



# THE SOUTHERN CROSS



Official Publication of the Southern Division  
National Ski Patrol System, Inc.  
P. O. Box 3588, Kingsport, TN 37664

Division Director: Farris Jackson

Editor: Bobbie Rupp

Vol. XV, No. 1

January, 1986

FROM THE D.D.

Happy New year to everyone in the Southern Division! As all of you know the season has started off well for nearly all of our areas. Let's hope the balance of the season goes as well.

In December, we lost two wonderful people. Rick Roberts' wife, Joyce, passed away December 22. She will be badly missed by all who knew her. On December 25th, Bill "Pick" Pickelsimer, a patroller for 19 years at Beech Mountain, died. Please keep the families of these two fine people in your hearts and prayers.

During the Christmas period, I have been visiting ski areas and was pleased to see how well things are going. Without exception, the patrols were well organized, the patrol rooms were neat, clean and well stocked with first aid supplies. Area management too was complimentary about our people and how well things have started off this year. I plan to visit as many areas as possible this season and look forward to seeing and visiting with as many of you as possible. Please come up and introduce yourself so I can get to know you. While I'm there, I would appreciate your comments as to how you feel about the National Ski Patrol System and the Southern Division in particular. What are we doing right? What not so good? Let me have your suggestions. I will be going to the National Midwinter Directors Meeting in Denver on the 6th of February, so I need your input. Such things as the prospect of having our own first aid course will come up; what do you think we should do?

I know most of you have heard something about the new National Training Program. The program is an attempt to make all of us better skiers. I want to emphasize the fact that this is only a training program. There is no passing or failing. The instructors are there to help. It is not a test, even though the Star Program does have levels of proficiency. I would hope that all would like to achieve the highest level, but for some of us that is not possible. If I can raise my skiing level, it will certainly be worth it to me. Please join in the spirit of the program. We'll all be better off for it.

The Division Junior Training Seminar will be held at Winterplace, WV on the weekend of February 1st and 2nd. Everyone who can help, please contact Steve Benbow. Winterplace is a great ski area. Why not give it a try?

Some areas are in need of basic patrollers and others need professionals. If you know anyone who might be interested, please contact Gil Adams for the professionals and the appropriate Regional Director or Section Chief for the basic patrollers. We are going to need more good people in the next few years with new areas opening. Keep this in mind and let us know about people who might be interested.

Please join me in welcoming Massanutten Village to the Southern Division. We are fortunate to have these fine people in our Division. Some of you met the Volunteer Patrol Leader, Jack Shields, at the Fall Officers Meeting. Dan Buono is the Professional Patrol Leader and Steve Showalter is the Mountain Manager.

Several years ago, the Executive Committee made an appropriate suggestion as we were in poor shape financially. It was decided to send only one copy of the Southern Cross to each family, regardless of the number of patrollers in the family. It worked well and saved money when we were hard pressed. Now, with all our forms, rosters and schedules in the newsletter, we feel it is appropriate that each patroller gets his/her own copy. Beginning with this issue, we are going to try this. I hope you agree.

People have asked where they could get the metal signs saying "This Patrol is registered with the Southern Division." The National Office says they are not available at this time, but will be in the 1986-87 Supply Catalog. Be sure to order them prior to next season.

Charlie Benbow is working on a new supply of cardboard splints for us. If you need some of these, please drop Charlie a note saying how many you need.

The Hawksnest Patrol has graciously volunteered to host the Spring Convention in Boone. The meeting will be April 26th at the Center for Continuing Education. We had a wonderful turnout at the Fall Officers Meeting. Let's do better at the Convention. It's a lot of fun.

Finally, a highlight of this year will be the National Convention in Atlanta. The dates are June 26-28. Put them on your calendar right now. Those of you that came to Knoxville when we hosted our last one, will remember how interesting and how much fun it was. The banquet is on Saturday night, the 28th—please come. Rick Roberts is coordinating the Convention, and already has done a great job. He is going to need a lot of help later on. Any of you, especially those in and around Atlanta, who can help, contact Rick as soon as possible.

The outlook is excellent for this year. We have a good rapport with our area managers and need to continue this. Remember our new cooperative effort with NSAA and SSAA concerning the "Be Aware—Ski With Care" safety program. Promote it every chance you get.

