



Southern Cross

A Publication of The Southern Division of The National Ski Patrol

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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 mid-winter issue is January 13, 2003. Send submissions to:

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Planning Your Winter Schedule

Nici Singletary, Division Director



Fall has arrived, and that means Winter is just around the corner. Yes, it's time once again to check

your patrol packs, update your CPR, clean your parka, get a binding release check, sharpen and wax your skis or board, get those quads in ski-condition and plan to attend your OEC and on-the-hill refreshers!

There are some very exciting events planned for Southern Division this winter. *Before you set your patrolling dates, consider some of the following new and interesting events you might want to attend!* Keep these dates open on your schedule so that you can participate.

For the first time ever in Southern Division, we are offering a **Women's (Only) Ski and Toboggan Clinic** on **January 11 and 12** at Massanutten, Virginia. Saturday will be a Skiing Enhancement Seminar, taught by a female Level III PSIA Instructor. On Sunday, a Toboggan Enhancement Seminar will be taught by Eastern Division Certified Patroller Deb Daniels. Deb has offered this program at PowderFall, and in the Eastern and Central Divisions. The course is extremely popular and fills quickly! It is targeted for women only (sorry, guys!) of all ski and toboggan handling abilities. The clinic is designed to give you specific tips and help with techniques to make it easier handling (NOT "muscle-ing") those 300 hundred pound patients in a toboggan. You will learn about differences in how women

ski, and how with minor adjustments, we can see significant improvements in our abilities and comfort level on tough slopes. *These seminars will also count as senior electives!* The deadline for sign-up is mid-December, so you need to plan now and sign up as soon as possible. [See the article inside by Toboggan Program Supervisor Tim Asbury for details on how to register.](#)

Attention all Students!! If you are a patroller or candidate between 15 and 21 years of age, please do NOT schedule yourself to patrol on **February 1 and 2**. Why? Because that's the weekend of the **Division Student Patroller Seminar!** This year the seminar is being hosted by Appalachian Ski Area in Boone, NC. Training and friendly competition is held for OEC, toboggan and skiing skills. Cost is typically minimal since housing and most meals are provided. You will receive an invitation to this event in the mail, but NOW is the time to mark your calendar, so you will be free to attend. This seminar is a great opportunity to meet and ski with other patrollers and candidates of your generation, to visit another ski area in Southern Division, and to see how things are done on other mountains. We have asked all

patrols and patrol representatives/ directors to support this seminar, and to allow it to count as two training days for candidates. So...no excuses, come join us!

Ever felt like you don't have a voice? Don't know who to take an issue to when you feel your patrol representative can't help you? Well, find out about Division structure, and who to take your issues to when you attend the **Patroller Enrichment Seminar** on

December 15th at Winterplace, WV. You will learn about NSP organizational structure and much, much more at this informative seminar! See the calendar inside for sign up information.

There are four different **Certified Clinics** scheduled in Division this year: **January 25 and 26 at Snowshoe, February 1 and 2 at Wintergreen, February 8 and 9 at Hawksnest and February 9 at Massanutten.** Contact Certified Program Supervisor Leslie Carter (Cartrplmbg@aol.com) for more information about our highly respected Division Certified Program and how you can get involved!

Want to become an instructor? Well, the first step is to take an **Instructor Development Course** (formerly "Phase I"). This one-day course will be offered at Winterplace on **December 14th.**

Once again this year, Whitegrass Cross-country Ski Area is hosting the **Division Nordic Seminar** on **February 1**. You don't have to be a registered Nordic skier to attend. This fun event is well worth attending, whether you are a beginner or advanced "free-heel" skier! PSIA instruction helps all attendees learn quickly. I had such a good time last year that I have since purchased "tele" skis and

boots and hope to continue this new challenge. Dinner after the seminar at Whitegrass's cozy restaurant is a gourmet vegetarian delight and not to be missed!

Looking for a Senior Elective? Then keep your calendar open for the new **Mountain Travel and Rescue Level I** course being held in Virginia Region this **January 31 and February 1**, in West Virginia at Snowshoe on **December 7th**, and in Dixie Region on

Menu

For Your Skiing and Patrolling Pleasure Southern Division is Pleased to Offer a Gourmet Selection of Educational, Challenging and Fun Filled Activities.

Hors D'Oeuvres

*Instructor Development Course—Dec 14
Patrol Enrichment Seminar—Dec 15*

Entrées

*Women's Ski & Toboggan Clinic—Jan 11 & 12
Mtn Travel & Rescue Course—Jan 31 & Feb 1
Division Nordic Seminar—Feb 1
Student Patroller Seminar—Feb 1 & 2
Certified Clinics—Jan 25 & 26; Feb 8 & 9
Avalanche Fundamentals Course—Mar 15*

Dessert

As a Perfect End To a Perfect Season May We Recommend Powderfall—Apr 16-19

(Gratuities of Smiles, Pats on the Back and Hugs Are Customary and Appreciated.)

March 9th. In addition to MTR, two **Avalanche Fundamentals and Rescue** courses are planned this winter, both on **March 15th**. See the calendar inside for the name and number to call and register for all of these courses.

Ever thought about going to **PowderFall**? This really great NSP conference is being held at **Snowbird, Utah, on April 16—19, 2003**. It includes fantastic daily ski instruction from members of the PSIA Demo Team, as well as electives in OEC, toboggan handling, mogul skiing, avalanche, and changing electives such as introductory snowboarding, introductory telemark skiing, and snowshoeing. We typically have 20 to 25 patrollers from Southern Division attend. More information and glowing testimonials can be obtained from John Dobson (JDobson4@aol.com). Registration information will be in your Fall *Ski Patrol Magazine* as well as on the web at www.nsp.org.

There is only one thing that we do as a Division to actively promote slope safety and accident prevention—the **Kids' Safety Poster Contest**. This event was started by National Ski Areas Association (NSAA) three years ago. Kids 12 and under are asked to create a poster depicting one of the items in the Responsibility Code. Each of the top two winners of the NSAA contest will receive a Boeri helmet. The Southern Division contest is held just before the NSAA contest (**deadline: January 30**) and is jointly sponsored by the Southeastern Ski Areas Association (SSAA). For the third year in a row, we will be awarding prize monies to the top six winning entries totaling \$1,550! First place is a \$500 Series EE US Government Savings bond. This project is a great way to teach slope safety to kids (at the age where it's most important to learn!) and to generate positive publicity for your patrol and ski area. *ANY* kid may participate—whether they are laid up in your patrol room, in ski school or in a classroom setting! We are asking each patrol in Southern Division to participate by helping to supply materials and a coordinator who will collect and send entries to the Division Coordinator, Lynn Poletti. [See the flyer inside](#) for more information about contest rules, deadlines and where to send entries.

