



SARNEWS

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APRIL 1998

TUCSON, ARIZONA

VOL.23 No.4

FROM THE EDITORS

Anyone with questions about radios is welcome to wander by early to any SARA meeting (say 18:30 to 19:00). We will probably talk about suitable radios for use with SAR, or what accessories are useful and which are not needed, or how to set them up and what parts of the manual are not needed, or how to make good use of them. What we really talk about depends upon your curiosity. If you let us know beforehand, we may even bring goodies to share. Holler at Mykle, 795-2303.

SOUTHWEST RESCUE DOGS, INC.

by Pam Phillips, 325-4338

SRDI CALENDAR

Training: Catalina St. Park 08:00 Sun, Apr 05

Meet at 08:00 at the Park.

Combined Monthly Meeting 18:30-22:00 Wed, Apr 08

SRDI Booth at Pima County Fairgrounds

Short meeting, then will set up for the fair.

Training: Urban Work TBA Sat, Apr 18

Pima County Fairgrounds.

Basic Training: 18:30-22:00 Wed, Apr 22

Sheriff Substation 106, Tanque Verde and Catalina Hwy

Training: Water Search 08:00 Sun, May 03

Meet at Houghton & I-10, training at Patagonia Lake

Combined Monthly Meeting 18:30-22:00 Wed, May 13

Sheriff Substation 106, Tanque Verde and Catalina Hwy

Training: Oak Tree Canyon 08:00 Sun, May 24

Meet at Houghton & I-10

PIMA CO. SEARCH & RECOVERY DIVERS

by Doug Myrvold

DIVER'S CALENDAR

April Training: CAP Canal 09:00, Sun Apr 12

Meet at Mission and Ajo, Northwest corner

Black Mtn or Manville crossing, whichever has water.

May Training: Patagonia Lake 08:00, Sun May 17

Meet at the Kunz's (We'll skip Mother's Day on the 10th)

Search patterns off the swimming beach.

SEARCH AND RESCUE COUNCIL

PIMA CO. SHERIFF'S MOUNTED POSSE

by Jerry Simmons, 293-2300

POSSE CALENDAR

Posse Board Meeting 19:00 Thu. Apr 09
Sheriff Substation 106, Tanque Verde and Catalina Hwy

Posse General Meeting 19:00 Thu. Apr 23
Sheriff Substation 106, Tanque Verde and Catalina Hwy

Public Relations - The Posse rode in the Marana Parade, March 21st. We still have our Gymkhanan on the third weekend of the month at Southwinds Stables.

New Search and Rescue Coordinator appointed by Captain Caugh is Larry Cunningham. Larry's assistants will be Austin Boosted and Bob Siegel. Bob also has a "Ham" license and new call sign KD7AAQ. Search and Rescue is slow now for the Posse.

Training: - SARA is busy with the spring OEC classes. Larry Cunningham of the Posse is taking this time consuming course. Simmons is one of the instructors, Larry Caugh is an instructor also. Austin is setting up firearms training for the Posse with the Sheriff's department. At present I'm looking for a weekend to do medical update and field training. So much to do - so little time! Nothing else to report at this time.

Respectfully submitted, Jerry Simmons

TUCSON COMPOSITE SQUADRON, C.A.P.

by 1lt Darell New, 290-9501

No report, must be out flying.

SOUTHERN ARIZONA RESCUE ASSN.

SARA CALENDAR

- SARA ANNUAL PotLuck** 18:30 Fri Apr 03
Marshall Auditorium, Tucson Medical Center
- SARA ANNUAL Meeting** 20:00 Fri Apr 03
Marshall Auditorium, Tucson Medical Center
- April Training: Cave Rescue** 07:00 Sat Apr 18
Sheriff Substation 108, Irvington west of Houghton
Sphinx Cave, Chiricahua Mountains
- Board Meeting** 19:30 Thu Apr 23
U of A Farms (mobile classroom, south of bleachers)
- Field Skills Recertification** 08:00 Sat Apr 25
Himmel Park, NW Corner, 1st St. & Tucson Blvd.
- General Meeting** 19:30 Fri May 01
Program: TBA
- May Training: Basic Rock** 07:00 Sat May 02
Sheriff Substation 106, Tanque Verde and Catalina Hwy
- Training: Vertical Stokes & Pickoffs** 07:00 Sat May 16
Sheriff Substation 106, Tanque Verde and Catalina Hwy
- Board Meeting** 19:30 Thu May 28
U of A Farms (mobile classroom, south of bleachers)

ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the Southern Arizona Rescue Association will be held Friday, April 3rd at Marshall Auditorium at the Tucson Medical Center. A potluck will precede the meeting starting at 18:30.

