

SADDLEBROOKE

HIKING CLUB NEWSLETTER

<http://www.SaddleBrooke.org>

March/April 2004

2004 - 2

HEY HIKERS!

By Mary Richling, President

Is it your turn this year? We are in need of new officers and workers for next season. Elections will be held at our picnic March 27. With nearly 400 members, good people are out there to make sure we continue to meet the needs of our membership. Many hands make light work and more fun! Here is a brief synopsis of the officers and chairpersons responsibilities. Transitioning and ongoing help always available!

President: presides over board meetings generally held every other month, prepares agenda and approves publications.

Vice-president: assists president and performs the duties in the president's absence.

Secretary: records minutes of general and board meetings and provides copies to board and committee members. In charge of SBHC records other than treasurer's. Responsible for correspondence as required. Bob Perez, current secretary, has agreed to maintain our roster and new membership collection next season. Thanks Bob!

Treasurer: Shall pay bills owed by SBHC and reimburses monies spent by members for approved club events. Presents financial report at board and general meetings.

Social Chairperson: (Committee welcome!) Organizes spring and fall picnics or other social activities as decided by the board. Arranges for monthly socials at our community country clubs.

Merchandise Chairperson: Keeps inventory of hiking club shirts, location patches and other club merchandise for sale. Makes it available at picnics and social hours.

Web Update: updates SBHC WEB page regarding stories and features, schedules, new officers and general information.

Special thanks to our outgoing officers and workers: Bill Leightenheimer, vice-president, Bob Perez, Secretary, Linda Bechky, Treasurer, Anne Hammond, Social Chairperson and Karen Schmidt, merchandise.

Much appreciation for those continuing in their roles next season. Chief Hiking Guide, Susan Robertshaw who organizes our great mix of hikes. Kudos to John Robertshaw whose publicity and promotion of our club is tops! Thanks to Art Cross for keeping our hiking records and to Rand Wells and Andrea Gray for their work on our newsletter and communication. We appreciate Sue Berman for making copies. All you hiking guides make it happen, trekking us through our beautiful Sonoran Desert. Thanks!

Please call to volunteer, seek further information, etc.
Mary Richling 825-5238 jmrichling@earthlink.net

NEW HIKING GUIDES

Maury Stern will be leading "Birding Hikes". Maury has been interested in "Birding" for twenty years and was very involved with his local Audubon Society in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Dean and Cheryl Werstler have kindly agreed to lead hikes. You probably have met this dynamic duo as they have actively participated in many of our hikes.

Janet and Bob Harrison will also be leading hikes. They have hiked extensively and we welcome their knowledge and positive personalities.

HELP PROTECT SITES

"Archaeological sites (ruins) and historic properties are protected by law. These valuable resources contain important information about our past that is not found in history books. The public is usually allowed to explore such a site, but please leave it exactly as you find it." (BLM web site) Please do not take any items from sites or make any marks on rocks in petroglyph or pictograph areas.

WILDFLOWER YEAR

By Susan Robertshaw, Chief Hiking Guide

Due to the amount and the timing of our rain showers, we are looking forward to a better wildflower display this year. Several of our hikes have been planned for areas that we expect to see wildflowers.

It is always difficult to predict where the flowers will show their best performance, so we will have two hikes that have no destination disclosed at the time of the newsletter. We will determine the destination closer to the time of the hike. This will allow us to go to the "best" area.

We are pleased to have five new hiking guides. Please welcome them by participating in their hikes. It is a great way to let them know they are appreciated.

Per your request, we have been able to add some backpacking and primitive camping hikes. We hope that you will find these intriguing and participate. In addition, we added "Birding Hikes".

We are exploring the possibility of doing a Grand Canyon Hike. It would require a pre-hike training regime. If you are interested, please contact me at jsrobertshaw@att.net.

Hiking Tidbit:



Standing tiptoe when climbing or descending large rocks is a natural tendency. This stance leaves only a smidgen of rubber on the rock. It is better to use the basic technique of "smearing". You need to *maximize the surface contact between the sole of your boot and the rock.*

When walking uphill, lean forward and take short steps, placing your feet flat on the ground before pushing upward. Try to avoid walking on your toes.

Achievement Awards Dec 2003-Jan 2004

- 250 Hikes:** Wayne Kennedy, Ed Snyder
100 Hikes: Rob Gish
50 Hikes: Tom Smit
25 Hikes: Beverly Tanenbaum, Sara Smith
10 Hikes: Sue Roemer, Susan Ayers, Mary Roberts, Truett Welch, Joe Repshas, Dale Nichols
-
-

HIKING CLUB SPRING PICNIC

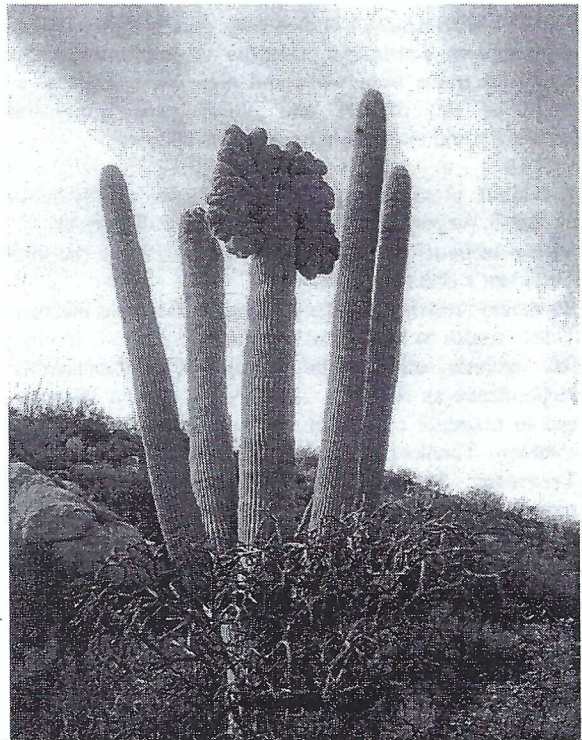
NEW DATE! Due to availability of Catalina State Park group area, the Hiking Club Picnic has been changed to March 27th rather than April 3rd as previously announced.

We will be having **NEW EVENTS** this year. There will be a used equipment sale, orienteering games (bring your compasses), birds and bees nature table, photo table, and a GPS introduction (bring your GPS). The activities will begin at 9:00. A hike will be offered at 10:00 and lunch will be at 12:00 noon. In addition, there will also be door prizes, shirts and patches for sale, and the election of officers.

Please bring your used hiking and outdoor equipment to the picnic with your name and price clearly marked on each item.

It is always fun to see photographs from our hikes. If you have photos you would like to share. Please bring them to the Picnic.

