

**Please Note: All hikes start behind the Welcome Center (unless otherwise specified)*. Arrive 10-15 minutes before the designated leave time*. Rides are coordinated by the Guide*.
*per Hikers Handbook pg.4**

March 2020

Monday, March 2 Twelve Mile Loop in Oracle State Park [B/12mi/1200'/\$5/8am] Park at Oak Woodland parking area, hike on Manzanita Trail to Arizona Trail to Cherry Valley and back on Mariposa Trail. Lunch on the trail. Laurie Payne, PinkLaurie360@gmail.com

Monday, March 2 Sausalito Creek [C/7mi/300'/\$0/8am] Meet at Desert Oasis parking lot, hike mostly on dirt roads and trails through flats and foothills of Tortolita Mountains. Lunch by windmill in Sausalito Canyon and return. This hike is on State Trust Land. Ron Brillhart, rdbri16660@gmail.com

Monday, March 2 Cargodera Canyon via Canyon Loop [C/6mi/700'/\$2/8am] At Catalina State Park Trailhead, hike the Canyon Loop Trail, then take the Sutherland Trail, brunch on the flat rocks in Cargodera Canyon, and return by the same route. Limit 8 hikers. Deb Wehrung debwehrung@gmail.com

FULL Tuesday, March 3 Big Wash Hike [C/5mi/100'/\$0/7:30am]. From Big Wash trailhead, Hike N along the East side of Big Wash and return via the West side using animal trails, bike trails and washes. This hike is on State Trust Land. Maximum 15 hikers. Clive Probert, clive.probert@gmail.com

Wednesday, March 4 Board of Directors Meeting Desert Oasis, 3–5 pm *All members are invited.*

Wednesday, March 4 Dutchman/Bluff Springs Loop [B/10mi/1600'/\$14/7am] This loop route skirts the base of the Superstition Mountains passing a variety of pleasant and, possibly, poppy/lupine-covered vistas across open desert country and then climbs over Miners Summit and drops back into the backcountry. From the Peralta trailhead, we follow the Dutchman trail passing beneath Miners Needle to Miners Canyon. We meander up a rocky area to Miners Summit where we continue on the Dutchman trail and descend into a tributary of Bluff Spring Canyon. We then cross a wash [most probably dry] and meet the Bluff Spring trail. We follow the Bluff Spring trail past the Terrapin trail for the remainder of the rather steep downhill 2.3 miles back to the trailhead. Doug Higgins dahiggins@comcast.net

Wednesday, March 4 Babad Duag Trail [C/6mi/1200'/\$6/8am] Park at the trailhead, about 2.6 miles up the Mt Lemmon Highway. The elevation gain is fairly well distributed. The trail goes north, roughly paralleling Solder Canyon which is to the west. Features are the desert terrain and views east to Molino Canyon. Limit 15 hikers. Bob Eschrich, 825-1482, HikerBobE@aol.com

FULL Wednesday, March 4 Hike-in-the-Park [D/4mi/200'/\$2/8:00am] Hike from a Catalina State Park trailhead for about two miles on a designated trail either as a loop or return the same way. Trail may contain rocky sections and short but steep inclines/declines. Meet behind the Welcome Center by 7:45 for sign-ups. When you sign up indicate whether you have a CSP permit and are willing to drive. Judy Maisch, jam4930@yahoo.com

FULL Thursday, March 5 Samaniego Roost [B/8mi/1400'/\$2/8am] Near the town of Catalina, take Golder Ranch Road and park at Horse Corral. Hike to Deer Camp then a trail to Samaniego Roost for spectacular views of the valley. Return via Deer Camp Connector and Middle Gate. Rated B due to steep rock descent. Limit 8 hikers Deb Wehrung debwehrung@gmail.com

FULL Thursday, March 5 Conglomerate Canyon [C/4mi/800'/\$5/7am] Past Oracle on the back road to Mt. Lemmon, park opposite Peppersauce Campground. Hike up jeep road to canyon with extremely rare geologic oddity Precambrian conglomerate rock formations. Continue up canyon to another jeep road next to old mine. Return same route LIMIT 15. Millie Sparling, 520-850-6211 or milliesparling79@gmail.com.

