



Southern Cross

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In This Issue

From Division Director..... 1

From the Assistants

First Assistant 3

South Area 3

North Area 4

From the Regions

Virginia 4

Blue Ridge 5

West Virginia 6

Smoky Mountain 6

Deep South 7

From Supervisors and Advisors

Certified 8

Toboggan 8

Ski Proficiency 9

Radios 10

Instructor Development 11

OEC 12

Treasurer 12

PEO 13

Nordic 13

In Memoriam 14

Scenes of the Season 15

Division Roster 17

Calendars 21

(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 19, 2004. Send submissions to:

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Pain, Gain and Growth—

A Note to Our Members

Neil Booth, Division Director



What you see is what you get! Generally this is true, but the division leadership is setting a direction that you may never see. The direction we are taking will not be visible, however, the results will impact membership. We view the division task to be the delivery of programs benefiting you, without undo effort on behalf of the general membership. There is also an old statement “that no pain means no gain.” I believe this phrase to be true. The same statement holds true if we substitute “growth” for “pain”. So, “no growth means no gain” is what we will refer to. We will be growing. Growth will be the result from the division staff, regions, patrols and membership. Let me give you a for instance. This summer, the division’s OEC Supervisor, Judi Kay-Monaghan, along with all Instructor Trainers and Instructors of Record for the upcoming refresher cycle, met in Wytheville, Virginia to plan the consistent and relevant delivery of this year’s program. Did this cause pain to membership? No. Perhaps it created pain for the Instructors of Record and Instructor Trainers for the 12 scheduled refreshers, refreshing our 1100 members. However, I choose to think of it as “growth”. The thirty-some people who attended this July meeting came together to deliver to members the most effective and efficient refresher cycle possible. You will not see the hard work and dedication these people gave to our system, but you will see the results at the refresher. Please, as attendees, take the extra step to recognize and thank the ITs, IORs and Instructors for the time and excellent service they provide to you, the membership. They endure the initial growth on your behalf. The end result is your growth or gain in knowledge and confidence.

As we progress through this season, there will be other growth initiatives taken on behalf of membership. One project that is well underway is one that is led by Morgan Armstrong, First Assistant Division Director and Division Instructor Development Supervisor. Morgan and his staff of Instructor Trainers, Mentors and Instructors have poured the foundation for future growth. Read his article and you will see what we are talking about. This project requires the growth initiatives of your Region Instructor Development Administrators and Mentors as they begin to work with membership by developing a larger cadre of Instructors who will continue with the process of becoming discipline-specific instructors. What pain will you endure? None. What will you see? The end result will be the effective and efficient delivery of instructors and educational programs to membership.

The second project we are working on is the formalization of the Senior Coordinator positions in each of the five regions. This will be led by Virginia Region Director Bill Smith. Our growth initiative here is to put in place a unified system that provides all the information to all levels of the organization. Have you ever noticed any confusion when it comes to the Senior Program process? How do I get into it? What do I need to do? When and where are the events to be held? These are just a few of the concerns. Your five new Senior Coordinators will have all the answers by the end of the season. Once again, growth will prevail with no pain endured on membership's behalf. You should only see the gain of an efficient and effectively delivered program.

The last program we are working on is a project to determine the future of the Student Program. The Division Co-Chairs and Division Supervisors of this discipline and project are "T" and Peg Harris. They are to research this project and provide their findings, based on input from Patrol Representatives and Student Patrollers, to the Executive Committee at the Spring Officers Meeting in May 2004. The Chair's recommendations will be for enhancement or disbandment of the program. We encourage all concerned parties to give great cooperation and thought to this task. It will be membership's responses and actions that will lead to the recommendation of this program's future. This could or could not be considered a growth initiative, depending on how you view it. I see it as growth since we cannot let a program sit dormant and call it growth. Growth moves forwards, sitting still in a dormant stage is the same as moving backwards!

I have tasked the Division Staff with a lot to accomplish this year. I guess it comes with any new Division Director and Staff. We are here to support you, our members. We can only do this based on your input and requests. If there is something you like, or do not like, let your Patrol Representative know. They in turn will pass this along to the proper person in the chain of command. Remember, this is our system, not any one person.

Accomplishments to date:

1. We had an extremely successful OEC IT/IOR seminar in Wytheville, VA.
2. We had an informative Fall Officers Meeting with excellent briefings by:
 - a. Nici Singletary, National Board of Director Representative who told everyone about the positive direction of the Board with regards to the "core values", "vision", "mission" and the membership survey that is about to be preformed.
 - b. Mark Dorsey, Marketing Director, NSP headquarters who demonstrated the web page and the tools it provides; a discussion of the marketing of our OEC program; our national marketing partner programs.
3. Your Board of Directors finalized and approved ten bylaw amendments (adoption of a proposal form for all amendment changes; membership's right to vote through your Patrol Representative with 60 days advanced notice; one vote versus two to adopt changes; removal of officers; committees of the board; quorum and voting; addition of notice, presumption of assent, informal actions and electronic meetings; election process for Division Director; gender neutral wording; title change to add Region Directors Assistant).

Request to membership:

1. Visit the NSP web page at www.nsp.org and learn how to use this tool. Make sure you check your personal page and update any information that is old. It is important to have your phone numbers, address and email listed correctly. This is the best reference source the division has.
2. Visit the "What's New" section on the site.
3. When the membership survey comes out, please take the time to respond. This is the first strategic initiative of the new National Board. It is membership only based. Here is your golden opportunity to have your voice heard! It creates growth!

So now let us all move along with our refreshers and get our bodies and minds ready for the upcoming season. We can only hope and pray that we have another season like last year. It was a wonderful season for the resorts, our snow sports public and us. It goes without saying, we need to have fun and also enjoy what we do. Have a wonderful season and please, consider getting more involved at your patrol, in the region or division. Consider becoming an instructor and help others gain broader knowledge while lightening the workload of the current staff. The more the merrier! New people means growth for our system! Yes, what we all see is what we all get! Yes, what we put into our efforts is what we get out of it! Yes, no pain means no gain, however, no growth means no gain too! Let's grow!



Reports, Photos and Awards

Morgan Armstrong
First Assistant Division Director

LINE OFFICERS' REMINDER: While this year the line officers all report to the ADD North and ADD South in the chain of command, please remember the First ADD has to gather all of the End of Year Reports and make the division report to the division director. This is a reminder to please begin that process now, so by the time you need to write the report you will have most of the information.

PHOTOGRAPHS: I am asking each Patrol Representative to take five pictures this year and send them to the Division Historian. I think it would be great if we could have a group shot of each patrol (Refresher is perfect for this) and three or four action shots during the season. One of the candidates and one of training would be nice. One of a typical patrol day and perhaps one of the patrol room would be interesting for us all. If you get into this and send ten or fifteen, we will thank you bunches. Program Supervisors, we ask that you send two photographs for the scrapbook. Indicate what they are, who is in them, where they were taken and when they were taken. Think what fun it will be for us to dig them out thirty years from now and look at how young the current division officers looked when they were under seventy years of age.

AWARDS: Start now to work on the division, region, patrol and individual awards. Saying thank you for all the hard work of those who put this division first and make it the best in the system is just nice to do. Don't let down the patroller who makes your program or patrol outstanding. If you need help, John Dobson or I will be happy to lend a hand.



Mourning

Dennis Slagle
Assistant Division Director—South Area

Being from the south and patrolling in the now defunct Dixie region, I mourn that it—the name—no longer exists. The name Dixie Region was dropped and the region split into the section names—Smoky Mountain Region and Deep South Region. I was really fond of the name Dixie, as the name seems to epitomize the south. Now that there are two geographic areas in Southern Division (north and south), with Blue Ridge, Deep South, and Smoky Mountain Regions composing the Southern area, it would somehow seem righteous for “Dixie” to fit in somehow. Maybe I am just sentimental, but when I think of “South”, I always relate it to “Dixie”. It is also comforting to know that “old times there are not forgotten”.

I am looking forward to another good ski season for 2003-2004. Every indication is that it will be. The Southern Area is off to a good start this year with some outstanding leadership at the helm in each region. I want to thank the new region directors Sylvia Talley in Deep South, Mike Harris in Blue Ridge, and Richard Boyer in Smoky Mountain for accepting these positions and all the responsibilities that go along with them.

If you haven't done so already, please check the Southern Area Region calendars for upcoming events in your region. They are listed in this *Southern Cross* edition, but they can be observed at any time by accessing the Southern Division web site at www.nsp.org/divisions/southern/. All calendars and directories are there. If you are interested in attending tests, clinics, courses, or to know when your refresher is scheduled, it is all there. If you see an event that you want to participate in, be sure to mark it down on your calendar. Be sure to contact the “Contact” person listed well ahead of time so that you are not left out and to make sure courses are actually held. Most instructors have a deadline of about a month ahead to sign up. This is to ensure there are enough students to have the course and to have enough time to arrange everything.

Have you signed up to activate your membership to the division web site? When you do, you can update your own contact information and keep it current, so that you don't miss any correspondence. I go to the site to get email addresses with which to contact people.

Look to the web site for any information. Let us know if there is anything not there that you need or would like to see there. Again, if you have not gotten a password, please apply for one, the directions are there at the bottom of the Southern Division main page. Just remember to keep your password somewhere you won't forget it.

I look forward to seeing everyone on the slopes this year.



Notes From The North

Jan Starr

Assistant Division Director—North Area

I sure hope everyone stayed dry, mold didn't set in, and your arthritis was under control during our wet summer. All of the refreshers should be planned and underway by the time you read this. The summer OEC refresher-planning meeting was a great get-together with lots of ideas and planning so that all refreshers will be similar again this year. Thanks to all that took off a weekend in July to attend this important meeting. Refreshers couldn't be what they are without the input from instructors.

The winter calendar has been revised with some new additions. One of which is a Mountain Training and Rescue (MTR) level 2 class. There are only a few MTR, Avalanche, and PES classes offered. Remember there is a \$10 course fee for each.

Please plan ahead for these, as participation is important. Supervisors for these disciplines need to keep in touch with the area Patrol Reps on these courses, and I would also like to see the Patrol Reps be pro-active in the marketing of these. Remember these are all electives for the senior program. We are also looking for patrollers interested in becoming instructors for these three disciplines. More instructors mean more courses could be held in your areas. We are planning on more instructor development courses and making mentoring easier to go through. Please join in, give us a hand and become a part of the instructor team!

And now I have to close on a sad note. I would like to thank everyone for their support to myself and to the Snowshoe patrol in the loss of Brad [*Short*] and Tony [*Petrocelli*]. It is wonderful to know we have so many other friends in our patrol family.

From the Regions...

Virginia Region

Bill Smith, Virginia Region Director



The Virginia Connection!!! Well, here it is August already and the summer is almost gone. Believe it or not, it's time to start thinking about a new ski season as we all get ready to plan and schedule our refresher programs. I trust that each of you have had an opportunity to do some fun things this summer and maybe even get in a little vacation time somewhere delightful.

From everything I'm hearing the summer has been a very busy time for all of the patrols in Virginia. There are many exciting, new, and fun things that I will report on in this edition of *Southern Cross*.

Over at **Bryce**, **Bob Mecaughey** reports that "this coming ski season, Bryce will feature for the first time an 800 foot, three lane tubing run. Also, one of our slopes, Revenuers Run, has been widened to accommodate a more versatile and challenging terrain park." In early June, the patrol celebrated a great season with their Annual Patrol Picnic. It was reported that a good time was had by all.

We have great news to report to you concerning **The Homestead Ski Area**. After being closed last season, Patrol Rep, **Jerry Taylor** is reporting that The Homestead will re-open this season and recently announced several major improvements to the ski area. They include:



[Click to view Photo Album](#)

Ground Breaking on Major Renovations at The Homestead: Michael Valach, Director of Outdoor Activities, Gary K. Rosenberg, President and Chief Executive Officer, Cindy White, Ski Area Manager, Fred Reese, Vice President of Golf and Grounds Maintenance

The construction of a new 4.3 million gallon retention pond that is to be utilized for snowmaking. It will be located near the falconry barn with the water being pumped to the ski slopes. The pond is to be aerated to chill the water.

Secondly, there will be a major addition to the snowmaking capabilities that will include 20-30 new snow blowers. In order to move the water to the guns and blowers, there will be a completely new pumping system installed. Lastly, there is to be a lift control system upgrade.

The above upgrades are scheduled to be completed by November first, prior to this year's season opening. Mountain management further reports that following the completion of these new projects, snowmakers will be able to be cover the mountain with 18" of snow in just 72 hours!!! This a very exciting time for The Homestead—especially for the ski patrol.

