

S H E N A N D O A H  
M O U N T A I N R E S C U E G R O U P

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\* NEWSLETTER \*  
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**Auxiliary Training Session!**  
(see schedule inside)

If you have some hiking, hunting, or fishing experience, have the equipment listed below, and would like to help when we have a search operation, please try to attend one of our one-day training sessions and become an Auxiliary Member of the Group!

Auxiliary Member Equipment

- > Rugged outdoor clothing, including sturdy hiking boots
- > A daypack or small rucksack
- > A 1-quart water bottle
- > Good raingear
- > A wool stocking cap or balaclava hat
- > A heavy wool shirt or sweater
- > Lunch
- > A storm shelter (two large plastic leaf bags will suffice)
- > (Flashlight and compass are recommended but not required)

\* Plan to bring all this to the training session and to any missions.

# S H E N A N D O A H M O U N T A I N R E S C U E G R O U P

\* Member, Mountain Rescue Association

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

\* A Section of the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club (pending)

1718 N Street NW

Washington, DC 20036

(202) 638-5306 (7-10 pm weekdays)

SMRG & ASRC 24-hour emergency phone: (804) 323-2300 (Commonwealth of Virginia Emergency Operations Center)

## NEWSLETTER: SEPTEMBER 1983

\*\*\*\*\* N E W S \*\*\*\*\*

### NEW ADDRESS FOR SMRG

SMRG is becoming a Section of the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club, so SMRG will henceforth use PATC Headquarters (1718 N Street, NW) as its office, meeting place, and mailing address. The headquarters building is open to the public from 7 to 10 weekday nights.

### NO JULY OR AUGUST NEWSLETTERS - SORRY

Since our Newsletter editor has been on a leave of absence, there has been a hiatus in publication of the SMRG Newsletter. With this issue we expect to continue monthly publication.

### EMERGENCY MEDICAL NEWS

- \* A third, revised version of the DOT (Department of Transportation) Emergency Medical Technician-Ambulance (EMT-A) course has been released by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. The new course comprises 33 lessons, totalling 100 hours (minimum) of classroom training, plus 10 hours of Emergency Room training. This will be the new standard for all basic EMT training.
- \* The DOT Paramedic Manual and Workbook have finally been released; they are available for \$13 from the Government Printing Office. (Order #050-003-00413-8.)
- \* The DOT EMT-Paramedic course is also in revision; there are reliable rumors that the 15-module format will be abandoned. The project, under the direction of Norman McSwain, Jr., M.D., plans to have the

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: MEETINGS: Most SMRG activities are held at Potomac Appalachian Trail Club Headquarters (PATC HQ), 1718 N Street NW, Wash- :  
: ington, DC (near the Dupont Circle Metro station). Business meetings are the first Tuesday of the month, and training :  
: meetings the third Tuesday.

: NEWCOMERS are welcome at Group activities; those marked with a (\*) are particularly appropriate for those new to the :  
: Group.

: NEWSLETTERS are published at the beginning of each month and sent to each SMRG member. Certain SAR organizations, :  
: responsible agencies, stores, and individuals receive courtesy copies (noted by a D, R, S, or C on the mailing label). :  
: Potential members may receive three free copies upon request (noted by a "F" on the mailing label); the date of the last :  
: courtesy copy is noted on the mailing label. Yearly subscriptions are \$5, payable by check made out to the Treasurer, :  
: Harold Driscoll, and sent to the Group address.

: SELF-STUDY TRAINING COURSE: The Group is developing a modular self-study Basic Member Training Course; certain third Tues- :  
: day training meetings require previous completion of one of the modules. Those wishing to purchase a set of Basic course :  
: materials may contact the Group Treasurer, Harold Driscoll, at any Group meeting; the cost is \$25.

: FOR FURTHER INFORMATION about SMRG in general, contact the Group Chairman, Cady Soukup, at (301) 493-9623 (H); for infor- :  
: mation regarding membership in the Group, write to the Group at the above address, come to one of the business meetings, :  
: or contact the Group Training Officer, Keith Conover, at (703) 522-2844.

revision completed by late 1983.

