



# SADDLEBROOKE

## HIKING CLUB NEWSLETTER

<http://www.saddlebrooke.org>

MAY/JUNE

2009-3

### May 20 Wildlife Linkages Program: 3 p.m. Saguaro Room MountainView Clubhouse

The May hiking club program features Janice Pryzbyl, Project Director for the Sky Island Alliance who will tell us of its effort to mobilize volunteers to track and record the movement of animals among the isolated mountain habitats of the Southwest and northern Mexico. The SIA approach is based on Ms. Pryzbyl's M.A. thesis which details a grass-roots strategy to generate a data base sufficient to ensure that land management agencies and urban planners recognize and take active steps to ensure preservation of vital and safe corridors.

The Sky Island Alliance brilliantly conceptualizes the unity of the ecology and wildlife of the small mountain ranges of the Sonoran Desert. Founded by a few activists in 1991, in less than two decades it has utilized memberships, donations, and grants to build a paid staff of more than a dozen professionals as well as interns and volunteers to promote research, conservation, restoration, and comprehensive planning.

Many of us have read about research by SIA and other organizations into the habits and range of the Big Cats, including killing of the last known Jaguar in southern Arizona. The effort led by Janice Pryzbyl extends that research effort literally into our back yards because the SaddleBrooke developments sit astride migration routes between the Tortolitas and the Santa Catalinas. Expect a program that challenges personal values and inspires personal involvement.

### Advice for Hot Weather Hiking

1. Bring extra water and stay hydrated.
2. Carry a small spray bottle of cold water to cool yourself. A wet handkerchief, wet t-shirt, or wet neck wrap in a ziploc bag will also help with the heat.
3. Snack frequently, including something salty. Carry power gel, Gatorade type drink or powdered electrolyte mix for times of increased fatigue.
4. Wear wide brimmed hat for shade. Dress in layers, with wicking shirt next to your skin. Wear light-weight zip-off pants or shorts and wicking socks.
5. Slather on plenty of sunscreen. Re-apply as needed.
6. Hike early in the day. Build up your tolerance for exercise in warm temps.

**Be prepared for hotter days so your hiking will remain enjoyable!**

### Thank You

Thanks to Dave Hydeman and Jim Strickler for serving as Vice President and Chief Hiking Guide for 2008 and Lou Powers for serving as Publicity Chairperson for the past two years. All did an outstanding job and helped make 2008 one of the best years for the club. In addition to the club officers, many volunteers and hiking guides worked long hours during the year to support club activities and increase the enjoyment of all hiking club members. The volunteers are listed in each Newsletter and the hiking guides are identified on the hiking schedule. We all owe this group of SaddleBrooke residents many thanks for their time and effort supporting the hiking club.

### Welcome

New officers elected at the Annual Meeting are Bill Leightenheimer as Vice President and Roy Carter and Frank Brier as Co-Chief Hiking Guides. Bill founded the SBHC in 1999 and is a past president. New volunteers for 2009 are Mary Ganzel as Program Chairperson and Richard Ganzel as Publicity Chairperson. We appreciate your willingness to serve our hiking club.

### Annual Meeting Update

Changes to the By-laws were approved to elect officers for two years and elect half of the SBHC Board each year to promote continuity.

Members voted to continue two picnics a year, one in the fall and one in the spring.

A Raffle was held for donated items from Summit Hut and the booklet "Hiker's Wisdom."

### Support for Oracle State Park

Oracle State Park is one of the state parks being considered for closure. SBHC members can show their support for Oracle State Park by signing in each time they enter the park and by buying their annual State Park Passes at Oracle State Park. Documenting our usage of the park in these ways improves the park's standing with the State Parks Board.

## Hiking Guides Need Your Help!!

An effort is underway to update the club's Hike Database, with the goals of making the hike descriptions more consistent in content and to include more accurate information about hike difficulty. The evolution of global positioning systems (gps) technology and the popularity of gps devices among club members have made it possible for us to very accurately measure the distance and elevation change of hikes. Your hike guides have begun collecting gps readings on the sign-up sheets at the conclusion of hikes. These data will be stored in a spreadsheet by our club statistician Susan Hollis for future updates of hike descriptions. Specifically, we hope to develop round trip information for three parameters: distance, net elevation change (the elevation change between the trailhead and the destination, if any), and accumulated gain in elevation (the sum of the upward stretches). If hikes are primarily downhill, accumulated losses would be measured. Expect a transition to the new terminology in the July/August newsletter. Please help make this a success by providing your readings to the hike guide at the end of hikes.

