

NEWSLETTER - DEC 2003



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

Dec 13th at Bomboy Mine

Join us Saturday, **December 13th**, at a site in the Superstitions east of Apache Junction near the town of Superior. Develop your land navigation skills, compete for best score, or just enjoy a day outside!

This event is a **Score-O** type of event where the goal is to find as many controls as you can, in any order, in the time allowed. Points are assigned to each control and the challenge is to maximize your score through strategic route planning. There will be three different skill levels of score-o as well as a classic-style beginner's course. There is a recreational category for those who do not wish to run competitively.

Everyone, including non-competitors, must be off the course by 1:00 PM when the course closes. 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.

Schedule:

Registration Starts	9:00
Beginner's Clinic	9:30
Course opens	9:30
Course closes	1:00

Cost(member/non-member):

Individual	\$4/\$5
Family / team rate	\$6/\$7

Directions to Bomboy Mine From Phoenix:

Take the Superstition Freeway east through Apache Junction, towards Globe. About .4 miles past milepost 222 and immediately after crossing the Queen Creek bridge, turn left onto Hewitt Station Rd (Forest Road 357). If you reach the Boyce Thompson Arboretum you have gone a half mile too far! Cross the cattle guard and continue straight ahead. After about 1.5 miles on FR357, you will cross a wash with two 15 foot high drainage pipes under the railroad tracks on the right. Turn right on to FR 252, which is .2 mile after the wash. Our site is about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile down the road, at a road junction. Look for an orange and white orienteering bag or sandwich board at the last turnoff and at our site.

What to bring:

water bottle(s)

whistle (required; available for \$1)

compass (some available to rent for \$1)

your lunch

Route choice reviews: Between 1 PM and 2 PM, the course setter or an advanced orienteer will discuss route choices with returning participants. You can learn from others and they can learn from you.

Please plan to stick around and socialize afterwards.

Greater Phoenix Orienteering Club
<http://www.geocities.com/phxo>

c/o Rockledge Services / P.O. Box 51114
Phoenix, AZ 85076-1114

November Lake Pleasant Results and Wrap-Up

By Pat Abbott, Meet Director

We had a great turnout for our first "local" meet of the Fall/Winter season. This was despite some rainy weather. At least it was cool! A total of 50 people competing either individually or as a team had a choice of four classic courses which provided a range of challenges. This was also a joint meet with the JROTC which as usual had a large number of teams, with many local schools participating but with teams coming from as far away as Texas.

We had a tremendous group of volunteers for this meet. Mike Franklin designed all four courses plus the course used by the JROTC. Mike also set the courses which were vetted by Peter Neubauer, Dennis Piñon, and David Piñon. Dennis and David also manned the registration table for the meet. Timing was managed by Lisa Royer, Glenn Haselfeld, and Peter Neubauer. Rita Locke led a map hike for some beginning orienteers and Sheryl Berling-Wolff provided her expertise for the beginner's clinic. The equipment was handled by Jared Kuhn who did his usual great job setting up and tearing down.

A note about the results: There was a problem with a control that was on both the Orange and the Green courses. As a result, this control was nullified. Because of this problem, it is felt that the finish times for these courses lack accuracy. Therefore, the results for Orange and Green (competitors) are listed with the finish time for the first finisher in each division and other names are listed in the order of finish without times. If you need to know your "official" finish time, send me an email (PAAPsyD@aol.com) and I will get the time to you. Despite this glitch, I hope that everyone had a great time.

White Competitive

Lars Hjerrild 34:30

White Recreational

Dave Joder

White Recreational (cont.)

Donna Walkuski
Goldfein Family
John Barkley
Adam and Sue Price
Piñon Family

Yellow Competitive

The Cult (Team) 1:27:09

Yellow Recreational

Joe Cancellare and Patricia Uribe
Adam and Sue Price
Melissa Neubauer
Lost Place
Mike M.
Three Blind Mice
Happy Wanderers
John Barkley

Orange Competitive Individual

Jack Lauters 2:20:15
Per Hjerrild

Orange Competitive Team

Team Vernon

Orange Recreational

Doug McCulley
Eilert Gals
UFAF

Green Competitive Individual

Jens Kjaergaard 1:22:12
Glenn Haselfeld
Richard Fawcett
Dan Hink
Walt Smith
Cliff Schweigert
Mike Zampino
Chris Weber

Green Competitive Team

The Izards 1:53:35
Team Morden

Field Checking at Needle Vista - First Water

We have had two productive days of field checking for our new map of the Needle Vista – First Water area that we will be using for the club’s planned B-meet in February. On October 25, Mike Franklin, Rita Locke, Adam Price, and Pat Abbott came out to get started on the roads and fences. This work continued on November 8 with Jarmo Monttinen, Sheryl Berling-Wolff, and Pat Abbott from the Phoenix club. We were really thankful for two members from Tucson, Ludwig Hill and Jim O’Donnell, who drove up to lend their considerable help.

But to give you an idea of the amount of labor involved in this project, we have with those two days covered only about one-fourth of the proposed map area – and that only covering the major features such as roads, fences, and power lines. There is a long way to go to get the map near the condition it needs to be by February. This means we need your help. Due to holiday scheduling issues, the next “regular” field checking is not until January 17. But there will be some of us going out at other times before then. If you can spare any time for this at all, please contact Pat Abbott regarding your availability. Contact Pat by email (PAAPsyD@aol.com) or phone (480-785-9637). Without the help of volunteers, the club cannot give you the quality of meets we hope to have.

