



*ASRC CHAIR REPORT:
2009 ANNUAL
GENERAL MEETING*

18 April 2009

Steve Weiss



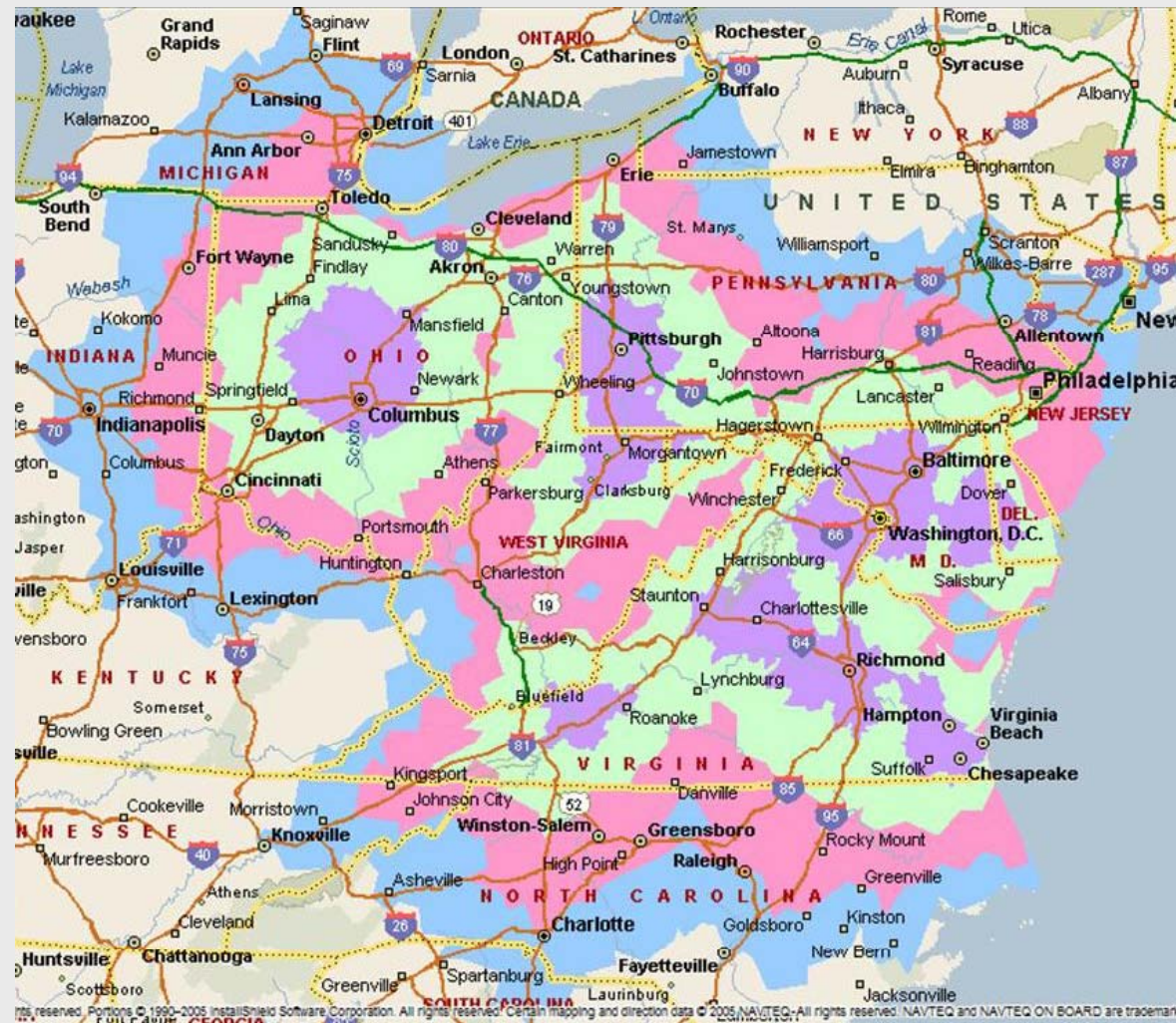
STATE OF THE ASRC

- **Eleven groups spanning the region**
- **Outstanding, dedicated membership**
- **“Exemplary” search: SNP**

- **Administrative momentum weakening**



REGIONAL COVERAGE





STATE OF ASRC GROUPS

- **Reports from 7 groups**



DMVSAR

- **Operations**
 - Formally added K9 Standards and Signcutting Standards to our team's training and operations doctrines
 - 9 Searches for a total of 58 members deployed. Total of 572 hours worked.
 - Now working closer with MSP and NRP. Working as well as local agencies in Virginia to establish formal MOU's
 - Acquired a new training trailer from East Coast K9.
- **Training**
 - 6 gained FTM, 7 got ST2, and we added three CST3
 - 42 trainings this past year at 648 18 members per, team training hours. w/ over 10,000 hours in training as a team.
 - Added a SAREX every quarter to schedule.
- **Highlight**
 - First search for a person known to the team with it being a handlers bother you passed away during a hunting trip.



