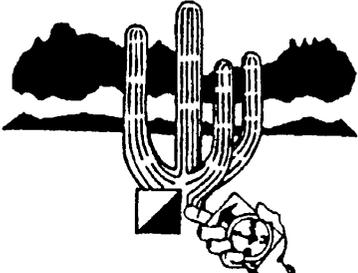


Tucson Orienteering Club



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 E Calle Bogota,

Tucson, AZ 85715

—Lois Kimmisau

DECEMBER 1998

Orienteering Weekend at Silver Bell!

Make your plans to get your monthly orienteering fix the weekend of December 19 and 20 at Silver Bell. Many activities have been planned for your enjoyment and pleasure.

The Silver Bell Saddle North site is Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land, with its history as a mining area well in evidence. It has some sticky vegetation and rocky areas, but the terrain is quite open and generally very runnable by southern Arizona standards.

On Saturday, December 19, there will be a map-checking session led by Roger Sperline and Wilkey Richardson, beginning at 10 a.m. and continuing as long as you like. This is for intermediate or above orienteers who are interested in improving their map-reading skills, and it is also a great help to the map makers. It involves waiking a section of the map and drawing in features you see on the land that you think should be mapped. This will start at the meet site, and there will be O-signs out to help you find it. Call Wilkey at 529-1105 for further information. (See "Check It Out" on page 2.)

Next, beginning at 2 p.m., also on the 19th, there will be a Mini Long-O, set by Garey Cash. This involves at least four controls, each set about 1 k apart. Registration will be somewhat informal, but will cost the same as the regular meets. Course closes at 5 p.m.

Camping is permitted at the meet site on Saturday night, but it is a primitive site with no water or facilities.

On Sunday, December 20, there will be five courses to choose from: White, Yellow, Orange, Green, and Red. The maps are in color with 20-foot contours at a 1:10,000 scale for the White and Yellow courses and 1:15,000 for the rest of the courses. Our newest course setter, Marley Beard, will be making her debut on the White and Yellow courses and Marilyn Cleavinger will design the others.

This month, an Orange-level Map Walk will also be offered, to be led by Peg Davis. This is an excellent opportunity for those who have a little experience at the lower levels and who would like to move up to Orange, or for those who have done Orange, but could use some help. The Map Walk will leave the Start site at 9:15 promptly, so if you wish to go, please arrive in time to be registered by then. Register individually for the Orange course as a recreational participant.

Ann Haber will be the Meet Director this month. Please call her at 293-0262 if you can help. Per Ann: "All volunteers will be worshipped."

Directions: *From Tucson:* Take the Avra Valley Road exit (242) from I-10 and drive west on Avra Valley Road toward the Silver Bell Mountains for 21.5 miles, where there is a sign "Red Rock via Silverbell Road 25 miles." Turn left onto a dirt road .2 miles past this sign. Follow the dirt road 7.5 miles as it curves west, then north, going over the saddle between the Silver Bell and West Silver Bell mountain ranges. At 7.5 miles, turn left and travel .4 miles, staying left at the road junctions, to the meet site.

From Phoenix: Take Exit 236, travel west 1 mile, then turn left on Sanders Road and proceed 4.3 miles to Avra Valley Road. Turn west (right) and travel about 15.5 miles until you see the sign for Red Rock. From there, follow the directions from Tucson. (Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

Schedule:

8:45 a.m. Registration opens.
 9:15 a.m. Map Walk group leaves Start area
 9:30 a.m. Courses open. Beginners' clinic starts.
 12:00 noon Last time to start a course.
 12 noon-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.

Fees: \$8/individual, \$10/team; \$5 discount for TSN, PHX, USOF, or SAHC members. **Additional charge of \$1 per color map.** Compasses rent for \$1. Safety whistles sell for \$1. *Every person, all courses, all meets* is required to carry some type of safety whistle.

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.

