



SADDLEBROOKE

HIKING CLUB NEWSLETTER

<http://www.SaddleBrooke.org>

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

2008-5

Arizona Trail Slideshow

Anyone who believes the 800+ mile Arizona Trail is a long walk in the desert is in for a surprise. Yes, there are some segments through cactus forests, creosote bushes and sandy washes, but additionally there are colorful walls of water-carved canyons, vast expanses of ponderosa pines where hundreds of elk roam, riparian oases covered with wildflowers and snow-capped mountain peaks to view along the trail.

Cheryl and Dean Werstler have prepared a forty minute slideshow of scenes along the Arizona Trail from Mexico to Utah complete with music. Members of the Saddlebrooke Hiking Club are invited to an informal viewing of their Arizona Trail Slideshow during the October social hour at 4 p.m. in the MountainView Clubhouse on Wednesday, October 15, in the Sonoran Room.

Many members of the hiking club have hiked segments of the Arizona Trail and are encouraged to share some of their experiences during the social hour.

Arizona is such a beautiful and diverse state. Come and view a kaleidoscope of views by the SaddleBrooke Hiking Club.



**SaddleBrooke Hikers on Redington Pass
Segment of the Arizona Trail**

HIKING CLUB PICNIC

Fall is around the corner and the Hiking Club Picnic will be Wednesday, October 22nd at Catalina State Park. Entrance fee is \$6.00 per car or State Park Pass. After entering the park, continue down the road past the picnic area sign to the group picnic area sign and turn left. The picnic will be on the right side of the road (the same place as last spring).

FOOD: It will be potluck-plus chicken lunch at noon. The club will provide the chicken, plates, utensils, and cups. You will need to bring a side dish, salad, or dessert to share. You will be responsible for your own beverage.

PLEASE CALL CHERYL STRAW: 818-3631 NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 17th TO RESERVE YOUR PLACE, PROVIDE A COUNT FOR THE AMOUNT OF CHICKEN TO BE ORDERED AND TO LET HER KNOW WHAT YOU WILL BE BRINGING TO SHARE.

HIKES: Hikes being offered on the day of the picnic will be sent out to the club in the near future.

OFFICERS

President: Michael Reale – 825-8286

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Vice-President: Dave Hydeman – 825-7816

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

NEWS YOU CAN USE

Hiking Guide Meeting	Sept. 17th	3:00 p.m.
Social Hour	Sept. 17th	4:00 p.m.
Board Meeting	Oct. 1 st	3:00 p.m.
Social Hour	Oct. 15 th	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.

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

Elevation change is the net change in elevation obtained from subtracting the starting elevation from the highest point reached in feet. **Elevation change (gps)** is the accumulated gain in elevation (sum of all upward stretches of the hike) obtained from a Global Positioning System (gps). GPS measurements are a more accurate measure of hike difficulty than net elevation. **Elevation loss (gps)** may also indicate accumulated loss on downhill hikes.

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.

On 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. On Tuesdays and Thursdays the walks will also start at **6:00 a.m.**, but we will leave from Mountain View Clubhouse parking lot. **Beginning October 1st Monday – Friday fitness walks will begin at 6:30 a.m.** If you have any questions please contact Michael at 825-8286 or Dean at 818-0299.

Judy Barenkopf's fitness walks on Tuesday and Thursday will begin at **6:00 a.m.** for the month of September. **Beginning October 2nd the fitness walks will begin at 6:30 a.m.** Tuesday mornings we meet at the Mountain View Clubhouse parking lot. The Thursday morning walks begin at the SaddleBrooke Tennis Center's parking lot. Each walk starts promptly at 6:30. We have walkers at all levels. You do not have to be a speed walker to have a fun time. For more information call Judy Barenkopf 825-7077, or e-mail at mbarenkopf@msn.com.

HIKES OFFERED

Sept. 2 – Tues. 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; leave at **6:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 24 miles; driver donation \$3.00. Dave Hydeman, 825-7816.

Sept. 3 - 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 **7:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 21 miles; driver donation \$2.00. Marv Rossof, 877-9262.

