



# Weber County Sheriff

## Search and Rescue Training Newsletter



May 2003

### TRAINING AND EVENTS CALENDAR 2003

#### MAY

- 03 Law Enforcement Day: 8:30 am, Joint efforts with Davis County ..... *Brandon Toll*
- 06 Classroom: First Care Adv. 1st Aid, Water rescue overview; 7 pm ..... *A. Pluim, R. Werenskjold*
- 10 Pract: Water rescue & recov. Dive, K9, air boat, kayak, etc, Middle Inlet, Pineview; 9 am . *Art Pluim*
- 22 Rappel/ascend ropes Ben Lomond Climb Center; 6 pm **Must preregis.** 737-7274 ..... *Wayne April*
- 28-31 NASAR 2003 National Conference, Reno, NV ..... *Jeff Malan*

#### JUNE

- 03 Classroom: Advanced First Aid, Raising/lowering Systems (3-season), Helicopter Ops
- 07 Practical: Raising/lowering Systems
- 13-15 MRA 2003 National Spring Meeting, Idyllwild, California ..... *John Sohl*
- 14 Familiarization Ride: OHV & Dirt Bike, Monte parking lot
- 14 Familiarization Ride: Airboat

#### JULY

- 04 Parades
- 08 Classroom: CPR, Underwater Search
- 12 Practical: Underwater Search
- 12 Practical: Scree Evacuation
- 24 Ogden Parade
- 25-27 Familiarization Climb (Tetons for a Weekend)

#### AUGUST

- 06-09 Climbing Wall, County Fair PSAR

#### SEPTEMBER

- 02 Classroom: Trauma/Bone Injuries, Underwater Recovery and Salvage
- 06 Practical: Underwater Recovery and Salvage
- 06 Practical: Rappelling and Ascending (People & K9), passing a knot, Aid Climbing  
TBA OEC recerts and classes

#### OCTOBER

- 07, 11 Classroom and Practical: Incident Command System, Search (3-season)
- 18, 25 First Care course

#### NOVEMBER

- 04 Classroom: Logistics/support (Radio Protocol, Etc.), Map/Compass/GPS/Orienteering
- 08 Practical: Orienteering

#### DECEMBER

- 02, 06 Classroom and Practical: Avalanche I (Full course including beacons)

### PROPOSED TRAINING AND EVENTS CALENDAR 2004

#### JANUARY

- 06 Classroom: CPR, Winter Raising/lowering, Winter Survival (Snow Caves/Trench/Clothing/gear)
- 10 Practical: Raising/lowering, Snow Anchors, Winter Survival
- 10 Familiarization/Certification Ride: Snowcat, Snowmobile; Monte
- 10 Familiarization Hike: Snowshoes, Skis, Boards; Cuttler Ridge
- 17, 24 First Care Course

#### FEBRUARY

- 03 Cold Weather Injuries (Hypothermia, Frostbite), Winter Patient Packaging & Transport
- 07 Practical: Search (winter)
- 20-22 Winter Survival Seminar

Please visit the calendar on the WCSSAR web site [planet.weber.edu/sar](http://planet.weber.edu/sar) for updates.

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WCSSAR web site at:

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WCSSAR MEMBER OF:

MRA, NASAR, UTAH SAR

DISPATCH 801-629-8221



# WEBER COUNTY SHERIFF SEARCH AND RESCUE

**AIRBOAT RESCUE; BACKCOUNTRY SKIERS; EXTREME TEAM; K9 RESCUE; MEDICAL; MOUNTAIN RESCUE; MOUNTED POSSE; OFF HIGHWAY VEHICLES; SEARCH; SWIFTWATER & UNDERWATER RECOVERY & RESCUE; WINTER RESCUE**

## MARCH/APRIL CALLOUTS:

**April 5<sup>th</sup>, Snowbasin.** A male from Virginia took the backside to Taylors Canyon. Kris Harrop, Jeff Stark, Richard Schroeder responded. Helicopter was enroute. He had phone contact with Lt. Malan and basically he ended up walking out. He was in good shape but thirsty. He walked the entire distance in his downhill ski boots.

