



# Southern Cross

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**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 Mid-Winter issue is January 13, 2012.

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**Richard Boyer,**  
*Division Director*

You have no doubt heard that the NSP has updated their core manual to the 5<sup>th</sup> Edition. This improvement has required a course of approximately 6 hours to bring the OEC technician up to the new standards, which are critical, the OEC curriculum for the NSP. Hours and hours have gone into this updated manual to make it the preeminent course in outdoor, wilderness and ski area accident responsiveness. We in the Southern Division are following the guidelines set out by the NSP 5<sup>th</sup> Edition OEC committee to integrate this into our membership. This is going on as we speak. **Joe Donadio** the Patrol Representative and Director at Appalachian Patrol in North Carolina holds the distinction of being the first patrol to completely update all their instructors in preparation for the refresher season now upon us. Congratulations, Joe, Leslie Carter, many others too numerous to mention and your team of OEC instructors!



Speaking of **Leslie Carter**, who is a Certified Patroller, and a fine OEC technician to boot, she has been tasked with orchestrating this huge 5<sup>th</sup> Edition Update undertaking. Her team of **Bob Brewster, Richard Yercheck, Jane Poundstone, and Nancy DiBenedetto** are on track to meet the high Southern Division goals for OEC. Thanks to Leslie for her hard work in leading us through this update. We do not compromise in this effort to deliver the finest care we can on our mountain slopes and elsewhere. Additionally, thanks to all of our patrol members for the extra efforts required to be the best you can be!

The Southern Division continues to hold a position within the NSP hierarchy of leaders of the highest respect and admiration in knowledgeable skiing circles. **Morgan Armstrong, Larry Bost, Norris Woody** and others in the national limelight for the NSP are continually sought out for their respected advice on how to run this fine organization.

Morgan Armstrong is currently engaged in the monumental task of bringing to fruition changes in Federal Law to protect the volunteerism involved in ski patrol. Hurricane Katrina illuminated a vast weakness in our nationwide system of first responders. Teams from other states were turned back from their attempted efforts to help the Gulf states because of the crippling

bureaucracy of the present state (and even county) EMS systems. The talents and enhanced values patrollers hold through their training, experience, initiatives and attitudes are truly a national treasure and should be recognized as such. In a time of emergency, we, as a nation, need to be able to count on patrollers' help across state lines, and everywhere they might be of aid to those in need. Please do all you can to support and aid Morgan and his team to bring about the federal support for this initiative.

This will be a fine ski season for us all. I look forward to seeing as many of you as I can on our ski mountains this season.

### *From the Assistants...*

**Brent Bowman,**  
1<sup>st</sup> Assistant Division Director



Well, I can't believe the summer is already over! As you read this, Labor Day has come and gone, kids are all back in school and college. In August, we had our Patroller Conference in Kingsport, TN. It was a really great weekend with 150+ patrollers attending. The weekend included an OEC update for the new 5<sup>th</sup> edition. Saturday night was topped off with an awards banquet with MANY awards presented. Thanks to all of the patrols for sending in award nominations. Writing and editing the nomination forms is a really tough job and the thanks are in the smiles on the faces of the persons receiving the award certificate or plaque.

As we head into September, October and November OEC instructors will be hard at work completing the OEC courses in progress and doing the testing comes at the end of the class. Please assist these instructors by volunteering a day or two of your time to evaluate, be a patient or bystander for the test(s). This is also a great way for you to begin to refresh your mind for the upcoming OEC refreshers. OEC instructors will be meeting to plan refreshers and for those of you who are in the mentoring process, this will be a great opportunity for you plan and practice the module or two that you will present at the refresher.

As always I look forward to the first turns on new snow.

SEE YOU AT THE REFRESHER!!!!

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**Mike Harris,**  
*Assistant Division Director – South Area*

### **As The Bull Wheel Turns**

Usually it is hard to believe that another ski season is just around the corner but this year was different for me because of shoulder surgery mid May, I thought it would never get here. Our Division held the annual Fall Conference August 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> again at the MeadowView Marriott in Kingsport, Tennessee. In addition to the annual Board of Directors meeting, the OEC 5<sup>th</sup> edition instructor update brought many more to the conference. The Patrol



Directors had a breakout session and **Tony Tingle** held the usual Transportation Instructor Workshop. A great meal was served at the awards banquet. We had another great hospitality suite thanks to **Rob Raff** and **Fred Wessels** with help from **JoAnn Ehlinger**, **Teresa Stewart**, and others. Dixie Region Director is **Brandon Olson** with a new Asst. RD **Randy Lowery**. Blue Ridge Region Director is **Brent Rockett** with **Tommy Taylor** as Asst. RD. I will not duplicate more local information that should be in your Region Directors articles. I am again looking forward to visiting, skiing, and patrolling with as many of you as possible this year. See you on the Mountain.

Mike Harris (AKA Tyrone)

P.S.  
I would like to thank the **Moretz** family for again allowing the Blue Ridge instructor refresher to be held at Appalachian Ski Mtn. Seeing the interaction of such skills made me feel privileged to be part of that group. It felt like being a small child and getting to play with the big kids. It is great that instructors from different patrols work so well together.

*Southern Division Webmaster .....*

**Trish Deane,**  
*Webmaster/Board Secretary*

Website Walkthrough: <http://www.southernnsp.org>

Consider visiting the Southern Division web site for information on events (both Division and National) of interest to you. On the front page of the site, we're featuring information on the Snowsports School classes for the upcoming season, the Certified Program, and NSP's 2012 Patroller Education Conference (PEC). You'll also find links for ordering the NSP Cookbook and the OEC 5<sup>th</sup> Edition (both in book and electronic formats).

