



SADDLEBROOKE

HIKING CLUB NEWSLETTER

<http://saddlebrookehikingclub.com>

JANUARY/FEBRUARY

2016

#TREKKING IN GREAT BRITAIN Wednesday, January 20

Come join SaddleBrooke Hiking Club Members Cheryl and Dean Werstler as they recount their experiences walking United Kingdom trails at the Hiking Club monthly meeting on Wednesday, January 20, at 3 p.m. at the HOA1 Activity Center. They will share their experiences trekking along Roman fortifications and routes used for thousands of years to walks through pastoral countrysides and picturesque villages.

Walking is one of the most popular outdoor recreational activities in the United Kingdom. The 19 national trails in the UK cover a total distance of 3,800 miles and often encompass local Public Rights of Way and follow historic routes.

The Countryside and Rights of Way Act of 2000 grants a right of access on foot to wilderness areas for recreation. Much of this land is under private ownership and marked on Ordnance Survey Explorer maps. Within England, Wales and Scotland, there are about 150,000 miles of public rights of way that permit access to the countryside. This access has also been promoted in cities and has resulted in walking routes such as the Jubilee Walkway that takes in many of London's major attractions.

Walkers are more likely to follow long distance routes than to plan their own walking tours. These tours may be organized by commercial companies with professional guides or can be self-guided. A wide variety of ascents are available from gentle rolling lowland hills to very exposed routes in the moorlands and mountains. And although the mountains in Great Britain are modest in height, with Ben Nevis being the highest at 4,409 feet high, the weather conditions can be unpredictable and the terrain can be difficult.

Come and share in exploring this ancient land with its rich historical past. The program is open to all SaddleBrooke and SaddleBrooke Ranch residents.

Afterwards attendees are encouraged to attend a social hour in the Agave Lounge. For more information about the programs, contact Mary Croft at 651-270-1660 or mbcroft45@mac.com.



ORIENTATION TO HIKING IN THE DESERT SOUTHWEST Wednesday, February 3



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 1:30, February 3, in the HOA#1 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 Tim Butler at 825-0193. We hope to see all those interested in hiking in our desert southwest at this special program.

DIVERSE SABINO CANYON
With Heidi Schewel
Wednesday, February 17

Sabino Canyon, one of the most unique Southwest desert canyons, is close enough to SaddleBrooke to be explored and enjoyed on a regular basis by hikers, photographers, bird and plant watchers, and non-hikers. If you need a location to entertain guests this winter, Sabino Canyon has something for everyone. Located in Tucson's Coronado National Forest and visited by over a million people each year, this desert oasis is home to abundant wildlife, such as white tail deer, javelinas, bobcats, and various reptiles.

It provides a wonderful display of beautiful fauna, (including saguaro, prickly pear and cholla cacti) and groves of ocotillo. There is a plethora of colorful desert wildflowers during the spring, especially after a good season of rain. During the rainy summer and winter seasons, water gathers in rocky outcroppings in the canyon, making Seven Falls and Hutch's Pool a hiker and photographer's mecca.

According to archaeologists, the Canyon has been inhabited by the Clovis culture, the Cochise, and most recently by the Hohokam people, who peaked around 1100 AD. In 1905 the Forest Service began overseeing this canyon, and during the Great Depression the WPA (Works Progress Administration) built bridges over creeks in the canyon, and Sabino Dam was constructed.

Hiking ranges from easy to challenging; and visitors can take trams to various Sabino Canyon trailheads, as well as Bear Canyon trailheads, or just ride and enjoy the scenery. Check with Sabino Canyon Tours for information on tram tour times, including evening rides three nights per month during several months.

Heidi Schewel, Public Affairs Officer for the Coronado National Forest Service, will be the guest speaker for the SaddleBrooke Hiking Club's program on Wednesday, February 17, at the HOA#1 Activity Center at 3:00 p.m. Heidi, who grew up hiking, horseback riding, picnicking, and camping in Sabino Canyon, states that she is living out her childhood dream of working for the Forest Service (twenty-five years). Schewel holds a B.S. in agriculture and horticulture and an M.S. in agriculture from the University of Arizona.

Schewel will provide information on Sabino Canyon's history, the ecology associated with the canyon, fires and floods in the canyon, and movies filmed in the canyon. She will also expound upon the myriad of recreational activities in Sabino Canyon, including hiking, picnicking, cycling, and bird/plant/nature watching. Finally, Schewel will discuss various volunteer opportunities available for those interested in giving back to this beautiful oasis.

This program is open to all SaddleBrooke and SaddleBrooke Ranch residents. After the talk, attendees are invited to a social hour in the Agave Lounge at HOA#1 Clubhouse.

For more information on hiking club programs, please contact Mary Croft at 651-270-1660 or mbcroft45@mac.com.

By Pam Wakefield

A NOTE FROM THE GUIDES

By Tim Butler, Associate Chief Hiking Guide

The SaddleBrooke Hiking Club now has over 530 members! While it is wonderful to have such a large number of fellow hikers (many of them being relatively new members) in the club, it is very likely that the hiking guides will not be familiar with everyone signing up for a given hike. Since a primary responsibility of the hiking guide is the safety of each individual and of the group, it is often necessary for the hiking guide to ask several questions of each new hiker before signing them up for the hike.

The hiking guide will inquire as to your physical condition, including any particular health issues you may have (i.e. asthma, heart issues, diabetes, etc.), as it is vital that the hiking guide be aware of these. Also, the hiking guide will ask about your recent hiking experience--such as, hikes have you done in the local area recently and the name of the hiking guide(s). This helps insure the safety of that hiker, as

well as insuring that all those going on a particular hike will be comfortable with the pace and distance of the hike.

So please do not be offended if a guide asks you these questions. You are not being singled out! Our goal as guides is to make each hike safe and enjoyable for all.

VOLUNTEERS WORK ON THE ARIZONA NATIONAL SCENIC TRAIL



SaddleBrooke Hiking Club volunteers work on the Arizona National Scenic Trail and tour the American Flag Ranch House November 18.

Back row: Sandra Sowell, Jackie Hall Middle Row: Fred Norris, Ray Peale, Roddy Wilder, Frank Earnest, Paul Molgat, Glenda Molgat, Garrett Rassing, Kevin Arbrost (Oracle Historical Society)

Front Row: Elisabeth Wheeler, Linda Green, Marilyn Smith, Mary Croft, Kathy Gish, Claudia Enea, Mike Wolters

By: Elisabeth Wheeler elisarick@wbhsi.com

SADDLEBROOK HIKING CLUB FALL PICNIC

By Ken Wong

A record 103 members of the SaddleBrooke Hiking Club (SBHC) attended the fall picnic held at Catalina State Park on October 16. Prior to a business meeting, many members hiked either the 50-Year Trail Loop guided by Elisabeth Wheeler or the Sutherland Trail guided by Dave Sorenson. The business meeting conducted by club president, Mike Wolters, included the passing of a change to club by-laws allowing SaddleBrooke Ranch residents to be members of the club. The extensive volunteer resources of the club were also recognized for their significant contributions to the ongoing success of SBHC, which is currently over five hundred members strong. As a token of gratitude, all volunteers were invited to head up the long line for

getting food. The menu was excellent, and included catered Asian style chicken with delicious side dishes, salads, and desserts provided by club members.

