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**APPALACHIAN SEARCH AND RESCUE CONFERENCE**  
**Allegheny Mountain Rescue Group**

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**Minutes: February 13, 1989**

Members Present: Abbitt; Conover;  
Fogle; Jones; Kuga; Lindell; Vint; Yee.

The meeting was called to order at 1940 hours by Chairman David Lindell,

**Membership:** John Kihl has requested that his membership be changed to Sustaining rather than Trainee; a motion to confirm this passed unanimously.

**Special Order of The Day:** elections will be held at the March meeting. The following nominations were made: **Chairman:** David Lindell; **Vice-Chairman:** Jack Grandey; **Secretary:** Joe Crist; **Treasurer:** A. Richard ("ARF") Fogle; **ASRC Board Delegates:** Keith Conover and Mike Kuga; **ASRC Board Alternates:** John Zimecki and Bru Randall.

**Roster Update:** Arf Fogle is collecting updated information and will be passing it on to Joe Crist who will publish a new roster. Arf is also ordering official nametags; contact him if you want one.

There was no MRA report. The Chairman reported two callouts since the last meeting, and that he represented us at the Allegheny County EMS manager's meeting. There was no Operations report, but we discussed the need to modify the current alert system so the STAT helicopter dispatchers don't have everyone in the Group calling them when we have a callout. We discussed a rotating on-call Alert Officer system.

Mike Kuga announced land navigation training 2/12, a equipment work session 2/21, and a social meeting at Keith and Betty's 2/24 with land navigation training and a homemade (from scratch!) Mexican-style dinner. Other training is listed below. The recruiting

competition deadline has been extended to June 1 (the winner gets a \$25 gift certificate).

The Information Officer noted that an AMRG poster will soon be posted around local outdoor stores and on the various college campuses; Tom Jones also needs slides of Group members and activities for his PR work. The Treasurer reported \$253.23 in the account.

**Tax-Exempt Status:** Betty Thomas and Arf Fogle have completed our tax-exempt application and it has been sent off to the IRS. (Betty just told me that we probably will have to incorporate to get tax-exempt status. However, she works for a law firm, and with her help we can incorporate with no legal fees, just paying the \$75 to register with the state. --KC)

Dave Vint is circulating a new communications memo for members to review. Mike Abbitt is mailing out a questionnaire about medical certification to all Group members so we may obtain reciprocal certification for other states. Mike Yee is coordinating our planned GSAR College (flyer enclosed). We must get at least 15 paying students to break even, and we are having trouble finding a cook for the weekend. We hope to get some of our members through GSAR to become instructors, so we don't have to pay to import instructors from Virginia.

The meeting was adjourned at 2100 hours.

\* The Group's official address has been changed to Mike Kuga's post office box: P.O. Box 602, Ambridge, PA 15003.

\* The new ASRC Bylaws and Operations Manual are out. Everyone should get a copy. Call Betty Thomas if you need one, or if you need a copy of the training manual.

## Training Schedule:

Friday-Sunday 3-5 March and 17-19 March:  
Ground SAR College, here in SW PA.  
Those completing course will obtain  
Commonwealth of Virginia GSAR level I  
certification. Mike Yee is  
coordinator.

Tuesday, March 7<sup>th</sup>: Business Meeting,  
Mercy Hospital ER conference room,  
1930 hours. Election of officers.

Friday-Sunday, March 31 (1000 hrs.)--  
April 2 (1700 hrs): IC for SAR  
training. Prerequisite: MSF and ICS  
training. Call Ralph Wilfong,  
Virginia DES, 1-804-674-2417.

Friday-Monday, March 10-12: Man-  
tracking Class, Roanoke, VA. Call  
Ralph Wilfong, Virginia DES, 1-804-  
674-2417.

Tuesday, March 21<sup>st</sup>, and Thursday, March  
28<sup>th</sup>: Search One's CPR and Standard  
First Aid training.

Tuesday, March 21<sup>st</sup>: evening training:  
Group Equipment work session and  
training (litter, radios, ropes and  
technical equipment, OpsKit). Mercy  
Hospital ER conference room, 1930  
hours

Friday, the 24<sup>th</sup> of March: We will have  
our third social meeting: Time and  
place to be announced.

Virginia WEMT: 7-9 and 21-23 April.

April: weekend-long simulated complete  
SAR operation

Sunday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>: Field Exercise:  
Wilderness Search. Time and location  
to be announced.

Tuesday, April 4<sup>th</sup>: business meeting,  
Mercy Hospital ER conference room,  
1930 hours.

Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup>: ASRC Board Meeting,  
Shenandoah National Park HQ, 1000 hrs.

