

**Winter NCRC BORC Meeting
Walker County 911 Center
February 20, 2010**

BORC Present

Steve Hudson - National Training Coordinator (NTC)
John Evans
John Punches
Roger Mortimer
Bob Rodgers (w/ Marc Ohm's proxy)
Jeff Good
Steve Segal
Micheal Huseman
DJ Walker
Anmar Mirza – National Coordinator (NC or Chair)
Forrest Wilson
Tim White

Guests

=====

Greg Moore (recording secretary)
Amanda Mortimer
Becky Jones
Glen Hughes
Tony Smith
Mel Eady
Alan Staton
Rebecca Segrest

9:00 AM Anmar calls meeting to order

Thanks Dave Ashburn and Walker County for hosting meeting and providing coffee and lunch.

Anmar acknowledges Bob holding Marc's proxy

Reports entered (see attached at end)

No Database report Trish and Paul had a personal emergency and cannot attend
Finance Report from Don Paquette - Displayed via projector **Attachment A Financial report to BOC 2-17-10.doc**

Western Region had issue with Bank of America withdrawing money to cover ICS ACH funds since account shared NSS Federal ID Number. ICS has reimbursed.

Don advises on signature requirements

General consensus from BORC to have Don P. email financial report to BORC members. Discussion advising BORC members to get their banks to CC them on email copies of bank statements.

National Coordinator Report – Read in via Anmar – **Attachment B NC Report Feb 19 2010.pdf**

National Training Coordinator – Deferred to later in the Agenda

Medical Coordinator – Entered in by Steve Mosberg – **Attachment C BORC Report 10-02-20.doc**

Diving Officer – Entered in Forrest Wilson

Anmar reminds BORC members (and tells new ones) about NSS online Chat system and points out “sticky” discussion for Sump Rescue Calldown List and how to “subscribe” to post notifications.

Regional Coordinator Reports

Caribbean Region – Entered in by Steven S.

Central Region - Entered in by Michael Huseman **Attachment D CENTRAL REGION 2010 WINTER MEETING REPORT.DOC**

Eastern Region– Entered in by Jeff Good **Attachment E ER Coord Report, Winter 2010.pdf**

Northeastern Region – Entered John Evans **Attachment F Winter 2010 NE Region Report.docx**

Pacific Northwest Region – Entered in by John Panches **Attachment G PNW Coord Report, Winter 2010.docx**

Rocky Mountain Region – Entered in by Bob Rodgers (as proxy for Marc Ohms) **Attachment H NCRC Rocky Mt winter 2010.doc**

South Central Region – Entered in by DJ Walker **Attachment I NCRC SC report 2_19_10.doc**

Southeastern Region – Entered in by Time White **Attachment J Repor early10.doc**

Southwestern Region – Entered in by Bob Rodgers **Attachment K NCRC**

Southwestern Region- 2010 Report.doc

Anmar asks Bob to expand on cave radio projects Some discussion

Anmar wants to emphasize to other coordinators that radio capability is out there.

Western Region – Entered in by Roger Mortimer **Attachment L Western Region Report 2010.doc**

Confirmation of BORC actions via email (technically via NSS Chat board)

Motion to increase scholarship to \$250 for Mentone. (Motion on NSS Chat)

10-0-0 via chat forum

Central Region adds a yes vote

11-0-0 with updated vote

Motion to support mail vote approved 14-0-0

2009 Seminar Update

Kathy Welling not available to speak, but Anmar is ready to close out account and believes we made a profit albeit small.

2010 Seminar Update

Steve H. updated.

Discussed electronic registration system. Offers to help others use it in the future.

20 students, 5 IQ, Instructors have also signed up.

Several people interested in Level X (TOFE). If approved, Steve can “push a button” on the web page to open up registration.

WNS

National Wildlife Service policy is to close caves in adjacent WNS states, is applying pressure to GA DNR.

DNR will likely give the Seminar a special use permit to use Pettijohns cave and others on Pigeon Mountain.

SCCI will likely permit access to non-bat colony caves and will vote at their February BOD meeting.

Greg M. suggests Anmar M. respond to NSS Chat question that was posted last week regarding WNS.

2011 Seminar Proposals

Caribbean Presentation made by Steve Segal **Attachment M NCRC, 2011.pdf**

DJ asks questions regarding facilities

Camping only, building, bring their own?

Steve H. asks how many actual rooms with walls, electricity.

Steve S. says they are putting in a brand new electrical system.

But no hot water

Lightweight sleeping bags are probably adequate

Very high humidity

Can get chilly in the mountains, especially with high humidity

Discussion of cost of equipment we need to bring vs. what is there, what needs to be brought

Anmar asks for a budget before a presentation can be made

Dates: Possibly Holy Week, old site was free during holy week, this is not a constraint here. Probably end of March, beginning of May. Easter is April 24th in 2011.

Alabama Proposal by Jeff Burns, presented by Tim White

Return to Union Hill

Budget also not included in this presentation

Probably in June.

Anmar asks Tim and Steve S. if there is an estimate of cost per person.
Steve S. says \$425-450/person
Tim W. says \$375 several years ago at Union Hill
Prices probably approximate per site

Anmar opens up discussion

Roger points out this year is in Alabama (Mentone) and next year may also be in Alabama (Union Hill). Steve H. points out 2012 is also in Mentone. So that would be 3 years in a row at the same general location.

John E. points out this year is early, next year could also be fairly early.

Discussion of time of year

Discussion of differences in karst

Steve H. speaks in favor of Caribbean's due to their need for Level 3 and IQ in area.

Roger asks if problem with getting adequate number of instructors. Steve H. responds not in past.

DJ discusses if PR meets the fixed site criteria BORC has previously drawn up.

Anmar makes a reminder we are behind the process in all areas. Discusses possibility of not having a seminar. (NTC NOT in favor of not having a national seminar).