Sept. 3 - Wed. Extended Fitness Walk. Rating C+/B. This walk begins at the SaddleBrooke parking lot and travels one of several routes in or around SaddleBrooke. Carry at least one quart of water. Hike 7.5 – 10 miles; elevation change 500-600 ft; 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.

Sept. 4 – Thurs. Pontatoc Ridge. Rating C+. Sometimes called the "Old Spanish Mine Trail," this trail goes up the north side of Pontatoc Ridge to j below some old mines. There are great views of Tucson and the surrounding area. This hike is strenuous in some areas due to the steep incline and rocky path. Hike starts at north end of Alvernon Way. Hike 5 miles; elevation change 1500 feet (gps); starting elevation 3100 feet; leave at **7:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 44 miles; driver donation \$3.00. Roy Carter, 818-3137.

Sept. 5 – Fri. Wilderness of Rocks Loop. Rating B. Starting at Marshall Gulch picnic area, this hike climbs up to Marshall Saddle then goes toward Mt. Lemmon, passing Carter Canyon. The hike continues to Radio Ridge and the Observatory parking area then heads down via the Mt. Lemmon and Lemmon Rock Lookout Trails to the Wilderness of Rocks Trail. Take this trail back up to Marshall Saddle then head down to Marshall Gulch Picnic Area parking lot. May also do this hike starting at the Observatory parking area. Hike 8.1 miles; elevation change 2000 feet; starting elevation 7440 feet; leave at 500 a.m.; round trip drive 131 miles; driver donation \$10.00. Dave Hydeman, 825-7816.

Sept. 6 – Sat. Incinerator Ridge. Rating C. (SLOW PACE). 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; leave at **7:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 119 miles; driver donation \$9.00. Jim Strickler, 825-8735.

****Sept. 7-10 – Sun.-Wed. Pinaleno Mountains Exploratory. Rating C-A** The Swift Trail (AZ 366) leads deep into the Pinaleno Mountains, home to the Mt. Graham Observatory. These mountains rise out of the desert near Safford and are the highest of the "sky islands" in Southeastern Arizona. The 35-mile Swift Trail route, 22 miles of which are paved, gains over a mile of elevation as it switchbacks up, taking you from cactus and creosote to spruce, fir, and aspen. It is from the Swift Trail

that we reach our trailheads for four days of hiking and 3 nights of car camping. Driver donation TBA. Cheryl & Dean Werstler, 825-9057.

Sept. 7 – Sun. Arcadia Trail. Rating C or A. If we have 2 cars going, this trail, designated as a National Recreation Trail because of outstanding views, will be done as a through hike car shuttle (**Rating C**). Hike 5.1 miles; elevation loss=2,800 ft. (500 ft. gain); starting elevation 9,000 ft. If only one car goes, this will be done as an out and back hike (**Rating A**). Hike 10.2 miles; elevation gain 4,340; starting elevation 9,000 ft.

Sept. 8 – Mon. Ash Creek Trail to Oak Flat and Webb Peak. Rating A. One of the most beautiful forested hikes in Arizona, this trail descends/ascends the north side of Mt. Graham. Hike 12 miles; elevation gain 3,700 ft.; starting elevation 9,480 feet.

Sept. 9 – Tues. Clark Peak Trail. Rating B+. This remote hike starts beyond the extreme end of the Swift Trail and follows a roller coaster course. From 9,000 feet at the trailhead, it drops 2,000 feet to Taylor Pass and then climbs to the summit of 8,600 foot West Peak. Hike 13.4 miles; elevation gain 2,537 feet; starting elevation 9,000 feet.

Sept. 10 – Wed. Heliograph Peak. Rating C. Heliographs, were used to flash messages across great distances. Heliograph Peak, one of the highest peaks in southeastern Arizona, served as part of this communication system. Today a 100-foot lookout tower sits atop the peak. Hike 1-4 miles (depending on route); elevation gain 1,000 feet; starting elevation 9,000 feet.

