

NCRC Winter Meeting 2015 Minutes

Walker County 911 Center, Walker County, Georgia, USA, Earth.
Date February 21, 2015, 9:08AM EDT meeting called to order

Roll Call and Acknowledgment of Proxies. All present and proxies as noted.
Mel Eady-Pumplin for Rocky Mountain Region
Jessica Deli for South Western Region
Rick Speaect for Caribbean Region

National Coordinator makes a Motion to approve 2014 minutes as amended. Northeastern region seconds.

Officer Reports

Finance Report Appendix A
IT Report Appendix B

Coordinator Reports

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Regional Coordinator Reports

Caribbean Region Appendix G
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Pacific Northwest Region Appendix K
Rocky Mountain Region Appendix L
South Central Region Appendix M
Southeastern Region Appendix N
Southwestern Region Appendix O
Western Region Appendix P

2014 Seminar: The account has been closed, all paperwork has been turned in. A First Aid Kit is still missing and is hoped to be packed in the Cache.

2015 Seminar: Proceeding smoothly.

2016 Seminar: May 5 – 14 Camp Skyline, Alabama. Diane Cousineau is the site coordinator.

2017 Seminar Proposal: Cartaya proposes the Pacific Northwest. Bend Oregon at the college. Dates would need to be in June. Cartaya will have a presentation ready for the NCRC meeting at the summer NSS Convention.

Endowed Scholarship Report: \$1,000 is available to have three scholarships. No scholarship applications at this time. We need a policy for if someone does not take the scholarship, to be able to award it to other person. Roger will work on this.

Training Manual Report: Anmar will work with Tim White to come up with options to present to the BORC for publication.

Western Region moves that the published version of the third edition of the Manual of U.S. Cave Rescue Techniques becomes the official training manual for 2015 and 2016. Second by NorthEast Region.

Motion carries, unanimous.

IQ Class approval:

Western moves to approve Nate Skelton, Jon Schow, and Scott McCrea as NCRC instructors. Central seconds.

Motion carries, unanimous.

Acknowledgement of online BORC votes:

Pacific Northwest moves to acknowledge the online votes as recorded on CaveChat. Medical Seconds. No opposition. Eastern region abstains.

Motion carries.

Western moves: The NCRC will offer three scholarships of \$330 to the national seminar in Park City, KY. Application deadline is April 26, 2015. Recipients will be notified by May 26, 2015.

Motion Carries, unanimous.

Elections:

National Coordinator- Medical moves the NCRC recommend to the BOG that Anmar Mirza be reappointed as NCRC National Coordinator for another three year term. Diving Seconds.

Motion carries no opposition, National Abstains.

Central Region- Training officer moves the NCRC recommend to the BOG that Jessica Deli be reappointed as Central Region Coordinator. Medical Seconds.

Motion Carries, Central Region Abstains.

Eastern Region- Currently Jeff Good who is stepping down, running is Tony Smith. Medical moves the NCRC recommend that Tony Smith to the BOG be appointed as Eastern Region Coordinator North East Seconds.

Motion carries. Eastern Region Abstains

Medical Coordinator- Stephen Mosberg, MD (Closed session) Steven Mosberg, MD, recommended to the BOG to be reappointed as Medical Coordinator.

PNW Region- Training Coordinator moves the NCRC recommend to the BOG that Eduardo Cartaya be reappointed as PNW regional Coordinator. SouthEast Seconds

Motion Carries. No opposition. PNW Abstains.

Education Committee Member at Large- Rebecca Land Segrest was reappointed to the Education Committee with no opposition or abstention.

Education Committee Action Items- Punches

South Central moves to accept the level 1 ropes and devices as presented with the provision that the double wrap Prusik is removed. Medical Seconds .

Motion carries. PNW abstains and SW abstains

SouthCentral moves to accept the level one edge safety lesson plan with direction to use the term “horizontal life line” and follow up with editorial changes. Medical seconds. .

