



Rusty Parka News



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Winter 2019

Division Director's Report



John Thomas
Division Director

Hello, I hope everyone is having a great or good season.

As some of you know, my season came to a screeching halt. On November 26 I was ejected from my skis and I ended up being treated by the Patrollers on my shift and transported to the emergency room via helicopter. I was in the hospital for ten days. I was diagnosed with Central cord syndrome or the short name CCS. You ask what is CCS? Here is the definition from the web: "Central cord syndrome is the most common form of incomplete spinal cord injury characterized by impairment in the arms and hands and to a lesser extent in the legs. The brain's ability to send and receive signals to and from parts of the body below the site of injury is reduced but not entirely blocked. This syndrome is associated with damage to the large nerve fibers that carry information directly from the cerebral cortex to the spinal cord. These nerves

are particularly important for hand and arm function. Symptoms may include paralysis or loss of fine control of movements in the arms and hands, with relatively less impairment of leg movements." My injury was the C2 and C3 location. I can't ski until June. I have been working with Physical Therapy to get my balance and large muscle movement back and Occupational Therapy to get my hands to work correctly. The good news is that the therapies are working and the pain in my hands is currently just in my fingers. I would like to thank everyone that has sent me the encouragement and thoughts and prayers. Well, that is enough about me.

The season is in full swing with Senior OEC and S&T clinics happening throughout the Division. I hope that you are participating in these events. You don't need to be trying for your Senior certification to attend these event. The teams leading these

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can always use your assistance. Plus, it gives you a chance to refresh your skills and meet people from your Region. I urge you to take the opportunity to attend one or more of these clinics. For those of you that have your Senior level certificate, there is always the Certified program to assist with for the same reasons.

This is my last season as your Division Director and the information on the election will be coming out soon. The election for the DD is by the PRs and appointed persons by your PR on your Patrol. If you are one of these Patrollers assigned a ballot please take the opportunity to vote. Region Directors for Eastern Michigan and South Central Regions are also being voted on again. Please take the time to vote for your leadership.

I hope everyone has a great season and I look forward to seeing you at the Fall Division meeting.

Kasten's Korner



Who did you Bring to the Hill?



Tom Anderson
ADD

If you are reading this your hill is not open or you are working and taking a break from whatever you do to support your addiction to this winter pastime sport. My short article for this edition is a reminder to bring someone to the hill. Introduce or reintroduce this sport to the next generation of skiers and riders. If you have run out of family members, invite a neighbor or a workmate. As ambassadors to this sport we all have the responsibility to keep it going. Enjoy your season!

Who did you bring to the hill?



National and Leadership Commendation



Chris Raudabaugh
ADD

As I look out the window on this rainy January day, it reminds me that are many more things occurring around the Division outside of skiing and riding. In fact, there are many more mundane activities that one would not even consider when we are in the 'heat' of the ski season. One of those is writing awards and recognizing those that show the best of themselves for the NSP, their patrol, and the ski industry.

One of the recognitions that we see on occasion is the National Appointment (or Leadership Commendation Appointment). Here is the official definition for these appointments:

Intent: A patroller with a National Appointment is an individual who has demonstrated leadership, good character, diplomacy, a positive attitude, good judgment, exemplary qualities of patrolling ability, a genuine desire to serve the skiing public, and extraordinary service to the NSP.

Receiving a National Appointment is not something for which a patroller, volunteer or paid, can work or plan. A patroller does not apply for an Appointment. The Appointment should be overdue, rather than premature, but tenure alone is never an adequate criterion. To obtain this classification, a patroller must be nominated. An Appointment is not intended to be a retirement award.

Other qualifications include having 8 seasons as an active patroller, been a senior or certified patroller for at least 1 year, and other Leadership activities that benefit the NSP.

One of the most important items is in that last line: *Leadership activities that benefit the NSP.* The NSP write-up has some examples, but it really boils down to activities of a patroller outside of their own local area. If the patroller is not a known person around their own region, then they are probably not active enough to be recommended for this appointment. The patroller needs to be active in several (more than 1) areas such as instructor, instructor trainer, Senior evaluator, region advisor or staff, division supervisor or staff and attend/participate in region/division events. This newsletter will list lots of leadership opportunities to fill your NSP resume.

Patrollers that hold appointments (myself included) wish we could share this special recognition with all of our hardworking patroller friends, but there is a high bar set to receive it. Those patrollers that strive to do their best to help lead and educate their fellow region and division patrollers will one day be recognized for their tremendous efforts. So if you are hopeful, but have not received your appointment, remember to keep looking for opportunities to lead in your region/the division and know that sometimes the less glamorous work can be of key importance.

