number of new trails to an already impressive collection. We'll be exploring several of them, primarily the Stagecoach Trail which extends to the extreme northwest corner of the Preserve. Bring plenty of water, snacks, electrolytes and wear sturdy hiking boots.

Saturday, January 27 2018 -Mt Ord - Mazatzal Range

RATING: A- LENGTH:14 mi ELEV GAIN: 4500 ft+ PACE: Medium

CO-LEADERS: Dennis Weist - dgweist@aol.com - 480-251-5965 and
Barbara Weist - weistb@aol.com - 480-529-4142

Meet at the Wendy's in Fountain Hills at Shea and Highway 87 (Bee Line). Please contact a hike leader for meet-up time as this hike may be weather dependent. Drive/carpool to trailhead about 45 minutes north of Fountain Hills. Mt Ord is the 2nd highest mountain in the Mazatzals with stunning views all the way up! The trail is an old jeep road cut into the mountain in the 1930s and is wide and winding, making for an easier climb up such an imposing peak. We'll wend our way through paloverde, manzanita, grasslands and eventually make our way to a forest of oak trees at the top. This area claims a high population of deer, bear, mountain lion and countless birds. From the top there are views of Roosevelt Lake, Four Peaks and the Mogollon Rim. Our pace will be medium, but with enough breaks to catch our breath, have a snack or catch a view. Bring plenty of water, electrolytes, snacks and a warm jacket for the top. No water or facilities at the trailhead.

**Monday, January 29 - Mondays in the McDowells Exercise Hike:
Hackamore/Latigo Loop**

RATING: B LENGTH: 9.9 mi ELEV. GAIN: 500 ft PACE: Fast (2.5-3.0 mph)

CO-LEADERS: Dan Rothman - dwr12@gmail.com - 480-773-5197 and
Mark Miller - markm50@yahoo.com - 623-640-5375

Meet at 7:30 am (start 7:35) at the **BROWN'S RANCH TRAILHEAD**, located at 31301 N. Alma School Parkway, about a mile and a half north of Dynamite Road (go to www.mcdowellsonoran.org for further directions). Come prepared for a flat-out exercise hike, as we proceed in a figure-8 loop along the Chuckwagon, Whiskey Bottle, Latigo, Hackamore, Cone Mountain and Rustler Trails. Bring plenty of water, snacks, electrolytes and wear sturdy hiking boots.

LOOKING AHEAD

Wednesday, March 7, 2018 – General Membership Meeting (6:45 pm)

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

Danube River Bike & Barge Trip

What path does the Danube River follow through Europe? And what are the major cities and sights a person can see while following the River - by bike?! Join long-time AHTC member Bev Koslow as she takes you on a virtual tour down the Danube from Passau to Budapest. See what 16 club members experienced in September 2017 as they pedaled through Germany, Austria, Hungary and Slovakia along the Danube. Enjoy the ride through capital cities, quaint villages, wineries, castles, abbeys, Cold War memorials, etc. Finally, top the trip off with Oktoberfest in Munich -- what a party!!! If you are looking for something special to do for your next adventure, or want to know what AHTC trips are like, join Bev as she recaps this once-in-a-lifetime experience!

June 19 – 27 HIKE THE DOLOMITES, ITALY!

Co-Leaders: Barbara: <mailto:weistb@aol.com>

Dennis: dgwest@aol.com

Travel Consultant/Member: Amy - a.wasserman@cruiseone.com

Have you been hearing about the Dolomites and eager to see them? June one of the driest months, would be a perfect time. The wildflowers should be in full bloom and the remaining snow only on the highest peaks.

After arriving in Venice, Italy we spend a night and in the morning, we are transported to the beautiful mountain town of La Valle, where we stay for 3 nights before transferring to the quaint town of Canazei for the remainder of our journey.

Each day will be private AHTC hikes, guided by locals, into the surrounding area of the famously dramatic Dolomites. Most days will offer hikes of varying distance/elevation gain and difficulties. There will be something for everybody! The most difficult hikes may range in distances of 7 to 10 miles past snow-capped jagged peaks, glacier lakes, small villages and farmland. Elevation gains will vary, but most hikes will be about 2,500 ft. For anyone interested in just relaxing instead of a hike it will be easy to enjoy the local color of the towns; coffee shops, spa services, cable cars to ride and shopping. Or, take a short-guided hike of a mile or 2 near town.

Inclusions are all breakfasts, transfers and most lunches and some dinners. Cost per person is \$2,351 double occupancy. Airfare to/from the US is not included.

The trip is limited to 14 AHTC members. Sign-ups will begin January 8 at 8:00am through January 31 by emailing Amy at a.wasserman@cruiseone.com. A \$500 deposit (via credit card) will be required at the time of sign up.

For more detailed information on hikes, FAQs, terms and conditions, inclusions/exclusions and the payment/cancellation terms, please go to; <https://tailormadeadventure.com/dolomites> . **PLEASE READ ALL INFORMATION BEFORE SIGNING UP!** After you sign up, a copy of the cancellation terms will be emailed to you along with information on trip insurance.

Please don't hesitate to contact any co-leader with questions.

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

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Don Mowry 480 209-7963
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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.