

SADDLEBROOKE

HIKING CLUB NEWSLETTER

<http://saddlebrookehikingclub.com>

MARCH/APRIL

2014-2

Hike Description in Newsletter

Printed copies of newsletters will not include hiking descriptions. Our printing have gone up 60 percent over the last year. The hiking descriptions can be found on our web site SaddleBrookehikingclub.com.

Wear Your Name Tag on Your Hike and Carry Emergency Contact Information

Please wear your name tags so we are able to address everyone by name; and in the event of an emergency, our guides can rapidly identify hikers by name. Also, we ask that you carry emergency contact information (home phone, cell phone of a spouse, etc.) with you, along with any pertinent medical history (allergies, diabetes, heart condition, etc.), as well as clearly labeled medications in an outside pocket.

Susan Hollis, Walt Shields Chief Hiking Guides

Eight More Club Members Complete Arizona Scenic Trail by Karen Schickedanz



Not quite four years ago, 15 members of the SaddleBrooke Hiking Club began an epic trek through the state of Arizona. By the end of 2012, they had hiked all or most of the 817-mile Arizona National Scenic Trail (AZT), which runs from Mexico to Utah.

Eight of the hikers completed the whole journey, and others are nearly there. First to finish were husband and wife Randy Park and Susan Hollis on April 28, 2012. They were quickly followed on May 19, 2012 by Karen Cusano, Ray Gearhard, Larry Linderman and Melissa Simpson. Taking a break over that summer, Stan Smith and Maureen Spence finished on December 9, 2012.

In addition, it should be noted that five SaddleBrooke Hiking Club members completed the AZT a few years before them: Kathy Gish, Cheryl and Dean Werstler, Elisabeth Wheeler, and Bill Leightenheimer.

To accomplish their goal, the latest generation of AZT hikers divided the trail into passages averaging 10 to 20 miles per section. The passages could be hiked out of sequence and when time permitted.

At a SaddleBrooke Hiking Club presentation in January, some of the more recent AZT hikers talked about their journey. Larry Linderman, who organized the project, said he was “proud to be associated with these gutsy hikers” and said everyone involved was “incredibly helpful” in making the trek a success.

Maureen Spence confessed that she was probably “crazy” for even considering hiking the AZT because she had no hiking experience when she came here in January 2010 and was from Missouri where there weren’t any mountains, just hills. But she took on the challenge and found inspiration and camaraderie on the trail.

Randy Park, a very experienced hiker, had a long list of favorite memories. He said at first he wasn’t terribly interested in doing the AZT, but his wife, Susan Hollis, was. “Without her, I wouldn’t have hiked the Arizona Trail,” Randy said.

On her part, Susan said she was struck by the diversity of the trail. It included some of the highest places in Arizona—where the group saw spruce, fir and pine forests, wild turkeys and buffalo, and lots of elk—as well as some of the lowest spots along the Gila, Colorado and Salt rivers.

The AZT begins at the Coronado National Memorial near the US-Mexico border and goes north through parts of the Huachuca, Santa Rita, Rincon, Santa Catalina and Mazatzal Mountains before ascending the Mogollon rim north of Payson. It eventually leads to the San Francisco Peaks in northern Arizona and continues across the Coconino Plateau to the Grand Canyon before ending near the Arizona-Utah border in the Kaibab Plateau region.

The idea for the trail was originally developed in 1985 by a Flagstaff teacher, and it was designated as a National Scenic Trail in 2009.

Will there be a third “generation” of Arizona Trail hikers? It’s up to you!

***Arizona Trail.....from my perspective
(The following are reflections by Sandra Sowell, who has completed all but a 35-mile section of the Arizona Trail.)***

*“Between straddling the US-Mexico border...
And peering into the red-painted rocks in southern Utah....*

*“I walked across the Grand Canyon.
I walked through the largest continuous stand of ponderosa pines in the world.
I gasped in awe as I looked over the edge of the Mogollon Rim.
I labored through the Huachucas .
I slept under the stars in the Rincons.
I finished my personal best in the gloaming in the Catalinas.
I savored the walk under the tall pines and amongst the beautiful aspens in the San Francisco Peaks.
And as I walked through the Superstitions, I mused on their mysteries and lore.
I walked among the many paths made by the border crossers.
I saw windmills and stock ponds and remnants of times gone by.
I saw coyotes, deer, elk, snakes, a badger and a wolf.
I saw myriads of flowers and butterflies and birds and clouds.
“I did it all for myself,
BUT...it took a whole village to ‘git ‘er all done.’”*

Big Horn Sheep Project Update by Roy Carter

By now, most everyone knows that reintroduction of Big Horn Sheep into the Santa Catalina Mountains began in mid November 2013. Closure restrictions are in effect for a portion of the Catalinas (see the map and more information on the Club web site), mainly the Southwest portion of the Pusch Ridge Wilderness Area, to allow the sheep to adapt to their

new surroundings. Closure of the sheep management area has year round implications for use by our hiking club, namely the number of people on day hikes is limited to 15 people (note that no dogs are permitted except seeing eye dogs). Additionally, hiking off Forest Service (FS) "designated trails" more than 400 feet is not permitted during the lambing period between January 1 and April 30. Designated trails are Romero Canyon, Cathedral Rock #26, Sutherland, Finger Rock, Pontatoc, Pima Canyon, and Linda Vista. All other trails/paths in the area are considered to be "social" or "user created" trails and their use is not allowed during the lambing period.

