



SADDLEBROOKE

HIKING CLUB NEWSLETTER

<http://saddlebrookehikingclub.com>

MAY/JUNE

2021

WELL DONE - MR. PRESIDENT

Submitted by Tim Butler

Rob Simms picked a heck of a year to be President of the Hiking Club!



In a “normal” year, being President of a large and active club such as ours is a major job involving a significant time commitment. But then along came COVID with its formidable challenges!

Early in 2020, our Board faced some very tough decisions regarding our core Club activities - our hikes and fitness walks. Rob’s calm, sincere

demeanor guided us through the difficult realization that these activities should be suspended. Rob’s great communication skills were invaluable in helping to keep our members informed. Working closely with Chief Guide Ruth Caldwell, he crafted messages which were sent to the membership via our Communications Director Ken Wong.

The closure of meeting rooms in both HOA’s and the need for social distancing made even our routine Board meetings very difficult. Rob still kept us on track during this time as we went into “virtual” mode. Judging from the volume of his emails, I think Rob spent most of his waking hours at his computer!

But Rob’s service as President is just the latest in his long string of contributions to our club. Rob and his wife Myrna moved to SaddleBrooke from Sun City Vistoso in 2014.

- They quickly joined our club; and in early 2015, Rob became a guide.
- By 2016, Rob had volunteered to be Associate Chief Guide, becoming the Chief Guide in 2017.
- Myrna was also an active member, serving as our Program Chair from 2017 to 2019.
- In 2019 Rob stepped up to the position of Vice President, transitioning to President in 2020.

Rob brought great energy and innovation to each of these roles. From a guide’s perspective though, perhaps Rob’s most impactful contribution was introducing the idea of using a dedicated Google Calendar for the scheduling of our club hikes. Prior to this, the process was very time intensive for the Chief Guide who would call for paper submissions of proposed hikes from each guide. The Chief Guide would then have to sort out conflicting dates with the guides at the Guide Meeting. This was a process reminiscent of the old television game show “Let’s Make A Deal”, with lots of “horse trading” of hike dates. Using the Google Calendar allowed each guide to see in real time which hikes had been put on

the schedule and then work around them. It has been a huge improvement in the vital process of generating our hike offerings every two months.

So, Rob, as you ease into “retirement” from the Presidency, please accept our most sincere thanks and appreciation for all you have done to make the SaddleBrooke Hiking Club so special.

Tim Butler

THANK YOU RUTH CALDWELL!

Submitted by Bruce Landeck
(With contributions from Terry Caldwell)

Appropriately, on the last hike that Ruth Caldwell led as our club’s Senior Chief Guide (March 25, 2021), a magnificent field of yellow poppies appeared as our group rounded a corner on the Sutherland Trail in Catalina State Park. The poppies had not yet bloomed when the group passed by the same field an hour earlier. After seeing just a few sparse wildflowers during the early part of the hike, the sudden profusion of the poppies caused Ruth to exclaim: “We hit the motherlode!”



It seemed as if the poppies all decided to bloom at once on our return to recognize Ruth’s last SCG Hike - don’t worry, she will continue to guide hikes.

Among other responsibilities, the Senior and Associate Chief Guides coordinate all hiking events, recruit new guides, provide training programs, update the Hiker Database annually, keep statistics on hikes/hikers, and as officers on the Board of Directors attend all meetings. Ruth was Associate Chief guide for a year before becoming the Senior

Chief Guide. While her husband, Terry, refers to her as a “hikeaholic”, she has had many other interests.

After living in the Tucson area since 1998 (with a few interim years trying out Colorado), Ruth Caldwell and Terry moved to SaddleBrooke in 2015 and joined the hiking club. Ruth and Terry met at 5th General Army Hospital in Bad Cannstatt, West Germany, in 1985 when Ruth was a civilian RN working in labor and delivery; and Terry was an officer nurse. Ruth’s nursing career started in her hometown of Memphis, Tennessee, in labor and delivery and later in pediatric oncology, working at St. Jude’s Children’s Research Hospital. As Terry’s military career continued, Ruth’s nursing skills were appreciated in Columbia, South Carolina; Anchorage, Alaska; Clarksville, Tennessee; and finally, Tucson, Arizona. After the Caldwell’s moved to Tucson in 1998, Ruth worked in labor and delivery and high-risk OB triage at Tucson Medical Center. For her last five years of nursing, she switched to providing palliative home care with TMC Hospice.

