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Appalachian Region Teams:

The last meeting of the Appalachian Region was quite some time ago and little has come from that meeting except continued confusion regarding the status of National and some teams in the region.

At the last meeting some question regarding Allegheny Mountain Rescue were fully resolved and they returned to the fold. The Shenandoah Mountain Rescue Group, that had no problems up to that point, was later found to have not renewed their membership with the National MRA. I was notified on December 5, 1993 that SMRG would pay their dues for this year.

The WEST Team has sent in their application and we are hoping that they will receive a response soon. The Stowe Team has heard nothing from the National MRA and is getting despondent. In New Paltz, NY the Mohawk Preserve is trying to get a team started and there is some frustration on their part trying to get information from the national.

I have agreed with Peter McCabe that the region need a person to work fully with these new teams and follow up on their requests with the Membership Chair at national. We also agreed that the region will need to have two standing committees on Training Standards and MRA Testing of new and existing teams. Peter will be staffing these committees and will be looking for interest and volunteers.

The main reason for the last meeting was to get the officer for this coming year. The term of office for the present officers expired in April. The following persons were nominated and have agreed to take the office if elected: Art Dodds (AMRG), Chair, Gene Harrison (SMRG) and Chuck Rittenour (MSAR) for Vice Chair, Chuck Kollar (AMRG) Secretary and Cady Soukup for Treasurer. All persons that are current members of a fully accredited team, i.e. MSAR and AMRG, may vote. A member is defined as a person listed on the membership list that went forward with the application to MRA.

I have attached a ballot to be copied, distributed to members, and returned to the present Secretary, Peter McCabe, MRA Secretary, 11034 Berrypick Lane, Columbia, MD 21044 by January 15, 1994. The new officers will take office at the next regional meeting, scheduled for December/January.

It has become very important to the continuation of the region that a region meeting be held late in December or early January. Please let me know a date that will be good. Plan on a saturday other than Christmas or New Years.

Over the past year I have had some difficulties in performing the job of Chair for the region. I would like to be very clear: if you or someone on your team would like to chair the region I would appreciate it. Remember, if the person is from an associate team, they will not have a vote in regional affair, even if they are the Chair. There is a lot to be done and new energy is needed.

The region still need your \$25.00 dues for operating expenses for this year. The \$25.00 is due January first of each year.

I have attached reading material that has been received from the national. Some may be old news but it is hard to tell until it is reviewed.

Thank you for your support of the MRA.



Art Dodds

cc: AMRG
MSAR
SMRG
WEST
STOWE
Mohawk Preserve.

The reading file and ballot were distributed to primary points of contact only.