



# SADDLEBROOKE

## HIKING CLUB NEWSLETTER

<http://saddlebrookehikingclub.com>

JANUARY/FEBRUARY

2021

### STATE TRUST LAND PASS

\*\*\*OBTAIN ON-LINE\*\*\*

Submitted by Rob Simms, President

Have you done these local hikes: Fifty-Year trail area off Golder Ranch Road, Baby Jesus Trail, Deer Camp, or Sutherland Wash Petroglyphs? These hikes and many others are on (or cross) Arizona State Trust Land.

The State of Arizona allows us to access these areas (and millions of acres throughout the state) BUT only with permission. Each person must have a **Trust Land Recreational Pass** obtained through the State Land Department. The pass your guide carries does not grant you access to Trust Lands.

The pass is easily obtained on-line and valid for 12 months from your date of application. Individual passes are \$15 a year, and family passes only \$20 a year for two adults (and children under 18) living at the same address. We strongly advise that all SBHC members obtain a permit and renew it annually.

**This is the online link:**

<https://land.az.gov/applications-permits/recreation>

Questions? If you have further questions after visiting the site please contact me. Regards, Rob.

### AN ADVENTURE HIKE WITH TIM

Submitted by Elisabeth Wheeler

Hiking guide Tim Butler has explored all the trails in the State Trust Land and Coronado National Forest to the east of SaddleBrooke. Tim develops interesting variations to traditional hikes in the area.

Tim led six hikers on an adventure hike to an iconic crested saguaro and then to an overlook view of SaddleBrooke and the Tortolitas.

It was fun to hike on Cowboy Slickrock into Hidden Canyon.



After lunch at the rock slab with a dramatic view of the Tucson Mountains, hikers looped around Hidden Canyon Peak and back to their cars.





All hikers “oohed and aahed” at the rock formations and views discovered on this hike. Thank you, Tim.

### **SBHC MEMBER CONTACT INFORMATION**

Submitted by Rob Simms

Our Membership Director, Beth Jones, works diligently to maintain our list of members and their contact information – Email, Telephone, and Address. But our records depend on each of you letting us know of any updates.

- Has your preferred Email address changed?
- What about your primary telephone?
- Is that landline still valid or have you switched to “cell phone” only?
- Have you changed addresses within SaddleBrooke?

Please let Beth know if anything that needs updating in our roster. Easiest way is to email her: [bethannjones.831@gmail.com](mailto:bethannjones.831@gmail.com)

### **A VERY INTERESTING HISTORY OF THE SADDLEBROOKE AREA**

Submitted by Karen Gray

On Thursday, November 12, eight hikers led by Bob Simpson visited some interesting historic sites on the northeast area of SaddleBrooke, near the Preserve. Bob is an historian and has written a few books on the area.

He told us about Lloyd Golder III, who owned the land on which SaddleBrooke is built. Golder owned

many large ranches in this area, as well as some both north and south of here.

The property on which SaddleBrooke sits is only part of a ranch - which stretched from Catalina State Park on the south, Oracle Rd on the west, Oracle Junction and rte. 77 on the north, and across the Canada del Oro on the east. He had a grandiose plan to develop the area with homes, apartments, shopping areas, a sailing lake, and an airport.

He built a dam and created a large lake which covered most of the Preserve area – where there are now homes, golf courses, and more. The dam which was earthen had a leak, and they could never fill the lake.

Eventually, they had to destroy the dam because of fear of it failing and causing a catastrophic flood down the Canada del Oro which would have destroyed many homes to the south.

After visiting the Golder Dam, we hiked down the Canada del Oro to the site of the much older Charouleau Dam built by Pierre Charouleau.



Bob had many other interesting stories to tell of Golder’s life.

It was a nice hike climbing over the dam and spillway and so much interesting history that Bob related to us.



**REMINDER  
2021 SBHC MEMBERSHIP DUES  
SUSPENDED**

Submitted by Rob Simms, President

The SBHC Board of Directors at the meeting on August 6, 2020, voted to suspend the payment of "Membership Dues" for 2021.

- All current members will have their membership automatically extended through 2021.
- Those members who have paid for multiple years (pre-paid for 2021) will have their membership extended for an additional year.

Thank you for making this a great hiking club during a difficult year.

**WHO ARE THOSE MASKED  
MEN (AND GALS)?**

Submitted by Walt Shields

They are the diligent SaddleBrooke Hiking Club work crew that participated in the Catalina Hills Drive Road Cleanup on November 4, as a part of the Arizona Adopt-A-Highway program. The Hiking Club has provided volunteers for this project for around 12 years and is pleased to be a part of the effort to keep our community beautiful.



Thanks go out to the following members who participated: Bruce Landeck, Arlene Daigle, Jeff Love, Bill Leightenheimer, Russ Hampton, Kathy Hampton, Pam Wakefield, Leslie Hawkins, and Walt Shields (coordinator).

**RED MOUNTAIN TRAIL**

Submitted by Mary Kopp

Red Mountain Geological site is somewhat of a hidden gem or said another way - a hidden geode. Some 25 miles northwest of Flagstaff this is a one-of-kind geological phenomena, formed from a volcanic eruption dramatically altered by strong winds over 700,000 years ago.

Its hoodoos, sculptured cliff faces, and intimate amphitheater are reminiscent of Bryce Canyon or Cedar Breaks up in Utah. And yet Red Mountain is not a State Park or National Monument and is easily overlooked as most hikers choose trails closer to town.

It is a lonely trail that tramps through a sunbaked stretch of pinon pines and junipers before dropping into the bottom of a sandy wash that drains from the mountain's inner amphitheater. This inner amphitheater is an understatement. According to an Arizona Highway publication it is like a massive geode that has been cracked in half waiting to be explored.



This short hike, three miles roundtrip, invited us in. Once past the field of pines and junipers we faced a short ladder ascending - always good for a picture. Good thing there is not a weight limit, right? The trail then passed through a slotted canyon with only one direction, forward. You will soon enter the wondrous amphitheater filled with sepia-colored volcanic hoodoos and honeycomb weathered, aka tafoni textured walls. Towering above is a hole-ridden band of cliffs appearing to hang past verticality. There's copious room for exploration in the nooks and crannies of this rock playground.

On another note, to paraphrase the same Arizona Highway publication, it is a rare opportunity to view in Arizona, hoodoos - sculptured cliff faces all similar to what you see in Bryce Canyon National Park in Utah. Once again, all of this would not have been possible without the planning and attention to detail by our hike guides. Many thanks to Ruth Caldwell (Thursday) & Janet Frost (Tuesday) our guides. They not only pre-hiked the trail but even offered the same hike twice during our three-day trip. I told Ruth had it not been for her and the SaddleBrooke Hiking club I would have never experienced these AZ sanctuaries.

### **SYCAMORE CANYON RIM HIKES**

Submitted by Tim Butler

Sycamore Canyon is the second largest canyon in Arizona (behind the Grand Canyon). Sycamore Creek begins about 20 miles east of Flagstaff and carves out the Canyon for more than 20 miles to the south where it runs into the Verde River near Clarkdale. Our hikes took place on the very northern rim of the Canyon along the spectacular Sycamore Canyon Loop Trail.

We offered three variations of this great hike.

- The first offering was the full Loop Trail (rating "B", 11.5 miles).
- The second offering was a point-to-point key exchange hike with one group starting at the Paradise Forks trailhead and the other starting at the Dow Spring trailhead (rating "C", 6.2 miles).
- The third offering was a shorter version of the second, with one group starting at the

Vista Point trailhead and the other starting at Dow Spring (rating "D", 4.5 miles).

All three of these routes provided hikers with spectacular views of the deep Sycamore Canyon; travel through mixed stands of Ponderosa Pine, Gambel Oak, and Alligator Juniper; and finally, a walk along Sycamore Creek itself with wonderful ponds of water lilies and patches of cattail tule.



### **A SMALL BUT MIGHTY CREW WORK ON THE ARIZONA TRAIL**

Submitted by Elisabeth Wheeler

Arizona Trail maintenance is an ongoing project in Oracle State Park. Donovan Caputo from the Arizona Trail Association provided the tools and guidance for our November work party.





Two volunteers came all the way from Kearny to assist. Tools were selected to dig out catclaw to improve the tread and drainages at the northern end of Oracle State Park.

The volunteers enjoyed the camaraderie of getting to know each other while getting some significant work completed. Volunteers celebrated their excellent effort with individual brownie cups and cold beverages provided by Elisabeth Wheeler and Ray Peale.

The next work party will be Wednesday, January 20, 2021. To volunteer email Seana Kobak - [seanabk88@gmail.com](mailto:seanabk88@gmail.com) - for a rewarding morning of outdoor work!

### FINDING GRACE: A MYSTERY IS SOLVED

Submitted by Elisabeth Wheeler, Bob Simpson, & Elissa Cochran

SaddleBrooke hikers and equestrians have for years known of the gravestone of Grace Murray on a remote mound in the desert, east of Golder Ranch Road. When hiker Elisabeth Wheeler first observed the gravestone, it was illuminated by an early sunrise. To Elisabeth this moment felt sacred; she felt led to learn about and honor Grace's life. Thus, began a quest to discover the identity of Grace Murray who died in 1992.



A fellow hiker, Elissa Cochran, did genealogical research and discovered that Grace was the second oldest child of seven children born to Grace Miller of Brooklyn, New York. SaddleBrooke historian, Bob Simpson, found Grace's death notice in the

September 9, 1992, *Tucson Citizen* indicating that she was a nurse. On January 4 of the previous year, the *Citizen* published a photo showing Grace escorting a patient in a wheelchair from the University Medical Center. Bob was finally able to contact Grace's sister-in-law in Catalina. She said that Grace had been living in New Jersey with four children from her first marriage when she met and married Bob Murray. They moved to Catalina, Arizona over 30 years ago where Grace continued nursing and Bob became a mechanic at the Golder Ranch Fire Department. Bob's uncle, Harry Deforest Murray (nicknamed "Bob" or "Buck"), was the first Fire Chief of the Golder Ranch Fire District. Bob's father, Leo Eugene Murray, was head of GRFD maintenance.

