



Allegheny Mountain Rescue Group

Department of Emergency Medicine, Mercy Hospital of Pittsburgh, 1400 Locust St., Pittsburgh, PA 15219-5166

AMRG Fellowship Nomination for Keith Conover, M.D. FACEP.

For more than 40 years, Dr. Keith Conover has played a leading role in the development of search and rescue in the Mid-Atlantic region. During this time, he was largely responsible for the founding of the ASRC, starting three ASRC teams, a state SAR council, a multi-agency SAR conference, as well as the Appalachian Region of the MRA.

Starting in 1972, while a student at the University of Virginia, Keith founded and served as the first chairman of the Blue Ridge Mountain Rescue Group, in Charlottesville, VA. That same year, he, along with three others, started the Appalachian Search and Rescue Conference, which today is an umbrella organization with nine member teams located in Virginia, Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, and Ohio. Between SAR teams and going to college, Keith also worked as summer seasonal ranger in Yosemite National Park, Shenandoah National Park, National Capital Parks, and C&O Canal National Historical Park.

From those beginnings, wherever Keith moved he started a new SAR team. In 1980 he moved to Washington, DC to attend medical school and founded Shenandoah Mountain Rescue Group, serving as its first chairman.

Five years later, now Dr. Conover moved to Pittsburgh to continue his professional career at Allegheny General Hospital and, later, Mercy Hospital of Pittsburgh and founded Allegheny Mountain Rescue Group (AMRG) in 1985. Shortly after starting AMRG, Dr. Conover organized the Pennsylvania Search and Rescue Council in 1986 and serving as its first President, helping to coordinate volunteer SAR teams across the state.

Not content with starting 3 SAR teams and a State SAR council, around the same time, Dr. Conover was also the driving force leading to the formation of the Appalachian Region of the Mountain Rescue Association in 1988, as well as serving on both the ASTM F-32 Committee on Search and Rescue and the ASTM F-30 Committee on EMS and as the Medical Director for the Eastern Region, National Cave Rescue Commission.

Today, Dr. Conover continues to be an active member of Allegheny Mountain Rescue Group, serving as the team's Medical Director and as a member of the Board of Directors. Dr. Conover is also currently an Emergency Physician at UPMC Mercy Hospital of Pittsburgh and the Chief Medical Officer for PA-1 DMAT and has participated in long term deployments to a number of major natural disasters, including to the Gulf

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Coast of Mississippi following Hurricane Katrina. Dr. Conover has also been awarded lifetime achievement awards by both the Mountain Rescue Association and Appalachian Search and Rescue Conference, both on AMRG's nomination.

In recognition of 30 years of service with Allegheny Mountain Rescue Group, 40 years of service with the ASRC, as well as emergency medicine and disaster response, I nominate Dr. Keith Conover for an AMRG Fellowship.

Chris Ruch
Commander/Board of Directors

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