

March 2012



Dear Members,

We would like to invite all families with small children to our yearly event:

Easter Egg Hunt
Saturday, April 7, 10:30 am till noon
405 Cervantes Road, Portola Valley

What to bring: your own Easter basket and appropriate shoes/boots. Be prepared to look for Easter eggs in tall, possibly wet grass, and be prepared to walk on possibly muddy terrain. This event will start at 10:30 am sharp!

Cost: \$6 per child, members only please. Check our website www.bcnc.com for info on how to become a member or email sophie@bcnc.com. Adults are free.

Registration and Payment: by emailing Auriane at auriane@gmail.com with the number and age of the kids and by sending a check to: Auriane De Halleux, 121 Beulah Street, San Francisco, CA 94117.

Deadline to register: Tuesday, March 27, no late registrations please.

Volunteers needed: we still need volunteers to help hide the eggs on Saturday morning at 8:30 am and/or to clean up afterwards. We are also looking for another place to hold this event in the future. Any members with access to a good location for an egg hunt for around 40 children (and parents), e.g. a club house or a large yard, or who could volunteer, please send an email to lesliesaeyere@yahoo.com.

In case of bad weather the morning of the event: call Sofie at 408 839-9686 (cell) or 650 529-0689 (home)

Orienteering at Sunol Regional Wilderness

Sunday, April 15 from 9:30 am to 11:00 am

Our member, Theo Verhoeven, has been an active member of the Bay Area Orienteering Club (BAOC) for many years. He would like to share this passion with all of us.

In orienteering, you use a map and a compass to locate a series of points shown on a specialized topo map, choosing routes—on or off trail—that will help you find all the points and get to the finish in the shortest amount of time (assuming that you choose to be competitive). Each point, or "control", is a distinctly mapped feature, such as a stream junction, boulder, or hilltop, and is marked with an orange-and-white flag, or "bag". In order to prove that you have visited a control, you insert a small "E-Stick", that you carry, in a small electronic box located at the bag, and the control number and time of visit are recorded in your E-Stick. Note that no GPS is allowed!

Orienteering events offer seven standard courses with different levels of difficulties and length, varying from 2 up to 6 km and are usually finished in less than 2 hours.

- **Beginners:** White & Yellow courses are well suited for families with kids and remain mostly on trail. Everyone who can read a map should be able to complete the course easily. The use of a compass is not required. We have done this with Belgian families before and the kids love it!
- **Intermediate:** Courses are longer, more strenuous and adventurous & go off-trail. You can walk together with some more experienced BCNC members who can teach you the map reading.
- **Advanced:** Let us know if you may be interested in doing a though, physically demanding, off-trail course. We may have a few spots to run together with some advanced orienteers.

Come any time between 9:30 am and 11:00 am. Theo will offer some directions on how to proceed. Classes will also be offered for the beginners. More specific information will be sent to the participants.

During the event, we will have a couple of picnic tables available to BCNC. After the orienteering courses, we will have a picnic. Please, bring food and drinks for you family. The park does not allow alcohol on the premises. Other activities, such as hiking or Frisbee may also be organized.

Fees:

- Sunol Regional Park: \$5 parking fee per car
- Orienteering fees range from \$6 to \$15 per person for adults & \$3 to \$5 for juniors (8-20yrs) for the first person in a group. Kids under 8 are free when walking with an adult or junior. Additional people within the same group are about half price. Each person gets a map.

- You need to rent an “E-Stick” to store your times (one per group, \$3). If you lose it, it will cost you \$25. A compass can be rented for \$1 per person.

What to bring:

- Sturdy hiking / walking shoes
- Water
- Long pants and long sleeve shirts to be protected from poison oak or ticks (not required for White course)
- A compass although you can borrow one at the event (not required for White/Yellow courses)
- A picnic, if you want to stay afterwards

Where:

Sunol Regional Wilderness, Sunol CA

Directions:

Sunol Regional Wilderness is in the East Bay. Take highway I-680 to the Calaveras Road exit near Sunol. Go south on Calaveras Road about six miles to Geary Road. Turn left onto Geary and continue a couple of miles to the park entrance. Pay the entrance fee and park your car. (Park only in designated parking areas. The rangers do give tickets.) First proceed to the BCNC picnic area (before going to the BAOC registration desk). Follow the one-way loop. We will be located at some of the picnic tables along the Alameda creek.

