



**Special Points  
Of Interest**

- Search Standards?
- SARCON!!!
- New State Coordinators
- Mission Stats



**The next CSRB meeting is Sept 11th at Camp George West in Golden**

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**Search and Rescue Standards - is it Time?**

Recently, it seems, every emergency service magazine that I pick-up to read has an article on standards. Many of the search and rescue journals, magazines, etc. are following in the same path. To read the articles, “now is the time for standards in search and rescue”. Is now really the time? Or is everyone trying to sell a program and calling it our standard?

*Webster’s Dictionary* defines standard as - a basis of comparison; a criterion; measure. With this definition in mind, I would submit that standards already exist and we are measured against those standards. Do state-wide standards for search and rescue exist? How about nationally?

What all standards should we be concerned about? Some have heard of association standards through such groups as the Mountain Rescue Association (MRA), the National Association for Search and Rescue (NASAR), Search and Rescue Dogs of Colo-

rado (SARDOC), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), American Search Dog Association (ARDA), American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM), the National Fire Protection Administration (NFPA) and there are probably many more. Some of us use the Incident Command System - ICS (which one you might ask) Most of our local teams have standards of their own (we just call them something else); protocols, standards of care, performance measures, membership sign-offs, membership ranks, etc. Maybe our local sheriffs has certain guidelines - required or otherwise.

And, heaven forbid, those of us who are affiliated through other emergency service groups might have a multitude of standards that we must meet - Emergency Medical Services - State Health Department, State Board of Medical Examiners and their local Physician Advisor, just to name a few, have all sorts of rules, regulations and standards. How about the fire service - it has NFPA, ICS through NWCG, and

Emergency Management plus local government ordinances and regulations. You want a red card - guess what standards might open up?

Many of these groups already impose strict standards on their operations. Do any of them influence us? My suggestion is that if you do not know, I might suggest talking with a legal representative. Just because search and rescue may or may not have a set standard, someone else might and we might be held to some standard that we know nothing about. It would be a large mistake to assume that we are not held to anyone else’s standard.

The State of Colorado has also discussed standards. As part of Colorado’s response with ‘homeland security’, the Department of Public Safety would like to “type” all emergency responders and their apparatus. I learned of this by accident and was invited to one meeting of the Emergency Response Mobilization Committee. I have not been invited back - I wonder why? This group even

# News, Notes, and Stuff...

A brochure and registration form for the International Technical Rescue Symposium (ITRS) 2003 has been posted on the Colorado Search and Rescue Board web site <[www.coloradosarboard.org](http://www.coloradosarboard.org)>

The information can be found on the "Upcoming Events" page  
<[www.coloradosarboard.org/csrb-events.asp](http://www.coloradosarboard.org/csrb-events.asp)>

Don Davis  
CSRB Webmaster

## Law Bytes: Are You Really Covered Under the New HIPAA Privacy Rule?

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) seems to have a lot of people in the emergency management, EMS, and SAR world slightly confused. Are you required to follow this act or not? The article from Merginet provides detailed analysis of how the act might impact you.

[http://www.merginet.com/emsnewsfiles/503\\_17.shtml](http://www.merginet.com/emsnewsfiles/503_17.shtml)

CSRB Members,

The Colorado Search and Rescue Board's new web site is up and running. You can visit it at <[www.coloradosarboard.org](http://www.coloradosarboard.org)>.

The site is still under construction. This is your site. If you have any ideas, suggestions, photos, SAR images, etc, please feel free to submit them for the web site.

Thanks.  
Don Davis  
CSRB Webmaster

## SAR Computer Updates

During recent travels around the globe several different computer-based SAR projects came to our attention. A lot is happening rather quickly in the realm of using computers in a truly meaningful way for SAR. Some of these software programs are currently available while others are in development. Presented in no particular order, all are worth a look.

Up-to-date discussion on much of the software can be found online at:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/csar/messages/601?viscount=100>

Are you getting the NASAR SARNEWS? If not, check out the website and sign up for the free e-mail newsletter that includes a ton of useful info and site that are related to SAR everywhere.

<http://www.sarnews.com/>



## UTS Tracking Class

Larimer County SAR will be hosting a UTS Track Aware/TK1 class September 12-14th in Ft. Collins. Pre-register for the course prior to September 1st. For more info, contact David Hake at (970) 498-0664 or e-mail to: [dhake@frii.com](mailto:dhake@frii.com).

Further details can be seen at the UTS website: "[www.utstrackingservices.com](http://www.utstrackingservices.com)".

