



SaddleBrooke



HIKING CLUB NEWSLETTER

<http://www.SaddleBrooke.org>

March/April 2000

2000-2

Aravaipa Canyon Wilderness Hikes

These permit-only hikes are listed at the end of April, first part of May. Permits are issued by the Bureau of Land Management for groups of 10 hikers. Aravaipa is a wilderness canyon which features "water hiking" – stream wading & numerous water crossings which can be up to knee deep – as well as dense riparian brush and only occasional trails. Please note that hikes are offered with both the B and C ratings. Since space is limited, you may want to sign-up early!

Member Forum

Hiking up a steep trail can be difficult; hiking back down that same trail can be nearly impossible and very painful if you have weak or injured knees. In fact, some hikers don't even know they are the proud owners of weak knees until they hike down a steep trail. One solution I've discovered: Ace bandages. I take two with me in my pack so if the trail I climbed up is the same steep jaunt on the return, I can wrap my knees before I start the downward trek. The support given by the Aces adds stability to the knee joints and makes a big difference in my ability to walk and, in my case, actually reduces the pain to zero. I prefer the Aces to other braces because I can control the overall tightness. Wrap snug but not too tightly so as not

to interfere with circulation. By the way, this is much easier to do in the summer when you have on shorts rather than long pants, but even if you have to lower your jeans to wrap your knees (oh, no biggie – just hide behind a bush) it's really worth it. I guess you could wrap an Ace around your knee, over your pants, too, if you wanted. Anyway, an Ace today may keep the doctor away – tomorrow.
~ Bev C.

On the Trail

with Rochelle & Bill Brennan

We weren't a-talking on the phone, we were a-walkin' on the Phone - Phone Line Trail out of Sabino Canyon. The day was sunny with bright blue skies, and our goal was to have lots of fun. That goal was reached easily since we had the company of our trusty Hiking Guides, Dave Caldwell and Bill Leightenheimer.

It is with a sense of awe that we sit here now, on comfy chairs on our lovely patio, gazing up at the magnificent Santa Catalina Mountains, reflecting on the good time we had on this hike. How fortunate we are to have these majestic mountains with all of their splendor and the opportunity to explore them whenever we choose. They are truly world-class, certainly comparable to Yosemite,

Glacier, the Rocky Mountains, and they are here, now, offering us endless challenges for exploration. But we digress.

Phone Line Trail was a difficult test but not overly taxing. The scenery was fantastic, very picturesque; the trail offered magnificent views and club members provided plenty of that fun we were looking for. Our early morning start time enabled us to stay in the shade for most of the hike which was welcomed since this was one of those 80-degree "winter" days.

"We made it!" was the happily shared shout of relief when we arrived at our ending point, the picnic area back at the Visitors Center.

Hiking with the SBHC is a wonderful experience - friendly people who like to have a good time and who enjoy sharing joy with others. We felt a real camaraderie with our fellow hikers, a happy sense of togetherness, and a feeling of accomplishment.

We're glad we took this hike and want to do again. It's so close to home! It's an experience we'd like to share with family and friends, and we will!

Announcements

ELECTIONS: A general membership meeting to elect club officers for the 2000-2001 term will be held in the ballroom at Mountain View clubhouse on Monday, April 3rd, at 7:30 PM.

The proposed slate of candidates will be posted on the club's web page at www.SaddleBrooke.org for two weeks prior to the election or may be obtained in print form from the Club Communications Committee, Dave and Bev Caldwell, 825-3071.

-- Caution: Spring temperatures can rise by mid-morning, unexpectedly. Be sure to have ample sun protection and plenty of water.

-- April 21st. is the date for our **Spring Potluck Picnic** at Catalina State Park, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friends, fun, food, and hiking! How can you beat that?! Details to follow in the April newsletter.

HELP is needed to put it together; the Social Committee needs at least 4 people to make it happen. *Isn't it your turn to volunteer?* Email Blossom at Blos76@aol.com by March 15th. & offer your much needed help. If necessary, you may call Blossom between 8 a.m. & 7 p.m., 818-0796. (No calls March 4th to March 14th, please)

-- The club will purchase two or three **cell phones** for guides to use while leading hikes for the club.

