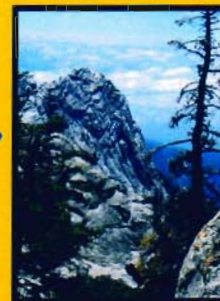


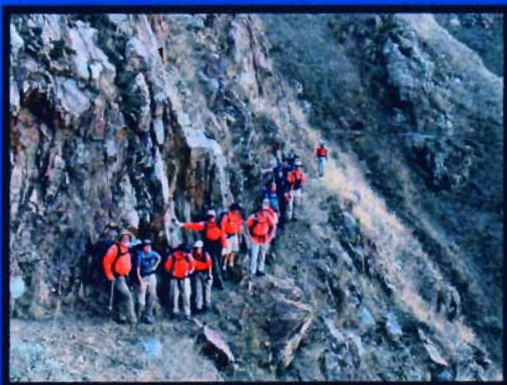


# RMRU

## Fresh Tracks



A publication of the Riverside Mountain Rescue Unit for April 2006



The team hiking along the narrow, rocky trail in Massacre Canyon.



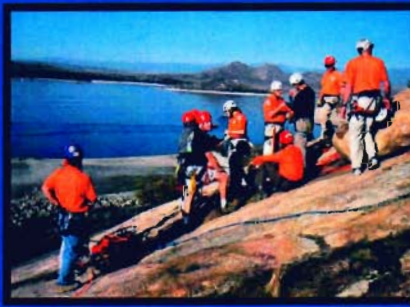
John Dempsey rappels as Brad and Ray look on.



Brad Scott showing off his new look after some fancy footwork in the Massacre Canyon "quick-sand."



Kirk and Dana with the MRA Honor Guard.



Big Rock Training: working with raises & lowers



### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:



Jim Manues and John Dempsey at San Jacinto



Ray Hussey snow-shoeing to the slope for our Winter Shakedown 2 Training

Lost Male Hiker-Temecula	2
The Rodney Search	2-3
Massacre Canyon Rescue	3-4
Winter Shakedown 2006	4-5
Mystery Voice at PST	6
Joint training at Joshua Tree	6
Tahquitz BR	7
Winter Shakedown 2: Big Pine	8
Control Road BR	8
Lost Hiker-Humber Park	8-9
Missing Girl-Jurupa	9-10
2006 MRA Snow & Ice Recert.	11-12

Mission 32 – 2005:

**Lost Male Hiker–  
Temecula and I-15**

By: Grace Manues



RMRU was called out Sunday evening to assist a lost hiker in the hills just west of I-15 between Temecula and the Border Checkpoint (where the large freeway pull-out is located). *Not aware of any hiking trail there? That's because there is no hiking trail there.*

In the early afternoon, Curtis, 41, decided to go exploring and scrambled up the drainage. By late afternoon, Curtis had reached the top of the hill but a ridge now separated him from the freeway and the parking area. Realizing it was unsafe for him to descend, given the rocky terrain and impending darkness, he used his cell phone to call for help. (*Thank goodness for cell phones!*)

Responding team members were met at the site by none other than Bill DeLuna (yeah!). Many of us had just seen Brenda's husband at the RMRU Christmas Party the night before.

Not knowing whether the incoming helicopter from San Diego would be able to airlift the subject out, an intrepid team (Jim and Grace Manues, Jennifer Raschko, Debby and Robert Riegler) began its attack on the hill which involved hiking through poison oak (which ended up sending Debby to the Emergency Room), crawling on our bellies under brush (more fun than it sounds), and hoisting ourselves up some pretty big rock (well, big if you're only 5'1").

Naturally, more than halfway to our intended target, we watched as the subject flew across the freeway to a landing zone. After locating Curtis using the light on his cell phone (*never leave home without one!*), the Helo was able to extract him. That was great news. That saved us several hours and, as always the most important thing, the subject was safe.

Although it took us awhile to scramble/slide down the hill, a very humbled and apologetic Curtis stuck around to personally express his thanks and appreciation.

Thanks also to the terrific team members who manned base: Glenn Henderson, Brad Scott, and Kevin Walker, and to Heidi who led the way up the mountain.

