

SHENANDOAH
MOUNTAIN RESCUE GROUP

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* NEWSLETTER *
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SPECIAL NOTE-- ASRC MEETING POSTPONED. SEE SCHEDULE.

SHENANDOAH MOUNTAIN RESCUE GROUP
P.O. Box 3234 McLean, VA 22103
A Group of the Appalachian Search and Rescue Conference, Inc.
(pending member)

Member, Mountain Rescue Association
SMRG + ASRC 24-hour emergency phone: (804) 323-2300 (Commonwealth of Virginia Emergency Operations Center)

NEWSLETTER: JUNE 1983

***** N E W S *****

ASRC MEETING POSTPONED

Due to some scheduling problems, the ASRC Annual Membership Meeting has been postponed from the 19th of June until the 17th of July. All other information about the ASRC Meeting, provided in the last newsletter, is still correct; contact Harold Driscoll if you need a copy.

MOUNTAIN RESCUE DECALS AVAILABLE

The Stores Officer will be ordering Mountain Rescue Association decals and Scotchlite emblems for those who wish to use them on cars, helmets, or equipment. Basic Members may use the standard MRA emblem (see the cover); Trainees and Associates may use a similar emblem with a "SUPPORT" rocker beneath.

Currently, MRA patches are not permitted on the uniform; this is one of the many topics that will be discussed at the ASRC Membership Meeting on 17 July. Gene Harrison is also investigating the possibility of getting ASRC decals made up.

HELP WANTED

SMRG is in need of people who can donate typing of manuals and publications, particularly people who know the Wordstar word processing program and who would be willing to type manuals into the computer the Group is using. Alternatively, anyone who can make Wordstar files on his or her home computer could do so and transfer the files to the Group's computer for further processing. Contact Keith Conover if interested (703) 522-2844 (H).

* MEETINGS: Most SMRG activities are held at Potomac Appalachian Trail Club Headquarters (PATC HQ), 1718 N St. NW, Wash- *
* ington DC (near Dupont Circle Metro station). Business meetings are the first Tuesday of the month, and training *
* meetings the third Tuesday. *
* NEWCOMERS are welcome at Group activities; those marked with a (H) are particularly appropriate for those new to the *
* Group. *
* NEWSLETTERS are published at the beginning of each month and sent to each SMRG member. Certain SAR organizations, *
* responsible agencies, stores, and individuals receive courtesy copies (noted by a D, R, S, or C on the mailing label). *
* Potential members may receive three free copies upon request (noted by a "3" on the mailing label); the date of the *
* last free newsletter is also noted on the mailing label. Yearly subscriptions are \$5.00, payable by check made out to *
* Harold Driscoll, and sent to the Group address. *
* SELF-STUDY TRAINING COURSE: The Group is developing a modular self-study Basic Master Training Course; some training *
* sessions may have as prerequisite the completion of a particular module. Those wishing to purchase a set of course *
* materials may contact the Group Treasurer, Harold Driscoll, at any Group meeting; the cost is \$25. *
* FOR FURTHER INFORMATION about SMRG in general, contact the Group Chairman, Gady Soukup, at (301) 453-9423 (H); for *
* information regarding membership in the Group, write to the Group at the above address, come to one of the business *
* meetings, or contact the Group Training Officer, Keith Conover, at (703) 522-2844. *

STOKES LITTER GIFT

As a memorial to a deceased member who had been active in mountain rescue and survival education The Montgomery County Outdoor Education Association has donated a very nice new split Stokes litter to the Group. Our thanks to them for this gift; we expect it to be used often to help save life and limb in the outdoors.

CERTIFICATION TESTS

At the request of SMRG Trainees, the outdoor section of the Basic Certification Test has been moved to 9 July (Saturday) in Charlottesville, concurrent with the Virginia SAR Council workshop. The written exam will be distributed at the review session on the 21st of June, and will be due at the outdoor section of the certification test on the 9th.

MOUNTAIN RESCUE TRAINING SESSION

Due to difficulty in finding a time suitable for more than just a few of the Group's Trainees, a mountain rescue (semi-technical evacuation) field training session has not been scheduled. At the review session and subsequent meetings, the Training Committee will have sign-up sheets for various possible dates.

***** SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES *****

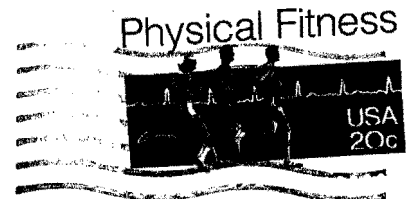
<u>Date/Month</u>	<u>Activity</u>
21 June (Tues)* (NOTE NEW DATE)	SMRG BASIC TRAINING SESSION - PATC HQ, 7:30 PM. <u>Review for Basic Certification Tests.</u> Coordinator: Keith Conover.
21-26 June	<i>National Cave Rescue Commission Basic Training Course - Mammoth Cave, KY. More details to come.</i>
25 June (Sat)	<i>Virginia EMT Instructor Update - Culpeper, VA. Contact: Gary Rosson (703) 825-9112</i>
27 June - 1 July	<i>National Speleological Society Convention - Elkins, WV.</i>
? July	SMRG CPR REFRESHER COURSE - PATC HQ, tentative.
5 July (Tues)*	SMRG BUSINESS MEETING - PATC HQ, 7:30 PM. After business meeting: <u>Training Committee meeting</u> to plan the wilderness first aid and rescue seminar for local outdoor trip leaders.
9-10 July (Sat/Sun)	<i>Virginia Search and Rescue Council Work Session/Meeting - University of Virginia, Charlottesville.</i>
17 July (Sun) (NOTE NEW DATE)	SMRG BASIC PRACTICAL TEST - OUTDOOR SECTION - University of Virginia, Charlottesville, 8:30 AM.
17 July (Sun)	<u>ASRC GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING</u> - 9 AM in South Meeting Room of Newcomb Hall, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA.
19 July (Tues)*	SMRG BASIC TRAINING SESSION - PATC HQ, 7:30 PM. <u>Survival and Wilderness Travel</u> Coordinator: Harold

Driscoll (202) 966-9091.

- ? August* SMRG AUXILIARY MEMBER TRAINING SESSION - tentative
- ? August SMRG FIRST RESPONDER/ADV. FIRST AID COURSE - tentative.
- 2 August (Tues)* SMRG BUSINESS MEETING - PATC HQ, 7:30 PM. Program: Management of the Hypothermic Patient, by Rich Saunders.
- ? October *Virginia Wing, Civil Air Patrol: Ground Sea and Rescue College* - two weekends, at Fort A. P. Hill.
- 11-13 November *Virginia Fourth Annual Statewide EMS Symposium* - Williamsburg, VA :
- 10-13 November *Mountain Medicine '83* - Pinkham Notch Camp, NH. A seminar for EMT's, RN's, and MD's. Keith Conover has information on it.
- ? December *NASAR Managing the Search Function Class* - a 40-hour class, sponsored by Virginia DEES.

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Appalachian Search and Rescue Conference (pending member)
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McLean, VA 22103



Keith Conover
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Arlington, VA 22209
Basic 11/84

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PROCEDURE FOR ALERTING THE ASRC: Information for SMRG Members

ASRC + SMRG 24-HOUR ALERTING PHONE NUMBER: (804) 323-2300

(COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA, OFFICE OF ENERGY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES, STATE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER)

1. Those wishing to request assistance from the ASRC or SMRG should be aware that we cannot engage in search and rescue operations without the assent of the local law enforcement or rescue agency. On the other hand, the ASRC necessarily has a longer response time than rescue squads, fire departments, or sheriff's departments; we therefore appreciate any advance notice of a pending request for assistance it is, therefore, appropriate for agencies or private persons to call the ASRC directly, pending law enforcement agency approval. We would rather receive many alerts which were later called off rather than a single time when we didn't have adequate time to respond.
2. ALERTING PROCESS -- when the State Emergency Operations Center receives a call for ASRC assistance, the duty officer calls the University of Virginia Police Department at (804) 924-7166. The UVAPD Dispatcher uses the Blue Ridge Mountain Rescue Group paging system [804-971-6310] to contact a BRMRG Alert Officer (AO). This AO then contacts the complainant, assesses the situation, and institutes an appropriate response, appointing a Mission Coordinator and calling out Groups as appropriate. If the system breaks down in some way, the following list of phone numbers for ASRC Alert Officers may be used:

1. (804) 296-7276 Gary Mechtel, residence
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

3. ALERTING THE SMRG -- when an ASRC Alert Officer or Mission Coordinator decides to alert or callout the Shenandoah Mountain Rescue Group, the following phone list should be used:

(PLEASE CALL IN LISTED ORDER)

1. (703) 522-2844 Keith Conover or Betty Thomas, residence
2. (703) 960-3559 Ray or Sue Cole, residence
3. (202) 638-4260 Betty Thomas, work
4. (202) 342-4279 or (800) 424-8503 Gene Harrison, work
5. 703-777-6111 Gene Harrison, residence
6. (301) 493-9623 Cady Soukup, residence
7. (301) 530-9226/7 Cady Soukup, work
8. (202) 966-9091 Harold Driscoll, residence
9. (301) 443-6110 Harold Driscoll, work

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EXPLANATION OF ROSTER ORGANIZATION:

AVAIL. (Availability) is for use in marking down a member's availability for a mission; the top block is for the first 24 hours, the bottom for the 2nd 24. See the back of the Searcher Alert Form for alert and callout instructions.

