



SADDLEBROOKE

HIKING CLUB NEWSLETTER

<http://www.saddlebrooke.org>

MAY/JUNE 2011-3

Camping and Hiking Trip to Mt. Graham

The Pinaleno Mountains (also known as “the Grahams”) are located in southeastern Arizona south of Safford. This “desert sky island” begins at 3,500 ft elevation and reaches over 10,000 ft. A 3 day, 2 night camping trip is planned for June 27-June 29 at Riggs Flat Campground (8,600 ft) adjacent to beautiful Riggs Lake. Hikes will be offered each day. Contact Elisabeth Wheeler 818-1547 for further information and to make a reservation.

Recreational Permits For Arizona Trust Land

The club in the past has been buying several Arizona State Land Department recreational permits. These are required for camping, hiking or traveling on Arizona Trust Land that is designated as open for recreation. Technically speaking, these permits are only valid for named individuals or a family, and therefore do not cover multiple persons such as our hiking groups. If you are on a hike with the club or anticipate a hike on Arizona Trust Land, it is your responsibility to purchase a permit. Annual individual permits cost \$15.00, and annual family permits cost \$20.00. The link to the Arizona State Land Department is <http://www.land.state.az.us/>.

Picnic & Member Meeting

The SaddleBrooke Hiking Club held its spring member meeting and picnic at Catalina State Park on March 18, 2011. Ninety club members attended the event, which started with a short business meeting to elect officers. The newly elected officers are Bob Kolenda, Vice-President; Virginia Brier, Treasurer; Larry Linderman, Senior Chief Guide; and Cheryl Werstler, Associate Chief Guide. Continuing to serve for the next year are Bill Leightenheimer, President and Ken Wong, Secretary.

Prior to the picnic Karen Gray led a Geology Walk around Catalina State Park and Marv Rossof led a hike up Sutherland Trail.

A picnic lunch was served after the meeting. Lunch included chicken, delicious side dishes, and of course, assorted desserts.

The club’s membership is currently over 400, including 38 who serve as guides. There is a range of hikes offered from leisurely and short to strenuous and long. Please contact Bill Leightenheimer (825-5756) for more information about the hiking opportunities with the Saddlebrooke Hiking Club.



News You Can Use		
Social Hour	May 18th	4:00 p.m.
Board Meeting	June 1st	2:45 p.m.
Guide Meeting	June 1st	4:00 p.m.
Social Hour	June 15th	4:00 p.m.

Hard copies of the Newsletter are available at the SaddleBrooke and DesertView Fitness Centers. You may print copies from our web page at www.saddlebrooke.org.

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Work Days	Jim Strickler, 825-8735; sherabjim@wbhsi.net

General Hiking Information

Reservations: Call the guide to make a reservation for a hike. Let the guide know if you would be available to drive and whether or not you have a 'park entry pass' for the area. If you are unable to go on the hike after making a reservation, call the guide to cancel. The guide will call if a hike is canceled.

Arrival Time and Departure Area: The time listed for the hike is the departure time. It is important to arrive 10 to 15 minutes before departure time. All hikes leave from the left front parking lot of the MountainView Clubhouse (just east of the tennis courts) unless otherwise noted.

Medical Conditions: Prior to starting the hike, inform the guide of any special medical conditions or medications you may need.

Voluntary Driver Donations: Voluntary driver donations are shown in the table of Hikes Offered. If there are two entries under driver donation, for example \$7 + \$2, the first is for the driver and the second for any required entry and/or parking fee. If a state park pass is used for entry, the second amount should be given to the pass holder (whether he/she is the driver or not). Other persons in the vehicle who also hold park passes would not be responsible for the second amount. Note, that some hikes may require additional fees. Guides may also wish to split costs between drivers for drop-offs and/or unequal passenger loads. Small bills are appreciated. Since a driver may not have change, we would ask that, if you see two entries for the driver donation, you try to have the amounts for each. Due to automobile insurance coverage considerations, it is recommended that any payment to the driver be made upon return to MountainView.

