



SADDLEBROOKE

HIKING CLUB NEWSLETTER

<http://saddlebrookehikingclub.com>

MARCH/APRIL

2013-2

Hiking the Alta Via II in the Italian Dolomites Wednesday, March 20, 3 p.m. SaddleBrooke HOA1 Activity Center

Experience a photo journey through the spectacular Dolomite range of Northern Italy with hiking club member Mike Wolters. In 9 days Mike followed the stunning and famous Alta Via II route for 79 miles with 32,000 vertical feet in elevation gain. Mike's trek began in Brixen in South Tirol of Italy and continued through numerous World War I historical sites. Mike also experienced some Via Ferrata mountain climbs along the way.



Mike's presentation will be followed by an appetizer social hour in the Activity Center. Bring a favorite appetizer to share and your own beverage. For further information about the program call Elisabeth Wheeler [818-1547](tel:818-1547). For information about the appetizer social hour contact Jan Springer [825-1451](tel:825-1451)

Hiking Club Picnic Friday April 12 Catalina State Park

The Hiking Club spring picnic will be held at Catalina State Park on Friday April 12 at the large group area. A brief business meeting will begin at 11:30, followed by a pot luck meal. The Club will

provide fried and baked chicken and eating utensils. Bring a side dish to share and your own beverage. Please RSVP to Beaver Simpson at [818-7839](tel:818-7839) or wbsortho@aol.com before April 8 letting him know the side dish you will bring and the number of people attending.

No Destination" Wednesday, April 17 3p.m. SaddleBrooke HOA1 Activity Center

1971 Pulitzer Prize winning feature photographer Jack Dykinga will speak and show slides to the Hiking Club. His topic "No Destination".

Jack is a regular contributor to Arizona Highways and National Geographic Magazines. His nine wilderness advocacy, large format books include: Frog Mountain Blues, The Secret Forest, The Sierra Pinacate, The Sonoran Desert, Stone Canyons of the Colorado Plateau, and Desert: The Mojave and Death Valley. Jack authored and photographed Large Format Nature Photography, a "how to" guide to color landscape photography. Jack Dykinga's book ARIZONA, released in 2004, is a compellation of Jack's best Arizona images and his book IMAGES: Jack Dykinga's Grand Canyon released by Arizona Highways, May 2008, reflect Jack's love for Arizona.



In April 2010, Jack's image: "Stone Canyon" was selected as one of the forty best Nature Photographs of all time by the International League of

Conservation Photographers and he received the 2011 Outstanding Photographer of the Year Award from the Nature Photographers of North America. Nine of the 50 greatest images ever to appear in Arizona Highways (December 2011) were Jack's. Jack and his wife Margaret live in Tucson, Arizona. His son Peter Dykinga manages his image collection.

Jack Dykinga's program will be followed by the Club social hour at 4 p.m. in the Agave Lounge of the SaddleBrooke Clubhouse. For more information about this program contact Tom Barnwell 825-6760. For more information about the SaddleBrooke Hiking Club contact Larry Allen 825-7864.

News You Can Use		
SBHC Program	3/20	3:00 p.m.
Social Hour	3/20	4:00 p.m.
Board Meeting	4/3	2:45 p.m.
Guide Meeting	4/3	4:00 p.m.
SBHC Picnic	4/12	11:30 a.m..
SBHC Program	4/17	3:00 p.m.
Social Hour	4/17	4:00 p.m.

Hard copies of the Newsletter are available at the SaddleBrooke and Desert View Fitness Centers

Board Members	
President	Larry Allen 825-7864, allenlw70@gmail.com
Vice-President	Bob Kolenda 825-9972; rlkslt4@gmail.com
Secretary	Dave Sorenson 777-1994 iowaboy1950@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Virginia Brier 818-0493; virginiabrier@gmail.com
Chief Hiking Guides	Larry Linderman 303-6564; LLinderman13@gmail.com Walt Shields 818-3439 waltshields@mac.com

Volunteers	
Catalina Hills Cleanup	Bill Leightenheimer, 825-5756; wmhlaz@gmail.com
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Programs	Elisabeth Wheeler;818-1547 elisarick@wbhsi.net
Membership Roster	Karen Cusano , 468-2501 kdjcnp @yahoo.com
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Statistics and Awards	Susan Hollis, 825-6819; slhollis@yahoo.com
Work Days	Jim Strickler, 825-8735; sherabjim@wbhsi.net

General 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 because of the 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. Please view the chart below for the start times for all the walking groups led by Bill Leightenheimer, and Martha Hackworth

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.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Start Time</u>
September 1st	6:30 a.m.
November 1 st	7:00 a.m.
April 1st	6:30 a.m.
June 1st	6:00 a.m.

