

THE FLORIDA ORIENTEER

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FLOing WILD

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

FLO WINTER ANNUAL MEETING

Where: Putnam's house, directions page 8
When: Sat. Dec. 27th, 6pm to 9:30pm
Who: All FLO members are welcome.
What: Pot Luck supper at 6pm,
FLO business meeting 7:30pm.

UPCOMING EVENTS, by Bob Putnam

WEKIWA SPRING, SAT. DEC. 13th

The 2003 Florida Orienteering Championships will be held Saturday December 13th at Wekiwa Springs State Park. Enter at the park main entrance off Wekiwa Springs Road. The entrance is about 5 miles west of the I-4 exit off state road 434. Directions and details are on the FLO web site.

Everyone is welcome, as always. Nothing is different about this event except that anyone competing individually will be eligible for a prize. Medals will be awarded to the top three male and female finishers (those who compete individually) on each of the 6 courses offered: White, Yellow, Orange, Brown, Green and Red. Thus, the Florida Championships.

This year, just to keep the interest at a fever pitch, all medals will be awarded. This means that for any course on which there are less than three male or female finishers, the otherwise un-awarded medals will be presented to the fastest groups on that course. We'll try to do it fairly. For instance, if we have a silver and two bronze medals un-awarded to individuals on, say, the orange course, those medals will go to the three fastest groups on the course. The groups themselves will have to wrestle with the fact that a single medal must be shared somehow.

The forest is in fine shape, with a fresh growth of that beautiful wispy light brown waist-high grass (not wiregrass) covering a larger area than ever, making for a delightful walk in the woods even if you're lost. Of course, to preserve balance in the universe, other areas are re-growing oak underbrush at a record pace, diminishing visibility.

The water in Lake Prevatt is as high as its been in years, covering several stretches of lake-side trails, but there are always dry detours via rabbit tracks through the palmetto, or if you like, simply wade the shin-deep trail. White, yellow and orange courses need to know this.

Carpenter Creek is flowing again, too. This will be good to know for Green and Red courses. The creek is not deep, it's just very rare to have stream and water in some places. A few map changes have been made but it is not a complete effort. Lots of recent thinning for pine beetle has cleared forests on the fringes of the areas we will use. It won't be important for most courses, and some map changes have been made to clarify the big clearings. Simply be aware that selective cutting has occurred in many spots so that logging vehicle tracks and work areas may appear in odd places and are not mapped.

continued on page 8

206 POUNDS OF FOOD WAS COLLECTED IN FLO's 2ND ANNUAL
"SECOND HARVEST FOOD BANK" FOOD DRIVE on OCT 4TH at MOSS PARK

Sept 1 – NOD - National Orienteering Day at Billies Bay, ONF

by Bob Putnam

Ahhh....The change of seasons. The end of Summer. The first fresh nip of autumn in the air. Did you feel it too?

Never higher than 88F all day long. Humidity: tolerably lower than 80% all day long, except before 11 AM and during afternoon showers. A Beautiful blue sky, out of which occasionally a few raindrops appeared. No kidding: you could look up into a perfectly blue sky with sun-lit raindrops falling right on you. Then later, real rain and real clouds.

And other highlights: National Orienteering Day - With a big new Banner and Door Prizes and, not incidentally, a bang-up USOF Class B event on a brand new Billies Bay map. Then there was the Port-a-John making life so much more bearable in the otherwise facility-challenged Ocala Forest. Then there was the forest itself - great running over open ground, some freshly burned, and an opportunity to set some especially nice courses.

Thanks to all who turned out to savor the new forest and Jonathan Linforth's pre-marked maps. We hope you had fun. For all those first time orienteers - thanks so much for giving the Sport-For-A-Lifetime a try, and we hope you enjoyed yourselves enough to come back again and again.

See the list of winners of the Door Prizes donated by Brunton Compass, Map-Tech software and FLO (T-Shirts). USOF will be happy to learn of the number of new members we signed up on National Orienteering Day: Jim Septer, The Jason Reid Family (Jason, Jennifer, Jessica & Kristina), Joseph Battle, The Mike Hetzenroth Family (Mike, Becky, Jake & Andy), The William Thompson Group (Bill, David Shuman, Ken Richmond & Sue Hewlings), and Dave Hatten (recruited by the Gottshalks). FLO is certainly happy, too. Seventeen new members. Welcome to all!

For those of you not among the 130 lucky orienteers who did make it: our condolences. You missed a fine day. Arild Orsleie told me to quote him saying you missed the best Red course he's seen in Florida. All those folks who tried the Yellow course came back smiling, seeming to validate my assurances to them that they were on a "classic" Yellow course.

I cannot recall ever having such an ideal arrangement of trails, allowing leg after leg after leg on Yellow being just the right mix of long round-about trail alternative with a shorter cross-country option, and with several legs involving a choice of aim-off right, or aim-off left tactic. Great learning experience for all.

I knew I'd set up a challenging variety of alternate techniques to be used on the Red/Green course, but even I was surprised by the creative ways in which folks were able to blow 15 or 20 minutes at a time on a single control. Your poor course-setters can't think of everything, hard as we try. For instance Artur "The-Baltic-Flash" Intson wasted 15 minutes on the very first red control but still took first place in 72 minutes, a scant 65 seconds ahead of Arild "Shameless-Flatterer-of-Coursesetters" Orsleie who himself wasted 10 minutes on one control.

Likewise, Ron Eaglin and his team of adventure racers felt as though they'd virtually re-mapped one whole area searching for Red #6. And we learned Dave Ousley's time ballooned because he also wrestled with that same Red #6. Expect a FLO newsletter article on that matter soon.

Bev Ousley's encounter with ground dwelling wasps (many many bites) apparently slowed her down, and Andy Holman took first place Red for women with a pretty good time. I recall seeing good winning times on Orange and Yellow, and today, at least, I have the feeling Orange was a good course.

