



**ROCKY MOUNTAIN HOUSE**

# **Search & Rescue**

March, 2011 • Issue Number 4

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MRT  
General Members

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Ice Rescue\_\_  
SAR Fundamentals  
Bear Awareness  
MRT

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Bartending  
Security

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Rocky Mountain House Volunteer Search & Rescue Society  
Box 1888, Rocky Mountain House, Alberta T4T 1B4  
Website: [www.rockysar.com](http://www.rockysar.com)



**General Members Meeting**

Thursday, March 24  
1900 at the SAR Shack

**Upcoming Training**

**Ice Rescue**

March 26, 2011

Time TBA

**MRT Meeting**

April 5, 2011

19:00 SAR Shack

**MRT Practise**

Sat., April 9, 2011

TBA

**SAR Fundamentals**

April 1, 2 & 3,  
and April 9 & 10, 2011

19:00 • SAR Shack

**Bear Awareness**

Sun. May 10, 2011

19:00 • SAR Shack

**Volunteers Needed**

**Bartending/Drive Home**

June 5, 2011

Bartending & Drive Home

**20 Anniversary Open House/ Banquet**

**Grad Security**

Wed., June 29, 2011

Use D4H to sign up



“Operational Callout - March 10, 2011” In no particular order: Eldon, Gerry, Jennifer, Polly, Robyn, Doug, Kevin, George, Ed, Don, Dawn, Jayne (photographer), missing from photo Jim.

**Doing what we are trained to do!**



Managers at work.

A big thank you to Gerry for the magnificent food!



Setting up for lunch.





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**R.C.M.P. Regimental Ball**

Bartending at the Regimental Ball held January 29, 2011 at Lou Soppit Community Centre.

**SAR Fundamentals**

Rocky Search and Rescue is holding a SAR Fundamentals course on April 1 (evening), 2 & 3 and April 9 & 10. Please notify training@rockysar.com if you are interested in taking this course. A \$50 deposit is required prior to com-

mencing the course, this will be refunded upon successful completion. Please note, this course is a requirement in order for you to be able to enter the field as a ground searcher.

**S.A.R. Fundamentals, Course Content**

The S.A.R. Fundamentals Course will include an overview of various S.A.R. related materials, which will include the following:

- Incident Management and Organizational Structure
- Fitness
- Survival and Body Management
- Clothing
- Emergency Survival Skills
- Problems associated with specific S.A.R. environments
- Survival First Aid considerations
- S.A.R. ready pack
- Personal outdoor equipment
- Travel skills: Foot travel for the S.A.R. worker
- Navigation
- Communication

- S.A.R. resources
- Psychological and stress problems in S.A.R.
- Search
- Handling evidence
- Clue awareness
- Lost person behaviour
- Anatomy of a S.A.R. incident
- Search probabilities theory
- Tracking
- Rescue gear
- Rope related equipment
- Evacuation
- Hand and power tools of rescue
- Air operations
- Helicopters
- Legalities
- Handling external influences i.e. media/family
- Preventative S.A.R.





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# Decisions for Heroes

This resource is used to keep all members informed of training opportunities, fundraising events and exercises. We request that you login and update your own contact information so that we may get a hold of you. We will not be using Decisions for Heroes for a call-out, however, we will be using the information contained within it to reach you in the event of an incident, training or fundraising events.



## Thank You Next to New

Two new laptops and a big screen LCD for mapping. Thank you Next to New for your generous donation.

### Provincial Training Exercise

May 14 & 15, 2011, Cochrane Search & Rescue will be hosting a Provincial Training Exercise. Stay tuned to Decisions for Heroes for more information.

### General Members Meetings

General Members meetings are held every second month on the 4th Thursday. Mark your calendars. Next meeting is March 24, 2011 at 19:00.

### Submission to the Newsletter

Members are welcome to submit their stories or articles for inclusion in the Newsletter. Submissions will only be printed after Board approval.





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## SAR Tips - Reminders

### Lost Person Behaviour: Children 1 - 3 Years old

- Unaware of the concept of being lost.
- Navigational skills and sense of direction are non-existent.
- They have no idea how to return home or to a point of familiarity
- They are very likely to wander aimlessly
- They are unlikely to respond to searchers
- They are likely to find somewhere to lie down and sleep such as thick bush, under a rock, picnic table or somewhere else they may find or perceive to be shelter.
- They are inquisitive and easily distracted by some thing that has got their attention.

### SEARCH STRATEGY

A child this age will not travel a great distance, however, due to the fact that they are unlikely to respond to searchers, a thorough search is of the utmost importance. It is very useful with this category of lost person that "pet names" are known to searchers. If a child is named "Toby" but the parents call him "Tootsie", then he/she is unlikely to respond to a searcher calling "Toby". Know if the child has a favorite pet or stuffed animal and use this in order to get the child to respond.

## Tracking

**Sign:** This is any change in the natural environment that is caused by an animal or person passing through the area. For example a disturbed rock, broken twigs, bent grass, footprint etc.

### POA x POD = POS

**PLS:** Point Last Seen. The location that the missing person was known for certain to have been. Is usually the starting point for a search.

**POA** Probability Of Area. The likelihood that the search object, or clues, are in that particular area.

**POD:** Probability Of Detection. The likelihood of locating the subject in a particular area using a certain type of resource in certain conditions.

**POS:** Probability Of Success. The chances of finding the search object, given the POD and POA.

## ICS 100

ICS 100 is a mandatory course. If you have not completed yours yet, log on the [rockysar.com/training.html](http://rockysar.com/training.html). There is a link to the course material and exam. Complete this and send to the mailing address on the website.



## Snow Conditions

Current snow conditions are available at <http://www.where-adventurebegins.com>. Be safe out there.

## Member ID Cards

Photos for member ID cards will taken at the next general members meeting on March 24, 2011.