Motion carries. No opposition. SouthWest and Eastern abstain.

SouthCentral moves to accept level one water problems. Eastern Region seconds.

Motion Carries. No oppositions. SouthWest abstains.

Medical moves to add a bullet point for two tension rope systems to the level one rigging lecture and it be piloted in 2015 national seminar and cleaned up and brought back by 2016 winter meeting. Northeast Seconds.

Motion Carries No oppositions. SouthWest abstains.

SouthEast moves to add the Scarab and Scarab type devices as approved personal decent devices for classes. Western seconds. No opposition. SouthWest and Eastern abstain. Motion Carries.

Training Coordinator moves to add the square knot to the list of required knots in our curriculum. Central seconds. No opposition. SouthWest and PNW abstain. Motion Carries.

Old Business

Fixed Sites- Mentone is working well. We would like another seminar at Camp Golden Bell prior to making it a fixed site with buy in from the regional coordinator, possibly in 2018. Park Mammoth Resort at Park City Kentucky will be evaluated as a possible fixed site.

NSS Webinars- NCRC instructors have been participating in the NSS Webinar series and have been well received.

Document Retention Policy-

Western Region moves to keep all physical copies of liability waivers. Going forward from 2014 we will retain check-off sheets, student exams, instructor evaluations, instructor tests and contracts for five years as scanned documents. Each course coordinator or designee is responsible for scanning and emailing to the training coordinator or designee. All other paper documents can

be destroyed after seminar is completed. Physical copies of contracts must be kept until the contract has been fulfilled. Central Region Seconds.

Motion carries. Eastern and SouthWest abstain and Northeast opposes.

We will be moving forward using Dropbox for our document retention and storage.

Committee on document retention chaired by Greg Moore with Roger Mortimer and Rich Pumplin. Report back in 90 days.

Steve Hudson award –

Western region moves the NCRC requests the NSS establish the Steve Hudson Award for service to cave rescue. The award is to recognize a person or persons who have made contributions to cave rescue and/or the NCRC. One such award may be made each year. The Steve Hudson Cave Rescue Award recipient(s) shall be selected by the NCRC Board of Regional Coordinators from candidates submitted by the Steve Hudson Cave Rescue Awards committee, which shall be responsible for and limited to soliciting nominations and supporting materials for the board's consideration.

The name(s) of the recipient(s) shall be announced at the annual convention and the recipient(s) will receive an appropriate certificate signed by the NSS President and NCRC National Coordinator. The Chairman of the Awards Committee shall notify the recipients in writing of the award. Medical Seconds.

Motion carries, unanimous.

New Business

Medical Curriculum sharing- **SouthCentral moves** to allow to share the medical curriculum lesson plans as requested this one time with the Alberta /British Columbia Cave Rescue Service. SouthEast second.

Motion Carries 9 in favor, Southwest and National opposed, Central abstain.

ICAR committee on Cave Rescue- Roger approved to go forth and report back.

Cave Rescue Training Standards (do we want to develop and post recommended training standards for cave rescue teams? Committee: Cartaya will chair the committee. Recommended training standards for teams and individuals. Also on committee Anmar Mirza and Tim White. Tim will Contact Art Fortine. Update by 2015 seminar.

Cave Rescue Fact Sheets (similar to above, but would involve extracting information from your curriculum to make publically available to teams and grottos. Topics that have been most requested include knots, basic principles of cave search, communication recommendations for cave search.) Fact sheets for distribution to agencies posted on Web site. Anmar will work on that. Jess Deli and Leanne Hughes will help.

Announcements

ITRS Sponsorship- NCRC is once again a sponsor for ITRS. They are calling for papers and if an NCRC associated person wishes to present for NCRC contact the National Coordinator.

Rocky Mountain Region moves that the BORC approve the meeting minutes and that they are posted on the NCRC website within 90 days. Seconded by Caribbean Region.

Motion carries, National Coordinator abstains, no opposition.