****Sept. 8 - Mon. Rillito River Hike # 2. Rating D. (SLOW PACE).** We park at Children's Park on the north side of the Rillito River. We walk down river (west) on an asphalt walking/bicycle path to the bridge at La Cholla Blvd. After crossing the river on La Cholla, we walk east on a dirt path. Depending on water conditions, we cross back over the river opposite Children's Park. If water conditions preclude crossing there, we continue on the south side trail to the Oracle Road bridge, cross over to the north side and return to Children's Park on an asphalt trail. Hike distance 4.2 to 4.8 miles, depending on water levels in the river. Leave at: **5:45 a.m.** round trip drive is 38 miles; minimal elevation change, driver donation \$3.00. Jan & Dean Wilson, 818-0299.

Sept. 8 - Mon. 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 **5:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 56 miles; driver donation \$5.00. Dave Hydeman, 825-7816.

Sept. 8 – Mon. 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 **7:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 40 miles (dirt); driver donation \$3.00. Marv Rosssof, 877-9262.

Sept. 11 – Thurs. Douglas Spring Trail to the Campground. Rating B. We'll drive to the east end of Speedway to reach the trailhead and do some steep hiking to campground. Hiking back we'll possibly hike over to Bridal Wreath Falls then follow trail back to the cars. Mostly open, so bring sun protection and lunch. Hike 12 miles; elevation change 2684 feet (gps); starting elevation 2800 feet; leave at **5:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 80 miles; driver donation \$6.00. Dave Hydeman, 825-7816.

Sept. 12 – Fri. Romero Pools. Rating C+. The hike begins in Catalina State Park and follows Romero Canyon Trail into the foothills. Trail crosses open desert then climbs steeply until it reaches a saddle and then down the canyon area where several pools are located. An option is a ¾ mile round-trip hike to the upper pools. We will have lunch there. Trail is rocky and rough in places. Hike 5.64 miles; elevation change 1500 feet (gps); starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at **6:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 24 miles; driver donation \$3.00. Philip Cotton, 825-2243.

**** Sept. 15 – Mon. Chiricahua Heart of Rocks and Return Rating C. (SLOW PACE)** This hike consists of the Ed Riggs, Mushroom Rock, Big Balanced Rock and Heart of Rocks Loop trails, visiting the most spectacular rock formations in Chiricahua National Monument. Time permitting, we can include a portion of 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 7.3 miles; elevation change <1,000 feet; starting elevation 6780 feet; leave at **6:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 288 miles; driver donation \$20.00. Michael Reale, 825-8286.

Sept. 15 – Mon. Saguaro Park West Ramble. Rating D. There are several short trails of interest in the Saguaro West Park. One trail takes us to an area of petroglyphs which were made by Hohokam Indians about 1200 AD. We stop at the Visitors Center for a very informative video. Bring lunch, water, sunscreen and hat. Hike 2 miles; elevation change 50 feet; starting elevation 2500 feet; leave at **6:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 73 miles; driver donation \$5.00. Jan & Dean Wilson, 818-0299.

Sept. 16 – Tues. 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 **5:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 73 miles; driver donation \$5.00. Dave Hydeman, 825-7816.

Sept. 17 – Wed. Hiking Guide Meeting, 3:00 p.m., Jim

Strickler, 825-8735

Sept. 17 – Wed. Hiking Club Social, 4:00 p.m. MountainView Clubhouse .

++Sept. 18 – Thurs. Linda Vista Loop Trails. Rating C. (SLOW PACE). 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.

Sept. 19 – Fri. Josephine Peak. Rating B+. We will hike the Super Trail in Madera Canyon of the Santa Ritas, up to Josephine Saddle, and beyond, to Josephine Peak, and back. We leave the trail to reach Josephine Peak. This peak sits in the shadow of Mt. Wrightson. On return we may take Old Baldy Trail down from Josephine Saddle. Hike 12 miles; elevation change 3000 feet; starting elevation 5400 feet; leave at **5:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 130 miles; driver donation \$10.00. Dave Hydeman, 825-7816.

Sept. 23 – Tues. Picacho Peak – Hunter Trail. Rating B. From Barret Loop we hike the Hunter Trail to a saddle, then down to the Sunset Vista Trail and up to the top of Picacho Peak. We use the permanently installed guide cables to get to the top. Bring cotton or leather gloves for holding on to cables. This is a short, strenuous hike and a favorite among hikers. We return to the trailhead along the same route. Park entrance pass required. Hike 4.2 miles; elevation change 1770 feet (cumulative); starting elevation 2000 feet; leave at **7:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 90 miles; driver donation \$7.00. Roy Carter, 818-3137.

