



Southern Cross

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Around The Division:

Southern Cross is published three times a year—Fall, Mid-Winter and Spring. Articles and photos are encouraged and appreciated. With photos, please include caption information. If at all possible, please include a photo of the author with articles. Submission deadline for the Fall issue is **January 23, 2015**.

Send submissions to:

Teresa T. Stewart, SC Editor
stewart.teresa@gmail.com

Update address at www.nsp.org

Richard Boyer,
Division Director

Patrollers of the Southern Division:

National Board of Directors Election
Oct 15th – Dec 1st.



We have 5 Board of Directors positions to fill. There are 12 candidates vetted by the National Nominations Committee and their resumes and other information are available on the NSP.org website. Further, the Southern Division leadership, in response to a multitude of questions in previous elections, has set in motion a Southern Division Candidate Evaluation Team chaired by our highly respected patroller, **Bill Smith**. This group is made up of patrollers from each region and tasked with researching each candidate, then filling out an evaluation matrix form, which is gathered and collated by Mr. Smith. The results are then posted on the Southern Division website and circulated to the members of our division. The purpose is not to impose any influence in behalf of one candidate on another, but rather to serve as a resource of evaluation for those desiring to participate in the National Board Election who either want another's informed opinion of the 12 candidates or just don't have the time to go through the evaluation process, but would desire and value opinions of others who do so, not from a "good ol' boys" position, but rather from a considered, intelligent and independent point of view that can be trusted.

We are in the Refresher Season, and many of you have already gone through this annual process, which makes our system so very good and trustworthy to those whom we serve. Some of you have experienced a change to this process referred to as a hybrid refresher. In my opinion this is an enhancement to the refresher experience as it cuts down on the time a patroller needs to spend in the "hands-on" portion of the process, but allows the learning, review and evaluation process to be at an individual's pace, dictated by the other influences of their life, such as family, job, geographical circumstances, etc. I believe the

refresher process will move steadily toward this new form and thus is the wave of the future for our refreshers. Some of us “old hands” may have difficulty accepting this “change”, but nevertheless...

Powderfall 2015 April 9 & 12 Canyons, Utah in conjunction with the National Board of Directors meeting. What an opportunity to ski with other patrollers, make new friends and see the Board of Directors at work for our National Ski Patrol System. All in one place, the 5th largest ski area resort in North America, Canyons, Utah near Salt Lake City. Everyone I have talked to after they have participated in a Powderfall comes away renewed and awed by the superlative experience. This year it will be special and spectacular, I'm sure! For further detailed information see the Southern Division website at southernnsp.org.

Please remember, **VOTE in our national BOD election Oct 15-Dec 1**. I'd like the Southern Division to lead the world in percentage participation in our NSP national affairs AGAIN this year.

Richard Boyer, Division Director
Southern Division, National Ski Patrol System

Byrd White,
1st Assistant Division Director

Fall is here. Refreshers are around the corner. Who is going to organize them, who is going to teach them? Who is going to let you know when and where they are going to be held? Who is going to let the National Office know that you attended? If not you, why not?

In most cases the same people, year after year take care of all those pesky details. They do it because it is fun and it's rewarding. Makes you feel good to know that you gave back to all those who helped you. This year, approach one of those people and ask “what can I do to help?”



After many years of absolutely great service, **Jim Underwood** has retired as the Treasurer of Southern Division. Jim has done an excellent job of keeping all of us in line, not only from a financial standpoint but also as a wealth of institutional knowledge. I look forward to working with our new Treasurer, **Frank Cooper**, but I will truly miss Jim.

Another great loss to Southern Division is **Mary Underwood**. Mary was Southern Division's Supervisor for the Patroller Enrichment program for many years and then was one of the key people in developing the new Leadership Program, which she also agreed to lead as the Program Supervisor. I will miss them both very much and I wish them well in their travels, our Division will be the less with them retiring.

As our many instructors start arranging the various classes and Courses for the upcoming year, please remember to clear the dates with your Region Director, before you register with National. A course will not be put on the Southern Division Calendar unless the date is cleared with the Region Director.

Have a safe and fun season.

Ed McNamara

NSP, National Chair



I want to start by thanking **Richard Boyer**, Division Director and the Board of the Southern Division for inviting me to attend your annual meeting in Kingsport this summer. Everyone was very gracious and friendly. I enjoyed the opportunity to meet and chat with a variety of the members of the Southern Division family. Thank you all for your hospitality.

During the meeting I had the privilege of providing an update on the status of the National organization those members in attendance. For those that were not able to gather with us down in the Smoky Mountains, Richard has asked to me to run through some of the highlights from that presentation.

The presentation to NSP Southern Division on August 2, 2014 focused on the current status of the NSP National operations and the future trajectory of the organization. In developing this roadmap for the continued growth for the organization, a confidential survey was sent to members of the National Board of Directors, office staff, and Division Directors in the spring asking for their opinion on the current status of the National Organization and what immediate actions needed to be employed to enhance our operations. The following areas of concern were identified.

1. Technology
 - a. Our Information Technology (IT) system needs to be modernized and enhanced to provide the best possible service to our members. The national office has contracted with a new firm to move us forward, after the previously retained consulting firm hired last year was unable to successfully upgrade our system. We expect to have the system fully operational within the next six months. The project is achieving the desired results and we have hired a full time IT person to work with the consulting company to ensure that the program is meeting the needs of the NSP.
2. Phone system:
 - a. We have identified the need to establish a phone system protocol to ensure that individuals calling the NSP office receive the appropriate assistance in a timely manner. Office personnel are now being assigned the task of answering the phones and the system has been enhanced to allow individuals to automatically search for and get the extension of the individual they are trying to reach.
 - b. Divisions Directors have been reminded to ask their staffs and patrollers to work through the chain and contact their Region and Division program personnel for answers to questions rather than going direct to National. This should reduce the chances of overwhelming the bandwidth of the National office staff.
3. Emergency Medical Services:
 - a. We are seeking to enhance our relationship with the National EMS organizations and the National Board of Directors will continue to work improve this relationship. A close and productive working relationship will allow us to resolve issues between the agencies, prior to them becoming significant problems. We want to continue to work with EMS agencies on a National level; however, we also want to avoid legislation that could result in EMS controlling the OEC program.

4. Education:
 - a. There is a need to provide easier access to resources for our instructors. This will be factored into making modifications to our web site.
 - b. There is a strong desire to complete the update of the Outdoor First Care program and make it available for this ski season. A committee is currently working on this project and we hope to have the entire Mountain Host program, which includes Outdoor First Care, completed and approved by the National Board of Directors no later than November 1st.

In order to achieve the goals described, we are committed to:

1. Elevating our relevancy among our patrollers, ski area management, and the general public. Unless each of these groups can see a benefit in our organization than we will no longer be needed.
2. Rekindling the “spirit” espoused by our Founder Minny (Minot) Dole.
3. Making our programs the “BEST”.
4. Increasing membership by providing opportunities for others to join our organization through the addition of the Mountain Host program.
5. Enhancing the effectiveness of our communications with our members; and
6. Building stronger relationships with our industry partners such as the National Ski Areas Association, Professional Ski Instructors Association and the EMS Associations.

On a final note, I stressed the need for all members to **VOTE**. The upcoming election is important. The members of your Board of Directors run this organization and make decisions that can have a significant impact on you, the patroller. It is important that you take the time and effort to review the candidate resumes and statements, talk to others who may know these individuals, and then vote. Remember, your vote does count. Thank you again to Division Director **Richard Boyer** for the opportunity to visit the Southern Division and talk to many of the leadership and patrollers that were able to attend the conference.

Ed McNamara
NSP, National Chair

Bill Smith,
Election Coordinator

Division Director Election Announcement

This coming year, 2015, we will once again hold an election for our Division Director (DD). Currently **Richard Boyer** serves the Division in that important position and is eligible to be re-elected for one additional two-year term.



