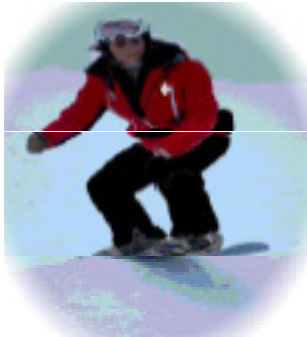




Rusty Parka News



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Summer 2020

Division Director's Report



Mike Schons
Division Director

To quote the Hollies, "The road is long with many a winding turn, that leads us to who knows where, who knows where."

Hard to believe the year we have had! My last event for the season was the Certified event at Marquette Mountain in February. I always enjoy that event and I apologize to everyone for my limited attendance. I have been out on my bike starting in the spring, however informally with the distancing and stay home order here in Michigan.

The Covid-19 issue has taken a toll on everyone, patrollers, patrols, resorts and all our industry partners. So what are we doing to prepare for next season? First refreshers. The National OEC Team which includes our Division Supervisors, Kim Zambole and Rae Ann Ruddy, have proposed a new concept for this season. For Cycle A (OEC 6) everyone will complete the on-line refresher and the workbook.

The hands-on portion will take place with the 2021 Cycle B refresher. Again, as of this writing, this is the proposal going forward to the National Board. For OEC, OFC courses, Kim and Rae are working with patrols to help with alternatives for completion of their courses.

The Division has formed a committee, led by Medical Asst. Supervisor Dan Goldberger. This committee is tasked with coming up with recommendations for keeping patrollers and patrols safe during the upcoming season. These again are only recommendations.

There will be much more on all Covid-19 related issues coming in the next two months.

We have added new staff positions for a new forming National Program. The program is Outdoor Risk Management. Jeannine Mogan and Bob Meyers are our two staff members meeting to design the curriculum.

The Central Division is the second largest division in the NSP and we need folks on the board who will represent us at the National level. I will be hosting again this fall a call-in forum where Board Candidates will

be asked questions so that you the membership can hear what each Candidate has to say about the issues that face us today.

I would like to welcome two new Bike Patrols to the Central Division, Motor City Mountain Bike Association led by Curtis Kalina, (curtis.kalina@mcmba) they are located in South east Michigan EMR Region. Next is Copper Harbor Bike Patrol led by Ben Ciavola, (bciavolabike@nspserver.org). Copper Harbor is located in North Central Region. Welcome to both!

Speaking of new Bike Units, there is a new Patroller 101 manual that includes a Track 3 which is dedicated to Biking and bike patrolling.

Now that restrictions are starting to loosen, I hope to see some of you on your bikes.

If you have questions or concerns or really just want to talk anything ski patrol, feel free to contact me!

2020 BANQUET UPDATE

For months now Mike Vaerewyck, Julie Stone and the Southern Region team, many of the folks you know, have been planning the 2020 Fall Division Meeting at Chestnut Mountain in Galena, Illinois. I listened in to a few calls and they have planned a fabulous event!

As the long and winding road takes us to where we are now. Last week, in a meeting with Chestnut, a few wrinkles came into play. Due to State of Illinois regulations (related to COVID-19), we could not hold our Saturday morning General Session. In addition, we were limited to 50 people for the Awards Banquet. That would mean, the presenter (myself) and the award winners (and maybe not all of them) would be the only ones at the banquet. Could we still hold the breakout classes and Board meeting? Yes, we could, however we determined, that was not financially prudent.

With this in mind, we have cancelled the face-to-face event and nicely in a very short time, (just a couple days now). So here is a general plan with details coming as we finalize everything;

Saturday, September 12: EDT

Division Board Meeting - 9:00am to 3:00pm EDT

General Session - 3:00-5:00pm EDT

Virtual Hospitality and getting together virtually - 5:00pm to 6:00pm

Awards & Virtual Prime Rib Dinner - 6:00pm till?

We would like to promote viewing parties! A few folks in lodges, patrol rooms, whatever we can do to make this a memorable event while maintaining safety.

So this is the direction we are now heading. I appreciate all the support in these strange times! There will be more coming out as again, details get finalized.



have a plan that is coming together

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Challenges



Allison LaVene
ADD

The varying gathering restrictions have placed many challenges for holding our annual meetings throughout the Division as well Nationally. Our Division Spring Meeting was held the first Saturday of April utilizing the ZOOM format. This format worked well, and much was accomplished. Most of our Region Spring Awards banquets have been temporarily postponed throughout the Division. It was disappointing to not have the awards presented. Further, our Fall Division meeting will not be a face to face event due to the gathering restrictions. The Southern Division planning committee has planned some exciting things and will be hosting next Fall. The Awards program will be a live event and everyone will be invited to view it together. More information will be coming.

The entire Division Staff has completed Youth Protection Training. This is becoming a future requirement for all patrollers who work with youth. The Boy Scouts have a program and Mountain Guard does as well. If you would like to lead by example and complete this ahead of the requirement, email me and I will help get you started.

Introducing the New Central Division Logo and Store



Anne Blaewood
ADD

Thank you to the members who participated in our logo design contest, it was a great success!! We had a total of 44 designs submitted by 28 different patrollers. The initial vote by the 8 Region Directors and 4 Assistant Division Directors narrowed the field to the top 5 designs. From there, the final choice was made.



This design clearly honors our traditional logo yet updates the colors and style. The patroller who submitted this design was **Ken Rose** from the **Snowtrails Ski Patrol in the Ohio Region**. He will be the recipient of a \$100.00 shopping spree in the Central Division Gear Store that is launching this month!

The NEW Central Division Gear Store!!

The **Central Division Gear Store** is opening soon!! This new resource will provide Division, Regions and Patrol leaders an EASY and AFFORDABLE resource for creating custom gear to promote programs with a professional looking brand! You can purchase ski patrol gear to reflect the programs that we are involved in. Think of the possibilities!! Check out the new Central Division Gear Store at this link:

https://promotionpros.store/nsp_central_division_gear



Initial logos that will be available for ordering will consist of the following

1. NEW Central Division Logo
2. All Official NSP Logos
3. Women's Program
4. YAP Program
5. Outdoor Emergency Transportation
6. Outdoor Emergency Care 6
7. Mountain Travel and Rescue
8. Safety Program
9. Mountain Bike Patrol
10. NSP C Ski School



11. Certified Program/ Patroller
12. Instructor Development

We will be planning to add other program logos as interest grows. (ie. Senior Patroller, Senior Alpine Patroller, Alumni Patroller, Alpine/Nordic/Snowboard/Telemark Patroller) IMAGINE THE POSSIBILITIES!!