A successful event like the picnic doesn't just happen. The picnic committee comprised of LaVerne Kyriss, Martha Hackworth, Becky Hilst, Mary Kopp, Dan Plattner, Lonnee Plattner, Mary Jo Bellner Swartzberg, Pam Vassallo and Lissa White worked hard to make the day a special one, and they achieved their goal.



SBHC Picnic Committee: Front Row – Lonnee Plattner, Mary Jo Bellner Swartzberg, Pam Vassallo, Martha Hackworth, Lissa White. Middle Row – LaVerne Kyriss Becky Hilst, Mary Kopp. Back Row – Dan Plattner. (Photo By Ken Wong)



The food line—best part of the picnic! (Photo by Ken Wong)

If you are interested in joining the SaddleBrooke Hiking Club or obtaining more information regarding club activities, go to our website. Link is: <http://saddlebrookehikingclub.com>, where you can download a membership application form. Have any questions? Call our club President, Mike Wolters, at 719-530-1039 or email NKRW1234@yahoo.com

SEDONA HIKING TRIP October, 2015

By Sandra Sowell



Sedona, Arizona, at an elevation of 4500 feet, is halfway between the Colorado Plateau and the Sonoran Desert. Sedona is home to magnificent red rock formations, numerous roundabouts, and some fantastic hiking trails.

Recently thirty-five members of the SaddleBrooke Hiking Club travelled to Sedona and checked out some of those trails. Of course the weather was blue-sky perfect. Dave Sorenson planned the event, with assistance from Fred Norris.

The first day's hike took the group on the Mund's Wagon Trail, which passed alongside of a stream, through juniper forests, past the Schnebly Rock formation, and ended up with lunch on top The Cow Pies (a rock formation). On the return trip, a large portion of the group returned on the same route, while another group took a side tour to the Merry-go-round (another rock formation), and a third group returned via the Hangover Loop.

Two hikes were offered on the second day. One group enjoyed the West Fork of Oak Creek with its water crossings and fall colors. The other group did a

little climb to Brin's Mesa, which provided nice views of the ever-present red rocks formations.



Sedona is nice place to visit and a really great place to hike.

HIKING ON THE HUALAPAI AND HAVASUPAI INDIAN RESERVATION

By Ken Wong

Eighteen members of the SaddleBrooke Hiking Club participated in a Northern Arizona University program spanning five days (Nov. 7-12) on the Hualapai and Havasupai Indian reservations. Situated directly to the west of the Grand Canyon National Park central visitors area on the south rim of the canyon, this remote and beautiful area was the location for daily guided hikes which were embellished with evening programs on geology, ecology, and culture to provide a comprehensive learning experience.



Hualapai Hilltop after hike from Supai: Standing (left to right) Tiggy Shields, Frank Earnest, Sarah Earnest, Myrna Simms, Rob Simms, Phil McNamee, Mary Hanley, Michael Reale, Jeanne Reale, Marge Wong, Ken Wong, Elaine Fagan, Lisa Kearsley (guide), Howie Fagan. Kneeling, left to right – Dianne Ashby, Walt Shields, Bertie Litchfield, Rick Phelps, Debbie Phelps, Stewart Lasseter (guide) (photo by Stewart Lasseter)

The longest hike was 8.5 miles from Hualapai Hilltop, trailhead for the Havasupai trail, into the village of Supai where the group spent two nights. One of the highlights of the trip was hiking from Supai along Havasu creek toward the Colorado River, where stops included Navajo (upper and lower), Havasu, and Mooney Falls. The final hike was the return trip from Supai back to the trailhead at Hualapai Hilltop.



At the base of Mooney Falls: left to right - Frank Earnest, Dianne Ashby, Elaine Fagan, Rob Simms, Phil McNamee, Bertie Litchfield, Ken Wong, Marge Wong, Walt Shields (photo by Stewart Lasseter)

BABOQUIVARI THE SACRED MOUNTAIN

Baboquivari Peak, sometimes referred to as the Grand Teton of Southern Arizona, lies about fifty miles west of Tucson near the small town of Topawa. The summit at 7,734 feet is a massive shark's tooth fin of granite, jutting high above the surrounding ridges. It is about as iconic a mountaintop as there is in Arizona. The peak is unique in being one of the few mountain summits in Arizona that is reached only by technical rock climbing.



Baboquivari is sacred to the Tohono O'odham Tribe. It is the center of Tohono O'odham cosmology and home of Litoli, their creator and elder brother. Part of the mountain lies within the 2,900,000 acre Tohono O'odham Reservation, the second largest Indian reservation in the United States.



The first recorded ascent of "Babo" was by Dr. R. H. Forbes and a companion, Sr. Montoya in 1898. Their climbing route has become a classic, known as the "Forbes" Route. In the 1930's, the Civilian Conservation Corps built ladders up the steep sections of rock and erected a fire lookout atop the summit, which operated until the 1950's. Today only remnant metal brackets remind one of the mountains past.



Recently, over the Thanksgiving Holiday, SaddleBrooke Hiking Club members Frank Brier, Roy Carter, and Mike Wolters teamed up to climb Babo from the west side of the mountain, via the Forbes route. The guys left the Baboquivari Campground trailhead at 7:30 in the morning on a gorgeous bluebird day. After 5 miles, 4,200 vertical feet, and 5 hours later, the trio stood on the summit of

this magnificent granite monolith. Overall, the drive took 5 hours round trip from SaddleBrooke to Topawa and on to the Babo campground/trailhead. Round trip of hiking/climbing on the mountain took a blissful 9-1/2 hours.

The team wholeheartedly agreed that this was truly a Bucket List adventure worthy of the time and effort to scale this magical peak. For those adventurers whose interest has been peaked, Babo makes for a awesome day hike up to the trail end, with incredible views of the surrounding areas.

HIKING CLUB WORK DAYS ON THE AZ TRAIL – JAN 20 AND FEB. 16

Hiking club members are continuing to maintain the Oracle Passage of the Arizona National Scenic Trail. The first session was last year on November 5, and this continued through the winter and early spring months of last year. We found out in October that the summer monsoons were not kind to the trail. We have had two work sessions already, and much was accomplished.

In January and February, we will continue this work. Shawn Redfield, the Arizona Trail Director, and Ray Peale from the SB Hiking Club will direct us. This is a great opportunity to support the amazing work that has been done to create the entire Arizona National Scenic Trail. Following a short training on the safe use of tools, volunteers will be divided into work teams. The work involves, clipping, brushing, raking, pruning, building cairns, and building/clearing erosion control devices.

For the work you will need gloves, hat, water, and possibly your own hand clippers. The AZ Trail director provides most of the tools. The work session will last 2-3 hours. When we are done, we will meet at the trailhead to review the work that was completed. Volunteers will meet at MV parking lot at 8:00 AM and carpool to the work area. Call Mary Croft 651-270-1660 to sign up for this workday.

LAS VEGAS ANNUAL TRIP April 18 – 20, 2016

The SaddleBrooke Hiking Club will be hiking in the Las Vegas, Nevada, area April 18-20, 2016, on the annual trip. Las Vegas is about 400 miles from SaddleBrooke. We have a varied group of hikes planned for hikers of all levels from D to B. The four

principal hiking areas are Red Rock Canyon, Valley of Fire, Lake Mead, and Mt Charleston.



