



# Southern Cross

A Publication of The Southern Division of The National Ski Patrol

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**Southern Cross** is published three times a year—fall, mid winter and spring. Articles and photos are encouraged and appreciated. With photos, please include caption information. If at all possible, please include a photo of the author with articles. Submission deadline for the fall issue is September 6, 2004. Send submissions to:

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## Annual Snow Report

Neil Booth, Division Director

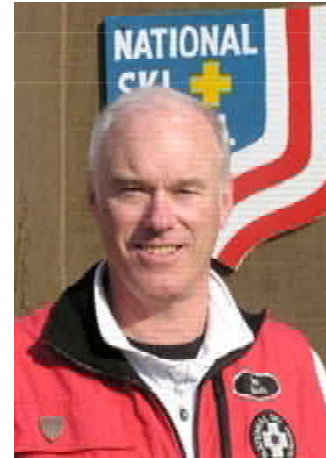
*Now think about this! Is he really going to talk about snowfall? Well, probably not! But, we all know the importance of this measurement factor. It can be measured through naturally occurring snowfall, through the wonders of snowmaking capacity, and unfortunately it is diminished by warm weather, fog and rain! We*

*can measure things in many different ways! So, let's look at how we measure our success factors in our "Snow Report".*

Perhaps the best place to begin my measurement is with the people patrolling at resorts in the south. This past year, our numbers grew by 4.6%, going from 1180 people last season, to 1235 this year. People are what make up our entire system. You are the dedicated members of your respective patrol. You are the people interested in becoming instructors and mentors to the people within your patrol and the system. You might be a leader within the patrol, or a leader within the geographic boundaries comprising the division. We can measure ourselves with the great patrollers in our system and the function that we provide to our resorts. I had the wonderful opportunity to meet and ski with a lot of people this past season. Your interest and dedication to the passion of snow sports is to be commended!

Another measurement is the educational training that is provided or made available to you. Each year, as OEC Technicians, we undergo extremely important educational updates, affecting snow sports emergency care. We participate in the annual resort lift evacuation and on the hill requirements to ensure we provide the best service to the public and resorts we represent. Education is provided in many facets of patrolling, all designed to make each of us more proficient and valuable to the resort. Education keeps people vibrant! We learn each and every day in our lives. Patrolling is simply another learning opportunity for you. If we stop learning, we stop growing!

There were three main educational focuses this past year. One was focused towards the endeavor to strengthen the Instructor Development educational opportunities for the system. These are the people responsible for teaching courses to you. This is how you are introduced to becoming a discipline instructor—the first step and an extremely important one. Once this teaching course is completed, you are assigned a mentor who is



ultimately responsible for ensuring that you have the knowledge to actually run an educational discipline course. No more simply throwing you into the snowmaking pond to see if you can swim! Perhaps more important is the fact that you do not have to swim 1,000 laps to be approved, nor hold your breath under water for four minutes before you are anointed as an instructor. The main and only objective here is to make sure the instructional staff is effective.

The second focus was more definition towards the Senior educational program. This program enriches your abilities and helps make you a more valuable patroller. Like everything in life, exposure to new learning is true growth. The Senior program is all about the process of learning and growth, as a patroller. It is personal growth. Do not stop here, progress into Certified! Like the Army says, “Be all that you can be”.

The last education focus was to look at our Student Program. It was decided by the Board of Directors, that this program will be disbanded, effective immediately. While it saddens many people, do not despair. The educational opportunities still exist as they always have. The system no longer defines members beyond patrollers. Age is merely a period in time that we all pass through. Actually, the main thinking was, it will be great to have youthful participation within each and every educational program. Patrollers are one—they are not defined by age, pay status or classification.

Now that we have identified our great people, educational programs and opportunities, we begin to see how this all fits into the resorts we service. We are successful because of the support we receive from management. We are successful because of the attitudes we have and the desire to be the best we can be. Resort management and the snow sports public require this of us. We rise to the challenge in all instances because of people like you, because of the resorts we represent, because of the passion we have towards helping others, because of the camaraderie we share with one another.

Now, reflect back to the beginning of the “Annual Snow Report”. How deep is our snow? Very, very deep because of the wonderful coverage provided by our people, education and resorts. But, take this one step further and ask yourself, who makes up the patrol, region, division or the national organization? People! People like you! It takes your willingness to step out and become part of a larger cause. This larger cause however is not the region nor division, nor should it ever be. The larger cause is the circle of influence YOU have on others within the entire system. If others had not stepped forward, who would have trained you? Is it time for you to step out and become involved? We all have talents in many areas. What are your areas of talent? Help others by sharing your talents by becoming a specific discipline instructor or trainer. This is truly how we measure our “Annual Snow Report”, through successes that each and every member has!

I wish each and every one of you the most enjoyable summer. I also want to thank everyone for all that you do for the sport and our system. Southern patrollers are the best!

## *From the Assistants...*



### **Instructor Development Program**

*Morgan Armstrong*

*First Assistant Division Director and Instructor Development Supervisor*

#### **TEACHERS TO TEACH THE TEACHERS NEEDED:**

The Instructor Development Program begins the process from patroller to becoming a teacher. This is the entry program for all instructors. No matter the program (Mountain Travel & Rescue, Outdoor Emergency Care, Avalanche or any other program taught by the National Ski Patrol), the Instructor Development Course starts the process to change a patroller into an instructor. Therefore, we need the best teachers to help us create a foundation upon which to build all the other teaching programs in our division.

Patrol Representatives have been challenged to send in the names of those patrollers they would like to see become instructors in our program to an Instructor Development Region Administrator or to me, the Division Supervisor. I am offering a personal invitation and a challenge to each patroller. If you would like to receive some of the best information available on how to teach effectively, then this is the program for you. If you are already an instructor, we also would like you to join our ranks. The good news is that once you have become an instructor, there is a quick and easy way to either add another discipline or change from one program to another. You do not have to take any courses on how to teach over. You are assigned a mentor and the process is quick and easy. We

would like to increase the ranks of the Instructor Development Staff, so please send in your name to join or for more information. More classes are being planned for this program and we will need you.

If you are interested please contact one of the following for an application or for more information:

- Morgan Armstrong ..... Division Supervisor
- Gregory S. Rash..... West Virginia Region Administrator
- Kenn Buckner ..... Virginia Region Administrator
- Ann T. Wood ..... Blue Ridge Region Administrator
- Bob Landin..... Smoky Mountain and Deep South Region Administrator



## Be All You Can Be...

*Dennis Slagle*  
*Assistant Division Director—South Area*

After more than 10 years of writing articles for the SC, it is getting harder and harder for me to think of subjects to write about that are not repetitious. I can think of a lot of unique topics to write about if it were about assembly of an M 4, CZ 52, or K98. Or I could write about rare models of Triumph bikes, like the little known 725cc model of '73.

I am sure there are some who would be interested in knowing about some unusual features of early '80s models of Harley Davidson motorcycles. I would never make a good journalist, so I am glad I don't have to make a living that way.

Everyone likes a bargain don't they? Do you like to save money on ski equipment? There are some real bargains on the National Website if you haven't found them already. You have to log in to member services, and then go to "promotional offers". There are discounts and closeout prices on equipment from several manufacturers. These include Rossignol, Dolomite, Elan, Lange, Dynastar and Patagonia.

There are many more, so take a peek at what is there. You just may find something you need at a great price.

While you are there at member services, make sure that all your information is correct, and if not please correct it. All the email addresses for the Southern Cross come from the national office information, so if nothing else, ensure that your email address there is current. The Southern Division thanks you for getting an electronic copy of the Southern Cross, and all the patrollers in Southern Division thank you for ensuring that dues have not gone up. We will even save a tree or two in the process. If you have an email address, and it is not listed, please do so. We still have more to save by emailing the Southern Cross. You don't even have to save an electronic copy anywhere, as it is stored on the website for easy retrieval.

This issue includes calendars for the Southern Area regions. Although subject to change, these calendars are already fairly complete for the upcoming season. Check them out for all the events that are planned in your vicinity, especially if there is one that you have been waiting for. Find out when it is scheduled, and plan ahead so you don't miss it.

Have a great summer and stay in shape for next season.



## Notes From The North

*Jan Starr*  
*Assistant Division Director—North Area*

Hope everyone had enough snow and cold and got good skiing in. Sounds like all the areas in the Northern part of the division had good seasons. I tried to get to most everyone at some point during the season and enjoyed skiing with and meeting new folks. If I missed your area I will get there for sure next season. I know there were some losses and my heart goes out to those involved. Been there, done that.

Our programs were strong this past season. Good turnouts for Avalanche, ID, MTR and Nordic events. Good to hear of the involvement. We need that to stay strong in our areas. New knowledge is good. Let's see even better results for next season. Check your calendar for a course near you and start planning now. Ski season will be here before you know it.

Congratulations to all the award winners. Good to see so many this year, and they were all well deserved. Enjoy your summer, and spend time with your friends and family.

## Virginia Region

Bill Smith, Virginia Region Director



Well here we are at the end of another ski season, about to enjoy patrol picnics, family vacations and can you believe it, even doing some early planning for the '04 - '05 ski season. Here in Virginia, we had a great ski season with more than the usual number of ski days for most of our areas. This was in great part due to a lot of new equipment, water supplies, etc. that were installed in the areas this past year.

On a much sadder note, Bryce has recently been hit especially hard with the passing of two of their patroller's. First, Michael B. Monaghan, a proud member of NSP since 1986, and a retired Army Lieutenant Colonel lost his long battle with leukemia on March 19<sup>th</sup>. He had been receiving treatment at Lackland Air Force Base, TX when he succumbed to the disease. Mike joined NSP in Heidelberg, Germany while on active duty in the Army. He started with the Heidelberg Ski Patrol where he completed basic training in 1986. He immediately continued his training and became an OEC instructor and a Senior Patroller in 1987. After his tour in Germany, Mike was reassigned to the Washington, DC area where he joined the Wintergreen Ski Patrol before transferring to Bryce Patrol. Mike is survived by his 20-year-old daughter, Meggan a Senior patroller, his 16-year-old son, Corey, who also recently became a Basic Ski Patroller before his Dad's untimely death, and former wife Judi Kay-Monaghan, Southern Division OEC Program Supervisor. Funeral services were held at Arlington National Cemetery on May 20<sup>th</sup> with full military honors.

On Thursday, April 15, 2004, Marsha D. Farris, beloved wife of Joel K. Farris and mother of Jackson Marshall Farris of Alexandria died unexpectedly at Johns Hopkins University Hospital. A former Labor and Delivery Nurse at Washington Hospital Center, and Ski Patroller at Bryce Resort, she fought a battle with cancer the past three years. During a reception at the funeral home those in attendance were reminded by a friend of Marsha's that it is not so much how short the time between when you were born and when you die, but how you spend the dash in between those two dates. Marsha lived her dash to the fullest each and every day and touched many, many people along her journey. Marsha's incredible spirit and optimistic attitude will be sorely missed by all.

Now, some sunnier news from the Commonwealth. Massanutten has just gotten a new PR. His name is **Ronald**

**E. Dull**. Recently, Ron has been out hiking the remaining portion of the A/T he and his dad had not completed earlier. Congratulations Ron on both your new duties and the completion of a life long dream!

In late February, Virginia's Senior Candidate class went through the usual rigors of Emergency Management and S&T evaluations. Overall, the group proved to be very successful in their efforts toward completing their goal of becoming Senior patroller's. From the crop of candidates (see photo of class), we now have six new Seniors. They include: **Nancy DiBenedetto**, Bryce; **George Vandenbosche**, Massanutten; **Peggy Harris**, **Bob Leavenworth**, **Ted Forbes**, and **Greg Pence**, all of Wintergreen. Congratulations to all!!!

From a very reliable source, we hear that over the summer, Wintergreen will be

installing a new "Six Pack" lift in the Highlands area of that resort. Way to go Wintergreen!!!

Recently the Executive Officers of the Division along with the Board of Directors met at the Spring Officers Meeting in Boone, NC to begin planning for the coming ski season. During those sessions, the draft regional training calendars were put together. As you will see from the attached calendar, there are many great training programs



The Virginia Region Senior S&T Evaluation was held at Wintergreen on February 21

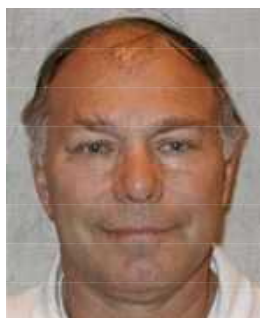
available to all patroller's throughout the Southern Division. If there isn't one convenient in your immediate area, look around and I'm sure you will find what you need somewhere in the Division. Everyone is welcome to attend any of these programs. In the very near future, fliers for the Virginia programs will be sent to all of the Patrol Rep's so they can assist their membership in finding just the right program for each of you. Please take advantage of these training programs.

During that same meeting, many awards were presented to both individuals and patrols for their accomplishments last year. Here in Virginia we are all very proud of the folks at **Bryce** for being named the Outstanding Southern Division Alpine Ski Patrol in small patrol category, and to **Wintergreen** for helping to make it a clean sweep by being awarded the Outstanding Southern Division Alpine Ski Patrol in the large patrol category. Way to go guys and gals!!!



## West Virginia Region

*Jon Dragan, West Virginia Region Director*



It was another great season here in the hills of West Virginia with cold temperatures and lots of natural snow.

Timberline started their season with the replacement of an existing lift and a good natural base augmented by the snowmakers. Everyone on the patrol was eager to try the four-stroke snowmobile and it seems the way to go for a quieter running machine. The summer will bring many patrol activities on the slopes as well as the beginning of the summer OEC class. Many hours of planning will go into the activities for the summer and the upcoming ski swaps.

Snowshoe had a great season with seven new candidates passing their basic, one new senior and two new certified. They have started a Student Program with five persons enrolled. New condos being built, a new restaurant opened, and the first 24 hour ski race, which premiered at Silvercreek this year, was a big hit. It was a bit more challenging than most thought it would be!! Snowshoe is planning an exciting summer—they are opening up their revamped mountain bike program with the inclusion of a free ride park. This is essentially a terrain park for downhill mountain bikes. The mountain bike patrol has a record 25 patrollers signed up, which is a good thing as they expect to see a lot of action. The NORBA race is at Snowshoe on June 10-13 with a new 24 mile marathon cross country course, which will be ridden by the contestants (anyone interested?). The 24 hour race is back again on June 26 -27. If anyone would like to keep their skill finely tuned they are welcome to join us for any of these events. We have a full summer schedule, only two weekends that don't have a major activity, check out our web site for full details.

Once December's cold temperatures arrived, the snow makers at the New and Improved Winterplace went all out to make sure the slopes stayed covered all winter long. Winterplace opened with 19 slopes ready for the skiing public and within a few short weeks the entire mountain was open and stayed open until closing in late March.



