



# SADDLEBROOKE

## HIKING CLUB NEWSLETTER

<http://www.SaddleBrooke.org>

MAY/JUNE

2008-3

**I could never do that hike because I'm only a B (or a C or a D) hiker.**

**I might be able to go further or higher, but I need to do it slower.**

Have you ever expressed such thoughts? If you have, don't you really mean that you consider yourself as "slow", and that you "don't want to hold up the group?"... Or that you are reluctant to challenge yourself because you are worried about your stamina? Your hiking guides believe, however, that you **CAN** do more difficult hikes than you have been choosing, and we are making some changes to help you extend yourself.

We believe that your concerns are probably not so much about the length of the hike or about the elevation change but more likely about its **pace**— the number of miles per hour that the group will travel. Although our newsletter currently describes pace, with the exception of very few hikes,

our hike descriptions never mention the pace at which a hike will be done. There are a few reasons why this has been so:

1. The current system includes only three categories – slow, moderate and fast. And the range for "moderate" is too broad, from 1.5 to 2.5 mph.
2. It is difficult to characterize many hikes because trail conditions vary along a hike – certain parts are easy, and other parts might be steep or include "boulder hopping", for example.
3. Before GPS, it was difficult to keep track of the overall moving average pace during a hike.

As a result, you have likely limited your hiking experiences to a comfortable few hikes (or hiking guides), and you haven't allowed yourself the opportunity of seeing more of the beautiful places Arizona has to offer. And, during the hotter weather, you may have had to curtail your hiking because many of the easier hikes aren't offered because they are at a low elevation.

## New Changes

Because we want to help you experience more of the hikes we offer, we are making the following changes to the way we use pace:

1. We will now use four levels to describe pace:
  - 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

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 the indicated mph.

2. Pace will now be included immediately after the hike rating in the HIKES OFFERED in our newsletter. For example, you can expect the new entries to look like this:

**Mar. 4 - Tues. Picacho Peak. Rating B. Slow Pace.**

**Apr. 2 – Wed. Extended Fitness Walk. Rating C+/B. Fast Pace**

With this change, we are hoping that you will no longer immediately skip over an A, B, or C hike because you are worried about not keeping up. However, if there is no entry for Pace, the hike will be done at a **moderate** pace.

In addition, we will be encouraging our hiking guides to continue offering some of their favorite hikes at a slower pace than usual so that you will consider trying them.

Regardless of the pace specified in the newsletter, our hiking guides always adjust

pace to the slowest person. The pace specified will take nature of terrain (level, clear trail vs. steep, rocky trail) and elevation into consideration. As stated above, pace means average speed. Most hikes have varying terrain; “ups” typically will be done at a slower pace than “downs.” But pace is the overall average,

Finally, if you see an interesting hike listed but you are uncertain whether you should try it, give the hiking guide a call and ask her or him about the hike and pace.

Arizona is a beautiful place – **Lace up those boots and experience it!**

## Thank You To Past Officers and Volunteers

Special thanks go to Susan Robertshaw for five years of service to the SBHC as Chief Hiking Guide and President. Appreciation also goes to Michael Reale as Vice President, Jan Springer as Treasurer, Marjorie Herrmann as Secretary and Elisabeth Wheeler as Chief Hiking Guide. Volunteers who deserve our thanks are Cheryl Werstler - Assistant to Chief Hiking Guide, Carole Rossof - Newsletter, Bob Perez - Membership Roster, Sandy Businger - Merchandise, Martha Hackworth - Newsletter Copies, Lou Powers - Publicity, Mary Hlushko - Statistics and Awards, Cheryl Straw -Social Chairperson, Jim Strickler - Work Days, and Bill Leightenheimer - Catalina Hills Cleanup. We also give much deserved appreciation to our 25 volunteer Guides who lead us on great hikes. Without all of your dedication we would not have such a dynamic club that enables us to explore our beautiful southwest outdoors.



