



SADDLE BROOKE

HIKING CLUB NEWSLETTER

<http://www.SaddleBrooke.org>

May/June 2005

2005 - 2

EARLY DAYS ON MT. LEMMON

By Susan Robertshaw

As we head into the warmer months, many of you will be hiking or day tripping to the higher elevations. You may enjoy, as I did, reading about the early summer residents in the Santa Catalina Mountains. The following excerpts are taken from Suzanne Hensel's book Look to the Mountains:

"In the high elevations of the Catalina Mountains, the first area to experience development was Summerhaven. However, there was a time when Summerhaven stood in the shadow of its counterpart, Soldier Camp. This area, which is located near mile post 24, was known as Turkey Roost in the 1880's. It acquired that name because turkeys could always be found roosting in the low-branching pines there. But by the early 1890's it had acquired the new name Soldier Camp.....

One reason more people settled in Soldier Camp than in Summerhaven may have been because of the route they chose to travel. They used Box Camp Trail, which led up to the camp from where the old Pine Ridge Trail ended in Sabino Canyon. This camp was a beautiful, lush location, and little more could be acquired by traveling farther up the slopes. In addition, the forest ranger was located there providing extra security for the women and children who stayed all summer, often with only the occasional presence of their husbands.....

The Kitts were one of the first families to make the mountain, in particular Soldier Camp, their summer home. Stanley Kitt's daughter, Pauline, made the trip as a toddler in a basket called a kayak box. It was attached to a burro with Kitt riding on one side and her brother or cousin riding on the other.....

As the population grew in Soldier Camp, so did the social activities. A tennis court was constructed, with burlap sacks for the net, and a rock-free, dirt surface for the court (and tape for the lines). Hull (Pauline Kitt), one of the early summer residents, remembers a few hiking activities: 'We thought nothing of walking up to Mt. Lemmon, or we would take a small

walk to Marshall's Gulch to visit friends.'

In addition to playing tennis and hiking, fishing parties took day trips to Sabino Creek, where the pools were large enough for the trout to grow. One Soldier Camp resident, E.L. Vail, initiated the first planting of trout on the mountain back in 1906..... The many activities of the day often ended with a campfire where stories were told under the stars. When the men folk were up, the evening campfire would be preceded by dinner in front of the ranger station where meals were elaborately laid out on china.....

Cabin owners weren't the only ones enjoying the mountains. The first official campground established by the Forest Service was constructed 200 yards west of the ranger station in 1921. The local paper described the event: *'For those people who prefer camping out during their summer vacation, a most comfortable and desirable camping place has been prepared. Near Soldier Camp the government has provided a large camping area. This place will be open to the public and several people have already taken advantage of this opportunity. Tents have been pitched by several campers who desire a short and comfortable location. Every convenience, even that of water piped to the grounds, is provided.'*

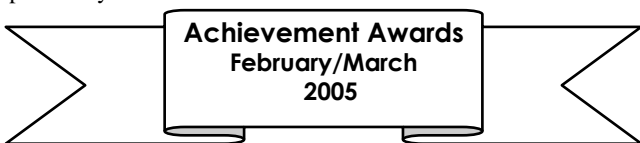
NEW OFFICER

The officers were voted on at the Picnic in March. Jim Strickler will continue as President, Bob Wynne as Vice-President, Sherry Jacobson as Treasurer, and Susan Robertshaw as Chief Hiking Guide. Kathy Gish was elected to be our new Secretary. We want to welcome her and to extend a thank you for accepting the nomination.

NEW STATISTIC AND AWARD VOLUNTEER

We are very pleased to announce that Melody Branstrom has volunteered to fill the Statistic and Awards position. She will be keeping track of all your hikes and issuing the award letters and

patches. We are very pleased to have her aboard. We also want to thank Art Cross once again for doing such a great job for the past two years.



