



BERGTRAGE Annual Report

*Everybody Comes Home
From the Backcountry*

2022

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LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

2022 was another amazing and transformative year for Seattle Mountain Rescue (SMR).

In our last annual report, Cheri Higman (immediate past Chair) reported on the exciting purchase of and volunteer member work on Seattle Mountain Rescue's own Mountain Rescue Center (MRC). Over the course of 2022, the MRC has transformed into a budding rescue center that will continue to mature over the next few months. Our goal is to celebrate the Center's grand opening during the first weekend in June 2023.

2022 also saw a change in how SMR conducts rigging operations. Thanks to a grant from the Snoqualmie Tribe, the Petzl Foundation, and financial support by our generous donors, SMR was able to train the team on a new rigging system and provide individual members with rapid alpine response kits. This is a critical enhancement of SMR's ability to fulfill its mission. In 2022, SMR successfully completed the re-accreditation of high and low angle technical rescue.

I asked the SMR board to come up with a vision statement that is big, bold, aspirational and inspirational - something that encapsulates the ideal state. The board developed our vision statement and ideal state to be: "Everybody comes home from the backcountry." We can apply this vision statement locally, regionally, nationally and globally to all aspects of our rescue operations.

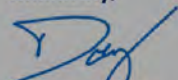
The strategy pillars for meeting our vision and mission are:

- Excellence in Rescue Operations
- Excellence in Non-Profit Operations
- Excellence in Community

As you can see, these are both building blocks and interlocking functions that rely on each other for success. For example - for SMR to be successful in achieving excellence in rescue operations, we must be able to fund the unit... which relies on excellence in non-profit operations. Likewise, excellence in non-profit operations relies on us being excellent in our community. Each of these strategies supports our vision "Everybody comes home from the backcountry."

Seattle Mountain Rescue volunteers answer the call anytime, anyplace and anywhere to employ their skills to ensure that, "Everybody comes home from the backcountry." Thank you for your continued support of this organization and its vision.

Sincerely,



Doug McCall
Chair | Seattle Mountain Rescue

THE TEAM

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Cheri Higman | Chairperson
 Jarek Bras | Vice Chairperson
 Debbie Higman | Treasurer
 Peter Tran | Secretary

BOARD MEMBERS

Brent Bishop
 Anna Condino
 Wes Cooper
 Svenja Fleischer
 Alexis Leader
 Imran Rahman
 Gordy Smith
 Sarah Stephan

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 Kaeli Gockel | Recruitment Chair
 Casey Marks | Rescue Chair
 Doug McCall | Training Chair
 Doug Caley | Equipment Chair
 David Dunphy | Education Chair
 Emily Prewett | Investment Committee
 Chair

Stephen Allen	Jason Meng	Wes Cooper	Alli Harmon	Matt Meyers	John Angulo	Cheri Higman
Deb McNally	Imran Rahman	Gordon Smith	Russell Anschell	Louis Dawson	Eve Jakubowski	Brad Near
Sarah Stephan	Karl Hangartner	Sara Derosier	Nik Jensen	Mimi Stone	Brent Bishop	David Dunphy
Petro Ksondyzk	Victor Mesny	Matthew Paluninskas	Ben Stoner-Duncan	Patrick Erley	Catherine Killien	Lawrence Panzarella
Les Sikos	Bob Ricker	Zephyr Feryok	Alexis Leader	Jarek Bras	Svenja Fleischer	Gretchen Lentz
Doug Pierson	Marne Zahner	Karl Themer	Patrick Brewer	Drew Fletcher	Andrei Maksimenka	Jim Pitts
Peter Tran	Doug Hutton	Garth Bruce	Jim Gellman	David Maltz	Barton Place	Gabriel Webster
Doug Caley	Tim Halder	Kaeli Gockel	Casey Marks	Emily Prewett	Leigh Ann Wolfe	Jared Carlson
Nathan Greenland	Nick Constantine	Doug McCall	Greg Prothman	Anna Condino		

NOVICE MEMBERS

Bobby Pogue
 Micah Hoover
 Simon Swalwell
 Sam Lien

ADMINISTRATIVE MEMBERS

Katjarina Hurt
 Raquel Lackey
 Pickles Lackey
 Bungee Lackey
 Ruffles Lackey
 Raquel Gaston
 Linda Thompson

Brock Gavery
 Al Errington
 Warren Thompson
 Debbie Higman
 Meghan Schumacher
 Lynn Buchannan



75 YEARS

Founded in 1948, in the wake of World War II, SMR is about to celebrate its diamond anniversary. What an achievement! Members and friends should feel a justified sense of pride for sustaining such an extraordinary tradition of teamwork and service to people in distress. We should raise a glass, dance a jig, and shout three cheers in recognition of the occasion. It's also telling that two big projects are taking place within SMR at about the same time: the building of its new home in North Bend, to open in 2023, and the digitization of its archives, completed in 2022 under the leadership of Nick Constantine. SMR has been looking to its future at precisely the time that it's been securing its past. Maybe you can't have one without the other?

