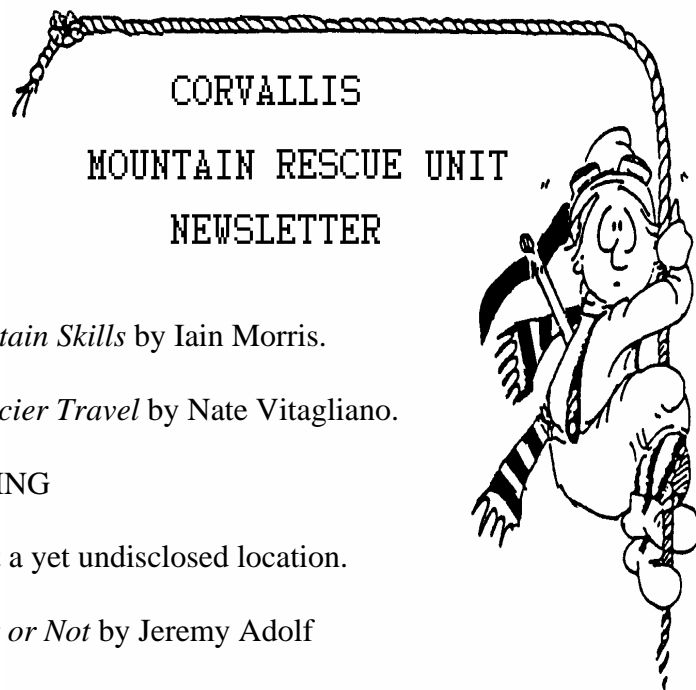


**Calendar**

- May 3 7:00pm UNIT MEETING -- Training:  
*Unit Medical Equipment* by  
Anne Greenwood.
- May 18 7:00pm TRAINING SESSION – *Basic Mountain Skills* by Iain Morris.
- May 21 TBA FIELD TRAINING – *Self-arrest/Glacier Travel* by Nate Vitagliano.
- May 23 7:00pm EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
- June 7 7:00pm UNIT MEETING – Summer Social at a yet undisclosed location.
- June 15 7:00pm TRAINING SESSION – *Light & fast or Not* by Jeremy Adolf
- June 18 TBA UNIT CLIMB – Location to be announced.
- June 25 TBA JOINT OMRC TRAINING – Crooked River Gorge
- June 27 7:00pm EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING



CORVALLIS

MOUNTAIN RESCUE UNIT

NEWSLETTER

MISSION REPORT 05-02: Evidence Search related to Brooke Willberger, Benton County Member-hours: 8

Several Unit members spent time searching an area near Marys Peak for possible evidence in the disappearance of Brooke Willberger. It involved roped descent in a steep area alongside the road. After a couple hours of fruitless search, this mission was terminated.

OMRC REACCREDITATION – revisited

On Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Unit was evaluated in the Rock and Snow environments by other teams of the Oregon Mountain Rescue Council. For many, the trip to Steelhead Falls for the Rock Module began on Friday, but for those who traveled Saturday morning it was a long day. We staged at the parking area as the rain began to fall in earnest. By the time our problem began (almost an hour late) it was pouring. (Well, as has been said many times before: *If it's raining, we're probably Training!*) Deschutes Co. SAR created the Rock Module which involved two climbers on a rock face who needed evacuation. One climber had a dislocated shoulder (which was self-reduced) and was “picked-off” while the other had a pelvic fracture and fractured lower leg (a litter case). With the rain slick rock and evaluators being encouraged to ask questions of the team members being evaluated, the Rock problem took just over three hours to complete. Iain did an excellent job leading the team and we worked well together. Sure, there is always room for improvement – and we will run the same scenario again the next time we practice at Steelhead Falls – but overall it went well. We were complimented on our attention to rescuer safety. We passed.

We took the show on the road to Hoodoo where, in spite of minimal snow cover, EMR had created an avalanche with lost and buried victims. Considering the lack of snow, it was amazing what they created. And it even involved a “conditioning hike” over halfway up the mountain! (How thoughtful of them – just for us? Really, you shouldn't have.) The problem started just before 4pm and wound up with everyone back to the parking lot within two hours. Again, Iain led a hasty team of five followed by a main team of seven. There was a team of two left at the truck “just in case.” Well, sure enough, we had neglected to bring a “few” things that were needed so they got to come out and play too. The rain of earlier in the morning ceased by the time we arrived at Hoodoo and the snow problem was conducted in cloudy, foggy conditions, but we'll take that any day compared to the pouring rain. We passed.

