



# SADDLEBROOKE

## HIKING CLUB NEWSLETTER

<http://saddlebrookehikingclub.com>

MAY/JUNE

2017

**ROBERT SIMPSON**  
**Before There Was SaddleBrooke:**  
**A Local History**  
**Wednesday, May 17**  
Submitted By Sue Bush



Have you ever wondered what SaddleBrooke looked like before we all the homes, golf courses and clubhouses? Then come hear Robert Simpson, a SaddleBrooke resident and historian, tell about the history of the first homesteaders, the early stage roads, the development of the Rail N Ranch, Golder Lake and Dam, the Charouleau Gap, Loma Serena, the Countess of Suffolk and more!



Robert's interest in local history began over 10 years ago when on club hikes he considered who created Deer Camp and who owned the cattle there. He then lived near Loma Serena and wondered why that little hillside community was not part of SaddleBrooke. He talked to veterinarian Doc Sanders, rancher Joe Goff and Lloyd Golder III (all deceased) and learned so much that he began leading hikes with an historical narrative. The response was so positive that he gave up leading hikes and devoted his time to more research. He has met a variety of interesting people, such as John Nelson, William Sutherland and Joe Fanning, and even learned of the Countess of Suffolk who, from her hilltop home by today's Biosphere, gazed down on the beautiful valley that would become SaddleBrooke.

Robert is currently working on a book on SaddleBrooke/Catalina area history and has an article in the Spring 2016 edition of the Journal of Arizona History titled Charouleau Gap. His talk will be at the HOA Activity Center at 4 pm on Wednesday, May 17. Following the meeting, everyone is encouraged to go to the Agave Lounge at the SaddleBrooke Clubhouse for a drink. All SaddleBrooke and SaddleBrooke Ranch residents are invited to attend. For more information on SaddleBrooke Hiking Club meetings and activities, contact Jan Springer at 825-1451 or Janet65673@msn.com.

**ARIZONA TRAIL VOLUNTEERS**  
**BRAVE COLD WEATHER AND WIND**  
**ON TRAIL WORK EVENT**

Submitted by Elisabeth Wheeler

Volunteers from SaddleBrooke Hiking Club are hearty. Twenty one hikers joined forces with Zach McDonald and Shawn Redfield of the Arizona Trail Association and Gary Faulkenberry of Oracle State Park to improve almost 2 miles of the Arizona Trail north of American Flag Ranch TH. It took determined effort to hack out catclaw and rehab erosion control berms and ditches while cold winds were blowing off hats. The volunteers celebrated with delicious treats provided by Janis Reckheimer, Sandra Sowell and Jan Springer. To join in this

satisfying work and camaraderie call Mary Croft 651-270-1660 or Elisabeth Wheeler 520-818-1547.



Back Row: Ray Peale, Frank Earnest, Stan Smith, Fred Norris, Mike Wolters, Garrett Reising, Shawn Redfield, Terry Parrott, Tom Geiger, Linda Barbour, John Barbour, Norm Reckheimer, Dave Vermerris

Front Row: Kathy Gish, Hyman, Beraznik, Tom Conrad, Marilyn Smith, Bruce Hale, Laurel Parrott, Mary Croft, Elisabeth Wheeler

Photo by Gary Faulkenberry

## HIKING IN THE TONTO NATIONAL FOREST

Submitted By Dave Corrigan



Left to Right: Dave Corrigan, Pam Corrigan, Susan Hollis, Randy Park, Jeff Traft, Ray Peale

On Tuesday, February 14, six SaddleBrooke hikers participated in a 12.38 mile hike offering outstanding views of Weaver’s Needle and the Supersition Mountains. Using a key exchange, three began at the Peralta Trailhead and hiked to the First Water Trailhead, and the other three reversed the hike and began at the First Water Trailhead and hiked to the Peralta Trailhead.

## MAINTENANCE ON THE ORACLE PASSAGE OF THE ARIZONA TRAIL

Submitted by Elisabeth Wheeler

Twenty members of the SaddleBrooke Hiking Club completed significant trail maintenance on the Oracle Passage of the Arizona Trail on March 15.

Catclaw and dead tree branches were removed from the trail. The trail was widened next to natural drainages and water barriers were developed to prevent trail erosion. After 3 hours of satisfying work, our SaddleBrooke volunteers enjoyed a picnic lunch at the Kannally Ranch House patio in Oracle State Park.