Earlier this summer, I outlined the Division Election Procedures on the division website. Please refer to that post on the Division website for details of the process.

The procedure calls for anyone interested in submitting a nomination for the Division Director's position, to do so before December 1st prior to the election year. With that in mind, now is the time for anyone interested in running for the DD position to prepare their submission and get it in. The Election Coordinator must receive all nominations, before the deadline date of December 1, 2014. Electronic submissions are preferred and can be sent to the email address shown below.

The election procedure further requires that all nominations must be accompanied by a signed acceptance of the nominee. The nomination must also be accompanied by a one-page resume of the candidate's qualifications for office. The applicant also has the option to include a platform statement. Specific qualifications for the DD can be found in the By-Laws that are published on the Southern Division website.

Each candidate's information will be published in the January/Mid-Winter issue of the Southern Cross and posted on the Division website for all to see. Ballots, resumes and platform information will be sent to all Patrol Representative's in January. Each Patrol shall have one vote to be cast by the Patrol Representative of record as of January 1st of election year.

Every patroller is encouraged to take an active part in this election by reviewing the nominee's position and qualifications and voicing your opinion to your respective Patrol Representative.

Nominations should be sent to:

Bill Smith, Election Coordinator
6 Long Bridge Road
Hampton, VA 23669
(757) 810-1690
skibill13@cox.net



ELECTION NEWS...

Bill Smith – Election Coordinator

This year there will be five open seats on the NSP Board of Director's. Seventeen individuals expressed an interest in the positions. Over the summer the Nominations Committee narrowed the list to 12 qualified candidates.

Last year the Southern Division had a great voting turnout in the National election thanks to all of the efforts put into promoting that process. We hope to do at least that well again this year.

Many patrollers typically ask their line officers (or former line officers, program advisors, etc.) for "recommendations" on who to vote for in the board positions. They believe the leader has read the candidate's information, they trust the leader's opinion, they believe the leader is more involved and informed on the issues and they believe that the leader has the ability to network with other leaders across the country and become better informed on issues and the candidates. Often they just don't have the time to read all of the related materials, so they don't vote.

In an effort to keep Southern Division patrollers informed, the Division leadership has appointed a Candidate Evaluation Committee (with each Region having an opportunity to provide input) to evaluate the National BOD candidates and make available to the Southern Division membership their findings. That group will soon begin the process of reviewing candidate materials and scoring each candidate based on specific criteria.

Prior to the election cycle beginning, the NSP Board identified attributes of being a good board member. Utilizing that criterion, each Board candidate will be scored on ten criteria that were identified in that process and by Southern Division leadership. The scores will be tabulated and the top candidates identified. This would not be a "single slate" or "approved" list, but rather it is a detailed review and collective scoring of the candidates by the evaluation team. The candidates that best fit the criteria will be identified and deemed "Most Qualified".

As quickly as this work is completed it will be shared with each Southern Division patroller (in early October) for them to use (or not use) as they see fit. The end goal is to have more Southern Division patroller's participate in the election process.

The voting process is scheduled to begin October 15th and remain open until 4:00 PM MST, December 1, 2014. I encourage each patroller to vote, as it does make a difference in your leadership, the future of the organization, recruiting, and fundraising.

If anyone has trouble logging on (you will need a password and email account) call the National Office at (303-988-1111). If you do not have an email address, please contact the national office.

Brent Bowman,
2nd Assistant Division Director

Winter will soon be upon us and some resorts in the Southern Division will probably be open in the next 60 days. Summer has gone way too fast but I am looking forward to some cooler days. Refreshers are gearing up across the division. Instructors will be refreshing over the next few weeks to be prepared for the OEC refreshers at the resorts.



Please keep remember that some refreshers will be the new 'hybrid' refreshers, meaning that you have to take a test (and pass) on the internet before you can attend the refresher. Be sure to check with the patrol that you are planning to use for refresher this season as to what style is being used there. You should be sure to print out your acknowledgement form to take to the refresher with you. Last year some people had to be turned away from refreshers because they did not have the necessary paperwork.

Please begin to look at dates for Senior Clinics, Women's Clinic, Snow Sports School and regional activities on the calendar <http://southernosp.org> and/or <http://www.southernosp.org/Calendar.aspx> . Timberline is kicking off the season with an MTR1 course October 24-26. Also please note the return of PowderFall. I know that Mike Harris has already purchased plane tickets for this great event. http://southernosp.org/pdf_files/PowderFall2015PromoPowerPoint.pdf

See you at the refresher!!!

Mike Harris,
Assistant Division Director – South

With ski season just around the corner, OEC Refreshers are once again upon us. As is my tradition I enjoyed participating in the Instructors Refresher at Appalachian Ski Mountain. Kudos to **Theresa Varner** and her instructor staff for a great refresher. Thanks again for the hospitality of Appalachian Ski Mountain from the Blue Ridge Region.



It is my understanding a number of patrols will be discussing how quickly to convert to the new hybrid refresher model. Your feedback through your patrol may be sought.

This year's Southern Division Fall Conference at Kingsport TN was held early causing some schedule conflicts. It is my hope next year this event will return to it's former third weekend in August. As always, the conference was a huge success, very productive and the camaraderie was certainly enjoyed, particularly the hospitality suite. Thanks to **Fred Wessels, JoAnne Ehlinger** and **Teresa Stewart** and all the folks helping organize it and the awards banquet. You will find more local information in your Region Directors articles and I won't duplicate it. I am looking forward to the 2014/15 season and visiting, skiing, and patrolling with as many patrols as possible.

Mike Harris aka Tyrone

From the Supervisors and Advisors...

Avalanche... Avalanche Program... Avalanche Program... Avalanche Program ...

Scott Campbell,
Avalanche Supervisor

The biggest upcoming change for the National Ski Patrol's avalanche training program is the current update of the Avalanche Instructor's Manual (AIM). The biggest change within the program involves modularization of the Level 1 avalanche curriculum. This modular approach enables both incremental and concurrent acquisition of appropriate knowledge and skills. The modular approach simplifies choices for our members and other stakeholders seeking avalanche education appropriate for their location and potential use of avalanche safety and rescue knowledge and skills. It helps ensure that skills are taught only at appropriate field venues, but that an avalanche knowledge-based senior elective remains easily accessible.



The final draft of the AIM now contains the following summary description of NSP Avalanche Program courses.

- **Avalanche Awareness (AA)** - This is a public safety outreach presentation for winter recreationists who have a casual interest in avalanche safety. It exposes people to the nature of avalanche hazard and what they need to learn before venturing into avalanche terrain. It encourages them to take a Level 1 avalanche safety and rescue course. The presentation is also available as an online course available through the NSP website. **Prerequisite:** none. **Time commitment:** flexible (30-90 minutes). No pre-course study or homework is required. **Grading:** none.
- **Level 1 Avalanche - Module 1: Avalanche Foundations (L1A-M1)**. This classroom-only module introduces fundamental concepts and principles of avalanche hazard, safety, and rescue, but it does not include skill development in the field. It qualifies as an **NSP senior elective** in those divisions that do not require full Level 1 Avalanche for Rescue Personnel certification. It does not meet full Level 1 course standards and does not qualify as a prerequisite for enrollment in Level 2 avalanche courses. **Prerequisites:** none. **Time commitment:** 8 hours. Pre-course study is often required. **Grading:** Pass/Incomplete/Fail based on written exam.

The updated AIM and an update of instructional resources are planned to be provided by the NAC by the end of the summer, which will permit a better training consistency across the NSP. The materials will be electronically published and uploaded onto the NSP website to be available for download by NSP certified avalanche instructors free of charge. If the website is not ready for distribution in this manner, I will distribute the AIM via CD.

