



# Rusty Parka News



**Vol. 54 Issue 1** [www.nspcentral.org](http://www.nspcentral.org)

**Fall 2015**

## Division Director's Report



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

I would like to thank the Western Michigan Region for hosting a fantastic Division meeting in Grand Rapids Mi. Chip Knappen and his team did an outstanding job and should be very proud of their accomplishments.

The MSAA (Midwest Ski Area Association) voiced a concern last spring about the current OEC program. Their concern is NOT to so- called "dummy it down" OEC. Their concern is to create a program that fits the needs of the Midwest Ski Area business model. What they are asking for is a program that meets the ANSI B77 standard. This creates a few challenges; what is this new program, does it fit the NSP model of OEC, do we have part "A" and part "B", and I'm sure there are many other questions to answer. What I do know, is that we the NSP, needs to figure out a solution. The Central Division is committed to define a solution with or without the help of the National Board. The National Board states they are willing to define a new program however, the National Chairman has

not shown a sense of urgency. MSAA is not willing to wait years for a solution.

This takes me to the next topic: The National Board election. The Central Division, has four great candidates for the National Board. The Central Division needs your help, I need your help. I need you to vote. I need you to get your fellow patrollers to vote. You ask why. First, we need board members that listen to our stake holders. The four candidates running from the Central Division all understand the concept of listening and creating solutions for our stake holders. All four listen to the membership. The Central Division needs representatives on the Board as we need to keep the Board in check with our stake holders and the membership. We need board members that want to and will work on the future of the NSP.

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I believe the four candidates from Central Division will perform as the NSP require them to. Please take the time to vote and help me by convincing your fellow Patrollers to vote. Voting opens October 15 and closes December 1.

Social media is a double-edged sword. Some feel it's a great way to share fun times with others, some use it to share interesting facts that have been found, and so on. Please remember that what you post is seen by many and can be used against you when you don't want it used. If you have a Patrol Social media site remember comments can and will get in the hands of the ski area customers. We need to enhance the customer experience as without the skiing public we don't have an industry to serve. Please remember posting videos and photos tell many stories. If you are going to post photos and videos, make sure the correct process is being followed. For example, if it is a toboggan run being posted make sure everyone is in the correct position or don't post it.

We all need to be responsible for our own skill set required for Patrolling. This includes all the skills: OEC, toboggan handling, skiing, and so on. Telling ourselves we are good enough and I like the way I ski, or I feel my assessment skills are just fine is not helping our customers or the industry we love. The NSP Central Division, your Region and Patrol have programs that can and will help you. Don't be complacent in your skills, work on enhancing them, and become better than you were last season. It is your responsibility as a volunteer patroller to be the best you can be so take the extra time to improve your skills this season.

Thank you, have a safe and fun season.

## Kasten's Korner





**Chris Raudabaugh**  
**ADD**

# We Need Representation!

Starting October 15th the annual National Board election will be underway. The deadline is December 1st. There will be 12 candidates and all of their information will be available on NSP.ORG when the election opens.

Central Division Board encourages all of the membership to VOTE. If you are looking for direction on who are good candidates, the Central Division recommends our Central Division representation. If none of the following candidates win a seat on the board, the Central Division will not have any presence or influence on decisions made for the NSP membership:

- Ty Damon
- Brian Rull
- Brian Ulrich
- Jim Woodrum

The National Board needs these candidates to help our organization in the following areas:

- Strategic Planning
- Accountability
- Responsiveness
- Protecting our digital assets (ie. Membership/Education database)
- Working with industry partners

The Central Division board is confident that these 4 candidates will help in these areas. Please take a few minutes and VOTE. Once you are logged into NSP.ORG, it is very easy to register your choices for the National Board representation.

Once again, if you have questions about who to choose ... **Vote Central Division!**

## National Board Members from Central Division

**Janet Glaeser**  
Term expires 12/31/2015  
Janet7409@cox.net



**Jim Woodrum**  
Term expires 12/31/2015  
jrwoodrum@centurytel.net  
5151 South Lake Shore  
Drive Cedar, MI 49621  
231-228-2277



**Tom Anderson**  
**ADD**

## CHANGE!

What does the word Change mean to you? Change in your pocket? Change your socks? Change the way you are doing something? To me and particularly in the Patrol business the methods and practices we use and the way we operate are in a constant motion of change. Look at our equipment, wood backboards to plastic, Thomas half rings to sager to the adjustable-foldable-fit in your pocket traction splints. And who hasn't ditched the straight 2 x 4 ski for a shaped - side cut crazy ski? Not to leave my riding friends out, but who would have thought that the snowboard market would be what it is today?

So Change for the most part has been good and I think you would agree that you will never go back to those P-10's (standing in my wax room) but where I am going with this piece is that to grow in our world, to get better at what we do, there must be some change.

As we enter another season look for ways to improve your skills. Look for a change of pace. Maybe get involved with something you have never tried. Help with your local hill training. Help with your guest services. So many areas to explore.

The often repeated phrase of "if you always do what you have always done you will always get what you have always got" is so true. Maybe time for a change.

Have a great season!

## 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 online or contact Tom Anderson at [tpanderson@charter.net](mailto:tpanderson@charter.net) for more information.





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

## Tis the Season!

Go dust off your boots and helmet, stock your pack, refresh your skills, plan your winter activities, and do the snow dance.

What are your goals for this upcoming season? Our programs are here to assist you. Whether you are continuing to strengthen your skills as an on-hill Patroller, growing as a leader, or participating in development programs such as Senior or Certified - there is something for everyone. I urge you to consider your Patrol life as equivalent to your non-Patrol life where you continually strive for professional development and personal improvement. Planning my season includes 1.) participating in snowsports and outdoor seminars to improve my personal skills, 2.) volunteering as an instructor and resource for others thereby giving back what I have been given, and 3.) assisting at candidate and senior evaluations as Patrollers travel on their journey for self-improvement. The camaraderie is always incredible and I learn so much thru these activities every single day. I hope you, too, look for these opportunities in your Patrol life and find the daily rejuvenation that comes from participation.

It is the NSP programs administered via the Division, Region, and your local Patrol that provide these opportunities. Your program supervisors and staff have been very busy in the pre-season assuring that everything will flow seamlessly for you as we head in to the 2015-16 snowsports season. In fact, your Program Supervisors work year around to assure good training and evaluation experiences for each and every one of us. The Programs that I work with are OEC, Introduction to Patrolling, MTR, Public Relations, and Medical Advisor. OEC Refreshers around the Division are well underway, and as you read this nearly completed, and course completion and YES/NO rosters submitted to the NSP. Thank you Sue Hayes, Division OEC Supervisor, for all of the hard work you have put in assure we have successful OEC courses, refreshers, and evaluations. Karen Hadden - you have served the Division well for years and have assured a smooth transition to Sue.

We all have struggled with the IT issue at National but I do see progress in our future. The monthly updates are certainly appreciated. All of us need to periodically check our profiles, however, to be sure that our course and contact information is correct. And speaking of the NSP, it is really important to ME that our Division is represented on the national board of directors. Is it important to YOU to have representation? No-one knows as much about the Central Division as a Central Division Patroller. I appreciate the work of each and every Board member but the NSP's board structure allows unequal geographical representation. This year your Division has 4 excellent candidates. I know it's hard to know your candidates personally but read their profiles. You will see passion and a desire to serve you in each of their statements so you feel like you 'know them.' Then please vote, and make sure that the Central Division is represented on our national board..

I look forward to meeting you, seeing you, and sharing a wonderful 2015-16 snowsports season with you. Now it's off to dancing I go - a SNOW dance that is!