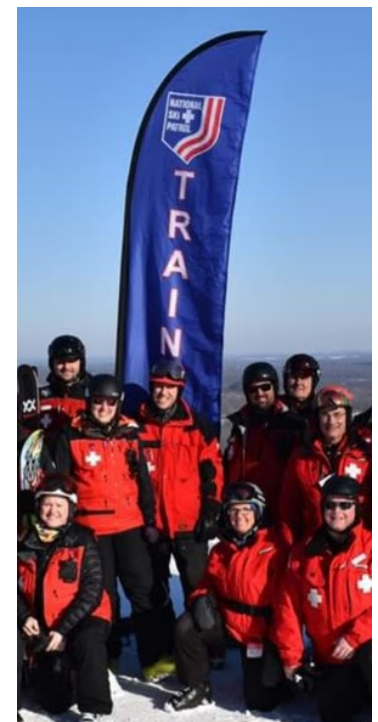
Division and Region Program Supervisors: Encourage program awareness and recruit patrollers by offering some wearable gear for your upcoming program. Contact Promotions Pros, tell them what items from the list you want offered for your upcoming program. They will put together your ordering “store” page and send you the link to send out to your participants to order from. Allow 2 weeks for processing and shipping ahead of your event and everyone can have it before the event date.

Patrol Directors: Our partner company, Promotions Pros will create a custom “store” for your patrol. You can simply upload your logo and select your wearables, promotional items, awards, recognition and recruiting items to increase your visibility in public. Your local patrol certainly could promote itself with some great looking logo clothing.

If your patrol has never had a logo created, the Promotion Pro’s design team can help with that as well. Minimum orders of **6 pieces per embroidery design** are required and 12 pieces for screen printed items. Discounts for larger quantities are available.

Here is the process to create a store for your patrol or program:

1. Submit a logo to our customer service rep Emily at emily@promotionpros.com
2. Select the clothing, bags, gear of your choice that you want screen printed or embroidered. They can pretty much get any type of clothing, promotional item, gear or awards that you could desire.
3. Promotion Pro’s will create the “store” for you and send out a link for collecting orders.
4. Offer the opportunity to order for a couple weeks. Orders will process when the store is “closed”.
5. Item processed and shipped within 2 weeks directly to the purchaser.



Assistant Division Director



Guy Day
ADD

As you are reading this, I hope you and your families are all safe and sound. We all have been working through this new atmosphere and the challenges it has brought in our professional and private lives. For our Ski Patrol lives, we have some direction that has come out regarding our OEC refreshers and what we will be doing as an organization. Thinking past this fall and moving to when it is below 32 degrees with white frozen crystals on inclined slopes, the Skills Development Team has been working over this Spring and Summer planning our events for this upcoming season. With that the leadership team made the decision to utilize an existing resource to help our teaching/learning focused on our frozen sport. There are a couple of courses that are available online as e-learning that we as a group made the decision to take.

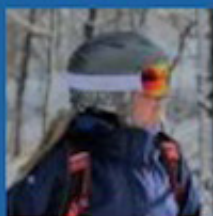
The first one was the Alpine Movement Analysis course which is comprised of 4 modules. Within each module, there are several topics covered. The focus is to learn the movement analysis process so that a baseline is built to analyze and evaluate ideal versus real characteristics in skiing & riding. The second course is the Alpine Skiing Fundamentals. This has four modules as well and successful completion of the course gives you two continuing education credits. This course is focused on why the Five Fundamentals were developed, an in-depth view of each of the fundamentals and how to blend the fundamentals with the skills & teaching concepts. Both of these courses are available on the PSIA national website (www.thesnowpros.org). Once you click on Education then E-learning. You will need to log into the e-learning site. From there, click on the courses and add these to your shopping cart. Both course are approximately an hour in length and there are quizzes at the end of the different modules to check for understanding of the concepts/ideas.

This is a resource that as Division and/or Region Staff you could take advantage of to provide an excellent refresher or give you an opportunity to learn something new. These are great to take anytime between now and when the snow flies setting you up for success going into the Division ASDW's or a Region ASDW. This way, we all have that common baseline to be working from or the understanding of that baseline.

Looking forward to being able to get back to the new normal, what ever that may look like and seeing you out on hill. Best to you and your families.



SOL ALPINE



Founded by a Ski Patroller with the mission to support Patrols, Sol Alpine makes practical, rugged, innovative snow goggles. We partner with on-mountain shops to support their Ski & Bike Patrols by giving 1% of our sales to the Patrols where Sol Alpine goggles are sold. We'd love to support your Patrol.

Pro pricing offered to NSP members. Contact us at SolAlpine.com



Pandemic!!!



Les Robinson
ADD

A word we all have gotten familiar with over the last couple of months. This is going to change the way we live, act, and patrol over the foreseeable future. Whatever your viewpoint of this is please be respectful of others viewpoint as well.

Chances are that with the virus, our area's will be looking to implement policies and procedures this fall that will address this whole topic of social distancing and PPE. We need to be on board with our area's wants, remember they are who we work for and what we do at NSP, NSP division, or NSP region is all in regard to local area protocol, but if we can be of guidance to them and it helps our patrollers that is where we need to be. Whatever they want as long as we're safe is where we want to be.

Our refreshers may look a little different this fall with the OEC 6 rollout last month and the pandemic that could have a bigger change than the new book. Please work with whatever is rolled out for refresher and be patient, there may be some not normal things that people don't care for, just remember that the NSP of today wasn't made

in a day and we will adapt and change as needed.

Educating patrollers is our passion.

I ask ALL patrollers to look at your local and Region programs and reach out to help with some aspect of a program that intrigues you. What do you want to learn more about? What program could you become an instructor for? How can you improve your own skill set and offer to help others grow their own skills?



Jim's Sportswear is a Screenprinting and Embroidery company owned by Nub's Nob Ski Patroller Jim Arlen. Our email is; jimssportswear@gmail.com.

We offer our services to all patrols across the country.

Check out their website at:
<https://jimssportswear.com/>

Region Reports

South Central Region



Steve Paladini
South Central
Region Director

I hope this issue of the Rusty Parka finds all of you and your families safe and well. This is not a typical opening line for the summer issue, for me, or as I suspect, any of the past Region Director's articles, in any of the Regions. But, as you all know, nothing now is typical, due to the world's COVID-19 pandemic. As I write this, it's the middle of June and after working from home for nearly twelve weeks, I'm slowly getting back to the office and some normalcy. I hope you are too.

