



October 2002

October Meet at Maternity Well (Empire Ranch)

—Roger Sperline and Sue Roberts

October's meet features a return to the grasslands of Southern Arizona. The site will be Empire Ranch, but not the usual Airport location—rather, we'll use the Maternity Well area as our staging ground. Please be careful to park in areas of bare dirt, not over grass. The normal range of courses will be set (Red, Green, Orange, Yellow, White). Only black/white maps will be available. Since the meet is on BLM land, we will need to add \$1 for the entry fees surcharge which goes to them.

We do not have a group camping permit for the previous evening; however, anyone who wishes to camp the night before (not in an organized group) can probably do so under the normal BLM rules for camping.

The area is open and rolling with scattered trees, gullies, and the occasional large wash. The courses should be fast and runnable. Since the BLM has taken over, many formerly sandy washes have grassed over. Many (but not all—check!) fences have had the lower wire replaced with non-barbed wire to allow pronghorn antelope to roam freely.

We haven't seen any antelope or cattle in the area yet, but that may change in the next month. A preliminary visit last weekend was very pleasant and significantly cooler than in Tucson (although still hot—about ten degrees of cooling in the next month will make things very pleasant).

Meet director will be Robert Miner (297-9294). Please call him if you can help out for an hour or so. Volunteers are always appreciated.

Directions: 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.) At the welcome ramada, turn right on a dirt road. Follow the "O" signs. Park a few hundred meters down this road on bare ground. Meet headquarters will be in this vicinity.

Fees: \$5/individual, \$8/team, for members of any recognized orienteering club. \$10/individual, \$15/team for non-members. **Plus BLM surcharge of**

\$1 per person. 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 p.m. Route choice reviews

12:30 p.m. Courses close. Control

retrieval begins; good orienteering practice, lots of help always needed. Volunteer before 12 noon 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 attend the beginners' clinic, arrive between 8:15 and 8:30 a.m.

Route-Choice Reviews: Between noon and 1 p.m., the course setter or an advanced orienteer will discuss route choices with returning participants, probably near Start/Finish area.

What is Orienteering?

Orienteering is a fun and challenging outdoor activity in which participants navigate their way on foot through the "great outdoors," using only a map and a compass. (There are other versions of orienteering, such as on bicycles, skis, horseback, or in canoes, at night, relay teams, etc., but the idea is basically the same.)

Each participant is given a specially prepared topographic map marked with a series of checkpoints to be visited. At each of these checkpoints, the organizer places an orange and white "control." The object of the sport is to use the map with the compass to locate the control features and navigate back to the starting point. Using your imagination and your navigational skills, you try to select the best route to each control.

Once at the control marker, you punch a score card which verifies that you have found the control feature.

At each event, there are several courses offered, rated in length and difficulty. You can choose the course that suits your ability and inclination, and you can make it a stroll, a hike, or a race, as you prefer. It is a family sport where each member of the family may choose his/her course, or the entire family may go as a team. Beginner courses are typically along trails or other easy-to-follow routes. Intermediate courses are partially on trails and partially cross-country. Expert courses are on difficult-to-follow cross-country routes.

Preparation, Clothing, and Equipment

A beginning orienteer should be fit enough to walk at a leisurely pace for about one mile, in about an hour, over easy terrain. Expert orienteers are trained endurance athletes, walking or running for many hours over rugged terrain.

Wear comfortable clothing appropriate to the season, long pants, a hat, and walking shoes or hiking boots. Events are timed, so a watch is recommended. Bring plenty of water, and a snack if desired.

The only specialized equipment you will need are a compass and a whistle. If you forget these items, compasses may be rented or a whistle purchased for \$1 each.

Safety

If navigating in the outdoors sounds a little scary, then an orienteering event is the place to be. The beginner courses are in carefully selected areas, safely contained within recognizable boundaries, so it is almost impossible to get truly lost. In addition, each participant's start and finish time is monitored so that anyone who is overdue will be safely rounded up by skilled orienteers.

Newcomers

We highly recommend that you attend the *free* Beginners' Clinic, which is offered at every meet, if you haven't orienteered before. It is usually held 15 or 20 minutes before the courses open. Try to arrive at or before the time that Registration opens in order to attend.

Fees

Fees for Tucson Orienteering Club events are as follows (other clubs' fees may vary): \$5/individual or \$8/team for members, or \$10/individual, \$15/team for nonmembers. The member price is available to members of Tucson Orienteering Club or any orienteering club affiliated with the United States Orienteering Federation or the International Orienteering Federation. Compasses are available to rent for \$1; whistles may be purchased for \$1. Annual membership fees are \$10 for an individual and \$15 for a household.

