



April—May 2005

NEWSLETTER

<http://www.coloradosarboard.org/>

Colorado Search and Rescue Board

PMB 424, 7645 North Union Blvd., Colorado Springs, CO 80920

Special Points Of Interest

- CSRB Meeting
- Workers Comp Increases
- Missions and Trainings
- SAR Academy Flyer

The next CSRB meeting is May 7th - Alpine Rescue Shack in Evergreen at 1200. Training will be at 1400.



Inside this issue:

CSRB Meeting	1
Worker's Comp	1,4
News, Notes, and Stuff	2
CSRB Meeting Minutes	3
IC Staff Needed	4
Mission/Training	5
Other News	6
SAR Academy Flyer	7
Calendar of Events	8

May CSRB Meeting 05/07/05 Alpine Rescue Team "Shack"

Meeting starts at 1200

1400: Training- "WANDERING AND RECOVERY"

By Cheryl Kennedy—Larimer County Emergency Services Support Group, SAR-DOC, NASAR

This presentation covers the unique aspects of searching for the missing dementia patient. Discussion will revolve around dementia itself, the different stages and their affect on the patient, when the dementia affects the patient to the point that LE and SAR may become involved, as well as specific search management and field skills to utilize when searching for such individuals, whether in the rural/mountain environment or in an urban environment.

WARNING-This presentation, although geared as an educational program, tends to trigger emotions in people who have been or are involved with a family member or friend that has dementia. It's a subject that people really don't like to discuss, but a base knowledge can help them in their personal lives as well, if faced with such a situation.

Workers compensation insurance soars, again

By Howard M. Paul
CSRB President

After being consulted by a front range SAR team whose workers compensation insurance premium rose dramatically for the second year, I investigated the cause. I am my team's insurance coordinator and I did not know the reasons either.

The premium base rate for workers compensation is set nationally, within specific "industry classifications," by the National Council on Compensation Insurance, Inc. (www.ncci.com). It is currently set at \$22 and change per \$100 of "payroll base." That "payroll base" -- an arbitrary value -- for volunteer rescue team members (classification 7719-05) and volunteer firefighters (classification

7704-05) had been stable at \$400 per volunteer since 1987.

Pinnacol Assurance has been incurring increased medical costs (as have all insurers) and indemnity rates, but did not increase the payroll base to keep up. We could have appreciated, and accepted, a small annual increase of a few percentage points.

Since the premium base is set nationally, they could not raise it from the \$22+ figure. So, they found a back door way to increase their income side. January 1, 2004 the payroll base was raised to \$900 for each volunteer. This would account for an increase in premium of more than \$100 per volunteer. Then, effective January 1, 2005, the "payroll base" was raised again, to \$1500 per vol-

(Continued on page 4)

News, Notes, and Stuff...

Please note that the bi-monthly CSRB meetings in July and September will be on holiday weekends (July 2 and September 3). Please plan accordingly so you can be there!

Thompson Valley EMS will be sponsoring a 6-day, 54-hour WMI at NOLS course. This course is ideal for EMTs, first responders, nurses, physicians, and other medical professionals. This course will upgrade EMTs to WEMT and other participants to WFR.

This course is from August 3-8 at Pingree Park in Fort Collins. Tuition is \$795; which includes tuition for the course, lodging, and meals. Students are required to stay at Pingree Park.

Contact Heather at 970-669-1235 or hdodson@tvems.com for more information.

THE WILDERNESS MEDICAL SOCIETY PRESENTS THE 2005 WILDERNESS MEDICINE CONFERENCE IN SNOWMASS AT ASPEN, COLORADO, JULY 23 - 27, 2005

Would you like to earn 22.5 CME credits and be inspired by world renowned faculty on fascinating and timely topics in Wilderness Medicine? How about 5 days in the cool and colorful Colorado Rockies attending hands-on workshops during the day and listening to an incredible group of evening speakers? Wouldn't you like the Rockies as your playground?

REGISTER AND MAKE YOUR ROOM RESERVATIONS NOW!

The Wilderness Medical Society has put together our most exciting conference yet. Topics include a medicolegal symposium, practical and clinical issues of travel medicine for your practice, bites and stings, and snow burial physiology and survival, and children's programs, to name just a few. For a complete listing of the pre-conference program, conference program, included workshops and optional workshops, and to register online follow this link: <http://wms.allenmm.com>

Or call our registrar Rhonda Green at 1-800-627-0629, ext. 220

Special room rates in Snowmass

Village apply to our Wilderness Medicine Conference attendees. Find out how affordable Snowmass at Aspen can be!

