



SADDLE BROOKE

HIKING CLUB NEWSLETTER

<http://www.SaddleBrooke.org>

July/August 2002

2002-4

Class on Compasses & Maps Orientation to Orienteering

Have you ever wanted to know how to use a compass and map? Would you like to refresh your past knowledge? The SaddleBrooke Hiking Club is offering a class on compasses and maps called *Orientation to Orienteering*. It is a very basic class for beginners that will be held in two parts. If you are interested please note the times below. All classes will be held from 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. in the patio area of the Palo Verde Dining Room at Mountainview Club House. Please contact Susan Robertshaw at 818-6727 to sign up for the class. Please bring an orienteering compass (it is mandatory), a clipboard (if possible), and reading glasses (if necessary). Limit of 10.

Part 1 – Sunday, July 7; Saturday, July 13; Sunday, August 4; Saturday, August 10

Part 2 – Sunday, July 21; Saturday, July 27; Sunday, August 18; Saturday, August 24

Skills to be covered in classes:

- Taking compass bearings
- Setting a compass bearing and following it
- How to return to point "A" after following a compass bearing to point "B"
- Study of topographic maps
- Determining distances using scales and in the field
- Transferring direction on a map to a compass and following it
- Mini-Orienteering walk

Editors Note: This issue will be abbreviated. Please remember to contact the hiking guide to reserve a spot. Information about ratings and other essential information can be found on our website at www.saddlebrooke.org under Hiking Club under the Newcomers Orientation section.

SCHEDULED HIKES

Most of the following hikes are dependent upon Coronado National Forest being reopened by the Forest Service.

NOTE: Hikes marked by a double asterisk ** are new additions to our club database. 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 Hikes or Exploring SaddleBrooke hikes.

Exploring SaddleBrooke. Rating D. Start your day with a fast paced walk in and around SaddleBrooke. These are twice

weekly hikes along our local streets plus occasionally going into nearby areas of desert to explore new things. The walks provide an opportunity to see how others have landscaped their yards, see how new units are growing, and at the same time help maintain a good physical condition. The hikes are normally about 1 hour to 1½ hour long and will cover 3 to 4 miles. There are usually two groups, one of fast walkers and another of a bit slower walkers working on picking up their exercise level. The elevation change is no greater than that of any street in SaddleBrooke. Hikes are conducted every Tuesday and Thursday. On Tuesdays, meet at the Mountain View clubhouse parking lot and on Thursdays, meet at the basketball court near the SaddleBrooke clubhouse. The meeting time for July and August will be 6:30 AM. Bringing some drinking water is strongly advised; Kay White is the leader, give her a call at 818-9482. During the summer months there will also be alternate leaders: Mary Richling, 825-5238 or Judy Barenkopf, 825-7077.

Fitness Walk. 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 in July & August. Meet at Mountain View clubhouse parking lot. Leave at 6:30 AM; Bill Leightenheimer, 818-1953.

July 12 – 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.

July 12 – 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 6:30 AM; Jon Chase, 818-1115.

****July 14 – Sun. Josephine Saddle/Roger's Rock.** Rating B+.

Up the Old Baldy Trail down Super Trail about 1 ½ miles, turn off to Roger's Rock < ½ mile. Lunch on Roger's Rock - a great view. Return to Super Trail and hike down. About 6 ¾ or slightly less; climb 1700 feet; starting altitude 5400 feet; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$6.00, Karen Gray, 818-0337.

July 21 – Sun. Mt. Wrightson - Old Baldy Trail. Rating A. This will be the shortest route to the top (9453') of Mt. Wrightson. Hike 11 miles; climb, 4000 feet; altitude at start 5400 feet; leave at 7:00 AM; fast pace; driver donation \$6.00, Karen Gray, 818-0337.

July 24 – Wed. Oracle State Park Trail Maintenance. Rating C. 6:30 AM; See July 12. Jon Chase, 818-1115

July 26 – Fri. Hutch's Pool. Rating C+. We will take the Sabino Canyon tram roundtrip. 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 8:00 AM; driver donation \$3.00; John Robertshaw, 818-6727.

July 28 – Sun. 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; altitude at start 2800 feet.; climb 250 feet.; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$3.00, John Robertshaw, 818-6727.

July 29 – 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 6:30 AM; driver donation \$6.00, Mary Richling, 825-5238.

****July 31 – Wed.** Palisade Trail/Mud Spring. Rating C. This is a moderately downhill hike, starting just below the Palisades Ranger Station on Mt. Lemon, mostly in pine forest, to a prominence with a panoramic view of the Tucson Valley. We will have lunch there and return slowly uphill to our trailhead. Hike 6 miles; climb 1300 feet; altitude at trailhead 8000 feet; leave at 7:30 AM; driver donation \$6.00, Jim Strickler, 825-8735.

Aug. 4 – Sun. Josephine Peak. Rating B+. We will hike the Super Trail in Madera Canyon of the Santa Ritas, up to Josephine Saddle, and beyond, to Josephine Peak, and back. We leave the trail to reach Josephine Peak. This peak sits in the shadow of Mt. Wrightson. On return we may take Old Baldy Trail down from Josephine Saddle. Hike 12 miles; climb 3000 feet; starting elevation 5400 feet; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$6.00, Karen Gray, 818-0337.

Aug. 6 – Tues. Oracle State Park Trail Maintenance. Rating C.

6:30 AM; See July 12. Jon Chase, 818-1115.

Aug. 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. \$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; John Robertshaw, 818-6727.

Aug. 10 – Sun. Box Camp Trail to Sabino Canyon Overlook. Rating C. Starting at the Mt. Lemmon Highway Trailhead, after a short uphill climb, it is a downhill hike for 2½ miles to a prominence with a marvelous, panoramic view of the Sabino Canyon area where we will have lunch, then return slowly uphill to our trailhead. Hike 5.0 miles, descend 800 feet; starting elevation 8,000 feet; leave at 7:30 AM; driver donation \$6.00, Jim Strickler, 825-8735.

Aug. 11 – Sun. 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.

Aug. 21 – Wed. Madera Canyon Nature Trail. Rating C. 6:30 AM; See July 29, Mary Richling, 825-5238.

Aug. 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.

Aug 24 – Wed. Palisade Trail/Mud Spring. Rating C+. 7:30 AM; See July 31, Jim Strickler, 825-8735

Aug. 30 – Fri. Oracle State Park Trail Maintenance. Rating C. 6:30 AM; See July 12, Jon Chase, 818-1115.

Aug. 31 – Sun. 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 7:30 AM; driver donation \$2.00, Jim Strickler, 825-8735.