



SADDLEBROOKE

HIKING CLUB NEWSLETTER

<http://www.SaddleBrooke.org>

September/October 2000

2000-5

Board Notes by Norm Kyle

~ Effective in August, 2000, club Board Meeting dates and minutes will be posted on the web site.

~ Here's an update on the Adopt-A-Highway and Trail/Park Maintenance projects:

In late spring a notice was sent asking members to respond if interested in participating in either or both of these projects. Trail / Park Maintenance would be at the direction of rangers based on their needs. The two Adopt-A-highway sites were available nearby at Park Link Drive for Pinal County and Highway 77 near mile-post 98 or 102 for the State of Arizona (clean up required twice a year for a two-mile stretch). Only fifteen individuals responded in the affirmative; however, it's possible that not everyone received the notice. If you did not respond for some reason and would like to participate in all or any of these three possible projects phone Jon Chase at 818-1115 or email preference(s) to Jon.chase@prodigy.net.

Membership Renewal Procedure by Bob White

How fast a year goes by! We are close to the one-year anniversary of the SaddleBrooke Hiking Club. A celebration is due - to acknowledge the great hikes and picnics and camaraderie that we have enjoyed over the past year. But along with this celebration comes the reality of membership renewals and dues payment.

A great deal of thought has gone into how best to handle renewals of membership as we have had people joining the club nearly every week of the year. It has been decided that

the best way to do this is to have the membership renewals all come due at the same time next year -- on October 1st.

To get to that point, dues for the coming hiking year must be prorated. The following schedule has been developed to get us all on the same renewal date and is based on the original date of joining the club. For renewing members who joined in:

* Sept-Oct, 1999, the dues will be \$10.00

*Nov-Dec, 1999, dues will be \$8.00

*Jan-Feb, 2000, dues will be \$6.00

*March and April, 2000, dues will be \$4.00

*May, June, and July, 2000, dues will be \$2.00

Dues for new members joining in August, September and October, 2000, will be \$10.00 & membership will carry through to September 30, 2001.

New members who join during the period of 11/1/00 to 9/30/01 will pay a prorated amount based on the month they join.

Because many of us may not remember when we joined, in September an email notice will be sent to those with email and a regular mail notice will be sent to those without email. If you know when you joined and want to send in your renewal, that's fine with the treasurer and will help reduce the work load involved with this year's renewal process.

Please issue check in the correct amount, payable to SaddleBrooke Hiking Club. Mail to: Robert White, 38122 S. Granite Crest Dr. SaddleBrooke AZ 85739. Thanks, and I hope to see you soon along a hiking trail!

Hiking Guides' Corner with Gary

Hiking wise, this summer has been slow but the pace will pick up with fall fast approaching. Fall is my favorite time to hike. The mornings are cool, afternoons warm, and there is also a special quality to the light. Shadows deepen and the air seems to sparkle.

I was rather pleased to find out that of our 392 members, 294 have taken at least one hike, but we want more of you to join us on the trail. For September and October, I have asked our guides to include more D hikes for those of you who may have been reluctant to go on C or more difficult hikes. Another interesting stat is that since we started the club last October, we have had 177 hikes. Thanks to you, this hiking club is really working!

Here are a couple of tips to make hiking more enjoyable:

Some of you may not be familiar with mole skin. It is an adhesive-backed, very soft material which can be purchased at any drug store. If you have sore spots on your feet or have a history of blisters or developing tender areas on your feet, cut out enough mole skin to cover the area you are concerned about and apply before hiking. It's amazing stuff.

Ever had one or more of your toe nails turn black after hiking? It's usually caused by your toe nails pushing against the front end of your boots when descending a trail. The toe nail is taking the impact when your foot slides to the front of your boot. One way to minimize this problem is to trim your toe nails so that the flesh of your toes takes that impact. Well-padded socks also help.

Let's go hiking!

What a Hike! On the Trail with Mary Richling

What do we think? Is it going to behave up there on the big hill today? From our vantage point at the Mountain View Clubhouse parking lot, Mt. Lemmon looked a bit indecisive. Soft gray clouds teased the peaks of the Catalinas. Everywhere else the sky was blue. Looks like a great day for a hike!

