

About the Presenters

John McKently has been with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's, Montrose Search and Rescue Team since 1974. The Team is a member of the Mountain Rescue Association (MRA) and responds to incidents ranging from car-overs and searches for overdue hikers, hunters and skiers to rescuing stranded or fallen climbers. Montrose' prime response area is approximately 500 square miles of the Angeles National Forest including Big Tujunga Canyon, most of the Angeles Crest and Angeles Forest Highways and includes two small ski areas. The team is also one of five Mine Rescue teams in California and has responded to underground emergencies throughout the state. He presently holds the rank of Reserve Commander with the Sheriff's Department and has experienced over 1700 callouts during his career with the Team. He has taught SAR Management for OES since 1988. He served on the Board of Directors of the National Association for Search and Rescue (NASAR) and was the Treasurer of that Association for four years. Active in the development of Search and Rescue standards since its inception in 1989, John served 6 years as the Chairman of ASTM Committee F-32 on Search and Rescue and authored several standards documents. After 20 years with a financial institution John is presently the School Director and Lead Instructor for CMC Rescue Inc. where he specializes in Rope Rescue, Confined Space Rescue and other specialized rescue training.

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Bruce Parker is has been a Senior Lead Instructor for CMC Rescue School for 14 years. Bruce specializes in Rope Rescue, Confined Space and Rappel training. He is responsible for course development and compliance towards applicable standards such as NFPA 1670 & 1006. He is extremely concerned with rescuer and victim safety and has worked to develop and improve many products manufactured by CMC. Prior to joining the CMC Rescue team, he was the Training and Program Development Coordinator for Preparedness, Training, and Development. He researched, designed, taught, and coordinated several rescue programs for industries including: Emergency Response Teams; Rope Rescue and Confined Space Rescue; HAZWOPER; Medic First Aid Training; and EMT 1 Training and recertification. Bruce has taught Rope Rescue, Confined Space Rescue, Blood borne Pathogens, and Light Search and Rescue Training, to public agencies and private corporations. He has also designed and published safety manuals for several clients. He is active in ASTM as a member of the F32 Committee writing standards for Search and Rescue. He is rated to teach mine rescue by MSHA and is a State of California Senior Fire Instructor. Bruce has been a member of the Montrose Search and Rescue Team for 27 years, serving in all ranks including 3 years as Captain. County Air Support.

Cedric Smith has been an Engineering Technician at CMC Rescues since 2003. He works closely with the Product Development Committee and is responsible for product development, testing and certification. Prior to his employment with CMC he resided in Nova Scotia where he served as a volunteer firefighter with the Meteghan Fire Department as well as a member of Clare Municipal SAR. Cedric attended Seneca College in Toronto, Ontario, where he received a diploma in Fire Engineering Technology. While residing in Ontario he taught rescue courses for a recognized outdoor adventure company in the fields of Technical Rope, Swiftwater, and Ice Rescue. In addition to being an active ASTM F32 Committee member, Cedric is also a member of Santa Barbara County Search & Rescue and Santa Barbara County Air Support.