



# Weber County Sheriff

## Search and Rescue Training Newsletter



December 2000

### TRAINING AND EVENTS CALENDAR 2000

Newsletter updated 12/08/00, all changes are in red!

#### DECEMBER

- 01, 02 **Aval/Transceivers Winter Rescue:** Class 7–9:30 pm, WCSO; Practical 9 am–1 pm ..... John Sohl
- Ⓢ 05 **Olympics, Radios, GPS, MRU elections:** 7–9 pm, WCSO ..... Art Haney/Kathy Olsen/John Sohl
- 09 **WCSSAR OEC refresher:** Class 8 am–5 pm, WCSO ..... Steve Mayne
- Ⓢ 16 **Snowbasin Mock Search:** Call-out ..... Art Haney/Brad Randall  
Sponsor **Sub for Santa** family ..... Jeff Stark

### TRAINING AND EVENTS CALENDAR 2001

#### JANUARY

- Ⓢ 03\*, 06 **Avalanche Level I:** Class 6–10 pm, WCSO; \**Note date change!*; Practical 8am–1pm . Steve Ericson
- 06 **Multi-Agency Olympics Training:** 2pm, (see news section) ..... John Sohl/Art Haney/Brad Randall
- 19-20 **MRA Snow and Ice Workshop** in SLC, registration required ..... Roy West

#### FEBRUARY

- Ⓢ 06, 10 **High-angle snow evac., anchors, SKED, self arrest:** Class; Practical ... Nate Crowther, Don Roberts
- TBA **Helicopter Training** ..... John Sohl
- 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 *Men's Downhill 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 ..... Jake Hirschi
- Ⓢ 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

#### SEPTEMBER

- 04, 08 **Helicopter Training** ..... John Sohl

#### OCTOBER

- 02, 06 **Orienteering** ..... Dave Lehman

#### NOVEMBER

- 06, 10 **Medical** ..... Steve Mayne

Please visit the calendar on the WCSSAR web site [planet.weber.edu/mru](http://planet.weber.edu/mru) for the training schedule through 2001.

Ⓢ indicates required training for Mountain Rescue Unit members. All training from Apr.–Nov. is also required.

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**UNDERWATER RECOVERY**

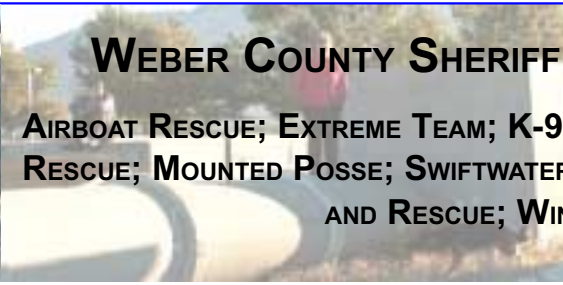
**Cmndr Art Plum**  
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**WINTER RESCUE**

**Cmndr Curt Smith**  
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**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**

## NOVEMBER CALL OUT:

11/14/00 Call out for **Divers** to recover a car from **Pineview Dam**. Took over 4 hours to recover vehicle, it was 65 feet out and about 35 feet deep. Art Haney did recover \$550.00 from insurance company. The money will be used to purchase a new wet suit.

## SEARCH AND RESCUE NEWS:

### Multi-Agency Olympics Training

An Olympics SAR meeting was held in SLC on Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>. Art Haney suggested that several multi-agency training events be held in different venues to help with everyone's familiarization of different terrains. At the Olympics SAR meeting we determined that Weber County would host the first multi-county training. On Saturday, January 6, 2001 at 2:00 p.m. we will have the following scenario: An avalanche slide hit three out-of-bounds skiers. At least one was thought to be wearing a beacon. The evidence is that two got buried and one seems to have skied out and is now missing. A huge storm system is due to arrive in a few hours and most of our teams are on other searches. SAR teams from other counties have been called in for support and a search is on. (Note that it will possibly be dark before training ends at around 5 p.m. so headlamps are a must.)

The hope is to have actual avalanche debris to search through. Thus, the exact location is weather dependent and can't be predicted, but we have narrowed it to three: Snowbasin, the Environmental Center, or the upper-most parking lot of Powder Mountain. We will determine the location on or before Thursday, January 4<sup>th</sup>.

This training will be an extension of the National Ski Patrol Avalanche Level I certification training already scheduled for January 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> as described below.