MSAR

- **Operations**
 - We've responded to between 3 and 8 for the year
 - Established better relationship with Howard County officials and Maryland State Police through using us as a resource and teaching courses
- **Training**
 - Promotions: 1 FTL, 2-3 FTM, 5-6 CQ's
 - Between 10 and 15 major trainings for the year. Total members participating around 25-30
 - Upping standards to promote more awareness of evac techniques at earlier levels of qualification.
- **Admin**
 - Moving to re-certify 501(c)3 status and working on bylaws



PSAR

- **Operations**
 - **Missions:**
 - **Number – 17**
 - **Miles driven - 12,671**
 - **Hours on-scene – 416**
 - **Relationships: Add new RAs to a list based on missions; send quarterly email to RAs updating them on PSAR activity, especially a list of most recent missions.**
- **Training**
 - **Field promotions: FTL - 1, FTM - 5, FTS – 1**
 - **Number – 27**
 - **Number people participating – 176**
 - **Hours logged at training – 802**
 - **Miles driven - 12,984**
 - **GTO created an Individual Development Plan for tracking member training progress. This is posted on our website and updated as training proficiency is demonstrated.**
- **Highlights**
 - **Bob Allam was asked to serve as an observer on several simulations including Albemarle County Sheriff's Office to provide feedback on conduct of a 'mission'.**



PVRG

- **Operations**
 - Completed training to become an American Red Cross Disaster Action Team and is in the process of becoming certified as an Active team capable of assisting the ARC Nationwide during times of Natural Disasters, and Emergency Actions
 - In the process of becoming a Certified SAR Team for the Maryland Natural Resources Police
- **Special Note: COQ member Damon Underwood, an Active Duty United States Navy Petty Officer Second Class is currently deployed to Afghanistan as the combat medic for a Marine Reconnaissance platoon, and is on his second deployment in 3 years.**



SMRG

- **Operations**
 - **Number of searches in 2008 = 17**
 - **Number of members responding = 153**
 - **Total person hours (search hours) = 2,444**
 - **Total miles traveled = 25,483**
 - **New radios - 12 new Vertex radios**
- **Training**
 - **Promotions: 8 FTM; 2 FTL**
 - **66 Total Training Session Conducted:**
 - **121 Members attended training**
 - **838 Member-instances of attendance**
 - **5143 Member-hours at training**
 - **1152 Travel hours to/from training**
 - **34,563 Travel miles to/from training**
 - **Updated & improved SMRG training administration**
 - **Improved training records management**
 - **Improved several course modules**



SWVAMRG

- **Operations**
 - Assisted with three standbys over the year for a total of 101 man hours
 - Acquired an MOU with the state this past year
 - In the process of gaining technical rescue gear and updating existing gear that is out of date
- **Training**
 - Hosting a mock search in the Montgomery County region with VASARCO in the fall
- **Admin**
 - Group is growing with the passion to promote and teach about SAR as well as hold fundraisers



TSAR

- **Operations**
 - During 2008, TSAR was able to deploy personnel to 13 different searches throughout Virginia. As a result 448 man hours were expended and a total of 6805 miles were recorded.
 - TSAR has opened a dialog with the County of Suffolk's GIS person who is VERY interested in establishing a means of using GIS technology and mapping for Search and Rescue operations in that county on a regular basis. He also has expressed interest in getting other GIS persons in other counties involved with assisting SAR operations.
 - TSAR received a donation of 12 narrowband ICOM VHF radios.
 - Acquired a single license of Terrain Navigator Professional
- **Training**
 - In 2008, 34 training opportunities were offered to TSAR members ranging from Lost But Found preventive SAR programs up to and including full bore simulations to include operations with other SAR groups.
 - Those 34 training opportunities accumulated 1753 man hours and totaled 26, 899 miles.
 - Training offerings much more diverse
- **Admin**
 - Website has undergone a significant face lift
 - Now listed as a donation point in the Combined Federal Campaign



PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT OF THE ASRC

- **Operations**
- **Training**
- **Admin**
- **Culture & Governance**



ASRC PERFORMANCE: OPERATIONS

Operational Activities	Unsat	Needs Work	Good
Mission Response		X	X
Alert & Dispatch		X Docs	X
Policy Development		X	X
Mission Follow-up			X
Information Sharing		X	X



ASRC PERFORMANCE: TRAINING

Training Activities	Unsat	Needs Work	Good
IC/IS roster mgt		??	
IC/IS credentialing	X		
Field credentialing		X	
Policy & documents	X		
Common Training Program		X	
Web Coordination		X	



ASRC PERFORMANCE: ADMINISTRATION

Administrative Activities	Unsat	Needs Work	Good
Outreach		X	
Finance		X	
Corporate records	?? (arch)	X BOD	
Roster maint/mgt	X		
Background Checks		X	
Web-site / information sharing		X	X



ASRC PERFORMANCE: CULTURE & GOVERNANCE

Conference-wide Activities	Unsat	Needs Work	Good
BOD/Policy development		X	X
Group engagement	X	X	X
SAR research			X
Professionalism			X
Fellowship		??	??
<i>Shared SAR Philosophy</i>		X	X



WHAT DOES THIS MEAN TO MOST MEMBERS

- **GO TO MISSIONS!**
- **SUPPORT DISPATCH**
- **GET MORE TRAINING!**
 - Field leadership
 - Specialized skills (FTS, Medical)
 - Staff training
- **Professionalism is a foundation of our shared reputation across the ASRC**

***YOU ARE THE ASRC: Our success relies on
grass-roots contributions to ASRC efforts!***



MOST CRITICAL ISSUE FACING ASRC

- **Strongly different operational and admin environments: VA vs. other states**
 - Where ASRC is example for other states (e.g., WVSARCo), maturity of Virginia system may transcend ASRC role (now with two paid VDEM staff; many sheriffs' depts have MLSO training)
 - Virginia no longer recognizes ASRC Standards (no longer sure if we can ever get this back)
 - Management group qualification coming – if VDEM IC/IS required, we may not qualify

***PROPOSED SOLUTION: Address this distinction
in routine review & update of ASRC Bylaws***