- 100 Hikes:** Mary Hlushko
50 Hikes: Elle Efron
25 Hikes: Cyndee Jordan, Martha Hackworth, Donna Rezba, Judy Loritz, Bob Sabol, Ken Hopping, Debbie Van Allen
10 Hikes: Scott Metskas, Mary K. Dahlberg, Mary Hopping, Jeanne Ragan, Michael Reale, Lee Kirkham, Ned Meyer, Mike Hatmaker, Frank Brier, Judy Luke

THANK YOU MARY

We want to extend a special thank you to Mary Richling who has been our secretary for the past year. Prior to that, she served as our President. A BIG THANK YOU to you, Mary. Your time, effort, and your wonderful smile have been appreciated.

OLYMPIC COOKIES

(the "healthy cookie")

Many of you have enjoyed Kathy Gish's much loved oatmeal cookies. We asked her to share her recipe and she has graciously complied. Have fun making them and enjoy!

- 1 cup butter
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 1 cup brown sugar

Cream sugar and butter together, and then add:

- 2 eggs
- 1 tsp. vanilla

Mix in:

- 1 cup plus 2 tbsp. flour
- 3 cups old fashioned oats
- ½ cup wheat germ
- 1 tsp. baking soda
- 1 tsp. baking powder
- ½ tsp. salt

:

Add:

Raisins and/or chopped walnuts
 Shape into balls. Dough can be refrigerated for a week to 10 days. Press balls lightly to flatten before baking. Bake at 325 degrees on ungreased cookie sheet for about 15 minutes. Watch closely to not over bake. Wait a minute or two to allow cookies to set before removing from cookie sheet.



NEWS YOU CAN USE

Hiking Club Social Hour	May 18 th	4:00 p.m.
Board Meeting	June 1 st	3:00 p.m.
Hiking Guide Meeting	June 1 st	4:00 p.m.
Hiking Club Social Hour	June 15 th	4:00 p.m.

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

Hard copies of the Newsletter are available at both the SaddleBrooke and MountainView Clubhouses. Membership is \$5.00 a year and applications should be located with the newsletters.

Send your completed application or renewal to Bob Perez at 65187 E. Desert Sands Court. **Make checks payable to SaddleBrooke Hiking Club.**

NEWS WE CAN USE

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

Becoming a hiking guide: If you have gained experience hiking and are interested in becoming a hiking guide, contact the Chief Hiking Guide. It is a great way to help the Club and contribute to our great community.

Request a hike: If there is a special hike you would like to see included in our schedule of hikes, please feel free to send an e-mail to the Chief Hiking Guide. Provide a description of the hike and what time of year you would like to have it offered.

VOLUNTEER NEEDED

Social – Plans the Hiking Club Picnics. You would need to reserve the location, order the food, and arrange for ticket sales.

OFFICERS:

- President:** Jim Strickler 825-8735
sherabjim@robsoncom.net
- Vice-President:** Bob Wynne 825-2974
bwynne@robsoncom.net
- Secretary:** Kathy Gish 818-0918
robkathy@msn.com
- Treasurer:** Sherry Jacobson 825-4036
louis.jacobson@ey.com
- Chief Hiking Guide:** Susan Robertshaw 818-6727
jsrobertshaw@att.net

NON OFFICER POSITIONS:

AZ Trail/Oracle SP Work Sessions: John Rendall 825-9395

Editor: Carole Rossof 877-9262

Membership Roster: Bob Perez 818-2111
azsun65@robsoncom.net

Merchandise: Sally Sample 825-0985

Newsletter Copies: Sue Berman 818-1954

Social: Volunteer needed

Publicity: John Robertshaw 818-6727
jsrobertshaw@att.net

Statistics & Awards: Melody Branstrom 825-5562

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: A SaddleBrooke resident, whether year-round or part-time, must be a club member in order to join a hike. On hikes with limited participants, members have priority over guests. 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 can refer 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

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. Occasionally, the Tuesday/Thursday group plans a 3-4 hour hike outside the SaddleBrooke boundaries. One-week advance notice is given. Wear comfortable walking/athletic shoes. Remember sunblock, a hat and water.

Mon/Wed/Fri Group - 6:00 a.m.

Meet at SaddleBrooke Tennis Center parking lot by basketball court.

Bill Leightenheimer 818-1953

Tues/Thurs Group – 6:30 a.m. In May 6:00 a.m. In June

Tuesday: Meet at MountainView Clubhouse parking lot.



