



On the Web at: [NCRC.info](http://NCRC.info)

THE  
NATIONAL CAVE RESCUE COMMISSION  
of the  
National Speleological Society, Inc.  
presents a  
**Cave Rescue  
Operations and Management Seminar**

**May 19-26, 2012**

at  
Camp Skyline  
Mentone, Alabama

### About the Seminar

This seminar consists of extensive classroom instruction and fieldwork in all phases of cave rescue including underground environment, vertical rescue, hauling systems, extrication techniques, medical management, communication systems, and the organization and management of cave rescue operations. Basic and advanced course material is presented for students who typically include cavers, emergency services personnel, and emergency managers.

The seminar provides approximately 100 hours of instruction over eight days. Its classes are physically strenuous and participants must be in good physical health. Students should be prepared to work in difficult situations, both above and below ground.

NCRC requires participants in its seminars to possess certain skills as prerequisites. Each student must demonstrate his or her ability to ascend (on rope), change over, rappel part way down, tie off their descender, then rappel safely to the ground as part of initial check-in skills. Students must also demonstrate proficiency with the basic knots and hitches used in cave rescue. Students in Levels 2 and 3 will additionally be required to demonstrate retention of key skills learned in previous levels as a prerequisite for participation in the next level. Those lacking the necessary skills will have the option to withdraw from the course or repeat a previous level. Information on specific prerequisites will be provided upon registration, or may be found on the NCRC website. [www.NCRC.info](http://www.NCRC.info)

Participants must review and sign a liability waiver during on-site registration. (Persons under the age of 18 may be permitted to participate in the course, but must contact the registrar **prior to registration** concerning specific rules and restrictions.)

### Courses Offered

**LEVEL 1** teaches current cave rescue and emergency management techniques, and provides instruction in cave environment, medical considerations, basic rope work, litter rigging and transport, and the Incident Command System (ICS). It is specifically designed to meet the various needs of agency personnel with little or no cave-related experience, and cavers with little or no rescue or medical experience. Level 1 prepares students to function as cave rescue task force members.

**LEVEL 2** prepares students to function as cave rescue task force leaders. **Participants in Level 2 must have successfully completed an NCRC Level 1 course within the past four years, and must demonstrate retention of key Level 1 exit skills.** Students are taught more advanced techniques in medical management, vertical and horizontal rescue, team leadership, and incident management. The course is heavily oriented toward vertical rescue in the cave environment.

**TOFE** Team Operations and Field Exercises is a weeklong course of hands-on field experience through a variety of rescue scenarios in cave and cliff environments. Emphasizing the core skill set developed in Levels 1 & 2, this course provides cave rescuers an opportunity to acquire more practical problem-solving experience. Successful completion of NCRC Level 2 or 3 within the past four years is a prerequisite.

**Caving and Wilderness First Aid** is an elective level that students can choose to take to increase their knowledge of the medical aspects of cave rescue. This level includes a two day Wilderness First Aid course, a half day Psychological First Aid course, and various other medical topics applicable to cave rescue. The rest of the week will be a review of level two rescue techniques with a heavy emphasis on the medical care of the patient during each evolution. You will be with the rest of the group for the walkthrough and the mock. You must have passed level 2 to be eligible for this course. If you have taken level 2 since 2000, you will renew your eligibility to take level 3. There is an additional registration fee for certification and the special text book.

**LEVEL 3** is designed to challenge and fine-tune students' technical and management skills. **Participants in Level 3 must have successfully completed an NCRC Level 2 course within the past four years, and will be expected to demonstrate retention of their skills as a condition of participation.** Most sessions will be practical field exercises focused on crack and crevice rescue, technical rigging, water problems, and difficult litter handling situations - with an emphasis on small group scenarios and innovation. Throughout the week student teams will be presented with a variety of cave rescue problems and be expected to solve them with the

assistance and supervision of the instructors. **Level 3 enrollment may be limited – CONTACT THE REGISTRAR TO ENSURE SPACE IS AVAILABLE BEFORE YOU REGISTER.**

**VERTICAL SYSTEM WORKSHOP (Optional):** This is your opportunity to practice personal single rope technique (SRT) skills prior to entry testing, and to prepare yourself for a more productive NCRC experience. Build and adjust a safe, functional climbing system; fit and fine-tune your existing system; work on ascending techniques; and practice changeovers. ***This optional session is open to all registered students. It will be held the evening of Friday, May 18, from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. Any student not absolutely confident in their personal SRT skills should plan to participate in this workshop.***

## Personal Equipment Requirements

A more detailed list of specific required personal equipment will be available on the NCRC website and sent to all registered students. The following will give you an idea of what is needed. See the separate list for detailed specifications.

### CLIMBING HELMET

### THREE SOURCES OF LIGHT

**BOOTS** Sturdy, rubber soled

### RUGGED CLOTHING (see clothing note below)

**GLOVES** Must have leather palms and full fingers

### SIX LOCKING CARABINERS

### DESCENT DEVICE

All personal equipment must be in safe, usable condition and marked to identify the owner. Equipment deemed unsafe or unacceptable during check-in must be replaced prior to the student's continued participation in the course.

### SEWN SEAT HARNESS

### ROPE ASCENDING SYSTEM

2 – 20 FT PIECES OF 1-INCH TUBULAR WEBBING

### SMALL, HEAVY-DUTY PACK

**WATER BOTTLES** Two quarts recommended

**SMALL, PERSONAL FIRST AID KIT** Optional

### WET SUIT & PERSONAL FLOTATION DEVICE

## Arrival & Check-in

All students must arrive prior to the start of the seminar at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 19, 2012. On-site registration will be open on Friday evening and Saturday morning (details will be provided upon registration).

