



NATIONAL SKI PATROL
EASTERN DIVISION
SPRING OFFICERS MEETING

Desmond Hotel, Albany, NY
April 28 – 30, 2006



Opening and Welcome

Division Director Rick Hamlin convened the Spring Officers meeting on Saturday, April 29, 2006 at 9:00a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Recognized Patrollers who are no longer with us: CT – Mary Humphrey, John Hull, Karl Peck, Delphine Dortenzio; NJ – Jack Kurlander; NH – Kevin Delahanty; WNY – Hugh Roden, SGT 1st Class Robert Derenda, John Beverage, Willis Wendell II, Wyman Ansley, Sam Bragg, Dana Moore, Dennis Bright, Gloria Krull, Kenneth Schoonover, Margaret Laski; SNY – John Raftery, Sol Nicohienko, Bruce Choote, Benson Rogers, Ken Hanson, Bobra Kramer, Preston Perlman; CNY – Angalo Contaldo; ENY – Joan Wilkinson, William “Doc” Charles, Ed Koch, Israel “Izzy” Slutzsky; EPA – John Stisowain, Dick Gray; Wapp – William Heilman, Larry Athens; NVT – Dick Dale; GVly – Dick Doyle, Charlie Eferidge; Fred Graham, Special Olympics Guide; Mammoth Mountain, CA – Charles Rosenthal, James Juarez, John McAndrews.

Review and Acceptance of Agenda:

Motion by O’Connell/Randolph to accept the agenda as written.
Carried

Introduction of Division Staff, Advisors and Program Supervisors: Division Secretary, Donna McGraw, Division Treasurer, Jeff Barcus. Avalanche – Rich Shandler; OEC– Bill DeVarney, Instructor Development - Noel Rios, Mountain Travel Rescue - Greg Banner, (Ski and Toboggan - Keith Pomeroy is in Denver).

Advisors

Alumni	Al Pels
Awards	Bill Boulter
Legal	Bob Scarlett
Assistant Legal	Henry Williams
Historian	Ellie Jessum (absent)
Medical	Jeffrey Lozman (absent)
Memorial Fund	David Nelson
Nordic	Greg France
Professional	Bruce Dougherty (absent)

Risk Management
Special Olympics
Student Liaison
Telecommunications
Trail Sweep Editor
Webmaster
Certified

Steve Neil/Doug Holler, (absent)
Gerry Clark
Jerry Hyson
Dick Woolf (absent)
Laura Tucker
Bill Gamble
Dave Walker (absent)

Introduction of Guests: Bela Musits, National Board Member; Larry Bost, Past National OEC Program Director

Past Officers: Past Eastern Division Directors Don Page and Jerry Sherman. Past Region Directors John Beach and Steve Hastings.

Proxies Recognized for April 28-29, 2006: CT – Ron Ellison for SC Roger Stevenson; WMA Fred Leukroth for SC Richard Andriole; NH – Robert O’Connell for SC Don Clark, SC John Brown (4/30), and SC Stefanie Costello (4/30); SNY – Meg Smith for SC Donna Kirby; ENY – John Beach for RD Peter Neefus (4/28), Peter Neefus for SC Bob Sullivan; NVT – Christian Jaquith for SC Adam Cook; SVT – Terry Randolph for Garry Keane; GVly – Mike Lord for Region Representative John McManus.

Introduction of Officers:

Region Directors:

Burt Mitchell
Darryl Trafford
Fred Leukroth
John Shipman
Chris Brodersen
Bob O’Connell
Don Weaver
Meg Smith
Bert Ebeling
Peter Neefus
Gerit Lewisch
Steve Schopfer
Christian Jaquith
Terry Randolph
Mike Lord

Connecticut
Maine
Western Massachusetts
Eastern Massachusetts/Rhode Island
New Jersey
New Hampshire
Western New York
Southern New York
Central New York
Eastern New York
Eastern Pennsylvania
Western Appalachian
Northern Vermont
Southern Vermont
Genesee Valley

Section Chiefs, Region Delegates & Representatives:

Rick Knight	CT Pequot
Ron Ellison	CT Housatonic (Proxy)
John Steeves	ME Central
Gerry Desjardins	ME South
Ted Hawksley	ME North (Absent)
Fred Leukroth	WMA Region Delegate (Proxy)
Bryan Sinclair	WMA Region Delegate
Trish Watson	WMA Region Delegate
Kim Fletcher	EMARI Northern (Absent)
John Caron	EMARI Western
Gregor Trinkaus-Randall	EMARI Southern
Sue Ellen Helmacy	NJ Region Delegate
John Brown	NH Northern (O'Connell proxy on Sunday)
Bob O'Connell	NH Central (Proxy)
Stefanie Costello	NH Southern (O'Connell proxy on Sunday)
Kenneth Black	WNY Region Representative
Mary Lyn Boberg	WNY Region Representative
Clark Goodrich	SNY Northern Catskill
Meg Smith	SNY Southern Catskill (Proxy)
Brian Bamberger	CNY Headwaters
John Tuttle	CNY Iroquois
Tom Sciacca	ENY Northern Adirondack
Peter Neefus	ENY Southern Adirondack (Proxy)
Allan Miller	ENY Capital District
Robert Morgan	EPA Northern
Jack Peck	EPA Southwest
Susan Ballek	EPA Pocono
John Stinsmen	EPA Central
Guy Lombardo	WAPP Western
Doug Sinsabaugh	WAPP Eastern
Doris Rollins	WAPP Southern
Teigh Southworth	NVT Northern
Christian Jaquith	NVT Southern (Proxy)
Terry Randolph	SVT Southern (Proxy)
Brian Downing	SVT Northern
Mike Lord	GVLV Region Representative (Proxy)
Bob Smith	GVLV Region Representative

Rick Hamlin determined that a quorum was present.

Appointment of Parliamentarian

Moved by Jaquith/M. Smith to appoint Don Page as Parliamentarian for the meeting.

Carried

Peter Neefus opposed

Minutes from April 2005 Officers Meeting – Albany NY

Moved by Stinsmen/Watson to waive reading of 2005 minutes and accept as distributed.

Carried

2005-2006 Treasurer’s Report – Jeff Barcus

The Treasurer’s report consists of Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Activities, Statement of Cash Flows, and Statement of Functional Revenues. This report was distributed and will be published in Trail Sweep.

It was suggested that to the greatest extent possible, budget expenditures need to be accessible by Patrollers so that all members may know how their money is being spent, especially for extraordinary purposes. Discussion followed. It was also suggested that during the budget review and approval process that a motion be made from the delegates to support the Region Directors in having funds for extraordinary purposes, such as legal costs. It might include a cap that could be discussed and then voted on. If the Board needed to exceed that cap, they would call a special meeting to get approval to exceed that amount.

Moved by Schopfer/Lord to accept the Treasurer’s report as distributed.

Carried

Division Committee and Program Reports

Outdoor Emergency Care Program: Mike Lord: Our committee met electronically to review four resumes for the Administrative Supervisor’s position. They were – Bill DeVarney, Paul Tracy, Ed Hirshman, and Scott Rockefeller. The selection of the committee was Bill DeVarney. Our suggestion was approved by Ed McNamara. Bill DeVarney is the new OEC Administrative Supervisor. Scott Rockefeller’s resume was also given to Bill for consideration as the new Supervisor to replace Bill DeVarney. Mike asked that if anyone knew of others interested in the open Supervisor’s position, please send it on to him or any of his committee staff.

Ski & Toboggan Program: Report Distributed

Instructor Development Program: Report Distributed

Avalanche Program: The new Division Avalanche Advisor is Rick Shandler. Report distributed.

Mountain Travel/Rescue Program: Supervisor Greg Banner – 70 people completed training so far this year. At Division level, the emphasis has been to expand the program into the northeastern part of the Division. The IT and instructor staff have volunteered to assist in those regions. For 2007, efforts will be made to continue to expand the program in NH, VT and Maine. In conjunction with the Avalanche and Nordic programs, it is hoped to be able to offer some expanded continuing education classes. We will try to offer at least one MTR2 course during the year.