# Region Reports



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

## E Michigan Region

The season is here! The patrols have been working now for a number of weeks and the region staff has been busy providing a number of training events.

By the time you read this, the region staff will pretty much have all three SES, SNES, TES and a STW for the Eastern Michigan Region scheduled. I'm told there will again be a Women's event scheduled and also an Alumni event! All EMR events can be found on the EMR calendar located on our new website, [nspemr.org](http://nspemr.org).

Also happening right now are Patrol refreshers! We have refreshers scheduled on the EMR website and also on the Central Division website in case you cannot make your own local patrol refresher. In November, EMR has a late make-up refresher for all of those folks who has had a very hard time making the OEC refresher this season. For information please contact Steve Werner at [steve.werner@usa.net](mailto:steve.werner@usa.net).

Registration for the Senior Program is now open. If your plans include stepping up your game to become a Senior Patroller, information and sign-up can be found under the PROGRAMS tab on the EMR website.



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

## NC Region

I want to congratulate all the winners for NSP awards in all the regions over at the fall division banquet in Grand Rapids MI. great job to all that are very deserving. Thanks Western Michigan for hosting the event.

We are again having National board election, the biggest complaint that I have been hearing is that the national board isn't hearing us, the patrol. This year we have 4 candidates running from the central division. All patrollers have 4 votes, pretty simple math. If we all use our 4 votes for our central division patrollers our voice is bound to be better heard at the national level. So with that being said, get online and make sure your information at national is up to date and you will be able to vote. If anyone needs help for getting online; get in contact with the national office to fix problems getting online. Here is the contact information for support; 303-988-1111 ext. 2640 or email [support@nsp.org](mailto:support@nsp.org)

We as your division leadership need to hear from and follow our membership, just like we expect our national board to do. Please make your voice as patrollers heard to us, your region directors. If we are not doing as you expect us to, then it is all your jobs to change our board makeup. Make your voices heard and nominate good people to take our spots and have your patrol reps vote the way you want. In NC this year we also will be having election for section 2 Section Chief.

We have the honor of holding the first SES in the division at Ski Brule the Saturday before Thanksgiving. It has been happening for many years now so that means that the dust needs to come off the skis and the fat off the body. Ski season is here. Let's all have a great year, be safe, keep learning and raising your skills. We do have many events in the NC Region please look them up at the division calendar <http://www.nspcentral.org/calendar.php>



# 2016 CENTRAL DIVISION ELECTIONS NOTICE



**Ken Meldahl**  
**Central Division**  
**Election Coordinator**

Following the Policies & Procedures of the Central Division, the Central Division Director and two Region Directors, Eastern Michigan and South Central will be elected in 2016. One nomination form can be used for all of the elections. The nomination form located in this RPN may be used and sent to me by January 26, 2016 or the easiest method is to go to the Central Division website, find elections and fill out the form and submit, also by January 26, 2016. In addition, Section Chief Elections for Sections 2 and 5 should also take place this season. Section Chief Elections are run by each Region with the results reported to the Division Election Coordinator. All election processes and procedures can be found in the current Central Division Policies and Procedures which can be found on the Central Division website.

## **DIVISION DIRECTOR ELECTION**

Selection of the Division Director is by an election conducted by the Central Division election Coordinator and in accordance with the Central Division Policies and Procedures the results of which are reviewed and confirmed by the Central Division Election Review Committee. The Division Director shall have the duties set forth in the NSP Policies and Procedures, provisions of the Central Division Bylaws and shall direct the day to day operations of the Central Division, maintain communications with the National Ski Patrol System, Inc., the Region Directors and the individual Registration Units of the Central Division. He shall call and conduct the meetings of the Board of Directors and Executive Committee and appoint the non-elected officers and advisors of the Central Division Staff and fill such vacancies as may from time to time occur.

## **Qualifications**

1. Must be a registered NSP member for at least five years. Membership in an NSP registered Professional Division patrol shall constitute NSP membership.
2. Must have served one term as Region Representative or two terms as a Section Chief, or must have served as a Region, Division, or National Program Supervisor for at least two years.
3. Must be familiar with National policies and procedures as defined in the current NSP Policies and Procedures manual.
4. Must be familiar with the Division's policies and procedures, as applicable.
5. Must be registered in the Division as a Senior (Alpine, Nordic or Auxiliary) Patroller or Certified Patroller. (S09 P006)

Additional recommended (but not required) qualifications:

- Should have logged at least 80 days of active patrolling (excluding refreshers, tests, etc.) with one-third of these days at a ski area(s) in the Division.
- Should have experience working with management at a ski area in the Division and should have the endorsement of an area management representative in the Division.
- Should have actively participated in National level activities.

## **Responsibilities**

1. Supports and fosters NSP mission statement.
2. Promotes NSP education programs within the Division; supports Division staff in managing the integrity of NSP training standards; and establishes an atmosphere for the exchange of skills, ideas, proposals, techniques, and informational programs between NSP members, ski areas, NSP Registration Units, and regions.
3. Maintains accurate records at the Division levels. Develops an annual budget and presents it to the Division board of directors. Prepares an annual report and presents it at the annual Division meeting.
4. Carries out policies and responsibilities as defined in the NSP Policies and Procedures manual and the Division's bylaws.

5. Establishes and maintains relationships with other organizations related to the involvement of Central Division members including, but not limited to the annual and semi-annual meetings of the National Ski Patrol Board of Directors, PSIA, AASI and MSAA.

### **NOMINATION PROCEDURE:**

Nominations for Division Director Candidates may be made by any Central Division active patroller or by self-nomination. The nomination form can be found in this issue of the RPN or can be submitted from the Central Division website: [www.nspcentral.org](http://www.nspcentral.org). Nomination forms must be received by the Division Election Coordinator by January 26, 2016. Nominees will be sent a "Candidate Information Sheet" that must be returned by February 9, 2016.

### **ELECTION PROCEDURE:**

The Division Election Coordinator will verify qualifications of nominees, notify nominees of any deficiencies and collect nominee's resumes and/or position statements which will be distributed to the electorate along with voting instructions by February 15, 2016. Ballots must be returned by March 8, 2016. Tabulation of ballots by the Division Election Coordinator and validated by the Election Review Committee by March 19, 2016. Election results will be announced to the electorate and posted on the Division website by March 27, 2016. The candidate receiving the highest number of votes per an instant run-off vote process as detailed in Chapter 3 of the Central Division Policies and Procedures shall be declared the elected Central Division Director.

### **ELECTORATE:**

The votes for the election of the Division Director shall consist of the following:

One vote for each elected Region Director, Section Chief and Patrol Representative of a Registration Unit in the Division. In addition, one additional elector for patrols with 51 to 100 members, two additional electors for patrols with 101 to 150 members, and three additional electors for patrols with over 150 members. The number of members is based on the June 30th membership of the previous year.

Each elector must be an active member of that patrol with two or more years of service in the Division. The names, addresses and email of these electors shall be made available to the Division Election Coordinator no later than January 15, 2016. Compliance shall be the responsibility of the Region Election Coordinator, or the Region Director if no Region Election Coordinator is appointed.

## **REGION DIRECTOR ELECTIONS**

### **EASTERN MICHIGAN REGION/ SOUTH CENTRAL REGION**

In accordance with the current Policies & Procedures of the Central Division, an election for the position of Region Director for Eastern Michigan and South Central regions will be held in the year 2016. The Region Director serves a three year term, administers the Region according to the Region's Bylaws and Policies and Procedures and reports directly to the Central Division Director.

