



June-July 2001

NEWSLETTER

Colorado Search and Rescue Board

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

Special Points

Of Interest

- CORSAR
- Charging for SAR
- Suspending the Missio



**The next CSRB
meeting is July
12th at Camp
George West in
Golden**

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GREAT NEWS!!!!

**Governor Owens signed the bill for the new
COLORADO OUTDOOR RECREATION SEARCH AND RESCUE CARD
(CORSAR) on 5/31/01**

DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL AFFAIRS

222 S. Sixth Street, Room 409
Grand Junction, CO 81501

THE COLORADO OUTDOOR RECREATION SEARCH AND RESCUE CARD VENDOR INSTRUCTIONS

Effective July 1, 2001, the Colorado Outdoor Recreation Search and Rescue Card (CORSAR) will go on sale. The CORSAR card is replacing the Colorado Hiking Certificate. Hiking certificates purchased prior to July 1, 2001 will be honored for the term of the card.

Why the change?

The hiking certificate program was designed to allow hikers, bikers, bird-watchers and others who enjoy Colorado's outdoor recreation opportunities to support Colorado's volunteer search and rescue teams. The hiking certificate cost was \$1.00 for one year, with \$.25 going to the Colorado Search and Rescue Fund and a nickel going to the vendor. The new CORSAR card costs \$3.00 a year. Of this amount, vendors keep \$1.00 from every card sold and \$2.00 goes into the Colorado Search and Rescue Fund.

How do I become a vendor?

Fill out the attached application form and indicate how many cards (cards come in booklets of 40) you would like to have mailed to you. A maximum of 120 cards (3 booklets) will be mailed unless special arrangements are made in advance. The Department of Local Affairs will send you a packet containing the requested cards, a reporting form, and instructions. Vendors will be required to report sales quarterly, however, there is no pre-payment required from the vendor to sell the CORSAR card. The card is good for one year from the date of purchase. It's as simple as that.

The \$2.00 per card raised from the sale of the Colorado Outdoor Recreation Search and Rescue card will go directly into the Search and Rescue Fund which reimburses county sheriffs for costs incurred during search and rescue operations. Because the vendor receives \$1.00 for every card sold, this is a great fund raising opportunity for outdoor clubs, boy and girl scout troops, search and rescue teams, and anyone else who is interested in helping support volunteer search and rescue teams in Colorado.

After reading through the packet, if you have questions, please call us at (970) 248-7310.

Note: The application form can be found on page 5 of this newsletter

CSRB Listserver Instructions: The Colorado SAR Board hosts an e-mail listserver expressly for and about SAR in Colorado. Through it you can receive timely information about training, missions, meetings, legislative action pertaining to SAR or ask technical questions. General discussion about SAR is welcome, too.

To subscribe simply send an e-mail from the address to which you want the e-mail replies sent, to: ColoradoSAR-subscribe@yahoogroups.



This may come as news to many of you, but this week Sadie (Larimer County SAR dog from 1992-2000) was diagnosed with lung cancer. She was playing frisbee and being her normal goofy self only one week ago and then quit eating over the weekend. On Tuesday she was diagnosed with lung cancer.

Today Sadie went through the gate from our world to another where her SAR dog buddies Duke, Tassie, Jesse, Oskar, Cello, and Doc were waiting for her. Now that she is back with her training buddies, they can tell war stories of the missions they shared together.

Please keep Hanna, Casey and Shawn Sparks in your prayers and thoughts during what is a very difficult time for them and those of us who spent a lot of time with Sadie over the years.

Julie

Congratulations to our Colorado colleagues

Cheryl Kennedy of Larimer County SAR was presented this weekend with NASAR's State SAR Award for Colorado, for her outstanding leadership of NASAR's Dog Section. Woof!

And the prestigious Hal Foss Award, for national contribution to search and rescue was awarded posthumously to David Bigelow, also of Larimer Co. SAR. David spent the last years of his life leading the SAR profession's standards committee (ASTM F-32), which is similar to herding cats. He passed away a few months ago at the young age of 50.