- \* The National Association of EMT's is developing a two-day Prehospital Trauma Life Support course, as a EMT-level counterpart of the physician-level Advanced Trauma Life Support (ATLS) course.
- \* Virginia will now reimburse volunteer EMT instructors for each EMT or First Responder course that they teach. The rate will be \$8 per class hour, plus \$200 for paying additional instructors for the practical exam.

(excerpted from the NAEMT and Virginia EMS Newsletters and other sources.)

#### GENERAL SMRG NEWS

At the July meeting, the following were voted in as provisional Basic Members, contingent on their passing both written and practical examinations:

Karen Graham  
John Birch  
Bob Skinner

At his request, Bru Randall, who now is living in Pittsburgh, requested that his membership be changed to non-voting Associate, which was approved by the membership.

Kevin Parkes was appointed as the new Group Communications Officer, replacing Gene Harrison, who has moved up to ASRC Communications Officer.

The August meeting consisted primarily of informal discussion; George Swett and Bob Skinner reported they have done some further work towards getting the Group trailer operational, and a recent cave rescue incident was discussed.

George Swett, who has passed all requirements for his Basic Membership except for the emergency medical training requirement, and who has been trying without success to get into an EMT course, was recently hired by the Arlington County Fire Department. His first two weeks on the job will consist of a three-week, 40 hour-a-week basic EMT course.

#### ASRC NOTES

After several postponements, on July 17th the ASRC held its annual General Membership Meeting. Those present agreed that it was the most productive and enjoyable such meeting in years. A few pertinent highlights follow.

- \* Amendments to the Articles of Incorporation were approved; the amendments were necessary in order that the ASRC might obtain IRS certification as a tax-exempt organization.
- \* The Bylaws were slightly amended, primarily to remove some minor inconsistencies.
- \* An ASRC uniform shirt was established. It is a Sears (or similar) blue chambray work shirt with an ASRC patch on the left shoulder, a nametag with the member's and his Group's name on the right breast, and for Certified Members, a small Mountain Rescue Association patch

on the left breast. The right shoulder is for first aid or EMT patches.

- \* A set of stricter standards for Trainee membership was established; Trainees (and Associates meeting Trainee standards) now have the right to wear the ASRC uniform.
- \* SMRG was accepted as a full ASRC Group, and at an ASRC Board meeting just after the Membership Meeting, a new ASRC Group in the Roanoke area was accepted into probationary status. The new Group hasn't yet picked a name for itself.
- \* SMRG's modular Basic Member Training Course is to be revised and worked up as an ASRC-wide project.
- \* A revised draft of the Search and Rescue Operations Plan (SAROP) is being circulated through the Groups, and a new Second Edition should be out soon.
- \* The ASRC's Blue Ridge Mountain Rescue Group is in the process of revising the ASRC Mountain Rescue Manual; they expect to have a draft to circulate as soon as certain technical problems with a typesetting machine are worked out.
- \* A motion was passed setting the ASRC Board meeting for the last Sunday of each calendar quarter, unless rescheduled by the Board.

At a brief ASRC Board Meeting at the SAR Council simulation, the following officers were elected:

Chairman:	Gary Mechtel
Vice-Chairman:	Gene Harrison
Secretary:	Harold Driscoll
Treasurer:	Dean Wampler

(The new Group from Roanoke will also have two non-voting Board delegates, but as of press time, we were unaware of the names of their delegates.)

Chip Quietzsch and Mary Stroh, both long-time ASRC members, will be married in September; this is the third instance of ASRC members marrying one another (is that interbreeding?). Congratulations from SMRG.

#### VIRGINIA SEARCH AND RESCUE COUNCIL

In July, the Virginia SAR Council held a meeting in Charlottesville. Among the many items discussed:

- \* A standard Search First Responder class (for Sheriff's deputies and others likely to be the first at a search emergency) is being developed by the Council; OEES has funding to offer it throughout the state. The Study Group will meet in September to formalize plans.
- \* The SAR Council will start work towards another state-wide standard class on basic search tactics; this would impart a little bit of modern search theory and an overview of standard modern ground search tactics. Bill Blake and Keith Conover are to work up a proposal.
- \* The standard grid system for communications between SAR organizations in Virginia will be the Military Grid Reference System, which utilizes the Universal Transverse Mercator metric grid.