Grace was working at Tucson's University Medical Center when a tumor was discovered in her lungs. She died of lung cancer on September 6, 1992. Because her favorite activity had been riding one of Leo's horses named Big Red, Leo Murray honored her wish that her ashes be placed near a trail in the desert. Some 17 years later, Grace's husband Bob died on Veteran's Day, 2019, having requested that his ashes be placed with those of his wife. But by then no member of the family knew the location of Grace's headstone. Bob Simpson told Grace's sister-in-law that members of the SaddleBrooke Hiking Club knew the location and would be honored to assist in any way possible.

Grace's son, Eugene, had moved from the Catalina area after his mother's death. He joined the Navy, visited several countries, and settled with his wife in Phoenix. After many years, Eugene was unable to recall the location of his mother's headstone. Learning of the Hiking Club's offer, Eugene wished to place his step-father's ashes at Grace's stone one year after his death – on Veteran's Day, 2020.

Guided by Elisabeth Wheeler and Bob Simpson, Eugene and his wife hiked to Grace's headstone following, auspiciously, a single rider on a red horse. Eugene related that his mother was a courageous and kind woman who would give anyone in need "the shirt off her back." She had escaped living on welfare by getting a nursing degree in New Jersey. Grace and Bob Murray were working in the same hospital, and Bob became the love of her life.

Grace's children were grateful to have Bob as a loving step-father.

On Veteran's Day, 2020, the story of "Finding Grace" reveals a life of courage, resilience and love.



### **FLAGSTAFF LOCKETT MEADOW INNER BASIN TRAIN**

Submitted by Mary Kopp

It was an awesome day of Aspen leaf-peeping, making it impossible to describe the awe-inspiring Lockett Meadow hiking trail without yelling "Wait! There's more!" Not many people know that Arizona is home to such amazing fall colors. Nestled within Coconino National Forest near Flagstaff, Lockett Meadow hosts a massive Aspen grove in full fall color. Aspens, we were told, are the largest living continuous rooting plant organism; thus, Aspens that number in hundreds of thousands are actually offshoots from a single Aspen tree root.

At 8600+ ft. elevation, the Lockett Meadow's trail surrounded hikers with carpeted fields of golden leaves within endless groves of Aspens. At every twist and turn, it was a truly extraordinary hike. Here the sunlight streamed across slopes dense with tall white Aspens – that extended as far as the eye could see.

At one point, a group picture was necessary; and we found our favorite tree to "peep" from. Our fearless guide, Ruth is in the foreground with her hands held high, in appreciation of the color fest.



As we continued our climb, we reached the Pump Houses that carry water down to Flagstaff. There in the distant backdrop loomed the San Francisco Peaks. These peaks are a result of an extinct volcano that rises up to 12,600 feet above sea level. The peaks created an ideal habitat for this massive grove of aspens.

All of this would not have been possible without the planning and attention to detail by our hike guides. Many thanks to Ruth Caldwell (Wednesday) & Janet Frost (Thursday) our guides. They not only pre-hiked the trail but wisely started the hikes early - reminding us about safety issues related to the higher elevation: water, nutrition, and COVID requirements. They even offered the same hike twice during our three-day trip. I told Ruth had it not been for her and the SaddleBrooke Hiking club I would have never experienced these AZ sanctuaries. It was a fabulous peeping day hike!

### **UNSTOPPABLE SADDLEBROOK HIKERS COMPLETE THE 800-MILE AZ TRAIL**

Submitted by Elisabeth Wheeler

Seana Kobak and Beth Jones met each other on a hike with the SaddleBrooke Hiking Club, and an adventure hike to Mt. Lemmon cemented their friendship. They then traveled and hiked together on the hiking club's fall trip to Durango last year and left immediately from there for their first backpack in the Canyonlands and Moab region. They discovered a shared passion for hiking and backpacking.



Before moving to SaddleBrooke full time, Seana backpacked over 5 years in the Cascade Mountains of Washington. Beth developed her passion for long distance hiking by hiking all of the trails in the Great Smoky Mountain National Park three times. In 2018, they listed her as the 17<sup>th</sup> woman to ever accomplish this feat.

After doing some trial backpacks on the Arizona Trail, Seana and Beth got “the bug” to do the entire trail, completing it in 9 months and 15 days.

Fellow SaddleBrooke hikers - Linda Eglin, Phil McNamee, Ray Peale, Elisabeth Wheeler, and Michael Hovan - had fun joining Seana and Beth on certain segments of the Arizona Trail. Seana and Beth’s husbands were encouraging and supportive of their backpacking trips.



The Arizona Trail is divided into segments that are easy to access by car. The GPS apps helped Seana and Beth stay on track and know the locations of water sources.

Their best surprise was discovering the amazing beauty and diversity of Arizona from Mexico to Utah. Colorful wildflowers and foliage were delightful. It was fun to see baby elk, lizards, Gila monsters and an occasional rattlesnake.

Their favorite camp site was along the edge of the Mogollon Rim where they could see miles of scenery.



Due to the COVID pandemic, there were fewer hikers on the Arizona Trail. However, they met some very interesting thru-hikers. Seana and Beth met and took a cancer survivor off the trail to get a well-deserved meal. Another time they brought fresh food to a thru-hiker they had met earlier. The camaraderie among thru-hikers was welcomed and appreciated.

The toughest parts of the Arizona Trail were the mountainous areas of the Mazatzals and the Superstitions. They opted to backpack these passages, hiking 16 – 19 miles per day with steep ascents and descents in order to beat upcoming heat waves.

On one passage, it was challenging to find a flat area so they set up their tents on the side of a hill in deep grass. Although they sought high altitudes for warm summer days, there were a few trips where they had tents in the mid 90's.

Most of the time, they either staged water or planned car staging to resupply water. However, they used a couple of "questionable" water sources (cattle troughs, muddy lakes/streams, and mosquito infested springs) that made them extremely grateful for both their Sawyer water filters and the ability to close their eyes so as not to see the color of water they were drinking.



Their best advice to other hikers is "to be open to hiking the Arizona Trail." Don't let 800 miles scare

you. It can be done as day hikes as well as backpacks. It is important to remain flexible, especially when it comes to changes in the weather.

Their GPS kept them on track, except when they became distracted by lively conversation and laughter and forgot to look at their device. Laughter was their best gift - sometimes making one another belly laugh the last eight miles of a hike when they both knew the hike "sucked" and their legs were shot. Communicating and understanding one another was also key.

Seana and Beth enjoyed their Arizona Trail Adventure so much that now they are planning their next long-distance trek. Congratulations to unstoppable Seana and Beth!



**SPRING PICNIC CANCELED**  
**Friday, March 19, 2021**

Submitted by Missy Rodey and Seana Kobak

Catalina State Park (CSP) has indicated to us that they are not honoring formerly issued group reservations nor accepting new group reservations for 2021. Therefore, our Spring Picnic, scheduled for March 19 at CSP, is canceled.



The Fall Picnic, which we hoped to schedule for late October or early November, as of this writing, will not take place. We remain open to changes the Park may make in their scheduling protocol and hope that perhaps next fall will bring the opportunity to hold our fall event. Watch for updates as 2021 unfolds.

### UPDATE ON THE SPRING HIKING TRIP TO MOAB, UTAH - April 12 – 16, 2021

Submitted by Tim Butler

Thanks to all of you who have expressed an interest in the Spring Trip to Moab. As of December 6, we have over 80 members expressing an interest in doing this trip! We are excited by the great response. Based on that response, the Trip Committee is forging ahead in the planning process. For those of you who have not yet decided, please check your calendars. We will be sending out an update as we get closer to a final plan. Stay tuned for more information in the coming weeks.

As a reminder, the three hiking days would be April 13, 14, and 15. If you do plan to go, it is suggested that you arrive in Moab on Monday (April 12) and depart on Friday (April 16) to be able to enjoy the 3 days of hike offerings. Hikes will be offered in B, C, and D categories, so there will be plenty of options for hikers of all levels.



Moab is conveniently located near several of Utah's most diverse national parks.

- Within minutes of town, you will find yourself surrounded by otherworldly red rock landscapes of Arches National Park.

- Less than an hour's drive north will put you atop the Islands of the Sky district of Canyonlands National Park. The views from Canyonlands encompass thousands of square miles of colorful canyons, mesas, and buttes. The Needles District of Canyonlands National Park (south of Moab) has more challenging hikes. The great scenery, however, does not end with these two national parks.
- Moab is surrounded by other public lands – Dead Horse Point State Park with its gorgeous views of the Colorado River 2,000 feet below and BLM Recreation Areas with hikes to famous geographic features, such as Corona Arch and the Fisher Towers.

We realize that it is very difficult at this time to commit to a trip such as this, but we will continue to plan for it as if it will happen.

We have arranged for a block of 20 rooms at the Mainstay Suites in Moab for the nights of April 12 through April 15 (checking out on April 16). The group rate is \$135.57 per night, plus tax. If you want to reserve a room at that rate, call The Mainstay Suites at 435-355-0909 and ask for the Front Desk (option 2). Tell them you are with the SaddleBrooke Hiking Club and want the group rate.

If you would like more information on the hotel their website is:

<https://www.choicehotels.com/utah/moab/mainstay-hotels/ut207?mc=llyxyxpx>

If you have an interest in the trip but would like to be added to the participant list, please respond to Tim Butler at:

[tucsontimmer@gmail.com](mailto:tucsontimmer@gmail.com)

### FUTURE HIKING GROUP EVENTS

Submitted by Rob Simms - President

**Future SaddleBrooke Hiking Club group events have been postponed until it is safe to gather. Fortunately, our club hikes will continue albeit under COVID guidelines.**

## Hiking Information

### HIKE RATINGS, PACE AND ELEVATION CHANGE

#### 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. In the hike descriptions that follow, both parameter values are exceeded for some hikes. However, that does not necessarily justify a higher combined rating.