Red Rock Canyon (see photo above) is the most popular hiking area in Las Vegas. Red Rock is a National Recreation area that resembles the terrain of Moab, Utah. Pristine canyons and terraced red rock formations have established trails. Red Rock is extremely popular and gets over a million visitors a year.

Valley of Fire is an hour east of Las Vegas and is Nevada's first State Park. Valley of Fire has petroglyphs, arches, white domes, and spectacular scenery like a mini Arches National Park. A new hike called Firewave (below) is now the most popular hike in the park. Valley of Fire has been featured in many westerns and TV shows.



Lake Mead hiking will have overlooks of Lake Mead and a hike on the Railroad Tunnel Trail that was used in constructing Hoover Dam. Another hike is to a hot springs through a narrow canyon. A tour of Hoover Dam will be scheduled right after these hikes.

Mt Charleston about 30 miles north of Las Vegas has seasonal waterfalls, canyons and a bristlecone forest

of 3000-year old trees. Mt. Charleston hikes will be at 8000 to 9000 feet in elevation. The park ranger said April is the ideal time to see the waterfalls.

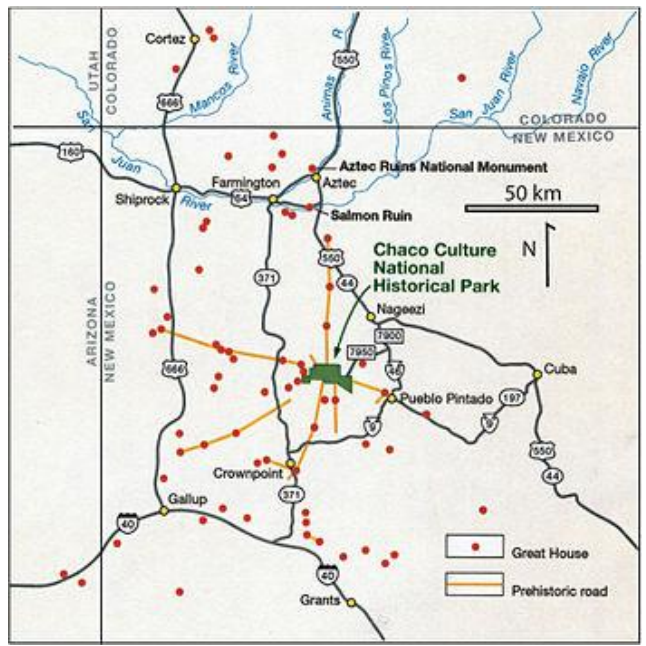
The weather should be ideal, as Mt Charleston should be in the highs 50's and Red Rock Canyon in the low 80's. Las Vegas has many lodging options.

The guides are currently preparing a hike schedule. We have approximately 10 guides lined up for the Las Vegas trip. Later in the year we will send out a hiking table and you will be able to sign up for individual hikes at that time.

If you want to participate in the Annual Trip to Las Vegas April 18-20, 2016, call Dave Sorenson at 777-1994 or email Iowaboy1950@yahoo.com.

**VOLUNTEER TRIP TO CHACO CANYON
MAY 13 – 17, 2016**

Have you ever wondered about exploring the magnificent ancient pueblos of the southwest? You will have the chance this May when the SaddleBrooke Hiking Club sponsors a 5-day volunteer trip to Chaco Culture National Historic Park (Chaco Canyon) May 13 -17, 2016

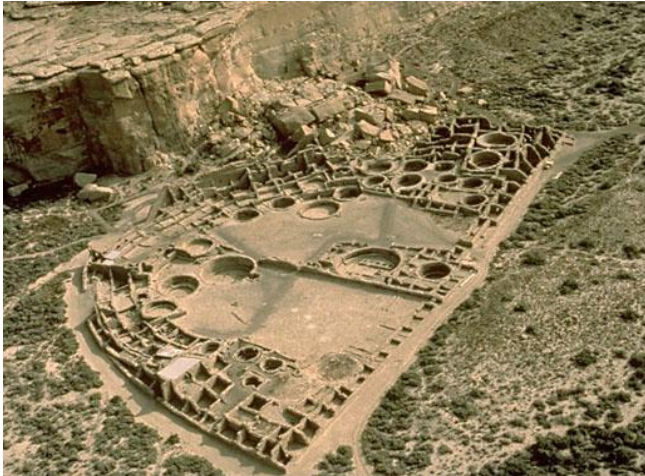


Located in the northwest corner of New Mexico, Chaco Culture National Historical Park is a United States Park that contains some of the most exceptional concentrations of pueblos in the American Southwest. With the largest collection of ancient ruins north of Mexico, the park preserves one

of the country's most important Pre-Columbian cultural and historic areas. Between AD 900 and 1150, Chaco Canyon was a major cultural center for the ancient pueblo peoples. The Hopi and Pueblo people consider this UNESCO World Heritage Site to be their sacred ancestral homeland.

The five-day trip to Chaco Canyon will include working as a volunteer for 1-1/2 days and 1-1/2 days exploring the ancient ruins. Hopefully, the Park Service will provide a presentation and possibly access to areas off limits to the general public. Volunteer work performed will be determined by the needs of the Park Service. Similar projects in the past have included trail maintenance, campground maintenance and vegetation removal from pueblo sites. All ability levels can be accommodated.

The group will leave SaddleBrooke on May 13 and return on the May 17. Lodging will be at the Park's VIP Camp Area, which has shower/toilet facilities and can accommodate travel trailers up to 30 feet.

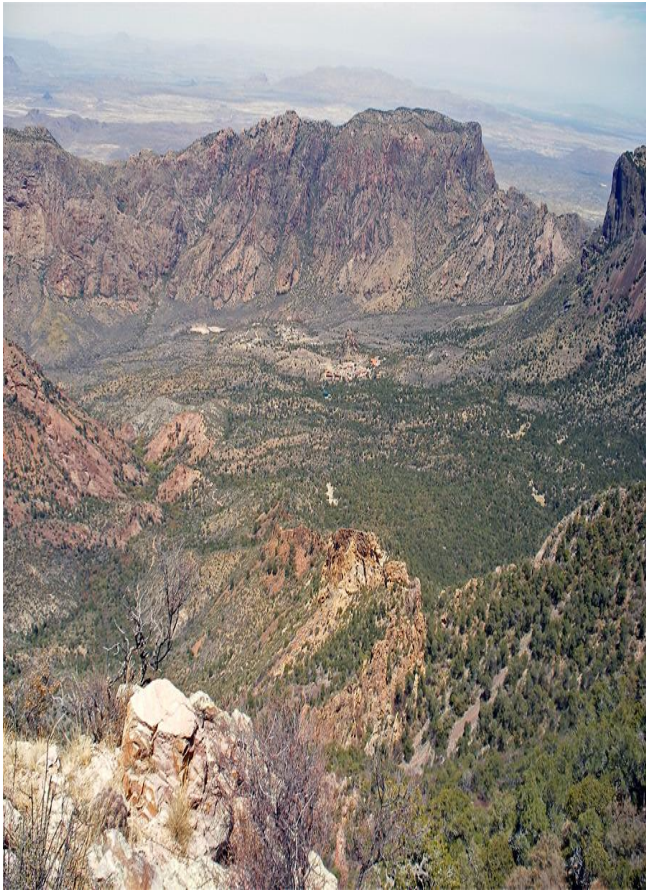


Travel time from SaddleBrooke to the park is about eight hours, and driving distance is 425 miles. The volunteer team is limited to twelve. Please contact coordinators Ray Peale (ray.peale@gmail.com) or Mike Wolters (NKRW1234@yahoo.com) if you would like to join this special trip.