Items to Bring: Every hiker should carry identification and any medical alerts in a waterproof container. Always bring ample water (this can vary from a pint on a winter fitness walk to 3 or 4 quarts on a summer hike). On strenuous hikes or in very hot weather you may need to replace electrolytes (eat salty snacks, add electrolyte mix to water, or use sport drinks). A wide brim hat, sunscreen, sunglasses, and hiking stick or trekking poles are recommended in Arizona. Other suggested items include comfortable hiking boots, whistle, map, compass, tweezers, first-aid kit, and moleskin. Layered clothing works well due to possible changes in weather conditions. In addition, you should bring a snack or lunch depending upon the hike. High

complex carbohydrates (nuts, trail mix, and etc.) are good.

Choosing Hikes: Hikes are more difficult than walks in SaddleBrooke due to elevation change and our Arizona terrain. It is not unusual to encounter rocks, unsteady ground, and steep inclines. It is your responsibility to choose an appropriate hike that matches your physical abilities. The hike description is a great tool. Look closely at the length, elevation change, and comments in the description to determine if a hike is within your physical ability. If you aren't feeling "up to snuff" on the day of the hike, don't hesitate to cancel until a better day.

. Assumption of Risk: When you joined the club, you were asked to sign a "Release of Liability". **We want to reinforce the fact that by signing the release you acknowledge that participation in the club's activities involves an inherent risk of physical injury and that you assume all such risks. Accidents can happen.** Learn about the risks and how to avoid them. Take an active part in protecting yourself and fellow hikers. We are an organization of volunteers who share their skills and love for the wilderness with one another.

Hike Elevation, Ratings & Pace

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

- **Net Elevation Change** is the change in elevation obtained by subtracting the starting elevation from the highest (or lowest) point reached during the course of the hike, in feet. This estimate may be obtained from USGS maps or a global positioning system (GPS).
- **Accumulated Gain** is the sum of all upward stretches of a hike as recorded by a GPS device over the course of the entire hike. Accumulated elevation gain is generally a more accurate indicator of hike difficulty than net change in elevation.
- **Accumulated Loss**, another measure of hike difficulty, is the sum of all downward stretches of a hike. Accumulated elevation loss is useful for some downhill hikes and is usually obtained with a GPS device

Ratings: Ratings are based on the following round trip distances and accumulated gains in elevation over the course of the hike. The hike rating is determined by one (or both) of the two values being exceeded. For example, if a hike exceeds the

criterion for distance but not for corresponding elevation, the rating would be set for distance.

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

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

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

Fitness Walks Five Days A Week

Maintain your fitness or get into better shape by joining us for a morning fitness walk. Enjoy the company of other hikers while perusing SaddleBrooke. The sessions last about one hour and are suitable for walkers of all ability levels. No advanced signup is required to participate in these walks. Below is a chart for the start times for all the walking groups led by Bill Leightenheimer, Martha Hackworth, Judy Barenkopf and Dean Wilson.

To avoid future confusion, the club is posting this chart (which can be viewed on the next page) every two months in our newsletter to remind members who participate in the morning walks what the start time will be for that time of the year.

Date	Start Time
March 1st	6:30 a.m.
May 1st	6:00 a.m.
September 1st	6:30 a.m.
November 1st	7:00 a.m.

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

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

A new offering, featuring slower walks around SaddleBrooke two days a week (days are negotiable) will be led by Dean Wilson. If interested in participating in these walks, please call Dean at: 818-0299.

