



Southern Cross

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Around The Division:

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 **May 18, 2015**.

Send submissions to:

Teresa T. Stewart, SC Editor
stewart.teresa@gmail.com

Update address at www.nsp.org

Richard Boyer,
Division Director

Some of the things learned at the Division Director's meeting and NSP Board of Director's meeting in Denver in January 2015:

Powderfall 2015 in Utah has at 400 patrollers committed, 2 times the original projections. This bodes well for continuing the annual gathering of NSP folks from all over the US and Europe.

We have over 80 candidates for the Education Director position to be filled by April.

Information Technology and how that impacts our computer system at headquarters is a topic of the greatest importance both in the office and all around our system. That system is barely limping along and all efforts are being made to get it fixed.

We have a new Finance Director in Denver, **Jamie Bruhl**. She is doing an outstanding job and will raise the standard of audit and accounting for the NSP. Welcome aboard, Jamie.

This is my final season as Division Director of the Southern Division. **Byrd White**, who has served in several positions in the Southern Division during my tenure and before will take over the reins in April 2015. I leave the position in very good hands and, of course, remain as past Division Director to make the transition as smooth as possible. Thanks to all who served on my staff and very conscientiously and efficiently ran the affairs of the Southern Division. This is a very special division within the 11 divisions of the NSP. The reason for this is because of you, the patrollers, we are so fortunate to have in the Southern Division. Thank you for my time to serve you.

Richard Boyer, -- Division Director Southern Division



Election Coordinator News ... Election Coordinator ... Election Coordinator News

Bill Smith,
Election Coordinator

Byrd White Elected as Division Director

The 2015 election process for the position of Division Director, Southern Division was conducted as outlined in the Division by-laws and was closed on February 21, 2015.

Byrd White was the sole candidate for the position.

As prescribed in the by-laws, ballots were sent to all Southern Division Patrol Representative's for them to be able to cast a vote on behalf of their patrol. All ballots cast were for **Byrd White**, thus he was elected to the position of Division Director, for a two-year term.

An announcement was sent to the Division leadership and the NSP National Chair, **Ed McNamara** in late February with the election results.

Congratulations Byrd!!!



Brent Bowman,
2nd Assistant Division Director

As I write this I am in a hotel in Connecticut. We just had a storm here that dumped 15 or so inches. On the way to this business trip I completed my semi-annual PSIA clinic requirement (at Timberline) and had my skis with me. So, I went skiing last night at Powder Ridge Mountain Park & Resort (<http://powderridgepark.com>). It was fairly cold at about 17 when I arrived at 7PM and I think that it fell to below 10 degrees by the time I left. I was one of about 8 people on the great loose fluffy packed powder. Spoke briefly with the three patrol guys that were there at lift closing who invited me back with the promise of a comp ticket.



In the Southern Division we have been rolling thru the season. I am amazed that it is already February and areas in the south have been open for 50+ days. The season kicked off with an instructor course for the NSP ski school in December at Cataloochee, in January there was much going with Certified clinics in the division as well as the Women's Clinic at Wintergreen, PSIA Demo Team member **Heidi Ettlinger** at Ober Gatlinburg for 2 days and Senior events. A Mountain Travel and rescue course was held in West Virginia. Coming up in February and March are many more clinics including the Southern Division Snow Sports school clinic held this year at Snowbird, Utah. The capper at the end of the season will be the return of Powderfall which will be held at the Canyons Resort in Utah.

Looking forward to seeing you on the slopes.

Mike Harris,
Assistant Division Director – South



The season is about half over. OEC refreshers went very well with some patrols going to the new hybrid on line portion. There are plenty of events left in this season. I will leave the details to the Region Directors articles. Remember, it's not too late to sign up for Powderfall this year at The Canyons in April. I would hope that as many patrollers as possible would make plans to attend the Southern Division Fall Convention this year in Kingsport TN. early August.

