



SEPTEMBER 2019 HIKES

Monday, September 02, 2019 Florida to Madera Canyon including Mt. Wrightson. Rating: A. Pace: Moderate [503, 05:30 AM, \$15]. The hike begins at the Santa Rita Agricultural Experimental Range Headquarters. The hike involves a very steep and continuous climb from the headquarters through a beautiful canyon, along open hillsides and thick forests, up to the Florida Saddle at 7840 feet. Continue on the Florida Crest Trail to Mt. Baldy Saddle and climb to the top of Mt. Wrightson. At the top are outstanding 360-degree views of Tucson and the mountain ranges in the area. Follow the Old Baldy Trail to Madera Canyon. Hike 12.9 miles; Florida Canyon Trailhead elevation 4330 feet; Madera Canyon Trailhead elevation 5449 feet; accumulated gain 5500 feet. RTD 150 miles. [Guide: Aaron Schoenberg, askus3@centurylink.net]

Monday, September 02, 2019 Bear Wallow/Sunset Trail. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [NEW, 07:00 AM, \$13]. The hike starts on the Bear Wallow Road near Summerhaven and goes along a trail under the shade of many, many tall deciduous trees with wonderful color in the Autumn and nice shade the rest of the season. Once we reach Soldier Camp on the Gen Hitchcock Hwy we will continue along the Sunset Trail with its beautiful canyon and vista views to the Marshall Gulch trailhead. Here is our turn around spot for this out and back hike. This trail is relatively easy, but does have a few spots with steep step up/down and a bit with narrow trail and height exposure. Hike 4.9 miles; trailhead elevation 8030 feet; net elevation change 500 feet; accumulated gain 682 feet. RTD 130 miles. [Guide: Ruth Caldwell, azcaldwell3@gmail.com]

Wednesday, September 04, 2019 Butterfly Loop Trail. Rating: B! Pace: Moderate [NEW 07:00 AM, \$13]. The hike starts from the Butterfly Trailhead located just off the General Hitchcock Highway at Soldier Camp. The trail descends through a narrow canyon to Novio Spring, and then climbs back up to a saddle just east of Mt. Bigelow. The trail then proceeds along a short segment of Mt. Bigelow Rd. where we'll have lunch. The trail then descends from the road through a pine forest to a densely forested trail that parallels Bear Wallow Road, passing through a culvert beneath the General Hitchcock Highway. The trail then continues west to the trailhead. One of the highlights of the hike is the site of a USAF F-86 Sabre Dog that crashed in July 1957 (with the pilot ejecting safely). The crash site is easily accessed by a side trail from Novio Springs. The hike is 8.5 miles with a net elevation gain of 1936 feet and an accumulated gain of 2925 feet. [Guide: Frank Earnest fearnestiv@gmail.com]

Thursday, September 05, 2019 Alamo Canyon Loop. Rating: D. Pace: SLOW [6, 06:00 AM, \$2 + \$2].

The hike begins at the Romero Ruins Trailhead in Catalina State Park. This hike will be done as a loop around Alamo Canyon going up one side and returning down the other (clockwise or counter-clockwise). Other than one short area by the wash, the elevation change is generally gradual. The south-side trail traverses several rocky washes. This is a lovely hike up to Alamo Canyon Falls and return. There is a very scenic large flat-rock area above the falls. Water may be present in the canyon after rainy periods, but there are no significant water crossings. Hikers may stop by the Romero Ruins and take the informative loop trail from there. Hike 3.5 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 360 feet; accumulated gain 429 feet; RTD 24 miles. [Guide: Karen Gray, 818-0337. kgrayinaz@yahoo.com]

Friday, September 06, 2019 Wilderness of Rocks Loop # 5. Rating: A. Pace: Moderate [6:00 AM,

\$10]. Starting at Marshall Gulch picnic area, this hike climbs up to Marshall Saddle then to the summit of Mt. Lemmon on the Aspen Trail. The hike continues to Radio Ridge and the Steward Observatory parking area then heads down via the Mt. Lemmon #5 Trail to the Wilderness of Rocks Trail. We take this trail back up to Marshall Saddle and down to Marshall Gulch Picnic Area parking lot. Hike 13.2 miles; trailhead elevation 7440 feet; net elevation change 1700 feet; accumulated gain 2933 feet; RTD 131 miles. [Michael Hovan, michaelhovan@ameritech.net]

Monday, September 09, 2019 Romero Pass. Rating: A. Pace: Moderate [369, 4:00 AM, \$2 + \$2].

