



# Southern Cross

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## In This Issue

From Nici..... 1

From the Assistants

Dennis Slagle ..... 4

Morgan Armstrong ..... 4

From the Regions

West Virginia..... 5

Virginia..... 6

Dixie ..... 6

Blue Ridge ..... 7

From Supervisors and Advisors

Treasurer..... 8

Division Director Election 8

Women's Toboggan Clinic 9

NSP-ADA Legal Issues.. 9

News From National .... 10

Division Reorganization . 12

Trends in Injuries..... 13

SC Distribution Change . 14

From Around the Division

Kids Safety Contest .... 16

People and Dates

Roster..... 17

Calendar ..... 20

In Memoriam

Don Rutledge ..... 22

Scenes from the Season .... 22

(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 mid-winter issue is January 13, 2003. Send submissions to:

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## Planning Your Winter Schedule

Nici Singletary, Division Director



*Fall has arrived, and that means Winter is just around the corner. Yes, it's time once again to check*

your patrol packs, update your CPR, clean your parka, get a binding release check, sharpen and wax your skis or board, get those quads in ski-condition and plan to attend your OEC and on-the-hill refreshers!

There are some very exciting events planned for Southern Division this winter. *Before you set your patrolling dates, consider some of the following new and interesting events you might want to attend!* Keep these dates open on your schedule so that you can participate.

For the first time ever in Southern Division, we are offering a **Women's (Only) Ski and Toboggan Clinic** on **January 11 and 12** at Massanutten, Virginia. Saturday will be a Skiing Enhancement Seminar, taught by a female Level III PSIA Instructor. On Sunday, a Toboggan Enhancement Seminar will be taught by Eastern Division Certified Patroller Deb Daniels. Deb has offered this program at PowderFall, and in the Eastern and Central Divisions. The course is extremely popular and fills quickly! It is targeted for women only (sorry, guys!) of all ski and toboggan handling abilities. The clinic is designed to give you specific tips and help with techniques to make it easier handling (NOT "muscle-ing") those 300 hundred pound patients in a toboggan. You will learn about differences in how women

ski, and how with minor adjustments, we can see significant improvements in our abilities and comfort level on tough slopes. *These seminars will also count as senior electives!* The deadline for sign-up is mid-December, so you need to plan now and sign up as soon as possible. [See the article inside by Toboggan Program Supervisor Tim Asbury for details on how to register.](#)

Attention all Students!! If you are a patroller or candidate between 15 and 21 years of age, please do NOT schedule yourself to patrol on **February 1 and 2**. Why? Because that's the weekend of the **Division Student Patroller Seminar!** This year the seminar is being hosted by Appalachian Ski Area in Boone, NC. Training and friendly competition is held for OEC, toboggan and skiing skills. Cost is typically minimal since housing and most meals are provided. You will receive an invitation to this event in the mail, but NOW is the time to mark your calendar, so you will be free to attend. This seminar is a great opportunity to meet and ski with other patrollers and candidates of your generation, to visit another ski area in Southern Division, and to see how things are done on other mountains. We have asked all

patrols and patrol representatives/ directors to support this seminar, and to allow it to count as two training days for candidates. So...no excuses, come join us!

Ever felt like you don't have a voice? Don't know who to take an issue to when you feel your patrol representative can't help you? Well, find out about Division structure, and who to take your issues to when you attend the **Patroller Enrichment Seminar** on

**December 15<sup>th</sup>** at Winterplace, WV. You will learn about NSP organizational structure and much, much more at this informative seminar! See the calendar inside for sign up information.

There are four different **Certified Clinics** scheduled in Division this year: **January 25 and 26 at Snowshoe, February 1 and 2 at Wintergreen, February 8 and 9 at Hawksnest and February 9 at Massanutten.** Contact Certified Program Supervisor Leslie Carter ([Cartplmbg@aol.com](mailto:Cartplmbg@aol.com)) for more information about our highly respected Division Certified Program and how you can get involved!

Want to become an instructor? Well, the first step is to take an **Instructor Development Course** (formerly "Phase I"). This one-day course will be offered at Winterplace on **December 14<sup>th</sup>.**

Once again this year, Whitegrass Cross-country Ski Area is hosting the **Division Nordic Seminar** on **February 1**. You don't have to be a registered Nordic skier to attend. This fun event is well worth attending, whether you are a beginner or advanced "free-heel" skier! PSIA instruction helps all attendees learn quickly. I had such a good time last year that I have since purchased "tele" skis and

boots and hope to continue this new challenge. Dinner after the seminar at Whitegrass's cozy restaurant is a gourmet vegetarian delight and not to be missed!

Looking for a Senior Elective? Then keep your calendar open for the new **Mountain Travel and Rescue Level I** course being held in Virginia Region this **January 31 and February 1**, in West Virginia at Snowshoe on **December 7<sup>th</sup>**, and in Dixie Region on

**Menu**

*For Your Skiing and Patrolling Pleasure Southern Division is Pleased to Offer a Gourmet Selection of Educational, Challenging and Fun Filled Activities.*

**Hors D'Oeuvres**

*Instructor Development Course—Dec 14  
Patrol Enrichment Seminar—Dec 15*

**Entrées**

*Women's Ski & Toboggan Clinic—Jan 11 & 12  
Mtn Travel & Rescue Course—Jan 31 & Feb 1  
Division Nordic Seminar—Feb 1  
Student Patroller Seminar—Feb 1 & 2  
Certified Clinics—Jan 25 & 26; Feb 8 & 9  
Avalanche Fundamentals Course—Mar 15*

**Dessert**

*As a Perfect End To a Perfect Season May We Recommend Powderfall—Apr 16-19*

*(Gratuities of Smiles, Pats on the Back and Hugs Are Customary and Appreciated.)*

**March 9<sup>th</sup>**. In addition to MTR, two **Avalanche Fundamentals and Rescue** courses are planned this winter, both on **March 15<sup>th</sup>**. See the calendar inside for the name and number to call and register for all of these courses.

Ever thought about going to **PowderFall**? This really great NSP conference is being held at **Snowbird, Utah, on April 16—19, 2003**. It includes fantastic daily ski instruction from members of the PSIA Demo Team, as well as electives in OEC, toboggan handling, mogul skiing, avalanche, and changing electives such as introductory snowboarding, introductory telemark skiing, and snowshoeing. We typically have 20 to 25 patrollers from Southern Division attend. More information and glowing testimonials can be obtained from John Dobson ([JDobson4@aol.com](mailto:JDobson4@aol.com)). Registration information will be in your Fall *Ski Patrol Magazine* as well as on the web at [www.nsp.org](http://www.nsp.org).

There is only one thing that we do as a Division to actively promote slope safety and accident prevention—the **Kids' Safety Poster Contest**. This event was started by National Ski Areas Association (NSAA) three years ago. Kids 12 and under are asked to create a poster depicting one of the items in the Responsibility Code. Each of the top two winners of the NSAA contest will receive a Boeri helmet. The Southern Division contest is held just before the NSAA contest (**deadline: January 30**) and is jointly sponsored by the Southeastern Ski Areas Association (SSAA). For the third year in a row, we will be awarding prize monies to the top six winning entries totaling \$1,550! First place is a \$500 Series EE US Government Savings bond. This project is a great way to teach slope safety to kids (at the age where it's most important to learn!) and to generate positive publicity for your patrol and ski area. *ANY* kid may participate—whether they are laid up in your patrol room, in ski school or in a classroom setting! We are asking each patrol in Southern Division to participate by helping to supply materials and a coordinator who will collect and send entries to the Division Coordinator, Lynn Poletti. [See the flyer inside](#) for more information about contest rules, deadlines and where to send entries.

The NSP Board of Directors structure and—perhaps more importantly—function has changed ([see the article inside by past Board Representative John Dobson](#)). A new Board has been selected by the Nomination Committee, and I am pleased to announce that **Kenny Hess** of Massanutten and I have been named to the new Board which takes office on January 1, 2003! This is very exciting for me, but bittersweet—Board members are no longer allowed to serve simultaneously as Division Directors. Thus, at the end of my current term (May, 2003), I must step down as Division Director. However, I will still be visiting you and your ski areas as often as possible, and attending Division meetings to communicate actions of the new Board and to gather feedback! I am sure that new Board member Kenny Hess will also be attending our Division meetings and providing updates from the Board to you in person as well as in *Southern Cross*.

Thus, we will be electing a **new Division Director** in February. [See the article inside by Election Coordinator Lee Wittmann](#) for more details on the election and how to submit nominations. In a nutshell, nominations must be received by Lee no later than December 16<sup>th</sup>. Ballots will be mailed to all Southern Division NSP Patrol Representatives on February 3, and the name of the new Division Director will be **announced on March 3<sup>rd</sup>**.

The last date that I'm asking you to mark on your calendar is **May 2-4, 2003**. These are the dates of our **Southern Division Spring Convention and Awards Banquet** in Roanoke, Virginia, at the **Wyndham Hotel**. This convention is **open to ALL patrollers and their families**. There will also be an OEC Instructor Seminar held the same weekend at this location (required for OEC instructors every three years). We hope to have PSIA Demo Team member Mermer Blakesley as our Keynote Speaker, as well as a special guest from the NSP staff.

Plan now to join us! Hotel reservations can be made (NSP rate: \$79 for 2 doubles or king) by calling 1-800-996-3426. More information and the registration form will be in the mid winter (January) issue of *Southern Cross*.

## From the Assistants...

### A Chance to Speak

#### — A Chance to Lead

*Dennis Slagle,  
Second Assistant Division Director*



**Change** is inevitable. Change is good. Sometimes we can't see the good or understand it, at least from our perspective. Some people detest change. Some revel in it. Are you one that revels in change? You might be one of those that can see something that is working, but you see a much better or easier way of doing it. You might be one who looks at something that is not working, and immediately sees how to make it work.

You have probably heard that the National organization is changing. It is changing to a degree that leaves each division to its own accord. This means that we will have the freedom to organize and operate in the best way that will address the needs of the patroller, the patrols, the areas they serve and the skiing public. Southern Division is looking to define the needs of the aforementioned, and focus our efforts to address them.

If you qualify from the first paragraph, and see a need that has not been addressed, or if you just have an idea, please let me know. Now is your chance to have a big voice in the Southern Division. Even if you don't qualify from the first paragraph, if you feel there is

something missing, something that has been overlooked, or something that needs change, please let me know. We will evaluate all the suggestions and determine the proper course for Southern Division.

**Student Patroller.** The student seminar for Southern Division is scheduled for the first weekend in February (as always). Appalachian Mountain has volunteered to host the seminar. The only thing missing is someone to direct it. We are looking for someone who works well with students (15-21 years), and can see and understand the potential in the youth in the ski patrol. The student program is meant to help develop and improve the skills of our student patrollers. They are our future leaders, and we need to amplify their appreciation for the ski patrol system and the benefits to all concerned.

If you have the desire to help the youth of the Southern Division, and want to work for the Division outside of your patrol, and assume the duties of the Student Program Supervisor, please get in touch with me. I will go over the responsibilities and assist in any way I can. As in all programs we need to get started early in organizing to ensure the quality of the program. *[Right at press time we learned that Virginia Region Student Coordinators T and Peggy Harris agreed to take the job at the Division level. Thanks, T&P!.—Ed.]*



### Schedules, Reports and E-mails

*Morgan Armstrong,  
First Assistant Division  
Director*



**AWARDS:** Line officers will see a new effort to get more patrollers nominated for awards by a shift in the duties of the Section Chief for each region. This year each Section Chief—In West Virginia the appropriate officer is the Assistant Region Director—will be responsible for writing or seeing that the nominations are written for each of the patrols in the section

regarding section, region, division and national awards. This is a cooperative effort between the patrol and the section chief. Our goal is to obtain a nomination for each type of award in every appropriate case and to get the award in the proper form. This fall John Dobson gave a course on successful award writing to all of the section chiefs. John has written several winning, national award nominations and has been a national awards judge, so we are excited about making the process even more successful.

Another change is that the award year will be from January 1 to December 31 of each year instead of from season start to season end. Information for a nomination will be collected from the calendar year and not the ski

season year. The year will end December 31<sup>st</sup> and most of the information will be available to collect and write up over the summer and fall. The events for late fall and December can be added with dispatch. This will give the patrol representative and section chief more time to write the nomination for submission to the division. An earlier submission date will give the division more time to judge the nominations. Then, when a division award is chosen, it will allow the division Awards Committee (something new) to go to work and check all information, write the nomination document according to strict National Ski Patrol standards and prepare the nomination in a competitive format. A recent study by Southern Division staff reveals our nominees are competitive, we just need to improve our writing style. A little quality control here, we believe, will pay dividends. The result will increase our ability to thank patrollers and instructors in the Southern Division with awards we know they deserve at all levels—from the patrol level to the national level.

**END OF YEAR REPORTS:** No, they are not due yet but all patrol representatives should begin the process of looking at your report filed last year. Those,

few who did not file one can start now with a clear mandate to begin one for this year. These are vital. We want to see trends in where you have been and where you are so we can help you predict where you are going. The form for next year's report will change slightly and that will be forwarded to each patrol representative soon. However, 90% of the form is the same, so you may prepare now by collecting the same information you did last year. Please remember how easy it is if you do this as the year progresses. Don't wait until the end of the year to do the **END OF THE YEAR REPORT!!!!**

**FALL REFRESHER & THE LINE OFFICER:** Regional Directors, Section Chiefs and Patrol Representatives have the ability to prevent a dues increase. This refresher, please insure the division has e-mail addresses from all patrollers and explain how much we can save on expenses if we accept the *Southern Cross* by E-mail. The postage we save over the next several years can certainly result in delaying a future dues increase. Please spend time and effort on this cost saving project.

## *From the Regions...*

### **West Virginia Region**

*Jan Starr, Region Director*

There is a nip in the air here, and the leaves have started to get their fall colors. That means that winter is just around the corner. All areas have had their "pre-refreshers" and are ready to roll with their refreshers. Please check the *Southern Cross* calendar and make sure you have the dates set for the refresher nearest you. The refresher planning committee and IORs did a great job getting it together this year so that any refresher that you attend in the Southern Division will be a great one. Refreshers are hard to make up, and you don't want to be on that delinquent list, so please make sure to attend a refresher near you!

Do you have any brothers, sisters, sons, daughters, aunts, uncles, or friends that like to ski? If so, get them



started in patrolling. We're looking for a few good people! Areas have seen a decline in candidates the last few seasons, and if you're like me, I'm not getting any younger. I'd like to think we could turn this trend around, and have to turn people away from our program due to limited space. It's hard to put a lot into training for only two people, and it takes as much preparation and work to train two as it does to train six. Let's try to make recruiting our number one goal this season. This recruiting could be in our own patrols for new instructors, trainers, and senior patrollers. Furthering education is a good thing. Every time I travel to another area to participate in a clinic or evaluation, I've gone home learning something new. There are a lot of great patrollers out there willing to part with some of their knowledge.

As our season progresses this year, you will need to be thinking of where our division needs to take us in the future. With the new organization at the national

level, we will be looking at some re-organization at our Division level also. Do we have the programs that are needed, areas that are serviced adequately, and training to take us to a new level? Each area has a person or position on the re-organizational committee. Now is the time to speak up on what works and what doesn't, what programs we need to continue, and any special needs at your area.

Good luck to Nici Singletary and Kenny Hess in their new endeavors. We'll all be behind them in their new direction.

And whoever made Mother Nature mad last season, I hope you have apologized. We could use some powder days this winter!

Ski with you soon.



## Virginia Region

*Mike Fisher,  
Region Director*



Old man winter may get a chance to flex his muscles this season as the Farmers' Almanac reports that our winter will be colder and wetter. We have two new patrol Representatives in the Virginia Region this season. Ed Pouncey will be the new patrol representative at Wintergreen and Nancy DeBenideto will lead Bryce.

Our Region Senior program is as strong as ever. Candidates in the Senior program no longer have a time limit for finishing the required OEC and Ski and Toboggan program including three electives.

Wintergreen has a new building at the Plunge Tubing Park which should make the tubing experience more enjoyable. Please check the Southern Division calendar for upcoming Virginia courses, seminars and other events.



## Dixie Region News

*Neil Booth, Region Director*



I've already attended one OEC Instructor Refresher and can say that your Instructors are doing an excellent job getting ready for this year's training. They have put in a lot of time and effort into making these and other courses meaningful to members. Do not forget to thank your Instructors! The 4<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Outdoor Emergency Care Manual is available for order. Do you have your new manual? If not, you need to get one. It is a valuable resource that will benefit every member.

During this refresher, I had the honor and privilege to award two Angel Pins to two very special people—Kelly Boggs and her mother, Maria Hurtado. These Angel's have supported Mike and Jessica in their patrolling endeavors over the years. Each year, these Angels prepare feasts for any and all Patrol and Deep South Section needs. The key here is to wear big pants when you go, because the feast and hospitality are unbelievable. Kelly and Maria make the Atlanta OEC

Refresher happen. I thank you both from my heart on behalf of all members.

The Dixie Region Calendar is set. Make sure you are aware of the dates for any classes, courses, exams, etc. If you are interested in any courses, make sure you let your Patrol Rep know. Also, you must have registered and paid the \$10.00 course fee 30 days in advance of the course. After that you will not be admitted, since the Instructor will not be able to get the needed course materials in time. Any class with fewer than six people signing up will have to be cancelled. Educational courses are made available to membership, for members' needs—not the Region's, Division's or National's benefit. If you are not sure what the course is about, phone the contact person or ask your Patrol Rep.

If you are interested in becoming an Instructor, the first step you must take to accomplish this is enrollment in an Instructor Development (ID) Course. This course is generally run outside the regular ski season. We ran two courses between seasons, this year. It appears to be the most efficient time to do so, per members and instructors. Once the ID course is completed, you advise the Instructor of Record, the discipline you desire to pursue. You are then assigned to a Mentor, who guides

you through the process of preparation to teach. We do not simply throw you out of the boat and ask you to immediately swim! When your Mentors sign your completion status, you will be a great swimmer! Now you can start to swim and coach others. The NSP system needs dedicated, quality instructors. Instructors come from membership, nowhere else!

So, the time is here to get in shape, study for the refresher to ensure you maximize the educational benefit, take educational courses offered to membership, become more involved, increase your ski/ride skills, increase your toboggan handling skills so you can be the best of the best! Remember, the Region Staff is here to support you the member and your Patrol Representative. Without you, we are not!



## The Blue Ridge Region

*Butch McLean  
Region Director*



Good News! The Blue Ridge Region is back to full strength. Last year Hawksnest was closed for skiing but did operate a tube run. This season Hawksnest will be open for skiing. Last season the patrols in the region gave the homeless Hawksnest patrollers an opportunity to patrol. The ski area management of Appalachian, Beech and Sugar were highly supportive in the effort to find a home for the displaced patrollers. All of the Hawksnest patrollers are grateful to the area managers and patrols for allowing them to sign on and ski at their mountains. The Hawksnest patrol has held several workdays in preparation for the upcoming ski season and the patrol rep, Larry Bost, is confident that this will be an outstanding season.

There are no changes to report in patrol representatives nor is there any major construction going on at any of the areas. If the weather cooperates everyone should have a full pond for snowmaking. The updated El Niño forecast prediction shows the Northern section of the US will be milder than normal while the deep South will be wetter than normal

([www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/90day/](http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/90day/)).

This El Niño should not have a major effect on snowmaking or our skiing this season. Sure hope the weather prognosticators are right!

The Blue Ridge Region is holding the first ever NSP online OEC course. Susanne Wise is the Instructor of Record and is aided by several OEC instructors. The students meet for practical applications but the majority of the communication from student to instructor and instructor to student is via E-mail. When the student is ready to check off a chapter they request the evaluation from the instructor. The instructor sends the evaluation to the student via email, they fill out the evaluation and send it back to the instructor. This is a pilot project that could change the way we are able to deliver instruction.

Marshall Fletcher, Appalachian Ski Mountain is working as a paid patroller at Cornet Peak and at The Remarkables in New Zealand. He has been sending back E-mail accounts of his experiences along with pictures of the areas. From the E-mail addresses noted in the 'send to section' this is old news to everyone east of the Mississippi.

Congratulations to Larry Bost for being named as the NSP National Program Director for Outdoor Emergency Care. He will undoubtedly do his normal outstanding job.



## From the Supervisors and Advisors...

### Treasurer's Report 7/1/01-6/30/02



*Jim Underwood, Division Treasurer*

Shown here are a tabular summary and a pie graph of the Southern Division's Treasury report for last season. If any member wishes a detailed copy of this report, please contact Jim Underwood at 865-483-3675; [jnu@icx.net](mailto:jnu@icx.net); 109 Wildwood Drive, Oak Ridge, TN 37830 for a mailed or E-mailed copy.

	Beginning Balance 7/1/01	Closing Balance 6/30/02
Checking*	\$ 6,649.33	\$ 6,506.04
Savings*	35,347.98	36,793.77
Contingency	<u>21,628.77</u>	<u>22,805.72</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$63,626.08</b>	<b>\$66,105.53</b>

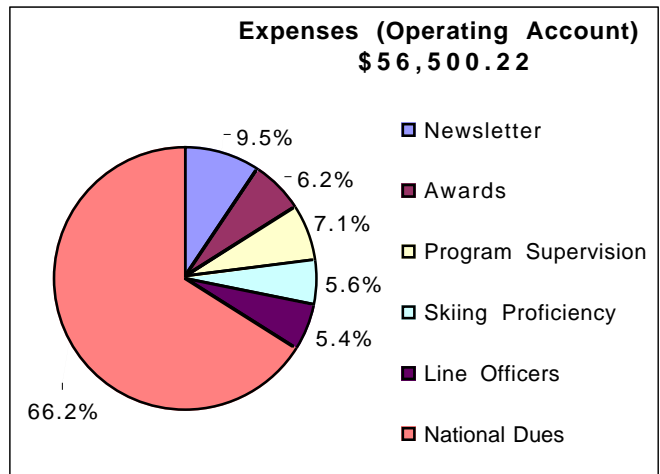
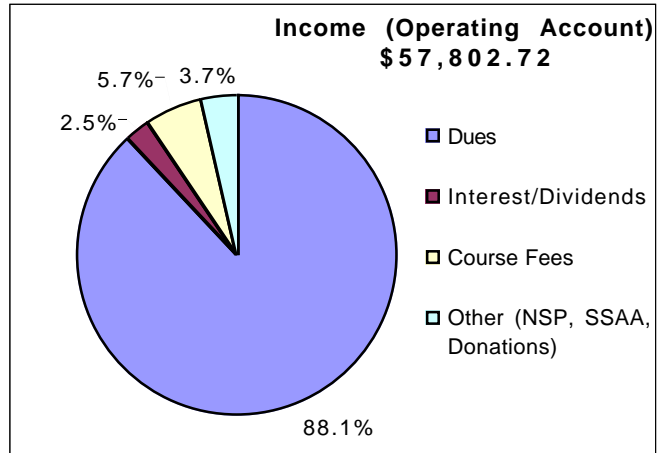
\* Operating Account

#### Junior Memorial Fund

	Beginning Balance 7/1/01	Closing Balance 6/30/02
Savings	\$ 4,367.98	\$ 4,563.72

#### Mary K. Twomey Fund

	Beginning Balance 8/20/01	Closing Balance 6/30/02
Savings	\$ 2,611.05	\$ 2651.62



### Election of Division Director

*Lee Whitman  
Election Coordinator*



The Southern Division will elect a patroller to serve a two year term as its' Division Director. The election is conducted by the national office and is facilitated by the division election coordinator. Required qualifications for the candidates,

as well as election procedure and scheduling, can be found in the NSP Policies & Procedures Manual (8/01). For fairness to all, the division will strictly adhere to all aspects of the election process as found in the manual. December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2002 is the deadline for all nominations/proclamations of candidacy to be received by the election coordinator. It is recommend that you confirm the delivery of nominations/ proclamations prior to this deadline.