### Avalanche Level I Training Course

Steve Ericson (home: 479-0328) of the Winter Team and Powder Mountain Ski Patrol will be the lead instructor for a National Ski Patrol Level I Avalanche Certificate of Achievement course. It is hoped (but not required) that you will have been through a previous Avalanche Awareness course prior to attending this course. There is a **course fee of \$8.00** to cover the cost of the required text(s): Avalanche Rescue Quick Guide and/or Snow Sense.

***The course fee and start time and location for the Saturday session have changed since this newsletter was first published.***

The classroom session will be from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. at the Sheriff's Office on Wednesday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>. The field session will be from **8:00 a.m.** to 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 6<sup>th</sup> **at the main lodge**. This will be followed by the joint avalanche-training mission that will involve SAR teams from other counties, as noted above. You must attend both the classroom and field sessions to obtain your certification. *(Please note the MRU meeting usually on the first Tuesday of the month will be moved to Wednesday January 3<sup>rd</sup>.)*

### Olympics SAR Meeting Report

On Wednesday, November 15<sup>th</sup> there was a meeting of the Sheriff's SAR coordinators from the counties that will be most heavily impacted by the 2002 Olympics. The main topic of the meeting was the revision of the draft "Operational Plan for SAR Operations During the 2002 Olympic Games."

Current plans are for each county to respond to SAR missions on their own. If additional support is required then the other counties (or any other resource) can be called as needed. There will be an SAR support position staffed at the Utah Olympic Public Safety Command (UOPSC) post in Salt Lake City. UOPSC will be the main information hub that will oversee use of general resources such as air space. This person will monitor which counties are heavily committed and will be able to suggest resource options to counties that call in requesting additional support.

It was decided that Weber County would host the first of several joint-training missions. The date and time will be January 6, 2001 from 2:00 p.m. until about 5:00 p.m. That training will be a multi-agency avalanche response as detailed previously in this newsletter. ***Bring your headlamps!***

Salt Lake County will be hosting the Winter Meeting of the Mountain Rescue Association on January 19–21, 2001. (Visit [www.mra.org/future.html](http://www.mra.org/future.html) for more details.) The MRA has been targeted as one of the possible outside agency support options available to SAR teams during the Olympics.



## Avalanche Awareness Course

On Friday and Saturday December 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> there will be an introductory Avalanche Awareness course offered by WSCSO SAR. The Friday classroom session at the Sheriff's Complex will be from 7:00 p.m. until about 9:30 or 10:00. The Saturday session at the uppermost parking lot of Powder Mountain (near the Hidden Lake lift) will be from 9:00 a.m. (please arrive early) until noon at the latest. The Saturday session will concentrate on learning beacon searches.

## Other WCSSAR news:

The **ski resort's snow cats** will not be available for our use during the Olympics. Ski patrol members will become part of SAR during Olympics.

There will be a **mock search at Snowbasin** on December 16th starting around 7 a.m. Snowbasin is hosting and planning the training and will be first up on the mountain. Our teams will receive information on when and where to meet via a call-out on Saturday morning. Current plans are to meet in the lower parking lot. We will assign team members to columns to go up the lifts for the avalanche training. Those with skis may ski down after the training and other with snowshoes can ride the lifts down. There will be more details from Art Haney at the team meetings prior to the training.

Art Haney stated that the mix up with **North Face** has been taken care of and we are just waiting for a catalogue. Mont stated he ordered a jacket from Cabelas, and perhaps this is a solution to the North Face problem.

Jeff Stark agreed to be the contact person for **Sub for Santa** this year. He will provide information on families from Mental Health for SAR to assist for the holidays. Art will contact Kevin Christensen's family to see if they might need an extra hand this year. If members just wish to donate money, Jeff suggested \$5.00 a person. Jeff will provide more information at the team meetings in December or if you have questions you can contact Jeff Stark at Weber County Mental Health or send him email at bloodhound\_1@msn.com.

It was decided in order to give Sheri more time for the newsletter, beginning January of next year we will hold the **Commanders meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month**. December's meeting will still be held on December 26<sup>th</sup>. *(Yeah! Cheers and wild jumping-up-and-down!! Thanks everyone!!!)*

## AIRBOAT NEWS:

Mont King went out before it was frozen and stated that it was extremely sticky even in 6 inches of water.

## ARES:

ARES held their training on the 25<sup>th</sup> of November. There were 20 to 30 members sworn in. There will be a base station at WCSO and two handhelds and a mobile unit will be purchased to go into the Mobile Command.

