



Southern Cross

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Southern Cross is published three times a year—Fall, Mid-Winter and Spring. Articles and photos are encouraged and appreciated. With photos, please include caption information. If at all possible, please include a photo of the author with articles. Submission deadline for the Fall issue is **September 12, 2014**.

Send submissions to:

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Richard Boyer,
Division Director

Patrollers of the Southern Division:

We've successfully completed another ski season and done it for the most part with fine results.

We just finished our annual Executive Committee meeting in Wytheville, VA. Among the discussions were:



1. Replacing **Jim and Mary Underwood** as Treasurer and Leadership Development respectively. **Frank Cooper** and **Brett Henyon** were approved and will be placed before the full Board of the Southern Division for ratification in August.
2. **Ed McNamera**, our National Board Chairman will be our guest speaker at the Fall Patrollers' Conference. He will be attending with his wife who is also a long time patroller.
3. I have submitted an RFA to the National Board to formalize the role that the Division Director Team provides in the governance of our NSP. The review and aid the team gives the Board now is informal and at the vicissitude and whimsy of the chair of the Board. I have seen the day when the DD's were only allowed into the Board meetings if they sat in the very back and didn't say a word. Fast forward to today and they are openly participating in Board discussions and asked for their input and opinions on Board matters. This working together in trust and helpfulness is so much more healthy for our organization and we want to solidify and formalize this much improved governance process.
4. Budgets for 2014-2015 fiscal year
5. The Workers Compensation laws in West Virginia still are impeding voluntarism in the state particularly in Ski Resorts. We're still working on a solution to this dilemma.
6. The Planning Committee gave a fine report and is still working on processes they feel should be adjusted in future workings of this Division.

7. **Brent Bowman** presented the EC with an RFA which pertains to the Senior Program vis a vis the Southern Division's P&P as it relates to bringing it into line with National's P&P's requirements.
8. Awards criteria, a simplification and clarification of the awards and their purpose and process including the rules and prerequisites pertaining thereto.

The June Board of Directors meeting in Denver is just around the corner and I will be again attending as a member of the Division Directors Team. We will review the Board's agenda and decide which, if any, matters we wish to weigh-in on to let the Board know our opinion as to how it affects the NSP and all Patrollers in the System.

Have a good Summer and we'll hopefully see you in August at the MeadowView Marriott in Kingsport, Tennessee.

Past Division Director ... Past Division Director ... Past Division Director ... Past Division Director

R. Morgan Armstrong,
Past Division Director

FUN IN TWO PLACES

Southern Division has the opportunity to have a great time and do it with minimal expense with the following events.

POWDERFALL 2015

The National Ski Patrol has returned to the format we had several years ago and has returned to the name as well. Powderfall 2015 will be at the Canyons near Salt Lake City, Utah and the Professional Ski Instructors of America (PSIA) and the American Association of Snowboard Instructors (AASI) Demo Teams will be the instructors for the event. Many of you attended the old Powderfall events and have requested it return. NSP has heard you and the event will return next year. Watch our Web Site for more information as it becomes available.

FIPS CONGRESS 2016



The Southern Division and the National Ski Patrol of the USA are members of FIPS, the organization of the national ski patrols in the world. Being a member of the Southern Division entitles you to attend the Congress and member prices. This past winter FIPS met in Canada at The Big White Ski Resort in Kalowna. Skiing was great, food was incredible (the chef was from Sweden and I made it a point to sit with the Swedish Delegation. We got special dishes at our table) and the meetings were most interesting.

This past year Russia sent a delegation and I got to be friends with the Patrol Director and his Assistant from Sochi, Russia who was in charge of the Olympics. Our FIPS President is formerly the head of the French Ski Patrol but retired and was hired by Russia to run the Olympics. There may be a meeting next year at Sochi so a trip to Russia may be in the making. The big meeting, which is held every two years, will be in Italy in 2016. The resort is not far from Florence, Italy and the Italians really know how to party. This past meeting we had

a ball with sled races, team first aid problems where one had to join teams made up of patrollers from different countries. Language got to be interesting on some teams. Nadia, from Italy told me I talked too fast. I told her being from the southern part of the USA, she was the first person in my life who told me I talked too fast. The past congress, the delegation from Scotland put on a party one evening with Scotch Whiskey from all over Scotland and explanations on the flavor and distillation process for each. Few were able to sample every presentation and stay vertical. The US and Italia jointly put on a party one evening and each delegation tries to outdo the other for the evening party. The presentations by the countries are fantastic and I invite all of the doctors in the Southern Division to think about attending the next FIPS Congress. Doctors from all over the world give presentations. The world renown doctor who reconstructs the hands of people injured climbing Mount Everest is a member of the Korean Delegation and gave slides on his work. If you want to have a world experience, meet patrollers from around the world (get invited to other countries to ski then watch for the information from FIPS for the trip in 2016 on our Web Site and in other publications of the Southern Division.

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R. Morgan Armstrong
Past Division Director
Southern Division

Brent Bowman,
2nd Assistant Division Director



As many of you are aware the business of the Southern Division does not stop with the end of the Ski and Board Season. Your Executive Committee recently held its spring meeting in Wytheville, VA. Proposals and requests from various committees and disciplines are reviewed at this meeting. These are then voted on at the Southern Division Patroller Conference by the Board of the Southern Division. The board is made up of the Patrol Representatives in the Southern Division, Region and Assistant Region Directors and the Executive Committee.

