



CHINA LAKE MOUNTAIN RESCUE GROUP

P. O. BOX 5773

CHINA LAKE, CALIFORNIA 93555

Editor: Dianne Lucas

APRIL 1973 #22

CALENDAR

- May 5-6 To Tahquitz for some rock climbing. Contact Al Green for more information (446-2491).
- May 12-13 Williamson (14,384'), by the George Creek route (class 2). Al Jones (375-8991) will organize cook pools and transportation.
- May 14 Meeting, Lucas', 305 A McIntire, 7:30. Bill Sweatt will assist.
- May 19-20 Kern County Sheriff's Seminar, to be held in Indian Wells Canyon. Carl Heller will be keeping us informed.
- May 19 CRMRA meeting, at Montrose. Call Lee Lucas if interested in attending (446-2387).
- May 26-28 Snow climbing in the Matterhorn area. Bob O'Handley is the organizer (446-2246).
- June 11 Meeting, 7:30, location to be announced.

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OPERATIONS

#7304 Search and rescue, Dr. Thomas Stephenson, 18 March Carl Heller

The call came at 0815 Sunday morning from CDR Gary Bailey of China Lake NAF. Dr. Stephenson, NWC's Dental Officer, had gone out Saturday to exercise his dogs "somewhere in the hills". CDR Bailey had notified the Highway Patrol and was about to start a search with the NAF helicopter. He wanted us to have a team alerted. I suggested a team in the helo and he said we should have one ready for the second flight.

Lt. Jack Macidull came back about 1030 and on his second flight took Dennis Burge and Al Jones. The helo also had Dr. John Hendricks, of the NWC Dispensary, and ADJ2 John Vallelunga, the crew chief, aboard. Dr. Stephenson's vehicle was

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Search for Dr. Stephenson, continued

found about 1100 on an L.A. aqueduct road near Jawbone Canyon by Water & Power-Department employees who notified the Sheriff's Department. Two deputies went to the vehicle, which was stuck slightly off the road. Unfortunately the Sheriff's Department had not been notified that Dr. Stephenson was missing. Another of the many examples of a gap in communications. However, they radioed a message to China Lake after they checked the vehicle's registered owner. NAF radioed the helo at 1300 that the vehicle was near Chuckawalla Peak. CDR Bailey also notified me, and a team consisting of Lucas, Peterson, Wick, Anderson, Rockwell, Woodman, Craig, Warschauer, Matthews, Mayne and myself mobilized at the hut in case a large search or stretcher carry was needed.

Although it took some time, the helo finally found the right spot and landed near the truck. It then began an airborne search with Dennis aboard and Al on the ground, giving a radio link. Dr. Hendricks spotted the dogs, and Dennis directed the ground team down the correct gully. They reported that Dr. Stephenson was alive. The helo landed and Dr. Hendricks and Dennis hurried down to Dr. Stephenson. He had fallen over a 10' step in the gully, suffering a fractured skull and many other injuries. Dr. Hendricks performed a tracheotomy. The group of 5 loaded the victim aboard our stretcher and carried him ~150 yards and 150' uphill to the helo. He was taken to the heliport at the Ridgecrest Community Hospital in critical condition and died in the hospital that night.

Dennis and Al brought the Stephenson truck home. The group at the hut had disbanded when the word came that the victim was on board the helo.

Comments:

1. About 15 CLMRG people were involved, spending 43 manhours. It should be emphasized that none of this was 'wasted' time. The best mobilization practice is one like this -- that is why we don't schedule any practice mobilizations.
2. On an alert you should pack your gear and have your boots and clothing ready. This will decrease the mobilization time significantly.
3. It might be interesting to write a book about communications mistakes. Such a list would show many failures by all groups, including ourselves. Most of these mistakes are due to the pressing nature of SAR operations. We should try to keep improving our communications with all other groups, since the human factor is so important. In this case apparently the Sheriff's Department was left out of the circuit, which included NAF, the Highway Patrol, and ourselves.
4. Occasionally radio communications are the weak link, as when the helo couldn't talk to the Deputies. There is some hope that the helos will soon have radios operating at 155.160 MHz (MRA) and 155.550 MHz (Kern Co. Sheriff). We may also have a two channel radio with 155.550 MHz included. (Ed. note: See Equipment Note)

