



# THE SOUTHERN CROSS

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

Division Director: Farris Jackson

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June, 1985

## CHARLIE'S CHATTER

### AS THE RETIRING AND TIRED DIVISION DIRECTOR . . .

To every patroller, from the smallest patrol to the National Board of Directors, I wish to say that the past four years as Southern Division Director has been a pleasure; though often tiring, an occasional headache, and many, many long miles. I have enjoyed being able to serve and work with you all. This is not to say that I am going to give up the work of the NSPS, you are not going to dismiss me that easily! I plan and am looking forward to skiing and working with each and every one of you in the years to come.

As for the state of the Southern Division, we seem to be on track and doing very well. The Division hosted the National Junior Training Seminar in March. I think it was a success in every way, except for some unknown reason most of the Juniors in our system did not see fit to venture into the "Wild & Wonderful" skiing of the Southern Division and Silver Creek, West Virginia. Thanks to all the participating examiners and administrative personnel, with a special thank you to Steve Benbow, Mary Davis, Mary Bozack and Bill Bozack who went that extra mile to make our seminar, for those that did attend, something I think they will remember with pleasure.

Some of the problems that I can see in the near future are the implementation of the renewed and revised training program that the National Training and Testing Committee has recommended. This is going to be one of the most positive programs that we have embarked on in the past few years. The possible association of using and working with PSIA to assist with our skiing skills and the upgrading of all patrollers should help our image in the eyes of area management and the skiing public.

The proposed change in first aid training is going to be something that is going to take time and money to implement. The National First Aid Committee is now in the process of working on this transition. The main change in the program will be the move from American Red Cross to National Ski Patrol First Aid. I can see both positive and negative aspects. Our first aid skills need to be a step above what the American Red Cross is now teaching and to a large extent we are already providing this training in our fall refreshers. Our Winter First Aid Manual is above and beyond what ARC is now providing for us and is much more consistent to the Ski Patrol's needs. The big problem with all of this is keeping accurate records for the entire program.

Our fund raising for the Division is an area that we all need to put special emphasis toward improving. The Fund Raising Advisor can not do all the contacts that are necessary. As most of us belong to our local ski clubs, we need to contact them for donations to the Southern Division. You, as a member of both organizations, will have more success than impersonal solicitation letters from someone who is not affiliated with the club.

The Southern Division is hosting the National Summer Meeting, June 1986, in Atlanta. Rick Roberts is coordinator for the meeting and will need the support and labor of many patrollers to make the meeting a success. Our Southern hospitality will be extended to everyone who is fortunate enough to be able to attend the National Board Meeting.

With the Spring Convention, May 4 & 5, came the changing of the guard. Farris Jackson is our new Southern Division Director. My congratulations to Farris and his new staff. I hope that we all will offer any help that may be needed to make everything work to the Division's advantage.

I would like to thank everyone for all the cooperation that I have received over the past four years. To all of you, my thanks. It has been a great pleasure to have had the opportunity to serve all of the Patrollers of the Southern Division.

Charlie Benbow



## CALENDAR

- Sept. 7 Fall Officers Meeting  
View Haus, Beech Mountain
- 8 Southern Cross Deadline!
- 28 Grandfather Section  
First Aid Refresher  
Sugar Mountain

## LIFT EVACUATION

Now that this strange (weatherwise) ski season has come to an end, I finally have time to address a neglected responsibility. I would like to hear from individual areas on how I might best serve their needs. Evac seminars, equipment recommendations, equipment sources, and technique advice are obvious areas I could help. I am sure that there are others as well. Please let me hear from you.

We have revised evac procedures at Wintergreen this season with very good success in both patroller understanding and ease of operation, while increasing our margin of safety. The major change calls for the use of a sit harness on the belayer and a non-locking oval as an additional friction brake. Properly anchored, a very small person can safely lower a large load with a rapid recycle time. I will be happy to discuss this system in greater detail with anyone who is interested. Tell me what you are using so that we might all benefit from your ideas and eventually standardize throughout the division.

In training this season, Wintergreen held an evac seminar on the Highlands, a night evac demo on Dobie, and required a skills demonstration in self evac technique from all patrollers carrying gear. Incidentally, required self evac gear at Wintergreen includes a prussic sling for self rescue and a demonstration of its use was a large part of this skills drill. Once again, what are you doing for training at your area and how may I help you?