Some evidence of Forest Service enforcement of the restrictions has been reported. Club management has been and will continue to monitor the effects of the closure restrictions. Club members are asked to report (to any board member) any contacts with FS or Arizona Fish and Game personnel and/or any new signage that they encounter during hikes into the sheep management area. As of now, information provided in the last newsletter and on the club web site is correct.

It is important to reiterate that hiking on any major, FS designated trail (see list above) in the closure area is permitted, as long as the group limit of 15 is observed and one does not stray more than 400 feet from the trail. Club hikes that comply with the closure restrictions will continue to be offered. Call Roy Carter at 818-3137 with questions or feedback.

Rocky Mountain National Park Wednesday, March 19



Rocky Mountain National Park, near Estes Park, Colorado, is one of America's most beautiful. The Park encompasses 415 square miles of land in

Colorado's northern Front Range and is split by the Continental Divide. The park contains 359 miles of trails, 150 lakes, and 450 miles of streams. It contains 72 named peaks higher than 12,000 feet and over one fourth of the park resides above tree line. It is, quite simply, spectacular.

The park is dominated by Long's Peak, which is visible from many vantage points, and has an elevation of 14,259 feet. The associated picture of Long's Peak captures the rich colors (called Alpenglow) seen a few minutes after sunrise on the day that six hikers (including three from SBHC) scaled the peak up the Clark's Arrow Route, returning via the Keyhole Route.

The program will cover the three-day trip during July 2013, and will describe the groups' experiences over three days of camping at the Moraine Park Group CG and hiking some nine or so of the most scenic trails in the park. Among the other trails/features visited over the three days were Deer Mountain, the Little Matterhorn, Flattop Mountain, McHenry's Peak, The Loch, Sky Pond, Glacier Gorge, Timberline Falls, and Alberta Falls.

The program will be presented at 3:00 p.m. on March 19th at the Saddlebrooke Activities Center by Mike Wolters, Frank Brier, and Roy Carter.

Spring Club Meeting/Picnic Set for Y Ranch in Oracle Tuesday, April 15

SaddleBrooke Hiking Club members will gather in Oracle on April 15 for the annual business meeting, including election of officers and Spring Picnic. The day's events will begin with two scheduled hikes nearby the picnic site. Members may also come early for short explorations on their own of the YMCA property at Triangle Y Ranch. See hike details elsewhere in this newsletter.

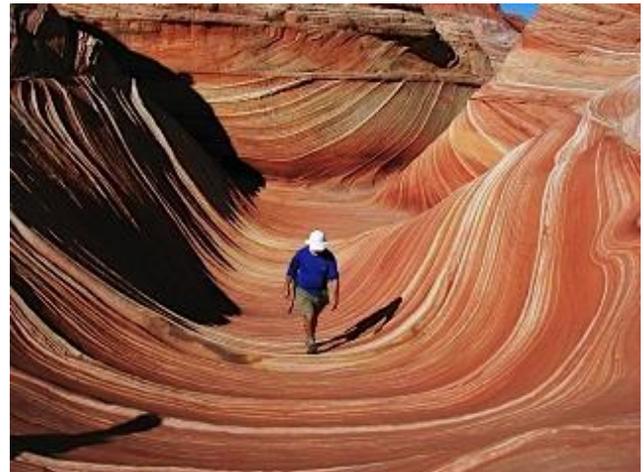
The annual business meeting begins at 11:30 a.m., followed by a catered lunch featuring BBQ beef on a bun, baked beans, potato salad, salad bar, dessert and drinks. Cost is \$5 per person.

"This spring, we're trying something different, both in a venue and in having the meal catered," said picnic committee member Lonnee Plattner. "We'll also have an opportunity to play volleyball and some of our more adventurous members might like to try out the climbing wall."

"Members need to sign up and pay for their meals because we have to provide a guarantee to the Y two weeks before our event," explained LaVerne Kyriss, also a picnic committee member. Make picnic reservation and send your \$5 check (made payable to Saddlebrooke Hiking Club) to Mary Jo Swartzberg at 37008 S. Ribbonwood Lane by March 30. mjswartzberg@hotmail.com (Phone 825-0463).

To get to Triangle Y Ranch from SaddleBrooke, go north on Hwy 77 to Oracle (11.4 miles). Take the Oracle turn off (W. American Ave) for 2.4 miles. Turn right onto E Mt. Lemmon Hwy for 3.9 miles. Turn right onto American Flag Ranch Road for 0.7 miles. Continue on S. Mt. Lemmon Road for 0.6 miles. Turn right onto S Sombrero Viejo Road for 0.3 miles. Turn right on SY Camp Road for 1 mile. Watch for the Triangle Y Ranch sign on the left. The last portion is on a well-graded and maintained dirt road. Follow the Hiking Club signs to the ramada picnic area.

Hiking Utah from Arches to Zion Wednesday, April 16



Dave Sorenson will present his best photo images of his favorite hikes in Utah. A short DVD that gives an overview of the 2014 annual trip destination, Moab, Utah and its nearby parks, Arches and Canyonlands, will also be presented. Dave has hiked over 300 hikes in Utah and is past president of the Outback Hiking Club of Southern Utah. The program is April 16 at 3:00 p.m. at the HOA #1 Activity Center.

