



*Hope you get in a lot of skiing
before the slopes closed. Hope to
see you in Abingdon!
Bobba!*



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National Ski Patrol System, Inc.
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Division Director
David P. Dillard

Editor
Roberta S. Rupp

FROM THE DIVISION DIRECTOR

This year, instead of the January "Thaw" we had the "Pour". One lady wrote the Patrol Leader a letter saying she had not seen any patroller that day; not one rust parka! She was right. All the patrol, including the visiting D.D. were in rain suits and they do tend to make the patrol invisible. It's nice to know the skiing public is looking for the rust parka as a symbol of safety and first aid.

We have had the suggestion that we have a two-year grace period for the Circle A and Circle M and the skiing and tobogganing, as well as the first aid. The Senior Rocker should be awarded only after completion of all three phases. If you like the idea, tell your PL.

The Mountaineering course at Mt. Rogers was fantastic — WHAT A TURNOUT! — Fifty one people — new snow — excellent instructors — and two visitors from the Central Division.

The Junior Jamboree, held at Seven Devils and directed by Steve Benbow, was well attended by 16 Juniors from all over the division. Much fun and spirit from the group, followed by a super Benbow & Seven Devils Patrol spaghetti supper. The co-winners, Ingrid Brown and Bob Pugh, will go to Montana. The money for the trip was raised from the last two Greensboro Swap Shops.

We were proud to have held our second certified test this year at Snow Shoe, West Virginia. We had a great turnout — nine candidates. Thanks to A.D.D. Tom Worley for some last minute fast work trying to keep things together. Many thanks to our long-time friends, George Wesson and Richie Watkins, for coming down to put on the test.

We are proud to welcome the new Cumberland Section and its new chief, John Newton. The patrols are Cedar Cliff, Cloudmont and Renegade.

This will be my last article as D.D. As many of you know, job pressure has kept me from running for a second term. I also feel we should make room at the top. We are most fortunate to have some very qualified people ready to take over. My two years have been more hectic than I ever expected, but also the most personally rewarding time of my life. I visited some large patrols and some small ones. I talked with many of you. I became aware of the tremendous sacrifice most of our patrollers have to make just patrolling the vast geographical Southern Division. Some of you have two hours, many have up to seven hours driving time each way. While I was visiting, I was happy to see a united group, paid and volunteer, of friendly, dedicated patrollers with one goal — to do the best job they could for the area and the skiers. I think the total team effort is working and will continue to work.

Thank you all for the help you have given me through the years. I was and am proud to be part of the Southern Division.

David P. Dillard

Have you ever rappelled down a 200 year old tree? No? Well, maybe this year at the Spring Convention in Abingdon. John Lawrence will bring his ropes and show us the way. While you're outside, Charles Benbow will show you how to get from A to B without going around Z. Inside, we'll have Kirby Brock, Chief Ranger for Mt. Rogers National Recreation Area and Jim Scott, Division Nordic Advisor, to give us some thought about "flat tracking" instead of all downhill next year. We'll have the latest in First Aid Equipment, thanks to Randy Pugh, and the "thinnest thinsulate" possible from Keith Gray. All sorts of good programs and ideas to interest and intrigue our patrollers.

Our business meeting will be streamlined and efficient. Reports will be short and to the point — no "off the cuff" ramblings.

Lunch can be had with a drink or not at the Martha Washington Lounge, or you can venture to Hardee's or the like.

Keep your jeans on for the 6-7 hour of beer and pretzels and on through dinner. We will have some Country Music later and maybe a bit of clogging or "swing your partner" — anybody do any calling? We could use you. Hey, John, bring your fiddle!

Our dinner will be a real Southern Special and the price of \$13.00 per person includes beer, before and after, and our entertainment. Those dinner reservations must be sent in by MONDAY, APRIL 16 — if needs be, you can call Dr. French Moore Jr. or Farris Jackson for these reservations. Be sure to make your own hotel/motel reservations!

