



SADDLEBROOKE

HIKING CLUB NEWSLETTER

<http://www.SaddleBrooke.org>

September/October 2002

TRAIL CONSTRUCTION & MAINTENANCE WORKSHOP – SEPTEMBER 28 & 29, 2002

The Arizona Trail Association will hold another of their fun, informative Trail Construction & Maintenance Workshops, in Tucson, on Saturday and Sunday, September 28th & 29th. The Workshop is free to those who commit to the weekend and future trail work.

Who Should Attend?

The Workshop is suitable for all levels of experience. In fact, it benefits everyone involved to have a range of experience among the learners. The mixture of novice, intermediate and advanced skill learners makes for a dynamite learning experience!

What?

This is the seventh in a series of Workshops conducted by the Arizona Trail Association and funded under a grant from the National Park Service. It represents a well-evolved curriculum. All meals are provided. Your Trainers will include highly experienced US Forest Service Trail personnel and seasoned Arizona Trail Association Leaders.

This Workshop will begin 7:30 Saturday morning, September 28th, at the BLM/NPS Fire Command & Training Center (12261 E. Broadway) with a continental breakfast, then spend a couple hours discussing trail planning & design, trail construction and light & heavy maintenance. All will then carpool to the field "lab" site (Mt. Lemmon, near MP 8), where tool safety will be discussed and tools issued. Learners will rotate among three sites – new construction, heavy maintenance and light maintenance, taking a break for lunch, until dinnertime. Then it's back to the Training Center for dinner, some review and a wrap up of the day.

Sunday continues with breakfast at 7:00 AM, and then, after review of event planning and conduct, advocacy, and agency relationships, it's off to the field lab site again. Crews will review the prior day's work, critique and supplement it as

indicated, discussing leadership situations in the process. This will continue until lunch, which will be in the field again, and which is followed by an overall Workshop review, critique, and finally "graduation."

Why Attend?

To have fun. To increase and standardize your trail construction and maintenance skills. To have more fun. To meet others who share your love of the outdoors. To get free food. To test your sunscreen and deodorant.

How to Register or Get more information

Call or E-mail Workshop Coordinator Richard E. 'Rich' Corbett, at 623-0017, or kc7ovm@dakotacom.net. Rich will E-mail (or S-mail) you a registration form which you must return by September 13th. Workshop attendance will be limited to 36 Learners.

New National Parks Bookstore is Resource for Hikers, Travelers and Southwest Enthusiasts

A new 2,100 square foot book store operated by Western National Parks Association opened in May at 12880 N. Vistoso Village Drive in Oro Valley. The store features the area's largest selection of travel and education books, including a special section of books and products for children and adolescents. Western National Parks Association is widely known for its books on national parks, Southwest history, geology, archeology, American Indians, plants and wildlife, maps, field guides and more. In addition, the store carries an excellent selection of authentic American Indian arts and crafts, including Navajo rugs, jewelry, kachinas, pottery, baskets and fetishes.

The not-for-profit association also operates bookstores at 63 national parks in the western United States, and has an online store at www.wnpsa.org with more than 500 items. Sales proceeds support education and research programs of the National Park Service.

The store also has an excellent selection of hiking publications and products, including books, maps and other products (hiking sticks, sun protection items, water bottles and compasses).

The store is open Monday through Saturday. For information call 622-6014. *Directions: Turn west at Oracle Road and Rancho Vistoso Blvd, go left on Innovation Park Drive, then 1/8 mile to the first street on the left.*

Orientation to Orienteering - Class on Compasses & Maps

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 will be a very basic class for beginners that will be held in two parts. In addition, Orienteering Courses (timed course over a series of points) are offered in order to provide a fun and challenging atmosphere to practice the skills learned. It is recommended that Part 1 and Part 2 be completed prior to participating in an Orienteering Course.

All classes will be held in the patio area of the Palo Verde Dinning Room at Mountainview Club House. Please contact Susan Robertshaw at 818-6727 to sign up. Limit of 10.

