



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, 2018**.

Send submissions to:

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

Byrd White,
Division Director

National Happenings

Since our last issue I attended the National Board meeting in Denver this January. The new Board members, **Wendy Aarnio** from Eastern Division is a newly elected member, our own **Morgan Armstrong** was elected to his second term, **Rick Knight** from Eastern Division was reelected to his second term, **Ken Kramer** from Rocky Mountain Division was reelected to his second term, and **Chris Pringle** of Eastern Division was reelected. Each member is elected for a three-year term and may serve only two terms.

At the Board meeting, Rick Knight was elected as Board Chair for 2018. Rick and I have been friends for a number of years serving on the National Finance committee together. He will do an excellent job.

Among the many things that were discussed at the National meeting is the question of allowing EMT's to become Traditional members without becoming OEC technicians. Lots of pros and cons in this and there has been a committee formed to study the question. There are currently 848 members who do not have OEC but do have a "higher" level of training.

A major problem for many of us is the computer system. We currently use a program "IMUS". Our old system was failing due to many "patches" that had been put in place over the years without any coordination. IMUS looked like it would fix many of the problems but there was not time to really get in the weeds before our old system completely failed. As a result, we have a system that kind of works but does not do many of the things we would like to have. The IT committee has done a great job of fixing what they could and has now been dissolved. The office will now handle things going forward.



The National office is now doing a three to five-year study to find and implement a new system that will better fit our needs. They have asked that the Divisions give some detailed thought as to what is needed in a new system. If you are interested in helping with this project, please contact me.

Another item that some members care about is the membership card. The Planning committee has been working on this since our meeting last Spring. The cost to mail everyone a card approaches \$30,000 and surveys show that the majority of members don't care while some people find it really important. IMUS will not produce a card in the PDF format. It was decided that for those who really want a membership card mailed to them the office they can be ordered from the NSP store. In the meantime, the office is working to develop a program that will print a decent card as we are all aware that the current program does not work. Not a great solution but the best that can be done right now.

A new Lift Evacuation manual is now in draft form and hopefully will be out by next season.

Front and center was the development of OEC 6. **Dr. David Johe** and **John McNamara** are the leads on this with the assistance of the National Medical Committee. They are going through each chapter in OEC 5 to determine what has changed, what is needed and what is not. The aim is to cover everything that we need to know while keeping to at least the level of a First Responder but without rising to the level of EMT. The purpose of not rising to the EMT level is to avoid regulation by State EMS systems thereby keeping our ability to cross State lines. We now have a certification that is recognized not only across the US but in many countries in Europe.

Lots of other things going on: Should we align our dues year and our fiscal year? Should Affiliates be part of a Division? What kind of structure do Divisions need to incorporate the new Bike Patrols? How do we train Bike patrollers?

A couple of things that I ask of you: Please use the chain of command, there were over 3,500 calls to the National office this year. Some of these calls, hopefully not from our Division, were to "Vent" at the individual who answered the phone. Please look at your profile on the National site and update with email, sex and date of birth.

I hope to see you on the snow!

Experiencing that Southern Hospitality!
By Sheila Summers, Member Services and Education Director

Where do I start? Thanks to all who welcomed me so graciously to the Southern Division Conference in Kingsport, TN at the end of August! Starting with Byrd, Teresa and Frank who made all of my arrangements and Susanne Wise who picked me up at the airport and continuing to every individual who made a special effort to greet me and say thanks for all we do at the national office. It was such a pleasure to meet new people and to say hi again to those I had met before. How special I felt when I was handed my own personalized water bottle, as well – what a nice touch! The best part, too, was putting faces to names and email addresses!



But of course it wasn't all hospitality – though the legendary hospitality suite was definitely legendary! There was a lot of work done in a very short period of time. Beginning with the Friday evening sessions, when I attended the Senior EMM Roundtable, to a full day Saturday culminating with the lovely Awards Banquet that evening, and the business meeting on Sunday morning. The amount of coordination, communication and planning that goes into this event is abundantly evident. While I couldn't participate in each session, I tried to at least stick my head into most of them. It was really great for me to see the nuances in the ways Southern Division approaches training, record-keeping and organizational structure. The level of dedication and expertise I observed is impressive. You are fortunate to have so many incredible leaders working with you on all things patrol-related.

And I did come home with some assignments which I am working on with others in the office. These include some report updates, additions to some website language, emails with specified information and just one potential database issue – which makes me very happy! I know the transition to the new system was challenging but I believe we are in a much better place now than we were two years ago.

It was an honor spending time with you and learning more about what you do and how you do it. Please let me know what I can do to make that work easier.



First Assistant Division Director,

Tom Byron



Even before we can put on skis (or snowboards, if you're so inclined), there's a ton of work to be done, and you are all ON IT! The piece that everyone sees, and that's so critical for all of us, is the annual OEC refresher. As I have visited refreshers, and talked with IORs and instructors, I am reminded of what makes our organization great: people who care passionately about what we do and about making sure we all stay at the top of our games. I'm an IOR and an IT too, so I know how much work goes into all those efforts – but I'm always amazed how each group of instructors works so well together to deliver the crucial refresher information to their patrols, making sure that we maintain the quality of instruction required to provide the standard of training that the skiing public (and area management) depend on.

But it's not just the refreshers. Sure, that's the most visible part of the effort. Most of us don't see the huge planning and organizational effort that the program supervisors and patrol leaders put in during the fall.

Supervisors for every discipline ensure we provide needed training opportunities, coordinate with region administrators and directors, and maintain records. And patrol representatives and directors are working hard to schedule shifts and ensure coverage throughout the season. Most of us don't need to worry about any of that, but they are the reason we can all go out and patrol with confidence every day.

That effort will continue throughout the ski season. I look forward to seeing the reports in a few months detailing all the hard work everyone puts in all winter. I hope you will take advantage of the clinics and other training opportunities. They are great ways to enhance your skills and knowledge, and to meet patrolers from other areas.

Temperatures are dropping, snowmaking guns are firing up, and resorts are setting their opening dates. It's time for all of us to get out on the snow and do what we do best, and what we love to do. As you go out each morning to patrol, remember all the work that others are doing behind the scenes (and in addition to their own patrolling duties) to keep our organization strong.

Program supervisors:

Just a reminder of the importance of keeping Region Directors in the loop when communicating with patrol leadership (PRs/PDs) or when you need to reach out or gather information of any kind. As I've emphasized with some of you, RDs can be an invaluable resource in identifying the right people to talk to, and they often have the answers to your questions ready at hand. Please also copy me so I can get a better handle on how your programs are working, and I can contribute ideas or suggestions in the process. Let's try to keep the lines of communication open so we can all help each other.

Second Assistant Division Director,

Tony Tingle

I am excited to have this opportunity to help the Division as Assistant Division Director for Skills. What are the skills programs? Well, the skills programs are the things that make us better patrollers by enhancing the things we do. The programs include both patroller classifications (Nordic, Senior and Certified) as well as education programs (Outdoor Emergency Transportation [OET], Division Ski School, Avalanche, and Mountain Travel and Rescue [MTR]). All of the skills programs are intertwined, so it makes sense that we are all grouped together to make it easier to work together. If you know me, I like to talk. If you don't believe me, catch me on the snow or come find me at the Fall Conference. I look forward to lots of conversations between the skills programs to plan good things for the Division Patrollers. Since I'm new, I'll stop here and continue to figure out what I'm doing. Stay tuned. If you have questions or comments don't hesitate to give me a shout. I can be reached by e-mail at geofolks@att.net or tony@tingle.rocks. See you on the snow!

Elections Coordinator

Rick Roberts

Southern Division:

47.7% of all eligible voters cast ballots, which is a 41% increase over last year and almost three times the participation in 2014 — an all-time high!!!

Excluding Candidates and Alumni, over 53% of all active, traditional patrollers in Southern Division voted. AWESOME!!!

The collaboration between the Southern and Eastern Divisions yielded 61% of the total ballots cast.