An article about Ruth would not be complete without also mentioning, as most of you already know, her love for horses. At age 14, Ruth bought her first horse with savings from working at Shoney’s Restaurant. When they left Tennessee, she and Terry owned six horses. Ruth has won some horse awards along the way, including the Arizona Quarter Horse Association Recreational Rider of the Year in 2005 and the Novice Amateur Reining competition in 2007 sponsored by the Arizona Paint Horse Club.

Ruth has also given her time and expertise as a volunteer for many years at the premier Therapeutic Riding of Tucson (TROT) and the Colorado Springs Therapeutic Riding Center, which use equine-assisted therapy to enrich the lives for people of all ages with special needs. In addition, Ruth volunteers with the Mountain Vista K-8 School Horsemanship Program in Oracle, the only such program in Arizona teaching youth about riding and horse care. And, as you might not be aware, both Ruth and Terry currently have participated as volunteers in the Senior Village COVID vaccination clinics on Saturday’s.

During their retirement, the Caldwell’s have enjoyed traveling with their 26-foot RV to many national and state parks and monuments. Ruth now hikes locally on many of the trails she rode horses on the past two

decades. Her passion for hiking is clearly displayed on the front plate of her white truck - “Not All Who Wander Are Lost”- and the back plate - “On Hike”.



As Ruth Caldwell’s Senior Chief Guide term ends and Michael Hovan takes over the position on April 1, 2021, we extend to Ruth our gratitude for the exemplary manner in which she has fulfilled her club duties. Her professionalism and enthusiasm as a guide have helped us enjoy hikes, become more accomplished hikers and better appreciate the beauty of the Sonoran Desert. Happy Trails, Ruth!

PETROGLYPH/MADONNA LOOP
February 19, 2021
 Submitted by Ruth Caldwell

Hiking trails old and new--
 The sky a brilliant blue.
 With Ruth and Tim in charge,
 We hikers were living large.
 The Great Saguaro standing tall,
 Petroglyphs to delight us all.
 Lunch on rock table and chairs,
 Peacefully eating in the fresh air.
 Running water and little cascades appear,
 A delightful sound in the desert to hear.
 Madonna and Baby still in the rock,
 We even found a geo-cash box.
 While Tim told a funny, corny joke,
 We were all pretty happy folk.
 Thank you to all the guides who lead.
 Such special times, we all agree.

By Lenore Henninger



WALKING ON A WINDY DAY
 Submitted by Linda Green

A lucky thirteen SaddleBrooke hikers followed the Arizona Trail from Route 77 Tyger Mine Road access to a viewing bench that was high on a hill.



Hikers Hold their Hats at the Wildlife Corridor Bench
 Photo by Lynda Green

It being late March, trail guide Kathryn Madore had promised wildflowers and birds for this bunch to see.

Nature did respond with a few of those tiny purple blooms, which we would name but neither of the Club Botany Specialists (Wheeler or Butler) were in the company. And exactly two (2) birds did flit by, but no bird specialists were in attendance either. Even had they been with us, those fliers disappeared quicker than jets in the 'red flag' winds. Indeed, it was a hat-clenching morning in Oracle.

However, the group did encounter seven (7) thru hikers - Harbingers of spring!

TRAILS END

Submitted by Mike Hovan



A new crested saguaro was discovered and named by club member and guide Michael Hovan. The name "Trails End" was registered with the Crested Saguaro Society on March 7. The plant is 20 feet tall with 3 large arms that all have a wavy pattern and could form additional crests.

It is located in a remote area between Margaret Wash and Backman Wash several miles Northeast of Saddlebrooke. It was discovered at the end of the

day, and the end of a difficult bushwhack south of Oracle during a search for these rare gifts of nature.