## Welcome To New Officers

The following officers were elected at the March 26 Spring Picnic:

**President:** Michael Reale – 825-8286  
mjreale@msn.com

**Vice-President:** Dave Hydeman – 825-7816  
kuquilter@wbhsi.net

**Secretary:** Marjorie Herrmann – 818-9515  
Mherrmann@wbhsi.com

**Treasurer:** Elisabeth Tancock – 825-7838  
etancock@wbhsi.net

**Chief Hiking Guide:** Jim Strickler – 825-8735  
sherabjim@wbhsi.net

## VOLUNTEERS

**Communications** - Elisabeth Wheeler, 818-1547  
elisarick@wbhsi.com

**Newsletter** - Carole Rossof, 877-9262  
crandmr1@msn.com

**Publicity** - Lou Powers, 825-5508  
loupowers11@aol.com

**Membership Roster** - Bob Perez, 818-2111  
azsun65@wbhsi.net

**Statistics and Awards** - Susan Hollis, 825-6819  
slhollis@yahoo.com

**Newsletter Copies** - Martha Hackworth  
818-2573, martha\_hackworth@comcast.net

**Merchandise** - Sandy Businger,  
825-9294, usbusinger@wbhsi.net

**Socials** - Cheryl Straw  
818-3631, cstraw@wbhsi.net

**Work Days** - Jim Strickler  
825-8735, sherabjim@wbhsi.net

**Catalina Hills Cleanup** - Bill Leightenheimer  
818-1465, whlaz@wbhsi.net

**We appreciate your willingness to serve in these positions for this coming year.**

## NEWS YOU CAN USE

<b>Social Hour</b>	May 21 <sup>st</sup>	4:00 p.m.
<b>Board Meeting</b>	June 4 <sup>th</sup>	3:00 p.m.
<b>Hiking Guide Meeting</b>	June 4th	4:00 p.m.
<b>Social Hour</b>	June 18 <sup>th</sup>	4:00 p.m.

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](http://www.saddlebrooke.org).

## Hiking Articles for the SaddleBrooke Newspapers

Thanks to all the hikers who have emailed hiking articles and photos to Lou Powers, our publicity person. Lou receives lots of articles in the spring and fewer articles in the summer. Lou schedules the articles to the two newspapers so that entire stories and larger photos will appear. When too many are submitted at one time the articles get shortened and the photos are made smaller. Please be patient and realize all the articles and photos will eventually appear. Your hiking write-ups are greatly appreciated and enjoyed!

## AWARDS

<b>10 Hikes</b>	Susan Hollis	Roy Carter
	Bill McSpadden	Sieglinde Wyles
	Dick Krueger	Gary Adams
	Nancy Baxter	Larry Jeffires

<b>25 Hikes</b>	Mary Ganzel	Chris Costello
	Marjorie Herrmann	Mary Bubla
	Richard Ganzel	

<b>50 Hikes</b>	Marlene Olson	Larry Dawson
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<b>100 Hikes</b>	Joe Repshas	Kent Naugle
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<b>250 Hikes</b>	Dean Werstler
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## CONGRATULATIONS!!

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

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

### 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. No advanced signup is required to participate in these walks. The walks will be led by Dean Wilson or Michael Reale. On the few occasions when both Dean and Michael have conflicts, other walkers may lead the walks, utilizing the SHC sign-in sheets to register walkers.

On Monday, Wednesday and Friday the fitness walks will start at **6:00 a.m.** on **May 1<sup>st</sup>** from the parking lot just west of the SaddleBrooke HOA #1 Fitness Center. On Tuesdays and Thursdays the walks will also start at **6:00 a.m.**, but we will leave from Mountain View Clubhouse parking lot. If you have any questions please contact Michael at 825-8286 or Dean at 818-0299.

