



June 2009

MISSION STATEMENT

Tidewater Search and Rescue Group, Inc. provides trained personnel who effectively manage, support, and sustain search and rescue operations when requested. This is accomplished through specialized training, constancy of purpose, and continuous improvement.

VISION STATEMENT

For the search subject, the Tidewater Search and Rescue Group, Inc. will be recognized as the leader in training and management, providing the most professional and effective response to Ground Search and Rescue Incidents.

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Mission

Training for Excellence...So Others May Live!

Vision

To be a leader in Search and Rescue Training and Operations

Values

We believe in achieving excellence through:

Passion in what we do; always striving to become more.

Commitment to our mission, our communities, and our program.

Responsibility in making decisions and being accountable for our actions

Cooperation by all, striving toward one common Vision

Professionalism through leadership and setting high standards

Goals

Develop leaders on all levels

Learn from mistakes; embrace change; pursue excellence.

Seek knowledge; reward learning; and renew commitments.

Increase communication; foster a cooperative environment.

"...If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more, become more you are a leader..."

***** Upcoming Training & Events *****

Date	Activity
June 13	CAST (Clue Awareness for Search Teams) – ICG 0900
June 18	TSAR General Membership Meeting (GMM)
June 19, 20, & 21	Field Team Signcutter (FTS) Class – New Kent County
July 19	Land Navigation Sea Shore State Park (Night Training If available)
July 24 - 26 and August 7-9	FTM/FTL Roanoke Regional Fire & Rescue Training Center
August 23	Group/Team Building Northwest River Park
Sept. 23	TBD
October 4-5	Newport News Park Car Parking
Oct 23 - 26 and November 6-9	GSAR. FTM/FTL/FTS/MLSO-PSO
November 21	Full Simulation W/ GARD as the host.
December 17	Thursday night Table Top Training

Nathan Brown
 TSAR Training Officer

For any additional information on TSAR Training, contact Nathan Brown at tsarplans@tsar.org.

***** Check out TSAR on Facebook *****

Tidewater Search and Rescue
 Global

Basic Info
 Type: Organizations - Volunteer Organizations
 Description: For Members to chat and post information

Contact Info
 Email: tsarweb@tsar.org
 Location: Norfolk, VA

Recent News
 Return from Long week of searches

Members
 Displaying 8 of 13 members [See All](#)

Peter McClintock, Kevin Brewer, Forest McClintock, Carol Beard, Ann Brewer, Sharon Jefferies, Rob Spelden, Tonya Williams

Discussion Board
 Displaying 3 of 4 discussion topics [Start New Topic](#) | [See All](#)

HIKING
 2 posts by 1 person. Updated 8 hours ago

Group Type
 This is a closed group. Members must be invited or approved by an admin.

Admins
 Nathan Brown (creator)

Commander's Commentary

When it Rains it Pours...

One of the last comments I made in last months newsletter was about how quiet it was and the lack of searches we were activated for. Well I won't say that I'll never repeat those words, but boy did that turn around. The day the newsletter was published we were activated for three separate searches. Two of which happened on the same day. Additionally, since the last publication, TSAR resources have been asked for a total of eight times which includes the aforementioned "dually".



What does this mean? Maybe nothing, maybe more than I think. Since tracking TSAR activations for searches, I've seen bleak months and unbelievable ones. We certainly have just entertained the latter type. Life has transpired as of late to make it not as easy for many to pick up at the drop of a hat and deploy to places unknown for what may turn out to be for an extended period of time. TSAR however, did in fact have people respond to most of the activations, although not always arriving to base before the subject was found. Add into that a constant, if not increasing, training regiment or opportunity list and there are more opportunities available than most can sustain.

