



# SADDLEBROOKE

## HIKING CLUB NEWSLETTER

<http://saddlebrookehikingclub.com>

MARCH/APRIL

2015

### FROM AFRICA TO OREGON: NEXT TWO MONTHLY PROGRAMS MARCH 18 & APRIL 15

Continuing the focus on hiking adventures both far and near, the next two Hiking Club programs will feature “Hiking in Tanzania and Mt. Kilimanjaro” and “Summertime Hiking in Oregon.”

First up, on **Wednesday, March 18**, is the program on Africa, presented by Barbara and Jack Rosenthal. They hail from Montreal and have spent the past nine winters in SaddleBrooke. Hiking has always been their passion, starting with backpacking in the White Mountains of New Hampshire’s Presidential Range. They have trekked through the eastern and western mountains of Canada and the U.S. as well as much of the Alps and exotic locations in South America, Africa and Asia.

The Rosenthal’s club program will feature their climb of Mt. Kilimanjaro in Tanzania, said to be “one of 12 great treks of the world.” Come share their adventure as they introduce you to the changes of scenery from tropical jungle to the glacial Arctic zone and introduce you to their guides and porters from the Chagga Tribe.



The Hiking Club program on **Wednesday, April 15** will be about hiking a little closer to home—but one beautiful and different in its own way. Presented by

Bob Shea, the talk and slide show will highlight the diversity of hiking trails that Oregon has to offer, from oceanside trails to alpine peaks. He also will cover parts of the Oregon section of the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail, Mt. Hood ascents, and slot canyon hikes.

Bob and his wife Peggy, who live in Bend, Oregon during the summer, have been winter residents of SaddleBrooke and members of the Hiking Club for 10 years. In addition, Bob is an active amateur photographer and the founder and first president of the SaddleBrooke Adventure Club—so be prepared for some great photos of some exciting hiking opportunities.



Both the March 18 and April 15 programs will begin at 3 p.m. in the HOA 1 Activity Center, followed by a social hour in the Agave Lounge in the SaddleBrooke HOA 1 Clubhouse at 4 p.m. Programs are open to all SaddleBrooke and SaddleBrooke Ranch residents, whether or not they are members of the Hiking Club.

For more information about programs, contact Karen Schickedanz at 818-7817 or [karenschick@wbhsi.net](mailto:karenschick@wbhsi.net).

**SADDLEBROOKE HIKING CLUB  
SUPPORTS THE  
ARIZONA NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL**



Elaine Fagan, Steve Wehmann, Marilyn Smith, Ray Peale, Jan Springer, Elisabeth Wheeler, Shawn Redfield, Jackie Hall, Roger Rove, Fred Norris, Don Washco, Arlene Gerety (Photo by Sandra Sowell)

The SaddleBrooke Hiking Club supports Arizona's National Scenic Trail through volunteer work on the trail. On Wednesday, January 21, eleven hikers improved a section of the Oracle Passage of the Arizona National Scenic Trail by collecting trash, removing overgrowth, and improving drainage. The Arizona Trail Association provided guidance and

support from Shawn Redfield and Don Washco. The main goal was to "have fun and be safe" while working together to improve the trail. The enthusiastic volunteers were: Jackie Hall, Elaine Fagan, Marilyn Smith, Ray Peale, Sandra Sowell, Elisabeth Wheeler, Fred Norris, Arlene Gerety, Roger Hove, Jan Springer, and Steve Wehmann.

You may join the next work party on Wednesday, March 18, for 2.5 hours of light trail work by calling Elisabeth Wheeler at 818-1547. Snacks are also welcome. Volunteers will meet at SaddleBrooke's MountainView parking lot at 7 a.m., carpool to the Oracle Passage of the Arizona National Scenic Trail, and return by noon. It's fun and rewarding!

**PALM SPRINGS ANNUAL TRIP  
APRIL 7 – 9, 2015**



The 2015 Annual Trip to Palm Springs has nearly 80 participants, and we are looking for more. We have a varied group of hikes that include the Pacific Crest Trail, several hikes in Joshua Tree National Park, and the spectacular beauty of Palm Canyon in the Indian Canyons. If you have been in Palm Springs/Palm Desert before and never hiked the area, this is your chance. Call Dave Sorenson at 777-1994 to sign up for the Annual Trip.

**AWESOME SPRING PICNIC SET  
FOR APRIL 24**

Mark your calendars for the SaddleBrooke Hiking Club's Spring Picnic. It is set for Friday, April 24, at Riverfront Park in Oro Valley on Lambert Lane. Formal events begin with the members' meeting and election of new officers at 11:30 a.m. A buffet lunch will be served at noon.

Morning hikes have been organized by our awesome hiking guides. Option 1 is an extended walk from Riverfront Park. Trek six to seven miles along the bike/walking path. “C” Rating. Dave Sorenson, 520-777-1994, is the guide. Option 2 is a hike along the Canada del Oro Wash from Riverfront Park. Some hiking will be along the paved path that parallels the wash. Hike 3-4 miles, “D” rating. Susan Hollis, 520-825-6819, is the guide. See the April hiking schedule for details.

This year’s spring picnic features a Mexican-themed main dish, provided by the Hiking Club. It will be complemented by member-provided side dishes and desserts to share. As always, members bring their own drinks. The club provides water, plates, napkins and eating utensils.

The picnic is free to all club members, but reservations are needed so we know how much food to order. Reserve your spot by April 15 with Becky Hilst at bckhilst51@gmail.com. Also, please let Becky know if you need a vegetarian entrée.

Please bring side dishes or desserts to share according to the first letter of your last name:

- A to K—Yummy desserts
- L to P—Fruit, green or other salad
- Q to Z—Pasta, potato or other hearty side dish

Please label your dish and serving utensils. Don’t forget to wear your nametag as well. Entrance to Riverfront Park is on the south side of the street. Carpooling is encouraged. For more information about the picnic, call Mary Jo Bellner Swartzberg at 825-0463 or LaVerne Kyriss at 333-2689.

### **HIKING TO SUPAI IN NOVEMBER**

**Randy Park**

The SaddleBrooke Hiking Club has made arrangements with the tours division of Northern Arizona University to guide several days of hikes in the western Grand Canyon, including a 3-day hiking trip to Supai. This is not a backpacking trip. All meals, lodging, permits, and local transportation are included. All hikes are day hikes led by NAU guides with the longest being 8 miles. All clothing, food, and gear needed for the time spent in Supai will be carried down by pack horses. All the hiker needs to carry is their daypack with the appropriate amount water and lunch, which is supplied by the guides.

Accessible only by foot, horseback, or helicopter, the highlight of this trip will surely be the hike from the village down to New Navajo Falls, Havasupai Falls, and Mooney Falls, which are some of the most beautiful waterfalls in the country.

Eighteen members of the SaddleBrooke Hiking Club will participate in this 5-night, 4-day hiking experience (November 7-12, 2015).