Meeting adjourned at 4:33pm.

Appendix A

FINANCIAL REPORT JANUARY 30, 2015

Current bank balances:

National	\$57,775.85	
National Seminar	\$ 6,022.34	
Central Region	\$ 6,263.90	
Eastern Region	\$ 3,462.95	Jan 15 stmt not received
Northeast Region	\$ 2,993.70	
Pacific NW Region	\$ 2,838.27	
Southeast Region	\$ 845.02	
Southcentral Region	\$ 8,273.88	
Southwest Region	\$ 139.11	checking
Southwest Region	\$ 1,150.60	savings
Western Region	\$ 4,155.57	

Requests from Gary Barnes NSS Treasurer

1. Signature cards must be updated for all bank accounts. Gary Barnes and either Wm Shrewsbury or Geary Schindel must be on the accounts.
2. Requested 4 regions with little to no activity in their bank account to merge their funds with the National account. Anmar has advised the regions. Gary Barnes feels it is time consuming for the office staff at HQ and feels there are excessive bank charges being incurred needlessly.
 - a. I have requested reconsideration on behalf of the BORC.

- b. **IF IT HAPPENS:** Those funds will be available at your request through the NSS Bookkeeper Christy Starr. PNW has their funds in the National account. Talk to John or myself for any questions.

*If you would like to include me in your request I will follow it to make sure it is completed quickly!

- c. Gary Barnes is open to having another account through a National Bank (like Wells Fargo) to combine regions as another alternative.

2014/2015 Budget Review

Attached is a comparison between the budget and actual finances through 2/17/15.

1. We overspent on the Gear Trailer budget. We could evaluate increasing the amount but training equipment as a whole is not over budget. My thought is it could be how I chose to code the purchase.

I do not see any major issues with the budget and would suggest approving the current budget for next year. We may want to add a line item for Publishing fund. (See Additional Pending Items #2)

Additional pending items:

1. 5 Regions have pending fees to submit for training classes completed this year. ER x 2, NE, SE, Rocky lost check being reissued
2. Gary Barnes suggested we reduce the balance in the National Account.

*Suggested an account combined with one of NSS's investment accounts to get a higher rate of return.

*Other suggestions have been Scholarship fund, Purchase equipment or even a publishing fund for the new NCRC Cave Manual.

This request came last year and has not been addressed again.

Appendix B

IT Report for 2015

IT Manager: Greg D. Moore

Submitted: 2015-02-21

Data breakdown

10 classes were added to the database. (Two were from previous years.)

The database shows 8 classes were taught last year:

- 2 Regionals
- 1 National
- 2 SPR
- 3 OCRs

Individual Breakdown

- 193 non-instructors unique individuals participated in training
- 54 instructors participated in training

Student Breakdown

- 72 Level 1 students
- 35 Level 2 students
- 15 Level 3 students
- 3 IQ students
- 11 TOFE Students
- 48 OCR students
- 23 SPR students
- 11 Specialists
- 14 Staff
- 3 Guests
- 1 DNC – Did not complete

Note: numbers may not add up to 193 as some individuals may have taken a course more than once or may have served in a staff or specialist position in addition to being a student or other role in another class.

Database contains

- 6483 individuals. Some go as far back as the first National taught (an increase of 228 from the previous year)
- 326 total courses taught (we have data for 279)
 - 36 Nationals
 - 84 Regionals
 - 190 OCRs
 - 5 SPR
 - 11 "Other"

Other Updates

Updated Instructor list on website

New website is launched. We're ironing out bugs. Please report errors or old documents that didn't get updated correctly.

Working on getting the Curriculum site up and integrated in the next 2 weeks.

Integrate new site with social media (links to Facebook and the like)

Future plans

- Explore future commercial options
- Add Radius Search to web page
- Allow more self-service options
- Possible integration with RegOnline
- 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.

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

If you have course data that has not been submitted, please talk to me.

Appendix C

Paid the bills.