Hike Rating	Distance (miles)	Accumulated Elevation Gain (feet)
A	>14	>3000
B	>8 to 14	>1500 to 3000
C	>4 to 8	>500 to 1500
D	≤4	≤500

#### Special Conditions

\*\*\*Some hikes may have special conditions that make a hike more difficult than the mileage/elevation gain rating would suggest. This could be due to unusual trail conditions, such as a very rocky trail, large steps up or down, or more exposure (steep banks or a cliff) which are present. These hikes are denoted with three asterisks beside the letter rating and will be repeated in the hike description with an explanation. When hikers sign up for a hike with the symbol \*\*\* they should clarify with the guide about the special condition to determine if the hike is right for them.

#### Pace

Pace for our hikes is described in terms of the moving average speed in miles per hour (MPH) over the course of a hike. The overall average speed is much more variable, depending on the number and duration of rest breaks and lunch, and the condition of a particular trail (smooth and flat versus rocky and steep). The following four categories are used to describe pace in the hike descriptions. The following four categories are used to describe pace in the newsletter:

Pace	Moving Average Speed (MPH)
Leisurely	<1.5
Slow	1.5 to <2.0
Moderate	2.0 to <2.5
Fast	≥2.5

#### Elevation Change

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

Net Elevation Change is generally 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). If no destination is listed, which may be the case for loop hikes or point-to-point hikes, net change is defined as the difference between the trailhead elevation and the highest elevation reached during the hike. If net elevation lost between the trailhead and the destination, a minus sign is used to show that elevation is lost. If an elevation profile is available, which applies in this database to mostly the Arizona Trail hikes for which GPS tracks have been generated, the net elevation change is the difference between the highest and lowest points along the trail.

Accumulated Gain is the sum of all upward stretches of a hike as recorded by a GPS device over the course of the entire hike. Accumulated elevation gain is always 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.

A cursory critique of the definition for “net elevation change” reveals that it is vague and imprecise and provides limited insight into trail difficulty (which is more accurately described in terms of accumulated gain or loss (parameters that are measured by GPSs). However, accumulated gain/loss information is unavailable for many hikes in the database, so net change has, for the time being, been retained because it is the only statistic available.

Accumulated gains are always greater than net elevation changes, except for point-to-point hikes where the destination is at a lower elevation than trailhead elevation. In this case, the accumulated gain could be much lower than the net elevation change. A good example of this is the hike from the top of Mt. Lemmon to Catalina State Park, which actually results in little gain but rather a significant accumulated loss. For loop and out-and-back hikes, accumulated elevation gains are usually greater, sometimes much greater, than net elevation changes.

## Hikes Offered

**REMINDER:** Pandemic precautions are in effect as outlined in the article elsewhere in this newsletter. Each guide will explain the safety measures that each hiker will be expected to follow on that particular hike.

**Friday, January 01, 2021 Picnic Rock/Double Crested/Dome Loop. Rating: C\*\*\* Pace: Moderate [NEW, 8:00 AM, \$0].** This hike uses the newly constructed Picnic Rock Beeline Trail. It departs from the south end of Arroyo Way in Unit 21. After crossing the Canada del Oro Wash, it shares the first 0.5 mile with the Double Crested/Dome Trail across a gentle mesa with prairie grass and mesquite trees. It then climbs up a ridgeline, crossing Charouleau Gap Road, to a prominent overlook above the Dodge Tank gorge. It is an area where five arroyos join to form the main channel, with steep rock walls descending into the wash below. Returning on the same route (Picnic Rock Beeline Trail) produces a 4.0-mile hike, with a 600 ft elevation gain. However, we will extend the hike approximately 0.5 miles by returning for a short distance on Charouleau Gap Road, and then the Double Crested/Dome Trail. Along the entire way are great views of SaddleBrooke, Catalina, and the Samaniego Ridge. \*\*\*The special condition is that there are several sections that are steeper than on an average park constructed trail. Hike 4.5 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; elevation change 750 feet; accumulated gain 800 feet; RTD 0 miles.[Michael Hovan, [michaelhovan@ameritech.net](mailto:michaelhovan@ameritech.net)]

**Saturday, January 02, 2021 Extended Fitness Walk. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [179, 07:00 AM, \$0].** As the name implies this an extended version of the weekday fitness walks. They will last 2 hours and travel approximately 6 miles over a variety of terrain including paved streets, golf course paths, and wilderness areas. They will start and finish in the same location as the weekday walks in the SaddleBrooke One parking lot. The longer duration will allow exploration of new and more distant areas, including The Preserve. The accumulated gain will vary from 600-1200 feet. Optional breakfast at the Road Runner Grill. [Guide: Michael Hovan, [michaelhovan@ameritech.net](mailto:michaelhovan@ameritech.net)]

**Monday, January 04, 2021 Two Cresteds and a Bushwhack Trail. Rating: C\*\*\* Pace: Moderate [NEW, 08:00 AM, \$4].** From the Upper Corral parking area, the hike proceeds along the diagonal trail to the Middlegate. After passing the gate we will follow cow paths for a bit before climbing up a rudimentary/bushwhack trail to a beautiful crested saguaro. \*\*\*The climb involves steep areas with some loose rock - hiking poles recommended. After leaving the saguaro we will continue east until we intersect the Middlegate Trail, then turn north following that trail back to the Middlegate. Along that trail we will see another iconic crested saguaro. After passing through the gate we retrace our steps to the parking area. Hike 5.7 miles; trailhead elevation 3240; net elevation change 300 feet; accumulated gain 650 feet; RTD 10 miles. [Guide: Ruth Caldwell, [azcaldwell3@gmail.com](mailto:azcaldwell3@gmail.com)]

**Monday, January 04, 2021 OSP Granite Overlook and Windy Ridge Loop. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [309, 08:00 AM, \$4 + \$2].** We will combine the 1.8-mile Granite Overlook Trail with the 1.0 mile Windy Ridge Trail for a total of just under 3 mile loop. It begins at the 1st parking lot in Oracle State Park and winds uphill in and around beautiful boulders, desert grassland, oak trees, and manzanita stands. The hike offers great views of the former Kannally Ranch which originally extended all the way to the San Pedro River. There is a steep section on the Granite Overlook that we can choose to do going up (clockwise) or down (counter-clockwise) depending on the group's choice. Hike 2.9 miles; trailhead elevation 4500 feet; net elevation change 400 feet; accumulated gain 500 feet; RTD 40 miles. [Guide: Janet Frost, [janetlynnfrost@gmail.com](mailto:janetlynnfrost@gmail.com) ]

**Monday, January 04, 2021 Superstitions: Weavers Needle to Fremont Saddle and Overlook Point. Rating: C\*\*\*. Pace: Moderate [497, 08:00 AM, \$20].** This in-and-out hike through the beautiful Superstition Mountains, brings you up to a stunning vista overlooking Weavers Needle. The needle is an iconic Arizona landmark often pictured in photos. \*\*\*The hike begins at the Peralta Trailhead and rises quickly on a rugged, vegetated path. Oak and mesquite trees are common along the trail as well as huge boulder formations. Magnificent vistas of the Superstitions are visible as the ascent continues. The trail reaches its highest elevation at Fremont Saddle and Weavers Needle comes into view. The hike continues for another 1/2 mile to reach Overlook Point (sometimes referred to as Lone Pine). After enjoying the view and a snack, we descend down the same trail. Hike 6 miles; trailhead elevation 2500 feet; net elevation change 1,385 feet; RTD 154 miles (dirt). [Guide: Dave Corrigan, 820-6110, [dave@daveandpam.com](mailto:dave@daveandpam.com)]

**Tuesday, January 05, 2021 Tortolita Mountains: Ridgeline and Wild Burro with Key Exchange. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [New, 07:30AM, \$4].** One group of hikers will start the



hike off of an old jeep road, at the end of the Rail-X Marble Mine Road. The other group of hikers start at the Ritz Carlton trailhead. Southbound hikers hike to Wild Burro Canyon from the north side of the Tortolitas on Jeep road past an old stone wall (that once was a goat corral), to the Loop Trail. This trail connects to the Ridgeline Trail. They then hike the Ridgeline Trail to the Alamo Springs Trail, then follow the Alamos Spring Trail a short distance to the Wild Burro Trail, taking the Wild Burro Trail down to the Ritz Carlton hiker parking lot. Northbound hikers do the same in reverse. 4WD vehicles will be needed to reach the northern starting point. Hike 10 miles; trailhead elevation 3800 feet at the north end, 2800 feet at the Wild Burro Trailhead; net elevation change 1000 feet; accumulated gain north 1800 feet, 1400 feet south; RTD 20 miles (dirt) for Southbound hikers RTD 44 miles for North Bound hikers. [Guide: Susan Hollis & Michael Hoven, [shollis@yahoo.com](mailto:shollis@yahoo.com)]

**Wednesday, January 06, 2021 Big Rock Dome No.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 leaves from the horse farm at the end of Arroyo Way near Unit 21. We cross Canada del Oro, which may have a shallow flow if it has rained, and follow a dirt road before turning left on the Charouleau Gap Road. After about 2 miles, passing forests of ocotillo, we climb across some interesting bald rock formations. There are great views of SaddleBrooke, Catalina and Biosphere along the way. On the way back, the group takes a short 1/2-mile side trip to a scenic overlook. Hike 6.5 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change 675 feet; accumulated gain 1031 feet; RTD 0 miles. [Guide: Frank Earnest, [fearnestiv@gmail.com](mailto:fearnestiv@gmail.com).]

**Thursday, January 07, 2021 [C] Fifty-Year Trail Area "Double D". Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [233, 08:00 AM, \$2].** The hike begins at the Golder Ranch parking area. The trail starts by crossing the Fifty-Year Trail and follows social trails toward the Sutherland Wash with several interesting sights along the way. The trail then loops back on a ridge that has great views, beautiful saguaros, and interesting rock formations. It then moves across the Lower Corral Rd to head on a diagonal toward the Middle Gate and returns via a loop. Hike 6.2 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change \_\_\_ feet; accumulated gain 334 feet; RTD 10 miles. 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 (<https://land.az.gov/applications-permits>). [Guide: Tim Butler, [tucsontimmer@gmail.com](mailto:tucsontimmer@gmail.com).]

