

Snow Job

Vol. 6, No. 4

North Lake Tahoe

January 1986

THE NEXT GENERAL MEETING

...Is Monday night, January 6, 7:30 PM at Granlibakken. After the regular business, John Gonzales of the El Dorado County Nordic Search & Rescue will demonstrate some of the latest alpine touring gear and show some slides of mountaineering tours in the Alps.

In case you get lost easily, come to Granlibakken by turning at the ski area sign just south of Tahoe City on Highway 89. Continue along the road, and bear left at the "One Way Do Not Enter" sign. Keep going around to the right until you can park by the Granlibakken main lodge. Come one, come all!!!

Meetings take place during the season on the first Monday of each month, same time and place. The March meeting is one week early.

TRAINING TIMES

Sunday, December 29 there will be a mock search drill. Meet in the parking lot in front of the Safeway in Tahoe City at 8:30 AM, prepared to spend the day in the backcountry (light search pack), and dressed for any weather that might develop. Trainings are held whether it's raining, snowing, or anything in-between.

Beginning, intermediate, and advanced nordic skiers are all welcome. Questions—call Doug Read at 583-6381.

The training on Thursday, January 9 will be an overnight affair. Details will be announced at the January 6 meeting, or call Tony Remenih at 583-5370.



FUNDRAISER DRAWS VARIED CROWD

A pre-Christmas wine tasting by Jimmy's Restaurant and Redwood Vintners drew a modest but enthusiastic group to taste wines by Buena Vista, Mondavi, McDowell, Markham, and other winemakers. All proceeds went to support Tahoe Nordic Search & Rescue. Team members, Squaw Valley employees, and area residents were among those in attendance.

Thanks to the distributors, Jimmy's, Tahoe Crafts Printing, and Tony Ingoglia Cheese Company for donating their products and services to the event.

TNSAR TRAINS WITH EL DORADO TEAM

Early in December we sent a representative to ski with the El Dorado County Sheriff's Nordic Search & Rescue Team, which called some of our members out on a mutual aid search last month to Lake Aloha.

Joined by members of the Placerville-based National Nordic Team, we began with an orientation by El Dorado County Sheriff's deputies and Vern Sprock, owner and operator of Sierra Ski Ranch where the training took place. Then the combined teams rode the lifts up to a ridge and skied along to a relay station near the top of Echo Summit, from where the group descended to a rendezvous with snowmobiles in Huckleberry Flat. Aside from communications, which were a little disorganized, the rest of the drill went off well, including an in-the-field ski repair.

The El Dorado team, which had just returned from a downed aircraft recovery on Pyramid Peak, is anxious to gain experience working with TNSAR, and our team can learn much from working alongside these skilled and dedicated emergency personnel. More joint trainings will be announced soon, so watch these pages and listen up at the monthly meetings!

WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!

TNSAR's two major fundraising activities are coming up in the near future: the Valentine's Day Ball and the Great Ski Race.

Both these events need a lot of volunteer assistance to succeed. Besides earning the team a large proportion of the funds needed to operate effectively each year, they're a heck of a lot of fun as well.

Friday night the 14th is the date for the Valentine's Day Ball. We need people to design and put up posters, write press releases, decorate the hall, provide hors d'oeuvres, sell tickets, work the door, and do the all-important clean-up. If you can work on any of these tasks, step forward at the January meeting or call Debbie McMaster at 587-2732.

Likewise the Great Ski Race, on March 2, depends on the efforts of all of us to come off successfully: from parking attendants to registrars, aid station personnel, public relations, party hosts, and telemark race timers, we need a wide assortment of helpers. You can volunteer at the January meeting, or call Skip Reedy at 583-0484.

This is all a lot of work but it's also a lot of fun. Take the time to get involved, make some new friends, and help the Tahoe Nordic Search & Rescue Team.

DONATIONS, DONATIONS, DONATIONS

Team member Bill Brinckerhof recently completed a cabinet to store gear inside the garage in which the TNSAR Toyota sleeps. Materials for the cabinet were donated by Truckee-Tahoe Lumber and McCarthy Sign Company. Thanks to both of these local businesses for their support.



LETTERS TO TNSAR

An open letter to Skip Reedy, Tahoe Nordic Ski Center, and Doug Read, Tahoe Nordic Search and Rescue:

Looks like the snow's staying awhile and I'm already looking forward to your "Great Race" in March. As a fun-and-exercise-only skier, that 30K race is the only one I ever entered. Last year's was the safest and greatest ever. In the several hours of skiing, eating and watching that race with hundreds of other crazy people, I heard no complaints about anything.

The course was superb, the organization remarkable, the food fantastic (quality, quantity and distribution) and those in charge of the weather and snow conditions deserved trophies.

The computerization of the race brought mixed feelings. I sorta missed the homey personal touch of the race results being chalked on blackboards. However, after witnessing high-tech attracting high-touch in the computerization of our own office, I think the computer has the potential to making this season's race more fun and more personalized.

Your programming hotshots will find it a cinch to teach the computers to break down the results of the hundreds of racers by age and sex. Reading results in the Tahoe World by age and sex categories would encourage more younger and female people and us old phardts to participate.

It feels better to read that you're 17th in a field of 40 to 50-year-old balding dentists than to learn that you're 519th overall, especially if you were 460th last year.

Thanks in advance for another great day and great race!
—Bob Wynman, Carnelian Bay

Dear TNSAR:

The El Dorado Sheriff's Search and Rescue Team, Tahoe Division, wishes to express its appreciation for your organization's assistance with the search for Craig Fanshier on Tuesday, November 12, 1985.

Although our on-the-snow search became unnecessary, the skill and preparedness of your five members was obvious (they were: Mike Wolterbeek, Scott Schroeffer, Randy Osterhuber, Ron Ahlert and Gerald Rockwell).

Enclosed you'll find an announcement for an upcoming training at Sierra Ski Ranch. We welcome your group's participation in such exercises and urge you to inform us of trainings you may have.

—Warren Berg, Deputy/SAR Coordinator
El Dorado Sheriff's Search and Rescue Team

OUT-OF-BOUNDS SKIERS LEARN THE HARD WAY

As sure as the arrival of new snow and the season's first skiers, have come the first downhillers to be arrested for venturing out of bounds at North Tahoe's ski areas.

A total of five skiers were cited Nov. 29 at Alpine Meadows when they were spotted skiing into Wolverine Bowl, which was closed for avalanche control. The area was clearly marked closed, according to Larry Heywood, Alpine's ski patrol director.

"There were signs posted all the way down the ridge," said Heywood. "Several of those cited were actually seen skiing right by the signs," he noted.

Heywood said that four of the five skiers were cited and released at the resort, while the fifth, a New York resident, was taken into custody by the Placer County Sheriff's Department because he was an out-of-state resident. The five were placed under citizen's arrest by the resort's ski patrol during about a one-hour period late in the afternoon.

Under a law passed two years ago, it is a crime to ski out of bounds at California resorts. Like other misdemeanors, the maximum penalty for violating the law is a \$500 fine and/or up to six months in county jail. The average penalty last year against out of bounds skiers in Placer County was \$175, said Heywood. He estimated that between 30 and 35 skiers were cited at the resort last year for skiing beyond the resort's designated boundaries.

North Tahoe resorts began aggressive enforcement of the law two years ago. Resort managers have long been concerned that skiers entering closed areas might become lost or could set off avalanches that could injure themselves or other skiers further downhill, as happened at Alpine Friday.

—Tahoe World, Thursday, Dec. 5, 1985

TNSAR OFFICERS

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VALENTINE'S DAY Debbie McMaster
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