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Division Director
David P. Dillard

Editor
Roberta S. Rupp

FROM THE DIVISION DIRECTOR

The NSPS Annual Meeting was held in June in California. It was well attended and most interesting. Also attending from Southern Division were Keith Gray, Equipment Adv.; French Moore, Jr., First Aid Adv.; and Tom Worley, T & T Adv. John Crim was elected National Treasurer. There was a vacancy on the Executive Committee and Guell, Davis, Williams and Argow were nominated. Guell was elected. We will have an increase in insurance rates. National tried to get several bids, but had no takers except the previous insurer, American Home. The problem is that they are paying out in claims 98¢ out of every \$1.00 collected. The major source of claims is lift evacuation accidents. Collisions between skiers and ski patrollers is the second. We urge patrollers to use caution! A Division Registration Seminar was scheduled to be held in Denver, October 1st and our treasurer, Jim Underwood attended. There is now a Loss-Control Program in effect (stemming from insurance claims). The Division Director is responsible for reviewing each patroller-skier collision accident and lift evacuation accident. The purpose is to determine whether disciplinary or other appropriate action should be taken regarding patroller or patrollers involved. The finding shall be forwarded to National Insurance Counsel and National Legal Counsel. I appointed a Division Review Committee consisting of Roger Bollinger, A.D.D.; John Lawrence, Lift Evacuation Adv.; Bob Riddle, Legal Adv.; Tom Worley, T & T Adv. and Bob Edwards, Insurance Adv.

It has been an interesting five months! In addition to spending three busy days at the National Meeting, I attended the Division Executive Committee Meeting at Beech Mtn.; had a fun, sun and sand weekend at the beach with the Avalanche Course; participated in the Lift Evacuation Seminar at Seven Devils and represented National at the NASAR (National Association of Search and Rescue) Meeting in Nashville, Tenn. with Gary Delius, Norm Bishop, French Moore, Jr. Philip Birdsong and Philip Yoder.

This year we must have a patroller record. This is to be filled out by the patroller, checked by the PL and sent in with registrations. The PL should keep a copy for patrol records and send one to Frank Feeney, Computer and Records Adv. We now have a means of registration for those applicants in tryout sessions at a cost of \$3.00 per person for insurance protection. These will be submitted on the SMR printed "for tryout only". No benefits except insurance. If applicant is accepted, the \$3.00 will be applied to regular dues. An alumni Association has been formed so that inactive patrollers may register in this way for \$5.00 (through the PL as always).

We have asked John Lawrence, Lift Evacuation Adv. to prepare a LE Plan for each patrol; Norm Bishop, Mountaineering Adv., a Search and Rescue Plan and Dale Johnson, Avalanche Adv., an Avalanche Evacuation Plan. Each patrol will have to customize the plans to their area; i.e. names and phone numbers of hospitals, Rescue Squad, Sheriff Dept., etc. Copies of these plans should be with area management, as well as posted in patrol rooms and lift houses.

LIFT EVACUATION POLICY SOUTHERN DIVISION NSPS

(cont. from previous column)

1. Because of the recent number of accidents involving ski patrollers during lift evacuations, NSPS has emphasized in its recent POB #77-9 that a) all chair lift evacuation plans and procedures shall be formulated and conducted under the direction of area management b) an annual on-the-hill refresher shall be conducted also under the direction of ski area management, and c) the NSPS Lift Evacuation Technical Manual shall be the minimum standard of performance in ALL chair lift evacuation plans and procedures.
2. At the Fall Officers Meeting, October 1st, the following Southern Division Lift Evacuation Policy Statement was adopted:

The following are some general guidelines on LIFT EVACUATION for NSPS patrollers in the Southern Division. The guidelines are not a substitute for area plans, described in (3) below.

1. Ski area management is ultimately responsible for all aspects of lift evacuation.

2. The possibility of a large scale chair-lift accident should be recognized. Triage (injury assessment), multiple evacuations from the area, and agency coordination (police, emergency services, FAA, press, etc.) should all be adequately planned for.

3. A lift evacuation plan (LEP) for each area lift should be on file with the lift evacuation and equipment advisors, the area patrol and Southern Division, NSPS local area management. Guidelines for the content of these plans can be found in the Joint Statement NSAA/NSPS (Rev. 8/20/73) and under the section on LEP, both contained in the NSPS LIFT EVACUATION TECHNICAL MANUAL (Sections 1.0.0. and 2.0.0. respectively).

