



SADDLEBROOKE

HIKING CLUB NEWSLETTER

<http://www.SaddleBrooke.org>

September/October 2004

2004 - 5

YMCA TRIANGLE Y RANCH

The Fall Hiking Club Picnic this year will be held Saturday, November 13th at the YMCA Triangle Y Ranch outside Oracle. This will be the first time to use this facility. The following is from their web page (www.tucsonymca.org/Camp/camp.htm):

"Nestled in the foothills of the Catalina Mountains outside Oracle, Arizona, YMCA Triangle Y Ranch has a fifty-year tradition of nurturing growth in boys and girls. Just 40 miles north of Tucson at an elevation of 5000 feet, the camp covers 400 acres within the Coronado National Forest. ... The entire Oracle area has a rich history of mining and ranching. At one

time, the Campo Bonito mine, 2 miles away, was one of the richest in all the state. Those who didn't work in the mines, worked on one of the many ranches in the area. Mrs. Elizabeth Lambert Woods, an author of children's books, originally settled on the land where the camp is now located. Here she raised cattle and horses and a small garden to help her live on while she wrote her books. She first lived in the two rooms in the Hawkins Hall. In 1949, she donated the camp's 400 acres to the YMCA of Tucson to operate a children's camp. Mrs. Wood loved children and devoted her life to making them happy."

ASPEN FIRE CLOSURE AREAS NOW OPEN

All trails and recreation areas that were burned in last summer's Aspen fire are now open per the Arizona Star on July 28, 2004.

"The high-elevation, fire-damaged areas on Mount Lemmon will be open for hiking and other recreation, though officials emphasize areas not designated for recreation might not be as safe and should be avoided. The trail corridors have been secured and as many burned trees as possible have been removed. Officials urge extra caution because the areas are still prone to rolling rocks, flash floods with debris, and burned trees falling or branches dropping."

GRAND CANYON HIKES

Susan Robertshaw, Chief Hiking Guide

Are you interested in experiencing the awe inspiring walls and canyons of the Grand Canyon up close and personal? As you have seen in the newsletters, John Rendall has been offering Backpack Trips in the Grand Canyon Area and will be doing one of the most difficult trails (Nankoweap) in the Canyon this October. Bill Leightenheimer did the Arizona Trail on the North Rim. Dean and Cheryl Werstler will be leading several guides down to Havasu Falls this September so we can explore that area for future "B" hikes. We also have been exploring the trails up on the Rims in order to be able to offer "C" hikes.

In addition, we are beginning to reserve spaces at Phantom Ranch at the bottom of the Canyon. Phantom Ranch provides lodging for hikers. Group reservations at Phantom Ranch in the canyon are accepted the 1st of each month, for the entire month, 23 months in advance (i.e. on June 1, 2004 they accept requests for any nights you want to reserve during the month of May 2006). A 50% deposit is required up front with the remaining 50% due 90 days prior to stay. At the April 7, 2004 board meeting, the decision was made to pay the deposits for the trips from our club account until closer to the individual trip when the participants would reimburse the club.

In order to be able to offer a trip **earlier than 2006**, we contacted the Phantom Ranch Group Reservations and requested we be notified of any cancellations they might have. The September 2004 trip is due to a cancellation. In the March/April Hiking Club Newsletter, I requested club members contact me if they were interested in hiking the Grand Canyon. Several members responded and are already set to go on the Sept. 2004 trip. We are making a list of interested members for future trips. These members will be contacted if we are successful in our further attempts to reserve another spot at Phantom Ranch due to a cancellation. Please email me at jsrobertshaw@att.net if you are interested.

AWARDS - LETTERS AND PATCHES

The SaddleBrooke Hiking Club has a recognition system that presents "Letters of Recognition" and "Patches" to members who have reached certain milestones.

Our Club awards "Letters of Recognition" for:
10 Hikes and 25 Hikes:

Our Club awards "Patches" for:
50 Hikes, 100 Hikes, 250 Hikes, and 500 Hikes

NEW HIKING GUIDE

We are pleased to welcome Elisabeth Wheeler as our newest Hiking Guide. She has been actively involved with our hiking club and will be a great asset. Watch for her "Pusch Peak" hikes.

A THANK YOU AND A WELCOME

A special thank you to Andrea Gray who has been our Editor. She has given a great deal of her time helping with our newsletter. In addition, we want to welcome Sally Sample aboard. She has volunteered to be in charge of our merchandise sales. Thanks Sally! Thanks Andrea!

