



Southern Cross

A Publication of The Southern Division of The National Ski Patrol

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February 2006

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Southern Cross is published three times a year—Fall, Mid-winter and Spring. Articles and photos are encouraged and appreciated. With photos, please include caption information. If at all possible, please include a photo of the author with articles. Submission deadline for the Spring issue is May 15, 2006.

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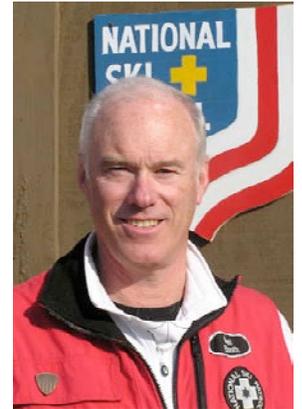
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Staying the course, before, during and following a tidal wave:

Neil Booth, Division Director

Navigating through the waters this past six months has felt and been like surviving a tidal wave at sea. Sitting at the helm of this educational supply ship, USS Southern, one of many ships (divisions) in the fleet, we now know we survived the storm and will continue to do so, even though the seas of the future are still very dangerous. During my first term as Director of Southern, the seas were relatively calm, as we navigated full speed ahead. Our mission was, and still is, to provide supplies or educational needs to the troops, our members. This was my promise from two years ago, and still is. If you read my very first article, you read my promise to bring changes about as transparent or seamlessly as possible, to membership. If you see anything, it should simply be progress or forward sailing. Changes should benefit membership, patrols and resorts!



Then came the really big tidal wave and the carrier group had to take it head on. So as not to confuse anyone, a carrier group is made up of ships to support the carrier and all members of the entire fleet of ships. In this case, the carrier is USS National. Ships, such as USS Southern, USS Eastern, USS Professional, and so on, are the tactical support vessels to assist, guard and work side by side with USS National. ONE MISSION!

This is our mission! Strategy, in support of the mission, is directed from USS National and the support ships support and carry out the tactical elements of this strategy. In this instance, our NSP mission is:

- Providing quality focused education and training in
 - Safety
 - Credentialed outdoor emergency care
 - Transportation services
- This enables members and other stakeholders to serve the outdoor recreation community.
- Continually explores new opportunities for membership and association enhancement.

Now, the carrier group has to make a strategic decision, that being “to stay afloat and get through the wave”. Several tactics are to take the wave head on; others are to vary the degrees off center and not take it head on. Well, I can only speak for USS Southern, and we took it head on and had minimal damage to the ship (Southern Division) and our crew (Southern Members). We did not get through it without incidence! For those injured my sincerest apologies. I also want everyone to know that I also did not come through the tidal wave without injuries. But this is not about me; it is about you, the crew or members of this great organization.

For those that have kept current, the tidal wave referred to is the recent ballot issues before the organization. Southern came through and registered a quorum for the vote. We were one of four divisions to achieve this. Seven did not! Some may say this is good, some say it is bad. I leave that to you for your own personal decision. The vote passed! For those interested, information regarding NSP can be found on the NSP website. It is also recommended that you go to this page from time to time to make sure you know what is going on within the organization. You are personally responsible for your own web page to ensure the accuracy of your personal information. You can make any changes to your personal data.

This is the central repository for all your information. This eliminates the need for duplication systems, such as a division database. Please make sure you are informed and your information is correct. This is how National communicates directly with membership for the greatest majority of communications. If you do not have an email address, your mailing address is really critical as this is your communications receipt method.

Let me attempt to clarify my role and responsibility, as I see or interpret it. First, I fill a position that is created by National bylaws. With this said, I have direct reporting responsibilities to National, more specifically, the National Board of Directors. I say first, simply because NSP bylaws create the position of Division Director. Also, each division director has complete authority to appoint assistants (division staff personnel), necessary in their judgment, to carry out the objectives of the office. Division bylaws exist stating a Division Director is elected by membership within divisions. I have direct responsibility to membership, as the elected representative to National. In actuality, a division director has two direct reporting lines, not just one! Division directors cannot choose whom they do or do not work for, or whom they represent. They work for and represent both! NSP Articles of Incorporation establish and define our organization through National bylaws. National bylaws establish the administrative field structure of division directors which in turn establish division bylaws. Division Directors and staff have no direct reporting responsibilities to or with resorts. However, national and divisions can never lose sight that we exist at the will of resort management. We accomplish this critical connection to resorts through membership, which comprise the NSP registration unit.

In my opening remarks, it states that changes occurring should be seamless. **Well, here is one seam you will all see.** During the mid-winter national meeting, which I attended, a Board proposal for a dues increase was recommended and approved. **Here are some facts driving this need:**

- **Cash reserves to fund operations;** (being consumed today and without an increase in dues, a \$50,000 loss at the end of this year could result. This could cause National to dip into endowment funds (which must be repaid) and cash reserves. Potentially, this could lead to mortgaging fixed assets [building]).
- **Uses of dues support:** *Publications* (Ski Patrol Magazine, On-Scene Magazine [one issue of Ski Patrol Magazine was dropped to facilitate publication of On-Scene], other publications (Transportation Manual and pocket guide), etc.); *Member Support* (registration, credentialing, course registration and tracking, office and warehouse operations, website support and services, general liability insurance, course development and updates, member affinity and discount programs).
- **Non-dues income:** (sponsorship programs currently generate \$2 of NSP income, membership dues generates \$1. Sixty-five (65%) of our dues structure comes from non-dues areas which are totally out of our control as sponsorship dollars could disappear at any given time).
- **General Increases:** (operating costs, inflation, utilities, postage and insurance decrease cash reserves).
- **Program Expenses:** (OEC QA program and other programs and services that members and industry need and have requested, have been halted due to lack of budget dollars).

Now that we see where or how funds are utilized, lets look at how the dues increase will be utilized:

- **Direct Member Services:** (improved web service, improved online catalog service, general building maintenance).
- **General liability Insurance:** (directors and officers liability insurance, fire insurance, employee benefits, defense costs associated with the Giles [Indiana law suit], Colorado and Illinois suits).
- **Program Development:** (development and delivery services to maintain OEC as a market leader, quality improvement initiatives, member recruitment and retention, developing new programs, refining existing programs).