Roger recommends an email vote after budgets are seen.

Mosberg asks the lesser of 3 evils (none, PR which may be sub-optimal, 3 years in a row in Alabama)

Anmar would like to see PR and AL proposal budgets to cave chat site by March 1st.

After Steve's report on cave chat by April 8th

Week or so of discussion on cave chat site, cave lists, descriptions then a vote will be taken.

2012 Seminar Proposals (the world doesn't end until December...)

2012 site as set by BORC at previous meeting and Camp Skyline is booked but if we don't want to go to Mentone again in 2012, we can most likely still back out of our commitment.

Roger M. suggests that decision may wait until after 2011 decision made.

2013 Seminar Proposal

Northeastern Region may put in bid

Southwestern Region may also put in a bid.

Chair tables discussion.

Education Report and Action Items

Steve Hudson Speaks

NTC Report – given by Steve H. and handout presented - **Attachment N NTC Report Feb 19 2010.pdf**

42 instructors have signed up for 2010, out of about 80 possible instructors.
Encourages BORC members to check website for list of current instructors and send updates/questions if they find any discrepancies.

Hudson proposed a clarification of Lapsed Instructor Update policy

Replace existing **Policy for Instructors with Lapsed Certification February 16, 2005** with:

An instructor whose NCRC certification has lapsed less than one year may apply to the NTC for a one-year extension. During this time he must

- a. Pass the IQ entry skills test*
- b. Participate in an instructor update*
- c. Take and pass the written instructor test*
- d. Teach Level 1 or higher*

After successfully completing the above requirements, a lapsed instructor with positive teaching evaluations from supervisors, peers and students will be reinstated for three years from the end of the one year extension period.

If they apply after one year of the date of their required recertification, they must apply for the IQ class following the same process as new candidates, be accepted, complete the class and pass the test. Their apprentice-teaching requirement may be waived at the discretion of the NCRC Education Board.

[Note that existing policy requires all NCRC instructors to maintain NSS membership.]

John P. Motions we accept Steve's H. proposal to update the policy for instructors t.

Tim W. seconds

Discussion

John E. asks what has changed.

John P. points out red vs. black in Hudson's proposal.

Jeff G. asks "redo or continuation".

i.e. if they did 2 of 4 in previous year, lapse, do they have to do all 4, answer is yes.

Roger asks Steve H. if 3 year timeout is still appropriate.

Steve reflects question, "ask your instructors, look in your regions" Some people don't like test regardless, so 3 vs. 4 is irrelevant.

Some are waiting until last minute.

Steve M. asks if we should clarify “what does it mean to teach a level 1 or higher?”

Chair asks to keep it on track with the motion, this is a separate agenda item.

Steve M. is content that that further agenda

All in favor

14-0-1 (NTC Abstains)

Request for Approval of Education Committee ballots previously submitted to the BORC for review prior to this meeting

Ballot 101 – Changes of Level 1 and 2 Medical Lessons

John P. Moves BORC accepts EC proposed changes to Medical Level 1 and Level 2 lessons

John E. seconds.

Discussion

Roger agrees with necessary changes, questions are we continuing to add too much on to check-offs.

John E. questions if check-off will have enough bodies for check-offs.

Mike H. asks will we have enough equipment for checkoffs. Chair says, “yes”.

DJ Walker agrees with Roger on number of checkoffs and how practical

Steve M. argues medical equipment is part and parcel of it.

8-0-6 Motion carries

Discussion that SW and R region may not have received ballots
Per Anmar CC will send ballots to John E. for redistribution

Ballot 104 – Instructor Field Guidelines

Roger M. moves to accept Ballot Field Guidelines. John P. seconds.

John P. asks Mel read amendment, “*In the event of a for real incident, the instructor leading the exercise will take charge of the response.*”

Roger accepts the friendly amendment

12-0-2 motion carries

Ballot 105 – TOFE (Level X)

Steve discusses background, thoughts.

Hands out a discussion paper: Should it be a level between two levels or should it be optional

Apology for issues in people receiving the ballot via email.

Tim W. makes a motion that BORC Accept EC Ballot 105 “Team Operations and Field Exercises” for a pilot class in Mentone 2010.

DJ W. seconds

Discussion

John P. went through document, will have several friendly amendments:

Discusses “instructor will lead”

Amendment “*Intent is that exercises are initially instructor lead but as students show readiness they are encouraged to take the lead on exercises.*”

Also seems to be an over emphasis on hauling systems. John would like to be on record that there should be less emphasis on haul systems and more on counter-balances, rigging and anchoring systems.

Would also like to see more emphasis to integrate ICS into problem solving activities and how to use ICS in the underground environment.

John E. Wants to remove use of “qualified student” with “proficient student”. Concern is that “qualified” may end up having legal implications.

Chair breaks discussion and asks, “do we want to get into editorial changes or focus on content of material?”

Steve S. Clarifies, “question is should we run this as a pilot?” Chair says yes, that that is the question.

Roger M. suggests nitpicks goes back to EC.

Chair brings it back as a discussion of the motion to present this at Mentone as a pilot class.

John P. reads friendly amendment

1. *Modify language within the balloted curriculum to shift training emphasis from being Instructor directed to greater student leadership roles as they demonstrate proficiency.*
2. *Increase emphasis on cave-specific techniques such as counterbalances and cave-style rigging.*
3. *Integrate ICS, as applicable to cave rescue, throughout the course to encourage synthesis of techniques and management.*

Friendly amendments accepted by White and DJW.

DJ W. Calls for a vote on the original motion with the friendly amendment

14 - 0 -0 motion carries.

Ballot 106 – Request for consideration of new ballot item. (was mailed out last night) Commands for Rope Operations.