FULL Friday, March 6 Gardner Canyon/AZ Trail South (B /12mi/1000'/\$10/6:30am) On the east side of the Santa Rita Mountains, hike south from the Gardner Canyon trailhead on the AZ Trail for 5.5 miles to Bear Springs through extensive oak forest with wonderful vista to the East and good looks of the back side of Mt. Wrightson, and return. Dennis Potter sweetliberty@comcast.net or 253-722-4296

Friday, March 6 Hike to Kannally Ranch House [C-/4mi/680'/\$4/7:30am] At Oracle State Park, park at the auxiliary parking lot on American Avenue in Oracle. Hike to Kannally Ranch House and back by the same route. Kurt Schulz kurt.james.schulz@gmail.com

FULL Friday, March 6 Santa Cruz River Walk [D/4 mi/100'/\$7/ 7:30 am] Walk along the Santa Cruz River downtown and hear its history. Wear comfortable walking shoes. Includes a coffee stop. Limit: 15 Jim Williams. jaswilliams128@msn.com

Saturday, March 7 Cargodera Canyon via Canyon Loop [C/6mi/700'/\$2/8am] At Catalina State Park, hike Canyon Loop Trail, then take the Sutherland Trail, brunch on the flat rocks in Cargodera Canyon, and return by the same route. Peg Rocklin 720-206-8217. Limit 14 hikers.

Monday, March 9 "21 Miler" [A/21mi/4100'/\$3/5:45am] Sabino Canyon parking lot to Catalina State Park on Phoneline, Sabino Cn., West Fork, and Romero trails; or a key-exchange with hikers going both ways. Kurt Schulz kurt.james.schulz@gmail.com

FULL Monday, March 9 Lime Falls Cactus Forest [C/6mi/300'/\$5/7am] Park at Cactus Forest Trailhead near east end of Broadway, entering Saguaro National Park East to hike along mostly level Cactus Forest Trail to a small wash and waterfall (dry or not?) where we eat a snack. See lime kiln and explanatory signage. Optional Rincon Visitor Center after hike. Limit 18 hikers. Georgene Porter, gvporter@live.com.

FULL (but accepting sign-ups for duplicate hike) Tuesday, March 10 La Milagrosa-Agua Caliente Loop [B-/7 miles/1400'/\$6/7 am] On the northeast corner of Tucson, the hike starts at 2800' at the gate on the corner of E Horse Head Rd. and Avenida de Suzena. From Agua Caliente Wash we will take a steady 900' climb up La Milagrosa Trail and then drop into Agua Caliente Canyon where we cross the wash and climb up to Agua Caliente Trail and proceed down a ridge trail. The views are stunning. I rated this hike a B- because of the steepness of the trail back down to Horsehead. Limit 8 hikers. Doug Higgins dahiggins@comcast.net.

RESCHEDULED for Saturday, March 14th Tuesday, March 10 Wildflower hike [E/3 mi/\$2/< 50'/8am] Location to be determined based on wildflower blooms. Bob/Leslie Esparza, 825-8271.

FULL Tuesday, March 10, 2020 Wasson Peak via Sweetwater Trail [B/10mi/1800'/\$4/7:00am] Park at trailhead on west end of El Camino Del Cerro Rd, hike a new portion of trail to old portion, continue up east side of Tucson Mtns to a saddle, take Hugh Norris Trail past old mine shafts to the highest peak in the Tucson Mountains and return. Spectacular views. Maximum 8 hikers. Harry Niese 520-730-6293, han2500@yahoo.com

FULL Wednesday, March 11 Fern Canyon and Rogers Rock [C/5mi/1000'/\$10/8am] The hike starts on the Super Trail from the Mt Wrightson Picnic Area in Madera Canyon. After two miles we take a heavily used though unofficial trail to Rogers Rock, a good snack or early lunch spot. Then we descend through Fern Canyon, which is especially pretty when water is still running, as it should be this year. The Pipeline Trail takes us back to the Super Trail then on to the cars. Mt Wrightson Wilderness Area limit 15 hikers. We won't hurry. . Bob Eschrich, 825-1482, HikerBobE@aol.com

Wednesday, March 11 Walk in the Park [D/4mi/200'/\$2/8:00am] At Catalina State Park, hike from the main trailhead parking lot for an hour in some direction and return the same way. Arrive behind Welcome Center by 7:45am. Dean Chapman, 825-2954 or dchapma6@msn.com.