Nomination and Election Committee: New Chair, Don Weaver, suggested we have an event time line outline. The Region Director process is the only election we are interested in. Need to know who the Regions' Election Chairpersons are. If you change or modify your region by-laws in any way, please send them to Don's committee. This year's Region Director election results:

- CT – Burt Mitchell
- ME – Darryl Trafford
- EMARI – John Shipman
- WNY – Donald Weaver
- SNY – Meg Smith
- EPA – Gerit Lewisch
- WApp – Steve Schopfer
- SVT – Terry Randolph

Finance Committee: Fred Leukroth recognized his committee for outstanding input and dedication. The report distributed also contains the committee's Investment draft. Suggestion was to go to a single financial advisor or single broker. The overall funds do not warrant being divided three different ways.

By-laws Committee: Don Page reported that we have two amendments which will be coming up under New Business.

Public Relations Committee: New Chair John Shipman talked about the Boston Ski Show and other public relations efforts that might be aimed at the Patroller level.

Marketing Committee: Chair Steve Schopfer thanked John Beach for getting the displays to where they should be. A \$3,000 line item appears in the budget. That could be used for posters we are working on, bumper stickers, etc. A picture has already been submitted for poster consideration. Division Director Hamlin gave the committee a CD with a photo that we have purchased the rights to use.

Train Sweep Advisory: Chair Darryl Trafford again reiterated their agreement with Laura Tucker. If we didn't like the way things were then step up. If things were going right, then leave her alone. Leave her alone is what they did.

World Wide Web Committee: Chair Bill Gamble and member Clark Goodrich reported on the potential use of "Open Office" for opening and using files throughout the Division. They also had assembled a CD with the Policies and Procedures, By-laws, calendar, etc., on it. This is now available to all Region Directors and interested parties. Bill now needs Fall information for the calendar.

The current goal is to place all forms used in the Eastern Division on the website. They will be presented in a format that will allow Patrollers to fill them out and send them in electronically. If you have forms that you use for your programs, make sure you send them to Laura Tucker at muthrtuckr@yahoo.com. Also, please send electronically to Laura, reports submitted to the Spring meeting for inclusion in Trail Sweep and she will forward them to Bill for posting on the Division website.

Please update your Region web sites and ask that your Patrollers keep their email and roster information up to date on the National web site.

Division Director Rick Hamlin: Report distributed. In brief, we asked for change, we were told no, we went to court, the court agreed with us, we voted and the National By-laws were changed. While it takes but a sentence to describe, the process took almost the entire year and countless hours of effort and significant expense. Patrollers now have a direct vote for our National Board Members and a very real say in the direction of our organization at the National level.

This past week, the court case brought against the NSP last summer has just been fully dismissed with all parties in agreement. We hope that this closure denotes a chance for the Division and National leadership to step off at least all headed in the same general direction and from this true healing of our organization may begin.

A National Nominating Committee has been formed to identify the candidates for the next election for the National Board of Directors. All members will have a chance to vote for those candidates in the coming year. Please encourage all of your members to take the time to cast their vote for the candidates that they feel will best represent them, this year and in the years to come.

Moving on to the Division, let's look ahead to the coming year. One of our constant goals is to improve our program delivery numbers. One of the ways we may get Patrollers into our educational programs is to encourage all qualified Patrollers to pursue a higher skill level through the Senior Program. Let's all start talking to those Patrollers that we know are ready or perhaps overdue to pursue Senior.

I wish thank all the Region officers and staff for doing such a fantastic job in keeping Patrollers informed over the past year regarding all of the breaking issues and the Region Directors for all of their support. Most of all, I would especially like to thank all of the Patrollers who worked their way through the sometimes cumbersome voting process to let their voices be heard. Without them, the outcome of what occurred this past year would be very different.

It's hard for me to believe that my two year term has come to an end. The first year went by extremely fast, and there were times that I thought this past year would never end. Throughout it all, it has been my honor to be a caretaker of the title of Division Director.

