



# SADDLEBROOKE

## HIKING CLUB NEWSLETTER

<http://saddlebrookehikingclub.com>

MARCH/APRIL

2021

### CONGRATULATIONS TO 2021 TRAILBLAZER AWARDEES

Submitted by Rob Simms, President

What makes a great club? The Volunteer Member Leaders that are willing to devote time and effort on behalf of all the members to move the club forward.

The Saddlebrooke Hiking Club is a “standout” in that respect with guides, committee leaders/members, and board members who have said “Yes” when asked to step forth. Still, among those individuals are names that you see time and again promoting and doing the work of the club.

We have two categories denoting “special recognition” for members who have excelled in their support of club activities.

- The “**Pioneers**” helped establish the club, and are persons who significantly worked to develop the club we know today.
- “**Trailblazers**” are members who have participated and significantly contributed to the ongoing success of the SBHC. Each spring we recognize the special efforts of those members by naming them SaddleBrooke Hiking Club “**Trailblazers**”.

What is a SaddleBrooke Hiking Club Trailblazer? A member whose efforts in support of the club are defined by the following criteria:

*For meritorious service above and beyond simply being a member of the hiking club, for performing duties greater than expected, and for exhibiting leadership that we all admire, we honor the following people*

### The 2021 Trailblazer Awardees:

**Susan Hollis** ... Guide, past Chief-Guide and Trip Director

**LaVerne Kyriss** ... Past Picnic Committee Chair for a number of years

**Randy Park** ... Guide, past President, formed Trip Committee & participated, and Trip Director

**Maureen Spence** ... Newsletter Editor for a number of years



These members exemplify that criteria by their effort toward the core elements of our club that define us and make us successful: Great Hikes, interesting and fun Hiking Trips, wonderful Newsletters highlighting our varied activities, and our engaging Social Events

(camouflaged as general member meetings/picnics). The latter exemplified by our special 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary gathering in Oracle State Park.

Please say “Thank You” when you next see them. Please also read the other names on the plaque and share your appreciation for their efforts. There are many other people not named here that have also contributed to the club’s success, including all the guides and committee members who has volunteered. May we continue to move forward on the trail through all our collective efforts. Thank you.



Randy Park and Susan Hollis hiking in Peru.



LaVerne Kyriss hiking at Machu Picchu



Maureen Spence (Mo) hiking to Tiger's Nest in Bhutan

## OUR PET PARAKEET

Submitted by Larry Linderman & Jackie Hall



Picture by Jackie Hall

As Jackie and I were hiking last July near Laramie, Wyoming something happened that we never thought would happen in a thousand years: While we were preparing to sit on a log for a break a bird visited us.

Within a minute or two it was sitting on us as if it were our pet parakeet. Needless to say, we were shocked and amused at the same time. Fortunately, as we came to our senses, we took out our cell phones and managed to get about 15-minutes of video with this incredible encounter.

That magical moment is now on You Tube and can be seen at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cPoMHiP14CA>

OR, you can google it by entering: "Larry and Jackie make friends with a pine grosbeak". In addition, you can enter your reactions in the comment section below the video.

**IS THAT THE RIGHT HIKE FOR ME?  
HINT: IT IS NOT JUST ABOUT THE  
RATING AND DISTANCE!**

Submitted by Walt Shields

Most of us eagerly anticipate the new offering of hikes each two-month period. We look over the list and make a determination about which hikes would be the best fit for our level of conditioning, experience, and interest.

As an active guide and former Chief Hiking Guide, I have on occasion asked my hikers how they go about choosing their hikes. Generally, they tell me they look at the hike rating (A, B, C, D), the distance, and the location as the major factors that play into their decision making. Recently, I have had hikers signing up for hikes that are really not appropriate for them, based on using just these criteria. It is important to know that each hike description also contains other very important data that should enter into our hike selection. Let's talk about those.

The enjoyment and safety of a hike is based on the energy we expend which is dependent upon: trailhead elevation, net elevation, accumulated gain, trail terrain, weather (especially heat), pace of the hike, and yes distance.

Trailhead elevation needs little explanation. Most of the hikes in our immediate area start at a base level of around 3,000 feet. Just be aware that a hike at higher altitudes with reduced oxygen levels, like on Mount Lemon, will be more difficult than a similar hike on the desert floor.

In Arizona, because hardly anything is flat, we rate our hikes based on distance and elevation. Let's look especially at how **net elevation** and **accumulated gain** should enter into our evaluation process. I think we can all agree that we expend less energy walking a longer distance on a flat surface than a shorter distance on a hill. Net elevation gives you a measure of how high it is from the lowest point on the hike to the highest point.

A more important factor, however, is the accumulated gain which is the sum of all the uphill portions of the hike. It is important to get into the habit of evaluating your hike based on the accumulated gain relative to the net elevation because it will give you a clear picture of the profile of a hike. For instance, if the net elevation is 800 feet and the accumulated gain is 800 feet, you know that you will be on a steady uphill climb from the lowest point to the highest point on a hike with no dips in between – a really tough hike. Blackett's Ridge is a great example. The net elevation is 1668 feet and the accumulated gain only 65 feet more. Wow, I will be climbing pretty much straight up the whole way! That is going to be a sustained high energy output and I need to factor that into my thinking about whether this is an appropriate hike for me.

On the other hand, If the net elevation is 800 feet and the accumulated gain is 1,400 ft, I know that I will be ascending and descending a lot to reach the highest point. Even though I will be climbing an additional 600 feet to make up for the downhill portions, I will have periods of downhill to rest in between the climbs. This will be more of an undulating hike which overall may be less strenuous. Fortunately, most of our hikes are in this category.

Therefore, if you are using only rating and distance to evaluate your hikes, you are not gaining a complete picture of the energy you will be expending. The Anza Trail in Rio Rico is "C" rated at 5 miles with minimal accumulated gain, whereas the popular Alamo Canyon hike in Catalina State Park is "D" rated at 3.5 miles, but it has 429 feet of accumulated gain. You should know by now that you can plan on expending much more energy on the Alamo Canyon hike even though it has a lower rating

Also, look carefully at any hikes that have a \*\*\* designation. That means the hike has some special

condition that warrants your attention. It usually pertains to a trail condition such as large loose rocks, large step ups or down, more exposure, or there may be an off-trail component. The reason for the asterisks is explained in the hike description.

In summary, hike rating and distance are important, but accumulated gain, net elevation, and terrain should be major factors in choosing the best hike for you. Don't overlook them!

As always, if you have any concern about the suitability of a hike, do not hesitate to contact the guide for more information.

### **SAGUARO NATIONAL PARK EAST GARWOOD DAM/WILDHORSE POOLS**

Submitted by Ruth Caldwell

It is a long drive across Tucson, but everyone agreed that the scenery makes it worth the trip! On January 28, eight hikers made the trek to Saguaro National Park East.



We hiked south along several trails and then proceeded up the Garwood Trail passing a crested saguaro to the site of the Garwood Dam, built by Nelson Garwood in the 1950's. We continued on the Carrillo Trail through a series of switch-backs. While on a ridge in the foothills of the Rincon Mountains, we had beautiful views of the park, as well as the Catalina, Tucson, Rincon, and Santa Rita Mountains. Beyond the ridge, we intersected with the Wildhorse Trail and turned south to go on a steep

(.3 mile) trail to Little Wildhorse Tank, one of the only perennial areas of water in the park.

We were not disappointed. Although less than in a normal non-drought year, there was still water in the pools!

### **WELCOME NEW GUIDES!**

Submitted by Ruth Caldwell

Please welcome our newest SBHC guides Bruce Landeck and Jeff Love. They have completed the training and are ready to lead you on your next adventure!



### **THE ARTHUR PACK REGIONAL PARK**

Submitted by Elisabeth Wheeler

The Arthur Pack Regional Park provides interesting views of numerous old saguaros, young saguaro families, and other cacti. During this 4.8-mile hike, hikers marveled at the sight of saguaros that were traumatized, loped off, and gnarled into weird shapes - yet putting out new limbs in unlikely places.

It was fun to imagine the history of these ancient ones. Desert mistletoe in some mesquites was filled with berries. We were treated to a phainopepla gorging himself on the berries.

Around every bend there were views of the Tortolitas, Sombrero and Panther peaks, the Tucson Mountains, and the snow-covered Santa Catalinas. Because the terrain is relatively flat, we agree this is a park for newcomers to get acquainted with the Sonoran Desert.



Hikers: Arlene Daigle, Karen Munn, Frank Powell, Leslie Hawkins, Jan Springer, Lenore Henninger, Bruce Landeck. Photo by Elisabeth Wheeler

### SOCIAL DISTANCING

Submitted by Ruth Caldwell



Please remember to maintain a safe distance while on hikes. We are all looking forward to better times, but it is too soon to relax our safeguards just yet! Bring a mask along for times that you are not moving along the trail - at the

MountainView Parking Lot before hikes and at the trailhead while getting ready to start the hike.

### HIKING THE SONORAN DESERT IN THE TUCSON MOUNTAINS

Submitted by Karen Gray

Friday, December 11, was a beautiful day to hike the Sonoran Desert in the Tucson Mountains. The trail is called the Ironwood Picnic Area, which is a lovely area shaded by a very large Ironwood tree.

The trail starts about half a mile below David Yetman parking area. We start on the Golden Gate trail which travels down the alluvial fan of Golden Gate Mountain. We cross Kinney and take the prospector trail to Caliche Flats which takes us to the picnic area. We enjoyed the shade of the large Ironwood tree as it was getting warm.



Left to Right: Shirley Hovan, Leslie Hawkins, Gary Somers, Rhonda, Yvette Sabulsky and Elissa Cochran. Photo and Guide, Karen Gray

We returned on trails that were following the bajada – so very gradual slope and less rocky than the hike

down. This trail was new to all, and they enjoyed seeing the area from a different perspective.



Ironwood tree

Photo by Rhonda Somers

### **SADDLEBROOKE HIKING CLUB PICNIC**

Submitted by Seana Kobak & Missy Rodey  
Committee Co-Chairs

We are still unable to schedule a date for the fall SBHC Picnic, as Catalina State Park will not yet accept group reservations. Although they have suggested that reservation openings may not happen until December of 2021, we will continue to check with the park periodically.

Hopefully, by October we will be able to gather again as a group to celebrate our friendships and mutual love of hiking in our wonderful surroundings. So, stay tuned - more information is to follow.

### **SADDLEBROOK HIKING CLUB SPRING HIKING TRIP UPDATE MOAB, UTAH**

**APRIL 12 – 16, 2021**

Submitted by Tim Butler

The Trip Committee is forging ahead on the planning for our Spring Hiking Trip to Moab, Utah this April. We are in the process of finalizing the schedule of hikes for the days of April 13, 14, and 15.

Right now, the plan is to offer 20 hikes in that 3-day period. My hope is that we will have all the Guide assignments in place by March. Once that is completed, we will be emailing all of you on the participant list the descriptions of the hikes being

offered, as well as the actual hike schedule. So, stay tuned!

We have over 100 people on the participant list. **If you are on the list but need to cancel, PLEASE let me know so we can accommodate folks who are on the waiting list.** Just email me at: [tucsontimmer@gmail.com](mailto:tucsontimmer@gmail.com)

Also, I just checked with the Mainstay Suites Hotel and the block of 20 rooms which the Club reserved have all been booked. The manager there says that they still have some rooms available, so those of you who have not yet booked your accommodations can still get a room. It just will not be at the Group Rate. The phone number for the Mainstay Suites is: 435-355-0909. There are LOTS of other hotels in town, so you may want to check around for the best deal.

