

## 9 Sept 2017 – Fall Board Report: Julie A. Stone, ADD

### Goals (as identified Spring 2017)

1. Continue to work with programs, with ever improving communication and searching for program improvement opportunities. In particular
  - a. PAT – new advisor, assure timeline and progress
  - b. MTR – instructor and IT renewals process
  - c. NEW July 2017 – work with new Bike Patrol Advisor
2. Continue to be visible by visiting patrols/regions/division events as possible, and in a functional capacity
3. Continue to develop personal skills and knowledge base
  - a. Attend DD and/or Board meetings at Powderfall and over the year
4. Consider future directions and involvement

### Activities since Spring board meeting

1. Division
  - a. (scheduled) Sept 2017, Central Division Meeting and Banquet, NMR Boyne Mtn,
  - b. Submission of articles to each RPN.
  - c. New CD Bike Patrol Advisor appointed, Worked with Aaron to get his program up and running
  - d. MSAA August 2017 meeting, Devil's Head Resort, WI. Attend as part of CD staff and public relations.
  - e. May 2017, CD representative at NMR banquet, MI.
  - f. April 2017, CD Executive Committee and Spring Board Meeting, Hilton, Lisle/Naperville, IL.
  - g. Brief update of programs:
    - i. OEC – involved, but program functions well with current leadership. Sue has regular communication with 'assistants' Rae-Ann and Kim AND with all region ROAs.
    - ii. Medical Director – Steve recovering from surgery but unable to attend meeting.
    - iii. Young Adult – Jane is doing well. Has info on CD website, RPN articles, and stays in communication.
    - iv. MTR –
    - v. Public Relations – not much activity, assists with special PR projects i.e. NSP elections each fall
    - vi. PAT101 – goal: update CD website, book re-write, etc
    - vii. Bike Patrol – new program summer 2017 – Aaron very eager to share lessons learned and best practices, and to get his information on the CD website.

2. Region
  - a. (scheduled) Oct 2017, Southern Region Ski Sale, Dept. Asst. Mgr.
  - b. (scheduled) Oct 2017, Southern Region OEC QA-IT for patrol refresher
  - c. August 2017, attended Southern Region OEC webinar
  - d. August 2017, attended Southern Region, Section 6, OEC Instructor meeting in Columbia, MO
  - e. May 2017, attended Southern Region Meeting and Banquet, Naperville, IL
    - i. IOR of MTR Enhancement course, mentoring I-candidate Dave Thompson
    - ii. Integral in obtaining invitation for national board member Jay Zedak to attend and assist with both MTR and AVY courses
    - iii. QA-IT for ID course
    - iv. Attended region OEC-IT meeting, serving as QA-IT
3. Local - Full home patrol schedule including
  - a. OEC class assistance, teaching, evaluating, consulting, and new instructor mentoring
  - b. Lift evac instructor
  - c. Ski and Toboggan instructor and evaluator
  - d. MTR Instructor
4. Personal Skills development and continuing education
  - a. April 2017 - Attended Powderfall, Aspen, CO
    - i. Attended Division Directors meeting
    - ii. Attended portions of NSP Board meetings
  - b. April 2017 - Attended PSIA Academy, Snowbird, UT

### **Future Directions**

With the support of my family, JT and other division personnel, the Southern Region, and my local patrol, I have submitted an application to be a candidate for the 2018-21 NSP Board of Directors. The Nominating Committee accepted my application and my profile statement has been submitted. Should I be elected, I would be required to submit my resignation to JT as ADD. I would be blessed to have this opportunity. This would be bittersweet to me, however, because I have loved the opportunity to serve the Division and support JT as ADD. Should I NOT be elected then I would still be a winner and be happy to continue in this current role as ADD!

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Julie A. Stone**  
**Assistant Division Director**

## Central Division OEC Supervisor Report

Spring to Fall 2017

3/31-4/1/2017 ROA Meeting in Chicago

All Regions were represented. Will be repeated 4/2018- need all ROAs to attend.

### **Accomplishments:**

- Fill-able QA form for Basic OEC test- sent to ROA group and they should be distributing this information to IT group.
- Work was begun on similar form for OEC-MSP.
- Discussed requirements for signing off new OEC Instructors. Motion approved by RD group:

**“The expectation is that the final observation and sign off for a new OEC instructor be by an OEC IT from an outside patrol. Any exceptions to that must be approved by a candidates mentor in discussion with the ROA and the RD”.**

*I will return the Instructor Application to the ROA and cc RD if there is not an adequate explanation for not following this.*

- 2 ROA conference calls- will be meeting with those in attendance at Fall Meeting
- New ROA for Western MI- Doug Mescara
- Delinquencies – spent the majority of the summer reconciling these. Central Division had 323 members on the Delinquency list. 14 were actually “delinquent”.
- 2017-2018 OEC Basic Test: procedure is the same, the test will go to the IT. I will be sending Test B via snail mail in order to keep better track of retesting numbers. Allow for mailing time to IT.
- New Instructors since 4/1: 14
- New Instructor Trainers since 4/1: 4
- Mentoring Roadmap via NSP OEC Supervisor group (attached)

### **Goals for next season:**

- 100% class closure via NSP website within 2 weeks of closing date.
- Meet or exceed pass rate of 92% for Central Division.
- Improve mentoring and sign off process for new OEC Instructors.