Since there are a couple of events going on that day in the park, parking will be limited and everyone is encouraged to carpool.

To sign up:

Email Sophie Chantrenne at sophie@bcnc.com by April 9 at 12:00 pm. For more information about the event, call Sophie at (925) 699-8945.

For more information about orienteering, you may contact Theo at theo_verhoeven@yahoo.com or (408) 773-8881. You can also find much more information on the BAOC website:

- General info on orienteering: <http://baoc.org/wiki/Welcome>
- Fees: http://baoc.org/wiki/FAQ/How_much_does_it_cost%3F
- Specific information for the Sunol event: <http://baoc.org/wiki/Schedule/2012/Sunol>

This event is not suitable for children under 4 years of age.

BCNC and the Belgian Students at Stanford organization Belgica would like to invite you to:

**Lecture by David Baeckelandt: "Flemish Contributions to
the Settlement and Discovery of the New World"
Thursday, April 19, from 7:00 till 9:00 pm
Bechtel International Center in Stanford**

Abstract

"Most history books relegate the Flemish to brief references either to artists or medieval history. Most Flemings and Americans believe that the Flemish, if they have had any impact whatsoever on this country, have only done so marginally. However, a careful examination of the historical record shows a great deal of involvement by Flemings in the discovery and settlement of America: from before Columbus to the present day. Utilizing primary and secondary sources from both sides of the Atlantic, David Baeckelandt, an unaffiliated scholar, will outline the Flemish contribution to the Discovery and Settlement of America."

Light dinner/Snacks and drinks will be provided.

Where

Conference Room @ Bechtel Int'l Center
584 Capistrano Way
Stanford University

Directions

From 280:

Take Alpine Rd exit, go north towards Stanford. After 1 mile, turn right onto Junipero Serra Blvd. After 1 mile, turn left onto Campus Drive. After .5 mile, turn left onto Mayfield Avenue. Take 1st left to stay on Mayfield Avenue. Go past Lagunita Drive, then go into the parking lot on the right. Bechtel International Center is at the end of the parking lot (western side).

From 101:

Take University Avenue exit, go south towards Palo Alto. Cross El Camino and continue on Palm Drive. After .5 mile, turn right onto Campus Drive West. After 1 mile, turn left onto Santa Teresa St. After .5 mile, turn right onto Lomita Drive. Take the second left onto Mayfield Drive and turn into the parking on the left.

Sign-up:

Before April 15, you can sign up on our website www.bcnc.com: select the event on the home page and then click the 'Register Now' button. Email Dirk at dirk@bcnc.com or call him at (408) 910-7541 for more info if needed.

Thank You

- Mr. Geert Criel, Consul General at Consulate in Los Angeles and Mrs. Annik Bouquet of Flanders Investment and Trade Office in San Francisco for their generous sponsorship of the New Year's Reception. We had over 100 people sign up: a new record!

Announcements

- Upcoming BCNC events: family camping in Big Sur the weekend of June 8.
- The Institute of European Studies at the University of California Berkeley presents: "The Specter of Separatism: Political Fragmentation in the European Union" with a specific focus on the case of Belgium. It's a free event and it will be held on Wednesday, April 11 from 9:30 am - 5:30 pm at 370 Dwinelle in UC Berkeley. The full schedule and the list of speakers is available at: <http://dutch.berkeley.edu/?p=1283>
- The 7th Peninsula French fair will be held on Saturday, March 24th from 10 am - 6 pm in the Lucie Stern Community Center in Palo Alto. For more info: www.frenchfair.org. There will be vendors, artists, a fashion show and lots of French food.
- The Grand Opening of the new Belgian restaurant "Byr of Belgium" in downtown Cambell is on Thursday, March 22 at 6 pm. For more info: www.facebook.com/BYRofBelgium