Moab is beginning to get busy; and by the time we get there in mid-April, most of the hotels in town will probably be quite full. So, if you have not yet made a reservation, do so ASAP. Do not wait until you get there to try to find a room. Most of the hotels there have a very flexible cancellation policy, so my advice is to make a reservation now even if you are unsure about whether you may decide to cancel.



### **TWELVE MILES OF ROBLES PASS TRAILS**

Submitted by Elisabeth Wheeler

Twelve miles of Robles Pass Trails are located at the southern end of the Tucson Mountains. Many bikers ride these trails, but few hikers explore these trails.

Kaori Hashimoto, Jack Jeffrey, Elissa Cochran, and Gayle Hosek were guided on a 6-mile exploratory hike led by Elisabeth Wheeler. Hikers commented on the variety of saguaros viewed, including a saguaro with a prickly pear growing out of it. Highlights were viewing a COVID masked skeleton riding a buckboard (see photo) and enjoying Chris Jeffrey's delicious chocolate pecan cookies.



Masked Skeleton on a Buckboard Photo by Elissa Cochran

How did this masked skeleton get here as well as the other artifacts scattered about? What is known is the story of how Robles Pass got its name as told by Elisabeth. Another mystery to be solved is a large stone house with a prominent fireplace and many windows located on a hillside above Ajo Way.



Old Stone House in Robles Pass Park  
Hikers: Elissa Cochran, Jack Jeffrey, Kaori Hashimoto, Gayle Hosek, Elisabeth Wheeler. Photo by Kaori Hashimoto

Hikers also enjoyed views of "A" Mountain, the Santa Rita Mountains, the Rincon Mountains, the

Santa Catalina Mountains, and the Bobaquivari Mountains. The weather was sunny and cool - perfect for this fun exploratory hike.

**ARIZONA WORK PARTY  
WEDNESDAY  
FEBRUARY 17 AND MARCH 17**

Submitted by Seanna Kobak

A sizable group of volunteers ventured out of their COVID shells to work on the Arizona Trail on January 20, 2021. Half of the group trimmed trees and cleared catchlaw on the southernmost tip of the passage, while the rest of the group improved a gate crossing on the trail.



They gathered buckets of sand/rock and scavenged the area for rocks to shore up the ground to make it easier for horses and bicyclists to cross the boundary. The earthen dam that was built by Ray Peale (passage steward), Elisabeth Wheeler, and volunteers many years ago had been worn away by wind and rain and badly in need of rebuilding.

Two new recruits, Frank Powell and Russ Hampton joined the group of regulars -Ray Peale, Steve Aiken, Garrett Rensing, Linda Barbour, Susan Hollis, Tom Geiger, Linda Eglin, Steve Meyer, Beth Jones, and Seana Kobak. Donovan Caputo from the Arizona Trail Association provided tools and instruction.



Everyone was treated to a morning of camaraderie, sunshine, exercise, and great bread from Breadsmith! The next work parties will be Wednesday, February 17, 2021, and Wednesday, March 17, 2021. To volunteer for a rewarding morning of outdoor work and fun, please email Seana Kobak: [seanabk88@gmail.com](mailto:seanabk88@gmail.com)

Future Trips		
Destination	Dates	Contact Person
Spring Hiking Trip Moab, Utah	April 12-16 2021	Tim Butler <a href="mailto:tucsontimmer@gmail.com">tucsontimmer@gmail.com</a>

News You Can Use		
AZ. Trail Work Session Meet: Mountain View Lot	2/17 Wed.	7:30 A.M. - Noon
AZ. Trail Work Session Meet: Mountain View Lot	3/17 Wed.	7:30 A.M. - Noon

## Hiking Information

### HIKE RATINGS, PACE AND ELEVATION CHANGE

#### Ratings

Ratings are based on the following round-trip distances and accumulated gains in elevation over the course of the hike. The hike rating is determined by one (or both) of the two values being exceeded. For example, if a hike exceeds the criterion for distance but not for corresponding elevation, the rating would be set for distance. In the hike descriptions that follow, both parameter values are exceeded for some hikes. However, that does not necessarily justify a higher combined rating.

Hike Rating	Distance (miles)	Accumulated Elevation Gain (feet)
A	>14	>3000
B	>8 to 14	>1500 to 3000
C	>4 to 8	>500 to 1500
D	≤4	≤500

## **Special Conditions**

\*\*\*Some hikes may have special conditions that make a hike more difficult than the mileage/elevation gain rating would suggest. This could be due to unusual trail conditions, such as a very rocky trail, large steps up or down, or more exposure (steep banks or a cliff) which are present. These hikes are denoted with three asterisks beside the letter rating and will be repeated in the hike description with an explanation. When hikers sign up for a hike with the symbol \*\*\* they should clarify with the guide about the special condition to determine if the hike is right for them.

## **Pace**

Pace for our hikes is described in terms of the moving average speed in miles per hour (MPH) over the course of a hike. The overall average speed is much more variable, depending on the number and duration of rest breaks and lunch, and the condition of a particular trail (smooth and flat versus rocky and steep). The following four categories are used to describe pace in the hike descriptions. The following four categories are used to describe pace in the newsletter:

Pace	Moving Average Speed (MPH)
Leisurely	<1.5
Slow	1.5 to <2.0
Moderate	2.0 to <2.5
Fast	≥2.5

## **Elevation Change**

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

Net Elevation Change is generally the change in elevation obtained by subtracting the starting elevation from the highest (or lowest) point reached during the course of the hike, in feet. This estimate may be obtained from USGS maps or a global positioning system (GPS). If no destination is listed, which may be the case for loop hikes or point-to-point hikes, net change is defined as the difference between the trailhead elevation and the highest elevation reached during the hike. If net elevation lost between the trailhead and the destination, a minus sign is used to show that elevation is lost. If an elevation profile is available, which applies in this database to mostly the Arizona Trail hikes for which GPS tracks have been generated, the net elevation change is the difference between the highest and lowest points along the trail.

Accumulated Gain is the sum of all upward stretches of a hike as recorded by a GPS device over the course of the entire hike. Accumulated elevation gain is always a more accurate indicator of hike difficulty than net change in elevation.

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

A cursory critique of the definition for “net elevation change” reveals that it is vague and imprecise and provides limited insight into trail difficulty (which is more accurately described in terms of accumulated gain or loss (parameters that are measured by GPSs). However, accumulated gain/loss information is unavailable for many hikes in the database, so net change has, for the time being, been retained because it is the only statistic available.

Accumulated gains are always greater than net elevation changes, except for point-to-point hikes where the destination is at a lower elevation than trailhead elevation. In this case, the accumulated gain could be much lower than the net elevation change. A good example of this is the hike from the top of Mt. Lemmon to Catalina State Park, which actually results in little gain but rather a significant accumulated loss. For loop and out-and-

back hikes, accumulated elevation gains are usually greater, sometimes much greater, than net elevation changes.

## Hikes Offered

**REMINDER:** Pandemic precautions are in effect as outlined in the article elsewhere in this newsletter. Each guide will explain the safety measures that each hiker will be expected to follow on that particular hike.

**Monday, March 01, 2021 David Yetman Trail. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [165, 08:00 AM, \$8].** 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, the Painted Cave, and one of the best stands of saguaros on the planet including two crested. See video of hike at: <https://www.relive.cc/view/vRO7RpmE4yv>. Bring lunch, water, hat, sun lotion, and hiking stick. Hike 6.4 miles; trailhead elevation 2800 feet; net elevation change 643 feet; accumulated gain 730 feet; RTD 75 miles. [Guide: Michael Hovan, [michaelhovan@ameritech..](mailto:michaelhovan@ameritech..)]

**Monday, March 01, 2021 Picacho Peak via Sunset Vista Trail (short version). Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [332, 09:00 AM, \$9 + \$2].** From the Sunset Vista Trailhead we follow the trail to the point on the foot of the Peak that starts the steep climb to Picacho Peak (entrance fee required). The return is via the same route. The southerly views from the turning point are excellent. Park entrance fee required. Hike 4.2 miles; trailhead elevation 1850 feet; net elevation change 751 feet; accumulated gain \_\_ feet; RTD 90 miles. [Guide: Kathryn Madore, [kathryn.madore@gmail.com](mailto:kathryn.madore@gmail.com)]

**Tuesday, March 02, 2021 Bluff Loop Trail Sabino Canyon. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [110, 08:00 AM, \$6].** From the Sabino Canyon Visitor Center, the hike proceeds along the Esperero Trail to the Bluff Trail overlooking Sabino Creek, and is a favorite during the fall and spring due to color changes in the leaves of velvet ash, cottonwood, willow, and Arizona sycamore trees. We return via Sabino Dam stopping for a snack there. We end by doing the Nature Trail Loop. Bring a camera and a minimum of one liter of water. Hike 3.1 miles; trailhead elevation 2720 feet; net elevation change 200 feet; accumulated gain \_\_ feet; RTD 56 miles. [Guide: Ruth Caldwell, email: [azcaldwell3@gmail.com](mailto:azcaldwell3@gmail.com)]

**Tuesday, March 02, 2021 Tour de Tortolitas: Loop of Alamo Springs Trail, Ridgeline Trail, Loop Trail, Wild Burro, and Wild Mustang Trail. Rating: A. Pace: Moderate [171, 07:00 AM, \$4].** From the Ritz Carlton hiker parking lot, proceed through Wild Burro wash and Lower Javalina Trail to Alamo Spring Trail. Follow Alamo Springs Trail to the Ridgeline Trail. Return on the Loop Trail, a segment of the Wild Burro Trail, and the Wild Mustang Trail, returning to the parking lot down the Upper Javelina Trail and Hotel spur trail. Hike 15.5 miles; trailhead elevation 3000; net elevation change 1449 feet; accumulated gain 3216 feet; RTD 44 miles [Margaret Valair, e-mail: [mvalair@shaw.ca](mailto:mvalair@shaw.ca)]

**Tuesday, March 02, 2021 Sutherland Wash Petroglyphs Loop from the south.. Rating: C\*\*\*. Pace: Moderate [98, 08:00 AM, \$4].** This hike begins at the CSP North Gate. It takes us on a grand circle tour of four concentrations of ancient petroglyphs located west of Baby Jesus Ridge near the Sutherland Wash. The Sutherland Wash Rock Art District is a special place right in our backyard and is on the National Historic Register. Hohokam petroglyphs dating from 900 AD to 1300 AD number in the thousands on the western slope of the Santa Catalina Mountains. Along our hike we will see beautiful saguaros, seasonal

wildflowers, and vistas of Pusch Ridge. The hike involves a few short, steep, rocky sections of trail and uneven footing at times. Bring a lunch or snack to enjoy while we rest on rocks near one of the petroglyph locations. Hike 4.7 miles; trailhead elevation 2950 feet; total ascent: 722 ft, net elevation change: 431 ft. RTD 12 miles (dirt). This hike is on or crosses Arizona State Trust Land: The Arizona Land Department's trust management responsibilities include requiring a permit or lease and charging a fee for use of Trust land. Please note that Trust Land is private (not public) and requires a recreation permit for hiking which can be obtained through the state land department. [Guide: Dave Corrigan, [dave@daveandpam.com](mailto:dave@daveandpam.com), 520-820-6110.]

