



SADDLEBROOKE

HIKING CLUB NEWSLETTER

<http://www.saddlebrooke.org>

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER

2010-6

2011 Annual Dues Reminder

We are coming up on the start of a new year, and it's time to submit your Annual Dues for 2011. The amount is only \$5.00 per member, due by December 31, 2010. If you are a new member and paid your dues anytime in October, you are good until 2012. Please make out a check to SaddleBrooke Hiking Club, complete the form attached at the end of the newsletter and mail to Bob Perez, 65187 E. Desert Sand Court, Tucson, AZ 85739.

Hiking News

Roy Carter and Frank Brier

Thanks to our great guides, the club is offering an outstanding slate of hikes for the November and December period, despite its abbreviation because of the two major holidays. There are 8 A's, 17 B's, 24 C's, and 6 D's (including the D-rated credit received for the Catalina Hills Cleanup Walk). For the Arizona Trail hikers, there are five opportunities to add to your total miles, all day trips. Many thanks to Larry Linderman for leading the AZT effort.

In response to suggestions from club members, a two-day seminar on the use of maps and handheld GPS devices is being offered in mid-November. This is a great opportunity to pick up some pointers and pick the brains of some of our club's most experienced hikers/GPS users about the topic. See the announcement elsewhere in this newsletter.

One topic we frequently get questions about is how to get permits to see the wondrous natural phenomena contained in Vermilion Cliffs National Monument in northern Arizona and southern Utah. We have two very informative BLM brochures (four pages total) in jpg (i.e., picture) format that can be emailed. The information covers the costs and permit acquisition procedures for Coyote Buttes north (which has the "wave") and south, Paria Canyon, and Buckskin Gulch. If you would like these files, drop Roy an email.

Maps and GPS Fundamentals Seminar

The club is sponsoring a two-day seminar called **Maps and GPS Fundamentals** on the mornings of November 11 and 12, Thursday and Friday. The seminar will take place from 7:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. in two different rooms in the MountainView Club House. The Thursday session will be in the Palo Verde East Room, and the Friday session will be in the Ballroom West meeting room.

The objectives of the seminar are to show participants how to read topographic maps, use handheld GPS devices, to determine and plot locations on a USGS map, to download tracks and waypoints and plot them using several kinds of popular software, and to use the internet to find information useful to hikers. The two main coordinate systems, geographic and UTM, will be explained and participants will be led through exercises to gain skill and understanding at using information provided by their GPS. A follow-up geocaching competition is planned for seminar participants, with the winner receiving a \$25.00 gift certificate and recognition in the next newsletter.

Demonstrations are planned for some of the most common types of software available and an opportunity for one-on-one Q&A with some of the club's most knowledgeable and experienced hikers. This will be an excellent opportunity to get your questions answered with regard to maps and handheld GPS devices. If you intend to buy a GPS in the near future, some of the information will help you decide which model is best for you.

This is an opportunity you can afford; it's free. However, the class size is limited to 30 people (not including hike guides) who are currently club members. You should call Roy Carter at 818-3137, or email him at rvcarter@aol.com as soon as you decide you would like to attend (first come, first serve). New members and nonmembers will be placed on a space available list and notified a week before the seminar if there is room available. Hope to see you there.

Wild Cats of the Sky Islands
November 17, 2010 (Wednesday) – 3:00 p.m.
MountainView Clubhouse, West Ballroom



Enjoy a special presentation with Sky Island Alliance wildlife biologist Jessica Lamberton, as she leads us on a visually stunning tour through the lives of bobcats, mountain lions, jaguars, ocelots and the places they live. Dispel common fears and myths, and discover ways to help keep these cats alive and wild in the Sky Islands!

Sky Island Alliance is a grassroots organization dedicated to the protection and restoration of the rich natural heritage of native species and habitats in the Sky Island region of the southwestern United States and northwestern Mexico. Sky Alliance works with volunteers, scientists, land owners, public officials and government agencies to establish protected areas, restore healthy landscapes and promote public appreciation of the region's unique biological diversity. <http://www.skyalliance.org>. For further information about this Sky Island Alliance program, call Dick Krueger, 818-2671.

Bob & Larry's Peruvian Adventures,
Wednesday, December 15th

In January 2008 SaddleBrooke Hiking Club members Bob Shea and Larry Linderman traveled to Peru, S.A.. Both were anxious to see and hike in the magnificent Andes Mountains, and specifically, to hike the world famous Inca Trail. This trail dates from the pre-Columbian period and is regarded to be one of the top 5 treks in the world. The modern Inca Trail winds 26 miles from Piscacucho, Peru, near Cusco, and ends in the most famous archaeological site in South America: Machu Picchu. The journey takes four days beginning at an altitude of about

8,000 feet and climbing to 13,800 feet over the very steep Dead Woman Pass.

Those who attend their recount of their journey will find out how the Dead Woman Pass got its name and will also hear about their week-long experience at three eco-camps in the jungles of the Amazon River. Among other adventures, Bob discovered he is a natural with a blowgun, Larry satisfied his desire to sample some cuy (fried guinea pig), and they both enjoyed fishing for and eating the legendary piranha.

Bob and Larry will present their Peruvian adventures to the Hiking Club on Wednesday, December 15 in the West Ballroom of the Mountainview Clubhouse. It will start at 3 P.M. All Saddlebrooke residents are invited.



Guided Hike in Baboquivari Mountains
Tuesday, December 21

Brown Canyon in the Baboquivari Mountains is a protected refuge for plants and wildlife. Entrance is by permit only. A guided hike has been arranged with the Buenas Aires National Wildlife Refuge. Limit: 12 hikers. Call Elisabeth Wheeler 818-1547 to make a reservation.

