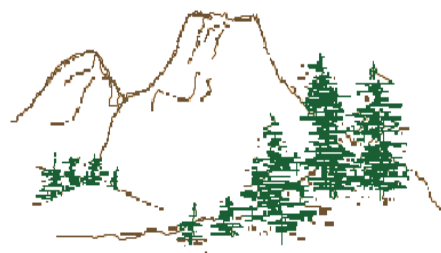




# SARNEWS

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DECEMBER 2018

TUCSON, ARIZONA

VOL.43 No.12

## SEARCH AND RESCUE COUNCIL

<http://www.sarci.org>

### **SARCI BOARD MEETINGS**

by SARNews, [sarcinewsletter @ sarci.org](mailto:sarcinewsletter@sarci.org)

SARCI Board meetings are held at the SARA House at 19:30 (7:30 pm) on the third Wednesday of January, April, July, and October.

### **TRAINING ACTIVITIES ARE RESTRICTED**

Training activities are limited to members of that group, and others who have registered and/or been approved by the group.

### **SABINO CANYON PARKING**

The Overflow Parking Lot near the SARA House is now frequently open for public use. Expect two-way traffic, and pedestrians. PARKING ALONG THE ROAD IS NOT APPROPRIATE, DURING CALLS OR OTHERWISE. Park at the SARA House. If you cannot open the gate to the SARA House, or the gate into Sabino during calls, call a Records or Truck person for assistance.

### **NEW TRAINING REQUIREMENTS**

by SARCI Records, [records @ sarci.org](mailto:records@sarci.org)

This is a reminder of some training requirements:

**Bloodborne Pathogens** Awareness training - needs to be done annually. Check your status on the SARCI Field Qual Report (available on the SARCI Data page) in the "BBP" column. It shows the year and month (YYMM) that your training expires.

If you need this training, contact your team leadership.

**AZBasicSAR** – must have been completed after 2012. Check your status on the SARCI Field Qual Report in the "AZ Basic" Column. If this field is shaded yellow you must take a current version of this training.

If you need this 16-hour training, advise Records of your availability so we can schedule at appropriate times.

Sometime over the next few months these will formally become SARCI Field Qualification requirements. Don't delay!

## PIMA CO. SEARCH & RECOVERY DIVERS

by John Longhofer, [divers @ sarci.org](mailto:divers@sarci.org)

### **DIVERS CALENDAR**

Dec 09	09:00 Sun	Training Meeting	SARA House, 5990 N Sabino Canyon Rd
Jan 13	09:00 Sun	Training Meeting	TBA

In November, we held our annual meeting and pot luck. During the meeting we held elections for 2019 officers and board members. The current Board of Directors and Board Members was re-elected. We also inventoried donation of dive gear, including BCDs, wetsuits, regulators, and miscellaneous items.

Our December training will be at 09:00 at the SARA House. Topics covered will be altitude tables and DAN O<sub>2</sub> provider.

January's training is TBA

## NEOTOMA COMPOSITE SQUADRON, C.A.P.

by LtCol Robert McCord, [cap @ sarci.org](mailto:cap@sarci.org)

### **CAP SQUADRON CALENDAR**

Sundays	15:30-18:00	Golder Ranch Fire Station #380	1175 W. Magee Road, Tucson, AZ 85704
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The Civil Air Patrol's Neotoma Squadron actively participates in ongoing search and rescue missions and training exercises at the state, local and national levels. We welcome new members to join the more than 70 members of the nationally recognized emergency services Arizona Wing Ground Team.

Membership: Robert McCord, [cap @ sarci.org](mailto:cap@sarci.org)

Web site: <http://www.neotomasquadron.org>

## SOUTHERN AZ. MOUNTED SEARCH AND RESCUE

by Colleen Leon, [colleen.leon @ sarci.org](mailto:colleen.leon@sarci.org)

### **SAMSAR CALENDAR**

Dec 18 18:00 Tue

**Board and General Meeting**

Forty Niner Country Club, 12000 E. Tanque Verde

Happy Trails!!

**Membership:** <http://www.SAMSARaz.org> for any and all information for membership.

## SOUTHWEST RESCUE DOGS, INC.

by Karen Paquette, [karen.paquette @ sarci.org](mailto:karen.paquette@sarci.org)

