



# SADDLEBROOKE

## HIKING CLUB NEWSLETTER

<http://saddlebrookehikingclub.com>

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER

2018

### PHOTOGRAPHING NATURE ON A HIKE

Wednesday, November 21, 2018

Submitted by Michael Caryl



On Wednesday, November 21, 2018, Byron Cotter, a noted local photographer will present “Photographing Nature on a Hike.” The talk will focus on opportunities and techniques for photography on a hike. Topics will include options for equipment, some basics of camera use, and what elements to consider when composing shots. The talk will also cover how to treat various types of natural subjects, including landscapes, flowers, clouds, flowing water, reflections, patterns and wildlife. The talk will finish with a few comments on simple photo editing techniques.

Byron Cotter and his wife Sharon are longtime photographic enthusiasts, who attended their first photography workshop in 1975. Together they have indulged their passion for photography in many different countries. Byron is currently the secretary and webmaster for the Digital Photography Club of SaddleBrooke (DIGS), and has made several presentations to that club.

Residents of SaddleBrooke are invited to attend the meeting at the HOA #1 Activity Center at 4 PM on November 21, 2018. You do not need to be a member of the hiking club to attend. Following the meeting there will be a social hour in the Agave Lounge at the SaddleBrooke Clubhouse. Remember

there is no street parking near the Activity Center. For more information about the meeting or to learn more about the hiking club, please contact Michael Caryl at [Law\\_man69@hotmail.com](mailto:Law_man69@hotmail.com) or call (520) 825-6568.

### ORACLE PASSAGE OF ARIZONA TRAIL

Submitted by Elisabeth Wheeler



The Oracle Passage of the Arizona National Scenic Trail is 8.6 miles of rolling high desert scenery. The SaddleBrooke Hiking Club maintains this passage for the benefit of hikers, bikers and equestrians. It is fun to work side by side with a team of volunteers brushing the trail and improving the tread.

Volunteers work for 3 hours (8 a.m. to 11 a.m.) with treats afterwards. Carpools will leave SaddleBrooke at 7:30 a.m. and return by noon. Bring sun protection, gloves, water, and snack. Tools will be provided. To volunteer call or email Elisabeth Wheeler, 520-818-1547, [Hikerelisabeth@gmail.com](mailto:Hikerelisabeth@gmail.com), or Ray Peale, 520-818-6285, [ray.peale@gmail.com](mailto:ray.peale@gmail.com).

### DURANGO

September 25-27, 2019

Submitted by Randy Park

**Durango:** 1. Derived from the Basque word for “Water Town”; 2. A city in Southwest Colorado founded by the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad in 1880; 3. The destination of the SaddleBrooke Hiking Club's Fall trip in 2019.

Save the dates – September 25 – 27, 2019!

You will not want to miss this trip to Durango, Colorado - 470 miles from SaddleBrooke. Durango will be the central location for the 2019 Fall Trip.

Our hiking days will be Wednesday through Friday, September 25 - 27, 2019. Tuesday, September 24, will be reserved for an optional group steam train ride on the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad.



West Lime Creek Hike

Photo by Randy Park

We will have three days of great hikes at all levels, A through D, in the greater Durango area. Hikes will incorporate Ancestral Pueblo Ruins, high mountain peaks, the famous Colorado Trail, waterfalls, stupendous views, deep forests, and Fall colors. An official announcement will be coming soon. Watch your email.



Sand Canyon Hike

Photo by Randy Park

### **SANTA FE WRAP UP**

Submitted by Walt Shields, Trip Organizer

Approximately 80 club members enjoyed three superb days of hiking and sightseeing in beautiful

Santa Fe and its environs. The Aspens were in full color as seen on a number of hikes in ideal fall conditions.

Many thanks to Ray Peale for organizing such a rich variety of hikes encompassing alpine vistas, national monuments, a volcanic caldera, and a Civil War Battlefield. Thanks also to Ray, we sampled excellent New Mexican cuisine at our group dinner.

As always, we are especially grateful to our guides for leading the hikes without whom such a rich experience would not be possible.

### **MARTHA HACKWORTH**

#### **OUR ROLE MODEL**

Submitted by Elisabeth Wheeler



Martha, age 86, not only leads Morning Fitness Walks five days a week for the SaddleBrooke Hiking Club, she was the oldest hiker in the "Arizona Trail in a Day" event on October 6, 2019.