Five of us piled into Walt's nifty SUV and headed to Catalina Highway. Since it was the start of the 4th of July holiday weekend, no construction delays or pilot car challenges (another story) would slow our ascent. There was hardly a soul on the highway!

We arrived at the Palisades Ranger Station, our trailhead for the Incinerator Ridge Trail. Pleasantly cool, most of us left

our jackets in the car, knowing that once we headed up the trail, we would be plenty warm. The sun cast Ponderosa Pine shadows crisscrossing the damp, fragrant pine needles that cushioned our steps on the trail.

A benign patch of gray cloud toyed with the radio towers atop Mt. Bigelow above us. Below us, the Tucson valley, greening rapidly from the monsoons, stretched, sun dappled, between the surrounding mountain ranges. Puffs of cotton candy clouds drifted below higher mountain peaks casting shadows on the valley floor.

The Ridge Trail is great, winding through the forest, opening to vistas below, passing multicolored rocks that look like petrified wood. Jim, our stalwart guide, read the trail descriptions to us from his handy trail guide book, enticing us onward to the promised views.

We got to Incinerator Ridge overlook, a spectacular rock vista where you gaze down to San Manuel and the San Pedro Valley on one side and Tucson and all the beautiful peaks on the other. We thought this might be our turn-around point, but Walt wandered around the huge boulders at the end and yelled, "The trail goes on here!"

True hikers, we pressed on. It got a bit steep and rocky in spots, but cairns reassured us and urged us forward. Huffing and puffing, we reached a new summit and the trail led to an awesome rocky overlook, "Peck Basin Overlook", according to the trusty guidebook. Wind-carved golden boulders walled the precipitous drop-off in three directions. A lunch spot fit for royalty! Our original intention was to turn back and hike to the top of Mt. Kellogg for lunch but this place was too prime to leave. We picked our favorite rock perches and rationed ourselves to half our lunch. Incredible views in every direction!

The gray cloud teasing the Mt. Bigelow radio towers seemed bent on expansion. One minute the towers were visible, the next minute shrouded in gray. Do we think it is getting darker? Maybe this gorgeous exposed rock precipice isn't the best place to be right now!

We rapidly but reluctantly packed up and headed back, marveling at the rolling banks of cloud mists which appeared out of nowhere. A soft rain began. Not to worry, we won't melt. Was this trail this steep and rocky on the way up? A rumble of thunder tweaked the nerves. What did the SaddleBrooke Hiking Club newsletter say about lightning?

Why is that rain bouncing off the rocks? Hail? Oh, yes, cold, stinging hail! Those veteran hikers with ponchos in their packs quickly donned them, while the rest of us hustled on. The trail rose quite sharply and became too exposed to risk lightning strikes. We decided to cluster under a low tree, counting on its cover to shield us from the pelting ice.

After a short time, the hail subsided and we forged on. The rain was relentless, soaking us to the skin and creating little rivers raging down the trail. Our speed was impressive considering the now slick footing. About the time we reached a safer section of the trail, the rain let up.

We made it! No lightning strikes, no falls. We trudged the rest of the soggy way to the car, peeled off what wet things we could do without and mused about our great adventure while we munched our remaining snacks. The gray Mt. Bigelow cloud decided to dump on us again but we jumped in the car and would you believe, kept the heater on most of the way down the mountain.

What a hike! What views! What impressive weather on our beautiful mountains! How lucky we SaddleBrooke hikers are to have such opportunities.

Editor's note: keep a lightweight poncho in your pack at all times, just in case. If not used for rain, it may come in handy as a blanket, picnic cloth, or tent. You never know.

On the Trail authors needed! Share your hiking story with the rest of us! Submit stories of 400 words or less to bevc@azstarnet.com or mail to 37325 So. Border Dr. Deadline is the 25th of odd-numbered months.

