



Southern Cross

A Publication of The Southern Division of The National Ski Patrol

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Southern Cross is published three times a year—Fall, Mid-Winter and Spring.

Articles and photos are encouraged and appreciated. With photos, please include caption information. If at all possible, please include a photo of the author with articles. Submission deadline for the

Spring issue is **May 11, 2021**. Send **submissions to:**

Teresa T. Stewart, SC Editor
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Update address at www.nsp.org

Tom Byron,
Division Director



2020 was a rough year, in lots of ways.

We've all had to adjust to new ways of patrolling, working, and staying connected. Many of us and those we know have suffered from the impact of COVID-19, watching friends and family afflicted directly or indirectly by the disease or its economic effects on our lives. It has been a time to keep in

mind what matters most: family, friends, health, and safety. Throughout this difficult time, NSP has faced many challenges. We continue to meet the needs of our members in these challenging circumstances, navigating the health, medical, and logistical difficulties presented by the pandemic and other events. And like many other institutions over the past year, NSP is reckoning with issues of diversity, equity, and inclusion. At the national and division level, we recognize the need to do more and do better. We will continue to identify areas for improvement in these areas.

The Executive Committee of the Southern Division Board has met (virtually) several times to discuss issues related to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI). Our Division is committed to addressing these issues wherever they affect our members. The Southern Division leadership will continue to educate ourselves and our members about issues and experiences of diversity, equity and inclusion, and to identify areas of improvement and the need for change to specific policies, practices and programs. We look forward to a continued commitment by NSP at the national level to further NSP's leadership within the outdoor recreation and education industry to increase awareness of DEI issues and concerns. These issues are central to NSP's mission, and are

reflected in the NSP Strategic Plan 2030 Vision Themes: “We have increased membership numbers, diversity and increased retention;” and “All of our members have compelling stories of patrolling success.” We will continue to strive to reach those goals. We welcome input by our members about how we can meet our continued commitment in this important area.

It’s a new year, and we’re still facing many of these same challenges. As we all adjusted to new training formats – online OEC refreshers, small group or other accommodations for lift evac and other in-person events – the ski season too has looked different: Top shacks and locker rooms reconfigured or off-limits, and (of course) masks and social distancing, as well as patient screening and additional safeguards. I’m not surprised, though, that our members persevere. We will continue to serve the skiing public throughout all these challenges, demonstrating NSP’s commitment to safety and service. We recognize some members have had to take a break from active patrolling this season. You are still part of the NSP family. Whether you’re on the hill or not, you can stay current with everything going on locally and nationally. And we look forward to seeing you again when circumstances return to normal. In the meantime, stay in touch with your patrol and your region leadership – there may be ways you can contribute even now.

The NSP national office and the national board have kept busy throughout the pandemic, adjusting to the need to meet and work remotely. There have been several staff changes at the national office, and the staff remains committed to serving all our members. Bear in mind that remote work means additional logistical challenges, so please continue to work with your region and division leaders to streamline communications and minimize burdens on office staff.

As many of you know, I’ve taken on an increased workload at the national level. I am chair of the Division Directors team, serving as spokesperson and principal liaison between the Division Directors and the national board, in addition to my work on several national committees. All of that has made me even more grateful to the extraordinary leaders of the Southern Division – the Assistant Division Directors, Region Directors, and program supervisors – who all work so hard to make sure NSP meets the needs of our members and the areas where we patrol. Please stay in touch with them and with me – we are here to serve you!

Save the Date!

We are now planning our **2021 Fall Conference**, which will be held the last weekend in August: Friday, August 27 through Sunday, August 29, 2021. Please put those dates on your calendar, and plan to participate. We are hoping to be able to gather in person at the MeadowView Marriott in Kingsport, Tennessee, but plans remain in flux, and for public health reasons, we might revert to a zoom conference as we did in 2020. Either way, we will offer a wealth of information for all NSP members in the Southern Division, and we look forward to seeing you there, whether in person or virtually.

First Assistant Division Director,
Wayne Morgan

Our ski season is going well in the south. Seems to be a holiday day every day. Only in the last week or so have our weekdays slowed a bit. As I write, we are headed into Presidents' Day Weekend which should be exciting.

In the middle of COVID, with really good snow and soaring guest numbers, we are running our Division Director Election. It is now mid-February with the elections open until the 20th. Each patrol has one vote that is cast by your Patrol Representative. Hopefully, by the time you see this, all your Patrol Representatives have cast their vote. On March 1st an announcement will be made revealing the results of the election. We have had only one nomination for the Division Directors position, your incumbent Director **Tom Byron** of Massanutten Patrol. Tom's resume and position statement are posted on the Southern Division website.

We still have needs for Division level advisors. We are looking for a Telecommunications Advisor and an Election Coordinator. If you have an interest and are willing to serve, please let me know. As I talk about openings at the Division level, I can't go without encouraging anyone who is looking for a place to serve to get in touch with me or let someone know and have them get in touch with me. We will find you a spot. I want to thank **Diane Wilkey** (Cataloochee) for stepping up to assist **Peg Harris** (Wintergreen) with our awards program. What a great opportunity for Diane to learn from the best.

Hopefully, you are aware of **National Ski Patrol's Youth Protection Policy and Reporting Guidelines** approved by the Board of Directors in July 2020.



What is the policy?

The policy establishes training and reporting requirements for NSP leaders and other members working with youth, under the age of 18. It includes:

- A requirement for approved youth protection training every three years
- Reporting guidelines when abuse is suspected or witnessed
- Guidelines for managing any NSP-sanctioned event where protected parties are involved

Who is affected/ required to take the training?

Key NSP leaders, including:

- Patrol representatives, directors or unit representatives in any patrol or unit where protected parties are members
- Assistant Region Directors/ Section Chiefs
- Region Directors
- Region Program Administrators or Advisors in any discipline in which protected parties participate in courses or other events
- Region Legal Advisors
- Division Directors
- Division Program Supervisors in any discipline in which protected parties participate in courses or other events
- Division Legal Advisors
- National Program Directors and Advisors
- National Board Members
- National Legal Advisors
- National Safety Team
- Certain instructors will be required to complete this training as well. Please see Chapter 13 of NSP Policies and Procedures for complete information.

For more information see the National web site (nsp.org), sign in, and go to Member Resources. Scroll the the bottom of the list to Youth Safety as well as the location noted above in Ch. 13 of the NSP Policies and Procedures. Southern Division's contact and recorder is Linda Humphries (Lindah7326@gmail.com), YAP Advisor, (Wintergreen). Please send Linda a copy of your certification once you have finished the required training.

On a final note, I am headed out next week for a SES Clinic at Timberline and plan to visit several of you while on the road. I am looking forward to making new friends and catching up with some old ones. This is a part of the job I enjoy. So, by the time you see this I hope we have caught up all while masked and distanced with frequent hand washing.

Wayne

Wayne Morgan
ADD Southern Division, NSP
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828-606-5910

Second Assistant Division Director,

Tony Tingle

Wow, it has almost been a year since the ski season came to an abrupt end and we all began to navigate a world with a new virus on the block. In general, it seems that the shift in how folks are living in a world with COVID-19 has spurred an interest in outdoor activities, and in turn, a return of mountain bikers and snow sliders in mass. Resorts have adjusted their operations to accommodate social distancing and the Bike Patrols were first in line to figure out how to keep guests safe and administer care on the front end of the learning curve. Patrols have adopted new protocols for patient processing, added well ventilated outdoor venues for patient care, and lead by example to show the importance of face coverings and social distancing.

Just want to share some of what I know about the skills programs and the education offerings and any other news I have. In regard to education, patrollers are a resourceful and adaptive group of folks. We are still getting the education part of patrolling done, where we can, and where it makes sense. For instance, back in January, **Rob Mayer** delivered a continuing education update for the avalanche instructors via Zoom. **Briggs Alan** and **Matt Weitz** and the Division Snowsports School have offered and completed three ski/ride clinics this season **Randy Rumer** and the OET program delivered Trainer Evaluator clinics for the OET instructors under his watch. This season, the Senior Program is different in a number of ways. The Senior OEC Evaluations are not being offered because of the close contact required to complete the tasks. Because you can practice OET and ski/ride skills and stay socially distanced, some regions have elected to offer Senior OET clinics and evaluations. This past weekend, I attended the Senior OET evaluation hosted at Ober Gatlinburg. **Jimmy Kuneman** directed a smooth-running evaluation with five candidates, a bunch of evaluators (see the photo below), nice weather, and hero snow. *Photo Credit to Rob Mayer (Ober Gatlinburg).*



The administrative structure for the Senior Program also changed this season. In August, the Executive Committee discontinued the Division Senior Coordinator position. This change brings Southern Division in line with how the program is administered in other Divisions. **Paul Gagon** served as the Division Program Supervisor and did a great job. Lots of Senior patrollers know Paul because he (and those bright yellow ski pants) traveled to the majority of the Senior clinics and evaluations over the past few -years. Thanks to Paul for his hard work and dedication to the program! Going forward, each Region maintains a Senior Coordinator who works with the Region Director and Region OET and OEC supervisors to offer clinics and evaluations. The courses and quality assurance component are still delivered through the OET and OEC programs.

The Certified Program, under the leadership of **Leslie Carter** is planning a scaled-back evaluation in March that will not include the OEC components. They look forward to being back in full-force next year.

The Mountain Travel and Rescue program has new leadership. **Terry Loges** handed over the reins to **Tom Hughes**. **Scott Krein** agreed to be the MTR assistant. Thank you, Terry for watching over the program for several years!

The weather this winter has been good for the Nordic/BC program with a fair amount of natural snow. **Penny Dimler** heads up the program and has developed good relationships with the Park Service up in the northern part of the Division. The Nordic/BC folks in the southern part of the Division are patrolling the Clingmans Dome Road, when snow doesn't hamper access.

Outdoor Risk Management is a new NSP program and **Nancy Bradburn** is leading it for Southern Division. I'm excited to watch this much needed educational program develop.

Well, that is about all I have to share. As always, holler at me with questions, comments, and suggestions. If you need to contact any of the folks I mentioned in the article above, their info (and mine) is in the Staff listing on the Southern Division Website. Here is the link <https://www.southernnsp.org/Staff.php>

Be safe, wash your hands, wear your mask! Hope to see you on the snow!

Tony

Programs Section – Program Section – Programs Sections – Programs Section

Outdoor Emergency Care – OEC

Aileen Cassidy – Program Supervisor

Adapting to the Times: Hybrid OEC Courses

The Spring of 2020 was full of numerous obstacles to our normal way of life. It did not prove to be the easiest time for our organization to roll out a new text. It was already going to be a crunch time for OEC Supervisors from around the organization to create all the ancillary materials to the text such as the new test bank, the PowerPoint presentations, newly adapted scenarios, etc. July rolled around with the great anticipation of the new online course offered through our new publishers, Jones Bartlett.