#7305 Search Incident, "B" Mountain, 24 March Carl Heller

Al Jones and I were on "B" Mountain when a family of four became separated. The parents were worried about the two young boys (about 8 and 9). The boys had gotten ahead of the parents on the road and then circled down through the gully between the two peaks to the cars. The father found their tracks and followed them to the cars. Meanwhile Al found the boys at the car and drove them up to the mother. Before this occurred, I had met the mother and was searching for tracks east of their last position. The father drove up the road and the family was reunited. It was interesting that of several people on the mountain, only Al and I got involved.

#7306 Alert, Santa Barbara County Search, 26 March, Carl Heller.

The victim was a 21-year-old man who had left a suicide note in his car and had been missing for 3-6 days. Our team was wanted at 0700 Tuesday, March 27. Telephoners Barb and Dianne contacted 10 people, willing if not anxious to search for a body. We met for a briefing at 2100 and I phoned Leon Landon for a final check. His wife said they had enough people from nearby and wouldn't need China Lake for this search. We disbanded happily!

QUALIFICATIONS

Al Green

A new roster is out, and Marc Hirschy, Kim Mayne, and Terry Moore have been added to the Search team. We also have a new applicant:

Roland Robbins, Jr. 1604 B Radford Code 5526 Phone 446-3625 (h), 939-7556(w)

The Qualifications Committee urges everyone (for their own protection) to be sure that he has a Civil Defense card. There are only a few holdouts: Charlton, Dinger, Kent Johnson and Boyle, according to our records.

In order to keep accurate records of trip and operation participation, the operation leader or trip organizer should get a list of participants to Al Green.

EQUIPMENT NOTE

Bob Joy

Our new radio, a Motorola HT-220, has arrived. [Editor's Note: This is a "pocket-size" radio that can be carried by the person who goes down (or up, as the case may be) with the stretcher. It could also be used as a paging device.] Accessories, including a rechargable battery pack, case, plug-in base for charger, a short, flexible antenna, and crystals (an accessory?) must still be purchased. The radio has provisions for four frequencies; initially the Kern County Sheriff's frequency (155.55 MHz) and our 155.16 frequency will be installed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Doug Warschauer

During March a donation was received from Vi Swann for the Search and Rescue Fund. And Bryson Van Gundy, Jr., Commander, U.S.N.(Ret.), a former NAF Operations Officer, sent a donation for maintaining communications equipment. Beth Henry has contributed a generous donation for the same purpose. We thank them all!

A radio (see Equipment Note) was purchased for \$165 with the help and advice of Ray Smith, of the Sierra Madre Search and Rescue Team.

We received a check from the United Fund of Indian Wells Valley for the first quarter of 1973, and an agreement was signed to conform with their standards of accounting and fund solicitation.

The treasurer appreciates Don Harris' inventory of capital assets, and the helpful eye of Mrs. Essig, our auditor. She pointed out that a Federal Return for 1972 had to be filed (essentially to say that we didn't have to file one!) because of the comments of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue that, "Organizations not required to file because of the \$5000 gross receipts test (see general instruction A(3) of form 990), write 'Gross receipts not more than \$5000' at the top of the return and file it with us so we may note our records accordingly."

TICKETRON CAMPING RESERVATIONS!!

From the Inyo Register we learn that campgrounds in the Rock Creek Drainage, and in the Mammoth Lakes Basin of the Inyo National Forest have been placed on a reservation basis through Ticketron Reservation Ticket System. Reservations must be made from 30 to 7 days in advance of a planned camping trip, and reservations will be accepted beginning May 22 (for camping on June 22).

