



OLYMPIC MOUNTAIN RESCUE NEWSLETTER

A volunteer organization dedicated to saving lives through rescue and mountain safety education
June 2004

Meeting

Next meeting : June 8th, Olympic Rivers, Gary Corb

Missions

OLYMPIC MOUNTAIN RESCUE
2004 MISSION REPORT

Mission No: 2004-4

Date: May 6

Location: Jefferson Head, Kitsap County

Type: Standby

Personnel: Deb Legg, Mac MacDowell, Dick Waldo, Crystal McAuliffe, Chris Claesson, John Stieber, (In-Town) Patrick McAuliffe, Roger Beckett

Kitsap County Department of Emergency Management called at 1530 asking if OMR would consider the rescue of a dog hung up on a steep bank at Jefferson Head (south of Kingston). North Kitsap Fire and Rescue had declined to rescue the dog. Patrick McAuliffe took the call and made the callout. As this wouldn't qualify as a 'rescue' the county offered to issue a training number. On finding that a training number had been issued the Bainbridge Island Fire Dept offered to go take a look. They did and recovered the dog. Kitsap SAR coordinator notified Beckett at 1730 hrs that OMR wouldn't be needed.

Prepared by Roger Beckett with input from Patrick McAuliffe

Total Personnel: 7

Total Hours: 13

Total Mileage: 0

Missions continued on page 3

Training

Upcoming : June 5th, Helo training. This training will be held at Grey Field at Fort Lewis

June 19th, Helo Training. This training is to be held on Green Mountain.

Both of these trainings will be conducted with a live MAST helicopter. Due to scheduling conflicts the Grey Field training may have been canceled. Contact Andy Graham for info, on either of these trainings, at 360-275-9111. This is an excellent chance to work in the vicinity of an operating helo. Please make every attempt to attend one of these

Who is the Leader?

During one of the last rigging trainings we experienced a small problem that should be mentioned. As this can happen on any training or mission, I will not mention names. We all know that we have several OLs in the unit as well as some rescuers which lead off some of the trainings. Since we are not carbon copies of each other, we all have different ways of seeing things. This can create differences of opinion in how things are to be done. While it is good that everyone is thinking about the best way to do things, this can make for confusion in the chain of command. The leader on this training had decided to do things a certain way. However, this had not been communicated to everyone else at the training. A few other uniformed OLs were helping out and put a wrench in the training leader's plan. Neither way was bad, but the leader wanted to do the training a specific way, practicing a certain procedure. This caused some people to get bent out of shape. What is the point you ask? The important thing to remember is that, unless it puts someone's life in jeopardy, the leader's decision should be final. This applies to trainings as well as missions. For he or she may have plans that you do not know about. Jumping in without full knowledge of the plan could really

The Truck Fund

You all know of the fund raising effort to replace the white truck. The truck is now going on 15 years old and we need to have the funding in place to replace it before it finally dies of old age. If the truck fails before we have established funding, it would place serious constraints on our ability to accomplish our mission. Given the transmission problems we have been dealing with over the past few years combined with its age, we expect we will need to replace the truck within the next 2-3 years. The unit has dedicated the Smith Barney Funds toward the replacement of the truck. Given this, approximately \$40,000 more is needed.

In support of this effort, the unit has submitted a grant application to the Paul Allen Foundation and additional grant packages are being developed for the Boeing Community Fund and the M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust. These applications should be complete within the next few months. One item, critical to the potential success of any of these packages is to clearly demonstrate the communities support of our unit and mission. In support of this goal we currently have donations from my daughter, Katherine Ellsworth (\$250) and from Sea Home Services/Greg Barron (\$500). Prior to submitting further grant applications, the unit would like to generate more donations from local businesses and individuals. To do this the unit needs your help.

