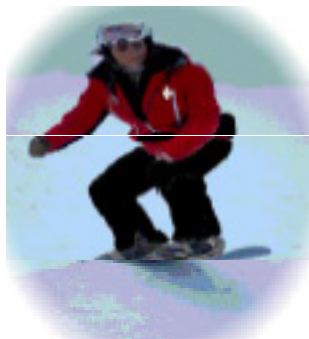




# Rusty Parka News



Vol. 56 Issue 1

[www.nspcentral.org](http://www.nspcentral.org)

Fall 2017

## Division Director's Report



**John Thomas**  
Division Director

Good day everyone, I hope you had a relaxing and safe summer. I'm sure many of you had some hurdles to jump over as life creates challenges for all of us. I truly hope those life challenges have settled down for you and you are able to have a fantastic snow sport season.

I am excited about a motion that was passed at our last Board meeting: if you have made the decision to become an Alumni member, you are still allowed to teach disciplines in which you remain current. Current schedule Alumni members; I encourage you to help out wherever your patrol leadership will work to allow you to assist. Patrol reps; I encourage you to reach out to alumni members and use their wealth of knowledge to help you.

I hope by the time you read this newsletter you have already voted in our National Board Election. If you have not and there is still time, I encourage you to help us by voting. It's your right as a member to vote for the people you feel will best serve this organization. I would hope you read the platform statements and all the other data available and make your decision on who's the best person to listen to the membership and lead this organization into the future.

Finally, we ALL can improve our skills no matter how good we believe we are. I urge you to set a personal goal and make a firm commitment to yourself for the upcoming season to improve one skill. This can be an OEC, Toboggan, Skiing or leadership improvement goal. Set a goal and your commitment to it so that you are successful.

Have a fantastic and safe snow sport season and I hope we can make some turns together this season!

## Parka Picks

#RideAnotherDay	P. 2
Change Someone's Life	P. 3
Northern MI News	P. 5
Active Alumni Program	P. 7
Young Adult Program	P. 10
NSP-C Snowsports	P. 17
New MTR Supervisor	P. 20
Social Media	P. 21
Bike Patrol	P. 24
Awards	P. 26

# #RideAnotherDay

The #RideAnotherDay campaign is being promoted by the National Ski Areas Association and National Ski Patrol. On Christmas Eve 2010, a violent collision at a ski area in Wyoming resulted in the death of five-year-old Elise Johnson, as well as the snowboarder who crashed into her, and left Kelli Johnson in a coma with severe injuries. To watch the movie click on the picture to the right or visit: <https://goo.gl/JSSDtZ>

Remind skiers this year to:

1. Be Ready
2. Stay Alert
3. Plan Ahead

**Don't forget to vote for the 2017 Board Election starting on October 16th.**

**To read more about the candidates visit:**  
<http://nsp-elections.org/candidates/>

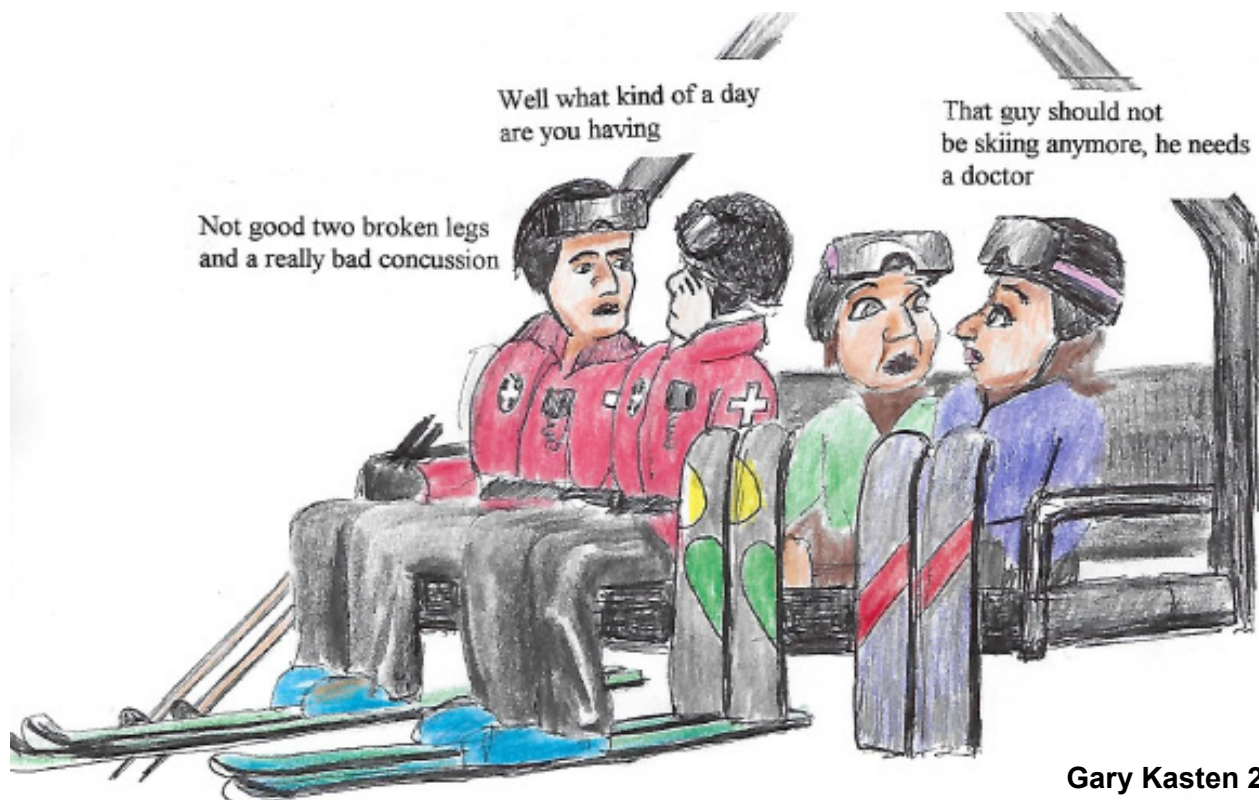
**To vote visit:**  
<https://www.nsp.org/NSPMember>

★★★★★  
**BOARD ELECTION  
2017**

★★★★★



## Kasten's Korner



Gary Kasten 2017



**Tom Anderson**  
**ADD**

## Change Someone's Life

Ready or not, here comes another season! As a member of your division staff, patrol business continues year-round. Phone calls, emails and meetings punctuate the summer.

Now, my favorite time of year...the changing of colors, refreshers, chair evacs and meeting back up with my winter time friends.

This past weekend I had another reminder of the coming season and that was the annual enshrinement of the newest inductees into the US Ski & Snowboard Hall of Fame. It was especially significant for us patrollers in that one of the nine new honored members is one of

our own. Dr. Gretchen Besser, the NSP's first historian and world ambassador to the sport of skiing made the trip to Ishpeming, MI to hang her plaque in the honored hall. It was a true honor to welcome her and her husband Albert to our part of the world.



Another new inductee in attendance was Michael Berry, recently retired head of the National Ski Areas Association. Listening to his view and thoughts of the future for our industry pauses one to stop and think what we as patrollers can do for the sport. Individually as well as collectively we can make great impacts to insure growth and sustainability in the sport we all care so much about. Mr. Berry made a statement that I feel should resonate through us patrollers. "Change someone's life the way someone changed yours." If you think about what you have become as a person and a patroller, someone, somewhere had a lot to do with it.

Last edition of the RPN I suggested it was time to take that little person in the picture to the hill. I still hold true to that and will remind and ask all that I have contact this winter who was it that you brought out.



**Chris Raudabaugh**  
**ADD**

## Let's Make NSP Great Again!

Our National Organization and Board have made great strides over the past year to make patrollers and the NSP programs valued in the ski industry. But, they (and us) have more to do. Every year, you are asked to get out and make your voice heard by voting. This may seem repetitious, but it is still an important reminder every year.

