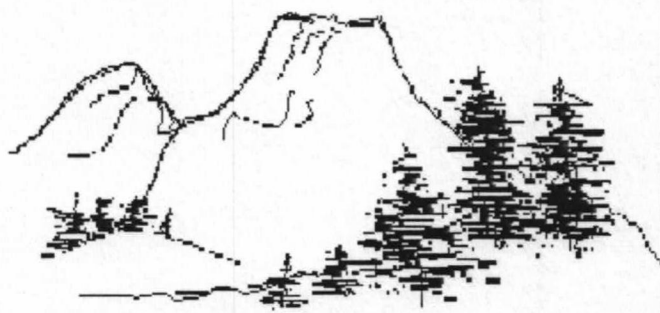


# SARNEWS



DECEMBER 1996

TUCSON, ARIZONA

VOL.21 NO.12

## FROM THE EDITORS

MERRY CHRISTMAS !!

## SOUTHWEST RESCUE DOGS, INC.

by Jenny Tuttle, 622-8105

### SRDI CALENDAR

**Training Committee Meeting** 18:30-20:00 Wed, Dec 4  
Sheriff Substation 106, Tanque Verde and Catalina Hwy  
**Board Meeting** 20:00-21:00 Wed, Dec 4  
Sheriff Substation 106, Tanque Verde and Catalina Hwy  
**General Meeting** 19:00-21:00 Thu, Dec 12  
Sheriff Substation 106, Tanque Verde and Catalina Hwy  
Slate will be open again during this meeting in preparation  
for January's election of the new board.

**December Training** Sat & Sun, Dec 14-15

### PLEASE NOTE CHANGE

We'll combine the monthly and specialty training this month:  
two days in Patagonia / Sonoita area working on the Jones'  
property. You can make it Saturday, Sunday, or both. The  
Jones' have bunk facilities for those who wish to stay overnight  
and Kay is putting on a spread Saturday night that you won't  
want to miss!! Contact Pam for times and directions.

**Training Committee Meeting** 18:30-20:00 Wed, Jan 1  
Sheriff Substation 106, Tanque Verde and Catalina Hwy  
**Board Meeting** 20:00-21:00 Wed, Jan 1  
Sheriff Substation 106, Tanque Verde and Catalina Hwy  
**January Training: Certification Tracks** 08:00 Sun, Jan 5  
Sheriff Substation 106, Tanque Verde and Catalina Hwy  
The training will be in the Greaterville Road Area

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL OF OUR FRIENDS !!!!

## TUCSON COMPOSITE SQUADRON. C.A.P.

by 1lt Darell New, 290-9501

No report, must be out flying.

## PIMA CO. SEARCH AND RECOVERY DIVERS

by Fran Kunz, 886-2216

### DIVER'S CALENDAR

**December Training: Altitude Tables** 09:00, Sun, Dec 8  
Joe Barr's, 3023 Calle Castellon (743-9171)  
Dry session covering altitude tables.

Congratulations to the newly elected officers.

President	Richard Kunz
Vice President	Doug Myrvold
Treasurer	Joe Barr
Secretary	Fran Kunz
Members at Large	Dan Durda, Nate Shechter

Training Committee	Cathy Wasmann
	Doug Myrvold

## PIMA CO. SHERIFF'S MOUNTED POSSE

by Bob Siegel, 722-1358

### POSSE CALENDAR

**Posse Meeting** 19:00 Thu, Dec 19  
Sheriff Substation 106, Tanque Verde & Cat. Hwy.

## SOUTHERN ARIZONA RESCUE ASSOCIATION

### SARA CALENDAR

**SARA General Meeting** 19:30 Fri, Dec 6  
St. Marks Presbyterian Church  
"Premier Showing of the SARA Video"  
**SARA Board Meeting** 19:30 Thur, Dec 19  
U of A Farms (mobile classroom, south of bleachers)  
Note the date, a week early, due to Christmas.  
**OEC Refresher** 08:30 Sat, Jan 25  
Udall Park  
**Field Skills Recertification** 08:30 Sat, Jan 25  
Udall Park  
**SARA Candidate Program** 18:30 Tues, Feb 11  
Tumbleweed Room, TMC

## SARA DECEMBER TRAINING

### BASE CAMP & 4 WHEEL DRIVE PRACTICE

**Presenters:** Joe Barr & Nate Shechter  
**Where:** It depends...  
**When:** 08:30, Saturday, December 14  
**Meet:** Oracle & Magee

If the snow is challenging, we can go up the Mt. Lemmon Control Road. Otherwise we'll go up Cargodera Canyon, and try to reach the Sutherland trail head. Bring lunch, as well as your favorite road building & self rescue tools. The objective is to get stuck, repeatedly. By knowing the limits of our equipment, we can avoid spending valuable resources rescuing our vehicles instead of our patients.

