

**Maine Association For Search and Rescue**  
**Monthly Meeting Minutes**  
**3 March 1996**

Meeting is called to order at 1320 hours by John McDonough

**Present**

John McDonough, Pete Laveway, Phil DuPerry, Randy Armour, Warden Deb Palman, Paul Magoon, Steve Hudson, Warden Glynn Pratt, Keith Heavrin.

**Announcements**

John McDonough relates that Al and Dave Martin's father passed away after a brief period of medical problems. Ideas are solicited for some way to send our regards and to show respect. Steve suggests we send a card and flowers and so moves. It is seconded by Randy and passed unanimously. Randy volunteers to see that it is done

John needs to have 1995 search summaries sent to him to be included in his annual report to the Warden Service as soon as units can get them in to him. So far he has received reports from Wilderness, MDISAR, and MESARD. Please mail them to John at your earliest convenience.

**Secretary's Report**

Minutes for the last meeting are read and Paul points out that he was present but not listed as such, so the minutes are amended to reflect his attendance There being no further errors or omissions Steve moves to accept with Randy seconding and the motion is passed unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report**

It is noted that dues notices have been received by many of those present and everyone is encouraged to send the dues in at your earliest convenience. Peggy notes that as of March 1st there is \$6714.61 in the MASAR account most of which is designated for the new Command Post trailer project. In reading the report it is noticed that several entries in the account are lumped together and John forwards that he'll ask Peggy to break the report down into individual entries as well as request that she separate the funds categories so we can see what is designated and what we have to work with. Steve comments that with what he thinks the designated funds add up to removed MASAR is very low on funds right now. Steve moves to accept the report as read but that we ask Peggy for a break down of funds in the next report. Pete seconds and the motion is carried unanimously

**Committee Reports**

**Standards Committee-**

Steve reports that as a result of the last meeting the work is about half done on the BASAR test and that another meeting will probably be enough to complete it.

Wilderness rescue team has submitted the paperwork for unit certification and it looks

like it is In order so will likely be passed at the next meeting as well.

Tri - Town SAR has requested their members be grandfathered to the new standards but has not sent in the required documents as yet. Steve will contact them and explain.

### ASTM

Steve has received the minutes from the November meeting. The minutes say that ASTM will be working on their Dog Standards next but that they don't have anyone to do it yet. The carabiner test standards have taken them a very long time. There seems to be some trouble with this committee. Other committees seem to be more productive. Next ASTM meeting will be in Colorado in May.

### ID Card Committee

A brief discussion of ID card use ensues with the general feeling that they could best be used at searches to identify MASAR personnel and provide Wardens in charge with information about the resource each volunteer brings to the search. A discussion of the MASAR Roster information sheets starts with concern that the information on them doesn't get filtered down to the people in Warden Service who need most to have it in order to be able to use the resources represented Warden Pratt comments that, for the most part, many of the wardens in the field have little awareness of the volunteers capabilities or availability. He obtains a copy of the newest W.S. SAR plan that lists the roster sheets for each volunteer unit and points out that sometimes the information doesn't always filter down to the people who need to have it in order to make use of the volunteer resources.

A discussion ensues about the T-Card system used at the May1995 Field Training Exercise. Keith agrees to take the initiative to write a report with recommendations concerning the ID Cards and the T-Card system at his earliest opportunity. He will call Al to gain consensus on the basic ideas. Keith also agrees to call Gary Anderson to relay the general conclusions so that he may carry the information to the SAR Committee Meeting in Augusta next Tuesday. Warden Pratt also expresses interest and takes notes concerning the T-Card system discussion. A short discussion ensues about Wardens not having the information about the volunteer resources available to them out there.

### May Training Exercise Committee

Warden Deb Palman is soliciting ideas for the May Training exercise to include with the ones already planned, If you have suggestions concerning the exercise please feel free to contact her to relate them. The sooner the better. A few general suggestions are expressed as follows:

Make a point of introducing the Wardens and the Volunteers to each other, Make a contingency plan for any personnel who don't go to Cooper Brook area on Sunday or in case the weather prevents anyone from going. It is suggested that one supper and a box lunch be provided to those attending the exercise. Steve mentions one thing we might consider for the exercise is dealing with a victim or victims that are not in very good shape and require assessment of their condition.

Warden Pratt says the number of wardens on the OHT is going to be reduced. For the purpose of training two Overhead Teams will work together as one, then be able to separate and work as two separate teams.

Deb says she thinks the Greenville elementary school might be available for volunteers

to camp out in and will call to see what is possible.

### **Old Business**

Steve brings in printouts of the new MDISAR Web page for us to see. It has a subheading with K-9 resources that lists MESARD.

John brings up the issue of fund-raising and expresses concern that this needs some serious consideration and soon. Steve mentions the possibility of writing a grant or a letter soliciting funds. Keith suggests that those groups who seem to be best at fund-raising do it by targeting groups, clubs and wealthy individuals to receive a letter requesting a donation. Pete suggests MASAR consider getting a cut of the BASAR course to be offered to all SAR personnel. Warden Pratt mentions that ice fishing derbies have been pretty successful. Any ideas are requested to be sent to John.

### **New Business**

Pete relates that there is a rumor that the Brunswick Naval Air station may have helicopters reassigned out of the area. The Navy is considering pulling the helicopters from Brunswick. John says if that happens then MASAR would be getting the Nite-Sun unit back as was agreed upon when it was originally donated to them

Pete relates information about a new Norwegian charcoal heater for use with hypothermia victims that uses forced air and a set of hot tubes through which the hot air circulates. The tubes are placed in next to the victim and under the litter coverings and generates considerable, body warming heat. The unit is around the size of a paint can and is carried right with the litter,

Pete shows a copy of a numeric pager callout system being used in New Hampshire. It would provide data on urgency level, type of resource required, and area location, all in the page number dialed. He points out that we would need to modify the system to our needs and that we would all need new numeric pagers to make it work.

A short discussion of Wardens calling out volunteers. John mentions he is concerned that not using the volunteers will result in more highly trained people leaving the volunteer ranks and the loss of more units. Deb mentions that there have been fewer searches this last year than usual. Glynn Pratt suggests getting information about volunteers to the SAR Committee,

The next scheduled MASAR Monthly Meeting will be held in Bangor at Warden Service Headquarters at 1300 hours on the 7th of April.

### **AGENDA**

1. Announcements
2. Secretary's Report
3. Treasurer's Report

4. Committee Reports
5. Old Business
6. New Business
7. Correspondence
8. Set agenda for next meeting

Meeting is adjourned at 1530 hours

Respectfully submitted

Keith R Heavrin Jr. - Secretary