

Calendar

December 3 7:00pm UNIT MEETING – Winter Social.
Izzy's Pizza, Corvallis.

MISSION REPORT 02-04: Missing Adult, Benton County

At mid-afternoon, Halloween, 31 October, the Sheriff's office was notified of a missing 28 year old adult male who had been last seen at 9am the preceding day in the vicinity of Summit in western Benton County. We were activated by an All SAR pageout at 1455. Numerous local people were searching the area when CMRU and other Benton County SAR personnel arrived on scene.

The subject's vehicle was located by family/friends who began searching earlier in the day. Attempting to organize the chaos proved a major task through most of the evening. At about 2000, the search was suspended for the evening and within a few minutes, the subject was reported to be located in the yard of his neighbor – eight miles from the point last seen. **Participants:** Clunes, Vitagliano, Dagata, Blackburn, Morris, Linn

MISSION REPORT 02-05: Missing Adult, Benton County

At about 0300 on Friday, November 22nd, we were activated via a pageout of All SAR personnel for Benton County for an 80 year old male. As volunteers were being activated and assembling at the Fred Meyer parking lot in Corvallis, the subject was located. **Participants:** Crawford, J. Linn, S. Linn, Sears

THE SEARCH FOR CORWIN CONTINUES

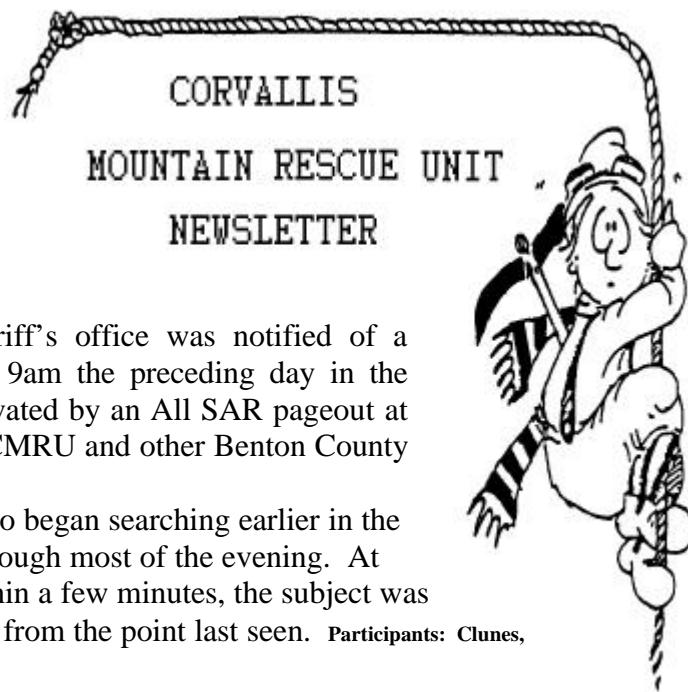
by Nate Vitagliano

In August, CMRU was invited by Eugene Mountain Rescue to aid in resuming the search for the mystical Corwin Osborne. With some of us grasping for another excuse to go play in the mountains we responded. Plans were set into motion and on September 14th and 15th we were to meet at the Dee Wright observatory at 0600. WHAT 6:00 in the morning?! Despite the hour Keith, Matt, Nate, and Susan were at the observatory in all our early morning splendor drooling for that first cup of coffee, but coffee wasn't all we found. In true Lane county form the Explorer Scouts were already hard at work making eggs, pancakes, and hash, that sure beat the Cliff bars and bagels I would have had for breakfast.

Fueled and ready for action we received our team assignments, Susan volunteered to act as relay from Obsidian trail head and, the Corvallis trio was to ascend to Arrowhead Lake via Obsidian trail, establish a camp and continue up to the summit of Middle Sister or as high as we could, on the way we were to check some of the gullies. Our assignment area was left pretty open so we, in true Lindsay fashion theorized possible escape routes and tried to find the highest probability areas. The three of us decided the best route not already covered was up the Renfrew Glacier (how is that pronounced again?). With our hourly check well in hand up we went, with Susan utilizing the truck and radio we, as well as other teams received the very necessary relay to be able to talk to base camp. After moving up the Renfrew and finding a nalgene bottle with some questionable contents we reached the saddle between Middle sister and Prouty point, our high point of about 9100 ft was at 1600 hours. While being treated to a cool wind and weather that felt as if we were going to be in trouble, we descended to Arrowhead Lake and met up with some of the EMR folks.