May 2011 Grand Canyon Hiking Trip
Roy Carter, Susan Hollis, Don Taylor

The Club has been unable to secure lodging at Phantom Ranch for our annual two-night trip stay in

the Grand Canyon next May. However, your guides have developed an impressive alternative that will help satiate your desires for some significant GCNP in-canyon hiking. Mark your calendars now. The trip promises a wide cross-section of hiking experiences at all levels of difficulty. The current plan is to drive up on Monday, May 23rd, hike four days and return to Saddlebrooke on Saturday, May 28th. The big difference between this trip and previous club trips to GCNP is that club members will make their own transportation, food, and lodging arrangements, and participate in one, two, three, or four days of hiking as they choose. It is not necessary that individuals stay the entire four days.

Probable hikes include: several along the 30-mile south rim trail (C/D), Hermit's Rest to Dripping Springs (B/C), from the south rim down Bright Angel Trail to various points and return (A/B/C), from the south rim down South Kaibab Trail to various points and return (A/B/C/D), two hikes along the AZT Passage 37 between Grandview Tower and Yaki Point, a one-day, in-canyon loop consisting of South Kaibab Trail - Tonto Plateau Trail – Bright Angel Trail (A), and a one-day, north-to-south rim-to-rim crossing, which is AZT Passage 38 (A!). The rim-to-rim will take place on Day 4, Friday, May 27th.

Some of the mechanics and logistics of the trip are still being worked out, but an information package describing the Hikes Offered, resources and lodging alternatives (RV and tent camping, motels in GCNP and Tusayan, etc.) is being developed for interested hikers. Please email Susan at shollis@yahoo.com or Roy at rvcarter@aol.com to request the package. You should make lodging reservations as soon as possible since the demand for housing in and near the south rim during late May is very high. There are usually no penalties for GCNP lodge/cabin cancellations at least 72 hours before the day of arrival, so, as the time draws near, we will see if any rooms can be released a few weeks before the trip.

Reservations for a north-rim Pioneer Cabin, whose two bedrooms will accommodate up to 6 people (comfortably, according to the brochure), have been made for the night before rim-to-rim hike. Reservations have also been made for two Frontier Cabins that will accommodate three people each, providing space for up to 12 people total. The spaces in these cabins are available on a first-come first-serve basis (email or phone call to Larry Linderman, llinderman@q.com). The park shuttle will be used for transport to the north rim on Day 3.

Signups for hikes would be requested at least 10 days in advance of the trip to allow time to arrange logistics. A schedule would be published one week in advance of the first hiking day, which lists the rallying place, departure time, leader, and signed-up hikers. An attempt will be made to provide hikes at each level of difficulty each day; however, hikes with too few signups or hikes for which no guide has been identified may be folded into similar hikes that same day or cancelled. We understand that this means you would not know with certainty which hikes would be offered until you are already there, but rest assured there will be ample opportunities for hikes. Four guides have already indicated they wish to go on the trip.

| News You Can Use | | |
|------------------|---------|-----------|
| Social Hour | Nov. 17 | 4:00 p.m. |
| Board Meeting | Dec. 1 | 2:45 p.m. |
| Guide Meeting | Dec. 1 | 4:00 p.m. |
| Social Hour | Dec. 15 | 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.

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.

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| President | Dave Hydeman; 825-7816; skate04retire@yahoo.com |
| Vice-President | Bill Leightenheimer - 825-5756; wmhlaz@gmail.com |
| Secretary | Ken Wong; 818-2561; kmwong@q.com |
| Treasurer | Elizabeth Tancock - 825-7838; etancock@wbhsi.net |
| Chief Hiking Guides | Frank Brier - 818-0493; FrankBrier@aol.com Roy Carter - 818-3137; rvcarter@aol.com |
| Volunteers | |
| Catalina Hills Cleanup | Bill Leightenheimer, 825-5756; wmhlaz@gmail.com |
| Communications | Ken Wong 818-2561; kmwong@q.com |
| Programs | Elisabeth Wheeler;818-1547 elisarick@wbhsi.net |
| Membership Roster | Bob Perez, 861-0967; azsun65@wbhsi.net |
| Merchandise | Sandy Businger, 825-9294; usbusinger@wbhsi.net |
| Newsletter Copies | Martha Hackworth, 818-2573; marthahackworth@comcast.net |
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| Socials | Beaver Simpson,818-7839; wbsortho@aol.com |
| Socials | Pam Wakefield,825-0309; pambw@live.com |
| Socials | Marge Wong, 818-2561; kmwong@q.com |
| Statistics and Awards | Susan Hollis, 825-6819; slhollis@yahoo.com |
| Work Days | Jim Strickler, 825-8735; sherabjim@wbhsi.net |

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 elevation of the destination, 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.
- **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.

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>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 |

| <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.

Monday thru Friday fitness walks will start at **6:30 a.m.** in November and **7:00 a.m.** in December, from 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 and Thursday walking group will start the Fitness Walk the beginning of November at **7:00 a.m.** We start our walk on Tuesday at the Mountain View Parking lot. On Thursday we begin our walks 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 **7:00 a.m.** and wait for no one. For more information call Judy at 825-7077 or email at: mbarenkopf@msn.com

Hikes Offered

The hikes for the next two months are listed in the table on the following pages. Any symbols are explained immediately below the table, and trail descriptions follow the table.

