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March 2004

Emergency Situation Declared!

Officer and Board Positions Must Be Filled!

See Page 2 for details.

Score-O at Empire Ranch

We're very lucky that this meet is even happening! We're not sure what happened, but the original meet fell through, and Peg Davis has kindly volunteered to oversee working out a Score-O, with Jeff Brodsky helping by hanging the controls. Thank you so much, Peg and Jeff. We really hate to see a meet canceled.

This meet is to be held at Empire Ranch, as originally planned, using the beautiful maps that were extensively field checked for a past State Champs meet and a rogaine. This is a great area for orienteering.

You may choose from a one-hour or two-hour Score-O. You will be parking at the old airport, as before, and walk to the registration/start site, following the directions and flagging.

Please call Meet Directors Brad and Yvonne Poe at 398-9801 if you can volunteer to help. Remember, you can help with Registration, Start or Timing, either before or after you make your own run, and your help is very much appreciated.

Directions: From Tucson or Benson: Take I-10 east or west to Exit 281 (SR 83). Drive south on 83 for 23 miles; look for Orienteering signs on the left. The turn-off is 100 m south of Milepost 40. If you pass a sign for Gardner Canyon Road, you have driven too far south. Follow the signs over a passable dirt road to the meet headquarters.

Fees: \$5/individual, \$8/team for members of any recognized orienteering club, plus BLM fee. \$10/individual, \$15/team for nonmembers, plus BLM fee. 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. Registration opens. Beginners' clinic starts.
9:00 a.m. Courses open.
11:00 a.m. Last time to start a course.
12 noon-1:00 p.m. Route choice reviews.
1:00 p.m. Courses close. Begin control retrieval—good orienteering practice, lots of help always needed. Volunteer before 1 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 Registra-

tion. Ask for instructions and introductory information. To attend the beginners' clinic, arrive between 8:15 a.m. and 8:30 a.m.

Route Choice Reviews: Between 12 and 1 p.m., an advanced orienteer will be available near the Start/Finish area to discuss route choices with returning participants.

Volunteer
Volunteer
Volunteer
Volunteer
Volunteer

Election Time

—*Jeff Brucker, President*

Well, folks, there's still a big shortage of nominations for your board of directors. The response to last month's appeal was decidedly underwhelming. There are three very critical positions which need to be filled: Equipment, Secretary/Treasurer, and President and/or Vice President. Job descriptions are below.

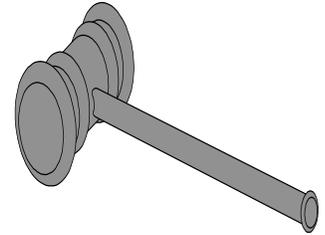
To suggest the name of someone who should be invited to be an officer (*feel free to nominate yourself!*), call or e-mail me—Jeff Brucker, 886-2528, president@tucsonorienteering.org

President. Directs and coordinates club affairs. Presides at board meetings and general meetings. Appoints chairs of special committees. Signatory at bank. Finds club volunteers to fill officer positions and sundry other club jobs, as needed.

Vice President. Takes the place of President when necessary. Assists President with special projects as requested.

Secretary/Treasurer. Picks up mail regularly from post office and distributes it promptly. Transmits membership inquiries and updates to membership chair. Keeps minutes of all business meetings; provides excerpts from minutes and updated club calendar to newsletter. Keeps financial records. Signatory at bank.

Equipment Chair. Stores, maintains, and replenishes club equipment and supplies; keeps up-to-date inventory. For each meet, provides materials to meet directors four to seven days in advance; assures timely return of materials. Notifies president of equipment needs. (Requires storage area—about 4 ft. x 6 ft. x 8 ft.)



World Rogaine Championship

—*Rachel Gelbin*

Greetings, my fellow orienteers!

