



SnowLine

The Official Newsletter of the

TAHOE NORDIC SEARCH & RESCUE TEAM, INC.

Lake Tahoe • Truckee • Donner Summit

Leaded a balanced and healthy life entails more than bran flakes and a deserving red wine. To prosper, we must ever-increase our sphere of knowledge, experience, and alliance with those around us. A route many take to this aim is community service. Community service is a positive feedback, win/win situation. The more community service performed, the more a community prospers and the stronger its members, thus amplifying the prosperity. Several from Tahoe Nordic Search and Rescue Team have taken the inspiration of community service to great lengths.

For many members their involvement with the Nordic Team is much more than a day-a-month gig, it occupies a significant part of their time, energy, and creativity. It is, simply, a notable part of their life.

If you'd like more community involvement, please join Tahoe Nordic Search and Rescue Team as it kicks off its 29th season next week. The first yearly meeting is at the Granlibakken Resort's Ski Hut in Tahoe City. This happens Monday night, October 4, at 6:00 PM. Dinner will be served to all in attendance followed by a Team introduction, brief business meeting, and an outline for the Team's immediate future. Always informative, often funny, sometimes raucous, the Team meetings are not to be missed. October 4!

TNSARTMOTY

Larry Sevison was awarded the 2004 Tahoe Nordic Search and Rescue Team Member of the Year award at the May Nordic Team meeting.

Larry is a founding member of Tahoe Nordic Search and Rescue Team and has been influential in securing support for the Team, steering it in the proper direction, and motivating its membership—all for the past 28 years. Still on the front line during search and rescues, Larry's commitment, skill, and

good humor set an example for all of us to follow. Thank you Larry!

Guard Change

Also at the May meeting last spring Steve Twomey stepped down as the Team's sixth President. Steve led the Team for the past two years through 29 successful search and rescue operations, resulting in the rescue of 48 individuals. And it didn't stop with the searches. Steve was directly involved in every aspect of what the Team does: community outreach, equipment upkeep, training, education, and The Great Ski Race. The Team's readiness, level of training, and financial health are at an all-time high due in large part to Steve's leadership. Great job Steve—many thanks!

Nominated, elected, codified, and certified as the seventh President of the Team is the west shore's own Russ Viehmann. Russ

without delay put on the Team's roster. Early the next winter we were called for an out-of-area search and Russ, the only Team member that responded, drove himself down to the Sierra foothills and ended up instructing many of the searchers on how to use their navigation equipment. That was Russ's first search, I think, and his story of the adventure at the next Team meeting was interesting, informative, and funny. Today, Russ has considerable rescue experience—and leadership skill too. He's been a Team director since 1999, and becoming numero uno for the Nordic Team only promises good things for us all.

G.S.R. Update

At the finish line of last year's Great Ski Race, Gerald Rockwell and I were introduced to a real estate developer from southern California, one Allen Radford. It just so happens that Allen is the owner of about 69 acres of land at Hilltop, including the finish hill of the race and Cottonwood Restaurant/Hilltop Lodge. He's owned the property for more than two decades but had never heard of The Great Ski Race or Tahoe Nordic Search and Rescue Team. So imagine his surprise when he just happens to be in Truckee on Great Ski Race day and stumbles upon 2000 people engaged in our area's biggest party—on his land! When he turned into the Hilltop parking lot from (former) Highway 267, one of our parking guys (most likely Randy Sharp or Bill Wise) told him no, he could not park here, no, not even if you're the property owner (hey, even the Dalai Lama in a coup de ville couldn't get by these guys). They turned him around and made him park down by 7-11.

Not only that, when he returned, Tony Bochenne charged him 15 bucks for a Great Ski Race cap. Well, lucky for us Allen is a guy that knows a good thing when he sees one, and he's also a guy with a considerable sense of humor.



Nordic Team President Russ Viehmann pauses during a new-snow day up Deep Creek.

Photograph by Randall Osterhuber

appeared on the Team's doorstep quietly and with little fanfare several years ago. He attended a few Team trainings and his competence in the winter backcountry and easy-going, go-for-it attitude immediately earned the respect of everyone. He was

Next General Meeting is Monday, October 4, 2004, 6:00 pm at the Granlibakken Resort's Ski Hut

With the Town of Truckee setting their land-development cruise control to about 90, rearview mirrors are no longer for looking back—just freshen up your lipstick and hold on. One of the developments in front of the Truckee Town council is at Hilltop, and the proposal calls for numerous new structures pretty much surrounding where today lies the last kilometer of The Great Ski Race course. But the proposal also calls for very large tracts of open space and pedestrian and recreation corridors. That's where we come in. Now that the shock is over, Allen is in full support of Tahoe Nordic Search and Rescue Team and the continuation of The Great Ski Race. Doug Read and I met with him a few weeks ago (he pulls up wearing his Great Ski Race hat), and he was nothing but a positive advocate for us, and for the ski race. He wishes The Great Ski Race to have right-of-way through the property into perpetuity, long, long after we all hang up our skis.