Tickets are \$10.00 each and can be purchased at the following locations: Monday, March 8th from 9-11 a.m. in the lobby of the SaddleBrooke Clubhouse; Thursday, March 11th from 2-4 p.m. at the MountainView Clubhouse; Wednesday, March 17th at the Hiking Club Social at MountainView from 4-6 p.m. Tickets can also be purchased by calling Anne Hammond, 825-0746.



This marvelous picture of the crested saguaro was taken on Bill Leightenheimer's hike in the Charouleau Gap Area by Sandra Sowell.

NEWS YOU CAN USE

Hiking Club Social Hour	March 17 th	4:00 p.m.
Hiking Club Picnic	March 27 th	9:00 a.m.
Board Meeting	April 7 th	3:00 p.m.
Hiking Guide Meeting	April 7 th	4:00 p.m.
Hiking Club Social Hour	April 21 st	4:00 p.m.

Note: Social Hours held at the MV Clubhouse in bar area.

NEWS WE CAN USE

New e-mail address: If you change your email address please notify our Secretary so you can continue to receive the bi-monthly Newsletter and other communications.

Becoming a hiking guide: If you have gained experience hiking and are interested in becoming a hiking guide, contact the Chief Hiking Guide. It is a great way to help the Club and contribute to our great community.

Request a hike: If there is a special hike you would like to see included in our schedule of hikes, please feel free to send an e-mail to the Chief Hiking Guide. Provide a description of the hike and what time of year you would like to have it offered.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Hard copies of the Newsletter are available at both the SaddleBrooke and MountainView Clubhouses. Membership is \$5.00 a year and applications should be located with the newsletters. Send your completed application or renewal to Bob Perez at 65187 E. Desert Sands Court.

OFFICERS:

President: Mary Richling 825-5238
jmrichling@earthlink.net
Vice-President: Bill Leightenheimer 818-1953
whlsaddlebrooke@att.net
Secretary: Bob Perez 818-2111
AZSUN65@mindspring.com
Treasurer: Linda Bechky 825-8761
linronb@robson.net
Chief Hiking Guide: Susan Robertshaw 818-6727
jsrobertshaw@att.net

NON OFFICER POSITIONS:

Co-Editor: Rand Wells 818-0847
Rwells6226@aol.com
Co-Editor: Andrea Gray 818-3268
andreagray@robsoncom.net
Social: Anne Hammond 825-0746
ghammond@mindspring.com
Statistics & Awards: Art Cross 818-9288
artcross@aol.com
Publicity: John Robertshaw 818-6727
jsrobertshaw@att.net

GENERAL HIKING INFORMATION

Reservations: Call the guide to make a reservation for a hike. Let the guide know if you would be available to drive and whether or not you have a 'park entry pass' for the area. Assume that the hike will proceed as scheduled unless the guide calls you. If you are unable to go on the hike after making a reservation, call the guide to cancel.

Arrival Time: The time listed for the hike is the departure time. It is important to arrive 10 to 15 minutes before departure time.

Departure Area: All hikes leave from the left front parking lot of the MountainView Clubhouse (just east of the tennis courts) unless otherwise noted.

Medical Conditions: Prior to starting hike, inform the guide of any special medical conditions or medications you may need.

Voluntary driver donations: Voluntary driver donations are shown at the end of the hike descriptions. Most include the entry and/or parking fees where required, however some hikes may require additional fees. Guides may also wish to split costs between drivers for drop-offs and/or unequal passenger loads. Small bills are appreciated. Due to automobile insurance coverage considerations, it is recommended that any payment to the driver be made upon return to MountainView.

Items to Bring: Every hiker should carry identification and any medical alerts in a waterproof container. Always bring ample water (this can vary from a pint on a winter fitness walk to 3 or 4 quarts on a summer hike). On strenuous hikes or in very hot weather you may need to replace electrolytes by eating salty snacks or adding electrolyte mix or sports drink to water. A wide brim hat, sunscreen, sunglasses, and hiking stick or trekking poles are recommended in Arizona. Other suggested items include comfortable hiking boots, whistle, map, compass, tweezers, first-aid kit, and moleskin. Layered clothing works well due to possible changes in weather conditions. In addition, you should bring a snack or lunch depending upon the hike. High complex carbohydrates (nuts, trail mix, and etc.) are good.

Choosing Hikes: Hikes are more difficult than a walk in SaddleBrooke due to elevation change and our Arizona terrain. It is not unusual to encounter rocks, unsteady ground, and steep inclines. It is your responsibility to choose an appropriate hike that matches your physical abilities. The hike description is a great tool. Look closely at the length, elevation change, and comments in the description to determine if a hike is within your physical ability. If you aren't feeling "up to snuff" on the day of the hike, don't hesitate to cancel until a better day.

Assumption of Risk: When you joined the club, you were asked to sign a 'Release of Liability'. We want to reinforce the fact that by signing the release you acknowledge that participation in the club's activities involves an inherent risk of physical injury and that you assume all such risks. Accidents can happen. Learn about the risks and how to avoid them. Take an active part in protecting yourself and fellow hikers. We are an organization of volunteers who share their skills and love for the wilderness with one another.

Guest Policy: A SaddleBrooke resident, whether year-round or part-time, 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 under age 18, must be signed by parent or legal guardian). If the guest is younger than 16 years old, you must notify the guide who has sole discretion whether or not to allow minors on the hike.

HIKE RATINGS, PACE, AND SYMBOLS

Rating

- A Hikes >14 miles or >3000 foot climb
B Hikes 8 to 14 miles or 1500 to 3000 foot climb
C Hikes 4 to 8 miles or 500 to 1500 foot climb
D Hikes <4 miles and <500 foot climb

Pace can refer to the length of 2 steps, the speed you walk/hike, or to the average speed of a hike. When we denote the pace of a hike we are referring to the average speed. This means that from start to finish (excluding lunch) you can expect to be traveling at an average speed of () MPH. The average speed or pace of a hike is affected by speed and length of stride, number of rest stops, incline, type of terrain, and trail conditions. We use the following three categories to describe our hikes.

Slow Pace – Average speed of hike < 1.5 MPH

Moderate Pace – Average speed of hike 1.5 to 2.5 MPH

Fast Pace – Average speed of hike > 2.5 MPH

Symbols

"+" and "-" after a rating. The plus and minus signs are used to show that a hike is harder or easier than the average hike in that rating category. It may have a plus sign added due to a loose rocky area or perhaps due to an unusually steep area. A minus sign might be added to a hike due to it having a very easy, smooth trail surface.

"" by a hike.** Hikes marked by a double asterisk are new additions to our club database or a new 'one time' hike.

