



SaddleBrooke



HIKING CLUB NEWSLETTER

Oct/Nov/Dec 1999

99-1

The Sun City Vistoso Hiking Club deserves a rousing round of applause and a major THANK YOU for helping our club get established and organized so quickly. Thanks very much for your help; we could not have done it without you. It's great to have such good neighbors!

SaddleBrooke Hiking Club Officers are:

President - Bill Leightenheimer - 818-1953

Vice-President - Norm Kyle - 818-0563

Secretary - Judi Coopersmith - 825-4063

Treasurer - Kay White - 818-0262

Chief Hiking Guide - Jim Strickler - 825-8735

Interest in the SaddleBrooke Hiking Club has been fantastic; total membership to date is over 150. It's inspiring to be with such energetic and enthusiastic SaddleBrookers, and hiking with you all will be very fun indeed! Everyone is anxious to get going with this hiking season, and further along in this Newsletter you will find all hikes offered through December and information on how to join them. Also included is a Membership Application/Release Form which you may give to another resident who wishes to join. All members should have their membership cards by now. If you have paid the dues but do not have your card, contact the club Secretary, Judi Coopersmith. New member applications with \$10.00 and a self-addressed stamped envelope are to be sent to Kay White, 35854 So. Wind Crest Drive.

All hikes are led by club members and all members are encouraged to lead hikes. You may choose a hike from the club's database or you may propose your own. Either way, you must complete a Hiking Schedule Form (attached) and present it at a Hiking Guides' Meeting. The next meeting for scheduling January-February hikes will be on December 1st at 4:00 PM in the Javelina Room, SB clubhouse. All future Guides meetings will be held on the first Wednesday of each even-numbered month at 4:00 p.m. in the Javelina Room. February's meeting will be to schedule March-April, April's meeting will be to schedule May-June and so forth.

There are two main methods of communication to club members: this newsletter and the club web page. The newsletter will be published and available no later than the 15th of the even-numbered months following the Guides meeting and will be emailed to those who have email addresses and snail-mailed to those who do not have email. Copies will also be available in the SB & MV clubhouses. The web page should be up by November 1st and its URL is www.saddlebrooke.org/clubs/hiking/home.htm.

The current hiking schedule will be posted on the site; Membership Forms and Hiking Schedule Forms will also be online. Any announcements or suggestions for the newsletter or web page may be sent to the Communications Committee (Bev & Dave Caldwell) at bevcd@azstarnet.com or

jdc@azstarnet.com or sent to 37325 So. Border Drive.

"Beginner" hikers are encouraged to participate in an Orientation Hike (OH) which is informational and gives the hiker an opportunity to assess his/her own degree of physical fitness and ability prior to joining any hike graded A-C (see grade descriptions elsewhere in this newsletter.) Experienced hikers and those folks who know they are physically fit may choose not to take an OH. All hikers are encouraged to be as honest with themselves as possible when assessing personal ability; the club must trust your judgement. Prior to hiking, all hikers will sign a form affirming that they have read the description and know the grade of the hike. If there is any doubt whether or not a particular hike will be too strenuous, hikers are strongly encouraged to start with a hike one-level easier than they think they would be able to complete.

The Club Social Committee (Blossom Silberman, Greta Fritsch, & Helga DeLeon) plans a club potluck on December 4, 1999, at Catalina State Park. Mark your calendars now! (Reminder: \$5.00 park entry fee per car of up to 4 people.) You'll be notified by phone or email with further details. To offer your assistance for this or future activities, contact Blossom at 818-0796, blos76@aol.com or Greta Fritsch at 825-3232.

The Club Promotions Committee (Kay White, Judi Coopersmith, & Barbara Leightenheimer) is creating a logo for the club; rumor has it that the logo will be similar to the artwork on the club membership cards. Club T-shirts with the logo as well as club patches will be available in the near future.

