

NCRC BORC Meeting Minutes

February 26th, 2022

Location: Virtual (Zoom) and In-Person @ Republic Services, Las Vegas, Nevada



Call to Order

8:30 a.m. PDT by Gretchen Baker

Recording Secretary: Laura Demarest (proxy for Bonny Armstrong)

In Attendance

BORC: NC – Gretchen Baker, TC – Roger Mortimer, SC – DJ Walker, RM – Rene Ohms (proxy for Andy Armstrong), WR – David Angel, Central – Jess Deli, SW – Sarah Truebe, NE – Greg Moore, PNW – John Punches, SE – Brandon Powers, Caribbean – Roberto “Bull” Miranda, Medical – Brian Ekey, Dive – Zeb Lilly

NCRC Volunteer Position Holders: Mark Dickey, Carrey Bull, Mel Eady-Pumplin, Rich Pumplin

NSS Staff/Volunteers: Christy Starr, Devra Heyer (NSS Education Chair)

Guests: Steven Bishop, Billy Chrimes, Matthew Robison, Jessica Preston

24 total

Devra Heyer gave overview of NSS updates.

Gretchen – discussed meeting location and yesterday’s cave trip to Pinnacle Cave – presented ‘thank you’ gift to Jessica for setting up the meeting.

Approval of 2021 December meeting minutes – *PNW moved to approve the December 2021 Meeting Minutes. NE seconded. Minutes approved.*

Proposed changes to meeting agenda - None

Reports of Officers

1. National Coordinator – Gretchen Baker (Appendix A) stated that she ran for National Coordinator wanting to increase communications, and hopes she has done so, with more regular emails and BORC and instructor meetings. These have hopefully resulted in more transparency of how the organization works. She was surprised by just how complex it is, and by developing written Volunteer Position Descriptions, that has helped to show the many inner workings of the NCRC. She is grateful for all those who have stepped up to fill these positions. She continues to encourage instructors not only to teach together, but to cave, canyoneer, camp, and just generally enjoy time together to build stronger bonds. For the next year, she hopes there can be more trainings, more interactions, and more thinking about how NCRC can be a world leader in cave rescue.
2. Training Coordinator – Roger Mortimer (Appendix B) provided update on the DYWTT email/registration distribution. Working closely with Tony about upcoming National Weeklong training. Roger noted that he will be stepping down as TC but will be available to help train next Training Coordinator. He also noted some challenges for next TC which included determining objectives for each level and how well they

synchronize with other levels as well as some final polishing of the curriculum after the major rebuild. He also explained that there can be conflict regarding teaching too much vs simplifying.

3. Medical Officer – Brian Ekey (Appendix C) discussed COVID updates and expressed thanks to those who held training in the past couple of years despite the challenge. He also expressed thanks to Roger for keeping NCRC trainings safe and on track. The Medical Interest Group is open for those interested. Meeting every 2 months for the past 2 years. Also announcing all new curriculum for medical – check out the new medical lectures at upcoming trainings.
4. Diving Officer – Zeb Lilly reported no significant diving activity and no known incidents. Zeb became an NCRC Instructor in 2021 and so far has helped with an OCR and plans to help with weeklong in Virginia.

Regional Coordinator Reports

1. Caribbean Region – Roberto “Bull” Miranda (Appendix E) had no incidents to report. There will be an upcoming weeklong training in Puerto Rico October 15-22, 2022 and other Instructors were invited to help. They have a shortage of instructors in their area and could use the assistance. More info will be coming soon.
2. Central Region – Jess Deli (Appendix F) reported 3 trainings in 2021 including a newly-developed ‘cave modification course for cave rescue’ custom class, which she plans to offer again in the future. There was also an OCR in November and ICEE in December and it is encouraging to see that interest in all classes remains high. Central Region is still experimenting with heated vests in place of wool blankets, along with heated sleeping pads and sleeping bags.
3. Eastern Region – Tony Smith (Appendix G) reported that 2 OCRs were conducted as well as 3 rescues (including 2 fatalities) in the past year. Unfortunately, his region lost a staff member (Mark Hodge) in the past year. Weeklong planning is going smoothly with Billy Chrimes assisting. Level 1 is full with 20 people on waitlist, Level 2 and Level 3 are almost full at this time.
4. Northeastern Region – Greg Moore (Appendix H) summarized the 2021 Regional Weeklong, which can be considered a success despite COVID challenges and he plans to continue to use Camp Pinnacle for future trainings. There was 1 incident involving a highly-publicized dog rescue that included Mark Dickey and Jessica Van Ord. Their region continues to expand cache and increase readiness.
5. Pacific Northwest Region – John Panches (Appendix I) is transitioning back into the NCRC role. The PNW recently conducted a SPAR and demand remains high so more training is being planned for the future. He will be doing outreach to determine the regional need for training amidst Covid closures. No known incidents were reported in this region.
6. Rocky Mountain Region – Rene Ohms (proxy for Andy Armstrong – Appendix J) reported 1 rescue incident at Baker’s Hole cave in Idaho involving a rebelay problem that was solved in-cave thanks to SPAR training. An OCR in Utah was conducted in September 2021 as well as a SPAR in Utah in October 2021. Jewel Cave has requested training and some things starting to reopen after Covid so more trainings are being planned for 2022. Andy is stepping down and Rene is running for the position.

7. South Central Region – DJ Walker (Appendix K) reports an OCR was held in December 2021 with help from Carrey and Casey. Unfortunately the regional weeklong scheduled for January 2022 had to be cancelled last-minute. The program ‘RegFox’ that is used for NCRC registrations caused some headaches during this most recent sign-up as a result of class demand and many students registering at the same time which resulted in an abundance of troubleshooting. Otherwise, he briefly discussed the Instructor Development Committee and its goals for growing the NCRC Instructor cadre, developing their skills, succession planning, etc. He also mentioned their region’s usage of equipment squads for easy organization and deployment. They are looking ahead to planning for 2023.
8. Southeastern Region – Brandon Powers (Appendix L) noted that his region saw several cave rescues in 2021 but no in-person trainings through NCRC. The gear cache is being reviewed and inventoried currently and as they finish inspections, they will purchase new items. He explained an idea for increased outreach in the region that would involve hosting a ‘meet-and-greet’ for local cave rescue teams. Rescue groups are showing up on rescue call-outs as mutual aid so it would be beneficial to unify these groups in training/teamwork. He is also looking to host a regional training (maybe modular) but is working towards offering a training when a national weeklong is not scheduled in Mentone. He is also looking for Instructors to help with some Chattanooga trainings in the future. There have been several requests for SPAR classes in the area so he may host a future training, as well.
9. Southwestern Region – Sarah Truebe (Appendix M) reported 1 rescue in the region that was handled mostly by a local Fire Dept. She noted it would be very beneficial to organize some follow-up training with local agencies to teach improved cave rescue techniques. She mentioned that a few folks have gone outside the region for training and more people from her area signed up for national weeklong so hopefully the number of rescue-trained personnel in the region will be growing! As far as rescue preparedness; the rescue cache was relocated to AZ and is currently being inspected and inventoried. She is planning upcoming trainings but will need more instructors and is looking for help in the future. Tony commented about the call-out system Sarah recommended (AlertSense) – said it worked well for a recent incident in his region.
10. Western Region – David Angel (Appendix N) offered a modular Level 1 class in 2021 that worked well (organized by Roger). An OCR was planned in Hawaii but was rescheduled due to Covid. He is currently working on coordinating upcoming OCRs for national parks (Lava Beds and Sequoia) and has no incidents to report.

Staff/Committee Reports

1. Communications Committee – Steve Reames (Appendix O) is leading a new committee investigating new cave communication tools. A recent rescue in England successfully used text messaging in-cave. He will look at potential improvements for cave rescues in the form of communication methods.
2. International Delegate Report – Eddy Cartaya (Appendix P) attended ICAR (online) which focused on technology. He also attended ECRA with Mark Dickey (who was elected as the new Secretary of the Medical Commission). It is good to see NCRC being represented internationally. Roger has also been

assisting with ICAR as a medical resource, offering guidelines for suspension trauma with peer review research to be released in the future.

3. Instructor Development and Retention Committee – DJ Walker (Appendix Q) presented the Instructor Development program in 2021 to provide guidance and mentorship for new instructors. He also discussed instructor tributes (gift-giving based on tenure) and thanked Mel for assistance with designs and distribution. He is coordinating with Greg Moore on the Instructor database and how to develop a tool that will allow Instructors to better track their status and keep current with teaching. They are now working on IQ selection process. With recent training cancellations, it may be necessary to send reminders to Instructors about recertification. Mel mentioned that the ‘anniversary’ date is coming up soon for 8 Instructors moving up to the next tenure ‘tier’ and she would like approval for some funding. Tony asked if Instructors could purchase past year ‘milestone’ items. Mel says nothing is in place for that yet but may be able to create a merchandise shop for NCRC in the future.

Motion: DJ Walker moved that the BIRC approve \$500 for 2022 Instructor Tributes. PNW seconded. No discussion. Motion passed.

4. Scholarship Report – Marty Reames (Appendix R) reported plenty of funding available especially with cancelled trainings and that scholarships should be widely promoted.
5. Database Coordinator Report – Greg Moore (Appendix S) has been checking on class lists and will continually update the latest spreadsheet to reflect changes. He asked that others please not edit the spreadsheets. Outstanding class lists must be submitted ASAP so he can continue to track progress for students moving forward. Greg can also provide your login info if needed. A LOT of NCRC training has happened in past 40 years: over 3,000 Level 1 students and over 1,000 Level 2 students. Regional Coordinators can use this tool to search for specific zip codes to find local people who have had training.
6. International Exchange Program – Mark Dickey (Appendix T) reported on international collaboration though Covid disruptions are still happening. Poland is open to a ‘test-exchange’ in the future. There are no formal requests at this time but he conjectured about how to handle international Instructors coming to US in the future and whether or not the NCRC should offer a discount and if so, how much? Gretchen suggested that perhaps a certain number of spots can be approved for these discounts for international Instructors in the future.