**National Ski Patrol  
Central Division**

**P.R. Advisor Report**

**2016/2017 Season Report**

**National Ski Patrol Board of Directors Elections**

In the last BOD election Central Division election the team was assigned to create a communications plan to encourage Central Division patrollers to vote for Board of Director candidates outside the Eastern Region (based on a recommended list) to establish a more diverse board that would fairly represent multiple regions throughout the NSP system. The result of the teams efforts was successful with one member being re-elected and three new board members that will start their terms in January 2018. As the next BOD election comes upon the organization, communications will need to be created the new communication campaign to encourage Central Division patrollers to vote.

**2017/2018 Plan**

I would like to remind the board that I am at their disposal to draft any communiqué to the Division membership that they would like to send out under their signature based on any on-hill or off-hill topics, recruitment/retention and advance education that are gaining steam with in our Division.

**National Ski Patrol Board of Directors Elections**

Action

1. Establish the team and being developing the strategy for the next BOD Election.
2. Develop a new communications plan with communiqué update letters sent by JT to Central Division patrollers the importance of the election and encouraging them vote
3. Establish additional communication vehicles if required to meet the objective of the strategy

**Budget**

I would like \$750 for 2017/2018 season  
Russ Livermore  
P.R. Advisor

# ***Patroller 101***

**Jodie Fuller**

## **2017-2018 Goals**

- Update the manual to reflect current language and references.
- Utilize the help and knowledge of patrols who currently use the PAT 101 program to better define the use of the program
- Define a reasonable time for PAT courses to remain open

## **Needs**

- Close any outstanding PAT courses not in use. (2014-2017)
- Need several volunteers from different regions to update and cross-reference the manual.
- Create an email list of contact people for the regions/patrols utilizing the PAT 101 program

## **Closing**

- Having accepted this new role in April 2017, I will appreciate the help and guidance to bring the PAT 101 program up to date.
- My email contact is [JF4Seasons@aol.com](mailto:JF4Seasons@aol.com), phone: 989-245-3248. Any comments or ideas are welcome to improve this program.

Fall 2017 Medical Advisor Steve Werner:

I will miss the meeting because of hip replacement surgery. I have been active since the Spring meeting with OEC at the local level. There has been a lot of discussion with Martin regarding Merit Star awards, and when necessary, I have written medical opinions in support of the Purple Merit Star.

There has been no deliberations of the National Medical Committee to report since last Spring.

Steve Werner

## Young Adult Program (YAP) ACTIVITIES 2016-17

My activities for the YAP program consisted primarily of making email contacts to try to determine the needs within our division and what programs are actually in place currently. Many of these activities are listed below.

By far the biggest event has been working to achieve an agreement from my own patrol and Boyne Highlands to train 8 Boyne Highlands students and 1 Mt Brighton student in OEC. This started by requesting a change in the OEC program at Mt Brighton to accommodate more young adults taking OEC. These changes were accomplished by:

- Switching the training to a hybrid format
- Changing the timing of the training from August through November, to May through August.
- Recruiting from outside my own patrol and region and contacting Boyne Highlands in the Northern Michigan region to gain 8 additional students to participate with 1 Mt Brighton student in the OEC course.
- Asking for collaboration between patrols for the training by enlisting the help of Boyne Highlands instructors and patrollers
- As of 8/28/17 5 students passed the course, 3 are awaiting a written exam re-evaluation, and one did not pass.

Other activities in helping establish and grow the Young Adult Program include:

- Emailed region directors and asked for region YAP supervisors. We now have one in EMR, Ohio, North Central, and South Central regions. We potentially have a new one in Northern Michigan region.
- Attended fall 2016 Division meeting in Minneapolis
- Participated in monthly phone conferences with Paul Tourrangeau and other division supervisors.
- Emailed YAP updates to region supervisors twice.
- Wrote 2 articles for Rusty Parka news.
- Attended Powderfall 2017, met the National YAP director, and skied with the YAP group at Snowmass.
- Met with Liz Herman, assistant YAP supervisor for Eastern Division to discuss strategies and ideas regarding the Young Adult Program. Liz had a wealth of information regarding putting on events, fund-raising, and incentives for students.
- Emailed region supervisors regarding news and ideas from the conference.
- Asked region supervisors to contact local patrols to obtain better numbers regarding how many actual YAPs are out there by emailing patrol directors in their regions.

Jay Van Zeeland responded from Pine Mt.

Wally Taylor responded from Mad River

- Emailed 9 ski areas in response to requests to the National office for more information about YAP program.
- Met with Wendy Eckman from Alpine Valley to discuss starting a program. Wendy plans to meet with her patrol management to begin the process of starting a Young Adult Program.

