

February 2018 – Saturday “C” Hikes

Regular Saturday Hikes, four times a month, begin Saturday, February 3rd. Meet at 7:00AM and leaving at 7:15AM. And did I mention, all the hikes will be local so it wont take up your entire day. Marilyn Reynolds and Mark Frumkin will lead the Saturday hikes. February is a test month, so lets have a big turnout and have some fun.

Feb. 3rd: Quartz Mine/East Road/Lost Creek/Turnbuckle Loop (Skyline Regional Park). Rating C. This is a 7 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 1000 ft. The trail goes through typical desert terrain and provides views of Buckeye as it works it's way up to some nice viewpoints. Trail condition - average hiking trail. There are restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 18 miles RT.

Feb. 10th: Library to Waterfall Trail (White Tanks). Rating C. This is a 7.3 mile in and out hike with an elevation gain of 550 ft. We head north from the White Tanks library with expansive views of the west valley, before turning on the Black Rock trail that connects to the Waterfall Trail. This could be a great hike after winter or monsoon rains. For those interested in seeing some of the desert wildlife in a controlled environment, there is a small nature center with several rattlesnakes, a Gila Monster, a tarantula, and some scorpions at the nature center in the library. Trail condition -an excellent hiking surface. Restrooms are in the library. Park Fee is \$6.00. Driving distance is 24 miles RT.

Feb. 17th: Petroglyphs Waterfall Trail (Verrado) Rating C. This is a 7.1 mile semi-loop hike with an elevation gain of about 700 ft. The hike starts on an unpaved road, then turns off at a cement sidewalk (in the middle of nowhere). It then follows a curving trail through the desert to a wash just before the petroglyphs. The trail then goes up the wash. You take the left fork to the base of a 30 ft dry waterfall where we will have our break. Trail condition - most of the trail is an average hiking trail, but the last .5 miles to the waterfall is a boulder hop. On the return we pass the petroglyphs before returning to the cars. No facilities at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 18 miles RT.

Feb. 24th: Baseline/Rainbow/Dysart/Toothaker Loop (Estrella Mtn Regional Park). Rating C. This is a 7.7 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 900 ft. The trail wanders through the front portion of EMRP with distant views to the north. It then goes south into more typical desert areas. Trail condition - a very good hiking trail. There's a Porta-John at trailhead. Park fee is \$6.00 per car. Driving distance is 20 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/EstrellaMountainRegionalPark/Baseline-Rainbow-Dysart>