GENERAL HIKING INFORMATION

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

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

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

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

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

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

Choosing Hikes: Hikes are more difficult than a walk in SaddleBrooke due to elevation change and our Arizona terrain. It is not unusual to encounter rocks, unsteady ground, and steep inclines. It is your responsibility to choose an appropriate hike that matches your physical abilities. The

hike description is a great tool. Look closely at the length, elevation change, and comments in the description to determine if a hike is within your physical ability. If you aren't feeling "up to snuff" on the day of the hike, don't hesitate to cancel until a better day.

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

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

HIKE RATINGS, PACE, AND SYMBOLS

Rating

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

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

Slow Pace – Average speed of hike < 1.5 MPH

Moderate Pace – Average speed of hike 1.5 to 2.5 MPH

Fast Pace – Average speed of hike > 2.5 MPH

Symbols

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

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

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

FITNESS WALKS – FIVE DAYS A WEEK

Maintain your fitness or get into better shape by joining us for a morning fitness walk. Enjoy the company of other hikers

while perusing SaddleBrooke. The sessions last about one hour and are suitable for walkers of all ability levels. Occasionally, the Tuesday/Thursday group plans a 3-4 hour hike outside the SaddleBrooke boundaries. One-week advance notice is given. Wear comfortable walking/athletic shoes. Remember sunblock, a hat and water.

Mon/Tue/Wed/Thu/Fri Group - 6:00 a.m.

Meet at SaddleBrooke CC by basketball court.

Bill Leightenheimer 818-1953

Tues/Thurs Group - 6:00 a.m.

Tuesday: Meet at MountainView Clubhouse parking lot.

Thursday: Meet at SaddleBrooke Tennis Center parking lot.

Judy Barenkopf 825-7077



Sept. 1 – Wed. Phoneline 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 parallels the tram road. It offers outstanding views of the canyon. We will choose between three routes back, the tram road, the same trail, or back part way on the same to trail to a connecting trail that takes us down to the creek and dam and back to the parking lot. Hike 10 miles; elevation change 900 feet; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at 7:00 a.m.; driver donation \$3.00. Wayne Kennedy, 818-1812.

Sept. 1 – Wed. Wasson Peak/King Canyon. Rating B. We start at the trailhead near the Arizona/Sonora Desert Museum and go up the King Canyon Trail. We pass the Mam-A-Gah Picnic area and continue to the saddle where we meet the Sweetwater Trail. Then for the next mile or so it's a steep climb to the junction of the Hugh Norris Trail. From there is a short uphill climb to the summit. From the top you can see all of Tucson to the east, south through Green Valley, north to Picacho Peak and west to Sells. Hike 8 miles; elevation change 1900 feet; starting elevation 2800 feet; leave at 6:00 a.m.; driver donation \$3.00. John Robertshaw, 818-6727.

Sept. 3 – Fri. Honey Bee Canyon. Rating D. We will walk Honey Bee Canyon at Vistoso. We'll see Hohokam petroglyphs, grinding holes, and pioneer adobe ruins. For those exploring Honey Bee for the first time this is a real eye opener. Hike 2 miles; elevation change 200 feet; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at 8:00 a.m.; driver donation \$1.00. Bob Wynne, 825-2974.

Sept. 3 – Fri. 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. Hike 5 miles; elevation change 2700 feet; starting elevation 2650 feet; leave at 6:00 a.m.; driver donation \$1.00. Elisabeth Wheeler, 818-1547.

Sept. 4 – Sat. Mt. Lemmon to the Ski Lift. Rating C+. From the foot of the ski lift, we will walk the roadway to the top of Mt. Lemmon. We will take the Meadow Trail to the junction with the Mt. Lemmon Trail, then back up to Mt. Lemmon Rock (outstanding views), back to the top, and then down the Aspen Draw trail to the point of beginning. Hike 6 miles; elevation change 700 feet; starting elevation 8400 feet; leave at 7:00 a.m.; driver donation \$6.00. Jim Strickler, 825-8735.

Sept. 7 – Tue. Mount Hopkins. Rating A. Mount Hopkins in the Santa Ritas is the home of the Whipple Observatory. Hike starts from the Madera Canyon trail parking area (upper). The hike goes up numerous steep switchbacks via the Vault Mine Trail to the Aqua Caliente Saddle. It then continues up a faint "lung bursting" route that hugs the ridgeline to the top. The views include mountain ranges in all directions. We will lunch at the top then hike part way down the road, drop down a steep descent to Josephine Saddle and finally down Old Baldy Trail. This is a tough hike due to route conditions and steepness. Hike 8 miles; elevation change 3185 feet; starting elevation 5400 feet; leave at 5:30 a.m.; driver donation \$6.00. John Robertshaw, 818-6727.

