



**CHINA LAKE MOUNTAIN RESCUE GROUP**  
**P.O. BOX 2037**  
**RIDGECREST, CA 93555**

**SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

JUNE 25-26	Mt. Tyndall	Silverman
JULY 2-4	Mt. Guyot	Mitchell
JULY 9	Summer Class Day Climbs	Class Committee
JULY 6-13	Sierra Crest (Mt. Langley to Shepherd Peas)	Ostermann
JULY 11	Meeting	D. Burge
JULY 16-17	Summer Class Overnight Climbs	Class Committee
JULY 23-24	North Palisade	Adams
JULY 30/31	Mt. Whitney (Mountaineer's Route)	Mitchell
AUGUST 6-7	Temple Crag to Mt. Sill Traverse	Mason
AUGUST 8	Meeting	Green
AUGUST 13-14	Mt. Abbott	Renta
AUGUST 15	CLMRG Summer Party	Party Committee
AUGUST 20-21	Mt. Whitney (East Face)	Wisecarver
AUGUST 27-28	Mt. Goddard Fun Run	B. Rockwell
SEPTEMBER 3-5	Tuolumne Meadows	Hinman

**Hagar the Horrible** By Dik Browne



## SEARCH AND RESCUE OPERATIONS

88-2	2/27/88	Search
Mammoth Mountain		Huey

Mark Dedola (25), from the Los Angeles area, bypassed the marked boundaries on Mammoth Mountain and skied off the west side on 26 Feb. He was reported missing, and teams from June Lake SAR and Mammoth Mountain were deployed to search for him that evening. His skis were found near Devil's Postpile the next morning. A CRMRA call out was initiated.

Searchers tracked him into the drainage of the San Joaquin River, and then north. A worsening storm made it mandatory that the teams catch up with Mark that night.

CLMRG arrived at 1700 on the 27th and was immediately sent into the field to jump track in the direction he was heading. At 2100 the June Lake team came upon Mark; he was wet, exhausted, scared, sore and mildly hypothermic.

He was placed in a sleeping bag and given warm liquids. Even after resting for several hours, however, he was in no condition to walk out. The units from CLMRG, Sierra Madre SRT and San Diego MRT joined June Lake and Mark was pulled out via sled by 0400 on the 28th.

Members participating were Huey and Harris. Coordinator was Carol Burge, assisted by Cheryl Braun. Others on call for the 28th were Green, Mason, B. Rockwell, Silverman, Schafhauser, Rogers and Sakai.

88-3	4/1-2/88	Search
El Paso Mountains		Green

CLMRG was called Friday night at 2230 to assist in a search for a missing child in the vicinity of Last Chance Canyon. The call came in from the KCSO dispatcher in Mojave.

Sheila Rockwell accepted the coordinator responsibility and was asked to have all members who could respond to meet at the but as soon as possible. By

2330 fourteen of us had assembled and were ready to leave. We took six 4WD vehicles because it seemed likely that a lot of desert road driving would be required for this night search. A KCSO deputy met us in Inyokern to direct us to the Red Rock Canyon road which led to base camp, and to make sure that we had any last minute information.

At base camp we found that IWVSAR had assembled and was being briefed. Seven-year-old Cameron Channel had been missing since 1630 from the family's camp, approximately 50 yards away from base. The IWV team had preserved a good set of tracks and the plan was to put teams on them and also to make perimeter cuts to contain the search area. Our teams were integrated into this plan and deployed into the field by 0115.

Within 30 minutes Daryl Hinman's team, cutting for tracks toward the southwest, reported positive identification of Cameron's tracks heading south. This report proved to be the key find and this team, assisted by two others, successfully followed the tracks and located Cameron at 0430. Of course, many other assignments were being worked at the same time and until the word came in that Cameron had been found, we were still endeavoring to close off the search area.

Other field members participating were: B. Rockwell, Hine, Huey, Finco, Renta, Mason, Atkins, Roseman, DeRuiter, Nelson, Wilson and Schafhauser. Carol Burge and Betty Meng assisted with the coordination.

Comments:

1. I forgot to take the T-cards. They would have been helpful and if the search had required continuation with additional resources, they would have been essential.
2. It would have been a good idea to have at least each field team leader actually look at the track before going into the field. As it turned out, Daryl could be so positive of his identification because he had seen the track before leaving base. Describing a track is great, but as they say, a picture is worth a 1000 words.