2017 NSP BOD Election - Participation

Total for all eligible voters:

26.11% [a 35% increase over 2016, and a 10-year high]

- 30% of all “Patrollers” voted (not counting Candidates, Alumni and Physician Partners)

Participation by **Division** (top 4):

Eastern	49.7% [100% increase]
Southern	47.7% [41% increase]
Central	21.6%
Rocky Mtn.	20.4%

Eastern & Southern accounted for **61.2%** of all cast ballots

Southern Division by Region:

1. Dixie 61%
2. Blue Ridge 61%
3. Virginia 54%
4. West Virginia 35%

By local area Patrol with over 50% participation:

- Appalachian 79%
- Wintergreen 71%
- Cataloochee 70%
- Bryce Mtn. 68%
- Gatlinburg 60%
- Beech Mtn. 58%

NOTE: The data for Southern Division listed 362 eligible Alumni voters of which 60 cast ballots. Extracting that category results in a **60% participation rate.**

Outdoor Emergency Transportation ... OET ...Outdoor Emergency Transportation

Tony Tingle,

OET Division Supervisor

Last year about this time we were wearing short sleeves and lamenting the 70 degree days and sunny weather. My, how a year makes a difference!. It has been colder than.....well, you get the idea. I am happy to hear that the snowmakers all around the Division have been busy, and we are reaping the benefits.

I am sad to say this is my last article as Southern Division OET Supervisor. It has been a long run, and a great one. I have served the Division under four Division Directors: Neil Booth, Morgan Armstrong, Richard Boyer, and Byrd White and they taught me much. I have learned from all the OET instructors, instructor trainers (IT), and region supervisors that I've had the pleasure to work with. I have participated as a member of the National OET Team and have enjoyed teaching at three Powderfall Conferences (Snowbird, Canyons, and Snowmass). Globally, I have watched the NSP OET program grow, and I believe it is heading in the right direction, under the leadership of the National OET Directors, past and present. I have made many friends in the handles of toboggans, and I look forward to this being a continuing trend. Thank you for the opportunity!

I am not riding into the sunset. I am moving into a different role for the Division and will be the Assistant Division Director for Skills, which includes the OET Program. Before I go, here are seven things that I think are important for OET instructors to review.

- 1) Who is taking over? Randy Rumer, from Snowshoe Mountain is the new Division OET program supervisor. Randy is a long-time toboggan instructor, evaluator, and all-around great guy. I am sure the program is going to continue to grow and improve under his watch. Randy and I will be working together to make a smooth transition.
- 2) Who are his assistants? There are two Assistant Division OET Supervisors: Randy was one and this position is open for the time being (for the north) and Mark Taylor marktaylor42@att.net is the Assistant Division OET Supervisor for the south.
- 3) At the Region level (where the bulk of the work really gets done) there are four Region OET Supervisors. These folks are your first stop for questions and answers.
 - Randy Rumer (West Virginia) - rrumer@frontiernet.net – Randy remains the go-to guy until his replacement is named.
 - Randy Trow (Virginia) - rtrowjr@aol.com
 - David Jamison (Blue Ridge) – jamisondt@appstate.edu
 - Jimmy Kuneman (Dixie) - drjkuneman@gmail.com

- 4) Toboggan Refreshers. If you operate a toboggan as part of your NSP duties, you need to refresh your toboggan skills ANNUALLY. The content of the refresher and how you administer it is decided at the local patrol level. Give me shout if you need help.
- 5) Becoming an OET Instructor. If you have an interest, I encourage you to pursue it. Here's the process:
- Take and complete the NSP instructor development course.
 - Find a mentor. This will be an existing OET instructor. Your Patrol Rep/Patrol Director, or any of the Region or Division OET folks mentioned above, can help.
 - Fill out an instructor application <http://www.southernnsp.org/Library.aspx>.
 - Go teach with your mentor. As you are teaching, your mentor fills in your mentoring form <http://www.southernnsp.org/Library.aspx>.
 - Once your mentor believes you are ready, an instructor trainer (IT) evaluates you. Your mentor and IT sign the instructor application. The instructor application, your mentoring form, and a copy of your NSP profile are sent to the Division OET Supervisor (Randy), and he e-mails it to member records at NSP.
 - NSP updates your record and you are an OET instructor!
- 6) Continuing Education for OET Instructors. If you are an OET instructor, the NSP requires that you do continuing education. Every three years, each OET instructor must complete both administrative (dry land) and on-the-snow learning. These courses are registered and led by ITs.
- The administrative part is fulfilled by either ***NSP Instructors Skills Review for Continuing Education (a new course)***, or ***Instructor Continuing Education – OET***. The NSP Instructor Skills Review course satisfies the administrative part for all disciplines (e.g. if you are an OEC and OET instructor, it checks both boxes). If you come to the Division Meeting in Kingsport, you can often get this there.
 - The on-the-snow part is fulfilled by either ***Toboggan Trainers Workshop*** or a ***Snowsports Trainers Workshop***.

Thank you! To all the OET instructors, ITs, and Supervisors in the Southern Division, I appreciate your dedication, and assistance. Thank you for all your help and keep up the good work!

I hope to see you on the Snow. Holler at me or Randy if you have questions (tony@tingle.rocks, geofolks@att.net) (rumer@frontiernet.net). Cheers! Randy.....Tag you're it!

Instructor Development...Instructor Development...Instructor Development

Teresa T. Stewart,

Instructor Development Supervisor

Greetings to all late into the Spring ski season. There are a couple Instructor Development Courses scheduled in the Division – check the Division calendar for the dates and contact information.

The NSP Education Department and the Instructor Development National Committee has completed a revision to the NSP Continuing Education Course Guidelines for NSP Instructors [February 2, 2018 (Rev.5)]. This is available on the NSP website under Instructor Development Resources.

Introduction: The National Ski Patrol Continuing Education Course Guidelines for NSP Instructors was designed by the National Instructor Development Committee as a guide for all National Ski Patrol education disciplines to use to provide continuing education to NSP instructors. This course, when presented as recommended herein, will fulfill the continuing education requirement for all instructors of all disciplines to complete a continuing education course for their specific NSP education discipline at least once every three years.

Course Objectives: The objectives of the National Ski Patrol Continuing Education Course for NSP Instructors are to provide a review of the material included in the NSP Instructor Development Course and the accompanying textbook, “Instructor Development: Training the Adult Learner”, and to provide reviews and updates to NSP Instructors on the latest materials and information pertaining to the discipline in which they teach.

The National Ski Patrol Continuing Education Course Guidelines for NSP Instructors Consists of Two Modules:

1. A review of some of the principles from the Instructor Development Course and the course textbook, “Instructor Development – Training The Adult Learner.”
2. A presentation which offers continuing education and update material to instructors relative to the specific discipline in which they teach.

Length of the Continuing Education Course:

The course should be 60 – 90 minutes minimum, with at least 1/2 of that time devoted to a review of the Instructor Development material. You are not required to teach all of the included Instructor Development material. You may choose certain portions to teach to fulfill the ID material review requirement. The course can be longer than this minimum if additional educational material and updates are to be presented.

Let me know if you have any questions and how this relates to Instructor 3-year Cycle of Instructor Renewals. This will be a topic or roundtable at this years annual Fall Conference in Kingsport, TN.

Teresa Stewart – stewart.teresa@gmail.com
980-522-8410

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

Tanya Thomas – outgoing Division Program Supervisor

When the position of National Women's Program Adviser came open, I thought I might like to do it. Then I thought of all the reasons I couldn't. Or shouldn't. Who would replace me in southern to keep the women's program in our division going strong? How would I be able to do the extra responsibilities with my two kids (ages 1 and 3)? Are there enough hours in the day to do it all? I thought it would be too much. So I decided against it and went about my normal Southern Division Supervisor duties.

I was then approached at the fall conference in Kingsport, TN a month later by a few fellow patrollers about putting in for the position. I was told I have a talent for being a team captain. They know I have a drive to make not only the women's program better but I'm a huge advocate for families in patrolling. I called Linda Barthel (women's program adviser emeritus) to check in on what the position entails. She was very positive that I could be the right person for the job. I talked to my husband and family about the commitment and they were all very supportive. They would help me juggle it all if I were to receive the appointment. I submitted an application, went through the interview process and was given the appointment. Now what?!

