



# Southern Cross

A Publication of The Southern Division of The National Ski Patrol

2016-2017, Number 2

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

February 2017

### In This Issue

From Division Director ..... 1

#### From Supervisors and Advisors:

Election News .....2-4  
 ADD - South .....5  
 Blue Ridge Region .....5-7  
 WV Region Senior Eval .....8-9  
 Avalanche Program .....10  
 Medical Advisor .....10  
 Transportation (OET) .....11  
 Instructor Development .....12  
 Woman's Program Clinic .....13-17

Around the Division – Gatlinburg  
 Fires .....18-19  
 Cataloochee SWAP .....20  
 Timberline OEC and PSIA/AASI  
 DEMO Clinic .....21-22

*Southern Cross* is published three times a year—Fall, Mid-Winter and Spring. Articles and photos are encouraged and appreciated. With photos, please include caption information. If at all possible, please include a photo of the author with articles. Submission deadline for the Fall issue is **May 19, 2017**.

#### Send submissions to:

Teresa T. Stewart, *SC Editor*  
[stewart.teresa@gmail.com](mailto:stewart.teresa@gmail.com)

Update address at [www.nsp.org](http://www.nsp.org)

**Byrd White,**  
*Division Director*



I just returned from the National Board meeting in Denver. Four days in Denver and no I didn't ski.

A couple of things that should interest patrollers here in the South:

As most know, we have three new and one returning National Board members, Dave Walker from Eastern Division returned, Mike Huber from the Northern Division, Joshua Masur from the Far West Division and Jay Zedak from the Central Division were elected for the first time. We have a new National Chair, Jim Woodrum from Central Division. A full report and voting details are on the NSP website under Board News, Jan. 2017 Board packet.

NSP and the National Park Service have signed a MOU concerning their use of OEC and our patrolling in National Parks. Those that are interested will find the MOU on the National Website under Member Resources, Governance, NSP-National Park Service.

I encourage you to look at the Board packet, as there are interesting articles from the various supervisors, particularly **Dave Johe's** article on Backboards.

There are still comments from some resorts that an OEC certification is too hard to obtain. The committee looking at OEC 6 is studying this and has a number of ideas without lessening the educational content. Dr. Johe is committed to keeping the level of training at the same level but removing some of the verbiage. There is still a lot of confusion over the difference between the "Standard of Training" and the "Standard of care". Although I think most instructors in our Division understand, there is also confusion on how to teach OEC.

While Lift Evacuation is not an NSP course it is something that we do for and under the direction of the mountain management. The National Ski Area Association and NSP are working on a Lift Evac Manual that should help. Some patrols are registering extra training on high and low angle rescue under a Mountaineering course.

Powderfall 2017 is almost full. They are cutting off registration at 650 people and are very close.

**NSP strongly recommends that all patrollers take at least ICS 100.** The Federal Government has requested that all First Responders take at least this course. It is on line and should take less than an hour.

These courses can be found at this website (<https://training.fema.gov/is/>), then select Independent Study, register for your FEMA SID number and take the course. IS-100, IS-200 and IS-700 can also be added to your record once complete by sending the completion certificate/transcript to either the Nordic or MTR Supervisors. These courses (all three) can also be used as a single SENIOR Elective – thanks to **Wayne Morgan** for pushing this with NSP Education Committee.

For those of you who have not checked out the NSP website, take a look. Look under “Safety” for lots of good ideas. If your resort would like any of the videos or safety posters they can contact me or contact Melanie Hood at National.

Please make sure that your information at National is up to date!

## THE NSP ELECTION

The Election for National Board did not turn out as I had hoped as neither of the candidates from our division came in the top four. I am sure that Mark Rees would have made a good Director. I believe that **Morgan Armstrong** not winning a second term was a huge loss to the National Board and to the National Ski Patrol. He has served his patrol, our Division and our National Organization with great distinction. He was the leader in rewriting the National Bylaws and the Policies and Procedures. In large part it was his effort that helped hold the NSP together during very trying times a few short years ago.

