



# Southern Cross

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**Southern Cross** is published three times a year—Fall, Mid-winter and Spring. Articles and photos are encouraged and appreciated. With photos, please include caption information. If at all possible, please include a photo of the author with articles. Submission deadline for the Mid-Winter issue is January 13, 2012.

### Send submissions to:

**Teresa T. Stewart, SC Editor**  
1323 Bywood Lane  
Charlotte, NC 28209  
704-718-5675 cell  
[sceditor@gmail.com](mailto:sceditor@gmail.com)

### Send contact changes to:

NSP Office  
133 Van Gordon St., Suite 100  
Lakewood, CO 80228  
Update address at [www.nsp.org](http://www.nsp.org)

**Richard Boyer,**  
*Division Director*



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

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

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

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

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

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

### *From the Assistants...*

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



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

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

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

SEE YOU AT THE REFRESHER!!!!

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

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

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



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

Mike Harris (AKA Tyrone)

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

*Southern Division Webmaster .....*

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Trish Deane - Web Master

**Brent Rockett,**

*Blue Ridge Region Director*

## **BLUE RIDGE REGION MESSAGE**

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

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

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

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

Brent

*From the Supervisors and Advisors...*

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

**Leslie Carter** - *OEC Supervisor*

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

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

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

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

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

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

**SUGAR**

Cindy Fuller  
Reggie Hassler

**WINTERPLACE**

Kellie Colvard  
Dave Holloway

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

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

Leslie Carter – OEC Supervisor

Bob Brewster – Assistant OEC Supervisor

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

**Tony Tingle,**

*Division Transportation Supervisor*



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

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

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

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

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

Tony

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

**Briggs Allen,**

*Snowsports Supervisor*

**Wow...**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## *Instructor Development...Instructor Development...Instructor Development*

### **Teresa T. Stewart,**

*Instructor Development Supervisor*

The NSP Instructor Development course is an integral part of all the NSP Educational courses. This is a required step before the mentoring stage with an instructor within the specific discipline that you are becoming involved with (Outdoor Emergency Care, Toboggan and Ski, Mountain Travel and Rescue, Avalanche, Outdoor First Care, etc). This is also a **SENIOR ELECTIVE**.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Well, another season is upon us.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Peg Harris,**  
*Awards Advisor*

**Annual Southern Division Awards 2011**

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

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

**Certificates of Appreciation**

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

**Service Awards by Patrol**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### **Merit Stars**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Terry Loges  
Grant Smalle  
Jean Webb

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

Richard Boyer, Jr.

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

Larry Bost

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

**Distinguished Service Award**

Morgan Armstrong

Outstanding service to the National Ski Patrol from 1981 – 2011

Jimmy Knuneman

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

**Senior**

Bob Fedak  
David Kilmer  
Susie Strohschein  
Michael Sutton

Wintergreen  
Wintergreen  
Beech  
Appalachian

**Certified**

Tony Tingle  
*Hawksnest*

#739

Susanne Ebling  
*Wintergreen*

#740

**Patroller's Cross**

Personal sacrifice in service to all who ski

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

**National Appointment**

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

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

**Division Outstanding Winners**

***OEC Instructor***

Camille Marie Hale  
*Sugar*

***Runner Up***

David Kilmer  
*Wintergreen*

***Instructor***

Susanne Ebling  
*Wintergreen*

***Runner Up***

Pete Jucker  
*Ober Gatlinburg*

***Paid Patroller***

Grigori Gravilets  
*Ober Gatlinburg*

***Runner Up***

Thomas Joe Taylor  
*Sugar*

***Auxiliary Patroller***

Catherine Smithson  
*Wintergreen*

***Young Adult Patroller***

Forrest Horan  
*Wolf Ridge*

***Alpine Patroller***

Ted Forbes  
*Wintergreen*

***Runner Up***

Shaun Lowery  
*Wolf Ridge*

***Large Alpine Patrol***

*Wintergreen*

***Runner Up***

*Cataloochee*

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

Thanks to all of you who submitted the award nominations. Congratulations to all the recipients. This is a reminder to all Patrol Reps, Patrol Directors, Region Directors and Awards Advisors that this is one of the best ways to thank those who so deserve the recognition. I am sure that next year's award season will be another spectacular one with nominations in all the categories. Remember, it is never too early to get started thinking about who should be nominated.

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

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## Southern Division Calendar & Staff Directory

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

The calendar is flexible dependant on the weather – please check the calendar and/or with your patrol representative / Region Director for the most up-to-date changes.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Submitted by Joe Donadio

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



*(Photo provided by Joe Donadio)*

The Moretz Family - Brenda, Reba, Grady, Brad

## 50 years of Family Fun at Appalachian Ski Mountain



*(Photos provided by Joe Donadio)*

Above - Jean Claude Killy with French Swiss Instructors

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





# Southern Cross

A Publication of The Southern Division of The National Ski Patrol

2010-2011, Number 2

[www.southernnsp.org](http://www.southernnsp.org)

January 2011

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**Southern Cross** is published three times a year—Fall, Mid-winter and Spring. Articles and photos are encouraged and appreciated. With photos, please include caption information. If at all possible, please include a photo of the author with articles. Submission deadline for the Mid-Winter issue is May 21, 2011.

### Send submissions to:

**Teresa T. Stewart**, SC Editor  
1323 Bywood Lane  
Charlotte, NC 28209  
704-718-5675 cell  
[sceditor@gmail.com](mailto:sceditor@gmail.com)

### Send contact changes to:

NSP Office  
133 Van Gordon St., Suite 100  
Lakewood, CO 80228  
Update address at [www.nsp.org](http://www.nsp.org)

**R. Morgan Armstrong**,  
*Division Director*

The Southern Division Election process is nearing completion. Thanks to **Lee Wittman**, who once again ran a perfect election. Now I am looking forward to a little less work and a lot more patrolling with my fellow patrollers, which is what I like to do the most.