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>



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# CSRB Meeting Minutes

## July 2003

### 1 Intro

### 2 Training

- Have a contact for Routt County for MLPI/MLSO class.
- UTS class at Silverton, 25-27 July 2003
- UTS class at Larimer, 12-14 September 2003

### 3 DOLA

- Checks have been cut
- ~\$229,000 to distribute
- ~\$660,000 in requests

### 4 Special Interest Sections

#### 4.1 Dog

SARDOC has a couple of dogs in training.

#### 4.2 MRA

Report from MRA conference: Major topic of interest was Personal Locator Beacons.

- Feds see NASAR as the contact for ground SAR.
- AFRCC was going to fund software to receive PLB information, which was to be given to all states. This funding was cut.
- NASAR was tasked to coordinate contacts and distribution to the states. 22 states were contacted. Colorado is supposed to be number 7 on the prioritized distribution list for the software.
- CAP will not be an asset for finding PLBs.
- Currently no states have the software to get the PLB information. AFRCC will have to send a fax with the PLB information to the state where the beacon has been located or to the state that the beacon has been registered to if no position information is known.
- PLBs are in affect since 1 July, 2003.

#### 4.3 Aviation SAR

Nothing to report.

#### 4.4 EMS

- 1 Possible proposal to make fire and EMS personnel go through the EV sticker process to use lights and sirens.

### 5 CSRB Website

- 2 CSRB has an ISP.
- 3 The DNS change has been done.
- 4 The site should be operational in ~72 hours
- 5 [www.coloradosarboard.org](http://www.coloradosarboard.org)

### 6 SARCON

- 1 Leonard Ginther volunteered to chair SARCON.
- 2 Proposed dates May 14-16 2004
- 3 CSRB to take more control of SARCON than in the past. Host teams will not be in charge of the instruction.
- 4 Ponderosa Retreat and Conference Center was considered as a location. The dorm would cost ~\$76/person for the weekend.
- 5 **Motion by Leonard Ginther, seconded by Barry Mitchell: to begin process of planning for SARCON and that CSRB will handle the planning. The motion passed unanimously.**

### 7 Search and Rescue Standards

Brief discussion on the push towards resource standards. Other states have started the process. Discussion on having a minimum state standard and leaving further standards to the individual teams.

### 8 Other Business

- 1 Suggestion that CSRB send the president and/or a senior coordinator to all NASAR conferences.
- 2 Question as to whether the results of a previous survey had been tabulated and published. The surveys need to be located and CSRB should consider doing another survey in the near future.
- 3 There is a meeting on 27 July at 10:00am at the Alpine Shack for new state coordinators.
- 4 Colorado Outdoors, March-April issue, has an article on Rescue. The article is accurate on the DOLA fund.
- 5 Addresses need to be checked on the newsletters. Many are getting returned.

### 9 Mission Reports

- 1 Park: Quiet
- 2 Summit: Some missions, nothing of note.
- 3 RMR: 70 missions, lots of water activity.
- 4 FRRD: 6 finds
- 5 Gilpin: Nothing of note.
- 6 Teller: Normal activity, nothing of note.
- 7 Alpine: Suicidal lady drove off a road. ATV's an issue? Quiet otherwise.
- 8 Douglas: Busy but short. Search for Meth. Lab equipment and supplies hidden off the side of the roads.
- 9 Arapahoe: Nothing of note.
- 10 CAP: Standard activity.
- 11 Larimer: 13 missions since last meeting.
  - Large man extricated from a crack.
  - Jared Atadero was found. Hikers had found clothing matching his description. Searchers went back to area and found a skull fragment and a tooth. The conditions had to be just right to find the skull fragment, very difficult to see. A mountain lion is a good possibility as the reason for Jared's disappearance.

*Continued from page 1* suggested they could enforce compliance through one of our grant programs. Fire Departments and medical response agencies along with the State Patrol and Emergency Management have participated. The County Sheriff's of Colorado have also joined the discussion. The primary goal of the organization is to create a statewide data-base of emergency response.