The NSP Board of Directors structure and—perhaps more importantly—function has changed ([see the article inside by past Board Representative John Dobson](#)). A new Board has been selected by the Nomination Committee, and I am pleased to announce that **Kenny Hess** of Massanutten and I have been named to the new Board which takes office on January 1, 2003! This is very exciting for me, but bittersweet—Board members are no longer allowed to serve simultaneously as Division Directors. Thus, at the end of my current term (May, 2003), I must step down as Division Director. However, I will still be visiting you and your ski areas as often as possible, and attending Division meetings to communicate actions of the new Board and to gather feedback! I am sure that new Board member Kenny Hess will also be attending our Division meetings and providing updates from the Board to you in person as well as in *Southern Cross*.

Thus, we will be electing a **new Division Director** in February. [See the article inside by Election Coordinator Lee Wittmann](#) for more details on the election and how to submit nominations. In a nutshell, nominations must be received by Lee no later than December 16th. Ballots will be mailed to all Southern Division NSP Patrol Representatives on February 3, and the name of the new Division Director will be **announced on March 3rd**.

The last date that I'm asking you to mark on your calendar is **May 2-4, 2003**. These are the dates of our **Southern Division Spring Convention and Awards Banquet** in Roanoke, Virginia, at the **Wyndham Hotel**. This convention is **open to ALL patrollers and their families**. There will also be an OEC Instructor Seminar held the same weekend at this location (required for OEC instructors every three years). We hope to have PSIA Demo Team member Mermer Blakesley as our Keynote Speaker, as well as a special guest from the NSP staff.

Plan now to join us! Hotel reservations can be made (NSP rate: \$79 for 2 doubles or king) by calling 1-800-996-3426. More information and the registration form will be in the mid winter (January) issue of *Southern Cross*.

From the Assistants...

A Chance to Speak

— A Chance to Lead

*Dennis Slagle,
Second Assistant Division Director*



Change is inevitable. Change is good. Sometimes we can't see the good or understand it, at least from our perspective. Some people detest change. Some revel in it. Are you one that revels in change? You might be one of those that can see something that is working, but you see a much better or easier way of doing it. You might be one who looks at something that is not working, and immediately sees how to make it work.

You have probably heard that the National organization is changing. It is changing to a degree that leaves each division to its own accord. This means that we will have the freedom to organize and operate in the best way that will address the needs of the patroller, the patrols, the areas they serve and the skiing public. Southern Division is looking to define the needs of the aforementioned, and focus our efforts to address them.

If you qualify from the first paragraph, and see a need that has not been addressed, or if you just have an idea, please let me know. Now is your chance to have a big voice in the Southern Division. Even if you don't qualify from the first paragraph, if you feel there is

something missing, something that has been overlooked, or something that needs change, please let me know. We will evaluate all the suggestions and determine the proper course for Southern Division.

Student Patroller. The student seminar for Southern Division is scheduled for the first weekend in February (as always). Appalachian Mountain has volunteered to host the seminar. The only thing missing is someone to direct it. We are looking for someone who works well with students (15-21 years), and can see and understand the potential in the youth in the ski patrol. The student program is meant to help develop and improve the skills of our student patrollers. They are our future leaders, and we need to amplify their appreciation for the ski patrol system and the benefits to all concerned.

If you have the desire to help the youth of the Southern Division, and want to work for the Division outside of your patrol, and assume the duties of the Student Program Supervisor, please get in touch with me. I will go over the responsibilities and assist in any way I can. As in all programs we need to get started early in organizing to ensure the quality of the program. *[Right at press time we learned that Virginia Region Student Coordinators T and Peggy Harris agreed to take the job at the Division level. Thanks, T&P!.—Ed.]*



Schedules, Reports and E-mails

*Morgan Armstrong,
First Assistant Division
Director*



AWARDS: Line officers will see a new effort to get more patrollers nominated for awards by a shift in the duties of the Section Chief for each region. This year each Section Chief—In West Virginia the appropriate officer is the Assistant Region Director—will be responsible for writing or seeing that the nominations are written for each of the patrols in the section

regarding section, region, division and national awards. This is a cooperative effort between the patrol and the section chief. Our goal is to obtain a nomination for each type of award in every appropriate case and to get the award in the proper form. This fall John Dobson gave a course on successful award writing to all of the section chiefs. John has written several winning, national award nominations and has been a national awards judge, so we are excited about making the process even more successful.

Another change is that the award year will be from January 1 to December 31 of each year instead of from season start to season end. Information for a nomination will be collected from the calendar year and not the ski

season year. The year will end December 31st and most of the information will be available to collect and write up over the summer and fall. The events for late fall and December can be added with dispatch. This will give the patrol representative and section chief more time to write the nomination for submission to the division. An earlier submission date will give the division more time to judge the nominations. Then, when a division award is chosen, it will allow the division Awards Committee (something new) to go to work and check all information, write the nomination document according to strict National Ski Patrol standards and prepare the nomination in a competitive format. A recent study by Southern Division staff reveals our nominees are competitive, we just need to improve our writing style. A little quality control here, we believe, will pay dividends. The result will increase our ability to thank patrollers and instructors in the Southern Division with awards we know they deserve at all levels—from the patrol level to the national level.

END OF YEAR REPORTS: No, they are not due yet but all patrol representatives should begin the process of looking at your report filed last year. Those,

few who did not file one can start now with a clear mandate to begin one for this year. These are vital. We want to see trends in where you have been and where you are so we can help you predict where you are going. The form for next year's report will change slightly and that will be forwarded to each patrol representative soon. However, 90% of the form is the same, so you may prepare now by collecting the same information you did last year. Please remember how easy it is if you do this as the year progresses. Don't wait until the end of the year to do the **END OF THE YEAR REPORT!!!!**

FALL REFRESHER & THE LINE OFFICER: Regional Directors, Section Chiefs and Patrol Representatives have the ability to prevent a dues increase. This refresher, please insure the division has e-mail addresses from all patrollers and explain how much we can save on expenses if we accept the *Southern Cross* by E-mail. The postage we save over the next several years can certainly result in delaying a future dues increase. Please spend time and effort on this cost saving project.

From the Regions...