**SADDLEBROOKE HIKING TRIP TO BIG
BEND NATIONAL PARK
October, 2017**

For hikers, Big Bend National Park in Texas is the state's number one destination. The park is one of the best examples of a Sky Island of rugged mountains in the midst of the Chihuahuan Desert and

deep canyons of the Rio Grande--Some of the most spectacular scenery in Texas is here.



The SaddleBrooke Hiking Club is scheduling a 3-day, 4-night hiking trip to Big Bend National Park October 22-26, 2017. Hikes (rated A, B, and C) will be led by SaddleBrooke hiking guides.

Rafting in the Rio Grand will also be available. An optional add-on is a visit to Ft. Davis National Historic Park and the University of Texas McDonald Observatory. It is 670 miles to Chisos Basin in the park, about 10 hours driving time. Some drivers may want to allow a extra travel day to explore scenic and historical sights.

As the sole lodging choice in Big Bend National Park, the Chisos Mountains Lodge offers a variety of comfortable overnight accommodations that provide stunning views high in the scenic Chisos Mountains. All 72 rooms are non-smoking conveniently located near the "Green Certified" dining facility, the visitor center, and other park activities/points of interest.

Because lodging in Big Bend National Park is limited, SaddleBrooke hikers are asked to express

their interest now for an October, 2017, hiking trip. Regular pricing for rooms is about \$140 for double occupancy and \$11 per extra person. A block of rooms at a discounted price will be available in early 2016 for October 22-26, 2017. It is a priority to know how many rooms to reserve to accommodate all interested SB hikers and to get a discounted rate.

To be included in this hiking trip, please call Roddy Wilder, 623-299-5898 or Elisabeth Wheeler, 520-818-1547 by January 31, 2016, so a block of rooms may be reserved for October 22-26, 2017. An advance deposit equal to the first night's stay is required to hold a reservation by March 1, 2016. A very generous 72-hour cancellation notice in October 2017, is available for refund of deposit.

Alternate lodging is an RV park in Terlingua, 33 miles away.

PICNIC SITES, ANYONE?

The Picnic Committee is looking for suggestions from club members for sites for future picnics. The suggestions submitted should include: a relatively nearby location, a group area which can be reserved, a covered ramada with picnic seating for about 100 people, and nearby restrooms. Parking at a reasonable distance from the picnic site is appreciated, and nearby hiking trails are a bonus! Send your picnic location suggestion ideas to LaVerne Kyriss, Picnic Committee co-chair, at jlkyriss@gmail.com. Meanwhile, keep hiking!

News You Can Use		
AZ Trail Work Session	1/20 Wed.	8:00 A.M.
Trekking in Great Britain HOA #1 Activity Center	1/20 Wed.	3:00 P.M.
SBHC Social Hour Agave Lounge HOA #1	1/20 Wed.	4:00 P.M.
Activity Fair Mountain View	1/30 Sat.	Call Randy Park 825-6819
SBHC Board Meeting	2/3 Wed.	12:00 Noon
Orientation to Hiking in the Desert Southwest HOA #1 Activity Center	2/3 Wed.	1:30-2:30 P.M.
SBHC Guide Meeting HOA #1 Activity Center	2/3 Wed.	2:30 – 3:30 P.M.
AZ Trail Work Session	2/17 Wed.	8:00 A.M.
Diverse Sabino Canyon HOA #1 Activity Center	2/17 Wed.	3:00 A.M.
SBHC Social Hour Agave Lounge HOA #1	2/17 Wed.	4:00 P.M.

Hiking Calendar: January & February

Saddlebrooke Hiking Club Calendar **Jan 2016 (Mountain Time - Arizona)**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28 C Oracle Ridge Trail	29	30 C Can. Loop, Birding	31	1	2
3 C Wild Burro Cyn	4 C Baby J/Sutherland	5 B Roger's Cyn Cliff D- Alamo Canyon	6 [C] Romero Pools	7 [B] Bill Cody Loop	8 C Hidden Cyn. Loop	9 C OSP East
10	11 B American Flag to	12 C Bridal Wreath	13 B - Romero Springs	14 [C] Peppersauce C Alamo Canyon to	15 C Deer Camp/Baby	16 B - Tanque Verde
17 A Wild Mustang/ B Hutch's Pool	18 [B] Alamo Springs / [C] Big Rock Dome	19 C Arizona Trail Work Program Hiking In Social Hour	20 [C] David Yetman B Picacho Peak - D-Linda Vista Loop	21 C- N. 50 Yr. Loop	22 C-OSP West	23
24 C - Oracle Ridge D Honey Bee Canyon	25 C Sweetwater	26 [B] Seven Falls	27 C-Can Loop,Birding	28 [C] Dripping Springs	29 SB Activity Fair	30
31 A Sabino Cyn/Bear C King Canyon Loop	1 [C] Canada del Oro	2 Board Meeting Guide Meeting Newcomer	3 [B] Cochise Spring C-Oracle Ridge	4 D Alamo Cyn	5 B - Box Camp Trail	6

Saddlebrooke Hiking Club Calendar **Feb 2016 (Mountain Time - Arizona)**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31 A Sabino Cyn/Bear C King Canyon Loop	1 [C] Canada del Oro	2 Board Meeting Guide Meeting Newcomer	3 [B] Cochise Spring C-Oracle Ridge	4 D Alamo Cyn	5 B - Box Camp Trail	6
7 D Ventana Canyon	8 [B] Picacho Peak C-Hidden Canyon	9 [C] Maiden Pools	10 [B] Josephine Saddle D Linda Vista Loop	11 [C] Big Rock Dome A Bridal Veil Falls	12	13
14 C Robles Pass Trails	15 [C] Romero Pools D Alamo Canyon	16 C Arizona Trail Work Program -Sabino Social Hour	17 B Dutchman Trail / C- Rams Creek Basin	18 C Hidden Cyn Loop	19	20
21 B1 Picketpost	22 C-Deer Camp	23 B - Seven Falls	24 [B] Esperero Trail [C] Pima Canyon to	25 [C] Dripping Springs	26 B 50 Mile C- OSP East	27
28	29	1	2	3	4	5

Hikes Offered

Sunday, January 03, 2016 Tortolita Mountains: Wild Burro Canyon with Key Exchange. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [467, 08:00 AM, \$2]. The trailhead is reached via the Rail-X Marble Mine Road off Oracle Hwy at the county line, then another 2.5 miles on another jeep road. We hike into Wild Burro Canyon from the north side of the Tortolitas on an old road past an old stone wall (that once was a goat corral), past a windmill, and down the new North-End section of the Wild Burro Trail. From there we continue along the southern section of the Wild Burro Trail to some old stone house ruins, water cistern, and "swimming pool". We continue 2 more miles along a flat sandy arroyo, some on compacted soil, to the trailhead near the Ritz Carlton at the end of Dove Mountain Blvd. The group hiking north from the Ritz Carlton trailhead, for the key exchange, will do the reverse. 4WD vehicles will be needed to reach the northern starting point. Hike 8 miles; trailhead elevation 3600 feet at the north end, 3000 feet at the Wild Burro Trailhead; net elevation change 700 feet; accumulated gain north ___ feet, ___ feet south; RTD 20 miles (dirt). [Guides: Susan Hollis & Randy Park, 825-6819]

