



SADDLEBROOKE

HIKING CLUB NEWSLETTER

<http://www.SaddleBrooke.org>

MARCH/APRIL

2007-2

CANYON OF GOLD SLIDESHOW

MountainView Center Ballroom

Wednesday, April 18th at 4:00 p.m.

(Hiking Club Social Hour will follow at 5 p.m.)

Barbara Marriott's insatiable curiosity has sent her tumbling into some unique adventures. Barbara's newest book, Canyon of Gold pays tribute to the Pioneers of the Canada del Oro and Santa Catalina Mountains. This book explores the history behind such places as Oro Valley, SaddleBrooke, Catalina and Sabino Canyon. Her Ph.D. in cultural anthropology gives her the tools to get to the very core of her subject, and to satisfy her unquenchable need to know. Barbara Marriot was elected to Who's Who in American Woman. Her books will be on sale following the presentation.

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Have you renewed you Hiking Club Membership for 2007? The dues will remain at \$5.00.

You may send your dues to Bob Perez at 65187 E. Desert Sands Court. Make checks payable to SaddleBrooke Hiking Club.

CLUB ADOPTS CATALINA HILLS DRIVE

The SaddleBrooke Hiking Club has adopted the first two miles of Catalina Hills Drive for trash cleanup in Pinal County's Adopt-A-Highway-Program. Mr. Tony Heet, Pinal County Public Response Coordinator working with Bill Leightenheimer of the SaddleBrooke Hiking Club got the signs put up recently. The first cleanup date will be Thursday, March 1st at 8:30 a.m. Hiking Club members interested should call Bill to volunteer at 818-1953. The club will provide safety vests and pickup sticks. Pinal County will provide the trash bags. Bill will provide refreshments at his home after the cleanup.

RACE FOR THE CURE

Sunday, April 15th.

Become a part of "team SaddleBrooke" by calling Judie Shyman: 818-2454 (by March 26th) of our Hiking Club for more information. Your tee shirt and packet will be picked up for you if you are registered with the team in March.

Last year 87 participated from SaddleBrooke.

This year the goal is over 100!

HIKING CLUB PICNIC

Wednesday, April 11th

Catalina State Park

Large group picnic area.

FOOD: It will be a potluck-plus-chicken lunch. The club will provide the chicken, plates, utensils, ice and cups. You will need to bring a side dish, salad, or dessert to share and your own beverage. The chicken will cost \$2 per person.

PLEASE CALL CHERYL STRAW: 818-3631 PRIOR TO APRIL 8th TO TELL HER WHAT YOU WILL BRING TO SHARE AND IF YOU WISH TO ORDER CHICKEN.

HIKES: An early bird hike to Romero Pools will begin at the Romero Canyon Trailhead at **7:30 a.m.** Hike 6 miles. Elevation change 1200 feet. **PRE-REGISTER FOR THIS HIKE WITH MICHAEL REALE: 825-8286.**

A Sutherland Trail hike will be offered at **8:00 a.m.** Hike 6 miles. Elevation change 600 feet. **PRE-REGISTER FOR THIS HIKE WITH MARV ROSSOF: 877-9262.**

A **geology walk** will be offered by Karen Gray at **8:00 a.m.** No pre-registration required.

In addition, two short hikes will be offered at **8:00 a.m.** that will have you back for the **10:00 a.m.** activities. No pre-registration required for these hikes.

HIKING DISCUSSION AND NORDIC DEMO: AT 10 a.m. A discussion of Hikers' Wisdom will be offered with an opportunity to buy the booklet titled Hikers Wisdom for \$4. At 11 a.m. Sue Berman will offer a brief Nordic Walking clinic with an opportunity to try out Nordic hiking poles. Done properly, Nordic walking provides an upper body workout while burning an additional 30% more calories.

A business meeting will be held at 11:30. We will

be electing new officers. Lunch will follow. SaddleBrooke hiking shirts and patches will be available for sale.

NEWS YOU CAN USE

Hiker's Wisdom	March 21 st	3:00 p.m.
Social Hour	March 21st	4:00 p.m.
Board Meeting	April 4th	3:00 p.m.
Hiking Guide Meeting	April 4th	4:00 p.m.
Hiking Club Picnic	April 11 th	11:30 a.m.
Canyon of Gold Slideshow	April 18 th	4:00 p.m.
Social Hour	April 18th	5:00 p.m.

Note: Social Hours held at the MV Clubhouse in the lounge area.

Hard copies of the Newsletter are available at the MountainView Clubhouse. They are also available on our web page at www.saddlebrooke.org.

NEWS WE CAN USE

New e-mail address: If you change your e-mail address please notify Bob Perez at azsun65@wbhsi.net so you can continue to receive the newsletter and other communications.

OFFICERS

President: Susan Robertshaw - 818-6727

jsrobertshaw@wbhsi.net

Vice-President: Larry Dawson - 825-3480

madmaryann2@aol.com

Secretary: Kathy Gish - 818-0918

robkathy@msn.com

Treasurer: Jan Springer - 825-1451

Janet65673@msn.com

Chief Hiking Guide: Elisabeth Wheeler - 818-1547

elisarick@wbhsi.com

VOLUNTEERS

Chief Guide Asst.: Cheryl Werstler - 825-9057

dbwerst@wbhsi.net

Editor: Carole Rossof - 877-9262

crandmr1@msn.com

Membership Roster: Bob Perez - 818-2111

azsun65@wbhsi.net

Merchandise: Sally Sample - 825-0985

Newsletter Copies: Martha Hackworth - 818-2573

Publicity: Open

Statistics & Awards: Melody Branstrom - 825-5562

Social: Cheryl Straw - 818-3631

Social Assistant: Cyndee Jordan - 825-4640

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 hike 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 at the end of the hike descriptions. Most include the entry and/or parking fees where required, however 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. 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.

Guest Policy: Normally a SaddleBrooke resident, whether year-round or part-time, must be a club member in order to join a hike. They may however, come on one hike as a guest in order to see if they are interested in joining the club. Members must accompany their guest(s), and all guests will be required to sign a Release Form prior to hiking (if under age 18, must be signed by parent or legal guardian). If the guest is younger than 16 years old, you must notify the guide who has sole discretion whether or not to allow minors on the hike.

