APPALACHIAN SEARCH & RESCUE CONFERENCE

c/o PATC, 1718 N St. N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20036

### NEWSLETTER

### Schedule

Our schedule has been planned for the next year as follows. It is, of course, subject to change but basically we plan to meet on the third weekend of each month.

# June 28-29 Standard Red Cross First Aid Training

"High Acre," Harpers Ferry, W.Va. A 2-day course, which if you pass the test, will qualify you for the standard Red Cross card. Each participant will pay a total fee of \$2.50 (50¢ for ASRC, balance for the use of High Acre). Overnighters will pay an additional \$1.50 per night. All trainees will be expected to observe PATC house rules and participate in clean-up as coordinated by Lois Dunlop.

Instructor is Rusty Fitzgerald. Make reservations by June 26 with Lois Dunlop, 202/332-7403, coordinator.

### Testing for entry to basic membership July 19-20

No details yet. Coordinator is Gene Harrison, home: 703/361-3030 office: 202/347-3287, ext. 8587

- Basic and Intermediate Vertical Ropework (details in next newsletter)
- Cave Rescue Virginia region (details for this and following sessions to be published in future newsletters)
- Basic Climbing Sept. 20-21
- Oct. 18-19 Search simulation
- Intermediate Wilderness Travel/Survival Nov. 15-16
- Combination Basic Support Operations Dec. 13-14 and Communications that the search
- During this period, winter workshop, advanced wilderness travel/summingle Dec. 26-29 wilderness travel/survival; intermediate handl-1976 ing and transportation.
  - Jan. 17-18; Feb. 21-22, Feb. 20-28, Mar. 20-21, April. 17-18, May 15-16, June 19-20 - activities to be announced

There will be a series of one-day rock-climbing safety sessions at Great Falls Park, Va., run by Bob Norris of Potomac Valley Climbing School. For only \$3 a body, you get 8 hours of instruction and practice. Sessions will be conducted five days a week (M-F) from 15 July to 22 Aug. 1975. Drop by or contact the Park 703/759-2925/2168 for details and reservation information.

ASRC TRAINING SESSIONS - a report from Keith Conover

This issue of the ASRC Newsletter is coming out just as the initial phase of the certification program is coming to a close. About 8 months ago, the directors of ASRC established tentative guidelines for membership, including the criteria for different classes of membership. The criteria were the basis for selecting the past training sessions; once the general outlines of requirements for the most basic levels of active membership were set down, these subjects became the next series of training sessions. (The requirements for "Basic" membership were set out in outline form, along with other membership requirements, in the newsletter dated February 3, 1975. Additional copies are available.) These training sessions were designed to be comprehensive introductions to the required subjects, including cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR), Basic Handling and Transportation (B-HT), Basic Survival/Wilderness Travel (B-SV/WT), and Basic Orienteering (B-OR). Certificates were issued for each session, certifying that a person had attended that course and absorbed ASRC minimum of information or mastered certain skills.

This concentration on basic skills in the recent past has perhaps seemed unnecessarily repetitive and boring to some, but it was necessary, both to fill in gaps in our knowledge (ASRC directors included!) and start us off in the right direction. Now that this period is past, you may look forward to more exciting and challenging sessions in the future. Now, having run through the subjects necessary for ASRC Basic Membership, we can look forward to certifying persons as ASRC members. This will include both written and practical tests.

The first "crop" of basic members will come primarily from participants in 1975 training, and their examination will include both written and practical testing including the following subjects:

wilderness travel orienteering search

ravel survival handling and transportation

In addition, the applicant must hold a valid CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) card and American Red Cross First Aid card or equivalent. The applicant should have appropriate field gear as detailed in the ASRC Fieldbook (with summer-weight clothing), including field rations.

An instructor will evaluate each applicant on a "go/no-go" basis; persons with insufficient performance in a particular subject may be given additional instruction and guidance (not necessarily during

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testing) until they can demonstrate to the instructor mastery of the skill.

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Persons wishing to be tested for basic membership this summer should contact the Director of Training, Gene Harrison - see schedule July.

### Mountain Rescue Association

ASRC-3

One idea has been put forth with regard to our membership requirements: our "basic" and "regular" memberships to correspond roughly to the standards established by the Mountain Rescue Association (MRA) for MRA "Support" and "Rescue" members. Should we adjust our membership requirements to this national standard? To do so would mean that we would be able to work closely with other MRA groups, and would have additional "clout" in working with government agencies. On the other hand, do we need to do so? Or would it perhaps be best to make MRA membership optional? If you are interested, please contact Keith Conover, Gene Harrison or Ray Cole.

Scrounge List - Things we need: Please contact Keith, Gene or Ray if you spot these: trailers, PA systems, flashlights, batteries, compasses, notebooks. S&R related books and magazines, tape recorders, radio & telephone gear, Coleman stoves and lanterns, large H2.0 jugs, file cabinets, first-aid supplies, C-rations, wool pants, "Mickey-Mouse" boots, stretchers and litters, tarps and tents, emergency AC generators, folding chairs and tables, duplicating machine and supplies, topo maps, map boards, etc.

Goodie List - Keith has some wool pants, 34 & 38.

### New Book (see Gene or Keith):

"International Manual of Basic Rescue Methods" by Dawson Nethercutt, 1975, \$4.50, adopted by International Rescue and First Aid Association as a standard. This book has good techniques but is oriented to heavy rescue and civil defense work. It is an excellent reference because it selects the best from, and therefore replaces, the the menagerie of CD and HR type works previously available. Much of the equipment used is too heavy or bulky for S&R work, but the techniques are adaptable. I'd like to see an 'Advanced' methods manual.

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