West Virginia Region

Jan Starr, Region Director

There is a nip in the air here, and the leaves have started to get their fall colors. That means that winter is just around the corner. All areas have had their "pre-refreshers" and are ready to roll with their refreshers. Please check the *Southern Cross* calendar and make sure you have the dates set for the refresher nearest you. The refresher planning committee and IORs did a great job getting it together this year so that any refresher that you attend in the Southern Division will be a great one. Refreshers are hard to make up, and you don't want to be on that delinquent list, so please make sure to attend a refresher near you!

Do you have any brothers, sisters, sons, daughters, aunts, uncles, or friends that like to ski? If so, get them



started in patrolling. We're looking for a few good people! Areas have seen a decline in candidates the last few seasons, and if you're like me, I'm not getting any younger. I'd like to think we could turn this trend around, and have to turn people away from our program due to limited space. It's hard to put a lot into training for only two people, and it takes as much preparation and work to train two as it does to train six. Let's try to make recruiting our number one goal this season. This recruiting could be in our own patrols for new instructors, trainers, and senior patrollers. Furthering education is a good thing. Every time I travel to another area to participate in a clinic or evaluation, I've gone home learning something new. There are a lot of great patrollers out there willing to part with some of their knowledge.

As our season progresses this year, you will need to be thinking of where our division needs to take us in the future. With the new organization at the national

level, we will be looking at some re-organization at our Division level also. Do we have the programs that are needed, areas that are serviced adequately, and training to take us to a new level? Each area has a person or position on the re-organizational committee. Now is the time to speak up on what works and what doesn't, what programs we need to continue, and any special needs at your area.

Good luck to Nici Singletary and Kenny Hess in their new endeavors. We'll all be behind them in their new direction.

And whoever made Mother Nature mad last season, I hope you have apologized. We could use some powder days this winter!

Ski with you soon.



Virginia Region

*Mike Fisher,
Region Director*



Old man winter may get a chance to flex his muscles this season as the Farmers' Almanac reports that our winter will be colder and wetter. We have two new patrol Representatives in the Virginia Region this season. Ed Pouncey will be the new patrol representative at Wintergreen and Nancy DeBenideto will lead Bryce.

Our Region Senior program is as strong as ever. Candidates in the Senior program no longer have a time limit for finishing the required OEC and Ski and Toboggan program including three electives.

Wintergreen has a new building at the Plunge Tubing Park which should make the tubing experience more enjoyable. Please check the Southern Division calendar for upcoming Virginia courses, seminars and other events.



Dixie Region News

Neil Booth, Region Director



I've already attended one OEC Instructor Refresher and can say that your Instructors are doing an excellent job getting ready for this year's training. They have put in a lot of time and effort into making these and other courses meaningful to members. Do not forget to thank your Instructors! The 4th Edition of the Outdoor Emergency Care Manual is available for order. Do you have your new manual? If not, you need to get one. It is a valuable resource that will benefit every member.

During this refresher, I had the honor and privilege to award two Angel Pins to two very special people—Kelly Boggs and her mother, Maria Hurtado. These Angel's have supported Mike and Jessica in their patrolling endeavors over the years. Each year, these Angels prepare feasts for any and all Patrol and Deep South Section needs. The key here is to wear big pants when you go, because the feast and hospitality are unbelievable. Kelly and Maria make the Atlanta OEC

Refresher happen. I thank you both from my heart on behalf of all members.

The Dixie Region Calendar is set. Make sure you are aware of the dates for any classes, courses, exams, etc. If you are interested in any courses, make sure you let your Patrol Rep know. Also, you must have registered and paid the \$10.00 course fee 30 days in advance of the course. After that you will not be admitted, since the Instructor will not be able to get the needed course materials in time. Any class with fewer than six people signing up will have to be cancelled. Educational courses are made available to membership, for members' needs—not the Region's, Division's or National's benefit. If you are not sure what the course is about, phone the contact person or ask your Patrol Rep.

If you are interested in becoming an Instructor, the first step you must take to accomplish this is enrollment in an Instructor Development (ID) Course. This course is generally run outside the regular ski season. We ran two courses between seasons, this year. It appears to be the most efficient time to do so, per members and instructors. Once the ID course is completed, you advise the Instructor of Record, the discipline you desire to pursue. You are then assigned to a Mentor, who guides

you through the process of preparation to teach. We do not simply throw you out of the boat and ask you to immediately swim! When your Mentors sign your completion status, you will be a great swimmer! Now you can start to swim and coach others. The NSP system needs dedicated, quality instructors. Instructors come from membership, nowhere else!

So, the time is here to get in shape, study for the refresher to ensure you maximize the educational benefit, take educational courses offered to membership, become more involved, increase your ski/ride skills, increase your toboggan handling skills so you can be the best of the best! Remember, the Region Staff is here to support you the member and your Patrol Representative. Without you, we are not!



The Blue Ridge Region

*Butch McLean
Region Director*



Good News! The Blue Ridge Region is back to full strength. Last year Hawksnest was closed for skiing but did operate a tube run. This season Hawksnest will be open for skiing. Last season the patrols in the region gave the homeless Hawksnest patrollers an opportunity to patrol. The ski area management of Appalachian, Beech and Sugar were highly supportive in the effort to find a home for the displaced patrollers. All of the Hawksnest patrollers are grateful to the area managers and patrols for allowing them to sign on and ski at their mountains. The Hawksnest patrol has held several workdays in preparation for the upcoming ski season and the patrol rep, Larry Bost, is confident that this will be an outstanding season.

There are no changes to report in patrol representatives nor is there any major construction going on at any of the areas. If the weather cooperates everyone should have a full pond for snowmaking. The updated El Niño forecast prediction shows the Northern section of the US will be milder than normal while the deep South will be wetter than normal

(www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/predictions/90day/).

This El Niño should not have a major effect on snowmaking or our skiing this season. Sure hope the weather prognosticators are right!

The Blue Ridge Region is holding the first ever NSP online OEC course. Susanne Wise is the Instructor of Record and is aided by several OEC instructors. The students meet for practical applications but the majority of the communication from student to instructor and instructor to student is via E-mail. When the student is ready to check off a chapter they request the evaluation from the instructor. The instructor sends the evaluation to the student via email, they fill out the evaluation and send it back to the instructor. This is a pilot project that could change the way we are able to deliver instruction.

Marshall Fletcher, Appalachian Ski Mountain is working as a paid patroller at Cornet Peak and at The Remarkables in New Zealand. He has been sending back E-mail accounts of his experiences along with pictures of the areas. From the E-mail addresses noted in the 'send to section' this is old news to everyone east of the Mississippi.

Congratulations to Larry Bost for being named as the NSP National Program Director for Outdoor Emergency Care. He will undoubtedly do his normal outstanding job.



