

ESAR NOTEPAD FOR JUNE 2012

CALENDAR:

- 7 Board meeting, PCC, 21ST & Cushman – 1900 hours
- 12 SAFECO booth
- 15 SAFECO booth
- 16 WESAR MapTech training, Bremerton – 0900 hours (instructions to follow at a later time)
- 21 General meeting, Gig Harbor, GPS training – 1900 hours
- 23/24 Bigfoot
- 26 SAFECO booth

BOARD MEEING:

I hope you will attend the meeting. Many times the Board is looking for leaders to volunteer to lead a project. This is your opportunity to find out what ESAR is all about. This is the planning group for all of the activities that ESAR participates in. We want you to be a part of the decisions. ESAR is not just about going on missions. Search and rescue missions are only about 15% to 20% of our total activities. Come to a meeting and find out what you can become involved with.

WESAR MAPTECH:

WESAR, usually once a year, has a training planned for all ESAR units. This one will be held in Bremerton and will be on MapTech and GPS. This is open to any ESAR member in the State. It will start at 0900 and finish sometime in the afternoon. Fast food is close by. Information will be sent later this month on what will be taught and directions to the location. It will be held at the DEM office in Bremerton. There is no cost, except you will have to purchase your own food. More information to come.

GENERAL MEETING:

GPS will be the topic at this meeting. It is a requirement that all members in SAR know how to work with GPS. This is your opportunity to fulfill that requirement. The meeting will be held at 1900 hours at Cormick Forest Park, 10301 Bujacich Road, Gig Harbor. You can come early and have a picnic if that will help. Everyone who attends this training will be logged in as having completed GPS training. Please attend. If you have questions, contact Libby Hayward at libby@ronhayward.com or call her at 253.279.2585.

SAFECO:

As always Andy Florek, Safeco Coordinator for PCESAR, is looking for people to man the booth at Safeco field. You can contact him at esarflorek@aol.com or you can call him at 253.617.8068. He needs your help to keep the booth full of people. It is a tremendous task for him to fill the booth each game. Make it easier for Andy; he has really worked hard to maintain a level of workers so that ESAR can make money. We want to avoid a dues program as our way of funding ESAR. You will also receive credit towards your choice of an ESAR coat or a pager.

BIGFOOT PRACTICE:

The Pierce County Sheriff is sponsoring Bigfoot again this year. This is one way for ESAR to requalify for SAR in Pierce County. We will probably rendezvous at the So Hill Park and Ride at a time that will be established at the Board meeting on the 7th. This is an opportunity for people who have completed Course 3 but could not attend Course 4. This will give you the number of hours needed to become a full brushmonkey. The training will also be some of the requirements for the Core Competency now required by the Sheriffs of Washington State. Again, a list of those attending will be logged in as completing training that is required. Many people may look at this and say "Why?" Because of the Core Competency now in play, all SAR members have 24 hours of training they must attend each year. You can substitute 8 hours of search and rescue missions for training, but only 8 hours. That means you need a minimum of 16 hours of training. Board meetings, general meetings, and Bigfoot fill that requirement. If you are working that day we understand your absence; if you have an activity with family, we understand; but if you are just on Facebook, tweeting or sitting at your computer, you need to attend this training. The Sheriff always looks to see who or how many ESAR members attend. It will be overnight, and you will have to have your 48-hr pack. There is a BBQ after the practice, so be ready to eat a lot. The deputies put on the BBQ. (Last year we had a search on Saturday, but later the subject was found in jail! Then it was back to the training for us.) Everyone who goes to Bigfoot comments on how much fun it is. More information will be sent prior to that weekend (or come to the board meeting and find out first hand!!!).

MISSIONS:

5/2 113th & 72nd St, 10 y/m missing, found OK, turnaround for PCESAR.

5/16 Thurston County, 16 y/m fell into the river; subject was found drowned. Turnaround for PCESAR.

Last year, 2011, we had 15 calls and responded to 9 missions by June 1st. This year we have had 9 calls and responded to 5 missions. This is a slow year so far in our call outs, but now that I've said that, all the calls will start coming. Some years are slow; others come really fast. We cannot predict when or where, but always be ready to respond.

WASHINGTON STATE CONFERENCE:

Twenty-one PCESAR members attended the conference this year. There were no new members in attendance this year. I hope next year more people take the opportunity to attend, as the conference will be held at the fairgrounds in Ellensburg, Kittitas County. That will be much closer distance for everyone to travel. They had 72 instructors and over 500 hours of classes this year. Again, some of you will need some of the training given to keep your membership in SAR. This again is an opportunity to learn additional information to help us on missions.

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