The sessions on Sunday will be from 7:30 to 10:00. Monday sessions will be from 1:00 to 3:30.

Sunday, Sept. 8th Orientation to Orienteering, Part 1
Sunday, Sept. 15th Orientation to Orienteering, Part 2
Sunday, Sept. 22nd Orienteering Course

Monday, Sept. 9th Orientation to Orienteering, Part 1
Monday, Sept. 16th Orientation to Orienteering, Part 2
Monday, Sept. 23rd Orienteering Course

Sunday, Oct. 6th Orientation to Orienteering, Part 1
Sunday, Oct. 13th Orientation to Orienteering, Part 2
Sunday, Oct. 20th Orienteering Course

Monday, Oct. 7th Orientation to Orienteering, Part 1
Monday, Oct. 14th Orientation to Orienteering, Part 2
Monday, Oct. 21st Orienteering Course

HIKING CLUB PICNIC

Mark your calendars—the Fall SaddleBrooke Hiking Club picnic will be on Saturday, November 9, at Catalina State Park. There is a \$5 per car entry fee, so car pooling is encouraged. There will be hikes in the morning with lunch at 12:00 noon. We are planning door prizes, and Hiking Club Tee shirts can be ordered. Tickets are \$10 per person and will be on sale at SaddleBrooke Country Club on Monday, October 7, from 9:00 am-12:00noon, and at MountainView Country Club on Monday, October 14, from 1:00-3:00 PM. For further information on the picnic, contact Diane Chase at 818-1115.

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.

- The next **Hiking Guide's Meeting** will be on Wednesday, October 2, 2002, at 4:00 PM at the SaddleBrooke Country Club. We need new guides, so come see what it's all about.
- **Social/ Happy Hours** –the September Happy Hour will be at the SaddleBrooke Country Club on Thursday, September 19, at 4:00 PM.

REMINDER—MEMBERSHIP DUES (Due in September 2002)

The hiking club Secretary, Bob Perez, would like to remind all members that the club dues for next year are due no later than September 30, 2002. At that time all memberships will expire for those who have not paid their dues. The \$5 per person dues will cover individual membership until September 30, 2003. There will be no pro-rating this year, so it will be the same fee if members renew in September 2002 or July 2003. Send your \$5 to Bob Perez, 65187 E. Desert Sands Ct., SaddleBrooke, AZ 85739.

New PR Man for the SaddleBrooke Hiking Club

John Robertshaw has graciously volunteered to act as a Public Relations person for the SaddleBrooke Hiking Club. John will provide hiking club articles of interest to community and local media. He is looking for new items and pictures, so if any members have an experience to share with fellow hikers and/or the rest of the community, please contact John Robertshaw, 38900 S. Casual Drive, SaddleBrooke, AZ 85739, 818-6727, jsrobertshaw@worldnet.att.net.

John will also act as a liaison between the SaddleBrooke Hiking Club and the Western National Parks Association located in Rancho Vistoso. We plan some exciting joint functions between ourselves and the WNPA in the future—stay tuned.

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 John Rendall at 825-9395 or by e-mail at tucsonrendall@aol.com.

HIKING GUIDES MEETING/BOARD MEETING

The next Hiking Guides Meeting to schedule November/December hikes will be on Wednesday, Oct. 2nd at 4:00 PM in the Javelina Room, SaddleBrooke 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 would like to do, come anyway just to see how the hikes are scheduled. All club members are encouraged to lead walks or hikes and are welcome to come to the meeting.

SADDLEBROOKE HIKING CLUB OFFICERS

President: Jon Chase - 818-1115
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Vice-President: Bill Leightenheimer
818-1953 billbar2@mindspring.com
Secretary: Bob Perez - 818-2111
AZSUN65@mindspring.com
Treasurer: Linda Bechky - 825-8761
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Rand Wells - 818-0847
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Check out our Newcomer's Orientation Guide on the web (www.saddlebrooke.org) under hiking club.

