

“B” LEVEL HIKING GROUP – MONDAY

Meet at the Eagle’s Nest clubhouse at 6:30 a.m., depart at 6:45 a.m. (Times subject to change for early starts. . . always check the weekly e-mail).

Monday, April 1, 2019—Governors Peak/Hells Canyon (Lake Pleasant). Rating B. A short 5-mile round trip hike with an elevation gain of 1,700 ft. From the trailhead you immediately drop down into the huge wash. The trail starts on the north side of the low-lying mesquite filled canyon dumping into Castle Creek. The Spring Valley Trail takes off up a small rise, is well-maintained but you will only be on this trail for a short distance. Be on the lookout for the Hermit Trail slanting out to the right. On the Hermit Trail head for the steep ridge ahead. The trail slowly curves northeast gently rising to the first of three saddles. Continue over the saddle. The trail drops into a tight/deep ravine and back up quickly. The Hermit Trail ends at this saddle. The Bell Trail continues. With basically no trail to follow you need to study the map. Go up the saddle, jag left and then ascend Governor’s Peak. No restrooms and no park fee. Driving distance is 97 miles RT.

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/LakePleasantArea/Governors-Peak-Trail/B-HikeGovernors-PeakLynnW2017-2018/>

Monday, April 8, 2019—Brown Mountain (McDowell Sonoran Preserve). Rating C/B. There are 2 versions of the C hike. The Brown Saddle portion is a loop hike of about 6 miles with an elevation gain of 600 ft. The Cathedral Rock portion is a 6-7 mile in and out hike with an elevation gain of about 500 ft. The B version combines these two into a 9.2 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 990 ft. There are great views of the surrounding mountains (Weaver’s Needle, Four Peaks, Tom’s Thumb, etc.) as well as great rock formations along the trail. There are many different cacti species here and late spring could be very colorful after good winter rains. There is a nice restroom at the trailhead and no park fee. Driving distance is 100 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/McDowellSonoranPreserve/Brown-Mountain>

Monday, April 15, 2019--Granite Mountain Hotshots Memorial Trail (Yarnell). Rating C+/B. This is a 6-7.2 mile in and out hike with an elevation gain of 1200-1800 ft. The trail is a memorial to the Hotshots fire-fighting team from Prescott who lost their lives fighting the Yarnell fire. It goes up over the ridge where they lost their lives and includes plaques for each of the 19 fire fighters who died there. Trail condition –

the trail is a good hiking surface but goes steadily up right from the parking lot. No restrooms at the trailhead. There is no park fee. Driving distance is 160 miles RT.

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Granite-Mountain-Hotshots-Memorial-State-Park/C-HikeHotshots-MemorialLynnW2017-2018/i-zdtKKF7>

Monday, April 22, 2019—Elephant Mountain trail, Spur Cross Rec Area (Cave Creek). Rating C+. This is a 7-mile hike with an elevation gain of 1600ft. The hike starts out on the Spur Cross and Tortuga trails. Most of the early trail is very rocky. Besides the view of Elephant Mtn, there is a rock formation that looks like a Buffalo. There are many Saguaro cactus along the trail. Park fee is \$3.) per person. Porta-john at the trailhead. Driving Distance is 110 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/SpurCrossRanchConservationArea/Elephant-Mountain-Trail>

Monday, April 29, 2019--Chuckwagon/Mescal Mountain Loop (Sedona). Rating C/B. This is an 8-9.5 loop hike with an elevation gain of 900-1200 ft. There are lots of great views of several of Sedona's named rock formations. A section of the hike goes around Mescal Mountain on a wide red rock ledge. It then goes through the Canyon of Fools, a shallow slot canyon that challenges mountain bikers (though not hikers). Restrooms are at trailhead. There is no park fee with a Senior Parks pass. Driving distance is approx 250 miles RT.

<https://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/Category/ChuckwagonMescal-Mt-Loop>