For those IORs who jumped right in with the new Jones Bartlett Learning Navigate platform for the online piece of their Hybrid OEC courses, they were offered a platform that was easier to customize and more intuitive to both the instructors and to the candidates. The resources available were limited, but still more thorough than the platform developed for the OEC 5th Edition.

By the beginning of August, Southern Division was tasked with the development of a more robust online course for the National organization. I enlisted the help of my assistant, **Steve Ebb** of Ober, to create a course that provided our candidates with many teaching aids for our IORs to choose from to develop the course that fit their collective needs. With the help of **Jon Magi** of Snowshoe Resort, **Frances Edwards** of Beech Resort, and **Linda Humphries** of Wintergreen Resort, we developed a well-rounded course that should allow all resorts to utilize a true Hybrid model.

Hybrid courses are courses that are taught in two venues: online and in-person. The Hybrid OEC course has been developed to provide a method for patrols to teach most of the didactic material (non-skill based) online, allowing the face-to-face meetings to concentrate on demonstrating and practicing skills and scenarios. For those resorts who have adopted this method for teaching, they commonly find candidates arrive more prepared for the face-to-face meetings with a substantial understanding of the medical knowledge objectives. Rather than an inferior method of teaching, candidates of Hybrid OEC Courses are very well prepared for patrolling at our resorts.

The new NSP Master Course for the JBL Learning site is now available for our OEC IORs. For each of the chapters, IORs can choose from several resources to create their personalized online course:

1. Access to the interactive electronic version of the OEC 6th Edition text.
2. Access to the audio version of each chapter which is available for download.
3. PowerPoints developed specifically for online learners that highlight and review all Key Words and Objective material.
4. Lectures transplanted from OEC 6 Refresher material to highlight the key information in each Chapter. (At this time, only 1/3 of the Chapters have such material, but over the next two years we should be able to update the course to include lectures for every chapter.)
5. Skill Guides for each of the OEC Skills from the corresponding chapter.

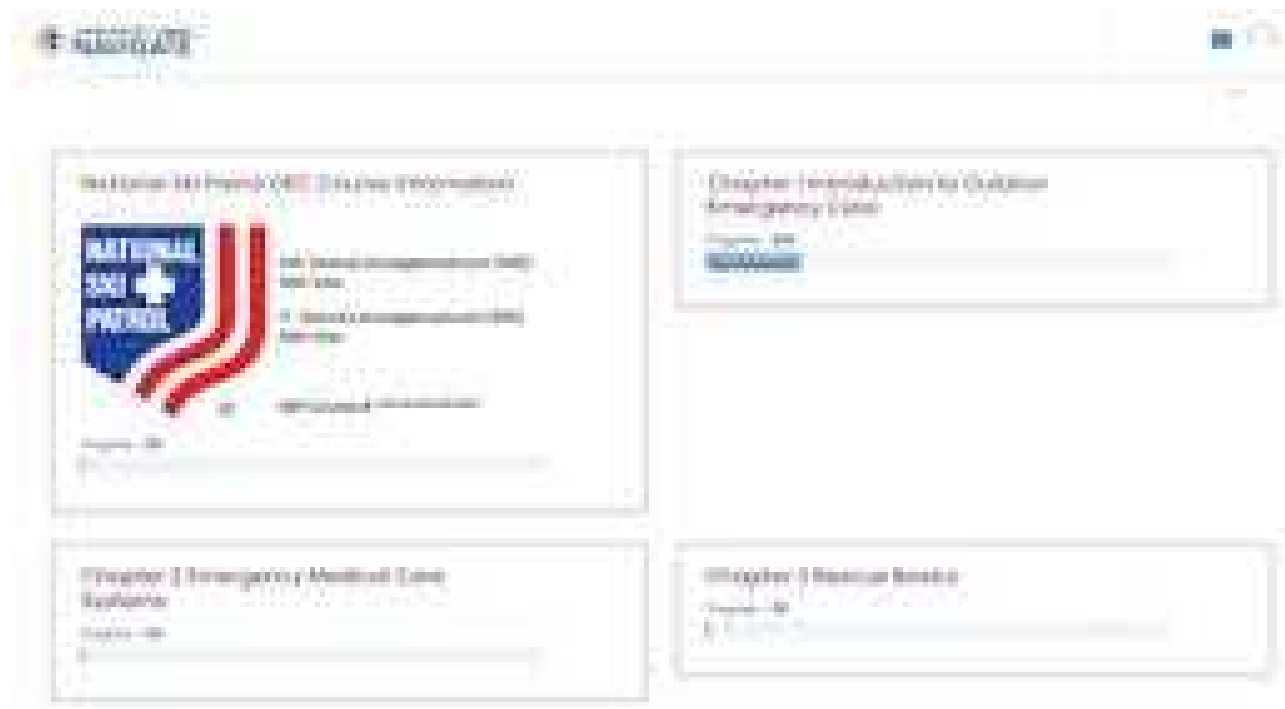
6. PowerPoints presentations of OEC Skills.
7. Flashcards to test a candidate's knowledge of Key Terms.
8. Critical Thinking Topics that push a candidate to demonstrate and apply their understanding of the didactic materials to scenarios and thought-provoking questions.
9. Post-chapter assessments that provide candidates with access to the same test bank that our National Written exams are pulled from. IORs can choose to allow candidates to take tests only once or as many times as a candidate chooses.
10. Special controls IORs can elect to deploy to pace the progression of candidates, enable specific chapters/topics to be visible to the candidate at a given time, and to observe the involvement and success of individual candidates throughout the course.

To gain access to NSP's Master course, you will need to email our contact at JBL: **Jennifer Troup** at JTroup@psglearning.com. The Master Course is course ID 32C8E2.

Although the Master Course is a far improved platform for our organization, it does not meet all the goals that the Southern Division set out to include. Our goal is to continue to add to our Test Bank, as the official test bank expands. New lectures will be added as the Refresher Committee creates them during future Refresher cycles. Eventually, we hope to include video demonstrations of the OEC skills completely developed by the NSP. As it will be some time before we have these NSP developed videos, the Southern team has reviewed and identified some non-NSP videos that have been produced by other EMS educators and splint manufacturers. We have also identified videos created by patrols for the OEC 5th edition that are still consistent with the teachings of the OEC 6th edition. We have a separate course available for copy to only Southern Division OEC IORs that include these additional materials. Once again, this course can be requested through Ms. Jennifer Troup, with the approval of **Steve Ebb** and/or myself, **Aileen Cassidy**.

If you have already utilized the JBL Navigate course for an OEC course this past Fall, you will need to copy the new Master course if you would like to have all the features described above. Jennifer Troup should be able to assist you in creating a new course. If you are amid a OEC course and/or have begun prepping a course prior to January 15, you can convert your course to the new Master Course. If you have students already enrolled in your course, Jennifer can assist in rolling their enrollment to the course platform. (Be aware, gradebooks cannot be transferred from one course to another, but enrollment can).

COVID has required many of us to adjust to a new way of life. It has pushed the IORs of our OEC courses to be creative and to think on their toes. The high quality of the candidates produced must not be compromised, but the methods we use to develop our next generation must adapt. Hybrid OEC Courses provide our patrols with one way to stay true to our standards as instructors of the Southern Division.



Instructor Development

Teresa Stewart – Program Supervisor

The ID program is still here to assist patrollers in becoming instructors! The program is currently supporting the Hybrid Program where the patroller can take the On-line Course through the NSP website and then finishes the course with an ID instructor through a course via ZOOM or another platform. For further information – reach-out to the Regional Supervisor for additional information ID program details.

The Instructor Development course is also a **Senior Elective** for those patrollers looking for an elective course.

The national ID program supervisors are still meeting by ZOOM on a monthly basis and are currently involved in upgrading the educational material to be reflective of modern adult learning theory. This involves adjustments to the current student manual and instructor guide and then updating the on-line modules. The NSP is looking for a new Learning Management System (LMS) that is more user friendly, easier to update etc. Of interest is the new **Instructor Skills Review** course available in the on-line learning section of the NSP website. This is geared toward ALL instructors as a “skills review” that counts toward your “every-three-year” renewal process.

Also of note – **Nodin De Saillan** (NSP Education Program Manager) has left NSP and the position is currently open. We will miss him as he was making great strides in aligning programs and processes in NSP education. Wishing him the best in his next adventure.

If you should have questions or comments, reach out to me or one of the regional advisors. We are here for you.

Dixie Region – Dixie Region – Dixie Region – Dixie Region – Dixie Region – Dixie Region

Gordon Pettit,
Region Director



With the past 10 months of 2020, and as we move into 2021, the world and Patrolling as we know it has certainly changed. Social distancing, face mask and face coverings, booting up in your car, limited lodge access and Temporary Not Patrolling (TNP status)! How have we made this work?

It's obvious that the desire to be outdoors and riding on snow is a priority for many customers this season in the southeast and nationally. While we as patrollers need to be safe, our desire to patrol and assist our customers and ski areas is evident. With record crowds during the holidays that have lasted well into January, we have continued to adapt and evolve our protocols to meet and exceed the needs of mountain management and our customers.

Recruiting and training are two key components that make our Patrols strong and resilient during these unusual times. Promotion of your recruitment activities and communication of requirements is a great way to ensure that you have access to new candidates and to ensure that your new candidates are committed. Here are a couple of ideas that may assist in your recruitment process:

Recruiting New Candidates

- Posters, Communications at your ski area
- Website, develop ski patrol recruitment page on ski area website and social media
- Have a clear path of communications to potential candidate (who, what, when and where)

- Work your local Medical, Hospital and EMT connections
- Get your patrol members active in recruitment of friends and family
- Keep list of interested individuals, continue to communicate annually (timing is everything)

Messaging to Prospective Candidates

- Concise delivery of what is required, OEC, Medical and S&T Training and Time Commitment required
- Evaluate riding skills and determine the needs of your patrol, how much investment in training?
- Fit of individual within your Patrol, what value will this person bring to your Patrol and ski area
- Will candidate's family, partner or spouse be supportive of this commitment

Training Commitment

- OEC Training and the challenges with little or no activity this season
- OET Training is a key component that can continue with proper protocols
- Have the Trainers available to ensure your candidates receive the training required
- Work with trainers and candidates to ensure their training time is optimized

While most of the above is probably standard in your patrols recruiting and training processes today, it is always good to adjust your messaging and delivery to meet the needs of your Patrol. Feedback from your existing candidates and new recruits can be beneficial in making sure you are hitting the mark in maintaining and or building your patrol rosters.

Melissa Whaley,

Assistant Dixie Region Director

I am very excited and proud to have the opportunity to be your Assistant Regional Director for the Southern Division. I have been with Ober Gatlinburg Patrol since 2015, working volunteer, paid, recruiting, participating in the women's program, and Nordic.