The South-Central Region's Award Banquet has been cancelled twice. It was first scheduled for May 2, 2020. This date fell within the CDC's first eight week "shelter in place" recommendation. So, it was moved to May 16th. This date was also cancelled, as it then fell within the Governor of Wisconsin's extended "shelter in place" order. The awards from National have been sent to our Awards Adviser, Tom Wright and he has had the Region awards made. They now all sit with him, at his house. This is a shame, as we had a good, maybe even an exceptional year for awards. As we move into summer and towards fall, the Region staff will continue to monitor the situation and hopefully find a time to get together as a group and hand them out. If not, then myself, the ARD's and Section Chiefs may have to "divide and conquer", handing them out at refreshers, if the Refreshers happen. Though, after some correspondences from National, they may not happen. Our final resort will be a special publication of our newsletter, The SWEEP, to announce the winners.

I would like to take the time to announce a group of individuals that did receive their Senior classifications this past season. As I'm sure their patrols know of their success and others too, I would like to say congratulations to: Amy Opgenorth (Alpine Senior), Danielle Tronnes (Alpine Senior), Dave Cushman (Senior Patroller), Jeff Jambois (Alpine Senior), Jenni Snavelly (Alpine Senior), Jim Mitschrich (Alpine Senior) and Ken Matusek (Senior Patroller). Job well done! Also, thank you to Erik Hudson, his staff and the fifty-four volunteers that made the clinics and evaluations possible.

The Board of Governors and Region staff continue to plan for the upcoming 2020/2021 season. We just approved the new budget, and the staff is planning the programs, clinics, classes, etc. We hope they can go on as typically planned, but as I opened the article, nothing lately, seems to be typical.

Please stay safe and kind to one another.



Southern Region



Mike Vaerewyck
Southern Region
Director

I hope everyone is enjoying their summer and no longer bound strictly to their homes due to a stay at home order. Luckily here in Indiana the stay at home order has been lifted and we are slowly getting back to normal. I am looking forward to getting some miles in with our Bike Patrol for the events that were rescheduled instead of cancelled. Sadly, the Southern Region had to cancel your Region Banquet and missed out on the opportunity to recognize this year's achievements. But I am excited for the upcoming Division Meeting/Banquet that is being held in the Southern Regions backyard this year. Please consider joining during our virtual Central Division Meeting. This is a great opportunity to meet friends in different Regions and discuss current ski patrol events. There will also be a silent auction with throwback ski signs and a chair lift swing up for grabs. Hopefully I will virtually see you there!

Ohio Region



Chris Raudabaugh
Ohio Region Director

Here's hoping everyone is staying safe and healthy. These are unprecedented times, which require patience and changes for everyone, division and region wide. Ohio Region had to make the safe decision to postpone our awards banquet to fall. We hope that things become safer and we can still recognize all the hard working members.

Another noteworthy news item is the election of our up and coming Region Director, Dave McKinley. David not only brings an infectious smile to the position, but he also has a wealth of experience and leadership. David's career (what supports his ski patrol habit) brings many years of leadership and experience in the marketing and communications areas for medium to large organizations.

David's NSP experience and leadership include NSP-C Ski School Division staff, Ohio Region Certified Advisor, PNS Patrol Board Member, Ohio Region Senior Program Advisor, OET and OEC IT, and OEC IOR. David has contributed locally to both Perfect North Patrol and Paoli Peaks patrol. David is also a member of the PSIA Central Division Education Staff where he is a Level 3 Telemark Instructor. David officially takes the reigns on July 1st.

The Ohio winter season did not stay as cold and snowy as we all could have wished, but we did get the most out of our season. We were able to hold most of our events, with great participation. Thanks to all of the Ohio Region advisors and helpers for all of their hard work to bring their programs to you.

I enjoyed my tenure as a returning Region Director and it was great to see everyone over the past season. I will be taking a Division role as the Information Technology Advisor, and will be providing my expertise as needed to



the Division. Thanks to all the Region staff for all of their help. Everyone have a great, and safe summer. Stay healthy and happy!



Toboggan Supervisor Update



Tracy Buchanan
Toboggan
Supervisor

Some folks like to look at the summer as a short break from all things ski patrol and enjoy their other passions whether it's fishing, boating, mountain biking...essentially anything other than an on snow activity. While I enjoy all of those things, my summers from the time I was a kid, always incorporated some sort of dryland training and planning for the upcoming ski season. And some things never change; that being one of them!

Our ASDW team has been hard at work planning for the 2020 clinics in December. We are coming up with very creative ideas to ensure that each patroller participating will have ample learning opportunities in order to bring pertinent knowledge back to their regions and local patrols. I'm very excited to be a part of this team and all that it brings to the Division.

On the National OET team, we are also working hard to come up with exciting, fun, and slightly 'out of the box' clinics that will be offered at 2021 Powderfall in Breckenridge, CO. If you have never been to the NSP Powderfall event, I strongly encourage

you to take a few days to come join us! The dates for the event are April 7-10, so be on the lookout for sign-up information provided by National later this summer!

I realize that there may be some uncertainty as we move into the fall/winter months and all the unknowns that it holds, but I do believe that preparing and looking forward to a fun and successful ski patrol season has incredible benefits. We will continue to work towards providing the best clinics we can for the upcoming season for all of our patrollers and be as creative as possible if some things need to be virtually driven.

Be safe, be strong and don't forget summer dry land training!

Instructor Development



Marie Traska
Instructor Development

Could we have ever imagined the events of the last few months? I know I couldn't! The ID division advisors have been discussing how to best continue to complete Instructor Development courses. Several regions have been continuing to hold the online course. The only difference would be to develop an online version of the one on one teaching seasons the ID patrollers would have developed. This could all be handled with a Zoom session that would be developed with the IOR and several instructors of ID evaluating that lessons given.

There will be an updated version of the online course added to the NSP site in the near future. If you have questions you can contact me; Marie Traska
traska5@charter.net

Stay safe and follow the guidelines that NSP is using.