Iconic pictures of Arches, Bryce Canyon, Canyonlands and Zion, plus world class BLM Areas such as Coyote Gulch near Escalante, the Wave near Kanab, and Buckskin Gulch will be covered extensively. Coyote Gulch and Buckskin are often listed as some of the top hikes in the world. Coyote is a 25-mile walk in the water over waterfalls, through land bridges and passing under the Hamblin Arch. The Buckskin is the world's longest slot canyon. The remote Zion hike, the Subway, which

features iridescent pools of water and a cylindrical tunnel will also be featured. The Wave is so popular that a lottery for permits is held months in advance. Local Utah favorites, including red rock formations and fall color near Provo will also be in abundance.

The hiking club social hour will follow the program at 4:00 p.m. at the Saddlebrooke Clubhouse Agave Lounge.

**Moab Hiking Club Trip
April 28-30**



Hopefully everyone going to Moab has made their lodging reservations and is receiving their Moab Email Updates. Since participants have already received the Moab hike schedule and hike descriptions, they will not be listed in this newsletter. Any changes to the schedule or hikes will be emailed to participants. Please start signing up for your hikes as soon as possible so the guides can arrange extra hikes, combine hikes or add extra guides as needed. If you have just decided that you would like to participate, please contact Susan Hollis at SLHollis@yahoo.com or 825-6819 so you can be placed on the email list and receive the Moab email communications.

Hikes of all ratings are being offered so please participate in the hikes that match your hiking ability. You should sign up for these hikes as you would for any other club sponsored hike, that is, call the designated Hiking Guide and indicate your interest. The last day to sign-up for hikes will be at the pre-trip Potluck dinner. The pre-trip Potluck dinner gives everyone a chance to talk to the guides about the hikes they are leading and meet other hikers going on the trip. The Potluck starts at 5pm on Monday, April 21st and will be held at the HOA1 Tennis Center. Maureen Spence and Melissa White are helping

coordinate, if you wish to lend a hand, please call Maureen at 433-9762.

See you at Arches National Park or Canyonlands National Park!

News You Can Use

Rocky Mountain National Park	3/19	3:00 P.M.
Social Hour	3/19	4:00 P.M.
Board Meeting Coyote Room North	4/2	2:45 P.M.
Guide Meeting	4/2	4:00 P.M.
Spring Hiking Club Meeting/Picnic	4/15	11:30 A.M.
Hiking Utah from Arches to Zion	4/16	3:00 P.M.
Social Hour	4/16	4:00 P.M.
Moab Pre-trip Potluck	4/21	5:00 P.M.
Moab Hiking Club Trip	4/28-4/30	.

Board Members

President	Larry Allen, 825-7864; allenlw70@gmail.com
Vice-President	Dianne Ashby, 818-9919; deashby87@gmail.com
Secretary	Dave Sorenson, 777-1994; iowaboy1950@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Melissa Simpson, 818-7839; mjsimp0328@aol.com
Chief Hiking Guides	Walt Shields, 818-3439; waltshields@mac.com Susan Hollis, 825-6819; slhollis@yahoo.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

Volunteers (Cont.)

Membership Roster	Karen Cusano, 468-2501; kdjcnp@yahoo.com
Merchandise	Pam Corrigan, 850- 8885; pam@daveandpam.com
Newsletter Copies	Martha Hackworth, 818-2573; marthahackworth@gmail.com
Newsletter	Maureen Spence, 433-9762; mospence1@gmail.com
Publicity	Karen Schickedanz, 818-7817; karenschick@wbhsi.net
Picnic	Mary Jo Swartzberg, 825-0463; MJSwartzberg@hotmail.com Becky Hilst, 441-2927; bckhilst51@gmail.com LaVerne Kyriss, 333-2689; jlkyriss@gmail.com Mary Kopp, 785-213-0520; MaryKopp55@yahoo.com Pam Vassallo, 488-0455; Pvassallo_2000@yahoo.com Lonnee Platner, 303-305-8610; lonnep@gmail.com
Statistics and Awards	Randy Park, 825-6819; rvfulltime@isp.com

Hard copies of the Newsletter (WITHOUT HIKE DESCRIPTORS) are available at the SaddleBrooke and Desert View Fitness Centers

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 Mountain View 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 Mountain View.

Items to Bring: Every hiker should wear a name tag, 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>Fitness Walk Times (Fall/Winter)</u>	
<u>Date</u>	<u>Start Time</u>
September 1st	6:30 a.m.
November 1 st	7:00 a.m.

<u>Fitness Walk Times (Spring/Summer)</u>	
<u>Date</u>	<u>Start Time</u>
April 1st	6:30 a.m.
June 1st	6:00 a.m.

Hikes Offered

Beginning with the March/April newsletter, printed copies distributed at the Saddlebrooke #1 and Desert View fitness centers will no longer contain the hike descriptions. These descriptions, while very important to members when selecting hikes to sign up for, make the newsletters quite long. Newsletter printing costs have recently increased 60 percent, so the Board decided to remove the hike descriptions to reduce these expenses, which are a major cost item for the club. Hike descriptions will continue to be included in the version you receive electronically, and in the copy posted on the club web site (SaddleBrookehikingclub.com). You are encouraged to download a copy of the electronic version for reference when selecting hikes.