**April 18<sup>th</sup>, Powder Mountain.** We received a call of a lost skier in the back country at approximately 3:30 pm. It was blowing and snowing hard, pretty much a full on blizzard. We guessed that he had ended up in Right Fork canyon and predicted that he'd be out by 6 pm. He walked out at approximately 6:10 pm. Had he not walked out by then we would have done a call out but obviously didn't need to in this case.

## DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE—JOHN SOHL

**Scott Willis** was honored by **Western Zirconium** (a Westinghouse company) for his community service. This is the announcement from WZ: *"Congratulations to Scott Willis, Maintenance, on winning a corporate and site Community Service Award. Scott is one of five corporate winners throughout all of Westinghouse."*

*"Scott works with the Weber County Sheriff's Search & Rescue team in various capacities. He has dedicated countless volunteer hours in training including EMT, rescue diver, winter back country survival, national Search & Rescue by the Air Force, amateur radio emergency services and much more. Scott said 'making a significant contribution to the community in various emergency urban or back country scenarios is emotionally rewarding. I appreciate being recognized by Westinghouse.' Scott is also our site winner. A local charity of Scott's choosing will receive donations from Westinghouse (\$500) and Western Zirconium (\$250) on his behalf."*

Scott choose WCSSAR as his local charity, **thanks Scott**, way to go! So, do we have remarkable people on our team or what?

Also, I (**John Sohl**) was honored by the Sheriff's Office with a public service award for 2002. The citation reads in part, *"for the countless hours of volunteer time you contribute to the training and tactical operation of the Weber County Sheriff's Search and Rescue Team."* All I can say is that it is possible and rewarding for me to do that because of the quality of so many of the members of WCSSAR. I must also point out how much support we get from our Sheriff and his staff, as I talk with people from other teams I'm reminded of how lucky we are. I am truly proud to be part of such a fine team.

Training for this month was supposed to be **swift water**. However, a low-flow shower head would be a serious contender for the Ogden and Weber rivers right now. For example, the day I'm writing this, the Ogden River below Pineview is running at 15 cubic feet per second and the 13 year average is 226 cubic feet per second. Things are marginally better on the South Fork of the Ogden River near Huntsville with a water flow of 76 cubic feet per second as compared to an 81 year average of 385. The only way we're going to get a swift water SAR call out is if a fire hydrant breaks.

So, we have changed our **May training** to a combined **water training at Pineview Reservoir**. This will involve all water teams, specifically the dive team, the K9 team, the swift water team (kayaks and throw baggers) and the air boats. We are going to do a bunch of different activities that will involve all interested team members. The primary target teams will be dive and K9. For the Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, field session we will meet at the middle inlet swim area. To get there follow the road around Pineview and, assuming you are coming from the South, as you reach the turn off of SR 39 to Monte Cristo go straight, the main road will take a 90 degree bend to the west then in less than a mile will bend 90 degrees to the north. About 0.5 miles after the road heads north there will be a small road going west to the swim area. This access road intersection is at 41N 16' 38", 111W 46' 38". (People launching boats will meet at the Cemetery Point boat ramp. Pilot your boat around to the middle inlet area once you have launched.) The dive team will practice searches with support from the kayaks. The throw bag teams can practice both throw bags and shore and boat support for the dive and K9 teams. The K9 team will practice water/cadaver searches. The main goal of all this is to have ourselves ready for the summer water call outs and to cross train together.

Garmin has two **new GPS units** on the market, the Geko 101 and Geko 201. These are simple introductory level units that are easy to use. However, I'd advise against buying the 101 for SAR work, see the Logistics News section below for details and recommendations.

There will be a **Track Aware/Tracker I course** taught in Cache County on June 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, & 8<sup>th</sup> 2003. We will pay the \$150 registration fee if you are interested in this course. See the Search News section below for details.

