

RMRU NEWSLETTER

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE RIVERSIDE MOUNTAIN RESCUE UNIT, INC.
A VOLUNTEER NON-PROFIT CORPORATION
P. O. BOX 5444, RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA 92507
MEMBER OF THE MOUNTAIN RESCUE ASSOCIATION

Volume VII, Issue 1, January 1971
Editor, Jim Fairchild
Photographer, Bill Speck
Publisher, Walt Walker

COMING EVENTS ---

9 January, Helitac, Miro Field, Rialto. Be at Western Helicopters by 0800. Bring regular callout gear, especially hard hat, goggles, gloves, boots and a lunch.

13 January, Board Meeting, 1900

27 January, Regular Meeting, 1930 at County Hall of Records, Riverside.

30 January, Training. This will be a shakedown hike for snowshoes and probably crampons as well. We usually go up the early tram and climb San Jacinto Peak. This is excellent for conditioning, scenery, familiarization of terrain (there's deep snow this year), and, of course, renewing skills necessary for negotiating ice and snow. Some of us will stay overnight and come down Sunday -- a really good idea for the newer men who have not done this much before. Further details at the regular meeting.

SEARCH AND RESCUE ACTIVITY ---

December brought the long delayed "fall slump" in SAR calls. We still had some calls that were aborted before men got into the field. Christmas Eve afternoon Walt received a call from Lt. Ed Brown of the Riverside County Sheriff's Dept. that two older boys were two days overdue from a trip from the Palm Springs Tramway. Walt drove over to the Banning Airport to meet with Lt. Brown and helicopter pilot Don Landell who had flown over the mountain area. Early that evening just as the call out was to start the boys were located.

On one of the aborts we had the following:

27 November, Vail Lake First Aid.

Mike Daugherty called at 0900 to tell me that we had two searches to start. He and myself, since I was still on crutches, would head up the Vail Lake operation with other MRA teams. The other RMRU members would go out to Indio. When Mike came to pick me up he told me Indio was off and RMRU was going to Vail Lake and the other teams were not coming. We left my house not knowing that at this time Vail Lake was also being stopped. In the office of the camp we were told the search was off. Just then a man came in and told us there had been a motor-bike accident and asked if we could help.

At the accident scene there was an eleven year old boy who had been hit and knocked off his motorbike. He was lying on the ground and did not appear to be hurting too bad. Mike asked if an ambulance had been called. It had not, even though 50 to 75 people were standing around. So we sent two people to make sure one was called. Mike talked to the boy and found out his left arm and ribs were hurting. He cut up the jacket and shirt sleeves and found a compound fracture of the humerus. He cleaned and dressed the wound. He next checked the ribs and found no big problem. Then, since neither Mike nor I had an air splint, (we are going to get one each), we tried to splint the arm with cardboard. It caused the boy pain and since the ambulance would

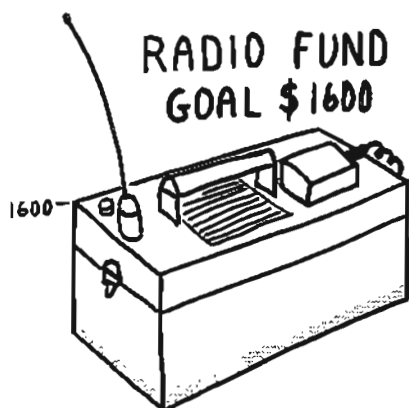
have air splints we decided to wait for it. We covered the boy to keep him warm and kept the sun out of his eyes. The ambulance arrived shortly and the arm splinted, then the boy was taken to the hospital. Mike and I were thanked for helping and left to go home, hoping nothing in the way of another mission awaited us. - Pete Carlson

Ed Note. In conversation with Pete regarding this incident we learned the following information: this area is a motorbike mecca where many accidents occur weekly; while the boy was lying injured curious riders zoomed by very close; the boy had coughed up blood prior to Mike and Pete's arrival, but this was not mentioned until the boy was on the way to the hospital; the ambulance people were reluctant to use their air splints and clumsily applied one of cardboard; they further placed the strap that holds people to the Gurney litter around the boy's injured arm and cinched it tight, with the expected response; the boy spent over an hour at the hospital without attention, this learned by Mike and Pete as they went to retrieve a blanket.

TRAINING ---

On 12 December, 1970, we had a most valuable and instructive day of Training. We conducted a mock mission that consisted of a callout, organization at the roadhead, search methods, first aid, evacuation over technical terrain, and litter carry. Some of the men who have not been responsible for organizing and conducted missions in the past got quite an eye-opener as to what it's all about. In some ways it is tougher to direct a pretend mission than the real thing, because in the real thing nothing is artificial. Following the mock mission we had a fine equipment display and discussion.

SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP ---

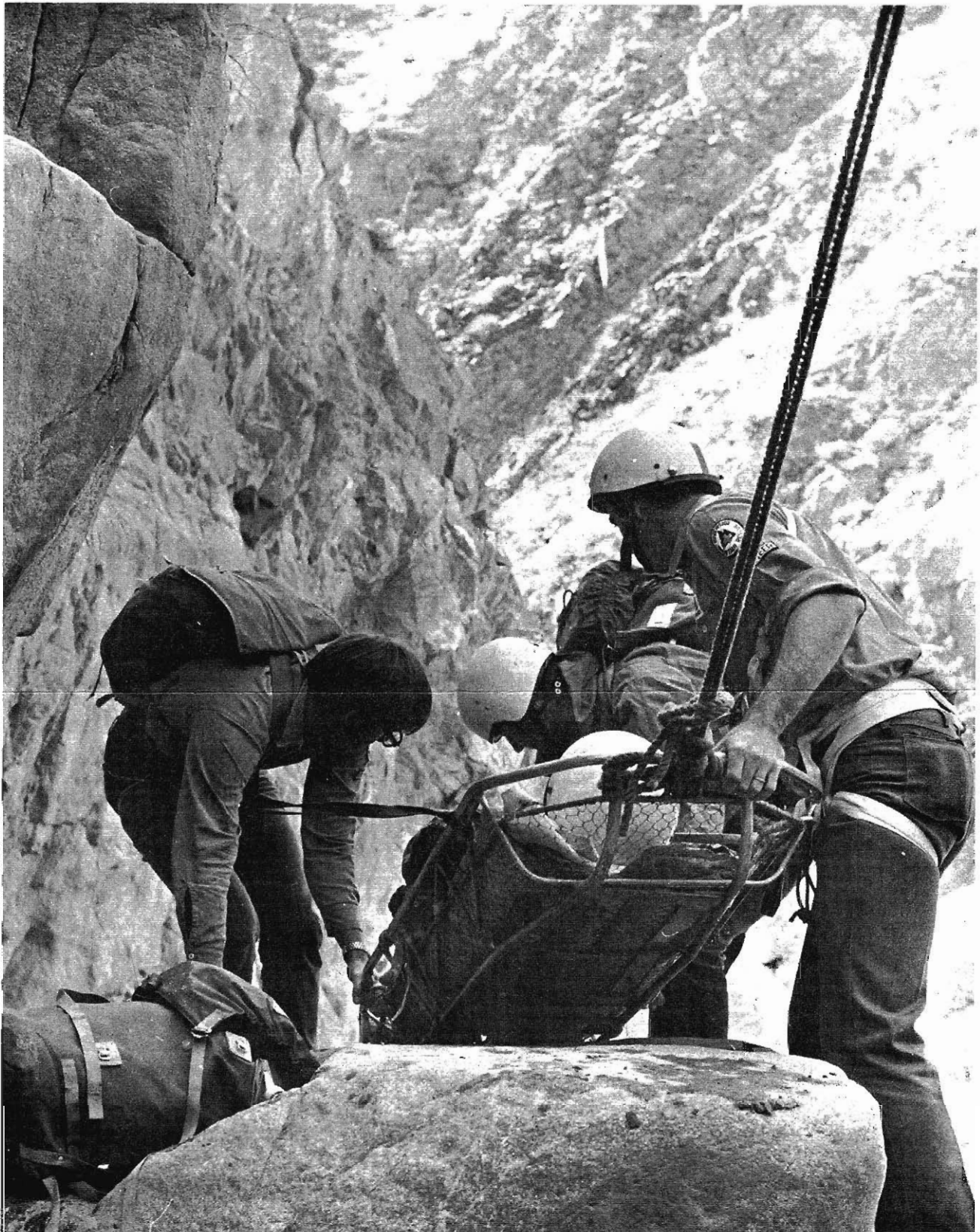


We are very grateful for the support of the Radio Fund provided thus far by our sustaining members. As in the past, these members always carry their fair share of the RMRU load. We have two new names to add to the membership this month: Helen B. Moore and Mr. & Mrs. W. Paul Matthews. We are very pleased with the renewal of the following twelve memberships: Miss Lorene E. Sisson, Mr. & Mrs. Wilhelmy, Mr. David Harrah, Mr. Howard Loy, Mr. & Mrs. Earl Cannon, Mr. & Mrs. Irvin Hall, Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Brown, Mr. C. M. Reinhardt, Mr. & Mrs. Bud White, Mr. Bill Briggs, Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth N. Robertson and Mr. William F. Zauche. - Al