Mike Harris (AKA) Tyrone

Brent Rockett,
Blue Ridge Region Director

Blue Ridge Region Message



There have been a couple of significant changes in the Blue Ridge Region this year. With much fanfare and excitement, Sugar Mt opened up its new slope, Gunther's Way, this year. And it has not disappointed with rave reviews that you feel like you are skiing our west. If you get a chance, get over to Sugar and experience their new run. Beech Mt continues to make improvements on the mountain and in the village. Last year they opened up the bar at the top of the mountain (5506' Skybar) and this year you will notice a significant change at the quad lift unloading station. In addition, the View Haus was totally refurbished and there is a microbrewery in the village. And stay tune for some additional changes that are planned for this summer. The snow has been wonderful this season as all three resorts continue to add additional snowmaking each year. I am looking forward to a lengthy ski season.

Again this year the Appalachian Mt Ski Patrol will be hosting its third annual Wounded Warrior Day at Appalachian Mt on February 28. It is a truly rewarding experience.

Even though we are just in the middle of the ski season, it is not too early to start preparing award nominations. The Blue Ridge Region has always been well represented in receiving awards every year. There are a lot of patrollers that are deserving of these awards but you have to submit your nominations for them to be considered. Though we don't patrol for it, what better way to say thank you and be recognized by your peers for a job well done. Take the time to consider some of your patrollers for these awards and your patrol.

Finally, it is not too early to get the Southern Division Conference on your calendar. It will be held again in Kingsport, TN on August 7-8. There will be more on the conference in the future but go ahead and get it on your calendar.

Looking forward to making turns with you this season. **Brent**

Alumni Program ... Alumni Program ... Alumni Program ... Alumni Program

Milton Triplett,

Southern Division Alumni Supervisor

Alumni Registration

Alumni registration going online has caused some confusion. I have tried to pass along answers to questions via e-mail and Facebook postings. Anyone that is still experiencing difficulties should contact me.

Volunteers Needed - Patrol Alumni Advisor

Volunteers are needed to represent Alumni in each patrol (Patrol Alumni Advisor, PAA). Communication can be enhanced through a single point of contact. Patrol Representatives have their hands full making sure there are qualified patrollers for their mountain. The Alumni program should get in a position to better assist the respective patrols and provide its own communication path. Volunteers are requested to submit their name and e-mail address to me for inclusion in a Division Alumni database.

The PAA job is primarily a public relations and information-sharing effort. Its purpose is to promote the Alumni Program and also to be alert for recruiting registered ski patrollers in that patrol to consider becoming Alumni Members.

It is an ideal "job" for some persons. It's an especially important one for men and women patrollers who are extremely fond of the NSP, and who would like other potential patrol retirees (of any age and for any whatsoever reasons) to stay involved with ski patrolling. Many Members find it personally rewarding to maintain an affiliation with "their" Patrol, or to NSP patrolling in some other ways.

Lists of tasks are available that describe what many Alumni Members are already doing in support of NSP patrolling.

<http://triplettphotos.zenfolio.com/Second>

Suggested Patrol Alumni Advisor (PAA) position duties:

Note: It is not a requirement that any Alumni Advisor be an Alumni Member.

- The PAA should (if possible) make a recruiting presentation at the Ski Patrol's Annual meeting and at any other such opportunities. The annual distribution of the excellent recruiting brochure "*Are You Ready for a Change?*" is important! Each patroller should receive one on a yearly basis, as ALL currently registered patroller are potential Alumni Members.

<http://triplettphotos.zenfolio.com/brochure-and-register>

- Throughout the ski season, share the "alumni opportunity" via personal chats with individual patrollers and presentations of the brochure. Work towards educating your patrol's leadership as to the benefits of their patrollers joining the Alumni Program and perhaps remaining active with your patrol as secondary registrants.
- The PAA should take the lead in organizing "Alumni Events" for the patrol, sometimes with the PAAs of other patrols such as wintertime "Alumni (and Old Timers) Ski Days," summertime BBQs, etc. Promote alumni events to the entire patrol so that cherished old acquaintances can be kept intact.
- The PAA should be alert for opportunities for keeping Alumni Members involved in the patrol. Most alumni have special talents in training and demonstrating patrolling skills, administration, social activities and more. These can be a valuable asset to any Patrol as an active, involved Alumni Member!
- Insure that the patrol keeps an updated list of former patrollers, and that they receive all communications from the patrol that any other Members would receive.
- Annually, organize a special outreach to all recent past-members who may have dropped out, to invite them to continue on as Alumni Members of "your" patrol and the NSP.

