

BELAY ON!

Douglas County Search and Rescue Team, Inc.

DCSAR'S TEN YEAR PLAN

BELAY ON! is the official newsletter of Douglas County Search and Rescue Team, Inc. and is published quarterly, or whenever we feel like it.

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be·lay *verb* \bi-'lā\

- 1: to secure a person at the end of a rope
- 2: to captivate with a fabulous newsletter

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DCSAR IS GOING ON ITS FIFTEENTH year providing search and rescue services to Douglas County, devoting manpower and equipment to the service of the sheriff's department. That equipment is starting to wear out, though. Our rescue vehicles are getting tired; the command trucks are starting to show significant wear. Our field director, who, by the way, is now officially over the hill himself, is tired of working on the vehicles out in the elements. It was time for a plan.

This article will introduce members to the action the board is taking to address the team's long term equipment and facility needs.

I have created a rescue truck committee, which includes several members of the team, to focus on securing two new trucks that will replace 704 and 705. Our goal is to have 704 replaced in 2012 and 705 replaced in 2013.

We also now have a ten-year plan committee that rolls up everything for the next ten years. Our team has numerous needs to address. In addition to vehicle replacements, we need a building! Our current challenges without having a facility are endless. For example, frozen locks on the trailers and trucks in the winter, parking areas not plowed, excessive heat in the sum-

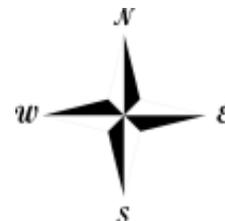
mer has damaged gear. Having equipment spread throughout the area makes serving Douglas County a challenge. A permanent facility would allow us to conduct meetings, schedule technical trainings, maintain vehicles and equipment, and store supplies in one centralized location.

We need to be prepared to handle the population growth and to better serve our county with the appropriate facility and equipment.

The plan also includes a new ATV in 2012 and one more in 2013 with one additional ATV litter. The ATVs, snowmobiles, and rescue vehicles will rotate out every seven to ten years and be replaced with new.

Ultimately, our income needs to be increased through grants, donations, the county budget, and strategic fundraising efforts. We will also be working on DCSAR's awareness by looking into additional local publications as well as news coverage on searches and rescues.

—Vice President Carl Kline



Fatherly Advice

Field Director Scott Walker

MARCH WAS A LAMB FROM START TO FINISH. THE WARM WEATHER should enable Rampart Range Road to open as scheduled on April 1st. Waterton Canyon is open now . . . wait, it's closing again on April 1st. Wait! I just found out Rampart Range Road is not opening until mid-April. Okay, regardless of what's opened and what's closed, it is spring and we need to be ready—as always.

This was a typical Douglas County winter and the mission numbers were down over the season, most of our call outs were for stuck vehicles on “closed” roads. Even though these calls are usually taken care of quickly with a limited number of personnel, it's important to respond when the pager goes off . . . we never know what will change or develop from the initial call. Good work to those of you who went out on these calls.

Some of you may have witnessed an outburst at a recent mission from a certain field director, who shall go unnamed. At this point the anonymous person has not issued an apology. It is believed that this was an act of passion for the team and not a temper tantrum, as it may have appeared. I . . . err . . . the unnamed party believes he was looking out for the best interest of the team and will continue to do so. If at any time any member of DCSAR feels policies or standards of the team are being violated, please bring it to my attention. Sometimes rules are bent or even broken in the heat of the moment.

As a growing team we can expect these things and sometimes it's appropriate, but not always. I will continue to try to do what is best for the team, including enforcing policies. I don't see everything that happens in the field, so I am asking the members to help me. This is not to nit-pick at every little thing, but to bring problems to my attention so we can attempt to solve them. I love to hear good things about what we do (so tell me those as well), but by identifying and fixing the other things, we can make this team even better than it is. I know that is a

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“710 CALL DISPATCH . . .”

President Bruce Fosdick

WHEN SEARCHES GO BAD

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN ONE OF OUR SEARCHES GOES BAD? THINK about it. We are looking for a missing five-year-old child in an urban setting and suddenly a team finds that clue that we just do not want to see—a bloody t-shirt. The radio gets real quiet for a few seconds and then it hits you—this is not going to be good. What happens next?