HIKE RATINGS, PACE, AND SYMBOLS

Rating:

- A Hikes >14 miles or >3000 foot climb
- B Hikes >8 to 14 miles or >1500 to 3000 foot climb
- C Hikes >4 to 8 miles or >500 to 1500 foot climb
- D Hikes 4 miles or less and 500 foot climb or less

Pace:

Refers to the length of 2 steps, the speed you walk/hike, or to the average speed of a hike. When we denote the pace of a hike we are referring to the average speed. This means that from start to finish (excluding lunch) you can expect to be traveling at an average speed of () MPH. The average speed or pace of a hike is affected by speed and length of stride, number of rest stops, incline, type of terrain, and trail conditions. We use the following three categories to describe our hikes.

Slow Pace – Average speed of hike < 1.5 MPH

Moderate Pace – Average speed of hike 1.5 to 2.5 MPH

Fast Pace – Average speed of hike > 2.5 MPH

Symbols:

"+" and "-" after a rating. The plus and minus signs are used to show that a hike is harder or easier than the average hike in that rating category. It may have a plus sign added due to a loose rocky area or perhaps due to an unusually steep area. A minus sign might be added to a hike due to it having a very easy, smooth trail surface.

"" by a hike.** Hikes marked by a double asterisk are new additions to our club database or a new 'one time' hike.

"++" by a hike. Hikes marked by a double plus are Orientation Hikes. Orientation hikes are encouraged for all "beginner" hikers and are intended for sharing information and for personal assessment of current physical fitness.

FITNESS WALKS - FIVE DAYS A WEEK

The SaddleBrooke Hiking Club offers morning fitness walks five days a week. These sessions last about one hour and are suitable for walkers of all ability levels. They are a great way to start the day and a great way to meet other SaddleBrooke residents as you enjoy the fantastic views.

Fitness Walks will continue Monday, Wednesday and Friday at **7:30 a.m.** from the parking lot just west of SaddleBrooke HOA #1 Fitness Center. **Please note, time change to 6:30 begins April 1st.** Volunteers will take turns leading these walks and will be coordinated by Dean Wilson.

Dean Wilson and Michael Reale offer fitness walks Tuesday and Thursday at **7:30 a.m. Please note, time change to 6:30 begins April 1st.** Meet at the parking lot of the MountainView Clubhouse. You may contact Dean at **818-0299** or Michael at **825-8286**.

Judy Barenkopf offers fitness walks every Tuesday and Thursday at **7:30 a.m. Please note, time change to 6:30 begins April 3rd.** Meet at the parking lot of at the MountainView Clubhouse on Tuesday and at the parking lot of the

SaddleBrooke Tennis Center on Thursdays. You may contact Judy at **825-7077** or mbarenkopf@msn.com.

HIKES OFFERED

March 1 – Thurs. Fitness Walk Cleanup of Catalina Hills Drive. Safety vests and pickup sticks will be provided. Leave **8:30 a.m.** from basketball court just west of the SaddleBrooke Fitness Center. Refreshments afterwards. Call Bill Leightenheimer, 818-1953 to volunteer.

March 3 – Sat. American Flag to Windmill. Rating C. From the American Flag Trailhead 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 it crosses the Cottonwood Wash and continues on to a Wind Mill after another .3 mile. We 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. Expansive views of the Galiuro Mountains. Hike 8.7 miles; elevation change 350 feet; starting elevation 4400 feet; leave at **8:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 41 miles; driver donation \$2.00. Sandra Sowell, 818-0995.

****March 3 – Sat. Lime Falls, Saguaro NP – East (short version), rating D.** Lime Kilns and Falls are along the Cactus Forest Trail, which can be accessed from the north or south from the Loop Dr. From the north end to the Falls (past the kilns) is 2.8 miles with 300 ft. elevation gain from the junction to top of the Falls. The Lime Kilns are interesting and have an interpretive sign. They were operational 1880-1920. Hike 1.4 miles with 300 ft. elevation gain. Starting elevation 2700 feet; leave **8:30 a.m.**, round trip drive 80 miles; driver donation \$4.00. Jan Wilson, 818-0299.

March 4 – Sun. Seven Falls. Rating C+. Starting at the Sabino Canyon Visitors Center hike from the parking lot to lower Bear Canyon. Then along the Bear Canyon Trail to Seven Falls and return. Falls may be dry depending on spring rains. Hike 8 miles; elevation change 900 feet; starting elevation 2800 feet; leave at **8:30 a.m.**; round trip drive 56 miles; driver donation \$4.00. Karen Gray, 818-0337.

March 5 – Mon. Romero Springs. Rating B. Starting in Catalina State Park, we will follow the Romero Canyon trail. Along the way we will pass by the Montrose and Romero pools. The spring is located about 2 miles past the Romero pools. It is a very scenic section of the canyon. It has been known to have quite a bit of wildlife. Hike 10 miles; elevation change 2200 feet; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at **8:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 24 miles; driver donation \$2.00. Frank Brier, 818-0493.

March 5 – Mon. Canyon Loop and Birding Trail. Rating D. We will start up the Romero Trail in Catalina State Park; follow the Canyon Loop Trail and come back on the Sutherland Trail. This area is a great example of the Sonoran Desert and its riparian areas. Following this we will hike the Birding Trail. Depending upon the season, some water crossings are possible. Hike 3.43 miles; elevation change 270 feet (gps); starting

elevation 2700 feet; leave at **7:30 a.m.**; round trip drive 24 miles; driver donation \$2.00. Mary Richling, 825-5238.

March 7 – Wed. Sutherland Trail. Rating C. This is a great wildflower hike after abundant winter rains. Along the way, we will observe many beautiful Saguaro cacti and great rock formations. There are many photo opportunities. We will also pass the cutoff to Dripping Springs which makes a nice short side trip if the water falls are flowing. The route begins in Catalina State Park and ends at a very scenic, flat, rocky area. We return using same route. Hike 6 miles; elevation change 600 feet; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at **9:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 24 miles; driver donation \$2.00. Marv Rossof, 877-9262.

March 8 – Thurs. Picacho Peak - Sunset Vista Trail (short). Rating C. From the Sunset Vista Trailhead we follow the trail to the area that starts the steep climb to Picacho Peak. We will return by the same route. Hike 5-6 miles; elevation change 500 ft.; starting elevation 1500 feet; leave at **8:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 90 miles; driver donation \$6.00. Jan Wilson, 818-0299.

