



Southern Cross

A Publication of The Southern Division of The National Ski Patrol

2008-2009, Number 2

www.southernnsp.org

January 2009

In This Issue

From Division Director 1

From the Assistants:

First Assistant 5

Second Assistant 6

South Area 7

From the Regions:

Dixie 8

Blue Ridge 9

West Virginia 10

From Supervisors and Advisors:

Transportation 10

Ski and Snowboard 11

Instructor Development 12

Archivist/Historian 12

Around The Division:

Update NC NSP License Plate ..14

Photos from the Division15

Snowsports School Flyer17

Warning Notice from NSP.org..18

Division Calendar/Directory18

(Entries in blue are navigational links)

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 Spring issue is May 22, 2009.

Send submissions to:

Teresa T. Stewart, SC Editor
1323 Bywood Lane
Charlotte, NC 28209
704-718-5675
sceditor@gmail.com

Send contact changes to:

NSP Office
133 Van Gordon St., Suite 100
Lakewood, CO 80228
Update address at www.nsp.org

R. Morgan Armstrong,
Division Director

Calendar Dates – The Division is trying to keep every patroller informed of all the important events in the division by posting them on the Website Calendar at www.SouthernNSP.org. How we manage the calendar to avoid conflicts and to make sure the information is correct is done as follows: we ask every instructor of record, officer and supervisor to send your date to the **Region Director** who covers the location of that event. If the event is a division wide event, still send the information to the Region Director of that location. The Region Director checks for conflicts, completeness and puts the information on the Division Calendar Form. It is then sent to the Division Director who adds it to the master calendar and it is forwarded to the Webmaster for placement on the calendar.

Any OEC or other discipline class that will extend over a long period of time should have the date the course begins and ends in the information. Also, it is helpful if you provide when the last sign-up date will be. I will keep the class on the calendar until the last sign-up date has passed and then the event will be dropped from the calendar. All dates on the calendar are removed when the date of the event has passed so the calendar contains useful information only.

All courses should be sent to the Region Director as soon as the course information is obtained. What we need is the following: (*)

| REGION EVENTS for 2009 | | | | | |
|------------------------|-------|-------|---------|-------|-------|
| REGION = * | | | | | |
| DATE | EVENT | PLACE | CONTACT | PHONE | EMAIL |
| * | * | * | * | * | * |

The event must have a *Contact* (person) and either a *telephone* (number) or *email* address for contact purposes (both are better) or the event will not be posted. Please help us out by providing information in a complete and timely manner. This will keep the calendar useful for us all.

The calendar is updated twice per month during the ski season and once per month during the non-ski remainder of the year.

Southern Division Patroller Conference 2009 – A lot of work has already been done on the next Patroller Educational scheduled for August 2009. We hope to exceed 200 in attendance and it appears the room rate will be guaranteed at \$94 per room (including double occupancy) for the 2009 and 2010 years. This year the officers of the division are working hard to have sponsors at the event. More will be posted as the event draws near but we look for two major suppliers for NSP and more to attend. We will also have one of the NSP chief officers in attendance. Last year was Tim White, the Executive Director of the NSP, and this year we are looking forward to one of the chief officers in attendance. We are also planning more courses and events for the patrollers to both enjoy and gain credits for advancement. The OEC Instructors Update is planned and we hope to have several other classes. Also, we are inviting a ski shop to set up a sales area for pro-form items for your purchase.

If you or a group known to you would like to sponsor a portion of this conference in order to hold down costs, please contact R. Morgan Armstrong, Division Director at rmasp@comcast.net. This might include funding for the Hospitality Room food, beverage, or rental for that room. The donation may be for all or a portion of the costs. The donation is tax deductible so if you know a professional group or business that would like to sponsor our conference, please let me know.

The big event for the weekend is the **Awards Banquet** on Saturday night. We hope to make this event the center of the weekend and we invite all patrollers to attend. Finally, we are going to move to a larger hospitality suite so everyone will fit into one large room.

