



Rusty Parka News



Vol. 53 Issue 3 www.nspcentral.org **Summer 2015**

Division Director's Report



John Thomas
Division Director

I hope everyone is having a Great summer. I would like to say thank you to Karen Anderson-Hadden for her many years of service to the Central Division as the OEC Division Supervisor. During Karen's tenure she was instrumental with the OEC program roll out of the OEC fifth addition, rewriting the senior module and numerous other projects. Karen has been the leader that has allowed us to continue the tradition of the OEC program to be the gold standard for the industry.

This is Tim Zimmerman's last issue as Editor of the Rusty Parka News. Thank you Tim for creating a fantastic news letter for the Central Division. During Tim's tenure he took the steps to create an online version of the newsletter saving the division membership thousands of dollars in dues. Tim leadership as the News Letter Editor has allowed the Division Leadership team a path to communicate with its membership.

One of the focus items of the Division Leadership Team is to increase the voting participation for the NSP National Board by the members of the Central Division. I cannot stress enough the importance of your participation. The national board does affect you in your every day patrolling activities. It changes policy in the way we perform as OEC technicians; it decides how to spend our dues; it defines the programs that a Division provides to its membership.

We may not always agree with the people that have been elected as board members. However we need to look at the bigger picture of what each member has provided to the NSP. Not the one or two decisions that were made by the person that we didn't agree with. A NSP Board member represents all 28,000 of its members not just the hundred on their patrol. We need to remember that as decisions are made we may not

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have all the information as does the person making the decision. Before we criticize we need to understand all the facts. Please vote in the National Board election. We as Central Division members need people that will listening to our needs.

You should have already received your OEC refresher workbook. Just to be clear, a completed workbook has been a requirement of a completed refresher for many years; it's not a new requirement. I know we are all very busy with our life demands, however please remember to complete your workbook well in advance of the refresher and not the night before.

The Financial Statement of the division continues to be strong and we are living within our current dues structure. The leadership team continues to be working very well to deliver you, the member, the education you want and need. We had a few staffing changes because of people needing to retire for different reasons, however I'm very please with the new staff members willing to volunteer to help the Division.

Have a great summer.

Kasten's Korner





Chris Raudabaugh
ADD

Keep it Fresh

Keep those skills fresh...

In many areas of the Central Division, it really is starting to feel like summer. Not only has the weather started to cooperate, but we are starting to see many activities from our NSP programs and ski area summer activities starting up. We all should take advantage of these opportunities to keep our ski patroller skills fresh during the off season.

OEC classes allow you to read up on a chapter in the book and let you share the 'OEC' wealth with the patrol's new candidates. You also get to know candidates early and become friends with them right away.

Ski area activities: There is some belief that our commitment to our local areas start on opening day of the slopes, and ends at the end of the ski season.

We really do need to keep ourselves in front of our ski area managers as a group that is willing to help them, and be a relevant organization. So, when the call comes out to help at a 'warrior/mud dash' race, or staff a arts show, or a mountain bike competition, step up and help out. Not only can it be some summer fun with your fellow patrollers, it will help keep your OEC skills fresh.

Other NSP programs: Throughout the other three seasons, there are many opportunities to learn about avalanche, mountain travel and rescue, and even becoming an instructor.

Keep an eye on your local, Region and Central Division calendar for activities, and find something to do with our fellow patrollers, have some fun, and keep those skills fresh!

National Board Members from Central Division

Janet Glaeser

Term expires 12/31/2015

Janet7409@cox.net



Jim Woodrum

Term expires 12/31/2015

jwoodrum@centurytel.net

5151 South Lake Shore

Drive Cedar, MI 49621

231-228-2277

Do You or Someone You Know Need Help in Advancing Their Skill Level in Order to Pay it Forward?



Tom Anderson
ADD

The Daniel Somalski Memorial Fund

The Central Division is proud to support a trust established in honor of a very special friend, patroller and mentor, the late Dan Somalski. Dan, as many of us know, dedicated much of his 25 year patrol career to helping others attain their goals both on and off of the mountain. As a long time Certified (#426) and PSIA level III he was legendary both inside and outside of the traces. It is in memory of Dan's example that the trust was created to ease the burden of a patroller's credentialing costs while encouraging advancement.

Eligibility - Any patroller, who is a member in good standing of the National Ski Patrol and the Central Division, may apply for an educational grant. The intended activities include (a) any National Ski Patrol education or other programs or activities, including but not limited to educational events such as the NSP Patroller Education Conferences, and (b) PSIA/AASI certification.

Application forms are available online. The completed application form should be sent by email, fax or snail mail to Assistant Division Director Tom Anderson, who is one of the three Advisors to the Fund, who, as a committee, direct the fund in accordance with the Fund Agreement and these Guidelines. The three advisors consist of: (1) Louise Somalski or another Somalski family member or designee, (2) a current member of the Central Division staff and (3) a past member of the Central Division staff.

Tom Anderson
Assistant Division Director
112 Pineview Dr.
Marquette, MI 49855
Email: tpanderson@charter.net
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The Daniel Somalski Memorial Fund

Our *Central Division* is proud to maintain and grow a memorial fund honoring a very special friend and patroller. Dan, as many of us know, dedicated much of his 25 year patrol career to helping others attain their goals both on and off the slopes. As a long time "Certified" patroller #426 and a "PSIA level 3" he was a force to be reckoned with both inside and outside of the traces. It is in memory of Dan's example that his fund will sponsor an annual award to a current or aspiring NSP alpine trainer. In accordance with his family's wishes, the annual monetary award will be tailored to assist a worthy patroller in pursuit of their chosen alpine credential(s).

Please consider donating to this important fund just as many have already. By contributing you'll advance the goals of our organization and promote Dan's legacy. Visit www.nspcentral.org to donate online or contact Tom Anderson at tpanderson@charter.net for more information.



**Tom Anderson
ADD**

Dan Somalski Fund is Growing!

The Daniel Somalski Memorial Fund

Dan, as many of you know, dedicated much of his 25 year patrol career to helping others attain their goals both on and off the slopes. Dan himself constantly strived to the next skill level. Achieving Alpine Certified Patroller #426 and PSIA Alpine Level III is a testament to this.