2022 Seminar Update (Covington, VA – July 15-23, 2021) Tony Smith reported that a new event venue has been secured thanks to Billy. The original location was closed due to COVID. They are currently working with a community college to set up classrooms, obtain insurance, etc. At this time Level 1 is full with 30 enrolled and 20 on the wait list. Tony wondered if it would be feasible to create a larger Level 1 class to allow more students to enroll or to just cap the class size at 30 students. Discussion ensued and it was decided that the class size could not be determined until the number of Instructors is confirmed and if it is determined that the venue can support a large class size. There could be an option to offer two Level 1 classes and Ekey suggested that perhaps the classes could be combined for PowerPoints but split up for exercise. Billy is still checking on-site logistics (classroom sizes, auditorium, etc.) and will report back soon. It was suggested that it would be best to try to blend the class as much as possible to create a unified experience for all students. Greg mentioned that NE is prepared to plan/offer a Level 1 regional soon if that will help with overflow. John Panches mentioned that usually Level 1 has a surplus of Instructors and wants to emphasize that it is best to keep smaller groups for

hands-on activities. Carrey and Jess expressed concerns about space for testing/certification locations and asked if enough cliffs/caves would be available. Texas already implements a plan for large class sizes and has strategies in place for how to effectively subdivide a group when there is a scarcer amount of cliffs/caves for the class. Gretchen asked if it would be advisable to approve 60 students for Level 1 now or if it would be better to wait? The consensus was to wait to decide. Billy also mentioned that the food budget for the class may be increased this year due to overall cost increases in groceries, etc. He is working to find a caterer for the class as an alternative to compare costs.

2023 Seminar Update (Mentone, AL - May 12-20th, 2023) Rebecca Land Segrest is currently organizing this future training.

2024 Seminar Update (Oregon – Date TBD) – John Punches can check to see if this event is moving forward but said it wouldn't hurt to have a back-up plan. Greg offered NY if needed for 2024.

Closed Session – to discuss the Hudson Award recipient, who will be announced at the NSS Convention in June. Once the decision was made, the BORC meeting reconvened and Roger discussed how the NSS has changed the nomination process. He will continue to maintain a list of who has been nominated over the years for future reference. He also requested some guidance on whether or not to nominate teams or only recognize individuals and asked if he could remove the 'collective' groups from this list going forward? The consensus was 'yes' so Roger will make the necessary changes.

Elections (partially closed session)

1. BORC Positions elected for 2022-2025:

- *Training Coordinator* – Mel-Eady Pumplin
- *Southeastern* – Brandon Powers
- *Southcentral* – DJ Walker
- *Caribbean* – Roberto "Bull" Miranda
- *Rocky Mountain* – Rene Ohms

2. Education Committee Position at large:

- *Three Positions for 2022-2024* – Cathy Borer, Billy Chrimes, Stephen Bishop elected

3. 2023 Election Search Chair – Brandon Powers was selected and will coordinate elections for 2023.

2022 Budget – (Document 3 – attached) – This budget is the same as the one for 2020. ***Motion: PNW moved to approve the budget as amended. SC seconded the motion. 2022 Budget was approved.***

Education Committee Action Items – Roger gave an overview of Education Committee progress. Additional discussion ensued regarding overall curriculum progress as well as the updated medical curriculum. John Punches recommended an all-Instructor online review meeting to help cohesiveness with curriculum updates.

- Revision of Level 1 Up/Down Lesson Plan (matrix has been updated but is not being included in the motion) – ***Motion: Training Coordinator moved to approve the amended Level 1 'Up and Down' Lesson Plan. NE seconded the motion. Motion passed.***

[BREAK FOR LUNCH at 11:00 am PDT – Resume at 12:30 PDT]

Old Business

1. Image Replacement – Gretchen spoke on behalf of Marty. All Level 1 and 2 images have been replaced at this time. The Rescue Manual image replacement is currently being handled by Anmar and is underway.
2. SOGs – Sarah Truebe provided an overview of the referenced material. Discussion ensued about Instructor recertification protocol and some language revisions to the SPAR SOG. It was suggested that SOG 206 be removed from the proposed motion since SOG 205 covers the necessary language and protocol.
 - a. ***Motion: PNW moved to approve changes to SOGs 104, 202, 205, 406, and 407 as presented, to strike 206, and to amend 305 to say “Additional details about requirements for SPAR seminars can be found in SOG 303.” SC seconded the motion. Motion passed.***
3. Risk Assessment – Brandon Powers introduced the [Incident Action Plan](#) based off of the ‘Restart Program’ from the SC Region, which will serve as an overarching organizational tool for training events, personnel assignments, risk assessment, and incident response. DJ Walker described how this tool is used for large events in his area to help with organization and logistics. BORG should review this document and discuss at the next meeting with the intention of perhaps implementing it at the 2022 National Weeklong.
4. Certification Draft New Booklets Casey England has been working on the [Level 1 and 2 Certification Booklets](#). Comments were due on February 15th. ***Motion: TC moved to trial the new Level 1 and Level 2 Certification Books in Virginia. Central Region seconded the motion. 1 abstain. Motion passed.***
5. Website Updates – Gretchen discussed the current NCRC website and how it should be improved to serve as a better resource for students and for publicizing future trainings. It may be possible to work with NSS and use their platform but will need personnel to assist with this task soon as the website needs to be a higher priority for NCRC.
6. International Exchange Program - Mark Dickey referenced earlier discussion about how to expand/enhance the current NCRC Exchange program. There was additional discussion regarding how many exchange students should be accepted each year and how much of a scholarship/discount should be offered. No specific numbers were discussed at this time, especially with Covid interruptions but it would be desirable to have some protocol in place for future requests.

New Business

1. Seminar Recognition – ‘Thank you’ to 2021 Seminar organizers. We wouldn’t have training without those taking the time to organize seminars. As a thank you, they are receiving engraved pens: Roger Mortimer, Jess Deli, Anmar Mirza, Glen Hugus, Will Orndorff, Greg Moore, Casey England, Carrey Bull, Andy Armstrong, Gretchen Baker, Eddy Cartaya, DJ Walker.
2. NCRC YouTube Channel – Gretchen Baker reported on the current state of the NCRC YouTube channel. As it exists at this time, only Instructors have access to the channel, but Derek Bristol has agreed to help with prep-materials for students that can be added (i.e. knots, SRT, etc.). Mel opined that some review clips for

Instructors would also be helpful (password protected). Other useful material (patient packaging, etc.) could be added or adapted for NCRC purposes. Steve Reames may also be a good resource. It was noted that copyright should also be considered and addressed. Gretchen asked for input on what would be the most useful content to put on the channel and noted that YouTube is widely used and would be a good way to reach more people.

3. Ombudsman Position – Greg Moore provided background on the proposed motion which was sent out prior to the meeting. Discussion ensued about ‘closed session’ terminology (private vs secret), the handling of human resources complaints/issues, Board transparency vs adhering to NCRC policy, chain of command, and whether or not this function is already being fulfilled. Based on discussion, the motion was withdrawn.

Motion: In light of concerns raised by current and former Instructors, Northeast proposes that a new position of Ombudsman be created. The role of the Ombudsman would be to ensure that Instructor and student interests are properly represented to the Board. While they would not have a vote on the BORG, they would be permitted all other BORG privileges such as attending meetings, including closed sessions.

The Ombudsman would serve a 2 year term (so that they don't line up with any particular election of board members) and would be elected by Instructors who are current at the time of the election. The Ombudsman would be required to be an NSS member in good member during their term.

Elections would take place at the Winter BORG meeting. Votes would be submitted to the current Election Chair who would keep all votes secret. Votes may be tendered via email, in person or other method as determined by the BORG starting 30 days before the Winter BORG meeting. Greg Moore withdrew the motion.

4. Emeritus Board Position – Discussion on this matter converged with the previous agenda item. Based on the discussion, Greg Moore withdrew the motion.

Motion: Since the NCRC is now in its 4th decade and soon to be 5th, it has a great deal of institutional knowledge it can take advantage of. Such knowledge would be useful both during open session but also closed session when historical input can be provided. Therefore, Northeast proposes the position of Emeritus Board Member be created. Emeritus Board members would have no vote, but otherwise be permitted all other BORG privileges such as attending meetings, including closed sessions.

Upon serving a minimum of 3 terms in any voting position of the BORG (National Coordinator, Training Coordinator, Medical Coordinator, or Regional Coordinator or other position that may have historically existed as a voting position), at least 2 terms of which shall be in the same position and consecutively, a person who is no longer serving in a voting position shall be automatically granted Emeritus Status. If they serve in a voting position again, they shall lose Emeritus status, but regain it upon leaving that position. Greg Moore withdrew the motion.

5. Other

- Region's gear cache annual budget – Gretchen asked for a motion to continue the policy of providing \$1,000 annually to each region for gear caches in the future. **Motion: SWR moved that each region is authorized to request up to \$1,000 of national budget to supplement regional gear caches in 2022. Diving seconded the motion. Motion passed.**
- Revisit SOG 205 or table until next meeting? Based on consensus, this matter will be tabled until next meeting to be discussed further.