Howard M. Paul, Public Affairs Manager
Colorado Search and Rescue Board
Member, Emergency Service PIOs of Colorado

If you ever need to find your way to the regular bi-monthly meetings of the Colo. SAR Board, there is a map on the OEM website. Go to: <http://www.dola.state.co.us/oem/images/cartoem.gif>



Fosdick	Bruce	bfosdick@uswest.net	MC/D/President/ Treasurer
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Warner	John	jwarner@yampa.com	D

CSRB General Meeting Notes May 10, 2001

Training: (George Janson Training Chairman)

NASAR Conference - May 24-27 - Colorado Springs
May have a table or hospitality room. CARB will carry local team information at the conference. Get in touch with Keith Conquest or Bruce Fosdick.

Manage the Search Function (MSO):

No date set yet but will be in the summer with Douglas County SAR and El Paso SAR. Instructors and students interested should contact Bruce Fosdick. There will be limited seating.

Managing the Lost Person Incident (MLPI):

September 8-9, and 15-16 Summit County SAR will be hosting. At this time there is no set price and there will be limited seating.

Legislative Updates:

The SAR Legislation passed. SAR Teams and Sheriffs worked hard with Howard Paul, Keith Conquest, and Bruce Fosdick. Suggested a card stock 1 page with post card back to DOLA. The rest would be safety tips and Cell Phone information. Need to express that this is not insurance. Hopes are to make this quick and easy to turn around. The fund is now completely out of the DOW. There is no idea as to the time the new law will take to go in effect. This can be a moneymaker for groups.

Special Interest Groups:

Search Dogs:

SARDOC has two more avalanche dogs. A number of dogs are starting tests.

MRA Report:

Next regional meeting May 19 5PM.

ASTM:

No report.

NASAR (Cheryl Kennedy):

No report.

Aviation SAR:

No report.

EMS:

Background checks, and changes to renewals. National Registered has some consideration. Check with EMS sources.

DOLA:

Meeting May 23 in Frisco for Grant dispersal.

WEB Page:

www.csr.org is up and running.

List server:

At ColoradoSAR-subscribe@yahoo.com.

SARCON 2002:

Discussing with Pueblo, Fremont County, and Custer County.

Nothing has been finalized yet. Looking for hosts, future hosts and requests for presenters.

Mission Reports:

Park County:

Fallen climber and assistance to Summit county.

Douglas County:

ATV rollover in Rampart range. In the area was enough in the right neighborhood.

CAP:

Mostly ELT hunts. Left big mission for Fremont County.

SARDOC:

Responded to Fremont County for hikers: shutting down resources in route.

Larimer:

Quiet, 2 real missions, one last night, both runaways.

Teller County:

Some assists.

El Paso County:

55 missions for the year. So far two are noteworthy. During the blizzard ran 12-hour operations with 41 responses and 571 man hours, cleared 365 vehicles, including a busload of prisoners. Evacuated 52 including a deputy and baby on a ventilator in critical condition. This was a mutual aid including military and Teller County.

Second was a 5-year-old missing. Found 23 miles from Last Seen Point, face down. Interview found friend 1/2 mile from command post. 15 minutes later and would not have made it. Physician helped stabilize. Doing better now. Lost and unaccounted children are on the rise.

Fremont County:

Plane crash, over 40 responders from CAP, Custer County, El Paso County, and Chaffee County.

Missing Hiker passed 30 yards from truck, passed in the night. Called everybody.

Climber fall with head trauma. Beaver creek 4 people took 5 days for 2-day trip. Pikes Peak ARES assisted with communications.

New Sheriff took over April 1st.

Alpine:

Quiet. JeffCo Helicopter is back with smaller engine. Access helo through Sheriff.

Other: Next meeting: July 12 at Camp George West, 7:30 PM.

Newsletter:

Dan needs articles for newsletter. Contact Dan at: 719-687-2748 or email at: remsburg@bigfoot.com.