March 9 – Fri. Deer Camp/Baby Jesus Loop. Rating C. We will start in the 50-Year Trail area. We hike up toward Deer Camp then take the Middle Tank Connecting Trail to the Baby Jesus Trail and hike back to our cars. This area has little traffic and is a delight to the senses. Hike 7.5 miles; elevation change 993 feet (gps); starting elevation 3200; leave at **8:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 12 miles (dirt); driver donation \$2.00. Michael Reale, 825-8286.

March 9 – Fri. Pima Canyon. Rating C. The trailhead is at the end of Magee Road. The first mile or so of trail is across open desert along the south side of Pusch Peak. We will pass the 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. We will hike to a rocky open area in the canyon beyond a small dam near Indian grinding holes and then return to the trailhead. Hike 6.2 miles; elevation change 977 feet (gps); starting elevation 2900 feet; leave at **8:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 42 miles; driver donation \$2.00. Larry Dukatz, 825-7097.

****March 9 – Fri. Superstitions: La Barge Canyon. Rating B.** This hike, rescheduled after being canceled in Jan., is for those who would like to see the Superstitions from a different perspective, hiking off-trail to areas not commonly seen. We will hike Boulder Canyon Trail from the trailhead on Canyon Lake for about 3 miles. (During this segment we gain 500 ft. in a half mile.) We then leave the trail soon entering through the sheer rock walls of La Barge Canyon. Hiking through this canyon, described in Todd's Desert Hiking Guide as the ... "nicest canyon in the Superstitions," will involve boulder hopping, some scrambling and climbing, and minor bushwhacking. We will hike about 1.5 miles through the canyon along the east side of pyramid-shaped Battleship Mountain to an area of lovely seasonal pools and then return the way we came, reconnecting with the trail. Before we proceed, we will take a brief side trip to Indian Paint Mine. In addition to old foundations and mining shafts, the rocks in this area are said to have been mined by the Indians for paint. Here hikers can choose whether to return on the trail, which includes an elevation gain of 600 ft. in a half mile, or to return on the rocky LaBarge creek bed. The creek bed option involves 1.8 miles of

boulder hopping. Wear long pants and wetable shoes (although water in the creek at this time of year is not likely); consider bringing hiking sticks. Hike 9+ miles; elevation change 725 ft. (entire cumulative elevation gain is about 3,000 ft. out and back on the trail or about 1,670 returning via the creek bed); starting elevation 1,690 ft.; leave at **6:00 a.m.**; driver donation \$10.00. Dean & Cheryl Werstler, 825-9057.

March 12 – Mon. David Yetman Trail. Rating C. This hike is an easy walk through typical vegetation of the Sonoran Desert. This trail has two trailheads – one at Camino de Oeste and one near the bottom of the west side of Gates Pass. We can leave cars at one end and drive to the other trailhead. From the Gates Pass side, the trail is easy for the first mile, then down a wash with a short but steep climb back up to the ridge. We pass the Central Arizona Project, an old stone house built in the early 1930's by Sherry Bowen, and a well that is a wildlife watering tank. Bring lunch, water, hat, sun lotion, and hiking stick, if you wish. Hike 5.4 miles; elevation change 600 feet; starting elevation 2800 feet; leave at **8:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 75 miles; driver donation \$4.00. Larry Dawson, 825-3840.

March 12 – Mon. Blackett's Ridge. Rating B. This hike takes you up to a ridge between Sabino and Bear Canyons. It has spectacular views of Tucson and the canyons. We hike through lower Sabino Canyon to the Phoneline Trail. After 0.4 miles we turn onto the Blackett's Ridge Trail where we begin the ascent. This trail has several series of steep switchbacks mixed in with some level areas. There are three false summits at the top. Hike 6 miles; elevation change 1620 feet (gps); starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at **7:30 a.m.**; round trip drive 56 miles; driver donation \$4.00. Dave Hydeman & Philip Cotton, 825-7816.

****March 13 – Tues. AZT: Rincon Valley section. Rating A.** This section, which will be done as a key exchange, extends from the junction of Sahuarita Rd. and SR 83 through Colossal Cave Mountain Park to S X9 Ranch Rd. The total hike distance is about 15 miles with a cumulative elevation gain of 1,375 or 990 feet (depending on your direction of travel). Starting elevation 3,280 or 3,660 feet. Leave at **6:00 a.m.**; driver donation \$7. Dean & Cheryl Werstler, 825-9057.

March 14 – Wed. Dripping Springs from the Sutherland Trail. Rating C-. We follow the Sutherland Trail past the wilderness sign then turn off at a Sutherland Trail sign. There are large rocks laid out in a row on the right (east) side of trail. The hike then veers to the right and follows a small canyon where there is a beautiful waterfall (depending on recent rains). Much of this part of the trail is sandy with 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. Hike 4 miles; elevation change 500 feet; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at **9:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 24 miles; driver donation \$2.00. Ned Meyer, 818-2798.

March 14 – Wed. Oracle Ridge to Saddle. Rating C. This hike begins in Oracle off the Cody Loop Road. It follows the Oracle Ridge Trail to the junction with the American Flag/Cody Trail where we have great views of Biosphere II and the Tortolitas to the west. We follow the ridge south where we will lunch in a saddle at the top of Camp Bonita Canyon on the northwest side of Apache Peak. Return by the same route. Hike

5.2 miles; elevation gain 700 feet; starting elevation 4700 feet; leave at **9:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 39 miles; driver donation \$2.00. Marv Rossof, 877-9262.

****March 15 – Thurs. Redington Pass-San Manuel-Oracle-SaddleBrooke Exploratory. Rating D.** We drive east on Tanque Verde Road to Redington Pass Road on the east side of Tucson. Climb via car up Redington Pass road to great views of Tucson, Santa Catalina Mountains to our left, and Rincon Mountains to our right. Redington Pass road passes hiking points such as Aqua Caliente Hill, Chivo Falls, AZ Trail, Bellota Ranch, The Lakes, Chimney rock, Youtcy Ranch, Piety Hill. The Redington Pass Road is 22 miles from Tanque Verde Road to the San Pedro River. We will have a picnic lunch along the way, take pictures, and do an exploratory hike along the way. After the road descends to the San Pedro River, we turn north driving along the river back to San Manuel, left on highway #77 past Oracle, and back to SaddleBrooke. This is an all day exploratory in high clearance vehicles. Leave at **7:30 a.m.** Total driving miles is approx. 122 miles, driver donation \$8.00. Jan Wilson, 818-0299.