Of course there would be someone to replace me. There are so many capable women in the Southern Division. **Amanda Perryman** has seamlessly stepped into the position and is barreling forward with new ideas for the program. My husband and family are *great* at helping me juggle all of my new responsibilities. There are *never* enough hours in the day!

Meeting with the ladies of the southern division and hearing about how much you have learned and grown in the women's program makes me smile (and let's be honest, cry, sometimes). I am here for you ladies (and families!) of the NSP. If there is something you're interested in seeing the NSP do for you please let me know and I'll do what I can. I'm excited to see so many women in influential positions in the ski industry. I'd love to see the program influence more women towards leadership in the NSP. And now, I'll turn it over to Amanda – a Senior Alpine Patroller from Ober Gatlinburg that has been a member of NSP since 2000.

See you on the slopes!

Tanya Bruce Thomas, DVM
NSP National Women's Program Adviser
tanya.bruce@gmail.com
fb.me/nspnwp



Women's Program ... Women's Program

Women's Program,
Amanda Perryman

Hello my name is Amanda Perryman and I am from the Ober Gatlinburg Ski Patrol in the Dixie Region, where I have been a member since 2000. I am a Senior Alpine Patroller on a snowboard and I am also a part of the Smoky Mtn. Nordic Patrol. I have been an active participant in the Southern Division Women's Program. When I got a call



from Tanya Thomas asking me if I would consider taking the position of Women's Program Supervisor for the Southern Division as she is transitioning to the position of National Women's Program Advisor I was quite surprised to say the least. With a little hesitation I accepted the position and I am excited about this new opportunity. I work Full time as a firefighter/paramedic and a training officer with the Gatlinburg Fire Department. I am a whitewater raft guide in the summer and enjoy all outdoor activities. My husband Tommy is very supportive and also enjoys skiing. I am looking forward to the challenge of leading the Southern Division Women's Program. I am excited as I look to the future for the clinic next year, off season activities, and new ways to recruit, retain, and reenergize women and their families. If you have any ideas or questions please feel free to contact me.



See you on the snow!

Amanda Perryman

Women's Program Supervisor

Southern Division

amandaogle@hotmail.com

865-661-0685

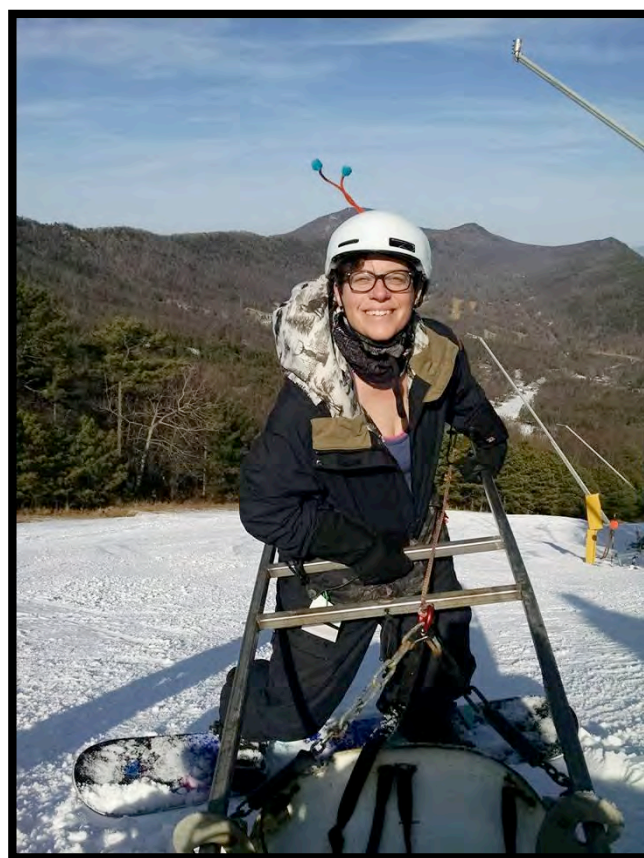
2018 NSP Southern Division Women's Clinic

The 2018 Southern Division Women's Clinic was held January 26th– 28th at Massanutten Resort in Virginia. There were 24 women who come from all walks of life, we had veterinarians, paramedics, firefighters, a solar farm developer, an architect, lab researcher, a children's director, and many more. We even had two women from the Central Division and three from the Eastern Division. We all came together for a weekend of fun, learning, and meeting new friends.



Getting ready for a sunrise groomer ride.

Kelley Eyster in the handles



The clinic started Friday with a sunrise groomer ride, which 3 participants enjoyed thanks to **Cory Bradburn** expert groomer operator. Then to the lodge for a meet and greet, make your helmet bling, and paperwork. Then it was off to the slopes for toboggan enhancement training. We split into three groups with trainers **Linda Barthel, Amy Arnold, Leslie Carter, Joy Jucker, and Tanya Thomas**. We talked about the bumps and the smile of doom the chain gives you when cresting. Learned and refreshed on taking the toboggan through the bumps outside the handles – up is go, down is slow. Following toboggan enhancement it was off to Yoga and then a relaxing soak in the hot tubs. We ended the day with heavy hoers d'oeuvres and drinks.



Amy Arnold demonstrating tail rope with Ellen Bradley, Roz McCarthy, and Veronika Gunter.

Saturday started with a hello from Tom Byron – 1st Assistant Division Director. We then split into 4 groups for SES enhancement training. We had 3 groups of skiers, and 1 group of snowboarders. We had **Ashley Schneider**, a level 2 AASI; **Cathy Margiotta**, a level 2 PSIA accredited in bio-mechanics; **Linda Barthel**, a level 3 PSIA Certified patroller and OET IT; and **Amy Arnold**, a level 3 PSIA. This was a full day of skiing and snowboarding. The skiers worked on having an intimate relationship with the front of the boot and other tiny tweaks to get weight in the correct position. The skiers also worked with whisper gates for accurate turning with video analysis. The snowboarders worked on balance, edge control, shifting weight, nose presses, tail presses, nose rolls, 180's and more.



Joy Jucker, Shelia Chapelle, and Zoe Kelley making turns.



Melinda Souder, Sabine Hardin, Joy Jucker, Sandra Sudduth, and Megan Robbins.