NSP Patroller Education Conference – This event is set again at Snowbird, Utah April 15-17, 2009. Also, in combination with the Conference there is a Board of Directors Meeting planned. A lot will be going on that week and patrollers may attend all the conference events including the Board of Directors Meeting to see how the government of the NSP works. All division directors are required to attend this meeting so I will be present. Since it is a fun week as well as a working week, the Board of Directors has insisted that it will be treated as a Patroller Conference. No Southern Division Funds will be used to pay for any officer to attend this conference including the Division Director. Everyone attends on an equal footing without being subsidized by patroller funding. This is the correct way to conduct this meeting and I was very much in support of this resolution.

FIPS Conference – the Southern Division is a member of the Federation International Patrouilles des Ski or International Federation of Ski Patrollers, which is being held in Sweden in April 2009. I will also be attending as your representative for this week-long conference with officers of ski patrols from all over the world. I am joining **Terry LaLiberte**, NSP National Chair, at this conference. Since our last conference Russia and Germany have joined along with most of the countries of the world if they have ski resorts inside their border. This is an information conference and skiing opportunities are limited. Again, no Southern Division Funds are being spent on travel but only on the conference fee but I will be letting Uncle Sam know I expect a little tax deduction to help offset the cost.

Special Committees – Both the Legal and Medical Committees have been busy this year with rendering opinions on issues not only from the Southern Division but for NSP issues as well. Since we are one of the divisions who lead with a good strong Legal and Medical Committee in place, the NSP has used our committees to help the NSP Board of Directors to make decisions specific to the expertise of these committees. Other divisions are being asked to follow our lead and form similar committees. We should thank these committees for their hard work and special thanks goes to **Chuck Lollar**, Legal Committee Chair, and **Dr. Ian Archibald**, Medical Committee Chair, for their hard work and dedication to the Southern Division.

Staff Directory Information – Please check the Staff Directory on the Website and send me updates on information. I have several blanks in the information and need help filling in the gaps. Please send new information to rmasp@comcast.net.

A lot is going on in the division this year. An election is being held for Division Director and I hope I will continue to be your Director. The Southern Division continues to lead the NSP in various fields and our voice is very strong at the national level. This past winter I made a special effort to visit the patrols that were missed last ski season. Since our season is short, we have quite a few patrols and the distance is fairly great from one end of the division to the other. I try to be fair in visitation and make a visit each year if possible. If your patrol would like a visit, send me a date and I will do my best to work it into the schedule. Thank each of you for all you do for the local patrol, region, division and the NSP. I hope to see you at the Patroller Conference this August and most of all, ski and ride safely.

R. Morgan Armstrong
Southern Division Director

Morgan Armstrong is looking for information and the history of the past Division Directors and their dates of services to properly record in the history of the Division.

Please review the information below and send him any corrections to spelling, name or date of service.

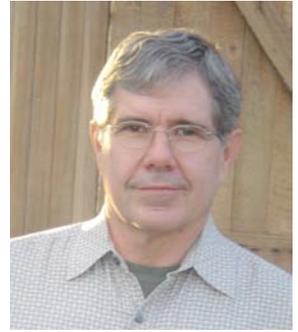
**DIVISION DIRECTORS
of the
SOUTHERN DIVISION
(Created from Eastern Division in 1971)**

NATIONAL SKI PATROL SYSTEM, INCORPORATED

| | | |
|------|------------------------------|----------------|
| (1) | Keith Argow | 1971 – 1977 |
| (2) | David Dillard | 1977 – 1979 |
| (3) | C. Harwell Dabbs, MD | 1979 – 1981 |
| (4) | Charles T. “Charlie” Benbow | 1981 – 1985 |
| (5) | Farris Jackson | 1985 – 1989 |
| (6) | Douglas Carlburg | 1989 – 1993 |
| (7) | Raymond B. “Bernie” Smith | 1993 – 1999 |
| (8) | Eunice “Nici” Singletary, MD | 1999 – 2003 |
| (9) | Neil Booth | 2003 – 2007 |
| (10) | R. Morgan Armstrong | 2007 – Present |

Richard Boyer,

1st. Assistant Division Director



End of Year Reports

By now you will have received the forms for the infamous End of Year Reports if you are an officer in the Southern Division. If you are either a Patrol Representative or a line or staff officer in the division a report will be necessary at year's end. Please look the forms over, take the one which is pertinent to your office and use it as a guide for keeping track of the information which is required in the report. This will make the task in April much less ominous. For those of you who didn't receive an email from me, don't have email, are new Patrol Representatives or new officers, contact me at richardboyer@bellsouth.net or (770) 364-0187. Together, we can make this a breeze to complete.

