



SADDLEBROOKE

HIKING CLUB NEWSLETTER

<http://saddlebrookehikingclub.com>

JANUARY/FEBRUARY

2015

EXCITING MONTHLY PROGRAMS JANUARY 21 & FEBRUARY 18



Mike Wolters nearing the summit of Mt. Pisco (18,997 feet)
In the Andes north of Lima, Peru.

Mark your calendars for two exciting Hiking Club monthly programs coming in the New Year: “Peru’s Alpamayo Circuit” on January 21 and “Set in Stone but Not in Meaning: Southwestern Rock Art” on February 18.

The first will feature a presentation by members Frank Brier and Mike Wolters about their 18-day hiking and climbing adventure in the Andes of Peru last year. The pair completed the Alpamayo Circuit, which is a 62-mile trek over eight alpine passes with elevations exceeding 16,000 feet.

In February, Allen Dart, the executive director of the Old Pueblo Archaeology Center, will talk about archaeological sites in Arizona, which are considered some of the most important in the U.S. This is a particularly timely program because March has been designated Arizona Archaeology and Heritage month.

Both programs will begin at 3 p.m. in the HOA 1 Activity Center, followed by a social hour in the Agave Lounge in the SaddleBrooke HOA 1 Clubhouse at 4 p.m. Programs are open to all

SaddleBrooke and SaddleBrooke Ranch residents, whether or not they are members of the Hiking Club.

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

ORIENTATION TO HIKING IN THE DESERT SOUTHWEST Tuesday, January 27, 2015 HOA 1 Activity Center 3 p.m. – 4 p.m.



If you are new to hiking in Arizona or have not hiked recently, you may want to learn about hiking in the Sonoran Desert from experienced SaddleBrooke Hiking Club Guides. If so, plan to attend a Hiking Orientation Presentation at 3 p.m., Tuesday, January 27, in the HOA1 Activity Center. Among the topics to be discussed are how to prepare for the desert's special conditions, how to choose the hike that is right for you, and what type of clothing and equipment are recommended. Overall, the tips should make hiking more enjoyable and safer for you.

In addition to the Hiking Orientation Presentation, information will be shared about the SaddleBrooke

Hiking Club itself, the types of hikes offered, and other club programs. This presentation is open to everyone interested in hiking in Arizona--you do not have to be a member of the club. For more information, call Susan Hollis at 825-6819. We hope to see all those interested in hiking in our desert southwest at this special program.

HIKING POLES FIELD TRAINING
Thursday, February 12, 2015

The hiking club strongly encourages hikers to use poles for added stability in hiking the rugged, steep desert trails we often encounter. There are proper ways to adjust and effectively use poles to provide support and reduce stress on knees and, most importantly, decrease the risk of falls and injuries. Incorrect use can result in stress injuries to shoulders and elbows. Guides Walt Shields and Tim Butler will conduct field training in proper pole use on the Linda Vista Loop trail on Thursday, February 12, 2015. A description of the hike is provided in the hikes offered portion of the newsletter. This is an opportunity to improve your pole technique if you already use them or to learn about hiking poles if you are unfamiliar with their use. Bring your own poles. We will try to provide a few extras, if needed. Please sign-up for the Hiking Poles Field Training session like you would sign-up for other hikes--space will be limited to 15 participants.

MOST FREQUENT HIKERS

By Randy Park

In a previous newsletter, we listed our most frequent walkers. In this issue, we list our Most Frequent Hikers from June 2008 through the end of September 2014.

Roy Carter	280
Susan Hollis	230
Marv Rossof	206
Elisabeth Wheeler	183
Larry Linderman	167
Sandra Sowell	164
Randy Park	134
Maureen Spence	119
Cheryl Werstler	116
Walt Shields	113

Congratulations. Good work hikers!

PALM SPRINGS ANNUAL TRIP
APRIL 7 – 9, 2015



The 2015 Annual Trip to Palm Springs has 86 participants, and we are looking for more. We have a varied group of hikes that includes mountains, waterfalls, canyons, and jungles like Palm Canyon. If you have ever been in Palm Springs - Palm Desert before and never hiked the area, this is your chance.

As of early December motel rooms were still reasonable in the Palm Springs area. If you have an interest in signing up for the April 7-9th Palm Springs hikes, call Dave Sorenson at 777-1994.

News You Can Use

AZ Trail Work Session	1/21 Wed.	7:30 A.M.
Peru's Alpamayo Circuit & Mt. Pisco	1/21 Wed.	3:00 P.M.
HOA #1 Activity Center		
SBHC Social Hour	1/21 Wed.	4:00 P.M.
Agave Lounge HOA #1		
Newcomer Orientation to Hiking	1/27 Tues.	3:00 P.M.
HOA #1 Activity Center		
SBHC Board Meeting	1/27 Tues.	4:00 P.M.
HOA #1 Activity Center		
SBHC Guide Meeting	2/4 Wed.	4:00 P.M.
Coyote Room North		
AZ Trail Work Session	2/18 Wed.	7:30 A.M.
Southwest Indian Rock Art	2/18 Wed.	3:00 P.M.
HOA#1 Activity Center		
SBHC Social Hour	2/18 Wed.	4:00 P.M.
Agave Lounge HOA #1		

CHANGES TO THE HIKING CLUB NEWSLETTER

Because of significantly increased printing costs, the SaddleBrooke Hiking Club Board has made a decision on the distribution of the club's newsletter. We will no longer provide a full printed copy and distribute it in the SaddleBrooke and/or Desert View Fitness Centers. Each member of the hiking club will continue to receive, via email, the bi-monthly newsletter; and if a member wants a printed copy, this may be printed on your own printer. If a club member is having problems viewing the newsletter on our website or getting it via email, please call Tim Butler at 825-0193 for technical help.

Other changes will also be readily apparent. We have removed some of the repetitive information: List of Board of Directors, Volunteers, General Hiking Information, Hike Elevation, Rating and Pace Explanations, and the Fitness Walks Time Tables. This information can now be found on the club web site (www.saddlebrookehikingclub.com): contacts on the **Contacts** page (password protected - password to be emailed to members separately), and other information on the **Hiker Information** page. Starting with the March/April newsletter, the hike table and descriptions will be in a different format.