CONTACT INFORMATION lists the member's name, phone numbers, and Ham Callsign, if any. The phone numbers are (1) home phone (2) work phone and (3) other phone.

QUALIFICATIONS list the following:

1. Type of membership: Basic, Trainee, Associate, Associate with the right to vote (Associate-Vote), or Auxiliary.
2. Mission Coordination qualifications: Mission Coordinator, Mision Staff, or none.
3. Technical rescue leadership qualifications: Rescue Specialist for technical rescues or none.
4. Medical qualifications: physician (MD or DO), Registered Nurse (RN), EMT w/ advanced life support training (EMT+), EMT, First Responder, Advanced First Aid, Standard First Aid, or none.
5. Communications specialty qualifications: Communications Officer for a large search (Commo Officer), experienced Radio Operator, or none.

EQPT. list the member's mission-related equipment:

1. Car: C = car, E = four-wheel drive vehicle; the number specifies the number of people with gear the car can carry (including the driver); CB means the car has a mobile CB radio.
2. Winter means the member has winter-suitable boots, sleeping bag, pad, and tent, and instep crampons.
3. Climbing means the member has a climbing (non-static) rope and a rack of protection (chocks, carabiners, etc.)
4. Caving: Caving-H means the member has horizontal caving gear, and Caving-V means the member has complete vertical caving gear.
5. Radios: VHF means the member has handheld or mobile ASRC VHF capability, 2 means handheld or mobile 2 meter Ham capability, and HF means mobile Ham HF capability.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFO lists the member's color code, address, and membership expiration date.

APPALACHIAN SEARCH AND RESCUE CONFERENCE, INCORPORATED
Shenandoah Mountain Rescue Group

SEARCHER ALERT FORM (SAF)
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I. CONTACT

A. DO - Dispatch Officer (Name, Phone) _____

B. MC - Mission Coordinator (Name) _____

C. QRL - Quick Response Leader (Name) _____

II. SITUATION

A. Problem Type _____

B. Location _____

Distance _____

C. Weather and Terrain _____

D. Special Problems or Special Equipment Required _____

III. Dispatch Instructions

- I. Keep your SAF's and Callout Roster near the phone, and have your gear ready to go at all times.
- II. When you get a call for a mission, copy the information down on a SAF.
- III. If you have any questions, call the Dispatch Officer, not the Mission Coordinator.

Shenandoah Mountain Rescue Group

ALERT AND CALLOUT INSTRUCTIONS
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IV. STATUS EXPLANATIONS:

- A. *CALLOUT* - We are sending out a team as soon as possible. If you can go, grab your gear and proceed to the assigned assembly point.
- B. *STANDBY* - We may be sending a team out in the next few hours. If you are available, ready yourself and your gear and be at one of your listed phone numbers until the time the standby expires. If you will be at some other phone, make sure the Dispatch Officer knows. If no stand-down time is specified, you may go off standby 12 hours after you were called.
- C. *ALERT* - There is a small possibility we will be called for a mission. This is primarily for your information, should you want to keep in close touch. No availability information is collected, and there is no need to change your plans so as to be available.

V. ASSEMBLY POINTS

VI. To assist the Dispatch Officer:

- A. Get an assignment of names to call; call in order down the list, calling all listed phone numbers for a callout or standby, and all except emergency only numbers for an alert, until you reach the member.
- B. Leave the phone on the hook for 30 seconds between each call to allow for incoming calls.
- C. Leave the phone on the hook for 3 minutes before and after the hour to allow the DO to call you if he needs to.
- D. When you reach a member for an alert, relay the information about the mission to him, using the SAF format. When you reach a member for a callout or standby:
 1. Ask "are you available for the next 24 hours or so? How about the following 24 hours or so?" If the answer to both is no, briefly describe the mission ("it's a lost person search in Augusta County Virginia."), thank him, and politely but quickly hang up.
 2. If he is available for one or both time periods, note it in the appropriate place on the Callout Roster; give him the full information on the SAF. If the member has a car listed, ask if it is available for the mission; circle it if yes.
 3. After working through your assigned section of the Roster, report back to the DO with the following for each member you called:

either *NO ANSWER*or *LEFT MESSAGE TO CALL DISPATCH OFFICER*or *NOT AVAILABLE*or *AVAILABLE (1st 24 hours? 2nd 24 hours? car available?)*