### **SEVEN FALLS AFTER SEVERAL DAYS OF JANUARY RAIN**

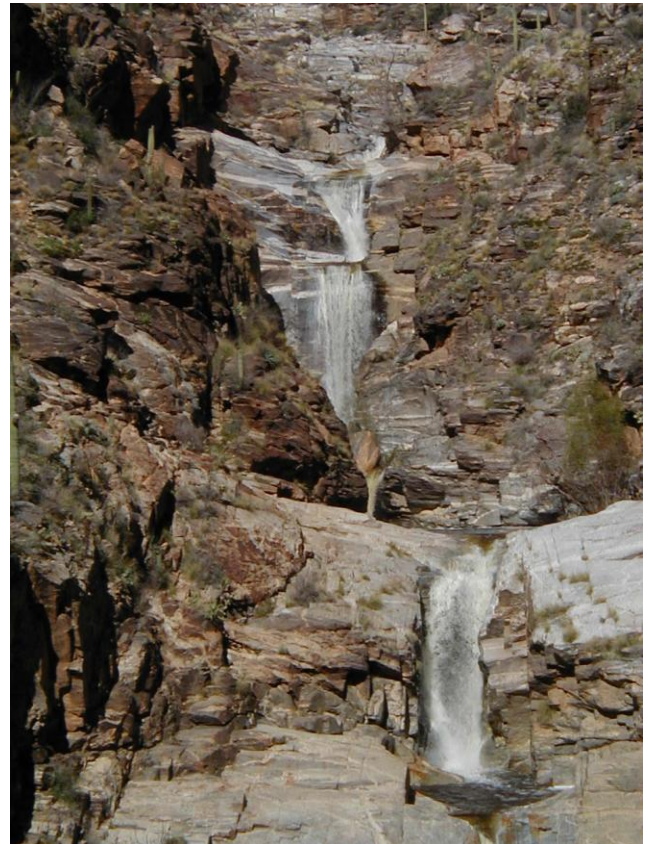


Photo taken by Dave Sorenson on a hike with Fred Norris to Seven Falls on February 4, 2015. After several days of rain, stream crossings were at thigh level and waterfalls were at seasonal high.

### **CHANGES TO THE HIKE LISTINGS IN THE NEWSLETTER AND THE WEBSITE**

Members will notice the format of the Hike Listing in the newsletter has changed for March/April. The hiking guides have implemented a new method of submitting their choice of hikes to lead. Google Calendar is now being used and this allows the guides to enter offered hikes any time prior to the newsletter being published. It also allows the guides to see what hikes the other guides are leading, giving

the club more of a variety of hikes. In the past, the hiking table in the newsletter was manually entered; now it is automatically produced from the Google Calendar. Many thanks to Dave Corrigan and Rob Simms for helping us with this project.

Members should also check out our updated website. It is more user friendly, as well as having additional information on the Hiker Information page. Many thanks to Ken Wong on the updates to the website.

The March/April 2015 newsletter will be emailed to members and also posted on our website. The newsletter will no longer be available at the fitness centers. A single-page information sheet is being placed at the fitness center, intended for new residents to learn about the club. If any club member is having problems viewing or downloading the newsletter, please call Tim Butler at 825-0193 for technical help. Our webmaster is Ken Wong; and if you are having trouble accessing the club's website, Ken can be reached at 818-2561.

**WORKSHOP ON MANAGING  
GPS TRACKS  
February 19 & 26**

The Club is offering a free one-half day workshop to club members with handheld GPSs (or smartphones loaded with an appropriate GPS app). The workshop will show how to create, save, manipulate, and export tracks. Participants should have a working knowledge of their GPS or smartphone (and app) and are expected to know how to collect and save basic track information. Also needed is a laptop with

internet connectivity (there is free wifi at Mountain View) and that is loaded with the latest version of Garmin Basecamp. (The workshop will be geared to Garmin GPSs, but some material may apply to other GPSs.) The workshop will show participants how to use Basecamp to manage and modify GPX files and how to make use of [Hikearizona.com](http://Hikearizona.com) (an internet web site, to store tracks and associated information for other hikers and guides to use). PC users may register for the session on Thursday morning from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., February 19, while Mac users may register for the session on Thursday afternoon from 1:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., February 26. The sessions will be conducted by Frank Hartley, Maureen Spence, Roy Carter, and others. Call Roy at 818-3137 if you are interested in attending.

**News You Can Use**

<b>AZ Trail Work Session</b>	<b>3/18 Wed.</b>	<b>7:00 A.M.</b>
<b>Hiking in Tanzania and Mt Kilmanjaro HOA #1 Activity Center</b>	<b>3/18 Wed.</b>	<b>3:00 P.M.</b>
<b>SBHC Social Hour Agave Lounge HOA #1</b>	<b>3/18 Wed.</b>	<b>4:00 P.M.</b>
<b>Palm Springs Pot Luck HOA #I Tennis Patio</b>	<b>3/30 Mon.</b>	<b>5:00 – 7:00 P.M.</b>
<b>SBHC Board Meeting Coyote Room North</b>	<b>4/1 Wed.</b>	<b>4:00 P.M.</b>
<b>SBHC Guide Meeting Coyote Room North</b>	<b>4/1 Wed.</b>	<b>4:00 P.M.</b>
<b>2015 Trip to Palm Desert</b>	<b>4/7 – 4/9</b>	
<b>Summertime Hiking in Oregon HOA#1 Activity Center</b>	<b>4/15 Wed.</b>	<b>3:00 P.M.</b>
<b>SBHC Social Hour Agave Lounge HOA #1</b>	<b>4/15 Wed.</b>	<b>4:00 P.M.</b>
<b>Spring Picnic Riverfront Park</b>	<b>4/24 Fri.</b>	<b>11:30 A.M.</b>

**Hikes Offered**

**Monday, March 02, 2015 Boyce-Thompson Arboretum [117, 07:30AM, \$12] 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. Dave Sorenson -777-1994

**Monday, March 02, 2015 Big Rock Dome [103, 8:00 AM, \$1] 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. The hike trailhead is at the south end of Arroyo Way (Unit 21) , near the horse farm. 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. On the way back, the group takes a short 1/2 mile side trip to a scenic overlook. Hike 5.8 miles; trailhead elevation 3200

feet; net elevation change 675 feet; accumulated gain 962 feet; Hiking poles recommended as some areas are steep with loose rocks and dirt. RTD 4 miles. Leader: Litch Litchfield (520) 369-4506

**Tuesday, March 03, 2015 Alamo Canyon. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [#6, 8:30 AM, \$2 + \$2].** The hike begins at the Romero Ruins Trailhead in Catalina State Park. Other than one short area by the wash, the elevation change is gradual. This is a lovely hike up to Alamo Canyon Falls and return. Water may be present in the canyon after rainy periods, but there are no water crossings. Hikers will stop by the Romero Ruins and take the informative loop trail from there. Hike 3.3 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 360 feet; accumulated gain 435 feet; RTD 24 miles. [Guide:Paul & Ruth DeBruine 818-3248.]