A - Meet, Dec 6-7, outside L.A.

On December 6 & 7, the Los Angeles Orienteering Club will hold an A meet. This is the most formal O meet format held. National ranking are calculated using A meet results. If you really want to get a taste for orienteering on a national level, I encourage you to attend this meet. The map quality will be superb and the courses polished. You will be assigned a start time- so no time wasted hanging around the start. The meet site is Vasquez Rocks, just outside LA. Those of you who have seen the live action movie "The Flintstones" will recognize the wild rock formations. It's a fascinating area to orienteer in.

What if you're not competitive at a national level and feel a little intimidated? Go anyway. There will be lots of recreational runners and everyone there will be an orienteer anyway: friendly, thinking people just like you. You may even find that attending a meet like this will make you a better orienteer; exposure to the elite tends to have that effect. See them run like blazes! Hear their expert course postmortems! Bask in their encouragement! More details about the meet at: <http://www.geocities.com/Yosemite/Trails/6320/>

3 Day Fiesta of Orienteering, Jan 17-19, San Diego

There will be a fairly informal three day fiesta of orienteering in the Anza-Borrego Desert over Martin Luther King Day weekend January 17-19. The regular Tucson meet has been rescheduled so that you can now attend both meets. Hosted by the San Diego club, at last year's edition we orienteered five times for less than \$20. The terrain varies from flat desert (pace count and compass) to steep cliffs (map reading and prayer). The site is about 60 miles northwest of El Centro, only about a six hour drive from Tucson. If you've never orienteered out of town before, this is an excellent way to see what other clubs do. If you just don't get to orienteer enough, this is a great opportunity to almost get your fill. For more details or carpooling, call Peg at 520-628-8985 or email pegdavis@u.arizona.edu.

Annual Meeting Wrap-Up

A total of 20 club members and guests met at Marie Callender's for the annual meeting on November 15. It was a great opportunity to socialize and we had a terrific meal.

The highlight of the evening was the presentation and slide show by Kurt Gusinde who recently completed an ascent of Mt. Kilimanjaro. Kurt has the ambitious plan to ascend the highest peaks on each of the continents. A number of club members seemed inspired to have their own summit dreams.

Annual club business was also conducted. Officers were elected. Matt Dixon will continue for the next year as president with Mike Franklin as vice-president

and Pat Abbott as treasurer. The position of secretary is still vacant and someone is desperately needed to fill that position. We have also open the position of volunteer coordinator.

There was one change to the by-laws voted on by the members. This change will allow the board to set a date for the annual meeting for a time other than November, allowing flexibility in scheduling the annual meeting.

Matt Dixon presented Bob Kuhn with the "shirt off my back" award for his years of dedicated service to the club. Hopefully, this award will become an annual event to recognize volunteers.

Orienteering for the Young—A String Course

(Do you have young children to whom you want to begin teaching about orienteering? Here's something simple you can try when on your next family outing.)

The string course is a short orienteering course which is marked by a continuous ribbon or yarn. The map is usually simple and includes just the area around the course. Children may color it in with the appropriate map colors.

From the start, a continuous length of ribbon or yarn, called the string, leads you along the course. The route that the string takes is shown on the map. When you reach the places circled on the map (called "controls"), you will find an orange and white nylon marker (called a "control marker"). At each control there will either be a marking device or a bag of stickers, for marking the appropriate box on the map. Eventually the string leads back to the finish, usually the same place as the start.

A child need only follow the string around to find all the points and will not get lost. For the youngest, this is sufficient and gives the child exercise, fun and some exposure to maps, as well as confidence in being alone in the woods. Even at this simplest level, however, children can be taught map symbols, map colors and simple orienteering skills.

For children ready for more challenge, the locations of the controls can be left off the map. The child must figure out where the controls should be on the map. Alternatively, some controls can be placed off the string inside the loop formed by the string. Many variations are possible.

Find this and more information about orienteering for the young at <http://www.us.orienteering.org/OYoung/>

GPHXO Upcoming Event Schedule

December 13	Bomboy Mine (Joint JROTC)
December 16	Board Meeting
January 10, 2004	Coon Bluff Scrabble O
January 17, 2004	Field Checking at Needle Vista
January 20, 2004	Board Meeting
February 14, 2004	First Water (Joint JROTC)
February 17	Board Meeting
March 6, 2004	Saguaro Lake (Joint JROTC)
March 16	Board Meeting

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.

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

Dec 21	Cat Mountain
Jan 11 (NEW DATE)	Italian Trap Tank
Feb 15	Chimney Rock mini-rogain
May 8-9	World Rogaine Championship

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 www.tucsonorienteering.org

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.

2003 CLUB OFFICERS:

President	Matt Dixon	motleymongoose@yahoo.com
Vice President	Mike Franklin	mikehike@earthlink.net
Secretary	OPEN	
Treasurer	Patricia Abbott	PAAPsyD@aol.com
Newsletter	Sheryl Berling-Wolff	sherylb@cox.net
Equipment	Bob Kuhn	ulazyk@cox.net
Membership	Sheryl Berling-Wolff	sherylb@cox.net
Permits	Rita Locke	arizonarita@yahoo.com
Publicity	Tim Tablada	ttracker20@hotmail.com
Volunteer Coordinator	OPEN	
Mapping	Patricia Abbott	PAAPsyD@aol.com
Webmaster	Matt Dixon	motleymongoose@yahoo.com

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... 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.