As Peg Davis and I make plans for feeding hundreds of people at the May rogaine, we realize that we need your help. While, of course, we'd like volunteers, we'd also like to borrow lots of equipment from you. Any loaned equipment will be returned undamaged or replaced. Would you have any of the following which the club could use May 6-11?

two-burner Coleman stoves	sturdy shade canopies
huge burners (as used for deep frying turkeys or making beer)	coolers
5 gallon propane tanks (usually comes with a gas barbeque)	lanterns
plastic conference tables whose legs fold up	fold-up picnic table/chair sets
	chairs
	talk-about radios

Please contact Rachel at rgelbin2@earthlink.net if you can help with any of these items.

E-mail Discussion Group

Tucson Orienteering Club has its own discussion group. It is maintained as Tucson "O" Club by Topica, and is an e-mail based service. You must be subscribed before you can read or send messages.

To subscribe, send a blank message to: TucsonOrienteering-subscribe@topica.com. To send a message, simply address it to: TucsonOrienteering@topica.com. It will then go to all the list subscribers. To unsubscribe, see the Unsubscribe link at the bottom of any message.

For more information about this list, visit: <http://www.topica.com/lists/TucsonOrienteering>. Any problems, questions, or concerns can be sent to Jim Stamm, the E-Group Moderator, at JimStamm@ComCast.net.

USOF 2003 National Rankings

The USOF 2003 national rankings have been published. The Tucson Orienteering Club star is Max Suter, ranked 7th of 34 in the M50+ division, and Dave Kreider is 21st of 34 in that division. Jeff Brucker is 27th of 40 in M55+. Peg Davis is 15th of 29 in F45 and very proud of that result, squeaking in 0.4 points ahead of one of her favorite perennial competitors.

One only needs to compete a total of four days at any "A" meet in the U.S. to be ranked in a year. One could be ranked simply by attending the Rocky Mountain Orienteering Club's 1000 Day event in Wyoming this August (details at <http://www.geocities.com/Colosseum/Stadium/7418/>).

Chimney Rock Rogaine, February 15, 2004

—*Bob and Amy Lutz*

On a lovely Sunday in the Catalinas, less than 24 hours after Valentine's day, ~60 participants found themselves scrambling over rocks and ridges in attempts to locate the 30+ controls placed on, behind, atop, adjacent to, etc., any variety of terrain features by Leif Lundquist. With the snow-encrusted Rincons as a backdrop (can't tell you which direction they stood from the starting point as I'm really lousy at directions), these folks adventurously trekked off from the staging area that greeted them upon their arrival along the recently bladed smooth-as-glass Redington Pass road. For some, it was old territory revisited; for others, new vistas awaited their exploration.

The typical flora awaited the unsuspecting orienteerer who happened to find themselves ambling too close to a friendly appearing jumping cholla, and the brambles were especially rich in some areas. An even more pleasant surprise was the chance to find themselves sharing hills and reentrants with cattle, some less friendly or shy than others, and my favorite, the gun-toting sharpshooters out for a pleasant day's adventure of shooting at cans and bottles in lieu of taking birds on the wing. But in spite of the occasional scratch, nobody reported any major calamities.

Great consternation was expressed about the missing control, #20. Needless to say, Leif was most distraught at the possibility that it could have been incorrectly placed. Undoubtedly, it was not where it was indicated to be as EVERYONE bemoaned their fruitless search upon their return. Alas, indeed the control was not in its stated spot, and for that matter, was nowhere to be found. We assume that there is a long-horn ambling about the hills with a control dangling from its horn. We were assured that the control was placed appropriately per the map, however, as Ludwig guided me to the presumed position where, to his surprise, I plucked a brilliant red hook off the blackened tree branch where I had placed it with Leif a few days previously (Amy and I triangulated the map and determined who had unsuccessfully searched for this control and added points accordingly).

Control retrieval was provided by a number of folks, and many thanks for those who assisted (Peg?), Ludwig, Leif, David B, Jim O'D, Jim D, and Forest Brown & Matt Hanley, who stuck around a few extra minutes before heading back to Phoenix. Thanks also to Peg & Jeff B for cluing us in as we attempted to look as if we knew what we were doing (hopefully our fumbling wasn't too obvious?) as new initiates in meet directing. And a special thanks to Leif, who taught the beginners' class, answered questions, set the course, retrieved (did I forget anything?), and who put up with me a whole day as I assisted him in setting controls. Speaking for Amy, we both had fun (yes, we're still talking to each other!) and look forward to seeing you at the next meet. Adios!

