



SADDLEBROOKE

HIKING CLUB NEWSLETTER

<http://www.saddlebrooke.org>

MARCH/APRIL

2009-2

Wed., March 18th Slide Program: Spain at Two Miles Per Hour

SaddleBrooke Hiking Club member, Larry Linderman, is again sharing his interesting hiking adventures in a narrated slide presentation available to all SB residents. You may recall Larry's previous program about New Zealand. It was so well received that he graciously consented to do this new program of his walk of The Camino in Spain this past April. He hiked 493 miles across the northern part of the country in 30 days going from Roncesvalles in the foothills of the Pyrenees mountains to Santiago de Compostela near the Atlantic coast. Those 30 days were filled with wonder, excitement and beauty along with periods of boredom and "the agony of da' feet".



Larry Linderman and Camino hiking friend in Leon, Spain.

Along the way Larry took lots of photos and kept a day to day journal. On Wednesday, March 18, 2009, he will make a 40-minute presentation of his Camino adventure to members of the Hiking Club and all interested SaddleBrooke residents. It will be in the downstairs Coyote room of the SaddleBrooke Clubhouse (HOA 1) at **3 PM**. Please note: The Hiking Club March Social Hour will immediately follow in the lounge at HOA 1 instead of the usual location at HOA 2.

Hiking Club Picnic

The hiking club spring picnic will take place on Friday, March 27th at Catalina State Park in the group picnic area. Entrance fee for the park is \$6 per car or a State Park Pass. Our annual meeting will be held at the picnic immediately before lunch. You will have an opportunity at the meeting to vote on proposed changes to the By-Laws (see separate article) and to elect the club's officers.

Food will be potluck-plus chicken lunch at noon. The club will provide the chicken, all paper goods and eating utensils. You will need to bring a side dish, salad or dessert to share. Please bring your own beverage.

Please call Cheryl Straw: 818-3631 no later than March 23rd to let her know what you will bring to share and if you would like to order chicken.

Hikes offered will be announced at a future date.

New Look

As you can see, we have made some changes to the appearance of our Newsletter. Some are stylistic, but the way that we are presenting upcoming hikes has undergone a major change. We are now using a tabular format to present a calendar of hikes with all the pertinent information. Trail descriptions will now follow the table. We believe that this new format will make it more convenient for you to choose a hike that suits your ability, interests, and calendar.

Proposed By-Laws Change

Under the current By-laws, officers are elected for a one-year term, and may only serve an additional consecutive term in the same position. Although this has worked in the past, it has the potential for creating an Executive Board comprised of all new members. To better serve the interests of the Hiking Club, we are proposing to amend the by-laws to assure continuity. To achieve this goal, we are proposing to extend the term of office to two years, and to stagger the terms so that the President and Secretary are elected in even years, and the Vice-President, Treasurer and Chief Guide in odd years. We believe that this change will also make the task of the Nominating Committee easier because it will not have to fill two difficult positions (President and Chief Guide) in the same year.

The details and exact wording of the proposed changes will be sent to you by e-mail no later than 2 weeks before our annual meeting, in accordance with our By-laws. Our annual meeting will be held at our picnic, March 27, at Catalina State Park. If you have any questions or concerns about the proposed changes, please contact one of the Officers.

Driver Donations Clarified

Driver donations have always included an amount for entry and/or parking fee where required. The driver would pay the required fee and be reimbursed through the driver donation. In many cases, however, the driver uses a state park pass and does not need to pay an entry fee. The hikers partially reimburse the driver for use of that pass through the driver donation. It has always been the Club's intent that the reimbursement go to the

owner of the state park pass that is being used for entry, even if he/she isn't the driver. Because the entry and/or parking fee has not been separated out, there has been confusion about the reimbursement.

In the new tabular format for presenting our hike schedule we will include, when applicable, two entries under driver donation: The first is for the driver and a second for the state park pass holder, for example \$7 + \$2. 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.

News You Can Use

***Social Hour:** March 18th 4:00 p.m.
Board Meeting: April 1st 3:00 p.m.
Hiking Guide Meeting: April 1st 4:00 p.m.
Social Hour: April 15th 4:00 p.m.