Chair asks for timeline to get to BORC

NTC responds Education Committee can have it to BORC on the 25th.

John P. makes motion that “the EC review and present their recommendations to the BORC for modifications for our rope system commands for electronic balloting by the BORC with the intent for potential adoption at the 2010 National Seminar.”

Bob R. seconds.

Discussion

Jeff G. asks if this can be done at Puerto Rico.

Chair clarifies we are adopting basically what we’re doing.

Chair asks for NTC to clarify, NTC points out that if we ballot it, etc. it is curriculum and they will have to do this in Puerto Rico.

John E. Would like to make sure old commands are presented as well as new ones. Also personal opinion, "too complicated"

Roger M. asks if this is from any actual industry standard.

NTC says biggest addition is the roll-call.

DJ W. clarifies we're trying to codify what we are basically doing, but with single set of terms. Also listed a number of organizations that are using these.

Vote: 12-0-2 motion carries

Break at 12:15 for lunch

Called back to order at 12:48

Discussion of Curriculum Coordinator policy.

Hudson proposes that the Curriculum Coordinator position on the Education Committee become a staff position appointed by the NTC and the requirement that the CC be an elected from the BORC, EC Member at Large, be removed from BORC EC policy. Existing BORC policy should be modified as appropriate.

John E.. makes a motion that the BORC accept Steve's proposal to modify the EC position as written.

John P Seconds

John P. offers to edit Policies and procedures document

13-0-1 motion carries

Election of Education Committee Member at Large:

NTC voices vote of confidence for Becky Jones.

John E. Nominates Rebecca Segrest .

Rebecca S. at this time turns down nomination

John P. closes further nominations

13-0-1 approves Becky Jones as Member at Large for another 2 year term.

Discussion of the meaning of the word "to teach".

Some instructors have approached the NTC with the following question: *Can they show up to a week long seminar, take the instructor update and be there for as little as 12 hours, does that qualifies as "teaching" at a seminar and meeting the teaching part of the instructor recertification policy requirement?*

Steve H. had brought discussion to Cavechat.

General discussion

General agreement was that while the preference was instructors actually teach and attend the entire week, the decision be left to the NTC and he may make exceptions as he feels is merited.

Chair asks for consensus and if BORC is comfortable giving NTC the ability to make the call on what “enough teaching”.

NTC feels discussion has provided good guidance.

Book Update- Anmar

Moving along. Roger has updated his chapter.

Old Business

Online Database- Walker/Daugherty/Moore

No updates

Greg M. suggests BORC consider an IT Coordinator in place of the strictly DB Coordinator position.

Dealing with the gear cache and transportation thereof Chrimes/Singly

Options presented

- Truck Rent
- 7x16 trailer
- Truck own
- Semi-trailer
- PODS

Report attached

Discussion of options.

John P. moves to accept Harold Chrimes recommendation to move the gear cache using a van type truck and that the BORC approve the expenditure of \$700 from equipment fund to build a storage shed at his property.

Steve M. Seconds

Discussion

13-0-1 motion carries

Revisit Medical Monitoring of patients, need clarification: Mosberg

Steve M. has been concerned about people in liter become for real patients.

Steve M. proposes the following new wording for NCRC Medical Monitoring of patients.
*“Persons confined to a litter for prolonged periods (greater than 30 minutes) are at risk of developing “for real” medical problems.
Any person confined to a litter for a period greater than 30 minutes shall be subjected to actual monitoring of vital signs to include, but not limited to: an accurate estimation of pulse, blood pressure, body temperature, and mental status. These vital signs shall be assessed every 30 minutes.
Persons who have been confined to a litter for a period of time greater than 30 minutes, whether as part of field exercise or a mock rescue, shall undergo an evaluation by a competent individual when they are unpackaged.”*

Steve M moves Patient Management Policy as written
John P.
Motion Passes 14-0-0

John P. reviewing Policies and Procedure documents and showing edits based on motions passed.
No board action required.

Electronic Hosting of NCRC Book

Discussion. No policy changes, however Anmar will put updates notices on Cavechat as the book is updated.

New Business

New WNS issues-Mentone? New Decon.

Steve H. assures that it should not be an issue. GA DNR will likely issue permit for Pettijohns using Federal decontamination policies as a requirement..

Bill Putnam assures SCCI caves will be available for week-long.

Anmar points out there are bleach alternatives that appear to work and be nylon safe. (specific type of “409” will need to be specially ordered)

Centers for Biological Diversity is petitioning the EPA to close all caves per Endangered Species Act.

Will place letter on NSS Chat.

NTC will be writing a letter in his capacity to argue other side of argument.

WNS has been found in TN. Makes Georgia and Alabama adjacent states.

Roger makes a motion *“for upcoming seminar that lead instructors and lead evaluators will consider the number of checkoffs in their level and report back to the NTC and to the BORC for consideration by the Ed Committee if it is too many, too few or just right number of checkoffs.”*

Walker seconds

Discussion followed

Tim W. makes a friendly amendment to include *“and to the BORC”*

Roger accepts.

DJ W. raises question of “what is the purpose of checkoffs”

Discussion follows

Steve S. offers friendly amendment to modify “consider” to “*register and report*” Roger refuses friendly amendment.

NTC not clear on proposal

Friendly amendment from Becky J. and accepted to add “*if it is too many, too few or just right number of checkoffs.*”

8-1-5 Motion passes

Discussion items

Tim has an item for discussion: *The BORC asks the EC supply to the BORC the names of IQ students who have applied prior to the EC meeting at which the EC chooses IQ students so that the BORC may provide feedback?*

Discussion follows

NTC presented matrix EC uses to help determine who gets into the IQ program. Steve Hudson is concerned about privacy issues in sharing some of the data outside the EC without the student candidate’s approval.

