

The View From the Valley



Susquehanna Valley Orienteering









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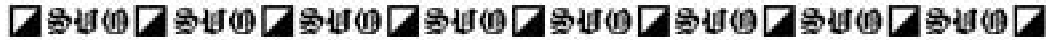
Annual meeting in February
A-Meet at Elk Neck SP
Gifford-Pinchot map is DONE!
A Brief History of SVO
Spring Schedule



Long-Stmble		5.1 km		850 m	
1	SL		1.0		
2	BW		2.0		
3	MB		30.0		
					

Where is Sarah?

What the heck is control #3?



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FIRST CLASS MAIL

mail to:

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Greetings! Are you ready for a new year of orienteering?

The season is well underway in SVO land. The annual meeting is just over a week away. Meets are being planned and courses designed for spring meets on the new Gifford-Pinchot and Elk Neck State Park maps. We now have official permission from Camp Tuckahoe to begin a map there - Mihai Veres has already begun the fieldwork. A number of club members are also working on making a genuine O-map of King's Gap...desperately needed, as its one of our most heavily used recruiting maps.

I don't really have much to say, so I'll just tell you about the photo on the cover, and then put in a short note from Francis Hogle. The image on the cover is a rendered surface image of the Camp Tuckahoe base map that Mihai is using to do the fieldwork there. The data was digitized from a scan of the USGS 1:24000 Topo, irregularly sampled and then interpolated onto a regular grid. It took about 4 hours of by-hand work to generate the surface data - not too bad really. The Digital Elevation Model (DEM) data then allowed us to reprint the map at any scale and using the normal 5m contour intervals, instead of the 10 foot intervals of the original Topo. We were also able to remove old, unreliable trails and text from the image. The contours and text you see on the image are the topo scan warped onto the surface.

The same process will be applied to the King's Gap area next. If the technique pans out then it should be possible to produce a large number of maps at a very low cost.

Francis Hogle has organized several introductory course setting seminars in the past in the QOC and DVOA areas. If there is enough interest, he would be willing to run a course setting clinic for prospective course setters, perhaps using the Pine Grove meet as its focus. This would help broaden SVO's course setting options. He would consider any location in the DC-Baltimore-York, PA area for a meeting spot. To be effective, it would need at least four interested people. If anyone is interested (I am) please give me (Eddie) a call or send me e-mail and I'll try to gather it all together.

-Eddie

SVO 1998 WINTER MEETING

The SVO winter meeting will be Saturday, February 21, at Whitmore's (see map on right). While we talk a little business at the meeting, this is meant to be more a fun event than anything. I will dust off the "can-you-identify-this-map" snippets from last year, show the really silly orienteering video we bought (note: if anyone has the 85 world champs video please let me know, since I would like to show that also), bring you up to date on mapping projects (hopefully have a draft of the Gifford Pinchot map), show Eddie's 3-dimensional image of Camp Tuckahoe (our new mapping project), etc. This is POT LUCK as usual, so please bring along a dish to pass, drinks, chips, whatever. Might be nice to let Brad know you are coming (so he can coordinate food a little), but ok if you just show up. Bring along pictures, maps, whatever you might like to share with people. Will get started around 3, talk business at 4, and eat around 5.

UPCOMING EVENTS

National Meet at Elk Neck SP, Maryland

(new DVOA map)