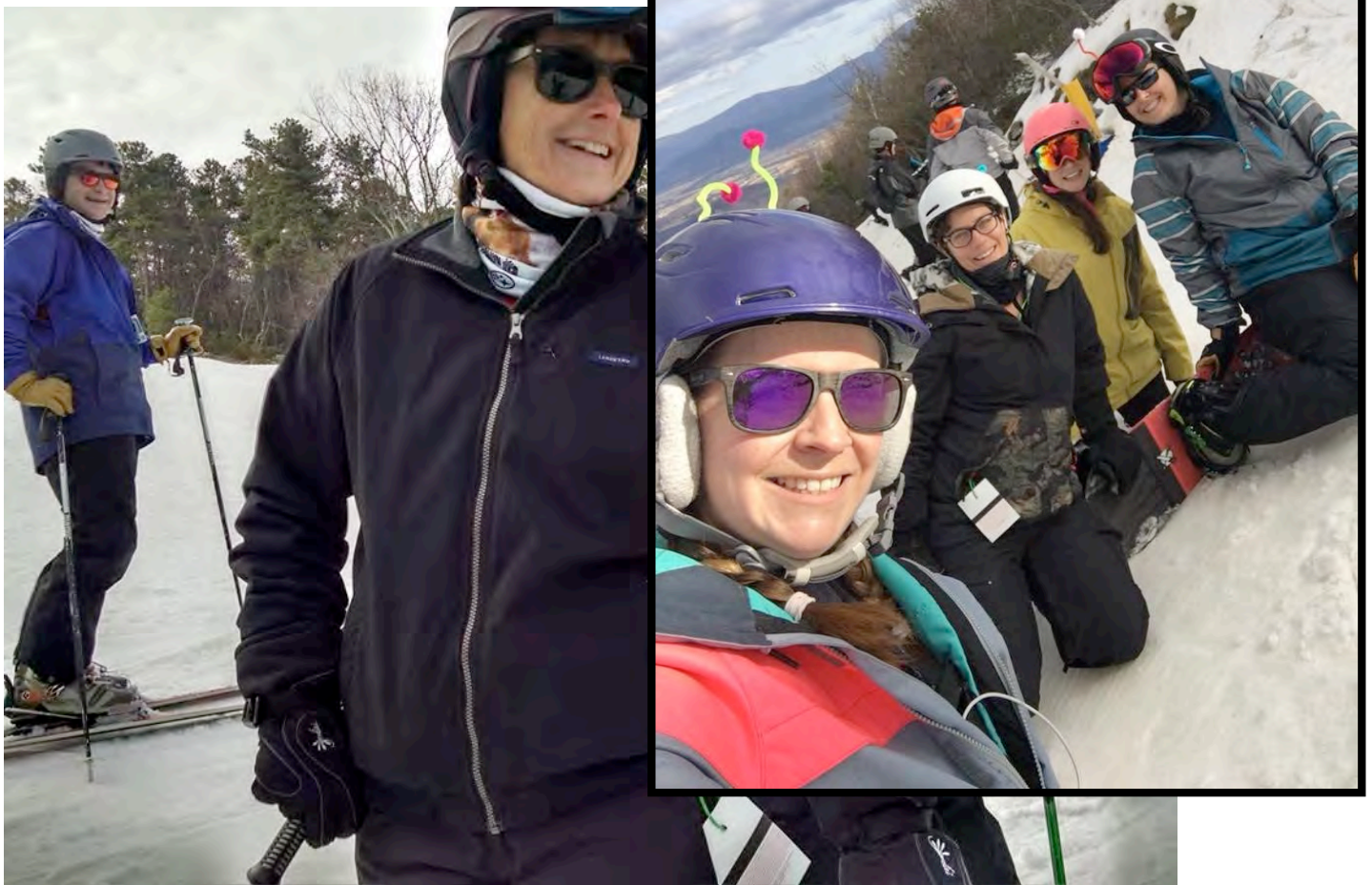
Saturday evening we continued with dinner together, door prizes, swag bags, and discussing our breakthroughs, and triumphs we had the past two days. We all stayed together in large adjoining condos. This made it easy to get together, cook, play games, share ideas and experiences, and just hang out. We encouraged everyone to keep progressing forward and move to the next level the Senior and Certified Programs.

We continued Sunday with more training and practice of techniques from Saturday. Sunday was a smaller group due to rain and travel time. The clinic was a huge success overall with several participants having breakthrough in various areas. The clinic helped everyone to boost their confidence, improve techniques, learn new skills, and make new friends.

A big shout out to Massanutten Resort for their hospitality and allowing us to train on their mountain. We would especially like to thank Massanutten management **Kenny Hess**, Patrol Manager **Nancy Bradburn** and Massanutten liaison/patroller **Leslie Carter** for all their help in making this clinic a huge success. We look forward to helping the division and national to recruit, retain, and reenergize not only women patrollers but their families.

Thank you to everyone for supporting the women's program.

Snowboarders Jessica Nelms, Kelley Eyster, Instructor Ashley Schneider, and Amanda Perryman →



Tom Byron, Sabine Hardin, and Melinda Souder

Amy Arnold giving instruction to Joy Jucker, Veronika Gunter, Roz McCarthy, Tanya Thomas, Robin Meyer, and Sabine Hardin.



YOGA CLASS



Joy Jucker – first Southern Division Women’s Program Supervisor, Amanda Perryman – current Southern Division Women’s Program Supervisor, Tanya Thomas – previous Southern Division Women’s Supervisor, Current National Women’s Program Director



2018 Participants

Cataloochee – Shannon Hunter, Lisa Skelley, Sandra Sudduth, Sabine Hardin, Jessica Nelms, Kelley Eyster, Veronika Gunter

Ober Gatlinburg – Amanda Perryman

Wintergreen – Ellen Bradley, Meggan Robbins, Judi Kay

Eastern Division - Roz McCarthy, Sheila Chappelle, Zoe Kelly

Massanutten – Julianne Allen

Snowshoe/Silvercreek – Melinda Souder

Instructors –

Ashley Schneider – Level 2 AASI

Joy Jucker – PSIA Level 1, AASI Level 1, OET IT

Robin Meyer – Certified Patroller

Leslie Carter- Certified Patroller , OET

Tanya Thomas – OET

Linda Barthel – Level 3 PSIA, Certified Patroller, OET IT

Amy Arnold - Level 3 PSIA, OET

Cathy Margiotta - Level 2 PSIA and accredited in Bio Mechanics



Annual Southern Division Awards 2017

Awards Advisor,
Peg Harris

It is hard to believe another season has come and gone along with another successful awards banquet. Byrd and I make a pretty good awards presentation team. And this year we decided not to read the letters of nominations for each award since I include these in this article. Again, the service award and instructor service award recipients were streamed on a screen during dinner. Comments continue to be that folks are actually reading the names as they scroll. This is a way more efficient way to announce the recipients than taking the time to read out the names.

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

Certificates of Appreciation

Given By Bill Smith

Rendering efficient, faithful and invaluable service to the Southern Division's Candidate Evaluation Committee in conjunction with the National Ski Patrol 2016 National Board of Director's election.

Team Members:

Jonathan Hall, Blue Ridge Region
Wayne Morgan, Dixie Region
Paul Gagon, Virginia Region
David Cline, West Virginia Region

Region Directors:

Brent Rockett, Blue Ridge
Brandon Olson, Dixie
Chuck Lollar, Virginia
Mary Legg, West Virginia

Given By Bill Smith

In grateful appreciation for your participation and support at the 2017 OEC Hybrid Refresher during the Southern Division Conference in Kingsport, TN.

Wintergreen Team Members:

Ed Pouncey, Jan Haigler, Paul Gagon, Peg Harris, T Harris, Ava Gardner, Morgan Armstrong, Catherine Smithson, Cathy Ballard, Helen Ballard, Jack Tingle, Skip Warren, Judi Kay-Monaghan

Given By Brent Rockett

Toni Cheek for serving as Assistant Blue Ridge Region Director
JoAnn Ehlinger for serving as the Blue Ridge Region Senior Program Supervisor.

Service Awards by Patrol

Appalachian

Jeff	Davis	10 years
Jeb	Fox	10 years
Bradley	Hinton	10 years
Sidney	King	10 years
Rudy	Mullis	10 years
Kent	Graham	15 years
Chris	Martin	15 years
Dennis	Simmons	15 years
Scott	Smith	15 years
John	Whitener	15 years
Mark	Latendresse	20 years
Debbie	Lentz	20 years
Mark	Soule	20 years
Joseph	Donadio	30 years

Beech Mountain

Kelly	Durham	10 years
Frances	Edwards	10 years
William	Scantlin	10 years
James	Niver	15 years
Amanda	Ohlson	15 years
Brett	Pryor	15 years
Alexis	Santi	15 years
Theresa	Varner	20 years
Julia	Adams	25 years
Dan	Cheek	25 years
Tim	Holland	25 years
James	Moore	25 years
Richard	Adams	30 years
Charles	Handley	30 years
Greg	Sowers	30 years
Douglas	Whelan	30 years
Charles	Travis	40 years
Rodney	Farris	45 years

Blackwater Nordic

Gary	Berti	25 years
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Bryce

Alex	Fagan	10 years
Tyler	LaVay	10 years
G.William	Nabers	15 years
Jonathan	Snow	15 years
Lee	Miller	20 years
Kevin	Fagan	30 years
Kent	Christian	35 years
Carl	Larsen	40 years

Cataloochee

Dennis	Alexander	10 years
Richard	Coyne	10 years
Christopher	Hill	10 years
Renee	Hoyos	10 years
Hugh	Moody	10 years
Scott	Krein	15 years
Robert	Brewster	20 years
Ken	Collins	30 years
Randall	Avery	50 years

Cloudmont

Bob	Palik	50 years
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Massanutten

Mark	Schroeder	10 years
Joseph	Shellenberger	10 years
John	Doyle	15 years
Emily	Hall	15 years

Carol	Bartus	20 years
John	Davis	20 years
Scott	Campbell	25 year
Charles	Coleman	40 years