One of the extraordinary features of SMR's beginnings as the Mountain Rescue Council is that a number of its key founders were immigrants or, like Ome Daiber, had close family ties to Europe. Daiber once joked of himself, Wolf Bauer, and Dr. Otto Trott, that "we're just three bull-headed Krauts." I've been researching SMR's history for a documentary film, and it's fascinating and filled with surprising drama. Men like these made a deliberate, mindful choice to make the Pacific Northwest their home and to embrace it with love. Much the same could be said of many members of SMR today, most of whom are not originally from Washington. Then as now, as they rooted themselves in the region, they put themselves in the service of others. The two impulses were inseparable. What a beautiful thing it is that SMR's logo, which suggests Mt. Baker in silhouette, was designed by a doctor from Berlin.

The linked commitments that these founders made—to the region and to other people—were all the more impressive because many of them faced great personal hardship. Take the translation two early SMR members made in 1963 of Austrian rescue leader Wastl Mariner's book *Mountain Rescue Techniques*. The translation by Dr. Trott and Kurt Beam became the official text of the International Commission on Alpine Rescue. The accomplishment was great in itself, but it stands out with special force when one appreciates that both translators were refugees of National Socialism who in their lives had experienced total personal dispossession. Beam's parents and sister were all killed in the Holocaust. It was in the mountains, and in the act of rescue, that they, like so many of us, found their transcendence. Beam often advised people not to be "go-getters" but rather "go-givers."

Such personal experience of transcendence had—and has always had—social and political significance. Ever since Alexis de Toqueville penned *Democracy in America* in 1835, observers have remarked upon Americans' enthusiastic participation in voluntary groups. In the words of one historian, the United States has been "a nation of joiners." These voluntary associations, moreover, have been the schoolhouses of our self-government. Through them, we have learned to harmonize differences for a common cause. Unfortunately, this tradition has in recent decades been under threat from many different sources.

Now it is sometimes said that many citizens are "bowling alone," in the words of sociologist Robert Putnam, that we no longer have the time or public spirit required to volunteer and join together. That would not only be sad for individuals, who would no longer reap the personal benefits of camaraderie; it would also weaken our democracy and self-government.

SMR is part of the great tradition of American civil society that Toqueville praised. SMR testifies to the ongoing vitality of volunteerism and service in the U.S. And it does so in a special way. In its mission of backwoods rescue, it powerfully links the spirit of altruism and universal solidarity with a deep, local consciousness of place. The special knot that binds people within the organization to each other and to the people they help also binds them to the land, in all its awe-inspiring features, both beautiful and sublime. It has been so since 1948. Centuries ago, historians developed an influential axiom about the relation between geography and society that once was common currency in scholarly discussion: "mountains divide." SMR's proud history, so evident in its newly digitized archives, reveals the very different truth that exists in service. Mountains unite.

Happy Anniversary!

Mark S. Weiner

Mark S. Weiner is a scholar, documentary filmmaker, and support member of Seattle Mountain Rescue. A resident of Connecticut, he is working with field members and alumni to preserve the history of SMR.

THEN & NOW



Way Back Then

Now

Medical Treatment

Backcountry medicine has made great strides since the founding of MRC in the days of the Way Back Then. One important step along the way was Dr. Otto T. Trott's thoroughly updated and revised medical appendix to his and Kurt Beam's translation of *Wasil Mariner's Mountain Rescue Techniques* in 1965. An especially noteworthy feature of the appendix was a behind-the-scenes, knock-down debate about the proper rewarming treatment for frostbite—about which there was much medical uncertainty at the time—between Dr. Trott and Dr. Rudolf Campell of the International Commission on Alpine Rescue. The dispute took some time to resolve—it was conducted by international Snail Mail and, in a pinch, by telegram! The entry on the subject on pages 188-9 includes two possible methods of treatment. Which was correct? If your copy of MRT includes a red clarification/errata stamp on page 189, then you know that it was one of the volumes distributed directly by MRC—and that the stamp was added by an individual MRC member at one of a series of regularly scheduled "correction parties." Early days!

Now the authoritative resource for medical treatment in the backcountry is Auerbach's *Wilderness Medicine* and the handy companion *Field Guide to Wilderness Medicine*. One could say that Dr. Trott's revised medical appendix to *Mountain Rescue Techniques* was an early precursor of these comprehensive works. The proper rewarming treatment for frostbite? It's essentially that suggested in the red errata stamps added by MRC members at those correction parties.

Today Seattle Mountain Rescue's team includes 24 /7 on-call doctors that can provide medical guidance to the field members via radio, satphone or inReach texting device. The team includes Wilderness First Responders, EMTs, nurses, paramedics and doctors, who all work collaboratively with other teams and EMS agencies to push advanced life saving measures further into the backcountry.

