



SADDLEBROOKE

HIKING CLUB NEWSLETTER

<http://saddlebrookehikingclub.com>

MAY/JUNE

2015

DR. JOE RIZZA ON THE ISLAND OF SOUTH GEORGIA



Dr. Joe Rizza, a member of the SaddleBrooke Hiking Club, leading a group of passengers on a hike on the island of South Georgia. The hike ended in the old whaling station of Grytviken, where the explorer Sir Ernest Shackleton is buried. Joe is a ship's physician and is out to sea 7-8 months of the year. He volunteers to work on expeditions to remote places like Antarctica, South Pacific, High Canadian Arctic, etc.

COOL SUMMER HIKING IN THE ROCKIES Wednesday, May 20



Colorado Trail sign taken near Twin Lakes on Section 11 of the Colorado Trail. (Photo by Elisabeth Wheeler)



Kent Naugle and Cheryl and Dean Werstler hiking on the Colorado Trail in the Holy Cross Wilderness. (Photo by Elisabeth Wheeler)



Atop La Plata Peak (14,361 feet) are Cheryl Werstler, Roy Carter, Ray Peale and Kent Naugle.

As summer approaches, many full-time residents in SaddleBrooke search for escapes into cooler climates. Come to the **Wednesday, May 20**, Hiking Club program and learn about a great summer travel and hiking opportunity in relatively nearby Colorado!

The presenters of this program really don't need an introduction because all of them are long-time members and contributors to the club: Roy Carter, Susan Hollis, and Randy Park.

Their talk and slide show will feature their adventures from last summer, when 14 members of

the Hiking Club spent time hiking the Colorado Trail and nearby 14'ers (mountain peaks reaching over 14,000 feet in elevation). Included in the program also will be pictures of wildflowers along the Colorado Trail, taken by Elisabeth Wheeler.

Winding 486 miles through the magnificent heart of the Southern Rockies from Denver to Durango, the Colorado Trail crosses eight mountain ranges, six national forests, and countless streams and rivers. The trail is one of the nation's most beautiful and varied long-distance trails. Much of it is above 9,000 feet. The trail is broken into 28 segments, and most of the segments can be broken down into reasonable day hikes. Close by are many Colorado 14'ers, some of which are accessible from the Colorado Trail.

The May 20 program, which is the last program of the 2014-2015 hiking season, 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.

A new schedule of programs will begin in the fall. If you have ideas for program topics, contact Program Committee members Mary Croft at 825-3804, Jan Springer at 825-1451, or Pam Wakefield at 825-0309.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF HIKING GUIDES

Summer weather is here! You will notice a light hiking schedule for May/June. Many of our hiking guides (and hikers) are returning to their summer homes. Also, we have found that our permanent AZ members participate in fewer hikes during the summer months. It is a 2+ hour drive to hike at higher elevations and most hikes leave earlier in the morning. If you are out hiking this summer in Arizona:

1. Keep hydrated and replenish your electrolytes. Wear sun protective clothing and UV sunscreen.
2. Be aware of sudden Monsoon storms—they can cause sudden drops in temps, lightning, and flash flooding.

The hiking club's Fitness Walks continue through the summer. They start from the SaddleBrooke Fitness Center parking lot, next to the Bocce Ball Courts. From April 1 to May 31, the walks start at 6:30 a.m. Starting June 1, the walks will start at 6:00 a.m. The walks are generally 1 hour long for a distance of 3 miles. No advanced sign-up is required to participate

in these walks. For more information contact Martha Hackworth at 818-2573. The fitness walks are a great way to stay in shape during the summer and avoid the high temperatures that start mid-morning.

Starting with the May/June 2015 Newsletter, we are including a 2-page calendar that will be posted to our website. This is a summary of the hikes for May and June. While the format of the calendar does not permit us to print any detail about the hikes, it does give members a quick overview of the type of hikes occurring during the month. Then if interested in a particular hike, you can refer to the longer hike listing. In addition, the "Calendar" page on the website will contain schedule revisions. Sometimes hikes need to be canceled, and sometimes we add additional hikes to the schedule after the newsletter has gone out. This information will be posted on the "Calendar" page of the website.

