



**MOUNTAIN RESCUE ASSOCIATION**  
**Winter Business Meeting**  
**Agenda and Reports**

January 9–10, 2010

West Valley, Utah

(Version pending general membership review)

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# MOUNTAIN RESCUE ASSOCIATION

WINTER BUSINESS MEETING

JANUARY 10, 2010

## AGENDA

### 1. Call for Proxies

### 2. Roll Call

### 3. President's Report and Welcome

### 4. Approval of Minutes

### 5. Treasurer's Report

### 6. Action and Discussion Items

 Position on requiring MLUs	Charley Shimanski
 Silent Auction/Raffle Proceeds	Neil Van Dyke
 MRA Membership Cards	Charley Shimanski
 Video Distribution	Charley Shimanski
 History Archive Proposal	Charley Shimanski
 Membership Committee	Monty Bell
 Strategic Plan Mission/Vision/Values	John Chang
 Officers budget and spending discretion	Jim Frank
IKAR Committee restructure	Jim Frank
Update: MRA Trademark	Kayley Trujillo
Long Range Planning	Tim Cochrane
Juneau Spring Conference	Doug Wessen
Rescue Cost Recovery strategy	Charley Shimanski
2009 End-of-Year Financials	John Chang/Kayley Trujillo
2010 Budget	John Chang/Kayley Trujillo

### 7. Old Business

### 8. New Business

 = Action Required

## Region Chairs

Alaska  
 Appalachian  
 California  
 Desert Mountain  
 Inter Mountain  
 Oregon  
 Rocky Mountain  
 Washington

Dan Hourihan  
 Chris Ruch  
 John Chang  
 John Gorski  
 Dan Smith  
 Rocky Henderson  
 Rich Solosky  
 Kirk Johnson

## Committee Chairs

Audit  
 Awards and Recognition  
 Communications  
 Education  
 Federal Coordination  
 Fundraising  
 Grants  
 IKAR  
 Marketing  
 Medical  
 Membership  
 Nominating  
 Officers Committee  
 Public Relations  
 Honor Guard  
 International Activities  
 Scholarships  
 Strategic Planning

John Chang (Ex-Officio)  
 Dan Hourihan  
 Bill Laxson  
 Charley Shimanski  
 Mike Vorachek  
 Megan Fogg  
 Jeff Sharp  
 Ken Phillips  
 vacant  
 Skeet Glatterer, M.D.  
 Monty Bell  
 Fran Sharp (Ex-Officio)  
 Charley Shimanski (Ex-Officio)  
 Charley Shimanski  
 Tim Kovacs  
 vacant  
 Roger Yensen  
 Charley Shimanski (Ex-Officio)

## Project Managers

History  
 ListServ  
 Long Range Planning  
 Memorial Project  
 Statistics  
 Stores  
 Website

Lynn Buchanan  
 Michael Gregg  
 Tim Cochrane  
 Marty Lentsch  
 Linda Finco  
 Cindy England  
 Neil Van Dyke

## Liaisons

AFRCC  
 American Alpine Club  
 ASTM  
 ITRS  
 NASAR  
 National Park Service  
 National Sheriffs' Association  
 Western States Sheriffs' Association  
 Wilderness Medical Society

Mike Vorachek  
 Fran Sharp  
 John McKently  
 Monty Bell  
 Dan Hourihan  
 Monty Bell  
  
 John Sohl  
 Skeet Glatterer, M.D.

## Minutes

### Spring Business Meeting MRA – June 28, 2009 Timberline Lodge, Portland Oregon

Meeting called to order by Dick Pooley (first MRA president) at 8:10 AM

Call for proxies.

Dave Moore presents a gavel with Tartan to each of the present past presidents to the current president Charley Shimanski. To be passed on to future presidents

Juneau MRA Conference Presentation 2010 - June 17 - 20.

<[www.juneamountainrescue.org](http://www.juneamountainrescue.org)>

**Planning** Tim Cochrane

\*Winter meeting Jan. 2010 will be in SLC

\*Possible Routt County (Colorado) for 2011 June spring meeting???

\*2015 - Vail a possibility.

**Approval of minutes:**

Motion to approve minutes from Jan. 2009 by Jeff Sharp.

Corrections to the minutes include:

page13 “honor” (spelling)

page 13 “ Juneau 2010” (spelling)

Page 7 “Tacoma” (spelling)

Brian Williams – Seattle Mountain Rescue Council was in attendance.

Minutes approved as amended.

**Roll call** taken with the following teams present:

Alaska Mountain Rescue Group - Bill Romberg & later by proxy

Juneau Mountain Rescue – Steve Lewis

Sitka Mountain Rescue (by proxy)

Allegheny Mountain Rescue Group - Chris Ruch

New Jersey Search and Rescue rope Team (by proxy)

Stowe Mountain Rescue - Neil Van Dyke

Bay Area Mountain Rescue Team – John Chang

Contra Costa County Sheriff Search and Rescue - J. Mitch Allan

Inyo County Sheriff’s Posse Search and Rescue (by proxy)

Malibu Mountain Rescue Team (by proxy)

Marin County Sheriff’s Search and Rescue Unit – Michael St. John

Montrose Search & Rescue Team (by proxy)

Placer County Sheriff Mountain Rescue - Bill Bohmer

Riverside Mountain Rescue Unit – Glenn Henderson

San Bernardino Cave Rescue (by proxy)

San Diego Mountain Rescue Team - Monty Bell

San Dimas Mountain Rescue Team – Dan Land

Santa Barbara County Sheriff’s SAR - Jim Frank

Santa Clarita Valley Search and Rescue (by proxy)

Sierra Madre Search and Rescue Team – Art Fortini  
 Ventura County Search and Rescue Team – Antonio Arizo  
 West Valley Search and Rescue (by proxy)  
 Central Arizona Mountain Rescue Association – Roger Yensen  
 Southern Arizona Rescue Association (by proxy)  
 Bonneville County Search and Rescue – Ellen Kerbs  
 Idaho Mountain Search and Rescue – Owen Miller  
 Utah County Sheriff’s Search and rescue –  
 Weber County Sheriff Mt. Rescue – John Sohl  
 Eugene Mountain Rescue – Susan Sullivan  
 Portland Mountain Rescue – Scott Bellows  
 Albuquerque Mountain Rescue Council – Marc Beverly  
 Alpine Rescue Team – Rich Solosky  
 Atalaya Search and Rescue – Marc Beverly  
 Crested Butte Search and Rescue (by proxy but with unpaid dues)  
 Douglas County Search and Rescue – Bill Clendenning  
 El Paso County Search and Rescue (by proxy)  
 Grand County Search and Rescue – Troy Nelson  
 Larimer County Search and Rescue – George Janson  
 Mountain Rescue Aspen (by proxy)  
 Rocky Mountain Rescue Group – Steve Chappell  
 Routt County search and Rescue – Scott Havener  
 Summit County Rescue Group (by proxy)  
 Vail Mountain Rescue group – Tim Cochrane  
 Western States Mountain Rescue Group (by proxy)  
 Central Washington Mountain Rescue – Marty Lentsch  
 Everett Mountain Rescue Unit - Robert DeWolf  
 Olympic Mountain Rescue – Steve Heslie  
 Seattle Mountain Rescue Council –  
 Skagit Mountain Rescue – John B Semrau  
 Tacoma Mountain Rescue Unit – Jeff Sharp  
 Volcano Rescue Team – Steve Reese  
 Corvallis Mountain Rescue Unit – Jerry Heilman

The following members were also in attendance:

Gwenda Yates	RMRU
Scott Sutton	VMRG
Doug Hutton	Seattle MR
Tim Kovacs	CAMRA/MSCO/PP
Dave Moore	MRA HG/Past Pres. #7
Dan Hourihan	Alaska MRG
John Barton	Deschutes Co. SAR
Eric Tarr	Arizona Dept. of Public Safety Air Rescue.
Todd Shelhter	Corvallis MRU
Kayley Trijullo	San Diego MRT
Doug Wessen	Juneau MR

John Wehbring	San Diego MRT
Brad Berkheimer	Monterey Co. SAR
Steve Hershey	Monterey Co. SAR
Tim Holden	Rocky Mountain RG
Mike Vorachek	Bonneville Co. SAR
Dick Pooley	Past Pres. MRA
Alyssa Skye	Contra Costa County SAR
Peter Szimzk	Olympic MR
Charley Shimanski	Alpine RT
Bill Davis	Seattle MR
Lynn Buchanan	CWMR
Connie Buchanan	CWMR
Greg Foley	Grand County SAR
Kathleen Kessinger	CWMR
Scott Welton	Everett MRU
Skeet Glatterer	Alpine RT
Steve Reese	PMR
Chad Skidmore	INSAR, Spokane

51 voting teams in attendance in person or by proxy.

**Review 2009 Strategic plan** by Riley and Karen Caton from RKC Consulting. (See the report package)

- Planning foundations
- Mission statement
- Guiding principles
- Vision statement
- Stakeholders input
- Plans

**Charley reviewed the Strategic Plan & Mission Statement:**

- Mission statement, vision statement, and guiding principles
- Mission statement with officers modification:
  - The Mountain Rescue Association is an organization of teams dedicated to saving lives through search and rescue and mountain safety education. We do so by improving the quality, availability and safety of mountain search and rescue through... (see report package)

Motion by Art Fortini; seconded by John Sohl to accept the mission statement with additions.

A significant discussion ensued. Thoughts expressed by participants include::

- \* Should be a simple one sentence only.
- \* Eliminate “Search:” state “Rescue” only.
- \* Why change original Mission statement
- \* Make the first sentence as powerful as possible.
- \* ADD “Mountain” before “search and rescue”
- \* Adapt Mission Statement to 2009
- \* MRA is driven from the teams up.

- \* Continue to monitor who we are and how to present our self
- \* Leave as founding fathers stated
- \* Table for 25 years
- \* Art Fortini withdrew the original motion; the second, John Sohl opposes; discussion continues.
- \* Not changing or modifying the mission statement may be short sited
- \* Include the word “Volunteer”
- \* Vote to stop discussion; failed by a majority vote.
- \* Revised version of Mission Statement was proposed:
  - “The MRA is an organization of teams dedicated to saving lives through mountain search and rescue and safety education.”**
- \* “Through rescue, search, and safety education”
- \* Leave “Search” out.
- \* Leave “Search” in (as in SAR)
- \* Future efforts should concentrate on the short version by straw vote/ majority in favor.
- \* SAR is a term familiar with public
- \* Not a current part of the bylaws; may need to add later.
- \* Continue this discussion 30 yes, 5 opposed; per straw pole vote.
- \* Motion to table mission statement discussion until Jan 21, 2010. Majority opposed; motion fails.
- \* Motion to Accept as a mission statement: as stated above; 28 opposed; 23 in favor per roll call vote; motion fails.

Shimanski then suggested that for the sake of time, the discussion would be brought to the Board at the January meeting.

**Jim Whittaker addresses the board:** (Out of sequence)

“Good On” to the MRA organization on 50 years of service.

“We have got to get the kids outside and into nature; the best cathedrals are outside; nature is the best teacher.”

Jim subscribes to: “No child left inside”

**Strategic Plan Committee updates** (from the 16 total Strategic initiatives):

**Accreditation/ reaccreditation committee** up date:

Chris Ruch and Antonio Arizo (See the report package)

- Goals
  - Survey completed
  - Represented by all regions
  - Collecting current accreditation procedures
  - Need to update region information to get current and complete
  - Spreadsheets from survey will be sent to the lister.
- Discussion:
  - Number 1 topic from strategic plan Jan 2009.

- “Most valuable work we can do for MRA” at this time
  - John Sohl proposed documenting this work on web site. Look for Region commonalities, and look at Region Policy & Procedures. Look at other National standards as a comparison.
  - Make straightforward and eliminate ambiguities.
  - Clean up existing policy. Make recommendations.
- Next steps:
    - Drafting changes to policies for a board vote.
    - Propose capabilities for regions; what is the min.

Motion to task the existing accreditation/re-accreditation task force to carry forth to the January business meeting 2010; establish core capabilities as a minimum for all MRA member teams. 2 opposed; all others yes; motion passes.

Shimanski says “Thanks to committee for a huge amount of work.”

**Silent Auction/Raffle Proceeds:** Table until the January 2010 Business meeting.

**Book Budget:** The Officers voted at their conference call in June to increase the total number of copies published from 500 to 1,500 because The Mountaineers Books agreed to distribute the book once they saw the final galley. This adds an additional expense of \$456, however revenue goes from a net loss of \$2,017 to a net gain of \$572 after all books are sold. See report package.

**Committee structure:** President Shimanski proposed three new categories of working groups for MRA: Committees, Project Managers, and Liaisons. See report package. Motion to adopt the new committee structure (See report package): all in favor; none opposed; motion passes.

**Trademark** discussion - table until January 2010 Business meeting

**Rescue Cost Recovery Review** - table until January 2010 Business meeting

**Membership cards:** (see report package) Motion to provide blank membership cards to teams for distribution; seconded; 2 opposed; all others in favor; motion passes.

Many teams asked that the topic be revisited in January (felt rushed) generally the membership feels the need for a professional card.

**Membership:**

- \* Motion to drop Susquehanna from the membership because of non payment of dues and they have not accredited; all in favor; none opposed; motion passes.
- \* Motion by Monty to accept Monterey into the MRA as a full member; seconded; all in favor; none opposed; motion passes.
- \* Re-accreditation

\*Maryland's re-accreditation has expired. Motion by Chris Ruch to extend Search, Rock, and Snow re-accreditation decision to the January 2010 business meeting. All in favor; none opposed; motion passes.

\* Deschutes search and snow has expired. Motion to extend for one year (June 2010). Seconded; all in favor; none opposed; motion passes

\* Region chairs to review Monty's re-accreditation spread sheets and confirm dates.

• Delinquent in dues:	2008	2009
Maryland		X
1 <sup>st</sup> SRG	X	X
Deschutes		X
Crag Rats		X
Crested Butte		X

Motion to suspend 1<sup>st</sup> SRG from the MRA until dues are paid in full. Executive Secretary will send letter advising them of non payment of dues and suspension. All in favor; none opposed; motion passes.

Motion to send all teams delinquent in payment of dues for one year or more a letter of advisement. All in favor; none opposed; motion passes.

### **Treasurer's report**

We have no money currently in the budget to continue SARTEAMS (the statistics program). Kayley motions to add \$1200 to the budget for the SARTEAM's Software at \$150/Month; seconded; all in favor; none opposed; motion passes  
Add \$1200 for 8 additional months @\$150/Mo. for the SARTEAM's software.  
Added \$650 into the Daryl Miller fund  
Budget discrepancies are monitored & reviewed by the officers.

**Chinese Mountain Association (CMA)** letter read by Tim C. from Li Zhixin  
Congratulations on 50 years of Service.

### **MRA Officer Vote:**

No nominations from the floor.

Sec Treasurer – outgoing Dan Land

John Chang – BAMA is elected as Sec. Treasure by majority vote.

Board Member at large - Out going Mike Vorachek.

Jim Frank- Santa Barbara SAR is elected as Board member at large by majority vote.

Meeting adjourned 12:45 by Charley with new gavel

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Land

MRA Secretary/Treasurer

# ACTION ITEM REPORTS



**MOUNTAIN RESCUE ASSOCIATION  
BUSINESS MEETING**



## MOUNTAIN RESCUE ASSOCIATION

**To:** MRA Membership  
**From:** Charley Shimanski, President  
**Date:** January 1, 2010  
**Subject:** Proposed MLU Position Statement

The recent climber deaths on Mt. Hood have again resulted in Oregon lawmakers suggesting that Mountain Locator Units should be required for all climbers on Mt. Hood.

Portland Mountain Rescue Unit has published a position statement strongly opposing such a requirement, noting their concern that such a law would have the impact of:

Devaluing safety education  
Increase danger to rescuers, and  
Result in a delay in the call for help.

For more on PMRU's position statement, go to  
<http://www.pmr.org/pressroom/headlines/20091213PMRStatementRegardingMissions.html>

As a result of this proposed legislation, I suggest that we discuss adopting a similar position statement on behalf of the MRA.

For this reason, I asked Rocky Henderson to draft the attached proposed MRA Position Statement opposing the mandating of Mountain Locator Units on Mt. Hood. We will discuss this at the Sunday Business Meeting, and bring the issue to a vote of the membership.)

If you have any questions prior to the meeting, feel free to contact me or Rocky.

Thanks.

