

APPALACHIAN ALERT

THE APPALACHIAN SEARCH & RESCUE CONFERENCE

**BOX 440 NEWCOMB HALL STATION
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA 22904-0440**

JUNE 1995

A Publication of the Appalachian Search & Rescue Conference, Inc.

Appalachian Alert provides inter-team communication, and reports information of interest to the wilderness search and rescue community in the mid-Atlantic states, describes activities of the ASRC Board and its committees, lists ASRC group and training events, and related business. When the winds are strong and the tides are on schedule, this bulletin is published 6 times a year in even numbered months.

Send news, including changes in team leadership positions to Peter McCabe at the address below or by email to: Peter_McCabe@ed.gov.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

What is the future to you? Is it a place you are journeying toward which already exists? Is your future an extension of what is happening today, and what happened in the past. Is your future an exciting place to be, or full of darkness and uncertainty? The view we each have of the future directly impacts the way we live our lives today.

In the ASRC as a Corporation we seemed to have seen the future as an extension of the past. In other words, what we will be doing 10 years from today is the same as we do today. That particular point of view, or paradigm, is one that many people and organizations take for granted. In fact, that paradigm will cause organizations to "go away" because it does not take in account the changes in culture, the changes in technology, and the changes in thinking that occur over time.

Are we only going to search in the wilderness (1/2 mile beyond the road head)? Or, are we going to search where we are needed and requested. If we choose the first, our future is limited. There is little need for a large corporation with the first choice. The number of incidents are very limited due to the fact that there is little "wilderness" in the middle eastern part of the United States. If we choose the second, then there is a possibility of more missions and more chances to help other human beings.

As we going to focus on only providing technical rescue capability and medical care? If we do that, we will find there is little real need for the ASRC as a large corporation.

So where should our energy be focused? Think about this at home and in your group meetings. The answer will determine that our future in 10 years will be like. Talk about it and bring the thoughts and facts to the BOD meetings this year as we try to focus our organization and develop a vision statement, and mission statement.

The next meeting of the BOD will be a meeting to develop the vision and mission statements. Your representatives need to know what you are thinking.

David Carter, Chair

ASRC ELECTION RESULTS

During the April 22 ASRC Annual Meeting, hosted by the Southwest Virginia Mountain Rescue Group in Blacksburg, Virginia, the following individuals were elected to one year terms: David Carter (TSAR), Chair; William Dixon (BRMG),

Vice Chair; Candi Capozzi (TSAR), Secretary; and Patrick Turner (BRMRG), Treasurer.

ACTIONS FROM THE ANNUAL MEETING

The Potomac Valley Rescue Group (PVRG) at the University of Maryland was recommended for approval as a fully certified ASRC team. PVRG was approved by ballot for full certification.

Gary Mechtel (SMRG) was reappointed as ASRC Operations Officer. William Dixon (BRMRG) was appointed ASRC Safety Officer. The ASRC Training Officer position was left open for the moment.

The following individuals were nominated and approved by individual ballot for ASRC Incident Staff (IS) certification: Trudy Poole (SMRG); Daren Chen (BRMRG); Frank Jargowsky (BRMRG); Jason Dalton (BRMRG); and Blaine Eckberg (PVRG).

Brenda and Tony Felts (RSAR) and Mary Hardy (BRMRG) were nominated and approved by ballot as new Group Training Officers (GTOs) for their respective ASRC groups. Current GTOs from AMRG, M/SAR, PVRG, TSAR, SMRG, and SWVAMRG were approved (commissioned) as ASRC GTOs for the next administrative year.

ASRC SEARCH SIMULATION

During September 23-24 there will be an ASRC-wide search simulation training exercise in Virginia's Shenandoah National Park. The search simulation, coordinated by the ASRC Training Officer, will be held in conjunction with NPS Rangers and park personnel. Further information will be announced during the summer.

NEWS FROM MARYLAND

The Maryland Association of Search and Rescue Organizations (MASARO) meets the second Saturday in odd-numbered months at the Montgomery County Emergency Operations Center in Rockville, Maryland from 10:30 to 14:30 hours.

The email address for the Shenandoah Mountain Rescue Group (SMRG) [smrg@sparky.himh.nih.gov] is no longer active. A new email address will be announced in the near future.

NEWS FROM PENNSYLVANIA

Officers and Board Members of the Pennsylvania Search & Rescue Council (PSARC) recently met with Charles Wynne, the new Director of the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) to discuss coordinated lost person SAR activities in the Commonwealth. Director Wynne, a native of Scranton, has experience in SAR programs in California where he was involved with disaster management operations in several positions in state government during a number of California's recent natural disasters.