Please remember to call a few days ahead of time to ensure the guide has time to plan hike logistics.

| Date | Day of Week | Name of Hike ^a | Hike Rating ^b | Pace ^c | Leave Time (a.m) | Leader(s) | Phone Number | Driver Donation |
|---------------|-------------|--|--------------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| 11/1 | Mon | Chiricahua Heart of Rocks Loop | B | | 6:00 | Dave Sorenson | 777-1994 | \$21 |
| 11/1 | Mon | Deer Camp/ Baby Jesus Loop | C | | 8:00 | Laura Ruxer | 825-1829 | \$2 |
| 11/2 | Tues | Mt. Kimball via Finger Rock Tr. | A | | 6:00 | Elisabeth Wheeler | 818-1547 | \$4 |
| 11/2 | Tues | **Exploratory to falls below Pusch Peak | C | | 7:00 | Jan Wilson | 818-0299 | \$2 |
| 11/3 | Weds | Alamo Canyon | D | | 9:30 | Frank Brier | 818-0493 | \$2+\$2 |
| 11/3 | Weds | Extended Fitness Walk | C/B | Fast | 6:30 | Dave Hydeman | | |
| 11/3 | Weds | Finger Rock to Linda Vista Saddle | B | | 7:30 | Roy Carter | 818-3137 | \$4 |
| 11/5 | Fri | Sutherland Wash Petroglyphs | C | | 7:00 | Dave Hydeman | 825-7816 | \$2 |
| 11/5 | Fri | AZT: Tortilla Mtns., Part 1 | B | | 7:00 | Larry Linderman | 818-1977 | \$7 |
| 11/8 | Mon | Pima Canyon to 3rd Dam | B | | 7:30 | Frank & Virginia Brier | 818-0493 | \$3 |
| 11/8 | Mon | Josephine Saddle and Rogers Rock | B | | 7:00 | Michael Reale | 825-8286 | \$10 |
| 11/9 | Tues | Deer Camp | C | | 8:00 | Chris Costello | 818-0368 | \$2 |
| 11/9 | Tues | Romero Pass | A | | 6:30 | Elisabeth Wheeler | 818-1547 | \$2 + 2 |
| 11/10 | Weds | Panther Peak | C! | | 6:30 | Dave Hydeman | 825-7816 | \$5 |
| 11/10 | Mon | Hutch's Pool | C! | | 8:00 | Laura Ruxer | 825-1829 | \$4 + tram |
| 11/11 | Thurs | Tortolita Mtns.: Wild Burro Canyon with Key exchange | C | | 7:00 | Jan Wilson | 818-0299 | \$2 |
| 11/11 & 11/12 | Thurs & Fri | GPS & Maps Fundamentals Seminar | | | 7:00 to 11:00 | Carter & Guides | | |
| 11/13 | Sat | Sabino Canyon - Bear Canyon Loop with Trams | B | | 7:45 | Susan Hollis | 825-6819 | \$4 + Tram |
| 11/15 | Mon | Seven Falls | B | | 8:00 | Laura Ruxer | 825-1829 | \$4 |
| 11/16 | Tues | Pima Canyon to 2 nd Dam | C | | 8:00 | Chris Costello | 818-0368 | \$3 |
| 11/16 | Tues | Linda Vista Loop | D | | 9:00 | Walt Shields | 818-3439 | \$2 |
| 11/17 | Weds | SBHC Program, Sky Island Wildlife MV Club House | | | 3:00 p.m. | Elisabeth Wheeler | 818-1547 | |
| 11/17 | Weds | SBHC Social Hour MV Club House | | | 4:00 p.m. | | | |

| Date | Day of Week | Name of Hike ^a | Hike Rating ^b | Pace ^c | Leave Time (a.m) | Leader(s) | Phone Number | Driver Donation |
|-------|-------------|---|--------------------------|-------------------|------------------|---------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| 11/18 | Thurs | Hutch's Pool | C! | | 7:45 | Jan Wilson | 818-0299 | \$4 + tram |
| 11/20 | Sat | Brown Mountain | C | Slow | 8:00 | Jim Strickler | 825-8735 | \$6 |
| 11/22 | Mon | Window Rock | A | | 7:30 | Roy Carter | 818-3137 | \$4 |
| 11/23 | Tues | AZT: Going to the Lake | C | | 7:00 | Jan Wilson | 818-0299 | \$9 |
| 11/24 | Weds | Pontatoc Ridge | C! | | 7:30 | Frank Brier | 818-0493 | \$4 |
| 11/24 | Weds | Aravaipa Canyon Wilderness-West | B! | Slow | 7:00 | Dave Sorenson | 777-1994 | \$10 plus |
| 11/26 | Fri | Tortolita Mountains - Alamo Springs / Wild Mustang Loop | B | | 7:00 | Michael Reale | 825-8286 | \$4 |
| 11/26 | Fri | Finger Rock to Spring | D | | 7:30 | Roy Carter | 818-3137 | \$4 |
| 11/29 | Mon | Aspen Draw / Mint Spring Trail | C | | 7:00 | Michael Reale | 825-8286 | \$10 |
| 11/29 | Mon | AZT: Tortilla Mt Part 2 | A or B | | 7:00 | Larry Linderman | 818-1977 | \$7 |
| 11/30 | Tues | Romero Pools | C | | 8:00 | Chris Costello | 818-0368 | \$2 + 2 |
| 11/30 | Tues | Wasson Peak Loop | B | | 8:00 | Walt Shields | 818-3439 | \$6 |
| 12/1 | Weds | SBHC Board Mtg. | | | 2:45 p.m. | | | |
| 12/1 | Weds | Guides Mtg. | | | 4:00 p.m. | | | |
| 12/1 | Weds | Extended Fitness Walk | C/B | Fast | 6:30 | Dave Hydeman | | |
| 12/2 | Thurs | Blackett's Ridge | B | | 8:00 | Walt Shields | 818-3439 | \$4 |
| 12/3 | Fri | Canyon Loop | D☺ | | 7:30 | Roy Carter | 818-3137 | \$2 + 2 |
| 12/05 | Sun | **Tortalita Mtns.: Lower Javelina and Upper Javelina | C | | Noon | Susan Hollis | 825-6819 | \$4 |
| 12/6 | Mon | AZT: Black Hills, Bloodsucker Wash to Freeman Rd. | B | | 7:00 | Larry Linderman | 818-1977 | \$13 |
| 12/7 | Tues | Tortolita Mtns.: S. Wild Burro Canyon/ Alamo Springs Loop | B | | 8:00 | Chris Costello | 818-0368 | \$4 |
| 12/7 | Tues | Anza Trail: Tubac to Tumacacori | C☺ | | 7:00 | Jan Wilson | 818-0299 | \$11 + lunch |
| 12/8 | Weds | Pima Canyon to Pima Springs | A | | 7:00 | Frank Brier | 818-0493 | \$3 |
| 12/8 | Weds | Catalina Hills Cleanup Walk | D | Slow | 8:30 | Bill Leightenheimer | 825-5756 | none |
| 12/10 | Fri | English Tea Social at Romero Pools ^d | C | | 8:00 | Virginia Brier | 818-0493 | \$2 + \$2 + \$1 |

