# SWEEP



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My last article for *Trail Sweep* was started in November of last year and updated for the February publication. In the years to come we will look back on the eight months since November 2020 as truly momentous for many reasons. Not the least of which is the introduction and wide distribution of the COVID 19 vaccines. We in the northeast are lucky. The majority of our citizens eligible for the vaccines have gotten them. The results are evident in steeply declining case numbers and deaths in our states.

But not everyone has been vaccinated, and we should all understand that we're not out of this yet. We may still see a new surge in cases and fully preventable deaths in other vaccine-resistant areas of the country due to more easily spreadable variants, like the Delta variant. People in the northeast who have not gotten jabbed are fully susceptible to this as well. Please, if you haven't gotten vaccinated yet, consider doing so.

The COOPED UP Task Force has recently put out guidance on running region and division level events this summer. It largely follows CDC guidance. Please review it on the website. The ED BOD will review this again at the Fall Officers Meeting, to be held person in September, albeit with some rules and a reduced cast of characters.

Bike patrols continue to start up, which is something I'm very pleased to see. Bike patrollers work very similarly to ski patrollers, on scene, in the woods potentially, often on their own. I think they are a natural fit for our organization. This service to the public presents NSP with tremendous growth potential, which can only help our organization. Love bike patrols!

The ski season, by all accounts, was a rousing success. I think people saw skiing as something they could do with some reasonable expectation of safety. I think they were correct. Many mountains had banner years, which was a marvelous outcome for what could have been a disastrous season.

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The National Ski Patrol stepped up and found a way to operate and support the skiing public as well as we ever have.

Most skiers have no idea how much planning, how many Zoom meetings, and how many adaptions patrollers had to make to ski areas operate this season. But our division leadership and I certainly understand what it took, and we want to thank you, the Eastern Division, for your exemplary service to the skiing public this year. Give yourselves a pat on the back. You earned it.

Speaking of which, for the first time the Eastern Division does not have a candidate running for the National Board. We have five active NBOD members sitting now and will likely go back to five members next year. But we'll have a year in between with only four members. That, however, that does not mean you don't have to vote.

Voting in the national election is a hard-won privilege that must be exercised lest it be lost. Consider it a practice year. The ED BOD will come out with two or three names we like on this ballot but will not opine on all four open slots. Do your homework and make up your own minds. But make sure you VOTE! It's your duty as members. Only 20% of us voted last year. We've got to do better than that this year.

And lastly, a huge warm welcome to Chris Castilian our new NSP Chief Executive Officer. He is starting in July. I was on the Zoom call for his final interview He is an extremely impressive, well-qualified, dynamic individual with strong ties to the outdoors and skiing and mountain biking. He'll be a great fit and will be very good for the organization. I was especially impressed that he had some strong ideas about how boards should function, and was not afraid to tell it like he saw it to our board. That sold me on him. I'm looking forward to working with Chris as soon as he's on board.

I hope you have a wonderful, safe and relaxing summer. I'm looking forward to next year's much more normal ski season and Powderfall at Breckenridge, Colorado, April 6-9, 2022. See you when the leaves fly.



#### by Cal Goldsmith, DD

The National Board of Directors has taken up the banner of DEI (Diversity, Equity, Inclusion) in a big way. They have searched for and hired a dynamic consultant, Dr. Tyler of The Equity Project, who will help us make meaningful strides in this area. It won't be quick enough for some, and I'm impatient as well.

I've told our Eastern Division NBOD members that we are looking for concrete measures of progress. They understand and I believe are working diligently to get that for NSP. The consultants' first task might be the most important. They need to help us identify where we, as the NSP, want to go, what we want to accomplish, and what our goals are. They are in that process now.

You will be seeing information about RFA 07-20. An RFA is a request for action by the national board. The board recently voted to put the question that is RFA 07-20 to the membership for a vote. The issue at hand is whether to give the Mountain Host units, both ski and bike, the status of traditional members in NSP. Hosts, as you probably know, do not have OEC skills, but do have some rudimentary first aid intervention skills. On many mountains, hosts work hand in hand with their patroller

counterparts. The assist at scenes, help with transport, manage on-hill traffic to protect those working the scene, put up and take down bamboo and signage, and myriad other tasks.

Hosts also pay full national and division dues just as patrollers do. So they feel they should be granted membership status, including the perks and the voting rights patrollers have. I'm strongly in favor of this, as are all the division directors. I'll explain why. You should know that not all NBOD members are in favor, even from Eastern Division. The reason, as I see it, is this. If you equate NSP membership with being a full patroller, in your mind that means OEC. Hosts don't have OEC.

However, if you can wrap your mind around the idea of opening up membership in our organization to more than just patrollers, then you start to see why this makes sense for us. It grows the organization. It's a great recruiting tool for patrolling, probably our best method of reinforcing our patrolling ranks. It gives our most senior patrollers something to step down to and still participate on the hill, as they age, without losing their active membership. It shows our host members that they are valued members of our team. I think it is the right thing to do for hosts; it is fair to them.

Remember, under this proposal, you can be a member of NSP as a host, but that membership does not confer patroller status. Only taking the OEC course can make you a patroller. Think about it and discuss it. You'll be asked to vote on it at the fall NBOD elections.