ADD Transitioning to National Board



Dr. Julie Stone
National Board

It with sadness and joy that I write this final article as (past) ADD transitioning to national board member.

By time you read this you will know that I have been elected to the National Board and have already attended my first board meeting. I am incredibly proud of coming from the Central Division to have a voice on the future of the NSP, and representing patrollers from around the world. I look forward to the challenges and to continuing to share conversation with you along the way. Thank you to everyone for the support and encouragement - not just in this last election but throughout my entire journey as a patroller. I will be working with incredible patrollers at the national level and from our various divisions, including of course, our very own Brian Rull (starting second term) and Jay Zedak (in his first term).

My time as ADD for the Central Division was an incredible journey. Thanks JT for choosing me and always supporting me. To Chris and Tom - I appreciate that we worked together as a team! To the programs and their supervisors with whom I worked (OEC, Medical Advisor, MTR, Patroller 101, Bike Patrol, and Public Relations), you all made my job easy! I will miss these working relationships and know you will continue to share your passion with your programs.

For the patrollers I've met along the way - and will continue to meet - thanks for your friendship and camaraderie. We joined the ski patrol for many reasons, but it is our friendships and camaraderie that keep us together and passionate about our patrol careers.

For 3 final thoughts: 1. Ski, Ride, and Play Safe, 2. Enjoy being #KneeDeepInWork always, and 3. Let's be Proud Members together of the National Ski Patrol!

Thank you once again (and always) for the opportunity - Julie

New Assistant Division Director



Les Robinson
ADD

Congratulations to Les Robinson who is taking over for Julie Stone as Assistant Division Director!

Region Reports

South Central Region



Steve Paladini
South Central
Region Director

Happy New Year. I hope everyone had an enjoyable holiday season. It seems that every time I go to write an article, either for our Region's newsletter, or the Rusty Parka News, the weather is either cooperating or not, for us patrollers. Currently, it's cooperating. As I write this, Northeast Wisconsin just received 6 to 10 inches of snow. Late November, we also had well below normal temperatures, and most of the ski areas made large quantities of snow and opened for Thanksgiving or sooner.

Our patrols have completed their On-Hill and chair evacuation refreshers. Again, On-Hill refreshers were registered on National's web site, with patrollers having to go on-line and "sign up" for their areas refresher. The process, being the same as the OEC refreshers, gets better each year, with the number of questions and "hard ships" diminishing.

The Region's Senior on Hill clinic and evaluation are scheduled and underway. This year it's being held at Cascade Mountain Ski Area, with four "candidates" involved. Also underway, is the OEC Module of the Senior Program. The clinic and evaluation are being held at the Devils Head Ski Area, with seven "candidates" involved. Our Women's Clinic is scheduled for February 10th and will also be held at the Cascade Mountain Ski Area. As always, wishing our South-Central Region's and all of Central Division's candidates, good luck in their journey. Also scheduled during the season is a Toboggan Trainers Workshop and a Snow Sports Seminar.

This year, Region positions up for re-election are the Section II Chief and my position, Region Director. Updates as to the outcomes to follow in the next issue of the Rusty Parka News.

As I travel through the South-Central Region to visit patrols, one of the topics that comes up is awards. I would like to take this opportunity to also mention them. I'm sure each of you know an exceptional instructor, patrol director, young adult patroller, etc... that deserves special recognition. If so, please take the time to write an award. If you have received an award, remember someone took the time to write it for you. If you haven't already done so, "pay it forward" and do the same for someone else. Descriptions of the awards can be found in NSP's Policies and Procedures Manual. Once you sign into your personal profile on National's web site, the applications can be found under "Member Resources", "Forms and Documents" and then "Awards". Have a safe season!

North Central Region



James Hughes
NC Region Director

We are now moving into the middle of the snow ski season in the North Central Region. Although we would like to see the weather gods produce more snow earlier in the season, I must say the North Central Region ski resorts are in great shape. The crews that work on the hills have been doing an outstanding job this season and the skiing has been excellent. As for National Ski Patrol, we have worked hard keeping our skills sharp. I want to thank Big Snow for hosting the NSP Division Workshop in December. I also want to thank Ski Brule' for hosting the training and senior clinics in January. In advance, I want to thank Mont Ripley for hosting the NSP Senior Evaluations planned in February and Pine Mountain for the bumps clinic in March. Over the past years many of our NCR Ski resorts have hosted NSP events and we want to thank all our hills for being supportive. We also want to encourage participation at these events at all levels of our membership. Lastly,

this is the time of year to get your nominations in for your fellow patroller(s) for awards. Please do not let this season pass without nominating someone that should be recognized for their hard work and dedication to the NSP.