**Wednesday, March 03, 2021 Coyote Pass Loop. Rating C. Pace: Moderate [NEW, 08:00 AM, \$6]**

This new hike is off of Picture Rocks Road in a beautiful desert area near Saguaro National Park West. This will be an “exploratory” hike using established trails to determine the suitability of adding it to our hike database. The hike consists of 2 loops over rolling terrain with moderate accumulated gain. This trail should be suitable for the low to mid level C hiker. Hike 5.7 miles: trailhead elevation 2,385 feet; net elevation change: 272 feet; accumulated gain 512 feet; RTD 60 miles. [Guide: Walt Shields, [waltshields@mac.com](mailto:waltshields@mac.com), 520-404-8998.]

**Wednesday, March 03, 2021 Wildflower Hike. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [489, 08:00 AM, TBD].**

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 less than 4 miles; trailhead elevation \_\_ feet; net elevation change \_\_ feet; accumulated gain less than 500 feet. [Guide: Elisabeth Wheeler, [hikerelisabeth@gmail.com](mailto:hikerelisabeth@gmail.com).]

**Wednesday, March 03, 2021 Superstitions: La Barge Creek/Boulder Canyon Loop, with side trips.**

**Rating: B\*\*\*. Pace: Moderate [409, 07:00 AM, \$19].** This hike is for those who would like to see the Superstitions from a different perspective, hiking off-trail to areas not commonly seen. The hike begins with a 3 minute side trip to the Superstition Wilderness sign, which provides great views of Weavers Needle and Battleship Mountain. About a half mile from the trailhead (across Hwy 88 from the Canyon Lake parking area), we leave Boulder Canyon Trail and go down a spur trail to La Barge creek. We walk along this rocky creek bed about 1.9 miles (reduced pace), briefly rejoin the Boulder Canyon Trail, and then leave it again, soon entering through the sheer rock walls of La Barge Canyon. Hiking through this canyon, described in Todd's Desert Hiking Guide as the ...”nicest canyon in the Superstitions,” involves boulder hopping, some scrambling and climbing, and minor bushwhacking. We proceed less than a mile through the canyon along the east side of pyramid-shaped Battleship Mountain to an area of lovely seasonal pools and then return the way we came back to the trail. We will continue on Boulder Canyon Trail through Paint Mine Saddle to Indian Paint Mine. In addition to old foundations and mining shafts, the rocks in this area are said to have been mined by the Indians for paint. We return to the Boulder Canyon intersection, hike 1.7 miles north through the Canyon, rejoin La Barge Creek for 1 mile, then exit the remaining 0.6 mile back to the trailhead. Wear long pants and wetable shoes, and consider bringing hiking sticks. Hike 9.5 miles; trailhead elevation 1200 feet; net elevation change 725 feet; accumulated gain 1670 feet; RTD 190 miles. [Guide: Michael Hovan, [michaelhovan@ameritech.net](mailto:michaelhovan@ameritech.net).]

**Thursday, March 04, 2021 Description: Two Cresteds and a Bushwhack Trail. Rating: C\*\*\* Pace: Moderate [NEW, 08:00 AM, \$4].**

From the Upper Corral parking area the hike proceeds along the diagonal trail to the Middlegate. After passing the gate we will follow cow paths for a bit before climbing up a rudimentary/bushwhack trail to a beautiful crested saguaro. \*\*\*The climb involves steep areas with some loose rock - hiking poles recommended. After leaving the saguaro we will continue east until we intersect the Middlegate Trail, then turn north following that trail back to the Middlegate. Along that trail we will see another iconic crested saguaro. After passing through the gate we retrace our steps to the

parking area. Hike 5.7 miles; trailhead elevation 3240; net elevation change 300 feet; accumulated gain 650 feet; RTD 10 miles. [Guide: Tim Butler, [tucsontimmer@gmail.com](mailto:tucsontimmer@gmail.com)]

**Thursday, March 04, 2021 Middle Gate/50 Year/Hidden Cyn. Loop 2. Rating: B or C. Pace: Moderate [523, 08:00 AM, \$4].** The B/C rating is due to the length of the hike which just exceeds the upper limit for C hike designation. From the Upper Corral area we hike to the Middle Gate and take the N. 50 Yr.Trail north to the junction with the Hidden Canyon Loop Trail. We take the Hidden Cyn. Loop Trail clockwise around Hidden Canyon Peak. We will have lunch on rock slabs with a magnificent view. We then head down the Hidden Canyon Trail to a spur trail which takes us west to join the Middle Gate Trail. We will take that trail back through the Middle Gate and return to the Upper Corral. Hike 8.2 miles; trailhead elevation 3260 feet; net elevation change 718 feet; accumulated gain 1104 feet; RTD 10 miles (dirt). A medium to high clearance vehicle is required for driving on the Forest Service road beyond N. Equestrian Trail. This hike is on or crosses Arizona State Trust Land: "The Arizona Land Department's trust management responsibilities include requiring a permit or lease and charging a fee for use of Trust land." Please note that Trust Land is private (not public) and requires a recreation permit for hiking which can be obtained through the state land department (<https://land.az.gov/applications-permits>). [Guide:Frank Earnest at [fearnestiv@gmail.com](mailto:fearnestiv@gmail.com)]

**Friday, March 05, 2021 Honey Bee/Sausalito Canyons. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [New, 8:00 AM, \$3].** The hike begins at Honey Bee Canyon Park and continues north up the wash. We pass the Hohokam petroglyphs and two broken dams. We then cross under the fence into state trust land currently leased by the Martin Ranch. We continue into Sausalito Canyon to the massive "Hindenburg", one of the largest crested saguaro in the Tucson area. Witness it with your own eyes. Our lunch stop is at a windmill, tank, and corral further up the scenic canyon. Return is a partial loop utilizing the Honeybee West and Honeybee Meadow trails. Hike 7.5 miles; trailhead elevation 2800 feet; accumulated gain 650 feet; RTD 26 miles. [Guide: Michael Hovan, [michaelhovan@ameritech.net](mailto:michaelhovan@ameritech.net)]

**Friday, March 05, 2021 Alamo Canyon Up/Back or Loop. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [6, 08:00 AM, \$2 + \$2].** The hike begins at the Romero Ruins Trailhead in Catalina State Park. This hike can be done on north side trail in-out or as a loop around Alamo Canyon going up one side and returning down the other (clockwise or counter-clockwise). Other than one short area by the wash, the elevation change is generally gradual. The south-side trail traverses several rocky washes. This is a lovely hike up to Alamo Canyon Falls and return. There is a very scenic large flat-rock area above the falls. Water may be present in the canyon after rainy periods, but there are no significant water crossings. Hikers may stop by the Romero Ruins and take the informative loop trail from there. Hike 3.5 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 360 feet; accumulated gain 429 feet; RTD 24 miles. [Guide: Bruce Landeck, email: [bflandeck@gmail.com](mailto:bflandeck@gmail.com)]

**Saturday, March 06, 2021 🐕 Extended Fitness Walk. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [179, 07:00 AM, \$0].** This is a dog friendly hike. All members are welcome with or without a dog. As the name implies this is an extended version of the weekday fitness walks. They will last 2 hours and travel approximately 6 miles over a variety of terrain including paved streets, golf course paths, and wilderness areas. They will start and finish in the same location as the weekday walks in the SaddleBrooke One parking lot. The longer duration will allow exploration of new and more distant areas, including The Preserve. The accumulated gain will vary from 600-1200 feet. Optional breakfast at the Road Runner Grill. [Guide: Michael Hovan, [michaelhovan@ameritech.net](mailto:michaelhovan@ameritech.net)]

**Monday, March 08, 2021 The Preserve/Dome Trail. Rating: C\*\*\*. Pace: Moderate [New, 8:00 AM, \$0].** The hike begins at the east end of E Willow Canyon Rd. After crossing the Canada del Oro wash,

the trail continues into the foothill through beautiful granite formations and native desert flora until it intersects the Dome Extension Trail, and then on to Dome Rock. Along the entire way are great views of SaddleBrooke, Catalina, and the Samaniego Ridge. The special condition designation\*\*\* is that there are several sections that are steeper than on an average park constructed trail. Hike 5.6 miles; trailhead elevation 3300 feet; elevation change 700 feet; accumulated gain 750 feet; RTD 0 miles. [Michael Hovan, [michaelhovan@ameritech.net](mailto:michaelhovan@ameritech.net)]

**Monday, March 08, 2021 Pontatoc Peak. Rating: B\*\*\*. Pace: Moderate [498, 07:30 AM, \$4].** The hike starts at the Finger Rock Trailhead at the north end of Alvernon Way. Sometimes called the Old Spanish Mine Trail, the trail goes up the northwest side of Pontatoc Ridge to a faint trail junction that leads right and straight uphill. The junction is a little over 2 miles from the trailhead and clearly visible due to increased recent use. Continuing along this faint, steep, rocky trail for another half mile and 900 feet vertically will get you to the peak, but there is significant boulder scrambling required along the way. The peak is not identified on USGS topo maps, but is located at 12S 510674, 3578685 and is about 5080 feet high. There are great views of Tucson and the surrounding area at the top and along the way. The hike is strenuous in some areas due to the steep incline, rocky path, and scrambling. At the junction on the way down, a right turn will take you to just below the old mines. Including this short side trip adds 0.2 miles and 100 feet of climbing but allows hikers to reach the destination of the Pontatoc Ridge hike also. There are short stretches of exposed trail near the old mines and along the steep climb to the ridge leading to the peak. Hike 5.2 miles; trailhead elevation 3100 feet; net elevation change 2000 feet; accumulated gain 2400 feet; RTD 44 miles. [Guide: Jeff Love, [seppylov@gmail.com](mailto:seppylov@gmail.com).]