From the Supervisors and Advisors...

Treasurer's Report 7/1/01-6/30/02



Jim Underwood, Division Treasurer

Shown here are a tabular summary and a pie graph of the Southern Division's Treasury report for last season. If any member wishes a detailed copy of this report, please contact Jim Underwood at 865-483-3675; jnu@icx.net; 109 Wildwood Drive, Oak Ridge, TN 37830 for a mailed or E-mailed copy.

| | Beginning Balance 7/1/01 | Closing Balance 6/30/02 |
|--------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Checking* | \$ 6,649.33 | \$ 6,506.04 |
| Savings* | 35,347.98 | 36,793.77 |
| Contingency | <u>21,628.77</u> | <u>22,805.72</u> |
| Total | \$63,626.08 | \$66,105.53 |

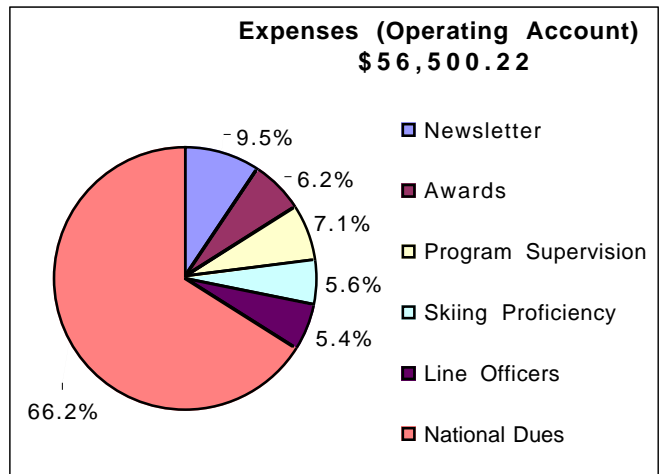
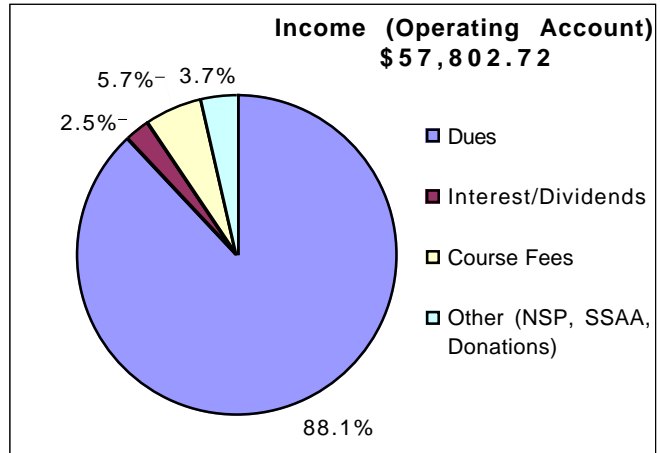
* Operating Account

Junior Memorial Fund

| | Beginning Balance 7/1/01 | Closing Balance 6/30/02 |
|---------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Savings | \$ 4,367.98 | \$ 4,563.72 |

Mary K. Twomey Fund

| | Beginning Balance 8/20/01 | Closing Balance 6/30/02 |
|---------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Savings | \$ 2,611.05 | \$ 2651.62 |



Election of Division Director

Lee Whitman
Election Coordinator



The Southern Division will elect a patroller to serve a two year term as its' Division Director. The election is conducted by the national office and is facilitated by the division election coordinator. Required qualifications for the candidates,

as well as election procedure and scheduling, can be found in the NSP Policies & Procedures Manual (8/01). For fairness to all, the division will strictly adhere to all aspects of the election process as found in the manual. December 16th, 2002 is the deadline for all nominations/proclamations of candidacy to be received by the election coordinator. It is recommend that you confirm the delivery of nominations/ proclamations prior to this deadline.

The election coordinator is: Lee T. Wittmann; 104 Rainbow's End; Beech Mountain, NC 28604; E-mail

lwittmann@orixfin.com: Home 828-387-9722; Office 828-387-3505; Fax 828-378-3506; Mobile 828-260-0060

Some important dates on the time line: December 30, 2002 is the coordinators deadline to submit all eligible candidates to NSP January 6, 2003 is the deadline for appeal by any candidate ruled ineligible by the election coordinator. On February 3, 2003 NSP mails ballots to eligible patrol representatives. February

17, 2003 is the deadline for delivery of ballots to NSP via mail, fax or in person. February 24, 2003 is the date that the results of the election will be announced by NSP. The elected Division Director takes office at the close of the Division Spring Officer's meeting or May 1, 2003.

If I can be of any assistance please contact me.



Women's Only Toboggan Clinic

Tim Asbury, Alpine Ski and Toboggan Advisor



When: January 11th and 12th

Where: Massanutten, Va.

Who: Open to women of all ability levels.

Objective: To teach skiing and sled handling techniques to help women run toboggans more effectively.

Fee: A \$75.00 fee covers both courses.

Course 1: On Saturday there will be a Skiing Enhancement Seminar taught by a PSIA level III instructor.

Course 2: Sunday, Deb Daniels will teach a Toboggan Enhancement Seminar. Deb is the toboggan instructor out of the Eastern Division that developed and implemented this program. Deb has agreed to come down to the Southern Division to give this program. Patrollers who took this program in the Central Division and at Powderfall were highly impressed. Both of these programs are NSP courses that will count towards senior electives.

The number of spaces for this program is limited and will be filled only when fees are received. Checks need to be made out to *Southern Division NSP* and sent to: Tim Asbury, 223 Stonebrook Dr, Hendersonville, NC 28791; Phone 828-697-6188; E-mail tim.Asbury@pardee-med.org



The Role of NSP and NSP-Ski Area Relations in ADA Matters

*Christine L. Myatt
Division Legal Advisor*



Recent inquiry was made to the National Ski Patrol Legal Advisor and other division legal advisors regarding the impact of the American Disabilities Act ("ADA") on ski patrol activities. The inquiry focused on a "profoundly deaf" person who wished to become a candidate. Although the individual was a good skier, the patrol was concerned about the individual's ability to—among other things—communicate over the radio.