Date	Day of Week	Name of Hike	Hike Rating	Pace	Leave Time	Leader(s)	Phone Number	Driver Donation
3/1	Sat	Seven Falls	B		8:00	Phil McNamee	369-4504	\$4
3/3	Mon	Honey Bee Canyon North	D	Slow	9:00	Susan Hollis	825-6819	\$2
3/3	Mon	Wasson Peak via Sendero Esperanza and Hugh Norris Trails	B		8:00	Elaine and Howie Fagan	818-9555	\$7
3/4	Tues	Dripping Springs from the Sutherland Trail	C		8:00	Litch Litchfield	369-4506	\$2 + \$2
3/5	Wed	Esperero Trail	B		7:30	Bob Kolenda	825-9972	\$4
3/5	Wed	Alamo Canyon	D		8:00	Ruth and Paul DeBruine	818-3248	\$2 + \$2
3/7	Fri	Elephant Head	A!		7:30	Roy Carter	818-3137	\$11
3/8	Sat	OSP West Loop	C		9:00	Marv Rossof	877-9262	\$3+2
3/10	Mon	Pima Canyon to First Dam	D!		8:00	Roy Carter	818-3137	\$3
3/10 – 3/12		Introductory Backpacking Trip 3 Day				Elisabeth Wheeler Michael Reale	818-1547	
3/11	Tues	Sweetwater Preserve	C		8:00	Frank Hartley	825-1449	\$5
3/12	Wed	American Flag	C		8:00	Ruth and Paul DeBruine	818-3248	\$3.00
3/13	Thurs	Romero Springs	B		8:00	Phil McNamee	369-4504	\$2+\$2
3/13	Thurs	**Tortolita Mountains: S. Wild Burro Canyon and Upper Alamo Springs trail	C		8:00	Litch Litchfield	369-4506	\$4
3/16	Sun	Alamo Canyon (w/extension and geocache)	C		1:30 PM	Frank Hartley	825-1449	\$2+\$2
3/17	Mon	Dripping Springs from the Sutherland Trail	C		8:00	Litch Litchfield	369-4506	\$2 + \$2
3/17	Mon	Tortolita Mountains – Wild Mustang/Cochie Spring Loop	B		7:00	Elisabeth Wheeler	818-1547	\$4

Date	Day of Week	Name of Hike	Hike Rating	Pace	Leave Time	Leader(s)	Phone Number	Driver Donation
3/18	Tues	Bridle Trail - Catalina State Park	D		8:00	Paul Bishop	425-647-4754	\$2 + \$2
3/18	Tues	Tortolita Mountains S.Wild Burro Canyon/Alamo Springs Trail/Spur Trail Loop	C		8:00	Larry Allen	825-7864	\$4
3/19	Wed	Sutherland Trail	C		9:00	Marv Rossof	877-9262	\$2+\$2
3/19	Wed	Fifty-Year Trail Area Loop - Short Version	C		8:00	Ruth and Paul DeBruine	818-3248	\$2.00
3/19	Wed	SBHC Program:Hiking Rocky Mountain NP with Roy Carter, Mike Wolters and Frank Brier HOA 1 Activity Center			3:00 p.m.	Elisabeth Wheeler	818-1547	
3/19	Wed	SBHC Social Hour Agave Lounge - HOA1			4:00 p.m.			
3/20	Thurs	**Tortolita Mountains: S. Wild Burro Canyon and Upper Alamo Springs trail	C		8:00	Litch Litchfield	369-4506	\$4
3/21	Fri	Picacho Peak vis Sunset Vista Trail (short version)	C		8:00	Dave Sorenson	777-1994	\$7+\$2
3/24	Mon	**Tortolita Mountains: Wild Burro Trail from the North - Rail X Road.	C		8:00	Susan Hollis	825-6819	\$2
3/25	Tue	Deer Camp/Baby Jesus Loop	C		7:30	Tim Butler	825-0193	\$2
3/26	Wed	Esperero Trail	B		8:00	Roy Carter	818-3137	\$4
3/27	Thurs	Starr Pass	C		8:00	Walt Shields	818-3439	\$5
3/28	Fri	Linda Vista Loop	D		7:30	Bob Kolenda	825-9972	\$2
3/29	Sat	OSP East Loop	C		9:00	Marv Rossof	877-9262	\$3+\$2
4/1	Tues	Hidden Canyon Loop	C		7:30	Tim Butler	825-0193	\$2
4/1	Tues	Aravaipa Canyon Wilderness: West- Short Version	C!	Slow	8:00	Dave Sorenson	777-1994	\$10+\$5
4/2	Wed	King Canyon Loop	C		8:00	Ruth and Paul DeBruine	818-3248	\$6.00
4/2	Wed	SBHC Board Meeting Coyote Room North			2:45 p.m.			
4/2	Wed	SBHC Guide Meeting Coyote Room North			4:00 p.m.			
4/3	Thurs	Tortolita Mountains: S Wild Burro Canyon/ Alamo Springs Trail/ Spur Trail Loop	C		8:00	Frank Hartley	825-1449	\$4
4/3	Thurs	Wasson Peak via Hugh Norris Trail	B		8:00	Phil McNamee	369-4504	&6