All the best to you and your families—and GOOD SKIING!

Farris Jackson  
Division Director

## CALENDAR

- Feb. 1 Basic First Aid Test, Wintergreen, VA  
 1-2 Junior Training Seminar, Winterplace, WV  
 2 Basic Skiing Test, Wintergreen, VA  
 7-9 Mountaineering Patch Course, Mt. Rogers, VA  
 8 Skyline T & T Clinic, Massanutten, VA  
 8 Basic Test, Wolf Laurel  
 9 Skyline Senior Clinic & First Aid Test, Massanutten, VA  
 15 Southern Cross Deadline  
 15 Senior First Aid Test, Cataloochee  
 16 Basic Ski Test, Beech Mtn., NC  
 16 Senior Ski Test, Cataloochee, NC  
 22 Avalanche Patch Refresher/Avalanche Course Class Work, Beech Mtn.  
 22 Basic First Aid Test, Massanutten, VA  
 22 Senior First Aid Test, Beech Mtn., NC  
 23 Basic Ski Test, Massanutten, VA  
 23 Senior Ski Test, Beech Mtn., NC
- March 1 Senior First Aid Test, Snowshoe, WV  
 2 Senior Ski Test, Snowshoe, WV  
 2 Basic Ski Test, Appalachian, NC  
 15-22 Advance Avalanche (Patch), CO  
 15 Basic First Aid Test, Silver Creek, WV  
 16 Basic Ski Test, Snowshoe, WV  
 21-23 Certified—Snowshoe, WV
- Mar. 30-  
 April 3 National Junior Training Seminar, Park City, UT  
 26 Spring Convention, Boone, NC
- May 12 Southern Cross Deadline
- June 25-  
 29 National Convention, Atlanta, GA

## IN MEMORIAM

*Joyce Roberts*  
 wife of Rick Roberts, ADD  
 December 23, 1985

*Bill (Pick) Pickelsimer*  
 Patroller Beech Mountain  
 Since 1967  
 December 25, 1985



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## LOOK FOR QUESTIONNAIRE!

Sometime in the next four weeks you will be getting a radio questionnaire from your assistant telecommunications advisors. I know you've seen these before, but, believe me, this is important. As things stand now, after March 1st, the FCC will start charging for radio licenses. Before that time, we must get applications in for any area that even remotely thinks they might need radios. After that date, a license could cost as much as \$300 to \$400 per area. Enough said! When you get the questionnaire, get to work on it and return it PDQ. Your advisors will still have a lot of work to do after they get it back. Be accurate on your answers, don't guess. The FCC is unforgiving when you put incorrect information on a Federal form.

Farris Jackson  
 Communications Adv.

## REGIONAL ADVISORS DIXIE REGION

Training .....	Ed Saleem
Testing .....	Jack Britt
Mountaineering .....	Richard Weinbarger
Nordic .....	Jim Reed
First Aid .....	Bobby Joe Harbin
Auxiliary .....	Ron Hamilton
Lift Evacuation .....	Jim Scott
Safety .....	Mike Chandler

## NATIONAL SKI TRAINING PROGRAM

Recognizing the unique demands on patrollers' skiing in that they must not only be able to ski all kinds of conditions while presenting a positive image to the public but must also possess the skills necessary for competent toboggan handling and other ski related duties, programs have been developed to meet the varying ski training needs of patrollers. It is the intent of the National Training Committee that the material in these ski training programs be presented in a "non-technical" manner, thus allowing the activities to be participated in under the supervision of a training officer or worked on independently by patrollers. They are designed to utilize and build upon the technical ability that patrollers already possess. It is most important that all patrollers understand that this program has been developed to positively assist them in their individual skills development efforts and is not to be interpreted as a recertification program—*This Is Not a Test!*

Rick Roberts  
 ADD Staff

## FEDERAL EQUIPMENT DISTRIBUTION MANAGER

By now most of the ski areas should have received some items of excess Federal Property. Most of this equipment is salvaged army field equipment. Some of it will need some minor repairs. (Some of the equipment may be of no use to you.) If you get some unusual equipment and develop a unique use for it, try to get this information into the next issue of The Southern Cross so other ski areas can learn from your experience. Also, everybody be prepared to discuss uses of equipment at the Spring Meeting.