Our dinner speaker is a real find to meet our current needs. Ken Grover is the executive vice-president of Clif Taylor Enterprises Management Group (and if you don't know, they operate Wintergreen, Seven Devils and Renegade to name a few). His subject will be *The Ski Patrol Role in Area Management*, and he will tell it like it is — we need to know! And of course, we will all want to know who among our Division will be singled out to be honored this year.

Frank Feeney, our computer expert, will figure how to figure which patrol has won the attendance prize (a very special one). He will do it most scientifically with just a bit of Black Magic. By the way, Frank may need to know exactly how many miles each patroller traveled from their home to Abingdon — be sure to know.

We're expecting everyone to come — there will be something for everyone. Let's make this the best convention ever.

Farris and Susan Jackson
French and Mary Ann Moore
Keith Gray

- 9-12 a.m. General Meeting
- 12-1 p.m. Lunch (On Your Own)
- 1-5 p.m. Seminar Sessions
 1. Knotty Problems or Belay Your Partner by John Lawrence
 2. Orienteering with Map and Compass by Charles Benbow
 3. It's 10-36 for Radios by Farris Jackson
 4. Making Tracks on Mt. Rogers by Jim Scott and Kirby Brock
 5. What's New in First Aid by Randy Pugh
 6. NSPS Catalog Trunk Showing plus Local Goodies by Keith Gray
 7. Certified by Phil Birdsong
 8. Medical Emergencies — TBA
- 6-7 p.m. Beer Bust
- 7-9 p.m. Dinner
Dinner Speaker — Ken Grover
Awards
- 9-12 a.m. Music and Dancing — and more beer . . .

SPRING CONVENTION 1978



Photos by Don Rupp

10 YEARS PLUS

Walter Eaton, Deep South Section Chief, was presented his 10-year service pin in a brief ceremony at Sky Valley on February 17th witnessed by patrolling friends of long standing. Walter's tenure with NSPS goes back more than just ten years, though. He started patrolling in 1966 at Sapphire Valley, then transferred to Sky Valley when it opened, serving the latter area as assistant PL and PL before becoming Ga/Ala Section Chief in 1975. Walter was the first patroller from what was then Southern Region, Eastern Division, to pass the Senior Test. He is National Ski Patroller No. 5072.

Benning Garrison, PR Adv.

THE "SKI BRAKE"

Each season between 8 and 10 percent of all injuries to skiers are caused by windmilling skis or a released ski attached by a "safety" strap retaining the ski. Studies throughout the United States and Europe show these windmill injuries cause mostly lacerations and contusions to the face, head and legs, (plus some fractures).

The ski brake is a simple device made of twin projections set in a footbed and designed to hold a released ski in the snow a safe distance from the skier. The ski brake automatically releases when the skier's foot comes out of the binding. In addition to providing protection to each fallen skier it eliminates the problem of runaway skis.

Some concern has been noted regarding the use of ski brakes while the skiers are riding the chair lift. Recent studies of this skier problem show that most skis release at or close to loading or unloading stations where areas are protected and will not endanger other skiers.

The ski brake can add to the enjoyment of skiing! Fully automatic models allow the skier to step into his/her binding and ski. It also anchors the ski in the snow facilitating easy reentry, which is most helpful and appreciated on a steep slope.

Nine binding manufacturers now sell ski brakes. Care should be taken to choose the model most compatible with your present or new ski equipment. Standards for the ski brake have been set and should soon be adopted internationally.

With the existence of the effective ski brake, an opportunity exists for doing away with many injuries caused by windmilling and/or runaway skis.

Would you consider adding the ski brake to your existing or new ski equipment for your protection and as an example to other skiers?

Walter Eaton, Ski Safety Adv.

NEW SECTION CREATED IN SOUTHERN DIVISION

John Newton has accepted the position of Section Chief for the newly created Cumberland Section. The patrols in the section are Cloudmount, Cedar Cliff and Renegade.

Pete Chamberlin, ADD Line

JUNIOR JAMBOREE – SOUTHERN STYLE

On February 17 and 18 Juniors from Appalachian, Cascade, Beech Mtn., Gatlinburg, Seven Devils, Sky Valley, Sugar Mtn., Wintergreen and Wolf Laurel competed in the Division's best Junior Jamboree ever. In all, sixteen Jr's throughout the division had a blast competing against each other to see who would go to Bridger Bowl for the National Junior Jamboree. Ingrid Brown from Appalachian and Bobby Pugh from Wintergreen tied for first place. They will leave for Montana on March 17th so wish them luck!

