



NEWSLETTER - SEPTEMBER 2003



Greater Phoenix Orienteering Club - Getting There is ALL the Fun!

Day & Night - Thumb Butte 9/27

Come join us for a weekend of camping and Orienteering in the cool pines near Prescott. Temperatures will be mild, with a typical day being clear with highs in the mid-70's and lows in the mid-40's. Primitive camping sites are available near the start of the orienteering courses.

The terrain is mostly open Ponderosa pine forest, with only occasional regions of thick brush. This makes for fairly easy (and shady) cross-country travel. We will have orienteering courses for beginning, intermediate and advanced levels, and will also be including a Night-O course. This event is the next step in our club's progression toward a "B" meet this winter—we will be featuring the improved color orienteering maps and will run this event as a B meet. Of course, if you prefer a more relaxed approach to orienteering, participants can register in the recreational class in lieu of the competitive class.

After the events, gather around the campfire and exchange stories about our adventures. The Night-O will be particularly interesting, since there will be no moon that night! The daytime event will be a classic course, where the control points must be visited in a prescribed order. The Night-O will be a Score-O, where the control points can be visited in any order, and the score for each control point varying with difficulty.

The meet director for this event is Glenn Haselfeld. Please call him at 623-939-8520 or email to glenn-dianne@msn.com if you would like to volunteer for either the daytime or Night courses. Also, we are looking for volunteers for a vetting session on Saturday, September 20. All volunteers are greatly appreciated.

Directions:

From Phoenix, take Interstate 17 and State Highway 69 to Prescott. Stay in the left lane as you approach the intersection with Highway 89. The road turns into Gurley street and goes by Courthouse Square and Whiskey Row (Mile 0). Follow straight through on this road (which turns into Thumb Butte road). At 3.5 miles, you will pass through Thumb Butte Park and the road will turn to dirt. At mile 5.0, take a left onto Forest Road 373. Follow this road for 1.8 miles; it will cross a small creek (usually flowing) and climb up a hill. After the terrain levels, look for the orienteering sign and take a left onto FR 51. This road is rough (high ground clearance preferred), but can be driven with care in a passenger car. The registration area is at camp site 100, about 350 yards in on FR 51. Parking is along the side of FR 51 in the camp sites (please keep the road clear and leave space for other vehicles to park). Allow 2-¼ hours travel time from downtown Phoenix.

Details Continued on Page 2

THUMB BUTTE EVENT CONTINUED

Schedule:

9:30 AM Registration opens
 10:00 AM Beginners' clinic starts
 10:00 AM Courses open
 2:00 PM Courses close. Begin control removal for control points not being used for Night-O. Volunteer before 10 AM with the meet director.
 6:30 PM Instructions for Night-O
 6:40 PM Night-O course opens
 8:40 PM Night-O course closes

Fees: (member/nonmember)

Individual—single event	\$4/\$5
Individual—both events	\$5/\$6
Family/team—single event	\$6/\$7
Family/team—both events	\$7/\$8

Camping: There are no fees required for camping in the National Forest. Camping is restricted to designated areas. These are primitive camp sites—no water, power, or rest rooms available. Several camp sites are along FR 51 (near the Start/Finish), with more sites along FR 373.

Check-In:

To insure that all are safe, everyone, whether finished with the course or not, must check in formally at Start/Finish before leaving the meet site.

Newcomers:

Go directly to Registration. Ask for instructions and introductory information. To attend the beginners' clinic, arrive between 9:45 and 10:00 AM.

A whistle is required for all participants. Some are available to purchase for \$1. Compasses are available to rent for \$1. Your registration fee includes the map.

What to bring:

water bottle(s)
 whistle (required)
 compass (some available for rent for \$1)

Route-choice reviews: Between 1 PM and 2 PM, the course setter or an advanced orienteer will discuss route choices with returning participants, near the Registration area. This is a good opportunity to improve your orienteering skills and meet other members of the group.

