



SADDLEBROOKE

HIKING CLUB NEWSLETTER

<http://www.SaddleBrooke.org>

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

2007-5

Hiking Club Picnic

Thursday, Oct 25th will be our fall hiking club picnic at Catalina State Park. It will be held at the large group picnic area. We hope to see everyone there. We had great attendance this past April; lots of delicious food, hikes, and a fun time was had by all!

FOOD: It will be a potluck-plus-chicken lunch. The club will provide the chicken, plates, utensils, ice and cups. You will need to bring a side dish, salad, or dessert to share and your own beverage. The chicken will cost \$2 per person. **PLEASE CALL CHERYL STRAW @818-3631 PRIOR TO OCT 22ND. LET HER KNOW WHAT YOU WILL BRING TO SHARE AND IF YOU WISH TO ORDER CHICKEN.**

HIKES: An early bird C+ hike to Romero Pools will meet at Mountainview parking lot at **7:00 a.m.** Hike 6 miles with elevation change of 1200 ft. **PRE-REGISTER FOR THIS HIKE WITH MARV ROSSOF, 877-9262. 8 a.m.** a Canyon Loop/Birding Trail hike will be led by Mary Richling from the group picnic area of Catalina State Park. **PRE-REGISTER FOR THIS HIKE WITH MARY RICHLING, 825-5238.**

ORIENTATION TO DESERT HIKING AND NORDIC DEMONSTRATION: 10 a.m. Jan Wilson will lead a discussion of hiking wisdom for newcomers to desert hiking. **PRE-REGISTER FOR THIS SESSION WITH JAN WILSON, 818-0299. 11 a.m.** Sue Berman will offer a brief Nordic Walking clinic with an opportunity to try out Nordic hiking poles. Nordic walking provides an upper body workout as well as great conditioning.

BUSINESS MEETING: A business meeting will be held at **11:30 a.m.** followed by lunch.

MERCHANDISE: Hiking shirts and patches will be available for sale.

ARIZONA TRAIL MEMBERS RENDEZVOUS Sept. 28-30, 2007

Jim Strickler is coordinating plans for Club members who would like to go to this National Public Lands Day celebration at Mormon Lake Lodge. It begins with a Friday night potluck and social hour and continues through Sunday with activities such as group hikes, horse rides, GPS class, and entertainment events. Rooms at the Lodge are discounted and tent and RV camping is free. Breakfast on Sat. and Sun. and dinner on Sat. is free. RSVP is required by Mon., Sept. 17. See the updated agenda at www.aztrail.org.

If interested, contact Jim at 825-8735.

OFFICERS

President: Susan Robertshaw - 818-6727

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Social: Cheryl Straw - 818-3631

Social Assistant: Cyndee Jordan - 825-4640

NEWS YOU CAN USE

Social Hour	September 19th	4:00p.m.
Hiking Guide Meeting	September 26th	4:00 p.m.
Board Meeting	October 3rd	3:00 p.m.
Social Hour	October 17th	4:00 p.m.

Note: Social Hours held at the MV Clubhouse in the lounge area.

Hard copies of the Newsletter are available at the MountainView Clubhouse and the SaddleBrooke Fitness Center. They are also available on our web page at www.saddlebrooke.org.

NEWS WE CAN USE

New e-mail address: You may update your e-mail address by notifying Bob Perez at azsun65@wbhsi.net.

Renew your membership: You may send your \$5.00 yearly membership dues to Bob Perez at 65187 E. Desert Sands Court. Make checks payable to SaddleBrooke Hiking Club.

AWARDS

10 Hikes John Tancock

50 Hikes Kelly Reil & Joe Repshas

100 Hikes Joyce Johnson

500 Hikes Judy Barenkopf, Sherry Jacobson &
Wayne Kennedy

CONGRATULATIONS!!

GENERAL HIKING INFORMATION

Reservations: Call the guide to make a reservation for a hike. Let the guide know if you would be available to drive and whether or not you have a 'park entry pass' for the area. If you are unable to go on the hike after making a reservation, call the guide to cancel. The guide will call if hike canceled.

Arrival Time and Departure Area: The time listed for the hike is the departure time. It is important to arrive 10 to 15 minutes before departure time. All hikes leave from the left front parking lot of the MountainView Clubhouse (just east of the tennis courts) unless otherwise noted.

Medical Conditions: Prior to starting the hike, inform the guide of any special medical conditions or medications you may need.