Eastern Michigan Region



Mike Schons
E MI Region
Director

By the time you read this, the region staff will pretty much have all three scheduled SES, SNES, TES and a STW completed for the Eastern Michigan Region. We still have a Women's event schedule for February 09, 2019, and a YAP event of February 2nd. This and all EMR events can be found on the EMR calendar located on our website, nspemr.org.

This year has the largest group of candidates who have registered for the Senior program. It makes the region staff happy to know that folks want to grow in their training and NSP education. The pre-evaluation clinic is scheduled for February 10, 2019 and the on-hill evaluation at Boyne Highlands on Saturday, February 23, 2019. We will need a number of extra patrollers to make sure these events run to the high standards we have set.

This upcoming year, we are proud that we again participated in the downtown Detroit Winter Blast. If you want something fun to do this is it and you are showcasing the NSP while patrolling on "City Slopes" a slope installed by our industry partner Boyne Mountain right in downtown Detroit.

We are the roving "Advance Team" for Hart Medical EMS. We respond to first aid issues, stabilize and call for EMS back-up.

On a larger scale, National Board members (and Central Division members), Jim Woodrum and Ty Damon completed their terms on the National Board. They did a great job representing us in the Central Division and all the members of the National Ski Patrol. I personally wish to thank them for their service!

On that note, a congratulations to returning Central Division member and Board member Brian Rull who is starting his second term on the National Board. And not lost in all of this, congratulations to Julie Stone, who was elected and starting her first term on the National Board.

The Central Division is the second largest division in the NSP and we need folks on the board who will represent us at the National level. I recently had the opportunity to attend the Division Directors meeting and the National Board meeting in Denver. There is a lot going on at the National level and we need representation to ensure our needs and the needs of the Central Division resorts are met.



I hope to see you on the slopes!!!

A picture of the team at Hart Plaza

Avalanche Opportunities Remaining



Dale Mihuta
Avalanche
Supervisor

The Central Division Avalanche Group is offering 3 more courses this season. Three of these courses are Level 1, Module 1 which is the classroom session and a Senior elective. The Level 1, Modules 2 and 3 is a new addition and will be given at Mt. Bohemia. If you take the course at Mt. Bohemia that will finish the Level 1 requirements. The courses are listed below:

Level 1, Module 1 (classroom session) at Perfect North Slopes on February 2nd.
C106190012

Level 1, Module 1 at Boyne Highlands or Nubs Nob on February 27th.
C106190010

Level 1, Modules 2 and 3 (field session and rescue) on February 23rd and 24th.
C106190013

There are no prerequisites for L1, M1 course.

To take L1, M2 and 3 the prerequisites are:
Incident Command System/NIMS course on-line 100.
Certificate of Completion of L1, M1.
You must bring a transceiver, shovel and probe.

If you have any questions you may contact me at:
dmihuta@fuse.net
Or by phone 513-919-3129.



Where does the time go?



Troy Southwick
Toboggan
Supervisor

We are well into the season now. We have our Division ASDW's behind us. Once again, we had a great time sharing two weekends with many dedicated patrollers.

The Staff worked hard on our Friday Sessions shooting footage of Senior Toboggan Handling skills and will be working to piece things together to provide a tool for the examiners and candidates to learn from.

Now is the time to be looking for a TES or SES near you! All Regions are taking the training received at the Division Clinics back to the region trainers. They will soon be offering TES's and SES's for patrollers to attend. This should be an event that is valued by the patroller population. To learn all the tips and drills to enhance what we love to do. Check your region calendars and treat yourself to a great learning experience.



OEC Instructor Tech Talks are off to a fabulous start!



Susan Hayes
OEC Supervisor

Thank you to those of you that have participated in these Tech Talks so far this year! The first webinar filled up within 24 hours. Amazing!!

What is an OEC Instructor Tech Talk?

It's a brief (45 min) webinar to help guide OEC Instructors find NSP Resources on both the National and Central Division websites in realtime. This idea was spun out of the need to do additional mentoring and training after the new OEC Instructor gets signed off and has access to the NSP OEC Instructor Resources. As a frequent mentor and IT doing signoffs, I struggled with showing Instructors where their "stuff" is before they can see it. This Tech Talk is also meant for the OEC Instructor that is an IOR or first time IOR. Heck, if you are an Instructor looking for a guided experience in the pursuit of your Resources, this is for you too!

The topics covered for the first few Tech Talks are:

- Requirements for OEC Instructor Recertification
- Where is everything?? OEC Instructor Resources on National and Central

Division websites

- Who do I send QA/feedback to?
- What if.....? Ethics for Instructors

The space is limited to 30 participants. You will need to RSVP to me (hayes.susan@mayo.edu) to receive the invitation. The format used is "Zoom" online Meetings.

