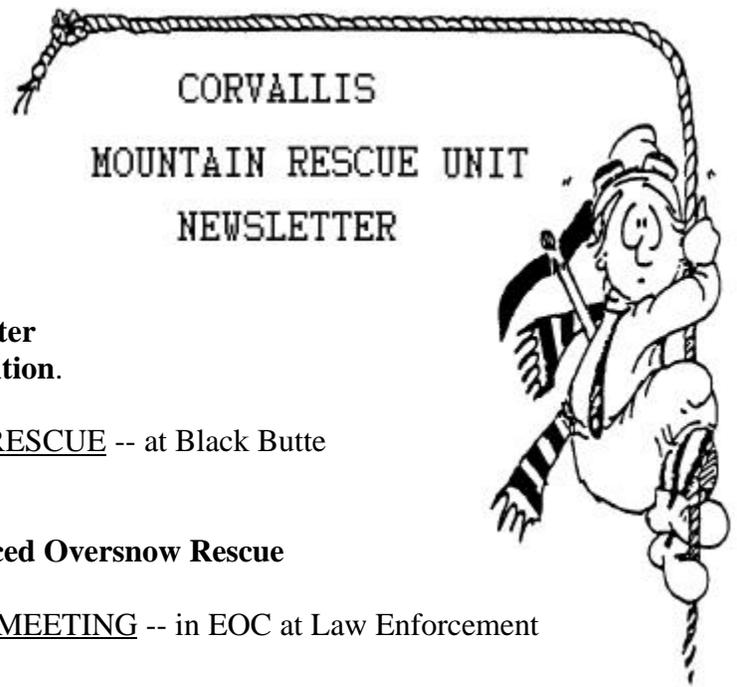


Calendar

- | | | | |
|----------|-------|--------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| January | 4 | 7:00pm | <u>UNIT MEETING</u> --
Training: System Rigging
by <i>Bob Freund</i> . |
| January | 19 | 7:00pm | <u>TRAINING SESSION</u> -- Winter Survival, Clothing and Nutrition. |
| January | 15/16 | 9:00am | <u>NSP BASIC AVALANCHE RESCUE</u> -- at Black Butte School, Camp Sherman. |
| January | 22 | 9:00am | <u>FIELD TRAINING</u> -- Advanced Oversnow Rescue |
| January | 24 | 7:00pm | <u>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING</u> -- in EOC at Law Enforcement Building |
| February | 1 | 7:00pm | <u>UNIT MEETING</u> -- Training: Mission Start-up |
| February | 16 | 7:00pm | <u>TRAINING SESSION</u> -- Land Navigation and GPS |
| February | 19 | 9:00am | <u>FIELD TRAINING</u> -- Overnight in the vicinity of Three-Fingered Jack |
| February | 28 | 7:00pm | <u>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING</u> -- in EOC at Law Enforcement Building |



MISSION REPORT 00-01: Overdue Snowshoers, Santiam Pass

Member Hours: 91

Call it a Y2K test if you like, but we were paged at 1944 Sunday, January 2nd. Linn County determined a car found buried by over two feet of snow at the Santiam Snow Park belonged to someone who had not returned as planned on Sunday. (As it turned out, they were **really** due out on *Monday* -- but that message went awry.)

CMRU staged at Hoodoo Ski Area at 0730 on Monday. We had one team of five assigned to search the PCT from near highway 20 to the South Ridge of Three-Fingered Jack. In addition, two personnel assisted at Command, and two more in the field. Almost three feet of snow had fallen since the party of two left the Santiam Snow Park on Friday and it was pretty tough going for all the field teams. Deschutes County had a team covering the Square Lake basin and Jefferson County had a team going toward the Berley Lakes along the old Skyline trail. They also had a team with a snowcat covering buildings and areas near the highway.

Besides deep snow, the major problem for this mission was the party had not left a trip plan with anyone to indicate where they were going or what they were doing. A search of their unlocked car proved fruitless. In an attempt to determine what equipment they might have with them, Jon Sears visited with a roommate in Corvallis to see what equipment was left behind to help guess what the party of two was doing.

At 1044, a Jefferson County team met the pair moving South along the old Skyline trail. They were in great shape and were no doubt surprised to find out they were the subjects of an active search. All field personnel were recalled and returned to the ski area by noon. CMRU member Faron Anslow and his friend were right on (their) schedule, not in need of rescue, but nonetheless were glad to see a mile of packed trail back to the car.

They had spent Friday night near Lower Berley Lake, and ascended Maxwell Butte before spending Saturday night at Santiam Lake. Then it dumped 16 inches of light snow -- and they were five miles from their car. They traveled all day Sunday and put in a camp at the junction with the connector trail to the PCT (Northwest of the Rockpile). And on Monday were headed out the last mile and a half.

Thanks to Joy who worked her magic as Intown Coordinator.

Participants: J. Bartosz, L. Clunes, J. Dagata, T. Fitzpatrick, B. Freund, D. Lacer, S. Leach, W. Lederer, S. Linn, J. Linn, J. Sears,

A NEW YEAR -- a new start

by Bob Freund, President

With the first of January, we begin a new administrative year. In this new year, the last of the century or the first of the century (depending on who you believe) several things begin anew for our Unit. The "mission counter" gets reset to **00-01**, new officers take the reins, and each of us has an opportunity to reflect on our reason(s) for being an active member of CMRU. Are you excited about the prospect of helping others in need as a trained, rescue resource or of educating outdoor enthusiasts to avoid troublesome situations? Or do you dread the sound of the Unit pager going off?