In the upcoming months I am going to try a new approach (or one actually borrowed from Mike Longfellow-Jones). I intend to teach the Outdoor First Care (OFC) course to interested 15 year olds in the Eastern Michigan Region that are not quite ready to commit to the full OEC course. By allowing the students to take OFC course they will become members of NSP and have access to on-hill training, SES events, and NSP conferences. My hope is to further spark their interest in becoming full patrollers.

- I have gained the approval from Lisa Niemi, director of Mt Brighton ski patrol, to begin training students in OFC. If successful, this may be a worthwhile course for other patrols wanting to get students interested and involved.

In summary, I would like to suggest that patrols in other urban areas such as Milwaukee, Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus, and Minneapolis consider reaching out to patrols outside of their own areas to recruit young adults that live in their area, but patrol at more distant destinations to assist in growing the Young Adult Program. The collaboration between patrols not only benefitted the young adults, it brought together patrollers from across the state to work together and share their expertise and ideas with each other. In the end, friendships were made and skills were enhanced for all involved.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the Central Division in the Young Adult Program.

Sincerely,

Jane Bickerstaff

My name is Aaron Hislop. I am currently a member of the Spirit Mountain Ski Patrol and am the Assistant Patrol Director in charge of the Bike Patrol. I am excited to take on the Mountain Bike Patrol Advisor position for the division.

Over the past three years with the Bike Patrol at Spirit we have had to overcome many scenarios that are different than that we encounter while skiing. For one when serious injuries occur they are typically in a much more remote environment with much more difficult extrication and transport. Not surprisingly, we deal with considerably more blood than we typically encounter while skiing. The largest challenge we have faced at Spirit is being able to fill all the needed shifts across the bike season. Most of the patrol are skiers that enjoy biking and have decided to do both seasons. We are now getting patrollers that are just interested in biking, but it is building a patrol like a new ski area. Takes time to get the needed staffing. Another challenge on the staffing side is that we as patrollers are experiencing falls that take us off the bike for a portion of the season, percentage wise seems much higher than skiing.

Couple short term goals for the role.

1. I want to define the role and create a job description.
2. I want to make sure the members of the Division and our Regions know that there are resources to help get a bike patrol started. I will provide a program page that will be accessible from the Division website.
3. I want to make myself available to Division staff to help build their bike patrols.

Please let me know if there is anything else needed at this point.

Thanks - Aaron

Instructor Development            2017-2018

In the past year we have held classes for 176 patrollers. These classes included 10 classes of the long version of the class; 17 hybrid classes, and 4 Instructor Continuing Education Classes. I am also happy to report there are 7 new Instructor Development Instructors and 4 new IT's.

Most of the ID classes happen in the Spring, Summer and Fall in preparation for OEC and OET. I personally have been working with Eastern Michigan, Western Michigan and Ohio to help their programs.

The ID Supervisors have been communicating on a monthly basis. We have completed and tested the Hybrid Class, a Continuing Education Manual, a "generic" Mentoring, and updated mentoring and QA forms.

My personal focus will be on the North Central and Southern Regions and whatever else may come up.

Virginia Rodeman

**Program: Central Division Women's Clinic**  
**Program Supervisor: Kerstin Hammarberg**  
**Season: 2016-2017**

List number and titles of programs offered and number of individuals participating in each program:

This was the 17<sup>th</sup> annual event. Women's clinic was held at Sundown Mountain in the Southern Region. The weekend event offered a TES and SES on Saturday and a TES and SES on Sunday. We had 27 women participate (of 29 originally signed up) in the clinic and 8 women made up the staff. Six of eight regions were represented that included 16 patrols. Local patroller Jodie Bramel served as our liaison to the area. Patrol Director Jeff Hanley assisted in logistics and access to our needs at the area. Linda Barthel, National Women's Program Director, attended as staff.

Of particular note was that 5 of 8 Region Women's Advisors were present for the Division Clinic. This was also the first clinic that featured a woman AASI Level 2 snowboard instructor as part of the staff.

There were Women's programs held in 5 of 8 Regions this season, with the Ohio Region being the newest clinic. Each program reported successes with their events.

Number of instructors for your program:

There are 13 staff members listed for this program. Eight of 13 were able to attend and participate as staff this season.

Number of Instructor Trainers for your program:

Staff members bring the following experience and certifications: There are 4 PSIA Level III, 1 AASI Level II, 4 PSIA Level II, 4 Toboggan Instructors. This list of staff members also include: 8 Certified Patrollers, 7 Toboggan ITs, 2 Instructor Development ITs, and 1 PSIA-C Train the Trainer certification.

Which IT put on the most classes/events:

Not applicable – only one clinic within this program.

What is working well in the program:

The dynamic staff creates flexibility to meet the needs of the participants on the days of the event. This staff is able to develop skill sessions for lower intermediate to expert skill groups in skiing, riding, and toboggan handling.

Separate sessions during the weekend offered to the participants included: Skiing/Riding Moguls, Skiing/Riding Groomed Terrain, Skiing/Riding Groomed Steep Terrain, Toboggan Groomed Terrain, Toboggan Steep Terrain, and Toboggan Moguls. Sessions were able to accommodate intermediate to expert skill levels.