The Search Module was postponed for another day – for various reasons.

*We will discuss the reaccreditation more in depth at the May Unit Meeting.*

### NEW TRAINEE CLASSIFICATION – **Limited Deployable** vs **Fully Deployable**

At its March meeting, the Executive Committee finalized a split in the Trainee level of membership. Mountaineering experience (or more accurately *lack thereof*) has, for many years, been an issue for some applicants to the Unit. In the past, those with a genuine, burning interest in joining and advancing to Support or Rescue level; but who lack sufficient mountaineering skills or experience have been offered Associate positions until their experience/skill/equipment level has reached the minimum required for Trainee status. But that is not the purpose of the Associate membership level.

To address this situation, the Executive Committee created a new level of membership called *Limited Deployable Trainee*. These Trainees participate in training events but during an actual mission will only be deployed beyond the roadhead under special, controlled circumstances as determined by CMRU's Mission Coordinator on a case by case basis. The existing Trainee level of membership has been renamed *Fully Deployable Trainee*, and as in the past, applicants with sufficient equipment and experience will be offered this level of membership. As the name implies, Fully Deployable Trainees can be deployed to the field during an actual mission. This change of classification eases the dilemma of what to do with people who want to join the Unit – and who can make a significant contribution -- but who do not meet the minimum requirements for Trainee.

In order to advance from Trainee-LD to Trainee-FD, a member needs to meet those criteria listed in the *Requirements for Membership*. They also need to participate in training events (as do we all) and have feedback forms filled out by Support/Rescue members with whom the Trainee-LD trained. Secondly, they need to participate in a minimum of two alpine events (e.g. climbs) with a Rescue level member outside of regularly scheduled training events

### MISSION ACTIVATION – clarification

The Executive Committee discussed and clarified the Unit's policy with respect to who may be activated for a mission (beyond what is stated in Chapter Five of the *Procedures Manual*). Simply stated, any Associate who has expressed a desire to work in the field, all Trainees (LD or FD), all Support and Rescue members may respond as far as the "end of the road." It is up to the CMRU Mission Coordinator to approve members further than the roadhead – and that will depend on physical condition, training, equipment, and the task(s) at hand. Trainee-LD members will normally not be deployed beyond Basecamp on an actual mission.

To reiterate, it is Unit Policy for any CMRU member or equipment to be deployed outside Benton County, at least one Rescue or Support level member must be responding on the mission. Inside the county, any Fully Deployable Trainee or above can respond to the field. LD trainees may only go as far as the roadhead.

### TRAINEE FEEDBACK FORMS – paper work

To assist the Training Chair in recommending a Trainee be advanced from LD to FD or from FD to Support, two training feedback forms have been created. It is the responsibility of each Trainee to have a Rescue or Support level member complete their form at the conclusion of the training event. Completed forms are then forwarded to the Training Chair or a member of the Training Committee. Trainees know about these forms – the rest of the Unit needs to become familiar with the form too. If you have questions, contact Matt Crawford.

### WEBSITE MEMBERS ONLY PAGE – Miscellaneous Page

With more internal communication being done via the Unit's Website, an area has been established which contains documents which are available to the membership, but not the general public (e.g. our **Call List** with addresses and telephone numbers, the *Procedures Manual*, and the Trainee Feedback forms). There is a "portal button" on the webpage called Miscellaneous which has a link on the Home (or index) page.

### TRUCK AIR CONDITIONING – *It's dead, Jim*

It comes as little surprise that the air conditioning in the truck is not working – the refrigerant has been gone for awhile. But, while returning from reaccreditation, the guts of the compressor disintegrated and in so doing blew a hole through its metal side! With life-support failing, our intrepid truck crew managed to get their ailing craft back home with its precious cargo of wet ropes, wet sleeping bags, and other wet gear.

Where would you like to see June's **Summer Social** held?