Douglas County Sheriff's Department has implemented a program to work on just this sort of scenario. The Douglas County Child Abduction Response Team (CART) has been set up and the Douglas County Search and Rescue Team is part that response. (This group is different from the animal rescue team, County Animal Rescue Team, also called CART.) A CART team activation may include upwards of 150 responders.

The answer to the above question is that a Sheriff's Department patrol supervisor will immediately be notified, and he or she will call an investigative supervisor, and a new response will kick in.

Now what do we do?

On Wednesday, February 1, 2012, a practice scenario kicked off at the Safeway store in Castle Pines. Our young subject, Lucy Lost, suddenly went missing. DCSAR and law enforcement officers were notified. As personnel started interviewing nearby merchants, it became obvious that an unknown male had carried Lucy from the store screaming and kicking (well, almost—she was a doll). Her hat was left at the scene. Crime scene analysts and our rescue dogs both descended on the item; we wanted to use it for a scent article and they wanted evidence for a criminal case.

Two DCSAR canine teams went to work trailing our subject. One dog eventually came up on the secondary crime scene east of I-25. A cell phone and other items were found there. A quick thought . . . what if the bad guy had still been there?

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CODE 1! MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: PAUL MILLER

SAFETY IS NO ACCIDENT

This edition's member biography features long-time member Paul Miller, #799. Paul serves DCSAR with distinction as a mentor to new members and as one of our trained public information officers. He is also one of our avalanche scenario trainers and a safety guru.

How did he get so interested in safety? Evidently, by trying his hardest to hurt himself earlier in life. Read on . . .

What do you do outside of DCSAR?

I work at Flood & Peterson Insurance, Inc. as a risk control advisor for our customers (lots and lots of safety stuff). We have over 5,000 clients and I am at their beck and call 24/7. I do my best to minimize financial losses due to claims by preventing injuries and accidents. I started this career in 1985 as a site safety director for a general contractor in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Where did you grow up?

Born (1958) and raised in a very strong blue-collar neighborhood on the east side of Detroit. Our family lived in the same house for forty eight years. I spent my adult years moving around southeast Michigan until 1998.

How did you arrive in Colorado?

My high school senior trip—I jumped in a car with Jim Dolan and came out here for some skiing. I knew then that I would eventually call this place home. Mo and I sold the house in Oxford, Michigan and drove out here the summer of 1998.

How did you meet Maureen?

It goes back to high school. Her brother and I are best buds and that's when I met her. After living in New York and LA, she moved back to Michigan around 1990 (after a divorce) and we hooked up. We married in December of 1996.

How many times have you been stung by bees? When was the first time?

I don't recall the first time, but I have been stung dozens of times by bees and those pesky mud wasps. My first severe reaction happened in 1988 when I was stung by two bald face hornets (or white faced hornets). They are very mean and very aggressive—they drew blood when I got stung. Within about two minutes, my whole body swelled up and I had these nasty looking purple hives all over. My buddy and I were walking his hunting camp property, checking the fence line, when it happened. We were about thirty minutes from the nearest medical facility. Lucky for me he was a doctor and had some Benadryl with him—that was a pretty wild few minutes!

Two hours later, all the swelling had gone away and I was feeling really good on an intravenous drip of Jim Beam. So, I am actually allergic to hornets. I have been bitten several times since by wasps and bees with no reaction.

How long have you been in DCSAR? How did you find out about it?

We arrived in Colorado July of 1998, and I think the Denver Post ran a recruitment story in September of that year. I was on the second class to get fielded. Back then, the newbies got a lot of phone calls in the middle of the night

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"Rappelling Dude" silhouette on DCSAR website photo page is 799!



Member Spotlight (Continued from page 3)

even though we weren't officially "fielded." Help was needed because there weren't enough members on the team.

What is your most memorable SAR Mission?

The last mission we had that I was on—that about as far back as I can remember. After that it would be the lost Boy Scout, David Scott in May of 2001.

How did you get interested in safety?

In our family, you *had* to go to college, but I got kicked out twice for too much partying. Mechanical Engineering was not in the cards for me. After my second eviction from school, I went to work for a buddy and his painting company. I earned good money but painting auto factories on the night shift was not a life for me.

So I went back to college and found out about this new program called Industrial Health and Safety. Students were getting jobs while still in school and making big money. It sounded like something I wanted to do and sure enough, I landed a job with a general contractor, Barton Malow, while on my internship at Oakland University.

What is the most unsafe thing you've ever done?