Monday, January 04, 2016 Baby Jesus/ Sutherland Trail Key Exchange. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [494, 8:00 AM, \$2 + \$2]. 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 to meet the other group 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. [Guide: Tim Butler, 825-0193, tucsontimmer@gmail.com]

Tuesday, January 05, 2016 Alamo Canyon. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [6, 8:30 AM, \$2 + \$2]. 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. [Guides: Ruth & Paul DeBruine, Ph: 217-454-0478, e-mail: rkdnphd@comcast.net]

Tuesday, January 05, 2016 Superstitions: Roger's Canyon Cliff Dwellings. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [424, 07:00 AM, \$15]. The hike reaches deep into a wilderness area of the Superstition Mountains. The trailhead is reached via Florence to Hwy # 60 east and then northeast on 19 miles of scenic, rough unimproved Forest Service roads that require 4WD vehicles with adequate clearance. The trail may be slippery in places during rainy seasons. The trail proceeds downhill into the canyon area to the ancient cliff dwellings built by the Salado Indians around A.D. 1150 to A.D. 1250. The ruins are in very good shape and present a nice opportunity for the photographer to get good photos. Entering the ruins is possible but involves some rock scrambling. Care should be taken not to damage 700 years of history. An additional one mile round-trip hike to Angel Basin is an option along with the exploration of Fish Creek Canyon. The hike out is all uphill via the same route. Hike 8.5 miles; trailhead elevation 4800 feet; net elevation change 1056 feet; accumulated gain 1425 feet; RTD 166 miles (dirt). [Guide: Randy Park 825-6819].

Wednesday, January 06, 2016 Romero Pools. Rating: C!. Pace: Moderate [370, 8:00 AM, \$2 + \$2]. 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. [Guide: Dave Corrigan, 820-6110, dave@daveandpam.com]

Thursday, January 07, 2016 Bill Cody Loop. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [107, 8:00 AM, \$4]. 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 701 feet; accumulated gain 1506 feet; RTD 41 miles. [Guide: Michael Reale; 825-8286; mjreale@msn.com.]

Friday, January 08, 2016 Hidden Canyon Loop. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [219, 8:00 AM, \$2]. This is a beautiful hike, practically in our "back yard," to a secluded canyon in the upper reaches of the Sutherland Wash. There are many beautiful rock formations and saguaro cacti along the way and a rock ledge with a great view down the valley. The ledge is a great place for lunch. The hike begins in the Fifty-Year Trail area past Golder Ranch Road gate. After lunch, we will continue out of the canyon, circle around Hidden Canyon Peak back to the "North Gate," and return to the trailhead via the Fifty-Year Trail. Hike 8.6 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change 750 feet; accumulated gain 1237 feet; RTD 12 miles (dirt). [Guide: Tim Butler, 825-0193, tucsontimmer@gmail.com]

Saturday, January 09, 2016 OSP East Loop. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [307, 9:00 AM, \$3 + \$2]. 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. [Guide: Marv Rossfof; 877-9262]

Monday, January 11, 2016 [B] American Flag to Windmill. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [10, 7:30 AM, \$3]. From the American Flag Trailhead off of the Mt. Lemmon Road, the trail proceeds in a northerly direction across National Forest and State Trust Land, crossing Webb Road and continuing to Oracle State Park. After traveling 1.7 miles through the park, the trail crosses Cottonwood Wash and continues to a windmill after another 0.3 mile. Hikers will stop and have a snack or lunch here and return via the same route. This section of the Arizona National Scenic Trail ambles through washes and across low ridges speckled with high desert plants. There are expansive views of the Galiuro Mountains and Oracle Ridge along the way. Hike 8.7 miles; trailhead elevation 4400 feet; net elevation change 350 feet; accumulated gain 1254 feet; RTD 41 miles. Elisabeth Wheeler 818-1547.

Tuesday, January 12, 2016 Bridal Wreath Falls Loop. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [119, 8:00 AM, \$6]. 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 7.2 miles; trailhead elevation 2720 feet; net elevation change 1050 feet; accumulated gain 1086 feet; RTD 80 miles. [Guide: Walt Shields, 818-3439, waltshields@mac.com.]

Wednesday, January 13, 2016 Romero Springs. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [371, 07:30 AM, \$2 + \$2]. 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 10.3 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 2020 feet; accumulated gain 2736 feet; RTD 24 miles. [Guide:Randy Park, 825-6819.]

Thursday, January 14, 2016 Alamo Canyon to the Water Tank. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [7, 09:00 AM, \$2 + \$2]. The hike begins at the Romero Ruins Trailhead in Catalina State Park. Elevation change is gradual. The trail proceeds from the ruins through Alamo Canyon. Water may be present in the canyon after rainy periods. Hikers then go around, down, and up and down again to an unused, large water tank. Trail is rocky in some areas. The return is one of three ways of equal distance. Hike 6.5 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 400 feet; accumulated gain 1050 feet; RTD 24 miles. Marv Rossof 877 9262

Thursday, January 14, 2016 Peppersauce and Nugget Canyon Loop. Rating: C!. Pace: Moderate [319, 8:00 AM, \$5]. The hike begins at the Peppersauce Campground on the northeast side of the Catalinas. The trail follows old Mt. Lemmon (Oracle Control) Road up to the Nugget Canyon turnoff. We will stop to see Peppersauce Cave. Bring a flashlight. We then travel up the canyon, follow jeep roads, view an old mine, then come down Peppersauce Canyon. Much of the hike is through oak woodland with good views from the higher hills, but there are numerous stream crossings involving boulder hopping during periods following significant precipitation. This is a strenuous hike for this level due to a steep incline in one area and loose rocks in another. Hike 8.3 miles; trailhead elevation 4600 feet; net elevation change 1230 feet; accumulated gain 1318 feet; RTD 53 miles (dirt). [Guide: Michael Reale; 825-8286; mjreale@msn.com]

Friday, January 15, 2016 Deer Camp / Baby Jesus Loop. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [167, 8:00 AM, \$2]. 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 6.2 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change 667 feet; accumulated gain 1166 feet; RTD 12 miles (dirt). [Guide: Tim Butler, 825-0193, tucsontimmer@gmail.com]

Saturday, January 16, 2016 Tanque Verde Ridge Trail. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [443, 7:30am, \$6]. The hike begins at the Javalina Picnic Area in Saguaro National Park – East off the Cactus Forest Drive loop road, and is a picturesque hike in the Rincon Mountains with tremendous views of Tucson and the surrounding area. The hike is somewhat steep in parts as it proceeds up Tanque Verde Ridge. At three miles into the hike, we will view a crested saguaro, but continue on another mile to lunch on a mesa with great views. There are some great photo stops along the way. Hike 7.8 miles; trailhead elevation 3120 feet; net elevation change 1962 feet; accumulated gain 2225 feet; RTD 82 miles. [Guide: Susan Hollis 825-6819 or slhollis@yahoo.com]

Monday, January 18, 2016 Hutch's Pool. Rating: B!. Pace: Moderate [227, 8:00 AM, \$4 + \$tram]. Hikers will take the Sabino Canyon tram (fee required) to the trailhead at its last stop up the canyon. After a moderately steep but brief climb out of the canyon, the trail is mostly level but involves several stream crossings along the East and West Forks before reaching the pool. Some boulder hopping may be necessary depending on seasonal rains and winter snow melt on Mt. Lemmon. During periods of heavy rain or significant snow melt, the crossings can be difficult. Ask the guide about current stream flow conditions. This lovely hike will take the group to a permanent pool surrounded by giant Arizona Cypress trees, which is great place for a snack or lunch. The return is via the same route to the trailhead to catch the tram. Hike 8.8 miles; trailhead elevation 3300 feet; net elevation change 900 feet; accumulated gain 1454 feet; RTD 56 miles. [Guide: Walt Shields, 818-3439, waltshields@mac.com.]