We will be using the new curriculum and instructional resources to improve the Avalanche Awareness (AA) and the Level 1 Avalanche Module 1: Avalanche Foundations (L1A-M1) courses for the Southern Division. Note that only the Level 1 Avalanche Module 1: Avalanche Foundations (L1A-M1) course meets the criteria to be a senior elective. Unfortunately, we do not have the field conditions and equipment resources within the division to permit appropriate and adequate instruction for the other courses. However, I did verify that we can count on equipment loans from the other divisions, when available. The other Level 1 and 2 Avalanche courses will be available within the other divisions, and all Southern Division patrollers are welcome to attend them.

I still hope that we can offer an Avalanche Awareness (AA) or Level 1 Avalanche Module 1: Avalanche Foundations (L1A-M1) courses for the Southern Division. Note that only the Level 1 Avalanche Module 1: Avalanche Foundations (L1A-M1) course meets the criteria to be a senior elective.

If any patrol or region would like to schedule either one of these courses after the end of the summer, please feel free to call me at home at 703 241-2640. Also, please call me if you have any questions about the updated AIM or the CE requirements. We will need some lead time in order to organize the course and work out a loan of equipment, so please plan accordingly.

Thanks very much!
Scott Campbell

Alumni Program ... Alumni Program ... Alumni Program ... Alumni Program ... Alumni Program

Milton Triplett,
Southern Division Alumni Supervisor

Alumni Contest

Patrol and Patroller winners of the Alumni Contest were announced at the fall meeting. Cloudmont was the winner of the patrol prize for their extensive use of Alumni to support their program. Cloudmont has only 4 or 5 healthy patrollers but they have three Alumni that continue to volunteer their OEC skills.

The prize to the Alumni Patroller has been sent to their home patrol for presentation at the patrol's earliest convenience.

Patrol Alumni Representative

Volunteers are needed to represent Alumni in each patrol. Communication can be enhanced through a single point of contact. Patrol Representatives have their hands full making sure there are qualified patrollers for their mountain. The Alumni program should get in a position to better assist the respective patrols and provide its own communication path. Volunteers are requested to submit their name and e-mail address to me for inclusion in a Division Alumni database.

Milton Triplett
Southern Division Alumni Supervisor
mtrip67@comcast.net

What Can Alumni Do?

The Alumni program is a bit different from the rest of the NSP. There are no skill progressions (OEC, patroller, senior, certified). An Alumni's contribution is self-directed. Do what you most enjoy. Do what your patroller experience equipped you to share. One example, provided it fits with the patrol's procedures and mountain's policies is to carry a radio on-slope or man one in the patrol room. This provides one more set of skilled eyes on the hill knowing the best way to summon help to an accident. Having an Alumni always in the patrol room means the phone always gets answered and walk-ins are greeted, freeing patrollers for the hill.

Below is an internet link to a list of other possible Alumni tasks for consideration plus a photo illustration:

<http://triplettphotos.zenfolio.com/Second>

Outdoor Emergency Transportation ... OET... OET... Outdoor Emergency Transportation

Tony Tingle,
OET Division Supervisor



Here we are heading into the 2014-2015 season, and I want to share the latest news from the Transportation program. For starters, the name changed. The new moniker is Outdoor Emergency Transportation (OET). I think this name better reflects what we do. This OET article provides a brief outline of how the program is organized, a who's who in OET for our division, and concludes with a brief description of the courses that can be registered in the OET Program. These course summaries indicate the intended audience for each course, clarify which courses satisfy continuing education requirements for OET instructors and Senior Patrollers, and point to the courses that may be used as electives for those working towards the Senior Patroller classification.

Program Organization – National OET Committee

The NSP OET Program is administered by the National OET Committee. This team consists of the National OET Supervisor, the Assistant National OET Supervisor, and the OET Supervisors from each division, including the European Division. The National OET Supervisor is **Jay Zedak** and his assistant is **Tom Worley**. Some of you may remember Tom. He has ties to the Southern Division. His Ski Patrol career sprouted, in the mountains around Cataloochee. Both Jay and Tom call Central Division home, and both are well qualified for their positions. The OET Committee participates in monthly conference calls, and **Darcy Hanley** joins almost all of our calls and provides input as NSP Education Director. Over the past couple of years, the team has worked to consolidate and standardize the course offerings. Course descriptions, incorporating the quality assurance elements from the NSP Policies and Procedures, were written for each OET course. Some courses were added, some consolidated, and some removed; and these changes were reviewed and approved by the NSP board of directors. The result is a shortened list of OET courses that will hopefully meet the needs of patrols and patrollers alike. If they don't, let me know. I am your representative on the OET Committee.

Program Organization – Southern Division

In the Southern Division there is a division OET Supervisor (that's me), an Assistant division OET Supervisor (yet to be found), and four region OET Supervisors. The region folks are:

- **Randy Rumer** (West Virginia Region) - Randy is a Patroller at Snowshoe and is taking over the job from **David Cline**.
- **Trace Higgins** (Virginia Region) - Trace is a Wintergreen Patroller.
- **Jack Culbreth** – (Blue Ridge Region). Jack patrols at Appalachian Ski Mountain and, like Randy, is new to this position. He replaces **Patrick Benson**.
- **Jimmy Kuneman** (Dixie Region) - Jimmy patrols at Ober Gatlinburg.

Special thanks to **David Cline** and **Patrick Benson** for their hard work over the past years. If you see David and Patrick on the snow, pat them on the back, as they have done a lot of work for the OET program. The Region OET Supervisors are the points-of-contact for OET-related requests and questions. They work with region

directors and the mountains to plan and schedule the region-level OET courses (including continuing education courses for OET instructors and current Senior patrollers). They also work in concert with the region Senior coordinator to administer Senior evaluations. If you need a course in your region these are the folks to talk to.

There are instructor trainers (ITs) in every region. The main function of the ITs is quality assurance for the OET program. These folks are appointed annually and have a number of jobs. They observe new OET instructors during the mentoring process and are the final approval that recommends them as OET instructors; they observe the teaching skills of all OET instructors to assure teaching skills are sharp; they audit OET courses (a new form is in the works and will be ready by the season's start) to assure that the delivered content and techniques conform to current NSP standards; and they teach continuing education events for OET instructors. Once the list of ITs is set for the coming season, we will post them on the division website (www.southernnsps.org).

Finally, and in my opinion the most important link in this OET chain, are the OET instructors. There are currently 122 instructors in the Southern Division, and these are the folks who are teaching patrollers the correct and safe handling of rescue toboggans. In addition, OET instructors are the people who develop new instructors through the mentoring process. The instructorship for each OET instructor is valid for three years, and to maintain this status they must be active (teaching in registered courses, mentoring new instructors, and/or training Patrollers at their home mountain), they must complete a continuing education event once every three years, and they need to document their teaching activity. I recommend that OET instructors keep a notebook in their boot bag and write down a few notes at the end of the shift (e.g. "01/04/2006 - worked on transitions on the tailrope with Bill, Mark, and Howard at Hawksnest for 2-hours"). This achieves two goals: It gives you a reference when tax time comes around and you need to figure out what you did and where you did it, and it gives the OET instructor a log of their activity. It is recommended that instructor activity also be entered into the Instructor Activity log on the NSP website. The program is always looking for instructors. Becoming an OET instructor is a Senior Elective and builds leadership skills for your Patrol members. If you see a good instructor candidate and/or you see a need for more OET instructors at your resort, contact your Region OET Supervisor or me, and we will get the ball rolling.

OET Courses – New, Old, and Consolidated

Now for the fun stuff - courses. As mentioned above, there have been some changes in the course offerings for the OET program. A brief description of each of the current OET courses is provided below.

Toboggan Refresher (TREF) - There is a new emphasis on documenting completion of an annual TREF for every patroller who operates a toboggan as part of their duties. This is a mandatory annual registered continuing education course coordinated by the Patrol Representative in cooperation with local hill management. The TREF is required by the NSP Policies and Procedures (Section 5.1.3.5c) and now, completion of the TREF will be documented via initials and date from an IT, on the back of your OEC Technician Card (just like your OEC refresher).