Hikes Offered

<u>Date</u>	<u>Day of Week</u>	<u>Name of Hike</u>	<u>Hike Rating</u>	<u>Pace</u>	<u>Leave Time A.M.</u>	<u>Leader(s)</u>	<u>Phone Number</u>	<u>Driver Donation</u>
3/2	Sat	**SaddleBrooke's Dome Rock	C		9:00	Frank Brier	818-0493	\$0
3/4	Mon	Accident and Incident Hike for Guides			8:00	Walt Shields	818-3439	
3/5	Tues	Sutherland Trail	C		9:00	Marv Rossof	877-9262	\$2+\$2
3/6	Wed	Dripping Springs	C		8:00	Paul & Ruth DeBruine	818-3248	\$2 +\$2
3/7	Thurs	50 Yr. Trail North Loop	C		8:00	Tim Butler	825-0193	\$2
3/7	Thurs	Linda Vista Loop	D		8:00	Elisabeth Wheeler	818-1547	\$2
3/11	Mon	Alamo Canyon	D		8:00	Walt Shields	818-3439	\$2+\$2
3/11	Mon	Sabino Canyon to Catalina State Park - 1	A		6:00	Margaret Valair	812-0019	\$4
3/12	Tue	Hidden Canyon Loop	C		8:00	Tim Butler	825-0193	\$2
3/13	Wed	Bridal Wreath Falls/Carillo Trail	C		7:00	Elaine & Howie Fagan	818-9555	\$6
3/14	Thurs	Superstitions: World's Greatest Saguaro Cactus	B		7:00	Walt Shields	818-34439	\$14
3/16	Sat	OSP East Loop	C		9:00	Marv Rossof	877-9262	\$3+\$2
3/18	Mon.	Wood Canyon Upper Rim	B!		6:00	Cheryl Werstler	825-9057	\$12

Date	Day of Week	Name of Hike	Hike Rating	Pace	Leave Time A.M.	Leader(s)	Phone Number	Driver Donation
3/19	Tues	Peppersauce & Nugget Canyon Loop	C!		8:00	Michael Reale	825-8286	\$5
3/19	Tues	Deer Camp	C		8:00	Paul & Ruth DeBruine	818-3248	\$2
3/19	Tues	Hutch's Pool	B!		7:45	Laura Ruxer	812-630-2550	\$4
3/20	Wed	Alamo Canyon to the Water Tanks	C		9:00	Marv Rossof	877-9262	\$2+\$2
3/20	Wed	SBHC Program: Hiking the Dolomites HOA 1 Activities Center			3:00	Elisabeth Wheeler	818-1547	
3/20	Wed	SBHC Appetizer Social HOA 1 Activities Center			4:00	Jan Springer	825-1451	
3/21	Thurs	**Tortolita Trail (full version) ☺	B		7:00	Elisabeth Wheeler	818-1547	\$4
3/23	Sat	OSP Exploration	D		9:00 AM	Susan Hollis	825-6819 (call after 3/15)	\$3+\$2
3/25	Mon	**High Jinks Ranch Tour	D		8:00	Michael Reale	825-8286	\$3+\$5
3/25	Mon	Big Rock Dome #1	C!		8:00	Laura Ruxer	812-630-2550	\$1
3/26	Tue	Sutherland Trail	C		8:00	Tim Butler	825-0193	\$2 + \$2
3/27	Wed	Pima Canyon to Second Dam	C		8:00	Ruth & Paul DeBruine	818-3248	\$3
3/28	Thurs	Sweetwater Preserve	C		7:00	Elisabeth Wheeler	818-1547	\$5
3/30	Sat	OSP West Loop	C		9:00	Marv Rossof	877-9262	\$3+\$2
4/1	Mon	Linda Vista Loop	D		8:00	Paul & Ruth DeBruine	818-3248	\$2
4/1	Mon	Tortolita Mountains: Alamo Spring / Wild Mustang Loop	B		7:30	Michael Reale	825-8286	\$4
4/1	Mon.	Safford Peak	C!		7:00	Cheryl Werstler	825-9057	\$5
4/2	Tue	Hidden Canyon Loop	C		7:30	Tim Butler	825-0193	\$2
4/3	Wed	Phone Line Trail – Round Trip	B		7:00	Laura Ruxer	812-630-2550	\$4
4/3	Wed	SBHC Board Meeting HOA1 Activity Center			2:45 p.m.			
4/3	Wed	SBHC Guide Meeting HOA1 Activity Center			4:00 p.m.			
4/5	Fri	Romero Pools	C!		9:00	Marv Rossof	877-9262	\$2+\$2
4/5	Fri	Tanque Verde Peak	A		6:00	Margaret Valair	812-0019	\$6
4/8	Mon	Alamo Canyon	D		8:00	Ruth & Paul DeBruine	818-3248	\$2+\$2
4/8	Mon	Josephine Saddle and Rogers Rock	B		7:00	Michael Reale	825-8286	\$10
4/9	Tue	Deer Camp/Baby Jesus Loop	C		7:30	Tim Butler	825-0193	\$2
4/10	Wed	Thimble Peak	B!		7:30	Frank Brier	818-0493	\$7