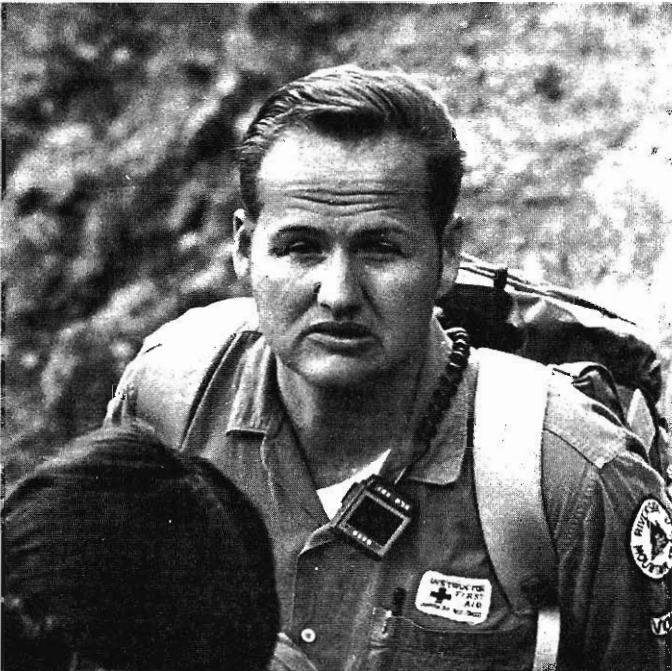
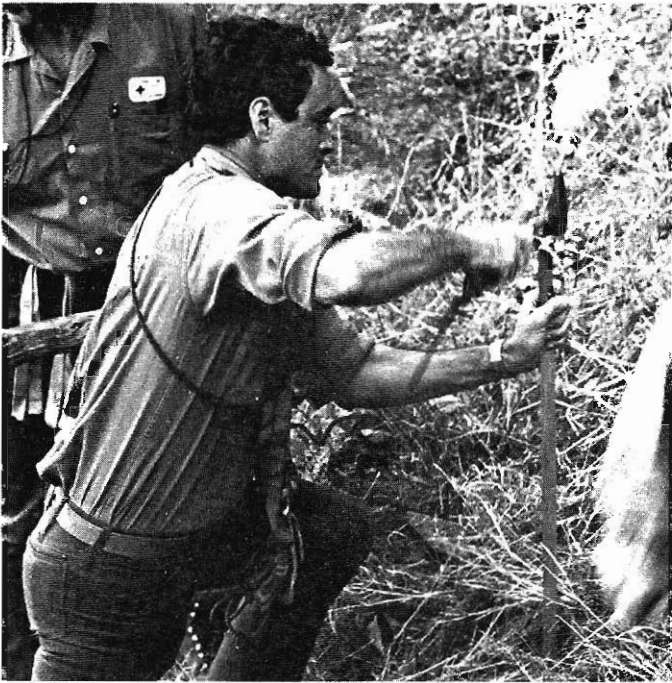


The December Training turned out to be one of the finest sessions RMRU has ever had. The day started very early for our simulated victims. Three Boy Scouts from Troop 600, Jeff Gillis, Ricky Nicholas and Kevin Walker, started hiking up Massacre Canyon by moonlight at 0530. They positioned themselves about 400 feet from the canyon bottom on a steep slope. They all spent a number of chilly hours until they were found by the searchers. Many thanks to these boys for a job well done.

In the department of thank yous, I would like to express appreciation and gratitude from RMRU and all the victims that were brought out of the back country in 1970. You the Sustaining Member made it possible. We have used the prior expression so very often that it almost sounds trite. I sincerely hope you do not think so, because it is true. - Pres. Walt



Mike Orr, John Murdock and Mike Daugherty start the litter, with mock victim, Ricky Nicholas, over the edge of the second waterfall in Massacre Canyon.



- (UPPER LEFT) - Mike Daugherty once again proves how adapt he is with a hammer, be it rock or otherwise.
- (UPPER RIGHT)- Bob Nelson and Bill Briggs ponder a footprint, trying to figure which way they went.
- (LOWER LEFT) - Jim Fairchild seems to be trying to get his point across to Bernie McIlvoy.
- (LOWER RIGHT)- Walt Walker doesn't seem to care for his assignment.
- (Ed Note) - RMRU member and official team photographer Bill Speck has once again captured RMRU at work, even if it was only a simulated mission.