

Heritage Highlands Hikers

January 2012 Hike Schedule

2012 Dues: If you have not yet paid your \$5 Dues for the next calendar year, please deliver to our Treasurer Dan Nestor. You can contact him at 744-4090 or email to RNDN5020@gmail.com. If you are a renewing member, you may pay your dues to any hike leader who will forward to Dan. After Jan 31, 2012, we will delete former members, who have not renewed, from our email communications.

Reminders:

- **Mark your Calendar: Hiking Spring Picnic Thursday March 8 Catalina State Park**
- **You must be a member of the club**, or guest of a member, to join a hike (except for "Orientation" hikes).
- **For your safety & to facilitate enjoyable group hiking, we require that everyone do an "Orientation Hike" before signing for hikes.**
- **Phone the assigned Hike Leader to sign up, or for questions.**
- **Departure is from the Clubhouse parking lot at time listed. Please be there 10 minutes early to check-in (15 for Orientation Hikes).**
- **ALWAYS bring enough WATER to last for the time your hike takes, ENERGY SNACKS, & LUNCH if lasting over the noon hour.**

Your Email Address: If you are a member, and did not get the monthly schedule via email, then we don't have your email address. Please make sure your correct email address is on the HOA website, since that is our source from which we send our club communications.

More Reminders:

- **Sometimes we add hikes to the schedule after the original broadcast, and occasionally hike leaders schedules change and we revise the date or cancel a hike. When we make a change to the schedule, we send out a broadcast email, AND starting in January, we will ALSO revise the hike schedule on the HH Hikers Web site. If in doubt, check the web.**
- **If there are not enough hikers to participate, the hike leader may CANCEL a hike. Please sign up a few days in advance.**

Hiking Pace

- **Leisurely:** Less than 1.5 m.p.h. The focus is on taking in the scenery. There will be frequent stops to rest, and socialize.
- **Moderate:** Approximately 1.0 to 2.0 m.p.h. Brief rest stop every 10-15 minutes when going up steeper slopes.
- **Steady:** Approximately 1.5 to 2.5 m.p.h. Short rest stop every ½ hour when going up hill, and after big climbs.
- **Fast:** Approximately 2.0 to 3.0 m.p.h. Not many stops.

Sunday January 1 Alamo Springs Trail (Tortolita Mtns) Pace: Leisurely Level: C, 4.5 miles, 700ft
Hike Leader: David Rogers 579-2585 drogers5190@gmail.com Depart: 9:30am Est. time of return: 1:00pm
Begin the NEW YEAR with this leisurely paced hike in nearby Wild Burro Canyon. Bring your able bodied houseguests along. (We've had 30+ people doing this hike every Jan1, but it is still a mountain hike, 700 feet up a rocky trail.) Turn on your Recorder and watch the Bowl games after you've gotten some exercise. The trail goes to the top of the ridge providing great views of the Gallery Golf course, and the Tucson Mountains. We will go 2.25 miles and the retrace our steps. Bring water and snacks. No carpool fee. **NO NEED TO SIGN UP-** just show up at the clubhouse parking lot at 9:20am.

Monday January 2 Bridal Veil Falls (Sabino Canyon) Pace: Fast Level: A, 12.4 miles, 2,550ft
Hike Leader: David Rogers 579-2585 Depart: 8:00am Est. time of return: 5:00pm
We'll depart the Sabino Canyon parking lot and hike up the Esperero Trail for 3.6 miles and 1,650ft to a saddle nicknamed 'cardiac gap'. Some hikers may choose to stop at this point. After a short break and taking in the vistas of a large basin, those continuing will circle the rim of the basin on the way to gaining another 900ft over the additional 2.6 miles to the falls. Golden Age Passport or fee required, plus a \$4 per person carpool fee (50 miles).