Date	Day of Week	Name of Hike	Hike Rating	Pace	Leave Time A.M.	Leader(s)	Phone Number	Driver Donation
4/10	Wed	Tortolita Mountains: Lower Javelina and Upper Javelina	C		8:00	Walt Shields	818-3439	\$4
4/11	Thurs	Pima Canyon to 2 nd Dam	C		8:00	Kathy Cotton	825-2243	\$3
4/12	Fri	Sutherland Trail	C		8:00	Tim Butler	825-0193	\$2+\$2
4/12	Fri	Romero Pools	C!		7:30	Margaret Valair	812-0019	\$2+\$2
4/12	Fri	Club Picnic Catalina State Park			11:30			
4/13	Sat	Cochise Stronghold to End of Trail	B		6:30 AM	Susan Hollis	825-6819	\$16.00
4/13	Sat	OSP East Loop	C		9:00	Marv Rossof	877-9262	\$3+\$2
4/15	Mon	Canyon Loop, Montrose Pools and Birding Trail	D		7:30	Laura Ruxer	812-630-2550	\$2
4/15	Mon.	Agua Caliente Hill/La Milagrosa Ridge...	A		7:00	Cheryl Werstler	825-9057	\$7
4/16	Tues	Rams Creek Basin	C		9:00	Marv Rossof	877-9262	\$2
4/17	Wed	AZ Trail: Work Session	C		8:00	Jim Strickler	825-8735	\$0
4/17	Wed	Finger Rock Trail to Canyon Overlook	C		7:30	Elaine & Howie Fagan	818-9555	\$4
4/17	Wed	SBHC Program: Photographic Journey with Jack Dykinga HOA 1 Activity Center			3:00	Elisabeth Wheeler	818-1547	
4/17	Wed	SBHC Social SB Agave Lounge			4:00			
4/19	Fri	Mt. Hopkins	A		7:00	Frank Brier	818-0493	\$10
4/23	Tue	Baby Jesus/Madonna and Child/Petroglyph Loop	B!		7:30	Tim Butler	825-0193	\$2
4/24	Mon	Douglas Spring to the Campground	B		7:00	Michael Reale	825-8286	\$6
4/26	Fri	Mt Wrightson via Old Baldy Trail	A		6:00	Margaret Valair	812-0019	\$10
4/27	Sat	OSP West Loop	C		9:00	Marv Rossof	877-9262	\$3+\$2
4/23to 4/25		CLUB TRIP TO ZION NATIONAL PARK						
4/23	Tues	East Rim	B		8:00	Don Taylor	802 746-8478	
4/23	Tues	Emerald Pools/River Walk	D		8:00	Dave Sorenson	777-1994	
4/23	Tues	Emerald Pools/River Walk	D		8:15	Walt Shields	818-3439	
4/23	Tues	Emerald Pools/River Walk	D		8:30	Roy Carter	818-3137	
4/23	Tues	Hidden Canyon	C!		2:00	Dave Sorenson	777-1994	
4/23	Tues	Canyon Overlook	D		2:00	Walt Shields	818-3439	
4/24	Wed	Angels Landing	B!		8:00	Larry Linderman	303-6564	
4/24	Wed	Scouts Lookout	C		9:00	Susan Hollis	825-6819 call after 3/15	
4/24	Wed	Watchman	D		9:00	Roy Carter	818-3137	
4/24	Wed	Water Canyon	D		9:00	Dave Sorenson	777-1994	

Date	Day of Week	Name of Hike	Hike Rating	Pace	Leave Time A.M.	Leader(s)	Phone Number	Driver Donation
4/25	Thurs	Kolob Arch	A		8:00	Don Taylor	802 746-8478	
4/25	Thurs	Middle Fork Taylor Creek	C		8:30	Roy Carter	818-3137	
4/25	Thurs	Middle Fork Taylor Creek	C		10:30	Larry Allen	825-7864	
4/25	Thurs	South Fork Taylor Creek	D		9:00	Dave Sorenson	777-1994	
4/25	Thurs	South Fork Taylor Creek	D		11:15	Bob Kolenda	825-9972	

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 “!” 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.

Trip to Zion: Hikers must be members of SBHC and be on Zion participant list.

Meeting place for hikes will be at the Zion Visitor Center shuttle stop on Tuesday and Wednesday and at the Kolob Visitor Center on Thursday unless hike leader specifies different location.

Emerald Pools/River Walk on April 23rd will have sign up the day of the hike at the Zion Visitor Center shuttle stop. Once the Emerald Pools hike is completed it will be followed by the River Walk hike. Both hikes are D hikes but together they meet the criteria of a C hike based on distance.