According to Bruce Ries, the National Legal Counsel, "whether a skier who has a disability can function and serve as a patroller, is **NOT** a decision

made by the National Ski Patrol, or any subdivision thereof, but rather by the resort or ski area where he/she is applying to patrol." He goes on to add that "[w]hat skills and capabilities a patroller must possess is strictly and totally under the discretion of the local ski resort or ski area." Mr. Ries suggests that when making a determination as to whether a patroller qualifies as a candidate the patrol director should look at his/her area's needs and interpreting written, oral or understood guidelines from that area, rather than looking to the NSP. "This distinction is crucial, because to infer that NSP plays a role in selecting patrollers for a local ski area also infers that it has some degree of operational responsibility. Simply put, this is incorrect, and this should not be an issue of NSP involvement, except to verify that he has or has not completed courses."

Mr. Ries believes that despite Kane, many ski area operators still believe the NSP actively operates local ski patrols and that some patrols and many patrollers

cling to this belief as well. He reiterates that the NSP is not involved in the operational activities of ski patrolling and that the limits of NSP involvement concern only those courses that NSP provides as officially sanctioned instruction—i.e., Outdoor Emergency Care, Skill Development Courses, Mountain Travel and Rescue, Avalanche Program, Toboggan Program, Instructor Development Program, and Leadership Development Program (now phased out).

Going back to the inquiry, the employment lawyers at my office tell me that the ADA is not applicable to volunteer organizations such as the local NSP patrols. This is debatable since, from a liability standpoint, we are viewed as agents of the mountain and the ADA

clearly is applicable to ski areas. My suggestion to patrol directors in the Southern Division faced with the inquiry above is to determine whether the candidate could pass both ski and OEC tests, and if so, whether the patrol can make reasonable accommodations (e.g. pair the patroller with a partner). In such a case, there would be no reason to exclude the individual because of his/her disability, and you may enhance public relations. More importantly, and consistent with NSP's policies, any questions you have regarding a candidate's ability to serve on the patrol should be directed to area management, not the NSP!



NEWS FROM NATIONAL “A New Direction”

John Dobson
NSP Board Representative



In January 2001, the NSP Board of Directors approved a new board leadership design: “The function of the NSP Board of Directors will change to address strategic national issues important to the organization.” After two years of intense research, hard work, and thoughtful discussion, in June the Board ratified a “selection process” which will be used to seat the New National Board taking office 1 January 2003! The study and review leading up to this change was facilitated by Association Management Services, an independent professional consulting firm with extensive knowledge and experience in the organization and governance of not-for-profit organizations. In our deliberations, the Board examined a range of organizational options to implement the direction identified above. After working through the advantages and weaknesses of various alternatives, including our current model of “quasi-representative governance,” the Board settled on a mode that stressed “knowledge” as the basis for membership on the governance body. This is a system that can best be defined as *a selection of leaders based*

on their knowledge and experience that best meets the defined needs of the organization at the time of the selection.

Sweeping change is always controversial, if not unsettling, and the final phase of deliberations at the June board meeting revealed certain feelings of anxiety amidst other positive feelings of anticipation.

Why are we doing this? You know the answer as well as anyone: because the NSP must have the leadership, programs, and educational resources to react quickly to the needs of its members. As patrollers, we find ourselves challenged to stay abreast of an increasingly diversified snowsports industry, and our association cannot attain the level of agility and responsiveness required if its leadership insists on subscribing to past methodologies.

In recent years, the NSP's actions and policies have been over-reactive in our response to crises, and this has prevented us from being vigilant about analyzing industry trends and planning our future. The potential for that type of over-reaction to occur will be eliminated. You will now be represented by a group of experts who will serve as your advocates on everything from specific patrolling activities to the strategic management of the national organization. Unencumbered by a limiting line officer election process, our new Board members will be free to act in a true leadership capacity, allowing Divisions and other

subunits to focus on the delivery of NSP services and programs.

Does this move to an alternative selection process mean that you've "lost your voice" at the national level? Absolutely not! From now on, members will be able to directly influence the crucial phases of program development without unnecessary interference from the board of directors. The Board—the NSP's primary strategic body—will serve to chart the course of the national organization, not delve into the intricacies of educational programs, debate the nomenclature of various patrolling disciplines, or dissect the wording of the latest reference manuals. If anything, you'll have a more direct influence on our organization than ever before!

To ensure that the new Board has adequate information with which to function, the current Board provided for a system of standing committees that would be made up of New Board Members. Unlike the current Board, New Board Members will make up the base membership of these standing committees, and the committees could then invite other experts to serve with them as committee members to support their work. The new standing committees will be required to digest, analyze, develop and prepare new and amended initiatives. To further strengthen input from consumers (us), a system of "task groups", made up of program supervisors, instructor trainers, etc., will be created and chaired by a national program director. This system of "technical" working groups was viewed by the existing Board as a very effective connection (through direct participation) for patrollers to the New Board.

Finally, the New Board, in conjunction with input and work in the technical groups, will drive strategic planning efforts through regular in-depth surveying and focus group sessions, to capture data and information required to identify strategic issues and objectives necessary to address changing industry direction and needs.

In July, 44 patrollers were nominated to fill the new 13-seat National Board. 33 of those nominees completed the application process. A seven member Nominating Committee, consisting of a cross-section of experienced patrollers from all areas of the country, met and deliberated, and on September 1, announced the slate of nominees. They include:

Three Year Term:

Mike Adams – Intermountain
Bob Black - Professional
John Kretschmann – Far West
Bill Sachs – Eastern
Nici Singletary – Southern

Two Year Term:

Pamm Ferguson – Eastern
Kenny Hess – Southern
Ron Plumer – Central
Julie Rust – Professional

One Year Term:

Dick Everett – Northern
Mike Gooderham – Pacific Northwest
Bob McLaughlin – Eastern
Tom Rauschke – Professional

What does this change in governance mean to the Southern Division? It means that we now must take more control of our ski patrol destiny than ever before, so that we might continue to offer our members the best patrol experience possible in the south! We must also prepare ourselves for the added responsibilities of administering our programs to specifically meet our own division's needs. In order to facilitate this journey, our division director appointed a Reorganization Committee, chaired by Neil Booth (following article), to examine and study our division structure and its programs, and to make recommendations that will benefit all of our patrollers. This committee had its first meeting in Wytheville, Virginia on September 8, and is now hard at work on our behalf!

I encourage every member of the Southern Division—just like I challenged our division board of directors and program staff on September 7—to stand behind our national organization and our division, as we move forward to meet this exciting opportunity for reform. Only by changing the global focus and purpose of the national board, and empowering divisions to deal with local issues, can consensus for change be reached and meaningful change successfully occur. To be seen as active partners, supporters and innovators, we need to move forward, always maintaining our ability to

change with the times and the environment. Even though the NSP is rich in tradition, if we fail to recognize and proactively react to changes in the milieu

in which we patrol, as in the case of dinosaurs, we too may become extinct!