Zach McDonald and Wendi Lucas of the Arizona Trail Association hosted the lunch and provided assistance and support for the trail work. Future work events will be scheduled in the fall.



## SPRING PICNIC “A GOOD TIME WAS HAD BY ALL”

Submitted by LaVerne Kyriss

About 100 members of the SaddleBrooke Hiking Club gathered March 3 at the Gila Monster group site at Catalina State Park for the club’s annual spring picnic and membership meeting. Some club members began the day with earlier hikes in the park to see the spring wildflowers. Others arrived for the club party.

Events began with a short business meeting conducted by outgoing club president Randy Park. Topics included electing a new slate of club officers and board members, thanking the outgoing members, and recognizing club volunteers for their service. After the formalities were completed, everyone enjoyed a feast provided by attendees, with the club hosting fried and baked chicken from Basha’s. Five overflowing tables of food resulted in no one going home hungry. Our thanks to the picnic committee for organizing another superb event.



SBHC picnic committee members Martha Hackworth, Pam Vassallo, LaVerne Kyriss, Melissa White, and Mary Kopp pause after completing their work. Not pictured are Dan and Lonnee Platner, Becky Hilst, and MaryJo Bellner Shwartzberg. Photo by Elisabeth Wheeler.

The day’s events were capped off by a drawing for ten \$25 gift cards from Summit Hut. The fall picnic is already scheduled for Friday, October 6, 2017.

## HIKE BEFORE THE ANNUAL CLUB SPRING PICNIC

Submitted By Elisabeth Wheeler

Going for a hike before the SaddleBrooke Hiking Club’s Spring Picnic at Catalina State Park is very popular! Twenty-three hikers explored the Ridgeline/50 Year Loop from the Equestrian Center in the park. Along the 4-mile trail, hikers had fun discovering 29 different wildflowers, including anemones, blue dicks, bladderpods, California

suncups, white Easter bonnets, and Mexican gold poppies. Hikers enjoyed a bountiful potluck buffet after the hiking club business meeting.

Hike co-leaders were Tim Butler, Roddy Wilder and Elisabeth Wheeler.



Photo by Elisabeth Wheeler

## STATE TRUST LAND PASS

Submitted By Rob Simms

Have you done these local hikes: Fifty-Year trail north, Baby Jesus trail, Deer Camp, or Sutherland Wash Petroglyphs? If yes, you are hiking on/across State Trust Land. The State of Arizona allows us to access these areas (& millions of acres throughout the state), but only with permission. Each person should have a Trust Land Recreational Pass obtained through the State Land Department.

The pass is now easily obtained on-line and valid for 12 months from your date of application. Individual passes are \$15.00/year and family passes only \$20.00/year for two adults (& children under 18) living at the same address. We recommend that all SBHC members that hike on trust land obtain a permit and renew it annually. This is the online link: <https://land.az.gov/recreational-permit-portal> Questions? If you have further questions after visiting the site please contact me. Thank you.

## DO YOU KNOW YOUR GUIDE?

Submitted by Rob Simms

We now have ~650 members as the SBHC continues to grow. Great news, but it also means there many people to meet and to become acquainted with their hiking style and preferences. Do you know your guide? Does your guide know you? If not, it is very helpful to share your recent hiking history when you contact a guide to sign up. We (guides) strive to

make the hike a good experience for all participants and match the hike with the hikers. Please do not be offended if we initially ask questions about your current and prior hiking experiences. Conversely ask your guide if you have any questions about the appropriateness of this hike for you. We will inquire if you have any medical conditions that might impact your ability to enjoy and complete the hike. Please be frank in discussing this with your guide; we treat this information confidentially. The club will provide a nametag with a contact/medical information insert for you to attach to the back of your pack. You will see the “yellow tags” on all our packs. Our goal is an enjoyable and safe hike for everyone. We look forward to meeting you on the trail. Thank you.

### SPRING PICNIC 2017

Submitted by Randy Park

The annual Spring picnic and official club business meeting was held on Friday March 3 at Catalina State Park. Close to 100 members attended. Current membership is over 640. Earlier in the day, two hikes in the park were led by Elisabeth Wheeler and Karen Gray. Prior to the election of new officers, President Randy Park reviewed the list of accomplishments the club achieved over the last 12 months. These included a successful Spring trip to Las Vegas, an on-line survey to guide the leader in future trips, a guided hike trip to Supai village in the Grand Canyon, the start of the Honor Roll plaque, and a one year’s dues extension for existing members.