Motion by Brodersen/Neefus to accept all Division reports.
Carried

Motion by Neefus/M. Smith that all reports, with the exception of the budgetary report, be posted on the website.
Carried

Amendment to that motion by Brodersen/Lewisch that the Treasurer's report not be posted as it will appear in Trail Sweep where it will be available to all Patrollers.
Carried

National Board Presentation/Questions: Bela Musits, new National Board Member.

- Attended a Board orientation meeting in Denver with the five new Board members. A business meeting is planned this coming June.
- We need to elect a new National Chair. I believe we should poll Board members, ask who wants the position. The Board members need to set up an election process for the National Chair. We need better communication/leadership skills. We will be working on that.
- Executive Director Mark Dorsey. We need to do a national search for his position.
- We need to figure out how to get the past behind us. It will take time, but it will happen.
- I put myself on the Budget committee. The dues increase – why do we need an increase? Where is the money going? Whether the dues increase is zero or \$20, we need to know those answers. The increase will be reviewed by the Finance committee. I encourage everyone to write to the National Board to reconsider the dues increase.
- The Nomination process. The Board appoints two members to the Nominating committee. The Division Directors appoint two to the committee. Together they appoint one. Those five select the Chairman for the Nominating committee. We will need six new Board members this fall.
- Dissolving Divisions. I have never heard anything about that. It's clear in the Not for Profit world that scrutiny is coming down from the IRS and being able to maintain your Not for Profit status. Example: If a patrol in Division "A" does a fund raiser under Not for Profit for a new patrol room and then gives it to the ski area – that is illegal. Not only is that organization in jeopardy but, depending on the relationships, it could put the whole organization in jeopardy. We could lose our Not for Profit status
- Confidentiality Clause. At the orientation meeting there was a confidentiality clause presented as a part of the Code of Conduct. We modified it. We came to the conclusion that it was way too restrictive. The Board meetings are open and we need to post the minutes. Executive sessions are still confidential.
- Would he run for National Chair? Being Chairman – it's a ton of work. If the Governance committee suggests it, then I may.
- Executive Director. That was put aside this winter. In June I hope to leave the Board meeting with that search in place.
- OEC copyright. I don't know what the facts are. Yes indeed we did sell all the rights and we don't own the copyright to that any more. Or, no we still own the copyright and the contents but we have a long term relationship with the publisher and they will publish the next five issues. I don't really know the answer as to where we are with this.

Peter Neefus and Frey Aarnio presented a plaque to Bela, on behalf of Keith Pomeroy, for his dedicated participation in the Eastern Division Ski and Toboggan program.

10th Mountain Memorial This past winter Rick traveled to the Central New York Region to Fort Drum for the unveiling of the 10th Mountain Memorial Catamount statue. One of the items they gave us in return is a Catamount picture with plaque: "With profound thanks and heartfelt appreciation to the friends of the Catamounts, whose generous gifts made a vision of a 2nd Battalion 87th Infantry legacy and memorial monument 'Remembering the Catamounts' a reality." The plaque was given to Bryan Sinclair for safe keeping as his son is currently serving with the unit in Afghanistan.

FIPS – Federation Internationale Des Patrouilles De Ski Congress 2007: Being held in Utah at the Snowbird Ski Resort. \$880/person based on double occupancy. \$1230 for a single occupancy. Fee includes room, meals, transportation and lift tickets for seven days. All registrations must be for the full week. Deposit on booking \$100. Balance by November 1, 2006. See registration form for more pertinent details.

Guest of the Division: Larry Bost. – Past National OEC and Patrol Director at Hawksnest ski area. Larry said how impressed he is with the Eastern Division, its OEC staff and officers he has had the pleasure of working with. He talked about the National Patroller Immunity proposal which is fashioned after the Good Samaritan Act that is going to be recommended for action by the National Board. Larry also recommended that NSP leaders listen to your members. Keep working to make NSP better. Larry also stated that he would be glad to work with the Eastern Division any way that he can.

