



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 spring issue is May 31, 2004. Send submissions to:

Bob Weed, *Southern Cross* Editor
2609 Willena Drive, Huntsville, AL 35803
256-882-9604
SCEditor@comcast.net

Send address changes to:
NSP Office
133 Van Gordon St., Suite 100
Lakewood, CO 80228
Update address on line at
www.nsp.org

What is it all about?

Neil Booth, Division Director

Have you ever asked yourself the question “What is it all about?”—especially when it comes to Patrolling! Well think no more as it is all about helping people and having fun while doing so. I know that those of you that have had to deal with serious incidents did not have fun doing so, but you felt very comfortable knowing that you helped someone in need, someone that was attempting to enjoy the sport we all love so much.

To do the above, we all need to sharpen our edges each and every year by attending our OEC refresher, CPR refresher and on-the-hill ski and toboggan refresher. At this time, all should be accomplished and you have filed all the rust off the edges and have the sharpest tools available. Our OEC refresher cycle went extremely smooth. We all owe a great deal of gratitude to our OEC Instructors. They did a spectacular job! A little better than 25% of Southern’s membership are involved in the OEC discipline and do an excellent job bringing this national refresher to all of us. Your Toboggan and Ski/Snowboard Instructors have more than likely run you through the skills sessions also. Everyone should thank them for their extra efforts too. Without these extremely dedicated individuals, our system could not function. Remember, the largest part of our instructor base is all volunteer time, and the only compensation derived is the satisfaction and recognition of doing a great job. Please, give them a pat on the back and a word of thanks.

Let me now move to the subject of what we do. If I lined up ten people, can you identify who is a Paid Patroller and who is a Volunteer Patroller? I have a great deal of trouble identifying them! Can anyone assist me in honing in on this skill? I bet you cannot help me simply because there is no difference!!! Oh yes, some are compensated for their services and others are not, but that does not reveal anyone in the line up, does it? Yes, some work Monday through Friday; some work Saturday and Sunday; some work days, some work nights, some patrol full time, some part-time, but how can you tell who is who? Actually, if you take off all identifications, can you recognize who is an Auxiliary, Basic, Senior, Certified, Paid, Volunteer or anything else you might think of? I guess when all is said and done; we are all Patrollers with very little differentiation from the outward appearance. There is a need and purpose for every level of patroller, in each patrol. We all are here to help our snow sports customers, assist management, help each other and enjoy



what we do. We provide an extremely valuable service to our resorts. We all need to be very proud of who and what we are. It has been said that patrollers can be the best or worst person you get to know. If we are challenged into the policing role, we are not their best friends, nor should we be. If they are injured, we will definitely become their best friend. Remember, we are the last person they see at our resorts, so we need to leave a positive lasting impression with them. We can all think of people that have come back to say what a wonderful job we did, or patrollers did. This is the ultimate reward and compensation. I can proudly say that I just completed the fifth year in a row for which the advisor from a church group, stopped to say hello and reminds me of helping one of her members, an orthopedic surgeon's son, with his fractured wrist. Actually, I also get to say hello to about fifteen of their members each year. This is the type of lasting impression we need to leave with our customers. They are what drive the snow sports business. So, to cover all diversities, we are one, we are Patrollers and nothing else should every get in the way. Together, we all make the system work.

To give you all an update on works in process, we continue to work on our Instructor Development program. We need your participation in the program for future development of new instructors in all disciplines. We cannot continue to rely upon those that instruct year after year. Everyone needs a break from time to time. We can accomplish this and spread the workload of our system, if we all get involved to some degree. If you desire to become an instructor, Instructor Development is the first step, followed by the mentoring program whereby an instructor is assigned to work with you to prepare you to be a discipline-specific instructor. Talk to your Patrol Representative about the opportunities that exist and the needs that need to be filled. Our progress to date has been somewhat disappointing due to the cancellation of several Instructor Development courses, due to lack of sign up. I personally challenge each Patrol Representative and the Patrol Leadership to seek you out. If you are asked to participate, it is because your patrol leadership feels you have more to offer the system.

We continue to work on refining and defining the Senior process. Are you interested in the Senior Program? Do you know what is needed to get into the program? Do you know what you need to prepare for? Do you know how rewarding the Senior program can be! Talk about sharpening the edge! You will be a power tool when you get done and feel wonderful about the knowledge you gain and confidence you now possess. Take advantage of the program; ask your Patrol Representative for more information.

We are also looking at the future of the Student Seminar. If this draws a blank in your mind as to what we are looking at, talk to your Patrol Representative and they will fill you in. The future of the program lies in your hands. Speak now or forever hold your peace!

Our National Board of Directors met in mid January and had a very productive meeting. One major change is that the Division OEC Supervisor no longer reports directly to Division. They now report to the National Program Director. The OEC Supervisors overseeing OEC activities for each division also select the OEC Administrators who oversees activities in smaller geographic regional areas. It actually means very little, if at all, to our division, as this is the way we operate currently, with this one exception. Now, Judi Kay-Monaghan reports directly to National; the current Region Administrators already reported to her. You will not, nor should you see nor notice anything different.

The National Board also approved a new elective for Senior. If you recall, they were piloting an OEC Enhancement Seminar last year and it has been very successful. Now, if two sessions/sections are completed, they count as one Senior elective. This is excellent thus giving focused training for specific injuries. There will be more information forthcoming.

As you read this, realize that the winter season is winding down. Until we take the last run of the season, keep doing what you all do. Be professional, be courteous and BE having fun doing it all. Thanks to you all for the wonderful jobs that you do on behalf of our industry, our system, our resorts, our customers and most of all, the friendships we all enjoy, belonging to our great system. This is "What it is all about"!

From the Assistants...



Instructor Development Program

Morgan Armstrong

First Assistant Division Director and Instructor Development Supervisor

To: All Southern Division Patrol Representatives and Instructors of the Instructor Development Program

The following is a reproduction of page 64 of the new Administrative Procedures Manual

for the Southern Division (third edition, August 2003). I request each of you review this set of instructions in an effort to motivate and encourage all of the patrollers of the division. We need instructors for the Instructor Development Program and all of the other programs in the division. Since some of the classes which were attempted had to be cancelled this year due to lack of interest, I am asking each of you take another look at how to make this work. The West Virginia Region has put on two classes this year using this method successfully and I hope to get the interest and enthusiasm of this region spread to all of the regions. Let's get 2004 off to a good start and 2005 will allow the division to spread the load and make the task more enjoyable for everyone. Thanks to all of the dedicated instructors who are laboring for the division and who have held a successful Instructor Development Class for the division for the year 2003 and the first months of 2004.

DIVISION ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

Class Sizes for Education Courses

- **PURPOSE:** Provide a minimum number of attendees for each disciplines class that provides adequate interaction and sharing of views and experiences, thus justifying the establishment of a course and the providing of Instructor(s).
- **REQUIREMENTS:** The minimum number of people to hold any class is 6 people; maximum is 12 people or IOR's determination.
- **EXPECTATIONS:** Attendees must commit in writing and pay the course registration fees 30 days prior to established dates listed in the Region or Division Calendars for each year.
 - **PATROL REPRESENTATIVE ACTIONS:**
 - Courses will be listed on the Region or Division Calendars at the Spring Officers Meeting.
 - Patrol Representatives must solicit participants and give firm commitments, by patrol, of expected attendees, by the Fall Officers Meeting.
 - If commitment of 6 or more people are not confirmed by the Fall Officers Meeting, the courses may be removed from the calendar year; rescheduled the next calendar year, based on commitments.
 - **INSTRUCTOR OF RECORD ACTIONS:**
 - Register course with National, once commitments from attendees are received.
 - Order course materials and certificates for completion.
 - If you do not have a minimum of 6 attendees, 30 days in advance of the course, you may cancel the course and notify attendees that have sent in their fees and commitments. Return checks along with cancellation notification.
 - If course is performed, send the course completion paperwork to National.
 - Send a copy of the course completion paperwork to respective Division Program Supervisor and Region Director.
 - **OUTCOME:** Attendees should gain knowledge and experience through interactions with other people and patrols. The sharing of different points of view and experiences will provide a stronger learning environment for the specific discipline.
 - **PATROL REPRESENTATIVE OR DESIGNEE:** As a leader, you must determine who needs the developmental training of each discipline to fill the roles within your patrol, plus providing personnel to support the Region and Division.
 - Give specific dates and details of courses.
 - GET specific commitments from your membership.
 - Fill the needs of your patrol.
 - Promote at summer meetings and through newsletters.
 - Do not simply throw out the statement and consider the topic covered.
 - Support the discipline Instructor and value their time and efforts





Be All You Can Be...