When the NSP Finance Committee determined current and future expenditures, their recommendation indicates a \$20 dues increase. In the past 15 years, we have had the following dues increases: (1990 - \$22 to \$27) (2000 - \$27 to \$35). The infrequent or limited increases are a direct result in consolidation efforts and economies of scale realized due to partnering with PSIA, NSAA and the sharing of Information Systems and staff.

Let me also give you some professional life experiences that I personally learned the hard way. In my past life, I was blessed with calling on the United States Military by providing them with Coca Cola products. If you are a Pepsi consumer, please do not hold this against me! A great deal of my career was spent negotiating government contracts. The most difficult contract negotiation encountered was one where we overlooked 5 years of cost increases. Lesson learned: request a small increase each year with documented cost justifications, rather than one big increase after 5 years. We were successful in the end, but it created a lot more work than necessary, and could have been avoided with smaller, more frequent increases. This is not a critical statement of how this \$20 increase is occurring, just something learned during the school of hard knocks! For NSP, we might be operating in the red at the end of the year and we cannot provide the members with programs and needs without an increase.

Please, be very mindful as we sail ahead into new waters. Should we expect smooth sailing in the future? Probably not, but let us hope the waters ahead are calmer. We need to repair all the ships in the carrier group that have been damaged. This means the USS National, and the 11 other USS Division Supply ships. Remember to cruise into tidal waves head on and avoid being capsized. We do not want to be known as the SS Poseidon! Let us all accept and acknowledge that this is a volunteer organization.

Every member on the National Board of Directors is a volunteer too. Their pay is no greater than any members. Growth and change will not and probably cannot occur as rapidly as we see in the industrial world. We tend to sail at a much slower nautical rate of speed, but we always get there, and will this time too!

Keep doing what you do each and every day you patrol. This is a great organization, with 27,000+ wonderful members. Members are highly trained technicians to our industry. Many people, our consumers, rely upon our membership. We need to stay focused on delivering the quality care to our customers and the resorts we represent. Our home is our resort! The school we all attended is NSP and we will forever be alumni of this fine school. But now, reality has to take control so be the best you can be at your resort for all of our consumers, the skiing and snowboarding public. If you have any questions or concerns, please pick up the phone or send me an email. One on one communications is what I hope occurs. Broadcasting information will have negative affects during our ship repairs. It is going to take each one of our efforts to affect positive change, but we can and will do it. We have to!

My thanks go out to all you fine people, for all the services and care you provide.

From the Assistants...

R. Morgan Armstrong,
1st ADD, Southern Division

END OF YEAR REPORTS:

Patrol Representatives and Line Officers, it is time for you to finalize your End of Year Report and send it to me. I would like to have it one week after your resort closes and if you do most of the report now, that final finish will be easy. I need them no later than April 1, 2006. Most of you have the form from last year and it is the same. If you do not have the form or you are a new officer, please give me an email asking for the form and I will send it out as soon as I get your request. Also, if you have had an email change since last year, please give me an email to confirm I have your current address. Thank you for helping us keep our records accurate.

NATIONAL IMMUNITY:

This is to inform all patrollers in the division, I intend to ask NSP to petition Congress for immunity for NSP and volunteer patrollers. I think this will help us avoid some of the problems we have had in the past with the national office reacting to potential suits and suits that were filled in ways that make the average patroller think NSP wants to get out of the business of ski patrolling. If we can obtain a national immunity statute to protect NSP and volunteer patrollers from litigation, we will be able to preserve our organization and continue to help the skiing and snowboarding public. It would also protect us in the event we pursue new areas of patrolling such as biking, hiking and so on. If you can help with this project, please let me know. We need contacts with Congress to help us get the bill written and passed.

Paid patrollers please do not feel I am slighting you. I would love to include paid patrollers in the immunity but having obtained this immunity in Virginia and watched the same bill get passed in West Virginia, the legislative branches will not pass a paid patroller immunity statute. They feel the resort insurance should cover paid staff and to include this provision would doom the provision for volunteers and the national organization. However, if it is passed, it does protect paid staff when they go on rescues as a volunteer and that is anytime you are not on the clock. It would cover you in your off duty life, at home, in the community, at any accident scene and whenever you participate as a patroller and you are not on the resort clock.

If you would like to see a copy of my petition, I will be happy to send it to you by email or mail. My email address is rmasp@Adelphia.net.

Each division director has received a copy of my petition and so far most are in favor and no one has been opposed. Since the NSP is chartered by Congress, I feel Congress has a vested interest in seeing we survive and continue to serve. This might also be an opportunity to make a greater impact by having the divisions that desire to join in some form of first response to natural or other disasters with homeland security or FEMA. We are trained and equipped to provide a first response in our regions and could be useful to our community. **Comments are welcome.**

Southern Area

Richard Boyer

Assistant Division Director - Southern Area



My eyes have been opened. When parabolic shaped skis came out I couldn't believe I needed to learn a new way to ski, much less one incorporating having your legs apart. Blasphemy!! Stein Erickson would roll his eyes and be ashamed! Well, I've seen the light and can begrudgingly admit to not only the advantages of utilizing this new technology correctly, but I can honestly see the beauty in the resulting form. Of course the beauty is not evident when I try to do it, but when someone like **Wayne Morgan**, PD at **Cataloochee**, or our own **Neil Booth** or **Brent Bowman** ski with their legs hip-width apart it can be a thing of unquestionable beauty and grace. All three have availed themselves of the PSIA (Professional Ski Instructors Association) system. Wayne and Neil have become Level II PSIA instructors and Brent is working for his Level II this year. My hat is off to these folks and all the others who are embracing opportunities to take advantage of the PSIA programs.

If you were like me and stuck in the old (and beautiful) method of skiing, wake up and utilize your equipment to its intended design. It makes perfect sense to have your skis apart for a stronger base from which to dance with the mountain. I'm working on it and those old habits are so hard to break.

By the time you read this we will have some new members on our national Board of Directors. I hope each of you have participated in this vote. Our own **Kenny Hess** is running and he would be a great representative for the Southern Division.