Hikes Offered

Date	Day of Week	Name of Hike	Hike Rating	Pace	Leave Time	Leader(s)	Phone Number	Driver Donation
1/02	Fri	Ventana Canyon Lower Level	D		9:00	Dave Sorenson	777-1994	\$4
1/05	Mon	Wasson Peak via Sendero Esperanza and Hugh Norris Trails	B		8:00	Walt Shields	818-3439	\$7
1/05	Mon	Saguaro National Park-West; Four Trails	C		8:00	Frank Hartley	825-1449	\$5
1/06	Tues	Supersitions: Peralta to Freemont Saddle and then to Weavers Needle Overlook	C!		8:00	Dave Corrigan	820-6110	\$11
1/06	Tues	Dripping springs/ Canyon Loop	C		8:00	Litch Litchfield	369-4506	\$2+\$2
1/07	Wed	Rams Creek Basin	C		9:00	Marv Rossof	877-9262	\$2+\$2
1/08	Thurs	Hidden Canyon Loop	C		8:00	Tim Butler	825-0193	\$2
1/08	Thurs	Alamo Canyon	D		8:30	Michael Reale	825-8286	\$2 + \$2
1/09	Fri	Baby Jesus	C		8:00	Tim Butler	825-0193	\$2
1/12	Mon	Blackett's Ridge	B		8:00	Walt Shields	818-3439	\$4
1/12	Mon	Tortolita Mountains:S. Wild Burro / Alamo Springs Trail / Spur Trail	C		8:00	Larry Allen	825-7864	\$4
1/13	Tues	Canyon Loop and Birding Trail	D		8:00	Tim Butler	825-0193	\$2 + \$2
1/13	Tues	American Flag	C		8:00	Rob Simms & Paul Bishop	517-410-9031	\$3
1/14	Wed	Bridal Wreath Falls Loop	C		8:30	Howie & Elaine Fagan	818-9555	\$6
1/15	Thurs	Oracle Ridge	C		8:00	Litch Litchfield	369-4506	\$3
1/15	Thurs	Linda Vista Loop	D		8:30	Michael Reale	825-8286	\$2
1/16	Fri	Tortolita Mountains AlamoSprings/Wild Mustang Loop	B		8:00	Phil McNamee	369-4504	\$4
1/16	Fri	Deer Camp	C		8:30	Paul & Ruth DeBruine	818-3248	\$2

Date	Day of Week	Name of Hike	Hike Rating	Pace	Leave Time	Leader(s)	Phone Number	Driver Donation
1/17	Sat	OSP West Loop	C+		9:00	Marv Rossof	877-9262	\$3+\$2
1/20	Tues	Fifty Year Trail Area North Loop	C		8:00	Tim Butler	825-0193	\$2
1/20	Tues	Romero Pools	C!		8:00	Dave Corrigan	820-6110	\$2 + \$2
1/21	Wed	Az Trail Work Session	C		7:30	Mary Croft & Elisabeth Wheeler	651-270-1660	Paid by Club
1/21	Wed	Sutherland Trail	C		9:00	Marv Rossof	877-9262	\$2+\$2
1/21	Wed	SBHC Program – Peru's Alpamayo Circuit & Mt Pisco – HOA1 Activity Center			3:00pm			
1/21	Wed	SBHC Social Hour Agave Lounge HOA #1			4:00pm			
1/22	Thurs	Honey Bee Canyon North	D		8:30	Paul & Ruth Debruine	818-3248	\$2
1/22	Thurs	Pima Canyon to 2 nd Dam	C		8:00	Tim Butler	825-0193	\$3
1/22	Thurs	David Yetman Trail	C		8:00	Michael Reale	825-8286	\$6
1/23	Fri	Tortolita Mountains: Ridgeline trail from Alamo Springs Trail	B		7:00	Elisabeth Wheeler	818-1547	\$4
1/25	Sun	Bear Canyon to Sabino Canyon Loop	A		8:00	Phil McNamee	369-4504	\$4
1/26	Mon	Tortolita Mountains: Upper Javelina / Wild Mustang to Lookout	B		8:00	Larry Allen	825-7864	\$4
1/27	Tues	Big Rock Dome #1	C		9:00	Litch Litchfield	369-4506	\$1
1/27	Tues	Newcomer Orientation to Hiking HOA1 Activity Center			3:00pm	Susan Hollis	825-6819	
1/27	Tues	SBHC Board Meeting HOA1 Activity Center			4:00pm			
1/28	Wed	Phoneline Trail Round Trip	B		8:30	Howie & Elaine Fagan	818-9555	\$4
1/29	Thurs	Baby Jesus/Sutherland Trail Key Exchange	B		8:00	Tim Butler	825-0193	\$2 + \$2
1/29	Thurs	Tortolita Mountains: S. Wild Burro Canyon / Alamo Springs Trail/ Spur Trail	C		8:00	Michael Reale	825-8286	\$4
1/29	Thurs	Canyon Loop	D		8:30	Paul & Ruth Debruine	818-3248	\$2+\$2
1/30	Fri	Linda Vista Loop Trails	C		8:00	Paul Bishop & Rob Simms	425-647-4754	\$2
1/31	Sat	OSP East Loop	C		9:00	Marv Rossof	877-9262	\$3+\$2
2/03	Tues	Canyon Loop and Birding Trail	D		8:00	Tim Butler	825-0193	\$2 + \$2
2/03	Tues	King Canyon Loop	C		8:00	Roy Carter	818-3137	\$6
2/04	Wed	Seven Falls	B		8:00	Rob Simms & Paul Bishop	517-410-9031	\$4
2/04	Wed	Alamo Canyon	D		9:00	Marv Rossof	877-9262	\$2+\$2