6. Next BORC meeting: Monday, April 4th, 2022 via Zoom 5:30 pm PDT

Announcements

1. [Caving Academy](#) - Mark Dickey gave overview of some newly-developed international courses in partnership with Hungarian caver Dénes regarding this new organization and what will be taught.
2. Calendar
 - June 13-17: NSS Convention, Rapid City, South Dakota
 - NCRC mtg on Tuesday of Convention - 9 am
 - July 15-23: NCRC National Seminar in Virginia
 - September 29-October 2: European Cave Rescue Association (ECRA), Rudice, Czech Republic
 - October 11-16: International Commission for Alpine Rescue (ICAR) in Montreaux, Switzerland
 - October 15-22: Puerto Rico Weeklong Seminar
 - November 3-6: International Technical Rescue Symposium (ITRS) in Albuquerque, NM
 - May 12-20, 2023: NCRC National Seminar in Mentone, Alabama

Meeting adjourned at 2:15 PDT (4 hours, 15 minutes total)

APPENDIX A – NATIONAL COORDINATOR



NATIONAL CAVE RESCUE COMMISSION
of the National Speleological Society
6001 Pulaski Pike
Huntsville, AL 35810-1122

Gretchen Baker
National Coordinator
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Baker, NV 89311
435-406-1041
GretchenBaker@caves.org

National Coordinator Report
March 2021-January 2022

Progress

- 6 BORC meetings, all with meeting minutes (thank you, Bonny!)
- 2 Instructor Zoom meetings (April 11 and October 24, 2021)
- Groups.io set up and used regularly for messages and calendar features
- Instructor survey conducted and [presented](#)
- NCRC finances are set up to more easily manage (thank you Christy and John Punches!)
- [Volunteer Position Descriptions](#) developed for NCRC committees and positions
- Many volunteer positions filled (see below)
- NCRC website has two new pages: [safety](#) (with downloadable Caver Alert Form developed by Eastern Region) and [courses](#) (thanks also to Eastern Region)
- Moved NCRC files over to Google Drive, a storage service that is free to the NCRC
- Image replacement has moved along well; thanks to Marty Reames for spearheading this
- Recognition of instructor longevity with gifts sent out based on length of service-big kudos to Mel Eady-Pumplin
- [NCRC Facebook page](#) active again with regular posts
- Several NCRC Instructors assisted with the NSS Series Virtual Topics in Cave Rescue; 88-170 viewers for live presentations; Thanks to Alex Sproul for polishing the recorded presentations. As of 1/26/2022, 13 videos are posted with over 3,200 views. <http://bit.ly/caverescuevideos>
- Gave talk to IQ students
- Started new [NCRC YouTube channel](#), currently just for instructors; viewers need link of video in order to see it; several are listed on the Groups.io Instructor page
- Congrats to the 2021 NSS Award Winners, including Steve Hudson Cave Rescue Award to John Punches; President's Certificate of Appreciation to Anmar Mirza; and Fellows of the NSS to Carl Amundson, Amanda Mortimer, Marty Reames
- Reviewed [SOGs](#) and made suggestions to the SOG committee
- Represented NCRC to the NSS and various organizations, businesses, and individuals and made appropriate communications
- Led an OCR in Utah (9/2021) and taught at a SPAR in Utah (10/2021)

Plans

- Continue BORC meetings as needed in addition to the winter meeting
- Hold 2 Instructor Zoom meetings in 2022
- Attend Hungarian T2 cave rescue class as part of the NCRC Exchange program
- Teach at various cave rescue seminars

- Continue working on updating Standard Operating Guidelines
- Further develop NCRC website to be more student centric
- Continue to represent NCRC as needed to NSS, grottoes, and other rescue organizations
- Continue thinking/discussing how NCRC can fit into the global cave rescue scene
- Continue thinking/discussing/showing how NCRC can develop and teach state-of-the-art cave rescue techniques
- Support instructor development and retention

Problems

- COVID has caused various trainings to be cancelled and postponed
- Image replacement has taken some time, and we don't want to have to do this again. We NEED a form from the NSS to have creators sign to clearly identify ownership of the content and that the NSS/NCRC has the rights to use images. The creator may also retain rights.

THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE SERVED ADDITIONAL ROLES IN THE NCRC THIS PAST YEAR!

- Appointed
 - Certification Coordinator – Casey England
 - Communications Committee Chair – Steve Reames
 - Curriculum Coordinator – Rich Pumplin
 - Database Manager – Greg Moore
 - Editor-Cave Rescue Manual – Anmar Mirza
 - Election Coordinator – Sarah Truebe
 - Financial Officer – Matt Selig
 - Hudson Award Committee Chair – Roger Mortimer
 - International Delegate – Eddy Cartaya, Roger Mortimer
 - International Exchange Program Coordinator – Mark Dickey
 - Logistics Officer – Harold Chrimes
 - Recording Secretary – Bonny Armstrong
 - Scholarship Committee Chair – Marty Reames
 - Social Media Coordinator – Tim White
 - Training Secretary – Carrey Bull
 - Webmaster – Ian Moore
 - Website Content Committee Chair - Vacant
- Elected
 - Education Committee (6):
 - Cathy Borer, Carrey Bull, Mel Eady-Pumplin, Casey England, Scott McCrea, Jonathan Wilson
 - Board of Regional Coordinators
 - Diving Officer – Zeb Lilly
 - Medical Officer – Brian Ekey
 - National Coordinator – Gretchen Baker
 - Training Coordinator – Roger Mortimer
 - Regional Coordinators
 - Northeast: Greg Moore
 - Eastern: Tony Smith
 - Southeastern: Brandon Powers
 - Caribbean: Roberto “Bull” Miranda

- Central: Jessica Deli
- Southcentral: DJ Walker
- Rocky Mountain: Andy Armstrong
- Southwestern: Sarah Truebe
- Western: David Angel
- Pacific Northwest: John PUNCHES

APPENDIX B – TRAINING COORDINATOR

Training Coordinator Report

2021 Trainings

Planned/Canceled

Texas, level 1 and 2 January

New York,

Planned/Changed

New York, Level 1, July

Held

Custom Central	7/2021
SPAR PNW	8/2021
OCR Rocky Mountain	9/2021
SPAR Rocky Mountain	10/2021
OCR Eastern	10/2021
Level 1 Western	10/2021
OCR Central	11/2021
OCR South-Central	12/2021
Custom Central	12/2021

So we had few trainings in the beginning of the year then managed to do some smaller trainings in the latter half of the year. Larger trainings were more likely to be called off for COVID concerns. We took a big hit on leveled trainings by changing and/or canceling in New York and Texas but I'm convinced we did the right thing. We've had no reports of COVID transmission during a training.

Curriculum

Prepared pilot curriculum for L3 management and search. Finished the SPAR student handbook. Revised SPAR lead instructor testing. Started on a back log of curriculum reviews.

APPENDIX C – MEDICAL OFFICER



Brian D. Ekey, DO
brianekey@gmail.com

24 Jan 2022

Board of Regional Coordinators
National Cave Rescue Commission
c/o: Gretchen Baker, National Coordinator
gretchenbaker@caves.org

Re: Medical Officer Report 2022

Progress: The medically minded cavers of the NCRC have been hard at work on multiple projects including the continuation of the **Medical Interest Group (MiG)** online. The Mig began in July of 2019 and has met consistently every two months for the past two and a half years. Overall the MiG has discussed and made recommendations on over a dozen specific medical concepts and curriculum questions.

The **Medical Matrix** task force concept/direction document is also alive and well. It has provided direction and details for new lectures and learning objectives across Levels 1, 2, and 3. A **Total Curriculum Rewrite** of all three hours of Level 1 medical has been completed, and is scheduled to undergo pilot testing this year. The matrix also lays out new, **From Scratch Rewrites** for L2 and L3; which are also scheduled to be pilot tested this year.

The **SOGs of the NCRC** were reformatted, cataloged and prepared for update. The SOG committee continues the updating process.

Problems: Medical struggles with excellent input and suggestions without nearly enough time or manpower to implement everything. Scheduling priorities limit the rate of work output. Conflicting historical attempts at medical progression through the levels also limited the ability to simply update or reuse current lectures. Consistent direction and help from members of the MiG will solve many of the problems associated with limited manpower.

Covid also became an acute problem for everyone involved with the NCRC. Several members including Dr. Roger Mortimer and all the affected regional coordinators deserve special recognition for their work with Medical to chase the ever changing recommendations.

Plans: Medical will continue to solicit participation in the **Medical Interest Group**. Medical will continue to **Develop New Curriculum** from the medical matrix. Medical will continue to work with the NCRC and the NSS to develop safe **Covid guidelines**.

Respectfully,

Links: NCRC Medical Interest Group - <https://groups.google.com/g/ncrc-mig>
NCRC Standard Operating Guidelines (SOGs) - https://bit.ly/ncrc_sogs



APPENDIX D – DIVING OFFICER

Not available

APPENDIX E – CARIBBEAN REGION



NATIONAL CAVE RESCUE COMMISSION

Of the National Speleological Society of the United States

CARIBBEAN REGION

Roberto "Bull" MIRANDA PALACIOS
Regional Coordinator

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E-Mail miranda.roberto@outlook.com

February 21, 2022
San Juan, Puerto Rico

To: BORG
RE: Caribbean Region Winter report 2022.

Dear BORG:

1. No Incidents to report.
2. No activities performed on 2021.
3. A meeting with the Sport and Recreation Department, Safety Director took place to talk about NCRC and next Regional Seminar.
4. Regional Seminar NCRCPR2022
 - a. Dates: Oct 15-22, 2022
 - b. Were: Camp Elias Burgos, Rd 146, Km 8.8, Ciales PR 00638.
 - c. Liaison with "Para la Naturaleza" to use the access for the caves that are on their properties.
 - d. Possible Issues and doubts:
 - i. Not enough instructors on the region.
 - ii. Doubts regarding how much money per students need to go to the organization.

