



# Southern Cross

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*Southern Cross* is published three times a year—Fall, Mid-Winter and Spring. Articles and photos are encouraged and appreciated. With photos, please include caption information. If at all possible, please include a photo of the author with articles. Submission deadline for the Fall issue is **January 13, 2017**.

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### Byrd White, Division Director



It is almost that great time of year, soon our refreshers will be finished and our slopes will be open. Before we all get caught up in catching up with old friends and enjoying the great conditions of the winter, I will try to catch you up on the happenings in our Division and at National.

The new IMUS computer system is up and running, admittedly with a few opportunities for improvement but once we get these straightened out and we all get used to a new way of doing things I am confident that we will have a much more useful system. If you are having problems, please take a minute to view the online videos that are available on the NSP website. **Chris Pringle** of the Eastern Division has put in countless volunteer hours on these. Just go to **Customer Care** on the Membership page and choose the video. If you are still having trouble, the National office has asked that we all use the chain of command so that they are not overwhelmed.

The election for your National Board of Directors is approaching quickly as voting begins October 15 and ends at 4:00 Mountain Time on December 1. There are 4 positions open and 9 candidates. We are one of the smallest Divisions in the NSP so each of us needs to cast a ballot. I know that many do not think their vote is important, it is. I know that many think that the Board does not matter to them, it does. The Board influences everything from the amount of dues you pay to what is covered in the OEC text. They are the front line in protecting OEC as a national standard, ensuring that you can take your OEC credential across state lines. Who represents you is important.

All of the candidates are posted on the National website along with their background and résumé. In addition, **Bill Smith** and his committee are putting

together their recommendations as to which they think would best represent your interests at the national level. Their recommendations will be available in the very near future. PLEASE VOTE!

If you have not visited the Southern Division Website in a while give it a look. **Laura Cooper** and **Teresa Stewart** put in a lot of time and effort keeping this up to date. Want to know who's who? Want to know where to find a course or just what is going on, give it a look. Any ideas or suggestions are welcome; we all want to make it as useful as possible.

Don't forget Powderfall! It is at Aspen Snowmass April 6-8 and courses fill up. Check under Programs on the NSP Member page.

### **First Assistant Division Director ... First Assistant Division Director**

**Brent Bowman,**  
*First ADD Southern Division*

#### **GET OUT AND VOTE!!!**

Not for Hillary or Donald (although you probably should in November). WE need YOUR vote for the **National Ski Patrol - National Board Election**. Each year there are 3-4 seats on the board that are up for re-election. This year, we have nine (9) NSP members who have stepped up and are willing to volunteer for the four (4) available seats on the National Board. Two (2) of these people are from the Southern Division (Morgan Armstrong and Mark Rees). Last year appx 12% of the patrollers in the Southern Division voted. You might say that is a pretty good turnout!! However, compared to Central at 40%, we were at a very low percentage. I really don't care who you vote for ..... JUST VOTE!!! To find out who is running and their position statement(s) go to NSP.ORG, login and click on the 2016 Board Election button on your member page.

**\*\*\* Voting begins October 15 and runs thru December 1, 2016 \*\*\***

Resorts are gearing up for winter as the heat in the south finally breaks. In Atlanta, we have had 86 days over 90 degrees thru September 30. The record is 90 in 2011 and 1980. I am hoping that the winter will now turn around and be the coldest on record for all of us that want to play on the hill. Trainers from all over the Division are beginning to refresh and prepare for the upcoming OEC and On-the-Hill refreshers. Make sure that you check the NSP.ORG pages for a refresher near you. The process has changed this year and you will need to register on NSP.ORG, pay dues online (National and Division) and register for the local refresher. If your local patrol collects dues this will be done at your refresher. If you have any questions on how to register this season, please contact your Patrol Representative or Patrol Director.

See you on the hill.....

## *Election News ... Election News ... Election News ... Election News*

**Bill Smith,**

*Division Election Coordinator*



October 7, 2016

Dear Southern Division Patrollers,

Your Division leadership team is proud of the fact that Patrollers from Southern Division have been elected to the National Board of Directors on a regular basis. This year, there are four open spots on the Board. The Southern Division has two very strong candidates among those seeking seats. If we are to get our candidates elected it is imperative that we get Southern Division Patrollers to vote.

Each of us has the ability to directly elect our National BOD from a broad list of candidates – but we must **ALL** fulfill our obligation to vote for the process to work. Last year, less than 14% of Southern Division patrollers voted. This 14% who helped elect the BOD, may or may not have voted for members who are most qualified and who understand the needs and concerns of patrollers in the Southern Division or your personal priorities for the NSP.

The Southern Division has traditionally not voted as high as the national average. In the past we have heard many patrollers don't vote because there are too many candidates to choose from -- and the on-line candidate information is too cumbersome to digest.

To remedy this situation and to encourage all Southern Division patroller's to vote, the Southern Division Board charged the four Regional Directors to appoint a representative from their respective region to a Candidate Evaluation Committee that would be chaired by the Division Election Coordinator to evaluate the National BOD candidates and make their findings available to Southern Division Patrollers.

This year's nine candidates were scored in the following areas:

- Demonstrated successful leadership experience within the NSP
- Patrolling experience and involvement in education programs
- Demonstrated commitment to serve the strategic mission of the NSP
- Vision for the future of the NSP
- Relations with the ski industry and our partners
- Commitment to dialogue with patrollers to promote learning and understand Patroller needs and issues
- Leadership experience and other life skills outside the NSP
- Vision for cost control and revenue enhancement initiatives
- Meets this year's "List of Needs" as published by the NSP election committee
- Brings a unique perspective to the BOD

The Candidate Evaluation Committee has tallied the evaluations and have identified the candidates that we feel are the "Most Qualified," meaning that they best match the criteria that were established. Please feel free to use – or ignore – this perspective as you see fit. We are not trying to tell anyone how to vote. Nor is this a "single slate" or an "approved list" in any way. Your views will vary, and of course many of ours did as well.

2016 Election Memo  
October 7, 2016  
Page 2

Attached you will find the scoresheet that ranks each of the nine candidates based on the criteria outlined above.

Under the “2016 Board Election” tab on the NSP website you can find Position Statements, Resumes and Question Answers for each of the candidates running for office.

We would also encourage you to review each candidate’s one-page biography and statement in the election booklet that came in the Fall edition of Ski Patrol magazine. (That information will also be available on the [www.nsp.org](http://www.nsp.org) website.)

Also included on this year’s ballot is a proposed change in the NSP Bylaws that requires new members to have registered their membership in the NSP at least 30 days prior to the beginning of the election in order to be a member-of-record that is allowed to vote in that election. This proposed Bylaws change has been recommended and approved by the Governance Committee, Nominating Committee, and board of directors. We are recommending that you vote “yes” for this change.

The voting process for the four open seats is scheduled to begin October 15<sup>th</sup> and will be open until December 1, 2016.

To vote, anytime after the election opens on October 15, please login to your member account on [www.nsp.org](http://www.nsp.org), Sign In at the top of the page by the mountain, scroll down and click on the “For Members” button, click on the 2016 Board Election. On the left will be the candidates information button and next to it click on the “Vote Now” button. You will be redirected to the election website and your ballot will be displayed. Enter your votes for whether you agree with the Bylaws amendment and your four choices for the best candidates to serve on the board of directors. When you click the “Submit” button on the bottom of the page, you will see a confirmation that your vote has been recorded.

If you have any trouble logging on (you will need a password and e-mail account), please contact the national office at 303-988-1111.

We encourage each patroller to vote, as it does make a difference in your leadership, the future of the organization, recruiting, and fundraising.

Thanks for your service to the skiing public and your commitment to play a part in the election of our National Ski Patrol leadership.

See you on the snow and please vote!

Bill Smith  
Southern Division Election Coordinator

2016 NSP Board of Director's Candidate Score Sheet  
Ranked by Individual

	Aarino	Armstrong	Huber	Martin	Masur	Rees	Ulrich	Walker	Zedak
<b>Eval. #1</b>	94	98	78	80	85	76	84	91	96
<b>Eval. #2</b>	70	100	72	68	61	61	68	83	89
<b>Eval. #3</b>	59	100	93	73	63	96	86	94	97
<b>Eval. #4</b>	61	94	63	36	48	79	43	87	72
<b>Eval. #5</b>	85	99	81	76	64	96	53	93	90
<b>Possible</b>									
<b>Total</b>									
<b>Score</b>									
<b>500</b>	<b>369</b>	<b>491</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>333</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>408</b>	<b>334</b>	<b>448</b>	<b>444</b>

**NSP is trying to make the voting process better.**

This fall every patroller will be asked to vote on a change to the NSP Bylaws to try and make the voting process better. Currently during the voting period, candidates who join the system must be added to the voting roster up to the last day of voting. These last minute changes have caused problems with our voting company that administers the NSP vote each fall. Adding members during the process has been difficult for them to do properly and when errors have occurred it has resulted in some candidates being able to vote and others were blocked from voting.

In an effort to make the process better, the NSP Board of Directors voted to change the NSP Bylaws so 30 days prior to the election and during the election, the voting roster is fixed and no additions are placed on the roster until the election has been finalized. This allows our voting company to administer a more stable election process, avoid last minute changes and errors. In order to pass this change to our Bylaws, since this involves a change in the voting process, the membership of the NSP must vote to approve the change. Your Governance Committee approved this change on June 13, 2016 and the Board approved the change on July 20, 2016. **Please vote yes to change the NSP Bylaws so the voting list is stabilized during the voting process to reduce errors and make our elections more accurate in counting the votes properly.**

Morgan Armstrong, Chair  
Governance Committee of the NSP

**Mike Harris,**

*Assistant Division Director – South*



Time to enjoying the fall colors changing signaling the approaching winter. The heat lasted later into the fall than usual this year. If the Almanac is correct it should be a good snow season. Hopefully the Thanksgiving through New Year's season will prove to be a lot better than 2015.

