

TOWN



NEWS

Dallas Chapter – December 2023

**DON'T MISS THE 2023 TOWN ANNUAL
HOLIDAY PARTY!!**



Sunday, December 10th at 4 PM- Suzi Murphy is hosting this year.

3317 Creekbend, Dr. Garland, TX 75044 -

Directions -

Take 75 north to Campbell Rd.

Turn East on Campbell to Jupiter

Head north (left) on Jupiter

Turn right at the next light just past Big Springs Baptist Church, Heather Hill Dr

Take your first left and follow around the circle to 3317. It's a grey 2-story.

Those who wish to participate in the gift exchange, simply need to bring a wrapped gift with an outdoor theme (spending limit of \$20). Outdoor gadgets and gizmos are always popular!

It's Hiking Weather, y'all !!!



Arbor Hills

When? Saturday, January 6, 2024 10:00 AM

Who? Trip leader Shirley Meurer sameurer@yahoo.com

Where? Arbor Hills Nature Preserve, 6701 W Parker Road, Plano 75093

Trail map <https://content.civicplus.com/api/assets/8625c483-6039-42db-ae72-30e2ccecb1f>

Details - Join us for a hike at this beautiful Nature Preserve. We'll stick to the natural surface trails whenever possible. Lunch afterwards, Cowboy Chicken anyone? Bring water and wear sturdy shoes. Hiking sticks optional.



Oak Point Park Nature Preserve

When? Sunday, February 18th, 2024 at 2:00 PM

Who? Trip leader Shirley Meurer sameurer@yahoo.com

Where? Meet at the trail head located in the parking lot for the Amphitheater. 2801 E Spring Creek Pkwy, Plano, TX 75074

Trail map <https://content.civicplus.com/api/assets/0d13f87c-of6d-48f0-a5c9-8e0d2d00b39e>

Details - Join us for a hike at this beautiful Nature Preserve. The park boasts nearly eight miles of concrete trails and five miles of soft surface trails located along Rowlett Creek. We'll stick to the natural surface trails whenever possible. Bring water and wear sturdy shoes. Hiking sticks optional.

CATARACT CANYON - July 10-July 15, 2024

Cataract Canyon is a 46-mile-long canyon of the Colorado River located within Canyonlands National Park and Glen Canyon National Recreation Area in southern Utah. It begins at Colorado's confluence with the Green River, and its downstream terminus is the confluence with the Dirty Devil River.

Our Cataract Canyon 5 day rafting trip offers one of the best adventures the Southwest has to offer. With 96 miles to cover, you'll have plenty of time to explore looming views from the canyon rim, pristine archeological sites, and of course, the world-class whitewater of the Colorado River. Some of the off-river excursions on this trip include: Fields of petrified wood dating back to the Jurassic period, Native American ruins and pictographs, and side canyons that many people never get to explore on shorter trips. The schedule is more flexible on this trip, where you'll have more time to enjoy the beaches you'll be camping on, as well as the rapid section. You can expect at least one night where you'll camp next to the waves.



This is a 5 day trip through Cataract Canyon and has a little something for everyone. The beginning part of the trip is relaxing flat water where we can enjoy the scenery and lots of hiking opportunities. Plus a good chance to get comfy with the river. Once we join up with the Green River we get into some more exciting rapids. Rapids always depend on water levels but should be doable with rafts they use without any problem.

TRIP DETAILS

Trip Leader- Sharon Fahlberg- sfahlberg@aol.com

Outfitter- Mild 2 Wild Rafting and Jeep Tours- www.mild2wilddrafting.com- Phone 970-247-4789

info@mild2wilddrafting.com

MEET TIME & LOCATION

Orientation: Meet at our Moab Office (745 Kane Creek Boulevard, Moab, UT) at 6:30 PM the evening prior to receive your dry bags, instructions on how to pack them, meet your guides & fellow rafters and much more.

Please arrive at the orientation time, not prior. Guides need to be focused on packing for the trip to be sure we have all needed gear and all logistics are coordinated **Trip Meet Time:** 7:30AM

Trip Meet Location: 745 Kane Creek Boulevard, Moab, UT - Link to location on Google Maps: <https://goo.gl/maps/B1XwWq6ZMwk> - Imaps will take you to the wrong location.

For cost and more details, please refer to email sent by Sharon Fahlberg to the group on November 20th. An updated email will be sent before the end of this month.

WHAT IN THE WORLD IS A *HOODOO*??!!



Hoodoos, fairy chimneys, earth pyramids, tent rocks—while they go by many different names, these peculiar badlands rock formations are one and the same. They're naturally formed columns or pinnacles that come in an array of shapes and colors and can be found in various iterations across the planet. Whether protruding from a barren desert or peeking from the crack widens as a result of expansion treetops of a lush forest, these geological wonders have a way of turning ordinary landscapes into otherworldly the scenes. Here's the science behind these surreal formations—plus, 10 incredible hoodoos around the planet. Hoodoos are formed over many centuries through a combination of physical and chemical weathering forces, including wind and acid rain. If you've ever seen one that's capped by a sturdier stone, it's because the soft rock beneath it has slowly been eroded by rain. The most powerful process that helps sculpt these rocks into top-heavy columns or cones, though? That would be a phenomenon known as frost wedging.

