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Division Director
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FROM THE DIVISION DIRECTOR

In spite of some unexpectedly slack snow conditions lately, this has been one of our best seasons for Ski Patrol activities in the division. Good reports have been received from our Avalanche and Mountaineering courses, along with the activities of many patrols. A disappointment was the poor turnout for the division Junior Jamboree.

Although the season is tapering off, the SAAB promotion is getting underway. We can get some good visibility from this program, if we all get behind it.

The mid-winter meeting of the National Board was held at Vail, Colorado Feb. 7 and 8. The sessions were very productive. As usual, Colorado had more than its share of snow. Some of the highlights include:

1. Adoption of an annual budget holding the line at last year's level (\$238,000).
2. Decision made to drop all rust parkas from the line except the shell. Southern and Central voted against this one. There is a 2-year supply of parkas in Denver, so the problem is not eminent. We plan to present a new proposal at the annual meeting this summer.
3. Harry Pollard has been elected vice president of the American Ski Federation.
4. "Inactive" classification is changed to "Associate" membership.
5. Dues for first-time registration of a new candidate raised to include the purchase of required NSPS manuals. (Admin., Procedures, Winter First Aid)
6. Report received on the considerable progress being made in the NSPS telecommunications program. Good radios are available at a reasonable price.
7. New Lift Evacuation Manual published
8. Joint registration for Nordic and Alpine patrollers approved.

A great big "Thank You" to the members of the Knoxville Ski Club for the gift of \$50.00!



(Photo by Dale Johnson)

FATHER-SON TEAM ARE SENIORS!

Charles Benbow and his son Steve, from Seven Devils, passed the Senior Test given March 1st at Snowshoe, W.Va.

SOUTHERN DIVISION INFORMATION MANUAL

Last fall Walter Eaton volunteered to put together a manual containing all pertinent data about our division. He and N. C. York are to be congratulated on a fantastic achievement in putting together and publishing this fine manual. It will be a great help to all patrollers throughout the division. Thank You!

SOUTHERN DIVISION SPRING MEETING

The meeting will be in Gatlinburg, Tenn. on Saturday, April 5th. The Gatlinburg PL, Jack Case, has made arrangements for special rates for lodging at the Travel Lodge (East) - \$10.00 single, \$12.00 double and \$14.00 2-double/night. Make reservations directly with Travel Lodge. The toll-free number is 800-255-3050. Jack Case has invited us to his "home in the sky" for a Happy Hour at 7:00 P.M.

Each patroller in the division is encouraged to attend this meeting. All who expect to attend, please send a card indicating such to: Gary Delius, P.O. Box 1981, Knoxville, Tenn. 37901.

(A) COURSE

The course was held at Snowshoe, W.Va. on February 15 and 16. The instructors were Dale Johnson and Doug LaCoss. Ten of the eleven who passed the course are shown in the picture at left with Doug LaCoss. Those who passed are: Randall Blackburn, John Carpenter, Sid Carpenter, Mark Crissman, William Houck, Lynn Kettlewell, French Moore III, Neal Reahberg, Mike Solomon, Randall Thomas and Dave Wallace.

(M) COURSE

This course will be held March 15 and 16 at Snowshoe, W.Va. Registration will be at 8:30 A.M. in the area Patrol Room. Cross country skiing with one night out in the field will be included. Cross Country Skis, Boots and Poles will be available through the Snowshoe rental.

Required clothing and camping gear must include: note pad, pencil, whistle, sleeping bag adequate for -20°, rugged high-topped hiking boots, woolen or thermal underwear and socks with change, warm outer clothing, windproof parka with hood or other head covering, warm gloves or mittens, waterproof matches and fire starters, nourishing food with at least 1-days extra per person, sharp hunting knife, air mattress or foam pad and ground cover, Primus stove or equivalent, flashlight or headlamp with extra batteries, dark glasses, rain coat or poncho, individual shelter tarp or tent (you will sleep alone), 10' $\frac{1}{4}$ " min. hemp rope for knot work, 50' or more of nylon parachute cord or equivalent, own cooking equipment, Silva compass (approx. \$6.00 - up), plastic or metal canteen (1 qt +) and First Aid Patrol Belt. Husband and wife teams may share shelter, stove, cooking gear and meals.

It is suggested that those leaving Friday night spend the night in Covington or White Sulphur Springs, Va. and drive in Saturday morning. Snowshoe is near Marlinton, W.Va. and the accommodations there are limited. If you have any questions, contact Dale Johnson, So. Div. Instructor: 2326 Hiawatha Drive, P.O. Box 9613, Greensboro, N.C. 27408 (919-288-9790)

Come to the aid of the National Ski Patrol. Test drive a Saab.



Test drive a Saab between now and April 15, 1975 and we'll make a donation, in your name, to the National Ski Patrol.*

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*Only at participating dealers. There are more than 400 dealers nationwide. Overseas delivery available.

SAAB The official car of the National Ski Patrol.