General Hiking Information

Call the guide to make a reservation for the hike and to get the latest information. Hiking groups meet at and depart from the Mountain View Clubhouse parking lot. (As you look at the clubhouse we will be on the left side out by

Mountain View Blvd. just east of the tennis courts.) The time listed is the departure time. It is important to arrive 10 to 15 minutes before departure time. Always bring ample water, sunscreen, and wear appropriate headgear & footwear. Check with the guide as to whether or not to bring a lunch. Always bring some sort of ID with you. Bring medications for your own conditions.

Payment to driver is a suggested donation and is noted for each individual hike. Due to automobile insurance coverage considerations, it is suggested that any payment to the driver be made at the end of the drive on return to SaddleBrooke. The amount includes user fees for the Mt. Lemmon Highway and for Catalina State Park. Passengers are to pay any other user fees and share any parking fees. (Hikers, please let the guide know if you intend to drive and whether or not you have applicable passes.)

Suggested Items for Hikers

- Hiking boots or shoes (tennis shoes are not recommended except for special hikes or walks.)
- Wide-brimmed hat
- Hiking shorts for warm weather
- Hiking pants for cold weather or for brushy trails
- Hiking socks
- Bandanna
- Depending on weather: short or long-sleeved shirt, rain jacket or poncho, fleece jacket or sweater or sweatshirt (zip front is handy)
- Hiking stick
- Two quart water bottles (minimum) or water in a collapsible bladder
- Daypack or fanny pack
- Personal medication(s)
- Moleskin, bandaids, Ace bandage, Tylenol, tweezers, etc.
- Sunscreen and insect repellent
- Identification
- Money
- Kleenex

- Sunglasses
- Whistle for signaling in emergencies
- Small flashlight
- Matches (water/windproof)
- Emergency Blanket
- Camera and extra film
- Binoculars
- Food: snacks, Good Old Raisins & Peanuts (GORP), sandwich, etc.
- Extra shirt, shoes, etc., to be left in car for return trip

Hike Ratings

- A Hikes >16 miles or >3500 feet climb
 B Hikes 8 to 16 miles or 1500 to 3500 feet climb
 C Hikes 4 to 8 miles or 500 to 1500 feet climb
 D Hikes <4 miles or < 500 feet climb

NOTE: sometimes a hike is harder or easier than its rating indicates. Hikes are three to four times as hard as a walk around SaddleBrooke. Ask the guide for details before leaving on the hike.

Orientation Hikes

(OH, not rated) are encouraged for all "beginner" hikers and are intended for sharing information and for personal assessment of current physical fitness. The following are the OH hikes scheduled through the end of this year.

- October 17th – Canyon Loop Trail
 October 18th – Hohokam/Birding Trail
 November 26th – Canyon Loop Trail

Hiking Guides' Meetings

All hikes are scheduled at the Hiking Guides' Meetings held in the Javelina Room, SB clubhouse at 4:00 PM on the first Wednesday of even-numbered months. If you would like to lead a hike, be sure to complete a Hiking Schedule Form (attached) and present it at the next meeting which is on December 1st. If you are knowledgeable in plants, birds or photography and would like to assist on any hike, please come to the meeting or let Jim Strickler (the Chief Hiking Guide – phone 825-8735) know of your talents.

Remember – Call the guide before showing up for a hike. The guide will inform you of changes and any special items to bring. Also, you must be a member or the guest of a member to join a hike.

Summary of Hikes by Rating and Date:

- A Hikes – December 2nd & 5th
 B Hikes – October 30th
 November 2nd, 4th, 6th, 10th, 13th, 20th,
 29th & 30th
 December 6th, 9th & 14th
 C Hikes – October 18th, 21st, 23rd, 25th & 28th
 November 1st, 8th, 12th, 16th, 19th, 24th
 & 27th,
 December 1st, 11th, 16th, 18th, 20th & 23rd
 D Hikes – October 17th, 18th & 28th
 November 6th, 9th, 15th, 18th, 21st & 26th
 December 8th

Scheduled Hikes

October 17th – Sunday. (OH) Canyon Loop Trail. Start up Romero Trail in Catalina State Park to Canyon Loop Trail. Come back on the Sutherland Trail. Pace will be slow. Rating D; hike 2.5 miles; 400 foot elevation change; 2700 foot starting elevation; leave 7:30 AM; driver donation \$1.00; Barb Leightenheimer, 818-1953