National Ski Patrol Certified Program

I have started the audit process of participating in the Certified Program of the NSP. **Ric Lavalley**, **Wayne Morgan** and I traveled together to the Clinic at Snowshoe Mountain this past weekend. Once there we met **Lisa Adams** and **Brie Young** (the sole boarder in our group) from Beech Mountain, and **Susanne Ebling** from Wintergreen who are first year attendees or like me were auditing the program. **Greg Pence** and **Brett Henyon** are already well on their way to completing their requirements for Certified. What an amazing program it is! We will be exposed to portions of Mountain Operation patrollers seldom get to see, much less to study. I knew there was a whole other world beside the patrol world each day one of our resorts is open, but it is truly thrilling to begin to learn about parts of it. This is not to presume we are being exposed to the whole operations picture, but the part we are learning is HUGH compared to the operation of just the ski patrol. Most of the Certified patrollers I've met don't wear this superlative distinction as a badge of bragging, but I'm here to tell you as one looking in from the outside of this group, anyone who successfully becomes a Certified Patroller, is one hell of a skier/boarder and much more! The program can take up to 3 years to complete or one has to start over; so it is like getting a graduate degree in Snow Sports Mountain. I would like more of our dedicated members to consider attempting this Certified Program. The worst that will happen, even if not successful in attaining Certified, is one will become a better patroller.

I would be remiss not thanking **Brandon Deane**, who heads up the Certified Program and some of the dedicated evaluators he gathered, **Kirk Mangum**, **Tom Hughes**, **Karen Sealock**, **Nate Wageley**, **Melinda Souder**, and **Jan Starr**. Most of them stood around all day in a steady rain watching us and giving very helpful advice then spent a better weather day Sunday doing the same thing on OEC, Lift Evacuation and Avalanche. Sorry if I missed some last names, I'll get them down in the future.

This year my wife, Joan and I will be visiting several areas we haven't had the opportunity to visit before and look forward to meeting new friends and seeing old friends in these areas. We're looking for consistently cold weather and new, fun slopes down which to carve turns.

Richard Boyer

Brent Bowman,
2nd Assistant Division Director



Well here we are already into February and 50% of the ski season in the South is over. I trust that all of you have gotten enough turns in to hold you over for the next 8-9 months.

For those of you who did not get enough skiing maybe there are a few things you should consider:

- 1) Join the Senior Program
- 2) Join the Certified Program
- 3) Become a PSIA or AASI instructor
- 4) Attend the Patroller Education Conference at Snowbird, Utah

At any or all of these I can guarantee that there people who will ski your legs off. They will literally make you crawl to your car. I know I have been there. They will wow you with their knowledge. Why are these people such good skiers, boarders and instructors? Because they spend the time on the hill or in the classroom. Not just any time. **Quality time** teaching and refining something that they love to do. They attend clinics and drive many miles to spend the weekend or a vacation weekday at another area learning new tips and tricks. This is not easy stuff. It takes a lot of dedication from these individuals. Next time you are in a class (NSP or not) think of the time this person has spent learning the information that they are attempting to give to you. At the end of the class please be sure to give them a big THANK YOU for all that they do without asking for any thanks or kudos.

Think about becoming an instructor. I am sure that each of you has a discipline that you love participating in. How about dedicating some of YOUR valuable time to assist others in gaining the fruits of your knowledge. Ask your PR or PD how you can get more involved with our organization.

Wishing I had more telemark turns in my legs.....