Recall that it's the toughest course to design well, since it usually turns out too hard or too easy for that imaginary Intermediate Level Orienteer for whom it's intended. Let us know what you think about this, too, orange-coursers. The Brown course was distinctly different from Red & Green - not simply truncating them to get less distance. Only the final control was common. I was anxious to

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FLO Information
FLO Hot line: (407) 672-7070
FLO Mail Group: http://groups.yahoo.com/FloridaOrienteering/
Web Pages: www.FloridaOrienteering.org www.us.orienteering.org
FLO Officers
President: Arild Orsleie (407) 532-9681 orsleie@juno.com
Treasurer: Russ Steinke (352) 735-2994 russ@FloridaOrienteering.org
V.P. Competition: Bob Putnam (407) 366-9603 Bob@FloridaOrienteering.org
V.P. Administration: Mike Dempsey (407) 869-1266 membership@FloridaOrienteering.org
Publicity: Ray Bruneau (352) 589-1391 bruneau@mpinet.net
Results Coordinator: Mike Dempsey (407) 869-1266 results@FloridaOrienteering.org
USOF Representative: Frank Canty (407) 855-0290
Little Troll Coordinator: *Volunteer Needed*
Librarian: *Volunteer Needed*
Equipment Manager: *Volunteer Needed*
Newsletter Editor: Marilu Dempsey (407) 869-9731 news@FloridaOrienteering.org
WebMaster: Mike & Marilu Dempsey (407) 869-9731 webmaster@FloridaOrienteering.org
Board Members: Ron Eaglin (407) 977-0371 Ron@FloridaOrienteering.org Jonathan Linforth: (352) 324-2378 jslinforth@comcast.net Rick Orcutt: FunXFord@aol.com Tim Orcutt: FunXFord@aol.com

Sept 1 – NOD - National Orienteering Day, continued from page 2

see how the times came in. I must admit to being disappointed that Brown course times were so long. I think I made both Green and Brown too tough. I'm not yet sure what I learned from that, but I hope all the competitors learned a lot. Let us know what you think.

Lots of adventure racers turned out and it was terrific to have them, but only Titusville and Oviedo JROTC. Apparently the JROTC Training Camp Sept 5-6-7 siphoned most of them away. Not to worry. FLO still benefits from the enthusiasm that such a camp generates, not to mention the map revenues we still get.

The area we used for this Billies Bay map was originally scouted 5 years ago when we were planning what then became Woodpecker Hill. It looked pretty crappy then, so we saved it 'til last. When Malcolm Adams mapped this area in Feb 2003, it had grown up some, but he was dismayed by the low-vine briars and we all still thought it wasn't such a hot area. Now, after having set some satisfying courses there, I think Billies Bay could be one of our best venues. We'll just try to route people around the junkier stuff.

Setting the red/green controls that morning, I had a great run, with minimal clingy-vine problems, (falling only once) but then I knew, more or less, where I was going. I loved having terrain to read. Did you all notice and appreciate the Billies Bay terrain - real relief - with, like, contours and saddles and re-entrants and...and...and: Hills! Cool!

Thanks go to Ray Bruneau for EC-ing the event, arranging for the port-a-john, passing out beef jerky treats, stealing his wife's rain-proof shelter for the day, hauling stuff to & from and still doing start/finish. More thanks to Janet Putnam and Bev Ousley for registration, Russ Steinke for Start-finish, Jonathan Linforth for maps, Ron Eaglin and Company (I'll get all their names someday - honest) for setting controls and Joe Maliszewski & Ray for retrieval.

NOD 2003 DOOR PRIZE WINNERS.

- FLO T-Shirt: Dave Ousley**
- FLO T-Shirt: The Metzneroth Family**
- FLO T-Shirt: Kimberly Durjan**
- 7DNL Compass: Julio Bahamon**
- 7DNL Compass: Richard Cale group (photo next page)**
- Fancy Compass: Troop 524 # 2(c/o Don Smith) (photo below)**
- Fancy Compass: Joe Malizewski**
- Map-Tech Software CD: Steve Nemeth (group)**
- Map-Tech Software CD: Cent. FL. Adven. Racers (c/o Ron Eaglin)**
- Map-Tech Software CD: * Eric Swiercingky (Titusville HS JROTC)**

* We had one of the MapTech CD's left over from last year, and awarded it as the Grand Prize, so it was great to present it to a member of one of our most supportive High School JROTC units. ■



Troop 524 # 2 – compass winners

RESULTS: Billies Bay (BB)

RESULTS CODE	
DNF:	Did Not Finish
OT	Over 3 Hr Time Limit
DQ	Disqualified/Mis-punched
BB – WHITE	
NAME	TIME
Swiercingky	29:35
Burton	36:15
Gross	37:15
Himmler	83:15
Jessica & Kris	DNF
BB – YELLOW	
NAME	TIME
Odermatt	49:24
Voorwinden	53:50
Reid	60:22
Titusville NJROTC	66:59
Abee & Nye	68:10
Jackson	71:00
Nemeth	72:04
Borah	77:10
Battle	78:33
Metzenroth Family	143:00
BB – ORANGE	
NAME	TIME
Prytulo	58:04
Pardy	65:45
Sampoux	68:23
Godber	71:30
Steinke	75:09
Misa	92:00
Holley	94:59
Nemeth	99:40
Milliken	101:00
Joiner	102:00
Troop 524 #1	113:00
Bates	114:00
Bell	119:00
Oviedo #3	122:25
Spencer	125:00
Troop 524 #2	127:30
Durjan	134:30
Bahamon	140:00
Hawkins	155:30
Oviedo HS #2	157:00
Cale	OT
Battle	DNF
Espey-Francis	DNF



Richard Cale - compass winner

RESULTS: Billies Bay (BB) cont

BB – BROWN	
NAME	TIME
Godber	84:00
Reid	102:00
Padrick	115:00
Spencer	119:00
Nestlebush	123:06
Hugoboom	168:00
Jimenez	OT
Barker	DNF
Taylor	DNF
Matthews	DNF
BB – GREEN	
Royer	97:40
Bohn	98:00
Tischer	108:06
Rosenburg	117:24
Clayburn	152:50
BB – RED	
NAME	TIME
Intson	73:30
Orsleie	74:50
Shuman	84:45
Hollingsworth	87:45
Holman	103:10
Gottschalk	103:20
Sheppard	104:45
Alex & Allyson	09:50
Cfar	117:45
Hession	122:40
Ousley, Bev	157:00
Hatten	164:00
Joe Maliszewski	DNF
Eaglin Team	NTR

Bev & Dave Ousley Say Goodbye

As many of you may know by now, long time FLO members, supporters, workers and dedicated Orienteers, Bev and Dave Ousley recently relocated to Maryland. At the October Moss Park event, they were presented, in a rather impromptu ceremony, with a small token of the club's appreciation for their many years of association with FLO.