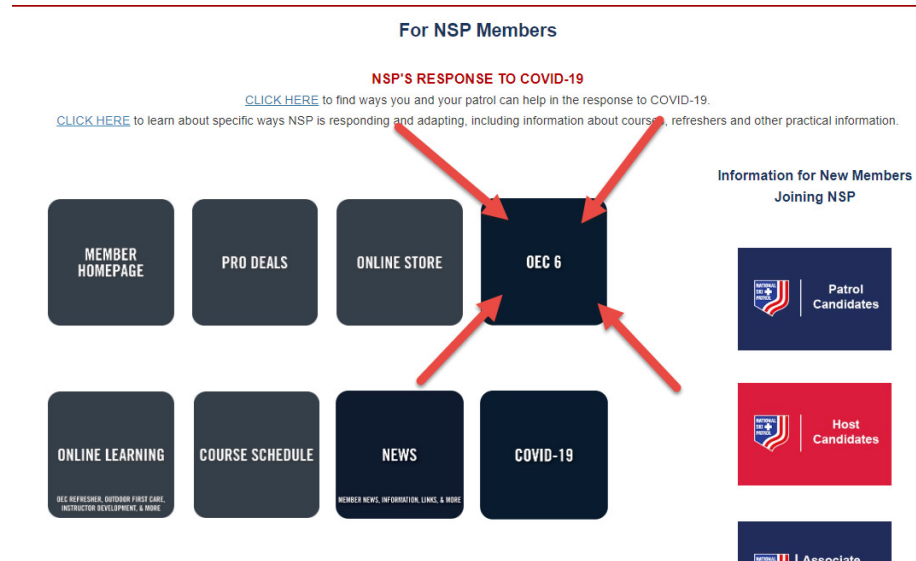
OEC Update



Kim Zambole
OEC Supervisor

It's HERE!! The next edition of the Outdoor Emergency Care book is now available. If you haven't heard this from the National office or from your region leaders, please check to be sure your information is up to date on your NSP profile. There is a lot of information being shared and I certainly don't want anyone to miss it.

On the NSP website, you can find all the information you need about the OEC6.



OEC Refresher, OEC/OFC Classes, and a 'safe scene'

There have been many questions about how to safely come together to refresh our OEC skills and learn about the new skills in OEC6. The National Board of Directors received a proposal that the 2020 OEC Refresher requirements be accomplished via online learning and workbook completion. Stay tuned to your local Patrol Rep and the NSP website for the latest updates.

OEC/OFC classes face a similar challenge when working to ensure that the learning environment is the safest possible for both patrollers and candidates. As instructors learn about the new online tools available with the OEC6, planning for what may be new ways to teach will be necessary. Some considerations will be:

- Effectively cleaning between use (tables, tools, etc.)
- Checking individuals for signs/symptoms of illness and if present, not attending training that day
- Learning that is completed via remote sessions -- there are many platforms that are available for this!
- Moving classes outdoors when practicable
- Small group learning teams. Wearing masks and demonstrating safer distance between people when possible.

Instructors are very creative. They are working hard to be sure that if courses can be safely delivered, they will. As always, if you have questions about OEC and your patrol team does not have the answer, please contact your Region OEC Administrator. If they don't have the answer, they can check with me and I will find the answer. Working together we will make the magic happen! I look forward to working with you this 'off' season.

Central Division Certified Program Update



**Ron Gerdes
Certified**

Well... This year came in like a lion... and went out like a wounded old goat. This was definitely not the end of the ski season that any one anticipated, but... I guess we adapt, overcome, and move forward.

The good news is the Central Division Certified Program was one of 3 divisions to complete their certified evaluations. Several other divisions ended up canceling their events due to the Covid-19 Shutdown mandates.

As in years past, the CD managed to pull off an immensely successful event.

I would like to introduce the newest certified promotions...

David Anderson	839
William Capre	840
Kris Liebau	842
Keith Robinson	838
Otto Selles	841
Brian Harrison	843

These were not the only successes, I am confident that all the candidates left this event with at least a small victory that they can build upon moving forward. This evaluation is not an easy task and I commend those that force themselves to grow and develop as a patroller.

At this time, we are unsure of what the coming ski season will look like. I am not one to sit and wait... so... Until further notice, The CD Certified program will be moving forward, business as usual until we are told to make accommodations.

The 2021 Evaluation is set. We will be heading to Lutsen Mt, February 25-27, 2021. We will be running several qualification and recertification events across the division during the season. These dates will be announced this summer.

The success of the Certified Program is dependent on a mass of volunteers that year after year, ensure its success. I am forever grateful to all those that year after year, take time away to spend it slogging in the snow, carrying big heavy things, running here and there... all just to support their fellow patroller along their own individual journey!

If you are interested in participating, in any capacity, please reach out to me. The door is open and we would love to have you!!



Nordic News



Jeff Schmidt
Nordic
Supervisor

Well, we made it through the ski season, but what lies ahead?

There are many unknowns at this time, but hopefully the worst will soon pass and we can get back to some form of normalcy.

Please stay tuned for updates on our OEC and Nordic refreshers that will be taking place this coming ski season. It might be a little different from what we are used to, but keeping ourselves and others safe is the goal.

As we know more, we will pass it along to you.

Until then, stay safe, and get a copy of the new OEC 6 book and start to read it in your spare time.

See you on the snow!

Senior Program



Jeff Jurcak
Senior Supervisor

It is June 5th and I am sitting on my deck in shorts and a t-shirt on a sunny, 87 degree day with humidity around 85%. Some might say we are a long way from ski/ride season while others will note that we are closing in on the halfway to winter. With the pandemic curve flattened and states starting to open up, a team of very dedicated folks are hard at work trying to streamline Senior Program content. More to follow in the next edition of the RPN.

For those of you interested in joining the upcoming class of Senior candidates, we welcome you! Please remember that you need to alert your Patrol Director or Patrol Representative of your intentions and send in your application to your region's Senior advisor. You should check the deadline for your region to make sure you have it in on time.

If the Senior program and exams are in your future, please take advantage of the summer to increase physical and mental fitness toward this goal. If you have time, get together with some friends and plan some dryland training to enhance your ski/riding skills with a level 2 or 3 ski instructor. If your patrol or a patrol in your region is in the midst of training OEC basic candidates, ask if you can help out. This is a great way to keep your OEC skills sharp!

These are some just a few ways to improve your skills for the upcoming season and will benefit any patroller, whether you have already attained your senior status or are beginning the journey. Stay healthy, stay safe, and I look forward to seeing you on the slopes soon.



Social Media?



Darcy Hanley
Social Media

Have you zoomed? Google hangout? Facetime? The new reality is lots of social media and the expansion of social distancing via technology. There is even etiquette around how to act on distance platforms, mute yourself, raise your hand, don't leave your chair, please do not eat and please don't all say "aye" at the same time. It does appear that organizations have adapted to the way to conduct business and we all will be grateful when we can meet in person. Maybe we will be more respectful when others talk, maybe we will not interrupt, maybe our meetings will be shorter.

