

NEWSLETTER

of the

## BLUE RIDGE MOUNTAIN RESCUE GROUP

A Group of the Appalachian Search and Rescue Conference, Inc.

ASRC &amp; BRMRG 24-hour Emergency Phone:

(804) 924-7166 (University of Virginia Police)

SUMMER NEWSLETTER #2 JULY 22, 1979

## CALLOUT ROSTER

Following are corrections, changes, and additions to the Summer Roster Update in the first newsletter:

Yorke Brown	703-373-2093 h; 703-373-7250 x 377 w (Fredericksburg)
Brandon Deane	295-4364
Tony Holloway	295-5950 h; 977-0588/9 w; 295-4229 parents
Mark Pennington	804-320-8052 h (Richmond)
Harry Sands	973-8583 h; new address: 2313 B Peyton Drive, 22901
Jim Vassar	295-6171 x 276 w
John Walton	No longer Univ. Gardens or 296-8030. Now c/o Clark Hall, 924-7761 x 285 or 278

We have held two Auxiliary Training Sessions: one in Charlottesville, and one at Vesuvius Nature Camp. Our new Auxiliary members are:

Ariana Bracalente	804-377-2491; winter 804-229-4700 (Williamsburg)
Stuart Brown	293-9111 h; 294(?) - 3620
Barbara Ganzel	295-2034
David Husk	977-2720 h; 924-2982
Joe Josephson	703-886-8600
Ellen Lawrence	703-672-2576
Mary Marshall	295-4813
Jerry Meyers	293-9111
Richard Motor	703-373-0814 (Fredericksburg)
Caroline Parlett	804-642-4440 (Hayes) (in Charlottesville this fall)
John Parlett	804-642-4440 (Hayes)
Nancy Prothro	985-7471 h; 924-7072 w
Lynne Riley	804-377-2491 (Vesuvius)
Brian Scruby	804-377-2491 (Vesuvius); winter 703-456-6830 (Greenwood)

Congratulations to Tony Holloway, who came to our Auxiliary training session in Charlottesville, and is now our newest Trainee member! Congratulations also to Dave Carter and Mark Pennington, two Associate members who have been voted BRMRG voting rights.

## ASRC NEWS

The ASRC Board of Directors held an open meeting in Charlottesville on July 1, 1979. The next Board of Directors meeting and General Membership meeting will be held the weekend of September 29-30.

The mailing address of the ASRC has been changed to: P. O. Box 440, Newcomb Station, Charlottesville, VA 22903.

Carrington Gregory is filling out the tax-exempt status forms. The training records are being put in order for our application to the Mountain Rescue Association.



August 12 there will be a joint PVSARG/BRMRG semi-technical evacuation class in Fredericksburg, taught by Yorke Brown.

On July 11 & 12, Christopher Stubbs represented the ASRC at a seminar for local search and rescue coordinators sponsored by the OEEs, in Waynesboro. He gave a presentation on the ASRC and BRMRG, including the 15-minute videotape done on the Group by WVPT.

The ASRC participated in a lost person search near Humpback Rocks on June 16-17. Fortunately, the two men who were lost were able to wander out to a road the morning of the 17th, and the search was called off. June 26, we attended a critique session for that mission along with the Civil Air Patrol, Lee Noon of CRCN, the Verona Volunteer Fire Department, and the Moyer Emergency Team.

Larry Cline of PVSARG has extended an invitation to all interested BRMRG members to attend any of PVSARG's training sessions or program meetings. Their program meetings are held the second Monday of every month at the Bethesda Branch Library at 8:00 pm. BRMRG members who live in the DC area during the summer especially may want to take advantage of this!

## BRMRG NEWS

We need your help! We want your suggestions!

If anyone comes up with some good (or at least legal!) money making ideas for the fund drive, they should talk to E. Henry St. Clair, Fund drive Chairman. If anyone wants to volunteer for Information Committee Chairman, they should talk to Carrington.

Jim Dooley, Equipment Officer, is in charge of rewiring the Stokes baskets and putting together our vertical module. Please see him if you can help with this. We would like to have meeting programs starting in the fall. If you have an idea for one, or would like to do one, see Carrington.

If anyone is interested in looking through some training information, and picking out articles which may be used in the Basic or Advanced training classes this fall, they should talk with Keith Conover, Training Officer.

We are setting up some public education programs, including Climbing Safety, Anticipating and Avoiding the Wilderness Emergency, Winter Survival, and Wilderness First Aid and Emergency Response. Anyone who would like to work on putting one of these programs together, give a program, or has ideas for other programs should see Carrington.