Mission 33 – 2005:

**Rodney Search**

By: Gwenda Yates



It is Thursday Dec 23, 2005 at 10:00 A.M. when RMRU gets the call. A 19-year-old autistic male is missing in the hills above Lake Elsinore. Rodney has the mental ability of a 5-year-old and has not returned home from school. When I arrive on scene, several sheriff deputies are there. While waiting for the mobile command to arrive, I learned that Deputy Ramona has had her bloodhound out and was already getting hits. The dog was leading her under the freeway and off into the hills. As team members arrived we got a call from Ramona and another deputy that they were in need of water. The first team in was Pat McCurdy and Jim Manues, so their assignment became getting water out to both sheriffs and to her dog ASAP. As people arrived, they were all sent into the field. I know that the first thought in everybody's mind was, "its two days before Christmas, we've got to find this kid." At 5:00 P.M. the decision was made to call off the search for the day. Since teams had reported seeing Meth Labs in the hills, searching at night was not very safe. For our own personal safety we were all sent home for the night. On the way home we strategized on what to do the next day.

It's 6:00 A.M. and we are on our way towards Day 2 of what will be known as the Rodney Search. At this point we have made the decision to enlist the help of Desert Search and Rescue, the Dog Team and the Posse. Our first goal of the day was to get a definite track. Trackers Bruce Sanny and Rick Maschek were sent to Rodney's home and once they were able to determine his track, Grace Manues was sent to the house with her camera to photograph it. We now had an excellent picture of Rodney's footprint. By 10:00 A.M. the sheriff's helicopter was up and looking as well. All this help and still no sign of him. By mid afternoon I could see the look of sheer frustration on everyone's faces. It's Christmas Eve and still no Rodney. This is not going to be a happy Christmas for one family. As the sun began to set, the teams returned. The Sheriff made the decision that we had done all that we could do at that point and the case was being turned over to the detectives. It was a long drive home that night, with thoughts of Rodney filling everyone's mind. .

It was three days later when I started to receive calls that Rodney had been found!

Cont. page 3



Cont from page 2

He had received a ride from someone to San Bernardino County and was picked up by the local police and had been at a hospital since Christmas Eve. That was best belated Christmas present. It's the unresolved searches that get to me. Rodney was reunited with his family that day.

Members that reported for that search were Bill Delo, Grace Manues, Jim Manues, Rick Maschek, Glenn Henderson, Travis Henderson, Pat McCurdy, Gwenda Yates, Brad Scott, Jeff Such and Dave Webb.



RMRU , Sheriffs and Dog Team members receive info at base.



The Deputy relays search information to the volunteers at base.

Mission 34—2005:

## Massacre Canyon Rescue

By: Pete Carlson



We got the call at 6pm saying that two hikers were stranded in Massacre Canyon and could not get out. By the time I arrived at base camp 1 of the hikers, a 20 year old male, had been air lifted out. It was now 8pm and dark, so we got ready to hike in to find and bring out a 19 year old girl. She had been seen by the helicopter on the east side of the canyon about 200 or 300 feet above the stream bottom just as it got dark. Glenn H, Patrick M, William C, Jim M, and I hiked quickly up the canyon covering 1 plus miles in about 30 minutes.

We had been yelling as we got close to the area in which the helicopter had seen the girl. Soon we got a HELP in response to are calling. We found the girl in another 5 minutes and William and I started up a chute that seemed to be going up to the girl. In 5 minutes William was above the girl and I came right up to the boulder she was sitting on. To us it was easy 3<sup>rd</sup> class climbing, although it was very lose. William set up a belay behind a bush and tossed the rope down 30 feet to me. I reached up and tied it around the girl's waist. She was very cold as she was only in a t-shirt and it was 40 degrees and windy. I then gave her a warm jacket and helped her, while William belayed her down and over 40 feet. I got her in a safe area and William moved over to us and set up a second belay.

While William belayed again I went with the girl and helped her down 100 feet until we came to the end of the rope. We were 40 feet above the canyon bottom on much easier ground. Patrick then came up to helped the girl the rest of the way down while William and I got the rope coiled up. After some food and drink we hiked her back out to the base camp in about 40 minutes. Gwenda was running base camp and we had Grace M and Kevin W standing by in case we needed any more equipment brought in to us.

The girl's parents and friends were all at base camp and very happy to see her in good shape. This was a very easy text book missions for us, but to the girl it was life saving. She had come down from the top of the canyon and it had just gotten steeper and steeper. She finally got to a point were she could not go up or down and at the same time it got dark.

Cont. from previous

She did the correct thing in staying put and waiting for help. In the dark she could have easily gone over a 50 foot drop and been seriously hurt or even killed.

We had all the right skills and equipment to get to her and bring her out quickly. We regularly train for missions like this and with donations from our supporters we have the correct equipment to get the job done.

Pete Carlson member of RMRU since 1970.



Will, Glenn, the subject Nicole, Pete and Jim Manues after rescuing the grateful subject.