Martha is a role model for staying active through walking and hiking.



## AZT IN A DAY

Submitted by Elisabeth Wheeler

“AZT in a Day” was a special event to celebrate the 800+ mile Arizona National Scenic Trail. For the first time in United States’ history a national scenic trail was hiked, biked, and ridden by equestrians from beginning to end in 24 hours. Members of our SaddleBrooke Hiking Club hiked the entire 8.7 mile Oracle Passage in two groups.



Back Row: Sandra Sowell, Karen Carter, Joyce Maurizzi, Martha Hackworth, Roy Carter, Jan Springer, Jim Steger, Ray Peale, Bill Brown, Michael Hovan Front Row: Joe Maurizzi, Kent Naugle, Ken Larsen, Brenda Cain, Danny Cain, Pam Wakefield, Elisabeth Wheeler, Georgette Brown

Roy Carter led a group to the American Flag Ranch House. Hikers Karen and Roy Carter, Jan Springer, Bill and Georgette Brown, Pam Wakefield, Jim Steger, Kenneth Larsen, and Martha Hackworth enjoyed a tour of the American Flag Ranch House. The ranch house is the longest standing post office from years 1880 - 1890. The Oracle Historical Society has furnished the ranch house with items of historical interest. There was a lot to see and learn.



Touring the American Flag Ranch House - Photo by Kevin Armbrust Hikers: Jim Steger, Jan Springer, Georgette Brown, Bill Brown, Martha Hackworth, Ken Larsen, Karen Carter, Roy Carter, Pam Wakefield, Elisabeth Wheeler

Ray Peale led a group to Tiger Mine Trailhead. Hikers were Sandra Sowell, Kent Naugle, Joe and Joyce Maurizzi, Michael Hovan, Brenda and Danny Cain, and Sharon Simpson. Not only did they hike the longer hike, they picked up trash along Tiger Mine Road.



Hikers Doing Trail Clean-Up Photo by Sandra Sowell Hikers: Ray Peale, Danny and Brenda Cain, Michael Hovan, Kent Naugle, Joyce Maurizzi, Sharon Simpson, Joe Maurizzi

Both groups joined together at the Tiger Mine Trailhead to celebrate their participation in “AZT in a Day.” Hiker Martha Hackworth, almost 86, was acknowledged for being the oldest person we know hiking on the Arizona Trail.

Beverages, treats, and chips were provided by Bill and Georgette Brown, Pam Wakefield, Jan Springer, Elisabeth Wheeler, and Ray Peale. Enthusiasm is building to participate in the next Arizona Trail work event.



SaddleBrooke hikers enjoying a picnic celebration during the "Arizona Trail in a Day" Event Photo by Sandra Sowell

## SADDLEBROOKE HIKERS ENJOY FULL MOON HIKE

Submitted by Karen Gray

On Sunday night, August 26, a full moon was shining; called by some Indian tribes a sturgeon moon, and other tribes a salmon moon. Although still quite hot, it was a perfect night for a hike and a s'mores party afterward. Twelve SaddleBrooke hikers, plus two guests, set out for Catalina State Park.



Photo in parking lot – starting out. Photo by Barbara Wilder  
Left to right: Mark Schwartz, Marilyn Cleavinger (guest), Susan Sweitzer, Ruth Caldwell, Terry Caldwell, Jason Noffsinger, Camille Esterman, Tim Lawler, Karen Gray-Guide, Carol Burke, Connie Plapinger, and Joy Rieckers.

We started up the Canyon Loop trail at 6:30 p.m., making a stop at the crested saguaro, and again at the top of the stairs to look at the rocks of the Pirate Fault. The Pirate Fault was formed between about 6-12 million years ago and was the main western fault of the uplift of the Catalina Mountains. By 7:00 p.m. the sun had set, and we hiked in the fading glow of the beautiful colors of sunset. We started down the hill using our headlamps and flashlights. The moon came up over the mountains about 7:30 p.m.; and though it brought some light, the clouds were mostly covering the moon.



Sunset along the trail Photo by Camille Esterman

We made a fire and brought out the marshmallows, graham crackers, and chocolate – both dark and milk. It seems there was a preference for the dark.



