



# Rusty Parka News



**Vol. 54 Issue 2**

**www.nspcentral.org**

**Winter 2016**

## Division Director's Report



**John Thomas**  
**Division Director**

Hello Central Division Patrollers

I owe you all a big thank you for voting in the National Board member election. I'm very happy to report that we are making progress in voting for board members that think of the membership and our Industry partners first. This is a marathon and not a sprint so we have a way to go in changing the way the National Board operates. We currently have four board members that support the membership and industry partners first and their personal agendas are not on the list. I STILL NEED YOUR HELP! We need members to run for the National Board that put the membership and Industry partners first and leave their personal agendas at home. To squash any rumors: Central Division is not trying to take over the NSP. That is not my agenda. So I need your help in fixing our current National Board by getting the correct people elected. If you know of members that would be a good member-driven board member, please let me know.

At the National meeting the Board voted on and discussed many items. The biggest disappointment is that the board spent more than \$40,000 on a strategic plan and NOT once over the two days of meeting did they discuss this plan or create action items to move the organization forward. They voted in a \$5.00 dues increase, they have approved the individual member registration process: all without asking for input from the Division registrars, Division Directors, or anyone that processes registrations today.

Owners from other sections of the country have stated the same concern about OEC that the MSAA has voiced. We do have an issue to solve with OEC, and we need a board that will listen to the concerns and create

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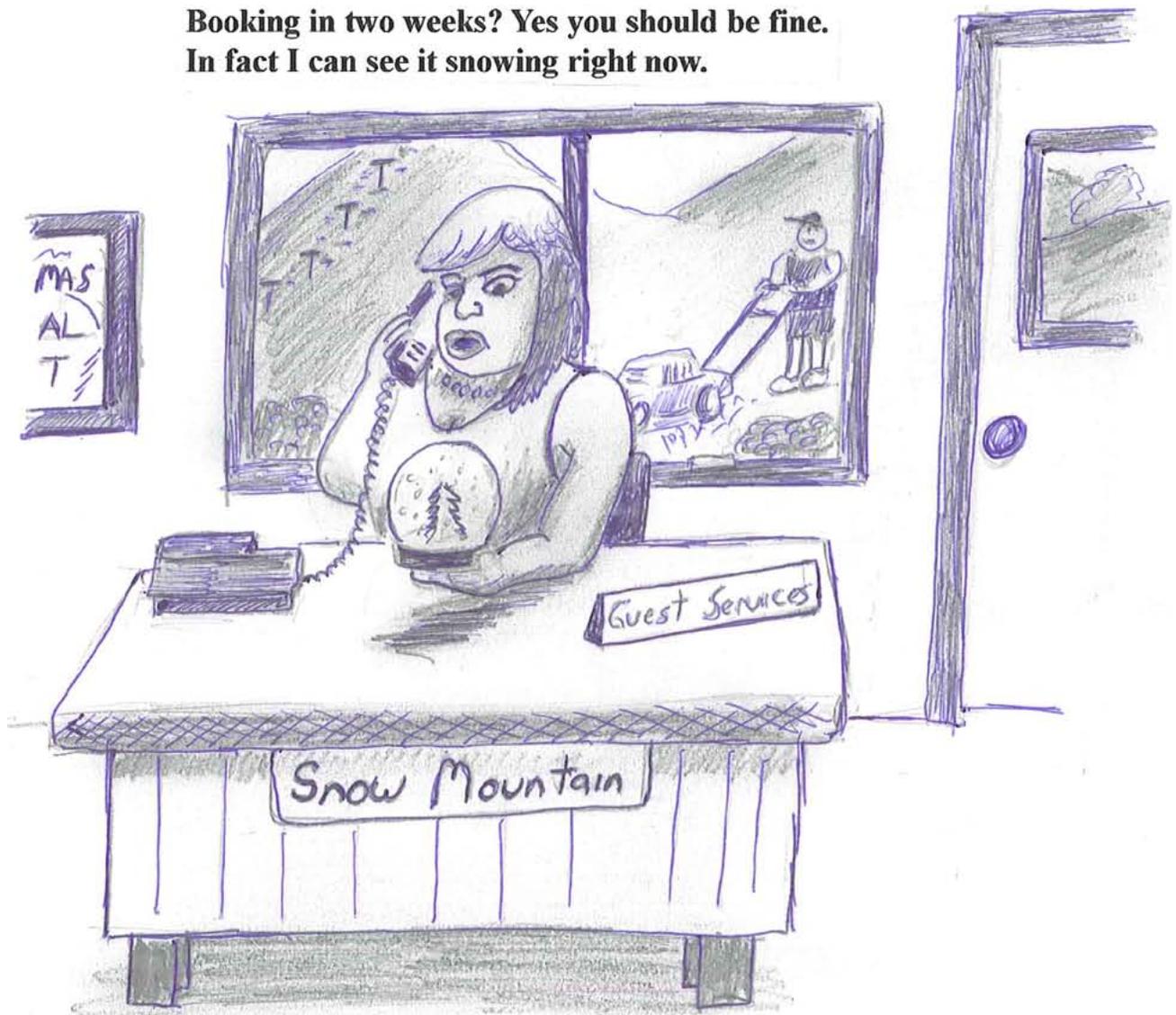
solutions to the concerns. A committee has been formed and time will tell if the board is willing to step up and create solutions to our Industry partner's concerns.

The weather this season has caused the Division and Regions many challenges to hold events. It has also caused huge frustrations for the owners we serve. Please be patient with everyone.

I hope everyone has a safe season and please help me with the National Board when the call comes out for action.

## Kasten's Korner

**Booking in two weeks? Yes you should be fine.  
In fact I can see it snowing right now.**





**Chris Raudabaugh**  
**ADD**

## Thank You!

There has been a lot of communication leading up to the most recent National Board election, and here is one more! Thanks to all the Central Division members who took the time to exercise their privilege to vote. Around 40% of the Central Division membership voted making it one of highest turnouts. This number is incredible, and we hope that this will continue to get higher. Stay tuned for next year's election when we will have to get after it again.

The other good news are the election results: Jim Woodrum, Brian Rull, and Ty Damon are now National Board representatives. Please join me in congratulating them on winning these important positions. I'm sure all of them will do a great job for the entire NSP membership.

Every year seems to present its own set of challenges. The mild weather has created all kinds of havoc with everyone's winter events. We all have to make do with what Mother Nature tosses our way and make the best of it. Make sure to check your local, region, and division calendars for upcoming, and rescheduled events.

Everyone have a great season, hope to see you somewhere out there on the white/slippery stuff!



**Dr. Julie Stone**  
**ADD**

## The Meaning of [My] Life ....

On the way to our Region's STW, Gary (my sig other) and I stopped for gas – next stop lunch to eat along the way. As I was putting gas in my Subaru a man rolled by in his wheelchair and asked if I had any change. Barely noticing him, I said “NO,” which was true actually. He rolled on by and while waiting for my gas I really looked at him. It was cold outside, he was an unshaven older adult male with long uncombed hair wearing a well-worn jacket, sitting with slumped posture, and sporting a below knee amputation. He was obviously not a ‘professional’ street corner beggar nor was he many things really; but he was a person in need. I started thinking – about how fortunate I am, about how much I've been given in life and in the ski patrol, and how I believe in giving back to others. After all, wasn't I giving a weekend and heading to Iowa to instruct toboggan in a Senior Calibration clinic? Ok, Ok, it wasn't all work and no play for me, but it was 6 hours from home.