Patrol Representatives should be well on the way to identifying those who in their respective patrols should be submitted for awards. Let's try to keep those awards committee members very busy this year both at our division level and at the national level.

The Blue Ridge and Dixie Regions are running smoothly thanks to **Mike Harris** and **Brent Bowman** respectively. From my point of view it is a pleasure to work with both of these guys and my job is easy with them running the point as well as they both do. I will hasten to add that their jobs are made so much easier by the fine cadre of Patrol Representatives for whom they work.

Our NSP system delivery of courses is proceeding well and I've attended a *Toboggan Enhancement Seminar* and a *Senior Ski and Toboggan Clinic*. I found both very compelling and learned much. Please avail yourselves of these, and any others, and I promise you will come away feeling it worth your while, and our services to the public will surely be enhanced.

I look forward to skiing with each of you and will see you gliding "widely" down the slopes.

Notes From The North...

Jan Starr

Assistant Division Director - North Area

Well here we are halfway through another season. December was wonderful with all the snow and cold, but I'm not sure what has happened to January! Hopefully February and March will be more like December and we'll get some better skiing in. There has been enough snow for the new candidates to be training toward their basic, and I hope there are a few out there to participate in the *Senior program* offered in the regions. These programs are a great way to fine tune skills, get to other areas, and learn something new all at the same time!



Now that everyone has the opportunity to vote, please review the candidates for the National Board and exercise this right to vote. We will then have the people on the Board placed by the patrollers.

As February slows down some for me, I hope to get out and about to visit the areas in WV and VA. Keep up the good work for your area management, and thank your instructors and trainers for their time on the hill to make us all better patrollers.

See you on the slopes.

From the Regions...

Virginia Region - News From Virginia

Bill Smith

Virginia Region Director

Well, here we are off to a great ski season with lots of things are happening in the northern part of the Division. All areas in Virginia got off to an early start this season with opening dates for most areas being in late November or early December. Since mid-December, Mother Nature has tried to get the best of us by sending warm weather and rain our way. However, all of our areas survived the thaws and are recovering nicely.



This season, a great deal of emphasis is being placed on training throughout the region. There are many great opportunities for patroller's to gain new knowledge and skills in order to better serve their patrol and area.



At one refresher, a skier had run off the slope into the woods and been impaled on a stick. This was an excellent opportunity for practicing several critical skills.

Four refresher programs were held in Virginia this year giving everyone an opportunity to complete that requirement in a convenient manner. Between **Peg Harris** and myself, we managed to get to each of them and I must say the folks involved in putting those programs together and those assisting in conducting them, did a really GREAT JOB!!!

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

Our education programs all got off to a flying start. On December 10th, **Cindy Diehl** traveled up to **The Homestead** and put on a great PES program for the folks from Virginia and West Virginia. In all there were seven students, five from **Wintergreen** and two from **Snowshoe**.



Working in teams, PES students had the opportunity to design their "dream" patrol room/treatment area. There were many innovative ideas as the creative juices flowed. Some designs included ample storage and lockers for all patrollers, a deck with hot tub, built in oxygen systems and many other interesting approaches to providing great patient care.

In listening to the many questions and other exchanges during the program, it appeared that much was learned by all attending.

The Virginia Senior program appears to be very strong this year with at least 12 candidates scheduled for the various clinics and evaluations that will be held in late January and late February. This year, **Bryce Mountain** will host the *Senior Emergency Management Clinic* and **Massanutten** will handle the *S&T Clinic*. Then in late February, evaluations will be held at **Wintergreen**. This will also be an excellent opportunity for the Virginia Senior evaluator's to try out the equipment cache they have been working on collecting for two years.

Additionally, several other educational programs will be offered in the coming weeks. They include: a *Skier Enhancement Seminar* on January 15th; a *Toboggan Enhancement Seminar* on January 28th; three *Certified Clinic's* that include: *Operations, OEC and S&T* on February 4th & 5th at **Massanutten**; and finally a *Avalanche Fundamentals & Rescue* course, March 12th at **Wintergreen**. Check the calendar for further information on these and the programs mentioned above and be sure to sign up early. Also, don't just show up at a Clinic or Exam if you have not signed up ahead of time. This is very important, as we need to have the appropriate resources and staff on hand to handle the number of personnel we are expecting. Your cooperation with this request is greatly appreciated.

Following several very tumultuous months within the NSP organization, things appear to be quieting down and it is time to put the differences behind us, face the problems and embrace the opportunities that now are there for each of us.

How we look at a situation – how we mentally frame it, and the conclusions we reach – determines how we react to organizational change. Our thoughts can cause us to resist, or they can cause us to embrace and support the new moves.

We each interpret events based on available information, our background of experience, our involvement, wants, needs, fears, hopes, prejudices and beliefs. It's human nature to filter the data, choosing what we'll pay attention to or ignore. We each weigh information in a very personal way, sizing up the situation and drawing conclusions that reflect our own slant or viewpoint. The result is often a collection of "myths" about the changes. It is now important to challenge the myths, identify what is reality, and move forward in a positive manner.

Some will even think that this will all blow over. It's just a matter of time. The odds are it will never be the same again in the organization. Things will settle down as time goes by, but they will settle down differently. So let's stand proud, pick up the pieces, look to the future and start putting things back together again.

With that said, and with a New Year beginning, the "**Ladies of Bryce**" are up for a good time and ready for what the New Year has to offer!!! If you have never been to Bryce you should definitely give it a try. They are a hard working and fun bunch of patrollers. On January 21st they will be hosting the Virginia Region *Senior Emergency Management Clinic*. Then on the 22nd, the group will move to **Massanutten** for the *S&T Clinic* that will be hosted by **Bartek Drewnowski** and his staff. I'm sure it will be a fun, challenging and rewarding time for all.

Happy New Year to each of you and hope to see many of you at Powderfall 2006!!!



Blue Ridge Region

Mike Harris

Blue Ridge Region Director



The Blue Ridge Region is off to another good start for the 2005-2006 season. Thanks to **Cathy LaMarre** for a great OEC Course in Boone and to **Larry Fleming** for the OEC Challenge. We have a good group of candidates coming in at all four of our areas.

