

COURAGEOUS KIDS CHRONICLES

July 1, 2020

FREE climbing opportunities for people with special needs!

GOALS OF OUR NEWSLETTER:

1. To share information with emergency responders as it relates to working with people with special needs.
2. To share with parents and caregiver's information about our upcoming opportunities for people with special needs.
3. To share information on the benefits of the various forms of rock climbing for people with special needs.

We hope that there is something for everyone in this newsletter!



From the Editor,

Welcome to the summer edition of our newsletter!

Start of season cancelled – 3/16/2020: Due to the coronavirus pandemic, we cancelled the start of our 2020 season. The following events were cancelled:

COS-Bakersfield; CKC-Bakersfield; CKC-Las Vegas; CKC-Rexburg; CKC-Spokane; CKC-Wenatchee; CKC-Moscow; COS-Meridian, ID; CKC-Boise and CKC-McCall. Our fall event in Boise has also been cancelled and our Ellensburg event has been moved

Please follow our Facebook page as changes seem to be happening quite frequently.

We have been working with the City of McCall, Idaho and recently learned that they will be organizing an “ADA-compliant viewing area” for the annual McCall Winter Carnival Mardi Gras parade.

This will benefit those people with special needs who attend our annual ice-skating event and want to step outside after the event and watch the parade.

We are planning some special training opportunities for first responders and possibly senior citizens. Please follow us on Facebook if you would like more information on these events. We will be posting updates as news becomes available.

We would like to encourage everyone to check out the various ways that you can help Courageous Kids Climbing when you go shopping! Check out the various programs below. Every little bit helps.



Courageous Kids Climbing lost a dear friend on Friday, April 3, 2020. Kevin Wehr fought a long hard battle with cancer. When he could,

he would attend our events in California,

bringing his racing motorcycles and letting the kids climb on them. (See photo above.)

We are working hard to re-establish our event in Lancaster, California. We have several people in the local area who are supporting us.

Don't forget, as part of our visits to an area, we would enjoy the opportunity to set up slacklines at elementary schools that are close by. Contact me for more information.

TRIVIA: Which US President was a rock / mountain climber?

RISE ABOVE!

Jeff Riechmann
Event Coordinator
Courageous Kids Climbing

IN THIS ISSUE:

- For The Rescuer and Parents
- 2020 Schedule of Events
- Thank You!
- Event Highlights

FOR THE RESCUER AND PARENTS



PINE CREEK CANYON, May 8, 2020 – On May 7 around 1:30pm, the Inyo County (California)

Sheriff's Office received notification of a fall victim with critical injuries in Pine Creek Canyon. The victim, one of a party of two from Bishop, CA, was near the top of a climbing route in Scheelite Canyon/Pratt's Crack Gulley, roughly 500 feet above the canyon floor.

Inyo County Search and Rescue responded, and after confirming the injured party's location, a team of two ascended a multi-pitch climbing route to reach the injured party from below. Four additional members ascended 5th-class terrain on the southeast side of the same buttness, where they were able to top out and descend to the injured party with additional rescue equipment. The injured climber was stabilized and lowered in several stages to the base of the canyon. An ambulance from Symons Emergency Specialties provided care at the scene.

As a reminder Inyo SAR and the Inyo County Sheriff's Office have released an official request for the recreating public to not participate in high-risk outdoor activities. If you get sick, lost or injured and require SAR assistance, the responding team of volunteers will have to break social distancing and the State mandated Stay at Home Order by sharing rescue equipment, radios, and vehicles. You will be potentially taking those rescuers out of service for weeks due to post mission self-monitoring protocols.

Investigation: Pararescueman fell to death from cliff when anchor slipped,

June 18,2020 Air Force Times Stephen Losey



Tech. Sgt. Peter Kraines, a special tactics pararescueman with the 24th Special Operations Wing, died Oct. 8 from injuries sustained during a training exercise in Boise, Idaho.

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A pararescueman who died in a mountain rescue training accident in Boise, Idaho, last October was pulled from the mountain after a team member's anchor slipped out, according to a ground accident investigation report released Wednesday.

Tech. Sgt. Peter Kraines, 33, a special tactics pararescueman with the 24th Special Operations Wing, died in a fall at the Black Cliffs near Boise Oct. 8. He was originally from Albany, New York, and joined the Air Force in March 2011.

Kraines and the other four members of his team carried out several training climbs at the Black Cliffs that day before moving to the last climbing location for the day, the accident investigation report said.

The team reached the top of a cliff, set up anchoring systems to secure themselves, then planned to rappel down one by one. One teammate descended safely and disconnected from the system.

The next climber clipped into the rappel line system and weight-checked the anchor to make sure it would hold. As he moved from the top of the cliff to the next level, he felt the anchor shift and asked Kraines if it was still secure. Kraines checked it, and said the shift was probably due to the addition of more weight, and that the anchor was likely gripping the rock more securely.

