

# Annual General Meeting and Educational Series

October 3 and 4 2020





# Frequently Asked Questions

## **What is the Appalachian Search and Rescue Conference?**

The ASRC is an organization of volunteer search and rescue teams (Groups) who are aligned by the common goal to be the resource-of-choice that responsible authorities will turn to when they need to locate a missing person quickly. Our Groups exhibit outstanding professional qualities, share our simple core values, and possess a strong commitment to locating the lost person.

## **What is the Annual General Meeting?**

The Appalachian Search and Rescue Conference (ASRC) hold one meeting of all the members each year. Each member of our Groups is also a member of the conference, per the ASRC bylaws. As such, you are welcome to attend the meeting (and any Board of Directors meeting) and cast your vote on any items that come up.

## **I can't attend the meeting, can I give my vote to someone else?**

Yes! Please proxy your vote to someone else on your team or your ASRC Board representative at this link: <https://forms.gle/duPKfvqYYhSKAux6>

## **Why is the meeting and weekend online?**

Due to the SARS-CoV-2 outbreak we could not off our usual Search and Rescue Exercise that has been our tradition. Instead a number of your fellow teammates and peers have stepped up to offer an outstanding program of online sessions.

## **Is there an opportunity to just chat with other ASRC members?**

Yes, we are providing an open forum at 1900 on Saturday night (October 3) for folks to gather in one spot and have a free flowing conversation.

## **Will sessions be recorded for future use?**

Yes, we are recording each session to make available for future use. But the best experience to attend those sessions which interest you the most.

Attend the meetings and all sessions at:

<https://meet.google.com/bmc-ujvs-djm>

Dial in: 561-614-0036 PIN: 418 707 422#

# Our Mission Statement

The mission of the Appalachian Search and Rescue Conference is to locate the lost person efficiently by enabling its Groups to provide the best search and rescue services possible to responsible authorities.

# Our Core Values

- We expect honesty, integrity, and true professionalism in everything we do.
- We value Groups who show commitment through their training, actions, and leadership to the health and safety of all persons engaged in a mission or training exercise.
- We value Groups who work in close cooperation and coordination with responsible authorities before, during, and after missions.
- We value the fundamental principles and skills of search and rescue as the cornerstone for our Groups to be high quality resources for responsible authorities.
- We value technology leadership and practice innovation as the foundations to advancing the state and art of search and rescue in our region.
- We value search management excellence, with search managers embracing the critically important practices of safe incident operations, quality service to the responsible authority, best practice implementation, and an awareness of risk management.
- We expect teamwork and goodwill among all member teams, regardless of location or practice specialty.

# Our Strategic Goals

- Credentialing Program
- Develop Our Groups
- Deliver Content to Our Groups
- Develop Our Remote Support Capability
- Fostering an Ecosystem for Innovation



# Summary of SP2020



**Saturday, 03 October 2020**



# Weekend Agenda

- 08:30 - 09:00 BOD Meeting
- 09:00 - 10:00 Annual General Meeting  
Meeting of all ASRC Members
- 10:00 - 11:00 Board of Directors Meeting
- 12:30 - 14:00 SAR101  
LuAnn Gatti - NWPAK9SAR
- 14:00 - 15:00 Weather Considerations for SAR  
Kevin Seitter - BRMRG
- 15:00 - 16:00 Introduction to Austere EMS  
Keith Conover, M.D. - AMRG
- 16:00 - 17:00 Identifying Evacuation Routes  
Andrew Kapaldo - MARG
- 17:00 - 18:00 Lost Aircraft Search Planning  
Sean McElligot - SMRG
- 18:00 - 19:00 Introduction to Gaia GPS and Field Use  
Examples Andrew Ivovich - SMRG
- 19:00 - ? Cracker Barrel/Open  
Forum ASRC

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# Sunday, 04 October 2020

- 09:00 - 10:00 SAR Dog Operations for GSAR Responders  
Ken Chiacchia, Ph.D. - MARG
- 10:00 - 12:00 Patient Assessment for the ASRC SAR Responder  
Lee Fuell - MARG
- 12:00 - 13:00 Frostbite  
Doug Sward, M.D. - MSAR
- 13:00 - 14:00 Ticks and Tickborne Diseases  
Keith Conover, M.D. - AMRG
- 14:00 - 16:00 Introduction to Search and Rescue  
Dan Brizuela - MSAR

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## Weelend Agenda



# Abstracts

## **SAR101**

**LuAnn Gatti - NWPAK9SAR**

LuAnn will give Northwest PA K9 SAR's introductory to Search and Rescue class.