4. ALL EQUIPMENT used for evacuation should be stored carefully, checked for serviceability before use, handled only by qualified personnel, used only for evacuation purposes, and checked after use.

5. Only properly trained NSPS personnel, or other properly trained people designated by local ski area management should carry out evacuations. In this case, "properly trained" means that a person shall have undergone current area training that has been approved by (both) the local patrol, NSPS and area management.

6. No patrol leader or patroller should begin an evacuation without prior direction from ski area management. Written permission should be obtained prior to ski season and periodically reviewed and revised as appropriate.

7. A written record should be kept by the Patrol Leader of each evacuation, including at least the following information:

- * date, time span and location of evacuation
- * names of patrollers and management personnel involved
- * equipment used in evacuation
- * approximate number of people evacuated (number of chairs, etc.)

It can not be stressed too strongly that lift evacuation is potentially a very hazardous activity. Two essential ingredients are 1) thoroughly and regularly trained people carrying out the evacuation, and 2) the right equipment in only the very best of condition. Questions regarding any aspect of compliance with this policy should be directed to the Southern Division of NSPS.

3. At the Fall Officers Meeting, John Lawrence, LE Adv. requested that each PL submit to him prior to the fall refresher, a basic lift evacuation plan for his/her area following the format outlined in Sections 2 and 3 of the NSPS Lift Evacuation Technical Manual.

4. All fall refreshers should include a full practice lift evacuation session in accordance with Section 5

of the NSPS LETM.
5. Copies of the NSPS LETM can be obtained from the National Ski Patrol System, Inc. 2901 Sheridan Blvd., Denver, Colo. 80214, by prepaying at \$2.00 per copy.

CONGRESSIONAL CHARTER

Senator McIntyre has presented Senate Bill S 1571. This charter would give us special legal status similar to that of the American Red Cross and the Boy Scouts. One of the overwhelming needs is so that we might avoid the necessity to register in each state wherein the NSPS carries on its activities. We urge everyone to write their senator.

JUNIOR SEMINAR

There will be a Junior Seminar on February 18-19 at Seven Devils, starting at 8:30AM. Persons age 15 through 17 who are in the Junior Program of the Southern Division of NSPS are eligible to attend. The Southern Division will pay half of the expenses of the winner to attend the National Competition in Seattle, Washington in March. For more information contact Steve Benbow, Junior Adv.

CALENDAR

First Aid Refreshers

Carolina Highlands	Appalachian Univ., Boone, N.C.	Oct. 22nd
Western Carolina	ANRC, Asheville, N.C.	29th
Va./W.Va.	James Madison Univ. Harrisonburg, Va.	29th
Tenn./Kentucky	Knoxville, Tenn.	Nov. 19th
(On-the-hill the following day at ski areas.)		

Circle M Instructor Clinic Gatlinburg Oct. 8-9

Self Evacuation Seminar Seven Devils Nov. 19-20
(Register by 11/14 with course fee of \$10.00)

<u>Circle A</u>	Harrisonburg	Oct. 29th
	Seven Devils	Dec. 17th
	Wintergreen	Jan. 21st
	Snowshoe	Feb. 4th

<u>T & T</u>	Wintergreen	Sr. First Aid Test	Jan. 7th
"	"	T & T Clinic	7th
	Beech Mtn.	Sr. First Aid Test	7th
	Wintergreen	Sr. Candidate Clinic	8th
	Cataloochee	Sr. First Aid Test	14th
	"	T & T Clinic	14th
	"	Sr. Candidate Clinic	15th
	Seven Devils	Basic Test	15th
	"	Senior Test	22nd
	Cataloochee	Senior Test	29th
	Wintergreen	Senior Test	Feb. 5th
	Sugar Mtn.	Basic Test	26th

Avalanche Patch Course Montana March 25 - April 1

CONTRIBUTORS

Charles Benbow	Randy Blackburn	Keith Gray
Steve Benbow	David Dillard	John Lawrence

NEXT SOUTHERN CROSS DEADLINE.....January 15, 1978

EVACUATION EQUIPMENT

The following minimum standards for self evacuation and lift evacuation equipment were accepted by the Southern Division at the Fall Officers Meeting October 1, 1977.