There was also a tie for second place with Cindy Benbow, Seven Devils; Madge Dillard, Sugar Mtn. and Garrett Moore, Beech Mtn. All the Juniors were exceptional so the grading was really tough. Many thanks to Lynn Pace and Jerry Husky from Gatlinburg, Norris Woody from Cascade, Charles Benbow from Seven Devils, Dave Dillard, Dale Johnson, Keith Gray and Randy Avery from Administrative, Sherry Perry from Sugar Mtn. and Randy Pugh from Wintergreen for all their help in making the Jamboree as much a success as it was fun.

Juniors start getting ready for next year because we gonna do it again!

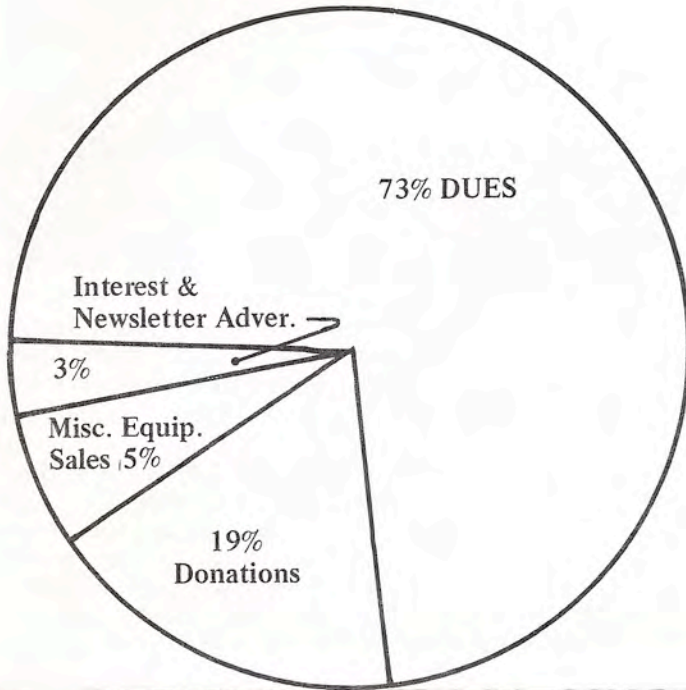
Steve Benbow, Junior Adv.



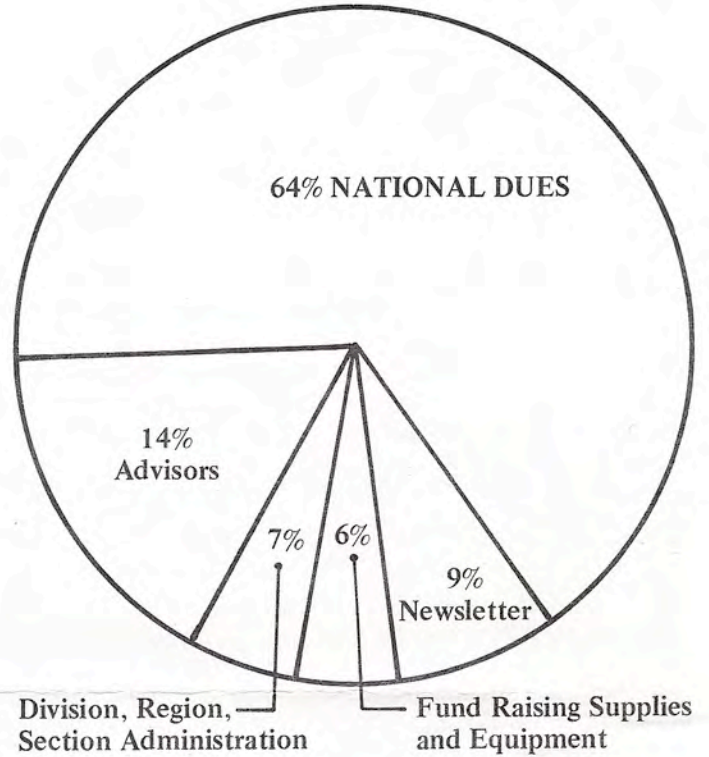
Front row: Gretchen Lebhun, Ingrid Brown, Garrett Moore, Cindy Kessler, Charles Benbow
Back Row: Steve Benbow, Cindy Benbow, Todd Nichols, Madge Dillard, Dave Dillard, Bill Moody, Lynn Pace, Steve Nichols, Jimmy Hill, Jim Williams, Jerry Husky, Norris Woody

