



Southern Cross

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Southern Cross is published three times a year—Fall, Mid-winter and Spring. Articles and photos are encouraged and appreciated. With photos, please include caption information. If at all possible, please include a photo of the author with articles. Submission deadline for the Spring issue is January 08, 2010.

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R. Morgan Armstrong,
Division Director

Report from the Division Director

There is a lot going on with the National Ski Patrol this fall. The NSP Board will elect four members. A new set of National Bylaws that has been in the works for about two years has been approved by the Board and will be presented to the membership for a vote. The Fifth Edition of the OEC Book is in final stages of preparation and a Publishing Company to print the new edition has been acquired. The NSP has put in place an electronic registration system that is expected to improve patroller registration, give us more and faster access to our records and allow changes and updates to be made faster and easier. The Patroller Education Conference (formerly known as the Powderfall Conference) held in Snowbird, Utah in April had the highest attendance of any such event in the history of the NSP. Keeping the old concept of great ski instruction and adding to it, patroller OEC and Toboggan challenge events, education seminars on patrol topics and the ability of attending members to see a NSP Board of Directors Meeting in session made it an all-around event of interest to anyone in the National Ski Patrol.

This past August 15 & 16, 2009 the Southern Division held the Southern Division Patroller Conference and in attendance were two, top officials of the National Ski Patrol. **Terry La Liberte**, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the National Ski Patrol and **Robert B. "Bob" Scarlett**, Esquire, our National Legal Advisor. Terry gave us a thirty-minute course on the current issues and events taking place at the National level and Bob gave us two sessions on legal issues. I was very impressed when he told us how the National Ski Patrol was released from pending litigation over a matter and could have walked away from the court proceedings. Three patrollers were in jeopardy of being added and

rather than risk them having to face the litigation alone, the NSP went to their defense at risk to itself. The National Office is directing its attention on you, the patroller. I will try very hard to bring you source information at every Patroller Conference. Last year **Tim White**, Executive Director attended and this year the Chairman and Chief Legal Officer were present. These last two gentlemen brought this message to us in a loud and clear voice. The National Ski Patrol is back supporting you the patroller and is looking out for your interest. Ask those who attended for details because we are fortunate to have our National Board and Staff working for each and every patroller and they are willing to take their time to bring us the message by their conduct and their visit to our meeting.

I want to thank the Southern Division for supporting the Southern Division Board of Directors in their recent decision to raise our dues. I was pleasantly surprised when almost every letter I received in response to this decision was positive in tone and content. I appreciate your understanding in these difficult times and be assured we will protect both the division financially and try to make this division run as cost efficiently as we are able. Thank you for your support.

Patrollers are passionate about the National Ski Patrol. We often have a wide difference of opinion on how to implement that passion into a successful work product but we all our passionate and love the NSP or we would not be involved. Help the officers and staff of the division to make your job easier. Help out in Region and Division positions. Share good ideas and when a problem arises let the Line and Program Officers know how we can help. We all want to make things better and sharing is the way to accomplish our goal.

In closing, I am personally working on a project for the National Office and I need to know if you have a personal friend in the United States Congress (House or Senate). Please let me know if you do and I will contact you about how you can help.

Morgan Armstrong
Division Director

DUES INCREASE

After 21 years the Southern Division Board of Directors reluctantly raises dues by **\$5.00** per year. The Board meeting at the Patroller Conference on August 16, 2009, raised the dues from \$12.00 per year to the current rate of **\$17.00 per year**.

The last time the Southern Division raised dues for its members was for the 1987 – 1988 ski season according to Jim Underwood our Treasurer. Since that last dues increase the Southern Division saved money by switching from mailing the Southern Cross newsletter (\$11,000.00 per year) to e-mailing it to most members (\$1,000.00 per year for mailing at special request of individual members). The other savings method was many officers and program supervisors voluntarily paid for their own expenses without filing claims against the division budget. Over

the years, however, even these cost savings measures were not sufficient to keep the budget balanced.

While our proposed budgets have been deficit budgets for six or seven years, the above measures resulted with nearly balanced actual budgets. The times finally caught us and last year our budget was actually (not proposed) \$4,107.02 in the red. We made up the difference by drafting money from our reserve fund. This year our Treasurer predicted our actual budget deficit would increase to \$4,500.00. While our reserves are still healthy, the continued practice of drawing down our reserves will result in the division not being able to sustain its programs and eventually itself.

The Southern Division Board in an effort to protect members financially actually decreased dues several years ago by the amount that National Ski Patrol increased dues. Now, your Board of Directors is faced with program costs increasing, travel expenses increasing for program personnel and line officers, a new Outdoor Emergency Care book (the 5th edition) about to be released and patrollers asking for services not be reduced but be continued at the current rate to meet their needs. Our performance to our members, for the resorts and for the general public requires we keep our quality sound. The Board asks for your support.

