



SADDLEBROOKE

HIKING CLUB NEWSLETTER

<http://www.saddlebrooke.org>

JANUARY/FEBRUARY

2012-1

Photo Journey in the Northwest U.S. & Canada

Thursday January 5th 3 p.m. SaddleBrooke
HOA 1 Activity Center

Experience a photo journey of hiking in the northwest U.S. and Canada. Starting in the Olympic Peninsula, we will view Shi-Shi Beach and Cape Flattery, the most extreme northwest location in the lower 48 states, and sample the Olympic National Park region. From there we journey to Vancouver Island to the rocky coast and tide pools of Botanical and Mystic Beaches. We continue to the Mt. Baker wilderness and North Cascades National Park to experience beautiful alpine scenery. Next is Alberta, Canada with the splendor of Lake Louise, the Bow Valley Parkway, and the hike to Crypt Lake in Waterton National Park. Finally view the majestic scenery of Glacier National Park with awe-inspiring hiking on the Continental Divide. Presenters: Dean and Cheryl Werstler.

How to Make Effective Use of Your GPS.

The Hiking Club is sponsoring a three-day workshop on the use of handheld GPS devices commonly used for hiking. The workshop will be held on the afternoon of January 9 (1-4 pm), and the mornings of January 10 and 11 (both 8-12 am). Each of the sessions will be 2 to 3 hours long. There will be a follow-up field trip on a to-be-determined date to allow workshop participants to use their GPSs to navigate on an actual hike. Days 1 and 2 will take place in MountainView Ballroom West, and Day 3 will take place in the MountainView Sonoran Room.

The objectives of the workshop are to review topographic maps and how to plot coordinates on those maps, show where trail information can be found on the internet, download trail data from the internet, plot waypoints and tracks on National Geographic TOPO! and Google Earth, download

waypoints and tracks from participants' laptops to their handheld GPS devices, set up GPSs for field use, and use participant's GPSs to navigate on an actual hike. A follow-up geocaching competition is planned during late January for all club members, with the winner receiving a \$25.00 gift certificate and recognition in the next newsletter.

Most of the GPS material will be geared to Garmin models with mapping capability, such as the Oregon and GPSMAP 62s. Other models can be used in the workshop, but some procedures/steps may be different to accomplish the same result. Participants are asked to bring their laptops which have wireless connectivity. Files and information will be downloaded from at least two internet sites: Hikearizona.com and Backpacker.com. People without a laptop or GPS may be paired with someone who does. A few computers which have TOPO! Google Earth, and Garmin Base map installed will be available for attendees to use.

The workshop is free to current club members, but is limited to 20 people (not including hike guides). It is intended to be a "hands on" experience where the participant will use their own laptop and GPS. There will be ample opportunity to get questions answered from the club's more experienced GPS users. Principal workshop leaders will be Walt Shields, Cheryl Werstler, and Roy Carter; however, we hope this will be a "we learn from each other" experience. Bill Leightenheimer will set up a local geocache area which will be open to all club members for practicing with their GPSs.

Call Roy Carter at 818-3137, or email him at royvcarter@gmail.com as soon as you decide you would like to attend (first come, first serve). At that time, let Roy know if you have a wireless laptop, if that laptop has Nat. Geo. TOPO! Garmin Base map, and/or Google Earth software loaded on it. Indicate also if you have a handheld GPS and its model. This information will help us design a more targeted workshop. New members and nonmembers will be placed on a space available list and notified a week

before the seminar whether room is available. Hope to see you there.

**Orientation to Hiking in the Desert Southwest
Wednesday February, 1st 3 p.m.
SaddleBrooke Activity Center on Idlewind
Drive**

Social Hour, 4 p.m. in the SaddleBrooke HOA1 Lounge

If you are new to hiking in Arizona or haven't hiked recently you may want to learn about area trails, guided hikes, and recommendations for hiking in the desert southwest. Lead guides Larry Linderman and Cheryl Werstler, assisted by guides Jan Wilson and Bob Kolenda, Michael Reale and Bill Leightenheimer will share informative materials and helpful hiking tips. You will have an opportunity to meet additional guides and members of the SaddleBrooke Hiking Club, learn about early morning conditioning walks within SaddleBrooke, and hikes selected especially for those new to Arizona. For further information, call Larry ([303-6564](tel:303-6564)) or Cheryl ([825-9057](tel:825-9057)). We hope to see all those interesting in hiking in our desert southwest.

Adventure Picture of the Month



One of the club's newest members (Mike Wolters), his son and son's girl friend recently accomplished what few of us have an opportunity (or the ability) to do, climb the beautiful, but sheer Baboquivari Peak. The picture below shows the two at the top. It is not possible to make it to the top without a significant climb with ropes. The trio started from their east-approach campsite near the ranch gate at about 7:30 a.m. and followed the faint trail to the saddle. Along the way, they encountered a full-size mountain lion that, according to Mike, "got our adrenaline going for

the day". From the saddle, they bushwhacked up to the Lion's Ledge and around to the Southeast Arête route, which they took to the summit, doing 6 technical pitches along the way. Coming down, involved 7 rappels. They arrived back at the car 13 hours later, which would put them IN THE DARK for the last 2 hours. He at least admitted to losing the trail for a while as they left the saddle in the near darkness. Those of you who have hiked this trail in the daylight know how hard it is to follow. Congratulations to Mike and his crew.

**Kiwi Wanderings: Hiking the National Parks
of New Zealand 3 p.m. Wednesday, February
29 SaddleBrooke Activity Center
Social Hour Saddlebrooke HOA1 Lounge, 4 p.m.**



Last March Tiggy and Walt Shields spent 5 weeks traveling and hiking the beautiful back roads of New Zealand. From the snow-capped volcanoes of Tongoriro National Park to the sheer cliffs of Fiordland, New Zealand's 14 national parks contain an awe-inspiring range of scenery and beautiful walking tracks. The presentation will focus on three of these. In the North Island, the Tongoriro National Park contains what is billed as the best one day hike in New Zealand, the Alpine Crossing, a 12 mile excursion around the active volcano Mt. Ngauruhoe, otherwise know as "Mt Doom" in Lord of the Rings. Located on the north coast of the South Island is Abel Tasman National Park which has a lovely 32 mile long coastal track with beach scenes reminiscent of the South Pacific. The presentation will conclude with a 4 day backpack on the famous Milford track, ending at the Milford Sound. Included will be

excellent film footage shot by helicopter of remote portions of Fiordlands National Park.

For information about the program call Elisabeth Wheeler [818-1547](tel:818-1547).

Notice for Chiricahua National Monument

Visitors to Chiricahua National Monument should note that the last summer’s fire took a great toll on the park’s resources and significant areas have been placed off limits while clearing and recovery efforts take place. The park is open, as is Bonita Campground. However, the stream beds are laden with ash and many trees are dead along the road. Bonita Canyon Drive is closed to vehicular traffic just past the Campground. Access to the noted Echo Canyon and Heart of Rocks Loops for hiking is possible from the Visitor Center along the Lower Rhyolite Canyon Trail. This adds 3.5 kilometers to the Echo Canyon Loop hike. However, for the Heart of Rocks Loop, the distance is about the same as from the Echo Canyon or Massai Point Trailheads off upper Bonita Canyon Drive. You should visit the park’s web site for the latest information about conditions: <http://www.nps.gov/chir/index.htm>

May 2012 Sedona/Flagstaff Hiking Trip

Similar to last year's trip to the Grand Canyon, the Hiking Club is planning a multi-day event for May 2012 in the Sedona/Flagstaff areas. **Please Mark Your Calendars!** We will be driving to those areas on Monday, May 14, hike four days and return to SaddleBrooke on May 18. Once again participants will be responsible for making their own transportation, lodging and meal arrangements. Attendees would also decide individually to hike one or more days of the four that are planned. Each day will consists of B, C, and D hikes and the first and third day will also offer an A hike.