Semi-Annual Land Navigation Class Oct 16 & 18

Master the use of topographic map and compass to travel through the wilderness with skill and confidence. This class is an evening in-town session then a full day in the field at a site near the town of Superior. This class is designed for adults and is a very intensive, hands-on program.

Students walk four to five miles, with day packs, learning and practicing land navigation methods and techniques. The course covers compass use, interpreting topographical maps, and six methods of getting from point to point (walking a straight line, using checklines, contour lines, and catch features, honing in and funneling). You will also learn aiming off, pace counting, triangulation, and more.

We provide dinner at the classroom session, plus breakfast, lunch, snacks and dinner at the field

session. Students must provide their own transportation to and from the site. Students provide their own Silva Ranger 15 CL 360-degree compass. (Another model may be used if it has a baseplate, a mirrored lid with a site and a mechanical declination scale adjustment). A Silva compass may be rented for \$5.

Cost is \$100 (fully refundable until 10/9/2003). Members who have joined prior to June 1, 2003 get a \$20 discount. **Class alumni, if it's been awhile since you've been practicing, you may take the class again for half price (\$50.00).**

Ask any of our previous students and they'll tell you what a great class it is. As our club president, Matt Dixon, likes to say, where else can you go on a catered hike like this?

GPHXO Upcoming Event Schedule

September 27	Thumb Butte (Prescott NF)
October 16 & 18	Fall Land Navigation Class
November 1	Lake Pleasant (Joint JROTC)
December 13	Bomboy Mine (Joint JROTC)
January 10, 2004	some place new???
February 14, 2004	First Water (Joint JROTC)
March 6, 2004	Saguaro Lake (Joint JROTC)

We encourage our members to participate in the Tucson club events as well as our own. Not only is it an opportunity for more orienteering experience fairly close to home but they have some really great folks that we can learn a lot from while we enjoy their company.

Tucson Club Event Schedule

Sept 21	Greasewood Park
Oct 19	Catalina State Park
Nov 16	Highway 83
Dec 21	Cat Mountain
Feb 15	Chimney Rock

Events can't happen without volunteers from the club. Volunteer today to help staff or set up for a meet. We'll be there to help you through your first, second, even tenth time so you don't have to go it alone.

Did you know that GPHXO O.C. members get the "member" rate for Tucson O.C. events? For details about the Tucson Club events, check their web page at <http://go.to/tucsonorienteering>

GPHXO Board Meetings:

Board meetings are held monthly to discuss the business operations of the club and to plan for upcoming events. They are open to all members. Unless otherwise noted, all meetings are at 7:00 PM at the Tempe Library, downstairs in one of the study rooms.

Tuesday, September 16

Tuesday, October 21

Tuesday, November 18

2003 CLUB OFFICERS:

President	Matt Dixon	motleymongoose@yahoo.com
Vice President	Mike Franklin	mikehike@earthlink.net
Secretary	Celia Jansen	crjansen120@cox.net
Treasurer	Patricia Abbott	PAAPsyD@aol.com
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Permits	Rita Locke	arizonarita@yahoo.com
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Volunteer Coordinator	Ron Jansen	RDJ120@cox.net
Mapping	Patricia Abbott	PAAPsyD@aol.com
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Greater Phoenix Orienteering Club
c/o Rockledge Services
P.O. Box 51114
Phoenix, AZ 85076-1114

GPHXO Newsletter September 2003

Greater Phoenix Orienteering Club

... Join Phoenix Orienteering Today ...

Send form to:
Greater Phoenix Orienteering Club
c/o Rockledge Services
P.O. Box 51114 Phoenix, AZ 85076-1114

Contact us at (480) 706-4824
gphxoc@yahoo.com

NAME

STREET ADDRESS

CITY, STATE, ZIP

(AREA CODE) DAY TELEPHONE

(AREA CODE) EVENING TELEPHONE

EMAIL ADDRESS

- NEW MEMBER INDIVIDUAL (\$12)
 RENEWAL FAMILY (\$14)
 Yes, I can help staff a club meet. Call me.

Members receive a bi-monthly (or more) newsletter, have voting privileges, and receive a discount on club events and the Land Navigation class.