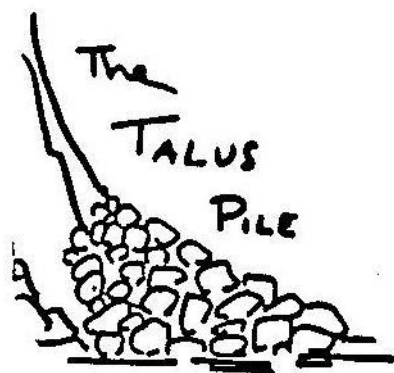


NUMBER 155

April 2013



CHINA LAKE MOUNTAIN RESCUE GROUP

P. O. BOX 2037
RIDGECREST CA 93556

TRAINING SCHEDULE

Apr	8	Meeting	Mitchell w/ D. Burge, Simons
Apr	10	Girl Scout Mojave Primitive Encampment Tyrolean	Sakai
May	4-5	Sierra Trip	Bishop
May	6	First Aid Scenario	Niesen
May	11	Trail Peak	Niesen
May	13	Meeting	Breitenstein w/Roseman, Niesen
May	28	Denali (28 May – 17 June)	Bishop
Jun	8-9	MRA Spring Meeting Phoenix, AZ	Derkey
Jun	10	Meeting, Pre-meeting Summer Class	Simons
Jun	11	Summer Class begins	Simons
Jul	4-7	Son of Split & Cardinal	B. Rockwell
Jul	21-22	Summer Class Day Hikes	Leaders
Jul	27-28	Summer Class Overnight Trips	Leaders
Jul	31	Summer Class Graduation	Simons
Aug	31	Tuolumne Meadows	Derkey

SCREE

Check our web page at clmrg.org.

Check the California Region's web page at crmra.org.

Newsletters from other MRA groups, gear catalogs, etc. are available in the hut.



CLMRG is funded in part by United Way of Indian Wells Valley.

OPERATION REPORTS

Operation 2013-02 (Transit) OES # 2013-LAW-0008

13 January 2013

Angeles National Forest (Los Angeles County)

By Linda Finco

Summary:

Alert to assist in a search for a hiker in the Angeles National Forest.

Narrative:

Dave Miles received a call on Sunday January 13th around 1600 from the Kern County Sheriff Office requesting help in a search for an overdue hiker. The search was for a 28 year old man who went hiking with two friends on Saturday, January 12th on a trail in the Angeles National Forest. Somewhere on the trail the missing man separated from his friends. The two friends waited a couple hours at the vehicle and then reported the man missing. Dave contacted me (Linda Finco) and I agreed to be the Operations Leader. Janet Westbrook coordinated the callout. After the initial callout, it appeared we would not be able to field a team. I decided to wait until 1930 before contacting the Sheriff to see if anyone returning from weekend outings might be able to commit. Shortly after this, the subject was found by searchers, around 2000 hours. He appeared to have a head wound and was suffering from hypothermia. He was extracted by a helicopter and taken to a hospital where he is expected to fully recover.

Operation 2013-02 (Transit) OES # 2013-LAW-0022

7 February 2013

Wagon Wheel (San Bernardino County)

By Dave Miles

Summary:

Transit to assist in a search for a missing motorcycle rider in the Wagon Wheel area.

Narrative:

I, Dave Miles, got a call at 2:07 pm on February 7th from Tom Martin who reported a missing female motorcyclist in the Wagon Wheel OHV area. I did not get the message until 4:20 pm when I left work. In attempting to get a hold of Tom Martin, I called his wife and his neighbor (Tom Sakai). Once in contact with Mr. Martin, he told me that he had spoken with a man at Wagon Wheel that afternoon who stated that his riding partner had been missing since the morning and he had been unable to find her. At 4:48 pm I received additional information from Mr. Martin stating that they were in cell contact with the missing rider and she was walking down the railroad track. He said that we were not needed.