TSAR is a pretty lean group. That is a good thing in many respects, what it does tell us, the directors and officers of the group, is that we can count on larger participation than typically expected in the past with all things TSAR. When I say past, I'm talking years ago not months. The quality of the training opportunities must be at a level to sustain the interest which you all are showing. That's a burden we all share, especially the facilitators of the training event. As long as we can keep up the level and quality of trainings, you in fact will maintain or increase your interest in wilderness SAR which in part has the potential to provide that missing or lost subject with just a few more individuals who have changed or altered their lives to come help look for them.

If you don't think these are busy times, just consider this....how many of you consciously realized that as of today the year is already half over and as of May 31 there have been 29 mission activations in the Commonwealth.

As a result of what happened following what I wrote last month, I'll try it again but change it a little.

Boy, it sure has been a while since we've had a local activation!.....tick, tock, tic, tock!

Kevin Brewer, TSAR Commander

Amherst County Missing Hiker Search – A TSAR Newbie's Story *by Bart Drummond*

On the evening of Thursday, April 30, 2009, I received a call from TSAR Commander, Kevin Brewer, informing me of a search that was to spool up the following morning in Amherst County. As I had work and family commitments through Friday night, I informed Kevin that I would respond to mission base first thing Saturday morning.

The search was for a 40 year old male hiker that had last been seen on Sunday, April 26, at the Punchbowl Mountain Shelter located on the Appalachian Trail just south of Buena Vista, Virginia. This wasn't to be your average missing hiker, as this hiker, is legally blind! The hiker is an employee of Backpacking Light Magazine and is a very experienced hiker, having hiked portions of the Appalachian Trail many times before. The hiker would normally let his fellow hikers hike ahead so as not to slow their pace and he would later catch up at a predetermined site. On this day, there was a miscommunication between the hiker and his hiking partner as to where and when they would meet up. The hiker was not reported as missing until after it was determined that he had missed his flight home on Wednesday, April 29. Search operations were spooled up and search tasks begun on Friday, May 1.

I was contacted by Karen McGiluray in regards to carpooling to the search as the drive was quite long. I was able to get four hours sleep before leaving to meet Karen in the Town of West Point at 3 AM. The drive was smooth and we arrived at mission base at 6:30 AM. Once at base we awaited the morning briefing and shortly thereafter, I was assigned to a team consisting of Theresa Crossland as the FTL, Mia Calla Lee as an FTM, Karen McGiluray as COQ, and a local volunteer that went by the name "Bubbles". Bubbles was a mountain man that knew the search area in and out from years of hunting the area. Bubbles proved to be quite an asset and his stories kept us in stitches!

Our team was assigned to a search of an area where a search team from Friday's tasks had noted a foul smell. We were to investigate and locate the source of the smell. Our search area was located in a drainage area on both sides of Davis Mill Creek with a corner of the search area bordered on the intersection of Rt. 60 and Rt. 605 in an area named Oronoco. We arrived at the search area and began to sweep the southern side of Davis Mill Creek. As we neared the southeastern boundary of our search area, a couple of team members noticed an odd smell. Everyone attempted to pick up on the smell and scoured the immediate area looking for a source. While the smell was not again acquired, many old deer bones were found in the immediate area, although they did not appear to be the cause of any smell.

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We continued to sweep the area, rounding the eastern end and continuing along the northern side of Davis Mill Creek, back towards our starting point. We noticed a few unmapped ATV trails and notated them for debrief and possible follow up searches. As we got within approximately 200 yards from our starting point of the search, Theresa noticed what appeared to be a slide downhill towards the creek. We stopped to investigate. Theresa studied several prints and disturbances along the slide leading all the way down until the last print left in the mud, just inches from the creek. We flagged the entire slide area, notated the exact position and reported the find to base. We then headed back to base. On our way back to base we noticed a definite smell of decomposition driving along Rt. 60 about .3 of a mile east of the Blue Ridge Parkway. The general location was notated and reported at debrief.

After a scrumptious lunch of hamburgers and hot dogs at mission base, all we could do was wait as new information had been received that placed the search subject south of the area where search efforts had been focused. Once new tasks had been written we could get back out into the field. Karen and I used this time to get some rest as neither of us had been able to get very much sleep the night before. Two hours later Karen and I received our tasking.