The hike begins in Catalina State Park at the easternmost trailhead and follows an up and down trail past Romero Pools and Romero Springs to Romero Pass. The last 2 miles before reaching the pass is very steep and involves continual climbing. The return is via the same route. There are excellent views of Romero and Montrose Canyons along the way and of Cathedral Peak at the top. Rincon Peak is visible to the east. Hike 14 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 3380 feet; accumulated gain 4200 feet; RTD 24 miles. [Michael Hovan, michaelhovan@ameritech.net]

Wednesday, September 11, 2019 Finger Rock Trail to Canyon Overlook. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate

[190, 07:30 AM, \$4]. The hike begins from the Finger Rock Trailhead at the north end of Alvernon Way. The hike covers level ground for about a mile, and then sharply climbs up the canyon. Scrambling is necessary at some points going up and coming down, but is not overly difficult for most hikers. From the overlook, hikers will enjoy the beautiful vistas of Mt. Kimball, Finger Rock, and the steep Finger Rock Canyon, then return. Hike 3.3 miles; trailhead elevation 3120 feet; net elevation change 922 feet; accumulated gain 1326 feet; RTD 44 miles. [Guides: Howie and Elaine Fagan, howieandelaine@q.com, 240-9556].

Wednesday, September 11, 2019 OSP Loop Full Moon Walk. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [493, 5:00

PM, \$3 + \$2]. The loop uses trails near Kannally Ranch House. We will make our ascent during the afternoon twilight, and arrive at the summit to observe the sunset. Bring a gourmet dinner with candles to enjoy as we watch the lights come on in Oracle. We will then do our descent in the moonlight. A headlamp with both red and white lights is required, in case the moon is blocked by clouds. Hike begins at the Kannally Ranch House at the Nature Trail. The trail leads to the Windy Ridge Trail and then connects with the Granite Overlook Trail (highest point in the park). The trail descends and meets the Bellota Trail which loops back to the Ranch House. Hike 3.8 miles; trail head elevation 4500 ft., accumulated gain 490 ft., RTD 40 miles. Driver donation \$3+\$2. [Michael Hovan, michaelhovan@ameritech.net]

Thursday, September 12, 2019 Fifty-Year Trail Area. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [183, 07:00 AM, \$4]. The hike begins in the Fifty-Year Trail area at Golder Ranch. The trail starts on the Fifty-Year Trail and follows social trails toward the Sutherland Wash. The trail then loops back on a ridge that has great views, beautiful saguaros, and interesting rock formations. Hike 3.8 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change 200 feet; accumulated gain 334 feet; RTD 10 miles (dirt). This hike is on or crosses Arizona State Trust Land: "The Arizona Land Department's trust management responsibilities include requiring a permit or lease and charging a fee for use of Trust land." Please note that Trust Land is private (not public) and requires a recreation permit for hiking, which can be obtained through the state land department. [Guide: Ruth Caldwell, azcaldwell3@gmail.com]

Friday, September 13, 2019 Dripping Springs from the Sutherland Trail. Rating: C. Pace: SLOW [172, 06:00 AM, \$2 + \$2]. 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 4.2 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 475 feet; accumulated gain 475 feet; RTD 24 miles. [Guide: Karen Gray, 818-0337, kgrayinaz@yahoo.com]

Friday, September 13, 2019 Butterfly Trail. Rating: A. Pace: Moderate [129, 6:00 AM, \$9]. From the trailhead near Soldier Camp on Catalina Hwy, we hike down Butterfly Trail # 16 to the Novio Spring area in Alder Canyon, and lunch in the vicinity of a 1957 F-86 plane crash (UTM 526435E, 3587511N). We then continue up to the Mt Bigelow TH across from the Palisades Visitor Center, where we turn around, and return via the same route to the cars. Hike 13 miles; trailhead elevation 7700 feet; net elevation change 3660 feet; accumulated gain 4460 feet; RTD 125 miles. [Michael Hovan, michaelhovan@ameritech.net]