"++" by a hike. Hikes marked by a double plus are Orientation Hikes. Orientation hikes are encouraged for all "beginner" hikers and are intended for sharing information and for personal assessment of current physical fitness.

SCHEDULED HIKES

Fitness Walks --- Five Days a Week

Maintain your fitness or get into better shape by joining us for a morning fitness walk. Enjoy the company of other hikers while perusing SaddleBrooke. The sessions last about one hour and are suitable for walkers of all ability levels. Occasionally, the Tuesday/Thursday group plans a 3-4 hour hike outside the SaddleBrooke boundaries. One-week advance notice is given. Wear comfortable walking/athletic shoes. Remember sunblock, a hat and water.

Tues/Thurs Group - 7:00 a.m.

Tuesday: Meet at MountainView Clubhouse parking lot.

Thursday: Meet at SaddleBrooke Tennis Center parking lot.

Judy Barenkopf 825-7077 (mbarenkopf@aol.com)

Wed. Afternoon Group - 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday: Meet at SaddleBrooke Tennis Center parking lot.

Judy Barenkopf 825-7077 (mbarenkopf@aol.com)

Mon/Wed/Fri Group - 7:00 a.m.

Monday: Meet at SaddleBrooke CC by basketball court.

Wednesday: Meet at SaddleBrooke CC by basketball court.

Friday: Meet at SaddleBrooke CC by basketball court.

Bill Leightenheimer 818-1953

Mar. 1 – Mon. 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; starting elevation 2800 feet; leave at 8:00 AM ; driver donation \$3.00. Ron Noton, 825-7374.

Mar. 2– Tues. Hidden Canyon via Fifty Year Area. Rating C. This is a beautiful hike to a secluded hidden canyon in the upper reaches of the Sutherland Wash. There are many beautiful rock formations and saguaro cacti. Hike begins past the Golder Ranch Gate in the Fifty Year Trail area. Hike 7.5 miles; elevation change 800 feet; starting elevation 3200 feet; leave at 8:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00. Dean & Cheryl Werstler, 825-9057.

****Mar. 3 – Wed.** Catalina State Park Birding Hike. Rating C-. Slow pace. We will do a slow traverse of the Birding trail, Nature trail, and Sutherland trail. How far we go depends on the birds we see and how long we stop. We will have frequent stops to listen to bird sounds and observe the birds of the desert and riparian areas. Bring binoculars, water, hat, and a snack/lunch. Limited to 15 hikers. Hike 4 to 6 miles; minimal elevation change; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at 7:30 AM; driver donation \$2.00. Maury Stern, 825-5530.

Mar. 4 – Thurs. Arizona Trail/Antelope Mountain. Rating D+. Slow pace. This hike starts 1.5 miles off Freeman Road northwest of Oracle. This area has great views of surrounding terrain and has numerous Hedgehog cactus. Native animals are often seen in this area. Bring lunch, water, sunscreen and hat. High clearance vehicles are required. Hike 4 miles; elevation change 300 feet; starting elevation 4100 feet; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$3.00. Jan Wilson, 818-0299.

Mar. 4 – Thurs. Garwood Dam. Rating C. This is a slow easy hike in the desert of the Saguaro National Park-East. The pace will be set by the group; no rush. We will hike in the cactus forest of the Park across mostly level terrain. There is some climbing as we near the dam. Our destination is a dam with a history in the foothills of the Rincon Mtns. Hike 6.5 miles; elevation change 250 feet; starting elevation 2800 feet; leave at 8:00 AM; driver donation \$3.00. John Robertshaw, 818-6727.

Mar. 5 – Fri. Arizona Trail Work Day-Tucson Wash. Rating C. This is a work session on our section of the ARIZONA TRAIL for which we have responsibility to maintain. We will be working on two places where the switchback's have eroded and must be built back up. All tools will be provided as well as refreshments. Join the group and learn a few trail building skills at the same time. If time allows we will hike to the area of a rare site (Two large Double-Barrel Cacti growing next to one another). Also, you will want to take pictures of the numerous Saguaro and Barrel Cacti on the hillsides. Leave 7:00 AM; no driver donation. John Rendall, 825-9395.

****Mar. 5 – Fri.** Rosewood Point. Rating B-. From the parking lot at Pima Canyon trailhead we travel 1.8 miles up the Pima Canyon Trail. Here we leave the trail near a large grove of cottonwood trees and head up a major side canyon coming in from the south. The "route" is a bushwhack up the canyon .7 mile up a draw to a prominent saddle. One of the easier bushwhacks.

Suggest defensive clothing. At the saddle we climb up an easier south side route around a cliff to the easy walk to the summit of Rosewood Point where a large Rosewood Tree stands. We will then proceed over to North Rosewood Point for the spectacular view down into Pima Canyon. The return will either be the same way we came up or bushwack down the ridgeline to the west. Hike 5.0 miles; elevation change 1500 feet; starting elevation 2900 feet; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00. John Robertshaw, 818-6727.

****Mar. 8 – Mon.** Lost Dutchman State Park/Fried Chicken Potluck. Ratings D, C, and B. Come join us as we explore the Lost Dutchman State Park. The park is named after the fabled lost gold mine. It offers a variety of hiking trails and nature trails. We will have three different hikes, all with different Ratings for you to choose from. After finishing our hikes, we will enjoy a potluck picnic. You will have a choice of bringing a "dish" or contributing to the cost of the chicken. When you call to make your reservation, you will need state which hike you would like to participate in and what type of dish you would like to bring (Or that you would like to contribute to the chicken). Hike distance and elevation will be typical for Rating category, starting elevation 2000 feet; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$8.00. Susan Robertshaw, 818-6727.

****Mar. 9 – Tues.** Esperanza/Hugh Norris Trail. Rating C+. We will take the Esperanza trail to the Hugh Norris trail and follow it to the Base of Amole Peak. The Esperanza trail is gradual at the beginning then has switchbacks. The Hugh Norris section is primarily a ridge trail. Spectacular views of Tucson/Santa Catalinas to the East, Green Valley/Santa Ritas to the South, Sells to the West and Picacho to the North. We will lunch at the top. Hike 6.2 miles; elevation change 1275 feet; starting elevation 2980 feet; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$3:00. Mary Croft and Sandra Sowell, 818-0995.

Mar. 10 – Wed. Finger Rock Trail to Linda Vista Saddle. Rating B. For "C" hikers. 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 5.8 miles; 2500 foot elevation change; starting elevation 3100 feet; leave at 8:00 AM; driver donation \$2.00. John Robertshaw, 818-6727.

