



SADDLEBROOKE

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER

2014-15

TRIBUTE TO MARTHA

By Sandra Sowell



Martha, Martha, the birthday girl.
Each morning she takes us for a little whirl,
Zigging this way and that
Along boulevard and cul de sac.
The pleasure of it is quite a pearl.

Martha Hackworth, that is. "Fearless, spirited, and glamorous" as former SaddleBrooke Hiking Club president, Michael Reale, has described her.

And so she is, as she leads the walking group of the SBHC on her different routes. Her "chickadees" she calls them and they obediently follow her wherever she leads them. She is famous for her occasional last minute changes in direction, causing a sudden left or right turn. And if this quick change should end up in a dead end? No matter! Thus was born her motto "fitness is our aim, walking is our game".

Martha and her husband, Curt, moved to the SaddleBrooke community in the fall of 2004. Just this year they celebrated their 60th anniversary.

Martha joined the SaddleBrooke Hiking Club in the spring of 2005. She fondly remembers her first hike...to Romero Pools with Jim Strickler. As a member of the club she has been in charge of the newsletter copies and deliveries for five years. She also takes great pleasure in being a volunteer worker

at the Golden Goose. She started walking with the group and it was in the spring of 2012 that she agreed to "fill-in" as walk leader for the group. One thing led to another and the "fearless, spirited, glamorous" octogenarian has been punctual, smiling, and welcoming to those old-timers and newcomers who come to walk. And she has been doing it five days a week ever since--Unless, of course, the thermometer on her patio registers below 35 degrees. She even admits to wearing her earmuffs into April. And she warns that the bar may be raised to 40 degrees.

The numbers in her group have ranged anywhere from six to twenty-two. The walkers meet Monday through Friday near the basketball hoop just west of HOA #1 Fitness Center. The group meets for breakfast at the clubhouse on the first Friday of the month. On the third Monday of the month, one of the walkers hosts coffee in their home. It was at one of these coffees that the group presented Martha with a T-shirt designed with her motto and a visor emblazoned with "Martha's Team". She wears both with great pride.

Thank you, Martha, for your example of leadership and faithfulness and uplifting spirit.

WILDERNESS HIKING IN CANADA

Wednesday, November 19, 2014



SaddleBrooke resident Phil McNamee, an experienced hiker and backpacker, will lead members

on a trek through Gros Morne National Park in Canada via a slide show and lecture during the club's program on Wednesday, November 19.

Phil, who lives part-time in London, Ontario has led about 45 backtracking trips and particularly enjoys hiking in "wild" places like Gros Morne, a world heritage site located on the west side of Newfoundland Island off Canada's east coast. "Hiking in Gros Morne is a true wilderness experience as there are no marked trails—just a suggested route through the mountains," he said. "I have a strong belief that we need more nature in our lives, and many of the problems in our society are due to a nature-deficiency that we have today. By hiking and backpacking in nature, we bring balance back to our lives."

The November program meeting will begin at 3 p.m. in the HOA 1 Activity Center, followed by a social hour in the Agave Lounge at SaddleBrooke Clubhouse at 4 p.m.

Because of the busy holiday season, there will be no Hiking Club program in December. January's program will feature a breathtaking hiking trip in Peru taken by two club members earlier this year.

For more information about programs, contact Karen Schickedanz, 818-7817, karenschick@wbhsi.net.

WORK DAY ON THE ORACLE PASSAGE OF THE ARIZONA TRAIL

By Elisabeth Wheeler



Mary Croft at the American Flag Trailhead - AZ Trail Oracle Passage

Members of the SaddleBrooke Hiking Club have enjoyed many hikes on the Arizona National Scenic Trail. Beloved member of the SBHC Jim Strickler led the club's maintenance of the Black Hills Passage

of the AZT for 8 years. Due to difficult access to this passage the SBHC relinquished maintenance of this passage.