Tim W. will followup with Database Coordinator and Steve H. will put on timeline to get list of candidates out to BORC and results back to BORC.

Scholarship letter of recommendation requirements

Roger M. would like to review weight given to letters from various sources.

Marc O. via proxy had comments. Bob Rodgers read comments.

Will proceed with status quo, advertise more.

Review of recent rescues with regards to our curriculum

Discussed after Nutty Putty incident that the NCRC may at the BORC or EC level have a discussion/review of major events.

Discussion only, no motions made.

Cache Value

Steve H. brings up he was asked earlier in the meeting the monetary value of cache. He wanted to clarify that this is not the NTC’s role.

Harold fills role of Equipment manager (per John P when he was NC)

Paul basically fills role of Inventory manager (not clear if this is official or not.)

Steve H does not think he’s seen a value recently but did help Paul Singley with some replacement cost in the past.

NC asks if BORC wants him to get value of inventory. BORC affirms.

Date for Winter 2011 Meeting

- Date set for 2011 is February 12, 9 AM EST
- EC will meet February 11th, 9AM EST.

Steve H. reminds that the ITRS is coming up and that the NCRC is a sponsor and should be advertising. Suggests more of us attend and possibly even present. See WWW.itrsonline.org

3:45 – Chair motions to close meeting.

John P. seconds.

14-0-0 motion carries

Announcements

None

Attachment A

Date: February 17, 2010
To: NCRC Board of Coordinators
From: NCRC Financial Officer
Subject: Report for Spring Meeting

I assumed the duties of the Financial Officer after the International Congress of Speleology in July of 2009. It took a few weeks to get with acting Financial Officer, Kathy Welling, and get the records and data she had gotten from Berta. It took me several more weeks to understand and organize the data and acquire all of the necessary bank statements and start receiving the statements from the NSS office. I did not have a template for the spreadsheet that I use and forward to the NSS Treasurer at the end of the fiscal year. I developed one using the spreadsheet for fiscal year 2008-2009. The spreadsheet for FY 2009-2010 is working, the statements are being received from the office at the end of the month, and data is being entered. All questions to regional coordinators about income and expenditure allocations are being answered in a timely manner.

The National Account has a balance of \$47674.49.

The long dormant account for National Seminar 2006 is being closed out.

The account and financial report for National Seminar 2009 is being closed and completed.

We had a problem with Bank of America covering an ICS ACH with funds from the Western Region account because both accounts used the NSS Federal ID number. NSS Treasurer, Peri Frantz, is resolving this with Mark Bowers. I think a recommendation will be not to use Bank of America for any future accounts.

All coordinators please check the current signatories for your accounts. They must be you and your designated representatives, the NSS Treasurer (Peri Frantz), and either the NSS President (Gordon Burkheimer) or NSS Administrative Vice-President (Ray Keeler). When these positions change the signature cards must be updated. I realize this is a pain in the ass, but "them's the rules" to use the NSS Federal ID Number.

Thanks to all for your support. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

Respectfully submitted,



Don Paquette
NCRC Financial Officer

Attachment 1 – Account balances 1/31/2010

Account	Balance as of 1/31/2010
National	47674.49
Southeast Region	681.31
South Central Region	4339.79
Eastern Region	2684.12
Northeastern Region	3121.14
Central Region	1200.00
South Western Region	517.30
Pacific NW Region	686.27
Western Region	439.80
National Seminar 2006	6949.40
National Seminar 2009	7527.30
National Seminar 2010	2782.05

NATIONAL CAVE RESCUE COMMISSION

of the

NATIONAL SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

A NASAR Affiliate

Anmar Mirza

National Coordinator

3430 Huron-Williams Rd

Williams, IN 47470

Home: 812-388-6917

Cell: 812-320-0905

email: anmar.mirza@gmail.com



Winter 2010 National Coordinator Report:

Obtained a Financial Officer, Don Paquette. Don has worked with previous FOs and the NSS Treasurer to ensure NCRC compliance with NSS accounting requirements.

Closed Central Region Chase bank account.

Chaired online BORG votes via NSS cavechat forum.

Authorized purchase of equipment for national cache.

Fielded requests for information from NSS officers and staff regarding NCRC activities.

Fielded numerous requests from the general public for information regarding NCRC and cave rescue. Average of 3/week.

Attended monthly Education Committee conference calls as well as the November EC meeting.

Respectfully submitted 02/20/2010,

Anmar Mirza



NATIONAL CAVE RESCUE COMMISSION

of the

NATIONAL SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

MEDICAL COORDINATOR

Stephen R Mosberg, M.D.
NSS 20444FE

February 20, 2010

BI-ANNUAL REPORT TO BORC

Since the 2009 meeting in Texas, I have participated in several Ed Board Conference Calls as well as the November work meeting held in Knoxville.

All lectures in the First Aid Curriculum had been reviewed and revised and most of the suggested changes, submitted to the Education Board Members during the National Seminar, were voted on and will be presented at this meeting.

Since the last meeting, I've fielded several phone calls and e-mail inquiries from individuals requesting information about NCRC, medical training, and class schedules.

Future plans:

1. Continue work on lesson plans and presentations.
2. Attend Education Board Phone calls and meetings and classes as can be arranged.

Respectfully,

Stephen Mosberg, M.D.
20444FE

CENTRAL REGION WINTER MEETING REPORT

OCR being firmed up for October 9&10 in Mammoth Cave area.

New Bank account set up, signature cards in to bank, Old Bank account closed out.
Current balance \$1102.38.

Caver Icon Jack Hissong passed.

GCG Grotto GSP cave rescue cache being set up

Sloans cave system in Ky body recovery by Pulaski County. 21 year old falls in pit,
found by two other members of trip, in water, blue, CPR not successful.