The Southern Division does not take lightly the raising of dues at anytime and we have searched long and hard to find an alternative. The only viable solution at this time is an increase in dues. Other programs to increase income are going to be tried so your dues in the future will remain at the lowest rate possible. The Board voted to offer a credit card to members, our families and to the general public that is authorized by the National Ski Patrol. **The “Affinity Card”** is advertised on the Southern Division Website at www.SouthernNSP.org and for each person who applies and is accepted through our Website or on a special Southern Division Application Form, the credit card company donates \$50 to NSP and in turn NSP will pay the Southern Division a fee of \$10.00. There is no cost to members to sign up for the card; the card does not even have to be used for us to receive the finder’s fee. If used, the NSP will receive a percentage of all charges on the card and this will in turn save you on future dues to NSP.

Please sign up for this credit card. Invite family and friends to also sign up for this card. Information and applications may be acquired on our Southern Division Website. **Warning** – use of any application other than our Southern Division Application will not result in our division in sharing in the finder’s fee. The application on the NSP Website will not result in our getting a finder’s fee.

All of the officers and members of the Board of Directors of the Southern Division want you to know we are trying our best to preserve the division at the lowest cost possible to you. We also have a conflicting interest in keeping the National Ski Patrol and the Southern Division at the highest possible level of quality to you the member, to its member resorts and finally to the general public. We ask for your support and understanding at a time of financial hardship for all of us.

R. Morgan Armstrong
Southern Division Director

Thank You to the Meeting Committee

A special thanks goes to the Southern Division Meeting Committee for all of their efforts at the last Ski Patroller Conference on August 15 & 16, 2009 at Kingsport, Tennessee. A lot of work is required to book the venue, set up the rooms, acquire all of the good food and beverage for the Hospitality Room, set it up, keep it clean and take it down. We provide all of the work in order to save expense to the members for this meeting and this committee saves you a great deal of money. Here are the people to thank when you see them this winter on the slopes patrolling and the great spirit of the Hawksnest Patrol lives on:

- (1) **Rob Raff**, Chairman of the Committee & Audio, Visual & Lighting Equipment
- (2) **Fred Wessels**, Accounting, Registration & Setup
- (3) **Teresa Stewart**, Registration & Setup
- (4) **Jo Ann Ehlinger**, Hospitality Suite Food & Beverage
- (5) **Frances Edwards**, Hospitality Suite Food & Beverage

The Committee has filed a final report with me and has already started work on plans for improving the meeting next year. If you missed the event this year, you missed a lot.

Morgan Armstrong
Southern Division Director

From the Assistants...

Richard Boyer
1st Assistant Division Director



Getting the Southern Division Calendar Published on our website

We are adjusting our process for putting the calendar together and on to our Southern Division's web site. Each Region Director must serve as the clearinghouse for all activities within his or her Region that will be published on the calendar. Program supervisors, Instructors, Patrol Representatives and the like will be required to clear a prospective course schedule, event or activity with the Region Director within the appropriate region, who then is responsible for communicating this schedule addition or change to **Morgan Armstrong** who takes the responsibility for regularly revising our web calendar. Please use the input forms and format available to communicate additions or changes to Morgan. This will make his job easier and more efficient.

This above outline is slightly different from the past, but if we will adhere to this process it should be orderly and efficient. The Region Directors are the key to making this work smoothly.

Region Directors, please be didactic and proactive within your region to make sure this new process becomes known and workable.

Patrollers' Conference 2009

Once or twice a year we get to see old friends and meet new ones. One of these times is our Southern Division Patrollers' Conference. This was held in August in Kingsport, Tennessee and didn't disappoint. Yes, business is conducted, necessary as it is, but the real treat is being with old friends and making new ones. It is a chance to get a glimpse of other patrols, who they are and how they conduct their patrol affairs, as well as to just have fun. We've grown to enjoy these gatherings and look forward to them annually. Patrollers ought to consider meeting with us at the Conference time and see some of the workings of our Southern Division and how it functions. As important, there are many other events and happenings which go on this weekend, e.g. Instructor's Updates, equipment displays, thanks to **Ric** and **Dara LaValle** with Response 911, Inc. and visitors such as **Terry La Liberte**, our National Chairman and **Bob Scarlett**, our National Legal Advisor. It really helps to see what is available in the marketplace in the way of new and improved clothing and equipment, and to hear what is going on at the National level to better understand how the NSP is doing or to what we might need to adjust or pay more attention. For the first time since I've been a patroller I now have a better grasp on what National's liability insurance program covers and how it impacts each of us. A BIG THANK-YOU to Mr. Scarlett, Mr. La Liberte, Morgan Armstrong and all those who spent countless hours organizing and implementing this event.

I'm looking forward to seeing you on the slopes this year.

Richard Boyer
1st Assistant Division Director

Brent Bowman,
2nd Assistant Division Director

Well I can't believe the summer is already over! As you read this, Labor Day has come and gone and kids are all back in school and college. In August we had our Patroller Conference in Kingsport, TN. It was a really great weekend with 150+ patrollers attending. The Ski and Toboggan instructors held a roundtable and the Division Snow Sports School also held a meeting. OEC conducted an instructor refresher and Response-911 (www.response-911.com) sold everything from zipper pulls to packs in the hallway. Of course the highlight of the weekend was the awards ceremony with MANY awards presented. Thanks to all of the patrols sending in requests for awards. This is a really tough job and the thanks are in the smiles on the faces of the persons receiving the award certificate or plaque.



