

Inyo County Search and Rescue

April 2018 General Meeting Minutes

April 5, 2018

Call to Order

The Inyo SAR board meeting was held at the Posse Hut and was called to order at 7:03 PM by President Elsbeth Otto.

March Inyo SAR Events and Missions

- **Hug-a-tree day** A group of SAR members went to Bishop Elementary School to teach lessons on how not to get lost and how to tie some useful knots.
- **MRA Recertification** Inyo SAR started the day in the Alabama Hills for the Annual Mountain Rescue Association Rock Recertification. A great technical system was hatched, but the team got diverted to the Mammoth Mountain Avalanche (see below).
- **Mammoth Mountain Avalanche** Callout to respond to a large avalanche in bounds on Mammoth Mountain. About 20 team members responded and contributed to the effort to complete a probe line in the avalanche debris to ensure that there were no burials.
- **Winter Race Series #3** Great turnout, just under 40 runners, including local law enforcement. Over 50 businesses donated goods and services, fantastic contributions. \$1,800 in income to Inyo SAR was generated from the race.
- **Banff Film Festival** Great turnout and outreach at the Banff Mountain Film Festival.
- **Guideline Training** Occurred at the Little Egypt crag outside of Town. Great weather, small group. Set up a long (~500 foot) guiding line from the top of Espresso Crack area to the moraine.

Team Business

- **Gaia GPS App** The Gaia app previously was provided free to SAR members, which is being phased out. Many team members use Gaia for recording tracks on search operations and navigating to incidents. Now it is \$20 a year subscription for Search and Rescue Members (50% off normal price). Please contact Gaia directly for the SAR rates and to purchase. You can buy the App and then get reimbursed by Inyo SAR. Deputy Lawson notes that Backcountry Navigator Pro app might be better for Android devices.
- **Helicopter Training** The next training scheduled is the annual helicopter operations training with the California Highway Patrol H80 helicopter on April 21 and 22. Brief headcount of those attending. If you did not attend, please RSVP for the training by

emailing Julie Vargo (julievargo@gmail.com). More details will be sent out as the date gets closer, but plan for training to run most of the day Saturday and Sunday.

- **Bishop High Sierra Ultramarathon** The Inyo SAR team is one of the beneficiaries of the Bishop High Sierra Ultramarathons (www.bishopultras.com) on June 2. The SAR team will be manning the aid station where Buttermilk Road meets Hwy 168 (the station that serves popsicles and other goodies). The station will need volunteers, so watch for an email from Todd V. about volunteering for a shift.
- **Members Voted** Nik B. and Sonja S. voted on as full team members of Inyo County Search and Rescue. Congratulations Nik and Sonja!

Upcoming Dates

(Click [here](#) to view the Inyo SAR Google Calendar)

- **April 21,22** CHP Helicopter Training
- **May 3** May SAR General Meeting
- **June 2** Bishop High Sierra Ultramarathon

Adjournment Elsbeth Otto adjourns the meeting at 7:38 PM