Introduction to Patrolling (PAT) - This is the course to teach when developing your patrol candidates into Basic patrollers. In this course, candidates build skills and knowledge to become familiar with the tasks and responsibilities that ski area management may require: toboggan handling, general on-hill operations, risk

management, and the role of a volunteer. The PAT addresses the fundamental skills of properly using alpine snow sport equipment and applies these skills to proper, efficient, and safe handling of rescue toboggans. These fundamental skills include edging, rotation, pressure, and balance, and provide the foundation of skiing and snowboarding. The proper application of these skills will provide the on-the-hill patroller the ability to handle both front and tail responsibilities of the toboggan with strength and confidence. **Register** this course for each mountain where Basic Candidates are training. The PAT should be registered for the duration of the ski season, and is the appropriate course for development/training of toboggan handling and skiing/riding skills for candidates of all levels (Basic, Senior, and Certified). There is no longer a separate event that can be registered to cover Basic Evaluations. Basic evaluations are mountain-specific. Unlike the Senior and Certified classifications, achievement of Basic classification is determined at the Patrol level. So, testing for the Basic (if you do a formal Ski/Toboggan Evaluation) should be covered as part of the PAT.

Outdoor Emergency Transportation Workshop (OETW) - This workshop is designed for NSP transportation trainers/evaluators and NSP ski proficiency trainers/evaluators. This region or division clinic is designed with the intent to enhance the skills of current or aspiring alpine trainers. In addition, the OETW addresses the administrative procedures and clerical responsibilities around registering courses, opening & closing courses, participant waivers, event feedback forms, expense reports, Quality Assurance forms, timely reporting required by the National P&P, and other details as deemed appropriate by the instructor of record (IOR). This course is the continuing education credit that must be completed once every three years for OET instructors, is a Senior elective, and fulfills the continuing education requirement for current Senior Patrollers.

Toboggan Enhancement Seminars (TES) - This course is a thorough review and guided practice of toboggan handling procedures. It is designed to provide instruction and guided practice on proper usage and handling of alpine rescue toboggans. It is the intent to have experienced toboggan instructor trainers (ITs) and toboggan instructors present the proper and current techniques to properly handle an unloaded and loaded toboggan on suitable terrain. The Senior Clinic for Toboggan is no longer offered as a course that can be registered in the OET Program. As a replacement, a TES focusing on Senior-level skills should be registered. Notes may be added during the course registration process to specify that the course is for Senior candidate training. Likewise, notes may be added to indicate that a TES is women-specific, equipment specific (e.g. for riders or telemark skiers, etc.), or tailored for whatever group you are targeting. The TES is a Senior elective and also fulfills the continuing education requirement for current Senior Patrollers.

Snowsport Enhancement Seminar (SES) - The purpose of this course is to provide the NSP membership with instruction and guided practice designed to improve their skiing/riding skills. This course uses PSIA/AASI instructors to deliver skiing and riding instruction. It is recommended that the lead instructor should be at least a PSIA/AASI Level 3. There may be several assistants that are very experienced PSIA Level II instructors. Instructors may be obtained from the Southern Division Ski School or through outside PSIA/AASI avenues. The Senior Clinic for Skiing/Riding is no longer offered as a course that can be registered in the OET Program. As a replacement, a SES focusing on Senior-level skills should be registered. Notes may be added during the course registration process to specify that the course is for Senior candidate training. Likewise, notes may be added to indicate that a SES is women-specific, equipment specific (e.g. for riders or telemark skiers, etc.), or tailored for whatever group you are targeting (Basic patrollers, etc.). The SES is a Senior elective and also fulfills the continuing education requirement for current Senior Patrollers.

Senior Alpine Skiing / Riding Evaluation (SAEE) - The Senior Alpine Skiing/Riding Evaluation provides an opportunity for Senior Alpine candidates to demonstrate contemporary skiing/riding fundamentals by performing a variety of turn sizes while skiing/riding on groomed slopes, steep slopes, moguled slopes, and ungroomed terrain. Equipment carry will also be expected with stability on Senior terrain. The main objective is to determine whether Senior Alpine toboggan candidates are qualified at the senior level.

Senior Alpine Toboggan Evaluation (SATE) provides an opportunity for Senior Alpine candidates to demonstrate their knowledge of the mechanics and components of various rescue toboggans and demonstrate operation of both an unloaded toboggan and a loaded toboggan in both the front (handles) and rear (tail rope) positions. Skills are performed in a variety of snow conditions on more difficult and most difficult slopes. The main objective is to determine whether Senior Alpine toboggan candidates are qualified at the senior level.

So, that is the OET program in a nutshell. I hope this overview generates some questions / interest in OET and clarifies what courses we all need to register. **The one that we all have to complete if we operate a toboggan is a TREF.** Please register one for your mountain, and if you need OET instructors and IT's to staff them, contact your region OET supervisor or me.

If you have questions, give me a shout at geofolks@att.net. I look forward to seeing you in the horns this season. Cheers!

Snowsports ... Snowsports ... Snowsports ... Snowsports ... Snowsports ... Snowsports

Briggs Allen,
Snowsports Supervisor



By the time you're reading this you should have already heard the **BIG NEWS... The Snowsports School's 2015 PSIA/AASI Demo Team Clinic will be held at Snowbird Utah.** In response to previous clinic participants we are having our Demo Team Clinic "out West". That's right March 1-3 2015 30 Southern Division Patrollers will have the opportunity of a lifetime. Our clinic instructors are incredible beginning with PSIA Demo Team Manager and Assistant Snowbird Ski School Director **Rob Sogard** (you may recall Rob joined us in 2013 at the Timberline Clinic. Our other Alpine instructor will be Demo Team Captain, USSA Team Academy Coach, US Ski Team Instructor and Ski Magazine Director of Instruction **Michael Rogan**. On the AASI side will be current Demo Team Member, former Demo Team Manager, USSA Team Coach, X Games Coach, Snowboard Team Coach and Team Utah Snowboard Director **Lane Clegg**.

Demo Team Clinic lodging will be slopeside at the Lodge at Snowbird. Lodging, lift tickets and clinic participation these are all incredibly reasonable. At this writing there were a few slots left in the Alpine portion of the clinic and the snowboard section was wide open. You should have received a flyer from your PD/PR regarding this clinic and if you're interested both space and time per registration is limited so contact me immediately.

Closer to home our **annual Train the Trainer/Skier/Snowboarder Improvement Clinic will be held December 13-14, 2014 at Cataloochee Resort.** There is no better time to tweak your on the snow skills and start the season off on the right foot. If you are a one of your Patrol's alpine/snowboard trainers, wanting to become (or just want to know what it's about) certified as a PSIA/AASI instructor or are a Basic, Senior or Certified Patroller who wants to improve their skills.... In this clinic is for you. The clinic registration fee is \$25 which includes lift tickets. As always, space is limited so if you would like to attend this program please send me an e-mail to register.

Once again responding to requests from patrollers your Snowsports School is attempting to have a **Telemark Improvement/Learn to Tele Clinic** after the 1st of this upcoming year. Details, at this time are sketchy however as soon as they become firm they will be posted on the Southern Division's website, The Snowsports Schools Facebook page and we will try to directly notify you.

Speaking of the **Snowsports School's Facebook** page if you are not a friend please become one. This is a good way to find out up to the information on what is going on with our program. Additionally, if you are planning on taking any PSIA certification exams this year please contact me for good information on such.

Members of your Snowsports School will be working with **Tony Tingle**, Supervisor of the Division's Outdoor Emergency Transportation Program this upcoming 2014-15 season. Our instructors are PSIA or AASI certified and will provide good information to help you improve your on the snow skills. Be sure to thank them for all their hard work, they have put in countless hours and dollars to help Patrollers.

