



SARNEWS

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OCTOBER 1999

TUCSON, ARIZONA

VOL.24 No.10

FROM THE EDITORS

SRDI Yard / Bake Sale

Southwest Rescue Dogs, Inc is gearing up for it's annual fundraising Yard / Bake Sale at the Phillips residence. October 22, 23, and 24 (Friday - Sunday, 07:00 - 16:00) are the days to mark on your calendar.

Donations of usable clothes, household goods, furniture, appliances, toys, camping gear, tools and any "resaleable" items will be gratefully accepted. If it is too big for your vehicle we will gladly pick it up from your house! Please contact Pam at 218-5242 if we need to pick up from you or if you have any questions.

Come by Swan and Ft Lowell (1 block north, west side of Swan ... look for the signs!) and help support the dog team with a purchase of home made treats and/or "Recycled, Reused, Rethink-ed" items at our annual fund-raiser. See you there!!

SEARCH AND RESCUE COUNCIL

SARCI Quarterly Meeting 19:30 Wed Oct 20

Location: SARA House, 3455 N. Craycroft

PIMA CO. SEARCH & RECOVERY DIVERS

by Doug Myrvold

DIVER'S CALENDAR

October Training: Patagonia Lake 08:00 Sun Oct 10

Meet at Kunz's

NEOTOMA COMPOSITE SQUADRON, C.A.P.

No report

PIMA CO. SHERIFF'S MOUNTED POSSE

by Jerry Simmons, 793-2300

POSSE CALENDAR

Gymkhana 11:00 Sun Oct 10
Rincon Valley Stables

Posse Board Meeting 19:00 Thu. Oct 14
Sheriff Substation 106, Tanque Verde and Catalina Hwy

Posse General Meeting 19:00 Thu. Oct 28
Sheriff Substation 106, Tanque Verde and Catalina Hwy

No report. Note that Posse people are invited on the October Orienteering training described in the SARA section.

SOUTHWEST RESCUE DOGS, INC.

by Pam Phillips, 218-5242

SRDI CALENDAR

Training: Marshall Gulch 08:00 Sun, Oct 03
Sheriff Substation 106, Tanque Verde and Catalina Hwy

Board Meeting 19:00-21:00 Wed, Oct 06
Sheriff Substation 106, Tanque Verde and Catalina Hwy

General Meeting 19:00-22:00 Wed, Oct 13
Sheriff Substation 106, Tanque Verde and Catalina Hwy

Training: Catalina State Park 07:00 Sat, Oct 16
Meet in first parking lot.

SRDI Yard Sale Fri-Sun Oct 22-24
07:00 - 16:00 at Phillips', Swan north of Ft. Lowell

Board Meeting 19:00-21:00 Wed, Nov 03
Sheriff Substation 106, Tanque Verde and Catalina Hwy

Training: TBA Sun, Nov 07
TBA

General Meeting 19:00-22:00 Wed, Nov 10
Sheriff Substation 106, Tanque Verde and Catalina Hwy

The SRDI Yard / Bake Sale announcement is under "From the Editors".

SOUTHERN ARIZONA RESCUE ASSN.

SARA CALENDAR

- SARA General Meeting** 19:30 Fri Oct 01
Location: SARA House, 3455 N. Craycroft
Program: Blood Borne Pathogens
- October Training: Orienteering** 08:00 Sat Oct 09
Location: Rosemont Junction / Greaterville
- Hike of the Month: Brinkley Point** TBA Sun Oct 10
Sheriff Substation 106, Tanque Verde and Catalina Hwy
- Basic III** 08:00 Sat Oct 16
Sheriff Substation 106, Tanque Verde and Catalina Hwy
- MRA Re-Accreditation: High Angle** TBA Sat Oct 23
Location: TBA
- SARA Board Meeting** 19:30 Thu Oct 28
Location: SARA House, 3455 N. Craycroft
- Field Skills Recertification** 08:00 Sat Oct 30
Location: SARA House, 3455 N. Craycroft
- SARA General Meeting** 19:30 Fri Nov 05
Location: SARA House, 3455 N. Craycroft
Program: TBA
- November Training: Mine Rescue** TBA Sat Nov 06
Location: TBA
- Basic IV** 12:00 Sat Nov 13
Sheriff Substation 106, Tanque Verde and Catalina Hwy
- SARA Board Meeting** 19:30 Thu Nov 18
Location: SARA House, 3455 N. Craycroft
- Vertical Mile** TBA Sat Nov 20
Meet: Sabino Canyon Visitor's Center
- OEC Refresher** 08:00 Sat Nov 21
Location: SARA House, 3455 N. Craycroft

