



# SADDLEBROOKE

## HIKING CLUB NEWSLETTER

<http://www.saddlebrooke.org>

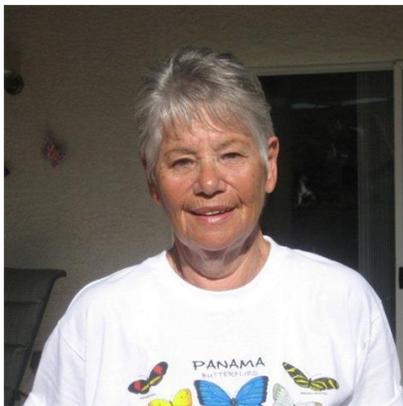
MAY/JUNE

2010-3

### Thank You, Judy Barenkopf

Our friend Judy Barenkopf is very involved in her community. One of the ways is to guide and lead the Tuesday/Thursday walking group as part of the SBHC. She has done it faithfully for the past eight+ years. The group began a couple of years before that under the title of "Exploring SaddleBrooke". Collectively, the group decided to concentrate more on the fitness walking.

On Tuesdays the walkers begin from the MountainView parking lot. On Thursdays the starting point is from the SaddleBrooke tennis parking lot. A core of regulars include Sue Ayers, Sue Berman, Sherry Jacobson and Betty Steindl, but the group can easily double in size at any time.



Judy plans extracurricular activities with the walkers. A fun thing that the group does once or twice a year is what they call "the long walk". They head out of SaddleBrooke, through Catalina, with a stop for breakfast at Basha's. Twice Judy has rallied the troops and arranged for participation in the Tucson Half-marathon. All starters finished the race. But the activity that Judy is most excited about is that a group of the walkers participate each year in the Susan G. Komen Walk for the Cure. Kudos to those walkers.

This is our opportunity to thank you, Judy, for your consistent and caring ways in leading the Tuesday/Thursday Fitness Walks.

### Thank You, Michael, Retiring President



Have you noticed the professional look of the SBHC newsletter? This is one of the many ways that Michael Reale contributed to the SBHC during his term as president. Michael Reale also contributed to the club by guiding many hikes at a "slow" pace, numbering the hike data base for the convenience of hiking guides and newsletter typist Carole Rossof, and installing new software on Carole's computer to improve the design of the SBHC newsletter. Your time and attention given to improve the hiking club are greatly appreciated.

### Thank You, Marjorie, Retiring Secretary



Thanks also go to Marjorie Herrmann for her service as SBHC secretary for the past 2 years. She has kept the SBHC web site up to date and sent out many thank you notes in addition to keeping the club minutes of all SBHC meetings. Remember to thank all our volunteers who contribute to the SBHC.

**SaddleBrooke Hiking Club Officers for 2010-2011 –**



Frank Brier, Ken Wong, Bill Leightenheimer, Dave Hydeman, Elizabeth Tancock (Roy Carter not present)

**News You Can Use**

Social Hour	May 19	4:00 p.m.
Board Meeting	June 2	3:00 p.m.
Guide Meeting	June 2	4:00 p.m.
Social Hour	June 16	4:00 p.m.

**Hard copies of the Newsletter are available at the SaddleBrooke and DesertView Fitness Centers. You may print copies from our web page at [www.saddlebrooke.org](http://www.saddlebrooke.org).**

**Are You Receiving Hiking Club News?**

A few of our hikers have not been receiving the newsletter; or changes and/or additions to the hiking schedule. If you know of anyone who is not receiving any e-mails, please ask them to send their current e-mail address to Carole Rossof; [crandmr@q.com](mailto:crandmr@q.com), and Bob Perez; [azsun65@wbhsi.net](mailto:azsun65@wbhsi.net).

**Awards**

<b>50 Hikes</b>	Pat Maslen, Laura Ruxer
<b>100 Hikes</b>	Roy Carter, Susan Hollis, Jack Denton, Faye Von Wrangle
<b>250 Hikes</b>	Jo Wendler

**Officers**

<b>President</b>	Dave Hydeman; 825-7816; skate04retire@yahoo.com
<b>Vice-President</b>	Bill Leightenheimer - 825-5756; wmlhaz@gmail.com
<b>Secretary</b>	Ken Wong; 818-2561; kmwong@q.com
<b>Treasurer</b>	Elizabeth Tancock - 825-7838; etancock@wbhsi.net
<b>Chief Hiking Guides</b>	Frank Brier - 818-0493; FrankBrier@aol.com Roy Carter - 818-3137; rvcarter@aol.com

**Volunteers**

<b>Catalina Hills Cleanup</b>	Bill Leightenheimer, 825-5756; wmlhaz@gmail.com
<b>Communications &amp; Programs</b>	Elisabeth Wheeler, 818-1547; elisarick@wbhsi.com
<b>Membership Roster</b>	Bob Perez, 861-0967; azsun65@wbhsi.net
<b>Merchandise</b>	Sandy Businger, 825-9294; usbusinger@wbhsi.net
<b>Newsletter Copies</b>	Martha Hackworth, 818-2573; marthahackworth@comcast.net
<b>Newsletter</b>	Carole Rossof, 877-9262; crandmr@q.com
<b>Publicity</b>	Position Open
<b>Socials</b>	Beaver Simpson, 818-7839; wbsortho@aol.com
<b>Socials</b>	Pam Wakefield, 825-0309; pambw@live.com
<b>Socials</b>	Marge Wong, 818-2561; kmwong@q.com
<b>Statistics and Awards</b>	Susan Hollis, 825-6819; slhollis@yahoo.com
<b>Work Days</b>	Jim Strickler, 825-8735; sherabjim@wbhsi.net

## Hiking News

Roy Carter and Frank Brier

The May/June hike offering contains several more opportunities for those eager members hoping to complete the Arizona Trail. The total number of hikes (8 As, 7 Bs, 17 Cs, and 5 Ds, not counting the 7-day AZ trail camp/hike) has dwindled somewhat for May and June as the snowbirds leave for the northern hinterlands, and as the weather warms up. However, there is some very good hiking to be had through June, as many hikes will be leaving earlier in the day to take advantage of the cooler temperatures. This is a rare spring for wildflowers, and they should last a few more weeks.