While vacationing in Key West, Dan and Steve Vincent of the Snowshoe Patrol found this unique hotel. It is rumored that the hotel manager might let Southern Division patrollers stay for free IF they bring a letter from their Patrol Rep. Try it. The only slope they have is on the far side of the island. It's a small hill created by capping their landfill. Unfortunately, the coldest it has ever been there is 44 degrees—just not cold enough for the white stuff. How can it be "Paradise" without skiing? You'll just have to think of something else to do when in Margaritaville.

Not only did Winterplace have plenty of snow, but they also had one of the best bump runs in the state. Thanks to some dedicated efforts and a lot of work from several patrollers and ski instructors, "Turkey Shoot" became one of the best bump runs in the region. Using bamboo to help direct the skiing public, patterns were developed that promoted mogul development that had rhythm and consistency. Thanks goes to our mountain management for supporting these efforts. Winterplace patrollers participated in over ten NSP clinics and/or workshops during the 03 - 04 season. From Patroller enrichment seminars, PSIA Telemark clinics, to Emergency Management workshops and Senior S & T clinics, patrollers were making the commitment to improve their skills. Many thanks go to all those who volunteered their time to make these programs happen as well as kudos to all those who participated and took advantage of these many programs. We have to see these high participation levels continue for the upcoming season. After 94 days of continuous skiing, Winterplace closed in late March with 100 percent of the mountain still skiable!!

It's has been a great season, have a fun filled summer and start thinking SNOW.



## Blue Ridge Region

*Mike Harris, Blue Ridge Region Director*

Another great Powderfall has come and gone with terrific renewals of friendships. Approximately 100 patrollers participated from every NSP division. Southern Division provided 21 participants of which eight came from the Blue Ridge Region.

All of our areas in the Blue Ridge Region had a banner year. It seems as though all the high country ski areas have more snowmaking firepower every year and the grooming seems to improve too. Our Senior Program has the most participation it has had in years. Sugar Mountain is getting two lifts replaced, and the summit house is being refurbished. Hawksnest is expanding their lodge and paving the parking area. Don't forget to sign up to play in the Hawksnest golf tournament. This is a fun golf outing and is Hawksnet's major fund raiser.

The Blue Ridge Region hosted this year's Spring Meeting and Awards Banquet at Broyill Inn and Convention Center in Boone. How proud I am of the job Susanne Wise, Rob Raff and Teresa Stewart did with the task they undertook and the great job they did. Those of you who were unable to attend missed an awesome presentation for the years of service and recognition of accomplishments.

On Sunday May 16<sup>th</sup> I attended the Division OEC planning session for all regions in the Southern Division. Our region OEC supervisor and observing IT for our refreshers are doing a lot of work to make sure Blue Ridge has a quality refresher experience. With all the work these people and your instructors do to prepare for this, please extend them the courtesy of having your pre-test filled out upon arrival at your OEC refresher next fall. In the near future you will be receiving your new Ski Patrol Magazine with your OEC Study Guide and Pre-test inserted.

Have a great summer and let's hope for another outstanding ski season.



## Deep South Region

*Sylvia Talley, Deep South Region Director*

The Deep South Region is unique in that we have fewer than fifty members yet our region—four patrols in four states—is packed with talent.

Sky Valley has three new jackets—Gail Guentner, Mike Madalena and Michael Steinberg. Their new status is richly deserved, especially after they tested in rain, sleet and snow!

Ken Collins will bring his considerable OEC talent and many years of professional administrative experience as our new OEC Region Administrator. Smoky Mountain and Deep South regions will share Brent Bowman (Deep South Assistant RD) as their Chief Examiner, and Bob Landin will head the Instructor Development program for the two regions.

Three patrollers from our region attended our first Powderfall—Gail Guentner, Brent Bowman and Sylvia Talley. We felt right at home on the hard-packed snow, until we finally got some fresh powder the last two days.

Deep South Region will hold two Mountain Travel and Rescue (MTR) courses during the Fall of 2004. Ben Tholkes will instruct MTR I during October, and Don Jones will hold an MTR II course in the Smokies. If you are interested, sign up early, as space in these courses will be limited.

Atlanta area patrollers are already busy this summer volunteering for Special Olympics and a bicycle race. Ken Collins will be IOR for the Atlanta area OEC course, which will span the months from June until October. We ask that OEC instructors who live in the Atlanta area contact Ken about teaching during this course.



Sky Valley patrollers Celeste Bernstein and Michael Steinberg present a donation to representatives of the Special Olympics Committee headed by Dawn Wright. The Sky Valley patrol raised the funds through T-shirt sales and a bake sale.



## Smoky Mountain Region

*Richard Boyer, Smoky Mountain Region Director*



First, a hardy welcome to Tom Raudorf the new Patrol Representative for Cataloochee Ski Area. Tom is a veteran in the ski patrol and many of you probably already know him from his many activities in the OEC side of our patrol lives. He's a beautiful skier as well—one of our best. Tom replaces Steve McCarragher who did a fine job for the Cataloochee patrol. Our sincere thanks to Steve for all the time he put in as patrol rep.

For the ski year 2004-2005 our region, made up of Ober Gatlinburg, Cataloochee and Wolf Laurel Ski areas will focus on three major fronts:

1. Recruitment of new members into our ski patrols
2. Education
3. Improving the relationships between both patrol and area management and the paid and volunteer patrols.

Let's see if everyone can bring at least one new person we find interested into our patrol lives. Tell people what you do, seek out and foster those who might be interested. We need to bring new people into our respective patrols, train them, and motivate them, thereby insuring the future of our organization.

We must do a better job in getting the people who need courses to make them better patrollers aware of our courses and attending them. PR's, decide who needs each of the courses, then approach the individuals and let them know what you expect in the way of making them better prepared to handle their patrol responsibilities. I'd like to challenge everyone not at Senior level to take steps to get there. You will be better prepared to handle your hill responsibilities.

If you don't know the members of the paid patrol in your area please make a point to meet them. Include them in communications with the volunteer side. Make them feel welcome in our organization and give them a happy "Hello, glad you're with us." This can be contagious and will surprise you with good results down the road.

Lastly, this year I want us to do a better job with our reporting. Look at the various reports required either at season's end or mid-way through the season and start compiling the necessary data as we go through the season. Finally, let's get them in on time—no exceptions, please. See you in your ski area this year!! Have a safe one!





## **What's New With OEC**

*Judi Kay-Monaghan, Assistant Division Director—OEC Supervisor*

The NSP Board of Directors has approved the OEC Enhancement Seminar (OECES). This will provide patrollers a continuing education tool designed to enhance and polish OEC skills in a relaxed, non-threatening, non-evaluated environment. The seminar consists of six modules that can be presented individually or together. This seminar provides current OEC technicians the opportunity to learn, review, practice, question, and challenge themselves with OEC skills. It is not meant to replace or supersede existing OEC refresher requirements and is not designed to be used as a candidate training. The NSP Board of Directors has approved the OECES as a senior elective. A patroller must complete two modules to receive one elective for their senior requirement.

David Johe, MD National Medical Director for the NSP reported to the OEC Program Supervisors Meeting in Denver in December 2003 some of the outcomes from a European meeting on skiing safety. Interestingly, the report did not include any discussion on helmets. One study presented indicated that there were trends with shaped skis indicating an increase in MCL and forearm/wrist injuries, but a decrease in high grade ACL/MCL and complete ACL tears. The report stated that if you use snow blades be sure to use bindings on the skis to avoid spiral tibia/fibula fractures. A study was presented that identified the ideal ski to use to avoid ACL injuries was a shaped, short-tailed ski with the best type of binding available. Another study reported that tubing park injuries have greatly increased in relationship to other reported injuries. It discussed several ways to make tubing parks safer. These are use of a long flat run-out, designated lanes and having very well trained staff located at the top and bottom of the tubing park.



## **The Student Seminar—Some Good Things Must Come to an End**

*T and Peg Harris, Division Student Advisors*

The Executive Committee & Board of Directors have voted unanimously to discontinue the Division sponsored Student Seminar. As current division student advisors and region advisors for quite a few years, we had seen a dramatic falling off of interest in the seminar recently. The Board charged us in the spring of 2003 with compiling information on the level of interest among students and their advisors in either continuing the seminar or developing other student oriented programs. The response to our surveys has been disappointing. With little interest or support for the event, we felt compelled to recommend its elimination. The development of events at a regional level was discussed but, in the end, it seemed best to allocate our limited resources and ski season to developing more events in which all patrollers could participate.

Students, Student Advisors, Patrol Reps, do not take this action as an abandonment of the student patroller by the division. Rather, take it as an opportunity to keep track of students at your area, encourage them to participate in patrol activities/leadership, continuing education (Senior, S&T clinics, Instructor development). Putting together a regional student event is even feasible if there is sufficient interest (students, sponsors and trainer/evaluators) in a particular region. This option will be left up to the individual regions. This is a labor intensive process. Be sure the interest and support is there before going in this direction. We have offered to be informal advisors to any region wishing to move forward with such an event ([tandpeg@netzero.net](mailto:tandpeg@netzero.net)).

In the final analysis, the best use of our time and resources is in development and implementation of more events in which ALL patrollers can participate and benefit.





## A Fitting Tribute

*John Dobson, Southern Division Awards Coordinator*

With the beautiful mountains of North Carolina serving as an inspiring backdrop, the Southern Division again “Recognized It’s Finest” at our annual end-of-the-season banquet. The 2004 Spring Officer’s Meeting was held at the Broyhill Conference Center in Boone, NC on Saturday 15 May, and was capped off by the evening awards ceremony.

The Meeting was filled with interesting presentations and timely patrolling information, but the day’s highlight occurred just after lunch. **Pete Chamberlin** of the Ski Beech Patrol was presented a **50 Year Service Award**. Imagine being in the National Ski Patrol system for 50 years—and still patrolling. What an impressive accomplishment!

The evening awards festivities began with a surprise presentation to yours truly—an **NSP Distinguished Service Award**. As presenter Larry Bost later commented, it was probably the only time he has ever seen **John Dobson** speechless!

A second Distinguished Service Award was then presented:

*The individual we honored began his ski patrol experience in 1976 with the Cascade Ski Patrol in Fancy Gap, Virginia. During the next 15 years, he was awarded National Appointment #6876, and served as the first Blue Ridge Region OEC Administrator and the second Southern Division OEC Supervisor. His dedication to the Southern Division and to the National Ski Patrol escalated in 1993, when he was elected our Division Director. For six long, arduous years, this patroller guided our division steadfastly with diligence, and represented us with respect and admiration at the national level. He now stands in high regard among the past leaders of our division, and continues to work on behalf of the NSP and the skiing public as a volunteer patroller!*

This award reads: “The National Ski Patrol hereby awards the **NSP Distinguished Service Award to Raymond “Bernie” Smith**, in recognition and acknowledgement of his extraordinary dedication and exceptional service to the Southern Division and the National Ski Patrol!”

The highest awards the National Ski Patrol presents were awarded next. **Yellow Merit Stars** for “attempting to save a human life” were presented to **Kenny Hess** for his valiant rescue attempt on 1/1/2004 at Massanutten, and to **Leslie Carter** for the emergency care rendered by her on 1/12/2004 attempting to save a life, also at Massanutten.

The presentation of our Southern Division Outstanding Awards as usual created great anticipation and excitement:

*Although the first individual we honored has only been a patroller for three years, she has brought a wealth of EMS education experience to her patrol and to the National Ski Patrol as well. In the second year of her membership, she became the point person for the NSP Distance Education Program. Not only has she served as the Instructor of Record for two E-Education courses in our division, she has also been the Instructor of Record for a course in Cordova, Alaska, and assisted with courses at Jackson Hole, Wyoming and in Maine. The development of the distance learning program has already begun to have a significant impact on national recruiting, because OEC courses have become more accessible and available to additional potential patrollers. This coming fall, our honoree will assume the additional responsibility of becoming the Editor of our Division Newsletter—the Southern Cross.*

The commitment to not only her patrol but to the whole NSP organization in the short period of time she has been a member is commendable. With great pleasure, the **2004 Mary K. Twomey Southern Division Outstanding Auxiliary Award** was presented to **Teresa Stewart**! Two West Virginians were then presented the 2004 Division Outdoor Emergency Care Awards. The **Mary K. Twomey Outstanding OEC Instructor Award** went to **Jorge McMurray**, while the **Mary K. Twomey Outstanding OEC IT Award** was given to **Joe McNeer**!

### **Excitement built as the second Outstanding Award was presented:**

*The new National Ski Patrol mentoring program may be best represented by the individual we next honored. For many years, this patroller was employed as a professor at the prestigious UVA Darden School of Business, and as an independent business consultant. This vocation stimulated our honoree to develop and refine skills and techniques directly applicable to the teaching of Outdoor Emergency Care. Very soon after becoming a Basic Patroller, he completed the Instructor Development course, and because of his extensive teaching experience, was quickly mentored as an OEC Instructor. Less than one year after achieving instructor status, this individual became the Instructor of Record of his area’s OEC course. The teaching stability he was able to bring to this course, which included participants 15-65 years of age, was exceptional. In his second year as the Instructor of Record, this man introduced new teaching and organizational concepts that proved not only efficient but exciting.*

The Southern Division was delighted to honor **Ted Forbes** as its **2004 Outstanding Educator**!

### **Continuing:**

*The individual we honored next has served his patrol as its Unit Representative for the past three years. During this time, he completely immersed himself in this job, almost to the exclusion of his private life. With area management collaboration, he instituted a new toboggan refresher yearly check-off procedure and a new lift evac procedure. The close relationship thus developed helped convince resort management to support his patrol in an aggressive fund raising program. Extra resources gained from the latter financed the purchase of new toboggans, new radios and new audio visual equipment for OEC training. This patroller has been fiercely loyal to his patrol, and even though he was tested by patrol responsibilities, he never neglected a patroller's primary duty—that of being on the hill. This is where he could be found almost every weekend! When not attending to injured snowsliders, he was helping to train Candidates or assisting other patrollers.*

It was a real privilege and pleasure for the Southern Division to present **Steve McCarragher** the **2004 Outstanding Patrol Representative Award!** Just prior to Steve's award presentation, **Joe Donadio** received the Runner-Up Outstanding Patrol Representative Award!