(Above information contributed by Marilyn Cleavinger, Ann Haber, and Wilkey Richardson)

Check It Out!

—Peg Davis

There will be a map-checking session on Saturday, December 19, at 10 a.m., at the Silver Bell site, conducted by Roger Sperline and Wilkey Richardson. The purpose of this is to teach mapmaking skills to interested beginners, and to field check a new map area in the Silver Bells. It will last until 2 p.m., but people who wish to come but cannot stay that long will be accommodated.

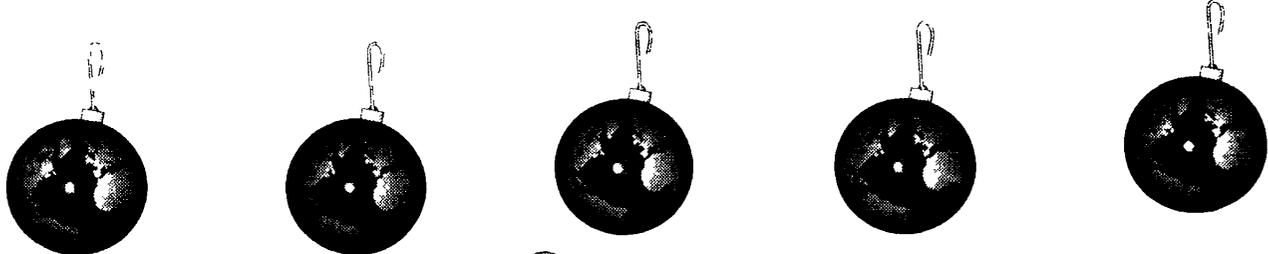


We will initially take a group of beginners on a very short introductory walk, even on pre-checked ground, as training. Then participants will be sent off to check new patches. Perhaps if there are any who are unsure, they could be sent as teams. The very unsure could come with one of us.

In particular, we would like to cover the areas east of the main road, and begin looking very south of the powerline. If we have enough people, perhaps we could even look over the hills north of the track where the northernmost controls were last time. All of those gulleys need to be checked for cliffettes. There are some massive boulders on those hills, which would make good controls for a Long-O or ROGAINE. Someone should also drive north and carefully check for additional possible event-centers, with sufficient parking.

Please register in advance with Peg Davis (628-8985) so that we will have enough maps for everyone. Also, please bring colored pencils, erasers, and clipboards if you have them. Compasses are also needed.

There is no charge for participating. The Club will benefit from your efforts and your orienteering skills will be honed to an even sharper edge from this experience.



Great Day at Brady Wash

—Pat Penn and Margrit McIntosh

The new map and warm (too darn hot!) temperatures attracted 50 entries to the Brady Wash meet. One entry, Luis Sergio Mendez, a Brazilian, drove all of the way from El Paso with his family just to come to our meet. He brought along the color map from the last state meet at his home in Brazil. There are seven clubs in his state! There were a few entrants from Phoenix and our club member Dave Kreider all the way from the Grand Canyon. We welcomed several new members from Tucson.

Wilkey Richardson provided five interesting courses (vetted by Roger Sperline) with nice attack points. The White course even had tarps protecting the entrants over and under barbed wire crossings. The flat terrain proved challenging, as did the last Orange/Green/Red control. Note some upsets on the Red course and the number of DNFs on Orange.

Many thanks to the volunteers who helped the process run smoothly: Timing and Registration, **Marley Beard, Kyoko Suter, Ann Haber, Jim DeVeny, Garey Cash**; Beginners' Clinic, **Peg Davis**; Control Retrieval, **GeeGee Larrington, Jesse LaPlante, Rick Hudson, John Maier, Garey Cash, Jeff Brucker??** Please remember to thank **Wilkey Richardson** and **Roger Sperline** for the MANY hours involved in developing a new map. And, as ever, **Mary English**, for fabulous equipment organization, which makes meet directing so much easier (it's not that hard, give it a try!).