Prior to the election of new officers, Randy Park honored long-time volunteer Carole Rossop for her serving as newsletter editor for 9 years. Her name is now engraved on the honor roll plaque hanging on the wall outside the HOA1 golf pro shop.

The new officers elected are Don Taylor, Treasurer; Norm Rechkemmer, Vice President; and Phil McNamee, Associate Chief Hiking Guide. At the same time, Dave Corrigan moves from VP to President; and Rob Simms moves from ACHG to Chief Hiking Guide. At the conclusion of the business meeting, a pot luck picnic was had by all, followed by a prize drawing where ten \$25 gift certificates to Summit Hut were given away.

### CATALINA HILLS CLEANUP

By Walt Shields



From left to right: Norm Rechkemmer, Bob Giesen, Phil McNamee, Pam Wakefield, Chuck Kaltenbach, Bill Leightenheimer, Tim Butler. Not pictured: Walt Shields

Catalina Hills Drive is beautiful again as a result of volunteer efforts of members of the SaddleBrooke Hiking Club. The Club has participated in the Pinal County Adopt-A-Highway program for 8 years to maintain 2.5 miles of Catalina Hills Drive from SaddleBrooke Boulevard to its entrance into the Preserve. Many thanks to the 8 members that participated this spring.

### WILDFLOWERS IN BLOOM AT CATALINA STATE PARK

By Elisabeth Wheeler

When wildflowers bloom, SaddleBrooke hikers take to the hills of Catalina State Park to find over 40 varieties of flowers. The fields of Mexican gold poppies were highlighted with white chicory, pink owl clover, purple scorpion weed, yellow janusia, and purple desert lupine. It was delightful to discover an early blooming mariposa lily and a red cardinal. This was a colorful and sunny hike that lifted our spirits. Tim Butler and Elisabeth Wheeler were the guides. Photographers were Barb Wilder, Howie Fagan, and Elisabeth Wheeler.



Back Row: Howie Fagan, Cathy Beauchamp, Elaine Fagan, Elisabeth Wheeler  
Front Row: Denis Greenland, Arlene Gerety, Chuck & Shirley Kaltenback, Judy DeAmbrosio, Billie Draves, Shirley Barrett, Tim Butler  
Photo by Barb Wilder



*Suncup and Janusia*



*Mariposa*



**SADDLEBROOKE HIKING TRIP TO  
BIG BEND NATIONAL PARK**  
**October, 2017**  
By Elisabeth Wheeler



For hikers, Big Bend National Park in Texas is the state's number one destination. The park is one of the best examples of a Sky Island of rugged mountains in the midst of the Chihuahuan Desert and deep canyons of the Rio Grande. Some of the most spectacular scenery in Texas is here.

The SaddleBrooke Hiking Club is scheduling a 3-day, 4-night hiking trip to Big Bend National Park

October 23-27, 2017. Hikes rated A, B, and C will be led by SaddleBrooke guides — October 24, 25, and 26. Hikers will explore the Chisos Mountains, the Chihuahuan Desert, and the canyons of the Rio Grande River. Rafting in the Rio Grand will also be available. An optional add-on is a visit to Ft. Davis National Historic Park and the University of Texas McDonald Observatory. It is 670 miles to Chisos Basin in the park, about 10 hours driving time. Some drivers may want to allow an extra travel day to explore scenic and historical sights.

As the sole lodging choice in Big Bend National Park, the Chisos Mountains Lodge offers a variety of comfortable overnight accommodations that provide stunning views high in the scenic Chisos Mountains. All 72 rooms are non-smoking and are conveniently located near the "Green Certified" dining facility, the visitor center, and many other park activities and points of interest. Pricing for rooms is about \$145 for double occupancy with coffee maker, refrigerator with freezer, and microwave in each room. An advance deposit equal to the first night's stay is required to hold a reservation. A very generous 72-hour cancellation notice is available to receive refund of the deposit.