The Southern Division had a great turn out at 33.8% of eligible voters taking part. Wintergreen led the way with 69.9% while Appalachian with 62.2% and Cataloochee with 53.3% following close behind. I know that many of you made a real effort to get the vote out and I really appreciate it. While many patrollers don't think it affects them, they are wrong! The decisions made at the national affect all of us. There will be more elections in the future, please keep up the good work.



## ELECTION NEWS

by: Bill Smith, Division Election Coordinator



### 2016 NSP BOARD ELECTION RESULTS

This year there were four open seats for positions on the NSP Board of Directors. Twelve members submitted timely applications to be considered by the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee reviewed the submitted applications and consulted references, resulting in nine vetted candidates being presented for election for the four open positions.

Of the candidates running for a board seat in the 2016 election, two were from the Southern Division. They included Morgan Armstrong and Mark Rees. Unfortunately neither won a seat.

A total of 28,349 Traditional Members were identified as eligible voters. They cast 5,479 ballots.

Nine Board Candidates received votes as follows, and the top four were elected:

**Jay Zedak** 2,604 14.50%

**Mike Huber** 2,589 14.40%

**David Walker** \* 2,430 13.50%

**Joshua Masur** 2,316 12.90%

Wendy Aarnio 2,247 12.50%

Brian Ulrich 2,211 12.30%

Morgan Armstrong \* 1,836 10.20%

Mark Rees 946 5.30%

Nadine Martin 809 4.50%

**Total Voters: 5,479**

**Avg. Votes Per Voter: 3.28**

\* Indicates an Incumbent Board Member

At the January 2017 board meeting Jim Woodrum from the Central Division was elected as the new National Chair.

In closing, a tip of the ole' hat to all of you patroller's that voted in the 2016 BOD election. Hopefully next time, even more of you will cast a vote.

## **Division Director Election Announcement**

This coming year, 2017, we will once again hold an election for our Division Director (DD). Currently Byrd White serves the Division in that important position and is eligible to be re-elected for two additional two-year term.

Anyone interested in submitting a nomination for the Division Director's position must do so before **February 10<sup>th</sup>**. With that in mind, now is the time for anyone interested in running for the DD position to prepare a submission and get it in. All nominations must be received by the Election Coordinator before the deadline date of **February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017**.

Electronic submissions are preferred and can be sent to me at the email address shown below.

The election procedure further requires that all nominations must be accompanied by a signed acceptance of the nominee. The nomination must also be accompanied by a one-page resume of the candidate's qualifications for office. The applicant also has the option to include a platform statement.

Specific qualifications for the DD can be found in the By-Laws that are published on the Southern Division website.

Ballots, resumes and platform information will be sent to all Patrol Representative's in mid-February. Each Patrol shall have one vote to be cast by the Patrol Representative of record as of January 1<sup>st</sup> of election year.

Each patroller is encouraged to take an active part in this election by reviewing the nominee's position and qualifications and voicing your opinion to your respective Patrol Representative.

Nominations should be sent to:

**Bill Smith, Election Coordinator**  
**6 Long Bridge Road**  
**Hampton, VA 23669**  
[\(757\) 810-1690](tel:(757)810-1690)  
[skibill13@cox.net](mailto:skibill13@cox.net)

**Mike Harris,**

*Assistant Division Director – South*



Old Man Winter may have been slightly late in sticking around with the slopes all opening and then having a brief closure before allowing for a permanent opening this year. The resorts that expanded their snow making capabilities faced a number of wild fires combining with summer drought hampering the water supply and limiting the early efforts to make snow, but as 2016 came to an end it appears we will have an abundance of snow for the remainder of the 2017 ski season.

This year the OEC refreshers again went very well with all patrols successfully using the hybrid model. I will leave the individual patrol events to the Region Directors articles. While I don't want to rush the end of the season I am looking forward to seeing many patrollers attend Powderfall 2017, April 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> at Aspen Snowmass. I also again want to encourage as many patrollers as possible will make plans to attend the Southern Division Fall Convention this year in Kingsport TN early August.