### *Evac Equipment Warning*

If your Evac cache contains any "horsecollar" type Evac harnesses, check them to insure that the waist strap is both sewn direct and also secured with a continuous loop sewn over it. It has been demonstrated that a single attachment could (in fact will) fail should someone slip from the padded collar and load the waist belt. This is particularly true if the belt has a twist in it. I know of two harnesses sold in the Southern Division in the last two years with this omission. Contact me for further clarification if there is *any* doubt in your mind!

Doug Molyneux  
Southern Div. Lift Evac Ad.  
c/o Wintergreen Ski Patrol  
Wintergreen, VA 22958  
(804) 325-2200 X805  
(804) 361-1248

## MOVING?

Send any change of address to:  
National Ski Patrol  
2901 Sheridan Blvd.  
Denver, CO 80214

## SOUTHERN FIRSTS

In the "who would have thought it" division;  
Reported "firsts" for Southern Division in the 1984-85 season were 1) an avalanche in the out-country near Snowshoe, while two skiers were cross-countrying the farms; one was buried and rescued; 2) snake bite on the ski slopes (see elsewhere in this paper); 3) helicopter skiing at Tory Mountain; 4) new DD takes office while on crutches.

Benning Garrison  
PR Advisor

## SNAKEBITE ON THE SLOPE!

Sounds like a recent Southern Division winter, but if you will, consider this—ski area temperature 55-60 °, clear, sunshiny day, plenty of snow on the slopes and a lively crowd of mid-February skiers. The only bare spots along the slope seemed to be around some of the lift operator shacks. That's the stage.

A lift operator at the top of Cataloochee's T-bar slope stepped out of the shack to enjoy the sun and operate the lift from outside for a while. He slipped on a patch of mud and fell to the ground. In so doing, his arm and hand flung back under the elevated edge of the lift shack. Almost immediately he felt a sharp, painful stab on his outstretched hand, much like the sting of a hornet. When he got up he found two fang marks and called the patrol for assistance. He was given first aid and immediately transported to the hospital. The hospital ran a laboratory test on the venom extracted from the wound and discovered it was a Copperhead Snake. Now you all know why we have been studying snakebite in first aid!

Roger Bollinger

## SUBARU CLASSIC

No, it's not a new automobile, it's a new ski race, sponsored by Subaru Atlantic regional sales organization, called the Alpine Classic Series. The races are held at Cataloochee, which is why the ski area named its new racing trail "Subaru."

Different categories of the series are held throughout the ski season, and include races just for teachers, ski shop employees, snow makers, journalists, nurses, etc. Of our particular interest is the day for ski patrols, which this year was Feb. 24.

This reporter won't call it a fixed race, but it was interesting to note that of the four teams racing, three included representatives of the Cataloochee ski area. Also, the Catt patrollers were most generous in offering to wax the opposition's skis just before the race (color them peanut butter!). And someone with influence on Mother Nature had the bottom drop out of the sky just at race time.

Still, it was fun for all, with trophies being awarded to the top three teams. Teams, consisting of two men and one woman, finished as follows: 1st, Cataloochee, Bruce Ingle, Perry Montgomery, Joanna Skall; 2nd, Cataloochee, Ed Saleem, Neil Booth, Stephanie Smith; 3rd, Sky Valley, Bill Warner, Bill Farrell, Beth Farrell; 4th, Scaly Mountain, Chuck Latkoff, Sylvia Talley, and Jim Morris (a Cataloochee "ringer" whose score was "DNF"!?)

Bill Warner of the Sky Valley team issues a challenge to other patrols to join in the fun next year.

Benning Garrison  
PR Advisor



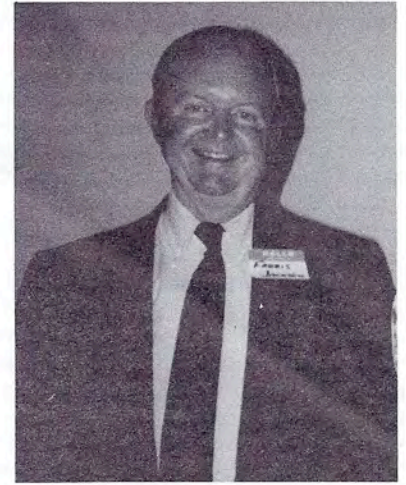
# 1985 SOUTHERN DIVISION SPRING MEETING



*Upper left:  
Past Division Directors (L-R): Charles Benbow,  
Harwell Dabbs, Keith Argow, and our new  
D.D.—Farris Jackson.*