I finished filling my tank and drove across the street to order fast food, and instead of ordering 2 meals with drinks for Gary and I, I ordered 3. Gary looked at me very funny. I drove back across the street into the gas station and now Gary is asking, “What are you doing?” I drove next to Mr. Wheelchair and said, “Are you hungry man?” He looked at me with sad but hopeful eyes and said “yes.” I gave him a meal, asked which drink he wanted, and wished him well. He said thank you several times and ‘blessed’ me. I was very humbled and kind of ashamed for initially just looking right over him as if he didn't exist.

For the next few hours driving north, I couldn't stop thinking of Mr. Wheelchair and how he related to my life and what I do. I love giving back to the NSP – at home, at the Region and Division. The NSP and its people have been there when I was in need, they still are, and they have made my life a blessing (given it meaning) in many ways. I try always to be willing to help others and believe that professional development and training, along with service, is where it's at! I also am a bit of a perfectionist and want to do the best I can every day and every way whether it's teaching, learning, or caring for others. In fact, maybe this attitude of

giving and trying to do the best I can is one of the meanings of my life.

As a Ski Patroller, I hope you sit back and periodically evaluate what you do and find your own meaning in it. We have a lot of great people in this Division who work so hard and are willing to give. Consider our advisors. We are adding a new Advisor, Jane Bickerstaff, who will be leading the Young Adult Program, and I know she will bring a lot of energy to this position. She has been working with 12-18 year olds for years. What I've noticed at my home hill is the first young adults have friends that are interested too (recruiting anyone?). With Ty Damon's election to the national board (along with Brian Rull and Jim Woodrum) we have a new Public Relations Advisor AND representation from the Central Division at the National level. I trust that our 3 plus all of the other Board members will find *meaning* in their jobs and do the best they can for all of us – the entire NSP.

It is bittersweet to say good-bye to Vicki Zierdan who has worked with the Introduction to Patrolling program for awhile. Her expertise will certainly be missed but we know her family, her Patrol, and her Region are blessed to have more of her time. Thank you, Vicki!

Well, I have bent your ears enough for now. As you patrol this season and continue to do all the things you do, I truly hope you find they give meaning to your life. Be well, see you soon!

## Ski On!



**Tom Anderson**  
**ADD**

I am not even going to mention the lack of snow, the cancellation of two Division S&T workshops, the incredible amount of time and effort your division skills team put in leading up to these workshops or in general the anticipation to get back on our boards for another season.... Not even going to mention it. What I will talk about, is that it's OK.

It's OK that with all of the years of experience your instructors, trainers and leaders in your patrol have under their skis, we will roll on with hill training refreshers and clinics. Let's face it, other than equipment and maybe the color of our uniform not a lot has changed since Minnie Dole was drug off the mountain back in the beginning. No matter the situation we still focus on getting our guests off the mountains and into definitive care.

The Skills Team focus for this season's workshops were to be to return to the basic skills and drills. Skills & drills for ski and riding, basic skills & drills for the operation of rescue toboggans.

For so many, the season hill refreshers may be leaving some patrollers behind in that it has been a very long time since candidate training. Same with hill trainers. They have been doing it for so long they may have developed their own brand. I know I have to go back to the score card every once in a while to make sure I have covered all the evaluation lines so our candidates are prepared.

Now would be a good time to get back to the basics.

- Wedge turns
- Side slips w/ falling leaf
- Transitions
- Emergency stop
- Traverse w/ kick turn



Run through these drills and see if you still have it. Attend a ski or toboggan enhancement seminar to refresh and get some feedback. Get back to the basics.

So, I am not even going to mention that I am sure glad we have winter back! Stay calm and Ski on!

## Region Reports

### E Michigan Region



**Mike Schons**  
**E MI Region**  
**Director**

First let me wish everyone a happy and healthy new year for 2016.

The season has finally come! After such a slow start there are a number of events we need to get going and training for. There will be two more Snow Sports Enhancement Seminars and Toboggan Seminars scheduled for January. Along with a mogul toboggan clinic for Senior Candidates. Please check the website, [nspemr.org](http://nspemr.org) for details.

Again this year we have a VERY large group of candidates who have registered for the Senior program. It makes the region staff happy to know that folks want to grow in their training and NSP education. This season EMR has 35 folks registered into Senior Training

I would like to thank everyone, inside and outside the Eastern Michigan Region, who took the time to vote in the past election. This was a very important election and a deciding time in the direction of the National Ski Patrol, so again, thank you.

We are very lucky as patrollers to have an opportunity to purchase products from the ski industry at a discount. Please remember that these discounts are for your use only and not for family and friends. Please do not abuse this privilege and opportunity.

Finally as we are training and/or teaching, let's remember the risks involved and how we need to manage and mitigate those risks for ourselves, our members and patrols. Be careful this season and I hope to see many of you across the division this year!

## NC Region



**Les Robinson**  
**NC Region**  
**Director**

Well the winter is here in full force finally as I am writing this it is -9 here in central WI. The season started only a week late for us at Granite Peak as we were able to open the day after Thanksgiving. Only a few up here in the north were able to open that early much like the areas down south. Many others in our region have only been open since right around Christmas. Since the snow conditions were so bad everywhere we cancelled all division and most region events, this enabled me to make all my shifts this year. I am hovering near my 100 hour minimum already and will be able to get many more. Sorry for those of you that have just kicked off the season. I do at least hope winter stays so you all can get what you need accomplished and our areas can make some profit.

We have run our senior clinics and are heading into the senior S&T evaluation soon. I wish all the senior candidates much success remember to give it your all. Up in our

region we are having a very large senior candidate group making it a challenge for our senior admins and trainers (very nice problem to have).

The next thing we know our great spring banquet will be here, it is April 23rd so let's get the awards written so we can have a great banquet.

## Northern Michigan Region



**Richard Jacques**  
**N MI Region**  
**Director**

Winter has finally come to Northern Michigan Region. Although many enjoyed holiday shopping in shorts and T-shirts our Ski Resorts and Ski Patrol Programs suffered. A small 40 hour snow making window allowed resorts with high snow making capacity to open very limited terrain the first few days in December and a 60 hour window allowed most to open some runs for Christmas Week. We have had favorable conditions nearly non-stop since New Year's so all are hoping to be at full capacity in the next 10 days.

I'm glad to announce that we have some new faces on the Region On Hill Proficiency Team and are starting the year with a full staff. John Wiley, NMR ARD-On Hill and Annaka Norris, On Hill Proficiency Advisor, have worked very hard in the off season to assemble a great staff to foster ski and toboggan skills Development.