It is in memory of Dan's example that his fund will sponsor an annual award to a current or aspiring NSP alpine trainer. In accordance with his family's wishes, the annual monetary award will be tailored to assist a worthy patroller in pursuit of their chosen alpine credential(s).

With the formation of the Daniel Somalski Fund just two short seasons ago the fund is growing, however it is the goal to be able to award multiple annual awards. So far, we have, in fact awarded the first this past season.

Please consider donating to this important fund just as many have already. By contributing you'll advance the goals of our organization and promote Dan's legacy.

How can you help? Memorials to the fund in the name of a departed patroller or family member, funds generated from a Patrol fund raiser or simply an individual contribution.

Watch for future "426" attire and auction items this coming season. All proceeds will go directly to the fund. Visit www.nspcentral.org to donate online.

Should you have any questions regarding the fund please contact tpanderson@charter.net



Region Reports



E Michigan Region

Let me recap the season. All three Sections held their Basic Alpine Patroller evaluation with 100% success! Congratulations to all the new patrollers from all the resorts.

We held successful Senior on and off-hill evaluations with three new Senior Patrollers and five new Senior



Mike Schons
E MI Region
Director

Alpine Patrollers!

Jamie Roell became EMR's newest Certified Patroller and has joined the region staff as our Certified Advisor.

Nancy Trout, Women's Programs Advisor, held a very successful Women's clinic and finally, at the end of January Alumni Advisor, Bob Knox held our regions first Alumni event at Mt. Holly. This event was so successful, we will probably hold two Alumni events next season.

Linda Barthel and Mt. Brighton held our regions first Certified Patroller event. This also was successful for the Certified Candidates. I encourage you to look at the Certified Program as this is the pinnacle of ski patrolling. So if you want to be the best patroller you can be, this program is for you.

John Taylor, Avalanche Advisor, and Derek Werner held an Avalanche class in February. This is always a fun class and I highly recommend it for everyone.

Chuck White, Mountaineering Advisor, held a mountaineering class at the end of February. If you enjoy camping outside and outdoor activity, look into this class.

Jon O'dell and Dave Boboltz held a Nordic event at Independence Oaks. They are always looking for more members who enjoy the cross country discipline.



Les Robinson
NC Region
Director

NC Region

Seems as though the time just flies by; here we are in the middle of summer and it feels like I just finished the patrol season. We already have instructors working on our next season: it just doesn't end in our patrol life.

I want to congratulate all the winners for NSP awards in all the regions, all the merit stars, outstanding patrol winners, COA's, nationals, and locals. Great job all, not only those who won but all who patrolled. Be sure and attend the division awards in Grand Rapids, Michigan September 11/12/13, 2015 to see which region winners will win at division or higher. <http://www.nspc203.com/> is a link to get the information about the banquet/meeting.

Also new is the Facebook page for the division and a special Tip of the Week by Darcy Hanley. Check it out. This is the time of year to be riding bike, running, walking, doing things to keep us in the kind of shape we need as ski patrollers.

We would like to see a larger voter turnout for the division next fall that would give us a bigger voice from the central division. So with that said let's all make sure we have access to your page at NSP long before fall gets here. Get online and check to make sure your information is up to date at national and you will be able to vote. If anyone needs help for getting online, get in contact with help at the national office to fix problems getting online, here is a contact for you: 303-988-1111 ext. 2640 or email support@nsp.org

We do have many events at the division and each region level please look them up at the division calendar <http://www.nspcentral.org/calendar.php>

Central Division Electronic Communication

The Central Division is now responsible for our own email communications to our membership. This has been a process of setting up the hardware, software, and internet access so we can communicate with the Central Division membership. This service will also be utilized by your Region organization as well.

You can help by making sure that news@nspcentral.org (or nspcentral.org) is on your email 'whitelist' or 'safe sender' list. Make sure to scan your junk or spam folders to make sure that any messages from NSP Central Division have not been filtered to these folders. PLEASE do not report email from the Central Division (news@nspcentral.org) as spam, this could potentially disrupt our communications to other Central Division members.

We use the National database as our resource for membership email addresses. If you wish to use a different email address, then make sure you update your profile at <http://www.nsp.org>. If you have any questions or wish to 'opt out' of receiving email, please contact Kent Anderson (Central Division Webmaster) or Chris Raudabaugh (Assistant Division Director) for more information.

NSP Courses Across the Region Boundaries

Submitted by: Mike Schons, E MI Region Director

You have some time and interest in a certain NSP course, but you are busy with life's challenges such as family and work schedules. Why we would want to let work get in the way of a good day on the slopes is beyond me but that's not the point of this article!

You want to take a course but the time and location are not convenient to your schedule, what do you do? Looking at the Division calendar, you find the same course offered in another region. This actually occurs quite often, and is not as difficult as you may think. We allow OEC refreshers to be taken in other locations as a visiting patroller, Senior OEC and on-hill evaluations (which are registered courses) may also be taken across region boundaries. As a patroller in the Central Division you are eligible to take courses anywhere they are offered as long as you meet the pre-requisites (if there are any required) and there is available room or capacity within the course.

The first thing you must do is notify your Patrol Director of your situation, the course in which you wish to participate and its location. There are a number of courses that Region Director approval (outside of your home region) is not required prior to registration. Your Patrol Director will advise you if your interest is one of those courses or not. Usually OEC refreshers and courses that involve evaluations require Region Director Approval, if they are held outside of your home region.

Your Region Director will then contact their counterpart RD in the region you wish to take the course and/or evaluation. Once the Region Directors have approved your request, you will be contacted and you are in!

Your Central Division leadership would like to encourage all of you to get involved in the educational courses offered throughout the division. This is a fantastic way to keep your skills current, improve those skill sets or take yourself to the next level. If you have any questions, please contact your Patrol Director or your region staff.

NSP Involvement in MI Disaster Response

Submitted by: Ray Ravary Jr., Homestead Ski Patrol

The latest edition of the OEC text book delves into the Incident Command System (ICS) and the National Incident Management System (NIMS), systems to be used in the event of a disaster, natural or man-made. The NSP included this info knowing that our patrollers maybe asked to assist in an event sometime in the future. Under NIMS and the ICS there are several protocols for volunteers. During disasters, 1st responders are swamped with well-meaning people wishing to help, actually slowing response and mitigation.