### SARA JANUARY TRAINING SNOW PRACTICE

**Presenters:** Nate Shechter  
**Where:** In the Snow  
**When:** 08:00, Saturday, January 18  
**Meet:** Sheriff Substation 106, Tanque Verde & Cat.Hwy

### OEC REFRESHER

**Presenters:** TBA  
**Where:** Udall Park  
**When:** 08:30, Saturday, January 25  
Check with Rich Kunz, 886-2216, or Nate Shechter, 887-3714, for your OEC refresher booklet. They will be available at the December and January meeting.

### FIELD SKILLS RECERTIFICATION

**Presenters:** Nate Shechter  
**Where:** Udall Park  
**When:** 08:30, Saturday, January 25  
Check with Andy Lamb, 743-7175, if you feel you may be up for recertification. Please ensure that our records are up-to-date.

### CANDIDATE PROGRAM UPDATE

by Andy Lamb 743-7175 103217.1167@compuserve.com

With the completion of the fall OEC class seven new candidates are allowed to come on callouts. All candidates are required to wear the new yellow candidate shirts on callouts. For those candidates from the first candidate class who don't have a new candidate shirts please contact us to pickup one up.

Candidate Training Note from Rich White:  
Rich would like to thank Jeff Brucker and Pam Phillips for helping with Basic II at Molino Basin. Rich will be looking for help with Basic III & IV in May.

### BLS Course: CPR for the Professional Rescuer

Adult, infant and child, CPR, one man and two man rescuer, use of pocket resuscitation mask and bag valve mask. Red Cross certificate upon successful completion of course. Cost \$20.00. A pocket rescue mask is required (\$10.00 at class). Time and place to be arranged. Call Frances Walker, 790-9399

## 1997 SARA TRAINING SCHEDULE

We look for your input before we put this in concrete (remember we can move concrete). Please feel free to contact any of us on the training committee for questions or suggestions. We will alternate practices on the first and third Saturdays. Some practices will have advanced practices on the same day, others will not.

### Monthly Training Dates

18 January Snow Practice  
15 February Cave Practice  
15 March TV Falls & Trolley System (Advanced)  
19 April Vertical Rope Work  
17 May Map Training  
7 June Basic Rock Work  
19 July River Rescue  
16 August Mock Technical Rescue  
20 September Tracking Practice  
3 October Night Exercise  
8 November Pick Offs & Vertical Stokes Work  
6 December Truck & Equipment

### Field Skills Recertification Dates

25 January, 26 April, 26 July, and 25 October

### Basic Training Dates

1 February Basic III  
1 March Basic IV  
6 May Basic I  
10 May Basic II  
31 May Basic III  
28 June Basic IV  
3 November Basic I  
8 November Basic II

### SARA BOARD MEETING ATTENDANCE REPORT

Month:	4	5	6	7	8	9	Total
Dale Mann	x	x	x	x	x	x	6
Rich White	x	x	x	x	x	x	6
Jim Gilbreath	x	x	x	x	x	x	6
Bill Graff	x	x	x	x	x	x	6
Andy Lamb	x	x	x	x	x	x	6
Bill Kelleman	-	x	x	x	x	x	5
Nate Shechter	x	-	-	x	-	-	2
Scott Clemans	x	x	x	x	x	x	6
Cathy Wasmann	x	x	-	x	x	x	5

### MOUNTAIN RESCUE ASSOCIATION

by Andy Lamb 743-7175 103217.1167@compuserve.com

**Desert Mountain Region, Quarterly Meeting** Jan 18, 1997  
Tucson, Arizona

The Apache Rescue Team is applying for MRA membership.  
Discussion about proposing MRA member standards/guidelines.