Finally within our own organization (CSRB), are there standards that might affect operations? Between now and next issue of the CSRB newsletter, we will look at what is out there and what it means to us, the ground pounders, the technical specialists, the search dog handlers, search and rescue managers and other interested SAR personnel

#### **A few of the groups .**

Let's look at some of the organizations listed above and see what they do with standards. The Mountain Rescue Association deals with team accreditations. A certain level of testing is done with local teams looking at their peers in a local environment. Each Region as they are called sets their own testing criterion on teams wishing to be tested. The tests in this region include; Search, High Angle Rescue, Low Angle Rescue, Avalanche and Winter Rescue. While categories are the same nationwide, there is flexibility within each region to determine how and when testing is done. Testing is done on a team level, not an individual level. Within Colorado, eleven teams have opted for this accreditation (Alpine Rescue Team, Crested Butte Search and Rescue Team, El Paso County Search and Rescue Team, Grand County Search and Rescue Team, Larimer County

Search and Rescue Team, Mountain Rescue Aspen, Rocky Mountain Rescue Group, Routt County Search and Rescue Team, Summit County Rescue Group, Vail Mountain Rescue Group, and Western State College Mountain Rescue Team). Membership in the Mountain Rescue Association is more than accreditation, but that is available.

The National Association for Search and Rescue based in Chantilly, Virginia prefers to set standards for individuals instead of teams. Through a series of training classes and tests given, persons can test through various levels which begin with the SAR-Tech series (I, II, and III), with SAR-Tech III being the beginning level. Newer and more advanced levels are being developed as we speak. There is a cost with these programs and tests. Several states have adopted the SAR-Tech standards as minimum standards for search and rescue personnel in their respective states. The State of Colorado has no such requirement.

American Society of Testing and Materials (now known as ASTM) has set up a committee to research search and rescue standards. They are voluntary in nature, but could very well become established protocols. Their goal is recommended standards - put together by vote of active participants - nothing sneaky but up front. Colorado is part of this process and can boast the fact that the last three Presidents from the F-32 Committee on Search and Rescue have come from Colorado. There is a group of recommended standards out there and more coming, once they complete the process of discussion.

The Federal Emergency

Management Agency ( FEMA) has worked with various groups to develop standards for the heavy rescue community - disaster, terror attacks, major building collapses etc. Some of their work has begun to flow into our day-today work. Any search dogs wishing to play must meet certain criteria. Any of us who want to play on disaster teams, will either have to join a federal team or contract with one. The requirements are the same - conform to certain standards.

The final group I will deal with today is the National Fire Protection Administration (NFPA). You might ask - what could they have to do with standards for search and rescue? Well nothing, except their technical rescue standards and their wilderness search and rescue standards are already in progress and most of us are neither allowed to comment or vote on them. Again you might say - so what! If some standard exists (and we don't have one of our own ), will search and rescue teams be required to conform or be held liable in some instances. I am neither a legal scholar nor a an attorney. I have been told that possibility is very great!

We cannot afford to be caught unprepared. It is time to consider the ramifications of standards or lack thereof. In the next couple issues, we will look at some of the standards out there and let you, the reader, open some discussions.

Bruce Fosdick, President

## CSRB SAR Conference 2004

Colorado Search and Rescue Board has decided to continue the annual search and rescue conference. We have identified a location and confirmed May 14—16, 2004 for the date.

We will be continuing in presenting topics related to Search and Rescue teams across the state of Colorado. As always we will be open to suggestions on the content of the conference. Currently we are working on a Technical rescue track and a medical track. If you have a presentation please contact me and I will be happy to consider the topic you have to present.

Colorado Search and Rescue Board will be running the conference but we will need assistance from supporting members to help make this conference a success. Some positions we need to fill are:

- Co-Chairman
- Audio/Visual Chairman
- Curriculum Coordinator
- Exhibits Coordinator
- Faculty Coordinator
- Finance Director
- Public Relations Director
- Sponsorship Coordinator
- Track Managers

You do not need to be a member of CSRB to assist in any of these positions. Anybody wishing to help should contact:

Leonard Ginther  
8581 Cherry Lane  
Westminster, CO 80031  
Home: 303-426-4955 (Please leave a message)  
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### CAP Mission

28 Aug 2003 2216L AFRCC (Air Force Rescue Control Center) paged with mission 03M-2022 Overdue aircraft from Coleman Ranch Texas to Dalhart Texas. Further investigation showed flight was to continue to Pueblo. Pilot was flying PC6-A (Platus 8 seat twin engine aircraft) and had over 3,700 hours flight time. Pilot was a member of Texas CAP and an IC.

After an IC accepted the mission, mission base was established at COS (Colorado Springs Airport) and aircraft and crews were called in at 0615. Two aircraft were

launched one to fly route search from PUB (Pueblo, CO) to DHT (Dalhart, TX). A second to also fly route from PUB to DHT and give high Communications. Guy Laughridge was called in to run a radar track.