I have 2 wonderful children and a chihuahua. When I am not skiing, you can find me biking, hiking, golfing, playing tennis, and paddle boarding.

Ski Patrol has created resiliency for me. It has helped bond my family, given me lifelong skills, and brought a camaraderie unique to anything else I have in my life. I feel like I am surrounded by my people, those who love outdoor sports just as much as I do. I look forward to being in this supportive position for all of you.

Linked In: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/melkwhaley>



Blue Ridge Region – Blue Ridge Region – Blue Ridge Region – Blue Ridge Region

Brent Rockett,

Region Director

Both the ski patrols and the mountains have done an admirable job during this difficult season. The patrols for the most part, are managing with less patrollers than normal due to individual concerns with COVID-19. This is understandable and we will look forward to them returning next year. To a degree we are also missing the usual fellowship that we normally experience during the ski sessions as we implement precautions to keep all of us safe.

The resorts have gone to extraordinary measures to ensure the safety of the skiing public along with patrollers and mountain staff. These include online reservations, limiting ticket sales, greatly reducing the available seating within the lodges to name just a few.

Also, it has been refreshing to see the skiing public abide by the mask requirements. As we continue to abide by the requirements of the patrols and the resorts we will be able to get through this ski season in a safe manner, keeping everyone well. I personally want to thank everyone for all they are doing this season.

Stay safe -- Brent

Virginia Region ... Virginia Region ... Virginia Region ... Virginia Region ... Virginia Region

Landon Figg,

Region Director

Bryce and Massanutten are suffering staffing issues as well as Wintergreen however patrollers have stepped up to fill vacancies in other departments i.e. lifts, tubing and snowmaking.

The weather has been very kind to VA with regards to natural snow and cold temperatures. Snowmaking has continued in hopes to provide longevity this winter.

Covid continues to throw curve balls but patrollers are well adapted to roll with the punches. Educating patrons on mask wearing has been tantamount to resorts' success. Patrollers walking through lift lines is very effective in keeping guests wearing masks properly as well as riding lifts appropriately. NSAA's Ski Well Be Well initiative has been helpful in operational best practices that resorts can implement for their unique operations.

Virginia resort PDs have worked with their local health departments in an effort to provide vaccinations for patrollers. Many patrollers have already received their first round.

It's worth mentioning that the southern division board has begun critical conversations and discussions around diversity, equity and inclusion. Through our own research we have identified areas to address. We believe that a DEI task force is instrumental in challenging our organization status quo and forge greater understanding of how we can support the demographics of our membership. (Feel free to edit that if you don't think it serves us).

Virginia has had great ski conditions, keeping guests and patrollers very happy!

Alumni Advisor,

Tom Raudorf

Richard Chadick became a recent Alumni this year after 45 years of patrolling and was the last active founding member of the Wintergreen Patrol in the Southern Division. His wife Debbie sent this description of his amazing service.

Richard D. Chadick, the last of the first! After 45 years of patrolling at Wintergreen Richard retired. During his tenure Richard was awarded his National Appointment Number #6486, a Purple Merit Star, and a Distinguished Service Award. Also, during his time Wintergreen won National Patrol of the year twice. Richard was Outstanding Patroller of Wintergreen twice and Southern Division Patroller of the Year for the 1981-1982 season. He also served as Patrol Leader twice.

Beginning day one in the 1975 season and throughout his amazing career he considers himself fortunate to have known so many wonderful Patrollers. "I was lucky, and I send a heartfelt thanks to all that served before and to all that will serve in the future."

I attached a photo of the plaque Richard was awarded last October when the Patrol Room was dedicated in his honor.

Thank you



Around the Division ... Around the Division ... Around the Division ... Around the Division

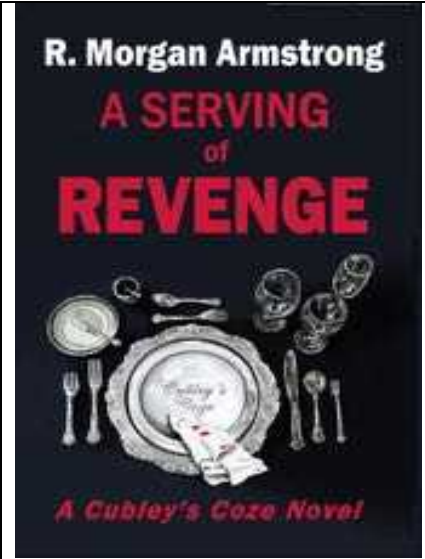
Submitted by Tom Byron

NSP Hall of Fame

Three Southern Division members were recently inducted into the NSP Hall of Fame: **Morgan Armstrong**, **John Dobson**, and **Nici Singletary**. Congratulations to all three of them for this recognition of their extraordinary contribution to NSP! The NSP Hall of Fame "is presented to individuals whose association with the NSP has had a substantial and lasting positive effect on the organization of historical significance." (P&P 12.9.10). And it's a very exclusive group. The special recognition award began in 2012, recognizing Minnie Dole, Warren Bowman, and a few other luminaries from NSP history. Since then, the list has grown slowly. In fact, Morgan Armstrong was the first Southern Division member to be inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2019 (announced only last year), followed by John Dobson and Nici Singletary in 2020. I'm grateful to all three of them for all they have done for NSP and the Southern Division.

Mystery Novelist

That's not the only fame for **Morgan Armstrong**, though. Even while finishing his second term on the NSP Board of Directors, which just concluded in 2020, Morgan was hard at work on his latest project, writing a novel! He is a man of many talents, and his book, "**A Serving of Revenge**," was recently published and is available for purchase (details below). Congratulations to Morgan on this new milestone!

	<p style="text-align: center;">A Serving Of Revenge by R. Morgan Armstrong</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Dementi Milestone Publishing (403 pp.) Retail Price \$20.00 November 15, 2020 978-1-7350611-6-0</p> <p style="text-align: center;">For orders visit www.AServingOfRevenge.com</p>
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For information on ordering, see:

Amazon or Barnes & Noble for paperback books, Kindle, or Nook books. E-books are around \$9.00. Also, Ebay now has the paperback version. For additional information or multiple book orders contact R. Morgan Armstrong, RR 1, Box 783, Roseland, VA, 22967-9200 or RMANSP@Gmail.com.

Submitted by Southern Division Alumni Patroller Mark ORavitz (April 18, 2020)

From the desk of
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Date: April 18, 2020

To: The Southern Division

Ladies and Gentlemen;

I wanted to share a story with you. It has taken me awhile to find the time to compose. You see things for me were very busy until our Covid19 vacation. During this period of time I am sure many of us have had some time to reflect and develop some stories from our lives. It has been 36 years since I was a member of The Southern Division. It would be cool however to become an Alumni again!

It all started for me back in 1968. My family moved from Stamford CT to Greensboro NC. After we moved in, it turned out our neighbor across the street had some really cool cars and he also was a skier. It turns out he was a member of the National Ski Patrol in the very early days. He started at the old Blowing Rock Ski (now Appalachian Mt.). His name was Frank Feeney (national appointment). Frank had a son named Shawn. I began junior high at Kiser in Greensboro and became great friends with a Fred Myers. Fred's family had a winter home at Hounds Ear's near Boone and Fred and his family were skiers. Fred and I began hanging out at Frank's house and the next thing we knew, we were skiing with Frank and his son every weekend and on the holidays. Frank worked with Fred and I and in a short time made us pretty good skiers. We were two young kids around 13-14, we were very outgoing and always getting in trouble. Since we were around the people and families who would shape the Southern Division (Argo's, Dillard's, Benbows etc.) we too were kind of on the group floor. It was sometime during the period from 1969-1971 they figured the best way to keep an eye on us would be to make us part of a newly to be created Junior Ski Patrol. So yes, we were the first two in the Southern Division. We did it through High School at Sugar Mt, Beech Mt and Seven Devils. After High School we decided to make skiing more of a priority than going to college so Fred and I enrolled at Lee's McRea College in Banner Elk and joined the Paid Patrol at Sugar Mt. We did that for two years and then we both transferred to East Carolina. For another three years we patrolled at Sugar Mt and commuted 6 hours each way from Greenville to Banner Elk on weekends. We both graduated, got married and went into the job market in 1981. Over the years we had still stayed in contact with Frank, Shawn and by then his new wife Nancy. Fred went on to work for a while at Snowshoe and later for Marriott and I began working for Union Carbide (Eveready Batteries), later part of Ralston Purina (Energizer Batteries)

I was able however to visit Frank and Nancy my senior year at ECU and saw his national number ski patrol jacket. He was so proud of his accomplishment, and so were we. If anyone deserved the honor it was surely Frank Feeney.

During my career we were transferred (Eveready) all over the country for 15 years, so it was impossible to continue the ski patrol. We did however get an annual ski trip to Colorado, Utah or California.

In 2008 Frank passes from complications from emphysema. I did not see it, but I heard he skied at Wintergreen (ski patrol) with an oxygen bottle on his back? Then in 2009 only a year later, Shawn his son passed of a heart attack while living in Park City Utah. That was two gone of our original ski family. Over the years however Fred Myers and I had stayed in touch and we got to see each other from time to time. He was truly my best friend! In 2018, I semi retired and moved from Scottsdale AZ to Newport Beach CA to be near my youngest son and also to live near the beach (my favorite place). I decided to once again get back into skiing and join the ski patrol. My two sons thought I was crazy at 62. Not only did I get back on the patrol, but this time the paid ski patrol at Big Bear and Snow Summit Resorts working on the Hill Safety team. The past two seasons have been super and I owe it all to Frank Feeney, the guy who taught me to ski and got us on the National Ski Patrol and the management at Big Bear Mt. Resort who hired this old guy. About three years ago Fred was diagnosed with Colon Cancer. Even though he lived in Myrtle Beach SC, he did his treatment in Houston TX. The cancer was in remission and all seemed to be well. Then it came roaring back. This past August, the 16th we lost Fred. Now it is only me? So, this season I decided to honor my other three family members and have a patch on my ski patrol jacket. The patch is a military patch for bravery and it simply says. FF-2008, SF-2009 and FM-2019. Every time I put that jacket on and my skis, I look up in the sky and tell the group, this is for all of us! I know they are up there skiing in the sky. Thank god I am still able to carry the torch for my group and enjoy another run! I am now 64 and hope to do this for many more years.

You see, we all know the ski patrol is just like a family. You can leave and still come back and still feel like a true family member. There has been many people come and go, but we can never forget them! In our patrol house on top of Summit Mt., we have an entire room dedicated to the people who helped make that patrol. There are frame pictures of jackets, pictures and memorabilia from the past. During my breaks, I just sit in there and soak up the history.

I would love to become an Alumni member of The Southern Division again.

Thanks for listening to my story!