-- Eight club members have hiked 10 or more hikes since the club started in October, 1999: Bob Appel, Bill Leichtenheimer, Mary Richling, Jim Strickler, Linda Welch, Bob White, Kay White, and Bob Wynne. Each will receive a congratulatory letter from our new **Awards Chairperson**, Bob Wynne, and an club-designed, iron-on patch for their favorite T-shirt. Awards will also be given for 25-, 50-, 75-mile, etc., hikes; these will be presented at future club functions. Any and all hikes sponsored by the club count toward an award!

Also of interest is that 204 of the club's current membership of 340 have participated in at least one hike. Pretty good participation, don't you think?

-- There've been many requests for an official club T-shirt, and for every 5 requests, there are 5 specifications of style, color, etc. Frustration over cometh. Is there a graphic designer in the club, or does anyone know a graphic designer? We need someone to offer to chair an **OTS Committee** (Official T-Shirt Committee) and to finally get our shirts ordered. Call Barb Leichtenheimer at 818-1953 to help. Is it your turn to help the club?

Reminders

-- Guides: Please be sure directions given to drivers prior to leaving SaddleBrooke are as exact as can be (& in writing if possible); maps may be provided for drivers whenever practical to do so.

Thank you.

-- Drivers: Please obtain exact directions on where you are going and where to meet the rest of the

group prior to leaving SaddleBrooke. If directions are not given to you or you are not clear, please take the responsibility to simply ask the guide prior to leaving SaddleBrooke. *Thank you.*

-- Hiking Guides are "just members" who volunteer a lot of time & effort for you, a fellow club member. Being courteous to them & following their requests on their hike is not too much of a pay back, is it? A little appreciation and an occasional 'thank you' can mean a great deal to a volunteer and is sure a lot more pleasant than being treated with rude disregard.

Q & A by CCC

Q: Where can I buy good equipment for hiking?

A: Popular Outdoor Outfitters for Less has three stores in Tucson. The closest to SaddleBrooke is on the corner of Oracle and Orange Grove (6314 N. Oracle, phone: 575-1044). Their newest and biggest store is at 2820 N. Campbell, phone: 326-2520; the third location is downtown at 6315 E. Broadway, phone: 290-1644. Popular is well-stocked and staffed with friendly sales people.

Another very good store for hiking gear is Summit Hut at 5045 E. Speedway, phone: 325-1554. It's located just east of Swan, at Rosemont. Famous for having everything under the sun and moon you might need, and for cheerful, helpful sales folk, Summit Hut staff are also known for their knowledge and ability to properly fit hiking boots to old feet.

Club Officers

President - Bill Leichtenheimer - 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

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.

Driver donation is a suggested amount and is noted for each individual hike. Due to automobile insurance coverage considerations, it is recommended that any payment to the driver be made at the end of the drive, back at SaddleBrooke. The amount sometimes 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.)

Guest Policy

Please note: a guest is a person who is not a SaddleBrooke resident whether year-round or part-time. A SaddleBrooke resident must be a club member in order to join a hike. On hikes with limited participants, members have priority over guests. Members must accompany their guest(s), and all guests will be required to sign a Release Form prior to hiking. If the guest is younger than 16 years old, the member must notify the hiking guide who has sole discretion whether or not to allow minors on his/her hike. Guests under age 18 must have a Release Form signed by their parent or legal guardian to present to the guide prior to hiking.

Hiking Guides Meetings (next meeting 4/5/00)

All hikes are scheduled at the Hiking Guides Meetings held in the Javelina Room, SB clubhouse, at 4:00 p.m. on the first Wednesday of even-numbered months. If you would like to lead a hike, be sure to complete a Hiking Schedule Form and present it at the next meeting which will be on April 5th. If you have special knowledge about or experience with plants, birds or photography and would like to assist on any hike, please come to the meeting or let Jim Strickler, Chief Hiking Guide, know of your talents. Jim's phone number is 825-8735.

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. In an attempt at pinpoint accuracy, "minus" and "plus" signs have been added to some ratings. Hikes are much more difficult than a walk around SaddleBrooke. Be sure to ask the guide for details before leaving on the hike.