In communication with Mark Miller, SAR person for Ozark National Scenic Riverways.
Help is requested for preplan and volunteer call out list from local Grottos.

Anmar and Mike



**National Cave Rescue
Commission**
of the
National Speleological Society
Eastern Region

Jeffrey F. Good
Eastern Region Coordinator
301 North Pope Street
Bridgewater, VA 22812-1424
Home: (540) 324-6932
Cellular: (540) 820-9479
E-mail: eastern@ncrc.info

**Report to the Board of Regional Coordinators
February 20, 2010**

Eastern Region Coordinator Report

- Conducted ER Staff Fall Meeting during OTR on Sunday September 6, 2009 10:00HRS at Glen Koon's house.
- Received four modified TP-6N Dutch Field Phones ordered by Jansen Cardy.
- Planning OCR at EMU & Grand Caverns March 26-28, 2010 (Approved by Training Officer)
- Planning ER Staff Spring Meeting at Bridgewater Rescue Squad (Date TBA)
- Planning in Cave Search Camera Study with State of Maryland & US Department of Homeland Security (April or May 2010).
- Continuing to work on PowerPoint Presentation on Cave Safety and Cave Rescue Resource Coordination.
- Continuing to work on awareness presentations to educate the public, and caving groups about White Nose Syndrome, the voluntary moratorium on caving in VA and WV, and decon procedures if they insist on caving.
- Continuing to work on further development of the new Mitchie Phones.
- Planning ER Staff Fall Meeting during OTR on Sunday September 5, 2010 10:00HRS at Glen Koon's house.



National Cave Rescue Commission
of the
National Speleological Society

*Northeast Region Coordinator
John Evans
253 Main St
Maynard, Ma 01754*

Northeast Region NCRC

Winter 2010 Regional Report

February 16, 2010

Rescues – None since the summer report.

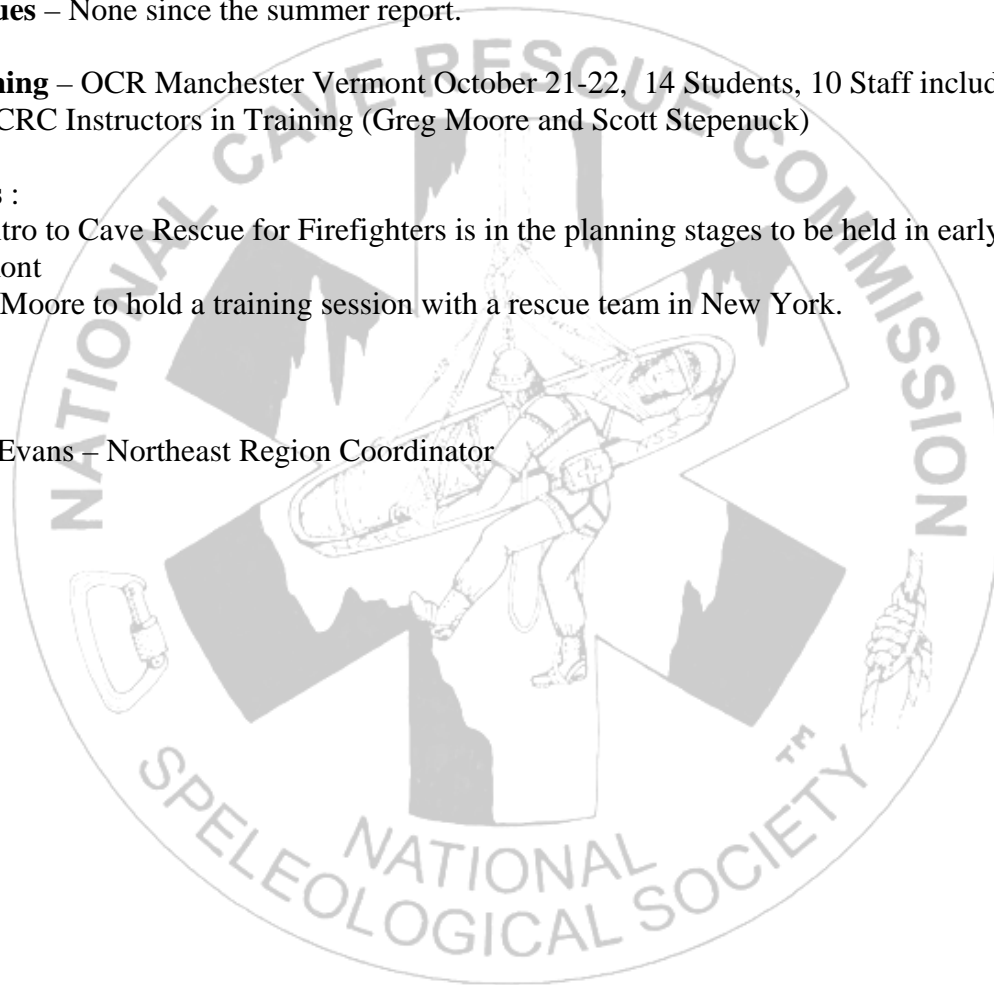
Training – OCR Manchester Vermont October 21-22, 14 Students, 10 Staff including 2 - NCRC Instructors in Training (Greg Moore and Scott Stepenuck)

Plans :

An Intro to Cave Rescue for Firefighters is in the planning stages to be held in early May in Vermont

Greg Moore to hold a training session with a rescue team in New York.

