



# Southern Cross

A Publication of The Southern Division of The National Ski Patrol

2010-2011, Number 1

[www.southernnsp.org](http://www.southernnsp.org)

September 2010

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**Southern Cross** is published three times a year—Fall, Mid-winter and Spring. Articles and photos are encouraged and appreciated. With photos, please include caption information. If at all possible, please include a photo of the author with articles. Submission deadline for the Fall issue is January 07, 2011.

### Send submissions to:

**Teresa T. Stewart, SC Editor**  
1323 Bywood Lane  
Charlotte, NC 28209  
704-718-5675 cell  
[sceditor@gmail.com](mailto:sceditor@gmail.com)

### Send contact changes to:

NSP Office  
133 Van Gordon St., Suite 100  
Lakewood, CO 80228  
Update address at [www.nsp.org](http://www.nsp.org)

R. Morgan Armstrong,  
Division Director

## SOUTHERN CROSS ARTICLE

**Patroller Conference** – The 2010 Patroller Conference was held at the Meadowview Conference, Resort and Convention Center in Kingsport, TN on August 13 – 15, 2010. This year in addition to the Board of Directors Meeting on Saturday and Sunday, the Executive Committee Meeting on Friday evening, we also had the following:

- OEC Instructor Update – Saturday (all day event)
- Instructor Development Instructor’s Meeting – Sunday morning
- Division Snowsports Meeting – Saturday
- Transportation Roundtable Meeting – Saturday
- Awards Banquet Saturday Evening

This year an added attraction was the Special Events Committee tasked with the job of creating special entertainment programs for the family and patrollers attending the conference. A dance was held after the Awards Banquet that was quite a hit. Trips were available to old town in the area as well as attractions such as Dollywood and other points of interest in the area. Camille Hale headed up this effort this year and got an excellent start on providing new and extra events for our conference.

The Hawksnest Ski Patrol committee again this year provided the staff for the Patroller Conference Meeting Committee. They were responsible for the hotel meeting rooms, hospitality suite, food and beverage for the hospitality suite, lights, sound, registration and coordination of all of the events at the hotel involving the meetings. The event went on flawlessly as always and we really want to thank the following members of that committee for all of their hard work.

## Conference Meeting Committee

Robb Raff, Chair

Rob Raff (Audio & Visual)

Fred Wessels (Accounting, Registration & Setup)

Teresa Stewart (Registration & Setup)

Jo Ann Ehlinger (Hospitality Suite)

The National Ski Patrol guest was **Bela Musits**, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the NSP and his wife Elaine. He spoke to the conference on Saturday Morning about the National Ski Patrol and current issues. He also answered questions from the floor for about twenty minutes. The Chairman was also present for the Awards Banquet on Saturday night and presented many of the awards to the patrollers in attendance. The large Alpine Ski Patrol Award was named the **Thomas “Doc” Brigham Award** this year and **Massanutten Ski Patrol** name has the distinction of being the first patrol to win this award since the of the award has been changed to honor the founder of three resorts in the Southern Division.

The event was attended by over 160 patrollers this year. Despite the economic problems facing the country, patrollers of the Southern Division turned out in larger numbers this year than last year. More events and more fun were packed into the weekend. I am sorry if you missed it this year and I would invite you to the 2011 Patroller Conference because we plan to make it better and more fun than the one this year.

**Calendar** – The Southern Division Calendar has undergone several changes over the last year and continues to be updated once per month in the off-season and twice per month during the ski season. It is located on the Southern Division Webpage at [www.SouthernNSP.org](http://www.SouthernNSP.org). The Calendar was expanded to include the normal monthly calendar plus an “archive” calendar. The “archive” calendar contains all of the dates and events for the last year (2009-2010) along with the Course Numbers for each course held in the division. This is a good place to start if one needs to track down information about the courses this past year. We will again do an “archive” calendar along with the monthly or current calendar this year.

