



SADDLEBROOKE

HIKING CLUB NEWSLETTER

<http://www.SaddleBrooke.org>

November/December 2000

2000-6

Board Notes by Jon Chase

PAYBACK TIME?? WHY NOT VOLUNTEER?
Earlier this year, it was the consensus of the Board of Directors of the SaddleBrooke Hiking Club that the club should become actively involved in some civic/community services on a volunteer basis. Specifically identified were Trail and Park Maintenance and the Adopt a Highway Program. The Trail and Park Maintenance program would involve such activities as painting, cleanup and maintenance at State Parks or specific trails under the direction of the proper authority. The Adopt a Highway Program requires cleanup of assigned two-mile sections of roads/highways under the supervision of the state or county.

Recently several SBHC members have indicated that Oracle State Park has a real need for volunteer services, and that the Friends of Oracle State Park would like to meet with us to set up programs that would benefit both Oracle State Park and the SaddleBrooke Hiking Club.

All of these are worthy causes that the Board would like to pursue. In May, the Communications Committee sent an inquiry to all SBHC members asking for volunteers. To date only 20 people have volunteered (excluding Board and Committee members and Hiking Guides). With a membership of almost 400, this is unsatisfactory!

The hiking experiences in Southern Arizona are some of the best in the world, and through the SaddleBrooke

Hiking Club our members can participate and enjoy these at an exceptionally low cost. Don't you think it's time to give something back? We need volunteers! To volunteer contact Jon Chase at 818-1115 or jon.chase@prodigy.net. We will also have a sign up sheet at the fall picnic on October 21st at Catalina State Park. Hope to see you there!

Hiking Guides Corner with Gary Gouvea

HIKING GUIDES NEEDED We need more hiking guides to lead our hikes as we move into the peak hiking season. Anyone interested should call or email me (825-3868 or GandMGouvea@cs.com.) The guide's basic duties are fairly simple: getting the club members to the trailhead and leading the members on the hike safely. Guides must keep track of the members and periodically check on them to make sure they are physically okay. In a larger group, the guide should specify one of the members to bring up the tail end.

For those of you who may worry about the responsibility carried by a guide -- don't. It's pretty easy especially if you select a trail that you are familiar with. Call me and let me persuade you to at least try it. I will send you more detailed written hiking guide instructions.

Our next guides meeting will be Wednesday, December 6 at 4:00 PM in the Javelina Room in the SaddleBrooke Clubhouse. You should decide on the hikes you want to lead and send your schedule to me a

week or so ahead of that meeting. At the meeting we add last minute hikes and resolve any conflicts on dates.

Tips for your hiking safety and comfort:

1. Estimate the amount of water you think you will need, given trail conditions, weather and your own personal need, then double that amount. You can't bring too much water!
2. Wear a wide brim hat or one that has a drape-down flap on the back that covers your neck and ears. It should also have a chin strap that can be "cinched-up."
3. If you know you will be hiking in grassy areas wear a pair of gaiters which cover the top of your shoes and extend to just below the knee. They keep burrs and other seeds from going into your shoe.
4. In addition to your lunch, bring some munchies such as raw veggies, energy bars, gorp (a mix of nuts, grain, dried fruit and the like) and whatever else you might like as a treat.
5. Bring a whistle, the kind referees use, in case you get lost.
6. Apply a good sunscreen. Anything less than SPF 30 doesn't give you complete protection.

Let's go hiking!

On the Trail *with no one*

On the Trail authors needed Please 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

Coming soon! **Fall Potluck Picnic** at Catalina State Park – October 21st to be exact. It will be in the same group area as before from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Contact our Social Chairperson, Blossom Silberman, to offer your help (blos76@aol.com) or 818-0796. Club will provide 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. All toys like balls and Frisbees or musical equipment like kazoos, harmonicas or guitars are welcome! (No boom boxes, accordions or drums...in fact, leave the kazoos at home, too.) Our first two picnics were great successes. Come join the fun! Delicious food pretty much guaranteed; impromptu hikes encouraged. Please email or phone Blossom with a "yes" if you are planning to attend so she has some idea of how many to expect. Thanks.