- Annaka Norris has moved up to the Region Proficiency Supervisor role after several very successful years as Toboggan Advisor. Annaka joined the NSP in 1995 and has been very active in on hill training for her patrol and NMR ever since.
  - Dan Dryden is taking over as Toboggan Advisor. Dan is in his 20th year as a member of the Boyne Mountain Ski Patrol, He has been active in both on and off hill training programs for his patrol and as a Region On Hill Trainor/Evaluator.
  - Bryan Holcomb has taken on responsibility to lead the Region Ski School. Bryan joined the NSP in 1985. He is a member of the Boyne Highlands Ski Patrol holds NSP Toboggan and OEC instructorships and has earned PSIA Level 2 Certification.
  - Mike Buczek and Linda Murphy-Jacobs are Region Proficiency Deputy Supervisors. Mike is a relatively new Nubs Nob patroller with great detail and organizational skills. Linda has a few more years' experience and has been involved with testing and training at all levels. These two will handle all the logistics of planning and executing our Region on hill events.
  - Doug Cary of the Schuss Mountain Ski Patrol returns as NMR Snowboard Advisor. Doug has been a member of the NSP for 14 years. He is an APD at Schuss Mountain and has served as Snowboard adviser for the past 4 years.
- Other staff changes,
- Galen Fairchild has accepted the position of Legal/ Risk Management Advisor. Galen is a 24 year member of the Boyne Highlands Ski Patrol. He is a toboggan and OEC instructor and has served several years as the Region Senior Advisor.
  - Charlon Hibbard of the Nubs Nob Ski Patrol has accepted the challenge of building the region's Women's Program. Charlon is in her 44 year as a member of the Nubs Nob Ski Patrol and has been active in local training programs.

• Beach Day has accepted the position of Region Alumni Advisor. Beach joined the NSP in 1962 and has served in a variety of Region, Division and National positions throughout his career.

Welcome aboard everyone and thanks for helping Northern Michigan Region deliver exceptional programs for our members.

## Instructor activity log made easier by death defying climbing trip



**Dave Bramel**  
**Toboggan**  
**Supervisor**

Did you get the call yet? Or maybe it was an email? Although you know, it's quite possible it came as a text. Twitter perhaps? Facebook post? However you received your reminder I imagine it didn't exactly surprise you. Well not if you are an Instructor or an Instructor Trainer. What reminder am I referring to, you ask? I see some hands up.....? Of course I'm referring to the reminders you receive from your Division Supervisor to submit your Instructor activity log. This reminder comes annually for those of us who are Instructor Trainers and every three years if you are an Instructor.

The Instructor activity log serves several functions. Keeping track of the courses or clinics you teach is a great way to keep record of your extra effort and participation beyond patrolling. A written record of your instruction participation offers an effortless way to review, and potentially reward, those efforts with merit awards. Simply put, an Instructor activity log records whether or not you are participating as an Instructor or IT. Both an Instructor and Instructor Trainer are jobs in the NSP.

Completing an activity log and submitting it as required, your supervisor can accurately review if you indeed are instructing.

Ok, so now you understand the importance of the Instructor activity log, but how do you put one together? Let me introduce Jim Vickroy.

Jim Vickroy is the Ohio Region Toboggan Administrator. Like many of us, Jim shares a story of what motivated him to become a NSP member. During a failed climbing trip to Colorado, Jim developed High Altitude Pulmonary Edema (HAPE). Neither Jim nor any members of his climbing party had formal first aid training. Thankfully for Jim and fortunately for us, he survived this life threatening emergency and returned to Ohio. The following year Jim joined the Mad River Mountain Ski Patrol and never looked back. He achieved Senior status two years later and moved into Instructor roles in the multiple disciplines of OEC, OET, ID and MTR. He didn't stop there. Jim's passion for patrolling as an Instructor made way for appointments as an Instructor Trainer in OEC, OET and ID. Jim also received his National Appointment # in recognition of his commitment and dedication.

Oh, but we were talking about Instructor activity logs. I should take this moment to mention that Jim does have a job beyond volunteering for the NSP. He is a computer Technical Consultant. One responsibility in that position is writing step by step instructions to guide his customers through a process or procedure. Jim's patrolling passion inspired him when confronted with a process he believed should be better. That process is teaching Instructors how to use the "Instructor activity log" available online through Member Services at NSP.org.

Like many administrators of all disciplines throughout the National Ski Patrol, Jim is responsible for keeping accurate Instructor records for his region. Instructors' activity is one of those records. The method for helping Instructors learn how to use the activity log until now has been a teacher/classroom setting during an Instructor Certification clinic. Perhaps another method for teaching this required skill has been a late

evening frantic phone call from a fellow Instructor needing a refresher to navigate the online instructor log tool. Fortunately for all Instructors in the NSP, Jim resourcefully used his professional skills and created an "Instructor activity log tutorial."

This tutorial is online and available for all to use at <http://www.ohiosp.org/instructor-activity-log-tutorial> . If you are an Instructor and need a refresher on maintaining your Instructor log, this will save you from that embarrassing late night call to your region administrator. If you are an Instructor Trainer, this is a great resource to share at your Certification clinics.

A final thought here. Jim's tutorial is a great resource, but please keep in mind , the new national database and website overhaul is due for release next spring. That will have new resources and strategies for all of us to use. Pay close attention for announcements about it !

So perhaps now after seeing what Jim has created, you, like me, are wondering what's next? Online tutorials for opening and closing courses? Perhaps President of the United States? Even though I didn't get a straight answer I certainly recognized that glimmer in his eye, his head cocked slightly to the left and a contemplative chin rub..."you know, that's not a bad idea."

Thank you, Jim, and thank you to all of my fellow patrollers who are inspired to follow their passion. Have a great season. I'll see you on the hill!

## Instructor Development



**Virginia Rodeman**  
Instructor Dev.

When you read the last edition, you knew we were under re-construction (re-construction of the Instructor Development on-line course). And so it goes. As I prepare for this edition of the RPN, we are still in re-construction. We have reset our sites for the end of January. At this time I have no prediction of when it all will happen.

Between now and the time we are up and running with a new on-line course, you can always use the eight hour format.

## 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](http://www.nspcentral.org) to donate on-line or contact Tom Anderson at [tpanderson@charter.net](mailto:tpanderson@charter.net) for more information.



# It's OEC Time All Year!



**Susan Hayes**  
**OEC Supervisor**

Happy New Year, to everyone! I hope you're having a great season so far! Mother Nature has given us quite a few sleepless nights as we are preparing for the Senior programs. The OEC Module of the Senior Program (OEC-MSP) is no different: scenarios and the final evaluation must take place on the snow. Hopefully with the snowy, colder track of the jet stream we can get going!

Your Region OEC Team is working on quite a few things for the season besides the Senior Program. Are you an OEC Instructor? Remember that you are due for Recertification (AKA: Continuing Education) every 3 years. Ideally, these clinics are held in the spring or summer even though your OEC Instructor card says 12/31/2016. The reason is that the National office starts working on the Instructor rosters before the holidays. These Recertification clinics also need to be discipline-specific so that we can keep you informed about all the updates specific to OEC.

I am on the committee working to make this process uniform throughout the country. Stay tuned for more updates from your Region OEC Administrator (ROA).

We are also working on improving the OEC Basic exam. The next version should be all packaged and ready for use in late summer.

There is a new Course Completion Roster (CCR) on the National OEC Instructor Resources. Please, as you close your courses, use the most recent version found on the NSP website. This is so important as we work to give patrollers credit for the course that they attend. They will change as we continue to "clean up" the names of the courses in the Course Registration. Remember to "CC" the appropriate OEC Administration so that we have a paper trail for questions.

Take a moment to log onto your NSP profile and make sure that all of your education information is correct. And remember to follow the correct channels of communications when questions arise. Start with your PR and/or OEC IT.