## **Proposed Position Opposing the Requirement that Climbers Carry Mountain Locator Units on Mt. Hood**

The Mountain Rescue Association recognizes that locating devices such as Personal Locator Beacons (PLBs) and Mountain Locator Units (MLUs) are important rescue devices that can aid in the search for lost climbers, hikers, hunters or other outdoor users. The MRA strongly advises all outdoor users to carry such a locating device with them.

A locator should never be taken in lieu of basic survival gear, nor should trip planning be undertaken in the belief that a locating device provides a 'safety net'.

Locating devices can be of great aid when the victim's location is unknown, but this situation is rare; 'search' makes up a very small component of mountain Search and Rescue. Typical of almost every search and rescue (mountain or otherwise) is the need for basic survival gear to sustain life while awaiting rescuers' arrival. In the mountains, the minimal survival gear any climber should carry is a shovel, pad and stove. This gear, along with the properly-applied skills, would provide far greater benefit to both victims and rescuers. Once you have these, then please do carry a locator, too! The likely impact of carrying a locator without the survival gear is the ease with which searchers can locate the body.

Mandating that climbers carry locator beacons will have three well-known, but unquantifiable effects upon climber safety:

1. Uninformed climbers will prioritize a mandatory but non-critical beacon over optional life-saving survival gear.
2. Mandating a piece of emergency gear creates trust in its effectiveness. In the cases of safety belts and helmets, this effect is well understood. But locating beacons do nothing to save lives until rescuers arrive – the lost or injured victim must be self-sufficient until then. Neither will a beacon significantly hasten most rescues. But if a climber makes plans based on misplaced reliance on the beacon's life-saving ability - above their own survival skills and gear - unfortunate results may occur.
3. Climbers who have not brought a locator are more likely to delay calling 911 for fear of being fined. Delays will cause increased risk to both the victim as well as searchers.

The above behavioral changes caused by mandating safety equipment are well understood, but extremely difficult to quantify. Based on a thorough understanding of mountain search and rescue, coupled with great familiarity with the limitations of locator beacons, it is the position of the MRA that mandating the use of locating beacons will negatively impact behavior in such a way that will result in greater risk, not less.

There is a large public outcry in favor of mandating locating beacons for mountain climbers, based upon the desire to reduce the public cost of searches as well as save lives. In considering a mandate, two important factors must be taken into consideration:

1. Only 3% of all search and rescue is climbing-related. When considering the impact on public resources, FAR greater impact can be gained by requiring all outdoor users carry locating beacons. The impact of a climber-only mandate would be trivial.
2. A beacon can not save your life – only survival gear and skills can do that. When considering a mandate, critical survival gear must be included and placed as a higher priority than a locating beacon.

The Mountain Rescue Association strongly urges both lawmakers and the public to consider the full impact of well-meaning legislation. A mandate for climbing beacons will have a trivial effect upon safety and resources, and amounts to little more than window dressing on a difficult problem. But if legislation is deemed the most effective solution, then we urge that a mandate be enacted that will actually have the greatest impact for both lost victims and rescuers.



## MOUNTAIN RESCUE ASSOCIATION

**To:** MRA Board of Directors  
**From:** Neil VanDyke, Vice President  
**Date:** June 28, 2009

**Subject:** ANNUAL MEETING RAFFLE AND SILENT AUCTION

Over the past several years, there has been some confusion and inconsistency on how fundraising activities through the raffle and silent auction at the June annual meeting have been handled. In some cases the proceeds of both events have been combined and split between the host team and national MRA. At other times the host team has kept the raffle proceeds with the auction going to MRA, and at other meetings there has been no raffle with the auction proceeds split.

In order to both facilitate planning for future host teams, and to be able to effectively budget for the MRA, it would probably be helpful to establish a policy going forward to clarify and standardize how this fundraising activity is handled.

Please come to the June meeting prepared to discuss this as an agenda item during our Business Meeting.



## MOUNTAIN RESCUE ASSOCIATION

**To:** MRA Membership  
**From:** Lynn Buchanon/Charley Shimanski  
**Date:** January 1, 2010  
**Subject:** History Archive Proposal

Harry Patz is the chairman of an impromptu group formed with the intent of making the History of MRA something more concrete than has been going on in the past. Lynn Buchanon has served as Project Manager for the MRA Archives project for many, many years. According to Lynn, the current collection of archives is “a stack of boxes (only about 5-6) in my storage room. It is rather a mishmash of data, (in the boxes that it was received in) but really needs some attention if it is going to mean something to those who follow us.”

Lynn and Harry have received a proposal from the University of Washington to accumulate the data for the history of MRA there at the UW, where they have a process to archive it and put it in a collection where folks could access it better than have it in boxes in my warehouse. They need a proposal, in the form of a resolution, from MRA to set up their historical archive.

Lynn tells me that there is a lot of info already accumulated by the families of Otto Trott (Nick Corff), Wolf, Ome and others from the Northwest who worked at or attended the UW that the UW will be receiving and could be tied into the total history of MRA.

Lynn asks that we “endorse the MRA passing the Resolution below and let us get the ball rolling before ALL the old timers are history and their papers get scattered by their families.”

If you have any questions prior to the meeting, feel free to contact me or Lynn.

Thanks.

### **Proposed Resolution to Partner with the University of Washington to Preserve MRA Archives**

The Mountain Rescue Association (MRA) supports the creation of an MRA history archive at the University of Washington to preserve the history of the Association. Harry Patz will be the point of contact for this effort. MRA members and teams are urged to support this program by cooperating with Harry and contributing documents and important papers for preservation.

## Mission Statement Adjustments.doc

**Mission Statement** – The strategic planning team revised MRA's mission statement, which now reads as:

*The Mountain Rescue Association is an organization of teams dedicated to saving lives through rescue and mountain safety education.*

*We do so by improving the quality, availability, and safety of mountain search and rescue through:*

- *Creating a framework for and accrediting member teams*
- *Promoting mountain safety education*
- *Providing a forum for development and exchange of information on mountain search and rescue techniques, equipment, and safety*
- *Representing member teams providing mountain search and rescue services*

**Vision Statement** – The strategic planning team developed the following vision statement:

*The Mountain Rescue Association is an association of teams recognized as the leader in mountain search and rescue best practices.*

### **Guiding Principles**

Creating excellence through:

Professionalism  
Integrity  
Camaraderie  
Dedication  
Respect  
Knowledge

Deleted: Striving for



# MOUNTAIN RESCUE ASSOCIATION

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** MRA Membership  
**From:** Jim Frank, Member-at-Large  
**Date:** November 29, 2009

**Subject:** Budget Line Item, Executive Discretion Expense

It is incumbent upon the officers and membership of a volunteer organization to carefully watch expenditures. The significant amount of our income coming from the pockets of the member teams, the MRA is no exception. Our current procedure is to set the budget during the Winter meeting and any change afterward requires a vote of the membership. Since the next meeting does not occur for six months and a motion by e-mail does not provide the forum for thorough discussion the membership deserves.

What we learned earlier this year was that occasionally the need arises where a small expenditure can have a significant benefit to the organization. At several meetings of the officers we discussed the concept of a line item in the budget that would allow the President with the approval of the officers to incur an expense to meet an unforeseen opportunity.

On behalf of the officers, I would like to propose to the membership for discussion at the Winter meeting the addition of a \$1,000 line item to the budget – Executive Discretion Expense.

Thanks,



# MOUNTAIN RESCUE ASSOCIATION

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** MRA Membership  
**From:** Jim Frank, Member-at-Large  
**Date:** November 29, 2009

**Subject:** IKAR and the MRA

The International Commission on Alpine Rescue (IKAR) meets annually, usually somewhere in Europe. Delegates representing the Terrestrial, Aviation, Avalanche and Medical committees come from around the globe. For many years, the USA did not attend. Over the past few years, MRA has become a supporter of the delegation and somewhat of a de facto lead organization. I would encourage the MRA to officially become the leader of the US delegation.

My thoughts are as follows:

- The mountain rescue community of the United States should be represented at any international meeting of mountain rescue, either through delegate representation at IKAR or through MRA leaders speaking at other international conferences (e.g. SAR Scene in Canada, SAR conferences in Iceland, Ireland and the U.K.).
- The Mountain Rescue Association is the appropriate organization to coordinate/lead the US delegation.
- The current delegates to IKAR are specialists and leaders in their fields. In the future, the MRA will need a means for selecting the delegates.
- The delegates should be recognized leaders in their field, but not solely from the MRA.
- Funding should be provided for the primary delegates. The current amount budgeted by the MRA should not be increased. As the coordinator, the MRA would accept the responsibility to attract the sponsors or donations to help cover as much of the expenses as possible. The MRA Officers and fundraising team should be solely responsible for seeking such sponsors
- If possible, the MRA should strive to cover all expenses so that the delegates would not have to pay for the registration, airfare, and transportation costs.

- The information gained at IKAR should be distributed to the rescue community. Besides the IKAR report, the delegates should present at the MRA Spring Conference, the International Technical Rescue Symposium, and NASAR's national conference.
- The MRA should benefit from taking the leadership position by increasing its reputation in the rescue community at home and around the world. It would put us in an even more authoritative position when we talk to FEMA, our representatives in the state and federal government, and others with influence over wilderness rescue.

The following numbers are based on the 2009 IKAR meeting plus some estimates of additional costs that would be needed for the distribution efforts.

The estimated expenses for a typical year for the four delegates would be:

Annual membership:	\$1,235
Registration (4 x \$964):	\$3,856
Airfare and travel:	\$7,000

Additional expenses:

Presentations:	\$4,000
Video:	\$0,000

Typical income required from sponsors or donors based on the 2009 meeting:

MRA budgeted:	\$4,000
Other donations:	8,500
Out-of-pocket:	\$4,500

I would suggest at this time that the membership consider an IKAR committee to take the lead on organizing the US delegates, developing funding sources, and drafting a delegate selection procedure.

Thanks,

Jim Frank

Member-At-Large

# Mountain Rescue Association Balance Sheet

As of December 31, 2009

Accrual Basis

	Dec 31, 09
<b>ASSETS</b>	
<b>Current Assets</b>	
<b>Checking/Savings</b>	
WAMU - Checking	14,048.21
WAMU - Money Market	69,401.63
Wells Fargo	5,944.87
Wells Fargo - Savings	25,075.11
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	114,469.82
<b>Other Current Assets</b>	
Inventory	7,517.90
<b>Total Other Current Assets</b>	7,517.90
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	121,987.72
<b>Other Assets</b>	
CD1 - 1.83% 12 Mo. 1/5/10	12,326.89
CD2 - 2.71% 12 Mo. 11/6/09	12,534.21
CD3 - 1.49% 12 Mo. 4/21/10	11,078.12
CD4 - .30% 6 Mo. 03/02/10	11,838.77
<b>Total Other Assets</b>	47,777.99
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>169,765.71</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
<b>Liabilities</b>	
<b>Long Term Liabilities</b>	
<b>Region Accts</b>	
Desert Region	167.50
Intermountain Region	165.78
Rocky Mountain Region	193.56
<b>Total Region Accts</b>	526.84
<b>Total Long Term Liabilities</b>	526.84
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	526.84
<b>Equity</b>	
<b>Temporary Restricted Net Asset</b>	
Honor Guard Fund	891.66
International Exchange Grant	2,500.00
MRA Memorial Fund	2,355.42
Past Presidents Fund	525.00
Research Grant Account	5,962.00
<b>Total Temporary Restricted Net Asset</b>	12,234.08
<b>Unrestricted Net Assets</b>	145,577.66
Net Income	11,427.13
<b>Total Equity</b>	169,238.87
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>169,765.71</b>

	<u>Jan - Dec 09</u>	<u>Budget</u>
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>		
<b>Income</b>		
<b>Contributions</b>		
<b>Temporarily Restricted</b>		
Daryl Miller Fund Restricted	1,300	
Honor Guard Restricted	2,135	
IKAR Fund Restricted	8,790	
International Exchange Grant		
<b>Total Temporarily Restricted</b>	<u>12,225</u>	
<b>Unrestricted</b>		
Silent Auction/ Raffle	2,983	1,500
<b>Total Unrestricted</b>	<u>2,983</u>	<u>1,500</u>
<b>Total Contributions</b>	15,207	1,500
<b>Program Revenue</b>		
Application Fees	500	500
Meeting Income	1,315	1,000
<b>Membership Dues</b>		
Membership Dues Current	30,200	30,000
Membership Dues Previous	1,815	
<b>Total Membership Dues</b>	<u>32,015</u>	<u>30,000</u>
<b>Total Program Revenue</b>	<u>33,830</u>	<u>31,500</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	49,037	33,000
<b>Expense</b>		
Fund Raising Expenses	0	1,000
<b>Management &amp; General</b>		
Bank Service Charges	9	100
Brochures	0	1,000
International Exchange Grant		
<b>Legal</b>		
Trademark	0	2,000
<b>Total Legal</b>	<u>0</u>	<u>2,000</u>
Licenses and Permits	0	200
Meeting Expense	1,753	1,500
Office Expense	934	2,500
Postage	20	250

	<u>Jan - Dec 09</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Public Relations	0	3,000
Statistics	1,950	
Strategic Planning	2,591	4,500
Telephone		
Committee	0	100
Officers	551	500
Total Telephone	<u>551</u>	<u>600</u>
Travel		
Travel - Officers	3,000	3,000
Travel - Presenters	828	2,000
Total Travel	<u>3,828</u>	<u>5,000</u>
Website	904	2,000
WRM Committee Seat	0	500
Total Management & General	<u>12,542</u>	<u>23,150</u>
Programs		
Book Project	10,675	9,717
Daryl Miller Fund Expense	1,000	
Education	881	1,500
Honor Guard Fund Expense	3,080	1,500
IKAR Fund Expense	6,336	4,000
Membership Committee	916	1,500
National Regulations	0	1,000
Research Grant Fund Expense	3,000	4,000
Total Programs	<u>25,887</u>	<u>23,217</u>
Total Expense	<u>38,429</u>	<u>47,367</u>
Net Ordinary Income	10,608	-14,367
Other Income/Expense		
Other Income		
Interest	894	2,000
MRA Stores Income		
Book Income	200	2,500
MRA Stores Income - Other	6,708	
Total MRA Stores Income	<u>6,908</u>	<u>2,500</u>
Total Other Income	7,802	4,500

	<u>Jan - Dec 09</u>	<u>Budget</u>
<b>Other Expense</b>		
<b>MRA Stores Expense</b>		
<b>Stores Bank Fees</b>	478	
<b>MRA Stores Expense - Other</b>	6,495	
<b>Total MRA Stores Expense</b>	<u>6,973</u>	
<b>Total Other Expense</b>	<u>6,973</u>	
<b>Net Other Income</b>	<u>829</u>	<u>4,500</u>
<b>Net Income</b>	<u>11,437</u>	<u>-9,867</u>

# Draft

# Financials and Budget

	<u>Proposed Budget</u>
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>	
<b>Income</b>	
<b>Contributions</b>	
Temporarily Restricted	
Daryl Miller Fund Restricted	
Honor Guard Restricted	
IKAR Fund Restricted	
International Exchange Grant	600
Total Temporarily Restricted	<u>600</u>
Unrestricted	
Silent Auction/ Raffle	2,000
Total Unrestricted	<u>2,000</u>
<b>Total Contributions</b>	<b>2,600</b>
<b>Program Revenue</b>	
Application Fees	500
Meeting Income	1,200
Membership Dues	
Membership Dues Current	30,000
Membership Dues Previous	0
Total Membership Dues	<u>30,000</u>
<b>Total Program Revenue</b>	<b>31,700</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>34,300</b>
<b>Expense</b>	
Fund Raising Expenses	1,000
Management & General	
Bank Service Charges	100
Brochures	0
International Exchange Grant	600
Legal	
Trademark	2,000
Total Legal	<u>2,000</u>
Licenses and Permits	
Meeting Expense	2,000
Office Expense	2,000
Postage	250

	<u>Proposed Budget</u>
Public Relations	2,000
Statistics	1,800
Strategic Planning	0
Telephone	
Committee	100
Officers	700
Total Telephone	<u>800</u>
Travel	
Travel - Officers	3,000
Travel - Presenters	1,000
Total Travel	<u>4,000</u>
Website	2,000
WRM Committee Seat	500
Total Management & General	<u>18,050</u>
Programs	
Book Project	0
Daryl Miller Fund Expense	0
Education	1,500
Honor Guard Fund Expense	1,500
IKAR Fund Expense	4,000
Membership Committee	1,500
National Regulations	1,000
Research Grant Fund Expense	4,000
Total Programs	<u>13,500</u>
Total Expense	<u>32,550</u>
Net Ordinary Income	1,750
Other Income/Expense	
Other Income	
Interest	900
MRA Stores Income	
Book Income	0
MRA Stores Income - Other	0
Total MRA Stores Income	<u>0</u>
Total Other Income	900

	<u>Proposed Budget</u>
Other Expense	
MRA Stores Expense	
Stores Bank Fees	0
MRA Stores Expense - Other	0
Total MRA Stores Expense	<u>0</u>
Total Other Expense	<u>0</u>
Net Other Income	<u>900</u>
Net Income	<u><u>2,650</u></u>

# Draft

# Financials

# and

# Budget

# REGION CHAIR REPORTS



**MOUNTAIN RESCUE ASSOCIATION  
BUSINESS MEETING**

**Alaska Region  
Mountain Rescue Association  
Winter Meeting  
January, 2010**

### **Alaska Mountain Rescue Group**

AMRG has had a busy year with 44 missions resulting in 57 rescues and 8 recoveries. The process of instituting a new Group membership system continues. This process is expected to take place over a two year period. The Group is exploring the use of SARTeam software developed by a member of Alpine Rescue Team in Evergreen, CO. AMRG's winter 2009-10 training schedule is focused on preparing for its five year reaccreditation scheduled for April 2010.

