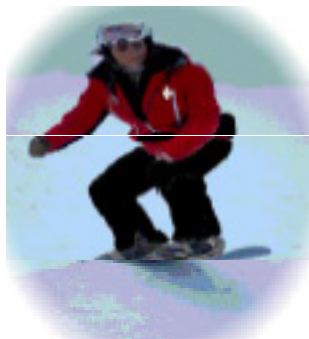




Rusty Parka News



Vol. 58 Issue 2

www.nspcentral.org

Winter 2020

Division Director's Report



Mike Schons
Division Director

The season started early (November 9th in Eastern Michigan) and I have been on the move since the start. If you're following Instagram or the Central Division Facebook page you will see the Subaru is making its way around to Patrols, Regions and Division events. On Instagram, please follow #kneedeepinwork or #subaru. I try to post pictures with the car from everywhere we visit, and who knows you could be next!

The National Board meeting in Denver was an interesting event. First, I retained my position on the National Bike Committee. I moved from the Finance Committee to the Education Committee where I will be working with Central Division and National Board members, Julie Stone and Jay Zedak. We have a lot of work to do and I will keep you the membership informed.

There were some important topics discussed that I feel you should be aware of even if some are not finalized as of this writing. So let's start with the easy one.

There was a written proposal to establish a National Senior Program Director. This was talked about extensively in the Division Director's meeting on Thursday and then again in the National Board meeting. There are differences in the way each division is organized for senior program administration, and that's okay, as there are geographical and demographical differences. The Division Directors voted unanimously against this proposal. After the lengthy discussion at the Board level the proposal was withdrawn by the owner. This was a good thing as in the Central Division we have an active and well run program. That doesn't mean we cannot improve the program within the division, we can, and we are working in that direction. We have



plans that will come out as we finalize them with the division board. In the meantime the Region Senior Program Advisors will soon be getting database access to help them with their administrative tasks. This will come from the National Office.

Bike Committee, we are almost done with our input for Biking and summer activity in the new Patroller 101 manual. The manual should be available soon on the National website. We have a couple of things to add and review first. I want to thank Jeremy Verbeke and Vito Manzella along with the CRAMBA folks for their review and input. We used a lot of their input, materials and direction. One thing we did get approved by the Board were two new awards, Outstanding Bike Patrol and Outstanding Bike Patroller. The next item to tackle will probably be the requirements for Senior Bike Patroller. If you're interested in biking, check the Central Division Facebook page. I posted a number of events, rides and races you can participate or assist with.

The big item is Youth Protection which comes out of the Safe Sports Act. I am going to try and condense this as it is not finalized yet and may go through changes until it is approved and released to the membership. There was a follow-up article to the "New Safe Sport Law" article found in Ski Patrol magazine, Volume 36.

On the National level there is a committee working towards this as a Chapter 13 in the National P&P. There are different thoughts about who will be required to take the training, however, the National Board and Division were at the top of the list.

The training is about 1 1/2 hours on-line and free. There are two different suppliers of what are considered the "Gold Standard" in this type of training, BSA or the Boy Scouts and Mountain Guard which is Praesidium. Either one will be acceptable. I personally did both and there is a difference. Mountain Guard insures most of our resorts. Both require recertification. I did inquire if other suppliers in this type of training would be acceptable and have not yet received an answer.

The National Board and the Division Directors are unanimous that this is a right and necessary decision. It is my opinion, this has three pillars. First, protect the youth. Second, protect the Patroller and third, protect the organization. Since this is going to happen, I sincerely believe we should get in front of it in order to positively promote the training with knowledge and expertise. That said, NOT all members will be required to take the training, at least that is the thought by the National Committee in this five minutes. I anticipate that the training will mostly be required of instructors and leadership. Why? We utilize ski instructors with Young Adult Patrollers or YAP's, We use young folks in our OEC Refreshers and Evaluations. For right now, this does not apply to the on-hill everyday patroller providing assistance to a young injured guest. So I would guess less than 500 Central Division members would be required to take the training. One idea put forward is make this a requirement for Instructor Development and renewal during Instructor recertification. Allison actually proposed this idea and we really liked it so I sent it up to the Board and committee.

So to get to the point, what does this all mean? I have had heard from Anne, Allison, Guy and Les and we agree, the entire Division staff will be required to take the training and have it **completed by April 01, 2020**. Most of us are Instructors and those that are not will be able to assist that portion of the membership that will be required, in a positive manner, and help them with the upcoming requirement.

If you also wish to get a start up front of any requirement, scouting can be found at <https://www.scouting.org/training/> On the right side, click on MENU, then click the JOIN button. You have to create a login membership before you can take the training. For the Praesidium training, I need to submit your name and email address to the National Office as they have to enroll you. You will then get an email once you are approved. I found that the training could be beneficial

Parka Picks

| | |
|---------------------------|-------|
| Chain of Command | P. 4 |
| Toboggan Update | P. 10 |
| OEC Update | P. 11 |
| Safety Team- Safety Month | P. 12 |
| Nordic News | P. 14 |
| Skills Development | P. 17 |
| Alumni | P. 25 |
| Young Adult Program | p. 27 |

to us in our everyday lives and provide us with insight as to long term effects on society.

I hope this helps understand some things going on within the organization that we love. As always, if you have questions or concerns, feel free to contact me.

What is your “Why”?



Anne Blaedow
ADD

What do we do? How do we do it? **Why** do we do it?

The average snow sports enthusiast knows something about WHAT the ski patrol is and what we do. They know we are there when they get hurt, and that we care about making our sport safe. They see us practicing toboggan work and managing accident scenes, but do they know WHY we do it? What is the driving force behind our training, our hundreds of hours of service and our willingness to be there in all kinds of weather? Finding new patrollers, requires that we understand our own “Why”?

- We want to enjoy and support the sport that we love!
- OEC and OET Instructors want their students to be competent and confident when they are on shift. We take great pride in the success of others.
- Program advisors, shift crew chiefs and patrol leaders are always looking for the best way to motivate and train their people to help them be successful at meeting the local area's needs.
- Patrollers want to be part of a crew of great people who are interdependent and want to support each other on the hill
- We drive long distances to sit in the snow and participate in a Senior OEC evaluation, even on a powder day because we know that we are helping each other become better OEC technicians and problem solvers.
- We do laps with toboggans to make sure we get it right and won't get it wrong when we are transporting injured guests.
- We practice....until we can't get it wrong.
- We care about people

New recruits have their reasons WHY they think they want to join. Some want to “ski free” and are quickly exited when they realize it's not about freeskiing. More often than not though, they are looking for like-minded people who want to give back to the sport they love. They want to help others and be out on the slopes to build our sport. They have the “why” in their heart and it's up to our instructors will teach them how.

Share your “Why” with your other patrollers, your patients and the people sitting next to you on a chairlift ride to the top. You never know who is looking for what we have. Be bold and share your “why”.

Chain of Command



Les Robinson
ADD

I choose a topic that we as a very passionate group being patrollers are not always the best at, since we all think we can do it as good as the next person. Chain of command or COC. Please bear with me as this topic can be sensitive to some; I'm not writing to make people irate just to make you aware and to try your best to use the COC.

Advantages of a good COC

Responsibility: Having different areas of the organization can improve accountability by giving everyone different responsibility, their own separate duties, their own supervisor, keeping them accountable.

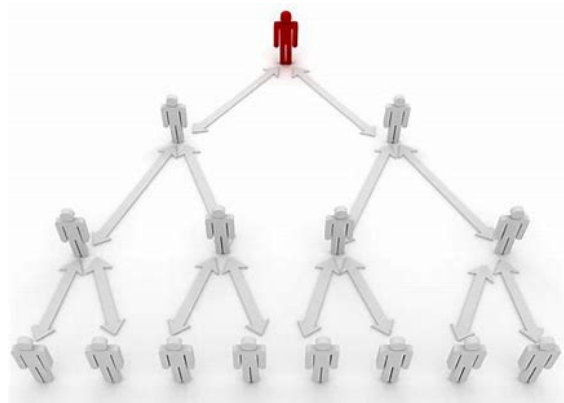
Efficiency: A functional COC helps improve efficiency when communicating with all below and back to the top.

Clarity: Having a good structure makes the COC very clear. It will also allow people to know who makes what decision and which need to move up the COC.

Morale: Good and clear COC makes for less chaos, leads to improved morale.

Specialization: Making people focus on a narrow function can create groups of specialists that heavily impact the function of the organization.

Ok what does that all mean to us; well when someone needs a helping hand, take it up a level, so that they can take it up a level, so that the help you need can get assigned by the correct people, to the correct people. If you go and ask the person you think is the right person; the person that is responsible for the program may not ever know what is happening thereby creating chaos. Patrollers go through your slope leader, then patrol rep/director. PR/PD through the section chief, then Region Director. RD to the Division Director, if you are an assigned region leader such as Region advisor your COC is to RD then division supervisor. Division supervisor to your Assistant Division Director/other division supervisor, us ADD to ADD, supervisor and to DD. This is how we will keep our communication clean and get the correct people to know and understand what is going on, where we may have issues popping up.