The Division Director and all staff positions will end at midnight on March 31, 2011 and the new administration will begin on April 1, 2011. Any failings were mine, but I believe we have gained a lot in organization, accomplishments and fun for the members over the past four years. Our line officers and program supervisors and staff all pulled together to make the Southern Division, the premier division in the National Ski Patrol System.

I recently returned from the National Ski Patrol, Board of Directors, January meeting and the Southern Division effort was noted throughout the meeting. Our division is one of the smaller divisions but we rank tops in number of members on the Board of Directors with **Larry Bost** and **Norris Woody** both on the Board. We have staff and members who have stepped forward to help with many of the National Programs and our expertise and knowledge is helping the NSP achieve great things. **Richard Boyer** attended the meeting with me and met all of the other Division Directors and Board Members.

Our National Board along with the Division Directors, acting as a body of counselors on all Board issues, all are meeting and sharing ideas without animosity. Issues are given a thorough discussion and the tone of the meetings is constantly – HOW CAN WE BETTER THE NSP AND HELP THE PATROLLER. Sure,

tough issues are before the Board but we are in an excellent position to work our way through to a good solution. My perspective indicates to me, our National Board of Directors and the National Ski Patrol Office Staff are only going to improve. Our next Division Director will not have to worry about if we will improve but only how fast we can accomplish the improvements.

I want to thank each member of my staff for a job well done. We have tried to govern with good humor and I hope each member of my staff had as good a time over the past four years as I have. I will remember this period in my life as the best of times without a doubt. My work will continue. I have been assigned and I have agreed to accept a couple of projects from the National Ski Patrol Board so I will continue to have contact with our NSP Officers and Staff in an official way – just a different way.

Now to ask your help! I have been assigned to ENHANCE certain portions of the NSP through a bill we intend to present to the U. S. Congress. All Southern Divisions Patrollers with a friend in the Senate or House of the U. S. Congress or who knows someone who has a friend in the Senate or House is asked to contact me at once and let me tell you what I need. We have an opportunity to make the NSP a true – National Asset. This will strengthen our first and foremost priority of taking care of the resorts we serve and secondly it will allow us to become a better citizen of our country.

I conclude by saying a special thanks to the current Executive Committee for your support and sharing your vast knowledge with me to make us better. My special thanks to my right hand, our 1<sup>st</sup> Assistant Division Director, **Richard Boyer, Jr.**, and to our 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Division Director, **Brent E. Bowman**, the Assistant Division Director – North – **Jan Starr** and the Assistant Division Director – South – **Mike Harris**. **Jim Underwood** kept us financially solvent as he had done since the Southern Division was formed and he always knows where the money goes (to the penny). Thanks to **Kelly Drenowski** and **Teresa Stewart** for keeping us informed, the line officers for making things run smoothly and for all of the Program Supervisors and their staffs for keeping the NSP the best at what we do. **Chuck Lollar** kept us legal, **Ian Archibald** kept us medically correct, **Bartek Drenowski** kept the paid members informed and **Leslie Carter** kept the OEC Program on the right path. **T. and Peg Harris** were great with awards and made my life at the awards ceremony so easy, it allowed me to shorten the event and still give every award in what we hoped was a sincere and thoughtful way. Region Directors and Patrol Representatives and Directors were so nice and understanding – even when I was slow to pick up. Finally, I am proud to have served as your leader for four great years with patrollers that spread honor to our name – THE NATIONAL SKI PATROL.

R. Morgan Armstrong, Southern Division Director

**Richard Boyer,**

1<sup>st</sup> Assistant Division Director



Wow! **Morgan Armstrong** and I recently got back from Denver, Colorado and a National Ski Patrol System board of directors meeting. He was there in an advisory capacity at the board's request, and I was there at Morgan's request, to observe the processes and to meet some of the Division Directors from the US and Europe. I also was honored to meet most of our national board members and to witness the election of a new Chairman of the Board, **Burt Mitchell**, from Connecticut.

The first day the Division Directors met and discussed all the items which were scheduled to be brought up before the Board in the following two days. It elicited some lively discussions and enlightening outlooks. This, my friends, is a very talented body of men and women who are dedicated to the NSP and individual patrollers. I could not have been any more impressed by them individually and as a group.

I got to see the headquarters facilities and again came away very impressed, not only by the facility, but by the personnel employed there, as well. Morgan showed me the **Charlie Benbow** desk and credenza set contributed by the Benbow family in honor of our past Division Director and appropriately located in the National Director's office.

On the first day of the board meeting, my second day in Denver, the first order of business was for the board to elect a new Chairman, as **Bela Musits** stepped down from the chairmanship, but will remain on the board until his term expires. **Burt Mitchell**, as I reported, was elected and presided over the remainder of the meetings. The people on our national board are an impressive group of patrollers. The Southern Division is very capably represented by **Larry Bost** and most recently elected, **Norris Woody**. As a matter of fact we are very fortunate to have this amount of representation and thus influence in board affairs.

In a similar vein, I was very impressed by the earnest admiration and respect shown to our Southern Division Director, **Morgan Armstrong**. I believe the contributions he has made have earned him a degree of respect above and beyond the ordinary, from virtually all board members and fellow division directors. His commitment to future participation in the national arena is a real gift to us in Southern and to the whole NSP system. Each of us patrollers owes a large debt of gratitude for the work he has done as our Division Director.

## What is needed for the future of our NSP system?

**First**, we need to find ways to increase funding for programs, both current and future.

**Second**, we must further the considerable effort toward successfully achieving national immunity for our volunteer members similar to many states' "Good Samaritan" laws. This will now be designated as "Enhancement of the NSP System" as a "National Asset" to our country in times of emergency and disaster. We are so uniquely trained and equipped to be critically responsive to these potential national events, that it is obvious to me the immunity of our members can only make us all the more valuable as a PRIME national asset.