October 18th – Monday. (OH) Hohokam/Birding Trail. Looking for a gentle hike. This is it. The hike consists of two loops in Catalina State Park. One loop takes you through the ruins of an ancient Indian village with interpretive stops along the way. The second loop goes through a scenic area with trees and washes frequented by a large variety of birds. Rating D; hike 3 miles; climb 50 feet; beginning elevation 2700 feet; slow pace; leave 1:00 PM; driver donation \$1.00; Bill Leightenheimer, 818-1953

October 18th – Monday. Marshall Gulch/Aspen Trail. We will start at the Marshall Gulch Picnic Area and go up the Marshall Gulch Trail to the Saddle. Then left down the Aspen trail back to the Picnic Area. There is a large rock to sit on with a view 1/2 mile after we start on the Aspen Trail. A

great spot for a break or lunch. Rating C; 4 miles; elevation change 740 feet; start at 7400 feet; meet at 7:30 AM; driver donation \$7.00; George Ayuso, 818-0560

October 21st – Thursday. Fifty Year Trail (North End). We will start at the end of the paved part of Golder Ranch Road, go north on the 50 Year Trail and then loop back. Beautiful saguaros and rock formations. Rating C; hike 7 miles; elevation change 800 feet; starting elevation 3200 feet; leave at 9:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00; Bill Leightenheimer, 818-1953

October 23rd – Saturday. Wild Burro Canyon in the Tortolitas. We will take the Rail-X Marble Mine road off Oracle Highway for 5 miles to the county line, then hike on a jeep road to the windmill and into Wild Burro Canyon. The jeep road will take us to a meadow and corral in the mountains. Weather and hikers' agreeing, we may go further along a wash to a canyon lookout. We may get lucky and see some wild horses. Rating C; hike 7 miles; climb 800 feet; pace slow to moderate; altitude at start about 3000 feet; leave 8:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00; Jim Strickler, 825-8735

October 25th – Monday. Fifty Year Trail. We will start at the end of the paved part of Golder Ranch Road and go north on the 50 Year Trail from Big Cottonwood and then loop back. Beautiful saguaros and rock formations. Rating C; elevation change 800 feet; starting elevation 3200 feet; leave at 1:00 PM; driver donation \$1.00; Bill Leightenheimer, 818-1953

October 28th – Thursday. Tohono Chul Park & Tea Room. A desert preserve of 48 acres bordered by Oracle, Ina and Paseo del Norte Roads. 1-hr.docent-led tour surrounded by native plants and desert landscape in an "aviary without walls". Exhibit House, Gallery, & gift shops before and/or after lunch on the patio. Leave to return to SaddleBrooke 2:30 p.m. Limited to 15. \$2.00 each admission. Wear comfortable shoes, hat, sunscreen; bring a bottle of water. Needed: 3 drivers. Rating D; 1.5 miles long; No elevation

change; leave 8:45 AM; driver donation: \$1.00; Beverly Caldwell, 825-3071

October 28th – Thursday. Pima Canyon. The trailhead is at the end of Magee Road. The first mile or so is across open desert along the south side of Pusch Peak. It then enters a beautiful rugged canyon. The rocky trail passes through a grove of large trees providing welcome shade before emerging again in the open. Can be quite cool. We will hike to a rocky open area in the canyon beyond a small dam near Indian grinding holes and then return to the trailhead. Rating C; hike 7 miles; climb 1100 feet; altitude at start, 2900 feet; leave 8:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00; Bill Leightenheimer, 818-1953

October 30th – Saturday. Pusch Peak. Pusch Ridge. The first mile of the trail is mostly level; then a steep difficult climb begins. In a few places you may want to use your hands to climb the trail. Bring gloves. Hiking stick desirable. One and one-half miles more and we reach the top. The views of Oro Valley and Tucson are fantastic. This is a very strenuous hike. Rating B; hike 5 miles; climb, 2700 feet; altitude at start 2650 feet; leave, 8am; driver donation \$1.00; Norm Kyle, 818-0563