**Monday, March 08, 2021 Garwood Dam. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [199, 09:00 AM, \$8].** The hike begins at a trailhead in Saguaro National Park – East off Cactus Forest Drive. Hikers will pass through the cactus forest of the park across mostly level terrain, although there is some climbing near the dam. The destination is the historic Garwood Dam in the foothills of the Rincon Mountains. Hike 4.4 miles; trailhead elevation 2800 feet; net elevation change 250 feet; accumulated gain 850 feet; RTD 80 miles. [Guide: Kathryn Madore, email: [kathryn.madore@gmail.com](mailto:kathryn.madore@gmail.com)]

**Tuesday, March 09, 2021 Sabino Canyon - Bear Canyon Loop (no Tram). Rating: A. Pace: Moderate [374, 07:00 AM, \$6].** Starting at the Sabino Canyon Visitor Center, hikers follow the Phone Line and Sabino Canyon Trails to the East Fork intersection, the East Fork to the Bear/Sycamore intersection and then the Bear Canyon Trail past Seven Falls, back to the Visitor Center. We may have to revise the route if the stream is high in Bear Canyon. This is a very scenic hike on good trails. Hike 17.5 miles; trailhead elevation 2720 feet; net elevation change 2683 feet; accumulated gain 3070 feet; RTD 56 miles. [Margaret Valair, e-mail: [mvalair@shaw.ca](mailto:mvalair@shaw.ca)]

**Tuesday, March 09, 2021 🐕OSP Mariposa/Granite Overlook. Rating: C Pace: Moderate [309, 8:00 AM, \$3 + \$2].** This is a dog friendly hike. All members are welcome with or without a dog. The hike begins at the American Ave Trailhead. We proceed through rolling, desert grasslands, then uphill through boulders, oak trees, and manzanita stands to the highest point in the park. The hike offers great views of the former Kannally Ranch which originally extended all the way to the San Pedro River. Hike 4.2 miles; trailhead elevation 4250, net elevation change 400 feet, accumulated gain 560 feet; RTD 40 miles. [Michael Hovan, [michaelhovan@ameritech.net](mailto:michaelhovan@ameritech.net)]

**Tuesday, March 09, 2021 American Flag to Windmill. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [10, 08:00 AM, \$4].** From the American Flag Trailhead off of the Mt. Lemmon Road, the trail proceeds in a northerly direction across National Forest and State Trust Land, crossing Webb Road and continuing to Oracle State Park. After traveling 1.7 miles through the park, the trail crosses Cottonwood Wash and continues to

a windmill after another 0.3 mile. Hikers will stop and have a snack or lunch here and return via the same route. This section of the Arizona National Scenic Trail ambles through washes and across low ridges speckled with high desert plants. There are expansive views of the Galiuro Mountains and Oracle Ridge along the way. Hike 8.9 miles; trailhead elevation 4400 feet; net elevation change 350 feet; accumulated gain 1254 feet; RTD 41 miles. [Guide: Dave Corrigan, [dave@daveandpam.com](mailto:dave@daveandpam.com), 520-820-6110.]

**Wednesday, March 10, 2021 Wildflower Hike. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [489, 08:00 AM, TBD].** 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 less than 4 miles; trailhead elevation \_\_ feet; net elevation change \_\_ feet; accumulated gain less 500 feet. [Guide: Elisabeth Wheeler, [hikerelisabeth@gmail.com](mailto:hikerelisabeth@gmail.com).]

**Wednesday, March 10, 2021 Double Crested/Dome Trail. Rating: C\*\*\*. Pace: Moderate [510, 08:00 AM, \$0].** This hike is on a newly constructed trail to Big Dome Rock that passes a rare double crested saguaro. Many SaddleBrooke residents have a view from their homes of Dome Rock - the large dome formation to the east that is bald in the middle with patchy vegetation on both sides, and located about a third of the way up to Charouleau Gap. The hike departs from the south end of S Arroyo Way in Unit 21. We cross Canada del Oro Wash, and then follow the newly developed route east through a small wash, and along several ridgelines to our destination. We will pass through interesting granite formations, with many saguaros and ocotillo forests. One of the highlights along the way is Double Beauty, a rare double crested saguaro registered with the Crested Saguaro Society. On top of the dome there are great 360 degree views of Saddlebrooke and Catalina. We will return by the same route. Hike 3.5 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change 750 feet; accumulated gain 800 feet; RTD 0 miles. [Guide: Tom Stafford, [tominpoint@gmail.com](mailto:tominpoint@gmail.com)]

**Wednesday, March 10, 2021 Hidden Canyon Loop via Miraval Ridge Trail. Rating B. Pace: Moderate [New, 07:30, \$0]** From Catalina County Park, just south of Miraval Resort, we will follow some local trails that approach Miraval, then turn southeast to climb up to The Chutes network of trails, connect to the Gem trail, the 50 Year Trail, the Cowboy Slickrock trail, and finally into Hidden Canyon. Then we will loop around Hidden Canyon Peak, with a possible side diversion to the top, and connect back to the end of the 50 Year Trail, and back to the trailhead via our outbound route. Hike 8.4 miles, accumulated gain 1300 feet. RTD 5 miles. This hike is on or crosses Arizona State Trust Land: The Arizona Land Department's trust management responsibilities include requiring a permit or lease and charging a fee for use of Trust land. Please note that Trust Land is private (not public) and requires a recreation permit for hiking which can be obtained through the state land department (<https://land.az.gov/applications-permits>). [Guide: Randy Park, [rparktucson@gmail.com](mailto:rparktucson@gmail.com)]

**Thursday, March 11, 2021 American Flag. Rating: D\*\*. Pace: Moderate [8, 08:00 AM, \$4].** The hike begins at the American Flag Trailhead on the old Mt. Lemmon Road and covers a section of the Arizona Trail. \*\*This hike is usually a C hike going clear to the Ridgeline. But as a D hike we will only go up 2 miles and then back. The hike is a steady climb and portions of the trail are rocky. Hike 4 miles; trailhead elevation 4400 feet; net elevation change 450 feet; accumulated gain 500 feet; RTD 41 miles. [Guide: Janet Frost [janetlynnfrost@gmail.com](mailto:janetlynnfrost@gmail.com) ]

**Thursday, March 11, 2021 Thursday, March 11, 2021 CSP Sutherland Cargodera Loop Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [NEW, 8:00 AM, \$2 + \$2]** Park at main trailhead. The hike begins at the main trailhead in Catalina State Park and goes north on the Sutherland Trail to the Cargodera Flat Rocks. Proceed to the Sutherland Link trail (rocky jeep road). Go WNW on Sutherland Link and then horse trail to Sutherland Wash. Turn south and enter park through gate. Proceed South on social-side trails. Continue on social-

side trails to the Nature Trail or Sutherland and main trailhead. Hike 7 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change Est 700 feet; accumulated gain Est 1000 feet; RTD 24 miles. Hike is limited to 8 persons. Mask required at signup and trailhead. Plan on self-driving to CSP main trailhead. [Guide: Rob Simms [Spartan7375@gmail.com](mailto:Spartan7375@gmail.com)]

**Friday, March 12, 2021 Pair O' Chutes. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate. [NEW, 08:00 AM, \$4]** Nice hike with some rolling hills from the Upper Corral parking area. This hike combines a couple of the "Chutes" trails in the northwestern part of the 50 Year trail area. There are great views of the Catalina mountains as we hike north before circling back along a ridge and then return on a trail alongside some beautiful juniper trees. Hike 4.0 mi, trailhead elevation 3260 ft, net elevation change 175 ft., accumulated gain 340 ft. RTD 10 mi (dirt). [Guide: Ruth Caldwell, email: [azcaldwell3@gmail.com](mailto:azcaldwell3@gmail.com)]

**Friday, March 12, 2021 Charouleau Peak foothills. Rating: C\*\*\*. Pace: Moderate [New, 08:00 AM, \$0].** The first part of this hike is on the Double Crested/Dome Trail. We then bushwhack east toward Charouleau Peak for 1.3 miles. We will climb up the ridgeline into the burn area that was used as a firebreak to protect Saddlebrooke from the Bighorn fire. We will have lunch on a prominent lookout. Return is via FR4496 with a stop at Carrisito Spring, and then down the DC/D trail. Although, the bushwhack is not difficult, it is prudent to dress defensively for the occasional catclaw. This is a good introduction to off-trail hiking for any adventurous C level hiker. Hike 7 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change 1285 feet; accumulated gain 1400 feet; RTD 0 miles. [Guide: Michael Hovan, [michaelhovan@ameritech.net](mailto:michaelhovan@ameritech.net).]

**Friday, March 12, 2021 Ironwood Picnic Area. Rating: C. Pace: slow- Moderate [231, 08:00 AM, \$7].** The hike starts just west of Gates Pass. It follows the Golden Gate Trail, then the Prospector's Trail. After a short climb (150 feet) to a pass, the trail drops to the tree-shaded Ironwood Picnic area. After lunch, hikers follow the gradually ascending (almost level) Ironwood Trail back to the starting point. Hike 6 miles; trailhead elevation 2900 feet; net elevation change 500 feet; accumulated gain \_\_ feet; RTD 73 miles. [Guide: Karen Gray, 520-351-2058. [kgrayinaz@yahoo.com](mailto:kgrayinaz@yahoo.com).]

**Sunday, March 14, 2021 Extended Fitness Walk. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [179, 07:00 AM, \$0].** As the name implies this is an extended version of the weekday fitness walks. They will last 2 hours and travel approximately 6 miles over a variety of terrain including paved streets, golf course paths, and wilderness areas. They will start and finish in the same location as the weekday walks in the SaddleBrooke One parking lot. The longer duration will allow exploration of new and more distant areas, including The Preserve. The accumulated gain will vary from 600-1200 feet. Optional breakfast at the Road Runner Grill. [Guide: Michael Hovan, [michaelhovan@ameritech.net](mailto:michaelhovan@ameritech.net)]

**Monday, March 15, 2021 Sutherland Wash Petroglyphs loop from Golder Ranch. Rating: C\*\*\*. Pace: Moderate [186, 08:00 AM, \$2].** This hike begins at Golder Ranch. It takes us on a grand circle tour of four concentrations of ancient petroglyphs located west of Baby Jesus Ridge near the Sutherland Wash. The Sutherland Wash Rock Art District is a special place right in our backyard and is on the National Historic Register. Hohokam petroglyphs dating from 900 AD to 1300 AD number in the thousands on the western slope of the Santa Catalina Mountains. Along our hike we will see beautiful saguaros, seasonal wildflowers, and beautiful vistas of Pusch Ridge. The hike involves a few short, steep, rocky sections of trail, some rock scrambling, and a short section of mild bushwhacking. There are also two crossings of a wash which may involve some easy rock-hopping depending on the season. Bring a lunch or snack to enjoy while we rest in the shade of some giant boulders at one of the petroglyph locations. Hike 6.0 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change 250 feet; accumulated gain 800 feet; RTD 10 miles. This hike is on or crosses Arizona State Trust Land: The Arizona Land

Department's trust management responsibilities include requiring a permit or lease and charging a fee for use of Trust land. Please note that Trust Land is private (not public) and requires a recreation permit for hiking which can be obtained through the state land department (<https://land.az.gov/applications-permits>). Starting the hike from this parking location avoids the need for high clearance vehicles. [Guide: Tim Butler, [tucsontimmer@gmail.com](mailto:tucsontimmer@gmail.com).]