3  
88-4

4/4/88

Alert  
Green

Owens Peak

Sheila Rockwell called me at 1600 on 4 April with a report just given to her by CLMRG member Lee Lucas. Two friends of Rich Perrine had accompanied him on a climb of Owens Peak and apparently had descended the wrong canyon. Lee was concerned that they may be in serious trouble and wanted a team on alert just in case. I asked Sheila to get five other people for this initial response. Lee had called from Brady's Cafe and was going up Grapevine canyon to see if the errant hikers had exited there. That is exactly what had happened and by the time Lee arrived, some local residents had given the hikers a ride out of the canyon.

Other field members on alert were Stogsdill, Finco, Sakai, Derrickson and Barbee.

88-5

4/5-6/88

Search  
Finco

Sequoia National Park

This call out came through the Office of Emergency Services. Paul Foder of Sequoia-Kings Canyon NP had requested two tracking teams from CLMRG. Al Green received the initial call through the local KCSO substation at 1500 on Tuesday, 5 April. Green then requested an OL and I accepted.

Sheila Rockwell called the roster to find five more who could help. I contacted the Park and got additional information: Andrew and Diane Stevens, and Matt Pujolar, had left Wolverton on 28 March. They had intended to ski the "High Route", exiting at Symmes Creek on 2 April. They were reported overdue on the 4<sup>th</sup>.

A helicopter overflew the area and spotted tracks leaving the normal High Route near Triple Divide Peak, heading south. The tracks were followed to the Chagoopa Plateau, where they were lost in the dense trees. The CLMRG teams, each with a park ranger, were needed to pursue these tracks and to contain the area. We were told to be at the Lone Pine airport at 0730 on the 6th for transport into the search area.

We mobilized at our rescue hut at 0530 and travelled to Lone Pine. The helicopter was on time, and the first team of Hinman, Rogers and Silverman was flown in to base camp at 0830. By 1030 Martin,

Wilson and I were also there. Hinman's team was to cut for sign along the east edge of the Chagoopa Plateau, and thence to the Kern River. My team was to follow the tracks.

As we were being briefed, a message came over the radio that a search helicopter had possibly spotted the missing three skiers, just east of Mt. Kaweah near the Red Spur. The sighting was soon confirmed and the skiers were picked up. They had gotten off route during a whiteout, and were continuing back north when they decided to stop and wait for help. It appears that they were completely confused about their location, and since no one in the party had a map, they could not reorient themselves.

We were flown out to Lone Pine at 1330, and were back home by 1530.

88-6

4/30/88

Search  
Huey

Death Valley NM

The call came at 1450 on 30 April from Death Valley National Monument via the China Lake Police. Sixyear-old Joey Hill had become separated from his hiking party at noon, on a trip to Wildrose Peak. Both IWVSAR and CLMRG were requested. The Park Service had two dog teams and one expert tracker in the field by the time of our arrival. They had also set up other teams to confine the search area.

Joey was reported to have asthma and his father stated that when he became tired, he would fall into a deep sleep for several hours. A storm was moving into the area as search teams were being deployed. It began to snow at 1900, but as the last teams were beginning their assignments around 1945, the boy was found near the road leading to base camp.

He had been spotted by a tourist who was looking at flowers. The tourist asked if he was OK, and the boy replied that he was. When the tourist came upon base camp and inquired as to what was going on, he reported his find. It turned out that the boy had been warned not to talk to strangers, which explained his response despite the fact that he had been lost for hours. He was soon located, in excellent condition.

Sheila Rockwell coordinated, assisted by Betty Meng. Other field members were Gleason, Barbee. Harris. Derrickson, Silverman, Ostermann and SchafHauser.

88-7  
Meysan Canyon

5/1/88

Alert  
Hinman

At 1050 on Sunday, 1 May, Dan Lucas of the ICSO contacted us over the pager system. Ray Wolfe (51) had twisted his knee while hiking with a Sierra Club group near Little Meysan Lake and was apparently unable to hike out on his own. A CHP helicopter was en route to the area. Lucas wanted to put CLMRG on alert in case the helo was unable to land due to strong winds (the wind storm of the previous day had gusts to 50 mph).

Sheila Rockwell was assisted by Betty Meng on the call out for other members Huey, Lucas, Mitchell, Derrickson, Gleason, Wisecarver, Silverman, Barbee and Schathausen.

The call out was cancelled at 1330 when Lnyo County notified us that the victim had been successfully evacuated.

88-8 Sage Canyon	5/14/88	Search Hine
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Simple precautions saved John Petty and Clifford Harris a second night without food or water: they had left Mrs. Petty with an understanding of their route and a specific return time. Their route was to start at Sage Canyon, travel cross country to the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT), and then follow the PCT to the Walker Pass trailhead. They would then pick up a truck left there and be home by 2000 the same day.