MORE NEW GUIDES!

Submitted by Ruth Caldwell

A big welcome to our latest additions to our guide team - Bruce and Carol Olson as new guides and Margaret Valair as a returning experienced guide. The club is thrilled to have these three on board!



New Hiking Guides – Carol and Bruce Olson

FALL PICNIC SCHEDULED

October 29, 2021

Submitted by Missy Rodey & Seanna Kobak
SBHC Picnic Co-Chairs

We are *very* pleased to announce that a Fall Picnic has been scheduled! We will be gathering at Catalina State Park on Friday, October 29, 2021, for a wonderful celebration of being together again.

So, mark your calendars and save the date - more details in the coming months.

SADDLEBROOKE HIKING CLUB LOGO

Submitted by Ruth Caldwell



Would you like to have the SaddleBrooke Hiking club logo on a favorite shirt? We have an embroiderer right here in SaddleBrooke that will do that for you!

She can put the logo on T-shirts, tech shirts, and even hiking shirts for the low cost of \$15, if you provide the shirt.

Her contact information is:

Mary Gajeske,
520-818-1732

mauilover49@yahoo.com

ARIZONA TRAIL HIKERS GRATEFUL FOR SADDLEBROOKE TRAIL MAINTENANCE

Submitted by Seana Kobak



The February volunteers were: Ray Peele, Steve Meyers, Steve Aiken, Fred Norris, Tom Geiger, Gary Spies, Garrett Rensing, Seana Kobak, Donovan Caputo (ATA)

On behalf of myself and many hikers on the Arizona Trail (AZT), we want to thank Ray Peale, Elisabeth Wheeler, and the many Saddlebrook volunteers that

have maintained the Oracle section of the trail over the years. The Oracle section has more cat claw than any section of the trail - this is from my personal observation.

It could be a very treacherous section if it were not for the never-ending, sometimes painful pruning conducted by the many Saddlebrook volunteers. Also, apparent is the drainage work to keep rain run-off from eroding the trail.

This year, there appears to be a large number of thru-hikers on the trail despite water shortages and high fire risk. The water cache that is normally stocked by Ray and Elisabeth has been difficult to keep supplied due to high water demand.

A special thanks go out to Saddlebrook hikers that noted that the supply was low and alerted Ray about the shortage and/or added water.



The Arizona Trail is getting some extra notoriety this year! Just a few days ago, Joe McConaughy (more commonly known by his trail name of Stringbean) set

a new “Fastest Known Time” (FKT) for a supported crossing of the AZT, completing the trail from Mexico to Utah in only 13 days, 3 hours, 21 minutes. That’s over 60 miles per day and 110,000 feet of vertical elevation gain! He was logging monster miles each day and meeting up with friends who had food, bed, and massage waiting for him at random trailheads along the way. His FKT attempt was nearly thwarted by deep snow on the Kaibab Plateau, but snow shoes and a pep talk got him back on the trail. Stringbean hiked through the Oracle section of the trail on March 26.



Even though this was a very dry year and therefore less brush and cat claw growth, there was still a lot of great work conducted on the trail. The group fixed many drainage issues, filled in an earthen dam, picked up trash, pruned trees, and removed some tenacious cat claw.

A heartfelt thanks goes out to Ray and the many volunteers. And a special thanks to Elisabeth Wheeler and Chris Jeffries for providing delicious treats as a reward for all the hard work!



The March volunteers were: Ray Peale, Steve Aiken, Garrett Rensing, Fred Norris, Steve Meyers, Elissa Cochran, Cheryl Werstler, Dean Werstler, Carol Olsen, and Tom Geiger

FIFTY-YEAR TRAIL LOOP, CSP

Submitted by Bruce Landeck

A beautiful February morning greeted hikers as they arrived at the Equestrian Center in Catalina State Park, geared up, and started ascending the sparsely used Ridgeline Trail.



The group continued along the somewhat rocky ridge with impressive views for about 1.5 miles. After intersecting with the Fifty-Year Trail, we followed the trail to the CSP boundary gate where we had a snack. Hikers then turned around and returned on the

Fifty-Year all the way back to the parking lot, passing the “saguaro nursery” with numerous baby saguaros along the way.