Voluntary driver donations: Voluntary driver donations are shown at the end of the hike descriptions. Most include the entry and/or parking fees where required, however 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. Due to automobile insurance coverage considerations, it is recommended that any payment to the driver be made upon return to MountainView.

Items to Bring: Every hiker should carry identification and any medical alerts in a waterproof container. Always bring ample water (this can vary from a pint on a winter fitness walk to 3 or 4 quarts on a summer hike). On strenuous hikes or in very hot weather you may need to replace electrolytes (eat salty snacks, add electrolyte mix to water, or use sport drinks). A wide brim hat, sunscreen, sunglasses, and hiking stick or trekking poles are recommended in Arizona. Other suggested items include comfortable hiking boots, whistle, map, compass, tweezers, first-aid kit, and moleskin. Layered clothing works well due to possible changes in weather conditions. In addition, you should bring a snack or lunch depending upon the hike. High complex carbohydrates (nuts, trail mix, and etc.) are good.

Choosing Hikes: Hikes are more difficult than a walk in SaddleBrooke due to elevation change and our Arizona terrain. It is not unusual to encounter rocks, unsteady ground, and steep inclines. It is your responsibility to choose an appropriate hike that matches your physical abilities. The hike description is a great tool. Look closely at the length, elevation change, and comments in the description to determine if a hike is within your physical ability. If you aren't feeling "up to snuff" on the day of the hike, don't hesitate to cancel until a better day.

Assumption of Risk: When you joined the club, you were asked to sign a 'Release of Liability'. **We want to reinforce the fact that by signing the release you acknowledge that participation in the club's activities involves an inherent risk of physical injury and that you assume all such risks. Accidents can happen. Learn about the risks and how to avoid them. Take an active part in protecting yourself and fellow hikers.** We are an organization of volunteers who share their skills and love for the

wilderness with one another.

Guest Policy: Normally a SaddleBrooke resident, whether year-round or part-time, must be a club member in order to join a hike. They may however, come on one hike as a guest in order to see if they are interested in joining the club. Members must accompany their guest(s), and all guests will be required to sign a Release Form prior to hiking (if under age 18, must be signed by parent or legal guardian). If the guest is younger than 16 years old, you must notify the guide who has sole discretion whether or not to allow minors on the hike.

HIKE RATINGS, PACE, AND SYMBOLS

Rating:

- A Hikes >14 miles or >3000 foot climb
- B Hikes >8 to 14 miles or >1500 to 3000 foot climb
- C Hikes >4 to 8 miles or >500 to 1500 foot climb
- D Hikes 4 miles or less and 500 foot climb or less

Pace:

Refers to the length of 2 steps, the speed you walk/hike, or to the average speed of a hike. When we denote the pace of a hike we are referring to the average speed. This means that from start to finish (excluding lunch) you can expect to be traveling at an average speed of () MPH. The average speed or pace of a hike is affected by speed and length of stride, number of rest stops, incline, type of terrain, and trail conditions. We use the following three categories to describe our hikes.

Slow Pace – Average speed of hike < 1.5 MPH

Moderate Pace – Average speed of hike 1.5 to 2.5 MPH

Fast Pace – Average speed of hike > 2.5 MPH

Symbols:

"+" and "-" after a rating. The plus and minus signs are used to show that a hike is harder or easier than the average hike in that rating category. It may have a plus sign added due to a loose rocky area or perhaps due to an unusually steep area. A minus sign might be added to a hike due to it having a very easy, smooth trail surface.

"*" by a hike. Hikes marked by a double asterisk are new additions to our club database or a new 'one time' hike.

"++" by a hike. Hikes marked by a double plus are Orientation Hikes. Orientation hikes are encouraged for all "beginner" hikers and are intended for sharing information and for personal assessment of current physical fitness.

FITNESS WALKS - FIVE DAYS A WEEK

The SaddleBrooke Hiking Club offers morning fitness walks five days a week. These sessions last about one hour and are suitable for walkers of all ability levels. They are a great way to start the day and a great way to meet other SaddleBrooke residents as you enjoy the fantastic views.

Fitness Walks will continue Monday, Wednesday and Friday at **6:30 a.m. starting September 3rd** from the parking lot just west of **SaddleBrooke HOA #1 Fitness Center**. Volunteers will take turns leading these walks and will be coordinated by Dean Wilson.

Dean Wilson and Michael Reale offer fitness walks Tuesday and Thursday at **6:30 a.m. starting September 4th**. Meet at the parking lot of the **MountainView Clubhouse**. You may contact

Dean at **818-0299** or Michael at **825-8286**.