Bev and Dave joined the club the first day they attended an event, the fifth event FLO ever hosted, July 14, 1991, at Blue Spring State Park. That Score event was set up especially for some local Hashers (Hash House Harriers – a sort of outlaw runners group) and because only 7 Hashers showed, did not seem to be a success. However, among the Hashers attending that day and joining FLO were Bev and Dave and Ron Eaglin, making it the most productive single event ever hosted by FLO in terms of recruiting helpers for the club.

That was 12 years and over 25,000 starters ago. Over the years Bev and Dave served you in almost every way, without complaint, and with perpetual good cheer. They served as Treasurer, equipment Quartermasters, Statistician, web site designers, Hotline monitor, established the Yahoo Group; then there were the nearly numberless course designs, service as Event Coordinators (several times a year, every year), and without fail they were available to help at every event they attended (and they didn't miss many), manning registration, start, finish, control setting, control retrieval, etc., etc., etc.

So after 172 events, we'll miss them. On behalf of all the members and guests of FLO over the years, we bid them Adieu and God Speed. May all their marshes be no more than ankle deep, and may all the greenbriars part for their passage. And may they find time to enjoy the every-weekend opportunities for O' in the mid-Atlantic region. 🚩



Left, Bev and Dave saying goodbye, Moss Park, October 2003.

Good Bye & Good Luck in Maryland.

Your smiles and your dedication to FLO will be sorely missed by all.

Orienteering Etiquette: Group Sizes, by Bob Putnam

Because of the sheer numbers of people we are averaging at our events nowadays, we feel we must reassert one of the O-etiquette rules we have allowed to lapse somewhat - Maximum number in a group. You may have noticed at the top of the Waiver sheet there is listed the maximum "allowable" number in a group for each course: White - 6; Yellow - 5; Orange - 4; Brown – 3; Green - 3; Red - 2.

The reason for these limits is quite simply: etiquette. That is, to have too large a group on any course detracts from the orienteering experience of others. For instance, the longer the course, the more challenging the control placements. The larger your group the more likely you are to be seen or heard on a course, not only by calling out "there it is!" but by being that much more visible to other competitors. Therefore a larger group on a longer course is far more likely to give away control locations, and it is the very difficulty of the control location which distinguishes the longer course.

So anyone interesting in experiencing the game of orienteering at the top of their capability cannot do so if the groups on their course are too large. And we have allowed them to become too large. Even the White course group maximum of 6 has been regularly exceeded.

We have in the past few years allowed almost anyone to go out on almost any course, with only minor urgings to minimize their group sizes. This has led to lots and lots of groups of 3 and 4 on red courses, for instance, or 6 and even 10 on White. This has genuinely compromised the experience of orienteering for all. We are asking the cooperation of all, please adhere to the suggested groups sizes.

Help us out by regulating yourselves so that we don't have to ask. Other competitors will be glad you did, but more importantly, you will also discover that your orienteering experience will be enhanced. It really is more fun, and the opportunity to learn is greater, the smaller your group size. 🚩

RESULTS Little Big Econ (LBE)

Nov 1, 2003

RESULTS CODE	
NTR:	Time Not Recorded
DNF:	Did Not Finish
DQ:	Disqualified
DHS	Deland HS AFJROTC
GHS	Gibbs HS
OHS	Oviedo HS NJROTC
LBE – WHITE/YELLOW	
NAME	TIME
Pierce Wilfong	41:13
Possums	52:49
Sarasota #4	58
Sarasota #7	62:30
Charles Wonscheck	63
YMCA South Services	73:55
David Mahnken	74
Rick Holley	98:23
Johnston Family	108
Joyce Hernandez	112
Charlotte Little	113:2
Vern Seward	113:41
Marlene Pagan	127
Sarasota #3	156
Sarasota #5	DNF
Sarasota #2	DNF



Misting Mr Potato Head – really well!

FAMILY FUN -

Grow Sprouts in a Potato Head.

Have an adult make a slice at the bottom of a large potato so it will stand up. Next cut $\frac{3}{4}$ ” off the top, and then carve out some of the potato.

Stand it on a small plate. Decorate with buttons, fabric scraps, and other odds and ends, attaching with straight pins. (We used push pins, and old Mr Potato Head parts)

Put some damp cotton balls inside the carved out top. Put alfalfa, mung bean, or sesame seeds (you will find them at health food stores) on the damp cotton. (We used alfalfa, “The father of all foods”, and even grew a ‘hairy’ cotton ball.)

Children **really** love using a spray bottle to mist seeds daily.

The potato head should sprout “hair” in a few days. In 7 or 8 days your child can give Mr or Ms Potato Head a haircut with a pair of rounded children’s sissors. Put the ‘hair’ on salads, soup, or sandwiches.

from Donna Erickson, Prime Time Together....with Kids 

LBE – ORANGE	
NAME	TIME
Walenty Prytulo	50:40
THS Swierinsky	52:37
THS Taylor	54:30
THS Johnson	54:37
A Russo/R Samson	55:17
THS Chermatt	56:30
Henry Willis	59:20
Jake Borah	59:40
Sampoux Roland	63:39
Greg Owens	65:30
Bates	67:00
Shawn Hagerty	68:00
UCF Recondo (Gillette)	69:37
Panoy Party	70:51
C Flynn/L Metallo	74:18
David Somers	85:22
THS Jiminez	92:00
Auburndale #8	97:00
Carl Jewet and Ty	100:20
Sarasota #1	101
Sarasota #7	107
Auburndale #4	110:00
Russ Steinke	110:35
Daniel Bauder	117:30
David Shuman	117
Troop 699	123
Kavanagh-Strawn	128
Greg Poole	130
Auburndale #5	131:18
Jason Willons	135:50
Vaughn	137:30
Sarasota #6	139
Joseph Scioli	155
Auburndale #7	180
Auburndale #6	180
Sam Rizzo & Jim Feudner	DNF
THS Keys	DNF
Kim Durjan	DNF
Yeadon	DNF

