

SADDLEBROOKE

HIKING CLUB NEWSLETTER

<http://saddlebrookehikingclub.com>

JULY/AUGUST

2018

SANTA FE UPDATE

By Walt Shields

Currently there are 84 club members signed up for the Fall trip to Santa Fe, October 2-4, 2018. Our hike chairman, Ray Peale, has organized a variety of hikes of all levels in the Santa Fe area, Bandelier National Monument, and the Pecos Valley. Guides have volunteered to lead each of the hikes.

A group dinner will take place the middle evening at Gabriel's, a well-known local restaurant. Walt Shields will be sending out trip updates beginning in late June. Anyone still interested in attending, please contact Walt for information, waltshields@mac.com

COPPER CANYON TRIP

Submitted by Phil McNamee

There are still spaces available for the November 19, 2018, departure for the Copper Canyon Trip. This trip includes a pickup and drop off in SaddleBrooke by "A Closer Look Tours" and a \$200 per person discount. See "Programs & Club Trips" page of website for details. If you are interested, please contact Phil McNamee at mcnameephil@gmail.com for more details. The November 2, 2018, departure date is full.

SADDLEBROOKE HIKERS ON THE BRIGHT ANGEL TRAIL

Submitted by Elaine Fagan

On Tuesday, May 1, nine hikers - Howie and Elaine Fagan (Hiking Guides), Chris and Audrey Costello, Judy Curtis, Tony Heus, Elaine Kline, Dave Hydeman, and Susan Hollis - braved the cooler than expected weather to hike down the Bright Angel Trail to the 1.5 Mile Resthouse.

We took it slowly so that we could appreciate the awesome beauty of the Grand Canyon. When we passed the first tunnel, we looked for pictographs; and we found quite a few. We appreciated the distinctive layers of sedimentary rock as we walked along, also noticing that the trail was steeper. As we

passed the second tunnel and the hiking became more strenuous, several of us removed layers of heavier clothing. A mule train approached us, and we were happy to hug the rocks as the mules took the outside of the trail.

The Resthouse was a welcome site where we enjoyed snacks and got renewed strength for the uphill hike back to the trailhead. On the way back up, we were joined by SaddleBrooke hikers, Joe and Joyce Maurizzi, who were hiking the trail on their own that day. We reached the rim in time to eat lunch, relax, and do other exploring for the rest of the day.

SADDLEBROOKE HIKING CLUB SPRING TRIP – SOUTH RIM OF THE GRAND CANYON

Submitted by Susan Hollis



On April 30, over ninety members of the SaddleBrooke Hiking club traveled to Grand Canyon National Park for three days of hiking. Eleven hiking guides: Larry Allen, Roy Carter, Dave Corrigan, Howie and Elaine Fagan, Susan Hollis, Randy Park, Rob Simms, Dave Sorenson, Don Taylor, and Elisabeth Wheeler helped lead a total of 20 different hikes.

The first day of hiking, May 1, was cool but sunny - great hiking weather and wonderful views. On the second day everyone woke to find six inches of snow

on the ground. For those in the campground, some in tents and some in RV's, it looked like eight inches or more of snow on top of the picnic tables. Most hikes that morning were canceled, but many members got out and hiked on their own or formed impromptu hiking groups. While Wednesday's weather was not the best for hiking, views of the Grand Canyon in snow were beautiful. By late afternoon on Wednesday, the snow had melted.



Wednesday night was our scheduled group dinner, arranged by Harriet Pearson. Seventy-two people had the opportunity to dine in the famous El Tovar dining room. How Harriet was able to obtain a reservation for all 72 people was nothing short of a miracle.

Weather for our third day was back to clear skies and perfect temperatures for hiking. That day our group had many hikes to choose from: hiking the Bright Angel Trail to Indian Garden, hiking both the Bright Angel Trail and South Kaibab Trail with the Tonto trail in between, hiking on the East Rim trail and West Rim trail, going to Shoshone Point and then a short hike on the Arizona Trail, or taking a short hike on the South Kaibab Trail to Ooh Aah Point. Many of the hikers wish we could have stayed longer, as temperatures in Tucson were 100 degrees!

**FORTY SADDLEBROOKE HIKERS
EXPLORE THE WEST RIM TRAIL OF
THE GRAND CANYON**

Submitted by Elisabeth Wheeler and Larry Allen

Dramatic viewpoints highlight the eight-mile Rim Trail from Grand Canyon Village to Hermit's Rest. Forty SaddleBrooke hikers in four groups hiked through Pinyon Pine and Utah Juniper along the South Rim to explore these famous views. Trail Overlook provided the best view of the precipitous Bright Angel Trail which plummets from the village to the Colorado River. Maricopa Point offered a

piece of mining history. Just west of the point are the remains of the Orphan Mine, one of the most productive uranium mines in America in the 1950's. Powell Point and Monument are named for John Wesley Powell, the famous explorer who led the first Colorado River expedition through the Grand Canyon in 1869.