The election coordinator is: Lee T. Wittmann; 104 Rainbow's End; Beech Mountain, NC 28604; E-mail



[lwittmann@orixfin.com](mailto:lwittmann@orixfin.com): Home 828-387-9722; Office 828-387-3505; Fax 828-378-3506; Mobile 828-260-0060

Some important dates on the time line: December 30, 2002 is the coordinators deadline to submit all eligible candidates to NSP January 6, 2003 is the deadline for appeal by any candidate ruled ineligible by the election coordinator. On February 3, 2003 NSP mails ballots to eligible patrol representatives. February

17, 2003 is the deadline for delivery of ballots to NSP via mail, fax or in person. February 24, 2003 is the date that the results of the election will be announced by NSP. The elected Division Director takes office at the close of the Division Spring Officer's meeting or May 1, 2003.

If I can be of any assistance please contact me.



## Women's Only Toboggan Clinic

*Tim Asbury, Alpine Ski and Toboggan Advisor*



**When:** January 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>

**Where:** Massanutten, Va.

**Who:** Open to women of all ability levels.

**Objective:** To teach skiing and sled handling techniques to help women run toboggans more effectively.

**Fee:** A \$75.00 fee covers both courses.

**Course 1:** On Saturday there will be a Skiing Enhancement Seminar taught by a PSIA level III instructor.

**Course 2:** Sunday, Deb Daniels will teach a Toboggan Enhancement Seminar. Deb is the toboggan instructor out of the Eastern Division that developed and implemented this program. Deb has agreed to come down to the Southern Division to give this program. Patrollers who took this program in the Central Division and at Powderfall were highly impressed. Both of these programs are NSP courses that will count towards senior electives.

The number of spaces for this program is limited and will be filled only when fees are received. Checks need to be made out to *Southern Division NSP* and sent to: Tim Asbury, 223 Stonebrook Dr, Hendersonville, NC 28791; Phone 828-697-6188; E-mail [tim.Asbury@pardee-med.org](mailto:tim.Asbury@pardee-med.org)



## The Role of NSP and NSP-Ski Area Relations in ADA Matters

*Christine L. Myatt  
Division Legal Advisor*



Recent inquiry was made to the National Ski Patrol Legal Advisor and other division legal advisors regarding the impact of the American Disabilities Act ("ADA") on ski patrol activities. The inquiry focused on a "profoundly deaf" person who wished to become a candidate. Although the individual was a good skier, the patrol was concerned about the individual's ability to—among other things—communicate over the radio.

According to Bruce Ries, the National Legal Counsel, "whether a skier who has a disability can function and serve as a patroller, is **NOT** a decision

made by the National Ski Patrol, or any subdivision thereof, but rather by the resort or ski area where he/she is applying to patrol." He goes on to add that "[w]hat skills and capabilities a patroller must possess is strictly and totally under the discretion of the local ski resort or ski area." Mr. Ries suggests that when making a determination as to whether a patroller qualifies as a candidate the patrol director should look at his/her area's needs and interpreting written, oral or understood guidelines from that area, rather than looking to the NSP. "This distinction is crucial, because to infer that NSP plays a role in selecting patrollers for a local ski area also infers that it has some degree of operational responsibility. Simply put, this is incorrect, and this should not be an issue of NSP involvement, except to verify that he has or has not completed courses."

Mr. Ries believes that despite Kane, many ski area operators still believe the NSP actively operates local ski patrols and that some patrols and many patrollers

cling to this belief as well. He reiterates that the NSP is not involved in the operational activities of ski patrolling and that the limits of NSP involvement concern only those courses that NSP provides as officially sanctioned instruction—i.e., Outdoor Emergency Care, Skill Development Courses, Mountain Travel and Rescue, Avalanche Program, Toboggan Program, Instructor Development Program, and Leadership Development Program (now phased out).

Going back to the inquiry, the employment lawyers at my office tell me that the ADA is not applicable to volunteer organizations such as the local NSP patrols. This is debatable since, from a liability standpoint, we are viewed as agents of the mountain and the ADA

clearly is applicable to ski areas. My suggestion to patrol directors in the Southern Division faced with the inquiry above is to determine whether the candidate could pass both ski and OEC tests, and if so, whether the patrol can make reasonable accommodations (e.g. pair the patroller with a partner). In such a case, there would be no reason to exclude the individual because of his/her disability, and you may enhance public relations. More importantly, and consistent with NSP's policies, any questions you have regarding a candidate's ability to serve on the patrol should be directed to area management, not the NSP!



## NEWS FROM NATIONAL “A New Direction”

*John Dobson  
NSP Board Representative*



In January 2001, the NSP Board of Directors approved a new board leadership design: “The function of the NSP Board of Directors will change to address strategic national issues important to the organization.” After two years of intense research, hard work, and thoughtful discussion, in June the Board ratified a “selection process” which will be used to seat the New National Board taking office 1 January 2003! The study and review leading up to this change was facilitated by Association Management Services, an independent professional consulting firm with extensive knowledge and experience in the organization and governance of not-for-profit organizations. In our deliberations, the Board examined a range of organizational options to implement the direction identified above. After working through the advantages and weaknesses of various alternatives, including our current model of “quasi-representative governance,” the Board settled on a mode that stressed “knowledge” as the basis for membership on the governance body. This is a system that can best be defined as *a selection of leaders based*

*on their knowledge and experience that best meets the defined needs of the organization at the time of the selection.*

Sweeping change is always controversial, if not unsettling, and the final phase of deliberations at the June board meeting revealed certain feelings of anxiety amidst other positive feelings of anticipation.

Why are we doing this? You know the answer as well as anyone: because the NSP must have the leadership, programs, and educational resources to react quickly to the needs of its members. As patrollers, we find ourselves challenged to stay abreast of an increasingly diversified snowsports industry, and our association cannot attain the level of agility and responsiveness required if its leadership insists on subscribing to past methodologies.

In recent years, the NSP's actions and policies have been over-reactive in our response to crises, and this has prevented us from being vigilant about analyzing industry trends and planning our future. The potential for that type of over-reaction to occur will be eliminated. You will now be represented by a group of experts who will serve as your advocates on everything from specific patrolling activities to the strategic management of the national organization. Unencumbered by a limiting line officer election process, our new Board members will be free to act in a true leadership capacity, allowing Divisions and other

subunits to focus on the delivery of NSP services and programs.

Does this move to an alternative selection process mean that you've "lost your voice" at the national level? Absolutely not! From now on, members will be able to directly influence the crucial phases of program development without unnecessary interference from the board of directors. The Board—the NSP's primary strategic body—will serve to chart the course of the national organization, not delve into the intricacies of educational programs, debate the nomenclature of various patrolling disciplines, or dissect the wording of the latest reference manuals. If anything, you'll have a more direct influence on our organization than ever before!

To ensure that the new Board has adequate information with which to function, the current Board provided for a system of standing committees that would be made up of New Board Members. Unlike the current Board, New Board Members will make up the base membership of these standing committees, and the committees could then invite other experts to serve with them as committee members to support their work. The new standing committees will be required to digest, analyze, develop and prepare new and amended initiatives. To further strengthen input from consumers (us), a system of "task groups", made up of program supervisors, instructor trainers, etc., will be created and chaired by a national program director. This system of "technical" working groups was viewed by the existing Board as a very effective connection (through direct participation) for patrollers to the New Board.

Finally, the New Board, in conjunction with input and work in the technical groups, will drive strategic planning efforts through regular in-depth surveying and focus group sessions, to capture data and information required to identify strategic issues and objectives necessary to address changing industry direction and needs.

In July, 44 patrollers were nominated to fill the new 13-seat National Board. 33 of those nominees completed the application process. A seven member Nominating Committee, consisting of a cross-section of experienced patrollers from all areas of the country, met and deliberated, and on September 1, announced the slate of nominees. They include:

**Three Year Term:**

Mike Adams – Intermountain  
Bob Black - Professional  
John Kretschmann – Far West  
Bill Sachs – Eastern  
**Nici Singletary – Southern**

**Two Year Term:**

Pamm Ferguson – Eastern  
**Kenny Hess – Southern**  
Ron Plumer – Central  
Julie Rust – Professional

**One Year Term:**

Dick Everett – Northern  
Mike Gooderham – Pacific Northwest  
Bob McLaughlin – Eastern  
Tom Rauschke – Professional

What does this change in governance mean to the Southern Division? It means that we now must take more control of our ski patrol destiny than ever before, so that we might continue to offer our members the best patrol experience possible in the south! We must also prepare ourselves for the added responsibilities of administering our programs to specifically meet our own division's needs. In order to facilitate this journey, our division director appointed a Reorganization Committee, chaired by Neil Booth (following article), to examine and study our division structure and its programs, and to make recommendations that will benefit all of our patrollers. This committee had its first meeting in Wytheville, Virginia on September 8, and is now hard at work on our behalf!

I encourage every member of the Southern Division—just like I challenged our division board of directors and program staff on September 7—to stand behind our national organization and our division, as we move forward to meet this exciting opportunity for reform. Only by changing the global focus and purpose of the national board, and empowering divisions to deal with local issues, can consensus for change be reached and meaningful change successfully occur. To be seen as active partners, supporters and innovators, we need to move forward, always maintaining our ability to

change with the times and the environment. Even though the NSP is rich in tradition, if we fail to recognize and proactively react to changes in the milieu

in which we patrol, as in the case of dinosaurs, we too may become extinct!



## Southern Division Reorganization Committee

*Neil Booth*  
*Reorganization Committee Chair*



As discussed in the preceding article by John Dobson, major changes have occurred within National Headquarters, NSP. The entire Board of Directors structure has changed. The change is for the benefit of growth to the National Ski Patrol System—our organization. As a result, a committee was set up to study our restructuring.

The **Mission Statement** is: *The purpose of the Reorganization Committee is to determine the most efficient and effective manner for distribution of educational programs and services to Ski Areas, Area Management, Patrol Representatives and Members with the Southern Division, NSP. This will be accomplished through a diligent review of the current Southern Division organization structure and policies, with the desired outcome being a streamlined organization that more efficiently considers the time constraints upon all concerned parties.*

The **Strategy** is: *Review and develop policies and procedures for the Southern Division that support the direction and needs of our division organization, while correlating with the new NSP Board of Directors vision and structure.*

**Reorganization Committee Members:** Neil Booth was appointed Chairperson of the Committee. Neil has 29 years patrolling, currently is Dixie RD. Seventy five percent of members come from Line positions or Patrols. Further broken down, 50% is Volunteer/Paid Patrol representation; 25% is Members

at Large; 25% is Division Staff. Following is the roster of members along with their contact information:

- Mike Harris, Sugar Mountain, 25 year patroller, [mrharris@charter.net](mailto:mrharris@charter.net)
- Larry Bost, Hawksnest, 14 year patroller, [NSPNC@aol.com](mailto:NSPNC@aol.com)
- Nicole Hagner, Hawksnest, 2 year patroller, [nh45741@appstate.edu](mailto:nh45741@appstate.edu)
- John Huffstutter, Massanutten, 9 year patroller, Patrol Rep, [huffjd@earthlink.net](mailto:huffjd@earthlink.net)
- Steve Cvechko, Timberline, 17 year patroller, Patrol Rep, [lynn\\_cvechko@acordia.com](mailto:lynn_cvechko@acordia.com)
- Bob Lang, Sky Valley, 10+ year patroller, Past Patrol Rep, [thudbear@attbi.com](mailto:thudbear@attbi.com)
- Bill Smith, Homestead, 9 year patroller, Patrol Rep, [skibill@widowmaker.com](mailto:skibill@widowmaker.com)
- Brad Short, Snowshoe, 20 year patroller, Asst. Paid Director, [bshort@snowshoemtn.com](mailto:bshort@snowshoemtn.com)
- Gil Adams, Beech Mountain, 32 year patroller, Pro Director, [Skibeech@SkyBest.com](mailto:Skibeech@SkyBest.com)
- Dennis Slagle, Ober Gatlinburg, 24 year patroller, 2<sup>nd</sup> Asst. Div. Director, [dslagle2@nc.rr.com](mailto:dslagle2@nc.rr.com)
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- Mary Underwood, Admin, 22 year patroller, PES Supvr, [jnu@icx.net](mailto:jnu@icx.net)
- Neil Booth, Cataloochee, 29 year patroller, RD, [nabooth1@aol.com](mailto:nabooth1@aol.com)

The Committee had the first meeting on Sunday, September 8, 2002 in Wytheville, VA. The majority of their work will be broken down into smaller work groups that are responsible for analyzing the many facets of our structure. Recommendations will be presented to the Board of Directors at the Spring Officers Meeting on May 3, 2003.

A membership survey form will be given out to all members during your annual refreshers. The Committee asks each of you to take a few minutes to complete and return the surveys at the refresher, to your respective Patrol Representative. The Alignment Subcommittee for further actions will review surveys. This will be

very important for the direction and decisions the Committee carries forward.

By following the Mission Statement and Strategy of the Committee, the Division should become stronger, more effective and efficient. The changes will be transparent to membership. We accept this as the ultimate goal!



## Trends In Skiing and Snowboarding Injuries

*Ian Archibald, Southern Division  
Medical Advisor*



Recent published reports document the trends that are occurring in ski and snowboard injuries. Knowledge of these trends should improve safety and increase awareness of the types of injuries commonly seen in snow sliding sports.

In the 1999-2000 season, three skiing/snowboarding injuries serious enough to require immediate attention occurred for every 1000 visits. Death rates were slightly less than 3 deaths/million participants. Compare that figure to 21 deaths/million for bicycling, 25 deaths/million for swimmers, 32 deaths/million for scuba diving and 64 deaths/million for boating.

Serious catastrophic injuries (coma or serious traumatic brain injury, paraplegia or serious spine injury) are occurring at rates similar to skiing deaths. Overall there has been no significant change in the rates of catastrophic injury or death over the last 12 years.

Currently there are roughly twice as many skiers as snow boarders visiting US ski areas. This represents a 77% increase in snowboarders and a 24% decrease in skiers in the last 12 years. Beginners in both sports are three times more likely to be injured than more experienced sliders. However, nonfatal injury rates in snowboarders appear to be 2 to 4 times higher than for skiers. Boarders are 2 times more likely to sustain chest injury, 2 times more likely to sustain traumatic brain injury, 4 times more likely to sustain spine injury and 6 times more likely to sustain spleen injury. Collisions between snowboarders and skiers however are much more likely to be the *skier's fault*.

Fatalities are still very much a skier's problem. Snowboarders have the unexpected advantage of the "sea anchor" effect. The non-releasable snowboard, binding and boot system causes a snowboarder who has fallen to slide shorter distances and consequently impact with solid objects at a lower speed. In the 1999-2000 season 30 fatalities occurred: 23 skiers and 7 snowboarders. Over the last 15 years fatalities have averaged 34 per year. The most common cause of death was head injury. Skiers are 5 times more likely to sustain a fatal head injury than snowboarders. The most common scenario is a male skier, average age late teens or early 20s, of above average experience, skiing the margin of an intermediate slope at high speed, losing control and hitting a tree. This is the same age group that sustains the most fatalities in car (74%) and industrial accidents (85%).

As far as equipment issues are concerned, helmets are the hot topic. Helmets have been unsuccessful at reducing fatalities from head injury. Sixty percent of all fatalities were caused by injuries to the head. Thirty five percent of fatally injured skiers wore helmets. Also, 32% of traumatic brain injury victims were helmet users. This information confirms research that shows that current helmet technology cannot protect the head at impact speeds greater than 12 mph. Most skiers travel at speeds of 25-40 mph. However, there is evidence to suggest that the seriousness of traumatic brain injury is less in helmet users. The best current recommendation is for helmets to be used by novice snowboarders and any sliders entering wooded terrain.

The greatest problem facing skiers is still injury to the knee. ACL injuries have tripled in the last 30 years and 50% of all the treatment dollars spent on skiing and snowboarding injuries were spent in this area. Interestingly, the left knee is the most commonly injured! Current ski binding technology, while very

effective in protecting the tibia and ankle from fracture, does not take into account the failure point of knee ligaments. According to one study the introduction of shaped skis may be responsible for a further increase in ACL tears, especially in more experienced skiers who are making the transition from conventional skis to shaped designs.

There are three factors common to most snow sliding injuries: *Ability* (especially in novice snowboarders), *speed of sliding*, and *adjustment of equipment* (especially ski bindings).

Prevention measures should include the following:

- A good physical conditioning program
- Properly adjusted and maintained equipment, especially ski bindings
- Wrist guards for snowboarders

- Helmets for novice snowboarders and any sliders entering the trees
- Professional instruction including techniques to manage loss of control
- Vermont ACL awareness program for skiers, particularly professional skiers (instructors and patrollers)
- Careful choice of landing sites for sliders “getting air”
- Avoidance of icy and or crowded slopes
- Skiing and riding within the individuals ability
- Not skiing or riding alone in deep snow conditions.

More information may be obtained from [www.wms.org](http://www.wms.org) and clicking on Dr. Heneveld's article “Skiing and Snowboarding Injuries” from which the information presented here was obtained.



## Change in the *Southern Cross* Distribution Policy

*Bob Weed, Southern Cross Editor*



*Southern Cross*, our Division newsletter, is the most important tool we have for communication within the Division. In addition to providing a forum for officers at all levels to keep patrollers abreast of such issues as upcoming events, administrative developments, training opportunities and much more, it is also the best means available for the patrollers to share their experiences and their views. For alumni the newsletter is often the only means of keeping in touch with the old gang.

For these reasons it is important that we continue to get *Southern Cross* to all active members and alumni in a timely manner. Unfortunately this service ain't cheap. Printing and mailing costs run about \$2.50 to \$3.00 per copy. Multiply that by three issues per year and over 1100 recipients and you get annual expenses on the order of \$10,000. In order to help reduce this cost an effort was initiated a couple of years ago to encourage members to receive *Southern Cross* electronically. Under this plan recipients are notified via E-mail when the newsletter has been posted on the Southern Division

web site. It can then be read on line, downloaded to one's own computer and/or printed locally.

As a result of this effort, about a third of the *Southern Cross* readership has signed up for electronic distribution resulting in annual savings of over \$3000. This has allowed us to hold the line on Division dues and divert available funds to training and developmental activities. A major new program that became possible without increasing dues has been the Southern Division NSP/PSIA ski school. In this program patrollers are becoming certified PSIA instructors and then, through our own PSIA ski school, they spend weekends teaching skiing skills to patrol candidates, working to improve their skills to the level where they can pass their local patrol/area ski evaluation and earn their back crosses. This program has significant expenses for insurance, training materials and travel. We have also been able to drop the Division fees for patrollers seeking instructor status. We have initiated a slope safety program aimed at educating children and new skiers/riders in the Responsibility Code and on how to keep from getting hurt and thus have more fun on the slopes. As impressive as the savings to date have been, there is more gold in thar hills. With this in mind

at the Spring Officers Meeting the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors voted to make electronic rather than postal distribution the default method of distributing the *Southern Cross* to new patrollers. Those of you who are receiving the newsletter by postal mail will continue to receive it this way. However, we are once again asking you to please help reduce Division operating expenses by opting for electronic distribution. To do so, you can either notify your Patrol Representative, or you can contact Steve

Cortelyou at 3002 Millstream Lane, Knoxville, TN 37931, or by E-mail at [SGC@y12.doe.gov](mailto:SGC@y12.doe.gov). If you select the electronic option, you should check the NSP web site to make sure that they have a current E-mail address for you. To do this, go to [www.nsp.org](http://www.nsp.org), click on "Member Services", and follow the instructions.

We all recognize that change is not always easy or welcome. However, in this case the payoffs are well worth any minor inconvenience.





[www.earnyourturns.com](http://www.earnyourturns.com)

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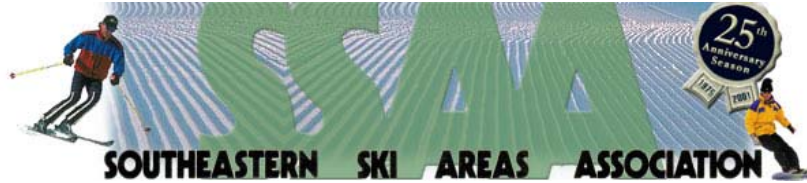
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# Kids' Safety Poster Contest

Sponsored by: National Ski Areas Association, Southeastern Ski Areas Association and Southern Division of the National Ski Patrol

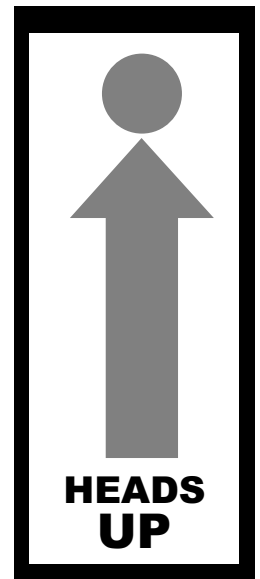


Create A Poster Using The Responsibility Code Below And You Could Win Up To a \$500 Savings Bond—Or Additional Prizes!

•• Winning Division Entries Will Be Forwarded To National Competition ••

## Responsibility Code:

1. Always stay in control and be able to stop or avoid other people or objects.
2. People ahead of you have the right of way. It is your responsibility to avoid them.
3. You must not stop where you obstruct a trail or are not visible from above.
4. Whenever starting downhill or merging into a trail, look uphill and yield to others.
5. Always use devices to help prevent runaway equipment.
6. Observe all posted signs and warnings. Keep off closed trails and out of closed areas.
7. Prior to using any lift, you must have the knowledge and ability to load, ride and unload safely.



## National Safety Poster Contest Rules:

- All entries must be created by an elementary school aged child.
- One entry per child.
- 8 1/2" X 11" or 11" X 17" poster size.
- Pencil, crayon, paint, or other "school" materials may be used. (No macaroni!)
- Write name, address, and telephone number of entrant on the back of entry.  
**DO NOT FOLD ENTRY.**
- Entry deadline: January 30, 2002. Send entries to: Ski Safety Poster Contest, 50 Elkwood Avenue, Asheville, NC 28804.



