

C LEVEL HIKING GROUP - WEDNESDAYS

Meet at the Eagles Nest clubhouse at 7:00 am, depart at 7:15.

November 7 - Cathedral Rock/Balanced Rock Loop (McDowell Sonoran Preserve). Rating C/C+. This is a 6.5 to 8.4 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 600-800 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.

The optional side trip is to the Balanced Rock formation to the east. There is a nice restroom at the trailhead and no park fee. Trail condition - great hiking trail. Driving distance is 100 miles RT.

<http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/McDowellSonoranPreserve/Cathedral-Rock>

November 13-16 - Overnight hikes in Palm Springs

November 21 - Overton, Go John & Quartz Trails (Cave Creek Rec. Area). Rating C+. This is a 8 mile hike on a combined trail loop with an elevation gain of about 1100 ft. We usually travel the trail in a clockwise direction but could dispatch a group counterclockwise, which provides steeper climbs. On the Lime Kiln trail about .3 miles from the Quartz trail intersection is a strange saguaro named the Michelin Man saguaro. About .5 miles from the trailhead (near the junction of the Jasper trail) there is a group of 3 saguaros that look very much like the hiking club logo.

Trail condition - average hiking trail. Restrooms are located at the trailhead. There is a park entrance fee of \$7.00 per car. Driving distance is 93 miles RT. <http://pchikingclub.smugmug.com/CaveCreekRegionalPark/Cave-Creek-Regional-Park/GoJohnOvertonQuartz-and-Variat>

November 28 - * NEW HIKE *** Turnbuckle/Granite**

Falls/Chuckwalla/Pyrite Lollipop Loop (Skyline Regional Park - Buckeye) Rating C+. This is about a 6.7-7.3 mile loop hike with an elevation gain of about 1200-1350 ft. in the southwestern part of Buckeye's New Skyline Regional Park Most. The trails meander through typical desert terrain. Pyrite is one of the newer trails in Buckeye's Skyline Regional Park. It goes up to the ridgeline in the southwestern corner of the White Tank Mountains. There is an optional summit trail that goes .3 miles with 170 ft of elevation gain. Trail condition - average to good trail, but steep up Pyrite to the top. No park fee. Restrooms are at the trailhead. Driving distance is 30 miles RT.