



march/april

1987

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APPALACHIAN SEARCH!

Newletter of

APPALACHIAN SEARCH AND RESCUE
RESCUE CONFERENCE, INC.

published by:

SHENANDOAH MOUNTAIN RESCUE GROUP

1718 N Street, NW

Washington, DC 20036

(202) 638-5306 (7-10 PM weekdays)

GROUP, Appalachian Search & Rescue Conference

SECTION, Potomac Appalachian Trail Club

MEMBER, Mountain Rescue Association

MEETINGS : Most SMRG activities are held at Potomac Appalachian Trail Club Headquarters (PATC HQ), 1718 N Street NW, Washington, DC (near the Dupont Circle Metro Station). Business meetings are the first Tuesday of the month, and training meetings, the third Tuesday.

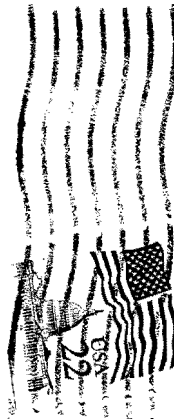
ASRC NEWSLETTER : Published on a bimonthly basis. Yearly subscriptions are \$5, payable by check made out to The Treasurer, SMRG, c/o the above PATC address. Articles or schedule items should be turned into the Editor, Paul Torrence (301)977-2102 (h).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION : in general about SMRG, or for information about membership, write to SMRG, c/o the above address, come to one of the business meetings or contact the Group Training Officer, Paul Torrence, at (301)977-2102 (h).

24-hr emergency number: (804)323-2300 (VA Dept. of Emergency services)

Shenandoah Mountain Rescue Group
1718 N Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

Keith Conover
36 Robin Hood Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15220



.....FROM THE BOARD.....

A brief summary of news from the last ASRC BOD meeting:

-When all groups have paid their 1986 and 1987 dues, we should have about \$1300 in the bank.

-The ASRC recently passed an inspection to become a licensed EMS agency in Virginia. Kudos to Bob Koester for handling this.

-Upcoming ASRC training events (1st Saturday of each month)

March -- RSAR

April -- BRMRG *ASRC BOD meeting.

May -- SWVMRG

June -- SMRG *ASRC membership meeting with workshops.

July -- AMRG

-The ASRC is developing a preplan for SAR with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources.

-The ASRC is planning to host the MRA board meeting this coming November in DC area. At this time, groups that wish to be certified as MRA teams need to be tested. 1987 will be the last year that the ASRC as a whole is certified, individual groups will be responsible for their membership beginning 1 January 1988. The MRA manual contains standards that will be tested.

-Letterhead stationary for the conference and for groups will be printed in a uniform format. Stationary and business cards may be ordered through the conference secretary (Brian Wheeler).

-The military field ambulance recently acquired by the conference for BRMRG's use is turning out to be a problem to insure. If anyone knows how we can find affordable insurance for it, PLEASE call Al Baker.

-At the next BOD meeting, all committees and groups should be prepared to present an itemized list of their goals, short and long term.

-Bylaws changes have been drafted. A mailer to the membership will soon be out.

-There have been a few problems on missions in recent months that might have been avoided had members been properly informed of current Conference policy. Please talk to your representatives after BOD meetings or read over the meeting minutes. Director: Make sure you get the word to your members about policies that affect them. Let's stop problems before they start!

-A \$600 donation was received by the Conference as a result of a recent search in southeast Virginia.

-The new BOD will take office on April 1st and will hold their first meeting the following Saturday. Several of the items above are designed to facilitate the transition. Those who are involved in on going projects should do their best to keep the new board members up to date on their activities.

I will not be returning to the Board this year, as the undertow of third year medical school is about to pull me under. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for letting me serve the past few years; I've really enjoyed it. The Conference has really pulled together in that time, and things seem to be going very well operationally and administratively, despite the occasional snafu. The past year has been particularly productive as the conference has defined and polished its objectives, while the mission load climbs steadily. There is a lot of work yet to be done, and the mission load almost certainly will grow even more. As long as we continue to put the needs of the search subject first and maintain professionalism and integrity in all our dealings, things will continue to go well.