This year the Patroller Conference will be held at Kingsport, TN. (Yes, this is the same place as the last couple of years.) For those of you who have never attended, this is a great place to interact with other patrollers and listen as the business of the Southern Division is conducted. It is also an opportunity for you to get your voice heard. The discussions are open to all patrollers and the time away from meetings is always filled with groups of patrollers talking and interacting in the hallways. There will also be an OEC update occurring in conjunction with the meetings. One of the highlights of the weekend is the dinner on Saturday night. Annual awards are presented at the dinner. This is really a great opportunity to obtain your award in person. If you have not been to this meeting or it has been a few years since you last attended, think about coming and joining us in Kingsport.

I am really excited about the upcoming ski season and the training seminars that we will be conducting. The Southern Division Snow Sports School will be working on ski and board skills for all patrollers (you know,

training is NOT just for candidates!!) and the Ski and Toboggan trainers will be organizing and running clinics at many of the resorts in our division. These sessions will include Train-the-Trainer as well as training sessions for patrollers at the local hills.

As OEC courses begin in your region please take a few hours of your valuable time and come to the OEC class and assist, teach or just listen in on what is going on in the class. The “Instructor of Record” for the OEC classes are really amazing people with the number of hours they spend organizing the class, lining up trainers and the dreaded paperwork that has to be done to keep it all on track. Please remember to give them a big THANK YOU next time you see them.

Brent

Mike Harris,
Assistant Division Director – South

After healing from last year’s surgery it was terrific to be back on skis again. We had an abundance of snow this year and conditions were great late into the season. Enjoyed Cathy Lamar’s OEC Course in Boone as well as the S & T Evaluators Clinic at Appalachian. Partticipated in numerous patrol meetings and patrol visitations. Probably the highlight was beig a part of the Wounded Warriors Event at Appalachian. It was truly an honor to participate in recognizing their service to this country.



Looking forward to seeing many of you in the upcoming OEC refresher season and on the mountain.

Blue Ridge Region

Brent Rockett,

Blue Ridge Region Director

All three mountains remained open into late March this year with plenty of snow still covering the slopes at closing. Appalachian Mt hosted a second very successful Wounded Warrior Event with twice as many veterans and their family participating this year and another great turnout by patrollers to assist with all the activities. Actually, due to all the positive responses from the participants last year, the WWP had a record number of signups this year they had to cut off the number of participants. One of the patrollers was even able to line up a flyover for the opening ceremony. Due to the successful fundraising and commitment by the Appalachian Patrol they plan to make this an annual event. It was very rewarding to be a part of this great event, so think about joining the festivities next year. Appalachian Mt wrapped up the season with their annual Meltdown Games.



Now that summer is upon us, it is time to get out and enjoy it. And I can think of no better place than the Blue Ridge Mountains. There are plenty of activities at all the mountains to be experienced this summer.

On May 17th the inaugural Beech Mountain Metric was held with over 500 cyclists mounting their bicycles at 8AM on Saturday morning for a road circuit around Avery and Watauga Counties. The ride finished on top of Beech Mountain at the Town Hall after 100 kilometers of riding and over 8500 feet of climbing. The fastest time was just under 3 1/2 hours and the last rider came in at just over 6 1/2 hours. It was an epic day of cycling in the High Country. One of the participating cyclists was Beech Mt patroller **Rick Lott**. **Gil Adams**, Beech Mt Patrol Director, was instrumental in organizing this event and the Beech Mt Patrol was well represented in supporting the event. We hope that this will become an annual event.

Beech Mountain Resort begins Summer lift operations (Fri, Sat, Sun) on June 6th. Lift service for mountain biking, scenic lift rides and disc golf. <http://www.beechmountainresort.com/media/news/179.html> Gil welcomes all patrollers to come and use their facilities during summer hours. He can be contacted via email or phone (828-3987-2011 ext.232) to make arrangements to visit.

Again this summer Beech Mt will be operating the lifts on the weekends for hiking and biking on the mountain. And again Beech Mt will be hosting several Mountain Bike Races to be held on July 19-20, August 23-24 and September 20-21. The Beech Mt Ski Patrol serves as course marshals and provides emergency medical care for these daredevils as they careen down the slopes. If you would like to assist on one or more of these bike race weekends, contact Gil Adams. I'm sure he would welcome the support.

In addition Beech Mt may be hosting the USA Cycling Collegiate Mountain Bike Nationals that would be held October 23-26. Stay tune for that one.

And on July 19th the Beech Mt Chamber of Commerce will be hosting the Brews and Views Festival.

Don't forget the Southern Division Conference in Kingsport the weekend of August 1-3.

There is so much to do, so get out and enjoy the mountains this summer. I hope to see a lot of you in the mountains this summer and at the Conference.

Robin Griffith,

Assistant Region Director – Blue Ridge

Sugar Mountain Resort Cutting a New Slope for 2014-2015

The 2013-14 season began with an announcement that a new slope will be opening in the 2014-2015 season. See information below. Sugar had a terrific winter, opening on November 13th and closing on March 30th with 138 skier days and a snowfall total of 86.5 inches. Sugar had an exceptional season; with a base that allowed Sugar to cease making snow in February. Snow on the slopes lasted well past this season's closing date and patches of snow could still be seen on the upper mountain in May! If anyone would like more mountain stats on past seasons or the type of grooming machines, please go to www.skisugar.com/press/stats. Fun information on this page.