Hike Descriptions

Alamo Canyon to the Water Tank. Rating C. The hike begins at the Romero Ruins Trailhead in Catalina State Park. Elevation change is gradual. The trail proceeds from the ruins through Alamo Canyon. Water may be present in the canyon after rainy periods. Hikers then go around, down, and up and down again to an unused, large water tank. Trail is rocky in some areas. The return is one of three ways of equal distance. Hike 6.5 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 400 feet; accumulated gain 1050 feet; RTD 24 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.

Baby Jesus / Madonna and Child / Petroglyph Loop. Rating B!. The hike begins in the Fifty-Year Trail parking area and proceeds to the Baby Jesus trail, crossing the Sutherland Wash. Hikers follow the trail on the east side of the Baby Jesus Ridge 4 miles to a rock grouping which has the appearance of the Madonna and Child. Following a short backtrack, a spur at (N 32 26 55.4 W110 51 24.2) begins a connecting trail over a grouping of 1200 year-old petroglyphs. This portion of the trail, about a mile, is unmaintained, requiring moderate bushwacking in places. Views south to the Catalinas are beautiful. A hike back along the Sutherland Wash trail system completes the loop. Hike 8.7 miles; trailhead elevation 3234 feet; net elevation change 527 feet; accumulated gain 1280 feet; RTD 12 miles (dirt).

Big Rock Dome #1. Rating C. Many SaddleBrooke residents have a view from their homes of "Dome Rock" -- the large dome to the east that is bald in the middle with patchy vegetation on both sides -- located about a third of the way up Charouleau Peak. Many have mused that it would be great to have a picnic on top of this prominent landmark. Do this hike and you can make the claim. The hike leaves from the horse farm at the end of Arroyo Way near Unit 21. We cross Canada del Oro, which may have a shallow flow if it has rained, and follow a dirt road before turning left on the Charouleau Gap Road. After about 2 miles, passing forests of ocotillo, we climb across some interesting bald rock formations. There are great views of SaddleBrooke, Catalina and Biosphere along the way. On the way back, the group takes a short 1/2 mile side trip to a scenic overlook. Hike 5.8 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change 675 feet; accumulated gain 962 feet; RTD 0 miles.

Bridal Wreath Falls Loop. 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 mile spur leading to the falls. We return via the Douglas Spring trail for 0.3 miles, and then take the Three Tanks Trail for 1.5 miles to where it joins the Carillo Trail. We hike for 0.5 miles and rejoin the Douglas Spring Trail, with considerable elevation, and return to the trailhead. Another option is to continue on the Three Tanks Trail to the Garwood Trail that joins the Douglas Spring Trail only 0.3 mile from the trailhead. 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 7.2 miles; trailhead elevation 2720 feet; net elevation change 1050 feet; accumulated gain 1120 feet; RTD 80 miles.

Canyon Loop, Montrose Pools, and Birding Trail. Rating D. Starting at the main trailhead at Catalina State Park, the hike traverses an area that is a great example of the Sonoran Desert and its riparian areas. We take the Sutherland Trail to the Canyon Loop Trail, then hike up to Montrose Pools via the Romero Canyon Trail. On the way back, we will fork onto the Birding Loop Trail. Depending upon the season, some water crossings are possible. Hike 3.8 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change ___ feet; accumulated gain 320 feet; RTD 24 miles.

Cochise Stronghold to End of Trail. Rating B. Hikers travel from west to east through the Dragoon Mountains along a spine of granite where the legendary Apache War Chief Cochise kept his many enemies at bay during the Indian wars. There are several beautiful rock formations along the way. Cochise is buried in a hidden location in the area. Hike 11 miles; trailhead elevation 4500 feet; net elevation change 1500 feet; accumulated gain ___ feet; RTD 221 miles (some 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 5.7 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change 825 feet; accumulated gain 990 feet; RTD 12 miles (dirt).

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 6.3 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change ___ feet; accumulated gain 1213 feet; RTD 12 miles (dirt).

Douglas Spring Trail to the Campground. Rating B. Hikers drive to the east end of Speedway to reach the Douglas Spring Trailhead. The hike involves moderately some steep hiking on a well-used trail to the campground. Coming back we may take the spur out and back to Bridal Wreath Falls, and follow Douglas Spring Trail back to the trailhead. The trails are mostly open, so bring sun protection. Bring lunch. Hike 13.1 miles; trailhead elevation 2800 feet; net elevation change 2002 feet; accumulated gain 2684 feet; RTD 80 miles.

Dripping Springs from the Sutherland Trail. Rating C. From the main trailhead at the east end of Catalina State Park, the hike follows the Sutherland Trail past the wilderness sign, and then turns toward Dripping Springs at a Sutherland Trail sign. There are large rocks placed in a row on the right (east) side of the Sutherland Trail. Much of the trail is sandy and there may be several water crossings. After entering the wilderness area, the trail is somewhat rocky. An old abandoned mine is visible to the left of the canyon. Keep to the left at a trail junction for lower Romero Canyon, which can be visited later. Hike 4.8 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation

change ___ feet; accumulated gain 460 feet; RTD 24 miles.