Inside the site, the Division calendar is filling out for the season and is updated on a regular basis. If you have an event you'd like to feature on the calendar (ski swaps, patrol social events, etc.), email **Trish Deane** at [trishdeane@livenation.com](mailto:trishdeane@livenation.com). Please provide event date(s), event name, location, course number, contact person, contact phone, and contact email, if applicable.

If you have a course that has been registered with National Ski Patrol, contact your Patrol Rep and he/she will submit the course for the calendar through your Regional Director. For an NSP-registered course, you'll need to provide event date(s), event name, location, course number, contact person, contact phone, and contact email.

The staff page gives you information on chain of command within the Division and a listing of program supervisors, so that you know who to contact if you're interested in programs, such as Certified or Senior.

We have back issues of the Southern Cross, a library full of important forms and documents related to the governance of the Division, the Certified Program, the 5<sup>th</sup> Edition Update Training, and the Student Patroller Scholarship Application.

The site will be continuing to grow with the addition of more photos and a recruiting page. If you have ideas on what would be useful on the web site, please send them to the email address listed above. We're also looking for a good application for uploading photos to the site. If you have any recommendations, please send those, as well.

The newest edition to the site is a facebook LIKE button, which is located just below the left navigation. So, if you like the site, consider letting us know by clicking LIKE.

Trish Deane - Web Master

**Brent Rockett,**

*Blue Ridge Region Director*

**BLUE RIDGE REGION MESSAGE**

First of all, I would like to extend a thank you to **Jonathan Hale** in appreciation for his years of service as the Region Director. I am looking forward to serving the region as well and to continue the close relationship that all the patrols have developed within the Blue Ridge Region. I would also like to thank **Toni Cheek** and **David Hall** for their time and talent in serving as the Region Senior Program Supervisor and the Region Skiing and Toboggan Supervisor, respectively for the past few years. They did an admirable job and the region is grateful for the leadership they provided to these programs. **JoAnn Ehlinger** and **Patrick Benson** have stepped up and will be serving in these roles this year. For the past two years the Senior Program in the Blue Ridge Region has seen an influx of new candidates. The Appalachian Mountain Ski Patrol has contributed significantly to the program as a result of their new initiative for all of their patrollers to either proceed toward the Senior Patroller level or to become an NSP instructor. Senior programming looks forward to continued growth within the Region. After another snowy winter all three mountains have continued to upgrade and make improvements to their resort during the summer. We all are looking forward to experiencing the changes this ski season. And Appalachian Mt will be celebrating an anniversary this year, having first begun operating as the Blowing Rock Ski Lodge 50 years ago. Congratulations!

Also, this year Beech Mt will be hosting the Gravity National Games Bike Races on September 22 – 25. If any of you are looking for something exciting to do this fall in the mountains, contact **Gil Adams** at Beech Mt as he is looking for patrollers to help with this special event.

As you read this article, your OEC Instructors have gone through their refresher in preparation of your fall refresher. Also, this year they have had to go a step beyond having to attend an update of the new OEC 5<sup>th</sup> Edition. The refreshers this year are at Sugar Mt on October 1 and Appalachian and Beech Mt on November 5. **Cammie Hale**, **Richard Yercheck** and the Instructors of Record have done another outstanding job in providing the very best refresher for you. I hope each of you will take the time to thank them and all the instructors as you go through your refresher.

I look forward to seeing each of you on the slopes real soon.

Brent

*From the Supervisors and Advisors...*

**Outdoor Emergency Care ... Outdoor Emergency Care ... Outdoor Emergency Care**

**Leslie Carter** - *OEC Supervisor*

**Bob Brewster** – *Assistant OEC Supervisor*

By now most of our OEC instructors have been busy updating, teaching classes and refreshing on the new 5<sup>th</sup> edition OEC text. As of submission of this article, we've had 2 updates in West Virginia, a hurricane riddled update in Virginia, one in Metropolitan DC, one in Blue Ridge, one in Atlanta, and 2 in Tennessee, including the very well attended one in Kingsport at our fall conference. Congratulations to Sapphire Valley and Appalachian Ski Mountain Patrols for having 100% of their OEC Instructors trained on the OEC 5e New Material! With at least 3 more planned in North Carolina, Virginia and West Virginia, we hope to have most of our instructors up to date by the end of October.

There has been a lot of very positive feedback regarding the new 5<sup>th</sup> edition. MyNSPKit, the online learning center for the text is a great addition for students and instructors alike. The new skills being taught at the instructor updates for the most part are great additions to the patroller repertoire, though a few new skills have raised eyebrows. All the material in the book is taught as the NSP's OEC curriculum, and it's your mountain's choice whether or not to incorporate any of the new skills or purchase some of the new equipment. You'll see many of these skills at your mountain refreshers this fall. If you haven't purchased or borrowed the 5<sup>th</sup> please do so soon as there is a 32- question review that is required to complete prior to your local refresher. As with any new text, there have been some instances of errors and conflicting information found within the text. National is committed to correcting these for future printings. Feel free to contact Bob Brewster or myself with questions or issues you have found in the text or MyNSPKit.