As we head into September, October and November OEC instructors will be hard at work completing the OEC courses in progress and doing the testing comes at the end of the class. Please assist these instructors by volunteering a day or two of your time to evaluate, be a patient or bystander for the test(s). This is also a great way for you to begin to refresh your mind for the upcoming OEC refreshers. OEC instructors will be meeting to plan refreshers and for those of you who are in the mentoring process, this will be a great opportunity for you plan and practice the module or two that you will present at the refresher.

As always I look forward to the first turns on new snow. I just got my email notification that my latest Telemark video is on the way and I can't wait to watch it!

SEE YOU AT THE REFRESHER!!!!

Brent

Mike Harris,

Assistant Division Director – South Area

As The Bull Wheel Turns

We just had another great Southern Division Fall Conference. Thanks to so many especially the two extremely knowledgeable speakers Terry Laliberte NSP National Chair and Robert (Bob) Scarlett NSP National Council. We had a very successful awards banquet, and the best hospitality suite you could imagine. It's time to start thinking about the upcoming season.



There is no need to duplicate your Region Directors articles. **Brandon Olsen**-Dixie and **Jonathan Hale**-Blue Ridge articles in this issue of Southern Cross should have information regarding Fall Refreshers, planned activities, and needs for the upcoming season. Refreshers, seminars, and workshops should be featured.

Next seasons PEC (Patroller Education Conference) is going to be held at Snowbird again from April 13th until April 17th. I would like to urge anyone interested to attend.

I hope to see as many of you as possible in this year's refresher cycle and I am anxious to spend time patrolling on the hill with you this season.

Mike Harris (AKA TYRONE)

Jan Starr

Assistant Division Director, North Area



Notes from the North

Our leaves are starting to turn here in the mountains so that must mean that fall has arrived. I'm wondering where summer went! If anyone else had a summer like we had here, then you really didn't have one! Maybe the weather pattern will hold through the winter and that will mean a lot of cold and snow!

Refreshers have been planned and dates set on the calendar for the season for various training seminars. Remember that you need to call ahead and make sure it is OK to visit another refresher other than your home area. Please fill out the refresher feedback form at the end of the refresher to be turned in. This helps with the planning of the following year's event.

At the August Patroller Conference, a budget was approved for the next year. To make it all work a \$5 dues increase was voted upon. It has been a long time since we have had any increase in dues and with doing so this time it should be a long time before this will be needed again. National is working hard to find ways to supplement their budget so they won't have to raise any dues. One of the ways is fundraising. With that is a Patrol VISA card that they will get monies when the card is applied for and used. It has a great picture of patrollers on the front of it. We all use a credit card so it would be great to have one of these in your wallet, as it will benefit National and Southern Division. It can be applied for on our Southern Division web site.

Have a great fall and refresher and I hope to see you on the slopes!!

From the Regions...

Blue Ridge Region

Jonathan F. Hale,
Blue Ridge Region Director

Wow! Is the only way to describe the way the Blue Ridge Region cleaned up the Division Awards this year. Go ahead, count the awards found in this *Southern Cross* and you will note a trend. The awards obtained by the Appalachian, Sugar, Beech and even the almost-extinct Hawksnest Patrols are the predominant names on the awards. Appalachian Ski Mountain was, by far, the biggest winner in the Division. In addition, the war-weary Sugar Patrol walked away with three Patrollers Crosses for their personnel hurt on the job. Even though he had a dislocated shoulder, **Mike Harris** wouldn't allow one for himself, but got a pair of Harley-inspired gloves from his escapades at Powderfall.



This Fall the Region will give two more refreshers for the two sections of the Region. In addition we will bring the ***Snowsports Clinic*** provided by Beech Mountain's **Briggs Allen** in early 2010. After the end of the ski season we will be the first Region to provide Mary Underwood's NEW ***Leadership Development Course*** in May of 2010 in Boone. I invite anyone to attend this course because it is so much fun (and an elective!).

One critical issue that you may have missed at the Summer Patrollers' Conference was when **Bob Scarlett**, National Legal Advisor spoke to us about the unfortunate incident where a child was accidentally run over by a Patroller on a Snowmobile. The terribly unfortunate incident was sad, but the judge found that the Patroller was not negligent and he refused to hear the case as he felt that it could have a very negative impact on volunteerism in this nation. In addition, the insurance underwriter for the NSPS supported us throughout. This is very important to every Patroller as we ponder the aspects of personal liability that we face day-to-day on our volunteer workday and a great service provided by the NSPS.

Again, much thanks go out to the people that don't receive enough in our Region. These are the people that make Ski Patrolling possible:

All IORs,
Refresher leaders and team leaders,
Program Managers in the Region

Thank you for all that you have done and will do.

