



THE SOUTHERN CROSS

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

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Editor: Bobbie Rupp

Volume XI, Number 1

January 1982

CHARLIE'S CHATTER

Now that the real ski season has arrived, everyone seems to be into the swing of patrolling as usual.

Doris and I have already had the pleasure of being able to ski and visit with several patrols. I plan to spend some time with every patrol this season, weather and time permitting. I was very pleased to see that patroller's parkas (in most cases) are being cleaned up and have only those insignia that are called for in the Patrollers Manual.

Congratulations to the First Aid Instructors for putting on such good refreshers throughout the division. I was able to attend three. The biggest problem I found was that there were too many patrollers for the facilities where they were held. I think we need to look toward having all refreshers on the Section level. We cannot have the First Aid Refreshers with each patrol having their own as I do not believe we could keep the expertise in First Aid that we now have.

We welcome to the Southern Division the new General Butler Ski Area. It is located in northern Kentucky with Col. Norman Smith as the manager. The NSPS will be serving this area along with paid patrollers. Russ Debuc is the Patrol Director. If you would like to patrol at General Butler, contact Russ (502-732-6668). His address is P. O. Box 347, Carrollton, KY 41008.

All patrollers should start making their plans to attend the division Spring Convention in Asheville, NC on April 30-May 1, 1982. Hope to see everyone there!

Anyone having news items, should send copies to Bobbie Rupp, Southern Cross Editor, and to Benning Garrison, PR Advisor, so she can send it on to The National Patroller. We need news from all patrols so that all patrollers are "in the know." We need YOUR input!

From the Benbow family let us wish that all of you had a very Merry Christmas and that you will have a very prosperous and Happy New Year. See you on the slopes.

Charles T. Benbow, Jr. DD

PATROL NEWS

Mill Ridge

This year we are under new management. The improvements to the slope and lodge will make Mill Ridge one of the upcoming slopes in the South.

The patrol has 12 members, most of them candidates. You can find sled training and snowplow courses going on most any weekend. I would like to congratulate Jay Girard and Greg Miller for becoming the newest Basic Patrollers at Mill Ridge. They both passed the test held at Appalachian Ski Mountain on January 3rd.

For those of you who enjoy the challenge of skiing new slopes, you are welcome to come to Mill Ridge to try out our new slope (The Little White Monster) any time. Sign-on is at 8:30 a.m.

Norris R. Woody, PL

Sugar Mountain

This year we have lights to the top of the mountain for night skiing — seven nights a week. All patrollers are welcome to come and enjoy the longest run for night skiing in the South. Sign-in time is 5:30 until closing.

The first Thursday in February (4th), Sugar Mountain will host the annual Sugar Mountain Pro-Am. Patrollers will be needed to help cover the race course as well as the rest of the slopes. Lunch will be something really special — served in the "Patrol Kitchen."

Sherry Perry, Pro PL

PUBLIC RELATIONS

We now have two Regional Advisors in the division for this very important advisorship. Fontaine Boutwell, Skyline Regional Advisor, is a member of the Snowshoe Patrol. Her address is Route 4, Box 426, Charlottesville, VA 22906. Ron Howko, Blue Ridge Regional Advisor, is on the patrol at Appalachian Ski Mountain. His Address is 548 Pearl Street, Fayetteville, NC 28303. Both of these advisors are said to be very much into "photo-journalism," so be sure to be wearing a smile when you see them. Help them and our own Benning Garrison to get in the news so we can all be "in the know."

HELP NEEDED

I would like a snapshot of all executive committee members, advisors, section chiefs and patrol leaders for the scrapbook for the 1981-1982 season.

This year I have changed the scrapbook some and it is now possible for each patrol to make their own pages for the book if they want to. I will furnish the pages and mail them to each patrol if they would like to make their own. But don't worry — if you don't have someone who wants to take on this task, I will still be compiling all the data and pictures and will take anything you can send me for the book and make good use of it. I just thought it might be interesting to have some of the patrols add their own sheets to the Southern Division Scrapbook. I plan to put tabs on the scrapbook this year and divide it by sections and, hopefully, if I get enough response from each patrol, maybe even by individual patrols.

I'm always open for new ideas and suggestions, so if you have any just jot me a line or give me a call.

Joy Slagle has volunteered to help me in putting the scrapbook together and compiling the history of the division. If you have something to put in this book, please send it to me or Joy. Her address is Route 10, Morristown, TN 37814.