Tucson Orienteering Club

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Tucson, AZ 85732

Phone: 628-8985

e-mail: loiskim@aol.com

**Web site: [http://go.to/
tucsonorienteering](http://go.to/tucsonorienteering)**

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.

Perfect Weather for Palisades in September

—*Rachel Gelbin*

I forgot how much fun "O" meets are! After an extended absence, I had the pleasure of directing the Palisades meet on Mt. Lemmon. We were greeted by a chilly morning and several club members who had camped out. It was perfect for orienteering and hot chocolate.

I had a ton of help lugging, setting-up, registering, and timing the participants. I also had 8 volunteers for control retrieval which resulted in two people doubling-up because there weren't enough controls for all to retrieve. What a wonderful welcome home to a club where I have lots of great memories.

Mark Everett set White, Yellow, Orange, and Brown (a short Green) courses, as well as a modified Motala for the Red course. Runners had two legs, coming back to the start for the second map pick-up. The feedback was wonderful. Comments on the scenic quality of the courses as well as a few grunts about the incredibility that you could do the first part of an Orange course all uphill and then have the second part of the course be all uphill again!

I saw some wonderful old friends and met some new ones. For you strong Red course runners, Andrew McCarthy is one to watch out for. Strong, young, and a talented map reader, he completed a quick Yellow course to test himself, then went back out on Orange and finished in under 40 minutes!

No meet would be a success without the numerous volunteers and this meet was no exception. I would like to worship at the altar of **Laura Jacobs, Phil Kirby, Jeff Brucker (for beginners' clinic), Jeff Berringer, Pat Penn, Ed Stiles, Cristina the geology student, Andrew McCarthy, The Team of Lost on Trail, Keith McLeod, Max Suter** and special thanks to **Mark Everett and Mary English**. Thanks to his courses and her packing of equipment and special instructions to me, my job was a cinch!

Here are the results:

White (with our advanced club we didn't need no stinkin' white!)

Yellow

1M	Andrew McCarthy	52:06
1T	Team Homestar	71:46
2T	Just In Time	77:05
3T	White Dogs	96:13
	Lost On Trail	132:54

Orange

1T	Too Many Dogs	84:05
1M	Andre Lehovich	87:52
2T	DDCC	96:15
3T	Cristina and Melissa	105:23
	K&E	136:03
	Laura Jacobs	Rec.
	Get Lost	Rec.
	Phil Kirby	Rec.

Brown

1M	William Fiorence	81:31
2M	Jeff Fisher	84:34
1W	Pat Penn	89:06
3M	Ed Stiles	95:47
	Keith McLeod	98:41

Red

1M	Max Suter	82:40
2M	Jeff Brodsky	93:24
3M	Jeff Brucker	97:31
	Don Fallus	100:56
	Jeff Berringer	148:33
	Team Hawks	Rec.
	Rob Morden	Rec.
	Michael Gureyvitch	Rec.

Phoenix Orienteering

The Greater Phoenix Orienteering Club (GPHXO) is offering land navigation classes October 17 and 19. On the 17th, there is an evening session in town, then on the 19th, a full day in the field at a site near the town of Superior. This class is designed for adults and is a very intensive, hands-on program. The cost is \$95. Meals are provided, but you must provide your own compass and transportation. For more information, check the website at <http://www.geocities.com/phxo> or e-mail Matt Dixon, President of GPHXO, at qwiksilver@impulsedata.net.

They are also planning a November 2 event at Lake Pleasant.

Are your dues paid up to date? Check the label on your newsletter. Members are entitled to reduced fees at meets, receive a monthly newsletter, and are entitled to vote on any club matter.

2002 North American Rogaine Championships

—*Matt Chamberlain*

Over July 16 and 17, the Sage Orienteering Club held the North American Rogaine Championships. The stage for the event was Pennie Lake, an area west of Kamloops, overlooking the Thompson River somewhere in the middle of British Columbia. (See map on page 4.) The Sage Club also hosted the 3rd World Rogaining Championships in 1998. Again, they were able to put together a real humdinger of an event. Thanks go to Murray Foubister for putting together a great course. Murray and company put in about 15 person-days in the field putting the course together.

In a word, the course was brutal. But being brutal is acceptable in a 24-hour rogaine. First looks were deceiving. The Hash House was in the center of the map making it entirely reasonable to go out and back a few times. The area was only ~16km by ~9km and a route of 100km would have been enough to clean the course. But then you looked at the details of the map, or rather the lack of details. The map was 1:50,000 scale with 100ft contours. So when a hill has a single contour it could be anything from 10 feet high to 190, usually being closer to the latter. Some roads were scattered around the course, but the Murray was being cunning, so that the roads never went where you wanted to go.