Judy Barenkopf's Tuesday and Thursday fitness walk will begin at **6:30 a.m., starting September 4th**. We begin each Tuesday morning at the Mountain View Clubhouse parking lot. On Thursday mornings we begin at the **SaddleBrooke Tennis center's parking lot**. These walks are "D" hikes but we do hills around SaddleBrooke and the surrounding areas. We have all speeds of walkers and can accommodate all levels of walkers. Any questions please call Judy Barenkopf at 825-7077 or e-mail at mbarenkopf@msn.com.

HIKES OFFERED

Sept. 1 – Sat. Canyon Loop and Birding Trail. Rating D. We will start up the Romero Trail in Catalina State Park; follow the Canyon Loop Trail and come back on the Sutherland Trail. This area is a great example of the Sonoran Desert and its riparian areas. Following this we will hike the Birding Trail. Depending upon the season, some water crossings are possible. Hike 3.43 miles; elevation change 270 feet (gps); starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at **7:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 24 miles; driver donation \$3.00. Mary Richling, 825-5238.

Sept. 2 – Sun. Marshall Gulch/Aspen Loop Trail w/Mt. Lemmon Cafe. Rating C. We will start at the Marshall Gulch Picnic Area and go up the Marshall Gulch Trail to the Saddle. Then left down the Aspen trail back to the Picnic Area. There is a large rock to sit on with a view 1/4 mile after we start on the Aspen Trail. After we complete the hike we will stop for lunch at the Mt. Lemmon Cafe in Summerhaven. Good food and great pie. Bring lunch money. Hike 3.7 miles; elevation change 830 feet (gps); starting elevation 7440 feet; leave at **7:30 a.m.**; round trip drive 131 miles; driver donation \$10.00. Karen Gray, 818-0337.

Sept. 4 - Tues. Mt. Lemmon/Samaniego Ridge. Rating B. We will start from the top of Mt. Lemmon and take the Mt. Lemmon Trail and Samaniego Ridge Trail to Walnut Spring and back. Hike 12 miles; climb 2000 feet; altitude at start 9100 feet; leave at **6:30 a.m.**, round trip drive 131 miles; driver donation \$10.00. Don Taylor, 825-5303.

Sept. 5 – Wed. Sutherland Trail. Rating C. This is a great wildflower hike after abundant winter rains. Along the way, we will observe many beautiful Saguaro cacti and great rock formations. There are many photo opportunities. We will also pass the cutoff to Dripping Springs which makes a nice short side trip if the water falls are flowing. The route begins in Catalina State Park and ends at a very scenic, flat, rocky area. We return using same route. Hike 6 miles; elevation change 600 feet; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at **7:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 24 miles; driver donation \$3.00. Marv Rossof, 877-9262.

Sept. 10 – Mon. Bridal Wreath Falls. Rating C+. We'll drive to the east end of Speedway to reach the trailhead. Some steep hiking up the Douglas Spring Trail for the first 2.5 miles then .03 miles to the falls. Mostly sunny, so bring sun protection. In the spring the falls should be flowing if the winter rains have cooperated. Hike 5.6 miles; elevation change 1200 feet; starting elevation 2800 feet; leave at **7:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 80 miles; driver donation \$6.00. Don Taylor, 825-5303.

Sept. 11 – Tues. Picacho Peak - Sunset Vista Trail. Rating B. From the Sunset Vista Trailhead we follow the lower route to the climb up to Picacho Peak. The climb to the top of Picacho Peak employs the use of cables (bring gloves!) to get to the top. This is a short, acrophobic, strenuous hike. Park entrance pass required. Hike 6 miles; elevation change 2100 feet; starting elevation 1500 feet; leave at **7:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 90 miles; driver donation \$7.00. Don Taylor, 825-5303.

Sept. 12 - Wed. Oracle Ridge to Saddle. Rating C. This hike begins in Oracle off the Cody Loop Road. It follows the Oracle Ridge Trail to the junction with the American Flag/Cody Trail where we have great views of Biosphere II and the Tortolitas to the west. We follow the ridge south where we will lunch in a saddle at the top of Camp Bonita Canyon on the northwest side of Apache Peak. Return by the same route. Hike 5.2 miles; elevation gain 700 feet; starting elevation 4700 feet; leave at **7:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 39 miles; driver donation \$3.00. Marv Rosssof, 877-9262.