Now that everyone is doing the Online/Hybrid refreshers it appears to be an efficient means of completing this training.

This year's Southern Division Fall Conference at Kingsport TN was well attended. The new format was well received.

As usual **Fred Wessels, JoAnn Ehlinger** and **Teresa Stewart** did a wonderful job with the Hospitality Suite. Thanks to all involved in organizing the Conference and the Awards Banquet. It was great to have Mike Tambling there as a vendor fitting boots. Hoping to have more vendors participating next year. So as not to duplicate details, look for more Local information in your Region Directors articles. I am anticipating a great 2016/17 season, visiting, skiing, and patrolling with as many patrols as possible. I especially look forward to seeing many of my fellow patrollers at Powderfall in April at Aspen Snowmass.

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## West Virginia Region

**Mary Lou Legg,**

*WV Region*

### **A Weekend in a RD's Life:**

Friday night I rolled into the firehouse just in time for CPR to start. In the break room I was immediately greeted by the smiles of lots of friends. Got recertified and headed up to the Village. The drinks started flowing, more friends saddled up to the bar. A round of shots, and the stories started. Stories of summer adventures, families growing, a colleague passing, ski injuries treated, and ski trips planned. Another round of shots and the tongues got thicker and the stories got older. "Remember that time..."

### **Family.**

Saturday morning, OEC Refresher rolled around with a vengeance. "Boy, how many rounds of shots were there?" Paperwork done. Friends come in, more hugs and quick conversations to catch up. Rescued a busload of stuffed animals, delivered a baby, and learned how to deal with unruly patients. More friends at each station and laughs shared. Traction splints, shock, eye injuries and more. Skills refreshed!!



### **Family.**

Now to head North to visit another patrol. Fall colors are going off in West by God. Beautiful drive. Rolled into town just in time for the end of their CPR class. Hugs! Friends who were made at the Southern Division conference welcome me into their patrol with open arms. New friends are made as we roll into the local pub and once again the drinks are flowing. Now the stories start rolling! Stories are told about their patrol. Two hours away...same storyline.

### **Family.**



Sunday morning rolled around like a loud jackhammer. "Why does my chest hurt? Too much laughing!" Patrol meeting first. Meet more new friends who were smart to stay out of the pub last night. Connections made. Patrol meeting finishes with a group photo with a check donated by patrol to the Randy Poole fund for EMS training in Tucker County. A patroller's service remembered.



**Family.**

Lift refresher on a brisk morning. Everyone helps each other with their own tricks to best launch the beanbag. More smiles and laughter shared. But now we are done. Contact info shared. Hugs goodbye, promises made to visit again. And the long drive home begins.

**Family.**

The weekend was long. I spent time with my patrol family who I hold close to my heart and I met another patrol and became a distant cousin of that patrol family. It gives me confidence that I can walk into a ski patrol anywhere and know it will be a family that will welcome me. Thank you for allowing me to be your Regional Director.



## ***Alumni Program ... Alumni Program ... Alumni Program ... Alumni Program***

The Alumni Program has a new Program Supervisor – Lynn Pace. If you are interested OR have question for him – just contact him at ([Lpace2@charter.net](mailto:Lpace2@charter.net)).

## ***Avalanche Program ... Avalanche ... AVA ... AVA ... Avalanche Program***

**Scott Campbell,**

*Avalanche Division Supervisor*

### **Avalanche Safety and Rescue Training Course Offerings**

We plan on offering the NSP “Introduction to Avalanche Safety and Rescue” course in the Southern Division twice during the upcoming season. This eight-hour course introduces fundamental principles of avalanche hazards, safety, and rescue. It does qualify as an elective requirement for the NSP Senior Program, but it does not meet Level 1 avalanche course standards and does not qualify as a prerequisite for enrollment in the Level 2 avalanche courses. For this year, we are **seeking a patrol or two** that would like to host an Introduction to Avalanche Safety and Rescue course and also maybe one of the Mountain Travel Rescue courses. We would like to hold each of these courses in one weekend, so that patrollers can get credit for TWO senior electives and also allow us to make the best use of our limited instructors. This plan is contingent upon at least a minimum of ten patrollers enrolling for each course. If a patrol would like to volunteer their location or any patroller would like to register for one of the avalanche courses, please contact Scott Campbell at [campbellsservices@gmail.com](mailto:campbellsservices@gmail.com). If you have any questions, please call him at [703 969-6730](tel:7039696730).

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## *Medical Advisory Committee ... Medical Advisory*

### **Medical Advisory Committee**

Charles Clements, Chair

### **Southern Division Medical Advisory Committee**

At the recent Southern Division Fall Conference, I had the opportunity to introduce myself as the newest Chair of the Committee, and meet a few of the division's individual patrol Medical Advisors. We were also joined by the National Medical Advisor, **Dr. David Johe**, who shared some of the information and concerns from the national level.

One of the main items of interest was the more comprehensive role that the individual Patrol Medical Advisors will have in their patrols. The new expectations are that advisors will be more active in reviewing medical protocols, conduct reviews of some incident reports, and coordinate medical issues with patrol leadership. While this seems like a lot, advisors should be reviewing and advising Patrol Directors on protocols so that they can be approved by management. The number of protocols will vary between patrols, but should not take too much time. The protocols should be reviewed and approved annually, before the start of the ski season.

From both a medical and legal standpoint, a sampling of Incident Reports will help the patrol identify training requirements for both emergency care and quality of reports. This should be done with a goal of improving the quality of documentation and treatment, and not punitive. This also supports the communication between Advisors and Directors.

Lastly, I welcome questions from both Directors and Advisors from each patrol. I hope to improve coordination and knowledge among all of our patrols. I would also like each of the Patrol Medical Advisors to contact me, by email, at [Clement1@marshall.edu](mailto:Clement1@marshall.edu). I hope that all of you will look on this as an opportunity to work together, and improve care for our skiers and boarders.

## ***Outdoor Emergency Transportation ... OET ...Outdoor Emergency Transportation***

**Tony Tingle,**

*OET Division Supervisor*

Tony Tingle e-mail [tony@tingle.rocks](mailto:tony@tingle.rocks), [geofolks@att.net](mailto:geofolks@att.net)

Howdy from the Division OET Program. Won't be long 'til we are sliding down a slope, handles in our hands, and a rescue toboggan in tow. I can't wait! In advance of that, I have a little information to update OET students and OET instructors. **First**, I'll share a few observations on the new and improved way courses will be registered, registered for, and closed. **Second**, I'd like to pass along the status of the course offerings from the OET Program, and offer up suggestions on what to register to cover your specific needs. As always, if you have a question about this give me a shout.

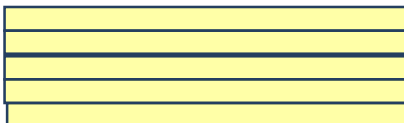
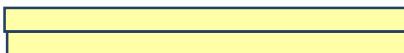
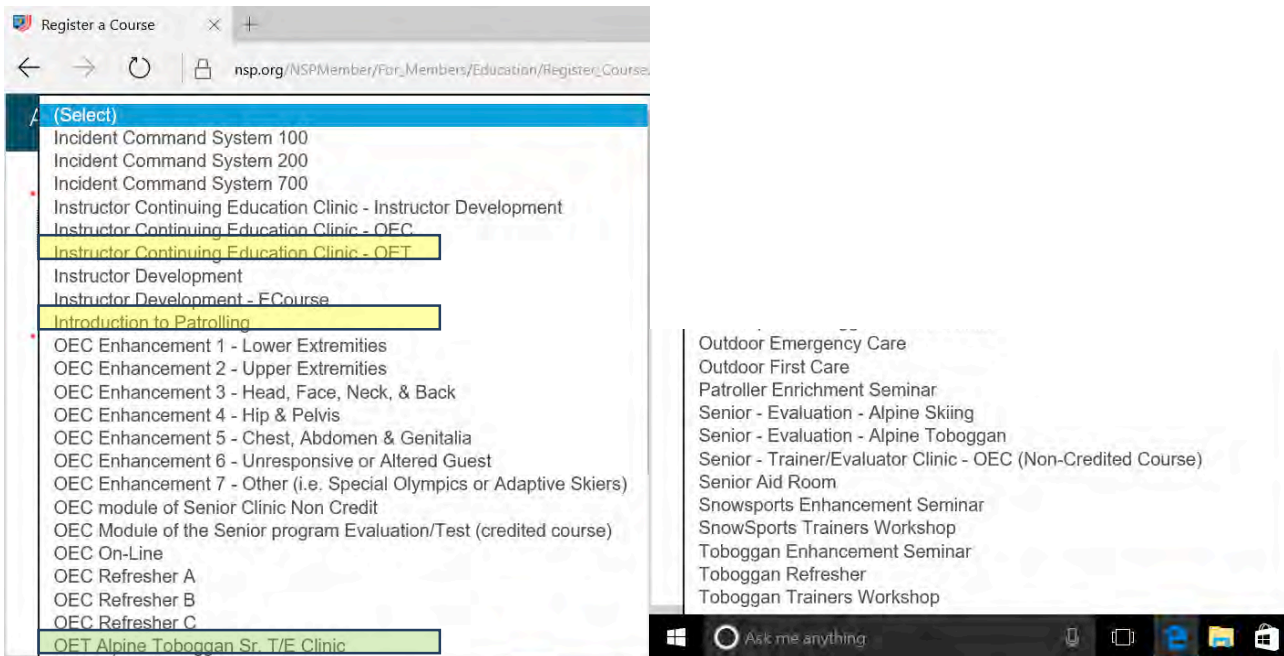
As you have probably heard, there has been a major overhaul of the National Ski Patrol (NSP) website and the underlying database that keeps track of all the training we have done. Is it up and running?....yep. Is it perfect yet?.....nope. Is it getting better by the day?.....yep. Change is sometimes painful, but in this case, it is going to help all instructors and will assure all participants get the credit for courses they deserve. The way we have done business in the past, as it relates to training, has changed.

