



NEWSLETTER - April 2009



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

Classic O and Motala at Box Canyon - 4/19/09

Orienteers of all skill levels will enjoy five classic courses and an adventure race motala in the Coronado National Forest in the eastern foothills of the picturesque Santa Rita mountains.

The White, Yellow, Orange, Green, Red, and Tucson Motala courses will traverse through grassy open and lightly forested rolling terrain that is quite different from the Sonoran desert of Tucson. Practically all of the grass seeds will be gone by this time of the year, so the running through undergrowth should be pleasant and the visibility good. The color map for all courses will be 1:10,000 scale with a 5 m contour interval.

The meet directors are **Margrit McIntosh** and **Pat Penn**. Call Margrit at (520) 300-0555 or email memcinto@gmail.com if you have questions about this meet. Please offer to help out with registration, timing, or control retrieval. The fees collected at each event only cover the costs for permits, insurance, transportation, map printing, supplies, and equipment used at the event. They don't cover planning, organizing, or running the event. It is only through the generous volunteer effort of us club members by which these events can happen!

Newcomers: Go directly to Registration. Ask for instructions/introductory information. To attend the beginner's clinic, arrive between 8:15 and 8:30 am.

Motala: The Tucson Motala is a three-stage course that will test and develop both your navigation and endurance skills. The stages may be run in any order desired and consist of a ~3-4k on/off trail loop (or "Yellow" loop), a more navigationally challenging ~4-5k off trail loop (Orange) and a more difficult ~5-6k off trail loop (Red). We recommend that you start the first stage by 9:15 a.m. The latest time to start the last stage is 11:30 a.m. (Red loop), 11:45 a.m. (Orange), or 12:00 p.m. (Yellow). Motala fees for members of the Tucson or other recognized orienteering club are \$10/person + \$5/each additional team member for each event. Nonmember fees are \$15/individual + \$10/each additional team member for each event.

Directions: From Phoenix, head south on I-10, pass through Tucson, and continue eastward on I-10 to SR 83 (Exit 281). Then drive south on SR 83 for 17 miles to Greaterville Road. Turn right at Greaterville Road and drive 4.8 miles to the junction with Box Canyon Road (FS 62) which forks to the right at the end of the asphalt paving. Take Box Canyon Road 0.9 miles to the trail crossing for the Arizona Trail, which is the event site. It takes about an hour to get to the meet site from downtown Tucson.

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 site.

Greater Phoenix Orienteering Club
gphxo.org

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

Tucson Motala Continued

Informal Camping: Some of us will spend the night before this event at the February 2006 Greaterville event site. The turnout to this site, which is near the small power sub-station, is located on the left-hand side of the Greaterville Road about 1/4 miles before you get to the end of the pavement (at the junction with Box Canyon Road). You are welcome to join us.

Fees: Classic courses: \$5/individual, \$8/team for members of any recognized orienteering club. \$10/individual, \$15/team for nonmembers. For motala fees, see the special section on page 1. Compasses rent for \$1. Safety whistles sell for \$1. Every person, all courses, all meets is required to carry some type of safety whistle.

Schedule:

8:30 a.m. Beginners' clinic starts.

8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Registration.

9:00 a.m. Courses open.

12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. Route choice reviews.

1:00 p.m. Courses close. Everyone must be back by then. Begin control retrieval (orienteering practice).

Route Choice Reviews: Orienteers love to talk about alternate routes and their advantages and disadvantages. If you would like to discuss your choices after you do the course, there will be advanced orienteers near the Start/Finish area who would enjoy going over your route with you.

GPHXO Members Help Out With Reality Show Pilot

By Erik Ringnes

Ed Tankersley, Tim Tablada, and I met for lunch in Scottsdale Tuesday March 24th not knowing for sure what to expect. Ed and I had set a 5-control course about 4 km long the Saturday before at the Robbins Butte site that Glenn Haselfeld pioneered. According to producer Todd Baker of THEME Entertainment, the two lady executives had no idea what challenge they would embark on. We were just concerned they had proper clothing. I had brought my wife's hiking boots in case some high heels had to be shed. The shoot at the ladies' business in Scottsdale ran late of course, so we didn't leave town until almost 3 pm. The usual I-10 traffic through the construction zone made the drive to the south side of the Gila River seem like a drive to Rocky Point.

