

## APPALACHIAN SEARCH &amp; RESCUE CONFERENCE

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

Washington, D. C. 20036

NEWSLETTEREditor's comment:

ASRC's training session in basic ropework on July 20 at Loft Mt. Campground in Shenandoah National Park ran from 10 a.m. to dark. Several SNP rangers participated. Classes were well organized. Kinds and quality of equipment were covered, knots were taught, safe procedures were laid out and every student made a descent on belay of a cliff face. This was a very successful training session and the organizers and instructors (Keith Conover, Gene Harrison and Ray Cole) are to be commended. See our revised schedule in this newsletter.

OPERATIONS

ASRC is developing a comprehensive outdoor search and rescue organization for this region. Present plans call for two main operational systems: (1) a regional communications network to call upon individual ASRC specialists for consultation and management functions and (2) centralized sub-organizations. The sub-organizations would not be rescue teams (our members and the potential search areas are too widespread for such structures at this time), but groups of ASRC members living in close proximity who can pool transportation. This dual system will allow considerable flexibility for our operations. The program will hinge upon one important feature: a well-organized call-out system for getting persons to rescue areas.

Fees: The 50¢ charge per person for attending ASRC training sessions and any donations will be used for materials for ASRC classes (handouts, etc.); for the expense of printing and mailing this newsletter, and for purchasing specialized training equipment.

TRAINING NOTES

ASRC is now standardizing many of its classes in order to give tests and issue certificates (of competence) for particular subjects and levels. In this way competence can be judged objectively and ASRC will be assured that there are no gaps in the training of members. Presently, it is not necessary to attend a course to take tests as the classes are merely means to develop competence. However, a class might prove beneficial as a refresher course for persons already somewhat skilled in an area. The Basic Vertical Ropework class has been standardized and Basic Handling and Transportation will soon follow.

In the future we hope to be running 'open' and 'closed' training sessions -- basic classes would be 'open' (subject to the usual size restrictions and reservation system), advanced classes would be 'closed' (open only to those holding five or more current ASRC training certificates).

Testing procedure

Each student will be issued an outline of the subject matter with a checklist of basic procedures for the level being taught. As the student performs a procedure to the satisfaction of the instructor, the procedure will be initialed as completed by the instructor. When all procedures on a form have been checked off in this fashion, the form will be turned in to ASRC for its records. ASRC will then issue a certificate for the level completed. Certificates will in all cases require regular renewal.

ASRC schedule is on the reverse of the newsletter. We are using a PATC brochure as a carrier for this letter...PATC is providing office space for ASRC.

ASRC Training Schedule

- August** ASRC Demonstration of rescue techniques at National Spéleological Society Convention, Decorah, Iowa
- Sept. 14-15** Basic and Intermediate Orienteering (B-OR\*, I-OR\*). Use of map and compass, including field work. Be prepared for night exercises (headlamp w/ red filter, warm clothing, etc.)  
also  
Basic Survival/Wilderness Travel (B-SU/WT\*)
- Registration: 9:30-10 a.m. Saturday, Prince William Forest Park, Va. Classes start at 10 a.m. Saturday (B-OR, I-OR) and 10 a.m. Sunday (B-SU/WT).
- For more information and reservations, write ASRC or call: Rita Cloutier (202) 966-7652
- Oct. 12-13** Basic First Aid (B-FA\*) including Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR\*) and Basic Handling and Transportation (B-HT\*).
- Registration 9:30-10 a.m., Saturday at Great Falls Park, Va. B-FA starts 10 a.m. Sat. and Sun. B-HT will be held Sat. evening and Sunday afternoons.
- For more information and reservations, write ASRC or call: Gene Harrison (703) 361-3030
- Nov. 9-10** Basic Vertical Ropework and Intermediate Vertical Ropework (B-VR\* and I-VR\*)
- Registration: 9:30-10 a.m., Saturday, Harper's Ferry, W. Va.
- Classes start 10 a.m. Sat. and Sun. B-VR and I-VR will be taught simultaneously; please check Fri. night or Sat. morning to determine which class you should be in. A pre-test will be administered for those wishing to study I-VR; this test will cover material from B-VR.
- For more information and reservations, write ASRC or call: Keith Conover (804) 295-2050
- Dec. 14-15** Search and Rescue Simulation, Doyle River Cabin Area, Shenandoah National Park. In order to participate in this, you must have at least three (3) valid ASRC certificates, and register in advance with: Keith Conover, 211 Chancellor, #2 Charlottesville, Va. 22903 (804) 295-2050

**Standard Gear:** Heavy leather boots, lug soles  
Foul Weather Gear  
Hardhat with lamp bracket  
Electric headlamp (w/ red filter)  
Leather gloves  
Rucksack with food and water  
Personal first aid kit

Charges: 50¢ ASRC fee for all ASRC classes. Park and campground fees, lodging, and food are left to individuals. (But check with trip leader: there may be cheap or free accommodations available)

**\*Tests and Certificates:** Courses marked with an asterisk (\*) include tests, and certificates will be issued upon completion of that test.

**Reservations:** are necessary for all ASRC activities. Many classes have maximum size limitaton. Some courses have prerequisites.

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Washington, D. C. 20036

NEWSLETTER

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(Changes in date and training at Great Falls, Va.)

Oct. 19-20 Great Falls Park, Va. (Meet at Visitor Center)

Subjects: (1) Basic handling and transportation  
(of the sick and injured)

(2) Basic climbing

(3) Basic communications

All classes are oriented to wilderness-type search and rescue operations.

The session will run from 10 a.m. Saturday until 3:30 Sunday. Please plan on arriving on time (registration is 9:30-10:00 a.m. Sat.) Contact Gene Harrison 703/361-3030 for reservations and information.

Come prepared for camping Sat. night, including dinner Sat. night and breakfast Sun. morning. At both Sat. and Sun. sessions, come completely prepared (self-sufficient) for all day, including:

Rucksack

Lunch and munches

Water

Appropriate clothing (incl. lug sole boots, leather work gloves, raingear).

Flashlight (or headlamp) with red filter

Hardhat with lamp bracket, and non-stretch chin strap

Personal first aid kit

Be prepared for a night exercise after dinner Saturday

Nov. 9-10 Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, W.VA.

Subject: Vertical Ropework

(Both basic and intermediate sections...  
entrance to intermediate will be decided  
by a pre-test Saturday morning)

Classes will run from 10:00 A.M. Sat. to approx.  
5:00 P.M. Sunday.

Accommodations will be available at \$2.75 per night, including kitchen. Bring linens or sleeping bag, food. Come prepared as for Oct. session. For reservations and information, call Keith Conover 804/295-2050.

Dec. 14-15

As in newsletter of August 26, 1974.

APPALACHIAN SEARCH & RESCUE CONFERENCE

c/o HATCO, 1715 N. St. W.W.  
Washington, D. C. 20036

MEMORANDUM

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prepared (self-sufficient) for all day, including:

Equipment:

Lunch and munchies

Water

Appropriate clothing (incl. bug sole boots, leather  
work gloves, respirator).

Flashlight (of headlamp) with red filter

Headset with lamp bracket, and non-catch chin strap  
Personal first aid kit

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Nov. 14-15