SADDLEBROOKE HIKING CLUB WORK EVENT ON THE ARIZONA NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL



Shawn Redfield, Ton Oetinger, Tom Conrad, Elisabeth Wheeler, John Black, Kathy Gish, Harriet Pearson, Mary Croft, Cheryl Werstler, Garrett Rensing, Don Washco, David Vermeris, Tom Geiger, Chuck Kaltenbach
Photo by Bob Giesen

The SaddleBrooke Hiking Club completed three trail work events in 2015 on the Oracle Passage of the Arizona National Scenic Trail. Work efforts were focused on 2 miles of trail going north from the American Flag Ranch to Webb Road northeast of Oracle. This section required some extensive brushing and rebuilding of trail around areas of significant water erosion. In March thirteen volunteers under the guidance of Shawn Redfield and Don Washco of the Arizona Trail Association were pleased to "make a difference" on the Arizona National Scenic Trail. They also enjoyed seeing many spring flowers along the trail. Following this

3rd work event a celebration was held at the Patio Cafe in Oracle.

Trail work events will continue in the cooler temperatures of fall. To volunteer contact Elisabeth Wheeler, 818-1547, or Mary Croft, 651-270-1660, Arizona Trail co-stewards with the SaddleBrooke Hiking Club.

Elisabeth Wheeler

News You Can Use		
Cool Summer Hiking in the Rockies HOA #1 Activity Center	5/20 Wed.	3:00 P.M.
SBHC Social Hour Agave Lounge HOA #1	5/20 Wed.	4:00 P.M.
SBHC Board Meeting Coyote Room North	6/3 Wed.	2:45 -4:00 P.M.
SBHC Guide Meeting Coyote Room North	6/3 Wed.	4:00 – 5:00 P.M.

Hikes Offered

Monday, May 04, 2015 Payson, AZ - 2 day hike trip. The plan is to drive up to Payson, leaving early in the morning, hike the Horton Creek Trail or Horton Creek-Derrick Loop Trail and then stay overnight in Payson. Those interested in car camping – Houston Mesa is a beautiful National Forest Camp with coin operated showers available. The campground has many large sites (but no hook-ups) for RV's. There are many hotels available in Payson for those not interested in camping (members of the club have stayed at the Best Western and the Super 8 in the past). The 2nd day, we would hike the Barnhardt Trail. After the hike, we would drive back to SaddleBrooke. For more information contact Susan Hollis, 825-6819 or Elisabeth Wheeler, 818-1547

Monday, May 04, 2015 Horton Creek Trail near Payson. Rating: C/B [New, TBD, \$TBD]. The Horton Creek Trail follows Horton Creek, past cascading waterfalls, to Horton Spring, an unusually large spring. Water literally gushes from the side of the Mogollon rim supplying Horton Creek. Starting Elevation: 5,360 feet. Net Elevation Change: 1,160 feet. Round trip hike is 6.7 (Note – Horton Creek, Highline Trail and the Derrick Trail can be combined to form a nice loop, Rating:B. Net Elevation change: 1,437, Accumulated Elevation Change: 2,130 feet and round trip hike is 8.8 miles). Guide: Susan Hollis, 825-6819

Tuesday, May 05, 2015 Barnhardt Trail. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [New, TBD, \$TBD]. The Barnhardt Trail is south of Payson on the east side of the Mazatzal Mountains. This very scenic trail climbs spectacular Barnhardt Canyon via one of the best trails in the Mazatzal range. Expect to see waterfalls and panoramic views of the Mogollon Rim country. The trail ends at the junction of the Barnhardt Trail and the Mazatzal Divide Trail. Limit of 15 people on the hike due to Wilderness restrictions. Starting Elevation: 4,200 feet. Net Elevation Change: 1,950 feet. Round trip hike is 12 miles (those wishing a shorter hike can turn around at the falls). Guide: Elisabeth Wheeler, 818-1547