The unit is looking for individuals to volunteer to present our cause to a local businesses/clubs they are familiar with. I have already approached Kitsap Sports, Vertical World and The Mountain Shoppe, so far we haven't heard much from them other than the Mountain Shoppe going out of business (not a good sign....). Jim Groh has volunteered to work on MSR, Chris Claesson has indicated he will work on REI and Sarah Armstrong has offered to approach the Peninsula Wilderness Club. Meanwhile I will be doing the same with Wal-Mart and Silver City Restaurant & Brewing (my favorite). To make this as easy as possible for members, I have developed a pack-

aged presentation, and will be bringing copies for distribution to the June meeting. This package contains an introduction letter and fund raising brief, a sample plaque (for donations >\$500), a list of our board members, a mission summary, a collection of pictures of the unit in action, and a break down of potential methods of recognition. All you need to do is review it, groom it for your target audience, make a final copy and go for it. Keep in mind that the goal of approaching local businesses is not to have them shell out the total \$40,000. All we want is a demonstration of the local communities support for our unit. So if you know a business that may donate even \$50 it would be worth the effort.

If you don't have the time for the above, one could simply make a donation to the truck fund. Any amount would be beneficial, as the number of donors on our list is as important as the total amount donated. One could also take this cause to friends and family as well. You could combine the donation into one lump amount and submit it in the name of "friends and family of....". Such donations can be given directly to Greg Barron or myself, or mailed to Olympic Mountain Rescue, Attn: Truck Fund, PO Box 4244, Bremerton WA 98312. A plaque will be placed on the back of the truck listing all donations greater than \$125.

If you are interested in helping ensure the unit continues to maintain a viable rescue vehicle, please call John Ellsworth at 360-779-5382. now we have begun a



Mission No: 2004-6 (DEM 04-1113)

Date: May 17

Location: Wagonwheel Lake, Olympic National Park

Type: Rescue

Personnel: (Field Team) Greg Barron (OL), Dale Boyle, John Stieber, Dick Waldo, Cass Whalen, Deb Legg, Sarah Armstrong, Willie Knoepfle, Shawn Herndon. (In-Town) Jim Groh and Roger Beckett

At 1900 hrs Jim Groh was contacted by DeeRene Ericks, ONP, asking for help with a woman that had an ankle injury about 2 miles up the Wagonwheel Lake Trail. Barbara Newman of Billings Montana had been hiking with a friend when she fell about 1500 hrs. Her hiking companion went for help and then returned to the scene. Fire Department medics went up the trail with a Park employee to assess the injury and Mast arrived at the causeway but determined that the cloud cover prevented a helo approach.

In the meantime, the field team departed as soon as possible. Some south down 101 and the truck left Westgate about 2015 hrs. Medical assessment determined that the subject

was stable but unable to stand at all. Taking gear for a carry out with the litter and wheel, the first of the rescue team arrived at midnight and the following team about 30 minutes later. The subject now patient was packaged so as not to put pressure on her ankle and the lowering begun just before 0100 hrs. After nine 300' lowers the litter team was able to descend under control without being lowered. Several narrow sections of trail were negotiated with only two attendants, one at each end of the litter.

Near the end of the trail there were another 6 lowers and then things went smoothly to the trailhead arriving at 0411 hrs. The patient was transported by personal vehicle to the hospital.

There was excellent teamwork on this trip and one 300' rope was taken out of service. All back home by 0600 hrs.

Prepared by Roger Beckett with input from Greg Barron

Total Personnel: 11

Total Hours: 108

Total Mileage: 480

Rescue logistics

One of the primary tasks in a rescue scenario is transporting the necessary equipment and supplies to the scene. Naturally, that means stuffing it in or tying it on to your pack. To accomplish this there must be space in your pack. A good strategy is to take a pack large enough that, when all your personal gear is in, the top one third of the pack is empty. This provides room for unit gear and supplies. It also allows space for the clients gear after we get on site. Should the space not be needed, almost all packs have compression straps to compensate for being partially full.

Summer Standby

The summer stand by roster is filling up nicely. However there are still some prime weekends that have vacant positions available. Contact Duane Stewart at 253-857-6031 when you decide which weekends you would like to cover. There are also several great weekends available for an OL or two. The summer is usually our busiest time of the year and we need to know that we can field at least one team every weekend, through to the beginning of September.