****Mar. 11 – Thurs.** Cochise Stronghold (East)/Amerind Foundation Museum. Rating C. Slow pace. This is a beautiful hike through the Dragoon Mountains that Cochise hid in during the apache wars. He is buried in this area in a hidden location. This area contains many beautiful rock formations and pinnacles. Bring lunch, a camera and at least one quart of water. On the way back we will stop at the Amerind Foundation Museum, where many American Indian artifacts are on display. The museum charges a \$4.00 fee for seniors. Hike 6 miles; elevation change 1000 feet; starting elevation 4500; leave at 6:30 AM; driver donation \$10.00. Gary Gouvea, 825-3868.

****Mar. 11 – Thurs.** Boboquivari (east side), Rating A. We will ascend from the east side of the peak. Boboquivari is a sacred place to the Tohono O'odham Indian Nation. The peak marks the center of the universe and the home of Elder Brother I'toi, who taught the Tohono O'odham how to live in the desert. We will

hike to the vertical base from where technical climbers make the final ascent to the summit. High clearance or four wheel drive vehicles needed to reach the trailhead. Tribal permit not needed from the east side. Hike 8 miles; elevation change 3000 feet; starting elevation 3700 feet; leave at 6:30 AM; driver donation \$5.00. John Robertshaw, 818-6727.

Mar. 12 – Fri. Peralta Trail. Rating C+. Slow pace. Peralta Trail to Fremont Saddle viewing Weaver's Needle in the Superstition Mountains. This may be the area's most beautiful canyon. Legend has it that a loner named Jacob Waltz (The Dutchman) found a fortune in gold somewhere 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. Hike 5 miles; elevation change 1360 feet; starting elevation 2500 feet; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$8.00. Jan Wilson, 818-0299.

Mar. 12 – Fri. Honey Bee Canyon. 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. Hike 2 miles; elevation change 200 feet; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at 8:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00. Bob & Janet Harrison, 825-2453.

****Mar. 12 - 14 – Fri. - Sun.** Cochise Stronghold/Dragoon Mts.-West Entrance. Rating C. Three hikes over 3 days-one or all. This can be done as a 3 day/2 night trip, or you can drive down for one, two, or all 3 days. For those wanting to tent/camper tent near the west end of the Stronghold we will leave early and quickly set up camp and be ready to hike the first day. For those wanting to stay one or both nights, but with finer accommodations you may motel it in a nearby town or just drive down for one or more day hikes. We will hike/explore the beautiful Dragoon Mts. where you can let your imagination go wild on what it must have been like to be living in the area back in the days of Cochise and the US Army trying to capture the Apache; or surmise on where you think Cochise is buried. Our FIRST DAY will be a slow pace ('B' hike) over the Stronghold Pass to the east side entrance where we will also do the 'History loop'; then return back to the west side. Round trip- 10 to 11 miles, Starting elevation 4900'-gain 1200'-twice. The SECOND DAY we will do a 'A' hike through the Dragoons (hike yet to be determined). The THIRD and LAST DAY we will hike/explore "Council Rocks"-'C' hike). This is an extensive area with pictographs and some of the most beautiful boulders that can be climbed or hiked at your own pace; or you may just want to wander, relax, take pictures, read a book.(suggested reading--Cochise by Edwin R. Sweeney). For those willing, we may make a complete circle over and around the higher elevation directly behind the 'Rocks'. Leave Friday, March 12 @ 6:00 AM; driver donation \$10. John Rendall, 825-9395.

****Mar. 14 – Sun.** Picacho Peak State Park-Civil War Re-enactment. Rating D. Slow pace. Every year in March, the park sponsors a Re-enactment of the Battle of Picacho Pass. The clothing, camp lifestyle, food, and stories told by the soldiers in the southwest during the 1860s make this event even more intriguing. More than 150 re-enactors from the Southwestern area camp at Picacho Peak State Park. Spectators are welcome to tour the recreated military camps which will include demonstrations

such as laundering, candle making, sewing, cooking and the fashions of the era. Bring hat, lunch and water. Hike < 4 miles; minimal elevation change; starting elevation 1500 feet; leave at 8:00; driver donation \$6.00. Susan Robertshaw, 818-6727.

Mar. 15 – Mon. Wasson Peak/Sweetwater Trail. Rating B. We start from the trailhead at the end of El Camino del Cerro on the East Side of the Tucson Mountains. From there we hike up through some of the prettiest Saguaro forests in the area. Along the way there will be good views of Tucson and Wasson Peak. At the saddle where the trail joins the King Canyon trail we continue on up to Wasson Peak. Views are spectacular from this highest point in the Tucson Mountains. Little shade. Hike 9.2 miles; elevation change 1800 feet; starting elevation 2900 feet; leave at 8:00 AM; driver donation \$3.00. Ron Noton, 825-7374.

Mar. 16 – Tues. 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; elevation change 900 feet; starting elevation 2800 feet; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$3.00. Dean & Cheryl Werstler, 825-9057.

Mar. 16 – Tues. Oracle State Park Trail Maintenance. Rating C. General trail maintenance on fairly well established hiking trails. Light to moderate physical activity including brushing, sweeping of the trails, widening, hoeing, raking, trimming, pruning, and brush/debris removal. It also involves erosion control with digging, trenching, and water barrier construction. Tools utilized include: hoes, rakes, shovels, picks, shears, and pruners. Some lifting and bending. Gloves are required and long pants are recommended. Bring lunch and plenty of water. Leave at 8:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00. Jon Chase, 818-1115.

Mar. 17 – Wed. Sutherland Wash Petroglyphs. Rating C. This hike is a gradual hike through a mesquite bosque with 100+ year old saguaros, Arizona Poppies/Morning Glories in season, on the way to an area of many, many petroglyphs. Per the book Paradise Found by Kathy Alexander there are over 1400 petroglyphs in the area. Some rock scrambling is necessary to search for the petroglyphs. Bring a snack to enjoy while searching. Hike 6 miles; elevation change 400 feet; starting elevation 3200 feet; leave at 8:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00. John Robertshaw, 818-6727.

****Mar. 17 – Wed.** Catalina State Park Birding Hike. Rating C. Slow pace. We will do a slow traverse of the Birding trail, Nature trail, and Sutherland trail. How far we go depends on the birds we see and how long we stop. We will have frequent stops to listen to bird sounds and observe the birds of the desert and riparian areas. Bring binoculars, water, hat, and a snack/lunch. Limited to 15 hikers. Hike 4 to 6 miles; minimal elevation change; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at 7:30 AM; driver donation \$2.00. Maury Stern, 825-5530.