Another spectacular view was Hopi Point which extends farther into the canyon than any other overlook. It offers sweeping views that stretch from Vishnu Temple in the east to Havasupai Point in the west. Hopi Point is a very popular for viewing sunrise and sunset. Mohave Point was a favorite among the hikers because it offered dramatic views of the Colorado River and a geologic formation called the alligator. Pima Point once held the longest tram in the world. It supplied the luxurious Santa Fe Railroad's Hermit Camp developed in 1912 at the base of Pima Point, 3000 feet below the rim. At the end of the West Rim Trail many hikers visited the stone building of Hermits Rest designed by Mary Colter and built by the Santa Fe Railroad in 1914. Hikers enjoyed its giant fireplace while sipping hot chocolate and imaging tourists in the early 1900's stopping here on their way down the cobblestone Hermit Trail to Hermit Camp 8.5 miles below the rim.



SaddleBrooke hikers also enjoyed learning about the geology of the Grand Canyon. The Grand Canyon was created six million years ago. Considering the earth is over four billion years old, six million years seems like a blink of an eye. In reality, northern Arizona was sliced open by the Colorado River. The river has cut downward at a rate of about 6.5 inches per 1,000 years. The Grand Canyon is one of the few places in the world where you can view almost two billion years of Earth History just by glancing up and down. Most of the rocks in the Grand Canyon are

sedimentary rocks, which form when sediments such as sand, silt, or mud gather in thick layers that, over time, are compressed into rock. It is interesting that the Grand Canyon's rocks were laid down chronologically, one on top of another. Simply put, it means that the rocks above are younger than the rocks below. When you move your eyes from the rim to the river you are staring back in time.

SaddleBrooke hikers had lots of fun exploring the West Rim Trail viewpoints and learning much of the history of the Grand Canyon. Hike leaders for the West Rim Trail were: Susan Hollis, Larry Allen, Don Taylor, and Elisabeth Wheeler.

HIKERS ESCAPE THE HEAT IN THE SANTA RITA MOUNTAINS

By Dale Leman

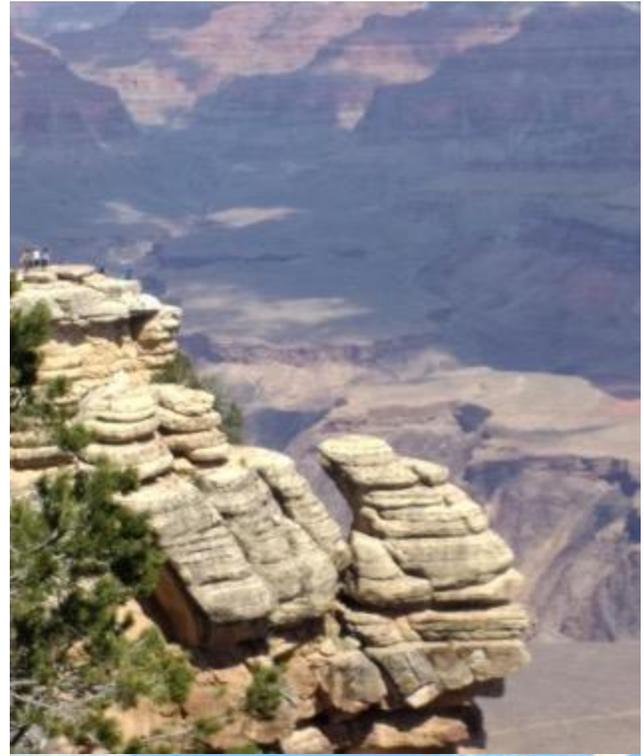


Josephine Saddle hikers from left to right: (seated) Roddy Wilder, Ruth Leman, Ellen Citron, Michael Reale (Hiking Guide), Kaori Hashimoto; (standing) Mary Hlushko, Joe Maurizzi, Dale Leman, and Jeanne Reale. (Photo by Kaori Hashimoto)

Early on May 31, nine SaddleBrooke hikers headed to the Santa Rita mountains near Green Valley, at least in part to escape the late May heat. Our mission was to hike to the Josephine Saddle and back. The hike started at the Madera Canyon parking lot, elevation 5,400 feet and proceeded up the Old Baldy Trail to Josephine Saddle, elevation 7,080 feet. We were in the shade most of the time which was most appreciated. Upon reaching the saddle, we took a break before venturing on. Michael Reale, our hiking guide, then wanted to show us one of his favorite places. We had to scramble a bit but we all arrived at "Roger's Rock" where we took the picture shown above. Roger's rock is big and the views are outstanding. A real treat to be there. After a brief rest we proceeded down the Super Trail to the parking lot and returned home. All combined about a

6.5-mile hike. We beat the heat, got exercise and enjoyed some great scenery in Southern Arizona.