Tentative hikes include Humphrey's Peak and Weatherford Trail (both A hikes), Brin's Mesa Loop, Kachina Trail, Kendrick Mountain, Wilson Mountain, and Mund's Wagon Trail, (all B hikes), Fisher Point via Sandy's Canyon, Bell Rock/Courthouse Butte Loop, Huckaby/Marg's Draw Trails, Boynton Canyon, and Sterling Pass (all C hikes), Observatory Mesa, Fatman's Loop, and Sandy

Seep Trail (all D hikes). In addition, yet to be determined passages of the Arizona Trail will also be offered.

The logistics for the trip are still in the early stage of planning. Currently under development is an informational packet that will contain hike descriptions with trailhead locations, lodging, RV and tent camping alternatives, area restaurants, and information concerning available tours and attractions. When this packet is complete, hiking club members will receive an email from the Club. At that time, anyone interested in participating can email **Bob Kolenda** at rlkslt4@gmail.com to request a copy.

Signups for the hikes must occur ten days prior to the trip to allow the guides ample time to finalize logistics. Participants will sign up for these hikes as they do for any other hike - that is they will place a call to the guide indicating their interest. A complete schedule of the offered hikes will be available via e-mail within seven to ten days. This schedule will include a departure time, rallying point, guides name, and a list of those signed up for each hike. As mentioned above, every attempt will be made to offer hikes of various levels of difficulty each day. However, hikes with too few participants will be folded into other hikes that same day or be cancelled. At this time, six guides have indicated their interest in participating.

News You Can Use		
Special Program	1/5 /12	3:00 p.m.
Social Hour	1/5/12	4:00 p.m.
Hiker’s Orientation	2/1/12	3:00 p.m.
Guide Meeting	2/1/12	4:00 p.m.
Social Hour	2/1/12	4:00 p.m.
Board Meeting	2/8/12	2:45 p.m.
Special Program	2/29/12	3:00 p.m.
Social Hour	2/29/12	4:00 p.m.

Hard copies of the Newsletter are available at the SaddleBrooke and DesertView Fitness Centers.

Board Members	
President	Bill Leightenheimer - 825-5756; wmhlaz@gmail.com
Vice-President	Bob Kolenda 825-9972; rlkslt4@gmail.com
Secretary	Ken Wong; 818-2561; kmwong@q.com
Treasurer	Virginia Brier 818-0493; virginiabrier@gmail.com
Chief Hiking Guides	Larry Linderman 303-6564; LLinderman13@gmail.com Cheryl Werstler-825-9057; dbwerst@wbhsi.net
Volunteers	
Catalina Hills Cleanup	Bill Leightenheimer, 825-5756; wmhlaz@gmail.com
Communications	Ken Wong 818-2561; kmwong@q.com
Programs	Elisabeth Wheeler;818-1547 elisarick@wbhsi.net
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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). Other persons in the vehicle who also hold park passes would not be responsible for the second amount. Note, 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 walks in SaddleBrooke because of the 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.

Hike Elevation, Ratings & Pace

Elevation Change: Three indicators are used in the hike descriptions to convey hike difficulty as it relates to elevation change.

- **Net Elevation Change** is the change in elevation obtained by subtracting the starting elevation from the highest (or lowest) point reached during the course of the hike, in feet. This estimate may be obtained from USGS maps or a global positioning system (GPS).
- **Accumulated Gain** is the sum of all upward stretches of a hike as recorded by a GPS

device over the course of the entire hike. Accumulated elevation gain is generally a more accurate indicator of hike difficulty than net change in elevation.

- **Accumulated Loss**, another measure of hike difficulty, is the sum of all downward stretches of a hike. Accumulated elevation loss is useful for some downhill hikes and is usually obtained with a GPS device

Ratings: Ratings are based on the following round trip distances and accumulated gains in elevation over the course of the hike. The hike rating is determined by one (or both) of the two values being exceeded. For example, if a hike exceeds the criterion for distance but not for corresponding elevation, the rating would be set for distance.

<u>Hike Rating</u>	<u>Distance (Mi.)</u>	<u>Accumulated Gain in Elevation (Ft.)</u>
A	>14	>3000
B	8 to 14	1500 to 3000
C	4 to 8	500 to 1500
D	<4	< 500

Pace: Pace is described in terms of average speed in miles per hour (MPH) over the course of a hike from start to finish (excluding lunch). Average speed is affected by speed and length of stride, number of rest stops, incline, type of terrain, and trail conditions. The following four categories are used to describe pace in the hike descriptions:

<u>Pace</u>	<u>Average Speed (MPH)</u>
Leisurely	<1.5
Slow	1.5 to 2.0
Moderate	2.0 to 2.5
Fast	>2.5

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. Please view the chart below for the start times for all the walking groups led by Bill Leightenheimer, Martha Hackworth, Judy Barenkopf and Dean Wilson.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Start Time</u>
April 1st	6:30 a.m.
June 1st	6:00 a.m.
September 1st	6:30 a.m.
November 1 st	7:00 a.m.

Monday thru Friday fitness walks will start at the parking lot just west of the SaddleBrooke HOA #1 Fitness Center. If you have any questions please contact Martha at: 818-2573, or Bill at: 825-5756.

Judy's Tuesday walking group will start the Fitness Walk at the Mountain View Parking lot. On Thursday the walk begins at the SaddleBrooke Tennis parking lot. We walk for an hour and complete about 3 or 4 miles according to where we walk. Most of our walks are touring SaddleBrooke and the few times we leave the premises it is discussed amongst the walkers. We leave exactly at the time designated and wait for no one. For more information call Judy at 825-7077 or email at: mbarenkopf@msn.com

Slower walks around SaddleBrooke two days a week (days are negotiable) are led by Dean Wilson. If interested in participating in these walks, please call Dean at 818-0299.

Hikes Offered

Date	Day of Week	Name of Hike	Hike Rating	Pace	Leave Time A.M.	Leader(s)	Phone Number	Driver Donation
1/3	Tue	Fifty-Year Trail Area Loop – Short Version	C		8:30	Tom Barnwell	825-6760	\$2
1/4	Wed	Esperero Trail	B		8:00	Frank Brier	818-0493	\$4
1/4	Wed	Pima Canyon to 2 nd Dam	C		8:00	Paul Debruine	818-3248	\$3
1/5	Thurs	SBHC Program: Hiking in the Northwest. SB Activity Center. Dean & Cheryl Werstler. SB Activity Center			3 p.m.	Elisabeth Wheeler	818-1547	
1/5	Thurs	Social Hour			4-p.m.	HOA1 Lounge		
1/5	Thurs	Brown Mountain	C		8:00	Walt Shields	818-3439	\$6
1/6	Fri	**AZT: Rincon Valley section	B		7:00	Cheryl Werstler	825-9057	\$8
1/8	Sun	Romero Pools	C		9:00	Art Dees	818-3131	\$2+\$2
1/9	Mon	Deer Camp	C		8:00	Paul Debruine	818-3248	\$2
1/9	Mon	Hidden Canyon Loop	C		7:00	Michael Reale	825-8286	\$2
1/9-1/11	M,T,W	GPS Seminar				Roy Carter	818-3137	