Fifty-Year Trail to SaddleBrooke. Rating B. This is a beautiful hike to a secluded hidden canyon in the upper reaches of the Sutherland Wash. There are many beautiful rock formations and saguaro cacti along the way. The hike begins near a horse corral off Golder Ranch Road in the Fifty-Year Trail area. After reaching Hidden Canyon, the trail goes east by a pond (usually dry) then connects to FR # 4432. We then proceed down Charouleau Gap Road to SaddleBrooke. The hike may be done in reverse. A car shuttle will need to be arranged for this one-way hike. Hike 11 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change 1200 feet; accumulated gain ___ feet; RTD 12 miles (dirt).

Finger Rock Trail to Canyon Overlook. Rating C. The hike begins from the Finger Rock Trailhead at the north end of Alvernon Way. The hike covers level ground for about a mile, and then sharply climbs up the canyon. Scrambling is necessary at some points going up and coming down, but is not overly difficult for most hikers. From the overlook, hikers will enjoy the beautiful vistas of Mt. Kimball, Finger Rock, and the steep Finger Rock Canyon, then return. Hike 3.3 miles; trailhead elevation 3120 feet; net elevation change 900 feet; accumulated gain 1073 feet; RTD 44 miles.

Hidden Canyon Loop. Rating C. This is a beautiful hike, practically in our "back yard," to a secluded canyon in the upper reaches of the Sutherland Wash. There are many beautiful rock formations and saguaro cacti along the way and a rock ledge with a great view down the valley. The ledge is a great place for lunch. The hike begins in the Fifty-Year Trail area past Golder Ranch Road gate. After lunch, we will continue out of the canyon, circle around Hidden Canyon Peak back to the "North Gate," and return to the trailhead via the Fifty-Year Trail. Hike 8.3 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change 975 feet; accumulated gain 1212 feet; RTD 12 miles (dirt).

****High Jinks Ranch Tour. D.** The hike ascends up Campo Bonito Road from its junction with Mt. Lemmon Road, and ends at La Casa del High Jinks, the site where Bill Cody staked his gold mine in 1912. High Jinks was recently purchased by new owners who are in the process of renovating it, and who provide tours and homemade pie with tea or coffee (A \$5 service fee is charged.). Because the

refreshments must be ordered several days in advance, last minute sign-ups **cannot** be accepted. Hike 4 miles; trailhead elevation 4,440 ft.; net elevation change 500 feet; accumulated gain ___ feet; RTD 41 miles. Driver donation \$3 + \$5

Hutch's Pool. Rating B. Hikers will take the Sabino Canyon tram (fee required) to the trailhead at its last stop up the canyon. 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 10.7 miles; trailhead elevation 3300 feet; net elevation change 900 feet; accumulated gain 1850 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. Hiking sticks 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 2720 feet; net elevation change 400 feet; accumulated gain ___ feet; RTD 28 miles.

Mt. Hopkins. Rating A. Mount Hopkins in the Santa Ritas is the home of the Whipple Observatory. The hike starts from the upper Madera Canyon Trail parking area and proceeds up numerous steep switchbacks via the Vault Mine Trail to the Aqua Caliente Trail. From the junction we hike 0.3 miles to Aqua Caliente Saddle. Then we continue south up a faint "lung bursting" route for about 3/4 mile along the ridgeline through pine forest to the top. From the top there is a 360 degree view with mountain ranges in all directions. We will look around the exterior of the main observatory and have lunch at a public picnic area with flush toilets. The return hike is via the paved road for about a mile (descending about 600 feet) to a hairpin turn. At the hairpin turn we step over the guard rail and drop about 20 feet to a faint trail in the manzanita trees. This unmarked trail (about 1/2 mile long) is easy to follow and drops down to the Aqua Caliente trail. From here we go to Josephine Saddle and finally down Old Baldy Trail. This is a tough hike due to route conditions and steepness. Hike 8.5 miles; trailhead elevation 5400 feet; net elevation change 3185 feet; accumulated gain 3487 feet; RTD 130 miles.

Mt. Wrightson via Old Baldy Trail. Rating A. The hike begins in Madera Canyon in the Santa Rita Mountains and follows the Old Baldy Trail to Mt. Wrightson. The return is via the same route. This trail provides the shortest route to the top (el. 9453 feet) of Mt. Wrightson. The last 0.9 miles to the summit is steep and rocky with moderate exposure. At the top are outstanding 360-degree views of Tucson and the mountain ranges in the area. There is shade along much of the way. Hike 11.1 miles; trailhead elevation 5450 feet; net elevation change 4003 feet; accumulated gain 4029 feet; RTD 130 miles.