Dan also needs mission report inputs from SARSoft.

The CSRB was once again active dealing with the ages-old, now, issue of "charging for SAR."

Charging For SAR

rectly explains the SAR Fund and certificates/SAR Cards. Both said they were happy to distribute the info to all their

Due to its proximity to the major news media in Denver, a rescue of a fallen hiker was covered at the scene, with a few days of follow-up stories.

The first news stories stated he "would be billed \$2,500 - \$3,000" by a volunteer fire department, for a "mountain rescue." I do not expect a generalist reporter, even an experienced Colorado reporter, to understand the difference in responding agencies. All they see is "rescuers."

Reaction to this event came from both the CSRB and from the search and rescue team in whose county the rescue occurred; the SAR team dealt with its operational issues with the fire department, the CSRB dealt with the press -- to remove from the SAR team the perception of an inter-agency conflict.

The CSRB distributed a news release addressing the issue of charging for SAR, which came from President Bruce Fosdick, who received several press inquiries. Before its release I spoke with the PIO of the county sheriff, giving her a "heads-up" that we planned to do so. She is a brand new SO PIO, and I was able to give her brief, pertinent info about the issue, and the state statutes dealing with SAR and FPDs.

Follow-up stories included several gross errors in reporting. Paula Woodward, KUSA-TV 9, reported that the "Hikers Certificate" would not apply in this case because its use is limited to cases involving life threatening injuries. Her source obviously was ill-informed.

The USFS information kiosk host at the REI flagship store in Denver also may have, may have, stated you should buy a certificate, or have one of the various licenses or registrations because they serve as "insurance."

I learned that several days later, on a mission with the same SAR team I mentioned above, a member of the flight crew of Lifeguard 2 (Frisco) also told bystanders at a helispot in the road they should carry a certificate, because in Summit County the sheriff will bill for the rescue if they don't have the "insurance."



We followed up with KUSA-TV 9 by calling the 6:00 pm news producer and correcting their info about "life-threatening injuries." We e-mailed to both the USFS Regional Office and the Flight for Life Program Director information that cor-

front-line personnel, and apologized for any misstatements of fact. The SAR team PIO has since met with the SO PIO, and will meet with the FD PIO soon.

The release issue by the CSRB follows. SAR teams are free to use it when needed. Remember the CSRB can take the heat off your team and work the issue for you, as was done in this case.

Howard M. Paul
CSRB Public Affairs Manager
hmpaul@ecentral.com

"Search and Rescue" still a free service in Colorado

Several years ago, a mother of a five-year-old preschooler asked a member of a Colorado search and rescue team how long she should wait to call for a search and rescue team, if she needed help. She was concerned that they could not afford to pay for a search and rescue team.

Her worry was unfounded. In 1987, Colorado's search and rescue teams adopted the position that they will not charge for search and rescue, expressly to avoid her fears.

Colorado's county sheriffs are responsible for coordination of all search and rescue operations within their jurisdiction. It is the sheriff's choice as to which agency is called to respond, and varies from county to county. In most, "SAR" is assigned to specially trained search and rescue teams, composed of unpaid professionals who train specifically for search and rescue, or "mountain rescue" operations; these operations include evacuating injured or lost individuals in terrain or weather that requires specific skills and equipment.

In some locales, other agencies perform the job for the sheriff -- it could be a fire department, a "quick response team" or another type of agency.

When a county sheriff dispatches a search and rescue team, patients and families should know that the SAR team will not send a bill; nor will the sheriff, as Colorado sheriffs do not have authority to charge for search and rescue operations.

**THE COLORADO OUTDOOR RECREATION SEARCH AND RESCUE CARD
VENDOR APPLICATION FORM**

Vendor Name _____

Contact Name (if different) _____

Mailing Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ Number of Cards Requested _____
(Cards come in booklets of 40)

(I); (We) agree to abide by the conditions contained in the statutes, the rules, regulations and directives as promulgated thereunder.