Harry Stowe  
 F.E.D. Manager

## AVALANCHE PATCH COURSE

(Save the Patch)

The 1986 Southern Division Avalanche Patch course will be held in the Colorado Rockies. See and Ski Winter Park, Silver Creek, Lake Eldora, Berthoud Pass and others, March 15 to 22, 1986. Course will be conducted with the cooperation of the Rocky Mountain Division.

A minimum of 10 participants is required. Registration deadline is February 15, 1986.

## PATCH REFRESHER

(Bridger Bowl Alumni Association Meeting)

An Avalanche Patch refresher will be held on February 22, 1986 at Beech Mountain. All patch holders are required to refresh their knowledge and skills every three years, so take this opportunity to be a *current* patch holder. Class and field work will both take place on the 22nd so plan for the whole day. All division avalanche instructors or those wanting to be instructors should plan to attend.

To register or for more information for either course, contact:

Ron Geist  
1605 Damon Court  
Dunwoody, GA 30338  
(404) 394-1268

## PICTURE ANYONE?

National headquarters is looking for a good picture of a patroller in one of the new parkas. He/she should be performing a patrol function such as bringing down a sled. If you have one, please send it to Denver and receive recognition—and some cash.

## 1985 TRIAD SKI SWAP

The Ski Swap was held November 22nd through 24th at Edelweiss Ski Haus in Greensboro, NC. There were good crowds on Friday and Saturday and a record \$1,500 was raised for the Junior Program of the division. The real value was closer to \$2,000 considering the unsold equipment donated to the division, the Pepsi donated by Pepsi Cola Bottlers of Greensboro, and the snacks donated by Nabisco Biscuit Division of Greensboro through Howard Tilley. A giant contribution of store space, publicity and manpower was made by Edelweiss Ski Haus; many thanks to Steve Coggin and all his staff for the key part they played.

The support of all the patrollers who volunteered their time and effort is much appreciated. Thank you to:

Dan Alman (Appalachian)	Rosey Ehrlich (Hawksnest)
Steve Benbow (Hawksnest)	E. B. Fox (Appalachian)
Alan Cassell (Hawksnest)	Burt Hayes (Mill Ridge)
Nancy Delappe (Sugar)	Andrew Holshouser (Hawksnest)
Mark Dignan (Hawksnest)	Hugh Jurnigan (Cascade)
David Dillard (Administrative)	Alan Lakin (Appalachian)
Tom Dillon (Cascade)	Beverly Sizemore (Beech)
Ken Drake (Hawksnest)	Harry Stowe (Hawksnest)
Van Duncan (Hawksnest)	Ann Taylor (Hawksnest)
Heiner Ehrlich (Hawksnest)	Howard Tilley (Hawksnest)

Thanks also to those of you who brought ski equipment to sell. Our gross sales were nearly \$8,500—another record! This Ski Swap continues to be a great fund raiser for the Juniors and provides a great service to the skiers of the Piedmont Triad and surrounding areas. Thanks to all who helped and I look forward to seeing more of you at the 1986 Triad Ski Swap on the weekend before Thanksgiving. Mark your calendars now!