Jonathan

Virginia Region

Ted Forbes, Region Director

I have heard from a very reliable source (**Scott Gunnell**, head of snow making at Wintergreen) that ski season is only three months away. Indeed, if you look at the AccuWeather long range forecast, or the Farmer's Almanac outlook for this winter, we may finally be getting our long overdue payback from Mother Nature this season. Keep your fingers crossed!



Summer's been busy in the Virginia Region. The four season resorts have been keeping the golf courses manicured, the tennis courts clean, and the swimming pools and water parks full. But as I drive around the rural roads, and especially as I gain elevation, there is definitely color coming into the leaves. And you know what that means ... Get ready! For those of you close to Charlottesville, **Sepp Kober** and Freestyle will be holding their annual Pro Night Sale at the store on US Hwy 29 starting at 7PM on October 2 and October 23. You must show your NSP card for admission.

So what's new in the Region? Well, ziplines seem to be the big thing. Both Wintergreen and Bryce added these new recreation devices this summer. **Randy Trow** of Bryce reports that theirs has been an extremely popular addition to the only grass skiing in Virginia – day and night zipping sessions have been run seven days a week and will continue into the winter months (though no nights on ski season weekends). Wintergreen's **Tucker Crolius** reports a similar story with a new zipline installed near “The Plunge” tubing park. Wintergreen also has new 20 fan guns installed for greater snow making capacity in less cold/more humid conditions. Tucker also notes that a new “Yellow Jacket” Safety Patrol program will launch this season, concentrated on skier education and responsibility code enforcement, and replacing the old Courtesy Patrol.



Perhaps the biggest story of all in Virginia is at Massanutten, where **Kenny Hess** and **Steve Kuller** are particularly excited about two new lifts that have gone in. This is a big deal for any resort, so see the photos for a few shots. There's a brand new Dopplesmyr CTEC quad lift that has replaced the thirty-five year old Borvig double that carried skiers, boarders and patrollers on the 'Nut's beginner area. Massanutten has also added a new 180 foot Magic carpet surface lift to the teaching area for the 2009 season. Get over there and go for a ride this season.

(Photos submitted by Ted Forbes)



And as you might imagine, OEC refresher planning is well under way, with delivery set for October in most Virginia resorts. New candidate training has also begun. **Will Drury** at Massanutten is looking for as many as 20 new recruits this season, and Wintergreen's **Paul Thompson** reports that recruiting officer **Debbie Gagon** did a great job in lining up 15 new candidates. I urge you all to get involved in working with these "wanna-be's" as they constitute the life blood of our patrols and the future of our organization. You are the one they will look to as a role model.

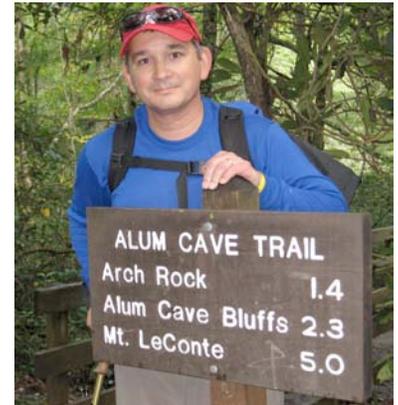
And speaking of role models – what are you going to do this year to make yourself an even better patroller – one who is held in high regard by the new candidates? Have you thought about trying a new tool on the snow this winter – fixed or free heel, or a snowboard? How about becoming an instructor in OEC or Toboggan? Can you teach others to ski? Our Southern Division Snowsports School needs instructors. And what about Senior or Certified – are you ready to kick it up a notch? This is a great time to be setting your own goals for the season When we get to the back end of it in April, how are you going to answer the "What did I learn this season" question?

See you out there real soon!Ted

Transportation...Transportation...Transportation...Transportation

Tony Tingle,
Transportation Supervisor

At the Southern Division Fall Conference back in August, our National Legal Advisor Bob Scarlett ***noted that to be covered by NSP insurance during training activities, the activity needs to be registered.*** Right now, if you go to the NSP website, login, and go to register a course, you will see the following options related to Transportation:



- Skiing Enhancement Seminar
- Snowboard Enhancement Seminar
- Toboggan Enhancement Seminar
- Ski Trainers Workshop
- Toboggan Refresher
- Instructor Recertification Clinic – Alpine
- Certified Qualification Clinic
- Certified Evaluation Event
- Senior Alpine Skiing Clinic (Non-Credited Course)
- Senior Alpine Toboggan Clinic (Non-Credited Course)
- Senior Alpine Skiing Continuing Ed
- Senior Alpine Toboggan Continuing Ed
- Senior Alpine Skiing Evaluation/Test (Credited course)
- Senior Alpine Toboggan Evaluation/Test (Credited course)
- Senior Alpine Trainer Evaluator (Non-Credited Course)

There are a couple of things we do in Southern Division that are absent from the list above - General Patroller Toboggan Training; Basic Evaluations, Toboggan check-offs, and Transportation Evaluator Clinics. I'm going to try to get these added to the list, and I'll keep you up-to-date on how that exercise goes.