Announcements

Fall Potluck Picnic at Catalina State Park – mark your calendars now! October 21st is the date. The weather should be spectacular for impromptu hikes and stuffing our faces with fabulous food. It's not too early to offer your help in putting it all together. Isn't it your turn to volunteer? Please contact our Social Chairperson, Blossom Silberman, to offer your help. (blos76@aol.com) or 818-0796. Details: club provides charcoal, condiments, plates, napkins, utensils; members bring cooler with your own drinks, whatever you want to grill, plus a dish to share with 6 to 8 others "assigned" alphabetically by last name: A-K bring appetizer or salad, L-O bread, rolls or buns, P-Z dessert. Bring serving utensils, and be sure to label all items with your name and phone number. Guitars, harmonicas, balls and Frisbees always welcome! So we have some idea of how many to expect, please email or phone Blossom with your name and a "yes".

Club T-Shirts will be ordered again sometime this fall. If you missed the last order or wish to order another color or a long-sleeved style for winter you'll have an opportunity at that time. An order form will be sent to all e-mail subscribers; preprinted order forms will be available in the clubhouses. Updates as needed will appear in the newsletter. Note: shirts will NOT be available at the picnic.

Summer Fitness Walks with Bill Leightenheimer have been discontinued.

For Women Only: September 9th on Mt. Lemmon, 'Women in the Outdoors' offers special classes for women on various topics and skills from archery to maps & compass reading. Registration deadline September 1, 2000. For more information, call Rena Westenberg (520) 325-0300 (daytime only - it's a business phone) or see <http://www.theultimateway.com/wito/flyer.htm>

The following are offered by **Summit Hut**, 5045 East Speedway, Tucson, (325-1554):

~ **"Gearing Up For..." clinics** are free and open to the public. "Gearing Up for Land Navigation with GPS" classes fill very quickly. Next class is Saturday, September 16th, 10:30 a.m. Call now if you want to attend.

~ **Slide Show: El Potrero Chico (Mexico) rock climbing** by Kurt Smith, October 12th at 8 p.m. There is no charge.

~ **Boot Fitting Talk** by expert boot fitter Phil Oren on Thursday evening, November 16th. Free and open to the public. Learn how boots are made, how your feet work, what problems you encounter when the two come together, and the best methods for solving them. Two days of specialized boot fitting and foot analysis follow for which there will be a charge. Call for details.

A Few Good Web Sites

A Web Site of Wilderness Travel:
<http://199.93.170.221/home/0,2653,,00.html>

Backpacker.com's Women's Page:
<http://www.bpbasecamp.com/womenspage/>

Desert USA online magazine:
<http://www.desertusa.com>

Two websites for hiking gear are:
<http://www.campmor.com> and <http://www.rei.com>

Reminders

Fun Walks will continue twice a week, on Tuesdays and Thursdays, through October. The walks are geared for C & D hikers and are 3+ miles in length. Be sure to wear walking or athletic shoes, a hat, sunscreen, and bring a bottle of water, perhaps in a fanny pack. Leave from Mountain View Clubhouse parking lot at 6 a.m. To sign-up, call Kay White, 818-9482.

The next **Hiking Guides Meeting** to schedule November-December hikes is on October 4th at 4:00 p.m., Javelina Room, SB clubhouse. If you can think of a walk or a hike you wish to offer other club members, please come to the

meeting. Even if you have no idea of what you may want to do, come anyway just to see how it all gets done! All club members are encouraged to lead walks or hikes and are welcome to come to the meeting.

GENERAL HIKING INFORMATION

Call the guide to make a reservation for the hike and to get the latest information. Hiking groups meet at and depart from the Mountain View Clubhouse parking lot. (As you look at the clubhouse we will be on the left side out by Mountain View Blvd. just east of the tennis courts.) The time listed is the departure time. It is important to arrive 10 to 15 minutes before departure time. Always bring ample water, sunscreen, and wear appropriate headgear & footwear. Check with the guide as to whether or not to bring a lunch. Always bring some sort of ID with you. Bring medications for your own conditions.

