## SADDLEBROOKE

April, 2014 - Annual Business Meeting


The SaddleBrooke Hiking club held its annual business meeting at the Spring Picnic. This year the picnic was held at the YMCA's Triangle Y Ranch in Oracle on April 15. Larry Allen, the club's president, conducted the meeting. First, he thanked the retiring officers: Walt Shields (senior chief hiking guide) and Dave Sorenson (secretary) for their past 2 years of service. Newly elected officers are Tim Butler as secretary and Dave Sorenson, who is returning to the board again, now as associate chief hiking guide. Continuing as officers along with Larry Allen (president) are Dianne Ashby (vice president), Melissa Simpson (Treasurer), and Susan Hollis (senior chief hiking guide).

The club also approved a change to the bylaws, Article 4, Section 4.01. To ensure continuity on the board, the vice president shall be elected for two years, the first year serving as vice president, and the second year serving as president. While this requires
us to elect a new vice president every year, the benefit is that the vice president will have had one year of experience on the board and be familiar with current board issues. Currently the positions of treasurer and secretary are for two years. The terms of office for the chief hiking guides are structured to allow the most recently elected person to serve the first year as associate chief guide and then the second year as senior chief guide.

The club is looking for a volunteer to accept the vice president position. This person would serve the remainder of the vice president's term (now thru April, 2015), and continue on as president (April, 2015 - April, 2016). Larry Allen has graciously agreed to continue on as the president an extra year till April, 2015.

Other club business conducted at the annual meeting was the announcement of an increase in yearly dues. Effective May 1, the annual dues will be $\$ 10$. Members who have paid for future years will not be required to pay the additional $\$ 5$ per year. Also, everyone currently paid through 2014, will not see the increase till they pay for 2015. For more information on paying membership dues, visit the club's web site www.saddlebrookehikingclub.com. In the section on "New Members" is the document "SBHC - Dues Process 05-01-14". It explains the club's policy for paying for multiple years.

## Havasupai Reservation <br> Submitted by Larry Linderman



Jackie Hall and I spent a week hiking in and around the Havasupai Reservation which is located about 190 miles west of the Tusayan entrance to the Grand canyon. We went with Road Scholar, a group we have used before with good results.

The first two days we hiked Diamond Creek and the Tonto Plateau near Peach Springs, AZ. The third day we drove in vans about 60 miles to the place we had all signed up to see: Havasu Canyon. This worldclass destination is home to the Havasupai Indian Nation, which allows non-tribe members on their land to witness its beauty. A permit is required.

The hike begins with a long, winding descent to the floor of the canyon where you follow the dry streambed about nine miles to the village. Only 200 members of the tribe live in the village. Contrary to what we have heard about the village, we found it clean with no starving animals.

The next day we hiked not very far to the Havasupai's pride and joy: the waterfalls. We saw three: New Falls, Havasu Falls and the famous Mooney Falls, $200^{\prime}$ high. They are spectacular to say the least. There is a lot of dissolved limestone in the water and that is what gives it its well-known blue-green color. In fact, Havasupai means people of the blue-green water. Even though we all knew what to expect we still were awe-struck by the falls beauty. One caveat: There is some exposure getting the falls.

The following day most of us hiked out; two elected to come out by helicopter, and one used a horse. Along the way you have to watch out for pack horses and mules who are galloping up or down the canyon--it's up to you to get out of their way. It took between three and four hours for our group to clear the canyon. Put this destination on your bucket list. It's a doozy!

## Save the Date - Fall Picnic <br> Thursday, October 9, 2014

The Gila Monster group area at Catalina State Park has been reserved for the fall picnic for Thursday, October 9, 2014. Please mark the date on your calendars. - More information will follow.

## Changes of Email or Phone Numbers

Karen Cusano, SB Hiking Club Membership
For any changes in your email address or phone number, please see the Membership Information Change Form found under "Forms" on our website.

Options are to complete this form \& either send or email any changes to Karen Cusano kdjcnp@yahoo.com. Please do not contact hiking guides or other volunteers if changes are needed. Thank you.


It seemed like it might be hard to beat the previous annual, large-group SaddleBrooke Hiking Club trips-the Grand Canyon, Flagstaff/Sedona, Zion. But this year's April 28-30 trip to two national parks, a state park, and Bureau of Land Management land near Moab, Utah just might have!

Overall, 101 people made the trip, continuing the trend of increasing interest and attendance at each succeeding year's trip. Participants were able to choose among 18 hikes in Arches and Canyonlands National Parks, Dead Horse Point State Park, and on BLM land. The hikes ranged from relatively easy introductions to landmarks and panoramic views within Arches and Canyonlands' Islands in the Sky region to more strenuous hikes in the Needles section of Canyonlands and on BLM land.
"Canyonlands, especially the remote Needles District, is the place to go for getting away from the crowds," commented Roy Carter. "I noticed that foreign travelers seem drawn to these locations as much as Americans, judging from the languages overheard on the trail. I applaud the SaddleBrooke hikers for venturing out to such places, despite sometimes feeling out of their comfort zones."