Bartek Drewnowski at Massanutten has

reported that their resort is replacing the old #4 lift that services Southern Comfort, with a new, fixed grip, quad chair. It is designed to move more people more efficiently uphill. He further reports that they will be getting a new grooming machine along with the addition of twenty new tower mounted fan guns. It certainly sounds like lots of snow happening at Massanutten this season!!!

Wintergreen began their summer by combining some learning with a patrol picnic. Both were held at Lake Monocan. The morning was spent re-certifying a number of patrollers in CPR. That session was followed by a patrol picnic. There were plenty of food and fun activities for all to take advantage of.

Tucker Croluis, Wintergreen's PD, reports that they are completing the snowmaking automation that was begun last season. Air/water mixture is computer controlled and adjusted automatically based on weather sensors located all over the mountain. The prototype system worked very well last season. Also, we are widening Upper Wild Turkey (skier's right) all the way over to the lift towers. This will be our dedicated bump run this season.

As you can easily see, a lot is happening in Virginia in preparation for the new ski season. It's hard to believe that in just a few short weeks we will all be hard at work getting our refreshers completed and waiting for the flakes to start flying.

In closing, I would like to take this opportunity to encourage everyone throughout the Division to take a look at the Division calendar and find an education program that interests you and take advantage of it. Our instructors all work very hard to provide our over 1,100 patrollers with quality education programs.

See you on the slopes!!!



Blue Ridge Region

Mike Harris, Blue Ridge Region Director

Welcome to the upcoming ski season which is just around the corner.

OEC Refreshers are coming up right away and everyone should have received their 2003 Cycle B Study Guide. Please have your Scenario Discussion Form questions filled out when you arrive. Also we are asking that you stay with your assigned groups so that each group has an equal number of patrollers. One of the reasons for this is the instructors are working hard to make the refreshers more informative and pleasurable. Matching up in new groups will almost always assure more and new input.

All four areas have had lots of rain this summer so the water level should be great for making snow. This means we'll all be ready when the cold weather gets here. I personally am looking forward to visiting all four areas and skiing with friends I have made over the years.

I would like to encourage anyone thinking of attaining senior status to keep in mind that we now have Michael Fletcher as Senior Coordinator and other outstanding people to work with in this effort. Also, I want to remind everyone that once again our Blue Ridge Region will be hosting the Spring Convention and Awards Banquet. This will be held at the Broyhill Inn and Conference Center in Boone on May 14th and 15th, 2004. Please mark your calendars. If you have attended before, you'll remember how much fun it can be. If this is your first, it's a great opportunity to enjoy being with patrollers from your own mountain as well as patrollers from the three other mountains in our region and all the other regions in our Division.



West Virginia Region

Jon Dragan, West Virginia Region Director

Timberline Ski Patrol (TSP) has a new Assistant Patrol Representative for Operations— Darren Bennett. The TSP Summer meeting was a huge success with the CPR class and a work party to freshen up our warming hut. Congratulations to TSP Member Scott Frankhauser who has been named as Assistant WV Regional Director. Scott is very active in the TSP patrol as an OEC and S&T instructor, a Senior candidate, a member of the TSP Board of Directors, and editor of the TSP "Mountainside News". Scott also attended PowderFall in Snowbird, Utah this past year. Remember, our TSP Pre-Refresher is September 20, 2003. Refresher is October 18, 2003, and On-the-Hill

Day is October 19, 2003.

Snowshoe has been busy widening trails and adding snowmaking to their main slope. Many are wondering why as they had 270 inches of natural snow during the last season!

For years the Ski industry in West Virginia has been able to tap into the labor pool that exists here due to the Whitewater rafting industry. I would venture to say that every ski area in the state has at least a few patrollers that take their OEC and patrolling skills to the river in the summer.

Working as a River Guide in West Virginia requires similar qualifications to those of a Patroller. You must have a working knowledge of the area (rivers) you are operating on, be trained in rescue techniques as well as first aid and professional rescuer CPR. Basic first aid is the minimum requirement to become a river guide. However, outfitters have always encouraged guides with the desire to do better, to take a higher level of first aid training. In past years outfitters have looked to EMT, or WFRA classes to provide the additional training. OEC however is now becoming the course of choice. The availability of instructors, outfitters facilities for classes and students for a course has provided enough interest to teach a spring OEC course in the New River area for the past several years. Instructors from Snowshoe and Winterplace worked together to put on the course. Jim Maxwell (Snowshoe) and Bud Frantz (Winterplace) coordinate the logistics of working with the NSP and West Virginia Professional River Outfitters Association to offer the courses. This partnership has not only helped us keep our instructors skills up but serves as a great way to identify, recruit and train new patrollers. This all happens during a time of the year when most patrols are quiet and teaching skills get rusty. Class this year was held at North American River Runners and had twenty plus students. There is no question we will see several of these candidates wanting to join our patrols this fall. Be it frozen or liquid, see you on the H2O.

Many thanks to all for your inputs which have made my job much easier.



Smoky Mountain Region

Richard Boyer, Smoky Mountain Region Director

How have the changes in our Southern Division affected everyone in the Smoky Mountain Division?

What does the new organization mean to us? First let me explain what is new. We in the Smoky Mountain Region consist of three areas, Wolf Laurel, Cataloochee, and Ober Gatlinburg. Lee Wilkinson from Wolf Laurel is the new Assistant Region Director. He and I are new. I am sure familiar to many of you patrollers already. He and I will split up the duties necessary to the Region. Please refer to the Region roster for others who are handling the various line positions.

How is this different from last year? Last year the Dixie Region consisted of two Sections—Smoky Mountain and Deep South. There is no Dixie Region anymore, and its two Sections are now Regions.

The bottom line is, there are only a few changes that will affect the patroller in our Region. Neil Booth has moved on from our Dixie Region Director to our new Southern Division Director, but even that will not mean too many changes, as he will still patrol out of Cataloochee and you will see him as he makes his rounds to each of the ski areas. Other than that change and a few newer faces, things will be run similarly to last year. We have two new Patrol Representatives, Armand Mendez at Ober and Bob Mitchell at Wolf. You will see more of me. Lee will also be available to help in anyway we can.

There are two things, among others, I would like everyone to think about and work on in the coming year: 1) Communication throughout the Region from the patroller up and down the line. Recent surveys seem to be indicating information is not getting to the ski patroller level within the NSP. They say too much information stops at the patrol representative level and doesn't get to the patroller. If this is in fact the case, I'd like to work towards changing it. 2) Let's find ways to increase communication and cooperation between the paid and volunteer patrols. The main difference between the two groups are their respective times on the slopes. We all need to find ways to draw these two fine groups closer to each other and to work together.

We'll see you on the slopes this year.



Deep South Region

Sylvia Talley, Deep South Region Director

The hills are alive—with the sound of hammers and power tools in Alabama and Georgia. Over at Cloudmont, the old camper trailer will be replaced with a new, and much needed, patrol hut. At Sky Valley, a project initiated by the patrol will result in a patrol shack at the top of the mountain. Thanks to Chris Polhemus for designing the building; and to Rita Kyle, who is appealing to a corporation to donate lumber for this construction. Scott Rao, Sapphire Valley Mountain Manager, has announced planned additions to the area in time for the 2004-05 season—a new chairlift and a tubing park.

After Larry Bost's article about the Sky Valley patrol appeared in the Summer issue of *Ski Patrol Magazine*, two patrollers who have moved to Georgia asked to join the Sky patrol. Jim Petersen from Texas, and Jeff Minter from New Jersey, are both Senior patrollers. Both are OEC instructors. In addition, Jim is an S&T instructor; and Jeff is in the mentoring process for S&T instructor. We welcome them to Deep South Region!

Over in western North Carolina is a jewel of a resort, Sapphire Valley. The original inn was built in 1896. Known for its comfortable lodging and fabulous cuisine, it attracted visitors until it was demolished in 1986. According to Tommy Godwin, former Patrol Director for Sapphire, the ski area was built and open for operation for the 1964-65 season. The ski area closed for a few seasons in the early 70's, but re-opened in 1975. Sapphire presently serves a skier population made up of local skiers and visitors to time-share condos.

The long-time patrol dissolved in 1998, and the following year Ben Tholkes and his wife, Jane Sullivan, were recruited to come to Sapphire from Cataloochee. Ben has served as Patrol Rep ever since. When I first met this energetic couple, Jane was skiing with their son Landon in a backpack. Their skiing family now includes son Braden.

In a recent conversation, Ben related how he has combined his love of skiing and mountains into an enviable professional life. A Minnesota native, he has been an NSP member for 25 years. Ben started his career in 1978 as a National Park Service ranger at Mt. Ranier, where he served as the Lead Tech for seasonal staff. This involved him in all aspects of search and rescue—technical rescue, vehicle crashes and searches for lost persons. Then, in 1985 he left NPS and began working as a pro patroller at Welch Village near Minneapolis/St. Paul, while pursuing an undergraduate degree in business. He wryly adds that first aid was one of the last courses that he took. According to Jane, she met Ben while they were both members of the patrol in 1989. Ben received his PhD. in Parks and Recreation from the University of Minnesota. Soon after, Western Carolina University recruited him for their Parks and Recreation program. He was also lured to the North Carolina mountains by the Great Smoky Mountains and the national forests. Ben instructs an OEC course each fall at Western Carolina University. Next time you encounter this soft-spoken patroller at ski patrol meetings, ask him to share stories about his mountain adventures.

Certified Program Update

Leslie Carter, Certified Program Supervisor



The National Ski Patrol's Certified Program was developed as a way to recognize and identify motivated, highly skilled and knowledgeable individuals in the NSP. Much like other professions, an extensive peer group evaluation of an individual's knowledge and skill is required to become 'Certified'. Upon completion of the program, successful participants are assigned a unique "Certified Number".

The first Certified Exam in the Southern Division was held at Wintergreen Resort, VA in 1979 with visiting evaluators from the Eastern Division. Phil Birdsong, Wintergreen's Patrol Director at the time, became the first "Certified" patroller in the Southern Division. The exam is now held each March at Snowshoe Mountain Resort,

West Virginia and consists of five modules requiring 18 separate knowledge and skill evaluations. Candidates are given three years in which to complete all evaluations.

EXAM 2003—On Saturday, March 21, 2003 the Southern Division Certified Program welcomed it's newest member, Karen Sealock of Snowshoe Mountain Resort. In spite of a severely broken arm sustained during the 2001-2002 season, Karen completed the exam in the allotted three year period to become Certified Patroller Number 610.

EXAM 2004—The current Certified Candidate Class consists of six individuals, four of whom are expected to complete the process this year. With this in mind, one of our primary goals for the 2003-2004 season is to have at least three new candidates begin the Certification process.

Three clinics will be offered at various locations around the Division—Virginia (Massanutten), West Virginia (Snowshoe) and Smoky Mountain (Ober-Gatlinburg). Please check the Division Calendar for dates and contact information. The goal of these clinics is to provide advanced training for potential candidates as well as to increase the knowledge of other interested individuals. This is a great way to increase your overall knowledge of the "Big Picture" of Ski Area Management. Topics include Snowmaking, Grooming, Signage, Lifts and Lift Safety, Ski Area Management, Avalanche Beacon Searches, Advanced Sled handling techniques, and Advanced OEC scenarios. I look forward to seeing lots of new faces!!



[Click to view Photo Album](#)

Congratulations Karen!! Southern Division's newest certified patroller is Karen Sealock of Snowshoe (shown here with victim Emily Scheels of Massanutten at the 2003 Certified Test).



Women's Toboggan Clinic

Tim Asbury, Transportation (Toboggan) Supervisor



At the close of the Women's Toboggan Clinic last ski season the comment that was most often overheard was, "When are we going to do this next year?" Well, I wish I had definite dates and location but I am still working on getting Deb Daniels from Vermont to come down and teach another one. When I talked to her at the beginning of September she was going to take a look at her schedule and firm up dates with me.

I anticipate the clinic happening before Christmas and look to do it this year in the Boone area of North Carolina. The clinic is open to all levels of patrollers—the only requirement is that you must have two X chromosomes. This course will be registered as

both a toboggan enhancement seminar and a skier enhancement seminar, which also count as senior electives. I wish I had definitive information at this time but as soon as I know something I will send out notification to all patrol reps. Also check the calendar posted on the Southern Division web site at www.nsp.org/divisions/southern/.