Terry Caldwell enjoying his s'mores Photo by Camille Esterman

We started slowly cleaning up, and suddenly there was a rattlesnake on the floor of the ramada. We put out the fire and then quickly put everything in the car to leave the rattlesnake to its hunting. Everyone enjoyed the hike and the s'mores, but some would have preferred to skip that close encounter with the rattlesnake! The moon made a late appearance as we were leaving.

### Future Trips

Destination	Dates	Contact Person
St. George, Utah	April 9 – 11, 2019	Dave Sorenson iowaboy1950@yahoo.com
Durango, Colorado	Sept. 25-27 2019	Gayle Hosek-Spies drgaylehosek@gmail.com



News You Can Use			AZ. Trail Work Session Meet: MountainView Lot	11/14 Wed.	7:30 A.M. Noon
SBHC Fall Picnic Catalina State Park – Gila Monster Site	11/2 Fri.	11:30 A.M.	SBHC Board of Directors Coyote Room North HOA1	11/19 Mon	9:30 A.M.
Ongtupqa Hopi Program MountainView Country Club SaddleBrooke 2	11/7 Wed.	6:30 P.M.	Photographing Nature on a Hike HOA 1 Activity Center	11/21 Wed.	4:00 – 5:00 P.M.
			SBHC Social Hour Agave Lounge HOA #1	11/21 Wed.	5:00 P.M.

## Hiking Information

### HIKE ELEVATION, RATINGS & PACE

**Elevation Change:** Three indicators are used in the hike descriptions to convey hike difficulty as it relates to elevation change.

- Net Elevation Change:** the change in elevation obtained by subtracting the starting elevation from the highest (or lowest) point reached during the course of the hike, in feet. This estimate may be obtained from USGS maps or a global positioning system (GPS).
- Accumulated Gain:** the sum of all upward stretches of a hike as recorded by a GPS device over the course of the entire hike. Accumulated elevation gain is generally a more accurate indicator of hike difficulty than net change in elevation.
- Accumulated Loss:** another measure of hike difficulty, is the sum of all downward stretches of a hike. Accumulated elevation loss is useful for some downhill hikes and is usually obtained with a GPS device.

**Ratings:** Ratings are based on the following round-trip distances and accumulated gains in elevation over the course of the hike. The hike rating is determined by one (or both) of the two values being exceeded. For example, if a hike exceeds the criterion for distance but not for corresponding elevation, the rating would be set for distance. Ratings flagged with an “!” indicate special trail conditions that might be of concern to some hikers. Please read the hike descriptions or talk to the hiking guide before deciding whether to sign-up. Ratings flagged with a smiling face indicate an easier, smoother trail (often paved) than normal at that rating.

Rating	Distance	Accumulated Gain in Elevation
A	Greater than 14 miles	Greater than 3,000 ft
B	Greater than 8 miles, less than 14 miles	Greater than 1,500 ft, Less than 3,000 ft
C	Greater than 4 miles, less than 8 miles	Greater than 500 ft, Less than 1,500 ft.
D	Less than 4 miles	Less than 500 ft

**Pace:** Pace is described in terms of average speed in miles per hour (MPH) over the course of a hike from start to finish (excluding lunch). Average speed is affected by speed and length of stride, number of rest stops, incline, type of terrain, and trail conditions. The following four categories are used to describe pace in the hike descriptions. Unless otherwise noted, all hikes are assumed to be Moderate pace.

Pace	Average Speed - MPH
Leisurely	Less than 1.5
Slow	Greater than 1.5, Less than 2.0
Moderate	Greater than 2.0, Less than 2.5
Fast	Greater than 2.5

# Club Calendar

## Saddlebrooke Hiking Club Calendar

Nov 2018 (Mountain Standard Time - Phoenix)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28 A! - Quantrell	29 [B] Wasson	30 [C] Hidden Information	31 [C] Sweetwater	1 A - Douglas	2 SBHC Fall Picnic	3
4	5 [B] Tortolita	6 [C] Baby Jesus	7 [C] Finger Rock Grand	8 Pima Canyon	9	10
11	12 [B] Tortolita	13 C American	14 AZT Work	15 [B!] Aravaipa [C] 50 Yr to	16 [B] Wasson	17
18	19 SBHC Board	20 [B!] Picacho	21 SBHC Program	22	23	24 [C] Tortolita
25	26 [A]	27 C CSP Fifty-	28 D Catalina Hills	29 [A!] Oracle [B!] Mt. C- Dripping	30	1