Respectfully,

Roberto "Bull" Miranda
NCRC Coordinator

APPENDIX F - CENTRAL REGION



NATIONAL CAVE RESCUE COMMISSION

of the

NATIONAL SPELEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

A NASAR Affiliate

Jessica Deli

Central Region Coordinator

2002 13th St.

Bedford, IN 47421

Home: 812-278-9577

Cell: 812-345-5012

email: jess.deli14@gmail.com

Date of Report: January 21, 2022

Trainings

July 2021: Cave Modification for Rescue

-Richard Blenz Nature Preserve, Indiana

-Central Region's all new cave rescue course! This course focuses on the various aspects to modify cave passages during a rescue operation. We talk about digging sediment, gravel, rock, etc and how to break rock utilizing techniques including brute force (just hitting it with a hammer), hammer and chisel, wedges and feathers, etc. Our focus includes conservation considerations, minimal alteration techniques, and the safety aspects involved during these types of delicate operations. This is a small, one day, class (minimum of 5 to a maximum of approximately 10 students) and be held primarily outdoors and aboveground where students will have the opportunity to perform hands on techniques to split rocks using the methods taught during the course. We might venture into a local cave to discuss techniques that *could* be utilized at specific locations to give the students a more realistic scenario (i.e. a rock fell here and is blocking the passage, what do you do? or a patient is wedged in this crevice, what techniques could you use?). No in-cave modifications are planned at this time. A micro-shaving demonstration (demo only) will be performed and discussed to allow students to better understand the process, it will NOT be the focus and techniques/'how to' will not be taught.

November 2021: Orientation to Cave Rescue

- Mitchell, Indiana
- Sponsored by Indiana Karst Conservancy (IKC)
- Primarily cavers attended, especially IKC members and cave patrons

December 2021: In Cave Emergency Exercises (ICEE)

- Sullivan Cave, Indiana
- Central Region's all in-cave course. This course is geared towards newer cavers or those whose vertical skills lack proficiency. Students and instructors spend 24-36+ hours in cave and learn to overcome challenges including finding and making camp, conservation during extended stay in cave (including bodily waste disposal), as well as a multitude of skills and techniques in assisting a patient throughout a rigorous cave environment.

Work in Progress

Outreach to local cave owners/managers to increase awareness of rescue resources.

Increase presence in Region via outreach, training, social medial, etc

Plans

Dates yet to be determined

- 2 Orientation to Cave Rescue Trainings
- 1 Cave Modification for Rescue
- 1 In Cave Emergency Exercise
- 1 Level 1 Regional (sending out feelers)

Problems

-None

Other

-Huge influx of students who have completed Level 1 or higher are stepping forward and assisting/teaching/mentoring at various regional seminars!

-The Region has been looking for alternatives to the two blankets and tarp method for patient packaging. Wool blankets are difficult and pricy to obtain; are very bulky and difficult to take into small passages; become very heavy when wet. Four inexpensive heated vests have been purchased and utilized in trainings in the Region.

Price: Ranges from \$60-\$100

Battery operated: easily obtainable, USB connection, can be purchased locally

Multiple heat settings: 3-5 settings (104°F to 160°F)

Various material and thicknesses (cotton, fleece, poly)

Adjustable sizes

Various button location for easy access by medic or patient

Machine Washable

-These vests allow thinner polyester filled sleeping bags to be used in lieu of wool blankets.

-Looked for other battery operated heaters and are working with a few different varieties to see how they withstand the cave environment. A few are starting to look promising!



National Cave Rescue Commission

of the

National Speleological Society

Eastern Region

Tony Smith

Eastern Region Coordinator

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Report to the Board of Regional Coordinators February 26 2022

Eastern Region Coordinator Report

- Working with VDEM on MOU with ERNCRC.
- Completed ER Staff Spring and Fall Meetings virtually Jan. 16th and Sept. 5th. At said meetings announced my plan to run again for ERNCRC Coordinator. Reviewed rescue reports, changed plan to hold a Modular L1 and L2 in Blacksburg, VA to an OCR, and an OCR in Martinsburg. Both classes were approved by Training Coordinator. Still planning NCRC weeklong 2022 for Covington VA, beginning of July 16th. Purchasing hardware for levels one and two.
- Using AlertSense for callouts.
- ER Web Page updated

- Training Report:
 1. OCR held in Martinsburg, WV- Oct 1-3rd with 22 students, class room used was the Berkeley County Sheriffs Office. Cave used was Silers Cave. Glen Hugus was the lead instructor and Earl Suitor was the Site Coordinator.
 2. OCR held in Blacksburg, VA- Oct 22nd-24th with XX students, class room used was Blacksburg Rescue Squad, Cave used was Tawneys cave. Wil Orndorf was the lead instructor and Molly Lucifer was the site Coordinator.
 3. Current registration levels for weeklong in Covington, VA are:

Level 1 – 30 with a wait list of 10

Level 2 – 13

Level 3 - 13

- Rescue Report:

Sharps Cave – overdue cavers, Father and Daughter found and walked out.



- 1.
2. Man died of a heart attack in Laurel Caverns and had to be carried out. 10/10/21
3. Mark Hodge died of a heart attack leaving Butler Cave after a four hour trip leading Boy Scouts. 12/5/21

APPENDIX H – NORTHEAST REGION

2022 Northeastern Region Report

Submitted: Greg D. Moore

January 22nd 2021

Training

Due to COVID the National we were planning on hosting was moved to August and then cancelled. (see update on that in separate report).

However, since June dates at the camp was still available, converted to a regional, originally open only to NYS, VT, CT, NJ residents, but as NY lowered its restrictions, this was opened up nationwide. Good turnout. Overall, camp was received and caves proved conducive to the group size. An unexpected road closure on the single day we needed the cliffs required a rejuvling of the schedule, but we managed to get in all activities.

We will continue to use Camp Pinnacle for future trainings, including an upcoming SPAR and future regionals and future nationals.

Incidents

We received a call from Sam's Point a state owned preserve. As Mark Dickey and Jessica Van Ord were closest, they were called and with resources from the New Jersey Incident Response Team, handled the rescue. Rescue received national coverage. Good news all around.

Expansion of Gear Cache

Additional ropes and other equipment was purchased as we continue to expand our gear cache for future trainings.

National Seminar

Update under separate cover

Patches

Northeast Region acquired a number of "Rescue Patches" for resale with proceeds going into our checking account (someday). I still have bags of these. Will make them available at the National.

APPENDIX I – PACIFIC NORTHWEST REGION

NCRC PNW Report: March 2021 – Feb 2022

Progress:

- Made the transition from Eddy Cartaya to John Panches as PNW Regional Coordinator.
- Held PNW 6-day SPAR in central Oregon. 10 students.

Plans:

- Considering dates for fall 2022 6-day SPAR

Question:

- Does BORC want PNW to host 2024 National Seminar? If so I'll investigate feasibility.

Submitted: 1/24/22 John Panches

APPENDIX J – ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION

National Cave Rescue Commission
Rocky Mountain Regional Report
Winter Meeting 2022
Andy Armstrong

Recent Rescues / Events

- **September 18, 2021 – Baker’s Hole Cave, Idaho.** A SPAR-trained caver was able to assist another caver that became entangled and exhausted at a hanging rebelay. Rescuer credits SPAR training as an asset and reports that the emergency mindset he learned in SPAR was more valuable than any specific technique. This caver took the other’s pack and they both exited the cave.

Regional Training

- **September 17-19 2021 – Oak City, Utah.** Gretchen Baker led 11-student OCR and associated SRT workshop in Oak City, using city and USFS sites. This is our second successful OCR and vertical training at this location.
- **October 8-11, 2021 – Gunlock, Utah.** Andy Armstrong led 12-person 4-day SPAR, using state park, BLM, and tribal sites. This is our second successful SPAR at this location.

National Cave Rescue Commission

South-Central Regional Report

Winter Meeting 2022

DJ Walker

Recent Events/Activities

- Organized and registered students for our 2022 Regional Seminar. There was tremendous demand and classes filled within minutes of registration opening and we eventually had over 60 people on a waitlist. Unfortunately, we had to cancel the event three weeks out, in part due to Covid concerns
- Chaired the Instructor Development Committee. This committee completed two significant tasks:
 - Implementing the Instructor Development Program providing a mentoring and development plan for all new instructors.
 - Designing, purchasing, and sending “Instructor Tributes” to all instructors recognizing them for their service and dedication. A BIG “THANK YOU” to Mel Eady-Pumplin for her efforts on this initiative.
- Generically, things have been quiet in our region with Covid canceling many events and activities.

Plans

- Continue to grow our SC-Region Instructor Cadre.
- Succession planning for the SC-Region BORC Member position.
- Development of “Squad Kits”; equipment kits used for teaching classes, or protentional rescue response.
- Tentative dates for 2023 SC Regional are being worked on. Will seek approval soon.
- We hope to conduct an OCR in West Texas.

APPENDIX L – SOUTHEASTERN REGION

2021 Southeastern Regional NCRC Report

February 26, 2022

2021 Rescues:

- January 31st South Pittsburg pit. Fatality. Medical/ uncontrolled rappel.
- Oct 23rd Tumbling Rock Cave. Jackson Co. AL. Caver with shoulder dislocation.

Trainings:

- No in person trainings were conducted in the region 2021.

Rescue Preparedness:

- The gear cache is located in Chattanooga, TN. and easily accessible..

Outreach:

- Made contact with a few cave rescue teams in the region to build relationship and provide information of NCRC resources.
- Updated social media outlets with publications of NCRC updates and opportunities.