**Tuesday, March 03, 2015 Phone Line Trail with Tram Ride Up. . [325,8:00 AM, \$4 + Tram] Rating C** The hike begins from the Sabino Canyon Visitor Center parking lot. After the ride up Sabino Canyon to tram stop # 9, we hike up to the Phone Line Trail and then back down the trail to the Center. The trail is above and generally parallels the tram road and provides outstanding views and photo opportunities of the canyon. There are extended stretches of exposed trail. Hike 5.5 miles; trailhead elevation 3300 feet; net elevation change minus 1035 feet; accumulated loss minus \_\_\_ feet; RTD 56 miles. Frank Hartley, 520-825-1449

**Wednesday, March 04, 2015 Sutherland Trail Rating C [ 428 9:00AM, \$2 + \$2].** The Sutherland is a great trail for viewing wildflowers after adequate winter rains. Along the way, there are several beautiful saguaro cacti and great rock formations. There are numerous photo opportunities. We will also pass the cutoff to Dripping Springs which makes a nice short side trip if the waterfalls are flowing. The hike begins in Catalina State Park and ends at a very scenic, flat, rocky area. The return is via same route. Hike 5.4 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 657 feet; accumulated gain 818 feet; RTD 24 miles. Marv Rossof 877-9262

**Thursday, March 05, 2015 Mules Ears via Charouleau Gap [298, 7AM , \$1] Rating A!** This is a difficult hike to a prominent point on the Samaniego Ridge with outstanding views in all directions. The hike starts from the Rocking Horse Ranch parking area near Unit 21, crosses the CDO Wash and proceeds along Charouleau Gap Road, FR # 736 (a 4WD jeep road) to the gap. The group will turn right (south) onto the trail and climb up a steep hill for 1.5 miles. Eventually, the trail levels off and continues along the ridge with moderate up/down hiking over to Mule Ears. This section was devastated by fire and is sometimes overgrown with sticker bushes. Dress defensively. Route finding skills are needed. We lunch at a spot on the edge of cliffs just north of Mule Ears which affords a view of the Reef of Rocks. The return is via the same route. Hike 17.5 miles; trailhead elevation 3170 feet; net elevation change 3891 feet; accumulated gain 4210 feet; RTD 5 miles. Guide: Phil McNamee 369-4504 [mcnameephil@gmail.com](mailto:mcnameephil@gmail.com).

**Friday, March 06, 2015 Bridal Wreath Falls Loop. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [119, 7:30 AM, \$6].** The Douglas Spring Trailhead is located at the east end of Speedway Blvd. The hike involves some relatively steep climbing up the Douglas Spring Trail for the first 2.5 miles, before turning off on the 0.3 mile spur leading to the falls. We return via the Douglas Spring trail for 0.3 miles, and then take the Three Tanks Trail for 1.5 miles to where it joins the Carillo Trail. We hike for 0.5 miles and rejoin the Douglas Spring Trail, with considerable elevation, and return to the trailhead. Another option is to continue on the Three Tanks Trail to the Garwood Trail that joins the Douglas Spring Trail only 0.3 mile from the trailhead. The trail is well used and easy to follow. Bring sun protection. Water may be flowing over the falls if there has been sufficient rainfall. Hike 7.2 miles; trailhead elevation 2720 feet; net elevation change 1050 feet; accumulated gain 1086 feet; RTD 80 miles. [Guides: Howie and Elaine Fagan 818-9555]

**Friday, March 06, 2015 Sutherland Trail [428, 8:00 AM, \$2 + \$2] Rating C.** The Sutherland is a great trail for viewing wildflowers after adequate winter rains. Along the way, there are several beautiful saguaro cacti and great rock formations. There are numerous photo opportunities. We will also pass the cutoff to Dripping Springs which makes a nice short side trip if the waterfalls are flowing. The hike begins in Catalina State Park and ends at a very scenic, flat, rocky area. The return is via same route. Hike 5.4 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 657 feet; accumulated gain 818 feet; RTD 24 miles. Guide: Tim Butler 825-0193, [tucsontimmer@gmail.com](mailto:tucsontimmer@gmail.com).

**Sunday, March 08, 2015 Tanque Verde Ridge Trail [443, 7:30 AM, \$6] Rating B.** The hike begins at the Javalina Picnic Area in Saguaro National Park – East off the Cactus Forest Drive loop road, and is a picturesque hike in the Rincon Mountains with tremendous views of Tucson and the surrounding area. The hike is somewhat steep in parts as it proceeds up Tanque Verde Ridge. At three miles into the hike, we will view a crested saguaro, but continue on another mile to lunch on a mesa with great views. There are some great photo stops along the way. Hike 7.8 miles; trailhead elevation 3120 feet; net elevation change 1962 feet; accumulated gain 2225 feet; RTD 82 miles. [Susan Hollis 825-6819]

**Monday, March 09, 2015 Romero Pass [369, 7:00 AM, \$2 + \$2] 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 14 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 3380 feet; accumulated gain 4200 feet; RTD 24 miles. Tom Geiger, 571 278 5809, [thomasgeig@gmail.com](mailto:thomasgeig@gmail.com)

**Monday, March 09, 2015 Seven Falls (with Tram) [388, 7:45 AM, \$4 + \$8 tram] Rating C.** The hike begins at the Sabino Canyon Visitor Center with the tram to lower Bear Canyon. From the last tram stop we continue up Bear Canyon to Seven Falls and return via the same route back to the Center. 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. Tram fee required. The trail crosses the Bear Canyon wash several times and can involve significant boulder hopping/wading after rainy periods. Ask the guide about current conditions. Hike 5.5 miles; trailhead elevation 2800 feet; net elevation change 606 feet; accumulated gain 900 feet; RTD 56 miles. [Guide: Walt Shields 818-3439]

**Monday, March 09, 2015 Tortolita Mountains: Alamo Springs Loop. Rating B [455,8:00AM,\$4]** From the Ritz Carlton hiker parking lot, proceed through the Wild Burro Wash to Lower Javalina Trail to the Alamo Springs Trail. 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 to the parking lot. Hike 7.5 miles; trailhead elevation 2780 feet; net elevation change 1100 feet; accumulated gain 1319 feet; RTD 44 miles. Larry Allen 825-7864

**Tuesday, March 10, 2015 King Canyon Loop [241, 8:00 AM, \$6] Rating C** The hike begins from a parking area across from the Desert Museum and proceeds up the King 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 5.4 miles; trailhead elevation 2800 feet; net elevation change 960 feet; accumulated gain 1118 feet; RTD 73 miles. Frank Hartley, 520-825-1449

**Tuesday, March 10, 2015 Tortolita Mountains: Upper Javelina and Wild Mustang Trails to Lookout [462, 8:00 AM, \$4] Rating C.** The trailhead is at the Ritz Carlton Hotel parking lot. Hikers proceed through the Wild Burro Wash, up the Upper Javelina Trail, and connect with the Wild Mustang Trail. The hike continues to a rocky ridge with views of Dove Mountain development, Tucson and Marana. At that point we will stop for lunch/snacks and return to the trailhead. Hike 5.1 miles; trailhead elevation 2780 feet; net elevation change 795 feet; accumulated gain 950 feet; RTD 44 miles. Paul Bishop (425) 647-4754

**Wednesday, March 11, 2015 D-Linda Vista Loop [249, 8:30 AM, \$2] 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. Hiking sticks 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 2720 feet; net elevation change 400 feet; accumulated gain \_\_\_ feet; RTD 28 miles. [Guide: Ruth and Paul DeBruine 818-3248]

**Wednesday, March 11, 2015 Wasson Peak via Sendero Esperanza and Hugh Norris Trails. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [480, 8:00 AM, \$7].** The hike begins at Sendero Esperanza Trailhead off Golden Gate Road. The route follows 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 360-degree views from Wasson Peak include Tucson and 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 7.9 miles; trailhead elevation 2960 feet; net elevation change 1331 feet; accumulated gain 1675 feet; RTD 73 miles (dirt). [Guides: Howie and Elaine Fagan 818-9555].