Our next task placed us on a team with Mark Gleason from SARTI as the FTL. Our task was to investigate and identify the source of the tracks found near Davis Mill Creek as well as the source of the smell our team had noted earlier on Rt. 60. The three of us headed back towards the Davis Mill Creek area that had been searched earlier, stopping along Rt. 60 to determine the source of the foul smell noted earlier. After a few minutes of using our noses more than our eyes, we were able to isolate the smell to a certain portion of the shoulder of the road. From this location on the shoulder of the road, we looked down the east side of the mountain and discovered a deer that had been deceased for a few days lying approximately 60 feet downhill. The updrafts up the slope of the mountain were carrying the smell uphill and across the roadway.

Now that the source of the smell had been identified and ruled out as a clue, we were able to continue to the earlier search area at Davis Mill Creek. The clue area was a short walk into the woods from Rt. 605. We began with the print left in the mud at the side of the creek. Mark was a great teacher, taking the time to show us ways of aging the track including using broken or crushed leaves. The tears in the leaves are able to be put back together if the tear is new, but they will not go back together after a period of time as the leaf dries and shrinks. Mark also showed us the directionality of the track and how the source had exited the stream and continued uphill.

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As we continued to follow the tracks and disturbances uphill, Mark stopped at one track and brushed some of the debris aside. He shined his flashlight across the track almost parallel to the ground and asked what we saw. At this point it became very apparent that, in the bottom of the track, was impressions from the pads on a paw. Mark then pointed to 5 small holes left in the bottom of the track, spaced along the front edge. "Do you see those?" he asked. We knew then that they were claw marks. "That is from a bear. It looks like he was here less than 24 hours ago." He said. Mark then backtracked along the clue area and showed us things that we had not paid any attention to, including deer tracks and a downed tree. The tree was of interest only because of the bear's claw marks scraped into the side of the tree as the bear started to walk over it. It appeared the bear left both front paw prints on the uphill side of the tree as he stepped off of it. Mark determined that based on all of the clue evidence, what we had originally thought was a downhill slide was actually a very active nature trail for all sorts of wildlife. Now that we were thoroughly convinced that these clues were not related to our search we returned to base.

Immediately upon our return to base we were informed that the hiker had been found. He had started a fire out of desperation trying to get the attention of search teams. The local fire department, in responding to the 3 acre fire, found the hiker in good shape. It was ironic that given the most recent information, the search teams were being tasked to the south, converging on the very area where the hiker would have been found within a few more hours had it not been for the fire he started. In another twist of fate, it began to rain within an hour of the hiker's rescue, which would have made starting a signal fire much more difficult.

Now that we knew the hiker had been found, we all took the time to feast on grilled chicken breasts, green beans and corn with iced tea provided by a caterer at mission base before the long drive home. Karen and I departed mission base at 1830. The beginning of the ride home was soggy, but eventually the skies cleared as we headed east. We arrived in West Point around 2130 where I dropped Karen off and continued home. It was good to know that our missing hiker was found and would be going home as well.

Wednesday, May 27, 2009

[Unprepared Hiker Pisses Off Rescuers](#)



Who: A 25-year-old Austrian man

Where: Silver Peaks, New Zealand

His mistake: He was poorly prepared for an alpine hike in freezing conditions.

What happened: A man went out for an alpine hike in freezing conditions wearing jeans, a polar fleece, a poncho and carrying a can of baked beans.

The man was reported missing when night fell and he hadn't returned. He didn't have a flashlight. 35 policemen and searchers from multiple agencies joined the search to find the man. He was located at 12:30 a.m.

Senior Sergeant Bruce Ross made a plea for people to stop risking search and rescue member's lives with idiotic behavior.