Sept. 9 – Thu. Romero Springs. Rating B. Starting in Catalina State Park, we will follow the Romero Canyon trail. Along the way we will pass by the Montrose and Romero pools. The spring is located about 2 miles past the Romero pools. It is a very scenic section of the canyon. It has been known to have quite a bit of wildlife. Hike 10 miles; elevation change 2200 feet; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at 6:00 a.m.; driver donation \$2.00. John Robertshaw, 818-6727.

++Sept. 10 – Fri. 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. We stop at the Visitors Center for a very informative video. Bring lunch, water, sunscreen and hat. Hike 2 miles; elevation change 50 feet; starting elevation 2500 feet; leave at 7:00 a.m.; driver donation \$3.00. Jan Wilson, 818-0299.

Sept. 10 – 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 8:00; driver donation \$1.00. Jon Chase 818-1115

Sept. 11 – Sat. Mt. Wrightson - Old Baldy Trail. Rating A. Hike up the Old Baldy Trail to the summit and come down the same way. This is the shortest route to the top (9453') of Mt. Wrightson. At the top are 360-degree views from Tucson to Mexico. This is a shady all day hike to an outstanding mountain. Hike 11 miles; elevation change 4000 feet; starting elevation 5400 feet; leave at 5:30 a.m.; driver donation \$6.00. John Robertshaw, 818-6727.

****Sept. 16 & 17 – Thu. & Fri.** Grand Canyon With Stay at

Phantom Ranch. Experience the awe inspiring walls and canyons of the Grand Canyon up close and personal. Hike down the South Kaibab Trail and stay overnight at Phantom Ranch. Next day hike out on the Bright Angel Trail. Approximate cost \$250 to \$300. Hikes 6.7 miles/9.6 miles; elevation change -4860'/4460'; starting elevation 7200'/2460'; leave at 7:00 a.m.; driver donation \$35. Additional fees for accommodations and food. John Robertshaw, 818-6727. (Hike is already full.)

Sept. 17 – 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; elevation change 500 feet; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at 7:00 a.m.; driver donation \$2.00. Jan Wilson, 818-0299.

Sept. 20 – Mon. 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 8:00 a.m.; driver donation \$2.00. Bob Wynne, 825-2974.

Sept. 21 – Tue. Arizona Trail Work Day-Tucson Wash/BlackHills. Rating B. This is a work session on our section of the ARIZONA TRAIL (north of Oracle State Park) for which we have responsibility to maintain. We will be working on several areas where the switchback's have re-routed and inspecting the first 5.5 mile for additional sessions. All tools will be provided as well as refreshments. Join the group and learn a few trail building/maintenance skills at the same time. This is very pretty section with rolling hills and valleys. If time allows we will hike to the area of a rare site (Two large Double-Barrel Cacti growing next to one another). Also, you will want to take pictures of the numerous Saguaro and Barrel Cacti on the hillsides. Leave 7:30 a.m.; no driver donation. John Rendall 825-9395.

++Sept. 22 – Wed. Tohono Chul Park and Tea Room w/Lunch. Rating D. A desert preserve of 48 acres bordered by Oracle, Ina and Paseo del Norte Roads. 1-hr.docent-led tour surrounded by native plants and desert landscape in an "aviary without walls". Demonstrations gardens, hummingbird garden, ethnobotanical garden, geologic recreation of the Santa Catalina Mtns. Also: Exhibit House, Gallery & gift shops. Optional: breakfast, lunch or tea at Tea Room. Leave to return to SaddleBrooke 2:30 p.m. There is an admission fee of \$5.00. Wear comfortable shoes, hat, and sunscreen; bring a bottle of water. Hike 1.5 miles; leave 8:00 a.m.; driver donation \$1.00. Mary Richling, 825-5238.

Sept. 22 – Wed. Blackett's Ridge. Rating B. This hike takes you up to a ridge between Sabino and Bear Canyons. It has spectacular views of Tucson and the canyons. We hike through lower Sabino Canyon to the Phoneline Trail. After 0.4 miles we turn onto the Blackett's Ridge Trail where we begin the ascent. This trail has several series of steep switchbacks mixed in with some level areas. There are three

false summits at the top. Hike 6 miles; elevation change 1700 feet; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at 7:00 a.m.; driver donation \$3.00. Wayne Kennedy, 818-1812.

Sept. 23 – Thu. 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. Hike 3 miles; elevation change 500 feet; starting elevation 9157 feet; leave at 7:00 a.m.; driver donation \$6.00. Jan Wilson, 818-0299.