### **SRDI CALENDAR**

Dec 05 18:00 Wed

**Monthly Meetings**

SARA House, 5990 N Sabino Canyon Rd

Jan 02 18:00 Wed

**Monthly Meetings**

SARA House, 5990 N Sabino Canyon Rd

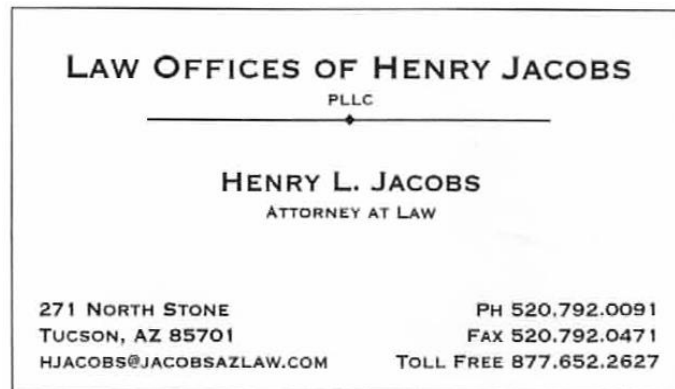
SARCI members are invited to join us for training at any time. If you are interested in attending one of our trainings, please email us at [K9 @ sarci2.org](mailto:K9@sarci2.org), or [Karen.Paquette @ sarci.org](mailto:Karen.Paquette@sarci.org), or call Karen Paquette (275-2074). SRDI's monthly meeting is the first Wednesday of each month at the SARA House.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Ann Christensen Workshops  
AZ State SAR Conference

Feb 2019  
May 2019

Tucson  
Heber



04/17



04/17

**SARA CALENDAR**

<u>Dec 04</u>	<u>18:00 Fri</u>	<b>Technician Training</b>	PRTC, 10001 S Rita Rd
<u>Dec 06</u>	<u>18:30 Thu</u>	<b>CPR Class</b>	SARA House, 5990 N Sabino Canyon Rd
<u>Dec 07</u>	<u>19:30 Fri</u>	<b>SARA General Meeting</b>	SARA House, 5990 N Sabino Canyon Rd
<u>Dec 08</u>	<u>08:00 Sat</u>	<b>Training: Winter Skills</b>	SARA House, 5990 N Sabino Canyon Rd
<u>Dec 09</u>	<u>08:00 Sun</u>	<b>Technician Training</b>	Three Bridges, Marsh Station Rd
<u>Dec 15-16</u>	<u>Sat-Sun</u>	<b>WFA Training</b>	SARA House, 5990 N Sabino Canyon Rd
<u>Dec 20</u>	<u>19:00 Thu</u>	<b>SARA Board Meeting</b>	SARA House, 5990 N Sabino Canyon Rd
<u>Dec 22</u>	<u>08:00 Sat</u>	<b>Technician Training</b>	Three Bridges, Marsh Station Rd
<u>Jan 04</u>	<u>19:30 Fri</u>	<b>SARA General Meeting</b>	SARA House, 5990 N Sabino Canyon Rd

**SARA TRAINING**

by Jen Dempsey, [jen.dempsey @ sarci.org](mailto:jen.dempsey@sarci.org), and Matt Knatz, [matt.knatz @ sarci.org](mailto:matt.knatz@sarci.org)

**Monthly Training**

The monthly training for December will be the winter skills classroom session on Dec. 8 starting at 08:00 at the SARA House. This session is MANDATORY for all members who wish to partake in the MRA recert coming up in January.

Please RSVP ASAP at <http://whoozin.com/9QR-GQ7-DX34>.

**Technical Training**

There will be another Technician training at the Pima Regional Training Center, 10001 S. Rita Road, on Tuesday, December 4, starting at 1800. Everyone is invited to observe and to participate to your level of training. Helmets are required around the tower; a harness is required to be on top. It helps to be a little early because the traffic at the Rita Road exit from I-10 su... isn't good from 1700 on.

There will also be two Technician trainings at the Three Bridges on Marsh Station Road on Sunday, December 9, and Saturday, December 22, both starting at 0800. Everyone is invited to attend and to participate.

[Exit I-10 at State Route 83, cross over I-10, turn left and then right onto Marsh Station Road, and continue to the bridge. Park in the dirt lot on the southwest (left) side of the bridge (before crossing the bridge). The training area is down the ramp on the east side of the road. Be very cautious when crossing the road and the railroad tracks.]

Dec 4 - Tower @ 1800 - <http://whoozin.com/PWR-C49-E3FW>

Dec 9 – 3 Bridges @ 0800 - <http://whoozin.com/YEP-QUA-FNF4>

Dec 22 – 3 Bridges @ 0800 - <http://whoozin.com/RE9-PU6-RRFA>

**MRA RECERTIFICATION**

by John Bechman, [john.bechman @ sarci.org](mailto:john.bechman@sarci.org)

We all should know that SARA is a Mountain Rescue Association (MRA) member. As such, we are required to maintain our certification. To do so, we periodically demonstrate our competence in rescue techniques, processes and methods.

Last winter, SARA was scheduled to perform our winter recertification. Because of the lack of snow, MRA granted us a delay to the upcoming winter. The recertification consists, as a minimum, of a snow beacon search, rescue of the victim, medical treatment and sled transport of the person. Recertification may also include an avalanche probe line and snow anchor construction.

This year is complicated by the fact that CAMRA (Phoenix SAR) was also given a bye by MRA. As a result, we are coordinating our re-certification with CAMRA.

