



SADDLEBROOKE

HIKING CLUB NEWSLETTER

<http://www.SaddleBrooke.org>

May/June 2003

2003 - 3

NEW OFFICERS FOR HIKING CLUB

At the Hiking Club picnic in March, Elections were held for the two vacant positions. Mary Richling was elected President and Susan Robertshaw, Chief Hiking Guide. A big Thank You to our outgoing President, Jon Chase and Chief Hiking Guide, John Rendall. The remaining officers are serving a second term: Bill Leightenheimer, vice-President, Linda Bechky, Treasurer and Bob Perez, Secretary.

PICNIC NEWS

110 Hiking Club members attended the Spring Picnic at Oracle Park. It was a busy day with hikes held at 9:00, 10:00 and 11:00 and a very interesting and informative lecture on hiking tips by John Rendall as well as elections for the Hiking Club officers. Everyone had a wonderful time.

BEES, BEES, BEES

By Mary Richling

It's that time of the year again. Bees will be in abundance in certain areas. The majority of bees in Arizona have been "Africanized" (killer bees). In limited numbers, they are no more dangerous than "normal" bees; however, they are much more aggressive in pursuit if threatened, especially if you disturb their colony or get in the way of a swarm. You can often hear a large collection before encountering it. Try to avoid the area. Many hikers, especially "bushwackers", protect themselves with bee net "hoods" which cover the face and neck area. They can be purchased at sporting good stores for \$10-\$15. Keep the hood readily accessible for quick cover. Persons with known bee sting allergies should carry a bee sting kit with them and consider hiking only when the potential for encounters is less.

REPLACEMENTS NEEDED

We have several volunteer positions that need to be filled as soon as possible. Our social committee chair, Diane Chase, has asked that we find someone to replace her. The Social

Committee Chair arranges for our social annuals and the spring and fall picnics. We also need a replacement for Sara Smith who made the hard copies of the newsletter and distributed them to the SaddleBrooke and MountainView Clubhouses. Dean Wilson is leaving his position as Hiking Statistics Recorder. If you are interested and available for any of these extremely important jobs, please contact Mary Richling.

SPECIAL THANKS

We want to give special thanks to all our volunteers who help make the Hiking Club a successful operation. Diane Chase, Sara Smith and Dean Wilson have all done a wonderful job and we appreciate their commitment. A special thanks go to Dave and Bev Caldwell who, because of other commitments, will no longer be Hiking Guides. We are especially grateful to them because they were the founders of this Newsletter.

SOCIAL HOUR

Our Next Social Hours will be held at the SaddleBrooke RoadRunner Grill on Wednesday, May 21 and Wednesday, June 18 at 4:00 PM.

FITNESS WALKS---FIVE DAYS A WEEK

If you want a good way to get in shape and stay healthy just join up with one of the Fitness Groups. These are walks around SaddleBrooke at a pace that will accommodate most everyone for about one hour. On occasion they may be extended for a longer distance with concurrence of the group. The Mon/Wed/Fri group is led by Bill Leightenheimer and the Tues/Thurs group (formally called Exploring SaddleBrooke) is led by Judi Barenkopf. See the write up for additional information at the beginning of the Hiking Schedule.

HIKING CLUB PATCHES

Recently, we have been mailing out Hiking Club member patches to new members. It has come to our attention that long time members may not have received the patch when they first joined. If you have never received a patch, contact Bob Perez at 818-2111 or at AZSUN65@mindspring.com. The hiking guides will also have a supply of patches, so mention that you have never received a patch when you sign up for your hike. If you need a replacement patch or want more than one, they are available for sale at \$1.00 each.