Congratulations, and Welcome, to the following NEW OEC instructors (2010-11 Season):

<b>APPALACHIAN</b>	<b>MASSANUTTEN</b>	<b>OBER</b>
Jim Brown Kent Graham LaRaye Rudicile George "Chip" Sudderth Jami Jones Jeff Jones Reid Rope (Douglas)	Paul Goulart Laura Lambert Jim Zaylor Michael Miller	Armand Mendez Ryan Rose Greg Gavrilets Diedra Banks - Kaufman Jack Hunt John Crawford Dave Crawford Troy Tisue Joe Ayers Tom Moak Tom Barry Robery Mayer Jessi Hunter Joel Hurst Blake Day Clark Chambers Stewart Foshie
<b>BRYCE</b>	<b>WINTERPLACE</b>	
Lee Miller	Brett Skaggs Andrea Marino Alisa Hudgel Mark Collins Leroy Eckley	
<b>CATALOOCHEE</b>	<b>TIMBERLINE</b>	
John Polascik	Scott Frankhauser Frank Loughery Shari Loughery Mike Smith Herb Edwards Richard Dunn	
<b>SNOWSHOE</b>		
J. Randy Howell		
<b>WINTERGREEN</b>		
Michael Barber Chuck Lollar Jim Dibelka		



In addition, so far this season, the following Individuals have also met the requirements to become NEW OEC Instructors:

**SUGAR**

Cindy Fuller  
Reggie Hassler

**WINTERPLACE**

Kellie Colvard  
Dave Holloway

Instructor Communications: By request, future emails sent via the Southern Division NSP “e-blast” site will begin with “OEC” in the subject line so that individuals may search, file or delete emails as they chose. Also, please be sure to check the Southern Division website Library under OEC for easy access to certain documents and teaching aids.

As always, THANK YOU so much for your “over and above” efforts during this transition year as we Roll Out OEC 5<sup>th</sup> Edition - we literally could not do it without you.

Leslie Carter – OEC Supervisor

Bob Brewster – Assistant OEC Supervisor

*Transportation ... Transportation ... Transportation ... Transportation ... Transportation ...*

**Tony Tingle,**

*Division Transportation Supervisor*



Can you believe it is September? A month ago we were in Kingsport at the Fall Conference. It was hot and muggy and we only dreamed of powder, as we watched the videos in the hospitality room. First off, thanks to the Transportation folks that attended the Roundtable Discussion. I always learn new things during these roundtables and it confirms my belief that the Southern Division Transportation folks are engaged and talented. These discussions are lively and tend to focus on questions that arose during the prior season, and this Roundtable was not exception. We focused on questions that arose during Senior Events last season. I took notes and I’m still chasing down the answers to some of the questions. I’ll pass the answers along when I get them.

A lot has happened since the meeting. Carla and I are now parents (Young **Jack Tingle** was born August 30), the weather has cooled, and the leaves here in the Tennessee Valley are beginning to turn colors. Refreshers are around the corner and the snow won’t be far behind. With that said, Transportation courses are being registered for the coming season and the notices are showing up in my e-mail inbox. Just a couple of notes for the upcoming courses:

- 1. Remember, to be covered with the NSP insurance, the course has to be registered! And**
- 2. If you register a course, please close it. If you need help closing a course, call or e-mail me.**

On the National Front, the update to the Transportation Manual has started. If there is something you like, dislike, or have issue with regarding the current Transportation Manual, drop me a line and I’ll pass your feedback along.

More locally, I am looking forward to the snow. I am excited about a Women’s Clinic to be taught in the Virginia Region this season, and I’m excited about the upcoming training and evaluations that are going to happen at every mountain. I look forward to seeing you on the snow..... if not sooner. Thanks for all you do.

Tony

*Snowsports ... Snowsports ... Snowsports ... Snowsports ... Snowsports ... Snowsports ... Snow*

**Briggs Allen,**

*Snowsports Supervisor*

**Wow...**

What a *great* 2010-11 season for the Division Snowsports School!!!!!! For the first time ever we had 100+ participants in five successful skiing and snowboarding clinics in all of the regions in the Southern Division. All the clinics utilized video analysis and a level III instructor taught in four out of the five clinics. Since the last edition of the Southern Cross clinics were conducted at Winterplace, Ski Beech and Wintergreen. The Winterplace clinic was held Friday, February 11 on the day that can only be described as perfect. Temperatures started out near 5° and climbed to the mid-20s. We had 12 patrollers in the clinic that were taught by three instructors from the Central Division NSP Ski School. A lot of good information was imparted and upon conclusion of the program we were invited back (always a good sign). Thanks go to Winterplace's Patrol Rep, **Walt Watson** and Patrol Director **Isaac Colvard** for all of their assistance with the clinic.

Our skier/teacher improvement clinics continued that weekend with a Saturday/Sunday clinic at Ski Beech. This was the second year that this clinic had a waiting list and patrollers from Appalachian, Cataloochee, Ober Gatlinburg, Wolf Ridge and Ski Beech participated. Thanks go to **Gil Adams**, Ski Beech Patrol Director for helping to make this clinic a success.

Our season concluded with the occurrence of the biennial Demo Team Clinic held in early March at Wintergreen. The instructors were absolutely fantastic. **Jill Matlock** an alumni PSIA Demo Team member and extreme skiing champion as well as **Ron Sheppard** alumni PSIA intermountain Demo Team member and former instructor of the year were our ski instructors. **Tommy Morsch** current AASI Demo Team member and manager of the Bristol Mountain Park was our snowboard leader. Friday was an absolute blue sky perfect day at Wintergreen with Saturday threatening rain and Sunday it poured. Fortunately Sunday morning was spent inside reviewing video taken on Saturday which gave us a great opportunity to not only evaluate our personal skiing but also that of our other course clinicians in movement analysis. Patrollers from Cataloochee, Bryce, Ober Gatlinburg, Massanutten, Ski Beech and Wintergreen came away satisfied that they were not only improved with their skiing/boarding skills but also learned a few tricks that they could carry back to their home resorts to teach others. Thanks go out to the Wintergreen Patrol and Resort for being, as usual, superb host! A special thanks goes out to **Tucker Crolius**, Wintergreen Patrol Director, for all of the time and hard work he put in behind-the-scenes in making our event successful.

