



SADDLEBROOKE

HIKING CLUB NEWSLETTER

<http://saddlebrookehikingclub.com>

JULY/AUGUST

2023

BOOT PRINTS ROB SIMMS

Submitted by Diana Smith



Hiking in Death Valley National Park

Photo by Myrna Simms

Rob Simms is a numbers guy. He likes facts, figures, and statistics. He enjoys puzzles and projects and is always ready to try something new, even when it falls outside his comfort zone. Dedicated to his family and loyal to his school, he has reinvented himself more than a few times over the years.

Rob grew up in Grand Rapids, Michigan, in a self-described “blue-collar” family; his only brother still lives there. Originally pursuing a degree in forestry

from Michigan State University, Rob discovered an affinity for accounting, eventually earning his MBA. He served four years in the United States Air Force working with telecommunications systems controls in mobile “crypto” vans for long haul operations.

He has been married to Myrna for thirty-five years, whom he met at Michigan State University. After graduation, the couple stayed in East Lansing, both working at MSU for thirty-two years. Rob also served two years on the Board of Education for the Haslett School District. They have three grown daughters in Warren, Michigan; Memphis, Tennessee; and San Jose California - two of the three also went to MSU. Rob and Myrna are currently “semi-parenting” two adult granddaughters who now live in Tucson.

In Michigan, Rob was an avid bicyclist, logging about 2,000 miles a year. He made multiple rides from Lansing to Mackinaw ranging from 280-400 miles. There, he belonged to local bike clubs and led numerous rides. Here in Arizona, Rob and Myrna are “obsessive” daily walkers, logging about thirty-five miles each week; they have walked and hiked a whopping 13,000 miles since 2010!

Rob is an avid reader, primarily interested in mysteries and other fiction, as well as some historical non-fiction, particularly about WWII. His favorite writer is Robert Stieves, the recent SBHC guest speaker and editor in chief of Arizona Highways magazine, which he reads cover-to-cover every month. Rob regularly reads the New York Times, Washington Post, and Arizona Daily Star online; but he has no social media accounts whatsoever.

Rob’s interests are numerous and varied. He is an organizer who thrives on numbers and statistics and LOVES using Microsoft Excel!!! (Who doesn’t love a good spreadsheet?). Although he doesn’t speak the language, Rob prefers Spanish and Latin music. He enjoys DIY projects such as repairing irrigation systems, installing low voltage lighting, electrical and plumbing, so it comes as no surprise that “This Old

House” is among Rob’s favorite TV shows, along with “Sunday Morning” and “60 Minutes”. And according to Myrna, he has become a New York Times “Spelling Bee” addict!

Rob enjoys watching and closely follows Michigan State University football and basketball, noting that MSU was the only Big 10 team to make it to the Sweet Sixteen in this year’s NCAA tournament! Although he is not a golfer, Rob enjoys watching it on TV.



Photo by Myrna Simms

In 2022, Rob and Myrna cruised the Eastern Mediterranean visiting Turkey, Israel, Cyprus, Italy (including Pompei), Sorrento, and the Amalfi Coast. A few years ago, they enjoyed the abundant wildlife in the Galapagos Islands, even getting to meet the 100-year-old tortoise, Lonesome George.

Rob enjoys great food and is an adventurous eater willing to try multi-cultural dishes. His most memorable dining experiences range from wild ramps sauteed in butter topped with bits of rabbit and a soft-boiled quail egg at the famed French Laundry in Yountville, California; to Sonoran hotdogs at El Guero Canelo in Tucson; to La Posada in Winslow. He loves Southwestern and Mexican food - the spicier the better - as well as sustainably caught wild seafood. According to Rob, his favorite local

restaurant, The Grill at Hacienda Del Sol, boasts an amazing wine list.