Al Baker

SMRG TRAINING SCHEDULE (Spring/Summer 1987)

For info: Contact P. Torrence (301-977-2102(h) or 301-496-2653(w)) or
Al Rosen (311-268-8654(h) or 301-267-2810(w))

<u>WHEN</u>	<u>WHAT</u>	<u>WHERE</u>
031787-1930 hrs	Fracture Management	PATC HDQTRS
032287-0800	SMRG/AMRG Basic Test	Catoctin Mtn Park
032487-1900	OPS Kit Orientation and Update	The Dodd's
040787-1930	Spinal Injury Management	PATC HDQTRS
	Basic Stokes Packaging	
041187--0600	Dogwood Half Hundred	VA.AT
042187-1930	PC. Assessment , Wound Management	PATC HDQTRS
	Eye Trauma	
042587-0800	Sierra Club Leader's Encampment	Blackburn Trail
	First aid and Rescue Instruction(PSAR)	Center
050587-1930	Search Management Map Problem	PATC HDQTRS
051687	SAR Surprise! Overnight Camp	Begins 1700 hrs
		0516 ends PM 0517
051987-1930 Sharp!	1. Bleeding, Purging, Puking	PATC HDQTRS
	Frontier Medicine Peter Olch MD	
	2. Knots I	
060287-1930	1. Air OPS, 2. Knots II	PATC HDQTRS
061387-0900	SMRG Vertical Rescue Team	TBA
	Litter lowering	
061687-1930	1. Map and Compass Problems	PATC HDQTRS
	2. Knots III	
070787-1930	Search Management Problem	PATC HDQTRS
07 ?87-TBA	Joint Training with Dogs East	TBA
072187-1930	Vertical Raising Systems	PATC HDQTRS
	Pulley systems	
August	<u>No SMRG Weekend Training!</u>	TBA

NON-ASRC TRAINING OF GENERAL INTEREST!

Contact Paul F. Torrence for details

032087- 032287	GSAR College	Camp VA Jaycees
032987-0900 hrs	Greater Philadelphia SAR	Ogonta Campus
	Simulated Search	Penn State
040387- 040587	EMS 1987 Symposium	Anne Arundel
042487- 042687	EMS Care '87	Community College
		Greenbelt, MD
050987- 051287	International SAR Conference	Hilton
		Orlando, Fla
051387- 051787	NASAR Convention	Orlando, Fla
050987- 051087	Western MD Trauma and Disaster Seminar	Grantsville, MD

ASRC WEEKENDS

040487- 040587	BRMRG SAR Simulation	Contact Brian Wheeler
050287	SWVMRG Weekend (Vertical Skills)	Contact Vince Seris
060687	SMRG Weekend	Contact Greg Shea
071887	AMRG/NCRC SAR Simulation (Cheat River)	Contact Mike Kuga

NCRC TRAINING - Contact Bob Barlow 703-783-9264(h); 703-783-9755(w)

060687- 061387	NCRC Weeklong Seminar	Abindon, WV
053087- 053187	Eastern Region NCRC Cave Rescue Orientation	Hurricane, WV
041187- 041287	Eastern Region NCRC Cave Rescue Orientation	Bath Co, VA

RICHMOND SEARCH AND RESCUE (RSAR) TRAINING SCHEDULE
CONTACT TODD L'HERRON 703-271-3083

031487-TBA HRS	ELT Practical II	Charlottesville
031687-1930	Urban SAR	Richmond/TBA
031787-1900	Technical Review	Charlottesville
032487-1900	Orienteering/Maps	Charlottesville
032887-TBA	Basic Test Review	Charlottesville
032987-TBA	Basic Test	Charlottesville

BRMRG TRAINING SCHEDULE INFO: 804-924-3472

031787-1900 hrs	Wilderness Medicine	Chem 303
031887-1900	BRMRG General Membership	Chem 303
032487-1900	Vertical Classroom	Chem 303
032887-0800	Vertical Litter Work	Locker
032987-TBA	Extension of above	Locker
033187-1900	Epinephrine Certification	Chem 303
040487-TBA	BRMRG Training Simulation	TBA
	VASAR Council	
040787-1900	Night Orienteering (Classroom)	Chem 303
041187-TBA	" " (field)	Locker
041587-1900	BRMRG General Membership	Chem 303
041887-TBA	Awards Ceremony/Stress Night	Brian, Bob and Liz's House

SHENANDOAH MOUNTAIN RESCUE GROUP HOLDS MANAGING
THE SEARCH FUNCTION COURSE

On the weekends of 14,15 and 21,22 February, the Shenandoah Mountain Rescue Group, a part of the Appalachian Search and Rescue Conference, held a 36 hour course entitled "Managing The Search Function" at Immaculata College High School in Rockville, MD. This course was originally developed by the National Association for Search and Rescue.

Twenty-nine students from Shenandoah National Park, Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Dogs East, Keystone Search and Rescue, Greater Philadelphia Search and Rescue, the National Cave Rescue Commission, and the Allegheny Mountain Rescue Group, the Blue Ridge Mountain Rescue Group and the Shenandoah Mountain Rescue Group of the Appalachian Search and Rescue Conference participated in the course.