The Tuesday/Thursday fitness walks will continue at **6:30 a.m.** for the month of **May** and at **6:00 a.m.** for the month of **June**. We will continue to meet at the Mountain View Clubhouse parking lot on Tuesdays and at the SaddleBrooke Tennis Centers

Parking Lot on Thursdays. We have walkers at all levels walking. We walk for an hour and we talk for most of that time. This group consists mostly of women, but we do get some men who enjoy our company. For more information call Judy Barenkopf - 825-7077, or e-mail at mbarenkopf@msn.com. Happy walking!

### HIKES OFFERED

**May 1 – Thurs. - 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 6:30 a.m.; round trip drive 12 miles (dirt); driver donation \$2.00. Michael Reale, 825-8286.

**May 5 – Mon. - 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; leave at 6:30 a.m.; round trip drive 53 miles (dirt); driver donation \$5.00. Michael Reale, 825-8286.

**May 6 – Tues. 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 6:00 a.m.; round trip drive 56 miles; driver donation \$5.00. Dave Hydeman, 825-7816.

**May 7 – Wed. Extended Fitness Walk. Rating C+/B (FAST).** 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; leave at 6:00 a.m. (duration 2.5-3.0 hours; Optional: Breakfast at the Road Runner Grill (need credit card as cash is not accepted). Michael Reale, 825-8286.

**May 7 – 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. Trail is rocky and rough in places. Hike 5.64 miles; elevation change 1500 feet (gps); starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at 8:00 a.m.; round trip drive 24 miles; driver donation \$3.00. Marv Rossosf, 877-9262.

**May 8 – Thurs. Deer Camp Loop. Rating C.** This hike starts in the 50-Year Trail Area. We hike up to Deer Camp then head southwest down a winding trail to connect with a trail that will take us up to a lookout on an arm of Samaniego Ridge. You will have a great view of SaddleBrooke, the Sutherland Wash, the Biosphere, the Tortolita Mountains and the Pusch Ridge series. We will follow this trail back down over slick rock, past an ancient cholla tree, then through an ocotillo grove. It then continues down a dry creek bed (watch for those cairns) and intersects with the Baby Jesus Trail. We pass through a grove of 100+ year old Saguaros on the way back to our cars. Hike 5.7 miles, elevation change 1400 feet; starting elevation 3200 feet; leave at 6:00 a.m.; driver donation \$2.00. Michael Reale, 825-8286.

**May 12 – Mon. Bill Cody Loop. Rating B.** This beautiful, historic loop begins at the American Flag trailhead on the old Mt. Lemmon Road and covers a section of the Arizona Trail. We will view the 1877 adobe house at trailhead, then hike up the Arizona Trail to the Oracle Ridge Trail. We will go south toward Apache Peak, then down FR639 through Camp Bonita Canyon past the old Patterson Diaz homestead site and lunch at Campo Bonito. From there we swing northward past the "Yellow Cabin" through 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.) We will then return to the cars via the Arizona Trail. Hike 8.2 miles; elevation change 1500 feet (gps); starting elevation 4400 feet; leave at 6:00 a.m.; round trip drive 41 miles; driver donation \$3.00. Michael Reale, 825-8286.

**May 13 – Tues. 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; leave at 6:30 a.m.; round trip drive 12 miles (dirt); driver donation \$2.00. Fred Kennedy, 825-5310.

**May 14 – Wed. 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. Leave at 7:30 a.m., round trip 50 miles(dirt.) The club will pay drivers' expenses. Jim Strickler 825-8735.

**May 15 – Thurs. 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 7 miles; elevation gain 1000 feet; starting elevation 4700 feet; leave at **8:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 40 miles (dirt); driver donation \$3.00. Marv Rossof, 877-9262.

**May 15 – Thurs. Butterfly Trail. Rating B-**. Starting at Soldier Camp in the Catalinas we will hike down to the Novio Spring area in Alder Canyon where we will lunch in the vicinity of a 1957 F-86 plane crash. All of the steady climb is on the way out. We will be in the shade of very tall Douglas fir and ponderosa pines, up to the saddle and exit at Palisade Ranger Station. Along the way are views of San Manuel to the east. Hike 6 miles; elevation change 1800 feet; starting elevation 7700 feet; leave at **6:30 a.m.**; round trip drive 125 miles; driver donation \$10.00. Michael Reale, 825-8286.