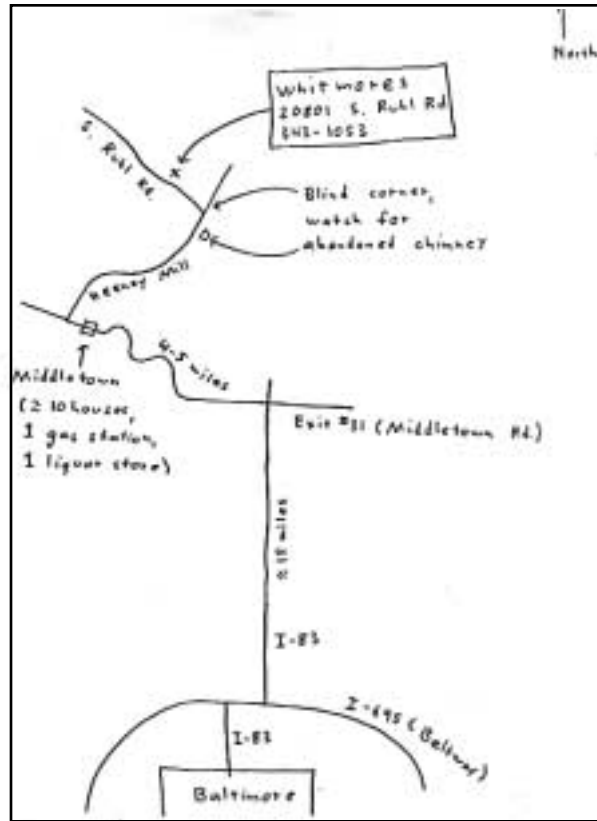
People may want to take advantage of a national O-meet at Elk Neck State Park MD, on March 28/29. This is located at the top of Chesapeake Bay, almost in Delaware. SVO (Brad Whitmore, Eddie Bergeron, Mike Ball, Mary Frank) are doing the course setting for this meet for 1/3 of the proceeds. Pretty interesting terrain with zillions of reentrants, some beach running, some steep cliffs, lots of laurel, and almost no rock features. Hope to see lots of SVOers there.

NEW SVO MAP!!!!!!!

Rocky Ridge getting a little too familiar for you? Then make sure you make the April 5 meet on the NEW Gifford Pinchot map.

Doin' the Curly Shuffle, uh, the Piney Stumble, ahh, hmm...

The Pine Grove Furnace meet on May 9 will introduce the *SUSQUEHANA STUMBLE*, a special event we hope will become a signature event for SVO. This event was inspired by the Billygoat (see September 1997 newsletter). The *STUMBLE* will offer a new format similar to one used in the past at some long-o national championships in Europe, and they were very efficient and successful. The top orienteers separate early from the eventual chasers and at the same time it is equally fair for everybody. The competitors will run between numbered windows in a sequential order. However, within each of these windows will be several controls which can be visited in ANY order. The Long-Stumble event will be somewhere between 15 and 25 km, with some kind of commemorative awards for the first 20 finishers and the first 5 female finishers. The Short-Stumble event will be somewhere between 5 and 10 km, with awards for the first 10 and first 3 female finishers. This will be a MASS START AT 12:00, so don't be late. The registration fees will be somewhat higher than normal (probably \$ 12 for the long-stumble and \$ 6 dollars for the short stumble) to help pay for the awards. There will also be some special prizes for the first 3 finishers in the Long-Stumble (possibly cash awards; we will discuss this at the Winter meeting). Normal white and yellow courses will be available for beginners for the standard \$ 3 dollar fee for club members, starting

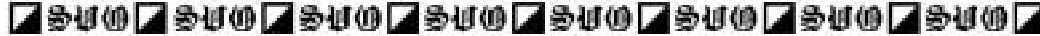


Map to Brad's House. Address is 20801 S. Ruhl Rd., Freeland, MD, 21053 (410) 343-1053

any time between 11 and 2. Pre registration would be nice (just send along a note and the money to: Brad Whitmore, 20801 S. Ruhl Rd, Freeland, MD 21053, or give Brad a call at 410 343-1053), but registration on the day of the event is also ok. Should be an exciting race. See you on May 9th, 1998! In the fall we will have another Bike-O at Rocky Ridge on Sept. 26, and on Sept. 27 introduce the Black course (“no-holds-barred” orienteering, e.g. between the 12th and 13th boulder).

Go West!

And finally, several people are making plans to go to a host of events in the Washington state/ British Columbia area in late July and early August (including the U.S. Champs and U.S. Relays, the World Masters Games, and the Sage Stomp), and the Rocky Mountain 1000 day in Wyoming August 15 - 23. Join in the fun. For more info ask around, or join USOF and get the excellent Orienteering North America magazine.



THE HISTORY OF SUSQUEHANNA VALLEY ORIENTEERING

By Brad Whitmore

I thought we better write down a history of SVO before its origins get lost in the mists of time, so here is a quick chronology. If you see any mistakes, or have something to add, please let me know. I will update and then ask Dean to put on the WWW. One thing that I discovered while digging through the old SVO documents was that we actually have a constitution, bylaws, everything. Pretty official !