Mike Harris, AKA Tyrone

---

---

## ***Blue Ridge Region***



Photo of Joe Donadio (Appalachian Ski Mountain)  
*submitted by Brent Rockett*

## Blue Ridge Region

### Ken Hale, PR

Beech Mountain

Winter has been on again and off again in the South. Beech has been able to endure the “off” portion with good success due to aggressive and concentrated snowmaking. Additional terrain will be opened as conditions allow. Snow coverage has remained consistent, and great skiing has been available to our guests. “The Park” has been a great success for guests wanting freestyle terrain.

Patrol has been active as we have several new candidates in the ranks, many of whom are patroller legacies. **Doug Gilstrap** has headed the program with the assistance of numerous OEC and OET instructors, together with on-the-hill mentors. Patroller “101” has been ongoing to orient the candidates to mountain protocol and procedure, as well as on the hill skills. The senior program is also being advanced through the efforts of **Doug** and **JoAnn Ehlinger**, and on the hill training is scheduled as conditions allow.

Beech’s top patrol room has been renamed **The Bob Mahoney Upper Patrol Station** in honor of our fallen comrade. Pre-season efforts saw new carpet installed and new furniture placed in the Station. Bob would have smiled!!



The wildfires in Gatlinburg were devastating for four patrollers from Ober Gatlinburg who lost all of their patrol gear. **Joy Jucker, Pete Jucker, Amanda Perryman, and Tom Sabo** found themselves with a ski season upon them and scrambling to get on the snow. In an effort to help rebuild a small part of their lives, **Mark Popelka** and **Ken Hale** immediately began a campaign with numerous sponsors and vendors to assist. Mark, an employee with Oakley eyewear, drew upon many of his contacts in the industry, and Ken reached out to numerous NSP sponsors as well as several national vendors and local ski shops for assistance. At the end of the day, our fellow patrollers had been re-outfitted from head to toe with new gear. Big thanks to the following companies: Oakley, Patagonia, Black Diamond, Salomon, Hestra, Ortovox, Under Armour, Backcountry.com; and Ski Country Sports in Banner Elk, NC.

Fingers crossed for more cold weather!



*(photo submitted by Ken Hale)*

Pete Jucker, Joy Jucker, Amanda Perryman with Mark Popelka (sitting) and Ken Hale (far right)

Fingers crossed for more cold weather!

Ken Hale,  
Patrol Representative

## West Virginia Region

### WV SR EMM 2017 Sunday January 29th Winterplace Ski Resort

*(photos submitted by Isaac Colvard)*

#### Candidates

##### Winterplace

Chris Hayes  
Marcus Babb  
John Weatherford  
Darr Soli

##### Snowshoe

Timmy Gear  
Tony Rice  
Jessie Dreyer  
Kelley Moffatt  
Jon Zilius



Division Director Byrd White and OEC IT Bud Frantz solving World Peace one scenario at a time.

Marcus Babb and John Weatherford dealing with an unresponsive patient, Shane Dragan intensely evaluates. In the background Darr Soli deals with a very upset guest (Andrea Marino)



Southern Division Senior Supervisor Hugh Jernigan is always ready to help out with the Division SR programs.



Shane Dragan intensely evaluating.

The Man, The Myth, The Legend. Thanks Hugh!!