GRAND CANYON PICTURES TAKEN BY J P BLOUNT



SADDLEBROOKE HIKERS DISCOVER FAIRY GARDENS ON MT. LEMMON

Submitted by Elisabeth Wheeler

SaddleBrooke hikers discovered two fairy gardens while hiking on Mt. Lemmon. Eleven hikers braved cold temperatures and gusty winds to hike the Aspen Draw and Marshall Gulch Loop from the Visitor Center in Summerhaven.

petrified dunes, slot canyons, undulating wave like formations, and canyon overlooks.

I have lined up a Best Western for \$88 a night per room which is a bargain for our hiking group. More information will be sent out via email very soon. Rob Simms will assist me on the St George trip.

**SADDLEBROOKE HIKING CLUB
SUPPORTS YOUTH OUTDOOR
LEARNING**
Submitted by Elisabeth Wheeler

A generous donation by the SaddleBrooke Hiking Club enabled over 60 children from Erickson Elementary School in Tucson to participate in the Environmental Education Program at Oracle State Park. Volunteer guides, including Dave Corrigan and Phil McNamee of SaddleBrooke guided small groups of students on trails teaching them to use their five senses. Each group had a scent canister from a desert critter. At stations along the trail there were three additional scent canisters. In matching their scent canisters to one at each station, the students gained valuable clues to the identity of their critter. Students discussed all they learned at the five stations and were very excited to identify their animal.



Dave says the students loved this activity! In a thank you note to Dave, Matthew said he liked listening to the animal sounds, sticking his hand in the mystery bag, and seeing the rattlesnake. He was glad Dave kept him safe from the rattlesnake!



Students identified many plants and critters, such as caterpillars, horned toads, hawks, and snakes discovered along the trail. For many students this was their first opportunity to explore nature trails and discover the joys of outdoor learning. Their teachers were thrilled to get their students involved in using their five senses to learn!

Thank you, SaddleBrooke Hiking Club, for making this outdoor learning possible by funding two school buses of students.



Future Trips		
Destination	Dates	Contact Person
Santa Fe, New Mexico	Oct. 2-4, 2018	Walt Shields waltshields@mac.com
St. George, Utah	April 9 – 11, 2018	Dave Sorenson iowaboy1950@yahoo.com

Club Calendar

Saddlebrooke Hiking Club Calendar

Jul 2018 (Mountain Time - Arizona)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5 C - Canyon	6	7
8	9	10 C - Box Camp to	11	12	13	14 B - Josephine
15	16	17	18 A - Pete & Jack	19 C	20	21
22	23	24 C -	25 D Rillito River	26	27	28 C - Incinerator
29	30	31	1	2 C Aspen	3	4

Saddlebrooke Hiking Club Calendar

Aug 2018 (Mountain Time - Arizona)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	31	1	2 C Aspen	3	4
5	6	7 C - Palisade Tr.	8	9	10	11 B - Wilderness
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 D - Moonlight	27	28	29	30 C Sabino	31	1

Hiking Information

HIKE ELEVATION, RATINGS & PACE

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

1. **Net Elevation Change:** the change in elevation obtained by subtracting the starting elevation from the highest (or lowest) point reached during the course of the hike, in feet. This estimate may be obtained from USGS maps or a global positioning system (GPS).
2. **Accumulated Gain:** 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.
3. **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. Ratings flagged with an “!” indicate special trail conditions that might be of concern to some hikers. Please read the hike descriptions or talk to the hiking guide before deciding whether to sign-up. Ratings flagged with a smiling face indicate an easier, smoother trail (often paved) than normal at that rating.

Rating	Distance	Accumulated Gain in Elevation
A	Greater than 14 miles	Greater than 3,000 ft
B	Greater than 8 miles, less than 14 miles	Greater than 1,500 ft, Less than 3,000 ft
C	Greater than 4 miles, less than 8 miles	Greater than 500 ft, Less than 1,500 ft.
D	Less than 4 miles	Less than 500 ft

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. Unless otherwise noted, all hikes are assumed to be Moderate pace.