**WINTER MEETING** Jan 25 and 26, 1997

Colorado Springs, Colorado

Hosted by El Paso County Search and Rescue

**SNOW AND ICE WORKSHOP** February, 1997

White Mountains, Arizona

Sponsored by **SARA !!**

Desert Mountain Region, Re-Accreditation

**SPRING MEETING** June 13,14, and 15, 1997

Provo, Utah

Hosted by Central Arizona Mountain Rescue Association

## MINE RESCUE TRAINING REPORT.

by John Perchorowicz RCT2JTP@aol.com

The mine rescue was hosted on 16 November by Cindy and Bob Copping at their ranch, and took place in and around the Mogul Mine which serves as their well for plants and livestock. Thanks to all who attended, a few trainees, mostly old timers and one visitor from Cochise County. Thanks Bill for bringing the truck and equipment. The training began with a brief orientation to the mine and exercise while victim Pam got into position. Teams were organized to care of and retrieve the first rescuer (haul system and belay), equipped with an oxygen and explosive gas detector (thanks Deputy Doug).

Thanks go to Dave Brown for constructing the tripod which was set over the shaft. Things went not as planned from the beginning which added to the exercise. The cover over the six by eight foot collar was not able to be removed, leaving a two by three foot opening through which to work and pass gear and victim. The first rescuer found that the oxygen concentration was below ambient under ground (nineteen percent). This again altered the exercise and limited the number of people allowed underground at one time.

Victim Pam fell asleep awaiting rescue (out of boredom not low oxygen). The second team located the victim and began dealing with a leg injury. The team was trimmed to three until the oxygen concentration increased above alarm level. A steady breeze was deflected down the shaft as an aid in ventilation (good idea Bob). A stokes was sent down and the victim packaged. Moving the victim from the drift forty feet below the surface across a telephone pole to the center of the shaft in anticipation of a vertical haul dislodged rock from the back of the drift. A rescuer entered to assess damage and strategy for approaching the shaft with the stokes. This done, the victim/stokes was maneuvered into a vertical position and brought to the surface with a single attendant (thanks Bill). Upon reaching the surface the stokes rigging was found to be too long for the stokes to clear the cover as the knot reached the pulley. Only the victim's eyes were visible. Rerigging brought the stokes to two thirds out. Deft coordination between the haul team and the stokes attendants moved the victim to a horizontal position next to the collar.

Released from her bindings after four hours, One Boot Curly headed straight for the Necessary.

Following a tour of the shaft by the remainder of those who wished to do so, a potluck late lunch was enjoyed by all. Happy Birthday Bonnie! Thanks Bob and Cindy!

### Lessons learned beyond what was anticipated:

Even though a small number of people have entered the mine with no ill effects in the past, don't assume that the oxygen content is adequate. Had it fallen below 17% the exercise would have been called off, since no oxygen supply was available for rescuers.

Big heavy tripods look sturdy until they are loaded and the haul team begins to pull from the side. They must be anchored from the top in the opposite direction, preferably with adjustable tension to balance changing loads.

A rope stretched between two points tries to make a straight line. Loose rock is a poor change of direction, particularly when overhead.

Tripods with pulleys added are shorter. Couple this with our normal rigging of the front of the stokes and it becomes even more difficult for the foot of the stokes to clear the collar. Rigging needs to be as close to the apex of the tripod as possible and stokes rigging as short as possible without compromising the integrity of the stokes.

## CALLOUT REVIEWS

Mary & Andy Lamb 743-7175 103217.1167@compuserve.com

### Summary of Data

**Reporting Period:** 01 January - 23 November **Callouts:** 82  
**SARCI People:** 990 **Total Hours:** 3794 **Hours/Person:** 3.8

**Reporting Period:** 20 October - 23 November **Callouts:** 7  
**SARCI People:** 66 **Total Hours:** 291 **Hours/Person:** 4.4

**TUE 29 OCT:** CALL 96.076 Rescue of ?? year old female with shoulder and arm injured in a fall during a NOLS class in Milagrosa Canyon, just above the Agua Caliente Canyon junction. The group packaged her in a Skeds, and moved a short distance before meeting ambulance and SAR people, helped by Air Care lights overhead. The stokes was added, and several belays were used while carrying her out.  
20 people, 78 hours, PM83, Air Care

**SUN 03 NOV:** CALL 96.077 Rescue of ?? year old male fall victim on the "Mean Mistreater" climb at Windy Point. He suffered an angulated tib/fib fracture, and was carried out by stokes, using three haul systems.  
21 people, 104 hours, MLFD