Sept. 24 – Fri. Pima Canyon to the Saddle. Rating A. 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; elevation change 3450 feet; starting elevation 2900 feet; leave at 6:00 a.m.; driver donation \$1.00. John Robertshaw, 818-6727.

Sept. 27 – 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; elevation change 900 feet; starting elevation 4500 feet; leave at 6:30 a.m.; driver donation \$6.00. Mary Richling, 825-5238.

Sept. 27 – Mon. Mt. Lemmon to SaddleBrooke (via CDO). Rating A. The hike will lead down from the west side of Mt. Lemmon to several adjoining trails and continue along a section of the Arizona Trail (also called Canada'del Oro). Eventually we will join up with the old 4WD road (FR736) and hike up to the back side of Charouleau Gap and back down to SaddleBrooke. Drivers will be needed for drop off at Mt. Lemmon. LIMIT 8 (plus 2 non-hiking drivers). Hike 18.7 miles; elevation change, drop to 3250' then gain 1020 feet; starting elevation 9120 feet; leave at 6:00 a.m.; driver donation \$6.00. John Rendall, 825-9395.

Sept. 28 – Tue. 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. Because this is an all day trip (140 miles to the Monument), those wishing to, will stop for dinner at a very good, reasonable Italian Restaurant in Benson on the way back. Hike 8.4 miles; elevation change 1400 feet; starting elevation 6780 feet; leave at 6:00 a.m.; driver donation \$10.00. Jim Strickler, 825-8735.

Sept. 29 – Wed. Rice Peak. Rating A. Hike up Peppersauce Canyon from the campground to the Oracle Ridge then follow part of the Arizona Trail to Rice Peak. Interesting "peppersauce conglomerate" in Peppersauce Canyon, great views along Oracle Ridge and interesting conglomerate rock on the peak. Superb views from the peak to the San Pedro River and the Galiuro Mountains beyond. Hike 10.0 miles; elevation change 3000 feet; starting elevation 4600 feet; leave at 6:00 a.m.; driver donation \$4.00. John Robertshaw, 818-6727.

Sept. 30 – Thu. Oracle to SaddleBrooke. Rating A. This hike originates on the outskirts of Oracle and enters the Coronado Nat. Forest, proceeding south through the north end of the Santa Catalinas. We arrive at the high point of Charouleau Gap (12-mile point) and continue back to SaddleBrooke-Unit 9 via the 4WD-trail road. This is a very nice part of the Catalinas, with great views and rugged terrain. We pass many campsites along the Canada'del Oro and view Coronado Camp (adobe construction). We finish at 3248 feet and have numerous up/down situations. Our highest elevation is 5090 feet at the Gap. Hike 17 miles; elevation gain 2494 with drop of 3910 feet; starting elevation 4664 feet; leave at 6:30 a.m.; driver donation for drop off transportation \$2.00. John Rendall, 825-9395.

Oct. 1 – Fri. The Romero Pass. Rating A. This hike begins in Catalina State Park and follows an up and down trail past Romero Pools and Romero Springs to Romero Pass. Steep uphill section the last 2 miles. 7.5 miles climbing and 7.5 miles descending. Hike 15 miles; elevation change 3300 feet; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at 6:00 a.m.; driver donation \$2.00. John Robertshaw, 818-6727.

Oct. 3 – Sun. 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 and then loop back. Beautiful saguaros and rock formations. Hike 7 miles; elevation change 800 feet; starting elevation 3200 feet; leave at 7:00 a.m.; driver donation \$1.00. Susan Robertshaw, 818-6727.

Oct. 3 – 5, Sun. – Tue. Buckskin Gulch/ Paria River backpack. Rating B+. This hike is a 2 day-1 night backpack through some of the most gorgeous slot canyons in the world. We begin by driving 7 hours to the AZ-Utah border and camping at the Arizona Trail-State Line Camp Ground. The next day, Day One- starts with a short drive to the Wire Pass TH, and hiking down through the Wire Pass slots to Buckskin Gulch. We continue through the slots of the Gulch to the Confluence of the Paria River and set up camp about a mile downstream. As an option and time allowing some may want to hike/explore further down and return back before nightfall. Day 2 -we will pack up and head north through four miles of the "Paria Narrows" and then on to the White House TH. At this point some may continue on to the Grand Canyon-North Rim/Nankoweap backpack trip or go to a motel and head home the next day. This backpack hike does depend on good weather conditions and requires backpacking skills as we will be crossing river/creeks and hiking through water (possibly swift with some quicksand); narrow and deep slot canyons; bouldering with ropes for a couple of small 10 to 15 foot drops. The conditions change each year depending upon the summer monsoon rains; we will get the latest report at the ranger station as we pick up our reserved permits. Elevation

Change is minimal-not over 600' starting at 4600 feet. Total Distance is 16 to 20 miles depending upon our option the first day. Two-4WD/4WD vehicles required. Limit 6 people. Leave at 6:00 a.m.; driver donation TBD. John Rendall, 825-9395.