Worked with the media requests for information.

Filed the trice annual BOG reports.

Worked with the NSS treasurer regarding regional accounts.

Did substantial amount of work on the Manual.

Chaired the meetings.

Worked with the Education Committee on curriculum.

Appendix D

Training Coordinator Report. Feb 2015

- Facilitated ongoing efforts to fine-tune curriculum, with emphasis on Levels 1 and 2.
- Received and approved requests for regional training.
- Appointed Gaylene Speaect to serve as training secretary. I now have her track all seminars and follow up with their hosts to ensure documentation is completed.
- Appointed Rick Speaect to serve as curriculum coordinator. He is working to organize our curriculum to ensure most current versions are provided to instructors.
- Contributed to the revision of the NCRC textbook. Wrote several chapters. Provided technical review on others.
- Received requests for materials SAR and/or cave rescue teams could use to help them be better prepared for cave rescue incidents. See items under new business.
- Working with Diane Cousineau to organize the 2016 national seminar at Camp Skyline in Mentone AL. Site has been reserved for May 5-14, 2016.

Education Committee Report. Feb 2015

- Cleaned up all schedules. They now have a consistent format and are synchronized across levels.
- Adopted a standard format for lesson plans. Working to transfer content to the new template.
- Reviewed L1 and L2 curriculum. Made editorial corrections to PPTs to attain consistency with LPs.

- Revised, balloted and distributed to BORC modules on Ropes and Devices, and Edge (formerly SRT).
- Revised L1 Water Problems and L1 Rigging, but was unable to complete LP revisions in time to distribute to BORC. Request BORC direction on next steps (review at this meeting, or defer to later).
- Considering options for content management. Jeff Polk set up a system in GIT – a software system for tracking changes in code or text. While it has many useful features, we have not been able to make it track changes to PPTs in a way that would allow us to open prior versions as files. Rick has investigated DropBox business version as option. Provides excellent backup and version saving options. Easy to use. Cost for non-profit is \$500 per year. Other options may be available, but more time needed to research. Request funding to use DropBox business version until we can find a less expensive alternative.

John Punches
NCRC Training Coordinator

Appendix E

Report to the Board of Regional Coordinators, NCRC, February, 2015

Since the last BORC meeting:

I have:

1. Attended the National Seminar in Divide, CO.
2. Participated in Education Committee phone conferences as scheduling allowed.
3. Attended the Education Committee work Weekend in November.

Regarding the Seminar, there were surprisingly few effects related to altitude that were reported. No major injuries were reported. One NCRC First Aid Kit is still M.I.A.

In the future, the Medical Coordinator will need to:

1. Continue to update and refine all Medical lectures. There have been suggestions for revisions of Medical/First Aid curriculum, and suggested changes will continue to be reviewed.
2. Review and update as needed the Medical Consideration chapters in the text
3. Continue to monitor Patient Packaging techniques, learning objectives and testing criteria; work on Level 2 Packaging "advanced" techniques.
4. Assist and evaluate the new Medical elective.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Mosberg

Appendix F

The calldown list on the Cavechat site has been updated. No fatalities in 2014. First time since the mid 90s.

Appendix G

February 16, 2015

San Juan, Puerto Rico

Dear BORG:

RE: Caribbean Region, Winter Meeting Report.

Dear friends, as follows is the Caribbean Region Report, for 2014:

1. Caribbean Region Proxy:

a. I (Roberto Bull Miranda) wont be able to attend the winter meeting this year.

b. Because of this, I am appointing Rick Speaect as my proxy.

