



NEWSLETTER - Feb 2010



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

Coon Bluff - Sunday Feb 14, 2010

***** Important - Parking Permits *****

You are now **required** to have a \$6 Tonto recreation pass to park at Coon Bluff. Parking passes aren't for sale on site so pick one up on your way there. The nearest stores to Coon Bluff that sell them: **Circle K (N.E. corner of Power Rd and McKellips)** and **Big 5 Sporting Goods** (!!!!! Opens at 10am on Sunday!!!! N.W. corner of Power Rd and McDowell Rd in the Bashas Center) (NOTE: Tonto NF parking passes are available at **any Big 5**). For a list of other stores that sell the passes visit: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/tonto/tp/welcome.shtml>

For those of you a little rusty on the area, Power Road intersects U.S. 60 and heads North to become the Bush Highway, which leads to the Coon Bluff area. The two stores listed above are on Power Road just about a mile South of where the 202 Freeway ends at Power Road. There's some construction going on there where they're building an overpass, so if you find yourself North of the construction without a Tonto pass, turn around and head back South on Power Road to the Circle K at McKellips Road.

Please join the Greater Phoenix Orienteering Club at Coon Bluff on Valentine's Day, Sunday, February 14th. What better way to say "I Love You" to that special someone than to run around in the desert with them, or better yet, compete against them in a classic orienteering course.

We'll have Red (advanced), Orange (intermediate), and White (beginner) courses available to give participants of all levels a challenge. We'll also have a free beginner's clinic at 9:30am to go over the basics and answer any questions. Registration will begin at 9am and we'll turn folks loose onto the course at 9:30am. All courses close at 1pm.

Like most desert courses, the terrain is hilly and a bit rugged with some loose rocks and the occasional cactus. This area is actually a pretty light on the cacti, but don't let your guard down. Deer, javelina, coyotes, and wild horses have been routinely spotted in the area.

Volunteers:

We need volunteers to help out at the registration and timing tables, and with bag pick up after the meet. Please contact Forest Brown (weakonrecon@yahoo.com) if you can help.

What to bring:

water bottle(s)
whistle (**required for all**; available for \$1)
Tonto National Forest recreation pass (parking permit)

Schedule:

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

More details on page 5

Greater Phoenix Orienteering Club
gphxo.org

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

Robbins Butte Orienteering Wrap-Up

This was the second event that we have held using our Robbins Butte map. The red course proved to be “flat and fast”, mostly in open areas with sparse vegetation. This was a good-news-and-bad-news situation for several orienteers; the open terrain allows for better viewing of distant land features, but the flat terrain can make it difficult to relocate if you lose contact with the map. The real challenge (as always) turned out to be to not go too fast and let your brain turn off.

We also had an elite orienteer running on the red course. Raffael Huber is visiting from Switzerland (here for winter orienteering training in the U.S.), and came in with an amazing time of 43:59 on a 7.7 km course. Cristina Luis from Tucson also had an excellent run with 60:10.

The Orange course was designed by first-time-setter Dianne Haselfeld, with a course that ran through the rocky outcroppings to the west of the start area. Ed Tankersly had the only competitive finish time on the Orange course, with a time of 102:37. Mike Zampino had an excellent time on the Orange (52:29), but had an unfortunate mis-punch on control #6. In Mike’s defense, he had already run the red course, and assumed that this control was the same as #10 on the Red (the controls were only 50 meters apart)—gotta read those control descriptions!

The Tucson club has graciously added the Robbins Butte base map to their RouteGadget website (<http://tucsonorienteeringclub.org/gadget/cgi-bin/reitti.cgi>). This tool lets you view the routes taken by other orienteers, and is extremely interesting and enlightening (and perhaps in my case, slightly embarrassing) to compare routes taken. The tool also accepts GPS track uploads in .gpx file format, although you will have to manually use tie points to get the correct scale and registration.

Many Thanks to Our Volunteers

Thanks to all the volunteers, especially to the Tucson orienteers that help retrieve controls despite the long drive home. Also, continued thanks to Ron Birks for bringing snacks and drinks! We cannot have meets without them.

Course Setters:	Glenn Haselfeld (Red/Whellow), Dianne Haselfeld (Orange)
Meet Director:	Glenn Haselfeld
Bag Hangers:	Glenn Haselfeld
Water Station Setup:	Glenn Haselfeld
Equipment Hauling:	Matt Hanley, Forest Brown, Glenn Haselfeld, Dianne Haselfeld
Setup/Tear-down:	Glenn Haselfeld, Dianne Haselfeld, Debra Allen, Matt Hanley, Forest Brown
Registration Table:	Dianne Haselfeld, Debra Allen
Timing Table:	Dianne Haselfeld, Glenn Haselfeld
Beginners Clinic:	Glenn Haselfeld
Control Retrieval:	Raffael Huber, Cristina Luis, Max Suter, Mark Parsons, Ludwig Hill, Ron Birks, Matt Hanley, Forest Brown
Tabulating Results:	Glenn Haselfeld

