

SEATTLE MOUNTAIN RESCUE

Bergtrage



1948
2008

April 2010

FROM THE CHAIRMAN - GORDY SMITH



IT'S BECAUSE YOU SHOW UP!

When SMR is called, usually someone is having a really bad day. Often we can turn their bad day into a day where they are really grateful to be home. Even if the subject is deceased, we can often give closure to the family and friends. This help only happens because SMR members give their time and respond to missions. Wearing the mountain rescue patch doesn't help people if you don't respond to missions. So get to the SAR academy and update any WAC requirements you need to refresh, come to Rigging for Rescue sessions this month, keep your pager battery charged, and watch for our spring increase in missions! Gordy

MISSIONS IN MARCH 2010

THERE WERE FOUR MISSIONS IN MARCH 2010 WITH A TOTAL OF 12 MISSIONS SO FAR IN 2010 WITH A TOTAL OF 401 MAN-HOURS AND 2399 DRIVING-MILES.

MARCH 5, 2010 INJURED HIKER ASSIST LAKE ANNETTE TRAIL

Two male hikers in their mid 50's were on their way back from hiking/skiing Silver Peak when the subject slipped on some ice on the Lake Annette trail and tumbled down about 10 feet through some light brush before crashing into log and injuring his right shoulder. His friend used his cell phone to call for help around 1619 hrs. The first team (ESAR Hasty Team) arrived on the scene a little over two hours after the initial page and the subject was still in the location he had fallen, which was light brush on snow. They provided clothing to mitigate his hypothermia. The SMR team arrived and it was decided that the best course of action was to get the subject on his feet and get him to walk down the trail. After slowing working the subject to his feet, getting yak tracks on, clearing a path to the main trail, and some warm liquids/food, the subject was ready to hike down to the Iron Horse trail where a 4x4 drove him down to near Exit 47. The mission concluded around 2240 with a debrief at base. Four SMR members responded: Mike Arnold, Garth Bruce, Bill Davis, and Peggy Halferty with Chris Madden as In-Town for 32 man-hours and 270 driving-miles.

MARCH 20, 2010 CRIME SCENE EVIDENCE SEARCH KIRKLAND, KING COUNTY

The mission was to search for evidence related to a home invasion robbery in Kirkland. Seven teams of 4 to 6 persons searched a wooded area and used GPS tracks to document their search paths. These search paths were

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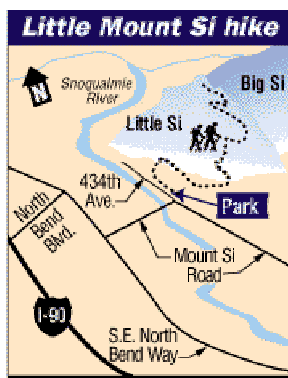
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downloaded into the KCSO computer before leaving base. All teams were out of the field by 1300 hrs. Six SMR members participated, including Steve Allen, Garth Bruce, Allen Gerber, Doug Hutton, Keith Schultz and Dave Shema for 21.5 man-hours and 230 driving-miles.

MARCH 22, 2010 CARRYOUT OF INJURED ROCK CLIMBER LITTLE SI, NORTH BEND

A 27-year old man was climbing a bolted rock face on Little Si with 3 other climbers. They were climbing at an elevation of approximately 2000 ft from a small rock ledge just off the main Little Si trail. There was a miscommunication between the belayer and the Subject. The belayer thought the Subject had called "slack" and let rope out and the Subject fell. The belayer was using a Petzel auto lock belay device. The belayer stated that the auto-lock did not engage and the subject fell 20-30 feet landing on the rock ledge. The Subject's fellow climbers did not move him after the fall. They covered him to keep him warm and called 911 to request assistance. Eastside Fire and Rescue North Bend Unit was first to respond and requested SMR assistance. The Page for SMR went out at 1800 hours. Peggy Halferty (SMR) and another member from ESAR comprised Team 1 and joined the Fire and Rescue team on the scene. In concert with the Fire and Rescue team it was determined that rigging ropes and gear were not needed. When the backboard and litter arrived the Subject was placed on the backboard with a neck stabilizing brace and removed from the ledge via a narrow trail. Todd Stone, Doug McCall and Aaron Zabriskie assisted with the litter and the Subject was transported to the parking lot (base) without incident. Subject was transferred to a stretcher and taken by emergency vehicle to the hospital. The four SMR responders and Doug Hutton as In-Town had 20.5 man-hours and 200 driving-miles.