Ski Patrollers are the most dedicated people that I know! If you are having fun you will learn!! Educating patrollers is my and our passion.

I ask ALL patrollers to take a look at your local and Region programs and reach out to offer to help with some aspect of a program that intrigues you. What do you want to learn more about? What program could you become an instructor for? How can you improve your own skill set and offer to help others grow their own skills?

Region Reports

South Central Region



Steve Paladini
South Central
Region Director

Happy New Year. I hope everyone had an enjoyable holiday season. Mother nature cooperated at the beginning of the season with temperatures below normal, allowing most of our areas to make plenty of snow and open. Temperatures for the first half of January, have been above normal making the skiing comfortable, as less layers have been needed.

Patrols have completed their On-Hill and chair evacuation refreshers and for the most part, the patrols have completed ICS 100. For those patrollers that passed the OEC classes in the Fall, they have taken to the slopes to begin their toboggan training.

During the month of January, the Region has held a Toboggan Trainer Workshops, one Skiing Enhancement Seminar and both the Senior On-Hill and Senior OEC clinics. The evaluations are scheduled for February 23rd and March 8th, respectively.

Wishing South Central Region's and all of Central Division's candidates, good luck in their journey. The Region is also hosting the Central Divisions Women's Seminar this season.

My Region's staff is a dedicated and talented group of individuals and I'm confident that this is the case with all of the Regions. Each of them spends a lot of time in pre-planning and preparation, to bring all the Region's their specific programs, form of communication, etc. During the season, if you are patrolling with any of them or decide to get involved in one of their programs, please take the time to thank them.

In other Region news, we have a new Region Medical Adviser, Dr. Jake Zadra. Dr. Jake is a patroller at the Devils Head Ski Area. When not patrolling, he is working in the Emergency Room at UW Madison. He also is flight surgeon with the Medflight program. Also, Section Chief III is up for re-election this year.

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!



Western Michigan Region



John Donnelly
Western MI
Region Director

So far this winter, the weather has been variable in Western Michigan. Our northern areas have had solid conditions since before Thanksgiving. Caberfae Peaks and Crystal Mountain have been open since the second weekend in November and have remained open. Unfortunately, the weather pattern in the southern sections has been much more variable. Despite some early cold weather, the pattern shifted several times with heavy rainfall and warm temps. This presented some challenges during the all-important holiday break period. With colder, more seasonal weather becoming more consistent, these areas are finally making progress and terrain open for skiing/riding is nearing normal for this time of year.

As I write this article, the Region's training teams have attended Division events and held training workshops as well as Senior Hill and OEC-MSP clinics. The weather has presented some challenges with several events being delayed or cancelled, but the major activities remain on track. After successful fall OEC programs, candidates are working on their skills at all the areas and look forward to continued progress as the winter takes hold.

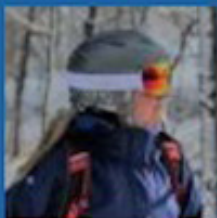
In addition to the usual fall schedule of OEC classes and refreshers, much of our attention was on compliance with the ICS 100 certification requirement. Michael Walenta, our Region MTR and Avalanche Adviser (and Avalanche adviser for Division as well), coordinated progress and compliance for the entire Region. While we remain vigilant and recognize much work remains, the Region has over 93% compliance and is working towards more completions. After working through the year-end deadline and handling last minute requests for help, the work in ICS has declined some and Michael has recently been able to focus more time on his Avalanche role, doing safety presentations at ski areas and local outdoors retailers to get the word out on the current thinking on Avalanche Awareness.

With Nordic events coming up soon, West Michigan Nordic patrollers have been actively planning their events. Several Nordic members travelled to the American Birkebeiner Foundation in early January. Major Michigan events such as the Vasa and the White Pine Stampede are coming up soon.

Looking to the future, Jess McCallum, our Region YAP adviser, is planning a new event for our Region at Crystal Mountain on March 15. The event is focused on young skiers and riders, 9-14 years old, and their parents and is described as a Ski Patrol Explorers Event. We are hopeful that this event and the lessons learned can be taken "on the road" in the rest of the Region next season to provide a fun and interesting introduction to patrolling and our patrol family.



SOL ALPINE



Founded by a Ski Patroller with the mission to support Patrols, Sol Alpine makes practical, rugged, innovative snow goggles. We partner with on-mountain shops to support their Ski & Bike Patrols by giving 1% of our sales to the Patrols where Sol Alpine goggles are sold. We'd love to support your Patrol.

Pro pricing offered to NSP members. Contact us at SolAlpine.com



North Central Region



James Hughes
NC Region Director

As this winter season came in, NCR saw plenty of snow early. What a great gift if you love the snow sports and getting outside in the winter months. This year again, Big Snow-Indianhead hosted the ASDW where we had plenty of participation from the NCR. The additional early snow added to the total experience of folks attending the ASDW event. This season, a new session was added so non-senior patrollers had an opportunity to attend. This gives regions an extra incentive to begin developing a new generation of NSP leaders. I want to thank everyone that worked putting the schedule together, instructors and participants for taking the time to attend this event from our region and around the division. I especially want to thank Big Snow for hosting this event again and ordering up all the new snow...wow! Each year people are looking at the surveys and getting comments from participants and instructors to assure this event is enjoyable, educational and sustainable. So next season, the ASDW will be even better.

Lastly, I want to thank Mike and Les for taking the time to visit Big Powderhorn Mountain and Whitecap during their visit. It was a welcome surprise and appreciated.

Southern Region



Mike Vaerewyck
Southern Region
Director

The weather has not been the most cooperative this season which has led to a rough start for many of us. But finally, in late January we are getting some much-needed snow! While a few events had to be canceled due to the weather, I am happy to report that we were able to hold the first ever Southern Region Women's Clinic at Wilmot Mountain on January 12th. Numbers were small, but all reports say laughs and learning were in abundance. Thanks to all who participated and made this event a success.

Fingers crossed the the weather stays cold and snowy for our next big scheduled event the first weekend in February, the SES/TES at Chestnut Mountain. This is always a great time to tune up on your skills with help from great instructors and friends. If you can't make it to the SES/TES, hopefully we will see you a few weeks later at the Senior test to help encourage the candidates working towards the next level in their patrol career.

While the season events are barely getting started but at the same time already quickly passing by, don't forget to mark your calendars for the end or season banquets. The banquets are a great time to reflect on the past season and celebrate with old and new friends. The Southern Region Banquet will be in St. Louis the weekend of May 2-3 followed by the Division Banquet at Chestnut Mountain September 10-12. I hope to see lots of smiling southern region faces as we welcome our friends from across the division to our home region for this year's event. Planning is well underway, and items are coming in for the silent auction. Pictured on the right is a sneak peak of one of many throw back signs that will be up for grabs to the highest bidder

Looking forward to seeing everyone and hope your season is a good one!



Ohio Region



Chris Raudabaugh
Ohio Region Director

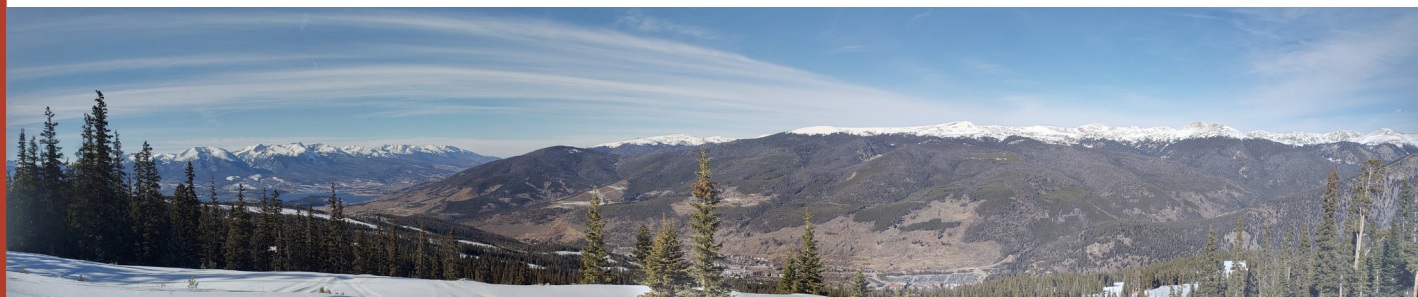
The start of this season has been a roller coaster of weather. The initial season started out well, but warmed up quite a bit thru the holidays and into 2020. It has finally cooled off enough for most areas to recover to being operational.

We were able to run a couple events without the ski areas being operational. The annual Certified Prequalification and Recert was held, but just as a dry land clinic for current candidates. Thanks to our Eastern Michigan Region visitor, Kris Libeau, for coming down to Perfect North to hang with us.



