

# December 1998

## Vol. XXIII No. 12

Member of the Mountain Rescue Association  
 The *Corvallis Mountain Rescue Newsletter* is published monthly  
 to keep friends and members of the Unit informed of our activities.  
 Editor: Bob Freund

### Calendar

|               |         |  |
|---------------|---------|--|
| December 1    | 7:00pm  | WINTER SOCIAL - At Matt Jarvis's House                             |
| December 16   | 7:00pm  | TRAINING SESSION - Environmental Illness by P. VanMeter            |
| January 1     | All Day | HAPPY NEW YEAR, new officers assume their duties                   |
| January 5     | 7:00pm  | UNIT MEETING - Training: Snow shelters and survival by M. Keltner. |
| January 6     | 6:00pm  | RE-SWEARING-IN CEREMONY - Law Enforcement Center                   |
| January 16-17 | 9:00am  | SNOW PRACTICE - Oversnow travel & navigation, anchors, shelters    |
| January 20    | 7:00pm  | TRAINING SESSION - Avalanche Intro.                                |
| January 25    | 7:00pm  | EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  |

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#### **MISSION REPORT 98-13: Search, MacDonald Forest, Benton County.**

Member-hours: 1

On the afternoon of November 22, I was having coffee at the Beanery with a potential new Unit member. Earlier I had looked out at the cold rain and said aloud, "This looks like SAR weather, cold, wet, and nasty." We had decided to go for a conditioning ride in MacDonald Forest and now that we were caffienated and the light drizzle had turned to an all out downpour we departed.

As we were approaching the Oak Creek Road entrance to the forest, a solo, female hiker stopped us and asked for help. She stated that she had been on a hike with her son, separated, but had planned to meet back at their car located in Lewisburg Saddle. She had taken a wrong turn.

At about that time, 13:34 to be more precise, my pager went off. As I was fishing it out of my pack I said to the woman, "This must be about you." Sure enough...it was.

We walked to the nearest house to ask to use a telephone and much to my delight the house we found belonged to an old jogging buddy of mine. We were able to call Dispatch and get the search stopped before it got started. We made arrangements for the son to drive to where we were, and before you knew it, it was done.

So there we were again standing in the rain with our bikes, cold and wet but with the satisfaction of another successful mission.

By Jon Sears

### **SKILLS WORKSHOP -- recap**

The Fall Skills Workshop was lightly attended. Maybe it was the weather (nah, it always rains on Skills Workshop weekend), maybe it was the OSU vs UO football game, or maybe it was the Cave Rescue seminar later that weekend; but for whatever reason, only about a quarter of the Unit's members showed up.

Eric Benson organized a day of review and training on topics covering: Litter rigging and patient packaging; knots used by CMRU; evacuation system rigging; ascending and descending fixed lines; and winter operations of the truck.

### **YEAR-END REPORT -- hours**

The Secretary keeps track of the hours members spend on CMRU related activities. Each year the Unit files a report with MRA about our activities and those hours make up a large portion of that report. If you have participated in activities for which an attendance sheet was not filled out, contact Mardi with your hours. This includes SAR related activities where you may have been representing CMRU.

### **NEW EQUIPMENT - update**

The Unit purchased about a dozen Sky Blazer smoke canisters. About the size of a 35mm film canister, these "smokes" are easy to carry and (according to the label) last 45 seconds. Remember, when using these, they are a pyrotechnic and can possibly cause burn injuries as well as start a fire.

### **RE-SWEARING-IN CEREMONY -**

The following email was received from Benton County Emergency Management:

Sheriff Robson will begin his new term of office in January, 1999. All BCSO and SAR identifications will need to be re-issued. The Sheriff has asked that all currently sworn volunteers come to the LEC for re-swearing, the evening of Wednesday, January 6th, 1999 at 6:00 pm. Bring your current BCSO/BCEM identification with you - it must be surrendered when your new cards are issued.

### **CALL LIST - revised**

Matt Jarvis has taken the CMRU Call List into the next century by making it an HTML file for distribution via email. For those without email or whose browser may not have displayed the file properly, a copy is attached. If you have suggestions or comments, forward them to Matt. This is a "work in progress" document at this time so now is the time to tweak it until we get what we want.