Future Plans:

- Host a modular level 1 class and possibly a week long regional in Chattanooga, TN area 2022.
- Inventory SE region gear cache and complete a thorough inspection.
- Create a list of equipment needs
- SPAR classes when requested
- Presentations to Grottos when requested
- To host an TAG agency "meet and greet" to better unify the resources in the region.

Problems:

- COVID-19 pandemic continues to interfere with travel, planning, and decision-making.
- Still learning the position of regional coordinator (patients needed).

2021 Southwestern Region NCRC Report

February 26, 2022

2021 Rescues

- 2/13/21 - Peppersauce Cave: <https://www.kold.com/2021/02/14/pinal-county-authorities-rescue-injured-hiker-peppersauce-canyon-saturday/>

Progress

Trainings

- No in-person trainings in the region in 2021
- Other trainings attended by SWR personnel:
 - OCR: 3 students
 - ICEE: 1 student
 - Level 1: 1 student
- Successfully worked with Gretchen Baker (WR Coordinator, then National Coordinator) to implement the Virtual Topics in Cave Rescue series, with more than 700 registrants (between 40-200 attendees per session)

Rescue Preparedness

- Cave Subject Matter Expert program continues for Arizona cavers who have skills to navigate for AHJ personnel in caves
- Expanded AlertSense usage to Western Region and Eastern Region
- Speciality/awareness training (online and in-person with Southern AZ Rescue and Border Patrol Search, Trauma, and Rescue (BORSTAR))
- Successfully updated and used the Alert Sense paging structure for a cave rescue paging in February
- Relocated SWR Gear Cache to Arizona, inventoried and safely stored with Pima County Sheriff's Department

Outreach

- Presentations and Zoom presence at NM grotto meetings
- Planned presentation at 2022 AZ SAR conference

Plans

- 1 OCR per year per state, rotating locations, perhaps "hosted" by a different SAR team or agency each time
- "Cave Rescue on the Border" (Nov 2022?), Sierra Vista, AZ - weeklong seminar (pending on cave approval and pandemic situation)
- SPAR courses when requested - main focus is callout rescue preparedness right now
- Specialty awareness training for agencies when requested (usually one evening and one day, not official NCRC training)

- Improve understanding of how SAR works in NM and how to get trained folks and gear to the places it needs to go
- Run enough trainings to be able to offer annual scholarships to supplement national scholarships for L1 attendees
- Improve accident/incident reporting across the region to the ACA or at least to the RC to submit to ACA
- Work on understanding financial setup of SWR and how to connect to regfox, well in advance of planned November regional weeklong.
- Create gear shopping list for SWR weeklong as most other region caches have likely been used in WNS counties

Problems

- COVID-19 pandemic continues to interfere with travel, planning, and decision-making

APPENDIX N – WESTERN REGION

**National Cave Rescue Commission
Western Region Report
Winter Meeting 2022
David Angel**

Recent Rescues

None

PROGRESS

Organization

- Held a Modular Level 1 near Fresno, California. 11 students completed Level 1.
- Planned and subsequently rescheduled the OCR in Hawaii
- Maintain and updated various groups.io email distribution lists
- Handled various regfox events for Fresno and Hawaii

Support for Other Regions

- One WR instructor assisted with both a SPAR and an OCR for Rocky Mountain Region

Other NCRC Business

- WR holds monthly Zoom meetings with sub-regional coordinators and instructors. RC does terrible job with the minutes.
- Made progress reintegrating with the San Bernardino Cave Rescue team. Worked with and did lots of encouraging team members to attend NCRC trainings (unfortunately many of those trainings were cancelled). Held a preparation vertical training for newer members. Members helped with the L1 Modular at Millerton.
- Organized a blasting class run by John Norman but unfortunately wasn't able to schedule it.

PLANS

- April 31-May 1 2022 - OCR in Hawaii to remedy the lack of training there. Covid has delayed the class. Marty Reames recently purchased property there with her husband and has offered to help facilitate a seminar. Coordinated by Marty and Ben McCandless.
- Autumn 2022 – OCR and Vertical Workshop near Vegas.
- Spring 2023 – Talked with SPC about holding an OCR for Crystal Sequoia seasonal employees. Currently considering the weekend before Mentone.
- Ron Davis will be serving as the WR representative for the 2022 NCRC Scholarship Committee.
- Alertsense updates and test pages

PROBLEMS

- Spoke to NSS project owner in November about access to update Western Region website. Still waiting on access.
- Trouble meeting demand for NCRC training. Covid delaying/preventing scheduled trainings.
- Small instructor pool of five in the Western Region.

APPENDIX O – COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE

To: NCRC BORG

From: Steve Reames, NCRC Communication Committee Chair

Date: January 18th, 2022

Subject: Annual Communication Committee Report for 2021

The Communication Committee is design to support existing communication devices, such as field phones, and investigate the development of new devices.

The committee was formed by the National Coordinator, Gretchen Baker, and announced at the December 6, 2021 BORG meeting. Steve Reames was appointed at the first chair. Since the committee is relative new we only have a few members:

Steve Reames (Rocky Mountain region)
Jansen Cardy (Pacific Northwest region)
Ceth Parker (Western region)
Ben McCandless (Western region)

This is the summary for 2021. The next steps for this upcoming year will be to work with Dav Angel to set up an Groups.io group for internal discussions and a Google Drive for shared files, as well as reaching out to other geeks who would like to participate.

Steve Reames
NCRC Communication Committee Chair
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719-357-8066

APPENDIX P INTERNATIONAL DELEGATE



International Commission of Alpine Rescue (ICAR)

NCRC Delegate Report for 2021



A global network of alpine rescue organizations (over 130 members) Goal is to share techniques, trends, lessons learned, gear use and development, and establish global best practices via "ICAR Recommendations." These are not guidelines or policies (which would start world war III if attempted), but fairly superficial "suggestions" based on 130 organizations.

In most regions of the world, alpine territory is not sub-divided into mountain, cave, canyoneering, etc. It is steep, technical terrain vicinity of, or a by product of, mountainous terrain.

4 formal commissions:

- Terrestrial Commission: The largest commission. All technical rope rescue, regardless of sub-venues. This includes cave rescue and is the primary commission NCRC represents.
- Medical Commission: Focuses on medical aspects of rescue in vertical and extreme environments.
- Avalanche Commission: Focuses on the snow stability aspect that is the single biggest environmental factor to alpine rescue, 2nd only to gravity.
- Aviation Commission: Addresses techniques and utilizations of helicopters in alpine rescue operations

ICAR has 3 voting classes: (there are other associate non-voting classes)

- ♦ A: A NATIONAL organization that has operational proficiency in all 4 disciplines. (Example: Mountain Rescue Association-MRA, the only A class member from the USA) (4 votes-4 delegates)
- ♦ B1: A NON-National organization that has operational proficiency in all 4 disciplines. (Example: Teton County Mountain Rescue) (2 votes—2 delegates)
- ♦ B2: A National or Regional organization that has operational proficiency in SOME, but *not all* of the 4 disciplines. (1 vote—1 delegate)

Currently NCRC is a B2 member. We were admitted based predominantly on terrestrial commission, which is where all things cave rescue reside. Most anyone involved in rescue of any kind has a medical component, so this commission is almost universal to every member. The 2 biggest discriminators are Aviation and avalanche.)

With the emphasis we put on high mountain, glacier cave rescue, which is heavily supported in the PNW via aviation assets, the goal is to get NCRC upgraded to a B2 member in 2022 or 2023. This is something I am striving to get done during 2022. Hut this will almost certainly require an in-person appearance and presentation.

IF ANYONE ELSE IN NCRC IS OPERATING CAVE RESCUE IN ALPINE VENUES, AND / OR UTILIZING HELICOPTER ASSETS TO TRANSPORT PATIENTS...EVEN IF AFTER A FULL CAVE RESCUE EXTRICATION, PLEASE SEND ME THIS INFORMATION, PHOTOS, REPORTS, TO HELP BUILD THIS CASE.

WHY?

Politics!

There is a large, politically heated push for a single, globally recognized cave rescue association.

For years 3 organizations have been jockeying for this role:

ICAR: The biggest and most truly global organization, but has surface alpine rescue as its primary focus. About 1/3 members also do cave rescue, and many of them want a cave rescue sub-commission (similar to K9 in ICAR). There is resistance from some in ICAR to have this discipline, but the strength of the movement is growing.

ECRA (European Cave Rescue Association): This is European based association, on which NCRC is also an associate member. Currently, they only allow primary European countries to be voting members, although they just told Russia they were not part of Europe and made them associate, like NCRC.

UIS (Union Internationale de Spéléologie) Formed in 1965, this is an older union, and it technically has a cave rescue section, but it has been mostly inactive in the cave rescue section.

There is intricate politics between certain countries, members of ICAR, ECRA, both, or neither. Both have good missions and put on great events, and over 2/3 of those involved are happy members of both. This is good in and of itself, but as the efforts to form this international cave rescue association continue, it is good to have NCRC actively involved and respected in both...as we currently are! This ensures NCRC has a seat at the table where ever, and however, this global cave rescue association ends up manifesting.

I would like to propose in 2022, at the next ICAR congress, that NCRC be considered for a B1 membership. To that I simply need to show some operational proficiency and training in the remaining 2 commissions. This is fully accomplished with the cave rescue pre-planning missions in the PNW, but it would be an even stronger case if some examples from another region could be shared. All regions have helicopter assets for rescue, and the Rocky Mountain region most definitely has alpine caves in avalanche territory. We presented on one such venue, Fossil Mountain Ice Cave, last year as part of the training with Teton County Mountain Rescue.

