



# OLYMPIC MOUNTAIN RESCUE NEWSLETTER

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

## Missions

There were no new missions for January as of this printing. The dry spell continues.



## Time Well Served

For those of you at the Banquet you know that Dale Boyle reminded us that he had stuck through thick and thin in OMR for 25 years. I had to dig around some but found that Dale's first mission was a search of the SF Skok below the Steel Bridge for a Port Orchard man that had fallen in the river. That was a two day search the end of April 1980. Then in June the body was spotted and the subj was recovered. Names you still recognize that were involved: Albro, Beckett, McKenzie, Chapin, Sipple and 5 others less known today. It was a good way for Dale to get his "feet wet"...so to speak.

*It takes a special type of person to join and make it in OMR, or any SAR group. Even more so to stay with it for 25 years. From all of us, thank you Dale for your unfailing dedication and hard work.*

## Meeting

Next meeting : Tuesday, February 8th

The training will be snow beacons. If you have an avalanche beacon, please bring it to the meeting, as well as your headlamp. There will be a small hands on exercise outside, as part of the training.

## Training

Upcoming : Snow and avalanche training, February 26-27.

The planned training will be avalanche training with emphasis on the science behind avalanches. It will be held at Hurricane Ridge. This training will be conducted by Nikko Weis. For those of you who do not remember Nikko presented a similar training a few years ago. It was a training to remember. If at all possible, this is one training you don't want to miss.

As all of you know, the weather has been strange this year. If in the event there is not enough snow to conduct this training, a different training will still be conducted at the Ridge. This alternate training will still count for your winter training.

## Dues are Due

2005 OMR Membership Dues are due.

I have begun collecting the 2005 OMR membership dues. Your membership dues are what we send to the National Organization each year. The amount being collected is \$15.00 for each member plus \$30.00 for each member carrying an OMR pager. I would like the collecting of dues to be over just as soon as possible, so please either pay at the next meeting (Feb 8<sup>th</sup>) or send a check to:

OMR Treasury

PO Box 4244 Bremerton, WA 98312.

Thanks, Greg Barron, Treasurer.

## Banquet Aftermath

Once again, the banquet has come and gone. Our speaker, Dee Molenaar, gave a wonderful presentation on his attempted climb of K2 and the tragedy that followed. Many of the people that attended were impressed with the pictures and drawings which he brought him. It gave a new insight to how much things have changed in mountaineering, in the past several decades. Thanks also goes out to John Ellsworth, for offering to give a presentation on his failed attempt at making an oxygenless ascent of Green Mountain.



Dee Molenaar and his wife at the OMR banquet.

## Who is in Charge

The voting is over, the counts are in, and go figure with no recounts or trials to upset everyone. This is just to let you all know who the OMR board members are.

Steve Leslie - Chairman

Shawn Herndon - Vice Chairman

Sarah Armstrong - Secretary

Greg Barron - Treasurer

John Stieber - Member at Large

Paul Gelineau - Member at Large

If you have a concern about the group, the training, or just want to comment in general, then these are the

## Another Prodeal

We have another prodeal that can be used by members in OMR. This one can be used at Mammut.Com. The prodeal will give you 50% off clothing and 40% off gear.

## New to the Group

In the past few months, we have had some new members voted into OMR. A hearty welcome goes out to Rick Smith, Anthony Vietti, and Joel Pomerinki.

## Training Changes

The board met in late January, to discuss the training for the coming year. Normally this takes place in November or December, However, this year consideration was taken in to account of the responses that were received from the training survey in October.

While not everything has been hammered out, a few items will be mentioned now. The common consensus was that people were bored with training in the same areas all the time. Several of the trainings will be in new areas all together.

This is not to say that Cushman Cliffs will not be used. There are only two trainings that are scheduled to take place here. One of these trainings is a fundamental rigging course. This is primarily for the newer members of the group and for those who believe that they need to brush up on some of their basic skills. The other training is nearby, but is a more scenario based training that will exercise all of your basic skills.

Other areas, that training will be conducted in, will include Mt Baldy, the Hamma Hamma Valley, and Mt Angelas. Due to some of the areas, most of the weekend trainings will be long days. Some of which will easily go into the night. This is a necessity of the changes involved.

The methods by which we track training and skill proficiency are also under review. A couple of ideas have been brought forth and will be implemented, on a short term basis, to see if they will adequately cover our needs. You may notice these during the course of the year.

Another change is that of certain trainings being able to cover a couple of different needed trainings. Snow or Crevasse trainings could possibly be used to cover the requirement of both a snow training and a rigging training.

As the ideas are implemented, we will get this information to you. If you have any questions, please feel free to call any of the board members.

## **To Love or Not to Love**

Not long ago, I was involved in helping someone, or rather someone's son. Now this in itself is no big deal. At least to us. To the person, whose son I had helped with, I was a knight in shining armor. Coming to her rescue, in her time of need.

We have all experienced the gratitude of a person that we have rescued, or that of their family. Sometimes this gratitude, and the emotions behind it, will manifest itself more intensely than was intended.

This condition is known as Delayed Stress Syndrome, or more commonly Florence Nightingale Syndrome. It has been known to afflict soldiers who have been injured and are being treated. The said soldiers will sometimes develop feelings for their nurse or doctor. These feelings sometimes being confused for love. It is not uncommon for new mothers to feel this way for the doctors, which have treated them through their pregnancy and delivered the child.

Why would I mention this, you may think. Well imagine this. . . You are helping someone, who has been lost and possibly hurt many miles into the mountains. The area is exposed and unsafe. Now further imagine that upon finding this person they are overly exuberant and throw themselves at you. It does not take much more to imagine what can happen, when you are off balance on the mountain side.

The onset of these intense feelings can take some time to develop or can happen quickly at the time when the assistance is given.

It is important to us as rescuers to realize that this condition exists. That while what the person feels is sincere, it is not necessarily what they think it to be, and may do something that could put themselves or you at risk.