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# Tucson Orienteering Club



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March 1997

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## Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge March 15, 1998

—John Little

Especially for those of us who have been in the club a long time, it is a real pleasure to orienteer on a new map. This month we will use a new site, the Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge, located southwest of Tucson. The site is dominated by an outstanding view of the spectacular Baboquivari, sacred mountain of the Tohono O'odham.

El Niño has complicated planning for this event. The site we wanted to use will likely be inaccessible due to muddy roads. Hence we will use a site that has one major drawback, but at least is on a paved road. Parking at this site will depend on how muddy the ground is. If the weather has been rainy in the week before the event, please call Peg Davis' answering machine (628-8985) shortly before the meet to get updates on parking and car pooling.

This site has several major advantages relative to many we use. The ground is generally not very steep, and in most places is highly runnable. There is very little cactus, a small amount of catclaw, and no shindaggers. In many areas, a sparse mesquite forest makes it difficult to see small terrain features at a distance, putting a premium on accurate navigation.

One minor problem is that the site lies right at the edge of one topographic map; this map has 10-foot contours, while the adjacent one has 20-foot contours. Hence, a portion of the map we will use has 20-foot contours, but this area will be used only by the Red course, and the boundary between the two sections will be indicated clearly.

The area also has one major hazard. Due to decades of heavy cattle grazing, there is a lot of erosion. In many places this has resulted in narrow gullies with vertical sides—virtual channels. These can be six or eight feet deep, and some are difficult to see until you are right on top of them. Some are located in areas that are not obvious drainages. Careful attention is essential. This feature has forced me to avoid many areas that would otherwise be great for orienteering; the deepest channel I've seen to date was at least 15 feet deep! I've tried to avoid this kind of terrain, but can't do so completely. You should

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not stand on the banks of the channels, because they are often undercut and may cave in. Usually these channels become shallow on their upstream end above points where they fork, and can be passed there if all else fails. It's a remarkable terrain feature, and one you might think of the next time you enjoy a juicy steak.

Ann Haber will be Meet Director, and is also running a Meet Director Workshop. If you have been considering directing a meet but weren't sure what was involved, please call Ann at 293-0262 to get some hands-on training. Volunteers are always needed.

**Directions:** The site is about 75 minutes from Tucson. Take Ajo Way (Highway 86) off I-19 west towards Kitt Peak and Ajo. At Robles Junction (aka Three Points), turn south towards Sasabe on Highway 286. Just before milepost 12, turn left on the Arivaca Road, and go just over two miles. The site is on the right. Please car pool from Tucson. If the ground is muddy, we may have to do a shuttle from the intersection of Arivaca Road and Highway 286. You can also come from the town of Arivaca; the site is 9 miles west of Arivaca.

**Fees:** \$8/individual, \$10/team; \$5 discount for TSN, PHX, USOF, or SAHC members. 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:**

9:00 a.m. Registration opens.

9:30 a.m. Courses open. Beginners' clinic starts.

12:00 noon. Last time to start a course.

12-2 p.m. Route choice reviews

2:00 p.m. Courses close. Begin control retrieval—good orienteering practice, lots of help always needed. Volunteer before 2 p.m. with the meet director.

**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 allow time to register before attending the beginners' clinic, arrive between 9 and 9:15 a.m.

**Route-Choice Reviews:** Between noon and 2 p.m., the course setter or an advanced orienteer will discuss route choices with returning participants, probably near Start/Finish area.

**Come Join Us!**

**Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge Note**

—Peg Davis

Only 10 percent of the Sonoran desert grasslands still exists in its natural state. Most remaining areas lie in the San Raphael Valley and Altar Valley, home of the Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge (BANWR).

This 117,500 acre refuge was a ranch purchased in 1985 by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Restoring the landscape and reintroducing the bobwhite quail gives us the opportunity to enjoy the largest ungrazed grassland in Arizona as it was before ranching began in the mid-19th century. Look for pronghorn antelope, whitetail deer, and over 300 different birds, including peregrine falcons and black-shouldered kites. This refuge also protects the riparian ecosystem along Arivaca Creek.