Patsy Harris
Historian/Archivist

January	23-24	Avalanche Patch Course Refresher
	30	Basic Test — Wintergreen
	30	Spaghetti Supper — 6:30 p.m. Seven Devils
	30-31	Southern Division Junior Jamboree & Explorer Ski Safety — Seven Devils
February	31	Certified Pre-test — Snowshoe
	4	Certified Pre-test — Seven Devils
	5-7	Mountaineering Patch Course Mt. Rogers, VA
	6	Southern Cross deadline
	7	Mt. Rogers Basic Nordic Test
	13	Senior On-The-Hill — Seven Devils
	13-14	Basic Nordic Test — Great Smoky Mountains and Gatlinburg
	14	Basic Test — Catalochee
	14	Mid-Winter Executive Committee Appalachian
	20	Basic Test — Sky Valley
	21	Senior On-The-Hill — Wintergreen
	21	Senior On-The-Hill — Catalochee
March	5	National Junior Jamboree Boyne Mountain, MI
	5-7	Certified Test — Snowshoe
	7	Basic Test — Gatlinburg
	13	Basic Test — Snowshoe
April	30	Spring Convention — Asheville
May	1	Southern Cross deadline

NSPS HAS NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Stephen M. Ober comes to NSPS from the American Ski Federation, where he served as assistant to the president. We are very pleased to have someone with his qualifications to fill this important position.

SPRING CONVENTION

The convention this year will be held at the Great Smokies Hilton in Asheville, NC. There is a block of 30 rooms reserved for us, so send your reservation in early. Send your reservation to: Hilton, 1 Hilton Inn Drive, Asheville, NC 28806. Hours for the convention are 9-5 on April 30th and 9-12, May 1st.

SUPER SPAGHETTI SUPPER

You are cordially invited to attend the Seven Devils Annual Spaghetti Supper held in connection with the Junior Jamboree January 30, from 6:30 p.m. until . . . The food and fellowship will be excellent and you will have a great opportunity to meet the future patrollers of the South.

Steve Benbow
Seven Devils PL

PRO PATROLLERS

There will be a "Hem and Haw" session for all professional patrollers on January 23rd. Plan on skiing together during the day with an emphasis on patrol tactics. There will be a dinner meeting and party in the Sugar Hollow Club that evening. Please let me know as soon as possible how many reservations to make.

Sherry Perry
Pro Adv.

NEW BILLBOARDS ARE UP

There are six billboards in the Western NC area that were put up by NSPS proclaiming SKI SAFETY. We hope this will help skiers to be more aware of this important aspect of skiing so everyone will be able to enjoy themselves more. There are two on Route 421, East of Boone, three in the Mountain City/Elizabethton area and one in the Asheville area. Watch for them and promote Ski Safety by skiing safely.

MOUNTAINEERING PATCH COURSE

There will be an advanced Ski Mountaineering Patch Course February 5 to 7, 1982 at Mount Rogers, VA. The classroom work will be held at the Mount Rogers Rescue and Fire Station on U. S. Rt. 58 near the White Top, VA post office. It will begin at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, February 5th. The field work will be Friday night through Sunday afternoon. All participants must pre-register using the form below with a signed recommendation from either your Patrol Leader or a Division Mountaineering Instructor. Send application and course fee to me by January 22, 1982. All information needed for the course will then be mailed to you.

This course is open to registered patrollers with Circle M and Circle A, Forest Service, Park Service and Rescue Squad personnel possessing the basic equipment (cross country skis and/or snow shoes required), knowledge, mental and physical stamina to take part in a survival type winter weekend. The course is also open to alumni of previous courses. All Southern Division Registered Ski Mountaineering instructors should make every effort to attend.

Course fees include printed material to be mailed or handed out.

NSPS members (1st time participants — includes patch)	\$10.00
Others (1st time)	5.00
Previous Participants (Both NSPS & others)	5.00

French H. Moore, Jr.

NATIONAL PATROL SYSTEM, SOUTHERN DIVISION
APPLICATION FOR ADVANCED SKI MOUNTAINEERING COURSE

NAME _____ HOME _____ OFFICE _____
Telephone No. _____ Telephone No. _____

STREET ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

CURRENT NSPS REGISTRATION NO. _____ PATROL _____ REGION _____

CIRCLE A CARD NO. _____ YEAR _____ CIRCLE M CARD NO. _____ YEAR _____

DIVISION CIRCLE M INSTRUCTOR NO. _____ YEAR _____

Evidence of winter mountaineering experience other than Circle M Course _____

Other general outdoor and Mountaineering experience, including schools, etc. _____

Signature of Applicant Date _____ Fee Enclosed \$ _____

PATROL LEADER'S RECOMMENDATION: I hereby approve and recommend the above patroller as candidate for the Advanced Ski Mountaineering Course:

SIGNED _____

DIVISIONAL SKI MOUNTAINEERING INSTRUCTOR RECOMMENDATION: I hereby approve and recommend the above patroller as candidate for the Advanced Ski Mountaineering course:

Ski Mountaineering Instructor Card No. _____ SIGNED _____

AVALANCHE PATCH COURSE REFRESHER

The first Southern Division refresher will be held January 23 and 24 in the Boone area. All those who have taken the Patch Course must renew at least every three years. Class-work will begin 8:30 a.m. Saturday and continue into the evening complete with simulator. The field work will be done on Sunday. If you want to update your Avalanche Course, be sure to contact Ron Geist as soon as possible.