#### **Qualifications:**

1. Must be a registered NSP member for at least five years
2. Must have served as a Section Chief, Patrol Representative, or National, Division or Region Program Supervisor/Administrator for at least two years.
3. Must be familiar with National policies and procedures as defined in the current NSP Policies and Procedures manual.
4. Must be familiar with the Region's policies and procedures, as applicable.
5. Must be registered in the Division as a Senior (Alpine, Nordic or Auxiliary) Patroller or Certified Patroller.



#### Responsibilities:

1. Supports and fosters NSP mission Statement.
2. Promotes and supports all NSP education programs within the Region to maintain the integrity of NSP training standards.
3. As a member of the Division Board of Directors, the Region Director is responsible for duties developed and designated by the Division Board of Directors.
4. Responsible for all aspects of the NSP programs and activities supported by the Region.
5. Promotes the financial support of the NSP and its programs.
6. Visits all areas with the Region during their term of office.
7. Submits an annual report to the Division Board of Directors.
8. Is responsible for communicating National and Division policies to Sections and NSP Registration Units, and is responsible for communicating NSP Registration Unit concerns to the Division Director and/or Division Program Supervisors.
9. Writes articles and reports for Division Newsletter.
10. Ensures that all Section and NSP Registration Units submit annual reports and financial reports in a timely manner.
11. Recommends individuals to the Division Program Supervisors, and in consensus with them, appoints individuals to serve as Region Program Administrators.
12. Monitors the performance and effectiveness of Region Program Administrators and recommends changes in concert with the Division Program Supervisor when appropriate.

#### NOMINATION PROCEDURE:

Nomination may be made by any Region active patroller in good standing or by self nomination.

The nomination form can be found in this issue of the RPN or can be downloaded from the Central Division website: [www.nspcentral.org](http://www.nspcentral.org). Nomination forms must be received by the Division Election Coordinator by January 26, 2016. Nominees will be sent a "Candidate Information Sheet" that must be returned by February 9, 2016. All nominees must follow "Guidelines of Conduct for Candidates" found in the current Central Division Policies & Procedures.

#### ELECTION PROCEDURE:

The Division Election Coordinator will verify qualifications of nominees, notify nominees of any deficiencies and collect nominee's resumes and/or position statements which will be distributed to the electorate along with voting instructions by February 15, 2016. Ballots must be returned by March 8, 2016. Tabulation of ballots by the Division Election Coordinator and validated by the Election Review Committee by March 19, 2016. Election results will be announced to the electorate and posted on the Division website by March 27, 2016.

#### ELECTORATE:

The votes for the election of the Region Director shall consist of the following:

One vote for each Section Chief and Patrol Representative; one additional elector for patrols with 51 to 100 members, two additional electors for patrols with 101 to 150 members, and three additional electors for patrols with over 150 members. The number of members is based on the June 30th membership of the previous year.

Each elector must be an active member of that patrol with two or more years of service in the Division. The names, addresses and email of these electors shall be made available to the Division Election Coordinator no later than January 15, 2016. Compliance shall be the responsibility of the Region Election Coordinator, or the Region Director if no Region Election Coordinator is appointed.

Or

One vote for every registered member of the Region. If the one patroller one vote option is selected, the entire cost and operation of the election will be borne by the Region. The process and timing

for the election must be pre-approved in writing by the Central Division Election Coordinator. The process will be monitored and certified by the Division Election Coordinator.

Whichever population is used, the election outcome will be determined by a simple majority of the votes cast. If a tie occurs, it will be broken by the Division Director.

### 2016 CENTRAL DIVISION ELECTION NOMINATION FORM

I \_\_\_\_\_, (\_\_\_\_\_) of \_\_\_\_\_ Region,  
(Name) (NSP ID #) (Name of Region)

Email (nominator) \_\_\_\_\_

Nominate \_\_\_\_\_, (\_\_\_\_\_) of \_\_\_\_\_ Region for the  
(Name) (NSP ID #) (Name of Region)

Email (nominee) \_\_\_\_\_

Position of:

- ☐ DIVISION DIRECTOR
- ☐ REGION DIRECTOR
  - ☐ EASTERN MICHIGAN REGION
  - ☐ SOUTH CENTRAL REGION

**This form must be emailed or sent to the Division Election Coordinator (DEC) by January 26 (postmarked) of the election year.**

**MAIL TO:** Ken Meldahl  
Central Division Elections Coordinator  
63 North Ave.  
Fox Lake, IL 60020

Or nominate on-line at [www.nspcentral.org](http://www.nspcentral.org)

**ALL NOMINATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN JANUARY 26, 2016**

## Why Facebook?

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

We may all feel that Facebook is either a nuisance or the very life blood of our existence. Either way it can be a vital communication tool. To that point the upcoming election has four qualified people from the central division who are willing to devote the time and effort to be part of the critical leadership needed to help the national organization grow and be viable.

During the election time from October thru December 1, Facebook will be used to remind, encourage, plead and cajole central division members to vote. Please consider "liking" the central division facebook page [www.facebook.com/skinsp](http://www.facebook.com/skinsp).

We will make 500 likes (494 right now) and it is an easy way to communicate with all central division members who are linked by technology. Please feel free to post your pictures of refreshers, awards, events, etc. and it will be promoted. We are looking forward to seeing all of the adventures of the season. Keep us posted!!!



**Click above to join  
us on Facebook!**

# Certified Mentors and Events



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

For as far back as I can remember I always wanted to be a ski patroller. To me being a ski patroller was better than being president of the United States. Growing up around patrollers like Bill Black, Bob Pease, Doug Tablot and Earl 'the art of patrolling' Essig gave me a great appreciation for the NSP. Was I was finally old enough to join I was fortunate to have trainers such as Frank Burke and John Wiley. A few years later when I trained for Senior Lori Cobble, Karen Rosenquist and Rick Keane helped me refine the skills needed to meet that objective. Training for certified was a huge endeavor. Brian Cobble, Guy Day, Chuck Martschinke and numerous others helped me through this journey.

Today my mentors are many of the current certified staff and candidates. Education and growing as a patroller is an ongoing process. No one can do it alone. The Certified program is about being the best patroller that you can possibly be and passing that knowledge on to other patrollers. If you strive to be a better patroller that the Certified program is for you.

Anyone who is interested in learning more about the Certified program is welcome to attend any of the events on the calendar below. If you have any questions about the certified program please feel free to contact me, any of the region advisors or any certified patroller.

## 2015-2016 Certified Calendar:

Date	Location	Event	Contact
January 1	email	Application Deadline	Patrick Perlman
January 2-3	Perfect North	Qualification Clinic, Recertification	Eric Massanyi
January 17	Nubs Nob	Qualification Clinic, Recertification	Mike Longfellow-Jones
January 23	Lutsen	Qualification Clinic, Recertification	Kerstin Hammarberg
January 23-24	Chestnut	Qualification Clinic, Recertification	Todd Shurtz
January 30	Marquette	Qualification Clinic, Recertification	Tom Anderson
February 6	Devils Head *	Evaluation (select modules)	Patrick Perlman
	* Tentative – waiting for management approval.		
February 25-28	Nubs Nob/Boyne Highlands	Annual Evaluation	Patrick Perlman



# A List of Nordics



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

As Division Nordic Supervisor, I report to the Board. At the Fall Division meeting in Grand Rapids, I complained that I didn't even have a list of Nordic Patrollers, and that made it hard to talk to them all. My AD looked up, and said, "I think we can do that", and in a few days a list of all the Central Division Nordics appeared in my email. This may mean that the NSP database situation is improving; or it may just mean that I never asked the right person before. Whichever it is, the list is welcome. It's not perfect — I've found one incorrect registration, and at least one patroller missing — but it's very nice to have it.