Monday, September 16, 2019 Wilderness of Rocks. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [484, 07:00 AM, \$13]. The hike begins at the Marshall Gulch picnic area at the top of Mt. Lemmon. We climb up to Marshall Saddle then down the Wilderness of Rocks Trail. Three fourths of a mile past the intersection with the Lemmon Rock Lookout Trail is the Lemmon Canyon area in the heart of the Wilderness of Rocks. There are beautiful rock formations with great views along the way. The return is via the same route, or optionally, by the Aspen Loop Trail. Hike 7.2 miles; trailhead elevation 7440 feet; net elevation change 1550 feet; accumulated gain 1538 feet; RTD 131 miles. [Guide: Frank Earnest fearnestiv@gmail.com]

Tuesday, September 17, 2019 Mt. Wrightson via Old Baldy and Super Trails. Rating: A. Pace: Moderate [294, 4:00 AM, \$10]. The hike begins in Madera canyon in the Santa Rita Mountains and follows Old Baldy Trail to Josephine Saddle where we take the Super Trail to Mt. Wrightson. This provides a more gradual ascent to Baldy Saddle, but the last 0.9 mile to the summit is steep and rocky with moderate exposure. At the top are outstanding 360-degree views of Tucson and the mountain ranges in the area. The return is via the Old Baldy Trail to Josephine Saddle and the Super Trail to the trailhead. There is abundant shade along the way. Hike 13.7 miles; trailhead elevation 5450 feet; net elevation change 4003 feet; accumulated gain >4100 feet. RTD 130 miles. [Michael Hovan, michaelhovan@ameritech.net]

Tuesday, September 17, 2019 5PM to 7PM Durango Potluck Dinner. The pre-trip potluck dinner is for participants going on the Durango Trip. There will be an opportunity for late hike sign-ups along as well as questions and answers from the trip leaders. HOA1 Tennis Center

Friday, September 20, 2019 Double Crested/Dome Trail. Rating: C!. Pace: Moderate [NEW 6:30 AM, \$0]. This hike is on a newly constructed trail to Big Dome Rock that passes a rare double crested saguaro. Many SaddleBrooke residents have a view from their homes of "Dome Rock" - the large dome formation to the east that is bald in the middle with patchy vegetation on both sides, and located about a third of the way up to Charouleau Gap. The hike departs from the south end of S Arroyo Way in Unit 21. We cross Canada del Oro Wash, and then follow the newly developed route east through a small wash, and along several ridgelines to our destination. We will pass through interesting granite formations, with many saguaros and ocotillo forests. One of the highlights along the way is "Double Beauty", a rare double crested saguaro registered with the Crested Saguaro Society. On top of the dome there are great 360 degree views of Saddlebrooke and Catalina. We will return by the same route. Hike 3.5 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change 750 feet; accumulated gain 800 feet; RTD 0 miles. [Michael Hovan, michaelhovan@ameritech.net

SBHC Trip to Durango, CO - Wednesday - Friday, September 25 - 27, 2019 Train ride option Durango Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad Tuesday, September 24.

OCTOBER 2019 HIKES

Tuesday, October 01, 2019 Sabino Canyon to Catalina State Park. Rating: A. Pace: Moderate [376, 4:00 AM, \$4 + \$2]. The hike begins at the Sabino Canyon Visitor Center and follows Sabino Canyon, the West Fork past Hutch's Pool to Romero Pass. From Romero Pass, the hike is mostly downhill, passing Romero Spring and the Romero Pools along the way to the main trailhead at Catalina State Park. This is a strenuous but extremely rewarding hike. Hikers should bring a flashlight and spare batteries. A vehicle shuttle will be needed. Hike 20 miles; trailhead elevation 2720 feet; net elevation change 3360 feet; accumulated gain 4861 feet; RTD 56 miles. [Michael Hovan, michaelhovan@ameritech.net]

Wednesday, October 02, 2019 SBHC Guides Mtg 1st Wed - Even Months. HOA#1 Coyote Room North Reserved 4:00pm to 5:00pm

Wednesday, October 02, 2019 (SBHC BOD Meeting has been moved to Tuesday, October 15)