A new opportunity has developed for the SBHC to be stewards of the Oracle Passage of the Arizona National Scenic Trail. This 6.5-mile passage starts at the American Flag TH, ambles through washes and across low ridges speckled with high desert plants just east of Oracle State Park south to Highway 77.

The first trail work by our club will be done on Wednesday, November 5. Come and join the fun — it's nice to work side by side with other hiking club members, as we help maintain the "Oracle Passage" of the Arizona National Scenic Trail. Following a short training on the safe use of tools, volunteers will be divided into work teams. Generally, the work is light and involves clipping, brushing, raking, pruning, building cairns, and developing or clearing erosion control devices. Bring along gloves, hat, water, and hand clippers. Other tools, if needed, will be provided. Hiking club members who are not working on the trail are invited to provide snacks for the workers.

Volunteers will meet at MV parking lot at 7:30 a.m. and carpool to the work area. Call Elisabeth Wheeler 818-1547 or Mary Croft 825-3804 to sign up to work on the trail or to contribute snacks for the workers. Let's continue the tradition started by Jim Strickler and others of "giving back" to the Arizona Trail.

IRONWOOD FOREST NATIONAL MONUMENT

Meet the Monument Day – November 15

Ironwood Forest National Monument was proclaimed a National Monument in June, 2000, to help protect the presence of the rare Nichols Turks Head Cactus, the last remaining native herd of Big Horn Sheep in the Tucson Basin, the abundance of the Desert Tortoise, and the largest stand of Ironwood Trees in North America. The monument is located almost due south of Picacho Peak and is about 45 miles from SaddleBrooke (though not an easy drive).

The Friends of Ironwood Forest National Monument have been organizing a "Meet the Monument" day for the past 4 years. The purpose of this event is to introduce Ironwood National Monument to the public. They will have 4 speakers discussing the

natural aspects of the area, archaeology of the Monument area, and the culture/tradition of Tohono O'odham Nation (who are neighbors of the monument). In addition to the talks, several guided hikes are being offered. Hike leaders from the U of A Ramblers, Tucson's Meet up hike group, and two local Marana Hiking Clubs will team up with local naturalists to point out plants, bushes, and trees of interest on 8K and 5K hikes into the desert around Ragged Top Mountain and Wolcott Peak. A bird watching specialist from the Audubon Society will lead a shorter birding hike along the washes close to Silverbell Road, a route on which this hike sighted 14 species of birds within a two-mile track last year. Two professional landscape photographers will lead a morning hike into the area surrounding the base of Ragged Top Mountain and provide instruction on how to photograph the desert.

Susan Hollis, from the SaddleBrooke Hiking Club will be going to the event to participate in one of the hikes. Anyone wishing to join Susan can signup, as you would for any other hike. (It is listed on our Hiking Schedule). Club members can also attend the event on their own. Please refer to Friends of Ironwood Forest Nation Monument's website <http://ironwoodforest.org/events/meet-monument/> for additional information. Anyone going to the event on their own should keep in mind that no food or water is available in the monument (pack your own) and to check with the organizers regarding condition of the roads in the monument (a high clearance vehicle may be needed).

MOST FREQUENT WALKERS

By Randy Park

Most people know that the hiking club sponsors a morning fitness walk 5 days a week. As expected, some people are MFWs (most frequent walkers). Our top 10 MFWs from January 2011 through the end of September 2014 are:

Martha Hackworth	820
Stan Strebis	408
Dave Sorensen	375
Jan Springer	366
Paul Kyriss	350
LaVern Kyriss	338
Mary Kopp	324
Michael Reale	323

Lissa White 294

Howard Fagan 275

Congratulations. Good work walkers!

HIKERS ENJOY FALL PICNIC

By Karen Schickedanz



Cloudy skies and a few leftover sprinkles courtesy of Hurricane Simon couldn't stop SaddleBrooke Hiking Club members from enjoying themselves at their annual fall picnic, held this year at Catalina State Park on October 9.