**Monday, March 15, 2021 Tortolita Mountains: Upper Javelina and Wild Mustang Trails to Lookout. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [462, 09:00 AM, \$4].** 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. [Guide: Kathryn Madore, email: [kathryn.madore@gmail.com](mailto:kathryn.madore@gmail.com)]

**Tuesday, March 16, 2021 Picnic Rock Beeline Trail. Rating: C\*\*\* Pace: Moderate [8:00 AM, \$0].** This is an out and back hike using the newly constructed Picnic Rock Beeline Trail. The hike departs from the south end of Arroyo Way in Unit 21. After crossing the Canada del Oro Wash, the route shares the first 0.5 mile with the Double Crested/Dome Trail across a gentle mesa with prairie grass and mesquite trees. The trail then climbs up a ridgeline, crossing Charouleau Gap Road, to a prominent overlook above the Dodge Tank gorge. It is an area where five arroyos join to form the main channel, with steep rock walls descending into the wash below. The return route provides great views of SaddleBrooke and the surrounding area. The special condition\*\*\* is that there are several trail sections that are steeper than on an average park constructed trail. Hike 3.0 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; accumulated gain 600 feet; RTD 0 miles. [Guide: Tom Stafford, [tominpoint@gmail.com](mailto:tominpoint@gmail.com)]

**Tuesday, March 16, 2021 Mt. Wrightson via Old Baldy Trail. Rating: A. Pace: Moderate [295, 07:00 AM, \$13].** 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. There is a fee for parking unless you have a National Park Pass that must be displayed. [Margaret Valair, e-mail: [mvalair@shaw.ca](mailto:mvalair@shaw.ca)]

**Tuesday, March 16, 2021 Picket Post Loop Trail. Rating: C/B. Pace: Moderate [New, 07:00 AM, \$12].** This scenic trail loops around Picket Post Mountain in Superior, AZ. It features a canyon, seasonal waterfall, and typical desert flora. Although classified as an easy B level hike according to distance, the accumulated gain is minimal, making this suitable for any strong C level hiker. Hike 8.6 miles; trailhead elevation 2400 feet; net elevation change 482 feet; accumulated gain 754 feet; RTD 150 miles. [Guide: Michael Hovan, [michaelhovan@ameritech.net](mailto:michaelhovan@ameritech.net)]

**Wednesday, March 17, 2021 Arizona Trail: Work Session. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [87, 07:30 AM, \$4 Paid 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 \$4 driver donation. [Guide: Seana Kobak, [seanabk88@gmail.com](mailto:seanabk88@gmail.com), or Ray Peale, [ray.peale@gmail.com](mailto:ray.peale@gmail.com)]

**Thursday, March 18, 2021 Fifty-Year Trail Loop to gate via Ridgeline Trail. Rating: C. Pace: SLOW [New, 08:00 AM, \$2 + \$2].** The hike begins at the Equestrian Center in Catalina State Park. After starting on the Fifty-Year Trail hikers will turn left onto an unmarked trail and hike along a rugged, scenic ridge line trail for about 2 miles. At the junction with the Fifty-Year Trail, we turn left and hike to gate and we return to the Equestrian Center via the Fifty-Year Trail. Hike is 5.6 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 386 feet; total ascent 476 feet. RTD 24 miles. [Guide: Karen Gray, 520-351-2058, [kgrayinaz@yahoo.com](mailto:kgrayinaz@yahoo.com).]

**Thursday, March 18, 2021 Esperero Canyon/Rattlesnake/Phoneline Loop Trail. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [NEW, 08:00 AM, \$6].** From the Sabino Canyon Visitor Center, the hike proceeds along the Esperero Canyon/Rattlesnake Canyon trails to the Tram stop 1 picnic area on Sabino Creek - a favorite with views of Sabino Creek with velvet ash, cottonwood, willow, and Arizona sycamore trees. After a short break we will cross Sabino Creek (if water level permits) and climb a spur trail up to the Phoneline Trail where we turn to head back down towards the Visitor Center. We will finish on the Bajada Nature loop with a beautiful crested saguaro. Bring a camera and plenty of water and snack. Hike 5.1 miles; trailhead elevation 2450 feet; net elevation change 500 feet; accumulated gain 780 feet; RTD 56 miles. [Guide: Ruth Caldwell, [azcaldwell3@gmail.com](mailto:azcaldwell3@gmail.com)]

**Friday, March 19, 2021 Dripping Springs from the Sutherland Trail. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [172, 08:00 AM, \$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. Keep to the left at a trail junction for lower Romero Canyon, which can be visited later. Hike 4.2 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 475 feet; accumulated gain 475 feet; RTD 24 miles. [Guide: Bruce Landeck, email: [bflandeck@gmail.com](mailto:bflandeck@gmail.com)]

**Saturday, March 20, 2021 4178 Expressway. Rating: C\*\*\*. Pace: Moderate [New, 07:00 AM, \$0].** The hike begins at the Arroyo Way Trailhead and proceeds on a newly constructed use trail to Point 4178, also known as Hidden Canyon Peak. It begins following the Canada del Oro Wash, takes a short jog up Charouleau Gap road, across a small valley of prickly pear cactus and mesquite trees, past the outlet of Dodge Tank gorge, and then up the ridgeline to meet Hidden Canyon Loop Trail. After a short distance on the bike path, the route proceeds through a meadow and then over slab rock to the summit. The views are wonderful of Catalina, Oro Valley, and the Tortolitas. This is the highest, easily accessible lookout in the front range of the Catalinas. Return is via the same route. Hike 6.7 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change 978 feet; accumulated gain 1230 feet; RTD 0 miles. [Michael Hovan, [michaelhovan@ameritech.net](mailto:michaelhovan@ameritech.net)]

**Sunday, March 21, 2021 🐕 Canyon Loop and Birding Trail. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [135, 10:00 AM, \$2 + \$2].** This is a dog Friendly hike. All members are welcome with or without a pet. 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 4.1 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 433 feet; accumulated gain 499 feet; RTD 24 miles. [Michael Hovan, [michaelhovan@ameritech.net](mailto:michaelhovan@ameritech.net)]

**Monday, March 22, 2021 Tortolita Mountains: Wild Mustang Trail to Jeb Peak. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [138, 07:30 AM, \$4].** The hike begins at the Wild Burro TH, and proceeds up the Hotel Spur to the Wild Mustang Trail. We then turn on an unmaintained, but well marked spur, and continue the climb to Jeb Peak, the 3rd highest point in the Tortolita range. There are excellent 360 degree views of Tucson, Catalina, and Marana. While the final 100 foot climb to the summit involves an easy rock scramble, good views are also available from a lower knoll. This hike is also appropriate for any strong C level hikers. Return is via the same route. Hike 7.6 miles; trailhead elevation 2780 feet; net elevation change 1390 feet; accumulated gain 1722 feet; RTD 44 miles. [Guide: Jeff Love, [seppylov@gmail.com](mailto:seppylov@gmail.com).]

**Monday, March 22, 2021 Tiger Mine to Kannelly Homestead Oracle State Park. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [NEW, 09:00 AM, \$4.00].** Hike begins after we park at the Old Tiger Road Mine Road and pass thru a fence signed with an AZT marker. We will follow this trail that is often use by hikers going to the Arizona Trail through Oracle State Park. This single track route features rolling terrain with impressive views in all directions. The beauty of the hilly remote grasslands, oaks and granite boulders are crossed with small stream beds. This is a birders paradise so bring your binoculars and camera. The views and land are stunning. We will hike to the Wildlife Corridor Bench to a view of the Kannelly Homestead where we will enjoy an early lunch before returning along the same trail. Hike 5 miles, trailhead elevation 4840'; net elevation change 500'; accumulated gain, RTD\_\_ miles. [Guide: Kathryn Madore, [kathryn.madore@gmail.com](mailto:kathryn.madore@gmail.com)]

**Tuesday, March 23, 2021 Dripping Springs from the Sutherland Trail. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [172, 08:00 AM, \$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 4.2 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 475 feet; accumulated gain 475 feet; RTD 24 miles. [Guide: Bruce Landeck, email: [bflandeck@gmail.com](mailto:bflandeck@gmail.com)]

**Tuesday, March 23, 2021 La Milagrosa Ridge, Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [New, 7:30am, \$9].** The hike begins near the intersection of N. Avenida de Suzenu and Horse Head Rd. (near Snyder Road off the start of the Catalina Hwy). We hike the La Milagrosa ridgeline out to the junction with the Bellota section of the Arizona Trail. At this trail junction, we return the way we came. Views down into La Milagrosa Canyon are splendid. When water is running this is a wonderland of cascades and falls. Hike 8 miles, Net elevation change 1271 feet, accumulated gain about 2,000 RTD 97 miles. [Guide: Susan Hollis, [shollis@yahoo.com](mailto:shollis@yahoo.com)]

**Wednesday, March 24, 2021 American Flag. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [8, 08:00 AM, \$4].** 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 1267 feet; RTD 41 miles. [Guides: Bruce Olson, Walt Shields, [brucej0506@gmail.com](mailto:brucej0506@gmail.com), 920-277-7687.]

**Wednesday, March 24, 2021 Box Camp Trail. Rating: A. Pace: Moderate [113, 06:00 AM, \$12].**

Starting at the Box Camp Trailhead near Spencer Peak on Catalina Hwy, the trail is downhill, crosses the East Fork Trail, then along the Sabino Canyon Trail to the uppermost tram stop in Sabino Canyon (fee required). We pass the Box Springs trail spur turnoff, stop for lunch near Apache Springs, and descend through pines, oaks, manzanita, and finally, saguaros. In the opinion of many hikers, this is the finest, most spectacular top-to-bottom hike in the Catalinas. A car will need to be left at Sabino Canyon Visitor Center. If hiking uphill, turn right (east) at the intersection of the Sabino Canyon and East Fork Trails and look for the Box Camp Trail after about 0.1 miles. Some maps show the trail leading up the creek bed but that is incorrect. Uphill, this is a difficult hike and a long day. Hike 11.5 miles; trailhead elevation 7920 feet; net elevation change minus 4400 feet; accumulated gain 1794 feet; accumulated loss 4960 feet; RTD 123 miles. [Guide: Michael Hovan, [michaelhovan@ameritech.net](mailto:michaelhovan@ameritech.net).]

**Thursday, March 25, 2021 Wasson Peak via Sweetwater Trail. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [481, 08:00 AM, \$6].**

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. [Guide: Frank Earnest at [fearnestiv@gmail.com](mailto:fearnestiv@gmail.com)]

**Thursday, March 25, 2021 Sutherland Trail. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [428, 08:00 AM, \$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 the same route. Hike 5.4-6 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 657 feet; accumulated gain 818 feet; RTD 24 miles. [Guide: Ruth Caldwell, email: [azcaldwell3@gmail.com](mailto:azcaldwell3@gmail.com)]

**Thursday, March 25, 2021 Superstitions: Dutchman Trail / Bluff Springs Loop. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [402, 07:30 AM, \$20].**

The hike starts at the Peralta Trailhead off Hwy 60 in the Superstitions and follows the Dutchman Trail through Barkley Basin. From the basin, the trail climbs past Miners Needle (smaller sister of Weavers Needle) to Miners Summit, then descends along the Bluff Springs Trail to Bluff Spring (has seasonal water). There are netleaf hackberry and oak shade trees along the way. Hikers then continue back to the trailhead with superb views of Weavers Needle. Hike 9.1 miles; trailhead elevation 2425 feet; net elevation change 883 feet; accumulated gain 1520 feet; RTD 154 miles (dirt). [Guide: Aaron Schoenberg; [askus3@centurylink.net](mailto:askus3@centurylink.net)]

**Friday, March 26, 2021 Fern Canyon/Roger's Rock Loop. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [New, 07:00 AM, \$13].**

The trailhead is the Madera Canyon parking lot for the Super Trail. From the Super Trail TH hike approximately .3 miles to where the Pipeline Trail begins on the left side of the trail. Climb along the Pipeline trail to a ridge with views of Kent Canyon. Continue on the Pipeline trail which parallels the Kent Springs trail below. At a creek crossing with the Kent Springs trail, turn up the creek away from the Kent Springs trail. The next .7 miles climb up along the creek and cut through some of the prettiest forest in the Santa Ritas. There are ferns everywhere and mossy old rocks. Just before a second creek crossing a well-defined trail breaks off to the left. This is the trail to Rogers Rock. At .2 miles the trail turns right up to a huge rock sitting amongst the trees...Roger's Rock. Climb up and around the back where you will get fantastic views over Madera Canyon and west to Pete Mountain. Head back to the upper creek crossing.