## Winter Shakedown 2006

By: Patrick McCurdy



Traditionally, RMRU's January training is a "Winter Shakedown," where we get out all our winter alpine gear for a weekend of rescue skills, winter survival, and camaraderie in the snow of "our mountains," the San Jacintos. Last year's unusual weather gave our Winter Shakedown a solid base of snow and that particular January weekend brought a lot more - most of it blowing sideways as we trained. This year we have almost no snow whatsoever in the San Jacintos, so decided to substitute alternative training, hoping for a make-up weekend later in the month if Mother Nature cooperates and will bring us snow.

Saturday we met at Big Rock near Lake Perris for team technical training. The morning found us concentrating on setting up anchor points for our dual-rope rescue system designed for hauling a patient and attendant up a steep angle from above. After 1 iteration of lowering a Stokes litter and attendant to the "victim" then raising them back up, we broke for lunch. The afternoon again found us going through mock rescues, changing up individual roles to make sure members are proficient in all aspects of this type of rescue, and throwing in quirks to each scenario to challenge our skills.

It was a gorgeous day on the rock, we got lots of training in during a shortened winter day, and everyone had a great time to boot.

Sunday morning we met at RMRU member Brad Scott's dairy. The flip side of a lack of snow is that we have had spectacular weather lately, and that Sunday was no exception. We carpoled to the trailhead for Massacre Canyon (where we had a recent search - see write-up elsewhere in this issue) and proceeded up the canyon, sticking with the trail. We stopped at the location of our recent mission and marveled at how different things can look by the light of day.

Continuing up the canyon we found ourselves in the more open tableland as the canyon broadened. Tiring of trails, we started working our way cross country, witnessing relics of various periods of history as we saw abandoned Indian kivas, sites of 1960's missile tests, and remnants of fences from bygone cattle ranching days.

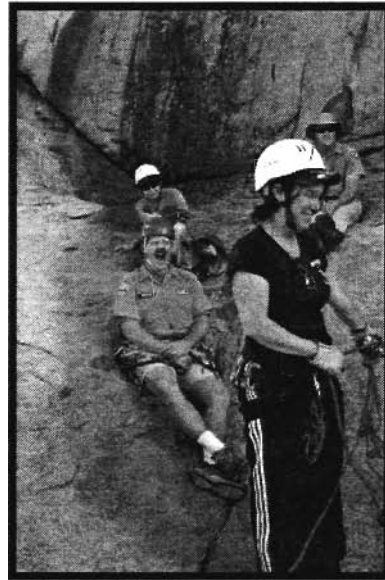
As lunchtime approached, the group broke into three teams with each choosing a different route from the higher grassland plateaus back to the creek bed. Two of the teams made it to the rendezvous point by noon and settled down to a pleasant lunch in the meadow, made all the more pleasant by the constant teasing over the radio of the third team, whose route back had forced them to rappel down a narrow draw - apparently through water if the condition of their clothes was any indication.

Cont. on page 5

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The entire group descended the creek bed after lunch. This included several anticipated rappels down small waterfalls. The challenges of setting up rope anchors in such conditions contributed to the training, but the real fun was the rappels. Several members, ever to remain nameless, got rather wet, but most of the team remained dry except for their feet.

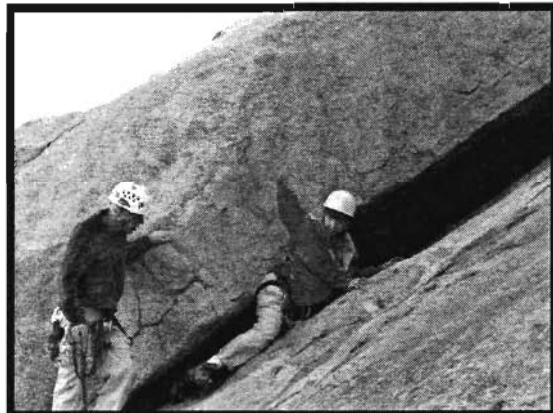
Sunday was even more fun than Saturday, and we all got valuable training and experience.



Brenda, Kevin and Travis give newbie Liz some attentive supervision.



Patrick is lowered down with the litter.



Pete to the rescue as Brenda tries desperately to get "unstuck."



The guys work on getting their ropes straightened out.



The lowering system in action

## Mission 2

### Mystery Voice at the Palm Springs Tramway

By Lee Arnson



On January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2006, RMRU was called out to respond to the Palm Springs Tramway.

Two separate parties had reported to the State Park that they had heard calls for help sounding like they had come from somewhere near the summit of Mt. San Jacinto. As most of the rescue team was still in Joshua Tree National Park wrapping up a 2 day training, there were only four of us to initially respond.