Signature of Responsible Party

Complete, sign and mail to:

DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL AFFAIRS
Colorado Outdoor Recreation Search and Rescue Card
222 S. Sixth Street, Room 409
Grand Junction, CO 81501

For further information feel free to call (970) 248-7310.

**K-9 Search and Rescue Team,
Inc
Is proud to sponsor:**

**SEARCH MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS —
JULY 27-29 2001- Friday evening, Saturday,
& Sunday—in DOLORES, CO**

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course is based on the philosophy that all searches, whether short or long term, have a common beginning.

Regardless of how large or complex a search ends up being, the management of the initial response phase is identical, and crucial to its success.

The agencies these first responders represent have the legal authority and responsibility to search, but may not experience the incident workload to justify funding cadres of search management specialists. Rather, these agencies need all their field personnel to have the knowledge and ability to respond appropriately to overdue person reports, and to manage these incidents professionally and competently for at

least the first shift.

Until recently (July 1999) no course existed to directly address these requirements. Existing courses such as *Managing Search Operations*, *Managing the Lost Person Incident*, and *Managing the Search Function* contain excellent bodies of knowledge.

However, the sheer volume of information, the focus on mathematical theory, and the emphasis on large, multi-day incidents contained in these courses doesn't provide a clear step-by-step practical approach for the Initial Response Incident Commander.

This new course addresses that need. It focuses on the management of the initial response, and is put together in a way that provides a clear, systematic, and practical approach.

This course teaches one standard procedure for each step in a search response. The approach is practical based. The course material doesn't dwell on theory, or discussion of different and sometimes conflicting concepts. It follows a "how-to" type curriculum. The material is

designed for the search practitioner—the ranger, deputy sheriff, police officer, search team leader, and fire department officer—whose primary concern is what to do when saddled with the responsibility of acting on a report of a lost person.

Taken directly from the Search Management Systems Workbook.

ABOUT THE INSTRUCTOR

RICK GOODMAN - is employed by the State of New Mexico - Department of Public Safety. He has been the Director of Search and Rescue for the past eight years in New Mexico and has been involved with search and rescue for the past 47 years. Rick is recognized world wide for his search management skills. He has written numerous articles and contributed to countless others—including the manual for this course.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact the Team at:
Phone: (970) 882-4746
Email: k9sar@frontier.net

Suspending a Mission: When Do You Call It Enough?

Ed note: I know this is rather lengthy but it exemplifies an issue that is soul-wrenching to many of us Search Managers. Did we do the right thing in calling it off?

Dear SAR Friends,

In recent months statistical information has been circulating in the SAR community indicating that most searches are completed in less than 24 hours. While this information is undoubtedly correct I am concerned that it may be leading to some complacency -and perhaps even an exaggerated confidence of our capabilities - leaving us unwilling or unprepared to adequately conduct a major multi-day search.

It is precisely when the usual initial-response searches fail that we have to be prepared, both physically and psychologically, to embark on a major multi-day search. Even when these searches are conducted the simple yardstick of the number of days spent searching does little to ensure that an adequate search effort was applied. In the case of a major multi-day search there is simply no substitute for deploying dozens of search assignments, each and every search day, to give us the best possible chance of finding the subject.

Within the last week alone I have noticed at least four multi-day searches, summarized below, that have been unsuccessful in finding the subject. Obviously the size of the search area, the length of the trail and the hazards of the mountain environment were major factors that made most of these searches very difficult - and the searchers should be commended for making a strenuous effort. Nev-

ertheless these incidents should serve as a warning that the quick initial-response search can very easily develop into a major multi-day mission, for which we should always be prepared.

For those wishing to consider how much search effort (I believe) should be applied to a mission I have prepared a Powerpoint presentation, which may be viewed from:

<http://www.sarinfo.bc.ca/Library/Planning/RapidResponseRule.ppt>

Here is the summary of these four recent unsuccessful multi-day missions:

Search #1: Search called off for missing Bellevue Hiker

Monday, June 25, 2001 (8 day search)

BEND, Oregon - Rescuers on Monday abandoned their search for a Washington hiker missing for more than a week in the Three Sisters area. Corwin Osborne, 45, of Bellevue, Wash., was scheduled to return from a 40-mile hike June 17



that began near Devil's Lake and was to end at Oregon 242.

