

December 1998

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Member of the Mountain Rescue Association
The *Corvallis Mountain Rescue Newsletter* is published monthly
to keep friends and members of the Unit informed of our activities.
Editor: Bob Freund

Calendar

December 1	7:00pm	WINTER SOCIAL - At Matt Jarvis's House
December 16	7:00pm	TRAINING SESSION - Environmental Illness by P. VanMeter
January 1	All Day	HAPPY NEW YEAR, new officers assume their duties
January 5	7:00pm	UNIT MEETING - Training: Snow shelters and survival by M. Keltner.
January 6	6:00pm	RE-SWEARING-IN CEREMONY - Law Enforcement Center
January 16-17	9:00am	SNOW PRACTICE - Oversnow travel & navigation, anchors, shelters
January 20	7:00pm	TRAINING SESSION - Avalanche Intro.
January 25	7:00pm	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

CORVALLIS MOUNTAIN RESCUE UNIT
Post Office Box 116
Corvallis, OR 97339-0116

MISSION REPORT 98-13: Search, MacDonald Forest, Benton County.

Member-hours: 1

On the afternoon of November 22, I was having coffee at the Beanery with a potential new Unit member. Earlier I had looked out at the cold rain and said aloud, "This looks like SAR weather, cold, wet, and nasty." We had decided to go for a conditioning ride in MacDonald Forest and now that we were caffienated and the light drizzle had turned to an all out downpour we departed.

As we were approaching the Oak Creek Road entrance to the forest, a solo, female hiker stopped us and asked for help. She stated that she had been on a hike with her son, separated, but had planned to meet back at their car located in Lewisburg Saddle. She had taken a wrong turn.

At about that time, 13:34 to be more precise, my pager went off. As I was fishing it out of my pack I said to the woman, "This must be about you." Sure enough...it was.

We walked to the nearest house to ask to use a telephone and much to my delight the house we found belonged to an old jogging buddy of mine. We were able to call Dispatch and get the search stopped before it got started. We made arrangements for the son to drive to where we were, and before you knew it, it was done.

So there we were again standing in the rain with our bikes, cold and wet but with the satisfaction of another successful mission.

By Jon Sears

SKILLS WORKSHOP -- recap

The Fall Skills Workshop was lightly attended. Maybe it was the weather (nah, it always rains on Skills Workshop weekend), maybe it was the OSU vs UO football game, or maybe it was the Cave Rescue seminar later that weekend; but for whatever reason, only about a quarter of the Unit's members showed up.

Eric Benson organized a day of review and training on topics covering: Litter rigging and patient packaging; knots used by CMRU; evacuation system rigging; ascending and descending fixed lines; and winter operations of the truck.

YEAR-END REPORT -- hours

The Secretary keeps track of the hours members spend on CMRU related activities. Each year the Unit files a report with MRA about our activities and those hours make up a large portion of that report. If you have participated in activities for which an attendance sheet was not filled out, contact Mardi with your hours. This includes SAR related activities where you may have been representing CMRU.

NEW EQUIPMENT - update

The Unit purchased about a dozen Sky Blazer smoke canisters. About the size of a 35mm film canister, these "smokes" are easy to carry and (according to the label) last 45 seconds. Remember, when using these, they are a pyrotechnic and can possibly cause burn injuries as well as start a fire.

RE-SWEARING-IN CEREMONY -

The following email was received from Benton County Emergency Management:

Sheriff Robson will begin his new term of office in January, 1999. All BCSO and SAR identifications will need to be re-issued. The Sheriff has asked that all currently sworn volunteers come to the LEC for re-swearing, the evening of Wednesday, January 6th, 1999 at 6:00 pm. Bring your current BCSO/BCEM identification with you - it must be surrendered when your new cards are issued.

CALL LIST - revised

Matt Jarvis has taken the CMRU Call List into the next century by making it an HTML file for distribution via email. For those without email or whose browser may not have displayed the file properly, a copy is attached. If you have suggestions or comments, forward them to Matt. This is a "work in progress" document at this time so now is the time to tweak it until we get what we want.

