

Biography

Charley Shimanski
Education Director, Mountain Rescue Association

Charley Shimanski is education director for the Mountain Rescue Association, a national organization of rescue mountaineers. A eighteen-year veteran of Colorado's *Alpine Rescue Team*, Charley has participated as a field member and Incident Commander for hundreds of rescues among Colorado's highest peaks.

Charley is the author of the Mountain Rescue Association's *Helicopters in Mountain Rescue Operations* manual, and co-author of the *Avalanche Rescue Operations* manual, as well as several others. He has consulted rescuers, mountain guides and climbers throughout the world, from Israel to China, from Kilimanjaro to Aconcagua. He is a frequent speaker at meetings of the Mountain Rescue Association, National Association of Search and Rescue, Wilderness Medical Society and the International Technical Rescue Symposium.

Charley has appeared in *USA Today*, *People*, *Sports Illustrated*, *National Geographic Adventure*, *Outside*, *The Christian Science Monitor*, *The Washington Post*, *New York Times*, and *Los Angeles Times*, as well as *CBS This Morning*, *NBC Nightly News*, and *CNN*.

Charley serves as president and chief executive officer of the Colorado Nonprofit Association since October of 2004. Prior to that, he was the executive director of The American Alpine Club from 1993-2004. He also has an extensive 13-year career in the banking and investment industries, having worked for United Bank of Denver and Oppenheimer Funds in Denver, and Darlington Asset Management in Geneva Switzerland and London England.

Charley describes his most memorable rescue as the one that landed him a wife... she was the reporting party of a rescue, and she later agreed to marry him.