



SaddleBrooke Nature Club

Schedule of Lectures and Activities

2026

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

PICNICS & FIELD TRIPS

Fall Picnic

- **Thursday, OCTOBER 22 @ Noon**



- Catalina State Park
 - FLYCATCHER picnic area
- Food catered from PANDA EXPRESS
- Food will be served promptly at Noon
- Fun Nature Trivia to follow



Fall Field Trip

– Picacho Peak Civil War Encampment

- **Saturday, NOVEMBER 21 @ 11am**

- 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
- Ranger Talk @ 10:30, Battle of Picacho Pass
- enjoy food from Calvin's Still Smokin BBQ area
- Weapons Demonstration @ Noon
- Walk thru Union and Confederate camps
- Chat with reenactors
- Open til 3pm