Oct. 5 – Tue. 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 "birdseye" view to the west of the many hills between SaddleBrooke and Oracle. We will have snack/lunch and then return. Hike 7.4 miles; we will hike through an area effected by the Aspen fire; elevation change 1200 feet; starting elevation 4400 feet; leave at 7:00; driver donation \$3.00. Sandra Sowell, 818-0995.

Oct. 6 – Wed. Wasson Peak/Sweetwater Trail. Rating B. We start from the trailhead at the end of El Camino del Cerro on the East Side of the Tucson Mountains. From there we hike up through some of the prettiest Saguaro forests in the area. Along the way there will be good views of Tucson and Wasson Peak. At the saddle where the trail joins the King Canyon trail we continue on up to Wasson Peak. Views are spectacular from this highest point in the Tucson Mountains. Little shade. Hike 9.2 miles; elevation change 1800 feet; starting elevation 2900 feet; leave at 7:00 a.m.; driver donation \$3.00. Wayne Kennedy, 818-1812.

Oct. 6 – 9, Wed. – Sat. Nankoweap Trail (North Rim of The Grand Canyon) backpack. Rating A++. This trail is described as a rigorous rim to river hike for experienced backpackers only, tracing the most difficult and demanding trail in the Grand Canyon. Our first day we will drive to the North Rim and set up camp near the TH. Day One-We start down the steep trail and will cache water and food at Tilted Mesa Ridge, then continue on to Nankoweap Creek and set up camp (good water). Day 2-continue down to the river and visit the rapids and Early American Ruins; returning back to our Nankoweap campsite (long day) Day 3- Begin the long steep trek up to Mesa Ridge and set up camp or continue on to our TH, depending on conditions-most likely we will not try to make it back on day 3; but rather enjoy the canyon sunset views from our tents. Day 4- Continue the trek back to our original TH. Conditioning is a must as this is a very strenuous hike on a non-maintained trail, with some boulder scrambling and serious cliff edge exposures. Aside from this, it's a once in a lifetime experience with spectacular sites and views for picture taking, making it all worthwhile. Leave at TBD. Driver donation TBD. John Rendall, 825-9395.

++Oct. 8 – Fri. Canyon Loop to Montrose Pool. Rating D. This hike goes through a nice Sonoran Desert area in Catalina State Park up to the Montrose Pools, then returns. We will fork onto the Birding Loop at the end. Depending upon the season, some water crossings are possible. Hike <4 miles; elevation change 200 feet; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at 7:00 a.m.; driver donation \$2.00. Mary Richling, 825-5238.

Oct. 8 – 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 8:00; driver donation \$1.00. Jon Chase 818-1115

Oct. 12 – Tue. Honey Bee Canyon. Rating D. We will walk Honey Bee Canyon at Vistoso. We'll see Hohokam petroglyphs, grinding holes, and pioneer adobe ruins. For those exploring Honey Bee for the first time this is a real eye opener. Hike 2 miles; elevation change 200 feet; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at 8:00 a.m.; driver donation \$1.00. Bob Wynne, 825-2974.

****Oct. 12 – Tue.** 1st of a 4-part series of day hikes on the Arizona Trail through the entire Catalinas. Rating A. This car shuttle hike is rolling with moderate up and down elevation changes starting at The Lake southeast of Bellota Ranch. Here the Arizona Trail heads west to West Spring, crosses Molino Creek into Molino Basin Campground, comes into old Prison Camp, and continues to Sycamore Reservoir and on to Sabino Basin. From there we hike 2 miles south on Sabino Canyon Trail to Tramstop 9 and ride the tram to the Sabino Canyon Visitors Center parking lot. Hike 15.1 miles; elevation change 1,100 feet; starting elevation 4,000 feet; leave at 5:30 a.m.; bring \$6 for the tram ride; driver donation \$6.00. Dean & Cheryl Werstler, 825-9057.