NEWS YOU CAN USE

Change of Address: if you change your address – especially your email address – please notify our Secretary, Bob Perez, so you can continue to receive the bi-monthly Newsletter and any other communications that the Hiking Club sends out. Contact Bob Perez, 65187 E. Desert Sands Court, SaddleBrooke, AZ 85739, phone: 818-2111, e-mail: azsun65@mindspring.com

SADDLEBROOKE HIKING CLUB OFFICERS

President: Mary Richling 825-5238

jmrichling@earthlink.net

Vice-President: Bill Leightenheimer 818-1953

billbar2@mindspring.com

Secretary: Bob Perez 818-2111

AZSUN65@mindspring.com

Treasurer: Linda Bechky 825-8761

linronb@robson.net

Chief Hiking Guide: Susan Robertshaw 818-6727

jsrobertshaw@worldnet.att.net

NEWSLETTER CO-EDITORS:

Rand Wells 818-0847

Rwells6226@aol.com

Andrea Gray 818-3268

Ajewel699@aol.com

HIKING GUIDES NEEDED

Our Hiking Club is always looking for new Hiking Guides. If you have gained experience hiking with us or elsewhere and have some favorite hikes you would feel comfortable leading, then please contact Susan Robertshaw 818-6727 or by e-mail at jsrobertshaw@worldnet.att.net.

HIKING GUIDE MEETING /BOARD MEETING

The next hiking guide meeting will be on Wednesday, June 4, 2003 at 4:00 p.m. at the SaddleBrooke Country Club. There is no board meeting scheduled for June; the next board meeting will be on Wednesday, August 6 at the SaddleBrooke Country Club at 3:00 p.m. and any club member is welcome to attend.

GENERAL HIKING INFORMATION

Call the guide to make a reservation. Assume that the hike will proceed as scheduled unless the guide calls you. Persons who have made a reservation and then find they cannot go on the hike, must call the guide to cancel their reservation at the earliest time. The time listed for the hike is the departure time. It is important to arrive 10 to 15 minutes before departure time. Always bring ample water (a minimum of 2 quarts is recommended), sunscreen, and appropriate footwear and headgear. Bring a snack or lunch as you see fit to sustain you. Always bring some sort of ID and medications you generally take.

All hikes leave from the left front parking lot in front of the MountainView Clubhouse (just east of the tennis courts) unless otherwise noted. Voluntary driver donations, shown at the end of the hike descriptions, include \$1.00 for entry/parking fees where required. There may be additional fees for entry to areas such as National Parks, Monuments, Wilderness Areas, Special Exhibits, some State Parks and for overnight stays, etc. These fees will be outlined by the Hiking Guide. Hiking Guides may also wish to split costs between drivers for drop-offs and/or unequal passenger loads. Small bills are appreciated as the driver may not be able to provide change. Due to automobile insurance coverage considerations, it is recommended that any payment to the driver be made upon return to MountainView. Also, please let the guide know ahead of time 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.

HIKE RATINGS AND PACE

- 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

Slow Pace – Less than 1.5 MPH with frequent stops

Moderate Pace – 1.5 to 2.5 MPS, fewer stops

Fast Pace – Greater than 2.5 MPH

Pace is also governed by trail conditions and the terrain to be covered. Ask your guide for clarification when you sign up.

NOTE: Sometimes a hike is harder or easier than its rating indicates. In an attempt to 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 when signing up for a hike. ALL hikes.

except the Fitness Hikes and Exploring SaddleBrooke hikes, have some rocks, unsteady ground, etc. Be sure you can handle the hike and the pace of the hike before signing up.

SCHEDULED HIKES

NOTE: Hikes marked by a double asterisk ** are new additions to our club database or a new 'one time' hike. Hikes marked by a double plus ++ are 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. Another way to assess ones fitness is to take one or more of the regularly scheduled Fitness Walks.

Fitness Walk – Tues. & Thurs. Rating 'D' These walks are oriented to those who want to get out early and keep your engine running smoothly. You walk at your own pace, meet some wonderful and interesting folks while perusing SaddleBrooke. The walks are usually for one hour except for an occasional 3-4 hour hike when we venture outside the SB boundaries. These longer hikes are decided by the group and planned one week in advance. We meet at MountainView Club House parking lot on Tuesday - 7:00 AM in May and 6:30 AM in June, and at SaddleBrooke Tennis Ctr. parking lot on Thursday - 7:00 AM in May and 6:30 AM in June. For additional info and sign-up call Judi Barenkopf at 825-7077 or e-mail at mbarenkopf@aol.com.