Hikes Offered

Date	Day of Week	Name of Hike	Hike Rating	Pace	Leave Time A.M.	Leader(s)	Phone Number	Driver Donation
5/03	Tues	Pusch Ridge to 2 nd Overlook	C!		7:00	Roy Carter	818-3137	\$2
5/04	Wed	Extended Fitness Walk	C/B	Fast	6:00	Martha Hackworth	818-2573	
5/05	Thurs	Palisade Trail to Prison Camp	B!		6:00	Cheryl Werstler	825-9057	\$9
5/06	Fri	Bridal Wreath Falls	C		7:00	Elaine & Howie Fagan	818-9555	\$6
5/07	Sat	Phone Line Trail-Round Trip	B		7:00	Kathy Cotton	825-2243	\$4
5/09	Mon	Honey Bee Canyon North	D		8:00	Walt Shields	818-3439	\$2
5/10	Tues	Bug Springs Trail #1	B	Mod	700	Dave Sorenson	777 1994	\$7
5/11	Wed	American Flag	C		7:30	Don Taylor	825-5303 after May 6	\$3
5/13	Fri	Finger Rock to Linda Vista Saddle	B		7:00	Roy Carter	818-3137	\$4
5/14	Sat	Esperanza/Hugh Norris	C		7:00	Don Taylor	825-5303 after May 6	\$6
5/16	Mon	Mt. Wrightson via Old Baldy and Super Trail	A		7:00	Frank Brier	818-0493	\$10
5/16	Mon	Nugget Canyon (short version)	D		7:00	Michael Reale	825-8286	\$6
5/17	Tues	Phone Line Trail -Round Trip	B		7:00	Don Taylor	825-5303 after May 6	\$4
5/18	Wed	SBHC Social Hour MV Club House			4:00 pm			

Date	Day of Week	Name of Hike	Hike Rating	Pace	Leave Time A.M.	Leader(s)	Phone Number	Driver Donation
5/19	Thurs	Josephine Saddle	B		7:00	Dave Sorenson	777 1994	\$10
5/20	Fri	King Canyon Loop	C		7:00	Roy Carter	818-3137	\$6
5/23	Mon	Phone Line Trail - Round Trip	B		7:00	Elaine & Howie Fagan	818-9555	\$4
5/24-5/27	Tues-Fri	**Grand Canyon – South Rim Hikes – 12 different hikes listed below in hike descriptions	A-D			Susan Hollis	825-6819	TBA
5/31	Tues	Finger Rock Trail to Linda Vista Saddle	B		6:00	Elisabeth Wheeler	818-1547	\$4
6/01	Wed	SBHC Board Meeting			2:45 pm			
6/01	Wed	SBHC Guide Meeting			4:00 pm			
6/01	Wed	Extended Fitness Walk	C/B	Fast	6:00	Dave Hydeman	818-2573	
6/04	Sat	Wasson Peak via Sweetwater Trail	B		6:30	Don Taylor	825-5303 after May 6	\$5
6/06	Mon	Marshall Gulch/Radio Ridge Loop	B		7:00	Frank Brier	818-0493	\$10
6/08	Wed	Sabino Canyon Bear Canyon Loop (with Trams)	B		6:00	Don Taylor	825-5303 after May 6	\$4 + tram
6/09	Thurs	**Mt. Lemmon: Summerhaven Loop	A		6:00	Cheryl Werstler	825-9057	\$10
6/09	Thurs	Pima Canyon to 2nd Dam	C		6:30	Kathy Cotton	825-2243	\$3
6/13	Mon	Mt. Wrightson via Old Baldy and Super Trail	A		7:00	Frank Brier	818-0493	\$10
6/14	Tues	Palisade Trail to Prison Camp (Key Exchange)	B/A		5:00	Elisabeth Wheeler	818-1547	\$9
6/15	Wed	AZT Work Session	C		7:30	Jim Strickler	825-8735	
6/15	Wed	SBHC Social Hour, MV Club House			4:00 pm			
6/17	Fri	Wilderness of Rocks* *After the hike, we will barbeque hot dogs at the Marshal Gulch picnic area. We will supply the hot dogs, buns, and condiments. Hikers are asked to sign up to bring a pot luck item.	B		7:00	Elaine & Howie Fagan & Virginia & Frank Brier	818-9555	\$10+\$3
6/18	Sat	Tanque Verde Ridge Trail	B		6:30	Don Taylor	825-5303 after May 6	\$6
6/20	Mon	Josephine Saddle and Rogers Rock	B		6:00	Michael Reale	825-8286	\$10
6/21	Tues	Bug Springs Trail #1	B		6:30	Don Taylor	825-5303 after May 6	\$7
6/22	Wed	Aspen Draw / Mint Spring Trail	C		6:00	Michael Reale	825-8286	\$10