****Sept. 12 – Wed. Mazatzal Peak Loop. Rating A.** We start out on Barnhardt Trail, a beautiful canyon trail with waterfalls and wonderful geological formations. Barnhardt is known as one of the “expressways” into the Mazatzal Mountains because it connects with numerous other trails in the range. The trail climbs steadily yielding panoramic views of the canyon and pools below. After 6 miles, we intersect with the Mazatzal Divide Trail (part of the Arizona Trail) and hike this ridgeline for about 3.5 miles, viewing some of the effects of the Willow Fire of 2004, until we reach Mazatzal Peak. We then circle south around the Peak on to Y Bar Basin Trail, a rocky trail, that descends steadily over 5.5 miles back to Barnhardt Trailhead. Hike 15 miles; cumulative elevation gain/loss=4,870 ft; range=4,200-6,550 ft. Round trip drive 310 miles; Leave time TBA driver donation \$22.00. Cheryl Werstler, 825-9057.

Sept. 17 – Mon. Rams Creek Pass. Rating C. We hike up the wash on a new trail through nice vegetation and then climb 560 feet to a watering tank. There are some great views of Rancho Vistoso, Tortolitas, SaddleBrooke, and the Biosphere. We then continue on to a water fall where we will have lunch. Return via same route. Hike 5 miles; elevation change 1000 feet; starting elevation 2600 feet; leave at **7:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 21 miles; driver donation \$2.00. Marv Rosssof, 877-9262.

Sept. 18 – Tues. Romero Pools. Rating C+. The hike begins in Catalina State Park and follows Romero Canyon Trail into the foothills. Trail crosses open desert then climbs steeply until it reaches a saddle and then down the canyon area where several pools are located. An option is a ¾ mile round-trip hike to the upper pools. We will have lunch there. Trail is rocky and rough in places. Hike 5.64 miles; elevation change 1500 feet (gps); starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at **7:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 24 miles; driver donation \$3.00. Dave Hydeman, 825-7816.

Sept. 19 – Wed. Arizona Trail - Oracle State Park Work Session. Rating C. This is our Hiking Club work day. Come join in the fun—it's nice to work side by side with other hiking members and it certainly gives you a feeling of pride and accomplishment along with a way of 'giving back' for all the

trails we hike and take for granted so often. We help develop, maintain, and report conditions of the trails for which our Club is responsible. Generally, the work is light, involving some clipping, brushing, hoeing, raking, and pruning, and for some, lifting and carrying of tools. On rare occasions we may rebuild water runoffs, add erosion control devices, and other trail work. Wear long pants and bring along gloves, hat, and hand clippers. Any other tools needed, will be provided. We work on trails in the Oracle State Park and a section of the Arizona Trail called, "Black Hills/south," which is just north of the Park, across Hwy 77. The sessions usually last about 4 hours, so bring water and snacks and lunch if you wish. Leave at **7:30 a.m.**; round trip drive 40 miles to OSP; driver donation \$4.00 or round trip drive 50 miles (dirt) for AZT; driver donation \$5.00. Jim Strickler, 825-8735.

Sept. 19 – Wed. Social Hour, 4:00 p.m.

Sept. 21 - Fri. Blackett's Ridge. Rating B. This hike takes you up to a ridge between Sabino and Bear Canyons. It has spectacular views of Tucson and the canyons. We hike through lower Sabino Canyon to the Phoneline Trail. After 0.4 miles we turn onto the Blackett's Ridge Trail where we begin the ascent. This trail has several series of steep switchbacks mixed in with some level areas. There are three false summits at the top. Hike 6 miles; elevation change 1620 feet (gps); starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at **7:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 56 miles; driver donation \$5.00. Dave Hydeman, 825-7816.

Sept. 24 – Mon. Pima Canyon – 3rd Dam. Rating B. The trailhead is at the end of Magee Road. The first mile or so of trail is across open desert along the south side of Pusch Peak. We pass the first dam as we enter the beautiful rugged canyon. The rocky trail passes through a grove of large trees providing welcome shade before emerging again into the open. We will hike past a rocky open area in the canyon beyond the second dam near ancient grinding holes and continue on to the third dam. We return to the trailhead via the same route. Hike 8.1 miles; elevation change 2210 feet (gps); starting elevation 2900 feet; leave at **7:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 42 miles; driver donation \$3.00. Dave Hydeman, 825-7816.

