

**MASAR Business Meeting**  
**October 6, 2002**

Attending:

Susanne Kynast	Sunrise SAR	Cathie Barthelemy	<i>ARRESTED COUNTY?</i> First Response SAR
Mike Sawyer	IFW	Julie Jones	MESARD
Renee Stanley	Katahdin SAR	John Lee	Katahdin SAR
Angie Vannah	Mid ME Equest.	Candy White	Mid ME Equest
Eric Klien	York County ERRT	Rick Davis	York County ERRT
John McDonnough	Wilderness Rescue	Steve Hudson	MDISAR
Scott Higgins	Civil Air Patrol	Paul Magoon	MESARD
Brad Rounds	Wilderness Rescue	Alan Martin	Dirigo

1. Meeting convened by John McDonnough at 1306.
2. Searches/Lessons Learned:
  - a. Search for missing 17 year old (reported as 14 year old, possibly suicidal,) at Abol Bridge in Millinocket. Live find shortly after activation of teams.
  - b. Search in Caribou for missing elderly gentlemen on medication. Noted that the food was quite good and there was a good turnout for an interesting search. Kevin Adam used the mapping system technology. It was also noted that there are some walking speed issues which may or may not be terrain-related. It was suggested that lat/long grid lines be put on team maps. Kevin Adam is believed to be doing this now. Victim was a live-find by a neighbor early in the morning following the activation.

There was discussion of a standardized protocol for use of GPS on searches, and it was felt that Kevin's info at the seminar would be the standard:

- WGS 84 unless specified other
  - Use of lat/long degrees/minutes/seconds  
There may be places where UTM will be used so teams should maintain proficiency in it.
  - Clear track log prior to each assignment
  - Set north to magnetic
- c. Two weeks ago there was an activation in the Lovell area for a 60 year old female who was disoriented and missing overnight. Activation was cancelled when the female walked out on her own.
  - d. There was nothing official on the activation yesterday for 2 12 year olds missing overnight in the Augusta area. It is believed they sheltered over, slept through the night, and walked out on their own.

- e. There was an incident where a Maine Guide slipped on the Cutler Trail around 2pm and sustained a broken foot. There were communication difficulties with the operation and SAR forces were activated to assist local rescuers, some of whom were inappropriately prepared and one of whom sustained a fall hiking out at night without appropriate lighting.
2. The fall seminar was discussed and everyone thought the event a success. It was noted that the facility was very good. It was also noted that youth groups created their own afternoon program and that this should be considered for all seminars in the future. It was also noted that the technical session pointed both to the reliance in NH of recreational-rescue protocols and to the fact that both states have a much better feel for each other's protocols at this point.
3. There was no secretary's report.
4. The treasurer reported a current balance of \$ 2,713.11 and an excellent dues response. It was noted that some of that may be due to the excellent idea of putting dues info sheets out at the fall seminar.
5. It was proposed that we consider asking teams to mail information to their members on becoming a MASAR individual member. The member team database being developed over the next few months should solve this problem in the future.
6. A motion was made by John and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Scott to fund an amount to be determined at a later date to defray the expense of sending a representative or representatives to the NASAR annual conference on an ongoing basis. Motion Passed. John and Julie will get conference specifics. John may draft a Heritage Fund grant, but it should be noted this would be one time funding, and perhaps this would be a good year because the conference is believed to be in New England. Issues of amounts and contact with teams was tabled until the December meeting.
7. Spring Training was discussed and will likely be a one day event. One suggestion brought forward was to do a partial day of "working with and around...horses, dogs, helos, fixed wing, airboats, crime scenes, the command post area, relatives and friends, the media, etc.  
  
A working committee was formed consisting of Scott Higgins, Susanne Kynast, Mike Swayer, Julie Jones and Brad Rounds. Mike will initiate a committee meeting prior to our December meeting.
8. The worker comp issue remains in progress with the Attorney General refusing to give an opinion and referring to Worker Comp itself for clarification. IFW wants to pursue specific language in legislation to cover SAR forces (youth included). A report is due at the December meeting.
9. Mike Sawyer distributed a summary sheet of the cost of search operations by year in the state of Maine.

10. The Standards Committee reported that the horse standard is under final team review and there has been no activity on the technical standard as of this point in time.
11. Susanne submitted a color print for the MASAR patch. It was decided this would be a 4" round patch that was embroidered. The final would be submitted with a larger print ring and a reduced sized yellow cross. The yellow will be changed to orange and the blue background will be corrected to a pale blue color. Susanne will contact companies and obtain a prototype. Eventually, we may also want to look into decals. The patch it intended for non-uniform and uniform wear by individual and team members.

Reported by Brad Rounds

Note: The meeting was still in progress when I left at 1446 hours.