Despite never having hiked before he retired in 2010, Rob worked to conquer his minor fear of heights and crossed the Grand Canyon twice, staying overnight at Phantom Ranch. Rob became a guide in the Sun City Hiking Club in 2011, where he and Myrna had a seasonal home until 2014. He worked on membership and their website, helping to develop a new hike posting system using Google Calendar, moving away from paper. He later worked with Dave Corrigan to implement the system for SBHC.

Rob became a hiking guide with SaddleBrooke Hiking Club in 2014 and still guides about twice a month, mostly C/D hikes, with the occasional B thrown in. He is happy to report no rattlesnake encounters so far this year! Some of his favorites are the Lost Dutchman Loop, Molino Basin on the AZT, La Milagrosa Canyon, and Gardner Canyon near Sonoita where historic hydro-mining equipment can still be seen.

Rob served as Associate Chief Guide (2016-2017), Chief Guide (2017-2018), and Vice President (2019-2020) becoming the SBHC President in 2020-2021 just as the Covid pandemic was descending. He was instrumental in suspending hikes and membership dues for a year. While he sees more technology and automation in the future of SBHC, Rob feels it is especially important to make sure the “right people get on the right hikes”. He hopes the club’s membership continues to expand, bringing in new SaddleBrooke residents and more younger people.

Rob’s contributions to the SBHC can’t be adequately expressed in facts and figures, but there’s no doubt he’s Number One in the hearts of the many hikers who have crossed his path. And if you haven’t already shared a trail with him, now’s the time to get your name on his hike spreadsheet!

HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS ON WEBSITE

Submitted by Ken Wong

Over the years, artifacts have been regularly posted to the website that document the Club’s many activities and events. However, up until recently, we have been missing club newsletters from the inaugural edition in 1999 thru the January-February edition for 2005.

That has now changed thanks to club founder and first President Bill Leightenheimer who provided us with his personal copies which have now been scanned and posted under the section titled, “Archives: Newsletters”. This completes the entire set of newsletters from 1999 to the present!

Additionally, a new page has been added to the General Archives section of the website; and it is titled, “Historical Documents”. It contains, among other artifacts, a letter written by Bill Leightenheimer in March of 2016 documenting the founding of the club. It is a very interesting read – look at it when you get a chance. Here is the link:

[FOUNDING-OF-CLUB-03-28-16.pdf](#)
([saddlebrookehikingclub.com](#))

Also posted to the “Historical Documents” page is a chronological listing of all club officers from 1999 to the present. This document will be updated on an annual basis and serves as recognition to the many who have led our club over these past 24 years. Here is the link:

[SBHC-HISTORICAL-OFFICER-LISTING-05-28-23.pdf](#) ([saddlebrookehikingclub.com](#))

OBSTACLE COURSE HIKE

Submitted by Ruth Caldwell

Eight SaddleBrooke Hiking Club members headed up on May 3 to seek the crisp clear air of Mount Lemmon. What came as a big surprise to most was the number of downed trees across the trail on the Marshall Gulch/Aspen Loop.



The heavy snowfall this past winter, coupled with the 2020 damage from the Big Horn fire took its toll. In the four-mile loop there were over 20 downed trees across the trail! Most had a detour around already, but there were still some over and under challenges.

All in all, hikers had a great time enjoying the tall pines and running water. Hikers included: Maria Szentirmai, Arlene Daigle, Johanna Pawelczyk, Karen Schickedanz, Barb Rutt, Kurt Wallin, Tim Butler, and guide Ruth Caldwell.

