



Southern Cross

A Publication of The Southern Division of The National Ski Patrol

2006-2007, Number 1

www.nsp.org/divisions/Southern/cross.htm

September 2006

In This Issue

From Division Director 1

From the Assistants:

Treasurer 3-4

First Assistant 4-5

South Area 5

North Area 6

From the Regions:

Virginia 6-7

Blue Ridge 7-8

Dixie 8

From Supervisors and Advisors:

Instructor Development 9

Certified Program 9

Senior Program 10-11

Ski / Snowboard 11

PES 12

Mountain Travel Rescue 13

Telecommunication 14

Helmet Usage 15-16

Around The Division:

Division Director Election 17

Division Awards 18-23

OEC National Updates 23-24

NSAA Study 24

Sugar Mountain Press Release 25

Division Calendar 26-32

Division Roster 33-38

(Entries in blue are navigational links)

Southern Cross is published three times a year—Fall, Mid-winter and Spring. Articles and photos are encouraged and appreciated. With photos, please include caption information. If at all possible, please include a photo of the author with articles. Submission deadline for the Mid-Winter issue is January 19, 2007.

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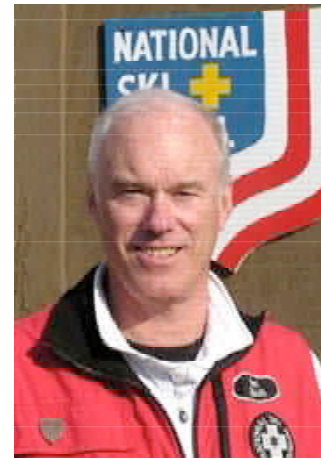
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The Challenges are before us:

Neil Booth, Division Director

Welcome to the opening of the 2006 – 2007 season! All planning elements are being activated, each and every day and will continue to do so until we begin Patrolling at our resorts. The sooner the better!

The challenge for everyone is to continue to be the best patrollers for your resorts and the skiing public. The ideal season is more skier visits and fewer accidents. Members of patrols, and our membership system, are the absolute best resources for achieving the goal of fewer accidents. ***You know we can!***



Each member is encouraged to review the National website for up to date information @ www.nsp.org. This is the information site that houses your personal NSP information. It is the central source that has, or should have, your current mailing address, phone numbers, email addresses and NSP information. Each individual member is responsibility for updating their personal information, should changes occur. Additionally, you should review the division website for division information @ www.nsp.org/divisions/southern/index.htm. In the near future, you will see a brand new look for our division website. Our former Division Internet Supervisor, **Steve Cortelyou**, was the pioneer of our original site. We all thank Steve for his excellent work and cost savings that he was able to achieve during his six-year tenure. The reigns have been turned over to **Kelly Duke Drownowski**, a web designer by profession and our current Division Secretary. Kelly presented an updated plan to the Southern Division Board and was given direction to proceed with development of the new look. We believe you will find the new page easier to navigate around and find information. We appreciate Kelly stepping up for this additional challenge.

Several other personnel changes have occurred as follows:

- o **Judi Kay Monaghan** requested to turn over the reigns after 6 years as our Division OEC Supervisor. The

talent and direction that Judi provided towards making OEC a great program in Southern is commendable. There were tons of changes and the establishment of many new procedures that occurred under her leadership. We all thank you Judi! Our new OEC Supervisor will be **Leslie Carter** who was unanimously ratified by the Southern Board of Directors and appointed to the position by the National OEC Program Supervisor. Leslie brings many talents into this position and will continue to guide the program to yet another level.

Welcome Leslie!

- **Charlie Benbow** has also requested to turn over the reigns and I honestly cannot begin to tell you how long he has done this for! Charlie is known by all, and appreciated for all the years of service and leadership. Our new Division Alumni Supervisor is **Richard Chadick**, assisted by **Larry Fleming**. Richard will handle the North, Larry the south. We welcome both of you to the new positions.
- **John Dobson** stepped down as our Division Awards Advisor this past July and will be replaced by **Peg Harris**. We will all miss John's passion for awards and the excellent job he did in executing his leadership. Peg will do an excellent job in this position as evidenced during this past Fall Officers Meeting. Welcome Peg!

This is a big election year and all members are encouraged to vote. The first election before us is that for our **National Board of Directors**. There is a slate of eleven (11) talented candidates. This is your opportunity to vote for the persons you feel are best able to deal with and represent the national issues before our association. Please go to www.nsp.org, which will take you to the NSP front page. Once there, log in to "member services", utilizing your ID number and password. From there, go to "members news" and the slate will be listed. Two of our own are running for this nationally scoped position. You should all be notified about balloting and deadlines shortly. We encourage all members to vote. Remember, this was the big issue of members rights that lead to the legal actions of the past.

The next election will be for the new **Southern Division Director** who assumes the position at the close of this season. While I have one term of eligibility remaining, I elect to not seek re-election. There is an article in this edition of Southern Cross, which outlines the requirements and deadlines for anyone interested in running for the position.

We continue to offer many different educational programs to improve individual performance. To quote the Army's message of "**Be all that you can be**" is a slogan your Southern Leadership truly believes in. The more talents we possess, the better we perform. This is how, we as a system, create value to our resorts and customers. This is how NSP creates value to our members. Education and skills development is our growth model. So please, take us up on this challenge.

On the National front, you should be aware that National Board of Directors will not have a dues increase this year. The \$20 dues increase approved in the January meeting was reversed at the June meeting. To achieve this, the Board basically eliminated growth programs and decided to budget only for committed items in the current budget. All past legal suits have been resolved somewhat to the satisfaction of everyone. Our relationship with the National Ski Areas Association Joint Task Force Committee is still on hold, pending the seating of our full National Board. There are still some bumps and turns in the road ahead, but we are a resilient group and will hopefully work everything out that benefits the majority of all parties or stakeholders in our system.

I hope to see many of you at refreshers, educational events and on the slopes this season. Have an absolutely wonderful refresher cycle and season. Treat yourselves, your fellow members, your patrol, your resorts and your customers with the utmost of professionalism and respect.



From the National Ski Patrol Office

Get out and Vote!

From National Chair, Jim DeWeerd:

With the election for new board members just around the corner, you need to review the candidates and vote for those you think are the best to serve the NSP. I know that most of the Fall Division meetings have passed, but we have the capacity to go down the chain of communications to your Patrol Reps/Directors and their patrollers, to vote. Mark Dorsey has informed me, that as a volunteer organization, we did very well in the percentage of members who voted, as compared to other association in our last election. I think we can do better and get more people involved and knowledgeable about their leadership representatives.

+ IVS, the vote management company along with the staff will put out the announcements and provide answers to Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's). If someone does not get a ballot, they will be in touch with IVS, not the office as once the voting process has started, NSP will not be able to provide ballots (electronic or postal) as that eliminates privacy for the voter.

Please Vote!

Jim

Jim Underwood,
Division Treasurer

SOUTHERN DIVISION, NSP TREASURER'S REPORT 7/01/05-6/30/06

Listed below is a summary of the Southern Division's Treasury report for last season. If any member wishes a detailed copy of this report please contact **Jim Underwood**, 865-483-3675, jun@bellsouth.net , or 109 Wildwood Drive, Oak Ridge, TN 37830 for a postal mail or emailed copy.

	Beginning Balance 7/01/05	Closing Balance 6/30/06
Checking *	\$ 13,418.22	\$ 11,694.33
Savings *	\$ 41,573.68	\$ 42,592.34
Contingency	\$ <u>25,888.22</u>	\$ <u>26,568.66</u>
TOTAL	\$ 80,880.12	\$ 80,855.33

* Operating Account

JUNIOR MEMORIAL FUND

	Beginning Balance <u>7/01/05</u>	Closing Balance <u>6/30/06</u>
Savings	\$ 3,805.13	\$ 3,855.65

MARY K. TWOMEY FUND

	Beginning Balance <u>7/01/05</u>	Closing Balance <u>6/30/06</u>
Savings	\$ 2,770.67	\$ 2,807.45

From the Assistants...

R. Morgan Armstrong,
1st ADD, Southern Division

END OF YEAR REPORTS: April 1, 2007 is the deadline for the Patrol Representatives to have filed their End of Year Reports for the division. I know it sounds like a long time off, but now is the time to prepare. We hope to be able to provide electronic filing of the reports this year and you will be given update information as it becomes available. It is important to pull out your last year's report and if you are a new Patrol Representative, obtain a report from the previous Patrol Representative to see what information needs to be collected as the year progresses. Last year was the first time we had 100% of the patrols file an End of Year Report so we look forward to you continuing your great effort.

NATIONAL IMMUNITY: I plan to continue my project of attempting to get the National Ski Patrol Board of Directors to seek immunity for the NSP, instructors and volunteer patrollers with the Congress of the United States. Paid patrollers will not be left out because you will be covered when you teach, serve as a volunteer off the clock or go to the aid of someone in the community off the resort property. It has been my experience in obtaining immunity for patrollers in Virginia through the Virginia General Assembly and watching the process in West Virginia that obtaining immunity for paid employees for "for profit" resorts during work hours would not be possible and might doom the entire project. Thus, we have avoided this issue at least for the present. Once we get the basic immunity passed, we could certainly go back and try to get immunity for all paid patrollers and fight the opposition knowing we have part of the package already passed. I will be calling on patrols and individuals for help and advice, if the Board of Directors passes this proposal.

UNITY: The past several years have been very trying for officers at the national and division level. We now have a new Chairman, **James Deweerd** and a new Board of Directors in the process of assuming leadership of our organization. I hope we can go back to patrolling and the major issues that have caused concern will be over. If you have a concern, discuss it with your patrol officers and have them pass it up to the region and division for discussion and solution. If you have a question, ask it and if you don't get an answer, then send it to the region or division and let us know about it. Your duty as a patroller is (once in a while) read our communications to you from the region and the

division so you are aware of our concerns and you stay up on the information we try to send to you. Communication is our biggest problem and one that is fairly easy to fix.

PROGRAMS: Do you need a program for your patrol? Instructor Development (ID), Outdoor Emergency Care (OEC), Mountain Travel and Rescue (MTR), Patroller Enrichment Seminar (PES), Avalanche, Senior, Certified or any other skill or patroller improvement program, then, let your Patrol Representative know. **Do you want to help?** We need your help. So let your Patrol Representative or Program Supervisor know you would like to become an instructor or trainer. If you do not know whom to contact, then, send your request to your Region Administrator or one of the Assistant Division Directors and one of us will forward your request to the correct person. We hope to have a new Website up and running soon and this will help you get to the correct person.

SOUTHERN CROSS: Take it by email and save your Southern Division postage. That way we can postpone any dues increase. Also, the email version is faster and has better pictures. Not receiving it by email – check your profile at member services on the www.nsp.org.

DOES NSP HAVE YOUR CORRECT ADDRESS AND EMAIL ADDRESS? Check your address with the National Ski Patrol Office on their website and change your address or email as soon as it changes. You may find the site at the following:

<http://www.nsp.org>

Follow the directions if you are logging on for the first time. If you have trouble you may email the NSP and they will help you get on line. This is an easy way to place orders and update your information.

Have a safe fall and looking forward to a cold winter.

Learning All Over Again -

Richard Boyer

Assistant Division Director - Southern Area

The North Carolina, Tennessee and Alabama portion of our Southern Division is ramping up and ready for the ski season. We're coming off a great season last year and look forward to another one in which we may have the opportunity to break attendance, snow or cold weather, days open records, etc.

I'd like to recommend each patroller member of our system pay particular attention to events on the national level, take as much time as necessary attending to our divisional activities and be particularly respectful of your fellow patrollers. Remember also, that we're patrolling directly at the request and direction of each management team of our respective mountains. This is their business and livelihood and we are an integral part of its success and profitability.

Keep eyes on the dual purposes of delivering our courses to patrollers and patrolling the mountains we ski.

Notes From The North...

Jan Starr

Assistant Division Director – North Area

The change in the air temperature and plans being made for refreshers tells me that ski season is not far off. Everyone should have their refresher guide and dates marked on their calendar for their area's refresher. If you can't make it to your area refresher please check the Southern Division calendar for another near you. Make up refreshers are hard to do for only a few people as a lot of work goes into these productions. If you attend another refresher other than your areas make sure you get the form signed that is in the back of your study guide to assure credit for being there. One of my goals this season is to have no one on a delinquent list.



One thing that will be happening this season in our division will be the election of a new Division Director. Please keep informed by going to our Southern Division web site. (There will be a new fresh look to this site this season as **Kelly Drewnowski** has volunteered to take on the task of bringing our site up to date. Thanks Kelly!)

The patrol rep of your area has the vote in this election. Each member needs to pass on to this person their wishes for whom he/she should vote for. The candidates running for this position may be visiting each area this season to talk to the members and the area rep on their views and visions for our division.

Enjoy the rest of your summer and fall. Be skiing with you soon!

Jan

From the Regions...

Virginia Region

Bill Smith

Virginia Region Director

Virginia News

The kids are back in school, the leaves have begun to turn, we have traveled to Kingsport, TN for the FOM and by the time you read this, some refreshers will have been completed. We also know the snowflakes and new ski season will soon arrive. With that in mind, we know it is time to dust off the fanny packs and other equipment that is so important to what we do as patrollers. But what about you, have you gotten the cobwebs out and gotten yourself prepared for another great ski season? Are you ready???



Many of us have made our lists and are checking them twice. How about you, do you have a list made yet ? You know, the one with **Morgan's Instructor Development** class on it, or **Mary's PES** program over at The Homestead. Then there's **Dave's Senior** program to consider and **Mike's Avalanche** class later in the spring.

In a time when we are all time starved, I know you must be thinking, "you've got to be kidding me, one more thing to do"!!! Well actually, I'm not kidding. By becoming involved in one of these

programs or maybe even finding another that's not listed on the Virginia Calendar, you will become a better patroller, and be more valuable to both your patrol and your resort.

Speaking of the Senior Program, Virginia's own **Dave Quidort** is the Southern Division Senior Coordinator. During the past couple of years he has been working to get his arms around all four of the Division's Senior programs and get them to look pretty much the same. He started out with standardizing the Emergency Management (EM) side of things with creating and delivering several EM Evaluator Clinics to get everyone thinking alike. The clinics have proven to be a great success and were well received by those attending. This coming season, Dave will be focusing his efforts on the S&T side of the Senior program in an effort to accomplish the same basic goal as has been completed on the EM side. That is to get the S&T programs standardized. With everyone's support and help, Dave's job will certainly become much easier. So let's all pitch in and help out.

Again this season, "**Peg**" **Harris** has agreed to serve as our Assistant Region Director. In addition to visiting the areas and helping out here in Virginia, she has also taken on the role of Awards Supervisor for the Division. So she will definitely be busy this year. With awards results like we got from last season, we know that hard work definitely pays off. With this in mind, lets all start to think about who is deserving of an award and, who in your patrol could benefit from attending one of the education programs being offered this year. Who knows, sometimes all it takes is a little encouragement. The new awards deadline will be April 1, 2007 so start your search early and keep a few notes along the way to make it easier to put together the nominations when the time comes.

If you attended the FOM, you may have had a chance to meet some new folks and get reacquainted with old friends. Back home here in Virginia, we will once again have a strong leadership team. **Ron Dull**, will be the Patrol Rep at Massanutten and it certainly looks like he has things well under control there along with the ever-capable **Bartek Drewnowski**. Over at Bryce, **Carl Larsen** will be the Patrol Rep and along with **Bob Mecaughey**, will lead the charge. At The Homestead, a new Patrol Rep **David Woods**, will guide the troops with help from **Jeff Kelly**. Last, but certainly not least, Wintergreen will have a new Patrol Rep, **Ted Forbes**, who with **Tucker Crolius** will keep things under control there. Congratulations David and Ted and welcome back to everyone else

In closing, treat yourself to an extra dish of ice cream for the great job you did last season and start getting ready for the new season soon by thinking about how you can be a better and safer patroller.

Blue Ridge Region

Mike Harris

Blue Ridge Region Director



I am pleased to announce that the Blue Ridge Region has two extremely well qualified individuals who will be representing the Southern Division in the upcoming National Board of Directors elections! The National Nominating Committee determined that **Larry Bost** (Hawksnest) and **Mark Rees** (Beech Mountain) are among the best and brightest applicants, based on the published "List of Needs" and placed them on the upcoming Ballot!

The Southern Division now has the opportunity to elect two patrollers who have fought hard to return the organization to one that represents the needs of patrollers, patrols, and areas. I know both men personally, and know that they will act as our agents and represent us on the National Board of Directors. Because of the efforts of patrollers like these two, Division Directors have regained their affiliation with the Board and now attend each

meeting to provide input from each Division. This will give the Southern Division three strong voices at the National Level.

I would strongly encourage the Southern Division to rally behind our patrollers, Mark and Larry, and help get them elected. Electronic voting will be available on October 9th and ballots will be mailed to those who have requested it the same day. Information on all the candidates is available at www.nsp.org.

By the time you read this, the OEC Instructor Refresher will have occurred. Both Grandfather (OCT-7) and Carolina Highland (Nov-4) sections' OEC Refreshers will be held at Valle Crucis Elementary this year. Bring your own lunch as options will be limited in this area and time will be short.

Be sure and check the Blue Ridge Calendar on the Division website for dates on the Mountain Travel and Rescue, Senior Emergency Management Clinic, Toboggan Seminars and Evaluations in the region. Thank you, Mike Harris



Dixie Region

Brent Bowman
Dixie Region Director



Time to write an article AGAIN!!!

As usual I can't believe how the time flies. By the time you read this our OEC courses will be at about the midpoint. A great big THANKYOU to all of the hardworking instructors that make these courses a success. I (We) know how much time and effort you put into the class.

How many of you have thought about joining the Senior Program?? I have only received one reply on why someone became a Senior. This person wanted to improve his skiing skills. He is now a Basic Examiner, Toboggan Examiner and a PSIA Level One Ski Instructor who is actually teaching classes OUTSIDE of the Ski Patrol to regular folks. Anyone else??? I would love to hear from you.

As usual we have many things scheduled in the upcoming months with OEC, CPR and On-The-Hill refreshers. Unfortunately, we will not be holding an Atlanta refresher this year. With Sky Valley closed, the patrollers that ran many of the stations are now scattered and are integrating themselves into their new patrols. I know that this is a sad note to all those who participated in patrolling at Sky Valley and worked tirelessly on the Atlanta Refresher.

I hope to see you at an OEC or On-The-Hill refresher and look forward to an EARLY ski season.

BRENT

From the Supervisors and Advisors...

Instructor... Instructor Development... Instructor Development... Instructor
Ann Wood,
Instructor Development Supervisor

There will be an instructor development course at Wolf Laurel Ski Area on Saturday, 28 October at 9am. The **INSTRUCTOR DEVELOPMENT COURSE** covers the various areas of instruction and how instructors can apply them to create a positive learning experience for their students. It helps build a strong foundation of educational knowledge for use when planning and delivering lessons. The general information covered in Instructor Development is applicable for all potential NSP instructors, regardless of instructional specialty. Students should order their own book, #502: [Instructor Development, Training the Adult Learner](#). For those wishing to attend, please contact **Bill Boughton** (h) 828-645-8670 or (w) 828-645-0341 or bill@boughton.com. For Instructor Development instructors who would like to help teach, please contact **Ann Wood** at awood@ptcog.org.

Certified... Certified... Certified... Certified... Certified... Certified... Certified

Stephen Kuller,
Certified Program Supervisor

The only thing different in the certified program is that we continue to gain new candidates. We have been experiencing good growth this past season. New interest is up this season as well. I look forward to proactively developing the interest of these new individuals as well as the ones that are currently engaged in the program the last several years. This is exciting stuff. We have identified with members that would not have otherwise entertained the thought of this program. It has been fostered by the members in our program and well as the call to develop strengths at your mountains. Thanks to all the Members of the Southern Division for continued support.

The Calendar of events has been put into the Southern Cross. Remember if you are interested in the program please contact a Certified member for more information. I am available to all of you to answer any questions you may have. We have a selection process. Please look into it, entertain questions and develop a dialog with us.

The program has developed a great number of patrollers all across the South. Many of them give a great deal of time to their mountains management. Certified patrollers are in strong leadership positions, trainers, OEC and Toboggan. They give back to those that have helped get into the program.

As you can see I am very grateful for the opportunity to share this program with as many strong skiers and leaders within our division. I request that if you feel the need to better your self. Step up to plate. Take the time to explore your options; this will test your strength and character.