I heard good things about the MTR group back in November. The *Senior Emergency Management Clinic* went well at **Beech Mountain**. The region *S&T (OET) Examiners Clinic* went very well at **Appalachian**. I am pleased to announce that **David Hall** will be taking over that program next year. I was able to attend two of the region's toboggan enhancement seminars and can report that this program is one of the best received (and fun) that we have had. On Dec. 16th and 17th **Larry Fleming, Flynn Harris, Patricia Woody, Jim Bolton, and Tommy Taylor** held a CPR and Outdoor First Care Course for management and all department heads at Sugar Mountain. It is

great to see that kind of interaction between a patrol and all levels of management at a ski area. It fosters considerable respect both ways.

We still have the *Senior Evaluation* and all of the *Basic S&T Evaluation* left this year along with lots of fun patrolling.

I hope that each of you took the opportunity to vote in the recent election for national board of director members. The Blue Ridge is not only a part of Southern Division; we are full members at the national level.

In working with previous Blue Ridge Region Directors, Patrol Directors, and Patrol Representatives, I am glad to state that things are going well in our Region with unprecedented cooperation. TYRONE

Dixie Region

Brent Bowman

Dixie Region Director



Wow!! What a season it has been so far. **Cataloochee** had it's earliest opening EVER and was reported to be the first to open south of Vermont. It seems like we have already skied for an entire Dixie season! We have had LOTS of training going on in the Dixie region. Seems like every weekend in January and February there is a clinic or training session at one (or more) of the resorts in Dixie. **Ober** held a *Toboggan Clinic* in early January as well as the *Senior Evaluators Clinic* & a *Ski Trainers Workshop* and in February will host the *Senior S&T*. **Cataloochee** hosted a weekday *Toboggan Clinic* attended by 9 students and 3 trainers (see attached picture). The weekday clinic worked out very well with no weekend crowds to worry about. **Cataloochee** is also hosting the *SR OEC Clinic* and *Exam* and a *Ski Enhancement Seminar*. Not to be outdone **Wolf Laurel** will have a *Toboggan Enhancement* and *Ski Enhancement Seminar* during February.



Cloudmont was open for all of December with the early cold weather however, **Smoky Mtn. Nordic** has had a tough season with warm weather and rain. We all hope that they can get the skis out and so some sliding soon!!!

Please be sure to check the Southern Division website for dates and contact information as some of the events have been moved.

Ski you soon!!! Brent



From the Supervisors and Advisors...

*Morgan Armstrong,
Virginia Region Administrator
Instructor Development Program*

Virginia Ski Patrol Representatives and Patrollers:

During the ski season many patrols found they needed instructors for various classes and I hope many patrollers saw the value of having plenty of instructors so you could obtain your certification quickly and with the least travel to a distant land.

Patrol Representatives, please, please, look to your patrols to see how many instructors you will need for the next several years.

Encourage those people you want as instructors to take the first step by signing up for the *INSTRUCTOR DEVELOPMENT COURSE*.

Patroller's, get involved and give back to the great program we have in the NSP by becoming an instructor. The best way to get an *Instructor Development Course* is to get the class membership signed up and then we will set a class to suit your needs and in a location closest to the most class members.

Patrol Representatives send me your names along with the basic information.

Patrollers send me your names along with the basic information.

The basic information is name, address, phone number, NSP number and email address if you have one. I hope to have a class in a few months but I can't do this without members, so please GIVE ME YOUR NAMES.

marmstrong@courts.state.va.us

Blue Ridge Region Patrol Representatives and Patrollers:

*Ann Wood,
Blue Ridge Instructor Development Administrator*

There was an *Instructor Development Course* held on Friday night, 3 February 2006, at the **Beech Mountain** Administration Building. There will be other Instructor Development courses planned after ski season, probably at **Appalachian Ski Mountain** and in **Asheville** (or anywhere there are several patrollers who wish to become instructors).

If you know of anyone who would like to advance into the instructor corps of our division, this is the first step. This course can be used as a senior elective. Also, if you know of anyone who is interested in becoming an ID instructor, I would be glad to talk with them. The book we will use can be ordered from National, *Instructor Development: Training the Adult Learner* (\$19.50).

I would like the name, patrol, email address, and phone number of those who want to take this course. If anyone wants to sign up for a future course, I'm taking names for that as well.

If you have questions or would like to talk with me, please call or send an email.

Thanks, Ann

Certified-Certified-Certified-Certified-Certified-Certified-Certified-Certified-Certified-Certified

Certified Program

*Stephen Kuller,
Certified Program Supervisor*

Hello fellow patrollers, I hope everyone is enjoying the season. I hope the conditions at your mountain are advantageous to your skill's development. We all should be getting stronger and planning for a successful season. The information is flowing, training has begun and testing is in progress.

This sets the stage for those of you who are still holding out on getting involved in the Certified program. The Certified program will enhance your knowledge, improve your skills, and give you a better overall understanding of the patrol's role while exploring the different management models throughout the Southern Division. We would love to hear from those of you whose patrol has not traditionally participated in the program.

Yes, the program takes a dedicated person with the eagerness to learn, a willingness to grow, and the time for development. This is your opportunity to let us know that you want to be involved. We have Certified patrollers that are willing to answer your questions and share the process with you. Please step out of your comfort zone.

We currently have a several candidates that have made the commitment to the program, and they will be giving there all. This is a three-year commitment and it will take most candidates the entire three years. During this process these candidates will be sharing the strengths of the program at their home resorts. Some of you will want to know what they have learned, accomplished and shared. Ask them, they will respond with eagerness and a willingness that only comes from hard work.