**Thursday, March 12, 2015 Picacho Peak Loop. Rating B!. (328, 7 a.m. \$7 + \$2)** The hike combines both the Hunter and Sunset Vista Trails. Beginning at the Hunter Trailhead at Barret Loop, we hike up to a saddle, down to the Sunset Vista Trail and climb to the top, 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. The return is via Sunset Vista Trail to the Sunset Vista Trailhead. The use of two trailheads requires the use of two cars, one at each trailhead. This is a short, strenuous climb with a moderate return. Bring leather or rubber tipped gloves and ample water. 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 5.1 miles; trailhead elevation 2000 feet; net elevation change 1374 feet; accumulated gain 1900 feet; RTD 90 miles. Guide: Elisabeth Wheeler 818-1547

**Thursday, March 12, 2015 Dripping Springs/Canyon Loop [172/134, 8 AM, \$2+\$2] Rating C.** From the main trailhead at the east end of Catalina State Park, the hike follows the Sutherland Trail until you turn right at about 1.5 miles onto the Dripping springs trail. Much of the trail is sandy and there may be several water crossings. After entering the wilderness area, the trail is somewhat rocky. An old abandoned mine is visible to the left of the canyon. Keep to the left at a trail junction for lower Romero Canyon, which can be visited later. On the way back we will return via the Canyon loop trail; walking for a while along the lower Romero stream. Hike 5 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 450 feet; accumulated gain 460 feet; RTD 24 miles. Guide: Litch Litchfield (520) 369-4506 .

**Friday, March 13, 2015 Superstition Mountains - First Water to Canyon Lake [New, 7:00 AM, \$14] Rating B.** This is a key exchange hike. One group starts at Canyon Lake and the other group at First Water. Trail goes through beautiful Bolder canyon. Groups meet back at First Water after hike for drive back to Saddlebrooke. Hike distance is 7.7 miles. Accumulated elevation gain 1465 feet. RTD 190 miles. Guide: Dave Corrigan 820-6110 [dave@daveandpam.com](mailto:dave@daveandpam.com)

**Friday, March 13, 2015 Hidden Canyon Loop [219, 8:00 AM, \$2] 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 8.6 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change 750 feet; accumulated gain 1237 feet; RTD 12 miles (dirt). Guide: Tim Butler 825-0193, [tucsontimmer@gmail.com](mailto:tucsontimmer@gmail.com)

**Saturday, March 14, 2015 OSP East Loop Rating C [307, 9:00AM, \$3 + \$2] Rating C.** The hike begins at the Kannally Ranch Houseparking lot in Oracle State Park. Hikers follow 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 trailhead. This route is fairly level with little elevation change with wide open views and interesting rock formations among the low desert plants. Hike 6.2 miles, trailhead elevation 4350 feet; net elevation change \_\_ feet; accumulated gain 760 feet; RTD 40 miles. Marv Rossof 877-9262

**Monday, March 16, 2015 Soldier Trail to Molina Basin via Prison Camp [392, 8:00 AM, \$6] Rating B.** The hike begins at the 1.3-mile pullout on Catalina Hwy and continues one way to the Molina Basin. The first 0.5 miles is very

steep and rocky. The trail then proceeds through Soldier Basin, which affords views of a large gorge, rugged cliffs, and the Tucson area. The trail was used as a Calvary passage in the 1800's. After a stop at Prison Camp, the hike continues down hill via the Arizona Trail to the Molina Basin Campground. Three 5-passenger vehicles are needed for shuttle between trailheads. Hike 6.3 miles; trailhead elevation 3280 feet; net elevation change 1600 feet; accumulated gain 2118 feet; RTD 84 miles. [Guide:Walt Shields 818-3439.]

**Tuesday, March 17, 2015 Hidden Canyon [217, 7 AM, \$2] 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 620 feet; accumulated gain 880 feet; RTD 12 miles (dirt). Guide: Elisabeth Wheeler 818-1547

**Tuesday, March 17, 2015 Canyon Loop and Birding Trail. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [135, 8:30 AM, \$2 + \$2].** From the main trailhead in Catalina State Park, hikers will start up the Romero Trail in Catalina State Park; follow the Canyon Loop Trail, and then come back on the Sutherland Trail. This area is a great example of the Sonoran Desert and its riparian areas. Following this portion of the hike, we will hike the Birding Trail. Depending upon the season, some water crossings are possible. Hike 3.4 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change \_\_ feet; accumulated gain 270 feet; RTD 24 miles. [Guide: Ruth & Paul DeBruine 818-3248.]

**Tuesday, March 17, 2015 Tortolita Mountains: S. Wild Burro Canyon / Alamo Springs Trail / Spur Trail Loop. . [461,8:00 AM, \$4] Rating C** The trailhead is at the Ritz Carlton hiker parking lot. The hike proceeds up Wild Burro Canyon to the Alamo Springs Trail, which is followed in a counterclockwise loop back to the Wild Burro Trail further up the canyon.. The Ritz Carlton Hotel and new golf course are visible from many points along the trail. After about 3.5 miles, we reach the final "pass," then descend to the Spur Trail, which we follow into Wild Burro Canyon. Soon after reaching the canyon floor, there is an old stone house, and cistern on the right 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 to the trailhead. Hike 7 miles; trailhead elevation 2780 feet; net elevation change 1100 feet; accumulated gain 1319 feet; RTD 44 miles. Frank Hartley, 520-825-1449

**Wednesday, March 18, 2015 Arizona Trail: Work Session Rating C. (87, 7 a.m., pd. by club)** Come and join the fun — it's nice to work side by side with other hiking club members, as we help maintain the "Oracle Passage" section of the Arizona National Scenic Trail. This 6.5 mile section starts at the American Flag TH, ambles through washes and across low ridges speckled with high desert plants just east of Oracle State Park south to Highway 77. Generally, the work is light, and involves clipping, brushing, raking, pruning, building cairns and developing/clearing erosion control devices. Bring along gloves, hat, water and hand clippers. Other tools, if needed will be provided. The work session usually lasts about 2-4 hours. Hike 3-6 miles. RTD 41 miles. The club will pay the \$3 driver donation. Guide: Elisabeth Wheeler 818-1547

**Wednesday, March 18, 2015 Program: Hiking in Tanzania and Mt Kilimanjaro - 3:00 PM. Location HOA #1 Activity Center.** Hiking in Tanzania and Mt. Kilimanjaro presented by the Rosenthals.

**Wednesday, March 18, 2015 Social Hour - 4:00 PM in the Agave Lounge HOA #1 .** The social hour follows the Tanzania program.

**Thursday, March 19, 2015 Bear Canyon plus Seven Falls [100,8AM \$4] Rating B.** The trailhead is as Sabino Canyon Visitor Center. We will hike to Seven Falls and then continue up Bear Canyon for an additional 2 miles to a plateau level with Thimble Peak. The return is via the same route. Hike 11 miles; trailhead elevation 2720 feet; net elevation change 2000 feet; accumulated gain \_\_ feet; RTD 56 miles. Guide: Phil McNamee 369-4504 [mcnameephil@gmail.com](mailto:mcnameephil@gmail.com).