Place	Name	Elapsed Time	Controls	Place	Name	Elapsed Time	Controls
Four Hour				Two Hour			
1M	Jeff Brucker	03:49:00	620	1M	Ludwig Hill	02:10:00	300 *
2M	Dan Fallis	03:57:30	530	1T	Magnus Landstad	01:58:30	250
3M	Mike Wilke	04:02:50	524 *	2M	ISJ#2	01:45:20	210
1F	Barb Bryant	03:53:10	520	3M	Jeff Berringer	01:55:45	140
1T	Los Venaditos	03:54:40	520	4M	Mike High	02:10:00	110 *
4M	Ron Birks	04:19:50	450 *	2T	Latecomers	02:03:35	72 *
2T	Weak on Recon	03:53:05	430	1F	Sue Wenberg	01:54:30	60
3T	Paul and Pam Hoyt	03:58:50	430	5M	Michael Rule	01:51:30	50
5M	Jim DeVeny	03:56:15	350	3T	Roadrunners	03:57:30	50 *
6M	Robert Dunn	04:14:35	340 *	4T	CASA	01:06:10	38
4T	Lost in Place	03:52:00	310	5T	Mud Hens	00:57:30	10
7M	Michael Gurevich	04:15:40	310 *	Rec	Jeff Fisher		
2F	Peg Davis	03:38:30	270	Rec	Coyote		
8M	Jim O'Donnell	03:38:50	270	Rec	John Czapko		
5T	Team Tubac	03:57:58	270	Rec	Biedenheider et al		
9M	Walt Smith	03:50:20	250	One Hour			
6T	Beauty And ...	03:47:20	180	1T	ISJ#1	00:57:30	50
10M	Michael Schneiderman	03:48:00	170	Rec	Don Baker		
3F	Alexis Mills	03:27:45	140	*Overtime penalty has been deducted from score.			
11M	Christopher Capurro	04:10:10	140 *				
12M	Phil Kirby	04:14:50	80 *				
7T	Mike Walsh/Dana Smith	03:07:00	60				
DSQ	Lois Kimminau	03:59:20	60				
8T	Adria/Ketsy Smith	02:11:00	30				

Pictures from Chimney Rock Meet, February 15, courtesy of Leif Lundquist



Bob Lutz and David Barfield at Timing Table.



Control 31 at Chimney Rock in February

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

What Kind of Compass?

—*Lois Kimminau*

After extremely poor showings at both the GPHXO and the TOC meet in February, only part of which I can blame on the fact that my compass was sticking and unreliable, I was ready to throw in the towel. But I really enjoy getting out there, off the beaten track, on my own, so I decided to keep trying.

I had noticed some of our “elite” orienteers whizzing by me with a little thumb compass, but a few of our experienced members also depend on a basic base-plate type compass. Since I need to replace mine, I asked for advice from the members of our club e-mail discussion group.

Several members were kind enough to reply. Following is some advice from **Wolfsong**: Depends on how you use your compass. If you only use it for orienteering with magnetic north lines on the map and don’t take bearings but rather use it strictly for orienting the map and have no aversion to a strap around your thumb, I’d highly recommend the thumb compass. However, if you also use it for hiking with USGS maps where one must correct for declination or if you take bearings, I would advise a protractor compass with rectangular base plate, and the longer the base plate the better (more accurate) for following bearings. I would stay away from sighting compasses with the mirror, etc., as inappropriate for orienteering.

The protractor compass is more of a multi-purpose tool and would also be the choice for mappers on their map boards, but for orienting a map, the thumb compass is a simpler implement. Non-competitively I don’t think it makes a big difference, but competitively I think the thumb compass has a strong edge in being more efficient.