Two hours later, I then got a call at 7:45 pm from Kern County Sheriff Sgt. Smith to search for this same missing rider, Alison Bouam, at Wagon Wheel. Sgt. Smith said that they had lost cell contact and were unable to locate her. We were to respond to the Wagon Wheel area Command Post being run by San Bernardino Sheriff. I called the Calling Post and sent a message to the group to find a Coordinator and to meet at the hut at 8:30pm. I got a call from Carol Burge and she agreed to be Coordinator. Linda Finco, Tom Sakai, Paul DeRuiter, Luke Swanson, and Gina Niesen committed to the operation.

We met at the hut and decided to take three 4WD vehicles with two searchers in each vehicle. We got about 2 miles out of town when I got a text from Sgt. Smith that the Subject had been found. We returned to the hut and were done by 9:15 pm. I later found out that the China Lake SAR helicopter had been called out.

Operation 2013-03 (Mobilization) OES # 2013-LAW-0032

17 February 2013

Marble Canyon, Big Pine (Inyo County)

By Dave Miles

Summary:

Mobilization to assist in a search for a missing 29 year old man last seen entering a mine in Marble Canyon.

Narrative:

I, Dave Miles, got a call at 7:17 pm on February 17th from Kern County Sheriff Sgt. Haislip for a mutual aid to Inyo County. A 29 year old male had entered 200 ft into a mine in Marble Canyon and stopped communicating with his friend outside the mine. After an hour of waiting, his friend drove the 2 hours back to the Big Pine area to get cell phone coverage in order to make the call for help. Sgt. Haislip had also called the IWV mine team and wanted us to support them. There are

about 20 mines in Marble Canyon and they suspected vertical shafts. We were to meet at the Mineral Park in Big Pine. I called Gina Niesen to coordinate and then used the Calling Post system to alert other team members (Calling Post sends a message to every phone listed by team members to receive this sort of alert). The message was to call Gina if you were able to go, and meet at the hut at 8:30 pm. Bob Huey, Nathan Simons, Tom Sakai, David Doerr, Eileen Loughran, Dan Bishop, and Paul DeRuiter committed to the operation. At 7:33 pm I got another call from Sgt. Haislip informing me that the subject had self rescued and we were no longer needed. I called Gina to let her know and then used the Calling Post to send a message to everyone.

Operation 2013-04 (Alert)

24 February 2013

Glennville (Kern County)

By Dan Bishop

Summary:

Alert to assist in a search for an 11 year old boy in the Glennville area.

Narrative:

We received a call via CDR Smithson on Sunday, February 24th at 5:30pm, to place our team on alert for a search for a lost 11 year old boy in the Glennville area. I, Dan Bishop, committed to lead the operation and contacted Gina Niesen to coordinate. This was the third SAR operation that day for the Sheriff, all on the west side. Linda Finco, Tom Roseman, and Nathan Simons were able to commit. At 8:30pm I got word that the lost subject, along with two accompanying adults were located. The subject had been playing in the snow, became lost, and was located by Sheriff’s helicopter (Air-1) in a barn. The Glennville Team was able to bring them out on quads.

GROUP BUSINESS

— YEAR END COMMITTEE REPORTS 2012—

2012 Operations Summary

We had 23 operations in 2012, the most in the last 13 years. Of these, seven Alerts/ Mobilizations/ Transits occurred where we were not fielded. We were involved in six searches and ten rescues.