Cross over the creek follow the trail .25 miles to join back up with the Super Trail. We follow the Super Trail 2 miles back to the TH parking lot. Hike 4.5 miles; trailhead elevation 5450 feet; Net elevation change 1074 feet; accumulated gain 1116 feet; RTD 130 miles. [Guide: Elisabeth Wheeler, [hikerelisabeth@gmail.com](mailto:hikerelisabeth@gmail.com).]

**Friday, March 26, 2021 Flag Hill Lookout Trail. Rating C\*\*\* Pace: Moderate [8:00 AM, \$0].** This is an out and back hike using a portion of the Dome Rock Trail. The hike departs from the south end of Arroyo Way in Unit 21. After crossing the Canada del Oro Wash, it shares the first 1.1 miles with the Double Crested/Dome Trail and terminates at a prominent overlook above SaddleBrooke where an American Flag has been placed. Return is along the same route with great views of SaddleBrooke and the surrounding area. The special condition\*\*\* is that there are several trail sections that are steeper than on an average park constructed trail. Hike 2.5 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; accumulated gain 550 feet; RTD 0 miles. [Guide: Tom Stafford, [tominpoint@gmail.com](mailto:tominpoint@gmail.com)]

**Friday, March 26, 2021 Description: Blackett's Ridge Full Moonwalk. Rating: C/B\*\*\* Pace: Moderate [108, 4:00 PM, \$4].** We will make our ascent during the afternoon twilight, and arrive at the summit to observe the sunset. Bring a gourmet dinner with candles to enjoy as we watch the lights come on in Tucson. We will then do our descent in the moonlight. A headlamp with both red and white lights is required, in case the moon is blocked by clouds. 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. [Michael Hovan, [michaelhovan@ameritech.net](mailto:michaelhovan@ameritech.net)]

**Sunday, March 28, 2021 Extended Fitness Walk. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [179, 07:00 AM, \$0].** As the name implies this is an extended version of the weekday fitness walks. They will last 2 hours and travel approximately 6 miles over a variety of terrain including paved streets, golf course paths, and wilderness areas. They will start and finish in the same location as the weekday walks in the SaddleBrooke One parking lot. The longer duration will allow exploration of new and more distant areas, including The Preserve. The accumulated gain will vary from 600-1200 feet. Optional breakfast at the Road Runner Grill. [Guide: Michael Hovan, [michaelhovan@ameritech.net](mailto:michaelhovan@ameritech.net)]

**Monday, March 29, 2021 Tortolita Mountains: S. Wild Burro Canyon / Alamo Springs Trail / Spur Trail Loop. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [461, 08:00 AM, \$4].** This hike is dog-friendly. All are welcome with or without a canine companion. 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 direction. The Ritz Carlton Hotel is 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 5.7 miles; trailhead elevation 2780 feet; net elevation change 1029 feet; accumulated gain 1417 feet; RTD 46 miles. [Guide: Aaron Schoenberg; [askus3@centurylink.net](mailto:askus3@centurylink.net)]

**Monday, March 29, 2021 Douglas Spring Trail to the Campground. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [170, 07:00 AM, \$8].** 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 13.5 miles; trailhead elevation 2800 feet; net elevation change 2165 feet; accumulated gain 2684 feet; RTD 80 miles. [Guide: Susan Hollis, [slhollis@yahoo.com](mailto:slhollis@yahoo.com)]

**Monday, March 29, 2021 Madera Canyon Nature Trail. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [253, 08:00 AM, \$13].** This non-desert hike is in the Santa Rita Mountains. It starts from the Procter parking area and ascends 3.5 miles up the canyon to the Roundup Picnic Area (el. 5400 feet). Along the way, hikers enjoy the shade of Apache pines, Douglas firs, Emory oaks, Mexican blue oaks, willows, cottonwoods, and sycamores. The return is by the same route. There are panoramic views from a ridge on a trail breakout. Hike 6.8 miles; trailhead elevation 4500 feet; net elevation change 956 feet; accumulated gain 1004 feet; RTD 130 miles. There is a fee for parking unless you have a National Park Pass that must be displayed. [Guide: Dave Corrigan, [dave@daveandpam.com](mailto:dave@daveandpam.com), 520-820-6110.]

**Tuesday, March 30, 2021 Sutherland Wildflower Meander. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [428, 08:00 AM, \$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. [Guide: Michael Hovan, [michaelhovan@ameritech.net](mailto:michaelhovan@ameritech.net).]

**Tuesday, March 30, 2021 Agua Caliente Hill. Rating: A. Pace: Moderate [1, 06:30 AM, \$8].** The hike has great panoramic views of Tucson, and the Rincon and Santa Catalinas. The trail starts climbing immediately from the Camino Remuda Trailhead. The trail continues up and down for approximately two miles to a water hole. From here, the trail climbs and then drops into a wash. Next is a steep climb to a ridge and a junction with old jeep FS 4445, about three miles from the trailhead. It is another 1.5 miles to the top of Aqua Caliente Hill. The return is via the same route. Hike 8.5 miles; trailhead elevation 2930 feet; net elevation change 2430 feet; accumulated gain 3045 feet; RTD 75 miles. [Margaret Valair, e-mail: [mvalair@shaw.ca](mailto:mvalair@shaw.ca)]

**Wednesday, March 31, 2021 Bobcat Peak Loop. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [New, 07:00 AM, \$8].** This hike is in Tucson Mountain Park and begins at Starr Pass Trailhead. It follows a series of trails including Starr Pass, Beer Garden, Bobcat, Explored, and Robles Pass. This is an especially scenic area in the Tucson mountains and passes alongside Cat Mountain. Hike 10.8 miles; trailhead elevation 2800 feet; net elevation change 1285 feet; accumulated gain 1400 feet; RTD 75 miles. [Guide: Michael Hovan, [michaelhovan@ameritech.net](mailto:michaelhovan@ameritech.net).]

**Wednesday, March 31, 2021 Alamo Canyon Loop. Rating: D/C. Pace: Moderate [6, 08:00 AM, \$2 + \$2].** The hike begins at the Romero Ruins Trailhead in Catalina State Park. This hike will be completed as a loop around Alamo Canyon going up one side and returning down the other (clockwise or counter-clockwise). Due to distance and terrain this hike is suitable only for strong D hikers or C hikers. Other than one short area by the wash, the elevation change is generally gradual. The south-side trail traverses several rocky washes. This is a lovely hike up to Alamo Canyon Falls. There is a very scenic large flat-rock area above the falls. Water may be present in the canyon after rainy periods, but there are no significant water crossings. Hikers may stop by the Romero Ruins and take the informative loop trail from there. Hike 4.0 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 360 feet; accumulated gain 429 feet; RTD 24 miles. [Guides: Bruce Olson, Walt Shields, [brucej0506@gmail.com](mailto:brucej0506@gmail.com), 920-277-7687.]

**Wednesday, March 31, 2021 King Canyon Loop. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [241, 08:00 AM, \$7].**

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 1000 feet; accumulated gain 1195 feet; RTD 73 miles. [Guide: Randy Park, [rparktucson@gmail.com](mailto:rparktucson@gmail.com)]

**Thursday, April 01, 2021 Guthrie Mountain. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [213, 07:00 AM, \$10].**

The hike starts at the General Hitchcock Campground off Catalina Hwy and proceeds up the Green Mountain Trail to the Bear Saddle at the head of Bear Canyon. At the Saddle, hikers take the trail southeast to Guthrie Mountain and return to the trailhead. Parking is usually available in the campground overflow parking lot. The Saddle and the trail along the ridge top from the Saddle to Guthrie Mountain afford great views of the Catalinas and the San Pedro Valley. A large rock face (0.25 mile/200 feet) will need to be climbed to reach the Peak. Hikers not wishing to do that portion of the hike would wait at an overlook. Hike 6.2 miles; trailhead elevation 6000 feet; net elevation change 1200 feet; accumulated gain 1959 feet; RTD 104 miles. [Guide: Frank Earnest, email: [fearnestiv@gmail.com](mailto:fearnestiv@gmail.com)]

**Thursday, April 01, 2021 Petroglyph / Madonna Loop. Rating: C\*\*\*. Pace: Moderate [525, 07:30 AM, \$4].**

This hike is a grand loop that takes us to several iconic locations but in a shortened version. More bang for your buck! It starts at the north gate of Catalina State Park on state land. We hike into the Sutherland Rock Art District where we visit 2 separate areas of petroglyphs. The trail then joins Sutherland Jeep Road for 1/3 mile up to the Baby Jesus trail where we head south to visit the rock formation known as Madonna and child (for which the trail was named). We will return to the Great Saguaro trail, but with a stop at a lovely oasis in Cargodera Canyon that has beautiful Sycamore and Ash trees & often running water. Our final turn is onto an unnamed trail that will complete our loop back to the trailhead. This loop has beautiful scenery, but some fairly steep climbs with loose rock. Hiking poles are recommended. Hikers that have successfully completed several difficult C hikes will enjoy this hike. Hike 7.1 miles; trailhead elevation 2968 feet; net elevation change 852 feet; accumulated gain 1033 feet; RTD 12 miles (dirt). This hike is on or crosses Arizona State Trust Land: "The Arizona Land Department's trust management responsibilities include requiring a permit or lease and charging a fee for use of Trust land." Please note that Trust Land is private (not public) and requires a recreation permit for hiking which can be obtained through the state land department. [Guide: Ruth Caldwell, [azcaldwell3@gmail.com](mailto:azcaldwell3@gmail.com)]

**Friday, April 02, 2021 The Preserve/Dome Loop. Rating: C/B. Pace: Moderate [New, 8:00 AM, \$0].**

The hike begins at the east end of E Willow Canyon Rd. We follow the Canada del Ora wash along cattle trails between the Catalina foothills and the cliffs descending from the east edge of SaddleBrooke. The carved terrain is witness to the power of the water flowing down from Mt Lemmon. We then take the Double Crested/Dome Trail to the top of Big Dome Rock. After enjoying the views and taking a break for lunch, we will descend back to The Preserve via the new Preserve/Dome Trail. The route goes through beautiful granite formations and native desert flora with continual, dramatic views of SaddleBrooke and the surrounding valley. This hike is appropriate for any strong C level hiker, or wimpy B level hikers. Hike 8.2 miles; trailhead elevation 3300 feet; elevation change 750 feet; accumulated gain 900 feet; RTD 0 miles. [Michael Hovan, [michaelhovan@ameritech.net](mailto:michaelhovan@ameritech.net)]

**Friday, April 02, 2021 Fifty-Year Trail Loop via Ridgeline Trail. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [499, 08:00 AM, \$2 + \$2].**

The hike begins at the Equestrian Center in Catalina State Park. After starting on the

Fifty-Year Trail hikers will turn left onto an unmarked trail and hike along a rugged, scenic ridge line trail for about 2 miles. At the junction with the Fifty-Year Trail we return to the Equestrian Center via the Fifty-Year Trail. Hike is 4 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 386 feet; total ascent 446 feet. RTD 24 miles. [Guide: Bruce Landeck, email: [bflandeck@gmail.com](mailto:bflandeck@gmail.com)]

**Saturday, April 03, 2021 Extended Fitness Walk. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [179, 06:30 AM, \$0].**