Thanks again for letting me stir your interest in this program. For more information on the Certified program please contact me or any Certified patroller. (sdk@iuno.com)

Transportation-Transportation-Transportation-Transportation-Transportation-Transportation

Transportation

*Tony Tingle,
Transportation Supervisor*

Well it looks like it has been a busy season so far, and a windy one in the NC High Country. Wind speeds on Grandfather Mountain were clocked this week at over 200 mph (Heard that on the Weather Channel) There has been one *Skiing Enhancement Seminar (SES)* in Virginia, five *Toboggan Enhancement Seminars (TES)* in Blue Ridge, two in Dixie, and one in Virginia. Wow! Thanks to all those Transportation Instructors that are out there doing their thing. Keep up the good work. All of the feedback that I have heard from participants in the TES events is positive. I think that no matter how seasoned a patroller is, they always look forward to some fun time in the handles. If you need help in setting up a TES, SES, or Ski Trainers Workshop (STW) give me a shout.

On a different note, if you are a Transportation instructor, please remember that you have to recertify just like any other instructor. Instructor qualifications for any discipline are the same. The qualifications can be found in NSP Policies and Procedures, Chapter 6.5.11 Instructors. For recertification, it states person must meet teaching requirements (you need to be actively teaching), and you must also attend a National, Division or Region clinic once every three years. Your instructor status comes up for renewal every three years and your Region Transportation Administrator (Formally the Chief Examiner) is the person who passes that information along. I thought I'd throw out this reminder while there is snow on the ground and patrollers to teach. See you on the slopes.

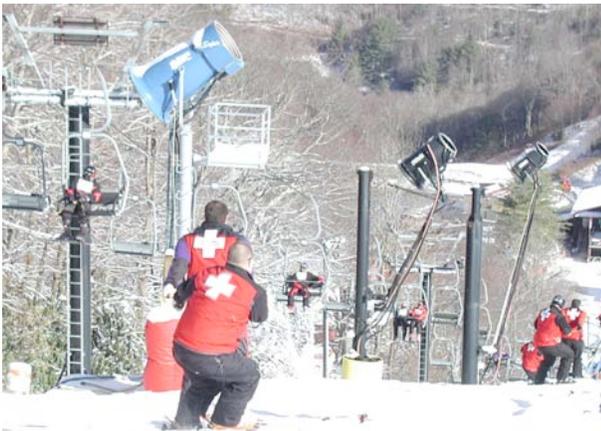
Toboggan Enhancement Seminar – Appalachian Ski Mountain December 17, 2005



(L-R: TES PSIA 2 Instructor Matt Ware, ASM Patrol leader Joe Donadio, Blue Ridge Region Dir - Mike Harris)



(Richard Sanders, the Appalachian TES IT)



(Edging Drill)



(Toboggan Recovery Wheelbarrow Drill)

Photos submitted by Cathy LaMarre
cathy.lamarre@ircct.com



Blue Ridge Region – Mountaineering 1, 2 and Instructor Development

Mark Rees – Beech Mountain

The Blue Ridge Region combined 3 different courses (**MTR1, MTR2, and Instructor Development**) from September 10th through November 13th, 2005 with the field exercises for some starting Wednesday November 9th though Sunday November 13th. We did all internet coursework for the classroom, reading and chapter tests; and online forum discussion; then put it all into hands-on practice the last 2-5 days.

In short, it was fantastic, and the best weather most of us can ever remember during a mountaineering course! We had 23 participants in total from 5 different mountains: **Beech, Sugar, Appalachian, Hawksnest, and Cataloochee**. Our field location was a secret “stash” used exclusively by the Outward Bound School at Table Rock and was perfect: out in the middle of nowhere; close to the rock; close to the river; a fantastic place to camp; for the emergency shelters and for the Search and Rescue. It was about 1/3 up from the valley floor; on top of a little knoll; in the sun and out of the direct wind coming over Linville Gorge. It was below 30 at night and in the 60's during the day!

Based on the interest, we also did an “extra-curricular” activity (not part of the course, but concurrent with it), on rappelling, belay anchoring systems, and rescue systems. We were lucky enough to have **Dee Thomas** (an Outward Bound climbing and mountaineering instructor), and **Scott Krein (Cataloochee)** who is a paramedic and Search and Rescue specialist also, which really raised the quality of the course for all. The rope work and knots, belay systems, rappelling systems, and raising and lowering systems were done with the lift or toboggan in mind. The leadership scenarios were tied back into typical problems patrollers would encounter on the hill or other parts of the Senior program. The Search and Rescue was the culmination of all of the skills taught: medical, team-work, planning, leading, rescue systems, ropes, etc. We drove home the importance of the 10 essentials and emergency shelters. Either that scenario or the S&R were the 2 favorite activities of the entire group (the MTR2's favorite was probably the “vertical” portion).

The following achieved “Mountaineering 1”: **Briggs Allen** (Beech), **Patrick Benson** (Appalachian), **Scott Grogan** (Appalachian), **Chris Haley** (Beech), **Andrew Rest** (Beech), **Robert Schisla** (Beech), **Teresa Stewart** (Hawksnest), **Adam Tucker** (Hawksnest), **Ted Warlick**, and **Jeff Webster** (Hawksnest).

The following achieved “Mountaineering 2”: **Cammie Jeffery** (Hawksnest), **Dee Thomas** (Beech), **David Hall** (Beech), **Margaret Rees** (Beech), **Jean Webb** (Sugar), **Mike Milligan** (Sugar), **Terry Loges** (Sugar), **Scott Krein** (Cataloochee), **Patrick Rees** (Beech), and **Lisa Adams** (Beech).

The following people either taught, became **new mountaineering instructors or refreshed** their certifications: **Tom Watson** (Beech), **Dee Thomas** (Beech), **Norris Woody** (Sugar), **Doug Gilstrap** (Beech), **Jean Webb** (Sugar), **Mike Milligan** (Sugar), **Terry Loges** (Sugar), **Scott Krein** (Cataloochee), and **Mark Rees** (Beech).

Mark.Rees@SynapseTechnology.com

Mountain Travel and Rescue I and II November 2005



Above - **Jeffery Webster** and **Teresa Stewart** review map and area to be searched for “missing hiker” from the command center.



Right - **Scott Grogran, Mike Milligan, Lisa Adams, Margaret Rees, Briggs Allan** and **Adam Tucker** loading “patient” onto Reeves Sleeve for transportation up the hillside to the trail.