2021 ICAR:

This was again held virtually due to COVID restrictions in Greece, where it was intended to be. Unlike 2020, where only virtual presentations were done, and no congress, this year there were far fewer presentations, and the congress of delegates was held instead. It was needed to handle a lot of voting and membership matters. The theme for this year was utilizing IT for mountain rescue training and there were very few slots. There were not any technical rope presentations. I did not submit a presentation based on this unique situation.

The congress was held on the 2nd day. I attended as the NCRC delegate with one vote. There were a total of 132 available votes. 6 new members were admitted and 2 were expelled for failure to pay dues the last several years, and did not respond to inquiries. A few ICAR recommendations were passed, namely one on suspension trauma. These are all posted on the ICAR website with all the recommendations.

The ICAR congress is scheduled to be in Austria October 11 thru 16 2022. The theme has not yet been set. I will be submitting a technical presentation for it once that is announced. This will be a pivotal year as people re-engage and resume the efforts that were moving along well in 2019. There will be a lot to report from this congress next October, so stay tuned!

European Cave Rescue Association (ECRA)



On November 11 thru 13 2021, 4 cavers representing NCRC attended the annual European Cave Rescue Association (ECRA) conference. The conference brings together cavers from across Europe and the world to share techniques and prepare for the next large cave rescue. This year's conference focused on insurance issues, such as when cavers support rescues in other countries. It also had sessions on medical issues, turning big rocks into smaller ones, small party assisted rescue, and cave diving.

Event had about 120 people. Attending from NCRC was Eddy Cartaya, Mark Dickey, Michael Raymond, and Jessica Van Ord. NCRC is currently an associate member (non-voting and no fees) until ECRA evolves their bylaws to permit non-European countries to vote. Their definition of European Country is a bit odd, in that admits Israel, but not Russia. USA and Canada are associate members.

In general, Eddy attended the terrestrial commission events, which like ICAR, is the largest, and includes passage modification sub-commission. Jessica and Mark primarily attended the Medical Commission event. Michael Raymond focused on the cave diving commission. All disciplines were well represented.

This year's two-day conference took place in Ramales de la Victoria, Spain. Ramales is a beautiful town surrounded by mountains and a twenty-minute drive from the coast. Altamira cave, famous for its cave paintings from many thousand years ago, is nearby. The NCRC contingent arrived several days early to get over the jet lag and go on pre-conference caving trips. This included a trip to the vertical Coventosa cave, with over twenty miles of passages and a river leading to a nearby spring.

ECRA was founded several decades ago as Europeans started to push into cave systems reaching one kilometer deep. The founders realized that any major rescue would quickly exhaust the available manpower in any single country, requiring countries to work together. This was made very evident by a rescue in England the week before this year's conference. It required the work of over two hundred people to get one person out of the cave. There are of course the eight hundred that were needed in Germany a few years back, and the reported ten thousand for the 2018 Thailand rescue. This year Russia joined ECRA, bringing the number of participating countries and organizations to over thirty.

The day preceding the conference was spent scouting out the technical workshop day, which was hosted by the USA and Croatians. This was to be a SPAR oriented workshop, which also featured the deep pit rescue techniques commonly referred to as the "Italian Method." This is a SPAR type technique of using 1 rope and 3 or 4 operators to progress up hundreds of meters of vertical terrain. It is contrasted by the "French technique" which is much more gear and manpower intensive...essentially rigging the entire route first, and then moving the patient without stopping. The Italian technique has become prevalent in the deeper sections of deep caves, where gear and manpower are less available. Patient makes short stops as system is reset, mostly using a leap-frog counterweight system. The French technique tends to be used closer to the entrance...unless your in France!

The Croatians have adopted the Italian technique as this fits the very vertical nature of their caves, as it is also in Italy. The exercise would occur in the mouth of a very large cave.



Eddy, Mark, & Jessica scouting workshop sites

2 days were dedicated to presentations, starting with the large group over all, and then breaking up into commissions on different floors of the building. In the evening, the entire group came back together for large general presentations.

Eddy was requested to present on unique hazard mitigations for glacier caves and lava caves. This presentation was done for the entire assembly after dinner and was very well received. Program should be available on the ECRA website. Focus was on bad air mitigations (gas monitors, air purifying respirators, SCBA, emergency rebreathers, etc.) as well as use of thermal and night vision for cave search and hazard assessment in glacier caves.



Eddy presenting at the first night's general assembly presentations.

The first day also included a large presentation and field work shop on passage modification. Blasting and micro-blasting is used prevalently both for rescue pre-planning passage enlargement, as well as on missions. A lot of time was spent on blasting agents and law that govern their use in various countries. It is pretty standardized in most countries. In the USA, it is very dependent on where you are.

The afternoon workshop was at the same site as the vertical workshop would be the next day. It was mostly about drilling methods, mechanical ways to break rocks apart, including feathers and wedges (right.)



The last session before dinner included a workshop / discussion on how cave rescue works in each country, and the associated liabilities. Again, this varies hugely between countries. The impetus for this was from the Thailand cave rescue, where there were fears of liability or even imprisonment if the patients had died. This was a concern for several foreign divers not military related. Eddy explained the emergency management system in the USA, the federal system, and the myriad of response models scattered around the country. It appears to be much more formalized nationally within each country there, but there is considerable exposure when responding abroad. This topic continues to be explored.



Dinner was typically at one of only 3 local restaurants. The town is very small. Hamburgers of many kinds are popular here. Here you see the NCRC on the right, and the large Croatian element on the left. Due to their attendance at SPAR here in 2019, the 2 groups spend a lot of time together.

The next morning was the general assembly. I have attached the minutes taken by Michael Raymond at the end.

The afternoon was spent in the workshop cave entrance...a huge cliff side entrance with rock climbing route all around it. With the help of the Croatians (who quickly added 3 bolt anchors where we needed them during the planning phase, we set up 4 stations.

The NCRC station was a stacked counterweight demonstration. A small mock up of it was set up down low for the explanation. Groups rotated through stations, so the demo was done several times. Eddy talked through the system and mock up, and demonstrated the diminishing loop component in a couple of formats down low. Then Mark and Jessica performed the stacked system, clearing a large ledge over head. Several from the group had harnesses and also took a turn at operating it.

The Croatians had 2 stations set up next to ours for the leapfrog counterweight rescue. This is really amazing to watch, and there are lots of neat variations. This is something I will likely add to the next SPAR course here.

A litter handling station was also set up higher in the cave entrance, as well a human anchor station, also used to lower a litter down a steep slope.

It appeared about 60 to 70 cavers attended the vertical workshop here.

The cave diving commission was at their site doing their training this afternoon.



Diving Commission – The First Day (report by Michael Raymond)

On the first day of the conference, the diving commission members met to discuss common problems and issues of contention. This included topics such as swimming patients face up vs down, backboards and litters, full face masks (FFMs), issues affecting response speed, search, communications, and relationships with non-caving rescue teams.

The group discussed the likelihood of various types of incidents they would be called upon to respond to. It was agreed that things like searching for a missing diver and doing a body recovery were far more likely than having to do an actual rescue. For rescues, the most likely ones would be for sump divers who ran into trouble in dry passage. Since they had to be experienced divers to get to where they had gotten, the "rescue" would likely involve just repairing some piece of essential kit they could no longer use.

For the problem of search, the Italians have recently developed a system for marking lines in maze caves. The system is based around large white wooden markers that are attached to the line and float above it. When a search team starts a new section of line, they mark it with a triangle. If they leave the cave before completing the line, they mark their progress with a rectangle. Once a line has been completed, any rectangle is removed and the triangle is replaced with a circle.

For the topic of face up vs face down, the consensus seemed to be that face down travel for patients should be the norm. Face up gives better access to the patient, and currently the best photos are face up, but face down is much more comfortable for the patient. That said, for very short sumps, face up travel may make the most sense. This is because the patient will already be face up when traveling through dry cave. It may be faster to just swim with them face up through short sumps than to take the time to flip them over at both the start and end of the sump. For teams that move their patients face up, they make sure to have the patient's head raised for comfort. This may mean traveling feet first down slopes and then rotating the patient to travel head first when traveling up slopes. It was noted that it is easier to dump gas from a patient's drysuit when they are facing up.

On the topic of backboards and litters, the consensus seemed to be that the least equipment possible should be used. Litters complicate movement through small passages as well as getting buoyancy right. Patients with only hurt extremities such as legs and wrists do not need a litter. For patients that do need some form of additional spine support, a KEDD or OSS backboard is preferred. If the patient is being moved through dry cave on a litter, then it may make sense to move them into the water on the litter, take them off it to swim with them, then move them back onto a litter to remove them from the water. If the patient does need to use some form of litter to be moved through the water, only needs back support, and all you have is a full-length litter, then the litter should be cut down to a smaller size.

For long distance underwater travel, international consensus is rapidly converging on using something like an OmniSwivel gas block to manage the multiple stage and decompression swaps. Cylinders are attached with QC6 or QC8 connectors. One cylinder is left attached to the gas block for the entire dive and is used to provide breathing gas while other cylinders are swapped in and out. Frequently there is a method to give gas to the patient if the gas block or FFM fails, but some feel this is adding complication. The Italians are the most organized in this realm, and have standardized gasses and stage tank distances for deep and long rescues.



Consensus about FFM's seems to be that they are unlikely to be needed, but that rescuers should be practiced in their use. FFM's have big differences between versions. Rescuers must have experience using them themselves. They must know how to inspect and repair the FFM before trying to use it with a patient. Kirby Morgan FFM's behave poorly when used face up, and if the mask is underwater but not on someone, then they should be hooked up to a pressurized gas source to prevent water from entering their valves. Consensus is that over-pressure masks should be used to minimize the amount of water that leaks into a FFM while being worn.