Meeting at the upper tram station, it was decided that conditions were too precarious to start a night search. We decided to spend the night in the station knowing that in the morning we would have at least 20 members to send out.

At first light we sent a hasty team consisting of 2 members to the summit, while 6 others followed to broaden the search. We had enough members to include the lower valleys and Hidden Lake in our search. After several fruitless hours of searching, it was decided to call the mission to an end unless or until there was further information.

No other reports were ever called in and this mission was chalked up to an erroneous initial report, or the subjects were able to help themselves before we could get there.



Some of the team taking a break from chasing the ghost up at the PST.

### Joshua Tree Joint Training with Sierra Madre and DSAR

By: Patrick McCurdy



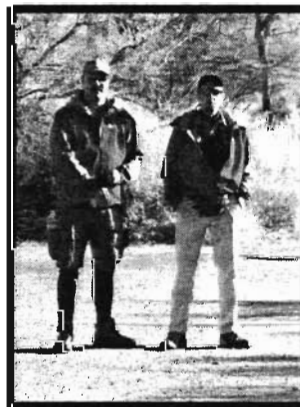
On January 14<sup>th</sup>, about a dozen members of RMRU took part in a joint rescue exercise hosted by Joshua Tree Search and Rescue. Other teams participating included Desert Search and Rescue and Sierra Madre Search and Rescue. The one-day event focused mostly on search management and team cooperation.

The scenario involved a missing climber whose photo bore a striking resemblance to Sierra Madre's veteran member Art Fortini! Teams went into the field and practiced search, tracking, and evidence preservation.

Though the Art look-alike was never found, everyone benefited from the opportunity to train together. RMRU spent the night at Joshua Tree in the hopes of getting in some recreational climbing on Sunday, but we knew better. Every time we train at Joshua Tree we get a mission and this weekend was no exception. Sunday we had a mission at the Palm Springs Tram.



All the teams gather at J-Tree for the joint training



Jake (aka Poe) and Elwood (aka Arnson)

### Mission 3

## Body Recovery on Tahquitz Rock

By Glenn Henderson



We received a call about 12:30 PM on Tuesday, January 24. The Forest Service was using GPS units to map the trail around Tahquitz rock when they came upon the body of a young man that had obviously fallen from a great height.

At the time of this find, the sheriff's department received a call of a missing person from the Idyllwild area. Putting the two calls together the sheriff's department called us to help with the recovery.

When we arrived at the accident scene, we found former team member Melinda Lyon with the forest service there as part of the mapping team. It was nice to see old friends but not under these circumstances. It was determined that the deceased was indeed the missing person from Idyllwild. He was known to be an expert rock climber and often did free solo climbs on Tahquitz. We think he was climbing Open Book, a 5.9-rated route. We believe he fell about 300 feet, near the top of the climb.

Free solo climbing does allow a great amount of freedom but does not allow for any mistakes by either yourself or Mother Nature. Our climber had been missing since the day before. It had been very windy, which could have caused a problem, but we will never know what really happened.

Daylight was rapidly burning out so we packaged our climber and began the long trip out. We were able to get to Lunch Rock before daylight gave out. It was another 2 hours to do belays from tree to tree to slowly lower the litter down the steep slope to the Ernie Maxwell trail and back to the parking lot in Humber Park.

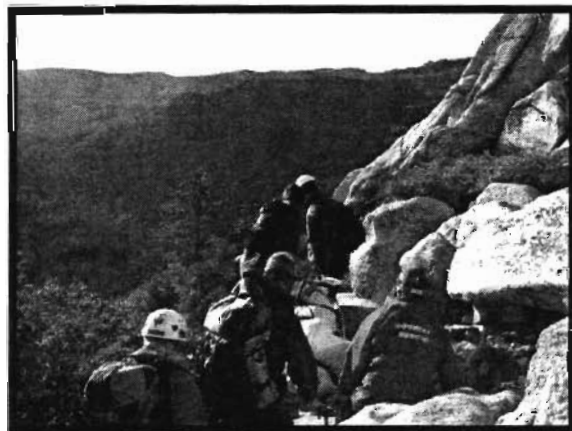
RMRU personnel on the mission were Deano Esades, Lew Kingman, Pete and Will Carlson, Brad Scott, Pat McCurdy, Gwenda Yates, Bruce Sanny, Jim & Grace Manues, Terry Greenstein, and John Dempsey. We also owe a special thanks to Forest Service personnel Lee Beyer and Jim Russell. They were there when the climber was found and stayed to help with the evacuation. They were exceptional help. They got on the litter from the start and refused to accept any breaks, working the entire time from the start of the carry out all the way to Humber Park. Thanks for your help, it was greatly appreciated!!