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2002 - 2003 (rev. 09/017/2002)

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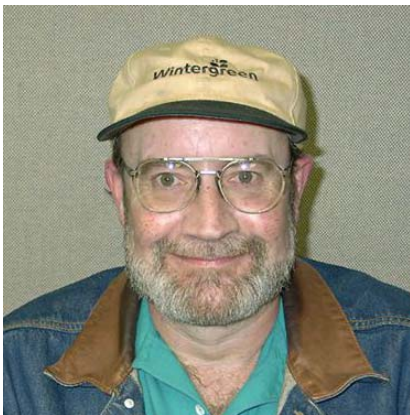
**SOUTHERN DIVISION CALENDAR FOR 2002-03 SEASON**

Region	Month	Date	Event	Location	Contact
BR	SEP	21	OEC INSTRUCTOR (PRE) REF.	APPALACHIAN	LISA ADAMS 828-387-2011
DIXIE	SEP	21	DEEP SOUTH OEC INST. REF.	LAWRENCEVILLE, GA	MIKE BOGGS 770-882-0046
VA	SEP	28	OEC PRE-REFRESHER	WINTERGREEN	TUCKER CROLIUS 434-325-8060
WV	SEP	28	OEC PRE-REFRESHER	SNOWSHOE	JASON HALL 304-572-5493
VA	SEP	29	ON THE HILL PRE-REFRESHER	WINTERGREEN	TUCKER CROLIUS 434-325-8060
DIXIE	SEP	TBD	GATLINBURG OEC COURSE BEGINS	GATLINBURG AREA	CLAYTON MINCHEW 865-632-4199
VA	OCT	4	OEC PRE-REFRESHER	HOMESTEAD	BILL SMITH 757-851-1581
BR	OCT	5	OEC REF, GRANDFATHER SEC.	TBA	LISA ADAMS 828-387-2011
VA	OCT	5	PRE-REFRESHER	MASSANUTTEN	W. DRURY/J. HUFFSTUTTER
VA	OCT	5	OEC, ON THE HILL REFRESHER	HOMESTEAD	BILL SMITH 757-851-1581
WV	OCT	5	OEC REFRESHER	TIMBERLINE	JANETTE BENNETT 304-599-4915
WV	OCT	6	ON THE HILL REFRESHER	TIMBERLINE	STEVE CVECHKO 304-776-8540
BR	OCT	12	OCTOBERFEST	SUGAR MTN	FLYNN HARRIS 704-523-7465
DIXIE	OCT	12	CATALOOCHEE OEC INST. REF.	CATALOOCHEE, NC	TOM RAUDORF 865-483-5818
WV	OCT	12	TIMBERLINE SKI SWAP	TYSONS CORNER	STEVE CVECHKO 304-776-8540
WV	OCT	16	OEC PRE-REFRESHER	WINTERPLACE	WALT WATSON 304-253-6963
DIXIE	OCT	19	GATLINBURG OEC INST. REF.	KNOXVILLE, TN	BOB WEED 256-882-9604
VA	OCT	19	ON THE HILL REFRESHER	WINTERGREEN	TUCKER CROLIUS 434-325-8060
VA	OCT	19	ON THE HILL REFRESHER	BRYCE	DON CHRISTIAN 703-256-5653
VA	OCT	19	SKI CHALET SKI SWAP	BRYCE	STEVE LEWIS 804-262-3788
VA	OCT	20	OEC REFRESHER	WINTERGREEN	TUCKER CROLIUS 434-325-8060
BR	OCT	26, 27	OEC CHALLENGE CLINIC/EVAL	SUGAR MTN	LARRY FLEMING 828-437-8448

Region	Month	Date	Event	Location	Contact
DIXIE	OCT	26	WOLF LAUREL OEC INST. REF.	ASHEVILLE, NC	BEN RAY 828-675-0896
VA	OCT	26	OEC REFRESHER	MASSANUTTEN	W. DRURY/J. HUFFSTUTTER
WV	OCT	26	OEC REFRESHER	SNOWSHOE	JASON HALL 304-572-5493
VA	OCT	27	ON THE HILL REFRESHER	MASSANUTTEN	B. DREWNOWSKI 540-289-4954
DIXIE	OCT	TBD	ATLANTA CPR REFRESHER	ATLANTA, GA	MELANIE WOLFORD 770-426-4182
DIXIE	NOV	1	CATALOOCHEE CPR	ASHEVILLE ARC	PETE KNOWLAND 828-687-2445
BR	NOV	2	CAROLINA HIGHLAND OEC REF	BANNER ELK, NC	LISA ADAMS 828-387-2011
DIXIE	NOV	2	CATALOOCHEE OEC REF.	CATALOOCHEE, NC	TOM RAUDORF 865-483-5818
DIXIE	NOV	2	GATLINBURG OEC REFRESHER	GATLINBURG, TN	BOB WEED 256-882-9604
VA	NOV	2	OEC COURSE START	MASSANUTTEN	B. DREWNOWSKI 540-289-4954
WV	NOV	2	OEC REFRESHER	WINTERPLACE	WALT WATSON 304-253-6963
DIXIE	NOV	3	CATALOOCHEE ON THE HILL	CATALOOCHEE,NC	DAN GREENE 770-6406396
DIXIE	NOV	3	GATLINBURG ON THE HILL	GATLINBURG, TN	CLAYTON MINCHEW 865-632-4199
DIXIE	NOV	9	ATLANTA OEC REFRESHER	ATLANTA, GA	MIKE BOGGS 770-882-0046
VA	NOV	9	MOUNTAIN TRAVEL & RESCUE I	WINTERGREEN	BOB CHATMAN 410-721-0921
DIXIE	NOV	10	SKY VALLEY ON THE HILL	SKY VALLEY, GA	KEN COLLINS 770-719-0781
VA	NOV	23	SKI SWAP	MASSANUTTEN	PAT RILEY 804-741-7810
DIXIE	NOV	23	WOLF LAUREL OEC REFRESHER	ASHEVILLE, NC	BEN RAY 828-675-0896
WV	NOV	23	OEC COURSE START	SNOWSHOE	BECKY SHARP 304-572-5695
DIXIE	NOV	24	WOLF LAUREL ON THE HILL	WOLF LAUREL, NC	RICK WOODLEE 828-693-1554
VA	NOV	29	SKI SWAP	WINTERGREEN	TUCKER CROLIUS 434-325-8060
DIXIE	DEC	5 - 8	ATLANTA SKI SWAP SALE	ATLANTA, GA	BILL DUNAWAY 770-427-3914
VA	DEC	7	TRANSFER ORIENTATION	MASSANUTTEN	JOHN HUFFSTUTTER 703-370-3066
WV	DEC	7	MOUNTAIN TRAVEL & RESCUE I	SNOWSHOE	BOB BODAMER 740-377-9460
BR	DEC	8	REGION S&T EXAMINERS CLIN.	APPALACHIAN	RICK LAWS 704-396-7792
VA	DEC	8	SENIOR ORIENTATION	MASSANUTTEN	C. HUFFSTUTTER 703-370-3066
BR	DEC	14	SR EMERGENCY MGMT CLINIC	BEECH MTN	HARVEY VARNER 336-785-4533
WV	DEC	14	INSTRUCTOR DEV. COURSE	WINTERPLACE	GREG RASH 502-263-3323
WV	DEC	15	PATROLLER ENRICHMENT SEM.	WINTERPLACE	C. HUFFSTUTTER 703-370-3066
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DIXIE	DEC	25-5	CHRISTMAS DEC 21-JAN 5	NO ACTIVITIES	SCHEDULED
DIXIE	JAN	4	EXAMINERS PROFICIENCY CLIN.	WOLF LAUREL, NC	PHIL CRITCHER 828-684-8721
DIXIE	JAN	4	SMOKY MTN NORDIC OTH	SMOKY MT NATL PK	ANDY MEACHAN 865-494-8838
BR	JAN	5	SENIOR S&T CLINIC	BEECH MTN	RICK LAWS 704-396-7792
DIXIE	JAN	5	SENIOR S&T CLINIC	GATLINBURG, TN	WAYNE MORGAN 828-625-9494
VA	JAN	5	SENIOR PRE-CLINIC	MASSANUTTEN	C. HUFFSTUTTER 703-370-3066
WV	JAN	5	BASIC S&T CLINIC	SNOWSHOE	BECKY SHARP 304-572-5695
WV	JAN	11	SKIER ENHANCEMENT SEMINAR	SNOWSHOE	MARK POORE 304-572-5695
VA	JAN	11,12	WOMENS S&T CLINIC	MASSANUTTEN	C. HUFFSTUTTER 703-370-3066
BR	JAN	12	BASIC S&T EVALUATION	SUGAR MTN	FLYNN HARRIS 704-523-7465
WV	JAN	12	TOBOGGAN ENHANCEMNT SEM.	SNOWSHOE	DAVE CLINE 304-748-0336
DIXIE	JAN	18-20	MLK WEEKEND	NO ACTIVITIES	SCHEDULED
DIV	JAN	25	CERTIFIED CLINIC - S&T	SNOWSHOE	BECKY SHARP 304-572-5695
VA	JAN	25	EMERGENCY MGNT CLINIC	WINTERGREEN	MARY GRAHAM 919-510-0850
WV	JAN	25	BASIC OEC EVALUATION	SNOWSHOE	BECKY SHARP 304-572-5695
WV	JAN	25	BASIC OEC EVALUATION	TIMBERLINE	STEVE CVECHKO 304-776-8540
BR	JAN	26	BASIC S&T EVALUATION	BEECH MTN	RICK LAWS 704-396-7792
DIXIE	JAN	26	SR S&T EVALUATION	GATLINBURG, TN	TIM ASBURY 828-697-6188
VA	JAN	26	SENIOR S&T CLINIC	WINTERGREEN	JOHN SHAFFER 703-719-5945
WV	JAN	26	BASIC S&T EVALUATION	SNOWSHOE	BECKY SHARP 304-572-5695
WV	JAN	26	BASIC S&T EVALUATION	TIMBERLINE	STEVE CVECHKO 304-776-8540
DIV	JAN	26	CERT. CLINIC - OEC & MTN OPS	SNOWSHOE	BECKY SHARP 304-572-5695
VA	JAN	31,1	MNTN TRAVEL AND RESCUE I	TBA	BOB CHATMAN 410-721-0921
WV	FEB	1	SR S&T CLINIC	SNOWSHOE	BECKY SHARP 304-572-5695
WV	FEB	1	NORDIC SEMINAR	WHITEGRASS	PENNY DIMLER 703-425-2736
BR	FEB	1,2	SENIOR S&T EVALUATION	HAWKSNEST	RICK LAWS 704-396-7792
DIV	FEB	1-2	STUDENT SEMINAR WEEKEND	APPALACHIAN	DENNIS SLAGLE 919-528-9279
VA	FEB	1,2	CERTIFIED CLIN. ALL MODULES	WINTERGREEN	LESLIE CARTER 434-325-1262
WV	FEB	2	SENIOR S&T CLINIC	SNOWSHOE	DAVE CLINE 304-748-0336
WV	FEB	8	EMERGENCY MGMNT CLINIC	SNOWSHOE	JASON HALL 304-572-5493
DIV	FEB	8,9	CERT CLINIC - ALL MODULES	HAWKSNEST	BILL STYRES 828-252-3335
BR	FEB	9	EMERGENCY MGMNT EVAL	HAWKSNEST	HARVEY VARNER 336-785-4533
WV	FEB	9	SENIOR S&T CLINIC	TIMBERLINE	NATE WAGELEY 703-858-5618
DIXIE	FEB	9	DEEP SOUTH BASIC S&T EVAL.	SKY VALLEY, GA	STEVE WALDREP 828-654-8493
DIXIE	FEB	9	EMERGENCY MGMNT CLINIC	CATALOOCHEE,NC	LARRY ERB 828-645-4718
VA	FEB	9	CERT CLINIC- OEC & MNTN OPS	MASSANUTTEN	B. DREWNOWSKI 540-289-4954
DIXIE	FEB	15-17	PRESIDENTS WEEKEND	NO ACTIVITIES	SCHEDULED
VA	FEB	22	EMERGENCY MNGMT EVAL	MASSANUTTEN	MARY GRAHAM 919-510-0850
BR	FEB	22	BASIC S&T EVALUATION	HAWKSNEST	RICK LAWS 704-396-7792
DIXIE	FEB	23	BASIC S&T AT GATLINBURG	GATLINBURG, TN	DAVE PARKER 770-751-7255
VA	FEB	23	SENIOR S&T EVALUATION	MASSANUTTEN	JOHN SHAFFER 703-719-5945

Region	Month	Date	Event	Location	Contact
WV	FEB	22	BASIC S&T EVALUATION	WINTERPLACE	TOM WAGNER 304-469-8039
WV	FEB	23	SR S&T CLINIC	WINTERPLACE	TOM WAGNER 304-469-8039
WV	MAR	1	SR S&T EXAM	SNOWSHOE	BECKY SHARP 304-572-5695
VA	MAR	1	BASIC OEC EVALUATION	MASSANUTTEN	B. DREWNOWSKI 540-289-4954
BR	MAR	2	"BASIC"	APPALACHIAN	RICK LAWS 704-396-7792
DIXIE	MAR	2	EMERGENCY MNGMT EVAL	CATALOOCHEE,NC	LARRY ERB 828-645-4718
VA	MAR	2	BASIC S&T EVALUATION	MASSANUTTEN	B. DREWNOWSKI 540-289-4954
WV	MAR	8	EMERGENCY MNGMT EXAM	TIMBERLINE	STEVE CVECHKO 304-776-8540
DIXIE	MAR	9	MOUNTAIN TRAVEL & RESCUE	TBD	JOHN PARKER 828-648-1931
VA	MAR	9	PATROL COOKOUT	MASSANUTTEN	B. DREWNOWSKI 540-289-4954
DIXIE	MAR	15	AVALANCHE FUND. & RESCUE	WEST. CAROLINA U.	DENNIS SLAGLE 919-528-9279
VA	MAR	15	AVALANCHE FUND. & RESCUE	WINTERGREEN	BILL KOST 703-671-5678
WV	MAR	16	BASIC S&T EVALUATION	TIMBERLINE	STEVE CVECHKO 304-776-8540
DIV	MAR	21,22	CERTIFIED EVALUATION	SNOWSHOE	LESLIE CARTER 434-325-1262
DIV	MAY	3	OEC INSTRUCTOR SEMINAR	ROANOKE	WYNDHAM HOTEL 1-800-996-3426
DIV	MAY	3,4	SPRING CONVENTION/AWARDS	ROANOKE	WYNDHAM HOTEL 1-800-996-3426
DIV	AUG	16-17	FALL OFFICERS MEETING	WYTHEVILLE, VA	NICI SINGLETARY 434-325-1024

## In Memoriam



### Don Rutledge (1950 - 2002)

On Friday, July 26 we lost long time Wintergreen patroller Don Rutledge. "Daddy" Don joined Wintergreen as a pro patroller in 1982, and patrolled through the 1998-1999 season. He served as Assistant Patrol Director from the mid-eighties through the mid-nineties. I presented Don with the PDT award (Patrol Director Trainer) after my first season as Patrol Director. During the off season, Don worked with Activities Department and WPOA. Most recently, Don worked with the Transportation department.

Those of you that were fortunate enough to work with Don will remember his warm smile and quick laugh. He was nationally ranked when it came to a good practical joke and a pleasure to be with. We will miss him very much. *[Submitted by Tucker Crolius]*

## Scenes From The Season

End of session at Ober Gatlinburg. Next stop—The Smoky Mountain Brewery; after removing parkas of course. Bill Mattison, Joy Slagle, Clayton Minchew, Tyler Robbins, Amanda Ogle, July Semans, Nici Singletary.





It's getting to be a time-worn line to proclaim that National Appointments are always long overdue by the time they are awarded. Nevertheless the statement is once again applicable to Dave Katterman of Hawk's Nest—Southern Division's newest National. Congratulations Dave!

Ed Pouncey (Wintergreen) receiving the Patroller's Cross from Division Director Nici Singletary in recognition of being injured in the line of duty. Congratulations, Ed, but this is one award that the rest of us hope we never receive!



Bob Lang (Sky Valley), Southern Division's Outstanding Patrol Rep receives the Yellow Star.



Lynn Pace receiving the Yellow Star for his years of service as Certified Program Supervisor.





Thirty years and still standing! Doug Carlberg is recognized for 30 years of patrolling.



Who'll sing for me? After years of coordinating efforts to recognize outstanding achievement throughout the Division, Harry Stowe is recognized with a Yellow Star for his exemplary contributions as Awards Supervisor. Congratulations and thanks from all of us, Harry!

**Southern Cross, National Ski Patrol  
c/o Bob Weed  
2609 Willena Dr, Huntsville, AL 35803**

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# SOUTHERN CROSS

A Publication of The Southern Division of The National Ski Patrol

2001-02, Number 3

June 2002

## In This Issue

From Nici.....	1
From the Assistants	
Morgan Armstrong .....	3
Dennis Slagle .....	3
From the Regions	
Virginia.....	4
West Virginia.....	5
Blue Ridge .....	6
Dixie .....	6
From Supervisors and Advisors	
Women's Toboggan Clinic	8
From Around the Division	
Thoughts on Senior OEC.	9
Massanutten Olympic	
Torch Runners .....	9
Help With Bike Race.....	10
EM at WinterPlace.....	10
Penny's Olympics .....	12
Sky Valley Candidates ..	16
CISM.....	16
Get a 'Real' Job .....	17
In Memoriam	
Denny Lennon.....	19
Bill Reddick .....	20
Scenes from the Season ....	20
People and Dates	
Division Officers .....	22
2002-03 Calendar .....	22

(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 fall issue is September 20, 2002. Send submissions to:

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## A Challenging Season!

Nici Singletary, Division Director

*Challenge: "to test, or to try". This past season was a challenge for many ski areas on the east coast. Areas in Southern Division were no exception.*



The combination of warm weather and drought made for an abbreviated season and fewer slopes to ski. This in turn created challenges for patrols, candidates and patrollers working to improve their skills. Fortunately, our patrollers rose to the challenge, and as a result we have a significant number of new patrollers, senior patrollers or senior emergency management (a.k.a. senior OEC) credentialed patrollers. We cannot control the weather—we can only plan training events and then try to make each event the best possible learning experience. Our thanks go to the many instructors who worked tirelessly to put on the various ski, toboggan, OEC, PES, Phase I, mentoring and other NSP courses throughout Southern Division this past season!

The season concluded in Asheville, NC, at the Division Spring Officers Meeting and annual awards banquet. Held at the Holiday Inn Sun Spree and hosted by Dixie Region, this meeting and celebration was one of the best that I can remember! Many thanks to all the patrols in Dixie, and the patrollers and spouses who helped make this event a resounding success! A simultaneously running OEC Instructor Seminar contributed to the large turnout and a sensational meeting. Attendees were introduced to **Leif Borgeson**, who will be taking over as the National Education Program Director when Judy Over retires at the end of June. Leif is a former paid patrol supervisor and accomplished telemark skier from A-Basin, Colorado. He provided updates on the 4<sup>th</sup> edition OEC textbook (due out in July). The color galleys from four chapters were passed around and look fantastic! Many patrollers in Southern Division have contributed extensively to this upcoming edition. Following lunch, Leif gave a detailed presentation on the recently introduced mentoring program and how the process works for developing new instructors, while reducing “hoops”.

Our Division Board Representative, **John Dobson**, presented a detailed look at the ongoing efforts to re-structure the NSP Board, including proposed governance changes. John will report on these efforts and the results of the upcoming NSP Annual Board meeting (June 5-7) in the Fall edition of Southern Cross. This was John’s last official meeting as our DivisionBoard Representative, and I’d like to thank him for all the

time and effort he has spent representing our Division at NSP and reporting back to each of you on the activities of the NSP Board.

Our special guest speaker for the day was past National Chairman **John Clair**. John is the Deputy Commissioner for clinical Emergency Medical Services for NYC, and he treated the audience to a fascinating look at the 9/11/01 World Trade Center disaster and the EMS response. John described how the Incident Command System was used and what lessons were learned. He emphasized that every patrol should learn how to use the Incident Command System and to incorporate it into mass casualty training exercises at their ski area. There is a new chapter in the upcoming OEC textbook that provides information on this topic.

At the evening awards banquet, we recognized the thousands of hours of service that all of us have contributed to patrolling through NSP! Service awards for 10 to 35 years of service were presented to patrollers present at the meeting or to their patrol representatives. **Larry Bost** was recognized for his incredible record of service to NSP with a National Appointment. Larry is currently patrol representative for Hawksnest Ski Patrol, Assistant National OEC Program Director, former Division Instructor Development Program Supervisor, and an OEC instructor trainer. Congratulations to Larry! WinterPlace patroller **Jon Dragan**, the Asst. WV Region Director and a Region OEC Instructor Trainer, was also recognized for his contributions to NSP with a Leadership Commendation Appointment. Congratulations, Jon! **Steve Cortelyou** (Ober Gatlinburg) received a Yellow Merit Star for the many hours he has spent working to get the Southern Cross on our Division website and email notification to patrollers. Former Division Director **Charles Benbow** (current Alumni Program Supervisor) received one of the highest awards presented by NSP, the Meritorious Service Award, in recognition of his many years of service to NSP and Southern Division. This year, 3 new awards were presented in the name of former Cataloochee patroller Mary K. Twomey (MKT). **Jon**

**Dragan** was the recipient of the MKT Outstanding Instructor Trainer award. The names of the other recipients of Mary K. Twomey awards are being withheld until they can be presented their awards in person over the summer. Asst. Division OEC Supervisor **Pete Knowland** was named the Outstanding Administrative patroller for Southern Division. **Joe Donadio**, patrol director for Appalachian, received the Division Outstanding Paid Patroller award, and **Susanne Wise** of Hawksnest Ski Patrol received the Division Outstanding Auxiliary award. For the second year in a row, Sky Valley Ski Patrol's **Bob Lang** was named Outstanding NSP Patrol Representative. Congratulations to all of these exceptional patrollers! [\[Go to page 20 to see a selection of photos of award recipients. ed.\]](#)

### Quote of the Day

*"I long to accomplish a great and noble task, but it is my chief duty to accomplish small tasks as if they were great and noble."*

- Helen Keller

Another change this year is in the Outstanding Alpine Patrol awards. Over half of the patrols in NSP have memberships of 40 or less members. It is difficult for these smaller patrols to compete with very large patrols for the annual outstanding patrol award, so NSP now has an outstanding *small* alpine ski patrol award, and an outstanding *large* alpine patrol award. This year, **Sky Valley Ski Patrol** received the Southern Division Outstanding Small Alpine Patrol award, and **Appalachian Ski Patrol** received the Southern Division Outstanding Large Alpine Patrol award. Both of these patrols have gone beyond the call of duty to challenge their members to excel in patrolling skills and in contributions outside of NSP towards safety and promotion of snowsports!

Next year's Division Spring meeting and awards banquet will be hosted by the Virginia Region and is planned for the first weekend in May at the Wyndham hotel in Roanoke. Based on the success of this recent meeting, another OEC Instructor seminar is being planned at the same location. The spring meeting is open to ALL patrollers and their families, and I hope you will join us next May in Roanoke.

Your patrol representatives have been working on their event schedules for 2002-2003. Be sure to look at the [enclosed calendar](#) and note dates for your refreshers, clinics or evaluations for senior toboggan,

emergency management, certified, student patrollers, and other events so you can plan your patrol days around these events. Some exciting new seminars are also being planned for this coming season, such as a Women's Toboggan Clinic and possibly a Cascade

Demo Team Toboggan clinic. Watch for news about these special clinics in the Southern Cross, and at the Southern Division web site, [www.nsp.org/divisions/southern/](http://www.nsp.org/divisions/southern/). In the meantime, have a great summer.

## From the Assistants...

### Schedules, Awards, Etc.

*Morgan Armstrong, First Assistant Division Director*



Line Officers need to obtain final dates for the activities that your patrol, section and region will be conducting for the ski season of 2002-2003. These dates will need to be filed with the Southern Division at the Fall Officers Meeting in September. Please confirm your dates to avoid conflicts with other patrols, section, region and division events. Everyone is requested to keep the first weekend in February clear for the Student Seminar.

