



SaddleBrooke Nature Club

Schedule of Lectures and Activities

2026/2027

Meetings are typically held the second Monday of the month.
Check each meeting for specific time and location.

- Website: SaddleBrookeNatureClub.org

MONTHLY LECTURES

- *Monday, NOVEMBER 9 @ 3:30pm*

- **The BATTLE of PICACHO PASS**



- Dates of Civil War and when battle occurred
- Physical location of Picacho Pass
- Terrain at that time
- How Americans 'back east' viewed this region
- Southwest's social and political situation, and the Gadsden Purchase
- Why PP engagement was largely ignored by modern historians
- Bios of 'main actors' in the engagement
- Planning of the operation
- Details of the actual battle (approach, contact, maneuvering during flight)
- 'After action report' on fallout and what happened to participants
- Current markers, monuments, museum displays located at PP or elsewhere
- Location: DesertView Theatre
- Speaker: Steve Smith,
 - Arizona Civil War Council & USAF Major (Retired)



• **Monday, DECEMBER 14 @ 3:30pm**

○ **CANDID CRITTERS of the Catalina's**



- Did you know? Santa Catalina Mtns are home to:
 - A Marsupial
 - 3 members of the Raccoon family
 - 4 of the 5 species of Skunks in North America
 - 2 of the top tier Predators in North America
- Join Naturalist and camera trap videographer David Dean for an up close and personal (and often humorous) look into the lives of the fascinating animals who call these mountains home.
- His presentation consists of a series of short (one

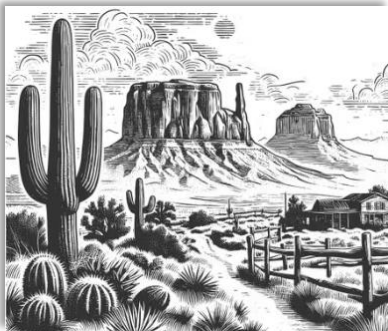
minute or less) videos captured by motion-activated cameras in the Santa Catalina Mountains on public land managed by the US Forest Service.

- Watch here as a female black bear waits patiently for her 'boyfriend' to catch up to her.
[Black Bears in the Catalinas](#)
- Location: DesertView Theatre
- Speaker: David Dean,
 - Naturalist and Camera Trap Videographer
 - Active member of the Sabino Canyon Volunteer Naturalists

2027 PROGRAMS

More details to come:

- **Jan 11 – Birds of Prey, Jeff Babson of Pima County Conservation**
- **Feb 9 – Hummingbirds, Hummingbird Rescue Group**
- **Mar 8 – Desert Tortoises, AZ Fish and Game**
- **Apr 12 – Reptiles, Pima County Conservation Lands & Resources**



- **May 10 – Ranching History**



FIELD TRIPS & PICNICS

Fall Field Trip

– Picacho Peak Civil War Encampment

- ***Saturday, NOVEMBER 21 @ 10am***
- **Picacho Peak State Park**
 - ***MEET AT THE PARK NO LATER THAN 10:15***
 - ***QUAIL Group Area***
 - ***We'll attend the Ranger Talk as a group, get a bite to eat, and then everyone is on their own***
- LEARN ABOUT THE LIFE OF A CIVIL WAR SOLDIER
- GROUP ACTIVITY: Ranger Talk @ 10:30, Battle of Picacho Pass
- GROUP ACTIVITY: enjoy food from Calvin's Still Smokin BBQ area
- Choose from:
 - Weapons Demonstration @ Noon
 - Walk thru Union and Confederate camps
 - Chat with reenactors
- Open 9am to 3pm

