

**Cinco** de Mayo is the festive occasion for TNSAR's closing meeting for the 2007-2008 season. As always, vittles a la Schroepfer will be provided. Dinner will be served at 6:00pm with the meeting to follow.

**Granlibakken Primaries** All of you undecided super-delegates better make up your minds. Voting for the new Board positions will take place at the upcoming meeting. It's still not too late to stage a coup.....

**GearHeads** Please take a few moments before the next meeting and round up all the extraneous search gear that has gathered in the bottom of your search packs all winter. Headlamps, glowsticks, radio batteries, spare grousers...you know, typical stuff you keep in your pack all winter. Break it out and bring it to the meeting. Don't worry, no one is counting all of those snickers and granola bars. Those you can keep. Prizes will be awarded for the person who finds the cliff bar with the oldest expiration date. I found one earlier this year with 2002 expiration stamp!

**Über Bulbs** It seems like every year my bulbs come out earlier, bloom longer, and are vegetatively bionic. Frost won't kill them, extended freezing only agitates them. Even deep snow doesn't threaten their hardiness. I don't know if they are engineered by Monsanto or what, but either way they very rudely remind me that spring has sprung or will at any minute and it always makes me embarrassingly reminiscent of the passing search season. This year was no exception. Just a few short months ago I was telling everyone not to worry, the pagers will go off and we will have searches. Looking back now it seems like there were a few weeks this season when I was hoping that dern pager would just keep quiet. But lucky for us we did have an exceptionally busy season and I know that makes everyone happy. I have to admit, some years I have had 'favorite' searches. Usually they are the ones that I want to be over the quickest; howling winds, zero visibility, snowing so hard you can't breathe, and no clue where the victim is. You know, the search

where we are as lost as the victim. Until, of course, when we find them, "...Ah yes, here we are...." This year it was impossible to decide because we had searches from one end of the search spectrum to the other. Epic all nighters, multiple day and night searches, out of town 'twilight zone' searches, out of bound searches that are neither, searchers with classically horrific weather, even glorious sunset spring corn searches when we don't know if we're out for an afternoon ski or on an actual search. Lordy, what fun we have had. Yet through it all, I am always amazed that there is still so much more to learn. We have been at this, what some 33 years, and still we are learning how to do this. I once had a college professor who was fond of saying, "...perform the poem so that you can learn how to perform the poem..." And that is so strangely applicable to what we do. Not that we follow iambic pentameter search patterns or ski around hollering out, "...Dave, wherefore art thou?" but that we are still learning as we go. I find that humbling and strangely refreshing at the same time. It keeps us on our toes rather than settling back on our heels. I remember a search a few years ago when a group of skiers were preparing to head out on a search and we came across the victims' car parked by the side of the road. We all looked at it, studied it thoughtfully, "...yep, that's a car alright.." and then skied off in the other direction. Hours later it was painfully realized that we went in the wrong direction entirely. It was frightfully clear, in hindsight, that their tracks into the woods started right there where the car was parked. Elementary my dear Watson... or is it? Oftentimes, even though we know better, we get sucked into the vortex of what we think is the victim's mind, "I'm sure they went that way, it's downhill. No way would they have gone back up hill..." Actually some people do go back up hill, just when you least expect it, just when you are expecting them (and are convinced that that is what they *thought* about doing) to go the easy way, downhill. That's just it, it is impossible to know. It's that toe-heel thing again. How do we constantly strive to stay

*en pointe?* I remember another search a few years ago when we had really good clues, excellent clues in fact, they were just in the wrong spot. The victim was nowhere near where her skis were found. Interestingly, there were other clues that night that were noted but not acted upon. It just so happened that several searchers noticed coyotes out that night, "hmm, now that's strange...wonder what they're doing out here..." and (sadly enough) it was the coyotes who found the victim before anyone else. I guess the trick is to always strive to be on your search toes, strive to always pay attention to your instincts, strive to ever so gracefully get in better touch with your own women's intuition. Progress not perfection, someone once said.....

**Thanks to everyone** for volunteering; for putting on a spectacularly successful Great Ski Race; for calling people up in the middle of the night; for reading grammatically challenged newsletters; for putting aside friends, family, work and obligations to go out in the middle of a snowstorm and search for mere strangers; for yet another great season here at TNSAR.

Ever dangling my participles

----B. Wright

## Team Officers

President	Russ Viehmann	525-6978
Vice President	Brian York	583-0465
Treasurer	Scott Schroepfer	546-2809
Secretary	Pam LeFrancois	546-7393
Board Members	Paul Honeywell	546-8609
	Mark Johnson	583-1308
	Jimmy Smith	582-4448
	Jonathan Laine	582-9466
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	Terri Viehmann	525-6978
Education	Sara Barrett	386-2751
	Sir David Fenimore	587-3739
Equipment	Brian York	583-0465
Great Ski Race	Doug Read	583-6381
	Dirk Schoonmaker	583-2929
Newsletter	Bob Wright	546-7273
Snowcats	Scoop Remenih	583-1684
Snowmobiles	TJ Johnson	308-2530
Technology	Gerald Rockwell	583-5376
Training	Bernie Mellor	546-2238
Truck	Peter York	550-8050
Website	Mark Johnson	583-1308

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"LET US DARE TO READ,  
THINK, SPEAK AND WRITE."



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The next TNSAR general meeting is Monday, May 5th, 6:00pm at  
the Granlibakken ski hut.

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Established 1976

# SnowLine

The Official Newsletter of the  
**TAHOE NORDIC SEARCH & RESCUE TEAM, INC.**  
Lake Tahoe • Truckee • Donner Summit

## Spring/Summer Trainings

Off season trainings do at times come up. Please keep an eye on your emails as summer trainings will be announced there.

Also, make sure we have your updated electronic addresses.

Spring garage cleaning will undoubtedly happen, sometime, yep you guessed it, this spring. An email will announce it.

Thanks again to all those who went out of their way and led and/or participated in TNSAR's training program.