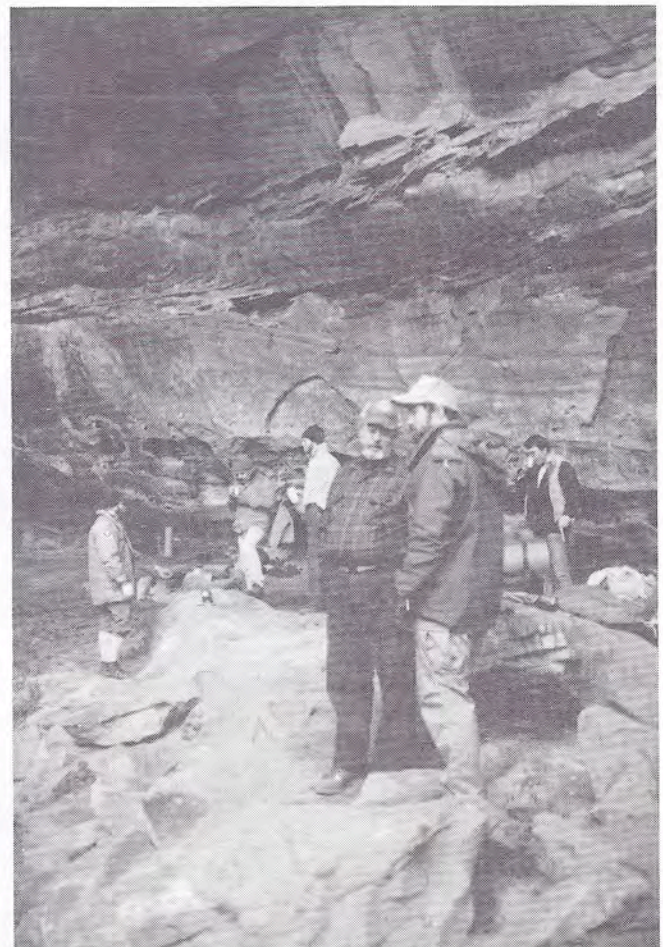
Mark Taylor  
1985 Swap Coordinator

## CIRCLE M COURSE

*In Allum Cave 12/8/85*



*"Breakfast Time"*



*Two of the Instructors—Bobby Harbin and Dennis Slagle*

*(Photos by Joy Slagle)*

**SOUTHERN DIVISION NATIONAL SKI EXECUTIVE**



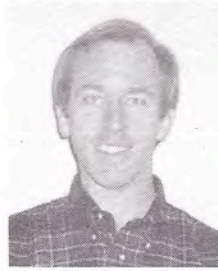
**Division Director**  
Farris Jackson



**Past Division Director**  
Charles Benbow



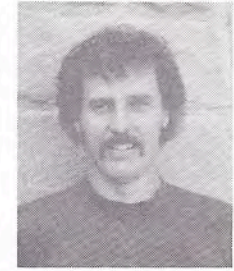
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French Moore, Jr.



**Ass't Div. Director-Staff**  
Rick Roberts



**Ass't Div. Director-Line**  
Doug Carlberg



**Dixie Region Director**  
Lynn Pace

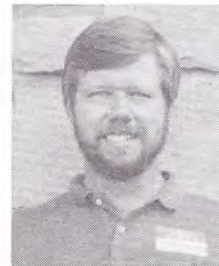
**SECTION**



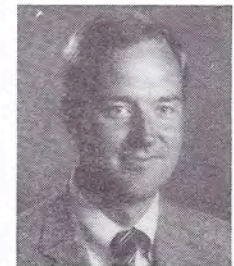
**Carolina Highlands Sect.**  
Doug Gilstrap



**Virginia Highlands Sect.**  
Raymond "Bernie" Smith



**Grandfather Section**  
Butch McLean



**Smoky Mountain Section**  
Steve Waldrep

**ADVI**



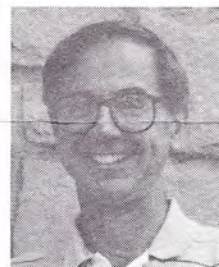
**Alumni**  
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Joy Slagle



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Mary K. Twomey



**Avalanche**  
Ron Geist



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Charles Benbow



**Fund Raising**  
Bob Shulman

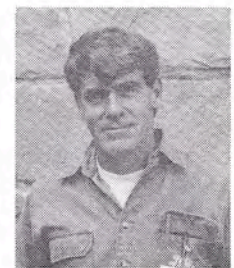
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Dottie Spencer



**Insurance**  
Bob Edwards



**Junior**  
Steve Benbow



**Legal**  
Bob Riddle



**Public Relations**  
Benning Garrison



**Safety**  
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**Southern Cross Editor**  
Bobbie Rupp

**PATROL SYSTEM—1985-86 SEASON  
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Pete Chamberlin



**Skyline Region Director**  
Richard Chadick



**Professional Director**  
Sherry Woodie

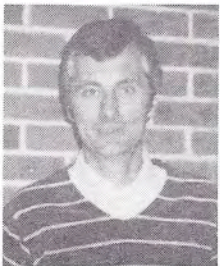


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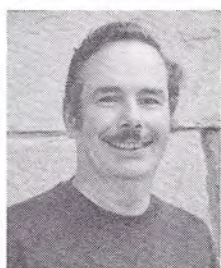
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**Mountaineering**  
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**Nordic**  
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**Professional**  
Gil Adams



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Brandon Deane, Jr.