**IN THE PAST**, an instructor registered a course on the old NSP website, folks showed up at the course, signed a roster, participated, and their name and other information was recorded on a course closure record. Once the course was complete, the instructor of record (IOR) submitted the paper course closure form to the National NSP office where some poor soul gathered the paperwork from all the patrols across the country, and hand entered all the information into the old NSP database. Once all the information was manually entered into the database, credit for the course completion showed up in your NSP profile. To complete quality assurance checks on courses, the assigned instructor trainer (IT) observed the course and submitted the quality review to the Division OET supervisor. Instructor activity tracking fell upon the individual instructors to document their teaching activities for maintenance of their OET instructor status.

**GOING FORWARD**, in the new system, the IOR registers the course online, specifies start and end dates, identifies the course IT, and identifies the assisting instructors. (Note, the IOR can edit all this information up until the course end date). This is handy if the IOR needs to add instructors or extend the course end date. ***Here is a BIG Change that effects most of us.....In the past, course sign up was done on paper and the instructors could add folks on the fly.....NOW the participants/students are the only ones who can add themselves to a course, and students must to go to the NSP website and sign up for the course online.*** This results in a little more work for the students, and a little less work for the instructors. Now, assume the course happens, everyone participates and has fun. The course end date passes; the course is locked to editing (no one can change anything at this point); and the IOR logs into the NSP website and closes the course online. The IT receives notification that the course closed, and the IT provides his/her audit information online. When the IT clicks OK, NSP receives notification that the course was closed and was reviewed and approved by the IT. At this point, everyone's records (including the IOR, instructors, and students) are updated electronically in the new NSP database. No more tracking down folks to close courses; no more lost paperwork; everybody gets credit for what they attend or teach; and all records are updated in a timely manner. Pretty cool, huh? I

have used this once this season already, and so far, so good. It worked! All is great, but it is a new system. ***The cautious part of me recommends that we all keep a paper copies of course records until the new system has proven itself a number of times!***

Now let's talk about courses. The OET courses that can currently be registered via the NSP website are a little different than the offerings I passed along last season. At the beginning of last season I shared that the National OET Team worked together to whittle down the available courses from 22 to about 7. Today there are 10 OET courses in the drop down menu. Some of those original 7, some additional courses that accommodate division-specific requirements, and some new courses. A copy of the current drop down menu is shown below, and the available OET courses are highlighted.



In Southern Division we will use the courses listed below from this menu. **Please note:** We will **not** use the **OET Senior Toboggan Sr. T/E Clinic**. This is a course run in some other Divisions for their Senior Evaluators. We will cover that same information in the **Toboggan Trainers Workshop (TTW)**.

Here is what to register.

### **ANNUAL OET REFRESHER**

**Toboggan Refresher – (TREF)**. This refresher is required annually for all patrollers that handle a toboggan as part of their duties. It is a refresher of toboggan skills and the content is determined by the local patrol. I suggest registering two TREFs. The first to refresh your instructors and the second to refresh the remainder of the patrol. This is exactly as we have done for years in the OEC program. Two courses are necessary in the new system because an instructor cannot be simultaneously registered as an instructor and a student. So, register one TREF as an “Instructor refresher”, and record one person to be the IOR. Next, register a second TREF for the rest of the patrol, and list one instructor who completed the “Instructor Refresher” TREF as the IOR for this course. Additionally, list the instructors who took the first TREF in the “Assisting Instructors” area of the course registration. Confused? Give me a shout.

### **TRAINING PATROLLERS**

**Introduction to Patrolling – (PAT)**. This is the course that many of us cut our patrolling teeth on. Although the PAT includes a broad content, it is currently administered under the OET Program. With that in mind, this is the go-to course for developing toboggan skills for candidates at any level (Alpine Candidates, Senior Candidates, and Certified Candidates) as well as the general patrol knowledge for those working towards their Alpine Patroller classification. Register this course to cover your OET instructors during training and testing. There is no specific course to register for Basic Evaluations. Candidate evaluation can be performed as part of the PAT.

**Toboggan Enhancement Seminar – (TES)**. This course is for the Patroller who wants to sharpen their toboggan handling skills. Also, a TES is now registered in lieu of the old Senior Toboggan Clinic. If you plan to teach a TES as a “Senior Toboggan Clinic”, you can add notes during the course registration that the TES is for Senior candidates only.

**SnowSport Enhancement Seminar – (SES)**. A course for the Patroller who wants to sharpen their alpine ski/snowboard/telemark skills. The SES should use the current Professional Ski Instructor Association /American Association of Snowboard Instructors (PSIA/AASI) terminology and methodologies. The Division Snowsports School is a great resource here. In addition, the former Senior Ski/Snowboard Clinic is replaced by registering a SES for senior candidates.

### **INSTRUCTOR TRAINING (CONTINUING EDUCATION)**

**Toboggan Trainers Workshop – (TTW)**. This is a new course that meets the continuing education (CE) requirements for OET instructors. One CE credit is required every three years to maintain instructor status.

The IOR for this course must be an OET IT. The course is intended for current and aspiring OET instructors and focuses on sharpening teaching skills as they relate to OET. Register this as your instructor/evaluator CE.

**Instructor Continuing Education Clinic – (OET)**. This is the dry-land course covering the administrative and logistical requirements for administering the OET Program to your patrollers. This does not meet the once-every-three-year CE requirement.

**SnowSport Trainers Workshop – (STW)**. This is an old course that has been retooled and is added to the drop down menu for this season. The STW also satisfies the CE requirements for OET instructors. The course is intended for current and aspiring instructors who want to sharpen their teaching skills as they relate to Ski and Snowboard instruction. The STW must be overseen by a PSIA Level III instructor or AASI Level II instructor and will use the current PSIA/AASI terminology and methodologies. The Southern Division Snowsports School is a great resource here.

### **EVALUATING SENIOR CANDIDATES**

**Senior Evaluation – Alpine Skiing**. Register this course to evaluate the skiing/telemark/snowboard skills for Senior candidates.

**Senior Evaluation – Alpine Toboggan**. Register this course to evaluate toboggan handling skills for Senior candidates.

Need a course? Talk to your OET instructors on your hill, your Region OET supervisors, or me. Remember that OET courses need to be observed by an IT and coordinated with the Region Directors for scheduling on the Division Calendar. If you have OET questions, drop me a line. See you on the snow!

## *Safety Team ... Safety Team ... Safety Team ... Safety Team ... Safety Team*

**Brett Henyon,**  
*Safety Team*

### **NSP Safety Team Vision Statement**

The NSP Safety Team will be the leader in mountain safety, education, awareness, and hazards reduction.

### ***Mission Statement***

The NSP Safety Team strives to be the leader in the ski industry in education, awareness, and mountain safety for employees and guests. We will accomplish this by aligning and collaborating with other like-minded organizations. We will represent all members of the National Ski Patrol organization with the highest level of patroller skills, commitment to creativity, and integrity.

The 2016-'17 Safety Team is excited to continue to promote initiatives that support helmet safety, lift safety (Sit Back and Hold on); blue groomer; back and side country safety and terrain park safety through its "Lead by Example" program. We are also focusing on The Mountain Biking Safety Program and The High Five Foundation.



The Safety Team is participating in Powderfall '17 and I am excited to see Southern Division represented in force.



## ***Snowsports School ... Snowsports School ...Snowsports School***

**Briggs Allen,**

*Snowsports Supervisor*

### **SDNSP Snowsports School Fall Southern Cross**

I do not know about you live but this summer in the Northeast Tennessee “ mountains” has just been brutally hot. We have experienced almost 60 days of 90+ degree weather with our average being only 19 days. Hopefully the winter will balance things out being colder than normal. We will see.

Thanks for all of you that attended your Snowsports School’s sessions during the Patrollers Conference in Kingsport. I think a lot of good information was imparted necessitating the need to have good patrollers/trainers that are also PSIA/AASI certified. This assures that all patrollers and candidates are being imparted good accurate information from a verifiable source

Now probably what you are all waiting for, the 2016-17 season for the Snowsports School has some great events planned. We will open the ski season as we usually do, with our informative “Train the Trainer” Clinic the Cataloochee Resort in Maggie Valley North Carolina December 10 and 11. This is always a great clinic to develop good skiing/snowboarding habits at the beginning of the season. It is not just for ski patrol trainers but also open to all patrollers and candidates as well. We segregate the groups according to their wants, needs and abilities. This clinic is an informative program that will get your feet on the right track for the upcoming ski season. And don’t forget we always have fun when we go out to dinner as a group on Saturday night. The cost of this clinic is a bargain at \$35 and you can contact me directly to register via email. Excitement continues to build for our biannual PSI/AASI Demo Team Clinic. For those of you that are not familiar with this clinic we bring members of the PSIA and AASI National Snowboarding and Alpine Demo Teams to one of our resorts for a 2 ½ day clinic. These team members are not only the best skiers/snowboarders in the world but also the best teachers and communicators. There is no better way to learn than in this clinic with your fellow patrollers. This year the clinic will be held at Timberline Resort in snowy West Virginia and more information will be forthcoming.