It has lots of surprises for me. First, it's shorter than I expected: there are only 137 of us. The Western Region has more than any other region, with 38 Nordics in 7 different patrols. One of these patrols, Giants Ridge, is a downhill ski area, but it also has an extensive x-c trail network. There are 6 patrollers registered as Nordics with this Alpine patrol. This is something we only realized was possible a few years ago.

South Central has next most Nordics, with 25 patrollers in 5 patrols, while Southern has 22 patrollers in 9 patrols. Together, they cover southern Wisconsin and northern Illinois. Western Michigan has 18 Nordics, all in the same patrol — definitely a nice arrangement. Northern Michigan, on the other hand, has a lone Nordic patroller, all by himself. He has a secondary registration at a Nordic Patrol which apparently has no PR. I think I need to get in touch with him, as well as with several others in other regions who are similarly out of contact. And now I can!

It has been easiest for me to get to know patrollers living west of Lake Michigan, because a high percentage of them come to the Birkie, in northwest Wisconsin. This year it's on February 20, and yes, we need more patrollers — come join us if you can! Also in northern Wisconsin is our Division Nordic Workshop, January 9-11 in Minocqua. This is a two-day class in both Classic and Skate skiing, plus another day's class in Telemark. Look for more information on the Division website, under Programs/Nordic, to appear soon. Unfortunately, both of these events are pretty far away for anyone living east of the lake.

This year I'm going to try to get to some events east of the lake (far away for me), partly to improve contact with Michigan patrollers, and also just to widen my world. In particular, I'm pretty sure I can get to the White Pine Stampede, in the northern lower peninsula on February 6. The bigger American Vasa race conflicts with the Mora (MN) Vasaloppet, so I'll have to choose between them. If there are other events I should try to get to, let me know. A list of the major Nordic races which welcome visiting Nordic patrollers, with contact names, is another document that will appear soon on the Division website.

Here's wishing you a good season, with snow, not rain, and cold, but not too cold. Think snow!

## A New Treasurer



**Marty Jarvi**  
**Treasurer**

Turnover of the treasurer position from Joe Hamel to Martin (Marty) Jarvi is complete. Thanks Joe for all your hard work in the past. Treasurer's reports for all the Central Divisions regions are being consolidated for a November 15th filing to the IRS. I want to thank all region and patrol treasurers for their efforts. Without your timely work we couldn't make the IRS deadlines. For all staff and supervisors please remember expense vouchers are due 30 days after the close of an event. When submitting expenses and receipts electronically please rename any scanned information files to include the name of the person and type of expense (ie. Marty Jarvi Receipts or Marty Jarvi mileage). This will facilitate a more efficient and cost effective handling for payments and annual audits.



# Instructor Development Hybrid Class in Progress



**Virginia Rodeman**  
Instructor  
Development  
Supervisor

As many of you know, the Instructor Development Hybrid Class is under construction. We hope to have it up and running in January. Right now, the traditional class is the only method available. Look for one if you have not taken a class yet.

If you are a current instructor, the Instructor Development book is available on line for your viewing and use.



## OEC and Technology



**Susan Hayes**  
OEC  
Supervisor

What a wonderful Fall Meeting in Grand Rapids, MI hosted by the fabulous Western Michigan Region!! The OEC Staff put on an Instructor Recertification Course that focused on updates- using the online resources for running OEC courses, finding all of the ever-updated forms. Technology has streamlined so much of the OEC World for us! This time of year –before the sliding season starts- is the perfect time to go and see what is available on the NSP website under either OEC Instructor Resources (if you are an instructor) or the OEC Resources. Take a moment to check and make sure all of your educational information is current and up-to-date. Especially your contact information!

While you're at it, check out the new OEC Page on the Division Webpage! The contacts for Region OEC Administrators (ROAs), tutorials for filling out the paperwork, and more (!) are there. I'll be adding more as time allows. Remember always, always, always to use the CURRENT forms and they are on the NSP website!!

During the ski/snowboard season – keep your OEC Skills fresh:

- Find a mentor to work with you. Go over those skills, challenging scenarios, all the “what if’s” that are out there.
- Look into becoming more involved with your local patrol and/or Region. Take part in the Senior Program: The OEC Module of the Senior Program (OEC-MSP)
- Become an OEC Instructor or OEC Instructor Trainer. Talk to your Patrol Representative or Region OEC Administrator. You now have a way to find out who that person is!

Have a great season!

# Prepare for the Season



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

Preparing for the Season...*"If you don't have a target, you just might hit it."*

Ponder with me for a moment...if you were going to climb Mt. Rainer in two months, would you want to be fit? (Strength, Altitude, Cardio, Pain Management, Mental Toughness, Geographic Familiarity) And, what are the costs for not being fit on a group climb? Frustration, suffering, inability to fulfill my role with the team, labored breathing, despair? I don't know about you, but those would be some of the outcomes for me.

Or, if you were scheduled to trek in an African Safari in November, would you begin researching, making a list and gathering belongings now? I'm going to believe that our answer is yes.

Snow will be falling in many of our regions very shortly; when we signed on to wear the cross, we basically took an oath to serve the ski/ride public with our special gifts, talents and training. Are we ready to fulfill our duty?

In my last article for the summer, I suggested the following, please re-read it.

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

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

Let's take another step in that lifelong journey this year. We can be doing a lot right now to prepare for the upcoming season: OEC refreshing, equipment tuning/acquisition, fitness (core, core, core), and our overall readiness and goal setting for our ski/ride skills. None of us are exempt. We must all do our duty to ourselves, and for our teams, to be ready.

Pondering forward, I want to be able to know, that when readying in the patrol room for my shift, that the patrollers beside me know that they can count on me. That I've prepared, I've done my work, put in the fitness time, and I'm ready. I want them to know I will follow them, serve beside them and lead them when needed...I have done my due diligence, hit my targets and I am ready, and they are ready too. I encourage you, accept the challenge..."here we grow again!"

Remember, if you need technical ski/ride support, your local NSP-C Snowsports School crew (and often your local PSIA Ski School) is there to help.

The new Alpine/Tele and Snowboard Technical Manuals are available for purchase on PSIA website: <http://www.thesnowpros.org/>.



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

# Selfless Always Improving Patrollers

Welcome to the 2015-2016 ski season. I am excited as ever to get out the ski's and head for the slopes. This is my third year as your Division Senior Program Supervisor. I feel like I am finally getting the hang of the position. This year should prove to be another great year for the Senior program.

I am happy to announce Rob Carpenter from the Eastern Michigan Region has accepted the position of Assistant Division Senior Program Supervisor. Rob comes to us from a Region that has an excellent record of running a stellar Senior program, and he is a Level II PSIA Instructor. I am looking forward to working with Rob this year and into the future. I believe he will bring many great Ideas to our program. If you see Rob around this winter, say hello and welcome him to the program.

New Senior Candidates, welcome to the Senior Program. Congratulations on taking the next step in your National Ski Patrol career. As you navigate the labyrinth of paperwork, study, training and testing, stay focused on your end goals. Improving your skill set improves not only your skills but puts you more at ease when dealing with an incident. It creates the ability for you to be a mentor to new and up and coming Patrollers. It will make you and the program as a whole move valuable to our hills, Customers and Owners. Stay the course and succeed. Senior Leaders all over the Division are pulling for you. Take a look at your Region calendars or reach out to your Region Leaders through your Patrol Representative.