Hopefully all of you that participated in our clinics this season received an online survey regarding various components of our program. Over 50% completed the survey (I am told that is a high response) and I would like to share with you some of the information received:

- 65% stated that the clinics this season *exceeded* their expectations.
  - 27% stated that the clinics this season met their expectations with
  - 6.9% being neutral.

- 66% stated that there should be 2-3 clinics per region per season.
  - 17% stated there should be 3-4 clinics per region.
- 41% stated they found out about \ Snowsports School clinics via an e-mail from their patrol director.
  - 37% were informed of the clinics via an e-mail from the Snowsports school
  - 24% E blast
  - 20% Southern Cross
  - 82% indicated in the future they would like to be informed of clinics via e-mail
- 52% indicated they would pay \$25 per regional clinic
  - 27% \$10
  - 24% \$35
- 83% indicated they wanted more skier improvement clinics.
  - 55% wanted more teaching clinics
  - 41% wanted more PSIA/AASI test preparation clinics
  - 34% examiner continuing education clinics
  - 31% snowboarder improvement clinics
  - 24% telemarking improvement clinics
- 61% stated that the Snowsports School met their needs
  - 27% stated that the Snowsports School exceeded their needs
  - 10% stated that they were neutral.
- 100% of the patrollers that participated in the Demo Team clinic would like to see this clinic continue in 2012

A few comments. The positive statements about our clinics reflect what we see in on-site evaluations immediately after the programs. *Our clinic participants are satisfied with the training and instruction that they have received.* I was surprised that patrollers wanted more clinics per region every season. Making sure that all patrollers know about our clinics is one of my top priorities and concerns. I appreciate patrol directors informing their patrollers of our clinics. It is very apparent that our clinic participants want to find out of our programs via e-mail and I have been working on this throughout the summer. It was gratifying to note that our clinic participants place a monetary value on the training and information that they have received. I was very pleased to see that almost **90% of the respondents indicated that the Snowsports School either met or exceeded their needs.** Finally the survey confirmed what our participants have said, the Demo Team Clinic is valuable and should be repeated. My sincere thanks to all of you that took the time to participate in the survey and you may be assured that your comments have been heard.

### **The 2011-2012 Season**

This year we are planning 7 clinics in all of the Southern Division's regions. The first being **December 3-4 at Cataloochee.** This clinic is open to both patrollers that ski and snowboard. It will be particularly valuable for those that are teaching at their respective patrols as well as those planning to take their level II part 1 exams.

We are coming back (by request) to **Winterplace on January 27** for a one-day **skier/snowboarder improvement clinic.** This clinic will be taught by our counterparts from the Central Division.



**Ski Beech on January 28-29** will be the site for a **skier/snowboarder improvement** clinic taught by our Central Division instructors. Sign up early as over the last two years there has been a waiting list to participate.

**January 7-8 Wintergreen** will host a **Divisional Women's Clinic**. This is a chance for female patrollers throughout the Division to get together to polish your skiing/patrolling skills (and maybe learn some new ones) as well as having a great time doing so. The details are just about complete at this writing so ladies be sure to reserve this date and stay on the lookout for further information.

In the works is a snowboard improvement clinic for the Virginia region as well as the Snowsports School's participation in upcoming examiner clinics. Finally, we hope to develop a "Big Mountain Clinic" out West in March. This is in the very early stages so stay tuned.

Now is the time to mention that all of our clinics this year will cost participants \$25 (cash, check or PayPal). Other Snowsports School's programs do this as a way of relieving some of the financial burden from the Division. **None of the program supervisors or instructors receive *any* compensation for their teaching whatsoever.** The only exception to this is our Demo Team instructors. So where does the \$25 fee go? These funds reimburse mileage as well as lodging (if we can't secure it for free) for our instructors that must travel between divisions and regions. For example, our Central Division instructors that must travel from Cleveland and other parts of the Midwest travel and stay together. They *never charge for their services or time* however we do reimburse them for mileage and provide them with a place to stay. Furthermore if we cannot find a Southern Division instructor locally for an event, and they must travel a great distance, we afford them the same courtesy. \$25 is still an incredibly *inexpensive* price for the quality of instruction that our patrollers receive.

Finally, special thanks go to Patrol Directors **Wayne Morgan** and **Randi Lowery** for their support and assistance in making clinics Happen at their resorts. Also many thanks to **Pete Junker** a PSIA LII/AASI LIII who helped us greatly last year and has consented to help us again this year instructing at some of our clinics and **Brandon Deane** PSIA LIII as our Snowsports School's Technical Director. And a note congratulations go out to former Southern Division Director and Divisional Snowsports School founder **Nici Singletary** who successfully passed her PSIA level III examination at Big Sky Montana this past season.

I don't know about you but I'm excited and anxiously awaiting the snow to start falling.

So until next time... remember Snowsports are simple turn right, turn left repeat as necessary

## *Senior Program ... Senior Program ... Senior Program ... Senior Program ... Senior Program*

**Hugh Jernigan,**  
*Senior Program Supervisor*

### **Senior Program Strong in Southern Division (Also including *Whimsical Region Awards*)**

The Senior Program in the Southern Division had an exceptional year during the 2010-2011 season in both the number of participants and quality of the program.