**May 16 – Fri.. Garwood Dam. Rating C.** This is a slow easy hike in the desert of the Saguaro National Park-East. The pace will be set by the group; no rush. We will hike in the cactus forest of the Park across mostly level terrain. There is some climbing as we near the dam. Our destination is a dam with a history in the foothills of the Rincon Mountains. Hike 6.5 miles; elevation change 250 feet; starting elevation 2800 feet.; leave at **7:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 80 miles; driver donation. Don Taylor, 825-5303 (**please call after May 1**).

**May 19 – 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 2800 feet (gps); starting elevation 2800 feet; leave at **5:30 a.m.**; round trip drive 73 miles; driver donation \$5.00. Michael Reale, 825-8286.

**May 20 – Tues. 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 **6:30 a.m.**; round trip drive 12 miles (dirt); driver donation \$2.00. Fred Kennedy, 825-5310.

**May 21 – Wed. 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; leave at **8:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 21 miles; driver donation \$2.00. Marv Rossof, 877-9262.

**May 21 – Wed. Hiking Club Social – MountainView Clubhouse, 4:00 p.m.**

**May 22 – Thurs. Bog-Kent Springs Loop Trail. Rating B.** We hike from the Bog Springs Campground in Madera Canyon, Santa Rita Mountains, through three springs areas which are home to bamboo, huge Arizona sycamore, walnut and fir trees. There are great views of Madera Canyon, Green Valley, Kitt peak, and Baboquivari from this trail with strenuous, steep climbs in spots. Limit 15 hikers. Hike 6 miles; elevation change 2000 feet (gps); starting elevation 5000 feet; leave at **6:00 a.m.** Michael Reale, 825-8286.

**May 23 – Fri.. Guthrie Mountain. Rating C+ (SLOW).** The hike will start at the General Hitchcock Campground. We will go up the Green Mountain trail to the saddle at the head of Bear Canyon. Then onto Guthrie Mountain and return. The trail along the top from the saddle to Guthrie Mountain gives great views of the Catalinas and the San Pedro Valley. The last quarter mile to the trails end over the mountaintop requires some rock climbing. Some hikers may not wish to do that portion of the hike. Hike 6 miles; elevation change 1200 feet; starting elevation 6000 feet; leave at **7:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 104 miles; driver donation \$8.00. Don Taylor, 825-5303 (**please call after May 1**).

**May 25 – Sun. Romero Pass. Rating A.** This hike begins in Catalina State Park and follows an up and down trail past Romero Pools and Romero Springs to Romero Pass. There is a very steep uphill section the last 2 miles. Hike 15 miles (7.5 miles climbing and 7.5 miles descending); elevation change 3300 feet; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at **7:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 24 miles; driver donation \$3.00. Larry Linderman, 818-1977.

**May 26 – Mon. Wilderness of Rocks. Rating B.** Starting at Marshall Gulch picnic area, we climb up to Marshall Saddle then hike down the Wilderness of Rocks Trail. Three fourths of a mile past the intersection with the Lemmon Rock Lookout Trail is the Lemmon Creek area in the heart of the Wilderness of Rocks. There are beautiful rock formations with great views. Return by the same route, or optionally by the Aspen Trail.. Hike 7.5 (or 8.8) miles; elevation change 1550 feet; starting elevation 7440 feet; leave at **6:30 a.m.**; round trip drive 131 miles; driver donation \$10.00. Michael Reale, 825-8286.

**May 27 – Tues. Maiden Pools. Rating C (SLOW).** We'll start at the public parking lot past the employees' parking lot at Ventana Canyon and use the new Forest Service trail into the canyon. The trail is rocky in places with some steep climbing. Hopefully, we will be rewarded for our efforts with spectacular views of the East Side of Tucson. Lunch at the pools and return. Hike 5 miles; elevation change 1100 feet; starting elevation 3000 feet; leave at **6:30 a.m.**; round trip drive 54 miles; driver donation \$4.00. Don Taylor, 825-5303 (**please call after May 1**).