Tuesday, May 05, 2015 Sunset / Marshall Gulch / Aspen Loop. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [394, 7:30 AM, \$10]. The hike begins at Soldier Camp on the Sunset Trail, which starts on the Catalina Highway before reaching Summerhaven. It proceeds along the Marshall Gulch Trail to the Marshall Saddle, then down the Aspen Trail and Sunset Trail to the trailhead. There are great views of the Catalinas along the way, hiking mostly in forest shade. Hike 6.5 miles; trailhead elevation 7640 feet; net elevation change 707 feet; accumulated gain 1343 feet; RTD 130 miles. [Guide: Tim Butler, 825-0193, tucsontimmer@gmail.com

Wednesday, May 06, 2015 Extended Fitness Walk. Rating: C . Pace: Moderate [179, 06:30 AM, \$0]. The walk begins at the Desert View parking lot and travels to Basha's . Carry at least one quart of water. Hike 6 miles; elevation change minimal.. Hike duration is 2.5 to 3 hours Optional breakfast at Basha's.Dave Sorenson , 777-1994

Monday, May 11, 2015 B American Flag to the Saddle. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [9, 6:30 a.m. \$3]. The hike begins at the American Flag Trailhead on the old Mt. Lemmon Road and follows 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. The group then follows the ridge south and lunches in a saddle at the top of Camp Bonita Canyon on the northwest side of Apache Peak. 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 9.1 miles; trailhead elevation 4400 feet; net elevation change 950 feet; accumulated gain 1465 feet; RTD 41 miles. Guide: Elisabeth Wheeler 818-1547.

Tuesday, May 12, 2015 Canyon Loop and Birding Trail. Rating D. [6:30 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 24mi. Larry Allen 825-7864

Thursday, May 14, 2015 Bug Spring Trail # 3. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [New, 7:00am, \$8]. From the Upper Bug Spring Trailhead (a quarter mile north of the Cypress picnic area), the hike switchbacks up a forested hill for 1/2 of a mile. Then the trail flattens out and follows a ridge. This section of the trail offers outstanding vistas and views of granite sculptures. We will hike to the highpoint of the trail, where the hikers can see a few big madrone trees and views of the Sierrita Mountains, Baboquivari and the Rincons. Return is via the same route. Hike 5.5 miles; trailhead elevation 6200 feet; net elevation change __; gross elevation change __; RTD 94 miles. [Guide: Susan Hollis 825-6819

Friday, May 15, 2015 Marshall Gulch / Aspen Loop with Lunch. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [257, 7:00 AM, \$10]. The hike starts at the Marshall Gulch Picnic Area and goes up the Marshall Gulch Trail to the Marshall Saddle. From the Saddle, we turn left down the Aspen Trail and head back to the picnic area. After about 0.25 miles on the Aspen Trail, there is a large rock that provides a great spot for a break. Bring lunch money. Hike 3.7 miles; trailhead elevation 7440 feet; net elevation change 480 feet; accumulated gain 830 feet; RTD 130 miles. [Guide: Howie and Elaine Fagan, 818-9555, howieandelaine@q.com

Tuesday, May 19, 2015 Box Camp Trail to Sabino Canyon Overlook. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [114, 7:30 AM, \$9]. The hike begins at the Box Camp Trailhead near Spencer Peak on Catalina Hwy. After a short uphill climb, the hike proceeds downhill for 2.5 miles to an overlook that provides a marvelous, panoramic view of Sabino Canyon area. We will have lunch here, and then return slowly uphill to the trailhead. Hike 5 miles; trailhead elevation 7920 feet; net elevation change 1600 feet; accumulated gain __ feet; RTD 123 miles. [Guide: Tim Butler, 825-0193, tucsontimmer@gmail.com

Wednesday, May 20, 2015 Day Hikes on the Colorado Trail and Nearby 14'ers Susan Hollis, Randy Park, Roy Carter. HOA #1 Activity Center 3 p.m.

Wednesday, May 20, 2015 SBHC Social Hour, Agave Lounge HOA#1 4:00 p.m.

