

Allegheny Mountain Rescue Group



Newsletter

AMRG.INFO

APRIL 2015

March 28-29 Weekend Training Extravaganza

AMRG had a busy weekend on March 28-29, with 4 big events over two days:

- AMRG hosted AWDA canine testing that saw members from AMRG, NWPAKSAR, and Lower Kiski successfully get new certifications.
- AMRG teamed up with the Explorers Club of Pittsburgh for the annual Mt. Washington Cleanup, where we put our rope rescues skills to work for a different purpose: helping to clean up Pittsburgh most dramatic and scenic park.
- Assisted CDS Outdoor School in teaching a Wilderness First Aid class for 20 students from the Explorers Club of Pittsburgh.
- Taught a semi-tech rescue class for fellow ASRC team NWPAK9SAR.



MRA Appalachian Region Joint Training Recap

The annual joint training of the MRA Appalachian Region teams happened in the Adirondack High Peaks region just outside Lake Placid, NY the weekend of March 7-8. Approximately 30 members from 4 teams, including AMRG, Stowe Mountain Rescue, New Jersey SAR, & the New York State Forest Rangers met for 2 days of training & ice climbing. Saturday included: Steep angle patient packaging & lower using snow anchors made of snow pickets & ice anchors down a 150' slope; a high angle patient pickoff & 400' lower, which included passing a knot through the system; and ice anchor & vertical ice rescue practice. Sunday was a great day of ice climbing with member from all teams.

AMRG 2015 ELECTION RESULTS

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2015 APPOINTED OFFICERS!

A special thank you to everyone who served over the past year, continues to serve, and to folks taking these positions for the first time!

Please take a moment welcome and thank our elected delegates, officers, and directors for their service to the team.

ASRC Delegates: Ben McCandless
Don Scelza

PSARC Delegates: Michelle Dail
Powell McClean

MRA Delegate: Chris Ruch

Commander: Chris Ruch

**First Assistant Commander
Operations Officer:** Paul Jung

**Second Assistant Commander
Training Officer:** Rebecca Hostettler

Board of Directors: Chris Ruch
Ben McCandless
Joe Ray
Jennifer Kelley

The New Officers will take office April 1, 2015



AMRG: HERE TO HELP!

Allegheny Mountain Rescue Group functions under the authority of the agency responsible for the search or rescue (e.g., local Police or Fire Department, State Police, County Emergency Management Agency, or Park Superintendent). AMRG will conduct operations only at the request of such agencies, and will directly support the responsible agency at no cost.

**FOR EMERGENCY DISPATCH CALL:
1-800-MED-STAT (1-800-633-7828)
OR 412-647-7828**

AMRG IS A VERSATILE RESOURCE, OFFERING:

- **Ground Searchers**
- **Air-Scenting Search Dog Teams**
- **Trailing/Tracking Dogs**
- **Cadaver/HRD Dogs**
- **Search Managers**
- **Wilderness Medical Personnel**
- **Wilderness Rescue/Evacuation Specialists**
- **Cave Rescue**

AMRG's volunteer search-and-rescue (SAR) specialists have been responding to calls from responsible authorities (RAs) since 1985. We have worked with many municipal and state officials in that time. References include the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and police and fire departments throughout Allegheny, Butler, Beaver, Armstrong, Washington, Westmoreland, and Fayette Counties and the surround areas. All services are provided at no cost. AMRG is fully insured. Early in a search, we can respond with a quick response team consisting of highly trained field teams and, when requested, search management personnel. In the case of a growing, already initiated search, we can offer an escalated response, thanks in part through our affiliations with the Pennsylvania Search and Rescue Council, the Appalachian Search and Rescue Conference, and the Mountain Rescue Association. In all cases, we respond with the resources and at the level that you request.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

APRIL 7 - MONTHLY MEETING/CLASSROOM TRAINING

MERCY HOSPITAL OF PITTSBURGH

APRIL 11 - FIELD TRAINING/SEMI-TECH

HIGHLAND PARK

APRIL 11 & 12 - ICS 400

PITTSBURGH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

APRIL 18, 19, 25, & 26 - MANAGING SEARCH OPS

WVU ROBERT C BYRD HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER

Canine Training every week. Visit our website AMRG.info

HELP SUPPORT AMRG

AMRG is an all volunteer organization supported by membership fees and contributions. There is no charge for our services and we do not receive any government funding. We owe our existence to people, corporations, and foundations that recognize the value of having a specialized search and rescue resource available to the people of Southwestern Pennsylvania.

AMRG is a federal tax-exempt 501(c)(3) charitable organization, registered with the IRS. Your donation is tax deductible.

**There are many ways that you can support AMRG:
VISIT OUR WEBSITE: AMRG.INFO**

Please contact us for further information about AMRG services, meetings, activities, or other non-emergency issues.

Contact Us

or call

1-888-333-4282

Allegheny Mountain Rescue Group
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UPMC Mercy
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Pittsburgh, PA 15219-5166

**TO KEEP UP ON OUR LATEST
ACTIVITIES**

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