## **Weather Considerations for Search and Rescue**

**Kevin Seitter - BRMRG**

Weather is an omnipresent but sometimes underappreciated element in all of our lives. In SAR, it can mean the difference between life and death. This presentation will cover the basics of interpreting forecasts, weather radar, and your surroundings, so you'll never have to rely on someone else

## **Introduction to Austere EMS**

**Keith Conover, M.D. - AMRG**

Join Keith as he gives us an overview of providing emergency medical services in wilderness or poorly resourced environments.

## **Identifying Evacuation Routes**

**Andrew Kapaldo - MARG**

We often focus our training on patient packaging, semi-tech rescue methods, and other technical skills, but the evacuation plays an important part of the success of the rescue as well. Andrew will provide considerations for SAR responders and on-scene rescuers to identify and clear evacuation routes.

## **Lost Aircraft Search Planning**

**Sean McElligot - SMRG**

An introduction to how to plan and run a search for a missing aircraft. Using case studies from recent searches, we look at how to determine possible search locations, tracking evidence, and what resources may be needed.

## **Introduction to Gaia GPS and Field Use Examples**

**Andrew Ivovich - SMRG**

Introductory information on the smartphone application "Gaia GPS" and how it can be used on SAR missions. We will cover the basics of getting the application set up and how it can be customized to be more useful in the field. Also, examples of how Gaia GPS has been used in the field will be presented and discussed

## **SAR Dog Operations for GSAR Operations**

**Ken Chiacchia, Ph.D. - MARG**

Let's face it, dog handlers can be a pain in the butt. We can't agree amongst ourselves what we should be testing in our certification systems (except in the broadest terms) or even what roles a dog handler should play on a dog team. Are they the team leader? Should they even be able to navigate the task? It's no wonder that GSAR folks are often left shaking their heads at all the talk about scent movement, trained indications, back-chaining, blah blah blah Ginger. Having served as a responder in both the dog and GSAR worlds, Ken will close the gulf in a way that helps both field and base GSAR personnel understand dogs from the point of view of informed consumers of the resource. It's neither rocket science nor magic, and the important points can be understood without having to become a dog handler.

## **Patient Assessment for the ASRC Responder**

**Lee Fuell - MARG**

Are you a SAR volunteer who is not a medical professional? Are you uneasy about being first on scene to a medical emergency (Status 2 subject; team member emergency; etc.)? Do you find the wilderness first aid requirements for ASRC Field II intimidating? If so, this presentation will help you develop a systematic, structured approach to providing initial assessment and care to a sick or injured patient you may encounter during a SAR response.

## **Frostbite**

**Doug Sward, M.D. - MSAR**

Doug will give us the latest and greatest on frostbite science and treatment.

## **Ticks and Tickborne Diseases**

**Keith Conover, M.D. - AMRG**

All SAR responders in the mid-Atlantic region and beyond are routinely exposed to ticks. Learn about the latest on tickborne disease transmission and prevention.

## **Introduction to Search and Rescue**

**Dan Brizuela - MSAR**

Join Dan as he presents MSAR's version of an introductory search and rescue based on the Essentials of Search and Rescue text from the ASRC.



# Abstracts



**Allegheny Mountain Rescue Group (AMRG)**

**Blue Ridge Mountain Rescue Group (BRMRG)**

**Maryland Search and Rescue (MSAR)**

**Mountaineer Area Rescue Group (MARG)**

**Northwest Pennsylvania K9 Search and Rescue (NWPAK9SAR)**

**Remote Support Corps (RSC)**

**Search and Rescue Ohio (SAR-OH)**

**Shenandoah Mountain Rescue Group (SMRG)**