There are several steps to ensuring you're able to lend your talents when the need arises. First, go to the FEMA independent learning website and take the ICS 100, 200, 700, and 800 classes. Then you will know the environment and command structure you will be working under. Next go to MiTrain.org and register. After registering, a background check of your credentials will be done. This prevents any exaggerated claims of ability and any "bad people" slipping in. These are the bare minimum requirements. Registering with the Michigan Volunteer Registry (mivolunteerregistry.org) is also helpful. There are several other things you can do.

Naturally Incident Commanders are going to use tools they are familiar with—police, fire, and EMS. When those are exhausted who else do they turn to? At the State level Michigan has the State Police, the Michigan National Guard, and the Michigan Volunteer Defense Force (MiVDF). The State also has local resources developed by FEMA such as regional and county CERT (Civilian Emergency Response Teams) and MRC (Medical Reserve Corps) teams. Police, Fire, EMS, State Police, and National Guard are all organizations most people are familiar with. So what is this MiVDF, CERT, and MRC?

The MiVDF is a state military organization under the direction of the Adjutant General and provides reliable personnel support to local and State agencies during declared emergencies. The essential tasks of the MiVDF are to

- Support MI's Receipt, Store and Stage (RSS) of the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS)
- Support MI with certified Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT)
- Support the MI National Guard (MING) with county Liaison Officers (LNO)
- Support the MING with Joint Reception, Staging, Onward Movement and Integration (JRSOI) staffing
- Support the MING with Retirement Services Specialists
- Support the MING & county/local authorities with Search and Rescue/Recovery (SAR)

The MiVDF also supports community events such as the Iceman Cometh, King of the Mountain, Sturgeon Watch, the Kalkaska dogsled races, and the Wings Over Gaylord Air Show. The MiVDF is a Michigan resource and you are not deployable out of State. The 6th Battalion trains at Camp Grayling the 2nd Saturday of each month and for 4 days once a year for annual training. More info is available at mivdf.org.

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program helps train people to be better prepared to respond to emergency situations in their communities. When emergencies happen, CERT members can give critical support to first responders, provide immediate assistance to victims, and organize spontaneous volunteers at a disaster site. CERT members can also help with non-emergency projects that help improve the safety of the community. The Michigan Citizen Corps Program helps coordinate volunteers to prepare for and respond to local emergencies. It trains and engages volunteers to make communities safer, stronger, and better prepared to respond to emergencies and disasters of all kinds, including threats of terrorism, natural disasters, crime, public health issues, etc. The support of Citizen Corps activities are especially important during major disasters when first responders may be initially overwhelmed. Citizen Corps activities are adapted to every community's needs and managed locally by a Citizen Corps Council.

The Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) is a national network of volunteers, organized locally to improve the health and safety of their communities. The MRC network comprises 993 community-based units and 207,783 volunteers located throughout the United States and its territories. MRC volunteers include medical and public health professionals, as well as other community members without healthcare backgrounds. MRC units engage these volunteers to strengthen public health, improve emergency response capabilities and build community resiliency. They prepare for and respond to natural disasters, such as wildfires, hurricanes, tornados, blizzards, and floods, as well as other emergencies affecting public health, such as disease outbreaks. They frequently contribute to community health activities that promote healthy habits. Examples of activities that MRC volunteers participate in and support include:

- Emergency Preparedness and Response Trainings
- Emergency Sheltering
- Responder Rehab
- Disaster Medical Support
- Disaster Risk Reduction
- Medical Facility Surge Capacity
- First Aid During Large Public Gatherings
- Health Screenings
- Obesity Reduction
- Vaccination Clinics
- Outreach to Underserved Community Members
- Heart Health
- Tobacco Cessation
- Community Event Support
- Healthy Living
- Health Education and Promotion
- Engaging Youth in Public Health Activities

Regionally, local Emergency Managers are looking for prospective MRC and CERT members to set up new groups in unsupported counties, and the MiVDF is always recruiting for our region. If you are interested in any of these organizations and want to serve your community during an emergency, please contact me and I will connect you with right people in your area.

Ray Ravary, Jr.
Homestead Ski Patrol, MiVDF, CERT, and soon MRC
(231)392-4524 or rravary@provide.net

Can You Like Us? ... Facebook / Social Media

Submitted by: Darcy Hanley, Division Tip of the Week Contact

I was asked to post weekly Tips of Week on the Central Division National Ski Patrol Facebook page. The tips started in December and posted every week since then. Topics range from skiing/snowboarding techniques, conditioning, and highlighting other sports. The objective was to grow the page organically with likes and to connect all regions in the central division to the page.

As of May 23, 2015, there are 386 "Likes" with an average weekly view of 160 people. Thanks to Northern Michigan region, Western region, Ohio Region, Eastern Michigan region, Boyne Highlands, Ostego Ski Patrol, Southern Region Women's program, NSP-C Ski School to name a few who have liked the page. If you go to the Central Division National Ski Patrol page and scroll down to "liked by this page" you can connect with many resources. If you would like your program page or would like a program page to be created just send the



content and I will create a page for you! Lots of communications opportunities are available! In addition there is a link to the Central Division website off the Facebook page. For example, an event has been created for the Central Division Fall meeting held in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

When a region or patrol “likes” the Central Division page then our pages are connected and we will connect with more patrollers who engage in social media. Our goal is to have over 500 “likes” and connect Facebook pages from all of the regions and programs in the Central Division.

It is also possible to increase our views if patrollers share our Facebook page with friends that are on their Friend list who are patrollers. As we start a new season let's try and hit the 500 likes and engage more patrollers. In addition, go ahead and post pictures of events in your region and “like” the Central Division Facebook page so we all can enjoy the activities that are happening around the Division. Weekly Tips of the Week will continue and if you have a topic you want highlighted email me (drhanley@gmail.com) or post it on the page.

Have a great summer!

Happy Trails!