Alert	Mobilization	Transit	Search	Rescue
3	1	3	6	10

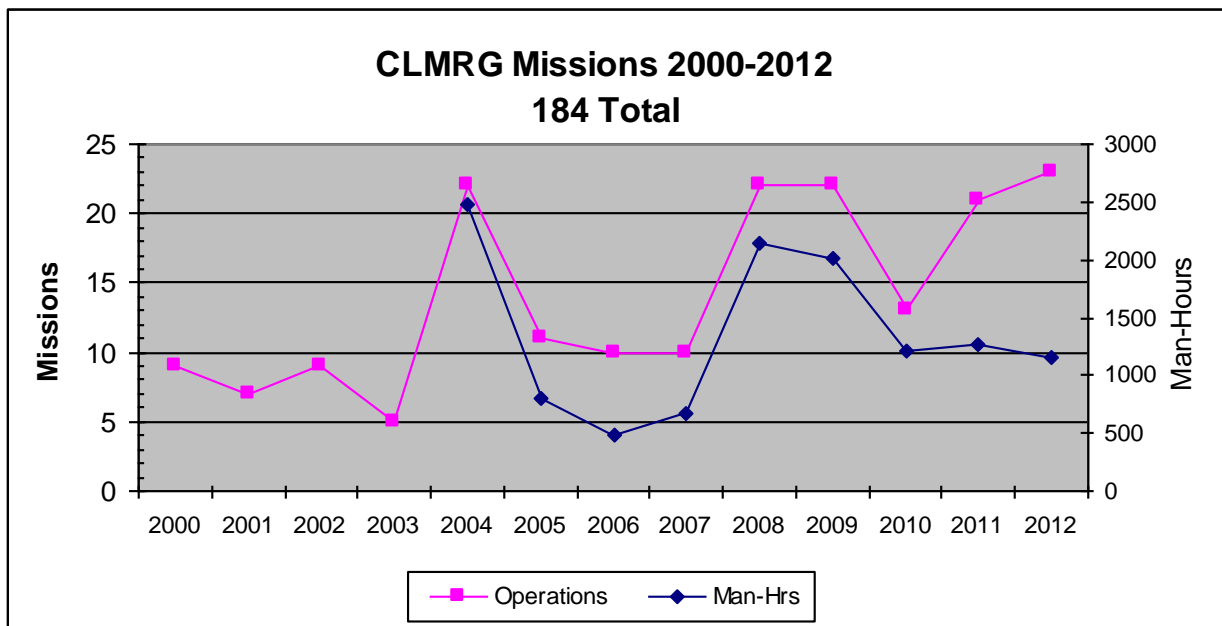
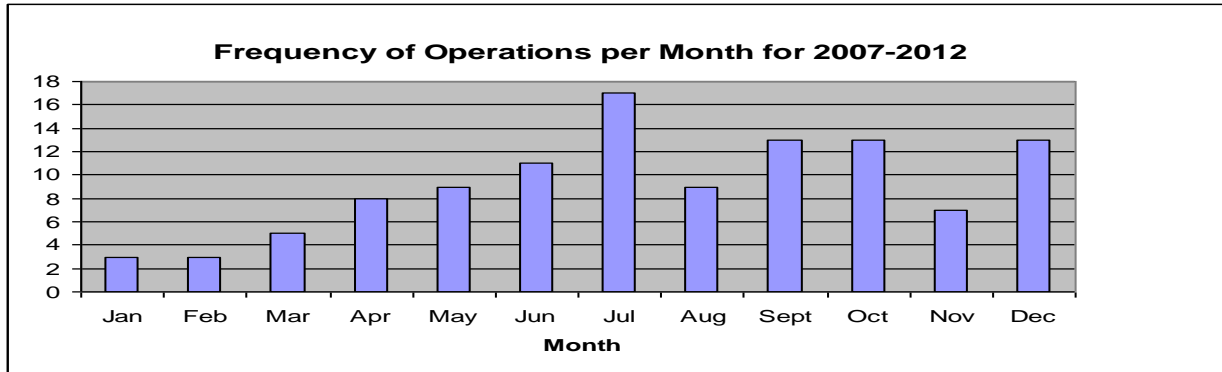
Fourteen of our Operations were outside of Kern County. Inyo County requested us the most - 12 times.

Kern	Inyo	Mono	San Bernardino
9	12	1	1

Breaking down the Operations by month shows December being our busiest month.

Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
2	0	1	1	2	1	4	1	2	2	2	5

We expended 1164 man-hours during these Operations and logged 5192 vehicle miles. We averaged 4.9 members committing per call-out (the lowest average turn-out since 2007), with the January Search in Ridgecrest and the November Rescue in Grapevine Canyon seeing the largest Group totals of 9 members for each. Below is a summary of all the Operations this year as well as a map with locations (X’s denote non-fielded alerts, mobilizations, or transits). Also below is a graph with the trend over the past 13 years and monthly frequency since 2007.



SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS						
OPERATIONS IN 2012						
Number	Date	Type	Op Leader	Coordinator	Commitment	Location / Requesting Agency / Description
2012-01	2-Jan	RESCUE	D.MILES	T.MITCHELL	D.MILES D.BISHOP L.FINCO	CARMA OBSERVATORY VICINITY, INYO COUNTY. Search and Rescue of Subject unable to climb out of 40 ft. vertical cave. Tracked to cave entrance and initiated a technical raise to extract.