Thursday, October 03, 2019 Esperero Canyon/Bluff Loop Trail Sabino Canyon. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [NEW, 07:00 AM, \$6]. From the Sabino Canyon Visitor Center, the hike proceeds along the Esperero Canyon/Rattlesnake Canyon trails to the Bluff Trail overlooking Sabino Creek, and is a favorite with views of the canyon and Sabino Creek with velvet ash, cottonwood, willow, and Arizona sycamore trees. Our break will be at the Sabino Dam. We will finish on the Bajada Nature loop with a beautiful crested saguaro. Bring a camera and plenty of water and snack. Hike 4.6 miles; trailhead elevation 2705 feet; net elevation change 240 feet; accumulated gain 367 feet; RTD 56 miles. [Guide: Ruth Caldwell, azcaldwell3@gmail.com]

Friday, October 04, 2019 Arizona Trail: Oracle (Passage 13). Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [56, 07:30 AM, \$4]. From the American Flag Trailhead the route proceeds in a northerly direction across National Forest Land and State Trust Land, crossing Webb Road and continuing to Oracle State Park. The trail is marked with 4x4 inch wooden posts with the Arizona Trail 'brand'. About halfway through the park it reaches Kannally Wash and windmill. Water is NOT available at the windmill at this time. A freshly constructed singletrack contours to the west and northwest until reaching a culvert under Highway 77. It passes through the culvert and continues on Old Tiger Road for the last 1.5 miles to the Tiger Mine Trailhead. This will be a key exchange hike. Hike 8.7 miles; trailhead elevations 4416 feet south and 4066 feet north; net elevation change 435 feet; accumulated gains 950 feet northward and 1254 feet southward; RTD 41 miles. [Guide: Elisabeth Wheeler hikerelisabeth@gmail.com]

Saturday, October 05, 2019 Horseshoe and Quantrell Mines. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [352, 6:00 AM, \$18]. The hike starts from the Agua Caliente Trailhead (see driving directions to Elephant Head) and involves a scenic trek through the historic Tyndall Mining District in the Santa Rita Mountains. Bring headlamps to explore the 800 foot tunnel in the Horseshoe and Grand Prize claims. Hikers will lunch at the head of Chino Canyon at the Quantrell Mine, and enjoy magnificent views down the canyon, as well as that of the mythical giant rock sculpture known as Elephant Head. You will not be berated if you have visions of Jesuit gold, Teddy Roosevelt, and Apache sacrifices. This trail is mostly an old mining road with no steep sections. Note that this is a dog-friendly hike where canines are permitted to participate. However, all members are welcome even if you do not have a dog accompanying you. Hike 5.6 miles; trailhead elevation 4560 feet; net elevation change 580 feet; accumulated gain 1000 feet; RTD 136 miles. [Aaron Schoenberg, askus3@centurylink.net]

Saturday, October 5, 2019 Josephine Saddle. Rating: B. Pace: Slow [234, 07:00 AM, \$13]. The hike starts in Madera Canyon (Santa Rita Mountains) and goes up the Super Trail to Josephine Saddle. Hikers will rest at the Saddle and return via the Old Baldy Trail. Hike 6.4 miles; trailhead elevation 5450 feet; net elevation change 1630 feet; accumulated gain 1650 feet; RTD 130 miles. [Guide: Don Taylor, donald_r_taylor@yahoo.com.]

Thursday, October 10, 2019 Wildhorse/Garwood Dam Loop SNP east. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [NEW, 07:00 AM, \$8]. From the end of Speedway on the east side of Tucson we enter Saguaro National Park East. Following several trails that circle the Wildhorse Trail (but never actually on it) we make our way south to a junction with the Garwood Trail and turn south to visit the site of the old Garwood Dam. We return on Garwood Trail to resume our loop hike back to the parking area. There is an opportunity after the hike to make a short visit to see Tanque Verde Guest Ranch which is across the street from our parking area. Bring plenty of water and a snack. Hike 4.2 miles; trailhead elevation 2770; net elevation change 100 feet; accumulated gain 170 feet; RTD 80 miles. [Guide: Ruth Caldwell, azcaldwell3@gmail.com]

Friday, October 11, 2019 American Flag. Rating: C. Pace: SLOW [8, 07:30 AM, \$4]. 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 6.7 miles; trailhead elevation 4400 feet; net elevation change 995 feet; accumulated gain 1267 feet; RTD 41 miles. [Guide: Karen Gray, 818-0337, kgrayinaz@yahoo.com]