The annual update of the Hike Database (a copy can be found on the Club web site) is scheduled for completion by June 30<sup>th</sup>. The Guides are currently revising and updating the hike descriptions to make them as accurate and useful as possible. One point of emphasis is to review the use of "+" and "-", used to indicate special trail conditions, to ensure they are appropriate. If you have comments on any of the descriptions/ratings, please forward them to Roy Carter at [rvcarter@aol.com](mailto:rvcarter@aol.com) by the end of April. Thanks for your help, especially in providing gps measurements for distance and accumulated gain for hikes this past year. These data are still needed because we have no actual data for many hikes, only map estimates (especially for hikes in the Tortolitas from the new Ritz Carlton trailhead).

One of our members provided a link for information about the Tumacacori Highlands and hiking there: <http://www.tumacacoriwild.org/recreation.html#hiking>. The web site also contains lots of information about activities available nearby and several excellent maps. This was the location of Dick Krueger's April 13 hike to the Atascosa Lookout and the subject of the Club's February 17<sup>th</sup> special program on the Sky Island Alliance. Check it out.

Welcome back to our reverse-snowbird guide Don Taylor, who is leading four hikes in June after arriving only two weeks earlier from Vermont.

## General Hiking Information

**Reservations:** Call the guide to make a reservation for a hike. Let the guide know if you would be available to drive and whether or not you have a 'park entry pass' for the area. If you are unable to go on the hike after making a reservation, call the guide to cancel. The guide will call if a hike is canceled.

**Arrival Time and Departure Area:** The time listed for the hike is the departure time. It is important to arrive 10 to 15 minutes before departure time. All hikes leave from the left front parking lot of the MountainView Clubhouse (just east of the tennis courts) unless otherwise noted.

**Medical Conditions:** Prior to starting the hike, inform the guide of any special medical conditions or medications you may need.

**Voluntary Driver Donations:** Voluntary driver donations are shown in the table of Hikes Offered. If there are two entries under driver donation, for example \$7 + \$2, the first is for the driver and the second for any required entry and/or parking fee. If a state park pass is used for entry, the second amount should be given to the pass holder (whether he/she is the driver or not). Other persons in the vehicle who also hold park passes would not be responsible for the second amount. Note, that some hikes may require additional fees.

Guides may also wish to split costs between drivers for drop-offs and/or unequal passenger loads. Small bills are appreciated. Since a driver may not have change, we would ask that, if you see two entries for the driver donation, you try to have the amounts for each. Due to automobile insurance coverage considerations, it is recommended that any payment to the driver be made upon return to MountainView.

**Items to Bring:** Every hiker should carry identification and any medical alerts in a waterproof container. Always bring ample water (this can vary from a pint on a winter fitness walk to 3 or 4 quarts on a summer hike). On strenuous hikes or in very hot weather you may need to replace electrolytes (eat salty snacks, add electrolyte mix to water, or use sport drinks). A wide brim hat, sunscreen, sunglasses, and hiking stick or trekking poles are recommended in Arizona. Other suggested items include comfortable hiking boots, whistle, map, compass, tweezers, first-aid kit, and moleskin. Layered clothing works well due to possible changes in weather conditions. In addition, you should bring a snack or lunch depending upon the hike. High complex carbohydrates (nuts, trail mix, and etc.) are good.

**Choosing Hikes:** Hikes are more difficult than a walk in SaddleBrooke due to elevation change and our Arizona terrain. It is not unusual to encounter rocks, unsteady ground, and steep inclines. It is your responsibility to choose an appropriate hike that matches your physical abilities. The hike description

is a great tool. Look closely at the length, elevation change, and comments in the description to determine if a hike is within your physical ability. If you aren't feeling "up to snuff" on the day of the hike, don't hesitate to cancel until a better day.

**Assumption of Risk:** When you joined the club, you were asked to sign a "Release of Liability". **We want to reinforce the fact that by signing the release you acknowledge that participation in the club's activities involves an inherent risk of physical injury and that you assume all such risks. Accidents can happen.** Learn about the risks and how to avoid them. Take an active part in protecting yourself and fellow hikers. We are an organization of volunteers who share their skills and love for the wilderness with one another.

### Hike Elevation, Ratings & Pace

**Elevation Change:** Three indicators are used in the hike descriptions to convey hike difficulty as it relates to elevation change.