I truly wish all the members of the southern division a safe and memorable ski season.



Senior Program – Encouraging Growth Through Training

Dave Quidort
Division Senior Coordinator

Last season I spent a lot of time traveling through out our Division attending Senior EMM Clinics and Evaluations. I am encouraged by what we are doing as a division on a whole. We are developing stronger patrollers through encouraging others to pursue further training than just at their local area.

I have been focusing in on several key areas over this past year and will continue to do so this season. The first is training, both the candidates and our Division Instructor Training (IT) Staff. I encourage all Candidates to work with their local training officer to grow their skills. The Senior Program is one that is educational and at the same time challenging.

I held a Division wide EEM Instructor Training clinic in June of this past summer. The purpose of the clinic was to bring the Division closer to being one unified team, instead of four regions working independent of each other. About 1/3 of the Division staff attended this clinic. Plans are being made for another clinic in the Spring of 2007.



Dave Quidort is being evaluated by the other IT staff. The injured is Peg Harris.



In this exercise, the other IT's evaluated Dave then compared their scores. Assisting Dave is Bob Brewster and Lisa Adams.



Another area that as a Division we are working on is driving consistency across the Division. Through training and clinics like the one we held this past season the Senior program will grow stronger. We have great resources within our division that we can call upon and will continue to do so.

As this season is quickly approaching, I look forward to visiting more areas this season and meeting more of the Division Staff and mostly the Candidates themselves. I encourage those who are interested in Senior to get involved, approach your local Patrol training officer about what you need to do if your Patrol does not have a training officer, take to your Patrol Rep or Director. Or feel free to contact myself or one of the Region Senior Administrators; we all are ready to help you with reaching Senior.

Thank you,

Dave Quidort

Ski and Snowboard School

*John Shaffer,
Ski and Snowboard Supervisor*

We have changed our name!! The “Proficiency Program” was confusing and really didn’t tell you what we were or what we did. To keep it simple, we have changed the name to the **Southern Division Ski and Snowboard School**. The school is recognized and authorized by the Professional Ski Instructors of America (PSIA) and American Association of Snowboard Instructors (AASI) Eastern Division. The Division instructors within the school are in most cases, the patrols “on-the-hill” ski and snowboard trainers working with the candidates and patrollers to improve skiing and riding skills. The instructors go through the same training and certification that is required of PSIA / AASI instructors working at your area ski / snowboard or snowsports school.

The division’s goal is to have all patrol lead instructors at Level II certification. Currently the division has 12 instructors at either Level II or III. The latest instructor to join the ranks is **Brent Bowman** of the Cataloochee Patrol and Dixie Region Director who completed the second portion (teaching) of the two day testing this past spring. CONGRATULATIONS to Brent!

The Ski and Snowboard School will be expanding the availability of **Ski Enhancement Seminars (SES)** this coming season. So what is SES? This is an NSP authorized course that provides the members with an opportunity to improve their skiing skills. These courses are taught by the division’s Level III instructors. The course also qualifies as a senior elective. Please check the division’s calendar for the SES nearest you and sign up early as the course should fill up quickly.



Patroller Enrichment Seminar (PES)

Mary Underwood

Patroller Enrichment Seminar Supervisor

Things I Learned at the Patroller Enrichment Seminar

Every time I teach a *Patroller Enrichment Seminar*, I learn many good ideas and find our patrollers do a great job of finding solutions to common patrolling problems. My knowledge of good patrolling techniques always grows as we share and work through our PES course.



The June '06 PES held in Asheville gave me many ideas that I think patroller's and patrols would find helpful. I present 2 of these ideas, because they are so easy to implement. One patrol has identified their patrollers who speak a foreign language, sign language, etc., They keep this list posted in their office area. This information would certainly be helpful in dealing with non-English speaking customers. This patrol also had posted a chart of basic Spanish-English words and phrases.

Another idea which would aid many patrols in dealing with bus groups, is to provide a letter which goes in the information-ticket packet sent out by the resort. This letter (composed by the area patrol) provides information on skier safety, responsibility code, appropriate clothing for skiing, suggestion of having a car along with bus to provide for sick or injured skier, and advise to have a check-in system, so that they keep up with members of the group and so that ski patrol is not doing time-consuming searches for "unlost" people.

Come to the next PES. Share, learn and meet patrollers from different areas. The next PES course is at The Homestead in Virginia on Dec. 9, 2006. **Cindy Diehl** is the Instructor. Contact her at chuff@starpower.net or 703-494-9490.



July 15, 2006 Mission Hospital, Asheville N.C.

Why "re-invent the wheel" if another patrol has already built a program you could use?



Mountain Travel and Rescue

Bob Chatman, Supervisor

What's Right and what's wrong?

This year the goal for the NSP was maintaining the status quo for the program. Overall national did its job. I'm happy to say that we exceeded our goals.

What's right? We are probably one of the few Divisions that had all of our paper work to National on time. We are getting the best responses from instructors that **Mark Rees** has mentored. Keep up the good work Mark.

The current MTR textbook is fifteen years old and I will be asking our instructors if they have found any mistakes. (There are very few.) I'd like to have anyone who has taken or taught a MTR course to come up with any suggestions or changes that could be incorporated into the next textbook. Email any suggestions to me at bob_chatman@hotmail.com.

What's wrong? As well as we are doing we could always be doing better. There are many patrollers who might be interested in a MTR Course that haven't taken one because of the timing or location. If you think that you would like to have a course in your area please email me at the above listed address and we'll start the ball rolling.

Some years ago there was a sign at the top of Killington Mountain with the inscription "Tonight this mountain will be as cold and dark as it was 1,000 years ago." After a MTR Course you would be better equipped mentally and equipment wise to handle most winter conditions.

What can we do? Learning what to bring and what to do under different situations could make the difference between surviving and not. It doesn't take much, a trash bag, matches; the correct attitude along with a few other items usually in your patrol pack is all you need for about three to four days. What other items? What do you do with the trash bag? What other items from your patrol belt? What's the correct attitude? The answers to the above questions and so much more are taught in just a day or a short weekend. Gather enough patrollers to support a course, usually six to ten depending on the instructor, and we will supply the instructors. (There are the usual schedule, facility and other minor items to work out. The most important thing is don't wait.) I like to get thing scheduled six months to a year in advanced. **Let's do it.**

Mountain Travel and Rescue I and II Course:

To all patrollers interested there will be a MTR1 and MTR2 class held on November 10-12, 2006. If interested please contact **Terry Loges** right away. He can be reached at terry.loges@alcan.com or on cell phone 865-548-1262; home 865-475-4243. Class work will begin in the next few weeks. Remember if you are considering Senior program this course will count towards Senior requirements.

If you should have any questions, comments or concerns do not hesitate to contact me.

Terry Loges Terry.Loges@alcan.com
Alcan Packaging
423-318-6446 ph
423-318-6455 fx

Southern Division Telecommunications

*Rick Woodlee,
Communications Supervisor*

I hope everyone has had a great summer and all is well. Well, it is fall 2006, and ski season and patrolling is just around the corner. Now its a great time to drag out those musty radios and bring them back up to pristine order. There are a few things you can do to breathe new life into those creatures of communications.

My suggestions are as follows:

1. Clean the exterior of radio.
2. Open the battery compartment, take the battery out, look for corrosion; then clean the battery compartment and the battery contacts.
3. Put battery back in the radio if it is not corroded; then, recharge the radio for 14 hours.
4. Cycle the radio by turning on for 8 hours; then, recharge back up for 10 hours.
5. If the radio does not work OK, take it to a repair shop now, before the season starts. This gives the technicians time to order and receive parts and to fix the radio to like new condition.
6. Take the radio to someone who is certified to check the key operating parameters to verify that the radio is operating in accordance with the FCC rules and regulations Part 90, para. 201-217. You are still required to have the primary operating parameters to be in tolerance. If there is an incident involving your radio and found to be negligent in maintaining those parameters; then, you are responsible. (The primary operating parameters are as follows: frequency tolerance, spurious radiation, modulation, and power output.)

The operating requirements and procedures can be found in the FCC rules and regulations Part 90 para.401-449. A brief summary proper radio communications and operations are as follows:

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

One can use the NSPS frequencies during training, examinations, searches, intra-communications with other patrols, rescue and search teams, or anything in the special emergency realm. If you are using the Ski Areas' frequencies, I suggest you post a copy of the Ski Areas' license close to your base radio; so, there is no question about frequency authorization and use.

Please contact me if I can assist you in any of your telecommunications programs.

Phone: 828-693-1554
N4FAT@juno.com

Helmet Use and Its Effect on Head Injuries in Skiing and Snowboarding

A Report to the Southern Division NSP

Ian D Archibald MD, FACS, Medical Advisor

Head injury is the most frequent cause of death and disability in ski slope accidents. (abdominal injuries #2, spinal injuries #3). Helmet use has only slowly been embraced as the primary protector against head injuries. There is overwhelming evidence that helmet use prevents head injuries in bicycling, in line skating and motor cycle riding. Popular argument against helmet use in skiing and snowboarding stems from impact data that shows that these helmets can only withstand direct impacts in the 12-14 mph range. Both bicycle and motorcycle helmets register similar impact velocity data yet clinical evidence shows that bicycle helmets reduce risk of head injury by 69-85%, brain injury 65-88% and severe brain injury by 74% [1]. The motorcycle data is significant enough that mandatory helmet use laws exist in most states. Also there is a concern that helmet use might increase cervical spine injuries by adding weight to the head, especially in children who already have a disproportionately large head.

In February 2006 a Norwegian study by Sulheim et al [2] published a review of helmet use and risk of head injuries in skiers and snowboarders in JAMA (The Journal of the American Medical Association) which is the most compelling evidence to date of the protective benefits of helmets. In a carefully designed study comparing neurologically injured skiers and snowboarders against control groups of both non-injured skiers and injured skiers without neurological trauma, they found a 60% reduction in head injury risk. The data comes from 8 ski resorts (more than 50% of the uphill ski lift transports for Norway during the 2002 season) and corrects for factors such as age, sex, nationality, skiing ability and type of equipment. They also considered the likelihood of helmet use in each of the at risk groups. They identified beginners, males, youth and snowboarders as groups with increased risk of head injury and showed that the protective effect of helmet use is consistent across groups. Cervical spine injuries were slightly decreased in helmet users but this result was not statistically significant.

The conclusions of this Norwegian study support the hypothesis of Levy and Smith [3] in their comprehensive review of neurologic injuries in skiers and snowboarders in Colorado, published in 2000. They reviewed all skiers and snowboarders that sustained neurological injuries who required admission to a Level 1 trauma center from 1982-1998. They made the following statement: "Helmets may not prevent every injury but in all cases we have seen to date, they have mitigated potentially fatal or disabling head injuries into fully recoverable injuries." Further, they found no evidence to suggest that helmets increased the risk of spinal injuries in children or adults. Helmet use was not widespread during their study period.

At approximately this time period the US Consumer Product Safety Commission predicted that ski helmets would potentially address 44% of head injuries in skiers and snowboarders overall and 53% of head injuries for those under 15 years of age. A Canadian study, Hope et al [4], which reviewed 2001-2 data from Quebec ski areas also found a reduction of head injury in helmet users of 29-50%. They did see a slight increase in cervical spine injuries in their series but again it was not statistically significant.

Therefore the debate about helmets protectiveness on prevention of skiing and snowboarding injuries appears over. This new data from Norway confirms the findings in the previous Quebec and Colorado studies, and is consistent with the experience in cycling. Continued study of the effects of helmet use on cervical spine injuries appears warranted.

References:

1. Thompson DC, Rivara FP, Thompson RS. Effectiveness of bicycle safety helmets in preventing head injuries: a controlled study. *JAMA* 1996; 276: 1968-1973
2. Sulheim S, Holme I, Ekeland A, Bahr R. Helmet use and risk of head injuries in alpine skiers and snowboarders. *JAMA* 2006, 295: 919-924.
3. Levy AS, Smith RH. Neurologic injuries in skiers and snowboarders. *Semin Neurol.* 2000; 20: 233-245.
4. Hagel BE, Pless IB, Goulet RW, Robitaille Y. Effectiveness of helmets in skiers and snowboarders: case control and case crossover study. *BMJ* 2005; 330: 281-283.

Editor Note: Ian Archibald, MD is our Division Medical Advisor and has requested that any comments on this article be directed to him at iarch@bellsouth.net, or 3131 Channel View Landing, Belmont, NC 28012.

National Ski Patrol / Southern Division
2007 Division Director Election Qualification, Procedure & Schedule

Nominations are being accepted to fill the position of Southern Division Director.

Qualifications include:

- Registered member of the NSP for a minimum of five years.
- Should be a currently registered as a senior, certified volunteer or professional.
- Must have served in a NSP leadership position.
- Must be familiar with current NSP and division policies and procedures.
- Must be registered in the Southern Division.

In addition, there are a number of minimums recommended, but not mandatory eligibility requirements.

Detailed qualifications and eligibility requirements can be found starting on page 69 in the current **"NSP Policies & Procedures 2005 - 2006 Manual"**. The manual can be obtained at the National Ski Patrol web site www.nsp.org <<http://www.nsp.org>>. Go to Member Services (Login), My Bookshelf, Policies & Procedures 2005 - 2006.

December 1, 2006 Deadline for submitting nominations

Requires:

- Signed acceptance of nominee
- One page resume
- Candidate's one page platform (optional)

Information will be forwarded to the Southern Cross Editor for inclusion in the January/Mid-winter issue and to Internet Communications Supervisor for posting on web site. It is recommended that the candidate verify that the editor of the Southern Cross and the Internet Communications Supervisor has received their articles.

December 15, 2006 Deadline for eligibility determination.

Ineligible candidates have seven days to appeal to the PAST Division Director.

December 22, 2006 Election Coordinator submits slate to National Chair for review. Any concerns of Chair are due by January 1.

February 1, 2007 Ballots, resumes & platforms will be sent to all Patrol Representatives of record on January 1, 2005.

February 21, 2007 Deadline for the receipt of ballots in hand of election coordinator.

March 1, 2007 Election Coordinator will announce results of the election.

Any concerns or procedural questions should be addressed to the Election Coordinator:

Lee T. Wittmann lwittmann@skybest.com

102 Rainbow's End

Beech Mountain, NC 28604

Home 828.387.9722 **Office** 828.387.3505 **Fax** 828.387.3506

Annual Southern Division Awards

*Peg Harris,
Awards Supervisor*

As I step into the role of the Southern Division Awards Supervisor, I realize what a legacy **John Dobson** has left. He really got the patrols motivated to nominate candidates in each of the outstanding categories generating a lot of excitement during the division meeting and at the annual awards banquet. This year was no different even though there was much scrambling at the last minute for a new venue for the meeting and banquet. The Meadowview Conference Center was a beautiful venue and the dinner was elegant and delicious. The group was small but nevertheless enthusiastic!

The evening began with the presentation of two Blue Merit Stars.

At 6:24 PM on March 10, 2006, the Massanutten Ski Patrol was summoned to assist a skier at one of their terrain parks. The initial call reported a skier down on "Easy Street" and Kelly Duke Drewnowski responded. Upon her arrival, she found a responsive 51-year-old male patient off the edge of the slope complaining of bilateral leg pain, and secondarily, bilateral upper extremity pain. Kelly began her primary survey and requested a heavy sled and oxygen. Assistant Patrol Director, Travis Dorman responded with that equipment and began assisting with patient care. Emergency medical services were activated at this time.

Upon exposing the lower limb injuries, Kelly Duke Drewnowski recognized an open fracture to the right tibia/fibula and a closed but severely deformed left femur fracture. Upon realizing the severity of the lower limb injuries, the patrollers activated helicopter transport service AirCare 5. Work began immediately to control bleeding and patrollers Chris French and Steven Kuller responded to the scene to assist with a difficult immobilization and extrication task.

The patient was placed on oxygen and due to the complexity of the lower extremity injuries and a suspected left hip injury, the patrollers utilized an inverted quick splint between the legs immobilizing them against one another. Due to the mechanism of injury and further complaints the patient was fully immobilized and the upper extremities were immobilized against the body. The patrollers carefully executed a difficult extrication and placed the patient in the toboggan for Steve Kuller's transport via snowmobile.

Once in the aid room, the patient was reassessed and care was transferred to members of the Elkton Emergency Squad. The patient was transported to the landing zone where the AirCare flight crew packaged the patient for transport to the University of Virginia Medical Center. The flight crew was very complimentary of the patient care provided by the Ski Patrollers.

The patient was a 51-year-old male from McGaheysville, Virginia. He is an experienced skier who lives just outside the resort and frequents Massanutten regularly. Contact with the patient's family confirmed the injuries suspected during Kelly Duke Drewnowski's assessment including bilateral shoulder fractures, a right humerus fracture, fractures to the left hip and femur, and the open fractures of the tibia and fibula. The patient's daughter reported that the surgeons at the University of Virginia considered her father to be the most severe case of orthopedic trauma that they have encountered. Several surgeries were required to repair the patient's injuries but he is expected to recover.

*There is no question that the care initiated by **Kelly Duke Drewnowski** was essential to provide this patient an opportunity to survive such severe trauma. I believe that her quick assessment and utilization of patrol resources to provide appropriate care certainly qualify Kelly for Blue Star recognition.*

The second Blue Merit Star of the night was then presented.

Early in the afternoon of December 5, 2005, Wintergreen patroller William “T” Harris was summoned by radio from the top of an intermediate slope at his mountain to evaluate a rider reported down on the slope face. The day was blustery and cold with reduced visibility. It was snowing hard and the snowguns were running at full bore. T found the patient, a 20-year old college student, lying prone, head downhill, with his face turned slightly to the left. The patient denied loss of consciousness, was oriented, described a burning sensation in both palms, and said that he was unable to move his upper and lower extremities, which really seemed to frustrate him. A report later from Wintergreen patrollers WA Hogsten and Jessica Butler, who were skiing and had witnessed the accident from 80 yards downhill, revealed that the boarder had jumped a berm around a snowgun (well marked with bamboo), catapulted about 20 feet up into the air, became inverted, fell to the slope landing on his posterior neck, and then slid down the hill into the position found.

T Harris performed his Initial Assessment and Rapid Body Survey and found that: 1) the patient’s airway was competent; 2) there was point tenderness of his posterior cervical spine; 3) there was mild palpable cervical muscle spasm; and 4) there was no response to touch and no voluntary motion in his upper or lower extremities. No other obvious injuries were found. T therefore left the patient “as is” until further help arrived. After witnessing the accident from below, WA Hogsten immediately skied back to the patrol room, set up the outrigger trauma sled with spinal immobilization equipment, and returned by snowmobile to a site below the accident scene. Patroller Peggy Harris skied O2 down from the top of the slope, and Jessica Butler ran up the slope from below to the injury scene. Head control was instituted once Jessica arrived, and when all four rescuers were on scene, a Jams and Pretzels maneuver with head-torso stabilization was carried out to straighten the body. Again, with good head control, the patient was rolled uphill and then down onto a spineboard, using an in-line drag for centering. Spider straps and head blocks were applied and completed the immobilization. CMS in the upper and lower extremities was unchanged. The four rescuers then carefully slid the spineboard downhill about 10 yards, transferred it to the trauma sled, and the patient was transported downhill another 70 yards to the awaiting rescue squad ambulance.

T Harris climbed in the back of the ambulance with the patient, and on a final survey, noted some return of sensation to touch on the patient’s chest and anterior left thigh, a flicker of hand grasp bilaterally, a continued burning sensation in both palms by description, but no other motion in either upper or lower extremity.

During the ambulance trip to the University of Virginia (UVA) Medical Center, the patient was given high doses of intravenous corticosteroids. At the UVA Emergency Department, x-rays of the cervical spine revealed a C5 burst fracture with retropulsion of the lower vertebral body endplate back into the spinal cord. The patient underwent acute surgical decompression of his cervical spine from both the anterior and posterior approaches. Subsequent to his discharge from the UVA Medical Center, he has been treated in the hospital rehabilitation unit, and is at present making slow but significant progressive neurologic recovery, well on the road to living a productive life again!

*The emergency care procedures performed by William “T” Harris, WA Hogsten, Jessica Butler and Peggy Harris last December were “textbook,” and their professionalism offered the young student injured that day a real chance for functional recovery. I am therefore pleased to present **William “T” Harris** with a Blue Merit Star, and **WA Hogsten, Jessica Butler and Peg Harris** with Yellow Merit Stars, in recognition for the outstanding emergency care they provided on December 5, 2005 at Wintergreen Ski Resort, Virginia!*

Peg Harris was present to receive a Yellow Merit Star for her participation at the scene of this incident.

