



Weber County Sheriff

Search and Rescue Training Newsletter



October 2000

TRAINING AND EVENTS CALENDAR 2000

OCTOBER

- 02 OEC classes—CANCELLED see newsletter for details Steve Mayne
- 03, 07 **Orienteering:** Map & Compass, GPS Class; Practical Dave Lehman
- 07 Elk and Duck Hunts Open
- 14 **Wood Cutting Expedition** at the Environmental Center, 8:00 am Brad Randall
- 25 **Dispatch Open House**, 2–4:00 pm Kathy Olsen
- 21 Deer Hunt Opens
- 21-29 **Deer Camp:** Bus up to Red Rock on the 19th—chilli that evening Art Haney/Brad Randall

NOVEMBER

- 02 **Briefing Meeting Winter Rescue;** for details call your Commander Curt Smith, Travis Baird
- 04 **WCSSAR OEC refresher** Steve Mayne
- 07, 11 **Mock Search:** Incident Command System Class; Practical Art Haney/Brad Randall
- 16, 18 **Snowcat:** Class; Practical Steve Carver

DECEMBER

- 01, 02 **Avalanche and Transceiver training for Winter Rescue:** Class; Practical John Sohl
- 05, 09 **Helicopter and Medical:** Packaging, splinting, hypothermia, frostbite, etc. Steve Mayne
Sponsor **Sub for Santa** family Kevin Christensen

TRAINING AND EVENTS CALENDAR 2001

JANUARY

- 02, 06 **Avalanche:** Class; Practical John Sohl/Jeff Hirschi
- 20 **Ice axe self arrest:** Don Roberts

FEBRUARY

- 06, 10 **Winter Mock SAR:** snow evac., snow anchors, SKED, OSSII Class; Practical John Sohl
 - TBA **Ice climbing** and vertical rescue on ice Don Roberts
 - TBA **Winter Survival Seminar** Art Haney/Brad Randall
 - TBA **Interagency Winter Training** Art Haney/Brad Randall
 - TBA **HRT** Art Haney/Brad Randall
 - 09-11 *Men's Alpine Super Series (DH/SG) at Snowbasin**
 - 24-25 *Downhill Men's World Cup at Snowbasin**
 - 26- 3/04 *Disabled Alpine World Cup at Snowbasin**
- *schedule as posted on the US Ski Team web site www.uskiteam.com*

MARCH

- 06, 10 **Tension Traverse & V-rig:** vertical pick-off from tension traverse Class; Practical John Sohl
 - 16-18 *Women's Alpine Super Series Finals (DH/SG) at Snowbasin**
- *schedule as posted on the US Ski Team web site www.uskiteam.com*

APRIL

- 03, 07 **Urban Rescue:** Class; Practical Rick Schroeder

MAY

- 01, 05 **Regional Interteam/agency Exercise** Roy West

JUNE

- 05, 09 **Swift Water:** Class; Practical Jeff Hirschi

JULY

- 03, 07 **Vertical Rescue:** Class; Practical Jeff Hirschi

AUGUST

- 08-11 **Weber County Fair Climbing Wall** John Sohl

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Med. Coord. Steve Mayne
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MOUNTED POSSE

Capt Jim Armstrong
Lt. Terry Cevering
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UNDERWATER RECOVERY

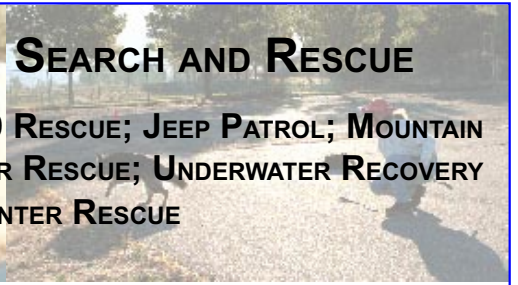
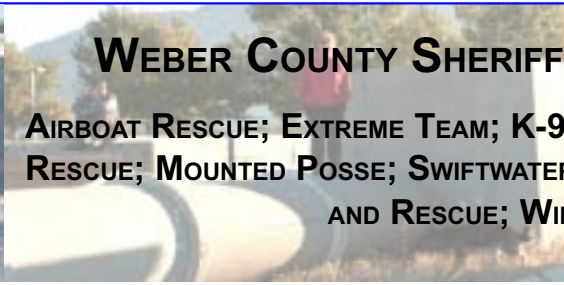
Cmdr Art Pluim
591-2475