## News You Can Use

<b>Special Presentation</b>	May 20th	3:00 p.m.
<b>Social Hour:</b>	May 20th	4:00 p.m.
<b>Board Meeting:</b>	June 3rd	3:00 p.m.
<b>Hiking Guide Meeting:</b>	June 3rd	4:00 p.m.
<b>Social Hour:</b>	June 17th	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 Awards

<b>1,000 Hikes</b>	Dean Wilson
<b>750 Hikes</b>	Martha Hackworth
<b>500 Hikes</b>	Sandra Sowell
<b>250 Hikes</b>	Marv Rossof
<b>100 Hikes</b>	Mary Croft & Jo Wendler
<b>50 Hikes</b>	Mary Ganzel, Lora Lowden, Pam Wakefield, Susan Hollis & Bertie Litchfield

## Congratulations!

### Officers

<b>President:</b>	Michael Reale – 825-8286; mjreale@msn.com
<b>Vice-President:</b>	Bill Leightenheimer, 825-5756; whlaz@wbhsi.net
<b>Secretary:</b>	Marjorie Herrmann – 818-9515; marjorie.herrmann@gmail.com
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Elizabeth Tancock – 825-7838; etancock@wbhsi.net
<b>Chief Hiking Guides:</b>	Frank Brier, 818-0493; FrankBrier@aol.com Roy Carter, 818-3137; rvcarter@aol.com

## Volunteers

**Catalina Hills Cleanup ;** Bill Leightenheimer, 818-1465;  
whlaz@wbhsi.net  
**Communications:** Elisabeth Wheeler, 818-1547;  
elisarick@wbhsi.com  
**Membership Roster:** Bob Perez, 861-0967;  
azsun65@wbhsi.net  
**Merchandise:** Sandy Businger, 825-9294;  
usbusinger@wbhsi.net  
**Newsletter Copies:** Martha Hackworth, 818-2573;  
marthahackworth@comcast.net  
**Newsletter:** Carole Rossof, 877-9262;  
crandmr@q.com  
**Program:** Mary Ganzel, 818-1828;  
mtnrunr@hotmail.com  
**Publicity:** Richard Ganzel, 818-1828;  
ganzel@unr.edu  
**Socials:** Cheryl Straw, 818-3631;  
cstraw@wbhsi.net  
**Statistics and Awards:** Susan Hollis, 825-6819;  
slhollis@yahoo.com  
**Work Days -** Jim Strickler, 825-8735;  
sherabjim@wbhsi.net

## 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  $\geq 1.5$  to <2.0 MPH

**Moderate Pace:** Average speed of hike  $\geq 2.0$  to <2.5 MPH

**Fast Pace:** Average speed of hike  $\geq 2.5$  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 signup is required to participate in these walks.

Monday, Wednesday and Friday the fitness walks will start at 6:00 a.m. from the parking lot just west of the SaddleBrooke HOA #1 Fitness Center. Tuesdays and Thursdays the walks will also start at 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.

Tuesday and Thursday fitness walks will begin at 6:00 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](mailto: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
5/1	Fri.	Blackett's Ridge	B		6:30 a.m.	Philip & Kathy Cotton	825-2243	\$4
5/1	Fri.	Roger's Canyon Cliff Dwellings	B	Slow	6:00 a.m.	Dean & Cheryl Werstler	825-9057	\$15
5/2	Sat	Peppersauce Canyon	C+		7:00 a.m.	Frank Brier	818-0493	\$5