2. 2014 Regional Seminar:

a. Our weeklong seminar was held on Ciales PR from the 4th to the 11th of October. As follows is the seminar report.

b. Total of students, 20

i. 13 Level 1

1. 12 students passed.

ii. 7 Level II

1. All students passed.

c. Total of paying students 18, 2 students were waived by the region.

d. Lead Instructor, Roberto "Bull" Miranda

e. Course Coordinator, Roberto "Bull" Miranda

f. Level I, Level Leader Cristobal Colon

i. 13 students

1. 12 students passed

2

g. Level II, Level Leader Carlos Ruiz

i. 7 students

1. All student passed.

h. Incidents

i. Medical None

ii. Injuries None

i. Paperwork

i. Level I Submitted

ii. Level II Submitted

iii. Instructors Submitted

j. Financial Report

i. Money Received \$10,706 From:

1. 18 paying students

2. Shirts sales

3. Book Sales

ii. Expenses

1. 9,638.12. A detail explanation of the expenses was submitted with all the paperwork to the pertinent party.
2. Earnings
 - a. 10,706.00-9,638.12=\$1067.88
 - b. A total of \$32.00 Dollars is owed to the NCRC. A check was sent to the Finance Officer. It should be received shortly.
2. Future plans:
 - a. Puerto Rico
 - i. No regional seminar to be held on PR is on the horizon, at least no for 2014
 - ii. It is possible that a few OCR's will be performed. However no date is set. If they go trough proper requests will be sent.
 - b. Latin America
 - i. Belize:
 1. We are still talking with the people in Belize. They couldn't send anybody to our regional in 2014. The communication with them hasn't been good. They were requesting that I went there to teach them. Which to me created a conflict of interest.
 2. We are still trying to see if it's feasible for the region.
 - ii. Costa Rica and Colombia, booths mentions interest to have seminars performed on their countries. However at this moment there is not much to say regarding this matter.
3. Accidents on the region.
 - a. No caving accidents reported to the NCRC. However a fisherman drowned on Rio Tanama, because of a flash flood.
4. Region Finances
 - a. Bank Account #XXXXX6499, on Doral Bank was open under the name NCRC Caribbean.
 - b. It is open as non-profit, an EIN (Employer Id Number) was requested for it. EIN XXXXXXXXXXXX
 - c. Also it was required to be registered under the PR Department of State, Registration Number XXXXXX
 - d. All these information its accessible if needed by the BORCIf there is any doubt please contact me.
Thanks for the opportunity to serve!
Roberto Miranda, Coordinador NCRC

Appendix H

Date of Report: January 25, 2015

Trainings

Past Orientation to Cave Rescue
None

Future Orientation to Cave Rescue
April 11/12, 2015: Bloomington, IN
May 16/17, 2015: Camdenton, MO

Date TBD: Eminence, MO
Date TBD: Southern Illinois

Rescues

December 2014: called to assist in a hunting dog that had fallen into an abandoned mine in SE Kentucky. Dog was stuck for approx. 5 days before Central Region Coordinator was notified by South Central Coordinator. Put a call in to Pine Hill Grotto who undertook the task Christmas Eve. Dog and rescuers made it out safely in the early morning of Christmas Day.

January 3, 2015: Was notified of overdue party in Buckner Cave. National Coordinator, Central Region Coordinator, Ed Board Member arrived on scene along with local fire, sheriff, IDNR and state police on the way. Party was coming out of the crawl way as National and Central Region Coordinators arrived in entrance. Party had become turned around in the Air Force Room. No injuries/medical issues.

Plans / Work in Progress

2015 National Cave Rescue Operations and Management Seminar
Park Mammoth Resort; Edmonson County, Kentucky
July 24 – August 1, 2015

Formalized a new Central Region call-out list

Problems

None

Other

None

Appendix I

Eastern Region Coordinator Report

- Tony Smith is my proxy since I am unable to attend the Winter BORC Meeting.
- Continuing work on Cave Rescue Standards for Virginia Search & Rescue Council (VASARCO).
- Continuing to work on further development of the new Mitchie Phones.
- Continuing to work with Germany Valley Karst Survey (GVKS) on Action Plan for Cave Rescue.
- Completed ER Staff Fall Meeting during OTR on Sunday August 31, 2014 at the OTR site.

