GREETINGS

This is the inaugural issue of the new and revitalized Appalachian Alert, published monthly, except July, by the Appalachian Search & Rescue Conference, Inc. (ASRC).

Appalachian Alert collates information submitted by individual ASRC teams, develops and presents information of interest to the wilderness search and rescue community in the mid-Atlantic region, and reports activities of ASRC board of directors meetings, its committees, ASRC group and training events, and related business. The bulletin will be assembled and printed the third week of every month. Information for each issue should be received by the Editor -- at his address shown below -- in the first week of every month.

If individuals or ASRC groups wish to report SAR related research or present opinion pieces, Appalachian Alert maybe the forum for that presentation. Beginning with this issue, Appalachian Alert will also be mailed to colleagues and programs in other states and regions involved in lost person SAR services and related emergency services.

The following article is the first of a "20 Year Anniversary" series which describes the origin of the Appalachian Search & Rescue Conference (ASRC), why it was needed, and how it grew to become a regional and successful ground SAR organization. So hop in and join us for an exciting tour through...

JURASSIC SAR!
(Or, Did Dinosaurs Really Start the ASRC?)

By: Tyrannosaurus Colorcodus

This story starts in ancient times -- about six hundred and thirty million seconds ago (20 years)! Recent discoveries by search and rescue (SAR) paleontologists have revealed startling information concerning those ancestral ASRC years in the mid-Atlantic SAR jungles. Travel with us back in time to 1973 for the "Origin of the (ASRC) Species," with apologies to Darwin and Spielberg!

There were three dinosaurs who were the primary developers of the ASRC and the direct ancestors of the current species of DynaSARs: Triceratops Radiosquawkus (Ray Cole), Brontosaurus Bandaidus (Keith Conover), and Tyrannosaurus Colorcodus (Gene Harrison).

All had much in common, they lived in the caves of the northern Virginia territories, they were all members of the same ancient outdoor sauroid herds; the National Speleo-saurus Society and the Potomac Appalachian Trail-saurus Club. Also, all three were (or later became) EMTs (Emergency Medical Techni-sauruses) and HAM radio-sauruses.

As experienced and responsible outdoor dinosaurs, they became concerned about many recent rescues and searches in the mid-Atlantic jungles which lacked the essential management skills and resources for success. There were even cases in which the rescue-saurs were hurt or killed, evidently due to lack of training for, or understanding of, the hazards of the jungle environment.

One classic case was the search for a young dinosaur that had wandered away from his herd in Jurassic Jungle Park in 1972. Virtually hundreds of disorganized dinosaurs and mammoths, ranging from local residents to CB (cave band) clubs, responded to the extensive media attention and saturated the search area. Park ranger resources were overwhelmed, and fossils (clues) were obliterated. After several days of fruitless "searches" by these hordes, the little dinosaur had still not been found, and it was feared he had been kidnapped or eaten. Fortunately, a Marine Corps orienteer-asar Team also heard of the problem. They took the initiative, came to the park, and found the lost dinosaur in just a few hours. This was clearly a triumph for the use of proper SAR-type skills. (And nobody could claim that ALL the dinosaurs were dumb!)

It seemed senseless that such SAR operations had to end in hardship or tragedy, for either rescuers or rescuees. Even a dinosaur could see that the "system" (or the lack thereof) just wasn't working effectively. And, it was evident that many of the agencies "didn't have a clue" about what to do in search and rescue emergencies. So these three dinosaurs (who really weren't so dumb) decided to do something about it.

What did they do? How did they help turn a series of misfortunes into an effective SAR organization? Were the three dinosaurs successful, or did they become extinct? For the answers, tune to the next exciting episode of JURASSIC SAR, Part 2!!

ASRC GROUPS

With this issue, basic contact information on each ASRC group is reported. Groups are responsible for updating this data.

There are 8 ASRC affiliated Groups located in Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania. ASRC groups provide coordinated services throughout the mid-Atlantic region under the Conference umbrella of established training standards and common operational protocols. Each Group is an independent program with its own organizational structure, officers and program. ASRC groups are recertified every 3 years.

♦ The following 7 groups are certified members of the ASRC. They are listed by the order of their original ASRC membership.
Blue Ridge Mountain Rescue Group. BRMRG, based at the University of Virginia at Charlottesville, was one of two original ASRC organizations. The ASRC corporate offices and central dispatching services are presently maintained in Charlottesville. Information about BRMRG is available by writing P.O. Box 440, Newcomb Station, Charlottesville, Virginia 22903-0440. The BRMRG administrative telephone is (804) 924-3472.