It is webinar based- the pace is pretty fast so that we can have 15 mins at the end for any questions. When I send you the link to join, there are a few websites to mark as Favorites that we use during the webinar. Future Tech Talks will cover more about Registering and Closing Courses, Refresher Topics, etc. This is NOT a substitute for attending your Region OEC Instructor-specific Recertification Course- AKA: Instructor Continuing Education (ICE).

Watch for future dates- will be posting on the Central Division Website as well as an e-blast to OEC Instructors. I plan to do one each month. If you are mentoring a new OEC Instructor, once the paperwork has been completed and sent in, please encourage your mentees to sign up and attend.

To those of you that have attended and given feedback- thank you! You've helped to make these even better!



Young Adult Program: What is our missing link?



Jane Bickerstaff
YAP Advisor

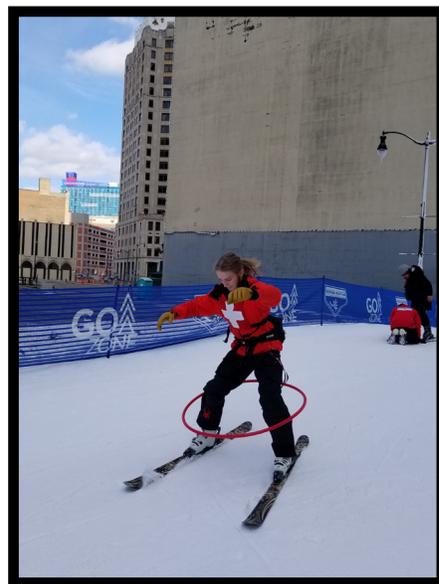
We are starting to get some young adults interested in patrolling. Excellent! I have heard back from Maddie Dodson-Garrett of Western Michigan Region, Dave Hawkinson of Western Region, and Cricket Nickolaou from Eastern Michigan Region regarding the growing number of young adult patrollers (YAP) in their areas. These staff members are working hard to offer local YAP ski enhancement seminars in their regions to let the young adult patrollers meet and work with other patrollers their own age. Other events, such as the Winter Blast festival in Detroit, are great opportunities for YAPs to work together as a group, have fun, and benefit ski patrol at the same time. But are the YAPs attending these events?

In my experience, many young adults do not read email. They don't do Facebook either. How are we to keep them current about events that are being offered specifically for them? Reportedly, most young adults read and respond to text messages. How do we get region-wide phone numbers available to the staff putting on these events?

In running a Junior Ski Patrol (ages 12-15) at Mt Brighton I don't have much difficulty with getting the word out to students because most of them use their parent's email address. I don't even need to recruit for the program because the parent word-of-mouth is so good that I always have a waiting list of students interested in joining the program. Wouldn't it be great if we had waiting list for YAPs to join our patrols? Do YAP programs need more parental involvement to encourage these new patrollers?

With mandatory duty shifts, on-hill training, school, jobs, extra-curricular activities, and social life, YAPs don't have much time to offer for the demands of scheduling in extra YAP meetings. Maybe those of us involved in promoting YAP programs should consider making an extra trip to the patrol room during their duty shifts to touch base, provide information on upcoming events, and listen to concerns in general that these students have regarding their new positions as ski patrollers. Maybe we should have an assigned mentor for each young adult patroller. We could facilitate and coordinate ride share to events. It will take extra time on our part, but ensuring that these student patrollers are heard and included in fun and exciting events may be crucial in keeping them interested in long-term involvement with our patrols.

As always, I am open to ideas and welcome your thoughts.



Kevin Jinerson Hula Hooping at Winter Blast in Downtown Detroit



Mt. Brighton Patrollers at Winter Blast in Downtown Detroit

Eastern Michigan Region Young Adult Patroller Seminar



YAP got a chance to learn so some skiing techniques from Mike Taylor!

There was alot of fun involved!





Lots of hustle
pulling toboggans
and great
teamwork!



Central Division Awards



Brian Rull earned a Gold Star Merit
as well as National Outstanding
Administrative Patroller.

Senior Program – What Else Can It Do For You?



Rob Carpenter
Senior Supervisor

We have talked in previous articles about how the senior program can help you continue to improve your patrolling skills. While skills improvement is a very important aspect of the senior program, the senior program can benefit you in other ways, as well.

Completing the senior program can make you eligible for consideration for national awards and leadership commendations. It can also help open doors within the National Ski Patrol system.