Thursday: Meet at SaddleBrooke Tennis Center parking lot.
Judy Barenkopf 825-7077

May 2 - Mon. 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 **6:30 a.m.**; driver donation \$7.00. Mary Richling, 825-5238.

May 4 - Wed. 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 9.2 miles; elevation change 1800 feet; starting elevation 2900 feet; leave at **7:00 a.m.**; driver donation \$4.00. Wayne Kennedy, 818-1812.

May 7 - Sat. Soldier Trail. Rating B. Start at mile 1.3 pullout on Catalina Highway to Prison Camp and return. The first ½ mile is very steep. The gorge in Soldier Basin may have water flowing below some rugged cliffs. Views of the Tucson area. This trail was used in the 1800s as a cavalry passage into the mountains. Hike 6 miles; elevation change 1600 feet; starting elevation 3200 feet; leave at **7:30 a.m.**; driver donation \$5.00. Jim Strickler, 825-8735.

May 10 - Tues. Pusch Peak. Rating A. The first mile of the trail is mostly level then a steep, difficult climb begins. In a few places you may want to use your hands to climb the trail. Bring gloves. Hiking stick desirable. One and one-half miles more and we reach the top. The views of Oro Valley and Tucson are fantastic. This is a very strenuous hike. Hike 5 miles; elevation change 2700 feet; starting elevation 2650 feet; leave at **7:00 a.m.**; driver donation \$1.00. Elisabeth Wheeler, 818-1547.

May 11 - Wed. 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 **7:00 a.m.**; driver donation \$2.00. Wayne Kennedy, 818-1812.

May 17 - Tues. The Window via Esperero Trail and returning on Ventana Canyon Trail. Rating A+. We begin at Sabino Canyon, crossing the Cactus Picnic area to reach the Esperero Trailhead. The Esperero Trail gains elevation fairly quickly as we cross over Rattlesnake and Bird Canyons. Some steep climbs interspersed with short switchbacks take us to the

ridge nicknamed "Cardiac Gap." As we head towards Cathedral Peak, we pass Geronimo Meadow and Bridal Veil Falls. We then pass Cathedral Rock Trail and proceed around Window Peak to The Window from which there are views of Tucson including the University of Arizona and A Mountain. We will descend via the steep Ventana Canyon Trail passing Maiden Pools on the way down. We will need two cars for this hike. Hike 15.5 miles; elevation change 4,250 feet; starting elevation 2,800 feet; leave at **5:00 a.m.**; driver donation \$4.00. Dean & Cheryl Werstler, 825-9057.

May 18 - Wed. 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; leave at **7:00 a.m.**; driver donation \$4.00. Wayne Kennedy, 818-1812.

May 20 - Fri. Canyon Loop to Montrose Pool. Rating D. This hike goes through a nice Sonoran Desert area in Catalina State Park up to the Montrose Pools, then returns. We will fork onto the Birding Loop at the end. Depending upon the season, some water crossings are possible. Hike <4 miles; elevation change 200 feet; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at **7:00 a.m.**; driver donation \$2.00. Mary Richling, 825-5238.

May 21 - Sat. Hutch's Pool. Rating C+. We will take the Sabino Canyon tram to the trailhead. After a moderately steep but brief climb out of the canyon the trail is mostly level. This lovely hike will take us to a permanent pool surrounded by giant Arizona Cypress trees. Bring \$7.50 for the tram. Hike 8 miles; elevation change 900 feet; starting elevation 3300 feet; leave at **7:30 a.m.**; driver donation \$4.00. Jim Strickler, 825-8735.