Dennis Slagle
Assistant Division Director—South Area

You want to be a good patroller. You work hard as a patroller. You're there on the busy days, holidays, bad weather days, and off-season workdays. You are a valued patroller for the patrol, and your mountain. You know you are good at OEC, skiing and toboggan skills. With all your experience, knowledge, and expertise, did you ever stop and consider how good am I? It is human nature to want to prevent failure and be proficient at

whatever we do.

No matter how good we are at skiing, we all want to ski better. We will usually go to great lengths to get any instruction we can get, and practice all we can. We especially like the practice part. No matter what PSIA level we are on, we want to be at a higher level. The Southern Division is working to make that happen. We have started a division ski school and have our very own ski instructors now. These instructors, while most were starting out at a base level several years ago, are learning and improving their ski instructional skills every year. These instructors teach ski enhancement to help patrollers improve their skiing. Granted, these ski instructors were predestined to teach candidates who want to improve to patroller levels in skiing. They also have the tools necessary to help just about anyone improve their skiing ability. Please use this resource that we have provided and get that little extra knowledge.

The Southern Division also has several toboggan instructors in each region. These patrollers are instructors because they want to help others improve their skills. Toboggan enhancement seminars are an excellent way to grab a few more pointers and practice with your toboggan handling skills. With all the toboggan instructors we have throughout the division, there is almost always one on the hill at each area at all times. These instructors would be more than happy to work with anyone who is interested in honing some transportation skills.

The most valued part of patrolling, OEC, has for a long time had most of its instruction performed at annual refreshers. OEC enhancement seminars are being developed to assist us to improve some of our first aid skills. These are still in the development stage and we are anxious to get them implemented. We also have multitudes of OEC instructors at every area, which would help anyone to improve their OEC skills. The National Board of Directors just approved that if Senior candidates take at least two segments of the OEC Enhancement Seminars it will now count as one of their Senior Electives. Now that's an elective you can really use. More will be forthcoming on this new development from OEC.



Notes From The North

Jan Starr
Assistant Division Director—North Area

Well, we're about half way through now and headed on a "downhill run". I hope everyone has had a good one so far. I know we've had all the extremes possible here at Snowshoe.

Our training and learning process is never over though, so everyone should still be moving forward. There was a wonderful turnout for West Virginia's Instructor Development Class at Winterplace. There are twelve new folks out there ready to be mentored in their chosen discipline. My thanks to all who participated and made this a huge success. It makes a hard act to follow for all the other classes that are scheduled yet. I know at this time the one in Virginia has been rescheduled to try to get more participation. With that, I put forth a challenge to the folks in Virginia to beat the enrollment at West Virginia's class! It takes marketing from the instructors, Patrol Directors, Patrol Reps and fellow patrollers to get this to happen. Lay a little peer pressure on 'em.

The Senior programs will be happening in the coming months, and I thank Bill Smith and his team for stepping forward to make the tracking process easier.

The Mountain Travel and Rescue-2 course should be interesting to participate in with the weather extremes we've been having. Happy Camping to those folks joining in that endeavor. Hopefully there will be plenty of snow and participation for the Nordic festivities being held at White Grass. The final event of the season will be the certified program, which is always a wonderful learning tool.

As our downhill slide progresses, I will finally have some time to get around to all the areas at least once in the coming months. Looking forward to visiting with old friends and making new ones. Enjoy the rest of your season!

From the Regions...



Virginia Region

Bill Smith, Virginia Region Director

Well, here we are off to a great ski season with lots of things happening in the northern part of the Division. All areas in Virginia got off to an early start this season with opening dates for most areas in early December. Later that month, Mother Nature tried to get the best of us by sending warm weather our way. However, all of our areas survived that thaw and have recovered nicely.

A great deal of emphasis has been put on training throughout the region.

Three refresher programs were held in the region giving everyone an opportunity to complete that requirement in a convenient manner. After visiting all three, I must say the folks involved in putting those programs together and those assisting in conducting them did a real bang up job!

Candidate classes are progressing nicely with final evaluations scheduled a little later in the season. Out of these classes, a whole new crop of patrollers will have been grown.

The Senior program appears to be strong this year with twelve candidates scheduled for the various clinics and evaluations that will be held in late January and late February at Wintergreen.

Additionally, several other educational programs will be offered in the coming weeks. They include: Certified Clinic, February 7th & 8th at Massanutten; Avalanche Awareness, March 13th at Wintergreen; and an Instructor Development Course, March 20th at Wintergreen. Please check the calendar for further information on these programs.

"Please join me in congratulating Jay Roberts on his promotion to Director of Mountain Operations at Wintergreen." Jay will be responsible for all recreation operations on the mountain throughout the year, including Ski Operations and Out of Bounds. Also new at Wintergreen is the "Magic Carpet" people mover in their tubing park. It's a pretty neat way to get folks back up the hill safely.

In closing, I am saddened to have to report the loss of a patroller at Massanutten. Edward Luke Covington, 61, of Old Church, Virginia, passed away January 1, 2004, while skiing at Massanutten, where he was a 25 year member of the Massanutten Ski Patrol. Ed retired from active patrolling in 1999 and was currently an alumni member, patrol historian and ski ambassador. He was an original member of the Massanutten ski patrol and recipient of the Purple Merit Star. Ed is survived by his wife of 34 years, Barbara B. Covington; his daughter, Ashley B. Covington. He was a pilot, who built his own plane, in which he set two world speed records. He was a member of the Experimental Airplane Association and worked with the Young Eagles Program and the Civil Air Patrol. A graduate of Castle Heights Military Academy and The Citadel, he served as an officer in the U.S. Army, before he began his career in the commercial construction business. He was an avid woodworker. A native of Bowling Green, Kentucky, Mr. Covington was a lifelong Episcopalian. He was a great friend who will be missed by all.



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Jan Starr, ADD for North Area, looks on as Homestead patrollers apply a traction splint.



West Virginia Region

Jon Dragan, West Virginia Region Director



The early snow enabled all of the West Virginia ski areas to get a good base and with the aid of snowmaking all areas now have all their slopes and trails open.

Timberline resort has added snowmaking to Off The Wall and extra culverts to many trails to help minimize washouts. They have also replaced the main drive on the triple lift as well as adding triple chairs to the Silver Queen Lift. There was some general remodeling of the main lodge and all the terrain is open. A major effort was made to replace all the doors, power wash inside and out of the warming hut at the top of the mountain. Once completed the entire inside was painted and the deck was sealed for the

upcoming season—a great team effort on the part of the patrol.

Timberline Ski Patrol finished their Outdoor Emergency Care class on the December 8, just in time for the first snow. They had eight candidates pass the OEC course and these folks are currently learning on-the-hill patroller skills. From opening day on December 12 through December 25 Timberline had 50 inches of natural snow. Scott Young has cleared some areas for great new glade skiing.

Snowshoe-Silvercreek is happy to say that the Snowshoe Health Center is now under the direction of their patrol manager, Rick Sharp, thus providing better care to the guests. They have also expanded some of the core trails around the habitat of the flying squirrels and salamanders. In so doing, the resort has come up with ten acres of additional terrain bringing the total skiable acres to 234.

The resort has been busy over the summer adding snowmaking equipment to the mountain. Management is happy to report that they now have 100 % snowmaking on the mountain. The terrain park is new and improved on Spruce Glades and features the most rails in the region. The patrol has reinstated their Junior Patroller program and look for good things to come of this move. It's the beginning of the year and the Snowshoe Patrol has already set a record, they will have Five—count 'em, five—new patrollers entering the certified program this year, a record for the patrol, congratulations. And the winner of the “all the slopes open before the Christmas holiday” award goes to Silvercreek, the only resort to have all its slopes open before Santa Day!



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Scott Young, “Patient” Jack Harding, Nicole Dodge at the Timberline OEC Refresher.



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The "Free Heel" clinic was held at Winterplace on January 4. About half the class members were first time free heelers. "A flopping good time was had by all"

Winterplace resort has had a very busy fall and early winter schedule. Over the summer many of the patrol OEC instructors assisted Bud Frantz in conducting an OEC class for the river community and the patrol now has several instructors who teach in both venues. An OEC class was held prior to the season under the direction of Nadine and Walter Watson with the assistance of many of the instructors not only from the patrol, but also the river community. Those persons successfully completing the class were: Kellie Brown, Adam Carrico, Isaac Colvard, Josh Radcliffe, Seth Radcliffe, Eli Shleser, Brett Skaggs, Logan Skidmore, and Chris Snuffer. In addition to the rigors of the class, their lead instructor also requires additional hours of on the slope training prior to their signing on with the patrol. The really big news, in addition to Winterplace now having 100% snowmaking over the entire mountain, is the signing of Patrol Representative Tom Wagner as the new Assistant Patrol Director. He will be taking over some of the duties from overworked patrol Director Brian "The Squirrel" Hager. The new lead toboggan instructor, Scott Hill, has been busy working with all the new candidates and helping them improve their sled handling skills. The Instructor Development Course under the leadership of Jorge McMurray was well attended by all the resorts; as was Tom Wagner's Telemark Clinic in early January.

