

RMRU NEWSLETTER

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE RIVERSIDE MOUNTAIN RESCUE UNIT, INC.
A VOLUNTEER NON-PROFIT CORPORATION

MEMBER OF THE MOUNTAIN RESCUE ASSOCIATION

Volume V, Issue 9, September 1969
Walt Walker, Guest Editor

24 September	Regular meeting
27 September	Training
1 October	Newsletter deadline
8 October	Board meeting

COMING EVENTS ---

11 September, FIRST AID COURSE, 1900-2200, at the Red Cross Chapter House, 8880 Magnolia Ave., Riverside. With all the victims that have needed first aid this year it is most important that everyone of RMRU refresh themselves so they will 'be prepared'. What better way than attending a series designed for outdoorsmen, youth leaders and rescue personnel. See you there!

24 September, Regular meeting, 1930 at Highland Outfitters. It is hoped that Dr. Mellor will be able to recap the Medical Seminar held in San Diego. If not, we will again try to have the litter tie-in practice.

27 September, Technical training at Tahquitz Rock, meet at 0730 sharp in the parking area just below Humber Park. We will try and have the practice that was cancelled because of SAR activity. Come prepared to perform an actual rescue. Everyone will be needed including non-climbers.

8 October, Board meeting, 1930 at Walt Walker's home. Everyone is welcome!



Have you ever been to a 'Happening'? To be truthful, I didn't even know it was 'happening' until it was almost over. Confused, well I'll try to explain it.

It all started earlier this year when Joe Merrick contacted me and asked if RMRU would be interested in working at a pancake breakfast sponsored by the Izaak Walton League, Idyllwild Chapter, with the proceeds going to RMRU. The matter was taken up with our Board of Directors and they all agreed that we should accept. In the past, the League had raised money for us and contributed two truck loads of goods for the rummage sale. Plans were made, tickets were printed and supplies were ordered. On Sunday morning, 17 August at 0630 RMRU members and their wives, arrived in Idyllwild at the Town Hall. For the next six hours everyone worked. During this time 635 breakfasts were served to friends of RMRU. We of RMRU would like to thank each person who worked on the breakfast. However, in fear of omitting someone, we will hope that you will accept our heartfelt thanks and those of people who will be rescued because of equipment purchased by the money raised. THANK YOU!

RESCUE ACTIVITY ---

3 August, Marion Mt. Campground, Search

Once again RMRU members were deprived of their sleep after being called by the Riverside County Sheriff's Department at 10:30 p.m. and were told that a hiker, Norman Mushkin, age 42, was over-due from Marion Mountain Campground after having climbed Mt. San Jacinto and becoming separated from his hiking companion. Back in Riverside, RMRU members prepared to roll for rescue number twenty-two this year.

Having arrived at Marion Mountain campground, we received reports that campers in the area had heard cries for help. I believe all RMRU members discounted

this rumor and prepared themselves to spend a long night searching. While readying our packs and discussing what technical gear and first aid equipment we would carry with us, a member shouted, "wait, listen!" Sure enough a very faint voice was heard. We were able to communicate with the victim through the use of the public address system installed on our old rescue truck. Having told Norman to stay where he was, we packed our packs lightly for a fast trip up the trail, not knowing what his condition was.

After a hard thirty minute hike, we stopped for a moment at a logical hollering spot and tried our lungs again. Again we heard his cries, and very clearly now. We asked him if he was O.K., his reply was "Yes". At this reply we were all much relieved, and, needless to say, our pace slowed down quite a bit. At this point we left the trail. When reaching our victim he was in good condition; only cold, scratched, and very nervous. He reported he had lost the trail after dark and had fallen a couple of times, deciding to stay put before he injured himself. (GOOD THINKING)! We hiked him up hill approximately 100 yards to the trail and roped him in between two of the RMRU members and started the jaunt to base camp and Marion Mountain Campground. - Ron

4 August, Search, Desert Divide, San Jacinto Mountains

After completion of the Marion Mt. search mission all thoughts centered on that 'piece of pie' that would be waiting for us in Banning. At about 0300, while enroute off the hills, another call was received by Lt. Brown, all thoughts of pie soon faded. Two girls (age 17-18) were lost from a Girl Scout outing near Morris Ranch, East of Lake Hemet. A sheriff's patrol car, which was met at the Morris Ranch Road, led the team to the trail head above the Girl Scout camp. Approximately twenty girls had left the main camp for an overnight camp out at the junction of the Desert Divide trail and the trail leading to Cedar Spring. The two lost girls were last seen in that area. With Lt. Brown manning base, the team proceeded to the campsite arriving there just before dawn. The Girl Scout leaders in charge indicated that the missing girls went to explore the trail leading to Cedar Spring but had not returned upon nightfall. A cowboy, who was from the Wellman Ranch, took a couple of horses and went down the right side of the canyon while the team proceeded towards the Cedar Spring area. After stopping for a quick bite the team moved only a short distance down the trail when Walt decided to call out one of the girls names, "Carol". Almost instantly a very loud "Yes", response came from just down the trail. Within a few minutes the cowboy came up the trail on foot with the girls on horseback. He had found them in good condition as he worked his way up from the canyon floor on his large sweeping search.-Phil

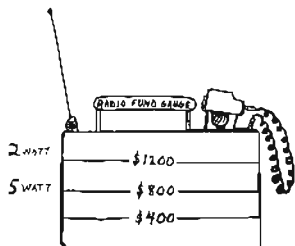
8 August - Aborted mission

A call was received from the Riverside County Sheriff's Department at 1745 that a girl in the Tahquitz Valley area was having an apparent appendicitis attack. About thirty minutes later as we were rolling the mission was called off because she was being removed to Humber Park by members of the Idyllwild Fire Department and Forest Service personnel.