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

Guest Policy

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

Hiking Guides Meetings (next meeting 10/4/00)

All hikes are scheduled at the Hiking Guides Meetings held in the Javelina Room, SB clubhouse, at 4:00 p.m. on the first Wednesday of even-numbered months. If you would like to lead a hike, be sure to complete a Hiking Schedule Form and present it at the next meeting on October 4th. If you would like to attend the meeting just to "look on" and see how it goes, please feel free to join us! If you have special knowledge about or experience with plants, birds or photography and would like to assist on any hike, please

come to the meeting or let Gary Gouvea, Chief Hiking Guide, know of your talents. Gary's phone number is 825-3868.

Catalina Highway Construction

For the foreseeable future (at least through the summer of 2001) there will be roadwork and weekday delays on the Catalina Highway to Mt. Lemmon. Hikes may be scheduled to coincide with pilot cars leading the public through the construction.

Hike Ratings and Pace

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

Slow Pace -- Less than 1.5 MPH with frequent stops.

Moderate Pace -- 1.5 to 2.5 MPH, fewer stops.

Fast Pace -- Greater than 2.5 MPH.

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

NOTE: Sometimes a hike is harder or easier than its rating indicates. In an attempt at pinpoint accuracy, "minus" and "plus" signs have been added to some ratings. Hikes are much more difficult than a walk around SaddleBrooke. Be sure to ask the guide for details when signing up for a hike.

Orientation Hikes

Orientation Hikes (OH) are encouraged for all "beginner" hikers and are intended for sharing information and for personal assessment of current physical fitness. The following are scheduled.

Monday, September 11th, Canyon Loop Trail

Thursday, September 21st, Pima Canyon Short Version

Tuesday, October 31st, Canyon Loop Trail

Summary of Hikes by Rating and Date:

A Hikes -- Sept. 25th and Oct. 23rd

B Hikes -- Sept. 7, 14, 18, 23, 24 and 28th
Oct. 5, 11, 14, 17, 20, 24, 29 and 30th

C Hikes -- Sept. 9, 14, 15, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22, 24 and 30th
Oct. 3, 12, 13, 16, 22, 25 and 27th

D Hikes -- Sept. 2, 11, 20, 25 and 28th
Oct. 9, 10, 23, 26, 27 and 31st

+ Walks: *Fun Walks* every Tuesday & Thursday at 6:00 a.m.

SCHEDULED HIKES

September 2nd -- Saturday. 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. Guided walk at 7:00 AM. 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 6:30 AM; driver donation \$1.00 plus suggested park donation of \$2.00; bring binoculars; Bev Caldwell, 825-3071

September 4th -- Monday. Labor Day

September 7th -- Thursday. Pima Canyon to the Saddle. Rating B. The trailhead is at the end of Magee Road. The first mile or so of trail is across open desert along the south side of Pusch Peak. It then enters a beautiful rugged canyon. The rocky trail passes through a grove of large trees providing welcome shade before emerging again in the open. We will hike past a small dam to a springs and saddle to give a superb view of the entire Montrose and Romero canyon drainage, the most inaccessible region of the entire Catalina Mountains. Hike 11.2 miles; climb 3450 feet; altitude at start 2900 feet; limit 12; leave 7:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00; Norm Kyle, 818-0563

September 9th -- Saturday. 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 and to the car. This is a mild C hike with altitude at 9100 feet; hike 3 miles; elevation change 500 feet; leave 8:00 AM; driver donation \$6.00 (plus a car entrance fee); George Ayuso, 818-0560

September 11th -- Monday. Canyon Loop Trail (OH). Rating D. Start up Romero Trail in Catalina State Park to Canyon Loop Trail. Come back on the Sutherland Trail. Pace will be slow. Hike 2.5 miles; 400 foot elevation change; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave 7:30 AM; driver donation \$1.00; Gary Gouvea, 825-3868

September 14th -- Thursday. Swift Trail. Rating C/B. Pinalenos National Forest in eastern Arizona. An adventure hike to check out trails off State Route 366 in the Pinalenos National Forest. Call guide for details. Leave 6:00 AM; driver donation \$8.00; Bob White, 818-9482

September 15th -- Friday. American Flag Trail. Rating C. This hike begins on the old Mt. Lemmon Road and covers a section of the Arizona Trail. We take the American Flag Trail to Oracle Ridge where we have interesting views to the west.