It has been a very busy time for all getting ready for the season, but now that the snow is here it's time to enjoy the slopes. Keep thinking snow.



Blue Ridge Region



Mike Harris, Blue Ridge Region Director

The Blue Ridge Region was chomping at the bit to open this year. Sugar Mountain was open to three-quarters with excellent conditions on November 15 and 16. Then THE FLOODS came! Appalachian opened as usual with their "first day free" on November 26, the day before Thanksgiving. Sugar Mountain reopened to the top with night skiing on November 29.

Beech Mountain and Hawksnest opened to the top on December 5th. We have been fortunate to have excellent early season conditions. I hope the January thaw we had the first week will be the last we see until spring.

All four of our areas have a healthy crop of candidates and the largest number of patrollers involved in the Senior program that we have had in years.

On December 23, Larry Fleming, Instructor of Record, with help from Flynn Harris, Tommy Taylor, and myself had an excellent experience teaching NSP's Outdoor First Care to twelve individuals from Sugar Mountain including all levels of management and racing coaches. Not only was it a good learning experience, but the interaction with such a terrific group of people made us all feel a little closer.



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Mike Harris presented a Certificate of appreciation to Gil Adams for job well done as Division Professional Director and a National Appointment to Rick Laws at the Carolina Highlands Refresher—home of the Division's most readable name tags.



The Blue Ridge Senior Clinic was held at Beech on January 6.

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Let me close by stressing the importance of attending the Spring Convention and Awards Banquet in May which is being held in Boone at the Broyhill Center. Come be a part of the congratulations to your fellow patrollers as they are awarded Patrol of the Year, Patrollers of the Year, and many other awards. Come visit the Saturday meeting at your leisure and see how The Southern Division's business is done.

P.S. Don't forget that on April 14 Powderfall will be held at Snowbird, Utah again this year. For more information and registration materials go to http://www.nsp.org/nsp2002/events_template.asp.



Deep South Region

Sylvia Talley, Deep South Region Director

They were all smiling—it was snowing. For the past eight years, there had been little or no snow in the Great Smokies; but now, there was promise of a good Nordic season for these members of the Smoky Mountain Nordic Patrol. During this meeting on January 10 to renew their agreement for volunteer services to the National Park Service, I learned some interesting things about this remarkable patrol. To my dismay, I missed the tour of the park’s new Search and Rescue vehicle...black ice near Cosby made for a challenging trip. Since their formation some 27 years ago, the patrol has enjoyed a working relationship with the National Park

Service. Remember the winter of 1987? The snow was some eighteen feet deep then at Newfound Gap (elevation 5000 feet). Six years later the blizzard of '93 buried the well-known shelter at Tri-Corner Knob.

On Sunday, February 12, 1995, members of the Smoky Mountain Nordic Patrol participated in the grim task of carrying out the body of a pilot whose plane had crashed the day before in the backcountry of the Smokies. Some of the patrollers had known this pilot. This was one of the search and rescue missions related to this patroller by George Minnich, Back County Management Specialist for the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

In other news from the Deep South Region, we now have three Mountain Travel and Rescue instructors—two of them are Instructor Trainers. In our efforts to revive the Mountain Travel and Rescue (MTR) program, we will hold either an MTR I or MTR Awareness (undecided as we go the press) on the weekend of March 6-7, and an MTR II on March 12-14. Contact Don Jones (dwjones@edge.net), Smoky Mountain Nordic Patrol Representative, or Sylvia Talley (snowmedic@mindspring.com) for further information.



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Smoky Mountain Nordic with the new SAR vehicle provided by The Friends of the Smokies. L to R Jim Reed, Sylvia Talley, Linda Pace, Patty Johnson, Debbie Meacham, Andy Meacham, Don Jones, Clayton Minchew, and Park Ranger Dale Culver.



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135 Years Young. Cloudmont patrollers with their recently awarded Service Recognition Certificates. John Newton (35 years), Dick Rhoades (35 years), Bob Palik (35 years), Loren Gross (30 years). Please, Sonny, no geriatric jokes.

The building boom for this season is finished, and Cloudmont will dedicate their new patrol hut in memory of the late Bo Stokes of their patrol [[See article on page 13](#)].

Sky Valley is putting the finishing touches on the “Polhemus Palace”, their summit hut that was designed by Chris Polhemus. Chris is Sky’s newest Senior patroller.

Lastly, the Region’s candidate training program is progressing smoothly, thanks to the hard work of Brent Bowman, Deep South ARD and Gordon Pettit. Both patrollers are Level I PSIA instructors. Brent is also an S&T instructor, as well as Senior Examiner.

Great things are coming out of this southern-most region in Southern Division. Watch for further news in the spring.





Smoky Mountain Region

Richard Boyer, Smoky Mountain Region Director

STEP UP: The season has started off with a bang. All three of our areas were open for skiing soon after Thanksgiving and all have received quite a supply of natural snow as well as the more common machine-made type. Crowds are strong and it looks as if we will have a banner year in the Smoky Mountain Region.

I would like to thank each of you patrollers for participating in the National Ski Patrol and challenge you to find the time to grow your skills and capabilities to another level. If you are a basic patroller, why not begin the Senior program and start toward that goal? If you already are a Senior, look into starting the Certified program. One doesn't have to do it all in one season, but begin. Why? To hone your skills and improve your ability to handle the things which may come up in our skiing activities. I can assure you that it will result in your becoming a better first responder. You will become more capable of handling anything that comes your way and the comfort of that knowledge is priceless.

Another challenge I'd like to throw your way is identifying an area of our patrol lives in which you can become involved and make it a better organization. We have a need for folks to step up and become more involved in the leadership side. Step up and become a patrol representative, an assistant patrol representative, take on candidate training, or learn what is involved in being a good team leader. Bring along the young blood of our patrol and support their growth in becoming the personnel infrastructure for tomorrow. Always be on the hunt for new people interested in joining us. The more of us who **STEP UP** and encourage our fellow patrollers to do the same, the more good things will result for all our patrols and the people we are helping.

I am very proud of our Smoky Mountain Region. As I get to know more of you in each ski area, I am further impressed with what a special group of help-minded people are participating in National Ski Patrol. Thank you for doing the great job you do!

From the Supervisors and Advisors...



Update From The ISSS

Ian Archibald, Southern Division Medical Advisor

The International Society of Skiing Safety (ISSS) was founded as a result of the first world congress on skiing safety held in Sweden 1974. The next meeting didn't occur till 1977 but has been held biennially ever since at a variety of locations throughout the world. The purpose of the congress and the ISSS is to bring together a wide variety of individuals interested in all aspects of skiing safety and more recently all snow sports. Attendees include representatives of the skiing industry (binding, boot and ski manufacturers), engineers, skiing professionals including instructors, patrollers, physicians and ski area managers. The American Society of Testing Materials (ASTM) International publish a selection of the papers following the meeting and have become an excellent source of information for those interested in skiing safety. The most recent volume (vol. 14) reviews the highlights of the 2001 meeting held in Queenstown, New Zealand, and has just been published. The following is a summary of the information published in Vol 14.

Yamagish et al published their findings on pressure distributions inside the ski boot comparing shaped vs. conventional skis. They found that using race-experienced skiers, the pressure exerted inside the ski boot during turns was centered more rearward in the boot using shaped skis compared to conventional skis. A number of investigations have already reported an increase in injuries especially around the knee when comparing shaped skis to conventional. Yamagish, et al believe these findings help explain the mechanism by which these injuries occur. With more pressure on the rear of the ski, the inside of ski edge may catch, increasing the risk of a phantom foot type injury at the knee resulting in anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) injuries.

Semner et al reported on the potential that release bindings on skiboards may help in preventing injuries. Skiboards are defined as skis between 70-130 cm in length. The average age of skiboard users is 21. Use of these boards for stunts and aerial maneuvers is increasing. Studies already show a return of the old boot top tibia fibular fracture with skiboards using fixed bindings. They felt that a twist release toe piece would be necessary to protect

against spiral fractures. Heel piece design would be more difficult as the release point would need to be much lower than current heel pieces in use on conventional length skis. Therefore a new heel design will be needed.

Shealy et al reviewed the evolution and current status of binding function and their relationship to skiing injuries. Current release systems are intended to reduce tibia fractures. They are not designed to prevent knee injury. Lower release values might increase injuries of all types due to increase of inadvertent releases. The only proven method for ACL injury prevention is the “ACL Awareness Program”, or use of a shorter length ski. In the companion article by the same authors “Where do we go from here?” they criticize the current design of alpine equipment and challenge the manufacturing companies to explore new technologies to focus on ACL protection by taking into account the known mechanism of ACL injury—the Phantom Foot mechanism. True ACL protection will require a system that responds by degrading the performance of the support and control system so that the skier is forced to correct the technical error or if all else fails, releases the bindings.