It is important to understand that our value as volunteer patrollers and the NSP programs are always being challenged. It is also critically important that we put the right representatives on our National board who understand this big picture, and not focus on their own local issues when directing the NSP future. Please review the slate of candidates on NSP.ORG. There is a lot of information regarding these candidates and you can make your own judgements.

If you are looking for any direction at all, then read on...otherwise, skip to the next article

Julie Stone holds the same position as myself in the Division Leadership, Assistant Division Director. Julie directs a line of advisors/supervisors who manage NSP programs at the Division Level. Julie is a very

grounded, well educated person who sees NSP at the national level. She would not shy away from standing up for our organization for all members, not just Central Division. This is the type of person we need on the National Board.

If you would ask me for a recommendation, Julie would be a great person to elect. She has my vote!

## Region Reports

### Eastern Michigan Region



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

Hard to believe that summer is over and it's time to start putting in motion the plans for the 2017 – 2018 season.

The refreshers are starting up so please view the calendar for all EMR refresher dates in case you need to attend one of the other patrols. Our dates can be at [nspemr.org](http://nspemr.org)

Fundraising ski swaps are also starting up. Remember that ski swaps not only help raise necessary funds for patrol educational needs, they expose the skiing public to us as patrollers and the resorts we represent.

I would like to thank and congratulate Joe Johnson and the Mt. Holly Ski Patrol! Mt. Holly is the first patrol in the Eastern Michigan Region to have all of their patrol on-hill trainers PSIA certified. Great Job!

We also welcome Vito Manzella as our EMR representative for Bicycle patrols within our region. We have a number of those patrols operating in the Metroparks, state and county parks helping out with this warmer weather fun filled activity.

## South Central Region



**Steve Paladini**  
**South Central**  
**Region Director**

It's hard to believe that a little more than a year has gone by since I stepped into this position. Truth be told, it takes an immense amount of organization and time commitment: nights at home on the computer and phone, attending activities at the patrol level, throughout the Region and Division. It's been enjoyable, rewarding, and quite the educational experience. I have a better understanding of NSP and feel I'm a better patroller for accepting the position. But, I haven't done it alone. I cannot thank the Region's Staff and Program Advisors enough, for their help, dedication and hard work.

As you read this issue of the Rusty Parka News, I will have started to visit most of the 15 patrols at approximately 11 refreshers held in the Region. Again, I plan to visit most, if not all the Region's activities during the upcoming season. Last season, I enjoyed meeting many of the Region's patrollers.

After 11 years, on June 30, 2017, Paul Fuchs stepped down as the Section Chief, Section I. Erik Hudson of Alpine Valley has agreed to be the Section Chief, Section I for the remainder of the term.



Tom Merritt also stepped down as the Region's Toboggan Adviser. Stepping into his position is Jeremy McPherson of the Cascade Mountain Ski Patrol.

I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate Patrol Director Kevin Ketter and the Little Switzerland Ski Patrol, for being the "first runner up" for the Division's Outstanding Large Patrol. Also, Jim Hubing for being first runner up" for Division's Outstanding Patrol Director.

Currently the Region is running eight OEC classes, with the last class ending in mid-November. Along with these classes, the Region patrols are all currently working on completing their Instructor and Full refreshers. Along with this, the Region Advisors are establishing dates and locations for their upcoming programs this season. The Region does have a Mountain Travel Rescue (MTR) I class scheduled for November 11 to 12, 2017 at Mt. LaCrosse. If anyone is interested, contact me and I will get you in touch with the Instructor of Record.

Finally, the Region will be hosting the 2018 Division Meeting at the Chula Vista, in Wisconsin Dells. Mark your calendars for September 7, 8 and 9, 2018.

Have a safe season on the slopes.

## Northern Michigan Region



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

**"Wow! What a weekend."** September 8,9 &10, 2017. 220 patrollers and guests, 6 National Board Members, our good friend Melanie Hood, NSP Marketing and Development Director, and the newest member of the National Office Staff Meegan Moszynski our new NSP Executive Director all gathered at Boyne Mountain for the 2017 Central Division Patroller Conference. It started with a Motorcycle tour of Northern Michigan and the start of fall colors Friday morning and then a tour of Shaggy's Copper Country Skis (Northern Michigan's Artisan Ski Maker) Friday afternoon. The weekend continued Saturday with updates on National Issues and seminars on Bike Patrolling, LAR, Adaptive Chair Evacuation and Medical Issues. Participants found lots to do. In our post event survey, some participants commented that there was too much to do and having to choose between seminars.



The National Staff and Board Members presented an update on activities at the National level and participated in a "roundtable" discussion with conference attendees later in the day. These plus the "incidental contacts" outside of formal meetings gave participants many opportunities to meet and talk with the policy makers and direction setters in our National Organization.

Jeannie Thoren, women's skiing and boot fitting expert, was one of the highlights of the weekend. Jeannie helped 15 participants (of both sexes) find fixes to boot fit issues during private appointments. Saturday evening, she had us in stitches while educating us about boot fitting and the adjustments that will improve one's enjoyment of the sport.

The main event, of course, was the presentation of Division and National Awards. Please see Martin's article elsewhere in this RPN for more information on award recipients.

**Thank you to all the Northern Michigan Patrollers who planned and executed the programs that made this weekend a huge success!!!**

A contingent of Northern Michigan Region patrollers attended the Bike Patrolling seminars to evaluate the potential of forming one (or more) bike patrols in our Region. Biking is one of the fastest growing activities in our area. On last count, there are six major cycling events attracting over 15,000 participants annually. In addition, Northern Michigan has nearly 1000 miles of hard surface off-road trails and nearly that again in cleared mountain bike trails with more being added every year. These facilities attract thousands of local riders and tourists weekly. Providing patrol coverage to these events and trails seems like a natural extension of our mission. This group will be meeting in the coming weeks to finish analyzing the possibilities and establishing an action plan.



NMR barely had time to take a good deep breath when we turned to the Annual Region OEC Refresher. On Saturday, September 23rd, over two thirds of the region's patrollers gathered at Gaylord High School for a Cycle A Refresher. Approximately 80 OEC Instructors and helpers completed the "Instructor Refresher" Saturday morning. Following lunch, they provided practice, instruction and skill observation for refresher participants. Conducting both refreshers in one day is a challenge, and a very long day, for instructors but reduces the travel as most of our patrollers and instructors live several hours away. Thanks to all the instructional staff that made this a fun and meaningful event for all.

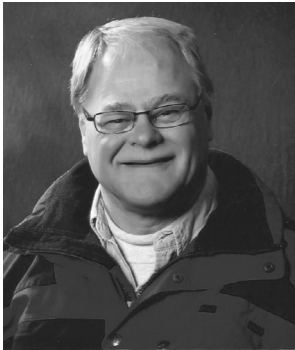
As if this wasn't enough to fill out the month, the region purchased a booth at the "Volunteer Expo" in Traverse City. This event introduces potential volunteers to volunteer activities available in the area. Our goals were modest. We wanted participants to know that volunteers provide the emergency care at Northern Michigan Resorts and to get contact information for a few potential volunteers. Actual attendance at the event was very light this year. However, we did talk with over 30 people looking for volunteer activities and provided contact information for the two Traverse City Ski Areas to 5 or 6 serious potential volunteers and even to a couple of potential volunteers for a nearby Western Michigan Region Resort.

On a sad note, we laid long time member Jeff Summers to rest today. Jeff served as a member of the Mt Holiday Ski Patrol for over 15 years. He was Ski and Toboggan Trainer and served as NMR, Section 3 Proficiency Advisor for many years. Jeff lost his five-year battle with cancer in June. Those that were lucky enough to know Jeff lost a great friend. He was only 53.