**Law Enforcement Day** has been moved from Weber State's Dee Events Center this year due to poor attendance. It is being held on Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, in Davis county as a joint program with Davis County law enforce-



ment agencies and is being combined with a Scout-A-Rama. The location is Barnes park in Kaysville. We need to set up by 8:30 am, the ceremony starts at 9 am and it all ends at 3 pm. We have to bring our own table and chairs. We don't need everyone, just one group representing WCSSAR will do. Brandon Toll will help coordinate and set this up. Anyone who is interested in helping out should contact Deputy Toll.

**NASAR Conference** is in Reno during the month of May. We will be sending Sheriff Slater, Lt. Malan, Sgt. Randall, Dep. Toll, Don Olsen, Jeff Stark, Rick Schroeder and Mike Jenkins. Anyone else wishing to attend will now have to pay a late fee. This is an impressive conference with a lot of exciting looking sessions. If you want to attend you must contact Jeff Malan immediately.

The national **MRA 2003 Spring Conference** will be June 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> in Idyllwild, California (near Riverside, CA). Deadline for registration is May 6<sup>th</sup>, after May 6<sup>th</sup> we will have to pay a late fee. **John Sohl needs names by next meeting May 6<sup>th</sup>.** Cost is \$100 by May 6<sup>th</sup> and \$120 after. See the Climbers News section for details.

We will be starting a new **First Care course** on May 6<sup>th</sup>. This is the basic minimum medical skills required by all SAR members. This is equivalent to an advanced first aid course for the general public. See the Medical News section for more details.

## CLIMBERS/BACK COUNTRY SKIERS NEWS:

There will be a **rappelling and ascending a rope workshop** at the Ben Lomond Climbing Center on May 22<sup>nd</sup> from 6 pm to 10 pm. It will be conducted by **Bill Coble** from Canyon Sports. Please contact BLCC in advance to **preregister**. Tell them that you are with WCSSAR and they will bill us for the registration fee so that you don't have to pay it yourself. This workshop is open for anyone (including technical climbers this time) in WCSSAR that is interested in improving their rope skills.

The **Mountain Rescue Association (MRA) Spring Meeting 2003** will be hosted by Riverside Mountain Rescue Unit, June 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>, at Buckhorn Camp, Idyllwild, California. This looks to be a really good technical rescue meeting. Topics include APRS, helitac training with a cable hoist, risk assessment in mountain rescue operations, anchor pull tests, energy absorption in roped rescue systems, international SAR work, and sessions on SAR for child abduction cases. **We must know by the Tuesday meeting, May 6<sup>th</sup>, if you plan to attend.** After the 6<sup>th</sup> the conference fees increase by 20%. Please coordinate with either John Sohl or Jeff Malan.

**Chad Geilman** noted that we need a stand for the **kids climbing wall** for the Weber County Fair. **Rick Schroeder** will build a special framework and he has the supplies already on hand.

**Rick** is making a **single-wheel litter wheel** for us. The supplies needed will cost approximately \$100.00. We have arranged for him to be reimbursed.

**Rick** has been contacted by Gary Allen to do a training class on winter survival kit/training for the Scouts. Rick will cover it.

## DIVE/SWIFTWATER/AIRBOAT NEWS:

**Underwater recovery practice** in May. The field session will be May 10<sup>th</sup> at Middle Inlet of Pineview Reservoir at 9 am. This will be a combined training with all water teams. There will also be some training in boat handling for those who don't work with the boats very often.

## K9 NEWS:

We will be working with the Dive, Airboat and swift water teams on May 10<sup>th</sup> to do **underwater cadaver searches**. See details in the director's message.

## LOGISTICS/DISPATCH NEWS:

Garmin has two **new GPS units** on the market, the Geko 101 and Geko 201. The 101 retails at \$100 (Smith and Edwards has them) and the 201 retails at \$140. Both of these units are very simple to use and the Geko 101 is the least expensive good quality Garmin GPS on the market. However, I advise against buying it! The Geko 101 does not have a connector to attach to a computer. This is a serious problem since we will not be able to upgrade and maintain your firmware and we will not be able to upload or download tracks into your unit at incident command. Still, it is better than not having a GPS at all. (The Geko 201 does not have this problem.) My recommendation for an introductory level GPS is still the basic eTrex unit which sells locally for \$120 and you can get them for even less via the Internet. The eTrex also has nearly twice the battery life of the Geko units and is completely compatible with our computers. All three of these units have very simple controls and displays and are good units to get started with if you are not a techno person.