++Mar. 18 – Thurs. Boyce-Thompson Arboretum. Rating D. Slow pace. Tour 35 acres of nature paths, towering trees, cacti, mountain cliffs, a streamside forest, a desert lake, and panoramic views. Located about 100 miles north or about 1 1/2 hours away from SaddleBrooke. Park is open 9am to 5pm. Bring lunch, camera, hiking stick optional. Hiking boots or comfortable walking shoes are recommended. There is a fee to enter the park.

Hike < 4 miles; minimal elevation change; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$5.00. Jan Wilson, 818-0299.

****Mar. 18 – Thurs.** Sycamore Canyon/Medium. Rating C. Slow pace. Located in the Pajaritos Mountains, Sycamore Canyon is considered one of the top ten spots for wildlife in the Sonoran Desert. We start near Ruby Road and will hike into the canyon about three miles viewing canyon sidewalls, spirals and lush vegetation. Water levels in the canyon will vary depending on recent rainfall, but be prepared to get your feet wet. Bring lunch and at least a quart of water. Hike 6 miles; elevation change minimal; starting elevation 4050 feet; leave at 6:30 AM; driver donation \$8.00. Gary Gouvea, 825-3868.

Mar. 19 – Fri. Atascosa Lookout. Rating B. For "C" hikers. We hike to the fire lookout station in the Tumacacori mountains, near Rio Rico, with the famous outhouse (yes, outhouse) ready for use. This is considered a most scenic trail with views over 75 miles in all directions. Kodak moments will be taken on the return if you haven't used up all your film on the summit. Limit 14 hikers. Hike 5 miles; elevation change 1600 feet; starting elevation 4700 feet; leave at 6:00 AM; driver donation \$6.00. John Rendall, 825-9395.

****Mar. 19 – Fri.** Ragged Top. Rating A. Ragged Top is an infrequently climbed peak in the newly created Ironwood Forest National Monument. There is not a pre-marked trail for this hike. The hike is mostly bushwhacking up the slopes of the mountain and climbing the upper rock to reach the top. Bushwhacking does not mean many bushes on this hike. In some places the slope is steep and the last 50 feet are up a rock crevice that leads to the summit. Hike 4 miles; elevation change 1700 feet; starting elevation 2300 feet; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$5.00. John Robertshaw, 818-6727.

*****Mar. 20 – Sat.** Wildflower Hike. Rating D. Slow pace. Our destination will be determined by the where there are good wildflowers to see. The guide will be in touch with the various parks around the Tucson Area in order to determine the best place on this particular day. Hike <4 miles; < 500 feet; leave at 8:00 AM; driver donation TBD by location. Susan Robertshaw, 818-6727.

Mar. 22 – Mon. Sutherland Trail to Corgadero Canyon. Rating C. Slow to moderate pace. We will start at the trailhead at the end of the road in Catalina State Park and hike to the Corgadero Canyon. We will continue about another mile or so up the jeep road. We will lunch in this area. Hike 8 miles; elevation change 1200 feet; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at 8:00 AM; driver donation \$2.00. Susan Robertshaw, 818-6727.

Mar. 22 – Mon. Sabino Canyon to Bear Canyon (with Tram). Rating B. We take the Sabino Tram (\$6.00) to Stop 9. Hike starts with .08 mile of switchbacks then levels off on the Sabino Canyon Trail to Sabino Basin. We take the East For to Bear Canyon Trail. Then south on the Bear Canyon Trail for 6.2 miles to Bear Canyon Trail head. From there it's 1.7 miles to the parking lot. Hike 12.8 miles; elevation change 1800 feet; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at 8:00 AM; driver donation \$3.00. Ron Noton, 825-7374.

****Mar. 23 – Tues.** El Capitan Canyon (lower). Rating C. Slow pace. We drive N. past Winkleman, parking at the bottom of the

canyon, just off highway #77. We'll hike up the canyon on sand and rock to a cliff that forms a waterfall. Return via same route. We may see wild flowers, or some animals (cows)? Bring lunch, sunscreen, hiking sticks, hat, camera-optional, plenty of water. Hike 4+ miles; elevation change 500 feet; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$6. Jan Wilson, 818-0299.

Mar. 23 – Tues. Linda Vista Loop. Rating D+. Drive to trailhead, 15 minutes from the MountainView parking lot. Trail skirts the base of Pusch Ridge and has great views out onto Oracle Road and environs. Hiking stick recommended as trail is rocky in places. Hike 3 miles; elevation change 300 feet; starting elevation 2680 feet; leave at 8:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00. Bob & Janet Harrison, 825-2453.

Mar. 23 – Tues. 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; elevation change 1200 feet; starting elevation 2800 feet; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$4.00. Mary Croft and Sandra Sowell, 818-0995.

Mar. 24 – Wed. Tortolita Mountains/Dove Mountain. Rating B. For "C" hikers. We will leave from the cattle guard / windmill on the Rail-X Road and ascend to the top of a 4661-foot Dove Mountain. From there we will make our way along an up and down ridge line north with views of Ruelas, Cochie, and Wild Burro Canyons, eventually reaching a path and jeep road which returns to the parking spot. Views are outstanding and feral horses might be sighted. This is a rough, steep, and scratchy bushwhack making long pants and sleeves, gloves and hiking sticks desirable. Hike 4 miles; elevation change 1000 feet; starting elevation 3600 feet; leave at 8:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00. John Robertshaw, 818-6727.

Mar. 25 – Thurs. Boulder Canyon/Canyon Lake Boat Trip. Rating C. Slow pace. We drive to the Boulder Canyon Lake parking lot which is at the trail head and where the "Dolly" Stemboat tours start. We climb up Boulder Canyon to get some great views into the Superstition Mountains and Canyon Lake. Bring your camera. The view of the Battleship Mountain and surrounding area are wonderful. Bring two quarts of water and lunch. We need to get back to the parking lot by 1:30 PM in order to be aboard the Dolly for a 2:00 PM departure for a 90 minute narrated tour of Canyon Lake. We will hopefully see Big Horn Sheep back in the Canyon. Cost of the boat tour is \$16. Cash or check only. Limited to 15. Hike 6 miles; elevation change 1500 feet; starting elevation 2300 feet; leave at 6:30 AM; driver donation \$7.00. Gary Gouvea, 825-3868.

Mar. 25 – Thurs. Dripping Springs from the Sutherland Trail. Rating C-. Slow pace. We follow the Sutherland Trail to the wilderness sign. The hike then veers to the right and follows a small canyon where there is a beautiful waterfall (depending on recent rains). Much of this part of the trail is sandy with 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. Hike 4 miles; elevation change 500 feet; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at 8:00 AM; driver donation \$2.00. Jan Wilson, 818-0299.