SARA members receiving awards: Jim Gillis, Phyllis Hamer, Bonnie Terry, Pam Phillips, Joe Barr, Mary Lou Iserson, Marilyn Doe, Nate Shechter, Dave Brown, Mykle Raymond, Francis Walker, Annita Harlan, and Tom Harlan.

This is the official kick-off of the SARA fundraiser. All members are encouraged to wear their yellow or orange shirts since we hope to have news media coverage. The Annual Meeting will start at 20:00 with Board of Directors elections.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOMINATIONS

The following names were presented by the Nominating Committee, by the membership at the February and March meetings, and not including those who withdrew their names:

Cathy Wasmann	Doug Marcoux (elder)	Frances Walker
Jim Gilbreath	John Perchorowicz	Leroy Kehl
Pam Phillips	Richard Kunz	Shannon Reilly
Tom Faulkner	Wendy Niehaus	

To be eligible to vote, you must be a full member or support member of SARA and fully field qualified (Medical, CPR, and Field Skills certifications up to date.)

Board Member Attendance: (11 months, no Sept quorum)

Name	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	97-98
Rich K	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	100
Pam P	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	82
Scott C	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	91
Frances W	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	91
Nate S	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	73
Mark R	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	64
John P	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	73
Bill K	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	73
Andy L	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	100

APRIL TRAINING Cave Rescue Training

by Tom Faulkner

Where Sphinx Cave in Chiricahua Mountains.
When Saturday, April 18, time TBA.

Meet at Sheriff Substation 108, Irvington and Houghton at 7:00AM. It will take approximately 2½ hours to drive to the area. It is about 10 miles south west of San Simon.

This training will take a full day, so pack a lunch. People entering the cave need a helmet, 3 sources of light, and extra batteries. You want to wear clothes that you will most likely not wear until the next time you go caving and bring extra batteries. Knee pads, Elbow pads, boots and gloves will make it more enjoyable and so will extra batteries. This cave is muddy so the car would appreciate a change of clothing after we are done. Don't forget to bring extra batteries, light is a nice thing to have in a cave.

This exercise is a joint cave training with New Mexico cavers and other search and rescue teams.

The scenario: A group of cavers went ridge-walking during a regional cavers convention, they have not returned yet. Caves in this area are known to have water passages, maze-type passages, and vertical drops.

SARA Basic Training

by Rich White

BASIC I will be held Thursday, April 16 at the Sheriff's Substation 106, Tanque Verde and Catalina Highway. The class will start at 18:00 and will run until after 21:00. All candidates in the Spring '98 candidate class must attend or be recycled back to the Fall '98 candidate class.

BASIC II will be held at Catalina State Park, April 25. The class will run from 13:00 until approx. 17:00. Please note that a full pack check out and test will be done at the conclusion of BASIC II. A full pack with the required equipment is required prior to candidates entering the field.

MARCH TRAINING REVIEW

Truck and Equipment, Base Camp and Stokes Handling

by Mykle Raymond and Karl Fisher

Thanks to Karl for running the Stokes Handling session (and to Gary for being a patient Patient). Thanks Gary and Pam for bringing trucks, and Andy for attaching equipment labels while other activities continued, and again to Andy for helping set up the exercise, and to Bill Graff for coordinating. And thanks to all for their assistance with the training.

THE FLOWERS WERE OUTSTANDING. Many people had not visited the El Camino del Cerro Trailhead before. It is well worth your time (five miles west of Silverbell).