Students spent 36 hours learning the basics of lost person search management including preplanning, investigation, application of SAR resources, clue orientation, subject behavior, search strategy and probabilities, tactics, rescue, recovery, documentation, briefing/debriefing and demobilization. A central part of the course was example map problems based on actual incidents. These permitted the students an opportunity to apply their recently acquired knowledge in managing a search

The Shenandoah Mountain Rescue Group and the Appalachian Search and Rescue Conference are always on the look-out for individuals who enjoy the outdoors and enjoy helping others. There are many different capacities in which one can assist the non-paid professional search and rescue organization. Anyone interested in learning more about this challenging and rewarding volunteer activity should contact the Shenandoah Mountain Rescue Group's Training Officer, Paul Torrence, c/o PATC Headquarters, 1718 N St. NW, Washington, DC 20036.

Regional News.

Gary Mechtal

The region of interest is the mid-Atlantic area. This includes the states of Virginia, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, and Maryland. This issue's column will concentrate on Virginia.

In Virginia, as most of you know, many agencies that participate in SAR meet regularly to discuss issues and work together towards the common goal of helping the lost and injured. This whole affair is called the Virginia SAR Council, and it has been growing in size and importance. Recent additions to the council include the VAVRS (Virginia Association of Volunteer Rescue Squads), and Explorer Post 88 (a Norfolk-based emergency services post). The Council is working with two HAM radio groups--RACES and ARES (the Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service and the Amateur Radio Emergency Service, respectively). It is hoped that they too shall soon join the Council.

The Council provides administrative support and helps coordinate state-wide efforts to improve SAR in Virginia. At the last session, January 31, the Council developed its goals for 1987. These were driven by the limited statistics of the past few years (table 1). The goals included increased efforts at PSAR, developing a pre-plan to use HAM radio operators for improved communications, working towards developing a disaster pre-plan with the Virginia Department of Emergency Services (VaDES), and starting a SAR legislation package. The initial legislation effort is limited to collecting ideas on just what a package should contain; everyone's ideas are welcome.

In Pennsylvania, the Pennsylvania SAR Council will be meeting again in Philadelphia on March 28. To date, this Council has been meeting informally, but it will soon announce its official membership roll and formalize its by-laws. Its major concerns at this time appear to be communications and legislation.

One final editorial comment. In the last issue, Art Dodds Jr. presented an informative article on how a team should first respond to an incident. An addition to Art's comments concerning Virginia may prove important. When your team is called out via VaDES to an incident in Virginia, be sure to report to the SCO (State Coordinating Officer). The SCO is usually a State Police Officer who is representing VaDES interests. This individual will help coordinate the efforts of the individual teams, the local law enforcement agencies and the state agencies. For the purposes of the ASRC, it suffices that the first responding unit fulfill this function. Any follow-up units are covered since they are all part of the ASRC.

This is the first installment of a periodic column that will review regional SAR news. This column will not only provide regional information to the SAR community but it will give ME an opportunity to editorialize and spread my wayward views. Due to the frequency of the regional meetings and my inclination to write articles, this column may not make it to every printing. The last item to report is sad news for all of us--Bill Pierce has left Shenandoah National Park and is now the chief ranger at Devils Tower National Monument, in Wyoming. We will all miss his expertise here in the mid-Atlantic region and wish him the best of luck.

TABLE 1

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>* of Incidents</u>	<u>* of LPS</u>	<u>* ELT alerts</u>	<u>* Missing AC **</u>
1986	123	60	39	12
1987(est)	150-175^^	72-84	39	12
1988(est)	175-200^^			

** These missing Aircraft are not included in the ELT alert numbers.

^^ This growth is due solely to an increased number of reports being sent to VaDES.

ASRC Board of Directors News.

The ASRC Board of Directors met in Pittsburg on February 6. Many items of interest were discussed. The reorganization of the communications committee--its roles, authority, and responsibilities within the conference--was considered. This discussion was soon tabled since the communications committee was unable to attend the meeting (due to work constraints). The general flavor of the discussion indicated that the board saw no definitive reason to restructure the conference at this time.

The ad-hoc plans and goals committee presented its findings to the board. The board directed the committee to refine its information and present it to the new board which will convene after April 1. The board approved the development of a pre-plan with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources (DER) to help support DER's SAR efforts. Some discussion was initiated on how to develop a sound and fair policy for dismissing individuals from the Conference. Further action items were assigned to develop and refine such a policy. The training committee is working on developing new standards, which will apply if the new by-laws changes are accepted. The by-law changes are being processed and should soon be mailed out to the conference membership.