Monday, January 18, 2016 Tortolita Mountains: Wild Mustang / Cochie Springs Loop. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [468, 7:00 AM, \$4]. The hike begins in the hikers parking area of the Ritz Carlton and proceeds up a connecting spur behind the hotel to join the Upper Javelina trail. After a short distance it connects with the Wild

Mustang trail which meanders north over rolling mountainous terrain with beautiful views of the Catalinas. At a cairn-marked spur (N32 30 16.3, W 111 04 02.9) the trail, which is less developed, climbs near a crested saguaro over two saddles to its highest point and descends steeply into Cochie Canyon where an old ranch and windmill are located. It then joins the Cochie Springs trail for a long loop back to join the Wild Mustang trail. The hike can be done in either direction but involves steeper climbs going clockwise. Hike 10.8 miles; trailhead elevation 2780 feet; net elevation change 1390 feet; accumulated gain 3057 feet.; RTD 44 miles. Elisabeth Wheeler 818-1547.

Tuesday, January 19, 2016 Tortolita Mountains: Alamo Springs / Wild Mustang Loop. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [454,8:00AM, \$4]. 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. [Guide: Phil McNamee 369-4504 mcnameephil@gmail.com]

Tuesday, January 19, 2016 103 [C!] Big Rock Dome #1 Big Rock Dome #1. Rating: C!. Pace: Moderate [103, 08:30 AM, \$0]. 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 starts at the South end of Arroyo Way in Unit 21 (near the horse farm). 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. Charouleau Gap Road has loose, slippery rocks in some areas, so hiking poles are recommended. Hike 6.5 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change 675 feet; accumulated gain 1031 feet; RTD 0 miles. [Guide: Litch Litchfield, Phone: 520-369-4506, email: litch@wbhsi.net]

Wednesday, January 20, 2016 Arizona Trail: Work Session. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [87, 8 AM, \$3 Paid by club]. 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 3 hours. Hike 3-6 miles. RTD 41 miles. The club will pay the \$3 driver donation. Mary Croft, 651-270-1660

Wednesday, January 20, 2016 Activity Center HOA#1 3:00 PM Trekking in Great Britain - Presented by Cheryl and Dean Werstler. Join SaddleBrooke Hiking Club members, Cheryl and Dean Werstler, as they recount their experiences walking United Kingdom trails. They will share their experiences trekking along Roman fortifications and routes used for thousands of years, as well as their walks through pastoral country sides and picturesque villages.

Wednesday, January 20, 2016 Social Hour – 4:00 P.M. in the Agave Lounge HOA #1. The social hour follows the Trekking in Great Britain program.

Thursday, January 21, 2016 David Yetman Trail. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [165, 08:00 AM, \$6]. 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 6.3 miles; trailhead elevation 2800 feet; net elevation change 606 feet; accumulated gain 760 feet; RTD 75 miles. [Guide: Michael Reale; 825-8286; mjreale@msn.com.]

Thursday, January 21, 2016 Linda Vista Loop. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [249, 8:30 AM, \$2]. 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. [Guides: Ruth & Paul DeBruine, Ph: 217-454-0478, e-mail: rkdnpd@comcast.net]

Thursday, January 21, 2016 Picacho Peak via Hunter Trail. Rating: B!. Pace: Moderate [330, 08:00 AM, \$7 + \$2]. From Barret Loop, we hike the Hunter Trail to a saddle, then down to the Sunset Vista Trail and up to the top of Picacho Peak, which provides 360-degree views of the area. The trail descends about 350 feet after reaching the saddle before resuming the upward climb from the west side of the Peak. Permanently installed guide cables are used along several steep sections to reach the summit. Bring leather or rubber tipped gloves for holding on to cables. This is a short, strenuous hike and a favorite among hikers. The return to the trailhead is along the same route. There are several areas of climbing where the trail is slippery due to loose rock and/or where the trail is exposed to sharp drop-offs. Park entrance fee required. Hike 4.0 miles; trailhead elevation 2000 feet; net elevation change 1393 feet; accumulated gain 2106 feet; RTD 90 miles. [Guide: Roy Carter, 818-3137]

Friday, January 22, 2016 Fifty-Year Trail Area North Loop. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [185, 8:00 AM, \$2]. 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 5.9 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change 430 feet; accumulated gain 906 feet; RTD 12 miles (dirt). [Guide: Tim Butler, 825-0193, tucsontimmer@gmail.com.]

Saturday, January 23, 2016 OSP West Loop. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [310, 9:00 AM, \$3 + \$2]. 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. Marv Rossof 877-9262

Monday, January 25, 2016 Oracle Ridge Trail to Saddle. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [304, 8:00 AM, \$4]. 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). [Guide: Dave Corrigan, 820-6110, dave@daveandpam.com]

Monday, January 25, 2016 Honey Bee Canyon North. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [222, 08:00 AM, \$2]. 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. Dave Sorenson 777-1994.

Tuesday, January 26, 2016 Sweetwater Preserve. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [432, 7:30 AM, \$5]. 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.sdmdb.org/trail/Sweetwater.html). Hike 7.3 miles; trailhead elevation 2800 feet; net elevation change <1000 feet; accumulated gain 680 feet; RTD 60 miles. Guide: Elisabeth Wheeler 818-1547.

Wednesday, January 27, 2016 Seven Falls. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [387, 8:00AM, \$4]. 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 8.6 miles; trailhead elevation 2720 feet; net elevation change 662 feet; accumulated gain 1307 feet; RTD 56 miles. [Guide: Phil McNamee 369-4504 mcnameephil@gmail.com.]

Thursday, January 28, 2016 Canyon Loop, Birding, and Nature Trails. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [136, 9:00AM, \$2 + \$2]. 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. Guide: Marv Rossos; 877-9262

Friday, January 29, 2016 Dripping Springs from the Sutherland Trail. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [172, 08:30 AM, \$2 + \$2]. From the main trailhead at the east end of Catalina State Park, the hike follows the Sutherland Trail past the wilderness sign, and then turns toward Dripping Springs at a Sutherland Trail sign. There are large rocks placed in a row on the right (east) side of the Sutherland Trail. Much of the trail is sandy and there may be several water crossings. After entering the wilderness area, the trail is somewhat rocky. An old abandoned mine is visible to the left of the canyon. Keep to the left at a trail junction for lower Romero Canyon, which can be visited later. Hike 4.8 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change ___ feet; accumulated gain 460 feet; RTD 24 miles. [Guide: Litch Litchfield phone: 520-369-4506, e-mail: litch@wbhsi.net]

Saturday, January 30, 2016 - Activity Fair at Mountain View. The Hiking Club needs volunteers for booth at the fair. If you are willing to volunteer, please call Randy Park, 825-6819.