**Friday, January 08, 2021 Tortolitas Mountains: Bushwhack to Jeffords Peak. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [473, 08:00 AM, \$4].** This hike is a loop and begins at the cattle guard/windmill on the Rail X Ranch and follows a jeep road and path to the saddle above Wild Burro Canyon. From the saddle, the path proceeds SW to a point where we will begin a bushwhack north following the Wild Burro Canyon drainage to another saddle. The descent from this saddle continues down a drainage westward to an old ranch road by Bass Spring in Bass Canyon. From there, we will follow the ranch road north a short distance before leaving the road and beginning a bushwhack east to the summit of Wild Horse Peak (elev. 4, 696 feet). Wild

Horse Peak provides great views of SaddleBrooke and the Catalina Mts. From the summit, the descent is south and passes near the marble mine where hikers will be able to collect samples. We will then follow an old ranch road back to the starting point. Hikers will need to wear long sleeved shirts and trousers, and bring gloves. Hike 9 miles; trailhead elevation 3621 feet; net elevation change 1075 feet; accumulated gain 1956 feet. RTD 20 miles (dirt). [Guide: Michael Hovan and Bill Leightenheimer, [michaelhovan@ameritech.net](mailto:michaelhovan@ameritech.net)]

**Friday, January 08, 2021 Canyon Loop, Birding, and Nature Trails. Rating: C. Pace: Slow-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, 520-351 -2058, [kgrayinaz@yahoo.com](mailto:kgrayinaz@yahoo.com).]

**Monday, January 11, 2021 Rams Creek Basin. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [354, 08:00 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. [Guide: Walt Shields, [waltshields@mac.com](mailto:waltshields@mac.com), 520-404-8998.]

**Monday, January 11, 2021 Petroglyph / Madonna Loop. Rating: C\*\*\*. Pace: Moderate [525, 08:00 AM, \$4].** This hike is a grand loop that takes us to several iconic locations but in a shortened version. More bang for your buck! It starts at the north gate of Catalina State Park on state land. We hike into the Sutherland Rock Art District where we visit 2 separate areas of petroglyphs. The trail then joins a spur up to the Baby Jesus trail where we head south to visit the rock formation known as Madonna and child (for which the trail was named). We will continue south to a junction with FR 643 for a short trek down a rocky jeep road (only 0.3 mi) - but with a stop at a lovely oasis in Cargodera Canyon that has beautiful Sycamore and Ash trees & often running water. Our final turn is onto an unnamed trail that will complete our loop back to the trailhead. This loop has beautiful scenery, \*\*\*but some fairly steep climbs with loose rock. Hiking poles are recommended. Hikers that have successfully completed several difficult C hikes will enjoy this hike. Hike 6.8 miles; trailhead elevation 2968 feet; net elevation change 852 feet; accumulated gain 1033 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: Michael Hovan, [michaelhovan@ameritech.net](mailto:michaelhovan@ameritech.net).]

**Tuesday, January 12, 2021 Bluff Loop Trail Sabino Canyon. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [110, 08:00 AM, \$6].** From the Sabino Canyon Visitor Center, the hike proceeds along the Esperero Trail to the Bluff Trail overlooking Sabino Creek, and is a favorite during the fall due



to color changes in the leaves of velvet ash, cottonwood, willow, and Arizona sycamore trees. After a visit to Sabino Dam for our break we will stop by the Nature Trail on our way out to see a beautiful crested saguaro. Bring a camera and a minimum of one quart of water. Hike 3.6 miles; trailhead elevation 2720 feet; net elevation change 200 feet; accumulated gain \_\_ feet; RTD 56 miles. [Guide: Ruth Caldwell, [azcaldwell3@gmail.com](mailto:azcaldwell3@gmail.com)]

**Tuesday, January 12, 2021 Pima Canyon to 2nd Dam. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [336, 08:00 AM, \$4].** 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: Tim Butler, [tucsontimmer@gmail.com](mailto:tucsontimmer@gmail.com).]

**Tuesday, January 12, 2021 Robles Pass Trails in Tucson Mountain Park. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [367, 08:00 AM, \$8].** 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 6.2 miles; trailhead elevation \_\_ feet; net elevation change 900 feet; accumulated gain 650 feet; RTD 75 miles. [Guide: Elisabeth Wheeler, [hikerelisabeth@gmail.com](mailto:hikerelisabeth@gmail.com).]

**Wednesday, January 13, 2021 Tortolita Mountains: Lower Javelina and Upper Javelina. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [459, 08:00 AM, \$4].** The hike begins at the Ritz Carlton Hotel hiker parking lot. The group will hike up Wild Burro Canyon a short distance to Lower Javelina Trail which we follow for 2 miles, then cross Wild Burro Canyon again to connect to Upper Javelina Trail. We will proceed along the Upper Javelina Trail for 3 miles; the end of Upper Javelina Trail is close to the golf course. The group will then hike an easy 1-mile path back to the parking lot. Hike 6.9 miles; trailhead elevation 2780 feet; net elevation change 550 feet; accumulated elevation 910 feet; RTD 44 miles. [Guide: Susan Hollis, [slhollis@yahoo.com](mailto:slhollis@yahoo.com)]

**Thursday, January 14, 2021 Fifty-Year Trail Loop via Ridgeline Trail to gate. Rating: C. Pace: Slow New, 08:00 AM, \$2 + \$2].** The hike begins at the Equestrian Center in Catalina State Park. After starting on the Fifty-Year Trail hikers will turn left onto an unmarked trail and hike along a rugged, scenic ridge line trail for about 2 miles. At the junction with the Fifty-Year Trail we turn left and hike to the gate, and return to the Equestrian Center via the Fifty-Year Trail. Hike is 5.6 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation changes 406 feet; total ascent 446 feet. RTD 24 miles. [Guide: Karen Gray, 520-351 -2058, [kgrayinaz@yahoo.com](mailto:kgrayinaz@yahoo.com).]

**Thursday, January 14, 2021 Tortolita Mountains: Dove Mountain. Rating: C\*\*\*. Pace: Moderate [457, 08:00 AM, \$4].** The mostly bushwhack hike begins at the cattle guard/windmill on the Rail-X Road and ascends to the top of 4661-foot Dove Mountain. From there we make our way along an up-and-down ridgeline north, which provides views of Ruelas, Cochie, and Wild Burro Canyons, and eventually reach a path and jeep road which returns to the trailhead. Views are outstanding and feral horses might be sighted.\*\*\* This hike is a rough, steep, and scratchy bushwhack making long pants and sleeves, gloves and hiking sticks desirable. Hike 4.7

miles; trailhead elevation 3600 feet; net elevation change 1061 feet; accumulated gain 1240 feet; RTD 20 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 (<https://land.az.gov/applications-permits>). [Guide: Michael Hovan, [michaelhovan@ameritech.net](mailto:michaelhovan@ameritech.net)]

**Thursday, January 14, 2021 Middle Gate/50 Year/Hidden Cyn. Loop 3. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [167, 09:00 AM, \$4].** From the Upper Corral area, we hike to the Middle Gate and then take the Middle Gate trail east to join the North 50 Yr. Loop at the Sutherland Wash. We climb northeast on the N. 50 Yr. Trail, passing an iconic crested saguaro. Near the top of the N. 50 Yr. Loop we will take the Cowboy Slickrock spur trail northeast to join the Hidden Canyon Trail. We will have lunch on rock slabs with a magnificent view. We then continue north on the Hidden Canyon Trail going around Hidden Canyon Peak in a counterclockwise direction until we rejoin the N. 50 Yr. Trail. We then take the west side of the N. 50 Yr. Loop back to the Middle Gate and then back to the Upper Corral. Hike 8.3 miles; trailhead elevation 3260 feet; net elevation change 687 feet; accumulated gain 1209 feet; RTD 10 miles (dirt). A medium to high clearance vehicle is required for driving on the Forest Service road beyond N. Equestrian Trail. 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 (<https://land.az.gov/applications-permits>). [Guide: Frank Earnest, [fearnestiv@gmail.com](mailto:fearnestiv@gmail.com).]

**Friday, January 15, 2021 Middle Gate Meander. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [524, 08:00 AM, \$4].** This is a pleasant hike from the Upper Corral parking lot to the Middle Gate using mostly social trails. The route largely avoids the busy 50 Year trail except for a 0.4-mile stretch. This is a relatively flat hike with great, open views of Samaniego, Pusch, and Baby Jesus Ridges. Hike 4.0 miles; trailhead elevation 3260 feet; net elevation change 160 feet; accumulated gain 290 feet; RTD 10 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 (<https://land.az.gov/applications-permits>). [Guide: Tim Butler, [tucsontimmer@gmail.com](mailto:tucsontimmer@gmail.com)]

**Friday, January 15, 2021 Loma Alta Trails. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [New, 07:00 AM, \$12].** This long gentle rolling hills hike traverses all the trails in the area of the Loma Alta Trailhead in Saguaro National Park East including the Ridgeview, Coyote Wash, Ruiz & Hope Camp Trails. Constantly hiking with awesome scenery including views of Tanque Verde, Rincon Peak & Mica Mountain. Maximum quota of participants: 6. Hike 11.6 miles; trailhead elevation 3120 feet; net elevation changes 500 feet; accumulated gain 1500 feet; RTD 114 miles. [Guide: Aaron Schoenberg; [askus3@centurylink.net](mailto:askus3@centurylink.net)]