The classic Stokes Handling methods were covered, plus rough-trail methods. People hanging onto the sides of the litter are often dodging more Gotcha Bushes and Big Rocks than being useful on narrow trails. They can walk before or after the stokes, ready to jump in if needed. A couple of people can tend the rear of the litter, rotating easily between the back and the sides to avoid obstacles, while keeping the litter level. A length of webbing can be attached to the uphill end, with people providing braking or towing as needed.

MEMBERSHIP

by Mary Lamb, 743-7175

A new batch of people are starting the SARA candidate program. They have had an introduction to Search and Rescue and have hiked up Ventana Canyon. Basic I will be Thursday, April 16 at Sheriff Substation 106 followed by Basic II on Saturday, April 25 at Catalina State Park. The OEC class started Feb 24. The candidates (EMT and higher) who are not taking the OEC class are required to attend the Saturday OEC classes to get some experience performing their medical skills in a wilderness environment. Please call Pam Phillips, 325-4338, OEC Instructor of Record, for dates and times of the Saturday classes.

Note: DATES CORRECTED

The next opportunity to join SARA will be Tuesday, August 18. The Introduction to Search and Rescue will be given that night with a hike the following Saturday, August 22. Times and locations to be announced.

SARA Golf/Polo Shirts

Several people have signed up to order shirts with the SARA logo screen-printed on them. We still need a few more orders to place the order. If you want to place an order please contact Mary Lamb, 743-7175.

CANDIDATE CORNER

by Andy Lamb, 743-7175

It is good to see the number of candidates who are showing up on callouts. On many recent calls the candidates have out numbered the members.

Remember to use the Candidate Call Tree to contact people you are responsible to call for callouts. If there are any candidates who are not being contacted for callouts please contact Andy Lamb.

SARA Basic III is schedule for Saturday, May 30th. I will be contacting the candidates who are eligible to attend. Basic IV will be held Saturday, June 27th. See Rich White's note about SARA BASIC I & II.

THE TRAINING I RECEIVED WITH SEARCH AND RESCUE SAVED MY LIFE.

by Wally Huynh, (huynh@u.arizona.edu)

On March 14, my friends and I drove to the Verde Hot Springs north of Phoenix. The five of us and four dogs arrived at the Verde River around 3pm. To get to the Hot Springs, we had to cross the Verde River. There was a shallow area in the middle of the river and so we decided that was the way to go.

Dale W. went first with his yellow lab and made it across without too much problem. Duane F. took the rotwieler upstream from the median, but I did not follow him. Instead, I thought that I could cross the river from where I was.

The cold water went from 3-4 feet to 5-6 feet quickly. Suddenly, I was swimming for my life. After about a dozen strokes, I ran out of energy and started to float downstream without a life jacket. Struggling to get above water to breathe, I saw a rapid coming quickly. I took a deep breath and was submerged for a second. As I floated downstream

for the next five to ten seconds, I told myself that this is not my destiny and that I will survive this.

I did not panic and managed to locate two branches sticking out of the water ahead near land. I made a terrific effort to swim as close as I could and reached out to grab the branch with my right hand as I floated by. I attempted to get my right leg around the branch but my lack of energy and the gushing river prevented me from doing so.

At this point, I took some time to catch my breath while hanging onto this branch for my life. After another attempt, I managed to get my right leg around the branch. With the river pounding at my back, I saw Dale W. running along the shore to me. He came as close as he could and threw a 6 foot dog leash to me. Like in the movies, the leash was about a foot short.

I decided that I had to move over to the smaller branch to my right without any regards to whether the smaller branch would hold up. With my left hand on the thicker branch and my right leg planted onto the smaller branch, I lunged to my right to grab the leash. Dale then dragged me out of the water.

I laid there listening to my heavy breathing as Dale ran back to help the others cross the river. I was completely soaked and could not even get up. Both of my knees were bruised and bloody. I laid there watching the drizzling rain wash off the blood from the superficial cuts that I had sustained. After five minutes, I decided to locate some dry clothes. I forced myself to get up and climbed a few rocks to a backpack that one of my friends managed to keep dry.

I put on a dry jacket and watched my other friends assist the remaining two people and two dogs safely onto land. We stayed in the hot spring for only about an hour before heading back. We all managed to recross the river before dark. However, I had to swim the last five yards back with Dale's help when I found the deep end again.