Wednesday January 4 Gould Mine (Tucson Mtns) Orientation Pace: Leisurely Level: D, 3.0 miles, 300ft
Hike Leader: George Hammond 579-3296 Depart: 8:00am Est time of return: 12:30pm
This is a very popular beginner/orientation hike with many members signing up as well. We'll hike up the Gould Mine Trail to its end at the Sandero Esperanza Trail, then head northeast to the site of an abandoned silver mine. After checking out the old mine site we'll head back down Sandero Esperanza to the high point at the Mam-A-Gah picnic area. Here we'll have an unobstructed view of Avra Valley and the settling basins of the CAP. After a short break we'll head to an area of petroglyphs, then follow King Canyon back to the parking area. Bring water & trail snacks. \$4 per person carpool fee. (52 Miles)

Wednesday January 4 Wild Burro and Alamo Spring Trails (Tortolita Mtns) Pace: Steady Level: B-, 6 miles, 800ft
Hike Leader: Dennis Davidson 744-9506 Depart: 12:30pm Est. time of return: 4:00pm
On this afternoon hike, we'll take the Wild Burro, Lower Javelina, Spur, and Alamo Springs Trails to Alamo Spring. We'll return on the Wild Burro and Lower Javelina Trails. Bring 2 liters of water, and energy snacks. No carpool fee.

Thursday January 5 Goat Corral Trail (Tortolita Mtns.) Pace: Moderate Level A-, 11 miles, 1,000 ft
Hike Leader: Dan Nestor 744-4090 RNDN5020@gmail.com Depart: 8:00am Est. time of return: 5:00pm
We hike a variety of trails in Wild Burro Canyon arriving at Alamo Spring. Then we begin this very nice new trail which goes for 3 miles to the remains of a stacked-rock goat corral. This is a very do-able hike. The total "up" gain is 1,500 ft. No carpool fee.

Friday January 6 Upper Javelina Trail Plus (Tortolita Mts.) Pace: Moderate Level: C, 4.8 miles, 600ft
Hike Leader: Barb Brussell 572-4700 Depart: 9:00am Est. time of return: 1:00pm

This will be a relaxed paced hike allowing everyone to take breathers and enjoy the views. We will do the entire Upper Javelina Trail- South to North, with an extra hike up the Wild Mustang to the Cochie Trail junction. No carpool fee.

Friday January 6 Romero Spring (Catalina State Park) Pace: Moderate Level: A, 10.2 miles, 2100 feet
Hike Leader: Bill Ulrich 744-216 Depart: 8:00am Est. time of return: 5:00pm

We drive to Catalina State Park and head above the pools to find Romero Spring. The trail is very interesting as we ascend the canyon into oak grassland and pass the upper pools. Not many of us have ventured above Romero Pools, so this is your opportunity to see what lies above. Park entrance fee is \$7 per vehicle \$2 per person carpool fee. (24 miles)

Monday January 9 Alamo Canyon (Catalina State Park) Pace: Moderate Level C, 4 miles, 400ft
Hike Leader: Rosemary Lemmon 579-9894 Depart: 9:00am Est. time of return: 2:00pm

We will start at the Romero Ruins trailhead in Catalina Park. We will hike from the ruins through Alamo Canyon (with some luck maybe some water back in the canyon). If there is interest, we can do the informative loop trail thru the Romero Ruins. Park entrance fee is \$7 per vehicle \$2 per person carpool fee. (24 miles)

Monday January 9 Phoneline Trail - 2 Ways (Sabino Canyon) Pace: Steady Level: B+, 9.4 miles, 1,100ft
Hike Leader: Carlene Rogers 579-2585 Depart: 8:00am Est. time of return: 3:30pm

This is one of the more special hikes in the Catalinas with superb, up-close views of towering Sabino Canyon and Thimble Rock. We will do the Phoneline Trail in a counter-clockwise direction starting at the Visitor Center, pass the Blackett's Ridge trailhead, and continue on the Phoneline Trail to the point where it drops down to Tram Stop #9. Then we return the same route. Golden Age Passport or fee required, plus a \$4 per person carpool fee. (50 miles)

Tuesday January 10 Pontatoc Ridge Trail (Santa Catalina Mtns) Pace: Moderate Level: B, 5.2 miles, 1,300ft
Hike Leader: Chuck Fish 651-815-3895 Depart: 8:00am Est. time of return: 2:30pm