I am often asked what goes on behind the scenes to put on the Demo Team Clinic. Well having done this several times I can unequivocally state that it is a ton of work. Not only do you have to directly communicate with Alpine and Snowboard team members regarding potential dates that they are available but you have to find a resort that is willing to host the event on the date that the demo team members are available. It seems for some reason bringing in one Snowboard demo team member and two Alpine demo team members and getting their schedules to coordinate is a herculean task. You would think this would be relatively easy but it is not. This is the reason that there are sometimes “conflicting” events occurring on our demo team weekend. Of course, since none of the team members are “local” you have to make arrangements for them to fly in to the region, try to arrange their flights to arrive at the same airport about the same time so that they can all rent *one* car and travel to the ski area as a group (that saves money). Then you have to make sure their lodging is appropriate as we often have both male and female team members. Next you have to do the reverse to get them back to their respective home mountains. Continuing the circus is to make sure that of the word gets out in a timely fashion to all of patrollers. Then you have to register these individuals, collect the funds, make sure all the classes are full, continue to coordinate with the resort, and send a ton of emails

answering questions. Then all of the accounting takes place and our treasurer has to issue checks to the demo team members for their fees, etc. Wow I am tired just talking about it. In any event, information is forthcoming on this great clinic. Join us.

Now our Technical Director, **Matt Weitz**, has some great information on getting ready for the ski season: This is the time of year when I write a letter to our candidates suggesting in a firm but gentle way that they get their butts in shape, literally. I'll also remind them of this when I give my first talk about Alpine OET training, and I'll mention it occasionally to candidates I see at refresher, OEC class, and On-the-Hill training. Basically, I'm a broken record. By our first ski/snowboard session together, long before they get in front of a sled, they're going to work muscles they may never knew existed. So, how's your *tibialis anterior* feeling?

For candidates bound for some grueling ski/snowboard and toboggan education, pre-season physical training (strength, cardio, and flexibility) is essential. But it's also important for all active patrollers, from running that first sled of the season, to repositioning a heavyweight patient on a gurney. Last week at my gym, when I was cramping half way through my second set of jump squats, I thought, "Hmmm, I'm a long way from season-ready." By December, I won't have made any radical changes to my middle-aged dad bod, but I'll be ready to take my best shot at an injury-free season (although there's not much I can do about my skier thumbs at this point).

There's a lot of good online information available about pre-season conditioning programs, a few of which I've posted below. Another good idea is to join an ongoing "boot camp" program available at your local YMCA, CrossFit gym, or other fitness center. Maybe you don't need to train like Ted Ligety who routinely pulls three Gs in a race, but in truth, how much G-force do you think you might make impeding the progress of a 300 pound loaded sled?

Here's a few ski/snowboard pre-season exercise links:

- <http://www.onthesnow.com/news/a/107241/u-s--ski-team-s-5-essential-ski-training-exercises>
- <http://dailyburn.com/life/fitness/essential-skiing-exercises/>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rfQbOtPQ7hQ>

Good information, as always, Matt.

Well that is about it for the fall issue. Hope to see you on the snow and just remember, snow sports are really very 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* 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.southernnsp.org](http://www.southernnsp.org)) 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)).

UPDATE: The Hybrid Instructor Development Program is now available! Note: This is a two-part process. Part one – take and successfully complete the Instructor Development eCourse 2016 Course and obtain a completion certificate. Part two – face-to-face in a classroom environment to finish the classroom modules and teach a six-pack session. Both the ID tradition and ecourse require the student to then start and complete the mentoring phases to finish the instructor process. This last step is not required if you are **ONLY** seeking Senior Elective.

To access this course patrollers can click on the following link and follow the:

- <https://nsp.knowledgedirectweb.com/kd/10.cfm>
- **NOTE:** Use of Chrome, Firefox or Safari web browsers is recommended – there are known compatibility issues with Windows 10 and the new Edge browser.
- New students click on “*new student*” box to register or log in if registered before
  - If you forgot your password – use the Forgot Password function to reset the password.
- After successfully login – select Available Courses Tab – select ID eCourse 2016 – then Add Course. This will then show the course on your patroller’s My Courses tab.
- There is a quiz at the end of each chapter – to move forward to the next chapter select the Course: Instructor Development eCourse 2016 link to return to the list of activities and select the next chapter.
- Upon successful completion of all 11 chapters, the Final Assessment will appear at the top right of the List of Activities. There is no time limit on the exam and the patroller will have the opportunity to review responses prior to final submission of the exam.
- After passing the exam with a score of 80% or higher, the patroller returns to the Training Menu and selects the Instructor Development eCourse 2016 link. The Course survey button will appear at the top right. The Course Survey must be completed prior to the patroller seeing the Print Certificate button.
- Once the Course Assessment is complete (survey), the patroller selects the Return to Course links and a Print Certificate button will appear at the top right hand corner of the list of modules.

The Instructor Development Continuing Education Manual (final) has been published to the NSP website for all educational disciplines to use. If you are a current instructor – please check the NSP website to obtain the current up-to-date forms!

Let me know if you have any questions. Thank you -- Teresa

## *Nordic...Nordic...Nordic...Nordic...Nordic...Nordic...Nordic...Nordic*

**Penny Dimler,**

*Southern Division Nordic Supervisor*

### **Eastern Division Avalanche, Mountaineering, Nordic Instructors Refresher**

By Evan Krichevsky, Shenandoah Nordic

The refresher had continuing education components for AMN Instructors. There was a presentation by **Rick Shandler**, National Ski Patrol Nordic Director, and **Andrew Hower**, National Park Service, of the Joint Service Operational Understanding (special version of a Memorandum of Understanding) between the National Ski Patrol and the National Park Service nationwide.

For the **Avalanche** refresher, we used beacons to find two fellow skiers buried in an avalanche a distance down the mountain, actually the woods. There also was a pinpoint search with the beacons to further minimize the search area for the probes. We also measured the slope incline and direction of exposure.

For the **Nordic** refresher, we built an emergency shelter for the hypothermic patient and the rescuer for an overnight until additional help arrived. We also had a discussion on matchless fire starting, including various commercial methods.

For **Mountaineering**, there was scenario-based discussion on preparedness. Also, there was an activity that was based on teamwork and group planning. There were nine plates and two teams of four. The objective was to move each team to the other side where you could only move forward to an empty plate and only pass a member of the opposite team.

On Sunday, several of us were given a private historical tour of Valley Forge National Historic Park by one of the guides. The guide is also an Alpine patroller at Blue Mountain.

I was fortunate to be able to represent Shenandoah Nordic patrol at the historic signing between the National Park Service and the National Ski Patrol. This event took place on Saturday Sept 17, 2016 at Valley Forge, PA. The signing is an agreement between the two organizations as a partnership in outdoor rescue. This is not limited to skiing, it will include many outdoor sports, especially mountain biking. After the signing we were all treated to a nice BBQ lunch and time to socialize with the Eastern Division patrollers.

**Ken Pankow,**

*Shenandoah Nordic Patrol PR*



## [...Women's Program ... Women's Program ...](#)

**Tanya Thomas,**

*Southern Division Women's Program Supervisor*

Where do I start?! I am so excited about the opportunity to take over the Southern Division Women's Program. My life the last few months has been a whirlwind... I had my second baby (another boy!), started potty training the two year old, went back to work part time, and now I'm planning a SPECTACULAR women's clinic for you ladies of the Southern Division!!! A few of the ladies present at the division conference in Kingsport, TN (August) got together to brainstorm a few ideas of what kind of trouble we could get into this season. Of course we had a great time together and thought of a few new activities we might try to incorporate into this year's clinic. In case you missed it, the **2017 clinic is at Wintergreen Resort in Wintergreen, VA January 28-29.**



“Brainstorming” (L-R) Randi Lowery, Joy Jucker, Laney Lovell, Tanya Thomas, Rhonda Smith

Want to know more?! Be sure to contact me at [tanya.bruce@gmail.com](mailto:tanya.bruce@gmail.com) to get on the list and/or check the Southern NSP Women's Program Facebook page for more information as available. And please, share with your lady patroller friends! We have a great time every year and want every mountain in the division represented so you can learn, lead, and take back some empowering stuff to fellow women at your mountain.

Our FB link - <https://www.facebook.com/nspSDWP/>

The national women's program blog - <http://nspwomensprogram.org/>

Also check out <http://www.powderfall.com/> -- April 6-8, 2017. There will be women only demo team clinics and a clinic with the famous **Heidi Ettlinger**. I hope to go and hope we have a great group of southern women to *represent!*

Can't wait to see you on the slopes!

XO - T.

## **Young Adult Program ... YAP Program ... Young Adult Program ...YAP**

### **Catherine Ballard, Supervisor**

#### *Young Adult Program*

Patrollers ages fifteen to twenty-five – please contact me if you are interested in learning about the NSP Young Adult Program. When Byrd White asked me if I'd like to head up the YAP for the Southern Division, I was pleased that he thought I was young. I'm keeping information about my age to myself (see photo of me skiing before plastic was discovered). The YAP is a bit of a step up for me – for the last seven



years I've been involved with Wintergreen's Youth Ski Patrol, for kids ages eleven to fifteen. Two of my daughters are now young patrollers (ages 17 and 19). As such, I too am moving up and looking forward to learning what YAP entails. I'd love to hear from patrollers at other mountains about the YAP and anyone who is interested in becoming involved.

So, please contact me if you are interested at [catherinepballard@gmail.com](mailto:catherinepballard@gmail.com). Winter is coming.