Toboggan Enhancement Seminar (TES) as a proficiency check off tool:

We all have to get checked off once a season for proficiency in our ski and toboggan skills so why not make it a learning experience? Patrol reps, consider scheduling a TES as both a learning tool and a chance to get your patrollers checked off for proficiency. It also buys the patrol co-insurance with NSP because the proficiency check off is now occurring as part of an official NSP course. Any toboggan instructor can register to run a TES course.



Leave No Candidate Behind

Dave Parker, PSIA Ski Proficiency Supervisor

Many states have adopted the “LEAVE NO STUDENT BEHIND” policy as a basis in their school systems. As many of you know, this is a law that requires schools to insure that every student acquires the necessary skills before being allowed to graduate to the next level, and it identifies any deficiencies that a student might have and provides additional instruction to correct those deficiencies.

This policy parallels the philosophy of the SKIING PROFICIENCY PROGRAM, i.e. to “LEAVE NO CANDIDATE BEHIND”. The Objective of the Program is clear—to provide effective and safe skiing and snowboard proficiency training to the candidates of the Southern Division’s ski areas in order to improve their skiing and snowboard skills. Similar to the school systems, this training is a step-by-step, level-by-level instruction that builds on previous skills, and guides the candidate from any level of proficiency to the level required to pass the Basic Patroller Evaluation. Deficiencies are addressed, which sometimes includes modifying “old habits” to create more effective and efficient skiing and riding.

It is also the goal of this program to have available skiing and snowboard instructors at every ski area in Southern Division. These instructors will be conducting skiing and snowboard proficiency training sessions for all candidates at their respective ski area. Each of the skiing instructors have been trained, tested and certified by the Professional Ski Instructors Association (PSIA) and the snowboard instructors have been trained, tested and certified by the American Association for Snowboard Instructors (AASI). All ski and snowboard proficiency training is conducted in accordance with the proven procedures of PSIA and AASI.

Here is a list of the ski areas in Southern Division, and the corresponding instructors. Please note that the first instructor listed for a ski area is the Designated Instructor, and this instructor has overall responsibility for the skiing or snowboard proficiency training at that ski area. Also please note that instructors listed as “Associate Instructor” have not yet achieved a PSIA Level I certification, however they will be able to obtain this certification early in the ski season, and will be able to start conducting candidate training sessions immediately upon completion.

Virginia Region:

Wintergreen – Brandon Dean, Trish Cuthbert
Massanutten – Charlie Coleman, John Shaffer
Bryce – Randy Trow (Associate Instructor)
Homestead – Alan Ferris
Snowboard Instruction - Rick Boerschel

Blue Ridge Region:

Sugar Mountain – Mike Milligan, Howard Tilley
Ski Beech – Mark Pipkin, Ron Clyde
Appalachian Ski Area – Dave Jamison (Associate Instructor)
Hawksnest – Andy Moody (Associate Instructor)
Snowboard Instruction – Clark Bell

Deep South:

All Ski Areas – Gordon Pettit, Brent Bowman
Snowboard Instruction – Clark Bell

West Virginia Region:

Timberline – To be determined
Snowshoe – Merlan Jackson (Associate Instructor)
The New Winterplace – Kent Roberts
Snowboard Instruction – To be determined

Smoky Mountain Region:

Ober Gatlinburg – Armand Mendez
Cataloochee – Dave Parker, Neil Booth, Wayne Morgan
Wolf Laurel – Phil Bentley, Lee Wilkinson, Jamey Piercy
Snowboard Instruction – Clark Bell

All of the PSIA and AASI certified instructors associated with the Skiing and Snowboard Proficiency Program will be conducting training sessions with candidates this coming season to improve the proficiency of their skiing or riding. This is a critical part of bringing candidates up to the Basic Patroller Level, thereby resulting in new qualified patrollers for our ski areas. Should you have any questions or comments concerning this program, please contact the following:

Dave Parker – Program Supervisor at dfparker@bellsouth.net

Clark Bell – Snowboard Proficiency Supervisor at 2ndarymodern@charter.net

John Shaffer – NSP Southern Division Ski School Director at John.Shaffer@cfsc.army.mil

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Southern Division Telecommunications

Rick Woodlee, Communications Supervisor



Well, time just rushes by and the next thing you know it's time to dig out the winter cloths, skis, fanny packs, and radios. Looks like everything on this list needs attention, especially the radios. My suggestions are as follows:

1. Clean the radio's exterior.
2. Open the battery compartment, take the battery out, and look for corrosion.
3. Clean the battery compartment and the battery contacts.
4. Put the battery back in the radio if it is not corroded. If it is corroded, have it replaced
5. Recharge the battery for 14 hours.
6. Cycle the battery by turning the radio on for 8 hours and then charging it back up for 10 hours.
7. If the radio does not work OK, take it to a repair shop now, before the season starts. This gives the technicians time to order and receive parts and to fix the radio to like new condition.

A few notes on radio communications and operations:

1. Never use profanity or improper communications on the air.
2. Never interfere with other users of the frequency. (E.g., Rescue and EMS units, ambulances, law enforcement, etc. This is the quickest way to get a pink slip from the FCC.)
3. Identify yourself by saying your call letters at the end of your conversation or every 30 minutes, whichever comes first.
4. Post a copy of your FCC license in the patrol room.
5. Be responsible and clean and recharge the radio after use.

The FCC is now charging fifty dollars for license renewal. The licenses are good for ten years. Obtaining a new FCC license costs several hundred dollars at this time. Thus, keeping the license renewed even when we use the mountain's frequencies only for on the hill use is a smart thing to do. One can use the NSP frequencies during training, examinations, searches, intra-communications with other patrols, rescue and search teams, or anything in the special emergency realm.

This would be a great time to purchase your own radio for use in patrol or special emergency operations. Ski season and Christmas is just around the corner. There are a number of good Motorola, Relm, Kenwood, etc. radios on the market. I have found the Kenwood radios to be very practical on the hill. There are a number of folks who would like to upgrade their radios. However, they need to sell their older Henrys, Jobcons, and other types or radios in order to assist in paying for a new one.

Please contact me if I can assist you in any of your telecommunications programs. Phone: 828-693-1554
N4FAT@juno.com.





What is Mentoring?

Morgan Armstrong, Instructor Development Supervisor

What is Mentoring? I asked that question to the Southern Division Officers prior and during the last Fall Officers' Meeting. Here is a quick summary of what we all decided.

Mentoring is the process the National Ski Patrol uses to take a student instructor, who has just graduated from the Instructor Development Course (formerly Phase I), determine the student's needs and fashion a personal program to get the student instructor ready to teach at the quality level expected by the National Ski Patrol, the Southern Division and the Program Supervisor for any particular program. This applies to programs in the disciplines of Instructor Development, Outdoor Emergency Care, Avalanche, Mountaineering, Ski and Toboggan and any other educational program in the system now or in the future. It is *not* a process of making the student instructor jump through a bunch of hoops!

Adult learners want to achieve the desired goal without wasting time. Mentoring begins when the student teacher is assigned a mentor by any Program Supervisor. The first step is when the mentor analyzes the needs of the student. The mentor develops the most efficient program to certify the student and proceeds with all deliberate speed. When a student needs more help, the mentor modifies the program to help the student meet the quality goals. When the student is ready to be certified the mentor sets up a meeting with an Instructor Trainer and the student is passed or returned for more mentoring.

This is a good way to accomplish our goal of getting a new instructor. A new student instructor without experience may need several practice sessions and several real teaching sessions with the mentor assisting. A student instructor with years of experience from teaching successfully with the Avalanche Program or the Outdoor Emergency Care Program who wants to begin teaching Mountaineering might be teamed up with a mentor and pass in one session. If the mentor knows the person, has seen the teaching skills and is assured of quality with this person using the National Ski Patrol Six Pack Method, this mentor might set up one session with the proper Instructor Trainer and the certification could take place in one session. We are not saying you should cut corners. We are saying you should not have to go around a five mile lake by forcing the student to walk only clockwise when the student can reach the same spot by walking counterclockwise for 50 yards.

What is mentoring? Mentoring is getting the job done with quality but not making it an ordeal.

I would now like to congratulate the following patrollers who have completed the mentoring program and advanced to the level of instructor in the Instructor Development Program of the Southern Division. These instructors are all in the West Virginia Region and have achieved this level because of the hard work of Jane Poundstone and Martha Rine with Janette Bennett and Greg Rash with the remainder of the new instructors. This was done under the supervision of Melanie Wolford, the former Instructor Development Supervisor for Southern Division. These new instructors are Janette Bennett, Jon Dragon, Bud Frantz, George McMurray and Aletha Stolar.

I am also appointing the Instructor Development Region Administrators to the position of Instructor Trainer as of September 1, 2003. They will be Gregory S. Rash (West Virginia), Ken Buckner (Virginia), Denise Bost (Blue Ridge) and Ken Collins (Smoky Mountain & Deep South).



Mountain Travel and Rescue

Bob Chatman, Mountain Travel and Rescue Supervisor

Southern Division Mountain Travel and Rescue is alive and well. This year we have a MTR Course scheduled in Western Carolina in March and an MTR2 in West Virginia the end of January. If there is enough interest an MTRF/MTR1 will be scheduled in the spring in the Northern half of the Division. If not it will be scheduled in the fall of 2004. For next season an MTRF/MTR1 will be planed at different ends of the Division one in the fall and one in the spring. These dates will be announced prior to the Spring Meeting. There will be an MTR2 scheduled for every other year unless there is greater interest. All courses include classroom as well as field work.

In reviewing the MTR Course outline it appears that MTRF and MTR1 Courses can be held at the same time and location. The MTRF students would be excused several times during the day and they wouldn't be able to participate in the overnight which is the most fun part. We will run this course next fall in West Virginia. There are overviews of the Courses on the NSP Web Site.

We have four new MTR instructors in the Southern Division. Their names will be announced as soon as they are cleared with the National Program Director.





OEC Program

Judy Kay-Monaghan, OEC Program Supervisor

Once again we will meet for our fall OEC refreshers. Check the division calendar for refresher 2003 dates, times and locations. The refresher will be a very busy day, but one loaded with important information, a chance to see old friends and an opportunity to have some fun.

The OEC instructors and instructor trainers have been busy over the summer planning your refreshers with new and creative lessons. I want to thank all of the instructors, instructor trainers and regional administrators for their dedication and hard work, which make the refreshers in the Southern Division some of the best in the nation.

In order to register for the ski season, dues must be paid, you must successfully complete the OEC refresher, and either complete a CPR course or refresh your skills. Additionally, the Refresher Study guide must be completed prior to the refresher and turned in to the instructor of record at the refresher you attend. The study guide can be found on the NSP web site. You must also bring your NSP, CPR, and OEC cards to the refresher.

If you are unable to attend your patrol's refresher and plan on attending another, be sure to obtain a copy of your attendance from the Instructor of Record (IOR) and return this form to your patrol director, to ensure proper NSP registration. Be sure the IOR from the refresher you are visiting places your name on the supplemental roster list that is sent into national.

As you plan for your refresher, take a look at the NSP website and the new information about this year's refresher to help you study and update your skills. If you are planning on participating in the Senior program, check the clinic and evaluation dates in your region, and schedule your patrol days accordingly.

In advance, thanks for your cooperation and please be sure to fill out the refresher evaluation in the back of your study guide, leaving it with the IOR of the refresher you attended. I am looking forward to a great fall refresher and ski season.



Treasurer's Report

Jim Underwood, Southern Division Treasurer

Listed below is a summary of the Southern Division's Treasury report for last season. If any member wishes a detailed copy of this report please contact Jim Underwood, 865-483-3675, jnu@icx.net, or 109 Wildwood Drive, Oak Ridge, TN 37830 for a mailed or E-Mailed copy.

	Beginning Balance <u>7/01/02</u>	Closing Balance <u>6/30/03</u>		JUNIOR MEMORIAL FUND	
				Beginning Balance <u>7/01/02</u>	Closing Balance <u>6/30/03</u>
Checking*	\$6,506.04	\$6,445.95	Savings	\$4,563.72	\$3,979.58
Savings*	36,793.77	38,653.32			
Contingency	<u>22,805.72</u>	<u>23,962.00</u>			
TOTAL	\$66,105.53	\$69,061.27			
*Operating Account				MARY K. TWOMEY FUND	
				Beginning Balance <u>7/01/02</u>	Closing Balance <u>6/30/03</u>
			Savings	\$2,651.62	\$2,773.24





Are You A "Northerner" Or "Southerner"?