Brent

Mike Harris,
Assistant Division Director – South Area



AS THE BULL WHEEL TURNS

Blue Ridge and Dixie Regions are well into the 2008-2009 Ski Season. It looks like we will have cold weather for MLK weekend.

This years refreshers went very well. With Hawksnest only open for tubing – we had great cooperation in moving events scheduled for there.

Despite conditions of the economy, skier turnout has been surprisingly good so far this year.

I would like to remind everyone that a lot of work is going into keeping the calendar current on our new website – [www. SOUTHERNNSP.ORG](http://www.SOUTHERNNSP.ORG) – that is the fastest way to check on what is coming up.

Guess what? Even Tyrone has finally figured out that when it is raining or snowing - a helmet can really be dry and comfortable.



Newspaper Clipping from Hickory
re: the Catawba Valley Ski Club

Pete Chamberlin 1954 - Present = 55 yrs
Ann Wood 1976 = 33 yrs
Don Hedrick 1971-2000 = 29 yrs
Mike Harris 1977 = 32 yrs

149 Years total service to patrolling!

Mike Harris
aka Tyrone

Dixie Region

Brandon Olson,
Assistant Region Director

Hello fellow patrollers! As I write this, rain is falling, and has been for the last 2 plus weeks. I think that every patroller wishes the same thing - why can't the temp drop about 15 degrees and make this snow. Due to mother-nature, Dixie has suffered, yet continues to prevail!

As I travel across the Dixie Region, there is one thing that is always evident - stellar attitudes. It doesn't matter what happens, patrollers at all resorts are always welcoming to each other and its patrons, and continually make the best of what is laid in front of them. I want to personally thank all of you for your hard work and smiling faces. Keep up the good work!

As a result of the "Dixie Struggles", a multitude of classes have been cancelled or bumped to a later date. I want to encourage all of you to hang in there, as I have a feeling that things are going to take a turn for the better - possibly by the time you read this.

On another note, a few new things have happened. A handful of patrollers have passed their Basic Exam - congrats to them on a job well done. Also, the Dixie welcomes a few more Senior patrollers to the ranks as well - great job guys! I have been approached by quite a few seeking Toboggan Instructor and OEC Instructor status. This just proves how much dedication we have in this Region. I encourage all of you to help your Patrol, Region, and Division - we can't do it without your help.

And lastly, I want to congratulate Ober Gatlinburg on a successful opening weekend of an 8-lane tubing park. This has been in the mix for quite a few years, and finally became reality after the New Year. The park is adjacent to the slopes and offers much entertainment during the lift ride to the top.

Until next time - Take care, stay safe, think cold,

Brandon

Blue Ridge Region

Jonathan F. Hale,
Blue Ridge Region Director



Greetings to all Patrollers!

Thanks to **God** for the cold November. He gave us the necessary snow to hold us till mid-January's cold snap. I also give thanks to the Senior Candidates and instructors that braved the fog and ice to attend the Senior S&T and EMM clinics. A special thanks to **Randi Lowery** and **Rhonda Smith** from Wolf Ridge for adding elegance and intelligence to our event. We had twenty senior candidates in all. About twice what we expected. A special thanks to **Rick Laws** and "veteran" **Toni Cheek** for pulling off a great learning event under adverse conditions. Thanks to all of the volunteers and professionals that took the extra time to make themselves better Patrollers. Attaining senior status –or basic –or certified helps three groups of people. They are as follows:

- The Mountain,
- The skiing (or riding) public,
- The person making the personal transformation- You, the participant!

I'm gonna wax nostalgic for just a minute and tell you about an epiphany that struck me when I saw the picture of **Jim Hunter's** friends spreading his ashes at Beech Mountain again as I left the Patrol room to go out into the fog. I thought about how lucky we are to have these people in our lives. The finest and most dedicated people that I have ever met. Later that day, **Pete Chamberlain** and **Dan Cheek** made me a chili dog and **Ann Wood** counseled me on the finer points of a scenario, **Hugh Jernigan** and **Jim** and **Harriet Gayle** shaking off the cold while using a pencil to write critical notes as **Tommy Taylor**, **Tony Tingle** and **Bill Clarke** went through a Certified Scenario. I started counting years of service and stopped when I got to 100 with the first three. I thought about how pleased Jim was to see all of that happening from his perch.