Voting in the National Election

Submitted by: Darcy Hanley, Division Tip of the Week Contact

So, why should I vote in the National Election? I don't know most of these candidates. I'm only one person in 28,000 members so it won't really matter if I vote. What the National Board does or doesn't do really doesn't matter anyway. I only want to ski and do my shift, go home, and forget about it. Whoever gets voted in won't make a difference in what I do when I'm doing my duty shift. Maybe some of you have had these same thoughts or heard similar comments from others at some point in your ski patrol experience.

Back in 2005 our National organization went through a major transition. The membership took back the rights for the members to elect Board candidates. It cost the organization a lot of member's money and it was damaging to our relationship with industry partners and sponsorships. We have in many ways recovered from that time and the NSP is in a much better place than it was 10 years ago. However, we still have a distance between the members and the Board. Some of that may be because of comments above or others that perhaps we haven't heard. We still have less than 10 to 15 percent of the organization that vote in our national election.

For the last 10 years the NSP has drifted in it's direction. We still have many of the traditions we have all enjoyed with strong sponsorship and recently have been building a solid relationship with our industry partners. However, we must prepare ourselves for the future and that requires a strategic plan which the National Board has just acquired an individual to help us develop that plan. This should help us clarify the role that the Board plays in the future of our organization. By doing this the Divisions will manage the operational arm of the NSP and the Board can look to the future over the next 5 to 10 years. Why is that important? Because the NSP must stay relevant to the ski industry and our sponsors.

We can't exist without the ski areas and the areas must have patrollers, volunteers or paid. We have a delicate balance to walk to meet members needs and the needs of our partners. For the last couple of years we have had members run for the Board from the Central Division. None of them were elected. The second largest Division in the organization missed an opportunity to place a member(s) from our Division on the Board. Candidates that run from our Division understand the needs from our region of the country and can make a difference. However, without support from the members in our Division with their vote we may not end up with Board members that understand our needs and desires. This year during our national election please review the candidates and support those that will answer many of those questions and comments that many of us may have when voting. Not voting is the wrong answer. Take the time to review the candidate or support

your Division Leadership Team that has reviewed the candidate sheets and support the candidates that will take your needs into consideration when making decisions at the National level. If we don't elect a candidate from the Central Division there will not be a Board member from central on the National Board. You can make a difference, so please exercise your right and VOTE.

Make Plan to Improve Public Perception



Dan Moss
PSIA / AASI
Liaison

Greetings:

It was recently impressed upon me again how we patrollers are viewed by the ski/ride public. You've heard it too I'm sure, and most of the comments come directly from a person's individual experience.

- If the ski patrol came to their aid (or the aid of a loved one), and helped them navigate their way down the slippery slope, they are almost always very pleased and speak well of us.
- If we render medical aid and expedited their journey through pain and fear, they are very gracious and tell their friends of the cross on skis/boards.
- If we helped them find a missing loved one by walking them through the lodge, they recognize our efforts and commitment to service, and they trip over themselves thanking us.
- Some see us as excellent riders of the snow...and others question our ability

as we approach an accident scene with a sled..."do I really want to get in that toboggan or just risk going it alone?"

The old saying 'we can only control that which we can control' is in plain view. How we present ourselves in uniform, how we speak to our paying customers, how we serve them, how knowledgeable we are about the medical skills within our scope of care, and how well we ride and ski are just a few of the things we can control.

In other words, though we don't have control over everyone's opinion about the white cross, we do have control over a great deal of their personal experiences as they interface with us. My small scope of influence here is in the ski/ride department...so, lets review together.

How well do you think you performed this year? What are you working on to improve your skills and your presentation on the hill? Are you confident to tackle any situation in your region's terrain? Your division? Can you ski/ride anywhere in the nation? Ok I agree, these are tough questions for all of us.

I'd like you to consider taking the following action with me.

Make a plan: If you don't have a target, you just might hit it.

1. Ask some of your PSIA/AASI colleagues this summer..."where can I improve, and what are the specific priorities in getting there?"
2. Read: deepen your knowledge about ski/ride mechanics, personal progressions to focus on for the new season, or simply deepen your knowledge about alignment and ski/board snow interaction.
3. Fitness: we are Americans...the more craft beer I drink and the more pizza I eat, the harder I must work...nuff said.
4. Videos: fill your mind with good images, review some of your own skiing/riding with a colleague, and dream big about joyful turns.
5. Program: schedule a preseason trip out west to get a jump on the season, and a few clinics back home to further deepen your skills. Develop a daily 30 minute warm up plan for your shift and then execute.
6. Worldview: remind yourself and your friends, that's its a lifelong trip and though I won't get there tomor-

row, I'm going to enjoy the ride getting there.

7. Smile: it goes a long way and makes a big impression on the paying public.

Enjoy the summer. Peace.

Certified Update and Look Ahead



Patrick Perlman
Certified
Supervisor

This past season there were six qualification and/or recertification clinics throughout the division. Six new candidates were accepted into the program. A pilot evaluation of select modules was held at Mt. Brighton in February. The certified evaluation was held at Lutsen Mountain in early March. Eighteen candidates, forty-three staff members and thirty-four supporters participated in the event. Three patrolers; James Seeger (PNS #789), James Roell (Pine Knob #790) and Daren Lukes (Granite Peak #791), completed all of the components of Certified.

Next seasons annual evaluation is scheduled for February 25th-27th at Perfect North Slopes. Qualification and recertification clinics will be scheduled throughout the division as well. Another pilot program of select modules will also be held at a location to be determined prior to the PNS event. Anyone interested in learning more about the certified program is welcome to attend any of these events.

If you have any questions about the certified program please feel free to contact me or any of the region advisors:

Ohio – Eric Massanyi
Eastern Michigan – Jamie Roell
Western Michigan – Hal Froot
Northern Michigan – Mike Longfellow-Jones
Southern – Todd Shurz
South Central – Paul Fuchs
North Central – John Keating
Western - Kerstin Hammarberg



Certified new staff



OEC Bystander



Toboggan gallery

Ending Season on a Good Note



John Wachter
MTR
Supervisor

The season ended on a good note with a couple courses finishing up. I had the pleasure to attend one of them in the beautiful Kickapoo Valley region.