Sugar Mountain Resort's new ski slope drops off the dog-leg of **Northridge and Switchback**. The blue square, intermediate level rated slope features a variety of changing terrain. Just off Switchback is a short steep section. It then gently transitions to a flat cruiser. From there the slope rolls to a challenging but pleasant steep pitch which eventually levels out to the left and finally merges with Easy Street. The **new slope** is expected to be 2,000 feet long, 150 feet wide and ready for skiing and riding at the start of the 2014-15 winter season. Snowmaking facilities as well as lights for night skiing and riding will be installed. Check the Sugar Mountain website for more details on the new slope as it progresses. Any visiting patrollers who would like to check out the new slope at Sugar, contact **Flynn Harris** at eflynnharris@bellsouth.net.

Summer Events: Sugar Mountain is brewing up two mountain festivals this summer and fall: SugarBrew, Saturday August 2nd from 12pm-6pm and Sugar Mountain's 24th annual Oktoberfest Saturday and Sunday, October 11 & 12, 10am-5pm. Patrollers who are interested in helping at these events please contact Flynn Harris (see above).

From the Supervisors and Advisors...

Medical Advisor ... Medical Advisor ... Medical Advisor ... Medical Advisor ... Medical Advisor

Russell Blakeley, MD, FACC

Medical Advisor

The rate of change that we all face in our day to day lives is breath taking. That observation has typically be reserved for us old geezers as we struggled with the latest technological innovation in our lives, but today even the young, strong, and brave seem to be impacted by the rapid pace of "new and different". As I prepare this article on my computer, I am reminded that Windows XP has just been put out to pasture after it was replaced with Windows 7, which has fallen to Windows 8, which most recently became 8.1 and I see that Windows 9 is arriving in the next 12-18 months. Each of us could produce similar examples from our day to day lives.



It seems that even our beloved ski patrol activities are not immune to this revolution of modern life. And of all our patrolling activities, the area of emergency care has seen the most change in recent years and we can be sure that much more change is near. The protocols for CPR, AED use, airway management, musculoskeletal injury care, and more, will all be different in the months and years ahead. I say all of this to encourage each patrol to begin the process of acquiring appropriate medical oversight for your activities. To this point in our history, ski patrols across the nation have been allowed to operate in a remarkably independent fashion. We have adopted protocols for our day-to-day activity directly from National Ski Patrol publications and we have provided good care to our patients. However, various regulatory agencies from many states are asking, "who is supervising this activity?". It is a legitimate question. For example, at your ski area, what physician has reviewed your protocol for application of traction splints or your protocol for spinal immobilization or any one of the multiple protocols that you employ on a daily basis while patrolling? You might reply that the protocols were established and approved by the National Ski Patrol, but NSP would be very quick to say that they have not "approved" ANY protocols for use on your mountain. NSP is clear that the protocols provided in OEC 5th edition are for training purposes ONLY! The NSP does not acknowledge any responsibility for the protocols we actually choose to use on our respective mountains. One could be forgiven for assuming that it is a legitimate role for the NSP to provide such support to the individual patrols around the country, but that is a conversation for another day.

So, who does establish, approve, and then monitor the protocols at our individual ski areas? That question must be answered by each individual patrol in combination with our mountain management, but we can be sure that National Ski Patrol does not provide that function. In our current environment of hyper-regulation and liability sensitivity, this question will be asked and each patrol must be prepared to answer.

Russell Blakeley, MD, FACC

Avalanche... Avalanche Program... Avalanche Program... Avalanche Program ...

The biggest upcoming change for the National Ski Patrol’s avalanche training program is the current update of the Avalanche Instructor’s Manual (AIM). I attended a meeting of the National Avalanche Committee (NAC) in late April in Truckee, CA to discuss and resolve all issues concerning manual language, which will permit its final editing and approval. The biggest change within the program involves modularization of the Level 1 avalanche curriculum. This modular approach enables both incremental and concurrent acquisition of appropriate knowledge and skills. The modular approach simplifies choices for our members and other stakeholders seeking avalanche education appropriate for their location and potential use of avalanche safety and rescue knowledge and skills. It helps ensure that skills are taught only at appropriate field venues, but that an avalanche knowledge-based senior elective remains easily accessible.



The final draft of the AIM now contains the following summary description of NSP Avalanche Program courses.

Course	Modules	Summary Description
Avalanche Awareness (AA)	None	<p>This is a public safety outreach presentation for winter recreationists who have a casual interest in avalanche safety. It exposes people to the nature of avalanche hazard and what they need to learn before venturing into avalanche terrain. It encourages them to take a Level 1 avalanche safety and rescue course. The presentation is also available as an online course available through the NSP website.</p> <p>Prerequisite: none</p> <p>Time commitment: flexible (30-90 minutes). No pre-course study or homework is required.</p> <p>Grading: none.</p>
Level 1 Avalanche	Module 1: Avalanche Foundations (L1A-M1)	<p>This classroom-only module introduces fundamental concepts and principles of avalanche hazard, safety, and rescue, but it does not include skill development in the field.</p> <p>It qualifies as an NSP senior elective in those divisions that do not require full Level 1 Avalanche for Rescue Personnel certification. It does not meet full Level 1 course standards and does not qualify as a prerequisite for enrollment in Level 2 avalanche courses.</p> <p>Prerequisites: none.</p> <p>Time commitment: 8 hours. Pre-course study is often required.</p> <p>Grading: Pass/Incomplete/Fail based on written exam.</p>