Mike Harris shared a picture of some of a couple of these dedicated patrollers at an earlier venue.

See the photo page that includes the Senior EMM at Beech Mountain on January 11th.

See you soon on the hill! Jonathan

West Virginia

Byrd White,
West Virginia Region Director

What a great family.

A few weeks back I had the pleasure of attending a course for instructors of the new Leadership course. As I listened I began to marvel at all the time that the **Underwood's**, **Ted Forbes** and **Bill Smith** had put into the development of this course. The next thought was "why are these eight people sitting here on a pretty Saturday learning how to teach this course?"

On the way home that evening it dawned on me.

When I got to the course that morning I had met all the people there but really hadn't spent a lot of time with most of them. I left feeling that we were all friends.

I have been an NSP member for 17 years and involved in the Division for a little over 10 years. The people I have been privileged to work with are, without fail, friendly and caring people, the kind of people we should all want to spend time with. Oh yeah, they are also pretty bright people pretending to be less that they are. Humility is a virtue that really shines in this group.

My point in all this is that if you are not involved in NSP, you should be. A lot of people gave a lot of their time so that you could be a patroller. Someone helped you pass the OEC (WEC for the gray hairs), they helped you develop your toboggan skills, Senior, on and on. By getting involved you not only get to pass on what you have learned, you get to associate with some of the best people around. NSP needs you, Southern Division needs you. Talk to your Patrol Representative, I promise you will be welcomed and that you will enjoy the experience.

From the Supervisors and Advisors...

Transportation...Transportation...Transportation...Transportation

Tony Tingle,
Transportation Supervisor

At the Fall Conference in Kingsport last August one of the primary topics of discussion among the folks at the Transportation Roundtable was Continuing Education for Transportation Instructors. The majority in attendance at the Roundtable indicated that establishing continuing education requirements is a good idea, and I agree.

I would like to propose, for adoption into the Southern Division, a set of continuing education requirements for transportation instructors. The formal proposal will not be submitted to the Executive Committee until this summer. I'm trying to be flexible but ensure that each

transportation instructor continues to improve in his or her teaching abilities. With that in mind, here is what I would like to propose:

For every three (3) year Transportation Instructor renewal period, each instructor shall do three (3) of the following:

- Teach a Toboggan Enhancement Seminar (TES)
- Attend or Teach at a Ski Trainers Workshop (STW)
- Attend or Teach at a Skiing Enhancement Seminar (SES)
- Attend the National Education Seminar and participate in one of the Toboggan Training Activities
- Actively Teach at your Mountain
- Attend the Transportation Roundtable at the Fall Conference, or
- Mentor a new instructor

Here is where you guys come into play. Tell me what you think. Give me your suggestions and comments. Are there more items I should include in the options? Should we require more or less training? Send our questions and comments via e-mail to me at geofolks@att.net or via snail-mail to Tony Tingle, 113 Orkney Road, Oak Ridge, TN 37830. This is not set in concrete, and I'm up for suggestions. Let's build our continuing education requirements together.

And don't forget, if you register and teach a course this season; get that course closure paperwork submitted quickly after you are done. If you need help, give me a shout.

Think Snow,

Tony

Ski and Snowboard...Ski and Snowboard...Ski and Snowboard...Ski and Snowboard

Briggs Allen,

Ski and Snowboard Supervisor

With winter finally upon us the Southern Division Snowsports School's training programs are getting into full swing. In December, a course was held at Cataloochee to further our members teaching skills and to prepare them for the PSIA Level II part 2 (teaching) exam. On Friday, February 6 a skiing skills improvement and level II part 1 (skiing) exam prep workshop will be held at Winterplace. On Saturday and Sunday, February 7 and 8 a more extensive version of the Winterplace clinic will be held at Ski Beech Resort. To sign up for the above free clinics just drop me an e-mail at briggsaln@aol.com.

