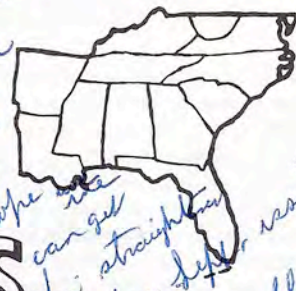




# THE SOUTHERN CROSS

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

*Down  
I never did get the  
change for your ad,  
you said you  
hadn't paid  
as yet.  
Hope you  
can get  
this straightened  
out before Sept. 1st.  
Bobbie*



Division Director: Farris Jackson

Editor: Bobbie Rupp

Vol. XV, No. 3

June 1986

FROM THE D.D.

The 1985-86 season is history. For the most part it was a good season. The weather was good to us in December and January and then Mother Nature did us in with a long warm (or should I say hot) spell in February. Unfortunately some areas had to close entirely, but were able to reopen later as Winter came back. Nearly all the areas were closed for the season by the middle of March except for the areas in northern West Virginia where they usually run out of people before they run out of snow.

I am proud of the way the Division performed this year. Everywhere I went Area Managers told me that they were very pleased with their patrols. Thank you all for your efforts. Of course, we had some problems. We tried to straighten them out at the time they occurred. Those that we couldn't, we're working on. For instance, we had a very productive meeting on Training and Testing on Friday before the Spring Convention. Those in attendance worked hard to come up with answers to problems that we had this season. The Division Training and Testing Advisors were charged with developing a written manual in each advisorship for presentation to the Executive Committee in August for approval. The approved manual will be covered in detail at the Fall Officers Meeting in September. The purpose of this is to allow us to be consistent in our Training and Testing procedures. Also we want all candidates for any test to know exactly what's expected of them and how the test will be conducted. Because of this important subject and others that will be covered at the Fall Officers Meeting I think we need to have more than one day for the meeting. I propose that we meet as usual on Saturday morning and afternoon and carry over to Sunday morning, leaving by noon. By the way, it has been suggested that we have the FOM in Abingdon, VA on the 13th and 14th of September and French Moore is working on it for us. Please put this date on your calendars now and reserve it because we need all Officers and Advisors there. Last year the turn out was super and I expect to see you all there again this year. Of course, we welcome any patrollers at this meeting and want your input.

Speaking of meetings, we just had a wonderful Spring Convention. Those of you that were not able to attend really missed out. The Broyhill Center in Boone, NC was a terrific place to have a meeting. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mark Taylor and the Hawksnest Patrol for hosting the Convention. It was well run and fun. I don't know where they got all the door prizes, but it surely was fun winning them. Of course, the high point of the whole meeting was the presentation of the Outstanding Awards. I think this is absolutely the best part of the Division Director's job—to honor people who have done a super job.

- Certificate of Appreciation—Harry Stowe, FED Advisor
- Certificate of Appreciation—Mark Taylor, Convention Organizer
- National Appointment—Steve Waldrep—Section Chief and Patrol Leader
- Outstanding Auxiliary—Larrick Fox, Wintergreen
- Outstanding Junior Patroller—Doug Underwood, Gatlinburg
- Outstanding Professional Patroller—Mary Davis, Silver Creek
- Outstanding Patroller—Mark Taylor, Hawksnest
- Outstanding Patrol—Hawksnest Patrol
- Outstanding Nordic Patroller—Jim Reed—Smoky Mtn. Nordic

All of these fine people are to be congratulated for a job well done. I would also like to commend the patrollers who through hard work and dedication passed their Senior Test this year. We also had two fine patrollers pass the final phases of their tests to become a Certified Patroller. These were Rick Miller and Doug Molyneaux of Wintergreen.

I'm excited about the prospects for next season. We're on the right track and people are more comfortable in their jobs than they were last season. There is a possibility that we may have some new areas in the Division in the coming year. That's always exciting and at the same time, a challenge.

I hope you all have a great summer. A lot of us will be working on new plans and prospects for next season and I thank these people for their dedication. Don't forget the National Convention in June in Atlanta. You should be hearing from Rick Roberts on that. Try to come! You'll have a ball!

Farris Jackson, D.D.