**Third**, we need to elevate more patrollers to the ranks of leadership system-wide. We need more folks to be Patrol Representatives, Instructors, Regional Directors, Assistant Directors, Division Directors and aspire to the Board of Directors, which requires special abilities of strategic experience and thinking. Please, each of you, who may be inclined, let it be known to your Patrol Representative or Regional Director that you are willing to participate in the future of our Division or NSP.

Thank you for the privilege of being a patroller, like you!

Richard

---

### Mike Harris,

*Assistant Division Director – South Area*

#### As The Bull Wheel Turns

I was able to travel to only three different OEC refreshers this year. Several dates were changed this year that had quite a few OEC refreshers on the same dates. Our IOR and IT staff are doing a great job. It is such a pleasure seeing what progress this process has made.



The way this season is starting, it looks like it could be as good as last year. In the early season there were some highly publicized fatalities out west and a lift derailment in the northeast. By the time you are reading this article, National Safety Awareness Week (January 15-23) will have come and gone. As NSP members, we should promote safety at our ski areas every week by encouraging our customers to ski on slopes that they can control their speed enough not to collide with another skier below them on the hill. It is amazing how few beginners and intermediates that have any idea of their liability if they cause an injury. On a brighter note, all the programs in Dixie and Blue Ridge are running well. I hope to see as many of you on the slopes this year as possible.

Mike Harris (AKA) Tyrone

**Ted Forbes,**

*Virginia Region Director*



Virginia Region Update – January 2011

Winter 2010 – 2011 so far in Virginia is a good news/bad news story. The bad news is that we are caught in the Virginia Voodoo Vortex! V3 has set up a barrier that runs roughly along the North Carolina border to the south, along the Tennessee/West Virginia border to the west, and along the Maryland border to the north. This bizarre weather phenomenon has successfully prevented all but about four inches of natural snow from entering the state. All of you outside the V3 are enjoying tons of snow – but not us.

The good news, however, is that V3 can't hold back the cold ... so across the Virginia Region the snow guns have been running almost non-stop since Thanksgiving. We have superb conditions! I can't remember the last time that our resorts were reporting 100% of terrain open for the Christmas/New Year's holiday!

And boy, are we taking advantage of that terrain. As I write this, Wintergreen has just finished hosting the 7<sup>th</sup> annual Wounded Warrior Weekend, and the Virginia Region Senior clinic has just concluded.

You may recall that I wrote last year, asking you to think about what you were going to do this season to raise your game as a patroller. Let me do a commercial for the Senior program. This past weekend, eight candidates in the Region started the program. On Saturday, we all travelled to Bryce Resort, where Executive Chef/Patrol Director/Patrol Rep **Carter Lewis** and local mountain coordinator **Nancy DiBenedetto** hosted us for the Emergency Medical Management clinic. The candidates from Massanutten, Bryce and Wintergreen all focused on three big areas – managing more complex/multi-patient scenarios, leading a team of patrollers in responding to the scene, and thinking more like mountain management in approaching these complex accidents.

Then on Sunday, the whole crew of candidates and evaluators travelled to Wintergreen. There, **Trace Higgins**, Region Transportation supervisor, **Randy Trow**, Southern Division Ski School instructor, and **T Harris**, Region Senior coordinator, were joined by **Hugh Jernigan**, our Division Senior Program Director and **Tony Tingle**, our Division Transportation coordinator. We had a fantastic clinic on a blue bird day with fresh made powder. Our candidates worked on skiing and riding skills in the morning, and sled skills in the afternoon.

When this group comes back together at Massanutten in late February for the exams, we'll have the chance to see how they have taken their game to the next level. ***Why do they do it?***



(Senior Candidates work a multi-victim scenario at Bryce – photo submitted by Ted Forbes)

Because it's fun, and because we are all the types of folks who are achievers. So personal satisfaction plays a huge role ... but there is another reason. A Senior patroller, with refined skills and a broader perspective, is a real asset to mountain management. And let's face it; if it weren't for our resort management team, we would be doing what we all love to do. So I'll leave you with a question – what are you doing to make sure you provide your mountain with the greatest asset you can be? Maybe the Senior program is one way you can answer that question!

See you on the hill!

*Virginia Region Senior Candidates and Evaluators*



Senior candidates negotiate a toboggan slalom course at Wintergreen



Virginia Region 2011 Senior candidates and evaluators (photos submitted by Ted Forbes)

**Jonathan Hale,**

*Blue Ridge Region Director*

In this position, I have come to work with many Ski Patrollers over the past few years. As you all know, Ski Patrollers are an interesting group of people. We are as follows:

- Partly insane,
- We can take charge when others know to run away,
- Compassionate,
- We care about others,
- We prefer speed mixed with fluid motion,
- Love Floridians, because they give us something to do,  
And most all..... giving



Of the above, two patrollers that embody the word giving are those that have made the biggest difference in helping the Blue Ridge Region to move forward over the past years. The positions that they have held require a very large commitment of time. They have both committed more time than anyone can imagine. They do the thankless tasks of writing policies, establish detailed programs that are worthy of the lifesaving and painstaking job that we do. They have sat at a desk, doing the late night administrative paperwork that has kept them away from the slopes and their families so that you and I can make carving turns. Most importantly, they have established integrity, equality and uniformity to programs that needed it. Simply said, when you go to take a test, you can be assured that the test will be organized, fair, and without bias. Ask anyone that has been tested over the last few years in the Region and about the integrity with which these programs are run. In fact, the Blue Ridge Region and the Dixie Region are looking at ways to make our testing procedures more uniform between Regions. We will learn from them and they will learn from us.

I am speaking of course of our Region Senior Program Administrator, **Toni Cheek** and Regional Transportation Administrator, **David Hall**. These programs have, in turn, inspired patrollers to become more involved and become ***better patrollers***. I truly feel that the success of our Senior Program and Transportation Program are, in a large part, attributable to them. The bottom line is that their tireless work for this Region has translated to better patient care. Please thank them sincerely when you are able for their sacrifices and altruistic dedication.