I am thankful I was able to stay connected to my family, friends and colleagues! I am thankful that Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter were available to me as a way to connect. I am thankful for social distancing, stay at home, masks, and being mindful of my brothers and sisters.

Some things have remained constant and have given us comfort and hope.

Be patient as YOUR division leadership works through all of the details of getting us back to what we love to do. Purchase your OEC 6th edition, read it, be the most prepared you can be for however the refresher looks.

If you have tips, ideas for getting ready this summer for what may be a very different ski season be sure to post on Facebook ([facebook.com/skinsp](https://www.facebook.com/skinsp)). If you want to sell gear let me know and I will be glad to post. We may not be together in person, but we still able to connect. Here is to keeping safe and healthy.



Skiing isn't about the skis or the snow, rather, the people you meet along the way

Let us be a part of your journey



www.skimortal.com

Skills Development Program



Jackie Bottomley
Skills Development

The ASDW Team is busily working on bringing our Division two ASDW weekends: Dec 4-6 at Boyne Highlands and Dec 11-13 at Welch Village in Minnesota. Format for the two events will be similar to years past. We will offer sessions for Snow Sport Trainers/Evaluators/Calibrators and Toboggan Trainers/Evaluators/Calibrators, a session to work on PSIA L2 or L3, along with a couple sessions geared to becoming a Region snow sports or toboggan trainer. These two sessions are a great starting point to work with Division instructional staff.

Our theme for this year's ASDW is: **Training Tomorrow's Leaders**. We are planning a welcome reception on Friday night along with some breakout indoor sessions on Friday and Saturday nights. These breakout sessions may offer movement analysis, fundamentals of teaching a clinic, senior standards, and changes to the Central Division manual, etc. They would be approximately an hour long and you will need to register for them as space will be limited. The breakout sessions and welcome reception are part of the program fee that your Region pays for you to attend this event.

We are looking forward to another great ASDW. Our ASDW team is also planning on a Plan B in the event COVID-19 is active and will limit the size of our sessions. Hope to see everyone at the Fall Central Division Meeting at Chestnut Mountain Resort in September. Feel free to reach out to me with questions or more information. Our goal is to hear from you and to help bring skill development programs to cover your Region and area needs.

Masks from Safety Gear

By: Katie Flanagan, Kevin McQuillan and Bob Meyers

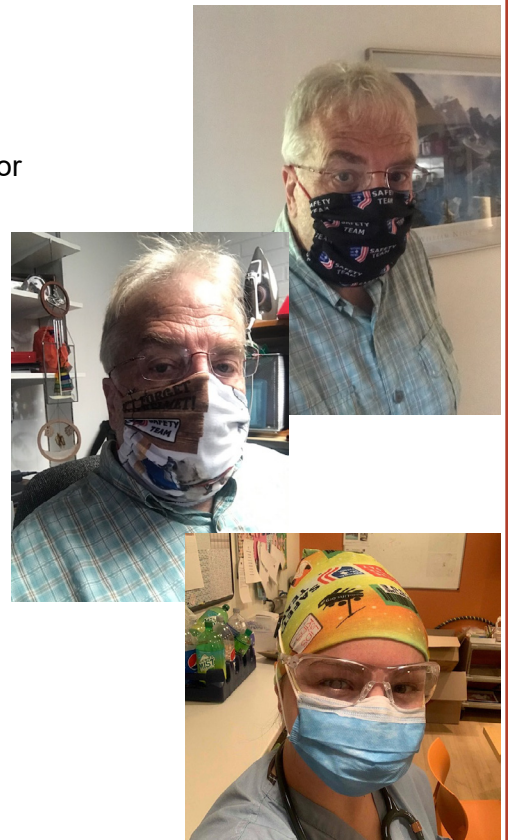
Patrols all over the country donated their remaining safety gear buffs for people to make masks as Bob has modeled to the right.

Mt. Brighton Ski Patrol of Michigan donated their remaining buffs to make ear savers for Nurses and doctors in the Detroit area. The nurses and doctors ears were being irritated from the masks elastic and by wearing the buffs around their heads with buttons sewn on the back they no longer had to have them attached to their ears. They were grateful for the relief.

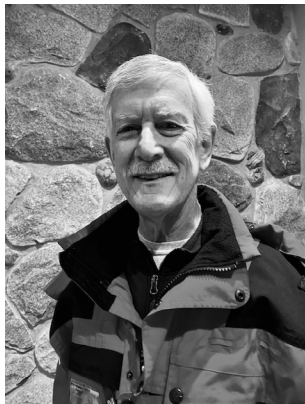
If your patrol has extra buffs, maybe try to see if you can donate them to some essential workers or even your neighbors.

Don't forget to follow the NSPcentraldivisionsafetyteam on Instagram!

Stay safe!



Division Medical Advisor



Dan Goldberger
Medical Advisor

Every year Central Division patrollers provide a high level of care for thousands of injuries ranging from trivial to quite severe. You are to be congratulated for your service to our patrons. Also, every year, some of our patrollers are faced with genuine life threatening situations which require fast action and application of the highest level of OEC skills. This year I was honored to help approve nominations for 17 Purple Merit awards, 7 Blue Merit Awards, 8 Yellow Merit awards, and 3 Division Critical Care awards. None of us wants to find ourselves in this situation, but be assured that you all are taught the skills to make a difference. A big shout out to all who earned these awards. And a huge thanks to Dick Jaques who puts the most effort into making these awards happen.

Which brings up the issue of maintaining those skills! As we approach our training and refreshing seasons, we will be learning a few new twists on OEC with our new edition. Kim Zambole will have much more to say about that, but I encourage you to get your new books, take the required training, and this is an important time

for OEC instructors to get recertified so you can help your patrollers update their skills. I think you will be pleased with the improvements in the new edition.

And by the way, you may have heard something about that new virus I mentioned in the Winter edition of RPN. It seems that the world as we knew it has been altered in more ways than we can get our heads around. We can expect that COVID19 will have profound and lasting effects on our personal lives and absolutely on our lives as patrollers. There are so many questions that beg answers right now, but there are a few things we need to recognize. We all need to learn how to minimize risk of infection for ourselves, our patrols, and our skiing and biking public. The carefree past will not be a reality this season. At every level from your patrol to the national boards and committees, extensive discussions and planning are underway to come up with the best advice we can about how to achieve this. There will be changes in how we teach our classes, run our refreshers, provide care on the hill and in the aid room, maintain our equipment, use protective gear, and more. Information will be shared over the course of the summer and fall. In the meantime, check the COVID resources on the NSP web site, look to legitimate organizations such as CDC, WHO, and American Heart Association (please, not Facebook!) for the most current evidence based information, and, most importantly, please take this seriously. We can't make things perfect, but if we all tune out the noise and work together on best practices, we can get through this. Oh yeah – Wash Your Hands!!!!