Date	Day of Week	Name of Hike	Hike Rating	Pace	Leave Time	Leader(s)	Phone Number	Driver Donation
4/4	Fri	Tortolita Trail	D		9:00	Walt Shields	818-3439	\$4
4/5	Sat	OSP West Loop	C		9:00	Marv Rossof	877-9262	\$3+\$2
4/6	Sun	Linda Vista Loop	C		1:30 PM	Frank Hartley	825-1449	\$2
4/7	Mon	Pontotoc Ridge	C!		8:00	Roy Carter	818-3137	\$4
4/8	Tues	Baby Jesus	C		7:30	Tim Butler	825-0193	\$2
4/8	Tues	Linda Vista Loop	D		8:00	Paul Bishop	425-647-4754	\$2.00
4/8	Tues	Tortolia Mountains Upper Javelina and Wild Mustaing Trails	B		8:00	Larry Allen	825-7864	\$4
4/9	Wed	Romero Springs	B		7:30	Bob Kolenda	825-9972	\$2 + \$2
4/9	Wed	Canyon, Birding & Nature Trails	C		9:00	Marv Rossof	877-9262	\$2+\$2
4/10	Thurs	Superstitions: Weavers Needle Cross Cut	B!		7:30	Walt Shields	818-3439	\$11
4/11	Fri	Pima Canyon to 2 nd Dam	C		8:00	Frank Hartley	825-1449	\$3
4/14	Mon	Soldier Trail	B		8:00	Susan Hollis	825-6819	\$10
4/15	Tues	Pre-Picnic: American Flag part way	C		8:00	Walt Shields	818-3439	\$3
4/15	Tues	Pre-Picnic: High Jinks Ranch	D		8:15	Dave Sorenson Mary Croft	777-1994	\$3
4/15	Tues	Hiking Club Spring Picnic: Oracle YMCA - Triangle Y Ranch			11:30 a.m.	LaVerne Kyriss and Picnic committee	333-2689	\$5 - Meal fee
4/16	Wed	SBHC Program: Hiking Utah from Arches NP to Zion with Dave Sorenson. HOA 1 Activity Center			3:00 p.m.	Elisabeth Wheeler	818-1547	
4/16	Wed	SBHC Social Hour Agave Lounge - HOA1			4:00 p.m.			
4/17	Thurs	Maiden Pools	C!		8:00	Roy Carter	818-3137	\$4
4/18	Fri	Cochise Stronghold to Saddle	C		7:00	Walt Shields	818-3439	\$16
4/19	Sat	OSP East Loop	C		9:00	Marv Rossof	877-9262	\$3+\$2
4/21	Mon	Moab Pre-trip Potluck HOA1 Tennis Center			5:00p.m.	Maureen Spence & Melissa White	433-9762	
4/22	Tues	Arizona Trail: Rincon Valley (#2)	A		6:00	Tom Geiger Elisabeth Wheeler	571-278`5809	\$12
4/22	Tues	Madera Canyon Nature Trail	C	Slow	8:00	Susan Hollis	825-6819	\$2

Date	Day of Week	Name of Hike	Hike Rating	Pace	Leave Time	Leader(s)	Phone Number	Driver Donation
4/23	Wed	Sweetwater Trail (short version)	D		8:00	Del Hudson-Perfetti	717-503-3701	\$5
4/23	Wed	Pontatoc Ridge	C		9:00	Marv Rossof	877-9262	\$3
4/24	Thurs	Fifty-Year Area North Loop	C		8:00	Frank Hartley	825-1449	\$2
4/25	Fri	Seven Falls	B		7:30	Bob Kolenda	825-9972	\$4
4/28-4/30	Mon-Wed	Moab Hiking Trip - Detailed information on hikes will be emailed to signed-up participants	B-D					
5/01	Thurs	Moab - Canyonlands Needle District expert hike	B!					

Hike Description

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.

American Flag. Rating C. The hike begins at the American Flag Trailhead on the old Mt. Lemmon Road and covers a section of the Arizona Trail. Hikers take the American Flag/Cody Trail to its intersection with the Oracle Ridge Trail, where there are great views to the west of Biosphere II and the Tortolitas. On the return, we may swing by the grounds of La Casa del High Jinks, the site where Bill Cody staked his gold mine in 1912. Hike 7.4 miles; trailhead elevation 4400 feet; net elevation change 995 feet; accumulated gain 1490 feet; RTD 41 miles.

Aravaipa Canyon Wilderness: West (short version). Rating C!. Aravaipa Canyon is a beautiful and pristine canyon and a favorite for all who have been there. Hikers should 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 5 miles; trailhead elevation 2600 feet; net elevation change 200 feet; accumulated gain __ feet; RTD 110 miles (dirt).

Arizona Trail: Rincon Valley (#2). Rating A. From a trailhead at the northern end of Camino Loma Alta Road, the Hope Camp Trail takes hikers 2.8 miles to Hope Camp. Remnants of Hope Camp include an old windmill frame and old shack. From Hope Camp there is a short bushwhack to the Arizona Trail at the Saguaro National Park - East boundary. The Arizona Trail continues across Rincon Creek past a very large crested barrel cactus. The AZT crosses X9 Ranch Road and Pistol Hill Road through desert terrain. From here the Arizona Trail traverses the east side of Colossal Cave to Cienega Creek/3 bridges. This is a very scenic section with mountain views through limestone outcroppings, lush vegetation, and uplifted fossilized coral, ending with railroad bridges over Cienega Creek. Often trains are seen here. This will be a key exchange or shuttle hike. Hike 17.3 miles (including 2.8 miles to reach Hope Camp TH); trailhead elevation is 3500 feet at Marsh Station; __

feet at Hope Camp TH; net elevation change __ feet; accumulated gain 2390 feet; RTD 130 miles (Cienega Creek/3 bridges, dirt).