Robbins Butte Orienteering Results

Results—Red

Name	M/W/T	Time (h:m:s)	Time (m:s)	Finish
Raffael Huber	M	0:43:59	43:59	1-M
Cristina Luis	F	1:00:10	60:10	1-F
Mike Zampino	M	1:14:00	74:00	2-M
Ludwig Hill	M	1:15:32	75:32	3-M
Max Suter	M	1:16:36	76:36	4-M
Mark Parsons	M	1:22:10	82:10	5-M
Erik Ringnes	M	1:24:37	84:37	6-M
Matt Hanley/Forest Brown	T	1:36:34	96:34	1-T
Ron Birks	M	1:52:00	112:00	7-M
Hines/Stefek	T	2:05:40	125:40	2-T
Tom Fleck/Warren Pittman	T	2:23:46	143:46	3-T
Guacamole	T	2:33:06	153:06	4-T
David Hensley	M	2:39:20	159:20	8-M
Tim England	M	DNF		DNF
Tim Stefek	M	DNF		DNF
Blame Justin	T	DNF		DNF
Arild Orsleie	M	DNF		DNF

Results—Orange

Name	M/W/T	Time (h:m:s)	Time (m:s)	Finish
Ed Tankersley	M	1:42:37	102:37	1-M
Mike Zampino	M	0:52:29	52:29	MSP
Rick Burris	M	2:19:30	139:30	DNF

Recreational orienteers on the Orange course included:

Debra Allen
 Team Jimbo
 Team Ibish
 Team Geezers
 Team Blank

Short Classics at Catalina State Park on 2/28/10

This is an excerpt from the article written by Ludwig Hill of Tucson O.C. To read the full article, go to www.tucsonorienteeringclub.org

Come out and experience thrilling orienteering on one of three fun, but challenging, short classic courses: Short Yellow (~2 km), Short Orange (~3 km), and Short Green (~4 km). Emphasis will be on detailed navigation through fields of rock boulders and intricate small-gullied terrain. A free skills clinic will be offered for intermediate-level orienteers.

As usual, this self-help event will feature the quality and excitement of a full-service meet with control markers, timed races, published rankings, and a detailed color map, which will have an easy-to-read 1:5000 scale (1 cm = 50 m) with 5 m contour intervals.

This event will use the following **self-help format**:

All participants must pre-register (see below for details). I will use this registration information to pre-build the combined waiver/sign-in/timing log and to reserve maps.

- All registrations will be individual - no teams. You may still choose to go on a course with another person, however each person's time will be posted individually.
- There won't be any road signs, so carefully read the directions below on how to get to the meet site.
- To sign-in, go to the self-help station, read the waiver, fill out the form, pay your fee, and pick up your punch card and clue sheet. You will only have a twenty-minute window to sign in, so plan on arriving early.
- During sign-in, I will give a mass briefing for all participants.
- **The start process will be intensely compressed.** Multiple participants (one person per course) will simultaneously start at 2-minute intervals. Please help things flow smoothly by being at the start gate ready to take your place as soon as the first starts begin. All starts will occur within a tiny twenty-minute window, so be pumped and ready to go!
- You will pick up your pre-printed course maps at the last station of the start line.
- Courses will close two-and-a-half hours after the first start.

Pre-registration: All participants must pre-register. Go to www.tucsonorienteeringclub.org for complete information. The pre-registration deadline is Wednesday, February 24, 2010.

Non-members/Guests: If you are not a member of TOC or another USOF recognized orienteering club, then you may go out on a course only if you are accompanied by a member.

Schedule:

9:00 a.m. - 9:20 a.m. Sign-in

9:20 a.m. Mass briefing.

9:30 a.m. - 9:50 a.m. Starts.

12:00 p.m. Courses close. Begin control retrieval. Intermediate skills clinic.

Intermediate Skills Clinic: At 12:00 p.m. Peg Davis will lead an orienteering skills clinic while walking, tailored for orienteers who want to improve their skills on the Orange course. "If you're feeling uncomfortable on green, this might well be helpful. We'll be out about an hour. Compass, pace count, route planning, whatever you want to discuss; I'm here for your questions!"

MORE Feb 14th DETAILS**Cost (members/non-members)**

Individual	\$5/\$10
Family/team rate	\$8/\$15

Directions to Coon Bluff From Phoenix:

From US 60: Take US 60 (Superstition Freeway) east to Power Road, exit #188. Head north on Power Road about 12.5 miles, past the 202 overpass where Power Road turns into the Bush Highway. An alternate route would be to take the 202 exit (about 2 miles east of the Power Road exit) and drive north to the McDowell exit. From the exit travel 1 block west on McDowell to Power Road and turn right (north).

Continue north and look for the turn off to Coon Bluff on the north (left) side of the road. It will be marked by an orange/white orienteering sign on the south side (about 1 mile past the Phon D. Sutton Recreation area turnoff). Turn left and drive about 1.25 miles to the parking area.

If you get to Usery Pass Road, turn around and go back 1.25 miles and turn right.

From the westbound 202: Take the 202 west to the Power Road exit, then head north on Power Road. Follow the above directions to Coon Bluff.

GPHXO Upcoming Event Schedule

Feb 14	Coon Bluff
Mar 14	First Water
April 10-11	Bomboy Mine?

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

Feb 21	Empire Ranch
Feb 28	Catalina State Park Training Event
Mar 20-21	Slavin Gulch
Apr 18	Greaterville Classic-O
May 16	Bear Wallow Classic-O
Aug 22	U of A Street-O
Sep 19	TBD Street-O
Oct 17	Sweetwater Photo-O

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.tucsonorienteeringclub.org

2009-2010 CLUB OFFICERS:

President	Forest Brown (acting)	weakonrecon@yahoo.com
Vice President	Tim Tablada (acting)	ttracker20@hotmail.com
Secretary	Patricia Abbott (acting)	PAAPsyD@aol.com
Treasurer	Patricia Abbott (acting)	PAAPsyD@aol.com
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

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

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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*)