Officers

President: Michael Reale – 825-8286;
mjreale@msn.com
Vice-President: Dave Hydeman – 825-7816;
skate04retire@yahoo.com
Secretary: Marjorie Herrmann – 818-9515;
marjorie.herrmann@gmail.com
Treasurer: Elizabeth Tancock – 825-7838;
etancock@wbhsi.net
Chief Hiking Guide: Jim Strickler – 825-8735;
sherabjim@wbhsi.net

Volunteers

Catalina Hills Cleanup ; Bill Leightenheimer, 818-1465; whlaz@wbhsi.net
Communications: Elisabeth Wheeler, 818-1547;
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Statistics and Awards: Susan Hollis, 825-6819;
slhollis@yahoo.com
Work Days - Jim Strickler, 825-8735;
sherahiim@wbhsi.net

Due to the special presentation, social hour will be held at SaddleBrooke

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

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). Note, however, 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.

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 Elevation

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 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 four categories to describe our hikes:

- Leisurely Pace:** Average speed of hike < 1.5 MPH
- Slow Pace:** Average speed of hike ≥1.5 to <2.0 MPH
- Moderate Pace:** Average speed of hike ≥2.0 to <2.5 MPH
- Fast Pace:** Average speed of hike ≥ 2.5 MPH

Unless otherwise specified, hikes will be done at a **moderate** pace.

Elevation:

Three indicators are used, where available, in the hike descriptions to convey hike difficulty:

Elevation Change is the net change in elevation obtained from subtracting the starting elevation from the highest point reached, in feet, obtained usually from USGS maps.

Elevation Gain (gps) is the sum of all upward stretches of the hike as recorded by a global positioning system. This parameter is generally a more accurate indicator of hike difficulty than net change in elevation.

Elevation Loss (gps), another measure of hike difficulty, useful for some hikes, is the sum of all downward stretches of the hike.

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 sign up is required to participate in these walks.

Monday, Wednesday and Friday the fitness walks will start at 7:00 a.m. from the parking lot just west of the SaddleBrooke HOA #1 Fitness Center. Tuesdays and Thursdays the walks will also start at 7:00 a.m., but we will leave from Mountain View Clubhouse parking lot. (Please note all fitness walks beginning April 1st will start at 6:30 a.m.) If you have any questions please contact Michael at 825-8286 or Dean at 818-0299.

Tuesday and Thursday fitness walks will continue to begin at 7:00 a.m. thru the month of March. April 2nd, the walks will begin at 6:30 a.m. The Tuesday walk will start at the Mountain View Clubhouse parking lot, Thursday's walk will start at the SaddleBrooke Tennis Club's parking lot. We walk for an hour around SaddleBrooke and cover between 3 & 4 miles. The walks are for all levels of walkers and talkers. Sometimes we go off the premises, but never before discussing it with the group. Hope you can join us for a great walk. Any questions please call Judy Barenkopf: 825-7077 or email Judy at: mbarenkopf@msn.com.

Hikes Offered

The hikes for the next two months are listed in the table below. Any symbols are explained immediately below the table, and trail descriptions follow the table. **Pace will be moderate unless otherwise noted.**

Date	Day of Week	Name of Hike	Hike Rating	Pace	Leave Time	Leader(s)	Phone Number	Driver Donation
3/3	Tues	Romero Pools	C+	Slow	9:00 a.m.	Greg Lindahl	825-3679	\$2 + \$2
3/3	Tues	Mt Kimball/Return Pima Canyon Trail	A+		6:00 a.m.	Elisabeth Wheeler	818-1547	\$4
3/3	Tues	Finger Rock Trail to Linda Vista Saddle	B		8:00 a.m.	Roy Carter	818-3137	\$4
3/4	Wed	Extended Fitness Walk	Walk	Fast	7:00 a.m.	Michael Reale	825-8286	
3/6	Fri	Cardiac Gulch	B		7:30 a.m.	Larry Dukatz	825-7097	\$4
3/6	Fri	Sutherland Wash Petroglyphs	C		7:30 a.m.	Dave Hydeman	825-7816	\$2