Saturday, October 12, 2019 Arizona Trail: Oracle (Passage 13). Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [56, 07:30 AM, \$4]. The goal of "AZT in a Day" is that all 800+ miles of the Arizona National Scenic Trail are covered in a 24-hour period on October 12. From the American Flag Trailhead the route proceeds in a northerly direction across National Forest Land and State Trust Land, crossing Webb Road and continuing to Oracle State Park. About halfway through the park it reaches Kannally Wash and windmill. Water is available at the windmill. A freshly constructed, single-track contours to the west and northwest until reaching a culvert under Highway 77. It passes through the culvert and continues on Old Tiger Road for the last 1.5 miles to the Tiger Mine Trailhead. This will be a key exchange hike. Hike 8.7 miles; trailhead elevations 4416 feet south and 4066 feet north; net elevation change 435 feet; accumulated gains 950 feet northward and 1254 feet southward; RTD 41 miles. [Guide: Ellen Shopes (AZT leader) igellen@comcast.net]

Saturday, October 12, 2019 Arizona Trail: Oracle (Passage 13) and American Flag Ranch Tour. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [NEW 08:00AM, \$4]. The goal of "AZT in a Day" is that all 800+ miles of the Arizona National Scenic Trail are covered in a 24-hour period on October 12. This 4 mile RT hike on the Oracle Passage will go from Webb Road to the American Flag Ranch House where a tour of the ranch house will be offered. The American Flag Ranch House was an historic post office in the early 1900's. The post office has been decommissioned. The Oracle Historical Society has refurbished the ranch house in period furniture with many historical exhibits. After completing the hike the hikers will join other "AZT in a Day" hikers in a celebration to be announced. [Guide: Elisabeth Wheeler hikerelisabeth@gmail.com]

Monday, October 14, 2019 Sunset / Marshall Gulch / Aspen Loop. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [394, 08:00 AM, \$13]. The hike begins at Soldier Camp on the Sunset Trail, which starts on the Catalina Highway before reaching Summerhaven. It proceeds along the Marshall Gulch Trail to the Marshall Saddle, then down the Aspen Trail and Sunset Trail to the trailhead. There are great views of the Catalinas along the way, hiking mostly in forest shade. Hike 7.0 miles; trailhead elevation 7640 feet; net elevation change 736 feet; accumulated gain 1394 feet; RTD 130 miles. [Guide: Tim Butler, tucsontimmer@gmail.com]

Tuesday, October 15, 2019 SBHC BOD Mtg HOA#1 Coyote Room North Reserved 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Wednesday, October 16, 2019 SBHC Program @4pm HOA#1 Activity Center. Occurs on 3rd Wednesday of October, November, January, February, March, April & May.

Thursday, October 17, 2019 Sutherland Wash Petroglyphs Loop from the south. . Rating: C!. Pace: Moderate [98, 07:30 AM, \$4]. This hike begins at the CSP North Gate. It takes us on a grand circle tour of four concentrations of ancient petroglyphs located west of Baby Jesus Ridge near the Sutherland Wash. The Sutherland Wash Rock Art District is a special place right in our backyard and is on the National Historic Register. Hohokam petroglyphs dating from 900 AD to 1300 AD number in the thousands on the western slope of the Santa Catalina Mountains. Along our hike we will see beautiful saguaros, seasonal wildflowers, and vistas of Pusch Ridge. The hike involves a few short, steep, rocky sections of trail and uneven footing at times. Bring a lunch or snack to enjoy while we rest on rocks near one of the petroglyph locations. Hike 5.0 miles; trailhead elevation 2950 feet; total ascent: 722 ft, net elevation change: 431 ft. RTD 12 miles (dirt). This hike is on or crosses Arizona State Trust Land: "The Arizona Land Department's trust management responsibilities include requiring a permit or lease and charging a fee for use of Trust land." Please note that Trust Land is private (not public) and requires a recreation permit for hiking, which can be obtained through the state land department. [Guide: Ruth Caldwell, azcaldwell3@gmail.com]