Mary Underwood, Patroller Enrichment Supervisor

We are not fighting a civil war in Southern Division but we have reorganized the Division. We now have a Northern and a Southern Area as our major operational units instead of the four regions. If you would like to know more about the new organization of Southern Division and of NSP national reorganization, come to the next Patroller Enrichment Seminar. More information about the four components of this course is offered on our Southern Division website. The next PES is scheduled on December 14, 2003 at Winterplace. Cindy Huffstutter will be the instructor. Contact her at 2601 Park Center Dr., Apt 210,

Alexandria, VA 22302, 703-567-0742, e-mail chuff@erols.com. Pre-registration and payment of course fee (\$10) is required before the course date



Nordic Program Expands Clinic Schedule

Penny Dimler, Southern Division Nordic Program Supervisor

Southern Division is offering two Nordic events for the benefit of patrollers who wish to expand and enhance their skiing skills during the 2003-2004 ski season. Both events are open to patrollers of all skill levels. Southern Division Nordic patrollers also are invited to participate in Eastern Division's Nordic Fest and Senior Evaluation.

Telemark Clinic; Try free-heel, downhill skiing at the Winterplace, West Virginia, Telemark Clinic on Sunday, January 4. We are borrowing an instructor from the Whitegrass Nordic Center Ski School and are in the process of lining up rental gear. To

register or get more details, contact Tom Wagner, Winterplace Patrol Representative, 304-469-8039,

wagnertew@earthlink.net.

Nordic Seminar: Nordic patrollers and Nordic wannabes will gather at Whitegrass, West Virginia, for the fourth annual Nordic skills seminar, January 24 and 25, 2004. On Saturday, the seminar will feature search and rescue, toboggan building and transport, navigation, and ski skills. The bonus ski clinic on Sunday is a half-day lesson on skate skiing guaranteed to shrink your buns. We will lunch on the mountain and dine afterwards in the Whitegrass Cafe. Check the Whitegrass Web site, www.whitegrass.com, for a list of lodging available in the Canaan Valley, West Virginia, and make your reservations early.

To register for the clinic or get more details, contact Penny Dimler, the Division Nordic Supervisor, 703-425-2736, penny01@cox.net.

Eastern Division Nordic Fest, January 30-February 1, 2004, is sponsored by Southern NY Region and Eastern Division and hosted by Mountain Trails Nordic. Lodging is part of the package and it all takes place near Hunter Mountain, NY. This is a Ski Enhancement Seminar and Toboggan Enhancement Seminar similar to the Southern Division Nordic Seminar. If you are interested, contact Karl Kopans, 914-962-3511, karlkopans@aol.com.

The Eastern Division Nordic Evaluation is scheduled for the weekend of February 28 and 29, 2004, at Highland Forest, NY. An invitation has been extended to Southern Division Patrollers. Contact Pete Snyder, Eastern Division Nordic Program Supervisor, 570-689-6173, psnyder@ptdprolog.net.

Southern Division patrollers will be warmly welcomed at the Eastern Division events.

Additional information about all events will be posted on the Southern Division Web site.



Spring Meeting, Instructor Update, and Awards Banquet 2004

The Southern Division Spring Meeting and Awards Banquet as well as the Instructor Update will be held Saturday, May 15th 2004 at the Broyhill Inn and Conference Center in Boone, NC. This is not just an officers meeting—all patrollers and their families are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Special guest speakers, hands on instructor sessions and a Blue Ridge gala are in the works! It will be a chance to celebrate the hard work of each one of you. Mark your calendars now and watch for details in the Mid-Winter issue of *Southern Cross*.

[Submitted by Susanne Wise]

William Bradford “Bubba” Short (1953-2003)

*Love like you’ve never been hurt,
Dance like no one is watching,
Live like there’s no tomorrow.*

On Saturday July 19th, Snowshoe Mountain Resort lost a dedicated employee of 20 years to injuries sustained in a motorcycle accident on his way to work. Brad was an “all ‘round” patroller. From snowmaking, grooming, patrolling on skis or a board, lift evacuation skills, and as a meticulous carpenter, he will be missed. Brad joined the Snowshoe patrol in 1982. He became a certified patroller # 344 in 1991, and went on to become the area’s—and division’s—first dually certified skier/boarder in 1998. In 1998 he was appointed Assistant Manager of Snowshoe Patrol. Brad participated in all levels of training and evaluations as an alpine and snowboard toboggan instructor. He was a wonderful and patient mentor, from whom all patrollers learned from his daily activities. He found the best in everyone and was slow to criticize. Brad was pro-active in skier safety and guest relations. He was there to lend a hand whenever needed with a smile. His boots will never be filled by anyone as unique.



*Everywhere I go, every smile I see,
I know you are there, smiling back at me.
Dancing in the moonlight, I know you are free,
Cause’ I can see your star shining down on me.*

In light of Brad’s dedication to the Southern Division Certified Program a Memorial Fund has been created. This fund will be used as a scholarship program for new Certified Program Candidates. While some details are yet to be finalized we expect to have approximately \$300 per candidate available for the three years they are in the program (dispersed at a rate of \$100/year). Interested individuals would go through an application process after pre-requisites are met. For more information on the Brad Short Memorial Fund please contact Jan Starr, Snowshoe Mountain Resort or Leslie Carter, Certified Program Supervisor.

Submitted by Jan Starr and Leslie Carter



Bluegrass recording artist Mike Morningstar performed at the memorial service for Brad Short at the top of Cup Run, Snowshoe.

[Click any picture on this page to view Photo Album](#)

Scenes of the Season...

(To view Photo Album, click any picture on this page.)



Division Director Neil Booth presents the Yellow Merit Star to 1st Assistant Division Director Morgan Armstrong, for Division Outstanding Instructor for 2002-2003. (August 2003)

It's official. Larry Bost (Hawksnest) now has enough Yellow Merit Stars to wallpaper a gymnasium.

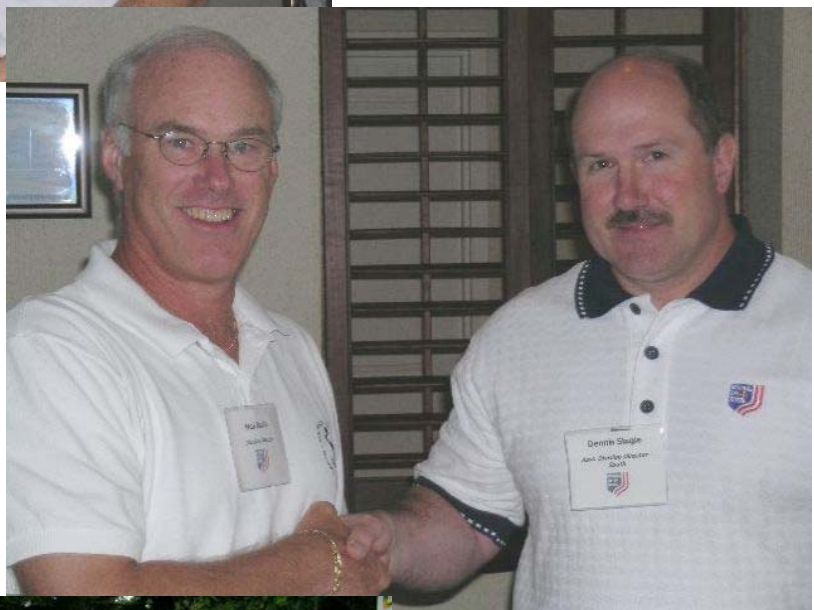


Hawksnest patroller Teresa Varner receives a Yellow Merit Star at the Fall Officers Meeting, Wytheville, Virginia.



DD Neil Booth presents Wintergreen patroller and Division Student Program Advisor William "T" Harris with the Yellow Merit Star for Southern Division Outstanding Alpine Patroller, 2002-2003.

DD Neil Booth congratulates Dennis Slagle on his Yellow Merit Star as Outstanding Administrative Patroller.



Certified patrollers Brandon Dean, Jan Star, Melinda Souder with Wintergreen patroller John Dobson.

(To view Photo Album, click any picture on this page.)

Southern Division Officers and Staff Directory (2003-2004)

(Material in this roster represents information available at press time. Updates prior to the next issue of *Southern Cross* will be posted on line at www.nsp.org/divisions/southern/)

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Smoky Mountain Region Director

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Deep South Region Director

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Southern Division Calendars 2003-2004

(Material in these calendars represents information available at press time. Updates prior to the next issue of *Southern Cross* will be posted on line at www.nsp.org/divisions/southern/)

Southern Division Calendar 2003-2004

Month	Date	Event	Location	Contact	Comments	Sign-Up Deadline
Educational Courses for 2003						
NOV	22	INSTRUCTOR DEVELOPMENT COURSE	WINTERGREEN	KENN BUCKNER 919-645-6615		13-Nov-03
DEC	13	INSTRUCTOR DEVELOPMENT COURSE	WINTERPLACE	GREG RASH 502-423-0261		
DEC	14	PATROLLER ENRICHMENT SEMINAR	WINTERPLACE	CINDY HUFFSTUTTER 703-567-0742		14-Nov-03
DEC	20	AVALANCHE FUNDAMENTALS & RESCUE	WINTERPLACE	MIKE FISHER 434-296-8485		20-Nov-03
Educational Courses for 2004						
JAN	18	INSTRUCTOR DEVELOPMENT COURSE	MASSANUTTEN	CATHY RILEY-HALL 703-830-9520		18-Dec-03
FEB	6,7,8	MTR LEVEL II COURSE	CANAAN	BOB CHATMAN 410-721-		6-Jan-04
MAR	6	MOUNTAIN TRAVEL & RESCUE FUNDAMENTALS	CULLOWHEE	TDB	WESTERN CAROLINA UNIVERSITY	6-Feb-04
MAR	7	AVALANCHE FUNDAMENTALS	CULLOWHEE	DENNIS SLAGLE 919-528-9279	WESTERN CAROLINA UNIVERSITY@8:30am	7-Feb-04
MAR	13	AVALANCHE FUNDAMENTALS	WINTERGREEN	MIKE FISHER 434-296-8485		13-Feb-04
Certified Events for 2004						
JAN	31,1	CERTIFIED CLINIC	SNOWSHOE	LESLIE CARTER 434-325-1262		
FEB	7,8	CERTIFIED CLINIC	MASSANUTTEN	LESLIE CARTER 434-325-1262		
FEB	21,22	CERTIFIED CLINIC	GATLINBURG	LESLIE CARTER 434-325-1262		
MAR	18-20	CERTIFIED EVALUATION	SNOWSHOE	LESLIE CARTER 434-325-1262		
Nordic Events for 2004						
JAN	24,25	NORDIC SEMINAR	WHITEGRASS	PENNY DIMLER 703-425-2736	WHITEGRASS TOURING CENTER, WV	24-Dec-03
OEC Events for 2004						
JUL	24	OEC IT/IOR SUMMER SEMINAR	WYTHEVILLE	JUDI-KAY MONAGHAN 703-971-7841	HOLIDAY INN - MEETING BEGINS AT	24-Jun-04
Southern Cross Deadlines for 2004						
MAY	31	SOUTHERN CROSS DEADLINE		SOUTHERN CROSS EDITOR		31-May-04
SEP	13	SOUTHERN CROSS DEADLINE		SOUTHERN CROSS EDITOR		13-Sep-04
Division Meeting Events for 2004						
MAY	14	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING	B.R. REGION	NEIL BOOTH 770-941-4268	MEETING BEGINS AT 7:30PM	
MAY	15	SPRING BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING	B.R. REGION	HOSTED BY BLUE RIDGE REGION	MEETING BEGINS AT 8:00AM	
MAY	17-20	NSAA/PSIA/NSP NATIONAL MEETING	SAVANNAH,GA	NSP BOARD MEETS ON 5-19-20, 2004		
JUL	23	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING	WYTHEVILLE	HOLIDAY INN 800-842-7652	HOLIDAY INN - MEETING BEGINS AT	
AUG	27	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING	WYTHEVILLE	HOLIDAY INN 800-842-7652	HOLIDAY INN - MEETING BEGINS AT	
AUG	28	FALL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING	WYTHEVILLE	HOLIDAY INN 800-842-7652	HOLIDAY INN - MEETING BEGINS AT	