**Call 432-477-2291 and state you are with the SaddleBrooke Hiking Club which has reserved rooms for October 23 - October 27 (departure date). When you have secured room reservations, please let us know so we can keep our trip list up to date. Elisabeth Wheeler 520-818-1547**

If you have questions, please contact Elisabeth Wheeler 520-818-1547 or Roddy Wilder 520-500-

6077. An information meeting will be held at a future date.

**GRAND CANYON SPRING TRIP - 2018**

**May 1-3, 2018**

Submitted by Randy Park

After an absence of 7 years, the hiking club is going back to the Grand Canyon for its annual Spring trip. This decision is a direct result of the online survey members completed last year. We will be hiking on Tuesday through Thursday, May 1, 2, and 3. Like most previous trips, you will need to make your own lodging reservations. The best rooms fill up quickly, so act soon. Make your reservations for 4 nights starting Monday, April 30. More information about this fantastic trip will be forthcoming in the next couple of months. For questions that cannot wait, email Susan Hollis: [slhollis@yahoo.com](mailto:slhollis@yahoo.com).

<b>News You Can Use</b>		
<b>Before There Was SaddleBrooke: A Local History</b>	<b>5/17 Wed.</b>	<b>4:00 P.M.</b>
<b>SBHC Social Hour Agave Lounge HOA #1</b>	<b>5/17 Wed.</b>	<b>5:00 P.M.</b>
<b>SBHC Board Meeting Coyote Room North HOA #1</b>	<b>6/7 Wed.</b>	<b>2:30 – 4:00 P.M.</b>
<b>SBHC Guide Meeting Coyote Room North HOA #1</b>	<b>6/7 Wed.</b>	<b>4:00 – 5:00 P.M.</b>
<b>Big Bend National Park Trip</b>		<b>October 23 - 27</b>
<b>Off the Beaten Track in Marble Cave</b>		<b>November 5 - 11</b>
<b>Grand Canyon Spring Trip 2018</b>		<b>May 1 – 3, 2018</b>

# Club Calendar

## Saddlebrooke Hiking Club Calendar

May 2017 (Mountain Time - Arizona)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	1	2 C-Hidden Cyn. Loop	3	4 D-Alamo Cyn.	5 B-Phone Line Trail -	6
7	8 A - Mt. Wrightson	9 D-Honey Bee	10 D-Cyn. Loop/Birding	11 B-Wilder. Rocks #4	12 C-Canyon Loop, Bird	13
14	15	16 BI - AZT Huachuca	17 BI - AZT Huachuca SBHC Program 4pm SBHC Social Hr 5pm	18 BI - AZT Huachuca C-Dripping Springs	19	20
21	22 B American Flag to	23 A-Ring Around	24 D Alamo Canyon	25 C-Box Cyn. to	26	27
28	29	30 CI-Malden Pools	31	1 C-Palisade Tr. to	2 A Mt. Wrightson Via	3

## Saddlebrooke Hiking Club Calendar

Jun 2017 (Mountain Time - Arizona)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28	29	30 CI-Malden Pools	31	1 C-Palisade Tr. to	2 A Mt. Wrightson Via	3
4	5	6 B - Arizona Trail:	7 2:30pm SBHC BOD 4:00pm SBHC A - Arizona Trail:	8 A - Arizona Trail:	9	10
11	12 D Canyon Loop	13	14	15 C-Sunset/M.	16 A Mt. Lemmon to	17 C-Ski Lift Loop
18	19 C Aspen Loop-	20	21 C Sutherland Trail	22	23	24 B-Josephine Saddle
25	26	27	28	29	30	1

## Hikes Offered

**Tuesday, May 02, 2017 Hidden Canyon Loop. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [219, 7:00 AM, \$2].** 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 8.3 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change 750 feet; accumulated gain 1192 feet; RTD 12 miles (dirt). [Guide: Tim Butler, 825-0193, [tucsontimmer@gmail.com](mailto:tucsontimmer@gmail.com)]

**Thursday, May 04, 2017 Alamo Canyon. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [6, 7:00 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](mailto:tucsontimmer@gmail.com)]

**Friday, May 05, 2017 Phone Line Trail - Round Trip. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [323, 06:30 AM, \$4].** 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 10.2 miles; trailhead elevation 2720 feet; net elevation change 964 feet; accumulated gain 1425 feet; RTD 56 miles. [Guide: Don Taylor, 825-5303, [donald\\_r\\_taylor@yahoo.com](mailto:donald_r_taylor@yahoo.com).]