Standing on the roof of a van. It was unsafe because the van was doing about 50 miles per hour at 2:00 AM; we were coming from an intense day and night of drinking mass quantities of beer. It was "Oktoberfest" in Frankenmuth, Michigan. How I did not fall off the van can not be explained. Funny how all the really "unsafe" activities in my life were all alcohol related.

Tells us more about triathlons and fishing . . . have you ever run a race in hip waders?

The sprint triathlons (1/2 mile swim, 12 mile bike, 3 mile run) started back in Michigan with my brothers and some friends. We grew up on the water and playing all types of sports so it wasn't that much of a challenge. The party that came after the event was our chief motivation.

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Member Spotlight (Continued from page 4)

I started fly fishing around 1978. It was just another thing to do that involved the outdoors and drinking. Michigan has fantastic fishing. With the Great Lakes, all the rivers and inland lakes, it's a fisherman's paradise—home to Trout Unlimited, of course!

Never raced in hip waders. I did run a sprint triathlon with a very bad hangover. My goal on that race was to finish before I threw up—I finished . . . but I did not achieve my goal.

Now my main passion is DCSAR. I haven't picked up my fly rod in over a year; it might have been the Fall of 2010. I do have plans to run some sprint tri's this summer.

What is something about you that nobody knows?

I think most of you know that I retired from drinking in August of 1995. Drinking was my first career, my first passion in life. I started in the 7th grade and by my freshman year high school, I was downing Jack Daniels. I still get "flashback" hangovers cause of all the booze I had in my body. I still shake my head and wonder how I could be alive today.

No one knows that I was a Navy Seal, a Green Beret, Army Special Forces, and a PJ in the Air Force/Coast Guard—all at the same time. (*For real? or just in your head? —Ed .*)

How many times a day do you check the CAIC website?

When the storms come in, I'll check it daily. When the weather is quiet, I don't bother unless it's to look up the details of an avalanche accident.

Thanks, Paul, for your service to DCSAR, and congratulations on your 'retirement.' Thank-you for your candor with us about why you don't drink.

—Eric Mott

Elk Mountain Brewing Fund Raiser—May 20

Remember to look for announcements of important dates and opportunities to serve from the Elk Mountain event committee: Jim Carpozi, Becky Mueller, and Andy Christiansen.

Also give them your thanks and appreciation for their efforts, and step up if they ask for assistance. Especially consider the pre-event promotional days as opportunities to help out, as they were successful money-makers last year, and are an enjoyable way to meet the citizens we serve. This event was a big success last year, and will be this year, too, with the support and efforts of the *entire* team.



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YOU NEED IT, YOU GOT IT!

Medical Committee Update

THE MEDICAL COMMITTEE HAS DEVELOPED A "MEDICAL SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT RE-STOCKING SYSTEM" THAT WILL BE IMPLEMENTED BY LATE APRIL, ACCORDING TO COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN BRYAN ZALE.

The primary goal of the new system is to have medical and stabilization packs ready for re-use immediately following a mission. The second goal is to return a full bottle of O2 back to the rescue vehicle as soon as possible. The third goal will be to retrieve any DCSAR equipment sent with a subject to higher medical and return it to service.

"We became aware a system was needed some time ago but we didn't seem to find the time to work things out. Now we have. There are several parts to it including inventory, storage, stocking, use, notification, procuring and re-stocking. The system will need everyone's cooperation to succeed."

Team members will need to be conscious of what medical supplies are used on a mission. We are asking that incident lead medical personnel report used items to the incident commander by completing a green "Med Supply Restocking Card" following each mission. Turning in that completed card will be a required part of the medical report during the mission debriefing. The current red inventory cards, the green restocking cards, a pen, and a sharpie marker will be kept together in a zip lock bag in each of the medical and stabilization packs so they will be easy to find and complete.

The cards have three columns. On the left is the article description. The center column provides the number of that item that should be included in the pack. The right column is the space to enter the amount of each item used. Completing the cards is that easy.

The green cards also include two other key topics to be reported: Oxygen bottle use information (front); and information relating to any equipment that accompanied the patient to higher level medical care (back). Completing this part of the card will aid greatly in retrieving that equipment.

It is critical that the medical and stabilization packs be restocked immediately after a mission. With that in mind, the committee is requesting the medical personnel restock them from the large supply bags in each vehicle.

When the ed Supply (MS) person receives the green card from the IC, (either by email, FAX, or phone call - NO Voicemail), MS will then re-stock the supply bags, fill the oxygen bottles, re-supply the O2 Packs and track down any

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GLOVE UP!