To our surprise the weather held and we were in for another good day in the hills so at 0600 Sunday we were up and moving about. Our search area was again left up to us, in fact if we even wanted to search at all so we chose to descend in the White Branch creek drainage. On our way we heard Iain was on his way up to meet us for some gear packing duty but one of the EMR folks was looking for someone to help with a possible lower from a saddle. The goal was to check out an Item in a likely fall location on the east face. Alas Iain had not brought any climbing gear, but all was not lost. The trio was more than willing to surrender some equipment to our master climber, and oh how his eyes lit up when he found out he could go climbing instead of being a sherpa.

With lighter packs (poor us) we descended into our search area and spent the day in the drainage and a parallel gully joining up with the trail at Spring Lake. We were back at the trail head by 1530.



NEWS FROM ERIC BENSON -- update

I am still down here in San Diego with the Navy. I left the USS HIGGINS (DDG 76) in May and went across the bay to a new command called Naval Beach Group One. I am now an Officer-in-Charge of 3 Landing craft, 3 LCAC (Hover Craft), and a detachment of personnel who operate the beach from Beach Master One. We are ramping up for deployment and are set to go "haze gray and underway" in the beginning of Jan. I will also be putting full LT [bars] on in a few months (more money = an upgrade in gear!).

Krista and I are still with San Diego Mountain Rescue Team and managed to make the 2002 Winter Olympics as part of the Mountain Rescue SAR group in Weber County. It turned out to be one of our best paid vacations ever. We checked in and were put on call by a paging system similar to CMRU's. They gave us free lift tickets to two resorts and a list of others that would give us substantial discounts. This allowed us to view many of the downhill and other events at little to no cost.

The mountaineering in Southern Cali[ifornia] is non-existent and we are forced to travel for 6 hrs to hit Mammoth to [find] any real good climbing. However, there is a lot of rock climbing especially with Joshua Tree so close.

After kicking and fighting, Krista and I finally changed SDMRT over to an alphanumeric paging system using a call back system very similar to CMRU's. We just put this into effect last week and so far everyone loves it.

The team gets a magazine called "Rescue Technology" and I would swear that this month's cover is a picture of Keith attending a litter as it is raised/lowered over a vertical snow face. The caption only identifies that it is on Mt Hood and Charley Shimanski took the picture. Any insight?

Hopefully I will get up there this summer after deployment to do some real climbing again. I will be moving commands again next fall and will be going to the Navy/Marine Corps survival school (SERE) located in Warner Springs (San Diego) to be an instructor. It is a little off the career path for a Surface guy but I just could not pass up such a good deal. Tell everyone hi for me and hopefully see you guys in the summer. Take care and have a good Thanksgiving and Holiday season. --Eric Benson

ELECTION RESULTS –

Elections were held at the November Unit Meeting with the following results:

President:	Joy Linn
Vice President:	Iain Morris
Secretary:	Scott Linn
Treasurer:	Nate Vitagliano
Member-at-Large:	Susan Leach
OMRC Delegate:	Bob Freund

These people will comprise the Executive Committee for 2003 and will assume their duties and responsibilities on January 1st. In addition, Jon Sears and Kathy Blackburn will be our representatives to the Benton County SAR council.

SKILLS WORKSHOP –revisited

The Fall *Skills Workshop* was held November 16th with a pretty fair attendance. The morning was devoted to stations stressing (1) Radium Load Release Hitch and operating it under load, (2) Belaying including personal and Tandem Prusik, and (3) Knots used in rescue work. *Is that really a Bowline on a Bight?*

Following lunch, as rain pounded on the metal roof of the truck garage, we were separated into two teams and were given an assignment which involved GPS navigation and anchor rigging as might be done during a search. As the scenario unfolded, the two teams had to deal with a (simulated) injury to one of the team members. Mechanism of the injury suggested probable head, neck, and/or back injury. The (previously selected) patient had been dressed in clothing which could be cut open to assess injuries; and to add realism, moulage was applied to several of the injuries. It took just about an hour to work through the problem. Fortunately the rain subsided early on in the scenario.

Are you and your gear ready for a ~~winter~~ mission?