To those of us who are not exactly within a stone's throw of the nearest Ticketron terminal, this may seem like alarming news. However, some hastily conducted research (using a 1965 Forest Service map) reveals that the list of campgrounds in the Inyo Register article does not include all Forest Service campgrounds (at least not in the Rock Creek area). In particular, the campground at Rock Creek Lake and the one at the end of the road are not included. Presumably we should still be able to sleep at the roadhead the night before starting a trip in either the Rock Creek or Mammoth area without having to obtain a reservation.

NEW BOOKS to know about:

Surviving the Unexpected Wilderness Emergency, by Gene Fear (Janet has some)

Mountaineering First Aid, by Dick Mitchell (The Mountaineers)

...I don't know how new this one is, but it has recently been approved by the Red Cross. We are trying to order a bunch, to sell to interested members.

Mountain Search for the Lost Victim, by Dennis Kelley, of the Montrose team.

Frank Buffum has some copies of this.

Camping *In*. Hi-Rise Campsites, Inc., has announced plans to construct a 20-story campground in downtown New Orleans and is seeking financing for the project. "This will be unique," said Wesley Hurley of Hi-Rise. "It is designed for today's different brand of camping. People don't want the woody bit now; they want to camp in comfort near the city."

Plans for the \$4-million project call for eight lower floors of parking and 12 upper stories, with 240 individual sites equipped with utility hookups for campers, and carpeted with artificial turf. The campground will include a rooftop pool.

Albert Ledner, architect for *the* project, and Hurley plan to open the facility to coincide with the 1974 Mardi Gras and the opening of the nearby New Orleans Superdome. -AP

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

On the following page we publish a financial summary for last year. It is somewhat more detailed than past reports. New accounting standards imposed on United Fund agencies by the Combined Federal Campaign have required us to (a) create separate funds for each of our "program service" functions, and (b) adopt double-entry bookkeeping. During 1972 two sets of books were kept: the official "old" books and the new double-entry books. The new system with three program service funds-- Search and Rescue, Public Education and Training, and Management and General--did not become official until 1 January 1973. However, the 1972 summary is presented in the new format, since that is the way CLMRG financial reports will appear from now on.

CHINA LAKE MOUNTAIN RESCUE GROUP FUNDS STATEMENT

Year Ending December 31, 1972

SEARCH AND RESCUE

Brought forward from 1971			97.57	
1972 Income:				
Donations (100)	626.69			
United Fund (200)	1,233.33			
<u>Total income</u>		1,860.01		
1972 Expenditures:				
Small equipment (2500)	546.14			
Transportation (3200)	80.85			
Telephone & Telegraph(2600)	<u>23.97</u>			
<u>Total expenditures</u>		650.96		
Net for 1972			<u>1.209.05</u>	
Balance December 31, 1972				<u>1,306.62</u>

PUBLIC EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Brought forward from 1971			420.37	
1972 Income				
Meetings (300)	59.00			
Course fees (1300)	256.50			
Book sales (1400)	<u>22.00</u>			
United Fund (200)	60.00			
Total income		397.50		
1972 Expenditures:				
Film rental & tape (2500)	38.76			
Seminar expenses (2590)	161.11			
Equipment purchase (4300)	<u>599.80</u>			
<u>Total expenditures</u>		799.67		
Net for 1972			<u>(402.17)</u>	
Balance December 31, 1972				<u>10.20</u>

MANAGEMENT AND GENERAL

Brought forward from 1971			225.00	
1972 Income				
Sales (net) (1400)	57.94			
Bank interest (1600)	<u>38.48</u>			
<u>Total income</u>		96.42		
1972 Expenditures				
Postage (2700)	11.18			
Dues to MRA (5000)	<u>20.00</u>			
<u>Total expenditures</u>		31.18		
Net for 1972			<u>65.74</u>	
Balance December 71, 1972				<u>290.24</u>
Total all Fund Balances				<u>1,615.06</u>