

SARNEWS

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DECEMBER 1998

TUCSON, ARIZONA

VOL.23 No.12

FROM THE EDITORS

Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and Happy New Year

Buried Alive: Secrets From the Grave

Dr. Ken Iserson, SARA's Medical Director, participated in a made-for-TV film titled "Buried Alive: Secrets From the Grave". It's U.S. debut will be on the Discovery Channel on Thursday, January 7th at 9:00 pm and will air again Saturday, January 9th at 5:00 pm.. Be sure to watch it.

SEARCH AND RESCUE COUNCIL

TUCSON COMPOSITE SQUADRON, C.A.P.

by Wendy Webster, 744-0325

No news.

PIMA CO. SEARCH & RECOVERY DIVERS

by Doug Myrvold

DIVER'S CALENDAR

December Training: Dive Tables 09:00 Sun Dec 13
Sheriff Substation 106, Tanque Verde and Catalina Hwy

1999 Election Results

Rich Kunz	Pres	Fran Kunz	Sect'y
Mike Vohland	vPres	Joe Barr	Treas
Rob Offerle	at large	Scott Lonergan	at large

PIMA CO. SHERIFF'S MOUNTED POSSE

by Jerry Simmons, 293-2300

POSSE CALENDAR

Posse Board Meeting 19:00 Thu. Dec 10
Sheriff Substation 106, Tanque Verde and Catalina Hwy

Posse General Meeting 19:00 Thu. Dec 17
Sheriff Substation 106, Tanque Verde and Catalina Hwy

Training: Joint training was held Saturday the 14th of Nov. at Saguaro National Park with the Park Service. About 8 Posse members attended. Patients found in maybe 45 minutes. A lesson learned by Joe B. and Larry Caugh. If you don't find them, you don't have to walk out while the patients ride. We offered to switch off but we were turned down. And fun was had by all. More training to come.

Parades & P/R

Green Valley Parade - 7 Posse members showed up.

Corona de Tucson - 9 Posse members showed up.

Gymkhana was held on 11/15 beautiful weather and a lot of fun. There will be no Gymkhana in December. Next is third week in January.

Party: Christmas Party for Posse December 12, 1998.

Till next month - Respectfully submitted, Jerry Simmons

SOUTHWEST RESCUE DOGS, INC.

by Pam Phillips, 325-4338

SRDI CALENDAR

Training: Fri, Sat, Sun. Dec 04 - 06
Location: Jones' Residence in Sonoita
Contact Kay or Drexel Jones (520) 394-2686.

General Meeting 19:00-22:00 Wed, Dec 09
Sheriff Substation 106, Tanque Verde and Catalina Hwy

SOUTHERN ARIZONA RESCUE ASSN.

SARA CALENDAR

SARA General Meeting	<u>19:30 Fri Dec 04</u>
Program: Candidate Promotion	
SARA Basic IV	<u>13:00 Sat Dec 05</u>
Sheriff Substation 106, Tanque Verde and Catalina Hwy	
SARA Board Meeting	<u>19:30 Thu Dec 17</u>
U of A Farms (mobile classroom, south of bleachers)	
SARA General Meeting	<u>19:30 Fri Jan 08</u>
Program: TBA	

ORIENTATION HIKE REVIEW

Josephine Saddle, Santa Rita Mountains

by Loma Griffith, 883-3115

SARA's November 15th orientation hike to Josephine Saddle marked the 40th anniversary of a tragic event which powerfully changed the shape of Southern Arizona Rescue Association in its earliest days and also marked the lives of a number of members still active with the group today.

On that November weekend in 1958, a Boy Scout day hike up Mt. Wrightson was cut short by a sudden and severe snowstorm that left three boys dead. A foot of snow fell on the streets of Tucson that night, staying on the ground during the next three days of bitter cold. While the majority of the troop had decided to give up the hike and return to their cars as the snow started to fall, three of the boys, two of whom were celebrating their birthdays, chose to push on to reach the summit. The remains of a small fire on the trail near the upper saddle suggested that they got that far. However, they failed to return to the parking lot by evening, and their anxious friends went out for help. The search for the boys got under way in extremely severe weather conditions, was carried out by groups and individuals minimally equipped and organized. It was weeks before their remains were found down a steep slope below the trail leading southeast (away from the parking lot) out of Josephine Saddle.

Twenty of us, young and less so, turned out in amazing summery weather to remember that day and to share our memories of where we were that weekend and how the event changed our lives. Tom Harlan was one of the three college students who were the first to reach the cabin in Baldy Saddle, where their drinking water froze during the night within a foot of the stove, and then to push on through the deep snow to the summit to check the minimal shelter offered by the platform at the top. He joined SARA with the next training class. Marvin Stafford was a boy scout called out with his troop to help guide rescuers past the SARA-manned roadblock in the valley up the snowbound road to base camp at the Santa Rita Lodge. Clair Dietering was the boys' mailman in town who had known all three youngsters and who joined up with SARA the following year because of their deaths. Richard Kunz remembered playing in the snow in town that weekend and later the many hikes he took with his scout troop up the same trail.