Date	Day of Week	Name of Hike	Hike Rating	Pace	Leave Time	Leader(s)	Phone Number	Driver Donation
3/7	Sat	Golden Gate Loop Trail	C		8:00 a.m.	Walt Shields	818-3439	\$5
3/9	Mon	Blackett's Ridge	B		7:00 a.m.	Michael Reale	825-8286	\$4
3/9	Mon	Peralta Trail	C+	Slow	7:30 a.m.	Laura Ruxer	825-1829	\$11
3/10	Tues	**Superstitions: Robbers Roost-Geronimo Cave Loop Exploratory	B		6:00 a.m.	Dean & Cheryl Werstler	825-9057	\$11
3/10	Tues	Sutherland Trail	C	Slow	9:00 a.m.	Greg Lindahl	825-3679	\$2 + \$2
3/11	Wed	Romero Pools	C+		9:00 a.m.	Marv Rossof	877-9262	\$2 + \$2
3/12	Thurs	Tortolita Mtns - Wild Mustang/Wild burro Loop	B+		7:00 a.m.	Elisabeth Wheeler	818-1547	\$4
3/13	Fri	Picacho Peak - Sunset Vista Trail (short)	C		8:00 a.m.	Roy Carter	818-3137	\$7
3/16	Mon	Hidden Canyon Loop	C+		8:00 a.m.	Fred Kennedy	825-5310	\$2
3/17	Tues	**AZT: White Canyon Exploratory	A		6:00 a.m.	Dean & Cheryl Werstler	825-9057	\$11
3/18	Wed	Special Presentation			3:00	Larry Linderman SaddleBrooke		
3/18	Wed	Hiking Club Social			4:00 p.m.	SaddleBrooke Clubhouse		
3/19	Thurs	Seven Falls with tram	C		8:00 a.m.	Walt Shields	818-3439	\$4
3/19	Thurs	Peppersauce & Nugget Canyon Loop	C+		8:00 a.m.	Michael Reale	825-8286	\$5
3/20	Fri	Bridal Wreath Falls	C+		7:30 a.m.	Laura Ruxer	825-1829	\$6
3/20	Fri	Mt Kimball via Finger Rock Canyon	A+		8:00 a.m.	Frank Brier & Roy Carter	818-0493	\$4
3/23	Mon	Baby Jesus/Petroglyphs Loop	B		8:00 a.m.	Fred Kennedy	825-5310	\$2
3/23	Mon	Samenigo Peak	A		6:00 a.m.	Elisabeth Wheeler	818-1547	\$2
3/25	Wed	OSP West Loop	C		9:00 a.m.	Marv Rossof	877-9262	\$3 + \$2
3/26	Thurs	Picacho Peak for "C" Hikers	B	Slow	7:30 a.m.	Walt Shields	818-3439	\$7 + \$2
3/26	Thurs	Josephine Saddle + Rogers Rock	B		7:00 a.m.	Michael Reale	825-8286	\$10
3/26	Thurs	Romero Pools	C+		7:30 a.m.	Philip & Kathy Cotton	825-2243	\$2 + \$2
3/27	Fri	Hiking Club Picnic (see write-up)				Cheryl Straw	818-3631	
3/29	Sun	Golden Gate Loop Trail	C		8:00 a.m.	Karen Gray	818-0337	\$5
3/30	Mon	Sutherland Trail	C		8:00 a.m.	Laura Ruxer	825-1829	\$2 + \$2
3/30	Mon	Sutherland Wash Petroglyphs	C		7:30 a.m.	Dave Hydeman	825-7816	\$2

Date	Day of Week	Name of Hike	Hike Rating	Pace	Leave Time	Leader(s)	Phone Number	Driver Donation
3/31	Tues	Pontatoc Ridge	C+	Slow	8:30 a.m.	Greg Lindahl	825-3679	\$4
3/31	Tues	**Finger Rock Guard	A		8:00 a.m.	Roy Carter	818-3137	\$3
4/1	Wed	Extended Fitness Walk	Walk	Fast	6:30 a.m.	Michael Reale	825-8286	
4/1	Wed	Hiking Club Board Meeting			3:00 p.m.	Michael Reale	825-8286	
4/1	Wed	Hiking Guides Meeting			4:00 p.m.	Jim Strickler	825-8735	
4/2	Thurs	**OSP: Wild Life Corridor, Manzanita, Mariposa Loop	C		8:00 a.m.	Bill Katz	818-9412	\$3 + \$2
4/2	Thurs	Trash Cleanup Walk	D		8:00 a.m.	Bill Leightenheimer	825-5756	
4/2	Thurs	Pima Canyon - 1st Dam	D+		8:00 a.m.	Roy Carter	818-3137	\$3
4/5	Sun	Seven Falls	B		7:30 a.m.	Karen Gray	818-0337	\$4
4/6	Mon	Baby Jesus	C		8:00 a.m.	Laura Ruxer	825-1829	\$2
4/7	Tues	King Canyon Loop	C	Slow	8:00 a.m.	Greg Lindahl	825-3679	\$6
4/8	Wed	Alamo Canyon to the Water Tank	C		9:00 a.m.	Marv Rossof	877-9262	\$2 + \$2
4/8	Wed	Blackett's Ridge	B		7:00 a.m.	Dave Hydeman	825-7816	\$4
4/9	Thurs	Wildflower Hike (TBA)	C		7:00 a.m.	Elisabeth Wheeler	818-1547	TBD by location
4/10	Fri	Peppersauce & Nugget Canyon Loop	C+		8:00 a.m.	Frank Brier	818-0493	\$5
4/11	Sat	First Water/Second Water Trail Loop	B-		8:00 a.m.	Jim Strickler	825-8735	\$12
4/13	Mon	Aravaipa Canyon Wilderness - West	B-		7:00 a.m.	Walt Shields	818-3439	\$9
4/13	Mon	Wasson Peak/Sweetwater Trail	B		7:00 a.m.	Michael Reale	825-8286	\$5
4/14	Tues	Elephant Head	B+		7:00 a.m.	Elisabeth Wheeler	818-1547	\$12
4/15	Wed	Arizona Trail Work Session	C		8:00 a.m.	Jim Strickler	825-8735	Pd by club
4/15	Wed	Hiking Club Social			4:00 p.m.	Mountain View Clubhouse		
4/16	Thurs	Finger Rock Trail to Finger Rock Spring	D+		9:00 a.m.	Walt Shields	818-3439	\$4
4/16	Thurs	Pontatoc Ridge	C+		8:00 a.m.	Bill Katz	818-9412	\$4
4/17	Fri	Sutherland Wash Petroglyphs	C		7:00 a.m.	Dave Hydeman	825-7816	\$2
4/18	Sat	Pusch Peak	A		8:00 a.m.	Roy Carter	818-3137	\$2
4/19	Sun	Marshall Gulch/Aspen Loop Trail	C		7:30 a.m.	Karen Gray	818-0337	\$10