Orientation Hikes

Orientation Hikes (OH) 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 April:

- March 17th – Friday. Honey Bee Canyon
- April 14th – Friday. Honey Bee Canyon
- April 21st – Friday. Canyon Loop Trail

Summary of Hikes by Rating and Date:

- A Hikes – March 9, 13 and 23rd
April 15, 17, 22 and 26th

- B Hikes – March 1, 5, 8, 11, 12, 15, 20, 24, 25, 27, 28 and 31st
April 3, 10, 11, 12, 19, 24 and 28th
May 3rd

- C Hikes – March 3, 7, 10, 12, 18, 22, 26 and 31st
April 7, 10, 12, 13, 15, 17, 22, 26 and 30th

- D Hikes – March 6, 8, 14, 17, 23 and 29th
April 6, 12, 14, 21 and 25th

SCHEDULED HIKES

March 1st – Wednesday. Finger Rock Trail to Linda Vista Saddle. Rating B+. This hike starts on level ground for about 1 mile then sharply climbs 2500 feet. Scrambling is necessary at some points, & coming down is just as difficult. The pace is very slow with lots of rest stops to enjoy the beautiful vistas as they spread out below and into the distance. Hike 6 miles; 2500 foot elevation change; starting elevation 3100 feet; leave 8:00 AM; driver donation \$2.00; Kay White, 818-9482 and Judy Coopersmith, 825-4063

March 3rd – Friday. Peralta Trail. Rating C. 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. It's a steep, rocky trail most of the way. Bring a lunch and at least 2 quarts of water. Hike 5 miles; climb 1360 feet; altitude at the start 2500 feet; leave at 7:30 AM; driver donation \$8.00; Gary Gouvea, 825-3868

March 4th – Saturday. Picacho Peak. Rating B. From Barret Loop trailhead hike up to a saddle then down to Sunset Vista Trail then to the top of Picacho Peak using the permanently installed guide cables to get to the top. Bring cotton or leather gloves for holding on to cables. Return requires a climb down Sunset Vista Trail then up the Hunter Trail again to the saddle. This is a short, strenuous, 'acrophobic' hike & a favorite among hikers.

\$5.00 park entrance fee or a pass (car with up to 4 people); hike 4 miles; climb 2100 feet; elevation at start 1500 feet; leave 7:00 AM; driver donation \$4.00; Grace Clark, 825-8019

March 5th – Sunday. Blackett's Ridge. Rating B. A relatively short hike between Sabino and Bear Canyons with spectacular views of Tucson and the canyons. We follow the dirt road from Sabino Canyon Visitors Center parking lot. The first part of the trail is somewhat steep, then it changes to a gradual, persistent climb. The pace will be slow but steady. Hike 6 miles; climb 1700 feet; altitude at start 2700 feet; leave 8:00 AM; driver donation \$2.00; Larry Gray, 818-0337

March 6th – Monday. Monday Madness. Saguaro Park East & Lunch. Rating D. At the eastern most end of Speedway, from Douglas Spring Trailhead, loop trail follows along the foot of the Rincon Mountains & back. Hike 4 miles; 200 foot elevation change; starting elevation 3000 feet; leave 8 AM; limit 20 people; \$12.00 for gourmet luncheon buffet at Tanque Verde Guest Ranch after hike - payable to Bev by 3/2/00; driver donation \$3.00; Bev Caldwell, 825-3071

March 7th – Tuesday. Green Mountain Trail/Guthrie Mountain. Rating B-. Starting at the San Pedro Vista we follow the Green Mountain Trail mostly downhill leading to a saddle where it intersects the Guthrie Mountain Trail. To reach the summit of Guthrie requires some optional rock climbing near the end (2 miles/800') then it's a steep downhill trek to the General Hitchcock Campground. Hike 6 miles (9 miles with Guthrie Summit); descent 1100 feet; altitude at start 7200 feet; leave 7:30 AM; driver donation \$6. Hike requires a car to be left at General Hitchcock Campground. George Brunder, 825-6691

March 8th – Wednesday. 3 for 1 - Baby Jesus, Sutherland & 50-year trails. Rating B-. This hike takes in 3 nearby trails to make a loop trip. The first trail will be the Baby Jesus Trail to the Sutherland Trail. The Sutherland trail will then be followed to the 50-Year Trail which leads back to the starting point of the Baby Jesus Trail. Elevation

change is a gradual 800 feet and distance covered is about 11 miles. These are 3 popular trails because of their close proximity to SaddleBrooke and because of the variety of plant life as the trail goes from desert washes to rocky overlooks. Hike 11 miles; elevation change 800 feet; starting elevation 2800 feet; leave 8:00 AM; driver donation \$1; Bob White, 818-9482