**Placing events on the Calendar** – The process is simple and easy to use. Anyone wanting to create a course should first contact the Region Director (RD) for the region where the course will be taught. Clear the date or dates with the Region Director who will help you avoid conflicts with other courses or major events. Once the date is cleared and location acquired, register the course with NSP and obtain your course number. File your calendar event with the Region Director. The RD will forward the event to the Division Director who keeps the Calendar current.

Calendar information is as follows to register the event. (1) Date, (2) Event description, (3) Location, (4) Contact Person, (5) Contact Person’s Phone Number and (6) Contact Person’s email address. That is all there is to it and we hope you will find the placing of events on the calendar easy and the Southern Division Calendar useful and always current.

**This year in the Division** will be another year of change. We will be receiving the OEC 5<sup>th</sup> Edition Text in 2011. The National Ski Patrol is working on new manuals and editions in the various programs. The NSP is expanding the scope of its work and is being contacted by the State of California to assist in that state with first

aid and disaster response. The National Forest Service is looking at a Joint Statement of Mutual Understanding very similar to the one we signed in 2009 with the National Ski Areas Association. We have had many of these with NSAA but this is the first one we have had with the National Forest Service. A lot is going on and a lot is being worked on so opportunities abound for each patroller to get involved in work with the NSP. The Division is also working in new areas. There is a new Program started by NSP called the Women's Program. This Program will be started by **Lisa Adams**, Program Supervisor and she is looking for women to join with her to help make this program a dynamic program. Our Young Adult Program supervised by **Meggan Monaghan** continues to advance the goals of the young adult patroller.

Some of the new changes in Staff are as follows: **Terry Loges** is the new supervisor of the Mountain Travel & Rescue Program. **Brandon Deane** is Snowsports School Technical Director along with **Briggs Allen**, Snowsports School Administrative Director. The main group of Supervisors and Staff will remain the same and I thank everyone for all of your hard work. The finances of the division are sound, the programs seem to be advancing in good fashion and most importantly, we want patrollers to have fun and enjoy patrolling. Your Division Director looks forward to skiing with many of you this winter and if I may be of service to you, do not hesitate to give me a call or email.

R. Morgan Armstrong, Southern Division Director

*From the Assistants...*

**Richard Boyer,**

1<sup>st</sup> Assistant Division Director

Dateline: Panama City Beach, Florida, 91 degrees feels like 101 degrees, no tar balls on the beach, but well into hurricane season.

As you may have heard we enjoyed a smooth and productive annual board meeting this year at the Southern Division Patrollers' Conference this year in Kingsport, Tennessee. For those of you who had to miss it we had a ball seeing familiar faces and talking with old friends. There were some fun times in the hot tub and tripping the light fantastic on the dance floor. Maybe next year you too can join us to see just how much effort and time is given (but much fun, as well) to running your ski patrol division.



We are well on our way toward finalizing the multitude of various plans for preparation for the 2010-2011 ski season. I'm continually amazed at all the work toward organizing the fall refreshers. Your elected and appointed leaders need to be complimented each year for their efforts in getting ready for this series of events. Please join me in this thank you and when you see anyone of them this fall shake their hand or hug them while thanking them for what all they do for us.

One of the topics, briefly, in Kingsport was an exploration into how we can make that dreaded, End of the Year (EOY) Report obligation both less drudgery for the Patrol Representative and as important, more relevant and useful to what we do. This year we will add the EOY forms to our Southern Division web site as step one, step two will be archiving them so that over time we can do some graphing of trends and other analysis on the patrol level to increase the interpretation value for the Patrol Representative. Example: if your trend graph illustrated a downward trend in Instructors what will that tell you could happen next to your patrol in the near future? Answer: your patrol is “headed toward the ditch” and could possible find itself unable to perform for mountain management, their duties from a resources and staffing of qualified personnel standpoint. This would be pretty serious for any of us.

We’ll be doing some more visiting this year. Hope to see most of your mountains and maybe we’ll catch a run or two with you. Let’s get to winter quickly!!!

Richard



**Brent Bowman,**  
*2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Division Director*

WHAT!!! Labor Day already!!! Where has the summer gone? Seems like just a couple of weeks ago it was June! After the Southern Division Patroller Conference a flurry of e-mail began; planning for OEC refreshers and for the verification of dates and locations for courses planned for the upcoming 2010-2011 season.