## MEDICAL NEWS:

We will be sending **Jeff Stark** through the **Professional Rescuer Two Person CPR Instructors course**. Once he has completed that we will offer the professional CPR training to all WCSSAR members. Remember that CPR is a minimum skill requirement for SAR work and must be renewed yearly. **Ryan Werenskjold** is already certified as an instructor and will work with Jeff to make sure that we have a good CPR course available to the members of WCSSAR.

May 6<sup>th</sup> will be the next **Advanced First Aid training** (the National Ski Patrol's First Care course). **Steve Ericson** will coordinate the course and the first session will be covered by Ryan W. The last time we polled





people, the vote was for a several month's of Tuesday night sessions, once a month. The other option is to do it on one Tuesday night and a single full day on a Saturday or to do several nights a week for a few weeks. We'll poll the group at the May 6<sup>th</sup> meeting. Remember that this medical training is the minium level of acceptable medical skills to be a WCSSAR member in good standing.

We are still attempting to get an answer from NSP about the **missing OEC cards**. We have contacted them again and are hoping for a reply of some sort prior to our May meeting.

### **MOUNTED POSSE NEWS:**

Nothing new.

### **SEARCH/OHV NEWS:**

There will be a **Track Aware/Tracker I course** at Cache County, Logan, Utah June 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, & 8<sup>th</sup> 2003, \$150. The course is being presented by Universal Tracking Services, Inc. This will be a 24 hour course beginning Friday morning at 8:30 am for both sections of this presentation, with registration and lecture including slide and video presentation to provide basic tracking understanding. The presentation supports field training by providing students with understanding of UTS training methods, manner and objectives. Tracking is a first response primary search resource used to verify witness statements, establish the PLS, direction of subject travel and following the physical evidence to the missing person. Field training will allow student tracking team experimentation and hands-on practice of fundamental tracking techniques. Students will progress from initial identifying of a print, to covering every aspect of following an identified sign line and practical tracking team response. This is a skill development training program. Students will learn what tracking actually is, how practical skill may be developed and that individually they can learn to see physical sign that others look at and do not see.

Students previously certified at the Track Aware level will be individually challenged with more advanced tracking training concepts. This section of the course will provide advanced training objectives and incorporate: note taking & report writing, basic ICS concepts, witness interviews, multiple team operations including sign cutting.

We have accepted three new trainees into the OHV team. Please help welcome **Bryan Bennett, Kathy Bennett, and Mitch Hales**. Bryan has 30+ years of experience riding the trails in the Monte area and Kathy is a Nurse and EMT. Kathy is also an ATV operator. Mitch has many years of back country experience and a good knowledge of the ATV trails.

Spring is here, please make sure that your **OHV equipment** is in good functioning condition. We will soon be planing an OHV certification class. Also, it is our intention to call at least a small number of four wheelers on nearly every call out for everything from direct search and rescue to support efforts such as ferrying people and equipment up the trail. Also, by county insurance rules we must always have proper protection equipment such as helmets, stout boots, gloves, etc. You are not supposed to be allowed out of the parking lot without proper equipment.

### **WINTER RESCUE/SNOWCAT NEWS:**

Nothing new.

### **PREVENTATIVE SEARCH AND RESCUE NEWS:**

**Jeff Stark** has completed another CERT class for Harrisville. **Ryan Werenskjold** helped him.

**Law Enforcement Day**, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, will be a combined operation with Davis County and the Scout-A-Rama. See information above in the Director's message. Contact Brandon Toll (pager: 591-2112) for details.

### **FINAL NOTES FROM THE EDITOR**

*Thanks again to **Patsy Winchester** for her fantastic minutes!!!*

*When attending a call out (or any SAR event) always sign in/out on the attendance roster.*

*This newsletter is intended to be for the benefit of all WCSSAR members.*

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