



OLYMPIC MOUNTAIN RESCUE NEWSLETTER

A volunteer organization dedicated to saving lives through rescue and mountain safety education
September 2006

Missions

There were no missions for the month of August.

OMR Picnic

The picnic was a great success this year. A big round of applause and thanks goes out to the picnic committee for setting it up. A special thanks goes to Cass and Renee Whalen for hosting the picnic at their place. 35 people attended this year. Rumor has it that the plans are already in the making for next years picnic.

Meeting

Next meeting : Tuesday, September 12th at 1900. The scheduled training for the evening will an overview of ELTs and usage, with the instructor being Mac Macdowell.

Training

Upcoming training : Saturday, September 16th. Land Navigation training. The instructor will be John Ellsworth. The training will cover both GPS usage and map and compass skills

NIMS TRAINING

A number of people tried to start the process of taking the two required on-line NIMS courses and had difficulties. Today I registered and took the first two lessons of the "IS100" course, the incident command system. Here is what I found.

It is helpful to print out the four page "First Use of the Virtual Campus" <http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/downloads/VCHowTo.pdf>

You then have to establish a login and user ID (the same) and give yourself a password. After that you pull up the course list and the two we need are IS 100 and IS 700. Register for one and then you have opened your own record, and can go back any time. Ultimately they will send you electronic completion notices, I assume that these can be forwarded someone on our team who will record them.

It took me about 90 minutes to get through the first two lessons but I had some fumbles

1. When my computer had pop up blockers that prevented the lessons from loading and

2. When I pressed the wrong key at the end and lost all of my responses to the second lesson.

Overall the system works well, there are a number of short videos in the program you can watch instead of text. I found the process fairly easy, but for people without much computer literacy this could be a struggle.

Submitted by Rick Lorenz

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The courses are a new requirement which are being implemented at the state and federal levels. More information will be forth coming at the meeting in September.