Formal event is held from Friday through Sunday. Participants continue to ask for more time and more options.

Electronic registration was used and was challenging with the new computer system through National.

What needs improvement in the program:

1. Electronic registration - Too much multiple sign up has been created with the new system. This has been a struggle this year.
2. Put more on-snow time into the constraints of the schedule. Due to travel times, the clinic is only able to accommodate one full-day and one partial-day session. This schedule is packed with activity.
3. Develop a better way to separate skill levels and sessions offered for each skill level, while utilizing the available staff.
4. Increase the staff to participant ratio to 2 staff to 4 participants in toboggan. Maintain ratio of 2 staff to 6 participants in skiing/riding.

Goals for program improvement next season:

1. Clinic should be held with Senior level or higher terrain for most benefit for participants.
2. Seek out a second Snowboard Instructor to add to the Division Women's staff.
3. Encourage each Region to hold a one-day clinic, and to have at least one Division staff member present and involved at the Region Clinics.
4. Mentor new women into staff positions from across the division – have at least two PSIA Level 2 or 3, two AASI Level 2 or 3, and two toboggan instructors/ITs from each Region on the Women's Staff.
5. Continue to develop and promote women in leadership roles at the local, region and division levels.
6. Increase the number of programs within each Region from 5 Regions to all 8 Regions.

List of events attended:

Division Meeting – September 2016

Staff attended Women's Events in the following Regions:  
Northern Michigan Region

Ohio Region  
Western Region  
South Central Region  
Southern Region (Division Clinic)

Financial statement-please attach completed reconciliation form:

The Clinic was not self funded this season. This program is not a self-funded program as fees collected are not equal or more than budgeted amounts. We did not exceed our budget. All the staff needed lodging and it was a great distance for travel. Staff carpool as often as possible to save on expenses. Staff work together to keep expenses low and to not exceed the budget. Due to schedules the Division Supervisor was not able to travel to all Region Women's events scheduled, but Women's Division staff were present at all events.

Amount spent on program:

Budgeted for 2017 - \$2800 for program and \$1300 for supervisor  
Amount spent for 2016-2017 Season – approximately \$2610 from program expense to date; nothing spent from supervisor's line.  
Program fees collected - \$1620.00

Information for Division Outstanding IT Recognition:

This season, I recommend that the Outstanding Recognition go to **Linda Murphy-Jacobs** for her contributions to a successful Women's Clinic! She organized and coordinated a successful transition plan for the incoming Division Supervisor from the outgoing Division Supervisor. She supported the planning process and helped to ensure a successful event. She has been a founding member of this program and continues to support its success enthusiastically.

Division Director Change:

NA

Respectfully submitted,

Kerstin Hammarberg  
Division Women's Clinic Supervisor

# Skills Development Program



CHERYL RAUDABAUGH, SKILLS DEVELOPMENT SUPERVISOR

August 20, 2017

The skills team has been up and running for a year now, which really helps in the planning for events and expansion of programs this season. Our key fall focus is preparations for the Divisions Alpine Skills Development Workshop (ASDW) events to be held this Dec 9-10 and Dec 16-17. Our theme this year is: **Sharpening Our Edges**. Following are current highlights:

- Event Locations – Boyne Highlands will again host the first (East) event. We are still working to finalize the location for the West event the following weekend. Discussions are in process with Big Snow Resorts. If the RD's wish another area to be considered, please contact me right away. (See ASDW Site Requirements Doc)
- Session Offerings – We will be offering six sessions this year in response to feedback last year and our identification of key division needs for our region trainers/evaluators. (See ASDW Event Summary)
- Registration – this will again be completed on the [www.CentralDivision.org](http://www.CentralDivision.org) website by the individual participants which are to be pre-approved by the Region RD and designates.
- General Timeline – Sept – Region determines who to send. Oct – participants complete registration process. Nov – Sessions are finalized with selection of Instructor Staff. Dec – Events!
- Event Budget: Revenue: \$5,400 (120 @\$45 ea) Expenses: \$10,000 (44 Instructors/staff with 70% submitting their expense at an avg \$350pp +\$300 event materials)

## Website News:

The website is currently somewhat under construction again to prepare for this year's event needs. We do have a new area to provide the regions with additional Data Reference files. All of this material will have a basic password that should be shared with limited region staff.

- Certification Data – Allows the regions have a current view of division certifications for IT Recerts, Calibrators, and Senior Evaluators. It also has an input form to provide us updates within your region.
- Division Instructors and QA staff – listings will provide regions with contact information on all of our division instructors and QA personnel with contact information and credentials to assist in locating folks for region calibrations or for other training requests.
- Region Approved Event Attendees – this year regions will be asked to go to the website to provide information on who you are approving to attend the ASDW event. Input needed in September so that participants can start registration in Oct. We will not accept their registrations without the region approval.
- Region Alpine Contact List – as summary of the key Alpine leaders by region with contact information.

GO to [www.centraldivision.org](http://www.centraldivision.org) to view more information. Password will be provided directly.