| Date | Day of Week | Name of Hike ^a | Hike Rating ^b | Pace ^c | Leave Time (a.m) | Leader(s) | Phone Number | Driver Donation |
|-------|-------------|--|--------------------------|-------------------|------------------|---------------------------|--------------|-----------------|
| 12/11 | Sat | Wasson Peak Loop | B | Slow | 8:00 | Jim Strickler | 825-8735 | \$6 |
| 12/13 | Mon | Mt. Wrightson via Old Baldy or via Old Baldy and Super Trails. | A | | 6:30 | Michael Reale | 825-8286 | \$10 |
| 12/13 | Mon | Brown Canyon Nature Tour (Rev.) | C | | 7:00 | Elisabeth Wheeler | 818-1547 | \$15 + 4 |
| 12/14 | Tues | **AZT: Las Cienegas | A or B | | 7:00 | Larry Linderman | 818-1977 | \$9 |
| 12/15 | Weds | SBHC Program Machu Picchu MV Club House | | | 3:00 p.m. | Elisabeth Wheeler | 818-1547 | |
| 12/15 | Weds | SBHC Social Hour MV Club House | | | 4:00 p.m. | | | |
| 12/16 | Thurs | Maiden Pools | C! | | 9:00 | Walt Shields | 818-3439 | \$4 |
| 12/17 | Fri | Romero Falls | A | | 7:00 | Frank Brier | 818-0493 | \$2 + \$2 |
| 12/17 | Fri | Tortolita Trail | D | | 8:00 | Jan Wilson | 818-0299 | \$4 |
| 12/20 | Mon | Picacho Peak to Saddle | C | | 7:30 | Roy Carter | 818-3137 | \$7 + 2 |
| 12/22 | Weds | Buster Peak/ Buster Spring | B | | 7:30 | Bill Leightenheimer | 825-5756 | \$2 + \$2 |
| 12/26 | Sun | David Yetman Trail | C | | 9:00 | Susan Hollis & Randy Park | 825-6819 | \$6 |
| 12/28 | Tues | Sutherland Wash Petroglyphs | C | | 7:00 | Dave Hydeman | 825-7816 | \$2 |
| 12/29 | Weds | Wasson Peak via Sweetwater Trail | B | | 7:30 | Bill Leightenheimer | 825-5756 | \$5 |
| 12/30 | Thurs | Brown Mountain | C | | 9:00 | Walt Shields | 818-3439 | \$6 |

a– New hikes not yet included in the Hike Database are indicated with “***”.

b – Hike ratings are base on round trip distance and accumulated elevation gain, where available. Ratings flagged with a “!” 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.

d - Virginia will bring the English Scones and hot tea.

Hike Descriptions

Alamo Canyon. Rating D. The hike begins at the Romero Ruins Trailhead in Catalina State Park. Other than one short area by the wash, the elevation change is gradual. This is a lovely hike up to Alamo Canyon Falls and return. Water may be present in the canyon after rainy periods, but there are no water crossings. Hikers will stop by the Romero Ruins and take the informative loop trail from there. Hike 3.4 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change __ feet; accumulated gain 423 feet; RTD 24 miles.

Anza Trail / Tubac to Tumacacori. Rating C. The hike begins at the Tubac Presidio State Historical Park and ends at Tumacacori National Monument. More information about the Anza Trail is available at www.anzatrail.com and www.solideas.com/DeAnsa/trailguide. Hikers will cross rivers, but there are wooden bridges (no hand rails) so we shouldn't get our feet wet. Sturdy walking shoes are fine (hiking shoes not required). We will lunch in Tumacacori at Wisdoms' Café. Bring \$ for lunch, shopping. Golden Age Pass is needed for entrance to Tumacacori Historic Park. Shopping will be after lunch, if your driver is willing. Hike 4.5 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change 100 - 200 feet; accumulated gain is minimal; RTD 144 miles.

Aravaipa Canyon Wilderness: West. Rating B! Aravaipa Canyon is a beautiful, pristine canyon, a favorite for all who have been there. Expect stream wading and numerous stream crossings (up to knee deep) with dense riparian brush. Wear shorts, socks, and shoes (that can get wet) with good traction (for wet rocks). Bring dry shoes/shorts/shirt for drive home if desired (and a plastic bag for wet items). Aravaipa Canyon is a wilderness area with no trails, signs, or facilities. Hiking stick is recommended. Wilderness permits (fee required) must be reserved in advance and are non-refundable. Hikers must sign up two weeks prior to hike. Call the hiking guide for more details. Hike 8 miles; trailhead elevation 2600 feet; net elevation change 200 feet; accumulated gain __ feet; RTD 110 miles (dirt).

Arizona Trail: Black Hills, Bloodsucker Wash to Freeman Rd. Rating B. From the Arizona Trail markers on Bloodsucker Wash, hikers proceed down sandy Bloodsucker Wash for 2.3 miles, climb out of the wash to a ridge, and reach a dirt road. After about 2 miles, we reach the charming Beehive Well,

walking between a windmill and a tank. In another 2 miles, after ascending a ridge, we can see Antelope Tank below. In 4.5 more miles, we arrive at the base of the northern slopes of Antelope Peak. Hikers complete the last 2 miles on a rough jeep road, which intersects Freeman Road. The trail continues on the road another 0.3 miles to complete the Black Hills segment. Hike 12 miles; trailhead elevation 3430 feet; net elevation change 990 feet; accumulated gain 1550 feet; RTD 135 miles (dirt).

