



OLYMPIC MOUNTAIN RESCUE NEWSLETTER

A Volunteer Organization Dedicated to Saving Lives Through Rescue and Mountain Safety Education

April 2001

The next meeting will be at the Westgate Fire Hall at 7:00P.M. on April 10th. Training will be: Physical Conditioning.

REPORTS of Chairman, Officers, Coordinators, and Committees:

TREASURER:

Our intrepid treasurer has secured new truck insurance. Our old company quit writing the kind of insurance we needed. This turned out to be a good thing. Treas. Barron got us a policy with a new company that is not only \$300 cheaper it includes insurance for the contents of the truck. He reports that funds remain adequate to meet current needs.

TRAINING:

JUST PAST:

Kelly conducted the first of this years Rigging trainings. The weather was good and the training went well. The Cushman Cliffs site was used.

Meeting Training:

Kelly presented an entertaining training on mechanical advantage systems. Simple, compound, and complex pulley systems analyzed. The Radium Release Hitch was demonstrated.

UPCOMING:

April 17 -Patient Packaging -

Greg Barron will conduct a make up Patient Packaging class. This is your last shot this year. Contact Greg early on, to sign up.

April 21 - Rigging Training - 2nd

and last time this year. This will be scenario based training incorporating as many high and low angle rigging techniques as possible. Weather is not a consideration, so be prepared to operate in what ever weather is happening. Training will begin at the Cushman Cliffs site at 10:00. The White Truck will leave the fire hall at 08:00. You should be prepared to leave for rescue directly from training. Sign up at the meeting or contact Dale.

May 5th - Grand Inventory of

both trucks.

Patrick, Sarah & Deborah will conduct a Training/Inventory of both trucks starting at 09:30. All new members are urged to attend. All old members that haven't poked in all the crannies of the trucks in a while are also urged to attend and to comment on missing equipment or additional equipment needed.

MEMBERSHIP:

Three visitors came to the March meeting. Membership was discussed with them by Gelineau.

TRUCKS:

A changing of the guard will occur with regard to the truck maintenance. Sarah Armstrong and Deborah Legg will take over this responsibility from Patrick Mcauliffe. Many thanks to Patrick for job well done. Incorporated in this change is a grand inventory of both trucks. Please see upcoming training.

MISSIONS

MARCH 23, 2001-3 (01-0622)
BIG QUILCENE RIVER TRAIL,
Olympic National Forest, Jefferson Co.

Dick Waldo, Willie Knoepfle with Roger Beckett (In Town Coordinator - ITC) & Jim Groh (ITC), Greg Barron (radio)

OMR was called at 1610 hrs. by the Washington State DEM office asking Beckett to be in contact with the Jefferson Co. Incident Commander (IC)(none other than our own Willie Knoepfle) regarding a medical evacuation on the Big Quilcene river trail. A 60-year-old male had fallen on



the icy trail about 2 miles from the trailhead and suffered an apparent hip fracture.

Knoepfle advised that the local Fire Department (FD) had people on site and it

was his understanding that someone from OMR was also on site. Knoepfle and several from JSAR were preparing to go to the trailhead to assist. It was agreed that additional people from OMR likely were not needed. Potential OL's were contacted and OMR went into Standby waiting further word from the Jefferson Co. IC. Barron was in radio contact and advised an expected ETA at the trailhead was 1930.

After the mission was completed, Waldo called Beckett to report how he was involved. After a climb on Mt. Townsend he was stopped on the road by medics from the FD asking directions to the Big Quil trailhead. Waldo showed the way and volunteered to assist with the subject and the carryout. About 5 or 6 FD people were involved, 4 or 5 from Jefferson Co. and Waldo and Knoepfle. The carryout, using the fire department wheeled stretcher went reasonably well but about half of the carryout was on hard ice. Several of the group slipped and fell, with

no serious injuries reported. In this case, hindsight indicates a few more from OMR would have been a big help.

The accident was originally reported from the accident site by VHF marine radio. A boat responded and was patched through to the Quilcene Ranger Station.

Hours: 20 Miles: 60

MARCH 25-26, 2001-4 (01-0647)

KENNEDY HOT SPRINGS, Baker-Snoqualmie N. F., Snohomish Co.