Both Blue Merit Star recipients received a standing ovation from the crowd! Let's face it folks, this is what it's all about and what great training can do!

Three recipients were present to receive Southern Division Outstanding awards.

From a Patrol Unit representative, "As small resort with limited resources, for many years we have been forced to rely on old equipment, less than adequate first aid supplies, and an inadequate aide room." A few years ago the patroller we honor next became their patrol's chief funding officer, and started an annual golf tournament to supplement the patrol budget. To date, this event has earned over \$15,000.00 for the patrol, and continues to be their chief source of income. The really special part of this fundraiser is that our honoree underwrites a large part of the event, by inviting his work customers to play in the event, and then pay their entry fees.

As an Instructor, this patroller has always shown an uncanny skill for getting the information from "books" into the heads of candidates. His love of OEC and his concern for the success of every student is apparent not only in the way he prepares for each instructional session but in his presentations as well. He is a consummate actor and uses these skills to make the lessons fun and interesting to students. For the past two years this patroller has donated his office as a place to hold OEC classes, and has become involved in almost every class, as an instructor or as a scenario participant.

As oft happens with not just new candidates, but with everyone, we reach a plateau where learning seems to pause. This patroller is our "Go to Guy" to push that stalled or discouraged patroller over the top. Remarkable as the purveyor of one-on-one instructional skills, his caring, concerned approach always seems to be just what is needed.

The individual we now honor understands the need for organization and responsibility, and demands this from instructors that work with him. He sets the standard, demonstrates it, and expects his co-instructors to meet its parameters. He is always ready to help, and looks for opportunities to teach. He takes his role as an Instructor Trainer very seriously. Everyone who works with him understands this commitment, and it makes them better.

*It is with great pleasure and respect that I now present the 2006 Southern Division Outstanding Instructor Award, along with a Yellow Merit Star, to **Jonathan Hale!***

When considering Outstanding Patrol Representatives, this individual stands out among the very best in the National Ski Patrol! Starting at his area as a Student Patroller 18 years ago, he has developed and matured through every patrolling level, and now serves as both their Patrol Director and Unit Representative, positions he assumed seven years ago. This combination of paid and volunteer leadership, has capped an outstanding patrol career for our honoree, and has made him the penultimate patroller!

Under this patroller's guidance, his patrol has flourished. Membership numbers have increased and thus coverage on the mountain has grown. He has helped plan and expand patrol facilities, recommended updating medical equipment in the aide room and on the hill (implementing both), and expanded community outreach programs (including working with the local fire and rescue squads). This individual carefully makes certain that all patrollers are registered and properly re-certified, monitors and documents the progress of candidates, and most importantly ensures the safety of the snowsports program on his mountain.

Even though the man se honor is in a paid leadership position, he finds time to be actively involved in both OEC and ski training three times a week during the season, serves as a Boy Scout Skiing Merit Badge counselor, and volunteers with the Winter Special Olympics locally and at the state level. He feels strongly that emergency care expertise is very important to his patrol, and because of his outgoing personality, recruiting comes easy for him. In the past two years, he has signed up a local ER doctor, a pediatrician, a county medical director, an ER and OB nurse, and a physician's assistant to become patrollers! And, in 2005, this young man also completed his EMT-B certification, and now runs regularly with a local rescue squad.

Finally, I think that it is important for me to mention that this patroller, through his growth, impressive and competent work ethic and likeable demeanor, has established an excellent relationship with all of the resort management staff with whom he works.

*It is with pride that I present the 2005 Southern Division Outstanding Patrol Director Award, along with a Yellow Merit Star, to **Joe Donadio!***

The patroller we honor now came to her home patrol by marriage a few years ago, and has been a tireless worker from the day she joined the patrol. She has led Patroller 101 classes, been an active OEC Instructor, and in three short years has become absolutely indispensable to their mountain.

This individual has been almost solely responsible for outfitting the interior of the new resort aide room. She begged for and purchased on her own, supplies and those "little things" that make the room complete. This year, she saw a need for patient privacy and made five sets of curtains to separate the beds.

Our honoree was instrumental in developing our new "patroller identification card system" that allows patrollers to swipe their identification cards upon arrival and departure. Attendance record keeping is now much easier.

For the past three years, our patrol has purchased and prepared lunch at our patrol Summit House. The resort grill is so crowded that we cannot get patrollers in and out fast enough to maintain a secure presence on the hill. This year when we needed someone to coordinate lunch preparation, the individual we honor volunteered to take over the project. Every week, she shopped for food, cooked, and made it happen. One weekend, she served over 55 patrollers who were visiting our mountain for the Region Senior Evaluation.

This individual always has a smile and an encouraging comment for everyone she meets. Her logical approach to almost every situation has kept many of her fellow patrollers out of trouble on many occasions. She is a pleasure to work with -- and just be around.

*It is with great pleasure that I present the 2006 Southern Division Outstanding Auxiliary Award, along with a Silver Merit Star for having been selected as the 2006 Runner-Up Outstanding Auxiliary In the Nation, to **Glenn Larsen!***

The final award presented went to the Outstanding Large Alpine Patrol for Southern Division.

Why is this patrol outstanding?

Giving.

The one word describes this patrol and differentiates it from all other patrols to make it outstanding. This group of people deserve the highest of rewards, for they give, and give, and give.

The giving of this patrol as a unit and of each individual member of the patrol starts with their commitment to the ski area. Every year, each member dedicates a great portion of his or her life to the customers of the ski industry. On any typical winter weekend, there can be upwards of 7500 skiers and 100 accidents in a shift. With these statistics, it is obvious that no patroller is there merely to have fun. The mountain dictates a level of anxiety with the knowledge that the patrol will be faced with multiple life threatening injuries during the season. The patrollers dedicate their time to excellence with emergency care. They give to others by sharing knowledge and training others for emergent care, utilizing trending to reduce accident numbers and severity, and basic caring about each customer to offer anything from directions to a courtesy ride.

It is amazing to watch the process of giving from these dedicated individuals. One example of the outstanding performance of this patrol was during this ski season. An accident was called over the radio for the patrol to respond to an area on an intermediate terrain. The responding patrollers found a 14 year old female beginner level skier that had fallen on the slope. It was reported from a bystander she had been traveling at a high rate of speed and out of control. She was found on the deck of a slope side house which sits about 100 feet away from the slope edge. The girl had gone down an embankment, over rocks, through several small trees and probably hit the house's deck post. Her skis and one boot were left 60 feet on the slope above her. The unresponsive patient with deteriorating vital signs and neurological status was extricated from an extremely difficult area off the back deck of a house over rocks and a small creek. Wings Air Rescue was activated along with the EMS. The landing zone was set up by the patrol. The patrol exhibited utmost professionalism in all aspects from the emergency care and treatment of the patient, to crowd control, logistics of bringing in the EMS transport, to the packaging of the "jams and pretzels" of which they were faced. Communication from the Emergency Room staff in regards to the incident was, "the patrol did an excellent job getting her here so quickly, they saved her life." Wing's staff reported to the patrol director they were impressed with the level of care given by the mountain patrollers. This is only one incident in which a life was saved this season by the outstanding performance of the ski patrol. Many letters have been received from injured customers and customer's families with praises and thanks for jobs well done in the patroller's line of duty.

Another impressive characteristic of this patrol is the ongoing volunteer coverage of the mountain. There is not a need at this mountain for the volunteer patrol members to be assigned a full weekend shifting. The volunteers are requested to sign up for Saturday night coverage only. The remainder of the weekends are always staffed and effectively covered.

The patrol demonstrates an impressive level of experience and dedication as evidenced by the 99% retention rate of its members. There are five patrollers with more than 15 years, eleven patrollers with more than 20 years, five patrollers with more than 25 years, four patrollers with more than 30 years, and two patrollers with more than 35 years of service with the NSPS.

Finally, the hallmark of a good mountain operation is a partnership between management and the patrol. The patrol is a key part of what keeps the mountain running smoothly from the opening to the closing each day. The management of the mountain is supportive, complimentary, and verbalizes pride in the patrol.

These dedicated individuals give so much of themselves to National Ski Patrol. They give so much to each other. They give so much to their communities. They give so much, because they love what they do and are committed to work together to promote safety, enjoyment, and profitability to the sport of skiing.

*It was a great pleasure for the Southern Division to present the **Sugar Mountain Ski Patrol** with the 2006 Outstanding Large Alpine Patrol Award, and a Unit Citation for being selected as a National Outstanding Nominee!*

The Cataloochee Ski Patrol received the Runner-Up Outstanding Large Alpine Patrol Award.

Even though our group was small this year, the enthusiasm was there as always to cheer for the all the award recipients. The Southern Division is filled with those who are worthy of receiving merit stars, certificates of appreciation, outstanding wards. Patrol reps/directors should already be thinking of who to nominate for the upcoming season. Remember, it is a great way to honor those who serve their local patrols, Southern Division and the National Ski Patrol so well. Let's keep the momentum going for next year's banquet!

From National...

Outdoor Emergency Care Course Evaluation and Challenge Criteria

OEC instructors need to be aware of some recent changes in the OEC evaluation and challenge criteria. We've listed some pertinent details below. However, we urge you to refer to *NSP Policies and Procedures*, accessible on your Bookshelf from your member page at www.nsp.org, and your *OEC Instructor's Manual*. If you have additional questions, you may contact your division OEC supervisor, region administrator, or the education department at the national office.

Course Evaluation Criteria

- Enrollment fees must be ordered by the instructor of record at the beginning of the course for every student and challenge applicant who enrolls in a course or challenge.
- When these are ordered, the national office will send to the IOR copies of the approved, required written and practical final exams, as well as Certificates of Achievement.
- An instructor trainer **must** be present at the final exams.
- The minimum passing grade for the written exam is **80 percent**.
- The minimum passing grade for each scenario or skill station of the practical exam is **80 percent**, including completion of each CPI.
- For OEC trainees only, one retest opportunity (determined at the discretion of the instructor of record) is permissible on the final written exam and for each skill station or scenario of the final practical exam for OEC trainees enrolled in the basic course.

Challenge criteria

- Challenge applicants must meet one or more of the following:
 - Emergency trained and currently certified as: EMT, MD/DO, PA/NP, RN, or LPN .
 - Previous OEC certification provided the expired OEC certification date has not exceeded three years.
 - Certain wilderness first responders whose courses have a minimum of 72 hours of course work (currently approved are WMI, WMA, and SOLO).
 - Other certifications may be approved by the national education director after consultation with the national OEC Program director. This is based upon the submission and review of appropriate curriculum materials.
- Challenge time requirements (total hours) will vary with background, specialty, and experience.
- Challenges must be registered separately from courses.
- Challenge applicants must practice skills with an OEC instructor prior to the challenge testing.
- If the OEC challenge applicant fails any portion of the challenge examination, there is no retest opportunity and the applicant must then participate in a full OEC course.

New CPR, AED, and First Aid Guidelines

The new Guidelines for First Aid co-developed by the American Red Cross and American Heart Association as well as the American Heart Association's CPR Guidelines were released on November 28, 2005. Other certifying agencies have adopted these as well.

The training methods in place now for first aid and CPR are not incorrect nor are they harmful, but [improved methods based on new scientific evidence](#) will make it easier for the public to learn CPR and other life-saving skills. OEC training will still be based on the content of *Outdoor Emergency Care fourth edition*, though we are looking at ways to introduce the new first aid guidelines that may pertain to OEC skills to the membership before the publication of the next edition of that text.

The National Ski Patrol requires that all active members be certified in professional rescuer-level CPR, and also demonstrate those skills annually. The NSP recognizes this certification from five agencies: American Red Cross, American Heart Association, National Safety Council, American Safety and Health Institute, and Medic First Aid. The agency that provides your CPR certification will determine the process for training in these new protocols, and it's anticipated that many members will be introduced to the new CPR guidelines this fall.

If you have questions regarding this, there are several resources available. You might want to reread the article in this summer's *On Scene* magazine (page 12), or contact your patrol representative about plans for CPR training this fall. Additional information can be found by contacting your CPR training center or by visiting the website of your certifying agency. Here are the links to those agencies:

www.americanheart.org
www.redcross.org
www.nsc.org

www.ashinstitute.org
www.medicfirstaid.com

NSAA National Demographic Study

Lakewood, Colo. (Ski Press)-Among the most prominent shifts noted in the 2006 NSAA National Demographic Study is the proportion of children under 18 rising to 15.5 percent in 2005/06, up from 12.9 percent in 2004/05. Meanwhile the average age dropped this season to 35.1. A drop in average age was observed in all regions except the Midwest and Pacific West, where the average age held steady.

Another significant finding was faster growth of snowboard participation, up 3 percent over last season, following several years of more sluggish growth. This pattern, also corroborated by the latest Kottke End of Season Survey that projects snowboarders accounted for 30.4 percent of visits last season, was driven by a combination of increased participation in key youth age groups, as well as increased snowboarding penetration across all age groups between 10 and 45.

An increase in helmet usage was also noted, an ongoing pattern illustrated in previous years data. Helmet usage continues to remain most prevalent among those under 15 and those 55 years old and older, as well as among advanced and expert participants. Overall, 38 percent of survey respondents were wearing a helmet when interviewed, up from 33 percent last season.

A total of 72 of the United States 478 operating ski resorts, or 15.1 percent, were represented in the study with a total of 131,392 surveys completed during the 2005/06 season. To purchase a copy of the 2006 NSAA National Demographic Study go into the Resource Guide under the Marketing section of nsaa.org.

Sugar Mountain Resort, Inc.
PO Box 369
Sugar Mountain, NC 28604
(828) 898-4521
Date: September 11, 2006
Contact: Kim Jochl x262

For Immediate Release

PREPARING FOR THE 2006-2007 WINTER SEASON

Sugar Mountain, NC – In 2004 Sugar Mountain Resort committed to spend \$2 million on capital improvements over 3-5 years. However, since 2004 Sugar Mountain Resort has exceeded its original investment projections to well over \$3 million, and we're not finished yet.

In year one, the yellow and green lifts were overhauled with new drive stations and new chairs by Doppelmayr/C-Tec, a Magic Carpet was added to the beginner's area, and three brand new Kassbohrer snow grooming machines were purchased.

In 2005 the brown and red lifts were rebuilt with new drive stations. The handle tow lifts in the tubing park were replaced with a new Magic Carpet. We successfully unveiled our newly designed information hub, www.skisugar.com, which includes the highly frequented and arguably the ski industry's only live, streaming web cam. During the 2005-2006 season we also brought North Carolina its first Norba National Mountain Bike Competition hosting 900 competitors from 8 countries and 43 states and territories.

As always, the experience of our customers captures our attention and leads us in the direction we need to go. Plans are under way to add a second, live, streaming web cam and an additional weather station at Sugar's 5,300-foot summit. The current web cam and weather station are located at Sugar Mountain Resort's 4,100-foot base. The passion and commitment to provide the best possible snow conditions began in 1976 and continues today. This summer six thousand feet of snowmaking pipes were upgraded on the Flying Mile and Easy Street slopes. New snowmaking machines were added to the snowmaking fleet and the brown lift chairs were replaced with new Doppelmayr/C-Tec chairs. This January Sugar Mountain Resort will become the southern most ski resort to host a National Winter Trails Day, a nationwide event that offers children and adults, new to snow sports, the chance to try snowshoeing for FREE.

"Our commitment is real and we continue diligently on that path," said Gunther Jochl, President and General Manager. "The financial improvements are operationally and cosmetically necessary. But the commitment to offer our customers the best experience possible goes far beyond financial means. Year after year and day after day Sugar Mountain Resort strives to reach a goal of excellence; and that's a commitment that only our customers can feel."

We are proud to announce that the Sugar Mountain Resort Ski/Snowboard Patrol was selected as the outstanding patrol in the Southern Division for the 2005-06 season. This award was previously received by the Sugar Mountain Resort Ski/Snowboard Patrol in 1996.

For additional information please call Sugar Mountain Resort: (828) 898-4521 x262 or visit us at www.skisugar.com/press.

-End-

Southern Division Calendar

<u>Month</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Comments</u>
SEE REGIONAL ROSTERS FOR Educational Courses for 2006-2007					
Southern Division Deadlines					
2006					
DEC	1	Candidates Apply For Div. Director Election		Division Election Coordinator	Lee Wittmann - lwhittmann@skybest.com
DEC	15	Deadline For Eligibility Determination		Division Election Coordinator	Lee Wittmann - lwhittmann@skybest.com
DEC	22	Slate Submitted To National Chair		Division Election Coordinator	Lee Wittmann - lwhittmann@skybest.com
2007					
JAN	19	Midwinter Southern Cross Deadline		Southern Cross Editor	Teresa Stewart - sceditor@bellsouth.net
FEB	1	Ballots Sent To Pr's For Voting		Division Election Coordinator	Lee Wittmann - lwhittmann@skybest.com
FEB	21	Deadline To Receive Ballots By Coordinator		Division Election Coordinator	Lee Wittmann - lwhittmann@skybest.com
MAR	1	Election Coordinator Announces Results		Division Election Coordinator	Lee Wittmann - lwhittmann@skybest.com
APR	15	DD Begins 2 Year Term Of Office			
MAY	21	Spring Southern Cross Deadline		Southern Cross Editor	Teresa Stewart - sceditor@bellsouth.net
SEP	3	Fall Southern Cross Deadline		Southern Cross Editor	Teresa Stewart - sceditor@bellsouth.net
Division Meeting Events					
2007					
JAN	20	Mid Winter EC Meeting	**	**	**EC WILL ONLY MEET IF DD CALLS MEETING
MAY	5	Spring EC Planning Meeting	Wytheville	Ramada Inn 276-228-6000	MEETING BEGINS AT 8:00AM IN AZALA ROOM
JUL	21	Summer EC Planning Meeting	**	**	**EC WILL ONLY MEET IF DD CALLS MEETING
AUG	17	EC Meeting @ Fall Officer Meeting	Kingsport	Meadowview Marriott	MEETING BEGINS AT 8:00PM
AUG	18-19	Fall BOD Meeting	Kingsport	Meadowview Marriott	MEETING BEGINS AT 8:00AM
Division Reporting Deadlines					
2007					
BUDGET SUBMISSIONS					
APR	15	Next Seasons Budgets Requests	Annually	Jim Underwood 865-483-3675	inu@bellsouth.net
JUL	1	Final Year End Budget Submissions	Annually	Jim Underwood 865-483-3675	inu@bellsouth.net
JUL	1	Patrol Financial Reports (990's)	Annually	Jim Underwood 865-483-3675	inu@bellsouth.net
AWARDS SUBMISSIONS					
APR	1	Awards Nominations	Annually	Send To Chain Of Command On Application, Signed In Order. Email To Tandpeg@Netzero.Net	
ANYTIME		Nat'l Or Leadership Award Nominations		Send To Chain Of Command Listed On Application - Signed In Proper Order.	
END OF YEAR REPORT SUBMISSIONS					
APR	1	Patrol Reps End Of Year Report	Annually	Morgan Armstrong, DD,ADD,RD	RMASP@Adelphia.net
APR	1	Officers End Of Year Report	Annually	Respective Supervisor	
APR	1	Supervisors End Of Year Report	Annually	Respective Supervisor, Dd	

Please refer to the Division Website for updated schedules!