Each field member is issued a standard first aid kit that scales with EMT and other supplies, such as a full body vacuum splint, working blankets, oxygen and other life-saving devices that are kept ready on the team's rescue truck.

Rigging & Litters

Way Back Then, MRC was an early adopter of Austrian rescue technology developed at the Army Mountain Medical School in St. Johann, Tyrol. Early board meeting minutes are filled with reports of technological arbitrage between America and Germany and Austria. "The Austrian-designed cable clamp is missing from the truck," reads one meeting report from 1962, anxiously. "No other clamp will fit the cable. Without it our cable system is inoperable ... The motion made that the Council order two more Austrian cable clamps and a set of pulleys from the source in Europe." This early technology included the "Gebirgstrage," a tubular, bowed rescue litter to which a wheel could be attached for ease of transport. MRC adapted the litter by enabling the wheel to be replaced by a ski! All rescue technology ultimately has to be local.

Today SMR still uses a version of the Gebirgstrage, with the wheel: some things are instant classics. The name Bergtrage, or Trage, for both the litter and the newsletter is an Americanization of the original German term—and an enduring symbol of SMR's roots. The wheel is more akin to a mountain bike tire providing better support than its earlier versions, and the litter, made of carbon fiber, easily splints in half so two rescuers can share the load.

The rope rescue technologies have constantly been evolving. Today they look more like modern climbing, with thinner 9.5mm diameter semi static ropes, ATCs used as brake devices, and lightweight pulleys. All rescuers are issued a kit that can be used to set up a station anywhere they find themselves on a mission.

Helicopter

What's sometimes called the "helicopter revolution in mountain rescue" didn't begin until the 1970s. Way Back Then, it was pretty much all about the boots!

Today help from the sky comes in many forms! King County and Snohomish county sheriff office staff Bell HU1 Hueys helicopters that are capable of hoisting injured people from the mountains and when these assets are not available, working with the king county medic program trained paramedics can be brought on board to bring in advanced medical care. In the summer north cascades and mount rainier share a contracted helicopter to support the busy season. For everything else Naval Air Station Whidbey Island (NASWI), an ex officio member of the MRA, stands by to fill in the gaps with their UH-60 Blackhawk, which can handle higher elevation and flight at night.

A helicopter isn't the only eye in the sky these days. The team has helped pioneer the use of drones, providing search tools and thermal imaging to cliffs, rivers and other hazard areas.

Communication Technology

Way Back Then, MRC missions began with its "call girls" dialing individual members by telephone. The development of digital communications technology—much of it pioneered in Seattle—has revolutionized the organization of mountain rescue as much as the helicopter revolution revolutionized transport in earlier days.

Today, SMR missions begin with text messages; the team coordinates arrival time and equipment via a group messaging app; and once in the field they can be tracked via SARTOPO, a mapping app that was developed for search and rescue. No servers, no problem! The team also carries radios, InReach and satellite phones that make updating information easy.

The development of digital technology has also enabled the transfer of past meeting minutes and other essential archival materials to text-searching pdf form—a huge boon for historians of mountain rescue and of the Pacific Northwest, in whose story SMR holds an honored place. Each field member is issued a standard first aid kit that scales with EMT and other supplies, such as a full body vacuum splint, working blankets, oxygen and other life-saving devices that are kept ready on the team's rescue truck.

MRC UPDATES

Located in North Bend, Washington, gateway to the Central Cascades and many hiking and recreation destinations near Seattle, the Mountain Rescue Center (MRC) is uniquely positioned to help us meet the growing needs of our community. It will enable us to store and maintain our rescue equipment along with providing a consistent training location for field members. The facility is also being designed to help bring the team closer together and to build the team's collective resilience to the stresses of our rescue missions. Finally, it will create a community classroom to offer mountain safety education in collaboration with other local partner organizations.



EQUIPMENT STORAGE

A base to dry, wash, care, and maintain our equipment and vehicles.



TEAM TRAINING

A location to train our members on medical care, rigging practices, and avalanche operations.



MOUNTAIN SAFETY EDUCATION

A space to engage our community on practices to reduce risk in a backcountry environment.



TEAM RESILIENCY

A safe home to decompress and take care of rescue will be being.

• PROGRESS REPORT

- Capital campaign complete
- Siding and envelope complete
- Electrical, plumbing and drywall complete
- Fire pit area as an Eagle Scout project complete
- Donated outdoor shelter via Mountain Madness



A PLACE FOR EDUCATION

Seattle Mountain Rescue has been committed to furthering mountain safety education from its conception. We continually do this through sharing search and rescue best practices, collaborating with other community partners, participating in public outreach such as visiting classrooms, participating in public events, and teaching classes. We believe all people should have access to this basic backcountry safety information so we all can access our public lands safely. We center this work on destigmatizing asking for help and raising awareness around preparedness. Nearly half of the new MRC is classroom space where we will be able to do just that. From gathering places as somebody takes their first wilderness first aid class or avalanche safety class, information about common backcountry mistakes and how to avoid them and much more. We are excited to have a new tool in promoting and equipping hikers and climbers in our region. We want to extend a special thanks to REI for helping us set up the new classroom space with furniture and conferencing equipment. Together we can support breaking down the barriers to accessing this education and bring all loved ones home!