## JEEP PATROL NEWS:

The **Snowcats still need a few repairs**. The orange cat's heater core leaks. Art Haney will check with Shops. Art needs to find the **title to the chrome dome** to get it licensed.

Art would like the **trucks and cats started once a week** to keep the batteries charged.

Scott Combe stated that there are 6 members with their **ham radio licenses**. Jeep Patrol will be putting ham radios in the cats to help conduct communications.

## K9 NEWS:

It was decided if WCSK9 members are working their dogs they will mount **Sheriff stars on the doors** of their vehicles so everyone will know who they are.

Since K9 is combining most of their training efforts with MRU and other teams over the winter, most avi training will consist of **working the puppies at Snowbasin** every weekend to get them up and going.

## MOUNTED POSSE NEWS:

The election dinner was held and **Joe Adams is new Captain**. Terry Cevering will still be representative to Commanders Meetings.

Terry gave Art the list for **Extreme Team** members and they will have a new roster after the first of the year.

The **Annual Benefit Rodeo** will be in March, phone calls for this event will begin soon. Joe will contact the Sheriff to advise him of the rodeo.

Terry asked that we not forget the **Posse when conducting any search**. They would be happy to provide needed manpower if necessary.

## MOUNTAIN RESCUE NEWS:

The **replacement webbing** has arrived and looks good. Lane McPheeters will pick up the webbing from Art.

**Lifelight helicopter hoist training** will be moved to early 2001. The December 05 meeting will instead cover **radio and GPS protocols for SAR and a discussion of Olympics issues**. This will include a discussion of the new 800 MHz radios.



January 19th through 20th is the **National MRA Snow and Ice Workshop** in SLC. For more information on the workshop contact Roy West or look at [www.mra.org/future.html](http://www.mra.org/future.html). Registration: \$30.00 before January 1, 2001, \$40.00 after that.

**Elections** will be held at the December meeting for Commander, Vice Commander and Secretary.

The **OEC refresher** is December 9<sup>th</sup> at WCSO 8 am. Colette and Mark Miller will be here for the refresher. **There will be a dinner with the Millers at JJ North, 6 pm Friday.**

January 3<sup>rd</sup> will be the classroom for **Avalanche training**, 6<sup>th</sup> is the practical. (See information under Olympics.) *(Please note the MRU meeting usually on the first Tuesday of the month will be moved to Wednesday the 3<sup>rd</sup>.)*

**Update on Colette's condition** from Mark: Colette's white cell and platelet counts have rebounded so she was allowed to come home. As long as nothing goes wrong she will be home until New Years and then go back to Junction for round two. We will be back to Utah next weekend so hope to visit everyone when we're there.

## UNDERWATER RESCUE AND RECOVERY:

Art Haney asked whether one of the **tanks** has been fixed. The parts are in but hasn't been fixed yet.

Art Haney has the **compressor** but it needs copper tubing and 2 new fittings.

Don Olsen has put together a new **web site** for the Dive team at <http://askadivemaster.com/>. We will integrate these pages into the WCSSAR site soon, and Don has done a wonderful job of getting this information on-line.

## WINTER RESCUE NEWS:

Curt Smith thanked Art Haney for getting the **awards certificates** for the dinner.

We did not have a float in the **Christmas parade** this year. All members stated they wanted one but when it came time to prepare only Curt and another member showed up.

Art has 8 additional **parking passes** for Monte. New members will have to wait until next year to get the passes or Art will make arrangements for them to work at the parking lot 2 or 3 times this year.

There was a discussion about the possibility of putting a **cap on numbers** of members for the team. Art, Curt and Travis will get together to discuss this further.

Curt asked that the **motorola** representative be contacted to come to their next meeting so members can purchase pagers. Art will take care of this.

Several team members need **ID cards**. The next meeting is December 7<sup>th</sup> and Art will make arrangements to have ID's taken.

Curt and Travis Baird would like copies of the **roll sheets** that have been filled out at meetings, training, and searches, to determine who are regular attendees. Art will work on this.

Curt asked about the **Monte office**. Art hasn't heard from Don, Curt stated he would do the follow up.

Curt wants to confirm that we had enough **radios** when there is a call out. Art thinks we have enough for the team leaders. Teams will have talkabouts, leaders will have law enforcement radios. Travis asked that each team be given two law enforcement radios due to the fact that teams often split up on a search. After the 800 radios are up and running we should have more radios. Curt wanted to make sure radios are identified and marked so we do not misplace them. Art has the radios in his office but he will check to make sure they are ID'd.

## FINAL NOTES

**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.

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