****Sept. 25 – Tues. Mt. Lemmon to Oracle via Oracle Ridge Trail. Rating A/B.** Pace will be modified to accommodate the group. This is a long downhill hike northwards along Oracle Ridge from Mt. Lemmon to the Mt. Lemmon Road near Oracle. This is a very scenic hike with great views. We will be driven to the top, but we need to spot cars in Oracle. Hike 13.2 miles; elevation change minus 3576 feet; starting elevation 8076 feet; leave at **6:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 131 miles; driver donation \$10.00. Don Taylor, 825-5303.

Sept. 26 – Wed. Tohono Chul Park and Tea Room, Birds and breakfast. Rating D. Join a Tohono Chul docent for a guided bird observation walk in beautiful Tohono Chul Park. We can continue strolling through the park at our leisure and end with breakfast at the Tohono Chul Tea Room. Bring binoculars. There is an admission fee of \$5.00. Hike 1.5 miles; elevation change 50 feet; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at **7:45 a.m.**; round trip drive 36 miles; driver donation \$3.00. Mary richling, 825-5238.

Sept. 26 – Wed. OSP East Loop. Rating C. This 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 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 cars. This route is fairly level with little elevation change with wide open views and interesting rock formations among the low desert plants. Hike 6 miles, elevation change 900 feet (gps); starting elevation 4350 feet; leave at **7:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 40 miles; driver donation \$4.00. Marv Rossof, 877-9262.

Sept. 26 – Wed. Hiking Club Guide Meeting, 4:00 p.m.

Sept. 27 - Thurs. Chiricahua Heart of Rocks Loop. Rating B. This loop trail is described in "Hiking Arizona's Cactus Country" as ... popular route which makes a long day trip, visiting the most spectacular rock formations in Chiricahua National Monument. This hike includes the scenic Echo Canyon trail. Because this is an all day trip (140 miles to the Monument), those wishing to, will stop for dinner at a very good, reasonable Italian Restaurant in Benson on the way back. Hike 8.4 miles; elevation change 1400 feet; starting elevation 6780 feet; leave at **6:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 288 miles; driver donation \$20.00. Jim Strickler, 825-8735.

Sept 28 – Fri. Sutherland Wash Petroglyphs. Rating C. This hike is a gradual hike through a mesquite bosque with 100+ year old saguaros, Arizona Poppies/Morning Glories in season, on the way to an area of many, many petroglyphs. Per the book Paradise Found by Kathy Alexander there are over 1400 petroglyphs in the area. Some rock scrambling is necessary to search for the petroglyphs. Bring a snack to enjoy while searching. Hike 6 miles; elevation change 400 feet; starting elevation 3200 feet; leave at **8:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 12 miles (dirt); driver donation \$2.00. Dave Hydeman, 825-7816.

Sept. 30 – Sun. Brown Mountain. Rating C. Brown Mountain Trail is a trek along a ridge in the heart of the Tucson Mountains. It starts in a picnic area near the Arizona Sonora Desert Museum. Along this "ridge ramble" are excellent views of the mountains, valleys and desert vegetation. The route has many up and downs. Hike 5 miles; elevation change 1100 feet; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at **7:30 a.m.**; round trip drive 73 miles; driver donation \$5.00. Karen Gray, 818-0337.

Oct. 1 – Mon. Pima Canyon to the Saddle. Rating A. The trailhead is at the end of Magee Road. The first mile or so of trail is across open desert along the south side of Pusch Peak. It then enters a beautiful rugged canyon. The rocky trail passes through a grove of large trees providing welcome shade before emerging again in the open. We will hike past a small dam to a springs and saddle to give a superb view of the entire Montrose and Romero canyon drainage, the most inaccessible region of the entire Catalina Mountains. Hike 11.2 miles; elevation change 3450 feet; starting elevation 2900 feet; leave at **7:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 42 miles; driver donation \$3.00. Don Taylor, 825-5303.

Oct. 3 – Wed. OSP West Loop. Rating C. This 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 Highway 77. We then turn south to the Mariposa Trail and onto the Bellota Trail that takes us back to the cars. 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 6.5 miles, elevation change 1200 feet (gps); starting elevation 4350 feet; leave at **8:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 40 miles; driver donation \$4.00. Marv Rossof, 877-9262.