Fitness Walk – Mon., Wed. & Fri. Rating D. Maintain your fitness or get into better shape by joining us for a morning fitness walk. We'll begin and end with proper stretching techniques, learn power-walking techniques, and have some fun. Wear comfortable walking/athletic shoes. Remember the sunblock, a hat, & bring a quart of water. The sessions will last about one hour and are suitable for walkers of all ability levels. Walks conducted every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. All fitness walks will begin at 7:00 AM in May and 6:30 AM in June. Monday's walk will meet in the parking lot by the fitness center at SaddleBrooke CC. Wednesday and Friday's walks will meet in the parking lot in front of Mountainview CC; Bill Leightenheimer, 818-1953.

May 1 - Thurs. Fitness Walk. Rating D.

May 1 - Thurs. Mt. Lemmon to Sabino Canyon via Palisades Trail (with Tram). Rating A. This trail starts in the high pine forests near Showers Point Campground on Mt. Lemmon. A driver will be needed to drop us off on Mt. Lemmon. Hikers will need \$6.00 for the tram. Bring lunch and 3 quarts of water. Hike limited to 6 hikers. Hike 10.4 miles; change in elevation down 5150, starting elevation 7850; leave at 6:30 AM; driver donation \$6.00. Bill Leightenheimer, 818-1953.

May 2 - Fri. Fitness Walk. Rating D.

May 2 - Fri. 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 7:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00. Jon Chase, 818-1115.

May 2 - Fri. Peppersauce Canyon Short Hike. Rating D+. We will park opposite the Peppersauce Canyon campground and hike up Peppersauce Canyon approximately 1.5 miles. Good mixture of vegetation to study. Some views, depending on how far we go. Bring lunch. Hike 3 miles; 450 foot elevation change; altitude at start 4600 feet; leave at 8:00 AM; driver donation \$4.00. Jan & Dean Wilson, 818-0299.

****May 3 , 4 - Sat, Sun.** Arizona Trail - Mexican Border to Parker Canyon Lake. Rating A+. This is a two day, twenty mile backpack through the Huachuca Mts with elevations ranging from 5,500 feet to 9,000 feet. This hike is only for the experienced and fit individual who has all the necessary backpacking equipment. Limit four hikers. Leave at 5:00 AM. Driver donation \$20.00. Call Bill Leightenheimer at 818-1953.

May 3 - Sat. Charouleau Gap Road to the Gap. Rating B. Starting from below Unit 9, we will hike along the wash to the jeep road and then climb this road to the gap, which overlooks SaddleBrooke, Catalina, and the Tortolitas. The hike will be through desert area and then a steep climb with switchbacks to the gap. Return on the same road. Hike 10 miles; elevation change 2000 feet; altitude at the start 3200 feet; leave at 7:00 A.M.; driver donation \$1.00. Don Colen, 825-0083.

****May 4 - Sun.** Oracle State Park/Arizona Trail. Rating C. We will hike from Oracle State Park taking the AZ Link Trail East out to the Arizona Trail. We then will follow the Arizona Trail North coming back to the park via the AZ Link Trail North. Hike 6 miles; climb 450 feet; altitude 4,350 feet; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$2.00. Susan Robertshaw, 818-6727.

May 5 - Mon. Fitness Walk. Rating D.

May 6 - Tues. Fitness Walk. Rating D.

May 6 - Tues. Oracle Ridge Trail from Mt. Lemmon. Rating A-. This is a long downhill hike northwards along Oracle Ridge from Mt. Lemmon to the Mt. Lemmon Road near Oracle. Hikers need a minimum of three quarts of water. This is a very scenic hike with great views. Hike 13.2 miles; descend 3576 feet; altitude at start 8076 feet; limit of 8 hikers; leave at 6:30 AM; driver donation \$6.00. Bill Leightenheimer, 818-1953.

May 6 - Tues. Bog-Kent Springs Loop Trail. Rating B. 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; climb 2100 feet; starting altitude 5000 feet; leave at 6:30 AM; driver donation \$6.00. Gary Gouvea, 825-3868.