Course	Modules	Summary Description
	Module 2: Avalanche Safety and Rescue Skills (L1A-M2)	<p>This field module, when combined with the Level 1 Avalanche Module 1, satisfies full Level 1 avalanche course guidelines established by the American Avalanche Association (AAA), considered to be the minimum level of avalanche education for recreationists who travel in avalanche terrain. It covers basic avalanche problem recognition, including weather snowpack and terrain observation and evaluation; route selection, decision making, survival, self-rescue and small group rescue methods.</p> <p>Prerequisites: Level 1 Avalanche Module 1 within the previous three years (a pretest may be required); ability to travel in steep, ungroomed, snow-covered terrain, under adverse weather conditions.</p> <p>Time commitment: minimum of 16 hours of field instruction. Pre-course study and homework may be required.</p> <p>Grading: Pass/Incomplete/Fail based on evaluation of field skills.</p>
Level 1 Avalanche	Module 3: Organized Avalanche Rescue (L1A-M3)	<p>This module familiarizes ski patrollers and other SAR personnel with organized avalanche rescue principles, management structure and skills. It is considered to be the minimum level of rescue education for these personnel.</p> <p>Prerequisite: NSP L1A-M1 and M2, or equivalent full Level 1 avalanche course or refresher within the previous three years.</p> <p>Time commitment: 8 hours of instruction, with both classroom and field components. Pre-course study is often required.</p> <p>Grading: Pass/Incomplete/Fail based on final written exam and field skill evaluations.</p>
	Module 4: Avalanche Fundamentals Refresher (L1A-R)	<p>This is a one-day module designed to upgrade and refresh L1A-M1 and M2 knowledge and skills.</p> <p>Prerequisite: Prior completion of NSP Level 1 Modules 1-2 or any full Level 1 avalanche course for recreationists that meets AAA curriculum guidelines.</p> <p>Time Commitment: minimum 8 hours of instruction with at least 60% in the field; some pre-course study.</p> <p>Grading: Pass/Incomplete/Fail based on written exam and evaluation of field skills.</p>

Course	Modules	Summary Description
	Module 5: Level 1 Avalanche for Rescue Personnel Refresher (L1ARP-R)	<p>This refresher provides a comprehensive review and update of knowledge and skills covered in Modules 1-3.</p> <p>Time commitment: 8 hours of instruction, with at least 60% in the field. Pre-course study may be required. Updating at least every three years is highly recommended. Individual patrols or SAR organizations may require more frequent refresher training.</p> <p>Prerequisite: prior completion of Level 1 Avalanche Module 3; some pre-course study.</p> <p>Grading: Pass/Incomplete/Fail based on written exam and evaluation of field skills.</p>
Level 2 Avalanche for Rescue Professionals (L2ARP)	None	<p>This is an enhanced Level 2 course especially designed for organized avalanche rescue personnel. Subject matter develops advanced avalanche hazard evaluation skills for a given time and place, and basic hazard forecasting skills projected over a longer time span and larger territory. It introduces risk mitigation strategies, leadership principles for safe travel to an avalanche incident site, conducting immediate search and extended operations; incident alerting and rescue planning, incident and rescue documentation and reporting. It is a prerequisite for entry into NSP avalanche instructor development.</p> <p>Time Commitment: minimum of 32 hours of instruction, at least 60% in field exercises. Scheduling is flexible to accommodate instructor and student availability, but may not extend from one season to the next. Pre-course study and homework between sessions is usually required.</p> <p>Prerequisites: NSP Level 1 Avalanche for Rescue Personnel module or refresher within the previous three years; at least one intervening season of additional experience in the field is highly recommended.</p> <p>Grading: Pass/Incomplete/Fail based on final written exam, simulated rescue report and field skills.</p>

The updated AIM and an update of instructional resources are planned to be provided by the NAC by the end of the summer, which will permit a better training consistency across the NSP. The materials will be electronically published and uploaded onto the NSP website to be available for download by NSP certified avalanche instructors free of charge. If the website is not ready for distribution in this manner, I will distribute the AIM via CD.

We will be using the new curriculum and instructional resources to improve the Avalanche Awareness (AA) and the Level 1 Avalanche Module 1: Avalanche Foundations (L1A-M1) courses for the Southern Division. Note that only the Level 1 Avalanche Module 1: Avalanche Foundations (L1A-M1) course meets the criteria

to be a senior elective. Unfortunately, we do not have the field conditions and equipment resources within the division to permit appropriate and adequate instruction for the other courses. However, I did verify that we can count on equipment loans from the other divisions, when available. The other Level 1 and 2 Avalanche courses will be available within the other divisions, and all Southern Division patrollers are welcome to attend them.

A program-wide Continuing Education (CE) curriculum for all current NSP avalanche instructors is also being developed by the NAC. This CE will be a mandatory prerequisite for any instructor to continue training within the NSP. I will be working with the current avalanche instructors on how to best implement this requirement for this division, once that curriculum is finalized.