Each patrol is requested to begin making preparations for awards for next ski season at this time by setting up a goal of five division awards for each patrol. This goal will allow the Southern Division to better compete on the national level. Each year we have many awards that are available but are not used. Patrol Representatives are asked to read the awards section of the Officers' Manual to learn what is available. Merit stars and certificates of appreciation really mean a great

deal to our membership. Please get busy at the beginning of the season and with a small amount of planning, the process can be made much less painful and stressful at year's end. This ski season the section chiefs will be supervising, challenging and encouraging each patrol to submit awards nominations. Each patrol should double check the roster to be certain each member due a service award gets the award in a timely fashion. Also be aware that the service time is calculated one full year after the date of matriculation on the member's card. One who joins in September, 2000 will have their matriculation date in January, 2001 if the paperwork arrives on time. January, 2002 will count as one full year of credit. The ten year award should then arrive on schedule and on time at the awards ceremony after January, 2011 and so on.

All officers are reminded to begin announcing the 4th edition OEC book which is due this July. This book will set the standard for many years and will be a great tool for teaching our basic courses. Everyone will find teaching and learning from this new book to be very worthwhile.



### All in One Place

*Dennis Slagle, Second Assistant Division Director*



Have you ever wished there were one place you could go to and get information about anything? There is a lot of information out there on the "www", if you have the time to "surf" or look for it. Patrollers in our Division could be better informed if they had one place with all the answers. My vision is to make that

place our Southern Division web site. There is already a lot of information out there, for instance:

- Division Calendars
- Region Calendars
- The Southern Cross
- Form Downloads
- Listings of all the Division Officers and Supervisors
- Links to patrols and areas
- Links to other items

The links to other items include your personal contact information such as address, phone number, and email address. You can access this information and change it to keep it up to date. There is a link to this area. There is also a link to the area where you can get an account number and password to access the information.

Soon we will be putting links to programs (Avalanche, MTR, PES, etc). These links will have all the information about that program, so that if it still does not answer all your questions, there will be contacts listed who will have the information. The pages should include – what the course is about, what you will learn, why you need the information in the course, who are the instructors, dates for courses, and what ever else needs to be included.

But, this is still a very limited amount of information. I think there is still a lot of information missing.

This last part is where the supervisors and I need some help. Is there something you would like to see on the web site? What kinds of information do **you** need that **you** are not getting now? Is there something we should change about the web site?

This web site was built for all the patrollers in Southern Division. Please feel free to contact me on anything that you feel needs to be there. I have a vision to make our web site the focus of Southern Division information. You are the recipients of the information on the site, so let us know what you need!!

## From the Regions...

### Virginia Region

*Mike Fisher, Region Director*

Wintergreen reports that the new tubing park named “The Plunge” was very successful, and even sold out many weekends. A byproduct of the exciting ride was a few more injuries than they had desired, so the original tubing park will be reopened for the less adventurous crowd. A new trail will be opened from upper Wild Turkey to Cliffhanger so skiers can cross over to the new lift without skiing all the way down Wild Turkey. Wintergreen hosted the



OEC and S&T exams and clinics this season with super results. Many thanks go to all the patrollers and friends who played victims, were examiners, and to those who organized the events. Nearly thirty people made this exam one of the best held in many years.

Congratulations go to our newest Seniors, Tom Fenn from Bryce, Shaun Cassidy and Rob Armstrong from Wintergreen.

Many thanks to Don Christian who served as patrol representative at Bryce this past season. Don said he would take the patrol under his wing for another season, until the patrol can find a permanent replacement. The

Bryce patrol will hold an election this summer for the patrol representative position.

New this year, at your refresher there will a collection of E-mail addresses from all patrollers. This information will be used to notify you by E-mail when the **Southern Cross** is posted on the Southern Division web site. This will result in significant reductions in Division operating costs. If you do not have E-mail or



Examiners, patients and candidates at the Virginia Region Emergency Management Evaluation at Wintergreen. Too many to name! Anyone able to identify all participants wins a free copy of *Southern Cross*.



Don Christian (patrol rep), Mike Fisher (Region Director) and Lacy Williams (Shenandoah Section Chief) at Bryce.

access to the internet, and would prefer to receive a hard copy via postal mail instead, you will have an opportunity to make this request.

Super, Huge, Atta Girl, congratulations goes out to Robin VanWinkle for becoming the newest Certified patroller in the Division!!! Way to go Robin!!

The Shenandoah Nordic patrol is very proud of its four patrollers who volunteered at the Olympic Nordic Venue this past winter. They had a great time with plenty of pins and memories to last a lifetime.

New this year will be the introduction of the Mountain Travel and Rescue I (MTR I) course being held on Heards Mountain, near Wintergreen. The one-day course will be held on January 31, followed by an optional winter campout as a prep for MTR II. Times, dates, location, etc. will be in the fall issue. This should be a good time, with over 900 acres of private land to explore.

#### Virginia Region Summer/Fall Schedule

June 22 8am CPR/ AED refresher Lake Monocan- you must pre-register

- June 22 12noon Wtgrn Patrol picnic and Annual Patrol Meeting Lake Monican
- June 23 Instructor Development Seminar-Wintergreen (Morgan Armstrong)
- July 21 Patroller Enrichment Seminar C-ville (Cindy Huffstutter)
- July 27 OEC Refresher Planning Wytheville (Judi Kay Monaghan)
- Aug 10-11 Hoo Haa Bicycle race Massanutten
- Sept 7 Fall Officers Meeting Wythville
- Sept 7 Senior Examiners Clinic @ Fall Officers Mtg
- Sept 14 Wintergreen OEC course starts (Ted Forbes c/o Tucker)
- Sept 28 Wtgrn OEC pre refresher, Sept 29 Wtgrn OTH pre refresher (Tucker)
- Oct 4@5 Homestead Pre refresher and Refresher (Bill Smith)
- Oct 5 Massanutten Pre Refresher (William Drurey 540-896-8033/ John Huffstutter)
- Oct 19 & 20 Wtgrn Oth, and OEC Refresher (Tucker)



**Upgrade at Wintergreen.** The new \$6M detachable lift gets you and five companions to the top in 3 minutes. The rest of the Division is jealous!



### West Virginia Region

*Jan Starr, Region Director*

The season that wasn't is over and onto the spring and summer. We are now getting the precipitation that was so much needed during the winter. All areas in WV made it through the season without having to shut down any. Training was hit and miss, but new patrollers made it out onto the slopes.

A great SR OEC clinic and lunch was held by Timberline. Timberline also has new officers for the upcoming season. Good luck to all of them.

The Emergency Management Evaluation was held at WinterPlace. [\(See article on page 10.\)](#) The effort put into this endeavor was shown in the quality of the evaluation. They have now raised the standard!!

There are many events scheduled for the summer at the areas. One of the biggest will be the NORBA Nationals, held at Snowshoe on June 20-23. Come and join us in one of the top mountain biking events in the Eastern/Southern US. Check out the areas' web pages for a summer schedule full of concerts and cookoffs. Grab the family and enjoy your summer!

## Blue Ridge Region

*Butch McLean, Region Director*

The areas that opened for skiing in the Blue Ridge Region enjoyed a profitable ski season. Unfortunately Ski Hawksnest did not open for skiing. They became "Tube Hawksnest". The failure of Hawksnest to open did not catch us by surprise. Larry Bost, patrol representative was aware that this was going to occur and he kept everyone in the loop. He contacted the other patrol reps in the region and in the division in an effort to find a place for the Hawksnest patrollers to patrol. The region patrols were highly supportive of these patrollers. They welcomed the Hawksnest patrollers with open arms and made them feel like family. Larry has met several times with Lenny Cottom the new general manager at Hawksnest and Larry has been assured that Hawksnest will reopen for the 2002 - 2003 ski season as a ski area.

This season Appalachian Ski Mountain, Ski Beech and Sugar Mountain exhibited the type of camaraderie that makes the Blue Ridge Region truly unique. We have always visited freely with each other, trained together and tested together and this season was just another example of how close we are. All areas in the region had members of the Hawksnest Patrol patrolling.



The reports from the patrol representatives and the Hawksnest patrollers were similar. Other than learning new opening and closing procedures the assimilation appeared to be smooth.

The senior program appears to have returned to the prominence it once held. Several patrollers completed their course work and the ski and toboggan evaluation. There appears to be renewed interest in the program and the patrol reps should be commended for their effort to increase the number of candidates.

We continued to hold regional basic evaluations. The chief examiner Rick Laws led these evaluations. Rick did an outstanding job organizing the evaluations and each area had a basic evaluation.



Senior Clinic at Ski Beech. L to R: Andy Moody, not-sure-who, Toni Cheek, Butch McLean, Dan Cheek, Howard Tilley, Richard Sanders and Mike Harris.



## Dixie Region

*Neil Booth, Region Director*

We had a challenging season but we came through in our normal stride, on top! Even though we had constant weather challenges, we did not let it disrupt our many days of skiing in the South, nor our educational and training needs. We all ended the season as better members. Larry Erb, Senior Coordinator and Phil Critcher, Chief Examiner had to perform talented juggling acts by moving clinics and exams around to different areas for snow and terrain purposes. None of this would have been possible without the support and flexibility of our



Ski Area Managers and Patrols. Dixie did great and everyone in Dixie is to be congratulated.

We just completed the largest gathering of Southern Division Members for the Annual Spring Officers Meeting and Awards Banquet. The Dixie Region was the host for the event. We had tremendous help in putting on this event from Carrie Keller, Shelley Booth, Dave Kattermann, Jamie Piercy and Lee Wilkinson. We had strong financial support from Dave Kattermann, Richard Boyer, Cataloochee, Ober Gatlinburg, Sky Valley, and Wolf Laurel Ski Patrols. We also had custom made bottle stoppers made by Gordon Pettit's wife, which were given to key visitors and staff members. These people were the reason for the very successful event and to them I offer my most sincere thanks.

We had a lot of success this year. Let me begin by recognizing **Bob Lang, Outstanding Patrol Representative for the Southern Division**. Bob has done an excellent job in integrating the Scaly Mountain Patrol into the ranks of Sky Valley, through the unfortunate closure of Scaly Mountain Ski Area. Bob has done an outstanding job of leading his patrol to much higher standards and accomplishments. No big surprise either, that **Sky Valley was awarded the Southern Divisions Outstanding Small Patrol of the Year**. Bob set the direction, but it was membership that took advantage of everything the system offers. They excelled in everything they participated in, both on and off the hill. We extend a tremendous amount of congratulations to Bob Lang and the Sky Valley Patrol for their accomplishments. Very well done Sky Valley!

Members of Dixie, that also excelled, were recognized for their contributions:

- **Southern Division Outstanding Administrative Patroller was awarded to Pete Knowland**. Pete has been extremely instrumental in enhancing the quality of OEC courses, refreshers, clinics and exams. Membership and Leadership in Dixie are the direct recipients of his outstanding talents. Those that come into direct contact with Pete know and realize this.
- **Southern Division Outstanding Student Patroller was awarded to Matthew Lovelace**. Matt is an active member of Wolf Laurel and was recognized for his talents when he stopped during a high school cross country meet to help an injured runner, thereby taking himself out of contention by helping someone in need. Matt is an outstanding young adult.
- **Service Awards** were given out as follows:
  - 35 years to **Randy Avery**-Cataloochee; **Bob Palik**-Cloudmont
  - 25 years to **Steve Waldrep**-Wolf Laurel; **Linda Pace**-Smoky Mtn Nordic; **Ben Tholkes**-Sapphire
  - 20 years to **Ian Nesbitt** and **Mike Boggs**-Sky Valley; **Dave Quidort**-Wolf Laurel; **Dave Bjornstad**-Gatlinburg
  - We also had seven 5 year awards and eleven 10 year awards
- **Senior Certificates** were awarded to the following people who have increased their education, knowledge and skills to a much higher level:
  - **Richard Boyer, David Hall and Steve Wall-Cataloochee**
  - **Kevin Semans** – Ober Gatlinburg
  - **Bob Brewster** – Wolf Laurel
- **Angel Pins** were given to some very special spouses of Dixie members. These are people that have endured many long hours of sacrifice as their spouse spends time away from home and family, to support the system. These Angel's are very special people and I am deeply appreciative to each one of them.
  - **Lori Piercy, Cheryl Critcher and Kay Erb** – Wolf Laurel
  - There are more to be personally presented to other outstanding Angels within the Region and will be recognized after presentations.
- **Certificates of Appreciation** were given out to the following members within the Region for their superior contributions:
  - **Dave Parker**-Cataloochee for his continued support to the Southern Division in his leadership role as PSIA Supervisor; as a Region S&T Examiner and Toboggan Instructor; for his time and financial commitment to the Cataloochee Ski Patrol.
  - **Carrie Keller**-Cataloochee for serving as the On-site Meeting Coordinator for the Southern Divisions Spring Officers Meeting in Asheville, NC. About 150 members for meetings and 134 attendees for the Annual Awards Banquet attended this meeting. Yes, the biggest meeting in the Southern Division to date.
  - **Lee Wilkinson**-Wolf Laurel for serving as the Registration Coordinator and Financial liaison for the Southern Divisions Spring Officers Meeting.
  - **Ann Christenson**-Cataloochee for her active participation in the Region as an OEC Instructor; performing as IOR on several challenge courses in the Region; personalized trainer for Senior Candidates; but most importantly, for her years of dedicated service

to Cataloochee as the Patrol Registrar and Treasurer.

- o **David Hall**-Cataloochee for his support to Dixie Region as an S&T Examiner; for his dedication as a Patrol and Section Training Officer; and for the countless hours and financial commitment he gives to the Cataloochee Ski Patrol towards improvements in patrol facilities and building projects.

We had a special testimony given at the recent Spring Meeting by **Chris Brecher from Sky Valley**, a current Senior Candidate. Chris lacks one elective before completing the Senior educational process for advancement. Perhaps his most important comments began with “someone asked me to get involved in the Senior process”. Chris has been a patroller for over 10 years and has not really challenged his skills beyond annual refreshers and on the hill activities since becoming a Basic. His comments were very positive about the Senior Program and he strongly recommends that “you” get involved and challenge yourself.

This leads into further recognition of Dixie Staff members, for their endless support of the Senior educational process. It all began with **Larry Erb, Senior Coordinator** who took on the supervisory challenge this year. Larry put together a great program, which is probably the largest Senior endeavor ever put on by this Region. At one point, we had 23 people enrolled in the process. Most members progressed through one or more of the educational requirements. Some of the participants were enrolled to obtain their Senior OEC skills section only, thus enabling them to become better OEC Instructors. As you have read, five

members completed the entire educational process. More will complete the educational process next year. Without the support of Larry Erb and the many clinic and exam leaders, plus eager candidates, the program would not have been the success it was. **Pete Knowland, Region OEC Supervisor and Dave Kattermann, Smoky Mountain Section Chief** are two additional key people in this process. They, along with Larry, attended pre-clinic sessions, all clinics and all exams. My thanks to all who participated and supported this year’s Senior program.

There are so many people in the Region that make everything possible, however, I cannot mention everyone. Membership should simply realize that our OEC, PSIA, Toboggan, PES, Instructor Development and Avalanche Instructors are key to the delivery of educational programs to you. Make sure you thank them whenever you can. They are there to give the extra efforts and attention to you. I personally thank each and every one of them for their outstanding volunteer efforts and service. I also appreciate and commend all members in the Region for their continued outstanding service and dedication to their respective Ski Areas, Patrol Management and Area Management. You are the core of everything!

Now it is time to relax and kick back with other areas of obsession we all seem to gravitate to. Enjoy the summer and I look forward to seeing everyone next ski season. My heartfelt thanks to everyone in Dixie for all the fine efforts you provide to the skiing public and ski area management.

## From Supervisors and Advisors...

### Toboggan Clinic For Women

*Tim Asbury, Alpine Ski and Toboggan Advisor*

A Women’s Toboggan Enhancement Seminar and Skier Enhancement Seminar has been tentatively scheduled for January 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> either at Massanutten or Wintergreen. This clinic will focus on the skills and techniques helpful to better run a



sled. Some of the topics covered are finessing the toboggan vs. brute strength and tips for vertically challenged people. The head instructor, Deb Daniels, developed this program in the Eastern Division and it has been well received. It has also been offered at Powderfall and from the comments at the Spring officers meeting the course was great!

This clinic is taught by women and is for women only. The level three PSIA instructor has also done women’s only focus clinics. If you need senior electives or just want to tune up your ski and sled



skills, this is a great way to knock out both in a weekend. The cost for this clinic is \$75.00. Contact

Tim Asbury ([sasbury@brinet.com](mailto:sasbury@brinet.com)) to register for the course.

## From Around The Division...

### Some Thoughts on Senior OEC

*Chris Brecher, Sky Valley Ski Patrol*

*[This end-of-season E-mail was sent by Chris to his fellow patrollers at Sky Valley. It is being shared here with everyone in the Division because the sentiments transcend patrol boundaries. Also, please note that the term "Senior OEC" is now "Emergency Management". See box on page 11. Ed.]*

Well, we're rapidly concluding our ski season. I wanted to let everyone know that both Celeste and I passed our Senior OEC Evaluation last weekend at Cataloochee. It wasn't easy, but it was a terrific learning experience. Special thanks to both Michael Bernstein and Dean Melton for being our "victims" during the process.

Next weekend we will have both Chris Polhemus and David Castaldini at Cataloochee taking their Evaluation. Wish them luck, and help them if they ask you to be their victim.

I want to encourage all of you to take the Senior OEC course next season. I took my "WEC" course 12 years ago. Since I don't work in the healthcare field, my OEC skills had become rusty. The Senior OEC program

is a great way to update your OEC skills, while thinking about managing an accident in a whole new dimension.

The Senior OEC program teaches you to think about managing patient priorities, equipment, human resources (both patrollers and bystanders), and ski area management. The program opened my eyes to another level of managing an accident. (For example, have you ever thought about using the slope to "elevate" a patient's legs when they're going into shock?)

No kidding, the Senior program is fabulous. I don't want to hear that you're too busy. I work 60-80 hours per week and travel away from home 4 days every week (and I have 2 young kids). It doesn't take but 4-5 additional days of your time, and the experience and knowledge you'll gain will reinforce one of the primary reasons you became a patroller—improving the experience of skiing, while learning new skills that could save someone's life.

I encourage to make the commitment now. Sign up for the senior program. I guarantee you won't regret it. Your minimal commitment of time will teach you skills you've likely never thought about. Skills that will make you a more confident patroller.



### Massanutten Champions Olympic Spirit

*John Huffstutter, Massanutten  
Patrol Representative*

One of Massanutten Ski Patrol's finest, Senior patroller Mark Andrews, was given the great honor of running the Olympic Flame in the Salt Lake 2002 Olympic Torch Relay. Another member of the Massanutten family, Lindsay O'Bannon, earned the honor of being one of Mark's support runners for the 0.2 mile along the Falls Church segment of the torch's 65-day, 13,500

mile trip from Atlanta to Salt Lake City. Mark and Lindsay advanced the flame on its journey into the nation's capital on December 21, 2001, one of its visits to 125 cities in 46 states en route to the Winter Olympic Games, which began on February 8, 2002.

Mark was one of only 11,500 people chosen to carry the torch. Mark, the associate director of Madison House (the University of Virginia's student volunteer center), is also the founder and director of Massanutten Adaptive Snow Sports, where he uses specialized equipment like monoskis and sit-skis to enable the physically and men-tally challenged to ski alongside their friends and family members. Mark has coached athletes who have competed in the Special Olympics,

the Cerebral Palsy Games and the Virginia Association



of Blind Athletes at the national championship level. He has been a patroller since 1984, and is also a member of the Professional Ski Instructors of America. Mark's dedicated efforts and advocacy over the last two

decades have inspired hundreds of challenged athletes, and earned him a listing in "Who's Who in Rehabilitation", and a heartfelt nomination to run the Olympic Flame by Pat Welk, a paraplegic and one of Mark's monoski students.

Lindsay O'Bannon is the daughter of Massanutten patrollers Lisa and Bernie O'Bannon. Lindsay is an outstanding athlete, and with Mark and her parents shares a passion for excellence and community service. "I'm glad I got to share my Torch Relay experience with Lindsay and her family," Mark said. "It made it just that much more special." The photographs of Mark and Lindsay clearly show their pride, enthusiasm, and spirit. They both say it is an honor they will never forget.



## A Chance to Use Your Skills in the Off-Season

*Ken Collins  
(Sky Valley Ski Patrol and Union City Fire Chief)*

The City of Union City, Georgia will be holding the "Union City, Hank Aaron BMW Bicycle Classic" on June 22 & 23, 2002. On Saturday June 22 we will be holding Circuit and Time Trial races; on Sunday June 23 we will be holding the Road Race. Additionally there are planned events for families and spectators;

vendor carts. A bike rodeo for kids and a concert Saturday night are also planned.

In addition to the fire department's EMTs and Paramedics, we will be using the support of local ambulance services and EMS personnel from the Sheriff's Reserve. However, we are also asking ski patrollers to assist at the event locations and on the race courses. If anyone is interested or if you should have any further questions, please contact me at (770) 306-6860 or [kcollins@unioncityga.org](mailto:kcollins@unioncityga.org). Thanks!



## Emergency Management at WinterPlace

*Mike Kelley, WinterPlace Patrol*

With wonderful March weather arriving right on queue—a mix of snow and rain—the WinterPlace patrol rose to the occasion of hosting the West Virginia Region's Emergency Management Evaluation on March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Under the leadership of patroller Jon Dragan it proved to be a major success.

Scenarios for the Emergency Management Evaluation were modified to use specific locations around the mountain. This was done to keep the entire day's events located in a compact area while preventing

candidates from observing concurrent scenarios and gaining unfair insight when they rotated to the next scenario. Keeping the scenarios in close proximity to each other and only needing to use a short lift allowed the evaluation to progress in a smooth and timely manner. Family Radio System (FRS) radios provided private channels for each scenario eliminating communication overlap with mountain operations. The radios allowed each scenario team to "dispatch" equipment and additional patrollers to the accident. Candidates were dispatched from top locations to scenarios making the approach to the accident scene more realistic.



Candidate Kirk Tilley renders aid to collision victim Philip Rash.

Candidates no longer needed to pretend to call dispatch; they had to utilize the radio to accurately call for all necessary equipment and additional patrollers.

The victims and bystanders used in each scenario were coached and allowed to practice for several days prior to the evaluation, allowing for very realistic interaction between candidates and patients. The acting was amazing, especially for the pediatric patients. Everyone involved as a patient knew the signs and symptoms without being prompted. The realism was further enhanced by the wonderful moulage of Michael Martin and Joan Mitchell. The moulage team spent several hours getting the cast ready for their scene.

As each scenario concluded equipment was repositioned for the next set, allowing minimal impact to normal mountain operations.

Southern Division Director Nici Singletary commented that Winterplace “raised the bar for future evaluations.” The Emergency Management Evaluation at WinterPlace was a big success and the patrol is looking forward to the opportunity to host another.