Baby Jesus. Rating C. The hike starts in the Fifty-Year Trail area near the east end of Golder Ranch Road and follows a jeep road that connects to the beginning of the Baby Jesus Trail across the Sutherland Wash. Hikers follow the trail on the east side of Baby Jesus Ridge to a rock grouping that looks in profile like the Madonna and Child, (for which the ridge is named) seeing a “window,” beautiful saguaros, and rock formations along the way. The return is via the same route. Hike 7.5 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change 900 feet; accumulated gain __ feet; RTD 12 miles (dirt).

Bridle Trail - Catalina State Park. Rating D. The trail is flat and easy, and connects the Equestrian Center with the trailhead at the east end of the park road. The trail is soft and dusty due to its use by horses. Park pass or entry fee required. Hike 2.8 miles; trailhead elevation 2800 feet; net elevation change is minimal; accumulated gain is minimal; RTD 24 miles.

Canyon Loop, Birding, and Nature Trails. Rating C. Starting at the main trailhead in Catalina State Park, this hike traverses an area that is a great example of the Sonoran Desert and its riparian areas. We first hike the Nature Trail which has panoramic views, and then continue onto the Canyon Loop Trail. We will fork onto the Birding Loop Trail prior to returning. If the group is really ambitious, we will swing through the Canyon Loop Trail the opposite way we came for a total of 6.7 miles. Depending upon the season, some water crossings are possible. Hike 4.6 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change __ feet; accumulated gain 370 feet; RTD 24 miles.

Cochise Stronghold to the Saddle. Rating C. This is a beautiful hike through the Dragoon Mountains which provided a hiding place for Cochise during the Indian wars. Cochise is buried in a hidden location in the area. The trail begins and returns to the Cochise Stronghold Campground off Hwy # 191 east of Benson. Hike 6.3 miles; trailhead elevation 4700 feet; net elevation change 1298 feet; accumulated gain __ feet; RTD 221 miles (some 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).

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.

Elephant Head. Rating A!. Elephant Head is the craggy massive rock on the west side of the Santa Ritas which looks like an elephant's head when viewed from I-19. The hike starts from the Aqua Caliente Trailhead (see driving directions), follows a trail to the Quantrell Mine Road, and then turns eastward on the abandoned mining road which winds around Chino Basin to Chino Canyon. Around the corner into Chino Canyon is the first unobstructed view of Elephant Head. A hundred yards east into Chino Canyon the trail descends very steeply 500 feet into the canyon to a stream crossing with pools of water. This is a pleasant place for a rest break before climbing 800 feet to the ridgeline to the north. At the ridgeline, we turn to the west and follow a rocky trail with many steps-up and narrow passages along the final ascent. A few places are very steep and exposed. Four-point rock scrambling is required along the final 1/4 mile. Besides the magnificent 360-degree view from the top there is a whimsical display of miniature elephants which are fun to view and arrange. Return via the same trails. After climbing out of Chino Canyon, there is an optional side trip to the Quantrell Mine to the east (less than 2 miles RT). Dress defensively. Hiking poles and gloves are recommended. Hike 6.5 miles; trailhead elevation 4589 feet; net elevation change 2000 feet; accumulated gain 3030 feet; RTD 154 miles.

Esperero Trail. Rating B. The hike reaches a saddle known locally as Cardiac Gap, which overlooks

Esperero Canyon. We'll warm up by hiking from the Sabino Canyon Visitor Center parking lot, through the Cactus Picnic Area and over a few small foothills to "the Gulch". The hiking is initially steep.... then it gets much steeper. We'll have lunch at the saddle (el. 4400 feet) while viewing the falls below, and return to the Visitor Center. Depending on season, there may be water in the falls. Extra drinking water is recommended. Hike 7.3 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 1700 feet; accumulated gain 1898 feet; RTD 56 miles.

Fifty-Year Trail Area Loop – Short Version. Rating C. The hike begins in the Fifty-Year Trail area off Golder Ranch Road, goes east to the Upper Loop Trail, then north to a rock for a break. Along the way, we pass the turn-offs for the Deer Camp and Hidden Canyon Trails. The hike continues north then turns west to return via the Fifty Year Trail. There are beautiful saguaros and rock formations, in addition to excellent views of SaddleBrooke, Sun City, and the Tortolitas. The hike may be done in reverse. Hike 4.6 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change __ feet; accumulated gain 500 feet; RTD 12 miles (dirt).

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).

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 1200 feet; RTD 12 miles (dirt).