### **More:**

*Since joining the NSP as a candidate, it has been evident to all that the individual we next honored displayed an enthusiasm and willingness to learn and teach that was something special! After only two years of patrolling, he entered the Certified Program and became the youngest patroller in the Southern Division to attain certified status. His hard work did not go unnoticed by his resort patrol staff and area management, and within the same two years, this dedication resulted in his promotion to Assistant Patrol Director. Given the new and more demanding responsibilities, his leadership skills flourished. This individual has always, without question, jumped in whenever the resort or patrol needed help. Whether it was teaching OEC, toboggan, lift evac or snowmobile safety, or actively making snow or slope grooming, his heart has always been directed toward helping his resort be the best it can be. These efforts were further rewarded three years ago when he became the Patrol Director at his area. This patroller's growth however has not only been channeled locally. His energy and enthusiasm for the Division Certified Program is evident at the many clinics and evaluations he has participated in as the program assistant supervisor. Finally, his appointment as Professional Director of the Southern Division last year recognized the respect he has garnered from the division leadership and his industry peers.*

The Southern Division was proud to honor **Bartek Drewnowski** as its **2004 Outstanding Paid Patroller!** The Runner-Up Outstanding Paid patroller Award went to **Denika Gum!**

### **The Outstanding Alpine Patroller:**

*The strength of the National Ski Patrol lies in its members and their dedication to each other, and to the skiing public they serve. Having made this statement, we can affirm without question that no patroller lives this commitment better than the individual we honored next! From the day she joined the NSP, she has demonstrated an energy and responsibility rarely matched by others in our organization. Using her imagination as a first year patroller in Europe, this woman developed a pilot program for the then new Winter Emergency Care curriculum that earned her a Yellow Merit Star. She moved back to the US in 1988, joined a local patrol, and immediately assumed a full weekend patrolling role. Her efficiency, dependability and people skills were soon recognized, and in 1989, this individual became an OEC Instructor, and soon after, a Division OEC Instructor Trainer. While an OEC IT, she participated with several other instructors in her region to form one of the most dynamic Phase I/Phase II instructing teams the NSP has known! Her division responsibility moved up several notches in 1999 when she became our OEC Supervisor. In this demanding position, this patroller's creativity, determination, and hard work have brought our division NSP flagship program to prominence across the country!*

Patroller, Instructor, Supervisor, Marketing Executive, and Mother – this woman has done it all—and with enthusiasm and excellence. It was with great admiration that the **2004 Southern Division Outstanding Alpine Patroller Award** was presented to **Judi Kay Monaghan!** The Runner-Up Outstanding Alpine Patroller Award winner was **Mike Harris!**

### **Even more:**

*Camaraderie, training, and longevity are words that best describe the patrol we next honored. The solidarity within this patrol is unparalleled! It is the major reason why every patroller returns year after year to such a small mountain. Webster's Dictionary defines camaraderie as "loyalty and good spirits." That phrase certainly describes this patrol accurately. Their teamwork is clearly visible every day they serve the public. Leadership is shared, and when someone is injured, emergency care is delivered by everyone involved. Working together is what this patrol does best! The patrol's enthusiasm for quality is paramount, and as patrollers they take their skills and proficiency performance very seriously. It is evident that training and education are important to each member, since 37% of this small patrol are OEC Instructors, S&T Instructors and/or CPR Instructors.*

*Longevity has also made this patrol outstanding. Patroller turnover year to year is almost zero. The combined experience of the 38 member patrol equals 511 years, and five members have been patrolling for over 30 years—all with*

the same patrol! Many married patrollers have raised their children on the slopes, and demonstrated such a high ethic for skiing and snowboard safety, that nine of their kids have joined the patrol!

It was a distinct privilege for the Southern Division to present the **2004 Outstanding Small Alpine Patrol Award** to the **Bryce Ski Patrol!** The Runner-Up outstanding Small Alpine Patrol Award was garnered by the **Cloudmont Patrol!**

**And finally:**

*Dedication, competency, trust and friendship are the keys to the success of the patrol we honored last. This patrol's dedicated instructor corps is charged with training a new crop of Candidate Patrollers each season to the high level of competency their area requires. The patrol responds to between 1150 and 1550 injury incidents yearly. New Candidates' training must be top-notch because using OEC skills is not an option—it is a certainty! Many of the patrol's dedicated patrollers serve not only the local area but are also extremely visible on a Division and National level, working administratively, supporting training events and technical programs throughout the NSP system.*

*A patrol is only as good as how it performs during the season—at its own mountain. This is where the patrol we pay tribute to really stands out. The competency displayed by volunteer and paid members alike in support of their resort is exceptional. On a daily basis, this patrol goes beyond what might be expected in rendering care to the skiing public—and they are constantly looking for ways to do it better! As mentioned above, the patrol responds to a significant number of injury incidents during the season (1537 this past season alone!). Boredom is not a problem they face—stress and burn-out are! A major solution to this dilemma is addressed through the patrol's excellent ongoing training. However, perhaps more importantly, the trust they share in each other and the closeness they feel for each other, keep them eager and sharp for the tasks at hand.*

It was with great respect that the Southern Division presented the **2004 Outstanding Large Alpine Patrol Award** to the **Wintergreen Ski Patrol!** The Runner-Up Outstanding Large Alpine Patrol Award went to the **Ski Beech Patrol!**

**It should be noted that this season, twice as many individual outstanding award nominations were submitted than last year! Although this increased participation is very gratifying, there is still a lot of room for our division awards to grow. The recognition of its members by a volunteer organization such as the National Ski Patrol provides one of the few opportunities we have to demonstrate to our associates “true appreciation for a job well done.” Be a part of this exciting, rejuvenated program. If all us can be involved in the awards process, maybe next spring you and your patrol will be one of the Southern Division's Finest!**



## **Patroller Enrichment Seminar (PES)**

*Mary Underwood, Patroller Enrichment Supervisor*

A PES will be held at the Heart Tower of Mission Hospital in Asheville, N.C. on Sunday, June 27, 2004. This is an eight hour course. There is some preparation to be done before the course, so you must pre-register by June 15 and pay the \$10 course fee at that time. If you would like to learn about the structure and work of the Southern Division, identify your leadership style and qualities for good leadership, learn how you might improve your first aid room for under \$50, and share with other patrollers problems and solutions in patrolling, then come to this course. There is no evaluation, no pressure, just learning, sharing, and fun.

Contact: Mary Underwood, 109 Wildwood Drive, Oak Ridge, TN 37830, 865-483-3675, [jnu@icx.net](mailto:jnu@icx.net).



## **Mountain Travel and Rescue 2 (MTR2) Course Announcement**

This course provides students with the knowledge and skills to complete more difficult field operations and to assist in the coordination of search and/or rescue operations that may extend over several days. Field practice includes advanced navigation skills, extended patient care, and advanced search and rescue situations.

When: November 19 to 21

Where: Great Smoky Mountain National Park

Contacts: Jim Reed  
931-455-5023

Don Jones  
931-455-0137

[smason@charter.net](mailto:smason@charter.net) [dwjones@edge.net](mailto:dwjones@edge.net)



## **First Aid Course Earns Mutual Respect**

*Flynn Harris, Volunteer Patrol Rep—Sugar Mountain*

At the beginning of the season, the manager at Sugar Mountain, Gunther Jochl, approached our patrol about putting on a first aid course for management and the race team and snowboard team coaches. His concern centered around injuries that might occur in the race program. His idea was to be able to provide help to the patrol and provide some care until the ski patrol arrived.

The perfect solution for the request was to put on an Out Door First Care course, which is available from the National Office. On December 23<sup>rd</sup> four of our instructors—Larry Fleming, Flynn Harris, Mike Harris, and Tommy Taylor—provided such a course for our management and fifteen race team coaches.

I was very impressed with the course content, which provided an introduction to anatomy, splinting, and common medical and environmental emergencies. We also included a community CPR/AED course.

We spent about seven hours lecturing and demonstrating to a very receptive and attentive group. When we reached the CPR section of the course, Manager Jochl was the first to "hit the floor" for the hands on manikin session.

The benefits of this experience extend beyond just spreading our knowledge of first aid and CPR. Spending the time with Mountain Management and the race instructors helped us get to know each other and learn more about our roles at Sugar Mountain. Mountain Management now has a better understanding of what is involved in our work as patrollers and values us in a way they did not before we taught the course.

I highly recommend that the patrol director at all ski resorts discuss this type of program with their management. The experience will be invaluable. I am certain your patrol will glean new respect and recognition for your effort.



## **Two of Our Finest Retire**

*[At the end of the 2003-04 season Roger and Janie Bollinger submitted to the Cataloochee Patrol their letter of intent to retire. Strictly speaking this was solely a communication between them and their patrol. However, after more than four decades of dedicated patrolling that touched so many of us throughout the entire Southern Division, this remarkable couple's letter, with it's touching farewell and historical perspectives, is being reprinted here for all to enjoy and appreciate. —Ed.]*



To: Cataloochee Ski Patrol  
From: Roger and Janie Bollinger  
Subj: Ski Patrol Retirement  
Date: May 4, 2004

This is to let you know that we have decided to retire from active ski patrolling. By copy of this memo we are asking Ann Christenson to change our membership classification from active to Alumni at the annual fall registration to coincide with the expiration (Dec. 31, 2004) of our existing registration cards. (And to send this memo to all of you.)

As you may know we are in our 42nd year of ski patrolling with the Cataloochee Ski Patrol—41 years with NSPS affiliation and, with Keith Argow’s and others’ help, our patrol became a part of the Eastern Division, Southern Section, NSPS, on January 1, 1963. We participated in many, if not most activities that led to the development of our Southern Division, as skiing and other patrols expanded in the South. And we’ve held just about every administrative office (short of division director) and many advisorships as well. We were among the first to hold instructor assignments as ARC, CPR, WEC, OEC and instructor trainer, IOR and such on-the-hill functions as skiing and toboggan testing and training. With the help of Cataloochee patrollers and instructors we’ve usually been well ahead of the curve in these, as well. Our special thanks to all of you for making these activities go so smoothly. Even so, it’s now time to rest—not that we will.

While we may be stepping back we won’t be gone. Janie still plans on working in the office and I will be an “on-mountain” host (Courtesy Patrol). In this latter function you may find me in the parking lot, the walkway to the lodge, in the lodge, on Easy Way, Rabbit Hill, Midway, terrain park, the top of the mountain, or wherever I can mingle with our most important people—our customers, and you, our friends and compatriots.

There is no question that we will miss you. We’ve all been through good and difficult times in patrolling. But we’ve all worked well together, shared in our activities and service to our fellow skiers/boarders and area management, and we only ask that you always remember to treat the injured with care and compassion.

Thanks for the privilege you have given us to have been a part of the Cataloochee Ski Patrol and family. We love you one and all.

Roger & Janie



## Southern Division Officers and Staff Directory (2004-2005)

(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/](http://www.nsp.org/divisions/southern/))

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"See Smoky Mountain"

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Keith Robinson, GM  
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[ski2bhi@alltel.net](mailto:ski2bhi@alltel.net)  
[www.skyvalley.com](http://www.skyvalley.com)

### Sapphire

OPEN  
PO Box 2048  
Cashiers, NC 28717  
828-743-1164  
[www.skisapphire.com](http://www.skisapphire.com)

### Ski Hawkstest

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Lenny Cottom  
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704-963-6563

### Snowshoe

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### Sugar Mountain

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

### White Grass Ski Touring

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### Wintergreen

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## Southern Division Calendars

(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/](http://www.nsp.org/divisions/southern/))

## Southern Division Events

| Southern Cross Deadlines for 2004-2005 |    |                                   |             |                                |   |           |
|--|----|-----------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------|---|-----------|
| SEP                                    | 6  | FALL SOUTHERN CROSS DEADLINE      |             | SOUTHERN CROSS EDITOR          | Teresa Stewart - <a href="mailto:sceditor@bellsouth.net">sceditor@bellsouth.net</a> | 6-Sep-04  |
| JAN                                    | 20 | MIDWINTER SOUTHERN CROSS DEADLINE |             | SOUTHERN CROSS EDITOR          | Teresa Stewart - <a href="mailto:sceditor@bellsouth.net">sceditor@bellsouth.net</a> | 20-Jan-05 |
| MAY                                    | 16 | SPRING SOUTHERN CROSS DEADLINE    |             | SOUTHERN CROSS EDITOR          | Teresa Stewart - <a href="mailto:sceditor@bellsouth.net">sceditor@bellsouth.net</a> | 16-May-05 |
| Division Meeting Events for 2004-2005  |    |                                   |             |                                |   |           |
| JUL                                    | 17 | EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE PLANNING MTG  | WYTHEVILLE  | HOLIDAY INN 800-842-7652       | HOLIDAY INN - MEETING BEGINS AT 12 NOON   |           |
| AUG                                    | 20 | EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING       | WYTHEVILLE  | HOLIDAY INN 800-842-7652       | HOLIDAY INN - MEETING BEGINS AT 8:30PM  |           |
| AUG                                    | 21 | FALL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING   | WYTHEVILLE  | HOLIDAY INN 800-842-7652       | HOLIDAY INN - MEETING BEGINS AT 8:00AM  | 20-Jul-04 |
| SEPT                                   | 15 | SSAA MEETING                      | MASSANUTTEN | BARTEK DREWNOWSKI 540-289-4955 |   |           |
| SEPT                                   | 16 | NSAA WORKSHOP                     | MASANUTTEN  |                                |   |           |

## Southern Division Events (continued)

| Division Meeting Events for 2004-2005      |       |                                      |               |  |  |          |
|--|-------|--------------------------------------|---------------|--|--|----------|
| APR  | 29    | EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING          | WV HOSTING    | TBD  | WV HOSTING   | TBD      |
| APR  | 30    | SPRING BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING    | WV HOSTING    | TBD  | WV HOSTING   | TBD      |
| JUL  | 16    | SUMMER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING   | WYTHEVILLE    | HOLIDAY INN 800-842-7652   | HOLIDAY INN - MEETING BEGINS AT 7:30PM                     |          |
| AUG  | 19    | EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING          | WYTHEVILLE    | HOLIDAY INN 800-842-7652   | HOLIDAY INN - MEETING BEGINS AT 7:30PM                     | 1-Jul-05 |
| AUG  | 20    | FALL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING      | WYTHEVILLE    | HOLIDAY INN 800-842-7652   | HOLIDAY INN - MEETING BEGINS AT 8:00AM                     | 1-Jul-05 |
| AUG  | 21    | NEW PATROL REP. COURSE               | WYTHEVILLE VA | TBD  | FOR ALL NEW LINE PERSONNEL                                 |          |
| Division Reporting Deadlines for 2004-2005 |       |                                      |               |  |  |          |
| BUDGET SUBMISSIONS                         |       |                                      |               |  |  |          |
| APR  | 15    | NEXT SEASONS BUDGETS REQUESTS        | ANNUALLY      | JIM UNDERWOOD 865-483-3675   | <a href="mailto:jnu@icx.net">jnu@icx.net</a>               |          |
| JUL  | 1     | FINAL YEAR END BUDGET SUBMISSIONS    | ANNUALLY      | JIM UNDERWOOD 865-483-3676   | <a href="mailto:jnu@icx.net">jnu@icx.net</a>               |          |
| JUL  | 1     | PATROL FINANCIAL REPORTS (990'S)     | ANNUALLY      | JIM UNDERWOOD 865-483-3677   | <a href="mailto:jnu@icx.net">jnu@icx.net</a>               |          |
| AWARDS SUBMISSIONS                         |       |                                      |               |  |  |          |
| APR  | 1     | AWARDS NOMINATIONS                   | ANNUALLY      | JOHN DOBSON  | <a href="mailto:JDobson4@aol.com">JDobson4@aol.com</a>     |          |
|  |       | NATL OR LEADERSHIP AWARD NOMINATIONS |               | ANYTIME - SEND TO CHAIN OF COMMAND LISTED ON APPLICATION - MUST BE SIGNED IN PROPER ORDER. |  |          |
| END OF YEAR REPORT SUBMISSIONS             |       |                                      |               |  |  |          |
| APR  | 1     | PATROL REPS END OF YEAR REPORT       | ANNUALLY      | MORGAN ARMSTRONG   | <a href="mailto:RMASP@Adelphia.net">RMASP@Adelphia.net</a> |          |
| APR  | 1     | OFFICERS END OF YEAR REPORT          | ANNUALLY      | RESPECTIVE SUPERVISOR  |  |          |
| APR  | 1     | SUPERVISORS END OF YEAR REPORT       | ANNUALLY      | RESPECTIVE SUPERVISOR  |  |          |
| Certified Events for 2005                  |       |                                      |               |  |  |          |
| JAN  | 22/23 | CERTIFIED CLINIC                     | SNOWSHOE      | LESLIE CARTER 434-325-1262   |  |          |
| JAN  | 29/30 | CERTIFIED CLINIC                     | WINTERGREEN   | LESLIE CARTER 434-325-1262   |  |          |
| MAR  | 17    | CERTIFIED PRE EVALUATION CLINIC      | SNOWSHOE      | LESLIE CARTER 434-325-1262   |  |          |
| MAR  | 18/19 | CERTIFIED EVALUATION                 | SNOWSHOE      | LESLIE CARTER 434-325-1262   |  |          |