OCTOBER TRAINING

Advanced Map & Compass Training

Contact: Jeff Brucker, 886-2528, or Rob Offerle 318-9710

When: 08:00 Saturday, October 09

Meet: Houghton & Irvington (Pima County Maint.Shop)

Where: Rosemont Junction / Greaterville (off Sonoita Hwy.)

From Tucson, I10 east to exit 281, south on Hwy 83 (Sonoita Hwy) 17 mi. to about mp 41, west on paved Greaterville Road 3 mi., north on FS Road 62 (Box Canyon Rd to Madera Canyon) 1mi., look for cone and park at high saddle.

This training will be targeted primarily for intermediate and advanced map-readers to practice and work on map and compass skills. The Posse is welcomed and encouraged to attend. The distances covered will be longer than a typical orienteering event, more like a realistic search. It is also a great opportunity to practice with your GPS.

We will begin with an intermediate/advanced class that will focus on map-reading techniques and terrain identification. We will also discuss cross-country route selection strategies and lost-prevention. After the class, each person will be given a map of the area. There will be several remote points marked for you to find using only map and compass (and/or GPS). Expect to be on foot (or horse) from three to six hours, your choice. You may go out individually or with a partner. Bring your full search pack, especially compass and whistle. Also bring GPS and ham radio if you have them.

Candidates and members who have less-than-intermediate map skills are encouraged to participate and team up with another member.

HIKE OF THE MONTH

Brinkley Point

Meet: TBA,

at Sheriff Substation 106, Tanque Verde and Catalina Hwy

Map: Catalina, and Mt Bigelow 7.5' maps

Guides: Jim Gilbreath

Perhaps we'll hear from Jim about when this hike will occur.

** These hikes are not 25mi, 6000 vertical feet affairs. They are a good way to get to know your fellow rescuers in a non-callout situation.

** If you would like to be a guide for future monthly SARA hikes or have a trail for us to venture, please e-mail or contact Josh or Karmin **

HIKE OF THE MONTH REVIEW

September: Pictograph Spring

by Josh Poles

SARA members were scarce on this ever-so-precipitous hike to one of the truly secluded-yet-accessible-by-trail areas of Mt. Lemmon. The hike covered about 8 miles round trip (3,000 vertical feet each way). We visited the Pictograph Spring which was flowing strong. The hike out brought us to the helispot / lookout located about 1/2 mile past the junctions of the Davis Springs and Butterfly Trails on the Mt. Bigelow side of the trek. We also found the fence where Tom and Kathy found the track of the overdue couple a few months back. The fence seemed to separate space and nothing else. A wonderful adventure for the ambitious hiker... START EARLY!!!

A NEAR DEATH EXPERIENCE

by Josh Poles

On September 9, SARA was called to a fall victim at the Reef of Rocks climbing area near Ski Valley on Mt. Lemmon. Similar to almost every call-out SARA members execute there are some very invaluable lessons that can be taken from this incident, primarily when the cause of the accident is evaluated.

Our victim fell due to a failed anchor; an anchor that, as far as we can tell, consisted of very measly, sun-rotten pieces of webbing that at one time were red or green, but are now white. Failed anchors and mis-configured rappel systems are a leading cause of climbing deaths according to many climbing articles and rescue personnel.