The picnic got off to a rousing start with the group rendition of a new hiking club anthem, sung to the tune of "America the Beautiful." Chief lyricist Becky Hilst can be credited with the following:

"We don our boots, take up our sticks, put on a wide-brimmed hat,

We seek the beauty Nature holds along the rocky path.

Oh blisters, rattlesnakes and Goo, Oh cactus, prickly friend,

Oh birds of prey, oh GPS, Oh joy! There's our car! At the end."

"We hydrate well, choose Lead and Sweep, look forward to our snacks,

Pass deer and lizards, waterfalls, and sip from Camelbaks.

Oh SaddleBrooke Hiking Club--good friends, good hikes in store,

And may our hips and knees and feet hold up for many more."

A short business meeting was held, during which Mike Wolters was elected vice-president for the remainder of the 2014-15 hiking club year. He replaces Dianne Ashby and is slated to succeed Larry Allen as president for 2015-16.

Then, it was on to the main event: pork and chicken provided by the club and a delicious array of salads, side dishes, and desserts contributed by club

members. Thanks go to picnic co-chairs, Mary Jo Bellner Swartzberg and LaVerne Kyriss, and their committee for another wonderful picnic!

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

News You Can Use

AZ Trail Work Session	11/5 Wed.	7:30 A.M.
Meet the Monument	11/15 Sat.	6:30 A.M.
Wilderness Hiking in Canada	11/19 Wed.	3:00 P.M.
SBHC Social Hour Agave Lounge HOA #1	11/19 Wed.	4:00 P.M.
Catalina Hills Clean Up	12/1 Mon.	8:30 A.M.
SBHC Board Meeting Coyote Room North	12/3 Wed.	2:45 P.M.
SBHC Guide Meeting Coyote Room North	12/3 Wed.	4:00 P.M.

Board Members

President	Larry Allen, 825-7864; allenlw70@gmail.com
Vice-President	Mike Wolters, 719-530-1039; NKRW1234@yahoo.com
Secretary	Tim Butler, 825-0193; tucsontimmer@gmail.com
Treasurer	Melissa Simpson, 818-7839; mjsimp0328@aol.com
Chief Hiking Guides	Susan Hollis, 825-6819; shollis@yahoo.com Dave Sorenson, 777-1994; iowaboy1950@yahoo.com

Volunteers

Catalina Hills Cleanup	Bill Leightenheimer, 825-5756; wmhlaz@gmail.com
Communications	Ken Wong, 818-2561; kmwong@q.com
Program Committee Contact	Karen Schickedanz, 818-7817; karenschick@wbhsi.net
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, 314-803-3225; mospence1@gmail.com
Publicity	Karen Schickedanz, 818-7817; karenschick@wbhsi.net
Picnic Committee Co-Chairs	Mary Jo Bellner Swartzberg, 825- 0463; MJSwartzberg@hotmail.com LaVerne Kyriss, 333-2689; jlkyriss@gmail.com
Statistics and Awards	Randy Park, 825-6819; rvfulltime@isp.com
AZT Work Days	Elisabeth Wheeler, 818-1547 elisarick@wbhsi.com Mary Croft, 825-3804 mbcroft@aol.com

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. Please bring exact dollars for this amount. 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. **WE ARE REQUESTING THAT YOU BRING EXACT AMOUNTS FOR BOTH**, as these sometimes go to two different individuals. 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 sign-up 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.

Fitness Walk Times (Fall/Winter)	
Date	Start Time
September 1	6:30 a.m.
November 1	7:00 a.m.