One decision you need to make, if you choose the thumb compass, is which thumb, right or left. As a right hander, I prefer a left-handed compass and my map is in the same left hand most of the time, under the compass. It should be in the same hand as your map for normal use. I grab the punch with my right hand.

You might also consider salvage of your old compass. If it was a Silva, it should have a lifetime guarantee. The needle shouldn’t stick, even after many years of use. Happened to me with a Moscow compass which I got from A&E. They replaced it free, all I needed to do was send in the old one. Then I lost the new one in a swamp and was stuck! Thumb straps can loosen up or even come off. I replaced it with the same exact model since the Moscow 11 L has served me well. But I also have a Silva (Type III)—longer base plate than the ones the club rents out—which is my choice for mapping or hiking on USGS maps. I have never used the tiny magnifying glass in this model. *Wolfsong*

Jeff Brucker also added that he uses the thumb compass when running a course, but that he also carries a base-plate compass in his pocket as a backup.

Anza-Borrego, 17-19 January 2004

—Matt Chamberlain

Our apologies for not getting to the local Tucson January meet. When chasing after an ankle-biter while trying to get some work done, free time is measured in minutes. The opportunity to spend a day or, heaven-forbid, a weekend out playing comes around a few times a month at best. The chance to go camping in southern California and enter several orienteering events was too hard to pass up and won out. Sure it was a longer drive, but it was still excellent value in terms of orienteering time versus travel time.

Yen and I realized long ago there is no such thing as an early start with a baby. The plan was to start driving after work on Friday and camp in a Yuma motel overnight. We had forgotten, however, about the annual dune buggy/Pierson's Milkvetch stomping festival in the Imperial Dunes, so we found no vacancies in Yuma. You could have spent \$75 for a stained bed with cigarette holes, though personally I would rather drive all night.

After a few hours sleep in El Centro, we rushed off to the Anza-Borrego to make the Saturday registration time, only to later realize we had an extra hour due to the time change.



The Tucson Ghetto: as the Tucsonans arrived they were pointed to a position up the hill from the event center to set up camp.

As a rogainer, my favorite events are those that go over 12 hours. Running for several hours spread over a few days, however, comes pretty close and this is exactly what the Anza-Borrego had. B-meet courses were open Saturday and Sunday, there was Night-O, a novel Maze-O, and a pick-up-all-the-controls-for-me-O (a.k.a. Scavenger-O) at the end. The important results are tabled below; for full details check the San Diego O website (<http://www.go.to/sdoc>). Of course, between the events was the opportunity to mix and socialize with the eclectic mix of fascinating personalities that make up the local O community. Then again you could always watch Kiera play in the dirt with the cactus.

The map used for the courses was great. The map and courses sampled the different terrains in the area. I had a hard time getting used to the detail—rogainers don't notice a hill until they have climbed 50 feet. When looking for the first control in a feature one contour deep, I didn't realize I had gone too far until I had hit the highway. It's always good to learn humility early rather than late, and despite the initial set back I was able to hit the rest of the controls clearly and finish 2nd to Ron Hudson (I felt better when I learnt it was Ron who won the rogain with John last year).

Sunday B-courses started out into the badlands. People

bunched up and were popping out of gullies onto dirt ridges everywhere. Like other courses, controls were placed at low positions so it was possible to bag the control and dash off along the canyon without alerting the location to everyone. Canyon sides did get steep in places. Once I picked the wrong spur to climb out on and had to make a retreat after encountering a ridge less than a foot wide and sheer drops on either side.



Jeff Brodsky running into third place in the Maze-O.

Sunday afternoon there was a special event taking advantage of the odd landscape in the region, the Maze-O. The map was over an area that had a labyrinth of deep canyons. Travel here had to be either in the drainage or along the ridges. Yen, Kiera, and I planned to enter the Maze-O, only the canyons narrowed so much that Kiera's carrier was never going to fit. Instead, we just went for our own little exploration.