**Sunday, May 07, 2017 Mt. Wrightson. Rating: A. Pace: Moderate on ascent & Fast on descent. [New, 05:30 AM, \$7].** This will be a rigorous, strenuous and demanding hike traversing a spectacular route up and back from Mt. Wrightson. Hikers climb the Florida Canyon Trail, starting at the Experimental Range Headquarters. The hike involves a steep, persistent climb of 4.5 miles to the Florida Saddle at 7800 feet, where we continue on the Crest Trail at a more moderate rate of ascent to Old Baldy Saddle for an additional 2.5 miles to an elevation of about 8780 feet. During this stretch there is even a drop of 300 feet. Then finally back to another steep finishing rate of ascent of 670 feet in one mile to our goal of the awesome and open summit of Mt. Wrightson (9,453 feet). Hike 16 miles RT; trailhead elevation 4320 feet; net elevation change 5130 feet; accumulated gain 5750 feet; RTD 130 miles. [Guide: Aaron Schoenberg 825-2060, [askus3@centurylink.net](mailto:askus3@centurylink.net)]

**Monday, May 08, 2017 Honey Bee Canyon North. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [222, 8:00 AM, \$2].** 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 one of two broken dams. For those exploring Honey Bee for the first time, this is a real eye opener. Hike 3.2 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 200 feet; accumulated gain 178 feet; RTD 26 miles. [Guide: Walt Shields 818-3439 [waltshields@mac.com](mailto:waltshields@mac.com).]

**Tuesday, May 09, 2017 Canyon Loop and Birding Trail. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [135, 7:00 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: Tim Butler, 825-0193, [tucsontimmer@gmail.com](mailto:tucsontimmer@gmail.com)]

**Thursday, May 11, 2017 Wilderness of Rocks Loop # 4. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [488, 6:30 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 9.2 miles; trailhead 9100 feet; net elevation change 2131 feet; accumulated gain 2554 feet; RTD 131 miles. [Guide: Tim Butler, 825-0193, [tucsontimmer@gmail.com](mailto:tucsontimmer@gmail.com)]

**Friday, May 12, 2017 Canyon Loop, Birding, and Nature Trails. Rating: C. Pace:SLOW [136, 7:30 AM, \$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, and then 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. [Guide:Karen Gray, 818-0337, [kgrayinaz@yahoo.com](mailto:kgrayinaz@yahoo.com).]

**Tuesday, May 16, 2017 Arizona Trail: Special Hike: Rating B!. Pace: Moderate [Start time and \$ TBD]** This hike is one of three hikes to complete AZT Passage 1, from the Mexican Border to Parker Canyon Lake, staying in Sierra Vista. This hike will complete both ends of the passage. The first segment is a 6.4 mile hike from Scotia Canyon TH on FR 4759 (Scotia Canyon Road) to Parker Canyon Lake TH. From there, hikers will go to the trailhead at Montezuma Pass. The second hike is 3.9 miles from the trailhead to Border Marker 102 on the border with Mexico and back, returning to Montezuma Pass Trailhead. These hikes will be either a shuttle or key exchange depending on group size. Estimated total miles 10.3, Estimated net elevation gain is -250 ft for the first segment and 600 ft for the second segment. Accumulated elevation not determined. [Guide:Frank Earnest, 507-261-9175, [fearnestiv@gmail.com](mailto:fearnestiv@gmail.com).]

**Wednesday, May 17, 2017 SaddleBrooke History by Robert Simpson planned by Jan Springer. 4:00 P.M. HOA#1 Activity Center**

**Wednesday, May 17, 2017 SBHC Social Hour 5pm HOA#1 Agave Lounge**

**Wednesday, May 17, 2017 Arizona Trail: Special Hike: Rating B!. Pace: Moderate [Start time and \$ TBD]** This hike is one of three hikes to complete AZT Passage 1, from the Mexican Border to Parker Canyon Lake, staying in Sierra Vista. This segment will begin from Montezuma Pass and head north along the Crest Trail to Miller Peak. We will head up a short 0.5 miles spur trail to summit Miller Peak. Returning to the Crest Trail we'll head to Bear Saddle, and then hike southwest, descending the Bear Canyon Trail to a trailhead. This segment will be a shuttle or key exchange depending on group size. Estimated total miles 10.2 miles, Estimated net elevation gain is +3000 feet making this a more difficult hike. (6575 ft at Montezuma TH to 9466 ft at Miller Peak). [Guide:Frank Earnest, 507-261-9175, [fearnestiv@gmail.com](mailto:fearnestiv@gmail.com).]