After pitching our tents we had an interesting discussion on how to start a fire. (From this point on the story could be somewhat embellished.) We had a few items to try and several people to take a go at it. Well I can tell you that watching someone on t.v start a fire with a hand drill not only looks pretty impressive but, downright easy. I will not list all the names of the people that tried to use this wonderful item that Julie brought in but, I will tell you that several people had several turns to make it work. I do believe that I did see some red and smelled something smoldering (besides skin). I am glad that we were not stuck out somewhere and had to depend on this method for getting a fire going. Then the magnesium block and sparkers were pulled out and tried. Well after trying a few different forms of kindling we did come up with a good one for it. My favorite, cotton balls soaked in Vaseline. It seems one of these things will keep forever and burn for a very long time. That combined with a cheap bic lighter on a string that I keep around my neck to keep warm in the winter

works for me. Wrick was able to show us how well corn chips work for kindling. I have only used Cheetos up to this point.

We also covered GPS (global positioning system) and ways to get familiar with your gps unit. One of the things brought up was geocaching (geocaching.com) where you go and sign up for a free account so, you can log in and find all the hidden treasure around the world and keep track of it. On a side note if you do not have a dedicated GPS unit to do this with, you can download an app on to your smart phone (like- C:geo). The apps actually work pretty well. It is a really good idea to get familiar with your GPS unit so that when you really need it, you do not waste precious time trying to figure it out.

Can you mark your starting point? Can you enter coordinates? Can you change it from long / lat. To utm? Is there a radio or a weather station?

Which brings me back to my point. After doing some research on the Internet we found a geocache located in our area. An infamous ice cave. Wrick lead the way on this beautiful walk (death march) to find it. On the way we used some terrain recognition to determine the best route. Example....if we go this way we can avoid crossing the river....it may be quicker?

After a while we found the cave. At this point we had been out for quite some time and decided to take a break before heading back. As we sat down the question came up: who here has their ten essentials? No one knew how long we would be out for. So what would you have brought?

I would like to get a few of us together the second week of March for an MTR 2 course up at Porcupine Mountain. I am thinking the second weekend in March. Prerequisite for the course will be to have taken an MTR 1 course and be checked off by your region MTR supervisor or instructor for a shake down.

I almost forgot to mention that the Division Nordic supervisor showed up to help out with the course. He hosted a portion of the course called that's not a knot. Ok, it is really a low angle rescue course where we learned how to tie some knots and set up a z rig. I know Sophia liked being pulled up the hill.

As always what a great group to work with.

Instructor Development On-Line Now Off-Line



Virginia Rodeman
Instructor
Development
Supervisor

The Instructor Development On-line class exists no longer. In a letter from Shelia Summers, the new Education Director, she states, "The NSP is making a concerted effort to improve the use of technology and reduce the costs when using this technology. As part of this project, we are reducing the number of platforms on which the e-courses are offered. The Instructor Development e-course is hosted with a vendor which is to be discontinued."

A new Instructor Development e-course will be offered perhaps by January 2016. This does not mean there are no classes available. Any member is still able to take the long course (8 hour) when it is offered.

When the new and improved e-course is available, you'll be one of the first to know.

OEC Passes the Torch



Karen Hadden
Retiring OEC
Supervisor

As many of you know after 7 years of being the Central Division OEC Supervisor I have decided to step down and pass the torch. I'm lucky to have an incredibly talented person to turn the program over to. Sue Hayes will do outstanding job for you and the Central Division, please join me in welcoming her to her new position.

All of us have had a 'wonderful ride' together. We have been thru the 4th and 5th Editions of the OEC text. Together we have moved into the online world of refreshers and classes. Being able to work on the OEC Module of the Senior Program as well as the Outdoor First Care rewrite was just amazing. I have been blessed to work on the things I love most, i.e. excellent care for our customers and working with our patrollers. Being able to work with and meet so many of you the past seven years has made my life richer.

Thank you all the wonderful opportunities. I wish every one of you continued success in all you do. Enjoy your summer and before we know it Refresher time will be here.



Susan Hayes
OEC
Supervisor

Before you know it, we'll be trying on our ski pants again and glad that we left that \$10.00 bill in as "seed money"! Fall Refresher season is just around the corner: the Cycle B refresher guide was sent out in May, giving you all plenty of time to work on it during the summer. The workbook will help you get ready to do your Refresher and is chock full of exercises to help you learn. Pay special attention to pages 14 & 15 for the discussion about back boarding. The goals of the OEC Refresher are to get us ready to care for our patients/injured guests: one of the most rewarding parts of our Ski Patrol life!

Karen and I attended the National OEC Supervisors Meeting in April. We discussed the updates with the Region OEC Administrative Team so they should be moving forward in sharing that information with you. We took a critical look at the OEC Writ-

ten Exam. Hopefully, you will like the improvements that we made. Karen and I are on many of the work-group committees formed including: Instructor Re-certifications, OEC-MSP scenarios, Senior Aid room module, and continued discussion about the OEC-MSP.

Thank you again to Karen Hadden as she steps back to fully enjoy her retirement. I've appreciated her wisdom and mentoring over this past year. As I come onboard as the lead Division OEC Supervisor, I'm looking for your assistance and feedback. How best can we keep you on top of all the changes in the NSP OEC World? Do you know who your Region OEC Administrator is and how to contact them? Do you know who your resource person is for the OEC-MSP (OEC module of the Senior Program)? Feel free to drop me an email and let me know what you'd like to see. Hayes.susan@mayo.edu

I hope to see you at the Central Division Fall Meeting in Grand Rapids, MI! Take a look at all the offerings that the committee is working on. While you're at it- check on what is being offered at your Region level as well! We need your help at the OEC final exams, Senior programs, and Refreshers!

Marquette Mnt Donates to Ski Hall of Fame

Submitted by: Tom Anderson

The Marquette Mountain Ski Patrol recently presented a check for \$1000 to the US Ski & Snowboard Hall of Fame. Starting with opening doors and parking cars for the Ski Halls annual induction ceremony, its members have long been a supporter of the Ski Hall of Fame. Assistant Patrol Director, Jim Grundstrom stated that "With Charles Minot Dole as one of its original honored members, how could we not help out!"

