



Search & Rescue Council, Inc.

Southern Arizona Rescue Association
Pima County Four Wheel Drive
Search & Rescue
Pima County Search & Recovery Divers
Pima County Sheriff's Mounted Posse, and
Civil Air Patrol Neotoma Squadron 109

P.O. BOX 44251
TUCSON, AZ 85733

APRIL 1983 NEWSLETTER

MEETINGS, PRACTICES AND TRAININGS:

- Fri.
Apr. 1 SARA Annual Meeting - ELECTIONS: 8:00 p.m. at St. Mark's Presbyterian Church, 3809 E. 3rd St. The agenda for the meeting will include the election of new board members for the coming year, and a vote on the proposed By-laws changes as recommended by the Board of Directors. Please note change in meeting time for this meeting only. Paul Howe and Joe Barr will have equipment available at this meeting for checking radios and pagers.
- Sat.
Apr. 2 DESERT S&R: 7 p.m., rendezvous location TBA. Cat Park. For more information, please contact Jim Gilbreath or Sam Sagi.
- Sun.
Apr. 3 HAPPY EASTER!!
- All Mondays,
Apr. 4, 11,
18 & 20 NEOTOMA COMPOSITE SQUADRON (CAP) meetings: 7:00 p.m. at Flowing Wells Fire Station #2, corner of Curtis and Davis.
- Wed.
Apr. 6 PCS&R General Meeting: 7:30 p.m. at Home Federal Tower, 32 N. Stone Av., 6th floor (down-town). Please note change in location.
- Fri.-Sun.,
Apr. 8-17 PIMA COUNTY FAIR
- Sat.
Apr. 9 TRAIL FAMILIARIZATION HIKE: 9:00 a.m. rendezvous at Tanque Verde and Sabino for TV Falls, common people falls. For more information, please contact Jim Gilbreath or Mykle Raymond.
- Sun.
Apr. 10 DIVERS Dry Session - Rigging: 9 a.m. at TMC Fireplace Room.
- Wed.
Apr. 20 SARCI Council Meeting: 7:30 p.m. at U of A Hospital Classroom, Room 6120, 1501 N. Campbell.
- Sat.-Sun.
Apr. 23-24 Work on Bog-In for KCEE Rillito River Regatta: Volunteers are needed for all kinds of work to put this event together, especially for the bog-in. Dry run is on April 29th. April 30th is THE DAY. Call Paul Howe at 296-6246 to volunteer your services.
- Wed.
Apr. 27 PCS&R Board Meeting: 7:30 p.m. at Sosna's. Call 297-0261 for further information.
- Thu.
Apr. 28 SARA Board Meeting: 7:30 p.m. Location TBA. All SARA members are welcome at these meetings.
- Fri.
Apr. 29 Dry Run for KCEE Rillito River Regatta: Volunteers are still needed for completing details on Regatta. Call Paul Howe at 296-6246 for further information and to help out.
- Sat.
Apr. 30 KCEE RILLITO RIVER REGATTA: This is THE DAY for the Regatta. Contact Paul Howe for further information at 296-6246.

NEWS:

- Coming Soon: SARCI Basic Orientation: 8:00 a.m., Sat., May 21, 1983, at Harlan Park, Arcadia and 1st St.
- Basic Rescue Training:
May 27 - 7:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. -- Place TBA.
May 28 - 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. -- Place TBA.
May 29 - 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. -- Place TBA.

FIRST AID NEWS:

- Advanced First Aid - first week of May
- Advanced First Aid Refresher - call Frances Walker for further information.

CALLOUTS:

Date	Situation
Sat., Feb. 19	Wrist injury at TV Falls. Ground evacuation.
Fri., Feb. 25	Fall victim on trail at TV. Ground evacuation.
Wed., Mar. 2	Fall victim at Gibbon Canyon. Ground evacuation to DPS Helicopter on road.
Sun., Mar. 13	Rendezvous for heart attack victim at Seven Falls. Helicopter evacuation.
Mon., Mar. 21	Search at T/V Falls for 18-year-old male who allegedly slipped and fell, and was washed over T/V Falls. There has been a brief search every morning, with volunteers using probes, grappling hooks and related equipment, this week. See related Commentary in this Newsletter.