RESCHEDULED FOR MARCH 30th Thursday, March 12 Thimble Peak [B/11mi/2300'/\$6/7am] Park at old Prison Camp, Mt. Lemmon Highway, hike into Sycamore Canyon, take link trail to upper Bear Canyon trail, follow a seldom used trail to base of Thimble Peak, and return. Hike is a series of ups and downs, not one continuous climb.
Max Haegele 818-9178 43avocet@gmail.com

FULL Thursday, March 12 Tortolita Flats Hike [C/5mi/200'/\$0/7:30 am] Meet at Desert Oasis parking lot. Hike on bike trails, animal trails and washes North of Sun City. This hike is on State Trust Land. Limit 15 hikers.
Clive Probert, clive.probert@gmail.com

HIKE ADDED Thursday, March 12 New Member Orientation Hike [D/3mi/300'/\$2/8:00am] A prerequisite hike for joining SCOV Hiking Club. Hike a short distance up the 50-Year Trail from the Equestrian Center in Catalina State Park and return. There is an orientation talk. This hike meets behind the Welcome Center, as do all hikes unless otherwise specified. Peg Rocklin, pegrocklin@gmail.com, 720-206-8217.

FULL Friday, March 13 Bridal Wreath Falls Loop [C+/8mi/1200'/\$5/7am] At the east end of Speedway Blvd., take Douglas Springs Trail to Bridal Wreath Falls, eat snack/lunch and return via Three Tank, Wildhorse and Garwood Trails. Limit 18. Georgene Porter, gvporter@live.com.

FULL Saturday, March 14 Oracle State Park [C/5mi/700'/\$5/7am] At the Kanally Ranchhouse, hike the Wildlife trail to windmill and back. **THIS HIKE IS REALLY JUST AN EXCUSE TO EAT PIE AT THE PATIO CAFE IN ORACLE TO CELEBRATE PI DAY. LIMIT 15.** Millie Sparling, 520-850-6211 or milliesparling79@gmail.com.

Saturday, March 14 (Moved from March 10) Wildflower hike [E/3 mi/\$2/< 50'/8am] Location to be determined based on wildflower blooms. Bob/Leslie Esparza, 825-8271.

Monday, March 16 Old Baldy Saddle (B+/14mi./3400'/\$10/7am) On the east side of the Santa Rita Mtns., park at Round Up parking lot. Take Old Baldy Trail up and SuperTrail down, 5400'. Laurie Payne, PinkLaurie360@gmail.com

Monday, March 16 Wild Burro Canyon Trail /Alamo Springs Loop [C+/8mi/1400'/\$3/7am] From Dove Mt. trailhead, take Wild Burro Canyon Trail to Alamo Springs. Eat snack/lunch and return via Alamo Springs trail to trailhead. Georgene Porter, gvporter@live.com.

FULL Monday, March 16 Santa Cruz River Walk [D/ 4 mi/ 100'/ 7:30 am/\$7] Walk the Santa Cruz River path downtown and hear about the river's history. Wear comfortable walking shoes. Includes a coffee stop. Limit: 15 Jim Williams. jaswilliams128@msn.com.