Ober Gatlinburg

Clarke	Chambers	10 years
Rhonda	Ratcliff	15 years
Glenn	Campbell	20 years
William	Mattison	25 years
David	Bjornstad	35 years

Sapphire Valley

Ben	Tholkes	40 years
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Snowshoe

Frank	Daniels	10 years
Bryan	Fielding	10 years
Daniel	Hoppes	10 years
Lisa	Larkin	10 years
Miles	Monroe	10 years
Forrest	Cox	15 years
Mary	Legg	20 years
Christopher	Methvin	20 years
Susan	Murad	20 years
John	Carruth	25 years
Michael	Cassis	30 years
Howard	Gibson	30 years
Jerry	Goldfarb	30 years
Jan	Gooding	30 years
Claude	Hylton	30 years
Jeffrey	McKelvey	30 years
Nancy	Tiffey	30 years
Robert	Humphris	35 years
Daniel	Philippi	35 years
Jan	Starr	40 years

Southern Admin Patrol

Brent	Bowman	25 years
Byrd	White	25 years
Mike	Harris	40 years

Sugar Mountain

Amanda	Colthart	10 years
John	Donaldson	10 years
Brad	Eddins	10 years
John	Fort	10 years
David	Phillips	10 years
Meredith	Phillips	20 years
Randy	Wrenn	20 years
Bryan	Webb	25 years
Clarence	Ilderton	30 years
James	Bolton	35 years

Timberline

Lauren	Weatherford	10 years
Joseph	McNeer	25 years

Wintergreen

Margaret	Larson	10 years
Paul	Gagon	10 years
Debbie	Gagon	10 years
Harry	Warren	10 years
Paul	Whitehead	10 years
Robert	Fedak	15 years
Bob	Knox	15 years
Robby	McFarland	15 years
Robert	Coleman	20 years
Shawn	Fields	20 years
Peggy	Harris	25 years
Kirk	Mangum	25 years
Judith	Kay-Monaghan	30 years
Richard	Wester	30 years
Douglas	Carlberg	45 years

Winterplace

Corbin	Tonelli	10 years
Kent	Roberts	15 years
Stephen	Finch	30 years
Thomas	Wagner	30 years
Creager	David.T	30 years
Cynthia	Boehling	40 years

Wolf Ridge

Tim	Crane	10 years
John	Hofler	10 years
Svend	Egholm	15 years
Wayne	Persons	25 years

Instructor Service Awards 2017**Southern Admin**

Steve Kuller	24 years
Teresa Stewart	12 years
Byrd White	18 years

Appalachian

Anne Donadio	24 years
Hugh Jernigan	24 years
Victor Misenheimer	12 years
Richard Sanders	24 years

Beech

Michael Baxley	12 years
Douglas Gilstrap	24 years

Kenneth Hale	12 years
Richard Lott	12 years
James Niver	12 years
Margaret Rees	18 years
Raymond Smith	24 years
Michael Stanford	12 years
Harvey Varner	24 years
Collin Waldron	12 years
Richard Yerchek	18 years

Bryce

Nancy DiBenedetto	24 years
Lisa Gravitte	12 years
William Kost	18 years
Kurt Legenhausen	18 years
Patricia Lessy	24 years
Lee Miller	12 years
Jonathan Snow	12 years
Anthony Wells	24 years
Lacy Williams	24 years

Cataloochee

Ann Blakely	18 years
Robert Brewster	18 years
Scott Krein	12 years
Michael Wolf	18 years

Homestead

William Parks	24 years
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Ober

Glenn Campbell	12 years
Steve Erb	12 years
Brent Galloway	18 years
Bob Lewis	12 years
William Mattison	12 years
Brandon Olson	12 years
Dennis Slagle	24 years

Massanutten

Mark Andrews	24 years
John Bartus	18 years
Travis Dorman	12 years
Brian Dubas	24 years
Sanford Montalto	24 years
Kenneth Pankow	24 years

Snowshoe

Charlotte Bradley	18 years
Mary Lou Legg	18 years
Jon Magi	24 years
Jane Poundstone	18 years

Sugar

Roger Bushnell	12 years
Camille Hale	12 years
Jonathan Hale	18 years
C. R. Alex Rucker	18 years
Gene Self	18 years
Mary Self	18 years

Timberline

Janet Basile	24 years
Steve Cvechko,Jr	24 years
Richard Dunn	12 years
Joseph McNeer	24 years

Wintergreen

Tucker Crolius	24 years
Christopher Cuthbert	18 years
Brandon Deane	24 years
Patricia Deane	24 years
James Dick	24 years
Tom Hughes	18 years
Peggy Harris	24 years
William Harris	24 years
Chuck Lollar	12 years
John E. Pouncey	24 years
Ginny Ragsdale	18 years
Meggan Robbins	12 years
Geoffrey Stagg	12 years
Matt Weitz	12 years

Winterplace

Kellie Colvard	12 years
John Darrow	12 years
Stephen Finch	18 years

Wolf Ridge

Thomas Bingham	18 years
Larry Erb	18 years

National Appointments

Keith Cassidy	Wintergreen
Aileen Cassidy	Wintergreen
Tommy Taylor	Sugar

Leadership Commendation Appointment

Teresa Stewart	Southern Admin
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Meritorious Service Award**For meritorious service as the Legal Advisor to the Southern Division and as a member of the NSP National Legal Committee**

Chuck Lollar	Wintergreen
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Merit Stars

For providing assistance to an unresponsive patient at Cataloochee Ski Area on January 24, 2016

Purple Christopher Major
Ahmed Ellasy
Blue Christopher Hill
Steve McCarragher
Yellow Lynne McCarraher
Stephanie Crowe
Craig Cox

For extraordinary volunteer service to NSP and the Southern Division

Yellow Morgan Armstrong

For volunteer legal service to NSP and the Southern Division

Yellow Randy Trow

Senior

Scott Wootten Massanutten
Allen McCowen Wintergreen
Carroll Allred Wintergreen
Paul Shepherd Wintergreen
Catherine Smithson Wintergreen
David Carroll Wintergreen
Tim Braden Wintergreen

Division Outstanding Winners

Alpine Patroller

Matt Weitz Wintergreen

NSP has many dedicated people willing to sacrifice time, money and sometimes their own personal safety to help others. Someone standing out from this group is quite an accomplishment. The person I nominate for Outstanding Alpine Patroller is just such an individual.

The year following his candidacy, we were still toying around with the idea of Senior candidates having to patrol a full year before being allowed to enter into the program. Our patrol decided to allow the person named as outstanding candidate to bypass this rule. A call to the Senior coordinator for the region soon set the record straight. As there were no strict parameters regarding the best of rule, this patroller held our feet to the fire, insisting that, as a strong #2 choice for this honor, there should be nothing holding him back from progressing. His point was well taken and he was allowed in the program where he proceeded to excel in all aspects of Senior.

A super strong skier, he has not forgotten the main reason we are here, first aid, teaching at all of our annual refreshers since joining the patrol. As the skier though, he had an interest in passing on his skill and love of the sport and soon was mentored into our cadre of patrol S&T instructors. It was soon recognized that his skill and personality were an exact fit for this job. He kept taking on more and more responsibility, eventually moving to take the lead role in our patrol's S&T instructor team coordinating all facets of the program where he remains today. He is continually involved in attending PSIA clinics, in and out of the region and division to further

enhance his S&T skills in spite of his credentials as PSIA Level III instructor while also encouraging fellow instructors to join him to deepen the knowledge and skill base of the entire team.

And if all of the above wasn't enough to fill all of his days on the mountain during the ski season, he has now been appointed the Division Snowsports School Technical Director.

He is more than just a competent instructor, he is an enthusiastic, motivating force on the patrol frequently attending patrol board meeting to appeal and make a stand for things he believes will make his instructor team and the entire patrol stronger and more effective.

His enthusiasm translates into motivated, dedicated candidate patrollers each season, tired at the end of a training day but knowing they are much closer to being fully equipped to handle anything that may come their way in the future.

It is an honor and privilege to nominate this individual as Outstanding Alpine Patroller for our division.