*Center:  
Pete Chamberlain—30 yr. Service Award*



*New DD Farris Jackson  
photo by Benning Garrison*



*Lower Right: National Appointments! (L-R) Bob Bodamer, Richard Chadick, and John  
Chandler*

*photos by Joy Slagle*



*Ober Gatlinburg*

Eighteen members of the Ober Gatlinburg Ski Patrol sponsored fifteen students and three chaperons from Kingswood School. The school is for children that do not have a home or do not live at home for various reasons. Kingswood is located in Grainger County near Bean Station, TN. The school is privately funded, and operates grades 1 through 12. At the present time there are 42 students residing there.

I began trying to organize a skiing field day for the oldest class (ages 12 through 17) in January and with much pleasure, on February 19, 1985, Joy Slagle and I enjoyed the day with a group of excited, young skiers.

Several kids were apprehensive about trying a sport where boards are attached to boots that you can not walk in, but the majority adapted quickly and after a group lesson they were off to see how well they could ski.

The weather was almost perfect, with the exception of some very low clouds. Warm temperatures and soft snow resulted in an accident free adventure for all of us.

I want to thank Rex Anders, Rolf Lanz and Jerry Huskey for the special rates, and ski lesson and all the help in organizing the field day. I especially appreciate my fellow patrollers for their support and donations to make an idea become a reality.

Robert W. Rhinehart  
Ober Gatlinburg Ski Patrol



*Ski School for Kingswood Students*



*Joy Slagle and Pam*

*Ober Gatlinburg*

Our Ski Patrol is very proud of their talented young Junior Patrol. March 10-14, 1985, four of our Juniors joined other patrollers from the Southern Division at Silver Creek, West Virginia to participate in the National Junior Training Seminar.

Second place honors in the written first aid test went to 16 year old Scott Marland from Oak Ridge, Tennessee. Scott placed 7th overall. Other Gatlinburg Juniors who trained hard and participated at Silver Creek were David Knoll, Anthony Schaffhauser, and Doug Underwood. Ober Gatlinburg had 5 patrollers at the seminar helping as first aid, toboggan, and ski judges. Those were Charlie Coward, Linda & Lynn Pace and Dennis and Joy Slagle.

Congratulations are in order for Professional patroller Rick Ryan who successfully passed the Senior first aid, ski and toboggan test at Ober Gatlinburg on Feb. 16, 17. And March 3, with the temps in the 60's and mashed potatoes for snow, our Patroller test was conducted. By late afternoon test judges Bob Twoomey, Bruce Tackes, Phil DesMarais, Tony Williams, and Joy Slagle had informed the candidates of the final results. Debbie Meacham, Russell Pitner, and Jimmy Kuneman were elated to find that they had earned the right to wear the rust uniform. All those days and nights of training had payed off!!

During the same test we had a first — Two telemark enthusiasts, Lynn Pace and Dennis Slagle, passed the alpine patroller's test on nordic skis. They are now qualified to wear their parkas on the alpine slopes at Ober Gatlinburg while using their skinny skis. Congratulations fellows!

Now in the direction of other patrol news—On Saturday, March 23rd, a terrific season was capped off with our end-of-the-year dinner. The Greenbriar room at the Holiday Inn in Gatlinburg was invaded by hungry patrollers, family, and friends. A delicious dinner had been prepared and everyone consumed all that they could hold. The remainder of the evening was enjoyed by all with award presentations, free beer & wine, and ski movies.

Those of you who didn't make it certainly missed the best social event we've had in numerous years.

Joy Slagle  
Retiring Patrol Leader



*R. Rhinehart and Kingswood Student*



During the fall refresher in October 1984, we had 30 candidates sign-up to try out for the Wintergreen ski-patrol so we knew we had a big job ahead of us. The Pro-patroller at that time, Jim Kneas, had already warned us that we had to have a better success ratio than the year before. That year we had a miserable 50% failure rate on the practical first-aid exam alone.