Date	Day of Week	Name of Hike	Hike Rating	Pace	Leave Time	Leader(s)	Phone Number	Driver Donation
4/20	Mon	Deer Camp/Samaniego Roost Loop	C		7:00 a.m.	Fred Kennedy	825-5310	\$2
4/21	Tues	American Flag to Saddle	B		7:00 a.m.	Don Taylor	825-5303 AFTER April 15	\$3
4/22	Wed	Rams Creek Basin	C		9:00 a.m.	Marv Rossof	877-9262	\$2
4/23	Thurs	Deer Camp/Baby Jesus Loop	C	Slow	7:00 a.m.	Michael Reale	825-8286	\$2
4/24	Fri	Phoneline Trail	B-		7:00 a.m.	Don Taylor	825-5303 AFTER April 15	\$4
4/25	Sat.	**Madera Canyon/Kent Springs-Bog Springs Loop	C		7:30 a.m.	Walt Shields	818-3439	\$10
4/28	Tues	Tanque Verde Peak	A		6:00 a.m.	Dean & Cheryl Werstler	825-9057	\$6
4/29	Wed	Wasson Peak/Hugh Norris Trail	B		6:30 a.m.	Don Taylor	825-5303 AFTER April 15	\$6
4/30	Thurs	**Summerhaven/Marshall Gulch Radio Ridge Loop	B		7:30 a.m.	Bill Katz	818-9412	\$10

“+” and “-“ after a rating mean that a hike is harder or easier than the average hike in that rating category. “+” may be added due to a loose rocky area or perhaps due to an unusually steep area. “-“ may be added to a hike due to it having a very easy, smooth trail surface.

“***” before a hike are new additions to our club database or a new “one time” hike.

“++” before a hike are Orientation Hikes which are encouraged for all “beginner” hikers and are intended for sharing information and for personal assessment of current physical fitness.

Trail Descriptions

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 6.5 miles; elevation change 1050 feet (gps.); round trip drive 24 miles.

American Flag to Saddle, Rating B. 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. We follow the ridge south were we will lunch in a saddle at the top of Camp Bonita Canyon on the northwest side of Apache Peak. 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 9 miles; elevation change 1800 feet; starting elevation 4400 feet; round trip drive 41 miles.

Aravaipa Canyon Wilderness – West, Rating B- This is a beautiful pristine canyon, a favorite for all who have been there. Expect stream wading and numerous stream crossings (up to knee deep) with dense riparian brush. Wear shorts, socks and shoes (that can get wet) with good traction (for wet rocks). Bring dry shoes/shorts/shirt for drive home if desired (and a plastic bag for wet items). This is a wilderness area with no trails, signs, or facilities. Hiking stick recommended. \$5.00 wilderness fee per person. Hike 8 miles; elevation change 200 feet; starting elevation 2600 feet; round trip drive 110 miles (dirt).

Arizona Trail Work Session, Rating C. This is one of our 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, involving some clipping, brushing, raking, and pruning, and for some, buiding up cairns, adding erosion control devices and other trail work (depending on the 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 3-6 miles; round trip 50 miles (dirt.).