WINTER RESCUE

Cmdr Curt Smith
591-3419
Training Jack Miller

All phone numbers listed above are digital pager numbers with area code 801

*WCSSAR web site at:
<http://planet.weber.edu/mru>*



WEBER COUNTY SHERIFF SEARCH AND RESCUE

AIRBOAT RESCUE; EXTREME TEAM; K-9 RESCUE; JEEP PATROL; MOUNTAIN RESCUE; MOUNTED POSSE; SWIFTWATER RESCUE; UNDERWATER RECOVERY AND RESCUE; WINTER RESCUE

TRAINING CALENDAR 2001 (CONT.)

SEPTEMBER

04, 08 Helicopter Training John Sohl
Please visit the calendar on the WCSSAR web site planet.weber.edu/mru for the training schedule through 2001.

SEPTEMBER CALL OUTS:

None.

SEARCH AND RESCUE NEWS:

The **Search and Rescue Appreciation Dinner** was held on September 7th at 6:00 pm at the Riverdale Pavilion on the Weber County Fairgrounds. A good time was had by all and the following WCSSAR team members received Awards of Appreciation: **Travis Baird, Kevin Christensen, Jeff Hirschi, Ron Hodson, Jeff King, Mont King, Dave Lehman, Mary Lehman, Lane McPheeters, Howard Pluim, Mark Pluim, Curt Smith, John Sohl, Cindy Stark, and Stuart Taylor.** Plaques of Appreciation were also presented to: **Kent Jensen, Art Pluim, Steve Mayne, Jeff Stark, and Sheri Trbovich.** In addition, for their participation at the Weber County Fair, **Jamis McPheeters and Ian Sohl, who are not members of SAR,** received Awards of Appreciation for their assistance to our SAR operations. Thanks to everyone on the WCSSAR teams for your dedication and support.

The Sheriff's Office is still considering whether to pay for **SAR pagers.**

Art Haney would like to thank everyone who participated in helping demonstrate SAR skills and equipment for the **church young mens group** on September 26th.

Art stated they still needed to get supplies and a date for replacing the **cat tracks.** This was tabled until funding was checked out.

In August an agreement was signed with A.R.E.S. and they became an official auxiliary with Weber County Sheriff's Emergency Management Office and will be known as the **WCS A.R.E.S. Communication Team.**

The **World Cup** will be held during the last two weeks of February 2001 at Snowbasin. We will be handling SAR in the out-of-bounds areas. SAR members with OEC or EMT qualifications will be needed during this event. The training for HRT/SWAT and the Winter Seminar will be the first three weeks in February.

Brad Randall is requesting that on October 14th, at 8:00 a.m. folks come out and cut up some of the old, dead **Cottonwood trees at the Environmental Center.** Last year it cost over \$300.00 for the firewood, but Brad has received permission for us to come chop down trees in lieu of paying for the wood. Brad needs the names of team members who will be able to help on Saturday. We will also need log splitters and chain saws.

Due to lack of participants, the **OEC classes are cancelled** for this fall. We will try to reschedule this for next spring or fall. For more information contact your Unit Commander or Steve Mayne.

Art Haney announced that WCSSAR's **OEC refresher** course will be on Saturday, November 4th. There is a pretest available at www.nsp.org/Education/2000refresherstudyguide.asp. It is in pdf format and you need Adobe Acrobat Reader to open the file. If you have difficulty downloading or opening this document, email or call Sheri for a hard copy.

AIRBOAT NEWS:

The **Mock Search** is still on hold until the Civil Air Patrol is contacted. The water situation is better now.

A.R.E.S NEWS:

A full **shortwave set-up** has been purchased and will be in EOC.