Date	Day of Week	Name of Hike	Hike Rating	Pace	Leave Time	Leader(s)	Phone Number	Driver Donation
2/04	Wed	SBHC Guide Meeting Coyote Room North			4:00pm			
2/05	Thurs	Picacho Peak via Sunset trail	B		8:30	Phil McNamee	369-4504	\$7+\$2
2/05	Thurs	**High Jinks Ranch Tour	D		8:00	Michael Reale	825-8286	\$3+\$2
2/05	Thurs	Deer Camp	C		8:30	Paul & Ruth DeBruine	818-3248	\$2
2/06	Fri	Wasson Peak via Sendero Esperanza and Hugh Norris Trails	B		8:00	Dave Corrigan	820-6110	\$7
2/06	Fri	Canyon Loop, Montrose Pools and Birding Trail	D		8:00	Tim Butler	825-0193	\$2 + \$2
2/09	Mon	Arizona Trail: Rincon Valley (#2)	A		6:30	Tom Geiger	571-278-5809	\$12
2/09	Mon	Dripping springs/Canyon Loop	C		8:00	Litch Litchfield	369-4506	\$2+\$2
2/09	Mon	Historic walking Tour of Downtown Tucson followed by lunch. Limit 20	D		8:30	Walt Shields	818-3439	\$12 + \$6
2/10	Tues	Sutherland Trail	C		8:00	Tim Butler	825-0193	\$2 + \$2
2/11	Wed	Bridal Wreath Falls	C		8:00	Michael Reale	825-8286	\$6
2/12	Thurs	Hidden Canyon	C		8:30	Paul & Ruth DeBruine	818-3248	\$2
2/12	Thurs	Hiking Poles Field Training	D		9:00	Walt Shields & Tim Butler	818-3439	\$2
2/13	Fri	Tortolita Mountains: Lower Javelina and Upper Javelina	C		8:00	Paul Bishop & Rob Simms	426-647-4754	\$4
2/13	Fri	Romero Springs	B		8:00	Phil McNamee	369-4504	\$2+\$2
2/14	Sat	OSP West Loop	C+		9:00	Marv Rossof	877-9262	\$3+\$2
2/16	Mon	Pima Canyon to 2 nd Dam	C		8:30	Howie & Elaine Fagan	818-9555	\$3
2/16	Mon	Honey Bee Canyon South	D		9:00	Dave Sorenson	777-1994	\$2
2/17	Tues	Sweetwater Preserve	C		8:00	Walt Shields	818-3439	\$5
2/18	Wed	Az Trail Work Session	C		7:30	Mary Croft & Elisabeth Wheeler	651-270-1660	Paid by Club
2/18	Wed	Canyon Loop, Nature & Birding Trails	C		9:00	Marv Rossof	877-9262	\$2+\$2
2/18	Wed	SBHC Program – Southwest Indian Rock Art – special guest. Allen Dart HOA1 – Activity Center			3:00pm			
2/18	Wed	SBHC Social Hour - HOA1 Agave Lounge			4:00pm			
2/19	Thurs	Mules Ears	A!		8:00	Phil McNamee	369-4504	\$1
2/19	Thurs	Oracle Ridge	C		8:00	Litch Litchfield	369-4506	\$3
2/19	Thurs	Pima Canyon to 1 st Dam	D		8:30	Paul & Ruth DeBruine	818-3248	\$3
2/19	Thurs	Wasson Peak via Sweetwater Trail	B	Slow	7:30	Michael Reale	825-8286	\$5

Date	Day of Week	Name of Hike	Hike Rating	Pace	Leave Time	Leader(s)	Phone Number	Driver Donation
2/20	Fri	Baby Jesus	C		8:00	Tim Butler	825-0193	\$2
2/21	Sat	Sutherland Trail	C		8:30	Frank Hartley	825-1449	\$2 + \$2
2/23	Mon	Tortolita Mountains: Alamo Springs Loop	B		8:00	Larry Allen	825-7864	\$4
2/23	Mon	Robles Pass Trails in Tucson Mountain Park	C		7:30	Elisabeth Wheeler	818-1547	\$6
2/24	Tues	Fifty Year Trail Area North Loop	C		8:00	Tim Butler	825-0193	\$2
2/24	Tue	Wasson Peak via King Canyon Trail	B		8:00	Rob Simms & Paul Bishop	517-410-9031	\$6
2/25	Wed	Pima Canyon to Saddle	A		8:00	Phil McNamee	369-4504	\$3
2/25	Wed	Seven Falls Without Tram	B		8:30	Howie & Elaine Fagan	818-9555	\$4
2/26	Thurs	Sutherland Wash Petroglyphs	C		8:30	Paul & Ruth DeBruine	818-3248	\$2
2/26	Thurs	Alamo Canyon	D		8:00	Tim Butler	825-0193	\$2 + \$2
2/26	Thurs	Bill Cody Loop	B		7:30	Michael Reale	825-8286	\$3
2/27	Fri	Oracle Ridge Trail to Saddle	C		8:00	Dave Corrigan	820-6110	\$4
2/27	Fri	Bluff Loop Trail – Sabino Canyon	D		9:00	Dave Sorenson	777-1994	\$4

Hike Description

Alamo Canyon. Rating D. The hike begins at the Romero Ruins Trailhead in Catalina State Park. Other than one short area by the wash, the elevation change is gradual. This is a lovely hike up to Alamo Canyon Falls and return. Water may be present in the canyon after rainy periods, but there are no water crossings. Hikers will stop by the Romero Ruins and take the informative loop trail from there. Hike 3.3 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 360 feet; accumulated gain 435 feet; RTD 24 miles.

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

change 995 feet; accumulated gain 1490 feet; RTD 41 miles.

Arizona Trail: Work Session Rating C. Come and join the fun — it's nice to work side by side with other hiking club members, as we help maintain the "Oracle Passage" section of the Arizona National Scenic Trail. This 6.5 mile section starts at the American Flag TH, ambles through washes and across low ridges speckled with high desert plants just east of Oracle State Park south to Highway 77. Generally, the work is light, and involves clipping, brushing, raking, pruning, building cairns and developing/clearing erosion control devices. Bring along gloves, hat, water, and hand clippers. Other tools, if needed, will be provided. The work session usually lasts about 2-4 hours. Hike 3-6 miles. RTD 41 miles. The club will pay the \$3 driver donation.