Pace	Average Speed - MPH
Leisurely	Less than 1.5
Slow	Greater than 1.5, Less than 2.0
Moderate	Greater than 2.0, Less than 2.5
Fast	Greater than 2.5

Hikes Offered

Thursday, July 05, 2018 Canyon Loop, Birding, and Nature Trails. Rating: C. Pace: Slow - moderate [136, 06:30 AM, \$2 + \$2]. Starting at the main trailhead in Catalina State Park, this hike traverses an area that is a great example of the Sonoran Desert and its riparian areas. We first hike the Nature Trail which has panoramic views, and then continue onto the Canyon Loop Trail. We will fork onto the Birding Loop Trail prior to returning. If the group is really ambitious, we will swing through the Canyon Loop Trail the opposite way we came for a total of 6.7 miles. Depending upon the season, some water crossings are possible. Hike 4.6 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change __ feet; accumulated gain 370 feet; RTD 24 miles. [Guide: Karen Gray, 818-0337, kgrayinaz@yahoo.com.]

Tuesday, July 10, 2018 Box Camp Trail to Sabino Canyon Overlook. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [114, 07:30 AM, \$9]. The hike begins at the Box Camp Trailhead near Spencer Peak on Catalina Hwy. After a short uphill climb, the hike proceeds downhill for 2.5 miles to an overlook that provides a marvelous, panoramic view of Sabino Canyon area. We will have lunch here, and then return slowly uphill to the trailhead. Hike 5.2 miles; trailhead elevation 7920 feet; net elevation change 1126 feet; accumulated gain 1350 feet; RTD 123 miles. [Guide: Tim Butler, 825-0193, tucsontimmer@gmail.com.]

Saturday, July 14, 2018 Josephine Saddle. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [234, 06:30 AM, \$10]. The hike starts in Madera Canyon (Santa Rita Mountains) and goes up the Super Trail to Josephine Saddle. Hikers will rest at the Saddle and return via the Old Baldy Trail. Hike 6.2 miles; trailhead elevation 5450 feet; net elevation change 1630 feet; accumulated gain 1725 feet; RTD 130 miles. [Guide: Don Taylor 825-5304, donald_r_taylor@yahoo.com]

Wednesday, July 18, 2018 Pete & Jack Mountain Circular. Rating: A. Pace: Moderate [New, 05:30 AM, \$9]. We ascend via the Vault Mine Trail from Madera Canyon. This trail is the steepest maintained trail in the Santa Rita Mountains where we go up 1740' in 1.4 miles (WOW!!!). Along the way we will stop at Treasure Vault Mine (to catch our breath). Next, we hike 4.3 miles along rolling terrain between 7000 & 7661 feet, utilizing user trails and the Agua Caliente Trail. Along this stretch, we will pass Agua Caliente Saddle, then take a seldom used route to Pete's Peak (high point of the hike 7,661 feet) passing Bearpaw Rock, along the way. Pete's Mountain and the Agua Caliente Trail offer many panorama views of Madera Canyon, Tucson and the Santa Catalinas to the north and a climb to the summit of Jack Mountain. Due to shade and the higher elevation, this is a good cooler hike for the summer. Lastly to complete the loop, we descend the Carrie Nation Trail steeply back to the Mt. Wrightson Trailhead. Towards the end of this descent we pass the Carrie Nation mine with an interesting history. Sometimes called the "No Name Mine," this flooded cavity is tucked away in a shady part of Madera Canyon of the Santa Rita Mountains. At the site are remnants of machinery used over a century old at the mine. Hike 8.0 miles; trailhead elevation 5440 feet; net elevation change 2221 feet; accumulated gain 3200 feet; RTD 131 miles. [Guide: Aaron Schoenberg: (845) 987-4893; askus3@centurylink.net].

Thursday, July 19, 2018 Marshall Gulch / Aspen Loop with Lunch. Rating: C. Pace: SLOW [257, 07:00 AM, \$10]. The hike starts at the Marshall Gulch Picnic Area and goes up the Marshall Gulch Trail to the Marshall Saddle. From the Saddle, we turn left down the Aspen Trail and head back to the picnic area. After about 0.25 miles on the Aspen Trail, there is a large rock that provides a great spot for a break. Hike may be done in a clockwise direction which tends to be steeper. We'll stop for lunch in Summerhaven so bring lunch money. Hike 4.2 miles; trailhead elevation 7440 ft; net elevation change 480 feet; accumulated gain 830 feet; RTD 130 miles. [Guide: Karen Gray, 818-0337, kgrayinaz@yahoo.com.]