OEC Instructor

Chelsea Stroh Appalachian

To Whom It May Concern,

It is indeed a pleasure to recommend this patroller for the Outstanding National Ski Patrol OEC Instructor award. Since this patroller became an instructor, she has participated in our patrol's OEC class each fall. She has continually offered her time to assist the lead instructor teach certain chapters out of the 5th edition text, and spent countless hours providing skill stations to our candidates and to our membership at OEC refreshers each fall.

This season she stepped up as lead instructor for our patrol's OEC class and other patrol candidates within our region. With her commitment and dedication to her students she provided these 9 individuals with the skills and knowledge to complete this year's basic level OEC at our Area. Her candidate class recorded over 1300 training hours on duty this season. With her guidance and leadership, 7 of these first-year candidates successfully passed the basic S&T, and are now jacketed patrollers on our patrol.

As one can see, this instructor's desire to succeed and assist those with the ideals of the NSP system with the knowledge of Outdoor Emergency Care speaks for itself. She has proven to be a future leader and instructor within this patrol, and most deserving of this year's Outstanding National Ski Patrol OEC Instructor award.

Instructor

Robert McFarland (Bobby-Mac) Wintergreen

Snowboarding patrolling is still a relatively new addition to the snowsports world and our patrol was desperately looking for a snowboard instructor to supplement our staff of one. Lucky for us, a patrollers spouse had just the qualifications we required. This individual has been a talented snowboard instructor for years at our mountain and to lure him away from that role seemed insurmountable. Fortunately he was searching for a new challenge to which ski patrol fit the bill. It was a win/win situation. A wife and son, both patrollers, somewhat eased the pain of going thru the OEC program in the fall of 2012. After gliding thru this requirement, he was put on the fast track of Instructor Development & mentoring to certify him as both a OEC and snowboard S&T instructor. He quickly took on both roles, participating as a OEC instructor at fall refreshers and very quickly taking on the lead as snowboard instructor for the patrol. He has been extraordinarily successful in taking an increasing number of snowboard patrol candidates thru all the paces to qualify them as alpine patrollers. His positive, hyperkinetic vibe is contagious; his gregarious nature makes all the hard work of learning fun. For such a short time with us, he has from the beginning had a real sense for the standard duties of patrolling, not allowing his S&T instructor credentials to interfere with daily patrol responsibilities. His is consistently on the slope with rand and file patrollers, setting up and opening the mountain before his candidates arrive. He is a great asset and much appreciated by all patrollers but especially those that encounter his a instructor.

For all his talent and expertise in the realm of instruction, this is a guy you like to be around. He always has a smile to greet you, no matter what time of day. Whether he thinks this or not he seems to exemplify the adage "Live every day as if it were your last". All business when imparting his knowledge of snowboarding, he is one who really has a zest for life. I'm delighted to propose that you select this eminently qualified and engaging patroller as our Outstanding Instructor for 2017.

Paid Patroller

Mark Woods

Massanutten

As the Patrol Director at our Resort, I am honored to nominate a patroller as Outstanding Paid Patroller. The Nominee has been a patroller since 2008, a senior patroller since 2012, an OEC instructor since 2011, and an OET instructor for both ski and snowboard since 2012. He is also a lift evacuation instructor and is certified in fall protection enabling him to climb lift towers. In 2013 I selected the nominee as a lead supervisor which is our resort's term for assistant patrol director and he has served in that position ever since.

Our resort has expanded the use of OEC as the standard of care to provide not just first aid for the ski resort but also first aid for other areas of recreation including our outdoor recreation facility with zip lines, climbing walls, tubing, and other outdoor activities. In addition, in 2016 the resort opened a downhill mountain bike facility. The nominee was a leader in helping us set up these expanded OEC programs. His presence helped ensure that the new programs got off the ground properly. In addition to teaching OEC, the nominee also provides and teaches high angle rescue on ziplines and other skills that enable our OEC technicians at the outdoor recreation facility to climb towers and perform rescues under adverse conditions. The skills that the nominee possesses and teaches improve the ski area's ability to perform rescues on lifts.

Because of these expansions of the resort's recreation activities and the use of OEC in multiple areas, the nominee now serves in multiple OEC managerial positions at the resort. In addition to serving as lead supervisor for the ski patrol during the ski season, he serves as the person in charge of OEC first aid for the outdoor recreation facility and as a lead supervisor for our mountain bike patrol.

He thrives in all these positions. And his work at multiple locations provides a synergy to the resort's first aid and safety programs. The nominee is a master of management by walking around. Bike patrollers have mentioned the nominee will on days when he is working at the zip lines will find the time to visit the bike patrol aid room and ensure that things are OK. This reassures our bike patrollers that there are additional resources available and helps make both OEC communities function as a single team.

The lifeblood of a ski patrol is the OEC candidate class that provides new patrollers each year. We conduct multiple OEC classes each year to support our various recreational activities. The common denominator for all of these classes is the nominee. He teaches at the overwhelming majority of our class sessions and brings to those sessions a wealth of experience and teaching skill. Before joining the patrol, he was a sky-diving instructor and he brings to our community the carefulness and attention to getting it right that sky-diving demands.

On the ski slopes the nominee also serves as an OET instructor for both ski and snowboard patrollers. He treats the annual toboggan recertification as a teaching and training opportunity. Our patrollers benefit from his expertise and skilled teaching manner.

In sum, the nominee is always willing to help out and brings to every situation the laid-back demeanor and confidence that our line patrollers really appreciate. Both patrollers and the general public benefit from the nominee's personality and skills. And I am grateful that the nominee is part of our team.

It is with great honor that I nominate this Patroller as outstanding paid patroller.

Mary Kay Twomey Patroller

LaRaye Rudicile Appalachian

To Whom It May Concern,

It is a pleasure to recommend this Patroller for the Outstanding Patroller Award. This Patroller's medical background and professional knowledge has become a respected skill set with our Patrol and our Ski Area's membership, as well. She has proven to be a valued Instructor, healthcare provider, team leader, and supervisor within our Volunteer Membership.

This Patroller has logged over 160 hours on duty this season. These hours were spent in our First Aid Room supervising and assisting with any First Aid being rendered to our guests. Each session she is signed in, she is respectfully regarded as a mentor from our membership and new candidates involving the current OEC curriculum and following local Emergency Care Protocols.

This Patroller has been a lead OEC Instructor and helped teach our Patrol's OEC class, every Fall, for the past 4 seasons. She has revised and presents our Bloodborne Pathogen Program, and helps teach our annual CPR recertification, at our Fall Refreshers, each year. This Patroller actively works within our local community by providing and teaching CPR, annual wellness programs, and COPD Clinics, to help improve our community's quality of life and aid in the development of programs that focus on those in need of care.

This Patroller's skill set and work ethic has attained her a good working relationship that is very well respected within our community's Rescue Squads, Fire Departments and EMS Services.

It is this Patroller's dedication to this Patrol, her commitment to a Professional quality of care, and support of the NSP system, that makes her an invaluable asset to this Ski Area and the community that we live in. This Patroller is very deserving of this Outstanding Patroller Award and an Outstanding member of this Patrol.

Patrol Representative

Ron Dull Massanutten

As Patrol Director at our resort, I nominate a patroller as Outstanding Patrol Representative.

The nominee has been a patroller for more than 20 years, and a senior patroller for more than ten years. He has been the patrol representative for seven years. He was the Division Outstanding Patrol Representative in 2015.

The Nominee leads by example. His calm demeanor in addressing any issue or challenge clearly presents the model for our line patrollers as they absorb his manner and mimic it. In addition to helping our patrollers follow this model demeanor the nominee's demeanor provides benefit to patients. The calm confidence this demeanor displays is immediately noticeable and comforting to patients. Volunteer and paid patrollers at our resort operate together seamlessly in large part due to the calm, respectful, and measured communications that our patrol representative maintains with everyone from the rookie patroller on up to area management.