****March 15 – Thurs. AZT - Cienega Corridor Segment. Rating C+.** The trail will begin at the La Posta Quemada Ranch which is less than one mile from the entrance to Colossal Cave Park. This is a county park and there is a fee of \$5.00 per car to enter the park. This is a recently completed section of the AZ trail in the Cienega Corridor. It is an out and back hike with one small section (about 0.5 mile) on a dirt road. The views of the Rincons are spectacular at the halfway point. If time permits an option could be to check out the Ranch museum. Hike 7.6 miles. Starting elevation 3400 ft. Elevation change 2660 ft. Leave at **7:00 am.** Driving distance 90 miles. Driver donation \$5.00. Mary Croft, 825-3804.

March 16 – Fri. Deer Camp. Rating C. We will start in the 50-Year Trail area. We hike through beautiful rock formations with many saguaros to a camp at the base of Mt. Samaniego. Hike 7 miles; elevation change 975 feet; starting elevation 3200; leave at **8:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 12 miles (dirt); driver donation \$2.00. Chris Costello, 818-0368.

March 16 – Fri. Hidden Canyon Loop. Rating C+. This is a beautiful hike, practically in our "back yard", to a secluded canyon in the upper reaches of the Sutherland Wash. There are many beautiful rock formations and saguaro cacti, along the way and a rock ledge with a great view down the valley, for lunch. The hike begins in the Fifty Year Trail area past Golder Ranch Road gate. After lunch we will continue on out of the canyon, and circle around Hidden Canyon Peak, back to the "North Gate" and return to our trailhead via the Fifty-Year Trail. Hike 8 miles; elevation change 975 feet; starting elevation 3200 feet; leave at **8:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 12 miles (dirt); driver donation \$2.00. Michael Reale, 825-8286.

****March 16 – Fri. AZT: Las Cienegas. Rating A.** This segment makes its way from the end of the Santa Rita Passage at Oak Tree Canyon, parallels SR 83, than ends near the Davis Canyon Bridge on I-10, but we will end our hike at the junction of Sahuarita Rd. and SR 83, saving the last 3 miles for the Rincon Valley section. The official trail through this passage has not yet been established and the route consists of old roads

and scratchy bushwhacking. The going will be slow and defensive clothing should be worn. The elevation change is a gradual descent of 2,200 feet over about 15 miles. Starting elevation 5,100 ft. Leave at **6 a.m.**; driver donation \$7. Dean and Cheryl Werstler, 825-9057.

March 17 – Sat. Romero Pools. Rating C+. The hike begins in Catalina State Park and follows Romero Canyon Trail into the foothills. Trail crosses open desert then climbs steeply until it reaches a saddle and then down the canyon area where several pools are located. An option is a ¾ mile round-trip hike to the upper pools. We will have lunch there. Park entrance pass required. Hike 6 miles; elevation change 1200 feet; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at **8:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 24 miles; driver donation \$2.00. Philip Cotton & Dave Hydeman, 825-2243.

March 19 – Mon. Tohono Chul Park and Tea Room, Birds and breakfast. Rating D. Join a Tohono Chul docent for a guided bird observation walk in beautiful Tohono Chul Park. We can continue strolling through the park at our leisure and end with breakfast at the Tohono Chul Tea Room. Bring binoculars. There is an admission fee of \$5.00. Hike 1.5 miles; elevation change 50 feet; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at **7:45 a.m.**; round trip drive 36 miles; driver donation \$2.00. Mary Richling, 825-5238.

March 19 – Mon. Tonto National Monument. Rating C-. A park ranger guided tour hike of the Upper Cliff Dwellings, normally closed and allowed only by reservation. The tour is approx. 3 miles on unpaved, moderate to steep trail with a gain of 600 ft. Time permitting, we will also visit the lower cliff dwelling on our own. This will be an educational experience regarding the life of the Salado Indians (People of the Salt River). National Park Fee - \$3 (without a pass). The monument is approx. 110 miles one way, on good roads and overlooks Roosevelt Lake. Limited to 12 members (3 cars). **MUST SIGN UP AT LEAST 3 DAYS PRIOR TO HIKE.** Bring lunch, ample water, and a hat. Leave at **7:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 230 miles; driver donation \$12.00. Sandra Sowell, 818-0995.

March 20 – Tues. Seven Falls With Tram. Rating C. Starting at the Sabino Canyon Visitors Center we will take the Tram to lower Bear Canyon. Bring \$3.00 for Tram Ride. We will hike the Bear Canyon Trail to Seven Falls and return. Falls may be dry depending on spring rains. Hike 8 miles; elevation change 900 feet; starting elevation 2800 feet; leave at **7:30 a.m.**; round trip drive 56 miles; driver donation \$4.00. Jan Wilson, 818-0299.

March 20 - Wed. Rams Creek Pass. Rating C. We hike up the wash on a new trail through nice vegetation and then climb 560 feet to a watering tank. There are some great views of Rancho Vistoso, Tortolitas, SaddleBrooke, and the Biosphere. We then continue on to a water fall where we will have lunch. Return via same route. Hike 5 miles; elevation change 1000 feet; starting elevation 2600 feet; leave at **9:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 21 miles; driver donation \$1.00. Marv Rosssof, 877-9262.

March 21 – Wed. Hikers' Wisdom for Newcomers, MountainView, 3:00 p.m.

March 21 – Wed. Hiking Club Social, 4:00p.m.

March 22 – Thurs. Mt. Kimball/Finger Rock Canyon. Rating A+ (B Pace). Starting 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 10 miles; elevation change 4150 feet; starting elevation 3100 feet; leave at **7:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 44 miles; driver donation \$2.00. Rick Phelps & Debbie Dyer, 825-2395.

****March 23 – Fri. Temporal Gulch/Santa Rita portion. Rating A.** This hike will be conducted as a key exchange, one group starting from Gardner Canyon Rd., the other near Patagonia on FS 72, 7 miles into the Temporal Gulch segment. From FS 72 we will follow the rocky road 5 more miles as it continues north into the Mount Wrightson Wilderness. At Walker Basin Trailhead a singletrack 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 6,570 feet. The views are stunning: into Mexico to the south, to the Huachucas to the southeast, and to Mt. Wrightson to the northwest. We will pass interpretive signs describing the elaborate hydraulic mining system that existed in the area in the early 1900's. We will continue about ¾ mile into the Santa Ritas segment, ending at Gardner Canyon Road. (Of course the 2nd group does the hike in reverse.) Starting at 4,400 feet, the trail climbs gently 1,300 feet in the first 6 miles then steeply, 900 feet in one mile, to the saddle high-point at 6,570 feet. 750 feet are lost over the next 2 miles, the trail remains at a fairly constant elevation for the next 3 miles, then it descends 500 feet over the last 3 miles to an ending elevation of 5,360 feet. The total hike is somewhat over 15 miles with a cumulative gain of 3,150 feet and loss of 2,365 feet (or visa versa). Starting elevation 4,400 or 5,200, depending on starting location. Leave at **6 a.m.**; driver donation \$9. Dean and Cheryl Werstler, 825-9057.