When this climber was about 15 feet from the ground, he felt the rope give slightly as a first piece of protective equipment came loose from the rock, and fell up to two feet. A second piece of protective equipment became unsecured, and then this climber fell the rest of the way to the ground. The climbers still up on the ledge heard a crash and a loud crack, the report said,

and saw the anchor fail and be blown out of the rock.

The entire rope system fell. Kraines, who was still hooked into the rappel line anchor system, was pulled off the ledge and fell about 53 feet to the base of the cliff, the report said.

Kraines landed right next to his teammate on the ground. The team tried to deliver first aid to Kraines. But he appeared to have internal injuries including a possible collapsed lung, the report said. When the team contacted responders, they said they could not find a pulse.

Local emergency medical service personnel arrived and tried to resuscitate Kraines without success. He was pronounced dead at the scene.

The report did not place any specific blame for the anchor system's failure and Kraines' death. Investigators said there is no indication the rock-climbing equipment malfunctioned, though a spring-loaded camming device that came loose was not able to be located.

Kraines was a military static-line jumper, a free fall jumper, a combat scuba diver, and was certified as an emergency medical technician, Air Force Special Operations Command said. When he joined special tactics, he was trained to immediately deploy into combat operations to conduct combat search-and-rescue and personnel recovery operations. He is survived by his wife and two children.

In December, prompted by the separate training-related deaths of Kraines and combat controller Staff Sgt. Cole Condiff, AFSOC suspended all of its parachuting, diving and mountaineering training and operations in conjunction with those investigations. AFSOC resumed those operations in May, after all units were recertified.

"Autism In The Wild" training will be returning to Our Savior Lutheran Church in McCall, Idaho on Saturday, February 27 from 1:00 pm until 3:00 pm. This is a FREE training opportunity.

The training will provide information on how to respond to emergencies involving children with autism. This is an excellent program for first responders and teachers can also benefit from the program. The training will be provided by the Isaac Foundation of Spokane, Washington.

NEW EQUIPMENT

We have received several pieces of equipment that will help to enhance our various programs. We have also acquired some items that will allow us to set up a more professional looking display at the various events we are invited to. Here are the latest additions to our equipment cache:

MPD™ (MULTI-PURPOSE DEVICE)



The MPD allows you to go from lowering to raising without having to change hardware. More than nine years of research and development went into the patented Multi-Purpose Device (MPD), which features major innovations

in advanced technical hardware for rope rescue professionals. The MPD's high-efficiency pulley, with an integral rope-grab mechanism, allows it to be used as a lowering device on the main line and belay line systems and be quickly changed over to a raising system without switching out or replacing hardware. The combination of essential features into a single device simplifies on-scene rigging, expediting the rescue.

We will be using this as part of the set-up to raise courageous climbers with physical challenges up the wall.

2/3 of the funding for this device was provided by the Boise Sunrise Rotary Club and helped immensely!

New Tribe Basic Kids Saddle

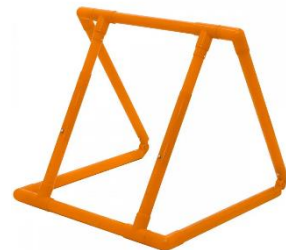
This harness is designed with larger legs pad which can



allow the courageous climber to assume a seated position during the climbing activity.

Winnell ABS Adjustable Skate Trainer

We acquired four of these ice-skate trainers for the younger kids to use when skating with the hockey players. These are easily disassembled, making them easy to transport should we need to fly to a skating event.



Goto Posture Support Seat



A very special thank you to the family of Kevin Wehr – see above – who donated a Goto Postural Support Seat. This seat will be used with our younger kids who have physical challenges. We cannot adequately express our appreciation to Kevin's family, especially his wife Nichelle who made the contribution happen.

THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who made a donation to the annual Idaho Gives campaign! The funds are being used to purchase some new equipment.

COURAGEOUS KIDS SCHOLARSHIP:

This is an annual \$1000 scholarship that is awarded by the University of Idaho to a new or returning student to the University of Idaho that has special needs. If you would like more information on the scholarship or how you can support the fund, drop us an email and we will explain.

HOW CAN YOU SUPPORT OUR EFFORTS?

Please consider supporting the following businesses as your purchases will support

Courageous Kids Climbing. To learn more on how you and these organizations can support us, drop us a note and we would be happy to explain!



You can also make donations and purchases on PayPal:

<https://www.paypal.com/us/webapps/mpp/givingfund/home>

Or on ebay:

<https://www.charity.ebay.com/>

You can also make donations through GoFundMe:

<https://charity.gofundme.com/o/en/campaign/ckc-2020-campaign>

Network For Good:

<https://www.networkforgood.org/donation/MakeDonation.aspx?ORGID2=833628817>

WISH LIST:

It is understood that sometimes you do not like to give money away. In those situations, it might feel "better" to provide a piece of equipment. At Courageous Kids Climbing, we go through a handful of carabiners every year. Some are damaged while others are "lost" at the gyms. Here is the link to some carabiners that we would like to add to our equipment cache. These can be purchased online at Amazon Smile. If you purchase them at Amazon Smile, please identify "Courageous Kids Climbing" as

your favorite charity and we will receive a percentage of the purchase price in a check, a double win for everyone!

https://smile.amazon.com/Favofit-Carabiner-Caribeaners-Rappelling-Carabiners/dp/B07PQHBGSH/ref=sr_1_25?dc_hlid=1&keywords=carabiners&psc=1&qid=1572283924&sr=8-25

The carabiners – or other contributions – can be sent to "Courageous Kids Climbing, 300 Mountain Cove Court, McCall, Idaho 83638-4501."