Oct. 3 – Wed. Tohono Chul Park and Tea Room, Birds and breakfast. Rating D. Join a Tohono Chul docent for a guided bird observation walk in beautiful Tohono Chul Park. We can continue strolling through the park at our leisure and end with breakfast at the Tohono Chul Tea Room. Bring binoculars. There is an admission fee of \$5.00. Hike 1.5 miles; elevation change 50 feet; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at **7:45 a.m.**; round trip drive 36 miles; driver donation \$3.00. Mary richling, 825-5238.

Oct. 3 – Wed. Hiking Club Board Meeting, 3:00 p.m.

****Oct. 5 – Fri. Peppersauce Canyon. Rating C+.** This will be a hike/rock-hop up Peppersauce Canyon across from Peppersauce Canyon Campground. We will be going up the canyon, not the hiking trail alongside it. We will return on the hiking trail. We will be going through some brush and doing some rock hopping with a little exposure. Wear long pants and long-sleeved shirts. Gloves would be helpful. Hike 6 miles; elevation change 1200'. Leave at **7:00 a.m.**; round trip 53 miles (dirt); driver donation \$5.00. Larry Linderman, 818-1977.

Oct. 8 – Mon. Blackett's Ridge. Rating B. This hike takes you up to a ridge between Sabino and Bear Canyons. It has spectacular views of Tucson and the canyons. We hike through lower Sabino Canyon to the Phoneline Trail. After 0.4 miles we turn onto the Blackett's Ridge Trail where we begin the ascent. This trail has several series of steep switchbacks mixed in with some level areas. There are three false summits at the top. Hike 6 miles; elevation change 1620 feet (gps); starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at **8:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 56 miles; driver donation \$5.00. Dave Hydeman, 825-7816.

****Oct 9 - Tues. Mt. Lemmon to Golder Ranch via the Sutherland Trail. Rating A.** We will start at the Mt. Lemmon meadows at the peak and walk down the Mt. Lemmon Trail and Canada del Oro trails to the beginning of the Sutherland Trail, then proceed down the length of that trail to Golder Ranch road. This will take us through all of the climate zones of Mt. Lemmon and affords magnificent views to the West and Northwest including the Tortolitas, Sun City, SaddleBrooke, and Oro Valley. The Sutherland trail is seldom used and slow going in places, so bring defensive clothes and be prepared for some bushwhacking. This will be a key exchange hike with a second group beginning at Golder Ranch road. Hike 11 miles; elevation change 6300 feet; starting elevation 9100 feet; leave at **6:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 131 miles; driver donation \$10.00. Don Taylor, 825-5303.

Oct. 10 - Wed. Alamo Canyon to the Water Tank. Rating C. This hike begins at the Romero Ruins trailhead. Elevation change is gradual. We will hike from the ruins through Alamo Canyon. There maybe water at the canyon. We will then go around, down and up and down again to a non-used large water

tank. Trail is rocky in some areas. We can return one of three ways of equal distance. Hike 6+ miles; elevation change 300-400 feet. Leave at **8:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 24 miles; driver donation \$3.00. Marv Rossof, 877-9262.

Oct. 11 – Thurs. Madera Canyon Nature Trail. Rating C. This non-desert hike is in the Santa Rita Mountains. We start at 4500 foot elevation from the lower area and ascend 3.2 miles up the canyon to the 5400 foot Roundup Picnic Area. Along the way, we enjoy the shade of Apache Pines, Douglas Firs, Emory Oaks, Mexican Blue Oaks, Willows, Cottonwoods, and Sycamores. Our return is by the same route. There are panoramic views from a ridge on a trail breakout. Hike 7.5 miles; elevation change 900 feet; starting elevation 4500 feet; leave at **7:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 130 miles; driver donation \$12.00. Mary Richling, 825-5238.

Oct. 12 – Fri. Pima Canyon. Rating C. The trailhead is at the end of Magee Road. The first mile or so of trail is across open desert along the south side of Pusch Peak. We will pass the 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. We will hike to a rocky open area in the canyon beyond a small dam near Indian grinding holes and then return to the trailhead. Hike 6.2 miles; elevation change 977 feet (gps); starting elevation 2900 feet; leave at **8:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 42 miles; driver donation \$3.00. Dave Hydeman, 825-7816.

****Oct. 14 – Sun. Josephine Saddle + Rogers Rock.** Rating B. We start in Madera Canyon (Santa Rita Mountains) and go up Old Baldy Trail to Josephine Saddle. We then go down the Super Trail for about 1 mile and take a turnoff for Rogers Rock and travel about .25 miles to the rock, climb to the top, have a wonderful view and eat lunch. We continue down the Super Trail back to the parking lot. This hike can be done in reverse going up the Super Trail and returning on the Old Baldy Trail. Hike, 6 .5miles; climb 1700 feet; starting altitude 5400 feet; leave at **7:30 a.m.**; round trip drive 130 miles; driver donation \$9.00. Karen Gray, 818-0337.