---

---

## ***Avalanche Program ... Avalanche ... AVA ... AVA ... Avalanche Program***

**Scott Campbell,**

*Avalanche Division Supervisor*

### **Avalanche Safety and Rescue Training Course Offerings**

We plan on offering the NSP “Introduction to Avalanche Safety and Rescue” course in the Southern Division twice during the upcoming season. This eight-hour course introduces fundamental principles of avalanche hazards, safety, and rescue. It does qualify as an elective requirement for the NSP Senior Program, but it does not meet Level 1 avalanche course standards and does not qualify as a prerequisite for enrollment in the Level 2 avalanche courses. For this year, we are seeking a patrol or two that would like to host an Introduction to Avalanche Safety and Rescue course and also maybe one of the Mountain Travel Rescue courses. We would like to hold each of these courses in one weekend, so that patrollers can get credit for TWO senior electives and also allow us to make the best use of our limited instructors. This plan is contingent upon at least a minimum of ten patrollers enrolling for each course. If a patrol would like to volunteer their location or any patroller would like to register for one of the avalanche courses, please contact **Scott Campbell** at [campbellsservices@gmail.com](mailto:campbellsservices@gmail.com). If you have any questions, please call him at [703 969-6730](tel:7039696730).

---

---

## ***Medical Advisory Committee ... Medical Advisory***

### **Medical Advisory Committee**

Charles Clements, Chair

### **Southern Division Medical Advisory Committee**

This should find us about half way through our ski season, and I hope everyone is doing well. I would just like to update everyone on a couple of things going on with your committee.

First, the effort to put together a Quality Assurance program is proceeding. The goal is to demonstrate to any outside agency that we have a system to ensure that appropriate policies are in place at the individual ski areas, and that a high level of care is given to the skiing public. The intent is that Patrol Medical Advisors will review local patrol procedures, and that reports will be reviewed within the patrol. All of this is done



recognizing that each patrol is working for their ski area, and ultimately responsible for the process. I anticipate that some guiding principles will come from National that patrols can use with their ski areas. The other thing that I would like to do is encourage Medical Advisors and Patrol Directors to attend the Southern Division Fall Conference. I will plan on reserving some time to discuss the new Quality Assurance programs, and to share any helpful medical ideas from the various patrols.

As always, if there are any questions for the Medical Committee, contact me at [clement1@marshall.edu](mailto:clement1@marshall.edu). Looking forward to seeing you at the Fall Conference!

---

---

## ***Outdoor Emergency Transportation ... OET ...Outdoor Emergency Transportation***

**Tony Tingle,**

*OET Division Supervisor*

My calendar says it is winter....my day in short sleeves says otherwise..... Come on Mother Nature and give us some snow! My friends in the Sierras and the Wasatch keep saying they need snorkels. I'm just hoping I don't need one because we are all swimming!

Here we are at mid-season and I just want to check in and see how everyone is doing. A couple of weeks ago, here in the Deep South, we were holding a Senior clinic at Ober with temps in the teens and snow guns blazing. The snowmakers were doing a great job, laying it down fast! The candidates had a challenging day with lots of heavy man-made snow. The instructors had a challenging day with roaring snow guns limiting coaching and visibility. All had a good time, all learned something. The next weekend we hit 70 degrees with rain and better weather for bikes than skis. Ugh!

I just want to throw out a few questions to see if folks are getting what they need from the OET Program.

- 1) How is everyone doing with toboggan refreshers? Need any help?
- 2) If you are an OET instructor, have you attended a continuing education (CE) clinic? One is required once every three years to maintain your OET instructor status. The Toboggan Trainers Workshops and Ski Trainers Workshops both meet the CE requirements. If we need to schedule one in your Region let me or your Region Supervisor know.
- 3) Does everyone know who their Region OET Supervisors are? They are:
  - a. **Randy Rumer** (West Virginia) - rrumer@frontiernet.net
  - b. **Mark Taylor** (Virginia) - marktaylor42@att.net
  - c. **David Jamison** (Blue Ridge) - jamisondt@appstate.edu
  - d. **Jimmy Kuneman** (Dixie) - drjkuneman@gmail.com
- 4) How is OET training going on your hill? Need an OET instructor? Want to be an OET instructor? Need Help? Got Questions? Don't hesitate to drop me an e-mail.

I hope winter returns and I can see you on the Snow. Holler at me if you need anything OET related ([tony@tingle.rocks](mailto:tony@tingle.rocks), [geofolks@att.net](mailto:geofolks@att.net))

---

---

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

**Teresa T. Stewart,**

*Instructor Development Supervisor*

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

Interested students should look at the Division Calendar on the Division Website ([www.southernnsp.org](http://www.southernnsp.org)) 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)).