Coconino County Sheriff's Department Search and Rescue is coordinating the evaluators.

SARA plans to do this recertification January 19th and 20th with travel on January 18th. Saturday will have one team re-cert and the other on Sunday. Teams will return home on Sunday. SARA's December 8th training class will consist of winter skills training to prepare us for the re-cert.

The location is tentatively set for Flagstaff's Snow Bowl Ski Resort. We are in the process of finding accommodations. We are evaluating Fort Tuthill's facilities. That site has a hotel, cabins and YURTS.

To successfully pass this critical exercise, SARA is need of 25 members to commit to the upcoming training and re-cert exercise. The commitment will result in fun days playing in the snow using snowshoes, crampons and snow beacons.

Each member must have adequate personal clothing and the standard rescue pack. SARA does have the bulk of needed winter gear - snowshoes etc. Personal equipment capabilities are welcome. Any issues will be sorted out prior.

Contact John Bechman if you are interested. We are sending out this invite now because the holidays always are a scheduling issue for most of us.

Please respond so we'll know who to expect.

## SARA MEDICAL TRAINING

by Josh Nelson, [josh.nelson@sarci.org](mailto:josh.nelson@sarci.org)

Below are the medical trainings currently being offered by the SARA Medical Committee. These training are open to members of all SARCI component groups. Advanced registration via Whoozin is required for all classes to ensure sufficient instructors / materials. If sufficient registrations are not received by one week prior to the class, it may be subject to cancellation. All training will be held at the SARA House.

**CPR:** AHA Basic Life Support for the Healthcare Professionals. A minimum of 4 participants is necessary to host the class. Participants are required to bring their own face masks / face shields. \$5 fee to cover AHA fees for issuing CPR card. Payable to the instructor via cash or check.

Dec 06, 2018 (18:30 - 21:00): <http://whoozin.com/MPY-YG4-K9D7/>

Feb 07, 2019 (18:30 - 21:00): <http://whoozin.com/CQR-9P3-NYEV>

**Blood Borne Pathogens (BBP):** It is an AZ state requirement that all search and rescue volunteers take an OSHA approved BBP class once per year. There are no fees or required materials for this course. Minimum 4 students needed to host the class.

Feb 5, 2019 (18:30 - 20:30): <http://whoozin.com/OVP-PKX-WMKU/>

**Wilderness First Aid (WFA):** For those needing WFA, the following session is scheduled. There will likely be another session in May after the WEMR (See below). Minimum 4 students needed to host the class. There are no fees or required materials for this course.

Dec 15, 16, 2018: (All day, 08:00 - 17:00): <http://whoozin.com/66U-V9E-HFDX/>

**Wilderness Emergency Medical Responder (WEMR):** At present SARA plans to host two WEMR sessions in 2019, one in the Spring and one in the Fall. The Spring session will run from February 19 through April 27. Classes will be on Tuesdays / Thursday evenings from 18:30 - 22:00 every week with two all-day Saturday classes on March 23 and April 27. The cost of the class will be identical to the 2018 WEMR class at \$275 per person, with \$75 being returned to the student upon successfully passing the NREMT EMR exam. Registration fees include the course book and materials.

A minimum of 10 students is required in order to host this class. Please only register as "In" for this class if you are able to commit to all of the scheduled class dates. If you are interested but not able to fully commit at this time, please register as "Maybe". If you initially register then find you cannot attend the class, please update your Whoozin registration accordingly.

Feb 19 - April 27: <http://whoozin.com/NOT-HJD-CODE/>

## OEC CORNER

by John Gorski, [john.gorski@sarci.org](mailto:john.gorski@sarci.org)

Just a friendly reminder that you have until December 28th to pay for your NSP associate fee for 2019. Steps to make payment to NSP:

- Payment online: Sign in with your last six digits of your NSP membership and your password
  - Click on Hi (your name).
  - On the next page if you wish to pay online you may do so by clicking on the "Renew Now" tab on the left side of the page.
  - Complete the information and submit your payment.
- Or, if you like to pay directly to NSP, please contact the NSP member records at 303.988.1111 x2661 and pay by phone.

Reminder to send an image of any OEC card received to Records [records@sarci.org](mailto:records@sarci.org) and [SARCIOECCertified@sarci.org](mailto:SARCIOECCertified@sarci.org). The consequences of not sending in your card is not being Field Qualified after the current card expires.

Thank you for your support of the OEC program, have a great New Year!

**PINE PIG  
RESCUE**

**Bob Brantley** In Arizona Call: **Dave Brown**  
Phone: 520-762-0165

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Phone: 703-758-6678 12353 Marionwood Court  
Fax: 703-758-9208 Oak Hill, VA 20171-2133  
Email: [pine-pig-rescue@worldnet.att.net](mailto:pine-pig-rescue@worldnet.att.net)

04/17

The following is a report from the family of a hiker injured in Finger Rock Canyon.