This year's major program will be held February 27 - March 1 at Wintergreen. We have as instructors, PSIA National Alpine Demo Team members **Matt** and **Jeb Boyd** and AASI National Snowboard Demo Team member **Dave Lynch**. This event will consist of personal skiing/boarding improvement as well as Level II exam prep. Additionally, this clinic will qualify for both PSIA and AASI continuing education credits. Cost for the program is \$130 with registration available to all patrollers. Detailed information e-mail was sent to all members of

the Southern Division Snowsports School and patrol directors. A detailed flyer was also mailed to patrol directors for posting. This event is not to be missed and a great chance to learn from, as well as ski and board with, the best instructors in the country. Registration is limited and filling quickly so *do not* delay.

If you haven't had an opportunity to read the latest edition of Ski Patrol Magazine be sure to read the article on our Snowsports School. Lots of complements and gee I didn't know have been coming in.

Finally, a special thanks to all of our members that are working so very hard to upgrade their credentials so that they can provide greater service helping instructor our candidates and patrollers in their skiing and snowboarding skills. We realize this takes time, money and a tremendous amount of dedication

Until next time, remember skiing is simple... 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 the NSP Educational courses. This is a required step before the mentoring stage with an instructor within the specific discipline that you are becoming involved with (Outdoor Emergency Care, Toboggan and Ski, Mountain Travel and Rescue, Avalanche, Outdoor First Care, etc). This is also a SENIOR ELECTIVE.

Interested students should contact Teresa directly at (stewart.teresa@gmail.com). Students will also need to buy the Instructor Development Student Manual (#502) from the NSP catalog or through the NSP on-line store. I will be contacting the Region Directors for input from their areas on potential needs for courses after the first of the year.

Archivist-Historian... Archivist-Historian... Archivist-Historian... Archivist-Historian...

Fred Wessels,
Archivist / Historian, Southern Division.

Don't Fade Away

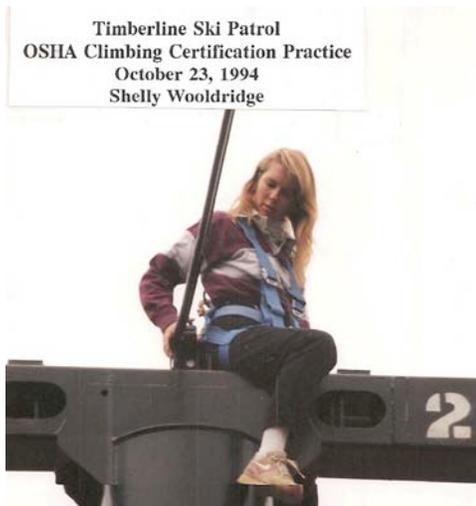
Sometime back in October, a couple of "wise guys" decided that since Hawksnest was closed, I would have nothing better to do than sit around on the computer and scan a box full of pictures. So they asked me to be the Archivist / Historian. You guys are in real trouble. The Southern Division has a rich history. The problem is none of it is recorded in any single location. We all have old pictures, newspaper articles, and stories about the history of our

mountains and Patrols. Unless something is done to preserve this information, it will fade away into history.

This is where I need your help. I am looking for a written history of your Patrol along with any newsletters, Photos, Photos with stories, stories about Patrollers, etc. Basically anyone who has anything, I would like a copy. Not only for active Patrols. Don't let the ski hills that have closed fade away into our rapidly fading memories.

I would prefer to get this information in a digital format. Scan pictures and email them to me or copy to a disk and mail the information. If you have Patrol Newsletters, I please add me to your email list southerndivisionhistory@gmail.com. Not just for current Newsletters, I would also like as far back as you can go.

Some of the pictures I have are rapidly degrading while some are still sharp. Let's stop our history from becoming lost in history. Below are a few samples from the collection. Send me new ones!



Oak Ridge Juniors 1987 at
Hawksnest

From Around the Division...

Update on the NSP NC license plate.