John Evans – Northeast Region Coordinator





National Cave Rescue Commission

of the

National Speleological Society Pacific Northwest Region

John Punches
PNW Region Coordinator
633 W. Hazel St.
Roseburg, OR 97470
Home: (541) 957-5461
Work: (541) 672-4461
e-mail: pacificnorthwest@ncrc.info

Report to the Board of Regional Coordinators Feb 20, 2010

PNW Region Coordinator Report

- A rescue course was held in the Roseburg Oregon area over Labor Day weekend (Sept 5-7). Course enrollment was limited, so we cancelled public enrollment and used it as a local instructor training session. We had an intense three days of personal vertical skills refinement, rescue systems on tough edges, patient packaging and litter handling (in a river canyon), in-cave vertical rigging, and a rebelay practice that included a multi-point bolted traverse.
- Purchased four field phones for the PNW cache
- Made additional refinements to the Lechuguilla cave rescue preplan

**NCRC Rocky Mt. Region
Report for 2010 Winter Meeting**

**Bob Rogers proxy for
Marc Ohms**

- Marc took the ICS 300 and 400 classes this fall.
- Rene and Marc are planning to be at the National Seminar this spring.
- The Colorado Cave Rescue Network is hosting a 2-day basic cave rescue class on April 10th and 11th, and they anticipate 75-100 students. There is interest in having a small-party rescue class there this fall.
- Will be teaching an OCR for the Pennington County SAR team (SD) sometime in the future and one at Wind Cave NP in April. I will get the requests in soon.
- Within the region there are 20 new TP-6N field phones (10 in Colorado and 10 in South Dakota). Thanks Jansen!

Rescues in Region

A young man died in Nutty Putty Cave in Utah during the week of Thanksgiving. It hit the news nation-wide. Despite many uneducated rumors and two-bit opinions flying around the NSS and caving world, there were many cave-rescue trained cavers on site and all that could be done was done. I was contacted by numerous people, both agency and cavers regarding this incident. I expect that there will be several folks from Utah at the National Seminar this year, and there is interest in hosting a level 1 in Utah sometime in the future.

**National Cave Rescue Commission
South-Central Regional Report
Winter Meeting 2010**

DJ Walker

Recent Events/Activities

- Tom Burroughs hosted a weeklong L-I/L-II in Arkansas, at Camp Orr (March 27 - May 5, 2009). The event was a huge success and there were over 25 participants.
- We had to cancel our plans to host a National Seminar in 2010 due to cave closure relating to concerns about White Nose Syndrome.
- There is an OCR being delivered next weekend Feb 27-28, 2010
- We are hosting the first pilot Small Party class next weekend Feb 26-28, 2010
- There is a fire department in Central Texas who is conducting several days of cave rescue training and wave agreed to include the caving community in the training.

Ongoing Events/Activities

- We have a request for NCRC at Camp Bullis in Texas. This was a site for a national seminar many moons ago.
- We will be looking to do a L-I/II next year either at Camp Bullis or at another site in the region.
- I have not spoke with Tricia recently about how the online database is coming. She can probably provide more details.



**Tim White -
Southeast Region
Coordinator**

National Cave Rescue
Commission, NSS

2830 Olde Savannah Cove
Suwanee, GA 30024

**Coordinator Report
Winter Meeting - February 2010**

- Feb.12, 2009 Introduction to Caves and Caving presentation at Burford, GA REI store
- Feb. 28 & March 7 2009 Conducted an SRT training for the Georgia Fire Academy - Instructors
- March 14, 2009 Conducted an Advanced Rope Techniques Training Weekend for the Dogwood City Grotto
- Assisted Bill Putnam with the development of an OCR with Emphasis on Small Caving Groups designed for TAG cavers.
- July – Sept. 2009 Supported a First Responder Training Class hosted by the Huntsville Cave Rescue Unit (HCRU) and the AL Fire College
- Aug. 21 – 23, 2009 Supported the HCRU Basic Cave Rescue Weekend, Huntsville, AL
- Worked on the development of the pilot TOFE program.

Ongoing and upcoming training events in the Southeast for 2010:

- Intro to Cave Rescue Training - in conjunction with the Tennessee Association of Rescue Squads (TARS) and Chattanooga-Hamilton County Rescue Service, Inc.
- OCR with Emphasis on Small Caving Groups class to be presented to the GA Tech ORTG caving club.

There were reported 7 cave rescue incidents, all required an official response.

Jan. 2 2009 - Putnam County, Tennessee
Injury and aid caver fall, inadequate equipment, hand-over-hand descent

Jan. 24 2009 – Pettijohn's Cave, Georgia
Injury and aid caver fall

Feb.15 2009 – Stephens Gap Cave, Alabama
Injury and aid caver fall

Feb. 28 2009 – Bryant Cave, Alabama
Injury and aid caver fall

March 2009 - White County, Tennessee

Contact Information:

Phone (770) 313-9930
southeast@ncrc.info

Lost, no injury overdue

May 15, 2009 - Carter County, Tennessee

Lost, no injury caver fall, inadequate equipment, inexperience

May 15, 2009 - Carter County, Tennessee

Aid, no injury stranded, inadequate equipment, inexperience

NCRC Southwestern Region Report for 2010 Winter Meeting

- Several small training. Working with local grottos and SAR teams on developing communication teams.
- Assisting BLM with cave rescue plans for Fort Stanton Cave and the Snowy River passage.
 - Planning to conduct an OCR in June in support of rescue plans. Local SAR team has been coordinated with to setup Incident Base and handle the above ground portions of plan.
 - BLM has adopted a policy that any new “dug” passages must be “rescue amenable”. ---
 - BLM has requested support from the NCRC-SW on developing criteria.
- Requested to conduct and OCR in Arizona. Mike Flores is taking the lead on this.
- The Southwestern region has access to 6 TP-6N field phones (2 in the NCRC-SW Cache, 4 with Tom Bemis).
- NCRC-SW cache has also received donation of 4 Czech made field phones with approx ½ mile of wire.
 - Conducting field evaluations of new equipment.
- A rescue tripod has also been added to the NCRC-SW cache. Result of a door prize drawing at the New Mexico Search and Rescue Council meeting.