Furthermore, these accidents tend to be seen among experienced climbers more than among inexperienced climbers. This leads me to my concern towards my fellow SARA members. We get on rope like it is eating breakfast. We set anchors and evaluate them with the same level of comfort we have when we prepare our vehicles for long road trips. It seems that with experience it becomes easier to overlook the fundamentals that keep us alive. I am proud to say that SARA has a remarkable safety record, and an admirable policy towards safety in all regards to SAR missions. I hope that this accident pushes us further to pay attention to each other and our operations.

In light of all that happened that night please pay attention to yourself and your fellow teammates during rescue operations and recreational activities!

CALLOUT REVIEWS

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

Data Summary

Reporting Period: 01 Jan – 25 Sept **Callouts:** 90
SARCI People: 1038 **Total Hours:** 4246 **Hours/Person:** 4.1
39 Weeks **Calls/Week:** 2.3
Reporting Period: 29 Aug – 25 Sept **Callouts:** 12
SARCI People: 130 **Total Hours:** 624 **Hours/Person:** 4.8

WED 01 SEP CALL 99.079 Rescue of an injured hiker on the Tanque Verde Ridge Trail in Saguaro National Park. A hiker from Missouri picked up a back country permit on Saturday and started hiking up the Tanque Verde Ridge Trail. About six miles up trail he injured his back and was unable to continue. He waited to be rescued. On Tuesday the victim was able to get the attention of a hiker on the trail. The hiker stayed with the victim Tuesday night and hiked out Wednesday morning and notified the park rangers of the situation. R38 located the patient but didn't know if they would be able to get the patient to the helicopter. We were requested to respond. Shortly after the first people arrived at the park headquarters R38 reported that they were able to get the patient to the helicopter and were going to fly him to the VA hospital.

Rendezvous only, R38

THR 02 SEP CALL 99.080 Volunteers were paged at approximately 22:15 to respond to the Box Camp Trail for two overdue hikers. Two large male football players had gone for a hike at about 10:00, leaving their vehicle at the Box Camp trailhead. Teams were starting into the field when the subjects walked out at Tram Stop 9 in Sabino Canyon, having fought their way there via Sabino Basin, intentionally or otherwise. 15 people, 33 hours

SUN 05 SEP CALL 99.081 Search for two 35 year males overdue on a hike down Lemmon Creek to the Sabino Canyon Visitor's Center. The two started out early Saturday morning at Marshall Gulch with the idea of trying something different since they were tired of hiking the trails in the Catalinas. They brought rappell equipment and had a good time coming down canyon, but ran out of time. We responded Sunday morning after they failed to show up at the Visitor's Center. Teams started up Sabino Canyon as well as Bear Canyon. Ranger 38 searched Lemmon Creek and Sabino Creek from the top. The subjects were located by the first team near the point where Lemmon Creek joins Sabino Creek. The subjects were fine and hiked out with the search teams. 18 people, 140 hours, R38

SUN 05 SEP CALL 99.082 Rescue of a ?? year old male fall victim at Upper Tanque Verde Fall. The initial report was that the victim had fallen 50 feet, but he just tumbled or rolled about 10-15 feet. The patient was backboarded and Ranger 38 short-hauled him to the helispot, then transferred to a ground ambulance. 11 people, 26 hours, R38

TUE 07 SEP CALL 99.083 Search for a 14 year autistic male missing from a residence on South Swan. We were called within two hours of when the subject was last seen at the residence. Ground teams searched the area around the residence while Ranger 38 searched from the air. Eventually a neighbor who was helping with the search located a track heading south from the end of Swan. A team started following that track but was unable to continue past a wash. Other teams started coming in from the east to see if they could connect up with the track on the other side of the wash. At about this time a rancher near the Old Nogales Hiway reported that he had picked up the subject and was driving out to a road to meet up with a deputy. The subject had walked about six miles. 9 people, 51 hours, R38

TUE 07 SEP CALL 99.084 Search for a ?? year old male who had separated from his wife (after a disagreement) on a hike from the east end of Speedway. She reported him overdue after her husband failed to return. Deputy Scott located the subject near the Wentworth trailhead. 6 people, 6 hours