- **Net Elevation Change** is the change in elevation obtained by subtracting the starting elevation from the elevation of the destination, in feet. This estimate may be obtained from USGS maps or a global positioning system (gps). If no destination is listed, which may be the case for loop hikes or point-to-point hikes, net change is defined as the difference between the trailhead elevation and the highest elevation reached during the hike.
- **Accumulated Gain** is the sum of all upward stretches of a hike as recorded by a gps device over the course of the entire hike. Accumulated elevation gain is generally a more accurate indicator of hike difficulty than net change in elevation.
- **Accumulated Loss**, another measure of hike difficulty, is the sum of all downward stretches of a hike. Accumulated elevation loss is useful for some downhill hikes and is usually obtained with a gps device

**Ratings:** Ratings are based on the following round trip distances and accumulated gains in elevation over the course of the hike. The hike rating is determined by one (or both) of the two values being exceeded. For example, if a hike exceeds the criterion for distance but not for corresponding elevation, the rating would be set for distance.

<u>Hike Rating</u>	<u>Distance (Mi.)</u>	<u>Accumulated Gain in Elevation (Ft.)</u>
A	>14	>3000
B	8 to 14	1500 to 3000
C	4 to 8	500 to 1500
D	<4	< 500

**Pace:** Pace is described in terms of average speed in miles per hour (MPH) over the course of a hike from start to finish (excluding lunch). Average speed is affected by speed and length of stride, number of rest stops, incline, type of terrain, and trail conditions. The following four categories are used to describe pace in the hike descriptions:

<u>Pace</u>	<u>Average Speed (MPH)</u>
Leisurely	<1.5
Slow	1.5 to 2.0
Moderate	2.0 to 2.5
Fast	>2.5

### Fitness Walks - Five Days A Week

Maintain your fitness or get into better shape by joining us for a morning fitness walk. Enjoy the company of other hikers while perusing SaddleBrooke. The sessions last about one hour and are suitable for walkers of all ability levels. No advanced signup is required to participate in these walks.

Monday thru Friday fitness walks will start at **6:00 a.m.** on May 3<sup>rd</sup> from the parking lot just west of the SaddleBrooke HOA #1 Fitness Center. If you have any questions please contact Michael at: 825-8286 or Martha at: 818-2573.

Judy's Tuesday and Thursday walking group will start the Fitness Walk at **7:00 a.m.** We start our walk on Tuesday at the Mountain View Parking lot.

On Thursday we begin our walks at the SaddleBrooke Tennis parking lot. We walk for an hour and complete about 3 or 4 miles according to where we walk. Most of our walks are touring

SaddleBrooke and the few times we leave the premises it is discussed amongst the walkers. We leave exactly at **7:00 a.m.**, and wait for no one. For more information call Judy at 825-7077 or e-mail at: mbarenkopf @msn.com

The hikes for the next two months are listed in the table on the following pages. Any symbols are explained immediately below the table, and trail descriptions follow the table.

Please remember to call a few days ahead of time to ensure the guide has time to plan hike logistics.

### Hikes Offered

Date	Day of Week	Name of Hike	Hike Rating <sup>a</sup>	Pace <sup>b</sup>	Leave Time (a.m.)	Leader(s)	Phone Number	Driver Donation
5/1	Sat	++Canyon Loop <sup>c</sup>	D		9:00	Susan Hollis	825-6819	\$2+\$2
5/3	Mon	Cathedral Rock	A+		5:00	Elisabeth Wheeler	818-1547	\$4
5/4	Tues	++Sweetwater Trail: Short <sup>c</sup>	D+		7:00	Jan Wilson	818-0299	\$5
5/5	Wed	Extended Fitness Walk	C/B		6:00	Martha Hackworth	818-2573	\$0
5/5	Wed	AZ Trail: Santa Rita Mts.	A-		5:00	Larry Linderman	818-1977	\$13
5/6	Thurs	Picacho Peak via Hunter	B		7:30	Roy Carter	818-3137	\$7+2
5/7	Fri	AZ Trail: Going to the Lake	C		6:30	Jan Wilson	818-0299	\$9
5/9	Sun	Dripping Springs from the Sutherland Trail	C		9:00	Susan Hollis	825-6819	\$2+\$2
5/10	Mon	Pima Canyon to 3rd Dam	B		7:00	Dave Hydeman	825-7816	\$3
5/12	Wed	Alamo Canyon to the Water Tank	C		8:00	Marv Rossof	877-9262	\$2+\$2
5/12	Wed	Romero Pass	A		7:30	Roy Carter	818-3137	\$2+2
5/14	Fri	Peppersauce and Nugget Canyon Loop	C+		7:00	Frank Brier	818-0493	\$5
5/15	Sat	++Westward Look Resort Trails <sup>c</sup>	D		8:00	Susan Hollis	825-6819	\$3
5/18	Tues	Finger Rock Tr. To Canyon Overlook	C		7:30	Roy Carter	818-3137	\$4
5/19	Wed.	SBHC Social Hour, MV Club House			4:00 p.m.			
5/20	Thurs	AZ Trail: Temporal Gulch/Santa Rita	A		5:00	Larry Linderman	818-1977	\$8
5/22	Sat	Bug Springs Trail #1	B		6:30	Sandra Sowell	818-0995	\$7
5/25	Tues	Mt. Kimball via Finger Rock Canyon	A+		5:00	Elisabeth Wheeler	818-1547	\$4
5/26	Wed	American Flag to Windmill	C		8:00	Marv Rossof	877-9262	\$3