Sunday, April 16<sup>th</sup>: Field Exercise:  
Semitechnical Evacuations, McConnell's  
Mill State Park

Tuesday, April 18<sup>th</sup>: Incident Command  
System and Field Team Leadership  
seminar. 1930 hours, Mercy Hospital  
Emergency Department conference room.

May: AMRG ASRC Certification Test  
(written and practical).

Pennsylvania WEMT: 12-14 and 19-21 May.

for information about training, contact  
Mike Kuga (phone numbers below)

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**Remember, we meet at Mercy Hospital  
the first and third Tuesday of every  
month!**

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### Updated list of phone numbers:

Richard Boland 661-4532 (H) 647-8487 (W)  
Keith Conover, M.D. 561-3413 (H) 232-  
8364 (W1) 749-7076 (W2) 645-0931\* pager  
Emily Cohen 521-1350 (H/W)  
Joseph Crist 381-1069 (H) 622-6927 (W)  
645-0957\*  
A. Richard Fogle 793-5104 (H) 795-1085  
(W) 765-4922 (P) 793-7434 (E) 645-0604\*  
pager  
Jack Grandey 741-0762 (H) 787-0190 (W)  
John Greenaway 673-3780 (H) 673-0303 (W)  
645-0933\* pager  
Tom Jones 885-6488 (H)  
Mike Kuga 266-9181 (H) 266-8343 (W) 645-  
0929\* pager  
Dave Knorr 643-5711  
Dave Lindell 521-2655 (H) 665-3654 (W)  
488-8333 (W: River Rescue)  
Greg Margolis 422-9374 (H) 647-6982 (W)  
Dave McCulloch 321-0604 (H) 488-8333 (W)  
Sali Rose 521-5436 (H)  
Betty Thomas 561-3413 (H) 765-2640 (W)  
Dave Vint 832-2687 (H) 298-8611 (mobile)  
645-0928\* pager  
Rich Worst 869-3747 (H) 393-5310 (W)  
782-3889(wife Leslie work)  
Mike Yee 462-7285 (H) 622-6927 (W)  
John Zimecki 488-7554 (H) 899-2200 (W)

ALLEGHENY MOUNTAIN RESCUE GROUP

February 6, 1989

REPLY TO

ATTN OF: Communications officer

SUBJECT: Current mission communications capability and recommendations for upgrade

TO: All AMRG members

CURRENT MISSION STATUS

1) A missions success or failure relies on many factors. One of the major factors for success is a strong communications capability. A police, fire, or ambulance unit may be the very best in the area of practical skills but if they don't have adequate communications equipment and trained radio operators, their effectiveness is seriously reduced.

2) As of this date the AMRG has the following list of group equipment available for mission use:

- a) three handheld portable King radios with battery
- b) three speakermics for above
- c) three cases, belt hooks and shoulder straps for above
- d) one handheld charger base
- e) one mobile King radio
- f) one cloning cable to program radios
- g) digital paging system capable of supporting as many pagers as necessary

The above equipment does not include personal radio equipment owned by members. A complete list of member owned equipment is being compiled and should be available next meeting.

3) Current communications training consists of one three hour session held over a year ago. Several of those in attendance are no longer active members.

4) At present there is no provision for on going communications classes, practice sessions or nets.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1) Increase present group owned radio equipment by at least 100%.

2) Minimum communications equipment for key personnel should include a pager and a group compatible handheld radio.

ALLEGHENY MOUNTAIN RESCUE GROUP

February 7, 1989

REPLY TO

ATTN OF: Communications Officer

SUBJECT: Proposed Communications Equipment List

TO: All AMRG membership

1) The following is a list of equipment necessary to upgrade the mission status of the Communications Department:

- a) Twelve handheld King Radios and accessories
- b) Six mobile King Radios and antennas
- c) Two mobile Repeaters
- d) One fixed repeater on site for membership coverage
- e) One mobile IBM AT compatible computer system
- f) Six 1500 watt 12volt/120volt power inverters
- g) Six 40 channel single sideband CB radios
- h) Six portable air to ground aircraft radios
- i) Six Bearcat 800 mobile scanners
- J) Two micro size tape recorders

2) Additional suggestions and comments are welcome.



David Vint  
CO AMRG

- 3) Start a series of communications classes to qualify all members as radio operators. Attendance and qualification should be mandatory. Upon successful completion, the member would be issued an ROP card (Radio Operator Proficiency) and an assigned group radio call sign.
- 4) Start a regular practice net schedule in which members can check in to pass messages for information and training purposes.
- 5) Studies have shown that a unit that has strong communications abilities, will have a much higher mission success rate.
- 6) This office welcomes any and all ideas and suggestions to better implement a strong communications framework within the group.



David Vint  
CO AMRG