Old Business Status of National issues: Rick brought everyone up-to-date. The common ground for all the Divisions included changing the way we vote for the National Board and how the Board gets nominated. The request to the Board in June was to send the DDs home with positive news. The Board questioned what the Division Directors told them. To answer the Board's question, the question was asked of the members. A petition was sent out and a week over 10% of the membership responded. A vote was requested of the National Board, but rejected by them. The Judge ruled on an injunction to stop the Board vote. The members voted and approved changes to the National By-laws and also elected new Board members under the new procedures. Recently a new lawsuit was brought by the National office. The Judge was asked to dismiss the original case even though the changes to the by-laws had not yet been adopted by the National Board. The By-laws changes approved by the members were finally adopted on Eastern Sunday. All cases are now closed. Now we all need to work together. The current task of great importance is to find excellent candidates to fill the six National Board vacancies.

New Business Medical Reserve Corps – Created as a part of the Homeland Security group. Rick needs a list of patrols who are interested in the pilot program. Right now we need at least eight to a dozen from a specific patrol and would like to have 5 or 6 Patrols volunteer for the pilot program. After the pilot program comes into existence, then individual patrollers may join up.

Budget Motion by Knight/Lord to allow the Board of Directors the discretion to spend up to \$20,000 for unbudgeted extraordinary expenditures without requiring a joint vote of the Board and Region Delegates to authorize the expenditures. This limit shall not be exceeded without an affirmative vote of the Board and Region Delegates.

Carried

Motion by Brodersen/M. Smith to amend the budget from \$12,607 to \$32,607 related to legal fees for this year. T. Southworth clarified that this brings the total approved amount for legal fees to \$80,000 for this year and last.

Carried

Motion by Southworth/Trinkaus-Randall to add to the expense side \$1,800 to the Nordic program, \$600 on the income side.

Carried

Motion by O’Connell/Lewis that we add a line item of \$5,000 to cover Directors and Officers liability insurance.

Carried

Ebeling/Trinkaus-Randall – Motion to move the question.

All in favor of adopting the budget as amended and presented.

Carried

Adjourned at 3:00p.m. Saturday

Sunday, April 30, 8:00a.m.

Eastern Division Repository

Gregor Trinkaus-Randall, EMARI Section Chief and Librarian/Archivist for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. He discussed the need of a repository for Eastern Division history. He will be contacting repositories to find out if there is an archive that is willing to collect from everyone in the Division materials that are not currently being used. They would then organize and also document what has been happening over the last 50 plus years. This material would then be available for research. Gregor asked that everyone hold on to what you have but do not “organize” it. Once we find an archive, we will put out a call to tell you where to send the documents.

Section Chief 2007 Meeting Chair John Stinsmen, Section Chief for Eastern Pennsylvania will chair that meeting.

Hunter Mountain: Hunter Ski Patrol Day is the Friday after Thanksgiving. We encourage everyone to attend. The first 25 patrollers “ski for free”.

By-laws: For clarification – 5.8 Proxy Voting: Region Delegates may vote by written and signed proxy naming the Region Director, Alternate Region Director, or another Region Delegate of such Region as proxy. A person holding one or more proxies shall have one vote for each proxy held, in addition to such person’s own vote.

Housekeeping Motion by Mitchell/Sinclair that because yesterday delegates voted on some of the issues that technically were to be voted on by the Board alone, we as a group all concur with the actions taken yesterday and accept them as actions by the Board of Directors.

Carried

Motion by Southworth/M. Smith that on future agenda parenthesis, i.e., (Board) or (Board and Delegates), be placed after each item so everyone knows who is allowed to vote on that item

Carried

Legal Committee: Division Legal Counsel Bob Scarlett gave a brief report on what his committee is doing. He had about half the Region legal advisors at their meeting yesterday. There are two issues: Try to get the individual patrols to understand that when they are patrolling at that mountain they are there on behalf of that mountain not National Ski Patrol. Also, we have to maintain that good reputation we have as patrollers.

Division Director Hamlin expressed thanks to Bob, from the Eastern Division, for all the many, many hours he has donated in support of Division Patrollers.

Acceptance of Program Supervisor Roster DD Hamlin reminded the Board that each year we need to ratify the program supervisors, Treasurer and Secretary. The five supervisors are: OEC William DeVarney, S & T Keith Pomeroy, MTR Greg Banner, Instructor Development Noel Rios, and Avalanche Rick Shandler.