Mar. 26 – Fri. Oracle to SaddleBrooke. Rating A. This hike originates on the outskirts of Oracle and enters the Coronado Nat. Forest, proceeding south along a (class 4) 4WD jeep trail through the north end of the Santa Catalinas. We arrive at the high point of Charouleau Gap (12-mile point) and continue back to SaddleBrooke-Unit 9 via the 4WD-trail road. This is a very nice part of the Catalinas, with great views and rugged terrain. We pass many campsites along the Canada' del Oro and view Coronado Camp (adobe construction). Starting at 4664 feet and finishing at 3248 feet, we will have numerous up/down situations. Our highest elevation is 5090 feet at the Gap. (We may attempt a short 1-mile bushwhack to Pig Spring which would shorten the hike by 3 miles-no guarantees). Hike 17 miles; elevation gain 2494 with drop of 3910 feet; starting elevation 4664 feet; leave at 6:00 AM; driver donation for drop off transportation \$2.00. John Rendall, 825-9395.

Mar. 26 – Fri Sweetwater Trail to the Saddle. Rating C+. We start from the trailhead at the end of El Camino del Cerro on the East Side of the Tucson Mountains. From there we hike up through some of the prettiest Saguaro forests in the area. Along the way there will be good views of Tucson and Wasson Peak. We end at the saddle where the trail joins the King Canyon trail. The King Canyon trail goes down to the Desert Museum or up to Wasson Peak. We will have lunch at the saddle before heading back to the trailhead. Hike 6.8 miles; elevation change 1200 feet; starting elevation 2800 feet; leave at 8:00 AM; driver donation \$3.00. Bob Wynne, 825-2974.

Mar. 28 – Sun. Sabino Canyon- Explore Lower Trails. Rating C. Slow to moderate pace. We will explore the many lower trails at Sabino Canyon including the Bajada Loop Nature Trail that identifies some of the desert plants seen throughout the canyon. We will also stop in the Visitor Center. Hike <4 miles; elevation change <500 feet; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at 8:00 AM; driver donation \$3.00. Susan Robertshaw, 818-6727.

Mar. 30 – Tues. Hidden Canyon/Fifty Year Area/Charouleau Gap Road. Rating B. This is a beautiful hike to a secluded hidden canyon in the upper reaches of the Sutherland Wash. There are many beautiful rock formations and saguaro cacti. Hike begins past the Golder Ranch Gate in the Fifty Year Trail area. After reaching Hidden Canyon we will follow a trail that goes by a pond then connects to Road 4432. We then will come down Charouleau Gap Road. This hike can be done in reverse also. A car shuttle will need to be arranged. Hike 11 miles; elevation change 1200 feet; starting elevation 3200 feet; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00. Dean & Cheryl Werstler, 825-9057.

****Mar. 31- Apr. 1 – Wed - Thurs.** Overnight Backpack - Davis Spring (exploratory). Rating A. We will start downhill on the Butterfly Trail to the Davis Springs Trail and stay one night in the vicinity of Davis Springs. The next day we will hike along the Evans Mountain Trail and uphill on the Brush Corral Trail back up to the Mount Lemmon Road. Will require two-car shuttle. The second day may discover the trail hard to find after the Bullock fire. It will be necessary to carry water for two days in case the various springs are not adequate. Hike is 21 miles total (about 10.5 mi. each day); elevation change 7600' down to 4000' and up to 7200'; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$6.00. John Robertshaw, 818-6727.

****Apr. 1 – Thurs.** Anza Trail on Palo Parado Road (South of Tumacacori). Rating D. Slow pace. This will be an exploratory hike along the Anza Trail south of Tumacacori. Bring lunch, water, sunscreen, camera-optional. Hike <4 miles; minimal elevation change; starting elevation 3200 feet; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$6.00. Jan Wilson, 818-0299.

****Apr. 2 – Fri.** Charouleau Gap Road/ Big Rock Dome Loop. Rating B-. Starting from below Unit 9, we will hike south, along the Canada Del Oro Wash to the Charouleau Gap Road and then climb this 4-wheel drive road to the cattle guard above the "wall". Then we will bushwack over to the big rock dome where we will have lunch with 360 deg. views. Afterward, we will come back down past our double-crested saguaro to the CDO Wash and our vehicles. Hike 8 miles; elevation change 900 feet, starting elevation 3090 feet; leave at 8:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00. Jim Strickler, 825-8735.

****++Apr. 3 – Sat.** Wildflower Hike. Rating D. Slow pace. Our destination will be determined by the where there are good wildflowers to see. The guide will be in touch with the various parks around the Tucson Area in order to determine the best place on this particular day. Hike <4 miles; < 500 feet; leave at 8:00 AM; driver donation TBD by location. Susan Robertshaw, 818-6727.

****Apr. 3 - 8 – Sat. – Thu.** Paria River Gorge-Utah/Arizona Rating A. This is a 4 DAY-3 NIGHT-BACKPACK (4 'A' hikes) (2 travel days) leading through the most dramatic canyon within the Glen Canyon National Recreation Area located in the Paria Canyon-Vermilion Cliffs Wilderness. We will start in Southern Utah at the White House TH (near Rt 89-mile post 20) and exit at Lees Ferry, Arizona. The trip will take us through some of the finest slot canyons in the world with opportunities to also do several side canyon trips to various petroglyphs sites, slots, arches and the famous Buckskin Gulch. Water will be available to filter at numerous springs near our campsites. Reservations are difficult to obtain, however eight permits have been purchased for 4 days at \$5/day. April is normally a good month to hike but weather conditions/ flash floods may alter our plans/routes. Day one will be a somewhat short backpack allowing us to reach the Paria-Buckskin Confluence and setting up camp nearby--this should allow time to hike a portion of the Buckskin the first day. Day 2-3 will be longer backpack days as we continue down the deep and narrow canyon enjoying the sights and side trips. Day 4 the canyon will eventually begin to open up with gorgeous views of the lower desert and Vermilion Cliffs as we near Lees Ferry and the Colorado River. We will motel or camp out the night before the hike begins and the night of our last hiking day-making for a 6 day total excursion. Leave April 3rd @ 6AM-Return April 8. Hike 40 miles (optional side trips will add 6-10 miles w/o backpack). Limit 8. (2)-4WD Required. Elevation-4300' dropping to 3100'. Approximately 250 miles to TH. Leave Saturday, April 3rd @ 6:00 AM (the day before the trek); driver donation approx.\$20-25(split costs). John Rendall, 825-9395.

