

**Search for 11-year-old autistic boy
DEM # 08-2441**

The Unit was contacted by the Pierce County Department of Emergency Management to provide a team to search for a lost 11y/o autistic boy who disappeared Saturday while hiking with his family in Siouxon creek trail area of Skamania County. Three members responded and met at the Cache at 3:00 A.M. to arrive at search base at 6:00 A.M. Around 8:00 A.M. the boy walked out on his own and the search was called off. The team returned to Tacoma.

**Two Hikers stranded on a ledge on
Spire Point DEM# 08-2792**

The Unit was called by Pierce County DEM. at 1:30 a.m. Thursday morning the 28th of Aug for two hikers. Matthew Edwards, 33, and his girlfriend, Robin Gibson, 27, both of Wendell, Mass. were stranded at the 8,000-foot level on an 18-inch ledge on Spire Point along the Ptarmigan Traverse hiking route in the North Cascades northeast of Darrington. Edwards and Gibson had traveled to Washington to hike a portion of the Pacific Crest Trail through the Cascades, and officials said the two hikers took a wrong turn and were in over their heads while trying to descend the steep terrain. An original callout was made and Fran and Jeff Sharp responded. After talking to the search base and getting more information a second callout was made around 8:00a.m. and five more team members responded: Chris Berryman, Tyler Severy, Greg Lang, Bob Coleman and Ken Capron. An additional five members were able to respond Thursday afternoon: Rick Wire, Roger and Maria Ternes, Linsey Warren and Mark Hallman.

Upon arrival at the search base at the airport in Concrete, Fran, Jeff and a member from Skagit County Mountain Rescue were

assigned to hike to Spire Point via the Downey Creek trail as the weather was not looking promising for a helicopter rescue. The Downey Creek trailhead is on FS road 26 called the Suiattle River Road. However, they found the road had been washed out 9 miles from the trail head. It was here they met Ronald Brewer and his wife Shari, who had a four wheeled ATV and were able to shuttle them to the trail head one at a time saving them an extra 9 mile hike. When Chris and the rest arrived at Concrete they were also assigned to hike in via the Downey Creek trail as three attempts had been made via a helicopter and all had been turned back by the weather. When they arrived at the washout Mr. Brewer was still there with his ATV and also shuttled them to the trail head. After hiking most of the day, sometimes thru Blackberry bushes four to six feet tall, they reached Cub Lake where everyone rendezvoused and set up camp for the night.

By this time Rick and the third group had arrived; they were sent to the top of Green Mountain to act as a radio relay which greatly improved communications between search base and the teams at Cub Lake. And again Mr. Brewer provided them transportation to the trailhead.

At about this same time a team from Bellingham and Skagit Mountain Rescue was inserted via helicopter closer to Spire Point and the stranded hikers had been talked off the ledge and were now on the Dana Glacier. The team that was inserted initially made contact with Edwards and Gibson at about 8:20 a.m. Friday morning. When the teams at Cub Lake awoke Friday morning, Chris discovered he had equipment problems with his pack and he and Ken Capron hiked back to the trucks.

The two subjects were cold and wet when found but said to be coherent. They were escorted down to the teams at Cub Lake.

Thanks to the efforts of mountain rescue teams and a Navy helicopter crew both were flown off the mountains and taken to Concrete at about 2:30 p.m. Friday afternoon. The helicopter also transported the rescue teams from Cub Lake to Concrete.

Rick's team had to hike out to the trail head and once more Mr. Brewer was there to shuttle them back to the vehicles parked at the washout. He was the real unsung hero of this mission. Everyone met in the town of Burlington and after having a meal returned to the Cache late Friday night.

**TACOMA MOUNTAIN RESCUE
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
August 27, 2008**

These minutes as published are unofficial and subject to approval at the next regularly scheduled board meeting. Convened 1915.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Rick Wire, Greg Lang, Dan Deprez, Chris Berryman, Gus Bush, Jeff Sharp, Christine Davies, Randy Brake

OTHER MEMBERS PRESENT: Ken Davies, Fran Sharp, Steve Showalter

TREASURER'S REPORT: Lynn Severy
No report this month.

KIT REPORT: Tracy Berryman
Tracy showed the newest design for the cover of the shelter package and described the changes that are still to be made. Tracy said there weren't many orders for kits and suggested that there be no kit party for September.

OPERATIONS REPORT: Gus Bush
There was a call out for a search for a missing 11 year old autistic boy in Skamania County, but the boy was found before the

team could leave search base.

8/26/08 – Call for three hikers on Three Fingers Mountain, but no OL was available.

TRAINING REPORT: Tyler Severy
Helicopter training is September 13 and 14. Information has been sent out in e-mails and will be in the Rucksack. There will be a picnic at Tim Greminger's house after the Saturday training. All members are invited to the picnic, as it is somewhat in lieu of a summer picnic.

Greg moved to authorize funds for renting the helicopter for Sunday's portion of the training. The motion was seconded and passed.

On Monday, 9/15, from 5-9 p.m., a Healthcare Provider's CPR class will be offered to anyone in the Unit.
On October 6, 7 and 8, there will be another offering of the swiftwater training. Anyone who is interested should contact Tyler.

EQUIPMENT REPORT: Randy Brake
Randy noted that the small folding saws are in poor condition and he will either replace the blades or the entire saws.

COMMUNICATIONS:
There is currently no Communications Chair.

SAFETY & EDUCATION: Chris Berryman
The Snowmobile Expo is coming up on October 18 and 19. The organizers have requested that we teach some classes, as we have done in the past. Several members present volunteered to assist with instruction. Fran will be coordinating. Anyone else interested in helping should contact Fran. The Board decided not to have a booth at the Expo this year.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Dan Deprez
Dan moved to reinstate Lindsey Warren at field support. The motion was seconded and passed.

Gus reported that Tyler will accept the nomination for chairman, if no other person steps forward. The nominating committee is still looking for someone to nominate for vice-chair.

MRA: Jeff Sharp
The next WMRA meeting is October 4.
ITRS will be coming up on the first weekend in November.

SAR COUNCIL: Christine Davies
Christine restated her intent to step down as SAR Council representative after the September meeting. Discussion included allowing two or more people to tag team the position. The SAR Council meetings are the first Tuesday of every month, and are currently held at the 35th and McKinley TPD precinct.

AIR OPS: Tim Greminger
See training report.

OLD BUSINESS:
The 50th anniversary banquet plans are coming along. The banquet will be held on November 14 at the Mountaineers Clubhouse. Any members who have historic pictures or slides are requested to get them to Rick Wire for scanning into the slide show.

NEW BUSINESS:
No new business.

Meeting adjourned at 2050.
Respectfully yours,
Christine Davies, Secretary

Other Training Opportunities

On Monday, 9/15, from 5-9 p.m., a Healthcare Provider's CPR class will be offered to anyone in the Unit. Also on October 6, 7, and 8, there will be another offering of the swiftwater training. Anyone who is interested should contact the training chair.

PICNIC

There will be a picnic at Tim Greminger's house after the Saturday training on September 13th. All members are invited to this picnic, as it is somewhat in lieu of a summer picnic. Contact Tim at (360) 893-1230 for directions.

KIT PARTY

The following members attended the Kit Party on Aug 6, 2008
Chris & Tracy Berryman
Randy Brake
Gus Bush
They made 150 Kits. There will be no kit party for September.