The elevation of the course was from 2000 to 4400 feet. At the lower levels, the terrain was open and dominated by sagebrush. It was enough to make us feel almost, but not quite, at home. Higher elevations were in pine forest and meadows. The area had been forested in the past, but no one had been back for a few decades to do any thinning.

There were a few Zonie teams who made their way to this year's Championship. Mike Wilke and I went as the Gila Monsters. Yen Chamberlain, Christine Wilke, and Jani Radebaugh went as the Jumping Chollas. There were also Peter Zurcher and Rebecca Montgomery, who entered the 12-hour Open event as the Hot Flashes. Part-time Zonies Carl and Linda Moore went as the Moo team and took out the Mixed SuperVets.

Mike and I took advantage of the centrally placed Hash House to do a few loops. The first sortie was a quickie in an attempt to get a feel for the course and get some rapid points on board. We went west and south from the HH. 24 was our first control. I managed to put a spike through the side of my shoe and part way into my foot on the way to our second control, 91. Fortunately, this was nothing too serious and the foot politely refrained from hurting for the moment.

On to 46 and climb up to 54. From here we decided to take advantage of our present altitude and zip along the top of the ridge to 76 to save some work later. It should've been quick, it looked flat on the map? Ha! Did I mention 100 foot contours? You can fit a lot of up and down within 100 ft. At 1:50,000 you can squeeze in some little hills that most cartographers won't worry about. No quick short cuts on this course. We did finally get 76, then continued to the water stop, 35, 85, picked the rocky hill with 64, then 43, around the bog to 22 and back to the Hash House. This was the briefest of stops to pick up the bags with lights and food before heading out again.

Heading out from the Hash House, we went east, then turned back to the south and west. Controls we picked up were: 61, 41, 52, 36, water, 75, 95, 66, 102, 82, 42, 32, 45, 72, 104 and water. There were no easy controls along here. Sometimes you were lucky to hit a couple of controls an hour. At this later water stop (after 104), we got the lights out. One advantage of being at high latitudes is short hours of darkness. It was 11 p.m. before we really had to put lights on. While here we saw one other team go past, bobbing lights in the distance making their way back to the Hash House. This was the last team we saw for several hours. Unfortunately, from here we did not have many options in front of us, because we had picked up several controls nearby 10 hours earlier.

From the water drop, Mike and I picked up 53 and then started looking for 77. Misplaced controls always hurt, particularly at nighttime. We did eventually get 77, helped in part by the trodden path leading down the ridge beyond the position shown on the map to where the flag was actually hanging.

From 77, wherever it was, we went down and up to 57, back down for 105, 68, 56, 65 and then 93, which was at the bottom of a hole. There was a sharp descent and then a scramble up that was steep enough to be grateful it was still dark—too dark to see down what was below us. We came our closest to a bear at 93. Not that we saw any bears, only the remains of a control that a bear obviously didn't like. Light filled the sky again as we climbed

Continued on page 6

Continued from page 5

to the water stop above 93. We put the lights away and polished off the last crumbs of food in our bags. From here we hit 34, 23, and 21 to get back to the Hash House.

The kitchen was up and running so this stop was a little longer. Just long enough for a bowl or few of cereal. At this time we had essentially cleaned the south of the course but had nearly nothing in the north. With a few hours to spare we went out again for points, no minnow controls this time. There was a single hundred point control within striking distance and this is where we went.

We picked up 31, climbed the hill with 101, skirted around for 81 and 91, then 62. 62 was another case of guess which saddle has the control. You may as well throw the map away for this one. From here it was back to the Hash House.

The Hash House was working at its best for the end of the event, people gratefully filling their hungry stomachs. Some bouncing around (probably the 12-hour entrants) and others doing their best to hobble. I fell into the latter category. Five minutes after handing in the control card, my feet promptly swelled up to make up for the 23 hours of refrain after that stick attacked it at the second control. The Galaxy Girls (Catherine Hagen and Pam James) won overall by a comfortable margin. Uno Duo (Alar Ruutopold and Ernst Linder) were defending champs and runners up in 2002. We settled with third, again. An honorable mention can be made for See B.C. Morning (Eric Bone and William Cusworth) who were tearing around the course at a threatening rate on knots, completing about half the course in 13.5 hours, until one team member blew out and called it an early night. Also behind the Galaxy Girls were the Jumping Chollas (Yen Chamberlain, Christine Wilke and Jani Radebaugh), coming second in the women's division.