As patrol representative, he is not required to work regular shifts as a patroller. Nevertheless, he has served a regular workload of shifts to assist the resort while we were shorthanded. In addition to that regular workload, our nominee is a fixture on the hill almost every weekend. As a "floating" supervisor, he has mastered the art of applying himself exactly when and where he is needed most throughout the entire resort both on the slopes and in the aid room. During shortages or especially busy shift changes when one of the two mountain teams or the aid room staff is in danger of being overwhelmed he has served extended shifts negating potential shortages smoothing overall operations, increasing morale, and making my job easier. His work to improve morale is not limited to traditional ski patrol duties. Our nominee works in his spare time to enhance the patrol's sense of community and well-being by barbecuing hamburgers, hot dogs, venison, and vegetarian options that he secures and donates to the patrol at shift changes whenever duties allow. This enables our patrollers heading out or coming in to grab a quick meal and share their experiences in an informal shift change meeting. The information this provides for the incoming patrollers better prepares them for potential challenges they might face that are peculiar to conditions on a particular day.

His efforts at improving our sense of community are further reflected in scheduling, preparing and executing at his own expense an annual pot luck gathering following our refresher every fall. He hosts and choreographs dinner for the entire patrol for both paid and volunteers. This session helps all of us catch up and enhances our sense of team and camaraderie within the patrol.

The nominee also provides a significant portion of our fundraising efforts by donating each year for patrol sale more than 100 printed t-shirts both long and short sleeve, hats, sweatshirts, and golf shirts with all profits going to the patrol. Our patrollers are regularly seen wearing these items both in the aid room and on the hill not only generating funds but again contributing to our entire patrol's sense of team.

Finally, the nominee serves as a good will ambassador for the skiing community by hosting foreign exchange students including taking and as appropriate teaching these students skiing.

It is with great honor that I nominate this patroller as outstanding Patrol Representative.

Administrative Patroller

Laura Lambert Massanutten

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

The Nominee has been a patroller since 2008, an Outdoor Emergency Care (OEC) instructor since 2009, an Instructor Development (ID) instructor since 2015, a CPR Instructor since 2010, and has served the division as internet-webmaster coordinator since 2016.

Our resort has expanded the use of OEC as the standard of care to provide not just first aid for the ski area, but also for other areas of recreation, including our four season water park, our mountain bike recreation activities, and our outdoor recreation facility, with ziplines, climbing walls, tubing, and other outdoor activities. As a result of the use of OEC as the first aid standard of training for the entire resort, the OEC class taught by the ski patrol trains and qualifies a number of what we call OEC Technicians who are not members of the ski patrol, but who provide first aid in the other recreational activities at the resort. The nominee completed the OEC class seeking to become one of these OEC technicians primarily at the resort's four season indoor-outdoor water park. The nominee had such a positive impression of NSP following the OEC class that she wanted to give back and she chose to volunteer to support the ski patrol.

We and the division benefit from that eagerness. When the division needed an internet-website coordinator, the nominee stepped forward. The position of internet-website coordinator is the equivalent of a program supervisor position. It is not a place for beginners. The previous website coordinator was a strong resource, but had to step down because of conflicts. That the previous strong website coordinator had to step down is evidence of the demands of the position. The nominee manages the calendar and staff directory, manages the data on the website, maintains the website executive folder and posts election information. But the nominee is not merely maintaining the status quo. She is in the process of re-writing a fair portion of the website to update how it looks and how the member interacts with it making it not just user friendly but user devoted. Anyone familiar with websites understands how complex and demanding that task is.

Making the division website function smoothly is not all the nominee does for the NSP. When there was a need, she stepped up. When a need was identified for Instructor Development (ID) instructors, the nominee was one of the first to volunteer. The nominee has taught Instructor Development courses and is scheduled to be the Instructor of Record for another Instructor Development course this spring. The nominee is also a regular instructor at our annual refreshers and our regular OEC classes and a CPR instructor.

The nominee possesses the Midas touch. Everything she does turns out excellent. As an OEC instructor, the nominee is exceptional. Typically our annual OEC refreshers would begin with a lecture. We routinely turned to the nominee to give those start the day annual OEC refresher lectures.

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

Thomas "Doc" Brigham for Large Patrol

Wintergreen

This patrol is all about leadership and development. This is a patrol that consistently provides leadership in their Region, Division and to National. We are not blessed with lots of vertical or deep powder. What we do have is a very busy resort with a patrol that consistently works more than 700 accidents in a season, and a dedicated cadre of patrollers who are passionate about what they do. Our driving force is to constantly ask ourselves, "How do we raise the bar on our performance?" As a result, we have one of the most sophisticated and comprehensive programs to turn raw recruits into excellent patrollers and then maintain and evolve those skills over time. We are deeply committed to building and sharing the best training and development programs with our patrollers, our resort, our community, our Division, and our NSP.

For the interested snowsports enthusiast to the seasoned patroller who wants to attain Senior or even Certified status, we have built an integrated set of courses and training opportunities that allow folks to progress successfully. For the interested future patroller, we offer a "ski with the patrol" day that allows a potential candidate to actually go out on the slopes with a seasoned patroller to gain an informative and realistic idea of what a patroller's day is like. This gives the potential candidate a true picture of what is

expected so that if they make the decision to become a member, they can come into the program with their eyes wide open. For the youth in our community, we offer the youth patrol program that provides hands-on skills and a level of insight into mountain operations that few adults ever gain. For those who wish to join the patrol, we offer rigorous but fun OEC, ski/ride, and toboggan training programs that lead to attaining Patroller/Alpine patroller status. As our patrollers grow in ability, we have a robust Senior program for them to step into. As they move through the Regional Senior program, they find our patrollers helping, coaching and teaching as their administrators, instructors and evaluators. And for those who are admitted in to the Certified program, they once again find their teachers and mentors and leaders to be the patrollers who have guided their careers along the way. There is not a program in this Division which lacks our strong fingerprints and contributions as leaders.

Another reason we are Outstanding is that our patrol stays on the leading edge of patroller needs. An example of this is the Hybrid refresher module that one of our patrollers was instrumental in developing. The hybrid module allows patrollers to complete the dyadic portion of the annual refresher at their own pace. This also allows patrollers to practice hands on at the actual refresher. Each volunteer patroller can go to our patrol website and schedule their sessions via an innovative application designed by one of our knowledgeable patrollers. The site is easy to use and can display/print a single patroller's schedule or the whole patrol's schedule depending on the need. The program also lets a patroller who is trying to schedule know if the session has the maximum allotted slots already filled to prevent over scheduling on a session. Photos of each patroller have also been added to each patroller's profile so if you aren't familiar with each patroller by name you can see their photo.

This patrol also stays on the leading edge of our snowsports guests' needs. Since the resort plays host to a lot of bus traffic on the weekends with many who are new to the snowsports world, a patroller meets and boards each bus to greet and welcome everyone on board with a few words about our mountain and to offer safety tips to the beginners. We also remind folks about the weather of the day and to either dress warm for the cold or to make sure to apply more sunscreen for those blue bird days. This "bus talk" program was started a number of years back and has really grown to become another of our daily weekend events – much so that there always those patrollers who are vigilant about catching all the buses as they come into our lot. It is a great way for folks to meet patrollers in a positive atmosphere and this program is very well received by our mountain management. Our patrollers are very visible on the slopes to assist our guests whenever necessary – from answering questions about the slopes to finding a lost parent or child.

And still, there is more to what this patrol does than provide a path for patroller development or create innovative new programs. We are first and foremost a community service organization with a strategic interaction with our resort's management team, and we are a vital part of the leadership of our Division and NSP. On the community service front, our patrol contributes financially to several non-profit entities such as our Adaptive Program and to the Wounded Warriors Program. Linkage to management is seen through our tight integration of mountain operations know-how with our patrolling mandate, as well as the fact that our resort VP of mountain operations is a Senior patroller who stays close to us. Our contribution to the Division and to National is seen through our strong presence in leadership positions and our ongoing contribution to patroller knowledge through course innovation such as the Hybrid refresher module and Hybrid OEC class module.

In summary, we are a passionate and committed team of paid and volunteer patrollers who go well beyond our "day job" of providing exceptional slope safety and emergency care to contribute at all levels in our community and our NSP. It is with great pleasure that I nominate our patrol as the National Outstanding Large Alpine Patrol.

