

Calendar

- June 1 7:00pm SUMMER SOCIAL at Jason Wood's Home, Albany

- June 5 TBA OMRC Helicopter Training
Phase II training, Salem

- June 16 7:00pm TRAINING SESSION – **Alpine Techniques** by *Jon Sears*

- June 18/19 TBA UNIT CLIMB – Mt. Jefferson (tentatively)

- June 28 7:00pm EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

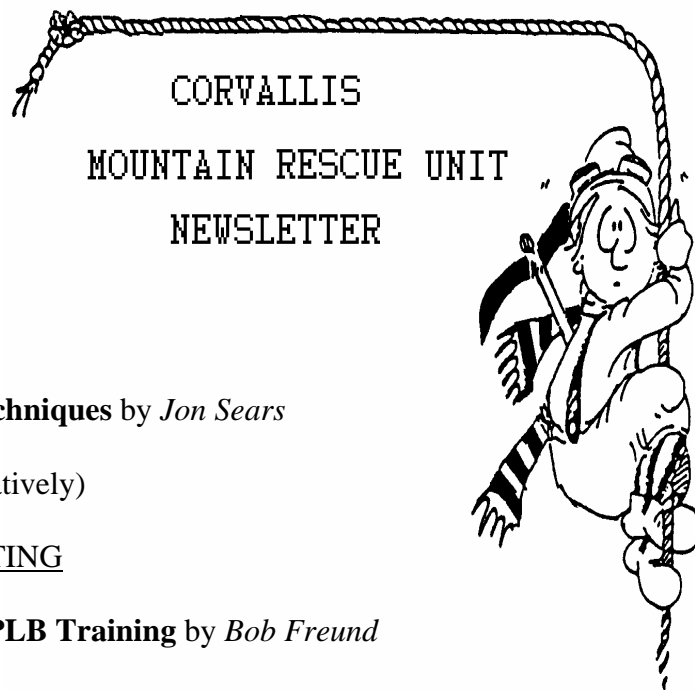
- July 6 7:00pm UNIT MEETING Training: **ELT/PLB Training** by *Bob Freund*

- July 10/11 TBA OMRC GLACIER TRAINING – Mt. Hood

- July 9/10 TBA LINN COUNTY SAR TRAINING

- July 17/18 TBA FIELD TRAINING – **Rock Environment Scenarios**

- July 21 7:00pm TRAINING SESSION – **Pulley Systems** by *Iain Morris*



MISSION REPORT 04-03: Aircraft Crash, Clackamas County

Member-hours: 65

On Tuesday, May 18th, while completing the final leg of a trip which would have ended in Hillsboro, a Cessna 185 crashed about 20 miles east of Silverton. The wreckage was spotted by Army National Guard helicopter pilots on Wednesday, and directed ground crews from Clackamas County to the crash site.



Fog hampered the recovery efforts on Wednesday so CMRU was activated along with assets from Clackamas County and members of the Air Force's 304th squadron to assist in recovering the pilot on Thursday. Iain Morris (CMRU/PMR) was part of the team which reached the site on Wednesday and took this photo.

Scott Linn, Nate Vitagliano, and Jon Sears participated in the recovery effort. Iain's information from the previous day and insight helped with mission planning and execution. The site was in an old clearcut on somewhat steep terrain about a mile from the nearest road. The subject was packaged and airlifted from the scene by early afternoon.

This is the second aircraft crash CMRU has been involved with since the beginning of

the year. Some members have suggested that the Unit would be well served to get further training on aircraft extrication techniques, and that we develop a "crash kit" of lightweight hand tools to be carried on missions such as this.

MISSION REPORT 04-04: Missing Woman, Benton County

On-going

At 2030, 24 May, an ALL SAR page was sent out by Benton County Sheriff's Office requesting assistance searching for a missing 19-year-old woman, Brooke Wilberger. She was last seen around 1030 that morning in the parking lot of an apartment complex on SW 26th, near Western Blvd, Corvallis. After friends and family searched for several hours, she was reported missing around 1600. Evidence found at the point last seen included Brooke's shoes, and some personal items. Trackers and dogs were used before the rest of Benton County SAR assets were contacted. The search began as soon as possible after the 2030 page, with staging in the Reser Stadium parking lot at 26th and Western. The search wound down around 0100, to begin again at 0900.