Have a great ski/board season!!

## Central Division Senior Program



**Daren Lukes**  
**Senior**  
**Supervisor**

2016 has arrived and the temperatures are finally cooperating with the snowmakers. The start of the 2015/1016 season was met with unseasonably high temperatures. The annual Snowsports Trainers Workshops planned for the first two weekends of the December were forced to cancel because of the lack of snow. A lot of planning goes into these programs and it is unfortunate this year's group missed out on the event. I know we have great Patrollers and Instructors throughout the division that will carry the torch through this tough season.

The Senior Program continues to grow every year and is an outstanding opportunity for our Alpine Patrollers to continue learning and improving both their OEC and Snowsport skills. In a previous article, I shared the work Kaizen.

Kaizen originated in Japan and the word translates to mean change (kai) for the good (zen) .

We should all be in a constant thought pattern of how can we change ourselves and our organization for the good. Advancing in your Member Category is a fun and functional way to implement change for the good. Moving from Alpine Patroller to Senior Patroller to Certified Patroller, getting involved in PSIA/AASI or participating in elective course offerings are just a few of the ways Patrollers can participate in organized events that ultimately change our organization for the good.

Kaizen is based on the philosophical belief that everything can be improved: Some organizations look at a process and see that it's running fine; Organizations that follow the principle of Kaizen see a process that can be improved. This means that nothing is ever seen as a status quo – there are continuous efforts to improve, which result in small, often imperceptible, changes over time. These incremental changes add up to substantial changes over the longer term, without having to go through any radical innovation. How do we change for the good in the National Ski Patrol? Is it through major initiatives, or is it part of the ongoing way you work?

This philosophy can easily be applied to your continuous improvement as a patroller. Over the past 15 years I have moved from Patroller, to Alpine Patroller, to Senior Patroller, to PSIA Level I, to Certified Patroller. This was certainly not a radical change but small changes over time that ultimately got me to where I am today. I encourage you all to take a small step each day creating a continuous effort to improve.

I am very thankful for this organization and for our brothers and sisters that continue to provide volunteer services to the ski hills in our Division. On Saturday January 9th, 2016, I almost lost my 23 year old son to a snowboarding accident at my primary hill.

On that day I happened to be attending a North Central Region STW about 2 hours north of my hill. I received a call from my younger son (21) who informed me my older son (23) had been in an accident. He handed the phone to one of our Patrollers to give me some details. She said this is (Patroller) from the ski patrol is this (my son's) dad? When I shared with the Patroller who I was, the conversation became very difficult. She informed me they were working on establishing and maintaining his airway. It is impossible to convey the fear that came over me at that moment. My son had gone over one of the jumps, lost control and landed on the back of his head and upper back. He was having seizures, going in and out of consciousness and became very combative. He is a strong man and there are some Patrollers that are thankful he has a bad left hook (he is right handed). It took a number of Patrollers to manage him into the toboggan. One of my Patrol brothers climbed in the toboggan and held my son while another skied the toboggan down to the lower patrol room.

In the ambulance, he experienced another seizure. I learned after talking with some of the Patrollers later, the ambulance left the hill with the lights and siren. It adds to the already stressful situation when there is a strong connection to the injured guest and you know they are in serious trouble.

When he arrived at the emergency room, he continued his combative plight which required him to be sedated and intubated so they could complete the CAT scan. At this point I was on my way to the hospital and still about an hour and a half away. I was able to speak with the ER doctor and he shared with me the sedation and intubation then also told me they had a neurosurgeon on call if he needed surgery. That was all the information he had and our call ended.

For the next hour and a half, I prayed, thought about his life from the day he was born, his toddler years, through his childhood, his high school sports, all of our ski trips together, his struggles through five and a half years of college and impending graduation this spring. I thought what a tragedy it would be and how devastating to lose one of your children just as he is completing one of the most challenging periods in his life. Bottom line, I was scared. During the drive I spoke with a couple of the Patrollers at the hill who encouraged me to take my time and drive safe. I think I cried for half of the trip. It was the most helpless feeling I have ever had.

Ultimately the outcome was good. The CAT scan was clear and he remained in the ICU overnight so they could monitor him. He was wearing his helmet which increased the chances of a successful outcome. His mother spent the evening in ICU with him while I spent the night in the hotel with my other son and daughter. It was a very scary event for our family and one I will never forget. Our children are the most precious gift a parent can receive. Cherish the ones you love and don't take them for granted.

I found out later that when the accident happened, my older son had begun turning blue and his younger brother held his tongue to maintain his airway and rolled him on his side as he was seizing to keep his airway clear. He yelled for someone to get ski patrol and in less than three minutes Patrol was at the scene. My younger son has had no formal first responder or OEC training, he learned enough to save his brothers life just from hanging out with Patrollers like you.

The moral of the story; the training we do as Patrollers likely saved my son's life that day. Every person we treat and help has a family story similar to mine. They have parents, children, brothers and sisters that love them dearly. Everyone we come in contact with deserves our care to the absolute best of our abilities. Continually refreshing, learning, training, taking it to the next level and having fun in the process improves the organization as a whole. Commit to taking an elective, an enhancement course or moving up to the next level this year.

Have a great 2016!

Thank you all for what you do!



## Credentialing Development



**Dan Moss**  
**PSIA / AASI**  
**Liaison**

Hi gang! I know some of you are questioning your NSP or PSIA credentialing journey for 2016 now that we have had a late start to the season...and I affirm you, it is indeed a good thing to reflect upon.

You have probably heard it said that credentialing is a journey. Well, there is a reason for that statement, and there is a lot of wisdom in the worldview. We didn't all wake up one day with our OEC cards in hand, we 'developed' through the course.

I firmly believe that we must learn first, gain experience through trial and error and then, verify what we have learned through credentialing. To put it in any other order is to truncate the valuable learning of the journey.

Large-mountain climbers sometimes get into trouble because they become what is referred to as 'summit-hungry.' They have trained for a long time, believe they are destined to summit, often have paid a large financial price to be there, and it begins to cloud their judgment about more important things. Things like: what is the shape of my team? What is our weather window? What risks are we taking? Am I ready...mentally, emotionally, physically? To answer these questions honestly, the climber needs to be in a clear state of mind...free of the dreaded 'summit-hungry.' They lose the valuable opportunity to pause and think.

The weather has given us pause this year.

To reflect on whether you might stay on your targeted journey this season, I'd like to offer up some points to ponder. Can you honestly answer yes to the following questions:

1. Do you have a training plan and have you been disciplined?
2. Have you sought out objective critique (affirmations and criticisms) by someone who knows the standard you are seeking?
3. Have you put in enough time to feel that you are above the standard that you are seeking?

If you can answer Yes to all three, then you are on track. Well done.

***It's always further than it looks.  
It's always taller than it looks.  
And it's always harder than it looks."  
— The 3 rules of mountaineering.***

If you had to honestly answer No to any of the questions, is there anything else that you can do to circumnavigate the problem?

Problem: we have no bumps.

Solution: Travel to ski areas that do

Problem: I have no mentor.

Solution: Contact your NSP-C Ski School/Toboggan Trainer

Problem: I'm out of time.

Solution: Plan a one week trip out west

Problem: I'm not confident.

Solution: Seek help, and plan to travel to the test this year to observe.