Surveying the scene



The team using ropes to maneuver the litter



Extracting the subject



## Winter Shakedown 2: Snow and Ice Training at Glacier Lodge, Big Pine

By Jeff Sutch



RMRU members turned out in droves to train and practice for the 2nd RMRU Winter Recert. The caravan arrived in Big Pine on Friday night. Early Saturday morning, the team emerged from their frosty tents and headed to a snowy valley a few miles up in the High Sierras. The team practiced group skills including placing snow bollards, dead-men, and snow pickets. Later, the team had a quick lunch and trained with avalanche probes and avalanche transceivers.

The afternoon was followed by a great dinner at La Casita in Bishop and some story telling around the campfire. We finished off the whole affair with another great breakfast at Jeff's Country Kitchen in Big Pine and the long drive back to Riverside.



Building snow bollards



Working with the toboggan

## Mission 4:

### Control Road - Body Recovery

By: Ray Hussey



RMRU received a call to assist CDF in a body recovery on 2-12-06 on a steep trail about 2-3 miles north of a dirt access road near Bee canyon off Hwy 74. The subject was a 26 year old male with no signs of external trauma. According to his fellow biker friends he had complained of not feeling well shortly before falling off his mountain bike. Despite his rather young age, according to the Sheriff's Coroners office he died of a heart attack.

We packaged the subject into our wheeled litter and transported him down the steep and rocky trail with 4 people carrying the litter and 2 of us backing them up with a walking tandem belay. We had some exciting moments with the tandem belay members "skiing" down several steep rocks in the dark.

We then got reorganized for our 2nd mission of the night.

RMRU members responding: Lee Arnson, Jeff Such, Erica Zastrow, Brenda DeLuna, Gwenda Yates, Kirk Cloyd, Patrick McCurdy, Dave Webb, and Ray Hussey

## Mission 5:

### Lost Hiker—Humber Park

By: Elizabeth Sanz



It was a beautiful Sunday day in February and I had decided to take my kids and dogs for a hike and some rock climbing in Idyllwild. We had hiked around for almost 4 hours and were on our way home, when I had reached the bottom of the mountain and a page came through for a BR. I drove home to Lake Elsinore to drop my kids/dogs off and I headed right back to help the team out. But by the time I got back, the team was just completing the mission, so I turned around and headed home. Just as I walked into my house and sat down to take off my boots, (which were driving me nuts) another page came through for a lost 17 year old hiker. So, I retied my boots and headed back to the mountains for the 3<sup>rd</sup> time today.

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I was the first to get up to Humber Park and shortly thereafter, the rest of the team started to show up. We had two teams of two, team #1 was Lee and I (kill the FNG, right?), team #2 was Brenda and Kirk (all their idea to kill the FNG by sending me with Lee). We got the information on where the hiker might be and so we all took off in search around 9pm. Both teams took off at the same time, but one person of team #1 (who shall remain nameless) was not a fast hiker, but a L-O-N-G strider (or so he says). He went up the mountain and stopped to wait for me, so we could call out for the hiker together (and save me from being eaten by a mountain Lion, or at least that's what went through my head while alone). With no answer, we continued to stride quickly up the mountain (or at least as fast a stride as my short legs would take me) to where we hit some snow and ice.

By this time team #2 had made the decision to take another path to see if maybe the hiker had gotten lost in a different direction. As Lee and I got  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the way to where the kid's camp should have been, Lee spotted an arrow and a time written in the dirt telling which direction the kid went (very nicely done). So, with no waste of time, we headed in that direction. About 45min later, we called out and had a response. Lee told him to shine a flash light so that we could see where he was, and as we came into his camp he said "Its not me you need to worry about, its my friend." Lee explained to the young man that his friend was the one that thought he might be lost (due to him not feeling good earlier) and that it was him who had reported him missing.

At this time two things came to my mind (No! Not mountain lions) Firstly, "thank god he is safe!" And secondly, "God, please just help me down this mountain!" My legs had had it by then, and my nice new boots (now for sale...) wanted to see how much skin they could rub off my ankle (they won).

Now at about 3am, Lee had informed base and team #2 that we had found the subject, and team #2 offered to wait to help carry the kid's stuff down. Lee had already informed the kid to only take what he could carry and that he could come back another time to retrieve the rest. We all started down the mountain, and I have to say a big thanks to Rob for my nice, wonderful, life saving trekking poles: without them I would have had to drag myself down with my arms! ( I would have done it, but it was way better with the poles) To say that we finally made it down around 6am (hallelujah!!!) for the most part (excluding my legs and ankles) safe and sound, what better outcome could there be?!