Self Evacuation Equipment

Kernmantle Rope, Size 9mm

UIAA Test Falls - 10 Double Rope

Static Tensile Strength - 3,500 lbs.

Goldline - Size 3/8" - Strength - 3,700 lbs.

Blue Water Rope

5/16" on Double Rope Rappel Only

Blue Water rope is of high strength and very durable, but has very little stretch. It is good for rappelling and evacuation, but SHOULD NOT BE USED FOR CLIMBING.

Webbing - minimum Breaking Strength:

Carabiners (non-locking type) 3,750 lbs.

Carabiners (locking type) 6,000 lbs.

Descending Device 8,700 lbs.

(Use of Figure 8 Descending Device is the recommended method.)

Lift Evacuation Equipment

Rope: Minimum Breaking Strength - 4,500 lbs.

Minimum Size - 11mm, 7/16"

All slings for evacuation must be made of at least 2" x 1/16" webbing with a minimum breaking strength of 6,000 lbs. The minimum weakness on any rescue harness must be at least 5,000 lbs. at any point of stress.

The best equipment can become unsafe without regular care and maintenance. This is the responsibility of the individual patroller.

P P S E KITS

Basic Kit - \$18.18

Clog Figure 8

SMC Locking D. Carabiner

SMC Ultimate 150 Carabiner

1" x 1/8" Tubular Webbing

Optional Equipment

Gibbs Ascenders - \$12.50 each, \$22.50 pair

Jumar Ascenders - \$47.50

Jumar Ascenders w/cord - \$49.85

Ropes (Other rope length prices available on request.)

Plymouth Goldline 3/8" 7/16"

50' \$11.00 \$18.00

75' 16.50 27.00

100' 22.00 36.00

120' 26.40 43.20

150' 33.00 54.00

Edelweiss - Kernmantle Construction - Everdry

9mm 11mm

50' \$22.06 \$30.17

100' 44.12 60.34

150' 66.20 90.50

Edelweiss - Kernmantle Construction - Energy Rope

9mm 11mm

50' \$18.92 \$25.75

100' 37.84 51.50

150' 56.75 77.25

Blue Water - Kernmantle Construction - Non Stretch

5/16" 7/16"

50' \$12.50 \$14.50

75' 18.75 21.75

100' 25.00 29.00

150' 37.50 43.50

To order or to get further information contact:
Keith Gray, THE PACK SHACK, P.O. Box 3822, 2242 E.
Franklin Blvd., Suite A, Gastonia, N. C. 28052.
(phone 704-867-7871)

LIFT EVACUATION SEMINAR



(Photo by Susan Jackson)

John Lawrence is rappelling and Philip Birdsong is belaying. Sam, John's dog is supervising.

On September 10 and 11 a seminar was held at Table Rock and Seven Devils Ski Area. Subjects covered were rappelling, rock climbing, self evacuation, chair ascension and chair rescue. The instructors were John Lawrence, Lift Evacuation Adv.; Keith Gray, Equipment Adv.; Tim Combs and Lindsey Broome. It was attended by 32 patrollers. Everyone practiced rope work learning to tie the knots. Funny how you learn to tie correctly when you are on the end! Throughout the weekend we had the winning combination of very interested patrollers and very competent, knowledgeable and above all SAFETY, SAFETY, SAFETY minded instructors. We all learned a great deal about the hazards of lift evacuation. Along with all this we also learned that Susan Jackson and Harwell Dabbs are really mountain climbers.

This was a companion session to the first one held in Tennessee by Jim Scott, Nordic Adv., assisted by John Henry Looney July 30-31. Participants were Norman Bishop, Roger Bollinger, Bill Moore, Lynn Pace, Brian Riel, Philip Yoder and two members of the Knoxville Volunteer Rescue Squad.

Why all this extra work?

1. Get the skiing public out safely.
2. Get ourselves out safely.
3. Possible elimination of lift evacuation accidents.


EQUIPMENT

Pro Forms will be available from some local ski shops. They are for patrollers and patrollers ONLY! Do not abuse this privilege! Keith Gray, Equipment Adv., has made many good contacts for equipment this year from first aid supplies to sleds. He has information to aid the individual patroller to obtain equipment or equip the patrol. Rust parkas - 60/40 jackets by Class 5, as well as harnesses, ropes and hardware for lift evacuation equipment are all available.

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