***Fri Nov 23 18/ 45/ 67ym hiker fall injury Finger Rock Canyon, Catalinas RMFD***

16:15 – 17:50 A hiker fell and injured his face and ankle at the waterfall below the overlook. He was able to walk down-canyon slowly, eventually meeting other hikers who provided a phone to call for help. SAR teams met first with the patient on trail, then carried him out by litter.

## **THE FALL**

### **BACKGROUND / HISTORY**

#### Courtney

My uncle Paul has always been...well...difficult to describe. I have found that anecdotes are somewhat effective in communicating his unique style. For example, he used to eat the candles off my birthday cake when I was young. He always samples the hottest salsa or peppers when presented the option at a restaurant. He likes to use obscure words so he can teach people what they mean. He is intensely passionate about education. He takes pride in his stubbornly fearless nature. It is that combination that I admire very much about him. I admire how unwavering he is about his personal values and the conviction with which he keeps them in the forefront regardless of the environment or its judgments. He is not like anyone else I have ever met, and I am grateful he is my Uncle.

#### Laura

My little brother, Paul, is brilliant. He is a retired teacher with a Masters in English Literature, a voracious reader and, as the news story on TV stated, an avid, avid hiker. But to me he is my little brother. We shared a sometimes troubled childhood and Paul remembers that for me. Our father who was born in 1912 was a pretty old school guy-children should be seen and not heard, if you fall down, get up and don't cry, suck it up. He was an army officer and we grew up as army brats, moving constantly, so the only constants in our life were each other and losing him would have been devastating for me. Each Tuesday, we get together for cheap movie day and then after the movie we binge watch TV-MA accompanied by a cheese/bread/fruit and sweets "party." Every Sunday we do 1000 piece jigsaw puzzles for at least eight hours (Paul finds about 80% of the pieces and my job is to cook him lunch, sort the colors, celebrate the rare pieces that I find, and make up puzzle rules for things he is doing "wrong." I guess siblings never stop that dynamic.) Retirement, guys.

Paul has never really embraced the tech revolution. This is a guy who typed his college papers and masters thesis on a manual typewriter and used white out for corrections. The white out was a liquid that you would paint on a mistake, wait until it dried and then retype on the newly created white area. When I worked at TMC, one of the cardiothoracic surgeons would ask me for "paper milk" when he was doing his post surgical notes and needed to correct a mistake.\* Different times, folks. It is not surprising to me that my daughter, Courtney, left her phone in the car when they embarked on this hike, knowing her uncle's ideas about technology.

\*N.B. I let Paul read my memory and he assured me that he had access to a word processor when he returned to University for his post graduate degree. I guess we only had to use the paper milk for our undergraduate papers. That was 50 years ago.

### **EVENTS**

#### Courtney

Hiking is at the top of the list of activities Paul and I enjoy doing together. We set out on another of many tandem hiking adventures and had a brief discussion in the car about where to go. I suggested Ventana Canyon, though that was promptly vetoed as ambitiously steep. Paul suggested Wasson Peak, which was also vetoed for being ambitiously long. We had been to Finger Rock Canyon together before, so we agreed, and arrived at the parking lot between 10:00 and 10:30 am.

It was a beautiful day as we started up the trail, talking about anything that came to mind and enjoying the unique landscape that is the Sonoran Desert. I left my cell phone behind (aware of Paul's aversion to technology) and wanting to absorb the present and abandon distractions. After about a mile and a half, probably less than an hour of walking, we



diverged from the trail and headed up Finger Rock Canyon towards a spot where the canyon forms a box, a place we had enjoyed together before. Another hour of scrambling and climbing and bush whacking later, we arrived at a spot that most people would deem impassable.

[Note: Along the way, Paul found himself fighting off some cats claw and cholla cactus. Not an insignificant amount of blood to an amateur, but trivial relative to Paul's perspective... keeping things interesting.]

### Laura

"It's just a flesh wound."

### Courtney

We were in a place where the canyon seemingly ends and converges into a "box". Above the box, the canyon continues up and to the right above two nearly vertical walls of rock. The bottom of the canyon is mostly sand at this point, catching water that flows over the top of a rock face which I estimate to be 50-60 feet above the canyon floor. I will call this rock face the 'waterfall' even though the flow was minimal – definitely enough to get you wet, but not enough to create a pool. At this point, Paul decided to climb to the top of the waterfall to get a look at the pools above. He knew of those pools as he had climbed the same route at least a half dozen times before. I meagerly attempted the climb before admitting defeat and decided to wait for him to finish the adventure solo before retreating back down the canyon.

[Note: When we arrived at the sandy bottom of the 'waterfall', we discovered the skull and spinal bones of a small animal. They weren't fresh, but it seemed an interesting discovery. I found the remaining, fully intact skeleton of a hoofed mammal nearby, as Paul scaled the rocks. In retrospect, it seems an ominous find. I inspected the bones while waiting for him to return.]