## Getting to the Seminar

Mentone is located in the northeast corner of Alabama on top of Lookout Mountain. The camp is located at 4888 Alabama Hwy 117, Mentone, Alabama 35984. The nearest major city is Chattanooga, Tennessee which is about a 45 minute drive. Both Atlanta and Birmingham are about 2 hours away. Chattanooga Metropolitan Airport is served by American Eagle, US Airways, Allegiant Air, Continental Airlines and Delta. Maps and traveling directions are posted on the NCRC website. [www.ncrc.info](http://www.ncrc.info)

## Lodging and Meal Plan

Cabin with bunk style lodging and a meal plan are included in the seminar registration fee. Dorm room and cabins with bunk beds and ample showers and toilets are provided on site. The meal plan will feature three hearty meals per day, beginning with breakfast on Saturday the 19th and concluding with breakfast on Saturday the 26th. Spouses and/or other traveling companions may purchase the lodging/meal plan separately. If you have special dietary needs (vegetarian, diabetic, etc.) please note these on your registration form. Bring your own sheets or sleeping bag, towel and bathing supplies.

## Camping and Hotels

NO Camping will be allowed on site. It is strongly recommended that everyone stay in the dorms and cabins. There are plenty of rooms and no price reductions for not staying on site. Persons who prefer a motel or other off site accommodations must make their own arrangements.

## Environment/Area/Caves/Clothing

Daily high temperatures can be expected to average around 74° F on the mountain with nighttime lows averaging near 48° F. Mentone gets an average of 4.7 inches of rain in both April and May. Expect occasional showers. Relative humidity will be 50 to 80 percent. Elevations in the area range from 600 to 1800 feet above sea level. Be prepared to hike to caves through vegetated areas with poison-ivy and mosquitoes. Long pants, short sleeve shirts, hats, sunscreen, bug repellent, sturdy boots, and plenty of water are recommended for comfort and safety during outdoor activities.

Caves are frequently muddy, with cave temperatures average 58 degrees Fahrenheit. Rugged clothing (caving coveralls or caving pants), kneepads, sturdy boots, and leather gloves are recommended.

## NSS Membership Requirement

All students must either be **current members** of the National Speleological Society (join online at [www.caves.org](http://www.caves.org)), or pay the Non-NSS fee in addition to their registration fees.

**If you have questions about the seminar or need more information please contact:**

Steve Hudson, Site Coordinator

Phone: 706-764-2296 evenings

e-mail: [2012seminar@ncrc.info](mailto:2012seminar@ncrc.info)

NCRC SEMINAR 2012 REGISTRATION – You must register ON LINE as it is much easier to capture the required information and pass it on to our staff via our online registration service. Even if paying by check, register online and mail your check as directed below. If you are paying by credit card online, there is no need to return this form.

**Early Bird Discount until September 30, 2011 – Save \$50.00!**

Go to [WWW.NCRC.Info](http://WWW.NCRC.Info) and select upcoming training, then 2012 National, then register.

***If you are not 18 years old you must contact the registrar before registering.***

REGISTRATION FEES for: \_\_\_\_\_

First Name Middle Name Last Name

<b>REGISTRATION (includes meals and lodging)</b>	<b>\$599.00</b>	_____
<b>Manual of US Cave Rescue Techniques, 2008 edition or later – Required text for class, bring your own or order one here.</b>		
<b>Price in advance is \$20.00. Price at Seminar is:</b>	<b>\$40.00</b>	_____
<b>NON-NSS FEE (required for students not currently members of Nat. Speleological Society)</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>	_____
<b>Caving and Wilderness First Aid certification fee and text</b>	<b>\$30.00</b>	_____
<b>OPTIONAL Linens provided (sheets, pillow, towel, face cloth) One set for week</b>	<b>\$ 30.00</b>	_____
<b>LATE REGISTRATION FEE (if check is postmarked after April 22, 2012)</b>	<b>\$ 50.00</b>	_____
<b>EXTRA MEAL &amp; LODGING PLAN (non-students) Number of Extra Plans _____</b>	<b>\$330.00/ea</b>	_____
<b>SEMINAR T-SHIRT (Must be pre-ordered – note quantity and size below)</b>	<b>\$ 15.00/ea</b>	_____
____ Small    ____ Medium    ____ Large    ____ X-Large    ____ XX-Large ( <b>add \$2.00 per XXL shirt</b> )		
<b>TOTAL REGISTRATION &amp; FEES ENCLOSED</b>	<b>\$</b>	_____

Mail Registration Fees To:

**NCRC SEMINAR 2012**  
 C/O Jane Morgan  
 104 W. Indiana Street, Apt. A  
 La Fayette, GA 30728

**Make checks for TOTAL (above) payable to: NCRC Seminar 2012**  
 No personal checks accepted after April 22, 2012.

To pay with credit card, please use our online registration at: <https://www.regonline.com/ncrc2012>

25% cancellation fee after April 22, 2012.  
**No refunds after May 1, 2012.**



***On the Web at: [NCRC.info](http://NCRC.info)***

*The*  
**NATIONAL CAVE RESCUE COMMISSION**  
*of the*  
National Speleological Society, Inc.  
*Presents a*  
**Cave Rescue**  
**Operations and Management Seminar**

**May 19-26, 2012**

*at*  
*Camp Skyline*  
*Mentone, Alabama*

**NCRC SEMINAR 2012**  
c/o Jane Morgan  
104 W. Indiana Street, Apt. A  
La Fayette, GA 30728