Date	Day of Week	Name of Hike	Hike Rating	Pace	Leave Time A.M.	Leader(s)	Phone Number	Driver Donation
6/23	Thurs	**Mt. Lemmon: Butterfly-Soldier Camp-Bear Wallow-Mt. Bigelowe	A		6:00	Cheryl Werstler	825-9057	\$9
6/25	Sat	Marshall Gulch/Aspen Loop	C		7:30	Jim Strickler	825-8735	\$10
6/27	Mon	**Drive to Mt. Graham - set up camp and hike	C		8:00	Elisabeth Wheeler	818-1547	TBA
6/28	Tues	**Mt. Graham overnight camp and hike	A/B		8:00	Elisabeth Wheeler	818-1547	
6/29	Wed	**Mt. Graham hike and drive home	C		9:00	Elisabeth Wheeler	818-1547	TBA
6/29	Wed	Box Spring	C		6:30	Don Taylor	825-5303 after May 6	\$9

a- New hikes not yet included in the Hike Database are indicated with "***".

b - Hike ratings are based on round trip distance and accumulated elevation gain, where available. Ratings flagged with a "P" indicate special trail conditions that might be of concern to some hikers. Please read the hike descriptions before deciding whether to sign up.

Ratings flagged with a "☺" indicate an easier, smoother trail than normal at that rating.

c - Pace is moderate unless otherwise stated.

Hike Descriptions

American Flag. Rating C. The hike begins at the American Flag Trailhead on the old Mt. Lemmon Road and covers a section of the Arizona Trail. Hikers take the American Flag/Cody Trail to the 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 7.4 miles; trailhead elevation 4400 feet; net elevation change 950 feet; accumulated gain 1490 feet; RTD 41 miles.

Arizona Trail: Work Session. Rating C. This is one of the Hiking Club work days. Come join the fun - it's nice to work side by side with other hiking club members, as we help maintain and report conditions for the section of the Arizona Trail called, "Black Hills/South," for which our club is responsible. This 6-mile section starts on Tiger Mine Road, off Hwy # 77, just north of the Oracle State Park. Generally, the work is light, and involves clipping, brushing, raking, and pruning, and for some, repairing cairns, adding erosion control devices and other trail work (depending on rains).

Bring along gloves, hat, and hand clippers. Other tools, if needed, will be provided. The session usually lasts about 4 hours, with a return to

SaddleBrooke by 12:30 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. Bring water and snacks. Hike 3 to 6 miles; RTD 50 miles (dirt). The club will pay drivers' expenses.

Aspen Draw / Mint Spring Trail. Rating C. The hike begins on Turkey Run Road in Summerhaven across from the Visitor Center. After about a mile, we take the Aspen Draw Trail to Radio Ridge. From there we descend the Aspen Trail to Marshall Saddle, where we pick up the Mint Spring Trail to Carter Canyon Road, for a short 0.75 miles back to the trailhead. Hikers may choose to have lunch in Summerhaven before returning. Hike 7.5 miles; trailhead elevation 8000 feet; net elevation change 1400 feet; accumulated gain __ feet; RTD 130 miles.

Box Spring. Rating C. The hike starts at the Box Camp Trailhead (Trail #22A) on Catalina Hwy below Spencer Peak, proceeds down Box Camp Trail to the Box Springs turn-off and then down to Box Springs. The return is via the same route. The hike is mostly in forest. Before Mt. Lemmon's General Hitchcock Hwy was built, the Box Camp Trail was the main avenue to exchange Tucson's heat for the cool Santa Catalinas. The military used Box Camp at the turn of the century. Hike 4 miles; trailhead elevation 7920 feet; net elevation change minus 800 feet; accumulated gain 1000 feet; RTD 123 miles.

Bridal Wreath Falls. Rating C. The Douglas Spring Trailhead is located at the east end of Speedway Blvd. The hike involves some relatively steep climbing up the Douglas Spring Trail for the first 2.5 miles, before turning off on the 0.3 miles spur leading to the falls. The trail is well used and easy to follow. Bring sun protection. Water may be flowing over the falls if there has been sufficient rainfall. Hike 5.6 miles; trailhead elevation 2720 feet; net elevation change 1120 feet; accumulated gain __ feet; RTD 80 miles.