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

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

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
11/4	Tues	Catalina State Park-Exploring the Trails	C		8:00	Frank Hartley	825- 1449	\$2 plus \$2
11/5	Wed	Az Trail Work Session	C		7:30	Elisabeth Wheeler, Mary Croft	818 -1547 825-3804	Paid by Club
11/5	Wed	Alamo Canyon to Water Tank	C		8:00	Marv Rossoff	877-9262	\$2+\$2
11/6	Thurs	Alamo Canyon	D		8:00	Tim Butler	825-0193	\$2+\$2
11/7	Fri	Hidden Canyon Loop	C		8:00	Michael Reale	825-8286 after 11/1	\$2
11/10	Mon	Az Trail - Redington Pass Road to Molina Basin - Key Exchange	B		7:00	Elisabeth Wheeler	818-1547	\$9
11/11	Tues	Pima Canyon to 2 nd Dam	C		8:00	Frank Hartley	825-1449	\$3
11/12	Wed	Deer Camp/Baby Jesus Loop	C		8:00	Tim Butler	825-0193	\$2
11/14	Fri	Window Rock	A		7:30	Roy Carter	818-3137	\$4
11/14	Fri	David Yetman Trail	C		8:00	Michael Reale	825-8286 after 11/1	\$6
11/15	Sat	OSP East Loop	C		8:00	Marv Rossoff	877-9262	\$3 plus \$2
11/15	Sat	Ironwood Forest National Monument – Meet the Monument Event and Hike	D		6:30	Susan Hollis	825-6819	\$7
11/17	Mon	Finger Rock Trail to Finger Rock Spring	D		7:30	Roy Carter	818-3137	\$4
11/18	Tues	Az Trail - Molino Basin to Sabino Canyon	A		7:00	Elisabeth Wheeler	8181547	\$7

Date	Day of Week	Name of Hike	Hike Rating	Pace	Leave Time	Leader(s)	Phone Number	Driver Donation
11/18	Tues	Tortolita Mountains – S. Wild Burro Canyon and Upper Alamo Springs Trail	C		8:00	Frank Hartley	825-1449	\$4
11/19	Wed	Baby Jesus / Petroglyph Loop	B		8:00	Walt Shields	818-3439	\$2
11/19	Wed	SBHC Program – HOA1 Activity Center			3:00 pm			
11/19	Wed	SBHC Social Hour Agave Lounge HOA #1			4:00 pm			
11/20	Thurs	Hutch's Pool	B		7:30	Dave Sorenson	777-1994	\$4 plus tram
11/21	Fri	Wasson Peak via Sweetwater Trail	B		7:30	Dave Sorenson	777-1994	\$5
11/21	Fri	Lower Incinerator Ridge	C!		7:00	Michael Reale	825-8286 after 11/1	\$9
11/21	Fri	Sutherland Trail	C		8:00	Tim Butler	825-0193	\$2+\$2
11/22	Sat	Marshal Gulch /Aspen Loop	C		7:30	Dave Sorenson	777-1994	\$10
11/24	Mon	Box Camp Trail from Sabino Canyon to viewpoint and back	B		7:45	Susan Hollis	825-6819	\$4 plus tram
11/25	Tues	Fifty Year Trail Area North Loop	C		8:00	Tim Butler	825-0193	\$2
11/25	Tues	Alamo Canyon	D		8:00	Frank Hartley	825-1449	\$2+\$2
11/28	Fri	Josephine Saddle and Rogers Rock	B		7:00	Michael Reale	825-8286 after 11/1	\$10
11/29	Sat	OSP West Loop	C		8:00	Marv Rossoff	877-9262	\$3 +\$2
12/1	Mon	Catalina Hills Clean Up	D		8:30	Bill Leichtenheimer	825-5756	
12/2	Tues	Alamo Canyon	D		8:00	Tim Butler	825-0193	\$2+\$2
12/3	Wed	Canyon Loop, Birding and Nature Trail	C		9:00	Marv Rossoff	877-9262	\$2 +\$2
12/3	Wed	SBHC Board Meeting Coyote Room North			2:45 pm			
12/3	Wed	SBHC Guide Meeting Coyote Room North			4:00 pm			
12/4	Thurs	Romero Pools	C		8:00	Frank Hartley	825-1449	\$2+\$2
12/5	Fri	Bridal Veil Falls	A		7:30	Roy Carter	818-3137	\$4
12/5	Fri	Deer Camp	C		8:00	Michael Reale	825-8286 after 11/1	\$2
12/6	Sat	OSP American Avenue	D		9:00	Susan Hollis	825-6819	\$3+\$2
12/8	Mon	Az Trail Saguaro NP to Manning Camp Trail	B		7:00	Elisabeth Wheeler	818-1547	\$8
12/8	Mon	Baby Jesus	C		8:00	Tim Bulter	825-0193	\$2
12/9	Tues	Linda Vista Loop	D		7:30	Roy Carter	818-3137	\$2