Friday, October 18, 2019 Finger Rock Trail to Linda Vista Saddle. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [192, 07:00 AM, \$4]. The hike begins from the Finger Rock Trailhead at the north end of Alvernon Way. The hike starts on level ground for about a mile, and then sharply climbs 2500 feet to the Linda Vista Saddle. Scrambling is necessary at some points going up, and coming down is just as difficult. From the Saddle, hikers can enjoy the beautiful vistas of Mt. Kimball, the Santa Ritas, and Tucson as it spreads out below and into the distance. Hike 6.1 miles; trailhead elevation 3120 feet; net elevation change 2530 feet; accumulated gain 2719 feet; RTD 44 miles. [Guide: Frank Earnest fearnestiv@gmail.com]

Monday, October 21, 2019 Palisade Trail / Mud Spring. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [313, 08:00 AM, \$12]. Starting at the Showers Point Campground behind the Palisade Ranger Station off Catalina Hwy, we will hike down the Palisade Trail through pine forest to Mud Spring and return. The spring is a grand lunch site with a panoramic view of the valley. Most of the climb is on the return. The trail is moderately shady. Hike 5.9 miles; trailhead elevation 7770 feet; net elevation change -1360 feet; accumulated gain 1403 feet; RTD 119 miles. [Guide: Tim Butler, tucsontimmer@gmail.com]

Tuesday, October 22, 2019 Bridal Wreath Falls Loop. Rating: C!. Pace: Moderate [119, 07:00 AM, \$8]. The Douglas Spring Trailhead is located at the east end of Speedway Blvd. The hike involves some relatively steep climbing up the Douglas Spring Trail for the first 2.5 miles, before turning off on the 0.3 mile spur leading to the falls. We return via the Douglas Spring trail for 0.3 miles, and then take the Three Tanks Trail for 1.5 miles to where it joins the Carillo Trail. We hike for 0.5 miles and rejoin the Douglas Spring Trail, with considerable elevation, and return to the trailhead. Another option is to continue on the Three Tanks Trail to the Garwood Trail that joins the Douglas Spring Trail only 0.3 mile from the trailhead. The trail is well used and easy to follow, but does require some rock scrambling to reach the falls. Bring sun protection. Water may be flowing over the falls if there has been sufficient rainfall. Hike 7.8 miles; trailhead elevation 2720 feet; net elevation change 1050 feet; accumulated gain 1368 feet; RTD 80 miles. [Guides: Howie and Elaine Fagan, howieandelaine@q.com, 240-9556]

Wednesday, October 23, 2019 American Flag. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [8, 07:00 AM, \$4]. 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 6.7 miles; trailhead elevation 4400 feet; net elevation change 995 feet; accumulated gain 1267 feet; RTD 41 miles. [Guide: Phil McNamee mcnameephil@gmail.com]

Wednesday, October 23, 2019 Agua Caliente Hill. Rating: A. Pace: Moderate [1, 08:00 AM, \$8]. The hike has great panoramic views of Tucson, and the Rincon and Santa Catalinas. The trail starts climbing immediately from the Camino Remuda Trailhead. The trail continues up and down for approximately two miles to a water hole/pond (seasonal). From here, the trail climbs and then drops into a wash. Next is a steep climb to a ridge and a junction with trail #4445, about three miles from the trailhead. It is another 1.5 miles to the top of Aqua Caliente Hill. The return is via the same route. Hike 9.0 miles; trailhead elevation 2930 feet; net elevation change 2437 feet; accumulated gain 3045 feet; RTD 76 miles. [Guide: Aaron Schoenberg, askus3@centurylink.net]

Thursday, October 24, 2019 Marshall Gulch / Aspen Loop with Lunch. Rating: C. Pace: SLOW [257, 08:00 AM, \$13]. 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. Hike may be done in a clockwise direction which tends to be steeper. We'll stop for lunch in Summerhaven so bring lunch money. Hike 4.2 miles; trailhead elevation 7440 feet; net elevation change 480 feet; accumulated gain 830 feet; RTD 130 miles. [Guide: Karen Gray, 818-0337, kgrayinaz@yahoo.com]

Monday, October 28, 2019 Window Rock. Rating: A. Pace: Moderate [490, 07:00 AM, \$5]. 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 12.5 miles; trailhead elevation 3040 feet; net elevation change 4042 feet; accumulated gain 4249 feet; RTD 54 miles. [Guide: Frank Earnest fearnestiv@gmail.com]

Tuesday, October 29, 2019 Sweetwater Preserve (short version). Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [507, 08:00 AM, \$6]. 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. A map of the area may be found on the website (www.sdmdb.org/trail-Sweetwater.html). Hike 4.1 miles; trailhead elevation 2464 feet; net elevation change 220 feet; accumulated gain 310 feet; RTD 60 miles. [Guide: Walt Shields, waltshields@mac.com, 520-404-8998.]