U.S. SKI & SNOWBOARD HALL OF FAME AND MUSEUM

The U.S. Ski & Snowboard Hall of Fame and Museum is the only national hall of fame dedicated exclusively to skiing and snowboarding in America. It provides the ultimate and lasting recognition for those American skiers who excelled nationally and internationally as competitors or contributors to the advancement of skiing in all of its forms. Its Honor Roll of over 400 honored members reflects the richness and diversity of American skiing from the early pioneer ski jumpers to today's stars like Glen Plake, Tommy Moe, Picabo Street, and Jonny Moseley.

THE BIRTHPLACE OF ORGANIZED SKIING



Tom West, President of the Ski Hall of Fame, Jim Grundstrom, Assistant Patrol Director-Marquette Mountain Ski Patrol and Tom Anderson, MMSP member and Ski Hall of Fame Board Member

The U.S. Ski & Snowboard Hall of Fame and Museum is located in Ishpeming, Michigan near the shores of Lake Superior. Over a century ago a group of local businessmen and skiing enthusiasts took the first steps to organize the National Skiing Association, later becoming the United States Ski Association, USSA...thus earning the distinction of being the birthplace of organized skiing in the United States. It is appropriate that the Hall of Fame should be located in Ishpeming. For more information on the ski hall of fame place check out www.skihall.com

Central Division Election Results

The 2015 elections for Region Director in Northern Michigan, North Central and Southern regions have ended and the results have been announced.

Northern Michigan had an uncontested race so following the latest Division P&P's, no ballots were sent out and Richard 'Dick' Jacques of Schuss Mountain, the only qualified candidate will continue to be the Region Director of Northern Michigan Region. North Central also had an uncontested race and Les Robinson of Granite Peak, the only qualified candidate will continue to be the Region Director of North Central Region. Southern Region had the only contested race and with 88.5% of the votes cast, Donald Steen of Chestnut Mountain, will continue to be the Region Director of Southern Region. Congratulations to each of the newly elected Region Directors.

Next fall, Region Director Elections will be held in Eastern Michigan and South Central regions. There will also be a Division Director election held in 2016.



Dick Jacques

Les Robinson

Don Steen



2015 National Ski Patrol Central Division Meeting

September 11-13, 2015

Grand Rapids, Michigan

Welcome to the National Ski Patrol Central Division Fall Meeting information page. Below you will find information for the event including; lodging, classes, food, outside events and contacts.

LODGING:

- Rooms have been reserved at the **Holiday Inn-Downtown Grand Rapids**; 310 Pearl Street N.W., Grand Rapids, MI 49504. Check-in starts at 3:00pm and checkout time is 12:00pm
- *Free parking* is limited to two (2) vehicles per registered guest room
- *Complimentary wireless internet* is available throughout the hotel
- **You may reserve your room by calling 616.235.7611 or click the link listed on the EventBrite site.** Please refer to to **NATIONAL SKI PATROL** when making your reservation
- Discounted rooms (\$135 per night) are reserved on a first-come first-served basis, and are only available at a discounted rate until August 24, 2015. All rooms rates are subject to local taxes
- Free Hospitality Room – *with snacks and beverages*: Open Friday and Saturday afternoons during non-event times. Also open Friday evening, and Saturday evening after the awards Banquet. The room will close each day at 11:00pm.

SCHEDULE of EVENTS:

Please Note all NSP Meetings, scheduled meals and sponsor tables will be located on the 2nd Floor at the GVSU L.V. Eberhard Center, 301 Fulton Street West, Grand Rapids, MI 49504

Friday, September 11, 2015

- **Motorcycle Tour: 10:00am – 2:00pm:** ***Free, but must pre-register***
 - Ride through beautiful West Michigan and the Lakeshore, with stops at a number of the West Michigan Region Ski Areas. This tour will be led by West Michigan Patrollers
 - Will leave from the Holiday Inn-Downtown back parking lot at 10:00am
 - *Pre-registration is required and the event is subject to weather conditions.*
- **Mountain Bike and/or Road Riding and lunch: 10:00am – 3:00pm:** ***\$15 per person and must pre-register***
 - Event located at Cannonsburg Ski and Ride Area – please bring your own bike
 - Join your fellow patrollers for a ride on the mountain bike trails or the great roads that surround Cannonsburg Ski and Ride Area. Lunch to follow the biking activity
 - Cost includes a lunch basket, beverages and Growler

- **Registration packet and pre-ordered gear pick-up: 12:30pm -4:30pm**
- **Sponsor Tables for viewing and merchandise purchase: 1:00pm – 4:30pm** - TBD
- **Executive Board Meeting: 7:30pm – 10:00pm**
- **Patrol Director 101 Training: 1:00pm-4:00pm**
- **Grand Rapids “Beer City USA” Tour - Downtown: 6:00pm-???:** *all costs to be covered by individual*
 - Led by West Michigan Patrollers, we will take group(s) to a few of the award winning downtown establishments. Including: Founders Brewery, Hop Cat and Grand Rapids Brewing Company. All locations are within walking distance of the Holiday Inn and do have food and beverages available
 - Will leave from the Holiday Inn front lobby

Saturday, September 12, 2015

MEETING REGISTRATION 7:30am – 4:30pm: \$40 per person and must pre-register

- *\$40 per person for early registration (May-July 31)*
- *\$50 per person for late registration (August 1 – September 1)*
- The cost includes the items A-D listed below and any meetings on Friday and Sunday
- “Day Of” Walk-up/Registration *will not* be available

A. Simple Breakfast: 7:30am – 8:00am

B. NSP Division General Meeting – Sponsored by the TYLER-LITTLE FAMILY FOUNDATION: 8:30am – 11:30am

- Please note, the GVSU L.V. Eberhard Center is located directly behind (south) the Holiday Inn. If you are staying at the hotel, you do not need drive to Saturday’s events
- If you are a local patroller coming for the meetings and banquet, there is a free GVSU parking lot for our event. It is located on Fulton Street (across from the GVSU L.V. Eberhard Center next to the Fulton Street Bridge

C. Buffet Lunch with GUEST SPEAKER – Sponsored by KNAPPEN MILLING COMPANY: 11:45am – 12:45pm

D. Breakout Classes/Sessions: 1:00pm-4:00pm:

Specific class details are still being determined, but may include educational opportunities regarding:

- 3-Panel Doctor discussion regarding back-boarding and head/spinal injuries
- Instructor Recertification (2hrs) and ROA (1hr)
- Non-Snow/ Off Season Patrol Opportunities becoming available at Ski Areas
- How to Handle Critical Incident Debriefing and PTS for Significant Accidents
- Specialty Gear and Instruction regarding Gear
- Division Board Meeting 12:00pm – 5:00pm
- **Registration packet and pre-ordered gear pick-up: 7:30am – 3:00pm**
- **Sponsor Tables for viewing and merchandise purchase: 8:00am – 5:00pm** - TBD
- **Central Division Awards Banquet: 6:00pm – 10:00pm;** *\$40 per person and must pre-register*
 - Join your fellow patrol members (and any family members) for an evening of celebration. The Central Division will honoring individuals for the last season
 - Cocktail Hour 6:00pm-7:00pm, with cash bar
 - Awards Dinner 7:00pm -10:00pm, with cash bar. Entrée choices include Beef, Fish and Vegetarian
 - Raffle or Silent Auction will be held

Sunday, September 13, 2015

- **Patrol Directors Breakfast and Meeting: 7:30am-Noon: \$10 per person and must pre-register**
 - L.V Eberhard Center 2nd Floor (room TBA)
 - Patrol Directors 101- 9:00am- Noon (Same room): Discussion with Thomas and Woodrum
- **Division Board Meeting – Continuation: 7:30-Noon**
 - L.V Eberhard Center 2nd Floor (room TBA)
- **Hotel Check out by Noon/Free Time in Grand Rapids**
 - Free Time to enjoy Grand Rapids and West Michigan
 - Note, the **Gerald Ford Presidential Museum** (located directly across the street from the Holiday Inn) is offering NSP patrollers a discount on admission for the entire weekend.

MERCHANDISE FOR SALE:

- **Merchandise is available for sale**
Available for purchase via the EventBrite on-line registration page. The items will appear on the page after you place a ticket order and click submit. Please scroll towards the bottom to view the available items.
 - Men's and Women's Fleece Vest **\$40**
 - Must order Fleece Vest by August 14, 2015
 - Stormy Kromer Men's and Women's Logo Hat - **\$42.50 – MUST ORDER BY JULY 17th!!**
 - Stormy Kromer hats are only available for purchase until July 17, 2015, as it takes 8 weeks to produce and ship. Please indicated the size of hat (using provided sizing chart below)
 - Women's hats are the IDA Kromer hat, in a Winter White color
 - Men's hats are the Original Stormy Kromer hat, in a Charcoal color
 - **The NPSC 2015 meeting logo and NSP Patch will be on each hat.**



HOW DO I CALCULATE MY CAP SIZE?

To get your size, measure comfortably around your head where your cap will sit, with a tape measure. Take that number in inches, divide by 3.14 (pi) and round up to the nearest eighth. This is your cap size. See the chart for size conversions.

HEAD MEASUREMENT	HAT SIZE	HEAD MEASUREMENT	HAT SIZE
20 3/8"	6 1/2	23	7 3/8
20 3/4"	6 5/8	23 1/2"	7 1/2
21 1/8"	6 3/4	23 7/8"	7 5/8
21 1/2"	6 7/8	24 1/4"	7 3/4
21 7/8"	7	24 5/8	7 7/8
22 1/4"	7 1/8	25"	8
22 5/8"	7 1/4		

The link to the 2015 National Ski Patrol Central Division Grand Rapids Meeting on EventBrite is:
<http://www.eventbrite.com/e/2015-nsp-central-division-meeting-tickets-15791629188>

Thank You to Our Sponsors



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2014 - 2015 Administrative Staff



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Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor must be submitted electronically to tzimmerman@mitchellmetalproducts.com. The RPN reserves the right to publish and withhold letters based on content and length. Letters in excess of 250 words may be edited due to space limitations.



ADDRESS CHANGES

Changes to address should be updated on the NSP National Web Site. Please log on to www.nsp.org and access your NSP Member Page to update your personal information. The Rusty Parka e-mail list is downloaded from the National database. All address changes and corrections must be made on the National site.