The Arizona Daily Star
Tuesday, March 22, 1983

The young die thrillingly at Tanque Verde Falls

The cause of death for Todd Wright will be listed officially as drowning, or head injuries from being battered against the rocks.

But it was youth that killed him.

Wright was 18. Sunday he slipped and fell into the rushing water at Tanque Verde Falls. They're still looking for the body.

On an afternoon hike with friends, Todd Wright pushed his luck to the limit. Young men love to do it.

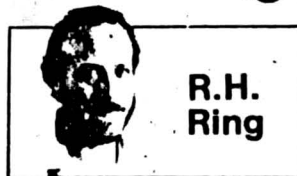
The stream muscled by spring rains crashed through the canyon, thundering over boulders, surging against trees, snatching away anything it could.

Todd Wright dared the thunder.

He followed the sound down to its center — waterfalls where the canyon narrows and the stream drops 40 feet, then 15, then 30 and finally the giant, the killer of 100 feet.

At the lip of the third falls, Todd Wright jumped four feet across the torrent, from one ledge to another. There was no particular reason to get to the other side. It had to be the thrill.

A high school gymnast and health-



R.H.
Ring

Commentary

club member, Wright made the leap in style. The thrust, the glide, the landing. He beat danger, that time.

Mist rose off the falls, just to his right and down, and slicked the granite underfoot. Even dry, the rock in that canyon is smooth, polished by eons of speeding floods.

Todd Wright tried to jump back to the side where he started, to the path going up and out. He was headed home to the city.

As a friend watched, he landed short, slid down into the cold water. For an aching moment he tried to swim. He did not cry out.

Finally he was swept over the falls, head first, face up.

His friend yelled: Todd. Todd. Todd. He called for a long time. He searched along the banks downstream. Then he walked out and notified the right people.

They were out there yesterday morning, looking for Todd Wright. They had helmets and rope and diving gear, poles to probe the muddy water and grappling hooks to bring out what they found.

Todd Wright didn't turn up. Speculation had him pinned by the undertow under the falls. That's what happened to most of the others.

When he is found, maybe today, maybe next week, Todd Wright will be listed as No. 20 at Tanque Verde Falls.

That many have died in the canyon since 1975, when a list was begun. Another 20 have been seriously injured — paralyzed, bones broken, skulls fractured.

There is no mistaking the danger at Tanque Verde. The look of the canyon is enough. And there have been many newspaper stories before this one.

The falls have claimed so many

that signs have been posted warning of flood danger, the slippery rocks.

One sign, bolted to a boulder after eight people died in one summer flood, reads clearly: Beware of danger. Many have died here.

Todd Wright had to see those signs. He had to walk right past them. But warnings don't apply to young men, you see. They are for old folks, kids, women and tourists. Young men are made to take risks.

They are also prone to die. Nearly every one of the dead or injured at Tanque Verde were young men, ages 16 to 25, according to the list.

The falls will not lose any popularity because of Todd Wright's leap. Yesterday, young men were carrying beer into the canyon as the searchers, tired and wet, were hiking out.

The hikers paid little attention to the warning signs, the looks on the searchers' faces.

I hope Todd Wright is found on a weekend, when the falls are crowded with young men having fun and taking risks. That would be a warning not easily forgotten.

APRIL 1983						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					SARA Annual Elections Meeting (1)	DESERT SEARCH & RESCUE (2)
HAPPY EASTER (3)	CAP Meeting (4)	(5)	PCS&R General Meeting (6)	(7)	PIMA COUNTY FAIR APR. 8-17 (8)	TRAIL FAMILIARIZATION HIKE (9)
DIVERS Rigging (10)	CAP Meeting (11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)
(17)	CAP Meeting (18)	(19)	SARCI Board Meeting (20)	(21)	(22)	Work on Bog-In for Regatta (23)
Work on Bog-In for Regatta (24)	CAP Meeting (25)	(26)	PCS&R Board Meeting (27)	SARA Board Meeting (28)	Regatta Dry Run (29)	KCEE Rillito River Regatta (30)