## Saddlebrooke Hiking Club Calendar

Dec 2018 (Mountain Standard Time - Phoenix)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
25	26 [A]	27 C CSP Fifty-	28 D Catalina Hills	29 [A!] Oracle [B!] Mt. C- Dripping	30	1
2	3 [C] Catalina	4 [B] Tortolita	5	6 C Deer Camp	7	8
9 [D] OSP	10 [B] Tanque	11 B Wasson Peak	12 C David	13 C- Brown Mtn.	14	15
16	17 [B] Pima	18	19 SBHC - No	20	21 [B] Phoneline	22
23	24	25	26 [D] OSP	27	28 C-Canyon loop,	29
30	31	1	2	3	4	5

## Hikes Offered

**Thursday, November 01, 2018 Douglas Spring Trail to the Campground. Rating: A. Pace: Fast [170, 06:00 AM, \$6].** Hikers drive to the east end of Speedway to reach the Douglas Spring Trailhead. The hike involves some moderately steep hiking on a well-used trail to the campground. Enroute we may take the spur out and back to Bridal Wreath Falls, and then continue on the Douglas Spring Trail to the campground. The route takes us along the foothills of the Tanque Verde ridge. Lunch will be under the cottonwoods at the campground which is our turn around point in this up and back hike. On the return, we may take the spur out and back to Ernie Falls, and then continue on the Douglas Spring Trail to the trailhead. The trails are mostly open, so bring sun protection. Bring lunch. Hike 15.3 miles; trailhead elevation 2750 feet; net elevation change 1965 feet; accumulated gain 2300 feet; RTD 78 miles. [Guide: Aaron Schoenberg: (845) 987-4893; [askus3@centurylink.net](mailto:askus3@centurylink.net) ]

**Friday, November 02, 2018 SBHC Fall Picnic** @Catalina State Park Gila Monster group site. Formal events begin with a members' meeting at 11:30 a.m.

**Monday, November 05, 2018 Tortolita Mountains: Alamo Springs / Wild Mustang Loop. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [454, 08:00 AM, \$4].** This hike travels the outer rim of the area. From the Ritz Carlton 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 2170 feet; RTD 44 miles. [Guide: Frank Earnest [fearnestiv@gmail.com](mailto:fearnestiv@gmail.com) ]

**Tuesday, November 06, 2018 Baby Jesus. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [96, 08:00 AM, \$2].** 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 702 feet; accumulated gain 1335 feet; RTD 12 miles (dirt). This hike is on or crosses Arizona State Trust Land: "The Arizona Land Department's trust management responsibilities include requiring a permit or lease and charging a fee for use of Trust land." Please note that Trust Land is private (not public) and requires a recreation permit for hiking which can be obtained through the state land department. [Guide: Tim Butler, 825-0193, [tucsontimmer@gmail.com](mailto:tucsontimmer@gmail.com) ]

**Wednesday, November 07, 2018 Finger Rock Trail to Canyon Overlook. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [190, 08:00 AM, \$4].** The hike begins from the Finger Rock Trailhead at the north end of Alvernon Way. The hike covers level ground for about a mile, and then sharply climbs up the canyon. Scrambling is necessary at some points going up and coming down, but is not overly difficult for most hikers. From the overlook, hikers will enjoy the beautiful vistas of Mt. Kimball, Finger Rock, and the steep Finger Rock Canyon, then return. Hike 3.3 miles; trailhead elevation 3120 feet; net elevation change 922 feet; accumulated gain 1326 feet; RTD 44 miles. [Guide: Howie Fagan, 240-9556, [howieandelaine@q.com](mailto:howieandelaine@q.com) ]

**Wednesday, November 07, 2018 Grand Canyon Hopi Program** 6:30 p.m. at MountainView Country Club at SaddleBrooke Two, 38759 S Mountain View Blvd,

**Thursday, November 08, 2018 Pima Canyon to 2nd Dam. Rating: C. Pace: slow [336, 08:00 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 6.7 miles; trailhead elevation 2960 feet; net elevation change 1010 feet; accumulated gain 1315 feet; RTD 42 miles. [Guide: Karen Gray, 818-0337, [kgrayinaz@yahoo.com](mailto:kgrayinaz@yahoo.com) ]