**TUE 12 NOV:** CALL 96.078 K-9 search for a ?? year old female who walked away from a trailer south of Green Valley. The dogs searched but found nothing. She was found the next morning wandering near the Arivaca exit, a couple of kilometers south.  
2 people, ?? hours

**WED 13 NOV:** CALL 96.079 Search for two hikers overdue from a short hike the evening before. They hiked up the bottom of Sabino from the end of the tram road, then up to the trail and along to Pine Creek Crossing. The signs were very non-helpful, and they wandered up the east fork, spent the night along the trail and walked out thru Seven Falls in the morning, meeting teams starting into the field.  
9 people 14 hours

**SUN 17 NOV:** CALL 96.080 Search for 55 and 50 year old male hikers "overdue". They started at noon Saturday at the Ski Valley parking lot, expecting a 4 hour hike to Catalina State Park. No lights, matches, or overnight gear. Ranger 38 spotted two fires high in Romero Canyon, and was signalled by flashlight from near the trailhead by a mother and two children,



stranded by dark. Ranger ferried them to the contact station, while search people were requested to hike to the fire near Romero Springs, arriving at dawn (4 miles and 2000' elevation gain). The two hikers were there having spent the night with teen campers who lent them blankets and the fire. One subject with a knee problem rode out on Jasper the Rescue Mule. 6 people, 51 hours, R38

**FRI 22 NOV:** CALL 96.081 Low-key K-9 search for missing chiropractor near his home in Ventana Country Club 6 people, 30 hours, R38.

**SAT 23 NOV:** CALL 96.082 Continuation of search with foot team. His remains were found nearby a week later. 4 people, 14 hours

## **ANNITA'S STORY**

*by Annita Harlan, KC7KKO, 885-4194*

It was Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge. It was last Friday night (October 19th). It was beautiful and quiet in Christmas Pass, and there we were: dirty, sweat-stained, happy, eating munchies, drinking lots of fluids, enjoying the long shadows after a hot day, reading action or romance novels, looking forward to grilled animal parts on the barbie. And then I noticed a large, previously unseen floatie in my left eyeball. It was way over on the left and it reminded me of crinkled cellophane. All of a sudden I was not happy at all. I stared glumly around at Tom, Frances Walker and Loma Griffith and wondered whether I should say anything.

Thirty minutes later, when it was dark, the floatie wasn't visible, but now I could see lights flashing around the edge of my peripheral vision on the left side. I decided it was time to tell my companions of this and then they weren't happy either. As I have come to know over the days since, the large unusual floatie and the flashing lights, with no pain associated, are the symptoms common to retinal separation and to post-vitreous detachment. Both will spoil your vision and your day, but retinal separation goes on to exhibit two more symptoms: the field of view is cut off by what are described as dark, moving curtains. And then as the retina separates into the macula area, you can't count the fingers of your hand out of that eye. As of this writing, these two phenomena have not happened to me.

However, on Friday night, all we knew was that I could be having a retinal separation and the best collective opinion was that it needed checking quickly. The questions became, How quickly?, and Would it hurt to jounce out on the dirt roads the same way we came in?

Hey, no problem. We're SARA hams. We'll just call out for information. Tom made a blind call to the nearest repeater, Child's Mt. in Ajo, to ask if anyone would be willing to make a collect phone call for him. Just as he was about to give up, Ellery Horton, KC7QGI, replied and Tom gave him Ken Iserson's home phone number. Eventually the word came back via Myrna Horton, KC7QGI and retired Emergency Room nurse, that Dr. Iserson was out of town but his wife, Mary Lou, was contacting other emergency persons. Let it be noted that

the Hortons only recently received their ham licenses. They feel this sort of operation is what HAM is all about.

Then we heard through Myrna that Air Care had notified Yuma Search and Rescue, and we should expect a helicopter. My reaction to that was "Eeeek" (I do not claim to be logical.) Even though my eyeball was not hanging out by the optic nerve, which was what the helicopter crewmen expected when they arrived, and even though I had no pain and was seeing more or less well and was fully ambulatory, I was in one of those awkward situations where the potential for lost vision was quite real. Despite heroic efforts back in Tucson, a direct link by radio from George Simons to us was not completed, so with the information at hand by phone and radio relay, a quick, relatively non-bumpy evacuation looked appropriate.