Runner-up National Outstanding Patroller

LaRaye Rudicile Appalachian

Thanks to all of you who submitted the award nominations and congratulations to all the recipients. A special congratulation to LaRaye Rudicile for winning National Outstanding Patroller Runner-up.

I would like to thank Bob Scarlett for presenting Chuck Lollar with his Meritorious Service Award and Morgan Armstrong and Randy Trow their Yellow Merit Star. But as everyone who was at the awards banquet would agree it was Jack Tingle who stole the show when Bill Smith presented him with a Certificate of Appreciation for being the patient who was backboarded all afternoon during the OEC refresher. What a trooper. I would also like to thank the division judges for taking the time to judge all the division winners. 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. With that said, I expect nominations in all of the categories from each patrol next award season! Remember, it is never too early to start thinking about who needs to be nominated.



Around the Division

Bill Smith provided the following additional information:

White House releases first responder fentanyl safety recommendations

The Fentanyl Safety Recommendations for First Responders gives unified, evidence-based suggestions in the case of suspected fentanyl exposure

The White House recently released their official guide to first responder safety in cases of fentanyl exposure.

The increased prevalence of [fentanyl](#) and other synthetic opioids in the illicit drug market means that first responders need to understand how to protect themselves from exposure in the field. Law enforcement, fire, rescue, and emergency medical services (EMS) personnel must balance safety with mobility and efficiency when responding to scenes where the presence of fentanyl is suspected.

The [Fentanyl Safety Recommendations for First Responders](#) provides unified, scientific, evidence-based recommendations to first responders so they can protect themselves when the presence of fentanyl is suspected during the course of their daily activities such as responding to overdose calls and conducting traffic stops, arrests, and searches.

The Recommendations do not comprehensively address all scenarios. Other activities may require additional protective actions such as when conducting field testing, executing search warrants, collecting, transporting, and storing evidence, conducting special operations such as hazardous material incident response, executing search warrants on opioid-related processing or distribution sites, or participating in other tactical operations.

The Recommendations fall into three specific categories:

- Actions first responders can take to protect themselves from exposure.
- Actions first responders can take when exposure occurs.
- Actions first responders can take when they or their partners exhibit signs of intoxication.

Background

The Recommendations are the result of a Federal Interagency Working Group coordinated by the White House National Security Council. Stakeholder associations and organizations representing the medical, public health, law enforcement, Fire/EMS, and occupational safety and health disciplines provided invaluable input to inform the Interagency Working Group's efforts, and their feedback helped ensure the Recommendations are operationally relevant, appropriately tailored to first responders, and conveyed in a user-friendly one-page format.

Departments and Agencies Represented on the Interagency Working Group included: Department of Justice, Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Transportation, Department of Homeland Security, Office of the Director of National Intelligence, Office of National Drug Control Policy, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Drug Enforcement Administration, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health and the U.S. Postal Inspection Service.

FENTANYL[†]

SAFETY RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FIRST RESPONDERS

[†] For the purposes of this document, fentanyl, related substances, and synthetic opioids (herein after referred to as fentanyl[†]) includes fentanyl analogues (e.g., acetylfentanyl, acrylfentanyl, carfentanil, furanylfentanyl), novel synthetic opioids (e.g., U-47700), and other drugs that may be laced with these substances.

- ▶ **The abuse of drugs containing fentanyl[†] is killing Americans. Misinformation and inconsistent recommendations regarding fentanyl[†] have resulted in confusion in the first responder community.**
- ▶ You as a first responder (law enforcement, fire, rescue, and emergency medical services (EMS) personnel) are increasingly likely to encounter fentanyl[†] in your daily activities (e.g., responding to overdose calls, conducting traffic stops, arrests, and searches).
- ▶ This document provides scientific, evidence-based recommendations to protect yourself from exposure.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

- ▶ Fentanyl[†] can be present in a variety of forms (e.g., powder, tablets, capsules, solutions, and rocks).
- ▶ Inhalation of airborne powder is MOST LIKELY to lead to harmful effects, but is less likely to occur than skin contact.
- ▶ Incidental skin contact may occur during daily activities but is not expected to lead to harmful effects if the contaminated skin is promptly washed off with water.
- ▶ Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is effective in protecting you from exposure.
- ▶ Slow breathing or no breathing, drowsiness or unresponsiveness, and constricted or pinpoint pupils are the specific signs consistent with fentanyl[†] intoxication.
- ▶ Naloxone is an effective medication that rapidly reverses the effects of fentanyl[†].

Actions to take . . .

To protect yourself from exposure

- ▶ Wear **gloves** when the presence of fentanyl[†] is suspected.
- ▶ **AVOID actions that may cause powder to become airborne.**
- ▶ Use a properly-fitted, NIOSH-approved **respirator ("mask")**, wear **eye protection**, and minimize skin contact when responding to a situation where small amounts of suspected fentanyl[†] are visible and may become airborne.
- ▶ Follow your department guidelines if the scene involves large amounts of suspected fentanyl[†] (e.g., distribution/storage facility, pill milling operation, clandestine lab, gross contamination, spill or release).

When exposure occurs

- ▶ Prevent further contamination and notify other first responders and dispatch.
- ▶ Do not touch your eyes, mouth, nose or any skin after touching any potentially contaminated surface.
- ▶ Wash skin thoroughly with cool water, and soap if available. **Do NOT use hand sanitizers as they may enhance absorption.**
- ▶ Wash your hands thoroughly after the incident and before eating, drinking, smoking, or using the restroom.
- ▶ If you suspect your clothing, shoes, and PPE may be contaminated, follow your department guidelines for decontamination.

If you or other first responders exhibit

- **Slow Breathing or No Breathing**
- **Drowsiness or Unresponsiveness**
- **Constricted or Pinpoint Pupils**
- ▶ Move away from the source of exposure and call EMS.
- ▶ Administer naloxone according to your department protocols. Multiple doses may be required.
- ▶ If naloxone is not available, rescue breathing can be a lifesaving measure until EMS arrives. Use standard basic life support safety precautions (e.g., pocket mask, gloves) to address the exposure risk.
- ▶ If needed, initiate CPR until EMS arrives.



Collaborative Support From:

- American College of Emergency Physicians
- American College of Medical Toxicologists
- American Industrial Hygiene Association
- Association of State and Territorial Health Officials
- Association of State Criminal Investigative Agencies
- Fraternal Order of Police



- International Association of Chiefs of Police
- International Association of Fire Chiefs
- International Association of Fire Fighters
- Major Cities Chiefs Association
- Major County Sheriffs of America
- National Alliance of State Drug Enforcement Agencies

- National Association of Counties
- National Association of County and City Health Officials
- National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians
- National Association of EMS Physicians
- National Association of State EMS Officials

- National Governor's Association
- National HIDTA Directors Association
- National Narcotic Officers' Associations' Coalition
- National Sheriffs' Association
- National Volunteer Fire Council
- Police Executive Research Forum
- Police Foundation

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/ondcp/key-issues/fentanyl>

Final Sweep In Memory of

Mike Fisher

Members of the Southern Division NSP are saddened by the loss of Mike Fisher (Ray C. Fisher III) , Feb 12,2017 . Mike lived outside Charlottesville Va and was a member of the Wintergreen Ski Patrol.

Mike's National Appointment number was 8616 was presented in 1997. He joined NSP in 1990. Prior to joining the Wintergreen Ski Patrol, he patrolled at Massanutten Ski Patrol, Cherokee Ski Patrol, Aspen -Highlands and Turoa Ski Field at Mount Cook, Zealand.

Mike was the Southern Division Virginia Region Director 1999-2003; the Virginia Region Administer of Transportation 2003-2010; Supervisor of the Southern Division Certified Program.

He started his skiing career at Appalachian State University in the 70's as the Ski team Captain. Mike received the Jean Claude Killy Award as the runner up to Killy for the second fastest time in the Giant Slalom Challenge in 1973.

Mike was known to many as gentle hearted and patient.

He was a teacher, mentor, friend and brother.

Mike will be missed by many.

Catherine Smithson

Wintergreen Ski Patrol, youngest sister

Virginia

**Southern Division Calendar
& Staff Directory**

Please refer to the Division Website for updated schedules!
www.southernnsp.org

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

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