As the name implies this is an extended version of the weekday fitness walks. They will last 2 hours and travel approximately 6 miles over a variety of terrain including paved streets, golf course paths, and wilderness areas. They will start and finish in the same location as the weekday walks in the SaddleBrooke One parking lot. The longer duration will allow exploration of new and more distant areas, including The Preserve. The accumulated gain will vary from 600-1200 feet. Optional breakfast at the Road Runner Grill. [Guide: Michael Hovan, [michaelhovan@ameritech.net](mailto:michaelhovan@ameritech.net)]

**Monday, April 05, 2021 Babad Do'ag Trail. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [92, 08:00 AM, \$8].**

The trailhead is along the Catalina Hwy just across from the Babad Do'ag overlook. The trail climbs up the southern slope of McDougal Ridge until it reaches an altitude of about 4580 feet, generally paralleling Soldier Canyon. From here hikers continue 0.4 mile to the End of Trail sign passing a waterfall that is a good place for lunch. The route is retraced on the return leg. Babad Do'ag means Frog Mountain in the Tohono O'odham language. Hike 4.6 miles; trailhead elevation 3650 feet; net elevation change 1070 feet; accumulated gain 1300 feet; RTD 76 miles. [Guide: Aaron Schoenberg; [askus3@centurylink.net](mailto:askus3@centurylink.net)]

**Monday, April 05, 2021 JF Trail/Rogers Canyon Key Exchange. Rating: A. Pace: Moderate [New, 6:00 AM, \$15].**

This hike is a combination of the JF Trail described in the Carlson/Stewart guide, and which is not in our database, with the Rogers Canyon Trail. One group begins in the Superstitions at the Woodbury TH on the JF Trail #106. After passing the Woodbury windmill it proceeds down Randolph Canyon. Shortly, the trail starts a steady climb along the ridge of Woodbury Gulch up to Tortilla Pass. After summiting the pass the route descends down to Angel Basin which is shaded by large black walnut and sycamore trees. The trail continues along the seasonal stream to the ancient cliff dwelling built by the Salado Indians in 1150 A.D. The climb continues up Rogers Canyon to the Rogers Trough TH. The second group proceeds in the reverse direction. Access to both trailheads requires a 4WD vehicle with moderate clearance. The availability of suitable vehicles may limit the number of hikers. Due to the devastation from the Woodbury Fire, much of the area is void of vegetation, except for hundreds of acres of waist high lupines and poppies, perhaps the largest wildflower display in Arizona. Hike 9.8 miles; trailhead elevation 4025; net elevation change 1650; accumulated gain 3080 feet; RTD 166 miles (dirt). [Michael Hovan, [michaelhovan@ameritech.net](mailto:michaelhovan@ameritech.net)]

**Tuesday, April 06, 2021 Phone Line Trail - Round Trip. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [323, 07:30 AM, \$6].**

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: Jeff Love, [seppylov@gmail.com](mailto:seppylov@gmail.com).]

**Tuesday, April 06, 2021 Tanque Verde Peak. Rating: A. Pace: Moderate [442, 06:30 AM, \$8].**

Tanque Verde Peak is located in Saguaro National Park - East. The hike begins at the Javelina Picnic Area on the Tanque Verde Ridge Trail, off the Cactus Forest Drive loop road. The trail passes through Juniper Basin at 6.9 miles, and reaches the Peak at 9 miles. Erik Molvar's guidebook says: From this lofty

perch, fantastic views stretch in all directions. Hike 17.3 miles; trailhead elevation 3120 feet; net elevation change 3895 feet; accumulated gain 4356 feet; RTD 82 miles. [Margaret Valair, e-mail: [mvalair@shaw.ca](mailto:mvalair@shaw.ca)]

**Tuesday, April 06, 2021 Seven Falls (with Tram). Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [388, 07:45 AM, \$6 + \$tram].** 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, [waltshields@mac.com](mailto:waltshields@mac.com), 520-404-8998..]

**Thursday, April 08, 2021 The Preserve/Dome Trail. Rating: C\*\*\*. Pace: Moderate [New, 8:00 AM, \$0].** The hike begins at the east end of E Willow Canyon Rd. After crossing the Canada del Oro wash, the trail continues into the foothill through beautiful granite formations and native desert flora until it intersects the Dome Extension Trail, and then on to Dome Rock. Along the entire way are great views of SaddleBrooke, Catalina, and the Samaniego Ridge. The special condition designation\*\*\* is that there are several sections that are steeper than on an average park constructed trail. Hike 5.6 miles; trailhead elevation 3300 feet; elevation change 700 feet; accumulated gain 750 feet; RTD 0 miles. [Michael Hovan, [michaelhovan@ameritech.net](mailto:michaelhovan@ameritech.net)]

**Thursday, April 08, 2021 Sutherland Trail. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [428, 08:00 AM, \$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. [Guide: Frank Earnest at [fearnestiv@gmail.com](mailto:fearnestiv@gmail.com)]

**Friday, April 09, 2021 Flag Hill Lookout Trail. Rating C\*\*\* Pace: Moderate [8:00 AM, \$0].** This is an out and back hike using a portion of the Dome Rock Trail. The hike departs from the south end of Arroyo Way in Unit 21. After crossing the Canada del Oro Wash, it shares the first 1.1 miles with the Double Crested/Dome Trail and terminates at a prominent overlook above SaddleBrooke where an American Flag has been placed. Return is along the same route with great views of SaddleBrooke and the surrounding area. The special condition\*\*\* is that there are several trail sections that are steeper than on an average park constructed trail. Hike 2.5 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; accumulated gain 550 feet; RTD 0 miles. [Guide: Tom Stafford, [tominpoint@gmail.com](mailto:tominpoint@gmail.com)]

**Friday, April 09, 2021 🐝 Honey Bee Canyon South Dog Hike. Rating: D. Pace: SLOW [224, 07:30 AM, \$3].** Non-dog walkers are welcome also! The hike takes place in Honey Bee Canyon at Rancho Vistoso. We will explore the canyon, identify some of the vegetation, look for petroglyphs, find a large hole in a rock, and look for animals and animal tracks. Bring water, snack, sunscreen, hat, camera (optional). Hike less than 4 miles; we can add another mile if wanted, trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 100 feet; accumulated gain \_\_ feet; RTD 26 miles. [Guide: Karen Gray, 520-351-2058, [kgrayinaz@yahoo.com](mailto:kgrayinaz@yahoo.com).]

**Saturday, April 10, 2021 Extended Fitness Walk. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [179, 06:30 AM, \$0].**

As the name implies this is an extended version of the weekday fitness walks. They will last 2 hours and travel approximately 6 miles over a variety of terrain including paved streets, golf course paths, and wilderness areas. They will start and finish in the same location as the weekday walks in the SaddleBrooke One parking lot. The longer duration will allow exploration of new and more distant areas, including The Preserve. The accumulated gain will vary from 600-1200 feet. Optional breakfast at the Road Runner Grill. [Guide: Michael Hovan, [michaelhovan@ameritech.net](mailto:michaelhovan@ameritech.net)]

**Monday, April 12, 2021 SBHC Moab Trip - Arrive Monday April 12; Hike Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday April 13, 14 & 15; Depart Friday April 16.**

**Wednesday, April 14, 2021 Double Crested/Dome Trail. Rating: C\*\*\*. Pace: Moderate [510, 08:00**

**AM, \$0].** This hike is on a newly constructed trail to Big Dome Rock that passes a rare double crested saguaro. Many SaddleBrooke residents have a view from their homes of Dome Rock - the large dome formation to the east that is bald in the middle with patchy vegetation on both sides, and located about a third of the way up to Charouleau Gap. The hike departs from the south end of S Arroyo Way in Unit 21. We cross Canada del Oro Wash, and then follow the newly developed route east through a small wash, and along several ridgelines to our destination. We will pass through interesting granite formations, with many saguaros and ocotillo forests. One of the highlights along the way is Double Beauty, a rare double crested saguaro registered with the Crested Saguaro Society. On top of the dome there are great 360 degree views of Saddlebrooke and Catalina. We will return by the same route. Hike 3.5 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change 750 feet; accumulated gain 800 feet; RTD 0 miles. [Guide: Tom Stafford, [tominpoint@gmail.com](mailto:tominpoint@gmail.com)]

**Sunday, April 18, 2021 Extended Fitness Walk. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [179, 06:30 AM, \$0].**

As the name implies this is an extended version of the weekday fitness walks. They will last 2 hours and travel approximately 6 miles over a variety of terrain including paved streets, golf course paths, and wilderness areas. They will start and finish in the same location as the weekday walks in the SaddleBrooke One parking lot. The longer duration will allow exploration of new and more distant areas, including The Preserve. The accumulated gain will vary from 600-1200 feet. Optional breakfast at the Road Runner Grill. [Guide: Michael Hovan, [michaelhovan@ameritech.net](mailto:michaelhovan@ameritech.net)]

**Monday, April 19, 2021 Esperero Canyon/Bluff Loop Trail. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [427, 08:00**

**AM, \$6].** From the Sabino Canyon Visitor Center, the hike proceeds along the Esperero Canyon/Rattlesnake Canyon trails to the Bluff Trail overlooking Sabino Creek, and is a favorite with views of the canyon and Sabino Creek with velvet ash, cottonwood, willow, and Arizona sycamore trees. Our break will be at the Sabino Dam. We will finish on the Bajada Nature loop with a beautiful crested saguaro. Bring a camera and plenty of water and snack. Hike 4.6 miles; trailhead elevation 2705 feet; net elevation change 240 feet; accumulated gain 367 feet; RTD 56 miles. [Guide: Bruce Landeck, email: [bflandeck@gmail.com](mailto:bflandeck@gmail.com)]

**Tuesday, April 20, 2021 Middle Gate Meander. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [524, 07:00 AM, \$4].**

This is a pleasant hike from the Upper Corral parking lot to the Middle Gate using mostly social trails. The route largely avoids the busy 50 Year trail except for a 0.4 mile stretch. This is a relatively flat hike with great, open views of Samaniego, Pusch, and Baby Jesus Ridges. Hike 4.0 miles; trailhead elevation 3260 feet; net elevation change 160 feet; accumulated gain 290 feet; RTD 10 miles (dirt). This hike is on or crosses Arizona State Trust Land: "The Arizona Land Department's trust management responsibilities include requiring a permit or lease and charging a fee for use of Trust land." Please note that Trust Land is private (not public) and requires a recreation permit for hiking which can be obtained through the state

land department (<https://land.az.gov/applications-permits>). [Guide: Tim Butler, [tucsontimmer@gmail.com](mailto:tucsontimmer@gmail.com).]

