



SOUTHERN CROSS

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Southern Cross is published three times a year—fall, mid winter and spring. Articles and photos are encouraged and appreciated. With photos, please include caption information. If at all possible, please include a photo of the author with articles. Submission deadline for the fall issue is September 20, 2002. Send submissions to:

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A Challenging Season!

Nici Singletary, Division Director

Challenge: "to test, or to try". This past season was a challenge for many ski areas on the east coast. Areas in Southern Division were no exception.



The combination of warm weather and drought made for an abbreviated season and fewer slopes to ski. This in turn created challenges for patrols, candidates and patrollers working to improve their skills. Fortunately, our patrollers rose to the challenge, and as a result we have a significant number of new patrollers, senior patrollers or senior emergency management (a.k.a. senior OEC) credentialed patrollers. We cannot control the weather—we can only plan training events and then try to make each event the best possible learning experience. Our thanks go to the many instructors who worked tirelessly to put on the various ski, toboggan, OEC, PES, Phase I, mentoring and other NSP courses throughout Southern Division this past season!

The season concluded in Asheville, NC, at the Division Spring Officers Meeting and annual awards banquet. Held at the Holiday Inn Sun Spree and hosted by Dixie Region, this meeting and celebration was one of the best that I can remember! Many thanks to all the patrols in Dixie, and the patrollers and spouses who helped make this event a resounding success! A simultaneously running OEC Instructor Seminar contributed to the large turnout and a sensational meeting. Attendees were introduced to **Leif Borgeson**, who will be taking over as the National Education Program Director when Judy Over retires at the end of June. Leif is a former paid patrol supervisor and accomplished telemark skier from A-Basin, Colorado. He provided updates on the 4th edition OEC textbook (due out in July). The color galleys from four chapters were passed around and look fantastic! Many patrollers in Southern Division have contributed extensively to this upcoming edition. Following lunch, Leif gave a detailed presentation on the recently introduced mentoring program and how the process works for developing new instructors, while reducing “hoops”.

Our Division Board Representative, **John Dobson**, presented a detailed look at the ongoing efforts to re-structure the NSP Board, including proposed governance changes. John will report on these efforts and the results of the upcoming NSP Annual Board meeting (June 5-7) in the Fall edition of Southern Cross. This was John’s last official meeting as our DivisionBoard Representative, and I’d like to thank him for all the

time and effort he has spent representing our Division at NSP and reporting back to each of you on the activities of the NSP Board.

Our special guest speaker for the day was past National Chairman **John Clair**. John is the Deputy Commissioner for clinical Emergency Medical Services for NYC, and he treated the audience to a fascinating look at the 9/11/01 World Trade Center disaster and the EMS response. John described how the Incident Command System was used and what lessons were learned. He emphasized that every patrol should learn how to use the Incident Command System and to incorporate it into mass casualty training exercises at their ski area. There is a new chapter in the upcoming OEC textbook that provides information on this topic.

At the evening awards banquet, we recognized the thousands of hours of service that all of us have contributed to patrolling through NSP! Service awards for 10 to 35 years of service were presented to patrollers present at the meeting or to their patrol representatives. **Larry Bost** was recognized for his incredible record of service to NSP with a National Appointment. Larry is currently patrol representative for Hawksnest Ski Patrol, Assistant National OEC Program Director, former Division Instructor Development Program Supervisor, and an OEC instructor trainer. Congratulations to Larry! WinterPlace patroller **Jon Dragan**, the Asst. WV Region Director and a Region OEC Instructor Trainer, was also recognized for his contributions to NSP with a Leadership Commendation Appointment. Congratulations, Jon! **Steve Cortelyou** (Ober Gatlinburg) received a Yellow Merit Star for the many hours he has spent working to get the Southern Cross on our Division website and email notification to patrollers. Former Division Director **Charles Benbow** (current Alumni Program Supervisor) received one of the highest awards presented by NSP, the Meritorious Service Award, in recognition of his many years of service to NSP and Southern Division. This year, 3 new awards were presented in the name of former Cataloochee patroller Mary K. Twomey (MKT). **Jon**

Dragan was the recipient of the MKT Outstanding Instructor Trainer award. The names of the other recipients of Mary K. Twomey awards are being withheld until they can be presented their awards in person over the summer. Asst. Division OEC Supervisor **Pete Knowland** was named the Outstanding Administrative patroller for Southern Division. **Joe Donadio**, patrol director for Appalachian, received the Division Outstanding Paid Patroller award, and **Susanne Wise** of Hawksnest Ski Patrol received the Division Outstanding Auxiliary award. For the second year in a row, Sky Valley Ski Patrol's **Bob Lang** was named Outstanding NSP Patrol Representative. Congratulations to all of these exceptional patrollers! [\[Go to page 20 to see a selection of photos of award recipients. ed.\]](#)

Quote of the Day

"I long to accomplish a great and noble task, but it is my chief duty to accomplish small tasks as if they were great and noble."

- Helen Keller

Another change this year is in the Outstanding Alpine Patrol awards. Over half of the patrols in NSP have memberships of 40 or less members. It is difficult for these smaller patrols to compete with very large patrols for the annual outstanding patrol award, so NSP now has an outstanding *small* alpine ski patrol award, and an outstanding *large* alpine patrol award. This year, **Sky Valley Ski Patrol** received the Southern Division Outstanding Small Alpine Patrol award, and **Appalachian Ski Patrol** received the Southern Division Outstanding Large Alpine Patrol award. Both of these patrols have gone beyond the call of duty to challenge their members to excel in patrolling skills and in contributions outside of NSP towards safety and promotion of snowsports!

Next year's Division Spring meeting and awards banquet will be hosted by the Virginia Region and is planned for the first weekend in May at the Wyndham hotel in Roanoke. Based on the success of this recent meeting, another OEC Instructor seminar is being planned at the same location. The spring meeting is open to ALL patrollers and their families, and I hope you will join us next May in Roanoke.

Your patrol representatives have been working on their event schedules for 2002-2003. Be sure to look at the [enclosed calendar](#) and note dates for your refreshers, clinics or evaluations for senior toboggan,

emergency management, certified, student patrollers, and other events so you can plan your patrol days around these events. Some exciting new seminars are also being planned for this coming season, such as a Women's Toboggan Clinic and possibly a Cascade

Demo Team Toboggan clinic. Watch for news about these special clinics in the Southern Cross, and at the Southern Division web site, www.nsp.org/divisions/southern/. In the meantime, have a great summer.

From the Assistants...

Schedules, Awards, Etc.

Morgan Armstrong, First Assistant Division Director



Line Officers need to obtain final dates for the activities that your patrol, section and region will be conducting for the ski season of 2002-2003. These dates will need to be filed with the Southern Division at the Fall Officers Meeting in September. Please confirm your dates to avoid conflicts with other patrols, section, region and division events. Everyone is requested to keep the first weekend in February clear for the Student Seminar.

Each patrol is requested to begin making preparations for awards for next ski season at this time by setting up a goal of five division awards for each patrol. This goal will allow the Southern Division to better compete on the national level. Each year we have many awards that are available but are not used. Patrol Representatives are asked to read the awards section of the Officers' Manual to learn what is available. Merit stars and certificates of appreciation really mean a great

deal to our membership. Please get busy at the beginning of the season and with a small amount of planning, the process can be made much less painful and stressful at year's end. This ski season the section chiefs will be supervising, challenging and encouraging each patrol to submit awards nominations. Each patrol should double check the roster to be certain each member due a service award gets the award in a timely fashion. Also be aware that the service time is calculated one full year after the date of matriculation on the member's card. One who joins in September, 2000 will have their matriculation date in January, 2001 if the paperwork arrives on time. January, 2002 will count as one full year of credit. The ten year award should then arrive on schedule and on time at the awards ceremony after January, 2011 and so on.

All officers are reminded to begin announcing the 4th edition OEC book which is due this July. This book will set the standard for many years and will be a great tool for teaching our basic courses. Everyone will find teaching and learning from this new book to be very worthwhile.



All in One Place

Dennis Slagle, Second Assistant Division Director



Have you ever wished there were one place you could go to and get information about anything?

There is a lot of information out there on the "www", if you have the time to "surf" or look for it. Patrollers in our Division could be better informed if they had one place with all the answers. My vision is to make that

place our Southern Division web site. There is already a lot of information out there, for instance:

- Division Calendars
- Region Calendars
- The Southern Cross
- Form Downloads
- Listings of all the Division Officers and Supervisors
- Links to patrols and areas
- Links to other items

The links to other items include your personal contact information such as address, phone number, and email address. You can access this information and change it to keep it up to date. There is a link to this area. There is also a link to the area where you can get an account number and password to access the information.

Soon we will be putting links to programs (Avalanche, MTR, PES, etc). These links will have all the information about that program, so that if it still does not answer all your questions, there will be contacts listed who will have the information. The pages should include – what the course is about, what you will learn, why you need the information in the course, who are the instructors, dates for courses, and what ever else needs to be included.

But, this is still a very limited amount of information. I think there is still a lot of information missing.

This last part is where the supervisors and I need some help. Is there something you would like to see on the web site? What kinds of information do **you** need that **you** are not getting now? Is there something we should change about the web site?

This web site was built for all the patrollers in Southern Division. Please feel free to contact me on anything that you feel needs to be there. I have a vision to make our web site the focus of Southern Division information. You are the recipients of the information on the site, so let us know what you need!!

From the Regions...