Applications for Dan Somalski Memorial Fund

The application window for the 2020 – 2021 season Daniel Somalski Memorial Fund is open until December 1st, 2020. The fund is an educational grant for any Central Division patroller with membership in good standing. Activities for potential fund reimbursement include:

- Any National Ski Patrol Education
- PSIA/AASI Certification

Applications can be located on the Central Division Website via the following link <http://www.nspcentral.org/docs/somalski/SomalskiApplication.pdf>. Once complete, please email to Tom Anderson at tpanderson@charter.net. For more information, please visit <http://www.nspcentral.org/somalski.php>.



This trust was set up to honor 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 3 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.

Awards Report Summer



Dick Jacques
Awards Supervisor

The Central Division Board of Directors approved a new "Patroller Achievement Award" at the Spring Meeting. This award is intended to recognize those members that are very active over many years at the patrol level including teaching in NSP Programs but have not chosen or had the opportunity to advance to Region or Division levels. The Award will include a lapel pin, patch and certificate and will generally be presented at the Region Level.



Applications for this award will be initiated by the Patrol Director/Representative on the current version of the Central Division Patroller Recognition Form which will be available on the Division WEB Site. Members must have a minimum service of 15 years. Members earning a Senior or Certified/Nordic Master Classification will receive partial credit toward the 15 years' service mark. After this minimum level, additional points are awarded for service in various capacities in the local patrol including instructorships, holding patrol office, serving on patrol committees, or serving in specialized capacities at the Region or Division level as indicated on the form. The Board set a minimum of 75 points total to qualify for the award. Members holding Region or Division Advisor, Supervisor or officer positions are not eligible for this award.

A maximum of 150 Patroller Recognition Awards will be awarded in any Fiscal Year (July 1 to June 30). If more than 150 applications are received, the top 150 scores will be awarded. Anyone not receiving the award should be updated and resubmitted the following year.

Speaking of writing up an awards application, did you ever wonder why members take the time to write an awards application? It is not easy. It takes time, research, and skullduggery to find the information. But just look at Bob Moe's Smile when he was presented with a Central Division Lifetime Achievement Award. Multiply that by over 150 members who were nominated for Awards this Year and we have a smile big enough to stretch clear across our Division.

Information gathering is key to completing award application forms. Now is the time to identify deserving members and start gathering information. Awards such as National Appointments, Leadership Commendation Appointments, Distinguished Service Awards, Central Division Lifetime Achievement Awards all need information about the nominee's patrol history, when did they start patrolling, what classes have they taken and/or taught. What offices, adviserships and supervisor positions have they held. How do they interact with other snow sports or bike entities? How do they contribute to snow sports or biking outside of patrolling? Patrol history and training information is available to patrol officers on the National WEB Site, ask the nominee's Patrol Director for help. Talk to the nominee's friends, spouse, patrol colleagues. Talk with the nominee in a casual conversation, ask questions like "did you ever take such and such a class? What was it like? This is a great way to glean information without the nominee knowing what you are doing. The awards named above can use information from the member's entire career, Outstanding Award nominations require much of the same information but are limited to the current and three prior seasons. This past season Central Division processed 143 awards to National, the second highest of any Division. 143 awards equates to 1 award for every 49 patrollers in our Division. With your help we could lower that ratio and stretch the Central Division smile all the way to the East Coast.



Bike Patrol

Bike Patrolling in a pandemic. Who would have predicted this would ever be a topic. Yet here we are. So let's start with what we know.

1. People are riding their bikes more than ever. One of the unforeseen side effects of COVID-19 is the significant increase of bicycle purchases and new riders. You cannot go into a department store or Local Bicycle Shop and find a selection of bikes. There is currently a world wide shortage.
2. The more bikes that are sold, means there are more riders. More riders mean increased demand on local services including wayfinding help, mechanical and medical assistance needed. Local land managers are having a difficult time keeping up with the increased demand.
3. During the initial lock down or Stay Home, Stay Safe mandates, it was easy for patrollers. Do nothing, no one would be out. But now many states are in different stages of re-opening, which leaves patrollers in a grey haze to try to navigate through.

So how do we go from here? This is the directive from NSP about Bike Patrols.

Many bike areas are opening, and bike patrollers are working in a variety of settings. NSP is evaluating the evolving situation on the ground to provide guidance and direction to keep bike patrollers safe and prepared to serve.

In addition to complying with local directives, bike patrollers should take common sense precautions to keep themselves and those they serve safe and healthy. These precautions include wearing a mask and glasses or other face coverings. Bike patrollers should also carry masks they can provide to a patient on scene. NSP also recommends that bike patrollers carry hand sanitizer along with any PPE provided or recommended by their area.

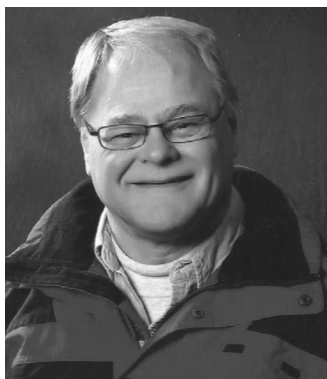
As a patroller approaches an accident scene, NSP recommends that the initial assessment should be performed at a distance of at least six feet. At this distance, the patroller should also put on any additional PPE and inquire of MOI & NOI along with any risk of airborne infection.

Here some additional suggestions that our local patrol has issued:

- You must comply with all local, county, state, and national recommendations/orders.
- Bike patrollers should take common-sense precautions to keep themselves and those they serve safe and healthy.
- You will carry at least 2 face coverings, one for the patroller and one for any patients.
- The currently accepted standard for CPR is to perform Hands-Only CPR. This is coming from NSP and the American Heart Association.
- When approaching an accident scene, start your initial assessment from a minimum of 6 feet before engaging with any hands-on treatment. Apply all appropriate BSI/PPE to both the patroller and patient.
- Directions or Mechanical interactions will be conducted with physical distancing rules applied. Remember to instruct the recipient on how to perform their own repairs.
- Report/document all interactions in your patrol log.

These are guidelines and suggestions, you shall refer to your Patrol's Policies and Procedures for your areas specifics.