Date	Day of Week	Name of Hike	Hike Rating	Pace	Leave Time A.M.	Leader(s)	Phone Number	Driver Donation
1/10	Tues	Tortolita Mountain: Wild Mustang	B		8:00	Geary Rise	818-2913	\$4
1/10	Tues	Tortolita Trail	C		8:30	Jan Wilson	818-0299	\$4
1/11	Wed	Bridal Wreath Falls Loop	C		8:30	Elaine & Howie Fagan	818-9555	\$6
1/12	Thurs	Alamo Canyon to Water Tanks	C		9:00	Marv Rossof	877-9262	\$2+\$2
1/12	Thurs	AZT: Canelo Hills East	A	Fast	6:30	Susan Hollis	825-6819	TBA
1/12	Thurs	Tortolita Mountains: Cochie Spring Loop	B		7:00	Elisabeth Wheeler	818-1547	\$4
1/13	Fri	Linda Vista Loop	D		8:00	Bob Kolenda	825-9972	\$2
1/13	Fri	AZT: Canelo Hills West	A	Fast	6:30	Susan Hollis	825-6819	TBA
1/14	Sat.	Exploratory along Riliito R. to Santa Cruz R.	C		8:30	Jan Wilson	818-0299	\$3
1/15	Sun	Baby Jesus	C		9:00	Laura Ruxer	812-630-2550	\$2
1/16	Mon	King Canyon Loop	C		7:30	Paul Debruine	818-3248	\$6
1/17	Tues	Road Runner/ Panther Peak Wash/Cam-Boh Trail Loop	D		8:30	Jan Wilson	818-0299	\$5
1/17	Tues	**Rams Creek Basin to Catalina State Park	C		8:00	Walt Shields	818-3439	TBD
1/18	Wed	SaddleBrooke's Dome Rock	C		9:30	Frank Brier	818-0493	\$1
1/18	Wed	Esperero Trail	B		7:30	Bob Kolenda	825-9972	\$4
1/19	Thur.	Honey Bee Canyon	D		8:30	Jan Wilson	818-0299	\$2
1/20	Fri	**AZT: Black Hills section	B		7:00	Cheryl Werstler	825-9057	\$6
1/21	Sat	Seven Falls without tram	B		8:00	Laura Ruxer	812-630-2550	\$4
1/21	Sat	Geocache outing			8:00	Walt Shields & Bill Leightenheimer	818-3439	
1/23	Mon	Tanque Verde Ridge Trail	C		7:00	Michael Reale	825-8286	\$6
1/23	Mon	Window Rock	A		7:00	Margaret Valair	869-8623	\$4
1/24	Tues	Finger Rock to Spring	D		8:00	Roy Carter	818-3137	\$4
1/25	Wed	Douglas Spring Trail to Campground	B		7:30	Elaine & Howie Fagan	818-9555	\$6

Date	Day of Week	Name of Hike	Hike Rating	Pace	Leave Time A.M.	Leader(s)	Phone Number	Driver Donation
1/26	Thurs	Wasson Peak via Sweetwater Trail	B		7:00	Elisabeth Wheeler	818-1547	\$5
1/26	Thurs	Oracle Ridge	C		8:00	Paul Debruine	818-3248	\$4
1/27	Fri	Tohono Chul Park and Lunch at Tea Room	D	Slow	8:00	Dave Sorenson	777-1994	Please see info below
1/30	Mon	Romero Pools	C		8:00	Paul Debruine	818-3248	\$2+\$2
1/31	Tues	Wasson peak via High Norris Trail	B		7:00	Bill Leightenheimer	825-5756	\$6
1/31	Tues	Baby Jesus to Wash Overlook	C		8:30	Tom Barnwell	825-6760	\$2
2/1	Wed	Orientation for new members			3p.m.	Elisabeth Wheeler	818-1547	
2/1	Wed	Guide Meeting			4:00 PM	Larry Linderman	303-6564	
2/1	Wed	Social Hour			4:00 p.m.			
2/3	Fri	King Canyon Loop	C		8:00	Roy Carter	818-3137	\$6
2/3	Fri	**AZT: Walnut Canyon exploratory	A		6:30	Cheryl Werstler	825-9057	\$11
2/4	Sat	Hidden Canyon	C		8:30	Laura Ruxer	812-630-2550	\$2
2/6	Mon	Mt Kimball	A		8:00	Margaret Valair	869-8623	
2/6	Mon	Deer Camp / Baby Jesus Loop	C		7:00	Michael Reale	825-8286	\$2
2/8	Wed	SBHC Board Meeting Coyote Room North			2:45 p.m.	Bill Leightenheimer	825-5756	
2/8	Wed	Big Dome Rock #2			9:00	Laura Ruxer	812-630-2550	\$1
2/8	Wed	Tortolita Mountain – Alamo Springs/Wild Mustang Loop	B		8:00	Frank Brier	818-0493	\$4
2/8	Wed	Romero Pools	C		8:00	Bob Kolenda	825-9972	\$2 +\$2
2/8	Wed	Seven Falls	B		8:30	Elaine & Howie Fagan	818-9155	\$4
2/9	Thurs	Boyce Thompson Arboretum	D		8:30	Jan Wilson	818-0299	\$12
2/9	Thurs	Romero Pools	C		9:00	Marv Rossof	877-9262	\$2+\$2
2/10	Fri	**Bear Canyon plus Seven Falls	B		7:30	Frank Brier	818-0493	\$4
2/13	Mon	Picketpost Mountain + AZT link to Superior	B!		7:00	Elisabeth Wheeler	818-1547	\$11-\$12

Date	Day of Week	Name of Hike	Hike Rating	Pace	Leave Time A.M.	Leader(s)	Phone Number	Driver Donation
2/13	Mon	Tanque Verde Ridge Trail	C		8:00	Laura Ruxer	812-630-2550	\$6
2/14	Tues	Pima Canyon to 1 st Dam	D!		8:00	Roy Carter	818-3137	\$3
2/15	Wed	Deer Camp Samaniego	C		8:00	Walt Shields	818-3439	\$2
2/15	Wed	Finger Rock Guard	A!		8:00	Roy Carter	818-3137	\$4
2/16	Thurs	Rillito River Hike #2	D		8:30	Jan Wilson	818-0299	\$3
2/17	Fri	**Superstitions: In search of the Spanish Master Map Loop	A		6:00	Cheryl Werstler	825-9057	\$14
2/18	Sat	**Canyon Loop twice	D		8:00	Kathy & Philip Cotton	825-2243	\$2+\$2
2/20	Mon	Golden Gate	C		7:30	Paul Debruine	818-3248	\$5
2/20	Mon	Superstitions: Dutchman Trail / Bluff Springs Loop	B		6:00	Michael Reale	825-8286	\$2
2/21	Tues	Tortolita Mt. Alamo Springs	B		8:00	Geary Rise	818-2913	\$4
2/22	Wed	Phone Line Trail Round Trip-No Tram	B		8:30	Elaine & Howie Fagan	818-9555	\$4
2/22	Wed	Rams Creek Basin	C		9:00	Marv Rossof	877-9262	\$2
2/23	Thurs	Picacho Peak	B! for C hikers		8:00	Walt Shields	818-3439	\$7 + \$2
2/23	Thurs	Pontatoc Ridge	C!		9:00	Art Dees	818-3131	\$4
2/24	Fri	**Superstitions: Haunted Canyon-Paradise Trail Loop	B		6:00	Cheryl Werstler	825-9057	\$16
2/25	Sat	Linda Vista Loop	D		8:30	Laura Ruxer	812-630-2550	\$2
2/27	Mon	Romero Pools	C		8:00	Bob Kolenda	825-9972	\$2+\$2
2/27	Mon	Romero Pass	A		7:00	Margaret Valair	869-8623	\$2-\$2
2/28	Tues	Aravaipa West	B!		8:00	Dave Sorenson	777-1994	\$10 plus \$5
2/28	Tues	AZT: Reavis Canyon Northern Part	A	Fast	6:30	Larry Linderman	303-6564	TBD
2/29	Wed	Hidden Canyon	C		8:00	Paul Debruine	818-3248	\$2

