



RESCUE ME

"That others may learn"

Fall 4/ 2000

Volume 1, Issue 10

Fire Safety Month Report

Everyone should be proud that we covered all that was asked of us during fire safety month plus our normal duties. No educational request went unanswered and we were doing two at the same time some days.

We would like to thank our friends at Ft. Washington Fire Company, Weldon Fire Company, and Levittown Fire Company for having us back. It was our pleasure and we'll be happy to help

again next year.

While education is our teams secondary mission it is of primary concern in our downtime. Realistically we can save more people by education that by searching. The best "find" is the one that doesn't because lost due to being educated.

When speaking to a room with 100 hundred children we'd far rather reach one that have to search for one.

Water Search Training @ Blue Marsh



The weather provided us a beautiful day for our Blue Marsh Water Mock. Member

Hosgood and canine partner, Bubba provided us with an educational demonstration. While Bubba is an excellent searcher it does not come without some cost. Bubba doesn't like strange boats. After a little coaxing he got onboard the

craft supplied by the Army Corps. Of Engineers. With help from Reading Dive Rescue the sample was located.

Special thanks to members Hosgood and Reading Dive. We expect to be doing this again in the very near future.



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To Think About!

In order to get the best work from the people we manage, we must find a way to bring them together in the true spirit of "team." One of the reasons they can be so effective and productive is that they meet some very basic needs for people. When we meet the needs of our people, they will meet the needs of the job.

EQUINE



We're sorry to announce that Captain Zollers of the equine unit has stepped down as head of that unit due to constraints on her personal time. Captain Zollers will continue to participate in the unit in a lesser capacity.

Thanks go out to Lt. Kratz who will be taking the reins of the unit until such time that a long term decision can be made.

Keep your eyes posted for some new developments in this unit.

SARSCENE 2000 in Laval Canada

Lt. Ferron and I recently took a trip to Canada to spend a week with SAR personnel from over 30 countries training, learning, and trading information. The conference was quite interesting and the workshops were better than most that you find at this kind of event. What really stood out though was the demur of the people that we met and their willingness to share information.

In our various conversations we learned a lot of different things from different people. What we learned mostly was that we are not all that different. There are misconceptions that after talking we all realized were more than likely do to inflated stories relayed via the internet. Working to clear these up we found that the SAR process is very similar but people are different. The main thing that makes you notice this is that there is much less ego. Much less willingness to put blame on anyone for anything. More willing-

ness to see that the SAR community works together because anything that hurts any part of it hurts the entire community. No team is an island.

Personally I took about 10 workshops and found all of them to be professional and worthwhile. More to come in upcoming issues.



**PART OF THE SARBC DISPLAY
CHECK THEM OUT AT sarbc.org**

Training & Details & Meetings

Officers Meeting -	Every 3rd Sunday @ 11:00 am
Business Meeting -	Every 3rd Sunday @ 12:30 pm
Training Workshop -	Every 3rd Sunday @ 1:00 pm -
COQ -	To be announced for October / November
First Aid, CPR -	To be announced for October / November
CISM -	November 2000

* Canine training on Tuesday nights and Saturday mornings. Contact canine@gpsar.org

* Equine certifications / training's by appointment. Contact equine@gpsar.org

This list is by no means complete and more up to date info can be found on the web calendar.

Audio Amplification As A Tool - A review



We are surrounded by sound. Literally awash in it. It is everywhere all the time. With a little help from technology we can hear the things that we would normally miss in the field.

For years there have been various methods of hearing amplification that have been used in various vocations around the world. Recently advances in electronics have let these devices get smaller and more powerful.

These devices have come along way from when I first worked with them. Now you can get them down to the size of a hearing aid. There are 3 basic kinds that go as follows:

Type 1 – Bionic Ear – This is one of the early modern models. It looks like a small satellite dish and is hand held. While a little larger than the others it is unique in that it is totally 100% directional. This means that you can focus better on what you want to hear.

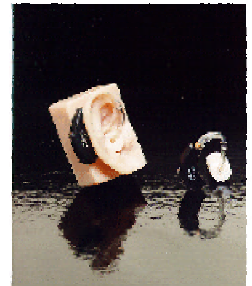
Type 2 – Headphone Type – These are the most popular with sportsmen. They look like those headphones we used in the 70's. They range from slightly bulky to very compact in a recent model called the Mach I Sound Advantage. This model even has an equalizer on it to better tune the sound.

Type 3 – Hearing Aid Style – These are the smallest made. They fit right in the ear like a hearing aid. They are light, efficient, and don't stand out. Walker Game Ear is the company that really leads the path in this model.

All of these units excel at what they do. They each have their own respective strengths and weaknesses. If you want

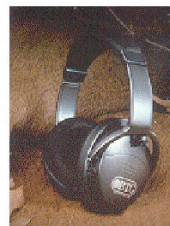
directional you'll have to deal with a slightly larger unit, etc.

One of the things that you have to realize with these items is that you have to learn how to understand what you are hearing. Is that a buzz saw or the sound of the front brakes on a car stopping. This will take some time outside in the field.



These items are not miracle technology and do not replace a trained field person. They are merely tools that augment us in the field. With training and are practice they can be used as effective aids to a hasty searcher or small grid team.

They range in price from around \$119 to \$279 and are available from the manufacturers. Companies that make these products are Bonner Technologies (www.bonner-tech.com), Silver Creek Industries (www.bionicear.net) or Walker Game Ear (www.walkersgameear.com). All are fine companies that stand behind their products. All are good products. Theres at least one model out there that is best for your teams needs.



One a side note I have to say that units by Bonner Technologies offer some of the best amplification of quiet noises without distortion. One of the nice things is that it really gives a realistic sense of the direction and range of the sound. They give an option for the person that likes the Bionic Ear but doesn't like the size.

If you have questions please feel free to contact us at newsletter@gpsar.org. We'll be happy to answer them.

Greater Philadelphia Search And Rescue
PO Box 1163
Glenside, PA 19038
(215) 966-1888 - www.gpsar.org

GPSAR

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CERT and Other Community Education We Offer.

Sergeant Park, Captain Hopkins and Chief Corrigan attended FEMA's train the trainer for the CERT program that the team has been teaching for a few years now.

The training was 3 days long in Reading and there were representatives in attendance from several counties.

GPSAR was asked to teach the light search and rescue portion. Chief Corrigan handled the demo with his usual skillful use of a small but colorful power point presentation.

CERT is but one class that we have chosen to offer to the community. Working to fulfill our secondary mission of educating the community has shown us that we can help more people through education.

We can offer the following:

CERT— The basic CERT program consists of 16 hours and is available to those civilians requesting the skills necessary to be a successful part of the emergency preparedness and response.

First Aid / CPR—This is the usually first aid / CPR class with 3 year cert on the first aid and 2 year on the CPR.

Water Rescue—Basic water rescue skills following PA Fish and Boat standards.

Lost In The Woods—Child survival program to help children that find themselves lost.

Hug A Tree —Child survival program to help children that find themselves lost.

Search Management for the Initial Response Incident Commander—A comprehensive course that covers the basics for setting up the critical first operational period.

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