## *Around the Division*

### **Beech Mountain Ski Patrol**

#### **Ken Hale,**

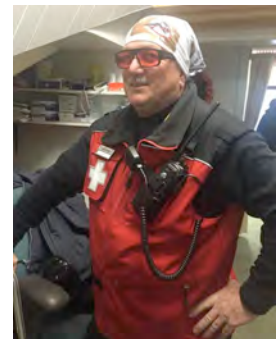
*PR – Beech Mountain Patrol*

Like all resorts in the southeast, Beech battled unseasonable temperature in the early season of 2015-16. Ongoing improvements to the mountain's automated snowmaking system allowed a quick recovery once temperatures allowed. The Beech patrol engaged in candidate training, as well as hosted and/or sent patrollers to numerous ski and OEC training sessions. Beech wrapped-up its season mid-March. Several patrollers wandered west following our season, and several attended Powder Fall.

Beech will feature a new slope this season, which will be dedicated freestyle terrain with features and a new handle tow ground lift for access. The area has been under construction for several weeks, automated snowmaking has been installed, and plans are to open the area early season. The added benefit is that it will allow Powderbowl to return as skiable terrain lessening traffic on the Freestyle slope.

**Bob Mahoney**, patrol representative for Beech Mountain Ski Patrol, was fatally injured on April 16, 2016, in an ATV accident in West Virginia. Bob was riding with a group of fellow patrollers, **Mike Ohlson**, **Jim Herd**, and **Weidner Abernethy** at the time of the accident. Despite rescue efforts by these fellow patrollers as well as local EMS staff, Bob's injuries were non-survivable. Bob was a 40 year veteran of Beech's patrol, and his passion for the patrol and leadership will be greatly missed.

Fingers crossed for an early, cold season.



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### **Cataloochee Ski Patrol**

#### **Cataloochee Ski Area Serves Its Community**

*Rick Roberts, antique patroller*

Under the leadership of president and general manager, **Chris Bates**, Cataloochee Ski Area (CSA) strives to be an engaged, corporate citizen, making a difference in their community. Each ski season, CSA sponsors two events on the first full weekend of December; one to benefit their local patrons and the area's ski patrol and the other to serve persons in crisis in their county.

In sponsoring the Annual Cataloochee Ski & Snowboard Swap Shop, Chris Bates expressed the desire to provide a service for CSA's local clientele to be able to procure snow sports equipment and clothing at affordable prices and to sell items they no longer used. The Swap Shop also benefits the Cataloochee Ski Patrol whose members volunteer their time to conduct the Swap Shop in exchange for the patrol's receiving a commission on the proceeds of the sale. Additionally, all





unclaimed items offered in the sale are contributed to a local charity, further benefitting the community. All in all, CSA's sponsorship has proven beneficial on three levels.

Of even greater significance, is Cataloochee Ski Area's partnership with Haywood County Christian Ministries in serving individuals and families in crisis in the county. For the past 15 years CSA has sponsored the *Can-U-Ski Food and Coat Drive*, which provides free lift tickets (a \$65.00 value) to patrons who contribute either 24 cans of food or two warm winter coats of good quality. On average, CSA has provided 1,200 lift tickets each year in exchange for contributions and has also helped raise awareness in the community by helping neighbors in need.

According to Lisa James, the ministry's executive director, CSA's partnership provides help at the most critical time, "when our shelves are bare, and the need is greatest; our client load nearly doubles in the winter months." Therefore, the proceeds provided by CSA's drive, which range between 6,000 and 10,000 pounds of food and 200-300 winter coats annually, are crucial. Ms. James concluded in saying, "Cataloochee Ski Area is an incredible blessing to our ministry and our community, and the cooperation provided by Tammy Brown, CSA's community relations director, is truly exceptional."

Beyond that special first weekend in December, the ski area also expresses appreciation to members of the military, law enforcement and fire and rescue personnel and their families by providing special reduced rates for skiing and snowboarding on specific dates during the ski season, which has proven to be greatly appreciated by many well-deserving, public servants.

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## Timberline Ski Patrol

**Steve Cvechko, PR**  
*Timberline Ski Patrol*

Timberline Ski Patrol elected a new Board of Directors recently: **Steve Cvechko** was elected Patrol Representative , **Chuck Griffin** as Assistant Patrol Representative for Operations , **Dale Schultz** as Assistant Patrol Representative for OEC, **Marti Neustadt** as Secretary , and **Darren Bennett** as Treasurer. The new board brings a vast amount of experience for administering NSP programs to the patrol. Dale has been successful in recruiting new instructors and providing continuing education courses for existing instructors. We will teach an online OEC course this fall and winter and are actively recruiting candidates to rebuild our patrol.

It is anticipated that Timberline will host a Nordic clinic sometime this winter so come and see us!

Timberline Ski Patrol recently has partnered with the Tucker Community Foundation to set up a Field of Interest Fund named after Randy Poole, a Timberline Ski Patroller and former Board member who passed away before his time. The fund will be designated for emergency services education in Tucker County.

Here is the article from the Parsons Advocate newspaper about the Timberline Ski Patrol establishing an educational fund for deceased patroller Randy Poole.

**Timberline Ski Patrol Establishes Randy Poole Memorial Fund - The Parsons Advocate**

<http://parsonsvococate.com/timberline-ski-patrol-establishes-randy-poole-memorial-fund/>

## Ober Gatlinburg Youth Patrol (OYP)



**Purpose:** To teach children 11-18 years old first aid and ski/snowboard skills and prepare them to begin their journey to become Ski Patrollers in the future (as early as 15 years old). Becoming a patroller is not required, but the skills learned during this program will carry over into their everyday life!

**Age:** 11-18

**Cost:** \$0.00

**Time** 8:30 am – 12:00 pm (7:30 if you want to help open the ski area)

### **2016-2017 Season Program**

**December 18 – Youth Patrol Duties and Patent Assessment/Slope Assessment**

**January 8 – Control Bleeding and Removal of Boots and Helmet/CPR Certification**

**January 22 – Low angle rescue: Ropes and pulleys and more/ski/snowboard skills**

**February 12 – Shock – how much blood do you need? /toboggan skills**

**February 26 – Incident command and Triage**

For more information contact Rob Mayer at [remstu@yahoo.com](mailto:remstu@yahoo.com)

**Conference 2016 – Kingsport, TN**

*(Photos submitted by Randi Lowery)*



## Annual Southern Division Awards 2016

**Peg Harris,**  
Awards Advisor

Another season and another successful awards banquet. This was Byrd White and my first time together as the awards presentation team. And we did a great job keeping it short and on point. Again, the service award recipients were streamed on a screen during dinner. Comments have been that folks are actually reading the names as they scroll. This is a way more efficient way to announce the recipients than just taking the time to read out the names.

So here are the recipients of all the various awards given this year.

### **Certificates of Appreciation**

***Rendering efficient, faithful and invaluable service to the Southern Division's Candidate Evaluation Committee in conjunction with the National Ski Patrol 2015 National Board of Director's election.***

***Team Members:***

Robin Griffith, Blue Ridge Region  
Dennis Slagle, Dixie Region  
Ashley McCowen, Virginia Region  
Tom Wagner, West Virginia Region

***Region Directors:***

Brent Rockett, Blue Ridge  
Brandon Olson, Dixie  
Tom Byron, Virginia  
Isaac Colvard, West Virginia

### **Service Awards by Patrol**

***Appalachian***

Adam	Hamrick	10 years
John	Hamrick	10 years
Joseph	LaCroix	10 years
Amy	Norwood	10 years
Victor	Misenheimer	20 years
Charles	Lentz	30 years
Richard	Sanders	30 years
Kevin	Bilodeau	35 years
Blake	Brown	45 years

***Beech Mountain***

Brandon	Benbow	10 years
Kenneth	Hale	15 years
Benjamin	Jones	20 years
Joshua	Jones	20 years
Margaret	Rees	20 years
Gary	Strohschein	20 years
Toni	Cheek	25 years
Susie	Strohschein	25 years

Richard	Yercheck	25 years
Earl	Allen	30 years
Jeffrey	Birks	30 years
Richard	Laws	35 years
Caron	Sowers	35 years
Raymond	Smith	40 years
Harold	Tilley	40 years
Ann	Wood	40 years
David	Wray	40 years

***Blackwater Nordic***

Dan	Sullivan	15 years
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***Bryce Mountain***

Glenn	Jackson	10 years
Carter	Lewis	10 years
William	Kost	20 years
Kurt	Legenhausen	20 years
Nancy	DiBenedetto	25 years

***Cataloochee***

Frank	Cooper	10 years
Grayson	Cooper	10 years
Craig	Cox	10 years
Renee	Hoyos	10 years
Shannon	Hunter	10 years
L. Bruce	Stout	10 years
Anaistaiscia	Warner	10 years
Stephanie	White	10 years
Chris	Polhemus	15 years
Ann	Blakely	25 years
Eric	Henderson	25 years
George	Kellogg	30 years
Wayne	Morgan	30 years
Melanie	Wolford	30 years
Steve	McCarragher	40 years
William	Dunaway	45 years
James	Roberts	45 years

***Homestead***

Jeff	Kelly	15 years
Jerry	Taylor	35 years
William	Parks	40 years

***Massanutten***

Paul	Goulart	10 years
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Travis	Dorman	15 years
Kelly	Drewnowski	15 years
David	Pedrick	20 years
Christopher	Trimble	20 years
Michael	Briske	25 years
Chris	Cormode	25 years
Brian	Dubas	25 years
Todd	Horting	25 years
Sanford	Montalto	25 years

***Ober Gatlinburg***

Deidra	Banks	10 years
Mark	Ranft	10 years
Troy	Tisue	10 years
Brandon	Olson	15 years
Armand	Mendez	25 years
Brett	Bjornstad	30 years