This past season, all four regions within the Southern Division conducted well-attended clinics and evaluations for Senior Emergency Management and Skiing/Boarding/Toboggan (S&T) components of the Senior Program. Due to the number of participants, the Blue Ridge and Dixie actually scheduled additional clinics to accommodate the large number of Senior Candidates. The number of Senior Candidates participating reached historical levels, in fact from past records, it appears the number of participants was the largest ever recorded in the Southern Division! Congratulations to all involved!!

I had the privilege to attend clinics and evaluations for Senior Emergency Management and S&T in all four regions. All were well organized and maintained an amazing consistency during evaluations for the demonstration of required skills by the Senior candidates. The clinics/evaluations were conducted in spite of heavy snow events, bitter cold, warm, rain and any other variations of weather which Senior Evaluators and Candidates were forced to deal with. This speaks volumes about the dedication of all involved with these events!

Just for fun, it seems that each of the Regions should receive some type of non-monetary, non-certificate awards in the categories of **Longest, Largest, Best, and Worst:**

To the **Dixie Region- Longest Award:** (Longest Senior S&T Evaluation 7:30AM – 6:30 PM).

*Realizing they were going to have a large number of skiing, boarding, and telemarking Senior Candidates for the S&T evaluation, the Dixie Region sent everyone a tight time schedule for events of the day. Amazingly, it did start at 7:30AM and the last candidate finished debriefing at 6:30PM--exactly as listed on the schedule!. Great anticipation and planning by Brandon Olson and the Dixie Region to assure a quality evaluation!!!!*

To the **Blue Ridge Region- Largest Award:** (Largest number of Candidates passing a Senior Emergency Management Evaluation).

*Knowing well ahead of time that the Emergency Management Evaluation for the Blue Region would be a challenge due to the number of candidates scheduled to attend, the Blue Ridge Region worked diligently to have a minimum of ~ 15 Senior EMM Evaluators ready for the event. Result: there were plenty of Senior Evaluators and 12 Senior Candidates passed this Evaluation. Toni Cheek and the Blue Ridge Region did a great job conducting multiple clinics and going the "extra mile" with Senior Candidate training!*

To the **Virginia Region- Best Award:** (Best weather and view from top of ski slopes during a Senior S&T Evaluation).

*The Virginia Region's S&T Evaluation at Massanutten had an unexpected benefit of a spectacular view of the Shenandoah Valley from the top of the #6 lift. Although warm with soft snow conditions, Trace Higgins and the Virginia Region conducted an excellent evaluation!*

To the **West Virginia Region- Worst Award:** (Worst weather during a Senior S&T Evaluation).

*The weather forecast did call for heavy rain, but not all the types of frozen precipitation which occurred during the day. It rained hard the night before the West Virginia Region's S&T Evaluation, and more was called for the next day. As sometimes happens, the weather experts were not exactly correct. The evaluation started with soft/wet slope conditions and a mix of heavy rain/snow mix. Even with innovative clothing variations, everyone was soaked within minutes. It became worst as the day went on with colder temperatures snow and driving sleet that would eat away any exposed skin. Thanks to a dedicated group of Senior Candidates and Evaluators, Tom Hughes and the West Virginia Region had a very successful S&T Evaluation. A true test of "Senior Determination"!!*

As for current news in the Regions, **Toni Cheek**, the Blue Ridge Region Senior Coordinator, is retiring after building a hugely successful program in the region. **Jo Ann Ehlinger** will take over the Blue Ridge Senior Coordinator position after being trained by Toni during the past year. In the Dixie Region **Bill Clarke** will be assuming the Dixie Region Senior Coordinator position from **Bob Brewster** who has moved on to take on the Division OEC Program after being a outstanding Region Senior Program leader.

Special thanks to all the ski resorts and ski patrols who have graciously hosted Senior Program events this year. And a very special thanks to all the evaluators and trainers to gave their time to make this program so successful.

**So, do you want to grow as a Ski Patroller**, enhance your techniques on taking a sled down the mountain, become more proficient while boarding/skiing, build on your OEC skills, and become a leader?—You should get into the Senior Program!! You can contact your Region Senior Coordinator, Patrol Director, or anyone else involved in the Southern Division Senior Program for more information. Other information can be found on the NSP website under the Senior Program and the application for the Senior Program Candidate can be found on the NSP website at: [www.nsp.org/members/oms/downloads.asp](http://www.nsp.org/members/oms/downloads.asp)

We are looking forward to another terrific year this coming season!!!!

## *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**.

There are a number of steps in the Instructor Development Program:

- All forms are now available also on the Southern Division Website.
- Course Registered with NSP by the Instructor Development Instructor through their Regional IT and placed on the Division Calendar by the Region Director.
- Course Completion Record is submitted to the Division Supervisor and NSP educational department.
- Instructor Application Form with each discipline the student is interested in becoming an instructor for (ie, OEC, MTR, S&T, etc) completed and sent to the Instructor Development Supervisor (IDS).
- Mentors are assigned by OR through the Division Supervisor for that discipline.
- Senior Candidate Application Form filled in as needed. → Remember- this is an elective for the Senior program.
- Southern Division ID Observation Form - This is completed for each student in the course for each topic they taught and they are returned to - NOTE - some students may require more than two evaluations.

### ***Remember .....***

If the student is ONLY taking the course for a Senior Elective - (The IDS will need to know that AND the student will need the form for the Senior Candidate Application filled in)

Once the Student Application Forms have been submitted to the ID Supervisor – the ID Supervisor will copy and forward the form to the appropriate Educational Supervisor (OEC, S&T, MTR, etc) - then the Division Program Supervisor (DPS) for each discipline will assign the mentors for the mentoring phase. Once the DPS assigns the mentors and that phase is complete - that DPS will recommend that student for Instructor Status.