We also had a successful Senior OEC module testing at Mad River Mountain. Thanks to Janet Glaeser and Alida Moonen for all of their hard work, and all those that helped....this is a huge event that takes many people to staff. Thanks to RaeAnn R and Kim Z coming down to provide event feedback.

Fortunately, colder weather is helping us pull off upcoming Regional TES and SES events, along with our Senior Ski And Toboggan that will be held on Feb. 9th at Perfect North Slopes. We look forward to the latter half of our season to be cool and snowy!



**Don't forget to promote
safety at your local hill this
winter!**

Eastern Michigan Region



LJ LaVene
Eastern MI
Region Director

Eastern Michigan Region started out with great skiing conditions and early openings at many ski areas. The turn to warmer temperatures have caused the cancellation of a few of our on-hill events. We are hopeful mother nature will cooperate for our upcoming basic and senior exams.

Most areas in our region have successfully completed the ICS required training. Annual refreshers have been accomplished and training is continuing.

It is that wonderful time of year to think about awards submissions. Please review all the options for submissions as some have not had nominations in the past. The awards are an important way to give recognition to the outstanding efforts of patrolers doing what they enjoy so let's not leave any category unfulfilled this year.

Because of the efforts of our entire region staff, we are experiencing a smooth season. I appreciate all their hard work and dedication.

The More You Stay, the More You PLAY...

by Julie A. Stone, Chair CD2020•Southern Region Meeting and Banquet Committee

September 11-13 are the dates for the Central Division 2020 meeting and banquet, hosted by the Southern Region. Location will be Chestnut Mountain Resort (CMR) in Galena, IL, one of America's "Top 10 Small Towns" - home to Ulysses S. Grant's home, 19th century architecture and beautiful Victorian porches, shopping, wineries and a distillery in Galena; and of course!, CMR's fabulous river cruises, zip line, hiking, Segway tours, and Alpine Slide. Do yourself a favor and place this event on your calendar NOW because I know you do not want to miss out on the fun, camaraderie, and patrolling events that will be on offer.

Stay tuned for more details via email, social media, and future editions of the Rusty Parka News. Wouldn't it be super cool to see all 6000+ members of the Central Division present in one place at one time? Well, maybe this is not exactly realistic - but if you've been to a meeting before you know how rewarding and fun networking with your colleagues is - and I challenge you to bring along a patroller (and family) who has never attended a division meeting before. If YOU have never attended a meeting - this year is the year for you to join in and have us welcome you.

September 11-13, 2020 Should be on YOUR Calendar, so Save The Dates Now and See Ya There !



Toboggan Supervisor Update



Tracy Buchanan
Toboggan
Supervisor

Winter is finally in full swing throughout the Central Division! And it's awesome to look at our Central Division calendar and see the number of clinics that are happening in all of the regions! The key to our strength is to continue to develop patrollers and their skills locally, regionally and within our division.

The highlight of my season so far has been to see the number of new OET instructor applications that are coming to me from various regions throughout our Division! Our focus this year at the ASDW's was "Think Towards Tomorrow" which directly relates to mentoring patrollers to become future leaders and trainers at the local, region and division levels. We are very fortunate to have the caliber of trainers that we do and it's wonderful to see that knowledge being passed along to new trainers.

I have also received a number of emails inquiring how to become an OET Instructor, (NSP Alpine Toboggan Trainer). Jake Meyer from Western Region has put together a very straightforward and informational pathway to achieve this goal and so I thought I would share it with everyone. Thanks Jake!

How to Become a Toboggan Instructor

Starting off with a strong desire to teach, having fun and a willingness to train in the snow, rain and cold is the first step!! The rest of the process and your success will come from your commitment, skills and desire.

- Become a Basic Alpine Patroller
- Express your interest in becoming an OET instructor to your PR or Proficiency Director
- Complete an **Instructor Development Course**. Courses are scheduled locally and regionally so be sure to check your region website calendar to find a course that fits with your schedule.
- Read through the **NSP OET Instructor Information** document. This can be found on the NSP website or click this link to be directed to it. [HERE](#)
- Become familiar with the **OET Manual**, which can be found [HERE](#)
- Fill out the **NSP Instructor Application Form** and save it for turning in later. Find the form [HERE](#)
- Work with a mentor and review together the **Guide to Mentoring New Instructors** and **Instructor Mentoring Completion Form** with you. If you need help finding a mentor ask your PR or Proficiency Director.
- Observe your mentor. Teach and fill in your **Instructor_Mentoring_Completion Form**.
- Teach a toboggan class and go over it with your mentor. Be sure to fill out your **Instructor_Mentoring_Completion Form**.
- Teach, teach and teach again. Continue to fill in your **Instructor_Mentoring_Completion Form**.
- When you and your mentor think you are ready for your final teaching sign off, contact your Region Toboggan Advisor to schedule a teaching opportunity at a Region event or to have an IT (Instructor Trainer) come out to observe you teach and review your training history with you and your mentor. Please be sure to do this weeks in advance to avoid any scheduling conflict.
- Give your completed paperwork to your Region Toboggan Advisor, they will submit it to the Division Toboggan Advisor for approval and then it goes to National. Keep a copy for your records.
- **Celebrate!**

But don't think your done yet! Be sure to continue teaching and document all your teaching efforts throughout the years. To keep current you will need to recertify your toboggan instructor status ever 3 years. Watch your Region Events Calendar for recertification events scheduled throughout the ski season!

OEC Update



OEC Instructors...this one is for you! There are a lot of facets to your role – administrative (IOR), instructor for classes and enhancement seminars, refresher station leaders, and mentors. Some are also Instructor Trainers. With all of that, who do you go to with questions? Here is some guidance to make your life easier.

Kim Zambole
OEC Supervisor

| When you have a question about... | Your 'go-to' contact is... |
|--|---|
| How to start an OEC Course | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Instructor Resources (on the NSP site) provides information about how to plan and register a course.2. Your local Instructor Trainer will often assist you in this process3. Your Region OEC Administrator (ROA) is also available if your questions were not answered by the first two options. |
| Who the IT will be for your OEC course evaluations | Contact your ROA. He/She will give you the name you will include on your registration. NOTE: The Instructor Trainer that is the QA for the course evaluation must be from a different patrol. |
| Getting retest materials | The course IOR and/or IT should contact the ROA. Please have the retest date and who the IT will be for the retest. Please refer to the test packet for retest timeframe. |
| Your instructor recertification | Contact your ROA |
| Your Instructor Trainer recertification | Contact your ROA. |
| The test materials haven't arrived (within one week of the evaluation) | Be sure the IOR has indicated the correct date on the registration form. Contact your ROA |
| Something you read in the instructor news from NSP | Contact your ROA. If not available, contact the Division OEC Supervisor (That's Me!!) |
| Becoming an OEC instructor or OEC Instructor Trainer | Contact your ROA. If not available, contact the Division OEC Supervisor (That's Me!!) |
| My profile doesn't seem to be updated. | Contact your ROA. If not available, contact the Division OEC Supervisor (That's Me!!) |
| I'm not able to reach my ROA | Contact the Division OEC Supervisor (That's Me!!) |

By now you have likely surmised that you have the resources close to home. Contact your local Instructor Trainer...then your Region OEC Administrator. If neither are available, then give me a shout out! Please do not go directly to national with your questions. We can likely get the information you need.

Additionally, if your question or 'issue to deal with' may be something we are already working on and can include you in the process. Questions? I'm here for ya!! THANKS!

Central Division Certified Program Update



**Ron Gerdes
Certified**

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

Candidates are evaluated on OEC, Skiing, Toboggan, Low Angle Rescue, Chair Evac, Avalanche, and Area Operations. Candidates must successfully complete all modules within a 3-year window to receive their Certified Number. Once certified, staff members must maintain their status through skiing and toboggan recertification's every 3 years.

The 2020 Central Division Certified Evaluation will be held at Marquette Mountain starting on 2/27, and running through 2/29. I would like to officially welcome Chris Hopper, Chris Vogelheim, to the program! They, along with the returning candidates; David Anderson, Bill Capre, Peter Hodridge, Kris Liebau, Joe Matuszack, Keith Robinson, Otto Selles, Matt Stordahl, Erick Jensen, Kristi Wilki, Brian Harrison, Kyle Jones, and Yvette Gerdes, will be participating in this years event.

I look forward to handing each of these folks a certified pin in the very near future!

If you are interested in participating, shadowing, or just hanging out during the event, please let me know. This program is dependent on all participants and we are welcoming to new faces.

Safety Team- Safety Month

By: Katie Flanagan and Kevin McQuillan

The Central Division Safety Team is off to a running start! We have a great team of patrollers covering each region within our division. There is a safety day planned in each region, some with more than one! One patrol is doing a Safety Week, 14 shifts of Safety. We had 50 orders for safety kits in Central. The kits are now sold out but if you have an event and need some items (see the buffs/gators in the picture below and there are 4 new stickers) contact your Region Safety Team member.