This hike takes us into Pontatoc Canyon on the front range of the Catalina Mtns. where we'll connect to the ridge trail leading to an old mine site. We'll cover some interesting terrain and vistas while gaining 1,300ft along this 2.6 mile one way trek. The trailhead is close by off Sunrise, so we'll be able to get a good workout without taking all day. Bring water and lunch. \$3 per person carpool fee. (40 Miles)

Wednesday January 11 Lower Javelina Trail (Orientation/Beginners) Pace: Leisurely Level: D, 2.8 miles, 280ft
Hike Leader: George Hammond 579-3296 Depart: 8:00am Est. time of return: 12 noon

This is a neat leisurely D level hike for any member. We will depart from the Ritz trailhead in Wild Burro Canyon. We'll take the west portion of Lower Javelina trail gaining a little under three hundred feet, then drop back into Wild Burro Wash to return using the Wild Burro trail. This is a neat trail for a beginners hike made possible because of the new trailhead. Bring water and a snack. No carpool fee.

Wednesday January 11 Seven Falls via Tram, Bear Canyon Pace: Moderate Level: C+, 5.4 miles, 600ft
Hike Leader: Sandra and Ernie Green 572-2353 Depart: 8:00am Est. time of return: 2:30pm

We will be taking the tram to Bear canyon to enable us to make this a C+ level hike. This is an ideal trail for those wanting to advance to C+ level with only 600 feet gain over 2.7 miles then rewarded with being at one of the most scenic spots in the Catalinas. We'll cross the creek seven times- not difficult but a walking stick can be helpful. Be sure to bring a camera, a minimum of 1.5 liters of water, and a lunch. We'll return to Sabino visitor center by tram. A Golden Age Passport or fee required at Sabino Canyon. Tram fee is \$3.00 plus a \$4 per person carpool fee. (50 miles)

Thursday January 12 Blackett's Ridge (Sabino Canyon) Pace: Moderate Level: B, 6.2 miles, 1,635 ft
Hike Leader: Dan Nestor 744-4090 RNDN5020@gmail.com Depart: 8:00am Est. time of return: 4:00pm

Bring a camera, as you will be rewarded with one of the finest overlooks in all of Tucson. The trail starts at the Sabino Canyon Visitor's Center, has a moderate climb for the first mile. Then it gets steeper, but we will go slow and stop often. We will have lunch and great views at the top. Hopefully some hikers will take advantage of the slower pace, and be able to have the satisfaction of getting to the top of Blacketts's their 1st time. Golden Age Passport or fee required, plus a \$4 per person carpool fee (50 miles).

Friday January 13 Sweetwater Trail (Tucson Mts) Pace: Leisurely Level: D, 3miles 300ft
Hike Leader: John Skillicorn 320-282-8463 Depart 8:00 Est. time of return: 12:00pm or 1:00pm

Are you superstitious? Note the "lucky" hike date. This trail is in Saguaro National Park and is well maintained, but has a few areas of loose rock. The trail is considered the prettiest trail in the Tucson Mountains with an abundance of saguaro cacti. Near the turnaround point of a crested Saguaro we'll have a compelling view of the Tucson basin, downtown Tucson, the Catalinas and the Tortolitas. Bring water, a snack and camera. If there's enough interest, we can have lunch at Teresa's Mosaic Café (Mexican Restaurant) at Silverbell and Grant. \$4 per person carpool fee (48 miles).

Friday January 13 Pima Canyon to the Spring (Catalina Mtns) Pace: Steady Level: A-, 9.4 miles, 2720 ft
Hike Leader: David Rogers 579-2585 drogers5190@gmail.com Depart: 8:00am Est. time of return: 4:00pm

Join us for a picturesque hike in ever-popular Pima Canyon. The trail follows the canyon bottom, with dense foliage and large cottonwood trees. We will stop briefly at the first dam to look at the bedrock grinding holes and then continue our somewhat steeper ascent as the canyon opens and we leave the saguaro behind. After the second, larger dam at 4720 feet, the trail climbs even more steeply to our final destination, an old Spring. \$3 per person carpool fee. (30 Miles)