To sum it all up, I want to say a special thanks to Lee for being very patient with me while I tried my hardest to keep up. I appreciate the encouraging words you gave me and all the information that I learned from you while on this hike.

#### Mission 6:

### **Missing 18 year old girl – Jurupa**

By: Kevin Walker



Sunday morning's coffee before church was interrupted by a call from Glenn Henderson with news of a missing young woman in the Jurupa area. 16 RMRU responded to an elementary school near Mission Blvd. Sheriff's personnel were directing the operation there. Members were sent into the surrounding foothills and the nearby Santa Ana River. Along with RMRU members from Riverside County, Search Dogs were utilized.

Lauren Williams was last seen the day before leaving the gated community where her dad lived. A security camera confirmed her exit from the community. Lauren was mentally challenged with the capacity of a 7 year old and suffered from seizures. She had been missing for nearly 24 hours now, and since she required medication, she would be at risk if not found soon.

Operations Leader Steve Bryant assigned John, Brenda, Glenn and I to search an area along the Santa Ana River that the search dogs had given us a direction to. If you are not familiar with this area, you are lucky. It is an area popular with the homeless; thick brush and bamboo laced with Stinging Nettles were in abundance, as well as, Glenn and I learned a week later on the MRA Recert., Poison Oak!

Our team of 4 worked our way downstream on the North side, while Ray and Patrick had gone upstream a half mile, crossed the treated water of the river to the south, and then worked back downstream. John and Brenda had continued down for some distance and Glenn and I took advantage of the Van Buren bridge to rappel down to an area we thought to be an island between the river and the treated water input pipe from the sewage plant. As we rappelled off of the bridge we were surprised to find Ray and Patrick suddenly upon us, watching (giving their own special support).

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Joining forces, we worked our way downstream soon linking up with Brenda and John. Upon reaching the confluence of the treated water and the main river, we turned back up stream and search back upstream until we could get off the peninsula of land we were on by exiting at the treatment facility. We had been out for about 4 hours and were brought back to base for sandwiches and a break. To this point searchers hadn't found anything conclusive. The only support to continue searching the river was the search dogs showing interest in pointing towards the river and several reports from witnesses saying they had seen Lauren the day before near and In-n-Out Burger along Van Buren near the river.

After lunch it was decided to best utilize RMRU in this area again by searching downstream for a couple of miles at least from Van Buren. Rob May led Brad Scott, Jeff Sutch, and Erica Zastrow on the south side, while Glenn and Ray took the balance of the team to the north side. I do not know what we were thinking, but when it came time to split our large group up, Glenn and I took the rivers edge (as best as possible), and Ray and Brenda took the outer edges. In 25+ years (being off the team for 5 years and now back), Glenn and I ended up in the worst vegetation that I have ever seen. We dealt with ALL of the items I listed earlier, saw large holes made in the mud near the river which we later learned were from Farrell pigs (nasty mean ones), quick sand and at one point while attempting – 2 ½ hours of attempting – were in a combination of bamboo and some sort of vine that had us actually several feet up in the air. Glenn found out just how far when the bamboo we were on gave way and he came tumbling down.

As the day came to a close, RMRU members, and the R.C. Search Dog teams had found nothing conclusive. Because of no evidence of Lauren's presence in the search area, the operation was shut down at dark. With a deep sense of concern for Laurens' very life we headed for home.

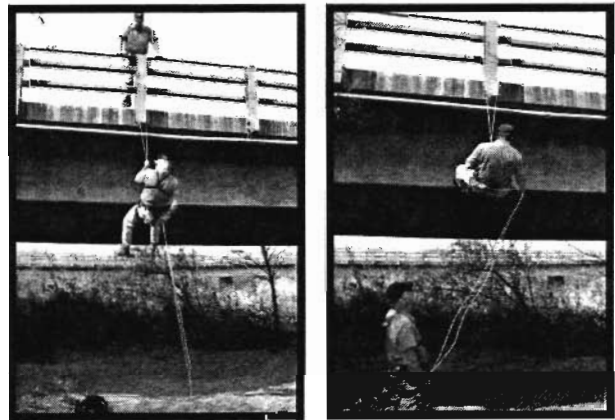
To end on a very good note – Lauren was found the following day at a Carl's Jr. (I believe) near the Galleria at Tyler. Lauren was fine!

**Members present:**

Rob May	Kirk Cloyd
Bill Delo	Brad Scott
Ray Hussey	Jennifer H.
Patrick McCurdy	Elizabeth Sanz
Jon Dempsey	
Jeff Sutch	
Erica Zastrow	
Joe Erickson	
Glenn Henderson	



RMRU searches the Santa Ana River bottoms



"There was no other way down...we swear!" Uh-huh...sure thing, guys. Kevin and Glenn finding new and exciting ways to descend into ditches.