****AZT: White Canyon Exploratory, Rating A.** The White Canyon segment is one of the last passages still in active trail building, with 6.4 miles of new trail along the Gila River completed. We will be hiking from near the Florence-Kelvin Bridge to the confluence of White and Walnut Canyons and, possibly, 2 more miles to the corral on Battle Axe Rd. if this section is not passable by car. This will be done as a key exchange with one group starting near the bridge and the other at the confluence or at Battle Axe Rd. To the new trail, we will be connecting washes, two-tracks, and 3 miles of a flagged route to complete our hike. Hike 13.5-15.5 miles; elevation gain 2,700-3,200 feet S. to N. or 2,400-2,450 feet N. to S.; starting elevation 1,750 (S) or 2,050-2,500 (N); round trip 150 miles.

Baby Jesus, Rating C. We will start in the 50-Year Trail area and follow a jeep road that connects to the beginning of the Baby Jesus Trail. We follow the trail up to a rock grouping seeing a “Window”, beautiful saguaros, and rock formations along the

way. We will return by the same route. Hike 5.5 miles; elevation change 900 feet; starting elevation 3200 feet; round trip drive 12 miles (dirt).

Baby Jesus/Petroglyph Loop, Rating B. We will start in the 50-Year Trail area and follow a jeep road to the Sutherland Wash Petroglyph area. We will hike up a trail on the hill north of the Sutherland Wash Petroglyphs that connects to the Baby Jesus Trail. At the intersection we will turn south until we reach the Sutherland Trail. We will hike west to a trail that leads to the petroglyphs, then on to our cars. This hike has beautiful saguaros, rock formations (including a window), oak woodlands, and ancient petroglyphs. This hike can be done in reverse. Hike 10 miles; elevation change 1200 feet, starting elevation 3200 feet; round trip drive 12 miles (dirt).

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; round trip drive 56 miles.

Bridal Wreath Falls, Rating C+. We'll drive to the east end of Speedway to reach the trailhead. Some steep hiking up the Douglas Spring Trail for the first 2.5 miles then .03 miles to the falls. Mostly sunny, so bring sun protection. In the spring the falls should be flowing if the winter rains have cooperated. Hike 5.6 miles; elevation change 1200 feet; starting elevation 2800 feet; round trip drive 80 miles.

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; round trip drive 56 miles.

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; round trip drive 12 miles (dirt).

Deer Camp/Samaniego Roost Loop, Rating C. We will start in the 50-Year Trail area and hike up to Deer Camp then go southwest on a trail that connects to the Samaniego Roast Trail. We take the left fork and enjoy a fantastic view at the second "pull out". We return via the Samaniego Trail down slick rock to a grove of ocotillo, past two chollas that are so big they look like trees, through a dry creek bed, and to a grove of 100 + year saguaros. Hike 6.48 miles; elevation change 1288 feet (gps); starting elevation 3200; round trip drive 12 miles (dirt).

Elephant Head, Rating B+. A hike to climb the craggy massive rock on the west side of the Santa Ritas. The rock is mentioned in Apache legend of the area. The hike starts out along a gentle mountain road but after about 2 miles there is some tough bushwhacking across Chino canyon and then rock scrambling to get to the top. On the way back we must cross Chino canyon

again! Dress defensively and bring gloves. Hike 8 miles; elevation change 2000 feet; starting elevation 4600 feet; round trip drive 142 miles (dirt).

Extended Fitness Walk, Rating C+/B. This walk begins at the SaddleBrooke parking lot and travels one of several routes in or around SaddleBrooke. Carry at least one quart of water. Hike 7.5 – 10 miles; elevation change 500-600 ft. duration 2.5-3.0 hours. Optional: Breakfast at the Road Runner Grill (need credit card as cash is not accepted).

****Finger Rock Guard, Rating A.** Finger Rock Guard is the large rock formation to the east of Finger Rock, a well-known landmark that can be seen from many places in Tucson (and from SaddleBrooke). This hike begins with the first 2.5 miles and 2200 feet elevation gain of the Finger Rock Canyon Trail to Mt. Kimball, then descends a steep 200 feet into Finger Rock Canyon. The trail continues up a faint, steep, and in some places, slippery path to the saddle between Mt. Kimball and Finger Rock. From there, the trail turns southwest toward the Rock Guard; rock scrambling and rock climbing are required to reach the summit, which is approximately 450 feet above the saddle. The net elevation change to the summit is 3375 feet, but the accumulated gain (gps) is nearly 3600 feet (about 4000 feet over the entire hike), mainly because of the dip into the canyon. Bring extra water. Call to discuss with the Hiking Guide. This is a difficult hike but the fantastic views from the summit make it a "must do" for dedicated hikers. Hike 7 miles; starting elevation 3100 feet; round trip drive 44 miles.