Chronology

Dec. 8, 1990 - First SVO meeting. Present were Mark Frank, Dorothy Morrissey, Pat Morrissey, Jeff Smith, Mike Ball and Marilee Ball. It was reported that the Quantico Orienteering Club earmarked \$440 to help start a club in the Harrisburg area. DVOA pledged \$2,000 to assist in developing the first maps for this area. THANK YOU QOC AND DVOA ! Mike Ball was named president, Marilee Ball was named as secretary. Mark Frank paid the initial membership fee.

April 14, 1991 - First SVO meet held at Mont Alto State Park. The course setters were Mike and Marilee Ball. Some of the finishers you might recognize were Karen Williams from DVOA (now on the U.S. Womens Team), Mike and Sue Witter, Tom Bruce, Glen Brake, Francis Hogle III, Steve Willman (Rocky Mountain OC) and Ross Bruce (Southern Michigan OC).

June 26-30 1991 - SVO attends its first USOF Convention in Westchester PA. Mike and Marilee Ball meet Brad Whitmore.



Jim Browne and Dave Levine work the start table at Laurel Lake, Pine Grove Furnace, State Park.

Jan 1992 - Vol 1, No 1 of “The View from the Valley”, editors Ian and Brad Whitmore. 35 members in the club, 6 of them with last name of Frank.

July 4, 1992 - SVO and QOC cohost a ROGAIN (Rugged Outdoor Group Activity Involving Navigation and Endurance) held in the Michaux State Forrest. 8 hour (won by Fred Pilon and Diane McNamara) and 24 hour (won by Mark Frank and Hugh MacMullan) are held using the Big Flat parking lot to stage from. Course setters are Keg Good, the Ball’s, and Brad Whitmore. They meet Almuth Perzel, well-known orienteer from New England hiking the Appalachian trail, while setting courses.

Nov 3, 1992 - SVO hosts its first A-meet (i.e., national event) under the official auspices of DVOA. Mike Ball is the meet director and Brad Whitmore is the course setter. Over 240 people attended.

Fall, 1992 - Theresa Levine contributes the SVO square for the patchwork quilt given to the winners of the World Orienteering Championship in Harriman, NY in 1993.

Spring, 1993 - SVO competes in its first U.S. Relay champs near Albany NY, The team of Dave Levine, Keg Good, Mike Ball, and Brad Whitmore finishes 17th out of 53 teams.

Oct. 24, 1993 - The SVO banner made by Theresa Levine is unveiled at the Mont Alto Meet.



Nov. 7, 1993 - SVO hosts the Tri-meet between DVOA, QOC, and SVO for the first time. Dave Levine is the course setter. DVOA wins with 39 points, SVO finishes 2nd with 23 points, QOC comes in 3rd with 17 points, Romania comes in 4th with 8 points.

1994 - Keg Good and Harvey Lape become Mid-Atlantic USOF Representatives

Summer, 1994 - Ian (M16A) and Brad Whitmore (M40A) become the first SVOers to win the National Championship in their age groups in Anchorage, Alaska. Brad wins again (M40A) on Nov. 16, 1997 in Quantico, VA.

August, 1994 - The Fangmark family, visiting from Sweden for a year, return home.



Jan. 1995 - Dave Levine becomes newsletter editor.

April 30, 1995 - Jim Browne, veteran orienteer from DVOA, marries Nathalie Borozny and moves to SVO land. He debuts as the course setter at Camp Mack.

1996 - Harvey Lape becomes USOF Administration Vice President

January 1996 - The SVO WWW home page, designed by Dean Novosat, goes on the air (currently at: <http://users.desuper-net.com/dnovosat/>, with 1842 hits as of Jan. 29, 1998). Brad Whitmore becomes SVO President.

April 13/14, 1996 - SVO hosts its first 2 day A-meet, the 1996 U.S. Intercollegiate Meet on a new map at Pine Grove Furnace State Park (also the first official 5-color O map the club produced from start to finish itself, with Mikell Platt the mapper). The meet attracts over 400 people. Jim Browne is the Meet Director, Brad Whitmore and Keg Good are the primary course setters, with lots of help from scores of people from SVO, QOC, and especially DVOA. Ian Whitmore designed the very popular T-shirt and Michael Kalloz built the temporary bridge over the river as an Eagle Scout project. A big success all the way around.