If you need any help in planning a safety day at your hill email me, Katie Flanagan at flanag40@msu.edu, or Kevin McQuillan at SafetyTeam@nspcd.org



Please follow the Central Division Safety Team on Instagram search- nspcentralsafetyteam. We need to get the message out to the public and this is a great way to do it!

If you are posting anything to do with safety at the hill please tag our Instagram page or use the hashtag: [#nspcentralsafetyteam](https://www.instagram.com/nspcentralsafetyteam)

The photo to the right is at Pine Knob during their safety day proudly displaying the new Safety Team neck gators. Great job putting on a great event!



Instructor Development



Marie Traska
Instructor Development

It has been an active year so far with Instructor Development courses being offered in many of our regions. Just a reminder to the IOR's from those classes need to remember to close the course.

Remember the process to become a NSP Instructor you will need to complete the Instructor Development course, there are two ways;

- 1) Classroom course
- 2) Completing the online course through National site.

The e-course does need a face to face with the IR and IT for the course for four hours. Then into the mentor program which will be explained at the end of your course.

The region Advisors are regions:

Eastern Michigan- George Gillin ggilin@hotmail.com
North Central- Lolita Barry, lbarry@chartermi.net
Northern Michigan- Sharon Crocket, vrockett2@charter.net
South Central- Rich Wayne, fewayne@gmail.com
Southern- Jay Zarek, jzarek721@gmail.com
Western Michigan- Pat Livingston, plivingston67@gmail.com
Western- Robert Iverson, iverson043@umn.edu
Ohio- Kim Corrigan, kacorrigan1@gmail.com

Senior Program



Jeff Jurcak
Senior Program

Hello Central Division,

We are well into winter now and I hope this note finds you well. By mid January most Regions are closing in on their Senior S&T pre-test as well as the test for the OEC modules.

The Senior candidates can use your support. If you have a moment please take the time to acknowledge their efforts with a kind word of encouragement. The Senior Program is very close to my heart and I find such joy watching the candidates (lifelong learners) take their OEC and/or OET skills to the next level.

Keep in mind these are the future leaders of the organization that we love!

If you are a Senior candidate this year, CONGRATULATIONS! If you haven't yet started your Senior Program journey, please give it some thought, watch some candidates train on-hill, help out at the Senior OEC practice scenarios in your Region. The energy is contagious. When you are ready to take your first steps, reach out to your Region's Senior Advisor.

Jeff Jurcak



Nordic News



Jeff Schmidt
Nordic
Supervisor

Greetings! It looks like winter is finally getting its act together and cooperating with some snow. I know there are many parts of the Division that have not had any skiable snow yet this season, But it looks like that is about to change with this approaching winter storm. Many of us have had to travel to find the snow and I have been lucky enough to spend many days on some great snow.

We just completed this year's Nordic SES, TES and Tele clinic. The Nordic SES and TES events were held at Winter Park Nordic area in Minocqua, Wisconsin. This is such a great ski area and it has so many trail options with over 110k of groomed trails. If you have not had a chance to join us at this clinic, please put it on your calendar now for Jan 9 -11, 2021. This event is always followed with a Telemark clinic up in the U.P. at Indianhead ski area. What a great day! As a side note, the folks at Minocqua Winter Park are putting on some races and they are looking for a few more Nordic Patrollers for these events. Please let me know if you are interested and I will help you sign up. The American Birkebeiner will be held from the 20th to the 23rd of February in Hayward Wisconsin. This is usually the highlight of the Nordic season and we are always looking for a few good patrollers to help us out with this event. Again, let me know and I can sign you up. The highlight of this season will be the COOP FIS Cross Country World Cup that will be held in Minneapolis, MN from March 14th until the 19th. This is the first year in a long time that the World Cup will be held on American soil. The best racers/sprinters in the Nordic world will be there laying it on the line. A big thanks to Wrick Dunning for taking the lead on this event and assembling a great bunch of patrollers to help take care of these world class skiers. I hope to see you out on the snow. Enjoy.



Tips for PSIA Certification Preparation and Success

Amy Arnold - PSIA / AASI Liaison

Whether you are seeking certification for level 1, 2 or 3 there are some common tips that are helpful in preparing for a successful exam

1. Purchase and read the Alpine Technical Manual. Make sure that you have a good understanding of the material as you will be asked technical questions throughout the exam.
2. Purchase and read the Teaching Snowsports manual. Make sure that you understand The Learning Connection which encompasses people skills, teaching skills, and technical skills.
3. Understand The Five Fundamentals. Know the “what, why and how” What is the fundamental, why we do the fundamental, and how we do the fundamental.
4. Practice and understand Movement Analysis using MODDS and the movement matrix. Be non-judgmental and concise when providing feedback and suggestions for change. More information is available on the PSIA-Central website. www.psia-c.org
5. Practice and be able to demonstrate the Alpine tasks/benchmarks especially the wedge turn, basic parallel turn, railroad track turns and pivot slips
6. Practice teaching. Get involved at your local area helping with candidates. Join the NSP-C Snowsports School and seek opportunities to teach at the region level Think about the four parts to the lesson. Static drill, Simple drill or task, Complex(linking drill or task together) and Whole(putting the movement into skiing). Which one of The Five Fundamentals does your teaching assignment or lesson plan focus on?
7. Utilize the e-learning courses that are available on the National PSIA website. www.thesnowpros.org Some of the e-learning courses are free!
8. Be familiar with the National Standards and Exam Scorecard
9. Prepare yourself physically, mentally and emotionally. The two day exam is long and you will want to be in the best shape possible
10. Find a mentor or mentors. You need direct and specific feedback. Be open to the suggestions that are offered.
11. Find a buddy to go through the process with you. Support and encouragement are great in keeping a positive attitude.
12. Have fun. Enjoy the journey!

Are You Social?



Darcy Hanley
Social Media

Hey, I am out skiing in some wonderful POW (yes, I do leave Florida) and I am not thinking about writing an article however I do check my social media on my phone hourly! I see some amazing posts by our members of what is happening in YOUR division. Some areas have snow, others are having rain, but the training continues, the learning goes on and the ski area managers appreciate the dedication and commitment each of you make. YAHOOOOOOO! Just to be clear the division Facebook page is www.facebook.com/skinsp and please post! The Instagram account is #CDpatrol. We would love to be able to celebrate the accomplishments of patrollers as they achieve their personal goals. As always if you need assistance with a post or a question answered let me know. drhanley@gmail.com. Ok making some more turns....be safe out there.



Skiing isn't about the skis or the snow, rather, the people you meet along the way

Let us be a part of your journey



www.skimortal.com

Skills Development Program



Jackie Bottomley
Skills Development

The 2019 ASDW were held at Boyne Highlands on Dec. 7-8 and Big Snow on Dec. 14-15. Our theme this year is: **Think Towards Tomorrow**. We had about 100 instructors, staff and participants at Boyne Highlands and about 65 at Big Snow.

We held 8 sessions at both locations ranging from Snowsports senior evaluator certification, recertification and calibrator certification, PSIA/AASI workshop, OET senior evaluator certification, recertification, calibrator certification, QA and IT certification or recertification. We even held a train the trainer session for up and coming instructors. Both weekends experienced great success and fabulous snow! Each participant was given an assessment form that provided them with feedback from their instructors as to their participation during the weekend, recommendations for future development and additional comments to work on to become evaluators, trainers and IT's.

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 returned to Big Snow Resorts as a host area – with ski/ride availability to Black Jack and Indianhead trails, and great onsite facilities to meet all our needs. Both areas were so accommodating to our needs, and I'm sure we will use them for future events. Reminder to check us out at www.centraldivision.org to download the 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.

We received great comments for future ASDW's. The ASDW team will work over the next few months to develop our training sessions for the 2020 ASDW's. We are working on clear and concise objectives, expectations and utilizing the fundamentals in both snowsports and tobogganing. Our sessions will be December 4-6 at Boyne Highlands and December 10-12 at TBD. Have a great season and remember to Think Towards Tomorrow and continue your training at your areas and Regions.

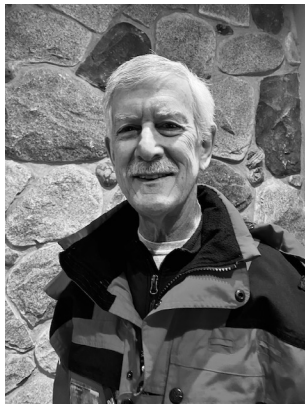


Jim's Sportswear is a Screenprinting and Embroidery company owned by Nub's Nob Ski Patroller Jim Arlen. Our email is; jimssportswear@gmail.com.

We offer our services to all patrols across the country.

Check out their website at:
<https://jimssportswear.com/>

Division Medical Advisor



Dan Goldberger
Medical Advisor

As this is my first contribution to RPN in my new role as Division Medical Advisor, I would like to start with some introductory comments.