Tuesday, October 29, 2019 Bear Wallow/Sunset Trail. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [NEW, 08:00 AM, \$13]. The hike starts on the Bear Wallow Road near Summerhaven and goes along a trail under the shade of many, many tall deciduous trees with wonderful color in the Autumn and nice shade the rest of the season. Once we reach Soldier Camp on the Gen Hitchcock Hwy we will continue along the Sunset Trail with its beautiful canyon and vista views to the Marshall Gulch trailhead. Here is our turn around spot for this out and back hike. This trail is relatively easy, but does have a few spots with steep step up/down and a bit with narrow trail and height exposure. Hike 4.9 miles; trailhead elevation 8030 feet; net elevation change 500 feet; accumulated gain 682 feet. RTD 130 miles. [Guide: Ruth Caldwell, azcaldwell3@gmail.com]

Wednesday, October 30, 2019 Babad Do'ag Trail. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [92, 06:30 AM, \$9]. The trailhead is along the Catalina Hwy just across from the Babad Do'ag overlook. The trail climbs up the southern slope of McDougal Ridge until it reaches an altitude of about 4800 feet, generally paralleling Soldier Canyon. Hikers continue past the "End of Trail" sign for about 0.15 miles to a waterfall that is a good place for lunch. The route is retraced on the return leg. "Babad Do'ag" means Frog Mountain in the Tohono O'odham language. Note that this is a dog-friendly hike where canines are permitted to participate. However, all members are welcome even if you do not have a dog accompanying you. Hike 4.6 miles; trailhead elevation 3680 feet; net elevation change 1070 feet; accumulated gain 1450 feet; RTD 86 miles. [Guide: Aaron Schoenberg, askus3@centurylink.net]

Thursday, October 31, 2019 Arizona Trail: Gardner Canyon (Passage 4). Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [268, 07:00 AM, \$20]. The hike begins where the Arizona Trail intersects Gardner Canyon Road and traverses part of AZT Passage 4. Hike south on AZ Trail for ~7 miles to Bear Springs on the east side of Mt. Wrightson. You pass through extensive oak forest with wonderful high desert vistas to the East and South. The views are stunning: Mexico to the south, The Huachucas to the southeast, and Mt. Wrightson to the northwest. The trail passes interpretive signs describing the elaborate hydraulic mining system that existed in the area in the early 1900's. Lunch near Bear Springs & return by same route. There are up to six "rock hopping" water crossings depending on seasonal flow; hiking poles are recommended. Directions: Take I-10 to AZ-83. Turn south on AZ-83 towards Sonoita for ~21.5 miles to Gardner Canyon Rd/FR-92; approximately 4mi north of Sonoita). Turn right (west) on GC Rd for 5.5 miles to well marked trailhead parking. Hike 13.75 miles; trailhead elevation 5160'; net elevation change 610'; accumulated gain 1080'. RTD 155 miles (gravel 5.5 miles in & out). [Guide: Phil McNamee mcnameephil@gmail.com]

Thursday, October 31, 2019 Bear Wallow/Sunset Trail - short version. Rating D. Pace: Moderate [NEW, 08:00 AM \$13]. The hike starts on the Bear Wallow Road near Summerhaven and goes along a trail under the shade of many, many tall deciduous trees with wonderful color in the Autumn. Once we reach Soldier Camp on the Gen Hitchcock Hwy we will continue along the Sunset Trail to a rock outcropping overlooking the canyon which will be our turnaround point for this out & back hike. Hike 3.2 miles; trailhead elevation 8030 feet; net elevation change 233 feet; accumulated gain 348 feet. RTD 130 miles. [Guide: Ruth Caldwell, azcaldwell3@gmail.com]