Greeting fellow Patrollers and Division Staff.

Unfortunately, my work travel plans have changed for this week and I will be unable to join you in beautiful northern Michigan. I have traveled to Traverse City, MI three times in the last year and find that area to be almost as wonderful as northern Minnesota. I wish I could spend more time in the area.

I will be honest, in the last year I have not accomplished much. I have adjusted to a new job that has me traveling somewhere in the US every week. That has been a challenge for me. One that I am now more comfortable with. In addition, my mother suffered a serious medical condition the day before the new year. The spring months were tied up getting her the best care possible and cleaning out and selling her home. All that is done and should not have too much impact, other than I now travel to visit her every weekend.

I did receive one request to additional information on adding a new frequency for a patrol. I have not seen the finished application yet, but it should arrive before the snow falls.

I have also received a complete set of documents for each patrol that has obtained their license from National. Many of the patrols have already received your copies of that information. Those that have not will be receiving them shortly.

I plan to continue to follow up with those patrols that I do not have any information on. Some of the RD's and Section Chiefs will be cc'd on those outstanding requests.

I have an article nearly complete for the next newsletter. The article is a primer on several new digital technologies that are available at a low price that can provide new functions with the radio. The dropping prices on these radio make them a viable solution to any patrol wanting to upgrade their radio system.

The only looming topic on the horizon is the FCC mandating the next split in radio channels to 6.25 kHz. They have not provided a deadline as of yet, just warning that it IS coming.

As always, if you have any questions, please send me an email.

Regards

Paul

botnenp@gmail.com



# National Ski Patrol

## CENTRAL DIVISION

August 26th, 2017

Central Division Assistant Division Director Report

2017 Spring/Summer Activities:

- Attended and Staffed 2017 Powderfall Event (snowboard and snowboard/toboggan)
- Ohio Region Banquet/Meeting
- Staffed a non-skiing event: Savage Race
- Skills Development Team Meetings
- Worked with Snowsports school for presentation of Certification support program
- MSAA Conference

Best Regards,

Chris Raudabaugh  
Assistant Division Director

This summer I've been working on an ASE training program to help the regions better prep their candidates. There will be 2 additional training sessions this season to help those people that would like to further their psia credentials. I have contacted the region directors asking for a host area and what they would like the snow sports school to do to better assist them. We are currently working on a reward for those attaining psia level 1,2 or 3.

Marty Blaszkowski

I started the 2017 spring report with that statement that we suffered (3) PSIA Event cancellations because of weather which of course hampers development and possible testing events for our patrollers. It reminds us that in the Central Division we exist inside of a short winter season, and our planning, training and conditioning must be very intentional. Please continue to pass on the message that being fit, have a preseason training plan, a 'in season' development plan, and reading and attending Enhancement Seminars will all positively contribute toward personal credentialing goals.

My efforts as a PSIA Liaison manifest as I act as a lobbyist to our patroller colleagues to promote education and credentialing through the PSIA/AASI, and with the PSIA acting as an advocate for the Patroller among my PSIA Education colleagues.

My patroller duties continue as a PD at Echo Mountain in Idaho Springs, Colorado. I am an active Certified patroller, an OEC IT, and a ski and toboggan trainer. I will attend preseason patroller training at Loveland with some of our CD colleagues, and I have our Certified Test on the schedule. If any colleagues seeks to attend early season training at Loveland Colorado please contact me.

As a PSIA Education Staff and Examiner, I work 4-5 Examination/Education events each year in the Central Division. I am an active Instructor Trainer at Loveland and do most of my own free skiing and training there.

As I am often contacted asking for insights from our patroller colleagues, it is important to reiterate my role and position as a Patroller who is also a PSIA Examiner. I will do *everything* I can to help any patroller colleague: training, conversations, reviewing portfolios and progressions, helping with educational resource lists and contacts...I will *not* provide content that must be derived from testing experiences, the journey and education. This must be earned, no shortcuts.

I'll end with another reminder of all the available resources that the CD Patroller has; your local staff and Regional NSP-C Snowsports School, the Division NSP-C Snowsports School, regional PSIA Education Staff members, your local PSIA Ski School, the Alpine & Snowboard Technical Manuals and the NSP Transportation Manual.

Respectfully,

Dan Moss  
Certified Patroller #669  
PSIA CD Education Staff Examiner

## Central Division Avalanche Program 2017-2018

**Introduction:** The National Avalanche Committee (NAC) met in early April at Snowmass to consider any directional changes and modifications that can be made to make the program more effective. The divisional avalanche supervisors (NAC members) agreed to change the program consistent with the educational directives set forth by the American Avalanche Association (AAA). Many of the principle components are still in play but the presentation and standardization protocols still need to be put in place. Until a new scope and direction is realized the current Avalanche Instructors Manual will still be used.

The NSP has a particular advantage in promoting avalanche education in that we are visible throughout the entire industry representing the snow sport safety. Our vision should include ease of obtaining an avalanche education and be inclusive to the entire snow sport industry.