Oct. 13 – Wed. David Yetman Trail. Rating C. This hike is an easy walk through typical vegetation of the Sonoran Desert. This trail has two trailheads – one at Camino de Oeste and one near the bottom of the west side of Gates Pass. We can leave cars at one end and drive to the other trailhead. We pass the Central Arizona Project, an old stone house built in the early 1930's by Sherry Bowen, and a well that is a wildlife watering tank. Bring lunch, water, hat, sun lotion, and hiking stick, if you wish. Hike 5.4 miles; elevation change 600 feet; starting elevation 2800 feet; leave at 7:00 a.m.; driver donation \$3.00. John Robertshaw, 818-6727.

Oct. 15 – 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. Park entrance pass required. Hike 4.2 miles; elevation change 2100 feet; starting elevation 1500 feet; leave at 7:00 a.m.; driver donation \$6.00. John Robertshaw, 818-6727.

Oct. 16 – Sat. Anza Trail - Tubac to Tumacacori. Rating C-. The hike will commence at Tubac Presidio State Historical Park and terminate at Tumacacori National Monument. We will be making river crossings, but there are wooden bridges (no hand rails), so we shouldn't get wet feet. Sneakers are okay for this hike. Lunch in Tumacacori at Wisdoms' Cafe. Bring \$ for lunch, shopping, and \$3 or Golden Age Pass for entrance to Tumacacori Historic Park. Shopping will be after lunch, if your driver is willing. Hike 4.5 miles; minimal elevation change; starting elevation 3200 feet; leave at 7:00 a.m.; driver donation \$6.00. Jan Wilson, 818-0299.

Oct. 16 – Sat. 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; elevation change 800 feet; starting elevation 7440 feet; leave at 7:30 a.m.; driver donation \$6.00. Jim Strickler, 825-8735.

****Oct. 17 – Sun.** Deer Camp/Baby Jesus Loop. Rating B-. **FOR "C" HIKERS.** We will start in the 50-Year Trail area. We hike up toward Deer Camp then take the Middle Tank Connecting Trail to the Baby Jesus Trail and hike back to our cars. This area has little traffic and is a delight to the senses. Hike 8.25 miles; elevation change 900 feet; starting elevation 3200; leave at 7:00 a.m.; driver donation \$1.00. Susan Robertshaw, 818-6727.

Oct. 19 – Tue. Rams Creek Basin Rating C We start from a little park in the Ramsfield Pass 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. We take a short side trail into the basin to a watering tank (560 ft. elevation gain), then continue on to a water fall where we will have lunch. Return via same route. Hike 5 miles; elevation change 1000 feet; starting elevation 2600 feet; leave at 7:00 a.m.; driver donation \$1.00. Jan Wilson, 818-0299.

Oct. 19 – Tue. Aravaipa Canyon Wilderness – Booger Canyon. Rating A. The hike will take us halfway through the beautiful Aravaipa Canyon then north up through Booger Canyon. We will be in ankle to knee deep water for the first 5 miles and then scrambling for another mile or two as we climb large boulders while exploring Booger Canyon. The sights from the top of the canyon are gorgeous and the fall colors should be outstanding. Depending upon how quiet we are; we may see Golden Eagles, Coati, Gila Monsters, or Big Horn Sheep. Two pair of shoes are recommended - one for water; one for canyoneering. The hike will be limited to 8 people; \$5 per person permits must be reserved in advance & are non-refundable. Must sign up two weeks prior to hike. Hike 13 miles; elevation change 600 feet; starting elevation 2600 feet; leave at 6:00 a.m.; driver donation \$5.00. John Rendall 825-9395.

Oct. 20 – Wed. Garwood Dam. Rating C. This is a slow easy hike in the desert of the Saguaro National Park-East. The pace will be set by the group; no rush. We will hike in the cactus forest of the Park across mostly level terrain. There is some climbing as we near the dam. Our destination is a dam with a history in the foothills of the Rincon Mtns. Hike 6.5 miles; elevation change 250 feet; starting elevation 2800 feet.; leave at 7:00 a.m.; driver donation \$4.00. John Robertshaw, 818-6727.

****Oct. 21 – Thu.** 2nd of a 4-part series of day hikes on the Arizona Trail through the entire Catalinas. Rating A. This car shuttle downhill hike starts on Mt. Lemon near the Trico Electric transformer station. We will catch the view from Lemon Rock Lookout then proceed down the Mt. Lemon Trail through Romero Pass and on to the West Fork Sabino Trail. We will have lunch at Hutch's Pool, continue to Sabino Basin, hike 2 miles south on Sabino Canyon Trail to Tramstop 9, and ride the tram to the parking lot in Sabino Canyon. Hike 13.2

miles; elevation change 5,500 feet; starting elevation 9,100 feet; leave at 6:00 a.m.; bring \$6 for the tram ride; driver donation \$6.00. Dean & Cheryl Werstler, 825-9057.