Virginia Region

Mike Fisher, Region Director

Wintergreen reports that the new tubing park named “The Plunge” was very successful, and even sold out many weekends. A byproduct of the exciting ride was a few more injuries than they had desired, so the original tubing park will be reopened for the less adventurous crowd. A new trail will be opened from upper Wild Turkey to Cliffhanger so skiers can cross over to the new lift without skiing all the way down Wild Turkey. Wintergreen hosted the



OEC and S&T exams and clinics this season with super results. Many thanks go to all the patrollers and friends who played victims, were examiners, and to those who organized the events. Nearly thirty people made this exam one of the best held in many years.

Congratulations go to our newest Seniors, Tom Fenn from Bryce, Shaun Cassidy and Rob Armstrong from Wintergreen.

Many thanks to Don Christian who served as patrol representative at Bryce this past season. Don said he would take the patrol under his wing for another season, until the patrol can find a permanent replacement. The

Bryce patrol will hold an election this summer for the patrol representative position.

New this year, at your refresher there will a collection of E-mail addresses from all patrollers. This information will be used to notify you by E-mail when the **Southern Cross** is posted on the Southern Division web site. This will result in significant reductions in Division operating costs. If you do not have E-mail or



Examiners, patients and candidates at the Virginia Region Emergency Management Evaluation at Wintergreen. Too many to name! Anyone able to identify all participants wins a free copy of *Southern Cross*.



Don Christian (patrol rep), Mike Fisher (Region Director) and Lacy Williams (Shenandoah Section Chief) at Bryce.

access to the internet, and would prefer to receive a hard copy via postal mail instead, you will have an opportunity to make this request.

Super, Huge, Atta Girl, congratulations goes out to Robin VanWinkle for becoming the newest Certified patroller in the Division!!! Way to go Robin!!

The Shenandoah Nordic patrol is very proud of its four patrollers who volunteered at the Olympic Nordic Venue this past winter. They had a great time with plenty of pins and memories to last a lifetime.

New this year will be the introduction of the Mountain Travel and Rescue I (MTR I) course being held on Heards Mountain, near Wintergreen. The one-day course will be held on January 31, followed by an optional winter campout as a prep for MTR II. Times, dates, location, etc. will be in the fall issue. This should be a good time, with over 900 acres of private land to explore.

Virginia Region Summer/Fall Schedule

June 22 8am CPR/ AED refresher Lake Monocan- you must pre-register

West Virginia Region

Jan Starr, Region Director

The season that wasn't is over and onto the spring and summer. We are now getting the precipitation that was so much needed during the winter. All areas in WV made it through the season without having to shut down any. Training was hit and miss, but new patrollers made it out onto the slopes.

A great SR OEC clinic and lunch was held by Timberline. Timberline also has new officers for the upcoming season. Good luck to all of them.

June 22 12noon Wtgrn Patrol picnic and Annual Patrol Meeting Lake Monican

June 23 Instructor Development Seminar-Wintergreen (Morgan Armstrong)

July 21 Patroller Enrichment Seminar C-ville (Cindy Huffstutter)

July 27 OEC Refresher Planning Wytheville (Judi Kay Monaghan)

Aug 10-11 Hoo Haa Bicycle race Massanutten

Sept 7 Fall Officers Meeting Wythville

Sept 7 Senior Examiners Clinic @ Fall Officers Mtg

Sept 14 Wintergreen OEC course starts (Ted Forbes c/o Tucker)

Sept 28 Wtgrn OEC pre refresher, Sept 29 Wtgrn OTH pre refresher (Tucker)

Oct 4@5 Homestead Pre refresher and Refresher (Bill Smith)

Oct 5 Massanutten Pre Refresher (William Drurey 540-896-8033/ John Huffstutter)

Oct 19 & 20 Wtgrn Oth, and OEC Refresher (Tucker)



Upgrade at Wintergreen. The new \$6M detachable lift gets you and five companions to the top in 3 minutes. The rest of the Division is jealous!



The Emergency Management Evaluation was held at WinterPlace. [\(See article on page 10.\)](#) The effort put into this endeavor was shown in the quality of the evaluation. They have now raised the standard!!

There are many events scheduled for the summer at the areas. One of the biggest will be the NORBA Nationals, held at Snowshoe on June 20-23. Come and join us in one of the top mountain biking events in the Eastern/Southern US. Check out the areas' web pages for a summer schedule full of concerts and cookoffs. Grab the family and enjoy your summer!

Blue Ridge Region

Butch McLean, Region Director

The areas that opened for skiing in the Blue Ridge Region enjoyed a profitable ski season. Unfortunately Ski Hawksnest did not open for skiing. They became "Tube Hawksnest". The failure of Hawksnest to open did not catch us by surprise. Larry Bost, patrol representative was aware that this was going to occur and he kept everyone in the loop. He contacted the other patrol reps in the region and in the division in an effort to find a place for the Hawksnest patrollers to patrol. The region patrols were highly supportive of these patrollers. They welcomed the Hawksnest patrollers with open arms and made them feel like family. Larry has met several times with Lenny Cottom the new general manager at Hawksnest and Larry has been assured that Hawksnest will reopen for the 2002 - 2003 ski season as a ski area.

This season Appalachian Ski Mountain, Ski Beech and Sugar Mountain exhibited the type of camaraderie that makes the Blue Ridge Region truly unique. We have always visited freely with each other, trained together and tested together and this season was just another example of how close we are. All areas in the region had members of the Hawksnest Patrol patrolling.



The reports from the patrol representatives and the Hawksnest patrollers were similar. Other than learning new opening and closing procedures the assimilation appeared to be smooth.

The senior program appears to have returned to the prominence it once held. Several patrollers completed their course work and the ski and toboggan evaluation. There appears to be renewed interest in the program and the patrol reps should be commended for their effort to increase the number of candidates.

We continued to hold regional basic evaluations. The chief examiner Rick Laws led these evaluations. Rick did an outstanding job organizing the evaluations and each area had a basic evaluation.



Senior Clinic at Ski Beech. L to R: Andy Moody, not-sure-who, Toni Cheek, Butch McLean, Dan Cheek, Howard Tilley, Richard Sanders and Mike Harris.



Dixie Region

Neil Booth, Region Director

We had a challenging season but we came through in our normal stride, on top! Even though we had constant weather challenges, we did not let it disrupt our many days of skiing in the South, nor our educational and training needs. We all ended the season as better members. Larry Erb, Senior Coordinator and Phil Critcher, Chief Examiner had to perform talented juggling acts by moving clinics and exams around to different areas for snow and terrain purposes. None of this would have been possible without the support and flexibility of our



Ski Area Managers and Patrols. Dixie did great and everyone in Dixie is to be congratulated.

We just completed the largest gathering of Southern Division Members for the Annual Spring Officers Meeting and Awards Banquet. The Dixie Region was the host for the event. We had tremendous help in putting on this event from Carrie Keller, Shelley Booth, Dave Kattermann, Jamie Piercy and Lee Wilkinson. We had strong financial support from Dave Kattermann, Richard Boyer, Cataloochee, Ober Gatlinburg, Sky Valley, and Wolf Laurel Ski Patrols. We also had custom made bottle stoppers made by Gordon Pettit's wife, which were given to key visitors and staff members. These people were the reason for the very successful event and to them I offer my most sincere thanks.

We had a lot of success this year. Let me begin by recognizing **Bob Lang, Outstanding Patrol Representative for the Southern Division**. Bob has done an excellent job in integrating the Scaly Mountain Patrol into the ranks of Sky Valley, through the unfortunate closure of Scaly Mountain Ski Area. Bob has done an outstanding job of leading his patrol to much higher standards and accomplishments. No big surprise either, that **Sky Valley was awarded the Southern Divisions Outstanding Small Patrol of the Year**. Bob set the direction, but it was membership that took advantage of everything the system offers. They excelled in everything they participated in, both on and off the hill. We extend a tremendous amount of congratulations to Bob Lang and the Sky Valley Patrol for their accomplishments. Very well done Sky Valley!

Members of Dixie, that also excelled, were recognized for their contributions:

- **Southern Division Outstanding Administrative Patroller was awarded to Pete Knowland**. Pete has been extremely instrumental in enhancing the quality of OEC courses, refreshers, clinics and exams. Membership and Leadership in Dixie are the direct recipients of his outstanding talents. Those that come into direct contact with Pete know and realize this.
- **Southern Division Outstanding Student Patroller was awarded to Matthew Lovelace**. Matt is an active member of Wolf Laurel and was recognized for his talents when he stopped during a high school cross country meet to help an injured runner, thereby taking himself out of contention by helping someone in need. Matt is an outstanding young adult.
- **Service Awards** were given out as follows:
 - 35 years to **Randy Avery**-Cataloochee; **Bob Palik**-Cloudmont
 - 25 years to **Steve Waldrep**-Wolf Laurel; **Linda Pace**-Smoky Mtn Nordic; **Ben Tholkes**-Sapphire
 - 20 years to **Ian Nesbitt** and **Mike Boggs**-Sky Valley; **Dave Quidort**-Wolf Laurel; **Dave Bjornstad**-Gatlinburg
 - We also had seven 5 year awards and eleven 10 year awards
- **Senior Certificates** were awarded to the following people who have increased their education, knowledge and skills to a much higher level:
 - **Richard Boyer, David Hall and Steve Wall-Cataloochee**
 - **Kevin Semans** – Ober Gatlinburg
 - **Bob Brewster** – Wolf Laurel
- **Angel Pins** were given to some very special spouses of Dixie members. These are people that have endured many long hours of sacrifice as their spouse spends time away from home and family, to support the system. These Angel's are very special people and I am deeply appreciative to each one of them.
 - **Lori Piercy, Cheryl Critcher and Kay Erb** – Wolf Laurel
 - There are more to be personally presented to other outstanding Angels within the Region and will be recognized after presentations.
- **Certificates of Appreciation** were given out to the following members within the Region for their superior contributions:
 - **Dave Parker**-Cataloochee for his continued support to the Southern Division in his leadership role as PSIA Supervisor; as a Region S&T Examiner and Toboggan Instructor; for his time and financial commitment to the Cataloochee Ski Patrol.
 - **Carrie Keller**-Cataloochee for serving as the On-site Meeting Coordinator for the Southern Divisions Spring Officers Meeting in Asheville, NC. About 150 members for meetings and 134 attendees for the Annual Awards Banquet attended this meeting. Yes, the biggest meeting in the Southern Division to date.
 - **Lee Wilkinson**-Wolf Laurel for serving as the Registration Coordinator and Financial liaison for the Southern Divisions Spring Officers Meeting.
 - **Ann Christenson**-Cataloochee for her active participation in the Region as an OEC Instructor; performing as IOR on several challenge courses in the Region; personalized trainer for Senior Candidates; but most importantly, for her years of dedicated service

to Cataloochee as the Patrol Registrar and Treasurer.

- o **David Hall**-Cataloochee for his support to Dixie Region as an S&T Examiner; for his dedication as a Patrol and Section Training Officer; and for the countless hours and financial commitment he gives to the Cataloochee Ski Patrol towards improvements in patrol facilities and building projects.

We had a special testimony given at the recent Spring Meeting by **Chris Brecher from Sky Valley**, a current Senior Candidate. Chris lacks one elective before completing the Senior educational process for advancement. Perhaps his most important comments began with “someone asked me to get involved in the Senior process”. Chris has been a patroller for over 10 years and has not really challenged his skills beyond annual refreshers and on the hill activities since becoming a Basic. His comments were very positive about the Senior Program and he strongly recommends that “you” get involved and challenge yourself.

This leads into further recognition of Dixie Staff members, for their endless support of the Senior educational process. It all began with **Larry Erb, Senior Coordinator** who took on the supervisory challenge this year. Larry put together a great program, which is probably the largest Senior endeavor ever put on by this Region. At one point, we had 23 people enrolled in the process. Most members progressed through one or more of the educational requirements. Some of the participants were enrolled to obtain their Senior OEC skills section only, thus enabling them to become better OEC Instructors. As you have read, five

members completed the entire educational process. More will complete the educational process next year. Without the support of Larry Erb and the many clinic and exam leaders, plus eager candidates, the program would not have been the success it was. **Pete Knowland, Region OEC Supervisor and Dave Kattermann, Smoky Mountain Section Chief** are two additional key people in this process. They, along with Larry, attended pre-clinic sessions, all clinics and all exams. My thanks to all who participated and supported this year’s Senior program.

There are so many people in the Region that make everything possible, however, I cannot mention everyone. Membership should simply realize that our OEC, PSIA, Toboggan, PES, Instructor Development and Avalanche Instructors are key to the delivery of educational programs to you. Make sure you thank them whenever you can. They are there to give the extra efforts and attention to you. I personally thank each and every one of them for their outstanding volunteer efforts and service. I also appreciate and commend all members in the Region for their continued outstanding service and dedication to their respective Ski Areas, Patrol Management and Area Management. You are the core of everything!

Now it is time to relax and kick back with other areas of obsession we all seem to gravitate to. Enjoy the summer and I look forward to seeing everyone next ski season. My heartfelt thanks to everyone in Dixie for all the fine efforts you provide to the skiing public and ski area management.

From Supervisors and Advisors...

Toboggan Clinic For Women

Tim Asbury, Alpine Ski and Toboggan Advisor

A Women’s Toboggan Enhancement Seminar and Skier Enhancement Seminar has been tentatively scheduled for January 11th and 12th either at Massanutten or Wintergreen. This clinic will focus on the skills and techniques helpful to better run a



sled. Some of the topics covered are finessing the toboggan vs. brute strength and tips for vertically challenged people. The head instructor, Deb Daniels, developed this program in the Eastern Division and it has been well received. It has also been offered at Powderfall and from the comments at the Spring officers meeting the course was great!

This clinic is taught by women and is for women only. The level three PSIA instructor has also done women’s only focus clinics. If you need senior electives or just want to tune up your ski and sled

skills, this is a great way to knock out both in a weekend. The cost for this clinic is \$75.00. Contact

Tim Asbury (sasbury@brinet.com) to register for the course.

From Around The Division...

Some Thoughts on Senior OEC

Chris Brecher, Sky Valley Ski Patrol

[This end-of-season E-mail was sent by Chris to his fellow patrollers at Sky Valley. It is being shared here with everyone in the Division because the sentiments transcend patrol boundaries. Also, please note that the term "Senior OEC" is now "Emergency Management". See box on page 11. Ed.]

Well, we're rapidly concluding our ski season. I wanted to let everyone know that both Celeste and I passed our Senior OEC Evaluation last weekend at Cataloochee. It wasn't easy, but it was a terrific learning experience. Special thanks to both Michael Bernstein and Dean Melton for being our "victims" during the process.

Next weekend we will have both Chris Polhemus and David Castaldini at Cataloochee taking their Evaluation. Wish them luck, and help them if they ask you to be their victim.

I want to encourage all of you to take the Senior OEC course next season. I took my "WEC" course 12 years ago. Since I don't work in the healthcare field, my OEC skills had become rusty. The Senior OEC program

is a great way to update your OEC skills, while thinking about managing an accident in a whole new dimension.

The Senior OEC program teaches you to think about managing patient priorities, equipment, human resources (both patrollers and bystanders), and ski area management. The program opened my eyes to another level of managing an accident. (For example, have you ever thought about using the slope to "elevate" a patient's legs when they're going into shock?)

No kidding, the Senior program is fabulous. I don't want to hear that you're too busy. I work 60-80 hours per week and travel away from home 4 days every week (and I have 2 young kids). It doesn't take but 4-5 additional days of your time, and the experience and knowledge you'll gain will reinforce one of the primary reasons you became a patroller—improving the experience of skiing, while learning new skills that could save someone's life.

I encourage to make the commitment now. Sign up for the senior program. I guarantee you won't regret it. Your minimal commitment of time will teach you skills you've likely never thought about. Skills that will make you a more confident patroller.



Massanutten Champions Olympic Spirit

*John Huffstutter, Massanutten
Patrol Representative*

One of Massanutten Ski Patrol's finest, Senior patroller Mark Andrews, was given the great honor of running the Olympic Flame in the Salt Lake 2002 Olympic Torch Relay. Another member of the Massanutten family, Lindsay O'Bannon, earned the honor of being one of Mark's support runners for the 0.2 mile along the Falls Church segment of the torch's 65-day, 13,500

mile trip from Atlanta to Salt Lake City. Mark and Lindsay advanced the flame on its journey into the nation's capital on December 21, 2001, one of its visits to 125 cities in 46 states en route to the Winter Olympic Games, which began on February 8, 2002.

Mark was one of only 11,500 people chosen to carry the torch. Mark, the associate director of Madison House (the University of Virginia's student volunteer center), is also the founder and director of Massanutten Adaptive Snow Sports, where he uses specialized equipment like monoskis and sit-skis to enable the physically and men-tally challenged to ski alongside their friends and family members. Mark has coached athletes who have competed in the Special Olympics,

the Cerebral Palsy Games and the Virginia Association



of Blind Athletes at the national championship level. He has been a patroller since 1984, and is also a member of the Professional Ski Instructors of America. Mark's dedicated efforts and advocacy over the last two

decades have inspired hundreds of challenged athletes, and earned him a listing in "Who's Who in Rehabilitation", and a heartfelt nomination to run the Olympic Flame by Pat Welk, a paraplegic and one of Mark's monoski students.

Lindsay O'Bannon is the daughter of Massanutten patrollers Lisa and Bernie O'Bannon. Lindsay is an outstanding athlete, and with Mark and her parents shares a passion for excellence and community service. "I'm glad I got to share my Torch Relay experience with Lindsay and her family," Mark said. "It made it just that much more special." The photographs of Mark and Lindsay clearly show their pride, enthusiasm, and spirit. They both say it is an honor they will never forget.



A Chance to Use Your Skills in the Off-Season

*Ken Collins
(Sky Valley Ski Patrol and Union City Fire Chief)*

The City of Union City, Georgia will be holding the "Union City, Hank Aaron BMW Bicycle Classic" on June 22 & 23, 2002. On Saturday June 22 we will be holding Circuit and Time Trial races; on Sunday June 23 we will be holding the Road Race. Additionally there are planned events for families and spectators;

vendor carts. A bike rodeo for kids and a concert Saturday night are also planned.

In addition to the fire department's EMTs and Paramedics, we will be using the support of local ambulance services and EMS personnel from the Sheriff's Reserve. However, we are also asking ski patrollers to assist at the event locations and on the race courses. If anyone is interested or if you should have any further questions, please contact me at (770) 306-6860 or kcollins@unioncityga.org. Thanks!