ANNUAL STATS



FIELD MEMBERS



TRAINING EVENTS



MISSIONS

VISION STATEMENT

Everybody comes home from the backcountry.

MISSION STATEMENT

Seattle Mountain Rescue (SMR) is a volunteer organization of experienced alpinists dedicated to saving lives in all seasons through search, rescue, and mountain safety education.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Excellence in Rescue Operations. Excellence in Non-Profit Operations. Excellence in Community.

2022
**RESCUE
REVIEW**



"A Full Winter's Day"

On January 29th the team had just finished a full day of winter medical training in the alpental valley and was ready for the debrief at Dru Bru, at Snoqualmie pass. Time was cut short by the search and rescue pager. There had been a 911 call for a person in the river at Franklin falls. The team quickly mobilized skiing down on the closed forest service road to help Snoqualmie fire and other members responding downstream.

Shortly after the search began along the river another 911 call came in for an injured snowshoer that was descending from the divided snow lake. As teams started organizing for the split to run two missions simultaneously, the supposed person in the river was located walking the road. A little weak but doing okay. Members made their way back to the pass via cars and skis to investigate the injured snowshoer.

Shortly after 6:30pm the subject was located by headlight. Another party had assisted the snowshoer back to the trail and provided an extra layer to keep them warm. After additional warming, medical assessment the snowshoer was loaded into the Ski patrol toboggan and lowered on ropes to a falter area. The teams then worked to slide the subject out first on the summer trail then connecting to winter cat track. There the rescue group connected with the Snoqualmie fire department who was able to use their snowmachine to evacuate the subject back to the Alpental parking lot. All teams were out of the field by 9:00PM.

MISSION TIMELINE

- 08:00AM • Training Starts
- 03:00PM • Training Ends
- 04:10PM • Page Person in river at franklin falls
- 05:00PM • Searching River
- 05:30PM • Return to the pass
- 06:10PM • Subject in base
- 05:54PM • Team 1 in the field
- 06:36PM • With Subject
- 07:32PM • Subject Packaged and Litter Lowered
- 08:00PM • On Summer Trail
- 08:11PM • Scouting Route Complete
- 08:20PM • Snoqualmie Pass Fire Snowcat
- 08:39PM • Subject At Base



WINTER MISSIONS

Date: 1/14/22
Mission: Commonwealth Basin-Injured Skier
Subjects: 1
Duration: 18hrs
Attendees: SMR (1), KCSAR (9)

Date: 1/29/22
Mission: Snow Lake-injured Hiker
Subjects: 1
Duration: 180hrs
Attendees: SMR (9), KCSAR (38)

Date: 1/29/22
Mission: Franklin Falls-Hiker in River
Subjects: 1
Duration: 47hrs
Attendees: SMR (9), KCSAR (25)

Date: 2/1/22
Mission: Mailbox Peak-Lost Hiker
Subjects: 1
Duration: 67hrs
Attendees: SMR (4), KCSAR (10)

Date: 2/12/22
Mission: Snow Lake - Lost Hiker
Subjects: 1
Duration: N/A
Attendees: SMR (1)

Date: 2/20/22
Mission: Stevens Pass-Lost Skier
Subjects: 1
Duration: 32hrs
Attendees: SMR (3), KCSAR (8)

Date: 3/7/22
Mission: Shoreline-Walkaway
Subjects: 1
Duration: Unknown
Attendees: SMR (1)

"Fall to Recovery"