LBE – BROWN	
NAME	TIME
Brett Barker	93:25
Bob Hind	143
Akers	143:50
Team Wannabe	156:00
Johnson Group	DNF
Robert Fields	DNF
LBE – GREEN	
NAME	TIME
Derek Bohn	99
John Ide	139:30
THS Padrick	146:40
Mark & Abby Rosendburg	156:45
Joe Maliszewski	164
Auburndale #3	180
Paul Boudreau (183)	OT
Auburndale #2 (198)	OT
Auburndale #1 (200)	OT
THS Misa	DNF
LBE – RED	
NAME	TIME
Artur Intson	87:00
Bryan Schultz	111:40
THS Toby Henson	112:51
Lane Sheppard	112:52
Andrea Holman	115:00
Dirty Fish	134:50
Dave & Debbie Gottschalk	136:45
Don Nettlow	139:50
Will Murphy	139:50
David Hatten	146:40
Ray Bruneau	158:00
Jim Feudner	170
Lou Chizlett	171:10
Ken Miller	176
Team #6	198
Boca Ciega #4	227
Boca Ciega #1	229
W Thompson/K Richmond	232
Roland Magyer	DNF
Boca Ciega #2	DNF
Boca Ciega #3	DNF

October 4 – Moss Park, by Mike Dempsey

Event Coordinator: Mike & Marilu Dempsey

Course Setter: Arild Orsleie

What a day. Beautiful weather and a great turnout. Our hard-working helpers were swamped at the Registration table. Even though we don't officially start until 10am, we had quite a few eager people turn up before 9am, and started signing people up at 9:30. The huge crush then caused a long wait for many at the Start table.

We had 140 teams start; considerably more than usual. That translates into well over 300 people. In fact, the turnout was so large that we ran out of clue sheets for both Red and Orange courses, and some participants had to copy the control letters and symbols onto their yellow cards.

There is some confusion about what a "group" consists of. That category is for Scouts, ROTC, or other groups where there is a person responsible for overseeing one or more teams of competitors. Families, or any other group of people competing together as a team, fill out the "individual" sign in sheets.

Once again we saw a lot of people attempting courses that they were not ready for. This can be seen from the large number of teams that failed to complete the advanced courses. Check out the Red course results! Completing a less advanced course will teach more about Orienteering than getting lost on an advance course.

Please help us avoid a future Search and Rescue ending to what should have been a great day. Check the guidelines on the FLO website, and choose the course that fits your abilities and knowledge.

I was one of the first people to go out on the Green course. As a result, I scared up a few deer (2 different groups) on my way to control 3. Apart from the deer I didn't see any more wildlife until I got back into Moss Park. There I saw 2 groups of Sandhill Cranes trying to charm food from some of the picnickers.

Many thanks to all those who helped out. Arild Orsleie manned the Advanced Start/Finish desk all day, while Tim Orcutt manned the White/Yellow. Grizeldis Lutz and Michele Morse, both new to orienteering, helped Marilu brave the crowds and frantic pace of the Registration desk, while Bob Putnam and Ray Bruneau gave helpful instruction to those that wished to learn a little more about the sport.

At the end of the day Joe Malisewski helped Rick and Tim Orcutt to retrieve all the controls. Our thanks also go out to the JROTC group who supplied us with a large tray of sandwiches. There were some grateful volunteers and at least a couple of very happy families who arrived back completely famished after a hard day of orienteering.

Our Second Annual Food Drive, for the benefit of Second Harvest Food Bank, was a great success. **We collected a total of 206 pounds of food; more than twice the amount we collected last year.** We were rather surprised to see a

sign at the park entrance proclaiming THEIR food drive in aid of Second Harvest. What a coincidence ... I hope this didn't confuse too many people ... but if it did, the end result was the same anyway. ▣



Marilu at Second Harvest weighing in the big haul!



Charming Sandhill Cranes at Moss Park

Important: Sandhill Cranes should not be fed.. After a few months of feeding, the cranes may damage cars, pool enclosures, flower beds, golf courses, and even pets. Please enjoy these elegant birds from a distance.

Sandhill Cranes: Fossils over six million years old found in Nebraska make the sandhill crane the oldest still living species of bird. Sandhills are native to Wisconsin and much of N. America and eastern Russia. There are six subspecies of sandhill cranes. The greater, lesser, and Canadian subspecies are migratory, while the Mississippi, Cuban, and Florida are not. All three non-migratory subspecies are classified as either threatened or endangered. [Editor's note: The Florida subspecies is listed as Threatened].

There were as few as 25 breeding pairs remaining in Wisconsin by the mid 1930s, but sandhills are now thriving in the state after their population began to rebound in the 1970s. The Wisconsin sandhill recovery is due to hunting prohibitions and protection and restoration of wetlands. The cranes have also adapted to humans by nesting in smaller wetlands and by feeding in agricultural fields. This sometimes leads to conflicts with farmers in the spring when cranes may raid corn fields, pulling up the newly sprouted corn plants and eating the seed kernel off the roots. [Editor's note: Information is from <http://www.savingcranes.org/species/sandhill.asp>]

Additional information can be found at: <http://www.wildflorida.org/critters/sandhillcrane.asp>

RESULTS – Moss Park – (MP)

RESULTS CODE	
NTR:	Time Not Recorded
DNF:	Did Not Finish
DQ:	Disqualified - over time limit
MP – WHITE	
NAME	TIME
Sarasota HS #2	17:40
Sarasota HS #1	20:40
Worscheck	41:00
Troop 225 #1	42:25
Troop 225 #2	46:40
GS Troop 796	50:00
Troop 560 #1	50:40
Yoemans (6)	52:15
JJ Richards (6)	52:30
Jim Rotolo (6)	52:30
Jerry Gordon	52:30
GS Troop 27 #2	54:10
GS Troop 796 #2	59:00
Pack 248 #2	66:20
GS Troop 27 #1	81:20
Holley	144:00
Pack 248 #3	NTR
MP – YELLOW	
NAME	TIME
Titusville HS #1	23:02
Nettlow (6)	30:00
Jacob Rausch	30:14
Cypress Creek HS #1	33:30
Sarasota HS #2	34:11
Sarasota HS #1	35:25
Matt Sharkey (4)	43:10
Michele Morse (4)	43:20
Bates	45:30
Gulf HS #2	47:24
Richard Cale (4)	47:40
D Hood & Scott (2)	50:05
Gulf HS #1	52:24
M Dempsey & G. Lutz	55:27
Pack 248	58:45
Sebastian River HS	66:44
Skinner (6)	70:00
Cypress Creek HS #2	94:30
MP – ORANGE	
NAME	TIME
Wilheim / Escue	42:19
Kornegay / Soto	43:27
DoHnuts #1	48:18
Walenty Prytulo	49:11
Lisa Maitland	51:21
Eric Swiercinsky	52:05
Flynn / Metallo	53:11
Christina Martinez	55:28