Bug Spring Trail # 1. Rating B. 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 9.2 miles; trailhead elevation 5000 feet; net elevation change 1625 feet; accumulated gain 2520 feet; RTD 94 miles.

Esperanza / Hugh Norris Trail. Rating C. Hikers take the Esperanza Trail from the trailhead on Golden Gate Road off Picture Rocks Road to the Hugh Norris Trail which is followed to the base of Amole Peak. The Esperanza Trail is gradual at the beginning, and then has switchbacks as the trail becomes steeper. The Hugh Norris section is primarily a ridge trail. There are spectacular views of Tucson/Santa Catalinas to the east, Green Valley/Santa Ritas to the south, Sells to the west and Picacho Peak to the north. We will lunch at the high point and return the same way. Hike 6.2 miles; trailhead elevation 2980 feet; net elevation change 1275 feet; accumulated gain __ feet; RTD 73 miles (dirt).

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

Finger Rock Trail to Linda Vista Saddle. Rating B. The hike begins from the Finger Rock Trailhead at the north end of Alvernon Way. The hike starts on level ground for about a mile, and then sharply climbs 2500 feet. Scrambling is necessary at some points going up, and coming down is just as difficult. From the Saddle, hikers will enjoy the beautiful vistas of Mt. Kimball, the Santa Ritas, and the city of Tucson as it spreads out below and into the distance. Hike 5.8 miles; trailhead elevation 3120 feet; net elevation change 2500 feet; accumulated gain >2600 feet; RTD 44 miles.

****Grand Canyon Day 1**

Hermits Trail to Dripping Springs. Rating B. Dramatic vistas and ends at an unusual spring. Hike 6.5 miles; TH elev. 6,640 feet; net elev. gain/loss 1,600 feet; accumulated gain/loss 2,000 feet.

Hermit Trail/Boucher Trail to Yuma Point. Rating A. Expansive views unfold upon reaching the slickrock point below the headland of Yuma Point. The inner gorge opens up to reveal fine views of the Colorado River below. Hike 10 miles; TH elev. 6,640 feet, net elev. gain/loss 1,600 feet; accumulated gain/loss 2,000 feet

Rim Trail from Village Transfer Station to The Abyss (Rating D) or continue to Hermits Rest (Rating C). Great views the entire distance as the trail follows the rim of the canyon. Hike 4.1 miles to reach the Abyss. An additional 3.7 miles to Hermits Rest. Hike 4.1 – 7.8 miles; TH elev. 6,840 feet, net elev. gain/loss is very minimal.

Part 1 of AZT Passage 37 – South Kaibab Trailhead (Yaki Point) to Tusayan. Rating C. This hike will be a late afternoon hike, allowing some hikers to hike one of the other hikes in the morning or some hikers to arrive this day, and hike upon arrival. This is the southern section of AZT Passage 37. The trail is in ponderosa pine forest, mostly in the GC Nt'l Park. No rim views, but also no crowds. Hike 7.4 miles. TH elev. 7,200; net elev. loss 980 feet.

****Grand Canyon Day 2**

South Kaibab Trail to Ooh Aah Point. Rating D. Ooh Aah point offers a spectacular view. Hike 1.8 miles round trip. TH elev. 7,200; net elev. gain/loss 880.

South Kaibab Trail to Cedar Ridge or Skeleton Point. Rating C/B. Hike 3 miles round trip to Cedar Ridge; TH elev. 7,200; net elev. gain/loss 1,140. Or hike 6 miles round trip to Skeleton Point, the first view of the Colorado River; net elev. gain/loss 2,000 feet.

Part 2 of AZT Passage 37 - Grandview Lookout Tower to Tusayan. Rating A. Hike 16.1 miles; TH elev. 7490; net elev. gain/loss 980 feet.

****Grand Canyon Day 3**

Bright Angel Trail to 1.5 miles Rest House. Rating C. Hikers pass through the first tunnel carved into Kaibab limestone. The second tunnel separates the Toroweap rock formation from the Coconino sandstone. By the time the hike reaches the 1 ½ mile Rest House, the trail is passing through the Hermit Shale layer of rock. Hike 3 miles; TH elev. 6,785; net elev. loss/gain 1,065.

