

APPALACHIAN SEARCH & RESCUE CONFERENCE

c/o PATC, 1718 N St. N.W.

Washington, D. C. 20036

NEWSLETTER

The Appalachian Search & Rescue Conference is being organized as a regional association to provide a search and rescue capability for this area; to offer a cooperative training program in subjects related to search and rescue, and to serve as a coordinating agency and source of information for all who are interested in outdoor search and rescue operations. ASRC is not equipped to, nor does it plan to perform any services now provided by rescue squads in urban and suburban areas.

Background

In 1972, John Oliphant of the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club organized its search and rescue committee. Several training missions were led by him and Reid Folsom in 1972-1973.

In the fall of 1973 Keith Conover and Gene Harrison began leading the search and rescue training sessions for both PATC and the University of Virginia Outing Club. Participants, some of whom provided assistance and supervision in training, included rescue squad members, cavers, rock climbers, senior girl scouts, outdoor survival school graduates, as well as seasoned hikers from areas and groups beyond metropolitan Washington. Consequently it was decided to form an over all organization to be incorporated as the Appalachian Search & Rescue Conference. ASRC has been in operation on an informal basis for several months. Its primary accomplishment thus far has been a schedule of monthly training sessions. In these sessions we have not only exchanged ideas but have had practical training in live searches, high-angle rescue techniques, orienteering and basic ropework.

At an organization meeting held Wednesday, May 15, 1974, the following officers were elected pro tem:

Director of Operations - Keith Conover. President, U. of Va. Outing Club, chairman, Blue Ridge Rescue Group, employed as National Park ranger in summer months.

Director of Technical Training - Gene Harrison. an electronics engineer who is a Virginia-registered Emergency Medical Technician; Executive Director, Potomac Speleological Society with 10 years' caving experience, now specializing in technical work and cave rescue; experienced in technical rock climbing; licensed all forms of communication with extensive experience in radio and telephone.

Всего в 1913 году в России было издано 10 миллионов книг, в том числе 5 миллионов в Российской империи и 5 миллионов в иностранных государствах. Это свидетельствует о значительном развитии книжной культуры и печати в России того времени.

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Director of Public Relations - Ray Cole. An electronics engineer, co-chairman Organ Cave survey (mapping and scientific exploration), member, Naval Research Lab photo club; past chairman and former training chairman, D.C. Grotto of National Speleological Society. Active in backpacking, canoing and climbing. Responsible for producing ASRC training slide shows.

Executive Secretary - Rita Cloutier. General Secretary, PATC, chairman, PATC Search and Rescue Committee, formerly Director of Trails, Wanderbirds Hiking Club. Editor of ASRC Newsletter.

Advisory Board - John Oliphant and Reid Folsom

This is the first issue of the ASRC Newsletter in which we will list the training schedules, begin an outline of a proposed search and rescue fieldbook, and provide for an exchange of ideas. The first issue only is being sent to all who have expressed an interest in search and rescue in the past.

In the future we hope many more persons, either as individuals or through their groups over a wide area will become associated with ASRC. Sturdy men and women are required for the heavy going, but we also need help in public relations, legal matters, publishing a newsletter, and in communications and maintaining base camps while on a search mission.

To volunteer, or to continue receiving this newsletter, please write ASRC c/o PATC, 1718 N St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20036, telling us your particular interest, training, abilities in S&R, and your complete mailing address and telephone number.

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Training

I. SURVIVAL

- A. Outdoor Principles: A survey of basic survival principles, wilderness travel and safety.
- B. Map and Compass: An introduction to topographic maps, magnetic compasses, and their use.
- C. Backcountry Seminar: Practical training in wilderness travel.
- D. Orienteering: Advanced map and compass techniques.
- E. Advanced Outdoor Techniques: Winter principles; long-term survival.

II. MEDICAL

- A. Search and Rescue First Aid: First aid principles as applied in a wilderness context.
- B. Cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR).

III. SEARCH AND RESCUE

- A. Basic Search Techniques: Survey methods, scratch searches, line search, and principles.
- B. Basic Ropework: Rope handling, belays, rappels, ascending knots, slings, hardware and safety.
- C. Litter Handling: The Stokes wire basket litter, functions and uses.
- D. Intermediate Ropework: More rappels, different types of rope, more ascending.
- E. Advanced Ropework: Specialized equipment such as mechanical ascenders, self-rescue, anchors.
- F. Basic Technical Rigging: Rigging structures, A-frames.

IV. OPERATIONS

- A. Communications and Management: Theory and practice.
- B. Leadership Seminar.

It is not intended that rescue group members attend all the above classes; their purpose is to provide instruction in those areas in which members feel they need additional knowledge and practice.

6/26/74

ASRC ~~Training~~ Schedule

July 20, Sat. Basic ropework. Loft Mt. campground,
Shenandoah National Park.

Register at Amphitheatre 9:30 a.m.,
Classes begin 10 a.m. promptly.

Expense: Transportation plus park
entry fee and 50¢ ASRC fee.

Limited registration (12 persons).
Please call Rita Cloutier (966-7652)
for reservation and transportation
arrangement.

Any who wish to stay overnight at
the campground and participate in
possible Sunday classes should
register.

August nothing presently scheduled

Sept. 7-8 Harpers Ferry, W.Va. map and compass,
orienteering and survival, basic and
advanced sections.

Oct. 18-20 To be announced.

Nov. 2-3 CPR and First Aid

Nov. 16-17 Basic ropework and litter handling,
advanced ropework and technical
rigging.

December Search and rescue simulation, Doyle
River Cabin area in Shenandoah National
Park.

Standard equipment: foul weather gear, heavy leather boots
with lug soles, hard hat with lamp bracket, headlamp (Wonder-
lamp, justrite electric lamp), heavy leather gloves; rucksack
including food and water, personal first aid kit.