www.nsp.org/divisions/Southern/cross.htm

Blue Ridge Region Calendar

Month	Date	Event	Location	Contact	E-Mail Address	Comments
OEC Courses and Challenges held in Region for 2006-2007						
OCT	22/23	OEC Challenge	Sugar Mtn	Larry Fleming 828-437-8448	lmfeveski@bellsouth.net	8:30am
OEC Events held in Region for 2006-2007						
SEP	9	OEC Instructor (Pre) Refresher	Appalachian	Hugh Jernigan 336-727-1995	hugh_jernigan@ncmail.net	8:30am
OCT	7	OEC Refresher-Grandfather	Valle Crusis	Teresa Stewart 704-718-5675	hns7devils@gmail.com	Valle Crusis Elem
NOV	4	OEC Refresher - Carolina Highlands	Valle Crusis	Teresa Stewart 704-718-5675	hns7devils@gmail.com	Valle Crusis Elem
Educational Courses for 2006-2007						
DEC	9	Toboggan Enhancement Seminar	Beech Mtn	David Hall 828-299-3324	dhall@buildingsmart.net	Alt Date=DEC 17
DEC	9	Toboggan Enhancement Seminar	Alternative Date/	16-Dec		
July	15	Patroller Enrichment Seminar	Asheville	Mary Underwood 865-483-3675	inu@bellsouth.net	8:30am
NOV	12-Oct	MTR Courses Mountain Travel and Rescue 1 & 2	Table Rock, NC	Terry Loges 865-475-4243	terry.loges@alcan.com	
DEC	2	Senior Emergency Mgmt Clinic	Beech Mtn	Lisa Adams 828-387-2892	pleasingmona@skybest.com	8:30am
DEC	3	Region S & T Examiners Clinic	Appalachian	David Hall 828-299-3324	dhall@buildingsmart.net	
JAN	6	Senior S & T Clinic	Beech Mtn	David Hall 828-299-3324	dhall@buildingsmart.net	8:30am
JAN	7	Basic S & T	Sugar Mtn	David Hall 828-299-3324	dhall@buildingsmart.net	8:30am
JAN	20	Senior Emergency Mgmt Evaluation	Beech Mtn	Lisa Adams 828-387-2892	pleasingmona@skybest.com	8:30am
JAN	21	Basic S & T Evaluation	Beech Mtn	David Hall 828-299-3324	dhall@buildingsmart.net	8:30am
JAN	27/28	Senior S & T Evaluation	Hawksnest	David Hall 828-299-3324	dhall@buildingsmart.net	8:30am
FEB	10	Basic S & T Evaluation	Hawksnest	David Hall 828-299-3324	dhall@buildingsmart.net	
MAR	4	Basic S & T Evaluation	Appalachian	David Hall 828-299-3324	dhall@buildingsmart.net	Basic S & T Evaluation
Region Events for 2006-2007						
SEPT	16-Sep	Hawksnest Golf Tourn.	Hawksnest	Jonathan Hale 336-403-9622	jhale@jhet.com	9:00am
OCT	14	Octoberfest	Sugar Mtn	Flynn Harris 704-336-5487	eflynnh@bellsouth.net	8:30a

Please refer to the Division Website for updated schedules!

www.nsp.org/divisions/Southern/cross.htm

West Virginia Region Calendar

Month	Date	Event	Location	Contact	E-Mail Address	Comments
OEC Events held in Region for 2006-2007						
Sept	23	Snowshoe Pre Refresher	Snowshoe	Jan Starr 304-572-6713	janstarr@snowshoemtn.com	
Oct	14/15	Snowshoe Refresher	Snowshoe	Jan Starr 304-572-6713	janstarr@snowshoemtn.com	
Oct	21	Timberline Refresher	Timberline	Bill Cox 703-351-9747	mountain.bc@verizon.net	
Oct	28/29	WinterPlace Refresher	Winterplace	George McMurray 304-252-3345	jorgemc@charter.net	
Nov	21	OEC Course Starts	Snowshoe	Jan Starr 304-572-6713	janstarr@snowshoemtn.com	
Jan	28	Basic OEC Evaluation	Snowshoe	Jan Starr 304-572-6713	janstarr@snowshoemtn.com	
CPR Events held in Region for 2006-2007						
Oct	29	CPR Refresher	Winterplace	Deanna Watson 304-253-6963		
Educational Courses held in Region for 2006-2007						
Dec	9	Instructor Development	Winterplace	Greg Rash 502-423-0261	greg.rash@insightbb.com	Min 6
Jan	6	Ski Enhancement Seminar	Snowshoe	Jan Starr 304-572-6713	janstarr@snowshoemtn.com	
Jan	7	Toboggan Enhancement Seminar	Snowshoe	Jan Starr 304-572-6713	janstarr@snowshoemtn.com	
Dec	16	Ski Trainers Workshop	Snowshoe	Jan Starr 304-572-6713	janstarr@snowshoemtn.com	
Feb	10	Women's Only Clinic	Snowshoe	Jan Starr 304-572-6713	janstarr@snowshoemtn.com	
Events held in the Region for 2006-2007						
Jan	20-21	Certified Clinic	Snowshoe	Steve Kuller 540-437-3349	skuller@massresort.com	
Jan	29	Basic S&T Evaluation	Snowshoe	Jan Starr 304-572-6713	janstarr@snowshoemtn.com	
Feb	4	Senior S&T Clinic	Snowshoe	Jan Starr 304-572-6713	janstarr@snowshoemtn.com	
Mar	4	Senior S&T Evaluation	Snowshoe	Jan Starr 304-572-6713	janstarr@snowshoemtn.com	
Mar	15	Certified Pre Evaluation	Snowshoe	Steve Kuller 540-437-3349	skuller@massresort.com	
Mar	16-17	Certified Evaluation	Snowshoe	Steve Kuller 540-437-3349	skuller@massresort.com	

Please refer to the Division Website for updated schedules!

www.nsp.org/divisions/Southern/cross.htm

Dixie Region Calendar

Month	Date	Event	Location	Contact	E-Mail Address	Comments
OEC Courses and Challenges held in Region for 2006-2007						
Ann Christenson						
DEC	2-3	OEC Challenge	Cataloochee, NC	770-394-5869	annchristenson@bellsouth.net	
OEC Events held in Region for 2006-2007						
OCT	14	OEC Instructor Refresher - Cataloochee	Western Carolina University	Steve McCarragher 864-226-0019	mac001@charter.net	Cataloochee Ski Area
OCT	14	OEC Instructor Refresher - Gatlinburg	Pelissippi State	Jimmy Kuneman 865-850-7547	drikuneman@aol.com	Pellissippi St. Tech Comm College
NOV	4	OEC Instructor Refresher – Wolf Laurel	Asheville	Bill Boughton 828-645-8670	bill@boughton.com	
NOV	4	OEC Refresher	Cataloochee	Steve McCarragher 864-226-0019	mac001@charter.net	Cataloochee Ski Area
NOV	5	Cataloochee On The Hill	Cataloochee	Dan Greene 770-640-6396	d.greene@mindspring.com	Cataloochee Ski Area
NOV	11	OEC Refresher	Gatlinburg, TN	Jimmy Kuneman 865-850-7547	drikuneman@aol.com	Pellissippi State Tech Comm College
NOV	12	Gatlinburg On The Hill	Gatlinburg, TN	Brandon Olsen 865-471-5197	bnolson@bellsouth.net	Gatlinburg Ski Area
NOV	18	OEC Refresher @ Wolf Laurel	Asheville	Bill Boughton 828-645-8670	bill@boughton.com	
NOV	19	Wolf Laurel On The Hill	Wolf Laurel	Bill Boughton 828-645-8670	bill@boughton.com	Wolf Laurel @ 9am
DEC	TBA	Sapphire On The Hill	Sapphire			
JAN	TBA	Smoky Mtn Nordic On The Hill	Smoky Mt Natl Pk	Andy Meachan 865-494-8838	ammeacha@icx.net	
CPR Events held in Region for 2006-2007						
OCT	7	Atlanta CPR Refresher	Atlanta, GA	Sylvia Tally 770-552-8968	snowmedic@mindspring.com	
NOV	11	Cataloochee CPR Refresher	Maggie Valley, NC	Wayne Morgan 828-926-0258 X 316	papawfwm@bellsouth.net	
NOV	12	Gatlinburg CPR Refresher	Gatlinburg, TN	Brandon Olsen 865-471-5197	bnolson@bellsouth.net	
Educational Courses for 2006-2007						
NOV	18	Instructor Development Course	Western Carolina University	Bob Landin 770-640-6771	landin@comcast.net	Alt Date=DEC 17 Instructor Prep for PSIA 1, 2, & 3
DEC	16-17	Rider Improvement Clinic	Cataloochee	Ric LaValle 404-368-3590	riclavallee@response-911.com	
JAN	6	Toboggan Enhancement Clinic	Gatlinburg, TN	Brandon Olsen 865-471-5197	bnolson@bellsouth.net	
JAN	11	Toboggan Enhancement Clinic	Cataloochee	Tom Raudorf 865-483-5818	craudorf@aol.com	Thursday
JAN	19	Ski Enhancement Clinic	Wolf Laurel	Brandon Olsen 865-471-5197	bnolson@bellsouth.net	
JAN	27	Ski Enhancement Clinic	Cataloochee	Tom Raudorf 865-483-5818	craudorf@aol.com	
JAN	28	Toboggan Enhancement Clinic	Wolf Laurel	Brandon Olsen 865-471-5197	bnolson@bellsouth.net	
FEB	4	Snowboard Enhancement Clinic	Cataloochee	Tom Raudorf 865-483-5818	craudorf@aol.com	
JUN	TBA	Patroller Enrichment Seminar	Boone	Mary Underwood 865-483-3675	jnu@bellsouth.net	8:30am
Region Events for 2006-2007						
Nov30-Dec	3	Atlanta Ski Swap Sale	Atlanta, GA	Ann Christenson 770-394-5869	annchristenson@bellsouth.net	Cobb Galleria Mall
JAN	6	Examiner's Proficiency Clinic	Gatlinburg, TN	Brandon Olsen 865-471-5197	bnolson@bellsouth.net	8:30a
JAN	7	Senior S & T Clinic	Gatlinburg, TN	Bob Brewster 828-684-8100	bobbrewster@charter.net	
JAN	21	SR OEC Clinic	Cataloochee	Bob Brewster 828-684-8100	bobbrewster@charter.net	
JAN	21-22	Certified Pre-Evaluation Clinic	Snowshoe	Leslie Carter 434-325-1262		
FEB	3-4	Certified Pre-Evaluation Clinic	Beech Mtn	Leslie Carter 434-325-1262		

FEB	3-4	Certified Pre-Evaluation Clinic	Massanutten	Leslie Carter 434-325-1262	
FEB	4	SR S & T Evaluation	Gatlinburg, TN	Bob Brewster 828-684-8100	bobbrewster@charter.net
FEB	25	SR OEC Evaluation	Cataloochee	Bob Brewster 828-684-8100	bobbrewster@charter.net
MAR	15-17	Certified Evaluation	Snowshoe	Leslie Carter 434-325-1262	

Virginia Region Calendar 2006-2007

Month	Date	Event	Location	Contact	E-Mail Address	Comments
OEC Courses and Challenges held in Region for 2006-2007						
NOV	4	OEC Course Starts @ Massanutten	Massanutten	Bartek Drewnowski 540-289-4954	bdrewnowski@massresort.com	
OEC Events held in Region for 2006-2007						
OCT	14	Pre-Refresher @ Bryce - Instructors	Bryce	Lacy Williams 804-864-0316	lacy.williams@JovnerFineProperties.com	
OCT	15	OEC Refresher @ Bryce - Lift Evac	Bryce	Lacy Williams 804-864-0316	lacy.williams@JovnerFineProperties.com	
OCT	14	OEC Refresher @ Wintergreen	Rockfish Valley School	Ted Forbes 434-979-7586	Ted.Forbes@capitalone.com	
OCT	15	Wintergreen On-The Hill	Wintergreen	Tucker Crolius 434-325-8060	TCrolius@aol.com	
OCT	28	Massanutten On-The-Hill	Massanutten	Bartek Drewnowski 540-289-4954	bdrewnowski@massresort.com	
OCT	29	OEC Refresher @ Massanutten	Massanutten	Will Drury 540-421-4890	mgb72wi@planetcomm.net	
CPR Events held in Region for 2006-2007						
JUN	10	Bryce CPR Refresher/ Spring meeting	Bryce	Nancy Dibenedetto 202-877-1423	nancy.m.dibenedetto@medstar.net	
JUN	17	Wintergreen CPR Refresher	Wintergreen	Tucker Crolius 434-325-8060	TCrolius@aol.com	
SEP	23	CPR Refresher @ Wintergreen	Wintergreen	Tucker Crolius 434-325-8060	TCrolius@aol.com	
Educational Courses held in Region for 2006-2007						
OCT	14	MTR	Massanutten	Paul Hansen 540-289-9586		MIN = 5
DEC	9	Patroller Enrichment Seminar	Homestead	Cindy Diehl 703-494-9490	chuff@starpower.net	MIN = 6
JAN	27	Toboggan Enhancement Seminar	Wintergreen	Mike Fisher 434-296-8485	heardmtn05@earthlink.net	NO MIN
JAN	28	Skier Enhancement Seminar	Massanutten	John Shaffer 703-719-5945	john.shaffer@cfsc.army.mil	MIN = 5
FEB	3	Transportation Instructor Course	Wintergreen	Mike Fisher 434-296-8485	heardmtn05@earthlink.net	MIN = 6
FEB	11	Skier Enhancement Seminar	Wintergreen	John Shaffer 703-719-5945	john.shaffer@cfsc.army.mil	MIN = 5
MAR	10	Avalanche Fundamentals & Rescue	Wintergreen	Mike Fisher 434-296-8485	heardmtn05@earthlink.net	MIN = 6
Events held in the Region for 2006-2007						
JUN	4	Massanutten Hoo-Ha Bike Race	Massanutten	Kenny Hess 540-289-4654	khess@massresort.com	
JUN	17	Bryce CPR Refresher/Meeting/Cookout	Bryce	Nancy Dibenedetto 202-877-1423	nancy.m.dibenedetto@medstar.net	
JUN	17	Wintergreen Picnic/Annual Meeting	Wintergreen	Tucker Crolius 434-325-8060	TCrolius@aol.com	
OCT	21	Bryce Ski Swap - Richmond	Bryce	Nancy Dibenedetto 202-877-1423	nancy.m.dibenedetto@medstar.net	
NOV	11	Massanutten Ski Swap	Massanutten	Kenny Hess 540-289-4654	khess@massresort.com	
NOV	24	Wintergreen Ski Swap	Wintergreen	Jim Mccaslin 703-250-5193	mccaslin_iim@hotmail.com	
DEC	10	Wintergreen Transfer Orientation	Wintergreen	Ed Pouncey 703-266-2943	Ed.Pouncey@FairfaxCounty.gov	
JAN	20	Senior Emergency Management Clinic	Bryce	T Harris 804-320-1901	tandpeg@netzero.net	
JAN	21	Senior S&T Clinic	Wintergreen	Mike Fisher 434-296-8485	heardmtn05@earthlink.net	
FEB	3	Certified Operations & Oec Clinic	Massanutten	Steve Kuller 540-234-9108	sdk@iuno.com	
FEB	4	Certified S&T Clinic	Massanutten	Steve Kuller 540-234-9108	sdk@iuno.com	
FEB	24	Senior Emergency Management Eval	Massanutten	T Harris 804-320-1901	tandpeg@netzero.net	
FEB	25	Senior S & T Evaluation	Massanutten	Mike Fisher 434-296-8485	heardmtn05@earthlink.net	
Virginia Events Held In The Region For 2005-2006						
May	14	Massanutten Yee-Ha Bike Race	Massanutten	Kenny Hess 540-289-4954	kenhess@adelphia.net	
		Bryce CPR				
Jun	18	Refresher/Meeting/Cookout	Bryce	Nancy Dibenedetto 202-877-1423	nancy.m.dibenedetto@medstar.net	
Jun	18	Wintergreen Picnic	Wintergreen	Tucker Crolius 434-325-8060	tcrolius@aol.com	
Oct	2	Bryce OEC Refresher	Bryce	Nancy Dibenedetto 202-877-1423	nancy.m.dibenedetto@medstar.net	

Nov	12	Massanutten Ski Swap	Massanutten	Kenny Hess 540-289-4955	kenhess@adelphia.net
Nov	25	Wintergreen Ski Swap	Wintergreen	Jim Mccaslin 703-250-5193	mccaslin_jim@hotmail.com
Dec	10	Massanutten Transfer Orientation	Massanutten	Bartek Drewnowski 540-289-4954	bdrewnowski@massresort.com
Dec	11	Wintergreen Transfer Orientation	Wintergreen	Ed Pouncey 703-266-2943	ed.pouncey@fairfaxcounty.gov
Jan	7	Senior Ski Clinic - Full Day	Massanutten	Bartek Drewnowski 540-289-4955	bdrewnowski@massresort.com
Jan	8	Senior Toboggan Clinic - Full Day	Massanutten	Bartek Drewnowski 540-289-4955	bdrewnowski@massresort.com
Jan	21	Senior Emergency Management Clinic	Bryce	T Harris 804-320-1901	tandpeg@netzero.net
Jan	22	Senior S&T Clinic	Massanutten	Mike Fisher 434-296-8486	heardmtn99@aol.com
Feb	4	Certified Operations & OEC Clinic	Massanutten	Leslie Carter 434-295-4463	cartrplmbg@aol.com
Feb	5	Certified S&T Clinic	Massanutten	Leslie Carter 434-295-4463	cartrplmbg@aol.com
Feb	25	Senior Emergency Management Evaluation	Wintergreen	T Harris 804-320-1901	tandpeg@netzero.net
Feb	26	Senior S & T Evaluation	Wintergreen	Mike Fisher 434-296-8486	heardmtn99@aol.com
Mar	12	Massanutten Picnic	Massanutten	Bartek Drewnowski 540-289-4954	bdrewnowski@massresort.com

Executive Committee Members

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Toboggan Supervisor (05)

Tony Tingle (Carla)
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West Virginia Region

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Southern Cross

A Publication of The Southern Division of The National Ski Patrol

2005-2006, Number 3

www.nsp.org/divisions/Southern/cross.htm

May 2006

In This Issue

From Division Director..... 1

From the Assistants:

First Assistant 2

South Area 2

North Area 3

From the Regions:

Virginia..... 4-6

Blue Ridge 6

Dixie 7

From Supervisors and Advisors:

Certified Program 8

Transportation Program.. 8

Patroller Enrichment 9

Outdoor Emergency Care10-11

Around The Division:

Blue Ridge Region.....11

CPR Updated Changes ..13-14

In Memoriam15-16

Course Announcements:

Sugar Mtn-NORBA Bike 18

European Ski Symposium 19-20

Fall Officer Meeting21

(Entries in blue are navigational links)

Southern Cross is published three times a year—Fall, Mid-winter and Spring. Articles and photos are encouraged and appreciated. With photos, please include caption information. If at all possible, please include a photo of the author with articles. Submission deadline for the Fall issue is September 9, 2006.

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“Let’s Patrol and do what we enjoy!”

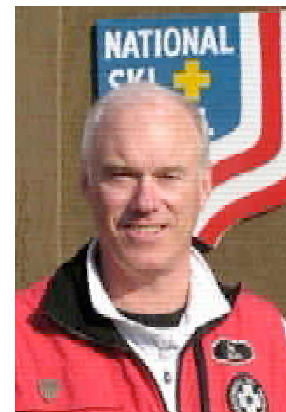
Neil Booth, Division Director

Let me begin by saying hello and I hope you had a wonderful season at your resort and hopefully a side trip or two! This has been a year of hot and cold weather. Fortunately the cold seemed to reappear just in time for the crowds and unlike last season, few had to shut down!

You should all be aware that the courts have dismissed all legal suits. I am very happy to say that as of this writing, we have a clean slate, with no legal actions pending, or to the best of my knowledge, anything forthcoming! This does not mean that everything is back on track however. Since the end of February, four National Board members have resigned, one of which came after the dismissal order. National is in process of holding a special election, as called for in the Settlement Agreement. My understanding is that there will be 6 to 8 seats out of 13 up for election. We should probably anticipate other areas of concern to develop as this now appears to be how our new system functions. Is this good or bad? It is simply change in our organization and industry.

Your division executive committee members are focusing on the tasks of Southern Division. Our primary focus is the delivery of programs to our members, hence my title of “Let’s Patrol and do what we enjoy!” We all belong to this organization for a variety of reasons. Why, is something that can only be answered individually? Personally, I joined for the waist deep powder and slopes with extreme vertical! Based on this, you can tell I have toned down my “coming in” expectations. Even with these slight modifications, and there have been many; I enjoy doing what I do at my resort and being a member of this fine organization.

Shortly after receiving my National Appointment in 1987, someone said, “I see you have earned your appointment, which shows you must be an excellent patroller”. My response to this person was, “The appointment shows that I have given our system a lot of time and efforts, above the patrol level”. I then said, “The true mark of an excellent patroller comes from peers and managements view of an individuals actual patrolling performance. It is not the Appointment, or for that matter, what designation I wear on my jacket. It is about how people and customers feel when I show up at an incident site. If everyone feels confident in my abilities, this is the measurement of an excellent patroller. If they get nervous when I show up, I am less than an



excellent patroller”. I have taken advantage of the many educational programs that NSP provides. Some relate to what I do while actively patrolling. Others are simply great learning experiences. My challenge to everyone is to simply take advantage of the education that our system provides. Not every program is intended for everyone. You have the ability and right to choose which programs you want to pursue. So please, take advantage of these offerings.