Grassland tours are offered by reservation on the third Saturday of the month, so if you love what you see at the meet, you can get a different view the next weekend. Call (520) 823-4251 for more information about the refuge. Or for those with internet access, you can read about the refuge at

<http://sturgeon.irm1.r2.fws.gov/u2/refuges/arizona/buenos.html>.

**August Rocky Mountain 1000-Day, More.....**

—Peg Davis

This year, for the first time, only one event will be USOF sanctioned at the week-long Wyoming event. Except for the Night-O championships, results from the meets will not be applied to national rankings calculations. Participation in four days of USOF-sanctioned events is required to be included for us Arizonans. For those who live in the event-rich east, six days are required.

While, in other years, participating would give one enough statistics to be included in the list of rankings, this year will provide only fun, fun, fun, but no shot at numerically ruling the orienteering world. Of course, those of us like me who have a history of royally boofing day after day may be relieved to be off the list instead of being firmly ensconced at the bottom. I still think that even without the ranking potential, this event is a fabulous use of vacation time. See you there.

# Tucson Orienteering Club - 1, El Niño - 0

—Keith McLeod

On February 15, Mark Parsons and I drove to the meet site at Cat Mountain in a heavy rain, and set up tarps and controls in disappearing drizzle. Remarkably, the clouds scattered, and the sun broke through. The "O" god was smiling on us! The timid souls fearing the forecasted rain missed a festive event. It was a special day.

While some wait for sunny days, others have sunny weather inside them. Picking these special people guarantees orienteering success. Cat Mountain featured three examples of these unique individuals. **Mark Parsons** set course controls simply for the joy and challenge of it; **Rachel Gelbin** oversaw Registration, as well as Start and Finish. She will charm even the most difficult orienteers to pitch in and help. And **Roger Sperline**, using his special gift, transformed an old, flawed map into a work of art at the last minute.

Over 50 participants resulting in 32 entries had a choice between a Score-O, Bike-O, or a regular point-to-point event at the Red level. The Score-O and Bike-O had a choice of 27 controls to visit in less than 90 minutes. Tardy competitors were penalized 10 points for every minute exceeding 1½ hours. A number, stretching to add one more control to their total, misjudged time and suffered a penalty, ruining a great run and route choice. Congratulations to Ult Andre, Peter Zurcher, and Dan Coombs (must have had wings on their feet) for visiting all controls in less than the required time.

Thanks and a deep profound bow to the enthusiastic participants who pitched in to make this a fun and memorable event: **Mark Parsons, Yuri Beregovski, Gilbert Segovia** and **Alex Savine** for set-up; **Jim Stamm, Chris Kraft, Kay Mathiesen, Ted Norris**, and **Rachel Gelbin** for working Registration and Start/Finish. **Mary Cobbett**, a hiker from Alaska, **Ted Norris, Chris Kraft**, and many others hauled items from Registration to the Start/Finish area one-half mile away. My apologies if I missed anyone. Of course, when the meet is over and most are heading home, the controls must be picked up. **Mark Parsons, Jim DeVeny**, veteran **John Maier**, and **Rob "Roy" Stansfield** located and returned the controls. These are the people you can count on and want to call when you are in a pinch or a bind.

Next month we will be experiencing a new map and new area: Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge. Another club veteran, John Little, will be setting courses. This event represents an opportunity to compete, lend a hand, and meet some remarkable people like you. If everyone pitches in and helps, the load will be lighter and your orienteering value will be greater. Please attend and bring a friend.

## Bike-O (90 minutes, 840 points possible)

1M	John Maier	500 pts.
2M	Jim Stamm	490 pts.
3M	Rob "Roy" Stansfield	420 pts.