Club T-Shirts

It's fall and the beginning of a new hiking season. To celebrate, we're offering new colors for the long and short sleeve SaddleBrooke Hiking Club T-shirts in cotton and poly cotton. The shirts will have the smaller, black only logo on the front left hand side and the full-size color logo on the back. Samples will be available to view at the picnic but no sales or orders will be taken at that time. An order form is included with each mailed newsletter and one has been sent to each member on the email list. Please complete the form and send by *October 30th * to Linda Bechky, 65709 E. Mesa Ridge Ct., Tucson, AZ 85739. Your orders may be picked up at Eileen Sedgwick's, 36395 S. Boulder Crest Dr. between 3-5 p.m. on either November 15th or November 16th.

Upper Sabino Canyon Road Closed for Repairs

From September 25th through November the Sabino Canyon tourist shuttle will end at Shuttle Stop 5, about 2.5 miles from the visitor center. You may continue on your own as far as Stop 8 which is about 1/2 mile from the end of the road. Phonline Trail must be accessed from the visitor center or via the Bear Canyon loop trail.

Communications Committee Retires

The club needs volunteers to fill this important position. It's a fun and creative way to help in an important capacity. The main job of the committee is the writing, publication and distribution of this newsletter - both print and email editions, maintaining the Hike Database, and providing updates of information to the webmaster for the hiking club's web page. Please contact Norm Kyle at 818-0563 (email at: Norm.kyle@worldnet.att.net) or Dave or Bev Caldwell at 825-3071 (email at: jdc@azstarnet.com.)

Gearing Up from Summit Hut

The following "Gearing up For..." clinics are offered by **Summit Hut**, 5045 East Speedway, Tucson, (325-1554). They are free and open to the public. Pre-registration is encouraged. Please call now if you want to attend. Both will be at 10:30 a.m.

~ November 4th "**Gearing Up For...Going Light**", a course on lightening pack weight through techniques and technology.

~ December 2nd "**Gearing Up For...Technical Clothing Systems**", a course on layering with current technical clothing systems to maximize comfort and security in different weather situations.

~ **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.

Reminders

The next **Hiking Guides Meeting** to schedule January - February hikes is on December 6th 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 the scheduling gets done. All club members are encouraged to lead walks or hikes and are welcome to come to the meeting.

English Lesson - FYI

From Webster's New World Dictionary CD, the word 'desert': "an uncultivated region without inhabitants; wilderness or a dry, barren, sandy region, naturally incapable of supporting almost any life." Guess of Webster never got to Tucson.

More from Webster's CD:

Gully: a channel or hollow worn by running water; small, narrow ravine.

Gulch: a steep-walled valley cut by a swift stream; deep, narrow ravine.

Ravine: a long deep hollow in the earth's surface especially one worn by the action of a stream; large gully; gorge.

Gorge: a deep, narrow pass between steep heights.

Canyon: a long, narrow valley between high cliffs, often with a stream flowing through it.

Wash (one of many definitions): in the western U.S., the dry bed of a stream which flows only occasionally usually in a ravine or canyon.

You may be tested on this material while standing in the Mountain View parking lot the very next time you show up for a hike. Pass or fail, you are still welcome to go on the hike.

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 12/6/00)

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 December 6th. 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.

Tuesday, Oct. 31st, Canyon Loop Trail
Tuesday, Nov. 14th, Canyon Loop and Birding Trail
Friday, Dec. 1st, Honey Bee Canyon

Summary of Hikes by Rating and Date:

A Hikes -- Nov 13, 17 and 27
 Dec 11 and 19
B Hikes -- Nov 2, 6, 11, 14, 16, 21, and 30
 Dec 5
C Hikes -- Nov 3, 9, 10, 13, 18, 20 and 25
 Dec 1, 4, 9, 14, 15 and 29
D Hikes -- Nov 14
 Dec 1, 7 and 21

SCHEDULED HIKES

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

November 2nd -- Thursday. 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. Limit 14 hikers. Hike 10 miles; climb 2100 feet; starting elevation 2800 feet; leave 7:30 AM; driver donation \$3.00; Bob Wynne, 825-4056

November 3rd -- 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; altitude change 1200 feet; altitude at start 4400 feet; pace slow; leave 8:00 AM; driver donation \$3.00; Jim Strickler, 825-8735

November 6th – Monday. Pusch Peak. Rating B+. 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; altitude at start 2650 feet; leave 7:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00; Bill Leightenheimer, 818-1953

November 9th – Thursday. 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; altitude change 1200 feet; altitude at start 4400 feet; pace slow; leave 7:30 AM; driver donation \$3.00; George Brunder, 825-6691

