

Snow Job

Vol. 8, No. 6

North Lake Tahoe - Truckee

March 1988

**The next General Meeting is
ONE WEEK EARLY,
on Monday, Feb. 29 at 7 p.m.
at Granlibakken Ski & Racquet
Resort in Tahoe City**

AT THE NEXT MEETING

Longtime team member Don Starbard will give a slide show and lead a discussion on the subject of avalanches. Starbard has been giving this show around town, most recently at a meeting of the Incline Village Rotary Club. Also at the meeting the last minute details on the Great Ski Race will be worked out. Remember, *everybody's* on the Great Race Committee, so be there. We will continue to experiment with the new meeting format of guest presentation first, then business.

HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



MARCH TRAININGS

Trainings scheduled for the month of March include a Thursday, March 10 exercise with Mike Hogan, and the postponed Sawtooth Ridge excursion with Roz and Randy McLain on Sunday, March 27. Details at the Feb. 29 general meeting or in the next newsletter. (Be sure you have your Civil Defense card.)

THE GREAT SKI RACE

Just in case you haven't heard yet, the 12th Annual Great Ski Race, all 30 kilometers of it, takes place on Sunday, March 6. Starting time is 9:00 a.m. from the Tahoe Nordic Center in the Highlands. Help is still needed on several fronts—if you'd like to do a little or a lot, come to the General Meeting on Feb. 29 or call Skip at 583-0484. Remember—all proceeds go to benefit TNSAR.

THE GREAT SKI TOUR

(The following communiqué was received, verbatim, from Jeff Menzer.)

Tour the Great Ski Race?! Sure, yep, yup, call me up right away. Need tour leaders, groups of ten, ya sure. Jeff Menzer 546-4962. Leaving 15 minutes after the big stampede. Bring a hearty lunch. No slouches please.

THANKS

To Ken Foster, of K.B. Foster Engineering, who was kind enough to take team members over Coldstream Canyon in his plane for aerial photography and visual orientation in an area that was often a little confusing on a dark and stormy night.

HIGH MOUNTAIN NONSENSE

Several team members have recommended the new TV show *High Mountain Rangers* as a sure cure for an overserious approach to life. Featured at 8 p.m. Saturday nights on a major network, this production of and by the Robert Conrad family, filmed in and near South Lake Tahoe, purports to relate adventures of a fictional rescue team. The members reportedly run around in long white underwear (perhaps they were in a hurry and forgot the rest of their layers), buzz the woods in a helicopter in case anyone might be lost, hike in a blizzard *sans* headgear, and rockclimb in cowboy boots. Tune in for a few laughs before it gets the ax. (Asked why he participated in such a turkey, Conrad is said to have replied, "Hey, *The Wild Wild West* had poor ratings, too.")

A PROVEN RECORD OF COMMITMENT

Every year for the past decade, members of the highly-sophisticated Tahoe Nordic Search and Rescue Team have taken their message into the elementary schools in the Lake Tahoe-Truckee region. That message is how to survive in the rugged outdoors.

The central theme of the Program—"Hug-A-Tree"—is based on the need for a lost or stranded victim to stay in one place. The youngsters are taught to find a tree and build a shelter. They learn how to mark their location. They learn how to shield themselves against the elements to give searchers a chance to find them.

"To educate people about the inherent dangers of mountain living," is the philosophy that drives the Tahoe Nordic Search and Rescue Team. Its commitment and dedication to that end has been exhibited throughout the 1980s by this 70-member group. They deliver their "Winter Survival" program into various community classroom settings throughout the North Shore and Truckee.

The search team, which operates with mutual aid agreements between both Nevada and California and among the five counties encompassing the Tahoe Basin, is triggered into action by the Placer County Sheriff's Department when an emergency arises. Twenty-five of its members are on call 24 hours a day and are willing and trained to ski into any terrain—despite the weather conditions—day or night.

This week students at the Kings Beach Elementary School are conducting a play, its young thespians acting out roles depicting a winter emergency. Through this platform, the participants learn while they deliver the message to their audience.

Sunday, the Tahoe Search and Rescue Team will throw its Annual Valentine's Ball which has become a key fundraising event for the group. March 6, the Annual Great Ski Race, which is expected to attract 800 cross-country skiers to span the ranges from Tahoe City to Truckee, will also generate proceeds that go toward funding the search and rescue team's operation.

Support of these events will help ensure the Tahoe Nordic Search and Rescue Team will continue to be at-the-ready just in case someone out to enjoy the wonders of the Sierra gets into trouble.

—From the *North Lake Tahoe Bonanza*,
Wednesday, February 10, 1988



EDUCATION NEWS

With the search and rescue season fairly quiet thus far, it is the Education Committee who has been spending time in the field. Twenty to twenty-five members recently spent three days in area elementary schools, teaching students how to orient themselves to winter, construct snow caves and signals, and practice the S.T.O.P. procedure when lost. Jeff Menzer, who will be trekking down to REI soon to give a presentation, forwards the following correspondence:

Dear Doug, Pat, Mike:

I liked learning about shelters, observance and signals. Even though I live in the mountains I still don't know everything! You guys (and gals) taught me a lot of new stuff about winter survival. Being blind-folded, talking about signals, and being in shelters was really fun! Thanks for your time.

Your friend,
Samantha Topol

Dear Doug, Pat, Mike:

I learned that observing is a great thing . . . The snow shelters were fun but you need to be a good creative person . . . Mike taught me a lot of stuff. I liked looking for the two other classmates.

Your friend,
John Stark



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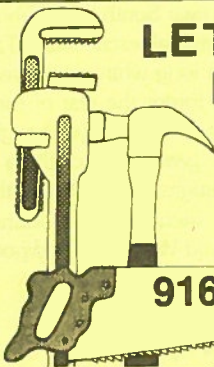


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