West Virginia Region Calendar 2003-2004

SEP	13	SNOWSHOE PRE REFRESHER	SNOWSHOE	BECKY SHARP 304-572-5695
SEP	30	WINTERPLACE PRE-REFRESHER	CLASS VI	JORGE MCMURRAY 304-252-3345
SEP	20	TIMBERLINE PRE REFRESHER	TIMBERLINE	JANETTE BENNETT 304-866-4925
OCT	4	TIMBERLINE OEC REFRESHER	TIMBERLINE	JANETTE BENNETT 304-866-4925
OCT	7	OEC COURSE BEGINS	WINTERPLACE	WALT WATSON 304-253-6963
OCT	25	SNOWSHOE OEC REFRESHER	SNOWSHOE	BECKY SHARP 304-572-5695
NOV	1	WINTERPLACE OEC REFRESHER	WINTERPLACE	JORGE MCMURRAY 304-252-3345
NOV	22	SNOWSHOE OEC COURSE START	SNOWSHOE	BECKY SHARP 304-572-5695
DEC	13	INSTRUCTOR DEVELOPMENT COURSE	WINTERPLACE	GREG RASH 502-423-0261
DEC	14	PATROLLERS ENRICHMENT SEMINAR	WINTERPLACE	CINDY HUFFSTUTTER 703-567-0742
DEC	20	AVALANCHE AWARENESS	WINTERPLACE	MIKE FISHER 434-296-8485
JAN	3	BASIC OEC CLINIC	SNOWSHOE	BECKY SHARP 304-572-5695
JAN	4	BASIC S&T CLINIC	SNOWSHOE	BECKY SHARP 304-572-5695
JAN	4	BASIC TELEMAR CLINIC	WINTERPLACE	TOM WAGNER 304-787-3221
JAN	24	BASIC OEC EVALUATION	TIMBERLINE	
JAN	24,25	NORDIC SEMINAR	WHITEGRASS	PENNY DIMLER 703-425-2736
JAN	24	BASIC OEC EVALUATION	SNOWSHOE	BECKY SHARP 304-572-5695
JAN	25	BASIC S&T EVALUATION	TIMBERLINE	
JAN	25	BASIC S&T EVALUATION	SNOWSHOE	BECKY SHARP 304-572-5695
JAN	31	SENIOR S&T CLINIC	SNOWSHOE	BECKY SHARP 304-572-5695
JAN	31,1	CERTIFIED CLINIC	SNOWSHOE	LESLIE CARTER 434-325-1262
FEB	1	"TOBOGGAN CLINIC"	SNOWSHOE	toboggan enhancement
FEB	7	SR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT CLINIC	SNOWSHOE	
FEB	8	SR S&T (CLINIC? EXAM?)	TIMBERLINE	clinic
FEB	6,7,8	MTR II COURSE	CANAAN	BOB CHATMAN 410-721-0921
FEB	21	SENIOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT CLINIC	WINTERPLACE	JON DRAGAN 304-251-2580
FEB	22	BASIC S&T (EVALUATION?)	WINT	tom wagner
FEB	22	SENIOR S&T CLINIC	WINTERPLACE	TOM WAGNER 304-787-3221
FEB	29	SR S&T EXAM	SNOWSHOE	
MAR	6	BASIC S&T EVALUATION	WINTERPLACE	TOM WAGNER 304-469-8039
MAR	6	BASIC OEC EVALUATION	TIMBERLINE	JANETTE BENNETT 304-866-4925
MAR	7	BASIC S & T EVALUATION	TIMBERLINE	STEVE CVECHKO 304-776-8540
MAR	7	SR OEC EXAM	TIMBERLINE	
MAR	13	SR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT EVALUATION	SNOWSHOE	BECKY SHARP 304-572-5695
MAR	14	BASIC S&T EVALUATION	SNOWSHOE	
MAR	14	SENIOR S & T EVALUATION	SNOWSHOE	BECKY SHARP 304-572-5695
MAR	18	CERTIFIED PRE EVALUATION CLINIC	SNOWSHOE	LESLIE CARTER 434-325-1262
MAR	19,20	CERTIFIED EVALUATION	SNOWSHOE	LESLIE CARTER 434-325-1262

Virginia Region Calendar 2003-2004

Month	Date	Event	Location	Contact	Comments
Sept	13	Wintergreen OEC course starts	Wintergreen	Tucker Crolius 434-325-8060	
Sept	19	Homestead Pre-Refresher	Homestead	Jeff Smith 757-851-8921	
Sept	20	Homestead Refresher	Homestead	Jeff Smith 757-851-8921	
Sept	27	Wintergreen Pre-Refresher	Wintergreen	Tucker Crolius 434-325-8060	
Oct	4	Massanutten Pre Refresher	Massanutten	Will Drury 540-478-4631	
Oct	18	Wintergreen On-the-Hill	Wintergreen	Tucker Crolius 434-325-8060	
Oct	19	Wintergreen Refresher	Rockfish Valley School	Tucker Crolius 434-325-8060	
Oct	25	Massanutten OEC Refresher	Massanutten	Will Drury 540-478-4631	
Oct	26	Massanutten On the Hill Refresher	Massanutten	Bartek Drewnowski 540-289-4954	
Nov	1	Massanutten OEC Course Start	Massanutten	Bartek Drewnowski 540-289-4955	
Nov	15	Massanutten Ski Swap	Massanutten	Kenny Hess 540-289-4954	
Nov	22	Instructor Development Instructor Course	Wintergreen	Kenn Buckner 919-645-6615	
Nov	28	Wintergreen Ski Swap	Wintergreen	Jim McCaslin	
Dec	6	Massanutten Transfer Orientation	Massanutten	John Huffstutter 703-615-9720	
Dec	7	Massanutten Senior Orientation	Massanutten	Cindy Huffstutter 703-567-0742	
Dec	14	Patroller Enrichment Seminar	Winterplace	Cindy Huffstutter 703-567-0742	Registration Deadline: 11-14-03
Dec	TBD	Wintergreen Transfer Orientation	Wintergreen	Ed Pouncy 703-266-2943	
Dec	20	Avalanche Awareness	Winterplace	Mike Fisher 434-296-8485	Registration Deadline: 11-20-03
Jan	4	Telemark Clinic	Winterplace	Tom Wagner 304-251-2580	
Jan	24	Senior Emergency Management Clinic	Wintergreen	Dave Quidort 919-363-7935	
Jan	25	Senior S&T Clinic	Wintergreen	Mike Fisher 434-296-8486	
Jan	18	Instructor Development Course	Massanutten	Cathy Riley-Hall 703-830-9520	
Jan	31,1	Certified Clinic	Snowshoe	Leslie Carter 434-325-1262	Clinic for S&t, Mtn Ops, OEC
Feb	6,7,8	Mountain Travel & Rescue II	Canaan	Bob Chatman 410-721-0921	Registration Deadline: 1-6-04

Virginia Region Calendar 2003-2004 (continued)

Feb	7,8	Certified Clinic	Massanutten	Bartek Drewnowski 540-289-4954	Clinic for S&t, Mtn Ops, OEC
Feb	21	Senior Emergency Management Evaluation	Wintergreen	Dave Quidort 919-363-7935	
Feb	22	Senior S&T Evaluation	Wintergreen	Mike Fisher 434-296-8486	
Feb	28,29	Bryce Candidate Evaluation	Bryce	Lacy Williams 804-673-9637	
Mar	13	Avalanche Awareness		Mike Fisher 434-296-8485	
Mar	13	Massanutten Picnic	Massanutten	Bartek Drewnowski 540-289-4954	
Mar	18	Certified Pre Evaluation Clinic	Snowshoe	Leslie Carter 434-325-1262	
Mar	19,20	Certified Evaluation	Snowshoe	Leslie Carter 434-325-1262	Rev. 9-05-03

Blue Ridge Region Calendar 2003-2004

Month	Date	Event	Location	Contact	Comments
SEP	13	OEC INSTRUCTOR (PRE) REFRESHER	APPALACHIAN	LISA ADAMS 828-387-2891	
OCT	4	OEC REFRESHER, GRANDFATHER	VALLE CRUCES	MARK REES 704-896-0747	VALLE CRUCES ELEMENTARY
OCT	11	OCTOBERFEST	SUGAR MTN	FLYNN HARRIS 704-377-5487	BEGINS AT 8:30am
OCT	18,19	OEC CHALLENGE	SUGAR MTN	LARRY FLEMING 828-437-8448	SUGAR MTN @ 8:30am
NOV	1	CAROLINA HIGHLANDS OEC REFRESHER	BOONE	MARK REES 704-896-0747	LEES MCRAE COLLEGE
DEC	6	SENIOR EMERGENCY MGMT CLINIC	BEECH MTN	TBD	BEGINS AT 8:30am
DEC	7	REGION S&T EXAMINERS CLINIC	APPALACHIAN	Tony Tingle 865-692-3579	BEGINS AT 8:30am
DEC	20	AVALANCHE AWARENESS	WINTERPLACE	MIKE FISHER 434-296-8485	REGISTRATION DEADLINE: 11-20-03
JAN	4	SENIOR S&T CLINIC	BEECH MTN	Tony Tingle 865-692-3579	BEGINS AT 8:30am
JAN	11	BASIC S&T EVALUATION	SUGAR MTN	Tony Tingle 865-692-3579	BEGINS AT 8:30am
JAN	25	BASIC S&T EVALUATION	BEECH MTN	Tony Tingle 865-692-3580	BEGINS AT 8:30am
Jan-Feb	31,1	SENIOR S & T EVALUATION	HAWKSNEST	Tony Tingle 865-692-3581	BEGINS AT 8:30am
Feb	6,7,&8	Mountain Travel & Rescue II	Canaan	Bob Chatman 410-721-0921	Deadline Jan-6
FEB	21	BASIC S&T EVALUATION	HAWKSNEST	Tony Tingle 865-692-3579	BEGINS AT 8:30am
FEB	21	SENIOR EMERGENCY MGMT EVALUATION	SUGAR MTN	TBD	
FEB	22	CERTIFIED CLINIC	GATLINBURG	LESLIE CARTER 434-325-1262	
FEB	21,22	BASIC S&T EVALUATION	APPALACHIAN	Tony Tingle 865-692-3579	BEGINS AT 8:30am
MAR	29	MOUNTAIN TRAVEL & RESCUE I	CULLOWHEE	JOHN PARKER 828-648-1931	WESTERN CAROLINA UNIVERSITY
MAR	6	AVALANCHE AWARENESS	CULLOWHEE	DENNIS SLAGLE 919-528-9279	WESTERN CAROLINA UNIVERSITY
MAR	7	CERTIFIED PRE EVALUATION CLINIC	SNOWSHOE	LESLIE CARTER 434-325-1262	
MAR	18	CERTIFIED EVALUATION	SNOWSHOE	LESLIE CARTER 434-325-1262	

Smoky Mountain Region Calendar 2003-2004

OCT	11	CATALOOCHEE OEC INST. REFRESH	CATALOOCHEE, NC	TOM RAUDORF 865-483-5818	CATALOOCHEE SKI AREA
OCT	18	GATLINBURG OEC INST. REFRESH	KNOXVILLE, TN	BRENT GALLOWAY 865-494-5499	PELLISSIPPI ST.TECH.COM.COL.
OCT	TBD	ATLANTA CPR REFRESHER	ATLANTA, GA	MELANIE WOLFORD 770-426-4182	KINCAID MIDDLE SCHOOL
OCT	25	WOLF LAUREL OEC INST. REFRESH	ASHEVILLE, NC	BEN RAY 828-675-0896	WOLF LAUREL SKI AREA
NOV	1	CATALOOCHEE OEC REFRESHER	CATALOOCHEE, NC	TOM RAUDORF 865-483-5818	CATALOOCHEE SKI AREA
NOV	2	CATALOOCHEE ON THE HILL	CATALOOCHEE, NC	DAN GREENE 770-640-6396	CATALOOCHEE SKI AREA
NOV	8	GATLINBURG OEC REFRESHER	GATLINBURG, TN	BRENT GALLOWAY 865-494-5499	PELLISSIPPI ST.TECH.COM.COL.
NOV	9	GATLINBURG ON THE HILL	GATLINBURG, TN	BRANDON OLSON 865-471-5197	GATLINBURG SKI AREA
NOV	15	WOLF LAUREL OEC REFRESHER	ASHEVILLE, NC	BEN RAY 828-675-0896	WOLF LAUREL SKI AREA
NOV	16	WOLF LAUREL ON THE HILL	WOLF LAUREL, NC	BOB MITCHELL 828-658-0434	WOLF LAUREL SKI AREA @ 9AM
DEC	4-7	ATLANTA SKI SWAP SALE	ATLANTA, GA	ANN CHRISTENSON 770-394-5869	COBB GALLERIA SPECIALTY MALL
DEC	13-14	OEC CHALLENGE	CATALOOCHEE, NC	ANN CHRISTENSON 770-394-5869	
DEC	20	AVALANCHE FUNDAMENTALS	WINTERPLACE	MIKE FISHER 434-325-1262	
JAN	3	EXAMINER'S PROFICIENCY CLINIC	WOLF LAUREL, NC	PHIL CRITCHER 828-684-8721	
JAN	3	SMOKY MTN NORDIC ON THE HILL	SMOKY MT NATL PK	ANDY MEACHAN 865-494-8838	
JAN	4	SENIOR S&T CLINIC	GATLINBURG, TN	DAVE KATTERMAN 828-285-9878	
JAN	25	SR S&T EVALUATION	GATLINBURG, TN	PHIL CRITCHER 828-684-8721	
FEB	8	SR OEC CLINIC	CATALOOCHEE, NC	BEN RAY 828-675-0896	
FEB	21-22	CERTIFIED CLINIC	GATLINBURG, TN	LESLIE CARTER 434-325-1262	
FEB	29	SR OEC EVALUATION	CATALOOCHEE, NC	BEN RAY 828-675-0896	
MAR	6	MOUNTAIN TRAVEL AND RESCUE	TBD	TBD	TBD
MAR	7	AVALANCHE FUNDAMENTALS	CULLOWHEE, NC	DENNIS SLAGLE 919-528-9279	WESTERN CAROLINA UNIV.
MAR	13	MTN TRAVEL & RESCUE Level II	TBD	TBD	TBD
MAR	18	CERTIFIED CLINIC		LESLIE CARTER 434-325-1262	CLINIC FOR S&T,MTN OPS, OEC
MAR	19-20	CERTIFIED CLINIC	SNOWSHOE	LESLIE CARTER 434-325-1262	