After some time, I noticed Paul struggling on some rocks next to the waterfall. It was concerning, but I was not worried. I patiently waited for him to solve the problem and come back down. The next instant, he lost his footing, lost his grip, lost control, and began to slide down the waterfall from more than 40 feet above where I was standing. I heard myself scream. I felt my mind in chaos. I felt my heart beat quicken. I watched helplessly as he struggled to control his momentum down the rocks. His death became closer in my mind as his body slid closer to where I stood.

He managed to stay upright while falling, bumping into and grasping for any outcropping rocks on the way down. And then BAM! BAM!

He landed HARD feet first on the sandy canyon floor (one foot or two feet I will never remember for sure) and then HARDER face first forward onto the ground. He rolled over to his back. His eyes were wide. He gasped. He was alive.

I was frantic. I was panicked. I was terrified. I could see the exposed brow bone of his right eye before the blood flooded into the gash. I could not tell the difference between the flap of skin dangling from his face and the flow of blood beginning to clot from his wound. I said 'Oh my God'. I tried to compose my fear. I asked Paul what to do. I don't know if it was seconds or minutes before he stood, but it seemed like an impossible thing was happening. The way he looked and the way he reacted to what had happened was difficult for me to reconcile in my thinking. I consider myself a decisive person but I found deciding what to do in that moment more challenging than at any time in my previous experience.

Paul was calm. He indicated that I was overreacting. He told me he was going to walk out of the canyon. He asked me to find his glasses. I did. He asked me to find his watch. I did. He asked me to find his hearing aids. I attempted, but at that point, I decided to do something about his bloody face. Paul had a pocketknife in his pocket, which he gave to me to cut my flannel jacket into strips in order to fashion a bandage. I have very limited first aid training and my first attempt at dressing his face was pitiful. I feel guilty about that.

I felt that I should run for help. I wanted him to wait for me to just get help. He refused. I conceded. After another round of insisting that we find his hearing aids, which I objected to, I put all my energy into just finding them so we could get the hell out of there. I searched for those hearing aids like someone's life depended on it. I found them. I viewed those tiny little tubes as our ticket out of there. I packed them in a safe place, collected the rest of our stuff, threw Paul's pack on my back and we headed back down the canyon. He looked pretty rough with the shoddy eye patch, bloody face and useless glasses, but at least we were moving.

At first we made relatively good progress. Paul kept telling me over and over to go ahead, he would be fine, he could get there. I kept telling him over and over again to let me help him and that he could use my arm to balance. He told me he didn't want to be in the paper. I thought to myself, "that doesn't matter". He told me he had spent too many days in the desert without needing help and didn't want to start now. I thought to myself, "It's not worth your life". This is when the biggest personal test for me began. I wanted so badly to forge ahead as fast as I could and find someone to help us. I had to balance that with the dread that if I left, he would push on alone and risk further injury to his leg, or worse, his head. In the end I chose to stay with him, catching his weight several times, and missing at least once, which validated that decision in my mind.

It went on like this for some time, at least two hours I think, but I cannot be sure about that part of the timeline. Me walking backwards, Paul trying to convince me, or perhaps convince himself, that he would walk out on his own. I had to fashion three new head dressings as the blood consumed his face, each time having to put pressure on his wound. I feel guilty about that. I could hear the feedback from his hearing aids in my pack the whole time. At some point he abandoned his glasses and was essentially hiking out blind and without a trail. The more time passed, and the more he wanted to rest, the more I began to doubt every decision I had made. As my anxiety continued to mount, I did my best to stay calm and positive. I did not want to be an alarmist. I did not want Paul to have to manage me more than he already had beneath the waterfall.

Finally. FINALLY. Finally I heard unfamiliar voices. I asked Paul to stay put. He was reluctant. I *begged* him to stay put. Only mildly satisfied, I sprinted forward to find the strangers. I have no idea how I came across to them, but my intent was to be polite, use their phone and not escalate the situation. I called my mom, explained to her what had happened (I think) and told her I would call her again once we got back to the trail. I grossly underestimated how far the trail actually was. There was no way for me to know what was set in motion after that phone call. The strangers seemed unwilling to stay with us. Paul was effective in downplaying his situation. I should have conveyed more urgency. I feel guilty about that.

### Laura

I was making post Thanksgiving turkey frame soup for Paul's and Courtney's return from their hike when I got a call at 2:42 from a strange number. (Courtney had been helping Paul descend out of the canyon for about an hour after the fall and finally had reached the trail where there were other people.) Courtney said she thought they needed help and also that he didn't want a helicopter. I called 911. Rural metro was immediately dispatched to the Finger Rock trailhead. At 3:02 Court called me back from another Samaritan's phone and I reassured her that help had been sent. This Samaritan stayed with Court and Paul for a time which was a fortunate thing because I received another call from the rescuers needing more information. Like a location. I was able to find the second Samaritan's name and phone number in my call log so the rescuers could call him for more details and ping his phone for a location. Technology, amirite?