***Snowshoe***

Austin	Barga	10 years
Robert	Darling	10 years
Robert	Baiotto	20 years
Todd	Gay	20 years
Mike	Shaner	20 years
Aaron	Harrah	25 years
Harley	Harrah	25 years
Troy	Kurtz	25 years
Greg	Thomas	25 years
Patrick	Bennett	35 years
Becky	Sharp	35 years
Michael	VanWoert	35 years

***Southern Admin Patrol***

Teresa	Stewart	15 years
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***Sugar Mountain***

Robert	Truesdale	10 years
Kintner	Alverson	10 years
Jeremy	Hoke	15 years
Robert	Doren	20 years
Gene	Self	25 years
William	Broome	30 years
Steven	Dobrot	30 years
Mary	Harris	30 years
Nancy	Ilderton	30 years

George	Ostrouchov	30 years
Christine	Myatt	40 years
Douglas	Sloan	45 years

***Timberline***

Julia	Aucremanne	10 years
Marti	Jefferson	10 years
Bernard	Joyce	10 years
Patrick	McCann	10 years
Elizabeth	Moore	10 years
Ben	Neustadt	10 years
Dwight	Petry	10 years
Chris	Ujvagi	10 years
Herb	Edwards	15 years
Janette	Basile	25 years

***Wintergreen***

Aileen	Cassidy	10 years
Doug	Ramirez	10 years
Keith	Cassidy	15 years
Ted	Forbes	15 years
Dean	Giblin	15 years
Caroline	Metch	15 years
R. Greg	Pence	15 years
Carroll	Allred	20 years
Kathy	Butler	20 years
John	Deddens	20 years
Denika	Gum	20 years
Andrew	Knick	20 years
William	Spencer	20 years
Dirk	VanAssendelft	20 years
Jerry	Barber	30 years
Gregory	Bradley	30 years
James	McCaslin	30 years
John (ED)	Pouncey	30 years
Jay	Roberts	30 years
R. Morgan	Armstrong	35 years
John	Vasiloff	35 years
C. Brandon	Deane	40 years
Tom	Hughes	40 years
Samuel	Bruce	45 years

***Winterplace***

Mark	Collins	10 years
Chris	Finch	10 years



Dave	Holloway	10 years
Andrea	Marino	10 years
Ryan	Kelly	15 years
Joda	Meisel	15 years
Jennifer	Weaver	15 years
Thomas	Dragan	20 years
Scott	Glover	30 years

***Wolf Ridge***

Vernon	Taylor	30 years
Timothy	Liberty	45 years

**Patroller's Cross**

***Personal sacrifice in service to all who ski***

Grant Truesdale	Sugar Mountain
Robert Duran	Sugar Mountain
Lisa Skelley	Cataloochee

**National Appointments**

Tom Byron	Massanutten
Paul Hansen	Massanutten

**Special Plaque of Appreciation**

Flynn Harris - Sugar Mountain

For exceptional service to the Sugar Mountain Ski Patrol and to the Southern Division of the National Ski Patrol

**Division Outstanding Winners**

***Alpine Patroller***

Stephanie Otteni -- Massanutten

As the Patrol Director at our resort, I nominate a patroller as Outstanding Alpine Patroller.

The nominee has been a patroller since 2009 and has quickly become a valuable asset to our patrol. She took on shifts starting the day she passed all OEC and OET training and immediately got to work.

The nominee is always looking to improve her skills and is a continual learner regardless of whether the subject is Outdoor Emergency Care, Outdoor Emergency Transportation, or continuing education. Often our OET team will have to search out patrollers for their annual toboggan recertification. Not with this nominee. Even after excelling in the toboggan recertification on the first attempt, the nominee treats the recertification as a training opportunity and will seek out additional recertification runs just to hone her skills.

The volunteer patrollers at our resort typically work weekends but the nominee regularly stops by the resort on two weekday evenings a week to help cover dinner breaks for the weekday patrollers. These extra shifts do not relieve the nominee from regular shift obligations; she covers them just to support the resort.

Moreover, the nominee is extremely flexible, willingly and cheerfully changing her schedule to make it easier for management to cover shortages and maintain hill coverage when needed.

The nominee's flexibility and willingness are not all that are noteworthy; it is also what she does while serving a shift. She provides a strong presence on the hill and is always out providing patrol visibility, covering ground, providing speed control, searching for the visitor in need, or noticing a trail marking adjustment that will make a trail a little safer.

The nominee's first aid and customer relation skills are also exemplary. She treats patients with an excellent bedside manner. She is particularly effective when treating children.

Finally, the nominee serves as an NSP goodwill ambassador leading a church youth group where the favorite activity is the annual youth ski trip.

It is with great honor that I nominate this patroller as Outstanding Alpine Patroller.

### ***OEC Instructor***

Cathy Ballard - Wintergreen

Since joining the NSP as a candidate, it has been evident to all that the individual recommended for this award has displayed an enthusiasm and willingness to promote the NSP through working with the youth and OEC was something special.

Following completion of this patrollers candidate and basic patroller credentialing in 2009, the nominee immediately attended an Instructor Development Course to be able to become an OEC Instructor and utilize her very love of teaching OEC to peer patrollers. In the years since first becoming an OEC instructor she has taught each year in the patrol's annual OEC course and annual refresher program. She often patrols the least popular patrol night shifts and encourages our young adult patrollers to join her as a leader and mentor to all of them.

She is the "pied piper" to young patrollers. This patroller arranged a showing of the 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division and the NSP movie night as an all resort event serving pizza and cake.

Soon after she began teaching OEC, this patroller was willing to take on the important role of Youth Patrol Program Director. As an energetic mom of four children, she saw the need to reach out to teens interested in becoming NSP members. This program introduces youth patrollers to basic first aid and life saving strategies, providing knowledge for emergency situations that he/she may encounter at home, at school or while playing with friends. Through hands-on and other fun ways to learn, youth patrollers gain cognitive knowledge of the National Ski Patrol purpose and mission. To be accepted in the program, all applicants must be between the ages of 11 and 15. In addition, applicants should be comfortable skiing black-diamond terrain. The program reaches its maximum capacity each year with 20 youth patrollers enrolling. Teaching skills for the OEC program are not always easy to successfully execute, yet the nominee makes OEC skills teachable to young students. She makes it so interesting that many stay in the program until they are of age to join the NSP.

This patroller has increased parental participation in the program, resulting in several parents joining the OEC class with their child following completion of the Youth Patrol Program. As a great ambassador for the NSP, she is responsible for 10 parent child combinations joining and completing the OEC program. The Youth Patrol is feeder program to our OEC class. In the last two years we have 5 young adult patrollers on our patrol because of this patroller's efforts. She has also helped many students with high school requirements for community service attain these required hours through patrolling

She continues to learn herself and lead by example as she completed her Senior OEC and is working on passing her Senior S&T requirements. This patroller attended our division's Women's Clinic while bringing some female young adult patrollers with her. When asked why, she stated "it would be great for them to meet other strong role models in the NSP".

Her hard work has not gone unnoticed by her resort patrol staff, area management, and division leadership. Using her attorney training, this patroller has helped develop the informed consent, waiver and other necessary forms for this program working with mountain management's approval. This patroller's program has been presented numerous times at the division meetings and shared with other patrols. Statistics from National tells us that our organization is aging and we need the younger generations to continue our mission. We all talk about it but this patroller is doing something. She is preparing the future leaders of this beloved organization through teaching OEC skills, dedication, energy and innovation.

It is with great honor and appreciation that I nominate this patroller for Outstanding OEC Instructor.

***Instructor***

Cathy LaMarre - Appalachian

It is indeed a pleasure to recommend this patroller for the Outstanding National Ski Patrol Instructor Award. This nominee has been lead OEC instructor and has been instrumental in providing the OEC curriculum for our region for the past 20 years. She has taught ***Introduction to Patrolling*** every year since its origin and ***Patroller Enrichment*** classes every year. She is a certified CPR Instructor, helped design our Patroller 101 Course and made it available to other mountains and has written and developed our patrol level Blood Borne Pathogens Exposure Control Plan.

She has helped teach girl scouts skiing safety, helped with the boy scout's cardboard box derby, helped with the Special Olympics program, volunteers for a fund raiser every year for a local marathon race and performs first aid as needed, volunteers for Relay for Life, and has helped the community by volunteering to evaluate two EMT finals and has also been involved in evaluating local EMS skills evaluations.

This patroller's dedication and volunteerism is invaluable to our area, this organization and to our community as well.

As one can see, this nominee is most deserving of this outstanding award. Thank you for considering this nominee for the Outstanding Instructor Award.

***Paid Patroller***

George Myers -- Massanutten

As the Patrol Director at our Resort, I nominate a patroller as outstanding paid patroller. The Nominee has been a patroller since 1999, an OEC instructor since 2006, and a Senior patroller since 2008. He is also a lift evacuation instructor and is certified in fall protection enabling him to climb lift towers. The nominee also brings to our patrol a wealth of experience garnered from decades of professional and volunteer firefighter and rescue work.

In 2011, when I was abruptly promoted from Lead Supervisor (our resort's term for Assistant Patrol Director) to Patrol Director, I needed to select a Lead Supervisor to fill the vacancy my promotion created. I selected the nominee and he has filled that position since 2011. As Lead Supervisor, the nominee has continually validated my choice by demonstrating the traits that led me to select him. He stepped up quickly as the promotion were unexpected and performed exceptionally well from the start.

He is always willing to help out and brings to every situation the laid back demeanor and confidence that our line patrollers really appreciate. Strong first aid skills are only part of the story. Equally important is the confidence the nominee inspires serving as my representative and the resort's when I am not on site. Both patrollers and the general public benefit from the nominee's personality and skills.