Above - **Chris Haley, Patrick Rees** and **Terry Loges** performing a Z-drag operation to raise an “injured patient” up a steep, leaf-covered hillside.

Cammie Jeffery, Ted Warlick, Terry Loges, Mike Milligan, Patrick Benson and **Chris Haley** prepare to lift on command - **Jean Webb** (patient) to hike out of the area. →



National OEC Director Bost Resigns

Southern Division and Blue Ridge Region Patroller **Larry Bost (Hawksnest)** has resigned from his post as National OEC Director effective January 19, 2006. In a letter to OEC Program Directors, NSP Division Directors, and the NSP Board, Larry thanked everyone for their work and support and he urged NSP leadership to ***"never lose sight or connection with our NSP members."***

Larry Bost has served in several National leadership roles over the past 5 years. Because of his involvement and leadership in the flagship program of the NSP, as Outdoor Emergency Care Director, Larry is well known and respected by NSP members across all Divisions.

During his tenures as National Instructor Development Program Assistant and as National Director, he played key roles in the following:

- OEC Enhancement Seminars
- OEC Continuing Education Seminars
- The New OEC E-course (The NSP's First Distance Learning Project)
- New OEC Challenge requirements
- *ON Scene* Magazine
- National Instructor's Web Site
- Standardization of the OEC Practical Evaluation
- National Medical Committee
- National Education Committee
- Actively working on the 5th Edition of the Outdoor Emergency Care Textbook



The members of the Blue Ridge Region and the Southern Division, say thank you very much Larry, for your huge efforts in making this a high quality program and in pushing it to where it is today!

Mark Rees & E.B. Fox

Southern Division Calendar

Mon th	Date	Event	Location	Contact	Comments
SEE REGIONAL CALENDARS FOR Educational Courses for 2005-2006					
Southern Cross Deadlines					
2006					
May	15	Spring Southern Cross Deadline		Southern Cross Editor	Teresa T. Stewart - sceditor@bellsouth.net
Division Meeting Events					
2006					
Jan	21	Mid Winter EC Meeting	TBD	TBD	EC Will Only Meet If DD Calls Meeting
May	6	Spring EC Planning Meeting	Wytheville	Holiday Inn 276-228-4583	Meeting Begins At 8am
Jul	22	Summer EC Planning Meeting	Wytheville	Holiday Inn 276-228-4583	Meeting Begins At Noon
Aug	18	EC Meeting @ FOM	Wytheville	Holiday Inn 276-228-4583	Meeting Begins At 7pm
Aug	19-20	Fall BOD Meeting	Wytheville	Holiday Inn 276-228-4583	Meeting Begins At 8:30am
Division Reporting Deadlines					
2006					
BUDGET SUBMISSIONS					
Apr	15	Next Seasons Budgets Requests	Annually	Jim Underwood 865-483-3675	inu@bellsouth.net
Jul	1	Final Year End Budget Submissions	Annually	Jim Underwood 865-483-3675	inu@bellsouth.net
Jul	1	Patrol Financial Reports (990's)	Annually	Jim Underwood 865-483-3675	inu@bellsouth.net
AWARDS SUBMISSIONS					
Apr	1	Awards Nominations	Annually	Send To Chain Of Command On Application, Signed In Order. Email to JDobson4@aol.com	
ANYTIME		Nat'l Or Leadership Award Nominations		Send To Chain Of Command Listed On Application - Signed In Proper Order.	
END OF YEAR REPORT SUBMISSIONS					
Apr	1	Patrol Reps End Of Year Report	Annually	Morgan Armstrong, DD, ADD, RD	RMASP@Adelphia.net
Apr	1	Officers End Of Year Report	Annually	Respective Supervisor	
Apr	1	Supervisors End Of Year Report	Annually	Respective Supervisor, DD	

Blue Ridge Region Calendar

Region Events for 2005-2006						
Feb	12	PES	Appalachian	Mary Underwood 865-483-3675	inu@bellsouth.net	8:30 am
Feb	18	Basic S & T Evaluation	Hawksnest	Mark Rees 704-896-0747	Mark.rees@synapsetechnology.com	8:30 am
Mar	5	Basic S & T Evaluation	Appalachian	Mark Rees 704-896-0747	Mark.rees@synapsetechnology.com	8:30 am

Dixie Region Calendar

Educational Courses for 2005-2006						
Mar	7	Avalanche Fundamentals	Cullowhee, NC	Dennis Slagle 919-528-9279	dslagle2@nc.rr.com	
Region Events for 2005-2006						
Feb	26	Senior OEC Evaluation	Catalochee, NC	Bob Brewster 828 684-8100	bobbrewster@charter.net	

Virginia Region Calendar 2005-2006

Month	Date	Event	Location	Contact	E-Mail Address	Comments
Educational Courses Held In Region For 2005-2006						
Feb	4	Transportation Instructor Course	Wintergreen	Mike Fisher 434-296-8486	heardmtn99@aol.com	Min = 6 \$10 Fee
		Avalanche Fundamentals &				
Mar	12	Rescue	Wintergreen	Mike Fisher 434-296-8486	heardmtn99@aol.com	Min = 6 \$10 Fee
Virginia Events Held In The Region For 2005-2006						
Feb	4	Certified Operations & OEC Clinic	Massanutten	Leslie Carter 434-295-4463	cartrplmbg@aol.com	
Feb	5	Certified S&T Clinic	Massanutten	Leslie Carter 434-295-4463	cartrplmbg@aol.com	
		Senior Emergency Management				
Feb	25	Evaluation	Wintergreen	T Harris 804-320-1901	tandpeg@netzero.net	
Feb	26	Senior S & T Evaluation	Wintergreen	Mike Fisher 434-296-8486	heardmtn99@aol.com	
Mar	12	Massanutten Picnic	Massanutten	Bartek Drewnowski 540-289-4954	bdrewnowski@massresort.com	