First, I would like to recognize Dr Steve Werner for his many years of service to Eastern MI Region and Central Division. Dr Steve has worn many hats in NSP over the years including 14 (I think I'm close!) years as Medical Advisor. He has kindly agreed to mentor me through this first year and I will appreciate his guidance as we transition to the 6th Edition of the OEC text.

Secondly, by way of introduction, I will just tell you a few things about my background. I started my career as a Family Physician in 1982 at the Menominee Tribal Clinic in Keshena, WI. During those years I had the great opportunity to ski in my one and only Birkie (1985). I will not embarrass myself by disclosing my time, let's just say it wasn't pretty! From there Dr/Mrs G and I had a Ma and Pa practice in the Boro of Cochranton, PA for 7 years before moving to our current home in Portage, MI. I have worked in primary care, hospice, and cardio-pulmonary rehabilitation, and am now retired other than prn shifts at CP rehab. I was a late comer to NSP, joining in the 1999-2000 season. I am a Senior Alpine patroller at Bittersweet and secondary with West MI Nordic. I have been IOR for OEC classes and refreshers, served 9 years as ROA for West MI region, and continue as OEC instructor, IT, BLS instructor, and OEC-MSP trainer-evaluator. NSP opened a big world for me in my outdoor activities and enabled me to meet many of the finest, most dedicated people I have known. And most fun!

As I sat down to come up with a topic, the first reports began to come in about a new and severe respiratory syndrome from China which has just been identified in the US. That got me thinking about the increasing spread of serious infectious diseases which were unknown or much more isolated in my training years, with strange names or abbreviations like hantavirus, ebola, dengue, chikungunya, zika, Lyme, SARS, MIRS, multi-drug resistant organisms, Hep C, HIV, and dozens more. Apart from telling how old I am, these disease patterns remind us all that our first priorities in our patient encounters, scene safety and standard precautions, apply as much in our patrol aid rooms as they do on the hill. We are in the middle of influenza season, and a major source of spread in our communities is all those excited, energetic school kids who flock to our hills every day. Now I am really not a germophobe, but it's a good time to review pages 71-82 of OEC 5, Protecting Yourself from Disease. Look around your patrol room on a busy weekend and see how well your team is protecting yourselves and your patients from infections. Are you decontaminating surfaces, changing pillow covers, have easily available hand sanitizer and use it before and after each patient contact (gloves or no gloves!), have face masks when needed, wearing eye protection for bleeders and (ahem) pukers? Is it time to upgrade your procedures or maybe just post some reminders? Patrollers are often adventurous and love to travel – are you keeping up with immunizations? Do you consider a travel consult if you go to exotic or first/second world destinations? The website for the Centers for Disease Control, cdc.gov, is an abundant source of information on all things contagious and how to lower your risks!

I look forward to assisting with medical issues in our division in any way I can. Please feel free to contact me with questions, comments, and corrections – daniel.goldberger@bittersweet-skipatrol.org



OEC
OUTDOOR
EMERGENCY
CARE

Northern Michigan Region Patroller

Richard Dean Knight, age 72, died November 23, 2019 at his home surrounded by his loving family. He was born December 3, 1946 in Toledo and graduated from Whiteford High School. Dick worked for more than 37 years as an electrician at Chrysler, retiring in 2004. Always selfless and interested in serving the needs of others, he volunteered with the National Ski Patrol for a total of 41 years. First in 1979 Dick and his wife Colleen joined Mount Mancelona Ski Patrol after they heard the distressed cry of a young skier while riding a ski lift. In 1984, he became the Patrol Director. For many years he and his wife were the Mount Mancelona Ski Patrol. In 1986, he and his wife joined the Schuss Mountain Ski Patrol.

Dick has been a Ski and Toboggan Instructor, First Aid and then Outdoor Emergency Care Instructor, and he evaluated at the patrol, section and region levels in both disciplines. He has taught at both Northern Michigan Region OEC Refreshers, the NMR Summer Program and evaluated at NMR Senior OEC Evaluation. Dick has served as Northern Michigan Region Youth Advisor for many years.

In 1989, Dick was voted the Outstanding Patroller at Schuss Mt by his peers. He was amongst the first on scene when a person hit a tree and earned a Purple Merit Star for saving the life of the person. Dick also was a Senior Alpine Patroller and was awarded a National Appointment.



Daring by nature, he enjoyed skiing, snowboarding, SCUBA diving, riding his motorcycle and had his pilot's license. Dick was a member of the Toledo Chapter of Harley Davidson 1524, the Harley Owners Group (HOG) and enjoyed the theatre. He also liked to travel, especially to Cancun and taking random "adventures" around the country with his wife. Dick was appreciated for his strong-willed, candid approach and as a prankster. He will be most remembered as a devoted, loving husband, father, grandfather and son. Family always came first in his life.

Awards



Dick Jacques
Awards Supervisor

The National Awards Committee (NAC) met concurrently with the National BOD January 10 and 11. I'm excited about several things coming out of those meetings. First the BOD created two new awards for Outstanding Bike Patrol and Bike Patroller. Then the NAC discussed a request for action (RFA) to include Paid Patrollers in the Outstanding OEC and non-OEC Instructor awards and paid Patrol Director/Patrol Representatives in Outstanding PD/PR competition. After much discussion the NAC recommended and the BOD approved modifying the two instructor awards to include paid patrollers and modifying the scoring matrix to limit judging to teaching, evaluating and IT activities. The committee felt that this would create a level playing field, recognize instructors for instructional activity and help breakdown perceived barriers between paid and volunteer instructors. The committee could not find a similar way to mix paid and volunteer PD/PR in a single competition, therefore the recommendation was to create a separate Outstanding Paid PD/PR award. Both these recommendations were approved by the BOD. The bad news is that we will have new awards forms and scoring matrix to be published by February 1st.

In other actions, the NAC discussed medical merit stars at length with a couple of operational changes made.

- First it was agreed that every patroller rendering lifesaving interventions could be eligible for a Purple or Blue Merit Star, not just the leader. For example, a CPR team providing compressions, ventilation and administering an AED could all be eligible for the appropriate star. Lifesaving events are those incidents where the patient would die if the patroller(s) had not intervened. Accidents where the patient might have died could qualify for a Central Division Critical Care Award.
- Second, there was a lot of discussion over patrollers working accident scenes where EMS or other higher authority is on scene. The current P&P wording prevents patrollers from being recognized in these cases since we “are under the direction” of a higher authority. The committee was not ready to recommend a change to this wording but did agree to take a broader view. Applications will be considered if the patroller provides lifesaving interventions using required Ski Patrol skills (OEC and/or CPR) without specific direction. Members providing care as part of their job or as a member of a volunteer rescue unit are not eligible.

2020 Outstanding Awards:

Are you trying to write an application to nominate someone for an outstanding award but having trouble getting started? Send me an email with the name of the award you are trying to write and I'll send you a sample application to give you an idea of where to start or ideas of what type of information to include.

All submissions for this year MUST be on the new forms (dated January 2020). All nominations must be submitted to your Region Awards Advisor for judging at the region level. Region winners are then submitted for Division judging. The deadline for Regions to submit Outstanding Award Nominations is March 25th.

Did you know? Outstanding Award nominations submitted for Division judging are reviewed by volunteer judges. Each Region appoints two members to a three-year term as a judge. Judging is based on a national scoring matrix and the judge's evaluation of each application section. If you are interested in being a judge, contact your region Awards Advisor.

Last Fall's RPN contained highlights from the annual Awards Banquet. The awards presented at this banquet are just the tip of the iceberg. Most awards are presented at Region Banquets. Below is a listing of all 2019 Central Division Award recipients.

Gold Merit Star (Awarded to National Outstanding Award Winners)

Tom Ciranna, Boston Mills/Brandywine/Alpine Valley
Richard Jacques, Schuss Mountain Ski Patrol

Silver Merit Star (Awarded to National Outstanding Award First Runner-up)

Jane Bickerstaff, Mt Brighton Ski Patrol
Isabella Vazquez, Wild Mountain Ski Patrol

Purple Merit Star (Awarded for saving a life using ski patrol skills)

Cheryl Pacala, Big Snow
Blu Bong, Mont du lac
Terrica Davis, Mont du lac
Amanda Hoffer, Pine Knob
Peter Holdridge, Ski Brule
Jay Van Zeeland, Pine Mountain
Ian Koivisto, Mont du lac
Stephanie Lafleur, Mont du lac
Marcia Locher, Granite Peak
James Millar, Pine Knob
Julie Rudd, Big Snow

David Parr, Afton Alps
Ann Thulien, Buck Hill
Tim Zimmerman, Granite Peak
Dave Gagnon, Boyne Highlands

Blue Merit Star (Awarded for a lifesaving attempt or assisting in a lifesaving event using ski patrol skills)
BMS, Lois Van Zeeland, Pine Mountain

Yellow Merit Star (Awarded for service to the NSP or assisting in a lifesaving event using ski patrol skills)
Steven Clements, Granite Peak
David Dahl, Granite Peak
Frances Frye, Pine Mountain
Lisa Niemi, Mt Brighton
John Thomas, Central Division
Miranda Tucker, Big Snow
Mike Schons, Pine Knob