Emergency Management at WinterPlace

Mike Kelley, WinterPlace Patrol

With wonderful March weather arriving right on queue—a mix of snow and rain—the WinterPlace patrol rose to the occasion of hosting the West Virginia Region's Emergency Management Evaluation on March 2nd. Under the leadership of patroller Jon Dragan it proved to be a major success.

Scenarios for the Emergency Management Evaluation were modified to use specific locations around the mountain. This was done to keep the entire day's events located in a compact area while preventing

candidates from observing concurrent scenarios and gaining unfair insight when they rotated to the next scenario. Keeping the scenarios in close proximity to each other and only needing to use a short lift allowed the evaluation to progress in a smooth and timely manner. Family Radio System (FRS) radios provided private channels for each scenario eliminating communication overlap with mountain operations. The radios allowed each scenario team to "dispatch" equipment and additional patrollers to the accident. Candidates were dispatched from top locations to scenarios making the approach to the accident scene more realistic.



Candidate Kirk Tilley renders aid to collision victim Philip Rash.

Candidates no longer needed to pretend to call dispatch; they had to utilize the radio to accurately call for all necessary equipment and additional patrollers.

The victims and bystanders used in each scenario were coached and allowed to practice for several days prior to the evaluation, allowing for very realistic interaction between candidates and patients. The acting was amazing, especially for the pediatric patients. Everyone involved as a patient knew the signs and symptoms without being prompted. The realism was further enhanced by the wonderful moulage of Michael Martin and Joan Mitchell. The moulage team spent several hours getting the cast ready for their scene.

As each scenario concluded equipment was repositioned for the next set, allowing minimal impact to normal mountain operations.

Southern Division Director Nici Singletary commented that Winterplace “raised the bar for future evaluations.” The Emergency Management Evaluation at WinterPlace was a big success and the patrol is looking forward to the opportunity to host another.

Jon credits the success of the Emergency Management Evaluation to a “team” effort and to that

end many thanks go to the following patrollers and personnel. **Evaluators:** Bud Frantz, Jorge McMurray, Jan Starr, Bob Bodamer, Greg Rash, John Mitchell, Tom Wagner. **Characters (patients):** Joy Marr, Corvin Tonelli, Trudi Rash, Sarah Rash, Philip Rash, Shane Dragan, Charlie Pino, Brian Hagar, Greg Gill, Conrad Cooper. **Moulage:** Joan Mitchell, Michael Martin. **Special Effects:** Mike Curtis. **Radios:** Tom Dragan. **Equipment Movement:** Mark Rodes. **Extras:** Kristen Dragan, Jane Cox, David Creager. **Video:** Shad Knupp, Chris Banks, Tom Creed. **Photos:** Mike Kelley. **Behind the Scenes:** Melanie Dragan, Katie Miller, Ben Curnett, Deana Watson, Walt Watson, Dennis Kinsella.

Congratulations to Jon Dragan, who was awarded a Leadership Commendation Appointment and the Mary K. Tomey Divisional OEC IT award at the spring officers meeting. Greg Rash was awarded a certificate of appreciation for his role in the Emergency Management Evaluation. Lastly, Tom Wagner has been named the new patrol representative for Winterplace, and is looking forward to playing an active part in the divisional meetings.



Ann Graves assesses burn victim Brian Hagar.

What's in a Name?

Keeping up with NSP terminology can sometimes be confusing and frustrating since many of the changes appear to be arbitrary. However, the decision to replace “Senior OEC” with “Emergency Management” is by no means arbitrary. Use of the term “Senior OEC” implies that the OEC program produces some patrollers who are trained at a bare-bones basic level and others who are trained at a premium senior level. This is simply not the case, and for legal reasons it is important to avoid any implication of a two-tier program. The Emergency Management program does not introduce any new knowledge of first aid or emergency care. What it teaches are concepts of leadership and scene management that are not covered in OEC. It may be OK to continue to refer to your patrol rep as your patrol leader, but please purge the phrase “Senior OEC” from your vocabulary. –Ed.





Two Patrollers and A Truck **Our Great Olympic Adventure**

From the Journal of Penny Dimler, Shenandoah Nordic Patrol

After several years of submitting proper application forms and personal identification for background checks, meeting every deadline, locating the person who decided on patrol membership and being accepted, then a season of on-the-job training at the World Cup Biathlon, the 2002 Winter Olympics were ready to start and, as members of the Soldier Hollow Nordic Olympic Patrol, we were rarin' to go. Because of the size of the patrol, we were not scheduled until the second half of the Olympics, thus, we and others in our shift had to slide into the middle of a well-functioning operation without causing any blips.

From my recliner in Virginia, I watched (and slept through some of) the opening ceremonies on Friday night and saw my new patrol mates in action (standing trailside) on Saturday afternoon. I then flew to Colorado where I met Lew and the truck and spent a few days to acclimate to altitude and skiing. Driving to Utah presented us with a great Utah welcome (eagles of the bald and golden variety), large Olympic welcome signs at the border, dinosaurs in Vernal and slipping into our home for the next five weeks, Heber City, without driving through Salt Lake City.

(At the same time Tom Byron, Shenandoah Nordic and Massanutten, was working his way west to join us. Evan Krichevsky, Shenandoah Nordic and Blue Knob, had been in Utah since Groundhog day. He had more training to complete and was working a course at Snow Basin, site of the downhills. Evan, my husband Lew and I stayed on at our venues to work the Paralympics. Evan and I were both fortunate to have employers who allowed us to work on days off. Evan worked from the SLC office of UNISYS, his company, and I telecommuted from my apartment to my office, Tetra Tech.)

I awoke before daylight (not really early according to my EST clock) on our first full day in Utah and

peaked out the window. To my amazement, at this pre-dawn hour, headlights heading toward our venue's remote parking backed up to the north as far as the eye could see. Our apartment was one block south of the split in the road leading to the airport and remote parking. How much more could the excitement build? We had one more day of details to attend to before we too would be patrolling trailside. We had to be processed. One of our new patrol mates from Wyoming rode in the jump seat in the truck and accompanied us on our search for the TPC (Team Processing Center) in Salt Lake City (SLC). Processing entailed checking our credentials, issuing SLOC (Salt Lake Olympic Committee) credentials and red medical services uniforms, and one last brief training session.

Our drive to SLC acquainted us with all sorts of Olympic signage pointing directions to the Delta Center, E-Center, Rice-Eccles Stadium, Olympic Plaza and to out-of-town venues. Many of the downtown buildings were draped with pale lavender pictures of various types of winter athletes. We passed Park City, Deer Valley and Olympic Park and acres of remote parking on the east side of the highway. Several of the acres were filled with buses from all around the country. I was learning of the tremendous support of the Olympics from across the country. (Old hat to you Atlanta veterans out there, I'm sure.) Metro buses from the District of Columbia made the run from Ogden to Olympic plaza and during the Paralympics transported Paralympians at Soldier Hollow.



Tom Byron

Okay, so let's cut to the chase: the real enchilada. Excuse me if I dwell on the first day, because it was one packed day:

Again I was up before dawn and met several other patrollers as we piled into our patrol director, Kevin



Lew Dimler, Evan Krichevsky and Penny

Johnson's truck. By riding with our patrol director we went through a different security procedure than if we had ridden the staff bus. Kevin had the passes to drive right into the athlete area and park relatively near our trailer. Security for personnel arriving in approved private vehicles was handled in a huge garage-like tent that we called the "car wash." We removed our personal gear from the truck and showed the contents of each bag and every pocket to the soldiers, including opening the lens of each camera and sipping our hot beverages. We were frisked and "wanded" (a hand-held magnetic wand was run over us). While the individuals scrutinized, the truck received a very thorough inspection including running mirrors underneath it. At this point we received a pass which would allow us through the next security point that was still at least a mile away. We always passed inspection and had fun doing it.

Our pass let us onto the venue compound where we checked-in at the staff tent. Here we received news, meal tickets, and had our "passbook" signed to get credit for volunteer gifts. Our next stop was the next tent, the all important mess tent. Food was plentiful. Breakfast options were hot instant oatmeal (many flavors), hot chocolate, tea, coffee, a variety of fruits, many brands of breakfast, energy, and granola bars. Initially some people picked up a "mountain pack" (box lunch), but soon realized that microwave soup was impractical out on the trail. We always got back to the

tent for an excellent hot lunch, though some of those meals were rushed.

On this first day, I rode with Kevin. On subsequent days Lew and I would ride the staff bus and walk to the patrol trailer, about a half mile. In this distance were all the support tents and trailers. Kevin described its appearance as an Antarctic Military Outpost.

On the way to the trailer, I started learning the daily responsibilities: picking up the start list(s) for the day and making enough copies for the

patrol crew. At the trailer, one table held the new start lists and course maps and patrol station assignments that had been prepared after yesterday's race. We started and ended each day with a meeting.

The process is starting to roll now. A few snowmobiles are kept at the trailer. Toboggans are attached and ready to go. This is the back-up equipment. The "beels" as they are called in the Intermountain Division are run briefly every morning. AEDs, oxygen levels, and regulators are tested and re-packed in the toboggans. Other AEDs and regulators are carried out to snowmobile stations that were set-up the previous afternoon. Machine access to the trails is late afternoon and very early morning. By setting up the stations at the end of the day, snowmobiles are kept off groomed race trails.

Soldier Hollow hosted at least one race every day and sometimes more than one. It was the busiest venue of the Olympics. More medals came from competition at this venue than from any other. We worked every day to the end of the Olympics without a day off and we really didn't want a day off.