Date	Day of Week	Name of Hike	Hike Rating <sup>a</sup>	Pace <sup>b</sup>	Leave Time (a.m.)	Leader(s)	Phone Number	Driver Donation
5/27	Thurs	++Pima Canyon – 1st Dam <sup>c</sup>	D+		7:30	Roy Carter	818-3137	\$3
5/28	Fri	Mt. Lemmon to Oracle Ridge Trail via Red Ridge Trail	B+		7:00	Frank Brier	818-0493	\$10
5/29	Sat	Seven Falls with Tram	C		7:45	Jim Strickler	825-8735	\$4+ \$Tram
6/1	Tue	American Flag	C		7:00	Don Taylor	825-5303 <sup>d</sup>	\$3
6/2	Wed	SBHC Board Meeting			2:45 p.m.			
6/2	Wed	SBHC Guide Meeting			4:00 p.m.			
6/2	Wed	Extended Fitness Walk	C/B		6:00	Martha Hackworth	818-2573	\$0
6/3	Thurs	AZ Trail: Patagonia to Kentucky Camp	A		5:00	Larry Linderman	818-1977	TBD
6/4	Fri	Pusch Peak	A		7:00	Roy Carter	818-3137	\$2
6/7	Mon	Guthrie Mt	C+		7:00	Don Taylor	825-5303 <sup>d</sup>	\$8
6/9	Wed	Romero Pools	C+		8:00	Marv Rossof	877-9262	\$2+\$2
6/10	Thurs	Finger Rock Tr. To Linda Vista	B		7:00	Roy Carter	818-3137	\$4
6/11	Fri	Hutch's Pool	C+		7:30	Don Taylor	825-5303 <sup>d</sup>	\$4 plus tram
6/11	Fri	Mt. Wrightson via Old Baldy Trail	A		7:00	Frank Brier	818-0493	\$10
6/14	Mon	Phone Line Trail Round Trip	B		7 :00	Don Taylor	825-5303 <sup>d</sup>	\$4
6/15	Tues	Pusch Ridge – 2nd Overlook	C+		7:00	Roy Carter	818-3137	\$2
6/16	Wed	SBHC Social Hour - MV Club House			4:00 p.m.			
6/16	Wed	AZ Trail: Work Session	C		7:30	Jim Strickler	825-8735	\$5 paid by Club
6/19	Sat	Aspen Loop/Marshall Gulch Trail	C		7:30	Jim Strickler	825-8735	\$10
6/22	Tues	Esperero Trail	B		7:00	Roy Carter	818-3137	\$4
6/23	Wed	Brown Mountain	C		8:00	Marv Rossof	877-9262	\$6
6/23 thru 6/30	Weds thru Weds	**AZ Camping & Hiking Trail from Mogollon Rim to Flagstaff <sup>e,f</sup>	5 As, 1 C		TBD	Larry Linderman & Elisabeth Wheeler	818-1977 & 818-1547	TBD

Date	Day of Week	Name of Hike	Hike Rating <sup>a</sup>	Pace <sup>b</sup>	Leave Time (a.m.)	Leader(s)	Phone Number	Driver Donation
6/25	Fri	Pima Canyon to 2nd Dam	C		6:30	Philip & Kathy Cotton	825-2243	\$3
6/28	Mon	++Tortolita Trail <sup>c</sup>	D		7:00	Roy Carter	818-3137	\$4
6/30	Wed	Incinerator Ridge	C		7:00	Don Taylor	825-5303 <sup>d</sup>	\$9

a - A "+" or "-" after a rating means that the hike is harder or easier than the average hike in that rating category because of special trail conditions. A "+" may be added due to a loose rock or uneven trail, an unusually steep area, or exposure to heights. A "-" may be added to a hike due to a smooth trail or other special conditions that make it easier than the category implies.

b - Pace is moderate unless otherwise described.

c - A "++" before a hike means that it is an orientation hike and encouraged for beginning hikers.

d - Call after May 15

e - A "\*\*\*" before a hike means it is an exploratory hike.

f - This trip is currently being planned by the listed leaders and participants, and many details are not yet available. Call Larry or Elisabeth for more information.

## Hike Descriptions

**Alamo Canyon to the Water Tank. Rating C.** The hike begins at the Romero Ruins Trailhead in Catalina State Park. Elevation change is gradual. The trail proceeds from the ruins through Alamo Canyon. Water may be present in the canyon after rainy periods. Hikers then go around, down, and up and down again to an unused, large water tank. Trail is rocky in some areas. The return is one of three ways of equal distance. Hike 6.5 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 400 feet; accumulated gain 1050 feet; RTD 24 miles.

**American Flag to Windmill. Rating C.** From the American Flag Trailhead on the old Mt. Lemmon Road, the route proceeds in a northerly direction across National Forest and State Trust Land, crossing Webb Road and continuing to Oracle State Park. After traveling 1.7 miles through the park, the trail crosses Cottonwood Wash and continues to a windmill after another 0.3 mile. Hikers will stop and have a snack or lunch here and return via the same route. This route is fairly level and travels through desert grasslands that are part of the upper Sonoran Desert. There are expansive views of the Galiuro Mountains along the way. Hike 8.7 miles; trailhead elevation 4400 feet; net elevation change 350 feet; accumulated gain \_\_ feet; RTD 41 miles.

**American Flag. Rating C.** The hike begins at the American Flag Trailhead on the old Mt. Lemmon Road and covers a section of the Arizona Trail. Hikers take the American Flag/Cody Trail to the intersection with the Oracle Ridge Trail, where there are great views to the west of Biosphere II and the Tortolitas. On the return, we may swing by the grounds of La Casa del High Jinks, the site where Bill Cody staked his gold mine in 1912. Hike 7.4 miles; trailhead elevation 4400 feet; net elevation change 950 feet; accumulated gain 1200 feet; RTD 41 miles.