WHERE THE MONEY COMES FROM AND THEN GOES

1977-78
INCOME
(\$7,601.30)



1977-78
EXPENSES
(\$6,776.21)



MOUNTAINEERING PATCH COURSE



(picture taken by Steve Benbow)

The Mountaineering Patch Course was held in the Southern Division at Mt. Rogers in three feet of snow. Another foot fell while the group was camping. We had the most successful course ever with 51 people in attendance, some on snowshoes, some on crosscountry skis. We had two people from the Central Division who attended. Congratulations to a fine group of instructors: Charles Benbow, Norm Bishop, Gary Delius, Keith Gray, Dale Johnson, John Lawrence, French Moore, Jr., Tom Scally (Central) and Steve Waldrep.

REGISTRATION – 1979 NSPS SOUTHERN DIVISION SPRING CONVENTION

Enclosed is my check for \$13.00 per person made payable to NSPS Southern Division.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State: _____ Zip _____

Patrol: _____

No. Attending: _____ X \$13.00 = _____ Total Enclosed

Mail to: NSPS Southern Division Convention
c/o Dr. French Moore, Jr.
P. O. Box 516
Abingdon, VA 24210

HOTEL/MOTEL RESERVATION – 1979 NSPS SOUTHERN DIVISION SPRING CONVENTION

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Arrival Date: _____ Departure Date _____

Type of Room Desired: _____ Rate: _____

Select your accommodations from those below — fill in the type and price of the room you wish on the form above. Mail the form directly to the Hotel/Motel of your choice. All have dining facilities either in conjunction or close by.

- I. Martha Washington Inn
Main Street
Abingdon, VA 24210
703-628-3161
Single: \$20.00 to \$24.00
Double (1 bed): \$23.00 to \$27.00
Double (2 beds): \$24.00 to \$29.00
Plus \$3.00 each for more than two persons in a room.
- II. Empire Motor Lodge
Exit 9 on I-81
Abingdon, VA 24210
703-628-7131
2 persons (1 bed) \$20.00
2 persons (2 beds) \$22.00
3 persons (2 beds) \$24.00
4 persons (2 beds) \$26.00
- III. Alpine Motel
Hwy. 11, near Exit 9 on I-81
Abingdon, VA 24210
703-628-3178
2 persons (2 beds) \$20.00
3 persons (2 beds) \$23.00
4 persons (2 beds) \$26.00

All rates plus tax

The scene is Sky Valley. The time, right after closing the afternoon of January 27 – the first of three consecutive Saturdays a “Lift Evacuation Play” would be enacted. Why? Because 2 to 3 hours of practice annually hardly seemed sufficient to assure clockwork knowledge and actions, should the “play” become the real thing.

Advance notice had been given to management. It was decided not to make the announcement public, “since Sam, the insurance man is here today.” But we could go ahead with the practice. Management would provide the “stranded skier.” Each patroller was given a role in the play and reminded to review the LE Procedure posted in the Patrol Room. There was a method to our planning madness: to put on a good show for the skiing public and for our special guests, D.D. Dave Dillard and A.D.D. Harwell Dabbs.

The curtain rises as the lifts close; the patrol makes the sweep; the victim, a stranger, is spotted; the evacuation procedure gets underway. All right on schedule.

Robert Burns, the Scottish poet, should have been there, quoting his “best laid schemes of mice and men...”