MARCH 23, 2010 SEARCH FOR LOST HIKERS LITTLE SI, NORTH BEND



KCSO paged out for 3 lost hikers on Little Si and Doug McCall and Bill Davis responded. McCall started up the trail about 2115 hrs followed shortly afterward by Davis. McCall found the 3 subjects just off of the trail .77 miles from the parking lot close to where the trail crosses a large rock boulder. The three hikers said they left the trailhead around 1700 hrs, caught the sunset at the top of Little Si and began hiking down shortly afterward. No one in their party had a flashlight and the group tried using their cell phones lights. When they reached the big rock in the trail, they were confused about where the trail went and wandered about 25 to 40 yards south/southwest of the trail. McCall and Davis gave the subjects headlamps and walked the subjects to the trailhead. SMR had three responders with Doug Hutton as In-Town and had 10.5 man-hours and 30 driving-miles.

HEARD AROUND THE CAMPFIRE

On March 5th, **Steve Allen, Wes Cooper, Geoff Georges and Jessica Todd** had a spectacular sunny winter climb of the North Face of Chair Peak and we found these photos on Facebook.



Later in the month, **Jessica and Geoff** and ended up on the NF of Dragontail with John Plotz, Kyle and William. They were on their way to ski the 3-c's. We avoided the crowds in the bypass and got a spicy climb up the nf headwall with three cool amigos. Somewhere in between, Jessica and Geoff also did 5000 ft of the best conditions yet on Rainier on the 2010 Rainier Ski March to Camp Muir.

(Please zoom in on these photos if viewing them on the web)





SETH AND SHARINA AT BROTHERS PASS IN OREGON

Sharina and Seth Brothers passing through Brothers, Oregon. Had to take a cheesy pic. Couldn't resist. March 2010.

Congratulations to **Bree and Russel** who had their third wedding anniversary on March 17th. Baby is nearly two. He's still the one.



Also in March, **Wes Cooper** sustained his first climbing injury with a fractured rib. Now he has a good excuse for asking people to carry his gear for awhile but he still celebrated his birthday by climbing 69 flights of stairs in the Columbia Tower for Leukemia and then went to eat a lot of Italian food at Mama Passarelli's. And the ribs are definitely getting better. Somewhere in March Wes also squeezed in instructing the 2010 Mountaineers Basic Climbing Course.

THAT'S IT FOR THE CAMPFIRE THIS MONTH FOLKS!!!

PAT PETERSON, our member in Afghanistan serving as a Navy Corpsman with the US Marines in Helmand Province had a close call last month with an IED and came through with a slight concussion. He is looking forward to his redeployment in May. Have a safe return Pat!



MEMBERSHIP

Congratulations and welcome to our latest new member Tim Halder, who was approved by the Board at the March 18, 2010 meeting. We look forward to having Tim and all our newer members with us for many years to come.



10TH MOUNTAIN SITREP

2-87 Infantry participates in 'historic' winter training.... More than 500 soldiers in 2nd Battalion, 87th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, participated in their annual winter training at Dry Hill, March 9 and 10. During the training, Soldiers went through five stations that revolved around winter survival and the history of the unit. First, Soldiers

received instruction on the seven-layer Extended Cold Weather Clothing System. With proper knowledge of how to use the cold-weather gear, the likelihood of cold-weather injuries decreases and keeps troops battle ready. Soldiers heard a brief history of snowshoes and learned how to use and maintain them. Knowledge of the use and maintenance of snowshoes prepares 2-87 Infantry Soldiers for winter and mountain combat situations. Soldiers got to put this new knowledge to the test and use the snowshoes. Since 2-87 Infantry is historically a winter war fighting unit, Soldiers must know how to be mobile and survive in the snow. Soldiers also learned how to build snow caves to protect themselves from extreme weather, starting with a simple lean-to to protect a person from the elements for a night, to a team-sized cave made of snow, designed for long-term survival and fighting. Soldiers also learned how to set up a 10-man tent and use a Yukon stove. A brief history class on the origins of the 10th Mountain Division and 87th Infantry Regiment also was taught during the event. Soldiers learned winter training has been a primary focus of the 87th Infantry and the 10th Mountain Division since World War II when the units were first created to fulfill the Army's need for strong skiers and troops trained to survive extreme winter conditions. Annual training has helped keep 2-87 Infantry a winter warfighting unit since WWII.



At Military Appreciation Day on March 20th at Snoqualmie Summit Central Ski Area, Ed Gibson and Dick Strand from the Rainier Chapter of the 10th Mtn Div Assn, both veterans of the Mountain & Cold Weather Training Command at Camp Hale, Colorado were guests of honor.



62 YEARS AND STILL GOING STRONG

53 YEARS AGO THERE WAS ALREADY TALK OF FORMING WHAT WAS LATER TO BECOME THE WASHINGTON MOUNTAIN RESCUE ASSOCIATION (WMRA) April 1957.....A regional organization of all Pacific Northwest rescue groups appears to be well on its way. Formation of such a region-wide group would help to coordinate the activities of the various local-level units. **Kenn Carpenter**, MRC secretary and board member from Everett, is now contacting representatives of all the various units and suggesting an outline for a regional organization. Recently the Mountain Rescue and Safety Council of Oregon was formed. There are units functioning in Bellingham, Everett, Longview, Wenatchee, and Yakima; climbers in several other communities including one in Canada are interested in forming units. The Oregon group has scheduled its first annual meeting for April 28 in Portland. There will be afternoon field sessions, followed by a business meeting and dinner. The MR&SO also plans a glacier rescue training session in September on Elliott Glacier on Mt. Hood.