March 8, Wednesday. Apacheland Hieroglyphic Trail. Rating C-. A pretty hike in the Tonto National Forest up the Gold Canyon Trail from the Apacheland trailhead into the Superstition Mountains. We will see some very nice petroglyphs above a pool. It's a gradual climb with sweeping views all around. Pace is slow with lots of stops. Bring lunch and 2 quarts of water. Hike 5 miles; altitude at start 2,000 feet; leave 7:30 AM; driver donation \$8.00; Alyce Marlow, 825-2274

~~April 20th~~
March 9th – Thursday. Mt. Wrightson via Super Trail. Rating A. 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. Hike 14 miles; climb 4050 feet; altitude at start 5400 feet; shady; leave at 5:30 AM; driver donation \$3.00; Bill Leightenheimer, 818-1953

March 10th – Friday. Bridal Wreath Falls. Rating C+. We'll drive to the east end of Speedway to reach the trailhead. Some steep hiking up the Douglas Spring Trail for the first 2.5 miles then .03 miles to the falls. Mostly sunny, so bring sun protection. In the spring the falls should be flowing if the winter rains have cooperated. Hike 5.6 miles; climb 1200 feet; starting elevation 2800 feet; leave 8 AM; driver donation \$3.00; limit 15 hikers; Dave Caldwell, 825-3071

March 11th – Saturday. Pusch Peak. Rating B. 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. Hike 5 miles; elevation change 2700 feet; altitude at start 2650 feet; leave 8:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00; Norm Kyle, 818-0563

March 12th - Sunday. Tumacacori. Rating C. Roy Simpson will give a 1-hour guided historic tour of the Tumacacori Mission and grounds. Then some may want to drive to Tubac and shop until the rest of us get there. Most will enjoy an additional 1-hr. nature talk as we stroll 1/2 mile to the river where we start the beautiful, if slightly muddy, Anza Trail leading 4.5 miles to Tubac (less than a 2-hr. walk). Bring water, snacks, hats, lunch money, and maybe clean shoes. Some vehicles return to SaddleBrooke soon after lunch, others stay until around 3 or 3:30. Flexibility! Limit 20; hike 4.5 miles; elevation change 30 feet; starting elevation 3000 feet; leave at 7:30 AM; driver donation \$6.00; Barb Leightenheimer, 818-1953

March 12th - Sunday. Romero Pools, lower. Rating B-. The hike begins in Catalina State Park and follows Romero Canyon Trail into the foothills. Trail crosses open desert then climbs steeply until it reaches a saddle and the canyon area where several pools are located. We will have lunch there. \$5.00 park entrance fee or a pass (car with up to 4 people). Limit 14; hike 6 miles; climb 1400 feet; altitude at start 2700 feet; leave 8:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00; Larry Gray, 818-0337

March 13th - Monday. Mt. Lemmon to SaddleBrooke. Rating A. Mt. Lemmon and Samaniego Ridge Trails to Charouleu Gap then hoof it to SaddleBrooke. There are some uphill sections. If weather is warm, be prepared with sun protection and plenty of water. Bring flashlight in case we get back late. We need drivers to drive us to the top of Mt. Lemmon. Hike 20 miles; descent 5800 feet; starting elevation 9100 feet; leave 6:00 AM; driver donation \$3.00; Bill Leightenheimer, 818-1953

March 14th - Tuesday. Boyce-Thompson Arboretum. Rating D. Tour this 300+ acre state park arboretum with us. 50 acres of nature paths, towering trees, cacti, mountain cliffs, a streamside

forest, a desert lake and panoramic views. \$5.00 park entrance fee or a pass (car with up to 4 people). Hike 1.5 miles; little elevation change; round trip drive 200 miles; leave 8:00 AM; driver donation \$10.00; Gail and George Virtes, 818-0312