- Nationally recognized faculty
- 22.5 CME credits
- Practical hands-on workshops
- Networking with kindred spirits
- Preeminent Faculty
- Esteemed speakers
- The Rockies as your playground

Combining your profession with your passion?



Howard	Paul	hmpaul@ecentral.com	President/D
Bill	Young	wyoung@frii.com	VP/D
Dan	Remsburg	n0vsx@msn.com	Sec/D/Newsletter
Bruce	Fosdick	b_fos@msn.com	Treas/D/MC
Leonard	Ginther	l.l.ginther@worldnet.att.net	D/MC
Lanny	Grant		D
George	Janson	georgej@nrel.colostat.edu	D/MC
Phil	Luethy	philluethy@juno.com	D/MC
Mike	McDonald	mgmsar@attbi.com	D
Barry	Mitchell	n0kv@arrl.net	D/MC
Ian	Vowles	Ian@modric.net	D

CSRB Meeting Minutes
03/05/05
Alpine Rescue Base

Meeting called to order at 1207

TRAINING

1. The Gilpin MLSO class is a go.
2. SAR Academy—Western States College in Gunnison works out the best. Howard Paul talked about the SAR admin course. Ian Vowles went over all the classes that were researched. We are looking for 3 tracks (SAR Admin, mid-level, and ICS class such as PSC). We discussed and decided the offering would be best as SAR Admin, Initial Response IC (Rick Goodman) and Plans Section Chief (Drew Davis).
3. Bruce Fosdick motioned to accept the slate of classes, Bill Young seconded. All AYEs with one opposed due to the high cost of some of the instructors.
4. George Janson will check with NASAR to bring our instructors up to recertification.
5. Peelgrane: Motion was made by George Janson to use Peelgrane funds in the amount of 2 @ \$150 each for the SAR Academy. Bruce Fosdick seconded. Vote: All AYE but 1 opposed via proxy.

MRA

Douglas County has done their MRA pretest.

NASAR

MLPI is being rewritten per George Rice and NASAR now has Hug-A-Tree

RESOURCES

Dogs— SARDOC stats are in the newsletter. FRRD (Justin ?) The test is rigorous for the trailing certification. They are seeing more calls for them but there are not many certified trailing dogs.

STANDARDS

Committee has not met since last meeting. Bruce Fosdick motioned to not add money to the project but to split the \$1000 avy project money. Bill Young seconded. Vote: All AYE but 1 opposed via proxy.
www.colorado_mobilization.org

SARFUND

Packets for the 2005 should have been to the Sheriffs

about 2 weeks ago. Decisions will be made near the end of May. Howard Paul provided some comments on the SAR Fund.

PR/EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

1. The bill regarding charitable deductions looks like it will go through fine.
2. There is a bill to protect debrief discussions from public review.
3. The Colorado Emergency Plan was re-written in 2002.
 - CSRB cards for coordinators.
 - Body Recovery Plan—they can move bodies (by air) w/permission of DOLA, they are already on scene, and not doing so would endanger searchers to move by ground. Pilots can not make the decisions.
 - DEM will cover liability for coordinators and teams sent within the state by CSRB. Workers Compensation is not provided and CSRB does not provide it.
 - There is a possibility the funding will be available for 800 Mhz radios

COMMUNICATIONS

Statewide SAR talk channel. Your radio needs to be a 6.0 system and be bridging zones compatible.

OTHER

Holloway—2 nominations are in so far.
Jerome (?) discussed the SAR Team survey.

MISSION REPORTS/LESSONS LEARNED

Teller—ntr
Larimer—Urban/Suburban/Rural interface issues
Garfield—Mesa County assist. Mistakes made (no CSRB request and searchers destroying clues.
Douglas—Be sure to check businesses in urban searches
Arapahoe—Project Lifesaver
Gilpin—Quiet
Routt—20 so far this year
RMR—Watch for overloading your rescue vehicles!
Alpine—Guanella Pass mission—took 7 teams

Meeting adjourned at 1447 fro training by Dennis McLaughlin.

Respectfully Submitted
Dan Remsburg, Secretary

(Continued from page 1)

unteer! This comes to another \$136 per volunteer.

I learned all this by contacting our agent of record, who made the correct inquires for me at Pinnacol Assurance. If you have not designated your insurance agent as your workers compensation agent of record, you should do so.