40 YEARS AGO IN APRIL 1970.....**Jerry and Jan Newgard** enjoyed a weekend-for-two at Ocean Shores in March. Jerry won the trip at the Outdoor Recreational Equipment Show. Thanks to **John Simac** and **Jim Haneline**, Tacoma MRC, for coming to our April meeting and giving us a run-down on the hydraulic cable system assembly which they are perfecting. Slides of the evacuation of the victim or the Nisqually Canyon fall were also shown. **Hal Foss** reports that the annual mass climb of Mt Adams is scheduled for 11 & 12 July. MRC types are asked to volunteer as roving leaders for the hypothermia film *By Nature's Rules*.

AND 30 YEARS AGO IN APRIL 1980.....In recent months there has been much discussion about in-town, evening technical rescue sessions. The first such practice will be held on Wednesday March 26th. It will take place on the unused freeway ramp structures south of Dearborn Avenue in Seattle. Rendezvous will be at 7:00 PM at the main Goodwill Industries store's parking lot at Rainier Ave S and South Dearborn. Bring raingear, headlamps, climbing harnesses, carabiners, hardhats, leather gloves and webbing slings. Also, Coleman-type lanterns will be useful for general lighting; if you have one that works bring it (no potential Molotov Cocktails will be needed). This practice will consist of a combination of demonstration and practice with MRC's power winch cable system.

EVENTS CALENDAR

- **Annual Banquet**
April 9, 2010, 6:00pm Social, 7:00pm Dinner (Friday)
Bellevue Hyatt
900 Bellevue Way NE, Bellevue, WA
- **Rigging for Rescue (RfR)**
April 10, Saturday, 8am - 4:30pm at the Little Si parking lot, be ready to hike at 8!
April 11, Sunday, 8am - 4:30 pm at the Little Si parking lot, be ready to hike at 8!
- **Board Meeting / General Meeting**
April 15, 2010, 7:00pm (Thursday)
Bellevue Fire Station #9
12412 SE 69th Way (Newcastle Way), Bellevue, WA
- **Spring SAR Academy**
April 17-18, 2010, (Saturday/Sunday), 8:00am - 5:00pm
South Seattle Community College
6000 16th Ave SW, Seattle, WA
- **Spring SAR Academy**
May 1-2, 2010, (Saturday/Sunday), 8:00am - 5:00pm
South Seattle Community College
6000 16th Ave SW, Seattle, WA

**DETAILS ON ALL THESE EVENTS WILL BE ANNOUNCED BY EMAILS,
ON THE SMR YAHOO LISTER
AND ON YOUR PAGERS.**



SEATTLE MOUNTAIN RESCUE



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SEATTLE MOUNTAIN RESCUE IS A FULLY-ACCREDITED MEMBER OF THE MOUNTAIN RESCUE ASSOCIATION AND THE KING COUNTY SEARCH AND RESCUE ASSOCIATION. SEATTLE MOUNTAIN RESCUE IS A NON-PROFIT 501C(3) ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO SAVING LIVES THROUGH RESCUE AND EDUCATION. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A TAX DEDUCTABLE DONATION TO OUR ORGANIZATION,

PLEASE SEND A CHECK MADE OUT TO
"SEATTLE MOUNTAIN RESCUE" TO:
SEATTLE MOUNTAIN RESCUE P.O. BOX 67 SEATTLE, WA 98111-0067

THE BERGRAGE IS SEATTLE MOUNTAIN RESCUE'S MONTHLY ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER AND HAS BEEN PUBLISHED IN ONE FORM OR THE OTHER SINCE THE FIRST MOUNTAIN RESCUE COUNCIL NEWSLETTER WAS PUBLISHED IN 1955. IT IS SENT ELECTRONICALLY TO ALL SMR MEMBERS AND TO A LARGE NUMBER OF DONORS, FRIENDS, OTHER RESCUE UNITS AND PUBLIC AGENCIES INVOLVED IN SEARCH AND RESCUE AND IS ALSO SENT TO A NUMBER OF INTERNATIONAL MOUNTAIN RESCUE TEAMS AND ORGANIZATIONS. THE EDITOR WELCOMES ANY AND ALL COMMENTS, STORIES AND PHOTOS AND CAN BE CONTACTED AT BERGRAGE@GMAIL.COM.

**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING SEATTLE MOUNTAIN
RESCUE**