Patrol stations were located at strategic intervals and curves on the sides of the race course. The trails twist, wind, undulate and overlap. The number of stations was determined by the length of the course. The length and route of the course(s) changed every day.

So here I am on my first day. Now the sun is up and we are dispatched to our assigned stations. I am assigned to the warming tent near the finish line. My position provides a great view of (in addition to the warming tent) the finish line, the athlete's staging area, the press interview area, a waxing area and a good portion of the course. I can't believe my eyes and my ears. I see 20,000 people in the stadium and spread along the course, bright sun, total snow coverage, Olympic décor, and flags from everywhere. I hear the Olympic fanfare. It is so exciting!! I hear many languages and the announcer teaching how to cheer in those languages. I'm not sure how these cheers are spelled, but I can pronounce them well: "Alee! Alee! Alee!" or "Uppa, uppa, uppa!" "Go, go, go" worked also. Later I would purchase a cowbell and save my voice.

Both races are relays. The first featured the fine and exciting rivalry between Norway and Italy. One skier was injured, finished his leg of the relay and was sent to our tent where I gave him more compresses for his head cut, took baseline vitals and shipped him off to the doctors in the athlete medical trailer about a block uphill. The second race was the ski portion of the Nordic combined, previously postponed because of wind at the jump venue, Utah Olympic Park. My memory of the second race is of being moved onto the course to help young, thin racers who were collapsing, heaving and gasping for air. The patrol supplied O2 and filled biohazard bags with barf-tainted snow.

Back to the race: But what to my wondering ears did I hear? Is it the Lone Ranger? No, it is ski racing to the sounds of the William Tell Overture. During these and all the Nordic races, excerpts from classical music accompanied the races. The excerpts were rapid and tense portions, no lullabies, adding to the excitement of the races. I heard parts of Night on Bald Mountain, Flight of the Bumblebee, Ride of the Valkyries, and Winter from the Seasons, just to name a few.

When the races ended, we returned to the patrol trailer for our end-of-day meeting. Those with the late duty assignment provided patrol support for the practicing athletes and course workers and prepared maps and assignment sheets for the following day.



No other day was as all encompassing of almost every feature of the patrol and Olympic experience as was my first.

Our station assignments were different every day. At some we were among the spectators or just over the fence from them. Others were more isolated though usually near course officials and crews. Most positions provided excellent views. We were keenly aware that our first responsibility was to take care of injuries and to offer assistance. And when we were needed, we were there and came through as ski patrol professionals. However, we carried our cameras, traded pins and gave away candy bearing Olympic logos.

Let me cover some other topics, quickly:

On days that I was assigned to stay late, I helped prepare maps then put on my loaner skis and took off. The skiing was difficult and I was usually overdressed in the afternoon. Fleece is a wonderful wicking material. I met interesting people on the trails during these afternoon runs: the biathlon director, American athletes, and Jacques Rogge, President of the International Olympic Committee.

One morning Al Roker was shooting his weather reports from the Western Experience, the thematic section of our venue. I debuted on national television standing next to Smoky Bear.

The Western Experience featured various cultures and cultural experiences pertinent to the history of the locale. Members of the Ute Indian tribe set up teepees and provided history lessons and demonstrations.

Actors played the parts of settlers and mountain men with appropriate sets as backdrop. Several music stations throughout the venue featured country and western singers and some good “foot-stompin’ ” music. Then during the rare lull in the action, the announcer had the spectators doing the “chicken.”

Heber City, one of the host towns for the Soldier Hollow venue, sponsored a Wild West Show, Barbecue and craft fair at the high school during the Olympics. The show had dancing cowboys doing cartwheels and flips in cowboy boots, a horse on stage carrying a rope-trick artist and some good singing.

While Roots hats may have been the rage in Salt Lake City and Park City and around the country, the popular headgear at Soldier Hollow was the Heber City



All good things must end. Shutting down on the last day.

cowboy hat from the Wild West Show. Lew and I patrolled with our cowboy hats every day. The hat provided shade, just enough warmth, drop-down ear flaps, and shelter from snow.

Security was tight. We saw the changing of the guard, so to speak, or the changing of the park rangers who ran 12-hour shifts up in the hills and just over the ridge lines above Soldier Hollow. They parked their snowmobiles near our trailer and rotated shifts about the time we arrived in the morning. During one visit

with them, I learned that one had worked with, and held in high regard, the Smokey Mountain Nordic Patrol, TN. Most law enforcement officers wore yellow jackets and were visible throughout the venue. They, like many other staff, came from around the country.

The blackhawk helicopters were parked at the Heber City airport. One checked out Soldier Hollow every morning. At least twice f-16s were scrambled to intercept air traffic that wandered into the forbidden zone.

After the Olympics ended, we had a 10-day break before the Paralympics. Lew and I were fortunate to have an apartment for the duration. During this time I completed most of the project I had brought from my office. We also took advantage of the time to be tourists for a day and skied at other areas for a few days. The other ski areas treated SLOC volunteers very generously.

When it was time to go back to work as a patroller at Soldier Hollow for the Paralympics, much had changed. Security almost disappeared. We now had paralympic credentials and uniforms. The “carwash” and “mag and bag” (the screening area for staff who rode busses to work) were gone. The blackhawks were gone. The huge broadcast tent was gone and the miles of broadcast wires shrunk. The press now had to eat with us! Loads of porta-potties were removed, but more “handicapped” facilities were added.

The Paralympics were a delight. The athletes were more accessible and many were quite outgoing. We had to learn additional medical concerns, but fortunately didn’t need to use that information. The racers were classified as sit-skiers (with lower body paralysis, amputations or some combination) and standing skiers (armless or using leg prosthesis or visually impaired) with further classification base on severity of disability. These are very gutsy, competitive people. Americans won several medals.

Soldier Hollow was one of three venues hosting Paralympic events. We did not have races everyday and were able to see the competitions at the other venues. We patrolled every race day of the Paralympics and some of the practice days. On one off day I skied Snow Basin and stopped along the slalom course to watch the race. I also found Evan Krichevsky at his work station.

and met his co-workers. They wore blue uniform jackets for the Paralympics, but had been green during the Olympics. Lew was in the bleachers with one of our new patroller friends from Idaho. They were welcomed into the staff tent. One evening we attended a sledge hockey game in SLC. Not only did we have the opportunity to attend live events, the staff tent had closed-circuit broadcast of the other events. Our days during the Paralympics were shorter giving us time to watch some of these broadcasts.

Shortly after returning home, a friend asked if I had had a good time. I confessed that I had not stopped grinning for six weeks. I view this as an opportunity of a lifetime. The timing was good: the kids are grown and I'm not too old. Would I do it again? Hmmm! Could I ever be so lucky as to have so many things fall into place, like free housing, supportive bosses, good health?? Well, when are those Italian classes being offered....



Sky Valley Candidate Update

Bob Lang, Sky Valley Patrol Representative

The Deep South Basic Test was held Sunday, February 10 at the Cataloochee ski area. At the end of the test two new jackets were added to Sky Valley's roster. Jeff Leonard and Keir Nakamura successfully demonstrated the necessary skills. The class of candidates was present at Cataloochee to congratulate them. The decision to move the test from Sky Valley was made Saturday afternoon. All the candidates testing did well and adjusted to the move to a different area.

To all the candidates, Jeff Leonard, Keir Nakamura, Mike Steinberg, Mike Maddalena, and Sarah Wiley - congratulations on a successful, albeit, shortened ski season. You worked and trained hard and

did what was asked of you. We're proud to have you as members of the Sky Valley patrol. We look forward to working with you next season. Your training as a candidate or basic patroller has just begun and you can contribute much to making our patrol stronger and better.

Thanks again for your outstanding effort. Well done!



Sky Valley Candidates. Sarah Wiley, Jeff Leonard, Michael Steinberg, Mike Maddalena, Keir Nakamura



Critical Incident Stress Management Training

John Huffstutter, Massanutten Patrol Representative

Did you know that even volunteers can get stressed out? Get outta here! No, really, the challenges of saving lives and dealing with people who are having, sometimes, the worst day of their life, can get to anyone, and often does. Ski patrollers have had to deal with death and serious injuries occurring on beautiful days, in beautiful

surroundings, doing something they love to do and trying to help other people enjoy it as much as they can. When our favorite pastime turns dangerous, and adrenaline kicks in, it can kick our body chemistry out of whack for weeks. Sometimes our systems don't return to normal—and after a big jolt, that's not unusual. Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) is a program that educates emergency workers in the kinds of reactions people can have to traumatic or sustained stress, and gives them tools to help them handle it—and to help their peers to handle it, too.

The Southern Division has begun a pilot program in the Virginia Region to provide CISM support to patrols and patrollers in conjunction with the VA Office of Emergency Medical Services and regional and local CISM teams. CISM is based on peer support, and ski patrollers' peers are—you guessed it—other ski patrollers. Often, just having someone to listen and be supportive after working an accident is enough, but having trained peers and a formal support structure can make a big difference. Fire, emergency service and police departments around the world are recognizing the value of CISM, in increased retention of highly trained professionals and healthier, more effective workforces. The same is undoubtedly true of ski patrols, so we are encouraging members of our patrols to become trained peer counselors.

There are several opportunities for training. Although it is too late to attend the first annual Virginia CISM training, which was held last week, this is an annual event, so look for announcements next year. For information on future courses call 804-371-3500, ext. 3521 or 3522. You can also obtain information at www.vdh.state.va.us/oems.