Date	Day of Week	Name of Hike	Hike Rating	Pace	Leave Time	Leader(s)	Phone Number	Driver Donation
12/10	Wed	Pima Canyon to 2nd Dam	C		8:00	Howie and Elaine Fagan	818-9555	\$3
12/11	Thurs	Catalina State Park-Exploring the Trails	C		8:00	Frank Hartley	825-1449	\$2 plus \$2
12/12	Fri	Tortolita Mountains: Cochise Spring Trail	B		8:00	Michael Reale	825-8286 after 11/1	\$4
12/13	Sat	OSP East Loop	C		9:00	Marv Rossoff	877-9262	\$3 +\$2
12/16	Tues	Az Trail American Flag/Cody Trail	C		8:00	Elisabeth Wheeler	818-1547	\$3
12/17	Wed	Sutherland Trail	C		9:00	Marv Rossoff	877-9262	\$2 +\$2
12/17	Wed	Wasson Peak via Esperanza and Hugh Norris	B		8:00	Howie and Elaine Fagan	818-9555	\$7
12/18	Thurs	Pima Canyon to 2 nd Dam	C		8:00	Tim Butler	825-0193	\$3
12/19	Fri	Tortolita Mountains: Alamo Springs / Wild Mustang Loop	B		7:30	Michael Reale	825-8286 after 11/1	\$4
12/20	Sat	OSP Granite Overlook	D		9:00	Susan Hollis	825-6819	\$3+\$2
12/22	Mon	Soldier Trail	B		8:00	Susan Hollis	825-6819	\$6
12/23	Tues	Maiden Pools	C!		8:00	Walt Shields	818-3439	\$4
12/27	Sat	OSP West	C		9:00	Marv Rossoff	877-9262	\$3 +\$2
12/30	Tues	Pima Canyon to 1 st Dam	D		8:00	Walt Shields	818-3439	\$3

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 3.3 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 360 feet; accumulated gain 435 feet; RTD 24 miles.

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.

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.

Arizona Trail: Molino Basin Campground to Sabino Canyon. Rating A. This hike takes place on a portion of AZT Passage 11. The hike starts at Molino

Basin Campground on Catalina Hwy, continues through old Prison Camp, past Sycamore Reservoir, and continues on to Sabino Basin. The Arizona Trail is followed from Prison Camp (now the Gordon Hirabayashi Recreation Site) to Sabino Canyon Trail #23 at the intersection of the East and West Fork Trails. From the southern end of the Sabino Canyon Trail, hikers walk to the Visitor Center on the Phoneline Trail. Hike 14.7 miles; trailhead elevation 4370 feet; net elevation change 1200 feet; accumulated loss ___ feet; RTD 94 miles.

Arizona Trail: Redington Pass Road to Molino Basin Campground. Rating B. (This hike is the same as Passage 10 for Redington Pass, except for the southernmost 3 miles.) The trail is rolling with moderate up-and-down elevation changes. Starting east of the Catalinas at the trailhead on Redington Pass Road, hikers first complete the 4-mile segment of the recently repositioned Arizona Trail where it links with the Italian Trap segment out of the Rincon Mountains and connects with the lake southeast of Bellota Ranch. From here, we hike to West Spring, cross Molino Creek, and end at Molino Basin Campground on Catalina Hwy. Drivers will be needed to shuttle hikers to the trailhead. Hike 11 miles; trailhead elevation 4360 feet; net elevation change 900 feet; accumulated gain 1665 feet; RTD 100 miles (dirt).