PHOTO FROM HIKE TO JOSEPHINE SADDLE

Submitted by Seth Basker



From the left: Terry Hughes, Sandy Basker, Sharon Hughes, Tami Williams, Seth Basker

ONLINE DUES PAYMENTS

Submitted by Arlene Daigle and Dianna Wilson

We previously announced the rollout of online dues payment capability for our club. This tool will make it easier for both you and new members to remit payments, thus streamlining what has been a very manually intensive process. The system has been operational for several weeks and is working very effectively. Thank you to the members who have used it.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Here are answers to questions regarding the system and process:

1. What is the start date for online payments?
 - The system is operational and ready for use.

2. Is this available for both existing members and new members?
 - The system is set up for both renewal of dues for existing members and for initial club enrollment by new members.
3. How do I make an online payment?
 - To make an online payment, go to the website and click on the "JOIN SBHC" page. You will then be led step by step through a simple process requiring input of information, your agreement to the claims release, and your remittance submittal. This can be done on your home computer as well as a remote device such as a smart phone or tablet.
4. What cards are accepted?
 - Cards currently accepted include Visa, Mastercard, American Express, Discover, Diners Club, debit cards, and others.
5. Are multiple year payments still available?
 - The option to pay for 1, 2, or 3 years is still available.
6. Can I pay for more than one person in a single transaction?
 - Only one person can be processed per transaction, so repeat the process for multiple inputs.
7. Will I receive confirmation and a receipt for my payment?
 - Upon submittal of payment, you will receive 2 emails: one is a confirmation of payment and the second is a receipt.
8. How long does it take to process my payment?
 - Our Membership Coordinator will have near real time updates on your transaction.
9. Will dues be raised?
 - Dues will remain at \$10 per year.
10. Why do I have to agree to the waiver of liability for a renewal?
 - This serves to facilitate the transition to a paperless system for the club, and integrates active membership with a current waiver approval, as some active members still have not submitted the updated waiver form.

11. How can I obtain my dues status or what if I have a question?

- Contact our Membership Coordinator, Dianna Wilson, at:

diwilson1life@gmail.com

12. Will we still get renewal reminders?

- In the fall we will remind members of the dues payment deadline of December 31. At that time a member listing with dues status will be posted to the website.

13. Is the system safe?

- Our club website is fully secured with the highest level of protection offered by our website host GoDaddy. Additionally, with the introduction of the new online payment module, we have added Managed SSL (Secure Sockets Layer), also through GoDaddy. SSL protects your private information by ensuring that your connection to the website is both secure and encrypted. Finally, the club has no visibility of your full credit card number.

14. Can I still renew with cash or check?

- Renewals by cash or check are still options, although we strongly prefer online payments to optimize the overall dues renewal and new member onboarding process. Mail or deliver your payments to the Membership Coordinator per the directions posted to the website on the Hiker Information page, "SBHC Dues Process".

PALISADES TRAIL OFFERS COOL BREEZES

Submitted by Lynda Green

Down a dirt road about three quarters of the way up Mt. Lemmon, five Saddlebrooke hikers parked by the Palisades trailhead and proceeded down a long path to a secluded lunch stop. On May 22, summer heat was building in the valley; but here the group found cooling breezes for most of the five-and-a-half-mile trek.

Guide Tim Butler led four others through pine forest and then more open ground sporting manzanitas with other low-growing trees. In typical 'Butler' fashion, he carried a set of clippers to clear some of the overgrowth on this trail, which has had relatively low use since the Bighorn Fire. His followers especially

appreciated his trimming of certain 'stiletto' agaves that threatened the legs in narrow passages.



Maria Szentirmai, Lynda Green, Steve Gallagher, and Guide Tim Butler
Photo by Linda Bailey

After a long descent, the hikers arrived at a large rock with some shade beside the 'Palisade' cliffs that gave the trail its name. Here, they enjoyed rest and a quick lunch.

The way up proved challenging. They climbed the 1,319 feet of elevation slowly, taking many breaks for water and electrolyte chews. A refreshing breeze followed them back to the beginning. The Palisades Trail, they decided, offers great and varied views of Tucson and of the surrounding mountains. It just needs more traffic. And perhaps more clippers.