Refreshers for instructors will be completed in the next 4-6 weeks allowing those folks to then update all of the other patrollers in the Southern Division. This is a TON of work. Some of the Instructors of Record consider this to be more difficult than herding cats. I have two cats and just trying to get both of them into (or out of) one room is a tough job! I like to think about the refresher as a kick-start to get me thinking again about things like “SAMPLE”, “DCAP-BTLS” and “BSI” that I don’t normally think about in my profession as an Electrical Engineer.

Please remember to thank all of the hard working instructors this refresher cycle for the hard work and many hours that go into planning and completing the refresher. Also, this season, be sure to grab one of the NSP Snowsports School instructors and make a few turns with them. Each of us can still learn something new about this slippery thing that is under our feet whether it is a Ski or a Board.

**SEE YOU AT THE REFRESHER!!!!!!**

## Mike Harris,

*Assistant Division Director – South Area*



### As The Bull Wheel Turns

It is hard to believe that another ski season is just around the corner. The Southern Division held it's annual fall conference August 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, & 15<sup>th</sup> at Meadowview Marriott, in Kingsport, Tennessee. It is amazing that even with the condition of the economy, the attendance continues to grow year after year. Besides the annual Board of Directors meeting, we had the annual OEC Instructors update, Snowsports workshop, Instructor Development Instructor workshop, presentation from Mary Underwood for the new Leadership Development course, and the best Transportation Instructor workshop that I have seen. Tony Tingle has done a great job with Transportation. The awards banquet is still one of the highlights of the weekend. We really have the greatest hospitality suite imaginable. **Rob Raff** and **Fred Wessels**, with help from Teresa Stewart, JoAnn Ehlinger and their crew, keep finding a way to make it better year after year. I am not going to duplicate the information that your Region Directors will be putting in their articles. Only one reminder, with a number of date changes for OEC refreshers, a number of patrols are having this years refreshers on the same weekends. This will cut down the options you might have if you run into difficulty making your home mountain's refresher. This will cut back on the number of refreshers that I will be able to attend this year. I will be looking forward to visiting and patrolling with as many of you as possible this season.

I am so looking forward to opening day. See you on the hill. Mike Harris (aka Tyrone)

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## Jan Starr,

*Assistant Division Director, North Area*

### Notes from the North

Sure hope everyone has enjoyed the summer as much as I did! We even had a few days that reached the 90's here in the mountains of WV. But the air has had a nip to it this past week which means winter is not far off. That means it is refresher time! Check the Southern Division web site calendar for your refresher dates. If you are not able to make the refresher at your home area and need to participate in another areas refresher please call ahead to the IOR listed for that area so they can plan ahead for extra people attending. Please remember to THANK the instructors at your refresher. They put a lot of time and work into preparing this.

The Patroller Conference in August had a good turn out. It would be great to see even more next year in TN. There were a lot of good presentations and Awards handed out. Congratulations to our friends and patrollers at **Massanutten** for being the first recipients of the new Thomas "Doc" Brigham Outstanding Large Patrol Award!!!

Please check out the Patrol VISA card that is available to us. It gives money back to National and to Southern Division when you apply for one.

Hope your fall is wonderful and that we have another wonderful ski season ahead!

Jan Starr

**Ted Forbes,**

*Virginia Region Director*

It's Labor Day weekend and the unofficial end of summer. And how appropriate that we just said goodbye to Hurricane Earl, and the front that ushered him on up the coast sent a shot of cool air into the mountains that brought morning temperatures in the 40s. I'm sure we'll have a few more days of hot weather, but the trees are just beginning to turn, and OEC courses are not far off. If we're lucky, snow-making weather is only about 90 days off.