Arizona Trail: Rincon Valley (#2). Rating A. From a trailhead at the northern end of Camino Loma Alta Road, the Hope Camp Trail takes hikers 2.8 miles to Hope Camp. Remnants of Hope Camp include an old

windmill frame and old shack. From Hope Camp there is a short bushwhack to the Arizona Trail at the Saguaro National Park - East boundary. The Arizona Trail continues across Rincon Creek past a very large crested barrel cactus. The AZT crosses X9 Ranch Road and Pistol Hill Road through desert terrain. From here the Arizona Trail traverses the east side of Colossal Cave to Cienega Creek/3 bridges. This is a very scenic section with mountain views through limestone outcroppings, lush vegetation, and uplifted fossilized coral, ending with railroad bridges over Cienega Creek. Often trains are seen here. This will be a key exchange or shuttle hike. Hike 17.3 miles (including 2.8 miles to reach Hope Camp TH); trailhead elevation is 3500 feet at Marsh Station; ___ feet at Hope Camp TH; net elevation change ___ feet; accumulated gain 2390 feet; RTD 130 miles (Cienega Creek/3 bridges, dirt).

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

Baby Jesus/ Sutherland Trail Key Exchange. Rating B. The hike links two very beautiful and popular trails with a one way key exchange. One group will start at the Fifty Year Trail parking area and follow the Baby Jesus Trail to the Madonna and Child rock formation. The other group will begin at Catalina State Park and follow the Sutherland Trail past Cargodero Canyon. The groups will meet at the rock formation where the exchange will take place. Hike 8 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet (Catalina State Park), 3400 feet (50 Year Car Park); net elevation change 700 feet; accumulated gain ___ feet; RTD 24 miles. Driver Donation is \$2 + \$2.

Bear Canyon to Sabino Canyon Loop. Rating A. The hike begins at the Sabino Canyon Visitor Center parking lot and proceeds up scenic Bear Canyon to Sycamore Canyon. At Sycamore Canyon, we turn northwest on the East Fork Trail, and then southwest on the Sabino Canyon Trail to its intersection with the Phone Line Trail. The return to the Visitor Center

is via the Phone Line Trail. Hike 17.6 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 2100 feet; accumulated gain 4155 feet; RTD 56 miles.

Big Rock Dome #1. Rating C!. Many SaddleBrooke residents have a view from their homes of "Dome Rock" -- the large dome to the east that is bald in the middle with patchy vegetation on both sides -- located about a third of the way up Charouleau Peak. Many have mused that it would be great to have a picnic on top of this prominent landmark. Do this hike and you can make the claim. The hike leaves from the horse farm at the end of Arroyo Way near Unit 21. We cross Canada del Oro, which may have a shallow flow if it has rained, and follow a dirt road before turning left on the Charouleau Gap Road. After about 2 miles, passing forests of ocotillo, we climb across some interesting bald rock formations. There are great views of SaddleBrooke, Catalina and Biosphere along the way. On the way back, the group takes a short 1/2 mile side trip to a scenic overlook. Hike 5.8 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change 675 feet; accumulated gain 962 feet; RTD 0 miles.

Bill Cody Loop. Rating B. The beautiful, historic Bill Cody loop begins at the American Flag trailhead on the old Mt. Lemmon Road and covers a section of the Arizona Trail. Hikers pass the 1877 adobe house at the trailhead, and then proceed up the Arizona Trail to the Oracle Ridge Trail. We then go south toward Apache Peak, and down FR # 639, through Camp Bonita Canyon past the old Patterson Diaz homestead site. Campo Bonito is a great place for lunch. From Campo Bonito, hikers swing northward past the “Yellow Cabin” and through the grounds of La Casa del High Jinks, the site where Bill Cody staked his gold mine in 1912. We may tour the unique stone house if the owner is home. Hikers return to the trailhead via the Arizona Trail. Hike 7.7 miles; trailhead elevation 4400 feet; net elevation change 960 feet; accumulated gain 1511 feet; RTD 41 miles.

Blackett’s Ridge. Rating B. The hike begins at the Sabino Canyon Visitor Center, and follows relatively level, well-used trails east to the Phone Line Trailhead. After 0.4 miles along the Phone Line Trail, the Blackett’s Ridge Trail branches right and continues up the ridge between Sabino and Bear Canyons. There are spectacular views of Tucson and the canyons to either side of the trail. The ridge part of the trail has several steep switchbacks mixed in with some level areas. There are three false summits

before reaching the end of the trail, a point where it is not possible to continue because the terrain drops precipitously. Hike 6 miles; trailhead elevation 2720 feet; net elevation change 1668 feet; accumulated gain 1735 feet; RTD 56 miles.

Bluff Loop Trail Sabino Canyon. Rating D. From the Sabino Canyon Visitor Center, the hike proceeds along the Bluff Trail overlooking Sabino Creek, and is a favorite during the fall due to color changes in the leaves of velvet ash, cottonwood, willow, and Arizona sycamore trees. Bring a camera and a minimum of one quart of water. Hike 3.1 miles; trailhead elevation 2720 feet; net elevation change 200 feet; accumulated gain __ feet; RTD 56 miles.

Bridal Wreath Falls. Rating C. 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 miles spur leading to the falls. The trail is well used and easy to follow. Bring sun protection. Water may be flowing over the falls if there has been sufficient rainfall. Hike 5.6 miles; trailhead elevation 2720 feet; net elevation change 1120 feet; accumulated gain __ feet; RTD 80 miles.

Bridal Wreath Falls Loop. Rating C. 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. Bring sun protection. Water may be flowing over the falls if there has been sufficient rainfall. Hike 6.1 miles; trailhead elevation 2720 feet; net elevation change 1050 feet; accumulated gain 1086 feet; RTD 80 miles.

