

MAINE ASSOCIATION FOR SEARCH AND RESCUE (MASAR)
MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 9, 2007
INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE
SIDNEY, MAINE

Called to Order: President, Jennifer Fisk, 1:10 p.m.

Introductions

Recent Searches: Warden Pat Dorian briefly reported on the recovery in NH of Kelly Gorham who went missing from Alfred, ME on Aug. 7, 2007. Maine authorities are working with NH on the case.

An 85-year-old woman from Dirigo Pines Retirement Community in Orono, ME went missing on Thurs., Aug. 30, 2007. Local authorities and MESARD searched throughout the night. DEEMI had members on site early Fri. morning. MESARD handler Irene Morey and her dog Eiko found the woman Friday morning around 7:30 a.m., approximately ¼ mile in the woods off the Kelly Road.

Jennifer reported that MDI responded to a search for a missing man who went to the gift shop at the top of Cadillac Mountain with his wife and daughter. The man waited in the vehicle while his wife and daughter went into the shop. When they returned the man was gone. The wife did not reiterate to authorities that she and her husband had a disagreement earlier which might have changed the complexities of the case. Later on the man called - he had hiked down off the mountain after the disagreement.

Warden Dorian and Jennifer reported that some members of MESARD and Warden Deb Palman had recently gone to New Brunswick to work a July suicide case for body recovery. Warden Palman found the body in less than one hour.

Harvey King from Waldo County said that his team did a search in Islesboro where the 'victim' may be charged. The man left a group of friends who were partying at a residence and ended up breaking into another residence.

Warden Dorian mentioned that there was a 3-year-old that left his home about 6 a.m. when his mother was sleeping. She woke up a couple of hours later and saw that the boy was gone. The boy was located after walking ¾ of a mile through some nasty woods. He also said that there were many other cases that have been handled since our last meeting.

Richard Bowie (DEEMI) shared photos that were taken by a camera in their fixed wing aircraft. He reported that DEEMI was requested at 0810 on May 28, 2007 for a search involving a missing 3-year-old female in Fort Fairfield (search discussed in previous meeting minutes). The requesting agency was Fort Fairfield PD (Chief Bubar). The initial mission launched at 0900 on May 28th but was ordered to return to base due to death in the photo technician's family. They relaunched on June 1st and 250 photos taken at 500 feet above the river from PLS to the Tinker Dam. The analysis revealed no targets of interest. The second mission was on June 15th. The aircraft flew from the PLS to Tinker Dam, 500 feet AGL. 550 images were obtained and upon analysis, Richard Bowie located a blue object on the dam. The staff at the dam investigated the object of interest. A positive find was made at 1440 on June 17, 2007.

Secretary's Report: MASAR March 4, 2007 Meeting Minutes were presented. *Dave Martin - motion to accept as written. Unanimous vote to accept.* MASAR June 3, 2007 Meeting Minutes were presented. *Dave Martin - motion to accept as written. Unanimous vote to accept.*

Other secretarial business: Dues were collected. Reminder of the fall conference exercise; Reminder about the responsibility of MASAR Duty Officer's (*being available when it is their turn for duty*) and that they are supposed to file a report with the secretary after each callout that are done (Duty Officer forms are available through the secretary).

Treasurer's Report: Current balance checking account: \$2899.01. Current balance savings account: \$668.23. *Lisa Michaud - motion to accept as written. Unanimous vote to accept.*

Committees:

Board of Directors: Nothing since the Board of Director's conference call prior to MASAR's last meeting in June. The Board is going to wait on any action by MASAR until matters regarding Susanne Kynast, which are pending by the Maine Warden Service, are completed.

By Laws Committee: No report.

Education Committee: Lisa Michaud reported for Education Director Randy Michaud that two weeks earlier Randy had emailed Eric Sawyer (YCERRT) asking him to send a schedule of the MASAR Fall Exercises. As of this date, he has not heard back from him.

Standards Committee: No Report.

Old Business: Pager / Callout Procedures - Julie went over and handed out the directions on how to get on the York County Emergency Management Agency's text-messaging list for pagers and cell phones for MASAR Call-Outs. **YOU MUST HAVE TEXT MESSAGING CAPABILITIES ON YOUR CELL PHONE AND / OR PAGER.**

Dave Martin reiterated that there have two different MASAR OD's that didn't know that they were on duty and problems occurred. Dave suggested that all on-duty MASAR OD's contact the next assigned OD who'll be coming on duty 24 hours in advance to remind them of their obligation.

Proposal of By Law Change (Election Process) - Randy was supposed to have a proposal but unable to attend. Lisa Michaud said that he is working on the proposal.

Other News: Jen announced that there may be two awards that are given at the Fall Exercise: The Irma Simoneau Award for a support person / position for a team or many teams. Jen has nominated Paul Magoon's (MESARD) Dad (posthumously) and Mom for the award. They have supported MESARD for years hosting trainings, overnight trainings, and potluck dinners for the team. Nominations should go to MDISAR. The other award is the Tim Burt Award for an exceptional volunteer in search and rescue. Nominations should be sent to Wilderness Rescue Team.

Jennifer and Warden Dorian mentioned that Kate Braestrup, Chaplain for the Maine Warden Service, has written an excellent book entitled: **Here If You Need Me** (A True Story).

New Business: Dr. Bowie, a board trained Emergency Physician, handed out another educational / research article on Entonox or nitrous oxide as an example of 'best practice' from an English service who parallels us, who is non profit, non government supported and yet sets fine standards. They have a 1/3 team medical concept even with casualty specialists or medics in the UK and have active physicians on the teams as well. The Entonox is also in Maine EMS (green 20 section) of protocols and must be considered for care in pain at remote locations by medics. Dr. Bowie advocated for better and thus continuous consideration of ways to improve the suffering and outcome of patients. EMS and Emergency medical standards of care apply regardless of location of a patient. Dr. Bowie asked for MASAR and especially the Warden Service to increase its medical awareness and try to get medical and EMS assets involved as soon as possible. Jennifer Fisk asked if any bad outcomes had occurred and Dr. Bowie replied that medicine cannot treat patient based on bad outcomes, but on preventative care to help (i.e., blood sugars and hypothermia). This would mean trying to improve whatever level of care we offered on a constant basis, and not maintaining the status quo. This was a significant concern in Dr. Bowie's presentation.

John Gardner (Navy SERE) agreed with Dr. Bowie and his presentation. On another topic, John would be willing to work with different teams for training in areas such as visual tracking, land navigation, and land and water survival. Please contact John if you are interested in getting more expertise in the above.

Dave Martin agreed with what Dr. Bowie spoke about in that MASAR needs to make some changes and work more with EMS practices.

Date / Location of Next Meeting(s): September 22, 2007 (Annual Meeting), 7:30 p.m., York County EMA; December 2, 2007, 1:00 p.m., Bangor, Maine.

Meeting Adjourned: 2:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Julie R. Jones

Those in attendance: Jennifer Fisk (MESARD); Julie Jones (Dirigo); Pat Dorian (MWS); Dave Martin (DIRIGO); Richard Bowie (DEEMI); Robert Bowie, M.D., (DEEMI); Lisa Michaud (North Star); Janice Hatch (MMESAR); John Gardner (Navy SERE); Harvey King (MESARD) and Nicole Prescott (Lakes Region).

Attachment: Cell Phone / Pager Instructions.