Things have been busy in Virginia this summer. Grass skiing season just ended at Bryce. If you ever get a chance to try this, it'll keep your muscle memory from getting too rusty! Massanutten expanded its zip line canopy tour and from the pictures you see, it looks like a heck of a lot of fun. The summer crowds in Hot Springs kept busy fly fishing and shooting and paddling at the Homestead. And at Wintergreen both summer tubing and Segway tours made their debut. There's certainly no shortage of things to keep folks coming to our resorts.

Meanwhile, capital projects are anticipating winter. New snowmaking equipment is a leader in the headlines, and the hottest thing in the industry right now is the fan gun. These are more energy efficient and make snow in a wider ranges of conditions – especially in marginal temperatures. We'll see more of them on the hills this winter.

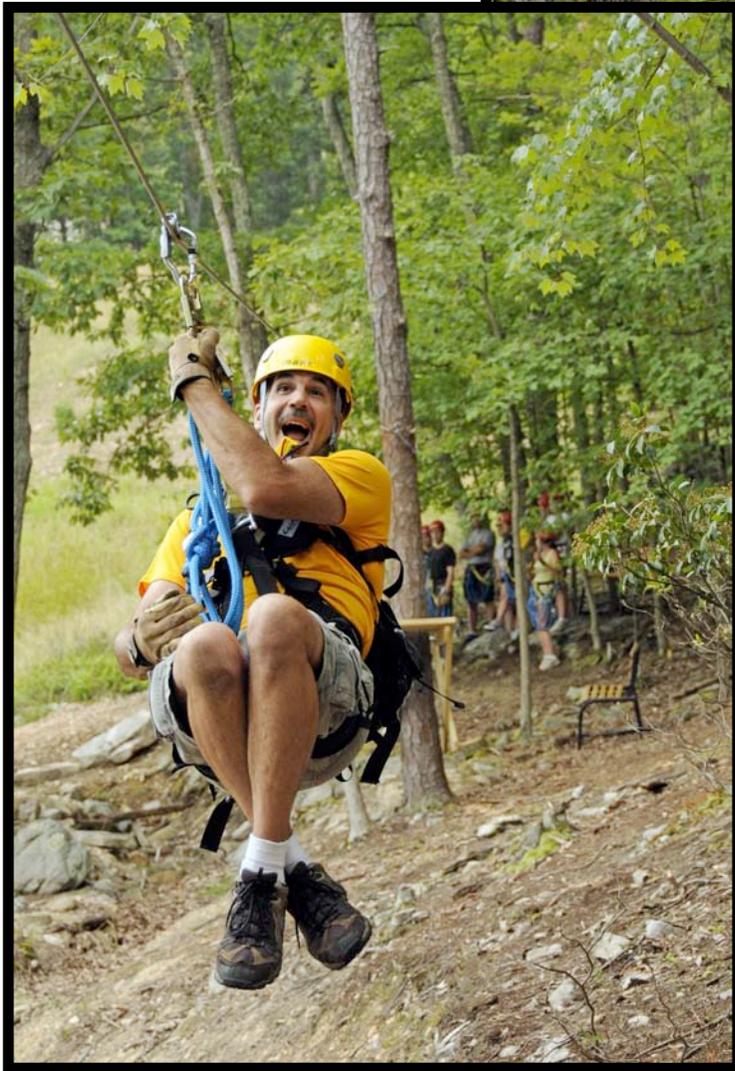
So it's time to start thinking about getting ready. Are you in shape? Might be a good idea to hit the gym. Have you checked your equipment? Bases, edges and bindings might need work. Have you checked your vest or belt pack? Look at the expiration date on your goods. Have you used your medical skills at all over the summer? The new issue of Ski Patrol magazine has your OEC refresher guide in it. Lots to do to be ready!

We'll see how Ullr treats us this season. After last year's epic snowstorms, it may be hard to top the snow pack of 2009/2010 – but here's hoping that we have another awesome year. We'll see you out there!