MP – ORANGE - cont	
NAME	TIME
McVickor	59:05
Vaughn	60:40
Borah	64:55
Jeff Barton	70:41
John Rodemeyer	74:06
Christina Royer	80:09
Adam Johnson	80:10
Troop 524 (Panthers)	80:55
Criner	81:38
Rampi	84:49
Abee / Nye	84:50
J Bergh & V Mahan	89:35
Milward	89:40
Caruso	91:15
Auburndale HS #2	96:30
Auburndale HS #3	97:15
Troop 524 (Troop 71)	97:40
Rodney Counts	97:50
Linda Schmid	100:15
Gulf HS #3 (Hudson)	109:32
Gibbs HS #1	109:32
Outdoors & Active	109:55
Auburndale HS #1	111:55
Durjan / Mehalik	114:25
Troop 524 (Dragons)	115:23
Collier	118:04
Oviedo HS #1	125:50
J&J Strong	126:45
Turner / Matthews	133:20
GS Troop 869	135:55
Oviedo HS #2	162:50
Troop 560	166:05
Metzenroth	DQ
S Komanski	DNF
Williamson	DNF
Gibbs HS #2	DNF
Gibbs HS #3	DNF
Gibbs HS #4	DNF
Gibbs HS #5	DNF
Gibbs HS #6	DNF
Gibbs HS #7	DNF
Sarasota HS #3	DNF
MP – BROWN	
NAME	TIME
Ray Bruneau	105:23
Bret Barker	106:41
Rod Price	134:10
Schwieterman / Ray	142:45
Kevin Jimenez	OT
Al & C Little	DNF
Sarasota HS #4	DNF

MP – GREEN	
NAME	TIME
Derek Bohn	57:55
Toby Henson	87:31
Steve & Julie Royer	94:45
Mitch Jarvis	94:58
Dennis Godber	115:52
Jataya Taylor	120:46
Shane Keys	129:14
Mike Dempsey	137:25
M & A Rosenberg	142:54
Adam Hugoboom	153:17
D & C Clayburn	156:20
Chip Luck	OT
Dan Bauder	OT
Lawson / Bennett	DNF
Jeff Misa	DNF
Auburndale HS #4	DNF
MP – RED	
NAME	TIME
Bob Putnam	66:18
Arthur Intson	84:10
Chris Johnson	90:21
David Shuman	99:41
Somers	114:25
W Murphy	130:35
David Brault	130:35
John Sherwin	161:43
Luther Barnes (184:55)	OT
A Holman (195:30)	OT
Dirty Fish (214:45)	OT
Lou Chizlett (223:50)	OT
Lane Sheppard (226:47)	OT
Bev Ousley	DNF
Fabio Roberti (Dave O)	DNF
Jim Septer	DNF
Joe Maliszewski	DNF
Team Gecko	DNF
K. Anderson (BCHS)	DNF
N. Branam (BCHS)	DNF
P. Brown (BCHS)	DNF
A. Diaz (BCHS)	DNF
H. Hoopes (BCHS)	DNF
B. Mann (BCHS)	DNF
T. Mulhern (BCHS)	DNF
J. Mulhern (BCHS)	DNF
K. Owens (BCHS)	DNF
H. Rogers (BCHS)	DNF
P. Scott (BCHS)	DNF
R. Vargas (BCHS)	DNF
C. Yakes (BCHS)	DNF

☑ **UPCOMING EVENTS**, continued from cover

Careful parking is very important in the Youth Camp Area where we will be staging. Please cooperate with our traffic directors. **PLEASE DO NOT PARK ON ROADWAY SHOULDERS.** Please do not park anywhere except in designated parking lots and do not drive into any tall grass at the edge of the lots, however inviting it appears, and be sure to keep wide fire lanes open through all lots. We are being watched very carefully by the rangers.

Please note that at this event there are really two parallel events underway. The Florida Championships use the six regular courses described. In addition the Florida High School JROTC Championships are also being conducted, on their own separate Yellow, Orange and Brown courses. There will therefore be two start tables and two finish tables in close proximity. We'll help you keep them straight; don't worry. If you are a HSJROTC unit with cadets interested in competing (individually) for JROTC awards and have not yet registered, contact Dave Botonis at <sailsup3@yahoo.com> for info or to register.

Important to remember:

- 1) Same 10:00 am to 1:00 pm start time windows.
- 2) No pre-registrations required, except for JROTC individual competitors.
- 3) All entries at this event will use PRE-MARKED maps. You will receive only your control card and description sheet at registration. The map will be given when your time starts.
- 4) The Wekiwa Springs map uses color overlays on several of the black-dash trails to designate special hiking trail categories, but that makes some of them hard to read if you're not paying very close attention. Most courses need to watch out for this.
- 5) Bring bug spray. Not for mosquitoes, but for your pants and socks to protect against chiggers.
- 6) Courses will be challenging - this is not the day to 'move up' to the next level. Just relax and enjoy what you know you can do.
- 7) Carry your own water - there will be none on the course. ☑

DELEON SPRINGS STATE PARK, SAT. JAN 10TH, 2004

Those who were there last year will remember that FLO shared the park with a Civil War encampment. They enjoyed having our members as an audience on their long march out the Wild Persimmon Trail and back, and we enjoyed stepping over 'dead' soldiers while out on our courses.

We've scheduled that again, so there will be lots of history to go along with our usual fun and games. And fun-&-games it will be. Courses will be unusual, as usual. There will be White and Yellow courses plus a Score event. But to keep up the interest in this fairly small park, used often enough that lots of FLO members are very familiar with it by now, the Score will have a twist. You must wait until you arrive to learn all the details, but the idea will be to make you think even more than usual.

For Encampment Day the Park waives admission fees, but the Encampers do solicit voluntary contributions at the entrance booth. Please be prepared to support them generously.

[Living history event with re-enactors. Gen. Birney's 1864 raid on Starke's plantation and destruction of the grist mill. JAN. 11-12, 2004: Deleon Springs State Park, Deleon Springs. **407-295-7510** or hq17thconninf@cfl.rr.com for more information.]