Finally, if you are a patroller who is interested in becoming a PSIA/AASI certified instructor or would just like information on such, please contact the Snowsports School. Also, if you have a suggestion or particular need for an on the snow program just let us know.

Hope to see you on the snow earlier rather than later this season and as always, snowsports are easy turn right, turn left, repeat as necessary.

Instructor Development...Instructor Development...Instructor Development

Teresa T. Stewart,

Instructor Development Supervisor

The NSP Instructor Development course is an integral part of *all* NSP Educational courses. This is a required step before the mentoring stage with an instructor within the specific discipline with which you are becoming involved (Outdoor Emergency Care, Toboggan and Ski, Mountain Travel and Rescue, Avalanche, Outdoor First Care, etc). This is also a *SENIOR ELECTIVE*.

Interested students should look at the Division Calendar on the Division Website (www.southernnsp.org) for registered courses in their Region and contact the Region Instructor Development contact or drop me an email at (stewart.teresa@gmail.com).

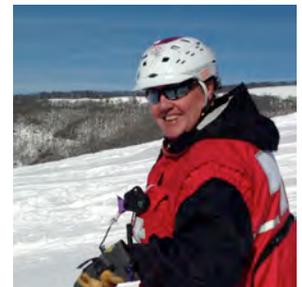
Instructors and Instructor Trainers can expect to see changes rolling in place as courses are planned. Also, coming soon is an on-line Instructor Development Continuing Education module.

Outdoor Emergency Care ... Outdoor Emergency Care ... Outdoor Emergency Care ... OEC

Bob Brewster,

Division OEC Supervisor

The leaves are turning and there's a chill to the morning air. It can only mean one thing, refresher season. As I write this, instructor refreshers have been and are continuing to be held. A number of patrols have opted to hold the new hybrid refreshers. Most comments I have heard are very positive. At the Blue Ridge instructor refresher we were able to complete the refresher and the instructor update all in one day.



OEC Instructors

Three years ago the 5th edition OEC text came into our lives. At that time it was required that all OEC instructors be updated. Since the requirement of doing an update is every three years, we anticipate that approximately 80% of our 500+ instructors need to be updated by December 31, 2014. This is a huge undertaking and having learned along the way, we are doing our best to make your update as easy as possible. There are three components to this year's updates. Two of them have the ability to be presented online as a webinar, A Forms presentation, and a Hybrid Refresher and Hybrid Class presentation. The third section of the update, Teaching to a Skills Based Lesson Plan, must be completed live since there is an exercise at the end of it. We are working with the website anymeeting.com, which is free. It allows for online video presentations of powerpoints and documents. The two sections are supported by this technology. I have left it up to each region's ROA's as to how they want to rollout the updates. To date, some have done all three live and there have been some presentations on anymeeting. It's important that if you need an update (and if you haven't completed one since the 5th edition update, you need one) to contact your ROA or area IT and get information about it. The ideal time for the live session is during your instructor refresher. It's been done during the lunch hour or after the refresher at some of the first instructor refreshers.

OEC Course

There are changes being made to the written OEC evaluation. This year the test will be sent to the course IT's instead of the IOR's. Next year the test will be only available online unless there is a special needs situation. As you can see, much of the OEC teaching materials are going electronic. It will be important we all think forward and prepare for these changes.

Outdoor First Care

The Outdoor First Care course is ready to be introduced. The NSP board unanimously approved the course at their last meeting. This will be a hybrid course as well, with three components, first will be the requirement that each student get certified in a basic CPR course. Once completed, they will move on to the online portion of the course. It will have approximately 21 modules and then a final exam. Once completed, students will attend a 6-8 hour hands on session where they will practice the skills they have learned. The cost will be \$25. In addition the course will support the NSP Mountain Host program. In this program Mountain Hosts will pay annual dues of \$50 a year, and receive all the educational and pro deal/catalog benefits patrollers now enjoy. NSP hopes to have both programs up and running by November.

Senior OEC

If you haven't already, come out and find out what the program is all about. Trainers are always happy to involve as patients and helpers during their training sessions. If you are thinking about participating make contact with your Regional Senior Administrator. A number of the programs will be starting in early November.

Personnel Change

I would like to thank **Alan McCartney** for his service as the Dixie Region Regional OEC Administer. Alan made a job change and has moved to New England where there's real snow. **Tom Barry** of Ober Gatlinburg will be the new ROA for Dixie.

As always feel free to contact me with your suggestions, questions and comments. My virtual door is always open. Think snow!

Dixie Region ... Dixie Region

Brandon Olson,
Dixie Region Director

I hope that everyone has had an awesome summer and had the chance to enjoy many outdoor activities with your family and friends! For us, this summer yielded quite a bit of rain which made for a fun and eventful time if you are a kayaker or rafter. Hopefully you had plenty of sunshine as well to enjoy some wakeboarding and skiing on the lakes also!

I presume that most of you are gearing up for your OEC refreshers, and a lot of you are getting ready to have your first taste of the hybrid refresher. I personally feel that this is a great thing, which leads to a lot less stressful day for the instructors and patrollers. I hope you feel the same. We just finished our instructor refresher, had a blast, and got done in about 3 hours, which sure beats the old way of doing things. I look forward to hearing your comments about the new format, as I think most are doing the hybrid format this year. I can't wait to travel around and see everyone in action over the next few months!

The "Farmer's Almanac" is calling for a wet winter, and I sure hope that the temperatures make sure that the wet stuff is in the form of snow! I'm keeping the fingers crossed for all of us that we have the best winter yet and make some life-long memories with all of our extended "patroller families".

Have a great start to the season!

Women's Program ... Women's Program ... Women's Program ... Women's Program

Joy Jucker,
Women's Program Supervisor

2015 Southern Division Women's Clinic
Sign up and "Put Some Bling in Your Skiing"

WHO: Women Ski Patrollers

WHEN: January 24, 25 2015

WHERE: Massanutten, Virginia

Cost: \$25

Registration: E mail joyjucker@charter.net

Ski and Toboggan Enhancement taught by Women

To ALL current Women Toboggan Instructors: Contact me if you are interested in assisting with the clinic. I have already heard from some across the division but we need anybody that would like to be a part of this event.



Paying Forward

By Bill Smith

Honor those who have paved the way for you by extending the path for those who will follow

Think about the people who have had the greatest effect in helping you to get to where you are today. All of us have these individuals in our lives – parents, siblings, grandparents, special neighbors, etc. Their guidance formed the foundation that we depend on as patrollers.

In our patrol family, it might have been your patrol leader or just a senior patroller on duty when you walked through the door. It could also be an instructor from your early days of training who saw something in you that you didn't know existed. At the time, their influence was likely obscured by your perception of how you were being treated. They were demanding, maybe even harsh.

As time passed, however, the sting of criticism gave way to the pride of approval. Sometimes it was not even the positive words that meant the most; it was just not getting yelled at!

Re-paying With Interest

We want our actions to be worthy of those who made it possible for us to achieve our goals. It's probably easy to remember how it felt when your father got mad at you. Now imagine your father saying, "I'm not mad, I'm just disappointed." *That's* crushing.

Our commitment to do the difficult "right" thing is founded in the knowledge that these individuals expect nothing less than our very best. Success, after all, is not ours; it is the culmination of others' work through us.

So how do you pay someone back for helping you achieve more than you ever thought possible? You really can't – and the truth is that they don't expect it. If you are genuinely committed to honoring these heroic, patient, smart, dedicated individuals, you must pay forward. Paying forward means preparing the next generation of patrollers in a manner that reflects your personal sense of gratitude to those who made it possible for you to be successful.

A Real World Example

The Wintergreen Ski Patrol is one of the nation's premier ski patrols and has been recognized as "the best" twice in recent years and has also won many other awards over the years. There is often one name associated with its success: John Dobson. John was a physician by training, but knew very little about ski patrolling when he first became involved. However, he was willing to listen to his instructor's and learn the ways of patrolling, eventually becoming a good and solid patroller.