November 1st – Monday. Fifty Year Trail (North End). We will start at the end of the paved part of Golder Ranch Road, go north on the 50 Year Trail and then loop back. Beautiful saguaros and rock formations. Rating C; hike 7 miles; elevation change 800 feet; starting elevation 3200 feet; leave at 9:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00; Bill Leightenheimer, 818-1953

November 2nd – Tuesday. Blackett's Ridge. A short hike on a ridge between Sabino and Bear Canyons with spectacular views of Tucson and the canyons. After some steep switchbacks you come to your first scenic overlook. You can see Loew's Ventana and the Visitors Center. By the fourth overlook you have great views of Sabino Canyon and the heart of the Catalinas. Bring plenty of water. Rating B; hike 6 miles; climb 1700 feet; altitude at start 2700 feet; leave, 8:00 AM; driver donation \$2.00; Gary Gouvea, 825-3868

November 4th – Thursday. Mt. Lemmon to Samaniego Ridge. We will start from the top of Mt. Lemmon and take the Mt. Lemmon Trail and Samaniego Ridge Trail to Walnut Spring and back. Rating B; hike 12 miles; climb 2000 feet; altitude, 9100 feet; leave 7:30, driver donation \$7.00; Bill Leightenheimer, 818-1953

November 6th – Saturday. Tucson Botanical Gardens, 2150 North Alvernon just south of Grant. 1-1/4 hour docent-led tour of Tucson's Secret Garden. Wander secluded pathways through a rich variety of plants from herbs to cacti to huge grapefruit trees grown from seed. Visit a butterfly garden, browse the nursery and unique gift shop. Wear comfortable shoes, hat, sunscreen; bring a bottle of water. Leave to return to SaddleBrooke 12 noon. Limited to 15. Needed: 3 drivers w/vehicles. Rating D; approx. 1.5 miles; no elevation change; leave at 8:15 a.m. driver donation: \$2.00; Beverly Caldwell, 825-3071

November 6th – Saturday. Linda Vista to Finger Rock Canyon. Starting at the north end of Alvernon Way the trail follows the canyon towards Finger Rock a prominent Tucson landmark high above the canyon floor. The trail steadily climbs out of the canyon to a saddle with a beautiful view, appropriately called Linda Vista. The return hike is down the same trail. Rating B; hike 6 miles; climb, 2500 feet; altitude at start 3100 feet; leave 8:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00; Norm Kyle, 818-0563

November 8th – Monday. Peralta Trail to Weaver's Needle in the Superstition Mountains. Legend has it that a loner named Jacob Waltz (The Dutchman) found a fortune in gold some where within the Superstition Mountains. Dominating the legends and the landscape is Weaver's Needle. The canyon bottom is a jumble of huge, thought-provoking boulders that have tumbled from the cliffs above. A steep, rocky trail most of the way. Bring a lunch and at least 2 quarts of water. Rating C; hike 5 miles; climb 1360 feet; altitude at the start 2500 feet; leave at 7:30 AM; \$8.00 driver donation; Gary Gouvea, 825-3868

November 9th – Tuesday. Saguaro West Park Ramble. There are several short trails of interest in the Saguaro West Park. One trail takes us to an area of petroglyphs which were made by Hohokam Indians about 1200 A.D. The Park Visitors Center alone is worth the trip. Bring your lunch. Rating D; hike 4.0 miles; elevation change 50 feet; starting elevation 2500 feet; leave at 8:30 AM; driver donation \$3.00; Jan and Dean Wilson, 818-0299

November 10th – Wednesday. Tanque Verde ridge Trail. This is a long and picturesque hike in the Rincon Mountains with lots of views along the way from changing desert vegetation to a beautiful camping area. We park at the Saguaro National Park East trail head. Rating B; hike 14 miles; elevation change 2900 feet; starting elevation 3500 feet; leave at 8:00 AM; driver donation \$3.00; Jim Stickler, 825-8735