I started this on the third day of Fall in clear skies, bright sun and 90 degrees and it was hard to believe that we were only 45 days from snow making. Today as I finish, we started at 34 degrees and it is struggling to reach 55 degrees and Northern Michigan resorts are finishing summer maintenance, installing new snow guns and finalizing season startup plans. Region Trainers are busy preparing for our Senior Program Kickoff meeting and some possible pre-season OEC Module of the Senior Program Clinics. I guess it's time to find my boots and get ready to take the summer wax off my skis.



# Active Alumni Program is Good for Alumni and the Patrol!



**Mark Holtan**  
**Alumni Advisor**

My name is Mark Holtan, this is my first article since I accepted the Division Alumni Advisor position last Fall. My home patrol is Powder Ridge Winter Recreation Area, located near St. Cloud, MN. During my 50 years of active patrolling, I have served many patrols in the Central and Northern Divisions, holding several positions from patrol director to region director. Year 51 I decided to register with the Division Alumni patrol and secondary with Powder Ridge, mainly due to physical limitations from knee surgeries.

I attended Powderfall last April, in Snowmass with the main intent of attending meetings with our National Alumni Advisor and other Division Alumni Advisors to get a better understanding of the program and how to better serve our Division Alumni Program. The meeting was postponed, yet to be rescheduled. There continues to be periodic email communications with exchange of ideas.

At our Fall Division Meeting last month, we were honored to have 5 National Board members, our National Chair, Jim Woodrum and our newly hired NSP Executive Director, Meegan Moszynski. I am encouraged to hear the National office and board are committed and strongly support the Alumni Program. A major take away was discussion with Chris Pringle, Board Member and IT guru from Harvard University, who is working on improving our software system, to better track and list alumni's as secondary on patrol rosters, in addition to many other software enhancements.

In addition, I addressed our Division Board and specifically Region Directors, that I would like to see each Region, establish a Region Alumni Advisor position if they do not have one, advise me who the advisors are if not already done so, then I can exchange communications with the Region Alumni Advisors, who can administer the alumni program within their respective region. This will allow an open channel of communications to answer questions, handle registration issues, promote and recruit patrollers who may be considering "going inactive" or moving to "alumni status".

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

## **For Individual patrollers:**

If you are an individual patroller considering alumni status, check out the NSP Alumni Manual on the NSP website, and consider Alumni status. It provides you ongoing NSP registration, access to NSP catalog and sweet deals, info from the NSP, your individual patrol and the "halo status" of continuing your NSP affiliation! Talk with your individual patrol's leadership; there is always a place for an alum who seeks to stay active in unique ways to match your talents! For more info, go to NSP website: [www.nsp.org](http://www.nsp.org), Sign In, click on "For Members", click on "PROGRAMS", select from drop down "Alumni". The NSP Alumni Manual and FAQs should answer most of your questions.

## **For individual patrols, several suggestions:**

1. Appoint someone from your patrol as your alumni advisor.
2. Send that advisor's contact information to your Region Alumni Advisor, or to me if your Region does not yet have an Advisor.



3. If you already have an active alumni program, please advise your Region Advisor or myself and share your ideas/events that worked like crazy for you. Sharing this info will strengthen our Region and Division Alumni programs.

I am hoping to assist as best I can in the coming ski season in promoting, rewarding and energizing your patrol's Alumni program and our Division's Alumni program.

### Renew Alumni dues on-line!

Alumni members, renew your NSP Dues on-line. I have had this question come up several times recently – “can I renew my Alumni Membership on-line”? YES – 3 easy steps:

Here's how to do it; as an Alumni member you merely:

- a) Log into the NSP web site, with member number and your Password, then,
- b) At top, upper right where it will say “Hi, (member name)” - merely click on that icon, and it takes you to your My Profile page, then
- c) At bottom left of the Profile, click on the “Renew Now” button, and it allows you to pay with a choice of credit cards, Pay Pal and the like.

**That's all there is to it folks!**

## Standards



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

Imagine a fellow patroller asking, “what are your plans for this year?”, or “what are you working on?” Go on a quick hypothetical journey with me...

Until we write them down and define them, they are only dreams.

Let's say that “Rena” is working toward her Sr. Ski & Toboggan and her Level I PSIA credential. What might her year look like?

March: Rena scribbles down some short and long term goals for the following year. 1). Get her Sr. S & T. 2). Achieve PSIA LI. Long-term goals: become a Sr. Evaluator in her Region, and teach within the Division NSP-C Snowsports School as a L3 Instructor.

September: Rena rides her bike during the summer months and takes 3 mile walks with her dog Ralph on a regular basis. She takes out her journal and re-evaluates the goals she set in March. Confident, she reviews the NSP Region calendar and the PSIA-C events calendar. She selects her events and puts them into her personal calendar.

October: Rena continues to ride but is losing some joy b/c the winds are picking up and the air is colder. Rena begins to slowly transition into the gym where she focuses on her core and leg strengthening. She also attends the local pro night at her local Ski / Ride Shop and reviews her boot fit and drops off her skis for a tune. She notices Ralph picking up a couple pounds and re commits to those 3 mile walks. Rena refreshes her OEC and CPR, and pitches in at the local refresher. She passes up an opportunity to help out at the Region level for a job posting to focus on her development plan. She maintains her role locally as OEC IT.

November: The NSP-C Snowsports calendar is online and Rena selects a SES and a TES locally, and a SES & TES in her region that she will travel to that has more difficult terrain. Rena seeks out her PD and



asks to be considered to attend the NSP Division ASDW clinics in December. Knowing that she may not be picked, she creates a backup plan to take a PSIA education event to still get on the snow early.

December: Rena attends the PSIA education event. She leaves the event confident but realizes she needs to step up her academic side regarding the Teaching Cycle, developing more flexible progressions, and working on moving COM over the inside foot for wedge turns. She makes an adjustment to her calendar: she will do some shadow work with the local PSIA/AASI snow sports school.

January: Rena is growing in her skills. Her shifts are going fantastic; she is part of a great team and she loves making contributions. She's had two tough night time extractions and she has experienced a growth spurt in her toboggan training. She attends her local TES and SES and she gets local affirmation that she is ready for her NSP Sr. exam. Her sign off paperwork in hand, she travels to the TES/SES that will be her personal test for evaluation against the ski/toboggan Sr. standard. With success and some solid feedback, she preps for February's Sr. exam and her PSIA LI test.

February: On quiet shift nights, Rena is testing her friendships as she grabs friends and turns them into pretend students, practicing her new exercise lines for her LI test. She is contacted by the Region OEC Administrator about helping out at this year's Sr. OEC test as a patient; she accepts. Rena continues to eat a healthy diet, exercises and makes final prep for her upcoming exam. The Sr. exam is at a tough mountain but she has prepared and has skied there before. Her PSIA exam is local and she is ready.

March: It was a schedule-packed season, but Rena was successful in reaching her goals. She invested greatly in herself knowing that her skill development would aid and benefit injured guests, her shift team, and the representation of the NSP cross. It has been good year, and she reflects with satisfaction.

As she sits by the fire with Ralph at her feet, she reviews her feedback from the Sr. Test and PSIA exam. Maybe it's time now to set next year's goals, she thinks. She contacts some friends and makes plans to travel out west in November for an early season primer. Yep, it was a good year.

Unrealistic? Many patrollers have made this journey and you can too. Get together with some likeminded, goal oriented friends and make a study group. Get things going and make plans now for your development.

Until you write them down they are only dreams.



Where will your dreams take you?

# Young Adult Program: Flexibility in programming



**Jane Bickerstaff**  
**YAP Advisor**

How do you encourage young adults to become members of NSP? We've all heard the talk that patrol is aging and younger patrollers are necessary to continue our legacy. How do you compete with all of the activities that millennials are involved in? Do we really think that ski patrol will win over a Driver's Ed class? With competition to get into the best colleges high, students are taking more difficult courses, AP courses, dual-enrollment. What about dating, jobs, and Friday night football games?