Southern Division Reorganization Committee

Neil Booth
Reorganization Committee Chair



As discussed in the preceding article by John Dobson, major changes have occurred within National Headquarters, NSP. The entire Board of Directors structure has changed. The change is for the benefit of growth to the National Ski Patrol System—our organization. As a result, a committee was set up to study our restructuring.

The **Mission Statement** is: *The purpose of the Reorganization Committee is to determine the most efficient and effective manner for distribution of educational programs and services to Ski Areas, Area Management, Patrol Representatives and Members with the Southern Division, NSP. This will be accomplished through a diligent review of the current Southern Division organization structure and policies, with the desired outcome being a streamlined organization that more efficiently considers the time constraints upon all concerned parties.*

The **Strategy** is: *Review and develop policies and procedures for the Southern Division that support the direction and needs of our division organization, while correlating with the new NSP Board of Directors vision and structure.*

Reorganization Committee Members: Neil Booth was appointed Chairperson of the Committee. Neil has 29 years patrolling, currently is Dixie RD. Seventy five percent of members come from Line positions or Patrols. Further broken down, 50% is Volunteer/Paid Patrol representation; 25% is Members

at Large; 25% is Division Staff. Following is the roster of members along with their contact information:

- Mike Harris, Sugar Mountain, 25 year patroller, mrharris@charter.net
- Larry Bost, Hawksnest, 14 year patroller, NSPNC@aol.com
- Nicole Hagner, Hawksnest, 2 year patroller, nh45741@appstate.edu
- John Huffstutter, Massanutten, 9 year patroller, Patrol Rep, huffjd@earthlink.net
- Steve Cvechko, Timberline, 17 year patroller, Patrol Rep, lynn_cvechko@acordia.com
- Bob Lang, Sky Valley, 10+ year patroller, Past Patrol Rep, thudbear@attbi.com
- Bill Smith, Homestead, 9 year patroller, Patrol Rep, skibill@widowmaker.com
- Brad Short, Snowshoe, 20 year patroller, Asst. Paid Director, bshort@snowshoemtn.com
- Gil Adams, Beech Mountain, 32 year patroller, Pro Director, Skibeech@SkyBest.com
- Dennis Slagle, Ober Gatlinburg, 24 year patroller, 2nd Asst. Div. Director, dslagle2@nc.rr.com
- Judi Kay Monaghan, Admin, 15 year patroller, OEC Supvr, jkaymonaghan@aol.com
- Mary Underwood, Admin, 22 year patroller, PES Supvr, jnu@icx.net
- Neil Booth, Cataloochee, 29 year patroller, RD, nabooth1@aol.com

The Committee had the first meeting on Sunday, September 8, 2002 in Wytheville, VA. The majority of their work will be broken down into smaller work groups that are responsible for analyzing the many facets of our structure. Recommendations will be presented to the Board of Directors at the Spring Officers Meeting on May 3, 2003.

A membership survey form will be given out to all members during your annual refreshers. The Committee asks each of you to take a few minutes to complete and return the surveys at the refresher, to your respective Patrol Representative. The Alignment Subcommittee for further actions will review surveys. This will be

very important for the direction and decisions the Committee carries forward.

By following the Mission Statement and Strategy of the Committee, the Division should become stronger, more effective and efficient. The changes will be transparent to membership. We accept this as the ultimate goal!



Trends In Skiing and Snowboarding Injuries

*Ian Archibald, Southern Division
Medical Advisor*



Recent published reports document the trends that are occurring in ski and snowboard injuries. Knowledge of these trends should improve safety and increase awareness of the types of injuries commonly seen in snow sliding sports.

In the 1999-2000 season, three skiing/snowboarding injuries serious enough to require immediate attention occurred for every 1000 visits. Death rates were slightly less than 3 deaths/million participants. Compare that figure to 21 deaths/million for bicycling, 25 deaths/million for swimmers, 32 deaths/million for scuba diving and 64 deaths/million for boating.

Serious catastrophic injuries (coma or serious traumatic brain injury, paraplegia or serious spine injury) are occurring at rates similar to skiing deaths. Overall there has been no significant change in the rates of catastrophic injury or death over the last 12 years.

Currently there are roughly twice as many skiers as snow boarders visiting US ski areas. This represents a 77% increase in snowboarders and a 24% decrease in skiers in the last 12 years. Beginners in both sports are three times more likely to be injured than more experienced sliders. However, nonfatal injury rates in snowboarders appear to be 2 to 4 times higher than for skiers. Boarders are 2 times more likely to sustain chest injury, 2 times more likely to sustain traumatic brain injury, 4 times more likely to sustain spine injury and 6 times more likely to sustain spleen injury. Collisions between snowboarders and skiers however are much more likely to be the *skier's fault*.

Fatalities are still very much a skier's problem. Snowboarders have the unexpected advantage of the "sea anchor" effect. The non-releasable snowboard, binding and boot system causes a snowboarder who has fallen to slide shorter distances and consequently impact with solid objects at a lower speed. In the 1999-2000 season 30 fatalities occurred: 23 skiers and 7 snowboarders. Over the last 15 years fatalities have averaged 34 per year. The most common cause of death was head injury. Skiers are 5 times more likely to sustain a fatal head injury than snowboarders. The most common scenario is a male skier, average age late teens or early 20s, of above average experience, skiing the margin of an intermediate slope at high speed, losing control and hitting a tree. This is the same age group that sustains the most fatalities in car (74%) and industrial accidents (85%).

As far as equipment issues are concerned, helmets are the hot topic. Helmets have been unsuccessful at reducing fatalities from head injury. Sixty percent of all fatalities were caused by injuries to the head. Thirty five percent of fatally injured skiers wore helmets. Also, 32% of traumatic brain injury victims were helmet users. This information confirms research that shows that current helmet technology cannot protect the head at impact speeds greater than 12 mph. Most skiers travel at speeds of 25-40 mph. However, there is evidence to suggest that the seriousness of traumatic brain injury is less in helmet users. The best current recommendation is for helmets to be used by novice snowboarders and any sliders entering wooded terrain.

The greatest problem facing skiers is still injury to the knee. ACL injuries have tripled in the last 30 years and 50% of all the treatment dollars spent on skiing and snowboarding injuries were spent in this area. Interestingly, the left knee is the most commonly injured! Current ski binding technology, while very

effective in protecting the tibia and ankle from fracture, does not take into account the failure point of knee ligaments. According to one study the introduction of shaped skis may be responsible for a further increase in ACL tears, especially in more experienced skiers who are making the transition from conventional skis to shaped designs.