November 12th – Friday. Gilbert Ray Loop. Betty Leavengood says easy and basically flat with many small saguaros thriving under the protection of Palo Verde trees. Rating C; hike 5 miles ; pace slow; climb - negligible; altitude at start 3000 feet; leave 8:00 AM; driver donation \$2.00; Gary Gouvea, 825-3868

November 13th – Saturday. Wasson Peak via King Canyon Trail. We start at the trailhead near the Arizona/Sonora Desert Museum and go up the King Canyon Trail. We pass the Mam-A-Gah Picnic area and continue to the saddle where we meet the Sweetwater Trail. Then for the next mile or so it's a steep climb to the junction of the Hugh Norris Trail. From there is a short uphill climb to the summit. From the top you can see all of Tucson to the east, south through Green Valley, north to Picacho Peak and west to Sells. Rating B; hike 8 miles; climb 1900 feet; altitude at start 2800 feet; leave 8:00 AM; driver donation \$3.00; David Caldwell, 825-3071

November 15th – Monday. Tucson Museum of Art's Historic Block - five of city's oldest homes (1850 and 1907). Docent-led tour visits interiors of Corbett House & La Casa Cordova. Walk Snob

Hollow, see exteriors of "the mansions of Main Street" (1885 - 1920s). Lunch at La Cosina Restaurant then continue to La Placita & the Sosa-Carillo-Freemont House OR visit museum's special exhibition "Roads Less Traveled" (mid-19th century American Artists) & the permanent collection of art and/or shop at Old Town Artisans. Leave to return to SaddleBrooke 4 PM (be flexible please). Limit 12 people. Fee \$1.00 seniors, \$2.00 all others. Wear comfortable shoes, hat, sunscreen; bring bottle of water. Needed: 2 drivers w/vehicles. Rating D; hike 1.5 miles; no elevation change; leave at 8:30 AM; driver donation: \$2.00. (Additional \$2.00 parking fee per vehicle - passengers to share with driver). Maps will be given to drivers. Beverly Caldwell, 825-3071

November 16th - Tuesday. Marshall Gulch/Aspen Trail. We will start at the Marshall Gulch Picnic Area and go up the Marshall Gulch Trail to the Saddle. We then take a short spur on the Wilderness of Rocks Trail to a rock overlook which is a great spot for lunch. Then back to the saddle to the Aspen Trail and back to the picnic area. Rating C; 4.5 miles; elevation change 850 feet; start at 7400 feet; meet at 7:30 AM; driver donation \$7.00; George Brunder, 825-6691

November 18th - Thursday. Besh-Ba-Gowah Archeological Park. This hike is located in Globe. The tour guide actually encourages us to wander throughout this 300 room Salado Pueblo, and scamper up ladders to upper stories of this 700-year old ruin. The museum and garden will give us an even better understanding of this remarkably advanced culture. We may have time for a brief look at the newly opened botanical garden before having lunch in the historical sections' brewery. Limit 30; bring money for shopping in old courthouse and sneakers OK. Rating D; hike 2 miles; elevation change 0; leave at 8:00 AM; driver donation \$10.00 (+\$3 entrance fee or \$2 if over 65); Barb Leightenheimer, 818-1953

November 19th - Friday. Cochise Stronghold to the saddle. This is a beautiful hike through the area that Cochise hid in during the Indian wars. He is buried in this area in a hidden location. There is an

extension of this hike that expands it to 10 miles for the more advanced hiker. Rating C; distance 6 miles; elevation change 1000 feet; starting elevation about 4500 feet; leave 7:30 AM; driver donation \$10.00; Gary Gouvea, 825-3868

November 20th - Saturday. Romero Pass. This trek in Romero Canyon to the pass follows an up and down trail past Romero Pools and Romero Springs to Romero Pass. Steep uphill section the last 2 miles. 7.5 miles climbing and 7.5 miles descending. Rating B+; 15 miles; climb 3300 feet; altitude at start 2700 feet; leave 7:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00; Norm Kyle, 818-0563