UPDATE: The Hybrid Instructor Development Program is now available! Note: This is a two-part process. Part one – take and successfully complete the Instructor Development eCourse 2016 Course and obtain a completion certificate. Part two – face-to-face in a classroom environment to finish the classroom modules and teach a six-pack session. Both the ID tradition and ecourse require the student to then start and complete the mentoring phases to finish the instructor process. This last step is not required if you are **ONLY** seeking Senior Elective.

To access this course patrollers can login to the [www.NSP.org](http://www.NSP.org) website and from Member Resources, select the Online Learning Tile and follow the directions – if you need assistance – just contact me!

The Instructor Development Continuing Education Manual (final) has been published to the NSP website for all educational disciplines to use. If you are a current instructor – please check the NSP website to obtain the current up-to-date forms! → Note: A new **Mentoring Form** is now available.

Let me know if you have any questions. Thank you -- Teresa

---

## [Women's Program ... Women's Program](#)

**Tanya Thomas,**

*Southern Division Women's Program Supervisor*

### **NSP Southern Division Women's Program Clinic at Wintergreen Resort**

As I write this article, the 2017 NSP Southern Division Women's Clinic has just come to a close. To say I'm worn out would be an understatement!!! Twenty-two women patrollers ages 22 to 63 including two from Eastern Division gathered together for fun and festivity over the weekend of January 28-29 at Wintergreen Resort in Wintergreen, Virginia. Some came early on Thursday, allowing Friday to be a day to check out the mountain and pre-train. We attended a yoga class at the Wintergreen Wintergarden, which was a first for some of the girls, hit the hot tubs for a soak, and closed the day with a meet and greet over drinks and appetizers.

Saturday started with getting to know the instructors and each other. We had Kim Holzer, a level 3 PSIA gal from Wintergreen; **Kelly Drewnowski**, a level 1 PSIA and alpine patroller from Massanutten; **Joy Jucker**, a level 1 PSIA and senior alpine patroller as well as the past previous women's program supervisor from Ober Gatlinburg; and Ashley Schneider, a level 2 AASI from Massanutten. The women instructors showed us drills to help improve our sliding throughout the day. The snowboarders culminated with some 180s and the skiers took a few trips through the newly formed bumps on Wintergreen's Upper Cliffhanger.

Amanda catching air 180



Landon, Sabine, Mary, Susie, Roz, Tanya Kelly, Tanya, Susie, Lindsey on Upper Cliffhanger



Emily, Mary, Linda doing drills.



Saturday night we gathered to meet with the NSP Southern Division Safety Program Supervisor **Brett Henyon** who also serves on the national safety committee. We discussed on hill safety including the three initiatives: “Sit back, hold on;” “Know the Code;” and “Love Your Brain.” After the meeting we had a great dinner and evening together.

The clinic concluded with toboggan enhancement on Sunday. We split into four groups with trainers **Joy Jucker, Lindsey Stroschein, Melinda Souder, Rhonda Smith,** and **Tanya Thomas**. Joy led an all-boarder toboggan group and then assisted Rhonda’s group with basic toboggan techniques. Tanya worked with a group on senior level unloaded toboggan handling, and Melinda and Lindsey took the expert ladies down the steeps.

Melinda discussing the tail rope.



Sunday tail group; 1-Linda, Meggan, Mary, Randi, Sabine, Shannon; 2- Claire, Joy, Roz, Melinda, Lindsey, Susie, Sandra; 3- Tanya, Amanda, Laney, Rhonda, Emily, Landon (Sunday Toboggan group)]



Throughout the weekend we had a great time talking about patrolling in general and many of the upper level ladies encouraged further patrol training in the senior and certified programs. We talked about the life/patrol balance we all strive to achieve, and some discussed patrolling while also being moms!