**Delivery:** This last season I ran two Level 1 Module 1 classes with Jay Zedak and other instructors. The first course was at Mad River Mt., Ohio. This course had 11 students and we created another avalanche Level 1 instructor, Dave Boboltz. The second course was just prior to the Certified Course at Marquette Mt. in Northern Michigan. This course also had 11 students.

My plan is to put as many people into the que for avalanche education as possible. This would be represented by a Level 1 Module 1, the classroom session, that would prepare people to move in multiple directions. Level 1 Module 2, the field session, is not permitted in the Central and Southern divisions because of insufficient terrain, according to NSP avalanche management. The American Avalanche Institute for Research and Education (AAIRE) does run a similar course to our Level 1 Module 2 at Mt. Bohemia that I can give reciprocity to on a case by case situation as the divisional supervisor. I am planning on becoming an AAIRE instructor and doing just that. The prerequisites to the NSP Level 2 course are Level 1 modules 1 and 2. The other option is to achieve Level 1 module 1, classroom session, and go to a full immersion course in the Salt Lake area which will include Level 1 Module 2, field session, and the entire Level 2 course. This option would take about 10 days and would be contingent on the level of interest.

It is my intention to run as many Level 1 Module 1 (L1M1) courses as possible. I plan on having avalanche courses listed for Rocky Mt., Northern Rocky Mt., Eastern and Intermountain Divisions besides those of our own Division in the next RPN. The AAIRE Level 1 course runs in both January and February and those dates are TBA.

***Instructor Education and Development:*** It is important that our instructors receive recurrent training. This is difficult in such a large division. Every instructor should endeavor to teach a course or take some sort of remedial training every three years. We are lacking in this area and I may be required to downgrade or remove instructors from active status. Instructors may remain current if they attend regional snow and avalanche workshops (SAW's), the National Avalanche School (NAS) or the International Snow Science Workshop (ISSW).

***Leadership Development:*** Dave McKinley will be assisting me in running the Avalanche Module in the annual Certified Test. Mark Branham has shown interest in becoming an avalanche instructor and perhaps absorb the leadership of this program divisionally. I think, it's imperative that these two people obtain a professional grade avalanche education. The National Avalanche School is scheduled this Fall at Breckenridge Mt. and I would strongly urge the Central Division to support their educational endeavor. This would be an outstanding investment in this programs future.

Submitted by Dale R. Mihuta,  
Central Division Avalanche Advisor

# **2017/18 Central Division Certified Program Report**

## **2016/17 recap**

The season started with sixty-six staff members and fifteen candidates.

Recertification / Qualification / Awareness events were held at the following areas:

Perfect North Slopes	12 participants
Nubs Nob	11 participants
Welch Village	7 participants
Marquette Mountain	10 participants

2017 Certified Evaluation was held March 2nd through March 4th at Marquette Mountain, MI. 43 staff members, 17 candidates, and 25 supporters all contributed to a successful event. 54 individual program components were passed during the event for a 61% overall pass rate.

Four patrollers completed all of the requirements of the Certified program at this event.

- #808 Jeff Jurcak, Pine Knob.
- #809 Lauren Vaerewyck, Swiss Valley
- #810 Keith Natrass, Pine Knob
- #811 Donald Smith, Cannonsburg

## **New business**

### **Assistant Advisors**

Carl Woodcock and Joe Keller have agreed to work with me as assistant Program supervisors during my tenure as Division Program Supervisor. Thanks to them in advance for their hard work!

### **National Certified Manual**

The National Certified committee continues working towards a national manual. We had a meeting on 9/5. The final Risk Management module was delayed till the next meeting scheduled for the 1<sup>st</sup> week of October. A small subcommittee will finalize a draft for the full committee to vote on then. Once this vote is finalized, we hope to offer the Beta version of the national certified manual to the NSP Education Committee.

### **Certified Committee Governance Structure**

On 9/5, Governance structure was voted on and changed per National P&P guidelines. Liz Dodge PNW DD will now have voting power regardless of her certified status. This gives representation of all division and patrollers within the National Certified Committee.

### **Certified 50<sup>th</sup> Celebration**

50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the certified program will be held at Killington VT 3/20/2018. This is being promoted as a national celebration of the program and all are invited to attend. The Yearly face to face Committee meeting will be held at this time.

### **2018 Evaluation**

The 2018 Certified evaluation is planned for Lutsen in Western region March 1st - 4th. Point of contact is Kerstin Hammerburg

**2019 Evaluation**

Due to the current “unknown terrain” of Perfect North Slopes, Ohio region is exploring options for holding the 2019 event at another location within the central division. This is still in its infancy and no specifics are available at this time.

**Recert/Qualification Events**

Recertification and Qualification clinics will be held throughout the division. Dates are pending.

**Western MI Certified Staff**

Certified staff is attending all refreshers within the Western MI region offering dryland clinics in order to promote the program and offer themselves as a resource for all patrollers and ski areas. Thanks to Hal Froot and Don Smith

**Region Advisor Meetings**

A committee consisting of the eight Region Advisors will continue to have regular meetings to discuss improvements to the program.