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 MPH, 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. 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 brisk 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 to meet and talk with others on the hike. The hikes are normally about 1 hour to 1½ hour long and will cover 3 to 4 miles. 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 September is 6:30 AM and October is 7:00 AM. Bringing some drinking water is strongly advised; Kay White, 818-9482.

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 and Friday. Meet at Mountain View clubhouse parking lot. Leave at 6:30 AM in September and 7:00 AM in October, Bill Leightenheimer, 818-1953.

Sept. 6 – 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.

Sept. 7 – Sat. 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 7:30 AM; bring a lunch and 2 qts of water; driver donation \$6.00; Dave Caldwell, 825-3071.

Sept. 8 – Sun. Wilderness of Rocks. Rating B-. Pace moderate. 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 3/4 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 7:00 AM; driver donation \$6.00; Karen Gray, 818-0337.

Sept. 9 – Mon. Oracle State Park Nature Trail. Rating D. This is less than a 2-mile easy stroll through the Oak/Grassland and Riparian areas of this new state park. We'll identify native plants and birds, and look for signs of javelina, coyote, bobcat, mountain lion, and other critters. Hike 2 miles; little elevation change; starting elevation 4500 feet; leave at 7:30 AM; driver donation \$2.00; Jon Chase, 818-1115.

Sept. 11 – Wed. Phone Line Trail with Tram Ride. Rating C. This requires purchase of a tram ticket at \$6. Start at the Visitor's Center, ride tram to Stop Number 9, hike up to the Phone Line trail and then back to the Center. The trail is above and generally parallel to the tram road and offers outstanding views of the canyon - an easy downhill pace with photo opportunities. Hike limited to 15 hikers. Hike 5 miles; climb 900 feet; pace slow; altitude at start 2700 feet; leave at 8:00 AM; driver donation \$3.00; John Robertshaw, 818-6727.

Sept. 13 – Fri. 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 7:30 AM; driver donation \$6.00; Jim Strickler, 825-8735.

Sept. 16 – Mon. 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 7:30 AM; driver donation \$6.00; Gary Gouvea, 825-3868.

Sept. 16 – Mon. 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 7:00 AM; driver donation \$6.00; John Robertshaw, 818-6727.

Sept. 18 – Wed. Oracle State Park Nature Trail. Rating D. This is less than a 2-mile easy stroll through the Oak/Grassland and Riparian areas of this new state park. We'll identify native plants and birds, and look for signs of javelina, coyote, bobcat, mountain lion, and other critters. Hike 2 miles; little elevation change; starting elevation 4500 feet; leave at 7:30 AM; driver donation \$2.00; Jon Chase, 818-1115.

Sept. 20 – Fri. Hutch's Pool. Rating C+. We will take the Sabino Canyon tram both ways. 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.

Sept. 22 – Sun. Josephine Peak. Rating B+. Pace moderate. 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 6:30 AM; driver donation \$6.00; Karen Gray, 818-0337.

Sept. 23 – Mon. 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 3/4 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; Gary Gouvea, 825-3868.

Sept. 25 – Wed. 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.

Sept. 27 – Fri. 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 at 7:30 AM; driver donation \$6.00; Jim Strickler, 825-8735.

Sept. 30 – 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.

Sept. 30 – Mon. Cochise Stronghold to the Saddle. Rating C. This is a beautiful hike through the area (Dragoon Mountains) that Cochise hid in during the Indian wars. He is buried in this area in a hidden location. There is an extension of this hike that expands it to 10 miles for the more advanced hiker. Distance 6 miles; elevation change 1000 feet; starting elevation about 4500 feet; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$10.00; Gary Gouvea, 825-3868.

Oct 1 – Oct 4 Grand Canyon, North Rim Trails; then hike from North to South Rim the last day. Call John for details. John Rendall, 825-9395.

Oct. 4 – Fri. 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 7:30 AM; driver donation \$3.00; John Robertshaw, 818-6727.

Oct. 6 – 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 6:30 AM; pace moderate; driver donation \$6.00; Karen Gray, 818-0337.