Tuesday, March 17 Picacho Peak [B/6mi/2100'/\$8/8am] Take Sunset Ridge trail to summit and return on Hunter trail. Bring slip proof gloves! Requires two cars for shuttle.
Max Haegele 818-9178 43avocet@gmail.com

FULL Wednesday, March 18 Pontatoc Ridge Trail, aka Old Spanish Mine Trail [C/5 miles/1300'/\$3/8am] The trailhead is at the north end of North Alvernon where the Finger Rock and the Pontatoc Canyon Trails also begin. We will stop a bit short of the side trail to the mine, at a place with good sitting rocks and great views to the south. After snack/lunch, we will return by the same route. We won't hurry, but you can see that we gain quite a bit of elevation, so this is not an easy C hike. Limit 15 hikers. Bob Eschrich, 825-1482 or HikerBobE@aol.com

Wednesday, March 18 Hike-in-the-Park [D/4mi/200'/\$2/7:30am] Hike from a Catalina State Park trail head for about two miles on a designated trail either as a loop or return the same way. Trail may contain rocky sections and short but steep inclines/declines. Meet behind the Welcome Center by 7:45 for sign-ups. When you sign up indicate whether you have a CSP permit and are willing to drive. Judy Maisch, jam4930@yahoo.com

RESCHEDULED TO MARCH 20 – Wednesday, March 18 Catalina Mt. Foot Hills, Cherry Tank

[B/11mi/1500'/\$2/7:00am] Park at the corral on the Equestrian Trail off Golder Ranch Road. Follow the jeep trail down to Sutherland Wash and start on the Deer Camp Trail, head NE to Rattlesnake Trail, then SE to Cherry Tank, a watering hole and place to have lunch. Return via Around the Mountain Trail to north end of 50YR trail. Wonderful views and rock formations. This hike is on State Trust Land. Limit 8 Hikers. Harry Niese 520-730-6293 han2500@yahoo.com

Thursday, March 19, 2020 Box Camp Trail (down)[B+/10mi/5000'descent/\$9/6:00am] Trailhead is on Mt. Lemmon Highway @ 8000 ft.elevation. Trail is nearly all downhill with several loose rocky sections. We pause for magnificent views from high-up. Stop for lunch past Apache Springs.Trail goes through pines, oaks, manzanita, and saguaros on the way to Sabino Canyon. Options to take the shuttle (\$12) or hike Phoneline Trail to the parking lot. When signing-up, indicate if you have a spouse or other to help with the shuttle to Mt. Lemmon. Max Haegele 818-9178 43avocet@gmail.com

RESCHEDULED TO MARCH 22 - Thursday, March 19 Sweetwater Saddle [C+/7 mi/1500'/\$4/7:00am]

At the foot of the Tucson Mountains, start at Camino del Cerro trailhead and hike Sweetwater Trail to saddle where it meets King Canyon Trail; have snack and enjoy view; then return on the same trail. The trail offers some nice views of the city of Tucson, the scenery of Tucson Mountain Park, and the walkers going up Kings Canyon trail to Wasson Peak. Limit 18. Georgene Porter, gvporter@live.com.

CANCELLED - Friday, March 20 Window Rock (A/13mi/4100'/\$4/7am) Park at Ventana Resort employees parking lot, hike Ventana Canyon Trail, a difficult and steep hike, to Esperero Trail, to the Window, and return. Dennis Potter sweetliberty@comcast.net or 253-722-4296

FULL Friday, March 20 Granddaddy Saguaro + Petroglyphs + Every-Which-Way Saguaro

[C+/6mi/600'/\$2/8am] The "+" rating is for a few rough rocky downhill sections. In Catalina and from the end of Golder Ranch dirt road where it meets C.S.P., hike horse trail to Sutherland Link; then up the Sutherland to another horse trail heading north to the Granddaddy Saguaro. Continue northerly across the valley on horse trail; then westerly to petroglyphs (different set from the regular petroglyphs' hike). Continue westerly on horse trail past the Every-Which-Way Saguaro to the vehicles. We need another higher clearance vehicle (pickup truck, some SUVs, 4x4 not required). **State if you have this type of vehicle or not, the seating capacity, and if you can drive.** Darrel Cornelius darrelcornelius@q.com 608-320-9175

HIKE ADDED – Friday, March 20 Catalina Mt. Foot Hills, Cherry Tank

[B/11mi/1500'/\$2/7:00am] Park at the corral on the Equestrian Trail off Golder Ranch Road. Follow the jeep trail down to Sutherland Wash and start on the Deer Camp Trail, head NE to Rattlesnake Trail, then SE to Cherry Tank, a watering hole and place to have lunch. Return via Around the Mountain Trail to north end of 50YR trail. Wonderful views and rock formations. This hike is on State Trust Land. Limit 8 Hikers. Harry Niese 520-730-6293 han2500@yahoo.com