Number	Date	Type	Op Leader	Coordinator	Commitment	Location / Requesting Agency / Description
2012-02	15-16 Jan	SEARCH	D.BISHOP	S.ROCKWELL G.NIESEN	D.BISHOP D.MILES L.FINCO T.ROSEMAN T.SAKAI D.BREITENSTEIN D.HINMAN A.GREEN P.DERUITER	WEST BURNS STREET VICINITY, RIDECREST, KERN COUNTY. Overnight Search for an elderly man who walked away from his Caretakers residence. Tracked direction of travel toward friend's house, where he was reported, safe.
2012-03	19-20 Mar	SEARCH	L.FINCO	S.ROCKWELL	L.FINCO B.STRATTON N.SIMONS E.LOUGHAN A.GREEN	MESQUITE SPRINGS, DEATH VALLEY, INYO COUNTY. Search for bicyclist who had suffered an injury during group ride and wandered from campground that evening. Found deceased.
2012-04	20-21 Apr	SEARCH	D.MILES	S.ROCKWELL G.NIESEN	D.MILES T.SAKAI P.DERUITER	KERNVILLE, KERN COUNTY. Search for elderly Alzheimer subject who had wandered from his Kernville residence.
2012-05	20-21 May	RESCUE	D.BISHOP	S.ROCKWELL	D.BISHOP D.MILES B.ROCKWELL N.SIMONS T.ROSEMAN	N. RIDGE LONE PINE PEAK, INYO COUNTY. Rescue of climber who had fallen, unroped 50ft. Ankle, arm, back injuries. CHP helo inserted team near summit. After an overnight multiple rappels to reach subject, helo hoist extracted in the morning.
2012-06	26-27 May	RESCUE	D.MILES	S.ROCKWELL M.SCHMIERER	D.MILES D.BISHOP N.SIMONS T.SAKAI M.MYERS	TRAIL CAMP, WHITNEY TRAIL, INYO COUNTY. Rescue of exhausted/hypothermic day-hiker. All night hike with stretcher and wheel. CHP helo landed and extracted subject in the morning.
2012-07	29-Jun	TRANSIT	D.BISHOP	C.BURGE T.MITCHELL	D.BISHOP T.SAKAI M.DERKEY N.SIMONS	BIG POT HOLE LAKE, KEARSARGE PASS TRAIL, INYO COUNTY. Subject sustained back injury after falling from trail. Helo was able to land and extract while we were in transit.
2012-08	3-Jul	ALERT	L.FINCO	S.ROCKWELL	L.FINCO T.SAKAI P.DERUITER N.SIMONS D.MILES A.GREEN	TWIN LAKES, MONO COUNTY. Alert for a search of a missing hiker in Twin Lakes area about 12000ft. Subject found prior to launching mission.
2012-09	19-20 Jul	RESCUE	D.BISHOP	G.NIESEN	D.BISHOP M.DERKEY D.DOERR J.GREEN T.SAKAI E.LOUGHAN	WHITNEY TRAIL, TRAIL CAMP, INYO COUNTY. Search and rescue of over due hiker who had separated from her party near the Summit. She had taken a turn to the west toward Guitar Lake. Discovering her error she went over to Trail Camp, slept in another party's tent and was found the next morning. Escorted down.
2012-10	24-26 Jul	SEARCH	T.ROSEMAN	G.NIESEN	T.ROSEMAN N.SIMONS B.ROCKWELL	MT LANGLEY, INYO COUNTY. Search and recovery of hiker climbing Mt. Langley. Discovered below Army Pass.