We're still looking for an Event Coordinator for this event. Please contact Bob Putnam if you are willing to volunteer as EC. ☑

WOODPECKER HILL/SHOCKLEY RANCH, SAT. FEB 7TH, 2004

Before the next newsletter hits the streets, we will have enjoyed Ocala National Forest once again. This time we will stage out of the intersection of Forest Road 538 (Accessible from Route 42 in Paisley via Rancho Lane, which turns into dirt road 538 after only 1/4 mile) and the Big Powerline.

This is the extreme southeast corner of Woodpecker Hill map and the extreme northeast corner of Shockley Ranch map. White and Yellow courses will use Shockley Ranch while Orange-Brown-Green-Red will use Woodpecker Hill. We're still looking for an Event Coordinator for this event. Contact Bob Putnam if you are interested. ☑

FLO WINTER ANNUAL MEETING

This year marks the first Winter Annual Meeting for FLO. Previously we had our official meeting in June or July. But we have new By-Laws forming and the Board feels a Winter Meeting is better.

It will be held at the Putnam's house on Saturday, Dec 27th. All FLO members are welcome. The format is a Pot Luck Supper. If you're not familiar with Pot Luck, it simply consists of everyone bringing a dish to share, with no plan and no assigned dishes. We simply rely on the number of people attending to produce enough variety. Eating starts at 6:00 p.m., so arrive a few minutes early to set up the food.

After much eating and socializing, the FLO business meeting will start at about 7:30.p.m. The meeting should end at about 9:30. FLO will provide plasticware, plates, cups, napkins, ice and soda. Feel free to bring, in addition to your pot luck offering, liquid refreshments of your choice.

Directions: 955 Dyson Drive, Winter Springs, FL. From the intersection of Expressway Route 417 and Red Bug Lake Road Exit (near Oviedo), go west on Red Bug Lake Rd. 3 miles to intersection with Tuskawilla Road (at red light, major intersection). Turn right (north) on Tuskawilla. Go 1 mile to 3rd red-light, intersection with Dyson Drive. Turn right onto Dyson and go 0.8 miles to 955 on Right.

There should be a control hanging on the mailbox. **Please RSVP (bob.putnam@siemens.com or putnamsfl@aol.com) so we can plan properly.** ☑

MAPPING COMMITTEE REPORT

The Board has targeted the Croom District of Withlacoochee State Forest as the venue for the next mapping project. Thus far, however, we have no mapper. Ray Bruneau has performed preliminary scouting and has contacted the rangers there.

No firm boundaries have been set for the map; needs more scouting, we think, as well as discussion with rangers about parking and access. We have money enough for funding and we have FLO members willing to serve as Hosts for the mapper.

Whoever we ultimately do find to perform the fieldwork, we would likely also ask them to include some re-fieldchecking of existing maps, since most are rapidly growing (literally) outdated. We'll keep you posted. ☑

Orienteering Training Tip:

Read the map - Don't "take a bearing", by Bob Putnam

I was struck recently by an incident that happened around a red course control. I encountered a large group lingering about the control, visible from a long way off on my approach, still there as I ran in to punch, and still remaining there while I left.

I'll try not to recreate the exact exchange that took place in order to preserve the dignity of that group's members. As I punched I said to them "Don't hang around the control, you're giving away the location". Maybe I could have said it nicer. Maybe I was out of breath and it sounded abrupt. But the response was that they couldn't, they were taking the bearing to the next control and could not even move away 50 yards because that would mess up the bearing.

I wish that I can convince everyone that (1) no one ever needs to "take a bearing" from one control to the next, (2) no one should ever spend that much time at a control, (3) if you insist on taking a bearing, you very easily can do so, having moved 50 yards in any given direction, (4) competitors should make every effort to make themselves scarce around controls in any case, (5) only rarely is it necessary to "take a bearing" at any point on any orienteering course, (6) to the extent you are relying on precise compass bearings you are avoiding the vital lessons of map reading which are necessary to make you a better orienteer, a better map reader, and a candidate for moving up successfully to more challenging orienteering courses, and (7) you're not having as much fun as you could.

Orienteering is a map game. It teaches, instills and requires the development of Map Literacy. It is not a compass game.

It does not require precise compass bearings. The compass is a tool to orient the map, so as to Read The Map to the next control. The ability to read the map, follow "rough" compass headings - without having to stop to take a precise compass bearing - is key to orienteering.

Whenever I'm teaching orienteering I tell everyone to ignore the rotating dial and all those numbers on the compass. The compass needle points north and that is what's important. Once you have an oriented map in your hand, and if you know roughly where you are (you DO keep track of where you are on the map, don't you?) then the map "tells" you in which direction to go -whether you're going toward a major landmark, a handrail, an attack point, or the control itself.


Now, I realize that lots of JROTC cadets and lots of adventure racers are being told to use the orienteering event as a practice exercise in which they learn to shoot bearings, so that such skills can be applied in future settings where compass work is called for. Well and good. But don't do it to the exclusion of Reading The Map. To have an orienteer on an advanced course insisting on taking a bearing all the way from one control to the next, regardless of intervening terrain, means that lessons have been twisted around, and also that the orienteer is not really ready to succeed on a red course.

Here's how you plan an advanced course leg from one control to the next:

(1) Begin planning the leg prior to even punching the control at the beginning of the leg - either during a previous trail run, or on the run-in just after you spot that control - this means you will punch and move away immediately in the direction you want to depart the control - no wait, no standing.

- (2) Plan the leg backwards - select an Attack Point - the best relatively fool-proof spot you know you can find, about 100m or less from the control at the end of the leg - then figure out how to get to the attack point - again, working backwards to where you are at the just-punched control.
- (3) Keep your map oriented using as a reference the north end of the needle, ignoring for the moment all other parts of the compass - or even orient the map using major nearby alignments of roads, rivers, lakes, powerlines, etc.
- (4) Knowing where you are, allow the oriented map to "tell" you where to go next, and what you will see on the way.
- (5) Reading the map, visualize where you will be going, what you will be seeing, what main features you need to look for, and what features will be your way-stops on the way to the Attack Point,
- (6) At the Attack Point, you might sometimes take a precision compass bearing to the control and pace yourself to it, but most often an oriented map is all that is required.