Free Labor! Expert advice! Skilled Workmanship! Great Instruction! Understanding and compassionate guidance and mentoring! All this support is available just for the asking.

Where do you access all this unbelievable talent? It's as easy as calling on your alumni members. They are just waiting to be a resource to their former patrols or patrols where they are living.

How are we a resource to patrols and NSP? Our mission is to allow former patrollers to remain connected and engaged and to be part of NSP.

Who are we? We are a force multiplier. We provide history, folklore, sage council, and continuity. We are there when needed. And we have seen it all!

What can we do?

- Help gather info and write up awards applications as an aide to region awards advisors.
- Dispatch
- Supply officer
- Fund raising coordinator
- Recruiter
- Banquet organizer
- Refresher co-chair
- Victim/patient for OEC training or refreshers
- Input accident data into electronic reports
- Mentor new candidate patrollers during the first year on the mountain.
- Offer area management your services by contacting groups who have an interest in skiing at the mountain
- Represent your ski area and NSP at local/regional ski shows.
- Candidate Mentor 1:1
- Candidate coordinator
- Patrol alumni advisor

Cont'd on pg 3

### INSTRUCTOR DEVELOPMENT NEEDS YOU!

By Lisa Rabideau, Supervisor

As I sit here in my camper looking at the thermometer that says 75 degrees, it is hard to focus on the upcoming ski season. It is, however, the ideal time to start thinking about recruiting. While many may think that means finding new patrollers, I want you to think about people in your patrol who might make a good instructor.

Think of people who are good communicators, who listen well, and who notice when someone needs a little encouragement. Of course, anyone on your patrol who is already a teacher is an ideal candidate, but do not overlook those who quietly show others a different way to do something, or mentor new members. We cannot rely on current instructors to add another discipline to their already full plates. We need to engage others to supplement the fantastic instructors you already have.

We need instructors in all disciplines. Before becoming an instructor, you need to take the basic Instructor Development course. In some areas there may be people who are interested in being instructors but are leery of taking an eighthour course. Fortunately, there is the option of taking most of the course online in a self-paced manner, leaving only a one to two hour in person "face-to-face" session to demonstrate teaching and reviewing quality control. And we still have the traditional in-person course for those who prefer that.

One unexpected upside to the COVID pandemic is that we have discovered that many programs (or at least some sections of programs) can successfully be given online. Tools like Zoom, Teams, and others have given us tools that we can utilize in innovative ways to meet the needs of our patrollers.

To provide any of those courses we need Instructor Development (ID) instructors. They provide the basic background in instructional skills and terminology, including the concept of training the adult learner. Becoming an ID instructor is the same procedure as becoming an instructor in any discipline, take the ID course and then go through a mentoring period with a current instructor. The mentoring period reinforces the skills pertaining to the specialty/discipline and the application of specific content.

In some regions there is only one or in some cases no ID instructors. I am issuing a challenge to each region to recruit at least one ID instructor for the coming season. Our patrollers deserve to have access to ongoing education. To accomplish this we need instructors, and we need ID instructors to start the whole process. Contact your patrol representative/director or region ID adviser if you are interested or know someone who is.

#### Cont'd from pg 2 - READ THIS

Maintain OEC instructor status and help with OEC training.

The following items may require area management agreement and have an impact on area worker's compensation policies/premiums or that the alumnus be part of the host group on the mountain.

- Aid room if certifications are current.
- Patrol awards person
- Assist OEC instructors by demonstrating to candidate patrollers the use of quick splints, sling/swath, how to assemble and use 02, etc.
- Assist patrol by refreshing/repacking toboggans after use.
- If permitted by PD return toboggans via snowmobile to the designated location on the mountain.
- If a CPR/AED instructor assist in the annual recertification of patrollers.
- Offer to assist in setting up corrals prior to opening or during the day as crowds build.

How do you tap into this resource? Keep a list of all your alumni and former patrollers who have expressed a willingness to help. You can even ask an alumnus to be the keeper of the list.

Think of your alumni as the talented help they can be to your patrol, region, or even at the division level.

Call me or your region advisor with your thoughts and have a safe, fun summer.



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#### TRAIL SWEEP

encourages submission of articles, pictures, and letters to the editor. All material becomes the property of the National Ski Patrol, and cannot be returned unless accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

 ${\it Cal Goldsmith/} Eastern\ Division\ Director$ 

Laura Tucker/Editor

Jim Freeman & Barb DeMarco/Production

#### **Editorial Office**

23 Narragansett Ave., Pittsfield, MA 01201 860-908-7052 e-mail: muthrtuckr@yahoo.com

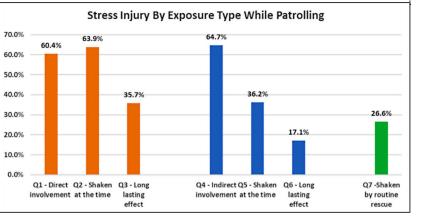


### Safety Team Launches Patroller

## STRESS AWARENESS Initiative by Oliver Neith, Bolton Valley SP

As ski patrollers many of us have encountered difficult scenes that are especially traumatic, unusually challenging, or involve someone we know. These critical incidents, when they test our usual methods of coping, can give rise to stress injury, a term first defined by the U.S. military to define stress exposure during combat operations.