## West Virginia Calendar

| OEC Courses and Challenges held in Region for 2004-2005 |    |                                 |             |                              |  |           |
|---|----|---------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------|--|-----------|
| OCT   | 5  | WINTERPLACE OEC COURSE START    | BECKLEY WV  | WALTER WATSON 304-253-6963   |  |           |
| NOV   | 22 | SNOWSHOE OEC COURSE START       | SNOWSHOE    | JAN STARR 304-572-6713       |  |           |
| OEC Events held in Region for 2004-2005                 |    |                                 |             |                              |  |           |
| AUG   | 29 | OEC PRE REFRESHER @ WINTERPLACE | WINTERPLACE | JORGE MCMURRAY 304-252-3345  |  |           |
| SEP   | 18 | OEC PRE REFRESHER @ TIMBERLINE  | TIMBERLINE  | JANETTE BENNETT 304-866-4925 |  |           |
| OCT   | 9  | OEC PRE REFRESHER @ SNOWSHOE    | SNOWSHOE    | JAN STARR 304-572-6713       |  |           |
| OCT   | 23 | OEC REFRESHER @ WINTERPLACE     | WINTERPLACE | JORGE MCMURRAY 304-252-3345  |  |           |
| OCT   | 23 | OEC REFRESHER @TIMBERLINE       | TIMBERLINE  | JANETTE BENNETT 304-866-4925 |  |           |
| OCT   | 30 | OEC REFRESHER @ SNOWSHOE        | SNOWSHOE    | JAN STARR 304-572-6713       |  |           |
| CPR Events held in Region for 2004-2005                 |    |                                 |             |                              |  |           |
| OCT   | 24 | WINTERPLACE CPR REFRESHER       | WINTERPLACE | DEANNA WATSON 304-253-6963   |  |           |
| Educational Courses for 2004-2005                       |    |                                 |             |                              |  |           |
| DEC   | 11 | INSTRUCTOR DEVELOPMENT COURSE   | WINTERPLACE | GREG RASH 502-423-0261       |  | 11-Nov-04 |
| DEC   | 18 | SKI ENHANCEMENT CLINIC          | SNOWSHOE    | JAN STARR 304-572-6713       |  | 18-Nov-04 |
| DEC   | 19 | TOBOGGAN ENHANCEMENT CLINIC     | SNOWSHOE    | JAN STARR 304-572-6713       |  | 19-Nov-04 |
| DEC   | 20 | BASIC/SR EXAMINERS CLINIC       | SNOWSHOE    | JAN STARR 304-572-6713       |  | 20-Nov-04 |
| FEB   | 12 | WOMENS ONLY CLINIC              | SNOWSHOE    | JAN STARR 304-572-6713       |  | 12-Jan-05 |
| FEB   | 12 | SKI ENHANCEMENT CLINIC          | SNOWSHOE    | JAN STARR 304-572-6713       |  | 12-Jan-05 |
| MAR   | 6  | MTR LEVEL 1                     | SNOWSHOE    | JAN STARR 304-572-6713       |  | 6-Feb-05  |
| Region Events for 2004-2005                             |    |                                 |             |                              |  |           |
| JAN   | 8  | BASIC OEC CLINIC                | SNOWSHOE    | JAN STARR 304-572-6713       |  |           |
| JAN   | 9  | BASIC S&T CLINIC                | SNOWSHOE    | JAN STARR 304-572-6713       |  |           |
| JAN   | 9  | BASIC TELEMARK CLINIC           | WINTERPLACE | TOM WAGNER 304-787-3221      |  |           |
| JAN   | 29 | BASIC OEC EVALUATION            | SNOWSHOE    | JAN STARR 304-572-6713       |  |           |
| JAN   | 30 | BASIC S&T EVALUATION            | SNOWSHOE    | JAN STARR 304-572-6713       |  |           |
| FEB   | 5  | SR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT CLINIC  | TIMBERLINE  | STEVE CVECHKO 304-776-8540   |  |           |
| FEB   | 6  | SENIOR S&T CLINIC               | SNOWSHOE    | JAN STARR 304-572-6713       |  |           |
| FEB   | 26 | BASIC S&T EVALUATION            | WINTERPLACE | TOM WAGNER 304-469-8039      |  |           |
| FEB   | 27 | SENIOR S&T CLINIC               | WINTERPLACE | TOM WAGNER 304-787-3221      |  |           |
| MAR   | 5  | BASIC OEC EVALUATION            | TIMBERLINE  | JANETTE BENNETT 304-599-4915 |  |           |
| MAR   | 6  | BASIC S & T EVALUATION          | TIMBERLINE  | STEVE CVECHKO 304-776-8540   |  |           |
| MAR   | 13 | SR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT EVAL    | WINTERPLACE | TOM WAGNER 304-787-3221      |  |           |

## Virginia Calendar

| OEC Courses and Challenges held in Region for 2004-2005 |    |                                   |                     |                                |  |  |
|---|----|-----------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|--|--|
| SEP   | 11 | OEC COURSE STARTS @ WINTERGREEN   | WINTERGREEN         | TUCKER CROLIUS 434-325-8060    |  |  |
| OCT   | 30 | OEC COURSE STARTS @ MASSANUTTEN   | MASSANUTTEN         | BARTEK DREWNOWSKI 540-289-4955 |  |  |
| DEC   | 19 | OEC EVALUATION @ WINTERGREEN      | WINTERGREEN         | TED FORBES 434-979-7586        |  |  |
| OEC Events held in Region for 2004-2005                 |    |                                   |                     |                                |  |  |
| SEP   | 25 | PRE-REFRESHER @ WINTERGREEN       | WINTERGREEN         | TUCKER CROLIUS 434-325-8060    |  |  |
| OCT   | 2  | PRE-REFRESHER @ BRYCE             | BRYCE               | NANCY DIBENNETTO 202-877-1423  |  |  |
| OCT   | 2  | PRE-REFRESHER @ MASSANUTTEN       | MASSANUTTEN         | WILL DRURY 540-478-4631        |  |  |
| OCT   | 3  | OEC REFRESHER @ BRYCE - Lift Evac | BRYCE               | NANCY DIBENNETTO 202-877-1423  |  |  |
| OCT   | 16 | WINTERGREEN ON-THE HILL           | WINTERGREEN         | TUCKER CROLIUS 434-325-8060    |  |  |
| OCT   | 17 | OEC REFRESHER @ WINTERGREEN       | ROCKFISH VALLEY SCH | TUCKER CROLIUS 434-325-8061    |  |  |
| OCT   | 23 | OEC REFRESHER @ MASSANUTTEN       | MASSANUTTEN         | WILL DRURY 540-478-4631        |  |  |
| OCT   | 24 | MASSANUTTEN ON-THE-HILL           | MASSANUTTEN         | BARTEK DREWNOWSKI 540-289-4955 |  |  |
| OCT   | 29 | PRE-REFRESHER @ HOMESTEAD         | HOMESTEAD           | JEFF SMITH 757-851-8921        |  |  |
| OCT   | 30 | OEC REFRESHER @ HOMESTEAD         | HOMESTEAD           | JEFF SMITH 757-851-8922        |  |  |

## Virginia Calendar (continued)

| CPR Events held in Region for 2004-2005          |    |                                       |             |                                 |           |
|--|----|---------------------------------------|-------------|---------------------------------|-----------|
| JUN  | 12 | BRYCE CPR REFRESHER/MEETING/COOKOUT   | BRYCE       | NANCY DIBENNEDETTO 202-877-1423 |           |
| JUN  | 19 | WINTERGREEN CPR/ANNUAL MEETING/PICNIC | WINTERGREEN | TUCKER CROLIUS 434-325-8060     |           |
| SEP  | 26 | CPR REFRESHER @ WINTERGREEN           | WINTERGREEN | TUCKER CROLIUS 434-325-8060     |           |
| Educational Courses held in Region for 2004-2005 |    |                                       |             |                                 |           |
| NOV  | 20 | INSTRUCTOR DEVELOPMENT                | WINTERGREEN | KENN BUCKNER 919-645-6615       | 20-Oct-04 |
| DEC  | 11 | PATROLLER ENRICHMENT SEMINAR          | HOMESTEAD   | MARY UNDERWOOD 865-483-3675     | 11-Nov-04 |
| MAR  | 12 | AVALANCHE AWARENESS                   | WINTERGREEN | MIKE FISHER 434-296-8486        | 12-Feb-05 |
| Events held in the Region for 2004-2005          |    |                                       |             |                                 |           |
| JUN  | 12 | BRYCE SPRING MEETING                  | BRYCE       | NANCY DIBENNEDETTO 202-877-1423 |           |
| AUG  | 15 | MASSANUTTEN HOO-HA BIKE RACE          | MASSANUTTEN | KENNY HESS 540-289-4954         |           |
| OCT  | 3  | FALL MEETING                          | BRYCE       | NANCY DIBENNEDETTO 202-877-1423 |           |
| NOV  | 13 | MASSANUTTEN SKI SWAP                  | MASSANUTTEN | KENNY HESS 540-289-4955         |           |
| NOV  | 26 | WINTERGREEN SKI SWAP                  | WINTERGREEN | JIM CMCASLIN                    |           |
| DEC  | 11 | MASSANUTTEN TRANSFER ORIENTATION      | MASSANUTTEN | BARTEK DREWNOWSKI 540-289-4955  |           |
| DEC  | 12 | WINTERGREEN TRANSFER ORIENTATION      | WINTERGREEN | ED POUNCEY 703-266-2943         |           |
| JAN  | 8  | SENIOR SKI CLINIC - FULL DAY          | WINTERGREEN | MIKE FISHER 434-296-8486        |           |
| JAN  | 9  | SENIOR TOBOGGAN CLINIC - FULL DAY     | WINTERGREEN | MIKE FISHER 434-296-8486        |           |
| JAN  | 22 | SENIOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT CLINIC    | MASSANUTTEN | DAVE QUIDORT 919-363-7935       |           |
| JAN  | 23 | SENIOR S&T CLINIC                     | MASSANUTTEN | MIKE FISHER 434-296-8486        |           |
| FEB  | 19 | SENIOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT EVAL      | WINTERGREEN | DAVE QUIDORT 919-363-7935       |           |
| FEB  | 20 | SENIOR S & T EVALUATION               | WINTERGREEN | MIKE FISHER 434-296-8486        |           |
| MAR  | 13 | MASSANUTTEN PICNIC                    | MASSANUTTEN | BARTEK DREWNOWSKI 540-289-4955  |           |

## Blue Ridge Calendar

| OEC Courses and Challenges held in Region for 2004-2005 |       |                                  |              |                                    |                                   |
|---|-------|----------------------------------|--------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| JUNE  | 19    | OEC E-course Orientation         | HICKORY      | TERESA STEWART 704-718-5675 (cell) | HICKORY @ 8:30 am                 |
| AUG   | 31    | OEC Course                       | BOONE        | CHARLES LENTZ 828-264-5261         | lentzcl@watauga.k12.nc.us         |
| OCT   | 23,24 | OEC CHALLENGE                    | SUGAR MTN    | LARRY FLEMING 828-437-8448         | SUGAR MTN @ 8:30am                |
| OEC Events held in Region for 2004-2005                 |       |                                  |              |                                    |                                   |
| SEP   | 11    | OEC INSTRUCTOR (PRE) REFRESHER   | APPALACHIAN  | LISA ADAMS 828-387-2891            | BEGINS @ 8:30 am                  |
| OCT   | 2     | OEC REFRESHER-Grandfather        | VALLE CRUCES | MARK REES 704-896-0747             | VALLE CRUCES ELEMENTARY           |
| NOV   | 6     | OEC REFRESHER-Carolina Highlands | BANNER ELK   | MARK REES 704-896-0747             | LEES MCRAE COLLEGE                |
| CPR Events held in Region for 2004-2005                 |       |                                  |              |                                    |                                   |
| AUG   | 7,8   | CPR / BIKE RACE                  | SUGAR MTN    | MARY SELF 336-759-0263             | mself@wfubmc.edu                  |
| Educational Courses for 2004-2005                       |       |                                  |              |                                    |                                   |
| JUN   | 26    | INSTRUCTOR DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR   | ASHEVILLE    | LARRY BOST 828-322-1315            | HEART TOWER@MISSION HOSP/IRM E390 |
| JUN   | 27    | PATROLLER ENRICHMENT SEMINAR     | ASHEVILLE    | MARY UNDERWOOD 865-482-8532        | HEART TOWER@MISSION HOSP/IRM E391 |
| JUN   | 27    |                                  |              |                                    | 27-May-04                         |
| Region Events for 2004-2005                             |       |                                  |              |                                    |                                   |
| JULY  | 24    | APPALACHIAN Bd MEETING           | MOORESVILLE  | TONY RAY 828-478-9317              |                                   |
| AUG   | 7,8   | CPR/BIKE RACE                    | SUGAR MTN    | MARY SELF 336-759-0263             |                                   |
| SEPT  | 25    | HAWKSNEST Golf Tournament        | HAWKSNEST    | JONATHAN HALE 336-403-9622         |                                   |
| OCT   | 9     | OCTOBERFEST                      | SUGAR MTN    | FLYNN HARRIS 704-366-5487          |                                   |
| DEC   | 4     | SENIOR EMERGENCY MGMT CLINIC     | BEECH MTN    | HARVEY VARNER 336-785-4533         | 8:30 AM                           |
| DEC   | 5     | REGION S&T EXAMINERS CLINIC      | APPALACHIAN  | TONY TINGLE 865-220-9456           | 8:30AM                            |
| JAN   | 8     | SENIOR S&T CLINIC                | BEECH MTN    | TONY TINGLE 865-220-9456           | 8:30AM                            |
| JAN   | 9     | BASIC S&T EVALUATION             | SUGAR MTN    | TONY TINGLE 865-220-9456           | 8:30AM                            |
| JAN   | 22    | SR EMERGENCY MGMT EVALUATION     | BEECH MTN    | HARVEY VARNER 336-785-4533         | 8:30AM                            |
| JAN   | 23    | BASIC S&T EVALUATION             | BEECH MTN    | TONY TINGLE 865-220-9456           | 8:30AM                            |
| JAN   | 29,30 | SENIOR S & T EVALUATION          | HAWKSNEST    | TONY TINGLE 865-220-9456           | 8:30AM                            |
| FEB   | 12    | BASIC S&T EVALUATION             | HAWKSNEST    | TONY TINGLE 865-220-9456           | 8:30AM                            |
| MAR   | 6     | BASIC S&T EVALUATION             | APPALACHIAN  | TONY TINGLE 865-220-9456           | 8:30AM                            |

