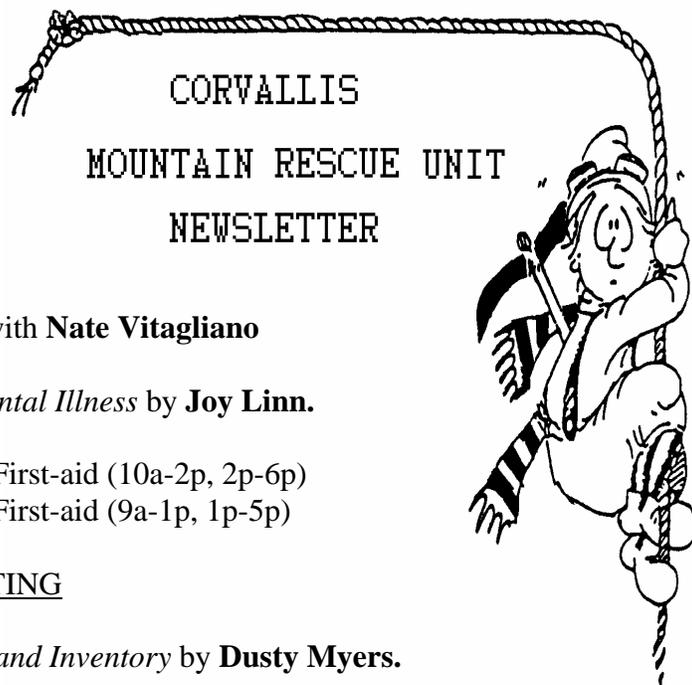


Calendar

- September 6 7:00pm UNIT MEETING – Training:
Local Geography by **Jason Killian.**
- September 17 TBA FIELD TRAINING – *Ice Practice* with **Nate Vitagliano**
- September 21 7:00pm TRAINING SESSION – *Environmental Illness* by **Joy Linn.**
- September 24 10:00am CORVALLIS FALL FESTIVAL – First-aid (10a-2p, 2p-6p)
25 10:00am CORVALLIS FALL FESTIVAL – First-aid (9a-1p, 1p-5p)
- September 29 7:00pm EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
- October 4 7:00pm UNIT MEETING – *Truck Cleanup and Inventory* by **Dusty Myers.**
- October 19 7:00pm TRAINING SESSION – *Trainee Update and Gear Circus*
- October 20 5:30am CORVALLIS SKI SWAP, Benton County Fairgrounds. Setup Thursday 5:30 – 9am;
| Consignment Thursday 9am – 9pm and Friday 9am – 5pm; Sale Friday 6pm – 9pm and
23 Saturday 9am – 6pm; Inventory Saturday 6pm - end; Return Sunday 9am – 6pm.
- October 25 7:00pm EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING



CORVALLIS

MOUNTAIN RESCUE UNIT

NEWSLETTER

MISSION REPORT 05-05: Stand-by, Lost Hiker, McKenzie Pass, Lane County Member-hours: 2

On Sunday, August 21st, a 54 year old male from British Columbia went for a day hike in the vicinity of Hand Lake on the south end of the Mt. Washington Wilderness area off of the McKenzie Pass Highway. When he failed to return, his friends notified the Lane County Sheriff's Office who began a search on Monday. The subject had missed an old wagon road (in fact the guidebook which describes the short hike cautions that the wagon road is "easily overlooked"). The search continued on Tuesday. By Wednesday, Lane County was looking for additional assets. CMRU was put on STANDBY for searching on Thursday. On Wednesday, the National Guard 1042nd MEDEVAC company flew in support of the mission and was able to locate the subject (amazing what you can do with an attractant of that size and noise level) shortly before noon about three miles from the PLS.

MISSION REPORT 05-06: Lost Child, Corvallis, Benton County Member-hours: 1

At 1917 on Saturday, September 3rd, we were notified of a lost child in the Corvallis area by a page on Benton County All SAR. CMRU was put on STANDBY with a page at 1923 and it was upgraded to an ACTIVATE a minute later. By 1931 the child, who was missing for about two hours, was located and the mission was cancelled. Ready to respond: Wood, Wach, Monroe, S. Linn, Killian, Freund, Clunes & J. Linn, ITC.