Bright Angel Trail to Indian Gardens or Plateau Point. Rating B/A. At 4.7 miles, we reach Indian Gardens, a welcome rest stop on the Bright Angel Trail, where water and shade trees are enjoyed. "B" hikers will return from this point. Beyond Indian Garden, the Tonto Trail branches left to Plateau Point. "A" hikers will continue on to Plateau Point, which affords excellent views of the Colorado River in the Upper Granite Gorge. "B" Hike 9.4 miles; TH elev. 6,782; net elev. loss/gain 2,985. "A" Hike 12.2 miles; net elev. loss/gain 3,015.

Rim Trail; South Kaibab TH to Village Transfer Station. Rating D. This section of the Rim Trail starts at South Kaibab Trailhead. Hike 4.25 miles; net elev loss/gain is minimal.

****Grand Canyon Day 4**

Grandview Trail from Grandview Point to Horseshoe Mesa. Rating B. Views from the mesa are excellent. Hike 6.4 miles; TH elev. 7,420; net elev. gain/loss 2,520 feet.

Shoshone Point. Rating D. A level dirt road (not open to car travel) leads from the East Rim Drive to one of the finest vistas available from the South Rim. This is also one of the least crowded view points on the South Rim. Note – hikers wishing to return to SaddleBrooke on Friday, May 27th, are encouraged to take this hike, the hike will be completed early. Hike 2 miles; TH elev. 7,420; net elev. gain/loss is minimal.

Rim-Rim, North to South. Rating A!. This one-day hike transiting the inner gorge from the North Rim to the South Rim is very strenuous and intended for very fit and experienced hikers only. The route constitutes Passage 38 of the AZT. Hike 21 miles; TH elev 8200 feet at the North Rim and 6860 at the South Rim (2450 feet at the river); accumulated gain/loss 4800/5760 feet.

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

Josephine Saddle and Rogers Rock. Rating B. The hike starts in Madera Canyon (Santa Rita Mountains) and goes up Old Baldy Trail to Josephine Saddle. We then go down the Super Trail for about a mile and take a turnoff for Rogers Rock and travel about 0.25 miles to the rock. The top provides a wonderful view and is an excellent place to eat lunch. The return is down the Super Trail to the parking lot. The hike may be done in reverse. Hike, 6.5 miles; trailhead elevation 5450 feet; net elevation change 1630 feet; accumulated gain 1700 feet; RTD 130 miles.

Josephine Saddle. Rating B. The hike starts in Madera Canyon (Santa Rita Mountains) and goes up the Old Baldy Trail to Josephine Saddle. Hikers will rest at the Saddle and return via the Super Trail. This hike can be done in reverse, going up the Super Trail and returning on the Old Baldy Trail. Hike 6.2 miles; trailhead elevation 5450 feet; net elevation change 1630 feet; accumulated gain 1890 feet; RTD 130 miles.

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

Marshall Gulch / Aspen Loop. Rating C. The hike starts at the Marshall Gulch Picnic Area and goes up the Marshall Gulch Trail to the Marshall Saddle. From the Saddle, we turn left down the Aspen Trail and head back to the picnic area. After about 0.25 miles on the Aspen Trail, there is a large rock that provides a great spot for a break or lunch. Hike may be done in reverse. Hike 3.7 miles; trailhead elevation 7440 feet; net elevation change __ feet; accumulated gain 830 feet; RTD 130 miles.

Marshall Gulch / Radio Ridge Loop. Rating B. The hike begins from the Marshall Gulch Picnic Area along the Marshall Gulch Trail, and proceeds along the Aspen Trail to Radio Ridge and over to the Lemmon Rock Lookout for views and lunch. The return is back down Aspen Draw Trail, through Turkey Run to Summerhaven. Hike 9 miles; trailhead elevation 7440 feet; net elevation change 1900 feet; accumulated gain __ feet; RTD 130 miles.