November 21st - Sunday. Honey Bee Canyon. We will walk in the Honey Bee Canyon at Vistoso. Among other things, we will see Hohokam petroglyphs, grinding holes, and pioneer adobe ruins (bring dry shoes for the car just in case). For those exploring Honey Bee for the first time this is a real eye opener. Rating D; hike 3 miles; 100 foot elevation change; 2700 foot starting elevation; leave at 1:00 PM; driver donation \$1.00; Barb Leightenheimer, 818-1953

November 24th - Wednesday. Baby Jesus Trail. We will drive out Golder Ranch Road to the end of the pavement. We will hike on the Fifty Year Trail to the Baby Jesus Trail. Then hike the Baby Jesus Trail seeing beautiful saguaros and rock formations including a window. We will return by the same route. Rating C; hike 6.5 miles; climb 900 feet; starting altitude 2700 feet; leave at 1:00 PM; driver donation \$1.00; Bill Leightenheimer, 818-1953

November 26th - Friday. (OH) Canyon Loop Trail. Start up Romero Trail in Catalina State Park to Canyon Loop Trail. Come back on the Sutherland Trail. Pace will be slow. Rating D; hike 2.5 miles; 400 foot elevation change; 2700 foot starting elevation; leave 8:30 AM; driver donation \$1.00; Jan and Dean Wilson, 818-0299

November 27th - Saturday. Pontatoc Ridge (Old Spanish Mine Trail). Hike to an abandoned mine from the trailhead at the end of Alvernon Way. Good views of the city and Finger Rock. Rating

C; hike 5 miles; climb 1500 feet; altitude at trailhead 3000 feet; leave 8:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00; Gary Gouvea, 825-3868

November 29th – Monday. Phoneline Trail – Round Trip. The hike will begin in the Sabino Canyon parking lot. After crossing Sabino Creek there is a moderate climb to the Phoneline Trail. The trail is above and generally parallel to the tram road and offers outstanding views of the canyon. The return route will be back along the tram road. Rating B; hike 10 miles; climb 900 feet; altitude at start 2700 feet; leave 8:00 AM; driver donation \$2.00; Jim Strickler, 825-8735

November 30th – Tuesday. Romero Pools (Upper). The hike begins in Catalina State Park and follows the Romero Canyon Trail into the foothills. Initially the trail crosses open desert then there is a steep climb until it reaches the canyon area where several pools are located. The upper pools are about 1/2 mile beyond the lower pools. Rating B; hike 7 miles; climb 1600 feet; altitude at start 2700 feet; pace quick; leave 8:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00; George Brunder, 825-6691

December 1st – Wednesday. Hiking Guides' Meeting. Javelina Room, SaddleBrooke Clubhouse, 4:00 PM.

December 2nd – Thursday. Mt. Wrightson Super Trail. Hike up the Super Trail (8 miles) to the summit and come down either the Super Trail or Old Baldy Trail. At the top are 360 degree views from Tucson to Mexico. This is an all day hike to an outstanding mountain; Rating A; hike 14 miles; climb 4050 feet; altitude at start 5400 feet; shady; leave at 5:30 AM; driver donation \$6.00; Bill Leightenheimer, 818-1953

December 4th – Saturday. Potluck picnic at Catalina State Park. Short hikes, good food and new friendships. Details to be announced.

December 5th – Sunday. Mt. Kimball/Finger Rock Canyon. Starting at the north end of Alvernon Way the trail follows the canyon past Finger Rock, a prominent Tucson landmark high

above the canyon floor. The trail steadily climbs out of the canyon to a saddle between Mt. Kimball and "Little Kimball". A left turn onto the Pima Canyon Trail and a half mile further and hikers arrive at the top of Mt. Kimball. The return hike is down the same trails. Rating A; hike 12 miles; climb 4150 feet; altitude at start 3100 feet; leave 7:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00; Norm Kyle, 818-0563