While we didn't have a map, we three just went for a wander. Initially we were on the ridges and planted ourselves at an interesting position that had good views and enough flat space to let Kiera stretch her legs without dropping into any pits. Then we noticed orienteers climbing out of canyons all around us and sure enough, we were in the middle of the course. We managed to find our way back to the cars a different way using the drainages. We found enough controls that we could have completed the event if only we had been able to get to the start. Lots of fun for sure.

Thanks go to Bill Gookin and the San Diego club for a great weekend.

Continued on page 6

Continued from page 5**Two-Day B-Meet, Saturday and Sunday mornings
17-18 January**

Name	Day 1	Day 2	Total
Green			
3. Jeff Brucker	1:01:11	1:59:17	3:00:28
Red			
4. Ludwig Hill	1:04:44	1:38:10*	2:42:55
6. Don Fallis	1:13:44	1:46:09*	2:59:53
10. Jeff Brodsky	1:40:41	2:10:09	3:50:50
11. Peg Davis	1:52:11	2:52:50	4:45:01
Wolfsong	1:22:34	dnf	---

*lost time due to mismapped #9

Blue

2. M Chamberlain	1:31:25	1:25:09	2:56:34
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**Night-O, Saturday evening
17 January****Brown**

Peg Davis	dnf
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Green

1. Jeff Brucker	1:01:05
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Red

3. Ludwig Hill	1:26:35
4. Wolfsong	1:39:57
Don Fallis	dnf
Jeff Brodsky	dnf

Blue

1. M Chamberlain	2:04:01
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Maze-O, Sunday afternoon, 18 January

Freestyle (locate the required number of any controls in any sequence)

Long - 8 controls

5. Don Fallis	51:24
6. Ludwig Hill	67:18
Wolfsong	80:00 (7)

Medium - 5 controls

2. Jeff Brucker	36:10
3. Jeff Brodsky	40:25
10. Peg Davis	57:00

**Scavenger Score-O, Monday morning,
19 January**

Punch controls in any sequence until time limit (60 minutes), then one hour to collect control markers and return to start;

Scoring: punched controls

25-500 points + 100 points for each control marker collected.

Name	Time	Points
2. Wolfsong	1:58:20	5075
3. Don Fallis	1:38:04	4900
4. Ludwig Hill	1:24:54	4775
7. Jeff Brodsky	1:27:20	3750
11. Peg Davis	1:49:25	2300
12. Jeff Brucker	1:20:20	2225



Highway 83 Mapping Project Update

—Ludwig Hill

Our first field checking training and certification weekend was held on January 3-4, 2004. Congratulations to Jeff Brodsky, Jeff Brucker, Peg Davis, Jim DeVeney, Mark Everett, Ludwig Hill, John Little, and John Maier for getting certified and for field checking their first parcels! David Barfield, always improving on his orienteering skills, attended the first day of the training workshop. Then, a month later on January 31-February 1, another new club field checker, Leif Lundquist, was certified. Pat Abbott, who is the mapping chair for GPHXO, drove all the way from Phoenix to participate in this second training and certification weekend. Congratulations to both!

Special thanks to Jeff Brucker, who provided the instructional training, and Mark Everett, who organized the schedule and recruiting of field checkers for both mapping events.

The Tucson Orienteering Club is currently developing the picturesque Kentucky Camp map, located on the southernmost quarter of the Highway 83 mapping project area. Over 26 parcels have been field checked, with each parcel comprising approximately 1/4 sq-km of field-checked area. This means that about one-half of the Kentucky Camp map has been field checked. It takes one person about one day to field check one parcel, so you can see that our field checkers have been quite busy putting in a lot of hours exploring and mapping the gulches and rangelands around this old gold mining territory.

Another group of busy bees working on this map is our project Ocad drafting team, which has been working hard on translating the field checkers' notes into a real orienteering map. This group consists of Jason Bowman, Jeff Brucker, Jim DeVeney, Mark Everett, Ludwig Hill, John Maier and Wilkey Richardson. Ocad is just as important to the making of this map as the field checking, and we appreciate all of the hard work that our Ocadgers have been putting in on this project.

This new Kentucky Camp map will be featured at this coming November's orienteering meet.