A memorial marker in Josephine Saddle decorated with flowers pine cones and toys commemorates the boys' deaths and gives their ages; coincidentally and most poignantly for me they closely match the ages of the three youngest hikers romping around in our group: 12, 13 and 16. Our sincere thanks to Tom, Clair and Marvin for bringing an important chapter in SARA's history to life for us so beautifully.

JANUARY TRAINING

Up and Down Ropes

Contact: Henry Schneiker, 881-2632

Part 1 - Classroom

When: 19:00 Wednesday, January 13

Where: 2328 E. Drachman

Part 2 - Practice

When: 08:00 Saturday, January 16

Where: Rita Road training tower

Come learn the basics of ascending and descending ropes safely. The Wednesday night class will cover harnesses, repel devices and ascending systems. There are many ways to skin the cat (i.e., to set up a functional system) and so we will cover the basic configurations and when one system might be better than another. We will also spend time on procedures, safety and how to stay alive. And no discussion of vertical work would be complete without discussing emergency procedures.

The Saturday class will allow you to practice what you learned in the classroom session. The purpose of this class is to allow you to try out and compare several systems, help you set up a new system or adjust your existing system.

Please note that these two classes are only an introduction to vertical work. You should continue to train with supervision until you have received a high level of proficiency.

SARA Library

by Bonnie and Hal Terry

Attention!!

Ed Sherlock has graciously agreed to take over the library. Please return library books to Ed. Try to check out books for one month at a time, so we can keep the books circulating. The library has lots of good reading, so grab a book and give us a book review. Thanks, Ed.

Membership Surveys

by Jim Gilbreath, 531-9060

SARA members who have not received a membership survey, Please, call Jim Gilbreath at 531-9060 and leave your address. One will be mailed to you. If you have received a survey but not filled it out and returned it, you are urged to do so. Your opinions and thoughts are very much in demand. If you know the current addresses of past SARA members please notify me. We need a greater number of exit surveys filled out and returned to be a good sampling. For all of those who have filled and returned a survey. THANK YOU, your diligence is much appreciated.

CANDIDATE CORNER

by Andy Lamb, 743-7175

BASIC IV S98 Class

13:00 SAT Dec 05

Sheriff Substation 106, Tanque Verde and Catalina Hwy

The next candidate class will start in February. The orientation is scheduled for Tuesday, February 16. The candidate hike will be Saturday, February 20. The Spring OEC class will start on Tuesday, March 2.

Currently we are planning on only having one candidate class each year and only one OEC class each year. This means after the Spring '99 class the next opportunity to join SARA will be in the Spring of the year 2000.

CALLOUT REVIEWS

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

Data Summary

Reporting Period:	01 Jan – 27 Oct	Callouts:	92
SARCI People:	1052	Total Hours:	4166
		Hours/Person:	4.0
		Calls/Week:	2.1
Reporting Period:	28 Oct – 28 Nov	Callouts:	2
SARCI People:		Total Hours:	
		Hours/Person:	

SUN 15 NOV CALL 98.093 Search for two overdue hikers on the Finger Rock Trail. They were with a group that started up the trail in the morning planning to hike to Mt. Kimball, and were last seen around 11:00 am below Linda Vista. The rest of the group made it to Mt. Kimball and back to the trailhead but did not see the other two on trail. Ranger 38 responded as a team of four started up trail and got a voice response before the spring. The two were located at the second switchback above the spring.
?? people, ?? hours, R38

SUN 22 OCT CALL 98.094 Three 19 year old male mountain bikers called on their cell phone reporting that they were caught by nightfall on the Samaniego Ridge Trail without any lights or warm clothing. Ranger 38 located them but due to the terrain and night conditions were unable to land. Ranger was able to get GPS coordinates of their location, then a care package with lights and warm clothes was dropped to them. Two teams started down the trail from the top. The first team located the three beside a campfire which the bicyclists were able to start with matches from the care package. The three were located within 0.03 miles of the GPS coordinates the Ranger had given and were about 1.5 miles north of Shovel Springs on trail. The three hiked back to the top with their bicycles and the search teams.
?? people, ?? hours, R38,

P.A.C.E.

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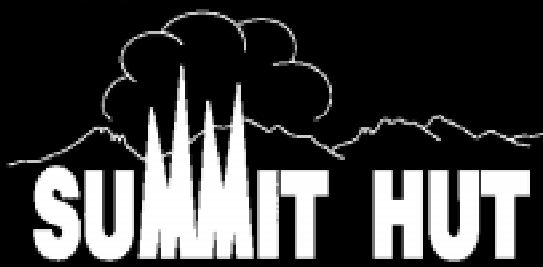
7445 E. 22nd St. @ Prudence Rd., 1/2 Mi E. of Kolb
Tucson, AZ 85710

Hours: Tu-Fr 10:00a to 7:00p
Sat 9:00a to 2:00p

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xxx

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

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