

R M R U 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 XI, Issue 6, June 1975

Jim Fairchild, Editor

Walt Walker, Publisher

Coming Events

9 July — Board Meeting
23 July — Regular Meeting
26 July — Training
13 August — Board Meeting
20 August — Regular Meeting
23-24 August — Training



The Road Runner

Sez — by Jim Fairchild

Nice move Walker, asking me to be editor after that tremendous Seminar Edition with color and all the rest! What to do to follow that? Could we have just one color photo per issue? And another thing, I'm already typing my fingers off revising the '66 edition of the Training Manual — it's a labor of love really, but a certain part of my anatomy is not used to prolonged periods of sitting, nor my grey matter accustomed to long periods of creative thinking. Oh well, maybe the phone will ring for a mission, that's a great excuse for delay.

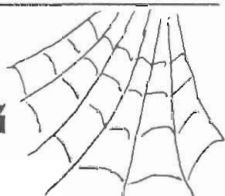
Department of Mysteries Of Life: Why are so few men in our area truly interested in Search and Rescue when it provides opportunities for exhilarating training outings, satisfying and challenging actual rescue operations, topped-off with wonderful camaraderie between fellow team members who become good friends? Perhaps we shall have to borrow a theme from merchants and advertise.

A word to our fellow Mountain Rescue Association units in the California Region: the reason we have not called you in to Riverside County to assist for nearly a year is because we have not needed assistance. The nature of our calls has enabled us to bring them a quick conclusion. Just wait, if we need help, you'll be the first to hear!

Another "word," this time for all our Newsletter Readers: why is our Newsletter late most of the time and why do we sometimes mail two issues at once? Consider the chain of action: first, an event occurs and one of us is assigned to write it for the NL; second, the reporter mails or gives the copy to the editor who works on the copy a bit then mails or gives it to the publisher, and there are many steps here — he must do a preliminary set-up, give the copy to a typist, then set type, then shoot the sheets (there's no doubt a fine technical term for this), then print them; the publisher mails or gives the newsletter to the mailer who must collate, stuff, and paste on the computerized labels, then take it to the post office; then, being bulk rate, the NL may languish for a while, then is started on its way to you. A corollary task is to tickle the computer to produce the labels, then mail them to the mailer. It's a marvel to NL gets out at all! If any one person is late in submitting his copy or doing his job, the whole thing is disproportionately delayed. Hence, our plea (I'm typing this down on my knees) to be prompt.

It was quite disheartening last month at the Board of Directors Meeting to watch the Board whack \$1200.00 off our proposed coming-fiscal-year's budget because our contributions (income) last

from Old'en Days



Our second Newsletter, from June 1965, told of a search for a five-year-old girl in the Pinyon Flats area. She had wandered from a family picnic — the father was a Sheriff's Deputy. We searched all night, some of us following "Sugar," Walt's bloodhound. Sometime after sun-up she was found by a Sierra Madre group while driving the dirt roads looking for tracks on the edge of the roadway.

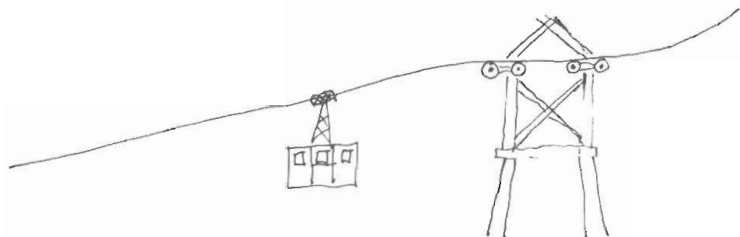
Five years ago, in the June 1970 issue, we see thirteen pages of copy that tell of several operations: one, a Boy Scout Troop overdue in Grape Canyon north of Cabazon. They were late because of a Scout with a sprained ankle. We flew him out and hiked out with the Troop. two, here was the dangerous Guthe-White technical rescue on the "Error" route on Tahquitz Rock. Ron White was lowered, evacuated, and taken to the hospital with serious injuries, John Guthe was dead, evacuated some hours later; three, a tragic drowning of an eleven-year-old boy who fell into Lake Riverside while fishing. We found his fishing pole floating in the water, waded out and carried him in from the bottom — still in a seated position grasping his eye glasses; four, another tragic ending, this time for a young pilot who landed his plane far south of El Rosario, Baja, and wandered about until dying on a high mesa; five, an epic evacuation of the body of a young man who had wandered off from a deer-hunting party and fell over a waterfall. All sorts of hair-raising helicopter work, encounters with rattlesnakes, and fearfully hard struggles up brush-covered slopes with the litter; six, a young lady needed evacuation from the upper Tahquitz Canyon area because she had eaten some corn lily with predictable results.



year fell off by that amount. So, it's tighten our belts time and hope no unexpected expenses arise.

Finally, let us think of RMRU as a group effort: the active members themselves, their relatives with their cooperation and blessing, their employers with their generosity in time-off for SAR, our Sustaining Members with their interest and financial support, and the Riverside County Sheriff's Department with its great spirit of helpfulness and cooperation. There are other individuals and groups that aid us. To all our heartfelt thanks, because it takes the understanding and support of all concerned to put us out there in the wilderness to help those in need of help.

Search and Rescue



7 JUNE, SAT. — RESCUE — NO. 7516M

Chino Canyon, No. of Palm Springs

By Pete Carlson

We received a call late Friday night that two people were stranded below the Tramway between towers No. 2 and No. 3. Because the tramway had shut down for the night, it would take us till morning to hike in, we decided to wait until morning to start.