Most of the out of town participants stayed together in a large cabin. This allowed for other activities like cooking, games, dancing, singing, facials, and more! Whether it's an experience like yoga, playing a new game, perfecting something like those long-radius turns, or confidently free skiing the toboggan, everyone took home something new. One of the participants even commented, "nobody whined about anything." That makes it a success in my book!

Kudos to Wintergreen Resort for allowing us to train on their mountain! It was a fabulous location that enabled us to ski and ride on all types of terrain. We'd especially like to thank Wintergreen mountain management including **Zack Marlowe** and Patrol Director **Tucker Crolius**. I would personally like to thank my Wintergreen liaison **Meggan Robbins** for all of her help organizing the clinic in the Virginia Region. She helped make my job much easier! Thanks to everyone for supporting the women's program. I look forward to getting together in 2018!



F- Sandra, Kim, Meggan, Kelly, 2-Joy, Linda, Shannon, Susie; 3- Tanya, Ashley, Laney, Claire, Sabine, Randi, Rhonda; 4-Amanda, Landon, Roz, Lindsey, Emily, Mary

**2017 Participants (I=instructor):**

Wintergreen – Caroline Metsch, Judi Kay, Landon Figg, Linda Humphries, Meggan Robbins

Ober Gatlinburg – Amanda Perryman, Joy Jucker (I)

Cataloochee – Claire Lippy, Emily Cowan, Laney Major, Sabine Hardin, Sandra Sudduth, Shannon Hunter, Tanya Thomas (I)

Massanutten – Kelly Drewnoswki (I)

Wolf Ridge – Randi Lowery, Rhonda Smith (I)

Beech – Lindsey Strohschein (I), Susie Strohschein

Snowshoe - Melinda Souder (I)

Whitetail (Eastern Division) – Mary Godofsky, Roz McCarthy

Tanya Bruce Thomas

Southern Division Women’s Program Supervisor

Senior Patroller



## *Around the Division*

### **Gatlinburg Wildfires VS the National Ski Patrol**

(Submitted by Joy Jucker – Ober Gatlinburg Patrol)

After 5 months of the worse drought in the history of the South East, Mother Nature released her winds in the Smoky Mountains. Gatlinburg and the surrounding Sevier County area were targets. This occurred on the evening of November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Fires located in the National Park along with those started by power lines and transformers, destroyed more than 2,400 homes plus many businesses. Winds gusted to over 80 mph. Firefighters were tremendously overwhelmed by the magnitude of the winds and flames. The entire town of Gatlinburg was evacuated that night and no one was allowed back for days. Fourteen lives were lost along with numerous injuries. Painstakingly later, home owners got the news regarding their homes. Located in totally three different parts of town were the houses of 4 patrollers. **Amanda Ogle-Perryman, Tom Sabo, Joy and Pete Jucker**. All of them were deemed total losses by their insurances companies.

As Gatlinburg and Sevier County observed the needs of its residents, the call went out for **volunteers**. Folks were needed at checkpoints into the city, search and rescue, EMS, and distribution centers which held the homeless and injured. Go-Fund-Me accounts from NSP people across **the nation** were established to raise much needed funds. Patrollers came from **Ober Gatlinburg** and **Cataloochee** to help with all! Next a call came from **Beech Mt**. “What did you lose, what do you need for patrolling and list the sizes”. “We have connections and will see what we can do to help.”

Cataloochee Patrol Director **Wayne Morgan** collected and delivered donations. Patrol Leader **Glenn Campbell** for Ober Gatlinburg started the ball rolling for the Ober Gatlinburg Ski Patrol Fire Fund which has collected more than \$20,000.

In December, a large black truck arrived at the Ober Gatlinburg patrol room. Soon four separate tables contained NSP official vests, parkas, socks, underwear, helmets, gloves, snowboards, boots, goggles, helmets and pants. **Mark Popelka** and **Ken Hale**, Beech Mt patrollers, spread the word and contacted NSP vendors. Replacements for the uniforms and equipment for these effected patrollers now adorned the first aid room. Tom could not be present as he had to relocate with family in AL. Amanda, Joy and Pete were elated!