**Monday, November 12, 2018 Tortolita Mountains: Wild Mustang / Wild Burro Canyon Loop. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [469, 8:00 AM, \$4].** The trailhead is at the Ritz Carlton hiker parking lot. Hikers proceed through the Wild Burro Wash, connect with the Upper Javalina Trail, and make their way up to the Wild Mustang Trail. The trail will lead the group over the higher elevations of the mountains to the north past at least 3 crested saguaros. Near the upper end of Wild Mustang Trail we take a connector trail southeast down to the Wild Burro Canyon Trail. The trail overlooks the narrow upper canyon which spreads wide with numerous side canyons and tributaries. As we continue down Wild Burro Canyon, we pass a crumbling stone structure and arrive at a boulder strewn falls which thunders with runoff from the upper side canyons and tributaries when it rains. A short distance later we will merge onto Lower Javalina Trail, quickly descending through hillsides covered with enormous boulders and a forest of saguaro cacti. We will then rejoin Wild Burro Trail to return to the trailhead. Hike 8.4 miles; trailhead elevation 2680 feet; net elevation change 1150 feet; accumulated gain 1785 feet; RTD 44 miles. [Guide: Phil McNamee [mcnameephil@gmail.com](mailto:mcnameephil@gmail.com) 520-369-4504.]

**Tuesday, November 13, 2018 American Flag. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [8, 8:00 AM, \$3].** The hike begins at the American Flag Trailhead on the old Mt. Lemmon Road and covers a section of the Arizona Trail. Hikers take the American Flag/Cody Trail to its intersection with the Oracle Ridge Trail, where there are great views to the west of Biosphere II and the Tortolitas. On the return, we may swing by the grounds of La Casa del High Jinks, the site where Bill Cody staked his gold mine in 1912. Hike 6.7 miles; trailhead elevation 4400 feet; net elevation change 995 feet; accumulated gain 1267 feet; RTD 41 miles. [Guide: Rob Simms [Spartan7375@gmail.com](mailto:Spartan7375@gmail.com) ]

**Wednesday, November 14, 2018 Wednesday, November 14, 2018. Arizona Trail: Work Session. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [87, 7:30 AM, \$3 Paid by club].** Come and join the fun — it's enjoyable 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 8.6 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, north to Highway 77 and onto the Tiger Mine Road to the TH. 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 pruners. Other tools, if needed, will be provided. The work session usually lasts about 3 hours. Hike 3-4 miles. RTD 41 miles. The club will pay the \$3 driver donation. [Guide: Elisabeth Wheeler, 520-818-1547 or email to: [hikerelisabeth@gmail.com](mailto:hikerelisabeth@gmail.com)]

**Thursday, November 15, 2018 Aravaipa Canyon Wilderness Traverse. Rating: B!. Pace: Moderate [17, 5:00 AM East to West, 7:00 AM West to East \$12 + \$6].** This is a wilderness hike in a Primitive Preserve, by permit only, following the Aravaipa Creek through the Galiuro Mountains. We will be hiking through the entire Preserve in the creek, wading in ankle-to-knee deep water about half the time, while viewing the canyon's 400-600 foot walls. There will be abundant wildlife, often with views of golden eagles. Bring camera and binoculars to see one of Arizona's best kept secrets. Time permitting, hikers may explore one or two of the nine side canyons. From Tucson to East entrance (148 miles, 3.5 to 4 hours): Take Interstate 10 east to Willcox. In Willcox, take Exit 340 north (left) toward Bonita along the Ft. Grant Road. At the "T" in Bonita, turn left and go 38 miles to the East trailhead. From the trailhead parking and kiosk, it is a 1.5-mile hike through Nature Conservancy land to the East wilderness boundary. 4WDs are required on the east end; pick-up cars on the West end. Wilderness permits (fee required) must be reserved in advance and are non-refundable. Call the hiking guide for more details. Hike 12 to 13 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change minus 650 feet; accumulated gain 424 feet; RTD 110 miles. Walt Shields will lead the hike from West to East and Dave Corrigan will lead the hike from East to West, so we have



transportation at the end of the hikes. Only 4 persons will hike each way for a total of 8 hikers. [Guide: Dave Corrigan, 820-6110, [dave@daveandpam.com](mailto:dave@daveandpam.com) (East-West)/ Walt Shields, 818-3439, [waltshields@mac.com](mailto:waltshields@mac.com) (West-East)]

