



CHINA LAKE MOUNTAIN RESCUE  
GROUP

P.O. BOX 5773  
China Lake, California 93555

Editor, E. Anderson  
Diane Lucas  
Marilyn Wick

February 1971

#10

CALENDAR

February 3...MEETING at Barb Slates', 7:30, 709-A Nimitz

February 13-15...Frank Buffum is taking reservations for the snowshoe or ski  
(take your choice) tour in to the Benson Hut...Pray for snow?

February 22.. RECOGNITION PARTY...for all the local citizens who have in any  
way increased the capabilities of the CLMRG, At the Elk's Club, Ridgecrest, 6  
p.m. Prime rib, \$3,25 (if we can guarantee 40 people, if you plan to come tell  
Liz Anderson 3908 or 446-2349, or Diane Lucas..2088 or 446-2310). At any  
rate, there will be a social period first, with displays, equipment, and talks,  
slides, and perhaps a movie of operations and training techniques. We are sorry  
that we can't treat, but as we keep telling everyone, our Treasury pays only for  
Essentials,

March 6...Climb Telescope Peak, If there has been fresh snow, use snowshoes or  
skis, but take along your crampons and iceax, no matter what. Talk to Bob  
Joy (2441 or 446-2248) about the details later.

March 8 MEETING at Liz Anderson's 7:30, 107B Richmond

March 13 will see a stretcher practice at Fossil Falls, under Bill Stronge,

March 24..Carl Heller runs a class for helicopter travel

March 27..Helitac Training, at NAF. Carl will have the details

ELECTION RESULTS...from January meeting

President.. Nick Bottka

Secretary.. Janet Westbrook

Vice President.. Jim Nichols

Member-at-large..Dennis Burge

Treasurer.. Barbara Slates

Committees:

Qualifications Carl Heller, chairman  
Arold Green  
Bill Stronge

First Aid Jim Nichols, chairman  
Robert Westbrook  
Carl Heller  
Janet Westbrook  
John Ohl

Training Bill Stronge, chairman  
Fred Camphausen  
Don Peterson  
Robert Rockwell

Public Ed Liz Anderson, chairman  
John Ohl  
Diane Lucas  
Janet Westbrook  
Thom Boggs

Communication/Equipment  
Arold Green, chairman  
Robert .Joy, quartermaster  
John Ohl  
John Wick

Operation 1 ..... Carl Heller

The first call came to Marlene Green at 1600 New Year's Eve, I walked into Arold's lab at 1615 and thought he had to be kidding: Then I volunteered to go, on New Year's Day, if he would bring a relief team the next day. We had six volunteers, but I took only the first 5 - one carload. However at departure time, 0200 January 1, John Wick showed up and 6 went in my car (Dennis Burge, Fred Camphausen, Bob Joy and Joe McIntire).

Base camp was along the Lake Arrowhead highway above Coldwater Canyon. The 11-year-old girl was missing for 3 nights. The search has been started December 31 by the San Bernardino Sheriff's Posse teams.

Six MRA teams were ready with about 55 people. Three leaders were chosen for base camp: Miner Harkness, Chuck Latham and Don Ricker. After consulting with Sgt. Ollie Gray the MRA teams began a line search of the area around where the girl was last seen. With 52 men we had a line almost a mile long. This moved slowly through the woods and summer home areas and it was lunchtime when we reached North Road. The Sheriff's Department had a truck deliver hot meals to the group.

After lunch we turned around and searched the adjacent area to the East. Dennis Burge and Fred Camphausen had pieced crepe paper on the first sweep and followed it back. Partway back we narrowed the area and let one group go to redo part of the morning's search where their line had become broken. About 1330 we finished the area assigned. Will Tapp's team and Mike Daugherty's team began sweeps below the highway and above Coldwater Canyon. It seemed possible that the girl had seen lights below and tried to shortcut off the highway. Wes Reynolds had the misfortune to slip on the steep dirt slope and broke his wrist. Our team decided to go down the canyon to make certain Tina had not gotten stranded in its bottom. This trip took us from 1430 to 1915, after which we drove home and turned our radios and maps in for the next team.