Great opportunities are before us! Snow will follow before we know it! We also know that OEC refreshers, CPR refreshers (lots of new procedures this coming year), coupled with wet snow, breakable crust, moguls, terrain, etc. are before us. This is what makes everything we do interesting! This is why we patrol and enjoy what we are doing!

This has been a very trying year for many within our system. It is far from perfect and will always be undergoing changes to meet the ever-changing environment we live and operate in. I ask everyone to stay focused on patrolling, what we do best. If you have questions or interest in what is going on, contact your patrol representative for more information regarding the current climate of our organization. You may also contact anyone on the division staff. Let’s patrol, enjoy what we do, enjoy our friendships, enjoy helping others, enjoy our organization.

**Have a wonderful summer and take time off from patrolling
to also enjoy the many other fine things you do.**

From the Assistants...

R. Morgan Armstrong,
1st ADD, Southern Division

**A big “thank you” to each of the Patrol Representatives
for 100% End of Year Report filing this year.**

Richard Boyer
Assistant Division Director - Southern Area



Having finished the season and survived the ski season with all limbs intact, it is time to look back and review what was accomplished. I’m very proud to report all mountains in the *southern* end of our Southern Division have had good, and in several cases, record-breaking years for their respective resorts. Patroller numbers are sufficient and programs for adding trained personnel are in place and seem to be successful in adding necessary members to our system.

Our National organization seems to have survived to date, and though changes are in process we at the patroller’s level will carry on doing what we’re all there to do, which is to educate and train for aiding people in our outdoor settings when they need help getting to the healthcare system.

There are two things I'd like all our Patrol Representatives and Regional Directors to do:

1. Set forth on paper and send it up the organizational line, a list of goals for the up coming year, and
2. Make known the succession plan not only for yourself, but each position over which you have responsibility.

I'd suggest recruitment, training and education, hill management, refreshers, staffing and organization, patrol room improvement, patrol fund raising, succession, and long term planning to be included in your areas of goal designation. Succession is the plan through which you get to return to the sole position of gratification we each receive from being at the core of our organization, the on-the-hill patroller.

I thank each **Mike Harris**, **Brent Bowman**, all Patrol Representative, and all Regional Administrators for the jobs "Well-Done!" this past year. I also thank **Neil Booth** for the tough job he has endured as our Division Director. This coming year will be fun!!

Notes From The North...

Jan Starr

Assistant Division Director – North Area



Another ski season has come and gone, another chapter in our lives. Welcome to all the new patrollers that spent their time training and learning this past season. Congratulations to the new Senior and Certified patrollers in the region. We had the most participation in the Senior program this season than in any of the past. This makes me happy and proud to see as many patrollers that are dedicated to making themselves a better patroller. Thanks again to all of the instructors and evaluators that make these programs work.

It seems like our organization needs all the strength we can give it. With a heavy heart I see and hear of friends and colleges that have resigned from our organization. Their dedication and input has been greatly appreciated by many of us and I will miss working with them. I am glad to have had the opportunity of knowing these folks.

The best we can do right now is to keep our focus on strengthening our area patrols in OEC and Transportation to better serve our guests that visit and participate in all of our outdoor activities in our areas. My inbox is always open and read frequently for any questions or suggestions to make our best better. And by the way, Powderfall was way awesome! Glad to have the chance to ski with old friends and make some new ones!

**Have a great summer,
try to get some volunteer time
in with the summer events happening at your area.
We aren't just a winter organization anymore.**

Virginia Region - News From Virginia

Bill Smith

Virginia Region Director



Life with no limits...Wintergreen's Wounded Warrior Project

On snow-covered resort slopes, wounded veterans rediscover their capabilities and a zest for living

In late January, amid the masses bobbing and weaving down the mountain at Wintergreen Resort were more than a dozen people with faith and courage in abundance; young military veterans, grievously injured in training or combat, skiing without limbs, some for the first time.

Called **Wounded Warriors Weekend**, it was the second annual gathering at the Blue Ridge mountain resort. Last year, seven military members participated. This year, more than twice that many came and Wintergreen patroller's turned out to welcome them.

The **Wounded Warrior Project** helps recently wounded service members and veterans make the transition into civilian life. Together with **Disabled Sports/USA**, the organization gets injured service members and veterans involved in more than a dozen sports, including biking, waterskiing, canoeing, kayaking, running and snow skiing.

Michael Zuckerman, executive director of Wintergreen's Adaptive Ski Program gathered instructors and chaperones for final preparations and told them, "If any of you have ever doubted whether you can make a difference, this is it." His enthusiasm easily bubbled over to those assisting.

By lunch, cups overflowed. Two new skiers, both of whom had lost legs while in uniform, returned from the snow triumphant. A beaming instructor made the announcement to clapping and whistles...**James Stuck** made his first turn at 10 a.m. **Rosemary Salak** made hers at 11:30. Hoots and hollers filled the room!!!

"This is not about flag waving," Zuckerman later said. "This is about supporting the guys and gals who were doing the mission. This is about taking care of these guys, and nothing else." A great time was had by all that cold day.

This year, at the request of Virginia patrol's, many exciting education programs were planned and delivered making our patroller's more knowledgeable and valuable to their areas. A huge THANK YOU is in order to all of the instructor's and assistants who made all of this training possible and available to their fellow patroller's.

In late March, the NSP Southern Division Certified Patroller Examination was held at Snowshoe Resort. Wintergreen Ski Patrol is extremely proud to announce that after sweating it out for an entire year. **Keith Cassidy** has joined the ranks of Certified Patrollers. Congratulations Keith!!!

The '05-'06 Virginia Senior program got off to a flying start with an influx of new candidates. In all, there were twelve personnel involved this season. Of those, three successfully completed all Senior requirements and achieved their Senior status. They included **Susanne Ebling**, **Geoff Stagg** and **Matt Weitz** all of

Wintergreen. Congratulations to all for their accomplishments and especially Susanne, Geoff and Matt for completing the program!!!

In mid-April, 27 hardy souls from the Virginia Region in search of one last run of the season, traveled to Chamonix, France for the **2006 Powderfall**. During that event we had the opportunity to not only ski in France, but Italy and Switzerland as well. I can only tell you that a GRAND time was had by all. And the skiing was pretty good also!!!

Over these past months I have watched in amazement the events that have unfolded in our beloved NSP and even some of what is happening in our own Division. It seems to me that some of our fellow patroller's have forgotten the lessons we all were supposed to learn early in life. Many of them can best be summed up in Robert Fulghum's book titled "*All I Really Need to Know I learned in Kindergarten.*" Some of those lessons include:

- Play fair
- Don't hit people
- Clean up your own mess
- Say you're sorry when you hurt somebody
- When you go out into the world, watch out for traffic, hold hands and stick together, and the list goes on

Pardon the use of the famous book title, but this is something I truly believe. By the time you're 6 or 7 years old, you've basically chosen at what point along the circumference of the compass your life will follow.

By the time you've become self-aware of your individuality, you've already made choices about how you intend to learn the curriculum of life's lessons. You've also decided how you will treat teachers, students and others who will become part of your life.

Growing up in a small parochial school, St. Mary's in Norfolk, VA, Sister Ann Regina had the flexibility to treat all students as individuals, not numbers. There I was given a firm basis of potential achievement.

The first thing she taught me was that she was smarter than I was. In any given group of people, you will always find people who are smarter and dumber than you. Since people don't go around with tattooed bar codes on their wrists that you can scan for their full bio, (not yet, at least) never assume a lack or presence of intelligence from appearance alone. We have many good folks in the NSP and they need to have the opportunity to have their voices heard. However, that does not give them the right to be mean and hurt others.

By illustrating the difference in abilities among us, she then taught us that we should always have a basic, decent, common respect for one another. None of us did perfect classroom work. Because we were imperfect little children, we were all equal in God's eyes, and hers.

Sister taught me that you must master the fundamentals before you can master the esoteric. She sometimes would let me play with math at a higher level than the rest of the class. Once at a higher level, she brought me back to the fundamentals by having me occasionally tutor some students who were having problems in math. She increased my self-esteem while she nudged me down the path of never forgetting the fundamentals by making me deal with them on a daily basis. Sometimes I believe that it is difficult to see the bigger picture for some of us. It takes time for the whole plan to unfold. And it usually will if given the chance.

During our playtime, she taught us that simply being a kid and having fun is what makes being a kid fun. But she also taught us that we must play fair. The older we become, the more important it is to remember that. Of late it seems that some in our sandbox are not “playing fair.” In fact they are being rather ugly.

In our group projects, Sister Ann Regina taught us to begin all projects from the ground up, not the roof down. All projects, no matter how humble, must begin with a motivation that becomes a plan. The plan generates a timetable that drives the decision-making process on how to proceed during its execution. She made it clear that tangible results, not grandiose plans, are what matter most.

She taught me my earliest lesson in leadership by never appointing a leader for a class project. We learned early in life that in absence of an appointed hierarchy, a leadership structure would inevitably emerge from the initial chaos. One might as well be a leader.

But perhaps the most profound lesson she taught us all, in her results-oriented teaching style, is that while one should always focus on solving a problem, one doesn't have to sacrifice any part of one's self to achieve that goal.

**There will always be change in our organization. Change is healthy and sometimes good.
But always remember “All We Really Need to Know We Learned in Kindergarten.”**

Let's all play fair in our sandbox we call NSP!!!

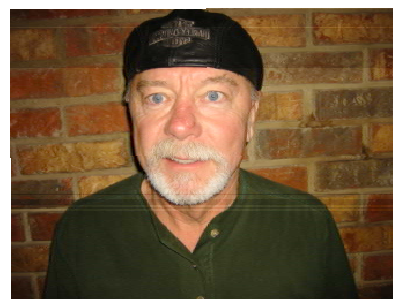
Blue Ridge Region

Mike Harris

Blue Ridge Region Director

The Blue Ridge Region had an extremely successful 2005/2006 Season with a very crowded calendar which miraculously worked out. With the caliber of people that we have in Blue Ridge, I am sure everything will work out for the 2006/2007 upcoming season. Please refer to the division web site for dates and information on all scheduled events and programs.

I hope that everyone will take the opportunity to vote in the upcoming election for national board of directors.



Dixie Region

Brent Bowman

Dixie Region Director



Well, here we go back into summertime with OEC classes starting up at all of the Dixie Region patrols. It is hard for me to believe that it has been one year since I was asked by Neil to be Region Director for Dixie. It has been really enjoyable for me to be able to get out and spend some time at each of the resorts in the region. We have **MANY** talented patrollers that work hard to keep the programs and patrols running at our resorts. Thanks to **ALL** of you, for **ALL** you do!!

This past season (05-06) we worked really hard on the Senior Program trying to get more consistency in the evaluations. We had great reviews from the participants in the program. One of the questions that was asked of me was *“Why would I want to become a Senior Level Ski Patroller?”* I have thought a lot about this and can only state the reasons that I went thru the program:

1. I wanted to teach skiing and toboggan handling. To do this (at that time) you needed to have the Phase One Teaching Course and then become a Ski and Toboggan Instructor.
2. Since I am not a medical person, I hoped that the advanced medical in the Sr. OEC would help me in getting some additional skills in that realm.
3. One of my friends on the patrol was also trying to get his Senior.

As I looked at what it would take to become a Senior, I realized that I already had taken enough electives to only have to do the Phase One and Phase Two classes (These have been replaced with the Instructor Development and Mentoring Programs). This was not really a huge task and each was an enjoyable weekend spent with other patrollers in the basement of a fire hall in Cincinnati, Ohio. The instructor(s) were great with lots of learning mixed in with some fun and laughter. The Skiing part of the Senior was not tough for me. I have spent A LOT of time and money on instructors at ski resorts to become a better skier and am now in PSIA, the NSP Ski School and just passed my Level II instructor this past season. The OEC was another story. My first pass at the evaluation was horrible. After many hours of work with trainers at Snow Trails in Central Ohio (my patrol at that time). I went to Boston Mills/ Brandy Wine near Cleveland, Ohio for the evaluation. The end result of the evaluation for me was a no pass. My medical skills were not up to the Senior Level. It was a long, long three-hour drive back home. The next season I was back and ready to try again. I went to practice nights at Boston Mills and Mad River and really worked hard with the OEC class at Snow Trails. All of this paid off in a pass at the next evaluation at Mad River. To me this was the “reward”: To pass the evaluation and have others know that you have put your time and effort into something for yourself. It is not about more money or fame, it’s about enhancing your skills that you use both in your real job and the volunteer job that we call Ski Patrol. By the way, my friend finally passed his senior the year after me and is still on the patrol in Ohio and is now also in the PSIA.

I encourage each of you that are now Basic level patrollers to look into the Senior Program and see how this program will benefit you. If you have questions drop your patrol rep, patrol director or me or a note. I would also be interested in hearing the stories of why the Seniors out there became Seniors and the benefits that you have reaped by joining this really great program.



From the Supervisors and Advisors...

Certified-Certified-Certified-Certified-Certified-Certified-Certified-Certified-Certified-Certified

Certified Program

Stephen Kuller

Certified Program Supervisor

I hope everyone enjoyed their season. I hope the conditions at your mountain were advantageous to your skill development and pursuits. We all should be reviewing what worked and didn't. Collecting that input from others, processing that information and applying it to making the necessary changes for improvement.

The Certified program is proud to announce that three members attained the goal of becoming certified. They are with without a doubt very proud of what they accomplished during the years in the program. I wish to inform you of the following new members: **Keith Cassidy**, **Andrew Nick** both from Wintergreen and **Thomas Hughes** from Snowshoe.

We also had banner recruitment from the division with five new candidates. Thanks to everyone that encouraged and provided information to these individuals. To those of you that lead these patrollers into the program thank you. They are undertaking a major leap into their patrolling careers.

We would love to hear from those of you in the division, that have not traditionally participated in the program. We wish to expand this opportunity to all that have an interest. This is your opportunity to let someone know that you want this program at your area.

The above new members would love to hear from all of you who may still be sitting on the fence. Some of you may want to know what they have learned, accomplished and shared. Ask them, they will respond eagerly giving the information to motivate you.

Thanks again for letting me share the program.

Transportation-Transportation-Transportation-Transportation-Transportation-Transportation

Transportation Program

Tony Tingle,

Transportation Supervisor

Howdy from sunny Tennessee. As the days warm and "other" outdoor activities begin to fill our calendars, I encourage you to begin thinking ahead and consider two Transportation programs for your mountains in the coming year. One is the Toboggan Enhancement Seminar (TES) and the other is the Ski Trainers Workshop (STW). Several TES events were conducted around the Division last season, and the comments I heard were all positive. Patrollers all seem to enjoy time in the handles. This is a one-day event and is really easy to set up and teach. All you need are Transportation Instructors, some snow, a willing mountain, and toboggans. There is no fee associated with this course, and the only prerequisite is that you are a current NSP member.

The STW is a course designed for NSP transportation trainers and evaluators to help them "use observational clues to hone their eyes for assessing patrollers' abilities and limitations in skiing and toboggan handling." The quote is from the NSP website. Prerequisites for the workshop include current NSP membership, completion of the Instructor Development course, current Alpine or Nordic Toboggan instructor

certification, and skiing ability of PSIA Level 7 or higher. NSP also recommends attending a Skiing Enhancement Seminar (SES) but it is not a required prerequisite. There is some cost involved in conducting a STW, which arises from PISA division clinic charges for the course and instructor. The cost will likely vary depending on the availability of local Level III PSIA instructors (travel costs will vary), and the number of participants who will divide the costs. Even with the costs associated with an STW, it is a really good value. The event can take 1 or 2 days. I look forward to attending one of these next season.

If you have further questions about either of these programs, please drop me a line at geofolks@att.net. Until the snow flies again, take care.



Patroller Enrichment Seminar (PES)

Mary Underwood

Patroller Enrichment Supervisor



HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN? PES Courses Scheduled on 7/15/06 and 12/10/06

How long has it been since you took one of the NSP educational courses, such as Mountain Travel, Avalanche or the Patroller Enrichment Seminar? "Oh, I already did that," you answer, "when I got my senior certification 14 years ago." Do you think a few changes might have come along? Just as our OEC skills are continually updated, maybe updating our skills by taking or retaking one or more of our education courses could be enlightening.

The structure of Southern Division has changed greatly in the past few years.

- Do you know which region your patrol is in?
- How many regions are in Southern Division?
- You got "stuck" this year being awards coordinator for your patrol. Where are the forms and what are the qualifications for these awards?
- You have some money from a fund-raiser to spend on improving your patrol aid facility. Have you come up with a needs assessment and plan for making the improvements?

If you could not answer some of these questions, consider taking or retaking the Patroller Enrichment Seminar. We cover the structure and leadership positions in Southern Division. We learn about resources available to help in our patrol assignments as well as region or division jobs. Each participant also does a through evaluation of his first aid facility. Come to a Patroller Enrichment Seminar (PES) either for the first time or to see what's new.

There are 2 PES courses scheduled so far for this year. Asheville is the location for the first one coming soon on Saturday, July 10. Another course is scheduled for December 10th at The Homestead in Virginia. You must pre-register by contacting the instructor. **Mary Underwood** at jnu@bellsouth.net is the instructor for the July course, and **Cindy Diehl** at chuff@starpower.net is the instructor for the December course.



Division OEC Program

Judi Kay-Monaghan,
OEC Program Supervisor



What's New With OEC

INSTRUCTOR UPDATE

Southern Division will again be hosting the OEC instructor update at the Fall Officers Meeting held concurrently with the Board of Directors meeting in Wytheville, VA August 18, 2006. "Leadership" will be the theme of this year's update. A separate email for registration will be sent out to all instructors in June. Be sure to check with your OEC Regional Administrator or designated IT to see if you are up for renewal and must attend the update.

MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS AND NATIONAL SKI PATROL

The National Ski Patrol and the Medical Reserve Corps are discussing the opportunity to work together to provide first responder help in local communities when a disaster strikes. The Medical Reserve Corps is dedicated to establishing teams of local volunteer medical and public health professional to contribute their skills and expertise throughout the year as well as during times of community need. This will allow OEC technicians to be accepted into the corps to help and train with local emergency responder groups as part of the Medical Reserve Corps. In turn, current Medical Responder's may bridge the OEC course to become OEC technicians which will allow them to work nationwide on emergency response teams. We may even gain a few ski patrollers through this exchange!

The Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) was founded after President Bush's 2002 State of the Union Address, in which he asked all Americans to volunteer in support of their country. MRC is a specialized component of Citizen Corps, a national network of volunteers dedicated to ensuring hometown security. Citizen Corps, along with the Corporation for National and Community Service, and the Peace Corps are all part of the President's USA Freedom Corps, which promotes volunteerism and service throughout the nation. MRC units are community-based and function as a way to locally organize and utilize volunteers – medical professionals and others - who want to donate their time and expertise to promote healthy living throughout the year and to prepare for and respond to emergencies. MRC volunteers supplement existing local emergency and public health resources.

What Can MRC Volunteers Do?

- **Support** local public health, while advancing the priorities of the U.S. Surgeon General
- Promoting disease prevention
- Improving health literacy
- Eliminating health disparities
- Enhancing public health preparedness
- **Assist** local hospitals and health departments with surge personnel needs.
- **Participate** in mass prophylaxis and vaccination exercises and community disaster drills.
- **Train** with local emergency response partners.

The Southern Division has requested to participate in a pilot program for the Medical Reserve Corps. More information will be available at the Fall Officers meeting in August. Stay tuned for a great opportunity to help in your communities by using your OEC technician's skills.

REFRESHER 2006 CYCLE B

Look for your “On Scene” OEC refresher magazine coming in the mail soon and be sure to save it for the fall refresher study guide. There will be great information on “Minnie Dole” and NSP that I am sure you will all find interesting.

There will be a change in the quality assurance and quality control (QA/QC) process associated with the 2006 Cycle B refresher. QA/QC was a concern expressed by many Patrollers and the refresher committee through the patroller refresher evaluations. Currently IT's observing our refreshers complete an evaluation form which is then distributed to a variety of individuals from Regional Administrators to the National office. After collection of the forms, they are returned to the supervisor and it is expected that the information gets passed on to several people which includes the patrol representative, Regional Administrator and the Instructor of Record. The reality is that sometimes the system works and it sometimes does not. This year that evaluation form will be provided in the Instructor Guide for use by the IT's **and also** to the **Patrol Representative** as part of their completion record for the refresher. The national refresher committee is hoping this helps the information to be shared and utilized as intended.