### **Juneau Mountain Rescue**

Juneau Mt. Rescue has had a busy and challenging year. JMR passed the MRA re-accreditation in April. The team is busy planning for the MRA 2010 spring conference that will be held in Juneau, June 17-20th. Besides our on going missions in search and rescue several public education efforts have been conducted. JMR had a booth at the Southeast Outdoor Safety fair, and provided education and avalanche awareness with Discovery Southeast for middle school age students. A beacon park was set up this year in conjunction with Juneau Mt. Rescue Eaglecrest Ski area, Juneau Ski Patrol, and SEADOGS. An Easy Searcher system provided through a grant from the Alaska Search and Rescue Association has been used to provide education and public training in the use of avalanche beacons.

### **Sitka Mountain Rescue**

It turned out to be another great year for Sitka Mountain Rescue. We had a bunch of good missions and a lot of hours working with great volunteers providing essential services to our community. We are ending the season with forty six missions so far.

I'm happy to report that our membership is steady and strong. We're all looking forward to next year. In January we are expanding our community outreach program by partnering with Tidal Creations to bring the Warren Miller film to Sitka as a fund raiser for loaner avalanche transceivers. As well, we continue to provide public education in the Sitka School district and public.

I hope this finds everyone in the MRA community healthy and well. Best wishes to all in the upcoming New Year.

### **Region News**

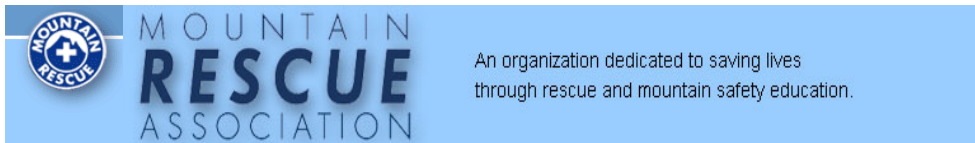
Juneau Mountain Rescue re-accredited in early April and will maintain its MRA Full membership through April, 2014. The Alaska Region is grateful to Vail Mountain Rescue Group (VMRG) for its continues support of accreditation and re-accreditation efforts. Tim Cochrane and Scott Sutton assisted with the JMR test with financial support from VMRG.

Alaska Region bylaws, as well as accreditation/re-accreditation, and exercise guidelines were approved in April. This marks the final piece of formalization for the Alaska Region.

Wishing you all a safe 2010...!

Yours Humbly from the Great Land,

Dan Hourihan  
Region Chair



## Winter Report-January 2010

### Executive Summary

The California Region in 2009 had another busy year in a state where the anecdotal motto is: "Welcome to California, the State of Emergency". In addition to responding to the numerous incidents (described in the remainder of this report), we had an excellent Region wide recertification/re-accreditation event in the discipline of Snow and Ice hosted by Placer County Sheriff's Mountain Rescue at the generously donated location of Squaw Valley in March 2009.

The Region also welcomed and congratulated Monterey County Sheriff Search and Rescue as a full member of the MRA. The promotion was approved unanimously by the National BOD at the Spring National Meeting in June 2009.

Our associate member team from Contra Costa Sheriff Search and Rescue completed the impressive feat of testing and passing all three requisite disciplines (Snow and Ice, Search and Tracking, and Technical Rock) in 2009, thus meeting testing requirements for full MRA membership consideration which is currently pending by the Region's and National's BOD decisions.

At the top of the priority list in the Region is our continuing effort to refine our re-accreditation process in the pursuit of bring ever improving rigor, consistency, and camaraderie to the Region and beyond.

With an attempt to shed some insight into the richness in our teams, I have included in the following pages the latest Region Meeting minutes held in September 2009 hosted by Ventura County and team reports as of December 2009 from 10 of the 26 teams in the Region.

The Region and I would finally like to specifically thank Antonio Arizo, Ventura County Search and Rescue, for his service and leadership as the Chairman of the Region for the years 2007-2009. Antonio continues to support and serve the Region on a number of other critical efforts.

Respectively Submitted,

John Chang  
 California Region Chairman, Rocky Mountain Region  
 Bay Area Mountain Rescue Unit, San Mateo County Sheriff's Office

**Marin County Sheriff's SAR Unit  
2009 Search and Rescue Missions  
(Submitted by Michael St.John)**

09-01

01-03-09 Missing Children Novato. Marin SAR started twenty five members for two missing five year old children who went missing and where last seen playing in the front yard of their home. While responding Novato PD located the children in good condition.

09-02

01-10-09 Mt Tam Rescue Response. SAR was started for an injured hiker on East Peak. SAR cancelled shortly after being paged out.

09-03

01-22-09 Sonoma County Mutual Aid. Eight SAR members responded for a weapons search after a homicide in rural Sonoma County. Members were on scene for four hours. Other teams responding to assist Sonoma SO included Lake and Contra Costa County SAR teams.

09-04

02-04-09 Amador County Mutual Aid. Eleven Marin SAR members responded for a missing 61 y.o. male whose car was found at a trailhead in a remote area of Amador County near the town of Volcano. During previous day of searching the subject's hat and boot were located. The team assignment was to area search a large drainage. About three hours into the search the subject was located deceased by a CARDA/Amador SAR team. He appeared to be searching for his remote control airplane and likely succumbed to the elements several days earlier. A CHP helicopter and teams from Calaveras, CARDA and El Dorado SAR also assisted Amador County in the search.

09-05

02-14-09 Missing Alzheimer's in Woodacre. SAR was started for a missing 81 y.o. male with dementia who disappeared from his bed during the night. As teams were responding, deputies, rangers and firefighters began a hasty search of the area. During the hasty search as SAR members were beginning to arrive on scene, a resident several homes away from the Point Last Seen (PLS) located the subject in their back yard with serious medical problems. Patient was transported by Marin County Fire to MGH.

09-06

3-28-09 Cantu Search. Five members responded as an Incident Support Team (IMT) for missing Eight year old Sandra Cantu from her trailer park in the city of Tracy. She was last seen the evening before by her house on a home surveillance camera. With members from Contra Costa SAR, the joint agency IMT drew up over 70 assignments for the anticipated response of over 200 SAR members from 14 California search and rescue teams planned for the next day. Several officers from Tracy Police also assisted in planning the search.

09-06 Day 2

3-29-09 Cantu Search. Twenty eight Marin SAR members responded

to support the Cantu Search. Marin members worked in various management positions during this search and also staffed a number of ground and K-9 teams. 214 members from a number of central California and Bay Area SAR teams, Law Enforcement agencies and local CERT volunteers also participated in the search. After executing over 80 assignments over a twelve hour period, no significant clues were located. The search area included both the City of Tracy and surrounding agricultural areas.

09-06 Day 3

04-02-09 Ten members worked with several other Bay Area SAR teams in another planning session for second large scale search for Sandra Cantu. Members worked for six hours writing over 80 more assignments for another large effort.

09-06 Day 4

04-04-09 Seventeen members responded back to Tracy to assist Tracy Police in another large scale search effort for Sandra Cantu. Marin members again were assigned to search management, ground and K-9 teams. Large areas of agricultural lands were covered during the extensive effort. Members were committed for 14 hours. Over three hundred people responded from a number of California SAR teams along with local CERT and Law Enforcement. Two days after the search, the body of Sandra Cantu was recovered in a suit case in a murky agriculture waste pond two miles from her home.

09-07

04-13-09 San Rafael Evidence Search. Seven Marin SAR members responded to assist San Rafael PD in an evidence search for an assault. Members were committed for four hours each. Evidence was located.

09-08

4-28-09 OES Support. Three members responded to assist in setting up the Marin County EOC for the N1H1 virus press conference and support activities. Members were committed for two hours.

09-09

05-04-09 Novato Evidence Search. Twelve members assisted Marin Sheriff detectives for an evidence search in the Rush Creek area. Members were committed for three hours.

09-10

05-17-09 Mt Tam Rescue Response. Marin SAR started with Water District Rangers, Marin County and Ross Valley Fire Units for an injured hiker at Carson Falls. Sonoma Henry 1 was also requested and arrived on scene before all other units and was able to get close to the patient at the remote location. The patient was loaded up and flown to an LZ near the trailhead and was transferred to a ground transport. Six SAR members arrived on scene and assisted with set up of the LZ and transferring the patient.

09-11

05-25-09 San Mateo Mutual Aid. Twelve SAR members responded in the early morning hours for an 11 y.o. missing girl scout at Camp Cutter Scout Camp in a remote section of the Santa Cruz Mountains. She had been missing since noon the previous day. Members arrived on scene and assumed

several management roles while others deployed in the field. The search area was rugged with old growth Redwood Forests and mountainous terrain. Several hours later a second wave of 11 members deployed. Around 10:00, an Alameda ground team located the missing girl about two miles from Camp Cutter with mild hypothermia, but otherwise OK. It took several hours to hike her out. Other responding teams supporting San Mateo included BAMRU, CAL-ESAR, Santa Clara, Alameda, Contra Costa, Monterey, CARDA and Department of Fish and Game.

09-12

06-07-09 Mt. Tam Search. SAR was started at 10:00 PM for a missing hiker who became separated hours earlier on the Dipsea trail from his group. We were cancelled after the subject walked out shortly after the team was paged out.

09-13

7-01-09 to 7-05-09 Marin County Fair. Marin SAR members worked shifts each day of the fair and assisted deputies with over 30 searches for lost children and several medical aids.

09-14

07-17-09 San Mateo Mutual Aid. Twenty Marin SAR members responded for a missing 54 y.o. male hiker with autism. The subject had been missing from the previous evening at Skaggs Point, a large densely forested park with steep canyons off Skyline Boulevard. Marin members assisted during the evening shift with search management and field search operations. No clues were located that night. Members put in nine hours each.

09-14 Day 2

07-18-09 San Mateo Mutual Aid. Fifteen SAR members returned Saturday and assisted in search management and field searching. Despite an exhaustive effort with over 130 searchers in the field, no additional clues were located. Marin SAR members put in up 17 hours that day.

09-14 Day 3

07-19-09 San Mateo Mutual Aid. On the final day of major search operations, six Marin SAR members again assisted with management and field search operations. Despite extensive search efforts, no additional clues were located. Douglas May remains missing at this time. San Mateo County Sheriff's Office has continued to search as clues surface. Nearly all Bay Area SAR teams participated in this search.

09-15

07-20-09 Lighthouse Search. Seventeen SAR members responded to assist National Park Rangers in search for a missing, despondent male 49 y.o. whose vehicle was located at the Pt. Reyes Lighthouse parking lot. Supported by Rangers, six CARDA K-9 teams and two Sheriff's Posse teams, members searched the bluff and cliff areas around the lighthouse and parking lots. NPS Rangers also used boats and Sonoma H-1 conducted an Air search. No clues were located. Members put in 8 hours each. The subject remains missing at this time.

09-16

08-06-09 Kentfield Search. SAR was started to the Kent Woodlands for a missing 66 y.o. male with Tourette's Syndrome. Deputies and allied agencies were conducting an extensive hasty search. As SAR was arriving on scene, a resident familiar with the subject located him wandering and returned him home.

09-17

08-13-09 Campbell Search. Marin SAR was requested to assist in the search for missing 5 y.o. Hossani Campbell, who disappeared from an Oakland street the week before under suspicious circumstances. Five members assisted with a large inter-agency management team to plan a wide scale search of the East Bay Thursday night.

09-18 Day 2

08-15-09 Campbell Search. Nineteen Marin SAR members responded and assisted with search management and field searching for clues in Campbell's disappearance. Search areas include many East Bay Parks and Openspace areas. Well over 100 searchers from nearly all Bay Area teams assisted in the operation. No major clues were located and he remains the focus of a large scale investigation by Oakland PD and the FBI. Members were on scene 12 hours each.

09-19

8-23-09 Yosemite Mutual Aid. Marin SAR was requested to respond for a search for a missing and overdue backpacker in the Yosemite backcountry. As our 11 members were preparing to depart Marin, the subject was located safe by an NPS search helicopter.

09-20

09-03-09 Inyo County Mutual Aid. Marin SAR was requested for a Type 1 Alpine search above 10,000 feet in Sequoia Kings National Park. The subject was a 52 y.o. male who did was overdue from a day trip peak bag. As members were mobilizing, the subject walked out of the mountains safe. Three members were en-route when the mission cancelled.

09-21

09-09-09 Napa County Mutual Aid. Eighteen members responded to assist Napa County SAR in the desperate search for a missing 31 y.o. pregnant female with paranoid/schizophrenia with an imminent childbirth. She had escaped the night before from a mental institution and was last seen running through vineyards after midnight. Marin SAR members arrived and configured into field teams and supported management functions. About four hours after we arrived, the subject was located within the search area by a resident who called the attention of a SAR ground team in the area. She was in good condition. Responding teams included Sonoma, Contra Costa, Solano, CARDA and CAL-ESAR.

09-22

09-14-09 Mill Valley Search. Marin SAR was requested to respond for a missing Autistic 10 y.o. boy that worked away from a convenience store in the Strawberry area of Mill Valley. Numerous Sheriff and fire units were conducting a hasty search. Subject was located safely by deputies before

SAR arrived on scene.

09-23

09-20-09 Mendocino Mutual Aid. Marin SAR responded sixteen members for a missing 3 y.o. girl who was last seen the night before in front of her remote ranch home near Philo in the Anderson Valley. The area is heavily wooded with difficult terrain in all directions. Shortly after arriving from a two hour drive, the missing girl was located safe about 1 mile away from the PLS. She wandered and became lost, spending the night out. Other responding assisting agencies included CAL-FIRE, CHP, Lake, Sonoma, CARDA and Contra Costa search and rescue teams.

09-24

09-22-09 Tiburon Evidence Search. Twelve members responded to assist with an evidence search for a homicide. Members were on scene for three hours.

09-24 Day 2

09-26-09 Tiburon Evidence Search #2. Nineteen members returned and conducted a second wide area evidence search around the crime scene. All members were committed for two hours.

09-25

10-02-09 Calaveras Mutual Aid. Twelve members responded mutual aid for a missing hunter that was overdue three days. Our team responded late Thursday night and camped out near the ICP, is a very remote area of the County. Our group was configured into three teams and deployed early Friday morning. Teams conducted area search assignments. At 2:00 PM Friday, word came the subject was located by other hunters, about 6 miles from the PLS and out of the search area. He was suffering from hunger, exhaustion and hypothermia.

09-26

10-04-09 Sonoma Mutual Aid. Eleven SAR members responded to Sonoma County for a missing trail runner from a YCMA camp in the mountains along the remote Northern Sonoma County coast. The runner was missing from the previous evening. Members departed Marin at 0400 and arrived on scene shortly after the subject found his way out to the ICP. He was in good condition, but was lost overnight.

09-27

11-04-09 Mt. Tam Search. Twenty-eight Marin SAR members started for Throckmorton Fire Station to assist in the search for a missing hiker who became separated from his partner while hiking from Stinson Beach to Muir Woods after nightfall. As the team was arriving the subject walked out to Stinson Beach.

09-28

11-16-09 Slide Ranch Search. Twenty-one Marin SAR members responded for a missing 26 y.o. male from Novato who's car was located the night before by NPS rangers at Slide Ranch, 1 mile North of Muir Beach. As members were deploying from the ICP, a family member approached the IC and advised he had located a body along the shoreline at the base of a cliff. Team

members responded and secured the area. We assist NPS Rangers and US Park Police for several hours conducting additional searching for clues.