MISSION REPORT 05-07: Lost Adult, Lost Child, Benton County Member-hours: 40

On Saturday, September 3rd, a 35 year old Corvallis man went bow hunting with his 4 year old son. They drove to the end of Honey Grove Road (northeast of Alsea), parked the truck and went looking for a game trail. After about 3 – 4 hours, he decided it would be best to start back for the truck, but missed the end of the road. With the 4 year old tagging along, he spent from about 6pm until sunset going up and down the hillside looking for the truck. As it was getting dark, he found shelter, collected ferns and other "greenery" to help make themselves as comfortable as possible through the night. He got no sleep all night while the 4 year old slept quite well.

Marys Peak SAR was paged shortly after 1am Sunday and about a dozen folks searched until sunrise with the only location description as being "between Marys Peak and Alsea." Roads were searched from the Lincoln County line back along Highway 34, Marys Peak to Harlan, and Alpine – Alsea road. A second page was sent on ALL SAR at 0620 and CMRU was activated at 0630 with six members responding to the basecamp at Alsea Falls.

MISSION REPORT 05-07 (continued)

Following a briefing at 0830, six teams were deployed to check logging roads in the vicinity of Alsea Falls. As the initial taskings were being completed and teams were returning to basecamp for further taskings, word was received at about 1115 that the missing subjects were at the store in Alsea.

Shortly after sunrise, the subjects struck off from their shelter and managed to hit a road. After a bit of walking they found their truck and returned to highway 34. Since they had taken little in the way of food, they went to Alsea to get something to eat and place a call home. The man's wife and her father had come to the basecamp, but the call was received by someone who had been asked to remain at the house for just this eventuality. The man's parents also had been notified and were on a plane from Salt Lake City when he turned-up.

After a quick debriefing at basecamp, all Marys Peak and CMRU personnel were released at about 1215.

Participants: Clunes, Freund, Heilman, Monroe, Wach, Wood, & J. Linn, ITC and Todd Shechter as MPSAR

PAGER RESPONSE – as simple as a telephone keypad

CMRU rents pagers on an annual contract and distributes those pagers to members who will respond to missions when paged. But the pager (like anything free) comes with some conditions. Besides the safekeeping of the pager (to protect it from theft and damage) members to whom the pager is entrusted are expected (a softer word than *required* but consider it to have the same punch) to respond to pages which *Activate* or place the Unit on *Stand-by*.

Stand-by and **Activate** pages will contain one of those two words. That means: **You Need to Reply to This Page!** Also contained, normally right next to *the* word will be a telephone number contained in parenthesis. This is the pager to which you are expected to respond. (Simple so far, right?) Sometimes we will send a **FYI** (For Your Information) page for which there is usually no response required (or desired).

Now the part that may be somewhat confusing – what to do after dialing that number. You will need to enter a series of numbers separated by *hyphens*. So how do you make a hyphen (you know, one of these “-“ things? When you press the “star” key on the telephone keypad once (this thing “*”) it makes a hyphen. But, if you press “star” twice (and enter a two digit number), it causes a “canned” message to appear on the coordinator's pager. [However on “newer” pagers it will only show as two hyphens.] If you mess up, you can press “star” three times and the slate is wiped clean – the erroneous message is “trashed” and you can start sending the string of digits and stars all over again. (Oh, if you accidentally press the “#” key, your call will be terminated.)

So how do we respond? Simple, start at the beginning. Call the number, wait for the “greeting” followed by a tone and begin entering the string. It starts with *** * 0 1** (which sends the “canned message” “4 RESCUE”) then press your two digit *Benton County 4-Rescue identifier* (mine is 08) then a hyphen “*” followed by a **1** if you can GO on the mission, **2** if MAYBE you can go, or a **0** if you CANNOT GO on the mission. If you only get this far that's okay, but we'd like to have another hyphen “*” and a 1, 2 or 0 if you can drive the truck. At this point, some people will include the telephone number where they may be reached (this is not necessary, but is helpful). Then just hang up. So, how does this look? Something like this: *** * 0 1 0 8 * 1 * 0**. It comes across the coordinator's pager like this: **4Rescue08-1-0**.