ELEMENT3 HEALTH PARTNERSHIP

Submitted by Barbara Rutt

We are excited to share that we have a new partnership with Element3 Health that is a win-win for club members and our club. During the pandemic, health plans realized that staying social and having fun is actually good for you! Element3 Health works with UnitedHealthcare Insurance Company (the only

provider currently a partner) to keep their members physically, socially, and mentally active in clubs like ours.

Through our partnership with Element3 Health, any SBHC member who is a member of UnitedHealthcare Medicare Advantage, or Supplement Plans can help the club earn money when you participate in a club-related activity. There is no cost at all to you - in fact, the funds you earn for the club will help offset expenses such as our twice-a-year picnics or administrative tools such as our new online payment system, thus keeping our dues from increasing!

Here are the 3 simple steps to get you onboard with Element3:

1. If you are a UnitedHealthcare member, confirm your eligibility by clicking on the following link: e3hfun.com/sbhiking. You will be asked to fill in some basic information including your UnitedHealthcare health plan membership ID number. Important - your name must be the name as printed on your United Healthcare Insurance Company card. Also, to be provided is your date of birth and phone number. When your eligibility is confirmed with Element3 Health, you will then receive a Welcome Letter in an email welcoming you to the program. You will then receive a second email with an activity tracking link. This activity tracking link is what you will use to log your activities with our club (SBHC).
2. Participate in club activities with other SBHC members. Examples so far for 2023:
 - Hikes, Fitness Walks, Meetings (includes Board, Guide & Committee meetings) - all with multiple dates.
 - Guide 1st Aid Training (1-13), AZT Maintenance (1-18, 2-15, 3-8), Club Programs (1-18, 2-16, 3-15), Club Trip to Borrego Springs (hikes 1-31, 2-1, 2-2) & (dinner 2-1), Activity Fair (2-4), Orientation to Hiking Presentation (2-7), Club Picnic (3-17), Volunteer Appreciation Event (4-20)
 - Social activities such as mahjong and/or card games for SBHC members only
3. Record your activities using the activity tracking link sent to you in an email from Element3 Health. This can be done after each event, or you

can choose to batch record on a weekly or monthly basis. ***IMPORTANT NOTE: Element3 will reimburse the club for 10 activities a month per member starting with January 1, 2023, so take credit for all your participation to date!***

The next steps are taken care of systemically. As you record your activities in your Element3 account (step 3 above), your health plan will pay Element3 who will in turn transfer funds to SBHC's bank account. We will receive \$1 dollar for each activity that you participate in up to 10 activities a month. If a SBHC member is also a member of another club that participates with Element3 Health, only the club that you choose to document your activity with that month will receive funds. You can split your completed 10 activities between 2 or more clubs, but only a total of 10 activities a month is credited.

If you have questions about this program, you can reach out to the club's Element3 Coordinator, Barb Rutt, at:

barbrutt@bellsouth.net
or call Element3 Health at 833-906-1700

We hope you choose to participate in this worthwhile program and help our club. Thank you!

CLUB TRIP: SPRING 2024
SAVE THE DATE
April 16-18, 2024
Submitted by Rob Simms

Your Trip Committee has been hard at work and is pleased to announce that the Club's Spring 2024 Trip will be to the Page, Arizona area under the leadership of Dale Leman.



The area around Page, Arizona, offers some of the finest hiking and scenic attractions in the Southwest,

including Upper and Lower Antelope Canyons, Buckskin Gulch, Horseshoe Bend, and beautiful Lake Powell. Dates for the hikes are April 16-18, 2024.

Currently, the hike schedule, lodging accommodations (Arlene Daigle), group dinner (Heather Davis), and pre-trip potluck are all works-in-progress. An announcement with complete information for the trip will be sent to the membership later this summer.

MURAL WALK
MAY 19, 2023
Submitted by Kathy Minx

Wow – what a great mural walk we had on May 19. Our group - Jennifer Shafer, Dianne Monza, Lori Anderson, Kathy Jensen, Linda Linegar, Cathy Monroe, and leader Kathy Minx - headed downtown at 7:30 a.m. to see over 50 murals and have lunch at The Cup Café.