Interested students should look at the Division Calendar for registered courses in their Region and contact the Region Instructor Development contact or drop me an email at ([stewart.teresa@gmail.com](mailto:stewart.teresa@gmail.com)).

*Historian / Archivist ... Historian / Archivist ... Historian / Archivist ... Historian / Archivist*

**Fred Wessels,**  
*Historian/Archivist*

Well, another season is upon us.

This is another big year in North Carolina. This is the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Appalachian Ski Mountain. Congratulations on making 50 years. If you have any early photos or memories from Appalachian, please pass them along. I would like to put together everything we have to give to the Moretz family.

Big thanks to Sylvia Talley of Cataloochee Patrol for her old Scrapbook materials. I have not had a chance to go through all of it. However, it is a HUGE addition to our historical material.

That being said, I need any photos of any age that you can provide. One of the worst problems with history is that nobody has all the information. I would like the Southern Division to have a site to access history, stories, and photos by Patrol. We are still a long way from that.

I would be remiss if I failed to thank all who attended the 2011 Fall Conference in Kingsport. The Attendance was HISTORICAL!!! We had over 200 attendees and actually around 230. A special thanks to **Leslie Carter** and **Rob Raff**. Their coordination allowed for over 138 instructors to be updated on OEC 5th. Not a small task. I also need to mention **Jim Underwood**. Without his stewardship, none of this could happen.

I would also like to thank **Rob Raff, JoAnne Ehlinger,** and **Teresa Stewart** among others for their monumental efforts at the Patroller Fall Conference and in the Hospitality Suite. This year we had historical attendance and numerous logistical issues that required immediate and reasonable “*Senior Thinking*”. **Fall Conference Done.** Good Job!!!!

Once again, I remind you to contribute your experience or photos to the division. If you were at Kingsport, you will notice that we are not getting any younger. Our history and members are getting older every year. Our most senior members started patrolling in the 60’s and early 70’s. It was the 60’s and early 70’s. Memories can be a little “clouded”.

I am also looking for information of Cedar Cliffs Ski Area in Clifton, TN. and Lakewood Village in Catlettsburg, KY. These are more lost Ski Areas. Information on Cedar Cliffs is very hard to find. Lakewood Village information is almost impossible to find.

Fred Wessels  
Historian/Archivist  
[Southerndivisionhistory@gmail.com](mailto:Southerndivisionhistory@gmail.com)



*Division Awards ... Division Awards ... Division Awards ... Division Awards ... Division*

**Peg Harris,**  
*Awards Advisor*

**Annual Southern Division Awards 2011**

As I sit here thinking back to this year's Division Awards Banquet, it is apparent how much effort it takes for a nomination to be written and submitted. But the outcome is always so rewarding for those who put forth the energy to submit the nominations and how exciting it is when the winners are announced. Many thanks to all who put forth the effort and the winners should be especially thankful!!

Now for the list of all Southern Division Patrollers who received awards this year.

**Certificates of Appreciation**

Bill Kost	Bryce Patrol Rep 2007 – 2010
June L. Ray	Cataloochee Patrol Rep 2007 – 2010
Mike Fisher	Transportation Program Supervisor 2003 – 2010
Becky E. Sharp	Snowshoe Patrol Director 2007 – 2011
Richard Boyer, Jr.	First Assistant Division Director 2007 – 2011
Dennis Slagle	Dixie Assistant Region Director 2007 – 2011
Byrd White	West Virginia Region Director 2004 – 2011
Jonathan Hale	Blue Ridge Region Director 2007 – 2011
Charles Lentz	Blue Ridge Assistant Region Director 2007 – 2011
Ted Forbes	Virginia Region Director 2005 – 2011
Bartek Drewnowski	Division Professional Director 2003 – 2011
Kelly Drewnowski	Division Secretary 2004 – 2011
Bernie Smith	Past Division Director 2008 – 2011
Terry Pfeiffer	Winterplace Resort Manager – hosting regional skier improvement clinic February 2011
Ryan Costin	Beech Mountain Resort Manager – hosting regional skier improvement clinic February 2011
Tucker Crolius	Wintergreen Patrol Director – hosted Southern Division NSP Snowsports School's Divisional Demo Team Clinic March 2011
Chris Bates	Cataloochee Resort Manager – hosting Divisional teaching clinic for patrollers December 2010
Orville English	Wolf Ridge Resort President – hosting a regional women's ski improvement clinic January 2011

**Service Awards by Patrol**

<b><i>Appalachian</i></b>		<b><i>Beech</i></b>	
Charles Mantooth	15 years	Kenneth Hale	10 years
Victor Misenheimer	15 years	Andrew Rest	10 years
Betsy Snyder	15 years	Benjamin Jones	15 years
Charles Lentz	25 years	Joshua Jones	15 years
Richard Sanders	25 years	Margaret Rees	15 years
Gordon Sox	25 years	Gary Strohschein	15 years
Kevin Bilodeau	30 years	Toni Cheek	20 years
Blake Brown	40 years	Harriet Gayle	20 years
		Susie Strohschein	20 years
		Richard Yercheck	20 years
		Earl Allen	25 years
		Rickey Roberts	25 years
		Richard Laws	30 years
		Caron Sowers	30 years
		Raymond Smith	35 years
		Harold Tilley	35 years
		Ann Wood	35 years
		David Wray	35 years
		Mark Adams	40 years