Sept. 24 – Wed. American Flag. Rating C. This hike begins at the American Flag trailhead on the old Mt. Lemmon Road and covers a section of the Arizona Trail. We take the American Flag/Cody Trail to the intersection of the Oracle Ridge Trail where we have great views of Biosphere II and the Tortolitas to the west. On the return, we may swing by the grounds of La Casa del High Jinks, the site where Bill Cody staked his gold mine in 1912. (We may tour the unique stone house if the owner is home.) Hike 7.4 miles; elevation change 1200 feet; starting elevation 4400 feet; leave at **7:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 41 miles; driver donation \$3.00. Sandra Sowell, 818-0995.

****Sept. 25 – Thurs. Rillito River Hike # 1. Rating D. (SLOW PACE)** We park at children's Park on the North side of the Rillito River. We walk up river (east) on an asphalt walking/bicycle path to a footbridge across the river at First Ave. We then cross over and walk on the compacted dirt path on the south side of the river back to Oracle Avenue. We cross back over the river at Oracle Ave. and return along the north side back to Children's Park. Hike distance: 4.2 miles. Minimal elevation change. Driver donation \$3.00. Leave time: **5:45 a.m.** Jan & Dean Wilson 818-0299

Sept. 27 – Sat. Seven Falls. Rating B. Starting at the Sabino Canyon Visitors Center hike from the parking lot to lower Bear Canyon. Then along the Bear Canyon Trail to Seven Falls and

return. There are seven stream crossings in each direction. Falls may be dry depending on spring rains. Hike 8.7 miles; elevation change 1550 feet (gps); starting elevation 2800 feet; leave at **7:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 56 miles; driver donation \$5.00. Sandra Sowell, 818-0995

Sept 29 - Mon. 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; leave at **6:30 a.m.**; round trip drive 73 miles (dirt); driver donation \$7.00. Don Taylor, 825-5303.

Sept. 29 – Mon. 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 **7:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 12 miles (dirt); driver donation \$2.00. Michael Reale, 825-8286.

Sept. 30 – Tues. Pusch Ridge to Second 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 with views to the north, west, and southwest. The first mile of the trail climbs gradually along a wash. The final 0.75 mile is difficult with slippery footing, rock scrambling, and exposed, narrow, steep paths. Gloves are recommended. The trail passes four man-made dams and a lower but extraordinary overlook with fantastic views north and west. Hike 3.5 miles; elevation change 1350 feet; starting elevation is 2650 feet; leave at **7:00 am**; round trip 28 miles; driver donation \$2.00. Roy Carter, 818-3137.

Oct. 1 – 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.

Oct. 1 – Wed. Extended Fitness Walk. Rating C+/B. This walk begins at the SaddleBrooke parking lot and travels one of several routes in or around SaddleBrooke. Carry at least one quart of water. Hike 7.5 – 10 miles; elevation change 500-600 ft; leave at **6:30 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.

Oct. 1 – Wed. Board Meeting, 3:00 p.m.

****Oct. 3 – Fri. Mt. Lemmon Romero/Pass Loop. Rating A.** We'll park at the Observatory and head down the Mt. Lemmon trail branching off onto the Lookout trail for a steep descent to the junction with the Wilderness of Rocks trail at 7200 ft. We will proceed down to Sabino Pass at 6000 ft. Return via the W Fork Sabino Canyon/Mt. Lemmon and Meadow trails. Hike 12.4 miles; elevation change 3100 ft; starting elevation 9150 ft. Leave at **6:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 131 miles; driver donation \$10.00. Don Taylor, 825-5303.

****Oct. 3 – Fri Rillito River hike #4 Rating: D (SLOW PACE).** We park at Mehl Foothills park near River Road and Alvernon. We walk East along the North side of the river to Craycroft Road, cross over the river on footbridge at Craycroft Rd., then walk West along the river on the South side back to Alvernon Way. From Alvernon Way we walk short ways, on the North side, back to Mehl Foothills Park to our cars. Hike distance: 4.2 miles. Approx. round trip driving is 40 miles. Driver donation: \$3.00. Leave at: **6:00 a.m.** Jan & Dean Wilson 818-0299.