OSP East Loop. Rating C. The hike begins at the Kannally Ranch House parking lot in Oracle State Park. Hikers follow the Nature Trail to the Wildlife Corridor Trail where we go northeast to the AZ Trail. At the intersection, we turn southeast and follow trail to the intersection with the Manzanita Trail. We follow this trail west and onto the Nature Trail that takes us back to the trailhead. This route is fairly level with little elevation change with wide open views and interesting rock formations among the low desert plants. Hike 6.2 miles, trailhead elevation 4350 feet; net elevation change ___ feet; accumulated gain 760 feet; RTD 40 miles.

OSP Exploration. Rating D. The hike involves the exploration of several trails in Oracle State Park. Along the way, hikers enjoy the interesting boulder groups, oak woodlands, manzanita stands, and desert grasslands found in this state park. Hike 4 miles; trailhead elevation 4350 feet; net elevation change 200 - 400 feet; accumulated gain ___ feet; RTD 40 miles.

OSP West Loop. Rating C. The hike begins at the Kannally Ranch House parking lot in Oracle State Park. We hike the Nature Trail to the Wildlife Corridor Trail where we go northeast to the AZ Trail. At the intersection we turn west and hike toward Hwy # 77. We then turn south to the Mariposa Trail and onto the Bellota Trail that takes us back to the trailhead. The first third of the hike is fairly level, the second third is a series of up and down hills on rocky trail and the last third has gentle hills. Hike 6.8 miles; trailhead elevation 4350 feet; net elevation change 450 feet; accumulated gain 1150 feet; RTD 40 miles.

Peppersauce and Nugget Canyon Loop. Rating C. The hike begins at the Peppersauce Campground on the northeast side of the Catalinas. The trail follows old Mt. Lemmon (Oracle Control) Road up to the Nugget Canyon turnoff. We will stop to see Peppersauce Cave. Bring a flashlight. We then travel up the canyon, follow jeep roads, view an old mine, then come down Peppersauce Canyon. Much of the hike is through oak woodland with good views from the higher hills, but there are numerous stream crossings involving boulder hopping during periods following significant precipitation. This is a strenuous hike for this level due to a steep incline in one area and loose rocks in another. Hike 8.3 miles; trailhead elevation 4600 feet; net elevation change 1230 feet; accumulated gain 1320 feet; RTD 53 miles (dirt).

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 10.2 miles; trailhead elevation 2720 feet; net elevation change 1035 feet; accumulated gain 1425 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 6.3 miles; trailhead elevation 2960 feet; net elevation change 1000 feet; accumulated gain 1360 feet; RTD 42 miles.

Rams Creek Basin. Rating C. From the Rams Creek Pass subdivision, we hike up a wash on a new trail through nice vegetation and then climb 560 feet to a watering tank. There are great views of Rancho Vistoso, the Tortolitas, SaddleBrooke, and the Biosphere along the way. We then continue on to a waterfall where we will have lunch. The return is via the same route. Hike 5 miles; trailhead elevation 2600 feet; net elevation change 780 feet; accumulated gain 830 feet; RTD 21 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 to Catalina State Park - 1. Rating A. The hike begins at the Sabino Canyon Visitor Center and follows Sabino Canyon, the West Fork past Hutch's Pool to Romero Pass. From Romero Pass, the hike is mostly downhill, passing Romero Spring and the Romero Pools along the way to the main trailhead at Catalina State Park. This is a strenuous but extremely rewarding hike. Hikers should bring a flashlight and spare batteries. A vehicle shuttle will be needed. Hike 19.9 miles; trailhead elevation 2720 feet; net elevation change 3360 feet; accumulated gain ___ feet; RTD 56 miles.

****SaddleBrooke's Dome Rock. Rating C.** Many SaddleBrooke residents have a view from their homes of "Dome Rock" -- the large dome that is bald in the middle with patchy vegetation on both sides -- located alongside Charouleau Gap road about a third of the way up the slopes of the Catalinas. Many have mused that it would be great to have a picnic on top of this prominent landmark. Do this hike and you can make the claim. The hike leaves from the horse farm at the end of Arroyo Way. We cross Canada del Oro, which may have a shallow flow if it has rained, and follow a dirt road before turning left on the Charouleau Gap road. After about 2 miles, passing forests of ocotillo, we climb across some interesting bald rock formations up to the top of Dome Rock with great views of SaddleBrooke, Catalina and Biosphere. Hike 5 miles with cumulated elevation gain of 1,000 feet.

