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Subject: nomination

I've nominated Joanne Sprenger for the Board, and here is her agreement to run / resume. P

Joanne Sprenger, FC 205, KC5VIK

I told Phyllis Wright that I would agree to run for a position on the Council as I believe I have a lot of practical experience from my over 25+ years of volunteerism in New Mexico Search and Rescue. I first became involved with Search and Rescue when Bill Vargas was Resource Officer. I had been leading a seven-day backpack in the Pecos Wilderness about 30 years ago when one of the trekkers from California died on the seventh day just before we were to descend Gascon Trail. (His death was caused by an aneurysm on the aorta, not my cooking.) A small group of SAR volunteers came up to help get Karl's body down, with the help of a pack horse from Gascon Ranch. I started attending their meetings and became a Field Coordinator a few years later.

I have been President of San Miguel Search and Rescue off and on over the years. We are in District II in the Las Vegas area. In the old days we used to regularly have 8-12 searches annually, but the number of missions has decreased drastically in the last few years. I haven't served as IC in District II since Dec. 23, 2008, when we had two men lost in a blizzard on Lone Pine Mesa northwest of Las Vegas. A four-person team from Santa Fe SAR was instrumental in saving two lives that night (morning), along with a handful of local volunteers. Because of Santa Fe's use of a SKED on that mission, we now have a SKED and have had two or three trainings in its use. We have a mobile command trailer with a generator, a base radio and scanner, a wheeled litter, a good supply of topo maps for our general area, eight ICOM radios with lithium batteries, etc. We are getting more people trained as certified ground pounds, although it is a slow process to build up your team with so few searches.

This past summer we did some volunteer trail work with the U.S. Forest Service in lieu of searching for lost persons, and we hope to do more of that this summer in order that people won't get lost as easily when they do come hiking or backpacking east of Skyline Trail # 251. I am the author of [Trail Guide to the Las Vegas Area](#).