**Saturday, January 16, 2021 🐕 Extended Fitness Walk. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [179, 07:00 AM, \$0].** This is a dog friendly hike. All members are welcome with or without a pet. As the name implies this an extended version of the weekday fitness walks. They will last 2 hours and travel approximately 6 miles over a variety of terrain including paved streets, golf course paths, and wilderness areas. They will start and finish in the same location as the weekday walks in the SaddleBrooke One parking lot. The longer duration will allow exploration of new and more distant areas, including The Preserve. The accumulated gain will vary from 600-1200 feet. Optional breakfast at the Road Runner Grill. [Guide: Michael Hovan, [michaelhovan@ameritech.net](mailto:michaelhovan@ameritech.net)]

**Monday, January 18, 2021 🐕 Tortolita Mountains: Wild Burro / Alamo Springs / Alamo Springs Spur Loop. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [461, 08:00 AM, \$4].** This is a dog friendly hike. All members are welcome with or without a dog. The hike begins at the Wild Burro Trailhead and proceeds up Wild Burro Canyon to the Alamo Springs Trail. The Ritz Carlton Hotel and new golf course are visible from many points along the trail. After 2.9 miles, we reach a pass, then descend to the Alamo Spur Trail, which we follow back into Wild Burro Canyon. Soon after reaching the canyon floor, there is an old stone house, and cistern on the right which belonged to goat herders in the early 1900's. There is also a large water catch basin, dubbed the swimming pool. From this point, hikers return along the Wild Burro Trail to the trailhead. Hike 5.7 miles; trailhead elevation 2800 feet; net elevation change 1080 feet; accumulated gain 1180 feet; RTD 44 miles. [Guide: Michael Hovan, [michaelhovan@ameritech.net](mailto:michaelhovan@ameritech.net)]

**Monday, January 18, 2021 Fifty-Year Trail Area. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [183, 08:00 AM, \$2].** The hike begins at the Golder Ranch parking area. The trail starts on the Fifty-Year Trail and follows social trails toward the Sutherland Wash. The trail then loops back on a ridge that has great views, beautiful saguaros, and interesting rock formations. Hike 3.8 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change \_\_\_ feet; accumulated gain 234 feet; RTD 10 miles. 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 (<https://land.az.gov/applications-permits>). [Guide: Tim Butler, [tucsontimmer@gmail.com](mailto:tucsontimmer@gmail.com).]

**Tuesday, January 19, 2021 Sutherland Wash Petroglyphs Loop from the south. Rating: C\*\*\*. Pace: Moderate [98, 08:00 AM, \$4].** This hike begins at the CSP North Gate. It takes us on a grand circle tour of four concentrations of ancient petroglyphs located west of Baby Jesus Ridge near the Sutherland Wash. The Sutherland Wash Rock Art District is a special place right in our backyard and is on the National Historic Register. Hohokam petroglyphs dating from 900 AD to 1300 AD number in the thousands on the western slope of the Santa Catalina Mountains. Along our hike we will see beautiful saguaros, seasonal wildflowers, and vistas of Pusch Ridge.\*\*\* The hike involves a few short, steep, rocky sections of trail and uneven footing at times. Bring a lunch or snack to enjoy while we rest on rocks near one of the petroglyph locations. Hike 4.7 miles; trailhead elevation 2950 feet; total ascent: 722 ft, net elevation change: 431 ft. 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: Dave Corrigan, 820-6110, [dave@daveandpam.com](mailto:dave@daveandpam.com)]

**Wednesday, January 20, 2021 Arizona Trail: Work Session. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [87, 07:30 AM, \$4 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 2-4 hours. Hike 3-6 miles. RTD 41 miles. The club will pay the \$4 driver donation. [Guide: Seana Kobak, [seanabk88@gmail.com](mailto:seanabk88@gmail.com), or Ray Peale, [ray.peale@gmail.com](mailto:ray.peale@gmail.com)]

**Thursday, January 21, 2021 Pontatoc Peak. Rating: B\*\*\*. Pace: Moderate [498, 08:00 AM, \$4].** The hike starts at the Finger Rock Trailhead at the north end of Alvernon Way. Sometimes called the Old Spanish Mine Trail, the trail goes up the northwest side of Pontatoc Ridge to a faint trail junction that leads right and straight uphill. The junction is a little over 2 miles from the trailhead and clearly visible due to increased recent use. \*\*\*Continuing along this faint, steep, rocky trail for another half mile and 900 feet vertically will get you to the peak, but there is significant boulder scrambling required along the way. The peak is not identified on USGS topo maps, but is located at 12S 510674, 3578685 and is about 5080 feet high. There are great views of Tucson and the surrounding area at the top and along the way. The hike is strenuous in some areas due to the steep incline, rocky path, and scrambling. At the junction on the way down, a right turn will take you to just below the old mines. Including this short side trip adds 0.2 miles and 100 feet of climbing but allows hikers to reach the destination of the Pontatoc Ridge hike also. There are short stretches of exposed trail near the old mines and along the steep climb to the ridge leading to the peak. Hike 5.2 miles; trailhead elevation 3100 feet; net elevation change 2000 feet; accumulated gain 2400 feet; RTD 44 miles. [Guide: Michael Hovan, [michaelhovan@ameritech.net](mailto:michaelhovan@ameritech.net)]

**Thursday, January 21, 2021 Garwood Dam/Wildhorse Tank Loop. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [198, 08:00 AM, \$8].** From the end of Speedway on the east side of Tucson we enter Saguaro National Park East. Following several trails that circle Wildhorse Trail (but never actually on it) we make our way south to a junction with the Garwood Trail and turn south passing a beautiful crested saguaro to visit the site of the old Garwood Dam. We then take Carillo Trail to intersect with the Wildhorse Trail turning south to reach the pools of Wildhorse Tank where we have our snack break. We return on the Garwood Trail to resume our loop hike back to the parking area. Limited to 8 hikers. Bring plenty of water and a snack. Hike 6.0 miles; trailhead elevation 2770; net elevation change 470 feet; accumulated gain 740 feet; RTD 80 miles. [Guide: Ruth Caldwell, [azcaldwell3@gmail.com](mailto:azcaldwell3@gmail.com)]

**Friday, January 22, 2021 Brown Mountain. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [124, 08:00 AM, \$7].** 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: Walt Shields, waltshields@mac.com, 520-404-8998.]

**Sunday, January 24, 2021 Extended Fitness Walk. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [179, 07:00 AM, \$0].** As the name implies this an extended version of the weekday fitness walks. They will last 2 hours and travel approximately 6 miles over a variety of terrain including paved streets, golf course paths, and wilderness areas. They will start and finish in the same location as the weekday walks in the SaddleBrooke One parking lot. The longer duration will allow exploration of new and more distant areas, including The Preserve. The accumulated gain will vary from 600-1200 feet. Optional breakfast at the Road Runner Grill. [Guide: Michael Hovan, [michaelhovan@ameritech.net](mailto:michaelhovan@ameritech.net)]

**Monday, January 25, 2021 🐘 Little Elephant Head & Horseshoe Mine. Rating: C\*\*\*. Pace: Moderate [New, 08:00 AM, \$15].** The hike forms a "Y" with two major landmark attractions at the end of each stem of the "Y". First we will go over several humps and climb to the Little Elephant Head summit which has awesome views especially to the west. The trail is rocky and scrubby. Dress defensively. Hiking poles and gloves are recommended. Then the right fork of the hike takes us along an old mine road to the Horseshoe Mine. Entering the mine is optional (for people only). Here we will enter a narrow cavity that we will have to crawl into to go underground. Waterproof boots and flashlight/headlamp are required for exploration. It will be muddy in places but you will be able to stand upright throughout after the initial entry. This hike is dog friendly but all members are welcome to join even without a canine companion. Maximum quota of participants: 8. Hike 4.2 miles; trailhead elevation 4570 feet; net elevation changes 604 feet; accumulated gain 1300 feet; RTD 136 miles (5 miles dirt road). [Guide: Aaron Schoenberg; [askus3@centurylink.net](mailto:askus3@centurylink.net)]

**Tuesday, January 26, 2021 Esperero Canyon/Rattlesnake/Phoneline Loop Trail. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [NEW, 08:00 AM, \$6].** From the Sabino Canyon Visitor Center, the hike proceeds along the Esperero Canyon/Rattlesnake Canyon trails to the Tram stop 1 picnic area on Sabino Creek - a favorite with views of Sabino Creek with velvet ash, cottonwood, willow, and Arizona sycamore trees. After a short break we will cross Sabino Creek (if water level permits) and climb a spur trail up to the Phoneline Trail where we turn to head back down towards the Visitor Center. We will finish on the Bajada Nature loop with a beautiful crested saguaro. Bring a camera and plenty of water and snacks. Hike 5.1 miles; trailhead elevation 2450 feet; net elevation change 500 feet; accumulated gain 780 feet; RTD 56 miles. [Guide: Ruth Caldwell, [azcaldwell3@gmail.com](mailto:azcaldwell3@gmail.com)]

**Wednesday, January 27, 2021 Middle Gate/50 Year/Hidden Cyn. Loop 2. Rating: B or C. Pace: Moderate [522, 08:00 AM, \$4].** The B/C rating is due to the length of the hike which just exceeds the upper limit for C hike designation. From the Upper Corral area we hike to the Middle Gate and take the N. 50 Yr. Trail north to the junction with the Hidden Canyon Loop Trail. We take the Hidden Cyn. Loop Trail clockwise around Hidden Canyon Peak. We will have lunch on rock slabs with a magnificent view. We then head down the Hidden Canyon Trail



to a spur trail which takes us west to join the Middle Gate Trail. We will take that trail back through the Middle Gate and return to the Upper Corral. Hike 8.2 miles; trailhead elevation 3260 feet; net elevation change 718 feet; accumulated gain 1104 feet; RTD 10 miles (dirt). A medium to high clearance vehicle is required for driving on the Forest Service road beyond N. Equestrian Trail. 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 (<https://land.az.gov/applications-permits>). [Guide: Tim Butler, [tucsontimmer@gmail.com](mailto:tucsontimmer@gmail.com).]