EVENT HIGHLIGHTS:

To see more photos from our events, visit



CLIMBING ON STUFF

Climbing on Stuff is our program which provides FREE opportunities for school-age children who are legally blind to "look" at something unique with their hands. In the past, we have looked at aircraft, smokejumpers and Native Americans. If you have an idea for a *Climbing on Stuff* adventure in your area, please drop us a note!

2020 EVENT SCHEDULE

Some of the dates are a little bit different than in the past. We are trying to "bunch" events

together in an effort to reduce our travel expenses. Also, we are trying to avoid the summer months when kids are out of school and on vacation. And, we hope this will encourage the special education teachers to help us spread the word about our events.

July 12, 2020 – 4th annual Slackline Sunday at Our Savior Lutheran Church in McCall. 12:00 pm until 2:00 pm. FREE hot dogs!

September 5, 2020 – Downtown YMCA – Boise, Idaho. 10:00 am until 12:00 pm. **Cancelled!**

September 6, 2020 – Gemstone Climbing – Twin Falls, Idaho 1:00 pm until 3:00 pm.

September 7, 2020 – The Rock Gym – Rexburg, Idaho. 3:00 pm until 5:00 pm. (Yes, this event is being held on a Monday!)

September 12, 2020 – YMCA – Spokane Valley, Washington 1:00 pm until 3:00 pm.

September 13, 2020 – Washington State University Climbing Center, Pullman, WA. 9:00 am until 11:00 am.

September 20, 2020 – YMCA Camp Colman, Longbranch, WA 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm.

November 14, 2020 – Central Washington University, Ellensburg, WA 10:00 am until 12:00 pm.

2021 EVENTS SCHEDULE

February 27, 2021 – “Autism In The Wild”, a **FREE** class on how to respond to emergencies involving a child with autism. Our Savior Lutheran Church, McCall, Idaho. 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm.

For more information:

1. On Courageous Kids Climbing
2. Reserving a spot for your child at an event
3. Regarding volunteering
4. On being a sponsor or host for an event

Send an e-mail to JeffRiechmann@cs.com or please visit Courageous Kids Climbing on Facebook.

Please feel free to share our newsletter with anyone who might be interested.

TRIVIA ANSWER: The 26th President of the United States was Theodore Roosevelt. At the age of 11, with his family on a vacation in Europe, he hiked the Swiss Alps. At the age of 20, he climbed Mount Katahdin. After graduating from Harvard and getting married, he returned to Europe to climb both the Matterhorn and the Jungfrau. In 1901, while serving as Vice President and on vacation, he climbed Mount Marcy where he would soon learn of the death of President McKinley and that he was now President! In 1903, he spent four days hiking and climbing in Yosemite with the naturalist John Muir.

CONTACT US AT:

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<https://www.facebook.com/CourageousKidsClimbing/>



Courageous Kids Climbing is an Idaho non-profit corporation. Your donation is tax-deductible to the extent of the law.

CKC Board of Directors:

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- Charlotte Riechmann – Treasurer
- Sean Gould – Director
- Mike Robnett – Director
- Jeff Riechmann – Event Coordinator

RISE ABOVE!

Where have we been? These flags represent the states that we have visited to share our rock climbing and slacklining adventures! We *will* be adding more flags in the future!





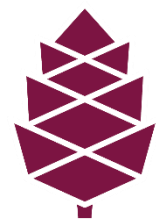
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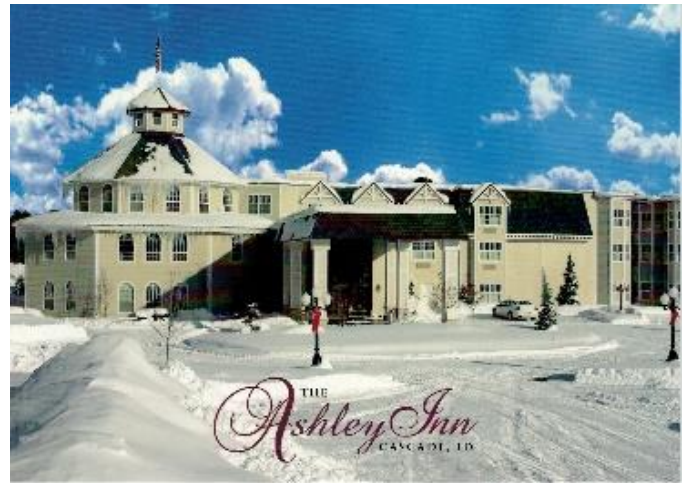
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