High Jinks Ranch. Rating D. The ranch is a National Historic Site located two miles on a dirt road from the Oracle Y camp. The road is more suitable for high clearance vehicles. The High Jinks Mine near the site was once owned by Buffalo Bill Cody. We will hike in and around the site, which is a 1920's era ranch and will be given a tour by the present owners. Hike 2 miles; trailhead elevation 4400 feet; net elevation change minimal; accumulated gain minimal; RTD 41 miles. \$3

Honey Bee Canyon North. Rating D. The hike takes place in Honey Bee Canyon at Rancho Vistoso. We'll see Hohokam petroglyphs, grinding holes and end for snacks/lunch at a one of two broken dams. For those exploring Honey Bee for the first time, this is a real eye opener. Hike 3.2 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 200 feet; accumulated gain 178 feet; RTD 26 miles.

Introductory Backpack Trip – 3 Day. An Introductory Backpack will be offered to SaddleBrooke hikers March 10 - 12 to Fossil Creek, "a national wild and scenic river," near Payson, AZ. For more information contact Michael Reale 825-8286 or Elisabeth Wheeler 818-1547.

King Canyon Loop. Rating C. The hike begins from a parking area across from the Desert Museum and proceeds up the King Canyon Trail to the Sweetwater Saddle. The return is either down the trail to the Mam-a Gah picnic area or down an old mining road to the wash, then along the dry wash where petroglyphs can be viewed. The wash is interesting and wildlife can sometimes be seen. Bring a camera, lunch, water, and hiking stick if you have one. Hike 5.4 miles; trailhead elevation 2800 feet; net elevation change 960 feet; accumulated gain 1118 feet; RTD 73 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.

Linda Vista Loop Trails. Rating C. 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 4 to 6 miles; trailhead elevation 2720 feet; net elevation change 400 feet; accumulated gain ___ to ___ feet, depending on route; RTD 28 miles.

Madera Canyon Nature Trail. Rating C. This non-desert hike is in the Santa Rita Mountains. It starts from the lower area and ascends 3.2 miles up the canyon to the Roundup Picnic Area (el. 5400 feet). Along the way, hikers enjoy the shade of Apache pines, Douglas firs, Emory oaks, Mexican blue oaks, willows, cottonwoods, and sycamores. The return is by the same route. There are panoramic views from a ridge on a trail breakout. Hike 6.5 miles; trailhead elevation 4500 feet; net elevation change 900 feet; accumulated gain 965 feet; RTD 130 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.

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 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.

Picacho Peak via Sunset Vista Trail (short version). Rating C. From the Sunset Vista Trailhead we follow the trail to the point on the foot of the Peak that starts the steep climb to Picacho Peak (entrance fee required). The return is via the same route. The southerly views from the turning point are excellent. Park entrance fee required. Hike 4.2 miles; trailhead elevation 1850 feet; net elevation change 751 feet; accumulated gain ___ feet; RTD 90 miles.

Pima Canyon to 1st Dam. Rating D!. The Pima Canyon Trailhead is at the east end of Magee Road. We will hike the first part of Pima Canyon to the first dam and enjoy the beautiful scenery, take photos. There are pools of water at the dam most of the year. The trail is rocky at some points and involves some steps-up and steps-down but is not difficult. Hike 2.7 miles; trailhead elevation 2960 feet; net elevation change ___ feet; accumulated gain 470 feet; RTD 42 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.

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 4.5 miles; trailhead elevation 3100 feet; net elevation change 1300 feet; accumulated gain 1500 feet; RTD 44 miles.

Romero Springs. Rating B. 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. The spring is located about 2 miles past the Romero pools in a very scenic section of the canyon. It has been known to have quite a bit of wildlife. There are excellent views of Romero and Montrose Canyons along the way. Lunch will be at the spring. The return is via the same route. Hike 10.4 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 1980 feet; accumulated gain 2720 feet; RTD 24 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 8.5 miles; trailhead elevation 2720 feet; net elevation change 720 feet; accumulated gain 1550 feet; RTD 56 miles.

Soldier Trail. Rating B. This scenic and rocky hike begins at the 1.3-mile pullout on Catalina Hwy. The group hikes 3 miles to Prison Camp (Gordon Hirabayashi Recreation Area) for lunch and returns. The first 0.5 miles is very steep. The rest of the trail is mostly up with some level and down stretches. The gorge in Soldier Basin may have water flowing below some rugged cliffs. There are good views of

the Tucson area. This trail was used in the 1800s as a cavalry passage into the mountains. Hiking stick is recommended. Hike 6 miles; trailhead elevation 3280 feet; net elevation change 1600 feet; accumulated gain __ feet; RTD 84 miles.

Starr Pass. Rating C. This hike will explore a series of trails in the area near the Marriott Starr Pass Resort. We will ascend a ridge to a beautiful overlook of the Tucson valley and complete a loop utilizing several spur trails. It will provide an opportunity to appreciate the unique desert environment of that region. Hike 6 to 7 miles; trailhead elevation 2787 feet; net elevation change 700 feet; accumulated gain __; RTD 64 miles. \$5

Superstitions: Weavers Needle Cross Cut. Rating B!. Beginning at the Peralta Trailhead, the hike involves climbing the Bluff Spring Trail, which gains 500 feet elevation in the 0.5 mile, levels off, then gains 260 feet in 0.25 miles. After 3 miles, we leave the trail for "Weaver Cross Cut" at Bluff Saddle. The hike continues near the base of Weavers Needle, a column of volcanic rock that rises a thousand feet to an elevation of 4553 feet and dominates the landscape for miles around. On Weavers Cross Cut Trail we go through fascinating rock formations, then descend to the Peralta Trail and return to the trailhead. No trail actually exists on the "Cross Cut," which requires route finding skills. Bushwhacking and boulder hopping are involved for over a mile. Hike 8.1 miles; trailhead elevation 2500 feet; net elevation change 1425 feet; accumulated gain 2527 feet; RTD 155 miles.