The Group pamphlets are out, but need to be stamped with phone numbers. We received (free!) some USGS maps, but they need to be folded. If you have a little time to spare, give Carrington a call. No talent required!

Ham class. The following people have passed their five-words-a-minute Morse Code test: Gary Mechtel, Carol Scott, Henry St. Clair, Chris Stubbs, Betty Thomas, and Jim Vassar. The written Novice test will be given in August by Harry Sands. Keith Conover will be teaching a Technician class on Monday nights (7-10 pm)--fortunately, only 5 wpm are required for a Tech license!

Publicity. The Information Committee has really been busy!

The pamphlet on the Group is out. As mentioned above, we need people to stamp phone numbers on the backs. Needless to say, we think they turned out really well! July 5, there was an article on the Group printed in the Daily Progress. It was

the result of an interview done with the Group Board of Directors.

Dave Warren of WCHV taped a 20-minute interview with Chris, Carrington, and Keith. The interview was then broken down into spots ranging from 30 seconds to 10 minutes, and aired periodically on the WCHV radio station.

Dennis Kelly at Search and Rescue Magazine has expressed interest in publishing the ASRC Grid System article and Yorke Brown's Antenna article. We will be sending him copies soon.

The Group was filmed by WVPT, Channel 51 out of Staunton/Harrisonburg, on June 30. The resulting 20 minute special was shown on July 4 and 7. The Group has purchased a videotape copy of the show, to be used for public relations and information.

### Miscellaneous.

The Group has a bulletin board of its very own! It is located on the first floor of Newcomb Hall, near the Barber Shop.

Gary Mechtel is our new Operations Committee Chairman, and Jim Vassar is our new Stores Officer. Thanks, guys!

Mark Booz has been an active sponsor of our Explorer Post. Membership doubled in a two week span! They have had two meetings in July, and took a day hike July 22.

Carrington has compiled a list of local Responsible Agents, and put it in the Ops kit. She also has organized the map files, and was responsible for getting donated to the Group a very large stack of maps from the USGS. (These still need to be folded--see Carrington!) The Group files (except things like correspondence, which need to be near the Chairman) are now organized in the locker, so that everyone may have easy access to them. Rumor has it there are actually some useful, interesting things in the files, so try to browse through at least once to check it out. A system is also being worked out for checking books and articles out of the Group library (how many of you even knew there was such a thing?!) )

You may have heard about the GAS CRISIS. Well, if we get a mission at 3 am on a Sunday morning, and no one has even a half-full tank (if possible, try not to let that happen!), all is not lost. Charlottesville has a weekend 24 hour phone number to call, and a recording will tell you what gas stations are open. The number is 295-3141.

As part of the fund drive (but all year around) we will be selling Sustaining Memberships of the ASRC, for \$10.00 each (\$50 to organizations).

### TRAINING OFFICER REPORT--Keith Conover

Since April 1, 1979, the Group has amassed 798 documented man-hours of training. This does not include meetings, critique sessions, missions, sessions such as the TV special filming, or hours put in by non-BRMRG people.

A highlight of the recent training has been a mock rescue with Western Albemarle Rescue Squad in the foothills of the Blue Ridge near Mint Springs Recreation Area. The operation went well, except for the victim, John Barbour, who was "cooled off" with a water hose before he was released from the Stokes at the squadhouse. No wonder we have trouble getting victims! (Actually, the one with the hose was his wife Brenda, the Crew Sergeant on duty.) The Group and Rescue



Squad members stood around and socialized a bit as John changed into dry clothes.

The vertical training is going well. In the past month or so we have put in 146 man-hours of vertical training, with a commensurate increase in the individual members' vertical skills. There are two evening and two Sunday vertical sessions planned in the upcoming weeks.

Starting Monday, July 23, we will have a technician-level Amateur Radio License class, as a logical continuation of the class Harry Sands taught for us in the past six weeks. As a result of Harry's class, several Group members should be getting Amateur Radio Licenses soon.

Yorke Brown will be teaching a semi-technical evacuation class for the ASRC on August 12; he asks that people come prepared, having reviewed the semi-tech evac procedures.

There are a number of Trainees and Basics who have not completed the last Basic test:

Rob Bass	Ken Driese	Pam Nersesian
Abbott Bolte	Paul Duboisson	Robby Robbins
Yorke Brown	Gary Gianniny	Don Thomason
Brandon Deane	Dave Morrow	Gene Tramm
Anne Dooley		

An extension has been granted until September 2 for these members. They may meet with the Training Officer at a mutually agreeable time before Sept. 2 to make up incomplete portions, or may take a complete certification test to be offered on Sept. 2 (Sunday). Those members not completing a certification test by then will be dropped from the Group and ASRC membership. (Previous policy stated that a "lapsed Basic" was automatically made an Associate member. This was rescinded by vote of the Group on July 3, 1979.)