The job to get this new crop of candidates whipped into shape fell on the able shoulders of Brandon Deane. Brandon, Pres Funkhouser and George Armstrong sat down on the second day of the fall refresher and mapped out an aggressive training strategy for the coming season. Brandon, said, "snow or not we would start first-aid on-the-hill training the first weekend in December and would continue until after the new year when the ski training would start. Each candidate was expected to show up for training for at least 75% of the training days. We usually averaged 10-15 candidates for each training session. The first-aid exercises started out easy and got successively more difficult as the season progressed. The last thing the candidates did each day was take a written exam. By the time they got through the first aid training, they had each taken 6-9 written exams depending on participation.

Due to a lack of snow and a slow start on training for the ski test we delayed this part of the test until February 17th. On Jan. 26th we held our first-aid written and practical and 18 of 28 candidates passed. Those who did not were given the opportunity to continue training and try again on February 16th. In the meantime, the ski-training continued on, in spite of bitterly cold weather. February 17th arrived and twenty-two candidates had survived the rigorous training and the practical first-aid exam.

At the beginning of the season we felt that if we could get 30-40% pass rate from start to finish we would have had a successful season. At the end of the day when all the votes were in, we had passed 14 of 22 candidates which was better than 60% of those who took the test and 50% of those who started the training season with us. One candidate went on to Snowshoe and passed the ski test at the end of March. We ended the season with 15 new Patrollers and two auxiliary patrollers. The bottom line of this whole exercise is that training does pay off.

Most of the Wintergreen patrol pitched in to assist at various exercises but the brunt of the job fell on Brandon Deane, Pres Funkhouser, George Armstrong, Richard Chadick and Carroll Harris.

Charlene Funkhouser



Ski Test, February 17th

Wintergreen began the ski season long before the first ski day, December 8, 1984. The fall refresher was a success with the in-class training, a demonstration of a night lift evacuation; and an actual lift evacuation on Sunday. The fall refresher also brought in twenty-eight (28) candidates for the season. In late November, our training officer, Seniors and Senior candidates provided practical first aid training for the candidate group, and this instruction continued through the middle of January, 1985. Ski and toboggan training did not begin until January because of the warm weather. When skiing began, on the slope training incorporated the new changes being brought into the Division training programs. Brandon Deane, Wintergreen's training officer, and T & T Advisor for the Skyline Region and Pres Funkhouser began to instruct the candidates using these new procedures. Our current patrollers took advantage of the new training programs also. In February, we held a Basic Patroller test modeled after the changes suggested at the Cataloochee T & T seminar and brought into the patrol 10 Basics and 4 Juniors and 2 auxiliaries.

Wintergreen posted the first Skyline Senior test in late February. Carol Harris, from Wintergreen, passed, along with two patrollers from Winterplace, Greg Rush and Bud Frantz. Eleven patrollers began the test, including two from Massanutten. Many thanks to Doris Benbow for being a very good victim.

Saturday patrol days lengthened this season. On Saturdays, the mountain is open from 8:00 a.m. until 11:00 p.m.; however, the general public is not allowed to ski between 8:00 and 9:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The patrol was responsible for monitoring these time periods so that Wintergreen Partners and guest could ski.

Wintergreen Ski Patrol worked over 600 accidents, with written reports, and several hundred band-aid cases for the walk-in book. Once again, the patrol room was manned by two 4th-year medical students from the University of Virginia. Their assistance was tremendous and the exchange of knowledge was mutually beneficial. This is a highly successful program. Dr. Jim Pope was available most weekends. Many thanks go to Jim from our Patrol and from the injured skiers who had dislocations reduced or lacerations sutured. There were several serious accidents, and one heart attack victim handled by W.S.P. during the season. Many thanks go to Morgan Armstrong for his prompt actions with the heart attack victim.

The interaction between W.S.P., the mountain management, the Wintergreen Rescue Squad and the Wintergreen Police was excellent. As always, many thanks go to Uel Gardner and his staff.

Wintergreen patrollers participated in events throughout the Region and the Division. Brandon Deane attended the Division training seminar. Brandon and Richard Chadick served as instructor/examiners at the National Junior Training Seminar conducted at Silver Creek, West Virginia. Brandon, Pres Funkhouser and Doug Molyneaux attended a Basic/Senior test at Snowshoe in March. Brandon served as an instructor/examiner at the Certified test program. Rick Miller, James Morgan, and Doug Molyneaux attended the Certified test as Certified candidates. Rick Miller passed the Senior test at Snowshoe, and Bill Ramsey passed the Basic.