Here's the full news story:

Rescued trapper wearing poncho, carrying beans

A 25-year-old Austrian man has been rescued from the Silver Peaks, 24km north-west of Dunedin, after entering the bush late yesterday afternoon woefully unprepared.

The man began his tramp at 3pm wearing jeans, a polar fleece and a poncho and carrying a can of baked beans.

Senior Sergeant Bruce Ross of Dunedin police said the man was reported missing when night fell and he had not emerged.

"It was dark; he couldn't see where he was going. He probably couldn't see his nose."

Search and Rescue were called and assisted police in hunting for the man, locating him at 12.30am.

Mr. Ross said the man was fine, *but called for people to stop risking their lives with idiotic behavior.*

"It is unfair when people do ridiculous things like go into sub-alpine, freezing conditions completely unprepared and 35 people are put out having to go and look for them.

"These (searchers) are volunteers and if it wasn't for them, these sorts of searches wouldn't occur.

"If they didn't exist there would be a lot more fatalities, like this guy could have been."

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/national/2451157/Rescued-tramper-wearing-poncho-carrying-beans>

Man, That's Cold! By Rick Sylvia

*"If I had no sense of humor, I should long ago have committed suicide.
-- Mohandas K. Gandhi*

My first impressions of the SAR community weren't as flattering as I'd like to remember. I thought the people that I was coming into contact with were.... well..... heartless (sorry, guys... Luv Ya!). Over a period of a few months, stories were told and comments were made that I felt were inappropriate for a group of volunteers who shared the common goal of rescuing lost people. To be clear, I'm not referring solely to TSAR. I'm referring to the many people I met at searches, trainings, and whose blogs and stories I read on the net.

These comments and jokes were particularly offensive to the subjects who were found deceased. "Rude, Crude and Insensitive" was the phrase that came to mind. I was hearing the deceased subjects being called "People Pudding" referring to the initial stages of body decay, or "Forrest Food" for those that had been partially eaten by the critters of the woods. Frankly, I was appalled. These subjects, and the loved ones they left behind, deserve better from us.

On the other hand, I was a newbie who didn't really understand the intent behind the comments. I thought the individuals making the comments were cruel. I would later discover that it was merely a form of "Black Humor" – a necessary phenomenon required to have staying power in the field of first responders, to include volunteer SAR personnel.

There is absolutely no doubt that work of our type can lead to stress and distress. In my year and a half as a SAR resource, I've listened to a number of people throughout the State, recount missions that ended badly, and listened to the tales of what they were asked to do at the missions, and how they coped with it afterwards. As an example, one story involved a downed plane in the mountains where the SAR team was asked to collect body parts in bags and carry them down the mountain and out of the woods. Duty such as this can be emotionally difficult. In one case, the full extent of the emotional impact wasn't realized for some number of years when his emotions suddenly come pouring out for no apparent reason.

So, how do we deal with it? In part.... humor. A century ago, Sigmund Freud pointed out that humor offers us a healthy means of coping with stress. Our particular brand of humor is called "Black" humor or "Macabre" humor. This is a type of humor that some just refer to as "sick" humor. It's humor that deals with the issues of the dead or dying.

Fortunately, studies have shown that people who have access to their sense of humor in the midst of stress are much more resilient than the rest of us. They are emotionally more flexible, and can bend without breaking in the midst of the most difficult circumstances. It's this that allows them to handle some of the situations that could otherwise cut their careers short and send them to the head shrinks couch.

The key thing to remember if your humor takes you down this path is that you are not really laughing at others and their misfortunes. You are laughing at the situations and events that arise in the midst of these misfortunes. You are seizing the opportunity (and sometimes creating it) to let go of the difficult emotions that inevitably accumulate over time.

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For instance, in the research for this article, I read an account of a first responder who was working the wreckage of a tremendous commuter train accident. As they were searching the rubble for body parts, one worker held up an arm (less the hand) and called to his buddy just a few yards away “hey, can you lend me a hand”? Seems cold and callous, but at the time, that stress relief was probably what was allowing him to keep from breaking down altogether. While it would seem heartless to an observer, it’s crucial to the stress reduction and healing process for the long haul.