Number	Date	Type	Op Leader	Coordinator	Commitment	Location / Requesting Agency / Description
2012-11	30 Jul - 01 Aug	SEARCH	T.ROSEMAN	C.BURGE M.SCHMIERER	T.ROSEMAN A.GREEN L.SWANSON E.LOUGHRAN T.SAKAI	NORMAN CLYDE PEAK, INYO COUNTY. Search for hiker in Palisades area climbing Norman Clyde. Body discovered below notch in Sequoia NP.
2012-13	7-Aug	ALERT	D.MILES	G.NIESEN	D.MILES D.DOERR E.LOUGHRAN M.MYERS D.BREITENSTEIN	WHITNEY TRAIL, TRAIL CAMP, INYO COUNTY. Team on Alert to assist in the search and extraction of Subject descending from Trail Camp after suffering head trauma at Mirror Lake. Helicopter evacuated Subject prior to mobilization.
2012-12	22-23 Sept	RESCUE	D.BISHOP	G.NIESEN	D.BISHOP T.SAKAI B.STRATTON	TRAIL CAMP, WHITNEY TRAIL, INYO COUNTY. Rescue of individual after SPOT activation. Not SOS (911) initiated. HELP button sent message to family who notified Inyo Sheriff office. At 11pm, Subject interviewed at Trail Camp, not in distress.
2012-14	25-26 Sept	RESCUE	D.MILES	G.NIESEN	D.MILES L.SWANSON	WHITNEY TRAIL, INYO COUNTY. Assist in extraction of 29 y/o female complaining of AMS. Subject was able to hike out on her own.
2012-15	14-Oct	ALERT	T.ROSEMAN	J.WESTBROOK	T.ROSEMAN L.FINCO L.SWANSON D.MILES	PINE MOUNTAIN, KERN COUNTY. Alert for search for overdue hiker in the Pine Mountain area. Subject found prior to our Group mobilized.
2012-16	21-Oct	TRANSIT	M.MYERS	C.BURGE	M.MYERS D.BISHOP D.MILES T.SAKAI B.HUEY E.LOUGHRAN	PIUTE MTN, KERN COUNTY. Transit to search for overdue hunter in the Piute Mountains. Subject was found in hotel after spending one night out.
2012-17	4-Nov	RESCUE	T.ROSEMAN	T.MITCHELL C.BURGE	T.ROSEMAN D.BISHOP M.MYERS T.SAKAI J.GREEN L.SWANSON A.GREEN	KEYNOT MINE, INYO COUNTY. Search and rescue of two hikers in the Keynot area. Subjects failed to meet with Reporting Party after two days. Subjects exited canyon to the east into Saline, spotted by CHP helo while inserting China Lake search teams.
2012-18	7-8 Nov	RESCUE	T.ROSEMAN	G.NIESEN	T.ROSEMAN D.BISHOP T.SAKAI B.HUEY D.DOERR L.SWANSON D.SCHONERT A.GREEN N.SIMON	GRAPE VINE CANYON, KERN COUNTY. Rescue of Subject with injured hip while descending Owen's Peak via Grape Vine Canyon. Overnight stretcher extraction by multiple roped pitches and manual carry out.

Number	Date	Type	Op Leader	Coordinator	Commitment	Location / Requesting Agency / Description
2012-19	1-Dec	SEARCH	M.MYERS	J.WESTBROOK C.BURGE	M.MYERS B.HUEY M.DERKEY D.MILES B.STRATTON	KERNVILLE, KERN COUNTY. Follow-on search for Subject missing since April and previous river disappearances.
2012-20	15-Dec	MOBILIZATION	L.FINCO	J.WESTBROOK	L.FINCO T.ROSEMAN L.SWANSON M.DERKEY J.GREEN	MILL CREEK TRAIL, KERN COUNTY. Mobilized at 1am for search for two overdue hikers. Hikers reported safe prior transiting to location.
2012-21	19-20 Dec	TRANSIT	L.FINCO	J.WESTBROOK	L.FINCO D.BISHOP D.MILES	BULL RUN TRAIL, KERN COUNTY. Transit to Kernville for search of two overdue backpackers. Kern Valley team found them safe 1.5 miles in from trail head.
2012-22	20-Dec	RESCUE	D.MILES	J.WESTBROOK	D.MILES T.ROSEMAN D.BREITENSTEIN L.FINCO N.SIMONS B.HUEY A.GREEN L.SWANSON	RADEMACHER HILLS, KERN COUNTY. Search for missing off-road driver. Found with a stuck vehicle west of Cerro Coso college.
2012-23	24-Dec	RESCUE	D.BISHOP	E.RIENDEAU S.ROCKWELL	D.BISHOP T.ROSEMAN M.MYERS	MT. BALDY, SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY. Carry out of two injured subjects from the San Antonio Ski Hut. Both subjects had fallen from different spots on the Baldy ridge and were transported overnight to the Hut. Manual carryout was necessary due to rain, snow, wind, and poor visibility for helicopter extraction.