Rescues in Region

None to report

Attachment L

Western Region Report
Winter Meeting 2010

Two Rescues

Millerton Lakes, Grotto trip, broken ankle, 3 helicopters responded. It could have been a self rescue but the persons present were not trained.

MillertonLakes. No details.

DavenportBeachSeaCave. Man trapped by rising tide. Rescued by lifeguard on personal watercraft.

Lead instructor for San Bernardino CountyOCR

Did presentation on Caving and Cave Rescue for medical student elective in wilderness medicine.

Upcoming trainings:

Grotto level training in self-rescue at Soldiers Cave

OCR July 24-25 at California Caverns

Maybe a weeklong in 2011

Problems: NCRC-West account was debited \$3000 when there were not sufficient funds in the ICS account to cover a charge, because we had the funds and shared a tax-ID number. The NSS secretary-treasurer has gotten us restitution from the ICS and is pursuing the matter with Bank of America. We will be setting up a new account at a different bank. Our account was not up to NSS standards as the secretary treasurer was not a signee. This was a significant problem as she had no standing and BofA does not want to work with her. The new account will be up to NSS standards.

NCRC2011
the tropical seminar

Steve SEGAL

Caribbean Region Coordinator

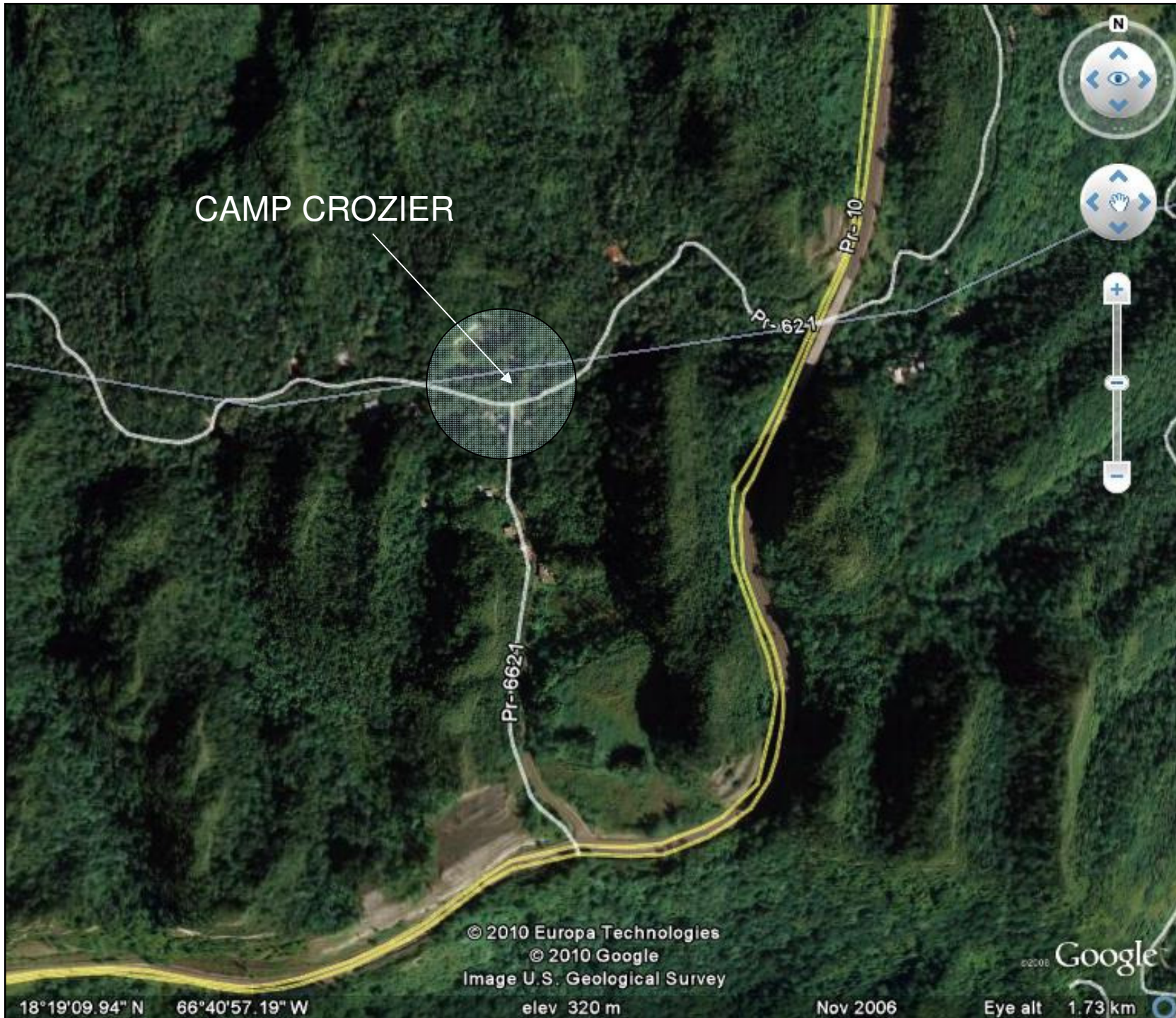
Welcome!



Where?

- Camp Crozier (former Peace Corps camp)
- Arecibo (centralized location)
- Area is free (administered by the community)
- Accommodates 100+ people
- Nearest town (Utua) is 9 minutes away

TROPICAL SEMINAR 2011



CAMP CROZIER



© 2010 Europa Technologies
© 2010 Google
Image U.S. Geological Survey

18°19'09.94" N 66°40'57.19" W

elev 320 m

Nov 2006

Eye alt 1.73 km

Google

Facilities



Facilities

- 42 wooden/concrete structures
- Shared bathrooms (2-4 per room)
- Dense wooded area (8,000 acres)
- Away from distractions
- Caves in vicinity (10-20 minutes away)
- Camping allowed (with showers/bathrooms)

Resources

- Walmart/SAMS's 30 minutes away
- Hospital 9 minutes away
- Medical Taskforce (FREMS) with physician/paramedics/vehicles.
- River/creek for water problems
- Ice/ice machine available
- Parking

Resources

- Meals at site (resident cook)
- Classrooms for all levels
- Meetings rooms
- Airports (SJU, BQN)
- Easy to reach (Hwy 22 int 10)
- Beaches 20 minutes away
- Taino indian ceremonial Park
- Arecibo Radiotelescope

Why we look for?