**Thursday, November 15, 2018 Fifty-Year Trail to North Hidden Canyon - Short version. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [89, 08:00 AM, \$2].** The hike begins in the Fifty-Year Trail area off Golder Ranch Road. We take the 50-Yr. Trail north to an unnamed spur trail which connects to the Hidden Canyon Trail. We turn south on the Hidden Canyon Trail and then follow the Deer Camp and 50-Yr. Trails back to the cars. 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 4.6 miles; trailhead elevation 3300 feet; net elevation change 354 feet; accumulated gain 632 feet; RTD 12 miles (dirt). [Guide: Tim Butler, 825-0193, [tucsontimmer@gmail.com](mailto:tucsontimmer@gmail.com) ]

**Friday, November 16, 2018 Wasson Peak via Sweetwater Trail. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [481, 07:30 AM, \$5].** 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. [Guide: Randy Park [rparktucson@gmail.com](mailto:rparktucson@gmail.com) ]

**Monday, November 19, 2018 SBHC Board of Directors Meeting,** Coyote Room North HOA1

**Tuesday, November 20, 2018 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 1494feet; accumulated gain &gt; 1500 feet; RTD 90 miles. [Guide: Phil McNamee [mcnameephil@gmail.com](mailto:mcnameephil@gmail.com) 520-369-4504]

**Wednesday, November 21, 2018 SBHC Program** @4pm, HOA1 Activity Center and Social Hour @5pm in Agavé Lounge

**Saturday, November 24, 2018 Tortolita Mountains: Upper Javelina and Wild Mustang Trails to Lookout. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [462, 9:00AM, \$4].** The trailhead is at the Ritz Carlton Hotel hiker 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 5.1 miles; trailhead elevation 2780 feet; net elevation change 795 feet; accumulated gain 950 feet; RTD 44 miles. [Susan Hollis, 520-825-6819, [shollis@yahoo.com](mailto:shollis@yahoo.com) ]

**Monday, November 26, 2018 Superstitions: Weavers Needle Loop. Rating: A. Pace: Moderate [426, 07:00 AM, \$14].** The hike is beautiful, steep, and rocky and passes through areas of huge boulders in the Superstition Mountains. The year we'll do the hike in clockwise fashion, starting up the Peralta Trail to Fremont Saddle, descending through Boulder Canyon on the west side of Weaver's Needle, then circling back along the north and east side of Weaver's Needle to return to the Peralta Trailhead via the Bluff Springs Trail to the parking area on FR # 77. Hike 13.1 miles; trailhead elevation 2500 feet; net elevation change 2600 feet; accumulated gain 2940 feet; RTD 154 miles (dirt). [Guide: Frank Earnest [fearnestiv@gmail.com](mailto:fearnestiv@gmail.com) ]

**Tuesday, November 27, 2018 CSP Fifty-Year Tr Sutherland Wash Loop Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [NEW, 8:00 AM, \$2 + \$2]** Spot a car at main CSP trailhead for return shuttle. The hike begins at the Equestrian Ctr in Catalina State Park and goes north on Fifty-Yr Tr to exit gate. Proceed out gate to Sutherland Link Connector trail and down to Sutherland Wash re-entering park through gate. Continue South on social-side trails. This spot is the location of the original Sutherland Ranch. Continue on unnamed side trails to the Nature Trail and main trailhead. Hike 7.1 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 450 feet; accumulated gain 700 feet; RTD 24 miles. [Rob Simms [Spartan7375@gmail.com](mailto:Spartan7375@gmail.com) ]

**Wednesday, November 28, 2018 Catalina Hills Cleanup Walk. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [141, 09:00 AM, \$0].** Volunteers are needed for the Trash Cleanup Walk for Catalina Hills Drive which is part of the Arizona Adopt A Highway Program. This is a community service that our club provides for SaddleBrooke and for Arizona. The walk will only take an hour to an hour and a half of your time. Trash bags and safety vests are provided by the Pinal County Highway Dept. Volunteers should bring gloves and a pickup stick if they have one. Volunteers will meet in the usual location. [Guide: Walt Shields [waltshields@mac.com](mailto:waltshields@mac.com) 818-3439]