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.

Sweetwater Trail (short version). Rating D. The hike begins from the trailhead at the end of El Camino del Cerro on the east side of the Tucson Mountains and covers about half the distance to the saddle where the Kings Canyon and Sweetwater Trails meet. The return is via the same route. The trail passes through some of the prettiest saguaro forests in the area. Along the way there are good views of Tucson and Wasson Peak. Hiking boots and stick are recommended. Bring binoculars. Hike 4 miles; trailhead elevation 2800 feet; net elevation change 350 feet; accumulated gain ___ feet; RTD 60 miles.

Tortolita Mountains: Upper Javelina and Wild Mustang Trails to Lookout. Rating B. The trailhead is at the Ritz Carlton Hotel parking lot. Hikers proceed through the Wild Burro Wash, up the Upper Javelina Trail, and connect with the Wild Mustang Trail. The hike continues to a rocky ridge with views of Dove Mountain development, Tucson and Marana. At that point we will stop for lunch/snacks and return to the trailhead. Hike 8.1 miles; trailhead elevation 2780 feet; net elevation change 1000 feet; accumulated gain 2092 feet; RTD 44 miles.

Tortolita Mountains: S. Wild Burro Canyon / Alamo Springs Trail / Spur 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 1100 feet; accumulated gain 1319 feet; RTD 44 miles.

Tortolita Mountains: S. Wild Burro Canyon and Upper Alamo Springs trail. .From the Ritz Carlton hiker parking lot, we hike up Wild Burro Canyon for 2 miles, until we reach the ruins of an old stone house. At this point, we proceed north, via the Wild Burro Canyon trail which is steep for a short section, with views of a drop-off in Wild Burro Wash, to the lunch spot at the top of Wild Burro Canyon. Return is via the Alamo Springs trail and the Alamo Springs Spur Trail. When we reach the stone house ruins again, we hike out the way we came in, via Wild Burro Canyon trail. Hike 6.5 miles; trailhead elevation 2780 feet; net elevation change 900 feet; accumulated gain 1090 feet. RTD is 44 miles. \$4

Tortolita Mountains: Wild Burro Canyon from the North – Rail X Road. Rating C. The trailhead is reached via the Rail-X Marble Mine Road (5.6 miles dirt), then a Jeep Road for 1.2 miles to the base of the mountains. 4WD vehicles are required for the Jeep Road. Hike 1.25 miles on ATV road, over a saddle and down to a Solar Water Tank (near stone wall and goat corral). At the Solar Water tank, pick up the new section of Wild Burro Trail and hike south to the intersection of spot on rock formations overlooking Wild Burro Canyon South. Return is via the same route. Hike 7.2 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change ___; accumulated gain ___; RTD 20. \$4

Tortolita Mountains - Wild Mustang / Cochie Springs Loop. Rating B. The hike begins in the hikers parking area of the Ritz Carlton and proceeds up a connecting spur behind the hotel to join the Upper Javelina trail. After a short distance it connects with the Wild Mustang trail which meanders north over rolling mountainous terrain with beautiful views of the Catalinas. At a cairn-marked spur (N32 30 16.3, W 111 04 02.9) the trail, which is less developed, climbs near a crested saguaro over two saddles to its highest point and descends steeply into Cochie Canyon where an old ranch and windmill are located. It then joins the Cochie Springs trail for a long loop back to join the Wild Mustang trail The hike can be done in either direction but involves steeper climbs going clockwise. Hike 10.8 miles; trailhead elevation 2780 feet; net elevation change 1390 feet; accumulated gain 3057 feet.; RTD 44 miles.

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 via Hugh Norris Trail. Rating B. From the trailhead near Hohokum Road (off N. Kinney Road past Red Hills Visitor Center), the hike follows the Hugh Norris Trail to and from Wasson Peak. Hugh Norris is the longest trail to Wasson Peak, but the climb is gradual along a ridge with spectacular views. There are excellent 360-degree views from the top. There is little shade; bring plenty of water and sun protection. Hike 10 miles; trailhead elevation 2640 feet; net elevation change 2436 feet; accumulated gain 662 feet; RTD 73 miles.

Wasson Peak via Sendero Esperanza and Hugh Norris Trails. Rating B. The hike begins at Sendero Esperanza Trailhead off Golden Gate Road. The route follows the Esperanza Trail (1.8 miles) to the Hugh Norris Trail and on to Wasson Peak (2.2 miles). The climb is gradual and the Hugh Norris section is primarily a ridge trail with spectacular views. The 360-degree views from Wasson Peak include Tucson and Santa Catalinas to the east, Green Valley/Santa Ritas to the south, Sells to the west, and Picacho to the north. We will lunch on top of the Peak and return the same way. Hike 6.8 miles; trailhead elevation 2960 feet; net elevation change 1561 feet; accumulated gain 1433 feet; RTD 73 miles (dirt).