Your agent, who knows the right questions to ask, can then make inquiries for your team.

Also, carefully check both the bill and your annual audit report to make sure you are not paying for more team members than you should. And remember, if you have a history of claims, your premium will rise, as an "experience modifier" will be applied. My team cur-

rently has an experience modifier of 1.24, which means we are paying 124% of the base rate, due to claims paid by Pinnacol Assurance.

You can read an explanation of experience ratings at http://www.ncci.com/media/pdf/abc_Exp_Rating.pdf. The NCCI also offers a primer on how workers compensation works, at http://www.ncci.com/ncciweb/ncci.asp?lf=control_panel.asp&mf=ncci_sitemap.asp

This front range team's bill rose so high that they have decided not to renew the policy and will have to be covered by the county. And the county may impose any limitations it may choose, to limit its potential for claims; including limiting out-of-county mutual aid responses or joint trainings.

Incident Commanders and Management Staff Wanted!

If you would like to take part in a training exercise using your skills as either IC or as a Operations or Planning Section Chief we would like to talk to you !!

Over the weekend of June 17th – 19th we will be running a large mock search exercise and training event – known as MSARCO (Mounted Search & Rescue Colorado) . This year we are anxious to increase our professionalism and training value – to this end the mock search on the Saturday would benefit from a knowledgeable management team !

We are seeking 2 or 3 experienced IC's and support staff to demonstrate how a mission runs (we will want to video the day long proceedings) and to manage the "search" , this would be an ideal opportunity to share the knowledge !

The event management will provide the resources in terms of teams of searchers, and will also provide ac-

tual subjects in the field who will behave to the pattern of their type of grouping. In past years MSARCO management have fulfilled these functions, but, it has been suggested that we would raise the quality of our event by having a management team who does NOT know where the subjects are !!

Resources will include: Horse Teams , Ground Teams, ATV Teams, Communication Teams, Trackers and K9's. Communications trailer and mobile office.

Mock search will run from 0800 – 17/1800 on the 18th.

Motels are 10 miles away, otherwise camping and RV's are welcome for free.

If you would like to offer your skills to run this "Mock" Search or to sign on as a section chief, please contact Ian Vowles : 1-800-739-0202 or email Ian@modric.net.

Website www.msarco.org

Project Lifesaver

Project Lifesaver has completed over 1,000 successful Search & Rescue Missions for Wandering Victims Of Alzheimer's Disease, Autism, Down syndrome and related dementia type Disorders. All persons were found using Project Lifesaver at a 100% recovery rate. All persons were found alive and returned home. Project Lifesaver uses electronic tracking systems to locate the patient during a wandering incident. Project Lifesaver is not a passive bracelet with a toll free number. Such bracelets do not

locate the patient, they provide information about the patient once they are located and someone calls the number. Many times, wandering incidents end tragically because the individual is not found quickly enough. Project Lifesaver has been successful because it actually locates the person quickly, before it is too late. The difference between a passive ID bracelet and an active tracking device is paramount to locating the person fast enough to save a life.

SW Colorado Mission

On Wed 2/16/2005, about 22:15 local, we were contacted by AFRCC about SARSAT hits about 20 miles SW of Montrose. Weather was very poor with fog, freezing drizzle and snow. It was obvious we would not be able to fly. I contacted the Sheriff's Office for assistance and lead a ground team into the area. We were unable to acquire any signal and then after midnight we started getting negative SARSAT passes. At 03:00, we decided to call off the search for the night. I asked AFRCC to keep the mission open so we could fly Thursday when weather cleared. They refused to since there were no overdue aircraft reports, no high flyer reports and now 3 negative passes. I still wanted to fly the area. On Thursday, I contacted Lt. Col. Sherwin with CAP and explained my reservations. Our feeling was it would come back again at some point and our gut feeling was someone was up there. I decided to use some pilot proficiency time and fly with Capt. Bruce Coffin, CAP, and go to the area and confirm no signal. On our way there, we decided to go by some radio towers so I could look at snow depths at the tower site. This was about 10 miles