Al Green, Frank Buffum, Nick Bottka, Bob Westbrook, Bob Rockwell and Lee Lucas were at base camp at 0600. About 1030 the search started. The deteriorating weather hastened the decision to call the search off that afternoon.

\*\* There seem to be a few comments called for about this search:

1. When a line search is to be done, the man in charge should gather his group and discuss the necessity to keep the line unbroken and cover every possible hiding place. Although we had only MRA teams there were some people who didn't understand this principle. In the past I have held such "instruction" periods and hereafter I shall always do so,
2. When a few people are in base camp, they should designate an "Operation Leader". He should make the final decisions and be available by radio or in person to brief and to question the team leaders. The other men in camp should act as his staff and maintain a log of areas searched, teams out and the like. Both our (CLMRG) teams felt a lack of the firm co-ordination which has been achieved in other MRA searches.
3. A man from the Sheriff's department volunteered to accompany me on the line search. It was a big help to have such a local man along in unfamiliar territory. It is worth using such volunteers when they are available.

1970

Summing up of operations compared with man-hours spent on operations:

	Hours		Operations
Wick	334	Heller	13
Pearia	185	Green	11
Heller	179	Burge	10
Rockwell	167	Wick	10
Green	151	Stronge	9
Peterson	142	Pearia	7
Motyka	133	Buffum	6
Buffum	133	Huse	6
Burge	132	Peterson	6
Stronge	122	Anderson	6
Johnson	108	Rockwell	6
Westbrook	100	Motyka	5
Ringrose	86	McIntire	5
Huse	79	Bottka	14
Nichols	77	Joy	4
Richardson	72	Van Aken	4
Joy	55	Sweatt	4
Sweatt	53	Ringrose	4
Anderson	51	Matthews	3
McIntire	50	Johnson	3
Bottka	39	Nichols	2
Camphausen	36	Ohl	2
DeMay	30	Reed	3
DeMay	30	Camphausen	2
		Boggs	2
		Richardson	2
		Westbrook	2
		DeMay, T.	1
		DeMay, S.	1
		Hardy	1
		Bien	1
		Barber	1

Finances ..... Barb Slates

In November we received a donation from Mariel McEwan, which was not mentioned in the December newsletter. We apologize to Mrs. McEwan for this omission and give her our belated thanks.

We have also received contributions from our own Fred Bien and from Wally Henry of Palmdale. Our sincere thanks to these friends whose gifts will be used for the purchase of much-needed group equipment.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER Nick Bottka

As we enter another busy year for CLMRG let me say "thank you" to past President Frank, the other officers, and to all the committees for a job well done. A special

continued...Nick,,

thanks should also be given to a group of individuals not falling under the above mentioned official category. I like to call them members of the "silent service". They are the telephoners, the known and the unknown donors, the wives, and all those who support our group in so many different ways.

1970 was a busy year for the group and, if the statistics are right, 1971 might be even more so. In simple language that means more work for all of us. Do I have to say more?

#### MISCELLANY

Vi Swann of the Southern Inyo Search & Rescue Team sent a copy of this:

## KNXT EDITORIAL

Subject: The Citizen Hero Broadcast: January 8, 1971

Tragedy, more often than not, overshadows individual acts of heroism and personal sacrifice.

Two recent events illustrate this truism. Wednesday night an injured Los Angeles policeman, trapped in a burning patrol car, was rescued by two unselfish citizens – Horace Farr, an unemployed construction worker, and used car dealer John A. Clark.

The other incident revolves around the search for 11-year-old Martina Peterson in the Lake Arrowhead area.

One hundred and twenty volunteer members of ten Search and Rescue teams spent almost a week – including all of New Year's Eve and New Year's Day – searching for the little Long Beach girl who still hasn't been found.

We're talking about the Search and Rescue teams from Montrose, Sierra Madre, Altadena and Riverside. And the teams from China Lake, San Diego, Sylmar and San Bernardino. (Film)

You see them here, undeterred by snow and cold – making every effort to find the Peterson girl while her chances of survival were still good. (Film out)

This is just one more job for the Search and Rescue units. You don't hear a great deal about these volunteers, but they stand ready the year round to rescue those injured and trapped in the wilderness areas of Southern California.

They're quite a bunch. We thought you'd like to give them a hand.

continued