In the early morning the NTAP (National Track Analysis Program) showed the aircraft still in Texas. However, AFRCC wanted the PUB to DHT route checked anyway.

Around 10:00 the pilot was located about a mile from the Last Know Position on the NTAP. The pilot



had parachuted from the aircraft after experiencing an engine out.

The pilot did not want a helicopter ride out and requested CAP perform the recovery.

Colorado Wing aircraft were recovered to their respective home bases and the mission closed with 15 members participating to support 2 aircraft in 3 sorties for a total of 7.4 hours of flight time. Because Colorado participated on the mission and there was a survivor, we shared the save with Texas.

Leonard Ginther

## Additional State Mission Coordinators coming soon

By Howard M. Paul, Alpine Rescue Team

One of the long-standing functions of the CSRB is to serve the state as "state mission coordinators." Our cadre of volunteers from several member teams do this on a rotating basis, for a week at a time. Just like many team's mission leaders, they are on call 24 hours a day for the week.

The CSRB Mission Coordinators serve as the state's resource center for SAR resources for any request. Those requests come from SAR teams, county sheriffs, other state's SAR directors, and occasionally from overseas via the U.S. Department of State. Commonly a request comes from a county sheriff that has expended all the resources in their county and neighboring counties.

CSRB Mission Coordinators also respond to SAR incidents to serve as technical advisors or to fill positions on the overhead team. However, "We've nearly trained ourselves out of that business," says Senior CSRB Mission Coordinator Barry Mitchell of Douglas County SAR team. Through the MLPI, ICS and Plans Section Chief courses, most teams have members competent in mission management roles and outside overhead team assistance is rarely needed today.

A similar function is post-incident review. CSRB Mission Coordinators, and others, such as MLPI instructors, can visit a SAR team or sheriff and review a mission, thereby ensuring that everything possible -- and appropriate -- was done to find the missing party. Most recently this was done in Garfield County in 2002. It is good to know that qualified outside eyes can back up your team and tell you, "We can't see that you missed anything we might have done." We all know that sometimes we just can't find someone.

The CSRB Mission Coordinator cadre met July 27 at Alpine Rescue Team's headquarters near Evergreen, to train a new complement of potential coordinators. Several of the current coordinators have served in that role for many years (if not decades) and are looking toward retirement. Seven SAR team members have stepped forward to

apply for the position and five were at the training session: Don Davis, Larimer County SAR Team, Brenda and Kim Veitch, El Paso County SAR Team, Tim Holden, Rocky Mountain Rescue Group and John Agnew, of Summit County Rescue Group.

Most would believe that it is a simple position to fill -- just taking phone calls and ordering resources. There is much, much more to it. CSRB Mission Coordinators must be familiar with the capabilities of all resources in the state. That means all SAR teams, water rescue units and support services. That is many, many organizations.

There are also political considerations, that most SAR team members abhor the thought of. In Colorado, county sheriffs are responsible for all search and rescue activities in their jurisdiction. Any actions taken by CSRB coordinators are on behalf of the sheriff, and coordinators must act appropriately to protect that relationship. The CSRB will aid, not take over an incident from the local jurisdiction.

### Current CSRB Mission Coordinators

Barry Mitchell, Douglas County SAR Team  
Bruce Fosdick, Douglas County SAR Team  
George Janson, Larimer County SAR Team  
Phil Luethy, Alpine Rescue Team  
Skee Hipszky, El Paso County SAR Team  
Tim Cochrane, Vail Mountain Rescue  
Tom McCabe

There may be hidden reasons why something has, or has not, occurred. For instance, there may be jurisdictional issues, political rivalries or previous negative experiences. As you likely know if you have lived in Colorado long, the issue of local versus state control is an important one always present.

Coordinators use a checklist when responding to mutual aid requests. They need to know the type of resource you need and where and when to report. They need to know any special requirements - technical rock, high altitude, etc. The CSRB policy is to call the closest appropriate resource first, working out from there.

Its important for teams that are called to help respond to coordinators relatively quickly so they know if they need to call other teams. The coordinators have many years of experience, and from talking with

a sheriff or IC can often tell what is needed, in those cases in which a county asks for suggestions.

At times even that is unnecessary. Mitchell told the story of receiving a call from a deputy sheriff in a county with a tiny sheriff's department. "The deputy said, 'I know I need helicopters but I have no idea how to get them. Can you help me?'" said Mitchell.

Knowing the complexities of the state National Guard and federal Air Force Rescue Coordination Center are near the top of a MC's requirements. You can't just call "(800) Send-A-Helo."

