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CONGRESS 2014
Lake Tahoe • USA





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Dieter Portmann, August 2005

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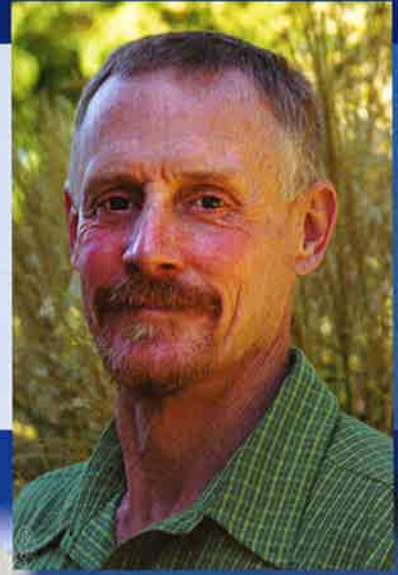




Dave CLARKE

President

Mountain Rescue Association



MRA President's Welcome Message for ICAR CISA Congress 2014

On behalf of the members of the Mountain Rescue Association (MRA), it is my honor and privilege to welcome you to the United States for this year's ICAR CISA Congress. The MRA was founded on the principle that sharing knowledge will make all rescue teams better. For years, our delegates to ICAR CISA have been the link for bringing the knowledge from the world-wide alpine rescue community back to North America. To have the opportunity to host the Congress here at Lake Tahoe and gather rescuers from around the world for this exchange is truly exciting.

The Douglas County Sheriff's Search and Rescue Team, the local MRA team, has been hard at work to make this event both memorable and educational. I hope that you'll enjoy your time here and return home with a wealth of information to share with your team.

Sincerely,

Dave Clarke

Dave Clarke

President of Mountain Rescue Association



Gerold Biner

President
ICAR



Lake Tahoe, USA for the first time in 66 years! In the name of the board of ICAR Directors, I would like to welcome you to Lake Tahoe, Nevada.

For the first time in its 66-year history, the International Commission for Alpine Rescue (ICAR) is coming to the USA for its annual congress. Hosted by the US Mountain Rescue Association!

Older delegates may remember that ICAR had plans 15 years ago to come to the USA for the annual congress. Circumstances prevented this first ICAR congress in America. Maybe we did not choose the right Route 66 at that time! Nevertheless, right now, we are here and we are very happy and proud to be a guest of one of the most important members of ICAR, the US Mountain Rescue Association.

As a president of ICAR, I do have mixed feelings. The sad feeling is this congress will be my last one at ICAR! I will miss all the friends I have met during the last 15 years as a delegate, as well as a member of the board and finally as a president. I was learning constantly and could share so many experiences with great human beings and professionals with extremely high social and technical competencies!

The positive feeling is that together with the board, we realized a few major changes in the last 4 years:

- Creating "ICAR Office" as the best platform to improve our recognition and act more professional.
- The board is international and the language inside the board is English. This change is also rising the value of our members outside Europe.
- For the first time in our 66-year history, we are, together with all the worldwide leaders in mountain rescue, here at Lake Tahoe, in the United States of America!

My successor will be confronted with the same problems and will need support from the delegates, members, sponsors and manufacturers to protect ICAR and the global mountain rescue system.

It seems that with our organization's secretaries, I had no luck! Last year I welcomed Sanja in the brochure. At Krinica, Sanja had already left our office and Pascal replaced her. This year I welcome Tom Spycher as a new secretary of ICAR. (By the way, I forced him to sign a 50-year contract!)

Like every year, the preconference day will treat interesting topics. The presidents of the different commissions made a perfect program. I hope that you can participate and give your thoughts and inputs to the different posts.

Honor to whom honor is due! The preparation and the organization of this event was first class and the whole team of Dan Hourihan should accept our ungrudging respects.

Now it's time to say good bye, but first it's time to say thank you very much for your tremendous support and friendship.

Take care and enjoy the show!



Dominique LÉTANG
President
Avalanche Commission



It will be an emotional moment for me to be back in Lake Tahoe.