Oct. 7 – Tues. Sutherland Wash Petroglyphs. Rating C. This hike is a gradual hike through a mesquite bosque with 100+ year old saguaros, Arizona Poppies/Morning Glories in season, on the way to an area of many, many petroglyphs. Per the book Paradise Found by Kathy Alexander there are over 1400 petroglyphs in the area. Some rock scrambling is necessary to search for the petroglyphs. Bring a snack to enjoy while searching. Hike 6 miles; elevation change 400 feet; starting elevation 3200 feet; leave at **8:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 12 miles (dirt); driver donation \$2.00. Dave Hydeman, 825-7816.

Oct. 8 – 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.

****Oct. 9 - Thurs. Sausalito Canyon to Honey Bee Canyon (upper)--Rating D.** Will need a high clearance vehicle for this hike. This is a nice, nearby canyon hike with options to extend the hike within Honey Bee Canyon. The hike heads east, parallel with a fence which eventually turns south for a short distance to the end of the road and near a windmill and concrete dam. Bring water, lunch, snack, camera (optional), sun protection. Hike 4 miles; elevation change minimal; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at **6:30 a.m.**; round trip drive 26 miles (dirt); driver donation \$3.00. Jan & Dean Wilson, 818-0299.

Oct. 10 – Fri. Window Rock. Rating A. The most direct

route is up Ventana Canyon. This is a difficult and steep hike. We start at the parking lot past the employees' parking lot and take the trail until it intersects with the Esperero Trail then follow that trail to the Window. Hike 13 miles; elevation change 4200 feet; starting elevation 3100 feet; leave at 6:00 a.m.; round trip drive 54 miles; driver donation \$4.00. Don Taylor, 825-5303.

Oct. 11 – Sat. Deer Camp. Rating C. We will start in the 50-Year Trail area. We hike through beautiful rock formations with many saguaros to a camp at the base of Mt. Samaniego. Hike 7 miles; elevation change 975 feet; starting elevation 3200; leave at **8:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 12 miles (dirt); driver donation \$2.00.

Jim Strickler, 825-8735.

Oct. 13 – Mon. Josephine Saddle + Rogers Rock. Rating B. (SLOW PACE) We start in Madera Canyon (Santa Rita Mountains) and go up Old Baldy Trail to Josephine Saddle. We then go down the Super Trail for about 1 mile and take a turnoff for Rogers Rock and travel about .25 miles to the rock, climb to the top, have a wonderful view and eat lunch. We continue down the Super Trail back to the parking lot. This hike can be done in reverse going up the Super Trail and returning on the Old Baldy Trail. Hike, 6 .5miles; climb 1700 feet; starting altitude 5400 feet; leave at **7:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 130 miles; driver donation \$10.00. Michael Reale, 825-8286.

Oct. 14 – Tues. Mt. Lemmon/Samaniego Ridge. Rating B. We will start from the top of Mt. Lemmon and take the Mt. Lemmon Trail and Samaniego Ridge Trail to Walnut Spring and back. The last 3 miles to Walnut Spring may be very brushy and difficult to follow. Suggest defensive clothing and gloves. Hike 12 miles; elevation change 2815 feet (gps); altitude at start 9100 feet; leave at **6:00 a.m.**, round trip drive 131 miles; driver donation \$10.00. Don Taylor, 825-5303.

Oct. 15 – 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 **7:00 a.m.**, round trip 50 miles (dirt.) The club will pay drivers' expenses. Jim Strickler, 825-8735..

Oct 15 – Wed. Hiking Club Social , 4:00 p.m. MountainView Clubhouse (Arizona Trail Slideshow in Sonoran Room)

Oct. 16 – Thurs. Tortolita Mountains: S. Wild Burro Canyon/ Alamo Springs Trail Loop. Rating B. We hike from the south end of Wild Burro Canyon off of Dove Mt. Blvd. to the junction with Alamo Springs Trail head. This first part in approx. 1 1/2 miles walking in the wash and on compacted ground trail. Then we junction to the right and begin our climb, topping a pass. On the way up we look down on the Ritz