Doug Molyneaux became Patrol Director during mid-season, and Pres Funkhouser will become Volunteer Patrol Leader for the 1985-86 season. Each of these gentlemen will do an excellent job.

As in all seasons past, the success of the W.S.P. does not lie with the names mentioned in this article. Our success comes from the actions of the many unnamed patrollers who are the backbone of the patrol. I thank you all!

The 1984-85 season will end on June 22, 1985. A summer outing for the W.S.P. and other interested patrollers and their families in the Division will be held at Lake Moncan Park, Wintergreen Resort. Any patroller in the Division wishing to attend this function should make reservations with Doug Molyneaux or Richard Chadick by June 10, 1985.

Richard Chadick



## JUNIOR TRAINING SEMINAR

What a week! Every kind of snow and weather conditions, from sun to snow, heat waves to arctic blasts, rainbows to "bulletproof" snow. It was March 10-14, and Southern Division hosted the rest of the NSPS at the 1985 National Junior Training Seminar at Silver Creek, West Virginia.

Coordinating the event was Steve Benbow, our Junior Advisor. Working with him closely at the ski area were Manager Bill Bozack, Mary Bozack, whose main job was first aid, and Mary Davis, who kept the lifts running, among other things.

The crowd was small compared to previous seminars—just over 100 in all, 43 of whom were junior patrollers. They represented seven of the 10 NSPS divisions, and came from as far as Anchorage, Alaska, and as near as Lynchburg, VA. Six juniors represented Southern Division: Scott Marland, Ober Gatlinburg; David Knoll, Ober Gatlinburg; Doug Underwood, Ober Gatlinburg; Carolin Stowe, Ski Hawksnest; Christina Tulenko, Wintergreen; and Anthony Schaffhauser, Ober Gatlinburg.

Eastern Division cleaned up in the mandatory events of skiing, toboggan handling and first aid. Top honors went to Anne Hertz of the Concord Ski Patrol, NY; second place, Mark Rogalski, Kissingbridge Ski Patrol, NY; third, Alan Chamberlin, also Kissingbridge. No one lost out, however, with special events, such as The Speedo Patrol (water safety), mountain management, ski tuning and maintenance, risk management, sensory awareness (first aid in the dark), and special instruction on handicapped skiing. Unplanned extras included a clogging class, led by Division Medical Advisor John Chandler; also, a taste treat indigenous to West Virginia—ramps, a root-like garlic-onion, which when served raw, as it was, has a decided lingering after-taste which is, reputedly, even more pronounced the next day if the diner perspires!

Not to leave anything untouched, the superb week was topped off the final day with a lift evacuation. More patrollers than rescue equipment kept everyone entertained, and suspended skiers' tempers under control.

Congratulations to all the juniors who attended, and Steve thanks all the adults who came to help.

Benning Garrison  
PR Advisor

### SOUTHERN DIVISION OF NATIONAL JUNIOR TRAINING SEMINAR



photo by Benning Garrison

## JUNIOR PROGRAM

As we all should know by now, the Southern Division hosted the 1985 National Junior Training Seminar at Silver Creek, WV. The seminar was a big success and I think the Southern Division did themselves proud. Everyone who attended the seminar complimented us for the friendly atmosphere and warm hospitality. Many thanks are due to all the people who gave many hours as S & T examiners and First Aid examiners; plus a special thanks to Bill and Mary Bozack, Mary Davis, and the staff at Silver Creek who helped to make the 1985 NJTS so successful.

First place in the overall competition was Anne Hertz from Concord Ski Patrol, Eastern Division; second place was Mark Rogalski from Kissing Bridge Ski Patrol, Eastern Division; and third place was Alan Chamberlin, also from the Kissing Bridge Ski Patrol, Eastern Division; and third place was Alan Chamberlin, also from the Kissing Bridge Ski Patrol, Eastern Division. Congratulations to these three and to all the Junior participants who, throughout the week, maintained excellent attitudes and such great spirit that it was a pleasure to work with each of them.

The dates and place for the 1986 NJTS has been set. Intermountain Division will be hosting the seminar at Park City, Utah, March 30-April 4, 1986. The registration fee will be \$380.00 for adults and \$255.00, Juniors. This does not include air fare, but it takes care of lodging, lift tickets, and two meals per day. Cathy McFarland is coordinating the seminar and she is limiting registration to 400 people. Juniors have first priority, so if you are an adult and wish to attend, you must register early. You can let me know and I can reserve an adequate number of rooms, but if your registration is late—Too Bad.