March 15th - Wednesday. Soldier Trail. Rating B. Start at mile 1.3 pullout on Catalina Highway to Prison Camp and return. The first 1/2 mile is a steep straight up climb. The gorge in Soldier Basin may have water flowing below some rugged cliffs. Views of the Tucson area. This trail was used in the 1800s as a cavalry passage into the mountains. Limit 14; hike 6 miles; elevation change 1600 feet; starting elevation 3200 feet; leave 7:00 AM; driver donation \$4.00; Grace Clark, 825-8019

March 17th - Friday. Honey Bee Canyon. (OH) Rating D. We will walk Honey Bee Canyon at Vistoso. We'll see Hohokam petroglyphs, grinding holes, and pioneer adobe ruins. For those exploring Honey Bee for the first time this is a real eye opener. Limit 12; hike 2 miles; 100 foot elevation change; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave 10:30 AM; driver donation \$1.00; Barb Leightenheimer, 818-1953 (Remember to wear green today, St. Patrick's Day.)

March 18th - Saturday. Brown Canyon Box Hike in the Huachuca Mountains. Rating C+. This is an unusual trail with two gravesites and rusty mining artifacts along the way. The trail narrows into a footpath as you approach the Box, a rocky boxed-in area with a small falls and a delightful swimming hole. The trail leaves the canyon and continues up the stream in the Box. Hike 8 miles; elevation Change 1000 feet; starting elevation about 4000 feet; leave 7:00 AM; driver donation \$10.00; Gary Gouvea, 825-3868

March 20th - Monday. Wasson Peak at sunset and moonrise. Rating B. We do this hike in the evening of a full moon. Arriving at the top in time for sunset and dinner then watching the lights come on in Tucson. We hike down by the light of the moon and flashlights (bring one). We start at the trailhead near the Arizona/Sonora Desert Museum, go up the King Canyon Trail 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 it's a short uphill climb to the summit. Hike 8 miles; climb 1900 feet; altitude at start 2800 feet; leave 3:00 PM; driver donation \$3.00; Bill Leightenheimer, 818-1953

March 22nd - Wednesday. Cody Trail. Rating C+. Area/general location: Old Mt. Lemmon Highway; sandy trail, some rocky areas. No further description received. Call guides for details. Hike 7.5 miles; starting elevation 3800 feet; limit 20; leave 8:30 AM; driver donation \$2.00; Mary Croft, 825-3804, and Sandra Sowell, 818-0995

March 23rd - Thursday. Tucson Museum of Art's Historic Block Tour. Rating D. Docent-led tour visits interiors of Corbett House & La Casa Cordova. See five of city's oldest homes (1850-1907); walk Snob Hollow; see exteriors of "the mansions of Main Street"(1885-1920s). Lunch at Museum cafe then visit current exhibits: Tucson at the Millennium (photography by Tucsonians) & American Impressionism, 1885-1945. Also the El Nacimiento will still be on exhibit. OR go shopping at Old Town Artisans. Limit 15; tour 2 miles & no charge, museum \$2 or \$1 for seniors; leave 9:00 AM, return to SB by 4 p.m.; driver donation \$2.00. Will give maps to drivers. Bev Caldwell, 825-3071

March 23rd - Thursday. Flori'da Saddle. Rating A. Located in the Santa Rita Mountains, this is a very steep and continuous climb from the Experimental Range Headquarters through a beautiful canyon, along open hillsides and thick forests, up to the Flori'da Saddle at 7800'. We return by the same route. Hike 10 miles; pace slow; elevation change 3900 feet; starting altitude 4400 feet; leave 6:00 AM; driver donation \$3.00; Bill Leightenheimer, 818-1953

March 24th - Friday. Pima Canyon to the Saddle. Rating B. The trailhead is at the end of Magee Road. The first mile or so of trail 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 past a small dam to a springs and saddle to give a superb view of the entire Montrose and Romero canyon drainage, the most inaccessible region of the entire Catalina Mountains. Hike 12 miles; climb 3450 feet; altitude at start 2900 feet; leave 8:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00; Norm Kyle, 818-0563

March 25th - Saturday. Bog-Kent Springs Loop Trail. Rating B. We hike from the Bog Springs Campground through three springs areas which are home to bamboo, huge Arizona sycamore, walnut and fir trees. There are great views of Madera Canyon, Green Valley, Kitt peak, and Baboquivari from this trail with strenuous, steep climbs in spots. Limit 15 hikers. Hike 6 miles; climb 2100 feet; starting altitude 5000 feet; leave 7:15 AM; driver donation \$6.00; Dave Caldwell, 825-3071