Oct. 15 - Mon. 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 will first hike the Nature Trail which has panoramic views, then continue on to the Sutherland Trail that connects to the Canyon Loop Tail. We will fork onto the Birding Loop Trail prior to returning. If we are real 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; elevation change 370 feet (gps); starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at **8:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 24 miles; driver donation \$3.00. Marv Rossof, 877-9262.

****Oct. 16 – Tues. Mt. Lemmon to Catalina State Park via Romero Pass.** Rating A/B. Pace will be modified to accommodate the group. We start at the top of Mt. Lemmon and follow the Mt. Lemmon Trail to Romero Pass then take the Romero Canyon Trail to the trailhead in Catalina State Park. Most of this hike is downhill but is difficult in places with some short but rigorous uphill sections. We will be driven to the top, but we need to spot cars in CSP. Hike 11 miles; descent 6300

feet; altitude at start 9100 feet; leave at **6:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 131 miles; driver donation \$10.00. Don Taylor, 825-5303.

Oct. 17 – Wed. Arizona Trail - Oracle State Park Work Session. Rating C. This is our Hiking Club work day. Come join in the fun--it's nice to work side by side with other hiking members and it certainly gives you a feeling of pride and accomplishment along with a way of 'giving back' for all the trails we hike and take for granted so often. We help develop, maintain, and report conditions of the trails for which our Club is responsible. Generally, the work is light, involving some clipping, brushing, hoeing, raking, and pruning, and for some, lifting and carrying of tools. On rare occasions we may rebuild water runoffs, add erosion control devices, and other trail work. Wear long pants and bring along gloves, hat, and hand clippers. Any other tools needed, will be provided. We work on trails in the Oracle State Park and a section of the Arizona Trail called, "Black Hills/south," which is just north of the Park, across Hwy 77. The sessions usually last about 4 hours, so bring water and snacks and lunch if you wish. Leave at **8:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 40 miles to OSP; driver donation \$4.00 or round trip drive 50 miles (dirt) for AZT; driver donation \$5.00. Jim Strickler, 825-8735.

Oct. 17 – Wed. Social Hour, 4:00 p.m.

****Oct. 19 - Fri.. Roadrunner-Panther Peak Wash-Cam-Boh Trail Loop** Rating D.

We drive West on Ina Road, to Picture Rocks Road, to the Cam-Boh Picnic Area. First we hike 1.4 miles along the Roadrunner Trail, which runs along the boundary of Saguaro Nat. Park West, heading straight for Panther Peak. True to its name, Road Runners do thrive in this area. They make a cooing sound, not a "beep, beep"! As we walk this section, heading North, we can see Picacho Peak and one of Twin Peaks in the distance, which has nearly been leveled by limestone mining. After 1.4 miles we reach the junction with Panther Peak Wash which we hike for 1.9 miles, mainly in a wash. Next we cross the Picture Rocks Road, then join the Cam-Boh trail for 1.3 miles back to the picnic area and the cars. Cam-Boh in Tohono O'odham means camp. Total hike is 4.6 miles rd. trip; minimal elevation change; leave at **7:00 a.m.** Round trip 60 miles; driver donation \$4.00. Co-leaders: Jan & Dean Wilson 818-0299.

****Oct. 21-23 – Sun – Tues. Chiricahua Mountains: National Monument, Chiricahua Peak, and Cave Creek segments.** Ratings C, B, and B+. We will camp at Rustler Park in the Chiricahua Mountains for 2 nights. Driver donation TBD. Don Taylor, 825-5303.

Oct. 21 – Sun. Leave Saddlebrook at 6:00AM and drive to the Monument. Hike Echo Canyon Trail to the Visitor Center. Rating C. We first pass through the remarkable pillar and grotto rock formations for which the Chiricahuas are known. Once we have passed through Echo Canyon, we pick up the Rhyolite Canyon trail back to the Visitor Center. This is nearly an all down hill hike. Hike 4.5 miles; elevation change 1,400 feet; starting elevation 6,780 feet. Drive 20 miles (gravel road) to campground.