THR 09 SEP CALL 99.085 Rescue of a 35 year old male climber who fell on a climb at the Reef of Rock in the Santa Catalina Mountains. The initial call was for a climber who fell 100 feet. While we were responding a MLFD medic made it to the scene and the subject was pronounced dead by TMC. The subject and partner were finishing their climbing for the day. He climbed the route cleaning it as he went, then rigged the top anchor so he could be lowered. As he started down the anchor failed. He fell 90 feet to the ledge at the start of the climb, then another 90 feet below before his partner could stop him. Ranger 38 located the scene while teams arrived to document the scene and package the body for a short-haul to the top of Mount Lemmon. 12 people, 81 hours, R38

SAT 11 SEP CALL 99.086 Assist an ill-equipped ?? year old male hiker find the trail on top of Mt. Kimball. The subject had hiked up the Finger Rock Trail and got to Mt. Kimball about 10:30. We were called about 17:00 after the subject had used his cell phone to call his father and report that he was having a hard time finding the trail. He was running out of light and didn't have any food or water remaining. Mykle was dropped below the peak by Ranger 38, met the hiker, then hiked out with him. Other teams met the two at the overlook. 12 people, 39 hours, R38

SUN 12 SEP CALL 99.087 Search for two 10 year males missing from their camp at Rose Canyon Lake. Ranger 38 spotted the two boys between Rose Canyon Lake and the Summer Homes in Willow Canyon. The first team hiked a short distance down canyon from the homes to meet the boys and a hiker who had found them. 8 people, 21 hours, R38

SUN 19 SEP CALL 99.088 Rescue of two ?? year old males stranded on a cliff on Montana Peak near Ruby, Arizona. About 30 people climbed the peak from a camping area, intending to spread some ashes. Five decided to find

another route up through the summit cliffs. Two made it and three didn't. They used a cellphone to call for help, stating that they could see Arivaca Lake about 3 miles to the north (it is really 6 miles). Several people from the group found them, then talked a skinny girl into squeezing down the crack that she had used to climb. Ranger 38 searched for the group without success for some time. The boys had provided a few more clues that finally helped to find them just south of Ruby, well into Santa Cruz County, so their SAR deputies responded. R38 ferried equipment and four people up the peak, dropping one below the cliffs and the rest on top. Two rescuers rappelled down, rigged the two and continued to the base. Ranger flew everyone back to basecamp.

20 people, 134 hours, R38, SCSO, SCSAR

FRI 24 SEP CALL 99.089 Two hikers called by cellphone, reporting that they could not find the Bear Canyon Trail. Teams headed up Bear and Sabino, and in from the Hirobayashi Rec Area (Prison Camp). The pair were very pleased to be found near the stream crossing at the base of the switchbacks two miles above Seven Falls.

The hikers had also provided a trail number (24A) that does not match any maps that we have. The Sabino team reported that this trail number is on signs at the top of the switchbacks (above the end of the road in Sabino) and at Pine Creek Crossing. We'll have to ask the USFS for a list or map of their current trail numbers.

8 people, 50 hours

SAT 25 SEP CALL 99.090 Several people were scrambling around on rocks just north of San Pedro Vista when a young male slipped and tumbled. He injured both ankles, a wrist, and his jaw. Mt Lemmon Fire treated and packaged him. The stokes was carried along the slope to the rope system from the vista, then hauled about 200' to the top.

11 people, 43 hours, MLFD

P.A.C.E.

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9903

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, SARA House, 3455 N. Craycroft

PIMA COUNTY SEARCH AND RECOVERY DIVERS

P.O.Box 13961, Tucson AZ 85732
Meet 2nd Sun 09:00, details inside.

NEOTOMA COMPOSITE SQUADRON, C.A.P.

4933 N. Sunrise Avenue, Tucson AZ 85705
Meet each Sun 15:00-18:00, RMPD, 490 W. Magee Rd

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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