Another change in refresher planning is that all refreshers will be registered through the national office just like any other course. Each instructor or record (IOR) for a refresher will be required to register the refresher **PRIOR** to the actual scheduled date of the refresher. This will enable patrollers' throughout the system to find a refresher, serve as an aid to you in collecting important dates for deployment of your IT's and other staff as needed. It will provide some relief to the phenomena of the “Ghost Refresher”. An IOR can request that their refresher be “closed” and therefore unavailable to visiting patrollers.

All patrol representatives and patrol directors be sure to select your Instructor of Record (IOR) for this year's refresher and pass that name along to your OEC Regional Administrator by June 15, 2006. We will be contacting the IOR for each refresher to begin the planning process for the fall.

GOODYBYE

I have served as your Southern Division Supervisor for the past eight years, and the time has come for me to resign my position. I have enjoyed working with all the instructors and instructor trainers in the Southern Division. You all have made this division one of the best in OEC program delivery, Senior Emergency Management, and refresher programs in the nation. The Regional Administrators have been wonderful to work with and I thank John, Hugh, Jane and Sylvia very much. I want thank each one of the instructors for your dedication and time you have given to make this program what it is today. It truly has been a wonderful experience to serve the division and the National Ski Patrol through the OEC program.

From Around the Division...

On Sunday, March 5, 2006, Appalachian Ski Mtn. had their Basic Evaluation and was kind enough to accept candidates from both Beech Mtn. and Hawksnest. **Ben Fox** and **Tony Ray** did most of the work for ***Appalachian hosting a Low Country Boil.*** What a gracious (and delicious) thing for that patrol to do.



(Photos submitted by Mike Harris)



Patrollers/Examiners looking for snow @ Hawksnest Hosted Evaluation

As you may know, 2005 marked the review of current and new resuscitation science and the reevaluation and update of Guidelines 2000 for Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and Emergency Cardiovascular Care. The outcome of this process impacts you as a trained CPR Healthcare Provider.

The process of updating Guidelines for 2005 began almost as soon as the 2000 Guidelines were released. Since 2001, the world's top experts in resuscitation and cardiovascular science have been meeting to review current and new science, and to come to an international consensus on science and treatment recommendations for 2005. Based on this international consensus and input from leaders in many professional healthcare organizations, AHA ECC developed the 2005 American Heart Association Guidelines for Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and Emergency Cardiovascular Care. The Guidelines were published in December 2005, and will be used as the foundation for creating updated training materials, which will be released throughout 2006.

Many of the changes in BLS recommended in 2005 are designed to simplify CPR recommendations including eliminating differences in techniques for different ages when possible, increase the number of quality of chest compressions delivered, and increase the number of uninterrupted chest compressions. Since there are so many changes in the CPR and AED protocol, I suggest that all patrollers to take the full Healthcare Provider BLS course this year. The course is offered on-line but may be difficult to complete with all the new changes, thus it is not recommended.

Another reminder **CPR is not part of the OEC refresher!** It must be taught separate and apart from you annual OEC refresher.

Outline of CPR Changes for Healthcare Provider:

A universal compression-to-ventilation ration of 30 to 2 is now recommended for lone rescuers for victims of all ages (except newborns). This 30:2 compression-to-ventilation ration also applies to healthcare providers performing 2-rescuer CPR for adult victims until an advanced airway, or laryngeal mask airway is in place. Once an advanced airway is in place, 2 rescuers should not longer provide cycles of CPR with pauses in compressions to give rescue breaths.

Before an advance airway is in place, rescuers should perform about 5 cycles of CPR after shock delivery and before the next rhythm check. Once an advanced airway is in place, rescuers should perform about 2 minutes of CPR after shock delivery and before the next rhythm check. These changes will affect your AED protocol and each patrol should address these changes in their "mountain specific" part of the annual refresher.

For 2-rescuer infant and child CPR for healthcare providers should use a 15:2 compression-to-ventilation ratio. The unwitnessed suspected choking victim no longer uses the abdominal thrust but rather chest compressions.

CPR Priorities for the Healthcare Provider

- _ **CALL FIRST** (activate the emergency response system) except if you are a lone rescuer with a victim of likely asphyxial cardiac arrest. Such victims will include all infants and children who do not have sudden witnessed collapse.

Major changes in defibrillation:

- _ **Use an AED** as soon as it is available except if you are in the out-of hospital setting with:
 - **An unresponsive child** who did not have a sudden witnessed arrest. With such children you should performs 5 cycles (or 2 minutes) of CPR prior to using an AED
 - **An adult with unwitnessed arrest** (the adult is already unresponsive when you arrive) and you are an EMS responder with a call-to-arrival greater than 4 to 5 minutes. Then you may perform 5 cycles or about 2 minutes of CPR before using the AED.

- Immediate defibrillation is appropriate for all rescuers responding to sudden witnessed collapse with an AED on site (for victims > 1 year of age).
- Compression before defibrillation may be considered when EMS arrival at the scene of sudden collapse is >4 to 5 minutes after the call.
- One shock followed by immediate CPR, beginning with chest compressions, is used for attempted defibrillation. The rhythm is checked after 5 cycles of CPR or 2 minutes.
- For attempted defibrillation of an adult, the dose using a monophasic manual defibrillator is 360J.
- For children 1 to 8 years of age, rescuers should use an AED with a pediatric dose-attenuator system if one is available.
- All Basic Life Support (BLS) course materials, including Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers, all Heartsaver® (including Heartsaver® First Aid), and Family & Friends community materials have been released. This includes instructor and student materials, exams, and all other auxiliary materials.

July – September 2006

- All Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support (ACLS) course materials will be released. This will include instructor and student materials, exams, and all other auxiliary materials.

October – December 2006

- All Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) course materials will be released. This will include instructor and student materials, exams, and all other auxiliary materials.

As you can see these changes are complex and require you as a patroller to dedicate more time this year to your CPR course. Please feel free to contact your local AHA instructor or Service Center with any questions.

In Memoriam

Beech Mountain ski patroller, **Dr. Kermit Lowry, Jr.**, LCA # 8299, passed away March 25, 2006, at his home in Bristol, TN, after a short bout with cancer.

Kermit was a lifetime member and a 35year veteran of the National Ski Patrol. With his sense of humor and his ability to provide a down to earth explanation of emergency care principles, Kermit was an important part of the continuing education and refreshing of skills of other ski patrollers. Folks always enjoyed, as well as respected, what he had to offer. He was considered one of the “elders of the clan” at Beech Mountain.

He had a long history of service to NSP and to Beech Mountain Ski Patrol. His time spent with ski patrolling included serving as the Southern Division Medical Advisor for many years, serving as the NSP liaison for the 1996 Summer Olympic Games in Atlanta, and working on the revisions of different chapters of the 3rd and 4th editions of the OEC textbooks. Kermit provided multiple contributions over the years to “the Southern Cross,” and he made multiple presentations at regional refreshers during his career as a patroller. Kermit contributed to his community outside of ski patrolling as well.

In his profession, he was a founding member of the State of Franklin Surgical Society and was one of the key organizers in establishing the Bristol Surgery Center, the first freestanding outpatient surgery center in that region. He was also involved in establishing the Medical School at East Tennessee State University and served as a professor in the Department of Surgery. He was active in the Bristol Historical Society and was a very involved member in the Rotary Club where he served as President.

All three of his children, Lynn Lowry Carroll, Tera Lowry Burnette, and Kermit Lowry III, spent some years as members of Beech Mountain Ski Patrol, and Kermit’s love for the sport got them out on the slopes at an early age. Survivors include his three children and their spouses, seven grandchildren, his former wife, Eleanor Hardy Lowry, and a special friend, Betty McGlothlin and her daughter.

Along with skiing, Kermit enjoyed tennis, golf, and hunting, and as his daughter Tera put it, he has gone to the Great Hunting Lodge in the Sky.

Those who would like may send memorial contributions to the Kermit Lowry, Jr. Endowment Fund, c/o Rotary Club Bristol VA-TN, PO Box 5624, Bristol, VA 24203-5624, or to the Bristol Cancer Association, 1255 W. State Street, Bristol, VA 24201.

In Memoriam

"With great sadness members of Wolf Laurel Ski Patrol paid their final respects to **Lenoir Hartzler**, a 30 year NSP veteran and a beloved member of their patrol. Lenoir passed away on February 15, 2006 after a short, abrupt fight with lung cancer.

Lenoir was a Clemson graduate and recently retired from the SC Department of Corrections where she had been among other things a fire arms instructor and a driving safety instructor. In addition to being a long-term member of the National Ski Patrol at Wolf Laurel, Lenoir was also a member of the Columbia Ski Club; spending much of her life devoted to the love of snow skiing and traveling extensively in pursuit of her passion. She was also an active SCUBA diver with Columbia SCUBA on Alpine Road and was a volunteer usher with Town Theatre in Columbia.



A slope-side service for Lenoir was held at Wolf Laurel on Saturday, May 6, 2006. The service was attended by family, friends, and patrollers past and present. On a beautiful spring day a bagpiper led the group on a walk up the slope to the site of the service, where a portion of her ashes were spread on the mountain that she so loved patrolling. The family was presented with Lenoir's 30 year service award and a Yellow Merit Star Award for her many years of service to Wolf Laurel and National Ski Patrol.

Her smiling face and eveready energy will be sorely missed by all."



Submitted by:

Bill Boughton
Patrol Representative
Wolf Laurel Ski Patrol



*Sugar Mountain Resort, Inc.
PO Box 369
Sugar Mountain, NC 28604
(828) 898-4521*

Date: May 8, 2006
Contact: Kim Joehl x262

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR SUGAR MOUNTAIN RESORT'S
NORBA NATIONAL MOUNTAIN BIKE EVENT**

Sugar Mountain, NC –For the first time Sugar Mountain Resort along with many dedicated and passionate sponsors and volunteers are thrilled to bring a NORBA (National Off Road Biking Association) National Mountain Bike Series (NMBS) event to North Carolina. Athletes, spectators, and vendors are all invited to be a part of the excitement June 8-11, 2006.

We need your help. We'll treat you well and give you a bunch of free stuff. Information for becoming a volunteer and a list of volunteer incentives can be found at <http://www.skisugar.com/showdown/volunteers.phtml>. If you are interested please view the following 3 PDF forms <http://www.skisugar.com/showdown/2006-vol-form.pdf> <http://www.skisugar.com/showdown/2006-vol-schedule.pdf> <http://www.skisugar.com/showdown/2006-vol-release.pdf> and submit/fax them to Sugar Mountain Resort at 828-898-6820 (fax number).

The 13th Annual Showdown at Sugar will debut as one of seven NORBA National Mountain Bike Series events. The seven NMBS events, plus the USA Cycling Mountain Bike National Championships in Mammoth Lakes, CA provide U.S. athletes the opportunity to accumulate points that factor into a nation's overall ranking. Points earned between Jan. 1, 2006 and Dec. 31, 2007 count toward a nation's ranking and factor into the number of start positions a country receives at the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing, China.

The Showdown at Sugar NMBS welcomes all levels of participants; beginners to world class athletes. Elite athletes from around the world will compete for the top spots in the following disciplines: Cross Country (XC), Downhill (DH), Short Track (ST), Dual Slalom (DS), and Super D (SD).

The Showdown at Sugar NMBS event kicks off Thursday, June 8th with downhill training and spectator lift rides. Activities and competitions continue non-stop throughout the daylight hours until Sunday afternoon. Some highlights include the pro men and women DH final on Sunday, June 11th at noon. This event is sure to be one of the most popular spectator events. The more endurance oriented pro men and women XC competition will be held Saturday, June 10th at noon and 12:15 pm respectively. The XC challenges riders up, down and around the Village of Sugar Mountain. It is a six mile, 1,000 foot vertical climb per lap. Pro riders pedal 3 laps - that's 18 miles and 3,000 feet of climbing through the woods! Medals are awarded to the top 3 finishers in all categories. A \$5,000 prize purse will be paid to pro riders in DS, DH and XC.

On Sunday at 1:00 pm watch the little ones as they compete in the SHIMANO cross-country kid's race. It's adorable! All kid's events offer categories with the appropriate track, loop and terrain to suit its age group. Once again brand new mountain bikes courtesy of Boone Bike and Touring and Magic Cycles will be awarded to the overall winners of the XC female and male junior beginner 10 & under classes! To enter go to www.skisugar.com/showdown.

Spectators can catch some wicked cool action in various "hot spots," like the start/finish arena, certain key locations along one of the five race routes. And of course the chairlift provides some unique aerial viewing and will be operating daily for spectators. A complete lift schedule can be found at <http://www.skisugar.com/showdown/spectator.phtml>.

The expo/tech area will be jamming with team trucks showing off the latest cycling equipment, local vendors, raffles, and free demonstrations. You definitely won't want to miss the Michelob Ultra Party, Saturday, June 10th from 3:00 – 6:00pm. Live blue grass music will be performed by the popular local band – BOSS HAWG. Stick around for the pro-rider autograph session from 4:00–5:00pm. Food and beverages will be available daily in the Sugar Mountain base lodge.

Sponsors for the 2006 Showdown at Sugar include: Sugar Mountain Resort, NMBS, Village of Sugar Mountain TDA, Sugar Mountain Accommodations Center, Sugar Mountain Resort Accommodations, Sugar Ski & Country Club, Boston Culinary Group, Michelob Ultra, The Reserve at Sugar Mountain, BB&T, Boone Bike and Touring, M-Prints, Magic Cycles, Lowes Food, Aquafina, ADS Graphics, Scotland Yard, Precision Printing, The Sign Shop, High Country News, USA Cycling, Shimano, Gatorade, Fox Racing Shox, Kenda, Sigma Sport, ODI, GU Energy Gel, Sponsorhouse.com, Rising Sun, Southridge, Static, and Control Tech.

For more information on the 2006 NMBS Showdown at Sugar please log onto www.skisugar.com/showdown or call 800-SUGARMT.

Special to Southern Division
Jack Melill, Ski Flight Advisor
March 17 2006

EUROPEAN SKI SYMPOSIUM (SKI FLIGHT 2007)
PLANS SKI TOUR TO INTERLAKEN, SWITZERLAND
AND FABULOUS JUNGFRAU REGION

Feb. 2 to Feb. 10 2007 Tour Cost \$1799

February 2007 is the date for Ski Flights annual ski symposium to Interlaken, Switzerland and the classic ski region of the Jungfrau, with the fairy tale villages of Wengen, Grindelwald and Murren all beneath the fearsome Eiger Mountain face

This area boasts not only the highest railroad station in the world tunneled through the Eiger to over 11,000 feet, but also Murren reached by Funicular, (of 007 "*Never Say Die*" movie fame,) magnificent raw peaks soaring over 13,000 feet. Fantastic skiing and all connected by an efficient narrow gauge cog railroad.

AVALANCHE TRAINING WITH SWISS SKI PATROL

In past visits, we have had excellent avalanche training and drills with the professional ski patrol, dogs and avalanche beepers. An exchange with the Swiss National Ski Patrol is in the planning. Because of its geography, the Jungfrau Region is known for its avalanche potential, which the ski patrol must control.

Our base is in Interlaken at a luxury 4 star hotel between two beautiful lakes, we access the skiing by nearby cog railroad. Interlaken while a modern 20th century city is the queen of the region and retains its 19th century old world charm and elegance. Side trips to Lucerne, Basel, Zurich or adjacent ski areas are very easy by train.

SKI THE EIGER OR JUNGFRAU GLACIERS

Skiing is varied and really interesting, ranking from novice to expert. Skiing for experts includes skiing The Jungfrau Glacier at 11,329 feet atop the Jungfrauloch, or the spectacular Eiger Glacier and for racers the Kandahar World Cup Race Course. The real enjoyment is skiing from village to village, then pausing for a cappuccino and apple strudel. Its like skiing was years ago. Later ski to Grindelwald and ride up Switzerland's first chairlift aptly named First. Its fun wherever you go.

TRIP HIGHLIGHTS AND COSTS

Southern Division participants would depart New York or Atlanta and return either from Paris or Zurich. We would all meet in Interlaken.

Highlights include, RT airfare, all breakfasts and some dinners. A moonlight lake cruise is also planned. Costs including almost everything, are expected to be in the \$1,799 range. So plan now to ski in the tracks of 007, explore Interlaken and enjoying a picturesque, memorial vacation. The trip is already half booked and limited so plan early to attend.

FLYER REQUEST BELOW

Ski Flight is an official Fund-raiser for the Pacific Northwest Division. The tour is open to all patrollers, family and friends.

-----clip and mail-----

Please send me an informational flyer for The European Ski Symposium (Ski Flight 2007).

Name (Print)_____

Mail Address_____

City, State and Zip_____

Mail to Jack Melill c/o Ski Flight 25406 SE 138th Street Issaquah, WA. 98027

Ski Flight 2007

European Ski Symposium

Tour Cost \$1799 includes RT air*

February 2 to 10, 2007

Signup early for this excellent ski symposium in Interlaken, Switzerland February 2 to 10, with an exciting extension to Paris, France or a ski week in Zermatt, Switzerland. Ski the three fairy tale villages, the Eiger Glacier, the World Cup course and ride the cog train to the Jungfrauoch highest railroad station in the world tunneled through the Eiger Mountain. Planned meeting with the Swiss National Ski Patrol, a dinner cruise and other special events.

ITS ALL INCLUDED

- POLAR R.T. AIR **SAS** FROM SEATTLE
- 1st CLASS SUPERIOR HOTEL(Double occupancy)
- GROUP TRANSFERS
- MEETING WITH SWISS NATIONAL SKI PATROL
- PLANNED LAKE CRUISE AND DINNER
- MTN. COG RAIL PASSES AND NON SKIER PASSES
- ALL BREAKFASTS AND 3 DINNERS (4 COURSE)
- ESCORTED TO AND FROM THE USA
- 4 DAY PARIS EXTENSION \$450
- A WEEK SKIING ZERMAT AND THE MATERHORN \$750

(Clip and mail to Ski Flight - 25406 SE 138th Issaquah, WA 98027)

YES! sign me up for [Interlaken 2007 February 2-10](#), my deposit of \$250 per person is enclosed. Make checks payable to Ski Fight PNWD.

Print Name (as on passport) _____ Birthdate _____

Roommate _____ Birthdate _____
Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Telephone(____) _____ Email _____ Patrol. _____

Try To find me a roommate _____. I prefer a single room _____ (\$300 surcharge.)

Send me information about the 3 day Paris extension ____ The Zermatt ski 7 day extension _____.

**Price subject to dollar Euro values, air, hotels ,bus cost, (.Air taxes not included.)
Jack Melill Ski Flight Advisor 425 313 4632 OR jack.Melill@Juno.com*



**2006 NSP Southern Division
Annual BOD Meeting
August 19th and 20th
Holiday Inn Conference Center,
Wytheville, Virginia
Exit 73 off I-81 near I-77**



TWO DAY MEETING FORMAT!

Friday and Saturday Evening Hospitality Room Social

Saturday

Board of Directors and Annual Division Meeting
*****Special Guest, TBD – Medical Reserve Corps*****
OEC Instructor Update-concurrent with BOD meeting
Luncheon Buffet
Annual Awards Banquet, Saturday Evening

Sunday Morning

Board Meeting continues Sunday morning with
2006-2007 Ski Season Final Planning

**Plan to attend --- mark your calendars NOW!
Registration forms will arrive in your e-mailboxes SOON!**



Southern Cross

A Publication of The Southern Division of The National Ski Patrol

In This Issue

From Division Director..... 1

From the Assistants:

First Assistant 3

South Area 4

North Area 4

From the Regions:

Virginia..... 5

Blue Ridge 6

Dixie 7

From Supervisors and Advisors:

Instructor Development.. 8

Certified Program..... 9

Transportation..... 9

Around The Division:

BRR - MTR 1, 2, ID 11

National OEC Director 13

Course Announcements:

Division Calendar 14

Division Roster 17

(Entries in blue are navigational links)

Southern Cross is published three times a year—Fall, Mid-winter and Spring. Articles and photos are encouraged and appreciated. With photos, please include caption information. If at all possible, please include a photo of the author with articles. Submission deadline for the Spring issue is May 15, 2006.