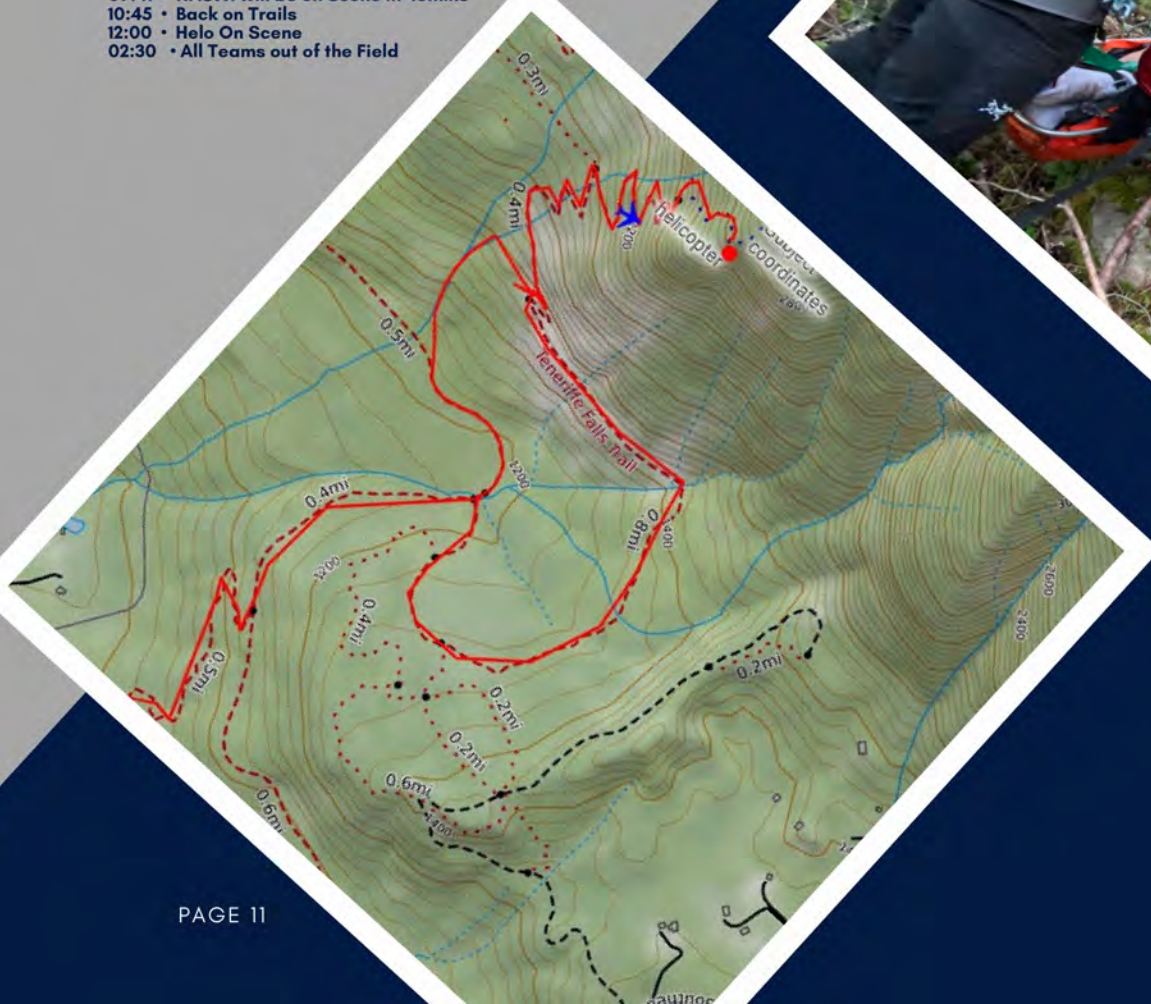
A party of two hikers were descending The South West Ridge on Mount Teneriffe via the scabble route from the summit. On Saturday afternoon of May 21st one of the hikers, while navigating around a rocky outcropping, slipped and fell approximately 300ft down a gully coming to stop on a fallen tree that stopped a further fall. The hiker sustained several injuries to his leg and head. His hiking partner was able to use his cell phone to call for help.

A hasty team was sent up the trail quickly followed by other teams with additional gear. Team 1 was able to repel down to the hiker and stabilize him on the cliff side. A unified command was established that included the Sheriff's Office, Fire Department, search and rescue teams and a Seattle Mountain Rescue emergency room doctor. Medics were guided to the accident site and lowered to provide advanced medical care while an extraction plan was implemented. Due to inclement weather and fading light the requested helicopter, King County's guardian 1, had to decline the request.

In the fading light, the rescue team performed a raise of the hiker in a full body vacuum splint back to the top of the ridge. With uncertainty about air resources, lowering began as the teams worked to make their way back to the maintained hiking trails. Around 9:30 Naval Air Station Whidbey Island, an ex-official mountain rescue team, was able to deploy their UAH60- Blackhawk helicopter with a medical crew. Ground team identified a host location in a break in the tree and using night vision NASWI was able to hoist the hiker to the helicopter and complete the transport to the hospital. At 2:30 am almost 12 hours since the initial call out all team and equipment arrived back at the trailhead. The hiker made a full recovery, and together the team and his family celebrated his return.