West Virginia Region Calendar 2005-2006

Educational Courses for 2005-2006				
Mar	11	Avalanche 1	Wintergreen	Mike Fisher 434-296-8485 Heardmtn99@aol.com
Mar	6	MTR Level 1	Massanutten	
West Virginia Region Events for 2005-2006				
Mar	6	Basic S & T Evaluation	Timberline	Steve Cvechko 304-776-8540
Mar	5	Senior S & T Evaluation	Snowshoe	Jan Starr 304-572-6713 mvfarm@frontiernet.net
Mar	4	Senior Emergency Mgmt Evaluation	Timberline	Janette Bennett 304-599-4915
Certified Events for 2005-2006				
Mar	17	Certified Pre Evaluation Clinic	Snowshoe	Leslie Carter 434-325-1262
Mar	18/19	Certified Evaluation	Snowshoe	Leslie Carter 434-325-1263

Southern Division Roster 2005-2006

Executive Committee Members

<p><u>Division Director</u> Neil Booth (Shelley) (03) 4769 Brent Court Mableton, GA 30126-1446 (H/O) 770-941-4268 (F) 770-941-4268 neil.booth@comcast.net</p>	<p><u>Past Division Director</u> Nici Singletary (John) (03) Rt. 1 Box 525 Roseland VA 22967 (H) 434-325-1024 (C) 540-292-4445 NiciEMS@aol.com</p>	<p><u>1st ADD Admin/Education</u> Morgan Armstrong (Jo Ann) (03) P.O. Box 699 Collinsville, VA 24078-0699 (H) 276-629-1654 (O) 276-634-4815/ Fax-4825 RMASP@Adelphia.net</p>	<p><u>OEC Supervisor (99)</u> Judi Kay-Monaghan 5966 Norham Drive Alexandria VA 22315 (H) 703-971-7841 (O) 703-915-2454 (C) 703-472-0094 JKAYMONAGHAN@aol.com</p>	<p><u>Treasurer</u> Jim Underwood (Mary) 109 Wildwood Drive Oak Ridge TN 37830 (H) 865-483-3675 inu@bellsouth.net</p>
<p><u>Professional Director (03)</u> Bartek Drewnowski (Kelly) 903 Roxbury Rd Richmond VA 23226 (H) 804-281-7255 (O) 540-289-4954 (F) 540-289-6414 bdrewnowski@massresort.com snowinfo@massresort.com</p>	<p><u>Secretary (04)</u> Kelly Duke Drewnowski (Bartek) 903 Roxbury Rd Richmond, VA 23226 (H) 804-281-7255 dukeki@comcast.net</p>	<p><u>2nd ADD Proficiency Skills</u> OPEN</p>		
<p><u>Asst. Division Director-South Area</u> Richard Boyer (Joan) (05) 4559 Collins Ave. Acworth, GA 30101 (H/F) 770-975-5875 (W) 678-352-1900 (C) 770-364-0187 rhboyer@bellsouth.net</p>	<p><u>Blue Ridge Region Director</u> Mike Harris (03) 2357 Keith Ave Granite Falls, NC 28630 (H) 828-396-2475 (W) 828-322-1050 mrharris@charter.net</p>	<p><u>Dixie Region Director</u> Brent Bowman (05) 2489 Oostanaula Drive NE Atlanta, Ga. 30319 (H) 404-869-8286 (O) 770-543-0183 brent2489@gmail.net</p>		
<p><u>Asst. Division Director-North Area</u> Jan Starr (03) P.O. Box 197 Snowshoe, WV 26209 (H) 304-572-2103 (O) 304-572-5695/6713 mvfarm@frontiernet.net jestarr@snowshoemtn.com</p>	<p><u>Virginia Region Director</u> William C. Smith (03) 6 Long Bridge Rd. Hampton, VA 23669-2019 (H) 757-851-1581 (W) 757-810-1690 skibill@widomaker.com</p>	<p><u>W. Virginia Region Director</u> Byrd White 167 Table Rock Rd Beaver, WV 25813-9016 (H) 304-763-5352 (O) 304-949-5372 byrdwhiteiii@charter.net</p>		

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West Virginia Region

<p><u>W. Virginia Region Director</u></p> <p>Byrd White 167 Table Rock Rd Beaver, WV 25813-9016 (H) 304-763-5352 (O) 304-949-5372 byrdwhiteiii@charter.net</p> <p><u>Timberline (PR)</u></p> <p>Steve Cvechko, Jr. (Lynn) PO Box 7072 Charleston, WV 25356 (O) 304-772-4939 (H) 304-776-8540 cvechkols@charter.net</p>	<p><u>Blackwater Nordic</u></p> <p>Brad Moore PO Box 44 Thomas, WV 26292 (H) 304-463-4401</p> <p><u>Timberline (PD)</u></p> <p>Josh Carrico PO Box 173 Thomas, WV 26292 (O) 1-800-766-9464 X131 (H) 304-463-4518 tcmedic823@hotmail.com</p>	<p><u>Snowshoe (PR/PD)</u></p> <p>Rick Sharp (Becky) P.O. Box 10 Snowshoe, WV 26209 (O) 304-572-6593 rsharp@snowshoemtn.com</p>	<p><u>The New Winterplace (PR)</u></p> <p>Walter Watson 301 Lucas Drive Beckley, WV 25801 (H) 304-253-6963 (O) 304-673-5106 dewawatson@msn.com</p>	<p><u>The New Winterplace (PD)</u></p> <p>Brian "Squirrel" Hagar Box 1 Flat Top, WV 25841 (O) 304-787-3221 x 129</p>
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Administrators within Regions report directly to Division Supervisor

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Ski Area Managers

<p><u>Snowshoe</u></p> <p>TBA P.O. Box 10 Snowshoe, WV 26209 304-572-1000 FAX 304-572-1027 www.snowshoemtn.com</p>	<p><u>Timberline</u></p> <p>Amos Bennett Mtn Ops HC # 70 Box 488 Davis, WV 26260 304-866-4801 FAX 304-866-4600 www.timberlineresort.com</p>	<p><u>White Grass Ski Touring</u></p> <p>Chip Chase Rt. 1, Box 299 Davis, WV 26260 304-866-4114 www.whitegrass.com chip@whitegrass.com</p>	<p><u>Winterplace Ski Resort</u></p> <p>Dennis Kinsella Box 1 Flat Top, WV 25841 (O) 304-787-3221 x133 (H) 304-763-4063 Fax 304-787-9885 denniskinsella@winterplace.com www.winterplace.com</p>
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Virginia Region