Unexpressed negative emotions cumulate and can become poisonous if you allow them to build up. They sour your attitude toward your mission and your life in general. These built up tensions can gradually kill your ability to experience joy, spontaneity, and aliveness in general. This is sometimes referred to as The Law of Psychological Gravity.

This law states that if you’re already angry, anxious or depressed, then any new anger-arousing, anxiety-arousing or depressing event that occurs will have much more of an impact because you’re already in a negative emotional state. The new event will seem heavier than it would if you were starting in a “happy” state.

But, how does this apply to SAR? It would be easier to understand if I were talking in terms of an emergency room, or a rescue squad. But in our field, the incidents are fewer and farther between. That’s a double edged sword. On the one side, the stressful events happen much less frequently allowing time to recoup after such an event. On the other hand, we don’t acclimate to the stress as well due to the sporadic nature of the events, and therefore, it can affect us harder when it does occur.

The reality is that many SAR resources can go years without encountering “people pudding” or “forest food”. And truthfully, they may not recognize any immediate affect on their emotional states. Using myself as an example, I’ve responded to 11 searches and have yet to even see the subject in person, much less encounter a horrific scene that can create instant stress. But for some people, all it takes is the *possibility* of encountering these situations that create stress any time that they respond to a mission.

Speaking on a personal level, I dread the day that I encounter a deceased child that has been in the woods for a week or more. For me, that will create instant stress and a flood of emotions. Sure, I’ll “buck up” and “be a man about it”. But that won’t mean that I’m not in turmoil on the inside. As such, Black humor can be used as a preventative of sorts. It allows the person to pre-build a stash of mental stress release, so that if and when the real situation arises, they have actually been dealing with the effects for some period of time in advance.

Of course, there’s always the possibility that some SAR resource somewhere is simply cold and callous. But I’d like to think that, for the most part, the Black humor that we encounter and/or participate in is a coping method for stress. So, as you talk to SAR people at missions or elsewhere, give them the benefit of the doubt. Some of these folks have witnessed some terrible things, and humans are naturally wired to deal with it (in part) thru Black humor.

See you in the Woods!

June TSAR Anniversaries

Tonya Williams – 1 year

Renee Obergfell – 1 year

Congrats!!!

ICS COURSES

THE DEADLINE IS APPROACHING!!!

October 1 is the TSAR deadline for having the following ICS Courses completed.

IS-100	Introduction to Incident Command System
IS-200	ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents
IS-700	National Incident Management System (NIMS) An Introduction
IS-800	National Incident Management System (NIMS) An Introduction
IS-809	National Incident Management System (NIMS) An Introduction

These NIMS training courses provided through [FEMA](#) are mandated requirements per VDEM and ASRC. All courses need to be completed by October 1, 2009 to remain available for call outs through TSAR. Completed certificates must be turned into the Group Commander and Training Officer.

Don't put them off. October will be here before we know it.

TSAR Medical Report *by Brad Bennett*

Blast Those Bites

Recently I was kayaking on the York River with my wife out to some low country islands near our property, and yes, it was not raining that spring day. We have proudly adopted to clean-up all the debris that floats onto the islands after the long winter months since we moved here in April 2007. After we returned to our property from kayaking, she showed me a skin welt reaction behind her knee that also had two small marks side by side. Of course, she was somewhat concerned thinking it was a bite mark. So after I checked her eyes, lips, skin color, and breathing rate, then checked my breathing rate, I decided that it was only a mosquito bite reaction, albeit larger than what would be expected. Or, at least I hoped so! So, I asked, "does it itch or sting?" She said yes. Ok, good, not some weird bite from a two-fang spider or baby snake. Fortunately, I had recently purchased a new product called, "*Bite Blaster™*" in case one of our TSAR leaders sends us into the bush during training at York River State Park while they stay back to munch on their warm Krispy Kreme donuts.