Date	Day of Week	Name of Hike	Hike Rating	Pace	Leave Time	Leader(S)	Phone Number	Driver Donation
5/4	Mon.	**Sunset-Marshall Gulch-Aspen Loop	C		6:30 a.m.	Bill Katz	818-9412	\$8
5/5	Tues.	Dripping Springs From Sutherland Trail	C-	Slow	8:00 a.m.	Jan Wilson	818-0299	\$2 + \$2
5/5	Tues.	Sixshooter Trail/ Pinal Peak	A		5:00 a.m.	Elisabeth Wheeler	818-1547	\$15
5/6	Wed.	Extended Fitness Walk.	C+/B	Fast	6:00 a.m.	Martha Hackworth	818-2573	\$0
5/7	Thur.	Romero Springs	B		7:00 a.m.	Larry Linderman	818-1977	\$2 + \$2
5/9	Sat.	Fifty-Year Loop	C		8:00 a.m.	Jim Strickler	825-8735	\$2
5/12	Tues.	Romero Pools	C+		8:00 a.m.	Marv Rossof	877-9262	\$2 + \$2
5/12	Tues.	Hidden Canyon- Starr Pass	D	Slow	7:30 a.m.	Jan Wilson	818-0299	\$5
5/15	Fri.	Phoneline Trail - Round Trip	B-		6:30 a.m.	Don Taylor	825-5303	\$4
5/16	Sat.	Incinerator Ridge	C	Slow	8:00 a.m.	Jim Strickler	825-8735	\$9
5/18	Mon.	Blackett's Ridge	B		6:30 a.m.	Bill Katz	818-9412	\$4
5/19	Tues.	Mt. Wrightson via Super Trail	A		6:00 a.m.	Don Taylor	825-5303	\$10
5/20	Wed.	Pusch Ridge To 1st Overlook	C+		7:00 a.m.	Roy Carter	818-3137	\$2
5/20	Wed.	Special Presentation			3:00 p.m.	Mary Ganzel	818-1828	
5/20	Wed.	Hiking Club Social			4:00 p.m.	Mountain View Clubhouse		
5/21	Thurs.	Deer Camp/ Baby Jesus Loop	C		7:00 a.m.	Michael Reale	825-8286	\$2
5/21	Thurs.	Linda Vista Loop Trails	C	Slow	8:00 a.m.	Jan Wilson	818-0299	\$2
5/22	Fri.	Wasson Peak via Sendero/ Esperanza/ Hugh Norris Trails	B		6:00 a.m.	Don Taylor	825-5303	\$6
5/25	Mon.	Tanque Verde Ridge Trail to Juniper Basin Campground	A		5:30 a.m.	Don Taylor	825-5303	\$6
5/26	Tues.	Finger Rock Trail To Linda Vista Saddle	B		7:00 a.m.	Roy Carter	818-3137	\$4
5/28	Thurs.	Hidden Canyon Loop	C+		7:00 a.m.	Michael Reale	825-8286	\$2
5/29	Fri.	Tortolita Trail	D		7:30 A.M.	Jan Wilson	818-0299	\$4
6/3	Wed.	Extended Fitness Walk.	C+/B	Fast	6:00 a.m.	Michael Reale	825-8286	\$0
6/3	Wed.	Hiking Club Board Meeting			3:00 p.m.	Michael Reale	825-8286	
6/3	Wed.	Hiking Guides Meeting			4:00 p.m.	Roy Carter, Frank Brier	825-8735	
6/4	Thurs.	Alamo Canyon	D		7:30 a.m.	Jan Wilson	818-0299	\$2 + \$2
6/8	Mon.	Blackett's Ridge.	B		6:00 a.m.	Michael Reale	825-8286	\$4
6/9	Tues.	Nugget Canyon Short	D+	Slow	7:30 a.m.	Jan Wilson	818-0299	\$5
6/10	Wed.	Mt.Wrightson via Old Baldy Trail	A		6:30 a.m.	Bill Katz	818-9412	\$10
6/12	Fri.	Cardiac Gulch	B		6:30 a.m.	Philip & Kathy Cotton	825-2243	\$4
6/17	Wed.	Hiking Club Social			4:00 p.m.	Mountain View Clubhouse		
6/18	Thurs.	Phoneline Trail With Tram	C	Slow	7:45 a.m.	Jan Wilson	818-0299	\$4
6/19	Fri	Mt. Lemmon to Oracle Ridge via Red Ridge Trail	B+		6:30 a.m.	Frank Brier	818-0493	\$10
6/20	Sat.	Aspen Loop/Marshall Gulch Trail	C	Slow	7:30 a.m.	Jim Strickler	825-8735	\$10
6/22	Mon.	Bog-Kent Springs Loop Trail	B	Slow	6:00 a.m.	Michael Reale	825-8286	\$10