Patrick McAuliffe (OL), Gabe O'Hare, John Ellsworth, Deb Legg, Jim Groh, Tom Banks Roger Beckett (ITC)

Beckett took a call from the State DEM at 1930. Snohomish CO. was requesting 20 mountain rescue personnel to assist the local SAR groups in the evacuation of a 29 y.o. man (Mr. Brown) with a broken leg. This was a non-climbing accident and involved the carryout from the hot springs area about 5 miles in from the trailhead. With the assistance of Jim Groh in making a page out most of our group responded with their availability. A 2200-ferry departure from Kingston was planned but with a one hour backup expected the State DEM office was contacted to make arrangements for the team getting priority loading.

McAuliffe, the OL for this mission, reported the following:

I received the page at 1900 hrs, just after returning from an uneventful weekend on Nordic Patrol. The team of six was organized and the White truck left the Westgate Fire Hall at 2100 with Legg and McAuliffe driving. We stopped and picked up Groh, Ellsworth and Banks at Cenex in Poulsbo at 2120. We then went for a Kingston/ Edmonds ferry at 2200. O'Hare met us at the terminal.

We continued on through Arlington and through Darrington towards the SAR base located about 2.5 miles down from the trailhead. Due to poor road marking, sleepy members and some not wearing their glasses we proceeded up the wrong road for a little bit. After realizing our error, we went back to the turning point and we were able to easily find the correct

road; we lost about 30 minutes from this little escapade. We arrived at the SAR base at approximately 0130 Monday morning. The base coordinator thought we were either crazy, or really loved SAR stuff to come that far. I had Groh attend the 3min. briefing with me and were explained the situation; 29 y/o male approx. 210 lbs. with a lower leg injury at the Hot Springs around 5 miles up the trail. The other 42, yes 42 other searchers were supposed to have him packaged and in route down at that time. Conditions were rain at SAR base, snow up higher, snow and ice on trail with post holing up to waist deep the final 3/4 of a mile. We geared up with the minimums and waited for a ride to the trailhead to walk in and meet the evac party to provide support. We were picked up at 0230 for the 2-mile, 1/2 hour ride to the trailhead. We entered the field at 0300 for a walk by headlamp. The conditions changed from rain to snow, then to starry skies through out the morning. At 0420 we came across two members of Snohomish CO. coming down, one with a pulled hamstring, followed by two more members coming down at 0440. We then saw the neatest thing at 0500, 38-40 headlamps weaving there way through the darkness towards us. We fell into line and helped with the carry out. There was one command, three pullers, four brake people, and a lot of people following until needed to either manhandle the litter, or relieve spent people. In the snow the litter was used as a toboggan, and then the wheel was put on for dirt travel. The trail is rolling with some good ups and downs, so we got a pretty good workout. Considering there were members from six organizations and close to fifty participants it went extremely well. We had the patient to the trailhead at 0830 Monday morning to mildly snowing conditions. Vehicles were brought up to transport members back to the SAR base. I had all our members get on some of the first rides, and I waited with the other teams until I had a ride down. We then headed by the food wagon, for some had an interest in breakfast, then on

home. We caught another ferry, dropped people off at Cenex, got gas and put the truck back home around 1330 and then went to sleep for a couple of hours.

hours = 104 miles = 350

PAGERS

Because of a few problem areas, where our current pagers do not have good reception, we will be getting new pagers for all hands. Your current pager will have to be turned in when you get the new unit. Pagers will be T-1 types (freq of 152.Mhz). This is also the frequency that all other Kitsap SAR units use so it was not a problem getting what we wanted.

Exceptions will be Greg and Loring with the 931 freq and if that is a problem they will go with the T-1 also.(reason for this is the 931 is supposed to be better on the west side of canal and they will have the newest pager with a better antenna than currently in use for 931's)

Hope to have them in hand no later than the April meeting. All the new pagers..and any replacements we get later...will be preprogramed with the All Hands page. We will not be using the group page for OL's only. All the new pagers will be set to take 200 or so bytes as compared to the 80 that most now take. *Roger*

ONP NEW PHONE SYSTEM

Olympic National Park has a new phone system. Some things have changed completely some only subtly. New phone lists were distributed at the March meeting. If you need a list please contact Dale. The OMR Call Out list has been updated with regards to the new ONP numbers.