Ted

*Massanutten in the Summer ... 2010*

Just starting out for a day of adventure  
at the Massanutten Canopy Tour  
*(photo submitted by Ted Forbes)*



Fun meter is pegged @ Massanutten for Mark!  
*(photo submitted by Ted Forbes)*

**Jonathan Hale,**  
*Blue Ridge Region Director*

Patrollers,

By the time this article is in print we in the Blue Ridge Region will have had another instructor's refresher; this time instructors will be embarking to their own mountain to refreshers run by each individual mountain. This is a new thing for Blue Ridge members, even though we are the only region that has produced the refreshers. Everyone else in our Division has refreshers produced by their mountains. There are skilled, dedicated instructors on every mountain that will make this process a meaningful training experience as well as meet the regimen dictated by the NSPS. Some members of the instructor team have already volunteered to teach at other mountain's refreshers. Hats off to people like **Theresa Varner, Cathy Lamarre** and others who take the time to help out other mountains!



We had eight candidates graduate through the senior program during last year. I congratulate them for their diligence and tenacity for this altruistic cause. The members of this elite group are as follows:

- **Terry Bygate**, Beech Mountain
- **Joseph Hill**, Hawksnest/Appalachian Ski Mountain
- **Per Larsen**, Hawksnest/Wolf Ridge
- **Margaret Rees**, Beech Mountain
- **Tommy Taylor**, Sugar Mountain
- **Collin Waldron**, Beech Mountain
- **Richard Yercheck**, Beech Mountain
- **Brie Young**, Beech Mountain

I had the fortunate occasion to train with several paid patrollers this past winter who were in search of their Senior Level. I have been training Patrollers for 14 years now and never have had more respect for a group of Patrollers. They truly are some of the best Patrollers that I have ever met. Making senior level is a combination of tenacity, raw skill, being able to think on your feet, and being able to perform to the criteria set by our NSP. Sometimes the NSP criterion even seems arbitrary, but it isn't. It is the only way to make the test equitable. At the test, some passed, some of the best didn't, but they will next year, or the year afterwards.

I must congratulate our runners up winners at the National PEC toboggan contest. Three paid Patrollers; **Joe White, Kyle Hassler** and **Eric Rosenbusch** were second out of 17 teams in the very competitive event out west. The course was very steep and rumor has it that two other teams of Ski Patrollers had to be rescued.

Think Snow Bro's.....

*Jonathan*

*From the Supervisors and Advisors...*

*Snowsports ... Snowsports ... Snowsports ... Snowsports ... Snowsports ... Snowsports ... Snow*

**Briggs Allen,**

*Snowsports Supervisor*

**Southern Division NSP Snowsports School**

After the hottest summer on record here in Southwest Virginia, fall and winter are eagerly anticipated. If it is only half as cold and snowy as it was hot this year, we are in for a great season. And speaking of great seasons... you can improve yours by joining us this year for one of our many events.

The Snowsports School had a good turnout for our presentation at the Fall Patrollers Conference in Kingsport. We were fortunate to have **Dave Moss** a PSIA level III and certified patroller from the Central Division Ski School demonstrate the V1 sports video software and its application in training our candidates and patrollers. This software was first utilized in the Division last season at the Snowsports School Skiing Clinic at Ski Beech. The participants in the program universally raved about being able to analyze their skiing in ways in which they felt were not possible. Additionally, the skiing instructors in the clinic felt the software would be invaluable in helping train our candidates and patrollers. Dave brought copies of the software to Kingsport and many of the trainers purchased them at a discount. If you would like to purchase or just see the program in action go to [www.V1golf.com](http://www.V1golf.com) and under the V1 store go to software where you will find the V1 Home 2.0 Software-Skiing Edition which is sold for \$39.95. This is a tool that should prove to be helpful to instructors and students alike.