DRIVE SAFE - SKI SAFE

This is the motto of SAAB and the 25,000 membership of NSPS. The NSPS has chosen the Swedish-built SAAB 99 as its official car due to its progressive safety design. You are urged to test drive a SAAB at your local dealership, at no obligation, and then complete and mail the NSPS donation card.

We have accepted the challenge of SAAB-SCANIA of America's President to jointly promote winter safety. To start this joint effort, the greater Minneapolis - St. Paul area has had ski patrol nights, ski club nights with binding checks, ski films, door prizes and a grand prize of a SAAB to drive for a year. We need your help and ideas! Call David Dillard, Shelby Dyer, Roy Smith or Jim Underwood. We encourage everyone in the Patrol to go to your nearest SAAB dealer and take a test drive (you might take a ski club member with you). Offer your help to the dealer in this national promotion.

Bud Mynatt of the Knoxville Motor Company will have a SAAB available at our Spring Meeting in Gatlinburg. The SAAB will be available for test drives from 10:00 A.M. through the rest of the day.

Jonas C:son Kjellberg, President
Phil Clement, Assoc. Public Relations Director
SAAB-SCANIA OF AMERICA, Inc.
P.O. Box 697, Orange, Conn. 06477

Roy Smith, District Mgr.
1840 Beltline Blvd.
Columbia, S.C. 29206
803-782-0263

ACTIVE SAAB DEALER LIST

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615-525-7341

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Memphis John T. Fisher Motor Co.
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901-275-1141

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615-329-2929

Sparta Scott Norris Motors
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615-836-2628



(Photos by Don Rupp)

The above pictures were taken during the NSPS European Ski Patrol Seminar in Wengen Switzerland. The bottom pictures show part of the group at a reception at the Palace Hotel. Harry Pollard, National Director, seems to be enjoying the party as well as Ed Ericson, Executive Administrator, on the left with two of the Southern Division contingent. The picture above shows (from left) the Rupps, Thalackers and Hires. Walter Eaton was missing when this was taken. He skied with some Frenchmen he met that day and ended up in Grund. Grund? After taking a bus and two cog-railway trains, he finally got back and joined the party (see arrow). The upper left picture shows the Swiss SOS working with German Shepherds at a simulated avalanche in heavy snow. The town of Wengen is shown in the center. The one at upper right shows some of us on the slopes with Dick Starke (second from left), International Division Director.

The trip was certainly one of the most exciting and rewarding experience any of us have had with NSPS! The snow was fabulous over miles of trails and huge open slopes. The International Division should be highly commended for their superb planning and graciousness during our stay in both Wengen and Innsbruck. Harry Pollard presented National Appointments to: Jim Fadden - No. 4554 and Leif Lundkvist - No. 4555, and Yellow Merit Stars to Pat Reppard and Jack Russell of the International Division. The SOS gave a demonstration of how German Shepherds find avalanche victims in a matter of minutes even though they may be buried deep under the snow. The usual method of probing was also used to point out how very much slower it is. Other demonstrations included a chair lift evacuation and an evacuation of a 100-person gondola at night with a rescue helicopter at the site. Movies were shown on climbing the Eiger and Jungfrau with an informal talk following. While in Innsbruck we visited a plant that makes rescue equipment (including Akja toboggans). We went to an Austrian Rescue Assn. Hut at a ski area where they showed and demonstrated their equipment. There are 8000 men employed year 'round in this organization. It is headed by a Colonel in the Austrian Army who is a physician. He showed slides and movies of victims being rescued.

SPECIAL RATES GIVEN TO NSPS

The Holiday Inn, Banner Elk, N.C. offers special rates to NSPS of \$14.00 single and \$16.00 double on a reservation basis. Each extra person will be charged \$2.00 and an extra \$2.00 for each rollaway bed. Patrollers must show NSPS '75 registration card for these rates. We appreciate the special consideration!

AWARDS

Now is the time everyone should be getting together information for the outstanding awards: Outstanding Junior, Outstanding Patroller and Outstanding Patrol in the Southern Division. All nominations must be submitted on the official form and be received by mid-April. Send to:
Dick Thalacker 805 Newman
Bowling Green, Kentucky 42101

PATROLLERS ON TV

Chet Sherman, Renegade Asst. PL and Larry Dietz, Sugar Mtn. Asst. PL appeared on the morning Knoxville TV show "Today in Tennessee" in December. They discussed their role in NSPS and ski safety.

BASIC TEST GIVEN AT SNOWSHOE

On Saturday, January 18th the basic test was given to Peter Brigham, Neal Rehberg and Mike Soloman and all passed. They are registered with Snowshoe Patrol as paid candidates. Test examiners were Randy Avery, Dale Johnson and Doug LaCoss.

GUESS WHO???

Have you heard about the patroller who was so excited about his new "banana" boots that he tested them, on skis, down some steps in his home? A visit to the hospital was necessary to repair the resulting damage to his head.

CONTRIBUTORS

Randy Avery	Dale Johnson
Peter Chamberlin	Dick Thalacker
Larry Dietz	Jim Underwood
David Dillard	

THE SOUTHERN CROSS
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TO

MOORE, FRENCH III
BOX 2554 MADISON COLLEGE
HARRISONBURG, VA.