Meritorious Service Awards

Julie Stone - Assistant Division Director
Chris Raudabaugh - Assistant Division Director
Tom Anderson - Assistant Division Director
Rob Carpenter - OET Program
Troy Southwick - Senior Program
Cheryl Raudabaugh - Skills Development
Mike Huser - Safety Supervisor
Virginia Rodeman - Instructor Development

Distinguished Service Award (Awarded for superior service to the NSP over a long period of time)
Bittersweet Ski Area,
Deb Endly, Three Rivers
Martin Fahje, Coffee Mill
Don Steen, Chestnut Mountain
Pat Throop, Schuss Mountain
Brian Cobble, Swiss Valley
Mike Husar, Central Division

Distinguished Service Award (Awarded for superior service as a Region or Division Advisor, Supervisor or other staff position)
Rob Carpenter, Mt Brighton
Martin Fahje, Coffee Mill
Sue Hays, Welsh Village
Allison Lavene, Mt Holly
Ken Liddell, Afton Alps
Troy Southwick, Mad River Mountain
Mike Huser, Central Division
Virginia Rodeman, Schuss Mountain
Cheryl Raudabaugh, Mad River Mountain
Julie Stone, Hidden Valley
Tom Anderson, Marquette Mountain
Chris Raudabaugh, Mad River Mountain

**National Appointment and Leadership Commendation Appointment (An Honorary Award for patrol-
lers who demonstrate 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.)**

National Appointments

Bob Andrrson, Boyne Highlands (12090)
Kent Anderson, Powder Ridge (12117)
Jane Bickerstaff, Mt Brighton (12127)
Marty Blaszkowski, Pine Knob (12128)
Dave Boboltz, Independence Oaks Nordic (12129)
Sue Boissenet Smith, Swiss Valley (12096)
Tracy Buchanan, Boston Mills/Brandywine/Alpine Valley Ski Patrol (12092)
Dave Callaghan, Mont Ripley (12111)
Troy Green, Mad River Mountain (12093)
Charlon Hibbard, Nubs Nob (12091)
Glenn Kahn, Wilmot (12094)
Mark Rafn, Lutsen Mountain (12118)
Todd Shurtz, Wilmot (12095)
Tim Theisen, Devils Head (12112)

Leadership Commendation Appointment

LCA, Sue Hendricks, Snow Trails (8535)

Patrollers Cross (Awarded to members sustain season ending injuries while on duty)

Linda Capra, Trollhaugan
Nicholas LaBelle, Mont Ripley
Kent Anderson, Powder Ridge
Robert Govett, Caccade Mountain
Greg Liske, Paoli Peaks
Eric Melum, Afton Alps
Ryan Nesler, Trollhaugan
Jim Pierret, Welsh Village
Dan Stender, Trollhaugan
Scott Swanson, Bittersweet
John Thomas, Central Division
Jose Valdez, Pine Knob
Ken Wilson, Buck Hill
Natalic Yaeger, Afton Alps
Alex Heichelbech, Paoli Peaks
Tom Storck, Paoli Peaks

Central Division Lifetime Achievement Award

(Awarded to patrollers for exemplary service to the Central Division over an extended time.)

Richard Jacques, Schuss Mountain
Virginia Rodeman, Schuss Mountain
Jerry Rodeman, Schuss Mountain
Sharon Crocket, Nubs Nob

National Certificate of Appreciation

(Awarded for a service to the National Ski Patrol)

Brian Cobble, Swiss Valley
Ty Damon, Pine Knob
Chuck Povlitz, Pine Knob
Loretta Cobble, Swiss Valley
Michael Foley, Chestnut Mountain

Central Division Outstanding 1st runners-up

Young Adult Patroller, Thomas Wiggins, Boyne Highlands Ski Patrol
Patrol Representative, Lisa Neimi, Mt Brighton Ski Patrol
Paid Patroller, Don Galloway, Giants Ridge Ski Patrol
OEC Instructor, Alida Moonan, Boston Mills/Brandywine/Alpine Valley Ski Patrol
Alpine Patroller, Muareen Busche, Powder Ridge Ski Patrol
Large Alpine Patrol, Granite Peak, Marie Traska, Patrol Representative
Instructor, Daniel Fay, Snow Trails Ski Patrol

Central Division Outstanding Alpine Patroller

Alex Herrmann, Perfect North Slopes Ski Patrol

Central Division Outstanding Large Alpine Ski Patrol

Mt Holly, Thomas Black - Patrol Representative

Central Division Outstanding Instructor

Katie Flanagan, Mt Brighton Ski Patrol

Central Division Outstanding Paid Patroller

James DeWeerd, Granite Peak Ski Patrol

Central Division Outstanding OEC Instructor & National Ski Patrol's Outstanding OEC Instructor 1st Runner up

Jane Bickerstaff, Mt Brighton Ski Patrol

Central Division Outstanding Young Adult Patroller & National Ski Patrol's Outstanding Young Adult Patroller 1st Runner up

Isabella Vazquez, Wild Mountain Ski Patrol

Central Division Outstanding Patrol Representative & National Ski Patrol's Outstanding Patrol Representative

Tom Ciranna Boston Mills/Brandywine/Alpine Valley

Applications for Dan Somalski Memorial Fund

The application window for the 2020 – 2021 season Daniel Somalski Memorial Fund is open until December 1st, 2020. The fund is an educational grant for any Central Division patroller with membership in good standing. Activities for potential fund reimbursement include:

- Any National Ski Patrol Education
- PSIA/AASI Certification

Applications can be located on the Central Division Website via the following link <http://www.nspcentral.org/docs/somalski/SomalskiApplication.pdf>. Once complete, please email to Tom Anderson at tpanderson@charter.net. For more information, please visit <http://www.nspcentral.org/somalski.php>.



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.

Bike Patrol

Patrolling can now be a year-round activity. What are you going to do once all the runs have faded away for the winter season? Spring, summer, and fall doesn't mean you cannot still be outdoors helping people.

The new program of Bike Patrol is gaining some attention within the Division. Many areas are looking to start their own Bike patrols or formalize their summertime activities. There are so many questions about forming new patrols or how to operate or organize a bike patrol. I am here to help.

Bike patrols can keep you out in the public eye showing support of your local resort or geographical area's non-winter (can include winter too) activities. Bike patrol is a great resource for large events like, 5k runs, marathons, biking events, or even parades. These opportunities could be used as a recruiting tool for your patrol also.

If you have questions or want to learn more, send me an email at bike@nspcd.org.

Here are a few opportunities to help out this spring or summer.

- May 2-3, 2020 - Ohio region needs patroller support for an event of up to 45000 participants called the Flying Pig Marathon in Cincinnati, OH. Contact Ron Gerdes at rjgerdes@gmail.com if you can help
- May 16th, 2020 - Northern Michigan Region - Zoo-da-Mackinac a large cycling group ride from Boyne Highlands to Mackinac Island - Mike Longfellow-Jones Boyne Highlands Patrol Director Mlj491@me.com is looking for support for both on bike and Aid station.
- May 17th, 2020 - Eastern Michigan region's Clinton River Area Mountain Bike Patrol has 2 events that could use support. Back to the Beach Race (off-road Half Marathon - 10k - 5k) at Stony Creek Metropark and Tour De Troit cycling event in Detroit. If you would like to help, email Vito Manzella at vitoman@comcast.net



Alumni Program is a valuable resource for Ski Patrols



Mark Holtan
Alumni Advisor-West

Bob Knox
Alumni Advisor – East

The new Co-Advisor structure between East and West is working well. This split is based on geographic size of Regions, number of patrols and patrollers/alumni respectively. Alumni program inquiries, questions and assistance by RDs, patrol directors and patrollers/alumni should be directed through your Region Alumni Advisor or respective Division Alumni Advisor, Bob Knox - East or Mark Holtan - West.

All alumni should be receiving a periodic “NSP ALUMNI E-NEWS” via email. The February issue will feature alumni members and how this program is working for them. If you are not receiving this publication, please advise us with your correct email address and we will follow up to see that you receive this email publication. This is a good reminder to review all information in the “**About**

Me” section of your profile. This includes address, email, gender, phone number, and birthdate. Having this information current and accurate will help ensure you receive all communications from your region, division, and national office.

Renewal / Suspension Notice – Your 2020 Alumni dues was due by 12/31/19. Thank you to all alumni who paid your renewal on time. Alumni dues increased \$5 to \$35.00 effective 1/1/2020. If you did not pay your dues on time, you were sent an **NSP Alumni Member Account Suspension Notice** via email dated, January 22, 2020. Hopefully you have since paid your renewal, but if not please do so without further delay either online or by check per instructions on the email. In addition, if you use auto bill pay, be sure to advise financial institution or credit card company of the dues increase.