Future Trips		
Destination	Dates	Contact Person
Spring Hiking Trip Moab, Utah	April 12-16 2021	Tim Butler tucsontimmer@gmail.com

News You Can Use		
SBHC Board Meeting HOA 1	6/2 Wed.	2:00 P.M.
SBHC Guide Meeting HOA 1	6/2 Wed.	3:30 P.M.
Fall Picnic Catalina State Park	10/29 Fri.	TBD

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.

Saturday, May 01, 2021 Titanic Rock Lasso. Rating: C*. Pace: Moderate [New, 7:00 AM, \$0].** The latest addition to the SaddleBrooke "Backyard" Trails, this route begins in the foothills east of The Preserve and peregrinates to Titanic Rock. The hike begins at the east end of E Willow Canyon Rd.

After crossing the Canada del Oro wash, the trail continues into the foothill through beautiful granite formations and native desert flora, initially on the same route as The Preserve/Dome Trail. Behind Balance Rock it diverges on a path directly toward Titanic Rock. It then climbs "The Acclivity", a steep formation of slab rock, to the summit where there are great 360 degree views. The trail continues around and down the backside of Titanic through a rugged canyon and then rejoins its original route. This granite overlook, perched 600 feet above The Preserve, is analogous to Flag Hill overlooking Unit 21 (minus the flag). The special condition designation*** is due to several sections that are steeper than on an average park constructed trail. Hike 2.6 miles; trailhead elevation 3350 feet; elevation change 588 feet; accumulated gain 800 feet; RTD 0 miles. [Michael Hovan, michaelhovan@ameritech.net]

Monday, May 03, 2021 Pima Canyon to 1st Dam. Rating: D*. Pace: Moderate [335, 07:30 AM, \$4].** 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: Janet Frost 262-385-2478 janetlynnfrost@gmail.com]

Monday, May 03, 2021 Box Camp Trail to Sabino Canyon Visitor Center. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [113, 07:00 AM, \$12]. Starting at the Box Camp Trailhead near Spencer Peak on Catalina Hwy, the trail is downhill, crossing the East Fork Trail, then along the Sabino Canyon Trail, and finally the Phoneline Trail. We pass the Box Springs trail spur turnoff, stop for lunch near Apache Springs, and descend through pines, oaks, manzanita, and finally, saguaros. In the opinion of many hikers, this is the finest, most spectacular top-to-bottom hike in the Catalinas. A car shuttle will be required. Hike 11.5 miles; trailhead elevation 8066 feet; net elevation change minus 5360 feet; accumulated gain 614 feet; RTD 123 miles. [Guide: Michael Hovan, michaelhovan@ameritech.net]

Tuesday, May 04, 2021 Marshall Gulch / Aspen Loop. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [256, 07:00 AM, \$13]. The hike starts at the Marshall Gulch Picnic Area and goes up the Marshall Gulch Trail to the Marshall Saddle. From the Saddle, we turn left down the Aspen Trail and head back to the picnic area. After about 0.25 miles on the Aspen Trail, there is a large rock that provides a great spot for a break or lunch. Hike may be done in a clockwise direction which tends to be steeper and arriving at the lunch spot takes longer. Hike 3.8 miles; trailhead elevation 7440 feet; net elevation change 703 feet; accumulated gain 830 feet; RTD 130 miles. [Guide: Tim Butler, tucsontimmer@gmail.com]

Tuesday, May 04, 2021 Dripping Springs from the Sutherland Trail. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [172, 06:30 AM, \$2 + \$2]. From the main trailhead at the east end of Catalina State Park, the hike follows the Sutherland Trail past the wilderness sign, and then turns toward Dripping Springs at a Sutherland Trail sign. There are large rocks placed in a row on the right (east) side of the Sutherland Trail. Much of the trail is sandy and there may be several water crossings. After entering the wilderness area, the trail is somewhat rocky. An old abandoned mine is visible to the left of the canyon. Keep to the left at a trail junction for lower Romero Canyon, which can be visited later. Hike 4.2 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 475 feet; accumulated gain 475 feet; RTD 24 miles. [Guide: Bruce Landeck, email: bflandeck@gmail.com]