Senior standing is required, or recommended, for:

- Leadership positions
 - Section Chief
 - Division Staff / Program Supervisors
 - Avalanche, Bike Patrol, Election Coordinator, Instructor Development, Patroller 101, Medical Advisor, Mountain Travel and Rescue, Meeting Coordinator, MSAA Liason, Nordic Program, OEC Program, PSIA Liason, Public Relations Advisor, Senior Program, Skills Development, Snow Sports School, Toboggan, Women's Seminar Advisor, Young Adult Patroller (YAP) Advisor
 - Region Director
 - Division Director
- Next Level Certification
 - Entering Certified Program
 - Entering Nordic/Backcountry Master's Program

So, why not consider the Senior Program? There is a lot that it can do for you.

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 (Look for Dan's picture.)

The completed application form should be sent by email or fax to Assistant Division Director Tom Anderson.

E: tpanderson@charter.net

P: 906-361-7609

Nordic News



Jeff Schmidt
Nordic
Supervisor

We just got back from this years Division Nordic Ski and Toboggan refresher up in Minocqua Wisconsin. We had a great time skiing on some better than average snow. I only mention this due to the fact that we usually ski on less than ideal snow conditions. The staff at Minocqua Winter Park Nordic Area does an amazing job grooming the trails. They have over 70k of trails with trails for every skill level! The weather was also better than normal with temperatures in the mid twenties. Everyone came away with some new tips and ski skills. The third day of this clinic is a Tele clinic that takes place at Indian Head ski area in the U.P. This three-day clinic is held annually the first full weekend in January. Please mark your calendars for next season and make sure you come and take advantage of this opportunity in a premiere ski location.

The American Birkiebeiner race(s) will be held Feb. 21 – 23, 2018 in Hayward, Wisconsin. I encourage anyone that is interested in getting involved with the Birkie Patrol to contact me for more information. This is often the highlight of the season for many Midwest patrollers. We have limited positions for non-Nordic qualified patrollers to help out. Come join 10,000+ other Nords for a great time at this International ski race.

Remember that the awards season is here. Please write an award for some deserving patroller. No one patrols just to receive and award, but it sure is nice when someone recognizes someone for their hard work and efforts.

I hope to see you out on the snow.

Instructor Development



Virginia Rodeman
Instructor Development

It is the middle of January and the rains have stopped, the temperature has dropped, and the fluffy white is finally on the ground. For many that mean OET instructors are in full swing with Toboggan Refreshers, Patroller 101 classes, Senior Hill training, SES and TES. It also means new Snowsports trainers and toboggan trainers. That means a few weeks or months ago, someone planned Instructor Development class. It also means that near the end of the skiing time, someone will plan Instructor Development classes before OEC classes. Not only are ID instructors busy with classes, but they are also busy helping ICEC for other disciplines as well as IT's completing ICEC (Instructor Continuing Education clinic) for ID instructors.

So many patrollers get involved in giving back in one way or another. Instructing is one way. Instructor Development Classes can be found in your Region. This is the first step to becoming an instructor. **Before completing the on-line class**, contact your Patrol Director, Region Instructor Development Administrator or Region Website calendar to find out when the next class is scheduled. Many will be scheduled at or near your Region Meeting. Get involved!

Questions? Contact me - rodewoman@yahoo.com

What is your teaching style?



Dan Moss
PSIA / AASI
Liaison

We are made up of a lot of personalities! What a wonderful thing. Yet this makes teaching for instructors and coaches a little more complex. Gone are the days of 1 style for every student.

Our personalities have influence over how we teach, and that can be a good thing. However, is there more to learn? What can we add to our quiver of knowledge as it relates to our colleagues? What is your teaching style?

Command: this is the classic NSP go-to. Who hasn't heard a loud NSP instructor growling commands at us on the hill? Did we learn? Yes. Was it pleasant? Well...

But there is a place for command style. I find that most instructors get stuck on a specific type of teaching and then only use that one style. Command style strength: it reduces the amount of decisions a learner has to make; control of the class/group is clear; and desired outcomes are usually shared (shouted?). We call it the 'call down.'

Task: similar to command but the student is given more freedom in exploration on their way to the learning goal. Activities are varied through the course of time and the instructor is working to give personal feedback (and encouragement!) during the tasks. The tasks are usually built into a progression of skills that build upon one another.

Reciprocal: adult students usually enjoy this one because it utilizes the collaborative nature of the group and gives them a clear chance for sharing their own movement analysis and feedback. As a pair or team, one student becomes the focus and the others become the observer(s). It is important that everyone has a very clear picture of the outcome in order that the feedback is specific to the task. I like to call the group back together and monitor the feedback on this one, as we all actively listen in as one team shares at a time in the larger group.

