



OLYMPIC MOUNTAIN RESCUE NEWSLETTER

A volunteer organization dedicated to saving lives through rescue and mountain safety education
November 2005

Missions

Mission No: 2005-11 (DEM 05-2687)

Date: October 3

Location: Denny Creek, King County

Type: Search

Personnel: Steve Leslie (OL) Roger Beckett (In Town)

John Sprague, Kitsap Sheriff Deputy, called at 0530 with info that King Co. needing people to look for 5 missing hikers that had not returned to the Denny Creek trailhead (Snoqualmie Pass). As the callout was started, Sprague called back to say the mission was called off. They evidently were located but Sprague did not have that info.

Total Hours: 1

Total Mileage: 0

Rigging for Rescue

Every year OMR sends two people to attend the Rigging for Rescue seminar. This is a intensive week long training. Before anyone asks, no, the training does not go through the night. The training covers everything that we normally would cover in the course of our field trainings. You will also learn a lot of the science and math behind why we do things the way we do.

The board members are looking for interested people who would like to attend this training. We have not yet chosen a date from those available. So we are still open to a bit of flexibility, schedule wise. If there are any of you would like to further your rescue knowledge, please contact one of the board members to submit your name.

Meeting

Next meeting : November 8th at the Westgate Firehall at 1900. The scheduled trainings will be Man Tracking and Knots; instructors will be Shawn Herndon and Margaret Brownell.

Training

Upcoming training : November 19th, Man Tracking. Instructor : Margaret Brownell. The location will be announced at the meeting.

'06 Training

The board is currently working on next years training schedule. This schedule will be available for comment at the next general meeting and will be put out in the next newsletter. The schedule while set, is meant as a guideline and as such is subject to some changes as necessary, through out the year. But in general the dates will remain the same, so all of you can plan for certain weekends to have trainings.

Along these same lines, The Board is looking for someone to take over the position of the Training Coordinator. Essentially the person who has this position coordinates training with the instructors and keeps track of training qualifications of the people in the group. A side duty is to apply for training numbers from the county/state, so that we are covered during training missions.

If you think you are up to the challenge of this position, please call or notify one of the board members.

Guide Book Update

Recently, Kieth Spencer gave an update on the status of the climbing guide book which OMR is putting out. The guide book hit a bumpy road at the publisher. After a lot of emails with the publisher the book is back on track. However, some discussions are still going on about the format.

NEW KDEM NUMBERS

FOR ALL

You can say good-bye to the fairly easy to remember 4 digit emergency worker card numbers we all used to have for Kitsap County. I guess you can measure progress by the length of numbers you must have to process information. How many of you can remember before we were blessed with zip codes just needing a 2 digit mailing zone number on letters.....think we are now up to 9 digit zip codes. How about the days when you could dial local with only 4 digits? now there are places where you have to dial 10 digits to phone across the street. So now KDEM has joined the ranks with the useless mega number trends. Most new numbers are 7 digits preceded by K as always, however a few are shorter, but still much more than 4 digits. While I certainly cannot change this wonderful progress, you can see that I can still get in a pretty good rant.

Everyone should have these new cards by now since Steve has been handing them out at meetings and mailed those that never got picked up. I have updated the membership roster to include the new numbers and ask that everyone take a few minutes to carefully compare the info on the roster with the printed card you have and report any errors to me. (jimgroh@sprintmail.com)

Due to the extra number length, the Daily Worker Activity sheet that we fill out for all trainings and missions has been revised by the county to allow room for the new numbers. Mac has placed copies of the new forms in the truck so please look for them next time you need the form.

Article submitted by Jim Groh



(Young) Dale Boyle demonstrates how the protective

Board Nominations

It is that time of the year again when the position of two of the board members will be voted on. The two people whose positions are available are Sarah Armstrong and Cass Whalen. At this point in time, Cass has decided to put his hat in for renomination. Sarah is still deciding whether to run again or not. If you have anyone in mind to be on the board or if you want to try the position out for yourself, contact a board member or come to the November and December general meetings to make a nomination and vote. The term for a board member is three years and they normally meet once a month for an hour before the regular meeting.

Dues Time

Once again it is time for dues to start being collected. This normally does not have to be done until the December - January time frame. However, some of us have a tendency to procrastinate in paying the dues.

The dues this year are the same as last year, \$45. The break down of this money is \$15 goes to MRA and \$30 to the group if you have one of the OMR group pagers. If you do not have one of these pagers then your dues will be only \$15.

Contact Greg Barron to pay the dues that you owe. As easy as it sounds he has had to chase some people to get their dues. Please make his job easier and get your dues to him as soon as possible.

Winter Stand By

Winter is fast approaching and the sign up roster for winter stand by is still woefully empty. Once again the roster will be circulating at the November meeting for people to sign up for one or two weekends. If you can only do one day on any given weekend then sign up for that. While two days is preferred, one day at a time is better than no days at all.

Starting next month, the winter standby roster will be posted in the newsletter for the duration of the winter standby season. Next month there will also be a list of expectations for those who participate at the ridge.

Darn It, It Broke

How many of us have been on a mission and had a piece of gear get broken or go missing. I would venture to say that sooner or later, all of us will have this happen to us. If you are on training or mission and a piece of your gear gets broken, the state will reimburse you for that piece of gear. There is one small exception to that though. If the gear is broken due to your negligence or if it is beyond its normal life span then the state will not pay for that gear.

Some items that can be reimbursed are damaged or broken gear and damaged or torn clothing. Flat tires can be repaired if the flat occurred during a mission.

If you damaged a piece of gear, let Greg Barron know and he will get the proper paperwork to you, so you can fill it out as soon as possible and get it to the state. This paperwork is not difficult to fill out and can be done in a short amount of time.

Other items that can be reimbursed are gas used during an out of county SAR mission and any fees or tolls occurred as a result of said missions. Tolls and fees can be the fee for the ferry ride or the up and coming toll for the new Narrows Bridge.



Mount Mystery looking down the Dosewallips Valley

Here Comes the Rain

Summer is all but over, birds are heading South, and the frost is on the pumpkin. This can mean only one thing. . . The rain is coming.

This is that wonderful time of year that rescuers should dread. That time when the weather is great in the morning. Then like the flip of a coin, it changes to nasty by the afternoon.

Not long ago, we had a mission to Mt Ellinor to find a lost hiker. The man had gone to the top while ignoring the weather signs of the incoming clouds. Long story short, he made it to the top, but then the weather socked in and started to rain and snow. On the way down he lost his way. We were out in the thick of it. I do not think that any of us were completely dry after spending the night out there.

I realized that I needed to retreat my boots that night. Luckily, though they were soaked, with the strenuous activity, my feet did not get cold.

The point of this is the time has come to check over your gear. To apply a new layer of sealant to your boots, treat the rain gear or mend any holes in the clothes. If you take care of gear it will take care of you.

*If you don't try
You will never fail,
However,
Neither will you excel*

Author Unknown