March 26th - Sunday. Tanque Verde Ridge Trail. Rating C+. This is a picturesque hike in the Rincon Mountains with tremendous views of Tucson and the surrounding area. We park at the Saguaro National Park East Trail and hikers per car will share in the \$5 park entry fee. The hike is somewhat steep in parts, but very manageable for C and more-experienced hikers. We lunch on a mesa with great views. There are some photo stops along the way. Hike 8 miles; elevation change 1300 feet; starting elevation 3000 feet; leave 8:00 AM; driver donation \$3.00; Larry Gray, 818-0337

March 27th - Monday. Baby Jesus Trail from the Sutherland Trail. Rating B. We hike the Sutherland Trail to the Baby Jesus Trail which follows the foothills of the Catalinas and has magnificent views to the north and west and some of the best saguaros in the region. We then take the Baby Jesus Trail to the Sutherland Wash where we find a roadway & the car we left there earlier. Hike 10 miles; climb 500 feet; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave 9:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00; Gary Gouvea, 825-3868

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March 28th - Tuesday. Romero Pools (lower). Rating B-. The hike begins in Catalina State Park and follows the Romero Canyon Trail into the foothills. Initially the trail crosses open desert then climbs steeply until it reaches a saddle and the canyon area where several pools are located. We will have lunch there. Drivers will need \$5.00 or a pass (car with up to 4 people) to enter the park. Limit 15 hikers; hike 6 miles; climb 1400 feet; altitude at start 2700 feet; leave 8:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00; Jim Strickler, 825-8735

March 29th - Wednesday. Ghost Town of Ruby. Rating D. Hike one of the premier ghost towns in the country with more than a dozen buildings still standing. Hike as much or as little as you like along the old dirt streets then have a picnic lunch at Lake Ruby. Admission is \$12.00 (\$8.00 if we can sign up at least 10 people). High clearance vehicles are needed for the last 10 miles in. We will have a reservation for this day. Hike 2 miles; no elevation change; round trip driving distance 200 miles; leave 7:30 AM; driver donation \$10.00; George and Gail Virtes, 818-0312

26
March 31st - Friday. Phoneline Trail, round trip or one way, your choice. Rating B-/C. 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 or ride the tram back down for a C hike. \$6.00 tram fee can be paid to the driver at the embarkation point, stop 9. Have exact \$6, please. Hike 10 miles or 5; climb 900 feet; altitude at start 2700 feet; leave 7:30 AM; driver donation \$2.00; Jim Strickler, 825-8735

26
April 3rd - Monday. Thimble Peak. Rating B. We start at Prison Camp Road (now Gordon Hirabayashi Recreation Site), 7 miles up the Catalina Highway and take the beautiful Sycamore Reservoir Trail down to the abandoned reservoir, connect to the Bear Canyon Trail on the way to Thimble Flat then follow a faint trail to the base of Thimble Peak. Bring gloves to do the fairly easy scramble to the top of the east summit. Enjoy

outstanding views from this prominent landmark. We will return by the same route. Hike 11 miles; elevation change 1500 feet; starting elevation 4850 feet; leave 7:00 AM; driver donation \$3.00; Ron Noton, 825-7374 *Jim Strickler*

April 3rd - Elections of club officers, 7:30 PM - see announcements

April 5th - Wednesday. Hiking Guide Meeting. Javelina Room, SaddleBrooke Clubhouse, 4 PM.

April 6th - Thursday. Tucson Botanical Gardens. Rating D. 1-1/2-hr. 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 seeds. Visit a butterfly garden, browse the nursery & gift shop. Limit 15; walk 1.5 miles; \$4 or \$3.00/seniors; leave 8:15 AM, return to SB by 1:00 PM; driver donation \$2.00. Bev Caldwell, 825-3071

April 7th - Friday. Pima Canyon. Rating C. The trailhead is at the end of Magee Road. The first mile or so of trail 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. Hike 6 miles; climb 800 feet; altitude at start 2900 feet; leave 7:30 AM; driver donation \$1.00; George Brunder, 825-6691