09-29

12-05-09 Novato Search. Forty-seven Marin SAR members turned out to assist deputies in the search for a missing 85 y.o. man with dementia and medical issues in the Atherton area, a rural community in unincorporated Novato. Teams fanned out at night with temperatures in the low 30's, completing 19 assignments with assistance from CHP H-30, Novato Fire Units and several CARDA K-9 teams. Four hours in the search at 2245 hrs the subject was located safe by San Rafael Police at the Transit Center in San Rafael. He was unable to explain how he got there. Sonoma and Contra Costa SAR also had teams responding to assist.

# Mountain Rescue Association



## MRA STATISTICS FORM

Statistics for the Calendar Year 2009

Team Name: Monterey County Sheriff's Search & Rescue

Region: California

Item Number	Total Number of:	Number
1	Missions, including stand-bys	47
2	Mission man-hours	2696 1/2
3	Subjects rescued	32
4	Search missions	27
5	Technical missions	14
6	Avalanche missions	
7	Recovery missions	6
8	Subjects recovered	6
9	Missions outside your primary service area	5
10	Missions where aircraft were used	16
11	Missions where medical aid was performed	4
12	Public education presentations	12
13	Public educations man-hours	237
14	Training events	15
15	Training man-hours	2400
	<b>Activity Types</b>	
16	Hiking	17
17	Climbing	2
18	Skiing (Downhill and cross-county)	
19	Snowboarding	
20	Snow Machine	
21	Hunting	2
22	Aircraft	1
23	Automobile/Motorcycle	4
24	Mountain Biking	1
25	Other (Describe) 10 (Alzheimer's) 1(bipolar) 2( missing child) 3(suicide) 1(homicide) 1(missing person at risk)	

### **Montrose Search and Rescue Dec. 2009 MRA report**

Things have been relatively slow for Montrose since the Station fire the last weekend in August and into September. It was classified as the 10th largest fire (largest in Los Angeles County) since records were kept in California and most of the 250 square miles of destruction were to our primary response area. The damage to homes and infrastructure was complete as the fire was not wind driven. During the fires the team was kept busy with evacuations and rescues including the recovery of the two Los Angeles County Fire officers killed on Mt. Gleason and the two knuckleheads who didn't heed the evacuation orders and attempted to find refuge in a hot tub as the fire swept down the canyon.

The fire burned for over two months before it was finally declared controlled and until the rains last month there were still hot spots and stump fires. Unfortunately both the Angeles Crest Highway and Angeles Forest Highway were closed until the first of this month to repair roadway, replace umpteen miles of guard rails, signage etc. That means access was restricted to the unburned areas of the forest but also meant the motorcycle and car overs that we do so many of each year didn't happen. It isn't as if we want to wish misfortune on the motoring and recreating public but we do like to get the calls. Our biggest concern now is the debris flows that follow fires and are part of the natural ecology of the southern California mountains. Last weekend responded to assist dozens of motorists who chose to ignore the predictions of rain and were trapped either by high water or landslides that closed the highways. It will be interesting to see what mother nature has in store for us this winter but we all know the forest we all knew and loved will never be the same in our lifetimes.

We will have a complete report for the Region meeting in January as well as for Linda Finco's statistics project but in the meantime up through the end of November we have responded to 81 callouts. 77 of those were within Los Angeles County. With the call volume down from the norm we seem to be getting more participants for out of county calls and are looking forward to more of them in future years.

John McKently

# CRMRA Annual Report: Searches



## Placer County Sheriff's Mountain Rescue Team



ID	SearchName	Mission Type	Start Date	End Date	Start Time	End Time	Search Length (hours)	Members attending	Member Man Hours	Subject Rescued	Subject Recovered	Multiple Subjects	Medical Aid	Aircraft Involved	Mutual Aid	Snowand Ice Mission	Avalanche		
<i>January 2009</i>																			
55	Airport Rd Auburn Search	Ground Search	1/31/2009	1/31/2009	10:02	13:25	3.38	7	23.66	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<i>April 2009</i>																			
56	Leslie Gray - Alpine County Mutual Aid (Day 1)	Ground Search	4/7/2009	4/7/2009	8:59	23:59	9.00	4	36.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
57	Leslie Gray - Alpine County Mutual Aid (Day 2)	Ground Search	4/8/2009	4/8/2009	0:01	22:00	22.00	4	88.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
58	Mumford Bar Trailhead	Ground Search	4/26/2009	4/26/2009	7:30	15:00	8.50	6	51.00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<i>June 2009</i>																			
59	Matthew Kinney El Dorado Mutual Aid	Ground Search	6/8/2009	6/8/2009	4:30	11:30	7.00	4	28.00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
69	Steven Leslie Sid - Amador County Mutual Aid	Ground Search	6/12/2009	6/12/2009	4:30	21:00	18.00	3	54.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
70	Hell Hole Resevior Search	Ground Search	6/13/2009	6/13/2009	12:30	21:00	6.00	2	12.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
60	Alta Evidence Search	Evidence Search	6/28/2009	6/28/2009	7:00	13:30	5.50	6	33.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<i>July 2009</i>																			
61	Foresthill Bridge Recovery	Recovery	7/5/2009	7/5/2009	17:02	23:30	6.46	10	64.60	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
62	Squaw Valley Callout	Ground Search	7/13/2009	7/13/2009	18:00	20:00	2.00	9	18.00	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<i>August 2009</i>																			
63	Last Chance Mine Road, Nevada Cty	Ground Search	8/3/2009	8/3/2009	10:12	15:30	5.30	5	26.50	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
64	Penryn Evidence Search - Christie Wilson	Evidence Search	8/14/2009	8/14/2009	13:00	17:30	4.50	6	27.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<i>September 2009</i>																			
66	Sailor Flat Search	Ground Search	9/6/2009	9/6/2009	14:55	23:00	8.08	5	40.40	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
65	Berg Lane Loomis Evidence Search	Evidence Search	9/16/2009	9/16/2009	6:00	9:30	3.50	2	7.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
67	Devin Smith - Calaveras County Mutual Aid	Ground Search	9/30/2009	10/1/2009	5:00	2:00	21.00	4	84.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<i>October 2009</i>																			
68	Sheridan Evidence Search	Evidence Search	10/24/2009	10/24/2009	8:00	15:30	7.50	7	52.50	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<i>November 2009</i>																			
71	Tahoe City - Evan Norman Callout	Ground Search	11/14/2009	11/14/2009	18:57	21:09	3.00	5	15.00	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>Total Searches Year-to-Date:</b>			17	<b>Average Attendees/Callout:</b>			10.5	<b>Totals</b>			1,321.32	5	2	1	0	0	3	0	0



## Placer County Sheriff's Mountain Rescue Team



ID	Date	Training Start/End Time	PrimaryTrainingTopics	Attendees	Man hours
<i>January 2009</i>					
90	1/10/2009	7:30 17:00	Snow and Ice Skills - Avalanche operations	13	123.5
91	1/11/2009	7:30 16:00	Snow and Ice Skills - snow anchors, belay, raising & lowering	13	99.75
<i>February 2009</i>					
92	2/7/2009	7:30 17:00	Snow and Ice travel, Snow anchors, raising and lowering	14	133
93	2/8/2009	7:15 17:00	Squaw Valley Recertification Dry Run	14	136.5
94	2/28/2009	7:30 15:00	Extra Training - Recertification Prep	15	112.5
<i>March 2009</i>					
96	3/6/2009	8:00 22:00	2009 MRA Recertification - prep day & registration at Squaw Valley	17	238
95	3/7/2009	4:30 20:00	2009 Snow and Ice Recertification	19	294.5
<i>April 2009</i>					
97	4/4/2009	7:30 15:10	Medical Issues in SAR, Helicopter Training, Sexual Harassment	18	137.88
98	4/5/2009	7:30 18:00	Roped Travel, Crampons, Glissading	19	199.5
<i>May 2009</i>					
99	5/2/2009	7:30 17:00	Highline Principles	21	194
100	5/3/2009	7:30 17:00	Highlines: Application	16	152
<i>June 2009</i>					
101	6/13/2009	6:30 18:45	Field Training Exercise	16	196
102	6/14/2009	7:30 18:45	Team Training	17	191.25
<i>July 2009</i>					
103	7/11/2009	7:30 17:00	Ascending and Rappelling	16	152
104	7/12/2009	7:30 19:30	Rock Climbing/Belaying/Climbing Anchors	14	168
<i>August 2009</i>					
105	8/1/2009	7:30 16:50	Rappel Pick-off/Belay while Rappelling	15	139.95
106	8/2/2009	7:30 16:30	Rappel Pick-off/Belay while Rappelling	19	171
<i>September 2009</i>					
108	9/12/2009	7:30 16:00	Raising, Lowering, LRH, Edge Tending	18	153
109	9/13/2009	7:30 16:00	Raising, Lowering, LRH, Lowering Pickoff	17	144.5



# Placer County Sheriff's Mountain Rescue Team



ID	Date	Training Start/End Time	PrimaryTrainingTopics	Attendees	Man hours
<i>October 2009</i>					
111	10/3/2009	7:30 16:00	Litter Tie-In/Litter Handling, Patient Packaging, Passing the knot on rais	23	190
112	10/4/2009	7:30 17:00	Passing the knot on raise and lower, Lowering Pick Off	22	209
<i>November 2009</i>					
113	11/7/2009	7:30 22:00	Raise/Lower, Tilt-Lift Pickoff, Highline, Night Ops Map & Compass	18	261
114	11/8/2009	8:30 13:00	ELT	18	81
				<b>Totals</b>	<b>7,755.66</b>
				<b>Average Attendees</b>	<b>34.09</b>



## Placer County Sheriff's Mountain Rescue Team



ID	Training Start/End Date	Primary Training Topics	Attendees	Man hours
<i>January 2009</i>				
178	1/11/2009 1/11/2009	Travel to make Recert Reservations at Squaw Valley	1	4
183	1/21/2009 1/21/2009	Avy Beacon Instructor	1	4
184	1/26/2009 1/30/2009	OES Winter Search Management	1	40
177	1/11/2009 1/11/2009	SAR Fundamentals Assist	1	4
<i>February 2009</i>				
181	2/13/2009 2/14/2009	SAR Tech Wilderness Survival Instruct/Assist Classroom	4	40
182	2/21/2009 2/22/2009	SAR Tech Wilderness Survival Field Exercise	4	120
185	2/18/2009 2/18/2009	Hypothermia Issues & Patient Packaging	1	5
215	2/8/2009 2/8/2009	Recertification Preparation in Squaw Valley	1	8
<i>March 2009</i>				
190	3/8/2009 3/8/2009	2009 MRA Recertification - wrapup & DC	11	66
191	3/20/2009 3/22/2009	SAR Tech Mantracking: Instruct/Assist	3	60
187	3/5/2009 3/5/2009	2009 MRA Recertification - prep day at Squaw Valley	5	20
<i>April 2009</i>				
198	4/25/2009 4/25/2009	Tracking Practice	2	16
203	4/25/2009 4/25/2009	SAR Tech Map and Compass Instructor/Assist	1	8
202	4/21/2009 4/21/2009	SAR Tech Map and Compass: Instruct/Assist	1	4
196	4/24/2009 4/26/2009	UTS Tracker II Tygh Valley Oregon	2	48
<i>May 2009</i>				
232	5/24/2009 5/24/2009	SAR Tech Map and Compass Instructor/Assist - Rescheduled from 4/26	1	8
205	5/27/2009 5/27/2009	PCSO Dive Team/MRT Joint Swiftwater Training	4	32
204	5/23/2009 5/23/2009	Tracking Practice	4	16
201	5/17/2009 5/17/2009	SAR Tech Rough Terrain Instructor/Assist	3	24
200	5/16/2009 5/16/2009	SAR Tech Rough Terrain Instructor/Assist	2	16
197	5/22/2009 5/22/2009	DOJ Helicopter Training	4	32
199	5/11/2009 5/11/2009	SAR Tech Rough Terrain Instructor/Assist	2	8

*June 2009*

206	6/16/2009	6/16/2009	CHP/MRT Joint Helicopter Training	10	80
209	6/20/2009	6/20/2009	Tracking Practice	5	20

*July 2009*

207	7/18/2009	7/18/2009	Tracking Practice - casting prints & tracking	7	28
211	7/24/2009	7/26/2009	SAR Tech Man Tracking - instructors	2	40
210	7/12/2009	7/12/2009	SAR Tech Basic Fundamentals (Day 2)	5	80
208	7/11/2009	7/11/2009	SAR Tech Basic Fundamentals (Day 1)	5	80

*August 2009*

221	8/18/2009	8/23/2009	SAR Tech Map & Compass - instruct	1	24
212	8/1/2009	8/1/2009	SAR Tech First Aid/CPR (on Team Training Day)	4	24
213	8/13/2009	8/13/2009	Mini-Training; Ascending, Descending, passing the knot	10	20
214	8/20/2009	8/20/2009	Tracking Practice - casting prints & tracking	4	16
220	8/4/2009	8/9/2009	SAR Tech Map & Compass - instruct	1	24
231	8/11/2009	8/14/2009	Lost Person Behavior Training	1	34

*September 2009*

216	9/9/2009	9/9/2009	Mini-Training; Ascending, Descending, passing the knot	14	28
217	9/11/2009	9/13/2009	SAREX 2009	2	96
218	9/26/2009	9/27/2009	SAR Tech Rough Terrain: Instruct/Assist	4	80
219	9/24/2009	9/27/2009	SAR Tracker Course	1	32

*October 2009*

224	10/18/2009	10/18/2009	SAR Tech Man Tracking: Instruct/Assist	3	60
222	10/8/2009	10/8/2009	Mini-Training; GPS	9	18
223	10/5/2009	10/11/2009	SAR Tech Rough Terrain: Instruct/Assist	3	60

*November 2009*

225	11/12/2009	11/12/2009	Mini-Training; Brake Bar Rack; Load Release Hitch	12	24
226	11/17/2009	11/17/2009	Dog Team Training	6	12
227	11/13/2009	11/14/2009	SAR Tech Wilderness Survival Instruct/Assist Classroom	3	36
228	11/21/2009	11/22/2009	SAR Tech Wilderness Survival - Field Exercise	4	120
229	11/28/2009	11/28/2009	Tracking Practice - Seed Farm	5	20

*December 2009*

230	12/10/2009	12/10/2009	Mini-Training, Winter Backcountry Essentials @ REI	19	38
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**Totals 3,354.00**

## San Diego Mountain Rescue Team 2009 OPERATIONS

During calendar year 2009, the San Diego Mountain Rescue Team had a total of 39 callouts, all of which were initiated by the San Diego County Sheriff's Department. Twenty, just more than half, were considered to be full operations because, in accordance with team policy, (1) they lasted more than one hour from the initial page to the cancel page, and (2) at least one SDMRT member arrived at the Command Post before the cancel page. The other 19 did not meet the above criteria but were noted as requests for assistance from the Sheriff's Department and the subject information is included in this report

All nineteen "non-operations", those lasting less than 60 minutes, were urban searches, and all involved subjects who exhibited some kind of mental problem, except for one normal 3-year-old girl and one adult female jogger. Most were elderly people suffering from some kind of dementia, especially Alzheimer's, but a few were on drugs or were drunk. They either returned on their own, were found by citizens, or were located by law enforcement officers before an organized search could begin.

All but four of the "full operations" involved an urban search for a single subject, broken down by type of subjects and the ultimate results as follows:

Alzheimer's	2	Found by resident, found by patrol officer
Other dementia	3	Found at residence, found in nearby city by citizen, was at friend's
Suicidal	3	Was at brother's, found on hill, returned on his own
Brain injury	1	Found in adjacent city by citizen
Down's syndrome	1	Report follows
In rehab	1	Voluntarily left rehab center.
Runaway juvenile	4	At boyfriend's, at uncle's house, found by grandmother, not found
Bipolar	1	Voluntarily returned home
Missing juvenile	1	Report follows
Body parts search	1	Report follows
Missing hiker	2	Found on road, still missing

Three searches were of special interest and two resulted in national exposure.

On January 8, we were called to search for a 20-year-old Down's syndrome man with a mental age of 7 in a gated community that backed up to a rugged hill. He had been left by a special-school bus at the usual place to be picked up by his mother in the afternoon but was not there when she arrived. The search went on for two days, involving 50 searchers the first night and about 100 the second day. At the end of the second day, the Sheriff's helicopter spotted the subject just below the peak of the highest hill in back of the community. As he was being rescued by SAR, a bystander on the hill nearby fell and fractured his leg, resulting in a low-angle technical rescue.