## Smoky Mountain Calendar

| OEC Courses and Challenges held in Region for 2004-2005 |       |                                 |                   |                              |                                   |
|---|-------|---------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| JUN   | 12    | OEC COURSE @ ATLANTA            | ATLANTA AREA      | KEN COLLINS 770-719-0781     |                                   |
| JUL   | 19    | OEC ELECTRONIC COURSE           | HICKORY, NC       | LARRY BOST 704-865-7484      | INTERNET OEC COURSE               |
| JUL   | 28    | OEC COURSE @ GATLINBURG         | GATLINBURG AREA   | BRANDON OLSON 865-471-5197   |                                   |
| DEC   | 11-13 | OEC CHALLENGE                   | CATALOOCHEE, NC   | ANN CHRISTENSON 770-394-5869 |                                   |
| OEC Events held in Region for 2004-2005                 |       |                                 |                   |                              |                                   |
| OCT   | 9     | OEC INST. REFRESH @ CATALOOCHEE | CATALOOCHEE, NC   | TOM RAUDORF 865-483-5818     | CATALOOCHEE SKI AREA              |
| OCT   | 6     | OEC INST. REFRESH @ GATLINBURG  | KNOXVILLE, TN     | BRENT GALLOWAY 865-494-5499  | PELLISSIPPI ST.TECH.COM.COL.      |
| NOV   | 6     | OEC INST. REFRESH @ WOLF LAUREL | ASHEVILLE, NC     | RHONDA SMITH 828-645-9171    | WOLF LAUREL SKI AREA              |
| NOV   | 6     | OEC REFRESHER @ CATALOOCHEE     | CATALOOCHEE, NC   | TOM RAUDORF 865-483-5818     | CATALOOCHEE SKI AREA              |
| NOV   | 7     | CATALOOCHEE ON THE HILL         | CATALOOCHEE, NC   | DAN GREENE 770-640-6396      | CATALOOCHEE SKI AREA              |
| NOV   | 6     | OEC REFRESHER @ GATLINBURG      | GATLINBURG, TN    | BRENT GALLOWAY 865-494-5499  | PELLISSIPPI ST.TECH.COM.COL.      |
| NOV   | 7     | GATLINBURG ON THE HILL          | GATLINBURG, TN    | BRANDON OLSON 865-471-5197   | GATLINBURG SKI AREA               |
| NOV   | 20    | OEC REFRESHER @ WOLF LAUREL     | ASHEVILLE, NC     | RHONDA SMITH 828-645-9171    | WOLF LAUREL SKI AREA              |
| NOV   | 21    | WOLF LAUREL ON THE HILL         | WOLF LAUREL, NC   | BOB MITCHELL 828-658-0434    | WOLF LAUREL SKI AREA @ 9AM        |
| JAN   | 8     | SMOKY MTN NORDIC ON THE HILL    | SMOKY MT NATL PK  | ANDY MEACHAN 865-494-8838    |                                   |
| CPR Events held in Region for 2004-2005                 |       |                                 |                   |                              |                                   |
| OCT   | TBD   | ATLANTA CPR REFRESHER           | ATLANTA, GA       | MELANIE WOLFORD 770-426-4182 | KINCAID MIDDLE SCHOOL             |
| OCT   | TBD   | GATLINBURG CPR REFRESHER        | GATLINBURG, TN    | TBD                          | TBD                               |
| OCT   | TBD   | CATALOOCHEE CPR REFRESHER       | MAGGIE VALLEY, NC | TBD                          | TBD                               |
| NOV   | TBD   | ASHEVILLE CPR REFRESHER         | ASHEVILLE, NC     | TBD                          | TBD                               |
| Educational Courses for 2004-2005                       |       |                                 |                   |                              |                                   |
| JUN   | 26    | INSTRUCTOR DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR  | ASHEVILLE         | LARRY BOST 828-322-1315      | HEART TOWER@MISSION HOSP/IRM E390 |
| JUN   | 27    | PATROLLER ENRICHMENT SEMINAR    | ASHEVILLE, NC     | MARY UNDERWOOD 865-483-3675  | HEART TOWER@MISSION HOSP/IRM E391 |
| AUG   | 14    | INSTRUCTOR DEVELOPMENT COURSE   | CULLOWHEE, NC     | BOB LANDIN (770) 640-6771    | WESTERN CAROLINA UNIV.            |
| DEC   | 4     | AVALANCHE FUNDAMENTALS          | CULLOWHEE, NC     | DENNIS SLAGE 919-528-9279    | WESTERN CAROLINA UNIV.            |
| DEC   | 4     | MTR LEVEL 1                     | CULLOWHEE, NC     | BEN THOLKES 828-293-7134     | WESTERN CAROLINA UNIV.            |

## Smoky Mountain Calendar (continued)

| Region Events for 2004-2005 |     |                               |                 |                              |                              |
|-----------------------------|-----|-------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| DEC                         | 2-5 | ATLANTA SKI SWAP SALE         | ATLANTA, GA     | ANN CHRISTENSON 770-394-5869 | COBB GALLERIA SPECIALTY MALL |
| JAN                         | 8   | EXAMINER'S PROFICIENCY CLINIC | WOLF LAUREL, NC | PHIL CRITCHER 828-684-8721   |                              |
| JAN                         | 23  | SENIOR S&T CLINIC             | GATLINBURG, TN  | BOB BREWSTER 828-684-8100    |                              |
| FEB                         | 13  | SR S&T EVALUATION             | GATLINBURG, TN  | BOB BREWSTER 828-684-8100    |                              |
| FEB                         | 6   | SR OEC CLINIC                 | CATALOOCHEE, NC | BEN RAY 828-675-0896         |                              |
| FEB                         | 27  | SR OEC EVALUATION             | CATALOOCHEE, NC | LARRY ERB 828-645-4718       |                              |

### Deep South Calendar

|            |  |                       |                   |                |
|------------|--|-----------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| June 12    | OEC Course –Atlanta                    | Atlanta, GA           | Ken Collins       | (770)306-6860  |
| June 26    | PES                                    | Ashville, NC          | Mary Underwood    | (865)483-3675  |
| Aug. 14    | Instructor Development                 | Ashville, NC          | Bob Landin        | (770)640-6771  |
| Aug. 22    | Fall Officers Meeting                  | Wytheville, VA        | Sylvia Talley     | (770) 552-8968 |
| Aug. 28    | OEC Refresher Planning Meeting         | Atlanta, GA           | Mike Boggs        | (770) 822-0024 |
| Sept. 11   | OEC Instructor Refresher               | Atlanta, GA           | Mike Boggs        | (770) 822-0024 |
| Sept. 25   | Atlanta OEC Final Evaluation           | Atlanta, GA           | Ken Collins       | (770) 306-6860 |
| Oct. 16-17 | MTR I                                  | Cullowee, NC          | Ben Tholkes       | (828) 293-7134 |
| Nov. 6     | OEC Refresher for Cloudmont/Sky Valley | Atlanta, GA           | Mike Boggs        | (770) 822-0024 |
| Nov. 6     | OEC Refresher for Sapphire             | Cataloochee           | Ben Tholkes       | (828) 293-7134 |
| Nov. 7     | Sky Valley On-the-Hill                 | Sky Valley, GA        | Celeste Bernstein | (770) 552-2755 |
| Nov. 20-21 | MTR II                                 | Smoky Mtns. Nat. Park | Don Jones         | (931) 455-0137 |
| Dec. 4     | Avalanche Awareness                    | Cullowee, NC          | Dennis Slagle     | (919) 528-9279 |
| Dec. 19    | Sapphire On-the-Hill                   | Sapphire, NC          | Ben Tholkes       | (828) 293-7134 |
| Jan. 23    | Sr. S&T Clinic                         | Gatlinburg, TN        | Chris Brecher     | (770) 297-7940 |
| Feb. 6     | Basic S&T Evaluation                   | Sky Valley, GA        | Brent Bowman      | (404) 869-8286 |
| Feb. 13    | Sr. S&T Evaluation                     | Gatlinburg, TN        | Chris Brecher     | (770) 297-7940 |

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



# Southern Cross

A Publication of The Southern Division of The National Ski Patrol

2003-04, Number 2

January 2004

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**Southern Cross** is published three times a year—fall, mid winter and spring. Articles and photos are encouraged and appreciated. With photos, please include caption information. If at all possible, please include a photo of the author with articles. Submission deadline for the spring issue is May 31, 2004. Send submissions to:

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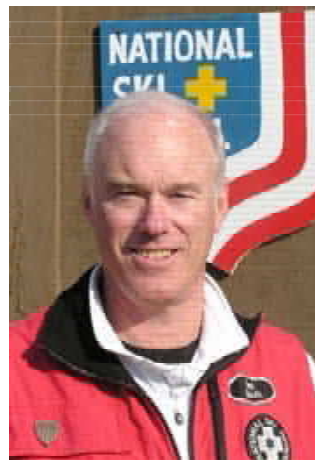
## What is it all about?

Neil Booth, Division Director

*Have you ever asked yourself the question “What is it all about?”—especially when it comes to Patrolling!* Well think no more as it is all about helping people and having fun while doing so. I know that those of you that have had to deal with serious incidents did not have fun doing so, but you felt very comfortable knowing that you helped someone in need, someone that was attempting to enjoy the sport we all love so much.

To do the above, we all need to sharpen our edges each and every year by attending our OEC refresher, CPR refresher and on-the-hill ski and toboggan refresher. At this time, all should be accomplished and you have filed all the rust off the edges and have the sharpest tools available. Our OEC refresher cycle went extremely smooth. We all owe a great deal of gratitude to our OEC Instructors. They did a spectacular job! A little better than 25% of Southern’s membership are involved in the OEC discipline and do an excellent job bringing this national refresher to all of us. Your Toboggan and Ski/Snowboard Instructors have more than likely run you through the skills sessions also. Everyone should thank them for their extra efforts too. Without these extremely dedicated individuals, our system could not function. Remember, the largest part of our instructor base is all volunteer time, and the only compensation derived is the satisfaction and recognition of doing a great job. Please, give them a pat on the back and a word of thanks.

Let me now move to the subject of what we do. If I lined up ten people, can you identify who is a Paid Patroller and who is a Volunteer Patroller? I have a great deal of trouble identifying them! Can anyone assist me in honing in on this skill? I bet you cannot help me simply because there is no difference!!! Oh yes, some are compensated for their services and others are not, but that does not reveal anyone in the line up, does it? Yes, some work Monday through Friday; some work Saturday and Sunday; some work days, some work nights, some patrol full time, some part-time, but how can you tell who is who? Actually, if you take off all identifications, can you recognize who is an Auxiliary, Basic, Senior, Certified, Paid, Volunteer or anything else you might think of? I guess when all is said and done; we are all Patrollers with very little differentiation from the outward appearance. There is a need and purpose for every level of patroller, in each patrol. We all are here to help our snow sports customers, assist management, help each other and enjoy



what we do. We provide an extremely valuable service to our resorts. We all need to be very proud of who and what we are. It has been said that patrollers can be the best or worst person you get to know. If we are challenged into the policing role, we are not their best friends, nor should we be. If they are injured, we will definitely become their best friend. Remember, we are the last person they see at our resorts, so we need to leave a positive lasting impression with them. We can all think of people that have come back to say what a wonderful job we did, or patrollers did. This is the ultimate reward and compensation. I can proudly say that I just completed the fifth year in a row for which the advisor from a church group, stopped to say hello and reminds me of helping one of her members, an orthopedic surgeon's son, with his fractured wrist. Actually, I also get to say hello to about fifteen of their members each year. This is the type of lasting impression we need to leave with our customers. They are what drive the snow sports business. So, to cover all diversities, we are one, we are Patrollers and nothing else should every get in the way. Together, we all make the system work.

To give you all an update on works in process, we continue to work on our Instructor Development program. We need your participation in the program for future development of new instructors in all disciplines. We cannot continue to rely upon those that instruct year after year. Everyone needs a break from time to time. We can accomplish this and spread the workload of our system, if we all get involved to some degree. If you desire to become an instructor, Instructor Development is the first step, followed by the mentoring program whereby an instructor is assigned to work with you to prepare you to be a discipline-specific instructor. Talk to your Patrol Representative about the opportunities that exist and the needs that need to be filled. Our progress to date has been somewhat disappointing due to the cancellation of several Instructor Development courses, due to lack of sign up. I personally challenge each Patrol Representative and the Patrol Leadership to seek you out. If you are asked to participate, it is because your patrol leadership feels you have more to offer the system.

We continue to work on refining and defining the Senior process. Are you interested in the Senior Program? Do you know what is needed to get into the program? Do you know what you need to prepare for? Do you know how rewarding the Senior program can be! Talk about sharpening the edge! You will be a power tool when you get done and feel wonderful about the knowledge you gain and confidence you now possess. Take advantage of the program; ask your Patrol Representative for more information.

We are also looking at the future of the Student Seminar. If this draws a blank in your mind as to what we are looking at, talk to your Patrol Representative and they will fill you in. The future of the program lies in your hands. Speak now or forever hold your peace!

Our National Board of Directors met in mid January and had a very productive meeting. One major change is that the Division OEC Supervisor no longer reports directly to Division. They now report to the National Program Director. The OEC Supervisors overseeing OEC activities for each division also select the OEC Administrators who oversees activities in smaller geographic regional areas. It actually means very little, if at all, to our division, as this is the way we operate currently, with this one exception. Now, Judi Kay-Monaghan reports directly to National; the current Region Administrators already reported to her. You will not, nor should you see nor notice anything different.

The National Board also approved a new elective for Senior. If you recall, they were piloting an OEC Enhancement Seminar last year and it has been very successful. Now, if two sessions/sections are completed, they count as one Senior elective. This is excellent thus giving focused training for specific injuries. There will be more information forthcoming.

As you read this, realize that the winter season is winding down. Until we take the last run of the season, keep doing what you all do. Be professional, be courteous and BE having fun doing it all. Thanks to you all for the wonderful jobs that you do on behalf of our industry, our system, our resorts, our customers and most of all, the friendships we all enjoy, belonging to our great system. This is "What it is all about"!