Canyon Loop. Rating D:). From the main trailhead at the end of the road in Catalina State Park, the hike begins with the Romero Canyon Trail, turns onto the Canyon Loop Trail, and then comes back on the Sutherland Trail. This area is a great example of the Sonoran Desert and its riparian areas. The hike may

be done in reverse direction. Depending upon the season, some water crossings are possible. Hike 2.2 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change __ feet; accumulated gain 170 feet; RTD 24 miles.

Canyon Loop and Birding Trail. Rating D. From the main trailhead in Catalina State Park, hikers will start up the Romero Trail in Catalina State Park; follow the Canyon Loop Trail, and then come back on the Sutherland Trail. This area is a great example of the Sonoran Desert and its riparian areas. Following this portion of the hike, we will hike the Birding Trail. Depending upon the season, some water crossings are possible. Hike 3.4 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change __ feet; accumulated gain 270 feet; RTD 24 miles.

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

Canyon Loop, Montrose Pools, and Birding Trail. Rating D. Starting at the main trailhead at Catalina State Park, the hike traverses an area that is a great example of the Sonoran Desert and its riparian areas. We take the Sutherland Trail to the Canyon Loop Trail, then hike up to Montrose Pools via the Romero Canyon Trail. On the way back, we will fork onto the Birding Loop Trail. Depending upon the season, some water crossings are possible. Hike 3.8 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change __ feet; accumulated gain 320 feet; RTD 24 miles.

David Yetman Trail. Rating C. The hike is an easy walk through typical vegetation of the Sonoran Desert. The trail has two trailheads; one at Camino de Oeste and one near the bottom of the west side of Gates Pass. Cars will be left at one end and hikers will drive to the other trailhead. From the Gates Pass side, the trail is easy for the first mile, easy down a wash, but steep upward for a short distance along the climb back up to the ridge. Hikers pass the Central Arizona Project, an old stone house built in the early

1930's by Sherry Bowen, and a well that serves a wildlife watering tank. Bring lunch, water, hat, sun lotion, and hiking stick. Hike 6.1 miles; trailhead elevation 2800 feet; net elevation change 600 feet; accumulated gain ___ feet; RTD 75 miles.

Deer Camp. Rating C. The hike begins in the Fifty-Year Trail area. We hike east up and out of Sutherland Wash, through beautiful rock formations with many saguaros to a camp at the base of Samaniego Peak. The return is via the same route. Hike 5.7 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change 825 feet; accumulated gain 990 feet; RTD 12 miles (dirt).

Dripping Springs from the Sutherland Trail. Rating C. From the main trailhead at the east end of Catalina State Park, the hike follows the Sutherland Trail past the wilderness sign, and then turns toward Dripping Springs at a Sutherland Trail sign. There are large rocks placed in a row on the right (east) side of the Sutherland Trail. Much of the trail is sandy and there may be several water crossings. After entering the wilderness area, the trail is somewhat rocky. An old abandoned mine is visible to the left of the canyon. Keep to the left at a trail junction for lower Romero Canyon, which can be visited later. Hike 4.8 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change ___ feet; accumulated gain 460 feet; RTD 24 miles.

Fifty-Year Trail Area North Loop. Rating C. The hike begins in the Fifty-Year Trail area off Golder Ranch Road, goes east to the Upper Loop Trail, then north to a rock with a bench for viewing. The return is via the same Fifty-Year Trail. There are beautiful saguaros and rock formations, in addition to excellent views of SaddleBrooke, Sun City, and the Tortolitas. The hike may be done in reverse. Hike 6.1 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change ___ feet; accumulated gain 878 feet; RTD 12 miles (dirt).

Hidden Canyon. Rating C. This is a beautiful hike to a secluded hidden canyon in the upper reaches of the Sutherland Wash. There are many beautiful rock formations and saguaro cacti. The hike begins past the Golder Ranch Road gate in the Fifty-Year Trail area. Hike 7.5 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change 620 feet; accumulated gain 880 feet; RTD 12 miles (dirt).

High Jinks Ranch Tour. Rating D. The hike ascends up Campo Bonito Road from its junction with Mt. Lemmon Road, and ends at La Casa del High Jinks, the site where Bill Cody staked his gold

mine in 1912. High Jinks was recently purchased by new owners who are in the process of renovating it, and who provide tours. (A \$2 service fee is charged.). Because the tour is arranged several days in advance, last minute sign-ups cannot be accepted. Hike 4 miles; trailhead elevation 4,440 ft.; net elevation change 500 feet; accumulated gain ___ feet; RTD 41 miles.

Hiking poles field training. Rating D. This hike will review proper adjustment and use of hiking poles for all types of terrain. Participants are encouraged to bring their own poles to use in actual trail conditions. The hike will take place on the Linda Vista Loop. The Linda Vista Trailhead and parking lot is one block east of Oracle Road on Linda Vista Blvd. The hike proceeds into the foothills of Pusch Ridge and is an excellent introduction to desert hiking. The trail gradually ascends to provide excellent views of Oro Valley. Hiking sticks may be helpful for rocky steps-up and steps-down. The trail passes through a riparian area and ascends to a rocky outcropping which is a good place for a snack break. There are magnificent saguaros throughout the drainage from Pusch Ridge. Hike 3 miles (mileage may be extended by doing an extra loop – ask the guide); trailhead elevation 2720 feet; net elevation change 400 feet; accumulated gain 500 feet; RTD 28 miles.

Historic Walking Tour of Downtown Tucson. Rating D . Walking tour of the mansions of Main Ave. This walk will be led by historian, Alan Kruse, who will meet us in period attire with orange juice and pastries. Afterward, we will stroll down Main Avenue viewing the homes and hearing the intriguing stories of the movers and shakers of early Tucson. The tour will last approximately 2 hours and will encompass several city blocks. Following the tour we will lunch at the historic El Charro restaurant. Cost is \$12 pp plus \$6 driver donation. We can accommodate a minimum of 12 and maximum of 20.