At this year's course, participants were offered a choice of two two-day courses. The basic course cost \$140, and some of the electives offered as part of the program were \$140 each. The entire 4-day workshop was \$260. It is reasonable to assume that next year's courses will be comparably priced. The Southern Division has set aside a small amount to help out participants, but plan on paying the lion's share yourself. Remember it's tax deductible—or if you're a health care professional maybe you can get your boss to pay for it. It's for a good cause.

The International Critical Incident Stress Foundation is also offering a variety of training opportunities. One is in Springfield, Massachusetts from July 11-14, 2002; another is in South Portland, Maine, July 25-28, 2002. For more information on these and other classes, please check out the ICISF web page at www.icisf.org. For more information on the Southern Division CISM program, please contact John Huffstutter, Massanutten Ski Patrol Representative, at huffjd@earthlink.net or 703-370-3066.



Get a 'Real' Job...

Jane Cox, WinterPlace Ski Patrol

I hear the term "young professional" used to describe people my age who are climbing the stereotypical corporate ladders of the world. It seems to be the vogue phrase. I'm fairly certain that the career paths I have chosen do not fit in the traditional connotation of a "professional". In fact, many people would not consider ski patrolling and raft guiding a career, but rather a passing phase. My brothers are still waiting for me to "get a real job". It may not be that my job is fake (the opposite of real), but that these jobs are not perceived as "work". Being the argumentative little sister that I am let me point out a few things.

Being ski patrollers or the families of, we can all list many of the skills required to be a patroller. Loading a guest safely into a sled on a steep, icy hill and carrying that guest to safety is not a matter of luck. It is a combination of things we are taught before, during, and after we take our basic sled test. Evacuating

a lift is not a "fly by the seat of our pants" endeavor, but rather a task that must be done quickly and safely by a team of people who have the right training. Also, in case you have forgotten since the snow melted, we don't just hop on the snow and start treating injuries without a little bit of medical training—the National Ski Patrol standard being a 80-hour course, not including professional CPR certification that is required.

The rafting industry has comparable examples. To be a raft guide for many companies is to commit yourself to an intense training period. Navigating a river safely requires knowledge and understanding of the river. River currents, various water levels, and the rocks that help form whitewater all have different effects on your boat. A perfect run of the river would be ideal, but in the event of the inevitable accidental swimmers, stuck boats, lost coolers, upside down rafts, and even more serious situations such as foot entrapment, a guide must know how to safely deal with the problem. CPR and basic first aid are required as well.

In addition to the technical skills required by both jobs, it is imperative that patrollers and raft guides have excellent communication skills. Whether running the river or responding to an accident on the hill, we are part of a team of people. We must be able to let our coworkers know what is going on in a situation, how we need them to help, and what is going on with ourselves. We must also be able to communicate with our guests. Pulling the person twice your size back into the raft or loading them into the sled is much easier if the guest can help you, but they can't help if they don't understand what you want them to do.

In arguing for the validity of these two jobs, I can't leave out the service aspect. Three words illustrate this example perfectly—front line staff. We are the people that interact with the guests. A raft guide could make a fair case for being the staff member whom the guest interacts with most while on a raft trip. As patrollers, that big white cross makes us the most easily recognized folks on the mountain. People hail us down to ask us where the closest bathroom is. Because we recognize the guest as our bread and butter, we try not to respond with “ya see that tree...”. Instead, both raft guides and ski patrollers the world over make efforts to understand the full scope of the company operations just in case we get Joe Tourist asking his laundry list of questions. We are even known to go out of our way to check on a patient that we sent to the hospital, or take an extra moment to explain boat control techniques to a curious rafter. At bare minimum we put up with screaming patients, rude guests, obnoxious kids, terrified first-timers, and egotistical know-it-alls.

In addition to being the front line staff for the resort, many people overlook that we could be considered the first link in the emergency care system. As mentioned before, both occupations require a host of medical knowledge learned in one class or another. For patrollers, patching people up is often the only thing we do on a busy Saturday. If necessary, we make the call to activate EMS. Solid medical skills are often played



Sorry, but there were no pictures of Jane available at press time. However, Jenna Swann agreed to serve as a stand-in. Like, Jane, Jenna is a river guide and a patroller at WinterPlace. Furthermore, like Jane, she has successfully avoided getting a "real job".

down in a raft guide's roster of experiences as he tells them to his guest. However, raft guides are also required to be able to make a call regarding the condition of an injured guest. Although there are far fewer river-related evacuations, many of those take place in the thorny bushes and rocky reaches of a riverside, without the convenience of a trail, snowmobile, or waiting vehicle.

Did I mention that we provide all of these services and use all of our skills in any kind of weather and conditions? My visiting brothers might be avoiding the rain by knocking back a few in the bar. Meanwhile, I'm wearing a non-breathable, hunter-orange, trench coat rain slicker so I don't get too water logged while I pick up the signs that the "beginner" skiing public have dismantled so effectively with their rental skis. Even though you wake up to three inches of snow on the ground, you can still hear the "let's go raftin'" call that seems to echo through base. The visions of perfect powder and blissfully sunny days on the water may be real, but more often than not it's too hot, too cold, too wet, too dry, or too icy and everyone who isn't getting paid has gone home.

Get paid we do, however, even if it is simply by the warm and rewarding thank you of a grateful guest.

Some of us are even lucky enough to make our ends meet by the meager sum that is so common among the recreation industry. Therefore, if all the above examples were not enough to convince my brothers that any of what I do is “work”, deserving of that compensation, then let me list a few more—hauling coolers, serving lunch, inflating boats, moving boats, tying up tower pads, shoveling down jumps, putting up roping and marking safety hazards, hauling a loaded sled across the flats in slush, washing the wetsuits, setting up the overnight camp, knocking off three days of ice from the safety ropes, etc, etc, etc.

In classic little sister fashion, here’s my final response: So what that we love our jobs, and rarely find it hard to go to work? So what that we get to be outside in the sun (rain, sleet, and hail)? So what that our corporate ladder has rungs with names such as trainee, sweep boater, and trip leader; or basic, senior, and

certified patrollers? As long as people want to spend their leisure time skiing and rafting, we’ll be here. How’s that for career longevity? Webster’s 21st Century Dictionary defines professional as “meeting the standards of a profession”. A profession is defined as a “learned occupation”. I certainly learned my occupation and meet the standards required, not to mention the fact that I strive to do my job better every day. Sorry boys, looks like I can call myself a young professional, even with a “fake” job.

When the snow melts, Ms. Cox and other fellow patrollers can be found at North American River Runners, located in Southern West Virginia. To contact her, or get your own taste of whitewater, call 1-800-950-2585, E-mail jane@narr.com, or visit the NARR website at www.narr.com.

In Memoriam

Dennis Richard Lennon (1946-2002)

Our friend and fellow Massanutten patroller, Denny Lennon, died on the 12th of May, 2002. He is survived by his wife, Anne, and his children Alexia, Dale, Richard, Kristie and Scott. He was 56 years young. In his case, as those who knew him will attest, that is not a cliché. As his son, Rich, eulogized him, two particularly poignant points ring true: "Denny found joy in life, and wanted to share it with everyone," and "Denny always encouraged us to live life instead of watching it." Our images of Denny are active ones—Denny on roller blades, Denny on his mountain bike, Denny whitewater rafting, Denny on skis (teaching or patrolling, usually), Denny playing basketball, and—only a few months before he finally succumbed—Denny on a sit-ski coached by his fellow patroller and Massanutten Adaptive Snow Sports coordinator Mark Andrews. Denny's sense of humor,

subdued but ever-present, lives on in his family—they buried Denny in his ski boots.

Denny's passing culminated a long fight with cancer, but he was surrounded by his family and friends through his last moments. He was a dedicated patroller, whose love of skiing and quiet persistence to excel was proven by the amount of time he gave to the industry. In his ten years of patrolling, Denny never turned down an opportunity to work. He attained Senior Patroller status and was beginning the Certified program; he was a ski instructor at Whitetail Resort in Southern Pennsylvania and was working toward his PSIA Level II. He was an OEC instructor and had volunteered to manage the Massanutten refresher for 2001, when he had an automobile accident that brought the full scope of his illness to the attention of his doctors. Through it all, Denny was generous with his time, his wine (at the Patrol House you could always count on a quality bottle that he was always glad to share) and his quietly intense enthusiasm. He will be sorely missed. *(Submitted by John Huffstutter.)*

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William H. Reddick (1932-2002)

Bill Reddick, full time professional ski patroller died in his ski boots in the line of duty on Sugar Mountain, NC on Monday, March 11. He had just directed a practice lift evacuation on our upper mountain and was in the summit house reorganizing equipment when he suffered a massive heart attack. Bill had served Sugar Mountain since January 1993. He was a US Air Force veteran of the Korean War, and subsequently, as an engineer, had run manufacturing plants in Canada, Japan, Haiti and Mexico. He made a career change in the early 1990s to that of a rescue specialist and professional ski patroller. In the non-ski season, and on weekends in-season, he was a full time member of the McDowell County, NC Rescue Squad, specializing in mountain and water rescue. He was the

squad training officer and his help in mountain rescue and evacuation systems was invaluable to our patrol.

