



THE SOUTHERN CROSS

Official Publication of the Southern Division
National Ski Patrol System, Inc.
3914 Friendly Avenue ◦ Greensboro, NC 27410

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Editor: Bobbie Rupp

Vol. XII, No. 2

MARCH 1983

CHARLIE'S CHATTER

As of this date I have been able to ski or visit with all the Ski Patrols in the Southern Division. We spent most of the Christmas week in the Boone area with the rest of the Floridians looking for the white stuff—with very little luck.

The Southern Division would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Ski Clubs that made donations to the Division last year:

Augusta Ski Club
Catawba Valley Ski Club
Coastal Ski Club
Durham-Chapel Hill Ski Club
Greater Charleston Ski Club
Greenville Ski Club

Knoxville Ski Club
Palmetto Ski Club
Raleigh Ski Club
Salisbury Ski & Recreation Club
Winston-Salem Ski Club

This year our main concern is that the Southern Division is a whopping \$2,500.00 behind in Ski Club donations for the current year. If we are to keep our Dues down and maintain all the programs that are available to our patrollers, we need your help.

If there are patrollers who have connections, or that are connected with any of these Ski Clubs, please contact them for a possible donation to help Ski Patrol this year. If any contacts are made, please let Mike Harris or me know.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my congratulations to all the New Senior and Basic Patrollers. This is also a big vote of thanks to all the Patrol Leaders and Training Officers who have invested many hours to help these new basics and seniors be a great part of the Southern Division.

More thanks to all the Patrollers that helped Steve Benbow make the Junior Jamboree another great success. The only thing lacking were the Juniors who did not see fit to participate. Again my congratulations to Gena White, Wintergreen, our number one young lady and Junior this year, and also to Dale Spencer, from Appalachian Ski Mountain, who was a very close second. Many thanks to Jon Reynolds and his Hawksnest management for allowing the Junior Jamboree to be held there.

We need to look at our National Patroller Supplies and Equipment Catalog along with Patroller Registration. Have you received items that were ordered in a reasonable time, was it what you ordered, was it the quality that you expected? If any of these come out with a negative answer, I need to know to be able to help solve the problem.

The Spring Convention will be at Virginia Beach on April 30th and May 1st, 1983. This should prove to be a delightful meeting and fun time, something for everyone—fishermen, sight seeing, history buff. The only problem may be too many things you would like to do in only one weekend.

Looking forward to seeing all of you at the Spring Convention.

Charles T. Benbow, Jr. D.D.

CALENDAR

March 19	Snowshoe—Basic First Aid Test
20	Snowshoe—Basic Test
20-27	Avalanche Patch Course, Boseman, MT
26-30	National Junior Jamboree—Crested Butte, CO.
April 30-31	Spring Convention—Virginia Beach
May 15	Southern Cross Deadline
Aug. 27	Executive Committee Meeting
Sept. 17	Fall Officers Meeting—Appalachian

OUTSTANDING AWARDS NOMINATIONS!

All Outstanding Awards Nominations are initiated at the Patrol or Section Level and are to go through usual channels shown on the forms.

1. Three copies of all pages must be prepared to be forwarded to your Division Award Advisor.
2. Use additional sheets when referring to specific questions as needed, up to a maximum of five (5) (8½x11) pages in addition to the printed form.
Your nomination **MUST** either be typewritten or printed legibly with a ball point pen.
3. **PORTFOLIOS, HANDBOOKS, OR OTHER TYPES OF PRESENTATIONS ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE.**
4. A glossy photo of the nominee must accompany each personal nomination.
5. All nominations must be received by the Division Awards Advisor on or before **MARCH 28, 1983.**

OUTSTANDING SKI PATROLLER
OUTSTANDING PROFESSIONAL SKI PATROLLER
OUTSTANDING AUXILIARY SKI PATROLLER
OUTSTANDING JUNIOR SKI PATROLLER
OUTSTANDING ADMINISTRATOR
OUTSTANDING SKI PATROL.

Charles T. Benbow
Awards Adv.

WANTED: PICTURES-PICTURES-PICTURES

The Division 1982-83 scrapbooks look very bleak and empty. Your Patrol and its members will not be represented unless I receive those fabulous pictures you guys and gals have taken all season. Please send me your prints or slides so your patrol will not be left out of this year's scrapbook.

Mail to: Joy Slagle
Rt. 10, Box 693
Morristown, TN 37814
615-581-5818

IN MEMORIUM

It is with true sadness we report the death of the older son of Bruce McLean, Assistant Patrol Leader at Sky Valley, early in February. Manley was a fine young man, a strong and skilled skier, who would have been eligible to join NSPS in two years. All of Southern Division shares this loss, and extends deepest sympathy to Bruce and Betsy and their son, Gray.