On Tuesday, February 17th, we began the search for Amber Dubois, a 14 year old student who was last seen the previous Friday morning walking to Escondido High School. For the next four days, family, friends and the local police had searched for her in the surrounding residential area. The resulting search by the Sheriff's and SDMRT, supplemented by spontaneous volunteers, included seven operational periods of one day each, ending March 15<sup>th</sup>. No clues were found and she is still missing. The community and the Escondido Police Department continue to receive tips and suggestions and the case is still open. Amber has been featured on America's Most Wanted and other television and news outlets.

On September 20<sup>th</sup>, we assisted the coroner's office in retrieving body parts from a 4-person fatal crash in Santee that resulted from a Lexus speeding over 100 mph because of a jammed accelerator. This incident gained national attention and resulted in Toyota recalling many of their models to correct the problem.

## *Santa Barbara County Search & Rescue - 2009*

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### *Incident Summary*

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Rescue.....	49	Cancelled.....	23
Search.....	52	Cancelled.....	9
Recovery .....	10	Cancelled.....	1
Fire Evacuations.....	6		
Evidence Search.....	4		
Medical MCI.....	3		
Total Incidents .....	124	Cancelled.....	33

### *Incident Types*

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Aircraft .....	4	Search.....	2	Cancelled.....	1
		Rescue .....	2		
Suicide .....	7	Recovery .....	6	Cancelled.....	1
Dog Team.....	6	Search.....	5	Cancelled.....	1
				Mutual Aid .....	2
				Assist detectives .....	3
ELT .....	3				
Evacuations.....	6				
Evidence Search.....	9				
Hiker/Backpacker .....	28	Search.....	12		
		Rescue .....	16		
Hunter .....	2	Search.....	1		
		Rescue .....	2		
Project Lifesaver .....	2	Search.....	2		
Missing Adult.....	11	Search.....	11	Cancelled.....	4
Missing Child.....	2	Search.....	2	Cancelled.....	1
Mountain Biker .....	2	Rescue .....	2		

Ocean .....	7	Search.....	3	
		Rescue .....	4	Cancelled.....
				4
OHV/Motorcycle .....	3	Rescue .....	2	Cancelled.....
		Recovery .....	1	1
Paraglider .....	1	Rescue .....	1	Cancelled.....
				1
Recovery .....	2			
Swiftwater.....	2	Rescue .....	2	
Vehicle-over-the-side.....	22	Rescue .....	22	Cancelled.....
				10
Mutual Aid.....	5	Flotopia (Isla Vista).....	1	Medical MCI
		Halloween (Isla Vista).....	2	Medical MCI
		Los Angeles.....	1	Dog team request
		San Luis Obispo .....	1	Dog team request

Our Sheriff's Department is responsible for evacuating citizens during wildfires and SBCSAR is the initial response. The team went door to door on the Jesusita Fire and the La Brea Fire, making sure citizens were aware of the mandatory evacuation order.

Halloween in Isla Vista (UCSB) saw an estimated crowd of 25,000 young people in about a six block area. Between Friday and Saturday night, the team responded to over 40 medical incidents and nearly all cases provided transport by litter and wheel to an ambulance at the street barricades.

In 2009 the team was particularly busy six recoveries under Cold Springs Bridge, our single arch bridge on Hwy 154. The terrain is steep and lush with poison oak and often a search is required to locate the subject.

## *Membership*

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Rescue Members.....	22
Trainee Members .....	6
Academy .....	8

With two SAR Academy sessions in 2009, we added 4 new trainee members with another 6 finishing up their skills certification. An additional 3 have passed the background and several more are expected for an Academy early in 2010.

Summary: 11 Home Area Calls    5 Mutual Aid/Assist Calls    Total Calls = 16

- 1/31/2009    Call Out: 920C, MW/80 missing from Valencia home
- 2/6/2009    Call Out: All County, 903, Downed Aircraft, Catalina
- 2/12/2009    Call Out: All County, 920C, Lost Skier, Mt. Baldy
- 3/8/2009    Call Out: 920C: 2 FH/A & FH/3 Missing Off Templin Hwy
- 3/14/2009    Call Out: 920C, OES-Assist San Diego, Escondido, missing FW/14
- 5/9/2009    Call Out: 920, FW/32, Missing on Whitaker Peak
- 6/25/2009    Call Out: 920A, MW/60, Warm Springs Mtn. / Cienega Camp. Ground
- 8/27/2009    Call Out: Wayside Honor Rancho Escapee
- 9/1/2009    Call Out: Possible Car-Over, Sand Cyn b/t Placerita Cyn & Bear Divide
- 9/26/2009    Call Out: 920C: FB/A Mutual Aid with Malibu Team
- 10/30/2009    Call Out: 920C: FW/18, Brigett Kennemore, Hasley Cyn x Old Road
- 10/31/2009    Call Out: 920C: FW/18, Brigett Kennemore, Old Road x Live Oak wash
- 11/6/2009    Call Out: 920C: Thomas Guillermo, MH/79, Dementia
- 12/12/2009    Call Out: 920C: Julian DeJesus, MH/74, Dementia
- 12/16/2009    Call Out: 920C: Julian DeJesus, MH/74, Dementia
- 12/24/2009    Call Out: 920C: Missing Hikers, Mutual Aid with Altadena and Crescenta Valley

### Ventura Team Report MRA Dec 2009

...

Sun, December 20, 2009 9:46:02 PM

From:

Antonio Arizo <aarizo@vcsar3.org>

...

View Contact

To: John Chang <chang\_john@sbcglobal.net>

The Ventura County East Valley team had 19 calls for 2009. Two of the calls were for mutual aid searches with Santa Barbara and Malibu. Ventura also assisted Santa Barbara with evacuations during a major brush fire in their county. Several of the calls were to assist major crimes with evidence searches.

The team liaison with the sheriff's department, Rick Godfrey, left the team after 18 years of supporting the team.

Antonio M. Arizo

Rescue 32

aarizo@vcsar3.org

<http://www.vcsar3.org>

# West Valley Search & Rescue

## 2009 Stats Summary Report

As of 12-19-09:

**33 Missions were logged**

Jan. – 8 missions

Feb.- 5 missions

March- 3 missions

April – 0

May – 1 mission

June – 2 missions

July – 4 missions

August – 3 missions

Sept. and Oct. – 1 mission each (total 2)

Nov. – 2 missions

Dec – 3 missions to date



## Mountain Rescue Association Rocky Mountain Region

### Winter Report - January 9, 2010

#### **Executive Summary**

The Rocky Mountain Region continues to lead the nation in innovation. A revised regional website showcases our incredible region and teams. I am happy to report that the Rocky Mountain Region is strong, united, and committed to its values.

Updates to our A/R (Accreditation/Re-accreditation) procedures continue to improve the process. Recent joint-missions and mutual aid calls, many dramatic and described in the following team reports demonstrate the cooperation our region enjoys and efficacy of the A/R process.

That cooperation continued in the form of public policy and advocacy for “No Charge for Rescue” at the local level with a dramatic reversal of city ordinance, which mandated fees for rescue in Clear Creek Canyon by the City of Golden.

#### **Regional Board of Directors:**

The regional Board of Directors, elected at the Rocky Mountain Region Winter Meeting, 12/8/09 for 2010 is:

- **Chairman:** Richard Solosky (Alpine Rescue Team)
- **Vice-Chair:** Pat Paulsen (El Paso County Search and Rescue)
- **Secretary/Treasurer:** Dan Lang ( Rocky Mountain Rescue Group)
- **Director-at-Large:** Steve Zuckerman (Vail Mountain Rescue)
- **Director-at-Large:** Troy Nelson (Grand County SAR)

#### **Reaccreditations:**

The following teams passed their reaccreditations in 2009:

- Western State Mountain Rescue Group ()
- Larimer County Search & Rescue (Dates: April 25-26, 2009)
- Summit County Search & Rescue (Dates: May 16-17, 2009)

The following teams are scheduled to re-accreditations in 2010:

- Douglas County Search & Rescue (4/24/2010)
- Grand County SAR (5/1/2010)
- Routt County Search and Rescue (5/16/2010)
- Alpine Rescue Team (6/5/2010)

#### **Regional Mission Activity**

Collectively the region experienced 806 missions for 2009 with 14 teams reporting out of 17 and two weeks remaining in the year. Several reports provide noteworthy evidence of the value of the Rocky Mountain Region’s rigorous Accreditation/Re-accreditation process and standards.



## Mountain Rescue Association Rocky Mountain Region

### New Member Teams:

No teams are scheduled for an initial accreditation in 2010. However, several teams, throughout the region have expressed interest and Ouray Mountain Rescue has begun the process of associate membership.

### Team Reports:

The Region teams were polled for report of items of note. The reports for those teams that provided them are the following:

- **Alpine Rescue Team:**

Alpine commemorated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2009. A weekend long celebration culminating with a banquet hosting over 300 past and present members enjoyed renewed friendships and reflections of the past.

Alpine conducted 82 missions in 2009, 71 of these missions were in our tri-county area. The team also responded to mutual aid calls in 7 out-of-county missions assisting other SAR teams in Colorado. In 2009 the team spent over 15,000 hours in missions, training and educational efforts, including avalanche awareness and other mountain safety education.

Alpine continues to guide the state, nation, and international SAR community in leadership and is very proud that current members currently fill the roles of the MRA National President, MRA Medical Director, IKAR Avalanche and Medical Representatives, the Rocky Mountain Regional Chair and NASAR Board of Directors.

In addition to assisting Clear Creek and Jefferson counties in wilderness search and rescue activities, Alpine has recently added an MOU with Gilpin County, now providing primary response duty in 3 Colorado counties.

2009 missions included many incredible rescues including a lost 4 year old at Wellington Lake, a stranded climber at 14,000 ft. on 14,267 ft. Torrey's Peak and the 200' Highline evacuation of a fallen climber across Clear Creek with Golden F.D. Alpine collaborated with Rocky Mountain Rescue Group and El Paso County Search and Rescue and Douglas County with an extremely technical evacuation of an injured climber at 13,800 ft on the traverse between 14,197 ft. Crestone Needle and 14,294 ft. Crestone Peak, proving the value of our rigorous re-accreditation process.

Two missions on a rock face called "Lovers Leap" provided for an interesting footnote to our year. The origins of the team began in 1958 with a climbing accident on this exact same rock face. To have two separate missions at the same location two weeks prior to the team's 50th reunion was described by some as just "a little eerie".



## Mountain Rescue Association Rocky Mountain Region

### ▪ Albuquerque Mountain Rescue

AMR has been activated for 38 search and rescue missions within the state of New Mexico to date. We anticipate that 2-5 more will occur before the closing of the year.

The three most notable missions took place during the summer months. Two of them happened in the month of June and both incidents were outside our primary response area of Albuquerque. The first was the rescue and recovery of the NM State Police helicopter in the Santa Fe National Forest. We sent a total of 18 members to the mission and fielded team members for a total of 4 days.

The other mission took place outside of Jemez, New Mexico on a volcanic plug that rises 700 feet from the desert floor called "Cabazon." A young man fell 75 feet scrambling to the top of the feature sustaining multiple injuries. The rescue was handled solely by AMR and involved rock climbing to the patient, stabilization of injuries and evacuation by a National Guard Blackhawk. The last mission occurred in the month of August and was for a man who took a leader fall on a low angle granite slope subsequently fracturing his leg. The notable event of this rescue was the 600-foot guiding line used to evacuate the patient from the top of the cliff face to the canyon floor.

Currently AMR is 32 members strong with seven rescue leaders. The last notable event of the year is that Jason Williams who after serving 6 years on the board, four of which as President, will be stepping down. Leigh Caswell has been elected President and will begin her 2 year term starting January 1<sup>st</sup>.

### Atalaya Search & Rescue

Atalaya (Sante Fe, NM) has had a slow summer and fall with only about half a dozen missions; down from a typical year of close to 20.

Of those missions we've had this year, the most notable was a complicated mission that occurred at the time our state police helicopter went down early in June. The pilot and the subject (it occurred at the beginning of a routine lost hiker mission.) died after crashing.

The weather was terrible, with a late season cascade-like storm and wet heavy snow. Working alongside AMR, teams were challenged to the max by these conditions with multiple members experiencing mild hypothermia. Luckily, the helicopter's observer was recovered alive by a team from our brothers in Albuquerque. Another long mission was a search for a lost hunter in October. No find despite weeks of ground and dog team effort. Subject is presumed deceased.

While this was an otherwise quiet year, we continue to work to maintain our MRA regional standards. We have conducted much medical training, with 6 new WFR's, 13 CPR's, and a paramedic recertification, while adding a new nurse practitioner and a couple of new EMT's to the team. Additionally, technical trainings remain continuously ongoing.



## Mountain Rescue Association Rocky Mountain Region

- **Crested Butte Search & Rescue**

Crested Butte 2009 missions number 20 so far, which included lost hikers, and skiers injured hikers, backcountry skiers (our second most popular flavor), snowmobilers, cyclists, and injured ATV riders (our most popular flavor). We had an interesting mutual aid mission call with WSCMR involving an injured skier on Cinnamon Mountain in the upper Slate River drainage during late spring and a noteworthy mission assisting WSCMRT to take them in to a Nordic Hut for a cardiac arrest (and subsequent body recovery).

- **Douglas County SAR:**

The Douglas County Search and Rescue Team has 45 active members. So far, during 2009 we participated in 94 search and rescue missions (compared with 105 in 2008) including backcountry and urban searches, back country rescue missions, and 13 out of county assists (searches and rescues). A new memorandum of understanding (MOU) was signed with the county sheriff this summer.

We will run for re-accreditation during April of 2010 with peer teams from across the region coming in to help us to prepare and then evaluate us. We also have begun working more closely with neighboring teams to create mutual aid responses, including overhead teams for out of county responses. A new Medical Advisor has also begun work to coordinate medical response capabilities along with two other region teams.

### **Eldorado Canyon State Park**

September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2009: A climber leading "Ruper" (5.8) on Redgarden Wall got his knee stuck in a crack and was unable to free himself. His climbing partner down-climbed the Lower Ramp and reported the incident at the park entrance. Rescuers ascended the Lower Ramp to reach the stuck climber. Rescuers cut the victim's pants, used soap for lubricant, and set a pulley system to create an upward force, freeing the victim's knee from the crack. The victim was uninjured. He rappelled to the ground and left the park in a private vehicle. Rescuers cleared the scene about 2.5 hours after the incident was reported.

August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2009: At about 1430 hours a 33 year old woman fell and injured her ankle while hiking the Eldorado Canyon Trail. Rescuers splinted the victim's ankle, loaded her into a wheel equipped litter, and brought her down the trail. The victim refused an ambulance and left the park in a private vehicle. The incident took about one hour.

August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2009: A four year old boy fell while scrambling on rocks along the Fowler Trail. He briefly lost consciousness and briefly had difficulty breathing. A park ranger and Rocky Mountain Fire Authority evaluated the victim and determined he did not need to go to the hospital. The incident comprised about 40 minutes.



## Mountain Rescue Association Rocky Mountain Region

July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009: At 1600 hours seven hikers, ranging from 9 to 16 years of age, were reported overdue from returning from their hike. Other than the ages of the overdue hikers, there were no other exigent circumstances (medical condition, weather, etc.). When the hikers had not returned by 1800 hours a search was launched. At about 1830 hours five of the overdue hikers arrived back at the trailhead. At about 1850 hours a rescuer found the two remaining overdue hikers about one mile from the trailhead. Another rescuer hiked in another pair of shoes for one the overdue hikers who had damaged the flip-flop sandals she was wearing. They arrived back at the trailhead at 1930 hours. The incident comprised about 1.5 hours.

May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2009: At about 1500 hours a 38 year old male rappelled off uneven and unknotted rope-ends while descending Blackwalk (5.10) on Redgarden Wall. The victim fell about twenty-five feet after the short end of the rope pulled through his rappel device. The victim sustained injuries to his lower left leg, his hands and his face. He was treated on scene by rescuers and, with assistance from rescuers he walked to the parking lot and was taken by private vehicle to the hospital. The incident took about 45 minutes.

### ▪ **El Paso County Search & Rescue:**

2009 has been a busy and productive year for El Paso County Search and Rescue. EPCSAR has experienced a large number of missions, with over 200 requests for service resulting in over 135 responses. Those missions demonstrate a trend towards parity between searches and rescues, while in the past we conducted more search than rescue missions.