Bill lived a long, intense and productive life. He was truly a gifted teacher and mentor—patient and knowledgeable, always encouraging and always offering positive reinforcement. He was the man you wanted to respond to an accident. He was a super guy and a close friend. He loved skiing and skiers. Bill's last years were devoted to helping others. He was the consummate professional ski patroller. He was an inspiration to all of us. It was an honor to have served with Bill Reddick. Surviving are his wife, Loretta Schneider Reddick, four daughters, Donna Miriizumi of Japan, Doreen Williams of Texas, Mary Alyce Perreault of Mooresville, NC, Kathy Smith of Marian NC; one brother, Arthur Reddick of Long Island, NY, five grandchildren, a niece and a nephew. *(Submitted by Rich Rucker.)*

Scenes From The Season...

Big night for Sky Valley. Bob Lang received his second consecutive award as Outstanding Patrol Rep and the Sky Valley Patrol won the Outstanding Small Patrol award. Ian Nesbit, Sylvia Talley, Ken Collins, Bob Lang, Celeste Bernstein, Michael Steinberg.



Jon Dragan (Winterplace) receiving the Leadership Commendation Appointment from Division Director Nici Singletary.

Nici Singletary presents Joe Donadio (Appalachian) with the Outstanding Paid Patroller Award.





Larry Bost (Hawksnest) received a long overdue National Appointment.



Homestead Patrollers enter the "Race Machine" competition. Bill Smith wearing ultra cool headgear is in the driver's seat of the Ski Patrol machine being pushed by David Woods. Patroller Jeff Kelly is in the competing machine while Chuck Burgdorf oversees the race in the background. Race results were not reported, but all indications are that everyone had a fun and injury-free time.



Charlie Benbow receiving the Meritorious Service Award in recognition of many years of service.



Training at Ober Gatlinburg. Tyler Robbins in the handles and Amanda Ogle on tail rope bring a somewhat nervous Bob Kollar down Mogul Ridge.



Timberline candidates Grawson Edwards and Casey Harding assist "injured" Lori Bennett at the Timberline OEC evaluation.

SOUTHERN DIVISION OFFICERS & STAFF DIRECTORY

2001-02 SEASON (rev. 05/13/02; Changes since last SC in **bold**. Complete roster at <http://www.nsp.org/divisions/southern/>)

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SOUTHERN DIVISION CALENDAR FOR 2002-03 SEASON

Region	Month	Date	Event	Location	Contact
WV	JUN	1	OEC COURSE START	TIMBERLINE	JANETTE BENNETT 304-599-4915
VA	JUN	1	ANNUAL MEETING, CPR REF.	BRYCE	DON CHRISTIAN 703-256-5653
VA	JUN	5-9	"BEAST OF THE EAST" RACE	MASSANUTTEN	KENNY HESS 540-289-4954
WV	JUN	22	TSP SUMMER MEETING	TIMBERLINE	STEVE CVECHKO 304-722-4939
VA	JUN	22	ANNUAL MEETING, CPR REF.	WINTERGREEN	TUCKER CROLIUS 434-325-8060
VA	JUN	23	INSTRUCTOR DEV. COURSE	WINTERGREEN	M. ARMSTRONG 276-629-1654
DIXIE	JUN	29	INSTRUCTOR DEV. COURSE	ASHEVILLE, NC	PETE KNOWLAND 828-687-2445
DIXIE	JUN	30	PATROLLER ENRICHMENT SEM.	ASHEVILLE, NC	MARY UNDERWOOD 865-483-3675
DIXIE	JUL	9	WOLF LAUREL OEC COURSE	WOLF LAUREL,NC	BOB MITCHELL 828-658-0434
BR	JUL	20,21	BEECH MOUNTAIN BIKE RACE	BEECH MTN	GIL ADAMS 898-387-2011
VA	JUL	21	PATROLLER ENRICHMENT SEM.	CHARLOTTESVILLE	C. HUFFSTUTTER 703-370-3066
DIXIE	JUL	27	REFRESHER IOR/IT CONF.	WYTHEVILLE VA	JUDI-K. MONAGHAN 703-971-7841
VA	JUL	27	OEC REF. PLANNING MTG	WYTHEVILLE	JUDI-K. MONAGHAN 703-971-7841
DIXIE	AUG	10	ATLANTA OEC COURSE BEGINS	ATLANTA AREA	SYLVIA TALLEY 770-552-8968
VA	AUG	10,11	HOO-HA MOUNTAIN BIKE RACE	MASSANUTTEN	KENNY HESS 540-289-4954
DIXIE	AUG	17	DEEP SOUTH PRE-OEC MEETING	LAWRENCEVILLE, GA	MIKE BOGGS 770-882-0046
BR	AUG	17,18	INSTRUCTOR DEV. COURSE	SUGAR MTN	FLYNN HARRIS 704-523-7465
BR	AUG	24, 25	SUGAR MTN BIKE RACE, CPR	SUGAR MTN	FLYNN HARRIS 704-523-7465
DIV	SEP	7	SOU DIV FALL OFFICERS MTG	WYTHEVILLE	HOLIDAY INN 1-800-HOLIDAY
BR	SEP	7	SR EVALUATORS CLINIC	WYTHEVILLE	
VA	SEP	7	EM. MGT. EXAMINERS CLINIC	WYTHEVILLE	PETE KNOWLAND 828-687-2445
WV	SEP	14	OEC PRE-REFRESHER	TIMBERLINE	JANETTE BENNETT 304-599-4915
VA	SEP	14	OEC COURSE START	WINTERGREEN	TUCKER CROLIUS 434-325-8060
BR	SEP	21	OEC INSTRUCTOR (PRE) REF.	APPALACHIAN	LISA ADAMS 828-387-2011
DIXIE	SEP	21	DEEP SOUTH OEC INST. REF.	LAWRENCEVILLE, GA	MIKE BOGGS 770-882-0046

