



Appalachian Search and Rescue Conference
440 Newcomb Station
Charlottesville, VA 22904
www.asrc.net

January 5, 2012

To All Members and Leaders of the ASRC:

After months of preparation, it is my pleasure to formally invite you to the 2012 ASRC Retreat at the Blackburn Trail Center! This year's event will span February 3rd through 5th and focus on a single task: creating a common vision of the ASRC's future role in the search and rescue world.

To achieve this, we will explore the fundamental elements of the ASRC through a series of moderated talks, discussions, and activities. Topics shall include: the current state and needs of the search and rescue community, the needs of the subject, and how the ASRC can fulfill these needs. The goal of this process is the creation of a vision statement for the ASRC, to be signed and affirmed by the member teams, which will serve as the common ground and guide for all future discussion and development.

With the task before us, it must be noted that this retreat is not all hard work and toil! The facilities of Blackburn Trail Center are comfortable and the surroundings gorgeous. Free time to relax, unwind, and enjoy the company and environment has been amply built into the schedule. To sustain us, a top-notch cook is arranging lunches and dinners. Among her plans is a Saturday night barbeque that will be worth looking forward to! We are planning to finish up Sunday's events in time for those of you anxious to be home for the Super Bowl's kickoff at 1830. However, if you're interested in an afternoon excursion before returning to the daily grind, the Trail Center is in close proximity to an umber of scenic hiking and climbing opportunities – so bring your gear!

The ASRC officers have been working hard to make this retreat an enjoyable success, and look forward to seeing you there! If you intend to join us, please RSVP as soon as possible by emailing Eric Menendez, our Treasurer, at ericmenendez@gmail.com. Should you have any logistical or dietary concerns, feel free to contact us at the same address.

That Others May Live,

Evan H. Koepke

ASRC Chairman

Schedule of Events:

Friday, February 3rd	
15:00	Check-in begins at Blackburn Trail Center
18:00	Dinner Served
	Opening Remarks – <i>Evan Koepke, current ASRC Chairman</i>
	Current State of SAR in the Mid-Atlantic – <i>Steven Weiss, ASRC Chairman emeritus</i>
	Discussion: Situation and Needs of the Mid-Atlantic SAR Community
22:00	Free Time
Saturday, February 4th	
07:00	Breakfast (coffee is provided)
08:00	Discussion & Activities: The Needs of the Subject
08:50	Break
09:00	Discussion & Activities: Closing the Gap and Filling the Needs
12:00	Lunch
13:00	Discussion & Activities: Providing the Services – How to viably make it happen
18:00	Dinner
Sunday, February 5th	
08:00	Breakfast (coffee is provided)
09:00	Discussion, Revision, and Ratification of Vision Statement
12:00	Light Lunch
15:00	Final Checkout Time

Logistics:

Parking	There is limited parking space at the Blackburn Trail Center. Depending on the number of persons attending the event, alternate parking arrangements may need to be arranged to meet the need. Should this occur, all RSVP'd attendees will be informed directly of the new arrangements.
Meals	Several meals are being arranged by our cook to ensure that all attendees do not go malnourished! Friday's dinner will be a 'main course provided' potluck. <i>Please bring a side dish or a dessert.</i> Breakfast on Saturday and Sunday will <i>NOT</i> be provided – though coffee will be. Saturday and Sunday lunch will be provided, though Sunday's will be the leftover supplies from Saturday's dinner.
Lodging	Lodging will be provided in the form of the Trail Center's bunkhouses. Please RSVP as soon as possible to reserve your bunk.

Navigation:

Blackburn Trail Center
34899 Appalachian Trail Rd.
Loudoun, VA 20132

See the following link for more directions and information:

<http://www.pecva.org/anx/index.cfm/1,325,775,0.html/>