Southern Pride

John Dobson, Southern Division Awards Coordinator

Last fall, many of our patrollers were again recognized for their outstanding ski patrol achievements and their dedicated service to the skiing public. Some were acknowledged at the Division Fall Officer’s Meeting in August, while others were identified at their local refreshers.

The Southern Division once more was honored to present the two highest awards the National Ski Patrol bestows.

On the evening of January 20, 2003, a young female skier was involved in a severe, high-speed collision accident at Wintergreen Resort, Virginia. The first-on Wintergreen ski patroller was at the injured skier’s side within seconds following the impact. He found the young woman lying supine, unresponsive, and apneic—but with a pulse. The patroller immediately stabilized the skier’s head, opened her airway with a jaw-thrust maneuver, and inserted an oral airway. He radioed for a spineboard, O2, suction, and a toboggan, alerted ALS, and asked for the local transport helicopter to be summoned! He then quickly opened his pocket mask, and began mouth to mask resuscitation.

Within 2 minutes, the second-on Wintergreen patroller, had skied a toboggan from the top of the hill to the accident scene. He quickly retrieved the bag-valve-mask (BVM) from the O2 pack, gave it to the first-on patroller, and then attached the BVM to the O2 cylinder at 15 liters/minute. By this time, other Wintergreen patrollers had arrived on scene. A spineboard was readied, and with good spinal immobilization technique, the patient was logrolled onto the board. Spider straps, a cervical collar and the CID were quickly applied, while rescue breathing was continued. The young woman was placed in the Wintergreen “outrigger trauma sled” and pulled up the mountain 150 yards by snowmobile, with the second-on patroller kneeling in the sled continuing BVM resuscitation. She was then transferred to an ambulance waiting on the edge of the slope. The total elapsed time from the moment of the accident till the patient was in the ambulance clocked less than 7 minutes! While in route to the resort helicopter-landing zone, “rapid sequence intubation” was carried out on the patient by the responding paramedics. The girl was flown to the University of Virginia Hospital in Charlottesville.

Upon admission to the UVA Emergency Department, the skier was found to have suffered a severe closed traumatic brain injury, bilateral hemopneumothoracies with multiple rib fractures and a flail chest, a fractured proximal left humerus and left olecranon, an intra-articular left knee laceration, and a comminuted pelvic fracture (which required emergent surgery to control an arterial bleeder and 15 units of blood)! Chest tubes were inserted bilaterally and the patient maintained on a respirator. Post-op, the patient continued unresponsive. Thirty-six hours after the accident, because of rapidly increasing intracranial pressure, the young girl was again emergently returned to the operating room, where an extensive bi-frontal brain decompression was carried out. Subsequent to her neurological surgery, the skier’s condition stabilized and continued to improve almost daily. Chest tubes were removed and she was weaned from the respirator. She began moving all four extremities, and eventually began responding to verbal commands. The frontal skull defect created at the time of brain decompression was repaired. At one-month post injury, the young woman was transferred to a rehabilitation unit where progressive although not complete recovery was anticipated. Indeed, upon discharge from the rehab unit several weeks later, the young woman was able to walk out with assistance!

There is no question that the immediate, competent emergency care provided by the two Wintergreen patrollers saved this young skier's life. Also, their prompt airway management and resuscitation undoubtedly lessened the severity of her neurologic injury, thereby improving her chance for meaningful recovery.

It was with great pride and admiration that a **Purple Merit Star** was presented to **Brett Henyon** and a **Blue Merit Star** presented to **Drew Knick** in recognition and acknowledgement of the prompt life-saving emergency care treatment rendered by them on January 20, 2003, at Wintergreen Resort, Virginia.

Another merit star was presented this fall:

The award recipient has been the Legal Advisor for Southern Division since 1995. In this position, she has done an excellent job attending all Division meetings and reporting on areas of concern from the National and Division perspectives. She has advised officers and patrollers how to manage risk and to reduce exposure to liability. She has written numerous articles on these topics for our Division newsletter, and she has attended the National Legal Committee meeting.

In 1997, the Southern Division Bylaws were reviewed by this individual and completely overhauled! Since September 2002, she has reviewed our Bylaws once again, and suggested numerous revisions in light of the change in the NSP National Board structure. She has also created a new Division Election procedure to be incorporated in our revised Bylaws.

Over the past several years, this patroller has fulfilled numerous requests for legal advice from her division director. These have included a review of allegations of Code of Conduct violations, requests to remove officers from region positions (with insinuations of legal action if not done), and requests to review ownership of patrol property at ski areas that ceased operation or were sold. She has created waivers for patrol training to be used in five different states. She helped create an Assumption of Risk document for the Commonwealth of Virginia, and has worked with patrollers in West Virginia to help produce a bill in granting Good Samaritan status to patrollers with OEC training in good standing. She has recruited a committee of attorney patrollers in the Southern Division to act as consultants on issues occurring in States outside her home of North Carolina.

The Southern Division was delighted to present a **Yellow Merit Star** to Sugar Mountain's **Christy Myatt** for her continuing hard work and dedication as our Division Legal Advisor!

There was great sadness and an incredible feeling of loss, and also a tremendous sensation of pride, as a posthumous award was presented at the Snowshoe Refresher:

The recipient of this award was killed in a motorcycle accident on his way to work at Snowshoe Mountain Resort on July 19, 2003. He was an Assistant Manager of the Snowshoe Patrol, having been a member since 1982. He was a lifetime NSP Certified Patroller (#344), and very active in the administration of all aspects of this program. This patroller was a Toboggan Instructor and Instructor Trainer for the disciplines of skiing and toboggan, and for many years was involved in the training of new patrol candidates. He was extremely active in skier safety and guest services. His knowledge, experience and friendship of 20 years will be greatly missed by the entire Snowshoe Patrol.

The National Ski Patrol awarded the NSP **Distinguished Service Award** to the family of **Brad Short**, in recognition for 20 years of dedicated service to the Snowshoe Patrol, the West Virginia Region, and the Southern Division Certified Program!

Rob Armstrong of Wintergreen, the Southern Division 2003 Outstanding Student Patroller, was presented a **Silver Merit Star** as the **Runner-Up Outstanding Student Patroller in the Nation** at the NSP Annual Meeting in June! Other Southern Division 2003 Outstanding Patroller winners recognized at that meeting with a **Yellow Merit Star** include:

T Harris, Wintergreen—Outstanding Alpine Patroller

Larry Bost, Hawksnest—Outstanding Patrol Director

Morgan Armstrong, Wintergreen—Outstanding Instructor

Theresa Varner, Hawksnest—Outstanding Auxiliary Patroller

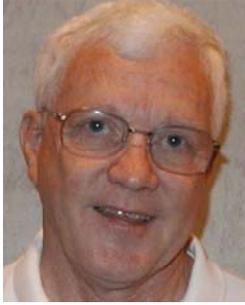
Dennis Slagle, Ober-Gatlinburg—Outstanding Administrative Patroller

The **Hawksnest Patrol** was presented a **Unit Citation** at the same meeting for being selected as the 2003 Outstanding Large Alpine Patrol in the Southern Division.

By the time you read this article, we will already be into our 2004 Division awards process. **New This Year:** every runner-up for a division outstanding award, and every nominee submitted for a division outstanding award, will be recognized at the Spring Officer's Meeting!

As I said at the end of my note in June, all of us should be involved in the awards process. Let's thank our fellow patrollers and demonstrate a true appreciation for a job well done, by participating in this important division program. Its amazing how good *Southern Pride* can make each of us feel!





Senior Program Evaluation Project

Bill Smith, Project Coordinator

As everyone is aware, the Division is taking a look at three major initiatives this first year of the new Division Director's term. The one I have been assigned is the Senior Program Evaluation. This article will serve to provide a brief update on that important project.

This study and plan is being conducted internally by the Southern Division. It is designed to take a look at where we are, where we need or want to go with the Senior Program and how we will get there.

The study team consists of personnel representing all facets of the Division who are presently serving as Senior Program Coordinators for their respective regions. The team members bring with them a significant amount of training, experience and expertise and are representative of all five regions of the Division. They include: Michael Fletcher, Blue Ridge; Chris Brecher, Deep South; Ben Ray, Smoky Mountain; Dave Quidort, Virginia; Bud Frantz, West Virginia; and myself, the Virginia Region Director serving as the Coordinator.