White Course: 1.8K, 13m climb

1M	Gary C Cooley	48:04
1T	Loirel & Marge & Vicki	112:00
Rec.	Ida Fulbright, Nanjo & Claudio, Bill Kirchner	
	Kyoko Suter	DSQ
	Vicki Herrent	DNF
	Michael Addis	DNF

Yellow Course: 2.2K, 20m climb

1T	Phat	64:37
1M	Chris Suter	67:59
Rec.	Gary Cooley, Bill Kirchner, Mike Addis (all 2nd course), Ted Norris, Mark Frownfelter	
	John & Katy Couleur	DNF

Orange Course: 4.6K, 70m climb

1T	Riga	101:08
1M	Jim DeVeny	101:25
2T	Russian Bears	102:42
1W	Marilyn Cleavinger	121:55
2W	Ann Haber	137:10
3W	Dale Ganley	155:29
2M	Coyote	192:55
	Rick Hudson	DNF
	Carol Brucker	DNF
	Maureen Jamieson	DNF
	Lois Kimminau	DNF
	Rachel Gelbin	DNF
	Flaming Chihuahuas	DNF
Rec.	William Bryant, GeeGee Larrington	

Green Course: 4.5K, 50m climb

1M	John Little	58:10
2M	Dan Cobblepick	74:32
3M	Jeff Brucker	111:25
1W	Pat Penn	117:40
1T	Slobbering Wash Dogs	127:29
2T	Slothmeisters	146:00
3T	Natives	157:22
4M	Dave Cheek	167:10
4T	Catalina Javelinas +2	169:14
5M	Gary Thomas	197:13
	Lemkos, In Search Of...	DNF
Rec.	Just Us	

Red Course: 6.3K, 40m climb

1M	Jeremy McKnight	101:00
2M	Luis Sergio Mendez	109:51
3M	John Maier	112:53
1W	Peg Davis	114:13
4M	Ken Zonter	133:15
5M	Tim England	144:38
6M	Dave Kreider	161:07
7M	Fred Padgett	188:30
	Mark Parsons	DNF
	Max Suter	DNF

Ribbons for first, second, and third place winners in each category will be available at the next meet (Silver Bell, December 20). Please pick yours up in the Registration area.



We Need a Phone!

Does anyone in the club have a second phone line at your house that is only used for outgoing calls, such as the internet? If so, do we have a proposition for you. We would like to publish the phone number in our orienteering club brochures. We would put an answering machine on that line, and retrieve the messages remotely. It wouldn't cost you anything, and it would help the Club a lot. If you can help, call Carol Brucker 886-2528.



All You Ever Wanted To Know About Mapping...

—Wilkey Richardson

[Questions supplied by Peg Davis and Roger Sperline]

These questions are to help understand how a map comes about in general, and why Brady Wash in particular.