Deep South Region Calendar 2003-2004

Month	Date	Event	Location	Contact	Comments
SEP	20	DEEP SOUTH OEC INST. REFRESH	LAWRENCEVILLE, GA	MIKE BOGGS 770-882-0024	BOGG'S RESIDENCE
SEP	TBD	ATLANTA CPR REFRESHER	TBD	TBD	TBD
OCT	TBD	ATLANTA CPR REFRESHER	ATLANTA, GA	MELANIE WOLFORD 770-426-4182	KINCAID MIDDLE SCHOOL
NOV	1	GATLINBURG OEC REFRESHER	KNOXVILLE, TN	BOB WEED 256-882-9604	PELLISSIPPI ST.TECH.COM.COL.
NOV	2	CATALOOCHEE ON THE HILL	CATALOOCHEE, NC	DAN GREENE 770-6406396	CATALOOCHEE SKI AREA
NOV	8	ATLANTA OEC REFRESHER	ATLANTA, GA	MIKE BOGGS 770-882-0024	METRO ARC, MONROE DR.ATL
NOV	9	SKY VALLEY ON THE HILL	SKY VALLEY, GA	CELESTE BERNSTEIN 770-552-2755	SKY VALLEY SKI AREA
NOV	15	ATLANTA INSTRUCTOR DEV CLASS	TBD	BRENT BOWMAN 404-869-8286	
DEC	6	SAPPHIRE ON THE HILL	SAPPHIRE, GA	BEN THOLKES 828-293-7134	SAPPHIRE SKI AREA
DEC	4-7	ATLANTA SKI SWAP SALE	ATLANTA, GA	ANN CHRISTENSON 770-394-5869	COBB GALLERIA SPECIALTY MALL
DEC	13,14	OEC CHALLENGE COURSE	CATALOOCHEE, NC	ANN CHRISTENSON 770-394-5869	
DEC	20	AVALANCHE AWARENESS	WINTERPLACE	MIKE FISHER 434-325-1262	REGISTRATION DEADLINE: 11-20-03
JAN	3	EXAMINER'S PROFICIENCY CLINIC	WOLF LAUREL, NC	PHIL CRITCHER 828-684-8721	
JAN	3	SMOKY MTN NORDIC ON THE HILL	SMOKY MT NATL PK	DON JONES 931-455-0137	

Deep South Region Calendar 2003-2004 (Continued)

JAN	4	SENIOR S&T CLINIC	GATLINBURG, TN	DAVID KATTERMAN 828-285-9878	
JAN	25	SR S&T EVALUATION	GATLINBURG, TN	PHIL CRITCHER 828-684-8721	
FEB	15	DEEP SOUTH BASIC S&T EVALUATION	SKY VALLEY, GA	BRENT BOWMAN 404-869-8286	
FEB	8	SR OEC CLINIC	CATALOOCHEE, NC	TBD	
FEB	21,22	CERTIFIED CLINIC	GATLINBURG	LESLIE CARTER 434-325-1262	
FEB	29	SR OEC EVALUATION	CATALOOCHEE, NC	TBD	
MAR	6	MOUNTAIN TRAVEL AND RESCUE	CULLOWHEE, NC	JOHN PARKER 828-648-1931	TBD
MAR	7	AVALANCHE AWARENESS	CULLOWHEE, NC	TBD	TBD
MAR	18	CERTIFIED PRE EVALUATION CLINIC	SNOWSHOE	LESLIE CARTER 434-325-1262	
MAR	19,20	CERTIFIED EVALUATION	SNOWSHOE	LESLIE CARTER 434-325-1262	



The world as seen from the top of Sugar.

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

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Southern Cross

A Publication of The Southern Division of The National Ski Patrol

2002-03, Number 2

January 2003

In This Issue

From Nici	1
From the Assistants	
Morgan Armstrong	2
Dennis Slagle	2
From the Regions	
Dixie	3
West Virginia	3
Blue Ridge	4
Virginia	4
From Supervisors, Advisors and Representatives	
Women's Ski and Toboggan Clinic (Tim Asbury)	5
Reorganization Committee Report (Neil Booth)	6
News From National (Nici Singletary)	6
From Around the Division	
Nomination For New Southern Division Director	7
Spring Meeting and Banquet Announcement	9
People, Dates and More	
Division Roster	11
Division Calendar	14
Nordic Seminar	15
ENews From National ...	16

(Entries in blue are navigational links.)

Southern Cross is published three times a year—fall, mid winter and spring. Articles and photos are encouraged and appreciated. With photos, please include caption information. If at all possible, please include a photo of the author with articles. Submission deadline for the spring issue is May 19, 2003. Send submissions to:

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A Division to Be Proud Of!

Nici Singletary, Division Director



This is my last article to you as Director of the Southern Division. Yes, it's hard to believe, but when the May issue of *Southern Cross* is released, we will have a new Division Director. I will have served two terms (four years) and will pass the baton to a new, highly capable Division Director.

Looking back at the past 4 years, I can say that almost all of my goals as Division Director have been accomplished. We are an incredibly strong, highly respected Division. We have a rich history of producing leaders throughout the organization, and our instructors and trainers are second to none! Many of our patrollers have moved on to jobs in Colorado, Utah, Washington or California, and the patrols they joined have been pleasantly surprised at how well-trained we are, and how strong our ski, snowboard and toboggan skills are. We have much to be proud of in our Division!

Over the past 4 years, we have seen an improvement in bi-directional communications, through email, letters, personal visits, newsletters, the website, and the online *Southern Cross* initiative. With visits to ski areas I have met many patrollers and made lots of new friends, while simultaneously gathering grassroots feedback and encouraging potential future leaders. Patrollers and patrols are today more visible to the area managers and the Southeastern Ski Areas Association. They understand our potential benefit to ski areas in terms of accident prevention and education, and have supported our efforts in this arena. In return, they have been more supportive of us as we seek locations to train and hold special events.

One thing I have learned through my Division travels is that Southern Division patrollers all have unique talents and backgrounds. Our membership diversity is one of our greatest assets. The "glue" that holds us together is our genuine desire to help others, and our membership in NSP. One of the most satisfying aspects of my time spent as Division Director has been the opportunity to give back to this organization. I hope each of you will consider giving back to your organization, by serving in a future leadership role!

I would like to thank all the members of the Executive Committee, the Section Chiefs, Program Supervisors, Advisors and especially the Patrol Representatives for all the time and effort they have donated to their administrative positions in the Southern Division. Please come celebrate a great season and help us plan for the next on May the 3rd in Roanoke, Virginia. Our Division Spring meeting is open to ALL patrollers and their families, and will be held at the Wyndham Hotel (near the Roanoke airport). The registration form is inside this edition of *Southern Cross*.

From the Assistants...

Awards, Reports and New Appointments

Morgan Armstrong
First Assistant Division Director



Awards: Section Chiefs should have awards well underway by the publication of *Southern Cross* with each patrol submitting at least one nomination for each of the awards for “Outstanding” unit or person. Also, each line officer should submit any awards you feel necessary for those who have given outstanding service and work. Remember—the awards being submitted for an “Outstanding,” unit citation, must be written so the test judges will not be able to recognize the person or unit.

End of Year Reports: A new form is being used this year. Neil Booth made several improvements during 2002, and these are now incorporated into the form sent to each line officer by e-mail. If you have not received a form for your end of year report, please contact R. Morgan Armstrong, 1st Assistant Division Director:

Post Office Box 699
Collinsville, VA 24078-0699
(276) 629-1654
RMASP@Adelphia.net

Notice To Line Officers: Upon the change of Division Director, all line officers must submit a resignation. The new administration will then appoint those people to fill the officer positions as needed. To assist in an orderly transfer, each Region Director and Section Chief is requested to compile a list of interested people who would desire to be appointed to these positions. Please ask as many patrollers as possible to obtain a large group of people who are interested. This greater depth of potential officers will make our division much stronger. It also will allow interested patrollers to begin training to take over the positions in the future. Anyone interested in serving as a section, region or division officer should send a written request to his/her section chief and region director. These should in turn be forwarded to the new division director or to me. Thank you for your assistance.



About The MTR Course

Dennis Slagle
Second Assistant Division Director



The Mountain Travel and Rescue (MTR) course in the NSP curriculum is thought of as a Nordic specific course and for “outback” types. The *real* backbone of the course is SAR (Search And Rescue). The course is aimed at teaching someone how to assist, be a vital part, or run a search and rescue according to the course taken. The basic course is the Fundamentals course and has NO overnight stay and is ONLY classroom. Previously, even the basic course had an overnight stay and field exercises in orienteering and SAR. Now only the level 1 and level 2 courses have overnight stays.

MTR teaches SAR which is vital to each and every sky area. Each patrol should have a search plan for their area. It should detail who and what should be done to find a missing person specifically at that area. Any patroller at any area can set up their plan if they have taken the MTR courses or has

had precious experience in SAR operations. Imagine a weekend when there are patrollers present who have no experience in SAR and a frantic parent comes up at the end of the day and cannot find a child. How do you start? Where do you start? The MTR course will teach students the fundamentals of how SARs are conducted.

As previously stated, MTR is thought of by many as a Nordic course. The intent is to conduct an “out of area” search and rescue. When you get out of area, all the other course content becomes more critical. When going out of area, you may be out over night and need the instruction to be able to stay overnight (in cold conditions) and resume operations in the morning. Additionally the orienteering portion teaches map reading and path finding if you are searching in unfamiliar territory.

Hopefully everyone can understand the importance of the MTR course in the NSP curriculum and understand for what it is specifically intended. Even if you have never and will never venture out of area, the SAR portion is the essential part that should be integrated into each patrol.

From the Divisions...

Dixie Region

Neil Booth, Region Director

You cannot stop winter from arriving and you cannot stop our SnowSports enthusiasts either! The southernmost region and resorts are doing what we all do everyday. Manage our opportunities to the maximum and manage our obstacles with minimal disruption to our consumers.

During my visits to the four OEC refreshers, pre-refreshers and Instructor refreshers, it became apparent that there had been a great deal of preparation put into this year's cycle. We appreciate and congratulate Dixie Instructor Trainers, Instructors of Record, Instructors and Region OEC Supervisor Bob Lang. The Division OEC Supervisor, Judi Kay Monaghan and her staff set the stage for success with the mandatory IT and IOR meeting in Wytheville. My personal thanks are extended to everyone for the excellent job and total commitment to excellence that was executed.

Now we are on to our on-the-hill annual ski and toboggan refresher requirements. This process should be nearing completion or completed. My thanks to all Toboggan Instructors for their fine efforts and skills.