May 7 - Wed. Fitness Walk. Rating D.

May 7 - Wed. Tohono Chul Park and Tea Room, "birders walk" and breakfast. Rating D. Join a Tohono Chul docent for a guided bird observation walk in beautiful Tohono Chul Park.

Pace slow. We can continue strolling through the park at our leisure and end with breakfast at the Tohono Chul Tea Room. Hike 1.5 miles; elevation change 50 feet; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at 8:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00; bring binoculars, \$5.00 park admission, Mary Richling, 825-5238.

May 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; climb 900 feet; altitude at start 2700 feet; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$3.00. Don Colen, 825-0083.

May 8 - Thurs. Fitness Walk. Rating D.

May 8 - Thurs. Mule Ears via Charouleau Gap. Rating A. This is moderate to difficult 17.5 mile hike (round-trip) to a prominent point on the Samaniego Ridge with outstanding views in all directions. We lunch at a spot on the edge of cliffs just north of Mule Ears, viewing the "Reef of Rocks". The hike starts from SaddleBrooke along the 4-WD road, to the gap; then begins a rather steep uphill climb for 1.5 miles. Eventually, the trail levels off and continues along the ridge with moderate up/down hiking through the pine trees over to Mule Ears. We return via the same route. Starting elevation 3100 feet; Mule Ears 7100 feet. Leave at 5:30 AM; driver donation \$1.00. John Robertshaw, 818-6727.

May 9 - Fri. Fitness Walk. Rating D.

May 9 - Fri. Dripping Springs from the Sutherland Trail. Rating C-. 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; limit 10 hikers; elevation at start 2700 feet; elevation change 500 feet; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$2.00. Sally Laskey, 825-6996.

May 10 - Sat. Pusch Peak. Rating A. 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 but we will take it slowly with rest stops. Hike 5 miles; elevation change 2700 feet; altitude at start 2650 feet; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00. Jim Strickler, 825-8735.

May 11 - Sun. Marshall Gulch/Aspen Loop Trail. Rating C. We will start at the Marshall Gulch Picnic Area and go up the Marshall Gulch Trail to the Saddle. Then left down the Aspen trail back to the Picnic Area. There is a large rock to sit on with a view 1/4 mile after we start on the Aspen Trail. A great spot for a break or lunch. Hike 4 miles; elevation change 800 feet; start at 7440 feet; leave at 8:00 AM; driver donation \$6.00. Karen Gray, 818-0337.

May 11 - Sun. Peppersauce Canyon Short Hike. Rating D+. We will park opposite the Peppersauce Canyon campground and hike up Peppersauce Canyon approximately 1.5 miles. Good mixture of vegetation to study. Some views, depending on how far we go. Bring lunch. Hike 3 miles; 450 foot elevation change; altitude at start 4600 feet; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$4.00. Susan Robertshaw, 818-6727.

May 12 - Mon. Fitness Walk. Rating D.

May 12 - Mon. 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 4.2 miles; starting elevation 3200 feet; 200 foot elevation change; moderate pace; limit 15 hikers; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00. John Robertshaw, 818-6727.

May 13 - Tues. Fitness Walk. Rating D.

May 13 - Tues. 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 14-16 miles; climb 4050 feet; altitude at start 5400 feet; shady; leave at 6:00 AM; driver donation \$6.00. Bill Leightenheimer, 818-1953.

May 13 - Tues. Chiricahua Heart of Rocks Loop. Rating B. This loop trail is described in "Hiking Arizona's Cactus Country" as popular route (which) makes a long day trip, visiting the most spectacular rock formations in Chiricahua National Monument. This hike includes the scenic Echo Canyon trail. Trailhead is 140 miles from SaddleBrooke. For this reason, some may want to go to that area the day before, in which case we will meet at the Chiricahua National Monument Visitor Center at a predetermined time. All others will leave SaddleBrooke at time noted below. Hike 8.4 miles, elevation change 1400, altitude at start 6780 feet; Leave at 6:30 AM; driver donation \$10.00. Gary Gouvea, 825-3868.

