

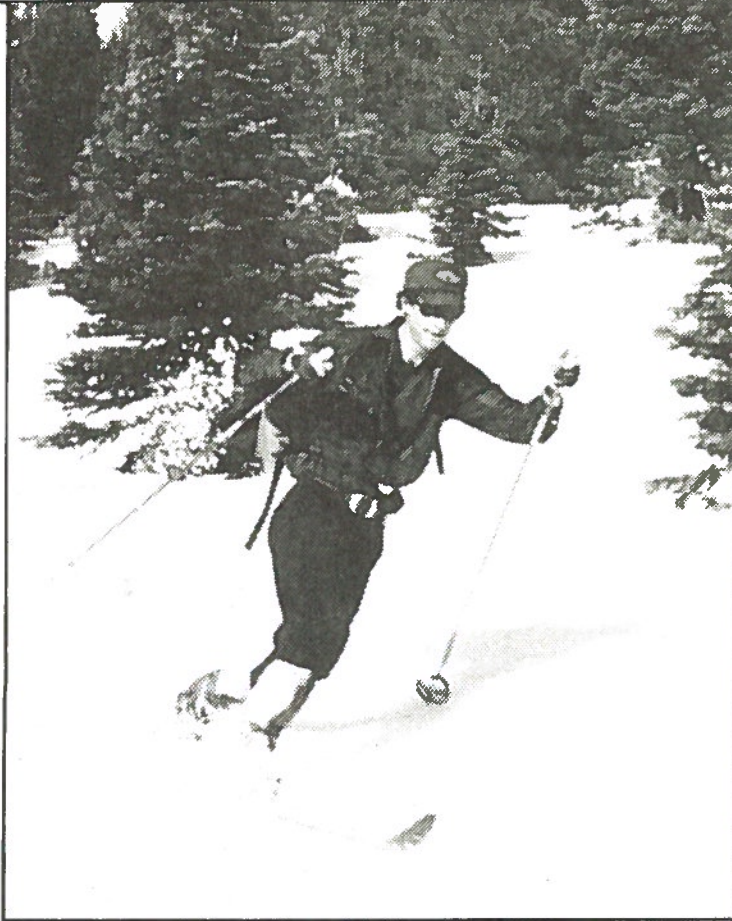
Tahoe Nordic Search and Rescue

MIDDLE-OF-MARCH NEWSLETTER

Vol.3 No.3

North Lake Tahoe, CA

March 1983



TOD LLOYD TURNS ON THE BACK OF PLUTO

SEARCH IN NEVADA COUNTY ENDS SUCCESSFULLY

On February 28th, seven members of the Tahoe Nordic Search & Rescue Team conducted a search for 33-year-old Lani Jacobsen of Grass Valley, lost while cross-country skiing in the Omega Mines area. At about 9:30 am the Nevada County Sheriff's Office requested aid in searching for the woman, who had been missing since 11:00 am the previous day.

Skiers Tod Lloyd, Randy Osterhuber, Jeff Menzer and Mike Wolterbeek, drivers Tony Remenih and Ken Menzer,

and co-ordinator Chris Burnett travelled to the Alpha Omega Ranger Station, 20 miles east of Nevada City on Highway 20.

Arriving at 1:00 pm, they found the Nevada County Sheriff's deputies overseeing 20 exhausted skiers who had been searching in heavy rain and winds gusting to 50 mph.

The TNSAR skiers joined the effort, but at about 3:30 pm, the Sheriff's Office decided to call off the search due to the severe weather and fatigue. However, the consensus among TNSAR members was that they could continue, so Burnett convinced the Sheriff to allow them to

pursue some tracks that had been sighted by the Sheriff's skiers. "We felt that if we didn't go, there was very little chance of finding her alive," said Lloyd.

Resuming the effort, Lloyd, Osterhuber and Menzer descended into a canyon. Remenih said, "It looked like they were dropping off the backside of the moon." As they disappeared into the darkness, howling wind and rain, the Thiokol returned to the base area, a rest stop northeast of Washington.

At about 9:00 pm, the skiers saw that the tracks they were following had become sharper, and upon discovering footprints, they stopped to yell. Receiving no response, they called again, and heard an answering yell that led them to an abandoned camper. The skiers had been out of radio contact for approximately two hours, but at around 10:00 pm sent the message that they had found Jacobsen. The Thiokol went back in and at about 11:30 Jacobsen, Lloyd, Osterhuber and Menzer were sighted making their way back up. The victim was in good physical condition and was actually able to hike out to the waiting vehicle easier than the three skiers, each of whom was carrying 40 lbs. of gear.

"They were great guys to be saved by," said Jacobsen, "they gave me granola bars and candy." Having become totally disoriented from the storm and from hitting her head on a branch during her wanderings the day before, her first question to her rescuers was, "Which way is north?"

Jacobsen's parents had been notified of her safety and arrived at the base area just as the Thiokol returned. Remenih said, "I think we all felt a surge of emotion as they were reunited."

—by Allison Anderson

WOOF TRAINING

WOOF teams from all over California will converge on the Truckee River for a two-day training session next weekend. On Saturday, March 19th, they'll meet at 8:30 am in the Deer Park parking lot for a day of avalanche training for the dogs and their handlers. Next day it's 9 am at Big Chief Guides for a wilderness workout. Everyone is invited to watch or even participate (the dogs need unfamiliar scents with which to train) so if you're interested call Nancy O'Connor at 546-7349 or just show up.