Oct. 7 – Mon. Peralta Trail. Rating C+. Peralta Trail to Fremont Saddle viewing Weaver's Needle in the Superstition Mountains. This may be the area's most beautiful canyon. Legend has it that a loner named Jacob Waltz (The Dutchman) found a fortune in gold somewhere within the Superstition Mountains. Dominating the legends and the landscape is Weaver's Needle. The canyon bottom is a jumble of huge, thought-provoking boulders that have tumbled from the cliffs above. It's a steep, rocky trail most of the way. Hike 5 miles; climb 1360 feet; altitude at the start 2500 feet; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$8.00; Gary Gouvea, 825-3868.

Oct. 7 – 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. 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 at 7:30 AM; driver donation \$1.00 plus suggested park donation of \$2.00; bring binoculars; \$5.00 Admission Fee; Mary Richling, 825-5238.

Oct. 9 – Wed. Buffalo Bill Cody Loop. Rating B. This beautiful, historic loop begins at the American Flag trailhead. We will view the 1877 adobe house, then hike up the Arizona Trail to LaCasa del High Jinks, the site where Bill Cody staked his gold mine in 1912. (We will tour the unique stone house if the owner is home.) The hike will continue along the Arizona Trail, joining the Oracle Ridge Trail, then go south to the base of Apache Peak, down to Camp Bonita Ruins and other mine sites, returning to the High Jinks Mine and back to the trailhead via the Arizona Trail. Hike 9 miles; altitude at start 4400 feet; elevation change 1200 feet; pace slow to moderate. Leave at 7:30 AM; driver donation \$3.00; John Rendall, 825-9395.

Oct. 11 – Fri. Oracle State Park Nature Trail. Rating D. This is less than a 2-mile easy stroll through the Oak/Grassland and Riparian areas of this new state park. We'll identify native plants and birds, and look for signs of javelina, coyote, bobcat, mountain lion, and other critters. Hike 2 miles; little elevation change; starting elevation 4500 feet; leave at 7:30 AM; driver donation \$2.00; Jon Chase, 818-1115.

Oct. 14 – Mon. Brown Canyon – Ramsey Canyon Loop. Rating B-. In the Huachuaca Mountains, we hike up Brown Canyon Box trail to a ridge where we drop down into Ramsey Canyon and back to the Visitor Center. This is a great hike. In Brown Canyon, we see mining artifacts and two gravesites. Ramsey Canyon is always a delight with some of the largest Arizona Sycamore trees in Southern Arizona. Hike 8 miles; elevation change 1800 feet; starting elevation 5000 feet; pace slow; leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$10; Gary Gouvea, 825-3868.

Oct. 15 – Tues. Charouleau Gap Road to the Gap plus Charouleau Peak. Rating B+. Starting from the corral below Unit 9 in SaddleBrooke, we will walk to the road and on to the gap, which overlooks SaddleBrooke to the west. The hike will be through desert area and then climb with switchbacks to the Gap. We will then do a strenuous bushwhack up to the peak. We will return via the same route. Hike 10 miles; elevation change 2900 feet; altitude at the start 3200 feet. Leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00; Jim Strickler, 825-8735.

Oct. 16 – 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 7:00 AM; driver donation \$6.00; John Robertshaw, 818-6727.

Oct. 17 – Thurs. Tortolita Mountains/Wild Burro Canyon. Rating C. We will take the Rail-X Marble Mine road off Oracle Highway for 5 miles to the county line, then hike on a jeep road to the windmill and into Wild Burro Canyon. The jeep road will take us to a meadow and corral in the mountains. Weather and hikers' agreeing, we may go further along a wash to a canyon lookout. We may get lucky and see some wild horses. Hike 5

miles if we have enough 4 wheel drive vehicles; climb 600 feet; pace slow to moderate; altitude at start about 3000 feet; leave at 9:30 AM; driver donation \$1.00; Dean Wilson, 818-0299.

Oct. 18 – Fri. 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; John Robertshaw, 818-6727.