May 14 - Wed. Fitness Walk. Rating D.

****May 14 - Wed.** Sixshooter Trail. Rating B+. This trail just south of Globe was featured in the Arizona Highways 4/03 edition as the Hike of the Month described as follows: "The trail obsessively and steeply climbs almost 3,000 feet from scrubby chaparral mix along raspy mountain slopes to quaking aspen trees at its end near Ferndell Spring. In between, the landscape veers from high desert scrub to high country pines to New England style hardwood forests." The trail stops just short of the top of Pinal Peak in a crown of aspen trees and returns by the same route all downhill. Hike 12 miles; climb 3000 feet; altitude at the start 4,600 feet; driver donation \$9.00. Leave at 6:00 AM. Walt Faleschini. 818-6644.

May 15 - Thurs. Fitness Walk. Rating D.

May 15 - Thurs. Mt. Lemmon to Sabino Canyon via Palisades Trail (with Tram). Rating A. This trail starts in the high pine forests near Showers Point Campground on Mt. Lemmon. A driver will be needed to drop us off on Mt. Lemmon. Hikers will need \$6.00 for the tram. Bring lunch and 3 quarts of water. Hike limited to 6 hikers. Hike 10.4 miles; change in elevation down 5150, starting elevation 7850; leave at 6:30 AM; driver donation \$6.00. Bill Leightenheimer, 818-1953.

May 16 - Fri. Fitness Walk. Rating D.

May 16 - Fri. 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; limit 8 hikers; leave at 6:30 AM; driver donation \$6.00. John Robertshaw, 818-6727.

May 17 - Sat. 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. 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 at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00. Don Colen, 825-0083.

May 18 - Sun. Hutch's Pool. Rating C+. We will take the Sabino Canyon tram to the trailhead. After a moderately steep but brief climb out of the canyon the trail is mostly level. This lovely hike will take us to a permanent pool surrounded by giant Arizona Cypress trees. Bring \$6.00 for the tram. Hike 8 miles; climb 900 feet; altitude at start 3300 feet; leave at 7:30 AM; driver donation \$3.00. Wayne Kennedy, 818-1812.

May 19 - Mon. Fitness Walk. Rating D.

May 19 - Mon. Canyon Loop to Montrose Pool. Rating D. This will be a slow paced hike to Montrose Pools and return in Catalina State Park. We will fork onto the Birding Loop (some water crossing possible) at the end. Hike 4 miles; pace slow; climb 200 feet; altitude at start 2700 feet; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$2.00. Mary Richling, 825-5238.

May 20 - Tues. Fitness Walk. Rating D.

May 20 - Tues. 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 11 miles; elevation change 6300 feet; pace slow; starting altitude

9100 feet; leave at 6:00 AM; driver donation \$6.00. We will need to arrange transportation to the top. Bill Leightenheimer, 818-1953.

May 21 - Wed. Fitness Walk. Rating D.

May 21 - Wed. 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 at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$3.00. Don Colen, 825-0083.

May 21 - Wed. Kitt Peak Observatory Evening Program. Rating D. If you are interested in astronomy don't miss this trip. We arrive at the visitor center at 6:30 PM. Light box meal provided. Hear lecture. Learn how to use star chart. Look through telescope at objects in night sky. Program is over at 10:00PM. Kitt Peak has the largest number of telescopes of any site in the world, 24 in all. Binoculars provided. 55 years and older \$31 per person. 54 years or less, \$36 per person. Bring warm clothes - no shorts or sandals. Limit 16; altitude 7000 feet; leave at 4:30 PM; driver donation \$8.00. Gary Gouvea, 825-3868.

May 22 - Thurs. Fitness Walk. Rating D.

May 22 - Thurs. 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 14-16 miles; climb 4050 feet; altitude at start 5400 feet; shady; leave at 6:00 AM; driver donation \$6.00. Bill Leightenheimer, 818-1953.

May 23 - Fri. Fitness Walk. Rating D.

May 23 - Fri. Bog-Kent Springs Loop Trail. Rating B. 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; climb 2100 feet; starting altitude 5000 feet; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$6.00. John Robertshaw, 818-6727.