April 10th - Monday. Douglas Spring Trail to the campground. Rating B. We'll drive to the east end of Speedway to reach the trailhead and do some steep hiking to campground. Hiking back we'll possibly bushwhack over to Bridal Wreath Falls then follow trail back to the cars. Some variations in the trail. Mostly open, so bring minimum of two quarts of water, sun protection and lunch. Hike 12 miles; elevation change 2050 feet; pace steady; altitude at trailhead 2800 feet; leave, 7:00 AM; driver donation \$3.00; Ron Noton, 825-7374

April 10th - Monday. American Flag Trail. Rating C. This hike begins on the old Mt. Lemmon Road and covers a section of the Arizona Trail. We take the American Flag Trail to Oracle Ridge where we have interesting views to the west. We then hike south to a saddle below Apache Peak where we will have lunch and then return. Hike 8 miles; altitude change 1200 feet; altitude at start 4400 feet; leave 7:30 AM; driver donation \$3.00; Gary Gouvea, 825-3868

April 11th - Tuesday. Wasson Peak/Hugh Norris Trail. Rating B. We will take the Hugh Norris Trail in both directions. This is the longest trail to Wasson Peak (incredible views at the top) but the climb is gradual and the trail is primarily a ridge trail with spectacular views. Hike 10 miles; climb 2100 feet; starting elevation 2800 feet; leave 7:00 AM; driver donation \$3.00; Mary Croft, 825-3804

April 12th - Wednesday. Phoneline Trail, round trip or one way, your choice. Rating B-/C. 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 with a slower pace or ride tram back down Sabino Canyon for a C hike. \$6.00 tram fee can be paid to the driver at the embarkation point, stop 9. Have exact amount, please. Hike 10 miles or 5; climb 900 feet; altitude at start 2700 feet; leave 7:30 AM; driver donation \$2.00; Kay White, 818-9482 and Judy Coopersmith, 825-4063

April 12th - Wednesday. Day of Photography. Rating D. Southern Arizona is a photographer's dream. Nature, architecture, people, panoramic landscapes - the variety of subject matter is unique and endless. We will go first to the Barrio Historico then the St Augustine Cathedral and on to the Center for Creative Photography. Mission San Xavier del Bac will be next then on to Tumacacori National Monument. We can decide as a group when to stop for lunch. Limit 12; leave 8:00 AM; driver donation \$3.00; Alyce Marlowe and Dot Kleikamp, 825-2274

April 13th - Thursday. Bridal Wreath Falls. Rating C+. We'll drive to the east end of Speedway to reach the trailhead. There is some steep hiking up the Douglas Spring Trail for the first 2.5 miles then .03 miles to the falls. Mostly sunny, so bring sun protection. In the spring the falls should be flowing if the winter rains have cooperated. Hike 5.6 miles; climb 1200 feet; starting elevation 2800 feet; leave 8 AM; driver donation \$3.00; Jim Strickler, 825-8735

April 14th - Friday. Honey Bee Canyon (OH). Rating D. We will walk Honey Bee Canyon at Vistoso. We'll see Hohokam petroglyphs, grinding holes, and pioneer adobe ruins. For those exploring Honey Bee for the first time this is a real eye opener. Limit 12 hikers. Hike 2 miles; 100 foot elevation change; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave 10:30 AM; driver donation \$1.00; Barb Leightenheimer, 818-1953

April 14th - Friday. Helvetia/Gunsight Pass. Rating B. We start at the ruins of Helvetia, an old mining town, and hike along mining roads to the pass. Rock samples of copper ores are plentiful along the way as well as scars on the landscape left from mining. At the pass we can explore the "gun site" and abandoned remnants of the mining operation from the huge Narragansett mine. Hike 6 miles; elevation change 1700 feet; altitude at start 4400 feet; leave 7:30 AM; driver donation \$5.00; Gary Gouvea, 825-3868

April 15th - Saturday. Green Mountain Trail. Rating C. (This will be a C hike for D+ hikers.) Starting at the San Pedro Vista we will follow the Green Mountain Trail close to Rogers Canyon with beautiful views of the San Pedro River Valley. The mostly downhill trail leads to a saddle where it intersects the Guthrie Mountain Trail then proceeds very steeply downhill to the General Hitchcock Campground. Limit 15; hike 6 miles; descent 1100 feet; altitude at start 7200 feet; leave 7:00 AM; driver donation \$6.00. This hike requires a second car to be left in the General Hitchcock Campground. Dave Caldwell, 825-3071