NOTE: Ski Patrol Alumni Advisors are backed up by Regional and Divisional Advisors and assisted on a National level by the efforts of the National Alumni Advisory staff, and by the National Advisory Alumni Committee (NAAC), which is composed of all of the ten Division Alumni Advisors.

Outdoor Emergency Transportation ... OET ... Outdoor Emergency Transportation

Tony Tingle,
OET Division Supervisor



Mid-Season – Wow! Here we are in February already. For those of you who have been teaching OET skills, thank you for your time and expertise. You make us better patrollers. For those of you going towards your Basic, Senior, or Certified classification, keep up the hard work.

There are a couple of topics that need attention this season: one for all of us and the other for OET instructors. The first is the toboggan refresher (TREF). How are your TREFs coming along? This is now a requirement per the NSP Policies and Procedures (P&P). All patrollers who operate a toboggan as part of their duties need to complete a registered TREF. For your reference, the citation from the patroller requirements section of the P&P is included below.

5.1.3.5 As part of the requirements for annual NSP registration, all members, regardless of classification or office held (except students completing the OEC course, alumni, and medical associates), MUST complete the following ANNUAL requirements:

a) An Outdoor Emergency Care refresher;

- b) CPR skills demonstration to a certified CPR instructor, regardless of the certifying agency's requirements or the expiration date of the card;
- c) If the patroller's duties include toboggan-handling, that patroller must complete a ski and toboggan-handling proficiency refresher, the content of which is determined by the local patrol based on recommendations in the Transportation Program Appendix E; and
- d) Any additional refresher requirements as required by division, region, section, or NSP patrol, e.g., avalanche rescue.

If you are having trouble registering a TREF, need help teaching one, or have other questions please see one of the OET Instructors on your hill, an IT, your Region OET Supervisor, or me. I am always happy to help here I can. My email is geofolks@att.net.

The second topic is the continuing education (CE) requirement for instructors of all disciplines, including OET. This is a hot topic from the education side of NSP. OET instructors must complete a continuing education requirement for each three-year appointment. A quick count of the OET instructor roster shows 33 instructors who expire in 2015 and who will need a CE credit before the computer system will allow me to re-up your instructorship next December. I will send out an e-mail to the OET instructors on my roster and let you know when your instructor status expires. If you want to look at it sooner, check your NSP profile to see if you expire this year. How do you do that?

- 1) Log into NSP.org,
- 2) Click the Member Resources Button,



- 3) Your old profile should pop up and next to your name there will be text in red that says **NEW! YOUR MEMBER PROFILE.**
- 4) Click this, and your new member profile will open. Your instructor info is in there.
- 5) If that doesn't work, drop me an e-mail, and I can look you up on my roster.

As a best practice, I recommend everyone check your member profile each year and confirm it is accurate.

If you are one of the 33, you will need to complete a CE credit before next season. Need a CE credit? Contact an IT, your Region OET supervisor, or me. We have between now and the time that I turn in the rosters for next season (typically the end of November to Mid-December) to get this done. For Region OET Supervisors and ITs, the Outdoor Emergency Transportation Workshop (OETW) is the course to register to cover this requirement. Does it have to be done on the snow? Nope. I am looking into offering something (with the help of some ITs) at the Fall Conference in August. As this gets to be more concrete, I will let you know. Got questions, give me a call or drop me a line. Think Snow and Be Safe.

Snowsports ... Snowsports ... Snowsports ... Snowsports ... Snowsports ... Snowsports

Briggs Allen,
Snowsports Supervisor



The snowsports school program this year started off in our usual manner with a great clinic in mid-December at Cataloochee resort in Maggie Valley North Carolina. The clinic was attended by 16 patrollers representing Beech Mountain, Cataloochee, Ober Gatlinburg, Wintergreen and Wolf Ridge. With 5 instructors our student to teacher ratio was phenomenal. This year more patrollers were working on PSIA test preparation for both level I and level II. All of the clinic participants, both skiers and snowboarders, when surveyed, gave the clinic overwhelmingly positive reviews. Thanks to our instructors: **Ed Saleem, Wayne Morgan, Pete Jucker and Matt Weitz.** And as always... a huge thanks to Cataloochee Resort and Ski Patrol for their fantastic hospitality.