## CALENDAR

- Aug. 23 Executive Committee Meeting, Kingsport, TN
- Sept. 13-14 Fall Officers Meeting, Abingdon, VA
- Sept. 15 Southern Cross Deadline

## SERVICE AWARDS PRESENTED AT THE SPRING CONVENTION

In addition to the Outstanding Awards presented at this time, we would also like to recognize the following who have served the Southern Division well.

Ski Hawksnest	
Charles T. Benbow III	10 years
Heiner Ehrlich	15 years
Dale W. Johnson	20 years
James Shuttleworth	10 years
Michael Simmons	10 years
Snowshoe	
Robert Bodamer	10 years
Massanutten	
John Gable	15 years
Don Brunk	10 years
Jim Brunk	10 years
Doc Brohat	10 years
Stan Healwolf	10 years
Homestead	
Leroy Baisden	10 years
Charles Burgclore	10 years
Will Dickerman	10 years
William Parks, Jr.	10 years
Bing Poon	25 years
Wintergreen	
Brandon C. Deane	10 years
Warren Griffin	10 years
Robert Pugh	10 years
Ronald S. Smith	20 years
George W. Young, Jr.	20 years
Jedd A. Zaring	10 years
W. Ed Johnson	10 years
Sky Valley	
Bill Farrell	15 years
Walter Eaton	20 years
Senior certificates were presented to:	
William S. Styres	Ski Hawksnest
Larry Erb	Ober Gatlinburg
Bruce Tackes	Ober Gatlinburg
Kathy Harris	Wintergreen
John Adair	Massanutten
Dean Lyons	

Mark Taylor and Harry Stowe were given Certificates of Appreciation. Congratulations to all!

## JUNIORS

The 1985-86 Southern Division Junior Training Seminar was held at Winterplace, WV on February 1st & 2nd. There were 15 Juniors participating. Doug Underwood, Gatlinburg took 1st place; Scott Ghormley, Snowshoe 2nd and Jim Presswood, Gatlinburg 3rd. Airfare and registration for the National Junior Training Seminar at Park City, Utah was paid by Southern Division for the top two Juniors. Christine Tulenko, Wintergreen also attended the N.J.T.S. and was awarded 6th place in Practical First Aid with 123 Juniors participating. Congratulations Christine, Doug, Scott and Jim!

I would like to thank the adult examiners who helped at Winterplace, the staff and management of Winterplace and all Patrol Junior Advisors who have done a great job training. These Juniors will be the Seniors and pros of the future for the N.S.P.S. They are better trained when they complete those years with the Junior Program than most any Basic patroller. A Junior patroller who joins the organization at 15 has three years of patrol training, three division Junior seminars (equivalent of Basic test), and the opportunity to attend three N.J.T.S. (equivalent of Senior test). The Rocky Mountain Division has several patrols that do not allow Nationals to patrol yet they have very active Junior programs since when these patrollers turn 18 they are ready to become a pro with little or no further training.

The 1986-87 Division Junior Seminar will be held at Hawksnest Ski area and the National Junior Training Seminar will be at Bogas Basin, near Bosie in March.

Steve Benbow  
Junior Advisor

## AVALANCE ALUMNS

The second Bridger Bowl Alumni Association meeting was held at Beech Mountain in late February. All patch holders were supposed to attend, to keep current their knowledge, skill levels and patches. Avalanche advisor Ron Geist taught the class.

Both class work and field exercises took place on the same day. Visibility was considerably better inside—as was evidenced by a certain local resident getting lost in the dense fog while leading the rest of the alumni (ae) to the site of the field work. Proper probing techniques located the “victim” in the twelve-inch deep snow (one of the deeper spots on the mountain that day). Afterwards, a few people stayed to ski; the rest went to Rascals for dinner.

Benning Garrison,  
PR Advisor

## SENIOR HILLS

The Testing Committee has approved the following slopes for the 1986-87 senior skiing proficiency testing:

AREA	SLOPES
Beech Mountain	Sky Dive
	Tri South
Cataloochee	Upper-Oh-My-Gosh
Snow Shoe	Cup Run
	Widowmaker
Wintergreen	Cliff Hanger
	Wild Turkey
	Big Acorn
Wolf Laurel	Flame Out
	Southern Express

This is not final, and will be reviewed on a periodic basis.

Doug Carlberg  
ADD Line



## PATROL NEWS

*Wolf Laurel*

The patrol had a very good season during 1985-1986. It started early for Training Officers Jamie Piercy and Ted Asland. They identified and contacted prospective candidates during the summer and had completed candidate registration and the Training Program by October.