Safford Peak. Rating C!. Safford Peak, known to locals as Sombrero Peak, is the distinctive bell-shaped peak in the northern-most district of the Tucson Mountains in Saguaro National Park - West. The hike begins at the end of Scenic Drive from a little chapel called Sanctuary Cove. There is no official trail, but faint paths, sometimes with loose footing, can be taken to the top. As we climb, Panther Peak will become visible there are excellent views of the foothills and higher peaks of the Tucson Mountains and the park. We climb severely on the final ascent with narrow traverses, rock climbing, and significant exposure, which makes this hike quite difficult for its rating. If you do not like exposed heights, this hike is not for you. Hikers can sign the register at the summit, where there are great views in all directions, and descend via the same route. Hike 3.5 miles; trailhead elevation 2240 feet; net elevation change 1323 feet; accumulated gain 1490 feet; RTD ___ miles.

Superstitions: World's Greatest Saguaro Cactus. Rating B. The loop hike is a beautiful visit to the south central part of the Superstition Mountains. It begins and ends at the Peralta Trailhead off Hwy # 60. Along the way, the group passes through beautiful Bluff Springs Canyon where there are great views of Weavers Needle. After passing Bluff Springs, we come to one of the most spectacular saguaro cacti in the world. The cactus is spectacular to behold and has an estimated sixty arms. We will try to determine its precise height. Bring along cameras and binoculars. The return is via the Dutchmans Trail circling Miners Needle and along a beautiful desert basin. Hike 11.8 miles; trailhead

elevation 2400 feet; net elevation change 800 feet; accumulated gain 2000 feet; RTD 154 miles (dirt).

Sutherland Trail. Rating C. The Sutherland is a great trail for viewing wildflowers after adequate winter rains. Along the way, there are several beautiful saguaro cacti and great rock formations. There are numerous photo opportunities. We will also pass the cutoff to Dripping Springs which makes a nice short side trip if the waterfalls are flowing. The hike begins in Catalina State Park and ends at a very scenic, flat, rocky area. The return is via same route. Hike 6 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 600 feet; accumulated gain __ feet; RTD 24 miles.

Sweetwater Preserve. Rating C. The trailhead is at the end of Tortolita Road, one mile off El Camino del Cerro. The 703-acre preserve is in the Tucson Mountains (this is not the Sweetwater Trail which leads to Wasson Peak.) There is a system of trails within the park made in 2008 by a crew of Piima County trail builders. It consists of 12 distinct loops and paths that interconnect so they can be linked together. Each trail is 0.5 to 1.5 miles in length, for 10.4 miles total. A map of the area may be found on the website (www.sdmb.org/trail-Sweetwater.html). Hike 6 miles; trailhead elevation 2800 feet; net elevation change <1000 feet; accumulated gain <1000 feet; RTD 60 miles.

Tanque Verde Peak. Rating A. Tanque Verde Peak is located in Saguaro National Park - East. The hike begins at the Javelina Picnic Area on the Tanque Verde Ridge Trail, off the Cactus Forest Drive loop road. The trail passes through Juniper Basin at 6.9 miles, and reaches the Peak at 9 miles. Erik Molvar's guidebook says, "From this lofty perch, fantastic views stretch in all directions." Hike 18 miles; trailhead elevation 3120 feet; net elevation change 3950 feet; accumulated gain 4315 feet; RTD 82 miles.

Thimble Peak. Rating B!. The trailhead is at Prison Camp Road (now Gordon Hirabayashi Recreation Site), seven miles up the Catalina Hwy. The hike follows the beautiful Sycamore Reservoir Trail (trail # 39) down to the abandoned reservoir, and connects to the Bear Canyon Trail. On the way to Thimble Flat, and before reaching Seven Falls, we take a faint, unmarked trail for 1.2 miles to Thimble Peak. This 1.2-mile section has some steep side slope, and involves walking in heavy brush. Bring gloves to do the short, but steep rock scramble to the top of the

east summit. Enjoy outstanding views from this prominent Tucson landmark. The return is via the same route. Hike 11 miles; trailhead elevation 4880 feet; net elevation change 443 feet; accumulated gain 2500 feet; RTD 94 miles.

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 Javelina 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 miles; trailhead elevation 3000 feet; net elevation change 1300 feet; accumulated gain 2136 feet; 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 Trail in Tortolita Preserve. Rating B.**
☺ The trailhead is at the end of W. Moore Road about 1.5 miles off Dove Mountain Blvd. The hike follows the 9.2 perimeter 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 9.2 mile recreational trail using only hand tools. Hike 9.2 miles; trailhead elevation 2500 feet; net elevation change <500 feet; accumulated gain __ feet; RTD 44 miles.

Wood Canyon Upper Rim. Rating B! If you enjoy off-trail, remote hiking with manageable bushwhacking, sweeping near and distant 360-degree views, interesting rock formations, and old ranching history, this hike is for you. At a high point near the beginning of the upper rim you can see Flatiron,

Byous Butte, Picketpost Mountain, and Browns Peak. Near the southern end of the range, you can see most all of the prominent rock formations that make up Walnut Canyon, White Canyon, and the Rincons. Wood Canyon is approached on Arnet Road south of Superior. The hike initially involves a fair amount of up-and-down hill hiking, but later flattens out towards the midpoint near an upper basin. The outer point overlooking Wood Canyon is very steep and loose and requires close attention to footing. The final segment follows an existing jeep trail along the canyon. Hike 8.25 miles; trailhead elevation 2775; net elevation change 1280 feet; accumulated gain, 1520 feet; RTD 170 miles.