Oct. 22 – Mon. Hike the Crest Trail to Chiricahua Peak and return. Rating B. The hike begins at the campground and goes over Fry's Peak on the way to

Chiricahua Peak. Return the same way. Optional side trip to Centello Point. Hike 12 miles; elevation gain 1,400 feet; starting elevation 8,400 feet.

Oct. 23 – Mon. Drive 20 miles (gravel road) to Snowshed Trail Trailhead. Hike the Snowshed Trail to Basin Trail and return. There are nice views of Cave Creek Canyon, Rating B. Hike 10 miles; elevation gain 2,900 feet; starting elevation 5,300 feet.

Oct. 25 – Thurs. Romero Pools. Rating C+. The hike begins in Catalina State Park and follows Romero Canyon Trail into the foothills. Trail crosses open desert then climbs steeply until it reaches a saddle and then down the canyon area where several pools are located. An option is a ¾ mile round-trip hike to the upper pools. We will have lunch there. Park entrance pass required. Hike 6 miles; elevation change 1200 feet; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at **7:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 24 miles; driver donation \$3.00. Marv Rossof, 877-9262.

Oct. 25 – Thurs. Canyon Loop and Birding Trail. Rating D. We will start up the Romero Trail in Catalina State Park; follow the Canyon Loop Trail and come back on the Sutherland Trail. This area is a great example of the Sonoran Desert and its riparian areas. Following this we will hike the Birding Trail. Depending upon the season, some water crossings are possible. Hike 3.43 miles; elevation change 270 feet (gps); starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at **8:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 24 miles; driver donation \$3.00. Mary Richling, 825-5238.

Oct. 25 – Thurs. Hiking Club Picnic, 12:00p.m. (See schedule of activities on page one.)

Oct. 26 – Fri. Sutherland Wash Petroglyphs. Rating C. This hike is a gradual hike through a mesquite bosque with 100+ year old saguaros, Arizona Poppies/Morning Glories in season, on the way to an area of many, many petroglyphs. Per the book Paradise Found by Kathy Alexander there are over 1400 petroglyphs in the area. Some rock scrambling is necessary to search for the petroglyphs. Bring a snack to enjoy while searching. Hike 6 miles; elevation change 400 feet; starting elevation 3200 feet; leave at **8:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 12 miles (dirt); driver donation \$2.00. Dave Hydeman, 825-7816.

****Oct. 26 - Friday. AZ Trail near Colossal Cave Rating D.** We hike in a part of the Rincon Valley near Colossal Cave. This mostly level trail is a joy for hikers, and bikers. The granite head of Rincon Peak rises to our East, with riparian corridors coming down to the valley. At one point we round a corner and enter limestone hills. At times you can see dark, chocolate-colored formations on top of the limestone. These are stromatolites, fossilized corals that are a few hundred million years old. These cabbage-head shapes of prehistoric corals are what today's scuba divers find in the Caribbean and Pacific waters. Another interesting thing are the sandpaper bushes, a member of the bittersweet family, that seem to grow in Arizona only in this location. After the limestone, the trail descends toward Posta Quemada Canyon, to a big Ash tree. At 2.4 miles from the trailhead we enter an amazing mesquite bosque inside Colossal Cave Mountain park's La Selvilla campground. There are restrooms and a ramada here. This will be our turning

around point, where we retrace our steps back to the cars. Total hike is 4.8 miles; minimal elevation change; leave at **7:00 a.m.** Round trip 90 miles; driver donation \$7.00. Co-leaders: Jan & Dean Wilson, 818-0299.

Oct. 27 – Sat. Wasson Peak Loop, Rating B. Start at King Canyon Trailhead. From King Canyon Trail, hike Esperanza Trail over to Hugh Norris Trail, up to Wasson Peak, then back down King Canyon wash to trailhead. We will have stops for lots of different views and a variety of scenery. Hike 9.5 miles; elevation change 1900 feet, starting elevation 2800; leave at **8:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 73 miles; driver donation \$5.00. Jim Strickler, 825-8735.

Oct. 31 - Wed. Pontatoc Ridge. Rating C+. Sometimes called the "Old Spanish Mine Trail," this trail goes up the north side of Pontatoc Ridge to just below some old mines. There are great views of Tucson and the surrounding area. This hike is strenuous in some areas due to the steep incline and rocky path. Hike starts at north end of Alvernon Way. Hike 5 miles; elevation change 1500 feet (gps); starting elevation 3100 feet; leave at **8:00 a.m.**; round trip drive 44 miles; driver donation \$3.00. Marv Rossof, 877-9262.