November 10th – Friday. King Canyon Loop. Rating C+. Starting from a parking area near the Desert Museum we will hike up the Kings Canyon Trail to the Sweetwater Saddle. Our return will be down the trail to Mam-a-Gah picnic area then down the dry wash where petroglyphs can be viewed. This is an interesting wash where wildlife can sometimes be seen. Bring lunch, camera (great views from the saddle), water, jacket & hiking stick (optional). Hike 4.6 miles; 1000 foot elevation change; starting elevation 2800 feet; leave 8:00 AM; driver donation \$3.00; Jan Wilson, 818-0299

November 11th – Saturday. 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; leave 7:00 AM; driver donation \$6.00; Dave Caldwell, 825-3071

November 13th – 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; climb 4200 feet; starting elevation 3100 feet; trail is steep; leave 6:30 AM; driver donation \$2.00; Norm Kyle, 818-0563

November 13th – Monday. Pontatoc Canyon to the Amphitheater. Rating C. Hike in 2.5 miles from the trailhead at the end of Alvernon Way. Good views of the city and Finger Rock. Hike 5 miles; climb 1200 feet; altitude at trailhead 3100 feet; leave, 7:30 AM; driver donation \$1.00; Gary Gouvea, 825-3868

November 14th – Tuesday. 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 7:30 AM; driver donation \$6.00; Bob Wynne, 825-4056

November 14th – Tuesday. Canyon Loop Trail and the Birding Trail (OH). Rating D. Start up Romero Trail in Catalina State Park to Canyon Loop Trail. Come back on the Sutherland Trail. Following this we will hike the Birding Trail. Pace will be slow. Limit 15 hikers. Hike 3.5 miles; 400 foot elevation change; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave 8:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00; Jan Wilson, 818-0299

November 16th – Thursday. Romero Pools (Upper). Rating B. The hike begins in Catalina State Park and follows the Romero Canyon Trail into the foothills. Initially the trail crosses open desert then there is a steep climb until it reaches the canyon area where several pools are located. The upper pools are about 1/2 mile beyond the lower pools. Hike 7 miles; climb 1600 feet; altitude at start 2700 feet; leave 7:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00; Walt Faleschini, 818-6644

Prison Camp to Sabino
November 17th – Friday. ~~Box Camp Trail~~. Rating A. Starting at Mt. Lemmon Highway trailhead (just past Spencer Canyon campground); it will be all down hill (well, almost) to the tram at Sabino Canyon (if the tram is not running we will have to go down the Phoneline Trail to the Visitors Center). We'll bypass Box Springs, stop for lunch near Apache Springs, descending from pines through oaks and manzanita to the saguaros. In the opinion of many, this is the finest, most spectacular top to bottom hike in the Catalinas. Need volunteers to

leave a car at Sabino Canyon. Hike 10 miles; descend 4800 feet; starting elevation 8000 feet; leave 6:30 AM; driver donation \$6.00; Bill Leightenheimer, 818-1953

November 18th -- Saturday. Brown Mountain. Rating C. Brown Mountain Trail is a trek along a ridge in the heart of the Tucson Mountains. It starts in a picnic area near the Arizona Sonora Desert Museum. Along this "ridge ramble" are excellent views of the mountains, valleys and desert vegetation. This is a good hike for people new to hiking. Hike 5 miles; climb 400 feet; pace slow; altitude at trailhead 2700 feet; leave 8:00 AM; driver donation \$3.00; Jim Strickler, 825-8735

November 20th -- Monday. Cochise Stronghold to the saddle. Rating C. This is a beautiful hike through the Dragoon Mountain area 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. Bring at least 1 liter of water. Limit 16 hikers. Hike 6 miles; elevation change 1000 feet; starting elevation about 4500 feet; leave 7:00 AM; driver donation \$10.00; Gary Gouvea, 825-3868

November 21st -- Tuesday. Pusch Peak. Rating B+. 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; altitude at start 2650 feet; leave 7:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00; Norm Kyle, 818-0563

November 25th -- Saturday. Guthrie Mountain - Santa Catalina Mountains. Rating C. The hike will start at the General Hitchcock Campground. We will go up the Green Mountain trail to the saddle and then to Guthrie Mountain and return. Limit 15 hikers. Hike 6 miles; climb 1200 feet; elevation at start 6000 feet; leave 7:00 AM; driver donation \$5.00; Dave Caldwell, 825-3071

November ~~27th~~ ³⁰ ~~Monday~~ ^{Thursday} 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; leave at 6:30 AM; driver donation \$1.00; Bill Leightenheimer, 818-1953