Our attempt in spring of 2017 was to be flexible and revamp the OEC program at Mt. Brighton Ski Patrol in an effort to accommodate young adults. Changing our course that normally ran from late July to early November, we switched the time frame of our course to the beginning of May to the end of August. This change was critical to avoiding conflict with school activities.

The second change we made was to switch to the NSP's hybrid course. This was our first experience with this format, but for many students, online coursework was not intimidating. We met Tuesday evenings only, for 3 hours. There were no lectures. A brief review of quiz and test question errors that appeared to be a commonality amongst all of the students began the night. After that, all students moved in groups of 3-4 through a series of skills stations.

Fifteen weeks later, the results were in: 9 young adults participated in the OEC course, 9 of them passed. The students involved in this class received some of the best grades in the class. In short, it was a huge success.



This was a big collaboration between patrols and patrollers. We had a total of 17 students young and old in the class. A sign up genius was provided to enlist the help of patrollers from each patrol involved. Not only did we get the assistance of the people that had signed up online to help, but many parents who had driven their students to class had time to kill, and what better way to use that time than to help out in the classroom. Free help. Many versions of how to do the same skill: all good and all within the scope of the 5th Edition. There was never any animosity, but a mutual respect for a sharing of ideas.

The question then is, is flexibility the key to success in tapping into young adult participation in OEC? If so, since there are clusters of fairly urban patrols throughout the division, what if one patrol in each urban area were to provide a summer hybrid style course and reach out to nearby patrols in an attempt to maximize the involvement of young adults? There are multiple patrols outside of the Minneapolis, Madison/Milwaukee,



Chicago, Detroit, Cleveland, and Columbus areas. If each patrol were to encourage just one student to join a summer OEC course in areas where 4-5 ski hills exist, think of how fast we could develop our Young Adult Program in the Central Division. Our experience involved students whose parents patrol 4 hours away, but live down state in the metro Detroit area suburbs. We need to utilize collaboration between patrols if we are truly committed to growing the numbers of young patrol members. Remember, we are not just a bunch of separate patrols, but we are NSP.



## Central Division Women's Program Meeting



### Kerstin Hammarberg Women Seminar

The mission of the Central Division Women's Program staff is:

- To share their passion with the purpose of encouraging and supporting other NSP women in a nurturing environment.
- To build participants' confidence to accept the challenges of leadership roles and improve their personal skill set.
- To encourage active recruiting of women in the NSP.

Mark your calendars for January 26-28, 2018 as we explore an area in the Western Region – Lutsen Mountains!! If you are working on your foundation building skills as an Alpine Patroller, seeking skills for your Senior journey or considering a Certified journey – this is a great opportunity to check out the terrain and work with some of the best women in the Division! Something NEW in 2018, there will be a NORDIC event in conjunction with the alpine event! This is a new opportunity to bring more women an event that is just for you!

Also check out our FaceBook page and thank Darcy Hanley for managing it! More event modules and information will be published in the fall. Registration will be on-line in the fall! We can't wait to have you be a part of the fun!

Look for the 2018 Women's Clinic registration page to be operational soon!

Begin planning ahead for 2019 Women's Clinic in the Ohio Region! Check out our Face Book page for more information and photos from our events!

## 426 Fund

Otherwise known as the Dan Somalski Memorial Fund, this trust was set up to honor a very special friend, patroller and mentor, the late Dan Somalski. Dan, as many of us know, dedicated much of his 25 year patrol career to helping others attain their goals both on and off of the mountain. As a long time Certified (#426) and PSIA level 3 he was legendary both inside and outside of the traces. It is in memory of Dan's example that the trust was created to ease the burden of a patroller's credentialing costs while encouraging advancement.



The fund committee is currently seeking applications from interested patrollers that could use financial assistance in their quest for further credentialing advancement. Application forms are available online. [www.nspcentral.org](http://www.nspcentral.org) (Look for Dan's picture.) The completed application form should be sent by email or fax to Tom Anderson.

# Avalanche Program for 2017 through 2018



**Dale Mihuta**  
**Avalance Advisor**

The NSP avalanche program is going through a full remodeling. The effort is to realign avalanche training to produce a continuum of education while respecting avalanche for recreationist and professionals. The NSP is primarily a recreationist program but will produce pathways to professional education. Professional education is for avalanche forecasters, mountain road crews, professional ski patrollers that mitigate avalanche hazards and search and rescue crews to name a few. The difference is that the professional gets the recreationists basic training but then takes other courses that give them the mentoring to do specialized tasks. The National Avalanche Committee, of which I am a member, met at Snowmass last Spring to discuss the remodel in concurrence with the desires of the American Avalanche Association (AAA). The remodel will not be complete this season so the current Avalanche Instructor Manual will still apply.

So what! Well the avalanche instructor group will be travelling all over the Central Division providing basic avalanche education. Our primary course will be the Level 1, Module 1 classroom session. It's an 8-hr. course that primes everyone for more continuing education. The National Avalanche Committee has determined that the Central and Southern divisions to not have adequate terrain to educate travel techniques in avalanche terrain. That is essentially Level 1, Module 2 which is (Safety and Travel in avalanche terrain). I disagree with that decision but I am only one vote. There is a way around this. The NSP gives reciprocity to another program called the American Avalanche Institute for Research and Education (AAIRE). AAIRE gives several avalanche Level 1 courses at Mt. Bohemia in January and February. I can give you NSP credit for that so that you may attend a Level 2 course. Below are the ways to gain full recreationist training.

NSP taught Level 1, Module 1-----Take a Level 1 AAIRE course at Mt. Bohemia-----Take a NSP Level 2 course out West or East.

NSP Level 1, Module 1-----NSP Level 1, Module 2 out West or East-----Take a NSP Level 2 course out West or East.

NSP Level 1, Module 1-----NSP Full Immersion Course including L1, M2 and Level 2 course out West or East.

Each module has a life span of 3 years so there is plenty of time to capture the full training.

This is what we can do for you. Level 1, Module 1 is currently planned at the same time and place as the Boyne Highlands Ski and Toboggan workshop. We are planning for Dec. 9th at Boyne Highlands. Classes can be requested by contacting me at [dmihuta@fuse.net](mailto:dmihuta@fuse.net). Start your message as "Avalanche Class Request". We will begin planning that L1, M1 class at a time and place in your region. You can start that planning now.

Here are some dates of planned events:

Central Division---Level 1, Module 1 classroom session at Boyne Highlands on Dec. 9th. Start time and instructors TBA.

Contact Dale Mihuta [dmihuta@fuse.net](mailto:dmihuta@fuse.net).

Level 1 AAIRE course TBA.

Eastern Division:

Level 1 Avalanche at Smugglers Notch, VT on Feb. 2nd thru 4th.

Contact Les Blomberg [avy@nonoise.org](mailto:avy@nonoise.org).



Level 1 Avalanche at Mt. Washington, NH. On March 16th thru 18th.  
Contact Eric Zaharee [ericzaharee@comcast.net](mailto:ericzaharee@comcast.net). Registration is on the NH region website.

Level 2 Avalanche at Mt. Washington or Whiteface Mt. on March 8th thru 11th.  
Contact Chuck Boyd [chucknspavy@gmail.com](mailto:chucknspavy@gmail.com).

The Eastern Division Snow and Avalanche Workshop (ESAW) is on Saturday November 11th. Registration is online.

Think Lots of Snow!

## OEC Update



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

What's new in OEC? There is always something happening in OEC!

**Delinquencies-** Your Region OEC Administrators and I spent a lot of time this summer coordinating with the Patrol Representatives to clean up the Central Division OEC Delinquency lists. It's still not perfect but it is better than it was. Every member should check their Member Page to make sure it's correct.

**Working to take the Mystery Out of Mentoring-** The National OEC Supervisor group spent the summer working to make the Mentoring process a little bit easier. There are 2 new documents on the NSP website to take a look at when you're asked to be an Instructor Mentor. One place to look is under the E-Learning Courses. A new short course is entitled "Introduction to Mentoring". This was developed by the Instructor Development group and it is a really helpful resource.