Thursday, May 28, 2015 Lower Incinerator Ridge. Rating: C!. Pace: Moderate [48, 7:00am, \$9]. A new section of trail was added to the Incinerator Ridge Trail in the spring of 2012. The new trail is noted for it's great vistas. The trail heads north/northwest from the San Pedro Vista Pullout, off the Catalina Hwy. The hike will proceed to Mt Bigelow and return via the same route, the 1st section of the trail is steep and rocky, but the views make up for it. Starting Elevation: 7,350 feet. Net Elevation Change 1150 feet. Hiking Length is 6 miles. RTD 123 miles. [Guide: Susan Hollis, 825-6819.

Tuesday, June 02, 2015 Palisade Trail / Mud Spring. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [313, 7:30 AM, \$9]. Starting at the Showers Point Campground behind the Palisade Ranger Station off Catalina Hwy, we will hike down the Palisade Trail through pine forest to Mud Spring and return. The spring is a grand lunch site with a panoramic view

of the valley. Most of the climb is on the return. The trail is moderately shady. Hike 6.7 miles; trailhead elevation 7770 feet; net elevation change -1342 feet; accumulated gain 1502 feet; RTD 119 miles. [Guide: Tim Butler, 825-0193, tucsontimmer@gmail.com]

Wednesday, June 03, 2015 Board Meeting 2:45 to 4 PM Location: HOA1- Coyote Room North

Wednesday, June 03, 2015 Guide Meeting 4 to 5 PM Location: HOA1 – Coyote Room North

Tuesday, June 09, 2015 Canyon Loop. Rating D. [6:30 AM - \$2+\$2] 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. This area is a great example of the Sonoran Desert and its riparian areas. The hike may be done in reverse direction. Depending upon the season, some water crossings are possible. Hike 2.2 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change ___ feet; accumulated gain 170 feet; RTD 24 miles. Larry Allen 825-7864

Friday, June 12, 2015 Wilderness of Rocks. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [484, 7:00 AM, \$10]. The hike begins at the Marshall Gulch picnic area at the top of Mt. Lemmon. We climb up to Marshall Saddle then down the Wilderness of Rocks Trail. Three fourths of a mile past the intersection with the Lemmon Rock Lookout Trail is the Lemmon Canyon area in the heart of the Wilderness of Rocks. There are beautiful rock formations with great views along the way. The return is via the same route, or optionally, by the Aspen Loop Trail. Hike 7.2 miles; trailhead elevation 7440 feet; net elevation change 1550 feet; accumulated gain 1538 feet; RTD 131 miles. [Guide: Howie and Elaine Fagan, 818-9555, howieandelaine@q.com]

Tuesday, June 16, 2015 Wilderness of Rocks Loop # 4. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [488, 7:30 AM, \$10]. The hike begins at the Steward Observatory parking lot. Although the hike can be done in reverse, the most popular route would follow Mount Lemmon Trail # 5 to the Lookout Tower spur and down Lemmon Rock Lookout Trail to Wilderness of Rocks Trail where the group would turn SW (right). After 2.3 miles, this trail intersects the Mount Lemmon Trail, which is followed back up to the top. As an alternative, the Meadow Trail (#5A) could be followed for the last 0.8 miles to the trailhead. Hike 9.4 miles; trailhead 9100 feet; net elevation change 2072 feet; accumulated gain 2558 feet; RTD 131 miles. [Guide: Tim Butler, 825-0193, tucsontimmer@gmail.com].

Monday, June 22, 2015 Alamo Canyon. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [6, 6:00 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: Tim Butler 825-0193, tucsontimmer@gmail.com]

Tuesday, June 30, 2015 Aravaipa Canyon Wilderness: West (short version). Rating: C!. Pace: Moderate [19, 07:30 AM, \$10 +\$5]. Aravaipa Canyon is a beautiful and pristine canyon and a favorite for all who have been there. Hikers should 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 5 miles; trailhead elevation 2600 feet; net elevation change 200 feet; accumulated gain ___ feet; RTD 110 miles (dirt). Sorenson 777-1994.