



OLYMPIC MOUNTAIN RESCUE NEWSLETTER

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

December 2002

The next meeting will be at the Westgate Fire Hall on 10 Dec. at 7:00P.M. Training will be: Unit Social Time

REPORTS of Chairman, Officers, Coordinators, and Committees:

TRAINING:

JUST PAST:

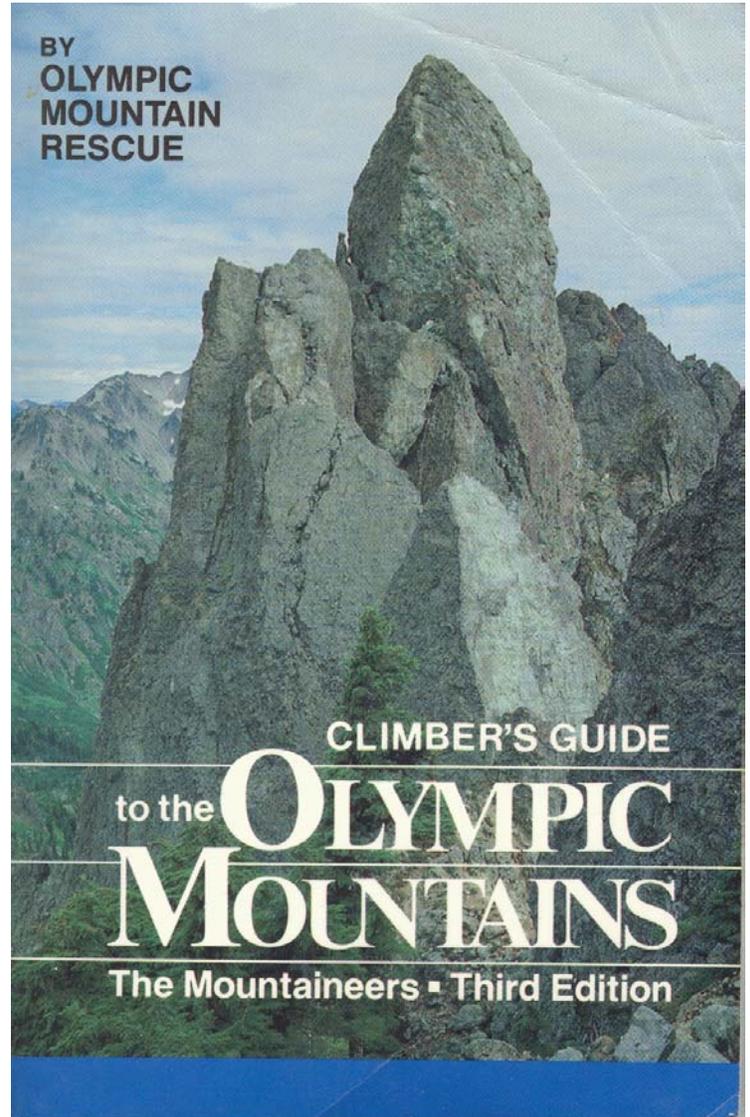
The Bi-Annual training Land Navigation was held in on Saturday November 16th this year. The training was broken into 2 sections, a class room session and then a rigorous field exercise. The class room session covered a broad of spectrum of land navigation subjects starting out with maps and grid systems. A detailed discussion on the differences between the various map datums was discussed as well as the pros and cons of determining location using the UTM system instead of the more traditional latitude and longitude.

The class then covered the basic tools of the trade, including use of the compass along with the altimeter and hand-held GPS. An extensive review of the "buttonology" of the GARMIN 12 GPS was conducted starting out with simply creating a way point and culminating with building and executing a multi leg route.

At the completion of the classroom session the class moved outside into a very realistic field session, meaning it was pouring down rain. The area was also covered with heavy tree cover and brush making GPS coverage intermittent. The terrain simulated well the effects of the deep ravines and heavy tree canopy of the

Olympic Mountains. The class broke into 4 groups, each armed with a GPS and a detailed map of the clear cut areas of northern Kitsap County. Each group was then given a list of objectives they had to first find on the map by plotting bearings and determining the lat./long. The groups then traveled (bush whacked) to each of these points using a combination of their map and compass skills, along with the Garmin 12 GPS (when coverage was available). The training concluded around 3:30 PM with all teams trudging back to their cars mostly soaked from the rain. Feed back, both positive and negative was solicited from all in attendance. This input will be used to continue to groom the objectives and course content for next year. If anyone has any additional input, please forward to John Ellsworth.

As a final note, those of you trying to



PICTURE SEARCH Above is the cover for the 3th ed. of our guide to the Olympics. A cover picture is needed for the 4th ed. Please note the vertical format. Pictures should be large format and of exceedingly high quality.

develop a Christmas list, if your current compass doesn't have an adjustable declination needle, a sighting mirror and boxlike in shape (so one can be folded open and used as a straight edge) give it to your dog or kid and ask Santa for an upgrade. Compensating for magnetic north in a



down poor was found to be less than enjoyable as well as an almost certain guarantee that one will be wandering the bushes. *John Ellsworth*

Meeting Training:

UPCOMING:

The December OMR General Membership meeting will feature three guest speakers.

Keith Spencer, one of the original OMR members will attend the meeting to provide members with an over view of the effort under way to produce the next edition of the Climber's Guide to the Olympic Mountain. OMR is the author of this guide book and it's published by The Mountaineers Press. This is a very important and involved undertaking which will need the support of unit members in the areas of road and climbing route verification. Keith will briefly explain the process of producing this new 4th edition and solicit assistance for this effort. Any members interested in assisting may contact the guide book committee for additional information.