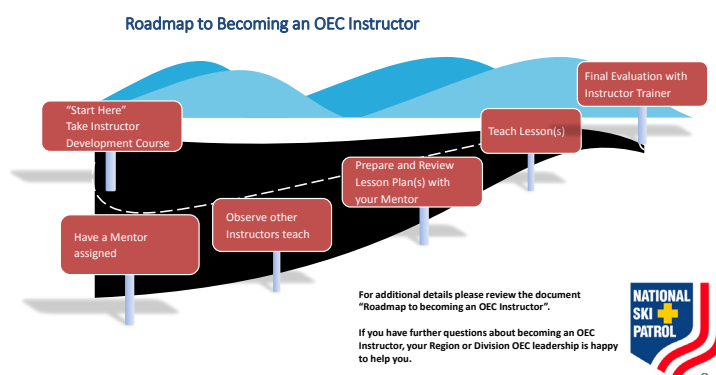
The second document is specific to Mentoring as an OEC Instructor. This document is found under "OEC Instructor Resources" and the title is "2017 Roadmap to Becoming an OEC Instructor". There is a visual with a document that outlines each step. This is also found on the Central Division Website under Programs, click OEC.

Some extra pointers to help you:

- Download and use the most current Instructor paperwork and keep it in e-form to avoid losing your paperwork.
- Stay engaged in the process- mentoring is an ongoing, dynamic relationship.
- Contact your Region OEC Administrator for assignment of an OEC IT from an outside patrol to do the final observation when your Instructor Candidate is ready to be observed.

By now you have probably completed your OEC Refresher and are gearing up for the season on snow. Don't forget that OEC skills save lives! You need to ALWAYS be at the top of your game. There are many ways to improve your OEC skills and confidence: on those slower moments of your shift- pull out the equipment and practice it with an instructor on your team, join a group that is training for Senior Status, volunteer to help at the OEC-MSP (OEC Module of the Senior Program). There are countless opportunities and our injured guests depend on YOU!

Have a wonderful season!!



# Introduction to Ski Patrolling (PAT101)



**Jodie Fuller**  
**Patroller 101**  
**Supervisor**

Let me introduce myself, I'm Jodie Fuller, a proud NSP senior patroller with over 22 years of experience, reigning from Mt Holly, Eastern Michigan Region and a secondary patroller at Schuss Mt, Northern Michigan. Region. I have held different region positions, am an active OEC and Instructor Development instructor and Instructor Trainer in both disciplines.

One of the goals is to increase communication, since this is the foundation of the entire program, with the patrols utilizing the PAT 101 course. Since many patrols are now actively planning their winter events, why not incorporate PAT 101 to not only cover training for toboggan handling but also incorporate all or several of the modules, such as risk management?

Being well versed in Risk Management will help an individual in assessing the risk, hazard and acceptability of activities associated with being a great ski patroller. There are seven modules to PAT 101 program to help patrollers become knowledgeable in all areas at their local patrol.

If you would like to offer any suggestions, comments or concerns regarding the PAT 101 program, feel free to send me an email: [JF4Seasons@aol.com](mailto:JF4Seasons@aol.com).

In closing, I'd like to remind everyone to please vote in the upcoming national election, beginning October 16. Your vote is your voice!!

## Winter is Fast Approaching!



**Troy Southwick**  
**Toboggan**  
**Supervisor**

The season is right around the corner, and we are already getting ready for the December clinics. We will be at Boyne Highlands followed by Afton Alps, so "sharpen your edges" and get ready to spend time with the divisions best toboggan instructors. My focus for these clinics is to help our instructors understand the importance of using progressions in their teaching, to "spoon feed" and not "force feed" their students. As we improve our teaching skills, our students will progress faster.

As I reflect on last season when many training sessions were cancelled due to the warm temperatures, I can only hope that "Mother Nature" will be kinder this coming season. Please send us lots of snow, to ski and ride on and let it be cold enough to keep it enjoyable for us, and the skiing and riding public.

It takes a lot of dedicated people to run this organization, and at this time I am pleased to announce two new Region Toboggan Supervisors starting this year. Shawn Rhoda will be heading up the Western Michigan Toboggan program and Jeremy McPherson will be taking charge in the South Central Region. We congratulate these two and I look forward to working with them. With new folks coming in, someone is moving on to other responsibilities. Many thanks!!! Go out to

Tom Merritt and Erica Krol for their service.

Here is to a great 2017-18 season!!!

# Senior Program – Get Down to Business



**Rob Carpenter**  
Senior Supervisor

If you have thought about becoming a Senior Patroller or Senior Alpine Patroller now is a good time to get down to business. Register for the senior program with your region. The following table provides information on region senior program contacts, registration deadlines, and how to register, where available. Feel free to email your region senior contact.



Region	Senior Contact	Email	Registration Deadline	How to Register
Eastern Michigan	Russ Livermore	Livermore.russ@us.sika.com	December 1st	Visit <a href="http://www.nspemr.org/">http://www.nspemr.org/</a> Click on Programs, Senior, Senior Application
North Central	James Hughes	farwell839@yahoo.com		
Northern Michigan	Annaka Norris	annakanorris@gmail.com		
Ohio	Tracy Buchanan	tracybuchanan928@aol.com	January 1st	Visit <a href="http://www.ohionsp.org/programs/senior">http://www.ohionsp.org/programs/senior</a>
South Central	Anne Blaedow	ablaedow@wi.rr.com	December 31st	<a href="#">application for our Senior Program in South Central Region</a>
Southern	Sue Boissenet-Smith	sbskier@hotmail.com		
Western Michigan	Sue Brann	suebrann@comcast.net	January 1st	Visit <a href="http://www.nspc203.com/program_senior">http://www.nspc203.com/program_senior</a>
Western	Terrie Brandt	brandtdt@charter.net	December 15th	Visit <a href="http://nspwr.org/senior_program.php">http://nspwr.org/senior_program.php</a>

Another valuable step for getting down to business is to access the Central Division Senior Program Manual 7th Edition - <http://centraldivision.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/Central-Division-Senior-Program-Manual-7th-Edition.pdf> - and review and follow the Senior Program – Candidate Checklist on Page 6.

Let us know if you have any concerns or difficulties. The region senior contacts and I want this program to work for YOU.

# Skills Development Program



**Cheryl Raudabaugh**  
**Skills Development**

“Sharpening Our Edges” is the theme for this year’s Alpine Skills Development Workshops (ASDW), as we move forward to refine the fundamentals introduced in last year’s agenda. Google “sharpen your edges” and you will find pages of videos and articles on ski and board do-it-yourself tuning. Go further and you’ll find knife and scissor sharpening, and finally you find sharpening photography edges.

So what about sharpening the edges of our skills? Getting to that fine degree where our board(s) glide through the snow under perfect balance in motion. Perhaps an endless quest, but our fantastic bank of division instructors are already gearing up to lead the ASDW sessions to provide our region evaluators and instructors the best. Events will be held in December at Boyne Highlands and Afton Alps.

This year we will be offering programs for Senior Evaluators to test for their first certification or calibrate to stay current in their certifications. We’ll also calibrate Toboggan IT’s and provide workshops to enhance Alpine training skills. Our goal is to provide top notch programs for your region leaders to bring back to the region skills workshops and on to the individual patrols.

Interested in finding out more about the Skills team and capturing some ideas for your own use? Check us out at [www.centraldivision.org](http://www.centraldivision.org) for a variety of resources and to download our special Skills Summary card to print and keep handy in your patrol parka. So let’s all **Sharpen Our Edges** for a great start to this upcoming season!



## Instructor Development



**Virginia Rodeman**  
**Instructor**  
**Development**  
**Supervisor**

Who can be a mentor? An instructor in any discipline.