Training Time

The Tahoe Nordic Search and Rescue Team training calendar promises to be incomparable for winter 2005. In addition to being keen on the nuts and bolts of searching, having an aptitude for diversity, flexibility, and improvisation is essential during a winter rescue; our trainings will apply that artful polish to your already copious skills. The density and intensity of each month's training calendar varies. Please talk to each training organizer with specific questions about their outing.

A current OES card is required to participate on training functions. If you're foggy on how to secure a card, just about any Team member can fill you in. Ask.

Team trainings are fun, informative, and essential for keeping individual Team member's skills honed and the Team as a whole galvanized. The autumn hikes listed below will most likely involve map, compass, and GPS navigation skills, terrain familiarization, and perhaps even first aid or

avalanche transceiver practice. Do consider attending, if you please.

October 7: Russ Viehmann (525-6978) will run through an inventory of, and procedures of maintenance for the Team search equipment. Getting familiar with the Team's stuff makes gearing up for a rescue much more quick and efficient. Meet at the Team garage in Tahoe City (223 Fairway Drive, behind the Chevron station) at 6:30 PM. With Russ accepting the mega-responsibilities of Team President, he wishes to pass the duties of equipment manager onto an able and willing soul. If you think you're that soul, talk to Russ.

October 9: Bert Grunwald (546-2414) will lead a hike up Twin Peaks. Meet at the Team garage at 8:00 AM.

October 17: The Team's had countless rescues deep within the Five Lakes Creek drainage. Hike Powderhorn Creek into this area with Bernie Mellor (546-2238). Meet at the garage at 7:30 AM.

October 24: Karen Honeywell (546-8609) will lead a hike from Martis Peak to the Mt. Rose area. Calling Karen and letting her know you'll attend will make organizing a car shuttle easier. Meet at the garage at 7:30 AM, or at North Tahoe Beach (across the street from the Kings Beach Safeway) at 7:45.

October 30: Gear up, or pare down—the 40th annual community ski swap benefiting the Tahoe Community Nursery School happens today, 10:00 AM through 4:00 PM at the North Tahoe Conference Center in Kings Beach. For more specific info on being a buyer or seller, check out www.tahoehighschool.com or call (530) 210-6473.

Not counting on skiing Yucca Mountain anytime soon,

—Randall Osterhuber



334

people have been rescued
by Tahoe Nordic Search
and Rescue Team

Team Officers

President	Russ Viehmann	525-6978
Vice President	Ray O'Brien	581-4358
Treasurer	Scott Schroepfer	546-2809
Secretary	Sue Duerksen	412-3836
Board Members	Mark Johnson	583-1308
	Sarah Lagano	775-745-7037
	Bernie Mellor	546-2238
	Dirk Schoonmaker	583-2929
Directors-at-large	Randall Osterhuber	546-4491
	Joe Pace	583-1806
	Doug Read	583-6381
	Gerald Rockwell	583-5376
	Steve Twomey	525-7280

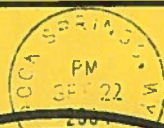
Committee Chairs

Cuisine	Debra Schroepfer	546-2809
Dispatch	Jackie Thomas	587-2687
Education	Jim Coffey	583-1276
Equipment	Russ Viehmann	525-6978
Great Ski Race™	Doug Read	583-6381
	Randall Osterhuber	546-4491
	Randall Osterhuber	546-4491
Newsletter	Scoop Remenih	583-1684
Snowcats	Ray O'Brien	581-4358
Snowmobiles	Gerald Rockwell	583-5376
Technology	Paul Honeywell	546-8609
Training	Bernie Mellor	546-2238
Website	Mark Johnson	583-1308
All phone numbers area code (530) unless otherwise noted.		

Tahoe Nordic Search & Rescue Team, Inc.

Post Office Box 7703
Tahoe City, California 96145
(530) 581-4038
www.tahoenordicsar.com
www.thegreatskirace.com

MARK JOHNSON
PO BOX 8258
TAHOE CITY CA 96145



OUR
29TH YEAR!

please keep us informed of your correct address!