**Arizona Trail: Work Session. Rating C.** This is one of the Hiking Club work days. Come join the fun - it's nice to work side by side with other hiking club members, as we help maintain and report conditions for the section of the Arizona Trail called, "Black Hills/South," for which our club is responsible. This 6-mile section starts on Tiger Mine Road, off Hwy # 77, just north of the Oracle State Park. Generally, the work is light, and involves clipping, brushing, raking, and pruning, and for some, repairing cairns, adding erosion control devices and other trail work (depending on rains). Bring along gloves, hat, and hand clippers. Other tools, if needed, will be provided. The session usually lasts about 4 hours, so bring water and snacks. Hike 3 to 6 miles; RTD 50 miles (dirt). The club will pay drivers' expenses.

**\*\*Arizona Trail Camping and Hiking Trip.**

**Ratings A thru C.** The 7-day trip is tentatively scheduled to begin at the Blue Ridge Campground near the Mogollon Rim and end at Walnut Canyon south of Flagstaff. The group will drive to the Blue Ridge Campground north of Payson on June 23 and secure campsites. Hikes will begin the next day from Blue Ridge Campground to FR 300 (Rating A, 16 miles), followed by Blue Ridge Campground to Bargaman Park (Rating A, 21 miles), Bargaman Park to Allen Lake (Rating C, 10 miles), Allen Lake to Pine Grove Campground (Rating A, 20 miles), Walnut Canyon to Pine Grove Campground (Rating A, 20 miles), and Schultz Pass to Walnut Canyon (Rating A, 22 miles). The return to Saddlebrooke would be on June 30<sup>th</sup>. More details about these hikes are contained in Arizona Trail – The Official Guide, Passages 28, 30, 31 and 32. Larry Linderman (818-1977) and Elisabeth Wheeler (818-1547) will schedule planning sessions for participants, in the weeks leading up to the trip, to hammer out specific details.

**Arizona Trail: Going to the Lake. Rating C.** The trailhead is reached by driving up Redington Pass Road 9.8 miles (dirt) past Bellota Ranch road to the left, past milepost #12 to a sign for FR # 37, where a parking area is located. Hikers take the Arizona Trail north to the Lake near Bellota Ranch. Hike 6 miles; trailhead elevation 4350 feet; net elevation change 400 feet; accumulated gain 1210 feet; RTD 100 miles (dirt, high clearance vehicle).

**Arizona Trail: Patagonia to Kentucky Camp.**

**Rating A.** The hike involves a long northward trek on the Arizona Trail from the Temporal Gulch Trailhead on FS # 72 along the east side of the Santa Ritas through historic mining country. A shuttle will be required to Temporal Gulch above Patagonia, from Gardner Canyon on FR # 92. A vehicle will need to be parked at the end. Hike 15 miles; trailhead elevation 4000 feet; net elevation change 2500 feet; accumulated gain \_\_ feet, RTD \_\_ miles.

**Arizona Trail: Santa Rita Mountains Passage.**

**Rating A-.** The Santa Rita passage is rich in mining history, much of which can be observed from the trail. The trail goes through renovated Kentucky Camp, an early 1900's base for Stetson hydraulic gold

mining company, which never saw production. Remnants of an aqueduct to provide pressurized water, along with interpretive signs, can be seen along the trail. We will hike the 14 miles of this passage from just west of Gardner Ranch to SR # 83. The elevation at SR # 83 is 5125 feet. Hike 14 miles; trailhead elevation 5225 feet; net elevation change minus 100 feet; accumulated gain 1650 feet; accumulated loss 1750 feet; RTD 141 miles (dirt).

**Arizona Trail: Temporal Gulch/Santa Rita.**

**Rating A.** The hike will be conducted as a key exchange, one group starting from Gardner Canyon Road, and the other near Patagonia on FS # 72, 7 miles into the Temporal Gulch segment. From FS # 72 trailhead, hikers follow the rocky road 5 more miles as it continues north into the Mount Wrightson Wilderness. At Walker Basin Trailhead, a single-track trail begins as we switchback along the lower reaches of Josephine Peak. About a mile later, we reach a fork at a saddle which is the high point of this passage at 6570 feet. The views are stunning: into Mexico to the south, to the Huachucas to the southeast, and to Mt. Wrightson to the northwest. The trail passes interpretive signs describing the elaborate hydraulic mining system that existed in the area in the early 1900's. The trail continues 3.3 miles into the Santa Ritas segment, and ends at Gardner Canyon Road. The 2<sup>nd</sup> group does the hike in reverse. Starting from Gardner Canyon Road, the trail climbs gently 1300 feet in the first 6 miles then steeply, 900 feet in one mile, to the saddle high-point at 6570 feet. 750 feet are lost over the next 2 miles. The trail remains at a fairly constant elevation for the next 3 miles, and then descends 500 feet over the last 3 miles to an ending elevation of 5200 feet. Hike 15.3 miles; trailhead elevations: 4440 feet at Temporal Gulch, 5235 feet at Gardner Canyon Trailhead; net elevation change 800 feet; accumulated gain 2665 feet; accumulated loss minus 1870 feet; (the gain and loss would be reversed for the other direction); RTD to Patagonia 110 miles.

**Aspen Loop / Marshall Gulch Trail. Rating C.**

The trail starts at the Marshall Gulch Picnic area and goes up the Aspen Trail to the saddle. Hikers will lunch at a scenic spot near the saddle, and then follow the Marshall Gulch Trail to the picnic area. Hike 3.5

miles; trailhead elevation 7420 feet; net elevation change 800 feet; accumulated gain 1090 feet; RTD 131 miles.