Public Education: Linda Finco

Members of CLMRG made over 20 public education presentations in 2012 putting in over 683 hours of community service. We provided first aid, navigation and rope skills (rappelling) to local Boy Scout troops as part of their programs. For the Girl Scouts we participated in the Mojave Primitive Encampment (MPE). And CLMRG again presented our 7-week Basic Mountaineering and Mountaineering Class this summer (details provided in a separate summary report, Summer Class). We received \$3029.55 in donations from individuals, including a \$1000 grant from McGraw Hill which we used to purchase a new oxygen pack, lightweight oxygen tanks, and regulator.

Summer Class: Nathan Simons

The Summer Class committee had a successful Summer Class, with 12 students receiving complete certificates and 14 receiving survivor certificates. Trips for the class included day hikes of Dragon, Owens Point and Cirque peak, as well as overnight trips to Rush Creek and Bear Creek Spire.

First Aid: Gina Najera-Niesen

The group continues with our new series of trainings in addition to our annual CPR and First Aid training. The trainings focus on specialized equipment and wilderness first aid issues. Topics covered in 2012 included use of the ZEE for back injuries, Sager and Kendrick splints for applying traction, Sudden Illness and the impact of these occurring in a Wilderness setting, First Aid kits for the backcountry, training in the use and application of oxygen, and measuring blood pressure, and then practicing these skills in “real-life” scenarios. All members completed the American Red Cross CPR and Community First Aid training or an equivalent.

Training: Eileen Loughran

CLMRG spent a total of 5,134 hours training in 2012 and drove 25,198 miles in their personal vehicles to complete them. Training was conducted in wilderness first aid (134.5 hrs); technical skills including man tracking, technical rock rescue, winter mountaineering, and search management (654.5 hrs) and field activities, climbing mountain and desert peaks both near and far (4345 hrs) – a total of 150 different events. Increased permit restrictions throughout the Sierra made it more difficult to schedule and plan group overnight trips in the field. Total hours spent training in 2012 were on par with 2011 despite the cancellation of our winter recertification due to lack of snow. Miles driven in 2012 increased by ~ 35%.

Details of the training by month and category are shown below.

	First Aid	Skill	Field	Training Hrs	Field Mileage	Explorer Mileage
Jan	13	18	144	175	692	0
Feb	7.5	80	383	470.5	1753	68
Mar	33	9	185.5	227.5	990	0
Apr	0	0	483	483	2574	0
May	9	64.5	233	306.5	2046	70
Jun	0	173	49	222	1350	120
Jul	0	111	856	967	6830	120
Aug	8	39	463	510	1573	40
Sept	13	37	915.5	965.5	3014	0
Oct	25	21	328	374	2139	0
Nov	14	59	208.5	281.5	1148	0
Dec	12	43	96.5	151.5	1089	0
TOTALS	134.5	654.5	4345	5134	25198	418

Equipment Committee (Werner Hueber):

Significant purchases and/or repairs for 2012:

- a. Replaced the two refrigerators used for dry storage (unplugged) with a 72" x 48" x 24" shelf.
- b. Sheriff purchased a 10 ft x 20 ft shelter for the Group to serve as a Command Center.
- c. Radios: We purchased 6 new J to BNC connector adapters. These allow you to convert the ICOM rubber ducky antenna to a female BNC connector. We also purchased 6 female UHF to male BNC adapters in order to allow the ICOM radios to be used with the magnetic mount antennas.
- d. For our ICOM radios, the old battery packs have been discontinued so we bought after market equivalent batteries.

Hut:

- a. Charlie Herman from Physical Security took a couple of photos of the front room and looked at the rest. Said he thought everything was in very good shape and well organized
- b. Attaboy for Tom Sakai: He fixed the roof!
- c. Thank you Eileen Loughran for supporting the "radiological survey". Nothing was found!