Changes for Central Division Alumni Program



Mark Holtan
Alumni Advisor-West

Bob Knox
Alumni Advisor – East

This will be my last article as Division Alumni Advisor – West as I submitted my resignation to Mike Schons after the Spring Board Meeting in April and would serve out the position until end of fiscal year in June, unless he found a successor to continue until that time. There is never a good time to make a transition, however I felt it was best at this time, rather than waiting until the Fall meeting when the new season gets jump started. Serving nearly 4 years as Division Alumni Advisor, I need to scale back due to other personal responsibilities and family interests that need to take priority. I am very supportive of the Alumni program, have appreciated the opportunity to serve our Division and the National Alumni Committee and will continue to be very supportive as time allows.

Bob Knox will remain in his position as Alumni Advisor – East per our last conversation. Due to the size of the Division, I strongly suggest that the Division continue with co-advisors East and West. I suggest that if anyone is interested in serving you should directly contact Mike Schons.

Two new recognitions have been approved for Alumni members. On June 13, 2020, the National Board of Directors approved the new **Alumni Cross and Alumni Memorial awards**, long in the works and submitted as RFAs by the Central Division. These recognitions were written and proposed by Martin Fahje, Western Region and former Central Division Awards advisor. The details can be located in the P&P and parallel the Patrollers Cross and Patroller's Memorial respectively.

We have a great group of Region Alumni Advisors, however, if any RDs are aware of personnel changes, or if you do not have an Alumni Advisor, please plan to have this position filled as we move forward with our new direction. Please advise if you have any questions or need assistance in fulfilling these positions

We have guidelines and promotional material to assist newly established advisors and programs. A Region Alumni Advisor DOES NOT need to be registered as alumni. I recommend that Region Directors solicit or select a patroller who is a self-starter, interested in the program and the desire to get involved at this level for your Region and fellow patrollers. Any RDs or patrollers who may be interested and have questions can feel free contact Bob.



Young Adult Program



Jane Bickerstaff
YAP Advisor

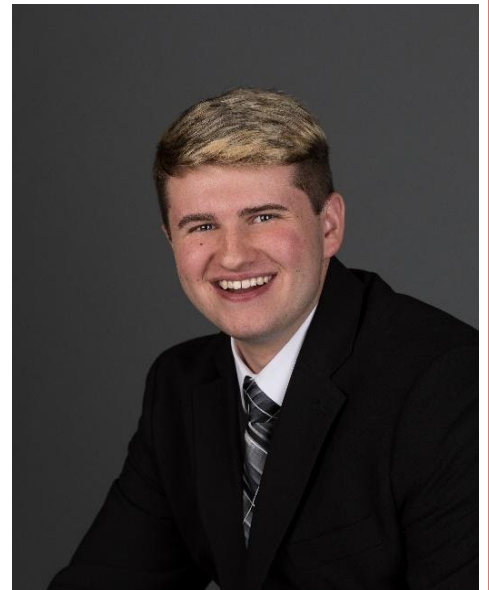
Welcome summer! The following YAPs are graduating! We are all so proud of each one of them.

These YAPs have offered so much to our patrols – hours of dedication and enthusiasm. They have come on board with an eagerness to help at our patrols. They have a new thirst for knowledge both on the hill and in OEC that is refreshing.

I am truly grateful to everyone that has mentored these students along the way, taking time out of their shifts to encourage, teach, and befriend them. Our Central Division young adult patrollers have made our time at ski patrol enjoyable and memorable. Each one of these Young Adult Patrollers will be sorely missed as they venture on to their next phase in life.

We eagerly anticipate the futures of these young adult patrollers, and look forward to seeing their faces at our patrols again.

Wyatt Feldman: A graduate of Brighton High School, he plans to attend Washtenaw Community College for his basics while working on his EMT/Paramedic license. He would like to continue on and become a registered nurse. Wyatt patrols at Mt Brighton.



Tyler Green: A graduate of Elida High School in Ohio, Tyler plans to attend Cleveland State University in the fall, majoring in Chemistry. He would like to become a general surgeon. Tyler is the son of Troy Green. **Daniel Ondusky:** Dan has been admitted to the Aviation Program at Northwestern Michigan College in Traverse City. He would like to become a commercial pilot. Daniel patrols at Mt Brighton with his twin brother Dominik and mother, Linda.

Daniel Ondusky: Dan has been admitted to the Aviation Program at Northwestern Michigan College in Traverse City. He would like to become a commercial pilot. Daniel patrols at Mt Brighton with his twin brother Dominik and mother, Linda.



Dominik Ondusky: Will be studying Environmental Science at University of Windsor, Windsor, Ontario. Dom would like to become a conservation officer. Dominik patrols at Mt Brighton with his twin brother and mother.

Isabella Vazquez: A patroller at Wild Mountain Ski Patrol, will be attending Carlton College in Northfield, MN.



Katie Withington: Katie plans on attending Schoolcraft College to become a paramedic/fire-fighter. Katie is the daughter of Mt Brighton patroller Al Withington.

Thank you all for your service and best wishes for the future!

Women's Program



The mission of the NSP Women's Program is to empower patrollers by advancing skills and developing leadership in a women-focused program.

Hello all!

Here I sit with temps in the 80s and expecting 90s by tomorrow. What am I thinking about? SKIING!!! SNOW!!! Because in the summer it makes me feel COOL!

This season was a great season! There were so many successes and celebrations of effort that there are too many to name. One of the successes for the Central Division is that the Women's Program held two events in 2020! This was a FIRST!

Kerstin Hammarberg Women's Program

In January we found ourselves sliding on the white crystals at Tyrol Basin in Mount Horeb, WI. Tyrol Basin was a FANTASTIC host area. Everyone treated us so well and we were made to feel special! Nancy Thorne-Cahill the PD and Dani McPherson the Region Advisor were awesome! There were 26 ladies who participated in skiing, riding, and toboggan handling sessions. The staff had fun helping everyone learn new skills and refine familiar skills. Some women stepped up and tried their hand at teaching and coaching alongside the Division Staff. We also had one of our favorite guest instructors Heidi Jo Karlsson (PSIA L3) with us! She shared her new secret adult beverage the Salted Carmel! (Ask some of the women in attendance about the recipe!) And the dances she taught on the hill to get our hips into skiing – it would make you blush! A great time was had by all!

In February we traveled to Schuss Mountain Resorts in Bellaire, MI. The resort was lovely and we were treated very well! Our Region hosts were Eastern Michigan Region, Northern Michigan Region, and Western Michigan Region. They combined to support the Division Women's Program. The Women's Advisors – Jackie Bottomly, Charlon Hibbard, and Nancy Trout helped to support this great event. There were 34 women who joined us for the weekend. We were excited to try new skills, drag toboggans through moguls, and ride and ski down great trails! We changed the Boardman Room into the BoardWOMan Room for our evening event!