To renew, “**login**” to the NSP website www.nsp.org. Click on “**Hi (your name)**” in the **upper right corner**. This will take you to your profile. Once there, click the highlighted “**Renew Now**” button on the **left side** of the screen. This will take you to the shopping cart to complete the transaction, then click “**Submit**”. If you wish to mail in your dues, please print the renewal email you received from NSP and mail it with your check to:

National Ski Patrol,
133 South Van Gordon Street, Suite 100
Lakewood, CO 80228

The Alumni Celebration Week is scheduled to be held at Whitefish Mountain, Whitefish, MT, Feb. 2-9, 2020. There are about 40-50 people planning to attend. We will have more updated information in the next issue.

“There is a new award the “**Outstanding Alumni Award**” that has been approved by the National Board and implemented this year 2020. The award follows the same format as all other Outstanding Awards to be presented to one alumni member in each Region, Division, and National based on the past 4 years of accomplishments as outlined on the nomination form.”

Many areas have alumni patrollers registered as secondary and involved in assisting patrol and ski area with many tasks such as crowd control at major events, assisting school groups directions where to get rental equipment, lining up for lessons, how to ride lifts, etc. Some alumni groups meet a certain time each month for lunch, skiing and camaraderie. Alumni are great resources to help mentor new patrol candidates, assist with awards – gathering information, writing nominations, etc. There are many ways alumni can be active and involved in assisting patrols. Not all alumni chose to be active and that is ok, however it is important that all alumni be recognized for the contributions they have made over the years and wealth of knowledge they can provide to a patrol.

Summer Patrol Opportunities

By: Ron Gerdes

Flying Pig Medical Planning Team

Cincinnati's Flying Pig Marathon is one of the top rated marathons in the world! In its 20 years, it has been established as not just a technical runners race, but also a lighthearted, spirited event for runners of all shapes, sizes, and motivations.

For 15 years, The Flying Pig Medical Team has relied on ski patrollers to act as bike based field medics to assist in the care of event participants, spectators, and any other folks that are in need.

This is your chance to be a part of this race! We are expanding the number of bike patrollers and are reaching out to the Central Division Ski Patrol to fill those holes.

The event is Saturday and Sunday, 5/2 and 3. Saturday hosts a 5k, 10k, kids, run, "FlyingFur" 1 mile dog run, Pigabilities Final Mile, and several other events. Sunday is the big day with the full and half marathons.

Go to www.flyingpigmarathon.com for more details or email me at rjgerdes@gmail.com

2020 Division Meeting Hosted by Southern Region

Mike Vaerewyck
Southern Region Director

See you there!



Young Adult Programs



Jane Bickerstaff
YAP Advisor

The Central Division Young Adult Programs are starting to grow, slowly, but surely. The old school idea that recruiting young people is a waste of time is starting to be peeled away as patrols recognize that regardless of whether they stay at their home patrol for life or move on to other patrols across the nation, this group of patrollers is an asset to not only their patrols, but their communities as well. This group of patrollers are sharp, energetic, and enthusiastic – qualities that are hard to find.

Below is a brief report from around our division of what is going on.

Eastern Michigan Region: Cricket Nickolaou advisor

- Has 2 programs up and running
 - There is a YAP SES/TES scheduled for 2/1/20
 - Patrolling Detroit's Winter Blast 2/8/20
 - A Facebook page has been created for this group
- Snowsnake Ski Area has started a Jr Ski Patrol program including teaching first aid and ski skills. They are looking to take this program to the next level and eventually have YAPs. Steve Lalonde has spearheaded this program. (Photos below)

North Central region: Jay Van Zeeland

- Granite Peaks has 6 YAPs that have completed OEC. They are excited to have such a large group of enthusiastic patrol candidates.
- If you have questions regarding starting your own program in this region, Jay has a ton of ideas and information. Jay has run his own program at Pine Mountain for many years.

Ohio Region: Troy Green advisor

- Mad River has a program running for YAPs that is very active. Please talk to Troy if you are interested in how to start a program or want to be involved.

South Central Region:

- Nordic Mountain has a great group of YAPs that man an entire shift together. They are the point of contact for anything patrol related. They include a shift leader and interface with management, responding to incidents, opening and closing the hill. They routinely have a have a shift scenario to discuss and practice together.
- Nordic Mountain is looking for other nearby YAP programs to connect with and to hold events with.
- This region has some outstanding patrols that could consider starting programs for YAPs.

Western Region: Jonathon James advisor

- Jonathon has been reaching out to ski teams and schools to encourage students to consider ski patrol for community service requirements.
- He has arranged a ski-along with the Jackson Hole patrol for 2 of his YAPs. They talked about snow conditions, avalanches, and met the patrol dogs. Moreover, they were ambassadors for our YAP programs.
- The Western region Minnesota YAPs have planned a "challenge" event with YAPs from Wisconsin. They will work on ski and OEC skills.
- Afton Alps currently has an active program and is in the process of recruiting for next season's YAP program

Western Michigan Region:

- Crystal Mountain has a Mt Host program that includes 15-18 year-old students.
- Crystal is investigating progressing to a YAP program.
- They will be hosting a "Ski Patrol Explorers Event" Sunday 3/15/20 for students age 9-14. If this is successful they would like to take this event to other ski areas in their region.

- WMR has a couple of patrols in the southern part of the state that have great potential for starting YAP programs.



Snowsnake Junior Patrollers and their new jackets



On the job at Mt. Brighton



Helping check toboggans at Mt. Brighton



Afton Alps YAPs earned their official new patrol jackets

Young Adult Programs



Marty Blaszkowski
NSP-C Snowsports
School

All new candidates are eager to learn and aren't perfect to begin with. We want to remind them that this is a process and it takes time. The training is designed to make them great skier/riders, with patience and practice they will get there. Make sure to keep the focus on what you have selected to teach and gives them the opportunity to have specific times for training.

For those looking for continuing education with the PSIA or any trainer looking to progress in your process. PSIA-AASI has created a NSP specific course. You do not have to be a member for the PSIA to take this course. This clinic is open to NSP membership only. NSP members who are not PSIA/AASI members can take the class for an additional fee (\$25.00). Go to the PSIA site for the dates of the next event.

Here is a great progression to work on the following isolated skills with your candidates or training staff.

- Control the relationship to the center of mass to the base of support to direct pressure along the length of the ski
- Control the ski rotation(turning, pivoting, steering) with leg rotation, separate from the upper body

"The Hipster"

Upper lower separation through pelvic lift and COM/BOS to direct pressure ski to ski (is this needed)

Discussion: pelvic placement lower stance aids in lower leg movement and better range of motion.

Static: body walk under a stable upper body, notice we move the legs and not the torso.

Green Terrain

Simple: Hold poles across the pelvis or hand crossed at shoulders to remove upper body movement, this shows what the upper body should be doing (nothing)

Blue Terrain

Medium: wEDGEies with inside pelvic lift. Isolate raising the pelvis to lift the ski off the snow, instead of relying on the knee flex

Hard:

Javelin turn with inside pelvic lift. Isolate of raising the pelvic to lift the ski off the snow instead of relying on the knee flex. Rotary is created because you are standing on the outside ski and skiing it under the raised inside ski. Be careful not to drop the hip once it's holding the ski in air. The pelvis should have counter.

Black Terrain

Move to Pivot Slips that turn into short/medium turns.

The final javelin also brings into play control relation of COM/BOS to direct pressure along the length of the ski.

As always, NSP-C Snowsports School

To ensure you're covered under the Central Division's insurance policy while training (the ski school holds the policy, not PNS), be sure to sign up for ski school membership at: <http://www.nsp-cskischool.com/application19.php>

Thanks to Andrew for the help with this article.

Women's Program



Greetings patrollers of the Central Division!
Hello from the Women's Program! This year we had a GREAT Women's Program!

The mission of the NSP Women's Program is to empower patrollers by advancing skills and developing leadership in a women-focused program.

The goal set by the new leadership team was to bring programs closer to the local patrols and Regions, while increasing leadership opportunities for more patrollers. We did it!!!

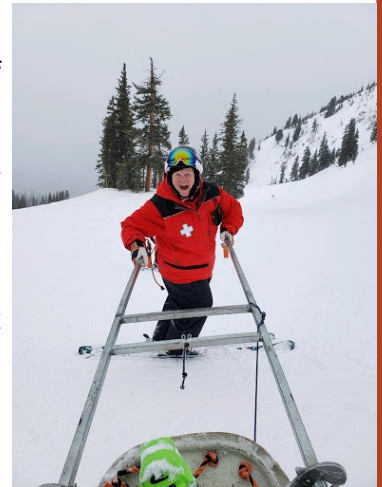
Kerstin Hammarberg Womens Program

In 2020 we had TWO women's events scheduled! One on the Western side in January, at Tyrol Basin Ski Area and one on the Eastern side of the division in February, at Schuss Mountain/Shanty Creek Resort. At each event we have a core group of Division Staff supplemented by local women as the Event Staff. The local ladies are paired up with the Division ladies to get some hands-on mentoring, an opportunity to do some teaching, and a great way to get involved at a higher level of leadership! The ladies in our Division ROCK!