I still hope that we can offer an AA or L1A-M1 a couple of times a year within the division. If any patrol or region would like to schedule either one of these courses after the end of the summer, please feel free to call me at home at 703 241-2640. Also, please call me if you have any questions about the updated AIM or the CE requirements. We will need some lead time in order to organize the course and work out a loan of equipment, so please plan accordingly.

Thanks very much!
Scott Campbell

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

Briggs Allen,

Snowsports Supervisor



Hello everyone, your Snowsports School has just completed another great season! Our clinics included Train the Trainer at Cataloochee, Skier/Snowboarder Improvement at Beech and Winterplace and, our first-ever, Telemark Improvement at Timberline. Over 60 Patrollers from throughout the Division participated in these clinics and our post clinic reviews were excellent. A special thanks go out to all of the Patrol Directors and Reps for helping us disseminate our clinic information as well as the management of the resorts in which our events were held. Without their support we cannot provide quality programs. Also, thanks to all the Patrollers that participated in our clinics. And last but certainly not least, our instructors. These men and women give their time, talents as well as spend their money to provide you with the best instruction available

Additionally, this past season the Snowsports School provided information to and had patrollers participating in PSIA Level I, II and III exams. It is no easy task to become a PSIA/AASI certified instructor and these individuals are surely to be complemented.

Moving on to our 2014-15 season, we will have our much anticipated biennial PSIA/AASI Demo Team Clinics.... with perhaps a twist. Tentative plans are to hold the ski portion of the clinic in January or March in Utah. **Rob Sogard**, the PSIA Demo Team manager who taught at our last clinic at Timberline has consented to once again join us. Additionally he suggested a very famous member of the Demo Team would be in Utah this winter working with the US Ski Team and he felt he may be able to join us. As of yet, we are attempting to secure a venue and this will be announced as soon as details are worked out. The clinic will most likely be in January or March and on a Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. This will be an epic program in that we will be learning from the ski professions best instructors in the awesome Wasatch Mountains. If you are sincerely interested in attending this clinic please send me a short e-mail at briggsaln@aol.com. The AASI Demo Clinic also has the opportunity to be held in Utah during the same time as the Alpine clinic. Details are still pending however if you are seriously interested in attending please send me an e-mail. Should we not have enough interest to have the either clinic out West we can certainly return to the Southern Division. More information is to follow so be sure to periodically check the Snowsports School section on the Southern Division website.

Of course, we will have our early-season Train the Trainer Clinic with the possibility of another NSP Telemark Clinic.

As you can see, there's a lot going on with the Snowsports School in the upcoming year so make plans to join us. Remember snowsports are easy point downhill and turn right, turn left and repeat as necessary!

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

Teresa T. Stewart,

Instructor Development Supervisor

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

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

Instructors and Instructor Trainers can expect to see changes rolling in place as courses are planned. Also, coming soon is an on-line Instructor Development Continuing Education module.

The Instructor Development Program has changed as of December 2013! The ID Instructor Manual, the student text *Instructor Development: Training the Adult Learner, 2013* and the NSP Mentor Guide have all been updated and approved by the education committee and the national board of directors. Along with these changes a number of educational forms have also been updated and are available on the Division website or from me.

There is also an emphasis to use the web-based Instructor Activity Log and move away from the paper version so that national has visibility.

Course Completion Rosters should be completed and email directly to education@nsp.org and no longer faxed or mailed in – this allows the document trail to be tracked through to completion.

There are numerous clarifications for instructors that are notable.

- EVERY course must be registered with NSP → register on-line
- The hybrid e-learning course is **NOT** a stand-alone course. Hybrid indicates that the learner must demonstrate in person the six-pack teaching.
- **Instructor Log** must be maintained by every instructor. Recording in this log directly attaches to the member profile in the national database.
- Instructors will teach in their discipline(s) a representative amount of classes (OEC is at least one lesson per year).
- Instructors will attend a continuing education event once every three years.
- Instructors will be observed by an IT at least once every three years.

Instructor Development Instructors that participate in the 2014 Fall Patroller Conference and successfully attend the three OEC instructor sessions will be refreshed for the next three years.

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

Milton Triplett,
Alumni Program Supervisor

What are Southern Division Alumni doing? Here are photos of two examples: (1) Roger Bollinger greeting incoming skiers and (2) Janie Bollinger assisting a youngsters in the equipment room, both as the Cataloochee Ski area. For other examples of things that Alumni can do, see the webpage:

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



The Alumni Contest has been completed and a winning patrol and Alumni patroller have been selected. Winners will be announced and prizes awarded at the fall meeting. Thanks to the regional representatives forming the selection committee: **Ian Archibald** (WV), **Charles Martin** (Blue Ridge), **Lynn Pace** (Dixie) and **Dave Quidort** (VA). This committee has been helpful in giving direction to the Southern Division Alumni Program.

Communication needs to be improved in the Alumni Program. Some of the problems are technical and are being addressed at the National level. Within the division I believe the communication could be enhanced with a single Alumni point of contact in each patrol. I am appealing to each Alumni representative to notifying me so their name can be added to an email list.



Thank you

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

Bill Smith,
Election Coordinator

In the past, the Southern Division has not always had a good voting record in NSP Board of Directors elections for a variety of reasons. We had heard: there are too many candidates to choose from, the candidate information is too cumbersome to digest, we're not informed on the issues, etc. During the 2013 National Board of Director's election there were four open seats and ten candidates running for those seats. Hoping to make improvements in the voting turnout, the Division leadership charged the Election Coordinator with trying to correct this in the 2013 NSP BOD Election.