May 24 - 26 Tues. - Thurs. Sedona. Rating B. We will be spending 3 days and 2 nights (in a motel) hiking in the Sedona area. We will drive up May 24 and have a quick lunch, purchase our Red Rock passes, check into our motel, then proceed to Bear Mountain trailhead (hike=4.2 miles round trip and 1,800 ft. elevation gain). This hike has been described as having wonderful views, one of the best for getting into the redrock cliffs that characterize Sedona. After completing the Bear Mountain hike, we should have time to hike Cathedral Rock Trail (1.4 miles round trip and 600 ft. elevation gain). Some rock scrambling is involved in this hike that goes up to a wonderful saddle with stunning views to the east and west. Cathedral Rock is regarded as a vortex site. The evening of May 24 we will drive up Airport Road, view the sunset, and eat at Sedona Airport Restaurant. On May 25 we will hike Secret Canyon, an exceptionally fine hike up the longest canyon in the Red Rock-Secret Mountain wilderness (11 miles round trip, 480 ft. elevation gain). After Secret Canyon, we will walk to Vultee Arch, named after aviation pioneer Gerald Vultee who, along with his wife, crashed nearby in 1938 (3.6 miles round trip, 600 ft. elevation gain). There should be some evening time in the city of Sedona; a possible dining spot is the Hideaway Restaurant that sits above Oak Creek. On May 26 we will hike the Wilson Mountain South Trail crossing the summit plateau to

the north rim of the mountain, the highest peak in the Sedona area. This point, Canyon Overlook, has excellent views of Sterling Canyon and the San Francisco Peaks in the distance. We will then retrace our steps and go beyond to the Sedona Overlook on the south rim of the mountain to one of the best views of the Sedona area (11 miles round trip, 2,400 ft. elevation gain in the 1st mile or so of the hike). The rest of the day may be spent in the Sedona area as desired. We will return to SaddleBrooke that afternoon or evening. Departure time on May 24 and driver donation TBD. Limited to 12 hikers. Dean & Cheryl Werstler, 825-9057.

May 25 – Wed. 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 9.2 miles; elevation change 1800 feet; starting elevation 2900 feet; leave at **7:00 a.m.**; driver donation \$4.00. Wayne Kennedy, 818-1812.

May 31 – Tues. Mt. Kimball via Finger Rock Trail and returning on Pima Canyon 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 is the top of Mt. Kimball with tremendous views of rock spire cliffs, the Windows, Cathedral Rock, and Montrose Canyon. As we descend steeply, we will have superb views of the entire Montrose and Romero Canyon drainage, the most inaccessible region of the Catalina Mountains. Continuing our descent, we pass several small dams to an open rocky area near Indian grinding holes. We then proceed through a beautiful rugged and shaded canyon for about 2 miles. The last mile is across open desert along the south side of Pusch Peak. We will need two cars for this hike. Hike 12.1 miles; elevation change 4,355 feet; starting elevation 3,100 feet; leave at **5:00 a.m.**; driver donation \$3.00. Dean & Cheryl Werstler, 825-9057.

June 4 – Sat. Incinerator Ridge. Rating C. We will begin at the Palisade Ranger station and climb 400 feet to a saddle. Then we will walk along the ridge to reach a viewpoint towards Barnum Rock and Peck Wilderness. This is one of the premier views off of Mt. Lemmon, which truly gives you the concept of a sky island. Hike 5 miles; elevation change 900 feet; starting elevation 8000 feet; leave at **7:30 a.m.**; driver donation \$7.00. Jim Strickler, 825-8735.

June 6-9 – Mon. through Thurs. Betatakin and Keet Seel. Rating A. We will be spending 4 days and 3 nights (in a motel) on the Navajo Reservation hiking in the Navajo National Monument to some of the best-preserved cliff dwellings in the nation. We will drive up on June 6 possibly stopping at points of interest along the way. On June 7 we will do the guided 5-mile round trip hike to the Betatakin cliff dwellings. Betatakin, meaning “ledge house,” was constructed in the 13th century by Kayenta Anasazi families and was occupied for about 50 years, having a maximum population of about 100 people. We will

attend the orientation for Keet Seel at the Visitor’s Center the afternoon of June 7 and possibly walk the ½-mile Sandal Trail to the Betatakin overlook. On June 8 we will begin our hike to Keet Seel at 6:00 a.m. This is a strenuous, 17-mile round trip, and possibly wet hike with significant elevation gain during a short distance at the very end of the hike. Keet Seel, the larger and more impressive of the 2 ruins, was also constructed during the 13 century, but was felt to have been constructed by different groups and occupied much longer than Betatakin. We will hike to Keet Seel on our own, but be escorted by a ranger into the ruins once we arrive. On June 9 we return to SaddleBrooke with travelers stopping at points of interest on the way as desired. Departure time on June 6 and driver donation TBD. Limited to 10 hikers. Dean & Cheryl Werstler, 825-9057.