We then hike south to a saddle below Apache Peak where we will have lunch and then return. Hike 8 miles; elevation change 1200 feet; elevation at start 4400 feet; pace slow; leave 7:00 AM; driver donation \$3.00; Jim Strickler, 825-8735

September 16th -- Saturday. 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. From 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 continue up the Mint Spring Trail 1-1/4 miles to Carter Canyon and on to the road through Summerhaven then walk the paved 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; limit 15; leave 7:00 AM; driver donation \$5.00; Dave Caldwell, 825-3071

September 17th -- Sunday. Seven Falls. Rating C+. Starting at the Sabino Canyon Visitor 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 time of year. Hike 8 miles; climb 900 feet; starting altitude 2800 feet; leave 7:00 AM; driver donation \$2.00; Larry Gray, 818-0337

September 18th -- Monday. Atascosa Lookout. Rating B. 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; climb 1600 feet; altitude at trailhead 4700 feet; pace slow; leave 7:00 AM; driver donation \$4.00; Bob Wynne, 825-4056

September 20th -- Wednesday. Kitt Peak National Observatory. Rating D. Located in the Quinlan Mountains. 56 mi. SW of Tucson, the Observatory operates with special agreement from the Tohono O'odham on whose reservation it is located. More telescopes are in this one locale than anywhere else on earth. We'll visit the world's largest solar telescope and the Mayall 4-meter telescope. Our docent/tour guide is also a SaddleBrooke resident. Wear comfortable shoes or boots, hat, sunscreen. Bring binoculars and a lunch & drinks for picnic. \$2.00 per person minimum donation; payment to guide no later than 9/13, please. Hike 2 miles; elevation change 200 feet; starting elevation 6,700 feet; leave 7:45 AM; driver donation \$6.00; Bev Caldwell, 825-3071 (mail or "tube it" donations: 37325 S. Border Dr. 85739)

September 20th -- Wednesday. Fifty Year Trail (North End). Rating C. We will start at the end of the paved part of Golder Ranch Road, go north on the 50 Year Trail then loop back. Beautiful saguaros and rock formations. Hike 7 miles; elevation change 800 feet; starting elevation 3200 feet; leave at 8:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00; Bob White, 818-9482

September 21st -- Thursday. Pima Canyon Partway (OH). Rating C-. Hike the first 2 miles up to and into Pima Canyon; trail very rocky in places. Slow pace to enjoy the scenery, take photos. Limit 14. Elevation change 500 feet; starting elevation 2900 feet; leave 7:30 AM; driver donation \$1.00; bring a fanny pack or day pack, snacks if you like, adequate water, hat, sunscreen; Gary Gouvea, 825-3868

September 22nd -- Friday. Incinerator Ridge. Rating C. We will begin at the Palisades Ranger station, climb 400 feet to a saddle then on to the Bigelow Mountain lookout. (8550'). From there we go to the top of Kellogg Mountain (8300') and walk along the ridge to a viewpoint looking towards Barnum Rock and Peck Wilderness. This is one of the premier views off of Mt. Lemmon which truly gives you the concept of a 'sky island'. The pace will be designed to get anyone there who is in reasonable shape. There are a few bail-out points along the way. Hike 5 miles; pace slow; climb 900 feet; altitude at start 8000 feet; leave 7:15 AM; driver donation \$5.00; Jim Strickler, 825-8735

September 23 -- Saturday. Mt. Lemmon/Crystal Spring. Rating B+. This is a car-shuttle hike. The trail starts off Mt. Lemmon Highway just below mile post 25 on Oracle Road (the back road down to the town of Oracle). We leave one car here. Hike down the road 2.3 miles, trail then follows north ridges through oak and juniper trees to Crystal Spring (dry at this time) and continues to Butterfly Trail junction through pine and fir trees. Trail ends at mile post 23 on Mt. Lemmon Highway (second car here). Hike 8 miles; elevation at start 8000 feet; elevation change 1200 feet; leave 7:30 AM; driver donation \$7.00; Grace Clark, 825-8019