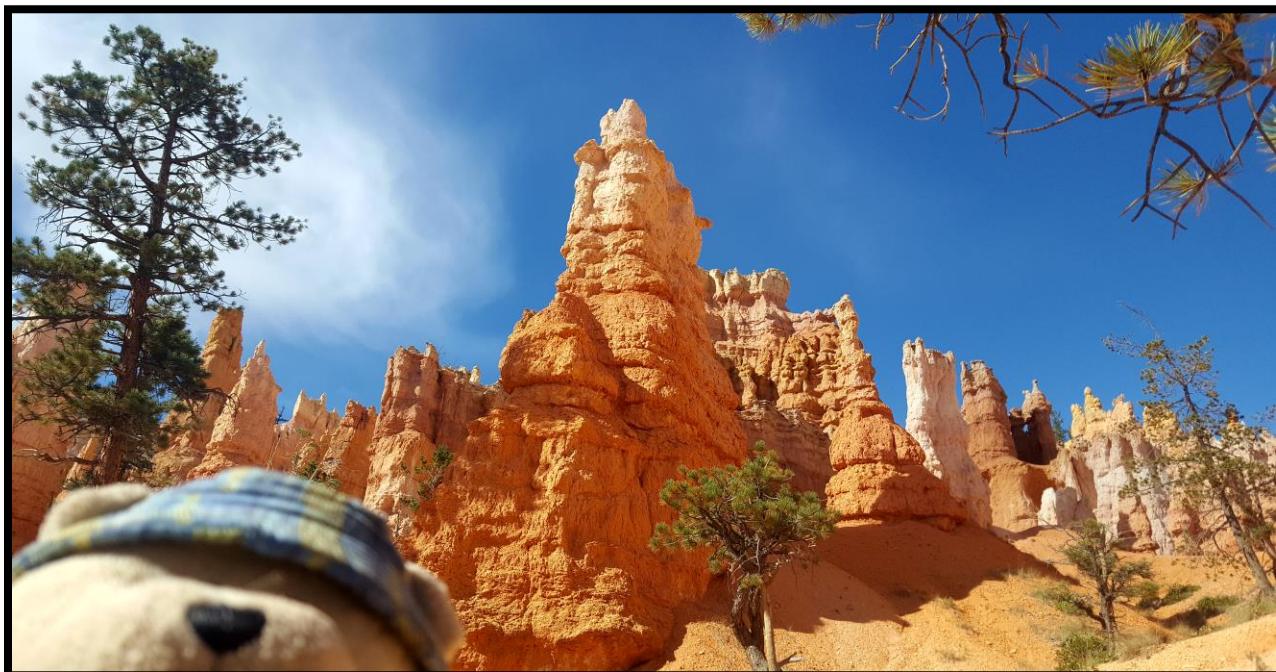
Frost wedging occurs in the same sort of way a pothole develops: When melted snow seeps into cracks in the rock and freezes, the crack widens as a result of expansion. All hoodoos start as an intact plateau. Over time, the plateau may break down into a "fin," a narrow wall of hardened sedimentary rock, then into arches, then, ultimately, into potentially wonky standalone columns. The fifth and final stage of a hoodoo's life is its disappearance. Due to their ever-eroding tendencies, hoodoos have a relatively short geological lifespan when compared to other rock formations.

Bryce Canyon- Utah- USA



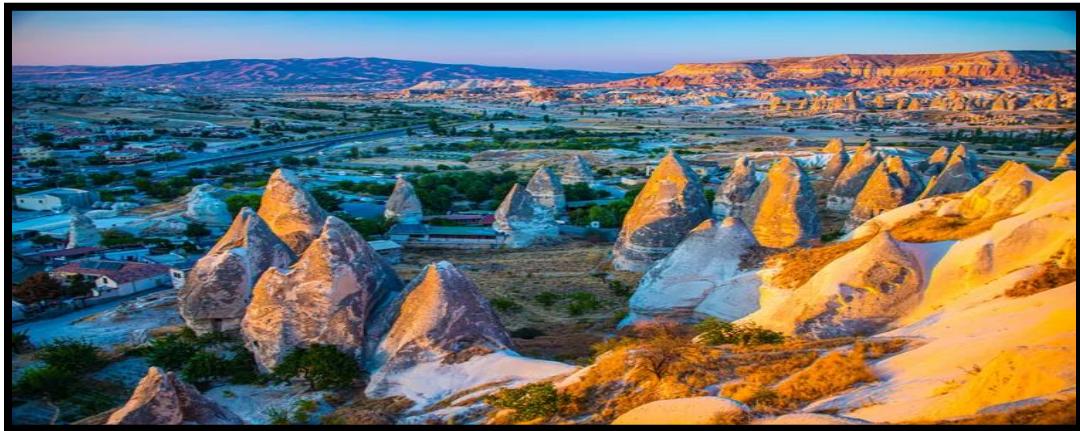
One of the best places to see hoodoos is in southern Utah's Bryce Canyon National Park, which boasts a vibrant collection of natural amphitheaters filled with craggy columns composed of sedimentary rocks like sandstone and shale. This area is particularly prone to erosion because of its high elevation. The uplift of the Colorado Plateau continues to raise these rocks' elevation, exposing them to below-freezing temperatures (and therefore frost wedging) for more than half the year. As a result, Bryce Canyon's hoodoos are quickly shrinking—at a rate of about two to four feet every 100 years.