June 17 – Fri. Tohono Chul Park, Reptile Ramble and Tea Room for Lunch. Rating D. A desert preserve of 48 acres bordered by Oracle, Ina and Paseo del Norte Roads. We will participate in a 1-hr. docent-led talk and tour about Reptiles. Grandchildren are welcome. We will also stop to enjoy their gardens, the Exhibit House, Gallery and gift shops then lunch at the Tea Room. Leave to return to SaddleBrooke 2:30 p.m. There is an admission fee of \$5.00. Wear comfortable shoes, hat, and sunscreen; bring a bottle of water. Hike 1.5 miles; leave at **9:15 a.m.**; driver donation \$1.00. Mary Richling, 825-5238.

June 18 - Sat. Mt. Lemmon to the Ski Lift. Rating C+. From the foot of the ski lift, we will walk the roadway to the top of Mt. Lemmon. We will take the Meadow Trail to the junction with the Mt. Lemmon Trail, then back up to Mt. Lemmon Rock (outstanding views), back to the top, and then down the Aspen Draw trail to the point of beginning. Hike 6 miles; elevation change 700 feet; starting elevation 8400 feet; leave at **7:30 a.m.**; driver donation \$7.00. Jim Strickler, 825-8735.

June 21 – Tues. Mt. Wrightson multi-trail loop. Rating A+. Starting in Madera Canyon (Santa Rita Mountains), we will take the very steep Vault Mine Trail to its intersection with the Agua Caliente Trail which proceeds through a beautiful area of large oaks and pine, one of the prettiest hikes leading out of Madera Canyon, according to Betty Leavengood. After a series of steep switchbacks, from the first of which one can see the Catalinas and part of Tucson, we arrive at the abandoned Lead Prospect Mine. The trail continues in an exceptionally steep and rocky manner, but levels off before it reaches Josephine Saddle. At the Saddle we will join the Super Trail, continuing a gradual ascent, with excellent views of Mt. Hopkins, past Gardner Canyon and Baldy Spring to Baldy Saddle. From this Saddle, we join the Crest Trail for a steep .9 mile climb to the summit of Mt. Wrightson, the highest peak in the Santa Rita Mountains at 9,453 feet.. (Bring your insect repellent!) From the summit and after the Saddle, we will descend via Old Baldy Trail past Bellows Spring and Sprung Spring, catching views of Mt. Hopkins, Kitt Peak, and Baboquivari. Upon, again, reaching Josephine Saddle, we will return to the Super Trail for our final descent, catching views of Green Valley and the copper mines. Hike 16.3 miles; elevation change 4,030; starting elevation 5,420 feet; leave at **5:00 a.m.**; driver donation \$8.00. Dean & Cheryl Werstler, 825-9057.

June 28 – Tues. Mt. Ian & Mt. Wrightson (Santa Rita Mountains) via Florida Canyon and Crest Trails. Rating A+. We will begin our steep persistent climb at the

Experimental Range Headquarters, the trailhead for the rarely used Florida Canyon Trail. We will enter the Coronado National Forest and start up the Florida Saddle Trail, eventually getting good views of the valley to the north. The rocky trail continues until we reach Robinson Spring known for its year-round flowers. We walk under tall sycamores and oak trees and past a tailing pile from old mines. After a difficult climb, we will come to a cleared area with excellent views of the valley and Florida Canyon, eventually reaching Florida Spring, then Florida Saddle, an intersection for several trails. From the Saddle we will pick up the Crest Trail and, after about 1 mile, turn off going a short distance up to Mt. Ian, the 2nd highest peak in the Santa Rita Mountains at 9,188 feet. We will proceed another 2 miles up to Mt. Wrightson, the highest peak in the Santa Ritas at 9,453 feet. (Bring your insect repellent!) We will return the same way we came. Hike 16.2 miles; elevation change 5,113 feet; starting elevation 4,340; leave at **5:00 a.m.**; driver donation \$8.00. Dean & Cheryl Werstler, 825-9057.