Arizona Trail: Going to the Lake. Rating C. The trailhead is reached by driving up Redington Pass Road 9.8 miles (dirt) past Bellota Ranch Road to the left, past milepost #12 to a sign for FR # 37, where a parking area is located. Hikers take the Arizona Trail north to the Lake near Bellota Ranch. Hike 6 miles; trailhead elevation 4350 feet; net elevation change 400 feet; accumulated gain 1210 feet; RTD 100 miles (dirt, high clearance vehicle).

****Arizona Trail: Las Cienegas. Rating A or B.** From the Lakes Road the trail heads northeast past the Twin Tanks, then mostly north crossing several small roads. It turns briefly to the west and then back north again, crossing several more roads and then reaching Sahuarita Road. Turning to the east, the route crosses Highway 83 and becomes a trail again. It crosses the Old Sonoita Highway and then joins a two-track road. After several road junctions, including a powerline access road, it leaves the road and heads north up to Interstate 10. After going under I-10, it climbs up onto a ridgeline and follows that to Three Bridges. The Arizona Trail Guidebook describes this hike, which is Passage 6, as strenuous. Hike 18 miles; trailhead elevation __ feet; net elevation change __ feet; accumulated gain __ feet; RTD __ miles.

Arizona Trail: Tortilla Mountains Segment 1. Rating B. The Tortilla mountains segment of the Arizona Trail starts from Freeman Road and follows a series of old roads, dry washes and a single-track trail. Interesting large boulder formation and mostly rolling desert terrain. We hike just beyond Tecolote Ranch. This is a key exchange hike. High clearance vehicles are required. Hike 8.5 miles; trailhead elevation 4015 (3600 feet for Tecolote Ranch) feet; net elevation change 450 feet; accumulated gain 790 feet; RTD 72 miles (dirt).

****Arizona Trail: Tortilla Mountains Segment 2. Rating A or B.** We pick up the northern part of the Tortilla Mountains segment near the Tecolote Ranch. After crossing this road the trail continues north, crosses under the same high-tension power lines and joins a road. It crosses many cattle paths as it follows this road for almost 2 miles and then heads cross-country before joining another road. From here the trail turns north, passes several road junctions and climbs to a gate on a hill. The trail descends down the northeast side of this hill and then follows the drainage to a road. After leaving the road the trail descends down to Ripsey Wash, crosses the wash and then turns into a side canyon and begins climbing up onto the "Big Hill." After switchbacking around the hill the trail heads north-northwest along a ridgeline. It turns to the east and then back due north, and then starts a long descent. After crossing several washes, the trail reaches a 2-track and follows it down to the Florence-Kelvin Highway. The route turns to the right on the FK Hwy (dirt road) and follows it down to the Kelvin Bridge / Gila River. The Arizona Trail Guidebook describes this hike, which is part of Passage 15, as strenuous. Hike 13 miles; trailhead elevation ___ feet; net elevation change ___ feet; accumulated gain 500 feet; RTD ___ miles.

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.

Blackett's Ridge. Rating B. The hike begins at the Sabino Canyon Visitor Center, and follows relatively level, well-used trails east to the Phone Line Trailhead. After 0.4 miles along the Phone Line Trail, the Blackett's Ridge Trail branches right and continues up the ridge between Sabino and Bear Canyons. There are spectacular views of Tucson and the canyons to either side of the trail. The ridge part of the trail has several steep switchbacks mixed in with some level areas. There are three false summits before reaching the end of the trail, a point where it is not possible to continue because the terrain drops precipitously. Hike 6 miles; trailhead elevation 2720 feet; net elevation change 1689 feet; accumulated gain >1735 feet; RTD 56 miles.

Brown Mountain. Rating C. The Brown Mountain Trail is along a ridge in the heart of the Tucson Mountains. It starts at a trailhead on McCain Loop Road, just south of Kinney Road east of the Arizona Sonoran Desert Museum. Along this "ridge ramble" are excellent views of the mountains, valleys, and desert vegetation. The route has many up and downs. Hike 5 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 (trailheads at either end are 2640 and 2880) feet; net elevation change 400 feet; accumulated gain 1100 feet; RTD 73 miles.

Brown Canyon Nature Tour - Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge (Revised). Rating C. This is a beautiful canyon with wildflower, birding and wild animal spotting possibilities. The hike is in Brown Canyon off Hwy # 286 and will be led by staff of the Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge. An excellent place for lunch is at a natural bridge along the way. Limited to 12 hikers. Hike 5 miles; trailhead elevation 4100 feet; net elevation change 600 feet; accumulated gain ___ feet; RTD 152 miles, with 11 miles on dirt road.

Buster Spring / Buster Mountain. Rating B. The hike involves a moderately difficult bushwhack for the adventurous fit hiker. The hike starts at the Alamo Canyon Trailhead shortly turning off to the left on a diminishing trail in Catalina State Park. Hikers proceed to Buster Spring (el. 4150 feet), which was rebuilt by the U.S. Forest Service in 1994 and is a reliable source of water year round. From the spring, hikers will climb to the summit of Buster Mountain (el. 4595 feet). The Buster Mountain summit offers magnificent views of upper Alamo Canyon and the tremendous cliffs and outcroppings there and around Table Mountain. Hike 6 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 1895 feet; accumulated gain ___ feet; RTD 24 miles.

Canyon Loop. Rating D. From the main trailhead at the end of the road in Catalina State Park, the hike begins with the Romero Canyon Trail, turns onto the Canyon Loop Trail, and then comes back on the Sutherland Trail. This area is a great example of the Sonoran Desert and its riparian areas. The hike may be done in reverse direction. Depending upon the season, some water crossings are possible. Hike 2.2 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change ___ feet; accumulated gain 170 feet; RTD 24 miles.