The 1986 Division Seminar will probably be held in the Skyline Region. I am accepting proposals from different areas in that region with senior rated slopes up until the Fall Officers Meeting, when the Executive Committee and I will decide where to hold the seminar. If your patrol and mountain management would like to host the seminar, send me a proposal before the fall meeting with prices on rooms, meals, and whatever else the mountain management might charge.

Again, thanks for everyone's support of the Junior Program and National Seminar. Remember, these Juniors will probably be running the Division some day, so let us teach them right.

Steve Benbow  
Junior Advisor

### WINTERGREEN DONATES \$200.00 TO SOUTHERN DIVISION JUNIORS



Steve, Charlie, Richard and Doug



## WHERE DID ALL THE SNOW GO? (Into the rivers, of course!)

It was with long faces that those of us on Renegade Mountain watched the warm weather arrive early and send the last of our ski-season running downhill in merrily bubbling streams. But we refused to be daunted for long: After all, if you can't lick it, join it, right? Thus armed with paddles and lifejackets members of the Renegade Patrol ditched skis and boots and followed the snowmelt—right into the Hiwassee River for our annual Patrol Party!

The festivities got under way on Saturday, March 23 with an abbreviated Red Cross canoe class taught by Brigitte Schran. We began on a calm stretch of the Hiwassee River, then finished the day with a short run down this beautiful, scenic class II mountain stream. Not only was the scenery unsurpassed and the company delightful, but we were treated to a first-hand rescue experience when Patrolman Brad Smallen and John Ingram, son of ski instructor Turner Ingram, demonstrated a classic upstream lean and went for a long, cold swim.

After successfully maneuvering the largest rapid on the river, a happy but tired group returned to Ken Horwitz' home on the Hiwassee where we joined the remainder of the patrol in a sumptuous pot-luck feast featuring dishes such as Marsha Riser's famous lasagna, a treat of boiled shrimp from "patrol angels" and instructors Tom and Jeanne Quinby, and other assorted goodies from patrolmen whose skills obviously extend from the ski slopes into the kitchen!

Beth Elliott shared some of her breathtaking slides of herself and other Yosemite park rangers executing daring high-angle rescues in Yosemite. These were followed by some slides of Renegade, several movies on whitewater canoeing, and the final piece-de-resistance, donated by Tim Asbury, that all time skiing classic (!!) "Hot Dog."

The next morning the river rats again headed for the Hiwassee. Mike Sewall joined us on Sunday, but sadly our fearless leader, Gary Riser was unable to paddle with us. We won't embarrass him by saying he had his hand in a cast, but one wonders how a senior patroller managed to break something on a beginner slope in Wyoming . . . (The real story, please!)

We ran the entire upper stretch of the Hiwassee on Sunday. Regretfully some of our patrol skills and cool were called upon when local rangers asked us to keep our eyes open for a fisherman who drowned in the river several hours earlier. The body was recovered just as we approached the park service raft—a sobering reminder of the awesome strength of even an "easy" whitewater river.

The rest of the evening was spent consuming mountains of spaghetti and reminiscing about the ski season. As much fun as everyone had on the river, we're definitely looking forward to the return of the snow next winter!

Brigitte Schrank



B. Schran, M. Seward, B. Smallen



Prepared to float the mighty Hiwassee

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Joe White, left, and Dean Lyons  
photo by Benning Garrison

## THE GREAT RACE


One day last winter members of Sugar's Courtesy Patrol were talking with Gunther Jochl about making a down-hill off Boulder Dash. Members of the patrol said that Joe White, one of Sugar's propatrollers, was the only one who would run it. One thing led to another for a couple weeks and then a challenge was arranged between Joe and Gunther.

On Saturday, February 23rd, THE GREAT RACE took place. The racers had to wait for the fog to lift off the top of the mountain. After some time it was decided to race anyhow, so poles were put in to guide the racers through the course. They started off side by side and Gunther edged ahead in the turn at the top of Flying Mile and led down to Mid-station running at a top speed of about 90 miles an hour. After Mid-station, Joe closed the gap and eased on ahead to finish the winner. They reached the finish line near the bottom of Big Birch in only 47 seconds!

There might be another race next year, so if this appeals to you, talk to Joe before the snow flies.



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