## Score-O (90 minutes, 840 points possible)

1M	Ult Andre (76:22)	840
2M	Peter Zurcher (78:50)	840
3M	Dan Coombs (86:03)	840
4M	Alexandre Savine	670
5M	Jim DeVeny	520
6M	Yuri Beregovski	500
7M	Mike King	440
1W	Pat Penn	400
8M	Jim Hays	380
9M	Gary Thomas	370

2W	Marilyn Cleavenger	310
1T	Karl Bauer/Olga Simik	310
1T	Kevin Gross/Hung Quan	310
3W	GeeGee Larrington	200
4W	Rebecca Montgomery	170
3T	Slobbering Dogs & Cats	170
5W	Chris Kraft	130
4T	D & D	100
Rec.	Mary Cobbett, Bumbs Family, Peter Bengston, Lois Kimminau	

## Point-to-Point Course (Red)

1M	Dan Cobbledick	52:58
2M	Don Fallis	69:19
3M	Chuck Richards	95:46
4M	Larry Lamb	110:35
5M	Jesse La Plante	141:24

## Ribbons

Have you earned ribbons that you haven't received? Ribbons are no longer mailed with the newsletters. Ribbons are available at each meet for the winners to pick up. **You are responsible for getting your ribbon.**

Ribbons will be placed in an envelope near Start/Finish. They will be held for six months after a meet. If they haven't been picked up in that length of time, we will assume that you didn't want it, and it will be recycled.

# Evolution of the Rogaine

—Rod Phillips, via Internet

**Question:** Could someone explain to me what a Rogaine is and how it differs from "regular" orienteering? Is it just longer distances? Why do I often get the feeling that teams or pairs are involved?

**Answer:** Because they are. Rogaining evolved in Australia out of 24-hour walking events run by the Melbourne University Mountaineering Club in the late 1940s. During the 1960s and 1970s, these events were developed into a more structured format and have become very popular. Several hundred participants enter major rogaines, and most events have a maximum number of entries set at 300 or 400 to keep the environmental impact manageable. Outbound Aussies have introduced rogaines into several other countries, notably the US, Canada, and New Zealand, all of which now have regular events, usually run in conjunction with, or under the auspices of, local O-clubs.

Note the different evolution of rogaining from orienteering, which grew out of army training requirements. The emphasis in rogaines has always been on participation rather than competition, and it is usual for many teams to talk and eat around the warm fire at a central base camp, or sleep all night. All participants enter in teams of 2 to 5 people, and teams have pretty much complete freedom to travel in an area that might be one to two hundred square miles, collecting

checkpoints. There is always a centrally situated base camp with warm fire, unlimited free food, and friendly talk about checkpoints, the weather, life, the universe, etc. Teams can come back to the base camp as often as they like. Highly competitive teams will jog or run for most of the 24 hours, traveling perhaps 50 to 80 miles depending on terrain.

Most rogainers in Australia are not orienteers and events are run by local, state, or national rogaining associations. Overseas, most rogainers are orienteers, reflecting the marketing of events through O-clubs.

The web site for the Australian Rogaining Association is: <http://scorpion.cowan.edu.au/ara/index.html>.

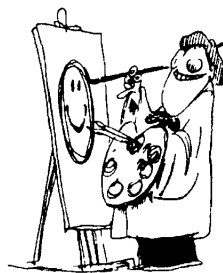
## Help! The ROGAINE Is Coming.....

—Lois Kimminau

The Arizona Mogollon Rim ROGAINE will be held May 2 and 3, 1998, near Payson, Arizona. An information flyer with the registration form is included in this newsletter. It sounds terrific, and I, for one, am really looking forward to it.

However, like all meets, there is a lot of work involved. John Maier is setting the courses and Mark Parsons is in charge of the food service. I have agreed to do the pre-meet registration.

### Are You Creative? Artistic?



Our most immediate need is for an Awards Chair. Do you have an idea for a special item or special design to be awarded to the winners? Plain old ribbons are not very exciting. This is something that needs to be prepared *before* the meet. The names need to be added at the last minute, of course, but if you were unable to attend, it shouldn't be a problem to find someone willing to do this. Please call Peg Davis (628-8985) and offer your talents to the Club.

### Other Volunteers Needed

Help will also be needed on the days of the meet for Registration, Results, Food Service, and Control Retrieval. Please call Mark Parsons (520-432-3013) if you can help with Food, or John Maier (520-586-7300) if you can help with the other needs.