The methodologies used to collect information and formulate positions and recommendations will include:

- A literature review
- Personal interviews with Basic patrollers, Senior patrollers, other Divisions
- An examination of other program models

The primary goal of this project is to develop a unified senior program that all regions of the Division can follow when creating senior patrollers. The secondary goal is to provide Senior Coordinators, both old and new, a basic guideline on how to run a Senior Program within their region.

To date we have begun to conduct some of the initial research and interviews. Over the next several weeks and months it is anticipated that we should be able to finish up the research portion of the project and formulate some conclusions and recommendations for the Division's Executive Officers to examine. Furthermore, it is anticipated that we will have a final product for use in the Division by the Fall Officer's Meeting.

If any of you out there have thoughts and ideas that you would like to see incorporated into this project/program, please do not hesitate to contact me or one of the team members to share your thoughts and idea's. You can reach me by e-mail at skibill@widowmaker.com or by telephone at 757-851-1581.



Goshawk at Hawksnest—After the snow, before the opening. Photo by Rob Raff

[Click to view Photo Album](#)

New Patrol Building at Cloudmont

Loren Gross, Cloudmont Patrol



The back page of the Spring 2000 Southern Cross featured a photo of the ski patrol trailer at the Cloudmont Ski Area. While the trailer was unique and unusual, it certainly was not the best of ski patrol facilities. If you saw the photo your reaction was probably, “Those folks sure need a new patrol

building.” The patrol at Cloudmont had long agreed and had talked on several occasions with the area owner on getting a new building. Finally, this past summer we appointed John Newton, a smooth talking patrol member, to approach the area owner with a proposition: “If you supply the materials, the patrol will erect a new patrol building.” Our offer was accepted!

On August 29 the patrol members gathered at the ski area and found a bare spot on the ground where the patrol trailer had formerly been parked. During a meeting that day, Gary Jones, the area owner and the patrol agreed upon a design that addressed the numerous deficiencies of the old patrol trailer, the patrol’s requirements and area management’s facility and cost concerns. The new two-bed facility would have adequate floor space, easy building access and good overhead lighting. After agreeing on the design we chose Dick Rhoades to be our construction leader and we started working. We then continued to work one day each weekend through mid December, with the OEC refresher being our sole weekend off. On average about four patrollers showed up for each work day. Each of our seven patrol members put in at least five days.

On December 13, we declared construction complete, and made final preparations for the upcoming ski season. While there are a number of things that we still want to do (painting the trim, soffits, cabinetry, finish the plumbing), we now have a patrol building that meets our needs. As befits a structure designed and built by seven engineers, the somewhat rustic building is short on aesthetics but structurally and functionally sound. And the patrol agrees that working as a team to build our own building has given us a sense of pride that far surpasses mere replacement of the old patrol trailer.

Later this season it is our plan to dedicate the building as a memorial to B. B. “Bo” Stokes, our friend, and former patrol representative, and long time NSP member who passed away several years ago in an automobile accident.

The way we were (for decades), a work in progress and the New Chateau Cloudmont. Workers shown: Loren Gross, Dick Rhoades and Brent Montgomery. Workers not shown: John Newton, Bob Palik, Dick Schock, Bob Weed and former Cloudmont Patroller Steve Newton.



[Click to view Photo Album](#)



**SOUTHERN DIVISION NSP
SPRING OFFICERS MEETING**

May 14 & 15, 2004

Broyhill Inn & Conference Center Boone, NC

www.broyhillinn.com

HOTEL REGISTRATION INFORMATION



This year's Spring Officers Meeting and Awards Banquet will be held at the Broyhill Inn and Conference Center in Boone, North Carolina. This meeting is the wrap-up for the 2003-2004 ski season. It is a time to simply relax and finalize the events of the season, do some pre-planning for next year, but most importantly, to recognize and award members of the Southern Division for their contributions to the National Ski Patrol system and the fine ski areas that we represent.

This meeting is open to all members of the Division, including spouses and friends. Please get in touch with alumni members and ask them to attend the meeting also. Come see how the Division operates and enjoy the day and evening with your friends. For those individuals that do not need to attend the General Session, there is the spectacular Grandfather Mountain with hiking trails, animal exhibits and the famous swinging bridge. In addition, there is outlet shopping, golf, horseback riding and walking around the pretty village of Blowing Rock just down the road. There are plenty of activities to keep everyone busy!

The Resort is located just off of Highway 321 at 775 Bodenheimer Drive, Boone, NC 28607. The toll free number for reservations is 1-800-951-6048. The special NSP room rate is \$99 per night. Rooms have either two double beds or one King bed. Make your reservations early to ensure that space is available. Be sure to mention you are attending the National Ski Patrol meeting for the discounted rate.

For those who arrive on Friday, the Hospitality Suite will open at 7PM and close at midnight on Saturday. On Saturday, it will be open from the conclusion of the General Session until the banquet begins at 7 PM, reopens after the banquet and lasts until the host closes the door!

Lunch will be available on Saturday afternoon for \$11.50 and includes tax and tip. You will have a broad selection of items from the restaurant menu. Please note on the registration form if you will join us for lunch.

The Banquet is sure to be a hit with everyone. A North Carolina Barbecue is planned with steak, chicken and Eastern NC-style pork along with all of the fix'ns. Music (and dancing for the bravest) will accompany the great food and festivities. Make sure to register early. We look forward to seeing you there!

MEETING AND AWARDS BANQUET RESERVATION FORM

Meeting Badge Information:	
Name(s): _____	Email address (if not on file) _____
Address: _____	City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Patrol: _____	Title: _____
Luncheon - Saturday afternoon	
Total in Party: _____	X \$11.50 = \$ _____
Awards Banquet Information - Saturday night	
Names of Additional Persons in Party:	
Name: _____	Title: _____ Patrol: _____
Name: _____	Title: _____ Patrol: _____
Total in Party: _____	X \$27 = \$ _____ TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Mail completed form and check (made out to "Southern Division SOM") to:

**Rob Raff
4201 Vineland Rd I-1
Orlando, FL 32811**

RESERVATION FEES MUST BE RECEIVED BY APRIL 15, 2004

****ALL FEES ARE NONREFUNDABLE AFTER APRIL 20, 2004****

Southern Division Officers and Staff Directory (2003-2004)

(Material in this roster represents information available at press time. Updates prior to the next issue of Southern Cross will be posted on line at www.nsp.org/divisions/southern/)

Executive Committee

Division Director

Neil Booth (Shelley) (03)
4769 Brent Court
Mableton, GA 30126-1446
(H/O) 770-941-4268
(F) 770-941-4268
neil.booth@comcast.net

Past Division Director

Nici Singletary (John) (03)
Rt. 1 Box 525
Roseland VA 22967
(H) 434-325-1024
(O/F) 434-325-2228
NiciEMS@aol.com

1st Asst Div Director-Administrative

Morgan Armstrong (Jo Ann) (03)
P.O. Box 699
Collinsville, VA 24078-0699
(H) 276-629-1654
(O) 276-634-4815/ Fax-4825
RMASP@Adelphia.net

OEC Supervisor (99)

Judi Kay-Monaghan
5966 Norham Drive
Alexandria VA 22315
(H) 703-971-7841
(O) 703-915-2454
(C) 703-472-0094
JKAYMONAGHAN@aol.com

Asst. Division Director-South Area

Dennis Slagle (Karen) (03)
304 Dogwood Drive
Creedmoor, NC 27522
(H) 919-528-9279
(O) 919-479-7239
dslagle2@nc.rr.com

Blue Ridge Region Director

Mike Harris (03)
2357 Keith Ave
Granite Falls, NC 28630
(H) 828-396-2475
(W) 828-322-1050
mrharris@charter.net

Deep South Region Director

Sylvia Talley (Doug) (03)
5534 Woodberry Circle
Marietta, GA 30068
(H) 770-552-8968
(C) 770-757-2129
snowmedic@mindspring.com

Smoky Mountain Region Director

Richard Boyer (Joan) (03)
c/oBridgewater Management
4559 Collins Ave.
Acworth, GA 30101
(H/F) 770-975-5875
(W) 678-352-1900
(C) 770-364-0187
rboyer@bellsouth.net

Asst. Division Director-North Area

Jan Starr (03)
P.O. Box 197
Snowshoe, WV 26209
(H) 304-572-2103
(O) 304-572-5695/6713
middleviewfarm@onlinewv.com

Virginia Region Director

William C. Smith (03)
6 Long Bridge Rd.
Hampton, VA 23669-2019
(H) 757-851-1581
(W) 757-810-1690
skibill@widomaker.com

W. Virginia Region Director

Jon Dragan (03)
#1 Riverfront St.
Thurmond, WV 25936
(W) 304-465-5877
(W) 304-251-2580
jaddi@earthlink.net