Saturday, March 21 Fifty Year Trail N Middlegate S [C/7mi/600'/\$2/8am] Park cars at the Corral on the Equestrian Trail off Golder Ranch Road. Hike jeep trail and bike trails to Middlegate Trail. Cross Sutherland Wash and return south. This hike is on State Trust Land. Jack Evert, jackevert439@gmail.com

HIKE ADDED - Sunday, March 22 Sweetwater Saddle [C+/7 mi/1500'/\$4/7:00am] At the foot of the Tucson Mountains, start at Camino del Cerro trailhead and hike Sweetwater Trail to saddle where it meets King Canyon Trail; have snack and enjoy view; then return on the same trail. The trail offers some nice views of the city of Tucson, the scenery of Tucson Mountain Park, and the walkers going up Kings Canyon trail to Wasson Peak. Limit 18. Georgene Porter, gvporter@live.com.

CANCELLED - Monday, March 23 Blackett's Ridge [B/6mi/1800'/\$4/7am] At Sabino Canyon, hike Phoneline Trail to Blackett's Ridge Trail which is very steep, then a gradual, persistent climb to one of Tucson's premier views. Limit 8 hikers. Deb Wehrung debwehrung@gmail.com

Monday, March 23 Brandenburg Mtn./Aravaipa Overlook [C/6mi/1500'/\$9/7am] At the west end of the Galiuro Mtns., park along Aravaipa Rd just before the BLM station and hike up wash to cairn marked trail. Follow marked trail up to road that traverses flat area around Brandenburg Mtn. Follow this road to wonderful overlooks of the Aravaipa canyon. Max Haegele 818-9178 43avocet@gmail.com

Monday, March 23 Tortolita Foothills Stroll [D/4mi/100'/\$0/8am] Meet at Desert Oasis parking lot, hike in foothills of Tortolita Mountains. This hike is on State Trust Land. Ron Brillhart, rdrill6660@gmail.com

Tuesday, March 24 Douglas Spring (B/13mi/2200'/\$5/7am) Park at East end of Speedway Blvd., hike Douglas Spring Trail, some steep, to camp, on way back we go to Bridal Wreath Falls, then back to trailhead. Dennis Potter sweetliberty@comcast.net or 253-722-4296

HIKE ADDED – Tuesday March 24th - Catalina Mt. Foot Hills, Cherry Tank [B/11mi/1500'/\$2/7:00 am] Park at the corral on the Equestrian Trail off Golder Ranch Road. Follow the jeep trail down to Sutherland Wash and start on the Deer Camp Trail, head NE to Rattlesnake Trail, then SE to Cherry Tank, a watering hole and place to have lunch. Return via Around the Mountain Trail to north end of 50YR trail. Wonderful views and rock formations. This hike is on State Trust Land. Limit 8 Hikers. Harry Niese 520-730-6293 han2500@yahoo.com

Tuesday, March 24 Terrenate and Fairbank, Exploratory [C/6mi/300'/\$14/7AM] Start at Terrenate trailhead about 30 miles SE of Benson. Terrenate was one of the six northern-most Spanish presidios including those at Tucson and Tubac. The remaining ruins overlook the San Pedro River and are well placarded by the BLM. We will hike a couple miles to the presidio, explore the ruins, then drop down into the river valley and hike trails to a partially restored ghost town with a fun history. We will drop a car at Fairbank to get back to our cars at the trailhead (there will be about a 20 minute wait at each end) and go to Benson for an optional late lunch. We will return to Oro Valley late afternoon. This will be limited to two cars of 5 hikers each for a total of 10 hikers. Jack Evert, jackevert439@gmail.com.