Mark "MarkO" ORavitz

Awards Program ... Awards Program ... Awards Program ... Awards Program

Annual Southern Division Awards 2020

Peg Harris,

Awards Advisor

As I write my 14th article for the Southern Cross, I reminisce on this past year. I guess none of us could imagine being in the middle of a world-wide pandemic and its effect on our lives and on patrolling. But somehow, we all have figured out how to cope in this very trying times. And thanks to Zoom, we were able to present most of the awards. Thanks to technology, folks got to actually see what some of the awards look like.

So here are the recipients of all the various awards given this year.

Certificates of Appreciation

Given by Bill Smith

Outstanding service and leadership to the 2019-2020 Wintergreen Ski Patrol Toboggan Refresher Team

John Wells	Greg Pence	Bob Fedak
Tom Hughes	Paul Gagon	
Bob McFarland	Tanya Thomas	

Given by Leslie Carter

Assistance as a patient during the Southern Division Certified Program 2020 Evaluation

Carter Knick

Providing moulage during the Southern Division Certified Program 2020 Evaluation

Joe Hourcle'

Given by Peg Harris

Serving as a judge for the Southern Division Outstanding Nominations

Tony Ray
Jim Peterson
Richard Yercheck
Ben Long
Ashley Bitertill
Matt Weitz
Dale Shultz
Steve Kuller

Serving as a judge for the National Outstanding Nominations

Joy Jucker
Drum Figg
Becky Sharp

Service Awards by Patrol

Appalachian

Austin Wilcox	10 years	Adam Waters	15 years
Christopher Morgan	10 years	Mark Cook	15 years
Connor Gantt	10 years	Scott Grogan	15 years
Derek Brown	10 years	Adam Lentz	20 years
Diana Spencer	10 years	Robert Bryson	20 years
Douglas Roper	10 years	Mike Fletcher	35 years
Jami Jones	10 years	Tom Gantt	35 years
Mark Lawrence	10 years		

Beech Mountain

Dylan Tatum	20 years	Marc Rees	35 years
Richard Lott	20 years	John Adams	50 years
Wade Adams	20 years		

Blackwater Nordic

Michael Taylor	10 years	Albert Colainni	20 years
Joel Hoppe	15 years	Paul Hess	25 years

Bryce

Josh Smith	10 years	William Drury	30 years
Richard French	15 years	Anthony Wells	30 years
Andy Blugerman	20 years		

Cataloochee

Derek Dephouse	10 years	Donald McKay	30 years
Jennifer Flavin	10 years	Charles Soderquist	35 years
John Polascik	10 years	Paul Calvert	35 years
Clifton Goodgame	15 years	Richard Henry	35 years
Jeffrey Roberts	20 years	Sylvia Talley	40 years
David Castaldini	25 years	Alan McCartney	45 years
June Ray	25 years		

Cloudmont

Jim Hall	15 years		
Tammy Copeman	15 years		

Homestead

Stephen Demma	10 years		
Charles Burgdorf	20 years		

Massanutten

Camden Kurtz	10 years	Claude Garber	30 years
Stephanie Otten	10 years	Paul Hansen	30 years
Michelle Rulism	15 years	Paul Tiller	30 years
Author Smith	20 years	Randall Burkholder	30 years
George Myers	20 years	Ron Dull	30 years

Thomas Moore	20 years	Scott Almond	30 years
Nancy Bradburn	25 years	Kenneth Hess	35 years
Bartek Drewnowski	25 years		

Ober Gatlinburg

Charlie Moore	10 years	Amanda Perryman	20 years
Danny Fisher	10 years	Jimmy Kuneman	35 years
Trey Benefield	10 years		

Shenandoah Nordic

Kenneth Pankow	30 years		
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Snowshoe

Bill Brown	10 years	William Burnette	20 years
Jim Johansen	10 years	Jane Poundstone	25 years
Robin Visintin	10 years	Shane Bradley	25 years
Christopher Reece	15 years	Steve Kuller	30 years
Marc Monroe	15 years	David Cline	40 years
Peyton Love	15 years		
Preston Cline	15 years		
Sarah Flaherty	15 years		

Sugar

David Cochrane	10 years	Camile Hale	35 years
David Hertz	15 years	Robin Griffith	40 years
Jim Taylor	15 years	Reginald Hassler	50 years
Jonathan Hale	25 years		

Timberline

Alex Bennett	10 years	John Huff	15 years
Benjamin McKean	10 years	Joshua Hubbard	20 years
Brent Easton	10 years	Kurtz Litzau	20 years
Brian Griffin	10 years	Sara Litzau	20 years
Megan Easton	10 years	Charles Griffin	30 years
Ryan Deviese	10 years	Steve Cvechko	35 years

Wintergreen

Tim McElreath	10 years	Clinton Butts	25 years
Tonney Boan	10 years	Gary Gaal	25 years
Kirk Gallagher	15 years	Ginny Ragsdale	25 years
Mark Gallagher	15 years	Janice Haigler	25 years
Matt Weitz	15 years	Mary Snyder	25 years
Robert Armstrong	20 years	Evan Geise	30 years
Robert Gaskins	20 years	George Blonar	30 years
Shari Adams	20 years	Nick Argyrakis	30 years
Theodore Runge	20 years	Richard Chadick	45 years

Winterplace

David Chamberlin	10 years	Douglas Ludwig	15 years
Jayann Jones	10 years	Charles Clements II	20 years
Julius (Rod) Bickett	10 year		

Wolf Ridge

Beth Thomas	10 years	Robert Mitchell	15 years
Hannah Strotman	10 years	John Wodecki	15 years
James Varney	15 years	Timothy Asbury	35 years
Jerry Stamey	15 years	Larry Erb	50 years

Instructor Service Awards

Cataloochee

Dennis Alexander	6 years	Bob Brewster	18 years
Derek Dephouse	6 years	Ann Blakely	24 years
Dustin Winslow	6 years	Bill Clarke	24 years
Jim Blakely	6 years	Michael Wolf	24 years
John Pruitt	6 years	Melanie Wolford	30 years
Craig Cox	12 years	Robert Landin	30 years
Scott Krein	12 years		

Wintergreen

James Dick	30 years
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NSP Hall of Fame Inductees

Morgan Armstrong

Wintergreen

I consider it an honor to nominate R. Morgan Armstrong for the NSP Hall of Fame for his years of exhaustive dedication to the National Ski Patrol. One of our patrol's charter patrollers remarked when asked of Morgan's early patrol years that he was a "star" from the beginning of his patrol career. A born leader and one whose work ethic is beyond compare. In his initial patrol year before WEC/OEC, he used his background in the EMS community to help his home patrol with first aid training. When the WEC/OEC program was instituted, he immediately got his instruction certification and has been instrumental in promoting the program ever since. Morgan has progressed up the leadership ladder over the past 39 years, rung by rung. He continues to give back to the patrol community at every level to this day. He has risen through the ranks the old-fashioned way progressing from patroller to WEC/OEC instructor, patrol leader, section chief, region director, assistant division director to division director. Throughout this process, at no time was his duty to his home patrol ever shirked. As busy as things got for him, he always managed to put a priority on his basic patroller duties as his home mountain. NSP Hall of Fame Nomination Form Page | 3 Revised 2019 – Previous editions/versions are obsolete To say he is an innovative instructor does not do him justice. His enthusiasm for the topic he teaches is infectious. His way of making complex topics more comprehensible is beyond compare. And again, while his teaching at all levels of patrol is exemplary, his desire to teach new candidates at the patrol level is his first love. He is also called on to teach future patrollers in his patrol's innovative Youth Patrol program whose members ages range from 11 to 15. But you don't bestow this award by being a good patroller and instructor. While Morgan is both of those to the nth degree, he has gone well beyond to the benefit of all patrollers. He authored and led the effort to have the Virginia state legislature pass The Good Samaritan Law which provides an additional layer of immunity to patrollers who patrol in Virginia against being sued for doing their jobs. This law then became a blueprint for a similar law in an adjoining state. He has written and reviewed information in three editions of the Winter Emergency Care and Outdoor Emergency Care editions. Morgan's expertise on legal issues has been used by his patrol, region, and division as Grievance Hearing Officer and finally by chairing the NSP Bylaws Oversight Committee in overseeing the complete rewrite of the NSP 2009 National Bylaws. Morgan has long been a mainstay of the Southern Division as both a rooted patroller, instructor, and leader. He is called on for his knowledge, expertise and leadership ability from his home patrol all the way to the Division Director and as a two-time elected National Board Member. A look at Morgan's patrolling career in the National Ski Patrol is unmatched and defines from my thinking someone who deserves this recognition that being inducted into the NSP Hall of Fame will bestow.

William "T" Harris, III Appointment # 10080

Nici Singletary

Wintergreen

The National Ski Patrol Hall of Fame, without doubt is the most prestigious award bestowed upon a ski patrol member. I cannot think of a better example of a ski patroller who has led by example and has given back not only to the National Ski Patrol as an organization but to many patrollers in the system as Dr. Eunice “Nici” Singletary NA # 7474. After earning her undergraduate degree in Biochemistry at the University of Virginia (UVA) and completing a basic EMT program, Ms. Singletary joined the Wintergreen Ski Patrol in 1978. That first winter she completed Basic and was quickly recruited to be a “First Aid Section Chief”. She went on to complete her M.D. in 1982, all the while completing her patrolling duties. She completed her internship and residency programs at Brooke Army Medical Center where she served with distinction. She left the U.S. Army in 1989 at a Major. Over the years she served as a Medical Advisor for the Wintergreen Ski Patrol, Wintergreen Rescue Squad and later the National American Red Cross and American Heart Association. Acting as a liaison between the local patrol, the rescue squad and local hospital Level 3 trauma center and local EMS councils afforded Nici the opportunity to bridge activities between NSP, local and state emergency medical services. Just one of the many examples of how Dr. Singletary exemplifies the goals and objectives of the NSP. She made an impact through her vast knowledge of emergency care and leadership combined with establishing a standard of care not only on her local patrol, the Southern Division, but for patrollers nationwide. She brought this broad experience in emergency medicine and active patrolling when serving on the National Board of Directors by setting policies and guidelines to make the NSP a stronger organization. Most physicians join patrols after becoming physicians and while very capable they have not had the same experience of learning to be a patroller as a person with training as a first responder. This unique perspective of being a patroller, a physician, then a patroller/physician and OEC Instructor/IT allowed her to help mentor some of the best trained patrollers in the nation. Her contributions to the OEC program and standards of training will continue to influence training for decades to come. She was responsible for reviewing the OEC 3rd edition textbook and for writing several chapters in the 4th OEC edition. She also helped produce the Mountain Host Guide online publication in conjunction with the Mountain Host. In 1996 she wrote the first of over 20 articles since published in the Ski Patrol Magazine. During the winter of 1989-1990, Nici completed Senior and was named Section Chief. That same year she was named the Outstanding Wintergreen Ski Patroller of the Year. In 1991 she received National Appointment #7474. Additionally, she obtained PSIA Level 1 to use when teaching Wintergreen candidates ski skills to become patrollers. From 1991 – 1998 she served as a Medical Core Team member and Team Physician for FEMA, Urban Search and Rescue Task Force (VA-TF2). In 1993 she was named the VA Region Director. By 1997 she had entered and completed the Certified Program and was issued #508. From 1996 – 1999 she served as the 2nd Assistant Division Director responsible for ski, toboggan, instructor development etc. She received a Yellow Merit Star for her work in these areas. In 1999 Nici became the first woman to be elected as the Southern Division Director. During her time as Division Director she visited and patrolled at each ski area in the Southern Division. She often worked mid-week at Wintergreen with paid patrollers giving her a new insight into the workings of patrols from that side. In 1999, through her contacts with PSIA, Nici was instrumental in establishing the first PSIA-NSP Southern Division Ski School thus allowing certified NSP-PSIA members to teach skiing to NSP candidates. During this period, she was elected to the National Board of Directors from 2003-2006, serving on the Planning Committee. In 2003, Nici was presented with an NSP Distinguished Service Award. The Wintergreen Ski Patrol awarded a special tribute to her in 2017 for her 30 years of service to the volunteer patrol, community rescue squad and local hospital. She moved to Big Sky, MT in 2006 and continued to serve the NSP for several more years by giving lectures to local patrols. She retired from the NSP a few years after moving to MT. NSP Hall of Fame Nomination Form Page | 3 Revised 2020 – Previous editions/versions are obsolete One of the qualities which makes Nici a candidate for the NSP Hall of Fame is her dedication and passion for the National Ski Patrol and its members. It is with honor and administration that I nominate Eunice “Nici” Singletary for the NSP Hall of Fame.