Aside from having your training covered by NSP insurance, registering your courses does an additional thing: It **Documents** your instructor activity. This is important because.....Each year I have to look over your transportation records and determine who to re-up (qualify) as instructors. Once you become a Transportation Instructor, you have a three (3) year period during which you are active. At the end of the three years, your name comes to the Transportation Supervisor in your Division (that's me), and I have to determine whether to approve you for another three years. Historically, I have had to rely on my experience with each of you as instructors, or because I cannot see and instruct with each and every one of you, I have had to rely on information from your Region Transportation Advisor, your Patrol Representative

or you to provide information on your participation and instruction. As transportation instructors you need to stay sharp on your skills, and participation in the program is key. So after numerous discussions with many of you and following two of transportation round tables at Fall Conferences, the Southern Division Transportation Program is implementing a continuing education program for Transportation Instructors. From this point forward we need to track our teaching and training activities. For each three year appointment, every transportation instructor needs to get five (5) points accrued from the following options: (we will pro-rate for folks expiring in 2010 and 2011).

- Take or Teach a Skiing Enhancement Seminar (1 Point)
- Take or Teach a Snowboard Enhancement Seminar (1 Point)
- Take or Teach a Toboggan Enhancement Seminar (1 Point)
- Take or Teach a Ski Trainers Workshop (2 Points) – It is usually a two day event
- Teach a Toboggan Refresher (1 Point)
- Take or Teach a Instructor Recertification Clinic – Alpine (1 Point)
- Teach a Certified Qualification Clinic (1 Point)
- Evaluate at a Certified Evaluation Event (1 Point)
- Teach a Senior Alpine Skiing Clinic (Non-Credited Course) (1 Point)
- Teach a Senior Alpine Toboggan Clinic (Non-Credited Course) (1 Point)
- Teach Senior Alpine Toboggan Continuing Ed (1 Point)
- Evaluate at a Senior Alpine Skiing Evaluation/Test (Credited course) (1 Point)
- Evaluate at a Senior Alpine Toboggan Evaluation/Test (Credited course) (1 Point)
- Teach Senior Alpine Trainer Evaluator (Non-Credited Course) (1 Point)

As an incentive to get folks to mingle and learn from each other, if you participate in an event outside of your Region, you get an extra point. Here's the kicker: To get credit, the event has to be a registered event **AND** the course has to be closed.

Here's an example of how this will work:

If my toboggan instructor status expires in three years I need five points to re-qualify. Over that time I teach at my mountain's toboggan refresher each year (1 point per refresher) = 3 points total. I teach at the Region Senior Toboggan Clinic on my first year of three (1 point) and take a Toboggan Enhancement Seminar on my third year of three (1 point). I'm done.

This is new. It will probably change a little as we figure it out. Thank you for all the Transportation teaching you do. Remember to register and close those events, so you are covered by the NSP insurance. Please drop me an e-mail if you have questions and/or comments. See you when the snow flies.

Tony

Briggs Allen,
Snowsports Supervisor

Hello fellow patrollers!!! If you are like me you are already getting excited about the upcoming ski season. The ski magazines have already started arriving, instructor refreshers have taken place and the on the hill refreshers are right around the corner... all signifying the start of the 2009-10 ski season is almost starting.

This summer the old Southern Division NSP Snowsports School was busy planning to make this upcoming season the best yet. The reason I say the “new” Southern Division NSP Snowsports School is because our Board of Directors, at the August Patroller Education Conference, approved our proposal to change our name from the Southern Division NSP Ski School to the Southern Division NSP Snowsports School. This name change better reflects our dedication to all facets of the snowsports that are involved in patrolling and brings our program’s name up-to-date with the rest of the industry.

Our program continues to generate lots of questions and I would like to try to answer a few of those now:

1. What exactly does the Southern Division NSP Snowsports School do?

Our purpose is to provide safe, quality, training environment and programs to fulfill the ski/snowboard training needs of the patrols and patrollers and our Division. Our focus is to provide the pathways to ensure that our members are taught current and accurate snowsports skills and information. We strive to improve our snowsports teaching and effectiveness as instructors

2. Do I have to be a member of PSIA/AASI to join our snowsports school?

Not necessarily. We do ***strongly*** encourage your participation in these programs. We do advocate joining the PSIA/AASI as no other entity in the snowsports industry provides better instruction on how to teach skiing and snowboarding skills. By being certified by PSIA/AASI you will have been exposed and hopefully obtained the tools necessary to provide your candidates and patrollers quality, competent and safe training that they deserve. A patrols designated instructor must hold a valid PSIA/AASI certification (preferable level II).

3. Can anyone produce a patent in our snowsports schools clinics?

Yes, space permitting. Our clinics are designed not only for our members that are teaching candidates/patrollers and working toward PSIA/AASI certification, but also patrollers and examiners wishing to increase their skiing, riding, instruction and evaluation skills. We want your involvement!!

4. Am I eligible for the snowsports schools liability insurance program?

If you are a member of the snowsports school you are eligible to participate in their liability insurance program. The Southern Division realizes the importance of our snowsport instructors being legally protected thus they will pay the premium for each patrol's Designated Instructor. Other snowsport instructors can be included in our policy for approximately \$65. Some patrols pay this fee for their instructors.