"We spent a long weekend out there," said Deschutes County Undersheriff Larry Blanton. "It's a very difficult decision, but we're going to have to call the search off." Deschutes and Lane counties each had five search teams looking for Osborne over the weekend.

Searchers focused their efforts on the "exit routes" that Osborne might have taken to descend one of the Sisters, said Leslie Terrell, Deschutes County search and rescue coordinator. Blanton said the searchers are worn out after the weeklong rescue effort.

"We're exhausted, and we've got some volunteers who didn't go to work all week so they could help," Blanton said. "A lot of the volunteers had high expectations of finding him, but we've done all we can do."

The search effort was hindered by a cold weather front that moved into Central Oregon over the weekend, Blanton said. "It's winter up there again," he said. "There's at least one to 2 inches of new snow all over."

Search #2: Portland Doctor Missing in California Canyon

Thursday June 27, 2001 (6 day search)

A doctor who hiked into arid canyons near Palm Springs, Calif., has been missing since Friday, police said.

Perry Sloop, 65, specializes in internal medicine at Portland's Kaiser Permanente's Sunnyside campus. He was last seen around 10 a.m. Friday after he bought a trail map and hiked alone into the canyon with a little food and water, said Cmdr. Michael McCabe, spokesman for the Palm Springs Mounted Police Search and Rescue Team.

Rescue crews - including 24 volunteers, several helicopters and search dogs - called off the search Monday afternoon, McCabe said. "There are no other leads to follow up on. That's been explained to the family and they're in agreement

with that," he said.

The canyons are well-known for hiking and picnicking. They lie within the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians Reservation, just south of Palm Springs, Calif. Temperatures in the canyons can reach 100 degrees by midday and most streams are dried up, McCabe said.

Search #3: Hunt for Missing Autistic Man Abandoned

Thursday 28th June 2001 (2 day search)

The hunt for a missing Dunedin, New Zealand autistic man, with the social skills of a four-year-old, was temporarily abandoned last night. The break at 10 o'clock came as exhausted searchers pondered their next move in the city's largest search and rescue operation in a decade.

Wakari patient Amos Cameron, aged 26, who has been in care most of his life, disappeared from the hospital grounds on Tuesday morning.

Search #4: Search for Missing Alaska Man Escalates

Wednesday June 27, 2001 (8 day search)

No one has reported seeing the 52-year-old Thomas Nuzzi, an itinerant nurse, since he caught an Anchorage-bound flight from Ketchikan on June 11. Co-workers at Healthcorp Associates filed a missing persons report with Anchorage police when

Nuzzi didn't report to Bethel on June 19. An intense search began Monday when authorities identified Nuzzi's 1997 red Jeep Cherokee, left for several days at Alpenglow Ski Area.

Crews with rescue dogs plowed up hills and through valleys until 11:30 p.m. Monday night while planes and helicopters flew over ridges and trails. On Tuesday, more than 50 rescuers raked through 200 square miles of mountainous terrain around Alpenglow Ski Area, Arctic and Ship Creek valleys, hunting for any clue in what they call a confounding mystery.

"We were up on hillsides, just bushwhacking, basically looking for any place anyone may have cut into (Ship Creek) valley," said Jonathan Ditto, 30, Anchorage Nordic Ski Patrol director. "It's as



hard as it gets. What you're doing more is eliminating places where someone hasn't been. The more you look, the bigger it gets, unless you find something."

Searchers included hikers, rescue dogs, a plane and two helicopter crews that scoured roadsides, bike trails, hiking trails, creeks and ridge lines. A ranger in Indian stopped every person who emerged from Chugach State Park

at the south end of a trail that runs to Arctic Valley. Park chief ranger Jerry Lewanski said crews probed every structure, including those at the ski resort.