Date	Day of Week	Name of Hike	Hike Rating	Pace	Leave Time A.M.	Leader(s)	Phone Number	Driver Donation
2/29	Wed	SBHC Program: New Zealand Hiking Adventures with Walt & Tiggy Shields. SB Activity Center			3 p.m.	Elisabeth Wheeler	818-1547	
2/29	Wed	Social Hour			4 p.m.			

a– New hikes not yet included in the Hike Database are indicated with “***”.

b – Hike ratings are based on round trip distance and accumulated elevation gain, where available. Ratings flagged with a “P” indicate special trail conditions that might be of concern to some hikers. Please read the hike descriptions before deciding whether to sign up. Ratings flagged with a “☺” indicate an easier, smoother trail than normal at that rating.

c – Pace is moderate unless otherwise stated.

Tuhono Chull Driver Donation \$3 Admission fee is approximately \$6-\$8. Please sign up by January 3rd.

Hike Descriptions

Alamo Canyon to the Water Tank. Rating C. The hike begins at the Romero Ruins Trailhead in Catalina State Park. Elevation change is gradual. The trail proceeds from the ruins through Alamo Canyon. Water may be present in the canyon after rainy periods. Hikers then go around, down, and up and down again to an unused, large water tank. Trail is rocky in some areas. The return is one of three ways of equal distance. Hike 6.5 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 400 feet; accumulated gain 1050 feet; RTD 24 miles.

Aravaipa Canyon Wilderness: West. Rating B!. Aravaipa Canyon is a beautiful, pristine canyon, a favorite for all who have been there. Expect stream wading and numerous stream crossings (up to knee deep) with dense riparian brush. Wear shorts, socks, and shoes (that can get wet) with good traction (for wet rocks). Bring dry shoes/shorts/shirt for drive home if desired (and a plastic bag for wet items). Aravaipa Canyon is a wilderness area with no trails, signs, or facilities. Hiking stick is recommended. Wilderness permits (fee required) must be reserved in advance and are non-refundable. Hikers must sign up two weeks prior to hike. Call the hiking guide for more details. Hike 8 miles; trailhead elevation 2600 feet; net elevation change 200 feet; accumulated gain ___ feet; RTD 110 miles (dirt).

Arizona Trail: Canelo Hills West and Canelo Hills East. Rating A. The hike involves an early drive to Patagonia and a return home late the nextday. On the first day, we drive to Canelo Pass and hike 16 miles from Canelo Pass to Patagonia. The accumulated gain is 1035 feet and the starting elevation is 5340 feet. The trail goes gradually downhill for the first 7 miles, is fairly level for 5 miles, and then slightly climbs before going downhill the last 5 miles. Hikers will stay the night in a Patagonia motel. On the second day, we will hike 14 miles from Parker Canyon Lake to Canelo Pass. The starting elevation is 5700 feet and the net elevation change is 840 feet; accumulated gain is 2350 feet. We will traverse these trails from east to west to better enjoy the diverse vistas of grass hills, oak savannas, mesquite groves and riparian canyons. Hike 30 miles over two days; trailhead elevations (see above); net elevation changes (see above); accumulated gains/losses (see above); RTD 230 miles (some dirt).

Arizona Trail: Canelo Pass to Patagonia. Rating A. The hike begins at Canelo Pass and goes northwest through Redrock Canyon, skirts around Ashburn Mtn., then continues to the trailhead in Patagonia (el. 4050 feet). Along the route, hikers pass grass hills, oak savannas, mesquite groves and riparian canyons as they make a general descent with some uphill grades. Hike 16 miles; trailhead elevation 5340 feet; net elevation change 1400 feet; accumulated gain 1035 feet; RTD ___ miles.

****Arizona Trail Blackhills section. Rating B.** This is the first in a series of 3 dedicated to hiking recently completed new sections of the Arizona Trail. This key exchange will go from the Pipeline junction near Tuscon Wash off Tiger Mine Road to Bloodsucker Wash west of SR-77 at the Aravaipa Rd. junction. The hike is limited to 10 hikers and an additional 4X4 vehicle will be needed. Hike 10.5 miles; trailhead elevation 2,800 or 3,700 feet; net elevation change 90 feet; accumulated gain 817 or 1,741 feet. RTD: car 1=62 miles (some dirt), car 2=90 miles (some dirt) Driver donation \$6.00. Cheryl & Dean Werstler; 825-9057.

****Arizona Trail—Rincon Valley section. Rating B.** This is the second in a series of 3 dedicated to hiking recently completed new sections of the Arizona Trail. This hike will be accessed from S. Camino Loma Alta trailhead, proceeding over Hope Camp Trail, but stopping short of Hope Camp and connecting at the junction of the new trail which leads northeast to the Manning Camp Trail. Upon reaching the Manning Camp Trail, we will return to our starting point. Hike 13.5 miles; trailhead elevation 3,150 feet; net elevation change 1,180 feet; accumulated gain 1,750 feet. RTD 115 miles; Driver donation \$8.00. Cheryl & Dean Werstler; 825-9057.

****Arizona Trail—Walnut Canyon Exploratory. Rating A!.** This is the third in a series of 3 dedicated to hiking recently completed new sections of the Arizona Trail. We will access the White Canyon-Walnut Canyon trail junction from Battleaxe Road and hike the entire length of Walnut Canyon to the Gila River. Upon reaching the river we will intersect with the AZT as it heads east along the river until we reach Kelvin Bridge. The hike is limited to 10 hikers. Hike 14.5 miles; trailhead elevation 2,500 feet; net elevation change 700 feet; accumulated gain 1,860 feet. RTD 160 miles; Driver donation \$11.00. Cheryl & Dean Werstler; 825-9057.

Arizona Trail: Reavis Canyon (Passage 18). Rating A. From the Picket post Trailhead, the trail proceeds to and then under Highway 60. It climbs and descends to Queen Creek, crosses it and follows a fence line. It continues on to FR 357 and then crosses a railroad line. It crosses a dirt road, passes under high-tension power lines and then climbs up to a ridgeline and follows it. After passing just east of Barnett Camp the trail enters Whitford Canyon and then crosses FR 650. The trail parallels FR 650 and finally crosses it again and reaches Reavis Canyon Trailhead. It follows this trail (#509) along a

streambed and then up towards Montana Mountain. The trail passes south of the peak and then again connects with FR 650. It continues west on FR 650 to FR 172A and then north to the Rogers Trough Trailhead. Hike 18.6 miles; trailhead elevations 2399 feet south and 4830 feet north; net elevation change 3152 feet; accumulated gains 3926 northward and 1482 feet southward; RTD __ miles (dirt).

Baby Jesus. Rating C. The hike starts in the Fifty-Year Trail area near the east end of Golder Ranch Road and follows a jeep road that connects to the beginning of the Baby Jesus Trail across the Sutherland Wash. Hikers follow the trail on the east side of Baby Jesus Ridge to a rock grouping that looks in profile like the Madonna and Child, (for which the ridge is named) seeing a “window,” beautiful saguaros, and rock formations along the way. The return is via the same route. Hike 7.5 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change 900 feet; accumulated gain __ feet; RTD 12 miles (dirt).