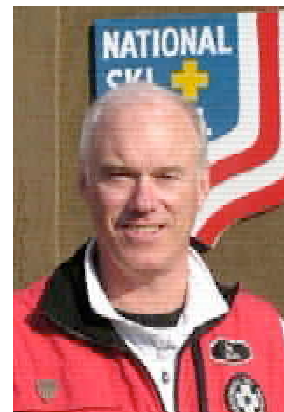
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Staying the course, before, during and following a tidal wave:

Neil Booth, Division Director

Navigating through the waters this past six months has felt and been like surviving a tidal wave at sea. Sitting at the helm of this educational supply ship, USS Southern, one of many ships (divisions) in the fleet, we now know we survived the storm and will continue to do so, even though the seas of the future are still very dangerous. During my first term as Director of Southern, the seas were relatively calm, as we navigated full speed ahead. Our mission was, and still is, to provide supplies or educational needs to the troops, our members. This was my promise from two years ago, and still is. If you read my very first article, you read my promise to bring changes about as transparent or seamlessly as possible, to membership. If you see anything, it should simply be progress or forward sailing. Changes should benefit membership, patrols and resorts!



Then came the really big tidal wave and the carrier group had to take it head on. So as not to confuse anyone, a carrier group is made up of ships to support the carrier and all members of the entire fleet of ships. In this case, the carrier is USS National. Ships, such as USS Southern, USS Eastern, USS Professional, and so on, are the tactical support vessels to assist, guard and work side by side with USS National. ONE MISSION!

This is our mission! Strategy, in support of the mission, is directed from USS National and the support ships support and carry out the tactical elements of this strategy. In this instance, our NSP mission is:

- Providing quality focused education and training in
 - Safety
 - Credentialed outdoor emergency care
 - Transportation services
 This enables members and other stakeholders to serve the outdoor recreation community.
- Continually explores new opportunities for membership and association enhancement.

Now, the carrier group has to make a strategic decision, that being “to stay afloat and get through the wave”. Several tactics are to take the wave head on; others are to vary the degrees off center and not take it head on. Well, I can only speak for USS Southern, and we took it head on and had minimal damage to the ship (Southern Division) and our crew (Southern Members). We did not get through it without incidence! For those injured my sincerest apologies. I also want everyone to know that I also did not come through the tidal wave without injuries. But this is not about me; it is about you, the crew or members of this great organization.

For those that have kept current, the tidal wave referred to is the recent ballot issues before the organization. Southern came through and registered a quorum for the vote. We were one of four divisions to achieve this. Seven did not! Some may say this is good, some say it is bad. I leave that to you for you own personal decision. The vote passed! For those interested, information regarding NSP can be found on the NSP website. It is also recommended that you go to this page from time to time to make sure you know what is going on within the organization. You are personally responsible for your own web page to ensure the accuracy of your personal information. You can make any changes to your personal data.

This is the central repository for all your information. This eliminates the need for duplication systems, such as a division database. Please make sure you are informed and your information is correct. This is how National communicates directly with membership for the greatest majority of communications. If you do not have an email address, your mailing address is really critical as this is your communications receipt method.

Let me attempt to clarify my role and responsibility, as I see or interpret it. First, I fill a position that is created by National bylaws. With this said, I have direct reporting responsibilities to National, more specifically, the National Board of Directors. I say first, simply because NSP bylaws create the position of Division Director. Also, each division director has complete authority to appoint assistants (division staff personnel), necessary in their judgment, to carry out the objectives of the office. Division bylaws exist stating a Division Director is elected by membership within divisions. I have direct responsibility to membership, as the elected representative to National. In actuality, a division director has two direct reporting lines, not just one! Division directors cannot choose whom they do or do not work for, or whom they represent. They work for and represent both! NSP Articles of Incorporation establish and define our organization through National bylaws. National bylaws establish the administrative field structure of division directors which in turn establish division bylaws. Division Directors and staff have no direct reporting responsibilities to or with resorts. However, national and divisions can never lose sight that we exist at the will of resort management. We accomplish this critical connection to resorts through membership, which comprise the NSP registration unit.

In my opening remarks, it states that changes occurring should be seamless. **Well, here is one seam you will all see.** During the mid-winter national meeting, which I attended, a Board proposal for a dues increase was recommended and approved. **Here are some facts driving this need:**

- **Cash reserves to fund operations;** (being consumed today and without an increase in dues, a \$50,000 loss at the end of this year could result. This could cause National to dip into endowment funds (which must be repaid) and cash reserves. Potentially, this could lead to mortgaging fixed assets [building]).
- **Uses of dues support:** *Publications* (Ski Patrol Magazine, On-Scene Magazine [one issue of Ski Patrol Magazine was dropped to facilitate publication of On-Scene], other publications (Transportation Manual and pocket guide), etc.); *Member Support* (registration, credentialing, course registration and tracking, office and warehouse operations, website support and services, general liability insurance, course development and updates, member affinity and discount programs).
- **Non-dues income:** (sponsorship programs currently generate \$2 of NSP income, membership dues generates \$1. Sixty-five (65%) of our dues structure comes from non-dues areas which are totally out of our control as sponsorship dollars could disappear at any given time).
- **General Increases:** (operating costs, inflation, utilities, postage and insurance decrease cash reserves).
- **Program Expenses:** (OEC QA program and other programs and services that members and industry need and have requested, have been halted due to lack of budget dollars).

Now that we see where or how funds are utilized, lets look at how the dues increase will be utilized:

- **Direct Member Services:** (improved web service, improved online catalog service, general building maintenance).
- **General liability Insurance:** (directors and officers liability insurance, fire insurance, employee benefits, defense costs associated with the Giles [Indiana law suit], Colorado and Illinois suits).
- **Program Development:** (development and delivery services to maintain OEC as a market leader, quality improvement initiatives, member recruitment and retention, developing new programs, refining existing programs).

When the NSP Finance Committee determined current and future expenditures, their recommendation indicates a \$20 dues increase. In the past 15 years, we have had the following dues increases: (1990 - \$22 to \$27) (2000 - \$27 to \$35). The infrequent or limited increases are a direct result in consolidation efforts and economies of scale realized due to partnering with PSIA, NSAA and the sharing of Information Systems and staff.

Let me also give you some professional life experiences that I personally learned the hard way. In my past life, I was blessed with calling on the United States Military by providing them with Coca Cola products. If you are a Pepsi consumer, please do not hold this against me! A great deal of my career was spent negotiating government contracts. The most difficult contract negotiation encountered was one where we overlooked 5 years of cost increases. Lesson learned: request a small increase each year with documented cost justifications, rather than one big increase after 5 years. We were successful in the end, but it created a lot more work than necessary, and could have been avoided with smaller, more frequent increases. This is not a critical statement of how this \$20 increase is occurring, just something learned during the school of hard knocks! For NSP, we might be operating in the red at the end of the year and we cannot provide the members with programs and needs without an increase.

Please, be very mindful as we sail ahead into new waters. Should we expect smooth sailing in the future? Probably not, but let us hope the waters ahead are calmer. We need to repair all the ships in the carrier group that have been damaged. This means the USS National, and the 11 other USS Division Supply ships. Remember to cruise into tidal waves head on and avoid being capsized. We do not want to be known as the SS Poseidon! Let us all accept and acknowledge that this is a volunteer organization.

Every member on the National Board of Directors is a volunteer too. Their pay is no greater than any members. Growth and change will not and probably cannot occur as rapidly as we see in the industrial world. We tend to sail at a much slower nautical rate of speed, but we always get there, and will this time too!

Keep doing what you do each and every day you patrol. This is a great organization, with 27,000+ wonderful members. Members are highly trained technicians to our industry. Many people, our consumers, rely upon our membership. We need to stay focused on delivering the quality care to our customers and the resorts we represent. Our home is our resort! The school we all attended is NSP and we will forever be alumni of this fine school. But now, reality has to take control so be the best you can be at your resort for all of our consumers, the skiing and snowboarding public. If you have any questions or concerns, please pick up the phone or send me an email. One on one communications is what I hope occurs. Broadcasting information will have negative affects during our ship repairs. It is going to take each one of our efforts to affect positive change, but we can and will do it. We have to!

My thanks go out to all you fine people, for all the services and care you provide.

From the Assistants...

R. Morgan Armstrong,
1st ADD, Southern Division

END OF YEAR REPORTS:

Patrol Representatives and Line Officers, it is time for you to finalize your End of Year Report and send it to me. I would like to have it one week after your resort closes and if you do most of the report now, that final finish will be easy. I need them no later than April 1, 2006. Most of you have the form from last year and it is the same. If you do not have the form or you are a new officer, please give me an email asking for the form and I will send it out as soon as I get your request. Also, if you have had an email change since last year, please give me an email to confirm I have your current address. Thank you for helping us keep our records accurate.

NATIONAL IMMUNITY:

This is to inform all patrollers in the division, I intend to ask NSP to petition Congress for immunity for NSP and volunteer patrollers. I think this will help us avoid some of the problems we have had in the past with the national office reacting to potential suits and suits that were filled in ways that make the average patroller think NSP wants to get out of the business of ski patrolling. If we can obtain a national immunity statute to protect NSP and volunteer patrollers from litigation, we will be able to preserve our organization and continue to help the skiing and snowboarding public. It would also protect us in the event we pursue new areas of patrolling such as biking, hiking and so on. If you can help with this project, please let me know. We need contacts with Congress to help us get the bill written and passed.

Paid patrollers please do not feel I am slighting you. I would love to include paid patrollers in the immunity but having obtained this immunity in Virginia and watched the same bill get passed in West Virginia, the legislative branches will not pass a paid patroller immunity statute. They feel the resort insurance should cover paid staff and to include this provision would doom the provision for volunteers and the national organization. However, if it is passed, it does protect paid staff when they go on rescues as a volunteer and that is anytime you are not on the clock. It would cover you in your off duty life, at home, in the community, at any accident scene and whenever you participate as a patroller and you are not on the resort clock.

If you would like to see a copy of my petition, I will be happy to send it to you by email or mail. My email address is rmasp@Adelphia.net.

Each division director has received a copy of my petition and so far most are in favor and no one has been opposed. Since the NSP is chartered by Congress, I feel Congress has a vested interest in seeing we survive and continue to serve. This might also be an opportunity to make a greater impact by having the divisions that desire to join in some form of first response to natural or other disasters with homeland security or FEMA. We are trained and equipped to provide a first response in our regions and could be useful to our community. **Comments are welcome.**

Southern Area

Richard Boyer

Assistant Division Director - Southern Area



My eyes have been opened. When parabolic shaped skis came out I couldn't believe I needed to learn a new way to ski, much less one incorporating having your legs apart. Blasphemy!! Stein Erickson would roll his eyes and be ashamed! Well, I've seen the light and can begrudgingly admit to not only the advantages of utilizing this new technology correctly, but I can honestly see the beauty in the resulting form. Of course the beauty is not evident when I try to do it, but when someone like **Wayne Morgan**, PD at **Cataloochee**, or our own **Neil Booth** or **Brent Bowman** ski with their legs hip-width apart it can be a thing of unquestionable beauty and grace. All three have availed themselves of the PSIA (Professional Ski Instructors Association) system. Wayne and Neil have become Level II PSIA instructors and Brent is working for his Level II this year. My hat is off to these folks and all the others who are embracing opportunities to take advantage of the PSIA programs.

If you were like me and stuck in the old (and beautiful) method of skiing, wake up and utilize your equipment to its intended design. It makes perfect sense to have your skis apart for a stronger base from which to dance with the mountain. I'm working on it and those old habits are so hard to break.

By the time you read this we will have some new members on our national Board of Directors. I hope each of you have participated in this vote. Our own **Kenny Hess** is running and he would be a great representative for the Southern Division.

Patrol Representatives should be well on the way to identifying those who in their respective patrols should be submitted for awards. Let's try to keep those awards committee members very busy this year both at our division level and at the national level.

The Blue Ridge and Dixie Regions are running smoothly thanks to **Mike Harris** and **Brent Bowman** respectively. From my point of view it is a pleasure to work with both of these guys and my job is easy with them running the point as well as they both do. I will hasten to add that their jobs are made so much easier by the fine cadre of Patrol Representatives for whom they work.

Our NSP system delivery of courses is proceeding well and I've attended a *Toboggan Enhancement Seminar* and a *Senior Ski and Toboggan Clinic*. I found both very compelling and learned much. Please avail yourselves of these, and any others, and I promise you will come away feeling it worth your while, and our services to the public will surely be enhanced.

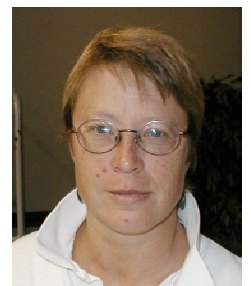
I look forward to skiing with each of you and will see you gliding "widely" down the slopes.

Notes From The North...

Jan Starr

Assistant Division Director - North Area

Well here we are halfway through another season. December was wonderful with all the snow and cold, but I'm not sure what has happened to January! Hopefully February and March will be more like December and we'll get some better skiing in. There has been enough snow for the new candidates to be training toward their basic, and I hope there are a few out there to participate in the *Senior program* offered in the regions. These programs are a great way to fine tune skills, get to other areas, and learn something new all at the same time!



Now that everyone has the opportunity to vote, please review the candidates for the National Board and exercise this right to vote. We will then have the people on the Board placed by the patrollers.

As February slows down some for me, I hope to get out and about to visit the areas in WV and VA. Keep up the good work for your area management, and thank your instructors and trainers for their time on the hill to make us all better patrollers.

See you on the slopes.

From the Regions...

Virginia Region - News From Virginia

Bill Smith

Virginia Region Director

Well, here we are off to a great ski season with lots of things are 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 being in late November or early December. Since mid-December, Mother Nature has tried to get the best of us by sending warm weather and rain our way. However, all of our areas survived the thaws and are recovering nicely.



This season, a great deal of emphasis is being placed on training throughout the region. There are many great opportunities for patroller's to gain new knowledge and skills in order to better serve their patrol and area.



At one refresher, a skier had run off the slope into the woods and been impaled on a stick. This was an excellent opportunity for practicing several critical skills.

Four refresher programs were held in Virginia this year giving everyone an opportunity to complete that requirement in a convenient manner. Between **Peg Harris** and myself, we managed to get to each of them and I must say the folks involved in putting those programs together and those assisting in conducting them, did a really GREAT 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.

Our education programs all got off to a flying start. On December 10th, **Cindy Diehl** traveled up to **The Homestead** and put on a great PES program for the folks from Virginia and West Virginia. In all there were seven students, five from **Wintergreen** and two from **Snowshoe**.



Working in teams, PES students had the opportunity to design their "dream" patrol room/treatment area. There were many innovative ideas as the creative juices flowed. Some designs included ample storage and lockers for all patrollers, a deck with hot tub, built in oxygen systems and many other interesting approaches to providing great patient care.

In listening to the many questions and other exchanges during the program, it appeared that much was learned by all attending.

The Virginia Senior program appears to be very strong this year with at least 12 candidates scheduled for the various clinics and evaluations that will be held in late January and late February. This year, **Bryce Mountain** will host the *Senior Emergency Management Clinic* and **Massanutten** will handle the *S&T Clinic*. Then in late February, evaluations will be held at **Wintergreen**. This will also be an excellent opportunity for the Virginia Senior evaluator's to try out the equipment cache they have been working on collecting for two years.

Additionally, several other educational programs will be offered in the coming weeks. They include: a *Skier Enhancement Seminar* on January 15th; a *Toboggan Enhancement Seminar* on January 28th; three *Certified Clinic's* that include: *Operations, OEC and S&T* on February 4th & 5th at **Massanutten**; and finally a *Avalanche Fundamentals & Rescue* course, March 12th at **Wintergreen**. Check the calendar for further information on these and the programs mentioned above and be sure to sign up early. Also, don't just show up at a Clinic or Exam if you have not signed up ahead of time. This is very important, as we need to have the appropriate resources and staff on hand to handle the number of personnel we are expecting. Your cooperation with this request is greatly appreciated.

Following several very tumultuous months within the NSP organization, things appear to be quieting down and it is time to put the differences behind us, face the problems and embrace the opportunities that now are there for each of us.

How we look at a situation – how we mentally frame it, and the conclusions we reach – determines how we react to organizational change. Our thoughts can cause us to resist, or they can cause us to embrace and support the new moves.

We each interpret events based on available information, our background of experience, our involvement, wants, needs, fears, hopes, prejudices and beliefs. It's human nature to filter the data, choosing what we'll pay attention to or ignore. We each weigh information in a very personal way, sizing up the situation and drawing conclusions that reflect our own slant or viewpoint. The result is often a collection of "myths" about the changes. It is now important to challenge the myths, identify what is reality, and move forward in a positive manner.

Some will even think that this will all blow over. It's just a matter of time. The odds are it will never be the same again in the organization. Things will settle down as time goes by, but they will settle down differently. So let's stand proud, pick up the pieces, look to the future and start putting things back together again.

With that said, and with a New Year beginning, the "**Ladies of Bryce**" are up for a good time and ready for what the New Year has to offer!!! If you have never been to Bryce you should definitely give it a try. They are a hard working and fun bunch of patrollers. On January 21st they will be hosting the Virginia Region *Senior Emergency Management Clinic*. Then on the 22nd, the group will move to **Massanutten** for the *S&T Clinic* that will be hosted by **Bartek Drewnowski** and his staff. I'm sure it will be a fun, challenging and rewarding time for all.

Happy New Year to each of you and hope to see many of you at Powderfall 2006!!!



Blue Ridge Region

Mike Harris

Blue Ridge Region Director



The Blue Ridge Region is off to another good start for the 2005-2006 season. Thanks to **Cathy LaMarre** for a great OEC Course in Boone and to **Larry Fleming** for the OEC Challenge. We have a good group of candidates coming in at all four of our areas.

I heard good things about the MTR group back in November. The *Senior Emergency Management Clinic* went well at **Beech Mountain**. The region *S&T (OET) Examiners Clinic* went very well at **Appalachian**. I am pleased to announce that **David Hall** will be taking over that program next year. I was able to attend two of the region's toboggan enhancement seminars and can report that this program is one of the best received (and fun) that we have had. On Dec. 16th and 17th **Larry Fleming, Flynn Harris, Patricia Woody, Jim Bolton, and Tommy Taylor** held a CPR and Outdoor First Care Course for management and all department heads at Sugar Mountain. It is

great to see that kind of interaction between a patrol and all levels of management at a ski area. It fosters considerable respect both ways.

We still have the *Senior Evaluation* and all of the *Basic S&T Evaluation* left this year along with lots of fun patrolling.

I hope that each of you took the opportunity to vote in the recent election for national board of director members. The Blue Ridge is not only a part of Southern Division; we are full members at the national level.

In working with previous Blue Ridge Region Directors, Patrol Directors, and Patrol Representatives, I am glad to state that things are going well in our Region with unprecedented cooperation. TYRONE

Dixie Region

Brent Bowman

Dixie Region Director



Wow!! What a season it has been so far. **Cataloochee** had it's earliest opening EVER and was reported to be the first to open south of Vermont. It seems like we have already skied for an entire Dixie season! We have had LOTS of training going on in the Dixie region. Seems like every weekend in January and February there is a clinic or training session at one (or more) of the resorts in Dixie. **Ober** held a *Toboggan Clinic* in early January as well as the *Senior Evaluators Clinic* & a *Ski Trainers Workshop* and in February will host the *Senior S&T*. **Cataloochee** hosted a weekday *Toboggan Clinic* attended by 9 students and 3 trainers (see attached picture). The weekday clinic worked out very well with no weekend crowds to worry about. **Cataloochee** is also hosting the *SR OEC Clinic* and *Exam* and a *Ski Enhancement Seminar*. Not to be outdone **Wolf Laurel** will have a *Toboggan Enhancement* and *Ski Enhancement Seminar* during February.



Cloudmont was open for all of December with the early cold weather however, **Smoky Mtn. Nordic** has had a tough season with warm weather and rain. We all hope that they can get the skis out and so some sliding soon!!!

Please be sure to check the Southern Division website for dates and contact information as some of the events have been moved.

Ski you soon!!! Brent



From the Supervisors and Advisors...

Morgan Armstrong,
Virginia Region Administrator
Instructor Development Program

Virginia Ski Patrol Representatives and Patrollers:

During the ski season many patrols found they needed instructors for various classes and I hope many patrollers saw the value of having plenty of instructors so you could obtain your certification quickly and with the least travel to a distant land.

Patrol Representatives, please, please, look to your patrols to see how many instructors you will need for the next several years. Encourage those people you want as instructors to take the first step by signing up for the *INSTRUCTOR DEVELOPMENT COURSE*.

Patroller's, get involved and give back to the great program we have in the NSP by becoming an instructor. The best way to get an *Instructor Development Course* is to get the class membership signed up and then we will set a class to suit your needs and in a location closest to the most class members.