## *From the Assistants...*



### **Instructor Development Program**

*Morgan Armstrong*

*First Assistant Division Director and Instructor Development Supervisor*

To: All Southern Division Patrol Representatives and Instructors of the Instructor Development Program

The following is a reproduction of page 64 of the new Administrative Procedures Manual

for the Southern Division (third edition, August 2003). I request each of you review this set of instructions in an effort to motivate and encourage all of the patrollers of the division. We need instructors for the Instructor Development Program and all of the other programs in the division. Since some of the classes which were attempted had to be cancelled this year due to lack of interest, I am asking each of you take another look at how to make this work. The West Virginia Region has put on two classes this year using this method successfully and I hope to get the interest and enthusiasm of this region spread to all of the regions. Let's get 2004 off to a good start and 2005 will allow the division to spread the load and make the task more enjoyable for everyone. Thanks to all of the dedicated instructors who are laboring for the division and who have held a successful Instructor Development Class for the division for the year 2003 and the first months of 2004.

## **DIVISION ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES**

### **Class Sizes for Education Courses**

- **PURPOSE:** Provide a minimum number of attendees for each disciplines class that provides adequate interaction and sharing of views and experiences, thus justifying the establishment of a course and the providing of Instructor(s).
- **REQUIREMENTS:** The minimum number of people to hold any class is 6 people; maximum is 12 people or IOR's determination.
- **EXPECTATIONS:** Attendees must commit in writing and pay the course registration fees 30 days prior to established dates listed in the Region or Division Calendars for each year.
  - **PATROL REPRESENTATIVE ACTIONS:**
    - Courses will be listed on the Region or Division Calendars at the Spring Officers Meeting.
    - Patrol Representatives must solicit participants and give firm commitments, by patrol, of expected attendees, by the Fall Officers Meeting.
    - If commitment of 6 or more people are not confirmed by the Fall Officers Meeting, the courses may be removed from the calendar year; rescheduled the next calendar year, based on commitments.
  - **INSTRUCTOR OF RECORD ACTIONS:**
    - Register course with National, once commitments from attendees are received.
    - Order course materials and certificates for completion.
    - If you do not have a minimum of 6 attendees, 30 days in advance of the course, you may cancel the course and notify attendees that have sent in their fees and commitments. Return checks along with cancellation notification.
    - If course is performed, send the course completion paperwork to National.
    - Send a copy of the course completion paperwork to respective Division Program Supervisor and Region Director.
  - **OUTCOME:** Attendees should gain knowledge and experience through interactions with other people and patrols. The sharing of different points of view and experiences will provide a stronger learning environment for the specific discipline.
  - **PATROL REPRESENTATIVE OR DESIGNEE:** As a leader, you must determine who needs the developmental training of each discipline to fill the roles within your patrol, plus providing personnel to support the Region and Division.
    - Give specific dates and details of courses.
    - GET specific commitments from your membership.
    - Fill the needs of your patrol.
    - Promote at summer meetings and through newsletters.
    - Do not simply throw out the statement and consider the topic covered.
    - Support the discipline Instructor and value their time and efforts





## Be All You Can Be...

*Dennis Slagle*  
*Assistant Division Director—South Area*

You want to be a good patroller. You work hard as a patroller. You're there on the busy days, holidays, bad weather days, and off-season workdays. You are a valued patroller for the patrol, and your mountain. You know you are good at OEC, skiing and toboggan skills. With all your experience, knowledge, and expertise, did you ever stop and consider how good am I? It is human nature to want to prevent failure and be proficient at

whatever we do.

No matter how good we are at skiing, we all want to ski better. We will usually go to great lengths to get any instruction we can get, and practice all we can. We especially like the practice part. No matter what PSIA level we are on, we want to be at a higher level. The Southern Division is working to make that happen. We have started a division ski school and have our very own ski instructors now. These instructors, while most were starting out at a base level several years ago, are learning and improving their ski instructional skills every year. These instructors teach ski enhancement to help patrollers improve their skiing. Granted, these ski instructors were predestined to teach candidates who want to improve to patroller levels in skiing. They also have the tools necessary to help just about anyone improve their skiing ability. Please use this resource that we have provided and get that little extra knowledge.

The Southern Division also has several toboggan instructors in each region. These patrollers are instructors because they want to help others improve their skills. Toboggan enhancement seminars are an excellent way to grab a few more pointers and practice with your toboggan handling skills. With all the toboggan instructors we have throughout the division, there is almost always one on the hill at each area at all times. These instructors would be more than happy to work with anyone who is interested in honing some transportation skills.

The most valued part of patrolling, OEC, has for a long time had most of its instruction performed at annual refreshers. OEC enhancement seminars are being developed to assist us to improve some of our first aid skills. These are still in the development stage and we are anxious to get them implemented. We also have multitudes of OEC instructors at every area, which would help anyone to improve their OEC skills. The National Board of Directors just approved that if Senior candidates take at least two segments of the OEC Enhancement Seminars it will now count as one of their Senior Electives. Now that's an elective you can really use. More will be forthcoming on this new development from OEC.



## Notes From The North

*Jan Starr*  
*Assistant Division Director—North Area*

Well, we're about half way through now and headed on a "downhill run". I hope everyone has had a good one so far. I know we've had all the extremes possible here at Snowshoe.

Our training and learning process is never over though, so everyone should still be moving forward. There was a wonderful turnout for West Virginia's Instructor Development Class at Winterplace. There are twelve new folks out there ready to be mentored in their chosen discipline. My thanks to all who participated and made this a huge success. It makes a hard act to follow for all the other classes that are scheduled yet. I know at this time the one in Virginia has been rescheduled to try to get more participation. With that, I put forth a challenge to the folks in Virginia to beat the enrollment at West Virginia's class! It takes marketing from the instructors, Patrol Directors, Patrol Reps and fellow patrollers to get this to happen. Lay a little peer pressure on 'em.

The Senior programs will be happening in the coming months, and I thank Bill Smith and his team for stepping forward to make the tracking process easier.

The Mountain Travel and Rescue-2 course should be interesting to participate in with the weather extremes we've been having. Happy Camping to those folks joining in that endeavor. Hopefully there will be plenty of snow and participation for the Nordic festivities being held at White Grass. The final event of the season will be the certified program, which is always a wonderful learning tool.

As our downhill slide progresses, I will finally have some time to get around to all the areas at least once in the coming months. Looking forward to visiting with old friends and making new ones. Enjoy the rest of your season!

## From the Regions...



### Virginia Region

*Bill Smith, Virginia Region Director*

Well, here we are off to a great ski season with lots of things happening in the northern part of the Division. All areas in Virginia got off to an early start this season with opening dates for most areas in early December. Later that month, Mother Nature tried to get the best of us by sending warm weather our way. However, all of our areas survived that thaw and have recovered nicely.

A great deal of emphasis has been put on training throughout the region.

Three refresher programs were held in the region giving everyone an opportunity to complete that requirement in a convenient manner. After visiting all three, I must say the folks involved in putting those programs together and those assisting in conducting them did a real bang up job!

Candidate classes are progressing nicely with final evaluations scheduled a little later in the season. Out of these classes, a whole new crop of patrollers will have been grown.

The Senior program appears to be strong this year with twelve candidates scheduled for the various clinics and evaluations that will be held in late January and late February at Wintergreen.

Additionally, several other educational programs will be offered in the coming weeks. They include: Certified Clinic, February 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> at Massanutten; Avalanche Awareness, March 13<sup>th</sup> at Wintergreen; and an Instructor Development Course, March 20<sup>th</sup> at Wintergreen. Please check the calendar for further information on these programs.

"Please join me in congratulating Jay Roberts on his promotion to Director of Mountain Operations at Wintergreen." Jay will be responsible for all recreation operations on the mountain throughout the year, including Ski Operations and Out of Bounds. Also new at Wintergreen is the "Magic Carpet" people mover in their tubing park. It's a pretty neat way to get folks back up the hill safely.

In closing, I am saddened to have to report the loss of a patroller at Massanutten. Edward Luke Covington, 61, of Old Church, Virginia, passed away January 1, 2004, while skiing at Massanutten, where he was a 25 year member of the Massanutten Ski Patrol. Ed retired from active patrolling in 1999 and was currently an alumni member, patrol historian and ski ambassador. He was an original member of the Massanutten ski patrol and recipient of the Purple Merit Star. Ed is survived by his wife of 34 years, Barbara B. Covington; his daughter, Ashley B. Covington. He was a pilot, who built his own plane, in which he set two world speed records. He was a member of the Experimental Airplane Association and worked with the Young Eagles Program and the Civil Air Patrol. A graduate of Castle Heights Military Academy and The Citadel, he served as an officer in the U.S. Army, before he began his career in the commercial construction business. He was an avid woodworker. A native of Bowling Green, Kentucky, Mr. Covington was a lifelong Episcopalian. He was a great friend who will be missed by all.



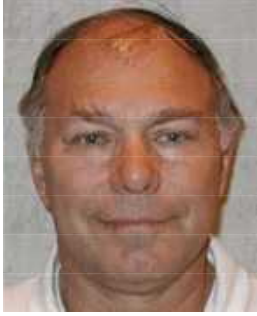
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Jan Starr, ADD for North Area, looks on as Homestead patrollers apply a traction splint.



## West Virginia Region

*Jon Dragan, West Virginia Region Director*



The early snow enabled all of the West Virginia ski areas to get a good base and with the aid of snowmaking all areas now have all their slopes and trails open.

Timberline resort has added snowmaking to Off The Wall and extra culverts to many trails to help minimize washouts. They have also replaced the main drive on the triple lift as well as adding triple chairs to the Silver Queen Lift. There was some general remodeling of the main lodge and all the terrain is open. A major effort was made to replace all the doors, power wash inside and out of the warming hut at the top of the mountain. Once completed the entire inside was painted and the deck was sealed for the

upcoming season—a great team effort on the part of the patrol.

Timberline Ski Patrol finished their Outdoor Emergency Care class on the December 8, just in time for the first snow. They had eight candidates pass the OEC course and these folks are currently learning on-the-hill patroller skills. From opening day on December 12 through December 25 Timberline had 50 inches of natural snow. Scott Young has cleared some areas for great new glade skiing.

Snowshoe-Silvercreek is happy to say that the Snowshoe Health Center is now under the direction of their patrol manager, Rick Sharp, thus providing better care to the guests. They have also expanded some of the core trails around the habitat of the flying squirrels and salamanders. In so doing, the resort has come up with ten acres of additional terrain bringing the total skiable acres to 234.

The resort has been busy over the summer adding snowmaking equipment to the mountain. Management is happy to report that they now have 100 % snowmaking on the mountain. The terrain park is new and improved on Spruce Glades and features the most rails in the region. The patrol has reinstated their Junior Patroller program and look for good things to come of this move. It's the beginning of the year and the Snowshoe Patrol has already set a record, they will have Five—count 'em, five—new patrollers entering the certified program this year, a record for the patrol, congratulations. And the winner of the “all the slopes open before the Christmas holiday” award goes to Silvercreek, the only resort to have all its slopes open before Santa Day!



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Scott Young, “Patient” Jack Harding, Nicole Dodge at the Timberline OEC Refresher.



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The "Free Heel" clinic was held at Winterplace on January 4. About half the class members were first time free heelers. "A flopping good time was had by all"

Winterplace resort has had a very busy fall and early winter schedule. Over the summer many of the patrol OEC instructors assisted Bud Frantz in conducting an OEC class for the river community and the patrol now has several instructors who teach in both venues. An OEC class was held prior to the season under the direction of Nadine and Walter Watson with the assistance of many of the instructors not only from the patrol, but also the river community. Those persons successfully completing the class were: Kellie Brown, Adam Carrico, Isaac Colvard, Josh Radcliffe, Seth Radcliffe, Eli Shleser, Brett Skaggs, Logan Skidmore, and Chris Snuffer. In addition to the rigors of the class, their lead instructor also requires additional hours of on the slope training prior to their signing on with the patrol. The really big news, in addition to Winterplace now having 100% snowmaking over the entire mountain, is the signing of Patrol Representative Tom Wagner as the new Assistant Patrol Director. He will be taking over some of the duties from overworked patrol Director Brian "The Squirrel" Hager. The new lead toboggan instructor, Scott Hill, has been busy working with all the new candidates and helping them improve their sled handling skills. The Instructor Development Course under the leadership of Jorge McMurray was well attended by all the resorts; as was Tom Wagner's Telemark Clinic in early January.

It has been a very busy time for all getting ready for the season, but now that the snow is here it's time to enjoy the slopes. Keep thinking snow.



## Blue Ridge Region



*Mike Harris, Blue Ridge Region Director*

The Blue Ridge Region was chomping at the bit to open this year. Sugar Mountain was open to three-quarters with excellent conditions on November 15 and 16. Then THE FLOODS came! Appalachian opened as usual with their "first day free" on November 26, the day before Thanksgiving. Sugar Mountain reopened to the top with night skiing on November 29.

Beech Mountain and Hawksnest opened to the top on December 5th. We have been fortunate to have excellent early season conditions. I hope the January thaw we had the first week will be the last we see until spring.

All four of our areas have a healthy crop of candidates and the largest number of patrollers involved in the Senior program that we have had in years.

On December 23, Larry Fleming, Instructor of Record, with help from Flynn Harris, Tommy Taylor, and myself had an excellent experience teaching NSP's Outdoor First Care to twelve individuals from Sugar Mountain including all levels of management and racing coaches. Not only was it a good learning experience, but the interaction with such a terrific group of people made us all feel a little closer.



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Mike Harris presented a Certificate of appreciation to Gil Adams for job well done as Division Professional Director and a National Appointment to Rick Laws at the Carolina Highlands Refresher—home of the Division's most readable name tags.



The Blue Ridge Senior Clinic was held at Beech on January 6.

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Let me close by stressing the importance of attending the Spring Convention and Awards Banquet in May which is being held in Boone at the Broyhill Center. Come be a part of the congratulations to your fellow patrollers as they are awarded Patrol of the Year, Patrollers of the Year, and many other awards. Come visit the Saturday meeting at your leisure and see how The Southern Division's business is done.

P.S. Don't forget that on April 14 Powderfall will be held at Snowbird, Utah again this year. For more information and registration materials go to [http://www.nsp.org/nsp2002/events\\_template.asp](http://www.nsp.org/nsp2002/events_template.asp).



## Deep South Region

Sylvia Talley, Deep South Region Director

They were all smiling—it was snowing. For the past eight years, there had been little or no snow in the Great Smokies; but now, there was promise of a good Nordic season for these members of the Smoky Mountain Nordic Patrol. During this meeting on January 10 to renew their agreement for volunteer services to the National Park Service, I learned some interesting things about this remarkable patrol. To my dismay, I missed the tour of the park’s new Search and Rescue vehicle...black ice near Cosby made for a challenging trip. Since their formation some 27 years ago, the patrol has enjoyed a working relationship with the National Park

Service. Remember the winter of 1987? The snow was some eighteen feet deep then at Newfound Gap (elevation 5000 feet). Six years later the blizzard of '93 buried the well-known shelter at Tri-Corner Knob.