Finger Rock Trail to Finger Rock Spring, Rating D+. Santa Catalina Mountains. Taking the Finger Rock Canyon Trail, which leads to the top of Mt. Kimball, we will only go as far as Finger Rock Spring. Hike 3 miles; elevation change 500 feet; starting elevation 3100 feet; round trip drive 44 miles.

Finger Rock Trail to Linda Vista Saddle, Rating B. This hike starts on level ground for about 1 mile then sharply climbs 2500 feet. Scrambling is necessary at some points, & coming down is just as difficult. We will enjoy the beautiful vistas as they spread out below and into the distance. Hike 5.8 miles; 2500 foot elevation change; starting elevation 3100 feet; round trip drive 44 miles.

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; round trip drive 160 miles (dirt).

Golden Gate Trail, Rating C. Ever wonder why there's a big parking lot just west of Gates Pass? Well, so did your guide who will lead a hike below Golden Gate Mountain used as the backdrop in many Hollywood horse operas. In Tucson Mountain Park, we will hike ½ mile along the David Yetman Trail and then take the Golden Gate Loop. This is a hike with some rocky stretches and moderate elevation gain. Some bushwhacking back to the parking lot. Hike 7 miles; elevation change 400 feet; starting elevation 3000 feet; round trip drive 70 miles.

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; round trip drive 12 miles (dirt).

Josephine Saddle + Rogers Rock, Rating B. We start in Madera Canyon (Santa Rita Mountains) and go up Old Baldy Trail to Josephine Saddle. We then go down the Super Trail for about 1 mile and take a turnoff for Rogers Rock and travel about .25 miles to the rock, climb to the top, have a wonderful view and eat lunch. We continue down the Super Trail back to the parking lot. This hike can be done in reverse going up the Super Trail and returning on the Old Baldy Trail. Hike, 6 .5miles; climb 1700 feet; starting altitude 5400 feet; round trip drive 130 miles.

King Canyon Loop, Rating C. Starting from a parking area near the Desert Museum we will hike up the Kings Canyon Trail to the Sweetwater Saddle. Our return will be down the trail to Mam-a Gah picnic area. Then down the dry wash where petroglyphs can be viewed. This is an interesting wash where wildlife can sometimes be seen. Make sure you bring a camera, lunch, water & hiking stick if you have one. Hike 5.8 miles; elevation change 1398 feet (gps); starting elevation 2800 feet; round trip drive 73 miles.

****Madera Canyon Kent Springs - Bog Springs Loop, Rating C.** This is a non-desert hike and one of the prettiest in the Santa Rita Mountains. A series of springs creates an unusually lush area that attracts a large number of birds and wildlife. Large Arizona sycamore and walnut trees provide a canopy that invites relaxation before returning to the arid environment of southeastern Arizona. An optional lunch will follow in Tubac. Hike 5.4 miles; elevation change 1,800 feet; starting elevation 4,820 feet; round trip drive 130 miles.

Marshall Gulch/Aspen Loop Trail, Rating C. We will start at the Marshall Gulch Picnic Area and go up the Marshall Gulch Trail to the Saddle. Then left down the Aspen trail back to the Picnic Area. There is a large rock to sit on with a view 1/4 mile after we start on the Aspen Trail. A great spot for a break or lunch. Hike 3.7 miles; elevation change 830 feet (gps); starting elevation 7440 feet; round trip drive 131 miles.

Mt. Kimball/Finger Rock Canyon, Rating A+. 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; round trip drive 44 miles.

Mt Kimball/Finger Rock Canyon/Return via Pima Trail Rating A+. 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. We will take

the Pima Canyon Trail from Mt. Kimball down to the Pima Canyon Trailhead. Bring lunch, snacks, and 2 to 4 quarts of water (depending upon time of year). Car shuttle required. Hike 12.1 miles; elevation change 4150 feet; starting elevation 3100 feet; round trip drive 44 miles.

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 6.8 miles, elevation change 1001 feet (gps); starting elevation 4350 feet; round trip drive 40 miles.

**** OSP: Wildlife Corridor, Manzanita, Mariposa Loop, Rating C.** This hike begins at the Kannally Ranch House parking lot in Oracle State Park and is a loop hike along several different connecting trails. Along the way are interesting rock formations among low desert plants and wide open views with the Catalina Mountains to the south and the Galiuro Range to the east. Hike 7.8 miles; elevation change 900 feet; starting elevation 4,350 feet; round trip drive 40 miles.