Region	Month	Date	Event	Location	Contact
VA	SEP	28	OEC PRE-REFRESHER	WINTERGREEN	TUCKER CROLIUS 434-325-8060
WV	SEP	28	OEC PRE-REFRESHER	SNOWSHOE	JASON HALL 304-572-5493
VA	SEP	29	ON THE HILL PRE-REFRESHER	WINTERGREEN	TUCKER CROLIUS 434-325-8060
DIXIE	SEP	TBD	GATLINBURG OEC COURSE	GATLINBURG AREA	CLAYTON MINCHEW 865-632-4199
VA	OCT	4	OEC PRE-REFRESHER	HOMESTEAD	BILL SMITH 757-851-1581
BR	OCT	5	OEC REF., GRANDFATHER SECT.	TBA	LISA ADAMS 828-387-2011
VA	OCT	5	PRE-REFRESHER	MASSANUTTEN	W. DRURY / J. HUFFSTUTTER
VA	OCT	5	OEC, ON THE HILL REFRESHER	HOMESTEAD	BILL SMITH 757-851-1581
WV	OCT	5	OEC REFRESHER	TIMBERLINE	JANETTE BENNETT 304-599-4915
WV	OCT	6	ON THE HILL REFRESHER	TIMBERLINE	STEVE CVECHKO 304-776-8540
BR	OCT	12	OCTOBERFEST	SUGAR MTN	FLYNN HARRIS 704-523-7465
DIXIE	OCT	12	CATALOOCHEE OEC INST. REF.	CATALOOCHEE, NC	TOM RAUDORF 865-483-5818
WV	OCT	12	TIMBERLINE SKI SWAP	TYSONS CORNER	STEVE CVECHKO 304-776-8540
WV	OCT	16	OEC PRE-REFRESHER	WINTERPLACE	WALT WATSON 304-253-6963
DIXIE	OCT	19	GATLINBURG OEC INST. REF.	KNOXVILLE, TN	BOB WEED 256-882-9604
VA	OCT	19	ON THE HILL REFRESHER	WINTERGREEN	TUCKER CROLIUS 434-325-8060
VA	OCT	19	ON THE HILL REFRESHER	BRYCE	DON CHRISTIAN 703-256-5653
VA	OCT	20	OEC REFRESHER	WINTERGREEN	TUCKER CROLIUS 434-325-8060
BR	OCT	26, 27	OEC CHALLENGE CLINIC/EVAL	SUGAR MTN	LARRY FLEMING 828-437-8448
DIXIE	OCT	26	WOLF LAUREL OEC INST. REF.	ASHEVILLE, NC	BEN RAY 828-675-0896
VA	OCT	26	OEC REFRESHER	MASSANUTTEN	W. DRURY / J. HUFFSTUTTER
WV	OCT	26	OEC REFRESHER	SNOWSHOE	JASON HALL 304-572-5493
VA	OCT	27	ON THE HILL REFRESHER	MASSANUTTEN	B. DREWNOWSKI 540-289-4954
DIXIE	OCT	TBD	ATLANTA CPR REFRESHER	ATLANTA, GA	MELANIE WOLFORD 770-426-4182
DIXIE	NOV	1	CATALOOCHEE CPR	ASHEVILLE ARC	PETE KNOWLAND 828-687-2445
BR	NOV	2	CAR. HIGHLANDS OEC REF.	BANNER ELK, NC	LISA ADAMS 828-387-2011
DIXIE	NOV	2	CATALOOCHEE OEC REF.	CATALOOCHEE, NC	TOM RAUDORF 865-483-5818
DIXIE	NOV	2	GATLINBURG OEC REFRESHER	GATLINBURG, TN	BOB WEED 256-882-9604
VA	NOV	2	OEC COURSE START	MASSANUTTEN	B. DREWNOWSKI 540-289-4954
WV	NOV	2	OEC REFRESHER	WINTERPLACE	WALT WATSON 304-253-6963
DIXIE	NOV	3	CATALOOCHEE ON THE HILL	CATALOOCHEE, NC	DAN GREENE 770-6406396
DIXIE	NOV	3	GATLINBURG ON THE HILL	GATLINBURG, TN	CLAYTON MINCHEW 865-632-4199
DIXIE	NOV	9	ATLANTA OEC REFRESHER	ATLANTA, GA	MIKE BOGGS 770-882-0046
DIXIE	NOV	10	SKY VALLEY ON THE HILL	SKY VALLEY, GA	KEN COLLINS 770-719-0781
VA	NOV	16	SKI SWAP	MASSANUTTEN	PAT RILEY 804-741-7810
DIXIE	NOV	23	WOLF LAUREL OEC REFRESHER	ASHEVILLE, NC	BEN RAY 828-675-0896
WV	NOV	23	OEC COURSE START	SNOWSHOE	BECKY SHARP 304-572-5695
DIXIE	NOV	24	WOLF LAUREL ON THE HILL	WOLF LAUREL, NC	RICK WOODLEE 828-693-1554
VA	NOV	29	SKI SWAP	WINTERGREEN	TUCKER CROLIUS 434-325-8060
DIXIE	DEC	5 - 8	ATLANTA SKI SWAP SALE	ATLANTA, GA	BILL DUNAWAY 770-427-3914
VA	DEC	7	TRANSFER ORIENTATION	MASSANUTTEN	JOHN HUFFSTUTTER 703-370-3066
WV	DEC	7	AVALANCHE AWARENESS	SNOWSHOE	BILL KOST 703-671-5678
WV	DEC	7	MOUNTAIN TRAVEL & RESCUE I	SNOWSHOE	BOB BODAMER 740-377-9460
BR	DEC	8	REGION S&T EXAMINERS CLIN.	APPALACHIAN	RICK LAWS 704-396-7792
VA	DEC	8	SENIOR ORIENTATION	MASSANUTTEN	C. HUFFSTUTTER 703-370-3066
WV	DEC	14	INSTRUCTOR DEV. COURSE	WINTERPLACE	GREG RASH 502-263-3323
WV	DEC	15	PATROLLERS ENRICH. SEM.	WINTERPLACE	C. HUFFSTUTTER 703-370-3066
WV	DEC	21	TOBOGGAN INST. TRAINING	SNOWSHOE	BECKY SHARP 304-572-5695
DIXIE	JAN	4	EXAMINER PROFICIENCY CLIN.	WOLF LAUREL, NC	PHIL CRITCHER 828-684-8721
DIXIE	JAN	4	SMOKY MTN NORDIC OTH	SMOKY MT NATL PK	ANDY MEACHAN 865-494-8838
BR	JAN	5	SENIOR S&T CLINIC	BEECH MTN	RICK LAWS 704-396-7792
DIXIE	JAN	5	SENIOR S&T CLINIC	GATLINBURG, TN	WAYNE MORGAN 828-625-9494
VA	JAN	5	SENIOR PRE-CLINIC	MASSANUTTEN	C. HUFFSTUTTER 703-370-3066
WV	JAN	5	BASIC S&T CLINIC	SNOWSHOE	BECKY SHARP 304-572-5695
WV	JAN	11	SKIER ENHANCEMENT SEMINAR	SNOWSHOE	MARK POORE 304-572-5695
VA	JAN	11,12	WOMENS S&T CLINIC	MASSANUTTEN	C. HUFFSTUTTER 703-370-3066
BR	JAN	12	BASIC S&T EVALUATION	SUGAR MTN	FLYNN HARRIS 704-523-7465
WV	JAN	12	TOBOGGAN ENHANCEMENT	SNOWSHOE	DAVE CLINE 304-748-0336
DIV	JAN	25	CERTIFIED CLINIC - S&T	SNOWSHOE	BECKY SHARP 304-572-5695
VA	JAN	25	SENIOR OEC CLINIC	MASSANUTTEN	MARY GRAHAM 919-510-0850
WV	JAN	25	BASIC OEC EVALUATION	SNOWSHOE	BECKY SHARP 304-572-5695
WV	JAN	25	BASIC OEC EVALUATION	TIMBERLINE	STEVE CVECHKO 304-776-8540
BR	JAN	26	BASIC S&T EVALUATION	BEECH MTN	RICK LAWS 704-396-7792

Region	Month	Date	Event	Location	Contact
DIXIE	JAN	26	SR S&T EVAL., DIXIE REGION	GATLINBURG, TN	TIM ASBURY 828-697-6188
VA	JAN	26	SENIOR S&T CLINIC	MASSANUTTEN	JOHN SHAFFER 703-719-5945
WV	JAN	26	BASIC S&T EVALUATION	SNOWSHOE	BECKY SHARP 304-572-5695
WV	JAN	26	BASIC S&T EVALUATION	TIMBERLINE	STEVE CVECHKO 304-776-8540
DIV	JAN	26	CERT. CLINIC - OEC & MTN OPS	SNOWSHOE	BECKY SHARP 304-572-5695
VA	JAN	31,1	MNTN TRAVEL AND RESCUE I	TBA	BOB CHATMAN 410-721-0921
WV	FEB	1	SR S&T CLINIC	SNOWSHOE	BECKY SHARP 304-572-5695
WV	FEB	1	NORDIC SEMINAR	WHITEGRASS	PENNY DIMLER 703-425-2736
BR	FEB	1,2	SENIOR S&T EVALUATION	HAWKSNEST	RICK LAWS 704-396-7792
DIV	FEB	1-2	STUDENT SEMINAR WEEKEND	DIXIE	JO ANNE EHLINGER 336-727-1995
VA	FEB	1,2	CERTIFIED CLINIC - ALL MODS	WINTERGREEN	ROBIN VAN WINKLE 434-325-2200
WV	FEB	2	SENIOR S&T CLINIC	SNOWSHOE	DAVE CLINE 304-748-0336
WV	FEB	8	EMERGENCY MNGMENT CLINIC	SNOWSHOE	JASON HALL 304-572-5493
DIV	FEB	8,9	CERTIFIED CLINIC - ALL MODS	HAWKSNEST	BILL STYRES 828-252-3335
WV	FEB	9	SENIOR S&T CLINIC	TIMBERLINE	NATE WAGELEY 703-858-5618
DIXIE	FEB	9	DEEP SOUTH BASIC S&T EVAL.	SKY VALLEY, GA	STEVE WALDREP 828-654-8493
DIXIE	FEB	9	SR. EM CLINIC DIXIE REGION	CATALOOCHEE,NC	LARRY ERB 828-645-4718
VA	FEB	9	CERT. CLINIC- OEC & MTN OPS	MASSANUTTEN	B. DREWNOWSKI 540-289-4954
VA	FEB	22	SENIOR OEC EVALUATION	MASSANUTTEN	MARY GRAHAM 919-510-0850
BR	FEB	22	BASIC S&T EVALUATION	HAWKSNEST	RICK LAWS 704-396-7792
DIXIE	FEB	23	BASIC S&T AT GATLINBURG	GATLINBURG, TN	DAVE PARKER 770-751-7255
VA	FEB	23	SENIOR S&T EVALUATION	MASSANUTTEN	JOHN SHAFFER 703-719-5945
WV	FEB	22	BASIC S&T EVALUATION	WINTERPLACE	TOM WAGNER 304-469-8039
WV	FEB	23	SR S&T CLINIC	WINTERPLACE	TOM WAGNER 304-469-8039
WV	MAR	1	SR S&T EXAM	SNOWSHOE	BECKY SHARP 304-572-5695
VA	MAR	1	BASIC OEC EVALUATION	MASSANUTTEN	B. DREWNOWSKI 540-289-4954
BR	MAR	2	"BASIC"	APPALACHIAN	RICK LAWS 704-396-7792
DIXIE	MAR	2	EM. MGMNT. EVALUATION	CATALOOCHEE,NC	LARRY ERB 828-645-4718
VA	MAR	2	BASIC S&T EVALUATION	MASSANUTTEN	B. DREWNOWSKI 540-289-4954
WV	MAR	8	EM. MGMNT EVALUATION	TIMBERLINE	STEVE CVECHKO 304-776-8540
BR	MAR	8,9	MOUNTAIN TRAVEL & RESCUE I	TBA	RICK LAWS 704-396-7792
DIXIE	MAR	9	MOUNTAIN TRAVEL & RESCUE	TBD	JOHN PARKER 828-648-1931
VA	MAR	9	PATROL COOKOUT	MASSANUTTEN	B. DREWNOWSKI 540-289-4954
BR	MAR	15	AVALANCHE AWARENESS	WEST. CAROLINA U.	BILL KOST 703-671-5678
DIXIE	MAR	15	AVALANCHE AWARENESS	CULLOWHEE, NC	DENNIS SLAGLE 919-528-9279
VA	MAR	15	AVALANCHE FUNDAMENTALS	WINTERGREEN	BILL KOST 703-671-5678
WV	MAR	16	BASIC S&T EVALUATION	TIMBERLINE	STEVE CVECHKO 304-776-8540
DIV	MAR	21,22	CERTIFIED EVALUATION	SNOWSHOE	LESLIE CARTER 434-325-1262
DIV	MAY	3,4	SOU DIV OFFICERS MTG	ROANOKE	WYNDHAM HOTEL 1-800-996-3426

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