



OLYMPIC MOUNTAIN RESCUE NEWSLETTER

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

Meeting

Next meeting : Tuesday, October 11th; The topic will be crime scene preservation by ONP.

Missions

There were no new missions for September as of this printing.

New Rescuers

We have new rescuers in our ranks. Through a lot of hard work and effort they have proven themselves worthy of that status. A hearty pat on the back goes out to:

Andy Graham
Deborah Legg
Sarah Armstrong
Shawn Herndon

Congratulations and great job!

Is Anyone Out There?

In the memories of our senior members, this has been one of the slowest mission years in a long time. However, this is not the time to get complacent. The fall season is upon us. A time of the year when the weather can change in a heart beat, going from a wonderful summer day to a winter downpour very quickly. While I believe that none of you would be caught out in the rain without your raingear, I am not so optimistic about the general public. Many are the people trying to get in that last hike or climb in before the end of the season.

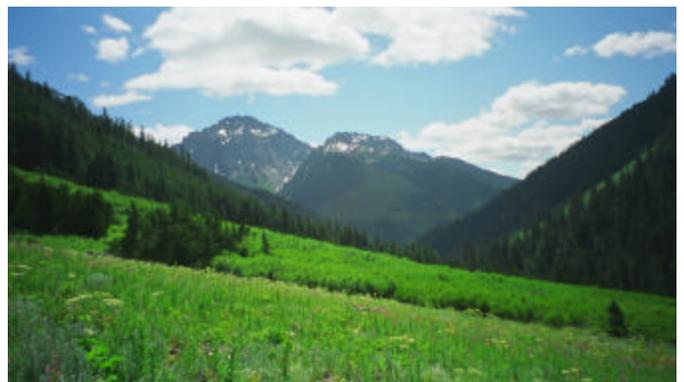
Now is the time to go through your gear. Changing out the summer gear for something warmer and more water resistant. Brush the dust off those cramp-ons and iceaxes and break out the heavy rain gear.

Training

Upcoming : Saturday, October 16th; Advanced rigging.

Tells Us What You Think

In an effort to make our trainings better for you, there is a survey for everyone in the unit to fill out. This survey is going out only to the people that are on the active roster list. You do not have to put your name on it, however, please be honest and constructive in your responses. The survey was designed by David Steidle. While it covers many items of concern, there may be something else that was missed. If any of you out there have a comment that falls into this category (ie. class group size or number of trainings), feel free to fill out the comment block at the end of the survey. The information will be compiled by David and reviewed by the board and the Training Coordinator. The results of the survey will be come out in a later edition of the newsletter. In order to make it easier for you to return the survey to David Steidle, a pre-addressed, stamped envelope is included with the survey. This your chance to make a difference in the way we train for missions. Make your ideas and concerns known.



Looking east down the Dosewallips Valley

Better Late Than Never

The OMR picnic was held last month, instead of in August as planned. The original date was flooded out, by torrential downpours. As the day approached, the September date was looking doubtful as well. With the tenacity of a roach we decide to go ahead with picnic anyway. The day came and like a gift from above the weather turned nice, dry with some sun-breaks. Thanks goes to Ann Richey, for declaring squatters rights on the picnic area for two hours before the rest of us arrived. A wide variety of food and drinks were brought by everyone that came. A lot of fun and stories were passed around.



Base of Fly Paper Pass on the Anderson Glacier.

Do As I Say...

When we talk to others, our mouth is not the only thing we talk with. Our facial expressions and body language is a crucial part in how we communicate with those around us. How often have you had a conversation over the phone and been misunderstood? This is due to the lack of body language being picked up on. It may not seem like it would be a big deal, not seeing the person you are talking to. Most people are surprised when they find out how much of a difference it makes.

Not too long ago I attended a communications class. There was a small exercise that we performed to demonstrate how much we depend on the subtle body cues from the others we communicate with.

The concept is simple. First, you have at least two people. One of the people (the talker) is hidden from the view of the other (the listener). Either by using a partition or having the listener turn around. Second, the talker has to describe a small diagram that is given to him or her and the listener has to draw the diagram by what it is said to look like. A sample diagram is given below. The exercise is complete when the talker is done describing the diagram. The listener then shows what he heard described.

This simple exercise easily shows any weakness or strength that you may have when you communicate verbally. I highly urge all of you to try this out. I was personally amazed when I took part in it. When you take it, think of some of the problems encountered when talking on the hand held radios.

