



Calendar

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| February | 1 | 7:00pm | <u>UNIT MEETING</u> --
Training: Mission Start-up |
| February | 16 | 7:00pm | <u>TRAINING SESSION</u> --
Land Navigation and GPS |
| February | 19 | 9:00am | <u>FIELD TRAINING</u> -- Overnight in the vicinity of Three-Fingered Jack |
| February | 28 | 7:00pm | <u>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING</u> -- in EOC at Law Enforcement Building |
| March | 7 | 7:00pm | <u>UNIT MEETING</u> -- Training: ICS and Tabletop Search |
| March | 15 | 7:00pm | <u>TRAINING SESSION</u> -- Search Techniques and Tracking |
| March | 18 | Callout | Mock Mission on Marys Peak |
| March | 27 | 7:00pm | <u>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING</u> |

McDONALD FOREST RUN -- April 29

CMRU has obligated itself to provide first-aid service for this year's McDonald Forest Run. This event is a 50K Ultramarathon 'over the river and through the woods' of McDonald Forest north of Corvallis. Yes, this is the one that Jon and Ann G. were active in last year -- and the one for which Susan, Keith, and others helped provide communications and first-aid. We'll need about six to ten people to stage at various locations along the course and to patrol on mountain bikes. More information will be sent as it becomes available.

NEW ON THE WEB PAGE - cmru.peak.org

By Joy Linn

The reimbursement form is available as a PDF document under **Miscellaneous** -- a new button on the home page. This may morph into something else, but that's what I came up with for now. See some photos of Mission 00-01, the skills workshop in December (with no text - no one who attended wrote up anything about it for the newsletter....), and the snow problem practice two weeks ago. Some photos of the highline practice are waiting for explanatory text. More to come...

Also, there have been some changes in the training dates for April -- check out the *Training Schedule* for updates.

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

As announced in the last Newsletter and at the January Unit Meeting, each Support and Rescue member is asked to participate with at least one of the Unit's committees. Those committees are: Executive, Medical, Training, Truck & Equipment, and a (perhaps) new committee dealing with internal communications of the Unit (e.g. web page, lister, newsletter). We may also be restructuring the Truck & Equipment committee, depending on who the members may be and how they view their roles, into two committees or two subcommittees. Associate and Trainee members are also welcome to participate with the committee(s) of their choice.

As mentioned at the January Unit Meeting, we are attempting to hold some of these committee meetings in cyberspace to cut down on travel. Contact Bob Freund to indicate which committee you would like to assist. So far, he has heard from Jeff Gent, Susan Leach, and Jim Ruef. Get to him before he gets to you!

SNOW PRACTICE -- revisited

January's field practice was oriented around oversnow evacuation. It involved an oversnow approach, a five hundred lineal foot raising (on a 38° slope), a three hundred foot horizontal traverse across the slope, and a lowering through two stations before a final quarter mile evacuation to the truck. We met at Hoodoo Ski Area and proceeded uphill to the base of Hayrick Butte. A snow pit revealed the top 18 inches of the snowpack had a couple of layers with reasonably good cohesion and very good adhesion to the consolidated snow below. We stayed close to a band of exposed rocks for the ascent.

Two 300 foot lines were bent together and a simple pulley system (3:1) was rigged using the raising line. The litter was raised to the top of the slope. From this station, a 300 foot tensioned line was rigged across the slope while the litter was fitted with a side-bridle consisting of pulleys at the head and foot of the litter. The pulleys were attached to the tensioned line (think of it as a "low-line" trackline) and the litter was drawn across the slope. Once it arrived at the second station, the litter was put on a platform while the lowering section was rigged.

A standard lowering system with main and belay lines and separate anchor systems was rigged just above the litter, and a second station about 250 feet down slope. Throughout the exercise, only snow anchors (pickets and flukes) were used. Boot packing the area into which the anchors were placed and letting the snow "age" made the placements much more solid. Using pickets greatly facilitated relocating the anchors.

The weather cooperated with temperatures in the mid-20's, snow showers at times and clearing at other times. The ropes got a good "dry cleaning" by dragging them through the snow. Some of us learned its easier to drag a loaded litter on snowshoes than on skis. No matter what you had on your feet, having (ski) poles made balance (and pulling) much easier.

Participants: **L. Clunes, J. Dagata, B. Freund, S. Linn, K. Vertanen**, and guest: **Kathy Blackburn**