MARCH TRAINING

On Wednesday, March 16th at 10 am, the Fallon Naval Air Station is sending a squad to the Truckee Airport. They will give instruction in rescue techniques, conduct exercises, and in general show us what it is that they do. The session will last a half-day, until about 1 pm. All TNSAR personnel are invited to participate.

SKI PATROL CLINIC

Northstar's Ski Patrol Director Phred Stoner informs us that the Far West Professional Ski Patrol Association is holding its Spring Clinic at Mammoth Mountain during the first week in May. It's open to everyone, and if you wish to join the FWPSPA, dues are \$15/yr.

Activities at the clinic will include a Forest Service demonstration of their recoilless rifle, a Mammoth Mt. demo of their gondola evacuation procedure, snow pit evaluations, Poma of America showing off their new avalanche control explosives, and finally, good deals on Heli-skiing and video analysis of your skiing style. For more info call Phred (pronounced like "Fred") at 546-5106.

The Shake on a Search



Poor naked wretches, whereso'er you are,
That bide the pelting of this pitiless storm,
How shall your houseless heads and unfed sides,
Your looped and windowed raggedness, defend you
From seasons such as these?

—Shakespeare, from King Lear

THE GREATEST RACE

As everyone knows by now, the Great Ski Race was greater than ever this year, with over 700 skiers and the only eight hours of Perfect Weather we've seen in the last month or two.

The event began very promptly at 8:55 am, the front-runners and top-seeded competitors pulled ahead, and the remainder of the pack did an accurate self-propelled imitation of the 5 pm Bayshore Freeway. Once the route left the Tahoe Nordic Center's trails and began climbing Starret Pass, though, the mob thinned out and skiers could concentrate on waxing and pacing instead of survival.

The snow conditions were a challenge too, changing from hardpack to crud to the previous night's powder and finally back to slush. A few contestants were caught skulking along on waxless skis, their superior uphill attitudes and frustrated downhill whining giving them away. The results fell thusly:

WOMEN

1. Nancy Fibbler, Bear Valley-2:10:37
2. Eileen Hall, Tahoe City-2:11:49
3. Colleen Connors, Homewood-2:13:29

MEN

1. Ron Barrett, Bear Valley-1:58:23
2. Brian Laplante, Tahoe City-1:58:35
3. Dan Hill, Reno-1:58:39

TELEMARK

Women-Advanced

1. Amy Whelan

Men-Advanced

1. Bill Miller

Women-Novice

1. Alice Calhoun

Men-Novice

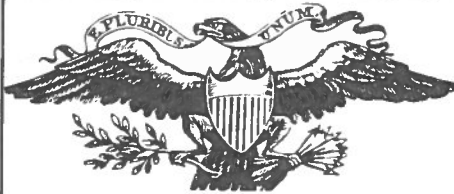
1. Joel Gilbert

As the race times show, the top three positions were hotly contested; nobody gave anything away except beer at the finish line. The Telemark Contest, bravely conducted as the clouds, wind and cold moved in, demonstrated an amazing variety of styles and some skillful maneuvering as well.

All this fun and effort resulted in somewhere around \$4000 for next year's budget. Thanks to the sponsors and especially the Great Race Committee, consisting of Chairperson Skip Reedy and a multitude of participants and last-minute volunteers...you pulled off another good one.

THAT WONDERFUL WILD WEST

Listeners to local radio stations K102 and KTHO may have heard the TNSAR PSA's (public service announcements). One of our 30-second spots takes the form of a crackling police radio as a search progresses at a local ski area. The climax, drawn from a real-life situation some years back, comes when the "victims" are located by sheriff's deputies at a Tahoe City watering hole. The other PSA is a straight-from-the-hip shot by The Man of a Thousand Voices, Tahoma's Titanic Tirader, the uncrowned Sultan of Solicitation, Ed Miller, encouraging would-be users of the winter wilderness to pack the proper gear and leave word with a friend. Gratitude and unabashed devotion are due to Wild West Graphics and Communications for the cutting and polishing of these audio gems. More are in the works for next year.



NOMINATIONS, ELECTIONS, ETC.

At the last general meeting nominations were accepted for next year's officers and Board of Directors. Due to poor weather and an ill-timed search (aren't they all?), turnout was low. Therefore additional nominations will be taken over the phone by Secretary Marilyn Henriques, 583-0696, and also at the next and final general meeting on March 28th, 7:30 pm at Granlibakken. Elections will be conducted afterwards, and the newsletter name will finally be selected.

Nominations to date include:

PRESIDENT

Doug Read
Chris Burnett

VICE-PRESIDENT

Dave Fenimore
Doug "Hotlips" Stewart
Jim Meskimen
Colleen Connors
Mike Wolterbeek
Randy Osterhuber

SECRETARY-TREASURER

Marilyn Henriques
Nancy Devon
Barbara Sutherland
Barb Cohen
Dave Fenimore

BOARD MEMBERS

Ken McMaster
Don Ahlert
Rick Foster
Marilyn Henriques

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—INSIDE—

Training Sessions
Omega Mine Search
Elections
Last General Meeting