Monday, February 01, 2016 King Canyon Loop. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [241, 08:00 AM, \$6]. 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 1000 feet; accumulated gain 1195 feet; RTD 73 miles [Guide: Roy Carter, 818-3137]

Monday, February 01, 2016 Sabino Canyon - Bear Canyon Loop (no Tram). Rating: A. Pace: Moderate [374, 7 AM, \$4]. Starting at the Sabino Canyon Visitor Center, hikers follow the Phone Line and Sabino Canyon Trails to the East Fork intersection, the East Fork to the Bear/Sycamore intersection and then the Bear Canyon Trail past Seven Falls, back to the Visitor Center. We may have to revise the route if the stream is high in Bear Canyon. This is a very scenic hike on good trails. Hike 17.8 miles; trailhead elevation 2720 feet; net elevation change 2110 feet; accumulated gain 4155 feet; RTD 56 miles. Elisabeth Wheeler 818-1547.

Tuesday, February 02, 2016 Canada del Oro from the Preserve. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [133, 8:00 AM, \$1]. The trail begins at the white water tank in the SaddleBrooke Preserve area. Hikers walk down a short dirt road and go through a barbed wire fence. The hike proceeds northerly along the CDO, passing 2 old dams and an old stone house. The return is via the same route. Hike 4 to 6 miles; trailhead elevation 3270 feet; net elevation change 700 feet; accumulated gain __ feet; RTD 3 miles (some dirt). [Guide: Phil McNamee 369-4504 mcnameephil@gmail.com.]

Wednesday, February 3, 2016 HOA#1 Activity Center 1:30 p.m- 2:30 p.m. ORIENTATION TO HIKING IN THE DESERT SOUTHWEST. 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 1:30 PM, February 3, 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 Tim Butler at 825-0193. We hope to see all those interested in hiking in our desert southwest at this special program.

Wednesday, February 03, 2016 230 PM HOA1 Activity Center - Hiking Guide meeting

Thursday, February 04, 2016 Tortolita Mountains: Cochie Spring Trail. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [456, 8:00 AM, \$4]. The hike begins in the hikers parking area of the Ritz Carlton and proceeds up a connecting spur behind the hotel to join the Upper Javelina trail. The Upper Javelina Trail provides views of the Tucson Mtns and Boboquiveri Peak to the south. After a short hike on the Wild Mustang Trail, hikers join the Cochie Spring Trail and continue several miles to the remains of a dam past a windmill. Hikers will experience a quiet mountain wilderness. The return is by the same route. Hike 9.0 miles; trailhead elevation 2780 feet; net elevation change 645 feet; accumulated gain 1786 feet; RTD 44 miles. [Guide: Michael Reale; 825-8286.]

Thursday, February 04, 2016 Oracle Ridge. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [302, 09:00 AM, \$3]. 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). Marv Rossof 877 9262.

Friday, February 05, 2016 Alamo Canyon. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [6, 8:00 AM, \$2 + \$2]. 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. [Guide: Tim Butler, 825-0193, tucsontimmer@gmail.com]

Saturday, February 06, 2016 Box Camp Trail [New, 7:30AM, \$4+tram\$] Rating B. Hikers will take the Sabino Canyon Tram to the TH at its last stop up the canyon. After a moderately steep climb out of the canyon, we will access the Box Camp Trail from the East Fork trail. We will hike up Box Camp Trail, a fairly steep climb to an overlook point. At the overlook point, there are great views down into the East and West Fork of Sabino Canyon and views of Spencer Canyon and Palisade Canyon to the east and Box Camp Canyon to the west. Return is via the same route. Hike 12 miles; trailhead elevation 3300 feet; net elevation change ~ 4000 feet; accumulated gain ~4000 feet; RTD 56 miles. Guide: Susan Hollis 825-6819

Monday, February 08, 2016 Ventana Canyon - Lower Level. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [475, 08:00 AM, \$4]. 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. Guide: Dave Sorenson 777-1994.

Tuesday, February 09, 2016 Picacho Peak via Sunset Vista Trail. Rating: B!. Pace: Moderate [331, 8:00 AM, \$7 + \$2]. 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. [Guide: Phil McNamee 369-4504 mcnameephil@gmail.com.]

Tuesday, February 09, 2016 Hidden Canyon. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [217, 8:00 AM, \$2]. 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). [Guides: Ruth & Paul DeBruine, Ph: 217-454-0478, e-mail: rkdnphd@comcast.net]

Wednesday, February 10, 2016 Maiden Pools. Rating: C!. Pace: Moderate [254, 8:00 AM, \$4]. Starting at the public parking lot on the left (past the employees' parking lot) at Ventana Canyon Resort, hikers follow the new Forest Service trail into the canyon. The trail is rocky in places with some steep climbing and substantial steps-up which make it more difficult than the average C hike. There are numerous wash crossings which involve boulder hopping if water is flowing. On the return, there are fine views of the east side of Tucson. The pools provide an excellent place for lunch. The return is by the same route. Hike 5.2 miles; trailhead elevation 3000 feet; net elevation change 1100 feet; accumulated gain 1335 feet; RTD 54 miles. [Guide: Dave Corrigan, 820-6110]

Thursday, February 11, 2016 Josephine Saddle and Rogers Rock. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [237, 7:30 AM, \$10]. The hike starts in Madera Canyon (Santa Rita Mountains) and goes up Old Baldy Trail to Josephine Saddle. We then go down the Super Trail for about a mile and take a turnoff for Rogers Rock and travel about 0.25 miles to

the rock. The top provides a wonderful view and is an excellent place to eat lunch. The return is down the Super Trail to the parking lot. The hike may be done in reverse. Hike, 6.7 miles; trailhead elevation 5450 feet; net elevation change 1630 feet; accumulated gain 1839 feet; RTD 130 miles. [Guide: MichaelReale; 825-8286; mjreale@msn.com.]

Thursday, February 11, 2016 Linda Vista Loop. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [249, 08:00 AM, \$2]. 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. [Guide: Roy Carter.]

Friday, February 12, 2016 Bridal Veil Falls. Rating: A. Pace: Moderate [72, 08:00 AM, \$4]. The trail begins at Sabino Canyon Visitor Center and reaches the falls via the Esperero Trail. It crosses the Cactus Picnic area, a heavily used trail, and Rattlesnake canyon. It then gains elevation fairly quickly as it proceeds to Bird Canyon, narrowly avoiding a section of private land. The trail is well maintained but there are some steep climbs interspersed with short switchbacks. It eventually leads to the ridge nicknamed ‘Cardiac Gap’. From the ‘Gap’, the trail then drops to the north side of the ridge and heads toward Cathedral Peak, circling the basin which leads to Geronimo Meadow. The last half mile to the falls is steep and may be overgrown, but is well worthwhile if there has been adequate rainfall to supply the falls. Hike 12.4 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 2640 feet; accumulated gain 3265 feet; RTD 56 miles. [Guide: Roy Carter, 818-3137.]

Friday, February 12, 2016 103 [C!] Big Rock Dome #1. Rating: C!. Pace: Moderate [103, 08:00 AM, \$0]. 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 starts at the South end of Arroyo Way in Unit 21 (near the horse farm) . 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. Charouleau Gap Road has loose, slippery rocks in some areas,so hiking poles are recommended. Hike 6.5 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change 675 feet; accumulated gain 1031 feet; RTD 0 miles. [Guide: Litch Litchfield, 520-369-4506, email: litch@wbhsi.net]"

Monday, February 15, 2016 Robles Pass Trails in Tucson Mountain Park. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [367, 7:00 AM, \$6]. 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. Elisabeth Wheeler 818-1547.

