

ESAR NOTEPAD FOR SEPTEMBER 2012

CALENDAR:

- 3 Safeco booth, Andy Florek, esarflorek@aol.com
- 6 Board meeting, TPD HQ, 3701 So. Pine St - 1900 hours
- 7 Safeco booth, Andy Florek, esarflorek@aol.com
- 8 WESAR meeting, TPD HQ, 3701 So. Pine St - 1000 hours
- 18 Safeco booth, Andy Florek, esarflorek@aol.com
- 19 Orientation, Gig Harbor library, 4424 Point Fosdick, Gig Harbor
- 20 General meeting, TBA - 1900 hours
- 23 Safeco booth, Andy Florek, esarflorek@aol.com
- 27 Orientation, University Place library, 3609 Market Place W. - 1900 hours
- 27 Training meeting, TBA - 1900 hours

BOARD MEETING:

Notice that the Board meeting has changed locations. We now meet at the Tacoma Police headquarters, 3701 So. Pine St. Meetings will start at the usual time of 1900 hours. If you have never been to a Board meeting, you should attend. There are many jobs in ESAR that are unfilled at the moment, with some volunteers carrying more than one job. We need you to participate in the meetings to govern the business of ESAR. We rely on our adult members to attend and perform a function of your choice. Do not wait for the Chairman to call you to ask you to become a Committee Chairman or a Director. Volunteer without being asked!! What do you say?

STATE DEM REIMBURSEMENT:

The State has become more active in approving claims that we send in to be reimbursed for fuel and property claims. If you are going on missions, be sure to fill your gas tank before the rendezvous. The State says now if you finish the mission, on the same day or next day, you must fill your gas tank up again and put in a claim. If you are claiming equipment loss, do not put a lot of information in the description of the loss, but just say it was lost! Chris Long, SAR Coordinator for the State is reviewing the claims a lot closer than in the past. He says any claim for gas, other than on the day or day after the mission, will be disallowed. Too much time has passed to fill up the gas tank again.

Just a note for those who do NOT claim any gas reimbursement for missions. This can lead to a loss of MONEY for other search and rescue volunteers! Here's how it works! The State has a budget of xxx dollars for claims. Each year the budget is adjusted to meet projected fuel and equipment claims. If we do not claim all that we are allowed, the budget is reduced. The State SAR Coordinator urges you to make all valid claims. Remember, we are the only state in the U.S. that has this program - let's keep the budget for our program strong! Does that make sense to you? If not, give me a call and I will explain it again.

I will use the recent Mt. Rainier mission as an example. Three out of 12 people, who traveled over 100 miles, sent in claims for gas reimbursement. The State does not know about the fuel used by the other nine volunteers for this mission. Multiply that by several missions, and you can see how it can affect the program budget. The end effect is that there is less money in the budget for our program!! Please make your reimbursement claims! Send them to the ESAR PO Box 11322, Tacoma WA 98411.

SAFECO:

Andy Florek has had to beg for the last six months for people to work at Safeco! That is a burden he has taken on without complaint!! Can you or are you willing to work for the good of ESAR? It takes people to make this whole operation work. There are only four games left. If we do the 20 games for the year, we get a bonus of payment for two additional games! It is never too late to notify Andy you can help. Remember, you get credit for an ESAR jacket if you work at Safeco. Call him at 253.617.8068.

IF YOU ARE MOVING ON!!

Many of our members are leaving the area for college, military and other reasons. If you are one of those people and wish to remove your name from the ESAR mission alert system and ESAR paging system, you need to notify us of your status. Otherwise, you will continue to receive phone calls and e-mails from ESAR. If you do not wish to receive them any more, let us know. Contact Phyllis Posey, Membership and Records Director, so she can remove you from the call out list. Notify me, Smitty, Operations Director, to remove your name from the call out procedures. Phyllis: pcesarmemrec@yahoo.com. Smitty: sarsmith3@comcast.net.

MISSIONS:

9th Evidence mission - 51st & Orchard Street. We were asked by the Tacoma Police Dept. to look for items that might have been from Teekah Lewis, who was taken in January 1999. Nothing was found by the Unit. 21 members responded, 149.5 manhours, 15 vehicles, 68 miles driven, savings of \$3,240.48.

11th Evidence mission - Mt. Rainier National Park. The request came from Pierce County Sheriff, Mt. Rainier National Park, FBI and Mt. Rainier law enforcement to search for weapons used by the person who shot Margaret Anderson on January 1st. Gun, two clips, and a Swiss knife were found by the Unit. 27 members responded, 311 manhours, 13 vehicles 2190 miles driven, savings of \$7,015.15.

14th Search - 69 year old male hiker missing in Whatcom County. Did not respond to that mission, as only 4 members responded, 8 manhours, 3 vehicles, 46 miles, and savings of \$305.27.

15th Search - Assist Tacoma Police Dept. in a search for two young boys missing from home in Tacoma since the day before. It was determined later that evening that the boys were runaways. 19 members responded, 80 manhours, 14 vehicles, 471 miles driven, savings \$3,610.04

27TH Search - Assist Pierce County Sheriff in a search for a 76 Y/F missing since 1700 hours. Subject was located about 2200 hours in St. Claire Hospital. 19 member responded, 39 Manhours, 11 vehicles, 310 miles driven, savings \$1,502.53.

Total for year: 24 calls, 289 people have responded; (94 out of 190 members); 2,109 manhours; 185 vehicles; 13,650 miles driven; savings of \$58,890.35.

SIGN IN SHEETS:

I noticed that many of you do not have your DEM number on the sign in sheet. If you have lost your card and can not remember your number, contact Phyllis Posey (Membership & Records, 253.863.8821). Your number must be on every sign in sheet that ESAR uses on every activity and search and rescue mission. It is a requirement for everyone in the State of Washington. If you have no number, contact Phyllis and find out why you are missing that number. Secondly, I notice that some of you sign in with cursive writing. Please sign in by carefully PRINTING your name. It is really hard to figure out who you are when the handwriting is not legible.

ORIENTATIONS:

You will notice that we have two orientations this month. Phyllis will be the coordinator for those of you who are willing to present the orientations to potential members. If you wish to be the presenter, contact Phyllis Posey (253.862.8821, esarmemrec@yahoo.com). She needs your help, as Curt Read our regular recruiter has left the area for bigger and brighter things!! There will be an article in the Tacoma News Tribune soon, giving the dates of the orientations. Please step forward and volunteer!! Without recruiting new people, ESAR will not survive. Have you notified all your friends that a new training season is about to begin? If not, now is the time to do that. We need new members who are willing to go on searches and are not just looking for credit to graduate from school. They do not last long!! It costs ESAR about \$2,301 to train one person in ESAR skills.

Grant L. Smith (Smitty)

Operations Director

Notepad Editor