The last time I was there for ISSW in 2010, the ISSW board took the final decision to give me, as director of the French Avalanche Association (ANENA), the task and trust to organize ISSW 2013 in France, which turned out to be a great success.

In our commission, we will set the common focus on multiple burial accidents and look into the various new technologies and strategies to make rescue more efficient in those particularly challenging situations.

This is also an opportunity to share our experience, in particular with our American friends. I am convinced that the workshops, presentations and the personal exchange of experience will be interesting and inspiring!

I wish all of you, commission members, organizers, developers and manufacturers, a successful congress.



Fidel ELSENSOHN, MD

President
ICAR MEDCOM



Dear colleagues and friends, dear delegates!

For the first time ICAR meets in North America. We are thankful to MRA for the kind invitation and we are confident that this meeting will be outstanding. The venue located in the beautiful surrounding of Lake Tahoe and Heavenly Valley offers a great variety of possible activities.

ICAR MEDCOM will be co-organizing the pre-conference workshop with the main topic: "Multi-casualty incidents in the mountains", which is also the main issue of this conference. Our goal is to implement medical aspects in the rescue strategy in these situations in order to provide support to those victims with the highest chance of survival.

ICAR MEDCOM consists of more than 50 experts (doctors and paramedics) from all continents, working in the fields of mountain emergency medicine.

The main topics of the discussions during the meeting will focus on new papers. We are confident to finish our papers on First Aid kits for Alpinists, Rescuers and Physicians in Mountain Rescue and the Avalanche rescue checklist.

Beside the work on new recommendations, the meeting additionally offers the chance of sharing experience and information about special situations and findings in Mountain Emergency Medicine among the colleagues.

At the conference on Thursday morning members of our commission will present the most interesting parts of their work to the entire audience of ICAR.

The goal of ICAR MEDCOM, the medical commission of ICAR, is establishing recommendations and guidelines to give advice to all members of rescue organizations dealing with injured and ill people in the mountains. All papers are published in highly recognized peer reviewed medical journals to reach the highest level of acceptance in mountain emergency medicine.

Our recommendations cover a great variety of problems which are commonly faced by rescuers as well as by emergency physicians called to accidents in the mountains. It is essential, that these recommendations are translated and adapted to the local situation and national regulations to provide best support to all who need them.

We look forward to meeting you in Lake Tahoe for a successful ICAR congress.



Patrick FAUCHÈRE
President
Air Rescue Commission



USA HERE WE COME!

Dear members of the Air Rescue Commission, dear sponsors, exhibitors and manufacturers, dear guests and dear friends of the ICAR:

For the first time in its 66 year history, the International Commission for Alpine Rescue will be holding its annual Congress on the North American Continent.

Together with US Mountain Rescue Association we are looking forward meeting you and sharing with you some time during our conference.

The name of ICAR and the work produced by its commissions has been during years promoted and supported by the MRA and now for the first time we will be on site to present it. This is putting some pressure on our shoulders to demonstrate the core values of our commission but I have no doubt that our annual conference will be a success and I encourage you all to participate and share your experiences.

Our challenges: trying to find common solutions to different operations, different types of helicopters but with one common goal: helping people in need and guaranteeing the safety of our rescuers.

Our main topic: Multiple-Casualty incidents in mountain rescue and the focus of this year's pre-conference field workshops are avalanche rescue topics.

The passion that livens up the rescuers, the devotion and desire to carry out rescues are what drives the members of ICAR.

Thank you all for your commitment, for your participation and I wish you a fruitful conference here in Lake Tahoe.

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Gebhard BARBISCH

*President
Terrestrial Rescue Commission*



Dear Members of the Terrestrial Rescue Commission, dear Friends of the ICAR and much appreciated Exhibitors!

The MRA has been working hard for more than a year now to prepare to all of us the best possible environment for our convention. It is up to us to make the meeting successful by intensive cooperation and the willingness to work together.

This year's practical session is organized and supervised by the Avalanche Rescue Commission.

The offered themes are important for us and I am convinced that we can use much of it for the benefit of the victims. The main topic this year is "multi-casualty accidents." Every one of us knows this situation in avalanche and other incidents and they are always a challenge for rescuers.