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

Honey Bee Canyon South. Rating D. The hike takes place in Honey Bee Canyon at Rancho Vistoso. We will explore the canyon, identify some of the

vegetation, look for petroglyphs, find a large hole in a rock, and look for animals and animal tracks. Bring water, snack, sunscreen, hat, camera (optional). Hike <4 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 100 feet; accumulated gain ___ feet; RTD 26 miles.

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

Linda Vista Loop. Rating D. The Linda Vista Trailhead and parking lot is one block east of Oracle Road on Linda Vista Blvd. The hike proceeds into the foothills of Pusch Ridge and is an excellent introduction to desert hiking. The trail gradually ascends to provide excellent views of Oro Valley. Hiking sticks may be helpful for rocky steps-up and steps-down. The trail passes through a riparian area and ascends to a rocky outcropping which is a good place for a snack break. There are magnificent saguaros throughout the drainage from Pusch Ridge. Hike 3 miles (mileage may be extended by doing an extra loop – ask the guide); trailhead elevation 2720 feet; net elevation change 400 feet; accumulated gain ___ feet; RTD 28 miles.

Linda Vista Loop Trails. Rating C. The Linda Vista Trailhead and parking lot is one block east of Oracle Road on Linda Vista Blvd. The hike proceeds into the foothills of Pusch Ridge and is an excellent introduction to desert hiking. The trail gradually ascends to provide excellent views of Oro Valley. Hiking sticks may be helpful for rocky steps-up and steps-down. The trail passes through a riparian area and ascends to a rocky outcropping which is a good place for a snack break. There are magnificent saguaros throughout the drainage from Pusch Ridge. Hike 4 to 6 miles; trailhead elevation 2720 feet; net elevation change 400 feet; accumulated gain ___ to ___ feet, depending on route; RTD 28 miles.

Mule Ears via Charouleau Gap. Rating A!. This is a difficult hike to a prominent point on the Samaniego Ridge with outstanding views in all

directions. The hike starts from the Rocking Horse Ranch parking area near Unit 21, crosses the CDO Wash and proceeds along Charouleau Gap Road, FR # 736 (a 4WD jeep road) to the gap. The group will turn right (south) onto the trail and climb up a steep hill for 1.5 miles. Eventually, the trail levels off and continues along the ridge with moderate up/down hiking over to Mule Ears. This section was devastated by fire and is sometimes overgrown with sticker bushes. Dress defensively. Route finding skills are needed. We lunch at a spot on the edge of cliffs just north of Mule Ears which affords a view of the Reef of Rocks. The return is via the same route. Hike 17.5 miles; trailhead elevation 3170 feet; net elevation change 3891 feet; accumulated gain 4210 feet; RTD 5 miles.

Oracle Ridge. Rating C. The hike begins in Oracle at a trailhead off the Cody Loop Road. It follows the Oracle Ridge Trail to the junction with the American Flag/Cody Trail there are great views of Biosphere II and the Tortolitas to the west. We will lunch on the ridge and return by same route. Hike 5.2 miles; trailhead elevation 4700 feet; net elevation change ___ feet; accumulated gain 700 feet; RTD 40 miles (dirt).

Oracle Ridge Trail to Saddle. Rating C. The hike begins in Oracle at a trailhead off the Cody Loop Road. It follows the Oracle Ridge Trail to the junction with the American Flag/Cody Trail where there are 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 Bonita Canyon on the northwest side of Apache Peak. Return by the same route. Hike 7 miles; trailhead elevation 4720 feet; net elevation change 700 feet; accumulated gain 1000 feet; RTD 40 miles (dirt).

OSP East Loop. Rating C. The hike begins at the Kannally Ranch House parking lot in Oracle State Park. Hikers follow the Nature Trail to the Wildlife Corridor Trail where we go northeast to the AZ Trail. At the intersection, we turn southeast and follow trail to the intersection with the Manzanita Trail. We follow this trail west and onto the Nature Trail that takes us back to the trailhead. This route is fairly level with little elevation change with wide open views and interesting rock formations among the low desert plants. Hike 6.2 miles, trailhead elevation 4350 feet; net elevation change ___ feet; accumulated gain 760 feet; RTD 40 miles.

OSP West Loop. Rating C. The hike begins at the Kannally Ranch House parking lot in Oracle State

Park. We hike the Nature Trail to the Wildlife Corridor Trail where we go northeast to the AZ Trail. At the intersection we turn west and hike toward Hwy # 77. We then turn south to the Mariposa Trail and onto the Bellota Trail that takes us back to the trailhead. The first third of the hike is fairly level, the second third is a series of up and down hills on rocky trail and the last third has gentle hills. Hike 6.8 miles; trailhead elevation 4350 feet; net elevation change 450 feet; accumulated gain 1150 feet; RTD 40 miles.

Phone Line Trail - Round Trip. Rating B. The hike begins in the Sabino Canyon Visitor Center parking lot. After crossing Sabino Creek there is a moderate climb to the Phone Line Trail, which is above and generally parallels the tram road. The trail offers outstanding views of the canyon. There are three options for the return: the tram road, the same trail, or back part way on the same to trail to a connecting trail that takes us down to the creek and dam and back to the parking lot. There are extended stretches of exposed trail. Hike 10.2 miles; trailhead elevation 2720 feet; net elevation change 1035 feet; accumulated gain 1425 feet; RTD 56 miles.

Picacho Peak via Sunset Vista Trail. Rating B!. From the Sunset Vista Trailhead we follow the lower route to Picacho Peak. The climb to the top involves the use of cables to get to the top, which provides 360-degree views of the area. This is a short, strenuous climb, but less so than from the Hunter Trailhead at Barret Loop. Bring leather or rubber tipped gloves and ample water. There are several areas of climbing where the trail is slippery due to loose rock and where the trail is exposed to sharp drop-offs. Park entrance fee required. Hike 6 miles; trailhead elevation 1850 feet; net elevation change 1494 feet; accumulated gain > 1500 feet; RTD 90 miles.

