



*Supporting The Efforts Of Mountain Rescue Operations*

[vailmountainrescue.org](http://vailmountainrescue.org)

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July has been a busy month for the team. The following are 3 of the many rescues.

### **Martin Creek Rescue**

At 8:20 a.m. on Wed., July 25, 2018, Vail Mountain Rescue Group's mission coordinator received notice that a church group hiking in the backcountry above Minturn had triggered an SOS from a personal locator beacon (PLB). After leaving the established trail on Grouse Mountain Pass, the group (consisting of seven teens and an adult) had been lost for 36 hours and requested evacuation to the nearest trailhead. Overflying the coordinates transmitted from the lost group's PLB, a Flight For Life Colorado air ambulance spotted the party camped on a ridge above the Cross Creek drainage then airlifted a hasty team of VMRG rescuers into the field. The VMRG hasty team led the group down the Martin Creek trail, rendezvousing with a second VMRG team en route to the trailhead in Minturn. Rescue operations concluded just before 4 p.m. on July 25.

### **Cross Creek Rescue**

Just after 6 p.m. on Mon., July 23, 2018, Vail Mountain Rescue Group fielded nine rescuers to assist a hiker who was unable to walk after rolling an ankle on a solo hike with her dog two miles up the Cross Creek Trail in the backcountry outside Minturn. After hiking to the subject's location and stabilizing her injury, rescuers evacuated the patient in a wheeled rescue litter to the trailhead, where she was transported to a local hospital via personal vehicle. Rescue operations concluded at 12 a.m. on July 24.



VMRG would like to thank two bystanders on the trail who assisted and stayed with the subject until rescuers arrived on scene. We would also like to say a special thank you to the subject for making a generous donation, and for sharing these kind words:

"I could not be more grateful for you gentlemen for scooping me up and safely getting me off the trail this past Monday. I am absolutely blown away not only by your kindness but how comfortable you made me with your conversation and sense of humor while maintaining the utmost professionalism and efficiency. From making sure I was warm with your own fleeces and jackets, making sure that my symptoms did not change for the worst, to keeping me laughing, and taking such wonderful care of my pup Quincy, I do not feel like I could have been in better hands. I would not have safely made it off the trail without you. Thank you so much for what you did for me, and what you do for others every day. "

### **Booth Falls Rescue**

Just before 9:30 a.m. on Thu., July 19, 2018, a climber who had been bouldering in the backcountry north of Vail Village suffered a compound leg fracture after dislodging a large rock. The subject, in pain and bleeding uncontrollably, was unable to walk and needed immediate evacuation to a hospital.

VMRG dispatched 16 rescuers who responded in four teams. Due to the severity of the subject's injury and remoteness of the location, rescuers requested evacuation by helicopter. A UH-60 Black Hawk on standby at the High-Altitude Army National Guard Aviation Training Site (HAATS) in Gypsum flew to the subject's location where the patient and a hoist-qualified SAR paramedic were winched into the aircraft then transported to an Eagle County Paramedic Services ambulance crew staged at Ford Park in Vail Village. Rescue operations concluded at 1:30 p.m. on July 19.

Vail Mountain Rescue Group would like to thank everyone who responded to these rescues, including Eagle County Paramedic Services, Eagle County Sheriff's Office, HAATS, Vail Fire and Emergency Services, Vail Public Safety Communications Center, Flight For Life Colorado and the volunteer members of Vail Mountain Rescue Group, which, we would like to remind the public, never charges subjects for a rescue.

### **In Memorium**

Marcus Scarth, a new member with VMRG, died unexpectedly on July 7th. A fund has been established in his name for his daughter's education. Click on the Donate link below to donate on-line or postal service. Please include the comment: "for Marcus Scarth Memorial Fund to benefit Ava Scarth's education".

Thank you for continuing to support Vail Mountain Rescue! With great appreciation,

*Thomas Howard*

*President, Friends of Mountain Rescue*

**Friends of Mountain Rescue** | PO Box 1094; Edwards, CO 81632 | 970-470-9075  
email: [friends@vailmountainrescue.org](mailto:friends@vailmountainrescue.org) | donate: [vailmountainrescue.org/donation](http://vailmountainrescue.org/donation)