**Brown Mountain. Rating C.** The Brown Mountain Trail is along a ridge in the heart of the Tucson Mountains. It starts at a trailhead on McCain Loop Road, just south of Kinney Road east of the Arizona Sonoran Desert Museum. Along this "ridge ramble" are excellent views of the mountains, valleys, and desert vegetation. The route has many up and downs. Hike 5 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 (trailheads at either end are 2640 and 2880) feet; net elevation change 1100 feet; accumulated gain \_\_ feet; RTD 73 miles.

**Bug Spring Trail # 1. Rating B.** From the Lower Bug Spring Trailhead (a quarter mile up the Catalina Highway from Hirabayashi Campground), the hike proceeds southeast along a narrow ribbon of trail carved into the granite hillside. After an uphill set of switchbacks, the terrain mellows out with outstanding vistas and views of granite sculptures. The trail dives down the north side of the ridge into a heavily forested drainage. Upward to the highpoint of the trail, you can see a few big madrone trees and views of the Sierrita Mountains, Baboquivari and the mighty Rincons. The Upper Bug Spring Trailhead (a quarter mile south of General Hitchcock Campground) is the turnaround point. Return is via the same trail. Hike 9.2 miles; trailhead elevation 5000 feet; net elevation change 1200 feet; accumulated gain \_\_ feet; RTD 94 miles.

**Canyon Loop. Rating D.** From the main trailhead at the end of the road in Catalina State Park, the hike begins with the Romero Canyon Trail, turns onto the Canyon Loop Trail, and then comes back on the Sutherland Trail. This area is a great example of the Sonoran Desert and its riparian areas. The hike may be done in reverse direction. Depending upon the season, some water crossings are possible. Hike 2.2 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change \_\_ feet; accumulated gain 170 feet; RTD 24 miles.

**Cathedral Rock. Rating A+.** The hike begins at Sabino Canyon Visitor Center and continues up to the Cathedral Rock Saddle (el. 7006 feet). Hikers

then bushwhack following cairns northwest to the "Notch" and then over to the "Bucket" of the south tower which is the most accessible of the three summit towers. This is a difficult hike with several "mantel" crossings and fantastic views. The trail up is very steep, and the trip down will be difficult. Hike 16.8 miles; trailhead elevation 2720 feet; net elevation change 5100 feet; accumulated gain 6040 feet; RTD 56 miles.

**Dripping Springs from the Sutherland Trail. Rating C-.** From the main trailhead at the east end of Catalina State Park, the hike follows the Sutherland Trail past the wilderness sign, and then turns toward Dripping Springs at a Sutherland Trail sign. There are large rocks placed in a row on the right (east) side of the Sutherland Trail. Much of the trail is sandy and there may be several water crossings. After entering the wilderness area, the trail is somewhat rocky. An old abandoned mine is visible to the left of the canyon. Keep to the left at a trail junction for lower Romero Canyon, which can be visited later. Hike 4.8 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change \_\_ feet; accumulated gain 460 feet; RTD 24 miles.

**Esperero Trail. Rating B.** The hike reaches a saddle overlooking Esperero Canyon. We'll warm up by hiking from the Sabino Canyon Visitor Center parking lot over a few small foothills to "the Gulch". The hiking is initially steep.... then it gets much steeper! We'll have lunch at the saddle (el. 4400 feet) while viewing the falls below, and return to the Visitor Center. Depending on season, there may be water in the falls. Extra drinking water is recommended. Hike 7.3 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 1700 feet; accumulated gain 1898 feet; RTD 56 miles.

**Extended Fitness Walk. Rating C+/B.** The walk begins at the SaddleBrooke parking lot and travels one of several routes in and around SaddleBrooke. Carry at least one quart of water. Hike 7.5 to 10 miles; elevation change 500 to 600 feet. Hike duration is 2.5 to 3 hours. Optional breakfast at the Road Runner Grill (need credit card as cash is not accepted).

**Finger Rock Trail to Canyon Overlook. Rating C.**

The hike begins from the Finger Rock Trailhead at the north end of Alvernon Way. The hike begins on level ground for about a mile, and then sharply climbs up the canyon. Scrambling is necessary at some points going up and coming down. From the overlook, hikers will enjoy the beautiful vistas of Mt. Kimball, Finger Rock, and the steep Finger Rock Canyon, then return. Hike 4 miles; trailhead elevation 3120 feet; net elevation change 900 feet; accumulated gain \_\_\_ feet; RTD 44 miles.

**Finger Rock Trail to Linda Vista Saddle. Rating B.**

The hike begins from the Finger Rock Trailhead at the north end of Alvernon Way. The hike starts on level ground for about a mile, and then sharply climbs 2500 feet. Scrambling is necessary at some points going up, and coming down is just as difficult. From the Saddle, hikers will enjoy the beautiful vistas of Mt. Kimball, the Santa Ritas, and the city of Tucson as it spreads out below and into the distance. Hike 5.8 miles; trailhead elevation 3120 feet; net elevation change 2500 feet; accumulated gain \_\_\_ feet; RTD 44 miles.

**Guthrie Mountain. Rating C+.**

The hike starts at the General Hitchcock Campground and proceeds up the Green Mountain trail to the saddle at the head of Bear Canyon, then onto Guthrie Mountain and returns. The trail along the top from the saddle to Guthrie Mountain affords great views of the Catalinas and the San Pedro Valley. The last quarter mile over the mountaintop to the trail's end requires some scrambling up a rock face. Some hikers may not wish to do that portion of the hike and would wait at an overlook. Hike 6 miles; trailhead elevation 6000 feet; net elevation change 1200 feet; accumulated gain \_\_\_ feet; RTD 104 miles.