Arizona Trail: Rincon Mountain section - Saguaro NP to Manning Camp Trail. Rating B. This hike will be accessed from S. Camino Loma Alta trailhead, proceeding over to the Hope Camp Trail, but stopping short of Hope Camp, and connecting at the junction of the new Quilter Trail which leads northeast to the Manning Camp Trail. The views to the south improve with every foot of elevation we gain. Upon reaching the Manning Camp Trail, we will return to our starting point. Hike 14 miles; trailhead elevation 3,150 feet; net elevation change 1,180 feet; accumulated gain 1,817. RTD 115 miles; Driver donation \$8.00.

Arizona Trail: Work Session Rating C. Come and join the fun — it's nice to work side by side with other hiking club members, as we help maintain the "Oracle Passage" section of the Arizona National Scenic Trail. This 6.5 mile section starts at the American Flag TH, ambles through washes and across low ridges speckled with high desert plants just east of Oracle State Park south to Highway 77. Generally, the work is light, and involves clipping, brushing, raking, pruning, building cairns and

developing/clearing erosion control devices. Bring along gloves, hat, water, and hand clippers. Other tools, if needed, will be provided. The work session usually lasts about 2-4 hours. Hike 3-6 miles. RTD 41 miles. The club will pay the \$3 driver donation.

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).

Baby Jesus / Petroglyph Loop. Rating B. The hike starts in the Fifty-Year Trail area near the east end of Golder Ranch Road. The trail crosses the Sutherland Wash and connects to the Baby Jesus Trail. At the intersection, hikers turn south until they reach the Sutherland Trail. We go west on the Sutherland (or another connecting link) for about a mile to a trail that leads to the petroglyphs, then north back to the trailhead (completing a clockwise loop). Along the way, hikers see beautiful saguaros, rock formations (including the Madona and Child, and a window), oak woodlands, and ancient petroglyphs. The hike may be done in reverse. The southern connecting link may be overgrown since it receives little use. Hike 8.7 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change 936 feet; accumulated gain 1479 feet; RTD 12 miles (dirt).

Box Camp Trail from Sabino Canyon to viewpoint and back. Rating B. Hikers will take the Sabino Canyon tram (fee required) to the trailhead at it's last stop up the canyon. After a moderately steep climb out of the canyon, hikers will turn left onto the East Fork trail for a very short distance (few yards), then turn off the East Fork trail onto Box Camp Trail, which steadily climbs a ridgeline next to Box Camp Canyon (on the left) and Palisade Canyon (on the right). The hike will proceed up Box Camp Trail to Apache Spring, the lunch spot and turn around point. Return is via the same route to the trailhead to catch the tram. Starting elevation: 3300 feet; net elevation change 2,620 feet. Hike 10.6 miles. RTD 56 miles

Bridal Veil Falls. Rating A. The trail begins at Sabino Canyon Visitor Center and reaches the falls via the Esperero Trail. It crosses the Cactus Picnic area, a heavily used trail, and Rattlesnake canyon. It then gains elevation fairly quickly as it proceeds to Bird Canyon, narrowly avoiding a section of private land. The trail is well maintained but there are some steep climbs interspersed with short switchbacks. It eventually leads to the ridge nicknamed 'Cardiac Gap'. From the 'Gap', the trail then drops to the north side of the ridge and heads toward Cathedral Peak, circling the basin which leads to Geronimo Meadow. The last half mile to the falls is steep and may be overgrown, but is well worthwhile if there has been adequate rainfall to supply the falls. Hike 12.4 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 2640 feet; accumulated gain 3265 feet; RTD 56 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.