In an effort to be inclusive and with the above problem in mind, a Candidate Evaluation Committee was created and charged with evaluating the candidates running for a Board position and to then make that information available to all division patrollers. The committee included representatives from each of the division's four regions that were appointed by the Region Directors. The group was chaired by the Division Election Coordinator. Committee members included: **Blake Brown**, Blue Ridge Region; **Dennis Slagle**, Dixie Region; **Kenny Hess**, Virginia Region and **Tom Wagner**, West Virginia Region.

Utilizing established guidelines for what would make a "good board member", an evaluation process was created based on ten measurable criteria. The committee members then were tasked with ranking the candidates based on the criteria. Once that data was compiled, the four most qualified" candidates were identified and that information was shared with all Southern Division patrollers in a variety of ways including: articles in Southern Cross, letters to patrollers, and encouragement from RD's to PD's to get their members to vote.

The Results

Of the ten candidates running for a board seat, two were from the Southern Division. They included: Morgan Armstrong and Norris Woody. In each case they were identified as being one of the four "most qualified". In the end, both were elected to terms on the NSP Board of Directors giving the Southern Division three seats on that body. Keith Cassidy is the third Board Member.

Voting Demographics

2012 NSP BOD Election – Southern Division

# Patrollers	# Votes Cast	% of Div. Members	% of Total Voting Membership	% of Total Votes Cast
1,338	276	20.63 %	4.7 %	6.11 %

2013 NSP BOD Election – National Data

Eligible Voters	Total Voters	% Voted
27,769	4,724	17.01 %

2013 NSP BOD Election – Southern Division

# Patrollers	# Votes Cast	% of Div. Members	% of Total Voting Membership	% of Total Votes Cast
1,271	377	31.9 %	4.6 %	7.9 %

In examining the data for this election, not only did the Southern Division vote higher than what was recorded in past elections, but also voted considerably higher than the national average and percentage wise, voted higher than all other divisions.

It is the opinion of this author that the goal of improving the voting record of Southern Division patroller's in the 2013 NSP BOD election was clearly met. If there was something equivalent to the Academy Award in "Getting Out the Vote", your Region Directors and the members of this committee would certainly be under the spot light! My sincere thanks to each of them for all the help they provided! Lastly, a tip of the ole' hat to all of you patroller's that voted in the 2013 BOD election. Hopefully this next time, even more of you will cast a vote.

Outdoor Emergency Care ... Outdoor Emergency Care ... Outdoor Emergency Care ... OEC

Bob Brewster,

Division OEC Supervisor



What an epic winter for our southern ski areas. Many areas saw a record number of skier/rider visits. With those increased visits came the inevitable increase in injuries. We continue to work towards making our sport safer. More than ever we need to keep hyper-vigilant with our training and skills.

Life today is becoming more complicated for many of us. Our free time becomes more and more valuable and sacrifices are made for added time at work and with families. One of the sacrifices we can't afford to make is with our training and refreshers for OEC.

It's with this in mind that Aileen Cassidy and I are working towards making OEC programs more efficient and accessible to everyone. We need to make recruiting candidates and our ability to retain qualified patrollers a priority. Convenience is not a word I'll use, because our goal is to constantly improve the skills of new patrollers and the experienced alike. I prefer the word accessibility. By providing Hybrid as well as traditional courses and refreshers we hope to make the very valuable time each member of the southern division commits to patrolling worthwhile and enjoyable. How are going to do this?

Refreshers

Last year two of our patrols (Wintergreen and Cataloochee) ran hybrid refreshers and both were hugely successful. How does it work and what are the benefits? Patrollers sign in to a predesignated website to register and begin review and work on each objective section. When the patroller has finished there is a quiz they must pass. This has many benefits for patrollers, those of us who work with the topics every day can move quickly and discover some of the things we may need to review a little further. Those of us who move at a slower pace are able to. As a matter fact, you can leave and return to the site as often as you wish. Since the sections have multiple ways of reviewing the material, it appeals to all kinds of learners; visual, auditory and kinesthetic. Each patrol will set a deadline of when you need to finish the online portion. Once you have completed the online portion of the refresher you will print out a certificate and either bring it to your refresher or email it to your IOR. On the day of the scheduled refresher, skill stations will be set up and patrollers will complete skill requirements for the cycle. There are no reviews, lectures, demonstrations, etc., at the stations. Station information appropriate for the particular skill will be posted for each skill. Again you move through each station at your desired speed.

NSP is redesigning this year's Cycle A Hybrid Refresher, but last year there was a fee of \$5 per patroller to participate. This is paid online when you register. They have announced that this will be the last year that they will support the traditional refresher format with material and guides. What are the other benefits? Last year both patrols finished 3 ½ to 4 hours earlier than their traditional refreshers. This gives patrols an additional half-day for other important on-the-hill training.