September 24th -- Sunday. Phoneline Trail, round trip or one way, your choice. Rating B-/C. The hike will begin in the Sabino Canyon parking lot. After crossing Sabino Creek there is a moderate climb to the Phoneline Trail. The trail is above and generally parallel to the tram road and offers outstanding views of the canyon. The return route will be back along the tram road or ride the tram back down for a C hike. \$6.00 tram fee can be paid to the driver at the embarkation point, stop 9. Have exact \$6, please. Hike 10 miles or 5; climb 900 feet; altitude at start 2700 feet; leave 7:00 AM; driver donation \$2.00; Larry Gray, 818-0337

September 25th -- Monday. 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. Limit 12; hike 2 miles; 100 foot elevation change; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave 8:30 AM; driver donation \$1.00; Gary Gouvea, 825-3868

September 25th -- Monday. Mt. Kimball/Finger Rock Canyon. Rating A. Starting at the north end of Alvernon Way, the trail follows the canyon past Finger Rock, a prominent Tucson landmark high above the canyon floor. The trail steadily climbs out of the canyon to a saddle

between Mt. Kimball and "Little Kimball". A left turn onto the Pima Canyon Trail and a half mile further and hikers arrive at the top of Mt. Kimball. The return hike is down the same trails. Hike 12 miles; climb 4150 feet; altitude at start 3100 feet; limit 12; leave 6:30 AM; driver donation \$1.00; Norm Kyle, 818-0563

September 28th -- Thursday. Josephine Saddle. Rating B. We start in Madera Canyon (Santa Rita Mountains) and go up the Super Trail to Josephine Saddle. Rest there and return on the Old Baldy Trail. This hike can be done in reverse going up the Old Baldy Trail and returning on the Super Trail. Hike 6 miles; climb 1700 feet; starting altitude 5400 feet; leave 7:00 AM; driver donation \$6.00; Karen Gray, 818-0337

September 28th -- Thursday. Haul Road Ridge NW of SaddleBrooke. Rating D. We will hike west along an old 4-wheel drive vehicle road that follows a long ridge NW of SaddleBrooke. The hike begins from off the haul road near the SaddleBrooke Blvd. intersection. The hike contains many desert plants and some moderate views. Limit 15 hikers. Hike 3 miles; elevation change 100 feet; starting elevation 3300 feet; leave 7:30 AM; driver donation 0; Jan Wilson, 818-0299

September 30th -- Saturday. 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 at the saddle then hike down the Marshall Gulch Trail to the picnic area. Hike 4 miles; starting elevation 7440 feet; elevation change 800 feet; leave 8:00 AM; driver donation \$7.00; George Ayuso, 818-0560

Sometime in October climb to "the top of Arizona" with Norm Kyle who'll try to place as many of our club members as possible on top of Humphrey's Peak (12,633'). Rating A. This is a very difficult hike - climbing 3800 feet to the peak - 9 miles roundtrip. One overnight stay in Flagstaff is required. Call Norm at 818-0563 for details.

October 3rd -- Tuesday. Peralta Trail. Rating C+. Peralta Trail to Weaver's Needle in the Superstition Mountains may be the area's most beautiful hike. 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. Slow pace. Bring a lunch and at least 2 quarts of water. Hike 5 miles; climb 1360 feet; altitude at the start 2500 feet; limit 14; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$8.00; Bob Wynne, 825-4056

October 4th -- Wednesday. Hiking Guides Meeting. Javelina Room, 4:00 PM.

October 5th -- Thursday. Bog-Kent Springs Loop Trail. Rating B. We hike from the Bog Springs Campground through three springs areas which are home to bamboo, huge Arizona sycamore, walnut and fir trees. There are great views of Madera Canyon, Green Valley, Kitt peak and Baboquivari from this trail with strenuous, steep climbs in spots. Limit 15 hikers. Hike 6 miles; climb 2100 feet; starting altitude 5000 feet; limit 15; leave 7:00 AM; driver donation \$6.00; Dave Caldwell, 825-3071

October 9th -- Monday. 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; limit 12; leave 8:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00; Norman Kyle, 818-0563