With 8 Regions in the Division, there is a lot of variety including, number of candidates, number of instructors and evaluators, success rates among regions as well as differences in the way programs are run. At the end of each season, we gather the data regarding what works, what doesn't work, what needs improvement, etc. The best practices are compiled to be shared within the Division. The way these ideas are passed down through the Division begins as the Snowsports Trainers Workshops.

This year's Division Ski Trainers Workshops will be attended by Toboggan, Snowsports and Senior Program Administrators from each Region. In turn, these folks will be conducting Snowsports Trainers Workshops in each Region. Senior Program Snowsports and Toboggan Instructors/Evaluators are required to attend a Ski Trainers Workshop once every three years to maintain their qualifications. This is also the place to gather the latest and greatest information from National and the Division as well as refreshing our classic skill sets. Take a look at the Division or Region calendars for your Regions offerings.

As I was thinking about what to put in this episode, I was thinking about the many different instructors, evaluators, volunteers, etc. that make our programs successful. The word that came to mind was selfless. To survive mentally as an instructor, evaluator or volunteer, one needs to have a mindset of selflessness.

## Selfless

Adjective self·less \`sel-fləs\

Having or showing great concern for other people and little or no concern for yourself

<http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/selfless>

The focus as a leader in the National Ski Patrol requires having or showing great concern for other people and little or no concern for yourself. It take a lot of time and money to get to a level in our organization where you can have an impact helping others learn and grow. There is no profit, and the only return on your investment is in the AH-HA moments, the smiles on the faces of successful candidates and the great relationships built over the years.

I want to thank all of the volunteers, instructors, supporters, toboggan riders, lunch folks, paperwork doer's, ski waxer's, edge sharpener's, patch sewer's, snowmobile drivers, evaluators, etc. that travel the miles and put in the time required to make our programs successful. You are the best of the best when it comes to a volunteer organization and I can't imagine not being a part of the successes. Thank you all for what you do! Have a Great Season!



**Sandi Hammons**  
**Women's Program**  
**Supervisor**

## Annual Women's Clinic at Crystal!

Hello Ladies of the Central Division! Our annual Women's Clinic will be held at Crystal Mountain on January 30th and 31st of 2016. We are very excited to go to Crystal because it was the first area to ever host our clinic, back in 2001. That is right, we are going back to where it all started. Fifteen years ago, we have come a long way!

The fee for this clinic is \$60 that includes: 2 days of skiing and an evening program with dinner on Saturday night. Your coaches for the weekend are there for you! This is what makes this clinic so unique; we the staff/your coaches do not come with any agenda other than to help move you to your next level. We want to help you get out of your comfort zone in a nurturing environment. Of course, FUN is a big part of our objective. Just getting 40 or so ladies all together sliding on the snow, enjoying the friendships and networking. That is what the weekend is all about, plus the great coaching from our highly qualified PSIA Certified Ski Instructors and NSP Toboggan Certified Instructors.

Lodging has been blocked for our clinic at the Best Western Scenic Hill Resort. The rooms are double queens at \$90 a night plus taxes. You need to call and reserve your room. Ask for Brittany Rainey and let her know you are with the Central Woman's Ski Clinic. Rooms have been blocked for January 28, 29 and 30, 2016.

Registration will be on the Central Division Website  
<http://www.nspcentral.org/womensprogram.php>

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sandi Hammons  
Women's Program Supervisor  
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[sandidanhammons@gmail.com](mailto:sandidanhammons@gmail.com)

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Thompsonville, Michigan 49683

Scenic Hill Resort  
Best Western  
1400 US Highway 31  
Beulah, Michigan, 49617-9704, United States  
231 882 7754

To see amenities:

<http://book.bestwestern.com/bestwestern/US/MI/Beulah-hotels/BEST-WESTERN-Scenic-Hill-Resort/Hotel-Overview.do?propertyCode=23159>



# Toboggan Handling - Back to the Basics



**David Bramel**  
**Toboggan**  
**Supervisor**

I think it was Abraham Lincoln who remarked, “If I had eight hours to chop down a tree, I’d spend six sharpening my ax.”

As I write this article most of us will have completed our Fall refresher, “sharpening our OEC ax” for the new season, and I imagine as this article “hits the press” perhaps there may be snow in the forecast or if you’re fortunate there’s a good base started at your local hill.

The 2015/16 season is underway. For those of us in Skills Development it has been since July. We have been busy planning the new season of Skills training for the Central Division. Our focus theme of this season will be, “Back to the Basics.” Focusing on Fundamentals. Safe, effective toboggan handling always starts with ski proficiency.

During the first two weekends of December, your Region’s Toboggan, Ski and Senior skills leadership will be attending one of two Outdoor Emergency Transportation workshops (formerly STWs). These events will be staffed and attended by Central Divisions training leadership as we negotiate the training fundamentals of successful skiing and toboggan handling using the language of Balance, Rotary, Edging and Pressure.

Once this “ax sharpening” is complete your Region Staff is ready to conduct their own OETw in their Region. Keep an eye on your Regions web page for further information regarding your local OETw, or ask your patrol director for information on your regions events.

Finally, as we move into the new season, please help your local patrol director as he/she organizes and conducts your areas Toboggan refresher. Be sure to attend this critical event, and be sure you get your refresher check off on the back of your OEC card.

## Central Division NSP-C Snowsports School



**Harold Parks**  
**NSP-C Snow**  
**Sports School**

Winter is fast approaching and your NSP-C Snowsports School is gearing up and getting ready to provide exceptional clinics in your area that will get you sliding and riding more proficiently.

What is the “**Essence of Great Ski and Snowboard Instruction?**”

“Being a fluid dynamic teacher is to assist the student in most learning situations. Setting specific goals and making a plan to get there. Creating an environment where failure is totally accepted and the team is supported.”

“Learning how the student learns and speaking and acting in a way that they can understand and relate. Gaining the trust and making sure that they walk away with knowledge to work on it when you are not there.”

“Good teaching equals good learning, which to me translates to being a coach to the student. You need to respect, honor and appreciate your student and his/

her needs and desires.”

“Having a passion for what you do, and transmitting that passion to the student is the essence of great teaching”

"Teaching is about coaching to the student in a way they can learn the most easily. Identify a student's primary learning style using their previous experience and reaching towards their goals. Essentially it's about them and less about you"

If any of these quotes resonates with you and you enjoying teaching others, you should think about joining the Snowsports School.

Joining the NSP-C Snowsports School is a great place to serve others and a place to call home. We provide a bond with our fellow patrollers by offering the team companionship to help develop their skills, but at the same time we are able to sharpen our skills and craft.

**The NSP-C Ski 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>**

There has been a change in the General Liability Policy which now includes Ski Instruction. The members of the Central Division NSP-C-Snowsports School can teach skiing fundamentals to Patrollers and Candidates and benefit from the insurance through Mountain Guard. Because the NSP-C Snowsports School is recognized as a sanctioned organization this allows us the benefit to teach sessions without registered course (SES, STW, TES, etc...).

If you were unable to attend the Divisions STW's please check with the nearest Region Snowsports School Advisor for a Ski Enhancement Seminar.

Region	Advisor	E-Mail
Eastern Michigan	Marty Blaszkowski	mjb8804@yahoo.com
North Central	Dave Dahl	dcdski@hotmail.com
Northern Michigan		
Ohio	Jimmy Seeger	nspcssor@gmail.com
South Central	Tim Weinand	tweinand@aosmith.com
Southern	Dave Malhiot	dmalhoit@yahoo.com
Western	Jill Nothwehr	jillnoth@hotmail.com
Western Michigan	Kevin Fultz	kevinfultz@aol.com

## 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](mailto:news@nspcentral.org) (or [nspcentral.org](http://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](mailto:news@nspcentral.org)) as spam, this could potentially disrupt our communications to other Central Division members.