John Dobson

Wintergreen

One could say that Dr. John Dobson strongly resembles Sean Connery in “Medicine Man”. It is fitting since like many NSP members, he IS a medicine man who carried the OEC Refresher Committee from 1996 until retiring as its chair in 2007. With the smooth accent and attitude of a Southern gentleman, John became a member of the NSP in 1984 by joining the Wintergreen Ski Patrol in Virginia, actively serving the organization for more than 26 years. Dr. Dobson is a Lifetime and Alumni member. After completing his Alpine Patroller at the age of 50, he then passed Senior and in 1998 was awarded his National Appointment #8616. In that same year he was voted National Outstanding Alpine Patroller receiving a Gold Merit Star. Over the years John served in many leadership positions within the Region, Division and NSP including serving on the National Board of Directors for 6 years. Dr. Dobson attended the Duke University Medical School and became an orthopedic surgeon which helped him contribute an extensive amount of knowledge and practical application to his beloved ski patrol. He served on the Southern Division Medical Advisors Committee and was involved in the development of several standards of training developed National such as writing portions of the OEC texts and other publications. Like many, he is proud of the 4th edition OEC text as it was acknowledged to be one the best textbooks for

outdoor emergency care. Dr. Dobson's leadership and impact on the NSP OEC refresher system is widely recognized for its quality assurance and delivery to this day. Setting the standard of training and allowing the NSP to maintain its standing as a national organization for training in the outdoor environment among the emergency medical community and the U.S. Department of Transportation. As the years sped by following retirement from his medical practice, Dr. Dobson found himself spending more time as a working patroller for the Wintergreen Ski Patrol. In addition to the day to day on-the-hill patrolling, his energies were spent serving on the National Board, National Awards Committee and directing the OEC Refresher Committee. On the national level he was instrumental in the formation of the OEC Refresher Committee and this led to the creation of the "On Scene" magazine. For 11 years he chaired the OEC Refresher Committee and was instrumental in the formation of the current day OEC refresher and thus able to mold and influence the training of 27000+ ski patrollers across the nation which he calls an important part of his life. This impact on the NSP organization gives much attention to John's historical contribution to what he calls as "one of the best teaching organizations in the world". John has authored multiple chapters in the 3rd and 4th editions of the Outdoor Emergency Care textbooks. He has also written numerous articles for the Ski Patrol Magazine and the Southern Cross which is the Southern Division's news publication. During his tenure as the Wintergreen Patrol Representative from 1994-1998, John helped recruit, train and integrate more than 100 patrollers for the Wintergreen Ski Patrol. He established extensive recruiting efforts which reached out to local EMS and PSIA communities which helped the Wintergreen patrol membership grow to nearly 190 patrollers in a time when most volunteer organizations were losing members. For 16 years, John was able to play a part in training every new candidate that joined the Wintergreen Ski Patrol and to participate as an instructor and instructor trainer at annual refreshers. Because of his leadership, the Wintergreen Ski Patrol was the Runner-Up Outstanding Alpine Ski Patrol in the nations during his tenure as patrol representative. John was awarded the NSP Distinguished Service Award in 2004 and the Retirement BOD Award in 2002 following his term on the National Board thus adding to his recognition of service and dedication to the NSP organization a gold merit star, a silver merit star, a National Certificate of Appreciation and 3 yellow merit stars. There is no better example of someone deserving induction in the NSP Hall of Fame than John L. Dobson, MD who lived and demonstrated the ideals of service, safety and outdoor emergency care to the skiing public for over 26 years. For 16 consecutive years on the first day of class, he told each new OEC candidate, in a strong, deep, convincing voice filled with emotion and conviction: "Recognize that you are becoming a part of one of the best educational, training organizations in the world and part of a family that will allow you to give, learn, grow and form friendships that you will keep for the rest of your life." I say well spoken John! As do the five other supporters of this nomination. We are believers.

National Appointments

Brett Henyon

Wintergreen

Letter of Recommendation from Judith Kay-Monaghan Appointment # 9320

Sponsor's Recommendation

Brett officially joined the National Ski Patrol in 1998, earning his basic patroller credentials in the same year. Soon after his passing he began dedicating his time and efforts to leadership roles in the NSP for the next 22 years. Jumping into leadership roles, Brett became a Certified Patroller (#723) in 2010 and is active in the Southern Division Certified Program as an OEC evaluator.

His is known for his outgoing personality and leadership from the patrol level, division and national levels of the NSP. When people think of Brett Henyon, they recall a fun-loving gregarious patroller. They often don't notice that he is working in the background with skier safety programs, a local school ski program, as a flight medic, manager-on-duty, OEC and Certified Program Instructor/Evaluator, for decades! I like to call Brett an unnoticed giant. For years, he has been actively contributing to the Division and National Safety and Certified Programs with little recognition. He seeks none, but rather is ready to help and participate and further the NSP's mission. He volunteers his time to work with the Wintergreen Youth Patrol, supporting the NSP safety initiative. He is an active patroller with mountain operations and snowmobile safety, often working the less desirable Saturday night shifts as MOD. He serves on the local patrol BOD. Because of his flight medic credentials, Brett is a leader in patient care and safety for the Wintergreen Patrol. His involvement at the Certified Level as an evaluator for the Division Program has shown his dedication to helping to contribute to the educational objectives of the NSP. He participated as a Certified OEC Examiner in 2011, 2011, 2014, 2015 & 2019. In the year 2019, he served as the Scenario Patient "Coordinator" ensuring all patients were in the right place at the designated time and correct moulage, this is not an easy task. He has developed the Southern Division's Safety program bringing in social media and networking marketing techniques, with other divisions to further expand the program. Under his leadership and guidance, the program has continued to grow. Through his leadership, this program has expanded, and Brett has fostered the communication among other Divisions to form a stronger more encompassing safety program for the NSP for over 10 years, Brett's

leadership and devotion to the NSP system and its ideals makes his deserving of a National Appointment. His is an example of the consistency and development of a patroller through the NSP training and educational system who has given back to the organization twofold. Brett is the perfect example of a patroller deserving the honor of the National Appointment from the NSP. This appointment is well deserved and long overdue. It gives me great pride and joy to nominate Brett Henyon for this appointment.

Regards,
 Judith Kay-Monaghan
 NA #9320
 Wintergreen Ski Patrol

Bill Clark Administrative
 Letter of Recommendation from Tony Tingle Appointment #10810

Sponsor’s Recommendation

Bill Clarke is an exceptional ski patroller and has been for the 37 years I've known him. When he moved back south from Wisconsin in the early 1980s, Bill joined as a member of the Hawksnest Ski Patrol. There he began teaching WEC (yes, he is that old) and toboggan handling (OET). In his day job at Western Carolina University (WCU), Bill was involved in the outdoor programs. He used his outdoor leadership experience from that occupation to improve the Hawksnest Patrollers abilities with knots, ropes, and lift evacuation. He has always enjoyed training candidates - all candidates - and continues to train new ski patrollers, senior candidates, and certified candidates, organizing informal and formal clinics to meet the needs of the candidates. He has a way of teaching a candidate something without them realizing they are learning it. He will ask a candidate a question like he needs help or clarification, and the next thing you know the candidate is demonstrating that knowledge or skill. Bill's knowledge and drive for improved performance by all patrollers challenges his candidates, peers, and supervisors to be better at everything they do. NSP, Southern Division, and Dixie Region have a connection with WCU because of Bill Clarke and Ben Tholkes. Bill and Ben have taught OEC to WCU students for over a decade, and Bill has been the IOR for the last 7 years. This includes the standard OEC course as well as modified OEC challenge courses. Many of the graduates of those OEC courses have gone on to patrol at Sapphire Valley or Cataloochee, among other mountains. Bill coordinates access to the WCU facilities for the Cataloochee instructor refresher, and in turn, coordinates instructors from Cataloochee (and other surrounding mountains) for use in the WCU OEC course. The association with WCU became more formalized in 2017, when Bill established the Affiliate program there. He serves as the patrol director for the affiliate patrol. Bill is an active participant/instructor in the Senior program in Dixie region, and is very active in the Certified Program, where he takes pride in preparing OEC scenarios that are both realistic and very.....very challenging. Soup to nuts, Bill Clarke is an exceptional Ski Patroller and I think very deserving of a National Appointment.