Wednesday, May 05, 2021 Cowboy Hotel Lasso. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [New, 6:30 AM, \$4]. The hike begins at the Lower Corral and proceeds on the Baby Jesus Trail for 3 miles to a trail forged by local horsemen. The trail then heads east into the foothills below Samaniego Peak. Lunch will be at the Cowboy Hotel complete with running water from Samaniego Springs and a rustic picnic table. On the return loop we pass the "goldfish tank" below Wooden Trough Spring, and then rejoin the Baby Jesus

Trail for the return home. Hike 9.6 miles; trailhead elevation 3200 feet; net elevation change 1610; accumulated gain 2293; RTD 12 miles (dirt). A medium to high clearance vehicle is required to drive on FS 642 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]

Wednesday, May 05, 2021 Middle Gate Meander. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [524, 07:30 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: Seth Basker, seth@basker.com]

Thursday, May 06, 2021 Bear Wallow/Sunset Trail. Rating: C*. Pace: Moderate [526, 07:00 AM, \$13].**

The hike starts on the Bear Wallow Road near Summerhaven and goes along a trail under the shade of many, many tall deciduous trees with wonderful color in the Autumn and nice shade the rest of the season. Once we reach Soldier Camp on the Gen Hitchcock Hwy we will continue along the Sunset Trail with its beautiful canyon and vista views to the Marshall Gulch trailhead. Here is our turn around spot for this out and back hike. ***This trail is relatively easy, but does have a few spots with steep step up/down and a bit with narrow trail and height exposure. Hike 4.9 miles; trailhead elevation 8030 feet; net elevation change 500 feet; accumulated gain 682 feet. RTD 130 miles. [Guide: Ruth Caldwell, azcaldwell3@gmail.com]

Friday, May 07, 2021 Phone Line Trail - Round Trip. Rating: B. Pace: Slow [323, 07:00 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: Don Taylor, (520) 825-5303; donald_r_taylor@yahoo.com]

Saturday, May 08, 2021 Extended Fitness Walk. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [179, 06:30 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]

Monday, May 10, 2021 McCleary Peak Loop. Rating A. Pace: Moderate [NEW, 07:00 AM, \$13].

The hike begins at the trailhead at the end of Madera Canyon road. Follow the Super Trail to the unofficial "Pipeline Route" which goes to the Kent Spring Trail. Continue to the Four Springs Trail

which climbs steeply to Shovel Saddle, and then to the departure route for McCleary Peak. It is not well defined, but marked by occasional cairns along the top of the ridge. There are great views from the rocky summit. The loop back continues down Four Springs Trail, and then the Crest Trail to Baldy Saddle. Finally, continue down Old Baldy Trail to the TH. We will be following the track and route description provided on <http://hikearizona.com>, since this is a new route that I have not personally done. Hike 11 miles; trailhead elevation 5417 feet; net elevation change 3618 feet; accumulated gain 4503 feet; RTD 130 miles. [Michael Hovan, michaelhovan@ameritech.net]

Tuesday, May 11, 2021 Box Camp Trail to Sabino Canyon Overlook. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [114, 07:00 AM, \$12]. The hike begins at the Box Camp Trailhead near Spencer Peak on Catalina Hwy. After a short uphill climb, the hike proceeds downhill for 2.5 miles to an overlook that provides a marvelous, panoramic view of Sabino Canyon area. We will have lunch here, and then return slowly uphill to the trailhead. Hike 5.2 miles; trailhead elevation 7920 feet; net elevation change 1126 feet; accumulated gain 1350 feet; RTD 123 miles. [Guide: Tim Butler, tucsontimmer@gmail.com]

Tuesday, May 11, 2021 Alamo Canyon Up/Back or Loop. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [6, 6:30 AM, \$2 + \$2]. The hike begins at the Romero Ruins Trailhead in Catalina State Park. This hike can be done on 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: Bruce Landeck, email: bflandeck@gmail.com]