All in all, a great course, a great event, and a great time was had by all. We really need a few more rogaines around here!

Anza Days Street Orienteering Meet

October 12 in Nogales

Juan Bautista de Anza had to find his way from deep in Mexico all the way to the California coast, which he did successfully several times. To commemorate his travels and win prizes, those of every age are invited for an hour-long mapping and walking event identifying Nogales' historic sites on Saturday, October 12, 2002.

No prior knowledge of street orienteering or the historic sites of Nogales is necessary to participate in this free activity. Registration for the outing begins at 8:00 a.m. at the Historic 1904 Santa Cruz County Courthouse, 405 North Morley Avenue (at Court Street). The beginners' street orienteering workshop will be held at 8:15 a.m. The competition kicks off at 8:45 a.m., wraps up at 9:45 a.m., and will be followed by an Anza Days Celebration and awards ceremony in the courthouse at 10:00 a.m. in which a ribbon cutting will mark the official opening of the Anza Trail in Nogales.

Winners of the Juan Bautista de Anza commemorative poster contest will be announced after the ribbon cutting. Winners of the individual women's, individual men's, and team categories in the orienteering meet will be announced and presented with signed prints of the winning poster.

Come join the fun, learn about the history that surrounds you, and get a little exercise at this Santa Cruz County Anza Trail Coalition and Santa Cruz County Chamber of Commerce sponsored event. For more information, call the Nogales-Santa Cruz County Chamber of Commerce at 520-287-3685.

Are you going?

Tucson Orienteering Club members have been invited to attend the Anza Days event and to hand out literature about our club and orienteering meets at the event. If anyone plans to attend and would like to hand out publicity materials, please call Jeff Brucker (886-2528) or Peg Davis (628-8985).

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

CLUB CALENDAR

October 20, Maternity Well (Empire Ranch)

Course Setter: Roger Sperline (577-8519)

Course Vetter: Vacant

Meet Director: Robert Miner (297-9294)

October 28, Newsletter Deadline

See page 6 for details.

November 16-17, Route 83, State Championships, B Course

Course Setter Day 1: Chris North (322-9758)

Meet Director Day 1: Peg Davis (628-8985)

Course Setter Day 2: Mark Everett (318-1217)

Meet Director Day 2: Emily Lane (322-9758)

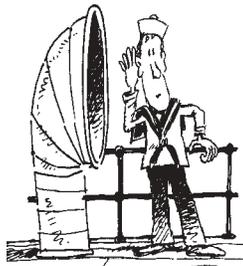
Course Veters: Jeff Brucker, Mark Everett, Matt Chamberlain

December 15, Cat Mountain

Course Setter: Ludwig Hill (299-9041)

Course Vetter: Vacant

Meet Director: (tentative) Pat Penn (326-2339)



**Anyone out there listening?
We still need meet directors,
course setters, and veters.**

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 Yen Chamberlain at 318-3630 if you can help with any of these meets.

2003

January 19, Silverbell

Course Setter: Wilkey Richardson (529-1105)

Course Vetter: Vacant

Meet Director: Vacant

February 16, Slavin Gulch

Course Setter: Mark Parsons (520-432-3013)

Course Vetter: Vacant

Meet Director: Vacant

March 16, Little Rincons—12-Hour Rogaine

Course Setter: Matt Chamberlain (318-3630)

Course Vetter: Vacant

Meet Director: Yen Chamberlain (318-3630)

April 20, Course Setter's Choice

May 18, Course Setter's Choice

June 15, Course Setter's Choice

July 20, Course Setter's Choice

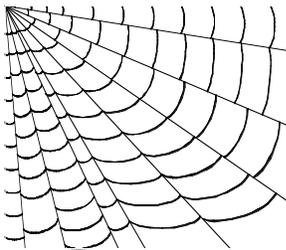
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Address Service Requested

**Bring a first-time orienteer to
our first-time meet site.
Maternity Well at Empire Ranch
October 20, 2002**



Check out the Tucson Orienteering Club web site!
Type **<http://go.to/tucsonorienteering>**
Also, for links to all the West Coast club sites,
just type **<http://go.to/sconet>**
or for Pacific Region rankings, type
<http://go.to/pacreg>

Tucson Orienteering Club Membership Application

Check one: New Member Renewal Date on label _____
Check one: Individual (\$10) Household (\$15)

Name: _____ Telephone: _____
Address: _____ E-mail: _____

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.