**let's make this the  
best ROGAINE yet!**

# Club Calendar

## March 15, Buenos Aires Wildlife Refuge

Course Setter: John Little (327-8973)

Meet Director: Ann Haber (293-0262)

## March 23, Newsletter Deadline

See submittal information below.

## April 19, Chimney Rock, Redington Pass

Course Setter: Jeff Brucker (886-2528)

Meet Director: VACANT

## May 2-3, ROGAINE, Mogollon Rim

Near Payson, Arizona

Course Setter: John Maier (520-586-7300)

Meet Director: Mark Parsons (520-432-3013)

## May 17, Greasewood (City) Park

Course Setter: Peg Davis (628-8985)

Meet Director: VACANT

## June 20-21, Lincoln (City) Park

Night-O and Early-O

Course Setter: VACANT

Meet Director: VACANT

## July 19, Bear Wallow, Santa Catalina Mtns.

Course Setter: VACANT

Meet Director: VACANT

## August 16, Palisades (Showers Point), Santa Catalina Mountains

Course Setter: VACANT

Meet Director: VACANT

## September 20, Not Determined

## October, Arizona State Champs

Arranged by Greater Phoenix Orienteering Club

## November 15, Brady Wash (new site & map)

Course Setter: Wilkey Richardson (529-1105)

Meet Director: VACANT

## December 20, Empire Ranch, near Sonoita

Course Setter: VACANT

Meet Director: VACANT

TSN Club meets are held regularly on the third Sunday of the month, year-round.

Experienced course setters are usually happy (with advance notice of about a month) to work with apprentices who want to learn to set courses. If there is enough interest, separate training for course setting can be organized.

Directing a meet consists essentially of setting up and supervising the Registration and Timing areas, with help from other volunteers. Teams of two are encouraged.

**Please call Peg Davis at 628-8985 if you can help with any of these meets.**

### 1997-98 TUCSON ORIENTEERING CLUB OFFICERS

President	VACANT		
Vice President	Peg Davis	pegdavis@u.arizona.edu	628-8985
Secretary/Treasurer (Acting)	GeeGee Larrington	larring@azstarnet.com	297-8797
Membership	Chris Kraft	tmax@azstarnet.com	885-1735
Mapping	Pat Penn	penn@ccit.arizona.edu	326-2339
Equipment	Mary English		881-4786
Publicity/Education	Pam Michalowski		882-0965
Newsletter Editor	Lois Kimminau	loiskim@aol.com	296-2108

### Newsletter Submittals

The deadline for newsletter items is shown in the monthly calendar. Please try to meet the deadline, or call the editor if there is a problem. All members are invited and encouraged to send informational or opinion articles on any orienteering topic.

Phone: 296-2108 FAX: 290-8071 E-mail: loiskim@aol.com

US mail: 9055 Calle Bogota, Tucson, Arizona 85715

—Lois Kimminau, Editor

Tucson Orienteering Club  
P. O. Box 13012  
Tucson, AZ 85732

Address Correction Requested

WHAT IS BANNED?  
COME SEE!  
MARCH 15, 1998



March 1998						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 ①	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 ②	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23 ③	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	April 1 ④			

## MARCH CALENDAR

- ① Business/planning meeting at Peg Davis' home, 2241 East Parkway Terrace, 6:30 p.m. From Broadway Blvd., south on Tucson Boulevard to Arroyo Chico, west one long block. Call 628-8985 for other information.
- ② Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge. See page 1 for information.
- ③ Deadline for newsletter articles and information.
- ④ New officers assume positions. No Fooling!

### TSN MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Check one: New Member  Renewal  Date on label \_\_\_\_\_

Check one: Individual (\$10)  Household (\$15)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Can you help staff a club meet?  Yes, call me.

Members receive a monthly newsletter, have voting privileges and access to Club library, and receive a \$5 discount per meet. Make checks payable to Tucson Orienteering Club, and send to P.O. Box 13012, Tucson, AZ 85732.