Every year to maintain our PSIA certified snowsports school I have to attend a "Director's event" sponsored by PSIA-Eastern. This year the clinic was held at Timberline Resort in West Virginia. **Randy Trow,** Assistant Division Director-North.



Photo above ST Clinic at Cataloochee December 2014 (Submitted Briggs Allen)



Photo below-PSI Southern Director Clinic at Timberline
(Submitted Briggs Allen)



Photos on left ST Clinic at Cataloochee
December 2014
(Submitted Briggs Allen)

Instructor Development...Instructor Development...Instructor Development

Teresa T. Stewart,
Instructor Development Supervisor

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

Interested students should look at the Division Calendar on the Division Website (www.southernmsp.org) for registered courses in their Region and contact the Region Instructor Development contact or drop me an email at (stewart.teresa@gmail.com).

Specifics on the **continuing education** requirements and maintenance of instructor credentials will be forthcoming following the Powderfall Supervisors meeting in April 2015. ALL Instructors and Instructor Trainers can expect to see changes rolling in place for all education disciplines as future courses are planned. Also, coming soon is an on-line Instructor Development Continuing Education module.

Women's Program ... Women's Program ... Women's Program ... Women's Program

Joy Jucker,

Women's Program Supervisor

What a great opportunity!!!

This is your chance to ski with a **PSIA National Demo Team** member.

Heidi Ettlinger will be visiting the Great Smoky Mountains and is available to do a 1 and ½ day ski clinic at Ober Gatlinburg.

What: Heidi Ettlinger clinic 1 and ½ days

Where: Ober Gatlinburg Ski Resort

When: Thursday & Friday February 5 & 6

Who: any NSP or PSIA member or ski instructor of intermediate or higher skill level

Use this link to sign up: <http://www.jotformpro.com/form/42985218871971>

For questions contact Joy at; JoyJucker@charter.net or reply to this email.

The NSP Southern Division Women's Program is hosting a once in a blue moon opportunity to ski with **Heidi Ettlinger**. Heidi is a member of the PSIA National Demo Team and travels around the country to spread the joy of skiing.

Check out Heidi's bio at: <http://www.thesnowpros.org/NewsInformation/ThePSIA-AASITeams/PSIAAlpineTeam/HeidiEttlinger.aspx>

The Clinic will be held on Thursday (full day) & Friday (1/2 day) February 5 & 6, 2015 at Ober Gatlinburg Ski Resort.

The \$80 clinic fee includes; 1 and ½ day of ski clinic, lunch on Thursday, heavy h'orderves and roundtable with Heidi Thursday evening, copies of the video of the event and various handouts.

This clinic is open to skiing enthusiast, NSP and PSIA members.

Participants should be comfortable skiing on blue and black terrain at Ober Gatlinburg.

There are only 15 spots available for this clinic and they will fill fast.

There will be a waiting list - cancellation fee \$10 - no refunds if canceling on or after February 4, 2015

Use this link to sign up: <http://www.jotformpro.com/form/42985218871971>

For questions contact Joy at; JoyJucker@charter.net or reply to this email.

Southern Division Website

Trish Deane – Internet/Website Supervisor and Division Secretary

Southern Division Web Site

Lots going on! This time of year, the calendar is changing continually as everyone is preparing for the upcoming season. Exciting events for 2014-15 include a Mountain Travel & Rescue course at Timberline in October, a Train-The-Trainer Snowsports School workshop at Cataloochee in December, the Women's Program S&T Clinic at Massanutten in January, Senior clinics and exams, Certified clinics and exams, NSP's Powderfall event on April 9-12, 2015, at The Canyons in Utah, and the Fédération Internationale des Patrouilles de Ski (FIPS) congress at Adamello Ski in Italy April 2-9, 2016. Since the division is a member of FIPS, division patrollers can attend that congress. Wow! A chance to ski in Italy with patrollers from all over the world. It could be an incredible ski vacation.

