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A VOLUNTEER NON-PROFIT CORPORATION

MEMBER OF THE MOUNTAIN RESCUE ASSOCIATION

Volume V, Issue 10, October 1969 Jim Fairchild, Editor

11 October

CR-MRA meeting Regular meeting

25 " Training 12 November Board meeting



11 October, CR-MRA meeting, 1300. Unv. of Calif. at San Diego.

15 & 29 October, Technical Sessions on Mt. Rubidoux. Your Training Chairman never gives up on these Wednesday evenings because those men who take advantage of the opportunity can learn and practice over fifty skills directly related to rescuing people from technical terrain. Be at Ninth & Loring at 1900 ready to hike to the cliffs with appropriate gear.

22 October, Regular meeting, Highland Outfitters, 1930. We're looking forward to more timely training, crucial business and recent developments, and members with good slides from summer outings should bring them for a big showing.

12 November, Board meeting, Highland Outfitters, 1900.

_AR ACTIVITY ---

TAHQUITZ ROCK RESCUE - Sept. 1, 1969

As Bill Briggs and I were descending from Tahquitz rock after a day of less-than-brilliant climbing, we were awakened from our state of prolonged lethargic reverie by calls for help. Rushing back up to the base of the rock, we learned that an accident had occurred on the Sahara Terror (5.6) on the NW side of the rock. Rounding the downward protruding base of the White Maiden we could see two climbers several pitches above the ground, motionless. The lowermost of the two had injured his hands and back in a fall and the upper one was "hung out" owing to a jammed climbing rope.

We climbed up to the base of the overhang pitch on the Error (5.6) and Bill lead over the overhang bringing him out on a ledge about 30 feet below the injured climber. I followed to the ledge and continued on up to administer first aid. The victim was seated in a wide place in a bushy crack suffering from reasonably bad rope burns on both hands and on his back.

The accident had occurred when the climbing rope had become jammed about 80 feet above the ledge and the second had started to climb the rope hand over hand in order to clear it. Losing strength a few feet below where it had jammed, he began a sliding, swinging fall during the course of which he had attempted to slow his descent by grabbing the rope, thus producing the burns on his hands.

I carefully examined him to determine as best I could the full extent of his injuries. Having satisfied myself that they were limited to the burns referred to and that neither shock nor the victim's mental state called for a litter evacuation, I began cleaning and dressing his hands.

Meanwhile, Bill had been joined on the ledge by Don Lauria bringing with him a chain of ropes tied one to the other and stretching down the rock to a knot of climbers gathered at the base of the route ready to help. While I completed readying the second for evacuation, Bill belayed Don up to the leader, still poised motionless another pitch up the rock. After I lowered the secon down to the ledge, Don belayed the leader as he began his descent en rappel.

About the time we began lowering the injured man over the overhang, darkness settled over our efforts and the ground seemed to recede away from us into the night. Several hours later, the first of us were finally back on the ground and Dr. Mellor was examining the injured man.

The accident had occurred at about 5 P.M. but, it was not until 11 P.M. that Bill and I were being greeted by a somewhat relieved Walt Walker in the Humber Park parking lot. The team had been alerted by Norm Mellor who had heard the shouts for help from the other side of the valley. Thus it was that Norm was on hand at the base of the rock when the victim was brought down. it had been decided that the situation was sufficiently well under control that the presence of the rest of the team was not required. Second thoughts about taking this for granted had brought Walt up to Idyllwild in a rush to investigate the situation.

Walt's relief at finding the situation safely resolved and ours at having gotten the two climbers off the rock in the dark without mishap were celebrated exuberantly over a delicious midnight meal at the Mellor's Idyllwild cabin.