**Beach Day Memorial**

We are developing a Beach award in honor of our late brother, Beach Day. Beach was instrumental in the development of the Central Division Certified Program. Parameters for this will be developed by myself, region program advisors, and Guy Day

Respectfully submitted

Ron Gerdes #636  
Central Division Certified Program Supervisor

## **Webmaster      Kent Anderson**

### **2016-2017 Activities to Date:**

- Implemented updates and provided support for Awards, Nordic, Senior, Rusty Parka and Election Programs, OEC, OET, Women's and Certified programs.
- Assisted with the e-mail blast server.
- Provided support and update the staff and region rosters on the division site.
- Provided ongoing support for the 2017-2018 Ski Season and the Division Web Site.
- Added Spring Division meeting documentation and results to the division web site.

### **2017-2018 Plans:**

- Reprogram the NSP-C Ski School Application process for the 2017-2018 ski season.
- Continue to migrate the entire web site to a Word Press environment and take advantage of the plugin tools and processes it provides.
- Provide programming support to the division programs and supervisors.
- Work with the regions

**Budget:** \$1500.00

Budget Request \$1500 for web hosting services and meeting expense for the Central Division Fall Meeting.

## **MSAA/Elections 2016-2017 Ken Meldahl**

### **MSAA**

The Midwest Ski Area Association (MSAA) held their summer meetings and Trade Show at Devil's Head Resort in Merrimac, WI on August 20-23, 2017. This meeting was attended by your Division leadership team that consisted of John Thomas, Chris Raudabaugh, Julie Stone and Kevin McQuillan. Also in attendance was our National Board Chair Jim Woodrum and NSP Executive Director Meegan Moszynski. Steve Paladini, South Central Region Director was also in attendance.

MSAA continues to have programs that include a focus on topics that include Risk Management, terrain parks, snowmaking, lifts and about anything else that is involved in ski area management. Michael Berry, NSAA President shared his final insight of the future of the ski industry. Michael is retiring as President of NSAA and he was recognized for his contributions to the snow sports industry. Michael Berry and Chris Stoddard, past Executive Director of MSAA were both the recipients of the MSAA Jim Vanderkelen Achievement Award.

I continue to encourage patrol leadership to work with their area management team to invite them to participate in these meetings. It is well worth the time.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** The next MSAA meetings will be held at Boyne Highlands Resort in Michigan on August 19-22, 2018.

### **ELECTIONS**

The 2016-17 elections in Central Division were held for Region Director in Western Michigan, Western and Ohio regions. Again, this year, each race was uncontested so following the Division P&P and Bylaws, in the event that there is only one validated candidate, that candidate shall be declared the winner by the DEC after confirmation by the Election Review Committee and ballots are not to be sent out. I am pleased to announce that Guy Day will continue being the Region Director for Ohio Region, Scott J. O'Connor of the Afton Alps Ski Patrol will take over the reigns at Western Region and John F. Donnelly, of the Cannonsburg Ski Patrol will be the Region Director for Western Michigan Region. Congratulations to all of you.

Next year, 2017-18, Region Director elections will be held in North Central, Northern Michigan and Southern Regions. The Election Review Committee will consist of the Region Directors from Ohio, Western and Western Michigan Regions. Section Chief elections will be held for Sections 1 and 4. These elections are managed by the individual regions.

Submitted by,

Ken Meldahl  
Election/Meeting Coordinator Extraordinaire

# Rusty Parka News

KATIE FLANAGAN

## PROGRAM GOALS FOR 2017-2018

- Continue to create and edit the Rusty Parka Newsletter.

## 1 PROGRAM UPDATES

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- **Hard Copy Subscribers:** We currently have 183 patrollers and MSAA members receiving the RPN as a hard copy, grayscale, print version. This is 13 less as last year at this time.
  - The change was due to running the list through NCOA and the post office data base and finding 13 addresses were not found. However we pay for 200 copies as we get a price break by ordering in bulk so I have extra copies if anyone wants a hard copy.
  - The majority of the division is supplied via electronic version.
  - **Hard Copy Mailings-**Per season there is different prices for each season due to number of hard copy pages per issue differences. Amount is for printing and mailing of 200 copies.
    - Summer \$ 389.92
    - Winter \$396.26
    - Fall \$447.41
- **Participation:** Over the past year we had 27 articles in the fall, 24 articles during winter, and 18 summer articles.
  - Thank you to everyone for getting their articles to me on time and for participating. We have a wonderful newsletter thanks to all your contributions.
    - Next contributions for the 2017-2018 year
      - Fall- Articles due October 1<sup>st</sup>
      - Winter- Articles due January 19<sup>th</sup>
      - Summer- Articles due June 1<sup>st</sup>

## 2 NEEDS

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- Program review: The newsletter is contributed to well by all staff members.
- Printing: We are still using our same printing company- Sun Printing.
  - I found out they only print in multiples of 4 due to stapling/ printing requirements. Therefore, depending on the page number of the newsletter I may want to cut out a page such as the sponsor page occasionally to fit within the page requirements.