Our event schedule for the 2010-11 season is nearing completion and is as follows:

- December 4-5, 2010 **Cataloochee Teaching Clinic** - this clinic will serve to prep those going for their PSIA/AASI level II teaching exam as well as provide existing patrol ski/snowboard trainers innovative teaching techniques. This course carries Ski Trainer Workshop credit.
- January 8, 2011 **Wolf Ridge Women's Skier Improvement** - general skier improvement. This course carries Skier Enhancement Seminar credit.
- February 11, 2011 **Winterplace** - general skier/trainer improvement. This clinic will be taught by members of the Central Division NSP Ski School and carries Skier Enhancement Seminar credit.
- February 12-13, 2011 **Ski Beech** - general skier/trainer improvement. This clinic will be taught by members of the Central Division NSP Ski School and carries skier Enhancement Seminar Credit. This program had a waiting list last year so register early.
- March 4-6, 2011 **Wintergreen** - PSIA/AASI Demo Team Clinic. This 2 1/5 day clinic will be especially valuable for our NSP ski/board trainers as well as general patrollers. The clinic, which is held every 2 years, will provide expert instruction by members of the PSIA and AASI Demo Teams. Both PSIA and AASI continuing education credits will be available, as will Skier Enhancement Seminar credits. There will be a charge for this clinic to cover the cost of the Demo Team. Don't miss this opportunity to ski/ride with, and learn from the best snowsports instructors in the world.
- TBA General Boarder/Trainer Improvement Clinic

All of our clinics will be taught by PSIA/AASI certified instructors and are registered with National. In many of the clinics video analysis will be used. All clinics (except the Demo Team clinic) are free and space is limited with registration being on a first-come first-served basis. Flyers regarding all of our programs will be mailed to patrol leaders for posting in patrol rooms. For additional information or to register contact me at [Briggsaln@aol.com](mailto:Briggsaln@aol.com). Come join us just to improve your skiing/riding and snowsports teaching skills.

Now a reminder to all of the Patrol Leaders, again this year, the Southern Division will pay for your designated instructor's liability insurance. Please submit their name, NSP number and e-mail address to me by November 15, 2010. Additionally, if you are not your patrol's designated instructor and you are teaching or assisting teaching skiing or boarding this insurance is available to you for \$66 per season (just send your information and a check made out to the Southern Division NSP to me). This is highly recommended and a great value. Many of our patrols assist in paying part or all of premium, check with your Patrol Leader.

If you are active with your patrol in teaching candidates and/or patrollers and pass the PSIA/AASI Level II exam this season, the Southern Division will reimburse you for your exam fee. All you need to do is submit to me verification of passing.

We are fortunate that **Brandon Deane**, a PSIA level III instructor, from the Wintergreen Ski Patrol has volunteered to be the Snowsports School's technical director for this upcoming season. This position needed to be filled and Brandon graciously offered his services. THANKS!!!!!! Additionally, if you are PSIA/AASI certified and would like to assist with our programs please let me know. We welcome your help. Finally, the upcoming ski season presents the perfect occasion to become involved with PSIA/AASI. These organizations offer clinics that lead to certification in becoming a ski/snowboard instructor. By becoming a certified instructor you will become a better, safer and efficient skier or snowboarder and have the confidence in knowing that the snowsports information you impart to candidates and other patrollers has a sound basis.

Becoming a certified instructor is a process of betterment that will take at least several years. Why not take the first step today. Contact me or any member of the Snowsports School to learn how to make this challenge become a reality. You are needed with this certification.

Until the snow falls, remember snowsports are simple turn right, turn left and repeat as necessary.

## *Instructor Development...Instructor Development...Instructor Development*

**Teresa T. Stewart,**

*Instructor Development Supervisor*

The NSP Instructor Development course is an integral part of all the NSP Educational courses. This is a required step before the mentoring stage with an instructor within the specific discipline that you are becoming involved with (Outdoor Emergency Care, Toboggan and Ski, Mountain Travel and Rescue, Avalanche, Outdoor First Care, etc). This is also a ***SENIOR ELECTIVE***.

There are a number of steps in the Instructor Development Program:

- Course Registered with NSP by the Instructor Development Instructor through their Regional IT.
- Course Completion Record is submitted to the Division Supervisor and NSP educational department.
- Instructor Application Form with each discipline the student is interested in becoming an instructor for (ie, OEC, MTR, S&T, etc) completed and sent to the Instructor Development Supervisor (IDS).
- Mentors are assigned by OR through the Division Supervisor for that discipline.
- Senior Candidate Application Form filled in as needed. → remember- this is an elective for the Senior program.
- Southern Division ID Observation Form - This is completed for each student in the course for each topic they taught and they are returned to - NOTE - some students may require more than two evaluations.