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 turnoff. 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; round trip drive 53 miles (dirt).

Peralta Trail, Rating C+. Peralta Trail to Fremont Saddle viewing Weaver's Needle in the Superstition Mountains. This may be the area's most beautiful canyon. Legend has it that a loner named Jacob Waltz (The Dutchman) found a fortune in gold somewhere within the Superstition Mountains. Dominating the legends and the landscape is Weaver's Needle. The canyon bottom is a jumble of huge, thought-provoking boulders that have tumbled from the cliffs above. It's a steep, rocky trail most of the way. Hike 5 miles; elevation change 1360 feet; starting elevation 2500 feet; round trip drive 154 miles (dirt).

Phoneline Trail - Round Trip, Rating B-. The hike will begin in the Sabino Canyon parking lot. After crossing Sabino Creek there is a moderate climb to the Phoneline Trail. The trail is above and generally parallels the tram road. It offers outstanding views of the canyon. We will choose between three routes back, 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. Hike 10 miles; elevation change 900 feet; starting elevation 2700 feet; round trip drive 56 miles.

Picacho Peak for "C" Hikers, Rating B. THIS IS A SPECIAL HIKE FOR "C" HIKERS WANTING TO CONQUER THE PEAK. Pace will be modified to accommodate the group. From the Barret Loop we hike up the Hunter Trail to a saddle, down to the Sunset Vista Trail, then to the top of Picacho Peak. We use permanently installed guide cables to reach the summit. BRING COTTON OR LEATHER GLOVES for holding onto the cables.

Return requires a climb down Sunset Vista Trail then up the Hunter Trail again to the saddle and back to the trailhead. This is a short strenuous hike and a favorite among hikers. Park entrance pass required. Hike 4.2 miles; elevation change 1770 feet (cumulative); starting elevation 2000 feet; round trip drive 90 miles.

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 4.23 miles; elevation change 751 feet; starting elevation 1850 feet; round trip drive 90 miles.

Pima Canyon – 1st Dam, Rating D+. The trailhead is at the end of Magee Road. We will hike the first part of Pima Canyon up to the first dam and enjoy the beautiful scenery, take photos. The trail is rocky. Hike 2.7 miles; elevation change 470 feet (gps); starting elevation 2900 feet; round trip drive 42 miles.

Pontatoc Ridge, Rating C+. Sometimes called the "Old Spanish Mine Trail," this trail goes up the north side of Pontatoc Ridge to j below some old mines. There are great views of Tucson and the surrounding area. This hike is strenuous in some areas due to the steep incline and rocky path. Hike starts at north end of Alvernon Way. Hike 5 miles; elevation change 1500 feet (gps); starting elevation 3100 feet; round trip drive 44 miles.

Pusch Peak, Rating A. From the trail head 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 the Tucson and Oro Valley areas. 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 three man-made dams and numerous extraordinary overlooks with fantastic views north, west, and south. Hike 6 miles. Elevation change 2700 feet. Starting elevation is 2650 feet; round trip 28 miles.

Rams Creek Basin, 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; round trip drive 21 miles.

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. Trail is rocky and rough in places. Hike 5.64 miles; elevation change 1500 feet (gps); starting elevation 2700 feet; round trip drive 24 miles.

Samaniego Peak, Rating A. This hike takes the hiker on a tour of several different environments and on up to Samaniego Peak. It starts with one mile along the Baby Jesus Trail and a stop at an old Saguaro grove with many 100+ year old sentinels. It follows cairns along a dry creek bed (keep an eye out for those cairns) and takes the hiker through an ocotillo grove, past an ancient cholla tree, up slick rock and continues up an "arm" that stretches up to Samaniego Peak. The final 1.5 miles follow cairns through pinyon and ponderosa pines. At the top, you will be able to see east down into the Canado del Oro and up to Mount Lemmon.

Looking west is SaddleBrooke, the Sutherland Wash, the Biosphere, the Tortolita Mountains and the Pusch Ridge series. Hike 10 miles; elevation gain 4400 feet, starting elevation 3200 feet; round trip drive 12 miles (dirt).

Seven Falls, Rating B. 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. There are seven stream crossings in each direction. Falls may be dry depending on spring rains. Hike 8.7 miles; elevation change 1550 feet (gps); starting elevation 2800 feet; round trip drive 56 miles.

Seven Falls With Tram, Rating C. Starting at the Sabino Canyon Visitors Center we will take the Tram to lower Bear Canyon. Bring \$ for Tram Ride. We will hike the Bear Canyon Trail to Seven Falls and return. Falls may be dry depending on spring rains. Hike 6.4 miles; elevation change 900 feet; starting elevation 2800 feet; round trip drive 56 miles.