Shenandoah Mountain Rescue Group. SMRG, is a unit of the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club, 118 Park Street, Vienna, Virginia 22180. The original Potomac Valley Search & Rescue Group, a predecessor to SMRG, was one of the two original ASRC units. The team's administrative phone is (703) 951-2914.

Southwest Virginia Mountain Rescue Group. SWVMRG is based at Virginia Tech University in Blacksburg, Virginia. Their address is 203 Progress Street, Blacksburg VA 24060. The team's administrative phone is (703) 951-2914.

Allegheny Mountain Rescue Group. AMRG is based in Pittsburgh in western Pennsylvania. AMRG is also certified for mountain rescue services by the Mountain Rescue Association (MRA). Administrative information may be obtained by calling (412) 869-3747. AMRG's address is: c/o Dept Emergency Medicine, Mercy Hospital of Pittsburgh, 1400 Locust Street, Pittsburgh PA 15219-5166.

Richmond Search & Rescue Group. RSAR, based in Richmond, Virginia, may be contacted at P.O. Box 9025, Richmond VA 23228. The team's administrative telephone number is (804) 266-2355.

Tidewater Search & Rescue Group. Serving Virginia's Tidewater region, TSAR may be contacted at 803 Townsend Court, Norfolk VA 23502. The team's administrative telephone number is (804) 466-8094.

Maryland Search & Rescue Group. M/SAR is based at Howard Community College in Columbia, Maryland. M/SAR is also certified for mountain rescue services by the Mountain Rescue Association (MRA). Administrative information may be obtained by calling (301) 596-5554. M/SAR's address is 11034 Berrypick Lane, Columbia MD 21044.

日常生活中的常见问题和解决方法。例如，如果你的电脑开始变得运行缓慢，可能是由于硬盘空间不足或系统文件损坏。在这种情况下，你可以尝试删除不必要的文件，或者使用系统修复工具进行修复。还有一些其他的小技巧，如定期清理垃圾邮件，可以有效提升工作效率。
RSAR: October 9-10, 1993. Training and SAR simulation activities from 0900 Saturday at Powhatan Wildlife Refuge at Powhatan, VA. Mission base at Rescue Squad. Full simulation during Saturday day with Saturday evening socializing. On Sunday, training stations are scheduled. Friday night camping available. Saturday dinner will be a community chili pot. For further information call Kevin Dawe at (804) 750-1623.

M/SAR: November 20-21, 1993. Training and simulation at Sugarloaf Mountain reservation in Frederick County, Maryland. Coordinated training sessions planned Saturday night with Maryland State Police aviation units on air/ground operations in night operations using Forward Looking Infrared (FLIR) techniques. Training during daylight Saturday and Sunday will focus on search strategies and semi-tech evacuation procedures. For further information call Gary Schlueter at (410) 880-3004.

WEST VIRGINIA SAR RESOURCES

The West Virginia SAR Network, representing ground search and rescue units in West Virginia, is dispatched through the Huntington, West Virginia Regional Medical Command Center. The SAR Network may be reached in West Virginia by calling (800) 654-5767. Callers from other states may call the Network at (800) 233-9159.

Editor's Note: From time to time we will report baseline information regarding other lost person SAR organizations and programs.

NEW ADDRESS FOR ASRC TEAM

Allegheny Mountain Rescue Group
c/o Dept. Emergency Medicine
Mercy Hospital of Pittsburgh
1400 Locust Street
Pittsburgh PA 15219-5166

AMRG is dispatched by the ASRC through STATCOM at (412) 647-7828.

UPCOMING ASRC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

October 23
December 18
February 26
April 23

Meetings through April 1994 are scheduled to be held in Charlottesville, Virginia adjacent to the ASRC dispatch office.

SEARCH OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT COURSE PLANNED IN MARYLAND

The Maryland Search & Rescue Group (M/SAR) plans to conduct a 40 hour Managing the Search Operations course on two weekends: January 14-16 and January 28-30, 1994. The course will be coordinated through the Disaster Services program of the American Red Cross in Columbia, Maryland. Further information on registration, fees, and housing will be available in the next issues of Appalachian Alert.

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Editor's Note: Entries marked with a bullet indicate listing was taken from most recently available group roster. It is understood this information is dynamic and subject to change.