Ten RMRU men met at 0630 to ride up the first tram car and climb out at tower No. 2 or No. 3. We gave a yell at tower No. 2 and got an answer, so we got out at No. 2. We spotted the two people in the canyon bottom and told them to stay put. Bernie, Sonny, and I climbed down the 150 foot tower with our packs and some ropes. Sonny tied a 150 foot rope to the base of the tower and Bernie repelled down. The rope was not long enough an Bernie stopped on a ledge to wait for more rope. I repelled down with more rope and tied it on to the first rope. Bernie continued to the bottom and I followed. Because all this time we had been having rock fall from all the loose rock, we decided no more people should come down.

While everyone on top waited, Bernie and I hiked over to the two people in about 10 minutes. John and Sherri had decided to hike down under the tramway thinking it would be quicker than riding down. But darkness and steepness of the canyon had stopped them. After some water and candy we decided we could hike them out to the bottom in about 45 minutes with much less danger then back up the ropes because of the rock fall.

So we had a nice hike out while the rest of the team pulled up our ropes and rode the tram car back down. We reached the bottom at 0900 and were met by the other team members. We all went to breakfast at 1000 and got home by noon.

Sustaining Members

by Mike Daugherty

Given the spectacular nature of last month's newsletter, I suspect that very few of you even got around to reading the SM column. Well, I suppose you should be forgiven, after all there were no color photos or breathtaking accounts. At any rate, if you *had* read the column (you can go back and read it now if you like) you would have found there the names of an embarrassingly small number of contributors — three to be exact.

This calamity moved your SM chairman to issue both a plea and a prediction. The plea I shall leave to your unaided imagination, which should prove more than adequate. The prediction involved a promise to place the name of any new or renewing SM on the "extensive list of names sure to appear here next month". Behold below the promised extensive list. While I have not yet been given an opportunity to put it to the test, I'm certain that this new found predictive power will prove to be of great value in search and rescue.

New Members

Sierra Club, Hundred Peaks Section

Mr. Gabriel Duque, Jr.

Mrs. Carl Barkow

*Rotary Club of Banning

*Soroptimist Club of Banning

Mr. Gary Anderson

Renewing Members

M/M C. Corbin Devalon

M/M L.E. Sisson

Mrs. Nona White

Mrs. Esther Briggs

Mrs. Ruth Echols

M/M Rodney Anderson

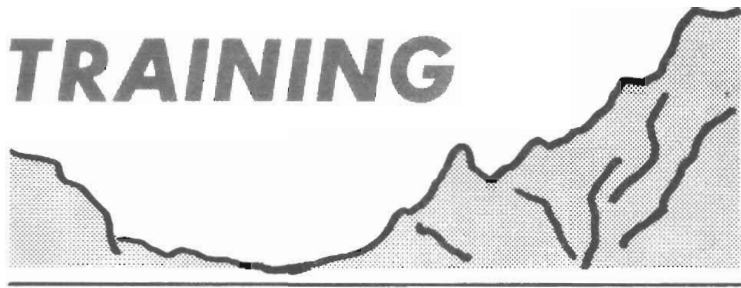
**Century Club — donation of \$100 or more*

The *RMRU Newsletter* is published monthly by the Riverside Mountain Rescue Unit, Inc. It is intended primarily to inform the regular and sustaining members.

If you would like to receive the newsletter on a regular basis, and at the same time become a sustaining member, send your tax deductible donation of \$10 or more to:

Riverside Mountain Rescue Unit, Inc.
P. O. Box 5444
Riverside, Calif. 92507

TRAINING



TRAINING

30 May – 1 June

By Rich Quackenbush

Last month, after skipping a year, the team resumed the traditional annual trek up the north face of Mt. San Jacinto (10,831 'el.).

The main group started on Friday evening, hiking up to our usual camping spot on the isthmus between Snow Creek and Falls Creek at about the 4,000' level. Saturday morning we were climbing at 0600. Another, smaller group of members, started up the Seven Pines trail. (They would assist in driving the main group back around to the cars on Sunday.) The climbing group split shortly, some of us taking a route pioneered by RMRU member Mike Daugherty and the others taking the normal straight up the face route. The Daugherty route more or less follows a gully up to peak 9,460' and then to the summit of San Jacinto. It is more free from snow and perhaps the less difficult of the two. At the time however, I could not have conjured up anything any harder than trying to keep up with Jim Fairchild. As it turned out, I didn't, but neither did anyone else. It looks as if Jim has finally come back from his bout with the shingles.

We all found out what kind of shape we were in, which is the main reason for this particular training exercise in the first place. Another reason, high on the list, is becoming familiar with the North Face so that come day we have a seriously injured climber on the face, we will be better able to handle the situation.

I reached the summit exhausted at 1715. The group from the Seven Pines trail arrived about the same time as most of the other climbers. We all set around for a while looking at and discussing the smog level, about 10,000'. After a rest we hiked down to Little Round Valley.

With the new state park rules, of no open campfires, we quickly started preparing dinner. There was still patches of snow, 3 to 4 feet deep, and when the sun went down it began to get cold. Shortly, everyone was in there sleeping bags.

Sunday morning dawned clear and since we didn't have to hurry off we just prepared breakfast at a leisurley rate. After breakfast we packed up and started the hike towards Deer Springs, stopping there for a break. Once again we were on the trail, stopping this time for a long lunch break. Hitting the trail once more, we hiked out to the Seven Pines trail roadhead. Into the cars for the long journey back around the mountain to waiting cars and then home.

RMRU-toons

by RICK POHLERS



Walt "Kamikaze" Walker practiced air dropping needed supplies to fellow RMRU members in the backcountry during a recent training weekend. Walt decided animal crackers were the most needed and dropped a whole box full of them.