December 6th – Monday. Blackett's Ridge. This is a B hike for C hikers. We will take as much time as is needed to get to the top of this beautiful trail with a magnificent view as the reward. We will follow the dirt road from the Sabino Canyon Visitors' parking lot to the Phoneline Trail, then to the Blackett's Ridge Trail. The first part of the Trail is somewhat steep, then it changes into a gradual, persistent climb. Great views of Sabino Canyon and Tucson. Bring plenty of water. Rating B; hike 6 miles; climb 1700 feet; altitude at start 2700 feet; leave 8:00 AM; driver donation \$2.00; George Ayuso, 818-0560

December 8 – Wednesday. Christmas shop Tubac! Village's over 80 galleries & shops are ready for Christmas; Tubac Center of the Arts' Holiday Art Market opens early just for us (the work of 50 artisans/crafts people on display, for sale) before the regular opening hour of 10 a.m. (no charge, but Hiker Guide suggests a donation would be appreciated.) Then free time to explore & shop. Lunch at 12 noon at Tosh's Hacienda. Total walk distance depends upon how much you want to do. Wear comfortable shoes, hat, sunscreen; bring a bottle of water. Limited to 12 people. 1 or 2 vehicles return to SaddleBrooke soon after lunch, others stay until around 3 or 3:30 p.m. Flexibility requested! Needed: 3 drivers w/vehicles. Distance: 45 miles south of Tucson on I-19, approximately 65 miles from SaddleBrooke. Maps will be given to drivers. Rating D; 1-2 miles; no elevation change; leave at 8:00 AM sharp; driver donation \$5.00; Beverly Caldwell, 825-3071

December 9th – Thursday. Arizona Trail - Oracle State Park. Another piece of the Arizona Trail is open through the new Oracle State Park. It crosses

the park and is about 8-9 miles long. Start at American Way Park Parking lot and hike to Web Road. After crossing Web, continue to the Old Mt. Lemmon Highway at its intersection with the American Flag Trail. The route is fairly level with little elevation change. Rating B; hike 9 miles; altitude at start 4500 feet; leave 8:00 AM; driver donation \$2.00; Bob Rogers, 825-3665

December 11th – Saturday. Pima Canyon. Pima Canyon. The trailhead is at the end of Magee Road. The first mile or so is across open desert along the south side of Pusch Peak. It then enters a beautiful rugged canyon. The rocky trail passes through a grove of large trees providing welcome shade before emerging again in the open. Can be quite cool. We will hike to a rocky open area in the canyon beyond a small dam near Indian grinding holes and then return to the trailhead. Rating C; hike 7 miles; climb, 1100 feet; altitude at start, 2900 feet; leave 8:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00; Dave Caldwell, 825-3071

December 14th – Tuesday. Charouveau Gap Road. Starting from Lago Del Oro and the new extension of Charouveau Gap Road we will hike on the jeep road to the gap which overlooks SaddleBrooke to the west. The hike will be through desert area and then a steep climb with switchbacks to the gap. Return on the same road. Rating B-; hike 9 miles; elevation change 2000 feet; altitude at the start 3200 feet; leave at 8:00AM; driver donation \$1.00; Norm Kyle, 818-0563

December 16th – Thursday. Hutches Pool. We will take the Sabino Canyon tram to the trailhead. After a moderately steep but brief climb out of the canyon the trail is mostly level. This lovely hike will take us to a permanent pool surrounded by giant Arizona Cypress trees. Bring \$5.00 for the tram. Rating C; hike, hike 8 miles; climb 900 feet; altitude at start 3300 feet; leave 8:00 AM; driver donation \$2.00; Bill Leightenheimer, 818-1953

December 18th – Saturday. Romero Pools (lower). The hike begins in Catalina State Park and follows the Romero Canyon Trail into the foothills. Initially the trail crosses open desert then there is a

steep climb until it reaches the canyon area where several pools are located. Drivers will need \$5.00 or a pass (car with up to 4 people) to enter the park. Rating C+; hike 6 miles; climb 1400 feet; altitude at start 2700 feet; leave 8:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00; Jim Strickler, 825-8735

