

Abstract

Walking in the Shoes of the Navigationally Challenged Young and Old

Locating Where They Are Now AND Where They Were When

Rick Hood
Navigation Northwest
rick@hoodcs.com 425.640.8134

While there have been some exciting advances in APRS for rescue responder position reporting, there are some equally exciting means of locating the missing or injured person too. Some methods allow us now, or will in the near-term, to more quickly locate them via their cell phone or beacon signal and others actually allows us to know how they reached that location in terms of where and when they were at previous points. If we can effectively collect and interpret these kinds of route-path data, this should allow us respond more efficiently for those subjects/patients in a similar class, but without the high tech “I am here” gear.

In this 30-minute presentation we will take a quick look at some of the current and near-current means of real-time subject “tracking” and “breadcrumbing” including E911 Phase 2, FRS/GPS systems, 406 GPS-enabled PLB systems, and Radio Direction Finding. We will also take a closer look at an example of a dedicated cell/GPS approach system. This brief presentation is not meant to be inclusive comprehensive, but an update as to what “citizens might have” and how we can learn more about what they might do, in time of need.