Southern Division sent a memorial in Manley's name.

Benning Harrison
PR Adv.

SEVEN DEVILS SKI AREA IS NOW ONLY A MEMORY!

For the last 12 years Seven Devils has had either a new management or new owners every year. This year was no exception but things are definitely looking much better. First the name is no longer Seven Devils Ski Area—now it is Ski Hawksnest at the Town of Seven Devils. The new owner is Jon Reynolds, an avid skier and not a newcomer to the ski industry. Jon has been involved with Appalachian Ski Mountain for years. This experience, combined with his experience with L. A. Reynolds Construction Company, will make Ski Hawksnest take on a whole new look.

This summer Jon is planning to move the Intermediate chair lift, that will give us a better Intermediate Run. His ten year plan includes adding two new chair lifts (one beginner and one advanced), a new snow making pond, a 350 car parking lot, and possibly a new lodge. He has already purchased several new snow guns (SMI style), a bigger water pump, and a new compressor. Needless to say the Hawksnest Ski Patrol is very excited.

Steve Benbow
Ski Hawksnest, PL

MISSING: ONE INSTRUCTOR

Patchy fog dipped in and out of the North Carolina mountains that Saturday in November when the Lift Evacuation Seminar was scheduled at Cataloochee. Does a little fog ever deter a good ski patroller? Heavens no! On hand bright and early and ready to go (though we couldn't even see the railing bordering the porch) were 12 patrollers, two representatives of Cataloochee's management and a lift operator. Only one thing was missing: the chief instructor, Keith Gray.

All was not lost, thanks to Roger Bollinger and Bob Twomey, who rigged evacuation ropes to the eaves of the lodge ceiling, nailed a "chairlift seat" to a cross beam, and conducted the seminar. The most fun? Finding you really could pull yourself up a rope to the "chair;" the least fun: stepping from the ladder over to the seat on the cross beam.

Attending were Janie Bollinger, Bob Newton, Mary K. Twomey and Lynn Harrell, all Cataloochee; Margie Carroll and Bob Feldmann, Wolf Laurel; Mike Chandler and Peter Geist, Sky Valley, and Ron Geist and Benning Garrison, Administrative. We missed you, Keith!

Benning Garrison
PR Advisor

JUNIOR JAMBOREE

The Southern Division Junior Program is still alive and kicking. This year's Division Junior Training Seminar was a real success and lots of fun for the eleven juniors who attended. The two days of competition, topped off with the spaghetti dinner, ended with Gena White from Wintergreen taking First Place, Dale Spencer from Appalachian taking Second Place, and Missa Scott from Gatlinburg Third Place winner. Unfortunately we could only finance the top two winners to the National Seminar but at last count there will be 9 Juniors there. A total of 30 Patrollers from the Division are going to the National Seminar the week of March 26th thru April 2nd at Crested Butte, Colorado.

The competition on the Division level, as well as Nationally, is still very tough. This reflects directly back to patrol training programs, so keep up the good work Patrol Leaders and Training Officers.

Don't forget that the 1985 National Junior Training Seminar will be in the Southern Division. I will need as much help as possible setting it up. Anyone wishing to help, please contact me.

Steve Benbow
Jr. Advisor

TESTING AND TRAINING

BLUE RIDGE REGION SENIOR TEST

The Blue Ridge Region Senior Test this year went off anything but smooth. On January 16th the Senior First Aid Test at Beech Mountain was interrupted in the middle of the practical portion for some hands on lift evacuation work. Luckily no one was seriously hurt but everyone still had a very exciting day.

The Ski and Toboggan portion was held February 20th at Hawksnest and before everyone could finish their toboggan run, a transformer blew out and neither lift could be used. We ended up having to drive pickup trucks to the top of the mountain in order to finish the test before dark. While we were waiting to find out if the lift would run again a "casual" snowball fight broke out between about 5 or 6 patrollers who were trying to break the tension of the test. Within minutes approximately 200 people were lined up chucking snow balls back and forth mounting an occasional charge and most of all keeping the skiing public entertained and occupied so that they wouldn't get mad about not skiing. To finish up on a good note: 15 out of 18 passed the Senior Test. This was by far the best trained group of candidates I have ever seen take a Senior Test. Good work Patrol Leaders and Training Officers.

Examiners helping me for the Ski and Toboggan Test were Tom Moss, Blake Brown and E. B. Fox with Dale Johnson as Associate Test Judge.