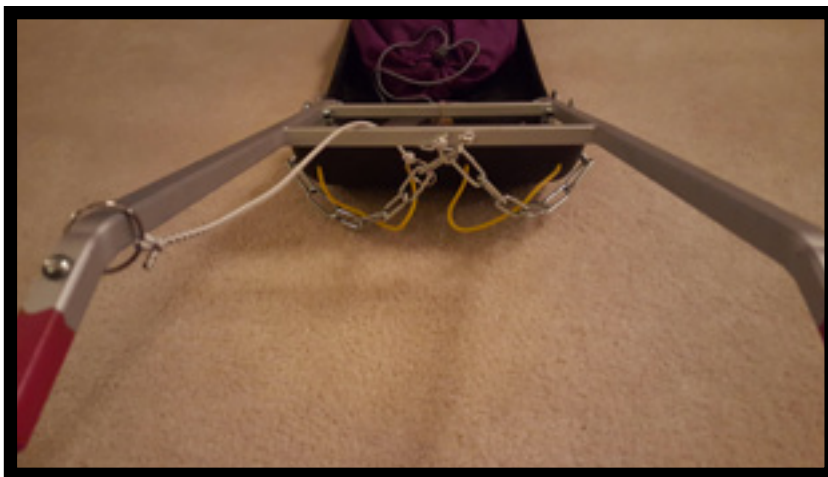
We use the National database as our resource for membership email addresses. If you wish to use a different email address, then make sure you update your profile at <http://www.nsp.org>. If you have any questions or wish to 'opt out' of receiving email, please contact Kent Anderson (Central Division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

# Mini-toboggans!

Submitted by: Jamie Roell

Winter is quickly approaching and it is a great time to update your training equipment for the season while benefitting both the Karen Werner fund for Patroller Education and the Dan Somalski Fund!

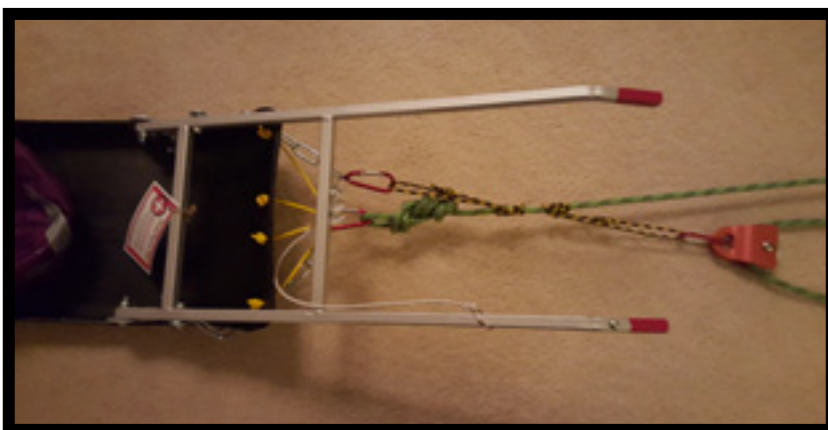
The Mini-Toboggan is the perfect educational tool to achieve repetitive training for low angle rescue and toboggan basics in smaller areas like patrol rooms and off-site locations. Some features of the mini-toboggan include the HDPE hull, lightweight durable-steel handles, locking mechanisms, tubular webbing, high-quality ropes and pulleys and a convenient polypropylene bag for storage. Designed by members of the Pine Knob Ski Patrol in Michigan and made in the U.S.A., this educational tool will quickly become a patrol room favorite! Order yours today by calling or emailing Jamie Roell (248) 703-7976, [jvroell@comcast.net](mailto:jvroell@comcast.net) or Jeff Jurcak at (586) 246-3979, [jeffandlauri@yahoo.com](mailto:jeffandlauri@yahoo.com). \$150



*"The mini sleds are a fantastic tool for LAR training in a warm and safe environment.*

*Consider it a CPI for toboggan IT's in your region."*

- Jay Zedak National Outdoor Emergency Transportation Director



# 4th Annual Dick Thalacker Memorial Golf Outing

Submitted by: Brad Carlson, Section Chief EMR-2

Fifty nine ski patrollers from Mt. Brighton and Eastern Michigan Region, along with friends and family gathered on Sunday, August 23rd for the 4th Annual Dick Thalacker Memorial Golf Outing. The golf outing is hosted annually by the Mt. Brighton Ski Patrol and raises training funds for the patrol and is a celebration and remembrance of a great member of the NSP.

Dick Thalacker joined the National Ski Patrol in 1964 and was a member of the Mt. Brighton Ski Patrol from 1976-2011. During his illustrious career, Dick received 15 NSP awards and served the NSP in many roles from Patrol Director up to National Advisor and Board Representative. Dick was passionate about promoting NSP and the sport of skiing and was an avid golfer. This outing serves as way to continue on his legacy and provide the funds necessary for patrollers to improve their skills both on and off the hill.

The weather was a little less than ideal but that didn't stop the fun. All in attendance took note of the beautiful rainbow as a sign that Dick was indeed smiling down upon all of us. The Mt. Brighton Ski Patrol would like to thank all of the visiting patrollers and guests for their support of this event. If you are interested in participating or sponsoring next year's event contact Tim Quinn ([tjquinn5656@outlook.com](mailto:tjquinn5656@outlook.com)) to be added to the contact list.





# In Memory of William (Bill) Merkel

Submitted by: Noel Derr, Snow Creek Ski Patrol Director

It was with a sad heart that we said goodbye to Bill Merkel, a close friend and fellow patroller who passed away June 24, 2015.

Bill joined the National Ski Patrol in 1989, and had been patrolling for 26 years. In 1990, Bill started his professional career as a ski patroller by taking the Level I Mountain Travel and Rescue class. In 1994, he passed Avalanche Level I and finished Avalanche Level II in 1995. During the following years, Bill had taken part in many avalanche classes and became an Avalanche Level I instructor in 2000.

Bill continued his avalanche training and in 2005, became an Avalanche Level II instructor. Bill understood the dangers of avalanches and wanted other patrollers to become aware of these dangers. He did this by teaching level I classes at both local and region levels.

Bill continued to maintain a high level of patrol skills by participating in OEC, CPR, Toboggan Refreshers and Lift Evacuation Practices.

Bill stepped up when asked to be Section Chief for the late Southwest Region and continued as Section 6's Section Chief in Southern Region, after reorganization.

In his private life, Bill was a CPR instructor with The American Heart Association for 25+ years and Advanced Cardiac Life Support instructor for 12 years. He served with the Wild Lands and Forest Firefighter team battling forest fires in Colorado, Wyoming and Montana for over 6 years, was a paramedic and full time firefighter for 10 years and a volunteer firefighter for 15 years.

Bill never gave up when he started a project. He started his Senior Alpine quest in 1998, passing the senior OEC, passing the Alpine Skiing portion in 2013 and the Toboggan portion in 2014.

Bill was honored in May, 2015, when he received his National Appointment, #11660, shortly before his passing.

Bill was an outstanding patroller, instructor, leader and all round friend to all. He will be greatly missed.