- Q. Why did you choose Brady Wash? Why not up the road two miles or down the road two miles? Why something on Route 79?
- A. We were looking for a site that would be relatively convenient to both Tucson and Phoenix. This would allow Phoenix people to participate in our meets, and also it opened possibilities for joint meets. Since we had lost Sabino, Bajada Loop, Helvetia, and Saguaro National Park East, we were also looking to get some new low altitude (winter) sites. It needed to be federal (Forest Service or BLM) land, so we could easily get permission to use it.
- Q. What specific landscape features need to be present? Absent?
- A. You'd like to have as many ridges, obvious washes, low hills as possible. You don't want many cliffs, or steep-sided ridges and hills. You also don't want extremely dense vegetation, especially when it's something like catclaw.
- Q. Were you influenced by the presence or absence of vegetation, roads, popular use, dramatic features?
- A. Yes to all. As stated previously, too much vegetation is a bad thing. So is too little, as it makes a course uninteresting. Heavily used areas are not good, either. They make the likelihood of control theft/sabotage much more likely; also it greatly restricts the usable control placements. In addition, the permit-granting organizations tend to be *much* more officious about giving permits for heavily used areas, and sometimes will reject permit applications. For example, the only reason we bother with Bear Wallow and Palisades is because they're the only places near Tucson where we can have a regular meet during the summer. If they were anywhere else, the amount of usage these areas get would cause us to shun them.
- Q. How much of a role do the permit-granting organization, length of drive from Tucson, quality of access roads, and comparisons to other TSN maps play in your choice of site?
- A. Comparison to other maps is pretty much irrelevant. The other factors, along with the terrain and ownership considerations discussed above, pretty much completely encompass the decision-making process.
- Q. What are the tasks that need to be done to create a map? How long does the "paperwork" pre-field work take? How long did you spend in the field? Can a map be made alone?
- A. The tasks necessary to make a map are (more or less in order):
- (1) Trace the base map (usually part of a USGS quad) into OCAD. Roger has come up with a method that makes this much less painful than previously. Takes ~6 hours of work.
 - (2) Get aerial photos of the area to be mapped. These are readily available from the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture in Salt Lake City. Using OCAD, trace in roads and washes from the photos. This saves an enormous amount of field-checking time. However, it is not enough by itself (see below), as those who searched for the GO control (and I!) learned at Brady Wash. That section will have to be walked before it is accurately mapped. The time this takes depends on the number of features that can be traced and the number of contour lines that have to be corrected as a result, but I would say anywhere from 8 to 40 hours.
 - (3) Go out to the site, and field check it on foot, using a first draft of the map. The main things that are checked are fences, power lines, and man-made features, like small buildings. In areas that are heavily vegetated, streams need to be walked, since the stream features (and some entire streams!) can be hidden by the vegetation, and not show up in the aerial photo. The time that can be spent on this is variable, depending

on what is out there. The data collected is then entered into OCAD.

I would estimate ~100 man-hours to make a decent check; the more time, the better the checking is. An absolutely complete check is a laudable goal, but not realistic. Yes, this could be done by one person (and has been, many times), but it's **really** nice to have helpers.

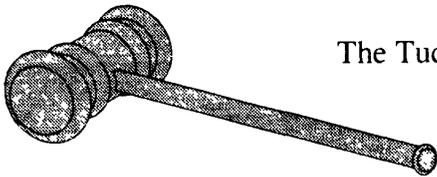
- Q. How did you learn to map? What could the average TSN member do to help a mapping project?
- A. I learned by tagging along with Roger Sperline on his map-checking trips (he in turn learned by

tagging along with John Maier). Average members could learn the relatively simple skills needed to do field checking. Skills can be developed by attending a field-checking session and walking around with someone experienced. An average member could help by reporting features that did not seem to be on their map, misplaced features, etc., when they finish a course at a meet. (We also hold map-checking sessions. There will be one this month.)

- Q. Would you do it again? Is it satisfying work?
- A. Yes and Yes.

A Few Words From the President

—Peg Davis



The Tucson Orienteering Club is finishing the year in fine style. Meet director and course setter slots are filled through March. At the last business meeting, meet locations through next October were pencilled in. Look through and claim the setter or director slot for your favorite location before someone else snags it. Supplemental events can still be added to the

calendar—either Saturday additions at the same site or (gasp!) another meet in the same month.

One big gap in the schedule concerns the world famous (and I mean famous!) 1999 Arizona ROGAINE. We've tentatively scheduled it for November 6 and 7, hoping to draw teams practicing for the world championships in January 2000. Now we need a site and a course setter.

Note that this month's meet, as did the October meet, features a mini-Long-O. These are courses with 4 to 6 controls set about a kilometer apart at an Orange skill level. Not just designed to give Dan Coombs a chance to have a nice run, they aim to get our intermediate participants used to controls a little farther apart and orienteering on a grander scale. This is because I want you to do the 1999 Arizona ROGAINE. You don't have to run, you don't have to stay out 24 hours, and you don't have to be an elite orienteer. Do a few mini-Long-Os and you'll be perfectly prepared for our best event of the year. You just can't know how much fun these ROGAINES are until you try one.