Not the only EMS on Scene

Not long ago I was very nearly witness to a young boy being hit by a car. I missed it by thirty seconds to be exact. So as you can see, I was the first person with any first aid knowledge on scene. When I arrived the boy was lying in a ditch and holding his knee and screaming. I performed a survey and, with the help of the person that had hit him, stabilized him until the paramedics arrived. The first to arrive was the ambulance. I explained who I was and gave a quick account of my findings to one while another began another detailed check of the patient. After I gave my report, I told them, that if needed, I could help with stabilization or movement of the patient. The paramedic told me that I could hold the boy's head steady, as he was thrashing around with the lightest pressure on his leg. Short after this the firetruck arrived on scene. One of the firemen, not knowing who I was, came over and basically yelled at me to get away and started helping the paramedics. I know that he was only thinking of the patient's well being and did not want me to inadvertently hurt him. Several problems were noted that I will not go into here. Suffice it to say that I have been in contact with the fire department already, talking with a few firechiefs, and the matter has been straightened out. The reason that I mentioned all of this is that we as a group regularly work with other agencies. ONP, the Sheriff, State Patrol and Police to name a few. Most of these groups do not know fully what we do or are capable of handling. It is very important that when dealing with agencies, other our own, that we inform them who we are and what we can do. In my case, I had informed the paramedics, but did not get the chance to tell the fireman. This led to problems, which not only I saw but by people who were standing nearby. Just remember to talk with all parties involved, to avoid any misunderstandings.

As it turned out this boy was the brother of a friend of my son's. He was extremely lucky. He did not have a helmet on. Besides some minor abrasions the only major injury he received was a fractured femur two inches above the knee joint, which was repaired with several hours of surgery. He is out of the hospital now and is really bummed about the

Only One Subject?

When I was helping the injured boy in the last article, his mother happened to arrive on scene with no knowledge of what had happened to her son. It is easy to forget that there are often more than one subject to be cared for at an accident scene. In this case the mother's love of her son caused her to be in the way. When she could not help her son she started shacking visibly. Many times friends and/or family members at the scene need just as much help as the subject. Though admittedly, this help is more of an emotional help. Similar to critical incident stress, watch for signs in the friends or family members and treat accordingly.



Rigging Training May 15 & 16

Attending Jim Groh, Mac Macdowell, Sarah Armstrong, Deb Legg, Sean Herndon, John Stieber, Dale Boyle, and Ann Ritchey. Rick Lorenz from TMRU attended as well as prospective member Jason Bausher.

The last annual rigging training of the year was held at the lake Cushman area. On Saturday, the Olympia Mountaineers were holding a training in the usual area, so we moved to the alternate site north of the causeway. The first run through of the lower and raise it was noticeable that we were a little rusty. However, in very short order we became a smooth and efficient team. It was delightful to do a rigging training in dry weather.

On Sunday the team practiced a steep highline in the area of Open Book. Everyone got a northwest version of the jungle ride. We wrapped up just before the rain set in. Thanks and well done to all participants.

SUMMER STANDBY CALENDAR

May 22-23	June 26-27	July 31-Aug. 1	Sept. 4-6			
OL	OL	OL	OL			
WALDO	_____	_____	S. HERNDON			
HERNDON	_____	_____	_____			
_____	_____	_____	_____			
May 29-31	July 3-5	Aug. 7-8				
OL G. BARRON	OL G. BARRON	OL D. STEWART				
ELLSWORTH	_____	_____				
_____	_____	_____				
_____	_____	_____				
_____	_____	_____				
June 5-6	July 10-11	Aug. 14-15				
OL BROWNELL	OL STEWART	OL				
STEIDLE	PEALSTROM	_____				
WALDO	MacDOWELL	_____				
_____	S. ARMSTRONG	_____				
June 12-13	July 17-18	Aug 21-22				
OL J. STIEBER	OL S. LESLIE	OL J. STIEBER				
_____	J. ELLSWORTH	S. HERNDON				
_____	_____	_____				
_____	_____	_____				
_____	_____	_____				
June 19-20	July 24-25	Aug. 28-29				
OL	OL STIEBER	OL				
MacDOWELL	D. LEGG	J. ELLSWORTH				
_____	S. HERNDON	_____				
_____	_____	_____				

Greg Barron - 360-765-4428

Dale Boyle - 360-792-1714 Margaret Brownell - 425-444-4443

Paul Gelineau - 360-779-5222

Steve Leslie - 360-598-4976 Duane Stewart - 253-857-6031

John Stieber - 360-830-0914

If you can not be available on the weekend you signed up for, it is your responsibility to find a replacement and contact Duane (253-857-6031) and the OL with the change!

Revised 4/15/04