Merit Stars

For saving a life on Diamond Jim, Massanutten VA March 7, 2020

<i>Purple</i>	<i>Conrad Brendel</i>	<i>Massanutten</i>
<i>Purple</i>	<i>Paul Hansen</i>	<i>Massanutten</i>
<i>Purple</i>	<i>Kenneth Hicks</i>	<i>Massanutten</i>
<i>Blue</i>	<i>Cameron Jones</i>	<i>Massanutten</i>
<i>Blue</i>	<i>Rita Davis</i>	<i>Massanutten</i>
<i>Blue</i>	<i>Thomas Moore</i>	<i>Massanutten</i>
<i>Blue</i>	<i>Stafford Wooten</i>	<i>Massanutten</i>
<i>Yellow</i>	<i>Leslie Carter</i>	<i>Massanutten</i>

Senior

Marcus D. Babb	Winterplace	Skip Warren	Wintergreen
Carter Chambers	Snowshoe	Matt Dodge	Wintergreen
Bill Duerson	Snowshoe	Clint Butts	Wintergreen
Colin McMillan	Snowshoe	Dave Lincoln	Wintergreen
Kevin Lord	Snowshoe	Michael Barber	Wintergreen
Sarah Metrick	Snowshoe	Neil Donnelly	Massanutten
Andrew Wagner	Winterplace		
Linda Humphries	Wintergree		

Certified

Landon Figg
Patrick Morgan

Lifetime Members

50 Years

Timothy Liberty	Wolf Ridge
Blake Brown	Appalachian
Samuel Bruce	Wintergreen

Division Outstanding Winners

Alpine Patroller

Jeff Davis Appalachian

This patroller skied every weekend this ski season and last. Patroller is always striving to give his all to the skiing public and is always looking for ways to improve our patrol's operations. This patroller works very well to communicate our vision and goals. Patroller is dedicated, experienced and committed to the patrol. He is always positive and seeks the best in others. Patroller enthusiastically assists with any task assigned. He can handle any situation that arises with calmness and great leadership. As one can see, this patroller's dedication, experience and commitment to our mountain, the skiing and boarding public and to the ideals of the National Ski Patrol is most deserving of this outstanding award.

Instructor

Scott Wootten Massanutten

As Patrol Director, I am pleased to nominate a patroller for Outstanding Instructor- Non OEC.

This patroller has a background in coaching. He is an AASI level 2 certified snowboard instructor and has taught at our snowsports school and coached our snowboard team for years before joining the patrol in 2015. Before he had even passed OEC I had high hopes that he would join our OET team which he did in 2016. As soon as the slopes were open that season, one of our OET ITs easily mentored the nominee into our team of OET instructors. The nominee then hit the ground running helping to mold one of our largest candidate classes ever into alpine patrollers. He has since successfully coached dozens of other new candidates in OET taking a personal interest in each and every one. He also instructs our patrol in our annual OET recertification treating the annual toboggan recertification as a teaching and training opportunity. The nominee possesses a gentle manner that makes his comments and suggestions – and even his criticisms – both easy to accept and very effective. Our patrollers benefit from his expertise and skilled teaching manner.

The nominee has a keen interest in avalanche control and in only two years completed all three modules of Level One Avalanche as well as Level Two Avalanche and became an avalanche instructor. This season he traveled to another division to teach avalanche courses for the that division. He did this without compensation for time or travel simply because he loves to teach.

In 2016 our resort opened a downhill mountain bike park, and the nominee was instrumental in getting this undertaking off the ground. Lucky for us, the nominee is also a PMBIA Level 2 Air certified instructor and has coached our local high school mountain biking team for many years. As such he was instrumental in establishing our bike patrol. While we had a number of ski patrollers who enjoyed cross country mountain biking very few had experienced downhill riding. Though there is no NSP OET curriculum for bikes, the nominee took a group of ski patrollers and successfully turned them into bike patrollers. He continues to coach seasoned bike patrollers on technique and trains all new bike candidates, again taking a personal interest in each. And again, our patrollers benefit from his expertise and skilled teaching manner.

Our resort runs chairlifts nearly year-round and lift evacuation is taught not only to ski and bike patrollers but also members of several other departments. Because of his teaching skills, the nominee was mentored into the role of lift evacuation instructor in 2018 and has taught both “newbie” classes and annual recertifications every spring and fall since.

Although this nominee is surprisingly not an OEC instructor, he participates in both our spring and fall OEC classes helping the IOR in whatever way is needed.

One might think that teaching this much would leave little time for other activities but not for this nominee. The year following his candidate year, this nominee achieved his Senior patroller certification. Two years later I asked him to take on the position of Lead Supervisor (our title for Assistant Patrol Director) and he accepted working this position in both ski and bike seasons. In 2019 he received a Blue Merit Star for his participation in an after-hours search and rescue of a skier who had fallen and slid far off trail unconscious. And in 2020 he is nominated for yet another Merit Star for his part in another complex rescue in which the patient was critically injured but lived thanks in part to the actions of this patroller.

In short, I have never had to talk this nominee into taking on additional teaching responsibilities. He loves to teach and it shows with every course he is involved in. Please consider this nominee for Outstanding Instructor- Non OEC.

Alumni

Tom Olander Massanutten

As Patrol Director at our resort, I nominate an alumni patroller as Outstanding Alumni Patroller.

Before entering alumni status in 2018, the nominee had a long and distinguished career in the National Ski Patrol. He has been a patroller since 1979, a Senior patroller since 1980, completed the Basic Avalanche Rescue and Mountaineering courses in 1980, and was awarded a National Appointment in 1983. But it is as a first aid instructor that the nominee was truly distinguished and special. As both the NSP and rest of the EMS community have long recognized, the nominee has excellent first aid skills and substantial experience. In addition, the nominee possesses the unique ability to convey information effectively as well as excellent speaking and teaching skills.

After entering alumni status, the nominee continued to serve our patrol providing a continuing source of knowledge and expertise. He was appointed as the patrol as alumni coordinator. He also continues to regularly benefit our patrol by running the oxygen/airway station at our refreshers and during our OEC classes. He brings unique expertise and hands on experience to all of these roles. Indeed, the nominee continues to bring his unique expertise to all aspects of the OEC curriculum. When there is a particularly complex and significant part of the curriculum that I need addressed, I turn to the distinguished nominee. It is with great honor that I nominate this individual as Outstanding Alumni Patroller.

OEC Instructor

Kathryn Burleson Appalachian

This patroller is outstanding because the patroller is always striving to give all to the skiing public and is always looking for ways to improve our patrol's operations. Patroller takes the initiative to teach the new candidates throughout the OEC. Patroller is outstanding because of her great teaching characteristics. Patroller has the following characteristics that make her a great instructor:

- Patroller sets high expectations for all students. Patroller expects that all students can and will achieve in the classroom, and patroller does not give up on underachievers.
- Patroller has clear, written-out objectives. Patroller has lesson plans that give students a clear idea of what they will be learning, what the assignments are and what the grading policy is. Assignments have learning goals and give students ample opportunity to practice new skills. Patroller is consistent in grading and gives feedback in a timely manner.
- Patroller is prepared and organized. Patroller is in the classroom early and ready to teach. Patroller presents lessons in a clear and structured way. Patroller's classroom is organized in such a way as to minimize distractions and time on task is evident.
- Patroller engages students and gets them to look at scenarios in a variety of ways to produce the best possible outcome. Patroller uses facts as a starting point, not an end point. Patroller asks "why" questions, looks at all sides and encourages students to predict what will happen next. Patroller asks questions frequently to make sure students are following along. Patroller engages the whole class and doesn't allow a few students to dominate the class. Patroller keeps students motivated with varied, lively approaches to learning in order to meet each learning style.
- Patroller forms strong relationships with her students and shows that she cares about them as people. Patroller is a warm, accessible, enthusiastic, and caring instructor. Patroller will stay after class and be available to students who need additional help with their learning.

- Patroller is involved in committees and activities within the patrol, where she demonstrates a commitment to the patrol.
- Patroller is knowledgeable of the subject matter. Patroller exhibits expertise in the subjects being taught and spends time continuing to gain new knowledge in the field.
- Patroller presents material in an enthusiastic manner and instills a hunger in her students to learn more on their own.
- Patroller communicates frequently with students. Patroller reaches students through frequent e-mails, texts and calls to provide clear communication about all aspects of the class.

Patroller is one of the main coordinators of our "Heroes on the Mountain- Wounded Warrior Event", working with agencies and local businesses within our community to help provide a weekend of fun activities for the warriors. This patroller is a leader in our organization and one who goes above and beyond most patrollers. As one can see, this patroller's dedication, experience and commitment to our mountain, the skiing and boarding public, and to the ideals of the National Ski Patrol is most deserving of this outstanding award.

Mary Kay Twomey Patroller

Carol Bartus Massanutten

As the Patrol Director at our resort, I nominate a patroller for Outstanding Patroller

The nominee is the total package: an exceptional instructor, an exceptional mentor, our resort's go to aid room person and a good will ambassador for the patrol and resort. She has more than 20 years of experience as an aid room patroller, more than 15 years of experience as an Outdoor Emergency Care (OEC) instructor, and nearly 5 years of experience as an Instructor Development Instructor.

Because the NSP is fundamentally an educational organization, I am most grateful for the nominee's role as an instructor. As an experienced educator who brings her teaching skills to our OEC classes, the nominee has for years been a significant member of our OEC instructor cadre. Although she lives more than two hours from the resort, she regularly volunteers to teach our OEC classes, which are taught at the resort on weekends over an eight-week period. For years, the nominee has taught at least half of those weekends, traveling over four hours round trip to do so. The nominee is a fixture teaching the first day of our annual OEC candidate class. As such, she is the first non-management patroller the new candidates see, effectively becoming the "volunteer face of the patrol." She contributes donuts and bagels and otherwise makes our new OEC candidates feel welcome. Numerous candidates have commented favorably on the nominee's teaching skill and welcoming attitude. She brings to life the NSP manual's description of the various patrol categories by vividly describing what aid room and on-the-hill patrollers do in a typical shift.

The nominee uses aid room shifts as learning opportunities, mentoring new patrollers as they complete the OEC course and transition that book and classroom knowledge into real-life patient treatment. Over the last few years, three different patrollers from our resort have been honored receiving outstanding patroller awards at both the division and the national level. All of these successful patrollers were mentored by the nominee. In addition to teaching our OEC class, the nominee also teaches at every refresher and is regularly the lead instructor for a station at our refreshers.

In 2015, our resort had no Instructor Development (ID) instructors and relied on the resources of other patrols in the division. To remedy this shortage and to avoid being dependent on others, I sought volunteers to become ID instructors. Despite living more than 2 hours from our resort and nearly 3 hours from the location where most ID classes were held, the nominee eagerly volunteered to be mentored into the ID program and traveled to another resort in order to do so.

Since becoming an ID instructor, the nominee has since taught an average of one ID class per year. In 2018, our patrol had a number of potential OEC instructors, who for various reasons were unable to attend the regular division ID class. The nominee stepped up and organized an ID class at our resort. As an experienced educator, the nominee recognized the opportunity to offer an ID class that might appeal to different learning styles. Seizing the opportunity, the nominee became the Instructor of Record for a hybrid ID class – the first such class in our division. The hybrid class offers opportunities to reach different learning styles but also proposes challenges to the instructor. Conducting the first hybrid ID class meant designing and organizing a class when the page was blank. Every issue in the class design and organization was an issue of first impression – what had to be changed from the traditional class and what could be carried over with minor modifications. The nominee addressed and resolved these issues with skill and grace. The ID class was a complete success, so much so that one of the graduates of that ID class has sought to be mentored into the ID program. Not surprisingly, the nominee was assigned to mentor that graduate, who successfully became a new ID Instructor this

last year. The nominee is a strong choice as a mentor, having successfully mentored four new OEC instructors over the last four years. Done right, mentoring a new instructor requires the mentor to possess and use substantive knowledge, teaching experience, and hard work. The nominee does it right and the new instructors who benefit from her mentoring all sing the Nominee's praises. In addition to her exceptional work as an instructor, the nominee is the leader of our aid room and our go-to person for aid room issues. She is unflappable and serves as the calming influence when things get exciting. Moreover, she is reliable, regularly volunteering for extra shifts.