### Courtney

In the following minutes, I was *struggling* very intensely as to whether I should stay put or press on to demand help. I knew, *I knew*, that we would not make it back to the car before dark at the pace we were going. I started to question every decision I had made to that point. That is when I felt like we caught a break. I was getting more desperate and I heard more voices in the same moment. I ran to them, I asked to use their phone, I was clear that we needed help; this good Samaritan stayed with us until he was confident we would make it. I cannot express the gratitude I feel for that man. He was amazing. He did everything right.

I talked to my mom; she had sounded the alarm. The fire department had already dispatched a rescue team and mobilized the volunteer unit. From there it was a waiting game. I spoke to the dispatcher to give them more details and the good Samaritan stayed on the line with them until they extracted our location from his cell phone. When the rescuers arrived, several hours after the accident, he directed them to where we were waiting.

The fire team was awesome. They were calm and good spirited and gentle. I felt *elated* when they arrived; I admit this was mostly selfish. I feel guilty about that. I was so relieved because I felt that the responsibility for his life had shifted. I believed he would be OK. That was the moment when I felt "my" ordeal was over. And we weren't even back to the trail! There were now six professional people to help him instead of one scared amateur; even so, I am certain that the remaining distance to the parking lot were some of the most uncomfortable of Paul's life.

The six fire men and women helped him “walk” back to the trail. I put “walk” in quotes because it wasn’t exactly that. It would be more accurate to say that Paul helped the crew carry him. When the first wave of volunteers arrived, they gave him a pair of hiking poles, which I believe was helpful. The second wave of volunteers brought the basket. I think this is when I truly appreciated the gravity of Paul’s ordeal. He willingly and eagerly got in the basket. This determined, tough as nails, stubborn, arguably delusional man wanted to be carried out. That is when I realized...

### Laura

I called Paul’s wife, Stormy, and then headed out to the trailhead. There were four trucks, one of which had a firefighter manning the radio. He was so kind and gave me an update so I knew that the medical personnel had reached him. I called Stormy again and gave her directions to the trailhead and promised I would wait for her. I walked down Alvernon a ways to waylay her and warn her that the media were there as I knew she would prefer not to talk to them and while I was walking, a SARA truck came up Alvernon toward the trailhead. When we got back to the trailhead, some of the volunteer rescuers were assembling the trail rescue basket.

Stormy and I walked up the trail with the gang of rescuers to reach our family. You were all so wonderful and supportive. Unlike Court and Paul, who except for the phone thing were actually prepared hikers, I had run out of the house without any water. Panic and worry and dread is thirsty work but I was immediately offered water. And calmness and reassuring conversation and friendliness and distraction from the gravity of the situation.

We walked for quite a while (probably about 45 minutes) before we encountered Paul and Court and their rescuers still descending the trail. Paul (“I’m fine, I can walk out”) was SO ready for the basket. Everyone in the rescue gang had a blanket in their packs. Every time Paul said he was cold, another rescuer would pull a blanket out of their pack and bundle him up some more. It took another hour or so to get down to the awaiting ambulance. We were still on the trail when the sun set that evening at 5:20 and it was a gorgeous Arizona sunset. (I guess that is probably one of the perks of being a volunteer rescuer.)

There was a lot of lifting over rocks to be done and different rescuers kept getting called to the front for the heavy lifting. They never forgot to take care of us. I can’t even count the number of helping hands that assisted me over the rocky terrain. I never had to worry about dehydration. And although Paul’s injuries weren’t trivial, I had confidence that he would be OK.

At the trailhead, Paul (“Ambulance? I don’t need no stinking ambulance.”) had his injuries and vitals assessed and the paramedics cleared him to be transported by private vehicle to the ED.

### Courtney

...I am certain of one thing: there is not a human being that I have ever met that could have done what Paul did in on that day. I am *certain* that it was Paul’s stubborn, irrational will that allowed him to walk out of that canyon. Selfishly, it was very difficult for me to deal with his insisting and demands, but I am genuinely so, so grateful that he is the way he is because it saved his life and my conscience...

Of course he wouldn’t get in the ambulance when we got to the parking lot. Of course he only had to stay in the hospital for one night. Of course he is already talking about our next hike

## **FOLLOW-UP / DEBRIEF**

### Laura

The CT showed a small brain bleed, some orbital fractures and a “brain bruise,” none of which would need surgical intervention. A follow up CT showed the brain bleed had not increased. The gashes over his eye were closed. (The surgical resident didn’t count them, but I figure about 6 or 8 subcutaneous and 10-15 cutaneous.) His leg injury was an exacerbation of lifelong knee injuries suffered as a young adult. Road rash and bruises all over. The swelling over the eye has subsided and his eye is open and he is seeing well. Hearing aids were recovered at the scene of the fall and have been repaired. Timex watch took a licking but it keeps on ticking. (Watch band is destroyed, though.). 6 weeks recovery time. Rest. Don’t sleep on your right side or back. Use a walker around the house. Don’t bend over to pick things up.