I cannot recall how many times I've said the above in one form or another over the years, but having said (written) it once again, I suppose I must admit it can't be repeated enough. These and other lessons should appear more often in these pages, and I'll try harder.

And you don't have to be running all the time - just moving all the time is usually good enough, and challenging enough. Then AFTER you've mastered, more or less, the ability to navigate from one control to another, by reading the map, by Orienteering, then you will find that the compass skills will begin to come more easily. It is in fact the context of experienced orienteering that is the best way we know to instill lasting compass skills. But the orienteering comes first. 

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

REWARD

LOTS OF FUN!






NEW FRIENDS!!

INCREASED O'SKILLS !!!

Contact the **Event Coordinator** for any event where you are able & willing to help out.

Volunteer for one hour, two hours, an entire event, or get involved with FLO – it's easy & fun!

NEEDED:

-  Event Coordinators, Course Setters & Veters
-  Registration, especially 10am to 12pm
-  START/FINISH
-  Control Retrieval
-  String'O Coordinator

FLO is run entirely by a small group of volunteers, please offer your help at meets at least once a year. Contact the Event Coordinator (EC) directly, or if there is no EC listed, contact Bob Putnam.

You can make a difference!

How Those Flags Get Into The Woods – Sometimes, by Bob Putnam

Little Big Econ, Nov 2003, even though I missed the event itself, Ron Eaglin "allowed" me to set the red course controls the day before. This is an interesting process, since I first have to burglarize their house to find the map and clue sheet; following Ron's careful instructions as to breaking and entering, wondering all the time how I might explain myself to inquisitive neighbors and incredulous law enforcement officials.

Having placated the vicious guard dog I then need only to cull the correct controls from the box and head off to Barr Street, all without looking at the map, of course, to preserve some semblance of fairness. At Barr Street I pack the map into a plastic bag, tape the control descriptions to the wrist, just as if I were competing, then hang 9 controls on the right arm (away from the compass) in order, set the watch and go.

Half the fun of O'ing is NOT looking at the map beforehand, so only on the way to #1 do I look over the course. I see lots of fairly familiar spots, but I know immediately #2 deserves great care, and #3 could be a problem because I've never actually seen that 'cultural object'.

The #1 knoll is obvious and I don't bother double checking on any nearby features. But I did hang it right on the ground so boaters on the river wouldn't see it.

I run trails over toward #2 and jump to the four-cornered ditch junction just south of the footbridge, from which I follow the east-trending ditch toward #2. The ditch takes two distinct bends and it is from the second up-turn just beyond a green blob that I pace off 120 feet north toward the depression. No surprise to find another nearby unmapped depression. So I choose the more distinct one lying closer to my pace count and hang it high to be visible.

Just to be sure, I circle briefly, scaring up a family of wild pigs in the process, checking the edge of the nearby marshy area. I decide the marsh edge was not rigorously mapped since it's too far from the depression, but because the ditch reference was good, I leave it there.

Now off to #3 via the Grand Avenues of clear floodplain. I run due north around the tip of the green marsh on my right, retaining that handrail on its NNE heading until I hit the ditch where I can hopefully see the break between big green on left and light green on the right. It's there but is narrower than I'd expected. I'm sure I'm right because the boundaries are distinct, as mapped.

Now I've got 250m of open floodplain ahead so I can only hold the left green handrail for 150m, then heading due east I would hopefully hit the other green picking up the control location or the distinct veg.boundary. I've been pace counting but not well and I search the canopy for signs of the evident break above the big yellow clearing to the left. I remember Ron saying he once found this black "X" object near 'the big oak tree', so when I encounter the big green I start scouting each big oak. Right where I think it should be, I find a metal framework of some sort, prop it up to look more prominent and hang the flag.

Is this right? I don't know. So I pace off to the ditch north and Lo! it is exactly 30 meters and there's a green-blob-looking palm thicket on the way. Assuming I'm probably correct, I head east roughly estimating how far it is to the ditch bend. I hit the

yellow clearing instead, but it's within 100m so I tell myself the control was correct.

After the event, Ron tells me he believes the control was 100' too far east and that the black 'x' had been a turkey feeder but had now disappeared altogether. Still, my distances felt about right.

The 850m leg to #4 passes through an area I've visited before so I move at a good clip with little reference to compass or map and find myself knee deep in the all blue hourglass marsh, slowing me down, but I still nail the yellow tip of marsh from which I can find any one of the three big green blobs in the forest east of the big yellow marsh. Our control is on the S tip of the S blob and its proximity to the big ditch (I loop the blob clockwise to check on this) verifies it as correct, and nicely prominent. I hope everyone found that one by reading these same map features.

Heading toward #5 involves an initial route choice - I go back to the yellow marsh edge and pick up (after some confusion and palmetto thrashing) the vague trail that leads me cleanly through the green right to the 'splits' in the horse trail. Ron wants #5 on the east end of a mapped veg. boundary. I know about where it is but I remember we always are unsure of the mapping details there. So I decide to approach cautiously through the open field. I need not have worried. The field ain't open. I could not have charged un-cautiously across that field if I'd wanted to.

It is the first of the "Field Legs" this day. Thick head-high dog fennel with briars underneath and those infernal pine-seedling ditches. I take an extra minute or three to visit all the white dots (palm trees) and black-dot-bordered trees in the area before deciding which is the correct E tip for #5. I know I can find the dot knoll for #6 fairly easily so its only a matter of how to get there.

I'm soured already on direct field routes so I take the longer trail segments to the left. I'm getting really tired by this time and have not yet looked at the course length to realize I've already covered over 5 km and have over 1/3 of the course to go. #6 knoll is as expected, so no double checks required.

On the way to #6 I carefully inspected the mapped directions of the pine-ditches between #6 and #7 and noticed they should be ideally oriented. I may still cross the field from #6 to #7. Leaving #6 I move to S end of the white trees to where the pine ditches should line up with #7 (at the big live oak which I can see across the field) and begin moving down a ditch, then another, then another, looking for a clean one. No luck. Rats.

Even with my shin-guarded socks the briars are too much. Back out to the white tree line/blue ditch and south to the trail, W to the major tree line and then due N to #7. Frustrating, but there is a magically clean little animal trail right up this tree line all the way to #7. All the time I'm thinking of daughter Kate who would not only hate the fields as an orienteering purist, but may well have bailed out from 'field-sickness'. Some of you may feel the same.

