

NMSARC NEWSLETTER



Winter 2012

Winter 2012 Highlighted Team

Mesilla Valley Search and Rescue



Mesilla Valley Search and Rescue (MVSAR) is based in Las Cruces, NM and is equipped to search for lost individuals in a variety of wilderness settings. There are several different teams within MVSAR, including the Ground Team, K-9 Team, ATV Team, and Communications Team, as well as team members experienced in wilderness tracking. Each of these teams contains individuals with specialized skills that are required for a variety of different search scenarios. MVSAR resources also include a Polaris Ranger six-wheeled ATV, a

shallow water motor boat ideally suited to river searches, and a fully equipped communication trailer.

The team holds its business meeting on the second Thursday of every month and a mandatory team training on the fourth Thursday. In addition, the K-9 team trains weekly, usually on Sunday mornings.

Team members volunteer to conduct training sessions and topics include map and compass, GPS orienteering, radio communications, the Incident Command System, search skills, hiking and wilderness survival, and first aid/CPR. MVSAR traditionally supports local events such as safety and health fairs and other public service events.



Message from the Chair

Fellow Search and Rescue Volunteers,

This year has started out with a bang! Search and Rescue incidents have broken out all over the state. The response by all participating agencies and teams has been incredible. It is great to witness the success of missions throughout the state.

With the long break that many teams experienced between missions, it has become easy to be complacent, and neglect the tasks that allow for us to be ready to respond at a moment's notice. Maybe the batteries in your headlamp need to be changed. You might not have winterized your SAR pack. Perhaps your SAR skills have become rusty. Whatever the case may be, I urge you to double check your gear and be prepared for what you do so well "So That Others May Live."

To help you and your team be better prepared, The New Mexico Search and Rescue Council offers numerous training opportunities for its members to take advantage of. Visit the training calendar at the NMSARC.ORG website, and the training notes in this newsletter for details.

Do not forget about the biggest SAR training event of the year, ESCAPE! ESCAPE 2012 will be held in Pojoaque, New Mexico, on May 4-6, 2012, at the beautiful and amazing Buffalo Thunder Resort, Spa, and Casino. This is shaping up to be the biggest and best SAR conference New Mexico has ever seen. For information and registration, visit: <http://www.escapeinfo.org/>.

Just a reminder, 2012 NMSARC Membership forms have been sent out. Please assure that your team returns them in a timely manner. Remember, you and your teammates receive a discounted rate at ESCAPE with the NMSARC membership. The forms can be found at: http://nmsarc.org/membership/membership_docs/MembershipPackage.pdf

Once again, THANK YOU for all that you do!
Safe searching,

Brian Hamilton
Chair NMSARC

ESCAPE 2012 Update



We are making steady progress toward this year's event. As a reminder, here are some of the details.

- Date: May 4 through May 6, 2012
- Location: Buffalo Thunder Resort and Casino, Pojoaque, NM
- NMSARC team member registration before/after 3/31/12: \$110/\$125
- Non-NMSARC team member registration before/after 3/31/12: \$125/\$140
- Room rates: Single \$105/night; Double \$105/night; Triple \$125.00/night; Quad \$145.00/night

Make your room reservations today!

You must contact Buffalo Thunder directly.

Room reservations are separate from ESCAPE event registration.

Buffalo Thunder reservation number: 877-455-7775

To ensure you get the above rates, let them know you are with
New Mexico Search and Rescue - **Registration Group Code NMSR**

All the necessary forms for ESCAPE event registration are available on the NMSARC web site. Click the **ESCAPE** link at www.nmsarc.org.

From the Desk Bob Rodgers, NMSAR Resource Officer (RO)

All,

I am glad to announce that, beginning immediately, NMSP will start the process of identifying SAR volunteers with a DPS - issued badge. An official DPS identification badge will identify those responders that have gone the extra step to get certified by DPS. An example badge has been attached in this email. To receive a badge you must be certified under a DPS SAR program i.e. Field Certification, Field Team Leader, SAR Section Chief, SAR Field Coordinator, etc.