Heaven only knows how many times it took to get the baseball with the lead rope attached up and over the cable. Our victim was “beaned” three times in the process. (Suggestion No. 1: include pitching practice at next year’s refresher.) Then the rescue rope, neatly looped and tied, was dropped, and got hopelessly tangled as it unwound. Progress screeched to a halt until this could be rectified. (Suggestion No. 2, from Allen Quandee: Feed the rope into a cardboard box for storage; it will not tangle when pulled out.)

FINALLY our stranded skier was lowered safely to the ground. Surprise! It was none other than Sam, the insurance man. And it was his first evacuation experience. Although it had seemed an eternity to us (we were afraid to ask him), the whole process from initial report to safe descent, took only 20 minutes. Not bad, all things considered – but practice sessions will continue next year.

Benning Garrison, PL

CATALOOCHEE PATROLLERS PASS TESTS

Congratulations to the following Cataloochee people who passed their Patroller’s test; Alice Woodard and Steve Whitmire; their Junior test: Lisa Brown, Bee Howey, Mack Haynes and George Colbensschlag III; and Senior test: Bob Twomey. Both tests were given in February.

Roger Bollinger,
Cataloochee T & T Adv.

We have monthly on-the-snow Refreshers for continuing education. This mixed with hard work and lots of fun add up to the Appalachian Ski Patrol. Emerging as a powerhouse, the patrol is growing in members, ability and friendship. The patrol has conducted eight clinics, qualified three patrollers and one junior and is preparing ten candidates for the Basic Test.

Sam Bruce, PL

WINTERGREEN HAS FOUR NEW PATROLLERS

The final Basic Test of the season was held at Wintergreen on February 24 with four of the candidates passing. Judges for the test were Frank Gordon and Ron Smith of Wintergreen and Doug Carlberg of Sugar Mtn. The new patrollers are: Fenson Minor, Doug Molyneaux, George Winfree and Junior Bill Dalton. This gives Wintergreen eight new patrollers this season. The candidates owe a debt of gratitude to Nancy Shelhorse and Rick Chadick for their Saturday and Sunday morning training sessions.

Randy Pugh

TESTS GIVEN IN THE DIVISION

Senior Tests

- Sugar Mtn., January 28th
Larry Horine, David Wray, David Williams
Sherry Perry, Mike Chandler
- Cataloochee, February 4th
Mary Ann Moore, Robert Twomey

Basic Tests

- Gatlinburg, February 24th
Sherry Spain, Ken Winter, Russell Sifford
Dennis Slagle, Tony Williams, David Oakley
Philip DesMaraio – Junior, Robert Feldman
- Wolf Laurel, January 28th
Susie Maitland, Linda Olive, Gabriel Walker
Melinda Waldrep, Mike Morgan, Lynn Zeliff
Cindy Kessler – Junior, Tom Zumberge

Tom Moss, Testing Adv.

SEVEN NEW SENIORS AT WINTERGREEN

Due to bad weather the Senior Ski and Toboggan Test originally scheduled for Snowshoe on January 21 had to be rescheduled to Wintergreen on February 10. Judges for the test were Randy Avery, Ron Smith and Frank “Flash” Gordon along with new Senior Test Judges Brandon Dean and Rick Chadick. Seven of the eight candidates passed. The new seniors are: the husband and wife team of Tom and Carol Dalton, Frank Feeney, Jim Fontaine, Greg Richardson, Bob Rogers and Nancy Shelhorse. Congratulations to all!

Randy Pugh

FUND RAISING



Mike Harris, left, is shown presenting the check for NSPS to Sam Bruce.

The Catawba Ski Club has demonstrated its support of NSPS by donating \$50.00 to the Southern Division. At the Valley Hills Mall in Hickory, Mike Harris, President of the ski club, presented the check to Sam Bruce. Many thanks to the members of the Catawba Ski Club!

NEWS FROM THE CUMBERLAND SECTION

The newly created Cumberland Section, Dixie Region, held its first Basic Patrollers test February 17th at Renegade Ski Area. Nine candidates were tested. Bobby Harbin, John Campbell, Bob Wimmer and Bob Barr (Sybilla Griner Barr's husband) passed all test requirements.