<b><i>Blackwater Nordic</i></b>		<b><i>Cataloochee</i></b>	
Dan Sullivan	10 years	Richard Lavalley	10 years
		Chris Polhemus	10 years
		Ann Blakely	20 years
		George Kellogg	25 years
		Wayne Morgan	25 years
		Melanie Wolford	25 years
		Steve McCarragher	35 years
		William Dunaway	40 years
		James Roberts	40 years
<b><i>Bryce Mountain</i></b>		<b><i>Homestead</i></b>	
William Kost	15 years	Jeff Kelly	10 years
Kurt Legenhausen	15 years	Jerry Taylor	30 years
Nancy DiBenedetto	20 years		
<b><i>Hawksnest</i></b>			
Teresa Stewart	10 years		
Donald Stewart	20 years		
Bert Hayes	30 years		

<i>Massanutten</i>		<i>Snowshoe</i>	
Travis Dorman	10 years	Kelly Bostian	10 years
Kelly Drewnowski	10 years	Thomas von Dohlen	10 years
Michael Thompson	10 years	Robert Baiotto	15 years
Cynthia Diehl	15 years	Todd Gay	15 years
C. Mac Garrison	15 years	Randy Parker	15 years
David Pedrick	15 years	Mike Shaner	15 years
Christopher Trimble	15 years	Aaron Harrah	20 years
Michael Briske	20 years	Harley Harrah	20 years
Chris Cormode	20 years	Greg Thomas	20 years
Brian Dubas	20 years	Charles Warner	20 years
Todd Horting	20 years	David Caudill	25 years
Troy Kurtz	20 years	Patrick Bennett	30 years
Sanford Montalto	20 years	Becky Sharp	30 years
Catherine Riley-Hall	20 years	Michael VanWoer	30 years
Martha Rine	20 years	Robert Bodamer	35 years
Marcia Ross	20 years		
John Shaffer	25 years		
Stanley Heatwole	35 years		

<i>Ober Gatlinburg</i>		<i>Sugar Mountain</i>	
Adrienne Armes	10 years	J. Chester Alexander	10 years
Brandon Olson	10 years	Kintner Alverson	10 years
Armand Mendez	20 years	Jeremy Hoke	10 years
Brett Bjornstad	25 years	Franklin Smith	10 years
		Michael Kirk	15 years
		J. Michael Milligan	15 years
		Gene Self	20 years
		Shannon Snipes	20 years
		William Broome	25 years
		Mary Harris	25 years
		Nancy Ilderton	25 years
		George Ostrouchov	25 years
		David White	25 years
		Christine Myatt	35 years
		Richmond Rucker	35 years
		Douglas Sloan	40 years

<i>Smoky Mtn Nordic</i>	
Donald Jones	30 years

<i>Southern Administrative Patrol</i>	
Joan Boyer	10 years
Morgan Armstrong	30 years

<b><i>Timberline</i></b>		<b><i>Wintergreen</i></b>	
Herb Edwards	10 years	Keith Cassidy	10 years
Lori Winebrenner	10 years	Ted Forbes	10 years
Annie Snyder	15 years	Caroline Metch	10 years
Janette Basile	20 years	R.Greg Pence	10 years
Robert Chatman	20 years	Lee Wyckoff	10 years
<b><i>Winterplace</i></b>		Carroll Allred	15 years
Joda Meisel	10 years	Kathy Butler	15 years
William Smith	10 years	John Deddens	15 years
Jennifer Weaver	10 years	Denika Gum	15 years
Thomas Dragan	15 years	Andrew Knick	15 years
Jennifer Swann	15 years	William Spencer	15 years
Jonathan White	15 years	Dirk VanAssendelft	15 years
Scott Glover	25 years	Jerry Barber	25 years
<b><i>Wolf Ridge</i></b>		Gregory Bradley	25 years
Justin Pope	10 years	James McCaslin	25 years
Clark Bell	15 years	John (Ed) Pouncey	25 years
Vernon Taylor	25 years	Jay Roberts	25 years
Larry Erb	30 years	John Vasiloff	30 years
		Sam Bruce	30 years
		C. Brandon Deane	35 years

### **Merit Stars**

#### ***Purple Merit Star***

Christopher Reece                      Lifesaving Care, Snowshoe Mountain Resort, November 30, 2008.  
Matt Golueke                              “Angels At Snowshoe Mountain”.

Eric Hutchinson                         Lead role in the care of a serious incident regarding an unconscious patient at Cataloochee Ski Area.

Michelle Piscatelli                      Life saving care of a person having an anaphylactic episode.

#### ***Blue Merit Star***

John Hort                                    Initiative in ensuring patient care through rapid treatment and transfer to Avery County EMS of a critical patient at Sugar Mountain on January 17, 2008  
Mike Milligan

#### ***Yellow Merit Star***

June Ray  
Judd Mahan  
Matt Kimbell  
Chuck Vill  
Tracy Klinger  
Chris Hill  
Dennis Alexander

Outstanding service and support in providing assistance with injured snowboarder on January 30, 2011.

Terry Loges  
Grant Smalle  
Jean Webb

Exceptional initiative in ensuring patient care through rapid treatment and transfer to Avery County EMS of a critical patient at Sugar Mountain on January 17, 2009

Richard Boyer, Jr.

Extraordinary support and service to the Division Director from 2007 – 2001

Larry Bost

Recognition by NSP of the long hours spent assisting and guiding NSP's development of the OEC 5<sup>th</sup> edition and other NSP educational publications and for his selfless dedication to our great organization as a NSP board member.