Our missions include both high angle and low angle rescues, lost person searches (hikers, runners, campers, hunters and four wheelers), medical situations ranging from hypothermia, to falls, to lightning strikes, rescues of stranded motorists both in our wilderness area and during blizzards on the plains, downed aircraft searches, a Personal Locator Beacon search, winter rescues, evidence searches, and a variety of other missions.

EPCSAR's members continue to maintain a high level of proficiency and readiness. The team operates its own First Responder training classes in accordance with the American Safety and Health Institute (ASHI) certified medical training program; the program successfully completed a 2009 audit. We remain in compliance with Mountain Rescue Association (MRA) 105.1 and National Fire Protective Association (NFPA) 1670 standards, along with NASAR standards for canine resources. Documented standards ensure proficiency and a system exists for leadership development and growth.

The team enjoys an extensive information technology infrastructure that supports documentation of missions, trainings, and other team activities. This infrastructure provides for dissemination of operational information resulting in improved mission response. In addition, during the past year the team has focused on tripling the number of mission coordinators to reduce this individual burden and to support our long-term sustainability objectives and operational plan.



## Mountain Rescue Association Rocky Mountain Region

In 2009 the team received grants to purchase a new squad truck and two all terrain vehicles known as Polaris RZR (razors). These assets improve our ability to deploy our members and provide a quicker and more efficient response on certain trails and jeep roads. The RZR's carry two members, allowing a more rapid deployment of a rescuer/medic along with team gear to an incident.

The fundraising team also secured grants for a new rescue vehicle (replacing our 1997 rescue vehicle) and for needed repairs to our building. Working with the Sheriff's Office, we obtained additional radio and medical equipment, along with a standby generator for our rescue base. This is part of a concerted capital improvement plan created and supported by the fundraising team.

The team's role has expanded to provide greater support to the El Paso County Incident Management Team for a variety of missions extending beyond search and rescue. The team also helps staff the county Emergency Operations Center and works closely with our Sheriff's Office and its various divisions. During the year the team has focused on strengthening our incident command structure and employing best practices from other public service agencies. In addition, we have been able to strengthen our relationship with several local agencies and recently helped host a weeklong combined test with the United States Disaster Relief Corps.

EPCSAR looks forward to a busy 2010 with the goals of continual improvement through training, process improvement and team growth.

Dated: December 19, 2009: For Further Information Contact: Larry Dunn, Operations Director, El Paso County Search and Rescue. Email: [Operations@epcsar.org](mailto:Operations@epcsar.org)

- **Grand County SAR:**

Grand County SAR missions will most likely be somewhat down for the year. We have been averaging about 50 call outs and it looks like we will come in at about 40 for the year. Our most significant mission was an unsuccessful three day search along the Colorado River for a drowned rafter/fisherman. He floated downstream about 10 days after our search ended.

Our current Field Director, Greg Foley, received a 30 Years of Service certificate at the Mt Hood Conference. We lost 10 year veteran and IC Patricia Hesch to a job change, but our roster is looking good right now with some promising up and coming Field Ready and Support Members.

- **Grand Teton National Park Rescue Team:**

No Report Submitted

- **Mountain Rescue Aspen**

No Report Submitted



## Mountain Rescue Association Rocky Mountain Region

- **Park County Search and Rescue**

Park County Search and Rescue had 38 missions. Mutual Aid assists out of county were 9. We have logged 1156 man-hours.

- **Rocky Mountain National Park:**

No Report Submitted

- **Rocky Mountain Rescue Group:**

As of mid-December, RMRG had been called out on 140 incidents, including 32 call outs in July alone. Of the total for the year, seven were outside of Boulder County – slightly less than is typical. Membership remains strong, at roughly 60 members.

Additional highlights for 2009 include:

- Two long time members retired: Will Crary (37 years of service) and Steve Poulsen (35 years of service).
- We brought a new rescue truck into service.  
Our strong, ongoing equipment and rescue system testing program continued, with results presented at ITRS.
- We participated in three re-accreditation tests within the Rocky Mountain Region.
- We participated in a large, nine-agency county search and rescue exercise.
- While our missions this year included several vertical evacuations and several Tyrolean high lines, the most memorable event may have been a vertical evacuation of an injured concertgoer at a bluegrass festival who had fallen while scrambling up a steep rock face behind the stage; the entire rescue took place in full view of the audience, in the glare of stage lights, and all while the live music continued.

- **Routt County SAR**

For 2009, RCSAR has received 63 calls to date with one of our busiest 2 week periods (Dec. 16 - 31) still to come. This is the team's second highest call volume on record and it breaks down to 24 rescues, 35 searches, 3 standbys and 1 recovery!! All totaled, we assisted 81 people.

Routt County quietly celebrated its 40th "official" year with a retrospective article and video, compliments of the local newspaper, featuring our founder Marc Satre and then with our annual fundraiser and community thank you on Sept. 11, 2009.

The team also suffered a great deal of heart ache as it came together to deal with 5 fatalities and its first true swift water mission. The most difficult being the Green mission in June involving a local mother and her 8 year old son. This was the longest ongoing mission in 40 years and it left us physically exhausted as well as emotionally and mentally drained. We extend a well deserved thank you to Summit County for their assistance on this mission and to Grand County for being there to back us up on other missions during that time period.



## Mountain Rescue Association Rocky Mountain Region

Lastly, the team purchased (for the 2nd time) 2500 whistles as part of our Children's Education Programs. These whistles are handed out to every child in the county during parades, on Halloween and at annual safety programs such as Hug-A-Tree.

### ▪ **Summit County Search & Rescue:**

The Summit County Rescue Group had a good year, posting strong donation levels despite the weak economy. As of December 9th we had run 50 all-call missions for 2009, eight of them mutual aid calls.

Paul Johnson, one of our founding fathers and still an active member at the age of 70, won an MRA award for distinguished service and was recognized at the Juno conference, as well as, by our team here at home. SCRG President Brian Binge's wife gave birth to their second child, Cash Ferrington Binge, on March 7th

We ran a very successful avalanche deployment mass drill in February, with over ten participating agencies including other Colorado rescue groups and ski patrols, our Sheriff's Office and Flight for Life. The event was covered extensively by the local and regional media. .

In February, both VMR (Vail Mountain Rescue) and SCRG received 911 calls for a missing female snowmobiler on Vail Pass. The woman was found in a ravine by a VMR team, and she had suffered such extensive injuries that her condition has served as a medical case study for SCRG this year. She was packaged and evacuated by both teams and flown to Denver, where to everyone's surprise, she survived.

In August, an approximately 240-pound man died of a coronary event at an elevation of 14,000 feet on Quandary Peak. VMR and Alpine Rescue Team both responded to our mutual aid call to help recover the body, without which the strenuous eight-hour effort would have been even longer and more difficult.

### ▪ **Vail Mountain Rescue Group:**

Vail Mountain Rescue is finishing the year with 76 missions completed to date. A detailed spreadsheet is attached with our training/ mission/ PSAR hours as of December 8, 2009.

Of note, VMRG ran a successful first-ever recruitment academy in June. The initial field of 60 applicants was whittled down to a "freshman" class of 15 new members and a list of additional resource members available for larger/ multi-day missions. We plan on making the academy an annual affair and will host the next one in the spring/ summer of 2010.

VMRG had members in attendance at both the January MRA Winter Meeting and the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary MRA Conference in June. Scott Sutton and Tim Cochrane both traveled to Alaska last spring to assist with A/R exercises. Scott has continued to be active on the MRA Honor Guard and we've had two members –Doug Schofield (outgoing) and Steve Zuckerman (incoming) – involved on the MRA Rocky Mountain Region board.



## Mountain Rescue Association Rocky Mountain Region

Vail Pass is bisected by the county line for both Eagle and Summit counties so during the winter months we see a few joint missions with Summit County Rescue Group. One such mission was a successful find of a seriously-injured snowmobiler who had crashed down a small ravine near Turkey Creek in February. SCRG sent teams in from the I-70 side of Vail Pass while VMRG sent teams in from the Camp Hale area near Hwy 24. Subject was located shortly before dark and evacuated to the hospital for further medical attention. It was the opinion of both teams that she would not have survived the night out. Because our teams work together frequently during the winter months, we try to meet and/ or train together at least once a year in the Vail Pass area. Last spring, our joint training was held in March. Mission coordinators and board members from both teams just met again this past week to prepare for the coming season and are scheduling another joint training in the spring.

- **Western State College Mountain Rescue Team:**

(WSCMRT) has run 24 missions so far this year. WSCMRT had a busy summer and fall with injured hikers and missing hunters.

The most notable mission was a mutual aid call with Crested Butte SAR involving an injured skier on Cinnamon Mountain in the upper Slate River drainage during late spring. A couple of CBSAR members accessed the patient at 11,000' via Life Guard 3 helicopter. WSCMRT members carried in gear 2 miles across steep terrain to assist with packaging and evacuating the patient. The patient, a male in his early 20's, had a severe head injury from falling over a large rock outcrop the night before. Using ice axes as anchors, rescuers lowered the patient in a SKED over 1800' of steep snow and loose scree down to the snow-bridged valley bottom. Life Guard 3 was able to land on a gravel bar between snow bridges on the Slate River about a mile downstream. More members of CBSAR arrived on foot, and after a dicey stream crossing, rescuers successfully delivered the patient to the helicopter where he was flown to the hospital. Another great joint effort between CBSAR and WSCMRT!

In mid November we hosted our annual Avalanche Awareness Night at Western State College, featuring speakers from the Crested Butte Avalanche Center and Crested Butte Ski Patrol. We've received many generous donations this year, and we have just sent out a Direct Mailer to Gunnison area homeowners to aid in our fund raising effort.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard L. P. Solosky  
Region Chairman, Rocky Mountain Region

# COMMITTEE REPORTS



**MOUNTAIN RESCUE ASSOCIATION  
BUSINESS MEETING**

MRA Communications and Marketing Committee Report – Jan 2010  
(Submitted by Dan Land)

This report will combine two committees with similar goals: The Communications and Marketing Committee and the Internal Communication committee. This report and future reports will be under the MRA Communications and Marketing Committee.

The committee's responsibility and goal for the 2010 will be four-fold:

1. To define each Team delegate's responsibility.
2. To define and publish the benefits of MRA membership via the Meridian publication and on the MRA website.
3. Assure that all MRA members are on the MRA Admin Lister and receiving critical information.
4. Promote the MRA website and the Meridian to the Mountain Rescue community.

We will be relying heavily on the Team delegates and the Region officers to help achieve our goals.

MRA Membership benefits include:

- Access to the MRA website [www.mra.org](http://www.mra.org)
  - About the MRA
  - Member Services
  - Member Teams & International Teams
  - Training & Education
  - Sponsors
  - Links
- Access to the MRA Administrative Lister for critical communications.
- Access to the MRA General Lister for Information exchange.
- Access to the MRA's publication the "Meridian" (published quarterly).
- Access to MRA "forum" topics.
- Access to Training Programs.
- Pro deals.
- MRA Small Stores.
- Access to the MRA Honor Guard.
- Regional, National, and World updates regarding Mountain SAR.
- MRA annual conferences:
  - New equipment.
  - New methods/different methods.
  - Training.
  - Network and Socialize.
- Partnership with other Mountain Rescue groups:
  - National Association for Search & Rescue "NASAR"
  - International Commission for Alpine Rescue "IKAR"
  - International Technical Rescue Symposium "ITRS"
  - National Park Service "NPS"
- Access to MRA committee information and findings.

- Accreditation & periodic re-accreditation of member teams.
- Over 2000 members strong representing eight Regions and 100 teams.
- Influential in pending and/or approved Legislation regarding Mountain SAR.

Committee members include: Dan Land (Chair), Jenny Holm, Cindy England, Fran Sharp, Monty Bell, Tim Kovacs, Doug Wessen, Glen Henderson and Brian Duffy.



## MOUNTAIN RESCUE ASSOCIATION

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

**To:** MRA Membership  
**From:** Charley Shimanski, Education Director  
**Date:** December 20, 2009  
**Subject:** MRA Education Committee Report

### MRA EDUCATIONAL TRAINING REDESIGN

As mentioned in previous reports, the majority of MRA educational manuals have been redesigned to include a graphics overhaul, full color covers and photography throughout the inside.

Thanks to Neil VanDyke, each of the new modules is available on the MRA Web Site.

### MRA TRADE SHOW EXHIBITS COMPLETED

A reminder that the MRA now has three new portable trade show banners based on the theme of "Courage. Commitment. Compassion." They premiered at the Spring Meeting in Stowe, and were shipped to California for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of China Lake Mountain Rescue Group.

The banners can be transported collectively in a solid case, or can be sent individually in their canvas carrying cases. These banners are intended to be available for teams to use for special functions, and for the MRA to use at national conferences such as the National Association of Search and Rescue.

### MRA TRI-FOLD BROCHURE

In Stowe, the MRA approved \$1,000 in expenses to develop a Tri-fold brochure. This effort was not completed by year's end, and is on hold pending other strategic initiatives. If this project does move forward, we must recall that the only funds approved were for the graphics design. As such, we'll need to consider allocating funds for the actual printing of the brochure in the future

## MRA PRESENCE AT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

At the ITRS conference in November, I presented a comical keynote after-dinner talk about charging for rescue. Absolutely nobody in the audience learned anything, but a few laughs were had – which was the intent.

I have been invited to represent the MRA at *SAR 2010*, the International SAR Conference in Aberdeen Scotland.

As always, we would like to hear of any other ideas from the MRA membership. If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions, please contact me at [Shimanski@speedtrail.net](mailto:Shimanski@speedtrail.net) or at 303-909-9348.

Thanks.

## FEDERAL COORDINATION WORKING GROUP

Mike Vorachek

### FEMA NIMS SAR WG

The FEMA National Incident Management System (NIMS) SAR Working Group met on October 29-30 for the first time this year. It represents my first meeting as the MRA Representative; although Tim Kovacs has been involved with the WG since its inception. A summary report was provided in the Meridian. We are awaiting the publishing of the credentialing requirements for SAR responders in the Federal Register. There will be a 30 day public comment period and we expect that our next meeting will be some time in 2010 to examine and resolve those comments.

I participated in the FEMA Region X NIMS Resource Typing (RT) and Credentialing conference call on November 18th and the Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security NIMS Working Group conference call on December 16<sup>th</sup>. I found it interesting to listen to the various perspectives on these topics. I think it is fair to say that there is not a lot of agreement on how the requirements are going to be implemented. All of the FEMA documents related to RT and Credentialing are in initial draft form. My opinion is that it will be between 1 – 2 years before we see this take hold at a local level.

We will send out information to the MRA membership as soon as we receive word that the various standards that we have been working on are set to be published in the Federal Register. That will be the optimal time for teams and individual members or other stakeholders to provide their input.

### NPS COORDINATION

We have been in periodic contact with Mr. Dean Ross, the new Chief of Emergency Services for the National Park Service. Charlie Shimanski met with him on one of his trips to Washington DC. I have had several phone conversations with him and both Tim and I had several conversations with him at the NIMS SAR WG meeting.

The NPS has issued a series of Position Task Books (PTBs) that describe the skills, knowledge, and abilities (SKAs) expected of SAR responders. These are going to be their standards for NPS personnel, as well as other SAR responders who are paid under their NPS Administrative Pay Plan by for major incident responses under their authority. Their approach for SAR is similar to that currently utilized for wildland fires.

### NSARC CI PLAN

The National Search and Rescue Committee (NSARC) has issued the Catastrophic Incident Annex to the National SAR Plan. The CI Annex outlines the federal response to major events. According to Mr. Ross, the plan has been significantly restructured to place more authority and responsibility for state level coordination.

### PLANNED ACTIVITIES

We should see the initial planning at the local government level for rolling out the FEMA NIMS RT and Credentialing initiatives. The 2010 (and beyond) training plans will begin to transition from the ICS 300 and 400 courses to those necessary to train and qualify the Incident Command System General Staff and other designated leaders.

We should see some movement forward on the training for the first level leaders such as Strike Team or Task Force Leaders and Squad Leaders and Managers. These are going to be the first designated leaders for SAR resource elements. We will continue to use the MRA list serves and MERIDIAN to keep you informed.

Mountain Rescue Association 

# IKAR COMMITTEE REPORT

International Commission for Alpine Rescue



# IKAR-CISA

## 2009

### BACKGROUND

IKAR (Internationale Kommission für alpines Rettungswesen), also known as ICAR, is a gathering of mountain rescue practitioners, which offers an unparalleled international forum where information on mountain rescue is openly shared. Rescuer delegates from member countries gather annually in Europe for a meeting to discuss and observe techniques, recent research, lessons learned and improved equipment designs.