Monday January 16 Cochie Canyon Overlook (Tortolita Mtns) Pace: Moderate Level: C+, 5.8 miles, 750ft
Hike Leader: John Skillicorn 320-282-8463 Depart 8:00 Est. time of return: 1:00pm

We will hike the Upper Javelina Trail clockwise, starting at the Ritz Golf Clubhouse end, and continue on the Wild Mustang trail. Then we take the Cochie Trail to a nice view area of Cochie Canyon, where we'll have lunch. We'll return via the Ritz Spur. We will take it easy up the climbs, and take rest breaks. This hike is a great combo of exercise and scenery. No carpool fee.

Monday January 16 Molino Basin to Palisades(Catalinas) Pace: Fast Level A+, 12.5 miles, 3500 ft
Hike Leader: Stan Clark 329-8071 sdclark51@yahoo.com Depart: 7:00am Est. time of return: 6:00pm

We will begin at the Molino Basin TH off of the Catalina Hwy. and hike the East Fork trail to the Palisade Trail up to the Palisade TH just down from the Palisade visitor center. This will be a continuously demanding uphill hike with beautiful views of the Sabino basin and several key Catalina Mountain peaks. We will need to spot vehicles at the Palisade TH and Molino basin TH. To accommodate logistics, please sign up by Thursday January 12. \$10 per person carpool fee (134 miles).

Tuesday January 17 Chivas Falls (Rincon Mtns) Pace: Moderate Level: B-, 9 miles, 500ft
Hike Leader: Dave Seiller 744-9338 Depart: 8:00am Est. time of return: 3:00pm

It's been quite a while since we've hiked to Chivas Falls in the Rincon range off of Redington Rd. (dirt for last five miles). We will be making a loop hiking primarily on dirt roads used by mountain bikers and 4 wheelers but there shouldn't be traffic during the week. The area into the falls is generally rolling so we will have relatively little elevation gain; just ups and downs for approx. 4.5 miles to the falls. The falls are some 90 feet tall and can be quite spectacular when water is flowing but that will be unknown for this adventure. \$6 per person carpool fee (80 miles).

Wednesday January 18 Cochie Canyon (Tortolita Mtns) Pace: Steady Level: B-, 7 miles, 900ft
Hike Leader: Dennis Davidson 744-9506 Depart: 12:30pm Est. time of return: 4:00pm

On this afternoon hike, we'll take the Upper Javelina, Wild Mustang, and Cochie Trails into Cochie Canyon. We'll return via the same route. Bring 2 liters of water, and energy snacks. No carpool fee.

Wednesday January 18 Bear / Sabino Canyon Loop Pace: Moderate Level: A, 13 miles, 2,400ft
Hike Leader: Bill Ulrich 744-2169 Depart time 7:30am Est return time: 5:30pm

We've done this long hike several times. For your spirit, there are fantastic views, and much of the hike is within earshot of running water. For your fitness, you will burn a lot of calories, and give your heart and legs a workout. We begin at the visitor's center, head up the Bear Canyon Trail, go past Seven Falls, up to Thimble Flats and over to Sycamore Saddle. From here we'll pick up the Sabino Trail, and drop into Sabino Basin, and continue around until we are above the Sabino Tram road. We'll hike down to Tram Stop #9, pay the \$8 fee to ride the tram to return. This is an all day hike so bring plenty of water, power bars, and lunch. Golden Age Passport or fee at Sabino plus a \$4 per person carpool fee. (50 Miles)

Thursday January 19 Hugh Norris / Sendero Esperanza, Key Swap Pace: Lei/Mod Level: C+, 4.8 miles, 950 or 750 ft.
Hike leaders: Frank Price and George Hammond 579-3296 Depart 8:00am Est. time of return: 2:00pm