*Jonathan*

*From the Supervisors and Advisors...*

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

**Leslie Carter,**  
*OEC Supervisor*

I would like to start the New Year with CONGRATULATIONS to 27 new OEC Instructors bringing the total number of OEC Instructors in the Southern Division to 370. At a time when NSP membership is being challenged to grow, it is refreshing to see that the OEC Program, the cornerstone of NSP, remains strong here in the Southern Division. A heartfelt THANK YOU to all the people who make this possible.

**Staffing Changes for the 2010-2011 Season:**

Bob Brewster, Cataloochee - Assistant OEC Supervisor, Southern Division & Administrative IT  
Jim Peterson, Cataloochee – Dixie Region OEC Administrator  
Sylvia Talley, Cataloochee – Observing IT  
Charlotte Bradley, Snowshoe – Administrative IT  
Richard Yerchek, Beech – Blue Ridge Region OEC Administrator  
Anne Donadio, Appalachain - Administrative IT  
Tony Tingle, Hawksnest – Observing IT  
Roger Bushnell, Sugar - Administrative IT  
Carl Smith, Wintergreen – Administrative IT

I would like to thank the following people for their past services as they move on to other projects and responsibilities within our organization – **Joe McNeer**, Timberline (Observing IT), **Steve McCarragher**, Cataloochee (Administrative IT), **Sylvia Talley**, Cataloochee (Dixie Region OEC Administrator), **Jason Hall**, Snowshoe (Administrative IT), **Hugh Jernigan**, Appalachian (Blue Ridge Region OEC), and **Debbie Lentz**, Appalachian (Administrative IT).

**RECORDS** – By now many of you have realized that there have been some issues with the National Data Base. I am currently working with the National Office as they address the problems. Please check your personal page and contact me if you have any questions or discrepancies. All OEC Instructor status records appear to be current as of January 9, 2011. However, there is still a problem with the “Delinquent OEC” Roster – this is the list of individuals who have missed a Refresher Cycle at some point. Many names are showing up on this list erroneously – I am working on it!

**SENIOR EMM** – The new Senior Outdoor Emergency Care Manual / Training Coordinators Guidelines was reviewed and approved at the December 2010 OEC Supervisors Meeting and should be available shortly from the National Office. This document outlines the NSP National Standard for the training and testing of the Senior Program OEC Component. For the Southern Division there are no major changes since we have been following these guidelines for several years already.

**INSTRUCTOR TRAINER MANUAL** – Is in the final phase of approval from the National Board.

And now for the news I'm sure you have all been waiting for – **THE OEC 5<sup>TH</sup> EDITION**

Due to changes in the American Heart Association CPR protocols that will affect some of the material in the 5<sup>th</sup> Edition, the publication date was moved back to May 1, 2011. This poses some obvious concerns and challenges for Patrols who normally start OEC Classes in the early spring – more on this later but for now **I am requesting that no one register any courses with a start date prior to June 15, 2011.**

At the 2010 Southern Division Conference the Board approved a “reimbursement” plan for the purchase of the OEC 5<sup>th</sup> Edition for all current OEC Instructors. This plan will be administered as follows:

- OEC Instructor purchases 5<sup>th</sup> Edition (either the Hard Copy or the Electronic version)
- OEC Instructor attends a “New Material” training course and receives a “voucher” confirming attendance
- OEC Instructor mail voucher and “Proof of Purchase” to Jim Underwood, Division Treasurer who will then send a reimbursement check to the Instructor.

Some patrols are discussing purchasing the books in bulk to save on shipping so please check with your Patrol Director or Administrative IT for any plan of this nature. Individual Instructors will still need to obtain the training voucher before a patrol can submit a request for reimbursement.

The OEC Instructors Manual will be available on-line to all OEC Instructors through the Brady Publishing web site. Details on how to access this site will be part of the New Material training course.

While I cannot tell you details (copyright law) of the new material I can tell you that **Bob Brewster** and I, along with all the other OEC Supervisors and Medical Advisors, spent over 12 hours at our December meeting, reading assigned chapters of the draft with the express purpose of identifying specific subject matter. This information is what will be used to create both the Instructor training course as well as the 2011 Refresher. It is expected that the training course will require a full day.

It is VERY important that all OEC Instructors be trained on the New Material contained in the 5 Edition PRIOR to teaching either at an OEC Class or at a OEC Refresher!

And now the fun part – attempting to schedule training dates, locations and participants. As mentioned earlier, priority will be given to those Patrols who normally start OEC Classes in the late spring and early summer. In addition, we will be scheduling training with our Affiliate Group, WPRO, in West Virginia who conducts their Refresher in June.

## **Tentative Training Schedule:**

May – West Virginia, location & date TBD, focus on WPRO Instructors and West Virginia IT's

June – Dixie Region, tentative location in Atlanta, date TBD, focus on Atlanta, Ober and Cataloochee OEC Class Instructors and Dixie Region IT's.

August – Southern Division Conference, August 13, 2011, focus on as many Instructors as possible since this is the best facility to meet our needs for this training. Please plan to attend!

September – smaller Regional training courses to be taught by the Region OEC Administrators and assisted by their IT's, focus – anyone who missed the Conference Training session. Please be aware that these courses may not coincide with needs for Instructors who plan to teach at Refreshers and Courses in the fall. In addition it requires additional work on the part of the ROA's and IT's. Please make every effort to attend the August session at the Southern Division Conference.

SO – the obvious challenge here is that it is hard to plan a curriculum when you have no idea what the material is. Bob and I will do our best to keep everyone updated as information becomes available. Meanwhile, thank you again for all that you do and have a happy, safe and FUN season!

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

### **Tony Tingle,**

*Division Transportation Supervisor*

Here we are in January and boy does it feel like January! It is snowy and cold here in the Tennessee Valley. I hope everyone is having a great season. Last weekend was great. I was tutored at a clinic in Winterplace, WV on Saturday and was put in touch with my feminine side at a women's clinic at Wolf Ridge on Sunday. Both days were fantastic and have me fired up for the season.