Mrs. Petty dropped the men off at the entrance to Sage Canyon at 1033 on 13 April. When they missed their return time, she reported them overdue to the KCSO. When they had not reached their truck by 0300 the following morning, a search was initiated.

Eight members of CLMRG responded to Carol Burge's call and were instructed to meet at the

rescue hut by 0500. Two additional members were to join us later in the day.

Base camp was established and three teams dispatched by 0630. One team went to the Place Last Seen (PLS) to cut for tracks and determine the initial direction of travel. Another started at the victim's truck and followed the PCT toward the PLS. The third team cut for sign along a jeep road that bisected the search area.

Sergeant Church arrived at 0700 to coordinate. An aircraft from the Sheriff's Aero Squadron (Air 9) arrived at 0810, searched for about an hour without success, and landed near base camp for briefing. During this briefing, the team on the jeep road radioed that they had located tracks. Air 9 took off at 0940 to search this specific area, while the other ground teams' assignments were bringing them also into the vicinity.

At 1030, Air 9 spotted the two individuals waving and jumping around. They dropped a message asking the hikers to stay put until a ground team could arrive. Air 9 then circled over the area to provide a clear target.

The ground team reached Clifford and John a half hour later. They were thirsty, hungry, and tired but had suffered no serious problems. After being given food and water, they were transported to base camp.

At base camp, I asked why they had not taken the PCT which they had crossed three times during their travels. Their answer was that they were looking for a wide improved trail like the one at the trailhead, not a simple footpath.

CLMRG members taking part were Finco, Lucas, Mitchell, D. Burge, Wisecarver, Leiser, Buffum, Ostermann, Rogers and me. Carol Burge and Bob Huey coordinated, with Carol VanVerst and Betty Meng performing the telephone chores.

"Whatever you can do or dream you can, begin it. Boldness has genius, power and magic in it."

- Goethe

## DONOR'S CORNER

We want to express our thanks to Mountain High, Ltd. Greg Vernon and Vaino Kodas have provided equipment at excellent prices and have donated a brake bar system and a set of edge rollers for our stretcher work. A local source is convenient for us and having a supportive vendor is great!

Also, Janet Hammond sent another very generous check. Thanks, Janet!

## OPERATIONS SHIRTS

CLMRG recently adopted a policy for having two shirts for search and rescue operations. The new shirt will be worn exclusively for Kern County operations, and will serve to more clearly identify us as Kern County SAR personnel when we are working within the county. The second shirt is the standard operations shirt which we have always worn. Both shirts are cotton, long-sleeved, and bright orange.

### KERN COUNTY

### OUT OF COUNTY

Left Shoulder:

Kern County Sheriff's patch, located one inch below seam and centered on sleeve.

CLMRG patch, located two inches below seam and centered on sleeve. Optional: Kern County SAR rocker one inch below CLMRG patch.

Right Shoulder:

CLMRG patch, located two inches below seam and centered on sleeve.

MRA patch, located two inches below seam and centered on sleeve.

Above Right Pocket:

Name, white letters on blue background.

Name. white letters on blue background.

Above Left Pocket:

First aid patch.

First aid patch.

### From The Synonym Finder, Rodale Books. Inc.:

HANGDOG, adj. Sneaking, base, mean, ashamed, having a mean or sneaking appearance, degraded, contemptible, ignoble, cringing, fawning, groveling, shifty, furtive, guilty, shamefaced, outcast, abject, scurvy, villainous, blackguard, low, lowbred, lowborn. baseborn. lowly, inglorious, infamous. petty, little, dirty, scabby, scrubby, shabby, paltry, recreant, caitiff, cowardly, poltroon, wretched, pusillanimous, dastardly, dastard, dunghill, cowering, skulking, beggarly, despicable, dunghilly, evil-faced, ill-contrived, obsequious, servile, slinking, spiritless, unwholesome, sinister, evil-eyed, pettifogging, deplorable, reptilian, quailing, evil-affected, currish, spineless, white-livered. disingenuous, ignominious.

### From the Los Angeles Times

**Golden Rules:** Mac Wilkins, who won the Olympic gold in 1976 and the silver in 1984 and who continues to compete in the discus, told Christine Brennan of the Washington Post that he has always gone by three rules.

"Dream and be creative like a hippie. Be crazy and take risks like the Hell's Angels. Have the discipline and perseverance of a Boy Scout. To me, those are all-American virtues."



From The China Lake  
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