Perhaps not surprisingly for a resort located near a college campus, Saturday night is a busy and demanding shift. The nominee regularly volunteers to work those Saturday night shifts. She thrives in this environment and her solid first aid skills are only part of the reason. Equally important is the steady demeanor that enables this patroller to bring those first aid skills to bear in any circumstance. Numerous patrollers have commented on the nominee's calmness, which reassures patients, the skiing public and other patrollers.

In addition, the nominee has gone the extra mile both in supporting the patrol and serving as a good will ambassador for the resort. Two separate incidents this season demonstrate the exceptional value the nominee provides. The first incident involves a patroller injured during an evening shift. The injured patroller needed hospitalization but was unable to drive. We were short staffed that evening and did not have the extra staff available to drive the injured patroller before closing. Although not scheduled to work until the next day, the nominee served as a staff multiplier, volunteering to come in to cover the aid room shift and freeing up the resources to transport the injured patroller earlier than closing. This was the work of a true team player.

The second incident involved a member of the public who was injured and transported to the hospital. The injured patient's family was left with two automobiles at the resort and only one driver. The nominee and another patroller transported the extra automobile over 100 miles from the resort to the patient's home. The patient and his family were so grateful, that they made a substantial monetary donation to the patrol.

Please consider this patroller as Outstanding Patroller.

Administrative Patroller

Don Reid Wintergreen

Big changes have occurred during the past 10 years in how we register patrollers, sign up for classes, register for classes, conduct our refreshers, and teach. The person I nominate for Outstanding Administrative Patroller has touched on many, if not, all these functions. As a result, we needed a person with the background and the ability to devote a substantial amount of time and energy to update our patrol registration protocols and our web page as well. This nominee possesses all the attributes. A retired engineer with a background knowledge of programming and web development, he dove into this endeavor headfirst. It is no small task and not a "one and done" situation either as he continues to tweak the system as new ideas are brought forward. He provides patrol leadership with data analysis necessary to substantiate efforts and document accomplishments in different areas.

It is not enough that he does all this for his patrol but when asked to be the webmaster for the entire division, his answer was yes. Again, not a set and forget job. He continues to improve on the design as well as make the site user friendly.

He also is not a "lock himself in a closet" computer geek who does little else. In addition to geek duties, he is an active patroller, candidate instructor and person who is ready to do most patrol assignment that needs doing. He does our website, the division website, and tracks patrol shifts for all patrollers,

He deserves many accolades just for the work on his home patrol's online system, but he has done so much more. It gives me great pleasure to nominate this patroller for Outstanding Administrative Patroller.

Patrol Director

Joe Donadio Appalachian

This nominee can find the balance between future planning, performance and character. This nominee has vision, courage, integrity, humility and focus along with the ability to plan strategically and catalyze cooperation among his team. He has specific qualities that stand out as contributing to his greatness as a patrol director. He has a vision of where he wants his patrol to go in the future. He has a clear, exciting idea of where he is going and what he is trying to accomplish and is excellent at strategic planning. One of the more important qualities of the outstanding nominee is his courage. He is willing to take risks in the achievement of his

goals with no assurance of success. He agrees on the importance of complete honesty in everything he does. The core of the integrity with this Patrol Director is truthfulness. He always tells the truth to all people in every situation. Truthfulness is the fundamental quality of the trust that is necessary for the success of his organization. He is strong and decisive but also humble. He has the self confidence and self awareness to recognize the value of others without feeling threatened. He is outstanding at strategic planning and he has the ability to look ahead, to anticipate with some accuracy where the NSP industry is going.

This nominee focuses on the needs of his patrol and the situation and focuses on results, on what must be achieved himself, by patrollers and by the team. He focuses on strengths not only within himself but within others. His ability as a leader to call the shots and make sure that everyone is focused and concentrated on the goals of the patrol produces excellent performance of his patrol. He has the ability to get everyone working and pulling together as a team which he believes is essential to success. He gets people to work for him because they want to. He is a strong communicator. He speaks professionally and effectively with his patrol and he leads by example to truly earn the will of his followers. This nominee maintains a positive attitude and thinks about the opportunities of tomorrow rather than focusing on the problems of the past. As one can see, this nominee deserves to be recognized for his purpose, passion and possibilities of his patrol.

Bike Patroller

Kenneth Hicks

Massanutten

As the Patrol Director at our resort, I am pleased to nominate a patroller for Outstanding Bike Patroller. The Nominee completed OEC in 2015 and joined our bike patrol in 2019. He has been a ski patroller since 2015.

Although bike patrol first aid is a natural extension of the use of the OEC skills that ski patrollers possess, the environment in which bike patrollers operate requires the application of those OEC skills in different and innovative ways. Bike injuries almost always involve bleeding, transportation can be a challenge, and the warm weather environment brings further challenges. A successful bike patroller needs to apply OEC skills to this analogous but different environment. The Nominee does that. He understands the underlying principles of OEC and uses those principles to develop sound and innovative solutions to the problems created by mountain bike injuries.

Another difference in bike patrolling arises from the different community that participates in the sport. The number of guests at a bike park is generally smaller than at the ski resort and those bike patrol guests are generally more dedicated to the sport than skiers. This creates a more intimate environment for the bike patroller, with a greater chance to interact with resort guests. The Nominee thrives in this environment. His outgoing and friendly personality makes him a strong good will ambassador for the resort. And it makes him better able both to assist guests before an injury and to treat guests who have suffered an injury. The Nominee's can-do volunteer attitude benefits our resort in other ways. Last fall we had a leak in our ceiling. The Nominee was there, bringing strong handy-man skills to bear, spending personal time cleaning up the damage, removing the aid room ceiling, further cleaning up and repairing behind the ceiling, and generally helping to create a temporary fix until resort maintenance could permanently repair the damage.

This past bike season, the Nominee demonstrated superior patrol and OEC skills in caring for, extricating, and transporting a mountain biker with multiple serious injuries -- including a badly dislocated shoulder, a seriously broken arm that required surgery to repair, and multiple serious lacerations. The patient was injured on one of the more difficult to access portions of our expert terrain. The Nominee demonstrated exceptional skill in performing first aid and extricating this seriously injured biker.

This past winter, the Nominee was also nominated for a purple Merit Star. The Nominee was free skiing (not on duty as a patroller) when he located an injured skier over a steep embankment that is not typically visible. The injured skier was found unresponsive and with a severely compromised airway. After quickly securing the patient's airway, the Nominee continued first aid and commenced CPR. On duty patrollers then arrived on the scene. The Nominee remained with the patient and worked with the on-duty patrollers to maintain quality patient care while performing a difficult immobilization and extrication. The injured skier was quickly transferred to an ambulance and ultimately to a Level 1 Trauma Center. Although not on duty, the Nominee, as "first on," stayed with the patient until transfer to the ambulance. It is my belief that the Nominee and the on-duty patrollers, as a team, likely prevented a fatal outcome. The Nominee deserves special recognition for being one of the first on the scene and for being the only off duty patroller involved.

The Nominee is also seeking to become a Senior patroller and has already completed the Senior first aid modules. The Nominee is also seeking to become an OEC instructor. As part of his OEC instructor training, the Nominee was helping to teach our spring OEC class – which was unfortunately interrupted by COVID-19. We expect the Nominee to complete his OEC instructor training and become an instructor as soon as things return to normal.

It is with great honor that I nominate this patroller as Outstanding Bike Patroller.

Paid Patroller

Charles Rhodes Appalachian

This patroller has volunteered many hours this season and continues to work numerous hours in the off season helping teach OEC classes as well as CPR classes. This patroller works part-time during the week for our patrol in addition to his professional position and volunteering for a minimum of 12 days per season. Patroller always has a positive attitude.

Thomas “Doc” Brigham for Large Patrol

Cataloochee

This patrol is outstanding because many of the skier/boarders it serves drive hundreds of miles to ski or snowboard for the first time. These first timers rent their equipment and often their clothes. Many have never seen snow up close. The patrol is there to make sure their initiation into downhill riding is fun and safe for everyone on the mountain, and this is no small task. On busy holiday weekends, patrollers station themselves at the top of the beginner lift and coach novices on how to dismount, right them when they fall, and suggest that they stop in the pro shop for gloves for their frozen fingers. Patrollers also take it upon themselves to teach newbies, who have bypassed ski/board school, to help them get past the fear to the fun. When lift lines clog, patrollers stash their skis and boards and jump in to get the lines moving. Every member of the patrol is dedicated to making the first trip to the mountain an unforgettable and addictive experience for their new friends.

In addition to their dedication to the ski area’s guests, the patrollers are dedicated to each other. Each Sunday finds patrollers, several of whom are PSIA certified instructors, training candidates and alpine patrollers preparing for their Senior Alpine Patroller tests as well as those who simply wish to improve their skiing, injury management, and sled-hauling skills.

This patrol’s reputation for dedication and professionalism has resulted in an ever-growing crew. That growth led to crowding in the patrol room, which was addressed this year when a wall was knocked out to expand the patrol room and connect it with the patrol administrative office.

The greatest challenge this patrol faced in 2019/20 was the sudden death of one of its most involved and beloved veteran patrollers a few weeks before the patrol’s refresher weekend. In addition to his leadership positions at the Division level, this patroller coordinated the patrol's on-line volunteer work schedules and the annual ski swap fundraiser. With broken hearts, his fellow patrollers stepped in to finish his work on the schedules and run the ski swap.

This patrol works like a family. A family whose members never hesitate to help a brother or sister. A family that skis and snowboards together, eats together, laughs together, and sometimes cries together. A family whose members drive from ten minutes to four hours to get to the mountain to work until late at night and then get up the next morning to do it all again. Several patrollers have even stepped up to help with the pandemic this year by joining their local Incident Management Teams. This is a dedicated and selfless patrol that deserves the title “outstanding.”

Bike Patrol

Massanutten

We are new and small but exceptional. We were created in 2016 to serve the resort's brand new lift serviced downhill mountain bike park. We had to do all of the things necessary to create a new patrol from recruiting and training to establishing policies and procedures, even designing uniforms. We were also involved in the design of the bike park to help ensure that safety considerations were addressed. We did all of these things smoothly, working closely and seamlessly with resort management. Bike park leadership traveled to the National Ski Areas Association’s Downhill Summit shortly before the park opened and returned with a wealth of

Thanks to all of you who submitted the award nominations and congratulations to all the recipients. The Southern Division should be especially proud that it now has three Hall of Fame inductees! Congratulations to Morgan Armstrong, Nici Singletary and John Dobson! A special congratulation to the Massanutten Bike Patrol for winning the first National Outstanding Bike Patrol award and to Joe Donadio for winning the National Outstanding Patrol Director Runner-up and to Carol Bartus for winning the National Outstanding Patroller Runner-up.