The Marine Corps Air Service came in about 10 pm, flying with night vision equipment and landing by two sets of truck headlights with GPS coordinates provided by Mykle Raymond. None of us ever saw the helicopter clearly enough to identify what kind it was., though its internal layout was similar to a Huey.. It took them about two hours to arrive after they were called. Conversation with Refuge personnel suggest that's an expected response time in the area.

After establishing that I was not a huge first-aid problem, and that one of their flight gauges was giving erroneous readings, The Marines flew me over the moonlit desert to their base in Yuma. I was very envious that I couldn't look through their night vision equipment too. On landing, I hopped their ambulance to Yuma Regional Medical Center because the flight crew needed to find out why their gauge was spouting nonsense before they took the bird any further.

Let me give some advice to anyone able to prepare for being flown out by helicopter. Although I had grabbed a day pack and stuffed it with my purse, a quart of water, a headlight, a windbreaker, three days worth of medications and my ever-present journal, I didn't put in any food --- dumb,dumb,dumb, even if the ER signs all say don't consume anything if you are to be seen by a doctor. And I didn't throw in a toothbrush. It would also have been very nice to have a jacket or a sweater in addition to the windbreaker. Turns out these guys flew plenty high enough for me to be cold, even with a Marine in a flight suit next to me. The helicopter had two sets of doors; the closest pair was taken off for the flight, to accommodate the stretcher they didn't use, so there was a steady wind throughout.

Once at the hospital, it was very like ERs in Tucson. You figure four hours minimum. The people are very nice. You try to sleep in chairs. You hope the insurance will really pay for all this.

The ER doc who saw me turned out to be Phillip Richemont. He served 5 years at UMC in the surgery area and was involved in dealing with the Sierra Vista boy who got a steel rod run through his heart some years back. After examination showed I needed to see a specialist, he fixed me up with a list of motels and taxi cab companies and an appointment with Dr. Lance Wozniak, ophthalmologist, for the following morning.

Happily, Tom and Loma arrived before I had to deal with a taxi. Their saga was more of a pain than mine. Seems the Bronco's electrical system decided to fail about the time the

helicopter took off. Loma had to tow it part of the way out along the Mohawk Valley. And there were times when Frances was running along behind both vehicles. I confess to not understanding why, but in the middle of the night lots happens. Frances was also left to babysit the disabled vehicle in Tacna once it got that far. That part was good because she actually got some sleep. Maybe the best part was being forced to eat an ice cream sandwich for breakfast.

Dr. Wozniak did a very thorough exam and what he found was corroborated by a retinal specialist in Tucson. The vitreous humor in people my age has turned from the jello-like consistency of youth to more of a watery pudding with solid and liquid phases. It's actually pretty common in people with large, nearsighted eyes to have the solid portion detach from the inside of the eyeball. When it does you see the lumps as floaties. And when they bang up against the retina, you see flashing lights. I'm told the floaties will either disappear, or they won't. The lights should go away at some point. If you're unlucky, you can get tears in the retina during all this. And there's also something to look forward to within the next year, the other eye will probably do the same thing.

My thanks and appreciation to all the people who were involved, and who have since shown their concern. It's no more fun being a real victim than a first-aid practical-victim, but it was nice to receive a helping hand.

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**SEARCH AND RESCUE COUNCIL, INC.**

P.O.Box 44231, Tucson 85733

Meet 3rd Wed 19:30 (Jan, Apr, Jul, Oct), details inside.

**PIMA COUNTY SHERIFF'S MOUNTED POSSE**

8987-309 E. Tanque Verde, Box 232, Tucson AZ 85749

Meet 4th Thu 19:00,

Sheriff's Substation #106, 8999 E. Tanque Verde Rd.

**SOUTHERN ARIZONA RESCUE ASSOCIATION**

P.O.Box 12892, Tucson AZ 85732-2892

Meet 1st Fri 19:30, St. Mark's Church, 3809 E. 3rd St.

**PIMA COUNTY SEARCH AND RECOVERY DIVERS**

P.O.Box 13961, Tucson AZ 85732

Meet 2nd Sun 09:00, details inside.

**TUCSON COMPOSITE SQUADRON 109, C.A.P.**

P.O.Box 92593, Davis-Monthan AFB, AZ 85707-2593

Meet each Sun 18:00, Building 3220, DMAFB

**SOUTHWEST RESCUE DOGS**

P.O.Box 64120, Tucson AZ 85728-4120

Meet 2nd Thur 19:00,

Sheriff's Substation #106, 8999 E. Tanque Verde Rd.

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