****Bear Canyon plus Seven Falls. Rating B.** The trailhead is at Sabino Canyon Visitor Center. We will hike to Seven Falls and then continue up Bear Canyon for an addition 2 miles to a plateau level with Thimble Peak. The return is via the same route. Hike 11 mile; trailhead elevation 2720 feet; net elevation change 2,000 feet; accumulated gain ____ feet; RTD 56 miles.

Big Rock Dome #2. Rating C!. The hike begins from the 4WD road off Lago del Oro just outside of SaddleBrooke, or from the CDO Wash at Unit 21. The hike takes us up Charouleau Gap Road (a rocky jeep road) past a picturesque table rock and through desert area filled with huge granite boulders and outcroppings. The hike then continues with a short bushwhack to the Big Rock Dome where hikers have a great 360-degree view. The return uses same route. Charouleau Gap Road has loose, slippery rocks in some areas. Hiking sticks are recommended. Hike 6 miles; trailhead elevation 3250 feet; net elevation change 800 feet; accumulated gain 1025 feet; RTD 2 miles.

Boyce-Thompson Arboretum. Rating D□. The arboretum (fee required) features 35 acres of nature paths, towering trees, cacti, mountain cliffs, a streamside forest, a desert lake, and panoramic views. It is located about 100 miles north of SaddleBrooke off U.S. 60 between Florence Junction and Superior. The park is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Bring lunch, camera, hiking stick optional. Hiking boots or

comfortable walking shoes are recommended, although the paved trail is relatively level. Call the hike guide for more details. Hike is under 4 miles; trailhead elevation ___ feet; net elevation change is minimal; accumulated gain is minimal; RTD 164 miles.

Brown Mountain. Rating C. The Brown Mountain Trail is along a ridge in the heart of the Tucson Mountains. It starts at a trailhead on McCain Loop Road, just south of Kinney Road east of the Arizona Sonoran Desert Museum. Along this "ridge ramble" are excellent views of the mountains, valleys, and desert vegetation. The route has many up and downs. Hike 5 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 (trailheads at either end are 2640 and 2880) feet; net elevation change 400 feet; accumulated gain 1100 feet; RTD 73 miles.

****Canyon Loop Twice. Rating C.** From the main trailhead at the end of the road in Catalina State Park, the hike begins with the Romero Canyon Trail, turns onto the Canyon Loop Trail, and then comes back on the Sutherland Trail. After reaching at the trailhead, the loop will be done again but in reverse, retracing the route initially taken. This area is a great example of the Sonoran Desert and its riparian areas. Depending upon the season, some water crossings are possible. Hike 4.4 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change ___ feet; accumulated gain 200+ feet; RTD 24 miles.

Deer Camp / Baby Jesus Loop. Rating C. The hike begins in the Fifty-Year Trail area. We hike easterly toward Deer Camp, and then take the Middle Tank Connecting Trail to the Baby Jesus Trail which leads back to the trailhead. The area has little traffic and is a delight to the senses. Hike 7.5 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change ___ feet; accumulated gain 993 feet; RTD 12 miles (dirt).

Deer Camp / Samaniego Roost Loop. Rating C. The hike begins in the Fifty-Year Trail area and proceeds easterly, up and out of Sutherland Wash to Deer Camp, then turns southwest on a trail that connects to the Samaniego Ridge Trail. We take the left fork and enjoy a fantastic view at the second "pull out". We return via the Samaniego Trail down slick rock to a grove of ocotillo, past two chollas that are so big they look like trees, through a dry creek bed, to a grove of 100-year old saguaros. Hike 6.5 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change ___ feet; accumulated gain 1288 feet; RTD 12 miles (dirt).

Deer Camp. Rating C. The hike begins in the Fifty-Year Trail area. We hike east up and out of Sutherland Wash, through beautiful rock formations with many saguaros to a camp at the base of Samaniego Peak. The return is via the same route. Hike 5.4 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change 825 feet; accumulated gain 980 feet; RTD 12 miles (dirt).

Douglas Spring Trail to the Campground. Rating B. Hikers drive to the east end of Speedway to reach the Douglas Spring Trailhead. The hike involves moderately some steep hiking on a well-used trail to the campground. Coming back we may take the spur out and back to Bridal Wreath Falls, and follow Douglas Spring Trail back to the trailhead. The trails are mostly open, so bring sun protection. Bring lunch. Hike 13 miles; trailhead elevation 2800 feet; net elevation change ___ feet; accumulated gain 2684 feet; RTD 80 miles.

Esperero Trail. Rating B. The hike reaches a saddle known locally as Cardiac Gap, which overlooks Esperero Canyon. We'll warm up by hiking from the Sabino Canyon Visitor Center parking lot, through the Cactus Picnic Area and 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 (el. 4400 feet) while viewing the falls below, and return to the Visitor Center. Depending on season, there may be water in the falls. Extra drinking water is recommended. Hike 7.3 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 1700 feet; accumulated gain 1898 feet; RTD 56 miles.

Extended Fitness Walk. Rating C/B. The walk begins at the SaddleBrooke parking lot and travels one of several routes in and around SaddleBrooke. Carry at least one quart of water. Hike 7.5 to 10 miles; elevation change 500 to 600 feet. Hike duration is 2.5 to 3 hours. Optional breakfast at the Road Runner Grill (need credit card as cash is not accepted).

Fifty-Year Trail Area Loop – Short Version. Rating C. The hike begins in the Fifty-Year Trail area off Golder Ranch Road, goes east to the Upper Loop Trail, then north to a rock for a break. Along the way, we pass the turn-offs for the Deer Camp and Hidden Canyon Trails. The hike continues north then turns west to return via the Fifty Year Trail. There are beautiful saguaros and rock formations, in addition to excellent views of SaddleBrooke, Sun City, and the Tortolitas. The hike may be done in reverse. Hike 4.6

miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change __ feet; accumulated gain 500 feet; RTD 12 miles (dirt).

Finger Rock Guard. Rating A!. The hike begins from the Finger Rock Trailhead at the north end of Alvernon Way. Finger Rock Guard is the large rock formation to the east of Finger Rock, a well-known landmark that can be seen from many places in Tucson (and from Saddlebrooke). The hike begins with the first 2.5 miles and 2200 feet accumulated gain of the Finger Rock Canyon Trail, which leads eventually to Mt. Kimball. At the point where the trail turns northeast toward the Linda Vista Saddle, the trail descends a steep 200 feet into Finger Rock Canyon. The trail continues up a faint, steep and, in many places, slippery path to the saddle between Mt. Kimball and Finger Rock. From there, the trail turns southwest toward the rock guard. Rock scrambling and rock climbing are required to reach the summit 450 feet above the saddle. There is significant exposure to heights and steep drop-offs along the last few hundred feet of elevation. Bring extra water. Call to discuss with the hiking guide. This is a difficult hike but the fantastic views from the summit make it a "must do" for dedicated hikers. Hike 7 miles; trailhead elevation 3120 feet; net elevation change 3375 feet; accumulated gain 4000 feet; RTD 44 miles.

Finger Rock Trail to Finger Rock Spring. Rating D. The hike begins from the Finger Rock Trailhead at the north end of Alvernon Way. Taking the Finger Rock Canyon Trail, which leads to Mt. Kimball, we will only go as far as Finger Rock Spring. The trail passes some beautiful rock formations and native desert plant life along the way. The trail is relatively level but there are some ups and downs along the way. Hike 3 miles; trailhead elevation 3120 feet; net elevation change 500 feet; accumulated gain __ feet; RTD 44 miles.