Misc:

- a. Dave Miles put the replacement gear in the stretcher bags. All of the technical gear bags are sorted and back in the hut. The new ascenders have been added as well.
- b. New gas cards are in the Explorer
- c. A third Rino has developed operating issues. These radios have never been that good. Linda Finco will look into new GPS units and provide a recommendation.
- d. A recommendation was made to purchase two full length 9mm static ropes for use as a piggy back and for rappel/ascending options. We should plan on cutting one to make 2 half length ropes.
- e. Tom Roseman and his committee are evaluating options for printing/ maps
- f. We are looking at a few options to replace our Calling Post so that we can have 24/7 coverage. We are also looking at current cell phone technology within the group (Smart phones, cell phones with texting, etc) in order to look at other options for connecting members.

Emergency Service Council: Janet Westbook

ESC meets every month to discuss emergency preparedness in the Indian Wells Valley. We share ideas, problems and solutions for the various agencies and community groups. CLMRG has a presence at most of these meetings and brings information back to the group about activities around our valley of interest to the group, as well as reporting on some of our rescue operations and capabilities.

SHERIFF’S APPRECIATION DINNER

By Eileen Loughran, Team President

Seventeen members, family, and friends attended the annual Search and Rescue (SAR) Volunteer Appreciation Dinner at Hodel’s Restaurant in Bakersfield on Friday, 15 March 2013. Dave Miles was named the top contributor for 2012. Dave was recognized for his team leadership as both Team President and Team Captain for the past two years, and for being our go to “gear guy” - the teams’ first stop before buying new gear for gear advice and reviews. Over the past several years, he has organized and reorganized our technical gear, researching new ways to both lighten our loads and make us more efficient.

Eight members were recognized by the Kern County Sheriff for their years of volunteer service. Members recognized were: Jeff Green, Nathan Simons, and Martha Bodine (5 years), Elaine Riendeau and Dave Doerr (15 years), Werner Hueber (25 years), and Carol Burge and Dennis Burge (50 years). Congratulations to all for their continuing service as volunteers for the Kern County Sheriff Search and Rescue.

REAL HEROES RECOGNITION

By Linda Finco

Ten CLMRG members were recognized by the American Red Cross with the American Red Cross - Kern Chapter Fire Rescue Award for their participation in the Owen’s Peak Rescue (see Operation 2012-18 TP 154), along with members from Kern Valley Search and Rescue and the Kern County Fire Department. Members attended the Real Heroes Media Reception on March 22nd and were honored at the Real Heroes Event Celebration on April 6th. Members recognized were Dan Bishop, Tom Sakai, Bob Huey, Dave Doerr, Luke Swanson, Al Green, Tom Roseman, Nathan Simons, Gina Niesen and past member Dave Schonert. The team received certificates recognizing our participation in the rescue by various State and Federal Representatives, including Congressman Kevin McCarthy who was the Honorary Event Chair. Members in attendance said it was a humbling experience to be recognized with other Heroes for their efforts. Perhaps the most heartening award was the Youth Award given to a 10-year old boy who asked his parents to find him a CPR class, he took the class and then saved the life of a schoolmate using abdominal thrusts that he learned in the class.

PASSAGES



Loren receiving his 28 year service award.

Loren F. Castro died at Home and Hospice Care of Rhode Island after a long illness on January 31, 2013, he was 80 years old. Born in Fairfield, California, Loren grew up in Hayward, CA, served in the Navy during the Korean War, and spent a number of years in Newport, Rhode Island before moving to Ridgecrest in the early 1980’s. Loren was an active runner and climber and was a member of the China Lake Mountain Rescue Group. He joined CLMRG in February of 1984 and spent 10 years as a field member. He spent the next 18 years as the Talus Pile Editor-a job greatly appreciated by members. Loren retired from CLMRG in 2012 and was recognized by the Kern County Sheriff for his 28 years of service.

China Lake is funded in part by the United Way of Indian Wells Valley



China Lake Mountain Rescue Group
PO Box 2037
Ridgecrest, CA 93556
Address Correction Requested