CIRCLE A — CIRCLE M

November 14th was a very mild, cool one as a group of 14 from Sky Valley, Cataloochee and Scaly Mountains attended the Circle A given by Ron Geist. Very useful knowledge was obtained on this serious matter for us southern patrolers who ski out West so that should it happen, we could become part of the solution and not part of the problem. Imagine, being buried in an avalanche . . . at Scaly Mountain??

Later in the day, this group mounted their backpacks for the Circle M and took off to the woods with our "Happy Wanderer," Tom Thomas. (We were even honored by the presence of Ed Saleem!). Somehow, the sun went down too soon, plunging us into dusk only 15 minutes into the trail. The rest, of course, was in total darkness. . . and straight DOWNHILL! Shouts of "low branch" or "watch out for that tree" could be heard as well as bodies falling head-over-heels, backpack and all.

Setting up camp in the dark was an experience, also. The only things clear to us were the sky and the multitude of shining stars over our heads. Around the campfire, Tom filled our minds with some very useful knowledge to some "nickel knowledge," along with some "nickel jokes!"

Ahhh . . . morning! After a breakfast of champions, broke camp, a minority group led the way . . . to a deadend trail . . . (on purpose?). Orient those maps! Check those points! Find those landmarks! The majority group then led us back to our original UPHILL trail and back to civilization.

On the more serious side, the purpose of these courses is to be able to make the best out of a bad situation and, of course, survive! . . . should the worst happen. We thank you, Ron and Tom, for your respective expertise!!

Karen Prip — Sky Valley
Lynn Agoos — Cataloochee

TO ALL JUNIORS

Make your plans now to attend the Junior Jamboree at Seven Devils January 30 & 31. Be sure to be there by 9:00 a.m. Saturday for registration. The competition is challenging and the fun and fellowship with other Juniors in the Southern Division is great. There is also a chance to win a trip to the National Junior Seminar at Boyne Mtn., MI. If you have any questions, call me.

Steve Benbow
Junior Advisor

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CERTIFIED

This is the first report to you as the Certified Advisor. I would like to apologize for missing the refresher course with this information, but pregnant wives and newborns don't pay any attention to calendars.

The Southern Division now has the opportunity to have a full-fledged certified program. The necessary financing to get the program off the ground has been made available, thanks to the officers of the Southern Division. The certified program is designed to bring patrolers to maximum awareness as they relate to the public, to ski safety and to area management.

If you are a volunteer patroller with at least five calendar years and 150 days accumulated, you are eligible to participate. Professionals must have two years and 90 days. Patrol leaders, if you have a volunteer or professional that you feel is qualified for the program, get that person involved.

Those persons interested must have these applications and two letters of recommendation in by January 15, 1982.

Precourses for new candidates will be held at Snowshoe on January 31, 1982, and at Seven Devils on February 4, 1982. Old candidates are encouraged to attend. The Certified Test will be given March 5, 6, 7 at Snowshoe.

Because all special programs of the NSPS are to be self-supporting, all applicants old and new, as well as current certified members, will be required to pay \$25.00 this year. Next year new candidates will pay \$25.00, with old candidates paying \$15.00 and certified members a \$10.00 fee.

For more information, please contact Neal Rehberg, Snowshoe Ski Patrol, Snowshoe, WV 26209 (Telephone — Area Code 304/ 799-6600, Ext. 185). Start the necessary paper work now.

Neal Rehberg
Certified Advisor

EXPLORER SKI SAFETY

The Southern Division leads the nation in this program. We are proud to have four working posts in the South. We hope that all patrols will lend a helping hand working with these young men and women, training them in techniques used by NSPS.

Asheville, NC has the newest Explorer Post in the South. Steve Waldrep and Bob Newton are the post advisors. They are doing a great job training the post members in Advanced First Aid. We would like to thank Cataloochee and Wolf Laurel for being the host areas for the post.

We hope all explorer posts are well represented at the Junior Jamboree at Seven Devils, January 30-31. Also, keep in mind the National Jamboree at Boyne Mountain, MI, February 28-March 5.

Norris P. Woody
Explorer Ski Safety Adv.



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