Secretary

Joan Boyer (Richard) (03)
4559 Collins Ave.
Acworth, GA 30101
(H) 770-975-5875
(O) 770-590-4524
(C) 770-364-0188
mimijoan@bellsouth.net

Treasurer

Jim Underwood (Mary)
109 Wildwood Drive
Oak Ridge TN 37830
(H) 865-483-3675
jnu@icx.net

Professional Director (03)

Bartek Drewnowski
903 Roxbury Rd
Richmond VA 23226
(H) 804-281-7255
(O) 540-289-4925
(F) 540-289-6414
snowinfo@massresort.com

Program Supervisors

Alumni/Membership Supvr (99)

Charlie Benbow
3728 Sagamore Drive
Greensboro, NC 27410
(H) 336-668-2281
(O) 336-370-4184

Archivist/Historian Supvr (01)

Janette Bennett (Darren)
HC 70 Box 570
Davis, WV 26260
(H) 304-866-4925
(W) 304-463-4739
janette.bennett@canaanvi.org

Avalanche Supervisor (03)

Mike Fisher
6865 Heards Mountain Road
Covesville, VA 22931
(O) 434-296-8485
(C) 434-989-0778
heardmtn99@aol.com

Awards Supervisor (03)

John Dobson
Rt. 1 Box 525
Roseland VA 22967
(H) 434-325-1024
(O/F) 434-325-2228
JDobson4@aol.com

Certified Supervisor(02)

Leslie Carter
Rt. 1, Box 503
Roseland, VA 22967
(H) 434-325-1262
(O) 434-295-4463
CARTRPLMBG@aol.com

Election Coordinator (02)

Lee T. Wittmann
ORIX Financial Services, Inc.
104 Rainbow's End
Beech Mountain, NC 28604
(H) 828-387-9722
(W) 828-387-3505
(C) 828-260-0060
(F) 828-387-3506
lwittmann@orixfin.com

Communications Supvr(86)

Richard Woodlee (Jane)
P.O. Box 208
187 Green Haven Lane
Mountain Home NC 28758
(H) 828-693-1554
N4FAT@juno.com

Instructor Development Supvr (03)

Morgan Armstrong (Jo Ann)
P.O. Box 699
Collinsville, VA 24078-0699
(H) 276-629-1654
(O) 276-634-4815/ Fax-4825
RMASP@Adelphia.net

Internet Communications Supvr (00)

Steve Cortelyou (02)
3002 Millstream Lane
Knoxville TN 37931
(H) 865-414-6134
(O) 865-574-7665
SGCortelyou@comcast.net

Legal Advisor (95)

Christine Myatt
P.O. 3463
Greensboro NC 27402
(O) 336-373-1600
cmyatt@adamskleemeier.com

Medical Advisor (01)

Ian Archibald, MD
856 Palace Blvd
Clifton Forge VA 24422
(H) 540-862-5878
SKIINIAN@aol.com

Mountain Travel and Rescue (03)

Bob Chatman
2450 Yarmouth Lane
Crofton, MD 21114
(H) 410-721-0921
(O) 301-272-8266
bob_chatman@hotmail.com

Program Supervisors (continued)

Nordic Supervisor(00)

Penny Dimler
4824 Ponderosa Dr.
Annandale, VA 22003
(H) 703-425-2736
Penny01@cox.net

OEC Supervisor (99)

Judi Kay-Monaghan
5966 Norham Drive
Alexandria VA 22315
(H) 703-971-7841
(C) 703-472-0094
(W) 703-915-2454
JKAYMONAGHAN@aol.com

Patroller Enrichment Supervisor

Mary Underwood (Jim)
109 Wildwood Drive
Oak Ridge TN 37830
(H) 865-483-3675
(O) 865-425-9501
jnu@icx.net

PSIA Ski Proficiency Supvr (03)

Ron Clyde
P.O. Box 1171
Simpsonville, SC 29681
(H) 864-322-0877
(O) 864-967-1127
(C) 864-979-8852
Ronald.G.Clyde@sealedair.com

Snowboard Supervisor (99)

Clark Bell
73 Onteora Blvd.
Asheville NC 28803
(H) 828-274-3831
2ndarymodern@charter.net

Southern Cross (01)

Bob Weed
2609 Willena Dr
Huntsville, AL 35803
(H) 256-882-9604
(W) 256-864-8616
SCEditor@comcast.net

Student Patroller (99)

T and Peggy Harris
4242 Arrowhead Road
Richmond VA 23235
(H) 804-320-1901
TandPeg@netzero.net

Transportation(Tobog)Supvr (98)

Tim Asbury
223 Stonebrook Dr.
Hendersonville NC 28791
(H) 828-697-6188
(O) 828-696-4646 / (F)-4645
Timasbury@excite.com

West Virginia Region

W. Virginia Region Director

Jon Dragan (03)
#1 Riverfront St.
Thurmond, WV 25936
(W) 304-469-2589 or
(W) 304-251-2580
jaddj@earthlink.net

Asst. WV Region Director (03)

Scott Frankhauser
3228 Dunster Ct.
Fairfax, Va. 22030
(H) 703-591-5614
(O) 703-556-6500
sfrankhauser@newbostonfund.com

Instructor Development (03)

Greg Rash
9300 Springbrooke Circle.
Louisville, KY 40241
(H) 502-423-0261
(O) 502-263-3323
greg.rash@insightbb.com

Chief Examiner

David Cline
269 S. 12th Street
Weirton WV 26062
(H) 304-748-0336
dccline@weir.net

Senior Coordinator (03)

Bud Frantz
P.O. Box 54
Lansing, WV 25862
(H) 304-574-3768
(O) 304-574-0704

Snowshoe (PR/PD)

Rick Sharp
P.O. Box 10
Snowshoe, WV 26209
(O) 304-572-5695
rsharp@snowshoemtn.com

The New Winterplace (PR)

Tom Wagner
P.O. Box 1065
Oak Hill, WV 25901
(H) 304-469-8039
(O) 304-787-3221
wagnertew@earthlink.net

The New Winterplace (PD)

Brian "Squirrel" Hagar
Box 1
Flat Top, WV 25841
(O) 304-787-3221 x 129

Timberline (PR)

Steve Cvechko, Jr.
104 Poplar Point Estates,
Poca, WV 25159
(O) 304-772-4939
(H) 304-776-8540
cvechkols@charter.net

Timberline (PD)

Scott Young
HC-70, Box 180
Davis, WV 26260
(O) 800-766-9464
skipatrol@timberlineresort.com

Blackwater Nordic

Brad Moore
PO Box 44
Thomas WV 26292
(H) 304-463-4401

West Virginia OEC Administrator

Joe McNeer (Jinx)
13110 Memory Lane
Fairfax VA 22033
(H) 703-378-3715
(O) 202-232-6261
jmcneer@SynergyInc.com

Virginia Region

Virginia Region Director
William C. Smith (03)
6 Long Bridge Rd.
Hampton, VA 23669-2019
(H) 757-851-1581
(W) 757-851-1581
skibill@widomaker.com

Asst. VA. Region Director (03)

T. Harris
4242 Arrowhead Road
Richmond, VA 23235
(H) 804-320-1901
tandpeg@netzero.net

Instructor Development (03)

Kenn Buckner
110 Gorecki Place
Cary, NC 27609
(H) 919-460-0651
(W) 919-873-9333
kenn@seriousrobots.com

SR S&T Coord./Div,Ski School Dir.

John Shaffer
5945 Woodfield Estates Dr
Alexandria VA 22310
(H) 703-719-5945
John.Shaffer@CFSC.ARMY.MIL

Senior Coordinator(03)

Dave Quidort
209 Jerryanne Court
Apex, NC 27523
(H) 919-363-7935
(O) 919-382-2303
Quidort@us.ibm.com

Homestead (PR)

Jerry Taylor (Debbie)
312 Evans Lane
Clifton Forge, VA 24422
(H) 540-863-9229
(W) 540-969-5773
jeraytaylr@aol.com

Homestead (PD)

Jeff Kelly
HC 82, Box 118
Marlington, WV 24954
(O) 540-839-7781

Wintergreen (PR)

Ed Pouncey
5107 Winding Woods Dr.
Centerville, VA 20120-4110
(H) 703-266-2943
Ed.Pouncey@fairfaxcounty.gov

Wintergreen (PD)

Tucker Crolius
Wintergreen Resort
Wintergreen VA 22958
(O) 434-325-8060
(C) 434-882-0190
Terolius@aol.com

Massanutten (PR)

OPEN

Massanutten (PD)

Bartek Drewnowski
903 Roxbury Road
Richmond, VA 23226
(H) 804-281-7255
(O) 540-289-4925
(F) 540-289-6414
snowinfo@massresort.com

Bryce (PR)

Nancy DiBenedetto
6804 Murray Lane
Annandale, VA 22003
(H) 703-354-3443
(W) 202-877-1423
nancy.m.dibenedetto@medstar.net