**Thursday, March 19, 2015 Oracle Ridge [302, 8 AM - \$4] 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 there are great



views of Biosphere II and the Tortolitas to the west. We will lunch on the ridge and return by same route. Hike 5.2 miles; trailhead elevation 4700 feet; net elevation change \_\_\_ feet; accumulated gain 700 feet; RTD 40 miles Guide: Litch Litchfield (520) 369-4506

**Thursday, March 19, 2015 Finger Rock Trail to Finger Rock Spring. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [191, 8:00 AM, \$4].** 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 relatively rocky. There are some fairly significant ups and downs along the way. Hike 2.8 miles; trailhead elevation 3120 feet; net elevation change 500 feet; accumulated gain 500 feet; RTD 44 miles. [Roy Carter, 818-3137]

**Friday, March 20, 2015 Deer Camp / Baby Jesus Loop [167, 7:30 AM, \$2] 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 6.2 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change 667 feet; accumulated gain 1166 feet; RTD 12 miles (dirt). Guide: Tim Butler 825-0193, [tucsontimmer@gmail.com](mailto:tucsontimmer@gmail.com)

**Friday, March 20, 2015 Window Rock. Rating: A. Pace: Moderate [490, 8:00 AM, \$4].** 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 4300 feet; RTD 54 miles. [Roy Carter, 818-3137]

**Sunday, March 22, 2015 Hutch's Pool. Rating: B!. Pace: Moderate [227, 7:00 AM, \$4 + \$tram].** Hikers will take the Sabino Canyon tram (fee required) to the trailhead at its last stop up the canyon. After a moderately steep but brief climb out of the canyon, the trail is mostly level but involves several stream crossings along the East and West Forks before reaching the pool. Some boulder hopping may be necessary depending on seasonal rains and winter snow melt on Mt. Lemmon. During periods of heavy rain or significant snowmelt, the crossings can be difficult. Ask the guide about current stream flow conditions. This lovely hike will take the group to a permanent pool surrounded by giant Arizona Cypress trees, which is great place for a snack or lunch. The return is via the same route to the trailhead to catch the tram. Hike 8.8 miles; trailhead elevation 3300 feet; net elevation change 900 feet; accumulated gain 1454 feet; RTD 56 miles. [Larry Linderman, 818-3308]

**Monday, March 23, 2015 Romero Pools. Rating: C!. Pace: Moderate [370, HH:MM AM, \$2 + \$2].** 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 1400 feet; RTD 24 miles. Larry Allen 825-7864 [370]

**Tuesday, March 24, 2015 Maiden Pools. [254,8:00 AM, 254] Rating C!.** Starting at the public parking lot on the left (past the employees' parking lot) at Ventana Canyon Resort, hikers follow the new Forest Service trail into the canyon. The trail is rocky in places with some steep climbing and substantial steps-up which make it more difficult than the average C hike. There are numerous wash crossings which involve boulder hopping if water is flowing. On the return, there are fine views of the east side of Tucson. The pools provide an excellent place for lunch. The return is by the same route. Hike 5 miles; trailhead elevation 3000 feet; net elevation change 1100 feet; accumulated gain 1250 feet; RTD 54 miles. Frank Hartley, 520-825-1449

**Tuesday, March 24, 2015 Wildflower Hike. Rating D ☺. (489, 7 a.m. TBA)** The destination will be determined by where there are good wildflowers to see. The guide will be in touch with the various parks around the Tucson Area in order to determine the best place on this particular day. Hike <4 miles; trailhead elevation \_\_\_ feet; net elevation change \_\_\_ feet; accumulated gain < 500 feet. Guide: Elisabeth Wheeler 818-1547

**Wednesday, March 25, 2015 Rams Creek Basin Rating C [ 354 9AM, \$2].** 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 miles; trailhead elevation 260 feet; net elevation change 789 feet; accumulated gain 830 feet; RTD 21 miles. Marv Rossof 877-9262

**Thursday, March 26, 2015 Historic Walking Tour of Downtown Tucson Barrio district. Rating D.** [ New, 815 AM \$12 + \$6] We will meet in front of La Pilita (420 S. Main). We'll explore an area of Hispanic cultural and architectural traditions. The barrio district is directly south of the Convention Center. Many of the more than 150 adobe homes date back to before 1880. The walk will be led by historian, Alan Kruse, who will meet us in period attire with orange juice and pastries. Afterward, we will stroll through the district viewing the homes and hearing the intriguing stories of the movers and shakers of early Tucson. The tour will last approximately 2 hours and will encompass several city blocks. Following the tour we will lunch at a nearby restaurant. We can accommodate a minimum of 12 and maximum of 20. Walt Shields 818-3439.

**Thursday, March 26, 2015 David Yetman Trail [165, 8:00 AM, \$6] Rating C.** The hike is an easy walk through typical vegetation of the Sonoran Desert. The trail has two trailheads; one at Camino de Oeste and one near the bottom of the west side of Gates Pass. Cars will be left at one end and hikers will drive to the other trailhead. From the Gates Pass side, the trail is easy for the first mile, easy down a wash, but steep upward for a short distance along the climb back up to the ridge. Hikers pass the Central Arizona Project, an old stone house built in the early 1930's by Sherry Bowen, and a well that serves a wildlife watering tank. Bring lunch, water, hat, sun lotion, and hiking stick. Hike 6.3 miles; trailhead elevation 2800 feet; net elevation change 606 feet; accumulated gain 760 feet; RTD 75 miles. Guide: Michael Reale, 825-8286, [mjreale@msn.com](mailto:mjreale@msn.com).

**Friday, March 27, 2015 American Flag [8, 8:00 AM, \$3] Rating C.** The hike begins at the American Flag Trailhead on the old Mt. Lemmon Road and covers a section of the Arizona Trail. Hikers take the American Flag/Cody Trail to its intersection with the Oracle Ridge Trail, where there are great views to the west of Biosphere II and the Tortolitas. 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. Hike 6.7 miles; trailhead elevation 4400 feet; net elevation change 995 feet; accumulated gain 1325 feet; RTD 41 miles. [Guide: Ruth and Paul DeBruine 818-3248 ]

**Friday, March 27, 2015 Esperero Trail [178, 7:00 AM, \$4] 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 7.0 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 1700 feet; accumulated gain 2036 feet; RTD 56 miles. Guide: Larry Linderman, 818-3308

**Friday, March 27, 2015 Superstition Mtns - Top of Siphon Draw [New, 7:00 AM, \$14] Rating C.** Head out on the Discovery Trail for 0.5 miles close to the old Siphon Draw trailhead. Take a left on Siphon Draw Trail #53 and follow 1.4 mi to its end at the polished slick-rock waterfall. Return by the same route. Hike 3.9 miles; trailhead elevation 2080 feet; accumulated gain 1113 feet; RTD 190 miles. Guide: Dave Corrigan 820-6110, [dave@daveandpam.com](mailto:dave@daveandpam.com)

**Monday, March 30, 2015 Douglas Spring Trail to the Campground [170, 7:30 AM, \$6] 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 13.3 miles; trailhead elevation 2800 feet; net elevation change 2165 feet; accumulated gain 2684 feet; RTD 80 miles. [Susan Hollis 825-6819]

**Monday, March 30, 2015 Palm Springs Pot Luck - 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM. Location is HOA #1 Tennis Patio.** Guides will go over the hikes planned in Palm Springs with participants.