I have asked the Training Committee to change the "philosophy of training" for the Unit. As Jon expressed in last month's Newsletter, we will begin to offer more *advanced* training situations to challenge **Rescue** and **Support** members during our Unit Meetings and return to a more basic training level for the Wednesday Training Sessions. The committee has attempted to provide a coordinated schedule of field training which stresses the lessons taught during classroom sessions. Also, I've asked the Training Committee to more closely monitor the progress of Trainees to encourage their advancement more rapidly toward Support level. Support level members are being urged to avail themselves of the additional training (inside and outside the Unit) to advance to Rescue.

At the elections meeting, I mentioned that one "plank" of my platform is to have each Rescue and Support member serve on a standing committee of the Unit. Associate and Trainee members are also welcome to join and work with those committees. With the whole unit on email, these "committee meetings" can easily be held in cyberspace -- not necessarily face-to-face. During the January Unit meeting I will be looking to fill out the committee assignments from our regular membership. I urge each of you to strongly consider which committee interests you.

In the past, members have lost interest and drifted away for various reasons. Certainly distance is one reason -- we now have members from Portland to Lebanon to Eugene/Springfield -- but to function as a team we must work as a team. That means we need to know each other's strengths and, yes, weaknesses. The only way that can happen is to work together, to train together, (and to play together). I would encourage those members who are distant from Corvallis to make the effort to come to Unit Meetings. Let me know what it will take to make it worth your time to come to Unit events. We're trying to 'spice up' the Training to make it more interesting and relevant.

CMRU has always prided itself as being a trained, respected SAR resource. In the coming days I hope each of you will review your participation with the Unit. We want dedicated people who are enthusiastic about what the Unit does and who are willing to put in the time and effort to support CMRU's mission -- not just be names occupying a line in the Call List. Each of us has special talents and interests which help make the Unit successful -- let's apply these talents this year so we can stride boldly into the new millennium.

MARYS PEAK ROAD -- new gate

The Forest Service has installed a gate on the road to Marys Peak at about milepost 5.6 (Woods Creek Road and Connor's Camp). It is locked with a combination lock (same combination as the gate at the upper parking lot). From a SAR perspective, it is good for us to know about this gate. According to a letter from the District Ranger, the gate is to be kept locked from December 1 until USFS decides to unlock it in the Spring.

TRUCK IN NEW GARAGE --

We all need to extend our thanks to Joy and Scott Linn, Jon Sears, and Mike Bamberger for moving our material from the old truck parking space across the impound lot to the new facility. Although we were all invited to the moving party, only those members actually showed up. Many of us had an opportunity to look over the new garage during the Skills Workshop and we'll all get to know it even more in the future as we conduct more of our training out there. Remember, the building is not heated so always come prepared to work at "ambient" temperature. In addition, we now have a real place to put our library of books, newsletters from other teams, and other training material which has been scattered in the homes of various members for many years. Please search your house for Unit material and return it to the library.

NEW URL FOR WEBPAGE --

Thanks to Joy and Scott, we now have a new URL for our webpage: <http://cmru.peak.org>
And, no, I don't know why there isn't a www in front of the "cmru" but it works just fine. Go figure!

PAGER RESPONSE -- your duty

The Unit has made twenty pagers available to be carried by Unit members. We have asked that when a page is sent which asks for a response, that you **respond**. Most Unit members are very good at upholding their duty to respond --either Yes or No (or Maybe); but there are several members who chronically do not respond -- this is not satisfactory. Sure, there are times when each of us cannot respond in a timely manner, but those should be the exception rather than the norm. *A non-response is not a No* -- it is interpreted by the sender to mean you didn't receive the page! Even if it's a long distance call to respond, it costs less than a quarter to make a one minute phone call. So please, make the call.

Remember, the proper response format is:

****01NN*M*T*###*###*###**

NN = Your 4Rescue Identification Number

M = Mission Availability (0=No, 1=Yes, 2=Maybe)

T = Truck Driver Availability (0, 1, 2 as above)

###*###*### = Your present telephone Number (Optional)

If you haven't sent this format using a telephone keypad in a while, practice by sending yourself a page in the above format to see what it looks like. Members with the older NEC pagers (like Mission and Intown Coordinators) will see a preformatted message beginning "4 Rescue" or "4R" while members with the newer Motorola pagers will just see a string of numbers and dashes. The most common errors seen are the failure to put two "stars" in front of the "01" (zero, one) and the omission of the "star" (dash) between the 4 Rescue Ident and the Mission availability number. Please practice this response so it appears correctly. Its even a good idea to write it out first before sending to make sure you have all the proper elements included. One additional piece of information, if you feel you have made a mistake, three "stars" will cancel what you have entered and you can start again. (You might want to try that too when you send that practice page to yourself;-)

WINTER SOCIAL -- revisited

Many thanks to Anne and Joy for organizing the Winter Social and to all the participants who brought a wonderful selection of food to the Burrito Bar. If anyone left feeling hungry, it was his/her own fault. Thanks, too, for the slide shows by Spencer and Faron; and for all who brought decorations.

It was also a time to say goodbye to Matt Jarvis who has accepted a position with a printer in Eugene. And to catch up on the news of Ken and Angela's marriage last Fall in Europe.