*Remember .....*

If the student is **ONLY** taking the course for a Senior Elective - (The IDS will need to know that AND the student will need the form for the Senior Candidate Application filled in)

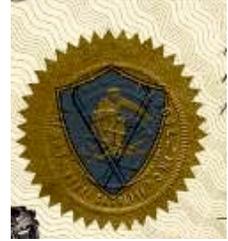
Once the Student Application Forms have been submitted to the ID Supervisor – the ID Supervisor will copy and forward the form to the appropriate Educational Supervisor (OEC, S&T, MTR, etc) - then the Division Program Supervisor (DPS) for each discipline will assign the mentors for the mentoring phase. Once the DPS assigns the mentors and that phase is complete - that DPS will recommend that student for Instructor Status.

Interested students should look at the Division Calendar for registered courses in their Region and contact the Region Instructor Development contact or drop me an email at ([stewart.teresa@gmail.com](mailto:stewart.teresa@gmail.com)).

*Historian ... Historian / Archivist ... Historian / Archivist ... Historian / Archivist*

**Fred Wessels,**

*Historian/Archivist*



**50 Years and Counting!!!!**

The 2010-2011 Ski season marks 50 years of Skiing in North Carolina. Over the years Ski areas have come and gone. In 1980, a little town in southwest NC was a hotbed of Skiing activity. That little town was Highlands, NC. With 3 ski areas within 10 miles (Scaly Mountain, Sky Valley, and Sapphire Valley). Only Sapphire survives as a ski hill today. Sapphire Valley is also one of the oldest Ski area's in North Carolina. As usual, if anyone has pictures, I would love to have them.

**Now for a little North Carolina Skiing Trivia.**

Match the Mountain with the year it opened. Here are the rules. Your reply must be mailed to me via snail mail. **Fred Wessels, 522 Jervey Rd., Tryon, NC 28782.** The earliest postmark with the correct answers wins two Dixie "Son of Sam" Splints. In case of a Tie, the person with the correct answers to the Tiebreaker wins. So ... print this page and either draw a line connecting the mountain to the year it opened OR in the open column next to the mountain – write in the year that mountain opened.

Scaly Mountain		1962
Seven Devils		1961
Hounds Ears		1969
Blowing Rock Ski Lodge		1966
Wolf Laurel		1980
Beech Mountain		1964
Sugar Mountain		1970
Mill Ridge		1964
Cataloochee		1967
Sapphire Valley		1969

**Tiebreaker #1**

If you purchased stock in Blowing Rock Ski Lodge when it was issued, what was your price per share? \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Tiebreaker #2**

Doc Brigham was born in which State? \_\_\_\_\_

Fred

[southerndivisionhistory@gmail.com](mailto:southerndivisionhistory@gmail.com)

*Division Elections ... Division Elections ... Division Elections ... Division Elections ... Division*

**Lee T. Wittmann,**

*Election Coordinator*

**National Ski Patrol**

**Southern Division**

2010 Division Director Election Procedure & Schedule

**December 1, 2010 is the deadline for the submission of nominee for the office of Southern Division Director. The election will be held in accordance with the Southern Division By Laws, Article V. Election or Appointment of Officers. All nominations will be acknowledged with an e-mail from the Election Coordinator. It is strongly suggested that the correspondence be followed up if you don't receive an acknowledgement in a reasonable amount of time.**

**Any questions or concerns should be address to Lee T. Wittmann Election Coordinator.**

**December 1, 2010 Deadline for submitting nominations**

Required:

Signed acceptance of nominee

One page resume

Candidate's one page platform (optional)

Information will be forwarded to Southern Cross editor for inclusion in January/Mid-winter issue and to Internet Communications Supervisor for posting on web site. It is recommended that the candidate verify that the editor of the Southern Cross and the Internet Communications Supervisor has received their articles.