MISSION TIMELINE

- 02:49 • First Page for SAR Resources
- 03:22 • (Hasty Team) Team 1 Leaves Base
- 03:40 • 911 Confirms Location
- 04:45 • Team 1 with RP Preparing to Lower
- 04:55 • Team 1 with Subject
- 06:04 • Paramedics Preparing for Lower
- 06:22 • Team 2 lowered with Litter
- 07:13 • Lightning
- 07:25 • Subject In Full-body Splint
- 07:51 • Raise Begins + Second Lightning
- 07:56 • Guardian Not Able to Fly
- 08:00 • Second Station
- 08:58 • Subject at the Top of Cliff
- 09:08 • Team Leaves the Ridge
- 09:41 • NASWI will be on Scene in 45mins
- 10:45 • Back on Trails
- 12:00 • Helo On Scene
- 02:30 • All Teams out of the Field



SPRING MISSIONS

Date: 4/06/2022
Mission: Mailbox Peak-Sick Hiker
Subjects: 2
Attendees: SMR (4), KCSAR (36)

Date: 4/09/222
Mission: Kendall Trees-Injured Skier
Subjects: 1
Attendees: SMR (11), KCSAR (46)

Date: 4/17/22
Mission: Little Si-Sick Hiker
Subjects:
Attendees: SMR (7), KCSAR (40)

Date: 4/29/22
Mission: Denny Creek-Lost Hiker
Subjects: 1
Attendees: SMR (3), KCSAR (22)

Date: 5/01/22
Mission: Whatcom County Search
Subjects: 1
Attendees: SMR (1), KCSAR (30)

Date: 5/07/22
Mission: Mailbox Peak-Sick Hiker
Subjects: 2
Attendees: SMR (7), KCSAR (38)

Date: 5/21/22
Mission: Mt. Teneriffe-Fallen Hiker
Subjects: 1
Attendees: SMR (12), KCSAR (45)

Date: 5/22/22
Mission: Mt. Teneriffe-Lost Hiker
Subjects: 1
Attendees: SMR (2), KCSAR (25):

Date: 5/24/22
Mission: Mt. Teneriffe-Cliffed Out Hiker
Subjects: 2
Attendees: SMR (7), KCSAR (32):

Date: 5/30/22
Mission: Mt. Teneriffe-Sick Hiker
Subjects: 1
Attendees: SMR (3), KCSAR (32)

Date: 6/02/22
Mission: Black Diamond-Walkaway
Subjects: 1
Attendees: SMR (1), KCSAR (50)

Date: 6/08/22
Mission: Snow Lake-Cliffed Out Hiker
Subjects: 2
Attendees: SMR (5), KCSAR (14)

"Spending the Night"

On Saturday, May 21, in the afternoon, a party of two hikers was descending the Southwest ridge on Mount Teneriffe via the scramble route from the summit. While navigating around a rock outcropping, one of the hikers slipped and fell approximately 300 ft down a gully, coming to a halt on a fallen tree that stopped a further fall. The hiker sustained several injuries to his head and legs. His hiking partner was able to use his cell phone to call 911 for help.

A hasty team was sent up the trail, quickly followed by other teams with additional gear. Team 1 was able to rappel down to the hiker and stabilize them on the cliff side. A unified command was established that included the Sheriff's Office, Fire Department, search and rescue teams and a Seattle Mountain Rescue emergency medicine doctor. Bellevue paramedics were guided to the accident site and lowered to the subject to provide advanced medical care. At the same time, plans were made for extraction. King County's Guardian 1 helicopter was requested, but due to inclement weather and fading light, it was unable to respond.

As night fell, the rescue team raised the injured hiker, secured in a full body vacuum splint and litter, back to the top of the ridge. Given the uncertainty about any available air support, a ground evacuation was started. Teams worked to make their way back to the maintained hiking trails by way of lowering the litter on ropes. Around 9:30 pm, Naval Air Station Whidbey Island (NASWI), an ex-officio mountain rescue team, was able to deploy their UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter with a medical crew. The ground team located a usable hoist location offering a break in the tree canopy, and using their night vision capabilities, NASWI was able to hoist the hiker to the helicopter and complete the transport to the hospital. At 2:30 am, almost 12 hours after the initial call-out, all teams and equipment were back at the trailhead. The hiker made a full recovery and the team and his family celebrated his recovery together this fall.



- MISSION TIMELINE**
- 02:49 • First page for SAR resources
 - 03:22 • (Hasty Team) Team 1 leaves Base
 - 03:40 • 911 confirms location
 - 04:45 • Team 1 with RP, preparing to lower
 - 04:55 • Team 1 with Subject
 - 06:04 • Paramedics preparing for lower
 - 06:22 • Team 2 lowered with litter
 - 07:13 • Lightning
 - 07:25 • Subject in full-body splint
 - 07:51 • Raise begins + second lightning
 - 07:56 • Guardian 1 not able to fly
 - 08:00 • Subject at second raising station
 - 08:58 • Subject at the top of cliff
 - 09:08 • Team leaves the ridge
 - 09:41 • NASWI will be on scene in 45min
 - 10:45 • Back on trails
 - 12:00 • Helo on scene
 - 02:30 • All teams out of the field