Tuesday, February 16, 2016 Alamo Canyon. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [6, 08:00 AM, \$2 + \$2]. 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. [Rob Simms Spartan7375@gmail.com or 517-410-9031]

Tuesday, February 16, 2016 Romero Pools. Rating: C!. Pace: Moderate [370, 8:00AM, \$2 + \$2]. 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. [Guide: Phil McNamee 369-4504 mcnameephil@gmail.com.]

Wednesday, February 17, 2016 Arizona Trail: Work Session. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [87, 8 AM, \$3 Paid by club]. 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 3 hours. Hike 3 miles. RTD 41 miles. The club will pay the \$3 driver donation. Mary Croft 651-270-1660.

Wednesday, February 17, 2016 HOA #1 Activity Center HOA 3:00 PM . Hiking in Sabino Canyon - presented by a Naturalist from Sabino Canyon, Heidi Schewel. The presentation will provide information on the canyon's history, the ecology associated with the canyon, fires and floods in the canyon, and movies filmed in the canyon.

Wednesday, February 17, 2016 Social Hour – 4:00 P.M. in the Agave Lounge HOA #1. The social hour follows the Diverse Sabino Canyon program.

Thursday, February 18, 2016 Rams Creek Basin. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [354, 9:00 AM, \$2]. 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 789 feet; accumulated gain 830 feet; RTD 21 miles. Marv Rossif; 877-9262.

Thursday, February 18, 2016 Superstitions: Dutchman Trail / Bluff Springs Loop. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [402, 7:00 AM, \$14]. The hike starts at the Peralta Trailhead off Hwy # 60 in the Superstitions and follows the Dutchman Trail through Barkley Basin. From the basin, the trail climbs past Miners Needle (smaller sister of Weavers Needle) to Miners Summit, then descends along the Bluff Springs Trail to Bluff Spring (has seasonal water). There are netleaf hackberry and oak shade trees along the way. Hikers then continue back to the trailhead with superb views of Weavers Needle. Hike 9.7 miles; trailhead elevation 2415 feet; net elevation change 895 feet; accumulated gain 1580 feet; RTD 154 miles (dirt). [Guide: Dave Corrigan, 820-6110, dave@daveandpam.com]

Friday, February 19, 2016 Hidden Canyon Loop. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [219, 8:00 AM, \$2]. This is a beautiful hike, practically in our ""back yard," to a secluded canyon in the upper reaches of the Sutherland Wash. There are many beautiful rock formations and saguaro cacti along the way and a rock ledge with a great view down the valley. The ledge is a great place for lunch. The hike begins in the Fifty-Year Trail area past Golder Ranch Road gate. After lunch, we will continue out of the canyon, circle around Hidden Canyon Peak back to the ""North Gate," and return to the trailhead via the Fifty-Year Trail. Hike 8.6 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation

change 750 feet; accumulated gain 1237 feet; RTD 12 miles (dirt). [Guide: Tim Butler, 825-0193, tucsontimmer@gmail.com]

Monday, February 22, 2016 Picketpost Mountain. Rating: B!. Pace: Moderate [333, 7 AM, \$12]. The daunting angular shape of Picketpost Mountain intrigues all who drive along US Hwy # 60 between Phoenix and Superior. This is a short, steep hike to the summit of Picketpost Mountain. From the Arizona Trail parking lot south of Hwy # 60 and west of the Boyce Thompson Arboretum, the group will hike south on the Arizona Trail to a prominent drainage. Look for a cairned path which branches up the foothills of the mountain. The Picketpost Trail splits into two routes which eventually meet before the last cleft. Both routes have steep rocky sections which require sure-footedness. Once the rim is reached the route continues SE to the summit which has a mailbox for registering. 360-degree views are spectacular. Hike 4.3 miles; trailhead elevation 2400 feet; net elevation change 2000 feet; accumulated gain 2066 feet; RTD 165 miles. Elisabeth Wheeler 818-1547

Tuesday, February 23, 2016 Deer Camp. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [166, 8:00 AM, \$2]. 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). [Guides: Ruth & Paul DeBruine, Ph: 217-454-0478, e-mail: rkdnphd@comcast.net]

Wednesday, February 24, 2016 Seven Falls. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [387, 08:30 AM, \$4]. 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 8.6 miles; trailhead elevation 2720 feet; net elevation change 662 feet; accumulated gain 1307 feet; RTD 56 miles. [Howie and Elaine Fagan, 818-9555, howieandelaine@q.com.]

Thursday, February 25, 2016 Pima Canyon to 2nd Dam. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [336, 8:00 AM, \$3]. 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 6.1 miles; trailhead elevation 2960 feet; net elevation change 1000 feet; accumulated gain 1275 feet; RTD 42 miles. [Guide: Phil McNamee 369-4504 mcnameephil@gmail.com.]

Thursday, February 25, 2016 Esperero Trail. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [178, 08:00 AM, \$4]. The hike reaches a saddle known locally as Cardiac Gap, which overlooks Esperero Canyon. We'll warm up by hiking from the Sabino Canyon Visitor Center parking lot, through the Cactus Picnic Area and over a few small foothills to "the Gulch". The hiking is initially steep.... then it gets much steeper. We'll have lunch at the saddle (el. 4400 feet) while viewing the falls below, and return to the Visitor Center. Depending on season, there may be water in the falls. Extra drinking water is recommended. Hike 7.0 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 1700 feet; accumulated gain 2036 feet; RTD 56 miles. [Guide: Michael Reale' 825-8286; mjreale@msn.com.]

Friday, February 26, 2016 Dripping Springs from the Sutherland Trail. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [172, 08:00 AM, \$2 + \$2]. From the main trailhead at the east end of Catalina State Park, the hike follows the Sutherland Trail past the wilderness sign, and then turns toward Dripping Springs at a Sutherland Trail sign. There are large rocks placed in a row on the right (east) side of the Sutherland Trail. Much of the trail is sandy and there may be

several water crossings. After entering the wilderness area, the trail is somewhat rocky. An old abandoned mine is visible to the left of the canyon. Keep to the left at a trail junction for lower Romero Canyon, which can be visited later. Hike 4.8 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change __ feet; accumulated gain 460 feet; RTD 24 miles. [Guide: Litch Litchfield, phone: 520-369-4506, e-mail: litch@wbhsi.net]

Saturday, February 27, 2016 50 Mile Trail North/Golder Ranch Circular. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [New, 7:00AM, \$1]. This hike is a traverse through the Sonoran desert landscape. We will be in our backyard right behind Saddlebrooke beginning off of the end of Golder Ranch Road,. There are beautiful saguaros and rock formations to be seen, in addition to excellent views of SaddleBrooke, Sun City, and the Tortolitas. Hike 9.3 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change 800 feet; accumulated gain 500 feet; RTD: 5 miles. Guide: Aaron Schoenberg. Cell Phone: (845) 987-4893. Home phone 825-2060. E-mail: askus3@centurylink.net.

Saturday, February 27, 2016 OSP East Loop. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [307, 9:00 AM, \$3 + \$2]. 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 elevationchange __ feet; accumulated gain 760 feet; RTD 40 miles. [Guide: Marv Rossof; 877-9262