**Thursday, January 28, 2021 Arthur Pack Loop. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [529, 08:00 AM, \$4].** The Arthur Pack Loop trail is in the Arthur Pack Regional Park which is at 9101 N. Thornydale Rd. just before the junction with W. Overton Road. The trail is a broad easy trail which goes through desert cacti, native trees and shrubs. Views of the Tucson Mountains and Tortolita Mountains are prominent. Hike 4.1 miles; trailhead elevation: 2,321 feet; net elevation change 133 feet; RTD 36 miles. [Guide: Elisabeth Wheeler, [hikerelisabeth@gmail.com](mailto:hikerelisabeth@gmail.com).]

**Thursday, January 28, 2021 Phone Line Trail - Round Trip. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [323, 08:00 AM, \$6].** 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: Frank Earnest, [fearnestiv@gmail.com](mailto:fearnestiv@gmail.com).]

**Friday, January 29, 2021 Alamo Canyon Up/Back or Loop. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [6, 08:00 AM, \$2 + \$2].** The hike begins at the Romero Ruins Trailhead in Catalina State Park. This hike can be done on the north side trail in-out or as a loop around Alamo Canyon going up one side and returning down the other (clockwise or counter-clockwise). Other than one short area by the wash, the elevation change is generally gradual. The south-side trail traverses several rocky washes. This is a lovely hike up to Alamo Canyon Falls and return. There is a very scenic large flat-rock area above the falls. Water may be present in the canyon after rainy periods, but there are no significant water crossings. Hikers may stop by the Romero Ruins and take the informative loop trail from there. Hike 3.5 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 360 feet; accumulated gain 429 feet; RTD 24 miles. [Guide: Michael Hovan, [michaelhovan@ameritech.net](mailto:michaelhovan@ameritech.net).]

**Saturday, January 30, 2021 🐕 Extended Fitness Walk. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [179, 07:00 AM, \$0].** This is a dog friendly hike. All members are welcome with or without a pet. As the name implies this an extended version of the weekday fitness walks. They will last 2 hours and travel approximately 6 miles over a variety of terrain including paved streets, golf course paths, and wilderness areas. They will start and finish in the same location as the weekday walks in the SaddleBrooke One parking lot. The longer duration will allow exploration of new and

more distant areas, including The Preserve. The accumulated gain will vary from 600-1200 feet. Optional breakfast at the Road Runner Grill. [Guide: Michael Hovan, [michaelhovan@ameritech.net](mailto:michaelhovan@ameritech.net)]

**Monday, February 01, 2021 Samaniego Roost. Rating: C\*\*\*. Pace: Moderate [384, 08:00 AM, \$4].** This hike takes the hiker on a tour of several different environments in the Fifty-Year Area. It starts at the Lower Corral and follows a jeep road that connects to the beginning of the Baby Jesus Trail across the Sutherland Wash. It proceeds along the Baby Jesus trail and goes past a beautiful stand of large, 100-year old saguaros to a connecting wash. Along the way we pass two chollas that are so big they look like trees. There is some hiking over rocks off-trail in the wash bed for about 1/2 mile. If water is present in the wash, footing can be unstable. From the junction at the Baby Jesus trail, we then proceed up the Samaniego Ridge trail which climbs up some large, moderately steep rock slabs and the final destination at a lookout on an “arm” that stretches down from Samaniego Ridge. The view from there is astounding and expansive: you can see Biosphere 2 and SaddleBrooke to the north; the Picacho and the Tortolitas mountains, and the Sutherland Wash to the west; Sombrero, Panther, and Wasson peaks to the southwest; and finally, the Pusch Ridge series and Baboquivari to the south. Hike 5.8 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change \_\_\_ feet; accumulated gain 1165 feet, RTD 12 miles (dirt). A medium to high clearance vehicle is required for driving on the Forest Service road beyond N. Equestrian Trail. 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 (<https://land.az.gov/applications-permits>). [Guide: Michael Hovan, [michaelhovan@ameritech.net](mailto:michaelhovan@ameritech.net)]

**Tuesday, February 02, 2021 Middle Gate/50 Year/Hidden Cyn. Loop 3. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [523, 08:00 AM, \$4].** From the Upper Corral area, we hike to the Middle Gate and then take the Middle Gate trail east to join the North 50 Yr. Loop at the Sutherland Wash. We climb northeast on the N. 50 Yr. Trail, passing an iconic crested saguaro. Near the top of the N. 50 Yr. Loop we will take the Cowboy Slickrock spur trail northeast to join the Hidden Canyon Trail. We will have lunch on rock slabs with a magnificent view. We then continue north on the Hidden Canyon Trail going around Hidden Canyon Peak in a counterclockwise direction until we rejoin the N. 50 Yr. Trail. We then take the west side of the N. 50 Yr. Loop back to the Middle Gate and then back to the Upper Corral. Hike 8.3 miles; trailhead elevation 3260 feet; net elevation change 687 feet; accumulated gain 1209 feet; RTD 10 miles (dirt). A medium to high clearance vehicle is required for driving on the Forest Service road beyond N. Equestrian Trail. 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 (<https://land.az.gov/applications-permits>). [Guide: Tim Butler, [tucsontimmer@gmail.com](mailto:tucsontimmer@gmail.com).]

**Tuesday, February 02, 2021 Sutherland Wash Petroglyphs loop from Golder Ranch. Rating: C\*\*\*. Pace: Moderate [186, 08:00 AM, \$2].** This hike begins at Golder Ranch. It takes us on a grand circle tour of four concentrations of ancient petroglyphs located west of Baby Jesus

Ridge near the Sutherland Wash. The Sutherland Wash Rock Art District is a special place right in our backyard and is on the National Historic Register. Hohokam petroglyphs dating from 900 AD to 1300 AD number in the thousands on the western slope of the Santa Catalina Mountains. Along our hike we will see beautiful saguaros, seasonal wildflowers, and beautiful vistas of Pusch Ridge. \*\*\* The hike involves a few short, steep, rocky sections of trail, some rock scrambling, and a short section of mild bushwhacking. There are also two crossings of a wash which may involve some easy rock-hopping depending on the season. Bring a lunch or snack to enjoy while we rest in the shade of some giant boulders at one of the petroglyph locations. Hike 6.0 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change 250 feet; accumulated gain 800 feet; RTD 10 miles. 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 (<https://land.az.gov/applications-permits>). Starting the hike from this parking location avoids the need for high clearance vehicles. [Guide: Ruth Caldwell, [azcaldwell3@gmail.com](mailto:azcaldwell3@gmail.com)]

**Wednesday, February 03, 2021 Tortolita Preserve. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [470, 08:00 AM, \$4].** The trailhead is at the end of W. Moore Road about 1.5 miles west off Dove Mountain Blvd. The hike involves a portion of the multipurpose Tortolita Trail located on the Tortolita Preserve. Hike 4 miles; trailhead elevation 2500 feet; net elevation change less than 500 feet; accumulated gain 0 feet; RTD 44 miles. [Guide: Janet Frost, [janetlynnfrost@gmail.com](mailto:janetlynnfrost@gmail.com) ]

**Thursday, February 04, 2021 Cactus Forest Area. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [130, 08:00 AM, \$8].** The hike explores some of the trails in the Cactus Forest Area of the Saguaro National Park - East and enjoys the scenic 8-mile Cactus Forest Loop Drive. We will stop at the Desert Ecology Trail, the 1920's Freeman Homestead Ruins, and the National Park Visitor Center. Pack a lunch. Hike 4 miles; trailhead elevation 2750 feet; net elevation change 200 feet; accumulated gain is minimal; RTD 82 miles. [Guide: Walt Shields, [waltshields@mac.com](mailto:waltshields@mac.com), 520-404-8998.]

**Thursday, February 04, 2021 Wasson Peak via Sendero Esperanza and Hugh Norris Trails. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [480, 08:00 AM, \$9].** 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 1776 feet; RTD 73 miles (dirt). [Guide: Frank Earnest, [fearnestiv@gmail.com](mailto:fearnestiv@gmail.com).]

**Friday, February 05, 2021 Tortolita Mountains: Wild Mustang Trail to Jeb Peak. Rating: B/C. Pace: Moderate [138, 07:00 AM, \$4].** The hike begins at the Wild Burro TH, and proceeds up the Hotel Spur to the Wild Mustang Trail. We then turn on an unmaintained, but well-marked spur, and continue the climb to Jeb Peak, the 3rd highest point in the Tortolita range. There are excellent 360-degree views of Tucson, Catalina, and Marana. While the final 100-foot climb to the summit involves an easy rock scramble, good views are also available from a lower knoll. This hike is also appropriate for any strong C level hikers. Return is via the same



route. Hike 7.6 miles; trailhead elevation 2780 feet; net elevation change 1390 feet; accumulated gain 1722 feet; RTD 44 miles. [Michael Hovan, [michaelhovan@ameritech.net](mailto:michaelhovan@ameritech.net)]

**Friday, February 05, 2021 Middle Gate Meander. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [524, 08:00 AM, \$4].** This is a pleasant hike from the Upper Corral parking lot to the Middle Gate using mostly social trails. The route largely avoids the busy 50 Year trail except for a 0.4-mile stretch. This is a relatively flat hike with great, open views of Samaniego, Pusch, and Baby Jesus Ridges. Hike 4.0 miles; trailhead elevation 3260 feet; net elevation change 160 feet; accumulated gain 290 feet; RTD 10 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 (<https://land.az.gov/applications-permits>). [Guide: Tim Butler, [tucsontimmer@gmail.com](mailto:tucsontimmer@gmail.com)]

**Sunday, February 07, 2021 🐕 Extended Fitness Walk. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [179, 07:00 AM, \$0].** This is a dog friendly hike. All members are welcome with or without a dog. As the name implies this is an extended version of the weekday fitness walks. They will last 2 hours and travel approximately 6 miles over a variety of terrain including paved streets, golf course paths, and wilderness areas. They will start and finish in the same location as the weekday walks in the SaddleBrooke One parking lot. The longer duration will allow exploration of new and more distant areas, including The Preserve. The accumulated gain will vary from 600-1200 feet. Optional breakfast at the Road Runner Grill. [Guide: Michael Hovan, [michaelhovan@ameritech.net](mailto:michaelhovan@ameritech.net)]

**Monday, February 08, 2021 Arthur Pack Loop. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [529, 08:00 AM, \$4].** The Arthur Pack Loop trail is in the Arthur Pack Regional Park which is at 9101 N. Thornydale Rd. just before the junction with W. Overton Road. The trail is a broad easy trail which goes through desert cacti, native trees and shrubs. Views of the Tucson Mountains and Tortolita Mountains are prominent. Hike 4.1 miles; trailhead elevation: 2,321 feet; net elevation change 133 feet; RTD 36 miles. [Guide: Elisabeth Wheeler, [hikerelisabeth@gmail.com](mailto:hikerelisabeth@gmail.com)]

**Tuesday, February 09, 2021 Fifty-Year Trail Area. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [183, 08:00 AM, \$2].** The hike begins at the Golder Ranch parking area. The trail starts on the Fifty-Year Trail and follows social trails toward the Sutherland Wash. The trail then loops back on a ridge that has great views, beautiful saguaros, and interesting rock formations. Hike 3.8 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change \_\_ feet; accumulated gain 234 feet; RTD 10 miles. 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 (<https://land.az.gov/applications-permits>). [Guide: Tim Butler, [tucsontimmer@gmail.com](mailto:tucsontimmer@gmail.com).]