Jon credits the success of the Emergency Management Evaluation to a “team” effort and to that

end many thanks go to the following patrollers and personnel. **Evaluators:** Bud Frantz, Jorge McMurray, Jan Starr, Bob Bodamer, Greg Rash, John Mitchell, Tom Wagner. **Characters (patients):** Joy Marr, Corvin Tonelli, Trudi Rash, Sarah Rash, Philip Rash, Shane Dragan, Charlie Pino, Brian Hagar, Greg Gill, Conrad Cooper. **Moulage:** Joan Mitchell, Michael Martin. **Special Effects:** Mike Curtis. **Radios:** Tom Dragan. **Equipment Movement:** Mark Rodes. **Extras:** Kristen Dragan, Jane Cox, David Creager. **Video:** Shad Knupp, Chris Banks, Tom Creed. **Photos:** Mike Kelley. **Behind the Scenes:** Melanie Dragan, Katie Miller, Ben Curnett, Deana Watson, Walt Watson, Dennis Kinsella.

Congratulations to Jon Dragan, who was awarded a Leadership Commendation Appointment and the Mary K. Tomey Divisional OEC IT award at the spring officers meeting. Greg Rash was awarded a certificate of appreciation for his role in the Emergency Management Evaluation. Lastly, Tom Wagner has been named the new patrol representative for Winterplace, and is looking forward to playing an active part in the divisional meetings.



Ann Graves assesses burn victim Brian Hagar.

### What's in a Name?

Keeping up with NSP terminology can sometimes be confusing and frustrating since many of the changes appear to be arbitrary. However, the decision to replace “Senior OEC” with “Emergency Management” is by no means arbitrary. Use of the term “Senior OEC” implies that the OEC program produces some patrollers who are trained at a bare-bones basic level and others who are trained at a premium senior level. This is simply not the case, and for legal reasons it is important to avoid any implication of a two-tier program. The Emergency Management program does not introduce any new knowledge of first aid or emergency care. What it teaches are concepts of leadership and scene management that are not covered in OEC. It may be OK to continue to refer to your patrol rep as your patrol leader, but please purge the phrase “Senior OEC” from your vocabulary. –Ed.





## Two Patrollers and A Truck **Our Great Olympic Adventure**

*From the Journal of Penny Dimler, Shenandoah Nordic Patrol*

After several years of submitting proper application forms and personal identification for background checks, meeting every deadline, locating the person who decided on patrol membership and being accepted, then a season of on-the-job training at the World Cup Biathlon, the 2002 Winter Olympics were ready to start and, as members of the Soldier Hollow Nordic Olympic Patrol, we were rarin' to go. Because of the size of the patrol, we were not scheduled until the second half of the Olympics, thus, we and others in our shift had to slide into the middle of a well-functioning operation without causing any blips.

From my recliner in Virginia, I watched (and slept through some of) the opening ceremonies on Friday night and saw my new patrol mates in action (standing trailside) on Saturday afternoon. I then flew to Colorado where I met Lew and the truck and spent a few days to acclimate to altitude and skiing. Driving to Utah presented us with a great Utah welcome (eagles of the bald and golden variety), large Olympic welcome signs at the border, dinosaurs in Vernal and slipping into our home for the next five weeks, Heber City, without driving through Salt Lake City.

(At the same time Tom Byron, Shenandoah Nordic and Massanutten, was working his way west to join us. Evan Krichevsky, Shenandoah Nordic and Blue Knob, had been in Utah since Groundhog day. He had more training to complete and was working a course at Snow Basin, site of the downhills. Evan, my husband Lew and I stayed on at our venues to work the Paralympics. Evan and I were both fortunate to have employers who allowed us to work on days off. Evan worked from the SLC office of UNISYS, his company, and I telecommuted from my apartment to my office, Tetra Tech.)

I awoke before daylight (not really early according to my EST clock) on our first full day in Utah and

peaked out the window. To my amazement, at this pre-dawn hour, headlights heading toward our venue's remote parking backed up to the north as far as the eye could see. Our apartment was one block south of the split in the road leading to the airport and remote parking. How much more could the excitement build? We had one more day of details to attend to before we too would be patrolling trailside. We had to be processed. One of our new patrol mates from Wyoming rode in the jump seat in the truck and accompanied us on our search for the TPC (Team Processing Center) in Salt Lake City (SLC). Processing entailed checking our credentials, issuing SLOC (Salt Lake Olympic Committee) credentials and red medical services uniforms, and one last brief training session.

Our drive to SLC acquainted us with all sorts of Olympic signage pointing directions to the Delta Center, E-Center, Rice-Eccles Stadium, Olympic Plaza and to out-of-town venues. Many of the downtown buildings were draped with pale lavender pictures of various types of winter athletes. We passed Park City, Deer Valley and Olympic Park and acres of remote parking on the east side of the highway. Several of the acres were filled with buses from all around the country. I was learning of the tremendous support of the Olympics from across the country. (Old hat to you Atlanta veterans out there, I'm sure.) Metro buses from the District of Columbia made the run from Ogden to Olympic plaza and during the Paralympics transported Paralympians at Soldier Hollow.



Tom Byron

Okay, so let's cut to the chase: the real enchilada. Excuse me if I dwell on the first day, because it was one packed day:

Again I was up before dawn and met several other patrollers as we piled into our patrol director, Kevin



Lew Dimler, Evan Krichevsky and Penny

Johnson's truck. By riding with our patrol director we went through a different security procedure than if we had ridden the staff bus. Kevin had the passes to drive right into the athlete area and park relatively near our trailer. Security for personnel arriving in approved private vehicles was handled in a huge garage-like tent that we called the "car wash." We removed our personal gear from the truck and showed the contents of each bag and every pocket to the soldiers, including opening the lens of each camera and sipping our hot beverages. We were frisked and "wanded" (a hand-held magnetic wand was run over us). While the individuals scrutinized, the truck received a very thorough inspection including running mirrors underneath it. At this point we received a pass which would allow us through the next security point that was still at least a mile away. We always passed inspection and had fun doing it.

Our pass let us onto the venue compound where we checked-in at the staff tent. Here we received news, meal tickets, and had our "passbook" signed to get credit for volunteer gifts. Our next stop was the next tent, the all important mess tent. Food was plentiful. Breakfast options were hot instant oatmeal (many flavors), hot chocolate, tea, coffee, a variety of fruits, many brands of breakfast, energy, and granola bars. Initially some people picked up a "mountain pack" (box lunch), but soon realized that microwave soup was impractical out on the trail. We always got back to the

tent for an excellent hot lunch, though some of those meals were rushed.

On this first day, I rode with Kevin. On subsequent days Lew and I would ride the staff bus and walk to the patrol trailer, about a half mile. In this distance were all the support tents and trailers. Kevin described its appearance as an Antarctic Military Outpost.

On the way to the trailer, I started learning the daily responsibilities: picking up the start list(s) for the day and making enough copies for the

patrol crew. At the trailer, one table held the new start lists and course maps and patrol station assignments that had been prepared after yesterday's race. We started and ended each day with a meeting.

The process is starting to roll now. A few snowmobiles are kept at the trailer. Toboggans are attached and ready to go. This is the back-up equipment. The "beels" as they are called in the Intermountain Division are run briefly every morning. AEDs, oxygen levels, and regulators are tested and re-packed in the toboggans. Other AEDs and regulators are carried out to snowmobile stations that were set-up the previous afternoon. Machine access to the trails is late afternoon and very early morning. By setting up the stations at the end of the day, snowmobiles are kept off groomed race trails.

Soldier Hollow hosted at least one race every day and sometimes more than one. It was the busiest venue of the Olympics. More medals came from competition at this venue than from any other. We worked every day to the end of the Olympics without a day off and we really didn't want a day off.

Patrol stations were located at strategic intervals and curves on the sides of the race course. The trails twist, wind, undulate and overlap. The number of stations was determined by the length of the course. The length and route of the course(s) changed every day.

So here I am on my first day. Now the sun is up and we are dispatched to our assigned stations. I am assigned to the warming tent near the finish line. My position provides a great view of (in addition to the warming tent) the finish line, the athlete's staging area, the press interview area, a waxing area and a good portion of the course. I can't believe my eyes and my ears. I see 20,000 people in the stadium and spread along the course, bright sun, total snow coverage, Olympic décor, and flags from everywhere. I hear the Olympic fanfare. It is so exciting!! I hear many languages and the announcer teaching how to cheer in those languages. I'm not sure how these cheers are spelled, but I can pronounce them well: "Alee! Alee! Alee!" or "Uppa, uppa, uppa!" "Go, go, go" worked also. Later I would purchase a cowbell and save my voice.

Both races are relays. The first featured the fine and exciting rivalry between Norway and Italy. One skier was injured, finished his leg of the relay and was sent to our tent where I gave him more compresses for his head cut, took baseline vitals and shipped him off to the doctors in the athlete medical trailer about a block uphill. The second race was the ski portion of the Nordic combined, previously postponed because of wind at the jump venue, Utah Olympic Park. My memory of the second race is of being moved onto the course to help young, thin racers who were collapsing, heaving and gasping for air. The patrol supplied O2 and filled biohazard bags with barf-tainted snow.

Back to the race: But what to my wondering ears did I hear? Is it the Lone Ranger? No, it is ski racing to the sounds of the William Tell Overture. During these and all the Nordic races, excerpts from classical music accompanied the races. The excerpts were rapid and tense portions, no lullabies, adding to the excitement of the races. I heard parts of Night on Bald Mountain, Flight of the Bumblebee, Ride of the Valkyries, and Winter from the Seasons, just to name a few.

When the races ended, we returned to the patrol trailer for our end-of-day meeting. Those with the late duty assignment provided patrol support for the practicing athletes and course workers and prepared maps and assignment sheets for the following day.



No other day was as all encompassing of almost every feature of the patrol and Olympic experience as was my first.

Our station assignments were different every day. At some we were among the spectators or just over the fence from them. Others were more isolated though usually near course officials and crews. Most positions provided excellent views. We were keenly aware that our first responsibility was to take care of injuries and to offer assistance. And when we were needed, we were there and came through as ski patrol professionals. However, we carried our cameras, traded pins and gave away candy bearing Olympic logos.

Let me cover some other topics, quickly:

On days that I was assigned to stay late, I helped prepare maps then put on my loaner skis and took off. The skiing was difficult and I was usually overdressed in the afternoon. Fleece is a wonderful wicking material. I met interesting people on the trails during these afternoon runs: the biathlon director, American athletes, and Jacques Rogge, President of the International Olympic Committee.

One morning Al Roker was shooting his weather reports from the Western Experience, the thematic section of our venue. I debuted on national television standing next to Smoky Bear.

The Western Experience featured various cultures and cultural experiences pertinent to the history of the locale. Members of the Ute Indian tribe set up teepees and provided history lessons and demonstrations.

Actors played the parts of settlers and mountain men with appropriate sets as backdrop. Several music stations throughout the venue featured country and western singers and some good “foot-stompin’ ” music. Then during the rare lull in the action, the announcer had the spectators doing the “chicken.”

Heber City, one of the host towns for the Soldier Hollow venue, sponsored a Wild West Show, Barbecue and craft fair at the high school during the Olympics. The show had dancing cowboys doing cartwheels and flips in cowboy boots, a horse on stage carrying a rope-trick artist and some good singing.

While Roots hats may have been the rage in Salt Lake City and Park City and around the country, the popular headgear at Soldier Hollow was the Heber City



All good things must end. Shutting down on the last day.

cowboy hat from the Wild West Show. Lew and I patrolled with our cowboy hats every day. The hat provided shade, just enough warmth, drop-down ear flaps, and shelter from snow.

Security was tight. We saw the changing of the guard, so to speak, or the changing of the park rangers who ran 12-hour shifts up in the hills and just over the ridge lines above Soldier Hollow. They parked their snowmobiles near our trailer and rotated shifts about the time we arrived in the morning. During one visit

with them, I learned that one had worked with, and held in high regard, the Smokey Mountain Nordic Patrol, TN. Most law enforcement officers wore yellow jackets and were visible throughout the venue. They, like many other staff, came from around the country.

The blackhawk helicopters were parked at the Heber City airport. One checked out Soldier Hollow every morning. At least twice f-16s were scrambled to intercept air traffic that wandered into the forbidden zone.

After the Olympics ended, we had a 10-day break before the Paralympics. Lew and I were fortunate to have an apartment for the duration. During this time I completed most of the project I had brought from my office. We also took advantage of the time to be tourists for a day and skied at other areas for a few days. The other ski areas treated SLOC volunteers very generously.

When it was time to go back to work as a patroller at Soldier Hollow for the Paralympics, much had changed. Security almost disappeared. We now had paralympic credentials and uniforms. The “carwash” and “mag and bag” (the screening area for staff who rode busses to work) were gone. The blackhawks were gone. The huge broadcast tent was gone and the miles of broadcast wires shrunk. The press now had to eat with us! Loads of porta-potties were removed, but more “handicapped” facilities were added.

The Paralympics were a delight. The athletes were more accessible and many were quite outgoing. We had to learn additional medical concerns, but fortunately didn’t need to use that information. The racers were classified as sit-skiers (with lower body paralysis, amputations or some combination) and standing skiers (armless or using leg prosthesis or visually impaired) with further classification base on severity of disability. These are very gutsy, competitive people. Americans won several medals.

Soldier Hollow was one of three venues hosting Paralympic events. We did not have races everyday and were able to see the competitions at the other venues. We patrolled every race day of the Paralympics and some of the practice days. On one off day I skied Snow Basin and stopped along the slalom course to watch the race. I also found Evan Krichevsky at his work station.

and met his co-workers. They wore blue uniform jackets for the Paralympics, but had been green during the Olympics. Lew was in the bleachers with one of our new patroller friends from Idaho. They were welcomed into the staff tent. One evening we attended a sledge hockey game in SLC. Not only did we have the opportunity to attend live events, the staff tent had closed-circuit broadcast of the other events. Our days during the Paralympics were shorter giving us time to watch some of these broadcasts.

Shortly after returning home, a friend asked if I had had a good time. I confessed that I had not stopped grinning for six weeks. I view this as an opportunity of a lifetime. The timing was good: the kids are grown and I'm not too old. Would I do it again? Hmmm! Could I ever be so lucky as to have so many things fall into place, like free housing, supportive bosses, good health?? Well, when are those Italian classes being offered....



### **Sky Valley Candidate Update**

*Bob Lang, Sky Valley Patrol Representative*

The Deep South Basic Test was held Sunday, February 10 at the Cataloochee ski area. At the end of the test two new jackets were added to Sky Valley's roster. Jeff Leonard and Keir Nakamura successfully demonstrated the necessary skills. The class of candidates was present at Cataloochee to congratulate them. The decision to move the test from Sky Valley was made Saturday afternoon. All the candidates testing did well and adjusted to the move to a different area.

To all the candidates, Jeff Leonard, Keir Nakamura, Mike Steinberg, Mike Maddalena, and Sarah Wiley - congratulations on a successful, albeit, shortened ski season. You worked and trained hard and

did what was asked of you. We're proud to have you as members of the Sky Valley patrol. We look forward to working with you next season. Your training as a candidate or basic patroller has just begun and you can contribute much to making our patrol stronger and better.

Thanks again for your outstanding effort. Well done!



Sky Valley Candidates. Sarah Wiley, Jeff Leonard, Michael Steinberg, Mike Maddalena, Keir Nakamura



### **Critical Incident Stress Management Training**

*John Huffstutter, Massanutten Patrol Representative*

Did you know that even volunteers can get stressed out? Get outta here! No, really, the challenges of saving lives and dealing with people who are having, sometimes, the worst day of their life, can get to anyone, and often does. Ski patrollers have had to deal with death and serious injuries occurring on beautiful days, in beautiful

surroundings, doing something they love to do and trying to help other people enjoy it as much as they can. When our favorite pastime turns dangerous, and adrenaline kicks in, it can kick our body chemistry out of whack for weeks. Sometimes our systems don't return to normal—and after a big jolt, that's not unusual. Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) is a program that educates emergency workers in the kinds of reactions people can have to traumatic or sustained stress, and gives them tools to help them handle it—and to help their peers to handle it, too.



The Southern Division has begun a pilot program in the Virginia Region to provide CISM support to patrols and patrollers in conjunction with the VA Office of Emergency Medical Services and regional and local CISM teams. CISM is based on peer support, and ski patrollers' peers are—you guessed it—other ski patrollers. Often, just having someone to listen and be supportive after working an accident is enough, but having trained peers and a formal support structure can make a big difference. Fire, emergency service and police departments around the world are recognizing the value of CISM, in increased retention of highly trained professionals and healthier, more effective workforces. The same is undoubtedly true of ski patrols, so we are encouraging members of our patrols to become trained peer counselors.

There are several opportunities for training. Although it is too late to attend the first annual Virginia CISM training, which was held last week, this is an annual event, so look for announcements next year. For information on future courses call 804-371-3500, ext. 3521 or 3522. You can also obtain information at [www.vdh.state.va.us/oems](http://www.vdh.state.va.us/oems).

At this year's course, participants were offered a choice of two two-day courses. The basic course cost \$140, and some of the electives offered as part of the program were \$140 each. The entire 4-day workshop was \$260. It is reasonable to assume that next year's courses will be comparably priced. The Southern Division has set aside a small amount to help out participants, but plan on paying the lion's share yourself. Remember it's tax deductible—or if you're a health care professional maybe you can get your boss to pay for it. It's for a good cause.

The International Critical Incident Stress Foundation is also offering a variety of training opportunities. One is in Springfield, Massachusetts from July 11-14, 2002; another is in South Portland, Maine, July 25-28, 2002. For more information on these and other classes, please check out the ICISF web page at [www.icisf.org](http://www.icisf.org). For more information on the Southern Division CISM program, please contact John Huffstutter, Massanutten Ski Patrol Representative, at [huffjd@earthlink.net](mailto:huffjd@earthlink.net) or 703-370-3066.



## Get a 'Real' Job...

*Jane Cox, WinterPlace Ski Patrol*

I hear the term "young professional" used to describe people my age who are climbing the stereotypical corporate ladders of the world. It seems to be the vogue phrase. I'm fairly certain that the career paths I have chosen do not fit in the traditional connotation of a "professional". In fact, many people would not consider ski patrolling and raft guiding a career, but rather a passing phase. My brothers are still waiting for me to "get a real job". It may not be that my job is fake (the opposite of real), but that these jobs are not perceived as "work". Being the argumentative little sister that I am let me point out a few things.

Being ski patrollers or the families of, we can all list many of the skills required to be a patroller. Loading a guest safely into a sled on a steep, icy hill and carrying that guest to safety is not a matter of luck. It is a combination of things we are taught before, during, and after we take our basic sled test. Evacuating

a lift is not a "fly by the seat of our pants" endeavor, but rather a task that must be done quickly and safely by a team of people who have the right training. Also, in case you have forgotten since the snow melted, we don't just hop on the snow and start treating injuries without a little bit of medical training—the National Ski Patrol standard being a 80-hour course, not including professional CPR certification that is required.

The rafting industry has comparable examples. To be a raft guide for many companies is to commit yourself to an intense training period. Navigating a river safely requires knowledge and understanding of the river. River currents, various water levels, and the rocks that help form whitewater all have different effects on your boat. A perfect run of the river would be ideal, but in the event of the inevitable accidental swimmers, stuck boats, lost coolers, upside down rafts, and even more serious situations such as foot entrapment, a guide must know how to safely deal with the problem. CPR and basic first aid are required as well.

In addition to the technical skills required by both jobs, it is imperative that patrollers and raft guides have excellent communication skills. Whether running the river or responding to an accident on the hill, we are part of a team of people. We must be able to let our coworkers know what is going on in a situation, how we need them to help, and what is going on with ourselves. We must also be able to communicate with our guests. Pulling the person twice your size back into the raft or loading them into the sled is much easier if the guest can help you, but they can't help if they don't understand what you want them to do.

In arguing for the validity of these two jobs, I can't leave out the service aspect. Three words illustrate this example perfectly—front line staff. We are the people that interact with the guests. A raft guide could make a fair case for being the staff member whom the guest interacts with most while on a raft trip. As patrollers, that big white cross makes us the most easily recognized folks on the mountain. People hail us down to ask us where the closest bathroom is. Because we recognize the guest as our bread and butter, we try not to respond with “ya see that tree...”. Instead, both raft guides and ski patrollers the world over make efforts to understand the full scope of the company operations just in case we get Joe Tourist asking his laundry list of questions. We are even known to go out of our way to check on a patient that we sent to the hospital, or take an extra moment to explain boat control techniques to a curious rafter. At bare minimum we put up with screaming patients, rude guests, obnoxious kids, terrified first-timers, and egotistical know-it-alls.

In addition to being the front line staff for the resort, many people overlook that we could be considered the first link in the emergency care system. As mentioned before, both occupations require a host of medical knowledge learned in one class or another. For patrollers, patching people up is often the only thing we do on a busy Saturday. If necessary, we make the call to activate EMS. Solid medical skills are often played



Sorry, but there were no pictures of Jane available at press time. However, Jenna Swann agreed to serve as a stand-in. Like, Jane, Jenna is a river guide and a patroller at WinterPlace. Furthermore, like Jane, she has successfully avoided getting a "real job".

down in a raft guide's roster of experiences as he tells them to his guest. However, raft guides are also required to be able to make a call regarding the condition of an injured guest. Although there are far fewer river-related evacuations, many of those take place in the thorny bushes and rocky reaches of a riverside, without the convenience of a trail, snowmobile, or waiting vehicle.

Did I mention that we provide all of these services and use all of our skills in any kind of weather and conditions? My visiting brothers might be avoiding the rain by knocking back a few in the bar. Meanwhile, I'm wearing a non-breathable, hunter-orange, trench coat rain slicker so I don't get too water logged while I pick up the signs that the "beginner" skiing public have dismantled so effectively with their rental skis. Even though you wake up to three inches of snow on the ground, you can still hear the "let's go raftin'" call that seems to echo through base. The visions of perfect powder and blissfully sunny days on the water may be real, but more often than not it's too hot, too cold, too wet, too dry, or too icy and everyone who isn't getting paid has gone home.

Get paid we do, however, even if it is simply by the warm and rewarding thank you of a grateful guest.

Some of us are even lucky enough to make our ends meet by the meager sum that is so common among the recreation industry. Therefore, if all the above examples were not enough to convince my brothers that any of what I do is “work”, deserving of that compensation, then let me list a few more—hauling coolers, serving lunch, inflating boats, moving boats, tying up tower pads, shoveling down jumps, putting up roping and marking safety hazards, hauling a loaded sled across the flats in slush, washing the wetsuits, setting up the overnight camp, knocking off three days of ice from the safety ropes, etc, etc, etc.

In classic little sister fashion, here’s my final response: So what that we love our jobs, and rarely find it hard to go to work? So what that we get to be outside in the sun (rain, sleet, and hail)? So what that our corporate ladder has rungs with names such as trainee, sweep boater, and trip leader; or basic, senior, and

certified patrollers? As long as people want to spend their leisure time skiing and rafting, we’ll be here. How’s that for career longevity? Webster’s 21<sup>st</sup> Century Dictionary defines professional as “meeting the standards of a profession”. A profession is defined as a “learned occupation”. I certainly learned my occupation and meet the standards required, not to mention the fact that I strive to do my job better every day. Sorry boys, looks like I can call myself a young professional, even with a “fake” job.