SUMMER MISSIONS

Date: 6/24/22
Mission: Beckler Peak-Cliffed Out Hiker
Subjects: 4
Attendees: SMR (5), KCSAR (15)

Date: 6/26/22
Mission: Copper Lake-Lost Hikers
Subjects: 2
Attendees: SMR (1), KCSAR (9)

Date: 7/01/22
Mission: Exit 38-Injured Climber
Subjects: 1
Attendees: SMR (2), KCSAR (21)

Date: 7/12/22
Mission: Mailbox Peak-Turnaround
Subjects: 1
Attendees: SMR (1), KCSAR (22)

Date: 7/12/22
Mission: Kendall Katwalk-Injured Hiker
Subjects: 2
Attendees: SMR (8), KCSAR (35)

Date: 7/15/22
Mission: Snow Lake-Injured Hiker
Subjects: 1
Attendees: SMR (2), KCSAR (32)

Date: 7/20/22
Mission: Poo Poo Point-Injured Paraglider
Subjects: 1
Attendees: SMR (9), KCSAR (42)

Date: 7/23/22
Mission: Poo Poo Point-Injured Hiker
Subjects: 1
Attendees: SMR (3), KCSAR (24)

Date: 7/25/22
Mission: Snow Lake-Sick Hiker
Subjects: 1
Attendees: SMR (4), KCSAR (30)

Date: 7/25/22
Mission: Kendall Katwalk-Injured Hiker
Subjects: 1
Attendees: SMR (7), KCSAR (41)

Date: 7/26/22
Mission: Chair Peak-Cliffed Out Climber
Subjects: 1
Attendees: SMR (8), KCSAR (22)

Date: 7/29/22
Mission: Melakwa Lake-Injured Backpacker
Subjects: 1
Attendees: SMR (4), KCSAR (32)

Date: 7/30/22
Mission: Bandera Mountain
Subjects: 1
Attendees: SMR (2), KCSAR (10)

Date: 8/03/22
Mission: Mount Si-Injured Hiker
Subjects: 1
Attendees: SMR (5), KCSAR (33)

Date: 8/06/22
Mission: Shoreline-Walkaway
Subjects: 1
Attendees: SMR (2), KCSAR (40)

Date: 8/06/22
Mission: Mount Si-Injured Hiker
Subjects: 1
Attendees: SMR (4)

Date: 8/08/22
Mission: Cherry Valley-Injured Hiker
Subjects: 1
Attendees: SMR (3), KCSAR (20)

Date: 8/11/22
Mission: Kendall Katwalk
Subjects: 1
Attendees: SMR (2), KCSAR (17)

Date: 8/12/22
Mission: PCT-Injured Hiker
Subjects: 1
Attendees: SMR (1), KCSAR (23)

Date: 8/16/22
Mission: Lillian Lake-Lost Backpacker
Subjects: 1
Attendees: SMR (1), KCSAR (2)

Date: 8/22/22
Mission: North Cascades-Lost Climber
Subjects: 1
Attendees: SMR (7), KCSAR (7)

Date: 8/28/22
Mission: Rattlesnake Ridge-Injured Hiker
Subjects: 1
Attendees: SMR (1), KCSAR (14)

Date: 8/30/22
Mission: Kendall Katwalk-Sick Hiker
Subjects: 1
Attendees: SMR (3), KCSAR (25)

Date: 8/31/22
Mission: Franklin Falls-Injured Hiker
Subjects: 1
Attendees: SMR (5), KCSAR (26)

"FALL FIRE SEASON"

For the last couple of years Seattle Mountain Rescues has been utilizing drones to support Search and Rescue operations. Most recently, thanks to the generation support of donors, we have been able to utilize a new drone with thermal technology that has been particularly helpful in the winter. These drones have been used to support rapid searching of rivers, lakes and other cliff terrain. This fall brought hot temperatures and dry weather to the west side of the cascade setting up dangerous fire conditions. Field members were able to utilize the thermal drone to support the USFS monitor several backcountry fires maximizing the forest services resources while mitigating the danger of exposing firefighters getting too close to an active fire. This continues the work of our Drone team supporting other agencies like the Olympic national Park , Mountain Rainier national park , North Cascade national park and the King County Marine Unit with air support from unmanned drones.



