

C LEVEL HIKING GROUP - WEDNESDAYS

Meet at the Eagles Nest clubhouse at 7:15 am, depart at 7:30.

January 3 - Sonoran Loop - Competitive Track (White Tank Mountains). Rating C. This is a 7 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 600 ft. This is the old orientation hike. This is a one-way competitive bike trail with plenty of ups and downs through washes plus one climb near the midpoint of the hike. On top of the hill is a good place to stop for a snack. Along the second half of the hike is a Crested Saguaro. There's a porta-john at the trailhead. There is a \$6.00 park entrance fee. Driving distance is approx 30 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountainRegionalPark/Sonoran-Loop>

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/WhiteTankMountainRegionalPark/Competitive-Loop>

January 10 - Sunrise Mountain Trail (Peoria). Rating C+. This is a 5 mile multi-loop hike with an elevation gain of 1230 ft, going up and down three mountain peaks. There are views of the community on one side, with the front of New River Dam in the background and mountain ranges beyond that. On the South side are views across the West valley. The trail itself is well maintained with three main hills to climb. After good winter rains, there would be a wide variety of wildflowers in bloom. There is no park fee. Restrooms and water are at the trailhead. Driving distance is 56 miles RT. [SCG=4.9/1100/2.9].

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/CityofPeoria/Sunrise-Mountain>

January 17 - Chalky Spring Box Canyon Hike (Lake Pleasant Area). Rating C/B. This is 6-10 mile in and out hike with an elevation gain of about 600-900 ft. The hike starts out going into Morgan City Wash for about a mile. It then turns into a side canyon with an overgrown riparian area due to the wet Chalky spring. Once past the spring area the canyon narrows into a very scenic slot canyon. The B version can be created by adding more of the main wash down to the Morgan City Wash riparian area loop we do on other hikes. This would make up to a 10 mile hike with about 900 ft of

elevation gain. There is a good chance to see wild burros and owls on this hike. Trail condition - 1/3 is along a sandy wash, 1/3 is through a wet riparian area with lots of brush, and 1/3 is through a slot canyon with short dry waterfalls to scramble up/down. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 74 miles RT.

January 24 - Union Hills Loop (Phoenix Sonoran Preserve). Rating C+. This is a 6 mile lollipop loop hike with an elevation gain of 1300 ft. This is a new trail system made up of well maintained trails. The main loop hike (4.6 miles) goes up and down a couple of saddles through typical desert terrain. The 6 mile version adds 500 ft TA going up 2 peaks along the loop. Both provide excellent views in all directions. After good spring rains this would be a great wildflower viewing hike. Trail condition - overall a good hiking trail. No restrooms at the trailhead. No park fee. Driving distance is 68 miles RT. [SCG=5.7/1000/2.8].

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/PhoenixSonoranPreserve-1/Dixie-Mt-Loop>

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/PhoenixSonoranPreserve-1/Dixie-MountainUnion-Peak-Lolli>

January 31 - Pass Mountain Trail (Utery Mountain Park). Rating C. This is a 7.7 mile loop, with an elevation change of 600 ft, and elevation gain of 1160 ft on a trail in good condition and with great scenery as you travel around the mountain. The trail encircles Pass Mountain and starts by going through a Saguaro cactus forest. It offers nice views on clear days of other distant mountain ranges including the Superstitions, Catalina, Mazatzal, Four Peaks, and McDowell Mountains. A portion of the loop is on adjacent Tonto National Forest land. This is a long hike –bring and drink plenty of water. Trail condition – average hiking trail. Restrooms are located at the trailhead. Park fee is \$6.00 per vehicle. Driving distance is approx 110 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/UteryMountainRegionalPark/Pass-Mountain-Trail>