We hope that our new candidates are working hard on their ski and toboggan handling skills. OEC should be behind most of you at this point. Work as hard in these training sessions, plus on your own. Your level of achievement is directly related to your individual drive and motivation. As you have noticed, there are a lot of qualified, helpful and enthusiastic members who are here to mentor you through all processes. Good luck to all.

Our last group of taskmasters is our Ski and Toboggan Examiners, along with our NSP-PSIA Instructors. They are well into their training process within the system. They are here to assist everyone. Like our OEC Instructors/Examiners, the S&T and PSIA personnel are another quality assurance program ready to assist membership within NSP.

Make sure you acknowledge the extra efforts of all instructors, administrators, examiners and your Patrol Representatives and Patrol Officers for the countless hours and days they give to helping membership. They are always willing to lend unconditional giving assistance to making you and our system better.

Have a great season doing what you professionals do best—serving the SnowSports industry and consumers.



West Virginia Region

Jan Starr, Region Director

Whoever got us back in good graces with Mother Nature; I thank you and all the skiers' thank you. We have been blessed with cold and snow here in WV. All the areas were open in plenty of time for the Christmas rush with ample acreage to ski.

Our areas have new candidates to work with, and have plenty of time to train and participate in the scheduled clinics.

A clinic I just had the opportunity to help teach, was the Women's Toboggan Clinic [See complete article on page 5.] held at Massanutten. What a great fun time we had and everyone learned something too! My thanks to Massanutten for hosting and putting up with the 22 women that invaded them.



I'm sure many of the women that participated in this clinic will look forward to the next one and pass the word along to their fellow female patrollers. We hope to have this again next season.

There are still Senior and Certified clinics and evaluations that will be held this season. Don't hold back, jump on in there and participate. I guarantee you'll learn something new and have fun while doing it. Please check the calendar for the events nearest you.

There will be an executive meeting in February, and of course our Spring meeting, so there is still time to get in any suggestions to me for the re-organizational committee for things to change or how to better ourselves. My email address has been changed to:

middleviewfarm@onlinewv.com or you can reach me at: jstarr@snowshoemtn.com.



Blue Ridge Region

Butch McLean, Region Director

The ski resorts in the Blue Ridge Region are having a super season. It appears that this year the south is in a weather pattern that brings a major shot of cold air on the weekends. Yes, we are skiing with the guns going full blast and yes, we are having a little bit of wind now and then, but it sure beats the fool out of 75 degrees and no snow.

The Christmas Holiday has come and gone and we had lots of snow to tempt folks to come and visit. All of the areas had a highly successful holiday season and it looks like this year is going to be a good money maker for all of the areas. As this article is being penned the forecast for the Martin Luther King Jr. weekend is for six to ten inches of snow for the high country. Those groups that have made plans to ski this weekend should not be disappointed.

The leaps in technology in the ski industry have brought us many cool innovations such as shaped skis, Gore-Tex, comfortable boots and floating bindings to name a few. This publication is a prime example of how we can use technology to make our lives a little easier. By signing up for electronic delivery of the *Southern Cross* we not only save postage but



we can include more material and pictures. We have several patrols in the region that are using electronic newsletters.

Appalachian Ski Patrol uses electronic newsletters to keep its members up to date on mountain happenings and to remind patrollers of their assigned duty days. It is full of news, stories and tips for the Appalachian patroller. They have been using this medium for several seasons and it has proven to be a highly successful form of communication.

Hawksnest is another patrol that uses electronic newsletters. What's that you said? YES, HAWKSNEST IS BACK! Last year Hawksnest was strictly a tubing area. This season skiing/boarding is going great as well as the tubing park. The patrol has returned with the majority of the patrol intact.

We held our regional senior ski and toboggan clinic at Beech Mountain in early January and the turn out was outstanding. Patrollers who were interested in becoming seniors attended from each mountain in the region. Rick Laws, Chief Examiner for the region had enough senior examiners on hand so that the aspirants were divided into three groups with one senior examiner to act as liaison in each group. The patrollers rotated through three stations with two examiners in each station. They were given an opportunity to see what was included in the senior test, ask questions and have fun. Thanks to the efforts of many patrollers the senior program is alive and well in the Blue Ridge Region.



Virginia Region

Mike Fisher, Region Director

The ski season is off to a racing start with the drought worries far behind us. Most of the region's mountains opened much earlier than expected due to the cold weather and much needed rain collected in the lakes. Snow conditions have been excellent with little loss due to warm weather or rain. Bryce and Massanutten have most to all of their slopes open and the patrols are doing well. Wintergreen has had a very good early season with decent skier numbers. The Plunge tubing park experienced a rather large mudslide that ran into the tubing park and the lift building at the



bottom. They got the dirt moved quickly and were back to full speed in several days.

Lacy Williams reported that the Women's Toboggan clinic held at Massanutten was a great experience and super for those wanting to improve their ski and toboggan skills. She felt that the program went so well that we should consider having another clinic next year.

Our Senior Program is starting January 25 with the Senior Emergency Management clinic and Senior Ski and Toboggan clinic at Wintergreen. The final exam for the Senior program will be at Massanutten February 22 for emergency management and February 23 for the ski and toboggan handling. The Certified clinics will be held February 1 at Wintergreen and February 2 at Massanutten. Ski ya on the slopes.

From Supervisors, Advisors and Representatives...

Women's Toboggan Clinic

*Tim Asbury, Alpine Ski and Toboggan
Advisor*

For the first time the Southern Division offered a women only toboggan enhancement and skier enhancement seminar at Massanutten ski resort. Held on January 11th and 12th, eighteen NSP women from all over the Southern Division came to Massanutten to learn new ski and toboggan skills.

The Lead instructor, Deb Daniels, came down from Bromley Ski Resort in Vermont to teach this program. Deb is



Deb Daniels, the creator of the Women's Ski and Toboggan Clinic, doesn't hide her enthusiasm when it comes to sharing her considerable skills with clinic participants.



the person from the Eastern Division who originally designed and implemented this program about five years ago. She has since taught this program at Powderfall at Snowbird and Whistler. This program has also been given in the Central division. The three other instructors from the Southern Division were Jan Starr, Melinda Souder and Leslie Carter.

The weather at Massanutten was made to order—nice and cold. Lows in the 20s and highs just over 30 made for perfect skiing conditions. In contrast, the welcome the resort gave to all the participants was extremely warm thanks to Bartek and the management at Massanutten. Six training sleds were available for the clinic to use. Additionally we had the use of our own section of the lodge. After the clinic on Saturday, the Massanutten ski patrol threw a wine and cheese party at the patrol house while the clinic participants looked at training video and videos shot on the slope that day.

With the inaugural clinic over, plans are already being made for next year's clinic. The clinic has information for every skier level. This year we taught participants from candidates through Senior level patrollers with even the Certified level instructors learning new tricks. So put it on your calendars for next year, the weekend before Martin Luther King weekend and please register early. This year I had to turn down five or six people because the course booked up early.



This clinic is for women of all skiing levels. Ethlyn (Hawksnest) is looking good in the handles on her first day of toboggan handling. Peggy (Wintergreen) is on the tail rope.

A Full House! If you're interested in attending next year's clinic, mark your calendar now for January 10 and 11, 2004, and get your application in early. This year's clinic filled up early, and most of this year's participants are already making plans to return next year.

Southern Reorganization Committee Update

Neil Booth, Chairman, Reorganization Committee



Progress is being made as of this writing, however, slower than the committee had hoped for. When we began, we set very ambitious schedules, but, as everyone would expect, OEC refreshers began. Now we are involved in our most important jobs, patrolling at our respective resorts. Let us not forget the ongoing training we now do and training of candidates!

As the committee continues with due diligence, positive results will occur. It should not and will not disrupt our membership. The task of the Division is to provide education and services to membership. The task of the Reorganization Committee is the same. The main areas we are looking at are structure/alignment; education; nordic; communications; election procedures for Division Director; bylaws; and

Policies and Procedures of the Division. Other areas of focus will be financial, leadership, legal, staffing and any other areas that surface which need to be studied. We feel this will be a multi year project before it is concluded.

You may hear rumors of impending change. At this point, that is all it is—RUMOR. We do not plan on beating any change or changes to death, within the system. Plans are to study and make sound recommendations to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee will review recommendations, then, if merited, pass recommendations on to the Board of Directors, of which your respective Patrol Representatives are members. If the Board of Directors approves recommendations, change or changes will be enacted according to Division bylaws.

Will it change how you patrol at your area? NO! It should only affect how we deliver to you, the members of Southern Division.



News From National

*Nici Singletary
Member of NSP Board of Directors*



The first meeting of the newly restructured NSP Board of Directors has just concluded. This was a very exciting meeting! The Board has been trimmed to 13 members, including Massanutten's Kenny Hess and myself. Our meeting was held in Denver over two days. The first day was spent meeting the new members of the board and bringing the entire Board up to date on the process and actions leading to the restructuring, and how we will function in the future. There are several new Board members with unique expertise that will help us as we attack the backlog of critical issues for our organization.

Bill Sachs was once again elected our National Chairperson from among the Board members. The remaining Board members were assigned to one of three standing committees: Planning, Governance and Finance. The duties of each committee were delineated, as well as the process for identifying issues, prioritizing, researching and recommending actions.

One issue that was discussed in detail was the OEC Program. This is the flagship program of NSP. OEC is facing a number of challenges, such as: increasing competition in the marketplace (e.g., Wilderness EMT & First Responder); difficulty with access to OEC courses by members and potential members; an increase in the number of OEC

“challenges” by EMTs; and a decline in the ski industry overall (and a parallel decline in the number of new candidates). Did you know that in many parts of the country there are people who would like to join a patrol, but they are unable to find an OEC course within hundreds of miles of their home? At the same time, when they do an internet search for nearby Wilderness First Responder courses, they have no difficulty finding these courses—and they gladly pay to attend, thus allowing them to eventually challenge OEC and join a patrol!

The challenge facing NSP is to determine how we can broaden the market for OEC and increase access to OEC courses, thus potentially expanding membership in our organization. The entire Board of Directors is exploring this complicated issue in great detail, with help from the OEC Committee, the National OEC Program Director (Hawksnest patrol representative Larry Bost), National Education Director Leif Borgeson, and the NSP marketing department. A distance-learning/online OEC course was recently piloted in Southern Division with successful results. OEC students did their didactic work online, then met for several sessions to train on skills, followed by their evaluation. This is but one of several alternative solutions to the OEC access issue currently being looked at.

Another topic being addressed is the proposed OEC Enhancement Seminar. This seminar is intended to be a tool for OEC Instructors to offer continuing education at all patrol levels. It is designed to provide patrollers the opportunity to

learn, review, practice, question and challenge themselves with OEC skills in a non-threatening, non-evaluated environment. For instance, some patrols at areas with low accident call volumes might use this approach (as opposed to a “yellow card”) as a means to review OEC skills and stay fresh. This seminar is being developed and piloted in a few locations this winter and will be brought back to the Board to consider adopting as a regular seminar offering.

New this year is the NSP Mountain (Safety) Host Program. This program allows interested persons to join NSP in a separate (nonpatroller) category. Minimum requirements include completion of the online Guest Services module, Outdoor First Care, and CPR. Areas that use Mountain Hosts may have their own additional requirements, such as radio use or snowmobile operations. We foresee a need for Outdoor First Care courses at areas using this program (a potential patrol fundraising activity!). Registration was opened for the Mountain Host Program just over a month ago, and there are already about 120 new Mountain Host members.

Some of you may remember former Bryce patroller and Southern Division Avalanche Program Supervisor Shep Snow. Shep retired to Idaho and has spent the last several years as National Avalanche Program Director, refurbishing the NSP Avalanche Program. Shep has recently stepped down as the Program Director (he’s busy chasing his own kids on

the ski race circuit!), and our new Avalanche Program Director is John Barth, of Far West Division. We will miss Shep, and thank him for the great job he did with the avalanche curriculum and bringing our program to the forefront of the avalanche community!

There are many other interesting topics and projects being addressed by the Board, National staff and volunteer staff of NSP. Please help keep yourself informed by regularly checking the member website —www.nsp.org—under “What’s New”. Also, remember to update your email and postal addresses online, so that you may continue to receive news and publications without interruption.

Don’t forget PowderFall 2003! This National Education Conference is scheduled for April 16 – 20 at Snowbird, Utah. It may seem late in the season to ski, but we almost always have fresh powder and great skiing. What better way to ski powder, work with PSIA Demo Team members on your technique, attend some of the many electives offered each year, and to meet patrollers from all over the country! Even better: the meeting fee is tax deductible! The deadline for sign-up is Monday, March 10. The registration form can be found on page 22 of the Fall 2002 issue of *Ski Patrol Magazine*. You can also register on line by going to the www.nsp.org web site. Hope to see you there!