**December 15, 2010** Deadline for eligibility determination.

Ineligible candidates have seven days to appeal to the PAST Division Director.

**December 22, 2010** Election Coordinator submits slate to National Chair for review.

Any concerns of Chair are due by January 1.

**February 1, 2011** Ballots, resumes & platforms will be sent to all Patrol Representatives of record.

**February 21, 2011 Deadline for the receipt of ballots in hand of election coordinator.**

**March 1, 2011 Election Coordinator will announce results of the election.**

Any concerns or procedural questions should be addressed to the Election Coordinator.

**Lee T. Wittmann - Election Coordinator**

102 Rainbow's End

Beech Mountain, NC 28604

828.387.3505

Fax 828.387.3505

[lwittmann@skybest.com](mailto:lwittmann@skybest.com)

## *Senior Program ... Senior Program ... Senior Program ... Senior Program ... Senior Program*

**Hugh Jernigan,**

*Southern Division Senior Program*

### **Take Advantage of the Senior Program!**

Would you like to improve your skiing/boarding technique, or learn to more efficiently manage a serious/multi-patient accident scene?? How about learning outdoor survival techniques, improving your teaching and information presentation skills, or being able to identify a potential serious avalanche danger when skiing in the Rocky Mountains? And for paid patrollers, how about making a little more money? Most of us would consider this to be a no-brainer!

Entering the Senior Program and becoming a Senior Patroller can take advantages of these opportunities and is a great way to make us all more effective and well-rounded patrollers. You can receive world class instruction in the OEC Emergency Management Clinics, and Skiing/Boarding/Toboggan Clinics offered as part of the Senior Program.

The requirement of obtaining 3 electives as part of the Senior Program offers many possibilities. I have often utilized skills from a Mountain Travel and Rescue class attended years ago. I constantly use the teaching and information presentation skills learned from the Instructor Development Class. Several patrollers have mentioned to me how often they use techniques from the Instructor Development Class in their work environment. When skiing “off-trail” at large ski resorts out west or out of the country, I know to stay away from certain high danger areas from information obtained from the Basic Avalanche Class.

The *NSP- Policy and Procedures Manual Chapter 17.3, Senior Program* defines available Senior Electives. Some examples of potential Senior Program Electives are listed below:

1. Instructor Development Class completion.
2. Southern Division Leadership Course completion (new).
3. Mountain Travel and Rescue Class completion.
4. Ski Enhancement Seminar.
5. Avalanche Level 1 Class completion (Basic Avalanche).
6. Avalanche Level 2 Class completion (Advanced Avalanche).
7. Patroller Seminar (formerly NSP Powderfall).
8. CPR Instructor certification.
9. Patroller Enrichment Seminar Class completion.
10. PSIA level 2 or 3 Seminar.
11. AED Instructor Course completion.
12. Toboggan Enhancement Seminar.
13. OEC Enhancement Seminar--2 elements.
14. Toboggan Instructor Appointment (Transportation).
15. OEC Instructor Appointment.
16. OEC IT Appointment.
17. Mountain Travel and Rescue Instructor Appointment.
18. Instructor Development Course Instructor Appointment.

The Senior Program is active in all regions of the Southern Division. The Blue Ridge Region had an especially outstanding year this past season with the graduation of **8 new Senior Patrollers** (see Jon Hale's article in this issue). Congratulations to all!!

Senior Clinics and Evaluations have, or are being scheduled, for all the regions for the upcoming year. For more information you may contact your Regional Senior Coordinator, Region Director, or Patrol Director/Representative as listed on the Southern Division web site.

**So take advantage of the opportunity!!!**



Evaluator and Candidate Briefing:  
February 21, 2010; Dixie Region Senior S & T Evaluation, Ober Gatlinburg, TN  
*(photo submitted by Hugh Jernigan)*

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## Southern Division Calendar & Staff Directory

Please refer to the **Division Website** for updated schedules!

[www.southernnsp.org](http://www.southernnsp.org)

The calendar is flexible dependant on the weather – please check the calendar and/or with your patrol representative / Region Director for the most up-to-date changes.

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