Don't blow your nose or strain on the pot. Don't take hot baths. Don't watch movies that are too stimulating. You dodged a bullet.

## THANKS TO SARA

### Laura

This was a three hour rescue that seemed so much longer. And I heard you got called to 2 more rescues after ours! We are all so grateful for your expertise and kindness and volunteerism and general awesomeness. I can't think of a single thing you did that was not perfect. You listened to your patient and took his statements seriously. When my son was 5 or 6, he split his head open dancing to Hakuna Matata and his mantra all the way to the ED was "I don't want stitches, I don't want stitches, I don't want stitches." I can imagine Paul's mantra in his head was "I don't want a helicopter, I don't want a helicopter, I don't want a helicopter." The fact that you correctly assessed that he could be treated in the field and then seek treatment at a hospital later was key. I'm sure with a different scenario you would have been compelled to make a different decision but a forced helicopter ride discussion would not have been pretty. You supported him with everything he needed medically and physically and emotionally. You treated him and us with respect and kindness and were exceptionally competent in every way.

### Courtney

To all the men and women who were on the trail with my uncle and me during the rescue:

I want you to know how truly, intensely, profoundly grateful I am that you do what you do. Not just for the singular rescue that you performed involving me, not just for the way you treated me and my family, not just for the impact you made on our lives... I am grateful for the value you that you bring to the neighborhoods you live in. I am thankful that you bring compassion and kindness to your community. You are heros! And you make the world better :)

With extreme gratitude,

<signed by both>

Date	Vol/Hrs/ Problem	Location	Resources
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**Mission Hrs now show total portal-to-portal times (not Rdvs). Mission times now show Field IN/OUT times (not Rdvs).**

**Sun Nov 04 21/ 45/ 22ym motorcycle crash MP 12.5, Catalina Hwy MLFD RMFD Meds**  
*No field times* One of a group of riders with a new bike lost control, hit the guard rail, and the rider went under the rail and into the brush. The initial thought was that he had crashed further up road where cliffs may have been involved. He was packaged and carried to the ambulance, then to a helicopter at Geology Vista.

**Mon Nov 05 8/ 29/ ??ym hiker lost Novio Spring, Catalinas**  
 14:05 – 15:30 A hiker requested help after losing the trail near Novio Spring. He was given direction by phone and had returned to the trail as teams headed in to meet him. All walked out without problems.

**Mon Nov 05 13/ 38/ ??ym hiker and dog exhausted Agua Caliente Trail, Catalinas**  
*No field times* A dog became exhausted on a long hike up trail. He was carried out by litter for about ¾ mile.

**Wed Nov 07 6/ 18/ 2 hikers exhausted Agua Caliente Canyon, Catalinas Sheriff1**  
 14:40 – 16:15 Two hikers returning from Agua Caliente Peak were advised that they could get out more easily on the Milagrosa Trail. They dropped into Agua Caliente Canyon and didn't see the trail crossing and climbing the other side, and started down canyon until they were cliffed out. A SAR Officer was downhoisted to the pair, then the three of them were retrieved by hoist.

**Wed Nov 07 10/ 43/ 7 hikers stranded by dark Bear Canyon, Catalinas**  
 23:15 – 01:50 A group returning from 7 Falls became stranded by dark. Teams met them above x7 and all continued out without problems.

**Sun Nov 11 21/ 22/ ??yf hiker off trail Hidden Canyon, Tucson Mtns**  
*No field times* A hiker wandered off trail and became disoriented near the Starr Pass Resort. A couple of employees walked up trail and retrieved her without problems. It would have been difficult to park near the resort due to multiple activities in progress.

**Wed Nov 14 11/ 24/ 68yf Alzheimers missing Vail**  
 10:55 – 11:40 A woman was reported missing from a rural residence in Vail. A shed across the street had been checked, and found to be full of stuff and did not look deeper. Later the homeowner noticed the door ajar. He looked deep inside and found the woman.

**Wed Nov 14 16/ 37/ 25yf hiker leg injury Canyon Loop, Cat St Pk, Catalinas**  
*No field times* A hiker injured her leg near the Canyon Loop Trail. She was carried up trail to the vehicles as SAR people arrived.

**Sat Nov 17 17/ 69/ 31yf hiker fall injury 7 Falls, Bear Canyon, Catalinas Sheriff1 RMFD**  
 11:00 – 13:35 A hiker injured her knee at 7 Falls. She was treated, then hoisted by Sheriff1.

**Sun Nov 18 19/ 67/ 45ym hiker ankle injury Douglas Spring Trail, Rincons NPS RMFD**  
 12:50 – 15:15 A hiker injured his ankle. He was packaged and carried out by Fire and SAR personnel.