Central Division Calendar

Start Date	End Date	Program	Region	Location	Description	Contact
2015-07-25	2015-07-31	DEADLINES	North Central		Review by Section Chiefs and consolidation of section reports into region report	Sarah Hull sg.hull@outlook.com
2015-08-16	2015-08-19	OTHER EVENTS	Southern	Alpine Valley West, Elkhorn, WI	MSAA SUMMER MEETING AND TRADE SHOW	Ken Meldahl, kmeldahl@comcast.net
2015-08-21	2015-08-21	DEADLINES	North Central		Consolidated Region Report due to Region Director for review.	Sarah Hull sg.hull@outlook.com
2015-08-29	2015-08-29	REFRESHERS	North Central	Ski Brule	OEC Refresher	Pete Holdridge
2015-09-01	2015-09-01	DEADLINES	North Central		Consolidated Region Report due to Division Treasurer	Sarah Hull sg.hull@outlook.com
2015-09-02	2015-12-05	OEC	North Central	Mont Ripley	OEC Classes Start	Randy Tufts randytufts@yahoo.com
2015-09-11	2015-09-13	MEETING	North Central	Grand Rapids	Fall Division Meeting	
2015-09-24	2015-09-24	OEC	North Central	Mont Ripley	OEC First Exam	Randy Tufts randytufts@yahoo.com
2015-09-26	2015-09-26	REFRESHERS	North Central	Navarino Hills	OEC Refresher Hybrid	Mike Olson, olsomp05@aol.com
2015-09-26	2015-09-26	REFRESHERS	North Central	Navarino Hills	OEC Refresher Hybrid	Mike Olson, olsomp05@aol.com
2015-09-26	2015-09-26	REFRESHERS	North Central	Blackjack	Big Snow OEC Hybrid Refresher	Dale Feakes
2015-09-26	2015-09-27	REFRESHERS	North Central	Mont Ripley	Refresher Weekend (Hybrid)	Randy Tufts randytufts@yahoo.com
2015-10-03	2015-10-03	REFRESHERS	North Central	Marquette	OEC Refresher	Kristy Gollakner
2015-10-10	2015-10-10	REFRESHERS	North Central	Globe University Wausau	Section 3 OEC Refresher	Doug Borre dougandjoanne@frontier.com
2015-10-11	2015-10-11	MEETING	North Central	Granite Peak	Granite Peak Annual Meeting	Marcia Locher rlocher@charter.net
2015-10-16	2015-10-16	TESTING/TRAINING	North Central	Pine Mountain	Patroller 101 6:00 PM	Jay Van Zeeland jay@pinemountainskipatr ol.info
2015-10-17	2015-10-17	REFRESHERS	North Central	Pine Mountain	OEC Refresher (RSVP required) 8:00 AM	Jay Van Zeeland jay@pinemountainskipatr ol.info
2015-10-17	2015-10-17	REFRESHERS	North Central	Pine Mountain	Chair Evac Refresher 6:30 PM	Jay Van Zeeland jay@pinemountainskipatr ol.info
2015-10-21	2015-10-25	OTHER EVENTS	Southern	Schaumburg, IL	Southern Region Ski Sale w/ WINDY CITY SKI AND SNOWBOARD SHOW	Jennifer Iбата-Fetzer - skipatroljennifer@gmail.com
2015-10-24	2015-01-24	REFRESHERS	North Central	Blackjack	Big Snow OEC Standard Refresher	Chris Dobrinski
2015-10-31	2015-10-31	MEETING	North Central	Ski Brule	NC Region Fall Board Meeting	Les Robinson lrobbins@wctc.net
2015-11-01	2015-11-01	REFRESHERS	North Central	Minocqua Winter Park	OEC Hybrid Refresher	Carolyn DeJongh
2015-11-03	2015-11-03	OEC	North Central	Mont Ripley	OEC Second Exam	Randy Tufts randytufts@yahoo.com
2015-11-21	2015-11-22	TESTING/TRAINING	North Central	Ski Brule	SES	Joe Matuszak
2015-12-01	2015-12-01	SENIOR	North Central		Senior Applications Due	Jim Hughes
2015-12-05	2015-12-05	OEC	North Central	Mont Ripley	OEC Final Exam	Randy Tufts randytufts@yahoo.com
2015-12-05	2015-12-05	REFRESHERS	North Central	Ski Brule	Ski and Toboggan Refresher	Joe Matuszak
2015-12-12	2015-12-12	REFRESHERS	North Central	Pine Mountain	Toboggan Refresher and TES (Open to all, RSVP requested) 9:00	Jay Van Zeeland jayvz7243@gmail.com
2015-12-12	2015-12-13	TESTING/TRAINING	North Central	Pine Mountain	SES	Jay Van Zeeland jayvz7243@gmail.com
2016-01-09	2016-01-09	TESTING/TRAINING	North Central	Ski Brule	Region STW	Jim Grundstrom jimgrundstrom@freichevy.com

2016-01-09	2016-01-09	REFRESHERS	North Central	Granite Peak	S&T Refresher	Chuck Jonas ozzynkat@charter.net
2016-01-09	2016-01-10	TESTING/TRAINING	North Central	Minocqua Winter Park	Division Nordic Clinic	Betty Adams, Peter Wollan
2016-01-09	2016-01-09	NORDIC	North Central	Ironwood	Sisu Ski Marathon	Vic Calore
2016-01-09	2016-01-09	SENIOR	North Central	Big Powder Horn	Senior OEC Clinic	Mike Olson, olsomp05@aol.com
2016-01-10	2016-01-10	SENIOR	North Central	Big Powder Horn	Senior S&T Clinic	Chuck Jonas ozzynkat@charter.net
2016-01-11	2016-01-11	NORDIC	North Central	Indianhead	Division Telemark Clinic	Betty Adams, Peter Wollan
2016-01-23	2016-01-23	NORDIC	North Central	Marquette	Noquemanon Ski Marathon and Half Marathon	Jim Grundstrom jimgrundstrom@freichevy.com
2016-01-30	2016-01-30	NORDIC	North Central	Minocqua Winter Park	Wolf Tracks Rendezvous (a Birkie qualifier)	Betty Adams mbadams008@gmail.com
2016-01-30	2016-01-30	CERTIFIED	North Central	Marquette	Certified Qualifying and Recertification Clinic	John Keating
2016-02-07	2016-02-07	AWARDS	North Central		NC Region Awards Deadline	Brenda Robinson brobins@live.com
2016-02-20	2016-02-20	SENIOR	North Central	Mont Ripley	Senior S&T Exam	Chuck Jonas ozzynkat@charter.net
2016-02-20	2016-02-20	NORDIC	North Central	Hayward	American Birkebeiner	Nancy Imm nanimm@aol.com
2016-02-21	2016-02-21	AWARDS	North Central	TBD	Awards Committee Meeting	Brenda Robinson brobins@live.com
2016-02-27	2016-02-27	NORDIC	North Central	Minocqua Winter Park	Squirrel Hill Skiathlon (a pursuit race)	Betty Adams mbadams008@gmail.com
2016-03-05	2016-03-05	NORDIC	North Central	Calumet	Great Bear Chase Ski Marathon	Nancy Imm nanimm@aol.com
2016-03-05	2016-03-05	TESTING/TRAINING	North Central	Ski Brule	Candidate S&T Evaluation	Pete Holdridge
2016-03-05	2016-03-05	TESTING/TRAINING	North Central	Granite Peak	Candidate S&T Evaluation	Chuck Jonas ozzynkat@charter.net
2016-03-12	2016-03-12	SENIOR	North Central	Minocqua Winter Park	Senior OEC Final Test	Mike Olson, olsomp05@aol.com
2016-03-13	2016-03-13	NORDIC	North Central	Minocqua Winter Park	MWP Community Day	Betty Adams mbadams008@gmail.com
2016-03-19	2016-03-19	TESTING/TRAINING	North Central	Mont Ripley	Ski and Toboggan Tentative Final Exam	Randy Tufts randytufts@yahoo.com
2016-04-22	2016-04-24	MEETING	North Central	Waters of Minocqua	NC Region Spring Meeting and Awards Banquet	Les Robinson lrobins@wctc.net

Central Division Calendar
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