*When the snow melts, Ms. Cox and other fellow patrollers can be found at North American River Runners, located in Southern West Virginia. To contact her, or get your own taste of whitewater, call 1-800-950-2585, E-mail [jane@narr.com](mailto:jane@narr.com), or visit the NARR website at [www.narr.com](http://www.narr.com).*

## In Memoriam

### Dennis Richard Lennon (1946-2002)

Our friend and fellow Massanutten patroller, Denny Lennon, died on the 12th of May, 2002. He is survived by his wife, Anne, and his children Alexia, Dale, Richard, Kristie and Scott. He was 56 years young. In his case, as those who knew him will attest, that is not a cliché. As his son, Rich, eulogized him, two particularly poignant points ring true: "Denny found joy in life, and wanted to share it with everyone," and "Denny always encouraged us to live life instead of watching it." Our images of Denny are active ones—Denny on roller blades, Denny on his mountain bike, Denny whitewater rafting, Denny on skis (teaching or patrolling, usually), Denny playing basketball, and—only a few months before he finally succumbed—Denny on a sit-ski coached by his fellow patroller and Massanutten Adaptive Snow Sports coordinator Mark Andrews. Denny's sense of humor,

subdued but ever-present, lives on in his family—they buried Denny in his ski boots.

Denny's passing culminated a long fight with cancer, but he was surrounded by his family and friends through his last moments. He was a dedicated patroller, whose love of skiing and quiet persistence to excel was proven by the amount of time he gave to the industry. In his ten years of patrolling, Denny never turned down an opportunity to work. He attained Senior Patroller status and was beginning the Certified program; he was a ski instructor at Whitetail Resort in Southern Pennsylvania and was working toward his PSIA Level II. He was an OEC instructor and had volunteered to manage the Massanutten refresher for 2001, when he had an automobile accident that brought the full scope of his illness to the attention of his doctors. Through it all, Denny was generous with his time, his wine (at the Patrol House you could always count on a quality bottle that he was always glad to share) and his quietly intense enthusiasm. He will be sorely missed. *(Submitted by John Huffstutter.)*

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## William H. Reddick (1932-2002)

Bill Reddick, full time professional ski patroller died in his ski boots in the line of duty on Sugar Mountain, NC on Monday, March 11. He had just directed a practice lift evacuation on our upper mountain and was in the summit house reorganizing equipment when he suffered a massive heart attack. Bill had served Sugar Mountain since January 1993. He was a US Air Force veteran of the Korean War, and subsequently, as an engineer, had run manufacturing plants in Canada, Japan, Haiti and Mexico. He made a career change in the early 1990s to that of a rescue specialist and professional ski patroller. In the non-ski season, and on weekends in-season, he was a full time member of the McDowell County, NC Rescue Squad, specializing in mountain and water rescue. He was the

squad training officer and his help in mountain rescue and evacuation systems was invaluable to our patrol.

Bill lived a long, intense and productive life. He was truly a gifted teacher and mentor—patient and knowledgeable, always encouraging and always offering positive reinforcement. He was the man you wanted to respond to an accident. He was a super guy and a close friend. He loved skiing and skiers. Bill's last years were devoted to helping others. He was the consummate professional ski patroller. He was an inspiration to all of us. It was an honor to have served with Bill Reddick. Surviving are his wife, Loretta Schneider Reddick, four daughters, Donna Miriizumi of Japan, Doreen Williams of Texas, Mary Alyce Perreault of Mooresville, NC, Kathy Smith of Marian NC; one brother, Arthur Reddick of Long Island, NY, five grandchildren, a niece and a nephew. *(Submitted by Rich Rucker.)*

## Scenes From The Season...

Big night for Sky Valley. Bob Lang received his second consecutive award as Outstanding Patrol Rep and the Sky Valley Patrol won the Outstanding Small Patrol award. Ian Nesbit, Sylvia Talley, Ken Collins, Bob Lang, Celeste Bernstein, Michael Steinberg.



Jon Dragan (Winterplace) receiving the Leadership Commendation Appointment from Division Director Nici Singletary.

Nici Singletary presents Joe Donadio (Appalachian) with the Outstanding Paid Patroller Award.





Larry Bost (Hawksnest) received a long overdue National Appointment.



Homestead Patrollers enter the "Race Machine" competition. Bill Smith wearing ultra cool headgear is in the driver's seat of the Ski Patrol machine being pushed by David Woods. Patroller Jeff Kelly is in the competing machine while Chuck Burgdorf oversees the race in the background. Race results were not reported, but all indications are that everyone had a fun and injury-free time.



Charlie Benbow receiving the Meritorious Service Award in recognition of many years of service.



Training at Ober Gatlinburg. Tyler Robbins in the handles and Amanda Ogle on tail rope bring a somewhat nervous Bob Kollar down Mogul Ridge.



Timberline candidates Grawson Edwards and Casey Harding assist "injured" Lori Bennett at the Timberline OEC evaluation.

## SOUTHERN DIVISION OFFICERS & STAFF DIRECTORY

2001-02 SEASON (rev. 05/13/02; Changes since last SC in **bold**. Complete roster at <http://www.nsp.org/divisions/southern/>)

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## SOUTHERN DIVISION CALENDAR FOR 2002-03 SEASON

Region	Month	Date	Event	Location	Contact
WV	JUN	1	OEC COURSE START	TIMBERLINE	JANETTE BENNETT 304-599-4915
VA	JUN	1	ANNUAL MEETING, CPR REF.	BRYCE	DON CHRISTIAN 703-256-5653
VA	JUN	5-9	"BEAST OF THE EAST" RACE	MASSANUTTEN	KENNY HESS 540-289-4954
WV	JUN	22	TSP SUMMER MEETING	TIMBERLINE	STEVE CVECHKO 304-722-4939
VA	JUN	22	ANNUAL MEETING, CPR REF.	WINTERGREEN	TUCKER CROLIUS 434-325-8060
VA	JUN	23	INSTRUCTOR DEV. COURSE	WINTERGREEN	M. ARMSTRONG 276-629-1654
DIXIE	JUN	29	INSTRUCTOR DEV. COURSE	ASHEVILLE, NC	PETE KNOWLAND 828-687-2445
DIXIE	JUN	30	PATROLLER ENRICHMENT SEM.	ASHEVILLE, NC	MARY UNDERWOOD 865-483-3675
DIXIE	JUL	9	WOLF LAUREL OEC COURSE	WOLF LAUREL,NC	BOB MITCHELL 828-658-0434
BR	JUL	20,21	BEECH MOUNTAIN BIKE RACE	BEECH MTN	GIL ADAMS 898-387-2011
VA	JUL	21	PATROLLER ENRICHMENT SEM.	CHARLOTTESVILLE	C. HUFFSTUTTER 703-370-3066
DIXIE	JUL	27	REFRESHER IOR/IT CONF.	WYTHEVILLE VA	JUDI-K. MONAGHAN 703-971-7841
VA	JUL	27	OEC REF. PLANNING MTG	WYTHEVILLE	JUDI-K. MONAGHAN 703-971-7841
DIXIE	AUG	10	ATLANTA OEC COURSE BEGINS	ATLANTA AREA	SYLVIA TALLEY 770-552-8968
VA	AUG	10,11	HOO-HA MOUNTAIN BIKE RACE	MASSANUTTEN	KENNY HESS 540-289-4954
DIXIE	AUG	17	DEEP SOUTH PRE-OEC MEETING	LAWRENCEVILLE, GA	MIKE BOGGS 770-882-0046
BR	AUG	17,18	INSTRUCTOR DEV. COURSE	SUGAR MTN	FLYNN HARRIS 704-523-7465
BR	AUG	24, 25	SUGAR MTN BIKE RACE, CPR	SUGAR MTN	FLYNN HARRIS 704-523-7465
DIV	SEP	7	SOU DIV FALL OFFICERS MTG	WYTHEVILLE	HOLIDAY INN 1-800-HOLIDAY
BR	SEP	7	SR EVALUATORS CLINIC	WYTHEVILLE	
VA	SEP	7	EM. MGT. EXAMINERS CLINIC	WYTHEVILLE	PETE KNOWLAND 828-687-2445
WV	SEP	14	OEC PRE-REFRESHER	TIMBERLINE	JANETTE BENNETT 304-599-4915
VA	SEP	14	OEC COURSE START	WINTERGREEN	TUCKER CROLIUS 434-325-8060
BR	SEP	21	OEC INSTRUCTOR (PRE) REF.	APPALACHIAN	LISA ADAMS 828-387-2011
DIXIE	SEP	21	DEEP SOUTH OEC INST. REF.	LAWRENCEVILLE, GA	MIKE BOGGS 770-882-0046

Region	Month	Date	Event	Location	Contact
VA	SEP	28	OEC PRE-REFRESHER	WINTERGREEN	TUCKER CROLIUS 434-325-8060
WV	SEP	28	OEC PRE-REFRESHER	SNOWSHOE	JASON HALL 304-572-5493
VA	SEP	29	ON THE HILL PRE-REFRESHER	WINTERGREEN	TUCKER CROLIUS 434-325-8060
DIXIE	SEP	TBD	GATLINBURG OEC COURSE	GATLINBURG AREA	CLAYTON MINCHEW 865-632-4199
VA	OCT	4	OEC PRE-REFRESHER	HOMESTEAD	BILL SMITH 757-851-1581
BR	OCT	5	OEC REF., GRANDFATHER SECT.	TBA	LISA ADAMS 828-387-2011
VA	OCT	5	PRE-REFRESHER	MASSANUTTEN	W. DRURY / J. HUFFSTUTTER
VA	OCT	5	OEC, ON THE HILL REFRESHER	HOMESTEAD	BILL SMITH 757-851-1581
WV	OCT	5	OEC REFRESHER	TIMBERLINE	JANETTE BENNETT 304-599-4915
WV	OCT	6	ON THE HILL REFRESHER	TIMBERLINE	STEVE CVECHKO 304-776-8540
BR	OCT	12	OCTOBERFEST	SUGAR MTN	FLYNN HARRIS 704-523-7465
DIXIE	OCT	12	CATALOOCHEE OEC INST. REF.	CATALOOCHEE, NC	TOM RAUDORF 865-483-5818
WV	OCT	12	TIMBERLINE SKI SWAP	TYSONS CORNER	STEVE CVECHKO 304-776-8540
WV	OCT	16	OEC PRE-REFRESHER	WINTERPLACE	WALT WATSON 304-253-6963
DIXIE	OCT	19	GATLINBURG OEC INST. REF.	KNOXVILLE, TN	BOB WEED 256-882-9604
VA	OCT	19	ON THE HILL REFRESHER	WINTERGREEN	TUCKER CROLIUS 434-325-8060
VA	OCT	19	ON THE HILL REFRESHER	BRYCE	DON CHRISTIAN 703-256-5653
VA	OCT	20	OEC REFRESHER	WINTERGREEN	TUCKER CROLIUS 434-325-8060
BR	OCT	26, 27	OEC CHALLENGE CLINIC/EVAL	SUGAR MTN	LARRY FLEMING 828-437-8448
DIXIE	OCT	26	WOLF LAUREL OEC INST. REF.	ASHEVILLE, NC	BEN RAY 828-675-0896
VA	OCT	26	OEC REFRESHER	MASSANUTTEN	W. DRURY / J. HUFFSTUTTER
WV	OCT	26	OEC REFRESHER	SNOWSHOE	JASON HALL 304-572-5493
VA	OCT	27	ON THE HILL REFRESHER	MASSANUTTEN	B. DREWNOWSKI 540-289-4954
DIXIE	OCT	TBD	ATLANTA CPR REFRESHER	ATLANTA, GA	MELANIE WOLFORD 770-426-4182
DIXIE	NOV	1	CATALOOCHEE CPR	ASHEVILLE ARC	PETE KNOWLAND 828-687-2445
BR	NOV	2	CAR. HIGHLANDS OEC REF.	BANNER ELK, NC	LISA ADAMS 828-387-2011
DIXIE	NOV	2	CATALOOCHEE OEC REF.	CATALOOCHEE, NC	TOM RAUDORF 865-483-5818
DIXIE	NOV	2	GATLINBURG OEC REFRESHER	GATLINBURG, TN	BOB WEED 256-882-9604
VA	NOV	2	OEC COURSE START	MASSANUTTEN	B. DREWNOWSKI 540-289-4954
WV	NOV	2	OEC REFRESHER	WINTERPLACE	WALT WATSON 304-253-6963
DIXIE	NOV	3	CATALOOCHEE ON THE HILL	CATALOOCHEE, NC	DAN GREENE 770-6406396
DIXIE	NOV	3	GATLINBURG ON THE HILL	GATLINBURG, TN	CLAYTON MINCHEW 865-632-4199
DIXIE	NOV	9	ATLANTA OEC REFRESHER	ATLANTA, GA	MIKE BOGGS 770-882-0046
DIXIE	NOV	10	SKY VALLEY ON THE HILL	SKY VALLEY, GA	KEN COLLINS 770-719-0781
VA	NOV	16	SKI SWAP	MASSANUTTEN	PAT RILEY 804-741-7810
DIXIE	NOV	23	WOLF LAUREL OEC REFRESHER	ASHEVILLE, NC	BEN RAY 828-675-0896
WV	NOV	23	OEC COURSE START	SNOWSHOE	BECKY SHARP 304-572-5695
DIXIE	NOV	24	WOLF LAUREL ON THE HILL	WOLF LAUREL, NC	RICK WOODLEE 828-693-1554
VA	NOV	29	SKI SWAP	WINTERGREEN	TUCKER CROLIUS 434-325-8060
DIXIE	DEC	5 - 8	ATLANTA SKI SWAP SALE	ATLANTA, GA	BILL DUNAWAY 770-427-3914
VA	DEC	7	TRANSFER ORIENTATION	MASSANUTTEN	JOHN HUFFSTUTTER 703-370-3066
WV	DEC	7	AVALANCHE AWARENESS	SNOWSHOE	BILL KOST 703-671-5678
WV	DEC	7	MOUNTAIN TRAVEL & RESCUE I	SNOWSHOE	BOB BODAMER 740-377-9460
BR	DEC	8	REGION S&T EXAMINERS CLIN.	APPALACHIAN	RICK LAWS 704-396-7792
VA	DEC	8	SENIOR ORIENTATION	MASSANUTTEN	C. HUFFSTUTTER 703-370-3066
WV	DEC	14	INSTRUCTOR DEV. COURSE	WINTERPLACE	GREG RASH 502-263-3323
WV	DEC	15	PATROLLERS ENRICH. SEM.	WINTERPLACE	C. HUFFSTUTTER 703-370-3066
WV	DEC	21	TOBOGGAN INST. TRAINING	SNOWSHOE	BECKY SHARP 304-572-5695
DIXIE	JAN	4	EXAMINER PROFICIENCY CLIN.	WOLF LAUREL, NC	PHIL CRITCHER 828-684-8721
DIXIE	JAN	4	SMOKY MTN NORDIC OTH	SMOKY MT NATL PK	ANDY MEACHAN 865-494-8838
BR	JAN	5	SENIOR S&T CLINIC	BEECH MTN	RICK LAWS 704-396-7792
DIXIE	JAN	5	SENIOR S&T CLINIC	GATLINBURG, TN	WAYNE MORGAN 828-625-9494
VA	JAN	5	SENIOR PRE-CLINIC	MASSANUTTEN	C. HUFFSTUTTER 703-370-3066
WV	JAN	5	BASIC S&T CLINIC	SNOWSHOE	BECKY SHARP 304-572-5695
WV	JAN	11	SKIER ENHANCEMENT SEMINAR	SNOWSHOE	MARK POORE 304-572-5695
VA	JAN	11,12	WOMENS S&T CLINIC	MASSANUTTEN	C. HUFFSTUTTER 703-370-3066
BR	JAN	12	BASIC S&T EVALUATION	SUGAR MTN	FLYNN HARRIS 704-523-7465
WV	JAN	12	TOBOGGAN ENHANCEMENT	SNOWSHOE	DAVE CLINE 304-748-0336
DIV	JAN	25	CERTIFIED CLINIC - S&T	SNOWSHOE	BECKY SHARP 304-572-5695
VA	JAN	25	SENIOR OEC CLINIC	MASSANUTTEN	MARY GRAHAM 919-510-0850
WV	JAN	25	BASIC OEC EVALUATION	SNOWSHOE	BECKY SHARP 304-572-5695
WV	JAN	25	BASIC OEC EVALUATION	TIMBERLINE	STEVE CVECHKO 304-776-8540
BR	JAN	26	BASIC S&T EVALUATION	BEECH MTN	RICK LAWS 704-396-7792

Region	Month	Date	Event	Location	Contact
DIXIE	JAN	26	SR S&T EVAL., DIXIE REGION	GATLINBURG, TN	TIM ASBURY 828-697-6188
VA	JAN	26	SENIOR S&T CLINIC	MASSANUTTEN	JOHN SHAFFER 703-719-5945
WV	JAN	26	BASIC S&T EVALUATION	SNOWSHOE	BECKY SHARP 304-572-5695
WV	JAN	26	BASIC S&T EVALUATION	TIMBERLINE	STEVE CVECHKO 304-776-8540
DIV	JAN	26	CERT. CLINIC - OEC & MTN OPS	SNOWSHOE	BECKY SHARP 304-572-5695
VA	JAN	31,1	MNTN TRAVEL AND RESCUE I	TBA	BOB CHATMAN 410-721-0921
WV	FEB	1	SR S&T CLINIC	SNOWSHOE	BECKY SHARP 304-572-5695
WV	FEB	1	NORDIC SEMINAR	WHITEGRASS	PENNY DIMLER 703-425-2736
BR	FEB	1,2	SENIOR S&T EVALUATION	HAWKSNEST	RICK LAWS 704-396-7792
DIV	FEB	1-2	STUDENT SEMINAR WEEKEND	DIXIE	JO ANNE EHLINGER 336-727-1995
VA	FEB	1,2	CERTIFIED CLINIC - ALL MODS	WINTERGREEN	ROBIN VAN WINKLE 434-325-2200
WV	FEB	2	SENIOR S&T CLINIC	SNOWSHOE	DAVE CLINE 304-748-0336
WV	FEB	8	EMERGENCY MNGMENT CLINIC	SNOWSHOE	JASON HALL 304-572-5493
DIV	FEB	8,9	CERTIFIED CLINIC - ALL MODS	HAWKSNEST	BILL STYRES 828-252-3335
WV	FEB	9	SENIOR S&T CLINIC	TIMBERLINE	NATE WAGELEY 703-858-5618
DIXIE	FEB	9	DEEP SOUTH BASIC S&T EVAL.	SKY VALLEY, GA	STEVE WALDREP 828-654-8493
DIXIE	FEB	9	SR. EM CLINIC DIXIE REGION	CATALOOCHEE,NC	LARRY ERB 828-645-4718
VA	FEB	9	CERT. CLINIC- OEC & MTN OPS	MASSANUTTEN	B. DREWNOWSKI 540-289-4954
VA	FEB	22	SENIOR OEC EVALUATION	MASSANUTTEN	MARY GRAHAM 919-510-0850
BR	FEB	22	BASIC S&T EVALUATION	HAWKSNEST	RICK LAWS 704-396-7792
DIXIE	FEB	23	BASIC S&T AT GATLINBURG	GATLINBURG, TN	DAVE PARKER 770-751-7255
VA	FEB	23	SENIOR S&T EVALUATION	MASSANUTTEN	JOHN SHAFFER 703-719-5945
WV	FEB	22	BASIC S&T EVALUATION	WINTERPLACE	TOM WAGNER 304-469-8039
WV	FEB	23	SR S&T CLINIC	WINTERPLACE	TOM WAGNER 304-469-8039
WV	MAR	1	SR S&T EXAM	SNOWSHOE	BECKY SHARP 304-572-5695
VA	MAR	1	BASIC OEC EVALUATION	MASSANUTTEN	B. DREWNOWSKI 540-289-4954
BR	MAR	2	"BASIC"	APPALACHIAN	RICK LAWS 704-396-7792
DIXIE	MAR	2	EM. MGMNT. EVALUATION	CATALOOCHEE,NC	LARRY ERB 828-645-4718
VA	MAR	2	BASIC S&T EVALUATION	MASSANUTTEN	B. DREWNOWSKI 540-289-4954
WV	MAR	8	EM. MGMNT EVALUATION	TIMBERLINE	STEVE CVECHKO 304-776-8540
BR	MAR	8,9	MOUNTAIN TRAVEL & RESCUE I	TBA	RICK LAWS 704-396-7792
DIXIE	MAR	9	MOUNTAIN TRAVEL & RESCUE	TBD	JOHN PARKER 828-648-1931
VA	MAR	9	PATROL COOKOUT	MASSANUTTEN	B. DREWNOWSKI 540-289-4954
BR	MAR	15	AVALANCHE AWARENESS	WEST. CAROLINA U.	BILL KOST 703-671-5678
DIXIE	MAR	15	AVALANCHE AWARENESS	CULLOWHEE, NC	DENNIS SLAGLE 919-528-9279
VA	MAR	15	AVALANCHE FUNDAMENTALS	WINTERGREEN	BILL KOST 703-671-5678
WV	MAR	16	BASIC S&T EVALUATION	TIMBERLINE	STEVE CVECHKO 304-776-8540
DIV	MAR	21,22	CERTIFIED EVALUATION	SNOWSHOE	LESLIE CARTER 434-325-1262
DIV	MAY	3,4	SOU DIV OFFICERS MTG	ROANOKE	WYNDHAM HOTEL 1-800-996-3426

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# SOUTHERN CROSS

A Publication of The Southern Division of The National Ski Patrol

2001-02, Number 2

January 2002

## Passionate About Patrolling

Nici Singletary, Division Director

*Passion. It's the new buzzword! Webster defines passion as "a strong liking for a devotion to some activity." Ironically, Webster also defines it as "suffering". Sound familiar?*



**So, what's your passion?** For many of us, it's patrolling. We are passionate about doing our best both on and off the slopes as patrollers. Traveling throughout Southern Division gives me the opportunity to see patrollers training, administering emergency care, and performing routine, daily mountain operations. Their passion shows – whether it's doing sled training in pouring rain, or Senior OEC scenarios in 15 degree temperatures under a blowing snow gun, or driving 10 hours to attend a Division proficiency clinic, or spending each morning greeting first-time skiers on buses and teaching them the Responsibility Code.

Passion inspires and motivates. When you see a patroller who is passionate about patrolling, it inspires you to strive to improve your own skills.

This in turn creates a deeper passion for patrolling within you. This season, show your passion for patrolling, and create some enthusiasm at your home area!

**Upcoming Events:** Yes, we had a late start to the season, but there are plenty of special events still planned. In February, the **Division Nordic Seminar** is slated for the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> at Whitegrass Nordic area, WV. If you've ever strapped on skinny skis or tried free-heeling, this is your chance to experience superb instruction while meeting some fellow NSP Nordic skiers. This is also an opportunity to take in some gorgeous WV scenery in the Canaan Valley area, and then follow it up with a scrumptious gourmet meal

cooked by Laurie Little, wife of Whitegrass manager Chip Chase. Contact Penny Dimler at 703-425-2736 for more information.

Also planned for February 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>, the **Division Student Seminar** will take place at Ski Beech, NC. Students aged 21 and under who are registered as patrollers or candidates will gather this weekend for friendly competition and instruction in OEC, ski and toboggan techniques. Under the direction of Student Program Supervisor Jo Ann Ehlinger, patrollers will share ideas and techniques brought from their home patrols. We are hoping that the central location of this year's seminar will make it convenient for students from all over Southern Division to attend! Contact JoAnn Ehlinger at 336-727-1995 for more information.