Now that we are in the midst of the season I thought I'd pass along a few reminders/requests:

- Remember; if you are conducting toboggan training on your mountain and you want to be covered by the NSP insurance, register your training with NSP (e.g. register a course). Drop me a line at [geofolks@att.net](mailto:geofolks@att.net) if you need help with this.
- If you have registered a course with NSP there are two potential outcomes: The course does not run or the course runs and is completed. In either case PLEASE close the course with NSP (it takes about 10 minutes). This allows the folks in Colorado to remove the

course from their books and, if the course ran, it assures that your students get the credit (and updates to their profiles) that they deserve. If you need help closing a course, give me a shout and I'll be glad to help.

Be on the lookout for good future transportation instructors. We have a talented cadre of transportation instructors in the Southern Division, but more help is always better. If you find someone that has an interest, encourage them, and put them in touch with the transportation IT on your hill, your Region Transportation Advisor (**Tom Hughes** in WV, **Trace Higgins** in VA, **Jimmy Kuneman** in Dixie, or **David Hall** in Blue Ridge), your PD, or me. We can get them started in the program.

- Be thinking about a Women's TES in your neck of the woods. It would be great to run one in every Region. The TES last weekend at Wolf Ridge was a hoot! Thanks to **Joy Juker**, **Rhonda Smith**, and **Carla Tingle** for teaching the ladies. Being the Transportation Supervisor has some benefits (see the picture below). Plans are in the works for another clinic next season in Dixie. Stay tuned.

Please shout if you have question or comments for the Transportation Program. I look forward to seeing you on the snow.



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

**Briggs Allen,**  
*Snowsports Supervisor*

## **Very Surprised .....**

That's the way I felt when I recently was invited to attend a patrol refresher and asked several questions:

1. Who is familiar with the Southern Division NSP Snowsports School program? Maybe 5 out of about 70 people indicated they were.
2. Who feels that their skiing and riding abilities need no improvement? Almost 100% indicated they could use some improvement.
3. Who regularly reads all the Southern Cross? Perhaps 8-10 out of 70 patrollers present.
4. Who reads the "E-Blasts" that National sends? Probably 80% of the 70 patrollers present.

What a revelation!!! The Southern Division Snowsports program has been around for quite some time and if this patrol is indicative of the majority (and I have no reason to believe that it is not) we have a major PR problem!!! If the few of you out there reading this have any better ideas to get our message across please shoot me an e-mail. It seems that after patrollers participate in one of our clinics they are excited about our program. After all, why would any instructor not want to teach snowsports more efficiently and why would any patroller not want to be able to be a better border or skier? The Snowsports School is here to help you achieve your goals.

Now the good stuff. In early December we had a great turnout of 21 patrollers at our 2-day **Cataloochee Teaching/PSIA-AASI exam prep clinic**. Our clinic started with a general session regarding teaching and then segregated into both skiing and boarding groups for on the snow instruction. On Sunday morning we reviewed the visual cues for good skiing and had a presentation on movement assessment. Special thanks go out to our skiing instructors **Neil Booth, Ron Clyde, Wayne Morgan** and **Randy Trow** and snowboarding instructors **Pete Jucker** and **pNut Laney**. We were very fortunate to have Pete teach with us as he is an AASI level III who just joined the patrol at Ober Gatlinburg. Just to see what you're missing. Here are several quotes from the event evaluation: "Excellent course!" ... "Instructors are extremely competent, personable and encouraging and created an excellent learning environment.", "Very eye-opening, really enjoyed it.", "I had several areas of substantial improvement." and "Awesome!!! "Thank you NSP. All instructors should be here." As always, I cannot thank enough the Cataloochee Ski Patrol, management and especially **Wayne Morgan** for their extreme hospitality and making this event great.

This past fall the Snowsports School was asked to assist in the skiing portion of a **Ladies Ski and Toboggan Clinic at Wolf Ridge**. After coordination with Wolf Ridge patrol rep **Randi Lowry** and Division Transportation Supervisor **Tony Tingle** the clinic was all set. We had nine eager and enthusiastic ladies (from several patrols) and the clinic came to fruition on January 8-

9, 2011. I drove over from Bristol Virginia the morning of the 8th in an epic snowstorm to Wolf Ridge (not having been there since I passed my basic patroller test 20 some years ago). What a treat!!! I arrived to well over a foot of fresh powder and still snowing from a storm that had left 20 inches by night's end. My carefully thought out lesson plan was immediately trashed for powder instruction. . As the day progressed, we were able to film and critique video of all the participants. If you've never been videoed while skiing it can be a humbling experience even for the best skier. It seems we all have a vision of our skiing, however this vision may not be totally accurate. We attempt to video whenever possible in all of our clinics, as this has been universally well-received. Quotes from the event evaluation included: "I saw a lot of improvement in the groups skiing", "Thanks so much your patience and knowledge was much appreciated and valuable," and "I was very nervous about taking this due to not knowing the content and conditions (powder). I am so happy that I took it as it exceeded my expectations and gave me several things to work at. Thank you." Of course a big thanks to the Wolf Ridge ski patrol for their hospitality and providing a great facility for our classroom work, the management for welcoming us and providing free lunch vouchers and Randi Lowery for all of her work in bringing this together.

The day after the Wolf clinic I drove to Snowshoe for the 2-day **PSIA-E Snowsports School Southern Management Seminar**. This program is for snowsports school directors and trainers updated information from PSIA National as well as PSIA-East. The clinic was taught by **Bill Beerman** who is the Eastern rep on the national board of PSIA. The Level II PSIA exam now consists of 3 parts: an online written exam, a skiing exam and a teaching exam. The new online exam that must be taken before attending the skiing exam, will consist of 50 random questions from a larger test pool and be timed. At the completion of the exam you will immediately learn your score (70% is passing) with references on the questions that you missed. The cost of the exam is \$25 and your Snowsports school director must sign the application allowing you to take the test. Should you be unsuccessful there is a 48 hour waiting period before the test can be re-taken. The on the snow portion of the clinic included a drills and skills portion as well as what the PSIA-E examiners are looking for in the children's module and the new movement analysis module that now combines creative teaching. It was very helpful to go through the modules in a testing situation and see exactly what will be expected for successful completion. It was required that I attend this program so that our Snowsports school can remain PSIA certified.