Carlton Hotel and golf course. Once we top the pass, we go along the E. side of the Tortolita Mts.. We continue with more ascents and descents, over several passes, having beautiful desert views along the way. After a total hike so far of about 3 1/2 miles, we finally reach the final "pass", then begin descending back down to another trail junction. This junction is Alamo Springs Trail and Spur Trail. You can continue on Alamo Springs Tr. for further adventure; however, for this hike, you take the Spur Tr. back down into Wild Burro Canyon. Soon after you reach the canyon floor, in about 100 yds. on the right is an old stone house, and cistern which belonged to goat herders in the early in the early 1900's. There is also a large water catch basin, dubbed the "swimming pool". From here you walk back along Wild Burro Canyon Trail, which crosses the wash a number of times before you reach the car. Hike approx. 7 miles; elevation change: 800-1000 ft.; leave at **7:00 a.m.**; round trip drive is 44 miles; driver donation is \$3.00. Elisabeth Wheeler, 818-1547.

Oct. 18 - Sat. Peralta Trail. Rating C+. Peralta Trail to Fremont Saddle viewing Weaver's Needle in the Superstition Mountains. This may be the area's most beautiful canyon. Legend has it that a loner named Jacob Waltz (The Dutchman) found a fortune in gold somewhere within the Superstition Mountains. Dominating the legends and the landscape is Weaver's Needle. The canyon bottom is a jumble of huge, thought-provoking boulders that have tumbled from the cliffs above. It's a steep, rocky trail most of the way. Hike 5 miles; elevation change 1360 feet; starting elevation 2500 feet; leave at **7:30 a.m.**; round trip drive 154 miles (dirt); driver donation \$14.00. Jim Strickler, 825-8735.

Oct. 20 - 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 **7:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 41 miles; driver donation \$3.00. Michael Reale, 825-8286.

Oct. 21 – Tues. 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; leave at **7:30 am**; round trip 28 miles; driver donation \$2.00. Roy Carter, 818-3137.

Oct. 21 – 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 **7:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 12 miles (dirt); driver donation \$2.00. Fred Kennedy, 825-5310. **(Call after Sept. 1.)**

Oct. 22 – Wed. Hiking Club Picnic

Oct. 24 – Fri. Sutherland Wash Petroglyphs. Rating C. This hike is a gradual hike through a mesquite bosque with 100+ year old saguaros, Arizona Poppies/Morning Glories in season, on the way to an area of many, many petroglyphs. Per the book Paradise Found by Kathy Alexander there are over 1400 petroglyphs in the area. Some rock scrambling is necessary to search for the petroglyphs. Bring a snack to enjoy while searching. Hike 6 miles; elevation change 400 feet; starting elevation 3200 feet; leave at **8:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 12 miles (dirt); driver donation \$2.00. Dave Hydeman, 825-7816.

Oct. 27 – 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 **7:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 53 miles (dirt); driver donation \$5.00. Michael Reale, 825-8286.

Oct. 28 – 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 **7:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 12 miles (dirt); driver donation \$2.00. Fred Kennedy, 825-5310. **(Call after Sept. 1.)**

Oct. 29 – 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 $\frac{3}{4}$ 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.

Oct. 30 – Thurs. Douglas Spring Trail to the Campground. Rating B. We'll drive to the east end of Speedway to reach the

trailhead and do some steep hiking to campground. Hiking back we'll possibly hike over to Bridal Wreath Falls then follow trail back to the cars. Mostly open, so bring sun protection and lunch. Hike 12 miles; elevation change 2684 feet (gps); starting elevation 2800 feet; leave at **6:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 80 miles; driver donation \$6.00. Elisabeth Wheeler, 818-1547.

Oct. 30 – Thurs. Canyon Loop. Rating D. We will start up the Romero Trail in Catalina State Park, turn onto the Canyon Loop Trail, then come back on the Sutherland Trail. This area is a great example of the Sonoran Desert and its riparian areas. Hike may be done in reverse direction also. Depending upon the season, some water crossings are possible. Hike 2.24 miles; elevation change 170 feet (gps); starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at **7:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 24 miles; driver donation \$3.00. Jan & Dean Wilson, 818-0299.

**HAPPY & SAFE HIKING
EVERYONE!!!**