All but two RMRU members were saved the trip all the way to Idyllwild because the Sheriff's department had provided a radio, on their frequency, for our rescue truck. It had made it possible to stop the rest of the members near March Air Force Base. This radio demonstrated one of its many possible uses the first time it was used. - Don

SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP

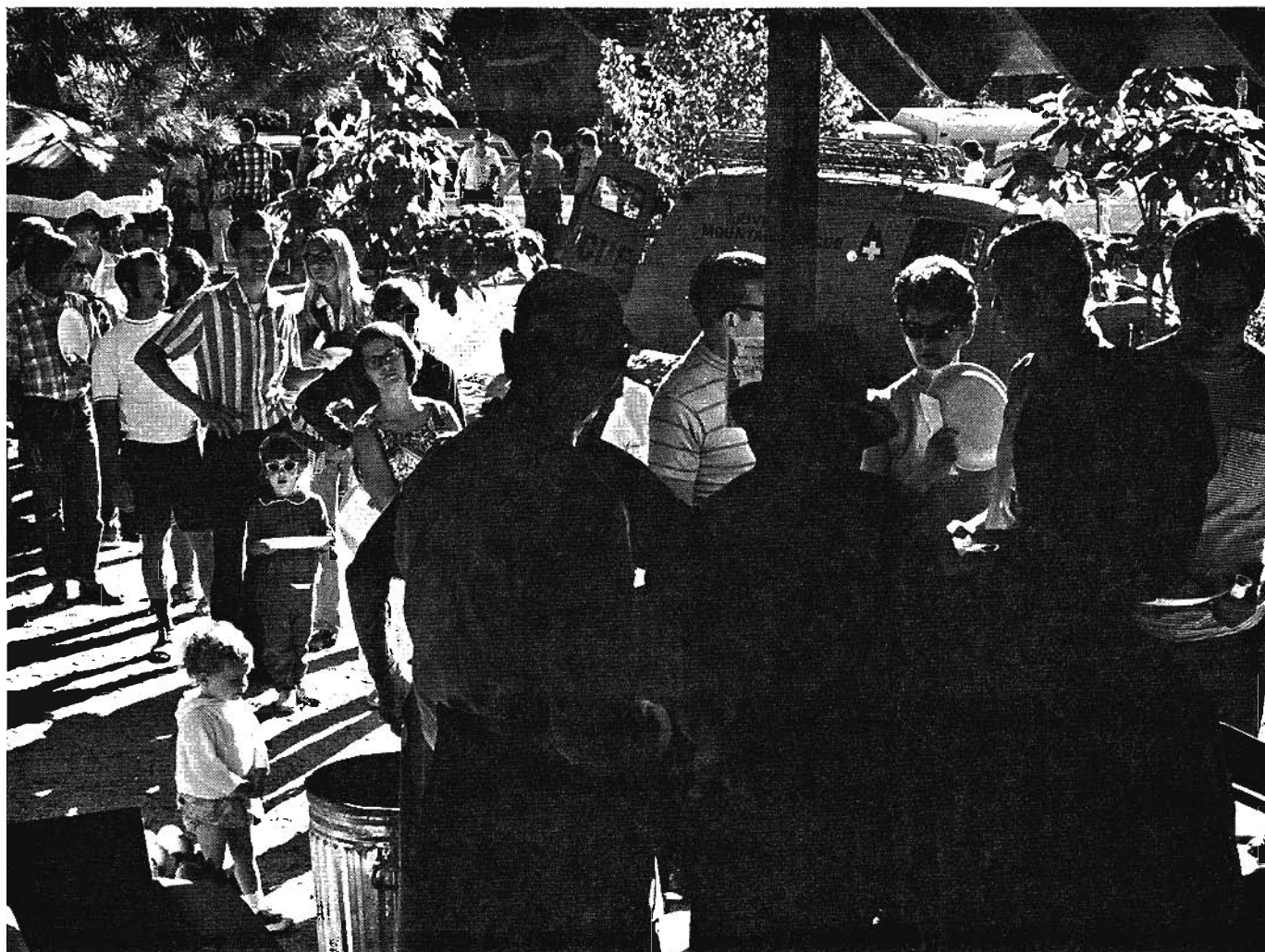
The combination of the benefit breakfast which was sponsored by the Idyllwild Izaak Walton League and the addition of twelve new and two renewing sustaining members, has made the month of August most beneficial to RMRU.



As you may already know, we still have plans to purchase two additional handi-talkies---one 5-watt and one 2-watt. The cost of these units will be about \$1390. As indicated by the radio fund gauge we now have \$550 set aside for these purchases. The 5-watt will be purchased first to give us more flexibility in the field. The 2-watt will also be used in the field, but its prime purpose is for over-the-side use on technical rescues.

THANKS AGAIN to the Idyllwild Izaak Walton League, Mr. & Mrs. John A. Revie and Mrs. James Chapman. We also want to thank the following new sustaining members: Mr. & Mrs. Walter Swindells, Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Roblee, Mr. & Mrs. Corbin Devalon, Mr. & Mrs. Theodore C. Pruess, Idyllwild Lions Club, Mr. H. E. Divine, Mr. & Mrs. Donald Regal, Mr. D. A. Newcomb, Mrs. Gertrude D. Cox, and Dr. & Mrs. John A. Murphy. - A1

The 'Road Runner' is on vacation and will be back in print next month.



SERVING LINE AT THE 'HAPPENING'

PHOTO BY BILL SPECK

TIME VALUE - PLEASE EXPEDITE

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