March 24 – Sat. American Flag. Rating C. This hike begins at the American Flag trailhead on the old Mt. Lemmon Road and covers a section of the Arizona Trail. We take the American Flag/Cody Trail to the intersection of the Oracle Ridge Trail where we have great views of Biosphere II and the Tortolitas to the west. 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. (We may tour the unique stone house if the owner is home.) Hike 7.4 miles; elevation change 1200 feet; starting elevation 4400 feet; leave at **8:30 a.m.**; round trip drive 41 miles; driver donation \$2.00. Karen Gray, 818-0337.

March 26 – Mon. OSP East Loop. Rating C. This hike begins at the Kannally Ranch House parking lot in Oracle State Park. We hike the Nature Trail to the Wildlife Corridor Trail where we go northeast to the AZ Trail. At the intersection we turn southeast and follow trail to the intersection with the Manzanita Trail. We follow this trail west and onto the Nature Trail that takes us back to the cars. This route is fairly level with little elevation change with wide open views and interesting rock formations among the low desert plants. Hike 6 miles, elevation change 900 feet (gps); starting elevation 4350 feet; leave at **9:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 40 miles; driver donation

\$3.00. Marv Ross, 877-9262.

March 28 – Wed. Arizona Trail - Oracle State Park Work Session. Rating C. This is our Hiking Club work day. Come join in the fun--it's nice to work side by side with other hiking members and it certainly gives you a feeling of pride and accomplishment along with a way of 'giving back' for all the trails we hike and take for granted so often. We help develop, maintain, and report conditions of the trails for which our Club is responsible. Generally, the work is light, involving some clipping, brushing, hoeing, raking, and pruning, and for some, lifting and carrying of tools. On rare occasions we may rebuild water runoffs, add erosion control devices, and other trail work. Wear long pants and bring along gloves, hat, and hand clippers. Any other tools needed, will be provided. We work on trails in the Oracle State Park and a section of the Arizona Trail called, "Black Hills/south," which is just north of the Park, across Hwy 77. The sessions usually last about 4 hours, so bring water and snacks and lunch if you wish. Leave at **8:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 40 miles; driver donation \$3.00. Jim Strickler, 825-8735.

March 30 – Fri. Romero Pools. Rating C+. The hike begins in Catalina State Park and follows Romero Canyon Trail into the foothills. Trail crosses open desert then climbs steeply until it reaches a saddle and then down the canyon area where several pools are located. An option is a ¾ mile round-trip hike to the upper pools. We will have lunch there. Park entrance pass required. Hike 6 miles; elevation change 1200 feet; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at **8:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 24 miles; driver donation \$2.00. Jan Wilson, 818-0299.

March 30 – Fri. AZT: Rincon Mountains. Rating A+. The top of the Rincons is a great place for solitude since there is no easy way to get there from a road. We will start this through hike in the Rincon Mountain Wilderness at Turkey Creek Trailhead on a ridge that separates Turkey Creek and Mesquite Canyons. We soon cross the Saguaro National Park boundary enjoying views of Rincon Peak to the south and the Catalina Mountains to the north. We begin a steep climb at the boundary, gaining over 3,000 ft. in the next 3 miles. We pass through a number of plant communities beginning with rolling grasslands, transitioning to oak/juniper forests, and topping out with ponderosa forests. About 6.5 miles from the trailhead we reach Manning Camp which is occasionally used by the National Park Service and has a restroom, water and campsites. Manning Camp was built in 1905 by General Levi Manning, Surveyor General of the Arizona Territory and later mayor of Tucson, as a summer home. He abandoned the cabin in 1907 when the area was declared a National Forest Reserve and his homestead rights were revoked. We begin a steady descent, losing 5,000 ft. over 9.5 miles, passing through Grass Shack Campground and arriving at Madrona Ranger Station. From here we leave the National Park and walk 4 miles on a dirt road to our waiting vehicle. We will need a 4X4 vehicle and shuttle driver for every 3 hikers. Hike 19+ miles; elevation change 3,900 ft. (Cumulative gain= 4,600 ft.; loss=5,730 ft.); starting elevation 4,400 ft.; leave at **4:00 a.m.**; driver donation \$12.00. Dean & Cheryl Werstler, 825-9057.

March 31 – Sat. Deer Camp/Baby Jesus Loop. Rating C. We will start in the 50-Year Trail area. We hike up toward Deer Camp then take the Middle Tank Connecting Trail to the Baby

Jesus Trail and hike back to our cars. This area has little traffic and is a delight to the senses. Hike 7.5 miles; elevation change 993 feet (gps); starting elevation 3200; leave at a.m.; round trip drive 12 miles (dirt); driver donation \$2.00. Jim Strickler, 825-8735.

April 2 – Mon. Pima Canyon. Rating C. The trailhead is at the end of Magee Road. The first mile or so of trail is across open desert along the south side of Pusch Peak. We will pass the 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. We will hike to a rocky open area in the canyon beyond a small dam near Indian grinding holes and then return to the trailhead. Hike 6.2 miles; elevation change 977 feet (gps); starting elevation 2900 feet; leave at **8:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 42 miles; driver donation \$2.00. Larry Dawson, 825-3480.

April 2 – Mon. Thimble Peak. Rating B. We start at Prison Camp Road (now Gordon Hirabayashi Recreation Site), 7 miles up the Catalina Highway and take the beautiful Sycamore Reservoir Trail down to the abandoned reservoir, connect to the Bear Canyon Trail on the way to Thimble Flat then follow a faint trail to the base of Thimble Peak. Bring gloves to do the fairly easy scramble to the top of the east summit. Enjoy outstanding views from this prominent landmark. We will return by the same route. Hike 11 miles; elevation change 1500 feet; starting elevation 4850 feet; leave at **8:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 94 miles; driver donation \$6.00. Frank Brier, 818-0493.