The web site is expanding to include more info on elections, OEC, and awards. Most exciting is the staff bios page. This is a growing area of the web site where we feature bios and pictures of division leadership.

<http://www.southernnsp.org/Staff.aspx>

Don't miss out on upcoming events. Check the Southern Division web site often. We'll keep you up to date on what's going on around the division. Also, follow us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/SoDivNSP>.

If you have recruiting materials you'd like posted on the web site, or a video about your patrol, email them to trish@GreatEastRoad.com.

Secretary

Course registration guidelines: Here's the procedure to follow to get your course registered and on the Southern Division calendar.

1. Send your dates and course info to your Region Director before you register the course with NSP.
2. Once the dates have been cleared, register your course with NSP.
3. Send the registration information (including course number) to your Region Director, so that it can be included on the calendar.

Patrol events (such as ski swaps, cookouts, recruiting events, etc.) can be listed on the calendar without pre-approval by sending them directly to me.

Staff Listing: If you are on the staff listing or if you notice incorrect information on the staff listing, please send an email to trish@GreatEastRoad.com.

Trish Deane

TBI: What You Should Know...



Traumatic brain injury (TBI) is a serious public health issue for Americans. Each year, TBI contributes to a substantial number of deaths and permanent disability. A TBI is caused by a bump, blow or jolt to the head or a penetrating head injury that disrupts the normal function of the brain. The severity of a TBI may range from "mild" to "severe".

According to research from CDC, approximately 3.5 million persons have a TBI in the United States. Of these individuals:

- 2.1 million received care in emergency departments,
- 300,000 were hospitalized,
- 84,000 were seen in outpatient departments,
- 1.1 million received care from office-based physicians, and
- 53,000 died.

Previously referred to as the "Silent Epidemic," individuals with this injury may not have any visible scars, and symptoms may not show up or be noticed until hours or days later. Still, a TBI can cause short or long-term problems seriously affecting thinking, learning, memory, and/or emotions. A TBI can affect all aspects of an individual's life, as well as that of their loved ones. This may include relationships with family and friends, as well as their ability to work or be employed, do household tasks, or drive a car.

The most common causes of TBI are from falls and car crashes. While there is no one-size-fits all solution, there are many ways to reduce the chances of a TBI, including:

1. Wearing a seat belt every time you drive or ride in a motor vehicle.
2. Never driving while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
3. Avoiding activities that can distract you while you drive, such as using a cell phone, texting, and eating.
4. Wearing a helmet and making sure your children wear helmets while riding a bike or skiing.
5. Helping prevent falls by:
 1. Encouraging older adults to improve their balance and coordination by exercising.
 2. Using safety gates at the top and bottom of stairs to prevent young children from falling.

This March, in recognition of Brain Injury Awareness Month, CDC encourages you to learn more about TBI prevention at:

- [Injury Prevention & Control: Traumatic Brain Injury](http://www.cdc.gov/TraumaticBrainInjury/) (http://www.cdc.gov/TraumaticBrainInjury/)
- [TBI Reports and Fact Sheets](http://www.cdc.gov/traumaticbraininjury/factsheets_reports.html) (http://www.cdc.gov/traumaticbraininjury/factsheets_reports.html)
- [Heads Up: Concussion](http://www.cdc.gov/concussion/headsup/index.html) (http://www.cdc.gov/concussion/headsup/index.html)

Submitted by Bill Smith

They Made it Happen!

Russ Lindsey – Wolf Ridge Ski Patrol



I had just returned home from a great weekend of skiing at Wolf Ridge, NC. It was February in the winter of 2009 and the Canadian Air along with the low pressure from the Gulf systems moving eastward, had produced one of the best winters for snow riding that I had remembered in years. As I pondered the memories of great conditions, I reached for the DVD that was an annual tradition to view. That particular DVD is indeed a combined history of snow sports, European conflict, and winter Olympic stars all combined to tell the ultimate story of the origins of skiing in America.