ZION NATIONAL PARK HIKES

Angels Landing B!! Angels Landing is one of the classic hikes in Zion and one of the most stunning viewpoints you will ever experience, **but it's not recommended for anybody with a fear of heights.** Angels Landing is unique fin-like mountain formation that juts out to the center of the main canyon. **Chains and 1000 foot drop offs at the top.** 5.5 miles round trip and 1500 feet of elevation.

Canyon Overlook Trail-D This short trail starts at a small parking lot near the east entrance of the Highway 9 tunnel and leads to a fabulous view of the main canyon. Bighorn sheep are often photographed here. One mile hike with 200 feet of elevation.

East Rim Trail B A day hike along the East Rim Trail takes one through some wonderful scenery from the East Entrance through Echo Canyon down to Weeping Rock in the main canyon. A Zion classic. Hikers will be dropped off on Highway 9. 1000 feet of gain then 2400 foot drop. 11 miles round trip.

Emerald Pools-D Emerald Pools is a Zion classic: an oasis in the middle of the desert. The hike is a collection of short trails that meander past a small, lushly-vegetated stream that rolls down from the cliffs and forms pools and waterfalls. 400 feet elevation gain. 3 Miles RT (Round Trip).

Hidden Canyon C! Hidden Canyon is a beautiful "hanging canyon" accessible from The Observation Point trail. This hike is fairly strenuous with an elevation gain over 800 feet, several exposed sections. The payoff is a hidden arch. Long Drop Offs. Chains are in place. **If you are afraid of heights, this is not for you.** 3-5 miles round trip . 850 of elevation.

Kolob Arch:A A nice, long day hike to visit the famous and secluded **Kolob Arch** that could take between 6-8 hours. The Arch is considered the second longest in the world at 287 feet. Save some energy as the last two miles is uphill. 14 miles RT . 700 feet of elevation.

Middle Fork Of Taylor Creek C A pleasant 5-mile (roundtrip) hike up one of the enchanting "finger" canyons. Two homestead cabins and a rare Double Arch Alcove at the 2.5 mile mark. A few very shallow stream crossings that may get your shoe bottoms wet. A Zion classic and the most popular hike in the Kolob area. 5 miles round trip-500 feet of elevation.

Observation Point B An 8 mile round trip hike that begins near Weeping Rock and ascends through magnificent Echo Canyon up 2000 feet to a table top mesa that towers over the valley floor. A well maintained trail lets you see the beauty of Zion Canyon. 8 Miles and just over 2100 feet of elevation gain. This hike will likely be added to the final Zion schedule.

Riverside Walk-D (Gateway to the Narrows) Starting at the Temple of Sinawava (the last stop on the Zion shuttle), this is a pleasant two-mile (round-trip) hike along a nice level paved trail that meanders along the Virgin River heading up towards the famous Zion Narrows. Many trees, ferns, and weeping walls add to the ambience. Flat 2 mile hike.

Scouts LookoutC This busy path begins by traveling through a riparian woodland of cottonwood, pinyon pines and junipers. It's a steady 2 mile uphill trek as the trail ascends a series of switchbacks up the steep West Rim Trail. The views are superb. The top has views nearly as great as Angels Landing without the exposure. 4 Miles RT, 1000 feet of elevation.

South Fork Of Taylor Creek D A seldom hiked and unmarked trail but very pretty. It passes a variety of trees, bushes, wildflowers and cacti, After walking through the riparian woodland, Taylor Creek canyon starts to become quite narrow with canyon walls several hundred feet high. A great place for camera buffs. 2 miles round trip with 200 feet of elevation gain.

The Watchman D The trail starts around the Zion Visitor Center. Excellent views of the main canyon and the majestic Watchman Peak to the south. The hike is ideal for those who want to see Zion Canyon from the top down but do not want to do a strenuous

hike like Observation Point. 3 miles round trip and 300 feet of elevation.

Timber Creek Overlook D Starting at the south end of the Kolob Canyons Viewpoint parking lot. The trail offers awe inspiring views of the different fingers of the Kolob. 1 mile and 100 feet of elevation.

Water Canyon D Water Canyon is a beautiful little oasis in the middle of the desert 45 miles from Zion. Reminiscent of the Subway. Cascading waterfalls are right next to the trail. A favorite of local outfitters. Your shoes may get wet. Easy and gorgeous. 4 miles round trip, 400 feet of elevation.

Weeping Rock -D Located at the Weeping Rock Trailhead, this is a very, very short walk up to the popular seeping wall of the park. 50 feet of elevation and 1/2 mile of hiking.