But this does take some practice and it's best to write down the string the first couple of times. Try it out by sending yourself a page using the response format or run a test with one of the coordinators. Some of the most common mistakes are:

- Forgetting to enter ****01** at the beginning – not a fatal error, but somewhat annoying.
- Entering ****** but forgetting the 01 (in which case the coordinator will get a very strange “canned” message – (there are about 50 messages based on what two digit number follows the ******).
- Entering ****01** but forgetting to enter your specific ID number. We'll get your response details but don't know to whom they apply. (*This* makes the coordinator quite cranky.)
- Forgetting to enter hyphens -- which results in a strange combination of numbers the coordinator must take time to decipher (particularly if there is a ten digit telephone number).

If you know how to send pages using your computer via the internet, you can respond that way too (in which case you can just give the information to us in plain language: who you are, can you go or not, can you drive the truck, and any other details you feel important for the coordinator to know – or use the structure shown above if you wish (coordinators understand that, too – even if you use “*” in the place of “-“ from your keyboard).

Coordinators will usually put their name at the end of the page (but not always). It is up to you to make contact with the coordinator if you answer MAYBE to a page and make it clear what your special circumstances are that will allow you to go. Remember, replying to a pager doesn't tie up the coordinator, but talking on the phone does. In the first half hour, the coordinator is busy making telephone contact with members without pagers as well as the requesting agency. We attempt to get as much info packed into 230 characters as possible so there will be abbreviations but we need to avoid confusion – confusion only generates more telephone calls at a time when we need to be getting ready or on the road! On a mission, expect two or three pages within the first half hour with as much detail as we have gleaned. From the coordinators point of view, if you don't have the info, it's only because we don't have the info!

A final note: these pagers are one-way devices with no guarantee of message delivery. Once it's sent, it's sent. If you missed it, the message is gone. So, don't turn your pager off and expect to "pickup" messages the way you can on your cellphone – it doesn't work that way. You can silence the alert tones and still pickup messages – handy if you don't want to be disturbed at work or at night; but we need to know if you'll "come and play" when the bell sounds.

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE FORMED --déjà vu

At the last Executive Committee Meeting, a motion was passed to form a Development Committee whose purpose is to provide recommendations to the Executive Committee concerning transportation needs and issues. While the committee will seek input from all CMRU members, the number of people on the committee will be limited (probably no more than five). If you are interested in working on this committee, contact Matt Crawford or Jim Wach.

Presently, the committee will address transportation needs of the Unit and whether having a vehicle is necessary. Once the committee can clearly articulate the Unit's needs, it will be able to make recommendations as to how those needs will be met. Although our present truck is still working, clearly its service life is growing short. If it is deemed necessary to have a vehicle, the committee will work on identifying a replacement.

This committee is not tasked with fund-raising. In the near future, a finance committee will be created to undertake that responsibility. Jim Wach recently attended a workshop dealing with Grant Proposals and he shared many ideas from that course with the Executive Committee. If you have ideas about a foundation to whom a grant proposal could be sent, Jim Wach would like to hear from you.

FALL FESTIVAL – end of September

The Corvallis Fall Festival will be the last weekend of September. As we have done in the past, CMRU will provide First-aid services at the festival in Corvallis' Central Park. Shift coverage has been worked out as:

- Saturday, September 24th
1000-1400 - Bob, Anne, Lindsay
1400-1800 - Joy, Scott
- Sunday, September 25th
0900-1300 - Todd, Jason K. (or Desiree and Desiree's mom)
1300 - 1700 - Jim D., Jason W., Jerry

Since we should be setup and ready to go by the daily start time, it would be best to begin setting up our station 20 to 30 minutes prior to the scheduled times (10am Saturday and 9am Sunday).

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFO –

It became apparent following the incident on Three-Fingered Jack involving Kate Tinnesand that there is not a good system in place for quickly obtaining contact information to make necessary for notifications or obtain urgent medical information. Or is this a function we should be doing on our members' behalf?

The Executive Committee discussed this and will be investigating what other agencies with "high risk" activities do for their members. Having the information securely stored, but retrievable within minutes would be the goal of such a program – perhaps accessible online to Benton County emergency services and dispatch. More on this as it develops.