from the area of the SARSAT hits. Right before arriving, we acquired the ELT at 15:15. We lost it almost as fast and found we could only hear it for about a ¼ mile radius, so the battery was getting low. 3 minutes later, AFRCC reported a SARSAT hit. We notified Lt. Col. Sherwin and had the Sheriff's Posse ready ground teams. We DF'd the signal but could not see a crash. At 15:45, we finally spotted a man waving and then next to him could see some wreckage next to him. We notified the Sheriff's ground team and they asked that I go assist the West Team and go in with them to direct them to the site. Capt. Coffin dropped me off at Nucla and then returned CAP580 to Montrose. We drove about 20 miles in with snowcat and snowmobiles and then had to hike down a steep embankment about 200 yards. The snow was about 8' deep. We got to the plane about 19:30 and found he was uninjured and was alone. He said he was flying under the clouds and lost power to about 25 % power. He tried to turn and stalled and went straight in. The pilot did not file a flight plan and did not tell his son he was coming, so there were no overdue aircraft reports. We took some photos and turned off the ELT (I brought it out to

make sure it did not reactivate) and headed out. It took an hour to get him 600 feet up the hill to the snowcat. We headed out and got him to the hospital about 22:30 that night, some 31 hours after the crash. A job well done by all. I can not stress the importance of having a close working relationship with CAP and local SAR teams. Pilot's seat is just to the right of the tree. I have no clue how he lived, except the deep snow acted as an airbag. The panel is level



with the snow, the engine and prop are below it in snow. He came down almost vertical.

*Mark Young,
Montrose County Sheriff's Posse
Wing Emergency Services Director, CAP*

Rocky MRA regional training held at Berthoud Pass on Jan 30.

Hosted by Grand County SAR, over 50 participants from MRA teams throughout the region trained together on snow anchors, hasty team avalanche response and beacon search.

*Greg Foley
Regional Chair
Rocky MRA*



Crested Butte SAR

Crested Butte Search and Rescue again provided safety and medical coverage for the Gunnison County side of the Elk Mountains Grand Traverse in early April. An annual event since 1998, The Traverse now allows 125 teams of back-country skiers to challenge the 40 mile course from Crested Butte to Aspen. The winners typically cover the distance in less than eight hours.

CBSAR members have been volunteering on the course since the beginning, but the team made the commitment official three years ago. Covering The Traverse is now an annual CBSAR training event. "It provides an outstanding opportunity to train for a large and complicated mission", says team president, Jeff Isaac. "We use the event to initiate new team leaders as well as refine every aspect of our winter rescue capability."

The race starts at midnight, with most of the competitors summiting Star Pass by 0800. This schedule allows the racers to clear the high country between Star Pass and Taylor Pass before the afternoon sun can increase the avalanche hazard. The course finishes with a downhill run into Aspen. Stragglers may not cross the line until late afternoon.

Covering the race involves planning for multiple casualties, long evacuations, lost skiers, and the inevitable communication problems. Team members with technical gear and medical equipment are stationed at critical spots. An evacuation team is assembled and briefed. Overall command of the "mission" is assumed by a team leader-in-training with seasoned backup available if necessary.

Multiple agencies are involved, communication is complicated by radio dead spots, and most of the event happens in the dark. Although the race committee

requires that competitors carry survival gear, many racers are equipped to the bare minimum. "An injured racer will be an urgent problem", Isaac notes. "If they stop moving, they freeze. It would be hard to imagine a training mission with more real-life motivation." Fortunately, past years have yielded no serious injuries or prolonged searches.

As adventure racing becomes even more popular, SAR teams will frequently be asked to provide safety services. "Whether or not you support the concept of adventure racing, don't pass up a good training scenario", Isaac says. "The competitors love to see rescue people on-course, and the experience for the team can be invaluable."

Teams looking for more information or advice about this type of training can contact Jeff at cbsar@adelphia.net.

- Jeff Isaac

SARDOC Dog Team Saves Accident Victim - February 26, 2005

For the second time in two months, a Search and Rescue Dogs of Colorado (SARDOC) dog team located an accident victim several hours after the accident and saved his life. This accident occurred in Park County, near Guffey, when a 55 year old man from Texas crashed his vehicle but could not be found by deputies. It was a very cold night with temperatures around 12 degrees with deep snow in some nearby areas.

About four hours after the accident, deputies requested assistance from Park County Search and Rescue. As

part of that response, Marcia McMahon and her certified, operational search dog Koert arrived on scene and began to search for the victim. He had been missing about 6 hours at that time. The dog team began searching near the accident site and trailed the subject approximately 1.25 miles along dirt roads and then off road where Koert located the subject in a valley full of deep snow. The subject was transported to the hospital suffering from severe hypothermia, rib/shoulder and possible head injuries. In the previous accident in December 2004, SARDOC member Wyman Bontrager and his dog Dundee of Garfield County SAR responded to an ac-

cident scene in Rio Blanco County and located a severely hypothermic accident victim whose vehicle had hit a horse on December 24, 2004 and had been missing in very cold weather for 30 hours when the dog team located him on December 26th.