May 24 - Sat. 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. \$5.00 park entrance fee or a pass (car with up to 4 people). Limit 14; hike 6 miles; climb 1200 feet; altitude at start 2700 feet; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$2.00. Jim Strickler, 825-8735.

May 25 - Sun. Wilderness of Rocks. Rating B-. Starting at Marshall Gulch picnic area we climb 550 feet to Marshall Saddle. Then down the Wilderness of Rocks Trail to Lemmon Rocks Lookout Trail. From there we go a further ¾ of a mile to the Lemmon Creek area in the heart of the Wilderness of

Rocks. Beautiful rock formation with great views in the heart of the Catalinas. We return by the same route. We climb 900 feet to the saddle and then down the gulch to the picnic area. Hike 7.5 miles; starting elevation 7440 feet; climb 550+900 feet; leave at 7:30 AM; driver donation \$6.00. Karen Gray, 818-0337.

****May 25 - Sun.** Oracle State Park Exploration. Rating D We will explore some of the trails at Oracle State Park. Enjoy the interesting boulder groups, oak woodlands, manzanita stands, and desert grasslands found in this new state park. Hike 4 miles; elevation change 200 to 400 feet; altitude 4,350 feet; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$2.00. Susan Robertshaw, 818-6727.

May 26 - Mon. Fitness Walk. Rating D.

May 27 - Tues. Fitness Walk. Rating D.

May 27 - Tues. Florida Canyon to Old Baldy Trail. Rating A. We will leave a vehicle at the Santa Rita Agricultural Experimental Station. We will hike up the Super Trail and Old Baldy Trail to Baldy Saddle and then North down the ridge to Florida Saddle and the Experimental Station. Hikers should bring lunch, snacks, and a minimum of three quarts of water. Hike limited to 6 hikers. Hike 11.2 miles; elevation change 3560 feet; starting elevation 5240 feet; leave at 6:00 AM; driver donation \$6.00. Bill Leightenheimer, 818-1953.

May 27 - Tues. 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; climb 1800 feet; altitude at trailhead 2,900 feet; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$2.00. Wayne Kennedy, 818-1812.

May 28 - Wed. Fitness Walk. Rating D.

May 29 - Thurs. Fitness Walk. Rating D.

May 29 - Thurs. Rincon Peak. Rating A. An uphill hike with breathtaking views. After 4.4 miles, we reach Happy Valley Saddle and then on to Heartbreak Ridge. This is a steep, strenuous hike. Hike 16.2 miles, elevation change 4300 feet; starting elevation 4200 feet; leave at 5:00 AM; driver donation \$8.00. Bill Leightenheimer, 818-1953.

May 29 - Thurs. Canyon Loop Trail and the Birding Trail. Rating D. Start up Romero Trail in Catalina State Park to Canyon Loop Trail. Come back on the Sutherland Trail. Following this we will hike the Birding Trail. Pace will be slow. Hike 3.5 miles; 400 foot elevation change; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$2.00. Sally Laskey, 825-6996.

May 30 - Fri. Fitness Walk. Rating D.

May 30 - Fri. 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, and 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 at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$3.00. John Robertshaw, 818-6727.

June 1 - Sun. Peppersauce and Nugget Canyon Loop. Rating C+. We park opposite Peppersauce Campground on the old Mt. Lemmon Road (backside of Mt. Lemmon). We hike up the Mt. Lemmon Road to Nugget Canyon turnoff, loop up the canyon, and back down through Peppersauce Canyon, passing Peppersauce Cave and some old mining relics. Much of the hike is through oak woodland with good views from the higher hills we go over. We will travel over old jeep roads and rough paths. Hike 7.6 miles; climb 1200 feet; altitude 4600 feet; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$4.00. Susan Robertshaw, 818-6727.

June 2 - Mon. Fitness Walk. Rating D.

June 2 - Mon. 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; climb 900 feet; altitude at start 2700 feet; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$3.00. Wayne Kennedy, 818-1812.

June 3 - Tues. Fitness Walk. Rating D.