**Tuesday, March 31, 2015 Wasson Peak for "C" Hikers - Will keep a pace that will permit "C" hikers to achieve this traditionally "B" hike - via Sweetwater Trail. [481,7:00 AM \$6] Rating C!** 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 2329 feet; RTD 60 miles. Frank Hartley, 520-825-1449

**Wednesday, April 01, 2015 Board Meeting - 2:45 PM to 4:00 PM Location Coyote Room North**

**Wednesday, April 01, 2015 Guide Meeting - 4:00 PM Location Coyote Room North**

**Thursday, April 02, 2015 Chiricahua Heart of Rocks Loop [153,7:00 AM,\$21] Rating B.** This loop trail visits the most spectacular rock formations in Chiricahua National Monument, and includes the scenic Echo Canyon Trail. Because it is an all day trip (140 miles) to the Monument, those wishing to leave the day before I will be booking rooms in Wilcox on for the Thursday night. If you wish a room please contact me early. Hike 8.4 miles; trailhead elevation 6780 feet; net elevation change 1082 feet; accumulated gain 2500 feet; RTD 288 miles. Phil McNamee 369-4504 [mcnameephil@gmail.com](mailto:mcnameephil@gmail.com))

**Thursday, April 02, 2015 Hidden Canyon Loop [219, 8:00 AM, \$2] 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 8.6 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change 750 feet; accumulated gain 1237 feet; RTD 12 miles (dirt). Guide: Michael Reale, 825-8286, [mjreale@msn.com](mailto:mjreale@msn.com)

**Friday, April 03, 2015 Fifty-Year Trail Area North Loop [185, 7:30 AM, \$2] 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 with a bench for viewing. The return is via the same 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 5.9 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change 430 feet; accumulated gain 906 feet; RTD 12 miles (dirt). Guide: Tim Butler 825-0193, [tucsontimmer@gmail.com](mailto:tucsontimmer@gmail.com)

**Monday, April 06, 2015 Honey Bee Canyon North Plus [223, 8:00 AM, \$2] Rating C.** The hike takes place in Honey Bee Canyon at Rancho Vistoso. We'll see Hohokam petroglyphs and grinding holes, and end at a fence cross the wash. For those exploring Honey Bee for the first time, this is a real eye opener. Hike 4-5 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 300 feet; accumulated gain 300 feet; RTD 26 miles. Paul Bishop (425) 647-4754

**Tuesday, April 07, 2015 Palm Springs-Crazy 8 .[New, 8:00 AM, \$3] Rating B. 8 Mile RT 800 feet of gain \$9 fee.** The hike combines 4 trails together to make an 8 mile, 800 ft. elevation gain, lovely hike. You do all the best of the Indian Canyons. Suzanne Randell a hiking guide from CVHC will assist on Crazy 8. .Larry Linderman 818-3308

**Tuesday, April 07, 2015 Palm Springs -Tacquitz Falls. [New, 1:00 PM, \$0] Rating D. 3 miles, 300 ft. gain. \$12.50 fee.** A hike to a spectacular 60-ft. waterfall on the Agua Caliente Reservation. This hike is the second most popular in the area. A very memorable hike. Dave Sorenson 777-1994

**Tuesday, April 07, 2015 Palm Springs-The Ladders. [New, 8:00AM, \$5] Rating C. Length: 6 miles Elevation Gain 700 Feet.** Ladder Canyon and Big Painted Canyon are highlights of the Mecca Hills. The path snakes through a steep-walled canyon, up several ladders, and through a narrow slot canyon. On the way back you will descend into the aptly named Big Painted Canyon for your hike back. Frank Hartley 825-1449.

**Tuesday, April 07, 2015 Palm Springs-Murray Canyon plus Palm Canyon Short [New, 8:00 AM, \$3] Rating C. 6 mi., 500 ft. gain, IN-OUT \$9 fee this area that includes Palm Canyon.** Amble along a running stream having some rock crossings and enjoy the cool tree canopy. . An absolutely gorgeous hike with many little waterfalls. A very short version (2 miles) of Palm Canyon follows. Larry Allen and Dave Sorenson 777-1994

**Tuesday, April 07, 2015 Palm Springs-Murray Canyon. [New, 8:00AM, \$3] Rating D. 4 miles, 500 ft. gain, IN-OUT, \$9 fee.** Amble along a running stream having some rock crossings and enjoy the cool tree canopy. An absolutely gorgeous hike with many little waterfalls.Dale Leman and Dave Corrigan 820-6110, [dave@daveandpam.com](mailto:dave@daveandpam.com)

**Wednesday, April 08, 2015 Palm Springs-Devils Slide to Saddle Junction. [New, 8:00 AM, \$7] Rating B. 5 miles with 1700' elevation gain.** Moderate day hike, most popular trail in Idyllwild In the event of snow being present we will do South Ridge Trail instead which is 8 miles and 2000 foot of gain. Nancy Bone from CVHC will assist. Bob Kolenda 825-9972

**Wednesday, April 08, 2015 Palm Springs-Joshua Tree National Park Sampler. [New 8:00AM \$8] Rating C or D. Hike rating based on number of Parts. HIDDEN VALLEY 1 mile. No gain D Sampler PART 1. The trail from the parking area winds upward through the boulders to Hidden Valley. BARKER DAM 1.3 miles. D HIKE Sampler PART 2. The easy and flat 1.3-mile loop offers a look at the boulder formations of Wonderland of Rocks. Pictographs and petroglyphs are evident for the astute observer. ARCH ROCK 1/3 mile D Sampler PART 3 This short loop visits a natural arch within the granite formations surrounding White Tank Campground. 49 PALMS OASIS 3 Miles D HIKE Sampler PART 4 The 3-mile round-trip, The trail climbs about 350 feet and leads through rugged desert to a small but surprising oasis of native California fan palms. Dale Leman and Fred Norris 289-0931**

**Wednesday, April 08, 2015 Canyon Loop, Birding, and Nature Trails Rating C [136, 8:00AM, \$2 + \$2]** Starting at the main trailhead in Catalina State Park, this hike traverses an area that is a great example of the Sonoran Desert and its riparian areas. We first hike the Nature Trail which has panoramic views, continue onto the Canyon Loop Trail. We will fork onto the Birding Loop Trail prior to returning. If the group is really ambitious, we will swing through the Canyon Loop Trail the opposite way we came for a total of 6.7 miles. Depending upon the season, some water crossings are possible. Hike 4.6 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change \_\_\_ feet; accumulated gain 370 feet; RTD 24 miles. Marv Rossof 877-9262

**Wednesday, April 08, 2015 Palm Springs-Murray Hill. [New,8:00AM,\$3] Rating B.** 10 miles. 2100 feet of gain . Officially, it's still a hill, but the last few hundred feet definitely have you feeling it's a peak as you summit the 2,100 feet to the top. The views are striking as you can see Cathedral City and Palm Springs and the west end of the valley. Larry Linderman 818-3308.