31 April 20 Mt. Wightson
32 April 28 Mt. Lemmon
to Saddle Brooke

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April 15th - Saturday. Mt. Kimball/Finger Rock Canyon. Rating A. 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. Hike 12 miles; climb 4150 feet; altitude at start 3100 feet; leave 7:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00; Norm Kyle, 818-0563

leave 7:30 AM; driver donation \$7.00; Jim Strickler, 825-8735

April 21st - Friday. Spring Potluck Picnic. Catalina State Park. See Announcements.

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April 21st - Friday. Canyon Loop Trail (OH). Rating D. Start up Romero Trail in Catalina State Park to Canyon Loop Trail. Come back on the Sutherland Trail. Pace will be slow. A good hike to do on Picnic Day. Limit 12 hikers; hike 2.5 miles; 400 foot elevation change; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave 8:30 AM; driver donation \$1.00; Barb Leightenheimer, 818-1953

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April 22nd - Saturday. Seven Falls. Rating C+. Starting at the Sabino Canyon Visitors Center hike from the parking lot to lower Bear Canyon. Then along the Bear Canyon Trail to Seven Falls and return. Falls may be dry depending on spring rains. Hike 8 miles; climb 900 feet; starting altitude 2800 feet; leave 8:00 AM; driver donation \$2.00; Jim Strickler, 825-8735

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April 22nd - Saturday. Mt. Lemmon to Catalina State Park via the Sutherland Trail. Rating A. We will start at the Mt. Lemmon meadows at the peak and walk down the Mt. Lemmon Trail (the Arizona Trail) to the beginning of the Sutherland Trail then proceed down the length of that trail to Catalina State Park. This will take us through all of the climate zones of Mt. Lemmon and affords magnificent views to the West and Northwest including the Tortolitas, Sun City, SaddleBrooke, and Oro Valley. Hike 12 miles; elevation change 6300 feet; pace slow; starting altitude 9100 feet; leave 6:00 AM; driver donation \$3.00. We will need to arrange transportation to the top. Bill Leightenheimer, 818-1953

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April 24th - Monday. Wasson Peak/Hugh Norris Trail. Rating B. We will take the Hugh Norris trail in both directions. This is the longest trail to Wasson peak (incredible views at the top) but the climb is gradual and the trail is primarily a ridge trail with spectacular views. Hike 10 miles climb 2100 feet; starting elevation 2800 feet; leave 7:00; driver donation \$3.00; Ron Noton, 825-7374

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April 17th - Monday. Mt. Lemmon to Catalina State Park via Romero Pass. Rating A. We start at the top of Mt. Lemmon and follow the Mt. Lemmon Trail to Romero Pass then take the Romero Canyon Trail to the trailhead in Catalina State Park. Most of this hike is downhill but is difficult in places with some short but rigorous uphill sections. We will be driven to the top (by "support crew") and spot cars in CSP. Hike 14 miles; descent 6300 feet; altitude at start 9100 feet; leave 6:00 AM; driver donation \$3.00; Bill Leightenheimer, 818-1953

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April 17th - Monday. Kentucky Mining Camp. Rating C. This easy, historic hike starts in Gardner Canyon on the East side of the Santa Rita Mountains. Our destination is an old mining camp with adobe buildings that are slowly being restored. This is a peek into mining's past! Hike 6 miles; elevation change 400 feet; altitude at trailhead 5000 feet; leave 7:30 AM; driver donation \$7.00; Gary Guevea, 825-3868

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April 19th - Wednesday. Butterfly Trail. Rating C+. Starting at Soldier Camp we will hike down to the Novio Spring area in Alder Canyon where we will lunch in the vicinity of a 1957 F-86 plane crash. All of the steady climb is on the way out. We will be in the shade of very tall douglas fir and ponderosa pines, up to the saddle and exit at Palisade Ranger Station. Along the way are views of San Manuel to the east. We will try to set this up as a shuttle to avoid the painful after lunch climb out. Rating B; hike 6 miles; elevation change 1800 feet; altitude at trailhead 7700 feet; pace slow;