Tuesday, July 24, 2018 Sunset / Marshall Gulch / Aspen Loop. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [394, 07:30 AM, \$10]. The hike begins at Soldier Camp on the Sunset Trail, which starts on the Catalina Highway before reaching Summerhaven. It proceeds along the Marshall Gulch Trail to the Marshall Saddle, then down the Aspen Trail and Sunset Trail to the trailhead. There are great views of the Catalinas along the way, hiking mostly in forest shade.

Hike 7.0 miles; trailhead elevation 7640 feet; net elevation change 736 feet; accumulated gain 1394 feet; RTD 130 miles. [Guide: Tim Butler, 825-0193, tucsontimmer@gmail.com.]

Wednesday, July 25, 2018 Rillito River Hike # 1. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [361, 07:30 AM, \$3]. The hike begins from Children's Memorial Park on the north side of the Rillito River just west of Oracle Road. We walk up river (east) on an asphalt walking/bicycle path to a footbridge across the river at First Ave. We cross over to the south side and walk west on the compacted dirt path to Oracle Road. We cross back over the river at Oracle Road and return to the park. Hike 4 miles; trailhead elevation ___ feet; net elevation change is minimal; accumulated gain is minimal; [Guide Dave Sorenson 777 1994, iowaboy1950@yahoo.com]

Saturday, July 28, 2018 Incinerator Ridge. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [229, 07:00 AM, \$9]. 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 1175 feet; RTD 119 miles. [Guide: Don Taylor, 825-5303, donald_r_taylor@yahoo.com.]

Thursday, August 02, 2018 Aspen Loop / Mint Spring Trail. Rating: C. Pace: SLOW [90, 07:00 AM, \$10]. Starting at the Marshall Gulch picnic area, hikers follow the Aspen Trail to Marshall Saddle where we will take a break for a snack/lunch. The hike continues on the Mint Spring Trail to the Carter Canyon trailhead, then down the Carter Canyon road back to the Marshall Gulch picnic area. The hike is slow and easy with plenty of stops to see sights along the way. Hike 5.5 miles; trailhead elevation 7450 feet; net elevation change 800 feet; accumulated gain 1400 feet; RTD 131 miles. [Guide: Karen Gray, 818-0337, kgrayinaz@yahoo.com.]

Tuesday, August 07, 2018 Palisade Trail / Mud Spring. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [313, 07:30 AM, \$9]. Starting at the Showers Point Campground behind the Palisade Ranger Station off Catalina Hwy, we will hike down the Palisade Trail through pine forest to Mud Spring and return. The spring is a grand lunch site with a panoramic view of the valley. Most of the climb is on the return. The trail is moderately shady. Hike 5.9 miles; trailhead elevation 7770 feet; net elevation change -1360 feet; accumulated gain 1403 feet; RTD 119 miles. [Guide: Tim Butler, 825-0193, tucsontimmer@gmail.com.]

Saturday, August 11, 2018 Wilderness of Rocks Loop # 1. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [485, 06:00 AM, \$10]. The hike begins at the Steward Observatory parking lot and proceeds down the Mt. Lemmon and Lemmon Rock Lookout Trails to about 7200 feet to connect with the Wilderness of Rocks Trail. Turning east, this trail leads to the Marshall Saddle, where we take the Aspen Trail up to Radio Ridge and back to the observatory parking area. Hike 7.3 miles; trailhead elevation 9100 feet; net elevation change 2050 feet; accumulated gain 2263 feet; RTD 131 miles. [Guide: Don Taylor, 825-5303, donald_r_taylor@yahoo.com.]

Sunday, August 26, 2018 Full Moon Hike, Catalina State Park. Rating: D. Pace: SLOW [196, 6 p.m., \$2 + \$2]. We will hike in Catalina State Park on one of the easy trails, then return to one of the park's group sites to enjoy S'mores and a campfire. Bring flashlight, hot drink, and warm clothes including gloves. There is a \$3.00 fee for food and site rental. Hike < 4miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 200 feet; accumulated gain ___ feet; RTD 24 miles. [Guide: Karen Gray, 818-0337, kgrayinaz@yahoo.com].

Thursday, August 30, 2018 Extended Fitness Walk. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [179, 06:30 AM, \$4]. The walk begins at the Sabino Canyon parking lot and travels up the Upper Sabino Canyon Road (the tram road) and returns the same way. Carry at least one quart of water. Walk 7 miles; elevation change 600 feet. A beautiful early morning walk. [Guide Dave Sorenson 777 1994. iowaboy1950@yahoo.com]