While we were walking along 6th Avenue, we spotted the scaffolding for famed muralist Joe Pagac who was working on a new mural at the CBD Dispensary. We took a detour from the usual tour to see if he was there. We were in luck!



Joe Pagac's Scaffolding and Mural



Hiking group with Joe Pagac

Tucson Guide magazine noted that Joe Pagac is a native Tucsonan. He has been painting murals in Tucson for 14 years and has painted some of the Old Pueblo's most famous murals.

After studying and traveling the world, Pagac still takes his inspiration from the Sonoran Desert but enjoys keeping his art a little surreal and whimsical.

“When you're a muralist, every wall is a good spot for a mural,” Pagac said. *Epic Rides*, one of Pagac's most famous Tucson murals, features desert critters and a woman riding a bike, whose dress flows into a crimson and apricot colored desert, while her dark hair absorbs into the night sky (see below).



Joe Pagac's Epic Ride mural is a 4000 square foot bicycle mural on the side of Epic Rides at Stone And 6th Street in Tucson, AZ.

Epic Rides was fully funded by the Tucson community through a Kickstarter campaign that

raised \$21,616 from 302 Tucsonans in 24 days—well over Pagac’s \$18,000 goal.



While there are many rewards of painting a giant mural that will greet visitors and offer a warm hello to locals, Pagac said it’s the sense of fulfillment that stands out the most.

WELCOME NEW SBHC MEMBERS

Submitted by Dianna Wilson

Warm welcome to the seven new SBHC members! We now have 647 active members, 30 of which are guides. Many thanks to all who have tried the new online registration and renewal system! Happy Hiking.

John Bechman
 Brenda Lecocq
 Linda McAllen
 Lani Michael
 Sally Nadeau
 Seth Rosenblum
 Teresa Woodhouse

Future Trips

Destination	Dates	Contact Person
Santa Fe, NM	Oct. 3, 4, & 5 2023	Tim Butler
Page, AZ	April 16-18, 2024	Dale Leman

News You Can Use

SBHC Board Meeting HOA 1 – Coyote Room	8/2 Wed.	2:00 P.M.
SBHC Guide Meeting HOA 1 -Coyote Room	8/2 Wed.	3:30 P.M.

Hiking Information

HIKE RATINGS, PACE AND ELEVATION CHANGE

Ratings

Ratings are based on the following round-trip distances and accumulated gains in elevation over the course of the hike. The hike rating is determined by one (or both) of the two values being exceeded. For example, if a hike exceeds the criterion for distance but not for corresponding elevation, the rating would be set for distance. In the hike descriptions that follow, both parameter values are exceeded for some hikes. However, that does not necessarily justify a higher combined rating.

Hike Rating	Distance (miles)	Accumulated Elevation Gain (feet)
A	>14	>3000
B	>8 to 14	>1500 to 3000
C	>4 to 8	>500 to 1500
D	≤4	≤500

Special Conditions

***Some hikes may have special conditions that make a hike more difficult than the mileage/elevation gain rating would suggest. This could be due to unusual trail conditions, such as a very rocky trail, large steps up or down, or more exposure (steep banks or a cliff) which are present. These hikes are denoted with three asterisks beside the letter rating and will be repeated in the hike description with an explanation. When hikers sign up for a hike with the symbol *** they should clarify with the guide about the special condition to determine if the hike is right for them.