In 1948 "Wilder Kaiser" organized the first meeting of mountain rescuers through the Austrian Alpine Association (Österreichischer Alpenverein), which led to the birth of the IKAR. At the time of IKAR's beginning there were specialists attending from Austria, France, South Tyrol, Germany and Switzerland. IKAR now has membership from representatives of 30 national mountain rescue organizations in Europe, North America, South America, South Africa and Asia.

### 2009 CONFERENCE

The four sub-commissions of IKAR include Air Rescue, Avalanche, Medical and Terrestrial. The sub-commissions meet together annually during early Fall, in a European country. This year's meeting was in Zermatt, Switzerland on September 23-26. This conference was organized by the regional rescue organization, the Valais Mountain Rescue Service.

### USA ATTENDING DELEGATES

- Air Rescue- Ken Phillips was unable to attend and was represented by Tim Kovacs
- Avalanche- Dale Atkins
- Terrestrial- Dan Hourihan
- Medical- Dr. Ken Zafren

Detailed reports from each of the delegates have been formally prepared and posted to the MRA website at <http://www.mra.org/training/ikar.php>

These provide an accurate insight and report of the information presented within each commission. Rather than repeat the content of these reports, the reader is advised to review each of these technical reports. *Note- as of this date, the Avalanche Commission Report is still forthcoming from Dale Atkins*

Although not official MRA IKAR delegates, Rick Lorenz and Matt Lorenz have produced an IKAR DVD for the second year. This project has been well received and recently Goodrich Hoist & Winch has committed additional financial support to underwrite reproduction of the DVD for copies to be distributed with the MRA community. Information on this product is available through <http://www.topographmedia.com/>

A formal presentation on the 2009 IKAR Conference was provided by Ken Phillips to attendees at the International Technical Rescue Symposium (ITRS) in Pueblo, CO on November 7, 2009. Although scheduled to attend, Dan Hourihan and Dale Atkins were unable to be present. This presentation provided an airing of the IKAR DVD and presentation on recent helicopter rescue accidents. This session was very well received by the participants.

### **IKAR GOVERNING BODY**

The IKAR president summarized the 2009 theme of Disaster Response by reiterating the value of mountain rescue team skills integrated in a multi-agency, coordinated response. He further stated that the major current challenge to mountain rescue was the governmental development of standards and regulations affecting mountain rescue operations. He stated that mountain rescue must be involved in the development of any standards and regulations and they must not restrict the flexibility so necessary in actual field operations.

It is important to see that the same issues relating to standards and regulations affecting rescuers in the United States also affect their counterparts across the globe. Having the Mountain Rescue Association stay involved with IKAR provides insight for rescue teams well beyond the confines of their response area. When a foreign rescuer has a close call or wants to share a critical lesson learned IKAR is the format to reach the global mountain rescue community.

### **FINANCES**

Personnel involved in the MRA IKAR Program work hard to keep the direct financial impact to the organization to a minimum. The USA delegates pay for their expenses out of pocket and seek reimbursement based upon their personal needs and the availability of contributions provided to the MRA IKAR Fund. The USA IKAR delegation has obtained major financial support by CMC Rescue, Goodrich Hoist & Winch and RECCO. A final accounting of all expenses relating to the IKAR Fund has not been completed as of this date.

The 2010 IKAR Congress is scheduled to be held in Slovakia on October 5-8, 2010.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "KEN PHILLIPS". The letters are stylized and slanted to the right.

Ken Phillips, Committee Chairperson  
Grand Canyon National Park, AZ

Date: December 9, 2009

Mountain Rescue Association

Medical Committee Report

January 2010

This report covers the period from June 2009 to January 2010.

Current active MedCom members include:

Skeet Glatterer , Chairman , [glatterer@comcast.net](mailto:glatterer@comcast.net)

Ken Zafren , Immediate Past Chairman , [zafren@alaska.com](mailto:zafren@alaska.com)

Tim Kovacs , [tkovacs@cox.net](mailto:tkovacs@cox.net)

Chris Van Tilburg , [VanTilburg@gorge.net](mailto:VanTilburg@gorge.net)

Tim Burdick , [timothy.e.burdick.89@alum.dartmouth.org](mailto:timothy.e.burdick.89@alum.dartmouth.org)

Mike Vorachek , [mtnsar@cableone.net](mailto:mtnsar@cableone.net)

The MedCom has been actively rebuilding by both adding active members and attempting to select items to be posted on the MRA website for use as team and personal resources for medical information.

We are also reviewing the advisability of creating suggested specific minimal medical training guidelines for MRA members. This would make us stronger as an organization and in the realm of public perception, as well as strengthening our position with upcoming FEMA intervention. It would also put us more inline with international guidelines for medical training with mountain rescue groups.

ICAR Medical Committee:

Ken Zafren, long time delegate to the ICAR MedCom, and Tim Kovacs alternate ICAR MedCom delegate , both attended the annual meeting of the International Commission for Alpine Rescue in Zermatt, Switzerland in October of 2009 to represent the MRA. They were gracious enough to facilitate my participation as an invited guest at the meeting. Dr. Zafren's report on the ICAR meeting, the ICAR MedCom meeting, and the concurrent Second International Symposium on Accidental Hypothermia may be found on the MRA website.

The ICAR meeting is limited to delegates and invited guests. If you have difficulty accessing the ICAR report, or have suggestions or input about future meetings, please contact Ken Zafren or Tim Kovacs.

New Publications:

Zafren K, O'Malley J, Mills WJ. Frostbite and Other Cold Injuries (3rd edition). Educational Presentation Series. Wilderness Medical Society. 2008.

Zafren K, Feldman J, Becker RJ, Williams SR, Weiss EA. D-dimer is not elevated in asymptomatic high altitude climbers. Abstract presented at Hypoxia Symposium 2009, Lake Louise, Alberta, 2009.

Sumann G, Paal P, Mair P, Ellerton J et al. Fluid management in traumatic shock: a practical approach for mountain rescue. *High Alt Med Biol* 10(1):71-75, 2009.

Zafren K, Thurman RJ, Jones, I. Environmental Conditions. In: Knoop KJ, Storrow AB, Stack LB, Thurman RJ (editors) *The Atlas of Emergency Medicine* (third edition). McGraw-Hill: New York, 487-532, 2009.

Wilkerson JA, Moore EE, Zafren K (editors). *Medicine for Mountaineering and Other Wilderness Activities* (sixth edition). The Mountaineers Books, Seattle 2009 (In Press).

Zafren K. Frostbite and Nonfreezing Cold Injuries. In Förster H, Berghold F. *Mountain and High Altitude Medicine*. Austrian Society for Mountain and High Altitude Medicine, Kaprun, Austria 2010 (In Press).

Zafren K. High altitude Illness. In David S (editor) *Textbook of Emergency Medicine*. Wolters Kluwer Health India, New Delhi 2010 (In Press).

Cauchy E, Zafren K. Frostbite. In David S (editor) *Textbook of Emergency Medicine*. Wolters Kluwer Health India, New Delhi 2010 (In Press).

Zafren K. *Textbook of Emergency Medicine*. Wolters Kluwer Health India, 2010  
Section Editor-Environmental Medicine Chapter

Zafren K. Appointed to Scientific Advisory Committee, Institute of Mountain Emergency Medicine  
European Academy Bozen/Bolzano, Italy

Burdick T. *Outdoor Injuries I: Musculoskeletal*. Wilderness Medical Society Community Education Series, Salt Lake City, UT. In press.

Burdick T. Evidence-based medicine for Vermont search and rescue. *Family Medicine Grand Rounds*. University of Vermont College of Medicine, Burlington, VT. 2009.

Burdick T. Evidence-based management of wilderness trauma. *Wilderness Medical Society Annual Meeting*, Snowmass, CO. 2009.

Van Tilburg C. Sidecountry Rescue: Who should respond-Ski Patrol or Mountain Rescue?  
Presentation: Wilderness Medical Society, July, Snowmass, CO  
MRA Annual Meeting, June, Mt. Hood  
Far West Division, National Ski Patrol, March  
Publication Pending: *Backcountry Magazine*  
Wilderness and Environmental medicine

Upcoming Meetings:

Wilderness Medical Society: Wilderness and Mountain Medicine  
Feb. 19-24 , 2010 , Park City, UT

Wilderness Medical Society: Conference and Annual Meeting  
July 23-28 ,2010 Snowmass,CO

Wilderness Medical Society: Dive, Marine and Travel Medicine Conference  
Oct. 30 – Nov. 3 ,2010 Maui , HI [www.wms.org](http://www.wms.org)

International Hypoxia Symposia: Feb: 15-20 , 2011 Chateau Lake Louise , Alberta ,  
Canada [www.hypoxia.net](http://www.hypoxia.net)

International Society for Mountain Medicine: World Congress of Mountain Medicine  
Aug. 8-12 ,2010 , Rescue Day Aug. 13 , Arequipa ,  
Peru [www.ismmed.org](http://www.ismmed.org)

ICAR Annual Meeting: MedCom Meeting Oct.. 2010 Slovakia [www.ikar-cisa.org](http://www.ikar-cisa.org)

Submitted for your approval by,

Skeet Glatterer , MD  
Chairman , MedCom  
[Glatterer@comcast.net](mailto:Glatterer@comcast.net)  
303-880-9922 cell



**THE MOUNTAIN RESCUE ASSOCIATION**  
MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

**TO:** BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
**FROM:** MONTY BELL, MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN  
**DATE:** JANUARY 1, 2010  
**SUBJECT:** MRA MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT 6/21/09 – 1/01/10

**Unresolved Business**

None at this time.

**Membership Status Change (Action Required)**

After meeting all the accreditation requirements of the MRA and the California Region, the Membership Committee recommends **Contra Costa County Search and Rescue** to Regular Member.

**New Memberships Pending (Action Required)**

After meeting the requirements for membership into the MRA and with the recommendation of the Desert Mountain Region, it is this Committees recommendation to accept **Coconino County Sheriff's Search and Rescue** into the MRA as an Associate Member

**Reaccreditation Standings (No Action)**

Hood River Crag Rats has expired in Search as of June 09  
 Deschutes County Search and Rescue will expire in Search and Snow as of January 2010

**Please check the reaccreditations report for further details on your team's expiration dates. Reminder to ALL REGION CHAIRS to report all reaccreditations/accreditation changes directly to the Membership Chairman, Monty Bell at [rescue89@att.net](mailto:rescue89@att.net)**

**Delinquent Dues (Action Required)**

Please review Report by Kayley Trujillo

## **National Pro Deals**

As a reminder we currently have National Pro Deal with **Black Diamond, Patagonia, Railrider, Marmot, Maptech, Liberty Mountain** and **Mammut** to name a few. You may also sign up for **Colorado Mountain Works [www.comountainworks.com](http://www.comountainworks.com)** as well as **Outdoor Prolink [www.outdoorprolink.com](http://www.outdoorprolink.com)** which have made arrangements to accept our members into their pro deal programs. You may find details of these prodeals on the MRA website under the Member Services>Members Only> Forum>Prodeal If this is your first time logging in you will need to obtain the general password and username from your Team's MRA Representative. You will then need to login using that information to obtain your personal login as well.

Some of these Prodeals do expire as our initial contacts in these departments leave and reestablishment must take place. When we are notified of such a change we make every attempt to contact the new person in charge however sometimes that does not always work. We make every effort to keep these prodeals up to date however there are times when they expire without any warning and we apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

## **MRA Exposure at SAR Events**

The Membership Committee continues to attend SAR Conferences and events to promote MRA membership and its benefits. We regularly attend the California State SAR Coordinators at the request of the California Emergency Management Agency. If you would like us to attend an event in your region or would like to arrange to display our booth please feel free to contact me at [rescue89@att.net](mailto:rescue89@att.net)

## **Inquires to MRA Membership**

Since our June meeting we had no inquires

## **International Search and Rescue**

For those individual members that are interested in participating in international search and rescue operations may contact 1<sup>st</sup> SRG, Associate Member at [www.1srg.org](http://www.1srg.org) or email directly at [info@1srg.org](mailto:info@1srg.org)

## **Important Info**

**It is very important that All REGIONS inform the Membership Chair AND the MRA Executive Secretary of any changes in Region Chairs and their contact information. Any changes in reaccreditation standings must be reported to the Membership Chair directly.**

It is the goal of this committee to bring on new applicants that meet the criteria of the Mountain Rescue Association and to facilitate a smooth application procedure. If anyone has teams that they would like us to contact feel free to call on me.

Monty Bell  
Membership Chairman  
[Rescue89@att.net](mailto:Rescue89@att.net)  
(619) 884-9456



**THE MOUNTAIN RESCUE ASSOCIATION**  
**REACCREDITATION REPORT**  
**1/01/10**

<u>Region</u>	<u>Team Name</u>	<u>Member</u>	<u>Search</u>	<u>Rock</u>	<u>Snow</u>
Alaska	Alaska Mountain Rescue Group	Full	Apr-10	Apr-10	Apr-10
Alaska	Denali National Park Rescue Team	Ex-Off	-	-	-
Alaska	Juneau Mountain Rescue	Full	Apr-14	Apr-14	Apr-14
Alaska	Sitka Mountain Rescue	Full	Apr-12	Apr-12	Apr-12
Appal.	Acadia National Park	Ex-Off	-	-	-
Appal.	Allegheny Mountain Rescue Group	Full	May-14	May-14	Mar-14
Appal.	Central Jersey Technical Rescue	Assoc.	-	-	-
Appal.	Lower Kiski Search and Rescue	Assoc.	-	-	-
Appal.	Maryland Search & Rescue Group	Full	<b>June-10*</b>	<b>June-10*</b>	<b>June-10*</b>
Appal.	National Park Service	Ex-Off	-	-	-
Appal.	New Jersey Search and Rescue Rope Team	Full	May-13	May-13	May-13
Appal.	New York State Forest Rangers	Ex-Off	-	-	-
Appal.	Stowe Mountain Rescue	Full	May-14	May-14	Feb-14
Appal.	United States Park Police, Aviation Div.	Ex-Off	-	-	-
Appal.	USAF Rescue Coordination Center	Ex-Off	-	-	-
Appal.	White Oak Search and Rescue	Assoc.	-	-	-
<b>*NOTE</b>	<b>BOD GRANTED EXTENSION 6/09</b>				
CA	Altadena Mountain Rescue Team	Full	Mar-12	Mar-13	Mar-11
CA	Bay Area Mountain Rescue Team	Full	Mar-12	Mar-13	Mar-14
CA	California Emergency Management Agency	Ex-Off	-	-	-
CA	China Lake Mountain Rescue Group	Full	Mar-12	Mar-13	Mar-14
CA	Contra Costa County Sherriff Search and Rescue	Assoc.	-	-	-
CA	1 <sup>st</sup> Special Response Group	Assoc.	-	-	-
CA	Inyo County Sheriff's Posse Search and Rescue	Full	Mar-13	Mar-13	Mar-14
CA	Joshua Tree Nat'l Monument Search and Rescue	Ex-Off	-	-	-
CA	Malibu Mountain Rescue Team	Full	Mar-12	Mar-13	Mar-11
CA	Marin County Sheriff's Search and Rescue Unit	Full	Mar-12	Mar-13	Mar-14
CA	Mono County Search and Rescue	Assoc.	-	-	-
CA	Monterey County Sheriff's Search and Rescue	Full	Mar-12	Mar-13	Mar-14
CA	Montrose Search & Rescue Team	Full	Mar-12	Mar-13	Mar-14
CA	Placer County Sheriff Mountain Rescue	Full	Mar-12	Mar-13	Mar-14
CA	Riverside Mountain Rescue Unit	Full	Mar-12	Mar-13	Mar-14
CA	San Bernardino Cave & Technical Rescue Tem	Full	Sept-11	Mar-14	Mar-14
CA	San Diego Mountain Rescue Team	Full	Mar-12	Mar-13	Mar-14