- *Cause* NCRC provides for a national seminar other than established areas every 5th year
- *Cause* Puerto Rico is a cool experience
- *Cause* we care, we want and we go for it!
- *Cause* the diversity and added value
- *Cause* we are *tropical!*



Thanks!

not just a training, it's tropical!



National Cave Rescue Commission

of the

National Speleological Society

On the Web at NCRC.info

Steve Hudson
National Training Coordinator
737 Glass Road.
LaFayette, GA 30728
Home: (706) 764-2296
Work: (706) 764-1437
e-mail: training@ncrc.info

NTC Report to the BORC February 20, 2010

Progress:

The Education Committee once again had a major work weekend in November at Tricia and Paul's home. We have continued our regularly scheduled monthly conference calls. The major thing we have done in the last sixth months is to bring the Level X program to the BORC for approval as a pilot program at the May National seminar in Mentone, Alabama. The EC meet all day February 19, 2010 to tweak that project and general organize ourselves for the rest of the year.

The EC has begun a comprehensive review of all curriculum materials level by level to ensure consistency within each subject, covering lesson plans, powerpoints, handouts, field work, skills, and the book. Assignments have been made and we expect to have this first level of review completed this summer. Followed by a thorough comparison of each level in time for this meeting next year.

Beck Jones was re-elected curriculum coordinator at the February meeting. Greg Moore is handling the IT end of things and has made curriculum materials available to instructors in a new, easier to access site. He is currently developing a system to make source documents available to EC members for developmental work in a separate protected area.

The EC is currently updating the pool of practice questions for the instructor test.

The 2010 IQ class has been chosen and six candidates have accepted. All of this year's applicants were provided their individual review sheet and their written evaluations.

The BORC approved the Self Rescue Class will be pilot tested in Texas next weekend and in the South East early this summer.

The NTC has approved a regional Level 1 & 2 seminar in Puerto Rico at the end of March, as well as a number of OTC classes this year.

The Seminar Timeline and Responsibilities Checklist has been reviewed for the 2010 seminar and we are on schedule. The EC feels we are well behind the curve for the 2011 seminar and hopes the BORC can find a solution quickly.

NTC has taken on the 2010 weeklong which will be held May 15-20, 2010 at Camp Skyline, Mentone, AL. Jane Morgan will handle registrations. The on-line registration system is up and running efficiently. Instructors have also registered through this system.

Plans:

Review all curriculum materials

Move forward with Level X and other curriculum changes.

Continue to develop instructor resources that will be available to NCRC instructors via some internet service easier to use than our FTP site.

Continue ongoing efforts to review and rewrite portions of NCRC text, to ensure curriculum and book are consistent, under editorship of Anmar Mirza

Pilot test and review results of both Self Rescue and Team Operations and Field Exercises courses

Problems:

Lack of time to do all we want to do.

NTC has taken on the 2010 weeklong which will be held May 15-20, 2010 at Camp Skyline, Mentone, AL. ☺

The EC strongly requests that DETAILED minutes of BORC meetings (including pertinent discussions) be made available in a reasonably short time for guidance of future work.

Also please attach written reports such as coordinator reports to the official minutes.

Action Items for the BORC Agenda:

Recommendation for clarification to the Policy on Lapsed Instructors:

**Policy for Instructors with Lapsed Certification
February 16, 2005**

An instructor whose NCRC certification has lapsed may apply to renew their instructor status.

If they apply within one year of the date of their required recertification, they must take and pass the Instructor Qualification exit test (including written and practical components). Upon successful completion, their instructor certification will be renewed for a three-year period.

If they apply after one year of the date of their required recertification, they must apply for the IQ class following the same process as new candidates, be accepted, complete the class and pass the test. Their apprentice-teaching requirement may be waived at the discretion of the NCRC Education Board.

[Note that existing policy requires all NCRC instructors to maintain NSS membership.]

Replace with:

An instructor whose NCRC certification has lapsed less than one year may apply to the NTC for a one-year extension. During this time he must

- a. Pass the IQ entry skills test
- b. Participate in an instructor update
- c. Take and pass the written instructor test
- d. Teach Level 1 or higher

After successfully completing the above requirements, a lapsed instructor with positive teaching evaluations from supervisors, peers and students will be reinstated for three years from the end of the one year extension period.

If they apply after one year of the date of their required recertification, they must apply for the IQ class following the same process as new candidates, be accepted, complete the class and pass the test. Their apprentice-teaching requirement may be waived at the discretion of the NCRC Education Board.

[Note that existing policy requires all NCRC instructors to maintain NSS membership.]

Request for approval of EC ballot items (submitted previously)

#101 – Changes to Level 1 & 2 Medical Lessons

#104 – Instructor Field Exercise Guidelines

#105 – Team Operations & Field Exercises (Level X) for Pilot testing at the Mentone Seminar

Request for BORC Consideration of new ballot item:

#106 – Commands for Rope Operations

Hudson proposes that the Curriculum Coordinator position on the Education Committee become a staff position appointed by the NTC and the requirement that the CC be an elected from the BORC, EC Member at Large, be removed from BORC EC policy. Existing BORC policy should be modified as appropriate.

Thank you for your time.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Hudson,
National Training Coordinator