The new Seniors are:

Cindy Benbow	Jeff Ragan
Bill Clarke	Gail Richard
Ben Fox	Bernie Smith
Ed Gergowski	Mike Spencer
Doug Gilstrap	Ann Taylor
Ed Howard	Mark Taylor
Mari Poe	Howard Tilley
	Joel Toates

Steve Benbow
Head Test Judge

TESTING IN THE SOUTHERN DIVISION

Basic

Beech Mountain	Sapphire Valley
Gib Calhoun	James Bradley
Merrill Dickson	Radge Duncan
Riley Hatch	Jim Montieth
Bob Mahoney	Scott Rooth

Cataloochee	SnowShoe
Francis Baker	Carroll Harris
	Kathy Harris
	David Hutchison

Ober Gatlinburg	Wolf Laurel
Dave Bjornstad	Ted Aslund
Charles Coward	Larry Erb
Sam McCamy	Sherry Smedley
Robert Rhinehart	
Tony Sheffhauser	
Richard Stachourak	
Bruce Tackes	

Senior

Cataloochee
Tim Liberty
Terry Williams
Ken Winter

OBER GATLINBURG PATROL NEWS

The month of January was reasonably kind and cooperative with respect to weather this year. We were able to open two new slopes because of the cooler temperatures and some fabulous snow making efforts by Mr. Russell Gifford and crew. Oberchute and Bear Run, with a total length of 4400 ft., are quite challenging. Thirteen Candidates found this to be true on January 23, 1983 as they prepared to take their test. Congratulations are extended to: Dave Bjornstad, Charlie "FLUF" Coward, Sam McCamy, Robert Rhinehart, Richard Stachowiak, Tony Schaffhauser, and Bruce Tackes. Training officers Tony Williams and Rick Ryan deserve a big THANKS! Good job Fellows! I'd also like to thank the test judges, including Charles Benbow who surprised us with a wonderful visit, for all their valuable time and fair scoring.

Our patrol is also very proud of four of our Junior Patrollers who participated in the annual Junior Jamboree: Micah Scott (3rd place), Scott Knoll, Marty Calloway, and David Knoll. Good Luck at the National Jamboree fellows!

Congratulations are also expressed to two very worthy Ober Gatlinburg Patrollers who passed their Senior Test this year. They are: Tony Williams and Ken Winters.

Joy Slagle, PL

SEVEN DEVILS/HAWKSNEST SPAGHETTI DINNER

On Saturday, January 29th, Seven Devils/Hawksnest Ski Patrol hosted our 6th annual fund-raising spaghetti dinner. As always, the dinner was served at our lodge in conjunction with the Junior Jamboree, so we had a great crowd of patrollers and juniors from around the division. The patrol served a delicious homemade dinner to about 140 hungry folks. We raised approximately \$365, which will be used to purchase either first aid supplies or radios for the patrol. Thanks to all of you who helped make the dinner a success, to Ski Hawksnest management for their cooperation, and to all of our hard-working cooks, servers, dishwashers, etc. For those local patrollers who did not attend (and we know who you are!), shame on you; you missed a great dinner and lots of good fellowship. Thanks again and we'll see you next year!

Mark Taylor
Asst. PL

THANKS

I would like to personally thank all those individuals who gave of their patrolling time to help others become more proficient patrollers. Thank you to the management for understanding our training needs and providing us with the hills.

Thank You!

- to the patrol leaders for organizing a training program at your areas.
- to the trainers for the genuine effort and interest you put into your job of helping others learn.
- to the test judges for the miles driven, the long days on the hill, the hard decisions made, and the professionalism exhibited.
- to the candidates for joining our ranks, for learning our systems, for practicing for our tests, and for enduring the pressures of test day.

And a special thanks to Dale Johnson for a heroic training effort.

Tom Moss
T & T Advisor

A WEEKEND IN THE SOUTHERN DIVISION

Who says that the Southern Division can't put on a dandy **(A)** **(M)** course! Take a rainy, drizzly Saturday, a mile hike up 1000 verticle feet, ending just after dark and the snow beginning to fall. Add in 9° temperature, 25+ m.p.h. winds and overnight snowfall of almost 3 inches and you have a classic winter weekend.

Libby and Bobby Harbin hosted 27 of us at Cove Lake State Park, North of Knoxville on the 11th and 12th of December. The group was lead by a very knowledgable Ed Gassman and old reliable Lynn Pace, and was assisted by Bobby Harbin, Jim Reed, Milt Triplett and Brian Riel. Most of Saturday was spent studying the basics of mountaineering, such as the ten essentials, equipment, survival, food and nutrition, compass and orienteering and trail etiquette.