A.R.E.S. will be available to assist at the **Deer Camp.**

DISPATCH NEWS:

Kathy Olsen announced that there is massive **cross training** taking place at Dispatch these days. The various new dispatchers and dispatchers from the other jurisdictions won't know you if you call up so please be patient.

There will be an **open house** at the new Dispatch offices on October 25th from 2 pm to 4 pm at 2186 Lincoln Avenue. Invitations will be going out soon.



JEEP PATROL NEWS:

Deer camp will be open October 21st to 29th. We will bring the bus up on the 19th. There will be a chili dinner on the 19th—spouses are welcomed to attend. Brad will check on the phone line at Red Rock. Dispatch would like everyone to call and check in and out of their shifts at the bus. This will aid Dispatch in knowing when the bus is manned and by whom.

The Sheriff has decided not put up the **Quanset Hut**. Art will talk to Kelly at the shops about putting it up there. The **trailers and bus** need licensing. Art will take care of the bus. The trailers have been inspected per Brad.

The **duce-n-half** has a grounding problem. Art Haney will check it out. The fan belts on the bus need to be replaced and steam cleaning the engine would be a plus.

The **bus was cleaned** by a work party on the 9th and they threw everything out of it. Everyone will need to bring their own utensils and cooking equipment if they want to cook.

The **generator** needed a new gas line which was taken care of.

Kevin Christensen asked about getting permission to leave the **Jeep Patrol bus in the snowmobile parking lot** for the winter. This would provide a place to sleep on call outs if needed. Brad will check with Kelly.

K-9 NEWS:

Two of our members, **John Straus and his dog Reno**, are leaving us for greener pastures. John will be retiring from the State of Utah as the Assistant Park Manager and Law Enforcement Officer of Jordanelle State Park. He, his wife Julie and their two children will be moving to Florida in November where he will pursue a new career in the computer industry. We were lucky to have John on our team as he brought along his experience not only has a dog handler, but in law enforcement as well. John had training in Managing the Search Function which could have been of great use to us. As I understand, John has already been in contact with local and FEMA SAR groups in Florida and is already paving the way to continuing with his "volunteer" career. We will miss John and Reno but wish him all the best in his new endeavor.

Forensic Cadaver Training

by Mary Lehman

The weekend of June 22nd and 23rd took four of the K9 team handlers to a Forensic Cadaver Class in Salmon, Idaho. The instructors for this class had impressive credentials.

Forensic Anthropologist, Dr. Turhon Murad, was brought in from the University of California, Chico. He was able to give us information that could help to determine human male from female, and approximate age based upon specific bones and their structure. He presented interesting information and I believe we all could have listened to him for longer than the couple of hours he was allotted.

Sgt. Tracy Campbell, Fayetteville, NC was brought in to teach us how to motivate our dogs and keep them motivated during a cadaver search. Tracy is the K9 Sgt. and director of their K9 training program with the Fayetteville Police Dept. He was a wealth of information when it came to getting the best performance from our dogs.

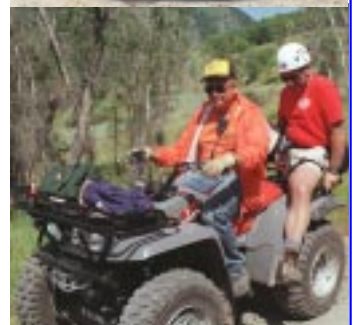
Our hosts, Terry and Cindy Stratton, are experienced cadaver dog handlers and provided us with access to their ranch, home and garage, aka classroom. They were also instrumental in providing great training sites that proved to be new challenges for some of the dogs. They also had a great BBQ, which provided for the good fellowship of SAR K9 handlers.

An attorney from Montana was also brought in to stress the importance of keeping training logs and to never stretch the truth or fit it to the circumstances on the witness stand. He related an incident that occurred in which he was a defense attorney. A dog handler/expert witness was brought in to verify the track of a homicide suspect. He had been briefed on what the local law enforcement had perceived the suspect would do. The dog handler then "verified" the track with the dog and testified to it in court, i.e. he walked his dog on the track that the suspect supposedly took. When asked to produce his training logs he told the court that they "were in a box that he left on top of his vehicle and they blew off." Because of this and other facts his information was not admitted as an expert testimony. And, as it turns out the suspect was found not guilty of the crime.