Whether participants had visited the Moab area before or not, hikers found new things to savor and enjoy. "I had hiked Arches before and knew that the landscape and scale was mind-boggling, but it was the hikes near the Colorado River such as Corona Arch, Fisher Towers and Negro Bill Canyon that surprised me as they combined beauty and brevity," said Dave Sorenson.

The credit for the success of these club trips goes first, to the main planners each year. For the Moab trip, they were Roy Carter, Canyonlands hikes; Dave Sorenson, Arches and BLM hikes; and Susan Hollis, communications. Lead hiking guides on the trip were Larry Allen, Tim Butler, Roy Carter, Susan Hollis, Walt Shields, Dave Sorenson, and Cheryl and Dean Werstler.

Helping out before and after were Roy Carter and Don Taylor, participant lodging and emergency number lists; Maureen Spence and Melissa White, pre-trip potluck: and Martha Hackworth, Harriet Pearson and Karen Schickedanz, group dinner in Moab.

As a final note, thanks goes to the many people who submitted photos from the trip. Hopefully, the SaddleBrooke papers will publish some of them in their July issues, and others will be posted on the club website. In the meantime, enjoy this photo taken by Marty Wilkes: a fantastic shot showing the scale of Double Arch in Arches National Park.

| News You Can Use |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Monthly Social Hour | 7/16 | 4:00 P.M. |
| Agave Lounge HOA \#1 | Wed. |  |
| SBHC Board Meeting | 8/6 | 2:45 P.M. |
| Coyote Room North | Wed. |  |
| SBHC Guide Meeting | 8/6 | 4:00 P.M. |
| Coyote Room North | Wed. |  |
| Monthly Social Hour | 8/20 | 4:00 P.M. |
| Agave Lounge HOA \#1 | Wed. |  |


| Board Members |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| President | Larry Allen, 825-7864; allenlw70@gmail.com |  |
| Vice-President | Dianne Ashby, 818-9919; deashby87@gmail.com |  |
| Secretary | Tim Butler, 825-0193; tucsontimmer@gmail.com |  |
| Treasurer | Melissa Simpson, 818-7839; mjsimp0328@aol.com |  |
| Chief Hiking Guides | Susan Hollis, 825-6819; slhollis @ 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; <br> karenschick@wbhsi.net |
| Picnic Committee Co-Chairs |  | Mary Jo Bellner Swartzberg, 8250463; MJSwartzberg@hotmail.com LaVerne Kyriss, 333-2689; jlkyriss@gmail.com |
| Statistics and Awards |  | Randy Park, 825-6819; rvfulltime@isp.com |

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

## General Information

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

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

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

Voluntary Driver Donations: Voluntary driver donations are shown in the table of Hikes Offered. 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.

| Hike <br> Rating | $\frac{\text { Distance }}{\text { (Mi.) }}$ | $\frac{\text { Accumulated Gain in }}{\text { Elevation (Ft.) }}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 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.

| Pace | Average Speed (MPH) |
| :--- | :--- |
| Leisurely | $<1.5$ |
| Slow | $>1.5$ to $<2.0$ |
| Moderate | $>2.0$ to $<2.5$ |
| Fast | $>2.5$ |

## Fitness Walks Five Days A Week

Maintain your fitness or get into better shape by joining us for a morning fitness walk. Enjoy the company of other hikers while perusing SaddleBrooke. The sessions last about one hour and are suitable for walkers of all ability levels. No advanced signup is required to participate in these
walks. Please view the chart below for the start times for all the walking groups led by Bill Leightenheimer, and Martha Hackworth.

Monday thru Friday fitness walks will start at the parking lot just west of the SaddleBrooke HOA \#1 Fitness Center. If you have any questions please contact Martha at: 818-2573, or Bill at: 825-5756.

| Fitness Walk Times (Fall/Winter) |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| $\underline{\text { Date }}$ | $\underline{\text { Start Time }}$ |
| September 1 | 6:30 a.m. |
| November 1 | 7:00 a.m. |


| Fitness Walk Times (Spring/Summer) |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| $\underline{\text { Date }}$ | $\underline{\text { Start Time }}$ |
| 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 <br> Week | Name of Hike | Hike <br> Rating | Pace | Leave <br> Time | Leader(s) | Phone <br> Number | Driver <br> Donation |
| :---: | :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $7 / 3$ | Thur | Wilderness of Rocks | B |  | $7: 00$ | Dave <br> Sorenson | $777-1994$ | $\$ 10$ |
| $7 / 8$ | Tues | Marshall Gulch/Aspen Loop | C | Slow | $6: 30$ | Tim Butler | $825-0193$ | $\$ 10$ |
| $7 / 15$ | Tues | Box Camp to Sabino Cyn. <br> Overlook | C |  | $6: 30$ | Tim Butler | $825-0193$ | $\$ 9$ |
| $7 / 16$ | Wed | Wilderness of Rocks <br> $7 / 16$ | Wed | Monthly Social Hour <br> Agave Lounge HOA \#1 |  |  | $6: 30$ | Larry Allen |
| 8 | $825-7864$ | $\$ 10$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |


| Date | Day of Week | Name of Hike | Hike Rating | Pace | Leave Time | Leader(s) | Phone Number | Driver Donation |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 7/22 | Tues | Sunset / Marshall Gulch / Aspen Loop | C |  | 6:00 | Tim Butler | 825-0193 | \$10 |
| 7/23 | Wed | American Flag | C |  | 7:00 | Don Taylor | 825-5303 | \$3 |
| 7/29 | Tues | Josephine Saddle via Old Baldy and Vault Mine Trail | B |  | 6:30 | Don Taylor | 825-5303 | \$10 |
| 8/5 | Tues | Alamo Canyon | D | Slow | 7:00 | Tim Butler | 825-0193 | \$2+\$2 |
| 8/6 | Wed | SBHC Board Meeting Coyote Room North |  |  | 2:45 pm |  |  |  |
| 8/6 | Wed | SBHC Guide Meeting Coyote Room North |  |  | 4:00 pm |  |  |  |
| 8/9 | Sat | Mt Lemmon Ski Lift Loop | C |  | 7:00 | Don Taylor | 825-5303 | \$10 |
| 8/13 | Wed | Sunset/Marshall Gulch/Aspen Loop | C |  | 7:00 | Don Taylor | 825-5303 | \$10 |
| 8/18 | Mon | Mt Lemmon to Samaniego Ridge | B |  | 6:30 | Don Taylor | 825-5303 | \$10 |
| 8/19 | Tues | Deer Camp / Baby Jesus Loop | C |  | 6:30 | Tim Butler | 825-0193 | \$2 |
| 8/20 | Wed | Monthly Social Hour Agave Lounge HOA \#1 |  |  | 4:00 pm |  |  |  |
| 8/22 | Fri | Guthrie Mountain | B |  | 7:00 | Susan Hollis | 825-6819 | \$8 |
| 8/25 | Mon | Wilderness of Rocks Loop \# 2 | B |  | 7:00 | Larry Allen | 825-7864 | \$10 |
| 8/26 | Tues | Kachina Trail - Flagstaff, AZ | B |  | 1:00 pm | Dave Sorenson | 777-1994 | TBD |
| 8/27 | Wed | Humphreys Peak - Flagstaff, AZ | A |  | 7:00 | Dave Sorenson | 777-1994 | TBD |
| 8/28 | Thur | Brush Corral Trail, Short Cut Trail, Green Mountain Trail loop | C! |  | 7:00 | Susan Hollis | 825-6819 | \$9 |
| 8/30 | Sat | Box Camp Trail to Sabino Canyon Overlook | C |  | 7:00 | Don Taylor | 825-5303 | \$9 |

## Hike Description

Alamo Canyon. Rating D. The hike begins at the Romero Ruins Trailhead in Catalina State Park. Other than one short area by the wash, the elevation change is gradual. This is a lovely hike up to Alamo Canyon Falls and return. Water may be present in the canyon after rainy periods, but there are no water crossings. Hikers will stop by the Romero Ruins and take the informative loop trail from there. Hike 3.4 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change $\qquad$ feet; accumulated gain 423 feet; RTD 24 miles.

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

## Box Camp Trail to Sabino Canyon Overlook.

 Rating C. The hike begins at the Box Camp Trailhead near Spencer Peak on Catalina Hwy. After a short uphill climb, the hike proceeds downhill for 2.5 miles to an overlook that provides a marvelous, panoramic view of Sabino Canyon area. We will have lunch here, and then return slowly uphill to the trailhead. Hike 5 miles; trailhead elevation 7920 feet; net elevation change 1600 feet; accumulated gain _ feet; RTD 123 miles.Brush Corral Trail, Short Cut Trail, Green Mountain Trail loop - Rating C!. Starting at the San Pedro Vista pullout on the Catalina Hwy, hike the Brush Corral Trail (Trail \#19) to the Short Cut Trail (trail \#21a) to the Green Mountain Trail (Trail \#21). A side trail will be taken to visit Maverick Spring (Trail\#704). Return to the San Pedro Vista parking area via the Green Mountain trail. Beautiful views of the San Pedro River Valley and an opportunity to check out the Brush Corral Trail (which if followed to it's end, leads down towards Reddington Pass Road). Hike 5.7 miles . Starting Elevation: 7,350. Net Elevation Loss: 1,030. Accumulated Elevation Gain/Loss: $\sim 1,500$. RTD123 miles.

