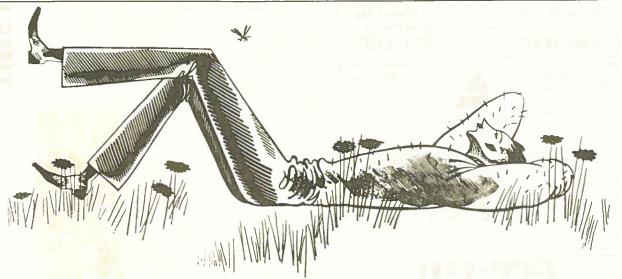
The Official Newsletter of the Tahoe Nordic Search & Rescue Team, Inc.

Snow Job

Vol. 6, No. 7 North Lake Tahoe May 1986



THE FINAL MEETING OF THE SEASON

...is on Monday, May 5, 7:30 p.m. at Granlibakken. Elections to the Board of Directors will be held, and a hilarious time will be had by all when TNSAR presents the good-natured but wicked Exaggerated Achievement Awards. Details of the summer party may also begin to coalesce. And, Doug might even have some slides to show. But don't count on it.

MEMBER OF THE YEAR

At the April meeting the Member of the Year award was presented to Bob Williams, who is also a guiding light with the Sheriff's Communications Reserve and who is a well-known landmark at every search and many of the trainings. Bob coordinates radio traffic from the well-equipped communications van, fondly dubbed the Porcupine, with its bristling antennae and array of state-of-the-art transceivers. Bob has also proved valuable as a volunteer snowmobiler with that team, and can generally be counted upon to show up anywhere, at any time, and stay as long as he's needed. Thanks, Bob.

LETTER

Dear TNSAR:

On behalf of Nevada State Parks, I would like to thank Jeff Menzer for the extremely generous amount of time and effort which he has put into our Winter Survival Clinics this year. Jeff's commitment to sharing his expertise with the public was undaunted and persistent through a number of compounded adversities. Those who have attended these sessions have left them feeling inspired, grateful, and eager to learn more. If all your members are as helpful as Jeff has proven to be, you have much to be proud of within your association. We at Nevada State Parks certainly look forward to working with all of you in the future.

Sincerely, Laura Baron District II Interpreter Nevada State Parks Carson City, NV

(Editor's Note: this is a much abbreviated version of the original letter.)

SPRING DOESN'T ALWAYS MEAN END TO AVALANCHE SEASON

Much is still to be learned about the dynamics of liquid waterflow through a snowpack. One of the things we do know, however, is that some "free water" gets locked up in certain layers while some drains all the way to the ground.

During the melt-freeze cycle of spring and summer, large amounts of liquid water can be present in the snowpack at any given time. During these seasons a much greater percentage of this water will eventually percolate through the pack and onto the ground. If the turf underlying the snow happens to be hard smooth rock (glacier-polished granite?!?), and on an angle, an unstable interface could develop. Water will add heat and undermine the snowpack above, while lubricating the rock below. If the ingredients are right, a large avalanche can occur. Considering the mass involved with old dense snow and releases to the ground, large amounts of energy will be liberated.

The deep spring/summer snowpack normally (?) gives up most of its water from 1600 hours to 1900 hours (editor's note: this is 4 pm to 8 pm), a few hours after maximum energy (solar) output.

So while hiking or skiing on Donner Summit, in Shirley Canyon or above Lake Aloha, feel lucky if you witness a seven-foot snowstorm in a matter of seconds.

- Submitted by Randy Osterhuber

NOMINATIONS FOR TNSAR TEAM OFFICERS

Nominations for the officers and board of directors of the team were taken at the April meeting. For President—Doug Read; for Vice-President—Tony 'Scoop' Remenih, Andy Smith, Tod Lloyd; for members of the board of directors—Scott Schroepfer, Charlie Kellermyer, Don Ahlert, Bill Brinkerhof, Doug Stewart, Mike Hogan, Skip Reedy, Phil Maloney. There are two vacancies this year for director positions. Voting will take place at the May 5 meeting. Please attend and show your support at this final meeting of the season.

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TNSAR OFFICERS

CLASSIFIED INFORMATION

For sale: 1 pair of Asolo Snowfield ski boots. Size 8.

Used only three times. Best offer. Call Randy at

For sale: 1 snow density kit, including a section sampler, section cutter, spatula, nylon sample bag and precision

100g/3oz. scale. Light and compact, perfect for car or

boat. \$25. Call Randy at 426-3658.

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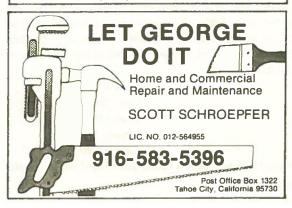
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EDUCATIONAndy Smith & Peggy	Heidelberger-Smith
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TRUCKING	Michael Hogan
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LIBRARY	Susan Antipa
NEWSLETTER	Dave Fenimore
GREAT SKI RACE	Skip Reedy
VALENTINE'S DAY	. Debbie McMaster
BERNIE KINGERY FUND	Doug Read
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