Thursday, May 13, 2021 Fifty-Year Trail Area. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [183, 06:30 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]

Thursday, May 13, 2021 Santa Rita Range Grand Tour. Rating: A*. Pace: Moderate [NEW, 04:45 AM, \$13].** Challenge yourself! This is a very strenuous circular hike taking in many of the great sights of the Santa Rita Mountain Range. We shall follow these trails in order from the Mt. Wrightson Parking Trailhead: Vault Mine Trail, Agua Caliente Trail to Josephine Saddle, Old Baldy Trail to Mt. Wrightson, Crest Trail, Four Spring Trail to Kent Spring, Bog Spring Trail & Kent Spring Trail. We will pass close to these three summits (Jack Peak, Mt. Ian & McCleary Peaks) and may climb them. We will climb Mt. Wrightson which is the highest point in the Santa Ritas at 9,453 feet. A majority of the hike is over 7000 feet, so the climbing will involve significant energy. This is a demanding hike with an elevation gain of 5,800 feet and is 17.2 miles long. We will be out all day and will not return to Saddlebrooke until 9 PM. The hike will be cancelled if threat of rain or the high temperature in Tucson is above 95 degrees. Trailhead elevation 5445 feet; net elevation change 4000 feet; RTD 130 miles. [Guide: Aaron Schoenberg; askus3@centurylink.net]

Saturday, May 15, 2021 Extended Fitness Walk. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [179, 06:30 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]

Monday, May 17, 2021 McCleary Peak. Rating: A. Pace: Moderate [260, 07:00 AM, \$13].

The hike begins at the Santa Rita Agricultural Experimental Range Headquarters, and follows the Florida Canyon Trail to Florida Saddle and Armour Spring. We then follow a faint path to the north up to McCleary Peak, which provides great views of the Santa Catalina, Rincon and various mountains to the east. There is fire damage in the upper section of the Florida Canyon Trail. Good cooler hike for the summer. Hike 11.6 miles; trailhead elevation 4325 feet; net elevation change 3933 feet; accumulated gain 4300 feet; RTD 130 miles. [Guide: Michael Hovan, michaelhovan@ameritech.net]

Tuesday, May 18, 2021 Palisade Trail / Mud Spring. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [313, 07:00 AM, \$12].

Starting at the Showers Point Campground behind the Palisade Ranger Station off Catalina Hwy, we will hike down the Palisade Trail through pine forest to Mud Spring and return. The spring is a grand lunch site with a panoramic view of the valley. Most of the climb is on the return. The trail is moderately shady. Hike 5.9 miles; trailhead elevation 7770 feet; net elevation change -1360 feet; accumulated gain 1403 feet; RTD 119 miles. [Guide: Tim Butler, tucsontimmer@gmail.com]

Tuesday, May 18, 2021 Middle Gate Meander. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [524, 07:30 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: Seth Basker, seth@basker.com]

Thursday, May 20, 2021 Wilderness of Rocks. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [484, 06:30 AM, \$13].

The hike begins at the Marshall Gulch picnic area at the top of Mt. Lemmon. We climb up to Marshall Saddle then down the Wilderness of Rocks Trail. Three fourths of a mile past the intersection with the Lemmon Rock Lookout Trail is the Lemmon Canyon area in the heart of the Wilderness of Rocks. There are beautiful rock formations with great views along the way. The return is via the same route, or optionally, by the Aspen Loop Trail. Take a break from the cactus and rattlers, and enjoy the cool mountain pine forests. Optional Ski Valley Strudel or Powder Monkey at the Iron Door. Hike 7.2 miles; trailhead elevation 7440 feet; net elevation change 1500 feet; accumulated gain 1500 feet; RTD 131 miles. [Guide: Michael Hovan, michaelhovan@ameritech.net]

Sunday, May 23, 2021 Extended Fitness Walk. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [179, 06:30 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]