Oct. 13, 1996 - SVO hosts the Mid-Atlantic Regional at Pine Grove Furnace State Park and places 2nd, behind QOC. Mihai Veres debuts as the course setter. A new scoring system is introduced using a combination of participation, course results, and relay results that gives the smaller clubs a fighting chance. The infamous Molasses Rule is introduced in the relay (the 3rd leg runner cannot leave until the 2nd place runner shows up at the GO control).

May 10, 1997 - First SVO Line-O. Eddie Bergeron makes his course setting debut.

April 19, 1997 -Mihai Veres make the U.S. Orienteering team but is not able to compete at the World Champs since his U.S. citizenship does not become official in time.

July 29, 1997 - Mark Voit wins the M35 Long-O National Championship in Florissant, CO.

September, 1997 - Eddie Bergeron becomes Newsletter Editor

Oct. 18, 1997 - First SVO Bike-O at Rocky Ridge. Barry Lee wins the long course (11.5 km, 260 m in 62:14. 16 competitors).

First Time Setting Courses for SVO

Date	Person(s)	Map
April 14, 1991	Mike, Marilee Ball	Mont Alto
Nov. 3, 1992	Brad Whitmore	Camp Mack
Spring, 1993	Dave Levine	Mont Alto
Dec 17, 1995	Keg Good	Rocky Ridge
June 11, 1995	George Mekely	Mont Alto
April 30, 1995	Jim Browne	Camp Mack
Sep 28, 1996	Francis Hogle	Rocky Ridge
Oct. 13, 1996	Mihai Veres	Pine Grove Furnace
Nov. 10, 1996	Bill Felo, Harvey Lape	Camp Mack
May 10, 1997	Eddie Bergeron	Rocky Ridge
June 22, 1997	Mark Williams	Pine Grove Furnace
Nov. 23, 1997	Mark Voit	Pine Grove Furnace

Compilation of Membership Sizes

Year	# of Members
1991	6 ?
1992	35
1993	45
1994	?
1995	?
1996	84
1997	120
1998	127

Compilation of Relay Results

Year	Place	Team Members - Location
1993	17/53	Dave Levine, Keg Good, Mike Ball, and Brad Whitmore - Thatcher, NY
1994	6	Marilee Ball, Keg Good, Mike Ball, Brad Whitmore - Umstead, NC
1995	14	Keg Good, Ian Whitmore, Mike Ball, Brad Whitmore - French Creek, PA
1996	5	Mike Ball, Dave Levine, Brad Whitmore, Mihai Veres - Rockhouse, NY
1997	6	Mark Voit, Mike Ball, Brad Whitmore, Mihai Veres - Florissant, CO

Tri-Meet or Mid-Atlantic regional Results

Year	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	Location
1993	DVOA (39)	SVO (23)	QOC (17)	Romania (8)		Rocky Ridge
1994	DVOA	QOC	?	SVO		Brandywine
1995	QOC	DVOA	?	SVO		Patapsco
1996	QOC (151)	SVO (126)	DVOA (116)	IUPOC (75)		Pine Grove Furnace
1997	QOC (175)	IUPOC (100)	SVO (85)	DVOA (61)	POC (24)	Rocky Ridge

Maps

Year	Map	Mapper/Cartographer	Scale and Type
1984	Mont Alto	Eric Weyman/Pat Dunlavey	(1/15000, 5-color)
1992	Camp Mack	Mikell Platt/J-J Cote	(1/15000 and 1/10000, 5-color)
1992	Rocky Ridge	Janos Soter/Janos Soter	(1/10000, 5-color)
1994	Hereford High School	Ian,Brad Whitmore, John Roemer/Ian Whitmore	(1/3500, B+W)
1996	Pine Grove Furnace	Mikell Platt/J-J Cote	(1/15000 and 1/10000, 5-color)
1996	Longs Park	Jim Browne/Brad Whitmore	(1/5000 5-color)
1998	Gifford Pinchot	Mark Dominine/Mark Dominic	(1/10000, 5-color)
199?	Camp Tuckahoe	Mihai Veres/???	???