Testing is hard; its stressful and often grueling. And yet it is most satisfying on the other side isn't it? To have earned something through hard work, dedication, discipline and time invested...not a whole lot sweeter out there.

We applaud our colleagues who stick to it, test, grow again, and return with conviction. But as well, we can prepare ourselves, go to the exam with confidence, and seek to validate that which we already know, regardless of the year on the calendar. So I encourage you, choose the right year.

I wish you well in your decision making. There is an old church hymn that has a fitting line. "Lord, don't move the mountain, just give me the strength to climb it." That is my prayer for you.

"Today is your day! Your mountain is waiting. So... get on your way." — Dr. Seuss (1904—1991)

## National Board Members from Central Division

**Brian Rull**

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**Ty Damon**

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**Jim Woodrum**

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# 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.

## Certified Program



**Patrick Perlman**  
**Certified**  
**Supervisor**

"Certified is a national skills development and verification program that provides a readily identifiable resource of highly motivated, skilled, and knowledgeable patrolers to better serve NSP, ski area management and the outdoor recreation community."

The certified program is not for everyone but everyone is welcome. How do you find out if the certified program is for you? Talk to your region certified advisor. He or she will be happy to discuss the program in detail for you and help you determine if you should embark further. If so, then please join us at our annual evaluation at Nubs Nob / Boyne Highlands February 25th – 28th. This will give you the opportunity to observe the program first hand and help you determine if this is a journey that you should pursue.

We are pleased to welcome three new candidates into the program; Andrew French, Christopher Korte and John Mehl. Please wish these members success as they begin their certified journey.



Photos courtesy of Bill McCullough



Photos courtesy of Bill McCullough

## Is Telemark Alpine or Nordic?



**Peter Wollan**  
**Nordic**  
**Supervisor**

For several years, we have tacked on a Telemark SES to our Division Nordic Workshop — on Saturday and Sunday we work on striding and skating technique at Minocqua Winter Park, and eat a lot, and on Monday we go up to Indianhead in Michigan and do telemark. (It was January 9, 10, and 11 this year). I've slowly realized that there are other telemark SES's, attached to Alpine SES events — there was one January 9 at Lutsen, there's one coming up January 30 at Afton, and I'm sure there are others that I haven't paid attention to. The biggest advantage of our Nordic tele day is that we get to ski with Dan Clausen; I'm sure the Alpine tele SES's are good too. Why the duplication?

Historically, telemark turns are solidly cross-country. The name comes from a region in Norway, and this technique of turning goes back to the days of the lurk, the long pole that was used both for pushing and for controlling speed. Currently, telemark turns are part of the PSIA cross-country certification; it is possible to do respectable telemark turns on either classic or skate modern racing skis. On the

other hand, PSIA also has a separate certification for telemark. Nearly all telemarkers now use more-or-less stock downhill skis, with boots and bindings that allow the heel to lift and the ankle to flex, and for our Nordic Workshop telemark day we use the chairlifts to go uphill.

But while telemark can be used as just another way to ski the groomed slopes of a commercial ski area, it has also become the most attractive mode for back-country skiing, since the free heel and comfortable boots allow a natural walking stride for uphill (with skins attached to the skis), while you have essentially the same speed and turning control as Alpine boots and bindings for the descent. Well, if you're good anyway — I'm still a beginner, and if I get going too fast or steep I have to revert to parallel turns. But tele gear allows that, too — you just can't lean forward too far.

So is telemark Alpine or Nordic? Sorry, I don't care. It's fun.



Participants at the 2016 Central Division Nordic Workshop Telemark session, in below-zero weather.  
Photo by Patty Gravelle.

## New Young Adult Program Advisor



**Jane Bickerstaff**  
YAP Advisor

I am very excited for the opportunity to work with the Central Division as the YAP advisor and assist patrols in starting and growing their own Young Adult programs. I look forward to meeting new friends as I venture into this newly created position and hope to be a helpful resource to those interested in getting young adults involved in the future of the NSP. I feel it is important to expose young adults to the fantastic opportunity NSP provides to be involved in helping others. I have overseen a program of approximately 20-25 students at Mt. Brighton Ski Patrol in Brighton Michigan for the past 8 1/2 years. I have witnessed the enthusiasm students bring to the patrol, the confidence they gain, and comradery they share as they participate in patrol activities. I am honored to help other patrols initiate and expand their programs and see the benefits of having young adults join their patrols.

Mt. Brighton Juniors with Jane Bickerstaff building camaradery



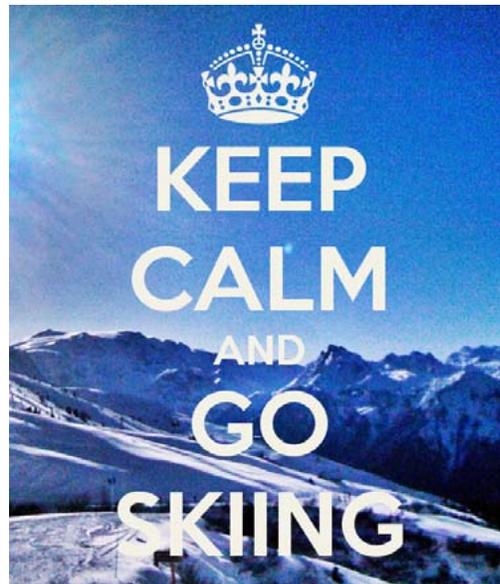
# Social Media - Facebook



**Darcy Hanley**  
**Social Media**

The Central Division Facebook page has 681 likes as of January 7, 2016. Way to go! The page was used extensively for reminding patrollers to vote in the December election for the board. It will continue to provide **Tip of Week** every Tuesday with additional postings of interest.

I continue to urge patrols to “like “ the Central Division Facebook page. The page is called Central Division National Ski Patrol ([www.facebook.com/skinsp](http://www.facebook.com/skinsp)) for those who are looking for it. Invite your patrol friends to join as well. As the season gets underway there are many opportunities to share video, announce your regions activities, share pictures from clinics and events. Show everyone what you are doing! If you create a page for your program be sure and link it on the Central Division Facebook page OR if you would like to have a page created for your program send me an email ([drhanley@gmail.com](mailto:drhanley@gmail.com)) and we can connect! The goal this year is to create a **YouTube** channel for the Central Division. It will be announced on FB. In the meantime....Stay safe on the white and slippery stuff.



## New Advisor for Patrolling 101



**Brian Ulrich**  
**Patrolling 101**  
**Supervisor**

I am very much excited to be your new advisor for the Introduction to Patrolling (Patrolling 101) program for the division. My name is Brian Ulrich; my home patrol is Hyland Hills in Bloomington MN. Since I joined the NSP in 2003, I became a senior in 2006, have had the pleasure of serving as an OEC Instructor, OEC IT, toboggan trainer for new candidates, and Western Region senior OEC program advisor. Outside of the NSP I enjoy traveling, I actively serve with other organizations with in my community, and I have been known to participate in the dangerous game of adult kickball in the summer.

As the P101 Advisor my initial focus will be an assessment of current status of the program and work towards getting you the central division patrollers a best in class tool to be used with in your patrol. I will be taking a look at the condition of the available material, get a sense of how each of the modules are taught/ delivered, level of interest in the course and any barriers that may exist.