OEC Course

Last year two patrols ran the new NSP Hybrid OEC Course (Wintergreen and Snowshoe). At press time the platform was changing. I have asked Aileen Cassidy to spearhead this program. She ran Wintergreen's course

last year. The benefits like the Hybrid Refresher are multiple. It appeals to all learning styles. It limits the amount of physical trips to course locations. Candidates can work on chapters and assignments at their own pace. Most importantly it gives the IOR and their students a great amount of flexibility on meeting dates and times. This adds up to recruiting longer distance candidates as well as those who may have limited time for classes. The chapters are taught on computer with various learning devices including the text, videos, games, etc. Quizzes and tests can be given and graded with immediate feedback and students can set up discussion groups and communicate with instructors. Then students will meet for those chapters requiring skills training. Ideally class time in this type of format is cut 35%-50%.

OEC Instructors

Three years ago the 5th edition OEC text came into our lives. At that time it was required that all OEC instructors be updated. Since the requirement of doing an update is every three years, we anticipate that approximately 80% of our 500+ instructors will need to be updated by December 31, 2014. This is a huge undertaking and having learned along the way, we are going to do our best to make your update as easy as possible. Presently Aileen and I are working on three sections to this year's updates. Two of these will be available as an online presentation. We have worked with the website anymeeting.com, which can be free or a paid annual membership. It allows for online video presentations of PowerPoint and documents. Two of the three sections will be supported by this technology (traditional face to face for these two sections will be okay as well will be okay as well). The third section will be a hands-on, skills based section and will be live. Its anticipated time allowance will be 1 ½ to 2 hours and could be easily accomplished before or after an instructor refresher. The plan is to have all our ROA's and IT's trained by us. Then they can go out and run training for their respective regions. We hope to have this ready by mid-June.

As always feel free to contact me with your suggestions, questions and comments. My virtual door is always open.

Hope everyone has a great summer!

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

Joy Jucker,
Women's Program Supervisor

Perfect North Slopes Indiana - Central Division Women's Clinic

If you find yourself needing a new snowsports destination, let me recommend **Perfect North Slopes Indiana**. Why you say? For starters, its 4 hours from Knoxville, TN and interstate the whole drive. Included are plenty of slopes for all levels including steeps and plenty of lifts and two parks. They even produced a Bronze Medalist for this winter's Olympics. It was in men's ski slopestyle.



February 11th and 12th (mid-week), **Lisa Skelley** and myself traveled across division lines to meet with 14 other patrollers and a member of the **Western PSIA Demonstration and Technical team**. **Heidi Hettinger** was invited to instruct a day and a half women's ski clinic geared toward ski improvement and teaching women how to help women in their endeavors to enjoy and gain new skills. Besides skiing, it included inside shop talk regarding boots, skis, tuning, and video.

A week after the clinic, I received a copy of all the video along with instructional ski training information. All I can say is it was a phenomenal experience! Heidi did not fail to impress all of us with top notch instruction and surprises with each ride to the top. We had plenty of time to make hot laps and try out our new skills. Getting an opportunity to ski with one of the **Top 100 US Ski Instructors** was well worth the trip and time off from work. If this type of clinic ever comes up again, all I can say is don't miss it!

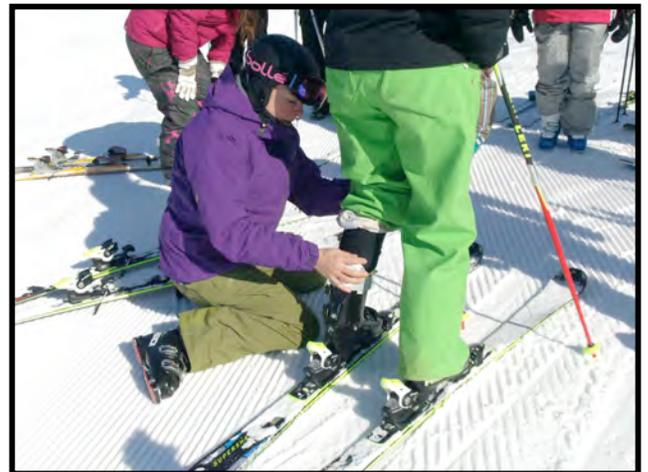
My biggest dream would be to have Heidi come to the Southern Division!

Enjoy the pictures!



Perfect North Slopes Indiana - Central Division Women's Clinic

(Photos submitted by Joy Jucker)



Perfect North Slopes Indiana - Central Division Women's Clinic

(Photos submitted by Joy Jucker)



Leaders and managers... are they the same?

By [Bill Smith](#)

In the Southern Division's leadership training program, "Basic Leadership Development for the Ski Patroller", there is an opportunity to exchange ideas about what makes good leaders and what makes good managers. The diverse perspectives from the mix of students from across the division has in the past fueled thought provoking discussions on the many dimensions of leadership. In those discussions, a question sometimes arises as to whether or not they are one and the same.

When we speak of leadership, it is important to understand that a leader is not just a manager that works harder than everyone else. If that were the case, we would simply be over-managed and under-led organizations, which is definitely the wrong formula in this fast-paced and ever-changing world.

The difference between a manager and a leader is this: the manager administers; the leader innovates. The manager is like a copy; and the leader is an original. Leadership is associated with taking an organization into the future, finding opportunities and successfully exploiting those opportunities for those within the organization.