To pay it forward, John became very active in the training of patrollers at Wintergreen and all levels within the NSP organization. He was always insistent that training be carried out at a very high level. To help keep training at a high level, he was instrumental in authoring many magazine articles over the years for NSP. He also contributed by writing a number of chapters in OEC textbooks. Additionally, and for many years, he chaired the NSP Refresher Committee that was charged with developing the annual OEC refresher for all NSP patrollers and others that utilize OEC as a training standard. Even today his work can still be found in the Fifth Edition of the OEC text.

Over the years Dobson made the choice to put training ahead of... well, everything else. His actions, founded in the lessons taught by his instructors early on, unquestionably illustrate the concept of *paying forward*.

Your Turn

Make no mistake: All of us are where we are today because of those who have taken the time to help us. You should call those people – right now – and thank them for their perseverance in resisting the temptation to abandon you when you deserved it. And then you should go out and do everything you can to pay them back by paying *forward* with the next generation of patrollers – who are in a hurry to prove themselves to you!!!

Bill Smith began his patrolling career with the Homestead Ski Patrol in 1991. He is currently a patroller with Wintergreen Ski Patrol in Virginia. Bill has served in a number of leadership positions and has taught and written extensively about organizational change, leadership and training.

Southern Division Awards ... Southern Division Annual Awards ... Southern Division Awards

Peg Harris,

Awards Advisor

It is hard to believe that another awards banquet has come and gone. And again it was a fun time for all in attendance. I tried a new approach for recognizing all the recipients of both service and instructor service awards this year. There are numerous recipients of these awards and most are not in attendance to receive these as most are given at the patrol level. So this year I put together a PowerPoint and displayed each recipient by patrol and years of service on a screen throughout the banquet on a repeating cycle. I think that all the attendees liked this method as I got a standing ovation for my efforts! So it looks like a new tradition has been born.

So here are the recipients of all the various awards given this year.

Certificates of Appreciation

Rendering efficient, faithful and unobtrusive, but invaluable service to the Southern Division's Candidate Evaluation Committee directly resulting in the highest voter turnout (31%) of all the divisions within the National Ski Patrol System 2013 National Board of Director's election:

Blake Brown, Blue Ridge Region

Dennis Slagle, Dixie Region

Tom Wagner, West Virginia Region

Outstanding service and leadership to the 2013-2014 Wintergreen Ski Patrol Toboggan Recertification Team:

Ed Pouncey

Greg Pence

Tom Hughes

Mike Fisher

Denika Gum

Aileen Cassidy

Paul Gagon

Alex Kirchner

Bob McFarland

Service Awards by Patrol

Appalachian

Joseph Hill

20 years

Lonnie C. Propst

25 years

John Whalen

20 years

John R. Culbreth

30 years

Annette Fox

25 years

Anne Fox Donadio

30 years

David Hinshaw

25 years

Hugh Jernigan

30 years

David Jamison

25 years

Mark Taylor

30 years

Cathy LaMarre

25 years

Beech Mountain

Ches Adams	10 years	Catherine E. Scantlin	20 years
Michael Baxley	10 years	Terrance A. Bygate	25 years
Patrick Boyd	10 years	Russell Lindsey	25 years
Anna Dale	10 years	Frank Rice	25 years
Steve Greenberg	10 years	Harvey Varner	25 years
Elizabeth Adams	10 years	Ronald Clyde	30 years
Chuck Madgett	10 years	Stanley A. Kweiler	30 years
Bruce Stewart	10 years	James S. Gayle	35 years
Lindsey Strohschein	10 years	Douglas Gilstrap, Jr.	35 years
Sabrina Young	10 years	James L. Herd	35 years
Michael Benbow	15 years	Gary C. White	35 years
Jo Ann Ehlinger	20 years	Peter K. Chamberlin	<i>60 years!!!</i>
Jane L. Miller	20 years		
Mark Pipkin	20 years		

Blackwater Nordic

Harold B. Chase, III	20 years
Bradley Moore	30 years

Bryce Mountain

Jakki Leger	10 years	Edward Consentino	20 years
Kathryn J. Hurdcarillo	15 years	Steve Lewis	40 years
Jeffrey W. Murray	15 years	Randolph Trow	45 years

Cataloochee

Veronika Gunter	10 years	Chris Major	20 years
Gil Pettit	10 years	Michael D. Wolf	20 years
Douglas Carver	20 years	Daniel C. Greene	35 years
Bill Dingle	20 years	Dawn Joy Jucker	45 years

Cloudmont

William Brent Montgomery	20 years
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Homestead

Alan Marshall Ferris 20 years
Steve P. Burgdorf 30 years

Massanutten

Pete Ballou	10 years	John J. Bartus	20 years
Steve Escobar	10 years	Jan Bohrer	25 years
Maryland Lafoon	10 years	Mark Alan Andrews	30 years
Michael Willi	10 years	Tom Olander	35 years
J. Chris Bartus	20 years		

Ober Gatlinburg

Joe Ayers	10 years	Dean Eschmann	15 years
John Crawford	10 years	Bob Lewis	15 years
Steve Ebb	15 years	Ben R. Long	35 years

Sapphire Valley

Matthew Kowal 15 years

Snowshoe

Glenis Brock	10 years	Mark Fara	25 years
Bente Simerman	10 years	Jon Mohrman	25 years
Joseph Storella	10 years	Connie Roadcap	25 years
J Scott Bell	15 years	Karen Lynn Sealock	25 years
Derek Hill	15 years	Jonathan Wasko	25 years
Eric Louys	15 years	Michael Carroll	30 years
Jeff Roth	15 years	Melinda L. Souder	30 years
Randy Rumer	15 years	Stephen G. Vincent	30 years
Kirk Tilley	15 year	Alan Romine	35 years
David Waitkus	15 years	Rick Sharp	35 years

Southern Admin Patrol

Richard Woodlee 30 years

Sugar Mountain

Thomas Taylor	10 years	Cindy Fuller	30 years
Nicholas Friedman	15 years	Dean Lyons	30 years
Kyle W. Hassler	15 years	William Styres	30 years
Dave Rosen	15 years	Steve Clymer	35 years
Ronald Scott	15 years	Howard Tilley	35 years
Eric Sorrow	15 years	Joe White	35 years
Lindsey D. Lacey	20 years	Herbert J. Johnson, Jr.	45 years
C. R. Alex Rucker	25 years		

Timberline

David Rause	10 years
Joshua Saville	10 years
Josh Tompkins	10 years

Wintergreen

Jessica Butler	10 years	Kenneth E. Barber	25 years
Christopher Fabian	10 years	Mike Flanagan	25 years
Richard Metsch	10 years	William T. Harris, III	25 years
Corey Monaghan	10 years	Coleman D. Figg, Jr.	30 years
Brittney Mueller	10 years	William T. Ramsey	30 years
Holly Mueller	10 years	Brad Spano	30 years
Meggan Robbins	15 years	Donald Spano	30 years
Landon Figg	15 years	Walter Nichols	40 years
Trace Higgins	20 years		

Winterplace

Adam Carrico	10 years	Alisa C. Hudgel	20 years
Isaac Colvard	10 years	Bill Handy	25 years
Kellie Colvard	10 years	Charles A. Levin	30 years
Brett Skaggs	10 years	Wesley C. Benbow	40 years
David R. Creager, Jr.	15 years		

Wolf Ridge

Glenn Larson	10 years	Matt Lowery	20 years
Michelle Piscatelli	10 years	Randi Lowery	20 years
Bill Boughton	20 years	Thomas W. R. Bingham	30 years