<u>Virginia Region Director</u> William C. Smith (03) 6 Long Bridge Rd. Hampton, VA 23669-2019 (H) 757-851-1581 (W) 757-810-1690 skibill@widomaker.com	<u>Asst. VA. Region Director (03)</u> Peg Harris ("T") (05) 4242 Arrowhead Road Richmond, VA 23235 (H) 804-320-1901 tandpeg@netzero.net	<u>Bryce (PR)</u> Carl Larsen 3 Dubois Ct. Sea Cliff, NY 11579-1346 (H) 516-676-6031 carl@boatbarnUSA.com	<u>Bryce (PD)</u> Bob Mecaughy P.O. Box 365 Basye, VA 22810 (H) 540-856-8420 bobmec@shentel.net	<u>Homestead (PR) (05)</u> David Woods 4928 Preakness Way Virginia Beach, VA 3464 (H) 757-495-7624 (W) 363-6804 dwwoods12@aol.com
<u>Homestead (PD)</u> Jeff Kelly HC 82, Box 118 Marlington, WV 24954 (O) 540-839-7781 Michael.Valach@ourclub.com	<u>Massanutten (PR)</u> Ron Dull 12539 Basswood Dr. Manassas, VA 20112-3443 (H) 703-791-0173 (O) 703-490-0337 redull@comcast.net	<u>Massanutten (PD)</u> Bartek Drewnowski (Kelly) 903 Roxbury Road Richmond, VA 23226 (H) 804-281-7255 (O) 540-289-5954 (F) 540-289-6414 snowinfo@massresort.com	<u>Wintergreen (PR)</u> Ted Forbes (05) 110 Overlook Drive Charlottesville, VA 22903 (H) 434-979-7586 (O) 804-284-5867 (C) 804-337-9354 Ted_forbes@capitalone.com	<u>Wintergreen (PD)</u> Tucker Crolius Wintergreen Resort Wintergreen, VA 22958 (O) 434-325-8060 (C) 434-882-0190 Tcrolius@aol.com

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Ski Area Managers

<u>Bryce Resort</u> Horst Locher P.O. Box 3 Basye, VA 22810 540-856-2121 FAX 540-856-4069 www.bryceresort.com	<u>Massanutten Village</u> Steve Showalter Kenny Hess (Asst. Mgr) P.O. Box 1227 Harrisonburg, VA 22803-1227 540-289-9441 FAX 540-289-6414 www.massresort.com snowinfo@massresort.com	<u>The Homestead</u> Michael Valach Director of Outdoor Activities P.O. Box 2000 Hot Springs, VA 24445 540-839-7721 FAX 540-839-7959 Michael.valach@ourclub.com www.Thehomstead.com	<u>Wintergreen</u> Jay Roberts, Dir of Mtn Ops. Robert Ashton CEO Wintergreen Resort P.O. Box 706 Wintergreen, VA 22958 434-325-8067 FAX 434-325-8001 www.WintergreenResort.com javroberts@wintergreenresort.com
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Blue Ridge Region

<p><u>Blue Ridge Region Director</u> Mike Harris (03) 2357 Keith Ave Granite Falls, NC 28630 (H) 828-396-2475 (W) 828-322-1050 mrharris@charter.net</p>	<p><u>Appalachian Ski Mtn. (PR/PD)</u> Joe Donadio (Anne) 1388 Old Bristol Road Boone, NC 28607 (H) 828-297-5885 (O) 828-295-7828 / (F) -3277 donadio@watauga.k12.nc.us</p>	<p><u>Ski Beech (PR)</u> Tom Watson 85 Sioux Trail Greeneville, TN 37743 (H) 423-636-1096 (O) 423-636-5638 tom_watson@taylorwhite.com</p>	<p><u>Ski Beech (PD)</u> Gil Adams (Lisa) P.O. Box 803 Banner Elk, NC 28604 (H) 828-387-2892 (O) 828-387-2011 x206 SkiBeech@skybest.com</p>	<p><u>Ski Hawknest (PR)</u> Larry Bost (Denise) 2517 Saddlehorse Lane Gastonia, NC 28056 (H) 704-865-7484 (C) 336-407-0857 NSPNC@aol.com</p>
<p><u>Hawknest (PD)(04)</u> Butch McLean (Elaine) 146 Deepwood Court Seven Devils, NC 28604 (H) 828-963-9560 NSP6874@netscape.net</p>	<p><u>Sugar Mountain (PR)</u> Flynn Harris (Jane) 2240 Sedley Road Charlotte, NC 28211 (H) 704-366-5487 (O) 704-523-7465 eflynnh@bellsouth.net</p>	<p><u>Sugar Mountain (PD)</u> Dean Lyons (Vicki) 676 Poplar Grove Rd Boone, NC 28607 (H) 828-264-5953 (O) 828-898-4501 dnovic@charter.net</p>		

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Ski Area Managers

<p><u>Appalachian Ski Mtn.</u> Brad Moretz, Gn Mgr P.O. Box 106 Blowing Rock, NC 28605 (O) 828-295-7828 (H) 828-264-3501 FAX 828-295-3277 www.appskimtn.com</p>	<p><u>Beech Mtn Ski Resort</u> Wayne Hoilman, Gn Mgr P.O. Box 1118 1007 Beech Mtn Pkwy Banner Elk, NC 28604 (O) 828-387-2011 FAX 828-387-4952 www.skibeech.com</p>	<p><u>Ski Hawknest</u> Leonard Cottom Lenny Cottom 1800 Skyland Drive Seven Devils, NC 28604 828-963-6563 www.hawknest-resort.com</p>	<p><u>Sugar Mountain</u> Gunther Jochl, GM P.O. Box 369 Banner Elk, NC 28604 828-898-4521 800-784-2768 FAX 828-898-6384 www.skisugar.com</p>
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Dixie Region

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