Pace

Pace for our hikes is described in terms of the moving average speed in miles per hour (MPH) over the course of a hike. The overall average speed is much more variable, depending on the number and duration of rest breaks and lunch, and the condition of a particular trail (smooth and flat versus rocky and steep). The following four categories are used to describe pace in the hike descriptions. The following four categories are used to describe pace in the newsletter:

Pace	Moving Average Speed (MPH)
Leisurely	<1.5
Slow	1.5 to <2.0
Moderate	2.0 to <2.5
Fast	≥2.5

Elevation Change

Three indicators are used in the hike descriptions to convey hike difficulty as it relates to elevation change:

Net Elevation Change is generally the change in elevation obtained by subtracting the starting elevation from the highest (or lowest) point reached during the course of the hike, in feet. This estimate may be obtained from USGS maps or a global positioning system (GPS). If no destination is listed, which may be the case for loop hikes or point-to-point hikes, net change is defined as the difference between the trailhead elevation and the highest elevation reached during the hike. If net elevation lost between the trailhead and the destination, a minus sign is used to show that elevation is lost. If an elevation profile is available, which applies in this database to mostly the Arizona Trail hikes for which GPS tracks have been generated, the net elevation change is the difference between the highest and lowest points along the trail.

Accumulated Gain is the sum of all upward stretches of a hike as recorded by a GPS device over the course of the entire hike. Accumulated elevation gain is always a more accurate indicator of hike difficulty than net change in elevation.

Accumulated Loss, another measure of hike difficulty, is the sum of all downward stretches of a hike. Accumulated elevation loss is useful for some downhill hikes and is usually obtained with a GPS device.

A cursory critique of the definition for “net elevation change” reveals that it is vague and imprecise and provides limited insight into trail difficulty, which is more accurately described in terms of accumulated gain or loss (parameters that are measured by GPSs). However, accumulated gain/loss information is unavailable for many hikes in the database, so net change has, for the time being, been retained because it is the only statistic available.

Accumulated gains are always greater than net elevation changes, except for point-to-point hikes where the destination is at a lower elevation than trailhead elevation. In this case, the accumulated gain could be much

lower than the net elevation change. A good example of this is the hike from the top of Mt. Lemmon to Catalina State Park, which actually results in little gain but rather a significant accumulated loss. For loop and out-and-back hikes, accumulated elevation gains are usually greater, sometimes much greater, than net elevation changes.

Hikes Offered

Saturday, July 8, Pima Canyon to 1st Dam. Rating D*. Pace: Moderate. [335, 6:30AM, \$4].** The Pima Canyon Trailhead is at the east end of Magee Road. We will hike the first part of Pima Canyon to the first dam and enjoy the beautiful scenery, take photos. There are pools of water at the dam most of the year. ***The trail is rocky at some points and involves some steps-up and steps-down but is not difficult. Hike 2.7 miles; trailhead elevation 2960 feet; net elevation change 320 feet; accumulated gain 487 feet; RTD 42 miles. [Guide; Don Taylor, donald_r_taylor@yahoo.com]

Tuesday, July 11, Meadow Trail to Fire Lookout. Rating: C. Pace: SLOW [261,7:30 AM, \$13]. We begin by driving to the top of Mt. Lemmon and parking by the astronomical observatories operated by the UA (also known as Radio Ridge). We hike down the Meadow Trail, through Lemmon Park, to where it intersects the Mt. Lemmon Trail which leads to Lemmon Rock fire lookout cabin. There are spectacular views along the way. We then hike back to the top of Mt. Lemmon and the parking area. Hike 3 miles; trailhead elevation 9157 feet; net elevation change 500 feet; accumulated gain 500 feet; RTD 131 miles. [Guide: Karen Gray, kgrayinaz@yahoo.com.]

Tuesday, July 18, Fifty-Year Trail Loop via Ridgeline Trail. Rating: D. Pace: SLOW [499, 06:00 AM, \$2 + \$2]. The hike begins at the Equestrian Center in Catalina State Park. After starting on the Fifty-Year Trail hikers will turn left onto an unmarked trail and hike along a rugged, scenic ridge line trail for about 2 miles. At the junction with the Fifty-Year Trail we return to the Equestrian Center via the Fifty-Year Trail. Hike is 4 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 386 feet; total ascent 446 feet. RTD 24 miles. [Guide: Karen Gray, kgrayinaz@yahoo.com.]