Basically, speechless at times with tears.

**Bottom line the entire ski patrol community is much stronger than any tragic disaster. They bring training, equipment, heart, hugs, funds and the true ski patrol volunteer spirit when fellow patrollers and public are in need. No wildfire can ever take that away from the National Ski Patrol!**

**Gatlinburg Fires**  
(photos submitted by Joy Jucker)



The Jucker foundation - All that is left of over 500 homes just in the Chalet Village area.



Amanda, Pete and Joy modeling the new Uniforms.



Anaistaiscia Warner, Cataloochee patroller and EMT volunteering the first week.

---

## Cataloochee Ski Patrol

### Cataloochee Ski Area Serves Its Community

*Rick Roberts, antique patroller*

Under the leadership of president and general manager, **Chris Bates**, Cataloochee Ski Area (CSA) strives to be an engaged, corporate citizen, making a difference in their community. Each ski season, CSA sponsors two events on the first full weekend of December; one to benefit their local patrons and the area's ski patrol and the other to serve persons in crisis in their county.



In sponsoring the Annual Cataloochee Ski & Snowboard Swap Shop, Chris Bates expressed the desire to provide a service for CSA's local clientele to be able to procure snow sports equipment and clothing at affordable prices and to sell items they no longer used. The Swap Shop also benefits the Cataloochee Ski Patrol whose members volunteer their time to conduct the Swap Shop in exchange for the patrol's receiving a commission on the proceeds of the sale. Additionally, all unclaimed items offered in the sale are contributed to a local charity, further benefitting the community. All in all, CSA's sponsorship has proven beneficial on three levels.

Of even greater significance, is Cataloochee Ski Area's partnership with Haywood County Christian Ministries in serving individuals and families in crisis in the county. For the past 15 years CSA has sponsored the *Can-U-Ski Food and Coat Drive*, which provides free lift tickets (a \$65.00 value) to patrons who contribute either 24 cans of food or two warm winter coats of good quality. On average, CSA has provided 1,200 lift tickets each year in exchange for contributions and has also helped raise awareness in the community by helping neighbors in need.

According to Lisa James, the ministry's executive director, CSA's partnership provides help at the most critical time, "when our shelves are bare, and the need is greatest; our client load nearly doubles in the winter months." Therefore, the proceeds provided by CSA's drive, which range between 6,000 and 10,000 pounds of food and 200-300 winter coats annually, are crucial. Ms. James concluded in saying, "Cataloochee Ski Area is an incredible blessing to our ministry and our community, and the cooperation provided by Tammy Brown, CSA's community relations director, is truly exceptional."