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

Pima Canyon to 2nd Dam. Rating C. The Pima Canyon Trailhead is at the east end of Magee Road. The first mile or so is across open desert along the

south side of Pusch Peak. We pass the small first dam as we enter the beautiful, rugged canyon. The rocky trail passes through a grove of large trees providing welcome shade before emerging again in the open. The trail then leads to a rocky open area in the canyon beyond a small dam near several Indian grinding holes. The return is via the same route. Hike 6.3 miles; trailhead elevation 2960 feet; net elevation change 1000 feet; accumulated gain 1360 feet; RTD 42 miles.

Pima Canyon to the Saddle. Rating A. The Pima Canyon Trailhead is at the east end of Magee Road. The first mile or so of trail crosses 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 hike past a three small dams and the perennial Pima Spring to the Saddle which provides a superb view of the entire Montrose Canyon and Romero Canyon drainage areas, the most inaccessible region of the entire Catalina Mountains. The overlook (el. 6480 feet) a few hundred feet past the Saddle is an excellent place for lunch. Hike 10.8 miles; trailhead elevation 2960 feet; net elevation change 3360 feet; accumulated gain 3570 feet; RTD 42 miles.

Rams Creek Basin. Rating C. From the Rams Creek Pass subdivision, we hike up a wash on a new trail through nice vegetation and then climb 560 feet to a watering tank. There are great views of Rancho Vistoso, the Tortolitas, SaddleBrooke, and the Biosphere along the way. We then continue on to a waterfall where we will have lunch. The return is via the same route. Hike 5 miles; trailhead elevation 2600 feet; net elevation change 780 feet; accumulated gain 830 feet; RTD 21 miles.

Robles Pass Trails in Tucson Mountain Park. Rating C. Robles Pass Trails are south of Ajo Highway and west of Mission Road. Thirteen trails loop together through washes and ridgelines with great views. We will explore several trails. Hike 6.5 miles; trailhead elevation ___ feet; net elevation change 900 feet; accumulated gain 900 feet; RTD 75 miles.

Romero Pools. Rating C!. The hike begins in Catalina State Park at the easternmost trailhead and follows Romero Canyon Trail into the foothills. The trail crosses open desert then climbs steeply until it reaches a saddle and then down into the canyon area where several pools are located. There are excellent

views of Romero and Montrose Canyons along the way. The well-maintained trail is rocky and rough in places, but is not overly difficult for most hikers. An option is a 0.75 miles round-trip, relatively level hike to the upper pools. We will have lunch at the lower or upper pools. The return is via the same route. Hike 5.6 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 980 feet; accumulated gain 1400 feet; RTD 24 miles.

Romero Springs. Rating B. The hike begins in Catalina State Park at the easternmost trailhead and follows Romero Canyon Trail into the foothills. The trail crosses open desert then climbs steeply until it reaches a saddle and then down into the canyon area where several pools are located. The spring is located about 2 miles past the Romero pools in a very scenic section of the canyon. It has been known to have quite a bit of wildlife. There are excellent views of Romero and Montrose Canyons along the way. Lunch will be at the spring. The return is via the same route. Hike 10.4 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 1980 feet; accumulated gain 2720 feet; RTD 24 miles.

Saguaro National Park – West: Four Trails. Rating C. The hike is along a 6-mile loop off Picture Rocks Road. The hike begins from just southwest of Contzen Pass and continues along the Ringtail, Coyote Pass, Gila Monster, and Cactus Canyon Trails. There are beautiful stands of ironwood trees, saguaros, and other cacti along the way. We'll eat lunch by a windmill. Hike >6 miles, trailhead elevation 2200 feet; net elevation change is 400 feet; accumulated gain __ feet; RTD 60 miles.

Seven Falls. Rating B. The hike begins at the Sabino Canyon Visitor Center, and continues to lower Bear Canyon, then along the Bear Canyon Trail to Seven Falls. The return is via the same route. The falls, which constitute one of the most spectacular natural features in the Tucson area, usually have some water flowing over them but may be dry if there has been inadequate rain. The trail crosses the Bear Canyon wash several times in each direction and can involve significant boulder hopping/wading after rainy periods. Ask the guide about current conditions. Hike 8.5 miles; trailhead elevation 2720 feet; net elevation change 720 feet; accumulated gain 1550 feet; RTD 56 miles.

Supersititions: Peralta to Freemont Saddle then to Weavers Needle Overlook. Rating C!. Hike up to Freemont Saddle along the Perelta trail. After

arriving at the Saddle, hike an additional 1/2 mile out to Weavers Needle Overlook Ridge (point in front of Weavers Needle) for lunch. Return is via the same route. Hike 6 miles; trailhead elevation 2410 feet; accumulated elevation gain 1,385 feet. RTD 154 miles (dirt).

Sutherland Trail. Rating C. The Sutherland is a great trail for viewing wildflowers after adequate winter rains. Along the way, there are several beautiful saguaro cacti and great rock formations. There are numerous photo opportunities. We will also pass the cutoff to Dripping Springs which makes a nice short side trip if the waterfalls are flowing. The hike begins in Catalina State Park and ends at a very scenic, flat, rocky area. The return is via same route. Hike 6 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 600 feet; accumulated gain __ feet; RTD 24 miles.

Sutherland Wash Petroglyphs. Rating C. The trail for this hike is gradual and passes through a mesquite thicket with 100-year old saguaros, Arizona poppies/morning glories in season, and eventually reaches 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 reach most of the petroglyphs, but nothing very difficult. Bring a snack to enjoy while searching. Hike 5.6 miles; trailhead elevation 3240 feet; net elevation change minus 205 feet; accumulated gain 309 feet; RTD 12 miles (dirt).