Catalina Hills Trash Cleanup Walk. Rating D. Volunteers are needed for the Trash Cleanup Walk for Catalina Hills Drive which is part of the Arizona Adopt A Highway Program. This is a community

service that our club provides for SaddleBrooke and for Arizona. The walk will only take an hour to an hour and a half of your time. Trash bags and safety vests are provided by the Pinal County Highway Dept. Volunteers should bring gloves and a pickup stick if they have one. Volunteers will meet in the parking lot just west of the Fitness Center at SaddleBrooke CC.

Chiracahua Heart of Rocks. Rating C. The hike consists of the Ed Riggs, Mushroom Rock, Big Balanced Rock and Heart of Rocks Loop Trails, visiting the most spectacular rock formations in Chiracahua National Monument. If time permits, we may include a portion of the scenic Echo Canyon trail. Because this is an all day trip (140 miles to the Monument), those wishing to, will stop for dinner at a very good, reasonable Italian Restaurant in Benson on the way back. Hike 7.3 miles; trailhead elevation 6780 feet; net elevation change <1000 feet; accumulated gain __ feet; RTD 288 miles.

David Yetman Trail. Rating C. The hike is an easy walk through typical vegetation of the Sonoran Desert. The trail has two trailheads; one at Camino de Oeste and one near the bottom of the west side of Gates Pass. Cars will be left at one end and hikers will drive to the other trailhead. From the Gates Pass side, the trail is easy for the first mile, easy down a wash, but steep upward for a short distance along the climb back up to the ridge. Hikers pass the Central Arizona Project, an old stone house built in the early 1930's by Sherry Bowen, and a well that serves a wildlife watering tank. Bring lunch, water, hat, sun lotion, and hiking stick. Hike 5.4 miles; trailhead elevation 2800 feet; net elevation change 600 feet; accumulated gain __ feet; RTD 75 miles.

Deer Camp / Baby Jesus Loop. Rating C. The hike begins in the Fifty-Year Trail area. We hike easterly toward Deer Camp, and then take the Middle Tank Connecting Trail to the Baby Jesus Trail which leads back to the trailhead. The area has little traffic and is a delight to the senses. Hike 7.5 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change __ feet; accumulated gain 993 feet; RTD 12 miles (dirt).

Deer Camp. Rating C. The hike begins in the Fifty-Year Trail area. We hike east up and out of Sutherland Wash, through beautiful rock formations with many saguaros to a camp at the base of Samaniego Peak. The return is via the same route. Hike 5.4 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change 825 feet; accumulated gain 980 feet; RTD 12 miles (dirt).

****Exploratory to the Falls at the Base of Pusch Peak. Rating C.** The hike begins at the Linda Vista Loop trailhead, located one block east of Oracle Road on Linda Vista Boulevard. The hike will proceed along the loop trail towards Pusch Peak, but angle to the left toward the falls at the upper part of the trail. The trail climbs gradually along the wash but becomes somewhat steeper as it approaches the falls. There are magnificent saguaros throughout the boulder-filled drainage from Pusch Ridge. Hike about 5 miles; trailhead elevation 2720 feet; net elevation gain about 600 feet, accumulated gain __ feet; RTD 28 miles.

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 Finger Rock Spring. Rating D. The hike begins from the Finger Rock Trailhead at the north end of Alvernon Way. Taking the Finger Rock Canyon Trail, which leads to Mt. Kimball, we will only go as far as Finger Rock Spring. The trail passes some beautiful rock formations and native desert plant life along the way. The trail is relatively level but there are some ups and downs along the way. Hike 3 miles; trailhead elevation 3120 feet; net elevation change 500 feet; accumulated gain __ feet; RTD 44 miles.

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.

Hutch's Pool. Rating C./. Hikers will take the Sabino Canyon tram (fee required) to the trailhead at its last stop up the canyon (fee required). After a moderately steep but brief climb out of the canyon, the trail is mostly level but involves several stream crossings along the East and West Forks before reaching the pool. Some boulder hopping may be necessary depending on seasonal rains and winter

snow melt on Mt. Lemmon. During periods of heavy rain or significant snow melt, the crossings can be difficult. Ask the guide about current stream flow conditions. This lovely hike will take the group to a permanent pool surrounded by giant Arizona Cypress trees, which is great place for a snack or lunch. The return is via the same route to the trailhead to catch the tram. Hike 8 miles; trailhead elevation 3300 feet; net elevation change 900 feet; accumulated gain ___ feet; RTD 56 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.

Linda Vista Loop. Rating D. The Linda Vista Trailhead and parking lot is one block east of Oracle Road on Linda Vista Blvd. The hike proceeds into the foothills of Pusch Ridge and is an excellent introduction to desert hiking. The trail gradually ascends to provide excellent views of Oro Valley. Poles may be helpful for rocky steps-up and steps-down. The trail passes through a riparian area and ascends to a rocky outcropping which is a good place for a snack break. There are magnificent saguaros throughout the drainage from Pusch Ridge. Hike 3 miles (mileage may be extended by doing an extra loop – ask the guide); trailhead elevation 2680 feet; net elevation change 500 feet; accumulated gain ___ feet; RTD 28 miles.

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

Mt. Kimball via Finger Rock Canyon. Rating A. Starting from the Finger Rock Trailhead at the north end of Alvernon Way, this rocky trail climbs steadily and follows the canyon past Finger Rock, a prominent Tucson landmark high above the canyon floor. The trail passes Linda Vista Saddle between Mt. Kimball and "Little Kimball," and onto the Pima Canyon Trail. A half mile further and hikers arrive at the top of Mt. Kimball. The return hike is down the same trails. Hike 9.5 miles; trailhead elevation 3120 feet; net elevation change 4138 feet; accumulated gain 4148 feet; RTD 44 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.