**Thursday, November 29, 2018 Oracle Ridge / Red Ridge Loop. Rating: A!. Pace: Moderate [303, 07:00 AM, \$10].** The hike begins at the Red Ridge Trailhead and descends steeply on a rocky trail to Catalina Camp. From there, we will climb via Trail # 401 east to Dan Saddle, south up the Oracle Ridge Trail to its trailhead just below the Mt. Lemmon Fire Station, then back along Catalina Hwy for about a mile to complete the loop. Both trails are very steep and have numerous stretches of loose, slippery rock making stable footing a challenge. An alternative is to position vehicles at both trailheads to avoid the trek along Catalina Hwy. Along the way, there are great views of the Reef of Rocks and Samaniego Ridge to the west, and the Biosphere II and Oracle to the north. The hike may be done in reverse, but both ways are difficult for a hike of this rating. Hike 8.3 miles; trailhead elevation 8160 feet; accumulated gain 3200 feet; RTD 131 miles. [Guide: Randy Park, 825-6819 [rparktucson@gmail.com](mailto:rparktucson@gmail.com) ]

**Thursday, November 29, 2018 Mt. Lemmon to American Flag Trailhead via Oracle Ridge Trail. Rating: B! Pace: Moderate [275, 07:00 AM, \$10].** This is a long downhill hike northwards along the Oracle Ridge Trail from Summerhaven fire station to the Oracle Control Road near Oracle at the American Flag Trailhead. It is a very scenic hike with great views; however, the trail is steep in many places and has numerous stretches with loose rock. The hike starts at the Arizona Trailhead on the Control Road just below the Mt. Lemmon Fire Station. The trail between Dan Saddle and Rice Peak may be very brushy and difficult to follow, depending on the time of year. Defensive clothing and gloves are suggested. Hike may terminate at Cody Loop Road which will shorten hike by 1 mile. Hike 13.2 miles; trailhead elevation 7760 feet; net elevation loss 3320 feet; accumulated loss 5854 feet; accumulated gain 2278 feet; RTD 131 miles. [Guide: Susan Hollis, 825-6819, [slhollis@yahoo.com](mailto:slhollis@yahoo.com) ]

**Thursday, November 29, 2018 Dripping Springs from the Sutherland Trail. Rating: C. Pace: Slow [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 4.2 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 475 feet; accumulated gain 475 feet; RTD 24 miles. [Guide: Karen Gray, 818-0337 [kgrayinaz@yahoo.com](mailto:kgrayinaz@yahoo.com) ]

**Monday, December 03, 2018 Catalina State Park - Exploring the Trails. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate[142, 8:00 AM, \$2 + \$2].** The hike will explore various trails within the park. The park is a great example of the Sonoran Desert with its native plants and wildlife. Come enjoy the beautiful views of the Santa Catalina Mountains. Hike 7

to 8 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 400 to 1000 feet; accumulated gain \_\_ feet; RTD 24 miles. [Guide: Phil McNamee [mcnameephil@gmail.com](mailto:mcnameephil@gmail.com) 520-469-4504]

**Tuesday, December 04, 2018 Tortolita Mountains: Wild Burro Canyon Extension, Plus. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [465, 8:00AM, \$3].** The group takes 4WD vehicles along the Rail-X Marble Mine Road at the county line, and then a jeep road for another mile to the base of the mountains. We will hike into Wild Burro Canyon past the stone corral and a windmill, and then follow the new North-End section of the Wild Burro Trail down to our lunch spot at the spring and canyon drop-off point. We return via the same route, past Molly's memorial. Hike 8.4 miles; trailhead elevation 3600 feet; net elevation change 1000 feet; accumulated gain \_\_ feet; RTD 20 miles (dirt). [Susan Hollis, 520-825-6819, [slhollis@yahoo.com](mailto:slhollis@yahoo.com) ]

**Thursday, December 06, 2018 Deer Camp / Baby Jesus Loop. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [167, 08:00 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 650 feet; accumulated gain 1126 feet; RTD 12 miles (dirt). This hike is on or crosses Arizona State Trust Land: "The Arizona Land Department's trust management responsibilities include requiring a permit or lease and charging a fee for use of Trust land." Please note that Trust Land is private (not public) and requires a recreation permit for hiking which can be obtained through the state land department. [Guide: Walt Shields [waltshields@mac.com](mailto:waltshields@mac.com) 818-3439.]

**Sunday, December 09, 2018 OSP Exploration. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [308, 10:00 AM, \$3 +\$2].** Note the later starting time. The hike involves the exploration of several trails in Oracle Sate Park. Along the way, hikers enjoy the interesting boulder groups, oak woodlands, manzanita stands, and desert grasslands found in this state park. Hike 4 miles; trailhead elevation 4350 feet; net elevation change 200 - 400 feet; accumulated gain \_\_ feet; RTD 40 miles. [Guide: Phil McNamee [mcnameephil@gmail.com](mailto:mcnameephil@gmail.com) 520-369-4504.]