Oct. 18 – Fri. Tonto National Monument. Rating C-. A park ranger guided tour hike of the Upper Cliff Dwellings, normally closed and allowed only by reservation. The tour is approx. 3 miles on unpaved, moderate to steep trail with a gain of 600 ft. Time permitting, we will also visit the lower cliff dwelling on our own. This will be an educational experience regarding the life of the Salado Indians (People of the Salt River). National Park Fee - \$3 (without a pass). The monument is approx. 110 miles one way, on good roads and overlooks Roosevelt Lake. Limited to 12 members (3 cars). MUST SIGN UP AT LEAST 3 DAYS PRIOR TO HIKE. Bring lunch, ample water, and a hat. Leave at 7:00 AM; driver donation \$8.00. John Rendall, 825-9395.

Oct. 21 – Mon. Oracle State Park Nature Trail. Rating D. This is less than a 2-mile easy stroll through the Oak/Grassland and Riparian areas of this new state park. We'll identify native plants and birds, and look for signs of javelina, coyote, bobcat, mountain lion, and other critters. Hike 2 miles; little elevation change; starting elevation 4500 feet; leave at 7:30 AM; driver donation \$2.00; Jon Chase, 818-1115.

Oct. 22 – Tues. Besh-Ba-Gowah Archeological Park. Rating D. This hike is located in Globe. The tour guide actually encourages us to wander throughout this 200 room Salado Pueblo, and scamper up ladders to upper stories of this 700-year-old ruin. The museum and garden will give us an even better understanding of this remarkably advanced culture. We may have time for a brief look at the newly opened botanical garden before having lunch. Limit 20; Bring picnic lunch and water. Camera is optional. Rating D; hike 2 miles; elevation change 0; leave at 8:00 AM; driver donation \$8.00 (+\$3 entrance fee or \$2 if over 65); Jan Wilson, 818-0299. Reservations are required.

Oct. 23 – Wed. 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; John Robertshaw, 818-6727.

Oct 23 – Wed. Boulder Ridge Loop. Rating B-. This hike begins and ends in SaddleBrooke. We begin at the NE gate (lot 36), continuing through the yet undeveloped RCI property and crossing the Canada' del Oro just north of the old dam. We cross state trust land (private grazing lease) and quickly enter the Coronado National Forest. Then we head uphill to the northeast, eventually looping back south along the base of the northern end of the Samaniego Mtn. range to the Charouleau Gap 4WD road and back to SaddleBrooke. This is a nice loop with many excellent views and includes a few rocky uphill sections on old jeep roads. Approximately 9 miles; starting elevation 3350';

elevation change 950'. Pick-up cars needed at south end. Leave at 7:30 AM; driver donation \$1.00; John Rendall, 825-9395.

Oct. 24 – Wed. 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.

Oct 25 – Fri. Hidden Canyon. Rating C. This is a beautiful hike to a secluded hidden canyon in the upper reaches of the Sutherland Wash. There are many beautiful rock formations and saguaro cacti. This trail connects to 4432 which connects to the Charouleau Gap Road. Hike 7.5 miles; elevation change 1100 feet; altitude at start 3120 feet. Binoculars, camera, and a hiking stick are recommended. Bring food and water. Leave at 8:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00; Jim Strickler, 825-8735.

Oct. 29 – Tues. Rams Creek Basin. Rating C-. We start from a little park in the Ramsfield subdivision near the Oracle Road crossing of the Canada del Oro. We will hike up an abandoned 4-wheel drive road to some great viewpoints of Vistoso, the Tortolitas, SaddleBrooke and the Biosphere. We then take a short side trail into the basin where we will have lunch, perhaps explore other trails for a short distance and then back to the parking lot. Hike 3 miles, may go further than the 3 miles if everyone wants to go. Will only go as far as slowest hiker wants to go. Bring lunch and water. Camera is optional. Great views on this hike; starting elevation 2700 feet, elevation change 500 feet; leave at 10:00 AM ; driver donation \$1.00; Dean Wilson, 818-0299.