Rumors were floating this summer in Wyoming about a national introduction-to-orienteering day in April. I'd like to see us catch the coat tails of national publicity with a meet at Greasewood.

The December meet is to die for! And it may kill me! I'm planning on map checking Saturday morning, mini-Long-O-ing Saturday afternoon, camping and kibitzing on Saturday night, leading a map hike first thing on Sunday morning, then running a course on my own. Three course setters, two map-check leaders, and a meet director are working like maniacs to keep me occupied. If I'm not exhausted by 2 p.m. Sunday, I'll have to retrieve controls. Then you can plant me in the Silver Bell cemetery.

Have you done your
Christmas shopping yet?

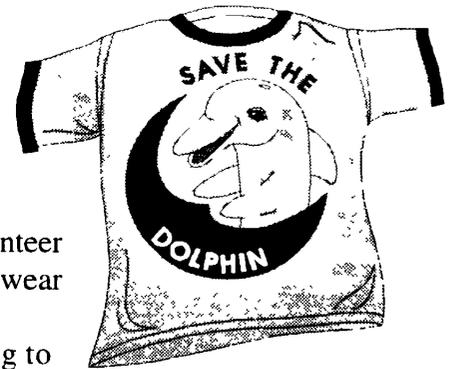
IDEAS: Club T-shirt? Club membership for a friend? USOF membership and O/NA subscription? New compass? "Armchair Orienteering"?

ARE YOU GOING OUT ON THE COURSE DRESSED LIKE THAT?

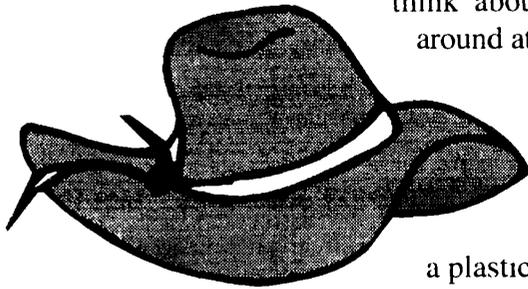
—Peg Davis

It was odd to hear my mother's words coming out of that big, burly guy's mouth, but for once they made sense.

After I taught a beginners' clinic while wearing Texas, the first-time orienteer wanted to know if that was a reasonable choice of footwear for me to wear orienteering.



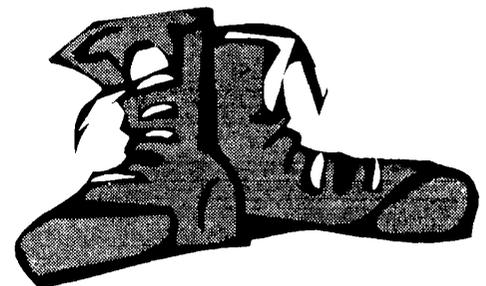
What to wear out on a course is a good thing to think about before heading out. If you look around at people about to start a course, you're going to see a wide variety of apparel and your answer lies there. You need to wear what works best for you.



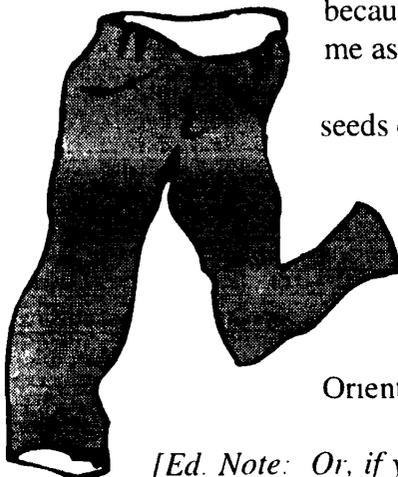
If we were hotshot east coast competitors, we'd all be in those nylon jammie-type tops and bottoms, but you'll see few of those in Arizona. They are easily punctured by thorny plants and feel like a plastic bag when you start sweating.