**Distinguished Service Award**

Morgan Armstrong

Outstanding service to the National Ski Patrol from 1981 – 2011

Jimmy Knuneman

A lifetime of service, exemplary leadership and tireless dedication to the Ober Gatlinburg Ski Patrol (this award was presented after the 2011 awards banquet)

**Senior**

Bob Fedak  
David Kilmer  
Susie Strohschein  
Michael Sutton

Wintergreen  
Wintergreen  
Beech  
Appalachian

**Certified**

Tony Tingle  
*Hawksnest*

#739

Susanne Ebling  
*Wintergreen*

#740



**Patroller's Cross**

Personal sacrifice in service to all who ski

Susan Power	Wintergreen
Doug Sloan	Sugar
Pete Knowland	Cataloochee
Lee Wilkinson	Wolf Ridge
David Katterman	Wolf Ridge

**National Appointment**

Ted Forbes	NA # 11232
<i>Wintergreen</i>	

Brent Bowman	NA # 11234
<i>Cataloochee</i>	

**Division Outstanding Winners**

***OEC Instructor***

Camille Marie Hale  
*Sugar*

***Runner Up***

David Kilmer  
*Wintergreen*

***Instructor***

Susanne Ebling  
*Wintergreen*

***Runner Up***

Pete Jucker  
*Ober Gatlinburg*

***Paid Patroller***

Grigori Gravilets  
*Ober Gatlinburg*

***Runner Up***

Thomas Joe Taylor  
*Sugar*

***Auxiliary Patroller***

Catherine Smithson  
*Wintergreen*

***Young Adult Patroller***

Forrest Horan  
*Wolf Ridge*

***Alpine Patroller***

Ted Forbes  
*Wintergreen*

***Runner Up***

Shaun Lowery  
*Wolf Ridge*

***Large Alpine Patrol***

*Wintergreen*

***Runner Up***

*Cataloochee*

*And to top the night off the National Outstanding Large Patrol Award and Gold Merit Star went to Wintergeen. The award was presented by Tim White, National Executive Director.*

Thanks to all of you who submitted the award nominations. Congratulations to all the recipients. 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. I am sure that next year's award season will be another spectacular one with nominations in all the categories. Remember, it is never too early to get started thinking about who should be nominated.

Again congratulations to all the winners and many thanks to everyone who made this year's awards banquet such a success!

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## Southern Division Calendar & Staff Directory

Please refer to the **Division Website** for updated schedules!  
[www.southernnsp.org](http://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.

## 50 years of Family Fun at Appalachian Ski Mtn.

This coming ski season marks Appalachian Ski Mountain's 50<sup>th</sup> year of operation. The ski resort was established as Blowing Rock Ski Lodge in December of 1962, and originally featured three slopes serviced by two rope tows and a T-Bar. In December of 1968, Grady Moretz and four other partners purchased the area from the Northwestern Bank at a public auction, and renamed the area "Appalachian Ski Mountain". (ASM)

In the summer of 1969, Appalachian Ski Mountain replaced the rope tow on Strudel with its first chairlift, a double. Three years later in the summer of 1972, the T-bar on Big Appal was replaced with a second chairlift. The area continued to make improvements every year. Among these improvements were several additions to the lodge that enlarged the rental department, ski shop and the restaurant, added a new first-aid room and ski patrol room, more office space, and a gift shop. Other improvements included the first airless snowmaking in North Carolina, a new sewage treatment plant, several new slopes, new compressor house, four Ingersoll Rand screw air compressors, an enlarged snowmaking water reservoir, and, in 1985, a new LMC groomer and tiller.

In 1984, the biggest expansion in the history of the area took place when a Doppelmayr quad chairlift was installed and 6,000 square feet was added to the lodge. This was the first quad chair lift in North Carolina. The Moretz family acquired sole ownership of Appalachian Ski Mtn. in 1986, and have been directly involved in all aspects of the resort ever since.

In 1992, the second double chairlift installed in 1972 was replaced with a new Doppelmayr double chairlift, and in 1993 a computerized snowmaking pumping system was installed. In 1994, Appalachian replaced its first double chairlift with a second Doppelmayr quad chairlift, added a new intermediate slope (Appaljack), and installed a refrigerated outdoor ice skating arena and skate rental building.

Appalachian Ski Mountain has now expanded to feature twelve slopes including three terrain parks, all serviced by one double chairlift, two quad chairlifts, two conveyor lifts, and one handle-pull lift. The resort's dedication to constantly improving its facilities is clear. "It seems that every year we see new things that come up and we see that we need to be doing this or going in this direction," said General Manager Brad Moretz.

In celebration of 50 years of skiing, Appalachian will be developing an array of fun and unique events for the 2011-12 season. Special deals, contests, and more will be going on throughout this special winter season.

The fun is scheduled to begin September 29<sup>th</sup>, when ASM will begin a new "50 Days of Giveaways" pre-season contest. Each day for the 50 days leading to the scheduled opening day of November 18<sup>th</sup>, Appalachian will post a trivia question on the ASM Facebook page, and the first person to reply with the correct answer will receive a prize from an event sponsor. Prizes can be picked up in the Main Office anytime before the season begins.

Stay tuned to Appalachian Ski Mountain's website [www.appskimtn.com](http://www.appskimtn.com) for full 50<sup>th</sup> year celebration plans as the season approaches.

Submitted by Joe Donadio

## 50 years of Family Fun at Appalachian Ski Mtn.



*(Photo provided by Joe Donadio)*

The Moretz Family - Brenda, Reba, Grady, Brad

## 50 years of Family Fun at Appalachian Ski Mountain



*(Photos provided by Joe Donadio)*

Above - Jean Claude Killy with French Swiss Instructors

Below - Benjamin Marcellin, future director of French Swiss and 1 unknown.