#### **Upcoming clinics include:**

- **Snowboarder Improvement Clinic at Massanutten Resort on January 22.**
- **Skier Improvement Clinic at Winterplace on February 11**
- **Skier Improvement Clinic at Ski Beech on February 12-13**
- **Demo Team Clinic at Wintergreen on March 4-6**

The clinics at Winterplace and Ski Beech are being taught by PSIA level III instructors from the Central Division NSP Snowsports School. These highly qualified patrollers/instructors taught this clinic at Beech last year and there was a waiting list. Video analysis again this year will be used.

The 2 1/2 day Demo Team Clinic at Wintergreen is sure to fill so watch your e-mails for an E Blast concerning this much-anticipated event. At the time this was written writing specific details were not available.

Lots of clinics, learning, camaraderie and fun are taking place within our Snowsports School so why not join us. Remember skiing/boarding is easy just turn right and left and repeat.

### *Instructor Development...Instructor Development...Instructor Development*

**Teresa T. Stewart,**

*Instructor Development Supervisor*

The NSP Instructor Development course is an integral part of all the NSP Educational courses. This is a required step before the mentoring stage with an instructor within the specific discipline that you are becoming involved with (Outdoor Emergency Care, Toboggan and Ski, Mountain Travel and Rescue, Avalanche, Outdoor First Care, etc). This is also a *SENIOR ELECTIVE*.

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

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

*Remember .....*

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

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

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

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

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

### **Senior Program News and Updates**

The Senior Program in the Southern Division is going strong this season! I have had the privilege to attend several exceptional Senior clinics early in the season and am looking forward to attending other clinics and evaluations as the season progresses.

The Blue Ridge Senior EMM clinic was held at Appalachian Ski Mountain on January 8<sup>th</sup>. **Toni Cheek** conducted an excellent clinic with the assistance of about a dozen Senior Evaluators for 9 candidates. To even have a clinic was an accomplishment due to a heavy snowstorm with high winds and bitterly cold single digit temperatures. The Blue Ridge Region is holding a second Senior EMM clinic for additional Senior Candidates who were “snowed out” or otherwise unable to attend.

The Virginia Region Senior EMM clinic was held at Bryce Mountain on January 22<sup>nd</sup> under the expert and well-organized direction of **T. Harris** and Virginia Region Senior Evaluators. The 8 candidates in attendance received valuable information and practice to aid them for the February EMM evaluation.

Congratulations to **Trace Higgins** on a well run Senior S&T clinic at Wintergreen on January 23<sup>rd</sup>. The Senior S&T candidates and S&T Evaluators were rewarded with a beautiful day to clinic on the evaluation parameters for the Senior S&T Evaluation in February. The candidates received very positive and useful feedback on skiing, boarding, and toboggan handling techniques.

Thanks to everyone in the Virginia Region for ideas on enhancing aspects of the Senior Program!

With Senior EMM Evaluations being held over the next two months, the following may be helpful to Senior Candidates. From observation and analysis of Senior EMM Evaluations over recent years we have generated a list of ten common mistakes by Senior Candidates during scenario evaluations. Most are simple and patrollers would never make those mistakes in “real life” situations, but in the environment of being evaluated, simple things are sometimes addressed.

Ten Common Mistakes by Candidates During Senior EMM OEC Scenarios (with explanation or example)

1. *Not addressing or obtaining adequate SAMPLE.* (Potentially missing a condition or illness critical to the care of a patient).
2. *Failure to observe BSI.* (Examination gloves....).

3. Inadequate patient assessment and physical exam.  
(Potentially missing an injury or illness requiring immediate care).
4. Not identifying high priority patients or injuries requiring interventions during initial triage. (Spending time on a patient with minor injury and not addressing a serious injury, or failure to assure airway).
5. Not requesting proper equipment or assistance.  
(Such as not calling for a backboard after initial assessment identifying serious back injury).
6. Failure to correctly utilize available equipment. (Need to have working knowledge for all splints, oxygen delivery devices, adjuncts,...).
7. Improper use of people resources.  
(Not directing bystanders or trained personnel and/or locking yourself into a position where you lose your capacity to manage situation).
8. Failure to check CMS before and after.  
(Always after any splinting, bandaging or other first aid care).
9. Not maintaining stabilization or traction.  
(Once C-spine stabilization is initiated or traction initiated for a femur, it must be maintained).
10. Failure to observe, periodically check, or record vitals .  
(Noting any pertinent change in patient status).

**As always, thanks to all the Instructors and Evaluators who give so freely of their time and expertise!!!**

Hugh Jernigan

**Ian Archibald MD, FACS**

*Medical Advisor*

**Report from Medical Committee Meeting Dec 10-11<sup>th</sup> 2010, Denver CO**

The Medical Committee of NSP met in conjunction with the OEC Supervisors for a “first look” at the new 5<sup>th</sup> Edition OEC. The meeting was Co-chaired by Dr **Dave Johe** and **Ed McNamara**. Approximately 12 physicians from the different divisions of NSP attended with background medical expertise in Orthopedics, Neurosurgery, Emergency Medicine and Internal Medicine Intensive Care.

The 5<sup>th</sup> Edition OEC will have a different look and feel and all present were impressed with the work being done by the publisher. The release date will be prior to May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2011. The next refresher in fall 2011 will include new material from this manual.

The 5<sup>th</sup> Edition has been expanded to 36 Chapters. Skills and Scenarios have been incorporated into the relevant chapters and overall my impression was a more cohesive text. Some of the larger chapters from 4<sup>th</sup> Ed have been broken up, for instance Chapter 15 on Environmental Emergencies now has separate chapters on burns, cold, heat, water, and altitude emergencies. This should allow a more focused discussion and ease of referencing. Some of the detail in the 4<sup>th</sup> Edition has been removed to focus content on the key concepts. Finally there are new chapters on communication and documentation, geriatric issues, and plant and animal emergencies. The communication and documentation chapter is particularly relevant in our increasingly litigious society.