Ron says he ran the fields on retrieval with no big problems. Maybe that's just the Hasher in him. The angle of the bee-line leg from #7 to #8 invites a dog-leg for me (normally discouraged in course setting, but Ron couldn't believe any of us would wimp out on 6-7 and come up that animal track to begin with) back down the animal track I'd just come up. Stay in the

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How Those Flags Get Into The Woods – Sometimes

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white tree line all the way to the southern trail and follow it W to its entry into the big long finger of yellow field at the end of which goes #8.

Pine ditches are in our favor in this yellow finger and they are clear so I run all the way to the S end, looking for that little yellow clearing. I hang #8 in what looks like the spot and decide my route choice to #9 will be via the little trail in the woods just S.

When I find that trail after only 10m, I think: Oops. A review of the white/yellow/black dot vegetation boundry, etc. tells me to re-hang the flag further W. There is a vague little clearing 30m W so I re-hang it. Then I look again at the forest vegetation boundry mapped to the west, walk to it and encounter a better looking little clearing, so I re-hang it.


The longer I stay there the more candidate almost-clearings I see and the less confident I feel, so I leave. I figure I hung it high enough for everyone to see. Lingering doubts about #8 have me checking the vegetation boundry of the yellow finger on the way out and that changes my route choice to #9.

Now I run all the way around the N side of the big white forest and I notice with delight the ground is dry enough that I can now cut the corner on the trail bend at the W end of the big white forest without getting mired knee deep in muck. #9's dot knoll is right there and I just need to hang and sprint (?) to the finish.

But I'm so tired I plain old jog to the finish. My watch says 92 minutes exactly. That seems long but I finally check the course length - 7.5 km. And that's without all my circling for control

verifications and a few around the fields route choices. I feel better despite feeling miserable.

Oh, yeah! And it's that time of year again, when the stick-tights have matured. I have so many on me I cannot bear to drive the 15 minutes home with my running suit on so I risk arrest for indecent exposure, put the O-suit on the floor and drive verry carefully home. Next day it took me an hour to pick off what must have been 2000 of them. Some will no doubt sprout beside my driveway next year just like last year's 'crop' did recently.

I had fun, even though I wasn't there with you. Hope you did too. 

[Editor's note: Look for the above article soon on the FLO Web Site - Tutorial - with a map included if possible.]



FLO MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS

are available at FLO events, and
on-line from the FLO web-site, or

by contacting Mike Dempsey:

655 Little Wekiva Road

Altamonte Springs, FL. 32714

(407) 869-1266

membership@FloridaOrienteering.org

FLO CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Dec 13, 2003	Wekiva Springs State Park, Apopka Courses: W-Y-O-Br-G-R	EC: Volunteer Needed CS: Bob Putnam FLO STATE & FLO HS JROTC Championships
Jan 10, 2004	DeLeon Springs, N.W. Deland Courses: W-Y-Score-O	EC/CS: Volunteers Needed
Feb 7, 2004	Ocala National Forest – Woodpecker Hill Courses: W-Y-O-Br-G-R-BI	EC/CS: Volunteers Needed SEE HOW THEY RUN: SWEDISH TOUR 2004
Mar 6, 2004	Kelly Park, Apopka	EC/CS: Volunteers Needed
Apr (3), 2004	Little Big Econ State Forest	
May 1, 2004	Rock Springs Run State Reserve	
Jun (5), 2004	Ocala National Forest	
July (3), 2004	Little Big Econ State Forest	
Aug (7), 2004	Wickham Park, Melbourne	
Sept 6, 2004	Ocala National Forest – Labor Day	
Oct (2), 2004	Moss Park/Split ak Forest	
Nov (6), 2004	Little Big Econ State Forest	

Events in () are tentative, always check the FLO Hotline for updates

The Florida Orienteer is published 4 times a year: February, May, August & November.

Deadline for submission of material is the 5th with publication scheduled for the 25th.

Send material to Marilu Dempsey: news@FloridaOrienteering.org or 655 Little Wekiva Rd, Altamonte Springs, FL 32714.

The editors reserve the right to edit any submitted materials and publication is on a space available basis.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sat – DEC 13 **Wekiva Springs State Park, Apopka, FLO State & FL State JROTC Champ.**
Courses: W-Y-O-Br-G-R **EC: Volunteer Needed** **CS: Bob Putnam**

On Wekiva Springs Road 3.5 miles north of SR 436 - OR - 4.5 miles west of SR 434.

ENTRY FEE: \$3.25/CAR

Sat – Jan 10 **Deleon Springs, Deland - Living History Event with Re-enactors**
Course: W-Y-SCORE'O **EC: Volunteer Needed** **CS: Volunteer Needed**

Take I-4 East to Exit 114. Left onto SR 472 towards Deland. Right onto 17/92. After 1.7 miles turn left onto US 17 (Truck Route). Turn left after 7 miles when it re-joins US 17. Go 3 miles, through Deleon Springs, and turn left onto Ponce-de-leon (sign to Post Office). Park is straight ahead 1 mile.

ENTRY FEE: \$4/CAR or \$2/CAR driver alone

Sat - Feb 7 **Ocala National Forest, Woodpecker Hill - See How They Run Swedish Tour 2004**
Courses: W-Y-O-Br-G-R-BI **EC: Volunteer Needed** **CS: Bob Putnam**

From Apopka: Follow US 441 North past Mt. Dora. Turn right on SR 19 (north), through Eustis and Altoona. 5.5 miles north of Altoona turn right on CR 445 and go 4 miles to the junction with Forest road 538, (dirt road). Turn right on 538 and go anywhere from 3/4 mile to 5 miles to the FLO staging area marked by signs on your right.

ENTRY FEE: NONE

All dates are tentative. Please check hotline (407) 672-7070 or Web Site <<http://www.floridaorienteing.org/>>

All starts are from 10 AM until 1 PM, unless otherwise noted – RAIN OR SHINE

Pre-registration and membership not required, unless otherwise noted – events are open to ALL

**HAS YOUR MEMBERSHIP EXPIRED? Check the expiration date on your mailing label.
IF YOU ARE NOT A MEMBER, JOIN NOW - DON'T MISS AN ISSUE!**



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THE FLORIDA ORIENTEER
c/o Manlu Dempsey
655 Little Wekiva Road
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