I would also like to say a special thanks to the division judges for taking the time to judge all the division winners and to the national judges for judging the National Outstanding nominations.

I say this every year - 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. And a reminder that the Southern Division needs to submit more deserving folks to be inducted into the NSP Hall of Fame. With that said, I expect nominations in all the categories from each patrol next award season! Remember, it is never too early to start thinking about who needs to be nominated.

Peg Harris

Anonymous Incident Report From Late December

At approximately 1930 on 12/31/20, I witnessed a mother escort her 9-year-old boy to the edge of the woods at the top of the chairlift. So, I proceeded to investigate as I exited the chairlift.... with my initial thought being that they had lost something and were going off the slopes to look for it.

Upon coming to a stop at the lower edge of the transition between the top of the chairlifts, I realized they were not looking for a lost item. Clear as day, to myself and everyone riding the chairlifts, she had led her son to the edge of the woods directly under the chairlift to use the bathroom. She was holding his jacket up like a curtain! However, I quickly noticed that I did not see her son's head appearing above the jacket curtain. So, I thought, "he could be getting sick, right?" Just as I was about to say, "Is everything ok down there, can I help?" I noticed that the boy was not hunched over...he was squatting.

After at least 5 minutes of the blatant defecation on the property, the shameless act was completed. This all occurred within the vision of every chair that went by during that time. Admittedly, only most noticed it. I observed their shock followed by a barrage of verbal sentiment. Although I did not understand all the spoken words, the reaction was consistent, and it was not good. After the mother had brushed off the boy with a leaf taken from the ground and they had returned to the slope, I signaled to her to come over because I wanted to have a word with her concerning what I had just witnessed.

After the woman had reached me, I said "I just wanted to have a word with you about what I just witnessed. We have facilities, for that, in the lodge." She immediately and angrily yelled at me, "It was an emergency! What do you want me to do let him 'xxxx his pants'?" She then told me that she had already knocked on the ski patrol hut door at the top of the chairlift, but no one answered. I informed her that was not a bathroom either. She then proceeded to yell things like "He's only 9. You don't understand." I responded by saying things like "I understand. But you have to understand there are other patrons." I also said, "Do you really expect me to believe this 'emergency' suddenly occurred on the 60 second chair ride without any warning?" Basically, it boiled down to a difference of opinions and we both lost our tempers.

The way the woman angrily tried to depict the situation I witnessed with my own two eyes (for an extremely uncomfortable amount of time) was a moral dilemma of the suffering of the few over the suffering of the many. "Should her son 'xxxx his pants'?" Or "Should the mountain and other patrons have to suffer seeing a mother shielding her son with his coat so he can go # 2 under the chairlift?" The way I depicted the situation was "This is private property and what I had witnessed was not OK", and "It was not OK to speak to me angrily and aggressively." I felt particularly strong about this latter assertion after I had quietly observed the act (to minimize the impact of the defecation on all parties... like a toilet bowl). After all, I only wanted to inform the patron of the location of the freely provided facilities where bowel movements were socially acceptable.

I must admit that the woman's aggressive and unrepentant attitude gave me second thoughts for a moment. I thought to myself, "what is the mountain policy on taking a xxxx under the chair lift in plain sight of other patrons?" I decided it did not matter what rule to cite (although I feel remorse for not being able to recall such a rule). Instead, I invoked the one simple rule I use to guide myself in life... the golden rule. Rule # 1 Treat others how you would like to be treated. The # 2 that I witnessed broke my rule # 1. The mother's reaction defecated on it. After many failed attempts to explain this to her, the discussion had turned into a screaming match and I finally yelled at her "It's not OK for your kid to xxxx under the lift!"

She asked to speak to management. I informed her where the office was located... in the same building where the public restrooms are located and pointed to the lodge. I invited her to complain to management about the incident. She walked away and I rode down the slope.

At one point she yelled at me "what do you want? Do want me to clean it up?" My biggest regret of 2020 will forever be not reaching into my pocket and pulling out a zip lock with gloves and saying "YES!"

Final Sweep In Memory of

Matt Adams - Cataloochee



Members of the Cataloochee Ski Patrol were stunned to learn that our Patrol Rep **Matthew (Matt) Christen Adams** had passed away from a heart attack at the age of 56 on November 27, 2020. Matt was also serving the Dixie Region as Senior Program Advisor. Compiling this memorial from the words of his family, friends, and co-workers, I realized that service was the prevailing theme of Matt's life.

Matt graduated in 1986 from Georgia Tech with a degree in Industrial Systems Engineering. He was inducted into Atlanta's "Outstanding Fifty" in 1994 for his civic and business contributions to the city. In 1995, Matt founded an operations and management consulting firm. In 2002, his profession awarded Matt the "Eagle Award" for lifetime achievement. He was also a sought-after speaker, he authored or co-authored several books, and published scores of articles about institutional facility management in national publications.

Matt played hard and enjoyed many sports, sometimes engaging in two at once as evidenced in the accompanying photo. An avid skier, he joined the Cataloochee Ski Patrol in the fall of 2010. He quickly advanced from Basic to Senior and was working toward his Certified accreditation. Matt also completed NSP instructor courses in OEC, OET, and Instructor Development as he encouraged and assisted fellow patrollers. In their stories about Matt, his humility, kindness, and keen sense of humor shine through:

"At the Snowbird PSIA Demo Team clinic, we were asked to divide ourselves into aggressive, medium, and cautious skiing groups, and Matt chose the mellow group. At the end of the day Tony Pants (aggressive), Matt, and I (medium) chatted about our experiences over dinner.

Tony got to huck off some big cliff. My group explored little known steep terrain. But Matt's group got tired and by noon, he and one other patroller were the only ones left to fully enjoy virtually private instruction from one of the nation's best instructors. He had nothing to prove, knowing that with a positive outlook on life, things usually work out in the end."

“Matt and I passed our Basic S&T and Senior OEC together. The weekend of our basic exam arrived, and we were both so nervous about testing that throughout the test we joked to each other that it helped to envision that we were "just" doing brain surgery or landing a passenger jet.”

“We were on a group trip out west that included Matt and (his son) Nick as well as my wife. Matt was an excellent skier, but without ego or pretension. As a result, he was one of my wife’s favorites, and we skied with him whenever the opportunity arose. We’ll both miss that for sure.

I’m also going to miss Matt’s calm and thoughtful leadership. He told me his intention was to back off on his consulting business and increase his engagement with ski patrol at both the local and divisional levels.”

Matt was also an advocate for the Boy Scouts having earned his Eagle Scout Award as a young man. He volunteered his time for various non-profit organizations and started one that advocated for the rights of single dads. As his friends wrote in his obituary, “Even though Matt enjoyed his work, skiing, and golf, his main passion was being Nick’s dad.” All of us at Cataloochee know Nick, as he is frequently at the mountain and patrol get-togethers.

We will miss Matt’s ever-present smile, listening ear, and valuable leadership, but most of all, we will miss our friend Matt. He is leaving behind some large ski boots to fill.

Diane Wilkey with Joe Cohen, Jen Flavin, Tony Barbagallo, and Ann Blakely
Cataloochee Ski Patrol, North Carolina

James Richard "Rick" Roberts III

Cataloochee Ski Patrol

October 23, 2019



It is a very sad time for us at Cataloochee. On October 23, 2019, James Richard "Rick" Roberts III, age 72, passed away in his Johns Creek, Georgia home.

Rick grew up in Atlanta, attended Southwest High School, graduated from the Georgia Institute of Technology in 1970, and later received his Master of Divinity degree from Asbury Theological Seminary.

Rick was an Eagle Scout and very active in the Georgia Tech community. He was, however, most proud of his work in International Missions and his three grandchildren.

Rick was preceded in death by his wife Joyce Calhoun Roberts and is survived by his son, Richard, daughter-in-law, Lindsay, and three grandchildren, Kathryn Grace, Luke Thomas, and Noah James.

Rick became a member of the National Ski Patrol in 1971. He was a Senior Alpine Patroller and received his National Appointment #6138 in 1984. Rick has served the Cataloochee Patrol in almost every leadership position including Patrol Representative, Assistant Patrol Representative, Team Lead, Training Officer, and

S&T Instructor. Rick filled many roles including acting as manager of the Patrol SWAP Shop, facilitator and manager of the Patrol's accountability software, and architect, designer, and facilitator of the Patrol Room remodel. Rick designed the original Cat Patrol Patch (Rust, Blue, and Gold in color) and posed for a Cat Patrol picture cuddling a baby Bengal Tiger.

Rick has served as the Dixie Region Proficiency Advisor, S&T Examiner, and Instructor Trainer. He also served the Southern Division as Assistant Division Director, Region Director, Section Chief, and, most recently, as the Alumni and Elections Supervisor. At the National level he served on several committees over the years including the Ski and Toboggan Training, Alumni, and Election committees.

Rick's wife Joyce passed away when their son, Richard, was five years old. Rick and Richard raised each other. Rick attended Georgia Tech and received a degree in Industrial Management. His start in the ski industry came as the General Manager at the then, new resort of Sapphire Valley. He then owned and managed his own high-end construction company in the Atlanta area. He then decided to follow his calling to the ministry. Rick attended Asbury Theological Seminary where he received a Master of Divinity Degree. Shortly after graduation, Rick began working with various organizations and finally with The Mission Society and churches in the U.S. to establish and grow international missions at the church level. He also worked with churches abroad (Ukraine, Kenya, Brazil) to help equip leaders within local churches to better serve the community and their specific needs (clean water, poverty, etc.).

Rick was well known for his "brief" phone calls. At one point a few years back my wife texted me "1 hr. 47 min.!" My immediate reply was, "What is Rick calling about?" When you were engaged in conversation with Rick, you were well-engaged and for an extended period of time. Rick loved Cataloochee and his patrol family. In conversations with many patrollers since Rick's passing, I realize that he was very in tune with the trials in many of our lives and offered counseling and prayers. Not only was he present for us in our time of need, he continued to follow up after time had passed and others had moved on.

Thank you, Rick, for your influence on our lives and our patrol. You were a great friend to so many and had a true and honest heart. You are missed.

Senior patroller James Richard Roberts III, National Appointment #6318 is out of service. Although gone, you will never be forgotten. Rest in peace our friend.

**Southern Division Calendar
& Staff Directory**

Please refer to the Division Website for updated schedules!

www.southernnsp.org

The calendar is flexible dependent 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 Tom Byron at htbnsp@gmail.com.