At Tyrol Basin we had a great event! Division Staff were able to work closely with Event Staff and the participants got an amazing program. At Tyrol our Event Staff members were: Sara Keldahl, Dani McPherson, Kelly Vaerewyck, and Heidi Jo Karlsson. They were supported by Division Staff: Kerstin Hammarberg, Lauren Wroblewski, Amy Arnold, Anne Blaedow, Barbara Reed, Erika Krol, and Kathy Brennan. Watch for these amazing women to be the future leaders in the South Central Region and the Central Division!

Thank you to Tyrol Basin for the hospitality, enthusiasm, equipment, and great terrain!! The area and host (Nancy Thorne-Cahill) made our event successful and lots of fun! Without their support we would not have been as successful.

Here are some photos from our January event!



CDWC Banner at Registration Evening



Daniela Didier and her new traveling trophy "Glitter Butt"



Group photo at Tyrol Basin



CDWC participants and staff called to action – Five women patrollers helping the injured man. At least we could make him laugh! This run was called Double Diamond for a reason.





Our Snowboard instructors hamming it up! Kathy Brennan and Kelly Vaerewyck



TES group think!



Beth Meyers showing her stuff on Double Diamond!

The second of our events at Schuss will take place in February after this is printed, so you'll get to see photos from that event later on!

Our goal is to bring fun and women-focused training to our Division ladies! Some of the topics presented are: Toboggan handling, Ski/Ride skill building, Leadership Development, Mentoring and Team Building! These are exciting events and we want to bring women patrollers together to build skills, build confidence, build friendships, and develop leaders. The training team is looking forward to seeing you next winter!

Thank You to Our Sponsors

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| DOUBLE BLACK DIAMOND |     |
| SINGLE BLACK DIAMOND |       |
| BLUE SQUARE |      |
| BLUE SQUARE |      |
| BLUE SQUARE |   |
| BLUE SQUARE |  |
| GREEN CIRCLE |       |
| GREEN CIRCLE |  |
| GREEN CIRCLE |       |
| GREEN CIRCLE |  |
| GREEN CIRCLE |       |
| GREEN CIRCLE |  |
| FREESTYLE TERRAIN |      |
| FREESTYLE TERRAIN |   |
| FREESTYLE TERRAIN |      |
| FREESTYLE TERRAIN |  |

Central Division Calendar

To find the most recent and update version of the Central Division Calendar please visit the link below
http://www.nspcentral.org/?page_id=12

Central Division Staff Roster

Administrative Staff



DIVISION DIRECTOR

Mike Schons

(H) 248-683-0465

schonsm@gmail.com



MSAA/NSAA

Jim Woodrum

(H) 513-310-6434

(C) 563-243-3950

jrwoodrum@centurytel.net



LEGAL & RISK MNGMT

David Schwartz (West)

(W) 608-252-9348

(C) 608-213-8234

Djslaws@gmail.com

LEGAL & RISK MNGMT

Jerry Cavilier (East)

jpcavellier@gmail.com



Election Coordinator

John Thomas

2212 300th Ave

Lake City, MN 55041

(H) 651-345-5160

(C) 507-254-9067

jttheskibum@gmail.com



ADD

Allison Lavene

allison.lavene@gmail.com



TREASURER

Marty Jarvi

(H) 262-377-6447

marty.jarvi@gmail.com



RUSTY PARKA NEWS

Katie Flanagan

(C) 248-767-4146

rustyparka1@gmail.com

REGION DIRECTORS



E MI REGION

LJ LaVene

(H) (586) 668-9663

lj.lavene@gmail.com



NC REGION

James Hughes

(H) 608-249-7699

(W) 608-246-3876

Farwell839@charter.net



N MI REGION

John Wiley

(H) 810-629-9514

(C) 810-610-4567

jdwyli@chartermi.net



OHIO REGION

Chris Raudabaugh

173 Tar Heel Drive

Delaware, OH 43015

(C) 614-581-4954

chris@raudabaugh.net



SC REGION

Steve Paladini

1700 Carriage Lane
Appleton, WI 54914
(W) 920-740-6222

scrsection4@gmail.com



SOUTHERN REGION

Mike Vaerewyck

(H) 574-272-3325

nsp461@msn.com



WESTERN REGION

Scott O'Connor

(H) 612-584-1876

sjozac@comcast.net



WESTERN MI REGION

John Donnelly

(C) 616-893-5302

Director@NSPC203.com



Ohio Region

Guy Day

3149 W 165th Street
Cleveland, OH 44111
(H) 216-221-9617
(W) 216-695-0714
gcd@sbcbglobal.net



AWARDS

Dick Jacques

(H) 248-398-3379

rjacques@smsp.us



SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

Jackie Bottomley

(C) 231-878-3570

jbottomley@charter.net



TOBOGGAN

Tracy Buchanan

(H) 330-703-3431

tracybuchanan928@gmail.com



CERTIFIED

Ron Gerdes

rjgerdes@gmail.com



TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Paul Botnen

H) 612-860-3033

botnenp@gmail.com



WEBMASTER

Kent Anderson

H) 763-577-0843

C) 612-730-6324

kjanderson@labycon.com



NORDIC

Jeff Schmidt

nordjas@aol.com



ADD

Les Robinson
751 Blue Ridge Lane
Nekoosa, WI 54457

(H) 715-325-3025
lrobbins@wctc.net



OEC

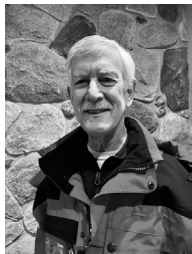
Kim Zambole

kimzambole@gmail.com (C) 989-245-3248
JF4seasons@aol.com



INTRO TO PATROLLING

Jodi Fuller



MEDICAL

Dan Goldberger

(H) 269-268-6516
dgoldber1@gmail.com



MT TRVL RESCUE

John O'Dell

(C) 586-718-4503
bikenski1@yahoo.com



PUBLIC RELATIONS

Russ Livermore

(H) 248-761-8371
(W) 248-761-8371
livermore.russ@us.sika.com



Social Media

Darcy Hanley

(C) 303-927-9437
drhanley@gmail.com



Mountain Bike

Jeremy Verbeke

jer091@gmail.com



ADD

Anne Blaedow
W. 258N6882 Victoria Cir
Sussex, WI 53098

(C) 262-617-8809
ablaedow@wi.rr.com



INSTRUCTOR DEVELOPMENT

Marie Traska

traska5@charter.net



WOMEN'S SEMINAR

Kerstin Hammarberg

(H) 612-600-5082
(W) 612-600-5082
bhsp-pd@hotmail.com



SAFETY TEAM

Kevin McQuillan

kevin@mcq-law.com



ALUMNI - West

Mark Holtan

1304 W Medicine Lake Dr.
Plymouth, MN 55441
(H) 763-541-9962
marko@iphouse.com

ALUMNI - East

Bob Knox

knoxr@acm.org



NSP-C SNOW SPORTS

Marty Blaszkowski

(H) (248) 393-0973
(W) (248) 393-0973
mjb8804@yahoo.com
nsp@ccrventures.com



YAP Advisor

Jane Bickerstaff

janebic@yahoo.com



PSIA LIAISON

Amy Arnold

luciawave@mac.com



SENIOR

Jeff Jurcak

jeff808nsp@gmail.com



The official e-newspaper for the
National Ski Patrol®, Inc.
Central Division

The Rusty Parka News is published three times annually.

2019 NATIONAL SKI PATROL®, INC. CENTRAL DIVISION
All rights reserved. The words “Ski Patrol” and “National
Ski Patrol” are trademarks registered in the U.S. Patent
Office

Division Director
Mike Schons
248-683-0465

Editor
Katie Flanagan
248-767-4146

EDITORIAL STATEMENT

The appearance of advertising material in the Rusty Parka does not imply that the National Ski Patrol endorses any product, service or company unless specifically stated. Statements or opinions expressed in the Rusty Parka reflect the views of the author(s) and are not necessarily the views of the National Ski Patrol, its officers, staff, board of directors or members. The Rusty Parka will assume no loss or liability for loss or damage to any material submitted for publication including manuscripts, photographs, or art work. All contributions and submissions are subject to revision or editing at the sole discretion of the Editor. The act of mailing, submitting or transmitting materials to the Rusty Parka shall constitute an express warranty by the author or contributor that the material is original and in no way an infringement upon the rights of others.

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor must be submitted electronically to:
rustyparka1@gmail.com

The RPN reserves the right to publish and withhold letters based on content and length. Letters in excess of 250 words may be edited due to space limitations.



ADDRESS CHANGES

Changes to address should be updated on the NSP National Web Site. Please log on to www.nsp.org and access your NSP Member Page to update your personal information. The Rusty Parka e-mail list is downloaded from the National database. All address changes and corrections must be made on the National site.