That evening a celebration was held with Sybilla's green pepper jelly on cheese being the hit. I certainly want to thank Cecil Etherredge, Renegade PL and Gary Riser for their support as text examiners. Congratulations new patrollers!

John Newton, S.C.

CANDIDATES PASS BASIC TEST

Below are those who passed the Basic Test held in the pouring rain at Seven Devils. It was an extraordinary test, comprised of the best overall group I've had the pleasure to work with. The PL's should be congratulated for developing such fine, dedicated candidates.

Appalachian:	Charles Quinn, John Thompson, Dave Woldtvedt, William Thomason
Beech Mtn.:	Mike Harris, Letty Halloran
Cascade:	Ab Brown, Margrete Ann Chatham, Gretchen Stripe
Seven Devils:	Doug Hall
Sugar Mtn.:	David Childs, Bob Kunhardt

Randy Avery, Atlantic R.D.

"KNOWING IS NOT ENOUGH, IT IS THE DOING" (Taken from "Trail Sweep", Eastern Div. newsletter)

Recently in Maine, an astounding discovery was made — only 22% of the medical doctors could pass the actual CPR test! They knew all the theory, but flunked in the doing. Skills are not acquired by reading, listening to lectures and passing tests. It takes practice, practice, practice.

We know that some patrollers (even Seniors) may not have handled an accident in an entire ski season or even two. Yet each year we hear gripes and grumbles about taking refreshers and on-the-hill practice.

Moral: if you have a skill (like a language) and you don't use it frequently or regularly — you forget or get rusty.

Neal Landy (First Aid Instructor)
Black Mt. Patrol (NH)

SEVEN DEVILS DID IT AGAIN!



Photos by Susan Jackson

Those who missed the spaghetti dinner at the area missed a great time and a good meal. It was a super evening for meeting and greeting patrollers from throughout the division. It was good seeing friends from Wolf Laurel, Wintergreen, Sugar Mtn., Sky Valley, Gatlinburg, Cascade, Beech Mtn., Appalachian and the Administrative Patrol.

Besides the fun and fellowship, we had an excellent guitarist play songs of the times. And, oh yes, the spaghetti and wine were fine.

Doris Benbow
Chief Cook & Bottle Washer

DEADLINE – SOUTHERN CROSS

April 23, 1979

THE SEASON AT GATLINBURG

This season at Gatlinburg began slowly and snowballed into a full and prosperous year. We skied more than 40,000 skiers from December to March. We had many weekend days with more than 1500 persons on the hill in a single session.

We hosted a Circle A — Circle M Course January 18-20. The Circle A Course started Friday night at 7:00 p.m. at Great Smoky Mountain National Park Headquarters. This course was completed around midnight with the following persons present: Dwane Alire, Darrell Brackett, Raymond Dunlap, Bob Grant, Letty Halloran, Bobby Joe Harbin, Jerry Huskey, Chap Jackson, John Henry Looney, Milton Triplett, David Williams, Jim Williams and David Wray. Instructors were Linda Coulter, Lynn Pace and Lance Webb.

The following morning at 8:00 the classroom session began on the Circle M Course. There had been booklets mailed out to the participants to read and study. First was a short written test based on the booklet. Next came the films, lectures, etc. By 12:30 the classroom session was completed and the group had lunch. We met at 2:30 at the Newfound Gap. It is located about 16 miles up US Highway 441 on the top of the Smokies at approximately 5,000' above sea level. The weather Friday was rain, wind and temperature in the upper 30's and low 40's, but on top of the mountain on Saturday the rain was coming down horizontally and the temperature was 29 degrees F.

We started on the Appalachian Trail with a destination of Icewater Springs. This is approximately 3 miles out with an elevation of 6000' above sea level. We walked at a good clip until we ran into water coming down the trail that was turning to slabs of ice. The further we walked, the thicker the ice was until the only way we could walk was with crampons and chopping steps with an ice axe. At this point we were approximately 1 1/4 miles into our journey. Since several people had fallen and it was getting late we decided to vote on whether to go on or turn back. We turned back. On the way out Lynn Pace and Lance Webb discussed the possibilities of going to Ober Gatlinburg Ski Resort and walking to the top of the expert slope to spend the night there. It was still raining, the wind blowing and the temperature had fallen to 26 degrees F.