Both of these accident victims probably would have died had it not been for the dog teams and SAR personnel that kept on searching until they located them. Colorado is lucky to have many operational, well trained search dog teams as part of SARDOC, Front Range Rescue Dogs and other teams that train and test to nationally recognized standards.

- Dennis McLaughlin

FREE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY

An Introduction to the National Incident Management System (NIMS)

This course introduces NIMS to response personnel, and it explains the purpose, principles, key components and benefits of the National Incident Management System.

For individuals already trained in ICS, this course is all that is required to meet the requirement for "NIMS Compliant ICS".

This course is equivalent to IS-700

Course Detail

Date: May 7, 2005
Time: 9am – 12pm
Location: Northwest F. P. D.

21455 Highway 285, Fairplay, CO 80440

Lunch will be provided

Please RSVP to (719) 836-4372 This

Course Sponsored By:

**Park County Sheriff's Office
and
Park County Department of Health**

Registrations Open Shortly!
Colorado Search and Rescue Board
SAR Management Academy



July 29, 30, 31 2005
Friday, Saturday, Sunday
Western State College
Gunnison, Colorado

The following courses will be offered this summer – visit the **website for latest details:** <http://coloradosarboard.org>

Volunteer SAR Agency Administration and Leadership (\$99)

If you are on the administrative side of your agency, or some day will be, this comprehensive three day seminar is a must!

- * Volunteer agency elected officers: president, treasurer, etc.
- * Volunteer emergency service agency boards of directors
- * Agency fund-raisers and grant writers

This course is designed to give to leaders of volunteer SAR units, and other emergency service organizations, the information necessary to govern, lead, budget, plan and comply with state and federal rules and laws.

Search Management for the Initial Response Incident Commander (\$139)

This three day course is for those experienced personnel responsible for initiating searches for missing persons:

- * SAR team members
- * Sheriffs and SAR deputies
- * Land management LEOs
- * Rangers
- * Rural emergency personnel

Course Purpose:

- To give the participants enough training and experience (through table tops) to conduct a search mission immediately using a "best practices" standard operating procedure (SOP) 6 step process.
 - Provide an orientation on both Search and Rescue management concepts, with emphasis on the basic concepts that will assist the participant in the planning of the "initial response" operational period.
 - Orientation to the Incident Command System (ICS) and "initial response" procedures.
- Development of an "initial response" SOP

Planning Section Chief: Emergency Response (\$249)

Recommended prerequisite (NIIMS) ICS I-200.

The National Association for Search and Rescue certifies this course.

Who Should Take This Course

This three day course is for

- Persons who have held other management positions during SAR operations and are ready to advance to the planning level
- Emergency response professionals desiring to better understand the ICS planning function concepts
- Plans Section Chief and other ICS managers who would like to refresh or expand their knowledge of search and rescue management planning
- Incident management teams
- Sheriffs, SAR deputies
- Rangers, LEOs, supervisors
- SAR team members

Overview

The Planning - Emergency Response training focuses on the knowledge and skills needed to effectively manage the planning section and develop action and contingency plans for large or small emergencies using the Incident Command System. Strategies and tactics are not addressed in this course. It provides detailed information on incident planning and prepares you with knowledge, techniques and materials to develop, implement, evaluate and revise incident action plans. Hands-on exercises utilizing an array of emergencies reinforce each lesson.





PMB 424, 7645 North Union Blvd
Colorado Springs, CO 80920

Upcoming Calendar of Events

SAR 05 (NASAR)	5/25-28/05	Oakland, CA
International Symposium On Mountain Rescue	6/13-19/05	Vail, CO
Wilderness Medicine Conference	7/23-27	Aspen, CO
SAR Mgmt Academy	7/29-31	Gunnison, Co
International Technical Rescue Symposium 2005	11/4-11/16	Ft. Collins, CO

<http://www.nasar.org/nasar/conferences.php?id=146>

Remember to send newsletter articles to: "n0vsx@msn.com". Mail to: Dan Remsburg, 1913 County Road 782, Woodland Park, CO 80863. Do you have a great SAR photo? Any photos submitted can be scanned and returned.