On Sunday, February 12, 1995, members of the Smoky Mountain Nordic Patrol participated in the grim task of carrying out the body of a pilot whose plane had crashed the day before in the backcountry of the Smokies. Some of the patrollers had known this pilot. This was one of the search and rescue missions related to this patroller by George Minnich, Back County Management Specialist for the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

In other news from the Deep South Region, we now have three Mountain Travel and Rescue instructors—two of them are Instructor Trainers. In our efforts to revive the Mountain Travel and Rescue (MTR) program, we will hold either an MTR I or MTR Awareness (undecided as we go the press) on the weekend of March 6-7, and an MTR II on March 12-14. Contact Don Jones ([dwjones@edge.net](mailto:dwjones@edge.net)), Smoky Mountain Nordic Patrol Representative, or Sylvia Talley ([snowmedic@mindspring.com](mailto:snowmedic@mindspring.com)) for further information.



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Smoky Mountain Nordic with the new SAR vehicle provided by The Friends of the Smokies. L to R Jim Reed, Sylvia Talley, Linda Pace, Patty Johnson, Debbie Meacham, Andy Meacham, Don Jones, Clayton Minchew, and Park Ranger Dale Culver.



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135 Years Young. Cloudmont patrollers with their recently awarded Service Recognition Certificates. John Newton (35 years), Dick Rhoades (35 years), Bob Palik (35 years), Loren Gross (30 years). Please, Sonny, no geriatric jokes.

The building boom for this season is finished, and Cloudmont will dedicate their new patrol hut in memory of the late Bo Stokes of their patrol [[See article on page 13](#)].

Sky Valley is putting the finishing touches on the “Polhemus Palace”, their summit hut that was designed by Chris Polhemus. Chris is Sky’s newest Senior patroller.

Lastly, the Region’s candidate training program is progressing smoothly, thanks to the hard work of Brent Bowman, Deep South ARD and Gordon Pettit. Both patrollers are Level I PSIA instructors. Brent is also an S&T instructor, as well as Senior Examiner.

Great things are coming out of this southern-most region in Southern Division. Watch for further news in the spring.





## Smoky Mountain Region

*Richard Boyer, Smoky Mountain Region Director*

**STEP UP:** The season has started off with a bang. All three of our areas were open for skiing soon after Thanksgiving and all have received quite a supply of natural snow as well as the more common machine-made type. Crowds are strong and it looks as if we will have a banner year in the Smoky Mountain Region.

I would like to thank each of you patrollers for participating in the National Ski Patrol and challenge you to find the time to grow your skills and capabilities to another level. If you are a basic patroller, why not begin the Senior program and start toward that goal? If you already are a Senior, look into starting the Certified program. One doesn't have to do it all in one season, but begin. Why? To hone your skills and improve your ability to handle the things which may come up in our skiing activities. I can assure you that it will result in your becoming a better first responder. You will become more capable of handling anything that comes your way and the comfort of that knowledge is priceless.

Another challenge I'd like to throw your way is identifying an area of our patrol lives in which you can become involved and make it a better organization. We have a need for folks to step up and become more involved in the leadership side. Step up and become a patrol representative, an assistant patrol representative, take on candidate training, or learn what is involved in being a good team leader. Bring along the young blood of our patrol and support their growth in becoming the personnel infrastructure for tomorrow. Always be on the hunt for new people interested in joining us. The more of us who **STEP UP** and encourage our fellow patrollers to do the same, the more good things will result for all our patrols and the people we are helping.

I am very proud of our Smoky Mountain Region. As I get to know more of you in each ski area, I am further impressed with what a special group of help-minded people are participating in National Ski Patrol. Thank you for doing the great job you do!

### *From the Supervisors and Advisors...*



## Update From The ISSS

*Ian Archibald, Southern Division Medical Advisor*

The International Society of Skiing Safety (ISSS) was founded as a result of the first world congress on skiing safety held in Sweden 1974. The next meeting didn't occur till 1977 but has been held biennially ever since at a variety of locations throughout the world. The purpose of the congress and the ISSS is to bring together a wide variety of individuals interested in all aspects of skiing safety and more recently all snow sports. Attendees include representatives of the skiing industry (binding, boot and ski manufacturers), engineers, skiing professionals including instructors, patrollers, physicians and ski area managers. The American Society of Testing Materials (ASTM) International publish a selection of the papers following the meeting and have become an excellent source of information for those interested in skiing safety. The most recent volume (vol. 14) reviews the highlights of the 2001 meeting held in Queenstown, New Zealand, and has just been published. The following is a summary of the information published in Vol 14.

Yamagish et al published their findings on pressure distributions inside the ski boot comparing shaped vs. conventional skis. They found that using race-experienced skiers, the pressure exerted inside the ski boot during turns was centered more rearward in the boot using shaped skis compared to conventional skis. A number of investigations have already reported an increase in injuries especially around the knee when comparing shaped skis to conventional. Yamagish, et al believe these findings help explain the mechanism by which these injuries occur. With more pressure on the rear of the ski, the inside of ski edge may catch, increasing the risk of a phantom foot type injury at the knee resulting in anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) injuries.

Semner et al reported on the potential that release bindings on skiboards may help in preventing injuries. Skiboards are defined as skis between 70-130 cm in length. The average age of skiboard users is 21. Use of these boards for stunts and aerial maneuvers is increasing. Studies already show a return of the old boot top tibia fibular fracture with skiboards using fixed bindings. They felt that a twist release toe piece would be necessary to protect

against spiral fractures. Heel piece design would be more difficult as the release point would need to be much lower than current heel pieces in use on conventional length skis. Therefore a new heel design will be needed.

Shealy et al reviewed the evolution and current status of binding function and their relationship to skiing injuries. Current release systems are intended to reduce tibia fractures. They are not designed to prevent knee injury. Lower release values might increase injuries of all types due to increase of inadvertent releases. The only proven method for ACL injury prevention is the “ACL Awareness Program”, or use of a shorter length ski. In the companion article by the same authors “Where do we go from here?” they criticize the current design of alpine equipment and challenge the manufacturing companies to explore new technologies to focus on ACL protection by taking into account the known mechanism of ACL injury—the Phantom Foot mechanism. True ACL protection will require a system that responds by degrading the performance of the support and control system so that the skier is forced to correct the technical error or if all else fails, releases the bindings.



## Southern Pride

*John Dobson, Southern Division Awards Coordinator*

**Last fall, many of our patrollers were again recognized for their outstanding ski patrol achievements and their dedicated service to the skiing public. Some were acknowledged at the Division Fall Officer’s Meeting in August, while others were identified at their local refreshers.**

**The Southern Division once more was honored to present the two highest awards the National Ski Patrol bestows.**

*On the evening of January 20, 2003, a young female skier was involved in a severe, high-speed collision accident at Wintergreen Resort, Virginia. The first-on Wintergreen ski patroller was at the injured skier’s side within seconds following the impact. He found the young woman lying supine, unresponsive, and apneic—but with a pulse. The patroller immediately stabilized the skier’s head, opened her airway with a jaw-thrust maneuver, and inserted an oral airway. He radioed for a spineboard, O<sub>2</sub>, suction, and a toboggan, alerted ALS, and asked for the local transport helicopter to be summoned! He then quickly opened his pocket mask, and began mouth to mask resuscitation.*

*Within 2 minutes, the second-on Wintergreen patroller, had skied a toboggan from the top of the hill to the accident scene. He quickly retrieved the bag-valve-mask (BVM) from the O<sub>2</sub> pack, gave it to the first-on patroller, and then attached the BVM to the O<sub>2</sub> cylinder at 15 liters/minute. By this time, other Wintergreen patrollers had arrived on scene. A spineboard was readied, and with good spinal immobilization technique, the patient was logrolled onto the board. Spider straps, a cervical collar and the CID were quickly applied, while rescue breathing was continued. The young woman was placed in the Wintergreen “outrigger trauma sled” and pulled up the mountain 150 yards by snowmobile, with the second-on patroller kneeling in the sled continuing BVM resuscitation. She was then transferred to an ambulance waiting on the edge of the slope. The total elapsed time from the moment of the accident till the patient was in the ambulance clocked less than 7 minutes! While in route to the resort helicopter-landing zone, “rapid sequence intubation” was carried out on the patient by the responding paramedics. The girl was flown to the University of Virginia Hospital in Charlottesville.*

*Upon admission to the UVA Emergency Department, the skier was found to have suffered a severe closed traumatic brain injury, bilateral hemopneumothoracies with multiple rib fractures and a flail chest, a fractured proximal left humerus and left olecranon, an intra-articular left knee laceration, and a comminuted pelvic fracture (which required emergent surgery to control an arterial bleeder and 15 units of blood)! Chest tubes were inserted bilaterally and the patient maintained on a respirator. Post-op, the patient continued unresponsive. Thirty-six hours after the accident, because of rapidly increasing intracranial pressure, the young girl was again emergently returned to the operating room, where an extensive bi-frontal brain decompression was carried out. Subsequent to her neurological surgery, the skier’s condition stabilized and continued to improve almost daily. Chest tubes were removed and she was weaned from the respirator. She began moving all four extremities, and eventually began responding to verbal commands. The frontal skull defect created at the time of brain decompression was repaired. At one-month post injury, the young woman was transferred to a rehabilitation unit where progressive although not complete recovery was anticipated. Indeed, upon discharge from the rehab unit several weeks later, the young woman was able to walk out with assistance!*

There is no question that the immediate, competent emergency care provided by the two Wintergreen patrollers saved this young skier's life. Also, their prompt airway management and resuscitation undoubtedly lessened the severity of her neurologic injury, thereby improving her chance for meaningful recovery.

It was with great pride and admiration that a **Purple Merit Star** was presented to **Brett Henyon** and a **Blue Merit Star** presented to **Drew Knick** in recognition and acknowledgement of the prompt life-saving emergency care treatment rendered by them on January 20, 2003, at Wintergreen Resort, Virginia.

Another merit star was presented this fall:

*The award recipient has been the Legal Advisor for Southern Division since 1995. In this position, she has done an excellent job attending all Division meetings and reporting on areas of concern from the National and Division perspectives. She has advised officers and patrollers how to manage risk and to reduce exposure to liability. She has written numerous articles on these topics for our Division newsletter, and she has attended the National Legal Committee meeting.*

*In 1997, the Southern Division Bylaws were reviewed by this individual and completely overhauled! Since September 2002, she has reviewed our Bylaws once again, and suggested numerous revisions in light of the change in the NSP National Board structure. She has also created a new Division Election procedure to be incorporated in our revised Bylaws.*

*Over the past several years, this patroller has fulfilled numerous requests for legal advice from her division director. These have included a review of allegations of Code of Conduct violations, requests to remove officers from region positions (with insinuations of legal action if not done), and requests to review ownership of patrol property at ski areas that ceased operation or were sold. She has created waivers for patrol training to be used in five different states. She helped create an Assumption of Risk document for the Commonwealth of Virginia, and has worked with patrollers in West Virginia to help produce a bill in granting Good Samaritan status to patrollers with OEC training in good standing. She has recruited a committee of attorney patrollers in the Southern Division to act as consultants on issues occurring in States outside her home of North Carolina.*

The Southern Division was delighted to present a **Yellow Merit Star** to Sugar Mountain's **Christy Myatt** for her continuing hard work and dedication as our Division Legal Advisor!

There was great sadness and an incredible feeling of loss, and also a tremendous sensation of pride, as a posthumous award was presented at the Snowshoe Refresher:

The recipient of this award was killed in a motorcycle accident on his way to work at Snowshoe Mountain Resort on July 19, 2003. He was an Assistant Manager of the Snowshoe Patrol, having been a member since 1982. He was a lifetime NSP Certified Patroller (#344), and very active in the administration of all aspects of this program. This patroller was a Toboggan Instructor and Instructor Trainer for the disciplines of skiing and toboggan, and for many years was involved in the training of new patrol candidates. He was extremely active in skier safety and guest services. His knowledge, experience and friendship of 20 years will be greatly missed by the entire Snowshoe Patrol.

The National Ski Patrol awarded the NSP **Distinguished Service Award** to the family of **Brad Short**, in recognition for 20 years of dedicated service to the Snowshoe Patrol, the West Virginia Region, and the Southern Division Certified Program!

**Rob Armstrong** of Wintergreen, the Southern Division 2003 Outstanding Student Patroller, was presented a **Silver Merit Star** as the **Runner-Up Outstanding Student Patroller in the Nation** at the NSP Annual Meeting in June! Other Southern Division 2003 Outstanding Patroller winners recognized at that meeting with a **Yellow Merit Star** include:

**T Harris**, Wintergreen—Outstanding Alpine Patroller

**Larry Bost**, Hawksnest—Outstanding Patrol Director

**Morgan Armstrong**, Wintergreen—Outstanding Instructor

**Theresa Varner**, Hawksnest—Outstanding Auxiliary Patroller

**Dennis Slagle**, Ober-Gatlinburg—Outstanding Administrative Patroller

The **Hawksnest Patrol** was presented a **Unit Citation** at the same meeting for being selected as the 2003 Outstanding Large Alpine Patrol in the Southern Division.

By the time you read this article, we will already be into our 2004 Division awards process. **New This Year:** every runner-up for a division outstanding award, and every nominee submitted for a division outstanding award, will be recognized at the Spring Officer's Meeting!

As I said at the end of my note in June, all of us should be involved in the awards process. Let's thank our fellow patrollers and demonstrate a true appreciation for a job well done, by participating in this important division program. Its amazing how good *Southern Pride* can make each of us feel!





## Senior Program Evaluation Project

*Bill Smith, Project Coordinator*

As everyone is aware, the Division is taking a look at three major initiatives this first year of the new Division Director's term. The one I have been assigned is the Senior Program Evaluation. This article will serve to provide a brief update on that important project.

This study and plan is being conducted internally by the Southern Division. It is designed to take a look at where we are, where we need or want to go with the Senior Program and how we will get there.

The study team consists of personnel representing all facets of the Division who are presently serving as Senior Program Coordinators for their respective regions. The team members bring with them a significant amount of training, experience and expertise and are representative of all five regions of the Division. They include: Michael Fletcher, Blue Ridge; Chris Brecher, Deep South; Ben Ray, Smoky Mountain; Dave Quidort, Virginia; Bud Frantz, West Virginia; and myself, the Virginia Region Director serving as the Coordinator.

The methodologies used to collect information and formulate positions and recommendations will include:

- A literature review
- Personal interviews with Basic patrollers, Senior patrollers, other Divisions
- An examination of other program models

The primary goal of this project is to develop a unified senior program that all regions of the Division can follow when creating senior patrollers. The secondary goal is to provide Senior Coordinators, both old and new, a basic guideline on how to run a Senior Program within their region.