CANCELLED Wednesday, March 25 GUIDES MEETING 3:00 - 5:00 HOPI ROOM Activities Center

Wednesday, March 25 Walk in the Park [D/4mi/200'/\$2/7:30am] At Catalina State Park, hike from the main trailhead parking lot for an hour in some direction and return the same way. Arrive at the Welcome Center parking lot by 7:15am. Dean Chapman, 825-2954 or dchapma6@msn.com.

Thursday, March 26 Mount Kimball [A/12mi/4200'/\$3/7am] Park at trailhead at the north end of Alvernon Way, hike Finger Rock Canyon trail to a saddle between Mount Kimball and "Little Kimball", take Pima Canyon Trail a half-mile to top of Mt. Kimball, and return. Deb Wehrung, debwehrung@gmail.com

Thursday, March 26 Little Elephant Head [C/4 miles/750'/\$11/8:30am] This hike is on the west side of the Santa Rita Mountains. We hike as if heading toward Elephant Head, but take the much easier side trip [trail] to Little Elephant Head. The views north to Elephant Head are special. It's a good trail, but note the elevation gain. In past years we've gone on toward Quantrell Mine, but we won't do that extra this year. The last 3 miles of the drive to the trailhead is unpaved. It was in good shape last year, but decent clearance still needed. Limit 15 hikers. Bob Eschrich, 825-1482, HikerBobE@aol.com

HIKE ADDED Friday, March 27 Palisades Trail to Gordon Hirabayashi [B/12/3600' downhill,1200' uphill/\$9/6:30am] On Mt. Lemmon Highway, from Palisades Visitor Center park at Scout Camp Trailhead, and hike down the Palisades Trail. Scenic views along canyon, rock outcrops, seldom-used primitive section of trail with some exposure. At junction take Trail #39 uphill to Gordon Hirabayashi Trailhead. Need car shuttle at both trailheads. Kurt Schulz, kurt.james.schulz@gmail.com, Georgene Porter, gvporter@live.com.

CANCELLED Saturday, March 28th Annual Meeting in the Activity Center (3 rooms) 2-5pm Includes brief business, guest speaker and “wine & cheese” social.

RESCHEDULED FROM MARCH 12TH^h Monday, March 30th **Thimble Peak [B/11mi/2300’/\$6/7am]** Park at old Prison Camp, Mt. Lemmon Highway, hike into Sycamore Canyon, take link trail to upper Bear Canyon trail, follow a seldom used trail to base of Thimble Peak, and return. Hike is a series of ups and downs, not one continuous climb. Max Haegele 818-9178 43avocet@gmail.com

FULL Monday, March 30 Aravaipa Canyon Wilderness West [B/10mi/200’/\$9/7:30am] Located at the west side of the Galiuro Mountains, this pristine wilderness is a walk on the wild side; few trails, no signs; no facilities. It includes wildlife, a slot canyon, towering cliffs and a multitude of stream crossings Permits @ \$6 per person will be purchased by Guide in advance. Maximum of 10 hikers. Unsurpassed scenery. We will maintain a steady pace for about three hours with photo stops; have lunch; return via same route; stop in Mammoth for early Mexican dinner; arrive back in SCOV before 6:00pm. See important details on website. Darrel Cornelius darrelcornelius@q.com or 608-320-917

HIKE ADDED - Backpacking Hike Monday-Tuesday, March 30-31 **Esperero Trail Loop-Backpacking (A/23mi/4450’/\$4/7am)** Hike from Sabino Canyon Visitor Center on Esperero Trail to Cathedral Rock Trail; at about 11mi. camp on the West Fork Trail; continue on to Sabino Cn. and Phoneline trails and return to car. Dennis Potter sweetliberty@comcast.net or 253-722-4296

Tuesday, March 31 Romero Springs [B/10mi/2200’/\$2/7am] From Catalina State Park main trailhead, hike Romero Canyon trail 2 miles past Romero Pools to Romero Springs in a very scenic section of the canyon. Return by the same route. Ron Brillhart, rdbill6660@gmail.com

Tuesday, March 31 Wildflower hike [E/3 mi/\$2/< 50’/8am] location to be determined based on wildflower blooms. Bob/Leslie Esparza, 825-8271.