****Mt. Lemmon: Butterfly-Soldier Camp-Bear Wallow-Mt. Bigelow Loop. Rating A.** We begin this hike at the Mt. Bigelow Trailhead shortly before the Palisade Ranger Station. After .5 miles, we join the Butterfly Trail, descending steeply through forest for 2 miles to the Davis Spring Trail junction. Continuing on the Butterfly Trail about 20 minutes from this junction, we will do a very short bushwhack to locate the crash site of a 1970's fighter plane. Returning to the trail, we pass the low point of our hike (6,550 feet) at Novio Spring and begin a steady climb. We pass the junction with Crystal

Spring Trail on our way to Soldier Camp. From the Soldier Camp parking lot after a very brief walk on Catalina Highway, we will locate a dirt road which, after .5 miles returns to the Highway. After 200 yards, we bear left at the intersection of Bear Wallow Rd., taking this road 3+ miles almost to the end at Mt. Bigelow. We then find the Mt. Bigelow Trail sign and hike .2 miles to the intersection with the Butterfly Trail. Here we have the option of directly returning to our starting point at the Bigelowe Trailhead (.5 miles) or taking a side hike out Incinerator Ridge and back (1.6 miles round trip). Hike 9-11 miles; trailhead elevation 7,930 feet; elevation ranges from 6,550 to 8,525 feet; accumulated gain 3,335-3600 feet. RTD 125 miles.

****Mt. Lemmon: Summerhaven Loop. Rating A.** We begin this hike which is all above 7,000 feet, at the visitors center in Summerhaven. We walk via Sabino Canyon Rd., Douglas Ave., and Carter Canyon Rd. to Mint Springs Trailhead. We hike the Mint Springs Trail to Marshall Saddle where we connect with the Wilderness of Rocks Trail. We proceed on this trail to the Mt Lemmon Trail and take it via the Meadow Trail to Radio Ridge. We then hike the rough trail and dirt road that connects the Mt. Lemmon Trail with the Aspen Draw Trail. We proceed down the Aspen Draw Trail through a beautiful alpine forest, turning off on a dirt road (Turkey Run Rd.) that parallels Ski Run Road before we reach the bottom. This road leads to the visitors center. Hike 12.5 miles; trailhead elevation 7,850 feet; net elevation change 1,250 feet; accumulated gain 3,520 feet. RTD 130 miles.

Mt. Wrightson via Old Baldy and Super Trails. Rating A. The hike begins in Madera canyon in the Santa Rita Mountains and follows Old Baldy Trail to Josephine Saddle where we take the Super Trail to Mt. Wrightson. This provides a more gradual ascent to Baldy Saddle, but the last 0.9 mile to the summit is steep and rocky with moderate exposure. At the top are outstanding 360-degree views of Tucson and the mountain ranges in the area. The return is via the Old Baldy Trail to Josephine Saddle and the Super Trail to the trailhead. There is abundant shade along the way. Hike 13.7 miles; trailhead elevation 5450 feet; net elevation change 4003 feet; accumulated gain >4100 feet. RTD 130 miles.

Nugget Canyon (short version). Rating D. The trailhead is at the intersection of Nugget Canyon and the Oracle Control Road south of Oracle. The hike follows a lovely canyon to the west with tall trees and riparian vegetation and goes up to an earthen dam before returning the same way. There are several wash crossings which may involve some boulder hopping if there has been sufficient precipitation. Hikers will stop by a cave so bring a flashlight for exploring. Hike <4 miles; trailhead elevation 4680 feet; net elevation change <500 feet; accumulated gain __ feet; RTD 56 miles (dirt).

Palisade Trail to Prison Camp. Rating B!. The hike starts in the high pine forest just below the Palisade Administrative Site. Palisade Trail descends down the ridge separating Palisade and Pine Canyons and yields views into both canyons, the Sabino basin below, and parts of the central canyons and the front range. The trail passes Mud Spring, and then begins 2 miles of steep, rocky, and brushy switchbacks, descending a total of over 4000 feet before its end at the East Fork of Sabino Canyon Trail. The East Fork Trail immediately begins switchbacking, gaining over 800 feet in 1.5 miles before leveling out for about a mile. At the junction with Bear Canyon, we will visit Sycamore Reservoir and Dam, built in the 1930's to provide water to Prison Camp (now called the Gordon Hirabayashi Recreation Site), 2.4 miles to the east. We will then climb about 600 more feet in a mile. After that, Molino Trail becomes fairly level during the last 1.5 miles to Prison Camp. If hikers are interested, we can view the monument in this W.W. II internment camp. We will need Mt. Lemmon passes and 2 cars for shuttling between trailheads. Hike 12.2 miles; trailhead elevation 7720 feet; net elevation change minus 3720 feet; accumulated gain/loss 1840/4700 feet; RTD 119 miles.