Panther Peak. Rating C!. The hike begins near Saguaro National Park – West off Picture Rocks Road, with the first mile on old mining roads. Then, a steep, difficult climb begins and you may need to use your hands to climb the trail. The use of gloves, long pants, and a hiking stick is recommended. There are outstanding views from the top; Picacho Peak is visible to the north. The return is via the same route. This is a short but strenuous hike. Hike 5.5 miles; trailhead elevation 2280 feet; net elevation change 1160 feet; accumulated gain 1250 feet; RTD 60 miles.

Picacho Peak to Saddle. Rating C. The hike follows the Hunter Trail from the Barret Loop up to the saddle and returns via the same route. There are terrific views of the surrounding area at the saddle. There are a few sections of loose rock, and permanently installed guide cables at some points to assist hikers along the relatively steep trail. Park entrance fee required. Hike <3 miles; trailhead elevation 2000 feet; net elevation change 960 feet; accumulated gain 960 feet; RTD 90 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.

Pima Canyon to 3rd Dam. Rating B. The Pima Canyon Trailhead is at the east end of Magee Road. The first mile or so of trail 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 into the open. We will hike past a rocky open area in the canyon beyond the second dam near Indian grinding holes and continue on to the third dam, the largest of the three. The return is via the same route. Hike 8.1 miles; trailhead elevation 2900 feet; net elevation change 1870 feet; accumulated gain 2210 feet; RTD 42 miles.

Pima Canyon to Pima Spring. Rating A. The trailhead is at the east end of Magee Road. The first mile or so of trail crosses open desert along the south side of Pusch Peak. It then enters a beautiful rugged canyon. The rocky trail passes through a grove of large trees providing welcome shade before emerging again in the open. We hike past a three small dams before reaching the perennial Pima Spring, which has a concrete trough for holding water for wildlife. The spring is an excellent place for lunch. Hike 10 miles; trailhead elevation 2960 feet; net elevation change 2789 feet; accumulated gain 3200 feet; RTD 42 miles.

Pontatoc Ridge. Rating C!. 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 just below some old mines. There are great views of Tucson and the surrounding area from a saddle along the way. The hike is strenuous in some areas due to the steep incline and rocky path. There are short stretches of exposed trail near the old mines. Hike 5 miles; trailhead elevation 3100 feet; net elevation change 1300 feet; accumulated gain 1500 feet; RTD 44 miles.

Romero Falls. Rating A. The hike begins in Catalina State Park at the easternmost trailhead and follows Romero Canyon Trail into the foothills. The trail crosses open desert then climbs steeply until it reaches a saddle and then down into the canyon area where Romero pools are located. The falls are about 30 feet high and consist of water flowing down a steeply sloped rock face, and are a very unique feature in southern Arizona. The falls are located about 2.6 miles past the Romero pools and about 0.6 miles (and a little less than 500 feet additional elevation gain) past Romero Springs. The springs and falls are located in a very scenic section of the canyon, and have been known to attract quite a bit of wildlife. Lunch will be at the falls. The return is via the same route. Hike 11.6 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 2420 feet; accumulated gain >3140 feet; RTD 24 miles.

Romero Pass. Rating A. The hike begins in Catalina State Park at the easternmost trailhead and follows an up and down trail past Romero Pools and Romero Springs to Romero Pass. The last 2 miles before reaching the pass is very steep and involves continual climbing. The return is via the same route. There are excellent views of Romero and Montrose Canyons along the way and of Cathedral Peak at the top. Rincon Peak is visible to the east. Hike 15 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 3380 feet; accumulated gain 4040 feet; RTD 24 miles.

Romero Pools. Rating C. The hike begins in Catalina State Park at the easternmost trailhead and follows Romero Canyon Trail into the foothills. The trail crosses open desert then climbs steeply until it reaches a saddle and then down into the canyon area where several pools are located. There are excellent views of Romero and Montrose Canyons along the way. The well-maintained trail is rocky and rough in places, but is not overly difficult for most hikers. An option is a 0.75 miles round-trip, relatively level hike to the upper pools. We will have lunch at the lower or upper pools. The return is via the same route. Hike 5.6 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 980 feet; accumulated gain 1500 feet; RTD 24 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.

Seven Falls. Rating B. The hike begins at the Sabino Canyon Visitor Center, and continues to lower Bear Canyon, then along the Bear Canyon Trail to Seven Falls. The return is via the same route. The falls, which constitute one of the most spectacular natural features in the Tucson area, usually have some water flowing over them but may be dry if there has been inadequate rain. The trail crosses the Bear Canyon wash several times in each direction and can involve significant boulder hopping/wading after rainy periods. Ask the guide about current conditions. Hike 8.7 miles; trailhead elevation 2720 feet; net elevation change 720 feet; accumulated gain 1550 feet; RTD 56 miles.

Sutherland Wash Petroglyphs. Rating C. The trail for this hike is gradual and passes through a mesquite thicket with 100-year old saguaros, Arizona poppies/morning glories in season, and eventually reaches an area of many, many petroglyphs. Per the book *Paradise Found* by Kathy Alexander, there are over 1400 petroglyphs in the area. Some rock scrambling is necessary to reach most of the petroglyphs, but nothing very difficult. Bring a snack to enjoy while searching. Hike 5.6 miles; trailhead elevation 3240 feet; net elevation change minus 205 feet; accumulated gain 309 feet; RTD 12 miles (dirt).

Tortolita Mountains – Alamo Springs / Wild Mustang Loop. Rating B. This hike travels the outer rim of the area. From the Ritz Carlton hiker parking lot, proceed through the Wild Burro Wash, to Lower Javalina Trail to the Alamo Springs Trail. After ascending the first part, we take a short side trail to a high point overlooking the area to the west. We then continue on the Alamo Springs Trail to our lunch spot in Wild Burro Canyon. We then proceed on a short connector trail to the Wild Mustang Trail until we connect with the Upper Javelina Trail and return to the trailhead via the Wild Burro Wash. The hike offers remote hiking with great views of the Tortolita Mountains and passes several crested saguaros. Hike 10.2 miles; trailhead elevation 3000 feet; net elevation change 1300 feet; accumulated

gain 2780 feet; (hike data need to be updated for the new TH); RTD 44 miles.