As it turned out, the *Bite Blaster™* worked well for my wife and the irritation went away quickly. Once she got a better look at the skin reaction she realized it was not a bite mark, but two small freckles. Hmmm, I am glad there was no over reaction here! So, take a look at this article by my friend and colleague Paul Auerbach, an emergency medicine doc, who is on faculty at Stanford School of Medicine and is a world-class expert on marine bites, stings and envenomations. It is Paul's expertise and this news article that convinced me to buy a number of these products. You too might consider some of these small pens size spray containers for your SAR medical kit. I have placed them in my SAR pack, my car, my kayak and at home just in case someone gets stung during a training session or a real search. I got mine through the company's website.

Coastal Solutions, Inc. of Savannah, Georgia promotes a line of products named "Jellyfish Squish," "Fire Ant Coolant," "Chigger Chaser," and "Bite Blaster," the active ingredient for all of these being the topical anesthetic 4% lidocaine hydrochloride (dissolved in water). The products are provided in Magic Marker-sized (0.24 fluid ounce or 7 milliliters) pump spray containers. Fire Ant Coolant, Chigger Chaser, and Jellyfish Squish also contain, among other compounds, aloe eucalyptus oil, methyl paraben, and propyl paraben. Bite Blaster does not contain eucalyptus oil.

Topical lidocaine is an effective anesthetic, and rarely causes adverse reactions. I asked the company to provide me with any data available to them to indicate the efficacy of lidocaine.

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I received a paper entitled "Jellyfish Sting Relief," authored by Peter Verity and Dick Lee of the Skidaway Institute of Oceanography, which is affiliated with the University System of Georgia. These investigators compared lidocaine, vinegar (acetic acid), household ammonia, meat tenderizer, and deionized water as topical remedies to treat stings on the arms of volunteers from the jellyfishes *Chiropsalmus quadrumanus* ("sea wasp") and *Chrysaora quinquecirrha* ("sea nettle").

Their observations were that lidocaine was helpful (e.g., alleviated the pain), whereas deionized water and papain were without effect, and vinegar and ammonia caused an initial increase in pain. Furthermore, they observed the stinging cells of the sea nettle under the microscope while being "treated" with these same remedies, and found that vinegar stimulated mass firing of nematocysts. The implication of this finding is not entirely clear, because it was not correlated with any particular clinical finding. Lidocaine was not seen to cause nematocysts to fire.

Lidocaine hydrochloride is a well-known and extensively tested topical (skin) anesthetic, which has long been known to be useful abrasions (scrapes), minor burns, small cuts, and insect bites. To this list can now probably be added jellyfish stings. The role of other topical agents, such as vinegar, ammonia, and baking soda, remains empirical, but supported by many experts based upon clinical observations of efficacy. For instance, vinegar is emphatically recommended by experts in Australia for stings from *Chironex fleckeri*, the dreaded box-jellyfish. I have used vinegar and rubbing alcohol, alone and in combination, to treat all varieties of jellyfish stings with great effect. This makes me continue to believe that all jellyfish are not absolutely identical in terms of their response to therapies, and that the nematocysts of different species may respond differently to different topical agents.

It makes perfect sense to me that topical lidocaine hydrochloride should be effective for jellyfish stings, chigger bites, and insect stings, as it is a non-specific anesthetic agent that is capable of numbing superficial skin no matter what the irritant. However, it should not be relied upon to abort an allergic reaction to a sting, nor to neutralize any venom that has been transferred in the envenomation or stinging process. I intend to carry a spray vial and to utilize it the next time I am bitten or stung, which is inevitable. It may also come in handy the next time I need to prepare (numb) a wound for cleansing, with the notation that this is not a sterile solution. Lidocaine toxicity should not be a concern when using a small amount of this spray.