****Oct. 22 – Fri.** Elephant Head and Little Elephant Head. Rating B+. We will climb Little Elephant Head at the beginning of the hike. Elephant Head is the craggy massive rock on the west side of the Santa Ritas. The rock is mentioned in Apache legend of the area. The hike starts out along a gentle mountain road but after about 2 miles there is some tough bushwhacking across Chino canyon and then rock scrambling to get to the top. On the way back we must cross Chino canyon again! Dress defensively and bring gloves. Hike 9.5 miles; elevation change 2000 feet; starting elevation 4600 feet; leave at 7:00 a.m.; driver donation \$5.00. John Robertshaw, 818-6727.

Oct. 23 – Sat. Outreach Walk-a-thon. Rating D. Come support one of our fellow organizations within SaddleBrooke by joining in their walk around Ridgeview. In addition to calling the hiking guide, you will need to register with Outreach. Watch for details in the newspaper. Meet at the SaddleBrooke Fitness Center. A breakfast and award ceremony follow the walk. Hike 3 miles; minimal elevation change; starting elevation 3200 feet; leave at 8:00; no driver donation. Judy Barenkopf, 825-7077.

Oct. 25 – Mon. 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 8:00 a.m.; driver donation \$2.00. Bob Wynne, 825-2974.

Oct. 26 – Tue. 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; elevation change 450 feet; starting elevation 4350 feet; leave at ; driver donation \$2.00. Sandra Sowell, 818-0995.

****Oct. 26 – Tues.** 3rd of a 4-part series of day hikes on the Arizona Trail through the entire Catalinas. Rating A. To complete this segment of the Arizona Trail it is necessary to begin on Mt. Lemon near the Trico Electric transfer station, loop around west on the Sutherland and Samaniego Ridge Trails, go North on the Canada del Oro Trail, cross over going southeast on the Red Ridge Trail to the Oracle Ridge Trail, and go south on Oracle Ridge back up to Mt. Lemon, ending at the Mt. Lemon Control Road near the Fire Station. By approaching the segment in this direction, we descend rather than ascend the steep switchbacks between Samaniego Ridge Trail and the East Fork of the Canada del Oro Trail. The climb from Dan Saddle to the Control Road is a more gradual grade rising 1,100 feet in 2.5 miles. Hike 15 miles; elevation change 3,150 feet; starting elevation leave 6:00 a.m.; driver donation \$6.00. Dean & Cheryl Werstler, 825-9057.

Oct. 27 – 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 _ mile round-trip hike to the upper pools. We will have lunch there. Park entrance pass required. Hike 6 miles; elevation change 1200 feet; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave at 7:00 a.m.; driver donation \$2.00.

Wayne Kennedy, 818-1812.

****Oct. 27, 28 & 29 – Wed., Thu. & Fri.** Sierra Ancha Wilderness/Tonto National Forest. Rating C. The Sierra Ancha Wilderness offers some of the most scenic hiking in central Arizona, as well as a variety of vegetation. We will hike in the higher areas around Aztec Peak within the ponderosa pine and Douglas fir forests. We will stay 2 nights at Pleasant Valley Inn in Young, AZ which is northeast of Roosevelt Lake in a valley below the Sierra Ancha Wilderness. The inn offers separate motel rooms at \$60 per room/per night (plan 2 people per room). All rooms have refrigerator with freezer section, microwave and coffee pot. Estimate on food is \$60. Plan on packing your lunch for first day. High clearance vehicles needed. Three "C" hikes (one each day). Hikes 4 to 8 miles each; elevation change 500 to 1500; starting elevation 5100'; leave at 7:00 a.m.; driver donation \$20.00. Jan Wilson, 818-0299.

Oct. 28 – Thu. 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. Hike 5 miles; elevation change 2700 feet; starting elevation 2650 feet; leave at 7:00 a.m.; driver donation \$1.00. Elisabeth Wheeler, 818-1547.

Oct. 29 – Fri. 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 elevation change 2100 feet; starting elevation 2800 feet; leave at 7:00 a.m.; driver donation \$3.00. John Robertshaw, 818-6727.

****Oct. 30 – Sat.** Peralta Trail to Promontory. Rating C+. Peralta Trail to Fremont Saddle and a promontory 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. After reaching the Fremont Saddle, we will hike another half mile out to the end of a nearby promontory, for an even closer look at Weaver's Needle. Hike 6 miles; elevation change 1360 feet; starting elevation 2500 feet; leave at 7:30 a.m.; driver donation \$8.00. Jim Strickler, 825-8735.