The Good Dr. Hussey ringing out his soggy boots.



Dempsey contemplates the meaning of life in silent meditation as he chows down on some much needed food from the long days work.

## 2006 MRA Snow and Ice Recertification

By: Dave Webb



It is an honor to be the one that gets to report how phenomenally well the Recertification went this year. It was held at Convict Lake near Mammoth Lakes and the weather couldn't have been better. We had cool temperatures, blue skies, and several feet of fresh snow. You couldn't have asked for better conditions. All in all there were 16 units recertifying this year coming from as far away as Marin County to the north and San Diego County to the south, including Alta Dena from L.A. County. They told us at last year's technical rock recertification that they had a great place picked out for us this year...and they were right!

We had a great turn out from RMRU. A special thanks needs to go to all that were able to attend: Ray Hussey, Glenn Henderson, Travis Henderson, Kirk Cloyd, Pete Carlson, Will Carlson, Michael George, Gwenda Yates, Rob May, Lee Amson, John Dempsey, Kevin Walker, Patrick McCurdy, Liz Sanz, Jeff Sutch, Max Brummett, Joe Erickson, and last but not least, Erica Zastrow, (AKA Buttercup). With out all the help and support from the whole team, we would not have done as well. Our bash team was: Pete and Will Carlson, Lee Amson, and Max Brummett. They did a great job in getting to the test subject quickly, and getting him ready to transport. When the rest of our unit arrived on scene, the Bash Team almost had the subject completely checked and wrapped! All we had to do was package and ship. Everything went like clock work.

I am so proud to be apart of the dedicated men and women that make up RMRU. Their devotion to the team, and to what we do, never ceases to inspire and humble me. Of course, like they say... those who work hard, generally play hard. And we were no exception. The next day, nine of us headed to June Mountain and spent the day as a team tearing up the slopes. So needless to say we had a great weekend, got recertified, and are looking forward to next year.

Until then be safe.

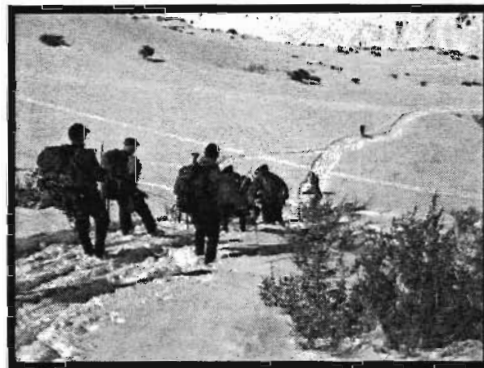
David Webb



The team packages Pete, our "patient" for the trek down.



RMRU pulls the toboggan down the freeway in the snow



First on, first off: RMRU was the fastest team out and back



The belay down: RMRU works together to get down safely

More 2006 Recert pictures.



There were spectacular views up top



Pete gets a ride from his "sled dogs"



The approach was a bruiser for the VO2 Max challenged...



The team at June Mountain; a great day of skiing with friends



Ray and Travis during a late night jam session



The team packs up the van before critique



### A note from the Editor

By: Erica Zastrow



Fresh Tracks is a continuous work in progress. Its existence would not be possible without the help of various people who contribute their valuable time and energy to help me out every couple of months to put it all together!

I would like to thank all of the authors for taking the time to write their articles. (some, I might have to brow-beat more than others to acquire them...but better late than never, eh? ) :oP

Thanks to Patrick for the wonderful resource that is mcurdygroup.com and for hosting all of the pictures from our various missions and functions. Also, thanks to Gwenda for helping me to organize the order of the missions and events. A big thanks goes out to Magdy Farag and the folks at Graybar Printing for doing such a great job with each issue! And also, thank you to our readers, members, and patrons; we thank you for your continued support!

I hope our little publication continues to grow and evolve alongside our vibrant team of Mountain Rescue volunteers. RMRU is an amazing group of people, and I am proud and honored to be a part of it.