We got to Ober Gatlinburg with great determination, broke into two groups and started our second journey. The complaints were very apparent and loud, but we all made it to the top. Oh yes, it is lots of fun pitching your tent in a hard blowing, cold rain storm. (If you don't believe me, ask the guys on this trip.) The next morning the temperature was 18 degrees and the wind seemed to be trying to blow the top of the mountain away. It was snowing! Before we came off the slope we had almost 1" of snow on the ground.

I want to take my hat off to the following persons because they all survived the Circle M at Gatlinburg: James Berry, Darrell Brackett, Linda Coulter, Raymond Dunlap, Letty Halloran, Bobby Joe Harbin, Jerry

Huskey, Milton Triplett, David Williams, Jim Williams, and David Wray.

Those who attended the classroom work only were: Bob Grant and Bob, David and Scott Knoll.

If you like to eat icicles ask Linda Coulter about the new way she has to prepare them — it's called "boiling." Also ask Bobby Harbin who the big, round "fellow" was that slept at the door of his tent.

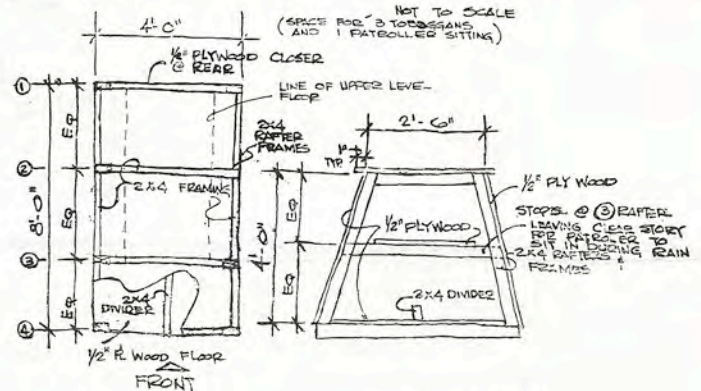
Lynn Pace, PL

GATLINBURG PATROL SHARES

These are some new ideas that we wanted to share with other patrollers.

Toboggan Hut

This was designed by Lynn Pace and Jim Scott. Three or four of these were built this year and used at Gatlinburg.

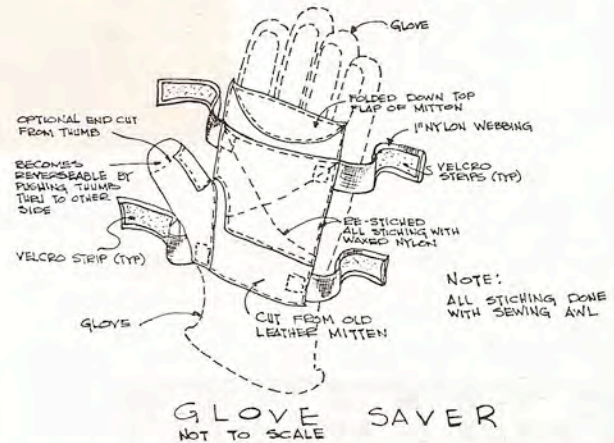


MATERIAL LIST
 11 - 2"x4" x 8'-0" LGS.
 4 1/2 SHEETS - 4'-0" x 8'-0" x 1/2" PLYWOOD
 1 - QUART STAIN

TIME TO BUILD
 APPROX - 2 1/2 HOURS
 W/ 4 PERSONS

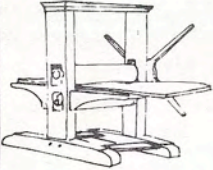
Attention Rope Tow Users!

Lynn Pace, Gatlinburg PL and Jim Williams have ingeniously invented the "Glove Saver". They want to help other patrollers protect their gloves while riding the rope tow. It sure has come in handy at Gatlinburg.



Linda Coulter

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