Mike Danisiewicz, Head ONP Back Country Ranger and possibly Dee Renee Ericks, Hurricane Ridge District Ranger will provide a synopsis of ONP current information as well as speak about our Hurricane Ridge Winter

extended to OMR members at Vertical World in East Bremerton. It's a great venue to keep the technical climbing skills honed during the winter months so that you can be ready to jump back onto the rock come springtime.

In addition to these "guests" Tom Banks will continue the new OMR tradition of having a slide presentation at the December meeting. Tom will show us a slide show of his treks in the Dolomites (Italy) in 2001 and French Alps (2002), with an eye toward a future trip to do some serious climbing.

In addition your unit will as usual provide Holiday goodies and egg nog. I also like to encourage members to bring a treat of their choice to share with the rest. Rather like a dessert pot luck! Please plan to attend. *Paul G.*

ELECTIONS

Elections to the board will be held at the December General Membership Meeting. A paper ballot will be used and you will vote for two of the candidates. The two persons with the highest number of votes will have the positions. A tie will result in a revote. The nominees are:

Paul Gelineau **
 John Ellsworth**
 Sarah Armstrong
 Deborah Legg

Nordic Stand-by. It's always a pleasure to have ONP visit us.

Long time OMR members and former Chair Brad Albro, will address the meeting concerning membership opportunities being

** = incumbent

It should be noted that many were asked and few stepped up to the plate. Those that did should be appreciated.

MISSIONS

Mission No: 2002-11 (02-2861)

Date: Nov. 4-5

Location: **Gothic Basin**, Snohomish County

Personnel: (Field team) Steve Leslie (OL), Margaret Brownell, Mac MacDowell, Crystal McAuliffe, Sarah Armstrong, Deb Legg, John Ellsworth.

(In Town) Roger Beckett

Call from the State DEM arrived at 0945 requesting a call to the SAR officer in Snohomish Co for details of a search for a missing hiker off the Mountain Loop Highway.

The subject of the search was Johnathan Barkus, 28 years old, who had not returned to his parked car at Barlow Pass. Leslie, McAuliffe and Brownell were the first team to get to Barlow Pass and the search base.

After conferring with the SAR coordinator the team was assigned to the lower parts of DelCampo Peak out of Gothic Basin/Foggy Lake area. Realizing that it would be dark before arrival at the search site the decision was made to get an early start in the morning. The OMR team proceeded back to base camp in Bellevue.

Leslie called Beckett to have additional people on site in the morning. The four additional people took the last ferry from Kingston and met Leslie at Lake Stevens at 0200 (5th) and proceeded to Barlow Pass for a 0415 trail start. The team

proceeded up trail 724 (Weden Lake Trail) to Gothic Basin arriving about 0800. The upper trail had patchy ice and snow. After a brief break, the team proceeded to Foggy Lake and the upper basin. The team split into two groups. Leslie and team went to search the NW side of Foggy Pass and Brownell and team went to search the approaches to DelCampo. The teams had been underway from

Foggy Lake only a short time (0955) when word came by radio that the subject had been found in good condition. Subjects exit from Gothic Basin had indeed been via Foggy Pass to the NW, down Kelly Creek to the Sultan River drainage where he found a utility road, camped over night and was spotted on Tuesday by a utility worker driving the road. The two teams got back together and proceeded down the basin to the upper trail end, rested for awhile and



Just a little inspiration to THINK SNOW

proceeded back to base camp arriving at 1400.

Food provided by Snohomish Co mobile kitchen truck!

All arrived home approximately 1800. Prepared by Roger Beckett with input by Steve Leslie

Total Personnel: 8

Total Hours: 173

Total Mileage: 650

HURRICANE RIDGE STANDBY

Standby will begin this year the weekend of 01/04/02. I will be sending out detailed information soon once I have confirmed all the details with the park. I will also include details in the newsletter.

Please email or phone if you would like to reserve a weekend. As with last year our goal is to have 2-3 OMR volunteers at the ridge each weekend.

January weekends: Jan. 04 & 05, Jan. 11 & 12 (OMR Banquet), Jan. 18 & 19, Jan. 25 & 26.

February weekends: Feb. 01 & 02, Feb. 08 & 09, Feb 15 & 16 (Presidents Day weekend), Feb 22 &

23.

March weekends: Mar. 01 & 02, Mar. 08 & 09, Mar. 15 & 16, Mar. 22 & 23, Mar. 29 & 30

Your can email me at: accre@olympus.net or call at 360.765.3535.

Thanks Cass

GPS MESSAGE

After the Nov. meeting with the GPS refresher program I decided to pull a Garmin out of the white truck to review the button pushing procedures. The unit would not turn on because the batteries were dead. When fresh batteries were installed the unit came to life but quickly blurted out a message to the effect of "MEMORY BATTERY LOW". The Garmin manual had no troubleshooting explanation for this situation. I went to the excellent garmin.com website and quickly found a full explanation of the situation. This model uses an internal lithium battery to keep the gps memory of settings and waypoints safe when the primary AA batteries

die or are being changed. If the AA batteries are dead for too long the lithium cell will also deplete giving this alarm. Installing fresh new batteries will cause the internal cell to recharge in about 5 hours, during which time you may still get memory alarms but as long as you have fresh AA installed and do not remove them, the unit will function okay. With our infrequent use of this gear it is likely others will observe this message so I hope this advance warning will be helpful.

Jim G

CALL-OUT ROSTER

Jim Groh has been doing a great job of managing the Callout Roster over the past few years. He has now introduced a new element to the roster. That is, the addition of cell phones. If you have a cell phone that you regularly use and want it to appear on the Roster, call or email Jim to have it added.