**Wednesday, April 08, 2015 Palm Springs- Lost Palm Oasis. [New,8:00AM,\$7] Rating C. 7.2 miles RT and 450 feet of gain** Hike begins at Cottonwood Spring, close to the visitor center 6 miles inside the southern park boundary of

Joshua Tree National Park.. The surroundings are impressive from start to finish - many outcrops of the granitic boulders rise from an undulating landscape of ridges, plateaus, small canyons and rocky washes. Wildflowers grow profusely. Dave Sorenson 777-1994

**Thursday, April 09, 2015 Palm Springs-Split Rock Loop. [New, 8:00 AM, \$8] Rating C. 5 miles. 800 feet of Gain.** The Split Rock Loop in Joshua Tree National Park comes highly recommended for its delightful scenery, imaginative boulder gardens, light use and ease of travel. The trail is highlighted by Tulip Rock, The Tooth and Face Rock and - three geologic formations with uncanny likenesses to their given names. Also historic gold mines. Suzanne Randell or another guide from CVHC will assist on Split Rock. Larry Linderman 818-3308.

**Thursday, April 09, 2015 Palm Springs-San Jacinto Peak by Tram. [New, 8:00 AM, \$4] Rating B. This is a 11 mile hike RT with 2300 feet of gain.** The trail will take you to the second highest point in southern California. On clear days it is reported that you can see Catalina Island or the glow from Las Vegas at night. Weather permitting. \$22 fee for tram. Dave Sorenson 777-1994

**Thursday, April 09, 2015 Palm Springs -Round Valley by Tram. [New, 8:00 AM, \$4] Rating C. 3.4 miles/700 foot of gain (permits for 15 to a group at Long Valley ranger station.) Fee for tram \$22.** Take the tram up from 2600 feet of 8500 feet elevation and hike this beautiful alpine area. The hike is relatively flat and has great views. Dave Hydeman and Bob Kolenda 825-9972

**Thursday, April 09, 2015 Palm Springs-Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail [New, 7:00 AM, \$5] Rating B. Highway 74 (NORTH). 12-14 miles. Net elevation gain 2000 feet.** The west coast version of the Appalachian Trail. The San Jacinto Mountains portion of the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail (PCT) has been called the most diverse of all the segments. Six miles from the start, the trail tops out on a long ridge called the Desert Divide. Live Oak Spring is a mile further. Either point can be the turn around. Dave Corrigan 820-6110, [dave@daveandpam.com](mailto:dave@daveandpam.com)

**Thursday, April 09, 2015 Mt. Kimball via Finger Rock Canyon. Rating A. (271, 6 a.m. \$4)** 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 destination offers one of the most fantastic views in all of the Catalinas. The return hike is down the same trails. Hike 9.5 miles; trailhead elevation 3120 feet; net elevation change 4350 feet; accumulated gain 4500 feet; RTD 44 miles. Guide: Elisabeth Wheeler 818-1547

**Friday, April 10, 2015 Baby Jesus [96, 7:30 AM, \$2] 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 7.4 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change 809 feet; accumulated gain 1362 feet; RTD 12 miles (dirt). Guide: Tim Butler 825-0193, [tucsontimmer@gmail.com](mailto:tucsontimmer@gmail.com).

**Tuesday, April 14, 2015 Sabino Canyon to Catalina State Park #1. (376, 6 a.m. \$4) Rating A.** The hike begins at the Sabino Canyon Visitor Center and follows Sabino Canyon, the West Fork past Hutch's Pool to Romero Pass. From Romero Pass, the hike is mostly downhill, passing Romero Spring and the Romero Pools along the way to the main trailhead at Catalina State Park. This is a strenuous but extremely rewarding hike. Hikers should bring a flashlight and spare batteries. A vehicle shuttle will be needed. Hike 19.9 miles; trailhead elevation 2720 feet; net elevation change 3360 feet; accumulated gain \_\_\_ feet; RTD 56 miles. Guide: Elisabeth Wheeler 818-1547

**Tuesday, April 14, 2015 Catalina State Park - Exploring the Trails. . [142, 8:00 AM, \$2+\$2] Rating C .** The hike will explore various trails within the park. The park is a great example of the Sonoran Desert with its native plants and

wildlife. Come enjoy the beautiful views of the Santa Catalina Mountains. Hike 4 to 8 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 400 to 1000 feet; accumulated gain \_\_\_ feet; RTD 24 miles. Frank Hartley, 520-825-1449

**Wednesday, April 15, 2015 Program: Summertime Hiking in Oregon 3:00 PM. Location HOA #1 Activity Center.**  
Summertime Hiking in Oregon presented by Bob Shea

**Wednesday, April 15, 2015 Social Hour - 4:00 PM at Agave Lounge HOA #1.** The social hour will follow the program on Summertime hiking in Oregon.

**Thursday, April 16, 2015 Superstitions: Dutchman Trail / Bluff Springs Loop [402, 6:00 AM, \$14] 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 9.7 miles; trailhead elevation 2415 feet; net elevation change 895 feet; accumulated gain 1580 feet; RTD 154 miles (dirt). Guide: Michael Reale, 825-8286, [mjreale@msn.com](mailto:mjreale@msn.com)

**Friday, April 17, 2015 Finger Rock Trail to Canyon Overlook. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [190, 7:30 AM, \$4].** The hike begins from the Finger Rock Trailhead at the north end of Alvernon Way. The hike covers level ground for about a mile, and then sharply climbs up the canyon. Scrambling is necessary at some points going up and coming down, but is not overly difficult for most hikers. From the overlook, hikers will enjoy the beautiful vistas of Mt. Kimball, Finger Rock, and the steep Finger Rock Canyon, then return. Hike 3.3 miles; trailhead elevation 3120 feet; net elevation change 922 feet; accumulated gain 1325 feet; RTD 44 miles. [Guides: Howie and Elaine Fagan 818-9555].

**Saturday, April 18, 2015 OSP West Loop Rating C [310 8:00AM, \$3 + \$2]** The 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 Hwy # 77. We then turn south to the Mariposa Trail and onto the Bellota Trail that takes us back to the trailhead. 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; trailhead elevation 4350 feet; net elevation change 450 feet; accumulated gain 1150 feet; RTD 40 miles. Marv Ross of 877-9262

**Monday, April 20, 2015 Blackett's Ridge [108, 7:00 AM, \$4] Rating B.** The hike begins at the Sabino Canyon Visitor Center, and follows relatively level, well-used trails east to the Phone Line Trailhead. After 0.4 miles along the Phone Line Trail, the Blackett's Ridge Trail branches right and continues up the ridge between Sabino and Bear Canyons. There are spectacular views of Tucson and the canyons to either side of the trail. The ridge part of the trail has several steep switchbacks mixed in with some level areas. There are three false summits before reaching the end of the trail, a point where it is not possible to continue because the terrain drops precipitously. Hike 6 miles; trailhead elevation 2720 feet; net elevation change 1668 feet; accumulated gain 1733 feet; RTD 56 miles. [Larry Linderman, 818-3308]

**Monday, April 20, 2015 Mt. Wrightson via Old Baldy and Super Trails [294, 7:00 AM, \$10] Rating A.** The hike begins in Madera canyon in the Santa Rita Mountains and follows Old Baldy Trail to Josephine Saddle where we take the Super Trail to Mt. Wrightson. This provides a more gradual ascent to Baldy Saddle, but the last 0.9 mile to the summit is steep and rocky with moderate exposure. At the top are outstanding 360-degree views of Tucson and the mountain ranges in the area. The return is via the Old Baldy Trail to Josephine Saddle and the Super Trail to the trailhead. There is abundant shade along the way. Hike 13.7 miles; trailhead elevation 5450 feet; net elevation change 4003 feet; accumulated gain >4100 feet. RTD 130 miles. [Tom Geiger, 571 278 5809, [thomasgeig@gmail.com](mailto:thomasgeig@gmail.com)]