Bryce (PD)

Bob Mecaughy
P.O. Box 365
Basye, VA 22810
(H) 540-856-8420
bobmec@shentel.net

Virginia OEC Administrator

John Shaffer
5945 Woodfield Estates Dr
Alexandria VA 22310
(H) 703-719-5945
John.Shaffer@CFSC.ARMY.MIL

Blue Ridge Region

Blue Ridge Region Director

Mike Harris (03)
2357 Keith Ave
Granite Falls, NC 28630
(H) 828-396-2475
(W) 828-322-1050
mrharris@charter.net

Senior Coordinator

Michael Fletcher(03)
9803 Forest Run Lane
Charlotte, NC 28277
(H) 704-752-7745
(O) 704-339-0103
mfletcher36@hotmail.com

Ski Hawknest (PR)

Larry Bost (Denise)
2517 Saddlehorse Ln
Gastonia, NC 28056
(H) 704-865-7484
(O) 888-322-2097
NSPNC@aol.com

Blue Ridge OEC Administrator

Lisa Adams (Gil)
P.O. Box 803
Banner Elk, NC 28604
(H) 828-387-2892
(O) 828-963-7500
adamsg@skybest.com

Asst. Blue Ridge Region Director

Hugh Jernigan (03)
531 Oaklawn Ave.
Winston Salem, NC 27104
(H) 336-727-1995
(O) 336-771-4608 x206
hugh.jernigan@ncmail.net

Appalachian Ski Mtn. (PR/PD)

Joe Donadio (Anne)
1359 Old Bristol Road
Boone NC 28607
(H) 828-297-5885
(O) 828-295-6475 / (F) -3277
donadioa@watauga.k12.nc.us

Hawksnest (PD)(03)

Kyle Kitchin
3188 Sugar Mtn #1 Rd
Newland, NC 28657
(H) 828-263-7486
averyjournal@alloveravery.com

Instructor Development

Ann T. Wood (03)
2400 Gracewood Ct.
Greensboro, NC 27408
(H) 336-282-3097
(O) 336-294-4950
anntwood@aol.com

Ski Beech (PR)

Tom Watson
85 Sioux Trail
Greenville, TN 37743
(H) 423-636-1096
(O) 423-636-5638
tom_watson@taylorwhite.com

Sugar Mountain (PR)

Flynn Harris (Jane)
2240 Sedley Road
Charlotte NC 28211
(H) 704-366-5487
(O) 704-523-7465
eflynnh@bellsouth.net

Chief Examiner

Tony Tingle (Carla)(03)
113 Orkney Road
Oak Ridge, TN 37830
(H) 865-220-9456
(O) 865-692-3579
Anthony.Tingle@shawgrp.com

Ski Beech (PD)

Gil Adams (Lisa)
P.O. Box 803
Banner Elk, NC 28604
(H) 828-387-2892
(O) 828-387-2011 x206
SkyBeech@skybest.com

Sugar Mountain (PD)

Dean Lyons (Vicki)
676 Poplar Grove Rd
Boone NC 28211
(H) 828-264-5953
(O) 828-898-4521
velodnovic@boone.net

Smoky Mountain Region

Smoky Mountain Region Director

Richard Boyer (Joan) (03)
c/oBridgewater Management
4559 Collins Ave.
Acworth, GA 30101
(H/F) 770-975-5875
(W) 678-352-1900
(C) 770-364-0187
rhboyer@bellsouth.net

Senior Coordinator

Ben Ray
P.O. Box 553
Micaville, NC 28755
(H) 828-675-0896
(O) 828-675-4101
blray@incklink.net

Ober Gatlinburg (PD)(02)

Brandon Olson
511 Brookhaven Court
Jefferson City, TN 37760
(H) 865-471-5197
(O) 865-621-5911
Bnoswoosh@aol.com

Asst Smoky Mtn Region Director(03)

Lee Wilkinson
24 Elk Mountain Ridge
Asheville, NC 28804
(H) 828-236-3199
(W) 828-250-8748
lwilkinson@bellsouth.net

Cataloochee (PR) ((00)

Steve McCarragher (Lynne)
801 Parkwood Drive
Anderson, SC 29625
(H) 864-226-0019
mac001@charter.net

Wolf Laurel (PR)(03)

Robert Mitchell
P.O. Box 1683
Weaverville, NC 28787
(H) 828-658-0434
(O) 828-658-9133
RobertMTCH@aol.com

Instructor Development (03)

Ken Collins
535 Churchill Ct
Fayetteville, GA 30214
(H) 770-719-0781
(O) 770-306-6860
KCollins@unioncityga.org

Cataloochee (PD)

Wayne Morgan
PO Box 35
Maggie Valley, NC 28751
(H) 828-926-1466
(C) 828-606-5910
papawfwm@bellsouth.net

Wolf Laurel (PD)

Tom Butler
44 Avondale Hts.
Asheville NC 28803
(H) 828-298-8723

Chief Examiner (01)

Phil Critcher
5 Overlook Ct.
Asheville, NC 28803
(H) 828-684-8721
pcritch@excite.com

Ober Gatlinburg (PR)(03)

Armand Mendez
308 Doe Run Blvd
Clinton, TN 37716
(H) 865-806-4012
armand@earthtraverse.ws

Smokey Mtn.OEC Administrator

Larry Erb
93 Southwoods Drive
Weaverville NC 28787
(H) 828-645-4718
(C) 828-273-0874
qcerbla@hotmail.com

Deep South Region

Deep South Region Director

Sylvia Talley (Doug) (03)
5534 Woodberry Circle
Marietta, GA 30068
(H) 770-552-8968
(C) 770-757-2129
snowmedic@mindspring.com

Asst Deep South Region Director (03)

Brent Bowman
2489 Oostanaula Drive NE
Atlanta, Ga. 30319
(H) 404-869-8286
(O) 770-543-0183
brent2489@bellsouth.net

Instructor Development (03)

Ken Collins
535 Churchill Ct
Fayetteville, GA 30214
(H) 770-719-0781
(O) 770-306-6860
KCollins@unioncityga.org

Chief Examiner (01)

Phil Critcher
5 Overlook Ct.
Asheville, NC 28803
(H) 828-684-8721
pcritch@excite.com

Deep South Region (Continued)

Senior Coordinator
Chris Brecher
5360 Point South Drive
Gainesville, GA 30504
(H) 770-297-7940
chrisbrecher@charter.net

Cloudmont (01)
Bob Palik
1306 Hiwan Trail
Huntsville, AL 35802
(H) 256-881-4348
(O) 256-726-6403
rpalik@comcast.net

Sapphire (PR) (99)
Ben Tholkes
P.O. Box 2936
Cullowhee, NC 28723
(H) 828-293-7134
tholkes@WCU.EDU

Sapphire (PD)
Bobby Bryson
P.O. Box 34
Glenville NC 28736

Sky Valley(PR)
Celeste Bernstein
100 Shaker Hollow
Alpharetta, GA 30022
(H) 770-552-2755
celestebernstein@mindspring.com

Smoky Mountain Nordic
Don Jones
1906 Belaire Drive
Tullahoma, TN 37388
(H) 931-455-0137
(O) 931-454-4893
dwjones@edge.net

Deep South OEC Administrator
Bob Lang
1036 Rockcrest Dr
Marietta, GA 30062
(H) 770-971-1265
(O) 770-793-1324
thudbear@comcast.net



Southern Division Calendars

(Material in these calendars represents information available at press time. Updates prior to the next issue of Southern Cross will be posted on line at www.nsp.org/divisions/southern/)