Our time to shine, the beginner's clinic, went well until we tried to explain the compass. The one lady who was an ex ER-doctor just couldn't stop trying to keep the needle inside the arrow. Ed explained the dog-in-the-doghouse too well, I think. The artistic lady had no problem with the compass. Artists understand space and dimensions better, my wife later explained. The ladies, Tammy and Terry, actually

did quite well. They found control #3, our most challenging, a re-entrant junction among similar features rather easily. By that time, the sun was setting and we were far from the cars. The camera crew was ecstatic. The lighting, the red sky, and the desert vistas were just perfect, they said. As the sun disappeared below the horizon, we arranged a fake TV-finish and trekked back in the darkness. No twisted ankles, fortunately.

The TV show's concept is to help a struggling business with some advice and teambuilding challenges. The business ladies hopefully provided for some TV-drama navigating their way through our beautiful Lower Sonoran desert terrain. I did my drama part at the beginner's clinic saying Gila Bend was the only stop before Mexico if they got lost in the desert. The film crew wanted a retake on that line. Whether Ed, Tim, and I make it big or not, it was fun nevertheless. And yes, I told the husband of the show's hostess, the producer didn't pay us anything. If orienteering gets on a national TV show; that's our payoff. Now remember, it was only a pilot for a proposed show. It may turn out to be nothing at all.



Ed Tankersley at Robbins Butte, setting a control for the TV pilot

Tucson Club Event Schedule

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.

- Apr 19, Box Canyon, Ludwig Hill (setter)
- May 16-17, Mogollon Rim ROGAINE John Maier (setter)
- Jun 20, Lincoln Park Night-O and General Mtg
- Jul 19, Bear Wallow
- Aug 16, Palisades
- Sep 19-20, Potato Patch U-Set-It
- Oct 18, Italian Trap
- Nov 15, Catalina State Park
- Dec 20, Cat Mountain

2010

- Jan 17, Ironwood
- Feb 21, Empire Ranch Mini-Rogaine
- Mar 21, Kentucky Camp/Greaterville
- Apr 18, Slavin Gulch
- May 16, Chimney Rock

GPHXO Upcoming Event Schedule

NOTE: Not much is going to happen in 2009 unless we get some volunteers to be Club Officers! They plan events and attend to club business. Please consider stepping up.

2008-2009 CLUB OFFICERS:

President	OPEN	
Vice President	OPEN	
Secretary	OPEN	
Treasurer	OPEN	
Newsletter	Sheryl Berling-Wolff	sherylb@cox.net
Equipment	OPEN	
Membership	Sheryl Berling-Wolff	sherylb@cox.net
Permits	Eric Ringnes	
Publicity	Tim Tablada	ttracker20@hotmail.com
Volunteer Coordinator	Forest Brown	weakonrecon@yahoo.com
Mapping	Patricia Abbott	PAAPsyD@aol.com
Webmaster	Ron Birks	birksr@aztecfreenet.org

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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 (602) 212-6741
gphxoc@yahoo.com

NEW MEMBER RENEWAL

CHOOSE: *mail me the monthly newsletter:*

FAMILY (\$17) INDIVIDUAL (\$15)

OR: *download/view newsletter on website:*

FAMILY (\$12) INDIVIDUAL (\$10)

Yes, I can help staff a club meet. Call me.

NAME

STREET ADDRESS

CITY, STATE, ZIP

(AREA CODE) DAY TELEPHONE

(AREA CODE) EVENING TELEPHONE

EMAIL ADDRESS (*required for web membership discount; we will email you when the new newsletter is on the website*)