Apr. 5 – Mon. Wasson Peak/Sweetwater Trail. Rating B. We start from the trailhead at the end of El Camino del Cerro on the East Side of the Tucson Mountains. From there we hike up through some of the prettiest Saguaro forests in the area. Along the way there will be good views of Tucson and Wasson Peak. At the saddle where the trail joins the King Canyon trail we continue on up to Wasson Peak. Views are spectacular from this

highest point in the Tucson Mountains. Little shade. Hike 9.2 miles; elevation change 1800 feet; starting elevation 2900 feet; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$3.00. Wayne Kennedy, 818-1812.

Apr. 7 – Wed. Alamo Canyon, Catalina State Park. Rating D. Hiking up the Birding Trail to a cutoff, we will intercept the trail to the Alamo Canyon Falls. Hike 4 miles; elevation change 400 feet; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at 7:30 AM; driver donation \$2.00. Bob & Janet Harrison, 825-2453.

Apr. 7 – Wed. Florida 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 Florida Saddle at 7800'. We return by the same route. Hike 10 miles; elevation change 3900 feet; starting altitude 4400 feet; leave at 6:30 AM; driver donation \$5.00. John Robertshaw, 818-6727.

Apr. 7 – Wed. Phone Line Trail - Round Trip. Rating B-. 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. Hike 10 miles; elevation change 900 feet; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$3.00. Wayne Kennedy, 818-1812.

Apr. 8 – Thurs. Echo Canyon to the Chiracahua National Monument Visitor Center. Rating C. Slow pace. We take a shuttle from the Visitor Center to the Echo Canyon trail head. We first pass through the remarkable pillar and grotto rock formations for which the Chiracahua's are known. Once we have passed through Echo Canyon, we pick up the Rhyolite Canyon trail back to the Visitor Center. This is nearly an all down hill hike. We start at elevation 6,780 feet and end up at 5,400 feet. Bring lunch and at least two quarts of water. Hike 4.5 miles; elevation change minus 1380 feet; starting elevation 6780 feet; leave at 6:30 AM; driver donation \$10.00. Gary Gouvea, 825-3868.

Apr. 9 – Fri. Romero Pools. Rating C+. 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 then down the canyon area where several pools are located. An option is a ¾ mile round-trip hike to the upper pools. We will have lunch there. Park entrance pass required. Hike 6 miles; elevation change 1200 feet; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$2.00. Wayne Kennedy, 818-1812.

Apr. 10 – Sat. Tanque Verde Peak. Rating A. This hike is in Saguaro NP East. We begin at the Javelina picnic area off the loop road. The trail takes us to Juniper Basin at 5.9 miles and Tanque Verde Peak at 7.8 miles. Erik Molvar's guidebook says, "From this lofty perch, fantastic views stretch in all directions." Hike 16 miles; elevation change 4000 feet; starting elevation 3100 feet; leave at 6:30 AM; driver donation \$4.00. Jim Strickler, 825-8735.

****Apr. 12 – Mon.** Red Mountain near Santa Rita Mountains. Rating B. The trailhead is off Harshaw Road south of Patagonia. We will hike up a wide, graded, steep road that maintains a

constant degree of incline for most of the hike. There is a fire lookout tower on top and the views are panoramic. Hike 8.3 miles; elevation change 1900 feet; starting elevation about 4000 feet; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$6.00. Ron Noton, 825-7374.

****Apr. 12 - 13 - Mon. - Tues.** Overnight Backpack - The Window. Rating A. We will start up the Finger Rock Trail with a stop at Mount Kimball and stay one night in the vicinity of The Window. Expect superb views of Tucson at night. The next day we will hike down the Esperero Canyon Trail to Sabino Canyon (with a possible side trip to Cathedral Rock). It will be necessary to carry water for two days. Hike is 17 miles (21 miles w/ Cathedral Rock). Elevation change 3100' up to 7250' and down to 2750'; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$3.00. John Robertshaw, 818-6727.

Apr. 13 - Tues. Bog-Kent Springs Loop Trail. Rating B. Slow pace. We hike from the Bog Springs Campground in Madera Canyon, Santa Rita Mountains, 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; elevation change 2100 feet; starting elevation 5000 feet; leave at 6:30 AM; driver donation \$6.00. Gary Gouvea, 825-3868.

****Apr. 13 - Tues.** Temporal Gulch. Rating C. The trail is one of the most scenic and rarely traveled trails in the Santa Rita Mountains following a jeep trail along a perennial stream. There are several abandoned mines along the way. We will drive north out of Patagonia for 7.5 miles on Forest Service 72 before descending into Temporal Gulch. Fremont cottonwood and Arizona sycamore dominate the riparian vegetation. Numerous birding species abound in the area due to its proximity to Madera Canyon. Stream crossings are a possibility. Hike 7.5 miles; elevation change 900 feet; starting elevation 4100 feet; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$7.00. Mary Croft and Sandra Sowell, 825-3804.

Apr. 14 - Wed. Oracle State Park Trail Maintenance. Rating C. General trail maintenance on fairly well established hiking trails. Light to moderate physical activity including brushing, sweeping of the trails, widening, hoeing, raking, trimming, pruning, and brush/debris removal. It also involves erosion control with digging, trenching, and water barrier construction. Tools utilized include: hoes, rakes, shovels, picks, shears, and pruners. Some lifting and bending. Gloves are required and long pants are recommended. Bring lunch and plenty of water. Leave at 8:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00. Jon Chase, 818-1115.

****Apr. 15 - Thurs.** Bonita Canyon/Hi-Jinks Loop. Rating C. Slow pace. Beginning near the ruins of an old mining community south of Oracle, the hike proceeds up Bonita Canyon to the Arizona Trail, north along the Arizona Trail to its decent to the historic High Jinks Ranch. Bring lunch/snack and at least one quart of water. Hike 4.5 miles; elevation change 600 feet; starting elevation 4800 feet; leave at 7:00 AM; drive donation: \$3.00. Gary Gouvea, 825-3868.

Apr. 15 - Thurs. Rice Peak. Rating A. Hike up Peppersauce Canyon from the campground to the Oracle Ridge then follow part of the Arizona Trail to Rice Peak. Interesting "peppersauce

conglomerate" in Peppersauce Canyon, great views along Oracle Ridge and interesting conglomerate rock on the peak. Superb views from the peak to the San Pedro River and the Galiuro Mountains beyond. Hike 10.0 miles; elevation change 3000 feet; starting elevation 4600 feet; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$4.00. John Robertshaw, 818-6727.

Apr. 16 - Fri. Blackett's Ridge. Rating B. This hike takes you up to a ridge between Sabino and Bear Canyons. It has spectacular views of Tucson and the canyons. We hike through lower Sabino Canyon to the Phoneline Trail. After 0.4 miles we turn onto the Blackett's Ridge Trail where we begin the ascent. This trail has several series of steep switchbacks mixed in with some level areas. There are three false summits at the top. Hike 6 miles; elevation change 1700 feet; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$3.00. Wayne Kennedy, 818-1812.