Southern Division Events

Month	Date	Event	Location	Contact	Comments	Registration Deadline
Educational Courses for 2004						
FEB	6, 7, 8	MTR LEVEL II COURSE	CANAAN	BOB CHATMAN 410-721-0921		6-Jan-04
MAR	6	MTR FUNDAMENTALS	CULLOWHEE	COURSE CANCELLED	NO INSTRUCTOR AVAILABLE	6-Feb-04
MAR	7	AVALANCHE FUNDAMENTALS	CULLOWHEE	DENNIS SLAGLE 919-528-9279	WESTERN CAROLINA UNIVERSITY @8:30	7-Feb-04
MAR	13	AVALANCHE FUNDAMENTALS	WINTERGREEN	MIKE FISHER 434-296-8485		13-Feb-04
MAR	14	PATROLLER ENRICHMENT SEMINAR (PES)	MASSANUTTEN	CINDY HUFFSTUTTER chuff@aerols.com		4-Mar-04
MAR	20	INSTRUCTOR DEVELOPMENT	WINTERGREEN	KEN BUCKNER 919-645-6615		20-Feb-04
Certified Events for 2004						
FEB	7, 8	CERTIFIED CLINIC	MASSANUTTEN	LESLIE CARTER 434-325-1262		
FEB	21, 22	CERTIFIED CLINIC	GATLINBURG	LESLIE CARTER 434-325-1262		
MAR	18-20	CERTIFIED EVALUATION	SNOWSHOE	LESLIE CARTER 434-325-1262		
OEC Events for 2004						
MAY	15	OEC INSTRUCTOR UPDATE SEMINAR	BOONE, NC	LISA ADAMS 828-387-2892	BROYHILL CENTER, APP ST UNIV @ 8:00AM	15-Apr-04
MAY	16	OEC IT/IOR REFRESHER PLANNING	BOONE	JUDI KAY-MONAGHAN 703-971-7841	BROYHILL CENTER, App St. Univ 8:00AM-noon	30-Jun-04
Southern Cross Deadlines for 2004						
MAY	31	SOUTHERN CROSS DEADLINE		SOUTHERN CROSS EDITOR		
SEP	6	SOUTHERN CROSS DEADLINE		SOUTHERN CROSS EDITOR		
Division Meeting Events for 2004						
MAY	14	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING	BOONE, NC	NEIL BOOTH 770-941-4268	BROYHILL CENTER, APP ST UNIV @ 7:30PM	
MAY	15	SPRING BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING	BOONE, NC	SUSANNE WISE 704-362-0243	BROYHILL CENTER, APP ST UNIV @ 8:00AM	14-May-04
MAY	17-20	NSAA/PSIA/NSP NATIONAL MEETING	SAVANNAH, GA	NSP BOARD MEETS ON MAY 19-20, 2004		
JUL	30	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING	WYTHEVILLE	HOLIDAY INN 800-842-7652	HOLIDAY INN - MEETING @ 7:30PM	
AUG	20	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING	WYTHEVILLE	HOLIDAY INN 800-842-7652	HOLIDAY INN - MEETING @ 7:30PM	
AUG	21	FALL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING	WYTHEVILLE	HOLIDAY INN 800-842-7652	HOLIDAY INN - MEETING @ 8:00AM	20-Jul-04

West Virginia Calendar

Month	Date	Event	Location	Contact	Comments	Registration Deadline
FEB	1	TOBOGGAN CLINIC	SNOWSHOE			
FEB	7	SR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT CLINIC	SNOWSHOE			
FEB	8	SR S&T CLINIC	TIMBERLINE			
FEB	21	SENIOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT CLINIC	WINTERPLACE	JON DRAGAN 304-251-2580		
FEB	22	BASIC S&T EVALUATION	WINTERPLACE	TOM WAGNER 304-469-8039		
FEB	22	SENIOR S&T CLINIC	WINTERPLACE	TOM WAGNER 304-787-3221		
FEB	29	SR S&T EXAM	SNOWSHOE			
FEB	6,7,8	MTR II COURSE	CANAAN	BOB CHATMAN 410-721-0921		
MAR	6	BASIC S&T EVALUATION	WINTERPLACE	TOM WAGNER 304-469-8039		
MAR	6	BASIC OEC EVALUATION	TIMBERLINE	JANETTE BENNETT 304-866-4925		
MAR	7	BASIC S & T EVALUATION	TIMBERLINE	STEVE CVECHKO 304-776-8540		
MAR	7	SR OEC EXAM	TIMBERLINE			
MAR	13	SR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT EVALUATION	SNOWSHOE	BECKY SHARP 304-572-5695		
MAR	14	SENIOR S & T EVALUATION	SNOWSHOE	BECKY SHARP 304-572-5695		
MAR	14	BASIC S&T EVALUATION	SNOWSHOE			
MAR	18	CERTIFIED PRE EVALUATION CLINIC	SNOWSHOE	LESLIE CARTER 434-325-1262		
MAR	19,20	CERTIFIED EVALUATION	SNOWSHOE	LESLIE CARTER 434-325-1262		

Virginia Calendar

Month	Date	Event	Location	Contact	Comments	Registration Deadline
Feb	6,7,8	Mountain Travel & Rescue II	Canaan	Bob Chatman 410-721-0921		6-Jan-04
Feb	7,8	Certified Clinic	Massanutten	Bartek Drewnowski 540-289-4954	Clinic for S&t, Mtn Ops, OEC	
Feb	21	Senior Emergency Management Evaluation	Wintergreen	Dave Quidort 919-363-7935		
Feb	22	Senior S&T Evaluation	Wintergreen	Mike Fisher 434-296-8486		
Feb	28,29	Bryce Candidate Evaluation	Bryce	Lacy Williams 804-673-9637		
Mar	13	Avalanche Awareness	Wintergreen	Mike Fisher 434-296-8485		
Mar	13	Massanutten Picnic	Massanutten	Bartek Drewnowski 540-289-4954		
Mar	18	Certified Pre Evaluation Clinic	Snowshoe	Leslie Carter 434-325-1262		
Mar	19,20	Certified Evaluation	Snowshoe	Leslie Carter 434-325-1262		
Mar	20	INSTRUCTOR DEVELOPMENT COURSE	Massanutten	KENN BUCKNER 919-645-6615		

Blue Ridge Calendar

Month	Date	Event	Location	Contact	Comments	Registration Deadline
FEB	6,7,&8	Mountain Travel & Rescue II	Canaan	Bob Chatman 410-721-0921		6-Jan-04
FEB	21	BASIC S&T EVALUATION	HAWKSNEST	Tony Tingle 865-692-3579	@ 8:30AM	
FEB	21	SENIOR EMERGENCY MGMT EVALUATION	SUGAR MTN	lisa adams 828-387-2892	@ 8:30AM	
FEB	22	CERTIFIED CLINIC	GATLINBURG	LESLIE CARTER 434-325-1262		
FEB	29	BASIC S&T EVALUATION	APPALACHIAN	Tony Tingle 865-692-3579	@ 8:30AM	
MAR	7	AVALANCHE AWARENESS	wcu, CULLOWHEE	DENNIS SLAGLE 919-528-9279	WESTERN CAROLINA UNIVERSITY	07-FEB-04
MAR	18	CERTIFIED PRE EVALUATION CLINIC	SNOWSHOE	LESLIE CARTER 434-325-1262		
MAR	19,20	CERTIFIED EVALUATION	SNOWSHOE	LESLIE CARTER 434-325-1262		

Smoky Mountain Calendar

Month	Date	Event	Location	Contact	Comments	Registration Deadline
FEB	8	SR OEC CLINIC	CATALOOCHEE,NC	BEN RAY 828-675-0896		
FEB	21-22	CERTIFIED CLINIC	GATLINBURG, TN	LESLIE CARTER 434-325-1262		
FEB	29	SR OEC EVALUATION	CATALOOCHEE,NC	BEN RAY 828-675-0896		
MAR	7	AVALANCHE FUNDAMENTALS	CULLOWHEE, NC	DENNIS SLAGLE 919-528-9279	WESTERN CAROLINA UNIV.	
MAR	18	CERTIFIED CLINIC		LESLIE CARTER 434-325-1262	CLINIC FOR S&T,MTN OPS, OEC	
MAR	19-20	CERTIFIED CLINIC	SNOWSHOE	LESLIE CARTER 434-325-1262		

Deep South Calendar

Month	Date	Event	Location	Contact	Comments	Registration Deadline
FEB	15	DEEP SOUTH BASIC S&T EVALUATION	SKY VALLEY, GA	BRENT BOWMAN 404-869-8286		
FEB	8	SR OEC CLINIC	CATALOOCHEE, NC	TBD		
FEB	21,22	CERTIFIED CLINIC	GATLINBURG	LESLIE CARTER 434-325-1262		
FEB	29	SR OEC EVALUATION	CATALOOCHEE, NC	TBD		
MAR	7	AVALANCHE AWARENESS	CULLOWHEE, NC	TBD	TBD	
MAR	18	CERTIFIED PRE EVALUATION CLINIC	SNOWSHOE	LESLIE CARTER 434-325-1262		
MAR	19,20	CERTIFIED EVALUATION	SNOWSHOE	LESLIE CARTER 434-325-1262		



The Blue Ridge Region Ski and Toboggan Examiner's Clinic was held at Appalachian Ski Mountain on December 7. Eleven examiners participated to prepare for the upcoming season. As always, it was a good chance to get together, go over upcoming evaluations, and make some turns. Mother Nature and great snowmaking combined to provide us with superb early-season conditions. Thanks to all participants and to Appalachian Ski Mountain for hosting the clinic. (L to R: Tony Tingle, Mike Harris, David Hall, Jeff Holt, Rick Laws, Howard Tilley, Hugh Jernigan, Andy Moody, EB Fox, Lisa Adams, and Ron Clyde). [Click to view photo album](#)

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