Patrol Representatives send me your names along with the basic information.

Patrollers send me your names along with the basic information.

The basic information is name, address, phone number, NSP number and email address if you have one. I hope to have a class in a few months but I can't do this without members, so please GIVE ME YOUR NAMES.

marmstrong@courts.state.va.us

Blue Ridge Region Patrol Representatives and Patrollers:

Ann Wood,
Blue Ridge Instructor Development Administrator

There was an *Instructor Development Course* held on Friday night, 3 February 2006, at the **Beech Mountain** Administration Building. There will be other Instructor Development courses planned after ski season, probably at **Appalachian Ski Mountain** and in **Asheville** (or anywhere there are several patrollers who wish to become instructors).

If you know of anyone who would like to advance into the instructor corps of our division, this is the first step. This course can be used as a senior elective. Also, if you know of anyone who is interested in becoming an ID instructor, I would be glad to talk with them. The book we will use can be ordered from National, *Instructor Development: Training the Adult Learner* (\$19.50).

I would like the name, patrol, email address, and phone number of those who want to take this course. If anyone wants to sign up for a future course, I'm taking names for that as well.

If you have questions or would like to talk with me, please call or send an email.

Thanks, Ann

Certified-Certified-Certified-Certified-Certified-Certified-Certified-Certified-Certified-Certified

Certified Program

*Stephen Kuller,
Certified Program Supervisor*

Hello fellow patrollers, I hope everyone is enjoying the season. I hope the conditions at your mountain are advantageous to your skill's development. We all should be getting stronger and planning for a successful season. The information is flowing, training has begun and testing is in progress.

This sets the stage for those of you who are still holding out on getting involved in the Certified program. The Certified program will enhance your knowledge, improve your skills, and give you a better overall understanding of the patrol's role while exploring the different management models throughout the Southern Division. We would love to hear from those of you whose patrol has not traditionally participated in the program.

Yes, the program takes a dedicated person with the eagerness to learn, a willingness to grow, and the time for development. This is your opportunity to let us know that you want to be involved. We have Certified patrollers that are willing to answer your questions and share the process with you. Please step out of your comfort zone.

We currently have a several candidates that have made the commitment to the program, and they will be giving there all. This is a three-year commitment and it will take most candidates the entire three years. During this process these candidates will be sharing the strengths of the program at their home resorts. Some of you will want to know what they have learned, accomplished and shared. Ask them, they will respond with eagerness and a willingness that only comes from hard work.

Thanks again for letting me stir your interest in this program. For more information on the Certified program please contact me or any Certified patroller. (sdk@iuno.com)

Transportation-Transportation-Transportation-Transportation-Transportation-Transportation

Transportation

*Tony Tingle,
Transportation Supervisor*

Well it looks like it has been a busy season so far, and a windy one in the NC High Country. Wind speeds on Grandfather Mountain were clocked this week at over 200 mph (Heard that on the Weather Channel) There has been one *Skiing Enhancement Seminar (SES)* in Virginia, five *Toboggan Enhancement Seminars (TES)* in Blue Ridge, two in Dixie, and one in Virginia. Wow! Thanks to all those Transportation Instructors that are out there doing their thing. Keep up the good work. All of the feedback that I have heard from participants in the TES events is positive. I think that no matter how seasoned a patroller is, they always look forward to some fun time in the handles. If you need help in setting up a TES, SES, or Ski Trainers Workshop (STW) give me a shout.

On a different note, if you are a Transportation instructor, please remember that you have to recertify just like any other instructor. Instructor qualifications for any discipline are the same. The qualifications can be found in NSP Policies and Procedures, Chapter 6.5.11 Instructors. For recertification, it states person must meet teaching requirements (you need to be actively teaching), and you must also attend a National, Division or Region clinic once every three years. Your instructor status comes up for renewal every three years and your Region Transportation Administrator (Formally the Chief Examiner) is the person who passes that information along. I thought I'd throw out this reminder while there is snow on the ground and patrollers to teach. See you on the slopes.

Toboggan Enhancement Seminar – Appalachian Ski Mountain December 17, 2005



(L-R: TES PSIA 2 Instructor Matt Ware, ASM Patrol leader Joe Donadio, Blue Ridge Region Dir - Mike Harris)



(Richard Sanders, the Appalachian TES IT)



(Edging Drill)



(Toboggan Recovery Wheelbarrow Drill)

Photos submitted by Cathy LaMarre
cathy.lamarre@ircct.com



Blue Ridge Region – Mountaineering 1, 2 and Instructor Development

Mark Rees – Beech Mountain

The Blue Ridge Region combined 3 different courses (**MTR1, MTR2, and Instructor Development**) from September 10th through November 13th, 2005 with the field exercises for some starting Wednesday November 9th though Sunday November 13th. We did all internet coursework for the classroom, reading and chapter tests; and online forum discussion; then put it all into hands-on practice the last 2-5 days.

In short, it was fantastic, and the best weather most of us can ever remember during a mountaineering course! We had 23 participants in total from 5 different mountains: **Beech, Sugar, Appalachian, Hawksnest, and Cataloochee**. Our field location was a secret “stash” used exclusively by the Outward Bound School at Table Rock and was perfect: out in the middle of nowhere; close to the rock; close to the river; a fantastic place to camp; for the emergency shelters and for the Search and Rescue. It was about 1/3 up from the valley floor; on top of a little knoll; in the sun and out of the direct wind coming over Linville Gorge. It was below 30 at night and in the 60's during the day!

Based on the interest, we also did an “extra-curricular” activity (not part of the course, but concurrent with it), on rappelling, belay anchoring systems, and rescue systems. We were lucky enough to have **Dee Thomas** (an Outward Bound climbing and mountaineering instructor), and **Scott Krein (Cataloochee)** who is a paramedic and Search and Rescue specialist also, which really raised the quality of the course for all. The rope work and knots, belay systems, rappelling systems, and raising and lowering systems were done with the lift or toboggan in mind. The leadership scenarios were tied back into typical problems patrollers would encounter on the hill or other parts of the Senior program. The Search and Rescue was the culmination of all of the skills taught: medical, team-work, planning, leading, rescue systems, ropes, etc. We drove home the importance of the 10 essentials and emergency shelters. Either that scenario or the S&R were the 2 favorite activities of the entire group (the MTR2's favorite was probably the “vertical” portion).

The following achieved “Mountaineering 1”: **Briggs Allen** (Beech), **Patrick Benson** (Appalachian), **Scott Grogan** (Appalachian), **Chris Haley** (Beech), **Andrew Rest** (Beech), **Robert Schisla** (Beech), **Teresa Stewart** (Hawksnest), **Adam Tucker** (Hawksnest), **Ted Warlick**, and **Jeff Webster** (Hawksnest).

The following achieved “Mountaineering 2”: **Cammie Jeffery** (Hawksnest), **Dee Thomas** (Beech), **David Hall** (Beech), **Margaret Rees** (Beech), **Jean Webb** (Sugar), **Mike Milligan** (Sugar), **Terry Loges** (Sugar), **Scott Krein** (Cataloochee), **Patrick Rees** (Beech), and **Lisa Adams** (Beech).

The following people either taught, became **new mountaineering instructors or refreshed** their certifications: **Tom Watson** (Beech), **Dee Thomas** (Beech), **Norris Woody** (Sugar), **Doug Gilstrap** (Beech), **Jean Webb** (Sugar), **Mike Milligan** (Sugar), **Terry Loges** (Sugar), **Scott Krein** (Cataloochee), and **Mark Rees** (Beech).

Mark.Rees@SynapseTechnology.com

Mountain Travel and Rescue I and II November 2005



Above - **Jeffery Webster** and **Teresa Stewart** review map and area to be searched for “missing hiker” from the command center.



Right - **Scott Grogran**, **Mike Milligan**, **Lisa Adams**, **Margaret Rees**, **Briggs Allan** and **Adam Tucker** loading “patient” onto Reeves Sleeve for transportation up the hillside to the trail.



Above - **Chris Haley**, **Patrick Rees** and **Terry Loges** performing a Z-drag operation to raise an “injured patient” up a steep, leaf-covered hillside.

Cammie Jeffery, **Ted Warlick**, **Terry Loges**, **Mike Milligan**, **Patrick Benson** and **Chris Haley** prepare to lift on command - **Jean Webb** (patient) to hike out of the area. →



National OEC Director Bost Resigns

Southern Division and Blue Ridge Region Patroller **Larry Bost (Hawksnest)** has resigned from his post as National OEC Director effective January 19, 2006. In a letter to OEC Program Directors, NSP Division Directors, and the NSP Board, Larry thanked everyone for their work and support and he urged NSP leadership to ***"never lose sight or connection with our NSP members."***

Larry Bost has served in several National leadership roles over the past 5 years. Because of his involvement and leadership in the flagship program of the NSP, as Outdoor Emergency Care Director, Larry is well known and respected by NSP members across all Divisions.

During his tenures as National Instructor Development Program Assistant and as National Director, he played key roles in the following:

- OEC Enhancement Seminars
- OEC Continuing Education Seminars
- The New OEC E-course (The NSP's First Distance Learning Project)
- New OEC Challenge requirements
- *ON Scene* Magazine
- National Instructor's Web Site
- Standardization of the OEC Practical Evaluation
- National Medical Committee
- National Education Committee
- Actively working on the 5th Edition of the Outdoor Emergency Care Textbook



The members of the Blue Ridge Region and the Southern Division, say thank you very much Larry, for your huge efforts in making this a high quality program and in pushing it to where it is today!

Mark Rees & E.B. Fox

Southern Division Calendar

Mon th	Date	Event	Location	Contact	Comments
SEE REGIONAL CALENDARS FOR Educational Courses for 2005-2006					
Southern Cross Deadlines					
2006					
May	15	Spring Southern Cross Deadline		Southern Cross Editor	Teresa T. Stewart - sceditor@bellsouth.net
Division Meeting Events					
2006					
Jan	21	Mid Winter EC Meeting	TBD	TBD	EC Will Only Meet If DD Calls Meeting
May	6	Spring EC Planning Meeting	Wytheville	Holiday Inn 276-228-4583	Meeting Begins At 8am
Jul	22	Summer EC Planning Meeting	Wytheville	Holiday Inn 276-228-4583	Meeting Begins At Noon
Aug	18	EC Meeting @ FOM	Wytheville	Holiday Inn 276-228-4583	Meeting Begins At 7pm
Aug	19-20	Fall BOD Meeting	Wytheville	Holiday Inn 276-228-4583	Meeting Begins At 8:30am
Division Reporting Deadlines					
2006					
BUDGET SUBMISSIONS					
Apr	15	Next Seasons Budgets Requests	Annually	Jim Underwood 865-483-3675	inu@bellsouth.net
Jul	1	Final Year End Budget Submissions	Annually	Jim Underwood 865-483-3675	inu@bellsouth.net
Jul	1	Patrol Financial Reports (990's)	Annually	Jim Underwood 865-483-3675	inu@bellsouth.net
AWARDS SUBMISSIONS					
Apr	1	Awards Nominations	Annually	Send To Chain Of Command On Application, Signed In Order. Email to JDobson4@aol.com	
ANYTIME		Nat'l Or Leadership Award Nominations		Send To Chain Of Command Listed On Application - Signed In Proper Order.	
END OF YEAR REPORT SUBMISSIONS					
Apr	1	Patrol Reps End Of Year Report	Annually	Morgan Armstrong, DD, ADD, RD	RMASP@Adelphia.net
Apr	1	Officers End Of Year Report	Annually	Respective Supervisor	
Apr	1	Supervisors End Of Year Report	Annually	Respective Supervisor, DD	

Blue Ridge Region Calendar

Region Events for 2005-2006						
Feb	12	PES	Appalachian	Mary Underwood 865-483-3675	inu@bellsouth.net	8:30 am
Feb	18	Basic S & T Evaluation	Hawksnest	Mark Rees 704-896-0747	Mark.rees@synapsetechnology.com	8:30 am
Mar	5	Basic S & T Evaluation	Appalachian	Mark Rees 704-896-0747	Mark.rees@synapsetechnology.com	8:30 am

Dixie Region Calendar

Educational Courses for 2005-2006						
Mar	7	Avalanche Fundamentals	Cullowhee, NC	Dennis Slagle 919-528-9279	dslagle2@nc.rr.com	
Region Events for 2005-2006						
Feb	26	Senior OEC Evaluation	Catalochee, NC	Bob Brewster 828 684-8100	bobbrewster@charter.net	

Virginia Region Calendar 2005-2006

Month	Date	Event	Location	Contact	E-Mail Address	Comments
Educational Courses Held In Region For 2005-2006						
Feb	4	Transportation Instructor Course	Wintergreen	Mike Fisher 434-296-8486	heardmtn99@aol.com	Min = 6 \$10 Fee
		Avalanche Fundamentals &				
Mar	12	Rescue	Wintergreen	Mike Fisher 434-296-8486	heardmtn99@aol.com	Min = 6 \$10 Fee
Virginia Events Held In The Region For 2005-2006						
Feb	4	Certified Operations & OEC Clinic	Massanutten	Leslie Carter 434-295-4463	cartrplmbg@aol.com	
Feb	5	Certified S&T Clinic	Massanutten	Leslie Carter 434-295-4463	cartrplmbg@aol.com	
		Senior Emergency Management				
Feb	25	Evaluation	Wintergreen	T Harris 804-320-1901	tandpeg@netzero.net	
Feb	26	Senior S & T Evaluation	Wintergreen	Mike Fisher 434-296-8486	heardmtn99@aol.com	
Mar	12	Massanutten Picnic	Massanutten	Bartek Drewnowski 540-289-4954	bdrewnowski@massresort.com	

West Virginia Region Calendar 2005-2006

Educational Courses for 2005-2006				
Mar	11	Avalanche 1	Wintergreen	Mike Fisher 434-296-8485 Heardmtn99@aol.com
Mar	6	MTR Level 1	Massanutten	
West Virginia Region Events for 2005-2006				
Mar	6	Basic S & T Evaluation	Timberline	Steve Cvechko 304-776-8540
Mar	5	Senior S & T Evaluation	Snowshoe	Jan Starr 304-572-6713 mvfarm@frontiernet.net
Mar	4	Senior Emergency Mgmt Evaluation	Timberline	Janette Bennett 304-599-4915
Certified Events for 2005-2006				
Mar	17	Certified Pre Evaluation Clinic	Snowshoe	Leslie Carter 434-325-1262
Mar	18/19	Certified Evaluation	Snowshoe	Leslie Carter 434-325-1263

Southern Division Roster 2005-2006

Executive Committee Members

<p><u>Division Director</u> Neil Booth (Shelley) (03) 4769 Brent Court Mableton, GA 30126-1446 (H/O) 770-941-4268 (F) 770-941-4268 neil.booth@comcast.net</p>	<p><u>Past Division Director</u> Nici Singletary (John) (03) Rt. 1 Box 525 Roseland VA 22967 (H) 434-325-1024 (C) 540-292-4445 NiciEMS@aol.com</p>	<p><u>1st ADD Admin/Education</u> Morgan Armstrong (Jo Ann) (03) P.O. Box 699 Collinsville, VA 24078-0699 (H) 276-629-1654 (O) 276-634-4815/ Fax-4825 RMASP@Adelphia.net</p>	<p><u>OEC Supervisor (99)</u> Judi Kay-Monaghan 5966 Norham Drive Alexandria VA 22315 (H) 703-971-7841 (O) 703-915-2454 (C) 703-472-0094 JKAYMONAGHAN@aol.com</p>	<p><u>Treasurer</u> Jim Underwood (Mary) 109 Wildwood Drive Oak Ridge TN 37830 (H) 865-483-3675 inu@bellsouth.net</p>
<p><u>Professional Director (03)</u> Bartek Drewnowski (Kelly) 903 Roxbury Rd Richmond VA 23226 (H) 804-281-7255 (O) 540-289-4954 (F) 540-289-6414 bdrewnowski@massresort.com snowinfo@massresort.com</p>	<p><u>Secretary (04)</u> Kelly Duke Drewnowski (Bartek) 903 Roxbury Rd Richmond, VA 23226 (H) 804-281-7255 dukeki@comcast.net</p>	<p><u>2nd ADD Proficiency Skills</u> OPEN</p>		
<p><u>Asst. Division Director-South Area</u> Richard Boyer (Joan) (05) 4559 Collins Ave. Acworth, GA 30101 (H/F) 770-975-5875 (W) 678-352-1900 (C) 770-364-0187 rhboyer@bellsouth.net</p>	<p><u>Blue Ridge Region Director</u> Mike Harris (03) 2357 Keith Ave Granite Falls, NC 28630 (H) 828-396-2475 (W) 828-322-1050 mrharris@charter.net</p>	<p><u>Dixie Region Director</u> Brent Bowman (05) 2489 Oostanaula Drive NE Atlanta, Ga. 30319 (H) 404-869-8286 (O) 770-543-0183 brent2489@gmail.net</p>		
<p><u>Asst. Division Director-North Area</u> Jan Starr (03) P.O. Box 197 Snowshoe, WV 26209 (H) 304-572-2103 (O) 304-572-5695/6713 mvfarm@frontiernet.net jestarr@snowshoemtn.com</p>	<p><u>Virginia Region Director</u> William C. Smith (03) 6 Long Bridge Rd. Hampton, VA 23669-2019 (H) 757-851-1581 (W) 757-810-1690 skibill@widomaker.com</p>	<p><u>W. Virginia Region Director</u> Byrd White 167 Table Rock Rd Beaver, WV 25813-9016 (H) 304-763-5352 (O) 304-949-5372 byrdwhiteiii@charter.net</p>		

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<u>Bryce Resort</u> Horst Locher P.O. Box 3 Basye, VA 22810 540-856-2121 FAX 540-856-4069 www.bryceresort.com	<u>Massanutten Village</u> Steve Showalter Kenny Hess (Asst. Mgr) P.O. Box 1227 Harrisonburg, VA 22803-1227 540-289-9441 FAX 540-289-6414 www.massresort.com snowinfo@massresort.com	<u>The Homestead</u> Michael Valach Director of Outdoor Activities P.O. Box 2000 Hot Springs, VA 24445 540-839-7721 FAX 540-839-7959 Michael.valach@ourclub.com www.Thehomestead.com	<u>Wintergreen</u> Jay Roberts, Dir of Mtn Ops. Robert Ashton CEO Wintergreen Resort P.O. Box 706 Wintergreen, VA 22958 434-325-8067 FAX 434-325-8001 www.WintergreenResort.com javroberts@wintergreenresort.com
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Blue Ridge Region

<p><u>Blue Ridge Region Director</u></p> <p>Mike Harris (03) 2357 Keith Ave Granite Falls, NC 28630 (H) 828-396-2475 (W) 828-322-1050 mrharris@charter.net</p>	<p><u>Appalachian Ski Mtn. (PR/PD)</u></p> <p>Joe Donadio (Anne) 1388 Old Bristol Road Boone, NC 28607 (H) 828-297-5885 (O) 828-295-7828 / (F) -3277 donadio@watauga.k12.nc.us</p>	<p><u>Ski Beech (PR)</u></p> <p>Tom Watson 85 Sioux Trail Greeneville, TN 37743 (H) 423-636-1096 (O) 423-636-5638 tom_watson@taylorwhite.com</p>	<p><u>Ski Beech (PD)</u></p> <p>Gil Adams (Lisa) P.O. Box 803 Banner Elk, NC 28604 (H) 828-387-2892 (O) 828-387-2011 x206 SkiBeech@skybest.com</p>	<p><u>Ski Hawknest (PR)</u></p> <p>Larry Bost (Denise) 2517 Saddlehorse Lane Gastonia, NC 28056 (H) 704-865-7484 (C) 336-407-0857 NSPNC@aol.com</p>
<p><u>Hawknest (PD)(04)</u></p> <p>Butch McLean (Elaine) 146 Deepwood Court Seven Devils, NC 28604 (H) 828-963-9560 NSP6874@netscape.net</p>	<p><u>Sugar Mountain (PR)</u></p> <p>Flynn Harris (Jane) 2240 Sedley Road Charlotte, NC 28211 (H) 704-366-5487 (O) 704-523-7465 eflynnh@bellsouth.net</p>	<p><u>Sugar Mountain (PD)</u></p> <p>Dean Lyons (Vicki) 676 Poplar Grove Rd Boone, NC 28607 (H) 828-264-5953 (O) 828-898-4501 dnovic@charter.net</p>		

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Dixie Region

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