FFM's are not the only solution when a person's face is too damaged to use a regulator. A special hose can be inserted into person's nose and run down into their throat or lungs. A breathing gas source can then be attached to this hose. The process of inserting the hose is very unpleasant for the person receiving it, and some believed that they would need to be sedated. Obviously, this is one of many worst-case scenarios and fraught with complications.

A lot of time was spent discussing how to speed up the response time to patients. Getting to the patient requires rescue authorities to ask for and accept the support of divers, time spent getting equipment to the dive site, and time spent swimming to the patient with initial treatment.

One of attendees was Chris Jewell, who was involved in the 2018 Thailand rescue. Chris was asked if they had to do it again, what would they do differently. Most interestingly, he said that they wouldn't have the divers arrive at the site wearing t-shirts and shorts. This made it very difficult for the government officials to accept their advice. He said the U.S. military presence at the rescue served as a critical go-between for the groups, lending legitimacy to the divers.

Whenever there is a cave accident, rescue leadership will first use the personnel and resources they are familiar with. Unless we have pre-established relationships, it will take them a long time to ask for support from trained but volunteer cave rescuers. There are some ways that this process can be assisted. Presenting a professional appearance is very important. Wearing official-looking clothing, presenting identification, and using paperwork with professional-looking logos helps rescue leaders to believe that it is OK to use your help. If they believe that they are turning things over to a professional agency or organization, then they will be less concerned about getting in trouble later if something goes wrong.

Getting equipment to the dive site involves getting equipment to the cave, and then it into the cave. It is important to have the Material Data Sheet (MDS) paperwork for all the chemicals (e.g. sofnolime, trimix) and breathing gasses to be used. This shows the people moving the equipment if items are toxic and/or need special handling. For air movement it is especially important to have documents showing the weight of each item. Gathering these forms and calculating these weights ahead of time will save significant time.

The group discussed whether to use rebreathers or open circuit in responses. For dives that do not require rebreathers, they still may be faster due to not needing to transport as many cylinders through the cave. It is believed that if heavy work is to be done, such as moving a patient or doing underwater digging, then open circuit should be used. This will reduce CO₂ problems. For major incidents, porters will become available to move cylinders.

The group discussed what equipment should be brought by the first divers. The patient(s) will almost certainly be suffering from some amount of hypothermia. Divers must bring food, heat sources, and space blankets. Other first aid equipment does not need to come on the first trip. If the patient were suffering from any other life-threatening condition, then they would already be dead. Divers should also bring equipment to help the patient solve simple problems like a broken guideline, stuck zipper, dead light, cut bungee, etc. Having a dry tube to put this rescue equipment into will help a lot. For follow-on dives, divers must have their harness and BCD configured so that they can move heavy equipment like lead weights or large cylinders for the patients.

Another interesting aspect of swimming patients discussed was the number of swimmers to use. There are well known photos of practice rescue sessions with three or more swimmers for the patient while in big cave. The group agreed that two swimmers per patient was more realistic. Those who had practiced with patients on litters while in low visibility said that some form of communication between the divers can be managed by sharp pushes or tugs on the litter. It was also agreed that some form of leash should connect the patient to one of the swimmers.

Some time was also spent discussing communication through sumps. There are a limited number of doctors who can competently travel to the bottom of a kilometer-deep cave, then dive through several sumps, and then start medical care on patients. In Europe they have several pieces of technology for remote medical contact. This includes ground-penetrating radios for low-bandwidth text communication. They also have high quality cables that can be strung to enable video conferencing between the doctors on the surface and patients and rescuers.

The Second Day

We had meant to do an exercise at a local cave but wound up spending all day at a swimming pool instead. This was almost certainly a good thing for several reasons. Two of us had arrived expecting to receive sidemount tanks fully rigged. There were tanks, but no hose clamps or clips. Chris Jewell had success rigging his tanks by tying scooby loops together and adding a pair of carabiners, while my attempt with zip ties went rather poorly. The closest local dive site, Cubera (not Krubera) sump, lacked parking, and getting to the water was hazardous. Lastly, given the challenges we ran into just moving someone across a swimming pool, doing our first operation together in a cave would have been dangerous.

We began the day at the pool with a presentation by local Spanish cave divers. They had a full-length litter. They had developed additional hardware for it so they could attach cylinders with cam bands. They also had a Kirby Morgan FFM and a gas block through which to route the breathing gas. The Polish representative to the session, Jarek Kur, works as a deep-sea diver and had a lot of experience with the Kirby Morgan. He discussed the many tradeoffs between the Kirby Morgan and the Interspiro Aga mask. Everyone then got a chance to try the Kirby Morgan out.

After lunch we returned to the pool for an in-water exercise. On this weekend Ramales was also hosting a major rally race. The route went right beside the outdoor pool. The pool had gone into winter mode, and was very green with less than one meter of visibility. These distractions added nicely to the challenge.



Our objective was to get our mock patient to the far side of the pool. The team strapped the patient into the litter and slid him into the water. We then put on the Kirby Morgan FFM and strapped one of the tanks to the litter. We flipped the litter over and strapped on the other tank. He remained very buoyant and so a lot of weights were haphazardly attached to the litter. One person regularly checked on the patient to make sure that he was breathing OK. With much effort our group of four divers then swam him across the pool, took the tanks off the litter, and got the patient out of the pool.

This exercise illustrated how difficult even a short and very simple patient swim can be. Fiddling with the cylinders kept our patient in the water for a long time with no forward progress. With the green water and large litter, most of the swimmers had no idea where the line was. It could have been worse. In the shallow pool we never had to deal with patient buoyancy or trim. Before something like this would be done for real, the swimmers would need to do a lot of rehearsing.

The Future

Next year's conference is expected to take place at the end of September in the Czech Republic. Because the ECRA members hadn't seen each other in two years, this past conference was about getting re-acquainted. The hope is that starting next year, the different commissions will begin to tackle issues of common interest. For example, the medical commission wants to understand more about treating decompression illness on the far side of a sump. The diving commission is interested in classifying which injuries would require a FFM. By continuing to get a lot of smart people together, we can improve our chances to get our patients home.

The minutes of the general assembly was assigned to Michael Raymond, who volunteered.

- The number of voters present was counted. There were over 24, and so we had quorum.
- Dinko presented the status of the new constitution. There were three items that had to be harmonized due to legal concerns. Dinko presented the proposed changes.
- Peter from England proposed to accept the changes.
- Norway seconded.
- A vote was taken, 26 for, 0 against
- Dinko presented the annual report.
- Dinko reported on an attempted scam against ECRA.
- Dinko presented our financial status. Banking costs were discussed.
- Dinko presented a statement from the auditor saying that everything is ok.
- Dinko presented statistics about views of the web page and FB group.
- Werner presented on his year's activities as president of the passage enlargement section.
- The technical commission president presented their status.
- The medical commission vice president presented their status.
- The president of the diving section, Robert, presented the diving commission status.
- ECRA's position on teaching vs sharing knowledge was discussed.
- The annual report was approved with zero voting against it.
- Vladimir from Russia presented about their national cave rescue organization.
- Dinko proposed Russia as a collaborative member. The vote passed with no votes against it.
- The Czech Republic presented on their proposal to host the 2022 meeting. No one was against going to the Czech Republic for 2022. 29 Sep - 2 OCT are the proposed dates. An announcement will be made by February.
- Kurt presented on work to organize how we share files internally and externally
- The assembly thanked Martin for his work hosting the event.



One of the many Via Ferrata routes near the training site. All 4 of us did this one. Quite the amazing set up.

National Cave Rescue Commission
Instructor Development and Retention Committee Report
Winter Meeting 2022
DJ Walker

Recent Events/Activities

- Proposed a new Instructor Development Program that provides mentorship and guidance to new NCRC Instructors. The BORC accepted this new Policy and it is now implemented.
- Designed, purchased, and sent “Instructor Tributes” to all instructors recognizing them for their service and dedication. A BIG “THANK YOU” to Mel Eady-Pumplin for her efforts on this initiative.
- Continuous work with committee member Greg Moore to ensure our current instructors know their current certification status and are provided notification and assistance with keeping their Instructor certifications current.

Plans

- After recent guidance from the BORC, the committee is working to draft an updated IQ selection process. Committee member Andy Armstrong is leading this effort.
- With the cancelation of more seminars the committee will review and consider recommending to the BORC further Instructor recertification timeline extensions.

APPENDIX R – SCHOLARSHIP REPORT

To: NCRC BORC

From: Marty Reames, NCRC Scholarship Chair

Date: January 22nd, 2022

Subject: 2022 Report on NCRC Scholarship Program

This document is the 2022 annual report to the BORC on NCRC’s Scholarship program. The funds are in an endowment fund managed by the NSS. At the beginning of each fiscal year for the NSS, April 1st, the amount of money available for NCRC scholarships will be determined. This amount will vary from year to year based on market conditions and to ensure the principal of the fund is not touched.

Scholarships awarded

For the 2021-2022 NSS fiscal year, \$8,500 has been available for the NCRC Scholarship fund. Per the 2021 NCRC Scholarships BORC Report, half of the funds were allocated to the National training and half of the funds were available for Regional week-longs.

NSS Fiscal Year	National Training	Regional Week-longs	Total Scholarship Funds
2019-2020	\$1,125	\$375	\$1,500
2020-2021	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$6,000
2021-2022	\$4,250	\$4,250	\$8,500

The following table shows the scholarships awarded for the 2021-2022 NSS Fiscal year.

Training	Total Amount Available	Total Amount Awarded	# of Scholarships Awarded	Amount per scholarship
Nationals in New York	\$4,250	\$3,375	9	\$375
Regional in New York	\$1,500	\$375	1	\$375
Totals	\$5,750	\$3,750	10	

Due to the covid pandemic, the national training did not occur in 2021. Per a decision by the BORG, the scholarships awarded will be valid for any weeklong training through the end of 2022.