Date	Day of Week	Name of Hike	Hike Rating	Pace	Leave Time	Leader(S)	Phone Number	Driver Donation
6/22-6/24	Mon. – Wed.	**Chiricahuas Camping/Hiking Trip	A/B		11:00 a.m.	Elisabeth Wheeler	818-1547	\$23
6/23	Tues.	OSP West	C		8:00 a.m.	Marv Rossof	877-9262	\$3 + \$2
6/23	Tues.	Seven Falls With Tram	C	Slow	7:45 a.m.	Jan Wilson	818-0299	\$4 + \$8
6/26	Fri.	Phoneline Trail-Round Trip	B-		6:30am	Bill Katz	818-9412	\$4
6/27	Sat.	Mt Lemmon To The Ski Lift	C	Slow	7:30 a.m.	Jim Strickler	825-8735	\$10
6/29	Mon.	Wilderness Of Rocks	B		6:00 a.m.	Michael Reale	825-8286	\$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, Rating D.** We will begin the hike at the Romero Ruins trailhead. Other than one short area by the wash, the elevation change is gradual. This is a lovely hike up to the Alamo Canyon Falls. There may be water if we have had recent rains. We will stop by the Romero Ruins and take the informative loop trail. Hike 3.4 miles; elevation change 423 (gps) feet; starting elevation 2700 feet; round trip drive 24 miles; driver donation.

**Aspen Loop/Marshall Gulch Trail, Rating C.** 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; round trip drive 131 miles.

**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.

**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; round trip drive 130 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.

**\*\* Chiricahuas Camping Trip.** This 3-day camping trip will feature two hikes in the Chiricahua Wilderness from Rustler Park. Round trip drive approx. 325 miles:

Day 1 – Drive to Rustler Park (8450') in the Chiricahua Wilderness and set up camp. Campfire if permitted.

Day 2 – **Snowshed Peak, Rating A.** From Rustler Park we hike the Crest Trail to Juniper Spring. We join the Snowshed Trail and bushwack up Snowshed Peak (9665 ft) and hike back to Rustler Park. Hike 15 miles; elevation change 3,550 ft; starting elevation 8450 ft. Optional: Chiricahua Peak on the hike back to Rustler Park.

Day 3 - **Centella Point/Flys Peak, Rating B.** From Rustler Park we hike the Crest Trail past Tub Spring to Centella Point. Then we go to Bear Wallow Spring, up and over Flys Peak. We rejoin the Crest Trail back to Rustler Park. Hike 9.7 miles; elevation change 1800 ft; starting elevation 8450 ft. Drive back to SaddleBrooke.

**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).

**Dripping Springs from the Sutherland Trail, Rating C-.** We follow the Sutherland Trail past the wilderness sign then turn off at a Sutherland Trail sign. There are large rocks laid out in a row on the right (east) side of trail. The hike then veers to the right and follows a small canyon where there is a beautiful waterfall (depending on recent rains). Much of this part of the trail is sandy with several water crossings. After entering the wilderness area the trail is somewhat rocky. An old abandoned mine is visible to the left of the canyon. Hike 4.81 miles; elevation change 460 feet (gps); starting elevation 2700 feet; round trip drive 24 miles.

**Extended Fitness Walk.** 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).

**Fifty-Year Loop, Rating C.** We will start in the Fifty-Year Trail Area and go east to the Upper Loop Trail then hike north to a rock with a bench for viewing. We then will hike back on the Fifty-Year Trail. There are beautiful saguaros and rock formations in addition to excellent views of SaddleBrooke, Sun City, and the Tortolitas. This hike can be done in reverse. Hike 6.11 miles; elevation change 878 feet (gps); starting elevation 3200 feet; round trip drive 12 miles (dirt).