There are three factors common to most snow sliding injuries: *Ability* (especially in novice snowboarders), *speed of sliding*, and *adjustment of equipment* (especially ski bindings).

Prevention measures should include the following:

- A good physical conditioning program
- Properly adjusted and maintained equipment, especially ski bindings
- Wrist guards for snowboarders

- Helmets for novice snowboarders and any sliders entering the trees
- Professional instruction including techniques to manage loss of control
- Vermont ACL awareness program for skiers, particularly professional skiers (instructors and patrollers)
- Careful choice of landing sites for sliders “getting air”
- Avoidance of icy and or crowded slopes
- Skiing and riding within the individuals ability
- Not skiing or riding alone in deep snow conditions.

More information may be obtained from www.wms.org and clicking on Dr. Heneveld's article “Skiing and Snowboarding Injuries” from which the information presented here was obtained.



Change in the *Southern Cross* Distribution Policy

Bob Weed, Southern Cross Editor



Southern Cross, our Division newsletter, is the most important tool we have for communication within the Division. In addition to providing a forum for officers at all levels to keep patrollers abreast of such issues as upcoming events, administrative developments, training opportunities and much more, it is also the best means available for the patrollers to share their experiences and their views. For alumni the newsletter is often the only means of keeping in touch with the old gang.

For these reasons it is important that we continue to get *Southern Cross* to all active members and alumni in a timely manner. Unfortunately this service ain't cheap. Printing and mailing costs run about \$2.50 to \$3.00 per copy. Multiply that by three issues per year and over 1100 recipients and you get annual expenses on the order of \$10,000. In order to help reduce this cost an effort was initiated a couple of years ago to encourage members to receive *Southern Cross* electronically. Under this plan recipients are notified via E-mail when the newsletter has been posted on the Southern Division

web site. It can then be read on line, downloaded to one's own computer and/or printed locally.

As a result of this effort, about a third of the *Southern Cross* readership has signed up for electronic distribution resulting in annual savings of over \$3000. This has allowed us to hold the line on Division dues and divert available funds to training and developmental activities. A major new program that became possible without increasing dues has been the Southern Division NSP/PSIA ski school. In this program patrollers are becoming certified PSIA instructors and then, through our own PSIA ski school, they spend weekends teaching skiing skills to patrol candidates, working to improve their skills to the level where they can pass their local patrol/area ski evaluation and earn their back crosses. This program has significant expenses for insurance, training materials and travel. We have also been able to drop the Division fees for patrollers seeking instructor status. We have initiated a slope safety program aimed at educating children and new skiers/riders in the Responsibility Code and on how to keep from getting hurt and thus have more fun on the slopes. As impressive as the savings to date have been, there is more gold in thar hills. With this in mind

at the Spring Officers Meeting the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors voted to make electronic rather than postal distribution the default method of distributing the *Southern Cross* to new patrollers. Those of you who are receiving the newsletter by postal mail will continue to receive it this way. However, we are once again asking you to please help reduce Division operating expenses by opting for electronic distribution. To do so, you can either notify your Patrol Representative, or you can contact Steve

Cortelyou at 3002 Millstream Lane, Knoxville, TN 37931, or by E-mail at SGC@y12.doe.gov. If you select the electronic option, you should check the NSP web site to make sure that they have a current E-mail address for you. To do this, go to www.nsp.org, click on "Member Services", and follow the instructions.

We all recognize that change is not always easy or welcome. However, in this case the payoffs are well worth any minor inconvenience.





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Kids' Safety Poster Contest

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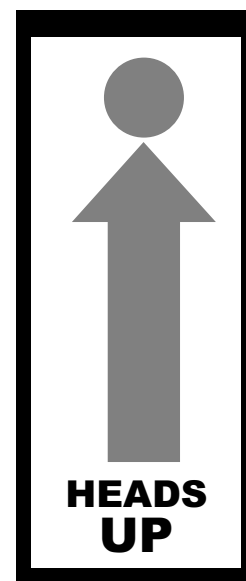


Create A Poster Using The Responsibility Code Below And You Could Win Up To a \$500 Savings Bond—Or Additional Prizes!

•• Winning Division Entries Will Be Forwarded To National Competition ••

Responsibility Code:

1. Always stay in control and be able to stop or avoid other people or objects.
2. People ahead of you have the right of way. It is your responsibility to avoid them.
3. You must not stop where you obstruct a trail or are not visible from above.
4. Whenever starting downhill or merging into a trail, look uphill and yield to others.
5. Always use devices to help prevent runaway equipment.
6. Observe all posted signs and warnings. Keep off closed trails and out of closed areas.
7. Prior to using any lift, you must have the knowledge and ability to load, ride and unload safely.



National Safety Poster Contest Rules:

- All entries must be created by an elementary school aged child.
- One entry per child.
- 8 1/2" X 11" or 11" X 17" poster size.
- Pencil, crayon, paint, or other "school" materials may be used. (No macaroni!)
- Write name, address, and telephone number of entrant on the back of entry.
DO NOT FOLD ENTRY.
- Entry deadline: January 30, 2002. Send entries to: Ski Safety Poster Contest, 50 Elkwood Avenue, Asheville, NC 28804.

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2002 - 2003 (rev. 09/017/2002)

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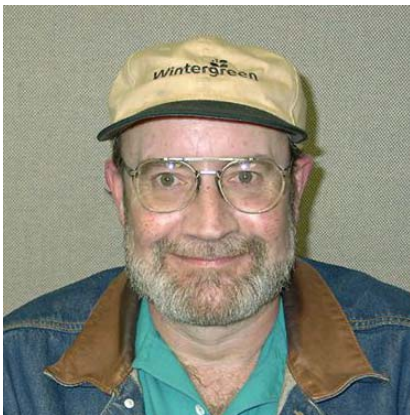
SOUTHERN DIVISION CALENDAR FOR 2002-03 SEASON

| Region | Month | Date | Event | Location | Contact |
|--------|-------|--------|------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|
| 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 |
| 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 BEGINS | 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 SEC. | 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 | 19 | SKI CHALET SKI SWAP | BRYCE | STEVE LEWIS 804-262-3788 |
| 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 |