Scientists estimate that in about 3 million years, Bryce Canyon's erosional patterns will have advanced so far into the present-day plateau that it will eventually hit the watershed of the nearby East Fork Sevier River. When this happens, the canyon's hoodoo-forming erosional patterns will be largely replaced by erosional patterns dominated by flowing water.



Following are some of best known and most beautiful examples in our country and around the world.

Cappadocia- Turkey



Yehliu Cape -Taiwan



Bisti- De-Na-Zin- New Mexico



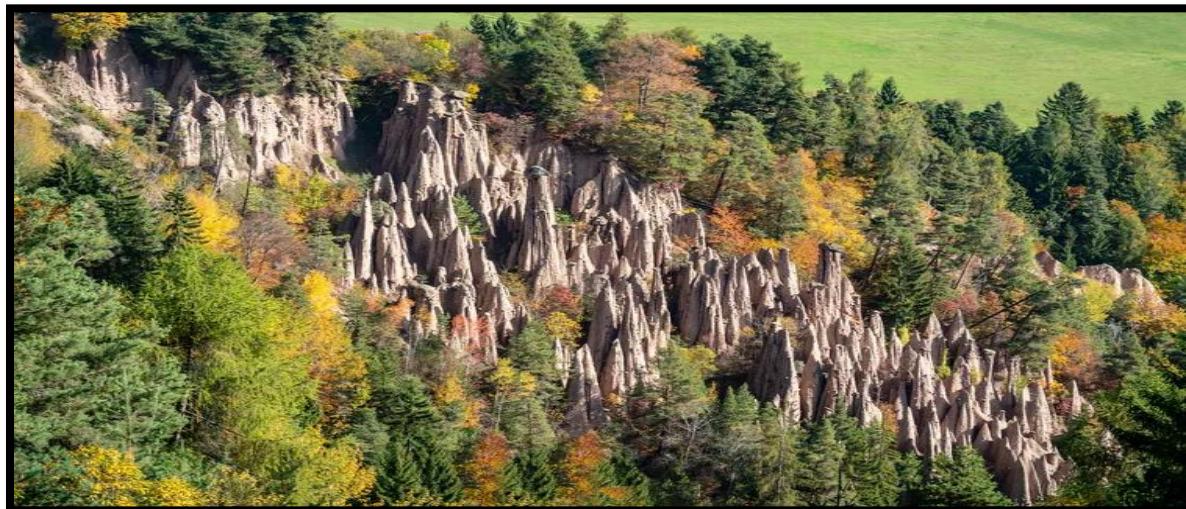
Putangirua Pinnacles- New Zealand



Goblin Valley State Park -Utah



Earth Pyramids of Ritten- Italy



Drumheller Hoodoos - Canada



Demoiselles Coiffées - France



Kasha -Katuwe Tent Rocks- New Mexico



Mark your Calendars!!

TOWN ACTIVITIES - 2024

Arbor Hills

Saturday, January 6th, 2024- 10 a.m.

Contact- Shirley Meurer sameurer@yahoo.com

Oak Point Park Natural Preserve

Sunday, February 18th, 2024- 2:00 p.m.

Contact- Shirley Meurer sameurer@yahoo.com

Wed., February 28 - Sunday, March 3rd. 2024

Camping at Inks Lake Texas State Park

DETAILS: We have room for 16 campers in our 4 tent w water campsites. To reserve your spot, send a \$30. deposit by PayPal to Barbara M. trip leader. Call phone 214 538-1375 with questions. tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/inks-lake

Thursday April 4-Sunday April 7, 2024

Camping at Wichita Mountains National Wildlife Refuge

For info and more details, contact trip leader Nancy Lee - nlee002@tx.rr.com

Thursday April 25-Sunday April 28, 2024

Camping at Buescher State Park

We have 6 of the best sites reserved for TOWN Dallas. Set up camp under tall trees, hike, bike or fish and paddle the 30-acre lake at this peaceful park. <https://tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/buescher>

Contact Shirley Meurer directly to sign up for this trip. sameurer@yahoo.com.

Thursday July 10- July 15th – 2024

Rafting trip- Cataract Canyon

Moab, Utah

Trip leader- Sharon Fahlberg

Contact- sfahlberg@aol.com