SEARCH - Kern County, Saddle Springs Campground area

On opening day of deer season a 63 year old man became separated from friends while hunting. The Kern County Sheriff's department was in charge of the search and they were assisted by many groups. The following teams from the California Region of the Mountain Rescue Association participated: Altadena Mountain Rescue Squad, China Lake Mountain Rescue Group, Riverside Mountain Rescue Unit, Sierra Madre Search and Rescue Team and Sylmar Mountain Rescue The search was conducted for nine days and no trace of the missing man was found. The Kern County Sheriff's Department supported the teams in every way. - Walt

1970 ACTIVITY SCHEDULE. Our calendar of events should be ready for the 22 Oct. meeting.

THANKS TO DR. NORMAN MELLOR. This year we have profited immensely from the inspired educational efforts by Norm on subjects related to first and second aid to victims of trauma, exposure, etc. His way of teaching by making the problems and corrective measures "come alive" results in the material sticking with us. When we are working with the victim we just reach back into our memories and hear Norm telling us what to do. He's instructed us on "How to Prevent or Postpone Your Heart Attack," High Altitude Pulmonary Edema; Shock; Dehydration & related problems; and more. Last month he reviewed material from a recent medical seminar put on by the San Diego unit, then instructed us on use of the oral thermometer, stethescope, and sphygmomanometer (I can spell it, but pronounce it....)

25 October, Technical training, Jumbo Rocks C.G. in Joshua Tree N.M. A delightfully scenic area during a delightful time of year. We'll concentrate on certain phases of cliff work designed to bring the newer men up to competence in evacuation from TT. Here's a chance to bring the family out Friday afternoon, then perhaps stay over to Sunday. Families that came in the past enjoyed the outing a great deal.

SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP

As indicated by the radio fund guage, we have received sufficient donations to enable us to order our fourth 5-watt unit. This leaves only the acquisition of a 2-watt radio to complete our radio net.



A second fund has been started which will be used for the purchase of a new van-type vehicle. The idea for this fund came from Mr. & Mrs. Milton Levy of Morro Bay--long time sustaining members of RMRU. A few well chosen words by Mr. Levy gave us second thoughts about borrowing the money for the new vehicle.

RMRU:..

"Neither a borrower nor a lender be, For a loan oft loses both itself and friend." Shakespear

Their accompanying donation was used to open a savings account at Sterling Savings & Loan where funds will be set aside for a new van. Once again we wish to thank the following people for

their continuing support: Mr. & Mrs. Milt Levy and Mr. & Mrs. Donald Crafts. We also want to welcome Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Brown to our sustaining membership.

"WHY I AM IN SAR." We asked members of the unit to answer this question in one sentence. Here are the ones who could hold it down to just one sentence. "Somebody has to do it, it is where I can do most as a volunteer." "It is one area that I think that I can be effective as a volunteer." "To venture into places where others care not to go when the need is the greatest." "Personal satisfaction in helping stranded individuals." "Opportunity to use knowledge of specific terrain and mountaineering skills to help others." "It gives me a chance to help my fellow man in a time of need." "It will give me a chance to re my special skills to assist someone in need." "To help a human being in crouble in the wilderness challenges and compels me to use my abilities until he is safe." We've often given a general reason for participating in SAR: "It is a natural extension of our activity in the wilderness and our desire to help other people." What really hurts at times is that other circumstances in our lives prevent all of us from rolling on every mission.

CONGRATULATIONS! China Lake Mountain Rescue Group has started a newsletter in August. It is always interesting and usually helpful to read the newsletters from other units. We wish every unit printed one and distributed a copy to every other unit.



Through conversations with members of other SAR units and through reading newsletters, we are impressed with the universal desire to improve skills. Units are em-Runner sez phasizing better physical fitness; adding SCUBA trained men; practicing difficult rock climbing; conducting

seminars in many subjects; buying more radios and other specialized equipment. We get the feeling that individually and corporately people in SAR see the need for striving toward higher standards and are doing something about it. This is the essence of success in any endeavor, and in SAR it results in more effective, efficient, and safe missions. A big point for us as individuals is this: the knowledge we acquire and skills we achieve through participation in a SAR unit benefit us not only when on wilderness outings, but during most other pursuits.

JTURE FIRST AID INSTRUCTORS. Do you want to be an instructor? Do you have or will you have a current Advanced First Aid Certificate? Upon certification you need teach only one course a year to maintain your card, and the need for willing, competent instructors is tremendous. If you taught just one, tenhour Standard Course a year you would be doing quite a service. needs our type of people.



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Riverside Mountain Rescue Unit, Inc.
Post Office Box 5444
Riverside, California 92507

Jim Fairchild 4855 Central Riverside, CA 92504