## PATROL NEWS

### Hawksnest

We are clicking on all cylinders now that the season is in full swing! We are 41 members strong at the time of this writing including a promising group of candidates and auxiliaries. We had an excellent on-the-hill refresher in September and many of our patrollers participated in the 1985 Triad Ski Swap in Greensboro. We had a volunteer Work Day at Hawksnest where several members did some last minute chores prior to opening the ski area. These included painting, erecting snow fence, cleaning rental boots, moving lockers, organizing the first aid room and packing toboggans for that first lift ride. This provided to be a good day of patrol fellowship and was greatly appreciated by management. Hawksnest opened for business December 16th.

We have emphasized regular training on-the-hill this season and have scheduled a 2-3 hour training session for each and every weekend day. So far, the training sessions have been excellent with much help from Grandfather Section Chief, Butch McLean on Saturdays. Butch has not missed a Saturday yet, and his support is greatly appreciated. Assistant PL Howard Tilley is doing an excellent job as Patrol Training Officer and is getting much support from other Seniors on the patrol. We have also enjoyed the assistance of Hawksnest PSIA Instructors with our skiing skills and thank Ed O'Neill, Ski School Director, for the help.

General Manager, Phil Jarke has everything going smoothly and has facilitated ski patrol operations to make Hawksnest a safe and enjoyable place to ski. Snowmaking has been great, enough to permit the opening of both sides of the mountain on December 29th. Owner, Jon Reynolds, gave us a season pass to raffle and \$800 was raised. Thanks Jon! We are now in the process of raffling off a weekend for two (lodging, lift tickets and rental equipment). Hawksnest Sports, Inc. and High Country Realty has made this donation for February 8th & 9th. This kind of support has allowed us to purchase a new Cascade toboggan and to order three new Maxxon radios. Assistant PL Alan Cassell is doing a bang-up job as ramrod for our fund raising efforts.

We are having a Basic Test on January 25th and 26th and welcome any test-ready candidate from throughout the region. Hawksnest Ski Patrol will host the 1986 Southern Division Spring Convention on April 26th at the A.S.U. Continuing Education Center in Boone.

Mark Taylor, PL

### Sugar Mountain

The Grandfather Section held its annual refresher earlier than usual this fall. On the weekend of September 28 & 29, Sugar Mountain and its patrol played host to patrollers from Hawksnest, Hound Ears and a few from Cascade Mountain. Many officers from the Southern Division also attended.

The North Carolina Sports Medicine Group comprised the major part of Saturday's agenda. Several doctors from this group "refreshed" us on (and certainly added to) our knowledge of various orthopaedic injuries, first aid procedures and many other interesting and practical ideas. Their time was certainly appreciated. We were definitely entertained as well as "educated." Butch McLean humbled us all with a little quiz.

Sunday, a beautiful day, was spent outside by the Sugar Mountain patrollers. Our yearly lift evacuation practice was held with everyone being evacuated.

Tall tales of deep snow were told all around—and we all are hoping that they will come true this ski season.

Meli Rucker

## REGION NEWS

### Skyline Region

We had a successful pre-season. All three refreshers presented excellent classroom instruction and on-hands training; lift evacuation exercises brought back butterflies for many stomachs.

The Virginia Section now has a new member with the Massanutten Ski Patrol. They have an excellent organization headed by Dan Buono and Jack Shields. The Virginia Section Chief, Charlie Coleman skis with the Massanutten Patrol and he will be visiting the patrols in the section this season. Massanutten and Wintergreen opened in early December, and Homestead opened later in the month. Candidate training began in November for the Wintergreen candidates, for first aid, consisting of classroom instruction and practical exercises.

The West Virginia Section, with Bob Bodomar as Section Chief, is already into an excellent season. Bob has organized a new Nordic Patrol at Elk River Touring Center in Slatyfork, West Virginia. He also conducted a refresher for Snowshoe, Silver Creek and Winterplace. Cup Run at Snowshoe was open to the bottom for the earliest time since skiing began there. Silver Creek has twelve new candidates and new pros and Mary Davis is the PL.