Guided Discovery: for a long time I thought I knew what this was and used it quite frequently...only to find years later that I wasn't using it totally correct! Sorry to those who were under my guidance! Guided discovery requires an incredibly clear picture as the outcome (see 7 Habits of Highly Successful People for further reading). Now the fun comes...how does the learner get there? It becomes a process of discovery and the masterful thing is as learners, when we arrive at an outcome on our own, it much more deeply rooted into our long game. The instructor should guide the learners through the process allowing group interaction and experimentation, while the group is trying to create new insights and awareness, all leading to the desired outcome. What is the danger of this freedom? Learning the wrong thing on the way toward the outcome. It must be monitored closely.

Problem Solving: one of my favorites but it doesn't work for everyone and the coach needs to keep close tabs on levels of frustration. Like guided discovery, except that there is less input from the instructor. This allows the students to experiment and generate their own ideas. The facilitator's role is to provide enough information and feedback that the goals are reached.

It is important to remember that these teaching methods can often be dictated by the task or the terrain.

For our learning to be connected to movement patterns, we always need to be communicating to all of our senses, and all types of learners. We often 'gather' information through our senses: visual, auditory, kines-

thetic, but our personalities often drive our learning 'styles': thinkers, feelers, watchers, doers (I admit that one could argue our learning style helps shape personality too).

Sometimes, our learners know what they prefer but I find that most do not. One way to access the information is to provide them with a scenario that will help them determine the best way to take information in, and the best model for their learning: "What will it feel like?" "Let me think this through." "Can you show me?" "Get out of my way I've got enough to try it out!"

I sometimes ask: "Ok, you just purchased a gas grill from Lowes, in a box. How would you put it together?" Their answer often sheds light on sensory perception (taking in information) and the 'how' of their learning as they put it together. Examples:

- Did they look at pictures and start assembling? (visual)
- Did they lay it all out and number the parts? (thinker and orderly)
- Did they read the instructions from front to back first? (often auditory...they hear what they read)
- Did they just start putting it together? (doer; usually has some parts left over!)
- Did they stop, go watch a YouTube video, call two friends and assemble tomorrow? (thinker, systematic, may not enjoy risk)
- Did they try a mixture?... "mmh, this feels like it should go here." (feeler, experimenting)

Once you think you agree with them on some of these insights, try experimenting to confirm your assessment. Do they do better listening and trying, watching and trying, feeling in their body a certain movement during the exercise. Did they pause and think? Did that watch and do? Did they jump right in? Are they a combination?

Please join me in committing to being an exceptional instructor or coach. We need you!

Reference: Stephen Covey-7 Habits of Highly Successful People-1989; PSIA Teaching Snowsports-2018



MORTAL SKI COMPANY

Mortal Ski Company is building skis for you. Our skis are designed for high performance at your ski hill. We offer stock and custom options to meet your needs

We are again offering Pro Discounts to all NSP, PSIA, and ski industry professionals.

Contact us with any questions. mortalskis@gmail.com or call 859-816-6687

WWW.SKIMORTAL.COM

Are You Social?



Darcy Hanley
Social Media

We continue to grow 1,158 “likes” on Facebook and don’t forget we have an Instagram account @cd-skipatrol! Our social media continues to share the accomplishments, training and life events of our patrollers. The division website is your “go to” place for forms, information, and the calendar. Thanks to the regions for sharing their event posts!



If you are planning to attend Powderfall share your favorite moments on Instagram and Facebook. We look forward to seeing your favorite moments. The Division meeting this year will be held in Cleveland. Watch for information on the division website and Facebook!

Now for a little fun, post your end of the season pictures on any of the Central Division social media sites and enter in a drawing for gift cards and swag from the NSP store. The start date is March 1 ending with Powderfall. Look forward to seeing your fun!

Be safe out there and enjoy every day of the season!

#cdskipatrol

www.nspcentral.org

www.facebook.com/centraldivisionnationalskipatrol

National Board Members from Central Division

Brian Rull
brianrull@hotmail.com



Jay Zedak
jay@bugbusterinc.com

Julie Stone
jactstone@gmail.com



Taking It Forward



Cheryl Raudabaugh
Skills Development

The Skills Team started out the ski season in December with two successful Alpine Skills Development Workshop (ASDW) events. The first was held at Boyne Highlands and the second event was held for the first time at Big Snow Resorts, with a total of 152 registered NSP participants including 21 staff/instructors at each event – 71 participating in Toboggan events and the remainder in various Ski/Ride options. An Avalanche class was held at both locations as a companion offering. We had great participation across all regions.