If you have any questions, comments or ideas you would like to discuss please feel free to reach out. My email address (will be updated on the division web site as well) is [bulrich@gmail.com](mailto:bulrich@gmail.com).

# Central Division NSP-C Snowsports School



**Harold Park  
NSP-C School**

Winter took it's time getting to us in the Central Division so time is critical to make sure that we use this time as efficiently as possible. Make sure we are teaching the fundamentals and staying with the basics and not trying to speed the process or take short cuts. We all need to revisit the following "basic" activities to establish proficient movements.

## **Movement Learning Activities:**

1. Hockey stops
2. Basic parallel
3. Side slip in the fall line
4. Wedge turn
5. Linked side slips
6. Pivot turns
7. Carved up hill arc
8. Medium radius turns
9. Small radius turns
10. One ski activities

**IMPORTANT..... If you are teaching Ski/Ride clinics you need to join the NSP-C Snowsports School to be covered under the liability insurance.**

For those of you who are Ski/Ride instructors, please visit the [www.nspcentral.org](http://www.nspcentral.org) and register on line. The National Ski Patrol recognizes the Central Division Ski School as a sanctioned organization for teaching skiing and riding. Under the new general liability insurance anyone who is a member of the NSP-C Ski School will be covered by this insurance liability. Don't be left in the cold..... Get signed up today!

**The NSP-C Snowsports School Registration is up and running. Please reach out to your staff to ensure they sign up. Go to <http://www.nspsnowsportschool.com/application.php>**

## **Region Ski School Advisor**

### **Region**

Eastern Michigan  
North Central  
Northern Michigan  
Ohio  
South Central  
Southern  
Western  
Western Michigan

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# Central Division Patroller Awards 2014-2015

<b>Patroller</b>	<b>Award</b>	<b>Region</b>	<b>Patrol Name</b>
Radke, Allen	N. Appointment	EMR	Alpine Valley East
Carpenter, Rob	N. Appointment	EMR	Mt Brighton
Gaudiello, Mike	C D Lifetime Achievemen	EMR	Mt Brighton
Hamel, Joe	MSA	EMR	Mt Brighton
Hamel, Joe	N. Appointment	EMR	Mt Brighton
Mt Brighton	C D 1st Runner-up	EMR	Mt Brighton
Atwater, Dana	C D cert of Appreciation	EMR	Mt Holly
Atwater, Doug	C D cert of Appreciation	EMR	Mt Holly
Case, Mike	MSA	EMR	Mt Holly
Gibson, Jamie	Patrollers Cross	EMR	Mt Holly
Hall, Eric	Patrollers Cross	EMR	Mt Holly
Vargo, Carl	Patrollers Cross	EMR	Mt Holly
White, Charles	D D Program Award	EMR	Mt Holly
Blaszkowski, Marty	C D Outstanding	EMR	Pine Knob
Blaszkowski, Marty	Gold Merit Star	EMR	Pine Knob
King, Pam	DSA	EMR	Pine Knob
Ruddy Rae Ann	C D 1st Runner-up	EMR	Pine Knob
Taylor, Mike	DSA	EMR	Snow Snake
Ronda, Tim	C D 1st Runner-up	NMR	Boyne Highlands
Crockett, Sharon	C D Outstanding	NMR	Nubs Nob
Crockett, Sharon	Silver Merit Star	NMR	Nubs Nob
Moe-Herlick, Chris	D D Program Award	NMR	Nubs Nob
Murphy-Jacobs Linda	YMS	NMR	Nubs Nob
Rodeman, Virginia	DSA	NMR	Schuss Mt
Loveland, Hunter	C D 1st Runner-up	North Central	Bruce Mound
Butt, Carrie	C D 1st Runner-up	North Central	Granite Peak
Butt, Carrie	PMS	North Central	Granite Peak
Iattoni, Bruce	N. Appointment	North Central	Granite Peak
Jonas, Charles	PMS	North Central	Granite Peak
Lukes, Daren	N. Appointment	North Central	Granite Peak
Robinson, Brenda	D D Program Award	North Central	Granite Peak
Robinson, Keith	C D 1st Runner-up	North Central	Granite Peak
Zimmerman, Tim	C D Outstanding Supervisor	North Central	Granite Peak
Zimmerman, Tim	MSA	North Central	Granite Peak
Barry, Lolita	D D Program Award	North Central	Marquette Mountain
Olsson, Trudy	C D Lifetime Achievemen	North Central	Mont Ripley
Pine Mountain	C D Outstandikng	North Central	Pine Mountain
Pine Mountain	Unit Citation	North Central	Pine Mountain
Holdridge, Peter	N. Appointment	North Central	Ski Brule
Jensen, Erick	N. Appointment	North Central	Ski Brule
Bichl, Jim	C D Outstanding	Ohio	BM/BW
Bichl, Jim	YMS	Ohio	BM/BW
Brown, Keith	C D Outstanding	Ohio	BM/BW
Brown, Keith	YMS	Ohio	BM/BW
Buchanan, Tracy	Patrollers Cross	Ohio	BM/BW
Day, Guy	C D 1st Runner-up	Ohio	BM/BW
Hansen, Marilyn	C D cert of Appreciation	Ohio	BM/BW
McNitt, Rich	N. Appointment	Ohio	BM/BW
Zedak, Jay	D D Program Award	Ohio	BM/BW
Berlin Don	YMS	Ohio	Mad River Mt

Fogt, Mark	Patrollers Cross	Ohio	Mad River Mt
Gallo, Nick	YMS	Ohio	Mad River Mt
Middlestetter, Chuck	PMS	Ohio	Mad River Mt
Czarnecki, Al	C D Outstanding	Ohio	Perfect North Slopes
Czarnecki, Al	YMS	Ohio	Perfect North Slopes
Graham, Galen	Patrollers Cross	Ohio	Perfect North Slopes
Schmidt, Greg	C D cert of Appreciation	Ohio	Perfect North Slopes
Wert, Cynthia	Patrollers Cross	Ohio	Perfect North Slopes
Cline, Sue	C D 1st Runner-up	Ohio	Snow Trails
Fuchs, Paul	DSA	South Central	Alpine Valley West
Haugen, Eric	Patrollers Cross	South Central	Alpine Valley West
Lamb, Patrick	PMS	South Central	Alpine Valley West
Wagner, John	Patrollers Cross	South Central	Alpine Valley West
Denruiter, Dan	DSA	South Central	Cascade
Rabaglia, Thom	DSA	South Central	Cascade
Thornton, Lynn	YMS	South Central	Cascade
Wolkowski, Richard	DSA	South Central	Cascade
Blaedow, Anne	D D Program Award	South Central	Central Div Ski Patrol
Butler, Peggy	C D cert of Appreciation	South Central	Devils Head
Cuva, John	Patrollers Cross	South Central	Devils Head
Devils Head	C D Outstanding	South Central	Devils Head
Devils Head	Unit Citation	South Central	Devils Head
Hamedani, Nooshin	Patrollers Cross	South Central	Devils Head
Hubing, Jim	DSA	South Central	Devils Head
Leggett, Linda	Patrollers Cross	South Central	Devils Head
Plumer, Ron	C D Lifetime Achievemen	South Central	Devils Head
Ketter, Kevin	C D Outstanding I/T	South Central	Little Switzerland
Ketter, Kevin	D D Program Award	South Central	Little Switzerland
Harring, Mark	DSA	South Central	Tryol Basin
Erdmann, Jason	N. Appointment	South Central	Tyrol Basin
McKay, Don	National Cert of Appreciation	South Central	Tyrol Basin
McKay, Sue	National Cert of Appreciation	South Central	Tyrol Basin
Jordan, Thomas	DSA	Southern	Chestnut Mt
Wachter, John	N. Appointment	Southern	Chestnut Mt
Waters Miller, Tracy	C D cert of Appreciation	Southern	Grand Geneva
Merkel, William	N. Appointment	Southern	Snow Creek
Hanley, Jeffery	N. Appointment	Southern	Sundown
Cobble, Brian	DSA	Southern	Swiss Valley
McElheny, Jeff	C D Outstanding	Southern	Swiss Valley
McElheny, Jeff	YMS	Southern	Swiss Valley
Johnson, Kaet	Critical Care Recognition	Southern	Wilmot
Keane, Richard	Critical Care Recognition	Southern	Wilmot
Loisel, Catherine	Patrollers Cross	Southern	Wilmot
Martschinke, Chuck	C D cert of Appreciation	Southern	Wilmot
Meyer, Nannette	Patrollers Cross	Southern	Wilmot
Osrans, Tom	Patrollers Cross	Southern	Wilmot
Stillwell, Jeff	Critical Care Recognition	Southern	Wilmot
Wiley, John	DSA	Southern	Wilmot
Afton Alps	C D 1st Runner-up	Western	Afton Alps
Fuchs, Paul	D D Program Award	Western	Afton Alps
Jacobson, Myron	C.D. Cert of Appreciation	Western	Afton Alps