**Fri Nov 23 18/ 45/ 67ym hiker fall injury Finger Rock Canyon, Catalinas RMFD**  
 16:15 – 17:50 A hiker fell and injured his face and ankle at the waterfall below the overlook. He was able to walk down-canyon slowly, eventually meeting other hikers who provided a phone to call for help. SAR teams met fire with the patient on trail, then carried him out by litter.

**Fri Nov 23 20/ 42/ 44ym hiker stroke symptoms Phoneline Trail, Catalinas RMFD**  
 18:25 – 19:15 A hiker reported stroke symptoms from the top of the Phoneline Link Trail. By the time fire and SAR teams were ready to start up trail, the pair had recovered enough to continue slowly down trail towards Lower Sabino. They were met a short distance from the trailhead. He was transported to a hospital for examination.

**Sun Nov 25 15/ 51/ 21yf hiker shoulder injury TV Canyon, Rincons RMFD**  
 10:50 – 12:50 One of three hikers injured her shoulder a short distance below the Main Falls. With her shoulder supported, she was able to walk downstream and up the SARA Trail.

**Sat Dec 01 3/ 9/ Dementia walkaway NW Tucson**  
*No field times* No report.

**Sun Dec 02 17/ 35/ 55yf hiker ankle injury Romero Canyon Trail, Catalinas Sheriff1 GRFD**  
*No field times*

2018 Totals	Activities	People	Hours	Hrs/Per	Last 12 Mos
Missions	100	1244	4418	3.6	108
Trainings	162	1848	8194	4.4	168
Meetings	68	542	1145	2.1	70
Public Relations	31	100	353	3.5	31
Special Events	15	127	1186	9.3	15
Activities	103	395	2116	5.4	110
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>479</b>	<b>4256</b>	<b>17412</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>502</b>

20181202

## SARCI Calendar – 2018 - 2019

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Nov 26	Nov 27	Nov 28	Nov 29	Nov 30	Dec 01	Dec 02
Dec 03	Dec 04 Technician Training (18:00)	Dec 05 <b>SRDI Meetings (18:00)</b>	Dec 06 CPR Class (18:30)	Dec 07 <b>SARA Meeting (19:30)</b>	Dec 08 SARA Training Winter Skills	Dec 09 <b>Divers Training</b> Technician Training (08:00)
Dec 10	Dec 11	Dec 12	Dec 13 Medical CME	Dec 14	Dec 15 <b>WFA Class</b>	Dec 16 <b>WFA Class</b>
Dec 17	Dec 18 <b>SAMSAR Meetings (18:00)</b>	Dec 19	Dec 20 <b>SARA Board (19:00)</b>	Dec 21	Dec 22 Technician Training (08:00)	Dec 23
Dec 24 <b>Christmas Eve</b>	Dec 25 <b>Christmas</b>	Dec 26	Dec 27	Dec 28	Dec 29	Dec 30
Dec 31 <b>New Years Eve</b>	Jan 01, 2019 <b>New Years Day</b>	Jan 02 <b>SRDI Meetings (18:00)</b>	Jan 03	Jan 04 <b>SARA Meeting (19:30)</b>	Jan 05 SARA Training TBA	Jan 06
Jan 07	Jan 08	Jan 09	Jan 10	Jan 11	Jan 12	Jan 13 <b>Divers Training</b>
Jan 14	Jan 15 <b>SAMSAR Meetings (18:00)</b>	Jan 16 <b>SARCI Board (19:30)</b>	Jan 17 <b>SARA Board (19:00)</b>	Jan 18 MRA Recert	Jan 19 MRA Recert	Jan 20 MRA Recert
Jan 21	Jan 22	Jan 23	Jan 24	Jan 25	Jan 26	Jan 27
Jan 28	Jan 29	Jan 30	Jan 31	Feb 01 <b>SARA Meeting (19:30)</b>	Feb 02 SARA Training TBA	Feb 03



04/17

**SEARCH AND RESCUE COUNCIL, INC.**

P.O.Box 44231, Tucson AZ 85733

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

**NEOTOMA COMPOSITE SQUADRON, C.A.P.**

8540 N. Wanda Road, Tucson AZ 85704

Meet each Sunday 15:30-18:00, details inside

**PIMA COUNTY SEARCH AND RECOVERY DIVERS**

P.O.Box 13961, Tucson AZ 85732-3961

Meet 2<sup>nd</sup> Sun 09:00, details inside.

**SOUTHERN ARIZONA MOUNTED SEARCH AND RESCUE**

Details inside.

**SOUTHERN ARIZONA RESCUE ASSOCIATION**

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

Meet 1<sup>st</sup> Fri 19:30, SARA House, 5990 N Sabino Canyon Rd.

**SOUTHWEST RESCUE DOGS**

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

Meet 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed 19:00, SARA House, 5990 N Sabino Canyon Rd.

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