NSP Angle Pin

Karen Crolius for her service and dedication to the Wintergreen Ski Patrol

National Appointments

Wintergreen	Meggan Robbins	NA # 11564
Wintergreen	Tom Hughes	NA # 11562

Patroller's Cross,

Personal sacrifice in service to all who ski

Cataloochee	Lisa Skelley
Sugar	Mary Self
Sugar	Robert Barbour
Sugar	Tommy Taylor

Purple Merit Star

Lifesaving Care, Snowshoe Mountain Resort, December 27, 2013

Frank Daniels
Joseph Storella
Rebekah Sharp
William Allen

Blue Merit Star

Administering CPR in a life saving effort on August 7, 2013

Tommy Gibbs
Cataloochee

Yellow Merit Star

For her work with the Instructor Development Program

Teresa T. Stewart
Smoky Mt Nordic

Senior, All from Massanutten

Ryan Ludwig
David Pedrick
John Doyle
Matt Myers
Jason Vitale

Instructor Service

<i>Administrative Patrol</i>	Steve Kuller	24 years
<i>Appalachian</i>	Anne Donadio	24 years
	Richard Sanders	24 years
	Scott Smith	12 years
<i>Beech</i>	Kenneth Hale	12 years
	Richard Lott	12 years
	Raymond Smith	24 years
	Richard Yerchek	18 years
<i>Bryce Mountain</i>	William Kost	18 years
	Patricia Lessy	24 years
	Lee Miller	12 years
	Jonathan Snow	12 years
	Anthony Wells	24 years
	Lacy Williams	24 years
<i>Cataloochee</i>	Ann Blakely	18 years
	Michael Wolf	18 years
<i>Homestead</i>	William Parks, Jr.	24 years
<i>Sapphire Valley</i>	David Castildini	18 years
<i>Massanutten</i>	Mark Andrews	24 years
	John Bartus	18 years
	Travis Dorman	12 years
	Kenneth Pankow	24 years
<i>Ober Gatlinburg</i>	Adrienne Armes	12 years
	Glenn Campbell	12 years
	Steve Ebb	12 years
	Brent Galloway	18 years
	Bob Lewis	12 years
	William Mattison	12 years
	Brandon Olson	12 years
<i>Smoky Mountain Nordic</i>	Teresa T. Stewart	12 years

Instructor Service

<i>Snowshoe</i>	Jason Hall	18 years	
	Jane Poundstone	18 years	
<i>Sugar Mountain</i>	Cindy Fleming	18 years	
	Jonathon Hale	18 years	
	CR Alex Rucker	18 years	
	Gene Self	18 years	
	Mary Self	18 years	
	<i>Timberline</i>	Scott Frankanhauser	12 years
<i>Wintergreen</i>	Brandon Deane	24 years	
	James Dick	24 years	
	Mary Graham	24 years	
	Tom Hughes	18 years	
	Robert Leavenworth	24 years	
	John E. Pouncey	24 years	
	Virginia Ragsdale	18 years	
	Megan Robbins	12 years	
	Geoffry Stagg	12 years	
	<i>Winterplace</i>	John Darrow	12 years
		Stephen Finch	18 years
Byrd White, III		18 years	
<i>Wolf Ridge</i>	Thomas Bingham	18 years	
	Larry Erb	18 years	

Division Outstanding Winners

<i>Alpine Patroller</i>	Daniel Greene	Cataloochee
<i>OEC Instructor</i>	Aileen Cassidy	Wintergreen
<i>Instructor</i>	Tom Hughes	Wintergreen
<i>Young Adult Patroller</i>	William Fowler	Wintergreen
<i>Paid Patroller</i>	Jacob Burleson	Appalachian
<i>Mary Kay Twomey Patroller</i>	Charles Wilson	Wintergreen

Special plaques given to Jim and Mary Underwood

James (Jim) Underwood

46 years of dedicated and unwavering service to the Southern Division of the National Ski Patrol August 2014

Mary C. Underwood

34 years of dedication and patience on behalf of the Southern Division of the National Ski Patrol August 2014

Thanks to all of you who submitted the award nominations and congratulations to all the recipients. I say this every year - This is a reminder to all Patrol Reps, Patrol Directors, Region Directors and Awards Advisors that this is one of the best ways to thank those who so deserve the recognition. With that said, I expect nominations in all of the categories from each patrol next award season! Remember, it is never too early to start thinking about who needs to be nominated.

Thanks to everyone who made this year's awards banquet such a success!

Safety Team Update and Leadership Development
Brett Henyon

Safety Team updates: I was fortunate to attend the NSAA fall conference last week and excited to see so many faces ready for snow. The National Ski Patrol Safety Team builds its yearly initiatives from key industry topics and safety trends – often from NSAA data. We will continue to focus on ‘Know the Code’ and this will be a key intuitive every year. The Safety Team continues to work with the High Fives Foundation through a symbiotic relationship to share the message of proper helmet use. Check them out at <http://www.highfivesfoundation.org>. - this intuitive is our focus on ‘Lids on Kids’ and general helmet safety. Also this year, we will continue to focus on The Chair lift Safety Program – remember – Sit Back and Hold on! Many of the items in the Safety Packet include chairlift safety materials. There are some changes coming to Terrain Park Safety and initiatives – there will be new terrain park identification materials and a simplified orange oval system...stay tuned! Finally - we are gearing up for Powderfall 2015 – this will be a must attend event. We would like to increase attendance, and make Powderfall 2015 an event that everyone learns. Stay tuned!

January is National Safety Month – here are some tips to get your mountain involved.

1. Get all operations departments at your ski area on board. For example, work with your lift operations manager to engage the lift operators and ticket checkers to push the Code, or your areas own safety initiatives with stickers, a loud speaker asking guests to shout out safety tips, or white board safety questions.
2. Challenge your food and beverage department to support a safety month breakfast kickoff for employees. Work with your marketing department to come up with specific Safety Month creative that can be pushed out through interactive social media sites as well as posters, stickers, etc. that support the event.
3. Use existing labor and resources within your patrol to engage the guests. Let’s be honest, extra money in the budget and extra bodies are hard to come by, so you need to be creative with resources. A couple of examples of this are using your duty stations where there are almost always a few patrollers around as a venue to encourage guests to visits. Offer hot chocolate, stickers, a one-pager on “how to have a great and safe time on the mountain,” etc.
4. Invite your local safety entities to set up in your busiest base area and create your own festival. Groups you may consider bringing in could be your local medical air transport operators, search and rescue group, local hospital, physical therapy group, fire department, terrain park operators, ski and ride school, mountain safety patrol, slope operations. These groups each have important messages to deliver in unique and often fun ways with games, stickers, and giveaways.
5. Have good and early communication with your resort leadership team. In other words, you need all hands on deck and support that starts with your president, general manager or whomever is the head of your resort. This is key as you will be asking a lot of each department’s managers and you need to know that you are supported from the top. With this support, you can begin to bring in key people to help you achieve a fun and successful event with measureable results!

The Safety Packets will be available on the NSP web site, here are some suggested ways to allocate and distribute these items. These materials act as a springboard for safety discussions

- Have a booth or tent in your base area on weekends to hand out safety information
- Use for kids that have been separated from their parents and end up in the first-aid room or lower patrol room
- Distribute while riding the chairlift with guests
- Give to guests who visit your on-mountain duty stations
- Have your season pass and ticket office hand out to guests getting passes
- Distribute to kids in a ski school class or winter program
- Meet with your local ski and snowboard racing clubs and distribute
- Offer them to the schools when you do outreach and educational visits
- Work with your conference sales group and have items placed in group's welcome packets
- Work with your lodging department and have items left in guests room
- Give to your patrol staff and mountain safety patrols to handout to injured guests

Vision Statement The NSP Safety Team will be the leader in mountain safety, education, awareness and hazards reduction.

Mission Statement The NSP Safety Team strives to be the leaders in the ski industry in education, awareness and mountain safety for employees and guests. We will accomplish this by aligning and collaborating with other like-minded organizations. We will represent all members of the National Ski Patrol organization with the highest level of patroller skills, commitment to creativity and integrity.