****Superstitions: Robbers Roost-Geronimo Cave Loop Exploratory, Rating B.** This route goes up to the top of a seldom traveled 4,000 foot Dacite Mesa with good views in all directions, then winds its way through hoodoo rock formations. We begin the hike from the Lost Goldmine Trailhead, starting out cross country and making our way over to West Boulder Trail. We climb steeply to West Boulder Saddle, gaining 1,650 feet in less than 2 miles. At the Saddle we leave the trail and continue bushwhacking east up Dacite Mesa through a myriad of hoodoos, spires, and boulders to the "Chiminaya." We then head southeast down a drainage in our search for the "Robbers Roost" cave. From the Cave we wind northwest along the Mesa slope until we are directly above and west of Fremont Saddle. From there we descend down to the Saddle. We finish our loop on the Cave Trail which makes its way along cliffs and boulders and across weather worn rock, passing Geronimo Cave. (There are a couple of somewhat tricky, but fun, downclimbs on this trail.) We come to a junction with Bluff Spring Trail which leads to Peralta Trailhead then take the newer Don's Camp Trail back to our starting point. Hike 7 miles; elevation gain 2,060 feet; starting elevation 2,300 feet; round trip drive 154 miles.

****Summerhaven, Marshall Gulch, Radio Ridge Loop, Rating B.** Hike in the Catalina Mountains, from Summerhaven up the Marshall Gulch trail, then the Aspen trail to Radio Ridge and over to Lemmon Rock for views and lunch. Then back down Aspen Draw trail, through Turkey Run to Summerhaven. Hike 9 miles; elevation change 1,900 feet; starting elevation 7,400 feet; round trip drive 130 miles.

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; round trip drive 24 miles.

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; round trip drive 12 miles (dirt).

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 6.9 miles and Tanque Verde Peak at 9 miles. Erik Molvar's guidebook says, "From this lofty perch, fantastic views stretch in all directions." Hike 18 miles; elevation change 6011 feet (gps); starting elevation 3100 feet; round trip drive 82 miles.

Tortolita Mountains - Wild Mustang/Wild Burro Canyon Loop, Rating B+. Over 25 miles of recently constructed trails beckon in the Western Tortolita Mountains. About a mile from the trailhead we will leave Wild Burro Trail, going a short distance to view some petroglyphs. We will then cut across to the Upper Javalina Trail and make our way up to the Wild Mustang Trail. This trail will lead us over the higher elevations of the mountains to the north past at least 3 crested saguaros. Near the upper end of Wild Mustang Trail we will take a connector trail down into Wild Burro Canyon and explore off-trail, up-canyon about a mile or so. We will then return down-canyon connecting with the official Wild Burro Trail. At this point the trail overlooks the narrow upper canyon which spreads wide with numerous side canyons and tributaries. As we continue down the trail, we will pass a crumbling stone structure and arrive at a boulder strewn falls which thunders with runoff from the upper side canyons and tributaries when it rains. A short distance later we will merge onto Lower Javalina Trail, quickly descending through hillsides covered with enormous boulders and a forest of saguaro cacti. We will then rejoin Wild Burro Trail to return to the trailhead. Hike 12.8 miles; elevation change 2700 feet; starting elevation 2700 feet; round trip drive 44 miles.

Trash Cleanup Walk, Rating D. We will meet in the parking lot just west of the Saddlebrooke CC Fitness Center at 8:00 am. Bring gloves and a pickup tool. Safety vests will be provided. We will pick up trash along Catalina Hills Drive, which is the section of Highway sponsored by the club in the State Adopt A Highway program. This walk will take approximately 1 1/2 hours.

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 2800 feet (gps); starting elevation 2800 feet; round trip drive 73 miles.

Wasson Peak/Sweetwater Trail, Rating B. We start from the trailhead at the end of El Camino del Cerro on the East side of the Tucson Mountains. From there we hike up through some of the prettiest Saguaro forests in the area. Along the way there will be good views of Tucson and Wasson Peak. At the saddle where the trail joins the King Canyon trail we continue on up to Wasson Peak. Views are spectacular from this highest point in the Tucson Mountains. Little shade. Hike 9.43 miles; elevation change 2424 feet (gps); starting elevation 2900 feet; round trip drive 60 miles.

Wildflower Hike, Rating C. Our destination will be determined by the where there are good wildflowers to see. The guide will be in touch with the various parks around the Tucson Area in order to determine the best place on this particular day. Hike <4 miles; < 500 feet.