The remainder of the meeting was used to discuss other issues, of which the increasing scrutiny by State EMS on our ski patrol activities was the most interesting. **Tim White**, NSP Executive Director gave an update on 3 separate State EMS Systems that have attempted to regulate NSP OEC technicians. Washington, Idaho and Pennsylvania have all made efforts to regulate OEC Techs, much as they do with EMT's. To date, NSP has been successful in maintaining our independence. However, the writing is on the wall and we ignore this issue at our own peril. The NSP Legal Committee is currently working on National Immunity Legislation with **Morgan Armstrong** actively involved. However the Medical Committee believe we should also be proactive and develop our own programs that assess quality of care at the patrol level.

Quality Assurance Programs are already commonplace and often mandatory in all aspects of patient care across the entire medical care continuum. One example is the SCIP program (Surgical Care Improvement Project), which monitors hospital compliance with the use of antibiotics, anticoagulants and appropriate pre-op skin prep during the peri-operative period. Each hospital has a score, which is available in the public domain and is used, not only as positive advertising but also to reduce reimbursement to hospitals that perform poorly.

NSP's OEC Education Program already has an excellent monitoring program in place for assessing the teaching and refreshing of OEC skills. We do not have any monitoring of our actual patient care activities, such as; response time to injury, use of O2, accuracy of splinting, to name a few. A quality assurance program that monitors and collects this type of information would help negate the need for State EMS oversight. Further, it would help set benchmarks for patrols to compare themselves to, with a goal of improved patient care.

While there are certainly obstacles to this approach, including wide variability of record keep by patrols and legal concerns by ski area management, the Medical Committee has made a recommendation to the NSP Board that a Quality Assurance program be developed.

As a preliminary step, the Medical Committee recommends each ski patrol identify a medical provider (MD, DO, PA, NP, RN) in their community who has an interest in wintersports, and is willing to be involved with education activities and quality programs.

Overall, this was a very productive meeting.

Ian Archibald MD, FACS

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

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

***“Plans that either come to naught or half a page of scribbled lines.” Roger Waters***

I first want to thank **Tucker Crolius** of Wintergreen for the 50 back issues of the Southern Cross dating back to March 1976 and to **Gordon Pettit** for Lift Evac. pictures from Sky Valley, GA (one of our lost mountains).

It seems that every time I meet with a Patrol or Patrollers, I ask for pictures or a history of the Mountain and the Patrol. The response is always the same. “Man, I have so much stuff. I will send it to you”. With the rare exception, these plans “come to naught”. I would settle for “half a page of scribbled lines”.

Based on what I have found, we have **more** lost ski areas in the in the South than we have active ski areas. I am sure that many of you have fond memories and pictures of hills of the past. I need any information you can pass along. If you need for me to copy pictures and send them back, that is fine. If you can scan them and send a disk, that would be great. Email is also great. I will take whatever you can give me. If you were a Patroller at a Lost Ski Area, how

about “a half a page of scribbled lines. Don’t let these areas fade away. If you are old enough to remember this song, you have a story to tell. Turn up your volume and enjoy.

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=iv&v=MUt7qmSvxLI&annotation\\_id=annotation\\_347449](http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=iv&v=MUt7qmSvxLI&annotation_id=annotation_347449)

Congratulations to **Angela Jones** of Appalachian Ski Mountain and Hawksnest Ski Patrol for being the winner of the two Dixie “Son of Sam” splints. Not only was she the first to mail in all of the correct answers, she was also the only response. You guys can do better.

***Now for a little Southern Ski Trivia.*** On a warm day in mid-February 1985, a lift operator stepped out of the shack to enjoy the 55-60 degree temps. He slipped and fell and his hand went under the shack he suddenly felt extreme pain similar to a Hornet’s sting. He noticed two puncture marks and called for Patroller assistance. Turns out that this was a Copperhead bite. (The dreaded venomous snow snake) OEC is not just about skiing. It is Outdoor Emergency Care.

See you all soon!!

Fred

[Southerndivisionhistory@gmail.com](mailto:Southerndivisionhistory@gmail.com)

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*Division Elections ... Division Elections ... Division Elections ... Division Elections ... Division*

**Lee T. Wittmann,**

*Election Coordinator*

Election for the position of Southern Division Director

Richard Boyer is the sole member running for the Office of Division Director, Southern Division and National Ski Patrol. Mr. Boyer meets the requirements and ballots resumes and platforms will be e-mailed to all Patrol representatives of record on February 1, 2011. The deadline for the receipt of ballots is February 21, 2011. Ballots may be returned via USPO or e-mailed. The results of the election will be announced on February 21, 2011.

Any concerns or procedural questions should be directed to the Election Coordinator.

**Lee T. Wittmann,** Election Coordinator

102 Rainbows End

Beech Mountain, NC 28604

828 387 3505

[lwittmann@skybest.com](mailto:lwittmann@skybest.com)

**RICHARD BOYER**  
4559 Collins Avenue  
Acworth, Georgia 30101

November 12, 2010

Mr. Lee T. Wittmann, Election Coordinator  
Southern Division, National Ski Patrol  
102 Rainbows End  
Beech Mountain, NC 28604-7206

RE: Division Director Nomination for the Southern Division's 2011 Election

Dear Mr. Wittmann,

I would like to offer my name in nomination for the office of Division Director, Southern Division for the election to be held in 2011. I also make the required statement, that if elected I would be willing to serve in this position.

