



"Proudly Serving PA, NJ, DE, and MD since 1979"

RESCUE ME

"That others may learn"

Bye Bye 2001!

Volume 5, Issue 2

2001 in Review



As Sinatra sang..."It was a very good year." The team grew, kept on course with its mission and helped some people directly and many more indirectly.

We lost a few members (college, etc.) and we had some come back (college, etc.).

The tragedy of 2001 has only made our resolve stronger that we must be even better at our jobs than before.

Some of the things we did in 2001:

*Canine Trainings
Rope Trainings
Mountain Bike Trainings
Map and Compass Trainings
Medical Trainings
Lost In The Woods Presentations
Educational Details
Fire Safety Details
Public Speaking
And more...*

We look forward to a promising 2002 and working with our professional counterparts.

Have a safe and happy holiday season.

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1st Annual Family Day / Potential Member Orientation



our holiday party with an orientation for all who applied in the past few months.

Despite the fact that many did not make the meeting we still had a full house.

The food was great and the team got to interact socially and meet some new potential members.

All in all a fine fun day was had by all.

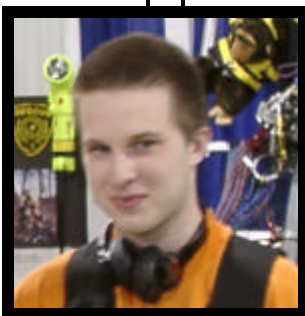
Thanks to everyone that made the family day (hmm, I didn't see any family there) and member orientation come off without a hitch. With recent events we combined

Goodbye Explorer Lt. Weir

Well it's that time again...time to say goodbye. Explorer Lt. Shawn Weir will be heading out to God's country to pursue his life dream of becoming a pilot.

Shawn has been with the Explorer Post since the beginning. He always stood out due to the fact that he never tried to stand out. His attendance was something that all members

could learn from and he was always there to help.



We're all going to miss you Shawn and we hope that you find all that you're looking for.

Always remember that you've got a place with the team when you come back.

THE IMPORTANCE OF CERT

Recently the President spoke of a plan for citizens to be trained to assist in disaster operations. Fortunately GPSAR was one of the first teams in the area to be involved in such a plan...FEMA sponsored Community Emergency Response Teams...CERT for short.



If available, emergency services personnel are the best trained and equipped to handle emergencies and you should use them. However, following a catastrophic disaster, you and the community may be on your own for a period of time because of the size of the area affected, lost communications, and unpassable roads.

CERT training is designed to prepare you to help yourself, your family, and your neighbors in the event of a catastrophic disaster. Because emergency services personnel will not be able to help everyone immediately, you can make a difference by using the training in this manual to save lives and protect property.

This training covers basic skills that are important to know in a disaster when emergency services are not available. You will want to help. With training and practice and by working as a team, you will be able to do the greatest good for the greatest number after a disaster, while protecting yourself from becoming a victim.

CERT covers the following areas. If you are interested in a class please contact cert@gpsar.org for more information. We're happy to help.

Session I, DISASTER PREPAREDNESS:

Addresses hazards to which people are vulnerable in their community.

Session II, DISASTER FIRE SUPPRESSION:

Briefly covers fire chemistry, hazardous materials, fire hazards, and fire strategies.

Session III, DISASTER MEDICAL OPERATIONS PART I:

Participants practice diagnosing and treating airway obstruction, bleeding, and shock by using simple triage and rapid treatment techniques.

Session IV, DISASTER MEDICAL OPERATIONS, PART II:

Covers evaluating patients by doing a head to toe assessment, establish a medical treatment area, performing basic first aid, and practicing in a safe and sanitary manner.

Session V, LIGHT SEARCH AND RESCUE OPERATIONS:

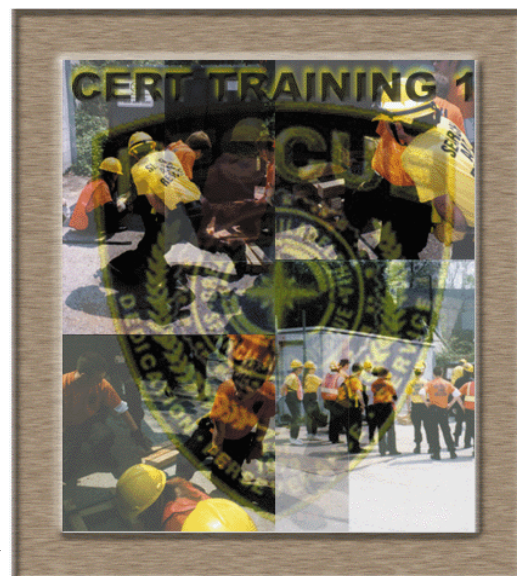
Participants learn about search and rescue planning, size-up, search techniques, rescue techniques, and most important, rescuer safety.

Session VI, DISASTER PSYCHOLOGY AND TEAM ORGANIZATION:

Covers signs and symptoms that might be experienced by the disaster victim and worker. It addresses CERT organization and management principles and the need for documentation.

Session VII, COURSE REVIEW AND DISASTER SIMULATION:

Participants review their answers from a take home examination. Finally, they practice the skills that they have learned during the previous six sessions in disaster activity.



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Fire Safety Month



As the year comes to an end GPSAR is proud to close a year of dedication to public safety and

awareness with the annual fire safety month details.

During these difficult times it's more important than ever that the public see that members of the emergency services community stand ready to search if they are called.

We'd like to thank Fort Washington, Weldon, Edge Hill, and Levittown's fire companies for having us back.

As always it was our pleasure to provide displays all over this year.

Next year we hope to surpass this record breaking year.

Rope Training

Thanks to the warm weather we've been able to get in some extra rope training for the season.

The training has served to bring some new members up to speed and get the dust off of the skills of some old members.

While we enjoy using our rope skills our main intent is to utilize them while assisting other agencies in the process of fulfilling the mission of