Let us learn from each other and take some new ideas back home, where the gained know-how shall be made available to other rescuers. With great interest we look forward to your reports and demonstrations.

In the past year, again mountain rescuers were injured or even killed in operations and exercises. Therefore, it is especially important to learn from the experiences of our members in various operations and exercises.

I deeply suggest having open talks about problems, near misses and accidents amongst our international community. The benefit shall be active prevention of accidents in our rescue work in the future.

We should do everything to assure that mountain rescuers return healthy from their missions, providing the best possible rescue work to casualties.

Time	Terrestrial Commission	Avalanche Commission	Air Rescue Commission	Medical Commission
14.00 – 19.30	Arrival of participants, registration			
19.00 – 19.30	Briefing for pre-conference workshop			
20.00	Dinner, On Your Own			

Time	Terrestrial Commission	Avalanche Commission	Air Rescue Commission	Medical Commission
08.15 – 18.00	Pre-conference workshop on avalanche rescue – Heavenly Valley Ski Area			
08.00 – 18.00	Registration			
19.00 – 19.30	Opening of conference			
20.00	Dinner			

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Time	Terrestrial Commission	Avalanche Commission	Air Rescue Commission	Medical Commission
08.00 – 08.30	Commission Meeting	Commission Meeting	Welcome • Presentation of the new members • Program of the conference	Welcome • Members & addresses • Minutes of last meeting • Meeting program outline • President's report • Financial report & bank account (Vogt) • Report of 2014 ISMM world congress Bolzano • New papers submitted, published or in press
08.30 – 09.00				
09.00 – 09.30			Incident-Accident Review All	
09.30 – 10.00			Norway Accident Review Alf Peter Kahrs, Dan Halvorsen, Norway	
10.00 – 10.30	Coffee Break			
10.30 – 11.00	Preparing Climbing Rangers for Rescue on Mt. Rainier Stefan Longren, MRA	Commission Meeting	Accident Review USA Casey Ping, MRA	Papers in Preparation A modular first aid kit for alpinists, mountain guides and alpinist physicians O. Reisten, I. Soteras, U. Wiget Final discussion & approval
11.00 – 11.30	Virtual Search Planning Paul Burke, MRA	A History of US Avalanche Accidents & Rescues Dale Atkins, Alpine Rescue Team, Evergreen, CO, USA	Accident List Update Casey Ping, MRA	
11.30 – 12.00	Accident of a Rescuer in Action – Theo Maurer, ARS	In the Path of an Avalanche John Bufferey, Parks Canada/CAA	Accident Review Canada Brian Webster, Canada	
12.00 – 14.00	Lunch			
14.00 – 14.30	The SALVAMONT Application Sabin Comoiu, SALVAMONT	The Whiterisk Avalanche Prevention Program Lukas Dürr, SLF/WSL	Hoist Fall Possible Recommendation? All / Casey Ping, MRA	Papers in Preparation Avalanche Victim Resuscitation Checklist M. Blancher, A. Kottman Final discussion & approval
14.30 – 15.00	Method for Searching for Humans with Phone Apps Andrzej Gorka, GOPR	Consumer Electronics & Avalanche Transceivers Erwin Meister, Adaxys Ilari Dammert, Mammut	Methodology & Missions Doug Russel, Washoe County Aviation	
15.00 – 15.30	Dramatical Avalanche on Mont-Maudit JB Estachy, PGHM Chamonix		Multiple Casualties Karlheinz Burtscher, OEAMTC	
15.30 – 16.00	Coffee Break			
16.00 – 16.30	Slalom Probing Manuel Genswein, Fred Jarry		Communications between Crew Michel Pierre, Sécurité Civile	Papers in Preparation Mass Casualty Incidents in the Mountains Draft & first discussion
16.30 – 17.00	Difficulties in Rescue Missions Due to Frozen Equipment Florian Austruy, GSM		Multiple Helicopter Operation Michel Pierre, Sécurité Civile	
17.00 – 17.30	Standardization of Avalanche Rescue Curriculum Manuel Genswein		Open for Discussion	
18.00	Board Meeting			
19.00	Dinner			