Golden Gate Trail. Rating C. The hike begins at the parking lot at the bottom of Gates Pass on the western side of Tucson Mountain Park. Golden Gate Mountain was used as the backdrop in many Hollywood horse operas and movies made at Old Tucson. In Tucson Mountain Park, we will hike 0.5 miles east along the David Yetman Trail and then take the Golden Gate Loop west to a picnic area on the west side of Kinney Road. The hike has some rocky stretches and a moderate accumulated gain. Some bushwhacking across a wash is needed to return to the parking lot. Hike 7 miles; trailhead

elevation 3000 feet; net elevation change 400 feet; accumulated gain __ feet; RTD 70 miles.

Hidden Canyon Loop. Rating C. This is a beautiful hike, practically in our "back yard," to a secluded canyon in the upper reaches of the Sutherland Wash. There are many beautiful rock formations and saguaro cacti along the way and a rock ledge with a great view down the valley. The ledge is a great place for lunch. The hike begins in the Fifty-Year Trail area past Golder Ranch Road gate. After lunch, we will continue out of the canyon, circle around Hidden Canyon Peak back to the "North Gate," and return to the trailhead via the Fifty-Year Trail. Hike 8 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change 975 feet; accumulated gain 1285 feet; RTD 12 miles (dirt).

Hidden Canyon. Rating C. This is a beautiful hike to a secluded hidden canyon in the upper reaches of the Sutherland Wash. There are many beautiful rock formations and saguaro cacti. The hike begins past the Golder Ranch Road gate in the Fifty-Year Trail area. Hike 7.5 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change 640 feet; accumulated gain 880 feet; RTD 12 miles (dirt).

Honey Bee Canyon North. Rating D. The hike takes place in Honey Bee Canyon at Rancho Vistoso. We'll see Hohokam petroglyphs, grinding holes and end for snacks/lunch at a broken dam. For those exploring Honey Bee for the first time, this is a real eye opener. Hike 2 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 200 feet; accumulated gain 200 feet; RTD 26 miles.

King Canyon Loop. Rating C. The hike begins from a parking area across from the Desert Museum and proceeds up the Kings Canyon Trail to the Sweetwater Saddle. The return is either down the trail to the Mam-a Gah picnic area or down an old mining road to the wash, then along the dry wash where petroglyphs can be viewed. The wash is interesting and wildlife can sometimes be seen. Bring a camera, lunch, water, and hiking stick if you have one. Hike 5.8 miles; trailhead elevation 2800 feet; net elevation change __ feet; accumulated gain 1398 feet; RTD 73 miles.

Linda Vista Loop. Rating D. The Linda Vista Trailhead and parking lot is one block east of Oracle Road on Linda Vista Blvd. The hike proceeds into the foothills of Pusch Ridge and is an excellent introduction to desert hiking. The trail gradually ascends to provide excellent views of Oro Valley.

Poles may be helpful for rocky steps-up and steps-down. The trail passes through a riparian area and ascends to a rocky outcropping which is a good place for a snack break. There are magnificent saguaros throughout the drainage from Pusch Ridge. Hike 3 miles (mileage may be extended by doing an extra loop – ask the guide); trailhead elevation 2680 feet; net elevation change 500 feet; accumulated gain ___ feet; RTD 28 miles.

Mt. Kimball via Finger Rock Canyon / Return via Pima Trail. Rating A. Starting from the Finger Rock Trailhead 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 is via the Pima Canyon Trail from Mt. Kimball down to the Pima Canyon Trailhead at the east end of McGee Road. Bring lunch, snacks, and 2 to 4 quarts of water, depending upon time of year. Car shuttle required. Hike 12.1 miles; trailhead elevation 3120 feet; net elevation change 4138 feet; accumulated gain 4148 feet; RTD 44 miles.

Oracle Ridge Trail to Saddle. Rating C. The hike begins in Oracle at a trailhead off the Cody Loop Road. It follows the Oracle Ridge Trail to the junction with the American Flag/Cody Trail where there are 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 Bonita Canyon on the northwest side of Apache Peak. Return by the same route. Hike 7 miles; trailhead elevation 4720 feet; net elevation change 700 feet; accumulated gain 1000 feet; RTD 40 miles (dirt).

Phone Line Trail - Round Trip. Rating B. The hike begins in the Sabino Canyon Visitor Center parking lot. After crossing Sabino Creek there is a moderate climb to the Phone Line Trail, which is above and generally parallels the tram road. The trail offers outstanding views of the canyon. There are three options for the return: 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. There are extended stretches of exposed trail. Hike 10.4 miles; trailhead elevation 2720 feet; net elevation change 1035 feet; accumulated gain 1375 feet; RTD 56 miles.

Picacho Peak for "C" Hikers. Rating B!. This is a special slow-paced hike for "C" hikers who wish to climb Picacho Peak. From the trailhead along Barret Loop, we hike up the Hunter Trail to a saddle, down to the Sunset Vista Trail, and then to the top of Picacho Peak, which provides 360-degree views of the area. The trail descends about 350 feet after reaching the saddle before resuming the upward climb from the west side of the Peak. Permanently installed guide cables are used along several steep sections to reach the summit. Bring leather or rubber tipped gloves for holding onto the cables. The return to the trailhead is along the same route. This is a short strenuous hike and a favorite among hikers. There are several areas of climbing where the trail is slippery due to loose rock and/or where the trail is exposed to sharp drop-offs. Park entrance fee required. Hike 4.2 miles; trailhead elevation 2000 feet; net elevation change 1374 feet; accumulated gain 2152 feet; RTD 90 miles.

Picket Post Mountain. Rating B!. The daunting angular shape of Picket Post Mountain intrigues all who drive along US Hwy # 60 between Phoenix and Superior. This is a short, steep hike to the summit of Picket Post Mountain. From the Arizona Trail parking lot south of Hwy # 60 and west of the Boyce Thompson Arboretum, the group will hike south on the Arizona Trail to a prominent drainage. Look for a cairned path which branches up the foothills of the mountain. The Picket Post Trail splits into two routes which eventually meet before the last cleft. Both routes have steep rocky sections which require sure-footedness. Once the rim is reached the route continues SE to the summit which has a mailbox for registering. 360-degree views are spectacular. Hike 4.3 miles; trailhead elevation 2400 feet; net elevation change 2000 feet; accumulated gain ___ feet; RTD 165 miles.

Pima Canyon to 1st Dam. Rating D!. The Pima Canyon Trailhead is at the east end of Magee Road. We will hike the first part of Pima Canyon to the first dam and enjoy the beautiful scenery, take photos. There are pools of water at the dam most of the year. The trail is rocky at some points and involves some steps-up and steps-down but is not difficult. Hike 2.7 miles; trailhead elevation 2960 feet; net elevation change ___ feet; accumulated gain 470 feet; RTD 42 miles.

Pima Canyon to 2nd Dam. Rating C. The Pima Canyon Trailhead is at the east end of Magee Road. The first mile or so is across open desert along the

south side of Pusch Peak. We pass the small 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 in the open. The trail then leads to a rocky open area in the canyon beyond a small dam near several Indian grinding holes. The return is via the same route. Hike 6.2 miles; trailhead elevation 2960 feet; net elevation change ___ feet; accumulated gain 977 feet; RTD 42 miles.

Pontatoc Ridge. Rating C!. The hike starts at the Finger Rock Trailhead at the north end of Alvernon Way. Sometimes called the "Old Spanish Mine Trail," the trail goes up the northwest side of Pontatoc Ridge to just below some old mines. There are great views of Tucson and the surrounding area from a saddle along the way. The hike is strenuous in some areas due to the steep incline and rocky path. There are short stretches of exposed trail near the old mines. Hike 5 miles; trailhead elevation 3100 feet; net elevation change 1300 feet; accumulated gain 1500 feet; RTD 44 miles.