Some people think we should replace management with leadership, but I disagree. The manager and the leader are both important and serve different, yet essential functions. Leadership fails if there are not those who share the vision and are empowered to produce positive change. Leaders draw the map to where organizations need to be; managers are the engineers who build the road

Cooperation and empowerment – throughout the organization, its ranks and patrol types – is crucial to the success of our respective missions. Regardless if you are a Patrol Director, a Patrol Representative, a Committee Chair, or an Instructor, the path of leadership is not always an easy one. But our loads can be lightened when we work together toward our common goals and objectives. With that in mind, good leaders must provide a clear vision so everyone feels a part of the team, knows where they are headed and finally, knows when they get there. From time to time good leaders need to ask themselves:

- Do your patrollers know how they fit into your organization?
- Have you set goals with patrollers as a team and as individuals?
- Do you share decision making where possible with patrollers with regard to planning and scheduling work
- Do team members understand your performance standards? Have they been involved in setting those goals?
- Do you always make assignments fairly?
- Do you hold frequent, but brief planning meetings?

Throughout history, many books have been written and numerous theories have been explored about leaders and managers. To this day there is often confusion.

In your patrol, do you have leaders **and** managers or do your leaders manage?

Bill Smith began his patrolling career with the Homestead Ski Patrol in 1991. He is currently a patroller with Wintergreen Ski Patrol in Virginia. Bill has served in a number of leadership positions and has taught and written extensively about organizational change, leadership and training.

Join us for Fun in the Mountains
Southern Division - Patroller Conference

August 1 - 3, 2014
MeadowView Conference Resort & Convention Center

Please reserve your room at the rate of \$97.00 plus 16.5% tax (\$113.01 total) and ask for the National Ski Patrol 2014 rate
Call (800) 820-5055 MeadowView direct.

Hotel deadline for reserving rooms at the
NSP rate is **FRIDAY - JULY 18, 2014**



Here are the events scheduled for patrollers this year:

- Annual Board of Directors Meeting
- Hybrid OEC Classes and Refreshers Update (OEC Instructors)
- Instructing Towards a Skill –Based Lesson Plan (OEC Instructors)
- Forms 101 (All Instructors)
- Professional Director Roundtable
- Transportation /Snowsports– Business and Instructor Calibration
- Administrative Program Supervisors Roundtable
- Awards Banquet Saturday Evening

This is a full service hotel and conference center that caters to the needs of its guests. There are two State Parks close by for outdoor recreation. The hotel has its own golf course, plus swimming pool and hot tub. The meeting facilities are first class, and the Hospitality Suite is now an experience. Golf times are limited – so call ahead for reservations if you are interested (\$40.00 for 18 holes includes green and cart fees).

This is the Official Notice for the Annual Board Meeting and I would like to add my official invitation to all members and alumni. This is your event! Please join us for a fun, informative, and educational experience deep in the mountains of Tennessee.

See you there!

Sincerely,

Richard Boyer – Southern Division Director
Rob Raff - Southern Division Meeting Coordinator
Teresa T. Stewart – Southern Division Meeting Organizer



**Southern Division - NSP
Patroller Conference
Registration Form
2014**



Friday, August 1, 2014; Saturday, August 2, 2014

Please complete one form for each person attending:

Name: _____

Address: _____ Email address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number you can be reached at: Home _____ Cell _____

Patrol: _____ Title: _____

Please register me for the following events: ****Schedule is subject to change – Final schedule available @ Conference

Please register me for the following events:		Friday	Saturday
Professional Director Roundtable (Wayne Morgan)		5:00 - 7:00 pm	
Administrative Program Supervisor Roundtable (Byrd White)		5:00 - 6:00 pm	
Executive Board Committee Meeting (Richard Boyer)		7:00 - 10:00 pm	
Board of Directors Meeting – Main Meeting Room		Board	8:00 am – 12:00 pm
Hybrid OEC Classes and Refreshers (Bob Brewster) 1 of 3 needed		OEC	9:00 am – 10:30 am
LUNCH			12:00 pm -1:00 pm
Instructing Towards a Skill-based Lesson Plan (Bob Brewster) 1 of 3 needed		OEC	1:00 pm – 2:30 pm
Transportation /Snowsports– Business and Instructor Calibration (Tony Tingle and Briggs Allen)		Transportation Snowsports	3:00 pm – 5:00 pm
Forms 101 (Bob Brewster) 1 of 3 needed		OEC	2:45 pm – 4:15 pm
Alumni Roundtable – (Milton Triplett)		Alumni	2:00 pm – 3:30 pm
AWARDS Banquet			7:00 pm

	<u>Before July 25th</u>	<u>After July 25th Postmarked</u>
_____ FULL Meeting Conference Registration, Lunch, and Awards Banquet	\$78.00	\$88.00
_____ AWARDS Banquet (7:00 pm) and Conference Registration	\$53.00	\$63.00
_____ LUNCH (12 Noon - 1:00pm) and Conference Registration on Saturday	\$43.00	\$53.00
_____ Conference Registration (Hospitality Suite Included)	\$18.00	\$28.00

Total enclosed = \$ _____

**Mail completed form and check (made out to “Hawksnest Ski Patrol – So. Div. Fall Conference”) to:
Fred Wessels– Conference Registrar, 522 Jervey Road, Tryon, NC 28782**

Questions? Contact Fred at fred.wessels@gmail.com

Reservation Fees Must Be Received At Above Address By July 25, 2014 And Are Nonrefundable After That Date.

Hotel reservations MUST be made separately to the hotel by July 18, 2014.

**Southern Division Calendar
& Staff Directory**

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

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