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

Pima Canyon to 2nd Dam. Rating C. The Pima Canyon Trailhead is at the east end of Magee Road. The first mile or so is across open desert along the south side of Pusch Peak. We pass the small first dam as we enter the beautiful, rugged canyon. The rocky trail passes through a grove of large trees providing welcome shade before emerging again in the open. The trail then leads to a rocky open area in the canyon beyond a small dam near several Indian grinding holes. The return is via the same route. Hike 6.2 miles; trailhead elevation 2960 feet; net elevation change __ feet; accumulated gain 977 feet; RTD 42 miles.

Pusch Ridge to 2nd Overlook. Rating C!. From the trailhead at the east end of Linda Vista Blvd, the trail proceeds part way up Pusch Ridge to a great overlook with views to the north, west, and southwest. The first mile of the trail climbs gradually along a wash. The final 0.75 miles is difficult with slippery footing, rock scrambling, and exposed, narrow, steep paths. Gloves are recommended. The trail passes four man-made dams and a lower but excellent overlook with great views north, west, and southwest. Hike 3.5 miles; trailhead elevation 2650 feet; net elevation change 1350 feet; accumulated gain >1350 feet; RTD 28 miles.

Sabino Canyon - Bear Canyon Loop (with Trams). Rating B. We take the Sabino Canyon tram to its uppermost stop and follow the Sabino Canyon, the East Fork, and finally the Bear Canyon Trails to the Bear Canyon Trailhead. From there, it's 1.6 miles to the Visitor Center. Tram fee required. Hike 13 miles; trailhead elevation 3320 feet; net elevation change 1800 feet; accumulated gain/loss 2620/3220 feet; RTD 56 miles.

Tanque Verde Ridge Trail. Rating B. The hike begins at the Javalina Picnic Area in Saguaro National Park – East off the Cactus Forest Drive loop road, and is a picturesque hike in the Rincon Mountains with tremendous views of Tucson and the surrounding area. The hike is somewhat steep in parts as it proceeds up Tanque Verde Ridge. At three miles into the hike, we will view a crested saguaro, but continue on another mile to lunch on a mesa with great views. There are some great photo stops along the way. Hike 8 miles; trailhead elevation 3120 feet; net elevation change 1900 feet; accumulated gain __ feet; RTD 82 miles.

Wasson Peak via King Canyon Trail. Rating B.

The hike begins at the trailhead across from the Arizona/Sonora Desert Museum and goes up the King Canyon Trail. We pass the Mam-A-Gah picnic area and continue to the Sweetwater Saddle, the junction with the Sweetwater Trail. For the next mile or so, it's a steep climb to the junction with the Hugh Norris Trail and a short uphill climb to the summit. The 360-degree views from the top include Tucson to the east, Green Valley to the south, Picacho Peak to the north and Sells to the west. Hike 8 miles; trailhead elevation 2880 feet; net elevation change 1807 feet; accumulated gain 1900 feet; RTD 73 miles.

Wilderness of Rocks. Rating B. The hike begins at the Marshall Gulch picnic area at the top of Mt. Lemmon. We climb up to Marshall Saddle then down the Wilderness of Rocks Trail. Three fourths of a mile past the intersection with the Lemmon Rock Lookout Trail is the Lemmon Creek area in the heart of the Wilderness of Rocks. There are beautiful rock formations with great views along the way. The return is via the same route, or optionally, by the Aspen Loop Trail. Hike 7.5 miles; trailhead elevation 7440 feet; net elevation change 1550 feet; accumulated gain ___ feet; RTD 131 miles.