December 20th – Monday. Baby Jesus Trail. Baby Jesus Trail. We will drive out Golder Ranch Road to the end of the pavement. We will hike on the Fifty Year Trail to the Baby Jesus Trail. Then hike the Baby Jesus Trail seeing beautiful saguaros and rock formations including a window. We will return by the same route. Rating C; hike 6.5 miles; climb 900 feet; starting altitude 2700 feet; leave at 1:00 PM; driver donation \$1.00; Bill Leightenheimer, 818-1953

December 23rd – Thursday. Wild Burro Canyon in the Tortolitas. We will take the Rail-X Marble Mine road off Oracle Highway for 5 miles to the county line then hike on a jeep road to the windmill and into Wild Burro Canyon. The jeep road will take us to a meadow and corral in the mountains. Weather and hikers' agreeing, we may go further along a wash to a canyon lookout. We may get lucky and see some wild horses. Rating C; hike 7 miles; climb 800 feet; pace slow to moderate; altitude at start about 3000 feet; leave 8:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00; Jim Strickler, 825-8735

SaddleBrooke Hiking Club

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND RELEASE

NAME: _____ AGE: _____ SEX: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

Your name, phone number and e-mail address will be listed in the membership directory.

Do you want your street address listed in the directory: Y/N

\$10.00 Annual Dues must accompany this Application.

The release below must be read and signed by all members.

UNCONDITIONAL RELEASE OF ALL CLAIMS (SaddleBrooke Hiking Club)

1. The undersigned individual ("Hiker") states his/her intention to participate in hikes organized or sponsored by the SaddleBrooke Hiking Club ("Club") during the Hiking Year of July 1, 1999 to June 30, 2000.
 2. Hiker acknowledges and agrees that the SaddleBrooke Hiking Club does not maintain any liability, medical, property or other insurance for the benefit of Hiker in connection with the hikes and he/she assumes all responsibility and risk of injury or illness in connection with or participation in the hikes.
 - 3 - Hiker does hereby and unconditionally release, remise, and forever discharge, waive and acquit the SaddleBrooke Hiking Club and all of its members, directors, officers, hiking guides, employees and agents (collectively, Released Parties), and any other person, firm, corporation or entity which may be liable or responsible for the Released Parties, with respect to the Trips, including, but not limited to SaddleBrooke Homeowners Associations #1 and #2.
 4. Hiker represents and warrants that no representations have been made to him/her by or on behalf of any of the Released Parties to influence or induce the execution of this Release other than contained herein, and that he/she has fully read this Release and has executed the same upon independent advice and counsel of his/her own choosing, agreeing to release the Released Parties as provided herein.
 5. Hiker acknowledges that he/she is capable of participating in and completing a hike of beginning/intermediate /advanced difficulty as defined by the SaddleBrooke Hiking Club ratings system which Hiker acknowledges having read and understood and further acknowledges that he/she has no known medical or other condition which could be damaged or aggravated in any way by participation in such level of difficulty. Hiker assumes the responsibility of informing the leadership of the Club in writing of any change in his/her hiking ability or of any incipient medical condition which would in any way limit or endanger participation in such hikes. Hiker acknowledges sole responsibility for insuring he/she does not attempt hikes which difficulty level exceeds that asserted in this Release.
 6. This Release contains the full and complete understanding and agreement of the parties and supersedes all prior understandings or agreements whether oral or in writing, relating to the subject matter contained herein
 7. In the event legal proceedings are commenced between the parties to this agreement for the matters contained herein then each party in such action shall be responsible for and pay its own expenses and attorneys' fees. In the event of any dispute, venue shall be the courts of Pinal County Arizona and this Release shall be governed by the laws of the State of Arizona.
 8. This Release shall be continuing and shall remain in full force and effect until cancelled at will by either party upon proper written notice to the other. Notice posted by the U. S. Mail to the Hiker at his/her residence address in SaddleBrooke shall be deemed completed notice to him/her.
- IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Hiker has executed this Release effective as of (date) _____, for the benefit of the Released Parties.

(SIGNATURE OF HIKER)

(PRINT NAME)