I hope these answers are helpful.

Now for the exciting news. We have planned 2 clinics for skiers and 2 clinics for snowboarders this season. Additionally, we are having a clinic that will focus on teaching skills for both skiers and snowboarders. These clinics will teach proven PSIA/AASI methods in preparing you to take the level I- II exam, as well as assist S&T examiners in making them better prepared in their skiing and snowboarding assessment skills. Also patrollers may qualify for PES credits. This year all of our clinics are registered with National for continuing education credits. These clinics will be held throughout the Division so be sure to check the Divisional calendar for specific details. We hope to see you there!!!

Until next time remember, snowsports are simple... turn right, turn left repeat as necessary.

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

Teresa T. Stewart,

Instructor Development Supervisor

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

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

Students will also need to buy the Instructor Development Student Manual (#502) from the NSP catalog or through the NSP on-line store. Once students take the ID course – they will have to be mentored within the discipline they are interested in becoming an instructor. Once they have successfully completed the mentoring phase – the instructor process is finished AFTER the paperwork is complete.

Brandon Deane

Southern Division Certified Advisor

Pursuing Excellence in Patrolling through the Certified Program

Have you completed the Senior Program?

Are you interested in pushing your skills and knowledge even further?

Would you like to pursue excellence in patrolling by getting involved with a program which will provide the opportunity to network with industry leaders from throughout the division (various mountain managers, patrol directors, patrol reps, and program supervisors, as well as other leaders at the patrol and division levels)?

If you answered yes to these questions, you should investigate the Southern Division's Certified Program.

My involvement with the Certified Program is often the most valuable professional development experience of my year. It is a great opportunity to share in an exciting endeavor with leading experts in our industry. I hope that the program can provide you with the same benefit.

There are multiple ways to find out more:

- Have a conversation with one of our division's Certified Patrollers; or
- Feel free to drop me an email if you would like (cbdeane@comcast.net); or
- Check out the Certified Program Library on the division web site.

If you have a serious interest in the program you should be actively pursuing your goals starting in December. At least determine if you plan to attend the required qualification clinic on January 10 and 11, 2010. Keep in mind that the program can only support the certification of a limited number of patrollers each year. You are welcome to enroll in any of the clinics even if you do not plan to participate in the exam.

Certified Program Library

The Certified Program has established a shelf of reference materials in the division's web site library. Feel free to do some research on line. Here are thumbnail sketches of those documents.

Welcome	States the Certified Program's goals and lists the modules (skill and knowledge areas) on which the program focuses.
Prerequisites	Lists prerequisites which must be fulfilled before a patroller may be accepted into the examination process.
Exam Components	Outlines the exam process which the Southern Division uses to assess certification.

How to Get Involved	Gives suggestions concerning various approaches to getting involved in the program whether or not you pursue certification this year.
Supplemental Questionnaire	A questionnaire for candidates to complete in the process of applying to the program.
Certified Program Made Easy	A description of the kinds of experiences which might help one attain personal excellence in patrol skills and knowledge.
Management Interview Scenario	Scenario upon which the management interview will be based (target ski area description and data, map, key questions). Due for publication 12/1/09.
Avalanche Scenario	Scenario upon which the avalanche interview will be based (a back country scenario with maps and or description of mountain, key questions). Due for publication 12/1/09.
Candidate Checklist	An outline of steps to take in the pursuit of certification.

We look forward to working with you to realize your goal of achieving excellence in ski patrolling, whether that entails attending our clinics or actually pursuing certification. Have a great season.

Brandon Deane
Southern Division Certified Advisor

The BEST patrollers are always willing to get BETTER!

I look up to you, I respect you, I trust your judgment.

Surely you would be the first to tell me if I am ready!

**Take the initiative by encouraging others to participate
in the SENIOR and CERTIFIED Programs**

Fred Wessels,
Archivist / Historian, Southern Division.

Another Historical Fall Conference has passed. It was great to see friends from other hills and to meet the Patrollers from Cloudmont and learn a little of the history of Alabama skiing. I was going to spend some time trying to explain in diplomatic terms that I am still looking for histories of existing and past mountains in the Southern Division. None have been provided. However, I ran across the below picture online and felt that it makes my point.



Awards ... Awards ... Awards

Peg Harris,
Awards Advisor

Annual Southern Division Awards 2009

It is hard to believe that another successful Southern Division Awards Banquet has come and gone. Kudos to all those who submitted award nominations this season. It takes a lot of work to produce a well written nomination and the recipients of all the various awards should be very thankful to all of you.

Thanks again to Morgan for sending personal invitations to all who received a service award. It is so much more fun to have the recipients present at the banquet to receive their award personally! And it was so great to have **Terry LaLiberte**, our National Chairman, to present the Silver Merit Star to the Southern Division patroller who won for National Paid Patroller Runner-up.

Now for the list of all Southern Division Patrollers who received awards this year.