I have many working relationships and enjoy a good rapport with all levels from both volunteer and paid patrollers at many ski areas to officers at the division level. I am presently serving as 1<sup>st</sup> Assistant Division Director of the Southern Division and have been working at the division level for 10 years. I have served as a Patrol Representative, Section Chief, Regional Director and Assistant Division Director. In the future, in addition to keeping the division operating efficiently, and employing the views and experience of the ski patrol members, I believe one of our biggest challenges will be to bring new people into each and every patrol and into the activities of the division.

Through the years I have witnessed a smooth and remarkably coordinated operation of this division. I wish to concert all efforts we can toward continuing these achievements and good results. Great strides have been made toward working together and clarifying how we want to move forward as a division and at the national level. The Southern Division enjoys the reputation of being a mover and shaker within the National Organization. We are engaged and respected and I'd like to enhance this record. We have a strong group of dedicated and talented men and women who are our patrol representatives and our program supervisors are as good as the best in the National Ski Patrol System. I would compare our rank and file as patrollers individually with the best in the national system. It is of paramount importance that we continue this trend of excellence.

For the above reasons I hope to continue to be able to work and share in the Southern Division of the National Ski Patrol as your Division Director.

Sincerely,

Richard Boyer

## Richard Boyer

### Professional Experience:

**Bridgewater Management Company** - President and CEO - Third party administrator which has had developmental and operational responsibility for over 30 insurance companies.

**Risk Management Associates** - President - Development and operations of multiple captive insurance companies for the medical field.

**Communications International, Inc.** - Project Manager for Television Microwave Link Project for the FAA, Finance Department, forecasting, pricing and strategic planning, MIS and LAN supervisor.

**Paces Investment Properties, Inc.** 1982 -1986, President - Identification, evaluation, acquisition and property management of commercial real estate for office, industrial and retail properties.

**Boyer Group, Inc.** 1979 -1982, President - Property management, commercial real estate brokerage, investments and sales.

**Cecil B. Day Companies** 1967 - 1979 - Various capacities with the Day Companies including Project Manager for apartments, offices, motels, and restaurants in planning, construction, development and operations. Member of the Board of Directors for Days Inns of America, Day Realty of Charlotte and Day Realty of Atlanta. Held positions of Vice President, Executive VP and President of listed Day Companies. Managing equity partner in Day Realty of Charlotte and Atlanta and minority owner of Days Inns of America.

### National Ski Patrol:

Currently a Toboggan Instructor, Outdoor Emergency Care Instructor and Senior Patroller, at Cataloochee Ski Area, NC.

**1<sup>st</sup> Assistant Division Director**, Southern Division of NSP - 2007-2011

**Lifetime Member of NSP** -2008

**NSP National Number 10812** - 2008

**Assistant Division Director – South**, Southern Division of NSP - 2004-2007

**Region Director**, Smoky Mountain Region, Southern Division of NSP - 2002-2004

**Section Chief**, Deep South, Southern Division of NSP - 2001-2002

**Patroller** for Cataloochee Ski Area, NC - 2001-present

**Alpine Senior Patroller** - 2001

**Patroller** for Sky Valley Ski Area, GA - 1997-2001

**Patrol Representative**, Ski Scaly, North Carolina - 1991-1992

**Patroller** for Scaly Mountain, NC - 1987-1997

**Winter Emergency Care Course** - Sky Valley Ski Area, GA - 1986

**Junior Ski Patrol**, Lassen Volcanic Nat'l Park, California - 1961-1963

### Education, etc.:

**Georgia Institute of Technology**, BS in Industrial Management, 1971

**Georgia Tech Varsity Track Team** (grant in aid)

**Sigma Chi Fraternity**

**Real Estate Broker's license** from 1971

# Cataloochee Teaching/PSIA-AASI Exam Prep Clinic

(Photos submitted by Briggs Allen)



Pete Jucker lecturing at Cataloochee



Classroom Fun!



On the Snow at Cataloochee

## Women's Clinic @ Wolf Ridge

(Photos submitted by Briggs Allen)



*NSP ... National Ski Patrol ... National Ski Patrol ... National Ski Patrol ... NSP*



When you are driving up to the mountains, do you ever worry about how your car will handle in the snow and ice? The National Ski Patrol wants all its members to stay safe on the roads, and that is why NSP and Subaru have partnered to offer members an amazing NSP member benefit.

Subaru offers all NSP members the advantage of the Subaru VIP Partners Program. With this program, NSP members can save up to \$3300 on the MSRP of a new Subaru, depending on the model and accessories chosen. If you finance or lease a new Subaru, you may also qualify for special rates. All the popular Subaru model lines, including Outback, Forester, Impreza, Legacy, and Tribeca, are included in the VIP Program.

To get the VIP Partner pricing, you must receive an approved Dealer Visit Authorization form **prior** to visiting your local Subaru dealership to choose your car. To receive an Authorization form, go to the NSP Pro Page, accessible from the Member Services section of the NSP website, and click the Subaru link. You will need to enter your member number, name, home address, daytime phone number, e-mail address, the model of car you are interested in, and the dealer you want to purchase it from. If you do not indicate a dealer at this time, one will be assigned to you based on your home address. This form is good for 45 days.

Once your eligibility is verified, NSP will forward the request for participation to VIP Program Headquarters and a Dealer Visit Authorization form will be processed and mailed to yourself and faxed to the selected dealer within 48 hours. VIP pricing will not be honored without the Dealer Visit Authorization form.

After filling out the Subaru info, check out all the other great discounts you can receive from sponsors available on the NSP Pro Page, many of which do not appear in the catalog. The number of sponsors has doubled in the last three years, and includes a variety of excellent outdoor gear manufacturers. Among the many companies offering gear are Patagonia, Polarmax, Dynastar/Lange, Rossignol, Nordica, prAna, Merrell, Smith Optics, Hestra, GoPro, Backcountry Access, and Yakima.

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## Southern Division Calendar & Staff Directory

Please refer to the **Division Website** for updated schedules!

[www.southernmsp.org](http://www.southernmsp.org)

The calendar is flexible dependant on the weather – please check the calendar and/or with your patrol representative / Region Director for the most up-to-date changes.

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