Nothwehr, Jill	D D Program Award	Western	Afton Alps
Joseph Anderson	N. Appointment	Western	Buck Hill
Butler, Shannon	PMS	Western	Buena Vista
Gooch, David	Critical Care Recognition	Western	Buena Vista
Gustafson, David	YMS	Western	Buena Vista
Leuth, Cindy	YMS	Western	Buena Vista
Leveque, Eric	PMS	Western	Buena Vista
Lien, Nathan	PMS	Western	Buena Vista
Miller, Michael	Critical Care Recognition	Western	Buena Vista
Nelson, Paul	Critical Care Recognition	Western	Buena Vista
Olson, Andrew	Critical Care Recognition	Western	Buena Vista
Pederson, Justin	Critical Care Recognition	Western	Buena Vista
Riedel, Aaron	Critical Care Recognition	Western	Buena Vista
Schmid, Mathew	Critical Care Recognition	Western	Buena Vista
Potter, Dennus	Critical Care Recognition	Western	Christie Mt
Fakler, Todd	Critical Care Recognition	Western	Coffee Mill
Hoeppner, Daniel	Critical Care Recognition	Western	Coffee Mill
Kay, Peter	Critical Care Recognition	Western	Coffee Mill
Lovelace, Gary	Critical Care Recognition	Western	Coffee Mill
Marx, Dustin	Critical Care Recognition	Western	Coffee Mill
Rich, Janet	Critical Care Recognition	Western	Coffee Mill
Skelton, Bridget	Critical Care Recognition	Western	Coffee Mill
Smith Burton	Critical Care Recognition	Western	Coffee Mill
Smith Burton	Critical Care Recognition	Western	Coffee Mill
Tentis, Scott	Critical Care Recognition	Western	Coffee Mill
Thompson, Edward	Critical Care Recognition	Western	Coffee Mill
White, Christopher	Critical Care Recognition	Western	Coffee Mill
Putrah, Jeff	DSA	Western	Mt Kato
O'Rourke, Ashley	PMS	Western	Three Rivers
McCormick, Beth	Patrollers Cross	Western	Trollhaugen
Dunning, Wrick	D D Program Award	Western	Viking Nordic
Holm, Adam	C D Outstanding	Western	Viking Nordic
Holm, Adam	YMS	Western	Viking Nordic
Viking Nordic	Unit Citation	Western	Viking Nordic
Anderson, David	Critical Care Recognition	Western	Welch Village
Cole, Kerry	Critical Care Recognition	Western	Welch Village
Griggs, Suzanne	Critical Care Recognition	Western	Welch Village
Hill, Jerome	Patrollers Cross	Western	Welch Village
Larson, Kevin	Critical Care Recognition	Western	Welch Village
Larson, Scott	Critical Care Recognition	Western	Welch Village
Louden, Bryan	Critical Care Recognition	Western	Welch Village
MacDonald, Sam	Critical Care Recognition	Western	Welch Village
Narog, Michael	Critical Care Recognition	Western	Welch Village
Noreen, Brian	Critical Care Recognition	Western	Welch Village
Owens, Glen	Critical Care Recognition	Western	Welch Village
Peterson, Mike	Critical Care Recognition	Western	Welch Village
Peters, Theresa	N. Appointment	Western	Coffee Mill
Rajkowski, Melissa	Patrollers Cross	Western	Spirit Mountain
Peters, Mike	C D cert of Appreciation	Western	Three Rivers
Viking Nordic	C D Outstanding	Western	Viking Nordic
Jacobs, Catherine	Patrollers Cross	Western Michigan	Caberfae Peaks

Greenman, Alexis  
 Greenman, Matt  
 Nowak, Martha  
 Rorhus, Arlid  
 Anderson-Hadden, Karen  
 Anderson-Hadden, Karen  
 West Michigan Nordic

BMS  
 PMS  
 N. Appointment  
 PMS  
 Division Director Award  
 MSA  
 C D 1st Runner-up

WMR  
 WMR  
 WMR  
 WMR  
 WMR  
 WMR  
 WMR

Bittersweet  
 Bittersweet  
 Bittersweet  
 Bittersweet  
 Timber Ridge  
 Timber Ridge  
 West Michigan Nordic

## Thank You to Our Sponsors



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The official e-newspaper for the  
National Ski Patrol®, Inc.  
Central Division  
The Rusty Parka News is published three times annually.

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### EDITORIAL STATEMENT

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## Letters to the Editor

*Letters to the Editor must be submitted electronically to:  
rustyparka1@gmail.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](http://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