Our focus this year in Skills Development is “Taking It Forward” training our next generation of leaders. We are doing that through our website with extended program materials and evolving development of videos, year three of our skills cards to share key fundamentals of ski/ride and toboggan, and through new assessment forms provided to participants to give clear written feedback and ideas on next steps for development. Our

train the trainer ASDW events provide information for the regions to take forward in their planning and evaluations at the senior level. We also provide certification testing for toboggan IT's and evaluators.

Special thanks to our host areas. Boyne Highlands consistently provides generous support to the NSP each year with onsite lodging, facilities for our meetings, food, and on hill assistance. This year we were excited to add Big Snow Resorts as a host area – with ski/ride availability to Black Jack and Indianhead trails, and great on-site facilities to meet all our needs. We appreciate their warm hospitality and with rave reviews from participants this year, I'm sure they will be a requested destination for other future events.

Reminder to check us out at www.centraldivision.org to download our special Skills Summary card and check out our other many reference materials. I hope that you will consider taking it forward by mentoring others in your area this year to open up new opportunities for growth. Have a great season!



Patrollers at Boyne Highlands Skills Development Workshop.

Womens Program



On January 25-27, 2019, women from the Central Division swarmed to Perfect North Slopes in Lawrenceburg, IN for the annual Central Division Women's Clinic! Weather was the big factor beginning this season – too warm! With a boost from Mother Nature, PNS did an AMAZING job putting the area into PERFECT shape for the ladies!!



For two days, we pulled toboggans, skied the area working on our technical skills, and rode the area showing what women can do! What fun and smiles were had by all!

Kerstin Hammarberg Womens Program

A shout out and big thank you to the following people who helped to make this a successful event: Perfect North Slopes, Chip Perfect – owner, Mike Reed – Patrol Director, Dana Zedak – Ohio Region Women's Advisor, Yvette Gerdes – Ohio

Region Assistant Women's Advisor and PNS host, Tanya Thomas – National Women's Advisor. Instructors for the weekend were Amy Arnold, Linda Barthel, Kathy Brennan, Yvette Gerdes, Linda Jacobs, Erica Krol, Barb Reed, and Tanya Thomas. Let's not forget Alex Herrmann and Jon Davis for their grooming talents and skills!

The instructors had a great time and were appreciative of getting to know our National Women's Advisor (Tanya Thompson) as we worked together! It was a treat to have her as one of the instructors for this great weekend!

Participants shared their successes and excitement with one another throughout the weekend. We skied and learned fun tools for skill development, toboggan tips and tricks, and enjoyed the Esprit de Corps that only the NSP can deliver!

Friday night's gathering was in an igloo at PNS and it was chilly! The ladies were excited to try something NEW and went tubing! PNS was able to give us this great experience! Saturday clinics and the Saturday evening event were memorable. Kris Leibau received Pearl the



Bear and "The Vest."

When you see her next ask her about them!



The ladies who participated were excited, enthusiastic, and ready to have a great time together! Clinics held were focused on Skiing Skills, Toboggan Skills, and Snowboard Skills. Each year we strive to offer opportunities for the women of the Central Division to try new things and this year was no exception.

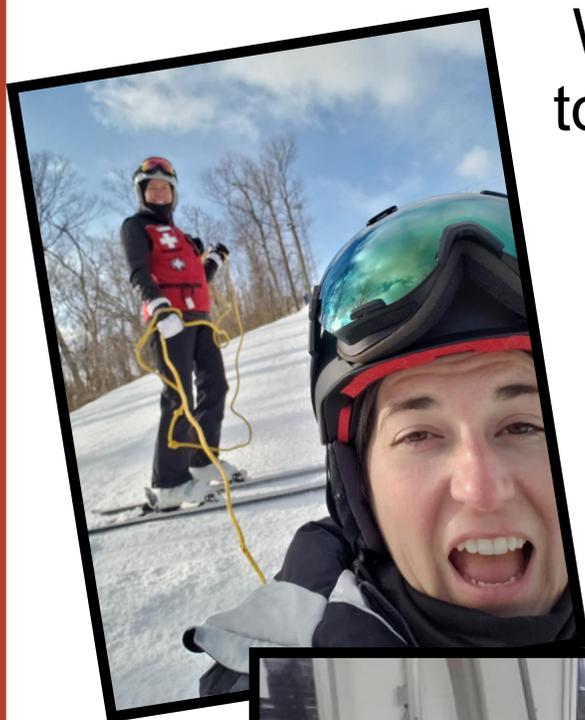
Again, it is with tremendous appreciation that we recognize Perfect North Slopes with our thanks for hosting the ladies of the Central Division this year!

Look for the ladies in the South Central Region next year in 2020!

Central Division Women's Clinic



We pulled toboggans!



We Skied Working on Our Technical Skills!