Apr. 19 - Mon. Elephant Head. Rating B+. A hike to climb the craggy massive rock on the west side of the Santa Ritas. The rock is mentioned in Apache legend of the area. The hike starts out along a gentle mountain road but after about 2 miles there is some tough bushwhacking across Chino canyon and then rock scrambling to get to the top. On the way back we must cross Chino canyon again! Dress defensively and bring gloves. Hike 8 miles; elevation change 2000 feet; starting elevation 4600 feet; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$5.00. Ron Noton, 825-7374.

Apr. 20 - Tues. 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; elevation change 900 feet; starting elevation 2800 feet; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$3.00. Dean & Cheryl Werstler, 825-9057.

Apr. 23 - Fri. Finger Rock/Finger Rock Guard. Rating A. This hike starts with the first 2.5 miles of Finger Rock Canyon Trail and descends a steep 200 feet into the bottom of Finger Rock Canyon. There we continue up a faint path and bushwack into the saddle between Mount Kimball and Finger Rock. From there it is somewhat tricky to climb 200 feet out of the saddle to the base of Finger Rock. The final 50 feet to the top of Finger Rock requires a technical rock climb so we will stop at the base. Finger Rock is a well-known landmark that can be seen from many places in Tucson. In addition, we will hike to the top of Finger Rock Guard, the large rock mass to the east of Finger Rock. Rock scrambling and climbing required. Call to discuss the hike with the Hiking Guide. Hike 7 miles; elevation change 3500 feet; starting elevation 3100; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$2.00. John Robertshaw, 818-6727.

Apr. 25 - Sun. Aravaipa Canyon Wilderness - West. Rating B-. Moderate pace. This is a beautiful pristine canyon, a favorite for all who have been there. Expect stream wading and numerous stream crossings (up to knee deep) with dense riparian brush. Wear shorts, socks and shoes (that can get wet) with good traction (for wet rocks). Bring dry shoes/shorts/shirt for drive home if desired (and a plastic bag for wet items). This is a wilderness area with no trails, signs, or facilities. Hiking stick recommended. Limit 10. \$5.00 wilderness fee per person. Hike 8 miles; elevation change 200 feet; starting elevation 2600 feet; leave at 6:30 AM; driver donation \$4.00. Susan Robertshaw,

818-6727.

Apr. 26 – Mon. Guthrie Mountain - Santa Catalina Mountains. Rating C+. The hike will start at the General Hitchcock Campground. We will go up the Green Mountain trail to the saddle at the head of Bear Canyon. Then on to Guthrie Mountain and return. The trail along the top from the saddle to Guthrie Mountain gives great views of the Catalinas and the San Pedro Valley. The last quarter mile to the trail end over the mountaintop requires some rock climbing. Some hikers may not wish to do that portion of the hike. Hike 6 miles; elevation change 1200 feet; starting elevation 6000 feet; leave at 8:00 AM; driver donation \$6.00. Ron Noton, 825-7374.

****Apr. 26 - 30 – Mon. – Fri.** Gila National Forest-New Mexico Rating A. This will be a series of 3 day 'A' hikes (NO back packing, but primitive camping) in the largest national forest (3.3 M acres) outside of Alaska. This huge wilderness forest rises above the desert country and abounds with cactus, juniper, Ponderosa Pine, spruce and aspen; as well as numerous wildlife, including bear, deer, elk. The hikes will vary in altitude and distance depending on the group and will involve river/creek crossings. After setting up camp in the Mogollon Mts. (9-11,000 ft.) we will hike trails the first 2 days in the Continental Divide Crest area, returning to campsite each day. The third day we relocate to a camp site near the Gila Cliff Dwellings. After visiting the dwellings we then hike over to the Middle Gila River and loop back around through the river to our TH (approx. 11 miles). We will then find a motel in or near Silver City; tour the city and return home the following day. Starting elevations- 9K' with gains of 2-3 thousand feet using GPS the first 2 days. Day three will be in the 6K foot range on a well defined trail. Limit 8. 2-4WD required. Approximately 250 miles to TH. Leave Mon, April 26 @ 6:00 AM (the day before the trek); driver donation - split costs-approx. \$25.00. John Rendall, 825-9395.

****Apr. 28 – Wed.** Miller Peak and Carr Peak. Rating A. This hike will start on the east side of the Huachuca Mountains and take the Ash Canyon/Lutz Canyon Trail to Miller Peak. Miller Peak is the highest peak in the Huachuca Mountains with views over 100 miles. We will continue over to Carr Peak and return by the same route. Hike 15 miles; elevation change 3500 feet; leave at 5:30 AM; driver donation \$8.00. John Robertshaw, 818-6727.

Apr. 30 – Fri. Butterfly Trail. Rating B-. Starting at Soldier Camp in the Catalinas 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. Hike 6 miles; elevation change 1800 feet; starting elevation 7700 feet; leave at 7:30 AM; driver donation \$6.00. Jim Strickler, 825-8735.

****Apr. 30 – Fri.** Sycamore Canyon/Medium. Rating C. Slow pace. Located in the Pajaritos Mountains, Sycamore Canyon is considered one of the top ten spots for wildlife in the Sonoran Desert. We start near Ruby Road and will hike into the canyon about three miles viewing canyon sidewalls, spirals and lush vegetation. Water levels in the canyon will vary depending on recent rainfall, but be prepared to get your feet wet. Bring lunch and at least a quart of water. Hike 6 miles; elevation change

minimal; starting elevation 4050 feet; leave at 6:30 AM; driver donation \$8.00. Jan Wilson, 818-0299.

****May 4 - 8 - Tues - Sat.** Grand Staircase-Escalante (Utah). Rating A. This is a 3 DAY-2 Night-BACKPACK (3 'A' Hikes) (Plus 2 travel days). This will be a hikers dream discovering Southern Utah in the Canyons of the Escalante. We will be hiking between Bryce Canyon Nat. Park and the town of Escalante. The 3 day trip will take us through Death Hollow and the Escalante River requiring many river crossings and slot canyon maneuvers. We will go over, through or near many natural arches, natural bridges and monuments. This is planned as a 40 mile trek, however due to changing weather conditions our trip may require some last minute alterations; which will be planned at a meeting prior to the trip. Requirements--backpack experience for severe weather changes; 4WD transportation. Limit 8. 300 miles to TH. **Please contact guide by March 30TH if you are interested in going.** Leave Tue-May4th @ 6:00 AM (the day before the trek); driver donation approx. \$25 (share expenses); John Rendall, 825 9395.