Certificates of Appreciation

Ted Forbes	Assistant VA Region Director 2007-2008
Ted Forbes	Wintergreen Patrol Rep 2005-2008
Eric Scott Hill	Winterplace Patrol Rep 2006-2008
Thomas J Watson	Beech Patrol Rep 2000-2008
Jannette Bennett	Timberline Patrol Rep 2006-2008
Phil Bentley	Wolf Ridge Patrol Rep 2007-2009
William C. "Bill" Smith	VA Region Director 2003-2008
Rob Raff	Archivist/Historian Supervisor 2006-2008
Ann T. Wood	Instructor Development Supervisor 2004-2008
David Quidort	Senior Program Supervisor 2004-2008
David L. Cline	West VA Transportation Supervisor 2008-2009
Roger W. Bollinger	Co-Chair Alumni Program Supervisor 2007-2009
Janie Keith Bollinger	Co-Chair Alumni Program Supervisor 2007-2009

Each person listed below received a Certificate of Appreciation for helping with the Southern Division Certified Evaluation.

Trish Dean	Robbie Gilmer
Joan Boyer	Ted Forbes
Terry Morgan	Jane Poundstone
Glenn Carter	Jacqueline Safari
Christy Hunter	Conor Frackleton
Andrea Dorman	

Service Awards by Patrol

Administrative

Richard Woodlee 25 years

Appalachian

Jeffrey Holt	10 years	Cathy LaMarre	20 years
Jim S. Ratchford	15 years	Lonnie Propst	20 years
Annette Fox	20 years	John R. Culbreth	25 years
David Hinshaw	20 years	Anne Fox Donadio	25 years
David Jamison	20 years		

Beech

Jo Ann Ehlinger	15 years	Ronald G. Clyde	25 years
Jane L. Miller	15 years	Stanley A. Kweller	25 years
Mark Pipkin	15 years	Lee T. Whitman	25 years
Catherine E. Scantlin	15 years	James S. Gayle	30 years
Terence A. Bygate	20 years	Douglas Gilstrap, Jr	30 years
H. Eugene Hudson	20 years	James L. Herd	30 years
Frank Rice	20 years	Gary C. White	30 years
Todd Rice	20 years	Peter K. Chamberlin	55 years
Harvey Varner	20 years		

Blackwater Nordic

Harold B. Chase, III	15 years
Bradley Moore	25 years

Bryce

Kathryn J. Hurdcarillo	10 years	Steve Lewis	35 years
Jeffrey W. Murray	10 years	Randy Trow	40 years
Richard G. D'Antonio	30 years		

Cataloochee

Nathaniel Greene	10 years	Chris Major	15 years
James Major	10 years	Michael Wolf	15 years
Douglas Carver	15 years	Daniel C. Greene	30 years
Bill Dingle	15 years	Dawn Joy Jucker	40 years

Cloudmont

William Brent Montgomery	15 years
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Hawksnest

Michael Benbow	10 years	Hugh W. Jernigan, Jr.	25 years
Nicholas Friedman	10 years	Cindy Soule	25 years
Joseph B. Hill	15 years	William S. Styres	25 years
John N. Whalen	15 years	Mark A. Taylor	30 years

Homestead

Alan Marshall Ferris	15 years
Steve P. Burgdorf	25 years

Massanutten

J. Chris Bartus	15 years	Mark Alan Andrews	25 years
John J. Bartus	15 years	Tom Olander	30 years
David R. Berger	20 years		

Ober Gatlinburg

Steve Ebb 10 years
 Dean Eschmann 10 years

Bob Lewis 10 years
 Ben R. Long 30 years

Sapphire

Justus Baird 15 years

Snowshoe

Shannon Boehmer 10 years
 William Duerson 10 years
 Derek Hill 10 years
 Eric Louys 10 years
 Kari Philippi 10 years
 Jeff Roth 10 years
 Randy Rumer 10 years
 Kirk Tilley 10 years
 David Waitkus 10 years
 Richard Ziegler 10 years
 Brian Gritt 15 years

Mark Fara 20 years
 Jon Mohrman 20 years
 Connie Roadcap 20 years
 Karen Lynn Sealock 20 years
 Jonathan Wasiko 20 years
 Michael Carroll 25 years
 Melinda L. Souder 25 years
 Stephen G. Vincent 25 years
 Alan Romine 30 years
 Rick Sharp 30 years
 Neal W. Rehberg 35 years

Sugar

Kyle W. Hassler 10 years
 Dave Rosen 10 years
 Ronald Scott 10 years
 Eric Sorrow 10 years
 Anne Bolyea 15 years
 Bill Daniels 15 years
 Lindsey D. Lacey 15 years
 C. R. Alex Rucker 20 years

Pat Chesson 25 years
 Dean Lyons 25 years
 Steve Clymer 30 years
 Howard Tilley 30 years
 Joe White 30 years
 Sherry Ann Perry 35 years
 Herbert J. Johnson, Jr. 40 years

Wintergreen

Meggan Monaghan 10 years
 Landon Nowlin 10 years
 Steve R. Weber 10 years
 Trace Higgins 15 years
 Jerry Givens 15 years
 Kenneth E. Barber 20 years
 Mike Flanagan 20 years
 William T. Harris, III 20 years