What is mentoring? Mentoring is helping. Mentoring is assisting. Mentoring is sharing. Mentoring is meeting patrollers. Mentoring is guiding. Mentoring is caring.

Why do we need mentors? Did you look around at the refresher? Have you ever helped at an OEC class, or OEC Senior Module, or an OET class, or OET refresher? Have you taken MTR, Avalanche, or Nordic? Could your patrol use more instructors or what about your region?

Mentors are the people who help patrollers who have taken an Instructor Development Class get to full Instructorship in a chosen discipline. It may take a year or two, but it is worthwhile to everyone involved.



# NSP-C Snowsports News



**Marty Blaszkowski**  
**NSP-C Snowsports**  
**School**

Winter is Coming!

Great news, it's now free to join the NSP-C Snow Sports School! If you are on a local patrol staff, region staff or an alumni, you can now join at no cost. It was recently decided at the fall division meeting that the \$25 is no longer needed. The NSP-C Snow Sports School is a registered snow sports school with the PSIA/AASI organization. This allows members of NSP-C snow sports school to participate in any PSIA/AASI events and certifications. Also new this season, we are offering a jacket which you can order online. They will be embroidered with the logo on the left sleeve. The jackets are \$86.00, (\$90.00 with optional name on right chest). Jackets and can be ordered at <https://nspcsnowsports2017.itemorder.com/sale> Check the NSP-C snow sports school website for more ordering information. Last day to order is Sunday November 26th.

Our goal at the NSP-C Snow Sports School is to help its members achieve their PSIA/AASI goals. To support your efforts we are offering a \$50 award for passing Level I, \$100 for passing Level II and \$300 for passing Level III. The application will be available on the division web site and must be filled out and returned by December 1, 2017 in order to qualify. Upon passing your event, you must send a copy of the award certificate to me. Detailed instructions will be listed on the NSP-C snow sports school

website.

There will be two workshops this season; one on each side of the lake. The workshops are geared to help you pass the Level II and Level III exams, and are designed for the individual who will test this season. It will also provide you the opportunity to get in front of your peers one last time to help you improve your teaching and ski/ride skills.. We will help you iron out the kinks and give constructive feedback that you can use to pass the exam. The workshops are not for someone that wants to see what it's all about, as the PSIA/AASI offers Level II & III prep and mock exams and events.

As winter approaches I encourage all the patrols to start doing dry land clinics. You should include teaching, technical and movement analysis in these clinics. Please contact me if you need more information on this activity.



## National Board Members from Central Division

**Brian Rull**  
BRull@nspserver.org

**Ty Damon**  
Tydamon@me.com



**Jay Zedak**  
[jay@bugbusterinc.com](mailto:jay@bugbusterinc.com)

**Jim Woodrum**  
[jrwoodrum@centurytel.net](mailto:jrwoodrum@centurytel.net)



1-800-362-7853 \* [www.skibrule.com](http://www.skibrule.com)

## 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Ski Brule Ski Patrol Snowsports Enhancement Seminar

NOVEMBER 18-19, 2017

SPONSORED BY SKI BRULE SKI PATROL



If you are a current ski patroller, candidate or thinking about taking your senior evaluation, plan to attend this exceptional and fun Snowsport Enhancement Seminar.

Alpine/Tele/Snowboard training groups formed based on participants' learning desires

Fee: \$35.00/person – Includes lunch and pizza party on Saturday, along with both days of training. Meet 3rd Floor Brule Lodge

Saturday, November 18 – Check in 8:00am to 8:45am with group training completing at 4:00pm

Sunday, November 19 – Check in at 8:30am with group training finishing by 1:00pm

Register by November 13 at <https://www.nsp.org/> for course # C018170007

For more information contact Brian Lord at [mqtmishap@gmail.com](mailto:mqtmishap@gmail.com) or 920.265.3987

397 Brule Mountain Road, Iron River, Michigan 49935

## The Coming Season in Nordic



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

As I write this in early October, the weather is turning. Winter is still weeks away, but Fall has definitely arrived, and we can start thinking about snow. I've been told that this will be a good snow year, and I believe it, I do.

For our Nordic calendar, we're going with tried and true. Our Division Nordic Workshop will be at Minocqua WI, as in the past, with the skate and classic SES on Saturday and Sunday, January 6 and 7, and the Telemark SES at Indianhead on Monday January 8. We will again have a cabin which sleeps 9 or so. Let me know if you want to stay in the cabin – [peter.wollan@gmail.com](mailto:peter.wollan@gmail.com). Registration will be through the Central Division web site, like last year. Skiers at all skill levels are welcome. And we'd like to see more tele skiers on Monday!

Our major Nordic event is the Birkie, February 23 and 24 in Hayward WI. The shift from one day to two didn't quite happen last year due to rain, but this is going to be a good snow year. We're planning improved sleeping and eating arrangements (softer floors, different food), and it should be just great. Most of us will be skiing along with the racers, only slower, but we do have non-skiing positions as well, suitable for Alpine patrollers. If you'd like to participate, write to Mark and Karen Loesch, [mkloesch@aol.com](mailto:mkloesch@aol.com).

Look for a Nordic SES in your region. I know of two planned in Minnesota, one at Elm Creek and one at Giants Ridge. I think there will be one in Western Michigan, and another in Southern Wisconsin, but I'm not sure about those. If you want a nearby SES and don't see one on your Region's calendar, bug your Nordic Advisor.

I'm stepping down from the Division Nordic post, replaced by Jeff Schmidt. This will be an orderly transition, and I'll keep handling some things that are in progress (like the Minocqua Workshop). I'm expecting Jeff to brilliantly deal with all the frustrations I've struggled with, and I can't wait to show him the mysterious NSP procedures I've discovered. Please welcome him, and do whatever he says.

## Treasurer Report



**Marty Jarvi**  
**Treasurer**

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 please send them to the person that approves your expenses. They will check, approve and forward them to me. This will facilitate a more efficient and cost effective handling for payments and annual audits. Remember all programs run by the Central Division require an income and expense report to be filed with the Central Division Treasurer after the program is complete in order to assure continue Division support.

## Central Division Certified Update



**Ron Gerdes**  
**Certified**

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

The 2018 Central Division Certified Evaluation will be held at Lutsen Mountain MN, March 1-3. All are welcome to attend as this is a very large event that requires a HUGE amount of participation to make successful. If you are interested in helping out, please let me know. We would love to have you!

If you are interested in entering the program, please let me know. There is an application process followed by a qualification clinic. We will be having several qualification clinics across the division prior to our March evaluation. At these clinics, you will be introduced to what is expected of you during your journey.

If you have any questions, let me know.



# New Mountain Travel and Rescue Supervisor



**Jon O'Dell**  
**MTR**  
**Supervisor**

Hello I'm Jon O'Dell

A little about me, I'm an avid outdoorsman I have been patrolling for the past 20 years. I'm the PD at Independence Oaks Nordic Ski Patrol. I have held positions on the region staff for many years. I'm a secondary Patroller at Mt. Holly in Eastern Michigan and a secondary patroller at Shuss Mt. in Northern Michigan.

I have been active in MTR as an Instructor and Instructor trainer (IT). Additionally I am OEC and chair evac instructor. I enjoy hunting, biking, the shooting sports when I'm not busy running my business as a Painting Contractor.

I'm looking forward to the challenges of presenting a consistent MTR program throughout the central Division and establishing an active communication link between advisors, instructors and students of central division and all of NSP.

My goal is to improve this program by having better communication between all the instructors in the division. Working together with the ITs and the region advisors I hope to increase the number of instructor in the division where we need help in teaching MTR classes. Consequently, the patrollers will have an opportunity to take courses that will help them improve their personal outdoors skills and contribute their patrol.