Time	Terrestrial Commission	Avalanche Commission	Air Rescue Commission	Medical Commission
08.00 – 08.20	Snowmobiling in Sweden in 2014 - Trends, Attitudes to Risk & Knowledge about Avalanches Per Olov Wikberg, Swedish Mountain Safety Council		Nepal Update Gerold Biner, KWRO	Papers in Preparation Evidence based Recommendations for Canyoning Rescue I. Soteras, G. Strappazon Short Communications (20 Min.) Agazzi Caving accident in Germany Schiffer
08.20 – 08.40	Multi-Victim Rescue on Mont-Ruan Pascal Strappazon, Stéphane Marcellin, GMSP Haute-Savoie		Arc'teryx New Equipment James Bronson, Arc'teryx	
08.40 – 09.00	A Study for Promoting Rescue Success of Avalanche Dog Handler Units Ten. Col. Fabio Mannucci, SAGF		Open for Discussion	
09.00 – 09.30	How Uepaa! Quickens your Rescue Mission Mathias Haussmann, Uepaa!		Avalanche Search & Sea Hoist Rescue – Lasse Coucheron, Norwegian Coast Guard	
09.30 – 10.00	Field Line Search Revisited Felix Meier		Avalanche Search Update Patrick Fauchère, OCVS	
10.00 – 10.30	Coffee Break			
10.30 – 11.00	Terrestrial Recco Search Manuel Genswein		Free Topic Alf Peter Kahrs, Norwegian Air Ambulance	New Papers
11.00 – 11.30	Avalanche Victim Resuscitation Checklist Presentation and Discussion		Election of ICAR President situation and update	Avalanche Victim Resuscitation Checklist
11.30 – 12.00	Multi Victim Task Group Presentation and Discussion		Subject for 2015 / Practical Day / Varia All	Multi Victim Task Group
12.00 – 14.00	Lunch			
14.00 – 14.30	Le Lezard Guillaume Oudot, Petzl			Forthcoming Events ICAR • 2015 SAREXPO Chile • 2015 Spring meeting Ticino Switzerland • 2015 ICAR Meeting Ireland • 2016 Spring meeting Cape Town, South Africa
14.30 – 15.00	High Risk Avalanche Search Alf Peter Kahrs, Dan Halvorsen, Norway			
15.00 – 15.30	Multi-Victim Rescue Organization Pascal Strappazon, Stéphane Marcellin, GMSP Haute-Savoie			
15.30 – 16.00	Coffee Break			
16.00 – 19.00	Local Event			
20.00	Dinner			



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Joint Session — All Commissions	
08.00 – 08.20	Medical Aspects in Disaster Management M. Blancher
08.30 – 08.45	Cold-Wet-Pain: Treat the Basics: Limitations in Multi-Casualty Incidents Volker Lischke
08.45 – 09.00	Why is Organization and Communication Important to Save Life? Mike Greene
09.00 – 09.40	Helicopter Based Search for Buried Subjects in Avalanches Manuel Genswein, Patrick Fauchère OCVS
09.40 – 10.10	Avalanche Pte. de Masserey Raphael Richard, Greg Zen Ruffinen, Patrick Fauchère, OCVS
10.10 – 10.40	Coffee Break
10.40 – 11.00	Le Lezard Raphael Richard, Patrick Fauchère, OCVS
11.00 – 11.30	New Products and Technology Matthias Mock, Uepaa!
11.30 – 12.00	Vision Zero: Applying Road Safety to Mountain Rescuer Safety Dale Atkins, RECCO
12.00 – 14.00	Lunch
13.00 – 14.00	Board Meeting
14.00 – 14.20	Debriefing of Practical Workshop
14.20 – 14.35	Annual Report of Medical Commission
14.35 – 14.50	Annual Report of Terrestrial Rescue Commission
14.50 – 15.05	Annual Report of Avalanche Rescue Commission
15.05 – 15.20	Annual Report of Air Rescue Commission
15.20 – 15.30	Annual Report of Prevention Workgroup
15.30 – 16.00	Coffee Break
16.00 – 17.30	Assembly of Delegates
17.30	Closing of Conference
19.30	Banquet

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