**May 28 – Wed. 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 6.22 miles, elevation change 760 feet (gps); starting elevation 4350 feet; leave at **8:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 40 miles; driver donation \$4.00. Marv Rossof, 877-9262.

**May 29 – Thurs. Chiricahua Heart of Rocks Loop. Rating B.** This loop trail is described in "Hiking Arizona's Cactus Country" as ... popular route which makes a long day trip, visiting the most spectacular rock formations in Chiricahua National Monument. This hike includes the scenic Echo Canyon trail. Because this is an all day trip (140 miles to the Monument), those wishing to, will stop for dinner at a very good, reasonable Italian Restaurant in Benson on the way back. Hike 8.4 miles; elevation change 2520 feet (gps); starting elevation 6780 feet; leave at **5:30 a.m.**; round trip drive 288 miles; driver donation \$20.00. Michael Reale, 825-8286.

**\*\*May 29 – Thurs. Box Camp/East Fork Trails to Molino Basin. Rating A.** The Box Camp Trail built in 1897 was the first pack route to the high country of the Catalina Mountains. Tucsonans rode horses up this trail to summer cabins or camps to escape the summer heat. One of the most dramatic trails in the Tucson area, Box Camp intersects with the East Fork Trail after 5 miles of nearly continuous downhill (a total loss of 4,300 feet of elevation). Starting from the top, this steep and rocky trail moves through large ponderosa pines before dropping suddenly into the Sabino Basin below. The trail cuts through brittle rock littered with rubble, and in some places the trail can be hard to find. When you come to where the grass begins and the Manzanita brush ends, you will find a natural vista with numerous user paths that dead end at various view points of Sabino Basin and Palisade Canyon. Expect to look hard for the correct route down to the Sabino Basin. The correct trail route veers to the west squeezing you through a couple large boulders and down a couple of tight switchbacks. The remaining 7.5 miles of our hike has some moderate ups and downs and will follow the East Fork and Sycamore Reservoir Trails to our ending point at Molino Basin. We will spot a car at Molino Basin and drive about 17 miles up Catalina Highway to our starting point. We will need park passes for the cars. Hike 12.5 miles; cumulative elevation gain/loss=1,960/5,640 feet; starting elevation 8,040 feet; leave at **6:00 a.m.**; round trip 126 miles; driver donation \$9.00. Dean & Cheryl Werstler, 825-9057.

**May 31 – Sat. Green Mountain Trail/Guthrie Mountain. Rating B.** Starting at the San Pedro Vista we follow the Green Mountain Trail mostly downhill leading to a saddle where it intersects the Guthrie Mountain Trail. To reach the summit of Guthrie requires some optional rock climbing near the end (2 miles/800') then it's a steep downhill trek to the General Hitchcock Campground. Hike requires a car to be left at General Hitchcock Campground. Hike 6 miles (9 miles with Guthrie Summit); elevation change minus 1100 feet; starting elevation 7200 feet; leave at **7:30 a.m.**; round trip drive 115 miles; driver donation \$9.00. Jim Strickler, 825-8735.

**June 2 – Mon. Mt. Wrightson--Ring around Wrightson. Rating A.** We start in Madera Canon (Santa Rita Mountains) and go up the Super Trail to Josephine Saddle. We then follow the Super Trail past Josephine Peak to Baldy Saddle, and then follow Old Baldy Trail through Josephine Saddle to the starting

point. This is a shady all-day hike with outstanding views in all directions. Hike 11.7 miles; elevation change 3300 feet; starting elevation 5400 feet. Leave at **5:30 am**; round trip drive 130 miles; driver donation \$10.00. Michael Reale, 825-8286.