Catalina Hills Trash Cleanup Walk. Rating D. Volunteers are needed for the Trash Cleanup Walk for Catalina Hills Drive which is part of the Arizona Adopt A Highway Program. This is a community service that our club provides for SaddleBrooke and for Arizona. The walk will only take an hour to an hour and a half of your time. Trash bags and safety vests are provided by the Pinal County Highway Dept. Volunteers should bring gloves and a pickup stick if they have one. Volunteers will meet in the parking lot just west of the Fitness Center at SaddleBrooke CC.

Catalina State Park - Exploring the Trails. Rating C. The hike will explore various trails within the park. The park is a great example of the Sonoran Desert with its native plants and wildlife. Come enjoy the beautiful views of the Santa Catalina Mountains. Hike 4 to 8 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net

elevation change 400 to 1000 feet; accumulated gain ___ feet; RTD 24 miles.

David Yetman Trail. Rating C. The hike is an easy walk through typical vegetation of the Sonoran Desert. The trail has two trailheads; one at Camino de Oeste and one near the bottom of the west side of Gates Pass. Cars will be left at one end and hikers will drive to the other trailhead. From the Gates Pass side, the trail is easy for the first mile, easy down a wash, but steep upward for a short distance along the climb back up to the ridge. Hikers pass the Central Arizona Project, an old stone house built in the early 1930's by Sherry Bowen, and a well that serves a wildlife watering tank. Bring lunch, water, hat, sun lotion, and hiking stick. Hike 6.1 miles; trailhead elevation 2800 feet; net elevation change 600 feet; accumulated gain ___ feet; RTD 75 miles.

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).

Fifty-Year Trail Area North Loop. 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 with a bench for viewing. The return is via the same 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 6.1 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change ___ feet; accumulated gain 878 feet; RTD 12 miles (dirt).

Finger Rock Trail to Finger Rock Spring. Rating D. The hike begins from the Finger Rock Trailhead at the north end of Alvernon Way. Taking the Finger Rock Canyon Trail, which leads to Mt. Kimball, we will only go as far as Finger Rock Spring. The trail passes some beautiful rock formations and native

desert plant life along the way. The trail is relatively level but relatively rocky. There are some fairly significant ups and downs along the way. Hike 3 miles; trailhead elevation 3120 feet; net elevation change 400 feet; accumulated gain ___ 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).

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 8.4 miles; trailhead elevation 3300 feet; net elevation change 558 feet; accumulated gain 1349 feet; RTD 56 miles.

Ironwood Forest National Monument – Meet the Monument Event and Hike. Rating D. We will be participating in one of the event hikes. The pace will likely be moderate to slow, as a naturalist will be pointing out plants, bushes and trees of interest on a hike into the desert around Ragged Top Mountain and Wolcott Peak. Hike 5 miles (or less); trailhead elevation 2,000 feet; net elevation change minimal; accumulated gain _____. RTD 94 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.

Lower Incinerator Ridge. Rating C! A new section of trail was added to the Incinerator Ridge Trail in the spring of 2012. The new trail is noted for its great vistas. The trail heads north/northwest from the San Pedro Vista Pullout, off the Catalina Hwy. The hike will proceed to Mt Bigelow and return via the same route, the 1st section of the trail is steep and rocky, but the views make up for it. Starting Elevation: 7,350 feet. Net Elevation Change 1150 feet. Hiking Length is 6 miles. RTD 123 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.

Marshall Gulch / Aspen Loop. Rating C. The hike starts at the Marshall Gulch Picnic Area and goes up the Marshall Gulch Trail to the Marshall Saddle. From the Saddle, we turn left down the Aspen Trail

and head back to the picnic area. After about 0.25 miles on the Aspen Trail, there is a large rock that provides a great spot for a break or lunch. Hike may be done in reverse. Hike 3.7 miles; trailhead elevation 7440 feet; net elevation change 480 feet; accumulated gain 830 feet; RTD 130 miles.