<u>Region</u>	<u>Team Name</u>	<u>Member</u>	<u>Search</u>	<u>Rock</u>	<u>Snow</u>
CA	San Dimas Mountain Rescue Team	Full	Mar-12	Mar-13	Mar-14
CA	Santa Barbara County Search & Rescue	Full	Mar-12	Mar-13	Mar-14
CA	Santa Clarita Valley Search and Rescue	Full	Mar-12	Mar-10	Mar-14
CA	Sequoia-Kings Canyon National Park	Ex-Off	-	-	-
CA	Sierra Madre Search & Rescue Team	Full	Mar-12	Mar-13	Mar-14
CA	Ventura County Search and Rescue Team	Full	Mar-12	Mar-13	Mar-14
CA	West Valley Search and Rescue	Full	Mar-12	Mar-14	Mar-14
CA	Wrightwood Search and Rescue	Assoc.	-	-	-
CA	Yosemite National Park Rescue Team	Ex-Off	-	-	-
Des. Mtn	AZ Dept Public Safety Air Rescue	Ex-Off	-	-	-
Des. Mtn	AZ Div. of Emergency Services	Ex-Off	-	-	-
Des. Mtn	Central Arizona Mountain Rescue Association	Full	May-14	Aug-14	Feb-13
Des. Mtn	Grand Canyon National Park	Ex-Off	-	-	-
Des. Mtn	Las Vegas Metro PD Search and Rescue	Full	Aug-13	Aug-13	Mar-13
Des. Mtn	Southern Arizona Rescue Association	Full	Oct-14	Oct-14	Feb-13
Inter-Mtn	Bonneville County Search and Rescue	Full	Jul-10	Jul-10	Mar-10
Inter-Mtn	Davis County Sheriff's Search and Rescue	Full	Jul-10	Jul-10	Mar-10
Inter-Mtn	Glacier National Park	Ex-Off	-	-	-
Inter-Mtn	Idaho Mountain Search & Rescue	Full	Jul-10	Jul-10	Mar-10
Inter-Mtn	Ravalli County Search and Rescue	Full	Jul-10	Jul-10	Mar-10
Inter-Mtn	Salt Lake Co Sheriff's Search and Rescue	Full	Jul-10	Jul-10	Mar-10
Inter-Mtn	San Juan County Search and Rescue	Ex-Off	-	-	-
Inter-Mtn	Utah County Sheriff's Search and rescue	Full	Jul-10	Jul-10	Mar-10
Inter-Mtn	Weber County Sheriff Mt Rescue	Full	Jul-10	Jul-10	Mar-10
Inter-Mtn	Zion National Park	Ex-Off	-	-	-
International	North Shore Rescue Team, Canada	Ex-Off	-	-	-
International	Rocky Mountain House Search and Rescue, Canada	Full	Apr-11	Apr-11	Apr-11
Oregon	Corvallis Mountain Rescue Unit	Full	Apr-11	Apr-11	Apr-11
Oregon	Deschutes County Search and Rescue	Full	<b>Jan-10**</b>	May-14	<b>Jan-10**</b>
Oregon	Eugene Mountain Rescue	Full	Apr-11	Apr-11	Apr-11
Oregon	Hood River Crag Rats	Full	<b>June-09*</b>	May-14	Apr-13
Oregon	Portland Mountain Rescue	Full	Apr-12	Apr-12	Apr-12
<b>**NOTE</b>	<b>BOD GRANTED EXTENSION 6/09</b>				
<b>*NOTE</b>	<b>BOD GRANTED EXTENSION 6/08</b>				
Rocky Mtn	Albuquerque Mountain Rescue Council	Full	Dec-12	Dec-12	Dec-12
Rocky Mtn	Alpine Rescue Team	Full	Dec-10	Dec-10	Dec-10
Rocky Mtn	Atalaya Search and Rescue	Full	Dec-12	Dec-12	Dec-12
Rocky Mtn	Crested Butte Search & Rescue	Full	Dec-11	Dec-11	Dec-11
Rocky Mtn	Douglas County Search and Rescue	Full	Dec-10	Dec-10	Dec-10
Rocky Mtn	El Paso County Search & Rescue	Full	Dec-11	Dec-11	Dec-11
Rocky Mtn	Eldorado Canyon State Park	Ex-Off	-	-	-
Rocky Mtn	Grand County Search & Rescue	Full	Dec-10	Dec-10	Dec-10
Rocky Mtn	Grand Teton National Park	Ex-Off	-	-	-
Rocky Mtn	Larimer County Search & Rescue	Full	Dec-14	Dec-14	Dec-14
Rocky Mtn	Mountain Rescue Aspen, Inc	Full	Dec-12	Dec-12	Dec-12
Rocky Mtn	Park County Search and Rescue	Assoc	-	-	-
Rocky Mtn	Rocky Mountain Rescue Group	Full	Dec-13	Dec-13	Dec-13
Rocky Mtn	Rocky Mountain National Park	Ex-Off	-	-	-
Rocky Mtn	Routt County Search and Rescue	Full	Dec-10	Dec-10	Dec-10

<u>Region</u>	<u>Team Name</u>	<u>Member</u>	<u>Search</u>	<u>Rock</u>	<u>Snow</u>
Rocky Mtn	Summit County Rescue Group	Full	Dec-13	Dec-13	Dec-13
Rocky Mtn	Vail Mountain Rescue Group	Full	Dec-11	Dec-11	Dec-11
Rocky Mtn	Western State Mountain Rescue Group	Full	Dec-14	Dec-14	Dec-14
WA	Bellingham Mountain Rescue Council	Full	Feb-12	Feb-12	Feb-12
WA	Central Washington Mountain Rescue	Full	Feb-12	Feb-12	Feb-12
WA	Everett Mountain Rescue Unit	Full	Feb-12	Feb-12	Feb-12
WA	Mt Rainier National Park	Ex-Off	-	-	-
WA	North Cascades National Park	Ex-Off	-	-	-
WA	Olympic Mountain Rescue	Full	Feb-12	Feb-12	Feb-12
WA	Olympic National Park	Ex-Off	-	-	-
WA	Seattle Mountain Rescue Council	Full	Feb-12	Feb-12	Feb-12
WA	Skagit Mountain Rescue	Full	Feb-12	Feb-12	Feb-12
WA	Tacoma Mountain Rescue Unit	Full	Feb-12	Feb-12	Feb-12
WA	Volcano Rescue Team	Full	Feb-12	Feb-12	Feb-12



**THE MOUNTAIN RESCUE ASSOCIATION**  
 OUT OF REGION  
 EVALUATORS  
 1/01/10

<u>Name/ Unit</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Search</u>	<u>Rock</u>	<u>Winter</u>	<u>WEMS</u>
Monty Bell, San Diego MRT	CA	x	x	x	x
Christopher Berryman, Tacoma MR	WA	x	x	x	
Tim Cochrane, Vail MRG	CO	x	x	x	x
Doug Fesler, AMRG	AK	x	x	x	
Rocky Henderson, Portland MRU	OR	x	x	x	
Dan Hourihan, AMRG	AK	x	x	x	x
Don Kluting, AMRG	AK	x	x	x	x
Tim Kovacs, CAMRA/ MCSO MR	AZ	x	x	x	x
Stephen Reese, Volcano RT	WA	x	x	x	x
Tom Sakai, China Lake MRG	CA	x	x	x	
Dick Sale, Sierra Madre SAR	CA	x	x	x	
Jeffrey Sharp, TMR	WA	x	x	x	
Paul Woodward, Alpine Rescue	CO	x	x	x	x
Ken Zafren, AMRG	AK	x	x	x	x
Fran Sharp, Tacoma MRT	WA	x	x	x	x
Richard Wire, Tacoma MRT	WA	x	x	x	x
Christopher Ruch	PA	x	x	x	x
Donald Scelza	PA	x	x	x	x
Scott Sutton	CO	x	x	x	



## MOUNTAIN RESCUE ASSOCIATION

### OFFICERS COMMITTEE

**To:** MRA Membership  
**From:** Charley Shimanski, President  
**Date:** December 20, 2009  
**Subject:** MRA Officers Committee Report

Since the 2009 Spring Business Meeting, the MRA Officers conducted monthly conference calls to discuss current projects.

The following topics were discussed, as the Officers worked to advance projects on behalf of the MRA:

1. MRA Book ("Mountains Don't Care, but We Do!") by Dee Molenaar
2. MRA History Film, by Rick Lorenz
3. IKAR delegate selection and funding
4. MRA Strategic Plan
5. The 2009 Winter Business Meeting
6. The "Meridian" and its transition to a full format newsletter
7. Resource typing and credentialing
8. SAR Teams software, and a beta test by several teams
9. Web Site modifications
10. MRA Sponsors, and sponsors to unaffiliated projects

Minutes to these calls are posted to the MRA ListServ by John Chang, MRA Secretary/Treasurer.

The MRA Officers will continue to hold monthly conference calls throughout 2010 in an effort to move these and other projects along.

If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions, please contact me at [Shimanski@speedtrail.net](mailto:Shimanski@speedtrail.net) or at 303-909-9348.

Thanks.



## MOUNTAIN RESCUE ASSOCIATION

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

**To:** MRA Membership  
**From:** Charley Shimanski, President/Public Relations Committee Chair  
**Date:** December 20, 2009  
**Subject:** MRA Public Relations Committee Report

### MRA MEDIA EFFORT

In the last six months of 2009, the MRA's public relations efforts heated up as the charge for rescue issue re-emerged in New Hampshire after the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department charged former Boy Scout Scott Mason \$25,000 for the search required when he was reported overdue by his family.

Since then, the MRA worked with media sources nationwide on the charge for rescue issue, including stories that appeared in USA Today, Outside Magazine, National Geographic Adventure and Associated Press, as well as several media sources in New Hampshire.

In addition, the winter search on Mt. Hood resulted in renewed media attention as the public and Oregon politicians renewed their argument that climbers should be required to carry Mountain Locator Units when climbing Mt. Hood. MRA echoed the argument made by Portland Mountain Rescue that requiring safety equipment for climbers might result in certain climbers taking greater risks, increasing the likelihood of rescues, and increasing the hazards to rescuers.

In December, I worked with a production team from the NBC Today Show, as they attended the Summit County (CO) Avalanche Rescue Symposium. The program will air some time this winter.

As always, we would like to hear of any other ideas from the MRA membership. If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions, please contact me at [Shimanski@speedtrail.net](mailto:Shimanski@speedtrail.net) or at 303-909-9348.

Thanks.

# PROJECT MANAGER REPORTS



**MOUNTAIN RESCUE ASSOCIATION  
BUSINESS MEETING**

**MRA STATISTICS**

Teams participating in 2008

[Submitted by Linda Finco]

December 14, 2009

**ALASKA REGION:**

Alaska MRG

Juneau Mountain Rescue, Inc

**APPALACHIAN REGION:**

Allegheny MRG

Stowe Hazardous Terrain Evacuation

**CALIFORNIA REGION:**

Bay Area MRU

China Lake MRG

Malibu MRT

Monterey County Sheriff's SAR

Montrose SART

Placer County Sheriff's SAR, MRT

Riverside MRU

San Bernardino. Co. Cave Rescue Team

San Bernardino County SO/ West Valley SAR

San Diego MRT

Santa Barbara County SAR

LASO - Santa Clarita Valley SAR

Sierra Madre SAR

Ventura County Sheriff SAR, East Valley

**DESERT MOUNTAIN REGION:**

Central Az MRA - MCSO MR

Southern Arizona Rescue Assn

**INTERMOUNTAIN REGION:**

Bonneville County SAR

Idaho Mountain SAR

Ravalli County SAR

Salt Lake County SO SAR

Utah County Sheriff's SAR

Weber County Sheriff's MR

**OREGON REGION:**

Corvallis MRU

Deschutes County Sheriff's SAR

Eugene MR

Portland MR

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION:**

Alpine RT

Douglas County Search and Rescue

Grand County SAR

Rocky Mountain Rescue Group

Routt County SAR

Summit County RG

Utah County Sheriff's Office SAR

Vail MRG

**WASHINGTON REGION:**

Everett MRU

Seattle MR

Tacoma MR

Thanks to all the teams that participated in 2008. It was one of our best years with submissions from 41 teams. We have a total of 93 agencies, so we still have a ways to go, but I appreciate the help from Charley Shimanski and all Region Chairs for helping to get their teams to participate. Please continue to encourage the teams in your Region to submit their annual statistics. If it has been a while since a team has filled out statistics, note that the form and data collected has been greatly simplified. I will also collect statistics in any format that your team uses, but please send a POC so I can get a clarification if needed. If a team cannot access or download the form on the MRA website, please email me at [fincolj@aol.com](mailto:fincolj@aol.com) and I will send the form.

## MRA STORES REPORT

January '10 Winter meeting

Submitted by Cindy Moyneur-England, Stores Manager

Primary orders continue to be for MRA stickers, patches, hats and logo T-shirts. There has been a recent increase in orders, possibly due to holiday gift giving.

New items which are scheduled to be added to inventory this season are a polypropylene-type logo shirt, and women's-cut T-shirt.

The CD History of the MRA has been selling fairly well, however we have not been selling Dee Molenaar's book "Mountains Don't Care, But We Do", likely due to the fact that it can be ordered directly from Mountaineers. These two items are offered to members at a reduced shipping rate, but are currently not advertised on the online Stores website. I am currently working with Mark Butler to add these 2 items to the Stores site at the lower S&H prices via an email link.

To summarize Stores policy, items can be ordered by MRA teams or individual MRA members. All proceeds from stores go into the MRA general account. The National-level Secretary and Treasurer Officers approve and finalize any new items which are added into stores. The shipping/handling fee is based on the dollar amount spent on items.

# LIAISON REPORTS



**MOUNTAIN RESCUE ASSOCIATION  
BUSINESS MEETING**

## ASTM Report MRA Dec 2009

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From:

John McKently <jmckently@earthlink.net>

...

View Contact

To: john chang <chang\_john@sbcglobal.net>

ASTM Committee F32 met November 8-9 immediately following ITRS in Pueblo Colorado. As has been the case for at least the last 10 years most of the participants are members of MRA teams.

Coming out for full committee ballot in the next cycle will be draft standards for Training a Level 1 Land Search Team Member (revised), Standard Test Method for Basket Type Litters, Specification for Anchorages in Rope Rescue Training Facilities there will be numerous subcommittee ballots proposed.

Committee officers elected for the next two year term are:

Chairman-Rob Womer

Vice Chair-John McKently

Secretary-Steve Bryant

Membership Secretary-Bruce Parker

Continuing subcommittee Chairs are:

F32 01 on Equipment- Loui McCurley

F32.02 on Management-Mike McDonald

F32.03 on Training-Rob Womer

It should be noted that with the exception of Rob Womer all of the members of the Executive Committee are members of MRA teams.

The Committee decided to break with tradition and will not be meeting in conjunction with the NASAR Conference next Spring. NASAR hadn't announced their decision on a date and location for the conference when F32 met and when they did it was not the usual weekend after Memorial Day that most of us had planned on. The date chosen conflicted with several other industry events. By consensus F32 will be meeting in Phoenix on Saturday, June 5th with the exact location to be determined soon.

Probably the most important news is regarding FEMA. I'm assuming Mike Vorachek will be submitting a report on that meeting so I won't go into all of it here. What is important to ASTM members is that at the FEMA Working Group meeting in October they introduced representatives from SRA who was hired to write standards and submit them through ASTM, as a nationally recognized standards agency. Those standards would be to define levels of training, required equipment, etc. for responders under the

FEMA mutual aid system. There isn't enough space here to go into the issues but the existing guidelines were not suited to volunteer search and rescue especially when it falls under the Sheriff's jurisdiction as it does in the western part of the United States. The existing requirements cited NFPA standards which were not created for that type of response, were not written with our input and were not readily available to persons wishing to follow them. This is exciting for those of us who have worked many years trying to create true open consensus standards for volunteers. I would hope that the feelings by some MRA members that standards are bad and their creation should be blocked at every opportunity have changed so that we can have something acceptable to all of us.

It never hurts to ask, so if anyone reading this has some particular area of interest or subject that needs some standardization please let any of us on the committee know. We will help you write it.

John McKently



## MOUNTAIN RESCUE ASSOCIATION

**To:** MRA Membership  
**From:** Charley Shimanski, President  
**Date:** December 20, 2009  
**Subject:** MRA Membership Cards Proposal

*(NOTE: This Business Meeting item was discussed briefly at the Spring 2009 meeting in Timberline Lodge, and it was agreed to table the discussion until the January Business meeting.)*

One of the benefits of membership in the MRA is the membership cards for individual members of our member teams. In the past, the MRA has developed personalized cards for each member of the MRA teams. This has resulted in a great deal of effort, and has resulted in delays in distribution of the cards.

Our proposal is that effective starting in 2010, when a team pays its membership dues, the MRA will send that team a supply of blank member ID cards equal in number to the number of names provided to the MRA. This should satisfy teams while simplifying the administrative process at the MRA.

If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions, please contact me at [Shimanski@speedtrail.net](mailto:Shimanski@speedtrail.net) or at 303-607-4700.

Thanks.