**Thursday, May 18, 2017 Dripping Springs from the Sutherland Trail. Rating: C. Pace: SLOW [172, 7:30AM, \$2 + \$2].** From the main trailhead at the east end of Catalina State Park, the hike follows the Sutherland Trail past the wilderness sign, and then turns toward Dripping Springs at a Sutherland Trail sign. There are large rocks placed in a row on the right (east) side of the Sutherland 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. Hike 4.8 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change \_\_ feet; accumulated gain 460 feet; RTD 24 miles. [Guide: Karen Gray, 818-0337, [kgrayinaz@yahoo.com](mailto:kgrayinaz@yahoo.com)]

**Thursday, May 18, 2017 Arizona Trail: Special Hike: Rating B!. Pace: Moderate [Start time and \$ TBD]** This hike is one of three hikes to complete AZT Passage 1, from the Mexican Border to Parker Canyon Lake, staying in Sierra Vista. This segment will begin from the Bear Canyon Trailhead (5900 ft) up the Bear Canyon Trail to Bear Saddle (8075 ft) to meet the Crest Trail. Then we'll proceed northwest along the Crest Trail to the Sunnyside Canyon Trail (8475 ft) to FR 4579, Scotia Canyon Road (5975 ft). This segment will be a shuttle or key exchange depending on group size. Estimated total miles 9.8 miles , Estimated net elevation gain is +2575 feet from Bear Canyon TH to Sunnyside Canyon Trail making this a more difficult hike. [Guide:Frank Earnest, 507-261-9175, [fearnestiv@gmail.com](mailto:fearnestiv@gmail.com).]

**Monday, May 22, 2017 American Flag to the Saddle. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [9, 6 AM, \$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 or [hikerelisabeth@gmail.com](mailto:hikerelisabeth@gmail.com)]

**Tuesday, May 23, 2017 Mt. Wrightson: Ring around Wrightson. Rating: A. Pace: Moderate [297, 06:00 AM, \$10].** The hike begins in Madera Canon in the Santa Rita Mountains and follows the Super Trail to Josephine Saddle. We then follow the Super Trail past Josephine Peak to Baldy Saddle, and Old Baldy Trail through Josephine Saddle to the starting point. This is a shady hike with outstanding views in all directions. Hike 11.7 miles; trailhead elevation 5450 feet; net elevation change 3300 feet; accumulated gain 3330 feet; RTD 130 miles. [Guide: Don Taylor, 825-5303, [donald\\_r\\_taylor@yahoo.com](mailto:donald_r_taylor@yahoo.com)]

**Wednesday, May 24, 2017 Alamo Canyon. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [6, 7:00or7:30 AM, \$2 + \$2]. Start time TBD.** 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 429 feet; RTD 24 miles. [Rob Simms (prefer email) [Spartan7375@gmail.com](mailto:Spartan7375@gmail.com) or 517-410-9031.]

**Thursday, May 25, 2017 Box Camp Trail to Sabino Canyon Overlook. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [114, 7:00 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 5.25 miles; trailhead elevation 7920 feet; net elevation change 1363 feet; accumulated gain 1353 feet; RTD 123 miles. [Guide: Tim Butler, 825-0193, [tucsontimmer@gmail.com](mailto:tucsontimmer@gmail.com)]

**Tuesday, May 30, 2017 Maiden Pools. Rating: C!. Pace: Moderate [254, 06:30 AM, \$4].** 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 5.2 miles; trailhead elevation 3000 feet; net elevation change 1100 feet; accumulated gain 1266 feet; RTD 54 miles. [Guide: Don Taylor, 825-5303, [donald\\_r\\_taylor@yahoo.com](mailto:donald_r_taylor@yahoo.com).]