****Tortolita Mountains - Lower Javelina and Upper Javelina. Rating C.** The hike begins at the Ritz Carlton Hotel hiker parking lot. The group will hike up Wild Burro Canyon a short distance to Lower Javelina Trail which we follow for 2 miles, then cross Wild Burro Canyon again to connect to Upper Javelina Trail. We will proceed along the Upper Javelina Trail for 3 miles; the end of Upper Javelina Trail is close to the new golf course. The group will then hike an easy 1 mile path back to the parking lot. Hike 6 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change 550 feet; accumulated elevation 910 feet; RTD 44 miles.

Tortolita Mountains - S. Wild Burro Canyon / Alamo Springs Trail Loop. Rating C. The trailhead is at the Ritz Carlton hiker parking lot. The hike proceeds up Wild Burro Canyon to the Alamo Springs Trail, which is followed in a counterclockwise loop back to the Wild Burro Trail further up the canyon.. The Ritz Carlton Hotel and new golf course are visible from many points along the trail. After about 3.5 miles, we reach the final "pass," then descend to the Spur Trail, which we follow into Wild Burro Canyon. Soon after reaching the canyon floor, there is an old stone house, and cistern on the right which belonged to goat herders in the early 1900's. There is also a large water catch basin, dubbed the "swimming pool". From this point, hikers walk back along the Wild Burro Trail to the trailhead. Hike 6.1 miles; trailhead elevation 2780 feet; net elevation change 1200 feet; accumulated gain 1375 feet; (hike data need to be updated for the new TH); RTD 44 miles.

Tortolita Mountains - Wild Burro Canyon with Key Exchange. Rating C. The trailhead is reached via the Rail-X Marble Mine Road off Oracle Hwy at the county line, then another 2.5 miles on another jeep road. We hike into Wild Burro Canyon from the north side of the Tortolitas on an old road past an old stone wall (that once was a goat corral), past a windmill, and down the wash to a drop-off point or waterfall. From there we continue along a trail past the waterfall for another mile, and descend to some old stone house ruins, water cistern, and "swimming pool". We continue 2 more miles along a flat sandy arroyo, some on compacted soil, to the trailhead near the Ritz Carlton at the end of Dove Mountain Blvd. The group hiking north from the Ritz Carlton trailhead, for the key exchange, will do the reverse. 4WD vehicles will be needed to reach the northern

starting point. Hike 6 miles; trailhead elevation 3000 feet at the north end, __ feet at the Wild Burro Trailhead; net elevation change 700 feet; accumulated gain north __ feet, __ feet south; (hike data need to be updated for the new trailhead); RTD 20 miles (dirt).

Tortolita Trail. Rating D. The trailhead is at the end of W. Moore Road about 1.5 miles off Dove Mountain Blvd. The hike involves a portion of the multipurpose Tortolita Trail located on the Tortolita Preserve. It took outdoorsman and amateur trail designer Chuck Boyer, age 66, more than two years to carve out the 9-mile recreational trail using only hand tools. Hike 4 miles; trailhead elevation 2500 feet; net elevation change <500 feet; accumulated gain __ feet; RTD 44 miles.

Wasson Peak Loop. Rating B. The hike begins at the King Canyon Trailhead located across from the Arizona Sonora Desert Museum. We follow the King Canyon Trail, Sendero Esperanza Trail, and Hugh Norris Trail up to Wasson Peak, then back down to the Sweetwater Saddle and down a mining road to the King Canyon Wash, and then to the trailhead. There are stops for lots of different views and a variety of great scenery, and petroglyphs in the wash. Hike 9.5 miles; trailhead elevation 2880 feet; net elevation change 1807 feet, accumulated gain 1900 feet; RTD 73 miles.

Wasson Peak via Sweetwater Trail. Rating B. The hike begins at the trailhead at the end of El Camino del Cerro (the west extension of Ruthruff 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 2424 feet; RTD 60 miles.

Window Rock. Rating A. The hike follows the most direct route up Ventana Canyon. The hike is difficult and steep, and involves lots of difficult climbing. The hike begins at the Ventana Canyon Resort parking lot past the employees' parking lot. It follows that trail past Maiden Pools until it reaches the Esperero Trail # 25, which is used for two miles to reach the Window. Ventana Canyon offers some of the best canyon views in southern Arizona. Views from the Window are fantastic, including such landmarks at Mt. Kimball, Cathedral Rock, and the Montrose Canyon drainage area. Hike 13 miles; trailhead elevation 3040 feet; net elevation change 3840 feet; accumulated gain 4200 feet; RTD 54 miles.

New Members

To join the SaddleBrooke Hiking Club you need to fill out a Membership Application and Release Form available online at saddlebrooke.org or with the SBHC newsletters at DesertView Fitness Center or the SaddleBrooke Fitness Center. To receive the Newcomer Packet (Patch, Information Sheet, Hiker's Log, Hiking Shirt) please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope with your membership application and membership dues.

Renewing Members

To renew your membership in the SaddleBrooke Hiking Club for 2011 please fill out the attached renewal form and mail it with your membership dues to Bob Perez at the address below.

SADDLEBROOKE HIKING CLUB

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL - 2011

NAME(S): _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ **E-MAIL ADDRESS:** _____

Your name and phone number will be added to the membership list provided to the club officers and guides. Your email address will be used to send you the hiking club newsletter and notices of events.

\$5.00 Annual Dues must accompany this Renewal Form. Make out check to SaddleBrooke Hiking Club. Mail To: Bob Perez, 65187 E Desert Sand Court, Tucson, AZ 85739.