From Around the Division ...

*[Nominations were solicited in the Fall 2002 issue of **Southern Cross** for the position of Southern Division Director to succeed outgoing Director Nici Singletary. The following letter and supplementary information were submitted by Neil Booth. —Ed.]*

From: Neil Booth, Candidate for Southern Division Director

To: Membership of the Southern Division:

I hereby announce my running for the Division Director, Southern Division of NSP. I have been a member of NSP since December 31, 1972, when I passed the Candidate Ski Off at Vernon Valley, New Jersey. I transferred to the Southern Division in 1983 and have been involved in many leadership positions in Patrol, Region and Division levels.

My personal life kept me busy in Corporate America with various companies. In February 2000, I elected to take early retirement from the Coca Cola Company. Throughout my career, I held various sales and management positions. I have gone through several reorganizations over the years. I know what it takes to work in a team environment, be a participating team member, achievement of team goals, and to lead the process. The Division is about to enter a new phase of life beginning with this next election. The Division

Director is no longer a member of the National Board of Directors, effective January 1, 2003. National is empowering Divisions to operate more autonomously and do what is needed in each Division. Change is something that can and should be expected in the future.

I believe I am qualified to lead this change in the life of the Division. The Division is an extremely diverse membership organization, comprised of Volunteer and Paid members, from all walks of life, performing many and varied tasks as we patrol. The following information profiles my history and involvement. I have helped bring about a lot of change, when change was needed.

I have worked with many people within the Division. For those of you who do not know me, I am actively involved in the day-to-day operations of the Dixie Region in my

current capacity and a Division Executive Committee Member. I completely understand the role of the Division. We are here to deliver educational and training needs to Patrols and Membership. We are here to develop our members for future leadership positions. We are here to assist Patrol leadership and Area Management. We are here to support you!

My first goal, if elected, is to help bring about changes resulting from the new structure of National and work performed and recommended by the Division Reorganization Committee, to the Division, as effectively and efficiently as possible, with minimal disruption.

My second goal is to select, mentor and develop personnel in the Division to assume future leadership. We have just over 1000 members in the Division and more members need to be involved. No one person should be over-involved. We all have other jobs and interests in our lives. We

cannot let NSP consume our lives to the point of burnout. I have seen and experienced this factor since joining NSP. This is our, not mine, nor select individuals system!

My third goal is to deliver education and training needs to patrols and YOU. We all need to continuously learn how to do our jobs better, more efficiently, more effectively and with total confidence. This is accomplished through continuous education and training.

My fourth and final goal is to place quality people in position, actively engaged in the snow sports business. It is not just skiing anymore. The industry is growing and requires strong leadership.

We are an extremely professional organization. We are a proud and prideful organization with a vested interest to make sure the system flourishes for years to come. I hope you enable me to become your next Division Director and allow me to ensure this occurs.

Neil Booth
Candidate for Southern Division Director
Personal

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1999-present Dixie Region Director
 1995-1999 Patrol Representative, Cataloochee
 1993-1995 Patrol Team Leader, Cataloochee
 1988-1992 Assistant Division Director Staff
 1986-1988 Division Proficiency Advisor
 1984-1985 Dixie Region Proficiency Advisor
 1984-1989 Dixie Region S&T Exam/Trainer
 1979-1981 Patrol Leader, Vernon Valley, NJ

Patroller History:

1975-present Senior Patroller
 1973 Basic Patroller
 1972-1973 Candidate

NSPS Courses:

1995 Phase II Toboggan Instructor
 1995 Global Phase II Instructor Dev.
 1999 Phase I Instructor Development
 1986 Basic Mountaineering
 1986 Basic Avalanche
 1975-80 1st Aid Instructor, Vernon Valley

Awards:

2002 National Certificate of Appreciation—Div. Mtg/Banquet Host
 2002 Yellow Merit Star—Outstanding
 2001 Southern Division Outstanding Admin Patroller

1986 National Certificate of Appreciation, Transportation Coordinator, Atlanta National Meeting
 1987 National Appointment 6751
 1976 NJ Region Certificate of Appreciation, Outstanding Service to Vernon Valley

National Meetings Attended:

1984 NSP Midwinter Meeting, Lakewood, CO
 1986 NSP Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA

Publications:

1986 Co-Created the *Southern Division Ski and Toboggan Patroller Training Manual*

Related Activities:

2002 PSIA ProJam Workshop, Killington, VT
 2001 PSIA Educational Credit Workshop
 2000 PSIA Workshop by Demo Team
 1999 PSIA Experiential Credit Workshop, Wintergreen, VA
 1998 PSIA Alpine Certified Level I Ski Instructor
 1998 Member, Southern Div NSP PSIA School
 1988 NSP Southern Div Workshop by Demo Team
 1987 NSP Southern Div Workshop by Demo Team
 1986 NSP Southern Div Workshop by Demo Team
 1986 NSP National S&T Committee Member
 1985 NSP National S&T Committee Member

Announcing the 2003 Southern Division NSP Spring Meeting and Awards Banquet!

The Spring Meeting and Awards Banquet are open to ALL PATROLLERS and their families. This year, the meeting is being hosted by the patrols of Virginia Region on Saturday, May 3rd.

The site of this year's meeting is the beautiful Wyndham Hotel -- Roanoke Airport, Virginia. Conveniently located off I-81, the Wyndham is offering us a special rate of \$79 per night, single or double occupancy. King or 2-double-bedded rooms are available. The hotel has both indoor and outdoor swimming pools, a fitness center, sauna, three restaurants, and discounted rates for an adjacent golf course. There is a large mall nearby, and, of course, the famous Farmer's Market in downtown Roanoke. To make your reservations at this special rate, you must call 1-800-996-3426 and mention you are with the NSP group. Our block of rooms will be released on April 7th, so make your reservations now!

The Division meeting will cover topics such as recommendations of the Division Reorganization Committee, scheduling plans for each Region for the 2003-2004 season, proposed Division Bylaw changes, and a report from the new NSP Board Meeting.

The Hospitality Room will be open both Friday and Saturday nights, with special "nibbles and liquid refreshments" provided by the Virginia Region patrols!

An OEC Instructor Update Seminar will also be held on May 3rd at the Wyndham. Further information and a separate registration form for the event can also be found inside this edition of *Southern Cross*.

We have two special guests. Kenny Hess, of the Massanutten Ski Patrol, is a new member of the NSP Board of Directors. He will report on the NSP "New Board" Meeting, held in Denver in January. Mermer Blakeslee, a former member of the PSIA Demo Team, novelist and author of the highly acclaimed book, *In The Yikes! Zone: A Conversation With Fear*, will be our keynote speaker. Her presentation on conquering *Fear* both on and off the slopes is terrific and very entertaining.

The awards banquet will be a night to remember! A 4-course dinner will be prepared by the chefs at the Wyndham and will include wine service. This gala affair will be a time



to celebrate and honor the work of all our Division Officers and Patrollers, as Nici steps down and a new Division Director takes the helm. Do come and join us at the Wyndham in May!

Please complete the enclosed registration form and mail it with your fee to John Dobson (who has kindly agreed to coordinate this meeting). For your convenience, a plated luncheon has also been arranged at the hotel. This will allow us to have a sit-down lunch in a timely manner, while permitting us to remain on schedule!

Directions to the Wyndham Hotel Roanoke Airport: From I-81 north or south take exit 143 to I-581S, then take exit 3W to the Hershberger Road exit. From Route 220 take I-581N then exit 3W Hershberger Road exit. From Route 460 take I 581N then exit 3W Hershberger Road exit. For reservations and further information call the Wyndham at 800-996-3426.



**SOUTHERN DIVISION NSPS
 SPRING MEETING and AWARDS BANQUET
 May 3, 2003
 Wyndham Hotel Roanoke Airport***



Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Patrol: _____ Title: _____

Meeting Registration Fee (check one):

Division Meeting and Awards Banquet: \$26 X _____ persons = \$ _____

Division Meeting, Luncheon and Awards Banquet: \$40 X _____ persons = \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Names of Additional Persons in Party (for name badge preparation):

Name: _____ Title: _____ Patrol: _____

Name: _____ Title: _____ Patrol: _____

**Mail completed form and check (made out to “Southern Division NSP”) to:
 John Dobson
 Rt. 1, Box 525
 Roseland, VA 22967**

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

* From I-81 North Or South Take Exit 143 To I-581S Then Take Exit 3W To The Hershberger Road Exit.—From Route 220 Take I-581N Then Exit 3W Hershberger Road Exit.—From Route 460 Take I 581N Then Exit 3W Hershberger Road Exit.

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

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 Mars Hill NC 28754
 704-689-4111
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 FAX 704-689-9819
 www.wolf Laurel.com



SOUTHERN DIVISION CALENDAR FOR 2002-03 SEASON

Region	Month	Date	Event	Location	Contact
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

Region	Month	Date	Event	Location	Contact
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
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

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Nordic Skier Enhancement Seminar Whitegrass, WV Feb. 1 & 2, 2003

- Ski Skills (Cross Country & Telemark) with a PSIA Level 3 Instructor
- Practice Toboggan Skills & Compass Skills
- Eat the best food in the Canaan Valley

Join us at the East Coast's renowned Nordic Ski Area, Whitegrass, WV, where patrollers will work together to sharpen all Nordic Ski Patrol skills. Patrollers can be evaluated on elements of the basic or senior Nordic S&T requirements if requested.

When: 8:30 am, Saturday, Feb. 1—9:00 am, Sunday, Feb. 2.

Where: Meet inside the Whitegrass Lodge

Lunch: On-the-trail. Bring your own or order the Whitegrass box lunch, \$8.

Dinner: Whitegrass Café. We are holding reservations until cob, Monday, Jan. 27.

Lodging: Motels in Davis, at the ski areas, lodges at the state parks. 1-800-782-2775

For Directions & Information about Whitegrass & Canaan Valley: www.whitegrass.com

Please RSVP by mail or e-mail with the following information:

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Nordic Skier Enhancement Seminar at Whitegrass Registration

Name: _____ NSP#: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

Patrol: _____ Patrol Director: _____

Circle your Nordic status: candidate... or...auxiliary...or...basic...or...senior

Do you plan to join us for dinner? Yes ___ No ___

Mail or E-mail registration information to Penny Dimler: 4824 Ponderosa Drive, Annandale, VA 22003
penny01@cox.net; 703.425.2736

[The following notes are being reprinted from the NSP ENews Update — Ed.]

Steeper and Deeper

Rip it up and maybe learn a thing or two at NSP's **Powderfall**. Avalanche field sessions, toboggan enhancement, and of course, personal coaching from the **PSIA Demonstration Team** are all on the agenda. And if you need further incentive, consider the spectacular venue: **Snowbird, Utah**. Spending time with other patrollers from all across the country will certainly broaden your view, and the interchange of ideas and techniques will be valuable for yourself and your patrol. Space is limited, so [Login to NSP Member Services](#) to register on-line today!

Knock Three Times...

Alpine skiers will be thrilled with the latest offers from **Rossignol**, **Tecnica**, and **Nordica**. These additions to the Promotional Offers section of the NSP website are sure to brighten your season. [Login to NSP Member Services](#) where you'll find a "Promotional Offers" link in the left-hand column under Member Services.

Subaru VIP Program Goes Online.

Getting member pricing on any model new, unused Subaru has never been easier. You can now apply to the **Subaru VIP Program** directly through the NSP website. [Login to NSP Member Services](#), where you'll find a "Promotional Offers" link in the left-hand column under Member Services. Click on that link to access information about how to take advantage of this outstanding member benefit.

Expand Your Literary Horizons

Your association has worked out an agreement where you get seven great issues of **SKIING** magazine as part of your NSP membership. Things change, however, and you may want to change your address, contact customer service, or even cancel the subscription. If so, [Login to NSP Member Services](#), where you'll find a "Promotional Offers" link in the left-hand column under Member Services. You'll find a link to **SKIING** providing the details.

Are You Avvy Savvy?

The National Avalanche Foundation will conduct the **18th National Avalanche School**, October 26-31, 2003, at the Reno Hilton in Reno, Nevada. Long known for its comprehensive curriculum, the school offers instruction by the nation's top avalanche professionals. This course lasts six days and is only held every other year, so don't miss out. Start planning now to attend next year's school. For more information, visit www.avalancheschool.org or call (303) 987-1111.

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