In order to have a badge made, please send an email with your name, mailing address, email address, birth month, and phone number in an email to robert.rodgers@state.nm.us with the subject line of "NMSAR Badge". Attach a color photo of you taken from the waist up. No hats or sunglasses should be worn in the

photo. If possible, a single color contrasting background is preferable. Recommend staying away from dark colors for the background.

Any Field Coordinator that was issued one of the old style badges should have it replaced by the new one (see below). Field Coordinators will have the words “Field Coordinator” with no expiration date instead of “SAR Volunteer”.

Upon receipt of the email, the SAR office will validate the information and have the badge created then mailed to the address included in the email.

I have asked the IT department to set up a web page which will allow the information and photo to be uploaded, but until the page is developed, email will have to suffice.



Bob Rodgers
SAR Resource Officer
4491 Cerrillos Road
Santa Fe, NM 87507
505-827-9228 - Office
505-690-8452

(Editor’s note: Above graphics are displayed as-received.)

NMSAR Funding News

In early January, NMSAR Resource Officer Bob Rodgers announced that state – funded training scheduled for the remainder of the fiscal year (ending June 30, 2012) was canceled due to insufficient funding (ref. 5 January 2012 message on the NMSAR e-mail forum). We are happy to report that this situation has improved! As a direct result of SAR volunteer personnel interacting with state legislators, Deputy Chief Pete Kassetas increased the SAR budget by \$20,000 for this year from within the NMSP budget. Deputy Chief Kassetas stated, “This increase will continue to cover costs associated with SAR events and also training. We will hold the summer training and in addition we will be identifying other SAR and incident

related commander courses to offer members." See Training Schedule below for the scheduled opportunities.

NMSARC Board Meeting January 15, 2012

The quarterly board meeting was held on January 15, 2012 at the REI store in Albuquerque. Highlights are reported below. The complete minutes of the meeting can be found by clicking the Meetings and Minutes link on the Board pull-down at www.NMSARC.org.

- NMSAR budget concerns were discussed. See NMSAR Funding News above.
- There are currently two vacant positions on the board that need to be filled immediately on a temporary basis. These positions will run only until ESCAPE 2012, at which time these positions will be filled by election. There are also two board positions that will expire this year that will be filled by election at ESCAPE 2012 (for a total of 4 elected board positions to be filled at ESCAPE 2012). Letters of interest for the temporary positions can be sent to board president, Brian Hamilton at us_trident1@msn.com.
- We are ahead of schedule with ESCAPE 2012 planning and organization. Rooms at Buffalo Thunder need to be reserved ASAP. SAR spouses, families, and significant others are encouraged to attend and enjoy the amenities and attractions at Buffalo Thunder. Educational track leads have been identified. Ham radio Special Event call sign N5M has been assigned for ESCAPE 2012 and the station will be operated during the event.
- Teams are conducting training exercises, both alone and in collaboration with other teams, and posting these opportunities on the web site. This is great and highly encouraged.
- Bob Rodgers, New Mexico SAR Resource Officer, was a guest in attendance. Bob reported that most positions on the SAR Review Board have been filled.
- Opportunities for public education and outreach by means of a SAR Speakers' Bureau were discussed.

Training Schedule

Upcoming Training Snapshot from the NMSARC Calendar

Please check the Calendar link (www.nmsarc.org) frequently for updates as well as for contact information and other important event details.

Feb. 3 – 5	ICS 300	Portales
Feb. 4	Land Navigation	Las Cruces
Feb. 13 – 15	ICS 300	Albuquerque

Feb. 16 – 17	ICS 400	Albuquerque
Mar. 3	Search Techniques	Las Cruces
Mar. 4 – 5	ICS 400	Portales
Mar. 24 – 25	Air Operations Branch Director (AOBD)	Socorro
April TBD	River Bank Training	Albuquerque

Is there a training that you or your team would like to have NMSARC put on?