## 3 CLOSING

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- Each newsletter I am amazed at all the articles everyone submits, thank you for making our newsletter so great! It a privilege to serve as RPN Supervisor.
- As always, I welcome your comments and ideas for improvement.
  - You may contact me at any time via email at [rustyparka1@gmail.com](mailto:rustyparka1@gmail.com) , phone- cell: 248-767-4146

# Administrative Assistant

## LAUREL OETJEN

- Update Fall meeting 2017 – Boyne Mountain
- Goals
  - Continue to serve as the administrative assistant, organizing meeting agendas, providing assistance to staff as appropriate and organizing other relevant information.
  - Create a “new staff orientation” packet to provide information for the incoming staff as to their responsibilities and all other relevant information.
- Needs
  - None noted at this time beyond continued support for meetings and supplies.
- Closing
  - It has been a pleasure serving as a member of the Central Division staff. If there are any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me at [laurel.vansoest@live.com](mailto:laurel.vansoest@live.com) or 612-308-6486.
  - Please note that my last name has changed as I was married in May of 2017 but my email address remains the same.

Thank you!

Laurel Oetjen

**CENTRAL DIVISION  
NATIONAL SKI PATROL**

**FALL REPORT — 2017**

**PROGRAM:** Division Awards Supervisor

**GOALS FOR THE 2016/2017 SEASON:**

1. Assist and advise the Division Director as needed concerning awards
2. Assist Region Awards Advisors as needed and continue to provide templates and advice so that all patrols can write-up more effective presentations
3. Attend and assist Division Director in presenting awards at Central Division Awards Banquet
4. Respond to inquiries concerning awards at all levels.
5. Continue to monitor awards issues and changes at National, Division, Region and local levels and see that they are passed along the chain.
6. Assure that Central Division patrollers have best possible opportunities for recognition of accomplishments
7. Continue to develop electronic transmission and assessment of awards between Regions and Division.
8. Continue to develop a better, user friendly Central Division Awards Manual for all patrollers in the Division reflecting National direction.
9. Continue to push the Critical Care Recognition to honor very high quality first aid that does not quite meet the standards of the Purple or Blue merit stars
10. Continue to work with Division Webmaster to post awards information
11. Work with the National Awards Committee to better clarify awards (teleconferences)

## CURRENT SEASON ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. Responded to inquiries from members of the Division regarding awards available and proper preparation of those awards.
2. Assisted Region Awards Advisors in assuring proper preparation of awards submitted by evaluating and advising all 2016-2017 awards submissions before they are submitted.
3. Sent Region Awards Advisors synopses of all awards each region gives out to members
4. Central Division Outstandings- All 8 regions submitted Outstandings and 10 Central Division Outstandings were submitted to National – four National Outstandings winner and four National First Runner-up
5. I submitted to National: Request for Action. To allow NSP registered Mtn Host & Alumni with OFC or OEC cards to be eligible for medical Merit Stars
6. I submitted to National: Request for Action. To allow NSP registered Mtn Host & Alumni who are injured on duty to be eligible for Patroller Crosses
7. I submitted to National: Request for Action. To allow NSP registered Mtn Host & Alumni who have died as the result of injuries while on duty to be eligible for Patrollers Memorial

Total Central Division Awards received 2016-2017: (170)

CD Outstanding- 32 total, 10 categories  
CD Outstandings- 10  
CD Outstandings First Runner up- 8  
CD Certificate of Appreciation- 46  
CD Program Award- 6  
Outstanding IT Award- 1  
Outstanding Supervisor Award- 1  
Division Director Award- 1  
DSA- 12, 4 denied  
Hall of Fame- 4  
CD Lifetime- 2  
Minnie Dole- 1  
MSA- 10, 2 denied  
National Appointment- 13, 5 denied  
Patrollers Cross- 23, 1 denied  
CD Critical care- 2 denied (no patient contact, 1 upgraded to YMS  
PMS- 14, 2 downgraded to BMS  
BMS- 14, 2 downgraded to YMS, 1 to CCA  
YMS- 23, 1 upgraded to DSA, 2 downgraded to CCA, 3 denied  
GMS- 1

50 Year- 3, not an award but processed via awards

**National Ski Patrol  
Central Division Fall Board of Directors Meeting  
Treasurer Report  
September 8-10, 2017  
Marty Jarvi**

**Financial Assets as of August 31, 2017:**

Cash and Bank Accounts	Amount
Checking	\$62,692.80
PayPal Balance 9/1/2017	\$2,276.97
5 Year CD @ 2%	\$50,000.00
Total Bank Accounts	\$114,969.77
Investment at Leshnak Securities as of August 31, 2017*	\$91,139.40
Total Assets	\$206,109.17

\* See Investment report included in Financials Section

**Summary of accomplishment year to date**

- Sent region support checks in June
- Broke out income and expenses for programs

**Objectives for remainder of 2017**

- With the help of our Region Treasurers File 2016-17 Central Division NSP IRS 990 Report on time (November 15, 2017)
- Continue to remit expenses as soon as they are approved
- Add additional income and expense categories as needed