Some words from our 2020 participants:

I wanted to let you know how much I absolutely loved the women's clinic! I know this sounds sort of dramatic, but it was a hugely empowering weekend for me. I learned so much the day I had ski lessons and then again on the toboggan. I only wish I could have had 2 full days of both.

Tracy E.

Thanks for running a great clinic! We really enjoyed the weekend!! We all learned so much and had fun while doing it.

Christine M.

I'm sitting in the airport so thought it a fine time to let you know that I passed my Alpine test yesterday!

RuthAnn M.

Just wanted to thank you for a great weekend!

Ginny R.

Thanks for a great weekend. You (and your entire staff) were wonderful. The excitement you all have, your positive energy, words of wisdom and just fun spirits made for a great weekend of skiing. You are all an inspiration and I'm looking forward to next year!

Kristen C.

SOME of the successes of this season for our participants, staff, and other great women of the Division have been increased leadership roles, NEW leadership roles, achievement of training/testing goals, and new involvement in the ski patrols of the Central Division.

Region Women's Events held around the Division:

- Western Region – Mont du Lac
- North Central Division – Pine Mountain
- South Central Division – Tyrol Basin
- Eastern Michigan – Combined with NMR
- Northern Michigan – Combined with EMR
- Western Michigan – Combined with NMR/EMR
- Ohio Region – no formal event held in 2020
- Southern Region – Wilmot
-

The 2021 Women's Clinic Central Division 20th Anniversary event!!

We are excited to bring this event to two more locations in the Central Division! Tentative plans are being put in place for the following dates and locations:

January 22-24, 2021
January 29-31, 2021

We are working to secure one of these dates at Mt. Bohemia in MI – part of the North Central Region, and the second event at an area in Southern Region! Due to COVID-19 our plans are tentative until we know how this virus will impact the ski season and lodging options.

Plan to join us for this 20th Anniversary event and celebrate all that the Women's Program has done to develop leaders, increase skills, and encourage confidence for our patrollers!

Thank you to the Women's Program staff: Linda Murphy-Jacobs, Chris Moe-Herlick, Linda Barthel, Amy Arnold, Erika Krol, Anne Blaedow, Cheryl Raudebaugh, Kathy Brennan, Kris Leibau, Lauren Wroblewski, Sue Brann, Darcy Hanley, and Loretta Cobble – I could not be successful without you all! To our Region hosts: Charlon Hibbard, Jackie Bottomley, Nancy Trout, Dani McPherson – thank you for all your hospitality and support!! To all who were involved thank you for an amazing season! Can't wait to see you again!

Beth bringing the sled down Double D at Tyrol Basin



Tyrol Basin Women's Event – January 2020



Schuss Mountain Women's Event – February 2020



Daniela Didier and
Glitter Butt at Tyrol Basin!



Cricket Nickolau wearing "The Vest"
and Pearl (not pictured) at Schuss



Fun times at the hotel at Mount Horeb!



The “ladies” came dressed for fun!



Staff “tune-up” day at Tryol Basin – wearing our FUN PANTS!



Heidi Jo Karlsson and her crew at Tryol Basin!



Our favorite snowboard instructors Kathy Brennan and Kelly Vaerewyck



Inaugural women's event at Wilmot!



Katie Flanagan and Linda Ondusky at Schuss



Ladies at Schuss



A new way to train toboggan in the moguls – lunch trays and chairs!



Toboggans at Schuss

Summer is Here



Marty Blaszkowski
NSP-C Snowsports
School

It sure has been a strange start to the summer but it's finally here. Many of you are beginning to take time away to hit the links, or head with the family to lakes and oceans.

Don't forget about winter however, we have found a few articles to keep you in shape over the summer so when the cold stuff flies again your ready. Ski Magazine put out a great summer training program a few years back.

You can find that here: <https://www.skimag.com/ski-performance/warm-weather-fitness>

It is summer for all however the Snow Sports School has begun working on this upcoming winter and adding some new items to accommodate all the changes we have seen globally. We will begin to offer training from the division staff locally. This means you can ask for a member of our division ski school to attend your SES or even help with training at your resort. All you need to do is send an email to MARTY at mjb8804@yahoo.com and he will confirm what is needed.

Finally we send a huge congratulations to all the individuals who have added to their PSIA/AASI credentials this past season. The awards will be given out at the fall Division meeting.

Avalanche Transceivers



Michael Walenta
Avalanche
Supervisor

If you have an avalanche beacon, be sure and remove the batteries for summer storage.

If you've had your beacon for more than a few years, it's recommended that you contact your manufacturer to determine what the useful life of your beacon is and if your transceiver should possibly be sent to a warranty center to insure it's working properly.

If you have a Tracker2 avalanche transceiver, the following is for you.

T2 SOFTWARE UPDATE NOW AVAILABLE FOR TRACKER2 AVALANCHE TRANSCEIVERS

BOULDER, CO (June 29, 2020) – Backcountry Access, Inc. (BCA) has announced a software update specifically and exclusively for its **Tracker2 avalanche transceivers**. The company recommends that all Tracker2 owners take advantage of this T2 software update.

The T2 software update improves functionality during the power-saving mode. After 12 hours without user input, Tracker2 enters into power-saving mode and begins emitting an audible beep every two minutes to let you know you are in lower power mode. In power-saving mode, the Tracker2 transmit pulse can vary slightly from the international standard. All avalanche transceiver brands must operate on the same **international standard** to ensure interoperability.

To keep your transceiver out of power-saving mode, simply turn the transceiver off and on or check the battery power level at least once a day.

In addition, BCA strongly recommends that all users follow best practices as described in the **Tracker2 manual** to ensure all transceivers are functioning properly before venturing into the backcountry.

- Performing a transceiver trailhead test every time you use your Tracker2,
- Routinely checking that all transceivers in your party transmit and receive properly, and
- Checking that your Tracker2 has sufficient battery power (greater than 40 percent).

The T2 software update is exclusively available for the BCA Tracker2 model of avalanche transceivers.

Here is the link to the article and for additional information
<https://backcountryaccess.com/T2-software-update/>



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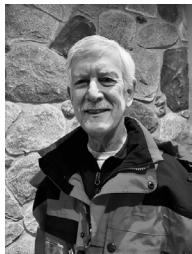
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