The lifeblood of a ski patrol is the OEC candidate class that provides new patrollers each year. For years our resort was blessed with a patroller who ran our candidate class and was awarded a National Appointment in large part because of the effectiveness of our training program. That patroller was forced to transfer because of family issues. Most patrols would be unable to recover from such a sudden and unexpected vacancy. Not us. Like the 1925 New York Yankees with Lou Gehrig to replace Wally Pipp, we had the nominee to fill the void. He volunteered to be the IOR for our candidate class and we did not miss a beat. That OEC class was one of our strongest ever and the nominee was the major reason why.

Our resort has expanded the use of OEC as the standard of care to provide not just first aid for the ski resort but also for other areas of recreation including our outdoor recreation facility with zip lines, climbing walls, tubing, and other outdoor activities. The nominee was a leader in helping us set up this expanded support. His presence helped ensure that the new program got off the ground properly.

It is with great honor that I nominate this patroller as Outstanding Paid Patroller.

### ***Mary Kay Twomey Patroller***

Kameron Tucker -- Massanutten

As the Patrol Director at our resort, I nominate a patroller for Outstanding Patroller. The nominee completed OEC and joined our patrol in 2014. She also became an OEC instructor in 2015. Although relatively new to our patrol, the nominee has quickly become an asset.

Our resort has expanded the use of OEC as the standard of care to provide not just first aid for the ski area but also for other areas of recreation including our water park and our outdoor recreation facility with ziplines, climbing walls, tubing, and other outdoor activities. As a result the OEC class taught by the ski patrol trains and qualifies a number of what we call OEC technician who are not members of the ski patrol but who provide first aid in the other recreational activities at the resort. The nominee is a result of that program.

The nominee completed the OEC class seeking to become one of these OEC technicians. She was a full time employee of the resort at one of the non-skiing recreation activities. Due to her full time status the nominee was not permitted to be a paid employee with ski patrol. The nominee had such a positive impression of NSP following the OEC class that she wanted to give back and she chose to work in the aid room as a volunteer patroller. The nominee also stated that she knew that she would see a greater volume of patients with more serious injuries at the ski area than she would at the recreation facility. The nominee wanted to gain experience dealing with these injuries so that when a guest needed something more than a band-aid at the non-skiing venue the nominee would be confident in her skills.

We benefited from that eagerness. She quickly turned into a valuable aid room patroller. She caught on rapidly to all aspects of working in the aid room from first aid to risk management to documentation so quickly that she was training new hires almost immediately. We have always been blessed with a strong aid room staff but the nominee almost immediately became a key member of that group.

She works more than the required number of shifts and is always available to help provide coverage. Equally important is what the nominee does when she arrives to work a shift. She provides coverage and treatment of patients with a wonderful sense of humor that makes life for patrollers more pleasant and relaxes and comforts patients. She is a joy to have on our team.

In addition to all of the above, the nominee recently completed the training to become an OEC instructor. Normally we like our patrollers to have a few seasons of experience under their belt before becoming an instructor but this patroller had such strong skills that I encouraged her to become an OEC instructor after only one season. One would never guess that she was relatively new to teaching as she has adapted to the new role and is quickly becoming one of our top instructors.

It is with great honor that I nominate this patroller as Outstanding Patroller.

### ***Administrative Patroller***

Scott Campbell -- Massanutten

As the Patrol Director at our resort, I nominate a patroller for Outstanding Administrative Patroller. The nominee has been a patroller since 1992, an Outdoor Emergency Care (OEC) instructor since 1995, an Avalanche Rescue Training (ART) instructor since 1999, a Mountain Travel & Rescue (MTR) instructor, an Instructor Trainer (IT) since 2009, and a Senior alpine patroller since 2007. The nominee was also an OET instructor from 2000 to 2012.

As an ART instructor, the nominee has taught in 21 courses including serving as Instructor of Record for 7 courses. In addition, as an MTR instructor, the nominee has taught in 9 courses including serving as Instructor of Record for two courses.

Since 2012, the nominee has served as the Division Avalanche Program Supervisor.

As the ART program supervisor for the division and as an MTR instructor, the nominee travels to various resorts and visits ski patrols in the region to ensure that their ART training meets quality standards and also to conduct training for both ART and MTR. In addition, he supported the Senior and Certified programs by attending and instructing for and at those clinics and evaluations. During that period, the nominee has instructed Avalanche level 1 module 1 (3 times in 2016), Mountain Travel and Rescue (2016), Introduction to

Avalanche (2012, 2013); Avalanche level 2 (2013). In so doing, he has revitalized the division avalanche program.

The nominee has a long history of leadership in the NSP. In 2010, the nominee participated in International Snow Science Workshop at a western resort courtesy of a competitive grant from a NSP division. Also in 2010, the nominee coordinated an NSP educational seminar at the United States Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory in one state and in 2012 the nominee coordinated an NSP Winter Snow Sciences Seminar at a different state.

In addition to these responsibilities, the nominee serves the skiing and general public as an expert on issues related to autism. He teaches classes on safety and autism, teaching more than one class a month on this subject for the last four years – a total of more than 30 classes. He teaches these classes to police, fire and rescue, schools, parent groups and the general public. In teaching these classes, the nominee both educates the general public on safety issues and serves as a good will ambassador for the National Ski Patrol.

In addition to teaching the general public about safety and autism, the nominee wrote an article in a winter issue of the Ski Patrol magazine providing guidance to patrollers on autism issues.

In addition to his numerous other responsibilities, the nominee serves as an active alpine patroller at the resort serving a full complement of shifts.

It is with great honor that I nominate this patroller as Outstanding Administrative Patroller.

***Patrol Representative***

Judi Kay-Monaghan -- Wintergreen

This patroller has been a member of the NSP since 1987, an Outdoor Emergency Care (OEC) instructor since 1988, an OEC instructor trainer (IT) since 1990, Instructor Development Instructor (ID) and ID IT, CPR/AED Instructor since 1976, a senior patroller since 1992 and an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) since 2015. The Nominee has held many positions at the division and region level, performing them all exceptionally well with leadership and a strong sense of likeability by their fellow patrollers. Serving as our patrol representative has been by far their best suited position.

When becoming the Patrol Representative (PR) of an award winning patrol, one would think it is hard to improve upon such an outstanding established patrol, but this PR took the patrol to new heights. There were two areas of concern when the term began; an aging patrol and trouble covering patrol shifts. After looking at the average age of the patrol being over 55, this PR felt it was important to grow the patrol with an emphasis on attracting younger patrollers. Because of this nominee's efforts over the past 4 years, the patrol has grown in numbers by 25%. This PR began by evaluating its membership by age, background, distance driven to patrol and many other demographic items to try and better understand its membership to enhance its recruiting. Efforts were made to invite potential candidates to the patrol summer picnic, ski with a patroller day in February and assigned a patroller to stay in constant contact with the potential candidates throughout the year. Using the patrol web site to help promote recruiting along with adding a pay pal account for ease of payment to enroll in the course were other additions implemented by this PR. This PR supported and helped grow the youth patrol program which has delivered a feeder program into the OEC class for the past two years producing several young adult patrollers joining the patrol. Reaching out to the EMS community to recruit patrollers, this PR attended the annual state EMS educational conference several times hosting a booth at their job fair

promoting ski patrolling as a career opportunity. While serving as PR, this patroller completed an EMT and EVOC class and became a National Registered EMT basic, now volunteering with the local rescue squad as an EMT and EVOC driver. She has improved the cooperation between the local EMS agency improving call requests and transporting of patients injured while skiing. Over the past year due to this communication, the amount of transports to the hospital was reduced, saving time, money and resources for the local EMS agency.

It is important to this PR to keep this patrol moving forward with 21st Century technologies. This nominee is a progressive thinker and problem solver. Under her leadership, this PR helped the patrol be one of the first patrols to embrace the on-line OEC course and hybrid refreshers. Also with her direction and because of the success of the recruiting efforts the patrol's challenge course has grown and improved. Continuing to improve how the patrol communicates, this PR uses tools like "Constant Contact" to enhance communications through email to all patrollers. The patrol web site went under reconstruction to allow the addition of a scheduling tool. This tool was designed to help improve the patrol scheduling process leading to better "on-the-hill" coverage. It has proven to be a success as coverage issues and patrol operations improved because of developing this tool. The tool also automated the collection of "points" which the patrol uses to track patroller shifts, leadership activities and teaching sessions. This eliminated the out dated pencil and paper method of tracking patroller contributions for awards and mountain privileges. The PR's decision to add pictures of each patroller on the web site helped all patrollers know who they were working with on their upcoming shift. This seemed to help blend the "old and new" patrollers into a better working team. Continuing to move forward with technology, this PR eliminated the problem of patrollers not paying their NSP/patrol dues at refresher by implementing a method for patrollers to pay "on-line" through PayPal or to pay with credit/debit cards at the annual refresher. This has given the patrol a 100% compliance of dues payment at the refresher which saves time for the patrol treasure and registration coordinator.

Revitalizing the patrol's annual toboggan refresher program was a top priority for this PR. Not only did the PR help develop and implement the Toboggan Refresher program she participated as an instructor. The PR felt it was important for patrol moral to organizing a team of patrollers who not only were NSP Transportation Instructors, but could portray a positive and fun attitude toward this annual Toboggan refresher program. Coach's clinics were developed and held for the program. For the past two years through the PR's leadership, this program has been a big success; patrollers no longer try to avoid their annual sled refresher.

This PR's strong mentoring and people skills were the basis for the development of the patrol's "sophomore" program. It was started by this PR and enhanced during her tenure as PR. This program helps first year patrollers assimilate better into the system by pairing them with a more experienced patroller as a mentor while working a shift. With insight to offer more skier education on the mountain, this PR had the patrol purchase an "official" NSP Tent to use for recruiting and safety events. One of the events managed and delivered by the PR was having our Youth Patrollers participate in ISSA Safety Week by handing out the "Code" and other NSP safety information to the general public in lift lines and public areas. This patroller is the "go to" person for other patrollers when there are problems within the patrol from personal issues to paperwork; this nominee is willing and capable to help solve the issue at hand.