Thursday, July 20, Dripping Springs from the Sutherland Trail. Rating: C. Pace: SLOW [172, 06:00 AM, \$2 + \$2]. From the main trailhead at the east end of Catalina State Park, the hike follows the Sutherland Trail past the wilderness sign, and then turns toward Dripping Springs at a Sutherland Trail sign. There are large rocks placed in a row on the right (east) side of the Sutherland Trail. Much of the trail is sandy and there may be 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. Keep to the left at a trail junction for lower Romero Canyon, which can be visited later. Hike 4.2 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 475 feet; accumulated gain 475 feet; RTD 24 miles. [Guide: kgrayinaz@yahoo.com.]

Saturday, July 22, Josephine Saddle. Rating: B. Pace: SLOW [234, 6:00 AM, \$13]. The hike starts in Madera Canyon (Santa Rita Mountains) and goes up the Old Baldy Trail to Josephine Saddle. Hikers will rest at the Saddle and return via the Super Trail. Hike 6.2 miles;

trailhead elevation 5450 feet; net elevation change 1630 feet; accumulated gain 1725 feet; RTD 130 miles. [Guide: Don Taylor, donald_r_taylor@yahoo.com]

Monday, July 31, Saddlebrooke Rocks. Rating: C*. Pace: Moderate [548, 05:45 AM, \$0].** This hike begins on the Double Crested/Dome Trail from the south end of S Arroyo Way in Unit 21. (We will meet at Mountain View and carpool to the trailhead.) We cross Canada del Oro Wash, and then follow the newly developed route east through a small wash, and along several ridgelines. The route breaks off of the Dome Rock Trail and we first go to Picnic Rock. After a short break here the hike continues north meeting up with the Dome Extension Trail. At the intersection of the Extension Trail the hike progresses north and west along the ridgeline and around to the back side of Dome Rock. After a snack break on The Dome we continue to visit the Flag Hill Lookout. On the return we pass a rare double crested saguaro registered with the Crested Saguaro Society. On top of the Flag Hill Lookout and Dome Rock there are great 360-degree views of Saddlebrooke and Catalina. We also can see over to the Biosphere campus. Hike 5.6 miles; trailhead elevation 3187 feet; net elevation change 737 feet; accumulated gain 830 feet; RTD 7 miles. [Guide: Aaron Schoenberg askus3@centurylink.net]

Wednesday, August 2, SBHC BOD Mtg. HOA#1 Coyote Room North 2:00pm to 3:30pm

Wednesday, August 2, SBHC Guides Mtg. HOA#1 Coyote Room North 3:30pm to 5:00pm

Saturday, August 5, Marshall Gulch / Aspen Loop. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [256, 06:30 AM, \$13]. The hike starts at the Marshall Gulch Picnic Area and goes up the Marshall Gulch Trail to the Marshall Saddle. From the Saddle, we turn left down the Aspen Trail and head back to the picnic area. After about 0.25 miles on the Aspen Trail, there is a large rock that provides a great spot for a break or lunch. Hike may be done in a clockwise direction which tends to be steeper and arriving at the lunch spot takes longer. Hike 3.8 miles; trailhead elevation 7440 feet; net elevation change 703 feet; accumulated gain 830 feet; RTD 130 miles. [Guide: Don Taylor, donald_r_taylor@yahoo.com]

Tuesday, August 8, Canyon Loop and Birding Trail. Rating: D. Pace: SLOW [135, 06:00 AM, \$2 + \$2]. From the main trailhead in Catalina State Park, hikers will start up the Romero Trail in Catalina State Park; follow the Canyon Loop Trail, and then come back on the Sutherland Trail. This area is a great example of the Sonoran Desert and its riparian areas. Following this portion of the hike, we will hike the Birding Trail. Depending upon the season, some water crossings are possible. Hike 4.1 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 433 feet; accumulated gain 499 feet; RTD 24 miles. [Guide: Karen Gray, kgrayinaz@yahoo.com.]