- Completed an OCR in March, 2014 with 35 students. Paperwork sent to Gaylene.
- Completed an OCR in October, 2014 with 10 students. Paperwork sent to Gaylene.
- Contacted about possible Level 1 Class in Blacksburg, VA.
- Contacted about possible OCR Class for Butler Cave Conservation Society (BCCS) in Bath County, VA.
- Contacted about possible OCR Class in the Front Royal VA, Fredrick, MD area.
- Working with Blacksburg Rescue Squad with their newly formed Cave Rescue Team.
- Due to my focus on a new business endeavor in addition to my full time job, I have decided not seek another term as the Eastern Region Coordinator. I have enjoyed serving on the BORC for many years and want to thank everyone for their help, support and friendship. Tony Smith has expressed interest in the position and has submitted his resume. I highly recommend Tony and will support him in any way possible within the region.

Appendix J

Northeast Region NCRC

Winter 2015 Regional Report

February 20, 2015

Rescues – No known rescues in the area.

Training Held – Orientation to Cave Rescue Workshop September 27th-28th
22 students, 1 DNC

About ½ were college outing club students and 2 were from local hospital (Albany Medical Center).

Plans – Plan on continuing at least one OCR a year, next one likely to be in Vermont (tend to alternate NY/VT).

Looking into sites for next NY Week-long as part of our goal of a 2nd fixed site. Have a second site in mind. So far they think they can match costs with the high school. Could do late June. Christian camp so also in theory no alcohol but may be more relaxed than the high school.

Appendix K

Pacific Northwest Regional Coordinator Report for BORC Meeting February 21 2015

- Coordinated and facilitated a mock cave rescue at Stookey Ranch Cave in Central Oregon August 2 2015 with 7 participating agencies. 3 patients. Mock started with a patient packaging review by John Panches.

- As part of Deschutes County cave rescue section, and the annual highline field problem requirement for MRA, ran a two highline extrication problem out of Arnold Ice Cave in October 2015.
- Taught 3 cave rescue classes at the Pacific Northwest SARCON in Portland. Two courses were ICS for cave rescue, and included an elaborate table top exercise with field phones leaving the building to remote sites in the “cave.” 3rd course was on packaging Ferno and rigging for pike and pivot, as well as improvised rescue lower and raise systems.
- Conducted extensive pre-plan meeting at the request of Clackamas County, Oregon, to design a response plan for the Sandy Glacier Caves on Mt Hood, following two surface rescues at the caves.
- Retook NCRC Level 3 at Camp Golden, CO in May 2015.
- Currently serving on the Portland Mountain Rescue fumarole cave rescue committee. This is a subsection of PMR that has been assigned the task of developing a protocol for extricating climbers who fall into the active fumarole caves on the south side of Mt Hood. Part of plan is research and comparison of various volcanic gas meters. Purchasing two meters for PMR. Protocol scheduled to be implemented April 2015.
- Submitted budget request to Deschutes County Sheriff’s Office for 3 slots at the 2015 NCRC national seminar in Kentucky (for members of the Deschutes cave rescue section). 2 slots approved thus far. 1 more pending.
- Mapped two new glacier caves in the crater of Mt St Helens and submitted to Volcano Rescue Team. Mapping project was done in conjunction with VRT, PMR, and Deschutes MRU to facilitate rescue operations for future incidents.

Upcoming Projects:

- Proposing 2017 NCRC national seminar be hosted in PNW region.
- Coordinating a massive expedition to map the summit cave systems on Mt Rainier. This map will be produced in a cave SAR edition and will accompany a cave rescue pre-plan for the caves. Plan / documents to be submitted to National Park Service, Seattle Mountain Rescue, and MRA. John Panches will be coordinating as well.
- Attending IQ course at 2015 NCRC National Seminar.

Appendix L

Rocky Mountain Region Report

Submitted by Marc Ohms
 Rocky Mt. Region Coordinator
 Proxy- Mel Eady-Pumplin
 Winter 2015

Training

Obviously the big event was the National Seminar in Colorado.