NSP-C Snow Sports



Marty Blazkowski
NSP-C Snowsports
School

This season the NSP-C Snow Sports School is awarding people for passing the PSIA/AASI exams \$50 for level 1, \$100 for level 2 and \$300 for level 3. To be eligible you had to have signed up before December 1, 2018, be a member of the ski school (it's free) and upon passing send me a copy of the certificate within 30 days. I'd like to congratulate Jim Seeger passing level 2, Steve Ohms passing level 2, Anne Blaedow passing level 1 and Dean Brand passing level 1. The award will be given out at the fall division meeting. Good Luck to those who will be taking their exams in the next few weeks.

The NSP-C Snow Sports School is the largest registered school in PSIA/AASI. I talked to Nick Herrin CEO of PSIA last December at Boyne Highlands; he recognizes that we are his biggest customers. That being said PSIA/AASI has designed a course specifically with the patroller in mind. Anyone can take the class and you don't have to be a PSIA/AASI member. If you are interested go to the PSIA web site for the location of the next class. This is a great way to get those CEU's for those that need them.



Finally, if you have a small group that would like that would like to have the division staff help, please contact me.

Active Alumni program is good for alumni and the patrol!



Mark Holtan
Alumni

The collective experiences of our alumni members can substantially benefit our local patrols in the Central Division and the NSP more broadly.

There are many reasons to "Go Alumni" besides retirement:

- family responsibilities
- new additions to the family
- job responsibilities
- health issues and more

By registering as Alumni **and** continuing to keep your OEC certification up to date, you may jump back into active patrolling whenever life issues allow. How good is that?

If you have missed a refresher, you can work with an OEC instructor to make up the missed cycle or attend respective OEC classes to make up the refresher training. One can make up 2 refresher cycles, otherwise you need to repeat the course.

Hey! You want to help? [Encourage other patrollers who are either "taking time off" or retiring to join the alumni ranks.](#)

Registering is simple. Use the following link to NSP's Alumni page and click on the "**Become and Alumni**

Member Today” link at the bottom of the page to access the registration form:

https://www.nsp.org/NSPMember/Get_Involved/Join_the_NSP_/Alumni/NSPMember/Get_Involved/Alumni.aspx?hkey=71021b4d-0dd7-4c79-bc2d-a25e1a9c8bf4

Please share the opportunity and the link by forwarding this message to others who may benefit from it.

Renewing your NSP Alumni Membership Online

Alumni members may easily renew their registration and pay their dues online. I have this question come up several times recently, “Can I renew my Alumni Membership online?” So, here’s how to do it. As an Alumni member:

- a. Log in on the NSP website with your member number and password.
- b. At the top, upper right where it will say “Hi, (member name)” – merely click on that icon, which takes you to your **My Profile** page. At the bottom left of the Profile, click on the “**Renew Now**” button, allowing you to pay with a choice of credit cards or Pay Pal. It works. Now, that was EASY!

Survey of NSP Alumni

Watch your inbox in coming weeks for a survey of NSP Alumni. We are hoping to ascertain what Alumni seek from their membership as well as ideas for improving your alumni experience. Please, please, please share your thoughts.

Upcoming Events and Opportunities for Alumni

Powderfall 2019 - Snowbird, Utah, April 3 - 6, 2019

Powderfall is an end-of-ski-season celebration hosted by the National Ski Patrol that brings together over 600 patrollers, outdoor industry leaders (demos & gear), and friends for fellowship, learning and—of course—skiing.

Anyone is welcome to register for the Powderfall fun, including current and former ski patrollers, family members, and friends. There are still openings at the time of this writing. For information and to register, simply use the following link: <http://www.powderfall.com/what-is-powderfall/>

Alumni Celebration Week - Whitefish Mountain, Montana, February 3 - 10, 2019

This event will have passed by the time of this publication, but know we had Central Division alumni representation. I was not able to attend this year but look forward to going next February 2020. This event was established by a group of NSP alumni from the Far West, Pacific Northwest and Northern Divisions a few years ago and was broadened this year to invite fellow NSP alumni, family and friends to join in Whitefish, MT, for our first **Alumni Celebration Week**. This was previously publicized in the last issue of the RPN.

I am available to assist as best I can this ski season in promoting, rewarding and energizing your patrol’s alumni program and our Division’s alumni program.

As always, your thoughts and questions are welcomed and valued!

Thank you,
Mark Holtan
Division Alumni Advisor

Thank You to Our Sponsors

PLATINUM



GOLD



SILVER



BRONZE



PARTNERS



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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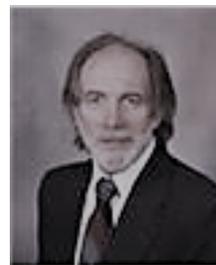
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