Rams Creek Basin. Rating C. From the Rams Creek Pass subdivision, we hike up a wash on a new trail through nice vegetation and then climb 560 feet to a watering tank. There are great views of Rancho Vistoso, the Tortolitas, SaddleBrooke, and the Biosphere along the way. We then continue on to a waterfall where we will have lunch. The return is via the same route. Hike 5.4 miles; trailhead elevation 2600 feet; net elevation change 780 feet; accumulated gain 830 feet; RTD 21 miles.

****Rams Creek Basin to Catalina State Park. Rating C.** From the Rams Creek Pass subdivision, we hike along a well-defined trail up a canyon wash through nice vegetation to a stock watering tank. Depending on the group, we may hike beyond the tank to a waterfall further up the canyon. There are great views of Rancho Vistoso, the Tortolitas, SaddleBrooke, and the Biosphere along the way. After lunch, the group will hike from where the trail splits at the watering tank down past Alamo Canyon to Catalina State Park. Cars will be dropped at the Park on the way to the trailhead. Hike 7 miles; trailhead elevation 2600 feet; net elevation change 780 feet; accumulated gain about 850 feet; RTD 21 miles.

Rillito River Hike # 2. Rating D. The hike begins from Children's Memorial Park on the north side of the Rillito River just west of Oracle Road. We walk

down river (west) on an asphalt walking/bicycle path to the bridge at La Cholla Blvd. After crossing the river south on the La Cholla bridge, we walk east on a dirt path. If the river is dry, 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 and return to the park on the asphalt trail. Hike 4 to 5 miles (depending on crossing location); trailhead elevation ___ feet; net elevation change is minimal; accumulated gain is minimal; RTD 40 miles.

Roadrunner / Panther Peak Wash / Cam-Boh Trail Loop. Rating D. The hike begins at the Cam-Boh Picnic Area off Picture Rocks Road (reached from W. Ina). We first hike north 1.4 miles along the Roadrunner Trail, which runs along the boundary of Saguaro National Park - West, heading straight for Panther Peak. True to their name, roadrunners do thrive in this area, but they make a cooing sound, not a "beep, beep". Along this section, hikers can see Picacho Peak and one of Twin Peaks to the northwest (another has nearly been leveled by limestone mining). After 1.4 miles, we reach the junction with Panther Peak Wash which we follow for 1.9 miles, mainly in the wash. Next, we cross the West Picture Rocks Road, and then join the Cam-Boh Trail for 1.3 miles back to the picnic area and the trailhead. Cam-Boh in Tohono O'odham means camp. Hike 4.6 miles; trailhead elevation 2480 feet; net elevation change is minimal; accumulated gain is minimal; RTD 60 miles.

Romero Pass. Rating A. The hike begins in Catalina State Park at the easternmost trailhead and follows an up and down trail past Romero Pools and Romero Springs to Romero Pass. The last 2 miles before reaching the pass is very steep and involves continual climbing. The return is via the same route. There are excellent views of Romero and Montrose Canyons along the way and of Cathedral Peak at the top. Rincon Peak is visible to the east. Hike 15 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 3380 feet; accumulated gain 4040 feet; RTD 24 miles.

Romero Pools. Rating C. The hike begins in Catalina State Park at the easternmost trailhead and follows Romero Canyon Trail into the foothills. The trail crosses open desert then climbs steeply until it reaches a saddle and then down into the canyon area where several pools are located. There are excellent views of Romero and Montrose Canyons along the way. The well-maintained trail is rocky and rough in places, but is not overly difficult for most hikers. An option is a 0.75 miles round-trip, relatively level hike to the upper pools. We will have lunch at the lower or upper pools. The return is via the same route. Hike 5.6 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 980 feet; accumulated gain 1500 feet; RTD 24 miles.

SaddleBrooke's Dome Rock. Rating C. Many SaddleBrooke residents have a view from their homes of "Dome Rock" -- the large dome to the east that is bald in the middle with patchy vegetation on both sides -- located about a third of the way up Charouleau Peak. Many have mused that it would be great to have a picnic on top of this prominent landmark. Do this hike and you can make the claim. The hike leaves from the horse farm at the end of Arroyo Way near Unit 21. We cross Canada del Oro, which may have a shallow flow if it has rained, and follow a dirt road before turning left on the Charouleau Gap Road. After about 2 miles, passing forests of ocotillo, we climb across some interesting bald rock formations. There are great views of SaddleBrooke, Catalina and Biosphere along the way. Hike 5 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change ___ feet; accumulated gain 1000 feet; RTD 0 miles.

Seven Falls. Rating B. The hike begins at the Sabino Canyon Visitor Center, and continues to lower Bear Canyon, then along the Bear Canyon Trail to Seven Falls. The return is via the same route. The falls, which constitute one of the most spectacular natural features in the Tucson area, usually have some water flowing over them but may be dry if there has been inadequate rain. The trail crosses the Bear Canyon wash several times in each direction and can involve significant boulder hopping/wading after rainy periods. Ask the guide about current conditions. Hike 8.7 miles; trailhead elevation 2720 feet; net elevation change 720 feet; accumulated gain 1550 feet; RTD 56 miles.

****Superstitions—In search of the Spanish Master Map/Charlebois Spring Loop. Rating A.** According to historian Tom Kollenborn, a petroglyph

site near the confluence of LaBarge and Charlebois canyons came to be viewed by prospectors and treasure hunters as an ancient Spanish treasure map. Mr. Kollenborn visited the site several times between 1954 and 1959. With each trip he found alterations on the rock which resulted in considerable change in the configuration of the petroglyphs (vandalism). Many current-day hikers have tried to find the site without success (although some have been successful). We will attempt to locate the panel with the aid of narrative descriptions. We will start from Peralta Trailhead on Bluff Springs Trail. We will look for various landmarks including the Williams camp and mine, the Ely-Anderson Trail up Bluff Spring Mountain, and the 50-arm saguaro. We will merge with the Dutchman's Trail, taking it up to the canyons' confluence where we will search for the panel. We will then travel a short distance into Charlebois Canyon to the spring. We will retrace our steps down the Dutchman's Trail, this time veering off at the Red Tanks Trail junction, a pretty riparian spot, and later joining with the Whiskey Spring Trail. We will then intersect with the Dutchman's Trail, watching for such landmarks as the Miner's Needle eye and Cathedral Rock as we return to the trailhead. Hike 17 miles; trailhead elevation 2,400 feet; net elevation change 960 feet; accumulated gain 2,275 feet. RTD 154 miles (some dirt); Driver donation \$14.00. Cheryl & Dean Werstler; 825-9057.