The **Division Certified Patroller Evaluation** will take place on March 22 and 23 at Snowshoe Mountain, WV. Known to some as the "certifiable exam", this ultimate patrolling challenge is likened by some to the TV show "Survivor". Certified candidates from all over Division will face 2 days of intense evaluation covering topics such as team OEC, ski, snowboard and toboggan handling (on the Division's most difficult terrain), ski lift operation and evacuation, slope safety, avalanche prevention and ski area management. What patrollers gain from this program is a wealth of knowledge and networking that will help patrollers who have chosen patrolling or the ski industry as a career or lifetime

**When you see a patroller who is passionate about patrolling, it inspires you to strive to improve your own skills.**

volunteer activity. Come on out and support the certified candidates from your patrol!

Good luck and best wishes for a safe and fun time at the **2002 Winter Olympics** for those Division patrollers who have volunteered to help. Wintergreen patrollers Patti Kline and Ken Barber, and Shenandoah Nordic patroller Penny Dimler are attending. I'm sure there are others going that I have not heard about, and we all look forward to hearing your reports from Salt Lake City. What a unique experience!

We will celebrate the conclusion of this ski season in Asheville, NC, at the **2002 Southern Division Spring Convention and Awards Banquet**, at the Holiday Inn Sunspree (see enclosed registration). This event is open to all patrollers and their families, and we hope you will join us! Come see how your Division is organized and learn how you can participate. Rumor has it that Wolf Laurel Ski Patrol – last year's Division Outstanding Ski Patrol – will be sponsoring the hospitality room. This is sure to be a highlight of the weekend! You can be certain that Wolf Laurel patrollers will *not* be available the following morning to assist with tours of Biltmore Estate. ;-)

**Changes:** A warm welcome to several **new or interim NSP Patrol representatives!** Jerry Taylor (Homestead), Bob Palik (Cloudmont), Don Christian (Bryce), Richard Chadick (Wintergreen) and Dale Wallace (Timberline) have all recently taken on the

### Thought for the Day

*There are two kinds of fools. One says, "This is old, therefore it is superior." The other says "This is new, therefore it is better."*

• • •

## What Happened to Phase II ?

*Dennis Slagle, Second Assistant  
Division Director*

The structured 8-hour Phase II course that all instructors have been previously required to take has been dropped. Until now, the way to become an instructor in any of the ski patrol programs was to first take the Phase I course, and then take the Phase II course for the discipline in which you were interested. The Phase II course has been replaced with a new



difficult position of patrol representative. We appreciate the hard work and dedication of their predecessors - Bill Smith, Loren Gross, Kevin Fagan, Greg Bradley and Richard Cox - and look forward to seeing these folks on the slopes making turns real soon!

I'd also like to take this opportunity to personally say thank you to Lee Wittman, our editor of **Southern Cross** since 1998! Lee has been a lifesaver for us, as this is the second time he has served as editor of Southern Cross. Lee is stepping down from this position. A former patrol representative of the Hounds Ears Patrol in Blue Ridge, Lee currently patrols at Beech Mountain and is looking forward to spending more time at his mountain home and on the slopes. At the fall on-the-hill refresher, it was my pleasure to present Lee with a Leadership Commendation Award, in recognition of his leadership activities in Southern Division for many, many years.

You may notice a bit of a different look to Southern Cross this season. That is because we have a new editor, Bob Weed, of Cloudmont ski area, Alabama. Bob was the former editor of the *Mogul Messenger*, the newsletter for Ober Gatlinburg ski patrol. The *Mogul Messenger* is an electronic publication of very high quality that has received rave reviews for several years. Bob will be adding his own style to the Southern Cross, and we believe that those of you who view and print it from the Division website will be particularly pleased with the color print and photos.

mentoring system. The national guidelines for mentoring have been issued and are now being incorporated into each program.

In short, a new instructor is taught all the aspects of becoming an instructor one-on-one by another instructor in that discipline. The new guidelines are comprehensive, explain the mentoring principles, the differences in coaching vs. mentoring, and give a detailed step by step process to accomplish mentoring a new instructor. If you are interested in becoming a National Ski Patrol instructor, please contact the respective supervisor for that program. *[More info on mentoring in Tim Asbury's article on p 8. Ed.]*

## A Time To Reward

*R. Morgan Armstrong, First  
Assistant Division Director*



Rewards are important to infants, children, youth, young adults, adults and seniors of all ages. In an organization that is made up mostly of volunteer workers, rewards are what runs the organization. Rewards are awards and if we don't reward our hard working patrollers (paid or volunteer) we doom our organization to mediocrity. Being recognized for our hard work challenges us to work harder. Please recognize all of the patrollers who make your patrol a success. Thank those who come early, stay late and see the job gets done. This year the year-end report that each patrol representative must file with the Southern Division will ask—how many awards did you apply for this year for your patrollers? Let's have one candidate for each award in the division. Make the patrollers in our division feel appreciated.

You never know. Putting others in for an award might just bring your name to the attention of the division for an award. Wouldn't it be nice if everyone got a thank you for special effort and no one got left out? If anyone has any questions on how to submit someone for an award, please, please contact Dennis Slagle or Harry Stowe (Division awards supervisor) or myself. Let no good deeds go unnoticed. The deadline for awards submission is March 10. If submitted after this, there is not enough time for judging, and to complete processing of the awards to be presented at the spring meeting. *[Please see Celeste Bernstein's article on p. 13 for corroborating comments on awards. Ed.]*

Now that the important stuff is out of the way... All line officers are reminded it is time to submit your end of year report. This can be done by snail mail or on line. Check the web site or send me an e-mail or letter and I will get you the paper work you need to report what you and your patrol did this year. Thank you for your effort and I hope to read all about it soon.

## From the Regions ...

### Virginia Region

*Mike Fisher, Region Director*

The drought this fall has carried over into the winter leaving Massanutten with the least amount of water in years. They are open and doing well on those slopes that they decided to cover.



Massanutten's Kenny Hess and wife have a new baby. Congratulations! Massanutten hosted a toboggan enhancement clinic that placed six new potential toboggan instructors in the Toboggan Mentoring Program. Thanks go to John Schafer for his instructing the course. Our hopes and wishes go out to Denny Lennan who is fighting brain cancer. We are all hoping for the best for you!

Wintergreen patrollers experienced a bit of a shock when it's Patrol Director announced that he had to pass the job on to another, since he was soon to have open heart surgery! Greg Bradley had some complications

with infection after the surgery, but is recovering nicely, last I heard. Richard Chadick has taken over for Greg, and is doing a fine job. Jay Roberts was mowed over by a plastic mat that was rolling down hill. He stepped out from behind a Piston Bully to meet the mat head on. He has several compressed vertebrae and will be out of action for four to six weeks. Wintergreen has installed a six seat detachable lift on Diamond hill, so now the ride is only three minutes, and the new tubing park is up and running.

Congratulations to the new Patrol Representatives at Homestead, Jerry Taylor, and at Bryce, Don Christian. Both mountains are up and running and looking for a great season.

The Virginia Region schedule still includes a January 26, Sr. OEC clinic at Wintergreen, January 27 Senior Sled and Toboggan clinic at Wintergreen, February 2, Avalanche Awareness at Massanutten, Feb 2 and 3 Full Certified clinic at Massanutten, February 23 Sr. OEC Evaluation-Wintergreen, February 24 Senior Sled and Toboggan Evaluation at Wintergreen.

## West Virginia

*Jan Star, Region Director*

Everyone in the WV region was happy to see cold weather arrive on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of winter. Mother Nature must have had a better contract with area construction workers until Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>. All areas got open in time for Christmas week. Bless those snowmakers that worked so hard! This was the first time since 1984 that Snowshoe had not been open for the entire month of December. The stress management teams I'm sure were working overtime! We have all missed some of our scheduled training events. I hope there will be some holes in the schedule somewhere to try to make some of these up.

There were two challenge/OEC evaluations in January that yielded five new patrollers at Snowshoe and eight new patrollers at Timberline. Winterplace will be having their OEC evaluation soon and will hopefully have some new folks out on the hill also. Winterplace will also be hosting the Sr. OEC evaluation in March, using the new guidelines. They have been working hard to make this one of the best. If anyone is interested in participating in the clinic at Timberline in February, or in this evaluation, please work with your patrol representative to get the necessary paperwork signed, and get checked off on basic OEC skills ahead of time.

Timberline will be having elections for a new Patrol Representative in February. Good luck to those who are running for this position.

Hopefully there will be no January/ February thaws and the rest of the season will run smoothly for all areas in the south.

Happy skiing trails!

## Blue Ridge Region

*Butch McLean, Region Director*

Skiing in the high country got a late start. We were able to have a couple of areas open a little later than normal but the weather would not allow skiing to continue on a regular basis until just prior to Christmas. The week between Christmas and the New Year found the weather cold enough for all of the resorts in the region to make snow and welcome in the New Year with good



snow. Brad Moretz, general manager Appalachian Ski Mountain, reports that the week between Christmas and New Year was highly successful with a good number of skiers.

Because of the late start, our season is shortened by about one month. This causes all sorts of problems with patrol functions as well as region and division calendars. Patrols have had to do "sled check-offs" on busy Saturdays along with trying to modify their training schedules to train their candidates. Most patrols have adjusted their duty calendars to reflect the late start. It does not appear that on the hill coverage will be a problem this season.

Rick Laws has created a modified training and testing calendar for the Blue Ridge Region to reflect the late start.

- 1-27 Senior Ski & Toboggan Clinic, Beech Mountain, 8:00 AM
- 2-02 Student Seminar, Beech Mountain, 8:00 AM
- 2-03 Student Seminar, Beech Mountain, 8:00 AM
- 2-09 Senior OEC, TBA
- 2-09 Certified Clinic, TBA
- 2-10 Basic Evaluation, Beech Mountain, 8:30 AM
- 2-11 Certified Clinic, TBA
- 2-23 Senior Ski Evaluation, Beech Mountain, 8:30 AM
- 2-24 Senior Toboggan Evaluation, Beech Mountain, 8:30 AM
- 3-03 Basic Evaluation, Appalachian Ski Mountain, 8:30 AM

The above dates have been sent to all patrol representatives and should be posted in the patrol rooms.

## Dixie Region

*Neil Booth, Region Director*

Have you ever stopped to reflect on how important the job you are doing really is? We all serve many functions in the daily routine of patrolling at our respective ski areas. Everyone needs to stop and be proud of what they do. We all need to continuously work on making ourselves and other members more proficient at what we do. To coin the Army's phrase "Be all that you can be!" Patrolling, just like our



chosen professions, means we must constantly strive for learning, develop higher-level skills, and improve our interpersonal relationships with members, management and customers. There are many more but I will not dwell on. Just know that you are a part of a wonderful organization and you play an integral part in making the system great. Keep up the good work.

I would like to personally thank each and every OEC Instructor in Dixie, but they are too numerous to personally thank. So let me express my appreciation and the appreciation of all members for the excellent performances you did this year, as you have done in the past, as you will in the future. This year I had the personal experience of participating as an Instructor at one of the Dixie Refreshers. For those of you that have never done so, let me tell you what your OEC Instructors do each and every year. They put in a great, great deal of time preparing for their portion of the refresher. To do the job required, they attend anywhere from one to two workshops to discuss the materials. They probably spend at least three to five days preparing materials, then five to eight hours rehearsing for the 30 to 40 minute sessions. Then they do the session 6 to 8 times that day. This was my first experience at doing this and it gave me a MUCH greater appreciation for the dedication and service that our OEC Instructors perform. Our most gracious thanks to each OEC Instructor.

My personal thanks go out to David Castaldini for the Atlanta Candidate OEC Class, to Julie and Kevin Semans for the Tennessee Candidate OEC Class, to Ben Tholkes and Jamey Piercy for the North Carolina Candidate OEC Class and OEC Challenge Class. These members were the Instructors of Record for the classes. They were complemented by a host of OEC Instructors who gave freely of their time during the off-season, to help develop and train our newest members. Thank you all.

Now we progress into the next group of outstanding people, our S & T Staff and PSIA Staff. The Staffs are preparing to assist members in attaining their Basic Patroller certifications. Many hours of training will be put into these efforts to provide our ski areas and Region with qualified members. These members, like our OEC Staff, put in many hours or behind the scenes work too. In addition, a large

percentage of these people are OEC Instructors too! While we are at it, do not forget your local Training Officers who spend countless hours working with Candidates. Thanks to all of you for the jobs you are currently performing and are about to perform.

The Senior Program is on fire thanks to the efforts of Larry Erb, Senior Coordinator and Pete Knowland, Region OEC Supervisor. This is the strongest Senior Program that Dixie has ever seen. We have about 25 people participating in the program this year. If you just stop to think about the logistics of performing these clinics and exams you should be able to appreciate the excellent job they are doing.

I end with my normal plea. Get Involved! Talk to your respective Patrol Representative about getting involved in the daily running of your respective patrol. There are always tasks to be accomplished within any patrol and people are how we get things done. If you are interested in getting involved above patrol level, again, talk to your Patrol Representative or your Section Chief's Dave Kattermann or Richard Boyer. I hope you are having a great season and that this one ends on a high note for all. Thank you for all that each of you do!

## **Smoky Mountain Section, Dixie Region**

*Dave Katterman, Section Chief*

After all Patrols in the Smoky Mountain Section participated in well organized and informative refreshers, all that was left to do was wait until the weather turned cold enough for snow making. Wait and wait and finally by Christmas, all resorts in the Section were open.

In the first weekend of January, the Senior S/T clinic was already taking place. Thanks to Larry Erb, Dixie Region Senior Coordinator, we have 14 Senior candidates this season. All Patrol Representatives allowed Larry a few minutes at their refreshers to encourage participation in the Senior program.

With the delayed opening of the season, Dixie Region Chief Examiner Phil Critcher realized our Basic candidates would not have sufficient time for training. Luckily we had an open date and were able to

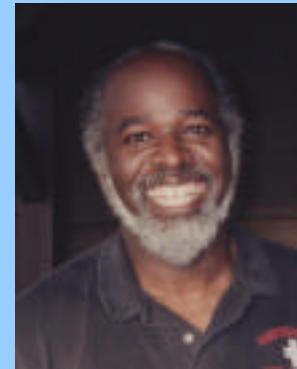


reschedule for late February. We have a good group of patrollers in the Smoky Mountain Section and everyone is flexible and willing to help out.

I would also like to invite all the patrollers in the Southern Division to attend the Spring Meeting in Asheville in May. Asheville is a pretty place that time

of year. For those of you who attended Kingsport '98, rumor has it a clear substance with floating cherries may surface in the hospitality suite.

**Hey Greg, your many friends at Wintergreen and around the Division are wishing you a quick recovery from your recent surgery. We're all looking forward to seeing you — and your surgically enhanced cardiovascular system — back on the hill real soon.**



*Greg Bradley  
Wintergreen Patrol*

## From the Supervisors and Advisors

### **New Avalanche Curriculum Debuts.**

*Bill Kost Avalanche Advisor*

January, 2002 marked the debut of new course curriculum for all of the Avalanche courses available from NSP, plus the introduction of new courses. Over the last 18 months all aspects of the NSP Avalanche program have been reviewed and re-written. This places the NSP Avalanche courses at the vanguard of instructing patrollers, and the general public, on how to travel and work safely in Avalanche terrain.

The new material for instructors and students alike has received the endorsements of organizations such as The National Ski Areas Association (NSAA), the U.S. Forest Service - National Avalanche Center (NAC), and the American Avalanche Association.

Along with the new curriculum there have been some changes to the course titles that we have used for the last few years. Basic Avalanche has been replaced with Level 1, and Advanced Avalanche has been



replaced with Level 2. These changes affected more than just the course titles, but the content as well.

The courses that we teach in Southern Division will fall under a new course title, Avalanche Fundamentals and Rescue. This is because we lack the terrain and the snow pack to fulfill some of the requirements for the field work necessary for a true Level 1, or Level 2 course. Level 1 and 2 courses will be available, but you may need to take the course in another Division. Most of the courses offered in the Eastern, and Central Divisions will be AFR courses as well.

The National Avalanche Committee is also working on yet another course that will be offered as part of the Mountain Travel and Rescue curriculum. The new course will put most of its focus on rescue techniques, and the proper use of Avalanche Rescue Beacons. This will be a great one day course to take just before a trip out West, or to Europe. Especially for those of us who like to ski out of bounds.

All of these courses will qualify as Senior electives, and AFR will continue to be a Certified pre-

requisite. All of these courses offer a small glance at a part of patrolling that we don't get to normally see.

Keep an eye out on the division calendar for a course near you.

## **Patroller Enrichment Seminar—A Simple Solution**

*Mary Underwood, PES Division Supervisor*



With Southern Division's emphasis on the senior program, senior candidates need to select three electives they would like to take. If you are feeling overloaded during ski season, training and getting in patrols days, May I suggest PES--a course that does not need snow. Last summer two courses were held. One was in June in Atlanta, and the other was in July in Charlottesville.

There are no courses scheduled, but instructors are available and ready to hold this course. Patrollers need to get a minimum of six patrollers willing to take the course. Ask your PR, section chief, or region director to help solicit patrollers to take the course. This is an eight hour course with no test. There is an assignment to do before attending the course, so all attendees must pre-register. Contact Mary Underwood, 109 Wildwood Dr., Oak Ridge, TN 37830, 865-483-3675, [jnu@icx.net](mailto:jnu@icx.net).

## **Update on Arthritis**

*Ian Archibald, Division Medical Advisor*

As we gear up for another ski season I am reminded that our population of ski patrollers is aging especially in our knee joints. In this brief article I would like to review recent trends in arthritis treatment.

Arthritis occurs primarily in weight bearing joints due to a disturbance in the normal balance between degradation and repair of articular cartilage with the most common cause being increasing age. Obesity, abnormal mechanical loading (as occurs after ligament injury) or articular trauma can accelerate this process. Current research clearly shows that articular cartilage does have reparative ability.

Typical symptoms and signs of knee joint arthritis include pain, swelling, catching and popping with reduced range of motion. These symptoms are often worsened by relatively minor injuries and become chronic in nature.

Traditional treatments include analgesics (i.e., Tylenol), nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs), cortisone joint injections, reduced activities, physical therapy and surgery.

What's new?

Cox II inhibitors are a new class of NSAIDs which target the inflammatory products of arthritis while protecting the normal gastric mucosal barriers that are damaged by traditional NSAIDs. While there are still some concerns as to the safety of these medications (Celebrex and Vioxx), they are effective and better tolerated compared to traditional NSAIDs.

Intra-articular administration of hyaluronic acid has been a popular treatment in Europe, and Japan and now the USA. This normal product of joint fluid provides lubrication and protects against cellular damage. Several products are available with slight differences in administration and allergic reaction, but are as effective as NSAIDs and best used for patients who are intolerant of NSAIDs.

Glucosamine sulphate taken orally has been shown to stimulate reparative functions of articular cartilage and has mild anti-inflammatory properties. Commonly combined with chondroitin sulphate this "health food supplement" is available across the counter without prescription.

New brace techniques take advantage of lightweight materials and can reduce stresses on the affected area of the knee joint.

Finally surgical techniques are common. Arthroscopic debridement of the knee joint is a very common orthopedic procedure allowing accurate diagnosis, removal of loose bodies and small spurs, shaving of unstable articular cartilage, and removal of meniscus tears. However results depend on the severity of the arthritic changes and deteriorate with time. Recent attempts at surgical regeneration of articular cartilage include the "microfracture" technique (championed by Dr. Richard Steadman, Vail Colorado) "mosaic" technique of cartilage bone plugs transferred to defects and chondrocyte transfer. These all appear to

offer promise but so far are limited to the treatment of isolated chondral defects and not more generalized changes. The use of electro thermal devices (similar to lasers) to better deal with articular cartilage damage have had a recent wave of interest but no long term results to substantiate their use. Laser use has had a poor track record complicated by heat injuries.

Finally total knee replacement continues to gain wide acceptance for end stage arthritis. Results are satisfactory or better in greater than 90% of patients and appear to last at least 15 years or better. Younger more athletic patients can play doubles tennis and ski on groomed green and some blue slopes.

In summary, as our population ages, greater numbers of people are attempting to continue vigorous activities despite deteriorating joint function. Research continues to bring new therapies and techniques to improve arthritis care. Maybe we'll be able to keep skiing.

### **The Ever Frustrating Dead Radio Battery**

*Rick Woodlee, Southern Division  
Telecommunications Supervisor*

One of my greatest frustrations occurs when I am trying to coordinate a ski accident; then, suddenly my radio battery dies. It makes me feel like throwing the radio into the snowmaking pond. Batteries continue to be the major headache we experience using radios; therefore, I thought I would give you some information that you may find useful. Nickel metal hydride (NiMH) batteries do not exhibit the memory and reverse polarity problems that regular NiCd batteries possess. The NiMH batteries have up to 50 to 100% more capacity than a same size NiCd; demonstrate memory free operation; have a flat discharge curve; and, can be directly exchanged with NiCds. The only drawback that I can find on NiMH batteries is that they do not have as many recharge cycles that NiCds have. NiCds; however, will not have many recharge cycles if they are treated poorly.

The following are some of the battery sources that I use:

1. Mr. NiCd's Batteries America at [www.batteriesamerica.com](http://www.batteriesamerica.com).



Phone 1©800©308©4805 (These people have a wide selection.)

[The Henry radio model CS-15 uses BP-1, which is a 9.6 volt, 1100 mAh NiMH battery for \$35, not bad!!!]

2. W & W Manufacturing Co. at [www.ww-manufacturing.com](http://www.ww-manufacturing.com).

Phone 800-221-0732.

3. MAHA at [www.mahaenergy.com](http://www.mahaenergy.com). Phone 714-990-4557.

When ordering, you need the type/model of your radio, type/model of your battery pack, battery voltage and Mah rating to insure you get the right one. If you need any radio/battery help, please call me at 828-693-1554 or email me at [N4FAT@juno.com](mailto:N4FAT@juno.com). THANKS!!!!

### **Mentoring program – What does it mean for Ski and Toboggan?**

*Tim Asbury, Alpine Ski and  
Toboggan Advisor*



Effective January 1<sup>st</sup> all phase II classes ceased to exist. The mentoring program has replaced them. Here are the new steps to become a toboggan instructor:

1. Take the Instructor development course.
2. Contact your local IT.
3. The local IT will assign a mentor to the instructor candidate (Mentee).
4. The Instructor Candidate needs to develop lesson plans using the six pack method and teach these to students with the mentor present. The mentor needs to be present to offer support and guidance. A local IT should be around during some of these teaching sessions to monitor both the mentor and instructor candidate. Once the Mentor is satisfied the instructor candidate can demonstrate the skills necessary to instruct, a second IT will need to monitor the instructor candidate in a teaching environment and determine if the candidate is qualified.



Who are mentors? A mentor can be any current toboggan instructor. The IT should try and match the learning and teaching styles of the mentor and mentee.

Who are the local ITs?