The CSRB is our state's point of contact for receiving alerts from the new Personal Locator Beacons. When NOAA receives an alert from a PLB through the SARSAT satellites, the location and registered owner information is sent to the state. The CSRB 24-hour call center will page the state coordinator with the information, and the coordinator will determine what county the signal appears to come from. The coordinator will then call that county sheriff's dispatch center.

There are several prerequisites a candidate must meet to become a coordinator:

1. Five years experience managing multiple agency ground SAR incidents.
2. Recommended in writing by local team.
3. Working knowledge of local, state and federal resources
4. Working knowledge of incident command system
5. Completed CSRB-approved search management course and Plans Section Chief course
6. Active membership in a CSRB team

Before the candidate becomes a fully qualified coordinator, able to work solo, each will serve as a trainee for some time. The CSRB's goal is to have new coordinators in place for this fall's hunting seasons.

*Howard M. Paul is the CSRB's Public Affairs Manager. An 18-year-member of Alpine Rescue Team of Evergreen, he has also served on the CSRB Board of Directors, as CSRB vice-president and as an MSF/MLPI instructor for 15 years.*

TYPES OF MISSIONS - 2002

County	2002	2001	1999	1997	CLIMBER	HIKER	HUNTER	FISHERS	SNOWMO	BIKE	RIVER	OHV	SKIER	LAKE	horse	Aircraft	In-town	automobile police & w/ extenua evidence	OTHER	
ADAMS	8	7	14																	0
ALAMOSA	19	23	24	22																8
ARAPAHOE	14	14	18																	19
ARCHULETA	3			6																0
BACA																				0
BENT	136	117	110	137																136
BOULDER	17	12	18	11																17
CHAFFEE	88	78	66	70																88
CLEAR CREEK																				0
CONELIOS	2	2	4																	2
COSTILLA	16	27	33																	16
CROWLEY	10	11	9																	10
CUSTER	3	11	6	7																3
DELTA	2	5	8	5																2
DOLORES	64	49	50	39																64
DOUGLAS	40	35	31	34																40
EAGLE																				0
ELBERT	134	158	160	59																134
EL PASO	8	17	11	11																8
FREMONT	32	23	21	15																32
GARFIELD	6	5	5	8																6
GULPIN	41	37	54	68																41
GRAND	26	43	36	40																26
GUNNISON	3	11	6	3																3
HINSDALE																				0
HUERFANO	3	7																		3
HUERFANO																				0
JACKSON																				0
JEFFERSON																				0
JEFFERSON	46			34																46
KIT CARSON	3																			3
KIOWA																				0
LA PLATA	22	45	29	1																22
LAKE	25	36	45	36																25
LARIMER	104	112	138	110																104
LAS ANIMAS																				0
LINCOLN	22	25	12	12																22
LOGAN	7	21	10	22																7
MESA																				0
MINERAL	6	9	11	25																6
MOFFAT	18	19	33	13																18
MONTENZUMA	22	20	15	13																22
MONTROSE	6	6	4	5																6
MORGAN	15	11	9	5																15
OURAY																				0
PARK	30	71	64	78																30
PITKIN																				0
PROWERS	4	7	9	8																4
PUEBLO	14	21	18	42																14
RIO BLANCO	21	3	24	20																21
RIO GRANDE	65	48	42	42																65
ROLUTT	15	16	16																	15
SAGUACHE																				0
SAN JUAN	63	68	58	44																63
SAN MIGUEL																				0
SEDGWICK	109	125	118	140																109
SUMMIT	25	38	46	35																25
TELLER																				0
WASHINGTON	3	4	3	150																3
WELD																				0
YUMA	0	3	3	6																0

1227 1415 1528 1441 104 372 149 10 84 43 20 58 79 37 16 31 109 34 16 64  
6.90% 24.69% 9.89% 0.66% 5.57% 2.85% 1.33% 3.65% 5.24% 2.46% 1.06% 2.06% 7.23% 2.26% 1.06% 4.25%

Are your Stats missing?  
Send them to CSRB for  
inclusion.  
Accumulated from the  
2003 SAR Grants that  
were submitted to the  
Dept. of Local Affairs



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

### Upcoming Calendar of Events

CSRB Meeting	9/11	Golden, CO
UTS Track Aware/TKII Class	9/12-14	Ft. Collins
L.A.S.T. Conference	10/27-29	Girdwood, Alaska
ITRS 2003	10/31-11/2	Salt Lake City, UT
CSRB Meeting	11/13	Golden, CO

*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.*