We are close to our goal of 300 signatures on the petition to create a new North Carolina license plate. We are literally **35 signatures** short of our goal. Please, if you haven't signed up or are not sure if you did or not, email me with your full name, home address, phone number and home patrol. I will add you to the petition. I'd like to be able to turn this in to Senator Tom Apodaca this spring so we can progress to the next level.

Randi Lowery
Assistant PR
Wolf Ridge SP
randilowery@gmail.com

Dr. Tom Brigham, the founder of Sugar, Beech and Snowshoe Mountains, died this fall. He was 83 years old. While Doc Brigham was a dentist by trade (and a professor at the UAB School of Dentistry) he was well known amongst ski area management and fans of the Southeast ski resorts as "The Father of Southern Skiing".

Please see the following links on the death of the Father of Southern Skiing.

- http://www.highcountrypress.com/weekly/2008/12-11-08/saying_goodbye.htm
- <http://www.skinc.com/article.php?table=article&mode=search&archived=false&subtype=fi rsttrax&article=2290>

Photos from the Blue Ridge Region Senior EMM January 11, 2009 – (Photos submitted by Harriett Gayle)



Rick Lott, Margaret Rees, Roger Bushnell and Richard Sanders



Tommy Taylor, Bill Clarke, Tony Tingle and Patrick Benson



John Hamrick,
Harriet Gayle,
Josh Jones and
Susie Strohschein
Working a scenario
and still ←-
smiling- →



Richard Yercheck pondering a scoring sheet while observing a scenario in the freezing fog at Beech Mountain.

Ski and Toboggan Clinic at Appalachian Ski Mountain December 7, 2008 (Photos submitted by Hugh Jernigan)



Senior S & T Clinic - January 10, 2009



Jonathan Hale is training for a new position at Beech Mountain with Jason Varney
(Photo submitted by Randi Lowery)

Dennis Slagle atop Mogul Ridge-Ober Gatlinburg 01-17-09
(Submitted by Mike Harris)



Southern Division Snowsports School

DEMO TEAM



February 27-March 1, 2009

Contact: Briggs Allen at
briggsaln@aol.com

Learn from the PSIA & AASI National Demo Teams

The Southern Division NSP Snowsports School is sponsoring a 2 1/2 day clinic with Matt and Jeb Boyd of the PSIA National Demo Team and Dave Lynch of the AASI National Demo Team. This is a great opportunity to get ready for your Level I or II certification or just to polish those skiing and boarding skills.

The clinic will be held at Wintergreen Resort on February 27, 28 and March 1 (1/2 day), 2009. The program will qualify for continuing education credits for both PSIA and AASI. The cost is *only* \$130. Registration will begin immediately and continue until 12/21/2008 for Southern Division Snowsports School members. After that date, registration will be open to all Southern Division NSP members until the classes are full. Registration can be completed by sending your name, address, NSP/PSIA/AAAI #, telephone # as well as a check to Southern Division NSP to Briggs Allen, 15114 Stonewall Ridge Bristol, VA 24202. Or if you wish to pay by credit card (\$134) send the above information to briggsaln@aol.com and you will be invoiced with a PayPal link.

Space is limited... so hurry! This is your chance to ski/ride/learn from the very **BEST** in the sport.

Information from NSP.org

(Member News Section)

An Important Warning for all Avalanche Transceiver Users (1.21.09)

PIEPS has become aware of a potential issue with carrying the PIEPS DSP avalanche transceiver in close proximity with the Motorola Model GP340 radio transceiver. If these two devices come in contact with each other, magnetic fields in the radio can activate magnetic switches in the PIEPS DSP to turn it off or change it from transmit mode to search mode.

The issue is being investigated and is no cause for alarm. It does not appear to affect transceivers that are carried according to the separation criteria already specified in the PIEPS DSP owner's manual (at least 15 cm (6") from other devices while in "send" mode). However it should serve as a reminder for all users of avalanche transceivers to read their owners manual and heed the criteria specified for separation distance between their transceiver and other potential sources of electromagnetic interference, regardless of brand.

Southern Division Calendar & Staff Directory

Please refer to the Division Website for updated schedules!

www.southernnsp.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.