| Region | Month | Date | Event | Location | Contact |
|--------|-------|-------|------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|
| 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 | CAROLINA HIGHLAND 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 |
| VA | NOV | 9 | MOUNTAIN TRAVEL & RESCUE I | WINTERGREEN | BOB CHATMAN 410-721-0921 |
| DIXIE | NOV | 10 | SKY VALLEY ON THE HILL | SKY VALLEY, GA | KEN COLLINS 770-719-0781 |
| VA | NOV | 23 | 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 | 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 |
| BR | DEC | 14 | SR EMERGENCY MGMT CLINIC | BEECH MTN | HARVEY VARNER 336-785-4533 |
| WV | DEC | 14 | INSTRUCTOR DEV. COURSE | WINTERPLACE | GREG RASH 502-263-3323 |
| WV | DEC | 15 | PATROLLER ENRICHMENT SEM. | WINTERPLACE | C. HUFFSTUTTER 703-370-3066 |
| WV | DEC | 21 | TOBOGGAN INST. TRAINING | SNOWSHOE | BECKY SHARP 304-572-5695 |
| DIXIE | DEC | 25-5 | CHRISTMAS DEC 21-JAN 5 | NO ACTIVITIES | SCHEDULED |
| DIXIE | JAN | 4 | EXAMINERS 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 ENHANCEMNT SEM. | SNOWSHOE | DAVE CLINE 304-748-0336 |
| DIXIE | JAN | 18-20 | MLK WEEKEND | NO ACTIVITIES | SCHEDULED |
| DIV | JAN | 25 | CERTIFIED CLINIC - S&T | SNOWSHOE | BECKY SHARP 304-572-5695 |
| VA | JAN | 25 | EMERGENCY MGNT CLINIC | WINTERGREEN | 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 |
| DIXIE | JAN | 26 | SR S&T EVALUATION | GATLINBURG, TN | TIM ASBURY 828-697-6188 |
| VA | JAN | 26 | SENIOR S&T CLINIC | WINTERGREEN | 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 | APPALACHIAN | DENNIS SLAGLE 919-528-9279 |
| VA | FEB | 1,2 | CERTIFIED CLIN. ALL MODULES | WINTERGREEN | LESLIE CARTER 434-325-1262 |
| WV | FEB | 2 | SENIOR S&T CLINIC | SNOWSHOE | DAVE CLINE 304-748-0336 |
| WV | FEB | 8 | EMERGENCY MGMNT CLINIC | SNOWSHOE | JASON HALL 304-572-5493 |
| DIV | FEB | 8,9 | CERT CLINIC - ALL MODULES | HAWKSNEST | BILL STYRES 828-252-3335 |
| BR | FEB | 9 | EMERGENCY MGMNT EVAL | HAWKSNEST | HARVEY VARNER 336-785-4533 |
| 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 | EMERGENCY MGMNT CLINIC | CATALOOCHEE,NC | LARRY ERB 828-645-4718 |
| VA | FEB | 9 | CERT CLINIC- OEC & MNTN OPS | MASSANUTTEN | B. DREWNOWSKI 540-289-4954 |
| DIXIE | FEB | 15-17 | PRESIDENTS WEEKEND | NO ACTIVITIES | SCHEDULED |
| VA | FEB | 22 | EMERGENCY MNGMT EVAL | 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 |

| Region | Month | Date | Event | Location | Contact |
|--------|-------|-------|--------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|
| 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 | EMERGENCY MNGMT EVAL | CATALOOCHEE,NC | LARRY ERB 828-645-4718 |
| VA | MAR | 2 | BASIC S&T EVALUATION | MASSANUTTEN | B. DREWNOWSKI 540-289-4954 |
| WV | MAR | 8 | EMERGENCY MNGMT EXAM | TIMBERLINE | STEVE CVECHKO 304-776-8540 |
| DIXIE | MAR | 9 | MOUNTAIN TRAVEL & RESCUE | TBD | JOHN PARKER 828-648-1931 |
| VA | MAR | 9 | PATROL COOKOUT | MASSANUTTEN | B. DREWNOWSKI 540-289-4954 |
| DIXIE | MAR | 15 | AVALANCHE FUND. & RESCUE | WEST. CAROLINA U. | DENNIS SLAGLE 919-528-9279 |
| VA | MAR | 15 | AVALANCHE FUND. & RESCUE | 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 | OEC INSTRUCTOR SEMINAR | ROANOKE | WYNDHAM HOTEL 1-800-996-3426 |
| DIV | MAY | 3,4 | SPRING CONVENTION/AWARDS | ROANOKE | WYNDHAM HOTEL 1-800-996-3426 |
| DIV | AUG | 16-17 | FALL OFFICERS MEETING | WYTHEVILLE, VA | NICI SINGLETARY 434-325-1024 |

In Memoriam



Don Rutledge (1950 - 2002)

On Friday, July 26 we lost long time Wintergreen patroller Don Rutledge. "Daddy" Don joined Wintergreen as a pro patroller in 1982, and patrolled through the 1998-1999 season. He served as Assistant Patrol Director from the mid-eighties through the mid-nineties. I presented Don with the PDT award (Patrol Director Trainer) after my first season as Patrol Director. During the off season, Don worked with Activities Department and WPOA. Most recently, Don worked with the Transportation department.

Those of you that were fortunate enough to work with Don will remember his warm smile and quick laugh. He was nationally ranked when it came to a good practical joke and a pleasure to be with. We will miss him very much. *[Submitted by Tucker Crolius]*

Scenes From The Season

End of session at Ober Gatlinburg. Next stop—The Smoky Mountain Brewery; after removing parkas of course. Bill Mattison, Joy Slagle, Clayton Minchew, Tyler Robbins, Amanda Ogle, July Semans, Nici Singletary.





It's getting to be a time-worn line to proclaim that National Appointments are always long overdue by the time they are awarded. Nevertheless the statement is once again applicable to Dave Katterman of Hawk's Nest—Southern Division's newest National. Congratulations Dave!

Ed Pouncey (Wintergreen) receiving the Patroller's Cross from Division Director Nici Singletary in recognition of being injured in the line of duty. Congratulations, Ed, but this is one award that the rest of us hope we never receive!



Bob Lang (Sky Valley), Southern Division's Outstanding Patrol Rep receives the Yellow Star.



Lynn Pace receiving the Yellow Star for his years of service as Certified Program Supervisor.





Thirty years and still standing! Doug Carlberg is recognized for 30 years of patrolling.



Who'll sing for me? After years of coordinating efforts to recognize outstanding achievement throughout the Division, Harry Stowe is recognized with a Yellow Star for his exemplary contributions as Awards Supervisor. Congratulations and thanks from all of us, Harry!

**Southern Cross, National Ski Patrol
c/o Bob Weed
2609 Willena Dr, Huntsville, AL 35803**

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