April 3 – Tues. Quantrell Mine. Rating C. A scenic trek through a historic and legendary mining area of the Santa Rita Mountains. We will lunch at the head of Chino Canyon at the Quantrell Mine and enjoy magnificent views down the canyon, as well as that of the mythical giant rock sculpture know as Elephant Head. You will not be berated if you have visions of Jesuit gold, Teddy Roosevelt, and Apache sacrifices. This hike features a good trail with no steep sections. Hike 6 miles; elevation change 800 feet; starting elevation 4500 feet; leave at **7:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 130 miles (dirt); driver donation \$9.00. Jan Wilson, 818-0299.

****April 3-5 – Tues-Thurs. AZT: White Rock Mesa and Mazatzal Divide (2 sections) Ratings A, A+, A+.** We will stay 2 nights in a motel in Payson. Leave at TBD; driver donation TBD. Cheryl & Dean Werstler, 825-9057.

Tues., April 3 - Place car at Doll Baby Trailhead west of Payson; drive to Twin Buttes Trailhead south of Strawberry. Hike White Rock Mesa passage to Doll Baby Trailhead. Rating A. Hike 15+ miles; elevation loss 2,450 feet; starting elevation 5,850 feet.

Wed., April 4 - Mazatzal Divide. Barnhardt Trailhead to Mt. Peeley Trailhead. Rating A+. Hike 18.5 miles; elevation change 1,400 feet (total gain 6,200 feet, total loss 4,700 feet, over 1,700 feet in first 3.5 miles); starting elevation 4,280 feet.

Thurs., April 5 - Mazatzal Divide/Red Hills. City Creek Trailhead to Barnhardt Trailhead. Rating A+. Hike 21+ miles; elevation change 3,300 feet (initially steep, gaining 2,800 feet in 6 miles); starting elevation 3,450 feet.

April 4 – Wed. OSP West Loop. Rating C. This hike begins at the Kannally Ranch House parking lot in Oracle State Park.

We hike the Nature Trail to the Wildlife Corridor Trail where we go northeast to the AZ Trail. At the intersection we turn west and hike toward Highway 77. We then turn south to the Mariposa Trail and onto the Bellota Trail that takes us back to the cars. The first third of the hike is fairly level, the second third is a series of up and down hills on rocky trail and the last third has gentle hills. Hike 6.5 miles, elevation change 1200 feet (gps); starting elevation 4350 feet; leave at 9:00 a.m.; round trip drive 40 miles; driver donation \$3.00. Marv Rossof, 877-9262.

April 4 – Wed. Cardiac Gulch. Rating B. This is a hike to the saddle overlooking Esperero Canyon. We'll warm up by hiking from the Sabino Canyon 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 while viewing the falls below, assuming that rain or a spring thaw supplies a rushing brook. Extra water is recommended. Hike 7.25 miles; elevation change 1898 feet (gps); starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at **7:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 56 miles; driver donation \$4.00 Michael Reale, 825-8286.

April 6 – Fri. Sutherland Wash Petroglyphs. Rating C. This hike is a gradual hike through a mesquite bosque with 100+ year old saguaros, Arizona Poppies/Morning Glories in season, on the way to an area of many, many petroglyphs. Per the book Paradise Found by Kathy Alexander there are over 1400 petroglyphs in the area. Some rock scrambling is necessary to search for the petroglyphs. Bring a snack to enjoy while searching. Hike 6 miles; elevation change 400 feet; starting elevation 3200 feet; leave at **8:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 12 miles (dirt); driver donation \$2.00. Dave Hydeman & Larry Dukatz, 825-7816.

April 7 – Sat. CDO Walk to The Preserve Overlook. Rating D. We will drive to the white water tank in the SaddleBrooke Preserve area and park. We walk down a short dirt road and go through the barbed wire fence. We walk north along the CDO, passing 2 old dams. We enter the Coronado National Forest on an old jeep road, looping around boulders, and along a hillside filled with beautiful saguaros. We cross a wash, leave the jeep road and bear left. Here we follow an obscure "road" to the top of a hill where we attain great views of SaddleBrooke, The Preserve golf course & club house, and the Canada del Oro below. Return via the same route. Starting elevation is 3270 ft., elevation gain is approx. 700 ft., hike distance is approx. 4 miles round trip. Leave at **8:30 a.m.** Round trip drive is approx. 3 miles (some dirt roads); driver donation \$1.00. Jan Wilson, 818-0299.

April 9 – Mon. Pima Canyon. Rating C. The trailhead is at the end of Magee Road. The first mile or so of trail is across open desert along the south side of Pusch Peak. We will pass the 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. We will hike to a rocky open area in the canyon beyond a small dam near Indian grinding holes and then return to the trailhead. Hike 6.2 miles; elevation change 977 feet (gps); starting elevation 2900 feet; leave at **8:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 42 miles; driver donation \$2.00. Dave Hydeman & Philip Cotton, 825-7816.

April 9 – Mon. Wasson Peak/Hugh Norris Trail. Rating B. We will take the Hugh Norris Trail in both directions. This is

the longest trail to Wasson Peak (incredible views at the top) but the climb is gradual and the trail is primarily a ridge trail with spectacular views. Hike 10 miles elevation change 2100 feet; starting elevation 2800 feet; leave at **7:30 a.m.**; round trip drive 73 miles; driver donation \$4.00. Don Taylor, 825-5303. **Call after April, 1st.**

April 11- Wed. Hiking Club Picnic - Catalina State Park at 8:00 a.m.

Romero Pools – 7:30 a.m. (Must reserve with Michael Reale, 825-8286)

Sutherland Trail – 8:00 a.m. . (Must reserve with Marv Rossof – 877-9262)

Geology Walk – 8:00 a.m. Karen Gray

Catalina State Park Exploration – 8:00 a.m. Jan Wilson & Susan Robertshaw

****April 12 – Thurs. Ft. Bowie National Historic Site, Apache Pass Trailhead. Rating C-.** The 1.5 mile foot trail to the Fort/Visitor's Center passes a number of historic features and the upper Sonoran life zone of natural features. The trail splits at Siphon Canyon. Staying right at the Junction sends you past Post Cemetery, site of Battle of Apache Pass, and Apache Spring. Elev. change 180' Ridge trail from Visitor's Center back to junction ascends 300' and to Apache position of the Battle of Apache Pass. This overlook offers spectacular vistas albeit a fairly steep descent. We'll eat our lunch at the Visitor's Center and then be led by a ranger for a tour of the fort, about 1 hour. Leave at **6 a.m.**; approximately 320 miles round trip (includes +/-20 miles dirt). Return to SaddleBrooke, circa 6 p.m.. **OPTION:** Dinner stop in Benson. Limited to 12 members. Driver donation: \$17. 00. Sandra Sowell-818-0995.