Marc Ohms held an OCR at Craters of the Moon National Monument in Idaho this past summer. A big thanks to Andy and Bonny Armstrong, Mel Eady-Pumplin, and Rich Pumplin for coming out to teach! The class was well received and I made great contacts in the region.

Andy Armstrong held a SPAR class in Utah in September for 20 students from Utah, Wyoming, and South Dakota.

Upcoming training

Andy Armstrong is planning to host a SPAR class in Utah this fall (probably Sept)

Marc is planning to host a level 1 in South Dakota in the fall.(probably Sept or Oct)

Rescues

This summer I got a call for an overdue party in Great X Cave in WY, but luckily it turned out to be a misunderstanding of what time the team was due out. Bob Montgomery has a copy of my draft SAR plan for the cave, but I have not heard back from him. I have many questions regarding permitting and access that I need him to address so that I can finish the plan. The plan has been in this limbo state for several years now.

Appendix M

National Cave Rescue Commission South-Central Regional Report Winter Meeting 2015

DJ Walker

Recent Events/Activities

- We hosted a very successful Regional Seminar January 14-24, 2015. We had 23 Level 1 students and 9 Level 2 students. We had students, instructors and staff from all over the US attended. There was a large turnout of cavers (40-50%) come as students.
- The Instructor Recertification Test was offered at the February Regional Seminar. 8 Instructors took the exam.
- We worked with the NSS Secretary-Treasurer to get the appropriate NSS officers on the signature card of the regions NSS account.
- We purchased several items for the region, including: replacement rope, Sked with inflation flotation system, Big Shot, etc.
- The region supported a study titled "Slow Pull Test of Progress Capture Devices". The researchers presented their findings at the 2014 International Technical Rescue Symposium and won "Best New Research".

Appendix N

None Received

Appendix O

NCRC Southwestern Region Report for 2014 Winter Meeting

Over this last year, a majority of efforts were put into having a Level 1 regional seminar in the Southwestern Region. The coordination efforts like site location, room and board, cave access, and cliff location were accomplished by Tom Bemis. Instructors availability, funds were secured, establishment of agreements and advertising was conducted by myself. The Regional seminar had zero enrollments by the deadline date, even after verbal confirmation by USPS and BLM personnel, which caused the cancellation of the seminar.

There were two OCR in the Southwestern Region which was reported planned in the 2013 report. Feb 23, 2013 in Carlsbad, NM and Mar 31, 2013 in Tucson, AZ. Both were successful.

Due to the success of the two OCRs, the Southwestern Region was once again able to provide a scholarship to a caver in the Southwestern Region for the 2014 National Seminar.

Rescues in Region
None to report

Respectfully submitted by Bob Rodgers, Southwestern Regional Coordinator

Appendix P

Western Region Report
February 2015

Rescues: An older caver who has been digging on his property for 40+ years did not make it out of his cave. His family called EMS. The local fire department removed him and took him to the local hospital. It appears he had a medical event.

Trainings: We did an OCR at Sequoia National Park in April 2014. The classroom and litter movement portions went very well but two feet of snow closed the road to our mock cave. We adapted. Bill Frantz did a cave talk for Santa Cruz County SAR.

I continued work on the NCRC book. I have administered the NCRC scholarship program. I created a list of trained cavers and sent to interested teams and to the state Office of Emergency Services. I taught a class on caving and cave rescue for a wilderness medicine medical student

elective. I ran a scenario that was set in a "cave" for NPS Park Medic students in January. Time White and I have worked on a Steve Hudson award.

We are closing our bank account and moving it in with the NSS, probably. Amanda Mortimer will take on the treasurer function for the Region.

Plans: OCR in April at Great Basin. Small Party in June at Great Basin. Another Small Party in San Mateo County this year? I will be attending the national seminar in Kentucky.

No problems.