Pattie B. Kline 20 years
 Robert Bashore 25 years
 Coleman D. Figg, Jr. 25 years
 William T. Ramsey 25 years
 Brad Spano 25 years
 Donald Spano 25 years
 Walter Nichols 35 years

Winterplace

David R. Creager, Jr. 10 years
Benjamin J. Curnett 10 years
Alisa C. Hudgel 15 years
Bill Handy 20 years

Charles A. Levin 25 years
Jerry Metheny 25 years
Wesley C. Benbow 35 years

Wolf Ridge

Bill Boughton 15 years
Matt Lowery 15 years
Randi Lowery 15 years
Russell M. Lindsey 20 years

Thomas W. R. Bingham 25 years
Phil Critcher 25 years
Jimmy Piercy, Jr. 25 years

Instructor Service Awards***Cataloochee***

Brent Bowman 12 years
David Castaldini 12 years
Ann Christenson 12 years
Steve McCarragher 12 years
Michael Wolf 12 years
Randy Avery 18 years
Peter Knowland 18 years
Thomas Raudorf 18 years
Sylvia Talley 18 years

Massanutten

Carol Bartus 6 years
John Bartus 6 years
Tom Byron 6 years
Travis Dorman 6 years
Bartek Drewnowski 6 years
Evan Garrison 6 years
Cathy Riley-Hall 6 years
Marty Rine 6 years
Nate Rageley 6 years
Richard Borschel 12 years
Michael Briske 12 years
Cynthia Deihl 12 years
Leslie Carter 12 years
William Drury 12 years
John Shaffer 12 years
Tom Olander 12 years

Merit Stars

Purple Merit Star

William H. Daniels

Exceptional initiative in ensuring patient care through rapid treatment, extraction and transfer to Wings of a critical patient on Big Red at Sugar Mountain on February 23, 2007

Cynthia Deihl

Successfully saving the life of a male patient in cardiac arrest at Massanutten's Le Club Recreation Center

Blue Merit Star

Kyle W. Hassler
Bradley Blackwell
Reginald R. Hassler

Outstanding initiative in ensuring patient care through rapid treatment, extraction and transfer to Wings of a critical patient on Big Red at Sugar Mountain on February 23, 2007

Yellow Merit Star

Erich Rosenbush

Outstanding initiative in ensuring patient care through rapid treatment, extraction and transfer to Wings of a critical patient on Big Red at Sugar Mountain on February 23, 2007

Joey Hurst
Ryan Rose
John Huff

Superior medical acumen during the multiple patient efforts during the Ober Gatlinburg Cardboard Sled Race on February 5, 2008 (these merit stars were given after the 2008 banquet)

Distinguished Service Award

Johnny Goin

Outstanding promotion and support of Wolf Ridge Ski Patrol

Patroller's Cross

Personal sacrifice in service to all who ski

Nancy K. Ilderton	Sugar Mountain
Jean Marie Decker	Sugar Mountain
Terry Loges	Sugar Mountain
David K. Durham	Wolf Ridge
E. Flynn Harris	Sugar Mountain
Edward Lynch	Wintergreen

NSP Angel Award

Reba Moretz

For her service and dedication to the Appalachian Ski Patrol

National Appointment

Brent Rockett Hawksnest	NA # 10968
Tom Raudorf	NA # 10970
Joe Donadio Appalachian	NA # 10832 (this NA was presented after the 2008 banquet)

Division Outstanding Winners

<i>OEC Instructor</i> Anne Fox Donadio Appalachian	<i>Runner Up</i> Paul D. Gagon Wintergreen
<i>Instructor</i> Patrick Benson Appalachian	<i>Runner Up</i> Christopher Cuthbert Wintergreen
<i>Paid Patroller</i> Mark J. Latendress Appalachian	<i>Runner Up</i> Trace Higgins Wintergreen
<i>Patrol Representative</i> E. Flynn Harris Sugar Mountain	<i>Runner Up</i> Brent Rockett Hawksnest
<i>Auxiliary Patroller</i> Chip Sudderth Appalachian	<i>Runner Up</i>
<i>Alpine Patroller</i> William C. "Bill" Smith Wintergreen	<i>Runner Up</i> Lonnie C. Propst Appalachian
<i>Large Alpine Patrol</i> Appalachian	<i>Runner Up</i> Hawksnest

National Outstanding Paid Patroller Runner Up –Recipient of a Silver Merit Star and presented by the National Chair – Terry LaLiberte to Mark J. Latendresse Appalachian

Thanks to all of you who submitted the award nominations to make this year's banquet a great success. Congratulations to all the recipients. 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. It is my hope that next award season will be a banner year for nominations in all the categories. Remember, it is never too early to start thinking about who needs to be nominated.

Thanks to everyone who made this year's awards banquet such a success!

From Around the Division...

Southern Division Calendar & Staff Directory

Please refer to the Division Website for updated schedules!

www.southernnsp.org

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