Rocky Knob SAREX – May 2009



[A Short Walk Turns Into A Long Night](http://debssarstories.blogspot.com/) by Deb Lauman (<http://debssarstories.blogspot.com/>)

May 20, 2009

Incident Commander (IC): So, when you parked the ATV and got off, what were you planning to do?

Subject: I was just going to check out a couple of tanks [man-made watering holes] in the area, for elk sign. I figured that one tank was only, like, 1000 yards away or something, so I just walked that direction. But I never saw it.

IC: And what did you do then?

Subject: I kept going, but I guess I got turned around. I thought I was walking back to the power line where I'd left my ATV, but I never found it again. I walked for hours. Then it got dark and cold, so I laid down and covered myself with pine needles.

IC: Did you ever see the helicopter?

Subject: Yeah, they flew right over, but I had no way to signal them.

IC: And what about the searchers on the ground? Did you hear them calling or any whistles during the night?

Subject: No, not till right before they found me. Then I started yelling back. I did hear a siren once, earlier, but it was a long way off.

IC: So, what would you tell someone else who was in this sort of situation?

Subject: [emphatically] I'd tell 'em never, ever walk away without your pack. Take a light, food and water, a map and compass, and all that. Even if you're just going for a short walk, be prepared! I've been doin' this outdoor stuff and huntin' for a long time, so this can happen to anybody.

I leaned over the seatback, watching through the open rear hatch of the IC's vehicle as this conversation was going on. I'd been waiting back at command for teammates to return with the subject, who'd been located about an hour earlier around 2:30am. The IC asked those of us in the SUV, "You guys have anything to add?"

I looked at the subject, illuminated by the interior lights of the vehicle, as he stood out back with our commander. The man had been driven to base by one of our teammates in a SAR vehicle, while the others hiked back to retrieve their ATV's and the subject's quad as well. "No," I answered. "We're just really glad you're okay."

With his arms wrapped around himself, the man nodded and, in a shaky voice, said, "Thank you all. Thank you very much."

Poor guy. It'd been a long, uncomfortable and probably scary night for him. He'd heard about rabid animals in the area, he'd said, and he worried about the coyotes. Just because you've been camping, hiking and hunting for a long time doesn't mean you're immune to mistakes *or* being afraid. I could tell he was feeling embarrassed.

It had been a long night for us searchers too. We'd been called out shortly before sundown and, after loading trailers and equipment, we responded to the staging area near Kinnikinnick Lake. While we were en route and as the light was fading, the man's ATV was spotted by air rescue, along a powerline.

When the quad was reached by a deputy on the ground, he found that it was dry beneath the vehicle and wet all around. It had rained since the ATV had been parked, and no foot tracks were picked up near the quad to determine direction of travel from that point. Trackers from our team tried cutting for sign in the immediate area, but didn't find any prints.

By then in the dark, we continued to search in pairs for six, seven hours before some foot tracks were finally picked up along a forest service road. Maybe twenty minutes later, I heard a teammate report through the static that he thought they "had our subject." Radio communications and cell phone contact were sketchy at best, so the rest of us had to wait for several long minutes to find out that they meant a *living* subject. Due to some medical history, we'd been worried that a health issue may have been the reason the man hadn't returned to his ATV or the camp he was sharing with his brother, the reporting party, since 10am the previous morning.

At 7:30 the following morning--yesterday, Tuesday, May 19th--I got home, just after my husband had gone to work. After two nights of SAR in a row, I was rather wiped out, but I'd have to wait till that evening to get some sleep. I had things to do for my mom and some practice back at the SAR building already arranged for later yesterday afternoon with two other teammates for a little Rock Rescue Academy homework.

Needless to say, when I did finally commune with my pillow at 9:30 last night, I slept *really* well until the sun through the window woke me up this morning.

For questions or comments regarding this newsletter, email renee083@gmail.com.

To care for anyone else enough to make their problems one's own, is ever the beginning of one's real ethical development.

Felix Adler

**Search
And
Rescue**