The group reached the top of Eagles Bluff just at dark with the temperature dropping fast and snow coming down. By the time tents were pitched (or attempted) and supper was cooked, one case of hypothermia was noted and had to be hiked out. After a long, cold night, with several tents caved in by the snow and zippers to *almost* everything frozen shut, Gassman sounded Reveille to get our sore stiff bones up and at'em. An absolutely beautiful but at times tricky 3½ mile hike down Walden Ridge and out Bruce Gap ended the over-nighter.

The following are several notable quotes from some of the participants for your amusement and perusal:
"Cotton underwear up here is just worthless"

"I sure won't leave my straps and strings out all night to get frozen and useless the next morning."

"Down bags and clothes are useless in this environment."

"I need a correct pack next time out."

"Where did all the condensation on the inside of my tent come from?"

"You've got to have wool"

"You can't beat gore-tex"

"Next time I'll practice setting up my tent faster."

"Next time I'll set-up this borrowed tent before I leave home and not at the camp site, freezing my buns off, and find it doesn't work!"

"My down bag sucked up all sorts of water and was partially frozen."

"I need some fire starter paste."

"Seeing hypothermia on film and then on a real trip brings it all home to me."

"Believe me, the key is being in shape."

"You'll be just as wet inside as well as outside with regular rain gear."

"I need a lot more little helpers and conveniences in my pack for the next trip."

Many thanks to those who worked on this course. Maybe next trip will be warmer.

Brial Riel



Photo by Glen Brown

SPRING CONVENTION

APRIL 30th

The Convention hotel will be the Holiday Inn at 39th and Ocean Front.

The rates are:

Ocean View:	Ocean Front:
\$40 single	\$45 single
\$44 double	\$49 double

Additional person in room—\$6.00

Room reservations should be made at least 2 weeks in advance. Banquet reservations must be in at least 48 hours prior to the convention date, April 30th. We are planning a banquet for Saturday night, with cash bar from 6 to 7 followed by a buffet and the presentation of awards.

Virginia Beach is situated only 50 miles from Colonial Williamsburg and Busch Gardens. It is located on the World's Largest Harbor. Naval ships are open for visits. Oceana Naval Jet Base is here. The McArthur Memorial is in Norfolk. There are many interesting sight-seeing side trips you may wish to include on your visit.

Free trolley tickets to ride up and down the Beach will be made available as part of your convention packet.

If you wish to make your own reservations, not at the convention hotel, contact the Virginia Beach Tourist Information Center, P.O. Box 200, Virginia Beach, VA 23458. Phone 800-582-8064 (in state) or 800-446-8038 (out of state.)

Hope to see you in April.

Randy Pugh

CLOYD BEASLEY

20 YEARS OF SERVICE AS A SCOUTMASTER

On January 12, 1983, Cloyd Beasley passed the 20 year mark of active service as Scoutmaster of Boy Scout Troop 224 sponsored by Grace Lutheran Church in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. Those who have been associated with the troop know that it has been 20 years of very intense service. Cloyd spends almost all of his non-working hours on the scouting program and activities which augment the program. Known as "Mr. B." by his scouts, he is a Senior Research Scientist working as a theoretical physicist on the Tokamak Plasma Physics Project at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory. In 1973 he was awarded the Silver Beaver for his service to Scouting.

For an outdoor program Cloyd selects a variety of activities which are fun and exciting while developing physical and mental skills. Backpacking, is ideal for learning self-reliance and self-confidence. By the age of 13 most scouts in Troop 224 have become proficient at winter overnight hikes in the snow at high elevations. Caving is a favorite of most boys because wild caves are physically challenging and appeal to the appetite for exploring. Rock climbing represents the pinnacle of excitement. There is nothing as thrilling as scaling a 100 foot cliff with a 200 foot exposure below you.

Cloyd has contributed 20 years of service to the Scouting program where it counts most: working with boys at the troop level. Has he been successful? Ask the parents of the scouts who have graduated from Troop 224. They can tell you how his efforts contributed to the growth of their sons. Better yet, ask the Scouts who graduated from Troop 224. They occasionally pop in on a Monday night meeting to see how the old Troop is doing. There is little doubt that they highly value their years of association with Cloyd Beasley's Scouting Program.

D. A. Gedcke

DINNER RESERVATION

Return To:
Randy Pugh
957 Earl of Essex Arch
Virginia Beach, VA 23454

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

No. of Dinner Reservations _____ (\$20.00 For Each Dinner) Amt. Enclosed _____

Arrival Date	Departure Date
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I will attend the NATIONAL SKI PATROL meeting.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone No. _____

Please reserve:

Single _____

Double _____

Two room apartment _____
(2 dbl. beds, parlor, kitchen)

DEPOSIT REQUIRED

Cancellations required 72 hours prior to arrival date.

I will share my accommodations with: (please give all names involved)

OUR COMPLIMENTS

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