Monday, May 24, 2021 Canyon Loop and Birding Trail. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [135, 6:30 AM, \$2 + \$2]. From the main trailhead in Catalina State Park, hikers will start up the Romero Trail in Catalina State Park; follow the Canyon Loop Trail, and then come back on the Sutherland Trail. This area is a great example of the Sonoran Desert and its riparian areas. Following this portion of the hike, we will hike the Birding Trail. Depending upon the season, some water crossings are possible. Hike 4.1 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 433 feet; accumulated gain 499 feet; RTD 24 miles. [Guide: Bruce Landeck, email: bflandeck@gmail.com]

Tuesday, May 25, 2021 Sunset / Marshall Gulch / Aspen Loop. Rating: C*. Pace: Moderate [394, 07:00 AM, \$13].** The hike begins at Soldier Camp on the Sunset Trail, which starts on the Catalina Highway before reaching Summerhaven, and travels to the Marshall Gulch Picnic Area. *** There is a section of the trail where you must go down a short, steep rock face. It proceeds along the Marshall Gulch Trail to the Marshall Saddle, then down the Lower Aspen Trail to the picnic area. We return via Sunset Trail to the trailhead. There are great views of the Catalinas along the way, hiking mostly in forest shade. Hike 7.0 miles; trailhead elevation 7640 feet; net elevation change 736 feet; accumulated gain 1394 feet; RTD 130 miles. [Guide: Tim Butler, tucsontimmer@gmail.com]

Thursday, May 27, 2021 Alamo Canyon Up/Back or Loop. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [6, 06:30 AM, \$2 + \$2]. The hike begins at the Romero Ruins Trailhead in Catalina State Park. This hike can be done on 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: Tim Butler, tucsontimmer@gmail.com]

Friday, May 28, 2021 Kentucky Camp Hike and Hot Dog Cookout. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [240, 07:00 AM, \$14]. Kentucky Camp, located in the Santa Rita Mountains, was an active mining camp in the early 1900's. The venture was abandoned following the mysterious death of the chief engineer. The site has been a working cattle ranch and is now part of the Coronado National Forest. We will drive to the trailhead off Hwy 83 and hike to Kentucky Camp. The group will carry supplies for a hot dog (kosher) roast at the historic site. Hike 7 miles; trailhead elevation 5215 feet; net elevation change 500 feet; accumulated gain 744 feet; RTD about 110 miles with some dirt road. [Guide: Michael Hovan, michaelhovan@ameritech.net]

Wednesday, June 02, 2021 BOD mtg. 2 pm, Guide Mtg. 3:30 pm. Location: HOA 1 Activity Ctr.

Friday, June 04, 2021 Alamo Canyon Up/Back or Loop. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [6, 6:30 AM, \$2 + \$2]. The hike begins at the Romero Ruins Trailhead in Catalina State Park. This hike can be done on 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: Bruce Landeck, email: bflandeck@gmail.com]

Friday, June 04, 2021 Josephine Saddle. Rating: B. Pace: Slow [234, 07:00 AM, \$13]. The hike starts in Madera Canyon (Santa Rita Mountains) and goes up the Old Baldy Trail to Josephine Saddle. Hikers will rest at the Saddle and return via the Super Trail. This hike can be done in reverse, going up the Super Trail and returning on the Old Baldy Trail. Hike 6.4 miles; trailhead elevation 5450 feet; net elevation change 1630 feet; accumulated gain 1650 feet; RTD 130 miles. [Guide: Don Taylor; (520) 825-5303; donald_r_taylor@yahoo.com]

Saturday, June 05, 2021 Chiricahua Peak Loop. Rating: A. Pace: Moderate [NEW, 04:30 AM, \$30]. An amazing and strenuous circular hike taking us to Chiricahua Peak, the highest point in the Chiricahua Range at an elevation of 9,768 feet. From here we will have awesome views all the way to Mexico and beyond. We shall follow these trails in order from our trailhead parking near the end of Turkey Creek Road (FR 41): Saulsbury, Crest & Mormon Ridge Trails. This is a demanding hike due to the high altitude we obtain and an elevation gain of 4,000 feet and our trailhead parking at 6,200 feet. We will be out all day and will not return to Saddlebrooke until 9 PM. Note that if you wish to make overnight lodging arrangements either the night before or after the hike that can be worked out. Contact Aaron for further details. The hike will be cancelled if threat of rain or the high temperature in Willcox is above 95 degrees. Hike mileage: 13.6 miles; RTD 280 miles. [Guide: Aaron Schoenberg; askus3@centurylink.net]