**June 2 – Mon. 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; leave at **7:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 60 miles; driver donation \$4.00. Don Taylor, 825-5303 (**please call after May 1**).

**June 3 – Tues. Pima Canyon – 3<sup>rd</sup> Dam. Rating B.** 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 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 into the open. We will hike past a rocky open area in the canyon beyond the second dam near ancient grinding holes and continue on to the third dam. We return to the trailhead via the same route. Hike 8.1 miles; elevation change 2210 feet (gps); starting elevation 2900 feet; leave at **6:30 a.m.**; round trip drive 42 miles; driver donation \$3.00. Dave Hydeman, 825-7816.

**June 4 – Wed. Extended Fitness Walk. Rating C+/B (FAST)** 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; leave at **6:00 a.m.** (duration 2.5-3.0 hours; Optional: Breakfast at the Road Runner Grill (need credit card as cash is not accepted). Michael Reale, 825-8286.

**June 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 6.8 miles, elevation change 1001 feet (gps); starting elevation 4350 feet; leave at **8:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 40 miles; driver donation \$4.00. Marv Rossof, 877-9262.

**June 4 – Wed. Board Meeting, 3:00. Michael Reale, 825-8286.**

**June 4 – Wed. Guide Meeting, 4:00. Elisabeth Wheeler, 818-1547.**

**\*\*June 5 – Thurs. Josephine Canyon via Old Baldy Trail. Rating A. Exploratory.** Named after Josephine Pennington, daughter of the pioneer who mined this canyon in the mid-1800s, Josephine Canyon is a remote and beautiful route on the southern slope of the Santa Rita Mountains. The Canyon starts

at Josephine Saddle which we will reach via Old Baldy Trail. We descend steeply down the Canyon drainage which usually has pools and cascades of water. We will see incredible giant alligator junipers that have been growing for a few hundred years. From the Saddle to the southern trailhead is only 2.8 miles, but a jeep road continues on through the lush canyon lined with sycamore trees dripping with wild grapevines for 2.5 more miles to Alto Camp. If we hike all the way to Alto Camp located on Forest Service Rd. 143, we will encounter a crumbling adobe ruin which is all that remains of an early 1900s post office. The owner/operator, Josiah Bond, dreamed that this would become the major route connecting Tucson and Nogales. The distance we travel through the canyon will be determined on the day of the hike due to the unknown nature of the trail. We will return the way we came, through Josephine Saddle and back down Old Baldy Trail. Hike 12-15 miles; cumulative elevation gain/loss= 3,600 feet (max.); starting elevation 5,600 feet; leave at **6:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 130 miles; driver donation \$10.00. Dean & Cheryl Werstler, 825-9057.

**June 9 – Mon. Mt. Lemmon/Wilderness of Rocks Loop. Rating B.** We'll park at the Observatory and head down the Mt. Lemmon trail branching off onto the Lookout trail for a steep descent to 7200 feet then back up to the Wilderness of Rocks trail. Then up to Marshall Saddle, over to Radio Ridge and back to the Observatory parking area. Hike 6 miles; elevation change 2000 feet; starting elevation 9150 feet; leave at **6:30 a.m.**; round trip drive 131 miles; driver donation \$10.00. Don Taylor, 825-5303 (please call after May 1).

**June 11 – Wed. 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). Leave at **8:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 24 miles; driver donation \$3.00. Marv Rossof, 877-9262.

**June 12 – Thurs. Linda Vista Loop Trails. Rating C (SLOW).** Drive to trailhead, 15 minutes from the MountainView parking lot. We will hike the trails in this area that skirt the base of Pusch 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 **7:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 28 miles; driver donation \$2.00. Elisabeth wheeler, 818-1547.