# Central Division 2014-2015 Awards



**Division Awards from Central Division Meeting:  
Gregg Reese  
Awards Supervisor**



## **Certificates of Appreciation for Western Michigan Region Banquet Committee**

David Bolliet, Sue Brann, John Donnelly, Dayle Hadden, Karen Hadden, Greg Hayes, Lourie Hurley, Erica Krol, Pat Livingston, Eileen Matthews, Randy Slater, Don Smith, Colleen Wolfe, Tony Wolfer, Chip Knap-pen, David Menke, Michael Walenta, Matt Chapman, Dan Goldberger, Jon Kelder

## **Dan Somalski Memorial**

NSP-C Ski School  
Judy Hill

## **Division Director's Award**

Karen Anderson-Hadden

## **Meritorious Service Award**

Joe Hamel  
Karen Hadden  
Tim Zimmerman



## **Division Director's Program Award**

The Division Director's Program Award for the Central Division is presented each year to recognize unsung heroes in the Central Division. Each program supervisor in Central Division is encouraged to nominate one special person (staff member or instructor) to be recognized who exemplified that program during the past ski season)

Brenda Robinson



**Central Division Outstanding Supervisor**  
Tim Zimmerman



**Central Division Lifetime Achievement Award**

Ron Plumer  
Mike Gaudiello  
Trudy Olsson





## Traditional Outstandings

Central Division has over 6000 active patrollers. These patrollers serve approximately 117 patrols. Each year, all 8 Regions of the Central Division are invited to send in a submission for each of 12 Outstanding categories ranging from Outstanding Young Patroller to Outstanding Large Alpine Patrol. The Central Division judges then select one patroller and one patrol in each category to be our Central Division Outstanding. The Central winners are then sent on to National to compete with all the other Divisions for National Outstanding and National First Runner-Up. Because of the increasingly high levels of competition in our division, the Central Division Awards Program started a tradition of recognizing our Central Division Outstanding First Runners-Up as well as our Central Division Outstanding winners.

### 2014-2015 CENTRAL DIVISION OUTSTANDING FIRST RUNNERS-UP

Attending the Awards Banquet

First Runner-up Young Adult Patroller:  
Hunter Loveland  
Bruce Mound  
North Central Region



First Runner-up OEC Instructor:  
Rae Ann Ruddy  
Pine Knob  
Eastern Michigan Region



First Runner-up Alpine Patroller:  
Tim Ronda  
Boyne Highlands  
Northern Michigan Region





First Runner-up Instructor:  
Keith Robinson  
Granite Peak  
North Central Region



First Runner-up Administrative Patroller:  
Guy Day  
Boston Mills/Brandywine  
Ohio Region



First Runner-up Large Alpine Ski Patrol (tie):



Afton Alps, Scott O'Connor P.R.  
Western Region



Mt Brighton Lisa Niemi P.R  
Eastern Michigan Region

First Runner-up Nordic Patrol  
West Michigan Nordic  
Mike Oliver P.R.  
Western Michigan Region

First Runner-up Alpine Patroller: TIE  
Carrie Butt  
Granite Peak  
North Central Region

Lynn Thornton  
Cascade  
South Central Region



### Central Division Outstandings

Outstanding recognition goes Devil's Head, a patrol that began in 1971. This Large Alpine Patrol of 141 patrollers serves an area with 8 Chair Lifts and 2 Magic Carpets and averages 130 days and nights of coverage per year. Of their 141 members with an average of 22 years of service, this patrol has many instructors in all areas of NSP education programs and many leaders at all levels of the NSP system from Section to Region to Division to National levels. For their work and devotion to the NSP, the Central Division is proud to honor the 2014-2015 Central Division Outstanding Large Alpine Patrol.

Central Division is also very pleased to announce that for the 2014-2015 ski season, the National Ski Patrol judging committee has awarded Devils Head Ski Patrol a Unit Citation for being selected the Central Division Outstanding Large Alpine Patrol.



The second Outstanding honoree Jeff McElheny began his ski patrol career in 1978 and became a Senior Alpine Patroller in 2004. This patroller is an OEC Instructor as well as an Alpine Toboggan Instructor. In the past two years this patroller has averaged almost 370 on hill hours and 250 off hill hours leading a patrol of 64 patrollers. For all his work over the past four years, Central Division is proud to recognize as the Central Division Outstanding Patrol Representative for the 2014-2015 season.

The Central Division and the National Ski Patrol are also further pleased to announce that in addition, the National Ski Patrol judging committee has awarded Jeff a Yellow Merit Star for being selected Central Division Outstanding Patrol Representative.



Sharon Crockett joined the NSP in 1964, became a Senior Alpine Patroller in 1970 and received her National Appointment in 1993. She is an OEC Instructor, Instructor Development Instructor and an Instructor Development IT as well as being her Region's Instructor Development Advisor for the past four years. For her outstanding work and devotion to the NSP Central Division is proud to recognize as the Central Division Outstanding Administrative Patroller for the 2014-2015 season

Central Division is also very pleased to announce that for the 2014-2015 season, the National Ski Patrol judging committee has selected Sharon as the National Ski Patrol's Outstanding Administrative Patroller First Runner-up and for her outstanding efforts, she has been awarded the Silver Merit Star.



Marty Blaszkowski joined the NSP in 2010 and two years later became a Senior Alpine Patroller. This patroller is an Alpine Toboggan Instructor, Level III PSIA, member of the Central Division Ski School and member of his Region's staff. He was his Region's Outstanding Alpine Patroller in 2014 and this season was selected as his Region's Outstanding Instructor. Coming to the NSP as a level III PSIA instructor, this nominee could have rested on his laurels, but he saw the possibility for improving his local on-hill training program and dug right in. He then took his natural abilities, PSIA training, and enthusiasm for teaching and took it to the next level -- by developing a new and unprecedented video training program for ski, snowboard and tobogganing candidates. Because of his devotion to his patrol, his region and the NSP, Central Division is very pleased to recognize as the Central Division Outstanding Administrative Patroller for the 2014-2015 season.



The Central Division is also very pleased to announce that for the 2014-2015 season, the National Ski Patrol judging committee has selected Marty as the National Ski Patrol's Outstanding Instructor. For his outstanding efforts, Marty has been awarded the National Outstanding trophy and a Gold Merit Star

#### OUTSTANDING WINNERS NOT ATTENDING:

Outstanding Alpine Patroller:	Keith Brown
Outstanding Young Adult Patroller:	Adam Holm
Outstanding Patroller:	Al Czarnecki
Outstanding OEC Instructor:	Jim Bichl
Outstanding Small Alpine Patrol	Pine Mountain
Outstanding Nordic Patrol	Viking Nordic

**National Appointment Number 11674 to:**

Joseph Hamel

Mt. Brighton Ski Patrol

Eastern Michigan Region



**Remember to VOTE!**

**Please go to: [www.nsp.org](http://www.nsp.org)**

**The election will open on October 15, and closes at 4 p.m.  
MST on December 1.**



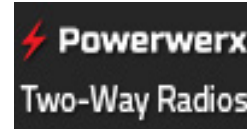
**Rusty Parka News encourages submission  
of articles, pictures, and letters to the editor.**

e-mail: [rustyparka1@gmail.com](mailto:rustyparka1@gmail.com)

Remember all links and emails in this publication are interactive- scroll over and click!