If anyone has any suggestions please let your region advisors know and they can forward comments to me. If there is no acting regional advisor just shoot me an email. I will try to keep all my advisors updated on any changes that we may encounter in MTR program so we can give the best info to our candidates that take the MTR 1 and MTR 2 courses

Thank You,  
Jon O'Dell

## Telecommunications



**Paul Botnen**  
**Telecommunications**

Greetings fellow patrollers. Think snow.

So, the rush to rebanding is over. What's next for ski patrol telecommunications? Digital Mobile Radio (DMR) is the next new thing. Do you have to switch to DMR? No. It is an open source non proprietary technology that makes better use of the RF spectrum. In addition, just like your smartphone, you can send short text messages and other digital information including your location.

The FCC has made the industry aware that the next level of narrowbanding is coming. What they have not done yet is set a date for this to happen. They are going to move to a 6.25 kHz bandwidth or effective use of 6.25 kHz spectrum. The DMR channels split the 12.5 kHz bandwidth into two talk paths. This makes DMR an acceptable solution to the coming mandate. Having the option for the two talk paths also means that you can create two separate groups of users. Be forewarned, it is coming.

The current design of analog radio will not be capable of meeting the coming standard. Some type of digital architecture will need to be deployed. Many of the current DMR radios are able to operate in analog mode until the time comes to make the digital jump. Some simple programming is all that it takes to make the change.



Repeaters are available in VHF and UHF that also allow analog use and then some simple programming makes the change to digital.

The cost of DMR equipment has rapidly been decreasing to the point that some vendors are cheaper and just as high quality of the radio equipment you may already be using. Accessory items are more affordable as well. I have been using radios from several manufacturers for more than two years now. I use them year-round. I spent no more than \$200.00 for any of these radios

What are some of the main advantages of switching to digital? High on that list is improved voice clarity. With DMR you have almost no static in your radio transmissions. The signal is processed in a digital manner and able to filter out unwanted noise. Also you are either in range or out of range. There is very little grey area. Another area of improvement is battery life, the radio only transmits for half the time of an analog radio. 8 to 10 hours of true use are possible with digital radio. Using applications built into the radio it is also possible to send text messages to a specific radio or a group of radios. You are also able to call a specific radio. The radios can also be configured to alert others if the radio is left in an unusual position such as a fall. For radios that have GPS receivers built into them, mapping programs can tell you where all the other radios in your system are. Other applications will be developed as users request them.

What is DMR. There are several types of digital transmission. Some are very expensive (P25), others are designed for certain applications (TETRA, Nexedge), and some are designed for specific types of users. Dstar) As an open source product, it is available to all at a low price and developers are able to customize the product to have even more functionality.

Are DMR radios in your future? Think about it. It will pay off in the end. Don't wait for the FCC to set a date for the 6.25 KHZ mandate, get ahead of it.

If you have any questions, please send an email to me at [botnenp@gmail.com](mailto:botnenp@gmail.com)

Ski Safe.

## Social Media

Submitted by: Darcy Hanley

It is coming, the snow, new gear, refreshers, and a new season. Since we started our Facebook page 3 years ago it has grown to 973 likes. Can we top 1,000? YES! You may not know that each of our posts reach over 1900 people. We have most searches done on Facebook even from Chile and Japan. The highest age range is from 45-54. Our likes are 64% men and 35% women. Once again, Facebook will respond to snow sports events, patroller successes, news around our Division and of course the board election. The voting begins October 15th and the candidate platforms are located on the NSP website. Become familiar with who is running and what they want to accomplish. The organization is relevant because our members participate in what is happening in the snow sports industry and the NSP. Thank you to those who have posted on our Facebook page and I encourage others to do so. Cheers to a safe, fun, snow filled season! Hope you see you out there!



# NOTICE OF 2018 CENTRAL DIVISION ELECTIONS



**Ken Meldahl**  
**CD Elections**  
**Coordinator**

Following the Policies & Procedures of the Central Division, Region Directors for North Central, Northern Michigan and Southern will be elected in 2018. One nomination form can be used for each elections. The nomination form located in this RPN may be used and sent to me by January 26, 2018 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, 2018. In addition, Section Chief Elections for Sections 1 and 4 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.

## **REGION DIRECTOR ELECTIONS:**

- NORTH CENTRAL REGION
- NORTHERN MICHIGAN REGION
- SOUTHERN REGION

In accordance with the current Policies & Procedures of the Central Division, an election for the position of Region Director for NORTH CENTRAL, NORTHERN MICHIGAN AND SOUTHERN REGIONS will be held in the year 2018. 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, 2018. Nominees will be sent a "Candidate Information Sheet" that must be returned by February 9, 2018. 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, 2018. Ballots must be returned by March 8, 2018. Tabulation of ballots by the Division Election Coordinator and validated by the Election Review Committee by March 19, 2018. Election results will be announced to the electorate and posted on the Division website by March 27, 2018.

### 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, 2018. 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.

#### 2018 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:  
☐ NORTH CENTRAL REGION DIRECTOR  
☐ NORTHERN MICHIGAN REGION DIRECTOR  
☐ SOUTHERN REGION DIRECTOR

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, 2018**

# Bike Patrol Update



**Aaron Hislop**  
**Bike Patrol**  
**Supervisor**

With resorts around the country developing bike parks and expanding bike trails, National and the Central division are also evolving to keep up with the changing landscape. National has created the bike patrol classification and the division devoted a few sessions at the fall meeting sessions to bike patrolling.

Over the summer, John Thomas appointed me as the bike patrol advisor for the division, reporting to Julie Stone. I currently patrol for both skiing and biking at Spirit Mountain in Duluth, Minnesota. I am also an assistant patrol director at Spirit Mountain responsible for the bike patrol.

The bike patrol advisor is a new role and over the next few months, I plan to clarify the role and start reaching out to areas in the division that have bike patrols or plan to start bike patrols. I will also be developing content on the central division website. In the meantime, I would love to hear your questions about bike patrolling. Those questions will help me define the role and better help the division.

## The Story of Pando and the Pando Patrol

Pando Patrol will send Western Michigan Region its final report after June 30th of this year. We thought it was appropriate to record some of the story of Pando and the Pando Patrol. You really can't talk about the Pando Ski Patrol without talking about Pando the business. They go hand in hand because they function like family. Hopefully, you will see that family interwoven throughout this story.

I would like to mention how Pando got started. Dick, Tom and Don Bresnahan owned Bresnahan Septic. It was seasonal work. The Bresnahan brothers wanted their employees to work year round. Dick drove by the future site of Pando every day. It was the last place you could find snow on the ground as winter moved into spring. It was that image that gave Dick an idea. After consulting with his brothers, They decided to develop a ski area at that location. The land was leased from Jim Sutkatis. Dick Bresnahan's experience in WWII would determine the ski areas name. He belonged to the 10th Army Division stationed in Colorado. The division was divided into several camps. His camp was named Hale. The train station at Hale was named Pando. One of the ski runs at Pando bears the name Hale.

Under the leadership of the Bresnahan brothers, Pando opened for skiing in the 1963/64 ski season. The Pando Patrol also started that same season under the leadership of its first Patrol Director, Rob Morley. There were 12 PDs that served Pando. They are: 1 Rob Morley, 2 an unnamed woman who filled out Rob's last year, 3 Claude Katt, 4 Clint Lindhout, 5 Tom Trimpe, 6 David McAfee, 7 Tony Wolfer, 8 Jim M Fadden, 9 David Menke, 10 Patrick Markey, 11 Colleen Wolfer and 12 Randy Slater. I'm very proud to be in their company.

The Pando Patrol was very active in their early years planning, organizing and running skiing events for kids. The events brought out parents who started skiing for their first time. Pando was the only ski area in Kent County at that point.

The Pando Patrol patrolled the first competitive snowboarding in the country. The boards in the first competition had a rope attached and kept the patrollers very busy. The next year Jake Burton Carpenter brought a modified snurf board with bindings to Pando. A new event was created.