Staging on 25 May was at Avery Park, near the Parks and Recreation office at 0900 for SAR certified volunteers, with community volunteers expected at 1000. Additional community volunteers were scheduled at 1200 and 1400. The search area included Avery Park, Martin Luther King Park, as well as private property on the east side of the Willamette River. The strategy was to search areas of easy egress from the point last seen. Ms. Wilberger is a member of the Church of Latter Day Saints, and the church has played a critical role in organizing community volunteers by signing people up for different search shifts, as well as providing food and other supplies to the searchers.

On 26 May, the command post was relocated to SW Brooklane Avenue, just off of Philomath Blvd, on OSU land. Again, SAR volunteers were to stage at 0900, with community volunteers staging at 1000, 1200 and 1400. The rivers were searched by Sheriff's Office watercraft until low water levels stopped them. Canoes were used to search additional areas. The search area included part of OSU and private property. The search was halted in the late afternoon, with the last teams returning from the field at 1900. Trackers and dogs are being brought in periodically before the search recommences in the morning.

On 27 May, the command post was relocated to a development under construction about 2 miles down SW Brooklane from Philomath Blvd. Canoes continued to search waterways, as searchers combed wetlands and overgrown areas of private property. Property owners were accommodating and provided useful assistance.

On 28 May, the command post relocated yet again, to the parking lot of First Congregational United Church of Christ, at 4515 SW West Hills Road. SAR volunteers staged at 0900. With the Emergency Management SAR Coordinator Mike Morrow leaving until June 2, Dan Kearl, Mary's Peak SAR took over base ops, with support from Peggy Peirson and Deputy Rich Riffle, as well as numerous other SAR volunteers. Community volunteers with previous experience during the search staged at 1000 and received training to be team leaders. Other community volunteers staged at 1100. A large area west and north of the church was searched. The area continued to be search on 29 May, with community volunteers filling team leader positions, while SAR volunteers managed several teams at a time. The search expanded to include 5 counties, with volunteers pairing up to drive roads.

The 30th of May had the command post moving to the north end of Willamette Park, at Crystal Lake boat landing, off of Crystal Lake Drive. SAR volunteers were asked to stage at 0830. The plan was for 20 or so horses to search Bald Hill Park, off of NW 53rd Blvd.

Several hundred community volunteers have been participating every day. Consequently, SAR trained volunteers have been very important in providing training, guidance and filling leadership positions on teams. It is likely that the search will continue at least through Tuesday, covering Chip Ross Park on the north side of town and possibly a grid search of Bald Hill Park.

CMRU members have been participating every day. Members known to have participated so far include: Lindsay Clunes, Jason Wood, Jon Sears, Scott Linn, Joy Linn, Becky Lyall, Jim Dagata, and Jeremy Adolf. As we publish this issue of the newsletter, the search operation is in its eighth day.

Story by Joy Linn

ROCK PRACTICE – revisited

The Unit's annual Rock Practice was held on the weekend of May 22/23. Although weather on the west side of the mountains was threatening, it was much more pleasant at Steelhead Falls on the Deschutes River. Saturday emphasized system rigging, pick-offs, and litter work in a "mission oriented" structure rather than "class room." People were able to work with Aztec kits and see their utility. Streamlining the rigging procedures by using a high-strength tie-off and belayed rappel allowed earlier access to the patient and earlier rescue for an uninjured subject.

Sunday was spent at Smith Rock setting rock protection, rigging anchor systems, and (yes) climbing.

CAVE RESCUE –almost (**Do you have your *three* sources of light?**)

On Sunday, May 16th, In-town Coordinator Joy Linn was paged following a call to Benton County dispatch from the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center (AFRCC) in Langley, Virginia, asking if CMRU had cave rescue capabilities. The initial report was a possible cave rescue near Portland. After speaking with Joy, Mission Coordinator Bob Freund contacted Oregon Emergency Management in an attempt to gain more information. It appeared that someone was having difficulty in the vicinity of Ogle Mountain at the south end of Clackamas County. Various maps were consulted and the *Ogle Mountain Mine* was located. It appeared roads go to the mine, but it would be an arduous journey – regardless of how one chose to approach the site. Fortunately, the person(s) was able to extricate him/herself and we were never activated.