**Hutch's Pool. Rating C+.**

Hikers will take the Sabino Canyon tram to the trailhead at its last stop up the canyon (fee required). After a moderately steep but brief climb out of the canyon, the trail is mostly level but involves several stream crossings along the East and West Forks before reaching the pool. Some boulder hopping may be necessary depending on seasonal rains and winter snow melt on Mt. Lemmon. This lovely hike will take us to a permanent pool surrounded by giant Arizona Cypress trees, which is

great place for a snack or lunch. The return is via the same route to the trailhead to catch the tram. Hike 8 miles; trailhead elevation 3300 feet; net elevation change 900 feet; accumulated gain \_\_\_ feet; RTD 56 miles.

**Incinerator Ridge. Rating C.**

The hike begins at the Palisade Ranger station and climbs 400 feet to a saddle. The trail proceeds along the ridge to reach a point that affords a 360 degree view, including Barnum Rock, the San Pedro river Valley, and Tucson. This is one of the premier views from hikes that take place on Mt. Lemmon, and truly gives one the concept of a sky island. Hike 3.9 miles; trailhead elevation 8000 feet; net elevation change 685 feet; accumulated gain 950 feet; RTD 119 miles.

**Mt. Kimball via Finger Rock Canyon. Rating A+.**

Starting from the Finger Rock Trailhead at the north end of Alvernon Way, this rocky trail climbs steadily and follows the canyon past Finger Rock, a prominent Tucson landmark high above the canyon floor. The trail passes Linda Vista Saddle between Mt. Kimball and "Little Kimball," and onto the Pima Canyon Trail. A half mile further and hikers arrive at the top of Mt. Kimball. The return hike is down the same trails. Hike 9.5 miles; trailhead elevation 3120 feet; net elevation change 4138 feet; accumulated gain 4148 feet; RTD 44 miles.

**Mt. Lemmon to Oracle Ridge Trailhead via Red Ridge Trail. Rating B+.**

The hike begins at the Red Ridge Trailhead and descends steeply to Catalina Camp. From there, we will climb via Trail # 401 to Dan Saddle, up the Oracle Ridge Trail to Catalina Hwy. It is about a mile from that point to return to the Red Ridge Trailhead. Along the way, there are great views of the Reef of Rock and Samaniego Peak to the west. Hike 8.3 miles; trailhead elevation 8160 feet; net elevation change 1936 feet; accumulated gain 2615 feet; RTD 131 miles.

**Mt. Wrightson via Old Baldy Trail. Rating A.**

The hike begins in Madera Canyon (Santa Rita Mountains.) and follows the Old Baldy Trail to Mt Wrightson. The return is via the same route. This trail provides the shortest route to the top (9453') of Mt. Wrightson. At the top are outstanding 360-degree views of Tucson and the mountain ranges in

the area. There is shade along the way. Hike 11.1 miles; trailhead elevation 5400 feet; net elevation change \_\_\_ feet; accumulated gain 4029 feet; RTD 130 miles.

**Peppersauce and Nugget Canyon Loop. Rating C+.** The hike begins at the Peppersauce Campground on the northeast side of the Catalinas. The trail follows old Mt. Lemmon Road up to the Nugget Canyon turnoff. We will stop to see Peppersauce Cave. Bring a flashlight. We then travel up the canyon, follow jeep roads, view an old mine, then come down Peppersauce Canyon. Much of the hike is through oak woodland with good views from the higher hills. This is a strenuous hike for this level due to a steep incline in one area and loose rocks in another. Hike 8 miles; trailhead elevation 4600 feet; net elevation change 1200 feet; accumulated gain \_\_\_ feet; RTD 53 miles (dirt).

**Phone Line Trail - Round Trip. Rating B.** The hike begins in the Sabino Canyon Visitor Center parking lot. After crossing Sabino Creek there is a moderate climb to the Phone Line Trail, which is above and generally parallels the tram road. The trail offers outstanding views of the canyon. There are three options for the return: the tram road, the same trail, or back part way on the same to trail to a connecting trail that takes us down to the creek and dam and back to the parking lot. There are extended stretches of exposed trail. Hike 10.4 miles; trailhead elevation 2720 feet; net elevation change 1035 feet; accumulated gain \_\_\_ feet; RTD 56 miles.

**Picacho Peak via Hunter Trail. Rating B.** From Barret Loop, we hike the Hunter Trail to a saddle, then down to the Sunset Vista Trail and up to the top of Picacho Peak, which provides 360 degree views of the area. The trail descends about 350 feet after reaching the saddle before resuming the upward climb from the west side of the peak. Permanently installed guide cables are used along several steep sections to reach the summit. Bring leather or rubber tipped gloves for holding on to cables. This is a short, strenuous hike and a favorite among hikers. The return to the trailhead is along the same route. There are several areas of climbing where the trail is slippery due to loose rock and/or where the trail is exposed to sharp drop-offs. Park entrance fee

required. Hike 4.2 miles; trailhead elevation 2000 feet; net elevation change 1374 feet; accumulated gain 2152 feet; RTD 90 miles.

**Pima Canyon to 1<sup>st</sup> Dam. Rating D+.** The Pima Canyon Trailhead is at the east end of Magee Road. We will hike the first part of Pima Canyon to the first dam and enjoy the beautiful scenery, take photos. There are pools of water most of the year. The trail is rocky at some points and involves some step ups and step downs. Hike 2.7 miles; trailhead elevation 2900 feet; net elevation change \_\_\_ feet; accumulated gain 470 feet; RTD 42 miles.