The Group has a new application form that should be filled out by ALL members, to aid us in updating our records.

A new publication, "Information for Trainees", which applies to Basics as well as Trainees, has been published by the Group. It contains policies applicable to Trainee and Basic members; please get a copy from the Stores Officer (Jim Vassar) and read it.

The Group has finally institutionalized training and certification for Auxiliary members. At present, there are 15 certified Auxiliaries. Old Auxiliaries are expected to meet the new standards in order to obtain recertification.


Several members have shown up for actual or simulated missions with inadequate personal equipment. Therefore, a recommended quick response (QR) gear list is being compiled (send in suggestions, please, to Keith Conover). This will serve as a guide by which to judge if a member is properly equipped. Each Trainee or Basic must bring his or her QR gear to all outdoor training sessions, and equipment inspections may be made. Although this may be distasteful to some, it has shown to be necessary. Also, in the event of a mission, we must be able to field a QR team during an outdoor training session.

Plans for the Fall Basic Class are coming along well. Class nights are tentatively set for Mondays, but this may be changed. The week-by-week outline is firm, however, as are most weekend sessions. Gary Mechtel is the course coordinator. A target date of August 15 is set for instructors to have their course outlines written.

The training schedule for the remainder of July, and all of August and September, can be found on the two following calendar pages.

The thought for the day is:

Old climbers never die. They just go off belay.

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
<p><b>SCHEDULE</b></p>  <p><b>BLUE RIDGE MOUNTAIN RESCUE GROUP, ASRC</b> A unit of the Appalachian Search and Rescue Conference, Inc.</p>		<p><b>JULY</b> 24 Vertical Trng. 1900 Conf. Rm. Newcomb Hall</p>	25	26	27	28
<p>29 Vertical Trng. 0900-1700 Meet at locker</p>	<p>30 Communications Class 1900- 2200 Conf. Rm. Newcomb Hall</p>	<p>31 Vertical Trng. 1900 Conf. Rm. Newcomb Hall</p>	<p>August 1</p>	2	3	4
N a t i o n a l Albany, New York		C a v e	R e s c u e	S y m p o s i u m . .		
<p>5 Vertical Trng. 0900-1700 Meet at locker</p>	<p>6 Communications Class 1900- 2200 Conf. Rm. Newcomb Hall</p>	<p>7 Business Mtng. 1930 Rm. 4B Newcomb Hall</p>	8	9	10	11
<p>12 ASRC Training; Semi-tech evacs Meet 0700 locker or 0845 at Yorke Brown's in Fred- ericksburg</p>	<p>13 Communications Class 1900- 2200 Conf. Rm. Newcomb Hall</p>	<p>14 Mission Staff Trng.: Opera- tions 1900-2200 Conf. Rm. Newcomb Hall <i>Call Norm McRae</i></p>	15	16	<p>17 V i r g i n i a C A P G r o u n d S e a r c h a n d R e s c u e C o l l e g e S u r r y , V A .</p>	18
<p>19</p>	<p>20 Communications Class 1900- 2200 Conf. Rm. Newcomb Hall</p>	<p>21 Business Mtng. 1930 Rm. 4B Newcomb Hall</p>	22	23	<p>24 SEPTEMBER S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30</p>	25
<p>P G S A R l e g e</p>						

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
August 26	27	28 UVA Undergrad. registration Special meeting for returning members 1930 4B Newcomb Hall	29	30 UVA Undergrad. classes start	31	September 1
2 Basic Certifica- tion Test 0900 Peabody Hall	3	4 Business Meeting 1930 Room 4B Newcomb Hall	5	6	7	8
9 Auxiliary Trng. Session 0930 South Meeting Room, Newcomb Hall	10 BASIC CLASS:* 1. Introduction and Survival 1900-2200 Location TBA	11 ADVANCED CLASS: 1. Mission Staff I.: AO Class 1900-2200 Location TBA	12	13 N A S A R C O N F E R B A T O N	14 A N N U A L E N C E R O U G E ,	15 L A .
16 N A S A R C O N F .	17 BASIC CLASS: 2. Ropework 1900-2200 Location TBA	18 Business Meeting 1930 Room 4B Newcomb Hall	19	20	21	22
23 ASIC CLASS: Ropework Peabody	24 BASIC CLASS: 3. Land Naviga- tion and Wilder- ness Travel 1900-2200 Location TBA	25 ADVANCED CLASS: 2. Mission Staff II.: Theory and Strategy 1900-2200 Location TBA	26	27	28	29 ASRC Board of Directors Mtng. (open) Time and place TBA