The DVD is titled *Fire on the Mountain*, the story of the 10th Mountain division of the US Army. So what and why did the US Army have ANYTHING to do with skiing in America? Or even the National Ski Patrol?? If you don't know the answer to those questions, you would fit into the group of approximately 98% of skiing public, as well as some skiing professionals, who enjoy snow riding in America, but are unaware of its origin. The 14,000 men of the 10th Mountain Division, or soldiers on skis, as they became to be known, were a combination of the best skiers, ski racers, ski jumpers, alpinist, and general outdoorsman's from America. During this turbulent time in the 1940's World War II was developing and a Harvard graduate saw that most of the War would be fought in Europe and would be in the mountains. This man also knew that Mountain troops who had been trained for Mountaineering were across Europe, and that the United States had none.

This fact put our nation at a disadvantage. The man was Charles Minot Dole founder of the National Ski Patrol. After two years of letters and campaigning to President Roosevelt from "Minnie," as he was call by his friends, offering outdoor training from the National Ski Patrol for the troops, the 10th Mountain Division was enlisted in 1942.

The possibility of War to break out was not if, but when. With the 10th Mtn as an option to serve their country outdoorsmen requested to join the Mountain Troops. Their requirements? They had to send three letters of recommendation to the National Ski Patrol that they knew how to ski and were physically fit.

Now, back to my living room and the DVD that told the story of these brave men. I began thinking that some of these Veterans of the 10th must still be alive. Perhaps some lived in Asheville, or the Boone area. I went online and found the Southeastern Chapter of the 10th Mountain Division. I sent an email introducing myself as a member of the National Ski Patrol. I received a call that week from the chapter president and discovered he was living in Anderson, SC. He added that there was an upcoming reunion banquet in March and I would be welcome to stop by to say hello. What a privilege to have an opportunity to meet WW II veterans of any outfit (my Dad was a WW II veteran with Marine Corp), but these guys were the Mountain Troops! Their uniform included Whites jump suits, with White skies, to blend in with the snow.

My wife Natalie and I arrived at the Convention, which was held in Greenville, SC and began meeting these heroes as they arrived mostly from Florida, (prime retirement area) and as far away as Utah. Most had been raised skiing in New England. These men were in their late 80's and early 90's. As the weekend unfolded we were amazed at how humble these men were. In their mind, they were not heroes, they just did what needed to be done.

We meet a ski jumper from Utah who told us how he and his Salt Lake friends built their own ramps and packed it with snow and walked up the mountain for a jump. There were no lifts or groomers, and the skis were wooden boards with spring bindings, which they had to trust to hold them into your leather lace up boots. SO, why do these men have anything to do with skiing in America?? The fact is that many of American ski resorts were opened by the returning veterans of the 10th Mtn. Division. The ski resorts they opened include Vail, Aspen, Arapahoe Basin, Mt Bachelor, Crystal Mtn., Santa Fe Ski Basin and Sugar Bush, just to name few. Some returned to compete on the US Olympic ski team, while some became officials and judges for FIS. Other outdoor companies that were started by returning 10 Mtn. Division would include Nike, Wilderness Education program, developer of the Brail Trial for blind hikers, founder of the National Amputee ski Association, and founder of National Skiing Magazine (forerunner of Skiing). Twenty-eight men from the 10th have been inducted into the National Ski Hall of Fame. Many more were resort managers of resorts you all have heard of or skied at. Too many to mention were founders of Ski Schools and Ski Patrol's at resorts across America.

There is far too much detail to share in this one article, however I will never be convinced that our encounter with these men was just a coincidence. We attended four more reunions but each event had less and less veterans because they were either unable to attend or had passed away. On our second visit I vowed to those men as long as I was alive that their sacrifice and contribution to the ski industry would not be forgotten.

That I would personally share their story with whoever would listen.



**Southern Division Calendar
& Staff Directory**

Please refer to the Division Website for updated schedules!
www.southernsp.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.

In order to accommodate everyone wishing to present to the Southern Division’s Executive Committee or Board of Directors and to allow for adequate time for members of the Committee and Board to review materials, please send requests to be placed on the meeting agenda, along with a summary of your topic and supporting documentation, to the Division Director in advance of the meeting. Requests must be received at least 30 days prior to the meeting, except that the Division Director may grant an exception to that deadline to accept an agenda request received at least 7 days prior to the meeting. Requests can be sent to richardboyer@bellsouth.net.