Date(s) / Region Division	Event Type	Location	Contact
Feb 25, 16 to 28-Feb-16	Certified Annual Evaluation	Nubs Nob/Boyne	Patrick Perlman
<b>North Central</b>			
Feb 07, 16 to 7-Feb-16	AWARDS NC Region Awards Deadline		Brenda Robinson brobins@live.com
Feb 20, 16 to 20-Feb-16	SENIOR Senior S&T Exam	Mont Ripley	Chuck Jonas ozzynkat@charter.net
Feb 20, 16 to 20-Feb-16	NORDIC American Birkebeiner	Hayward	Nancy Imm nanimm@aol.com
Feb 21, 16 to 21-Feb-16	AWARDS Awards Committee Meeting	Carolyn Dejongh House	Brenda Robinson brobins@live.com
Feb 27, 16 to 27-Feb-16	NORDIC Squirrel Hill Skiathlon (a pursuit race)	Minocqua Winter Park	Betty Adams mbadams008@gmail.com
Mar 05, 16 to 5-Mar-16	TESTING/TRAINING Candidate S&T Evaluation	Granite Peak	Chuck Jonas ozzynkat@charter.net
Mar 05, 16 to 5-Mar-16	TESTING/TRAINING Candidate S&T Evaluation	Ski Brule	Pete Holdridge
Mar 05, 16 to 5-Mar-16	NORDIC Great Bear Chase Ski Marathon	Calumet	Nancy Imm nanimm@aol.com
Mar 06, 16 to 6-Mar-16	NORDIC MWP Community Day	Minocqua Winter Park	Betty Adams mbadams008@gmail.com
Mar 06, 16 to 6-Mar-16	TESTING/TRAINING S&T Candidate Evaluation	Ski Brule	jmtooz@aol.com
Mar 12, 16 to 12-Mar-16	SENIOR Senior OEC Module Final Test	Minocqua Winter Park	Mike Olson, olsomp05@aol.com
Mar 19, 16 to 19-Mar-16	TESTING/TRAINING Ski and Toboggan Tentative Final Exam	Mont Ripley	Randy Tufts randytufts@yahoo.com
Apr 22, 16 to 24-Apr-16	MEETING NC Region Spring Meeting and Awards Banquet	Waters of Minocqua	Les Robinson lrobins@wctc.net

## Northern Michigan

Feb 06, 16 to 6-Feb-16	<b>OEC</b>	<b>Nub's Nob</b>	<b>Rod Kivell</b>
	OEC Senior Module Clinic - Nubs		
Feb 20, 16 to 20-Feb-16	<b>S&amp;T Eval</b>		
	Section 2-3 Alpine Patroller On-hill		
Feb 21, 16 to 21-Feb-16	<b>Senior OnHill</b>		<b>Annaka Norris</b>
	Senior ON-Hill		
Feb 27, 16 to 27-Feb-16	<b>S&amp;T Eval</b>		
	Section 1 Alpine Patroller On-hill		
Mar 06, 16 to 6-Mar-16	<b>OEC Sr Mod Eval</b>	<b>Schuss</b>	<b>Rod Kivell</b>
	OEC Senior Module Evaluation - Schuss		
Apr 30, 16 to 30-Apr-16	<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Cedar River</b>	<b>Dick Jacques</b>
	NMR Spring Meeting & Awards Banquet - Cedar River		

## Southern

Feb 20, 16 to 20-Feb-16	<b>SENIOR</b>	<b>Chestnut Mountain, IL</b>	<b>Jonathon Malhiot</b> jdmalhiot@gmail.com
	Ski and Toboggan Evaluation		
Feb 20, 16 to 20-Feb-16	<b>NORDIC</b>	<b>nordjas@aol.com</b>	<b>Jeff Schmidt</b>
	American Birkebeiner		
Mar 12, 16 to 13-Mar-16	<b>SENIOR</b>	<b>TBD</b>	<b>Kim Zambole</b> kimzambole@gmail.com
	Senior Outdoor Emergency Care Evaluation		
30-Apr-16	<b>BANQUET</b>	<b>Section 1</b>	<b>Mike Benhart</b> mdbenhart@gmail.com
	Annual Region Awards Banquet		

## Western Michigan

TBD	<b>MTR</b>	<b>TBD</b>	<b>Michael Walenta;</b> michaelwalenta@gmail.com
	Section II MTR		
TBD	<b>Test/Training</b>	<b>Cannonsburg</b>	<b>Hal Froot-</b>
	Low Angle Rescue Course		
Jan 31, 16 to 31-Jan-16	<b>OEC</b>	<b>Cannonsburg</b>	<b>Doug Hasse atcsinc@aol.com</b>
	OEC-MSP		
Feb 06, 16 to 6-Feb-16	<b>Other Events</b>	<b>Schuss Mountain</b>	<b>Michael Oliver-</b> mophotos1962@gmail.com
	Nordic White Pine Stampeed Event		
Feb 06, 16 to 6-Feb-16	<b>Test/Training</b>	<b>Crystal Mountain</b>	<b>Kevin Fultz-kevinfultz@aol.com</b>
	Section III Crystal SES		
Feb 07, 16 to 7-Feb-16	<b>Test/Training</b>	<b>Crystal Mountain</b>	<b>Erica Kroll-</b> erica.kroll@wmich.edu
	Secion III Crystal TES		
Feb 12, 16 to 12-Feb-16	<b>Deadlines</b>	<b>n/a</b>	<b>Pat Livingston-</b> plivingston67@gmail.com

Section II Section Chief Ballots Must be postmarked			
Feb 13, 16 to 14-Feb-16	<b>Other Events</b>  Nordic VASA Race	<b>Timber Ridge-TC</b>	<b>Michael Oliver-</b> <b>mophotos1962@gmail.com</b>
Feb 16, 16 to 16-Feb-16	<b>Deadlines</b>  Senior Skills Sign off Sheets Due	<b>n/a</b>	<b>Sue Brann-</b> <b>suebrann@comcast.net</b>
Feb 20, 16 to 20-Feb-16	<b>Other Events</b>  Birkie Nordic Race	<b>Hayward, WI</b>	<b>Michael Oliver-</b> <b>mophotos1962@gmail.com</b>
Feb 20, 16 to 20-Feb-16	<b>Senior</b>  Senior Hill Bump Clinic	<b>Crystal Mountain</b>	<b>Sue Brann-</b> <b>suebrann@comcast.net</b>
Feb 21, 16 to 21-Feb-16	<b>Senior</b>  Senior Hill Exam	<b>Crystal Mountain</b>	<b>Sue Brann-</b> <b>suebrann@comcast.net</b>
Feb 22, 16 to 22-Feb-16	<b>Deadlines</b>  Section II Section Chief Results Announced	<b>n/a</b>	<b>Pat Livingston-</b> <b>plivingston67@gmail.com</b>
Feb 27, 16 to 27-Feb-16	<b>OEC</b>  OEC-MSP Calibration Clinic	<b>Cannonsburg</b>	<b>Doug Hasse atcsinc@aol.com</b>
Feb 28, 16 to 28-Feb-16	<b>OEC</b>  OEC-MSP Evaluation	<b>Cannonsburg</b>	<b>Doug Hasse atcsinc@aol.com</b>
Mar 01, 16 to 1-Mar-16	<b>Meeting</b>  Region Meeting	<b>Branns (6:30)</b>	<b>Chip Knappen-</b> <b>cknappen@knappen.com</b>
Mar 05, 16 to 5-Mar-16	<b>Deadlines</b>  Awards Due from Section Chiefs	<b>n/a</b>	<b>Roger Brands -</b> <b>rbrands16@gmail.com</b>
Apr 16, 16 to 17-Apr-16	<b>Meeting</b>  Division Spring Business Meeting	<b>Chicago</b>	
May 14, 16 to 14-May-16	<b>Meeting</b>  OEC IT Meeting	<b>Section II</b>	<b>Dan Goldberger</b>
May 14, 16 to 14-May-16	<b>Meeting</b>  Region Meeting	<b>Section II</b>	<b>Chip Knappen-</b> <b>cknappen@knappen.com</b>
May 14, 16 to 14-May-16	<b>Banquet</b>  Region Awards Banquet	<b>Section II</b>	<b>Section II</b>

**Central Division Calendar**  
**is Subject to Change.**  
**Information Displayed in the RPN**  
**is Accurate as of Publication Date.**  
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