The most common look you'll see is the desert rat special. Starting with a baseball cap or a broad-brimmed hat up top, put on a t-shirt or long-sleeved cotton shirt, long baggy pants, and ankle-covering hiking boots. At the other end of the spectrum is the John Maier Shake Your Booty Look. This sleeveless shirt, short running shorts, short socks, and running shoes look is only for the extremely agile.

In Arizona, we need to balance heat exhaustion and vegetation injuries. Wearing thornproof lower leg gaiters could allow you to wear cutoffs. Lightweight supplex hiking pants can replace heavy protective jeans. Trail-running shoes will weigh less than hiking boots and provide better grip than running shoes.



As important as the clothes you wear are the clothes you bring. When it rains, when it cools off, when it heats up, grabbing a nice change of clothes out of your car is bliss. I can sweat happily on the course in my hiking boots and heavy socks because I know those cool Texas are waiting for me as soon as I finish.



Different maps also call for different clothes. No one who ran through the grass seeds of Empire Ranch will ever wear new socks there again. I'm thinking about putting garbage bags between my socks and boots next time.

As expertise grows, the wardrobe you use for orienteering will undoubtedly evolve. Any item is going to get trashed, so think twice about expensive investments. Experiment with what you already own to suit your own orienteering style.

And as soon as you finish your course, proudly change into your Tucson Orienteering Club t-shirt.

[Ed. Note: Or, if you forgot to bring it, you can buy one there! Available in your size and favorite color, long- or short-sleeved.]

Club Calendar

December 20, Silver Bell (west of Marana)

Course Setters: Marilyn Cleavenger (795-2081) and
Marley Beard (297-0180)
Course Vetter: VACANT
Meet Director: Ann Haber (293-0262)

December 28, Newsletter Deadline

See submittal information in box on page 1.

1999

January 17, Chimney Rock, Redington Pass

Course Setter: Mark Parsons (520-423-3013)
Course Vetter: VACANT
Meet Director: Keith McLeod (529-1808)

February 21, Cat Mountain, Tucson Mountains

Course Setter: Dan Coombs (881-3136)
Course Vetter: VACANT
Meet Directors: Greg & Carol Starr (743-7052)

March 21, Slavin Gulch, Dragoon Mountains

Course Setter: Mark Parsons (520-423-3013)
Course Vetter: VACANT
Meet Director: Ted Norris (722-8922)

April 19, Catalina State Park

May 17, Palisades/Showers Point, Mt. Lemmon

June 21, Greasewood City Park Early-O

July 20-21, Lake Mary, near Flagstaff

August 16, Lincoln City Park Early-O

September 20, Slavin Gulch, Dragoon Mountains

October 18, Empire Ranch, Cottonwood Windwill

November 6-7, Arizona ROGAINE (tentative)

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.

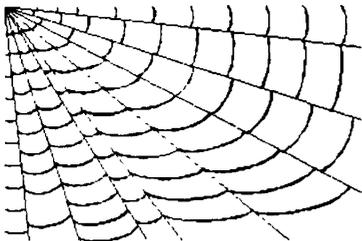
Please call Peg Davis at 628-8985 if you can help with any of these meets.

1998-99 TUCSON ORIENTEERING CLUB OFFICERS

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Tucson, AZ 85732

Address Service Requested



Check out the Tucson Orienteering Club web site!
<http://www.cloudbow.com/sites/toc/>
Also, for links to all the West Coast club sites, go to
<http://www.geocities.com/Yosemite/Trails/4040>

TSN MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Check one: New Member Renewal Date on label _____

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

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Address: _____ Zip Code: _____

Can you help staff a club meet? Yes, call me. E-mail: _____

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.