Motion by Randolph/Schopfer to move that we ratify the existing five supervisors for the next ski season.

Fall Officers Meeting Schedule Motion by Brodersen/Lord that we have our Fall meeting on September 16, 2006, 9:00a.m.at the Clifton Park/Halfmoon Emergency Corps.

Carried

Rick would like a conference call before the National meeting. This will be Wednesday, June 14, 7:00p.m.

Proposed Revisions to ED By-laws Henry Williams, Chair of the By-laws Committee, gave instructions on voting for the amendments. There needs to be 2/3's of all the voting delegates. There will be a roll call vote.

Bob O'Connell spoke on his amendment to "Election of Region Directors 4.1 Eligibility". Proposed amended to read:

"4.1 Eligibility. Region Director Candidates must be Active registered patrollers in the Region which they seek to represent and have a minimum of five seasons of patrolling experience."

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This proposed amendment revision would eliminate, "...and have achieved Senior Alpine, Senior Nordic, or Certified status."

Discussion. Roll call vote: 42 No's, 7 Yes's. Amendment defeated.

Jerry McGraw spoke on his amendment to “6.3 Additional Division Director Duties (A. through I.) Proposed amended to read adding “J”:

“J. Ensure that New York State, Department of State, Division of Corporations contact information is kept current with the new Division Director’s name.

Discussion.

Motion by O’Connell/Southworth that amendment will be taken by voice vote.

Carried

Leadership Discussion:

- Members want to belong to NSP.
- We are Tribal.
- The higher you climb in the tree, the harder it is to see its roots.
- It’s OK to set the bar high.
- Trust the members to do the right thing.
- Once in awhile, let the members drive.
- Patrollers can exist without NSP.
- The more members agree, the stronger we are.
- Protect the gift of leadership.
- The members must come first.

Rick will post the above on the Division website.

National Board Candidate Nominations: We need candidates for the Board positions. There are six vacancies that now exist. Names submitted: Bob Scarlett, Mike Lord, Rick Andriole, Dick Barron, John Beach, Rob Lunn, Carl Smith, Jim Decker, Mary Lyn Boberg, and Frey Aarnio.

Election of Division Director: Peter Neefus nominated Rick Hamlin.

Motion by Ebeling/Mitchell to close nominations.

Carried

Rick received unanimous approval to continue as the Eastern Division Director for another term.

Election of Division Secretary: Bert Ebeling nominated Donna McGraw.

Motion by Randolph/M. Smith to close nominations.

Carried

Donna received unanimous approval to continue as the Eastern Division Secretary.

Election of Division Treasurer: Fred Leukroth nominated Jeff Barcus.

Motion by Ebeling/Lewis to close nominations.

Carried

Jeff received unanimous approval to continue as the Eastern Division Treasurer.

Appointment of Assistant Division Director: DD Hamlin recommended the following:

1 year – April 30, 2006 through May 4, 2007: Terry Randolph

1 year – May 5, 2007 through April 26, 2008: Mike Lord

Ratify 1st year term of Terry Randolph – Carried

Ratify 2nd year term of Mike Lord – Carried

2007 Goals:

At the National level: DD Hamlin asked the Eastern Division leadership to encourage patrollers to vote and to suggest Patrollers send polite notes to the National Board to please reconsider the previously approved dues increase.

At the Division level: 2007 is the “Year of the Senior”. We need to focus on, resources, putting programs solidly in place, and marketing our courses, and encouraging all Patrollers to pursue some level of continuing education.

At the Region level: Continue keeping the members informed. Ask them to cast their vote in the National Board elections

At the Local level: Show respect for one another.

Suggestion: That the Marketing Committee put together a paper that documents “Why Belong to NSP”.

Meg Smith, Chair of the Long Range Planning committee, would like sent to her, smithmeh@optonline.net, all history of Senior tests, i.e., name, date, place, completion records.

Spring Officer Meeting: May 3, 4, 5, 2007 Desmond, Albany, New York

Motion by Neefus/Leukroth for adjournment of the April 28, 29, 30, 2006 Spring Officers meeting at 11:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna E. McGraw
Division Administrator