On the weekend of 11-13 August, the ASRC hosted a simulated search and rescue mission for the SAR Council. The simulation was held in Rockbridge County, involved many different organizations, and was generally agreed to have been the best such simulation to date.

### SEARCH IN SOUTHWEST VIRGINIA

One evening last month, the ASRC and Dogs East flew members to the southwestern tip of Virginia for a lost person search that had been in progress for several days. The next day, they found the subject alive and well; earlier, they found a searcher who had become lost earlier in the search.

### LAST FREE NEWSLETTER

As the financial resources of SMRG are limited, we cannot afford to continue sending this newsletter to a the large maillist we currently have. The October issue will be the last we send to everyone on our current mailing list; we will remove from the list those who have neither joined the Group, made special arrangements for a courtesy subscription, or paid the \$5 yearly subscription fee. If your mailing label this month has a "F-10/83" on it, you are scheduled to be removed from the mailing list after the October mailing. All new entries on the mailing list will receive a courtesy 3 months' subscription, but no more.

### HELP WANTED

- > Typists (particularly with personal computers).
  - > An accountant.
  - > Amateur radio operators with mobile HF rigs who are willing to train with and be active with the Group, to serve as Base Officers and Communications Officers (outdoor expertise is preferred but not required).
- Please contact Cady Soukup (493-9623) or any Group member if interested.*

### LEAVING

Winston Burt, who has been a Group member for the past year or so, will be leaving the area to practice law in Massachusetts. Winston has been an asset to the Group and we will miss him. Good luck in your new practice.

### \*\*\*\*\* SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES \*\*\*\*\*

<u>Date/Month</u>	<u>Activity</u>
20, 22, 27 Sept. (Tues, Thurs, Tues)	SMRG CPR COURSE - PATC HQ, 7:30 PM. Instructors: Harold Driscoll (966-9091) and Keith Conover. Reservations required.
24-25 Sept.	[SMRG to give wilderness emergency talk at the DC Sierra Club Trip Leadership weekend: Cady Soukup.]
4 Oct. (Tues)*	SMRG BUSINESS MEETING - PATC HQ, 7:30 PM. Program: <i>Poisoning: Wilderness Management</i> - Rose Ann Soloway, R.N., National Capital Poison Center.
8 Oct. (Sat)	[SMRG to give wilderness medicine/first aid/self rescue talk at the annual meeting of American Hiking Society at Prince William Forest Park.]

- 18 Oct. (Tues)\* SMRG TRAINING SESSION - PATC HQ, 7:30 PM. Trainee members: test answers will be distributed and discussed. Certified Members: class on advanced ropework techniques.
- 23 Oct. (Sun)\* SMRG Auxiliary Member Training Session - tentative (tentative) date; confirmation, location, and time in October Newsletter. Session Coordinator: George Swett (703) 385-8179.
- 11-13 Nov. and 2-4 Dec. (tentative) *Virginia Wing, Civil Air Patrol: Ground Search and Rescue College* - two weekends, at Fort A. P. Hill.
- 11-13 October *1983 National EMS Conference* - Charleston, WV.
- 1 Nov. (Tues)\* SMRG BUSINESS MEETING - PATC HQ, 7:30 PM. Program: *Hypothermia* - Rich Saunders, George Washington University Medical School
- 8 Nov. (Tues) SMRG Work Session - EMS Standards Proposal - PATC HQ, 7:30 PM. Coordinator: Keith Conover [(703) 522-2844].
- ? November *SMRG Wilderness Medicine and Emergency Management Seminar for Trip Leaders.* (Tentative)
- 11-13 November *Virginia Fourth Annual Statewide EMS Symposium* - Williamsburg, VA
- 10-13 November *Mountain Medicine '83* - Pinkham Notch Camp, NH. A seminar for EMT's, RN's, and MD's. Keith Conover has information.
- ? November SMRG Mountain Rescue Training Weekend - Harper's Ferry, WV. Coordinator: Gene Harrison [(703) 777-6111].
- ? December *NASAR Managing the Search Function Class* - a 40-hour class, sponsored by Virginia OEES.

SHENANDOAH MOUNTAIN RESCUE GROUP,  
 Appalachian Search and Rescue Conference  
 1718 N Street, NW  
 Washington, DC 20036