April 12 – Thurs. Dripping Springs from the Sutherland Trail. Rating C-. We follow the Sutherland Trail past the wilderness sign then turn off at a Sutherland Trail sign. There are large rocks laid out in a row on the right (east) side of trail. The hike then veers to the right and follows a small canyon where there is a beautiful waterfall (depending on recent rains). Much of this part of the trail is sandy with 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. Hike 4 miles; elevation change 500 feet; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at **8:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 24 miles; driver donation \$2.00. Chris Costello, 818-0368.

April 13 – Fri. Madera Canyon Nature Trail. Rating C. This non-desert hike is in the Santa Rita Mountains. We start at 4500 foot elevation from the lower area and ascend 3.2 miles up the canyon to the 5400 foot Roundup Picnic Area. Along the way, we enjoy the shade of Apache Pines, Douglas Firs, Emory Oaks, Mexican Blue Oaks, Willows, Cottonwoods, and Sycamores. Our return is by the same route. There are panoramic views from a ridge on a trail breakout. Hike 7.5 miles; elevation change 900 feet; starting elevation 4500 feet; leave at **7:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 130 miles; driver donation \$8.00. Mary Richling, 825-5238.

April 13 – Fri. Antelope Mountain. Rating D+. This hike starts 1.5 miles off Freeman Road northwest of Oracle. This area has great views of surrounding terrain and has numerous Hedgehog cactus. Native animals are often seen in this area.

Bring lunch, water, sunscreen and hat. High clearance vehicles are required. Hike 4 miles; elevation change 300 feet; starting elevation 4100 feet; leave at **7:30 a.m.**; round trip drive 40 miles (dirt); driver donation \$3.00. Jan Wilson, 818-0299.

April 13 – Fri. Peppersauce and Nugget Canyon Loop. Rating C+. The hike begins at Peppersauce Campground on the northeast side of the Catalinas. It follows the old Mt. Lemmon Road up to the Nugget Canyon turnout. There 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; elevation change 1200 feet; starting elevation 4600; leave at **7:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 53 miles (dirt); driver donation \$4.00. Michael Reale, 825-8286.

April 14 – Sat. First Water/ Second Water Trail Loop. Rating B- We start on the Dutchman Trail from the First Water Creek Trailhead, north of Apache Junction, in the Superstition Wilderness. After 4.2 miles, we turn onto the Black Mesa Trail. After another 1.5 miles, up a hill, we'll have lunch on a bluff, overlooking the heart of the Superstitions. Then on to the Second Water Trail and back to our trailhead. Numerous water crossings and boulders all along these trails, wonderful scenery. Hike 9.2 miles; elevation change 800 feet; starting elevation 2300 feet; leave at **8:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 180 miles (dirt); driver donation \$9.00. Jim Strickler, 825-8735.

April 15– Sun. Josephine Saddle. Rating B. We start in Madera Canyon (Santa Rita Mountains) and go up Old Baldy Trail to Josephine Saddle. Rest there and return on the Super Trail. This hike can be done in reverse going up the Super Trail and returning on the Old Baldy Trail. Hike 6.2 miles; elevation change 1700 feet; starting elevation 5400 feet; leave at **8:30 a.m.**; round trip drive 130 miles; driver donation \$8.00. Karen Gray, 818-0337.

April 16 – Mon. Picacho Peak - Sunset Vista Trail. Rating B. From the Sunset Vista Trailhead we follow the lower route to the climb up to Picacho Peak. The climb to the top of Picacho Peak employs the use of cables (bring gloves!) to get to the top. This is a short, acrophobic, strenuous hike. Park entrance pass required. Hike 6 miles; elevation change 2100 feet; starting elevation 1500 feet; leave at **7:30 a.m.**; round trip drive 90 miles; driver donation \$6.00. Don Taylor, 825-5303. **Call after April 1st.**

April 16 – Mon. Alamo Canyon to the Water Tank. Rating C. This hike begins at the Romero Ruins trailhead. Elevation change is gradual. We will hike from the ruins through Alamo Canyon. There maybe water at the canyon. We will then go around, down and up and down again to a non-used large water tank. Trail is rocky in some areas. We can return one of three ways of equal distance. Hike 6+ miles; elevation change 300-400 feet. Leave at **9:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 24 miles; driver donation \$2.00. Marv Rossof, 877-9262.

April 17 – Tues. Linda Vista Loop Trails. Rating C. Drive to trailhead, 15 minutes from the MountainView parking lot. We will hike the trails in this area that skirt the base of Pus

Ridge. There are great views out onto Oracle Road and environs. Hiking stick recommended as trail is rocky in places. Hike 4 to 6 miles; elevation change 400 to 500 feet; starting elevation 2680 feet; leave at **8:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 28 miles; driver donation \$1.00. Jan Wilson, 818-0299.

April 18 – Wed. Arizona Trail - Oracle State Park Work Session. Rating C. This is our Hiking Club work day. Come join in the fun--it's nice to work side by side with other hiking members and it certainly gives you a feeling of pride and accomplishment along with a way of 'giving back' for all the trails we hike and take for granted so often. We help develop, maintain, and report conditions of the trails for which our Club is responsible. Generally, the work is light, involving some clipping, brushing, hoeing, raking, and pruning, and for some, lifting and carrying of tools. On rare occasions we may rebuild water runoffs, add erosion control devices, and other trail work. Wear long pants and bring along gloves, hat, and hand clippers. Any other tools needed, will be provided. We work on trails in the Oracle State Park and a section of the Arizona Trail called, "Black Hills/south," which is just north of the Park, across Hwy 77. The sessions usually last about 4 hours, so bring water and snacks and lunch if you wish. Leave at **8:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 40 miles; driver donation \$3.00. Jim Strickler, 825-8735.

April 18 – Wed. Canyons of Gold Slideshow & Social Hour – 4:00 p.m. For information, call Sandra Sowell, 818-0995.