OSP American Avenue. Rating D. Oracle State Park contains native Sonoran cacti, desert grassland, oak trees, and Manzanita stands, and contains several miles of well-maintained trails. The hike begins at the trailhead off American Ave. on the western edge of the park and proceeds along the relatively smooth Mariposa Trail toward the Oak Woodland picnic area. About 0.25 miles before reaching the picnic area, the group will take the 0.8-mile Bellota Loop Trail which nearly reaches the Group Use Area adjacent the historic Kannally Ranch House before connecting back to the Mariposa Trail for the return. Along the way are excellent views of the Galiuro Mountains and San Pedro Valley to the north and the Santa Catalina Mountains to the south. Hike 3.2 miles; net elevation change <500 feet; accumulated gain <500 feet; RTD 40 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 Granite Overlook. Rating D. This 1.8-mile loop begins at the 1st parking lot in Oracle State Park and winds uphill in and around beautiful boulders, desert grassland, oak trees, and manzanita stands. The hike offers great views of the former Kannally Ranch which originally extended all the way to the San Pedro River. The trail was constructed by volunteers from The SaddleBrooke Hiking Club. The hike may be done in either direction, but the counter-clockwise direction has a much more gradual climb. Also, this is an easy trail to link with several other trails if you're looking for a longer hike within the park or for access to the Arizona Trail. Hike 2 miles; trailhead elevation 4500 feet; net elevation change 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.

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.

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 1400 feet; RTD 24 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.

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.

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: Cochie Spring Trail. 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. The Upper Javelina Trail provides views of the Tucson Mtns and Boboquiveri Peak to the south. After a short hike on the Wild Mustang Trail, hikers join the Cochie Spring Trail and continue several miles to the remains of a dam past a windmill. Hikers will

experience a quiet mountain wilderness. The return is by the same route. Hike 8.5 miles; trailhead elevation 2780 feet; net elevation change 645 feet; accumulated gain __ feet; RTD 44 miles.

Tortolita Mountains: S. Wild Burro Canyon and upper Alamo Springs trail. Rating C. 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 continue in the wash for 20-30 yards to reach the Alamo Springs Spur trail. We hike on the Alamo Springs Spur trail until we reach Alamo Springs Trail. From the Alamo Springs Trail, we proceed north to the lunch spot at the top of Wild Burro Canyon. Return is via the Wild Burro Canyon Trail which is on the west side of Canyon at this point. Following the Wild Burro Canyon trail south, we reach the stone house ruins again, and at this point, 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.

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 7.8 miles; trailhead elevation 2960 feet; net elevation change 1727 feet; accumulated gain 1787 feet; RTD 73 miles (dirt).

Wasson Peak via Sweetwater Trail. Rating B. The hike begins at the trailhead at the end of El Camino del Cerro (the west extension of Ruthrouff Road) on the east side of the Tucson Mountains. From there we hike on the Sweetwater Trail through some of the prettiest saguaro forests in the area. Along the way there will be good views of Tucson and Wasson Peak. At the saddle where the trail joins the King Canyon trail we continue up to Wasson Peak. Views are spectacular from this highest point in the Tucson Mountains. There is little shade along the way. Bring plenty of water and sun protection. Hike 9.4 miles; trailhead elevation 2800 feet; net elevation change 1887; accumulated gain 2329 feet; RTD 60 miles.

Window Rock. Rating A. The hike follows the most direct route up Ventana Canyon. The hike is difficult and steep, and involves lots of difficult climbing. The hike begins at the Ventana Canyon Resort parking lot past the employees' parking lot. It follows that trail past Maiden Pools until it reaches the Esperero Trail # 25, which is used for two miles to reach the Window. Ventana Canyon offers some of the best canyon views in southern Arizona. Views from the Window are fantastic, including such landmarks at Mt. Kimball, Cathedral Rock, and the Montrose Canyon drainage area. Hike 13 miles; trailhead elevation 3040 feet; net elevation change 3840 feet; accumulated gain 4300 feet; RTD 54 miles.