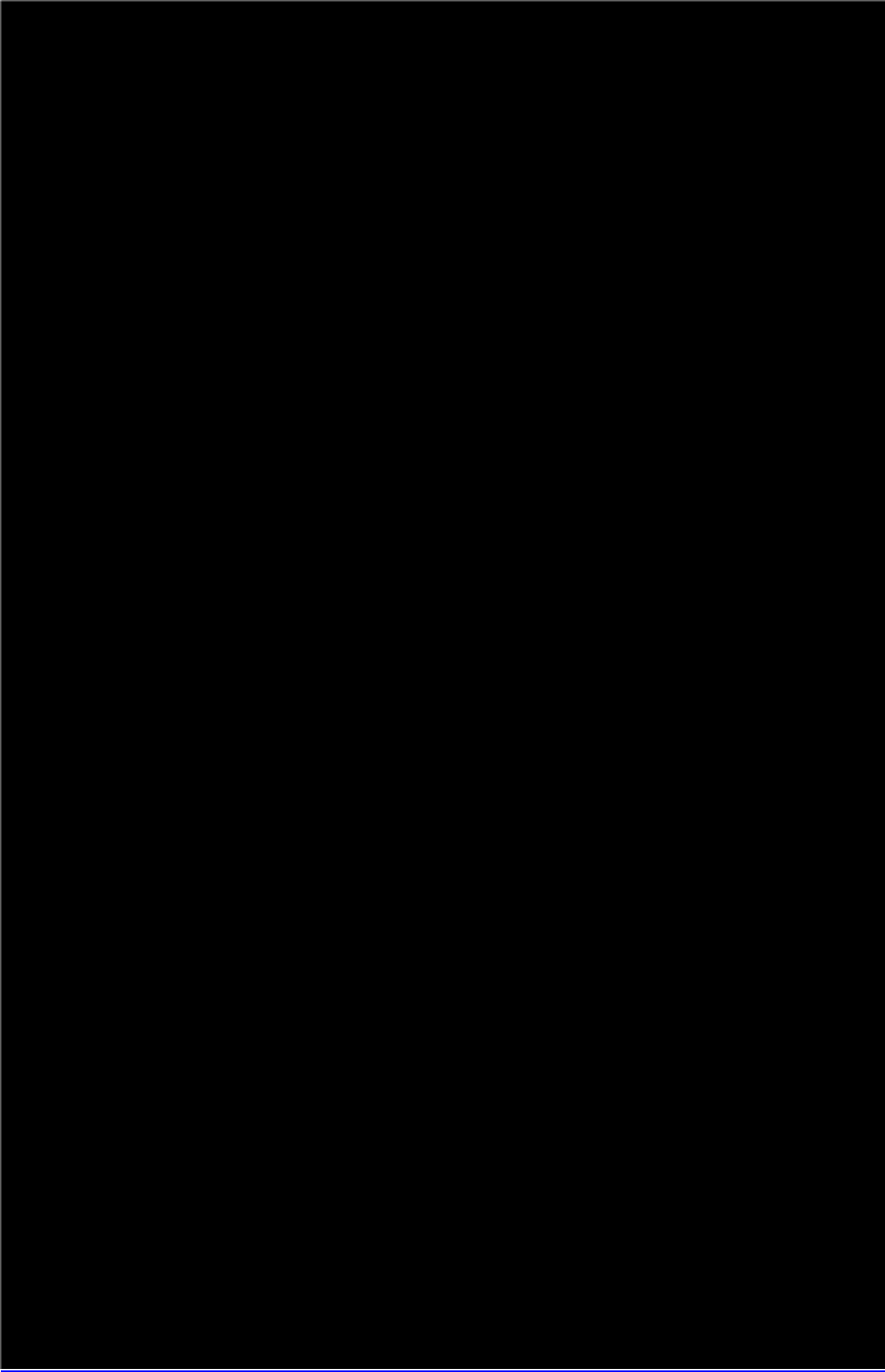
Beyond that special first weekend in December, the ski area also expresses appreciation to members of the military, law enforcement and fire and rescue personnel and their families by providing special reduced rates for skiing and snowboarding on specific dates during the ski season, which has proven to be greatly appreciated by many well-deserving, public servants.

## Timberline Ski Patrol

**Steve Cvechko**

*Timberline Ski Patrol, PR*

Timberline Ski Patrol is busy with their Online OEC class and OET Training. We currently have 18 hard working candidates to help rebuild the participation in our patrol. Also the Southern Division Snowsports School will be hosting their annual PSIA /AASI Demo Team Clinic at Timberline on February 10 – 12. (See flyer on next page)



---

---

**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.

---

---

In order to accommodate everyone wishing to present to the Southern Division’s Executive Committee or Board of Directors and to allow for adequate time for members of the Committee and Board to review materials, please send requests to be placed on the meeting agenda, along with a summary of your topic and supporting documentation, to the Division Director in advance of the meeting. Requests must be received at least 30 days prior to the meeting, except that the Division Director may grant an exception to that deadline to accept an agenda request received at least 7 days prior to the meeting. Requests can be sent to Byrd White at [bwhite@opinionsrendered.com](mailto:bwhite@opinionsrendered.com).