



# Nicolet Search Team



*Always Ready, So That Others May Live*

January 2005

**January 8<sup>TH</sup>, 2005 - Annual Meeting**, Plan to be there, we will be electing officers for 2005 and also going over to approve the 2005 budget. The time will be 9:00am at the Mountain Ambulance Station off of Highway 32. There have been a few of you who we have not heard from in a while, now is the time to be there.

For those of you coming from out of town, there is always a place for you stay, just contact Andy ahead of time, you will need your sleeping bag and your food items.

Date	Topic	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>December 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Training with Headwaters, search scenario</b></li> <li>• <b>Discussed future training needs</b></li> <li>• <b>Discussed Lost Person Questionnaire (have new one)</b></li> </ul>
Feb 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2005	Business Meeting, Mountain Ambulance Station	
Mar 12 <sup>th</sup> , 2005	No Meeting	
April 9 <sup>th</sup> , 2005	Business Meeting, Mountain Ambulance Station	
May 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2005	Field Training Exercise, Wabeno	

**Some Definitions you will use on a search, get to know them...**

- PLS - Point Last Seen, implies a visual sighting
- LKP - Last Know Position, is the place and time that the lost person was last known to be. More encompassing than PLS.
- POC - Probability of Containment (aka. POA - Probability of Area) is the probability that the subject is contained within the boundaries of an area, region, segment or grid cell.
- POD - Probability of Detection, is the probability that the subject or clue will be detected by the search action if it is in the search area.
- POS - Probability of Success, a number achieved by multiplying POC x POD, a planning tool.
- M-27- "Mary 27", a radio code for subject found deceased.
- M-28- "Mary 28", a radio code for subject found and ambulance needed.

**Team Web Site**

Matt has been working on updating our web site. Check out what he has got done so far. Give him some suggestions. All the newsletters are posted, you will need to get a user name and password from Matt.

<http://home.new.rr.com/nst>

Another web site to check out is NASAR's at [nasar.org](http://nasar.org). Matt has included a few links to various teams around Wisconsin. If you have not taken the time to check out their web sites, winter is the time.

**Search Missions**

No Calls this month.

**New Members**

We have 3 - 5 new members who will be joining us in January, do you know of some others who might enjoy what we do?

**Training**

We have discussed training needs within the Team. We now have new to experienced members all requiring different training needs. For the new members, you need to get Module 1 completed, for everyone else, we need to get the rest done. As a searcher you need to get as many skills and as much knowledge that you can. The more you have, the more valuable a member you become.

We will be discussing other training nights for the Team Specific Modules and using our Saturday meetings for general training, such as setting up the search in Wabeno this spring.

**IF YOU NO LONGER HAVE THE TIME OR THE DESIRE TO BE A MEMBER OF OUR TEAM, PLEASE LET ONE OF THE OFFICERS KNOW SO THAT YOUR NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION CAN BE REMOVED FROM OUR ROSTER. THERE ARE A FEW OF YOU THAT WE HAVE NOT HEARD FROM IN A WHILE.....**

*Just be - Always Ready, So That Others May Live...*

## The Crucials for effective Search Management

**REMEMBER: "Search is a Classic Mystery"**

1. Search is an emergency.
2. Search is a Classic Mystery.
3. Search for clues, and the missing / overdue subject(s).  
*There are many more clues than subjects.*
4. Concentrate on the aspects that are:
  - a. *Important to search success.*
  - b. *Under your control, do not worry about things outside your control.*
5. Know if the subject leaves the area.
  - a. *Use confinement*
  - b. *Gather good information*
6. Application of appropriate resources in a definite order is essential.
7. Grid (close Spacing) Search is a last resort.  
*The cost benefit and time is significantly better using other techniques.*

## Good Interviewing is an Art

You have been given the task of interviewing family and/or witnesses. You have been handed a red binder with the Lost Person Questionnaire inside. Why? Now what? If possible, get someone else, especially if you have never done this before, differing backgrounds, different questions.

**Interviewing is the Major tool of Investigation  
INTERVIEWING is not INTERROGATION  
Interviewing is a Face-to-Face Conversation with a Purpose**

- The interviewing of people with first hand information should take place as quickly as possible, while the information is fresh and before collaboration with others can take place.
- Always interview witnesses separately and privately, thus avoiding collaboration.
- Use open ended questions, give the person latitude to structure or compose their own answers.
- Closed questions take less time, but maximize control, such as: Was he wearing a hat?
- Probes or follow-up questions provide clarification and very directed, such as: I am not sure I understood you. Could you explain what you mean by tired.
- Active listening mean that you provide active feedback to the speaker that is both verbal and nonverbal. It gives the person being interviewed the impression that the listener is interested and in fact is listening.

## Reminders:

- Control you attitude and biases.
- Stay in control of the interview.
- Listen for off-the-cuff comments, sometimes important information is hidden from you intentionally.
- Make copious notes of what is being said.
- Gather information as quickly as possible.
- Respect the other person's feelings, environment and viewpoint.

## Interview Traps

- Do not assume that anyone is telling the truth or cooperating to the fullest extent.
- Beware of the trap of forming conclusions before completion of the interview.
- Do not assume that one person can give you all of the information.
- Incomplete record of the interview, incomplete notes, not completing the Lost Person Questionnaire.
- A panicky person may not be able to control his/her frame of mind. Calm them down before hand.
- EVERYONE HAS BIASES. Ask "open-ended" questions.

*Just be - Always Ready, So That Others May Live...*