We were lucky to cross the river when we did because it rained all night and so the river was much higher in the morning. We did debrief about the event later and identified what we did wrong and what we managed to do right. As for me, I'd like to stay on land for a while.

CALLOUT REVIEWS

by Andy & Mary Lamb, 743-7175 amlamb@compuserve.com

Data Summary

Reporting Period: 01 Jan - 22 Mar **Callouts:** 24
SARCI People: 313 **Total Hours:** 1428 **Hours/Person:** 4.6
Calls/Week: 2.0

Reporting Period: 28 Feb - 22 Mar **Callouts:** 5
SARCI People: 47 **Total Hours:** 320 **Hours/Person:** 6.8

SAT 28 FEB CALL 98.020 Body Recovery near Starr Pass in the Tucson Mountains. Hikers earlier in the day discovered a male body while hiking in the area. A Stokes team made their way to the scene via a couple of trails but was able to find a better route out. This is an area in which we do not get many calls so the routes were more interesting. 7 people, 17 hours

SUN 01 MAR CALL 98.021 Search for a 45 year old male overdue hiker on the Romero Trail, Catalina State Park. The subject was reported overdue when he failed to return from a day hike. It was reported that the subject had hiked to Romero Pools before and was familiar with the trail. Two teams went up the Romero Trail and another team headed to the mouth of Romero Canyon. The first team made it up to the third stream crossing above Romero Pools with no sign or contact before turning around. On the way back down trail both teams on Romero Trail heard a single voice response about 5:00 am just where the trail leaves Romero Canyon. The teams stayed in the area while one searcher found his way out to a point where he would be able to look straight down on the waterfall where Romero Canyon turns due south. Shortly after daylight the searcher located the subject just below him. The subject reported that he had lost the trail above the third stream crossing on his way down after hiking up to the snow. He proceeded down stream until sunset when he climbed up the side of the canyon to find a place to spend the night. He spent the night trying to stay warm as the temperature dropped into the thirties. 7 people, 55 hours, R38

SAT 07 MAR CALL 98.022 Search for a drowning victim in Picacho Lake. Pinal County requested the divers to help search for a 45 year male fisherman who was suspected as drowning in the lake. The victim had failed to return home on Friday afternoon. His pickup truck was eventually located at the lake. His boat and other equipment was found in the reeds on the north part of the lake. The wind had blown the boat to the location found thus there was no good PLS. The bottom of the lake was pretty smooth and only about six to seven feet deep. Bottom finders were used to try to locate the subject. The search was discontinued at dark. 8 people, 52 hours

SUN 08 MAR CALL 98.023 Continuation of the search in Picacho Lake. The lake was again searched with bottom finders and dog teams. The search was called off again at dark. Pinal County continued the search for most of the

following week. As part of SARDI's training they searched the lake the following Sunday. Mid afternoon Patches alerted on the body. The team located the subject barely visible on the surface of the lake. 11 people, 125 hours

SAT 21 MAR CALL 98.024 Rescue of a 50 year old female injured hiker in Madera Canyon. The victim and a friend were hiking off trail when the victim slipped and fell causing a open angulated fracture of her left ankle. The friend hiked out to get help. RMFD from Green Valley responded along with U.S.F.S. The victim was located 20 minutes off the Nature Trail up a steep dry drainage. The victim was loaded in RMFD's Stokes basket and extricated with a dozen running belays, using tree wraps and racks. The evacuation took about two and half hours. The victim was transported by ambulance and helicopter to Tucson. 14 people, 71 hours. RMFD, USFS, Santa Cruz County SAR



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SEARCH AND RESCUE COUNCIL, INC.

P.O.Box 44231, Tucson AZ 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 Substation 106, Tanque Verde and Catalina Hwy

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 Wed 19:00
Sheriff Substation 106, Tanque Verde and Catalina Hwy

SARNEWS is published monthly by Search and Rescue Council, Inc., a volunteer, non-profit organization. It is distributed free to members of SARCI affiliated groups and other qualified search and rescue organizations.

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