

## Hiker with injured ankle

**September 27, 1979**  
**Devil's Slide Trail**  
**1979-033**

By Jim Fairchild

Just after 1740 this afternoon Jim Garvey and I were discussing autos and RMRU at his auto agency. We parted with the observation that it had been a long time since the last mission and, "See you tonight.....!"

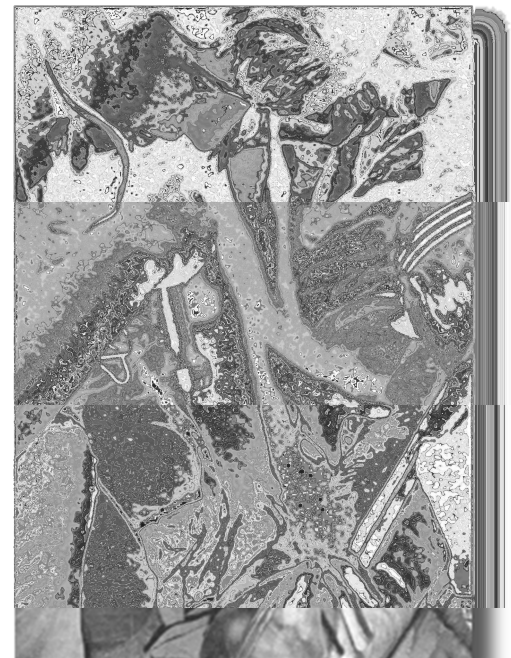
Just after 1800 I was at the intersection of Central and Riverside Avenues when the pager sounded. Two blocks later I was talking to Al Andrews, who told of an injury at Chinquapin Flats near Tahquitz Peak, and could I drive the van. Well, sure, I'm standing 50 feet from it.

At our roadhead, Humber Park, we assembled gear for the hike. An injured ankle would not be at all hard to care for. John Dew, Kevin and Walt Walker and I took off up the trail, leaving instructions that later comers bring the wheeled litter and accessories.

A lovely evening for a fast hike if it were cooler. We were well into our second winds when we spotted flashlights halted at Jolly Springs, a mile up. As we approached the party with flashlights came barreling along without slowing and we spotted a large fellow carrying another large fellow "piggyback." John asked if this were the injured person as they sped past him. They slowed to a halt after Walt spoke a few, rather harsh, words. Before long this party acknowledged the wisdom of such things as air splints, insulation, and a wheeled-litter ride back to Humber Park.

Shortly Tony Loro, Pete Carlson, Larry Roland, Jim Garvey, Craig Beasley and Ron Barry hustled up with the litter.

The splinted and warmed Mr. William Richards was loaded into the litter and was started on his journey that ended at Loma Linda Hospital.



Jim Fairchild

**EMTs AT WORK - RMRU member Kevin Walker steadies the injured hikers ankle, while Walt Walker inflates the air splint.**

We also were assisted by Riverside County Radio Association members, Mary Bowman and Gordon Johnson, of Idyllwild who manned the base radios for back-to-town communications.

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We also were assisted by Rivers



Jim Patridge  
SMOOTH RIDE OUT - RMRU members wheel the injured hiker down to Humber Park.

RMRU is a volunteer search and rescue team that covers Riverside County and assists other teams with search and rescue efforts in other counties. Each member purchases their own equipment and takes time off work, without compensation, to participate in search and rescue missions. Team equipment is purchased from contributions from the community. We are a non-profit organization and are funded by [donations](#) from people like you.