**Thursday, June 01, 2017 Palisade Trail / Mud Spring. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [313, 7:00 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 5.9 miles; trailhead elevation 7770 feet; net elevation change -1370 feet; accumulated gain 1373 feet; RTD 119 miles. [Guide: Tim Butler, 825-0193, [tucsontimmer@gmail.com](mailto:tucsontimmer@gmail.com)]

**Friday, June 02, 2017 Mt. Wrightson via Old Baldy Trail. Rating: A. Pace: Moderate [295, 6 a.m., \$10].** The hike begins in Madera Canyon in the Santa Rita Mountains and follows the Old Baldy Trail to Mt. Wrightson. The return is via the same route. This trail provides the shortest route to the top (el. 9453 feet) of Mt. Wrightson. The last 0.9 miles 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. There is shade along much of the way. Hike 11.1 miles; trailhead elevation 5450 feet; net elevation change 4003 feet; accumulated gain 4029 feet; RTD 130 miles. [Guide: Elisabeth Wheeler, 818-1547 or [hikerelisabeth@gmail.com](mailto:hikerelisabeth@gmail.com).]

**Tuesday, June 06, 2017 Arizona Trail: Highline (Passage 27). Special hike: Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [AZT Passages 27 and 28 are part of a three day hiking trip Payson. AZ. Time TBD].** From the Pine Trailhead (464.5), the trail works its way east along the Highline Trail (#31). It skirts the southern edge of Milk Ranch Point, passes by Red Rock Spring, passing the Red Rock Trail (#294) and reaches Geronimo Trailhead and Webber Creek (473.3) on FR 440. Hike 8.8 miles; trailhead elevations 5424 feet south and 5430 feet north; net elevation change 6 feet; estimated accumulated gain 1000 feet northward and \_\_\_\_ feet southward; RTD \_\_ miles. [Guide: Frank Earnest, 507-261-9175, [fearnestiv@gmail.com](mailto:fearnestiv@gmail.com).]

**Wednesday, June 07, 2017 SBHC BOD Meeting @2:30pm HOA#1**

**Wednesday, June 07, 2017 SBHC Guides Meeting @4pm HOA#1**

**Wednesday, June 07, 2017 Arizona Trail: Highline (Passage 27). Special hike: Rating: A Pace: Moderate. [AZT Passages 27 and 28 are part of a three day hiking trip Payson. AZ. Time TBD].** This is the second half of this passage which starts from the Geronimo/Webber Creek Trailhead (473.3) and climbs the sheer 2000 foot ramparts of the Mogollon Rim, which involves steep climbing at several places along much of the way. The route offers fabulous vistas of the Tonto Basin, the rugged, remote land of the Apaches and the inspiration for many of Zane Grey novels. The trailheads east where the it passes Bray Creek and then comes to the Washington Park Trailhead (482.2). Here the trail turns north on the Colonel Devin Trail. It follows along the west bank of the East Verde River, crosses it and does a steep climb to the top of the Mogollon Rim. The passage terminates on the south side of FR 300 near the Battle of Big Dry Wash historical marker at the General Springs Trailhead (484.5). Hike 11.1 miles; trailhead elevations 5430 feet south and 7279 feet north; net elevation change 1849 feet; estimated accumulated gain >3000 feet northward and \_\_\_\_\_ feet southward; RTD \_\_ miles. [Guide: Frank Earnest, 507-261-9175, [fearnestiv@gmail.com](mailto:fearnestiv@gmail.com).]

**Thursday, June 08, 2017 Arizona Trail: Blue Ridge (Passage 28). Rating: A Pace: Moderate [26, AZT Passages 27 and 28 are part of a three day hiking trip Payson. AZ. Time TBD].** The trail north of the rim highlights the 19th century conflict between the Apaches, the settlers, and the U.S. cavalry. The hike begins from the General Springs Cabin near FR 300 and follows General Springs Canyon until it reaches a trail junction. It then climbs out of the canyon on the west side and follows a two-track road and then more trail. The trail crosses FR 123 and heads north until it reaches FR 123A. It stays on this forest road up to East Clear Creek. After steeply descending and then steeply ascending the creek (upstream of Blue Ridge Reservoir) the trail works its way up to FR 751. After crossing the road, the trail proceeds east and then north up to the drop into Blue Ridge Campground. From here the trail continues north and finally reaches Highway 87 at the junction with FR 138. The hike is B! due to sustained moving average of 2.5 mph. Hike 16.1 miles; trailhead elevations 7279 feet south and 6838 feet north; net elevation change 657 feet; accumulated gains 1165 feet northward and 1608 feet southward; RTD \_\_ miles (dirt). [Guide: Frank Earnest, 507-261-9175, [fearnestiv@gmail.com](mailto:fearnestiv@gmail.com).]