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# Central Division Staff Roster

## 2014 - 2015 Administrative Staff



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### OHIO REGION

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 C) 608-849-9866  
 rjpnsp@hotmail.com



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# Central Division Calendar

<u>Start Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Region</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact</u>
TBD		AVALANCHE	Eastern Michigan		
TBD		OEC	Eastern Michigan		
TBD		Apple Mtn. & Snowsnake OEC AVALANCHE	Eastern Michigan		
TBD		DEADLINES National Board "Call for	Eastern Michigan	Entire Central Division	Ken Meldahl, kmeldahl@comcast.net
TBD		AVALANCHE	Eastern Michigan		
TBD		TESTING/TRAINING SES Clinic	North Central	Ski Brule	Peter Holdridge
Sep 24, 15 to	24-Sep-15	OEC	North Central	Mont Ripley	Randy Tufts randytufts@yahoo.com
Sep 26, 15 to	27-Sep-15	OEC First Exam REFRESHERS	North Central	Mont Ripley	Randy Tufts randytufts@yahoo.com
Sep 26, 15 to	26-Sep-15	Refresher Weekend (Hybrid) REFRESHERS	North Central	Blackjack	Dale Feakes
Sep 26, 15 to	26-Sep-15	Big Snow OEC Hybrid REFRESHERS	North Central	Navarino Hills	Mike Olson, olsomp05@aol.com
Sep 26, 15 to	26-Sep-15	OEC Refresher Hybrid REFRESHERS	North Central	Navarino Hills	Mike Olson, olsomp05@aol.com
Oct 03, 15 to	3-Oct-15	OEC Refresher Hybrid REFRESHERS	North Central	Marquette	Kristy Gollakner
Oct 04, 15 to	4-Oct-15	Chair Evac Refresher REFRESHERS	North Central	Marquette	Kristy Gollakner
Oct 10, 15 to	10-Oct-15	OEC Refresher REFRESHERS	North Central	Globe University Wausau	Doug Borre dougandjoanne@frontier.com
Oct 11, 15 to	11-Oct-15	Section 3 OEC Refresher MEETING	North Central	Granite Peak	Marcia Locher riocher@charter.net
Oct 16, 15 to	16-Oct-15	Granite Peak Annual Meeting TESTING/TRAINING Patroller 101 6:00 PM	North Central	Pine Mountain	Jay Van Zeeland jay@pinemountainskipatrol.info
Oct 17, 15 to	17-Oct-15	REFRESHERS Chair Evac Refresher 6:30 PM	North Central	Pine Mountain	Jay Van Zeeland jay@pinemountainskipatrol.info
Oct 17, 15 to	17-Oct-15	REFRESHERS	North Central	Pine Mountain	Jay Van Zeeland jay@pinemountainskipatrol.info
Oct 24, 15 to	24-Jan-15	OEC Refresher (RSVP) REFRESHERS Big Snow OEC Standard Refresher	North Central	Blackjack	Chris Dobrinski
Oct 31, 15 to	31-Oct-15	MEETING NC Region Fall Board Meeting	North Central	Ski Brule	Les Robinson llrobins@wctc.net
Nov 01, 15 to	1-Nov-15	REFRESHERS OEC Hybrid Refresher	North Central	Minocqua Winter Park	Carolyn DeJongh at cdej@charter.net
Nov 03, 15 to	3-Nov-15	OEC OEC Second Exam	North Central	Mont Ripley	Randy Tufts randytufts@yahoo.com
Nov 21, 15 to	22-Nov-15	TESTING/TRAINING SES	North Central	Ski Brule	tsalonen@fast-air.net
Dec 01, 15 to	1-Dec-15	SENIOR Senior Applications Due	North Central		Jim Hughes
Dec 05, 15 to	5-Dec-15	REFRESHERS Ski and Toboggan Refresher	North Central	Ski Brule	Joe Matuszak
Dec 05, 15 to	5-Dec-15	OEC OEC Final Exam	North Central	Mont Ripley	Randy Tufts randytufts@yahoo.com
Dec 12, 15 to	13-Dec-15	REFRESHERS S&T Refresher	North Central	Ski Brule	jmt00z@aol.com
Dec 12, 15 to	13-Dec-15	TESTING/TRAINING SES	North Central	Pine Mountain	Jay Van Zeeland jayvz7243@gmail.com
Dec 12, 15 to	12-Dec-15	REFRESHERS Toboggan Refresher and TES (Open to all, RSVP requested) 9:00	North Central	Pine Mountain	Jay Van Zeeland jayvz7243@gmail.com

Dec 20, 15 to	20-Dec-15	TESTING/TRAINING 101 Orientation	North Central	Ski Brule	duodiscovery@yahoo.com
Jan 09, 16 to	9-Jan-16	REFRESHERS S&T Refresher	North Central	Granite Peak	Chuck Jonas ozzynkat@charter.net
Jan 09, 16 to	9-Jan-16	TESTING/TRAINING Region STW	North Central	Ski Brule	Jim Grundstrom jimgrundstrom@freichevy.com
Jan 09, 16 to	9-Jan-16	SENIOR Senior OEC Module (Clinic)	North Central	Big Powder Horn	Mike Olson, olsomp05@aol.com
Jan 09, 16 to	9-Jan-16	NORDIC Sisu Ski Marathon	North Central	Ironwood	Vic Calore
Jan 09, 16 to	10-Jan-16	TESTING/TRAINING Division Nordic Clinic	North Central	Minocqua Winter Park	Betty Adams, Peter Wollan
Jan 10, 16 to	28-Feb-16	TESTING/TRAINING S&T Candidate Training	North Central	Ski Brule	jmtooz@aol.com
Jan 10, 16 to	10-Jan-16	SENIOR Senior S&T Clinic	North Central	Big Powder Horn	Chuck Jonas ozzynkat@charter.net
Jan 11, 16 to	11-Jan-16	NORDIC Division Telemark Clinic	North Central	Indianhead	Betty Adams, Peter Wollan
Jan 23, 16 to	23-Jan-16	NORDIC Noquemanon Ski Marathon and Half Marathon	North Central	Marquette	Jim Grundstrom jimgrundstrom@freichevy.com
Jan 30, 16 to	30-Jan-16	CERTIFIED Certified Qualifying and Recertification Clinic	North Central	Marquette	John Keating
Jan 30, 16 to	30-Jan-16	NORDIC Wolf Tracks Rendezvous (a Birkie qualifier)	North Central	Minocqua Winter Park	Betty Adams mbadams008@gmail.com
Feb 07, 16 to	7-Feb-16	AWARDS NC Region Awards Deadline	North Central		Brenda Robinson brobins@live.com
Feb 20, 16 to	20-Feb-16	SENIOR Senior S&T Exam	North Central	Mont Ripley	Chuck Jonas ozzynkat@charter.net
Feb 20, 16 to	20-Feb-16	NORDIC American Birkebeiner	North Central	Hayward	Nancy Imm nanimm@aol.com
Feb 21, 16 to	21-Feb-16	AWARDS Awards Committee Meeting	North Central	TBD	Brenda Robinson brobins@live.com
Feb 27, 16 to	27-Feb-16	NORDIC Squirrel Hill Skiathlon (a pursuit race)	North Central	Minocqua Winter Park	Betty Adams mbadams008@gmail.com
Mar 05, 16 to	5-Mar-16	NORDIC Great Bear Chase Ski Marathon	North Central	Calumet	Nancy Imm nanimm@aol.com
Mar 05, 16 to	5-Mar-16	TESTING/TRAINING Candidate S&T Evaluation	North Central	Granite Peak	Chuck Jonas ozzynkat@charter.net
Mar 05, 16 to	5-Mar-16	TESTING/TRAINING Candidate S&T Evaluation	North Central	Ski Brule	Pete Holdridge
Mar 06, 16 to	6-Mar-16	NORDIC MWP Community Day	North Central	Minocqua Winter Park	Betty Adams mbadams008@gmail.com
Mar 06, 16 to	6-Mar-16	TESTING/TRAINING S&T Candidate Evaluation	North Central	Ski Brule	jmtooz@aol.com
Mar 12, 16 to	12-Mar-16	SENIOR Senior OEC Module Final Test	North Central	Minocqua Winter Park	Mike Olson, olsomp05@aol.com

**Central Division Calendar is Subject to Change.**  
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