June 3 - 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, 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 7:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00. Jon Chase, 818-1115.

June 3 - Tues. Aspen Loop/Marshall Gulch Trail. Rating C. We will start at the Marshall Gulch Picnic area and go up the Aspen Trail to the saddle. We will lunch at a scenic spot near the saddle. Then down the Marshall Gulch Trail to the picnic area. Hike 4 miles; starting elevation 7440 feet; elevation change 800 feet; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$6.00. Gary Gouvea, 825-3868.

June 4 - Wed. Fitness Walk. Rating D.

June 4 - Wed. Tohono Chul Park and Tea Room, "birders walk" and breakfast. Rating D. Join a Tohono Chul docent for a guided bird observation walk in beautiful Tohono Chul Park. Pace slow. We can continue strolling through the park at our leisure and end with breakfast at the Tohono Chul Tea Room. Hike 1.5 miles; elevation change 50 feet; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at 8:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00; bring binoculars. \$5.00 park admission. Bill Leightenheimer, 818-1953.

June 5 - Thurs. Fitness Walk. Rating D.

June 5 - Thurs. Mt. Lemmon/Meadow/Fire Lookout. Rating C-. We will drive to the very top of Mt. Lemmon and park by the astronomical observatories operated by the UA, also known as Radio Ridge. We then hike down the Meadow Trail, through Lemmon Park, to where it intersects the Mt. Lemmon Trail that will lead us back to Lemmon Rock fire lookout cabin, which offers spectacular views. We will then hike back to the top of Mt. Lemmon. Altitude at start 9157 feet; elevation change 500 feet; hike 3 miles; leave at 6:00 AM; driver donation \$6.00. Walt Faleschini, 818-6644.

June 6 - Fri. Fitness Walk. Rating D.

June 7 - Sat. Bog-Kent Springs Loop Trail. Rating B. 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; climb 2100 feet; starting altitude 5000 feet; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$6.00. Jim Strickler, 825-8735.

****June 8 - Sun.** Oracle State Park Exploration. Rating D We will explore some of the trails at Oracle Sate Park. Enjoy the interesting boulder groups, oak woodlands, manzanita stands, and dessert grasslands found in this new state park. Hike 4 miles; elevation change 200 to 400 feet; altitude 4,350 feet; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$2.00. Susan Robertshaw, 818-6727.

June 9 - Mon. Fitness Walk. Rating D.

June 9 - Mon. Madera Canyon Nature Trail. Rating C. This non-desert hike is in the Santa Rita Mountains. We start at 4500 foot elevation from the lower area and ascend 3.2 miles up the canyon to the 5400 foot Roundup Picnic Area. Along the way, we enjoy the shade of Apache pines, Douglas Firs, Emory Oaks, Mexican Blue Oaks, Willows, Cottonwoods, and Sycamores. Our return is by the same route. There are panoramic views from a ridge on a trail breakout. Hike 7.5 miles; climb 900 feet; starting elevation 4500 feet; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$6.00. Mary Richling, 825-5238.

June 10 - Tues. Fitness Walk. Rating D.

June 10 - Tues. Mt. Lemmon/Wilderness of Rocks Loop. Rating B. We'll park at the Observatory and head down the Mt. Lemmon trail branching off onto the Lookout trail for a steep descent to 7200 feet then back up to the Wilderness of Rocks trail. Then up to Marshall Saddle, over to Radio Ridge and back to the Observatory parking area. Hike 6 miles; pace slow; climb 2000 feet; altitude at start 9150 feet; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$6.00. Gary Gouvea, 825-3868.

June 11 - Wed. Fitness Walk. Rating D.

June 11 - Wed. Tohono Chul Park and Tea Room, "birders walk" and breakfast. Rating D. Join a Tohono Chul docent for a guided bird observation walk in beautiful Tohono Chul Park.

Pace slow. We can continue strolling through the park at our leisure and end with breakfast at the Tohono Chul Tea Room. Hike 1.5 miles; elevation change 50 feet; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at 8:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00; bring binoculars, \$5.00 park admission. Bill Leichtenheimer, 818-1953.