Sincerely,

Erica Zastrow

### Sustaining Membership Application

Your donation is deductible from both your state and federal tax

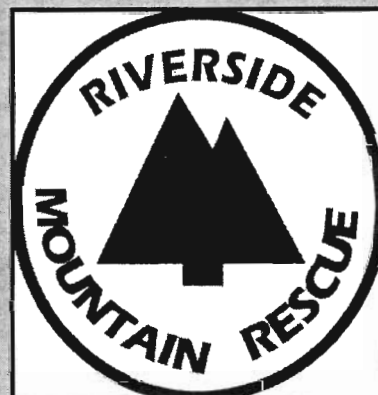
Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

#### Memberships

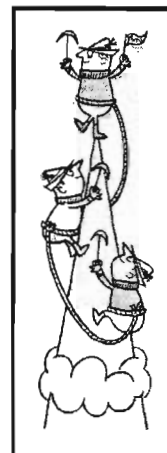
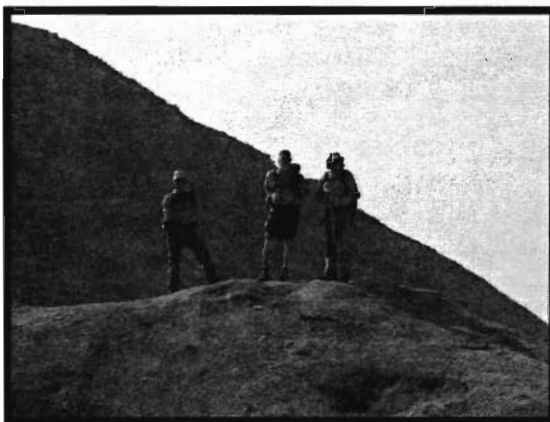
Benefactor club	\$1,000
Summit Club	\$ 500
Patron Club	\$ 200
Century Club	\$ 100
Supporting Club	\$ 25



Please send your donation with application to:

Attn: RMRU Box  
C/O Riverside Sheriffs Office  
43950 Acacia Street  
Hemet, California 92544

We Appreciate Your Support!!



## RMRU April

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5 Regular Meeting	6	7	8 Training Weekend
9	10	11	12	13	14	15 Tax Day
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

# Sustaining Members

<b>Benefactor Club</b>	<b>\$1,000 +</b>	Elaine Landells Palm Springs Aviation, Inc. Scott Brothers Dairy Farms	Betsy Mellor [Memory: Don Landells]
<b>Summit Club</b>	<b>\$ 500 +</b>	Mike & Kay Daugherty Dr. & Mrs. Ray George Daren Koontz	[Memory of Norm Mellor] Steve & Rosemarie Johnson Marvin Matsumoto
<b>Patron Club</b>	<b>\$ 200 +</b>	Gordon Austerman Bob & Susan Krieger Old Dominion Appalachian Trail Club	Danielle Hamlin Marvin M. Oliver, Esq. Theodore Young
<b>Century Club</b>	<b>\$ 100 +</b>	Al & Natalie Andrews Nancy Carter Brett Faron Terry and Sue Henderson Carol J. Lovatt Betty C. Moore T & D Young Memory of [John Willis]	Jennifer Anthony James M. Collins David & R Harrah Rosemary Kraft Kathy Machir John & Sandy Murdock Rotary Anns Memory of [Joseph Lennox]
<b>Supporting Club</b>	<b>\$ 25 +</b>	Bill & Melody Blaschko Wanda Carman Elva Cook Rob & Carmen Gardner Thomas & Karen Miceli Bill & Juanita Starmer John Williams	Sylvia Broadbent Beverly Combs Jeanne Rodriguez Deitleff Heidi Henderson & Chris Hook Loraine Nagy Mark & Sonya Vallejo

**Donate Today! Help support RMRU!**  
**85-2497048 RMRU Tax ID Number for Not-For-Profit Status**





A Joshua Tree morning from Joint Training, photo by Patrick McCurdy



John, Jeri, & Dana at the Palm Springs Tram Mission



The second rappel during our Massacre Canyon Training. It was very exciting with the waterfalls as the backdrop for our rappel.

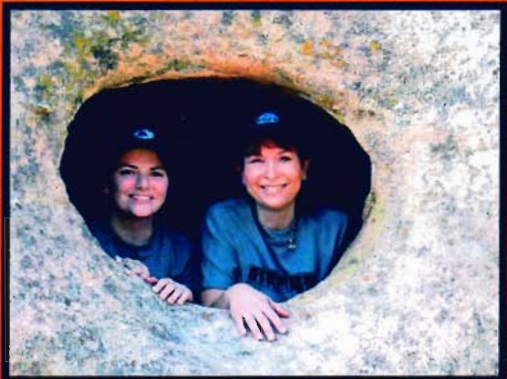
# R M R U



## The Last Page



Rob, Patrick, Jeff & Travis at Winter Shakedown



Erica and Brenda in a cave near Massacre Canyon



Grace Manues in the search for the Mystery Voice

**Coming Next Issue:**  
 -2006 MRA Conference in Marin County  
 -Pictures from RMRU events  
 -Trainings, Mission Reviews & More!