FALL MISSIONS

Date: 9/04/22
Mission: Rattlesnake Ridge-Injured Hiker
Subjects: 1
Attendees: SMR (1), KCSAR (18)

Date: 9/05/22
Mission: Bessemer
Subjects: 1
Attendees: SMR (7), KCSAR (30)

Date: 9/06/22
Mission: Big Snow Mtn-Overdue Hiker
Subjects: 1
Attendees: SMR (9), KCSAR (27)

Date: 9/10/22
Mission: Bolt Creek-Forest Fire Support
Subjects: 2
Attendees: SMR (7), KCSAR (18)

Date: 9/19/22
Mission: Out of Cty-Turnaround
Subjects: 1
Attendees: SMR (1), KCSAR (14)

Date: 9/24/22
Mission: Rattlesnake Ridge-Lost Trail Runner
Subjects: 1
Attendees: SMR (5), KCSAR (28)

Date: 9/30/22
Mission: Greenwater Lakes-Injured Hiker
Subjects: 1
Attendees: SMR (5), KCSAR (18)

Date: 10/04/22
Mission: Big Snow Lake-Cliffed Out Hiker
Subjects: 1
Attendees: SMR (4), KCSAR (10)

Date: 10/06/22
Mission: Loch Katrina-Forest Fire Support
Subjects: N/A
Attendees: SMR (2), KCSAR (2)

Date: 10/09/22
Mission: Spider Lake-Forest Fire Support
Subjects: N/A
Attendees: SMR (1), KCSAR (1)

Date: 10/15/22
Mission: Mailbox Peak
Subjects: 1
Attendees: SMR (2), KCSAR (21)

Date: 10/15/22
Mission: Granite Mountain-Injured Hiker
Subjects: 1
Attendees: SMR (7), KCSAR (26)

Date: 10/15/22
Mission: Little Si-Injured Climber
Subjects: 1
Attendees: SMR (19), KCSAR (47)

Date: 10/16/22
Mission: Mt. Defiance-Cliffed Out Hiker
Subjects: 1
Attendees: SMR (6), KCSAR (28)

TRAINING

NO Train NO GAINS

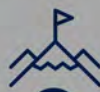


Seattle Mountain Rescue has a new training director, Deb McNally!

Deb coordinates the efforts of team members to gain skills in climbing, rigging, avalanches, medical care, drone use, and leadership. Our volunteers have to learn new skills and work as a team to practice these skills. This takes place during mid-week skill refreshers as well as weekend scenarios. While members are only required to complete 28 hours of training per year and participate in 5 rescues, many do much more. Some members log over 100 hours of training and more than 15 missions a year. Our community's support ensures that our team members have a place to train, the equipment to do it, and the resources to seek out advanced certifications so the team can be ready whenever the call comes



Mission



5

Minimum

Training



Rope Rescue



Snow and Avalanche



Helicopter



Medical

Certification



CPR



Wilderness
First Aid



Avalanche

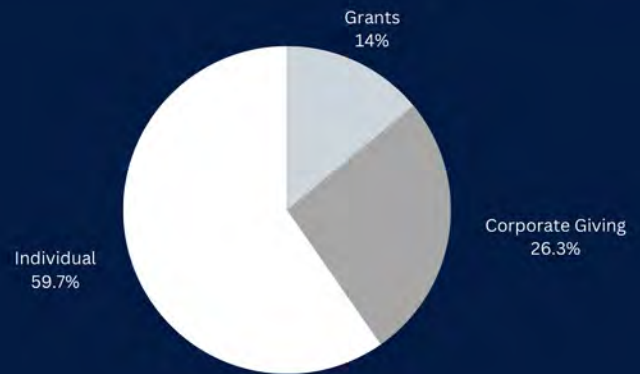
MEMBER RIGGING KITS

Seattle Mountain Rescue is a group of seasoned alpine climbers that learn and practice rope rescue skills so they can help people get out of tricky situations in the backcountry. Our members complete a minimum of 20 hours a year of rope training and the team is accredited by its fellow Mountain Rescue Association teams in rope rescue every three years.

This year we leveraged the support of our community to further develop our rope systems and fully outfit our team. Thanks to grants from the Snoqualmie Tribe, Petzl Foundation, and donors like you the team members were able to participate in a week long external training opportunity. We were also able to purchase and outfit our members in new ways. Each field member is now issued a first aid kit, radio, and rigging kit, allowing them to respond more quickly and operate independently on missions. It is through investment from our community that we are able to educate and equip our field members. In 2023 we will continue to implement this system as well as invest in new uniforms, external medical training, and avalanche training for our volunteer mountain rescuers.



FINANCIALS



WISH LIST

RESCUE EQUIPMENT

- New Member Equipment \$7,000
- Avalanche Safety Equipment \$8,400
- Ropes & Rigging Equipment \$6,000
- Replace Old Rescue Truck \$100,000
- ALS Program \$25,000

MEMBER UNIFORMS

- Rain Jackets \$20,000
- Puffy Jackets \$15,000
- T-Shirts \$7,000

TRAINING

- Avalanche Safety Training \$6,500
- Avalanche Rigging Training \$8,000
- Mental Health Training \$2,000
- EMT and WFR Training \$8,000
- Rescue Challenge \$2,000

TECHNOLOGY

- Drone Equipment \$24,000
- New Radios \$9,000
- Data Base System \$2,000

RESCUE CENTER

- Food \$5,000
- Operations \$16,000



CONTACT US

LOCATION



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CENTER

SOCIALS



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