Only one regional training requested scholarships, Level 1 class in New York in June 2021. The scholarship committee unanimously agreed to put aside money for four scholarships; however, only one student applied and was thereby awarded a scholarship.

It is anticipated that more scholarships will be awarded in future years once the pandemic is over.

Scholarship judges for 2022

For the 2021 calendar year the following individuals served on the NCRC Scholarship committee:

Name	Region represented
Andy Armstrong	Rocky Mountain Region
Ron Davis	Western Region
Tony Smith	Eastern
Carrey Bull	South Central
Scott Stepenuck	Northeastern

Given the lack of training and scholarship applications needing review, I have asked this committee to serve a second year.

Scholarship plans for NSS 2022-2023 Fiscal Year

For the upcoming fiscal year, unless the BORG provides guidance otherwise, I recommend that 50% of the funds be allocated to scholarships for the National training in Virginia and 50% of the funds be reserved for Regional week-long trainings. Per the BORG guidance, voting members of the NCRC Scholarship committee will determine the specific amount of funds to be available for each Regional training requesting scholarships.

For the upcoming National training in Virginia, scholarship applications will be due by April 10th and the scholarship awardees will be determined and announced by mid May.

Scholarships for Regional events are available upon request. See attachment A for the request format. Please send the request as far in advance as possible to ensure there is enough time for the Scholarship committee to review the availability of funds, to provide sufficient time for students to apply, and to allow the Scholarship committee time to review the applications.

Feel free to contact me at any time with questions or comments.

Thank you,
Marty Reames
NCRC Scholarship Chair
NSS #53414
scholarships@ncrc.info
719-357-9261 (Google Voice)

Attachment A

NCRC Regional Training Request

Thank you for your interest to have NCRC Scholarships available for your upcoming regional training. The NCRC Scholarship program has funds available to provide scholarships for the annual Nationals training as well as for a handful of week-long regional training classes each year. To request scholarships for a regional training, email the following information to: scholarships@ncrc.info

Has the training been approved by the National Training Coordinator?

What are the dates of the training?

Where will the training be held?

Which level(s) will be offered?

What is the cost?

What is the maximum number of students for the training?

How many scholarships would you like to request?

How much money would you like to offer per scholarship (please note that scholarships can only go up to half of the cost of the student's registration)?

Once the information is sent, please allow a couple of weeks for the information to be disseminated among the NCRC Scholarship committee for discussion. Several factors need to be considered including the amount of money available for the fiscal year and other regional trainings.

Thanks,
Marty Reames
NCRC Scholarship Chair

APPENDIX S – DATABASE COORDINATOR

Database Coordinator Report for 2022

Database Coordinator: Greg D. Moore

Submitted: 2022-12-22

Overview

Now that it's been in place for a while, continue to spread word to any students who have recently taken a course that they can create an account using their NCRC ID (not their NSS ID) and email address. This allows them to review the information we have on them.

We continue to be plagued by missing data, especially from early courses. There's not much that can be done about this.

I've had an issue creating the report showing instructor status in a presentable format. The data is still available. However, due to extenuating circumstances (such as the extension granted to Puerto Rican instructors several years ago due to lack of testing/certification capabilities, and lack of opportunities last year) some instructors may show their status as expired, when all they need to do is contact the Training Coordinator and work out an extension/exception. If any of your local instructors mention they have not gotten the recent survey or feel left out, please have them let Roger and I know so we can look into it.

Classes Taught Last Year

The database shows 8 classes were taught last year: (up from 5 the previous year)

- 3 OCRs
- 2 ICEE
- 1 Regional
- 1 other
- 1 SPR

Individual Breakdown

- Did not obtain, need to find the query.

Student Breakdown

- Level 1 students – 23
- Level 2 students – 0 (due to no national)
- Level 3 Students – 0 (due to no national)
- IQ students – 3
- TOFE Students – 0
- OCR students - 44
- SPR students – 10
- ICEE students – 16
- Specialists - 20
- Staff – 5

Database contains

- 7718 individuals. Some go as far back as the first National taught (an increase of 69 from the previous year)
- 403 total courses taught (we have data for 359) – also note some courses have been recategorized as data has been corrected.)
 - 41 Nationals
 - 94 Regionals
 - 228 OCRs
 - 28 SPR
 - 13 “Other”
 - 4 ICEE

Class Totals Over Years

(Note this is total spots filled not distinct students)

- DNC – 46
- Level 1 – 2839
- Level 2 – 1060
- Level 3 – 512
- IQ – 192
- TOFE – 86
- OCR – 4456
- SPR – 354
- SPR-X – 12
- ICEE – 27
- Other - 39

Other Updates

have found workarounds.

Future plans

- Explore future commercial options
- Allow more self-service options
- Possible integration with RegFox
- Try to track down more incomplete data

Reminders

For all courses except National, please make sure to use spreadsheet available **on main NCRC website**. This is part of the required paperwork that should be submitted when a course is completed.

If you have questions about how to fill it in, please contact me. By using this, it becomes about a 15 minute process for me to be able to update the database.

Please do not add blank rows or additional columns. This can mess up the import. If you **MUST** add columns, add them to the far **RIGHT**.

NCRC # != NSS # when filling this out. If you don't know your NCRC number (and most don't) please leave it blank. Not all students have NSS Numbers, so we can't use that.

All BORC members should have a login, see me if you don't.

If you have course data that has not been submitted, please submit it to paperwork@ncrc.info.

THE NATIONAL CAVE RESCUE COMMISSION

INTERNATIONAL INSTRUCTOR EXCHANGE PROGRAM

BORC Status Report: 12/06/2021 (INITIAL)

Committee Members:

Mark Dickey	Chairperson	Appointed Volunteer
Eddy Cartaya	Member	Volunteer

Exchange Organizations:

Hungarian Caving Instructor Committee (HCIC)	Established 2015	5 Exchanges
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Committee and Program Activity/Actions:

11/12/2021: A flyer advertising the NCRC International Instructor Exchange Program was printed and provided to attendees of the European Cave Rescue Association's 2021 Meeting.

11/22/2021: The NCRC's 2022 Weeklong Seminar was announced to exchange organization.

11/30/2021: The Hungarian Caving Instructor Committee has announced the availability of the 2022 Technical 2 course, held May 7th-15th. The HCIC also announced the Hungarian Caver Competition is open to NCRC instructors to attend on May 21st-22nd.

Completed Instructor Exchanges:

No exchanges completed since last report.

Available Instructor Exchanges:

HCIC Technical 2 in Szögliget, Hungary May 7 – 15, 2022

D.J. Walker and Russel McCullar cannot attend due to a conflict
Gretchen Baker and Rene Ohms are evaluating availability

NCRC National Weeklong in Covington, Virginia July 15 – 23, 2022

Approved NCRC Exchange Instructor Waitlist:

D.J. Walker approved on 02/22/2019 (pending for the 2023 HCIC T2 course)

Russell (James) McCullar approved on 02/22/2019 (pending for the 2023 HCIC T2 course)

Gretchen Baker approved on 02/23/2019 (pending for the 2022 HCIC T2 course)

Rene Ohms approved on 02/23/2019 (pending for the 2022 HCIC T2 course)

Marty Reames approved on 03/14/2019 (pending for the 2024 HCIC T2 course)

Instructor Exchange Historical Report:

Name	Exchange	Course	Date	Report Submitted
Mark Dickey	1st Exchange	HCIC Technical 2	Sep 19-27, 2015	Yes
Dénes Nagy	2nd Exchange	NCRC Level 2/3	May 7-14, 2016	Yes
Andy Armstrong	3rd Exchange	HCIC Technical 2	Apr 6-15, 2018	Yes
Bonny Armstrong	3rd Exchange	HCIC Technical 2	Apr 6-15, 2018	
Carlos Laó	3rd Exchange	HCIC Technical 2	Apr 6-15, 2018	
András Hegedűs	4th Exchange	NCRC Level 2	May 12-19, 2018	Yes
Eszter Varga	4th Exchange	NCRC SPAR-X	May 12-19, 2018	
Mark Dickey	Independent	HCIC Technical 2	Apr 27-4, 2019	N/A
Jessica Van Ord	Independent	HCIC Technical 2	Apr 27-4, 2019	N/A
Tamás Németh	5th Exchange	NCRC Level 2	Apr 10-5, 2019	Yes
András Németh	5th Exchange	NCRC Level 2	Apr 10-5, 2019	

Appendix Index:

None

NCRC BUDGET FY 2022-2023

	National	Regional	Total
Income			
Merchandise Sales	5000	650	5650
Donations & Sponsorships	50	50	100
Interest Rec'd	0	5	5
Seminar Income	50000	60000	110000
Seminar Fees paid to National	13000	0	13000
Rescue Scholarship fund: NSS	0	0	9500
Total Income	68050	60705	138255
Expenses			
Dues & Licenses		50	50
Education & Training	1700	500	2200
Equipment	5000	15000	20000
Insurance (Certification fee) to NSS			5280
Merchandise Expense	2500	1000	3500
Merchant Processing	1600	1600	3200
Office Supplies & Expenses	1000	1500	2500
Postage & Mailings	50	50	100
Printing & Publications	2000	3000	5000
Professional Fees	500	200	700
Property Tax	0	50	50
Scholarships Granted	0	200	9200
	0	0	0
Seminar Expenses			0
Food & Facilities	40000	17000	57000
Supplies	500	500	1000
Transportation	1000	200	1200
Misc Seminar Expenses	1000	1500	2500
Seminar Fees paid to National	6000	6000	12000
Total Expenses	62850	48350	125480
Net Income/(loss)	5200	12355	12775