During November Mountaineering instructors Mike Silver, Steve Waldrep and Tom Thomas conducted a Circle M course. It involved a backpack trip to Mt. Hardy and was well attended with 15 participants.

The ski slope opened the first weekend in December. This was the earliest opening on record and characterized a more aggressive approach by management. The slope operated day and night sessions seven days a week until the March 8th closing.

In January we hosted a Regional Training Clinic. The weather cooperated by providing a heavy snowstorm which lasted throughout the weekend.

During February we conducted a ski pre-test for the Basic Test. The next weekend the test was held followed by the annual party and elections for 1986-87. The candidates must have been "thinking snow" because Mother Nature cooperated with another heavy snowfall for the test. The test results were an 86% passing rate for the candidates. The training officers were commended for their hard work. The patrol party recognized Dell Straghorn, Hal Kempson, Randy Taylor, Rodney Bowen, John Roberts and Wayne Morgan as new Patrollers. Larry Erb is our new Senior.

Patrol Officers elected for 1986-87 are: Steve Waldrep, PL; Stuart Ray, Asst. PL; Sherry Smedley, Sec./Treas.

Steve Waldrep was awarded National Patroller number 6680 at the Spring Convention.

## REGIONAL AUXILIARY ADVISORS APPOINTED

The Southern Division has appointed two qualified, energetic Auxiliary Advisors: Mary Underwood, Skyline/Blue Ridge Region and Ron Hamilton, Dixie Region.

Both appointees are capable of serving you, the patrols, in many ways which in turn will be helpful and beneficial to all within the Southern Division.

We wish them well.

Mary K. Twomey  
National & Div. Advisor

Neil A. Booth  
Training Advisor

## NORDIC PATROL

Nordic patrolling in the Southern Division expanded during the 1985-86 season. Two new patrols were formed in the Snowshoe area. One of the two was formed at a ski touring center (Elk River) which is a first for the Southern Division. A Nordic Senior bivouac was held in conjunction with the Mountaineering patch course at Mt. Rogers. Some patrollers participated in the bivouac because of the challenge—knowing they weren't going to take the Senior Nordic ski test. Parts of a Senior ski test were held in the Smoky Mountain area. Because of scheduling, no one managed to attend all parts of the test. Next season it is hoped that the Southern Division will have its first Nordic Senior.

Training programs are already being planned for next season. Video tapes made at the National Nordic Advisors meeting in Montana should be available to help with this. It was recommended at the meeting that all Section Chiefs who aren't Nordics participate in this training.

Milton Triplett  
Nordic Advisor

## PATROLLER SKI TRAINING

The 1985-86 ski season is behind us now. However, the passing of the season was a very positive step for ski training on skiing skills. For those of you who were able to attend any of the four clinics, you probably learned a great deal. Everyone learned either a new skill or skills or saw ways to improve ski training in 1986-87.

At the end of March, I attended the second annual National Training Committee Meeting, Crystal Mountain, WA. At this meeting, we reviewed each Division's progress to insure we are moving in the right direction. We are! You will see this direction at your annual refresher meetings. The areas we will concentrate on next season will be continued ski refresher training and toboggan handling skills. It will be a positive, informative and most importantly, a fun program for all patrollers to participate in.

We are striving to standardize all ski training so everyone knows the expectations of patrolling. Training is an ongoing process for everyone, be it to achieve the Basic, Senior, Certified levels or merely to improve for your own personal gratification. Training in the past has centered around test preparation. Obviously this is necessary! But, we can not forget the training needs for we existing patrollers.

The training staff looks forward to working with all patrollers next season. Again, you can look forward to an exciting 86-87 ski training season. Have a good summer!

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CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_







**OUR COMPLIMENTS**

**FROM YOUR EDITOR**

Many times I have thanked so many of you for helping to make this newsletter what it has become. We can only continue to have this fine a publication if everyone sends in articles in time for the deadline. This is especially true for the next edition as it will need to come out as soon as possible after the Fall Officers Meeting to list the Fall Refreshers. Please help by getting YOUR article in by the deadline. If at all possible, typewritten copy would be most appreciated!


Thanks again to all you faithful "reporters"! "

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