The patrol worked very well with the Pando ski school. There were lessons taught every night of the week. People who bought skis at Bill and Paul's were sent to Pando for instruction. Pando had a booming



business in the mid 60s. None of the early success happened without good communications between the patrol, ski school, management and owners. Richard Outman, who recruited me into the Pando Ski Patrol, was a member of its first ski school in 1964. He said there was always an open door for communication with the owners. Richard is an active member of our patrol today. He is the only patroller to help open Pando in 1964 and help close it in 2015.

The Pando Ski Patrol was asked to help Bill and Paul's with their ski swap. The swap was well received by the public and quickly moved to larger locations: Grand Rapids Ski Club, Eastbrook Mall and its present location, Cannonsburg. The Pando ski patrol has played an integral part in the success of the swap each year. Claude Katt and Tom Trimpe anchored the swap for many years. Tony and Colleen Wolfer combine for 100s of hours each year.

The Bresnahans sold their business in 1978 to Jack Kronemeyer, Dan Smith and Ray Castine. The Pando family continued to function very well. The patrollers worked behind the counter, cleaned the lodge and helped with maintenance. Under the new owners, the patrollers improved the conditions of their patrol room. I've heard stories of injured skiers being brought into the old patrol room through a window because the building was so crowded with skiers.

The Pando patrol earned some awards along the way: In the 2006-7 ski season, the patrol received the runner up award for Division Outstanding Small Patrol.

At the Division meeting in 2010 in Minnesota, the Pando Patrol was awarded first place in the Division for Outstanding Small Patrol. They also received the National Ski Patrol runner up award and a Unit Citation. At that meeting, it was the first time that the owners of a resort attended a Division meeting in support of their patrol. A year later, Brett Cutler, our awards writer composed a letter of appreciation of our owners and submitted it to Western Michigan Region. Pando's owners received a Distinguished Service Award.

The area's support of its patrol continued. I was one of the patrollers that helped plan the 2015 Division Meeting held in the Western Michigan Region. At one of the meetings it was suggested that we go back to our resort owners and ask for \$500 to help support the Division Meeting. Pando, being less than half the size of the other resorts could donate \$250. A few days later, in the quiet confines of Jack Kronemeyer's home, I explained to Jack what the planning committee wanted resort owners to donate. Jack thought for less than one minute and said, "we'll donate \$500."

Many Pando patrollers are CPR instructors who support the fall CPR refresher as part of the Section refresher. They also teach the new class of candidates. More than half of the patrollers are OEC instructors.

The patrol has 3 to 4 meetings during the year. For the past 20 years, one of those meetings each year takes place out of area. Last March, the meeting was at Whistler Blackcomb in British Columbia.

The patrol gives out 4 awards at the end of each year: Patroller of the Year, CJ Lindhout, Bravo and the Crash Helmet Award. Names are submitted for each award and the patrollers vote for the person who will have their name engraved on the award.

And now a few parting comments:

Richard Outman tried recruiting me for the patrol after watching me try to ski on a field trip with 150 5th graders. I told him, "I don't know how to ski." He said, "that's okay, we will teach you." They didn't realize how much time that would take. There were no skiers in my family. Needless to say, I was extremely timid from the top of any hill with a pair of skis on my feet. The Pando Patrol kept their promise with Dave Corey helping. I am now an Alpine Patroller, CPR instructor, OEC instructor and a very proud member of the Pando Ski Patrol.

# Central Division 2016-2017 Awards

## Central Division Certificates of Appreciation for patrollers who were very active in planning and running the fall Division meeting.

Candy Jacques, Jeff Cripps, Susan Reed, Bob Lechtanski, Jerry Rodeman, Adam Sinkus, Tena Lechtanski, Carl Woodcock, Peter Toundaian, Terry Reed, Don Desautels, Kirk Swarbrick, Randy Frykberg, Linda Murphy-Jacobs, Meghan Walls, Mark McMurray, Lynne Smetzer, Michael Malanga, Wendy Sinkus, Dave Germond, Michael Buczek, Doug Wright, Fred Baley, Brandon Gualdoni, Virginia Rodeman



Purple Merit Star Awarded to Galen Fairchild, for using Ski Patrol skills to save a life on June 4, 2017.



## Central Division Certificates of Appreciation for National Board Staff and honored guests for attending the Division Meeting

Bill Sinykin  
Chris Pringle  
Ken Kramer  
Matt Chaffin  
Melanie Hood  
Meegan Moszynski



## Certificates of Appreciation for Senior OET

Les Robinson  
Jay Zedak  
Jim Woodrum  
Jim Grundstrom



## Certificates of Appreciation for Patrollers for QA for Senior OEC for the 2016-2017 Season

Kim Zambole  
Rae Ann Ruddy  
Ken Liddel  
Jim Bichl  
Dan Goldberger

Mike Olson  
David Kleinschmidt  
Patricia Livingston  
Sander Wechsler  
Mike Malanga



## Division Directors Program Award

Linda Murphy-Jacobs Women's Program  
Jay Van Zeeland Young Adult Program  
Sue Hayes OEC Program  
Phyllis Sano Senior Program  
Jodie Fuller Instructor Development  
Eric Gesteland Skill Development



## Outstanding Instructor Trainer

Rae Ann Ruddy  
Pine Knob  
Eastern Michigan Region



## Central Division Outstanding Supervisor Award

Kim Zambole  
Grand Geneva  
Southern Region





**Division Directors Award  
For the OEC Instructor Training Roll Out  
Sue Hayes**



**Central Division Outstanding Nordic Ski Patrol  
Awarded National Unit Citation  
Blue Mound Nordic Ski Patrol**



**Central Division Outstanding Patroller  
Yellow Merit Star  
Anna Aldrich of Marquette Mountain Ski Patrol**



**Central Division Outstanding Alpine Patroller  
National Ski Patrol's Outstanding Alpine Patroller  
First Runner-up awarded Silver Merit Star  
Vern DeHaven of Perfect North Slopes Ski Patrol**



**Central Division Outstanding Instructor  
Silver Merit Star by National Ski Patrol for being  
the outstanding Instructor First Runner-up**  
Peter Holdridge of Ski Brule Ski Patrol



**Central Division Outstanding OEC Instructor  
Silver Merit Star by National Ski Patrol's for being  
the Outstanding OEC Instructor First Runner-up**  
Cassandra Proctor of Caberfae Peaks Ski Patrol



**Central Division Outstanding Patrol Representative  
Silver Merit Star by National Ski Patrol for being the  
Outstanding Patrol Representative First Runner-up**  
Marcia Locher of Granite Peak Ski Patrol



**Central Division Outstanding Young Adult Patroller  
National Ski Patrol's Outstanding Young Adult Patroller  
Awarded with this National Outstanding trophy and a Gold Merit Star**  
Sydnie Van Zeeland of Pine Mountain Ski Patrol





**Central Division Outstanding Administrative Patroller**  
**National Ski Patrol's National Outstanding Administrative Patroller**  
**Awarded the National Outstanding trophy and a Gold Merit Star**  
**Robert Carpenter of Mt. Brighton Ski Patrol**



**Central Division Outstanding Small Alpine Patrol**  
**National Ski Patrol Outstanding Small Alpine Patrol**  
**Awarded National Outstanding trophy and Gold Unit Citation**  
**Jay Van Zeeland earned a Yellow Merit Star for being the**  
**Patrol Representative of Pine Mountain Ski Patrol**



**Central Division Outstanding Large Alpine Patrol**  
**National Ski Patrol Outstanding Large Alpine Patrol**  
**Awarded National Outstanding trophy and Gold Unit Citation**  
**Lisa Niemi earned a Yellow Merit Star for being the Patrol**  
**Representative of Mt. Brighton Ski Patrol**





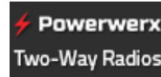
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## Central Division Calendar

To find the most recent and update version of the Central Division Calendar  
please visit the link below  
<http://nspcentral.org/calendar.php>



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