November 30th -- Thursday. 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 7:30 AM; driver donation \$1.00; George Brunder, 825-6691

December 1st -- Friday. Honey Bee Canyon (OH). 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 hikers. Hike 2 miles; 100 foot elevation change; starting elevation 2700 feet; leave 9:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00; Jan Wilson, 818-0299

December 1st -- Friday. Boulder Canyon Trail. Rating C. This trail takes one up high enough to get a tremendous view of the mysterious Superstition Mountains. Your camera is a must on this hike. We also get a great view of Canyon Lake. Bring 2 quarts of water and lunch. Hike 6 miles; elevation change 1500 feet; leave at 8:00 AM; driver donation \$5.00; Jim Strickler, 825-8735

December 4th -- Monday. 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 7:00 AM; driver donation \$2.00; Gary Gouvea, 825-3868

December 5th -- Tuesday. Squaw Peak and Camelback. Rating B. These two well-traveled trails are both in the central Phoenix mountains with beautiful views to all areas of the Valley. We will do the easier Squaw Peak trail first which is 1.2 miles (2.4 roundtrip) with a climb of 1190 feet on a good improved trail with many switchbacks. We will then drive a very short distance to the Camelback trailhead. This trail is only 1.16 miles (2.32 roundtrip) but climbs 1300 feet. It is a very steep hike with many large rocks to scramble over as well as slippery dirt and gravel. Gloves are

recommended. The two hikes back-to-back the same day are guaranteed to give a challenging aerobic workout. Limit 10 hikers. Pace slow. Hike 4.72 miles; elevation change 2490 feet (2 hikes total); elevation at start 2000 feet; leave 7:00 AM; driver donation \$7.00; Walt Faleschini, 818-6644

December 6th -- Wednesday. Hiking Guides Meeting. 4:00 PM, Javelina Room.

December 7th -- Thursday. 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

December 9th -- Saturday. Sweetwater Trail to the saddle. Rating C. 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. We end at the saddle where the trail joins the King Canyon trail. The King Canyon trail goes down to the Desert Museum or up to Wasson Peak. We will have lunch at the saddle before heading back to the trailhead. Limit 15 hikers. Hike 6.4 miles; elevation change 1200 feet; elevation at start 2800 feet; Leave 7:30 AM; driver donation \$3.00; Dave Caldwell, 825-3071

December 11th -- 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; climb 4200 feet; starting elevation 3100 feet; trail is steep; leave 6:30 AM; driver donation \$2.00; Bill Leightenheimer, 818-1953

December 14th -- Thursday. 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. Limit 14 hikers. Hike 5 miles; climb 1360 feet; altitude at the start 2500 feet; leave at 7:30 AM; driver donation \$8.00; Bob Wynne, 825-4056

December 15th -- Friday. Charouleau Gap Road - Short version. Rating C. Starting from Lago Del Oro just outside of SaddleBrooke we will hike on the jeep (ORV) road to the picturesque table rock for lunch. The hike will be through desert area filled with huge granite boulders and outcroppings. Return on the same road. Great views of your SaddleBrooke home. Bring binoculars. Hike 8 miles; elevation change 900 feet; starting elevation 3200 feet; leave 9:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00; Jim Strickler, 825-8735

December 19th -- Tuesday. 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; leave 7:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00; Norm Kyle, 818-0563

December 21st -- Thursday. Boyce-Thompson Arboretum. Rating D. Tour this 300+ acre state park arboretum with us. 50 acres of nature paths, towering trees, cacti, mountain cliffs, a streamside forest, a desert lake and panoramic views. \$5.00 park entrance fee or a pass (car with up to 4 people). Limit 15 hikers, bring lunch. Hike 1.5 miles; little elevation change; round trip drive 200 miles; leave 8:00 AM; driver donation \$10.00; Jan Wilson, 818-0299

December 29th -- Friday. Sutherland Trail from Catalina State Park. Rating C. A nice trail ending in a very scenic, flat, rocky area with views of the valley and SaddleBrooke. We start at the Catalina State Park Trailhead. Hike 6 miles; elevation change 1000 feet; altitude at start 2700 feet; leave 9:00 AM; driver donation \$1.00; Jim Strickler, 825-8735

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 street address listed in the directory: Y/N

\$10.00 Annual Dues must accompany this Application and it must be signed.

Mail To: Bob White, 38122 S. Granite Crest, Tucson, AZ 85739 with \$10.00 and a SASE

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") during the Hiking Year of July 1, 1999 to June 30, 2000.
 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 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)