**June 13 – Fri. Rice Peak. Rating A.** Hike up Peppersauce Canyon from the campground to the Oracle Ridge then follow part of the Arizona Trail to Rice Peak. Interesting "peppersauce conglomerate" in Peppersauce Canyon, great views along Oracle Ridge and interesting conglomerate rock on the peak. Superb views from the peak to the San Pedro River and the Galiuro Mountains beyond. Hike 10.0 miles; elevation change 3000 feet; starting elevation 4600 feet; leave at **6:30 a.m.**; round trip drive 53 miles (dirt); driver donation \$5.00. Don Taylor, 825-5303 (please call after May 1).

**June 16 – Mon. Mt. Wrightson via Old Baldy Trail. Rating A.** Hike up the Old Baldy Trail to the summit and come down the same way. This is the shortest route to the top (9453') of Mt. Wrightson. At the top are 360-degree views from Tucson to Mexico. This is a shady all day hike to an outstanding mountain. Hike 11.1 miles; elevation change 4029 feet (gps); starting elevation 5400 feet; leave at **5:30 a.m.**; round trip drive 130 miles; driver donation \$10.00. Michael Reale, 825-8286.

**June 18 – 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 **8:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 24 miles; driver donation \$3.00. Marv Rossof, 877-9262.

**June 18 – Wed. Hiking Club Social, 4:00, MountainView Clubhouse**

**June 19 – Thurs. Sweetwater Trail to the Saddle. Rating C+.** 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. We end at the saddle where the trail joins the King Canyon trail. The King Canyon trail goes down to the Desert Museum or up to Wasson Peak. We will have lunch at the saddle before heading back to the trailhead. Hike 6.8 miles; elevation change 1200 feet; starting elevation 2800 feet; leave at **6:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 60 miles; driver donation \$4.00. Elisabeth Wheeler, 818-1547.

**June 21 – Sat. Aspen Loop/Marshall Gulch Trail. Rating C (SLOW).** We will start at the Marshall Gulch Picnic area and go up the Aspen Trail to the saddle. We will lunch at a scenic spot near the saddle. Then down the Marshall Gulch Trail to the picnic area. Hike 4 miles; elevation change 800 feet; starting elevation 7440 feet; leave at **7:30 a.m.**; round trip drive 131 miles; driver donation \$10.00. Jim Strickler, 825-8735.

**June 23 – Mon. Mt. Lemmon/Crystal Springs. Rating B+.** This is a car shuttle hike. The hike starts at the Mt. Lemmon fire station (leave one car here). Hike down the road 2.3 miles to beginning of Crystal Spring Trail. The trail follows north ridges through oak and juniper trees to Crystal Spring. Then it continues to Butterfly Trail junction through pine and fir trees. Ends at mile post 23 on Mt. Lemmon Highway (second car here). Hike 8 miles; elevation change 1200 feet; starting elevation 8000 feet; leave at **6:30 a.m.**; round trip drive 130 miles; driver donation \$10.00. Michael Reale, 825-8286.

**June 25 – 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. Trail is rocky and rough in places. Hike 5.64 miles; elevation change 1500 feet (gps);

starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at **8:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 24 miles; driver donation \$3.00. Marv Rossof, 877-9262,

**June 26 – Thurs. 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; leave at **5:30 a.m.**; round trip drive 44 miles; driver donation \$3.00. Elisabeth Wheeler, 818-1547.

**June 29 – Sun. 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.**; round trip drive 131 miles; driver donation \$10.00. Jim Strickler, 825-8735.

**June 30 – Mon. Mt. Lemmon Rock Lookout/Mint Spring. Rating B.** Starting in Summerhaven, we will climb 1200 feet via Carter Canyon to Aspen Trail, then up to the top of Mt. Lemmon (9157'). Then down Lemmon Rock Lookout Trail, 1900', into the Wilderness of Rocks. Then another climb of 750' will get us to Marshall Saddle. From there we can coast down the Mint Spring Trail back to the start. The hike is in forest shade and all above 7000'. Hike 8 miles; elevation change 2100 feet; starting elevation above 7000 feet; leave at **6:30 a.m.**; round trip drive 130 miles; driver donation \$10.00. Michael Reale, 825-8286.