June 11 - Wed. 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; limit 8 hikers; leave at 6:00 AM; driver donation \$6.00. John Robertshaw, 818-6727.

June 12 - Thurs. Fitness Walk. Rating D.

June 12 - Thurs. 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 at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$3.00. Wayne Kennedy, 818-1812.

June 13 - Fri. Fitness Walk. Rating D.

June 15 - Sun. Josephine Saddle. Rating B. We start in Madera Canyon (Santa Rita Mountains) and go up Old Baldy Trail to Josephine Saddle. We will rest there, then go down Super Trail 1 1/2 mi and take Roger's Rock side trip. After lunch we will continue down the Super Trail the rest of the way. Hike 6 miles; climb 1700 feet; starting altitude 5400 feet; leave at 8:00 AM; driver donation \$6.00. Karen Gray, 818-0337.

June 16 - Mon. Fitness Walk. Rating D.

June 16 - Mon. Tohono Chul Park and Tea Room, "birders walk" and breakfast. Rating D. Join a Tohono Chul docent for a guided bird observation walk in beautiful Tohono Chul Park. Pace slow. We can continue strolling through the park at our leisure and end with breakfast at the Tohono Chul Tea Room. Hike 1.5 miles; elevation change 50 feet; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at 8:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00; bring binoculars, \$5.00 park admission. Bill Leichtenheimer, 818-1953.

June 17 - Tues. Fitness Walk. Rating D.

June 18 - Wed. Fitness Walk. Rating D.

June 19 - Thurs. Fitness Walk. Rating D.

June 20 - Fri. Fitness Walk. Rating D.

June 20 - 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. Rating B; hike 6 miles; elevation change 1800 feet; altitude at trailhead 7700 feet; pace slow; leave at 6:30 AM; driver donation \$6.00. John Robertshaw, 818-6727.

June 22 - Sun. Nugget Canyon Short. Rating D+. We park at the intersection of Nugget Canyon and old Mt. Lemmon Road. The hike follows a lovely canyon with tall trees and riparian vegetation and goes up to an earthen dam. We will stop by a cave so bring a flashlight. Hike 3 miles; climb 500 feet; altitude 4,680 feet; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$4.00. Susan Robertshaw, 818-6727.

June 23 - Mon. 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, and 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 at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$3.00. Wayne Kennedy, 818-1812.

June 23 - Mon. Fitness Walk. Rating D.

June 24 - Tues. Fitness Walk. Rating D.

June 25 - Wed. Fitness Walk. Rating D.

June 25 - Wed. 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. 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 at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00. John Robertshaw, 818-6727.

June 26 - Thurs. Fitness Walk. Rating D.

June 27 - Fri. Fitness Walk. Rating D.

June 27 - Fri. 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 14-16 miles; climb 4050 feet; altitude at start 5400 feet; shady; leave at 6:00 AM; driver donation \$6.00. John Robertshaw, 818-6727.

June 28 - Sat. Aspen Loop/Mint Spring Trail. Rating C. Santa Catalina Mountains. This will be a slow, easy hike with plenty of stops to see the sights along the way. Starting at the Marshall Gulch picnic area we will take the Aspen Trail to Marshall Saddle where we will take a break for a snack/lunch. We will continue on the Mint Spring Trail to the Carter Canyon trailhead, then hike down the Carter Canyon road back to the Marshall Gulch picnic area. If we want, we will stop at the Mt. Lemmon Café for Pie. Hike 5.5 miles; climb 1100 feet; elevation at start 7450 feet; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$6.00. Jim Strickler, 825-8735.

Jun 29 - Sun. Josephine Peak. Rating B+. We start in Madera Canyon (Santa Rita Mountains) and go up Old Baldy Trail to Josephine Saddle. We leave the trail to hike to Josephine Peak. This peak sits in the shadow of Mt. Wrightson. We will return back to the trail and take the Super Trail down. Hike 12 miles; climb 3000 feet; starting elevation 5400 feet; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$6.00. Karen Gray, 818-0337.

June 30 - Mon. Fitness Walk. Rating D.