Leadership Development Updates I am new to this role but I want to share that basic leadership focuses on coaching and motivation, communications, and risk management. The manager is well versed in planning, organizing, staffing, directing, and controlling – the leader is manages these resources based on the individual. We look at vision, self-confidence, confidence in others and general flexibility. Leadership is dynamic - it should be distributed across team members at different times depending on the situation. Who is a great leader in your organization? Can you become a better leader? These are things to think about. I work with CEOs throughout the world on growing their business and becoming better leaders – I often see that no matter what level you are in your organization – you can become better at managing the aspects that are within your control. Everyone can grow and learn from external insight. I have plans to grow the Southern Division Leadership Program. My intentions are to teach a leadership program every spring and every fall.

Brett Henyon

[434.249.5164](tel:434.249.5164)

Southern Division Website

Trish Deane – Internet/Website Supervisor and Division Secretary

Southern Division Web Site

Lots going on! This time of year, the calendar is changing continually as everyone is preparing for the upcoming season. Exciting events for 2014-15 include a Mountain Travel & Rescue course at Timberline in October, a Train The Trainer Snowsports School workshop at Cataloochee in December, the Women's Program S&T Clinic at Massanutten in January, Senior clinics and exams, Certified clinics and exams, NSP's Powderfall event on April 9-12, 2015, at The Canyons in Utah, and the Fédération Internationale des Patrouilles de Ski (FIPS) congress at Adamello Ski in Italy April 2-9, 2016. Since the division is a member of FIPS, division patrollers can attend that congress. Wow! A chance to ski in Italy with patrollers from all over the world. It could be an incredible ski vacation.

The web site is expanding to include more info on elections, OEC, and awards. Most exciting is the staff bios page. This is a growing area of the web site where we feature bios and pics of division leadership.

<http://www.southernnsp.org/Staff.aspx>

Don't miss out on upcoming events. Check the Southern Division web site often. We'll keep you up to date on what's going on around the division. Also, follow us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/SoDivNSP>.

If you have recruiting materials you'd like posted on the web site, or a video about your patrol, email them to trish@GreatEastRoad.com.

Secretary

Course registration guidelines: Here's the procedure to follow to get your course registered and on the Southern Division calendar.

1. Send your dates and course info to your Region Director before you register the course with NSP.
2. Once the dates have been cleared, register your course with NSP.
3. Send the registration information (including course number) to your Region Director, so that it can be included on the calendar.

Patrol events (such as ski swaps, cookouts, recruiting events, etc.) can be listed on the calendar without pre-approval by sending them directly to me.

Staff Listing: If you are on the staff listing or if you notice incorrect information on the staff listing, please send an email to trish@GreatEastRoad.com.

Trish Deane

In Memoriam:

<https://www.southernsp.org/FinalSweep.aspx>

TED ASLUND

Wolf Laurel Ski Patrol

January 17, 1945 - September 21, 2014



ALEXANDER - Theodore Darby Aslund age 69, of Alexander passed away Sunday September 21, 2014.

Mr. Aslund was born January 17, 1945 in Chester, SC. He was a U.S. Army Veteran and had served during the Vietnam War. Mr. Aslund was a former member of the Wolf Laurel Ski Patrol for eighteen years, he was an avid fisherman, and enjoyed spending time with his dogs. Mr. Aslund was currently serving as the Business Manager for SellEthics Marketing Group, Inc. He was the son of the late Charles Birch and Isabel Darby Aslund.

Survivors include his wife of fifteen years, Jean Manera Aslund; his step-daughter, Elizabeth Manera Goodmon; step-son, Mitchell Medford, his wife Donna, and their children Colby, Zeta, Zoi, Joseph and Marah; sisters, Catherine Campbell and her husband Raymond Paquette and their children Matthew Birch

Campbell and Joseph Avery Campbell, Jane Aslund Hooper, her husband Robert Hooper and their daughters Rebecca Hooper and Sarah Catherine Hooper; brothers, Charles Birch Aslund II, his wife Gerda Louise Wootten Aslund, their daughter Hannah Aslund Johnson, Carl Frederick Aslund, his wife Janie, their sons Theodore Darby Aslund, Tyler Hunter Aslund; special friends Jerry and Kit Bieschke-Baker and their daughter Kristina Hansard and her husband J. B.

In lieu of flowers those who desire to make a memorial contribution are encouraged to consider the Wounded Warrior Project, P.O. Box 758517, Topeka, KS 66675.

In Memoriam:

<https://www.southernnsp.org/FinalSweep.aspx>

CATHERINE RILEY-HALL

Massanutten Ski Patrol

August 31, 1954 - August 15, 2014



Catherine Riley-Hall passed away suddenly on August 15, 2014, at the age of 59. She was born on August 31, 1954 in Chicago, Illinois. Catherine was the daughter of Robert Riley and Betty Allen.

Catherine attended Fenger High School in Dalton, Illinois, and graduated from Michigan Technological University where she received a degree in Recreational Forestry. She met her future husband, Kenneth Hall, at The Union Board Spring Fling Event at Mont Ripley Ski Area in Hancock, Michigan, where they began to share their love of skiing. After her graduation, Catherine accepted a position as a light house keeper at Copper Harbor. Kenneth and Catherine were married in 1977 in Durand, Michigan.

In 1978, after many moves, Catherine and Kenneth made their home in Centreville, Virginia. Catherine began her professional career with the Virginia Department of Transportation as a construction inspector. In July of 1978 Catherine accepted a position with Fairfax County in the Arborist Office, where she was known as the "Tree Lady." She stayed with Fairfax County as a management analyst with the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department.

In 1984, Catherine and Kenneth welcomed their daughter, Emily, into their busy home. In addition to being a mother, Catherine was active volunteering for the Fairfax Park Authority, her church, and numerous community organizations. She could not stay off the ski slopes, and in 1991 began volunteering as a ski patroller at Cherokee Ski Resort in Linden, Virginia. She loved skiing and teaching outdoor emergency care to others to at many resorts including Timberline, Massanutten, Canaan Valley and others for more than 20 years. She was called the "Queen of the Butterfly Bandage"

Preceded in death was her father, Robert Riley and sister, Susan Knopp. In addition to her mother, husband and daughter, Catherine is survived by her brother, Robert Riley and his wife, Colleen, and her five nephews Robbie, Bradley, Kyle, Morgan and Connor; her brother, David Knopp, niece Sarah and nephew, Steven; and many dear friends.

Catherine's life will be celebrated on Saturday, September 6, 2014 at noon at Centreville United Methodist Church. 6400 Old Centreville Road, Centreville, VA with a reception to follow in the fellowship hall.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in Catherine's name to the Fairfax County Park Foundation, Ellanor C. Lawrence Park for a memorial tree and bench at Fairfax County Park Foundation, 12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 404, Fairfax, VA 22035; Multiple System Atrophy (MSA) Coalition at <http://www.firstgiving.com/fundraiser/emily-hall-1/in-honor-of> or Therapeutic Adventures at <http://www.taonline.org>.

**Southern Division Calendar
& Staff Directory**

Please refer to the Division Website for updated schedules!
www.southernmsp.org

The calendar is flexible dependant on the weather – please check the calendar and/or with your patrol representative / Region Director for the most up-to-date changes.

In order to accommodate everyone wishing to present to the Southern Division's Executive Committee or Board of Directors and to allow for adequate time for members of the Committee and Board to review materials, please send requests to be placed on the meeting agenda, along with a summary of your topic and supporting documentation, to the Division Director in advance of the meeting. Requests must be received at least 30 days prior to the meeting, except that the Division Director may grant an exception to that deadline to accept an agenda request received at least 7 days prior to the meeting. Requests can be sent to richardboyer@bellsouth.net.