**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.

**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).

**Hidden Canyon - Starr Pass, Rating D.** This is a loop on good trail with some elevation gain. There are lots of saguaros and jojoba bushes plus views of the city. After 1/4 mile you are out of sight of "civilization" and have views toward the northeast. By taking the loop trail counterclockwise the trail descends to a junction marked by a cairn. By turning right through a small wash, winding around cacti and mesquite trees, the trail joins a major wash on the left. We follow the wash to a brown wooden sign "Yetman" trail. We follow the arrow to a stone house built in the early 1930's by Mr. Sherry Bowen, a type setter & editor for the Arizona Daily Star. He and his wife, Ruby, lived in the house on 2000 acres. In 1983 this land became part of the Tucson Mountain Park. Hike 2-4 miles; elevation change is 400 ft; starting elevation is 2700 ft.; round trip drive approximately 71 miles.

**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 360 degree view that includes Barnum Rock; San Pedro river Valley, and Tucson. This is one of the premier views off of Mt. Lemmon, which truly gives you the concept of a sky island. Hike 3.9 miles; elevation change 950 feet (gps); starting elevation 8000 feet; round trip drive 119 miles.

**Linda Vista Loop Trails, Rating C.** Drive to trailhead, 15 minutes from the MountainView parking lot. We will hike the

trails in this area that skirt the base of 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; round trip drive 28 miles.

**Mt. Lemmon to Oracle Ridge TH via Red Ridge Trail, Rating B+.** The hike begins at the Red Ridge Trailhead and descends steeply to Catalina Camp. From there, we will climb to Dan Saddle and up Oracle Ridge to the trailhead. It is a 1 mile hike on the Mt. Lemmon Highway to return to the Red Ridge Trailhead. This hike has great views of the Reef of Rock and Mt. Samaniego. Hike 8.3 miles; elevation change 2615 feet (gps); starting elevation 8000 feet; round trip drive 131 miles.

**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; round trip drive 131 miles.

**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; round trip drive 130 miles.

**Mt. Wrightson via Super Trail, Rating A.** Hike up the Super Trail (8 miles) to the summit and come down either the Super Trail or Old Baldy Trail. At the top are 360-degree views from Tucson to Mexico. This is a shady all day hike to an outstanding mountain. Hike 14-16 miles; elevation change 4029 feet; starting elevation 5400 feet; round trip drive 130 miles.

**Nugget Canyon Short, Rating D+.** We park at the intersection of Nugget Canyon and old Mt. Lemmon Road. The hike follows a lovely canyon with tall trees and riparian vegetation and goes up to an earthen dam. We will stop by a cave so bring a flashlight. Hike <4; elevation change <500 feet; starting elevation 4680 feet; round trip drive 56 miles (dirt).

**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.

**Peppersauce Canyon, Rating C+.** This will be a hike/rock-hop up Peppersauce Canyon across from Peppersauce Canyon Campground. We will be going up the canyon, not the hiking trail alongside it. We will return on the hiking trail. We will be

going through some brush and doing some rock hopping with a little exposure. Wear long pants and long-sleeved shirts. Gloves would be helpful. Hike 6 miles; elevation change 1200'. round trip 53 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.

**Phoneline Trail with Tram Ride, Rating C**. This requires purchase of a tram ticket at \$8.00. Start at the Visitor's Center, ride tram to Stop Number 9, hike up to the Phone Line trail and then back to the Center. The trail is above and generally parallels the tram road. It offers outstanding views of the canyon - an easy downhill with photo opportunities. This hike can also be done in the reverse. Hike 5 miles; elevation change 900 feet; starting elevation 2700 feet; round trip drive 56 miles.

**Pusch Ridge to First Overlook, Rating C+**. From the trailhead at the East end of Linda Vista Blvd, the trail proceeds part way up Pusch Ridge to a great overlook. The first mile of the trail climbs gradually along a wash. The final 0.5 mile is difficult with stretches of slippery footing, rock scrambling, and exposed, narrow, steep paths. Gloves are recommended. The trail passes four man-made dams. The overlook provides fantastic views north and west. Hike 3 miles; elevation change 1100 feet; starting elevation is 2650 feet; round trip 28 miles.