October 10th -- Tuesday. Linda Vista Loop. Linda Vista Loop. Rating D+. Trailhead is 15 minutes from the Mountain View parking lot. We climb 300 ft. in the first 1.5 miles. 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. Pace slow/moderate. Limit 12; hike 3 miles; elevation change 300 feet; starting elevation 2680 feet; leave 7:30 AM; driver donation \$1.00; Bev Caldwell, 825-3071

October 11th -- Wednesday. Wasson Peak/Hugh Norris Trail. Rating B. We will take the Hugh Norris trail in both directions. This is the longest trail to Wasson peak (incredible views at the top) but the climb is gradual and the trail is primarily a ridge trail with spectacular views. Hike 10 miles climb 2100 feet; pace moderate; starting elevation 2800 feet; leave 7:00 AM; driver donation \$3.00; Jim Strickler, 825-8735

October 12th -- Thursday. Seven Falls. Rating C+. Starting at the Sabino Canyon Visitor 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 time of year. Hike 8 miles; climb 900 feet; starting altitude 2800 feet; leave 7:00 AM; driver donation \$2.00; Karen Gray, 818-0337

October 13th -- Friday. Peppersauce Canyon short hike. Rating C-. 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; elevation change 500 feet; altitude at start 4600 feet; leave 9:00 AM; driver donation \$4.00; Jan Wilson, 818-0299

October 14th -- Saturday. Atascosa Lookout. Rating B. 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 15 hikers. Hike 5 miles; climb 1600 feet; altitude at trailhead 4700 feet; pace slow; leave 7:00 AM; driver donation \$4.00; Dave Caldwell, 825-3071

October 16th -- Monday. Peralta Trail. Rating C+. Peralta Trail to Weaver's Needle in the Superstition Mountains may be the area's most beautiful hike. 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. Slow pace. Bring a lunch and at least 2 quarts of water. Hike 5 miles; climb 1360 feet; altitude at the start 2500 feet; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$8.00; Gary Gouvea, 825-3868

October 17th -- Tuesday. Heart of Rocks Loop. Rating B. This loop trail is described in "Hiking Arizona's Cactus Country" as a "...popular route (which) makes a long day loop, visiting the most spectacular rock formations in Chiricahua National Monument." The elevation of the hike runs between 6000 and 7000 feet. There will be an elevation gain of 1405 feet. Total distance is 8.4 miles. Because of the distance to the trailhead we will leave at 6:30 AM and will be gone for most of the day. The hike leader plans to stay over night in the area and do short hikes in the Chiricahua National Monument the next day such as the Natural Bridge Trail. Others may return on the same day if they so desire. Driver donation \$10.00; Bob White, 818-9482

October 20th -- Friday. 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 Visitor Center parking lot. The first part of the trail is somewhat steep then it changes to a gradual, persistent climb. The pace will be slow but steady. Hike 6 miles; climb 1700 feet; altitude at start 2700 feet; leave 7:00 AM; driver donation \$2.00; Jim Strickler, 825-8735

October 21st -- Saturday. Fall Potluck Picnic. Catalina State Park.

October 22nd -- Sunday. Romero Pools, lower. 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 the canyon area where several pools are located. We will have lunch there. \$5.00 park entrance fee (car with up to 4 people) or a pass. Hike 6 miles; climb 1200 feet; altitude at start 2700 feet; leave 7:30 AM; driver donation \$1.00; Larry Gray, 818-0337

October 23rd -- Monday. Window Rock. Rating A. The most direct route is up Ventana Canyon. This is a difficult and steep hike. We start at the parking lot past the employees'

parking lot and take the trail until it intersects with the Esperero Trail then follow that trail to the Window. Hike 13 miles; limit 12; climb 4200 feet; starting elevation 3100 feet; trail is steep; leave 6:30 AM; driver donation \$2.00; Norm Kyle, 818-0563