Contact: Larry Zentner – training@nmsarc.org

Eric Hjelmfelt – training@nmsarc.org

2012 – 2013 Tentative Schedule of State-Sponsored Training from the RO

March 3 & 4, 2012	Section Chief Course – North	CANCELED
June 9 & 10, 2012	NMSAR Summer Training	
June 9: PIO		Location TBA
June 9: SAFETY		Location TBA
June 9: COMM Unit Leader		Location TBA
June 10: Field Exercise, including possible mock mission		Location TBA
October 22 & 23, 2012	Section Chief Course – South	Carlsbad
November 9, 10 & 11, 2012	Search Management System, FC School part 1	Santa Fe
November 17 & 18, 2012	NMSAR Field Coordinator School part 2	Santa Fe
March 9 & 10 2013	Section Chief Course – North	Location TBA
March 23 & 24, 2013	Air Operations Branch Director	Location TBA
June 15 & 16, 2013	NMSAR Summer Training	Location TBA
June 15: PIO		
June 15: SAFETY		
June 15: FTL		
June 15: COMM Unit Leader		
June 16: Field exercises, including possible mock mission		
October 22 & 23, 2013	Section Chief Course – South	Carlsbad
November 8, 9 & 10 2013	Search Management System, FC School, part 1	Santa Fe
November 16 & 17 2013	NMSAR Field Coordinator School, part 2	Santa Fe

Contact Bob Rodgers for additional information of any of these training opportunities.

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Robert.Rodgers@state.nm.us

Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management Training

The DHSEM offers free training in various aspects of emergency preparedness and management, including ICS. You can find the training calendar at www.preparingnewmexico.org.

Stay Connected to NMSAR and Fellow Searchers

Are you and your team signed up for the NMSARC-FORUM? The forum is the best way to keep current on all of New Mexico's search and rescue events, news and information.

Visit <http://nmsarc.org/membership/forum.html> and sign up today! You can also join us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/New-Mexico-Search-and-Rescue-Council/210666165650370>

NMSARC Board/Team Liaisons

<p>Brian Hamilton chair@nmsarc.org AMRC Cibola SAR NM Mounted SAR EEA Ultra-Light, Chapter 118-Route 66 Flyers Atalaya SAR Three Rivers SAR Northern Snow-Drift Breakers SAR Santa Fe County Sheriff's Posse Herb Kincey</p> <p>Cindy Oliver secretary@nmsarc.org Sandia Search Dogs Pajarito Ski Patrol and K9 SAR K9 SAR, Dolores, CO Amarillo Alliance of Search K9's Mountain Canine Corp</p> <p>Robert Cort treasurer@nmsarc.org Dona Ana County SAR Luna County SAR Grant County SAR</p> <p>Tom Bemis mapping@nmsarc.org Chaves County Off-Road SAR</p> <p>Patricia Seiser nmsarnews@nmsarc.org Eddy County SAR</p>	<p>John Gallegos escape@nmsarc.org Organ Mountain Technical Rescue Squad D-4 SAR Support Alamogordo SAR White Mountain SAR</p> <p>Eric Hjelmfelt pio@nmsarc.org Santa Fe ARES Los Alamos Amateur Radio Club Los Alamos Auxiliary Fire Brigade Rocky Mountain SAR Sangre De Cristo SAR Del Norte, Inc.</p> <p>Joe San Filippo joe.sanfilippo@nmsar.org Mesilla Valley SAR Socorro SAR Sierra County Sheriff's Posse Catron County SAR</p> <p>Larry Zentner training@nmsarc.org Civil Air Patrol, NM Wing NM SAR Support Team Bernalillo County ARES McKinley County SAR United SAR of Montezuma</p> <p>Nate Lay training_directory@nmsarc.org Philsar Angel Fire SAR Taos SAR San Miguel SAR</p>
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NMSARC Board – Team Liaisons

Gear? Here!

Backcountry.com www.backcountry.com
BrigadeQM www.brigadeqm.com
Cabela's www.cabelas.com
Campmor www.campmor.com
Durham Communication http://www.dciomm.com/
Gall's www.galls.com
Cheaper Than Dirt ww.cheaperthandirt.com
Gander Mountain www.gandermountain.com
REI www.rei.com
Search Gear www.searchgear.com
Sierra Trading Post www.sierratradingpost.com
Steep and Cheap www.steepandcheap.com
Summit Hut www.summithut.com
The CLYMB www.theclymb.com
Tooth of Time Traders www.toothoftimetraders.com