**Monday, June 12, 2017 Canyon Loop, Montrose Pools, and Birding Trail. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [137, 06:30 AM, \$2 + \$2].** 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: Dave Sorenson , [iowaboy1950@yahoo.com](mailto:iowaboy1950@yahoo.com)]

**Thursday, June 15, 2017 Sunset / Marshall Gulch / Aspen Loop. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [394, 7:00 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 7.0 miles; trailhead elevation 7640 feet; net elevation change 736 feet; accumulated gain 1394 feet; RTD 130 miles. [Guide: Tim Butler, 825-0193, [tucsontimmer@gmail.com](mailto:tucsontimmer@gmail.com)]

**Friday, June 16, 2017 Mt. Lemmon to Oracle Ridge Trailhead via the CDO Trail. Rating: A. Pace: Moderate [280, 6 AM, \$10].** This 15.5-mile hike begins atop Mt. Lemmon at an elevation of 9125 feet and descends via the Mt. Lemmon and part of the Samaniego trails to the junction of the Canada del Oro Trail and Arizona Trail at 5600 feet. We then climb past Catalina Camp to Dan Saddle, and return to Mt. Lemmon via the scenic Oracle Ridge Trail. This is a spectacular hike with fabulous views and interesting sights, including old mines and Catalina Camp. Car shuttle is needed. Hike 15.5 miles; trailhead elevation 9125 feet; net elevation change minus 3525 feet; return elevation gain 2400 feet; accumulated gain \_\_ feet; RTD 131 miles. [Guide: Elisabeth Wheeler, 818-1547 or [hikerelisabeth@gmail.com](mailto:hikerelisabeth@gmail.com).]

**Saturday, June 17, 2017 Mt. Lemmon Ski Lift Loop. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [274, 07:00 AM, \$10].** From the foot of the ski lift, hikers walk the roadway to the top of Mt. Lemmon. We will take the Meadow Trail and the Mt. Lemmon Trail to Mt. Lemmon Rock Lookout (outstanding views). We return to the starting point using a portion of Trail # 5 along Radio Ridge, and a portion of the Aspen Draw Trail. Hike 6 miles; trailhead elevation 8480; net elevation change 700 feet; accumulated gain 1140 feet; RTD 131 miles. [Guide: Don Taylor 825-5303, [donald\\_r\\_taylor@yahoo.com](mailto:donald_r_taylor@yahoo.com)]

**Monday, June 19, 2017 Aspen Loop / Marshall Gulch Trail. Rating: C. Pace: SLOW [89, 7:00 AM, \$10].** The trail starts at the Marshall Gulch Picnic area and proceeds up the Aspen Trail to the Marshall Saddle. Hikers will lunch/snack at a scenic spot near the Saddle, and then follow the Marshall Gulch Trail to the picnic area. If the group chooses we can have lunch at a restaurant in Summerhaven. Hike 3.5 miles; trailhead elevation 7420 feet; net elevation change 800 feet; accumulated gain 1090 feet; RTD 131 miles. [Guide:Karen Gray. 818-0337, [kgrayinaz@yahoo.com](mailto:kgrayinaz@yahoo.com)]

**Wednesday, June 21, 2017 Sutherland Trail. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [428, 7:00 or 7:30 AM, \$2 + \$2].**  
**Time TBD.** 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 642 feet; accumulated gain 818 feet; RTD 24 miles. [Rob Simms (prefer email) Spartan7375@gmail.com or 517-410-9031.]

**Saturday, June 24, 2017 Josephine Saddle. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [234, 06:30 AM, \$10].** The hike starts in Madera Canyon (Santa Rita Mountains) and goes up the Old Baldy Trail to Josephine Saddle. Hikers will rest at the Saddle and return via the Super Trail. This hike can be done in reverse, going up the Super Trail and returning on the Old Baldy Trail. Hike 6.2 miles; trailhead elevation 5450 feet; net elevation change 1630 feet; accumulated gain 1725 feet; RTD 130 miles. [Guide: Don Taylor, 825-5303, [donald\\_r\\_taylor@yahoo.com](mailto:donald_r_taylor@yahoo.com)]