**Tuesday, April 21, 2015 Canyon Loop, Montrose Pools, and Birding Trail [137, 9:00 AM, \$2 + \$2] Rating D.** Starting at the main trailhead at Catalina State Park, the hike traverses an area that is a great example of the Sonoran Desert and its riparian areas. We take the Sutherland Trail to the Canyon Loop Trail, then hike up to Montrose Pools via the Romero Canyon Trail. On the way back, we will fork onto the Birding Loop Trail. Depending upon the season, some

water crossings are possible. Hike 4.1 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 433 feet; accumulated gain 499 feet; RTD 24 miles. [Guide: Walt Shields 818-3439]

**Tuesday, April 21, 2015 Sweetwater Preserve. [432, 7:30 AM, \$5] Rating C** The trailhead is at the end of Tortolita Road, one mile off El Camino del Cerro. The 703-acre preserve is in the Tucson Mountains (this is not the Sweetwater Trail which leads to Wasson Peak.) There is a system of trails within the park made in 2008 by a crew of Piima County trail builders. It consists of 12 distinct loops and paths that interconnect so they can be linked together. Each trail is 0.5 to 1.5 miles in length, for 10.4 miles total. A map of the area may be found on the website ([www.sdmb.org/trail-Sweetwater.html](http://www.sdmb.org/trail-Sweetwater.html)). Hike 6 miles; trailhead elevation 2800 feet; net elevation change <1000 feet; accumulated gain <1000 feet; RTD 60 miles. Frank Hartley, 520-825-1449

**Wednesday, April 22, 2015 Seven Falls. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [387, 7:30 AM, \$4].** 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 8.6 miles; trailhead elevation 2720 feet; net elevation change 662 feet; accumulated gain 1307 feet; RTD 56 miles. [Guides: Howie and Elaine Fagan 818-9555].

**Wednesday, April 22, 2015 Alamo Canyon Rating C [6, 8:00AM, \$2 + \$2] Rating D.** The hike begins at the Romero Ruins Trailhead in Catalina State Park. Other than one short area by the wash, the elevation change is gradual. This is a lovely hike up to Alamo Canyon Falls and return. Water may be present in the canyon after rainy periods, but there are no water crossings. Hikers will stop by the Romero Ruins and take the informative loop trail from there. Hike 3.3 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 360 feet; accumulated gain 435 feet; RTD 24 miles. Marv Rossof 877-9262

**Thursday, April 23, 2015 Aravaipa Canyon Wilderness: West [18, 0730 AM, \$10 + \$5] 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). Driver needed. Only 6 permits. Sorenson 777-1994

**Thursday, April 23, 2015 Peppersauce and Nugget Canyon Loop [319, 8:00 AM, \$5] Rating C!** The hike begins at the Peppersauce Campground on the northeast side of the Catalinas. The trail follows old Mt. Lemmon (Oracle Control) Road up to the Nugget Canyon turnoff. 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, but there are numerous stream crossings involving boulder hopping during periods following significant precipitation. This is a strenuous hike for this level due to a steep incline in one area and loose rocks in another. Hike 8.3 miles; trailhead elevation 4600 feet; net elevation change 1230 feet; accumulated gain 1318 feet; RTD 53 miles (dirt). Guide: Michael Reale, 825-8286, mjreale@msn.com

**Friday, April 24, 2015 Extended Walk from Riverfront Park [New, 8:00 AM, \$2] Rating C.** 6 to 7 miles on bike/walking path. 2700 foot elevation at start. Minimal change. 20 miles RT. Dave Sorenson guide 777-1994

**Friday, April 24, 2015 CDO/Riverfront Park - Oro Valley [New, 8:30 AM, \$2] Rating D.** The hike will start at Riverfront Park in Oro Valley. We access the Canada del Oro from the park and hike in the wash and along the paved path that parallels the wash. Hike 3-4 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change and accumulated gain are minimal; RTD 20 miles. [Susan Hollis 825-6819]

**Friday, April 24, 2015 Hiking Club Spring Picnic - 11:30 AM, Location Riverfront Park in Oro Valley**

**Saturday, April 25, 2015 Box Camp Trail [New, 7:30AM, \$4+tram\$] Rating B.** Hikers will take the Sabino Canyon Tram to the TH at its last stop up the canyon. After a moderately steep climb out of the canyon, we will access the Box Camp Trail from the East Fork trail. We will hike up Box Camp Trail, a fairly steep climb to an overlook point. At the overlook point, there are great views down into the East and West Fork of Sabino Canyon and views of Spencer Canyon and Palisade Canyon to the east and Box Camp Canyon to the west. Return is via the same route. Hike 12 miles; trailhead elevation 3300 feet; net elevation change ~ 4000 feet; accumulated gain ~4000 feet; RTD 56 miles. Guide: Susan Hollis 825-6819

**Tuesday, April 28, 2015 Saguaro National Park – West: Four Trails. [381, 7:30 AM, \$5] Rating C.** The hike is along a 6-mile loop off Picture Rocks Road. The hike begins from just southwest of Contzen Pass and continues along the Ringtail, Coyote Pass, Gila Monster, and Cactus Canyon Trails. There are beautiful stands of ironwood trees, saguaros, and other cacti along the way. We'll eat lunch by a windmill. Hike >6 miles, trailhead elevation 2200 feet; net elevation change is 400 feet; accumulated gain \_\_\_ feet; RTD 60 miles. Frank Hartley, 520-825-1449

**Wednesday, April 29, 2015 Arizona Trail: Oracle (Passage 13). Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [56, 7:00 AM, \$3].** Key exchange. From the American Flag Trailhead the route proceeds in a northerly direction across National Forest Land and State Trust Land, crossing Webb Road and continuing to Oracle State Park. The trail (which is currently closed to hikers within the park except for the Arizona Trail) is marked with 4x4 inch wooden posts with the Arizona Trail 'brand'. At Kannally Wash, the route briefly follows a powerline road and then continues as a trail passing through several trail junctions. The trail heads west and then turns north and reaches Highway 77. After going under the highway the route follows the Tiger Mine Road for the last 1.5 miles to the Tiger Mine Road Trailhead. Hike 8.3 miles; trailhead elevations 4416 feet south and 4066 feet north; net elevation change 435 feet; accumulated gains 427 feet northward and 774 feet southward; RTD 41 miles. [Larry Linderman (818-3308) & Elisabeth Wheeler.]

**Thursday, April 30, 2015 Butterfly Trail [129, 7:00 AM, \$9] Rating B.** From the trailhead near Soldier Camp on Catalina Hwy, we hike down Butterfly Trail # 16 to the Novio Spring area in Alder Canyon, and lunch in the vicinity of a 1957 F-86 plane crash (UTM 526435E, 3587511N). The entire steady climb is on the way out. Hikers will be in the shade of very tall Douglas firs and ponderosa pines up to a saddle and to the exit at Palisade Ranger Station. A car will need to be left here to shuttle back to the upper trailhead. Along the way are views of San Manuel to the east. Butterfly Peak is to the north. The northerly route is very similar. Hike 6.1 miles; trailhead elevation 7700 feet; net elevation change 1830 feet; accumulated gain 2230 feet; RTD 125 miles. Guide: Michael Reale, 825-8286, mjreale@msn.com