April 19 – Thurs. Madera Canyon Nature Trail. Rating C. This non-desert hike is in the Santa Rita Mountains. We start at 4500 foot elevation from the lower area and ascend 3.2 miles up the canyon to the 5400 foot Roundup Picnic Area. Along the way, we enjoy the shade of Apache Pines, Douglas Firs, Emory Oaks, Mexican Blue Oaks, Willows, Cottonwoods, and Sycamores. Our return is by the same route. There are panoramic views from a ridge on a trail breakout. Hike 7.5 miles; elevation change 900 feet; starting elevation 4500 feet; leave at **8:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 130 miles; driver donation \$8.00. Ned Meyer, 818-2798.

April 20 – Fri. Sabino Canyon to Bear Canyon (with Tram). Rating B. We take the Sabino Tram (\$7.50) to Stop 9. Hike starts with .08 mile of switchbacks then levels off on the Sabino Canyon Trail to Sabino Basin. We take the East Fork to Bear Canyon Trail. Then south on the Bear Canyon Trail for 6.2 miles to Bear Canyon Trail head. From there it's 1.7 miles to the parking lot. Hike 12.8 miles; elevation change 1800 feet; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at **8:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 56 miles; driver donation \$4.00. Don Taylor, 825-5303. **Call after April 1st.**

April 20 – Fri. Sutherland Trail. Rating C. This is a great wildflower hike after abundant winter rains. Along the way, we will observe many beautiful Saguaro cacti and great rock formations. There are many photo opportunities. We will also pass the cutoff to Dripping Springs which makes a nice short side trip if the water falls are flowing. The route begins in Catalina State Park and ends at a very scenic, flat, rocky area. We return using same route. Hike 6 miles; elevation change 600 feet; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at **8:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 24 miles; driver donation \$2.00. Jan Wilson, 818-0299.

April 21 – Sat. Three for One. Rating B- This hike begins at

the end of the pavement on Golder Ranch Road and uses three nearby trails to make a loop trip. We begin going south on the Fifty-Year Trail to the intersection with FR 643 where we turn east. We continue east as the Sutherland Trail comes in from the south and turn north on the Baby Jesus Trail. This trail curves to the west to intersect with a jeep road and the Fifty-Year Trail we follow to our cars. These are three popular trails because of their close proximity to SaddleBrooke and because of the variety of plant life as the trail goes from desert washes to rocky overlooks. Hike 10 miles; elevation change 1180 feet; starting elevation 3200 feet; leave at **8:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 8 miles; driver donation \$1.00. Philip Cotton & Dave Hydeman, 825-2243.

April 23 – Mon. Tanque Verde Peak. Rating A. This hike is in Saguaro NP East. We begin at the Javelina picnic area off the loop road. The trail takes us to Juniper Basin at 5.9 miles and Tanque Verde Peak at 7.8 miles. Erik Molvar's guidebook says, "From this lofty perch, fantastic views stretch in all directions." Hike 16 miles; elevation change 4000 feet; starting elevation 3100 feet; leave at **6:30 a.m.**; round trip drive 82 miles; driver donation \$5.00. Don Taylor, 825-5303. **Call after April 1st.**

April 23 – Mon. Douglas Spring Trail to the Campground. Rating B. We'll drive to the east end of Speedway to reach the trailhead and do some steep hiking to campground. Hiking back we'll possibly bushwhack over to Bridal Wreath Falls then follow trail back to the cars. Some variations in the trail. Mostly open, so bring minimum of two quarts of water, sun protection and lunch. Hike 12 miles; elevation change 2050 feet; starting elevation 2800 feet; leave at **7:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 80 miles; driver donation \$4.00. Mary Croft, 825-3804.

April 25 – Wed. Canyon Loop, Birding and Nature Trails. Rating C. 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 will first hike the Nature Trail which has panoramic views, then continue on to the Sutherland Trail that connects to the Canyon Loop Trail. We will fork onto the Birding Loop Trail prior to returning. If we are real 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; elevation change 370 feet (gps); starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at **9:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 24 miles; driver donation \$2.00. Marv Rossof, 877-9262.

April 26 – Thurs. Arizona Trail - Tortilla Mountains Segment 1. Rating B. This segment of the AZT starts from Freeman Road and follows a series of old roads, dry washes and singletrack trail. Interesting boulders. We hike just beyond Tecolote Ranch. We will do a key exchange. Hike 8.5 miles; elevation change 450 feet; starting elevation 4015; leave at: a.m ; driver donation \$TBA. Elisabeth Wheeler, 818-1547.

April 26 – Thurs Sweetwater Trail (short version). Rating D+. We start from the trailhead at the end of El Camino del Cerro on the East Side of the Tucson Mountains and hike about ½ the distance to the saddle. Bring at least 2 quarts of water, a snack, a hat and sunscreen. Hiking boots and stick recommended. Bring camera and binoculars. Hike <4 miles; elevation change 350 feet; starting elevation 2800 feet; leave at **7:30 a.m.**; round trip drive 60 miles; driver donation \$3.00. Jan

Wilson, 818-0299.

April 27 – Fri. Mt. Wrightson via Super Trail. Rating A (B pace). Hike up the Super Trail (8 miles) to the summit and come down either the Super Trail or Old Baldy Trail. At the top are 360-degree views from Tucson to Mexico. This is a shady all day hike to an outstanding mountain. Hike 14-16 miles; elevation change 4050 feet; starting elevation 5400 feet; leave at **7:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 130 miles; driver donation \$8.00. Rick Phelps & Debbie Dyer, 825-2395.

April 28 – Sat. Wasson Peak Loop, Rating B. Start at King Canyon Trailhead. From King Canyon Trail, hike Esperanza Trail over to Hugh Norris Trail, up to Wasson Peak, then back down King Canyon wash to trailhead. We will have stops for lots of different views and a variety of scenery. Hike 9.5 miles; elevation change 1900 feet, starting elevation 2800; leave at **8:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 73 miles; driver donation \$4.00. Jim Strickler, 825-8735.

April 30 – Mon. Miller Peak. Rating A. Miller Peak is the highest point in the Huachuca Mountains. There is a 100-mile view from the top. The hike starts at the Coronado National Memorial, located within Montezuma Canyon. We take the Crest Trail. We must drive 45 minutes beyond Sierra Vista to the trailhead. Hike 10 miles; elevation change 3400 feet; starting elevation 5800 feet; leave at **6:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 211 miles (dirt); driver donation \$15.00. Don Taylor, 825-5303. **Call after April 1st.**