The region held a Circle A/Circle M course that was hosted by Wintergreen on November 15 & 16. This was well attended by patrollers from the region, with several visitors from other regions and the instructors did an excellent job. Thanks! All area managers in the region are expecting a long and good season with plenty of skiing for everyone.

I encourage all patrollers to purchase new editions of the Patroller Manual and Winter First Aid Manual. All patrols are working with their patrollers to enhance skiing and toboggan handling skills. Many patrols now have medical advisors.

If you are planning to visit and sign on with any patrol in the region, every patrol expects and requests that the patroller make advance arrangements for the visit. Think ski safety and plenty of turns. See you on the slopes.

Richard Chadick  
Skyline Region Director

### Blue Ridge has Circle M Course

The 1985 course was held December 14th & 15th at the Outward Bound School at Linville Gorge, NC. Five students and five instructors attended. They were:

Instructors	Students
Doug Gilstrap, Jr.	Tom Dillon
Robin Hinkle	Hugh Jurnigan, Jr.
Mark Taylor	Chris Newcomb
Elaine Wittmann	Buck Tilley
Lee Whittman	Tim Tumbiolo

After a day of classroom instruction in topics such as heat loss and gain, hypothermia, winter survival, emergency bivouac, map and compass, and winter equipment and camping, the group hiked about 1½ miles up to the Table Rock/Chimneys area of Linville Gorge Wilderness Area. Tents were erected, a fire built, dinners prepared and eaten and the group hastened to their sleeping bags to fend off the 15° cold. A few mountaineers braved the cold to enjoy the stars from a rock ledge near the chimneys.

The next morning was clear and cold with a recorded low temperature of 11°! No overnight casualties were suffered, although a few water bottles became ice bottles and a few students questioned the sanity of regular ski mountaineers! Sunday morning was spent in discussions and field exercises covering emergency shelter construction, nordic patrolling, ropes and knots, search and rescue, and map and compass. The sun shone and warmed the ridge to a comfortable 30°. We broke camp and returned to the Outward Bound School Sunday afternoon and bid each other safe trips home. The course was both informative and enjoyable for all who participated and we are very grateful to the Outward Bound School for their cooperation and use of their facilities. We would love to have more patrollers from the region at our course next season to share in the fun and knowledge of the outdoors with us.

Off Belay,  
Mark Taylor, Region Advisor

## DIVISIONAL TRAINING CLINIC, SUGAR MOUNTAIN

The first step in instituting the 85-86 ski season refresher training is underway. On January 11-12, patrollers representing the majority of ski areas in the division attended a two day program, led by two professional ski instructor examiners. The clinic focused on the American Teaching Method (ATM). This method teaches skills on turning your skis, edging properly and applying correct pressure to make your skis carve. Many skill exercises were performed to help in developing properly executed turns. We played follow the leader during the two days with everything being explained in simple, non-technical terms. There were no bamboo poles, courses set or grades given. The sessions were very positive and informative. Although we were all exhausted by Sunday, everyone learned a great deal.

The next steps are to hold Regional Training Clinics. The dates are outlined in the Southern Cross calendar. At these clinics E. B. Fox, Blue Ridge Region; Ed Saleem, Dixie Region; Brandon Deanne, Skyline Region will be working with local training officers to impact local ski area refresher programs. Keep in mind that we all need to constantly improve or adjust our skiing performance as we are in the public's eye. Everyone in the National Ski Patrol System is required to participate in this year's program.

We are developing uniform standards through skill exercises which should be fun for all patrollers. It is not TESTING! It is TRAINING! There are no poles, courses, score sheets or test judges! Just an enjoyable refresher to help everyone improve their own skiing skills.

Everyone involved on the training staff and area training is looking forward to working with all patrollers. See you on the slopes!

Neil A. Booth  
Divisional Training Advisor



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## NOTE: CHANGES IN ADDRESSES AND PHONE NUMBERS

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Greensboro, NC 27410  
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(O) 919-370-4184

Lynn Pace  
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615-584-9545 Mon.

Pete Chamberlin  
(O) 615-581-0623

Richard Chadick  
P. O. Box 28031  
Richmond, VA 23228

Sherry Woodie  
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Hot Springs, VA 24445  
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