**Tuesday, April 20, 2021 Mt. Wrightson via Old Baldy and Super Trails. Rating: A. Pace: Moderate [294, 7:00 AM, \$10].** 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. [Michael Hovan, [michaelhovan@ameritech.net](mailto:michaelhovan@ameritech.net)]

**Wednesday, April 21, 2021 Picnic Rock Beeline Trail. Rating: C\*\*\* Pace: Moderate [8:00 AM, \$0].** This is an out and back hike using the newly constructed Picnic Rock Beeline Trail. The hike departs from the south end of Arroyo Way in Unit 21. After crossing the Canada del Oro Wash, the route shares the first 0.5 mile with the Double Crested/Dome Trail across a gentle mesa with prairie grass and mesquite trees. The trail then climbs up a ridgeline, crossing Charouleau Gap Road, to a prominent overlook above the Dodge Tank gorge. It is an area where five arroyos join to form the main channel, with steep rock walls descending into the wash below. The return route provides great views of SaddleBrooke and the surrounding area. The special condition\*\*\* is that there are several trail sections that are steeper than on an average park constructed trail. Hike 3.0 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; accumulated gain 600 feet; RTD 0 miles. [Guide: Tom Stafford, [tominpoint@gmail.com](mailto:tominpoint@gmail.com)]

**Thursday, April 22, 2021 Cochise Stronghold to End of Trail. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [160, 06:00 AM, \$22].** Hikers travel from west to east through the Dragoon Mountains along a spine of granite where the legendary Apache War Chief Cochise kept his many enemies at bay during the Indian wars. There are several beautiful rock formations along the way. Cochise is buried in a hidden location in the area. Hike 10 miles; trailhead elevation 4500 feet; net elevation change 1500 feet; accumulated gain 1796 feet; RTD 221 miles (some dirt). [Guide: Michael Hovan, [michaelhovan@ameritech.net](mailto:michaelhovan@ameritech.net)]

**Thursday, April 22, 2021 Sutherland Wash Petroglyphs loop from Golder Ranch. Rating: C\*\*\*. Pace: Moderate [186, 07:00 AM, \$2].** This hike begins at Golder Ranch. It takes us on a grand circle tour of four concentrations of ancient petroglyphs located west of Baby Jesus Ridge near the Sutherland Wash. The Sutherland Wash Rock Art District is a special place right in our backyard and is on the National Historic Register. Hohokam petroglyphs dating from 900 AD to 1300 AD number in the thousands on the western slope of the Santa Catalina Mountains. Along our hike we will see beautiful saguaros, seasonal wildflowers, and beautiful vistas of Pusch Ridge. The hike involves a few short, steep, rocky sections of trail, some rock scrambling, and a short section of mild bushwhacking. There are also two crossings of a wash which may involve some easy rock-hopping depending on the season. Bring a lunch or snack to enjoy while we rest in the shade of some giant boulders at one of the petroglyph locations. Hike 6.0 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change 250 feet; accumulated gain 800 feet; RTD 10 miles. This hike is on or crosses Arizona State Trust Land: The Arizona Land Department's trust management responsibilities include requiring a permit or lease and charging a fee for use of Trust land. Please note that Trust Land is private (not public) and requires a recreation permit for hiking which can be obtained through the state land department (<https://land.az.gov/applications-permits>). Starting the hike from this parking location avoids the need for high clearance vehicles. [Guide: Tim Butler, [tucsontimmer@gmail.com](mailto:tucsontimmer@gmail.com).]

**Friday, April 23, 2021 Madera Canyon Nature Trail. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [253, 07:00 AM, \$13].** This non-desert hike is in the Santa Rita Mountains. It starts from the Whitehouse Picnic area and ascends 2.7 miles up the canyon to the Mt. Wrightson Picnic Area (el. 5400 feet). Along the way, hikers enjoy the shade of Apache pines, Douglas firs, Emory oaks, Mexican blue oaks, willows, cottonwoods, and sycamores. The return is by the same route. There are panoramic views from a ridge on a trail breakout. Hike 5.5 miles; trailhead elevation 4600 feet; net elevation change 800 feet; accumulated gain 1175 feet; RTD 130 miles. [Guide: Ruth Caldwell, [azcaldwell3@gmail.com](mailto:azcaldwell3@gmail.com)]

**Friday, April 23, 2021 Middle Gate/50 Year Trails Loop. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [184, 08:00 AM, \$4].** The hike begins at the Lower Corral (SEE NOTE IN TEXT) and is a loop combining the Middle Gate Trail and returning via the 50 Year Trail. After crossing Sutherland wash, the route heads east with beautiful views of the Samaniego ridge. It Then winds back thru a canyon with nice granite boulder, mesquite, ocotillo , and a crested saguaro, in addition to excellent views of SaddleBrooke, Sun City, and the Tortolitas. Hike 4.4 miles; FROM LOWER CORRAL. IF UPPER CORRAL HIKE IS 5.7 MILES trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change \_\_\_ feet; accumulated gain 500 to 650 feet; RTD 12 miles (dirt). A medium to high clearance vehicle is required for driving on the Forest Service road beyond N. Equestrian Trail. This hike is on or crosses Arizona State Trust Land: The Arizona Land Department's trust management responsibilities include requiring a permit or lease and charging a fee for use of Trust land. Please note that Trust Land is private (not public) and requires a recreation permit for hiking which can be obtained through the state land department (<https://land.az.gov/applications-permits>). MASK REQUIRED AT SIGN-IN. [Guide: Rob Simms [Spartan7375@gmail.com](mailto:Spartan7375@gmail.com).]

**Saturday, April 24, 2021 Double Crested/Dome Moon Walk. Rating: C\*\*\*. Pace: Moderate [5:00 PM, \$0].** We will begin our journey during the afternoon twilight, and arrive at the top of the dome to observe the sunset. Bring a gourmet dinner with candles to enjoy as we watch the lights come on in Oro Valley. We will then do our descent in the moonlight. A headlamp with both red and white lights is required, in case the moon is blocked by clouds. This hike is on a newly constructed trail to Big Dome Rock that passes a rare double crested saguaro. Many SaddleBrooke residents have a view from their homes of "Dome Rock" - the large dome formation to the east that is bald in the middle with patchy vegetation on both sides, and located about a third of the way up to Charouleau Gap. The hike departs from the south end of S Arroyo Way in Unit 21. We cross Canada del Oro Wash, and then follow the newly developed route east through a small wash, and along several ridgelines to our destination. We will pass through interesting granite formations, with many saguaros and ocotillo forests. One of the highlights along the way is "Double Beauty", a rare double crested saguaro registered with the Crested Saguaro Society. On top of the dome there are great 360 degree views of Saddlebrooke and Catalina. The special condition is that there are several sections that are steeper than on an average park constructed trail. We will return by the same route. Hike 3.5 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change 750 feet; accumulated gain 800 feet; RTD 0 miles. [Michael Hovan,[michaelhovan@ameritech.net](mailto:michaelhovan@ameritech.net)]

**Monday, April 26, 2021 Bug Spring Trail No.1. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [125, 07:00 AM, \$9].** From the Lower Bug Spring Trailhead (a quarter mile up the Catalina Highway from Hirabayashi Campground), the hike proceeds southeast along a narrow ribbon of trail carved into the granite hillside. After an uphill set of switchbacks, the terrain mellows out with outstanding vistas and views of granite sculptures. The trail dives down the north side of the ridge into a heavily forested drainage. Upward to the highpoint of the trail, you can see a few big madrone trees and views of the Sierrita Mountains, Baboquivari and the mighty Rincons. The trail descends steeply to the Upper Bug Spring Trailhead (a quarter mile south of General Hitchcock Campground), which is the turnaround point. Return is via the

same trail. Hike 8.7 miles; trailhead elevation 5000 feet; net elevation change 1625 feet; accumulated gain 2270 feet; RTD 94 miles. [Guide: Susan Hollis, [shollis@yahoo.com](mailto:shollis@yahoo.com)]

**Monday, April 26, 2021 Peppersauce Canyon (short version). Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [321, 08:00 AM, \$7].** From the Peppersauce Canyon Campground, the hike proceeds up Peppersauce Canyon approximately 2 miles and returns. There is a good mixture of vegetation to study. Some views, depending on how far we go. Bring lunch. Hike 4 miles; trailhead elevation 4600 feet; net elevation change 450 feet; accumulated elevation \_\_\_ feet; RTD 53 miles (dirt). [Guide: Michael Hovan, [michaelhovan@ameritech.net](mailto:michaelhovan@ameritech.net).]

**Tuesday, April 27, 2021 Middle Tank/Baby Jesus Trails Loop. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [167, 07:00 AM, \$4].** The hike begins at Lower Corral then follows the Middle Gate trail to Grand Junction. From there it follows the Deer Camp Trail for 0.16 miles to the Middle Tank Trail on the right. Follow the trail south until it ends at the Baby Jesus Trail; turn north 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 650 feet; accumulated gain 1126 feet; RTD 12 miles (dirt). A medium to high clearance vehicle is required for driving on the Forest Service road beyond N. Equestrian Trail. This hike is on or crosses Arizona State Trust Land: The Arizona Land Department's trust management responsibilities include requiring a permit or lease and charging a fee for use of Trust land. Please note that Trust Land is private (not public) and requires a recreation permit for hiking which can be obtained through the state land department (<https://land.az.gov/applications-permits>). [Guide: Tim Butler, [tucsontimmer@gmail.com](mailto:tucsontimmer@gmail.com).]

**Tuesday, April 27, 2021 Picnic Rock/Double Crested/Dome Loop. Rating: C\*\*\* Pace: Moderate [NEW, 7:30 AM, \$0].** This hike departs from the south end of Arroyo Way in Unit 21. After crossing the Canada del Oro Wash, we share the first 0.5 mile with the Double Crested/Dome Rock Trail - up a steep hill then across a gentle mesa with prairie grass and mesquite trees. We then climb up a ridgeline, crossing Charouleau Gap Road, to a prominent overlook above the Dodge Tank gorge. It is an area where five arroyos join to form the main channel, with steep rock walls descending into the wash below. \*\*\* There are areas of steep hills with some loose rock on this hike - hiking poles are advised. We return for a short distance on Charouleau Gap Road, and then cross over to the trail up the backside of Dome Rock where we will have our snack. On our return we pass the beautiful double crested saguaro. Along the entire way are great views of SaddleBrooke, Catalina, and the Samaniego Ridge. Hike 4.8 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; elevation change 750 feet; accumulated gain 830 feet; RTD 0 miles. [Guide: Jeff Love, [seppylov@gmail.com](mailto:seppylov@gmail.com).]

**Wednesday, April 28, 2021 Fern Canyon/Roger's Rock Loop. Rating:C. Pace: Moderate [New, 07:00 AM, \$13].** The trailhead is the Madera Canyon parking lot for the Super Trail.&nbsp; From the Super Trail TH hike approximately .3 miles to where the Pipeline Trail begins on the left side of the trail. Climb along the Pipeline trail to a ridge with views of Kent Canyon. Continue on the Pipeline trail which parallels the Kent Springs trail below. At a creek crossing with the Kent Springs trail, turn up the creek away from the Kent Springs trail. The next .7 miles climb up along the creek and cut through some of the prettiest forest in the Santa Ritas. There are ferns everywhere and mossy old rocks. Just before a second creek crossing a well-defined trail breaks off to the left. This is the trail to Rogers Rock. At .2 miles the trail turns right up to a huge rock sitting amongst the trees...Roger's Rock. Climb up and around the back where you will get fantastic views over Madera Canyon and west to Pete Mountain. Head back to the upper creek crossing. Cross over the creek follow the trail .25 miles to join back up with the Super Trail. We follow the Super Trail 2 miles back to the TH parking lot. Hike 4.5 miles; trailhead elevation 5450 feet; Net elevation change 1074 feet; accumulated gain 1116 feet; RTD 130 miles. [Guide: Elisabeth Wheeler, [hikerelisabeth@gmail.com](mailto:hikerelisabeth@gmail.com).]

**Friday, April 30, 2021 Josephine Saddle. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [234, 08:00 AM, \$13].** 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 6.4 miles; trailhead elevation 5450 feet; net elevation change 1630 feet; accumulated gain 1650 feet; RTD 130 miles. [Guide: Michael Hovan, michaelhovan@ameritech.net.]