This is an ideal C+ level hike taking us on trails in the Tucson Mtns. usually followed on B level hikes. We'll split up in two groups; one starting from the King Canyon trailhead and the other starting from the Hugh Norris trailhead. Both groups will cover portions of the Gould Mine, Sendero Esperanza, and Hugh Norris trails. Those leaving Hugh Norris gain 950ft; 750ft from King Canyon. Both routes gain gradually. Bring water, trail mix and lunch. We'll swap car keys and have lunch at the junction of Norris and Esperanza. \$4 per person carpool fee. (52 miles)

Friday January 20 Ventana Canyon to Maiden Pools Pace: Moderate Level: B, 5.4 miles, 1,400ft
Hike Leader: Sharon Christensen 505-4780 Depart: 8:00am Est. time of return: 4:00pm

We'll park at the trailhead located at Lowe's Ventana Resort, then hike a little over two miles along the canyon floor before heading up a short steep climb to an area known as Maiden Pools. You'll enjoy the vistas of Tucson as we make the ascent. We'll stop at the Pools for a break and have time to explore the surroundings before heading back. This hike will be limited to 12 hikers to better accommodate restaurant arrangements, car pooling and group hiking. Bring at least a 1.5 liters of water and a lunch/snack. If there's enough interest, we can have lunch afterwards at (George's) famous New York Pizza place. Let Sharon know if you're interested. \$4 per person carpool fee. (49 miles)

Monday January 23 Seven Falls, Bear Canyon Pace: Steady Level: B-, 8.2 miles, 600ft
Hike Leader: Carlene Rogers 579-2585 Depart: 8:00am Est. time of return: 3:00pm

We're skipping the tram this time. We'll leave from the Sabino Canyon visitor center to pick up Bear Canyon trail in lower Sabino. This is a relatively flat hike, only 600 ft elevation gain over the 4.1 miles to the Falls. We'll have to cross the creek seven times. A walking stick can be helpful. Suggest bringing a towel in case we have to wade across. Bring at least 1.5 liters of water and lunch. A Golden Age Passport or fee required at Sabino Canyon. \$4 per person carpool fee. (50 miles)

Monday January 23 Arizona Trail Passage #10: Italian Trap to Hirabayashi Trail Pace: Fast Level: A, 15.7 miles, 2,500ft
Hike Leader: Barb Farr 572-7174 Depart: 7:00am Est. time of return: 6:00pm

This segment of the Arizona Trail provides a scenic link between the Rincons and the Catalinas. Beginning at the Italian Trap TH, off of Redington Road. The trail crosses Caliente Creek and joins the Bellota Trail. From an elevation of 4900 feet the trail then descends to the Catalina Highway crossing at Molino Basin. Then climbs again to end at the Hirabayashi TH. We will either do a key swap or spot a car in advance so please sign up in advance to facilitate transportation. \$9 per person carpool fee. (120 miles estimate)

Tuesday January 24 Honey Bee Canyon South. Pace: Leisurely Level D+, Approx 3-4 miles, 100ft

Hike Leader: Frank Price 579-8013 Depart: 10:00am Est. time of return: 2:00pm

It's been more years than anyone can remember since the club has done this hike and no one can remember why we stopped??? Now there is an additional trail! This is an easy and fun hike with great views almost in our own back yard-Rancho Vistoso. We will be doing a combination of hiking, a loop ridge trail and return thru a mysterious rock portal into the canyon!. We will leave mid morning, do the hike and then enjoy our lunch at the trail head where there is an excellent picnic area complete with restrooms! \$2 per person carpool fee. (20 miles).

Tuesday January 24 Cardiac Gap (Santa Catalina Mtns) Pace: Moderate Level: B, 7.2 miles, 1,650ft

Hike Leader: Chuck Fish 651-815-3895 Depart: 8:00am Est. time of return: 3:00pm

Esperero is Spanish for 'hopeful'; so hopefully you'll enjoy hiking Esperero Trail through Rattlesnake and Bird canyons then up a series of steep switchbacks to a saddle affectionately named Cardiac Gap. Along the 3.6 mile one way trek we'll gain 1,650 ft. The saddle will be our turnaround spot and worth every step. We'll have lunch while viewing one of the prettiest basins in the entire Catalinas. Bring 2 lts of water, snacks, and a lunch. There is a parking fee at Sabino Canyon so bring your Golden Age Passport. Also, \$4 per person carpool fee (50 miles).