Being involved in NSP division and region programs is common for this PR. Providing dinner for the division's Women's Clinic, while the patrol hosted the event at the mountain for the weekend, teaching



Instructor Development classes and running a division CPR class is just all part of this PR activities. Teaching and giving back to the community and others is important to this patroller. During her tenure as PR, this patroller taught CPR/AED classes for the patrol, candidates and the community.

It is often said that the PR position is the foundation of the NSP leadership. This PR knows that the patrollers are who make things happen, but through this nominee's foresight, leadership, NSP values, and people skills they have been able to lead with confidence and success. They have taken an award winning patrol and made it even better. It is evident that this PR has truly made a difference to her patrollers, NSP and their community.

It is with great respect and admiration that I nominate this patroller for Outstanding Patrol Representative.

### **Young Adult Patroller**

Henry Lancaster -- Wintergreen

Most patrols are making a strong effort to recruit Young Adult Patrollers (YAP) to help replace the aging patroller population. This nominee exemplifies the term YAP. His maturity and eagerness to learn is beyond his years.

Shortly after his candidate season and passing the requirements for Alpine Patroller, this nominee took the Instructor Development class to become an OEC instructor. He has helped with the OEC candidate class every weekend teaching practical training for the hybrid course.

This nominee is eager to help with any patrolling job and is often found in the patrol room waiting to help out in any way possible. He has quickly mastered opening and closing procedures sometimes better than many seasoned patrollers although being limited by his age when learning mountain snowmobile operations.

He has become the "go to guy" when a patroller needs help with a job or task to be assigned. It is hard to believe he is so young as he portrays such confidence for such a young adult patroller.

He has accomplished all this while juggling an Advance Placement Schedule high school schedule and many after school activities. He exemplifies NSP values and work ethics.

It is with great pride that I nominate this young person for Outstanding Young Adult Patroller.

### ***Thomas "Doc" Brigham for Large Patrol***

Appalachian

This patrol is outstanding because our membership is highly motivated and dedicated to serving our mountain management, as well as our community, region, division, and the skiing public. Like every patrol we come from many different backgrounds but when we sign in we pride ourselves in being part of a team. Our patrol is more than just another working department at the mountain, we are a family. We work hard in strengthening the inner relationship of our membership and to accomplish any given task as a team. We strive in keeping a strategic alliance between our volunteers and pros. We benefit from both our pro and volunteer members who have skied 80 hours each season by only requiring them to sign up for a limited amount of days compared to our required 10 day sign up process. We recognize members with 35 years of service by not asking them to sign up for weekend sessions. Instead these members get in their days at their convenience. We have instituted a Benevolence Fund in remembrance of past and present members and their immediate families. We founded a Student scholarship fund in memory of a past junior member and developed a student

scholarship application process for our student members. Not only do we strive to provide quality care to the mountain, we also take pride in providing quality care to our members. Our patrol has had members who have served several tours in Iraq and Afghanistan. For several years we have worked together to cover these soldiers patrol responsibilities and requirements. We continue to organize the working structure of this patrol with improved revisions to incident documentation, bylaws, policies & procedures and our patrol protocols. We honor those with Outstanding service with an award in memory of the patroller who founded this patrol. Our patrol continues to support patrols from other areas in our region with necessary training, testing, and hosting region and division events during times when their home areas are closed. Our patrol feels that our mission is not only to provide quality service and safety to our home mountain but to support our division and national level with educational opportunities to our members. We require our members to expand their patrolling knowledge and development as a member of this organization by requiring each member to become an instructor in any discipline or complete the Senior Program. In the past 4 seasons we have added at least 5 new basics and 5 Senior patrollers to our patrol each season. We have 33 members who have gone on to further their emergency medical training to receive state certifications at various levels. These members work within our community as both paid and volunteer members at local EMS, fire and rescue departments and even though we consistently operate within OEC guidelines while we are signed in the quality of care and professionalism these members bring to this organization is incomparable. Our patrol annually hosts and teaches an OEC course for our region and a Patroller 101 course for our membership. Our patrol hosts an annual instructor refresher, basic evaluation, EMM clinic/ evaluation, toboggan enhancement seminar and an Instructor Development Course. Not only do we strive to support other patrols and members within our division we understand the importance of a strong working relationship with our area owners, managers, and operators. Our patrol continues to aid area management in equipment upgrades, facility improvements and the overall operational requirements. We have incorporated an Incident Command System (ICS) into our lift evac plan to improve patrol operations and provide an organized quality service in an efficient professional manner. Since then, we have required all of our members to successfully complete NIMS and ICS courses 100, 200, 700 and 800. We have added a new computerized Incident Summary program to our weekly filing system for yearly incident report totals. This enables us to monitor our potential problem areas as well as the types of incidents that are occurring each season. The patrol works closely with our terrain park manager to monitor incidents that occur in the park and any problem areas that may exist. Our patrol recognizes the importance and survivability of this inter-department relationship as terrain parks have become the future of the industry as a whole.

This patrol is outstanding because we are highly motivated to be the best at what we do. We are continually participating in testing & training to enhance our own skills as well as supporting our region and our division. We understand the importance of a strong working relationship within our membership, our local area management, region and division patrols and all of the departments at our mountain which promotes success. We remember and support our community by continually participating in events where we can make a difference. Finally, our patrol is outstanding because we have developed a strong organization where we can operate as a team to accomplish any given task and be proud to be an integral part of this patrol family as well.

### ***National Outstanding Patrol Representative***

Judi Kay-Monaghan  
Wintergreen

Thanks to all of you who submitted the award nominations and congratulations to all the recipients. A special congratulation to Judi Kay-Monaghan for winning National Outstanding Patrol Representative and to Keith Cassidy for his great presentation to her! I would also like to thank the division judges for taking the time to judge all the division winners. I say this every year - This is a reminder to all Patrol Reps, Patrol Directors, Region Directors and Awards Advisors that this is one of the best ways to thank those who so deserve the recognition. With that said, I expect nominations in all of the categories from each patrol next award season! Remember, it is never too early to start thinking about who needs to be nominated.

## *Final Sweep .....*

### **Bob Mahoney**

On April 16, 2016, the Beech Mountain Ski Patrol lost Bob Mahoney, a respected and valuable member, to injuries received in an ATV accident while in West Virginia with three fellow patrollers.

Bob joined the National Ski Patrol in 1982 and became Patrol Rep. in 2005, holding that position until his untimely passing. He was a well-respected member of the automobile suppliers industry and had worked as Customer Quality Manager at GKN Driveline in Maiden, North Carolina for 29 years and retired in 2015. Bob spent much of his time outside of work lending a hand to countless friends and family. When asked what his plans were for retirement, Bob's response was, "retired HELL, I have more projects lined up than I will ever get done!!" Bob was always willing to help someone else, putting their needs ahead of his own.

Bob had an uncanny knack of being able to make things, fix things, and do things, even something he was not familiar with or had any knowledge of. Numerous times he was faced with a problem or issue and he always seemed to find a solution. When the Patrol needed to find a way to increase room for ski storage in the locker room, Bob designed and built a ceiling hung ski rack. He was instrumental and directed the renovation of the old Oz Museum at the top of the resort into an upper patrol station which, in the future, will be named in his memory. If a snowmobile was down, it was Bob who repaired it. If a toboggan needed repair, Bob took it home and fixed it. Very few weekends went by that he didn't have something to work on or do to make sure things operated smoothly and efficiently. We ALL depended on Bob.

Bob Mahoney never went at anything except 100% and he expected that out of those around him. There is not a member of the Beech Mountain Patrol that, at some time or another, did not receive direction, help, mentoring, or criticism from him, but he only wanted us to be the best and do it RIGHT and he never failed to give a person credit and praise when they improved or accomplished something. This is evidenced by the way he went about things while serving as the patrol's Training Officer and the overwhelming response at his memorial service.

Bob Mahoney was many things to many people. He was a loving husband, father, grandfather, friend, ski patroller, co-worker, and someone you could depend on. It didn't matter if it was a "blue-bird day", a rainy, soggy day, or a sub-freezing day in the mountains of North Carolina, you could find him there every weekend, patrolling. Bob loved patrolling and spending time there so much that he and his wife Teresa even built a log cabin there. It was also his wish that this remains be scattered down the slopes of Beech Mountain, a request that will be honored when winter returns and we celebrate Bob's life on his beloved mountain.

Bob Mahoney was a devout family man who is survived by his loving wife, Teresa, three sons, two daughters, five grandchildren, several nieces, nephews, cousins, and a multitude of friends, all of whom he cherished. Everyone who knew Bob surely has their favorite Bob Mahoney story. When the time is right, on a cold and snowy night on Beech Mountain, fellow patrollers will sit down with a bottle of Wild Turkey 101 (Bob's choice), share those stories and remember our friend and fellow patroller. It is those memories that will

provide comfort to those whose lives he touched. The void created by his passing will never be filled, but those memories will last forever.

Going forward, there will be something missing at the Patrol's morning meetings, but there will also be a whistle blown and "Good Morning Bob" before it is started, just as it has been in years past.

**Michael (Grizz) Ohlson**

*Beech Mountain Ski Patrol*

*(submitted by Gil Adams)*

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**Southern Division Calendar  
& Staff Directory**

Please refer to the Division Website for updated schedules!  
[www.southernmsp.org](http://www.southernmsp.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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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 Byrd White at [bwhite@opinionsrendered.com](mailto:bwhite@opinionsrendered.com).