Between finding the bike and interviewing Nuzzi's acquaintances, the scattered search narrowed Tuesday to specific outlying spots, and areas closer to the parking lot. Crockett said rescuers combed that area once Monday but its steep slopes and tangled alders and willows complicated the search.

Crockett said Tuesday that the search would continue late into the evening and likely resume today. In an ideal search, Crockett said, teams would hope to find an item that unquestionably belonged to the missing person. "And we have no idea what this gentleman, if anything, was carrying," Crockett said. "This is a classic mystery."

Best wishes,

Martin Colwell.

SARINFO sarinfo@sfu.ca
www.sarinfo.bc.ca

A division of SAR Technology Inc.
'Search Manager' software <http://www.sarinfo.bc.ca/sartechnology/sartechnology.htm>
sartechnology@home.com



To those interested in CSRB hat pins:

There are only a few (yuk, yuk) of the CSRB hat pins, which are available from CSRB (\$5 each) - the bag is currently in the custody of the CSRB President - Bruce Fosdick. It is easiest to let Bruce know to bring them to a meeting because it probably costs more to ship them than the pin is worth.

Bruce Fosdick

The CSRB web page is up and running. The URL address is: "www.csrb.org"

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

Parting Humor— A Letter From Scout Camp

Dear Mom,

Our scoutmaster told us to write to our parents in case you saw the flood on TV and are worried. We are OK. Only one of our tents and two sleeping bags got washed away. Luckily, none of us got drowned because we were all up on the mountain looking for Chad when it happened.

Oh yes, please call Chad's mother and tell her he is OK. He can't write because of the cast. I got to ride in one of the search and rescue jeeps. It was neat. We never would have found him in the dark if it hadn't been for the lightning. Our scoutmaster Walt got mad at Chad for going on a hike alone without telling anyone. Chad said he did tell him, but it was during the fire so he probably didn't hear him. Did you know that if you put gas on a fire, the gas can will blow up? The wet wood didn't burn, but one of the tents did. Also, some of our clothes. David is going to look weird until his hair grows back.

We will be home on Saturday if Scoutmaster Walt gets the car fixed. It wasn't his fault

about the wreck. The brakes worked OK when we left. Scoutmaster Walt said that a car that old you have to expect something to break down; that's probably why he can't get insurance. We think it's a neat car. He doesn't care if we get it dirty, and if it's hot, sometimes he lets us ride on the fenders. It gets pretty hot with 10 people in a car. He let us take turns riding in the trailer until the highway patrolman stopped and talked to us. Scoutmaster Walt is a neat guy. Don't worry, he is a good driver. In fact, he is teaching Terry how to drive on the mountain roads where there isn't any traffic. All we ever see up there are logging trucks.

This morning all of the guys were diving off the rocks and swimming out in the lake. Scoutmaster Walt wouldn't let me because I can't swim, and Chad was afraid he would sink because of his cast, so he let us take the canoe across the lake. It was great. You can still see some of the trees under the water from the flood.

Scoutmaster Walt isn't crabby like some scoutmasters. He didn't even get mad

about losing the life jackets. He has to spend a lot of time working on the car so we are trying not to cause him any trouble. Guess what? We have all passed our First Aid merit badges. When Dave dove in the lake and cut his arm, we got to see how a tourniquet works. Wade and I threw up, but Scoutmaster Walt said it probably was just food poisoning from the leftover chicken. He said they got sick that way with food they ate in prison. I'm so glad he got out and became our scoutmaster. He said he sure figured out how to get things done better while he was doing his time. By the way, what is a "pedophile"?

I have to go now. We are going to town to mail our letters and buy bullets. Don't worry about anything. We are fine.

Love,
Cole

P.S. How long has it been since I had a tetanus shot?

Remember to send newsletter articles to: "remsburg@bigfoot.com" or fax to 719-687-5457. 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.