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).

Guthrie Mountain. Rating B. The hike starts at the General Hitchcock Campground off Catalina Hwy and proceeds up the Green Mountain Trail to the Bear Saddle at the head of Bear Canyon. At the Saddle, hikers take the trail southeast to Guthrie Mountain and returns to the trailhead. Parking is usually available in the campground overflow parking lot. The Saddle and the trail along the ridge top from the Saddle to Guthrie Mountain afford great views of the Catalinas and the San Pedro Valley. A large rock face ( 0.25 mile/ 200 feet) will need to be climbed to reach the Peak. Hikers not wishing to do that portion of the hike would wait at an overlook. Hike 6 miles; trailhead elevation 6000 feet; net elevation change 1200 feet; accumulated gain 1960 feet; RTD 104 miles.

Humphrey's Peak. Rating A. The hike involves climbing to the top of Arizona, the highest point in
the state at 12633 feet with 360 -degree awe-inspiring views. It is a very difficult hike through a beautiful area, much of which is in forest, and requires staying overnight in Flagstaff. The trailhead is at the Arizona Ski Bowl. Call to discuss specific arrangements with the hiking guide. Hike 9 miles; trailhead elevation 8833 feet; net elevation change 3800 feet; accumulated gain _ feet; RTD 580 miles.

Josephine Saddle via Old Baldy and Vault Mine Trail. Rating B. The hike begins in Madera Canyon (Santa Rita Mountains) and goes up the Old Baldy Trail to Josephine Saddle. We then take the Agua Caliente Trail across and return via Vault Mine Trail. The Vault Mine Trail is very steep going down. The hike may be done in reverse. Hike 6.7 miles; trailhead elevation 5450 feet; net elevation change 2000 feet; accumulated gain 2100 feet; RTD 130 miles.

Kachina Trail B. The hike starts near the Snowbowl Ski area in Flagstaff. Hike Arizona says this trail is the best the San Francisco peaks has to offer. There are beautiful fir, spruce and aspen forests, meadows. The trail is well built and comfortable. The hike is relatively straightforward with no significant gain. The official trail number is 150 . Hike 10 miles RT. Starting elevation 9500 feet. Elevation loss 300 feet. Accumulated gain is 1400 feet. RTD is 560 miles approximately..

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.

Mt. Lemmon Ski Lift Loop. Rating C. From the foot of the ski lift, hikers walk the roadway to the top of Mt. Lemmon. We will take the Meadow Trail and the Mt. Lemmon Trail to Mt. Lemmon Rock Lookout (outstanding views). We return to the starting point using a portion of Trail \# 5 along Radio Ridge, and a portion of the Aspen Draw Trail. Hike 6 miles; trailhead elevation 8480; net elevation change 700 feet; accumulated gain 1150 feet; RTD 131 miles.

Mt. Lemmon to Samaniego Ridge. Rating B/A!. Starting from the top of Mt. Lemmon, we take the

Mt. Lemmon Trail and Samaniego Ridge Trail to Walnut Spring and back. The last 3 miles to Walnut Spring is sometimes very brushy and difficult to follow, but thanks to efforts by volunteers and Forest Service staff, was in excellent condition as of July 2011. A short bushwhack up to Samaniego Peak may be included. If so, this one mile RT bushwhack adds significant difficulty to the hike because of the lack of a trail, dense brush to be negotiated, and the boulder scrambling involved. Including the bushwhack to the peak raises the rating of this hike to an A!. Ask the guide if you are unsure, but the rating will reveal which it is. Defensive clothing and gloves are suggested, especially for the peak portion. Hike 12 miles (13 if peak is included); trailhead elevation 9100 feet; net elevation change 2000 feet; accumulated gain 2815 feet ( 3500 feet if peak is included); RTD 131 miles.

Sunset / Marshall Gulch / Aspen Loop. Rating C. 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 6 miles; trailhead elevation 7640 feet; net elevation change 700 feet; accumulated gain __ feet; RTD 130 miles.

Wilderness of Rocks. Rating B. 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 7.5 miles; trailhead elevation 7440 feet; net elevation change 1550 feet; accumulated gain _ feet; RTD 131 miles.

Wilderness of Rocks Loop \# 2. Rating B. Starting at Marshall Gulch picnic area, this hike climbs up to Marshall Saddle then goes toward Mt. Lemmon, passing Carter Canyon along the way. The hike continues to Radio Ridge and the Steward Observatory parking area then heads down via the Mt. Lemmon and Lemmon Rock Lookout Trails 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 8.0 miles; trailhead elevation 7440 feet; net elevation change 2000 feet; accumulated gain _ feet; RTD 131 miles.