Wednesday January 25 Sanctuary Cove / Safford Ridge Loop (Tucson Mtns.) Pace: Leisurely Level: C, 5 miles, 500ft

Hike Leader: George Hammond 579-3296 Depart: 8:00am Est. time of return: 1:30pm

This will be a fun adventure that begins at the little known Sanctuary Cove and follows their meditation trail past a small chapel (donations appreciated) up to a short spur taking us to a plateau. From here we'll take a well defined horse trails to the base of Safford Peak. Here we'll rest and take in the vistas of the Tucson Basin and Dove Mountain. We'll return via a seldom used trail in the National Park to make this a loop. Bring snacks, lunch. At the request of the Cove caretaker, there will be a limit of twelve hikers. \$4 per person carpool fee. (45 miles).

Wednesday January 25 Pima Canyon to 1st Dam (Santa Catalina Mtns) Pace: Moderate Level: C+, 6.4 miles, 800ft

Hike Leader: Sandra and Ernie Green 572-2353 Depart: 8:00am Est. time of return: 3:00pm

The pace for this hike will be relaxed with rest stops. You'll have a view of the entire Tucson area before entering the Canyon where you lose view of everything but nature. Lunch will be at a spot where Hohokam Indians rested and ground their grain in rock mortars. Bring two liters of water, snacks and lunch for this pleasant hike. \$3 per person carpool fee. (30 miles)

Friday January 27 Cougar Canyon – Eastern Tortolita's Pace: Moderate Level: C+, 5 miles, 500ft

Hike Leader: Dave Seiller 744-9338 Depart: 8:00am Est. time of return: 2:00pm

This outing offers great vistas and relatively easy hiking that is practically in our backyard. Although "off trail", this is the hike for those wanting to try easy bushwhacking. We will start near the edge of Saguaro Ranch, walk up a gravel road for about ½ mile then continue up a narrow, mile-long wash with some modest rocks to climb up and over. Leaving the wash we will be on relatively flat, open terrain and will search out three beautiful crested saguaros for a photo shot. Lunch will be at a petroglyph area with a spectacular overlook/waterfalls (when wet) looking straight down into a box canyon. Long pants are recommended. \$1 per person carpool fee. (7 miles)

Friday January 27 Wild Burro Canyon Loop (Tortolita Mtns.) Pace: Moderate Level A, 12 miles, 2000 ft.

Hike Leader: Bill Ulrich 744-2169 Depart 8:00 Est. time of return: 3:00pm

We'll do this nearby hike clockwise via the Upper Javelina, Wild Mustang, and Alamo Springs trails. No carpool fee.

Monday January 30 Hutch's Pool (Sabino Canyon) Pace: Moderate Level: B-, 8.2 miles, 550ft

Hike Leader: Sharon Christensen 505-4780 & Rosemary Lemmon 579-9894 Depart: 8:00am Est. time of return: 3:30pm

Hutch's Pool is by far the largest pool in the Catalinas and will contain water all of the year. We will depart the Visitor Center on the first tram and start the climb from Tram Stop #9. Most of the 550 elevation gain occurs just above the tram stop. We'll then descend into Upper Sabino Basin and proceed up the West Fork of Sabino Canyon Creek to Hutch's Pools. Bring a lunch, snacks and at plenty of liquid. If it is hot you may want to either swim or wade. A beautiful setting. There is a parking fee at Sabino Canyon so bring your Golden Age Passport. There's an \$8 Tram fee plus a \$4 per person carpool fee. (50 Miles)

Monday January 30 Wild Burro Loop (Tortolita Mtns.) Pace: Steady Level A, 14 miles, 2,400 ft

Hike Leader: Gail and Jim Githens 651-303-3932 ggithens3@aol.com Depart: 8:00am Est. time of return: 4:00pm

We hike the Upper Javelina, Wild Mustang, Goat Corral, Alamo Springs Trail, including the "work out" hill, and finish up on the Lower Javelina, and back to the parking lot. No carpool fee.