

Dear Greg,

This is the finished outline for the proposed Appalachian SAR manual (LEVEL I). Please look this over and give me your feedback. I hope to have the first draft finished by March. I will then submit drafts to the training committee for review and editing. I would hope to have the first revision finished by late April. Following is a breakdown of the proposed LEVEL's and what they entail:

LEVEL I - Field Rescuer, capable of performing basic search and rescue tasks, has a good understanding of field operations (communications, tactics, survival, patient handling and standard first aid). Field Rescuer is not competent in areas such as technical rescue, helirescue search management and volunteer management.

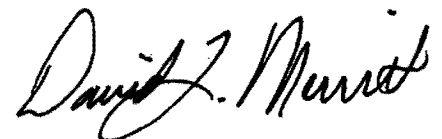
LEVEL II Crew Leader, capable of performing all LEVEL I functions and also performs functions in basic management, volunteer management, technical rescue, and equipment management. Crew Leaders should also be competent in tracking, helirescue, communications, QRT procedures and operations, and EMT or advanced first aid.

LEVEL III Rescue Leader, capable of all LEVEL I & II functions, also competent in search management, technical rescue management, and working with all responsible agents. This member must be well versed in group organization,

carrying out meetings, fund raising, and all other aspects of administration including evaluation and debriefing of missions. Rescue Leader should also be a competent trainer and should be an EMT, paramedic, or physician or be declared competent by the Training Committee.

I hope this breakdown of LEVEL's is clear and makes as much sense to you as it does to me. If the first level manual proves successful and is adopted for use (published, etc.), I would then proceed with much help from other conference members to write the second level manual. Please give me a call (703-961-3883) if you have comments or suggestions about any of this information. If I don't hear from you hopefully I'll see you on the 6th.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David L. Merritt". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

David L. Merritt

Appalachian SAR Manual Outline (LEVEL I)

1. Introduction

- a. Brief history of search and rescue.
- b. Objectives of the manual. Description of the levels.
- c. What it means to be a rescuer ? / Rescuer as an asset.

2. Equipment and Personal Safety

- a. The rescue pack and its contents.
- b. The well dressed rescuer. / What he/she should wear.
- c. Are you physically and mentally prepared for a mission ?
- d. The well prepared rescuer. / Survival of the rescuer.

3. Wilderness Travel and Clue Finding

- a. Staying comfortable. / Weather reading.
- b. Observation and awareness in the wilderness.
- c. What are we looking for anyway ? / How to concentrate and find important clues.
- a. How to move over the terrain / pacing, resting, energy conservation, food, water, and knowing when to slow down.

4. Navigation

- a. Understanding maps.
- b. Using the compass. / Orienting the map.
- c. Using map, compass and common sense as your system to stay found
- d. Why navigation is important to the rescuer !

5. Search Communications, Organization and Tactics

- a. Why communications break down. / Keeping the lines open.
- b. Staying organized on the search. / Keeping the team together.
- c. What tactics do we use in the search ? What do we do when we find someone ?

6. First Aid and Patient Handling

- a. How much first aid should you know ? / Keeping them alive in the woods.
- b. What about hypothermia, frostbite and frostnip ?
- c. Patient care and transportation / Litter handling, carrying and signals.

7. Evaluation and Debriefing

- a. Evaluation of the search/rescue ? What can be learned for future missions ?
- b. Was everyone well prepared ? Debriefing process.