# August 2003 Vol. XXVIII No. 8

Founding Member of the **Mountain Rescue Association** 

## **Calendar**

August

August 5 7:00pm <u>UNIT MEETING</u> – Training:

Crime Scene Operations and
Preservation by Mike Downing,
Benton County Sheriff's Office

MOUNTAIN RESCUE UNIT

NEWSLETTER

CORVALLIS

August 16 TBA <u>FIELD TRAINING</u> – **Tracking** by *Jill* and *Donna* with the Benton County Sheriff's Office Tracking Unit.

7:00pm TRAINING SESSION – Patient Assessment and Spinal Clearing in the field by *Dr Jeff Humphrey*.

August 23 Callout <u>FIELD TRAINING</u> – Joint mission with Linn County SAR

August 25 7:00pm <u>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING</u>

September 2 7:00pm <u>UNIT MEETING</u> – Training: **Search Planning and Organization** by *Jon Sears*.

September 17 7:00pm TRAINING SESSION – Medical Scenarios or Basic Helicopter Training

September 20 10:00am ICE PRACTICE – Eliot Glacier, Mt. Hood

September 21 TBA <u>JOINT OMRC PRACTICE</u> – Mt. Hood

September 27 9:00am CORVALLIS FALL FESTIVAL – Possibly provide first-aid assistance

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#### MISSION 03-02 – recap

When Fred Frauens became lost during a day of snowshoeing on Mt. Hood last March, the weather was good for one day before turning bad and becoming worse. A weeklong search in steadily worsening weather yielded no clues to his location as several feet of snow covered the search area. Six foot snowdrifts made a cat ride to the top of the Magic Mile chairlift an *epic adventure* for some members.

Clackamas County scheduled a "practice search" in the same area during the first weekend of August and on Saturday afternoon, Mr. Frauens body was located in Zig Zag canyon a little way above the 5000 foot level. This brings closure to one of the most intensive (yet open-ended) searches on Mt. Hood in a decade.

## MISSION REPORT 03-03: Overdue climber, North Sister

On July 5<sup>th</sup>, CMRU was put on Stand-by to possibly assist with the search for a climber on North Sister. We were not activated and the subject's body was spotted in a narrow coulior on the mountain's west face. On July 11<sup>th</sup>, the entire mountain was closed by the Forest Service while a team from Eugene mountain rescue was airlifted to the head of Collier Glacier. They then hiked to the top of the coulior and two of the team descended to the subject. He as then prepared for evacuation by helicopter. The National Guard used a H-60 to hoist the subject and fly the body to McKenzie Airstrip.

## MISSION REPORT 03-04: Injured Climber, Mt. St. Helens

On July 13<sup>th</sup>, CMRU was activated to assist with an injured climber on Mt. St. Helens. She had been injured the day before and weather prevented her from being evacuated by helicopter. Four members responded, but when she was evacuated early in the morning by helicopter, the mission was cancelled. **Participants: Crawford, Lee, Linn, Vitagliano** 

## FIRST-AID FOR FALL FESTIVAL -?

CMRU has been asked to provide personnel to staff a "first-aid" tent during the Corvallis Fall Festival during the last weekend of September. There will be discussion of this at the Unit Meeting, but the Executive Committee is inclined to give a positive response (unless there is great dissention at the Unit Meeting). It would involve about 8 hours on both Saturday (September 27<sup>th</sup>) and Sunday (September 28<sup>th</sup>).

## BENTON COUNTY FAIR - thanks

Thanks to those Unit members who staffed the yurt at the recently completed Benton County Fair. It was *hot* but it was dry! This gave us a chance to "meet and greet" the public as well as answer questions about SAR in general and CMRU specifically. **Participants: Clunes, Dagata, Greenwood, Leach, J. Linn.** 

# LINN COUNTY SAR EXERCISE – August 23<sup>rd</sup>

CMRU has been invited to participate with Linn County while they conduct an exercise in the Santiam Pass area. The exercise will be staged out of the Ray Benson Parking Lot – which is usually closed during the summer. Special permission has been granted by the Forest Service to allow the county to use the lot.

The county has asked CMRU to develop the scenario which will *challenge* new deputies in SAR organization and mission management; and give all Linn County SAR assets a chance to work together. Finally, it will allow assets from adjacent counties to participate on a limited basis. The event is scheduled for Friday and Saturday; however participation by non-Linn county assets will take place only on the second day (so keep the date open and expect a "pageout" on Friday night).

#### UZHGOROD SAR -- thanks

No, that's not a typographical error. Uzhgorod is Corvallis' sister city in the Ukraine and we recently donated some of our "used by good" equipment to them for rescue use. The Unit received a nice "Thank-you" note and gift as did a couple Unit members (Jim D & Scott L) who made equipment contributions as individuals.

## **EQUIPMENT REPORT** – radios, et al

All portable radios in the truck have been checked for proper operation as well as both the rechargeable and non-rechargeable batteries for the various radios. "Weak" batteries have been (properly) disposed. Also, batteries were *removed* from all the avalanche transceivers (so they will not "leak" and damage the transceivers). Since there are no rechargeable batteries for the MT 500's (there are disposable alkaline batteries), the *Smart chargers* for the MT 500's have been removed from the truck. Also, new batteries were put into the two GPS receivers.

Four radio chest packs made specifically for the King radios are now stored in the bin with the radios, while the six *adjustable* chest packs are stored in the bin with the batteries and avalanche transceivers.

A new towing strap for the truck has been put into the bin with tools and other truck parts (Bin 3D).

A minimum-maximum thermometer has been put into the refrigerator to indicate whether the temperature has gone below freezing as that would damage medications to be stored there. Shortly, a "tamper indicator" will be installed on the refrigerator so the med-kits can be safely (and legally) stored in the garage.