During September 30 and October 1, the PSARC will host a SAR simulation in north central Pennsylvania.

NEWS FROM VIRGINIA

Ms. Winnie Pennington has been selected as Search and Rescue Coordinator (Assistant Operations Officer) for the Virginia Department of Emergency Services. Pennington replaces Ralph Wilfong who relocated to Colorado.

TSAR has changed its corporate structure to reflect the ICS management system. The Group now has a FGroup Commander instead of President/Chair. The work of running the Group is vested in the Logistics, Plans, Operations and Finance section chiefs. TSAR is developing a process book which describes the processes each section will do to insure successful group growth and operations.

ASRC GROUPS

Allegheny Mountain Rescue Group (AMRG) (412) 889-3747
 Internet Address: chuck@kollar.pgh.pa.us
 c/o Dept Emerg Medicine Mercy Hospital of Pittsburgh
 1400 Locust Street Pittsburgh PA 15219-5188
 President Rich Worst (412) 889-3747
 Training Off Mike Yee (412) 482-7286
 Ops Off Mike Kuga (412) 889-2687

Blue Ridge Mountain Rescue Group (BRMRG) (804) 824-3472
 Internet Address: brmrg@uva.pcmail.virginia.edu (804) 979-4630
 PO Box 440 Newcomb Station Charlottesville VA 22904
 President Jenn Avery (804) 984-2915
 Training Off Jason Dalton (804) 984-2915
 Ops Off Frank Jargowsky (804) 979-8318

Maryland Search & Rescue Group (M/SAR) (410) 992-3945
 Internet Address: m_sar@capaccess.org
 5434 Vantage Point Rd Columbia MD 21044
 President Rachel Nelson (410) 381-2870
 Training Off Kurt Hornicek (410) 750-6276
 VP Ops Valerie Brammer (410) 992-5888
 ESAR Advisor Peter McCabe (301) 698-9994

Potomac Valley Rescue Group (PVRG) (301) 314-7444
 Internet Address: kv13@umail.umd.edu
 Box 10 Stamp Union Bldg University of Maryland
 College Park MD 20742
 President Michael Vatalaro (301) 314-3837
 Training Off Marc Buursink (703) 448-8976
 Ops Off Karen Vandersaall (301) 937-6621
 ESAR Advisor David Lamen (301)

Richmond Search & Rescue Group (RSAR) (804) 768-6555
 P O Box 9026 Richmond VA 23226
 President Kevin Dewe (804) 750-1823
 Training Off Branda & Tony Felts (804) 271-7307
 Ops Off Bill Fisher (804) 748-6214

Shenandoah Mountain Rescue Group (SMRG) (703) 266-5034
 Internet Address:
 118 Park St, SE Vienna VA 22180-4808
 Chair Chris Miller (301) 826-4979
 Training Off Todd L'Harrow (301) 794-8953
 Ops Off Paul DeHaven (703) 364-2957

Southwest Virginia Mountain Rescue Group (SWVaMRG) (703) 951-2914
 Internet Address: swvamrg@vt.edu
 203 Progress St Blacksburg VA 24060
 Chair Steven Ward (703) 232-1648
 Training Off Cindie Lambert (703) 652-3628
 Ops Off Sara Jensen

Tidewater Search & Rescue Group (TSAR) (804) 466-8094
 803 Townsend Ct Norfolk VA 23502
 President David Carter (804) 466-8094
 Training Off Earle Evans (804) 693-4391
 Ops Off Ruth Carter (804) 466-8094

APPALACHIAN SEARCH & RESCUE CONFERENCE, INC.

Chair (TSAR)	David Carter (804) 466-8094
Vice Chair (BRMRG)	William Dixon (804) 972-8860
Secretary (TSAR)	Candi Capozzi (804) 722-4508
Treasurer (BRMRG)	Patrick Turner (804) 979-4418
Operations Officer (SMRG)	Gary Mechtel (410) 381-2593
Training Officer	... vacant ...
Medical Officer (SMRG)	Rob Christie (703) 280-9523
Communications Off'cr (SMRG)	Steve Houck (703) 257-7659
ASTM Representative	vacant
Appalachian Alert Editor	Peter McCabe (301) 596-9994
6432 Grateful Heart Gt Columbia, Maryland 21044	