****Superstitions--Haunted Canyon-Paradise Trail Loop. Rating B.** In the most southeast portion of the Superstition Wilderness, this perennial streamside hike ventures through a forest of majestic Arizona cypress, alder, walnut, ash and sycamores. This area of rolling hills differs greatly from the rugged and drier Western Superstitions. It is accessed off of US 60 near Miami via public access roads through 7 miles of mining operations in the Pinto Mine area. From the lower Haunted Canyon trailhead, we will cross Pinto Creek several times, all doable without wet feet until we reach two vertical rocks walls in the canyon. If there is water we will either have to wade or climb up about 12 feet to get around. We will come to the Toney Ranch at the 6 mile mark. The ranch site has a reliable spring, a nice old cabin and a forest of oak, sycamore and other shade trees. William Toney homesteaded 78 acres of land in this valley, built a 3 room cabin and, according to homesteading laws of the day, grew crops and raised livestock. The cabin is in excellent shape for having been built in 1913. From the ranch site we will return to the Haunted Canyon Trail, continuing west and beginning our climb out of the valley. As we

continue up the trail, the vegetation changes to higher altitude desert growth as we break above the treeline to views of mountains and rock features to the west. At the junction we will veer off of Haunted Canyon Trail on to Paradise Trail as we begin our decent to the Miles Trailhead. This area is quiet with no human sounds and no gravel or rocks underfoot. It has been described as like being transferred to a fall day in New England with rich black soil, tree leaves covering the ground, and the smell of peat. Hike 11 miles; trailhead elevation 3,170 feet; net elevation change 1,790 feet; accumulated gain 2,540 feet. RTD 210 miles (some dirt); Driver donation \$16.00. Cheryl & Dean Werstler; 825-9057.

Superstitions: Dutchman Trail / Bluff Springs Loop. Rating B. The hike starts at the Peralta Trailhead off Hwy # 60 in the Superstitions and follows the Dutchman Trail through Barkley Basin. From the basin, the trail climbs past Miners Needle (smaller sister of Weavers Needle) to Miners Summit, then descends along the Bluff Springs Trail to Bluff Spring (has seasonal water). There are netleaf hackberry and oak shade trees along the way. Hikers then continue back to the trailhead with superb views of Weavers Needle. Hike 9.1 miles; trailhead elevation 2415 feet; net elevation change 895 feet; accumulated gain 1360 feet; RTD 154 miles (dirt).

Tanque Verde Ridge Trail - Part Way. Rating C. The hike begins at the Javalina picnic area in Saguaro National Park – East, and is a picturesque hike in the Rincon Mountains with tremendous views of Tucson and the surrounding area. We hike east up to and along the Tanque Verde Ridge and turn around at about 3 miles (by a crested saguaro.) The hike is somewhat steep at some points, but there are great photo stops along the way. Hike 6 miles; trailhead elevation 3120 feet; net elevation change 1300 feet; accumulated gain __ feet; RTD 82 miles.

Tohono Chul Park and Tea Room with Lunch. Rating D□. Tohono Chul Park is a desert preserve of 48 acres bordered by Oracle, Ina and Paseo del Norte Roads. The hike features a one-hour docent-led tour along well maintained trails surrounded by native plants and desert landscape in an "aviary without walls". The park has demonstrations gardens, hummingbird garden, ethno-botanical garden, and a geologic recreation of the Santa Catalina Mountains. There is also an exhibit house, gallery and gift shop. Optional: breakfast, lunch or tea at Tea Room. Admission fee required. Wear

comfortable shoes, hat, and sunscreen; bring a bottle of water. Hike 1.5 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change is minimal; accumulated gain is minimal; RTD 36 miles.

Tortolita Trail (medium version). Rating C. The trailhead is at the end of W. Moore Road about 1.5 miles off Dove Mountain Blvd. The hike involves a portion of the multipurpose Tortolita Trail located on the Tortolita Preserve. It took outdoorsman and amateur trail designer Chuck Boyer, age 66, more than two years to carve out the 9-mile recreational trail using only hand tools. Hike 6 to 8 miles; trailhead elevation 2500 feet; net elevation change <500 feet; accumulated gain __ feet; RTD 44 miles.

Tortolita Mountains: Alamo Springs Loop. Rating B. From the Ritz Carlton hiker parking lot, proceed through the Wild Burro Wash to Lower Javalina Trail to the Alamo Springs Trail, which is on the right after entering State Trust land. The group will follow the Alamo Springs Trail to the spring. Upon leaving the spring, the return is down the Wild Burro Trail to an old stone house and cistern which belonged to goat herders in the early 1900's. There is also a large water catch basin dubbed the "swimming pool". From this point, hikers walk back along the Wild Burro Trail the parking lot. Hike 7.5 miles; trailhead elevation 3000 feet; net elevation change 2780 feet; accumulated gain 1600 feet; RTD 44 miles.

Tortolita Mountains - Cochie Spring Trail. Rating B. From the Ritz Carlton hiker parking lot, hikers go 1.5 miles on the flat Wild Burro Trail to the Upper Javelina Trail. The Upper Javelina Trail provides views of the Tucson Mtns and Boboquiveri Peak to the south. After a short hike on the Wild Mustang Trail, hikers join the Cochie Spring Trail and continue several miles to the remains of a dam past a windmill. Hikers will experience a quiet mountain wilderness. The return is by the same route. Hike 12 miles; trailhead elevation 2780 feet; net elevation change 645 feet; accumulated gain __ feet; (data need to be updated for the new TH); RTD 44 miles.

Tortolita Mountains: Wild Mustang / Wild Burro Canyon Loop. Rating B. The trailhead is at the Ritz Carlton hiker parking lot. Hikers proceed through the Wild Burro Wash, connect with the Upper Javalina Trail, and make their way up to the Wild Mustang Trail. The trail will lead the group over the higher elevations of the mountains to the north past at least 3 crested saguaros. Near the upper end of Wild Mustang Trail we take a connector trail

southeast down to the Wild Burro Canyon Trail. The trail overlooks the narrow upper canyon which spreads wide with numerous side canyons and tributaries. As we continue down Wild Burro Canyon, we pass a crumbling stone structure and arrive at a boulder strewn falls which thunders with runoff from the upper side canyons and tributaries when it rains. A short distance later we will merge onto Lower Javalina Trail, quickly descending through hillsides covered with enormous boulders and a forest of saguaro cacti. We will then rejoin Wild Burro Trail to return to the trailhead. Hike 10.7 miles; trailhead elevation 2680 feet; net elevation change 1150 feet; accumulated gain 1630 feet; (hike data need to be updated for the new TH); RTD 44 miles.

Wasson Peak via Hugh Norris Trail. Rating B. From the trailhead near Hohokum Road (off N. Kinney Road past Red Hills Visitor Center), the hike follows the Hugh Norris Trail to and from Wasson Peak. Hugh Norris is the longest trail to Wasson Peak, but the climb is gradual along a ridge with spectacular views. There are excellent 360-degree views from the top. There is little shade; bring plenty of water and sun protection. Hike 10 miles; trailhead elevation 2640 feet; net elevation change 2124 feet; accumulated gain 2400 feet; RTD 73 miles.

Wasson Peak via Sweetwater Trail. Rating B. The hike begins at the trailhead at the end of El Camino del Cerro (the west extension of Ruthrouff Road) on the east side of the Tucson Mountains. From there we hike on the Sweetwater Trail 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 up to Wasson Peak. Views are spectacular from this highest point in the Tucson Mountains. There is little shade along the way. Bring plenty of water and sun protection. Hike 9.4 miles; trailhead elevation 2800 feet; net elevation change 1887; accumulated gain 2424 feet; RTD 60 miles.

Window Rock. Rating A. The hike follows the most direct route up Ventana Canyon. The hike is difficult and steep, and involves lots of difficult climbing. The hike begins at the Ventana Canyon Resort parking lot past the employees' parking lot. It follows that trail past Maiden Pools until it reaches the Esperero Trail # 25, which is used for two miles to reach the Window. Ventana Canyon offers some of the best canyon views in southern Arizona. Views from the Window are fantastic, including such landmarks at Mt. Kimball, Cathedral Rock, and the Montrose Canyon drainage area. Hike 13 miles; trailhead elevation 3040 feet; net elevation change 3840 feet; accumulated gain 4200 feet; RTD 54 miles.