Participants in future medical scenario trainings will be required to "glove up" before participating. Don't panic! Before imagining dollar signs for boxes and boxes of gloves of you'll have to purchase, read on.

While completing the rather extensive medical supply inventory, the medical committee discovered more than twenty boxes of latex gloves in the locker. Latex goes bad after a time, and these are starting to do just that. In order to get some use out of them, we will be supplying them for all medical segments of future trainings until we run out.

Even if they tear, the act of actually of putting on gloves is better than simulating the act. This exercise, continued over many trainings, should get us into a very good habit without even having to think about it!

—Robert Mobeck



Medical Committee Update (Continued from page 6)

equipment that went with the patient. MS will also keep track of the supplies in the storage locker. When items near an unacceptable level, MS will shop for the best prices, obtain the items and re-stock them in the bags and the locker.

Please take a look, and get familiar with the Green Card Sample following this article.

Please always be alert for items that may be contributed. The key is not to be afraid to ask! We just got another oxygen bottle from St Joseph's Hospital while transporting a family member to a nursing center.

—Robert Mobeck



Probe-pole rescue training—Winter, 2012



This one didn't make it . . .



WAYPOINTS: THINGS TO REMEMBER ALONG THE ROUTE . . .

* Disclaimer: this form has been modified—almost beyond recognition—to fit in this newsletter.

Medical Resupply Form		Date:
Complete immediately following mission; Give to IC at debriefing!		
Item	Required	Amount Used
C Collar - Adult	1	
C Collar - Ped	1	
KTM Splint	1	
Gloves	4 pair	
CPR Mask	1	
Hand Wipe	6	
Bio Hazard Bag	2	
Alcohol Prep Pad	6	
Green Soap Sponge	1	
Saline Wash	3	
Sterile Kerlix Roll (4.5x4)	3	
Conforming bandage (3x4)	3	
Triangular Bandage	2	
Eye Pad	2	
Band Aids	10	
Steri Strip	5	
Paper Tape	1 roll	
Cloth Tape	1 roll	
Dressings 4x4	6	
Dressings 3x3	6	
Dressings 5x9	2	
Trauma Dressing 12x30	1	
Sam Splint - 36"	2	
Sam Splint - finger	1	
Ace Bandage	1	
Burn Gel	2	
Ice Pack	1	
Insect Bite Bee Sting	1	
Syringe 30ml	1	
Trauma Sheers	1 pair	
Tweezers	1 pair	
Rescue Blanket	2	
Patient Form	1 set	
Pen Light	1	
Pulse Ox	1	
Ball Point Pen	1	
Sharpie Marker	1	

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Item	Required	Amount Used
Adult Canella	2	
Child Canella	1	
Adult non-rebreather mask	2	
Child non-rebreather mask	1	
Ambu bag (adult / child)	1 each	
Airways (adult / child)	1 each	

Bottle # Used: _____
 Pressure remaining: _____
 Refill needed: Yes / No
 Who is refilling? _____

Equipment sent with Patient?

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.
Destination:
Method of Transport:
Notes:

Please cut out this form and stuff it somewhere . . .



Fatherly Advice (Continued from page 2)

hard task to accomplish, but I know we can do it.

The class of 2011/12 is seeing the light at the end of the tunnel. Sign-offs have started, signers and initial-ers have been instructed to insure the continuity of the process, and "it's on!" We are trying something new this year: thanks to an idea from Jim Carpozi, we will have an overnight sign-off opportunity. On April 21st and 22nd the trainees will have the chance to participate in a 17 hour sign-off marathon. We hope to have the majority of skills tested over this weekend. If you are asked to help in the sign-off process please try to assist in the procedure. Remember, we have all been in the boots of the trainees and know it's not an easy transition from trainee to fielded member.



Photo caption contest: contact field director with your entry (or your concerns).

being done behind the scenes. We all joined a "Search and Rescue" team. We probably never thought we would be sitting behind a computer, making phone calls, meeting people, and promoting DCSAR almost as much as we are in the field on missions. Several members have really stepped up over the last few months to help the team grow. I am not going to mention names at this time, you know who you are. Trust me; well deserved credit will be given to you soon.