**Pima Canyon to 2<sup>nd</sup> Dam. Rating C.** The Pima Canyon Trailhead is at the east end of Magee Road. The first mile or so is across open desert along the south side of Pusch Peak. We pass the small first dam as we enter the beautiful rugged canyon. The rocky trail passes through a grove of large trees providing welcome shade before emerging again in the open. The trail then leads to a rocky open area in the canyon beyond a small dam near several Indian grinding holes. The return is via the same route. Hike 6.2 miles; trailhead elevation 2900 feet; net elevation change \_\_\_ feet; accumulated gain 977 feet; RTD 42 miles.

**Pima Canyon to 3<sup>rd</sup> Dam. Rating B.** The trailhead is at the east end of Magee Road. The first mile or so of trail is across open desert along the south side of Pusch Peak. We pass the small first dam as we enter the beautiful rugged canyon. The rocky trail passes through a grove of large trees providing welcome shade before emerging again into the open. We will hike past a rocky open area in the canyon beyond the second dam near ancient grinding holes and continue on to the third dam, the largest of the three. The return is via the same route. Hike 8.1 miles; trailhead elevation 2900 feet; net elevation change 1870 feet; accumulated gain 2210 feet; RTD 42 miles.

**Pusch Peak. Rating A.** From the trailhead at the east end of Linda Vista Blvd, the trail proceeds up the northwest side of Pusch Ridge to the top of Pusch Peak, which provides fantastic 360 degree views of Tucson, Oro Valley, and points north. The first 1.5 miles of the trail climbs gradually along a wash. The final 1.5 miles is difficult and strenuous with

stretches of slippery footing, rock scrambling, and exposed, narrow, steep paths. Gloves are recommended. Along the final 1.5 miles, the trail passes four man-made dams and numerous excellent overlooks with views north, west, and south. Hike 6 miles; trailhead elevation 2650 feet; net elevation change 2700 feet; accumulated gain 2700 feet; round trip 28 miles.

**Pusch Ridge to 2nd Overlook. Rating C+.** From the trailhead at the east end of Linda Vista Blvd, the trail proceeds part way up Pusch Ridge to a great overlook with views to the north, west, and southwest. The first mile of the trail climbs gradually along a wash. The final 0.75 miles is difficult with slippery footing, rock scrambling, and exposed, narrow, steep paths. Gloves are recommended. The trail passes four man-made dams and a lower but excellent overlook with fantastic great north, west, and southwest. Hike 3.5 miles; trailhead elevation 2650 feet; net elevation change 1350 feet; accumulated gain 1350 feet; round trip 28 miles.

**Romero Pass. Rating A.** The hike begins in Catalina State Park at the easternmost trailhead and follows an up and down trail past Romero Pools and Romero Springs to Romero Pass. The last 2 miles before reaching the pass is very steep. The return is via the same route. There are excellent views of Romero and Montrose Canyons along the way and of Cathedral Peak at the top. Hike 15 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 3380 feet; accumulated gain \_\_ feet; RTD 24 miles.

**Romero Pools. Rating C+.** The hike begins in Catalina State Park at the easternmost trailhead and follows Romero Canyon Trail into the foothills. The trail crosses open desert then climbs steeply until it reaches a saddle and then down into the canyon area where several pools are located. There are excellent views of Romero and Montrose Canyons along the way. Trail is rocky and rough in places. An option is a 0.75 miles round-trip, relatively level hike to the upper pools. We will have lunch at the lower or upper pools. The return is via the same route. Hike 5.6 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 980 feet; accumulated gain 1500 feet; RTD 24 miles.

**Seven Falls with Tram. Rating C.** The hike begins at the Sabino Canyon Visitor Center with the tram to lower Bear Canyon. From the last tram stop we continue up Bear Canyon to Seven Falls and return via the same route back to the Center. The falls, which constitute one of the most spectacular natural features in the Tucson area, usually have some water flowing over them but may be dry if there has been inadequate rain. Tram fee required. Hike 6.4 miles; trailhead elevation 2800 feet; net elevation change 640 feet; accumulated gain 900 feet; RTD 56 miles.

**Sweetwater Trail (short version). Rating D+.** The hike begins from the trailhead at the end of El Camino del Cerro on the east side of the Tucson Mountains and covers about half the distance to the saddle. The return is via the same route. The trail passes through some of the prettiest saguaro forests in the area. Along the way there are good views of Tucson and Wasson Peak. Hiking boots and stick are recommended. Bring binoculars. Hike 4 miles; trailhead elevation 2800 feet; net elevation change 350 feet; accumulated gain \_\_ feet; RTD 60 miles.

**Tortolita Trail. Rating D.** The hike involves a portion of 12-mile multipurpose Tortolita Trail. The trail is near the Tortolita Preserve below Dove Mountain. It took outdoorsman and amateur trail designer Chuck Boyer, age 66, more than two years to carve out the 12-mile recreational trail using only hand tools. There are two trailheads to choose from. Hike 4 miles; trailhead elevation 3600 feet; net elevation change 500 feet; accumulated gain \_\_ feet; RTD 44 miles.

**Westward Look Resort Trails. Rating D.** Hikers explore two trails near the luxurious resort at the foot of the Catalinas. One of the trails has informational stops along the way. In addition, we will explore the resort's four specialty gardens and museum. Hike 2 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; elevation gain is minimal; RTD 37 miles.