Saturday, August 19, Florida and McCleary Peaks. Rating: A. Pace: Moderate [260, 05:00 AM, \$15]. The hike begins at the Santa Rita Agricultural Experimental Range Headquarters, and follows the Florida Canyon Trail to Florida Saddle where we will first bushwhack to Florida Peak then return and follow the Four Spring Trail past Armour Spring and then onto a faint path to the north up to McCleary Peak, which provides great views of the Santa Catalinas, Rincons and various mountains to the east. Good cooler hike for a hot sunny

day. We then descend via the Four, Bog & Kent Springs Trails en route to Bog Springs CG. 9 mile car shuttle required. Hike 13 miles; trailhead elevation 4315/5050 feet; net elevation change 4025 feet; accumulated gain 4255 feet; RTD 140 miles (12 miles dirt). [Guide: Aaron Schoenberg; askus3@centurylink.net]

Thursday, August 24, Bear Wallow/Sunset Trail. Rating: C*. Pace: Moderate [526, 05:30 AM, \$13].** The hike starts on the Bear Wallow Road near Summerhaven and goes along a trail under the shade of many, many tall deciduous trees with wonderful color in the Autumn and nice shade the rest of the season. Once we reach Soldier Camp on the Gen Hitchcock Hwy we will continue along the Sunset Trail with its beautiful canyon and vista views to the Marshall Gulch trailhead. Here is our turn around spot for this out and back hike. ***This trail is relatively easy, but does have a few spots with steep step up/down and a bit with narrow trail and height exposure. Hike 4.9 miles; trailhead elevation 8030 feet; net elevation change 500 feet; accumulated gain 682 feet. RTD 130 miles. [Guide: Marc Humphrey, humphreymarc@gmail.com.]

Sunday, August 27, Mt. Lemmon Ski Lift Loop. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [274, 06:30 AM, \$13]. From the foot of the ski lift, hikers walk the roadway to the top of Mt. Lemmon. We will take the Meadow Trail and the Mt. Lemmon Trail to Mt. Lemmon Rock Lookout (outstanding views). We return to the starting point using a portion of Trail 5 along Radio Ridge, and a portion of the Aspen Draw Trail. Hike 6 miles; trailhead elevation 8480; net elevation change 700 feet; accumulated gain 1140 feet; RTD 131 miles. [Guide: Don Taylor, donald_r_taylor@yahoo.com]

Tuesday, August 29, Fifty-Year Trail Loop via Ridgeline Trail. Rating: D. Pace: SLOW [499, 06:15 AM, \$2 + \$2]. The hike begins at the Equestrian Center in Catalina State Park. After starting on the Fifty-Year Trail hikers will turn left onto an unmarked trail and hike along a rugged, scenic ridge line trail for about 2 miles. At the junction with the Fifty-Year Trail we return to the Equestrian Center via the Fifty-Year Trail. Hike is 4 miles; trailhead elevation 2700 feet; net elevation change 386 feet; total ascent 446 feet. RTD 24 miles. [Guide: Karen Gray, kgrayinaz@yahoo.com.]

Thursday, August 31, Marshall Gulch / Aspen Loop. Rating: C. Pace: Moderate [256, 05:30 AM, \$13]. The hike starts at the Marshall Gulch Picnic Area and goes up the Marshall Gulch Trail to the Marshall Saddle. From the Saddle, we turn left down the Aspen Trail and head back to the picnic area. After about 0.25 miles on the Aspen Trail, there is a large rock that provides a great spot for a break or lunch. Hike 3.8 miles; trailhead elevation 7440 feet; net elevation change 703 feet; accumulated gain 830 feet; RTD 130 miles. [Guide: Marc Humphrey and humphreymarc@gmail.com]