As I write this, I continue to remember things that have happened since the last newsletter. We had a Board of

(Continued on page 11)

Speaking of not easy . . . it's P.R. time. The second (hopefully to become annual) Elk Mountain Brewing fund raiser will be held in May. In preparation for that, several awareness events have been scheduled. Becky Mueller has stepped up to organize the staffing of this year's events. If you haven't signed up to promote the team, it's not too late. Talk to Becky about how you can help.

Be advised, there will also be other events over the summer to provide awareness of the team and supply stand-by medical and evacuation support. Please consider attending these events as they are announced.

As I am asking for help it reminds me of how much work is already



710 Call Dispatch (Continued from page 2)

Meanwhile, more stores were interviewed and cops from all over the county showed up (probably multiple jurisdictions would be involved). An Amber Alert was requested from the Colorado Bureau of Investigations and they also showed up on the scene along with the District Attorney's office. In a real case, the feds might also show up.

Two missions were going simultaneously: the search for the missing child and the criminal investigation, with a lot of overlap. The safety of our responders plays heavily on the incident commander—what happens if the perpetrator is still in the area, as he was in this scenario? Is it safe for the dogs to work off-leash in a high traffic area near an interstate highway?

We found ourselves with multiple tasks at once. A long-term mission (like the one in Greeley last year) took several days to complete and a large number of volunteers (200+) showed up. Are we prepared to handle all of that? The press showed up and there were cameras everywhere –are you on your best behavior?

Paperwork will become far more important, because a lot of it may become part of a criminal case. All logs, briefing and debriefing forms, maps, team unit logs - ICS 214, interview notes, etc. will be under various levels of scrutiny, especially if the case goes for days or weeks.

In our case, the sheriff's office found our bad guy and Lucy Lost in two and one-half hours, just north of the original kidnapping scene. She was safe and sound. The bad guy was still with her, but that may not always be the case.

This exercise was staged to determine the level of capabilities for the CART team, which has been in existence for a couple years. It is hoped to test for national certification in 2013.



DCSAR members in the CART exercise briefing room, February 1, 2012

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Fatherly Advice (Continued from page 9)

Directors election. I would like to welcome the newest members: Carl Kline, vice president; Bill Barrett, treasurer; and Paul Ashton, member at large. Welcome aboard! I know we can expect good things from you.

Consider the upcoming events – besides those previously mentioned:

- Atalaya, New Mexico MRA re-accreditation - April 14-15
- AirLife Memorial - May 20
- Mountain Rescue Aspen - MRA re-accreditation - June 2-3
- MRA/NASAR conference - June 7-10
- Poker Run - June 10
- Mountain Mettle - June 22-23
- Summer Kick-off party - June 30
- Highlands Ranch 4th Of July Parade - July 4
- SARCON - July 20-22

From DCSAR to the upcoming Summer of 2012 . . .
Here We Go!

Remember, I am always trying to improve as the Field Director. Please come to me with any concerns, questions, or comments.

See Ya,
Scott

710 Call Dispatch (Continued from page 10)

We identified several areas for improvement. Inside DCSAR, we found our own issues that included ensuring safety for the participants and canines working the scene, asking and receiving more communications so that we could do our jobs better, a better use of the Incident Command System by those around us, vehicles (our command post's generator) free from damage by Air Care Colorado, limited resources for a week-day call-out, many people trying to task our resources at the same time, etc.

Training will continue.

While we still have a major job to do, we must always be thinking, "What happens, when...?" As we work these in-town searches, think about it. Is this really just a missing child? Or, what happens if this thing goes bad?

—Bruce Fosdick



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If you can't find us on the Rampart Range, you can find us on Facebook instead.



About Us

DCSAR is an all-volunteer search and rescue team formed in September of 1998. The team's first mission, for two missing dirt bike riders on Rampart Range, was on February 10, 1999. The missing bikers were located cold, but alive, in near blizzard conditions by team members.

Since then, DCSAR has served Douglas County, Greater Denver, and Colorado with distinction, averaging over one-hundred missions per year. Our 40+ members volunteer over 10,000 man-hours each year in the service of our community.

Donations Welcome

DCSAR is dependent on grants and donations for much of its income. We are a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation; all donations are tax-deductible as charitable contributions.

DCSAR and the Douglas County Sheriff do not charge citizens for search and rescue services!

DCSAR enhances our community by saving lives and promoting wilderness education and safety. You can be part of the team and help keep our mission alive. The contributions of you or your corporation will make a positive impact in Douglas County and surrounding areas.

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