Each group of the conference should have on file with the conference secretary or treasurer the following items: a 1986 financial statement, up to date copies of the group roster and by-laws, and a draft copy of the group's goals for 1987. The last item should be presented to the board by the April meeting.

Each committee that reports to the board of directors also should submit the following draft items at the next April meeting: a list of the committee's procedures and responsibilities, and a list of its goals for 1987.

The board also reiterated its policies concerning the responsibilities of the IC vis-a-vis dispatchers and response coordinators. All requests for air transportation must be approved by the IC before any outside resources may be contacted (including DES). Also, requests for any non-ASRC resources such as Hams or ESARs must be approved by the IC prior to requesting them.

The last items of interest concerned the ASRC's new status as an EMS agency within the Commonwealth of Virginia. Since the ASRC has been accepted by the state as an EMS agency, we have incurred new obligations and responsibilities. The foremost of which involve conference vehicles, logo use, and responses. The board rescinded any former by-laws that declared a vehicle to be an ASRC response vehicle. This is due to the requirements incurred by EMS legislation. Also, no vehicle may display any markings declaring it to be an "emergency response vehicle" or the words "emergency response" since this requires state inspection. The important news concerns the conference's responses to searches. We may have to respond to all incidents that occur in our coverage area (Virginia) if requested. This should not entail any changes in our operations, since the conference has responded to all requests to date. More information will be provided as it becomes available.



APPALACHIAN SEARCH AND RESCUE CONFERENCE, INC.

P.O. BOX 440
NEWCOMB STATION
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA 22901

<< TRAINING NOTICE >>

To: All Virginia SAR Council members

Re: Spring 1987 SIMULATION

All members of the Virginia SAR Council are notified that a downed aircraft simulation has been planned for the first weekend in April. Member groups are asked to forward this information to all group members and to reserve this weekend for training. An RSVP by mail containing the number of people expected to participate from your group would be appreciated before March 30.

Use the following RSVP address:

ASRC: SAR COUNCIL SIMULATION
P.O. BOX 440
NEWCOMB STATION
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA 22904

The simulation is sponsored by the Appalachian Search and Rescue Conference, inc. For further questions and specific information, contact any of the below:

Phil Audibert	- Dogs East	(703) 832 - 3509
Bill Dotson	- Dogs East	(804) 985 - 3893
William Dixon	- ASRC	(804) 971 - 1002

NOTE: An information sheet accompanies this announcement.

Virginia SAR Council Simulation Information Sheet

Event Schedule: Friday April 3
evening: ASRC and CAP notified of possible downed aircraft.

Saturday April 4
morning: All participating agencies respond by 12 noon.

<< SIMULATION >>

night: anticipated conclusion of simulation. Free time to fix a late dinner and set up sleeping quarters for overnight stay.

Sunday April 5
10:00 - 12:00 Critique of simulation
13:00 Clean Up and Departure. or additional informal training.
18:00 Area is closed.

The primary purpose of this simulation will be training. Because of this purpose, participants are asked to be as tolerant and understanding as possible. The simulation has been preplanned to be as realistic as possible for the very purpose of bringing out problems and testing everyone's ability to work together. A critique is scheduled so that these problems can be discussed and lessened in the future. *Everyone who participates in the simulation is expected to stay for the critique.* In order to simulate the real time response of resources, much of the details are left to the discretion of the initial incident managers. Therefore, the above schedule is simply a time frame within which the simulation will be conducted. The simulation will be successful in its goals only if participants stick to real mission behavior as much as possible. All participants should be on scene by noon, Saturday April 4.

Alert and Response. The Appalachian Search and Rescue Conference (ASRC) will maintain a dispatch from the start of the simulation through Saturday afternoon. This dispatch will alert other agencies at the request of the incident commander and will also serve as a check-in for participants en route to the simulation. ASRC dispatch number : (804) 924 - 3472. If a recording is heard, then the dispatch has been closed.

NOTE: DO NOT use the VA DES toll free emergency number to check in while en route to the simulation. Use the ASRC dispatch for this purpose.

Food and Water. Bring your own food for all meals which you plan to eat during the simulation. A suggested rule is to bring 48 hours worth of food per person. The mountain streams of the area are not recommended for drinking water. Bring your own. A suggested amount is 2 gallons per person.

Sleeping Quarters. Participants are required to provide their own shelter. Wooded and open areas are available for camping.

All participants are asked to be prepared for cold, wet weather and night operations, as well as for steep, mountainous terrain.

Conditions for Cancellation: The simulation will be cancelled if heavy rain falls at the simulation site anytime during the 3 days prior to April 3. Call (804) 924 - 3472 if you have questions regarding the status of the simulation.