**Roger's Canyon Cliff Dwellings, Rating B**. The hike is deep in a wilderness area of the Superstition Mountains. The trailhead is reached via Florence to Highway #60 east and then NE on 19 miles of scenic, rough unimproved Forest Service roads that require 4WD vehicles with adequate clearance. The trail is slippery in places during rainy seasons with 58 significant stream crossings (roundtrip). This is a reverse hike since we go downhill into the canyon area that was home to some Salado Indians (Arizona Highways 3/2001). The cliff dwellings can be explored but some require difficult rock scrambling to enter. Care should be taken not to damage 700 years of history. An additional 1 mile round-trip hike to Angel Basin is an option along with an exploration of Fish Creek Canyon. The hike out is all uphill via the same route. Bring a change of shoes for the return trip. We will need 4WD vehicles. Hike 8.4 miles; elevation change approximately 1200 feet; round trip drive 166 miles (dirt).

**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.

**Romero Springs, Rating B**. Starting in Catalina State Park, we will follow the Romero Canyon trail. Along the way we will pass by the Montrose and Romero pools. The spring is located about 2 miles past the Romero pools. It is a very scenic section of the canyon. It has been known to have quite a bit of wildlife. Hike 10.36 miles; elevation change 2720 feet (gps); starting elevation 2700 feet; round trip drive 24 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.

**Sixshooter Trail/Pinal Peak, Rating A**. This trail just south of Globe was featured in the Arizona Highways 4/03 edition as the Hike of the Month. The trail climbs steeply from manzanita and scrub oak up a canyon through three climate zones that include pinon pine, velvet ash, big tooth maple, aspen trees and huge boulders with some running water. Near the top, a side trail off Sixshooter continues up to Pinal Peak with outstanding 360 degree views. Return is by the same route. Hike 14 miles; elevation change 3400 feet; starting altitude 4600 feet; round trip drive 180 miles (dirt).

**\*\*Sunset – Marshall Gulch – Aspen Loop, Rating C**. Hike on the Sunset Trail, which starts on the Catalina Highway before Summerhaven, to Marshall Gulch Saddle, then down the Aspen Loop trail and return on the Sunset Trail to the trailhead. Great views of the Catalinas along the way with hiking mostly in forest shade. Hike 6 miles; elevation change 700 feet; starting elevation 8,000 feet; round trip drive 130 miles.

**Tanque Verde Ridge Trail to Juniper Basin Campground, Rating A**. An interesting feature of this hike is the opportunity to observe changing vegetation that accompanies the increase in elevation. The trail occasionally tops out on the ridge, levels out for a distance and then drops to the north or south side of the ridge. The views are amazing and this is one of the best parts of the trail, because it has views in all directions. Hike 13.8 miles (gps); elevation change 3761 feet (gps); starting elevation 3100 feet; round trip drive 82 miles.

**Tortolita Trail, Rating D**. Come explore part of the 12-mile multipurpose Tortolita Trail. The trail is near the Tortolita Preserve below Dove Mountain. It took outdoorsman and amateur trail designer Chuck Boyer, age 66, more than two years to carve out this 12 mile recreational trail using only hand tools. There are two different trailheads we may choose from. Hike <4 miles; elevation change <500 feet; starting elevation 3600 feet; round trip drive 44 miles.

**Wasson Peak via Sendero Esperanza/Hugh Norris Trail, Rating B**. We will take the Esperanza Trail (1.8 miles) to the Hugh Norris Trail and on to Wasson Peak (2.2 miles). The climb is gradual and the Hugh Norris section is primarily a ridge trail with spectacular views. The views from Wasson Peak are of Tucson/Santa Catalinas to the East, Green Valley/Santa Ritas to the South, Sells to the West, and Picacho to the North. We will

lunch on top of the peak and return the same way. Hike 8 miles; elevation change 1700 feet; starting elevation 2980 feet; round trip drive 73 miles (dirt).

**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; round trip drive 131 miles.