Tuesday, June 08, 2021 Tiger Mine to Kannelly Homestead Oracle State Park. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [NEW, 06:30 AM, \$4.00]. Hike begins after we park at the Old Tiger Road Mine Road and pass thru a fence signed with an AZT marker. We will follow this trail that is often use by hikers going to the Arizona Trail through Oracle State Park. This single track route features rolling terrain with impressive views in all directions. The beauty of the hilly remote grasslands, oaks and granite boulders are crossed with small stream beds. This is a birders paradise so bring your binoculars and camera. The views and land are stunning. We will hike to the Wildlife Corridor Bench to a view of the Kannelly Homestead where we will enjoy an early lunch before returning along the same trail. Hike 5 miles, trailhead elevation 4840'; net elevation change 500'; accumulated gain, RTD 32 miles. [Guide: Bruce Landeck, bflandeck@gmail.com]

Thursday, June 10, 2021 Fifty-Year Trail Area. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [183, 06:00 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]

Saturday, June 12, 2021 American Flag. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [8, 07:00 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: Don Taylor; (520) 825-5303; donald_r_taylor@yahoo.com]

Monday, June 14, 2021 Fifty-Year Trail Loop via Ridgeline Trail. Rating: D. Pace: Moderate [499, 06:30 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 return to the Equestrian Center via the Fifty-Year Trail. Hike is 4 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 386 feet; total ascent 446 feet. RTD 24 miles. [Guide: Bruce Landeck, email: bflandeck@gmail.com]

Thursday, June 17, 2021 Wilderness of Rocks. Rating: B. Pace: Moderate [484, 06:00 AM, \$13]. The hike begins at the Marshall Gulch picnic area at the top of Mt. Lemmon. We climb up to Marshall Saddle then down the Wilderness of Rocks Trail. Three fourths of a mile past the intersection with the Lemmon Rock Lookout Trail is the Lemmon Canyon area in the heart of the Wilderness of Rocks. There are beautiful rock formations with great views along the way. The return is via the same route, or optionally, by the Aspen Loop Trail. Hike 7.2 miles; trailhead elevation 7440 feet; net elevation change 1550 feet; accumulated gain 1538 feet; RTD 131 miles. [Guide: Frank Earnest, fearnestiv@gmail.com]

Friday, June 25, 2021 Mt. Lemmon Ski Lift Loop. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [274, 07:00 AM, \$13]. From the foot of the ski lift, hikers walk the roadway to the top of Mt. Lemmon. We will take the Meadow Trail and the Mt. Lemmon Trail to Mt. Lemmon Rock Lookout (outstanding views). We return to the starting point using a portion of Trail 5 along Radio Ridge, and a portion of the Aspen Draw Trail. Hike 6 miles; trailhead elevation 8480; net elevation change 700 feet; accumulated gain 1140 feet; RTD 131 miles. [Guide: Don Taylor; (520) 825-5303; donald_r_taylor@yahoo.com]

Wednesday, June 30, 2021 Marshall Gulch / Aspen Loop. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [256, 06:00 AM, \$13]. The hike starts at the Marshall Gulch Picnic Area and goes up the Marshall Gulch Trail to the Marshall Saddle. From the Saddle, we turn left down the Aspen Trail and head back to the picnic area. After about 0.25 miles on the Aspen Trail, there is a large rock that provides a great spot for a break or lunch. Hike may be done in a clockwise direction which tends to be steeper and arriving at the lunch spot takes longer. Hike 3.8 miles; trailhead elevation 7440 feet; net elevation change 703 feet; accumulated gain 830 feet; RTD 130 miles. [Guide: Frank Earnest, fearnestiv@gmail.com]