Oct. 31 – Sun. Hidden Canyon via Fifty Year Area. Rating C. This is a beautiful hike to a secluded hidden canyon in the upper reaches of the Sutherland Wash. There are many beautiful rock formations and saguaro cacti. Hike 7.5 miles; elevation change 800 feet; starting elevation 3200 feet; leave at 7:00a.m.; driver donation \$1.00. Susan Robertshaw, 818-

****Nov. 2 – Tues.** 4th of a 4-part series of day hikes on the Arizona Trail through the entire Catalinas. Rating A. We start this car shuttle hike at the Mt. Lemon Control Road near the Fire Station and progress down the Oracle Ridge Trail to Dan Saddle to pick up the Arizona Trail. After 3 more miles, the trail joins up with an old mine road and we go around the base of Rice Peak. The mine road becomes FR 4483 and continues another 4.5 miles past Apache Peak. We then leave the Oracle Ridge Trail heading east on American Flag Trail which ends after 2.5 miles on Oracle-Mt. Lemon Rd. Hike 14.8 miles; elevation change 3,550 feet; starting elevation 9,100 feet; leave 7:00 a.m.; driver donation \$6.00. Dean & Cheryl Werstler, 825-9057.

Nov. 13 – Sat. Fall Hiking Club Picnic at the YMCA Triangle Y Ranch outside Oracle. Ticket sale information and times will be announced. Watch for further information.

SaddleBrooke Hiking Club

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND RELEASE

NAME: _____ AGE: _____ SEX: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

Your name, phone number and e-mail address will be listed in the membership directory.

Do you want your address listed in the directory: Y/N

\$5.00 Annual Dues must accompany this Application.

The release below must be read and signed by all members.

Mail To: Bob Perez, 65187 E Desert Sand Court, Tucson, AZ 85739

UNCONDITIONAL RELEASE OF ALL CLAIMS (SaddleBrooke Hiking Club)

1. The undersigned individual ("Hiker") states his/her intention to participate in hikes organized or sponsored by the SaddleBrooke Hiking Club ("Club").
2. Hiker acknowledges and agrees that the SaddleBrooke Hiking Club does not maintain any liability, medical, property or other insurance for the benefit of Hiker in connection with the hikes and he/she assumes all responsibility and risk of injury or illness in connection with or participation in the hikes.
- 3 - Hiker does hereby and unconditionally release, remise, and forever discharge, waive and acquit the SaddleBrooke Hiking Club and all of its members, directors, officers, hiking guides, employees and agents (collectively, Released Parties), and any other person, firm, corporation or entity which may be liable or responsible for the Released Parties, with respect to the Trips, including, but not limited to 21 SaddleBrooke Homeowners Associations #1 and #2.
4. Hiker represents and warrants that no representations have been made to him/her by or on behalf of any of the Released Parties to influence or induce the execution of this Release other than contained herein, and that he/she has fully read this Release and has executed the same upon independent advice and counsel of his/her own choosing, agreeing to release the Released Parties as provided herein.
5. Hiker acknowledges that he/she is capable of participating in and completing a hike of beginning/intermediate /advanced difficulty as defined by the SaddleBrooke Hiking Club ratings system which Hiker acknowledges having read and understood and further acknowledges that he/she has no known medical or other condition which could be damaged or aggravated in any way by participation in such level of difficulty. Hiker assumes the responsibility of informing the leadership of the Club in writing of any change in his/her hiking ability or of any incipient medical condition which would in any way limit or endanger participation in such hikes. Hiker acknowledges sole responsibility for insuring he/she does not attempt hikes which difficulty level exceeds that asserted in this Release.
6. This Release contains the full and complete understanding and agreement of the parties and supersedes all prior understandings or agreements whether oral or in writing, relating to the subject matter contained herein
7. In the event legal proceedings are commenced between the parties to this agreement for the matters contained herein then each party in such action shall be responsible for and pay its own expenses and attorneys' fees. In the event of any dispute, venue shall be the courts of Pinal County Arizona and this Release shall be governed by the laws of the State of Arizona.
8. This Release shall be continuing and shall remain in full force and effect until cancelled at will by either party upon proper written notice to the other. Notice posted by the U. S. Mail to the Hiker at his/her residence address in SaddleBrooke shall be deemed completed notice to him/her.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Hiker has executed this Release effective as of (date) _____, for the benefit of the Released Parties.

(SIGNATURE OF HIKER)

(PRINT NAME)