To date we have begun to conduct some of the initial research and interviews. Over the next several weeks and months it is anticipated that we should be able to finish up the research portion of the project and formulate some conclusions and recommendations for the Division's Executive Officers to examine. Furthermore, it is anticipated that we will have a final product for use in the Division by the Fall Officer's Meeting.

If any of you out there have thoughts and ideas that you would like to see incorporated into this project/program, please do not hesitate to contact me or one of the team members to share your thoughts and idea's. You can reach me by e-mail at [skibill@widowmaker.com](mailto:skibill@widowmaker.com) or by telephone at 757-851-1581.



Goshawk at Hawksnest—After the snow, before the opening. Photo by Rob Raff

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## **New Patrol Building at Cloudmont**

*Loren Gross, Cloudmont Patrol*



The back page of the Spring 2000 Southern Cross featured a photo of the ski patrol trailer at the Cloudmont Ski Area. While the trailer was unique and unusual, it certainly was not the best of ski patrol facilities. If you saw the photo your reaction was probably, “Those folks sure need a new patrol

building.” The patrol at Cloudmont had long agreed and had talked on several occasions with the area owner on getting a new building. Finally, this past summer we appointed John Newton, a smooth talking patrol member, to approach the area owner with a proposition: “If you supply the materials, the patrol will erect a new patrol building.” Our offer was accepted!

On August 29 the patrol members gathered at the ski area and found a bare spot on the ground where the patrol trailer had formerly been parked. During a meeting that day, Gary Jones, the area owner and the patrol agreed upon a design that addressed the numerous deficiencies of the old patrol trailer, the patrol’s requirements and area management’s facility and cost concerns. The new two-bed facility would have adequate floor space, easy building access and good overhead lighting. After agreeing on the design we chose Dick Rhoades to be our construction leader and we started working. We then continued to work one day each weekend through mid December, with the OEC refresher being our sole weekend off. On average about four patrollers showed up for each work day. Each of our seven patrol members put in at least five days.

On December 13, we declared construction complete, and made final preparations for the upcoming ski season. While there are a number of things that we still want to do (painting the trim, soffits, cabinetry, finish the plumbing), we now have a patrol building that meets our needs. As befits a structure designed and built by seven engineers, the somewhat rustic building is short on aesthetics but structurally and functionally sound. And the patrol agrees that working as a team to build our own building has given us a sense of pride that far surpasses mere replacement of the old patrol trailer.

Later this season it is our plan to dedicate the building as a memorial to B. B. “Bo” Stokes, our friend, and former patrol representative, and long time NSP member who passed away several years ago in an automobile accident.

The way we were (for decades), a work in progress and the New Chateau Cloudmont. Workers shown: Loren Gross, Dick Rhoades and Brent Montgomery. Workers not shown: John Newton, Bob Palik, Dick Schock, Bob Weed and former Cloudmont Patroller Steve Newton.



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SPRING OFFICERS MEETING**

May 14 & 15, 2004

Broyhill Inn & Conference Center Boone, NC

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

**HOTEL REGISTRATION INFORMATION**



This year's Spring Officers Meeting and Awards Banquet will be held at the Broyhill Inn and Conference Center in Boone, North Carolina. This meeting is the wrap-up for the 2003-2004 ski season. It is a time to simply relax and finalize the events of the season, do some pre-planning for next year, but most importantly, to recognize and award members of the Southern Division for their contributions to the National Ski Patrol system and the fine ski areas that we represent.

This meeting is open to all members of the Division, including spouses and friends. Please get in touch with alumni members and ask them to attend the meeting also. Come see how the Division operates and enjoy the day and evening with your friends. For those individuals that do not need to attend the General Session, there is the spectacular Grandfather Mountain with hiking trails, animal exhibits and the famous swinging bridge. In addition, there is outlet shopping, golf, horseback riding and walking around the pretty village of Blowing Rock just down the road. There are plenty of activities to keep everyone busy!

The Resort is located just off of Highway 321 at 775 Bodenheimer Drive, Boone, NC 28607. The toll free number for reservations is 1-800-951-6048. The special NSP room rate is \$99 per night. Rooms have either two double beds or one King bed. Make your reservations early to ensure that space is available. Be sure to mention you are attending the National Ski Patrol meeting for the discounted rate.

For those who arrive on Friday, the Hospitality Suite will open at 7PM and close at midnight on Saturday. On Saturday, it will be open from the conclusion of the General Session until the banquet begins at 7 PM, reopens after the banquet and lasts until the host closes the door!

Lunch will be available on Saturday afternoon for \$11.50 and includes tax and tip. You will have a broad selection of items from the restaurant menu. Please note on the registration form if you will join us for lunch.

The Banquet is sure to be a hit with everyone. A North Carolina Barbecue is planned with steak, chicken and Eastern NC-style pork along with all of the fix'ns. Music (and dancing for the bravest) will accompany the great food and festivities. Make sure to register early. We look forward to seeing you there!

**MEETING AND AWARDS BANQUET RESERVATION FORM**

|  |                                      |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| <b>Meeting Badge Information:</b>                                |                                      |
| Name(s): _____   | Email address (if not on file) _____ |
| Address: _____   | City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____  |
| Patrol: _____  | Title: _____                         |
| <b>Luncheon - Saturday afternoon</b>                             |                                      |
| Total in Party: _____ X \$11.50 = \$ _____                       |                                      |
| <b>Awards Banquet Information - Saturday night</b>               |                                      |
| Names of Additional Persons in Party:                            |                                      |
| Name: _____  | Title: _____ Patrol: _____           |
| Name: _____  | Title: _____ Patrol: _____           |
| Total in Party: _____ X \$27 = \$ _____ TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____ |                                      |

**Mail completed form and check (made out to "Southern Division SOM") to:**

**Rob Raff  
4201 Vineland Rd I-1  
Orlando, FL 32811**

**RESERVATION FEES MUST BE RECEIVED BY APRIL 15, 2004  
\*\*ALL FEES ARE NONREFUNDABLE AFTER APRIL 20, 2004\*\***

# 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/](http://www.nsp.org/divisions/southern/))

## Executive Committee

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OPEN

### Massanutten (PD)

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## Southern Division Calendars

*(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/](http://www.nsp.org/divisions/southern/))*

### Southern Division Events

| Month                                    | Date    | Event                              | Location     | Contact  | Comments                                  | Registration Deadline |
|--|---------|------------------------------------|--------------|--|---|-----------------------|
| <b>Educational Courses for 2004</b>      |         |                                    |              |  |   |                       |
| FEB                                      | 6, 7, 8 | MTR LEVEL II COURSE                | CANAAN       | BOB CHATMAN 410-721-0921   |   | 6-Jan-04              |
| MAR                                      | 6       | MTR FUNDAMENTALS                   | CULLOWHEE    | COURSE CANCELLED   | NO INSTRUCTOR AVAILABLE                   | 6-Feb-04              |
| MAR                                      | 7       | AVALANCHE FUNDAMENTALS             | CULLOWHEE    | DENNIS SLAGLE 919-528-9279   | WESTERN CAROLINA UNIVERSITY @8:30         | 7-Feb-04              |
| MAR                                      | 13      | AVALANCHE FUNDAMENTALS             | WINTERGREEN  | MIKE FISHER 434-296-8485   |   | 13-Feb-04             |
| MAR                                      | 14      | PATROLLER ENRICHMENT SEMINAR (PES) | MASSANUTTEN  | <a href="mailto:CINDY.HUFFSTUTTER@chuff@aerols.com">CINDY HUFFSTUTTER chuff@aerols.com</a> |   | 4-Mar-04              |
| MAR                                      | 20      | INSTRUCTOR DEVELOPMENT             | WINTERGREEN  | KEN BUCKNER 919-645-6615   |   | 20-Feb-04             |
| <b>Certified Events for 2004</b>         |         |                                    |              |  |   |                       |
| 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   |   |                       |
| <b>OEC Events for 2004</b>               |         |                                    |              |  |   |                       |
| MAY                                      | 15      | OEC INSTRUCTOR UPDATE SEMINAR      | BOONE, NC    | LISA ADAMS 828-387-2892  | BROYHILL CENTER, APP ST UNIV @ 8:00AM     | 15-Apr-04             |
| MAY                                      | 16      | OEC IT/IOR REFRESHER PLANNING      | BOONE        | JUDI KAY-MONAGHAN 703-971-7841   | BROYHILL CENTER, App St. Univ 8:00AM-noon | 30-Jun-04             |
| <b>Southern Cross Deadlines for 2004</b> |         |                                    |              |  |   |                       |
| MAY                                      | 31      | SOUTHERN CROSS DEADLINE            |              | SOUTHERN CROSS EDITOR  |   |                       |
| SEP                                      | 6       | SOUTHERN CROSS DEADLINE            |              | SOUTHERN CROSS EDITOR  |   |                       |
| <b>Division Meeting Events for 2004</b>  |         |                                    |              |  |   |                       |
| MAY                                      | 14      | EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING        | BOONE, NC    | NEIL BOOTH 770-941-4268  | BROYHILL CENTER, APP ST UNIV @ 7:30PM     |                       |
| MAY                                      | 15      | SPRING BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  | BOONE, NC    | SUSANNE WISE 704-362-0243  | BROYHILL CENTER, APP ST UNIV @ 8:00AM     | 14-May-04             |
| MAY                                      | 17-20   | NSAA/PSIA/NSP NATIONAL MEETING     | SAVANNAH, GA | NSP BOARD MEETS ON MAY 19-20, 2004   |   |                       |
| JUL                                      | 30      | EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING        | WYTHEVILLE   | HOLIDAY INN 800-842-7652   | HOLIDAY INN - MEETING @ 7:30PM            |                       |
| AUG                                      | 20      | EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING        | WYTHEVILLE   | HOLIDAY INN 800-842-7652   | HOLIDAY INN - MEETING @ 7:30PM            |                       |
| AUG                                      | 21      | FALL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING    | WYTHEVILLE   | HOLIDAY INN 800-842-7652   | HOLIDAY INN - MEETING @ 8:00AM            | 20-Jul-04             |

## West Virginia Calendar

| Month | Date  | Event                              | Location    | Contact                      | Comments | Registration Deadline |
|-------|-------|------------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------|----------|-----------------------|
| FEB   | 1     | TOBOGGAN CLINIC                    | SNOWSHOE    |                              |          |                       |
| FEB   | 7     | SR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT CLINIC     | SNOWSHOE    |                              |          |                       |
| FEB   | 8     | SR S&T CLINIC                      | TIMBERLINE  |                              |          |                       |
| FEB   | 21    | SENIOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT CLINIC | WINTERPLACE | JON DRAGAN 304-251-2580      |          |                       |
| FEB   | 22    | BASIC S&T EVALUATION               | WINTERPLACE | TOM WAGNER 304-469-8039      |          |                       |
| FEB   | 22    | SENIOR S&T CLINIC                  | WINTERPLACE | TOM WAGNER 304-787-3221      |          |                       |
| FEB   | 29    | SR S&T EXAM                        | SNOWSHOE    |                              |          |                       |
| FEB   | 6,7,8 | MTR II COURSE                      | CANAAN      | BOB CHATMAN 410-721-0921     |          |                       |
| 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    | SENIOR S & T EVALUATION            | SNOWSHOE    | BECKY SHARP 304-572-5695     |          |                       |
| MAR   | 14    | BASIC S&T EVALUATION               | SNOWSHOE    |                              |          |                       |
| MAR   | 18    | CERTIFIED PRE EVALUATION CLINIC    | SNOWSHOE    | LESLIE CARTER 434-325-1262   |          |                       |
| MAR   | 19,20 | CERTIFIED EVALUATION               | SNOWSHOE    | LESLIE CARTER 434-325-1262   |          |                       |

## Virginia Calendar

| Month | Date  | Event                                  | Location    | Contact                        | Comments                     | Registration Deadline |
|-------|-------|--|-------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Feb   | 6,7,8 | Mountain Travel & Rescue II            | Canaan      | Bob Chatman 410-721-0921       |                              | 6-Jan-04              |
| 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                    | Wintergreen | 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     |                              |                       |
| Mar   | 20    | INSTRUCTOR DEVELOPMENT COURSE          | Massanutten | KENN BUCKNER 919-645-6615      |                              |                       |

## Blue Ridge Calendar

| Month | Date   | Event                            | Location       | Contact                    | Comments                    | Registration Deadline |
|-------|--------|----------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| FEB   | 6,7,&8 | Mountain Travel & Rescue II      | Canaan         | Bob Chatman 410-721-0921   |                             | 6-Jan-04              |
| FEB   | 21     | BASIC S&T EVALUATION             | HAWKSNEST      | Tony Tingle 865-692-3579   | @ 8:30AM                    |                       |
| FEB   | 21     | SENIOR EMERGENCY MGMT EVALUATION | SUGAR MTN      | lisa adams 828-387-2892    | @ 8:30AM                    |                       |
| FEB   | 22     | CERTIFIED CLINIC                 | GATLINBURG     | LESLIE CARTER 434-325-1262 |                             |                       |
| FEB   | 29     | BASIC S&T EVALUATION             | APPALACHIAN    | Tony Tingle 865-692-3579   | @ 8:30AM                    |                       |
| MAR   | 7      | AVALANCHE AWARENESS              | wcu, CULLOWHEE | DENNIS SLAGLE 919-528-9279 | WESTERN CAROLINA UNIVERSITY | 07-FEB-04             |
| MAR   | 18     | CERTIFIED PRE EVALUATION CLINIC  | SNOWSHOE       | LESLIE CARTER 434-325-1262 |                             |                       |
| MAR   | 19,20  | CERTIFIED EVALUATION             | SNOWSHOE       | LESLIE CARTER 434-325-1262 |                             |                       |

## Smoky Mountain Calendar

| Month | Date  | Event                  | Location       | Contact                    | Comments                    | Registration Deadline |
|-------|-------|------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 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   | 7     | AVALANCHE FUNDAMENTALS | CULLOWHEE, NC  | DENNIS SLAGLE 919-528-9279 | WESTERN CAROLINA UNIV.      |                       |
| 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 Calendar

| Month | Date  | Event                           | Location        | Contact                    | Comments | Registration Deadline |
|-------|-------|---------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|----------|-----------------------|
| 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   | 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 Blue Ridge Region Ski and Toboggan Examiner's Clinic was held at Appalachian Ski Mountain on December 7. Eleven examiners participated to prepare for the upcoming season. As always, it was a good chance to get together, go over upcoming evaluations, and make some turns. Mother Nature and great snowmaking combined to provide us with superb early-season conditions. Thanks to all participants and to Appalachian Ski Mountain for hosting the clinic. (L to R: Tony Tingle, Mike Harris, David Hall, Jeff Holt, Rick Laws, Howard Tilley, Hugh Jernigan, Andy Moody, EB Fox, Lisa Adams, and Ron Clyde). [Click to view photo album](#)**

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**Southern Cross / National Ski Patrol  
c/o Bob Weed  
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