**Monday, December 10, 2018 Tanque Verde Ridge Trail. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [443, 08:00 AM, \$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 8.0 miles; trailhead elevation 3120 feet; net elevation change 2023 feet; accumulated gain 2225 feet; RTD 82 miles. [Guide: Frank Earnest [fearnestiv@gmail.com](mailto:fearnestiv@gmail.com) ]

**Tuesday, December 11, 2018 Wasson Peak via Sendero Esperanza and Hugh Norris Trails. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [480, 8:00 AM, \$7].** 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 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 8.0 miles; trailhead elevation 2960 feet; net elevation change 1624 feet; accumulated gain 1764 feet; RTD 73 miles (dirt). [Rob Simms [Spartan7375@gmail.com](mailto:Spartan7375@gmail.com) ]

**Wednesday, December 12, 2018 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 6.4 miles; trailhead elevation 2800 feet; net elevation change 643 feet; accumulated gain 730 feet; RTD 75 miles. [Guide: Walt Shields [waltshields@mac.com](mailto:waltshields@mac.com) 818-3439.]

**Thursday, December 13, 2018 Brown Mountain. Rating: C. Pace: Slow [124, 08:00 AM, \$6].** The Brown Mountain Trail is along a ridge in the heart of the Tucson Mountains. It starts at a trailhead on McCain Loop Road, just south of Kinney Road east of the Arizona Sonoran Desert Museum. Along this "ridge ramble" are excellent views of the mountains, valleys, and desert vegetation. The route has many up and downs. Hike 5 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 (trailheads at either end are 2640 and 2880) feet; net elevation change 424 feet; accumulated gain 943 feet; RTD 73 miles. [Guide: Karen Gray, 818-0337, [kgrayinaz@yahoo.com](mailto:kgrayinaz@yahoo.com) ]

**Monday, December 17, 2018 Pima Canyon to 3rd Dam. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [337, 08:00 AM, \$3].** The Pima Canyon Trailhead is at the east end of Magee Road. The first mile or so of trail is across open desert along the south side of Pusch Peak. We pass the 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 into the open. We will hike past a rocky open area in the canyon beyond the second dam near Indian grinding holes and continue on to the third dam, the largest of the three. The return is via the same route. Hike 8.5 miles; trailhead elevation 2960 feet; net elevation change 1870 feet; accumulated gain 2210 feet; RTD 42 miles. [Guide: Frank Earnest [fearnestiv@gmail.com](mailto:fearnestiv@gmail.com) ]

**Wednesday, December 19, 2018 SBHC No December program due to holidays.**

**Friday, December 21, 2018 Phone Line Trail - Round Trip. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [323, 07:30 AM, \$4].** 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 964 feet; accumulated gain 1425 feet; RTD 56 miles. [Guide: Howie Fagan, 240-9556, [howieandelaine@q.com](mailto:howieandelaine@q.com) ]

**Wednesday, December 26, 2018 OSP American Avenue. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [306, 9:30 AM, \$3 + \$2].** Oracle State Park contains native Sonoran cacti, desert grassland, oak trees, and Manzanita stands, and contains several miles of well-maintained trails. The hike begins at the trailhead off American Ave. on the western edge of the park and proceeds along the relatively smooth Mariposa Trail toward the Oak Woodland picnic area. About 0.25 miles before reaching the picnic area, the group will take the 0.8-mile Bellota Loop Trail then connect back to the Mariposa Trail for the return. Along the way are excellent views of the Galiuro Mountains and San Pedro Valley to the north and the Santa Catalina Mountains to the south. Hike 3.2 miles; net elevation change &lt;500 feet; accumulated gain &lt;500 feet; RTD 40 miles. [Susan Hollis, 825-6819, [shollis@yahoo.com](mailto:shollis@yahoo.com) ]

**Friday, December 28, 2018 Canyon Loop, Birding, and Nature Trails. Rating: C. Pace: Slow to Moderate [136, 08:00 AM, \$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: Karen Gray, 818-0337, [kgrayinaz@yahoo.com](mailto:kgrayinaz@yahoo.com) ]