October 23rd -- Monday. Sweetwater Trail (short version). Rating D. We start from the trailhead at the end of El Camino del Cerro on the east side of the Tucson Mountains. This trail meets the Hugh Norris Trail which goes to Wasson Peak. We will hike approximately half of the Sweetwater Trail. Elevation change is gradual and the pace will be very slow so we can stop to discuss and photograph the many saguaros and other native plants and cacti along this lush desert trail. Bring at least 2 quarts of water, a snack, a hat and sunscreen. Hiking boots and stick recommended. Bring camera and binoculars. Hike 3-4 miles; starting elevation 2800 feet; elevation change 350 ft.; leave 7:00 AM; driver donation \$2.00; Gary Gouvea, 825-3868

October 24th -- Tuesday. 3 for 1 - Baby Jesus, Sutherland & 50-year trails. Rating B-. This hike takes in 3 nearby trails to make a loop trip. The first trail will be the Baby Jesus Trail to the Sutherland Trail. The Sutherland Trail will be followed to the 50-Year Trail which leads back to the starting point of the Baby Jesus Trail. These are 3 popular trails because of their close proximity to SaddleBrooke and because of the variety of plant life as the trail goes from desert washes to rocky overlooks. Hike 11 miles; starting elevation 2800 feet; elevation change is a gradual 800 feet; leave 7:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00; Bob White, 818-9482

October 25th -- Wednesday. Aravaipa Canyon Wilderness - West (short version). Rating C-. Wilderness hiking by special permit. Stream wading, numerous stream crossings (up to knee deep), dense riparian brush. A very special canyon, pristine & natural. No facilities. Wear shorts, socks and shoes (that can get wet) with good traction (for wet rocks). Socks are a must. Bring dry shoes/shorts/shirt for drive home if desired (and a plastic bag for wet items); hiking stick recommended; hike 4-5 miles roundtrip; 200 foot elevation change; pace slow/moderate; limit 10; \$5 per person to BLM at trailhead. Have exact amount. Leave 7:00 AM; driver donation \$3.00; Bev Caldwell, 825-3071

October 26th -- Thursday. Saguaro Park West Ramble. Rating D. There are several short trails of interest in the Saguaro West Park. One trail takes us to an area of petroglyphs which were made by Hohokam Indians about 1200 AD. Bring your lunch. We stop at the Visitor Center for a very informative video. Limited to 14 hikers. Hike 1.8 miles; elevation change 50 feet; starting elevation 2500 feet; leave 8:30 AM; driver donation \$3.00; Jan Wilson, 818-0299

October 27th -- Friday. Romero Pools, lower. 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 the canyon area

where several pools are located. We will have lunch there. \$5.00 park entrance fee (car with up to 4 people) or a pass. Hike 6 miles; climb 1200 feet; altitude at start 2700 feet; leave 8:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00; Jim Strickler, 825-8735

October 27th -- Friday. 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. Limit 12; hike 2 miles; 100 foot elevation change; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave 7:30 AM; driver donation \$1.00; Barb Leightenheimer, 818-1953

October 29th -- Sunday. Blackett's Ridge. Rating B. A relatively short hike between Sabino and Bear Canyons with spectacular views of Tucson and the canyons. We follow the dirt road from Sabino Canyon Visitor Center parking lot. The first part of the trail is somewhat steep then it changes to a gradual, persistent climb. The pace will be slow but steady. Hike 6 miles; climb 1700 feet; altitude at start 2700 feet; leave 7:00 AM; driver donation \$2.00; Larry Gray, 818-0337

October 30th -- Monday. Pontotoc Ridge. Rating B-. Sometimes called the "Old Spanish Mine Trail," this trail goes up the north side of Pontotoc Ridge to just below some old mines. There are great views of Tucson and the surrounding area on this hike. Hike starts at north end of Alvernon Way. Limited to 12 hikers. Hike 5 miles; elevation change 1450 feet; starting elevation 3000 feet; leave 7:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00 Norm Kyle, 818-0563

October 31st -- Tuesday. Canyon Loop Trail (OH). Rating D. Start up Romero Trail in Catalina State Park to Canyon Loop Trail. Come back on the Sutherland Trail. Pace will be slow. Hike 2.5 miles; 400 foot elevation change; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave 8:30 AM; driver donation \$1.00; Dave Caldwell, 825-3071