We were able to work the dogs through a certification type test that included buried lambs (aged in the ground 1 month), calf blood on a black garbage bag and a cow's head that was also buried and aged in the ground. This type of a distraction is important to include in human cadaver training. We don't want the dogs to indicate on animal cadaver and this was a perfect opportunity to be able to have a scenario like this to train. If my memory is correct, the two dogs from our team that worked this problem completely ignored the animal cadaver, a critical fact when going into a courtroom.

The problems that we worked ranged from very basic for new dogs and puppy imprinting to locating cadaver material in an abandoned trailer house and an abandoned vehicle. In these types of problems the dogs are worked much like a drug dog with the handler helping to put the dogs nose in every crack, crevice or vent to achieve success.

Teams that were at the training came from as far away as Washington State as well as from Montana, Utah and Idaho. By the end of the training we went away with our brains full and dogs ready for further training.





MOUNTED POSSE NEWS:

The **Fall ride** was canceled due to bad weather. The Posse is done for the year.

Brad Randall still needs updated Posse team member **names and phone numbers**—Terry Covering will supply these to Brad.

MOUNTAIN RESCUE NEWS:

The **cave rescue training** on Friday, September 15th was informative and interesting. Several members of WCSMRU and Chad attended the class held by Utah Cave SAR. For more information on this group go to: www.utahcaverescue.org/.

The **cave rescue practical** was held on September 16th at Tony's Grove. It ended up being more of a rescue than training. A couple of kids were stuck on a cliff and our team lowered one of them off the cliff face. Lane McPheeters will get a report together for Art.

There are still some **shirts** from the Weber County Fair left to sell, the cost is \$15.00.

John Sohl is still checking with the U.S. distributor for information on the **UT2000 litter** we received from DDO surplus. He is looking for instructions, accessories, and missing parts.

Sheri Trbovich is putting together a **SAR photon light order** for 2000 which is due at the end of October.

North Face—no book has been seen in order to place an order. Brad will keep an eye out for the book.

Lane McPheeters stated that the team's **webbing** was damaged in the MRU trailer and needs to be replaced. John Sohl will get Brad the details and as soon as possible Art Haney will get it ordered from Liberty Mountain. Lane would like to have certain colors pertain to specific lengths, to standardize with national SAR practices.

Art and Brad checked out the deer carrier at Vintage Thrift and decided it would not work for SAR.

UNDERWATER RECOVERY AND RESCUE NEWS:

The Dive Team's big **Zodiac** will be traded for the Jeep Patrol's smaller Zodiac—which fits into the trailer better. **The dive trailer** will be kept at the Sheriff's Office.

WINTER RESCUE NEWS:

The **briefing meeting** will be held November 2nd. Notification letters need to go out in October.

Travis Baird would like to work with Mtn. Rescue to conduct **avalanche and transceiver training** on December 1st and 2nd. This training will be mandatory for extreme team members.

Brad Randall has the plans for the **building at the snowmobile parking lot**. He needs to get them to Jack. Brad also has 50 parking passes.

FINAL NOTES

Less than 500 days to the **Winter Olympics**...

Don't forget...if you want to order any **Photon Lights** get your order form and money to Sheri **before the end of October**. There will only be one order this year!

*Reminder: when attending a call out (or any SAR event) always **sign in and out on the attendance roster**. For the sake of state SAR reimbursement, your sign in/out times are from when you receive the call to your return home. Mileage estimates are important—including training, meetings, and call outs.*

*Note from the Editor: A special big thank you to **Patsy Winchester** for quickly typing and sending the minutes of the Commanders meeting. This newsletter is intended to be for the benefit of all WCSSAR units.*

Please send newsletter articles, items and pictures (yes I AM serious!) for inclusion, corrections or comments to:

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