**Virginia Region:**

John Schaffer 5945 Woodfield Estates Dr., Alexandria, VA 22310; 703-719-5945

Robert Miller 1400 Sunset Lane, Culpeper, VA 22701; 804-975-1755

**West Virginia Region:**

Jan Starr, PO Box 197, Snowshoe, WV 26209; 304-572-5695

David Cline 269 South 12<sup>th</sup> street, Weirton, WV 26062; 304-748-0336

Theodore Cady 4 Deerwoods Ct, Myersville, MD 2773; 302-293-2194

**Blue Ridge Region:**

Howard Tilley 2565 Old Mill Rd. High Point, NC 27265; 336-884-5857

Doug Gilstrap PO Box 5468 High Point, Nc 27262; 336-841-8813

Mark Rees 19819 Strough Farm Rd Cornelius, NC 28031; 704-896-0747

**Dixie Region:**

Tim Asbury 223 Stonebrook Dr. Hendersonville NC 28791; 828-697-6188

Jamey Piercy 226 Sulfer Springs Rd , Asheville, NC 28806; 828-253-3400

Clark Bell 73 Outeora Blvd, Asheville NC 28803; 828-274-3831

Wayne Morgan 447 Sunset Dr, Hendersonville NC 28791; 828-891-8174



**Attention All Patrollers! Hot off the Press!—New OEC Text Fourth Edition**

*Judi-Kay Monaghan, OEC Program Supervisor*

As ski patrolling carves into the new millennium, the National Ski Patrol has looked for ways to strengthen our partnership within the ski industry. Outdoor Emergency Care is one of the most important components of this partnership. Area operators find tremendous value in the program and our association has benefited immensely. OEC is recognized as the pre-eminent course for training rescuers that live, work and play out of doors. Therefore, the next edition of the OEC textbook will feature significant upgrades that maintain and increase the value of this training.

The fourth edition of *Outdoor Emergency Care* is scheduled for publication in early summer of 2002. NSP has entered into an agreement with publisher Jones and Bartlett to produce the definitive text for OEC students. Building on past texts and with help from many experts in the field the NSP's education department is diligently working on this new textbook and its ancillary materials. Based on The American Academy of Orthopedic Surgeon's EMT Basic text, the "orange" book, NSP members and OEC instructors can expect a reference that will be up-to-date, comprehensive, and one that will use photos of real patrollers in real situations.

**Features will include:**

- **Photographs and 4 color illustrations.**

Thanks to the efforts of the Mt. Hood Ski Patrol at Timberline, Oregon and the Breckenridge Ski Patrol in Colorado we will have illustrations that show patrollers demonstrating techniques and procedures in outdoor settings. Illustrations are in color and highly detailed

- **New Chapters.**

The fourth edition text will include several new and different chapters covering a variety of topics. These will include; Interfacing with EMS and Other Medical Personnel, The Well-being of the Rescuer, Behavioral Emergencies, and Outdoor Adaptive Skiing. New appendices will include all Skills Performance Guidelines and a collection of Scenarios.

- **New Design.**

Using the Jones and Bartlett AAOS EMT Basic book as a blueprint will yield a new and fresh look to the OEC text. Check out [www.emtb.com](http://www.emtb.com) to see what exciting opportunities this eighth edition text and ancillary materials provide. OEC's fourth edition upgrades also will have a great impact on new and old students alike. Every chapter will open

with a short “You are the Rescuer” scenario and end with a “Chapter Sweep” review. These reviews will include two scenarios for consideration and definitions of new vocabulary terms used in the chapter. Every attempt has been made to update vocabulary to reflect terms and phrases used in current EMS.

- **Expanded Training Materials.**

Updated and new materials for the student and instructor will include *Instructors Manual*, Test Bank, and Tool Kit. For students there will be a *Student Workbook*, an online Student Review Manual, and a website with additional resources and web links.

The NSP’s Education Department is excited to be able to offer such an outstanding reference. The National Medical Committee and a host of other contributors come from all backgrounds in the outdoor rescue field and the information provided is tailored to those who practice emergency care in outdoor settings with specific emphasis on patrolling concerns. Debuting in early summer will give members and instructors time to introduce this new book at the Fall 2002 refresher. Not to be left behind the OEC Refresher Committee will update the 2002 *Refresher Study Guide* to reflect the new text as well. The National Ski Patrol’s flagship educational program will continue to be a valuable asset!



## Why Become a Ski Patroller?

*Rhonda Smith, Wolf Laurel*

*Why become a Ski Patroller? I am sure there are as many reasons as there are ski patrollers on this topic. For Matt Lovelace the reasons off the slopes are just as important as the reasons on the slopes. The following article appeared in the Asheville Citizens—Times on August 24. Matt is a member of the Wolf Laurel Ski Patrol and is a joy to be around. He is a high school senior this year and is president of the Key Club and vice president of the Beta Club. Matt hopes to attend West Point after graduation.*

## North Buncombe’s Lovelace Helps Fallen Foe

*Mike Volt, Staff Writer for Asheville Citizens—Times*

Matt Lovelace may be North Buncombe High School’s top cross country runner. So when the runners began pounding down the home stretch in the high school boys’ race at Thursday’s WNC Cross Country Carnival, and Lovelace was nowhere to be seen, Black Hawk coach Fred Ray started to wonder where his standout was.

“We were worried about him,” Ray said, adding that he and the team began to think that Lovelace had collapsed in the heat.

A few minutes later, however, Lovelace ran past the finish line in perfect health. Not to mention in last place. But his coach wasn’t about to complain about the finish.

It seems that the stout, athletic Lovelace had stopped in his tracks when he saw Ty Price, a runner from Forestview High School in Gastonia, collapse on the Jackson Park course.

“I was running along,” said Lovelace. “I saw a guy laying face down. I figured I’d turn around and see

what’s going on. Lovelace, who is a certified emergency care technician through the National Ski Patrol, stayed with Price until the EMS arrived.

“Basically all I did was get the vitals,” he said, adding that he also checked Price’s spine and relayed information to the EMS when it arrived.

“He’s that type of individual,” said Ray. “He just chose that over [the race].”

After he was done taking care of Price, Lovelace simply started running again and finished the course.

“But I didn’t walk,” he said with a laugh. “[It’s the] first time I finished last.”

Price was treated and released from Pardee Hospital in Hendersonville, according to a hospital spokesperson, who would not comment on the cause of his collapse.

Lovelace said that he could not say for certain, but that he believed Price suffered a seizure.

“We won’t know until the CAT scans come back,” he said.



## Life Flight Visits Sky Valley Refresher

*Bob Lang, Sky Valley Patrol Representative*

The Sky Valley Ski Patrol's recent On-the-Hill refresher training in November was highlighted by the visit of an Atlanta area Life Flight crew in their ambulance helicopter. The patrollers received a briefing by the crew and all in attendance had the opportunity to talk to the crew and examine the helicopter.

Just thirty minutes flight time from the Sky Valley ski area, the LifeFlight crew of three, stationed at a forward operating location in Canton, Georgia, stands ready to respond to calls for transport of seriously injured patients to area trauma centers.

The crew is composed of a pilot, flight nurse and paramedic. The aircraft is equipped to handle most emergency transport situations similar to that of a conventional ground ambulance. There are a few different types of helicopters available that can respond, and most of these rotorcraft are capable of transporting a maximum of two patients. Advanced notification is necessary for multiple patients to ensure that the crew can properly configure their equipment. Other useful information to transmit to the crew besides the number of patients is their estimated rough weight and ages. It is a compact space with little room for non-essential equipment or personnel.

When a unit arrives to airlift a patient, the crew can land, load the patient with rotor blades turning, and be airborne again in approximately five to seven minutes, depending on the distance from the patient location to the landing zone.

When working with helicopters, there are several important considerations. One item of essential information that the crew needs is an accurate landing zone (LZ) location. Latitude and longitude coordinates obtained from a portable Global Po-

sitioning System (GPS) is one method to accomplish this. The LZ should be an open, flat area at least 75 feet by 75 feet, and clear of overhead wires, buildings, and towers and utility poles. Avoid sloping terrain and rounded knolls that can make landings difficult. There should not be any snow on the LZ, because the rotor downwash will cause the snow to whirl about creating a whiteout condition that is hazardous for landing.

In addition, ski area radio frequencies, given to LifeFlight in advance, can be programmed into their aircraft's radios allowing air-to-ground communications. This facilitates evacuation coordination considerably.

The obvious hazards to people on the ground are the helicopter's rotor blades atop the helicopter and at the tail. Normally, patrollers should not approach a helicopter when the rotor blades are turning. Wait until they come to a complete stop. You want to avoid a blade-strike, and there is a considerable amount of debris and dust blowing around the aircraft. Approach the aircraft from the front between the 10 and 2 O'clock (forward quadrant) positions where the pilot or crew can see you and monitor your approach. Keep away from all exhaust ports, especially if the engines are running to prevent burn injuries. Common sense applies



*Sky Valley Ski Patrol members with Life Flight crew. (L to r. kneeling) Gordon Pettit, Flight Nurse - Robin Stein, Sylvia Talley, (Standing) Steve Mason – Sky Valley Ski Area manager, Bob Lang, Paramedic - Jason Davis, Pilot - Mike Antoninsen, and Steve Blackmon*



*LifeFlight Paramedic, Jason Davis, explains to Sky Valley patrollers how patients are transported.*

when operating around helicopters.

The advantage to airlift evacuation is that a seriously injured patient can be transported to the appropriate treatment faster and with less jostling than a land vehicle. The pilot, Mike Atoninsen, said that response time could be greatly reduced if they are alerted early enough. The crew is on a five-minute standby from the initial alert to getting airborne. Pilot

Antoninsen commented that if there is a possibility that airlift is needed, make the decision early. They can be airborne and enroute to the ski area before a final decision is made. If their service is not needed they can be called back with no cost to anyone.

When assessing a patient's injuries, the patroller's decision to call for air evacuation is not always easy, but an airlift evacuation capability is a valuable asset to have available to the ski area. Ski area management protocols should determine when helicopter rescue is necessary and appropriate. They can help guide the patroller's decision-making process, and provide a framework from which to proceed. The protocols should state the requirements and through refresher training, airlift evacuation can safely be blended into a patrol's operations.

The Sky Valley patrol appreciates the opportunity to meet with the LifeFlight crew, and learning about the hazards associated with air ambulance helicopter operations. This type of training helps to prepare our members respond to emergencies more efficiently and effectively. Our thanks to Ken Collins for arranging the visit.

• • •

## **Powderfall 2002**

### **Reminder**

Powderfall 2002 will be held on April 17-21 at Snowbird, UT. For information and applications go to:

<http://www.nsp.org/education/eventstoc.asp>.

If you have any questions about whether or not Powderfall is an educational, worthwhile and — most importantly — fun way to spend a week, just ask any of your Southern Division colleagues who attended last year when it was held at Whistler-Blackcomb, BC.



Shown in this picture submitted by Judy Kay-Monaghan from left to right are: Nate Wagley, Timberline; Frank Readon, Timberline; John Shaffer, Massanutten; Ed Pouncey, Wintergreen; Jim Kneas, Alumni Wintergreen, Judi Kay-Monaghan, Division Supervisor OEC, David Stolz, Wintergreen; John Dobson, Division Board Rep; Nici Singletary, Div Dir; Clint Butts, patroller Pacific Northwest Division, former Wintergreen.



### Why Give an Award?

*Celeste Bernstein, Sky Valley*

Being a volunteer patroller is a full time weekend job; for the pros it is a full time weekday job. Any of us who have worked a sold out holiday can frankly appreciate that sentence. Patrolling can be aggravating, it can be full of time consuming paperwork, we get skied/boarded over (Noooo, the cross is NOT a target) and it can be thankless. What we don't get in money we do get in appreciation; from our hills, from other patrollers and sometimes from the public. An award is a way for NSP to say "Thank you" to those volunteers, pros, management and others who put forth the effort to make the organization what it is. Our service does not have to be thankless.

**Our service does not have to be thankless... An award is a way to say "Thank You!"**

I must say, it is paperwork (Yucky Yucky Yucky) but if you can get through the paperwork so that that person is recognized and thanked, it is worth the effort. I love to see the person's face when they are awarded. I have seen some who blush bright red, others who don't know what to do; they become very uncharacteristic looking and others whom do the "deer in headlights" type of thing; who me? Spouses, partners and family can also be thanked for supporting the patroller in the long hours they dedicate to the slopes by giving a certificate of appreciation or angel pin. I must admit some deserve Super Angel pins for supporting those patrollers who year after year dedicate the long hours to the slopes.

An award is the only formal thank you we get from NSP. Why give an award? Because an award is a way of giving a deserved thank you and making that person feel appreciated.



*Wintergreen OEC Candidates Bob Fedak, Scott Burry and Mike Bird demonstrate spinal immobilization as evaluator "T" Harris evaluates. (Submitted by Nici Singletary.)*

*Brent Galloway (Ober Gatlinburg) models the latest in stylish head gear for this season's well dressed patroller. Très chic, Brent! (Submitted by Bob Weed.)*



# Kids' Safety Poster Contest

Sponsored by: National Ski Areas Association, Southeastern Ski Areas Association and Southern Division of the National Ski



## Patrol

**Create A Poster Using The Responsibility Code Below And You Could Win Up To a \$500 Savings Bond—Or Additional Prizes!**

**•• Winning Division Entries Will Be Forwarded To National Competition ••**

### Responsibility Code:

1. Always stay in control and be able to stop or avoid other people or objects.
2. People ahead of you have the right of way. It is your responsibility to avoid them.
3. You must not stop where you obstruct a trail or are not visible from above.
4. Whenever starting downhill or merging into a trail, look uphill and yield to others.
5. Always use devices to help prevent runaway equipment.
6. Observe all posted signs and warnings. Keep off closed trails and out of closed areas.
7. Prior to using any lift, you must have the knowledge and ability to load, ride and unload safely.

### National Safety Poster Contest Rules:

1. All entries must be created by an elementary school aged child.
2. One entry per child.
3. 8 1/2" X 11" or 11" X 17" poster size.
4. Pencil, crayon, paint, or other "school" materials may be used. (No macaroni!)
5. Write name, address, and telephone number of entrant on the back of entry. **DO NOT FOLD ENTRY.**
6. Entry deadline: February 1, 2002. Send entries to: Ski Safety Poster Contest, 50 Elkwood Avenue, Asheville, NC 28804.

**NATIONAL  
SAFETY  
AWARENESS  
WEEK  
JANUARY  
19-25**



**HEADS  
UP**



**SOUTHERN DIVISION NSP  
SPRING OFFICERS MEETING  
May 3 & 4, 2002**



**Holiday Inn Sun Spree Resort, Asheville, NC**  
[www.sunspreecom.com](http://www.sunspreecom.com)

## **HOTEL REGISTRATION INFORMATION**

This year's Spring Officers Meeting and Awards Banquet will be held at the Holiday Inn Sun Spree Resort located in Asheville, North Carolina. This meeting is the wrap up meeting for the 2001-2002 ski season. A time to simply relax and finalize the events of the season, do some pre-planning for next year, but most importantly, to recognize and award members of the Southern Division for their contributions to the NSP system and the fine ski areas that we all represent.

This meeting is open to all members of the Division, including spouses and friends. Get in touch with Alumni members and ask them to attend the meeting. Come see how the Division operates and enjoy the day and evening with your friends. For those individuals that do not need to attend the General Session, there are 18 holes of golf and/or plenty of tennis courts at the resort, the spectacular Biltmore House tour or simply visiting downtown Asheville. There is plenty of activity to keep everyone busy!

The Resort is located just off of I-40, on I-240, Exit 3B. The address is: One Holiday Inn Drive, Asheville, NC 28806. [The toll free number for reservations is 1-800-733-3211.](tel:1-800-733-3211) The special NSP room rate is \$79 per night. All rooms have two double beds for room sharing. Room reservation must be made prior to April 3, 2002 to receive the special rate. After that date, the block of rooms reserved will be released and subject to the prevailing room rates at time of booking. Be sure to mention you are attending the National Ski Patrol meeting for the discounted rate.

For those who arrive Friday evening, join us in the Thomas Wolfe Hospitality Suite. It opens at 7PM and closes at midnight on Friday; opens on Saturday after the General Session until 7PM when the banquet begins; opens again after the banquet is over and lasts until the host closes the door!



SOUTHERN DIVISION NSPS  
SPRING OFFICERS MEETING

May 3-4, 2002



Holiday Inn Sun Spree Resort, Asheville, NC  
MEETING AND AWARDS BANQUET RESERVATION FORM

**MEETING BADGE INFORMATION:**

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email address \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Patrol: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

**AWARDS BANQUET INFORMATION – Saturday Night**

Names of Additional Persons in Party:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Patrol: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Patrol: \_\_\_\_\_

Total in Party: \_\_\_\_ x \$25 = TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail completed form and check (made out to “Southern Division NSP”) to:**

**Lee Wilkinson**  
24 Elk Mountain Ridge  
Asheville, NC 28804

**RESERVATION FEES MUST BE RECEIVED BY APRIL 15**  
**\*\*ALL FEES ARE NONREFUNDABLE AFTER APRIL 25, 2002\*\***



**SOUTHERN DIVISION OFFICERS & STAFF DIRECTORY**  
**2001-2002 SEASON**

Changes and corrections submitted as of 1/2002 are noted in **bold**.  
Complete roster found on Division website. (PR) = NSP Patrol

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(O/F) **434-325-2228**

*1<sup>st</sup> Ass't Div Dir*

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*Certified*

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**DIXIE REGION**

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**WVA**  
**Greg Rash**  
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## Southern Division Calendar For Remainder of 2001-02 Season

Region	Month	Date	Event	Location	Contact
DIVISION	JAN	26,27	CERTIFIED FULL CLINIC	SNOWSHOE, WV	LYNN PACE 865-984-1123
VA	JAN	26	SR OEC CLINIC	WINTERGREEN, VA	MARY GRAHAM 919-510-0850
DIXIE	JAN	27	SR S&T EVALUATION FOR DIXIE REGION	GATLINBURG, TN	JAMEY PIERCY 828-253-3400
VA	JAN	27	SR S&T CLINIC	WINTERGREEN, VA	JOHN SHAFFER 703-719-5945
DIVISION	FEB	2,3	NORDIC SEMINAR	WHITEGRASS, WV	PENNY DIMLER 703-425-2736
VA	FEB	2,3	CERTIFIED FULL CLINIC	MASSANUTTEN, VA	LYNN PACE 865-984-1123
DIVISION	FEB	2,3	STUDENT PATROLLER SEMINAR	BEECH MT, NC	JOANNE EHLINGER 336-727-1995
VA	FEB	2	AVALANCHE AWARENESS	MASSANUTTEN, VA	BILL KOST 703-671-5678
WV	FEB	2	SR S&T CLINIC	SNOWSHOE, WV	BECKY SHARP 304 572-5695
DIXIE	FEB	3	SMOKEY MTN BASIC S&T EVALUATION	WOLF LAUREL, NC	DENNIS SLAGLE 423-581-5818
DIXIE	FEB	9	AVALANCHE AWARENESS	DIXIE, TBA	BILL KOST 703-671-5678
BR	FEB	9	SR OEC EVALUATION	TBA	HARVEY VARNER 336-785-4533
BR	FEB	9	CERTIFIED CLINIC, ALL MODULES	TBA	LYNN PACE 865-984-1123
WV	FEB	9	SR OEC CLINIC	TIMBERLINE, WV	BOB BODAMER 740-377-9460
BR	FEB	9,10	CERTIFIED FULL CLINIC	TBA	LYNN PACE 865-984-1123
BR	FEB	10	BASIC S&T EVALUATION	BEECH MT, NC	RICK LAWS 828-396-7792
DIXIE	FEB	10	DEEP SOUTH BASIC S&T EVALUATION	SKY VALLEY, GA	DAVE PARKER 770-751-7255
DIXIE	FEB	10	SR OEC CLINIC FOR DIXIE REGION	CATALOOCHEE, NC	LARRY ERB 828-645-4718
BR	FEB	23,24	SR S&T EVALUATION	BEECH MT, NC	RICK LAWS 828-396-7792
VA	FEB	23	SR. OEC EVALUATION	WINTERGREEN, VA	MARY GRAHAM 919-510-0850
WV	FEB	23	BASIC S&T EVALUATION	WINTERPLACE, WV	BRIAN HAGER 304-787-3221
DIXIE	FEB	24	SMOKEY MTN BASIC S&T EVALUATION	CATALOOCHEE, NC	RHONDA SMITH 828-645-9171
VA	FEB	24	SR S&T EVALUATION	WINTERGREEN, VA	JOHN SHAFFER 703-719-5945
WV	FEB	24	SR S&T CLINIC	WINTERPLACE, WV	BRIAN HAGER 304-787-3221
WV	MAR	2	SR OEC EVALUATION	WINTERPLACE, WV	BOB BODAMER 740-377-9460
BR	MAR	3	BASIC S&T EVALUATION	APPALACHIAN, NC	RICK LAWS 828-396-7792
DIXIE	MAR	3	SR OEC EVALUATION FOR DIXIE REGION	CATALOOCHEE, NC	LARRY ERB 828-645-4718
WV	MAR	3	BASIC OEC EVALUATION	TIMBERLINE, WV	RICHARD COX 540-786-0713
WV	MAR	9	BASIC S&T EVALUATION	TIMBERLINE, WV	RICHARD COX 540-786-0713
DIXIE	MAR	9	MOUNTAIN TRAVEL AND RESCUE	SMOKY MT NATL PK HQ	NEIL BOOTH 770-941-4268
DIVISION	MAR	10	<b>AWARDS NOMINATION DEADLINE</b>		HARRY STOWE 336-294-2049
WV	MAR	16	SENIOR S&T EVALUATION	SNOWSHOE, WV	JAN STARR 304-572-6713
DIVISION	MAR	21	CERTIFIED EXAMINER'S CLINIC	SNOWSHOE, WV	LYNN PACE 865-984-1123
DIVISION	MAR	22,23	CERTIFIED EVALUATION	SNOWSHOE, WV	LYNN PACE 865-984-1123
NAT'L	APR	17-20	POWDERFALL NAT. EDUCATION CONF	SNOWBIRD, UT	
DIVISION	MAY	3,4,5	SPRING CONVENTION/AWARDS BANQUET	ASHEVILLE, NC	NEIL BOOTH 770-941-4268
DIVISION	SEPT	7	FALL OFFICERS MEETING	WYTHEVILLE, NC	NICI SINGLETARY 434-325-1024

### Frank Feeney

In memory of Frank Feeney, Wintergreen Ski Patrol 1976-2001, shown here being presented with the 1990 award for Outstanding Alpine Patroller by former patrol leader Lou Argow. Frank's obituary has been submitted for publication in an upcoming issue of *Ski Patrol Magazine*.



## From The Scrapbook

*Jannette Bennet, Division Historian*



Chris Newcomb (left, Hawksnest) and John Lackey (Bryce) at the summit of Long's Peak (14,255 ft), CO in 1995.

Timberline, March 14, 1993. Patrollers standing on top of the Coconut Lounge. The building is over nine feet high. Notice the building eaves behind the front two patrollers.



The 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 author with articles. Deadline for spring issue is May 25, 2002. Send submissions to:  
Bob Weed  
Southern Cross Editor  
2609 Willena Dr, Huntsville,  
AL 35803  
256-882-9604  
weedra@home.com



Snowshoe, WV; 1989

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Southern Cross, National Ski Patrol  
c/o Bob Weed  
2609 Willena Dr, Huntsville, AL 35803

First Class Mail