**Tuesday, February 09, 2021 Wasson Peak via Sendero Esperanza and Hugh Norris Trails. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [480, 07:00 AM, \$9].** 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 1776 feet; RTD 73 miles (dirt). [Guide: Dave Corrigan, [dave@daveandpam.com](mailto:dave@daveandpam.com), 520-820-6110]

**Wednesday, February 10, 2021 Lower Corral to Arroyo Way via Hidden Canyon Peak.**

**Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [New, 08:00 AM, \$4].** The hike begins at the Lower Corral and proceeds down the 50 Year Trail, to the Middle Gate Trail. After a short distance we enter a secluded canyon with centenarian saguaros and striking granite formations. We then take the upper 50-year trail along a ridgeline, past a crested saguaro to the Cowboy Slickrock Trail where we traverse large slabs of granite. Next we enter a picturesque, narrow canyon which is the headwater of the Sutherland Wash. There is then a short bushwhack to the summit of Hidden Canyon Peak (Point 4178), where we will have lunch with great views of Catalina, Oro Valley, and SaddleBrooke. This site is said to emanate powerful cosmic forces, surpassing those of the Vortexes in Sedona. Many hikers feel inspired, recharged, and spiritually healed after visiting this ancient source of spiralling energy in the front range of the Catalinas. You are encouraged to bring your favorite Lululemon yoga pants if you wish to meditate during lunch. We then return to SaddleBrooke via the 4178 Expressway. A car shuttle will be required, unless we have enough hikers for a key exchange. Hike 8 miles; trailhead elevation 3240 feet; net elevation change 860 feet; accumulated gain 1250 feet; RTD 12 miles (dirt). A medium to high clearance vehicle is required for driving on the Forest Service road beyond N. Equestrian Trail. 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 (<https://land.az.gov/applications-permits>). [Guide: Michael Hovan, [michaelhovan@ameritech.net](mailto:michaelhovan@ameritech.net)]

**Thursday, February 11, 2021 Picnic Rock/Double Crested/Dome Loop. Rating: C\*\*\* Pace:**

**Moderate [NEW, 8:00 AM, \$0].** This hike departs from the south end of Arroyo Way in Unit 21. After crossing the Canada del Oro Wash, we share the first 0.5 mile with the Double Crested/Dome Rock Trail - up a steep hill then across a gentle mesa with prairie grass and mesquite trees. We then climb up a ridgeline, crossing Charouleau Gap Road, to a prominent overlook above the Dodge Tank gorge. It is an area where five arroyos join to form the main channel, with steep rock walls descending into the wash below. \*\*\* There are areas of steep hills with some loose rock on this hike - hiking poles are advised. We return for a short distance on Charouleau Gap Road, and then cross over to the trail up the backside of Dome Rock where we will have our snack. On our return we pass the beautiful double crested saguaro. Along the entire way are great views of SaddleBrooke, Catalina, and the Samaniego Ridge. Hike 4.8 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; elevation change 750 feet; accumulated gain 830 feet; RTD 0 miles. [Guide: Ruth Caldwell, [azcaldwell3@gmail.com](mailto:azcaldwell3@gmail.com)]

**Thursday, February 11, 2021 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).]

**Thursday, February 11, 2021 American Flag. Rating: C. Pace: SLOW [8, 08:00 AM, \$4].**

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: Karen Gray, 520-351-2058, [kgrayinaz@yahoo.com](mailto:kgrayinaz@yahoo.com)].

**Friday, February 12, 2021 🐕 Cordones. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [509, 08:00 AM, \$0].**

This is a dog friendly hike. All hikers are welcome with or without a dog. We meet at the intersection of Whispering Tree Ln and S Border Dr. The hike is in the desert area (state trust land parcel 10S-14E-22) between the northwest border of Saddlebrook unit 8A, and the ridgeline in the Cordones, along which Catalina Hills Blvd follows to the Preserve. It is a smooth, level trail that offers a good introduction to desert hiking. We pass a water trough for livestock leasing this parcel of state trust land, and cross over a wash with an old abandoned truck. There are nice views to the east of Saddlebrook and the Catalinas. Hike 3.2 miles; trailhead elevation 3300 feet; accumulated gain 328 feet. RTD 0 miles. [Guide: Michael Hovan, [michaelhovan@ameritech.net](mailto:michaelhovan@ameritech.net).]

**Saturday, February 13, 2021 Extended Fitness Walk. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [179, 07:00 AM, \$0].**

As the name implies this is an extended version of the weekday fitness walks. They will last 2 hours and travel approximately 6 miles over a variety of terrain including paved streets, golf course paths, and wilderness areas. They will start and finish in the same location as the weekday walks in the SaddleBrooke One parking lot. The longer duration will allow exploration of new and more distant areas, including The Preserve. The accumulated gain will vary from 600-1200 feet. Optional breakfast at the Road Runner Grill. [Guide: Michael Hovan, [michaelhovan@ameritech.net](mailto:michaelhovan@ameritech.net)]

**Monday, February 15, 2021 Pima Canyon to 1st Dam. Rating: D\*\*\*. Pace: Moderate [335, 09:00 AM, \$2].**

The Pima Canyon Trailhead is at the east end of Magee Road. We will hike the first part of Pima Canyon to the first dam and enjoy the beautiful scenery, take photos. There are pools of water at the dam most of the year. \*\*\*The trail is rocky at some points and involves some steps-up and steps-down but is not difficult. Hike 2.7 miles; trailhead elevation 2960 feet; net elevation change 320 feet; accumulated gain 487 feet; RTD 42 miles. [Guide: Walt Shields, [waltshields@mac.com](mailto:waltshields@mac.com), 520-404-8998.]



**Monday, February 15, 2021 Cargodera Canyon. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [New, 08:00 AM, \$4].** This hike begins at the CSP North Gate, and follows an unnamed trail east into the National Forest. After merging with the Sutherland Trail (FR 643) the route continues up the canyon to an area where there is a major fork in the stream with scenic cliffs and large rock formations. We will have lunch in this area next to the rushing water. The return will be along the same route with a stop at a second picturesque spot where the stream splits and cascades over multiple small falls. The area contains many sycamore, birch, and other wetland flora. Hike 7.3 miles; trailhead elevation 2970 feet; net elevation change 1300; accumulated gain 1378; RTD 12 miles (dirt). [Guide: Michael Hovan, [michaelhovan@ameritech.net](mailto:michaelhovan@ameritech.net)]

**Tuesday, February 16, 2021 Petroglyph / Madonna Loop. Rating: C\*\*\*. Pace: Moderate [525, 08:00 AM, \$4].** This hike is a grand loop that takes us to several iconic locations but in a shortened version. More bang for your buck! It starts at the north gate of Catalina State Park on state land. We hike into the Sutherland Rock Art District where we visit 2 separate areas of petroglyphs. The trail then joins a spur up to the Baby Jesus trail where we head south to visit the rock formation known as Madonna and child (for which the trail was named). We will continue south to a junction with FR 643 for a short trek down a rocky jeep road (only 0.3 mi) - but with a stop at a lovely oasis in Cargodera Canyon that has beautiful Sycamore and Ash trees & often running water. Our final turn is onto an unnamed trail that will complete our loop back to the trailhead. \*\*\*This loop has beautiful scenery, but some fairly steep climbs with loose rock. Hiking poles are recommended. Hikers that have successfully completed several difficult C hikes will enjoy this hike. Hike 6.8 miles; trailhead elevation 2968 feet; net elevation change 852 feet; accumulated gain 1033 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: Ruth Caldwell, [azcaldwell3@gmail.com](mailto:azcaldwell3@gmail.com)]

**Wednesday, February 17, 2021 Arizona Trail: Work Session. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [87, 07:30 AM, \$4 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 2-4 hours. Hike 3-6 miles. RTD 41 miles. The club will pay the \$4 driver donation. [Guide: Seana Kobak, [seanabk88@gmail.com](mailto:seanabk88@gmail.com), or Ray Peale, [ray.peale@gmail.com](mailto:ray.peale@gmail.com)]

**Thursday, February 18, 2021 Brown Mountain. Rating: C. Pace: Slow [124, 08:00 AM, \$7].** 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, 520-351 -2058, [kgrayinaz@yahoo.com](mailto:kgrayinaz@yahoo.com).]

**Thursday, February 18, 2021 Boulder Ridge Loop. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [112, 08:00 AM, \$0].** The hike begins on Arroyo Way and follows the Double Crested/Dome Trail to Big Dome Rock. It continues on Charouleau Gap Road, and then turns north on FR 4496 through a few miles of mesquites, mild hills and valleys, all in sight of the northern end of the Samaniego Ridge. We continue past Ruin Tank to The Preserve and then return through the Canada del Oro Wash. Hike 10.5 miles; trailhead elevation 3270 feet; net elevation change 950 feet; accumulated gain 1270 feet; RTD 5 miles. [Guide: Michael Hovan, [michaelhovan@ameritech.net](mailto:michaelhovan@ameritech.net).]