Sweetwater Preserve. Rating C. The trailhead is at the end of Tortolita Road, one mile off El Camino del Cerro. The 703-acre preserve is in the Tucson Mountains (this is not the Sweetwater Trail which leads to Wasson Peak.) There is a system of trails within the park made in 2008 by a crew of Piima County trail builders. It consists of 12 distinct loops and paths that interconnect so they can be linked together. Each trail is 0.5 to 1.5 miles in length, for 10.4 miles total. A map of the area may be found on the website (www.sdmb.org/trail-Sweetwater.html). Hike 6 miles; trailhead elevation 2800 feet; net elevation change <1000 feet; accumulated gain <1000 feet; RTD 60 miles.

Tortolita Mountains: Alamo Springs / Wild Mustang Loop. Rating B. This hike travels the outer rim of the area. From the Ritz Calton hiker parking lot, proceed through the Wild Burro Wash, to Lower Javalina Trail to the Alamo Springs Trail. After ascending the first part, we take a short side trail to a

high point overlooking the area to the west. We then continue on the Alamo Springs Trail to our lunch spot in Wild Burro Canyon. We then proceed on a short connector trail to the Wild Mustang Trail until we connect with the Upper Javelina Trail and return to the trailhead via the Wild Burro Wash. The hike offers remote hiking with great views of the Tortolita Mountains and passes several crested saguaros. Hike 10 miles; trailhead elevation 3000 feet; net elevation change 1300 feet; accumulated gain 2136 feet; RTD 44 miles.

Tortolita Mountains: Alamo Springs Loop. Rating B. From the Ritz Carlton hiker parking lot, proceed through the Wild Burro Wash to Lower Javalina Trail to the Alamo Springs Trail. The group will follow the Alamo Springs Trail to the spring. Upon leaving the spring, the return is down the Wild Burro Trail to an old stone house and cistern which belonged to goat herders in the early 1900's. There is also a large water catch basin dubbed the "swimming pool". From this point, hikers walk back along the Wild Burro Trail to the parking lot. Hike 7.5 miles; trailhead elevation 2780 feet; net elevation change 1100 feet; accumulated gain 1319 feet; RTD 44 miles.

Tortolita Mountains: Alamo Springs Loop and Ridgeline Trail RT. Rating B. From the Ritz Carlton hiker parking lot, proceed through Wild Burro wash and Lower Javalina Trail to Alamo Spring Trail. The group follows Alamo Spring Trail to the new Ridgeline Trail and then hikes the Ridgeline Trail to its current end. After reaching the end of Ridgeline Trail, return back to Alamo Spring Trail and continue to the spring. Final return is via Wild Burro Trail. Hike 13.3 miles; trailhead elevation 3000; net elevation change ___ feet; accumulated gain 2,624 feet; RTD 44 miles.

Tortolita Mountains: Lower Javelina and Upper Javelina. Rating C. The hike begins at the Ritz Carlton Hotel hiker parking lot. The group will hike up Wild Burro Canyon a short distance to Lower Javelina Trail which we follow for 2 miles, then cross Wild Burro Canyon again to connect to Upper Javelina Trail. We will proceed along the Upper Javelina Trail for 3 miles; the end of Upper Javelina Trail is close to the new golf course. The group will then hike an easy 1 mile path back to the parking lot. Hike 6.9 miles; trailhead elevation 2780 feet; net elevation change 550 feet; accumulated elevation 910 feet; RTD 44 miles.

Tortolita Mountains: S. Wild Burro Canyon / Alamo Springs Trail / Spur Trail Loop. Rating C. The trailhead is at the Ritz Carlton hiker parking lot. The hike proceeds up Wild Burro Canyon to the Alamo Springs Trail, which is followed in a counterclockwise loop back to the Wild Burro Trail further up the canyon.. The Ritz Carlton Hotel and new golf course are visible from many points along the trail. After about 3.5 miles, we reach the final "pass," then descend to the Spur Trail, which we follow into Wild Burro Canyon. Soon after reaching the canyon floor, there is an old stone house, and cistern on the right which belonged to goat herders in the early 1900's. There is also a large water catch basin, dubbed the "swimming pool". From this point, hikers walk back along the Wild Burro Trail to the trailhead. Hike 6.1 miles; trailhead elevation 2780 feet; net elevation change 1100 feet; accumulated gain 1319 feet; RTD 44 miles.

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

Ventana Canyon - Lower Level. Rating D. The hike begins from a parking lot at the Ventana Canyon Resort and proceeds gradually up Ventana Canyon for a mile or so. Several stream crossings are involved and there may be water depending on recent rains which require some boulder hopping. At the turnaround point, the trail starts a steep climb through the beautiful canyon which leads eventually to Maiden Pools and, much further along, Window Rock. The trail passes through massive cliffs of metamorphic stone slanting skyward to sharp points above the canyon floor. Hike 3 miles; trailhead elevation 3040 feet; net elevation change 400 feet; accumulated gain 400 feet; RTD 54 miles.

Wasson Peak via King/Hugh Norris/Esperanza South. Rating B. We will park at trailhead just past Arizona Sonora Desert Museum Entrance. Hike up King Canyon Trail past petroglyphs to Hugh Norris Trail, past old mines to highest peak in Tucson Mountains. Return on Hugh Norris Trail to Esperanza trail, south on Esperanza Trail to King

Canyon Trail and return to parking area. NOTE: This hike can be done in reverse and/or by following north side of King Canyon Trail along wash to/from Esperanza Trail. Hike 8 miles; trailhead elevation 2880; Net elevation gain 1800 feet. RTD 73 miles.

Wasson Peak via Sendero Esperanza and Hugh Norris Trails. Rating B. The hike begins at Sendero Esperanza Trailhead off Golden Gate Road. The route follows the Esperanza Trail (1.8 miles) to the Hugh Norris Trail and on to Wasson Peak (2.2 miles). The climb is gradual and the Hugh Norris section is primarily a ridge trail with spectacular views. The 360-degree views from Wasson Peak include Tucson and Santa Catalinas to the east, Green

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

Valley/Santa Ritas to the south, Sells to the west, and Picacho to the north. We will lunch on top of the Peak and return the same way. Hike 7.8 miles; trailhead elevation 2960 feet; net elevation change 1727 feet; accumulated gain 1787 feet; RTD 73 miles (dirt).