**Friday, February 19, 2021 Sweetwater Preserve. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [432, 08:00 AM, \$6].** 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](http://www.sdmdb.org/trail-Sweetwater.html)). Hike 7.2 miles; trailhead elevation 2800 feet; net elevation change less than 1000 feet; accumulated gain 603 feet; RTD 60 miles. [Guide: Elisabeth Wheeler, [hikere Elisabeth@gmail.com](mailto:hikere Elisabeth@gmail.com).]

**Friday, February 19, 2021 Middle Gate/50 Year/Hidden Cyn. Loop 2. Rating: B or C. Pace: Moderate [523, 09:00 AM, \$4].** The B/C rating is due to the length of the hike which just exceeds the upper limit for C hike designation. From the Upper Corral area we hike to the Middle Gate and take the N. 50 Yr. Trail north to the junction with the Hidden Canyon Loop Trail. We take the Hidden Cyn. Loop Trail clockwise around Hidden Canyon Peak. We will have lunch on rock slabs with a magnificent view. We then head down the Hidden Canyon Trail to a spur trail which takes us west to join the Middle Gate Trail. We will take that trail back through the Middle Gate and return to the Upper Corral. Hike 8.2 miles; trailhead elevation 3260 feet; net elevation change 718 feet; accumulated gain 1104 feet; RTD 10 miles (dirt). A medium to high clearance vehicle is required for driving on the Forest Service road beyond N. Equestrian Trail. 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 (<https://land.az.gov/applications-permits>). [Guide: Frank Earnest, [fearnestiv@gmail.com](mailto:fearnestiv@gmail.com).]

**Saturday, February 20, 2021 Panther Peak. Rating: C\*\*\*. Pace: Moderate [315, 08:00 AM, \$6].** Panther Peak is an iconic Tucson landmark. The hike begins at the Cam-Boh parking lot - west off Picture Rocks Road, with the first 1.2 miles on the Roadrunner trail. \*\*\*Then, a steep, difficult climb begins up a cairn marked trail to the saddle between Panther and Safford peaks. Approximately 1,000 feet are gained in one mile. The final one-half mile is more gradual to the summit. The use of gloves, long pants, and hiking poles are recommended. There are outstanding views from the top; Picacho Peak is visible to the north and Wasson Peak to the south. The return is via the same route. This is a short but strenuous hike. Hike 5.5 miles; trailhead elevation

2480 feet; net elevation change 955 feet; accumulated gain 1250 feet; RTD 60 miles. [Guide: Michael Hovan, [michaelhovan@ameritech.net](mailto:michaelhovan@ameritech.net).]

**Monday, February 22, 2021 Fifty-Year Trail Area "Double D". Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [233, 08:00 AM, \$2].** The hike begins at the Golder Ranch parking area. The trail starts by crossing the Fifty-Year Trail and follows social trails toward the Sutherland Wash with several interesting sights along the way. The trail then loops back on a ridge that has great views, beautiful saguaros, and interesting rock formations. It then moves across the Lower Corral Rd to head on a diagonal toward the Middle Gate and returns via a loop. Hike 6.2 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change \_\_\_ feet; accumulated gain 334 feet; RTD 10 miles. 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 (<https://land.az.gov/applications-permits>). [Guide: Tim Butler, [tucsontimmer@gmail.com](mailto:tucsontimmer@gmail.com).]

**Monday, February 22, 2021 🐕 Fifty-Year Trail Area. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [183, 08:00 AM, \$2].** This is a dog friendly hike. All members are welcome with or without a dog. The hike begins at the Golder Ranch parking area. The trail starts on the Fifty-Year Trail and follows social trails toward the Sutherland Wash. The trail then loops back on a ridge that has great views, beautiful saguaros, and interesting rock formations. Hike 3.8 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change \_\_\_ feet; accumulated gain 234 feet; RTD 10 miles. 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 (<https://land.az.gov/applications-permits>). [Guide: Ruth Caldwell, [azcaldwell3@gmail.com](mailto:azcaldwell3@gmail.com)]

**Monday, February 22, 2021 Saguaro Wilderness. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [New, 08:30 AM, \$5].** This long gentle rolling hills hike traverses trails in the Saguaro Wilderness in Saguaro National Park West including the Roadrunner, Panther Peak, Ringtail, Picture Rocks & Prophecy Wash Trails. We will hike through an area with awesome scenery of the Tucson Mountains. Maximum quota of participants: 8. Hike 10.6 miles; trailhead elevation 2500 feet; net elevation changes 525 feet; accumulated elevation gain 750 feet; RTD 56 miles. [Guide: Aaron Schoenberg; [askus3@centurylink.net](mailto:askus3@centurylink.net)]

**Tuesday, February 23, 2021 Dome Extension Trail. Rating: C\*\*\*. Pace: Moderate [New, 08:00 AM, \$0].** This hike begins on the Double Crested/Dome Trail from the south end of S Arroyo Way in Unit 21. We cross Canada del Oro Wash, and then follow the newly developed route east through a small wash, and along several ridgelines. About 50 yards beyond the double crested saguaro, we turn left onto the Dome Extension which makes a loop around to the back of the Big Dome Rock. We will pass through interesting granite formations, with many saguaros and ocotillo forests. One of the highlights along the way is "Double Beauty", a rare double crested saguaro registered with the Crested Saguaro Society. On top of the dome there are great 360-degree views of Saddlebrooke and Catalina. We will return on the DC/D Trail. Hike 3.5



miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change 750 feet; accumulated gain 800 feet; RTD 0 miles. [Guide: Michael Hovan, [michaelhovan@ameritech.net](mailto:michaelhovan@ameritech.net)]

**Tuesday, February 23, 2021 Bridal Wreath Falls Loop. Rating: C\*\*\*. Pace: Moderate [119, 08:00 AM, \$8].** 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, but does require some rock scrambling to reach the falls. Bring sun protection. Water may be flowing over the falls if there has been sufficient rainfall. Hike 7.8 miles; trailhead elevation 2720 feet; net elevation change 1050 feet; accumulated gain 1368 feet; RTD 80 miles. [Guide: Dave Corrigan, 820-6110, [dave@daveandpam.com](mailto:dave@daveandpam.com)]

**Wednesday, February 24, 2021 🐕 Agua Caliente Tank & Saddle. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [5, 08:30 AM, \$8].** The hike has great panoramic views of Tucson, the Rincons and Santa Catalinas. The trail starts climbing immediately from the Camino Remuda Trailhead. The trail continues up and down for approximately 2.7 miles past a water hole (tank) and then steeply up to a trail junction at a saddle with an awesome view. Return retraces our steps. This is a dog friendly hike but participants can attend without a canine companion. Hike 5.4 miles; trailhead elevation 2950 feet; net elevation change 1085 feet; accumulated gain 1400 feet; RTD 75 miles. [Guide: Aaron Schoenberg; [askus3@centurylink.net](mailto:askus3@centurylink.net)]

**Thursday, February 25, 2021 Wasson Peak at Sunset and Moonrise. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [476, 3:00 PM, \$7].** The hike takes place on the evening of the full moon, arriving at the summit in time to observe sunset, and to watch the city lights turn on in Tucson. The view is spectacular at night with thousands of lights visible across southern Arizona. Bring a gourmet dinner, and candles. The hike down will be by the light of the moon, and supplemented by red and white headlamps if necessary. We will use the Sendero Esperanza Trail which is well maintained, smooth, and relatively clear of loose rocks. The special conditions designation \*\*\* for this hike is due to the decreased visibility after dark. A headlamp with both red and white LEDs is required. This hike will also be enjoyed by any strong C level hikers. Hike 8 miles; trailhead elevation 2985 feet; net elevation change 1702 feet; accumulated gain 1720 feet; RTD 73 miles. [Guide: Michael Hovan, [michaelhovan@ameritech.net](mailto:michaelhovan@ameritech.net)]

**Friday, February 26, 2021 Alamo Canyon Up/Back or Loop. Rating: D. Pace: SLOW [6, 08:00 AM, \$2 + \$2].** The hike begins at the Romero Ruins Trailhead in Catalina State Park. This hike can be done on the north side trail in-out or as a loop around Alamo Canyon going up one side and returning down the other (clockwise or counter-clockwise). Other than one short area by the wash, the elevation change is generally gradual. The south-side trail traverses several rocky washes. This is a lovely hike up to Alamo Canyon Falls and return. There is a very scenic large flat-rock area above the falls. Water may be present in the canyon after rainy periods, but there are no significant water crossings. Hikers may stop by the Romero Ruins and take the

informative loop trail from there. Hike 3.5 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 360 feet; accumulated gain 429 feet; RTD 24 miles. [Guide: Karen Gray, 520-351-2058, [kgrayinaz@yahoo.com](mailto:kgrayinaz@yahoo.com)].

**Saturday, February 27, 2021 🐕 Extended Fitness Walk. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [179, 07:00 AM, \$0].** This is a dog friendly hike. All members are welcome with or without a dog. As the name implies this is an extended version of the weekday fitness walks. They will last 2 hours and travel approximately 6 miles over a variety of terrain including paved streets, golf course paths, and wilderness areas. They will start and finish in the same location as the weekday walks in the SaddleBrooke One parking lot. The longer duration will allow exploration of new and more distant areas, including The Preserve. The accumulated gain will vary from 600-1200 feet. Optional breakfast at the Road Runner Grill. [Guide: Michael Hovan, [michaelhovan@ameritech.net](mailto:michaelhovan@ameritech.net)]

**Sunday, February 28, 2021 Romero Springs. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [371, 08:00 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. 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: Michael Hovan, [michaelhovan@ameritech.net](mailto:michaelhovan@ameritech.net)]