While the various emotional and psychological reactions to critical incidents are normal, stress injury, if left unaddressed can become debilitating. There are patrollers who have quit patrolling because of stress injury.



In the spring of 2019, with increasing concern by anecdotal reports of stress injury among patrollers, the Eastern Division (ED) Safety Team created a survey to collect data regarding the incidence of critical incident stress injury among their patrollers.

The survey, emailed to all region directors for distribution to all patrollers generated 754 responses and achieved its objective, marking what is believed to be the first-time stress injury has been documented for ski patrollers.

The survey findings revealed:

- 60% (n=416) were directly involved in a critical incident during their patrolling careers.
- 64% (n=265) of the those reporting direct involvement experienced acute stress injury after a traumatic rescue event.
- 36% (n=148) reported a significant or longer-lasting effect.
- 36% (n=166) said they had suffered stress injury after indirect involvement in a serious rescue.
- Unexpectedly, 27% (n=110) reported having been adversely affected by participation in a "routine" (e.g., non-life threatening) rescue.

Cont'd on pg 4

#### Cont'd from pg 3 - INITIATIVE

 Only 38% (n=158) accessed supportive resources or services after an incident.

Armed with these results, Melinda Mingus, MD, ED Safety Supervisor empaneled what came to be called the Patroller Stress Awareness Team (PSAT) with a mandate to act on these findings.

Chaired by Dallas Coffman, EMARI Safety Team, and comprised of ED Safety Team members and others (please see below) from throughout the division, the team meets regularly. The PSAT has three primary objectives.

- 1. Promote awareness of stress injury via videos and print materials.
- 2. Collect and publish useful information about supportive resources available to patrollers.
- 3. Create, launch, and promote a website of curated educational articles and other stress injury and personal resilience materials.

To date, the team has made considerable progress. The website: https://www.nspeast.org/stress-awareness-resources.html or bit.ly/nspcis now features:

- WHAT TO KNOW, including
  - What Every Patroller Needs to Know About Critical Incident Stress
  - Stress Injury Risk for Patrollers.
- WHAT TO DO an email template for PDs after a critical incident
- WHO TO CALL
  - An online database of Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) resources sorted by region with website and contact data.
  - 24/7 emergency hotlines for first responders.
- STRESS AWARENESS RESOURCES & SUPPLIES
  - An original ski patrol-specific pre-incident stress injury education video.
  - Aid room and top shack posters.
  - Wallet cards for individual patrollers.
  - Hyperlinks to self-care and resilience sites as well as to other first responder organizations and their stress injury related materials.

• PATROLLER STORIES where your fellow patrollers share their personal experiences with critical incident stress and its aftermath—and where you can share your own story to help other patrollers.

In addition, the original posters were delivered to every patrol director in the division along with enough wallet cards to provide one to every patroller.

Moving forward the PSAT looks to build on what's been accomplished, focusing on self-care, resiliency, and identifying additional support and treatment resources for patrollers. For more information about the activities of the PSAT, email <a href="mailto:nspedcism@gmail.com">nspedcism@gmail.com</a>. We'd love to hear from you.

### PATROLLER STRESS AWARENESS TEAM MEMBERS:

#### • Melinda L. Mingus

MD, ED Safety Program Supervisor, Senior Nordic Patroller, MTR Instructor, CT Medical Advisor, Mohawk Mountain, CT

• Dallas W. Coffman

Chair, OEC Instructor, Nashoba Valley, EMARI

• Oliver Neith

 $MSW,\ OEC\ Instructor,\ Alpine\ Patroller,\ Bolton\ Valley,\ NVT$ 

• Jeffrey D. Freedman

PhD, Senior Patroller, OEC, EMM, OET Instructor, Seven Springs, WAPP Region

• Mark L. Parr

Alpine Patroller, Whitetail Resort, EPA

• Jesse I. Remmey

Senior Alpine Patroller, OEC T/E, Bolton Valley, NVT

• Eric J. Snyder

EMT, OEC Instructor, The Bear Creek, EPA

• Robert M. Cassello

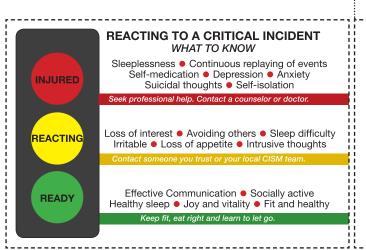
Senior Alpine Patroller, OEC I/T, Mohawk Mountain, CT

• Charles R. Epstein

Director of Operations, CT Critical Incident Stress Management Team, Inc.

• Bryant F. Hall

NRP, Senior Alpine Patroller, EMM T/E, OEC I/T, Canaan Valley, WAPP



### Asking for help is not a sign or weakness... It is a sign of strength.

Most emergency responders will experience a range of signs and symptoms as a result of a serious incident.

If you continue to have signs and symptoms, seek professional help or contact your local CISM team.

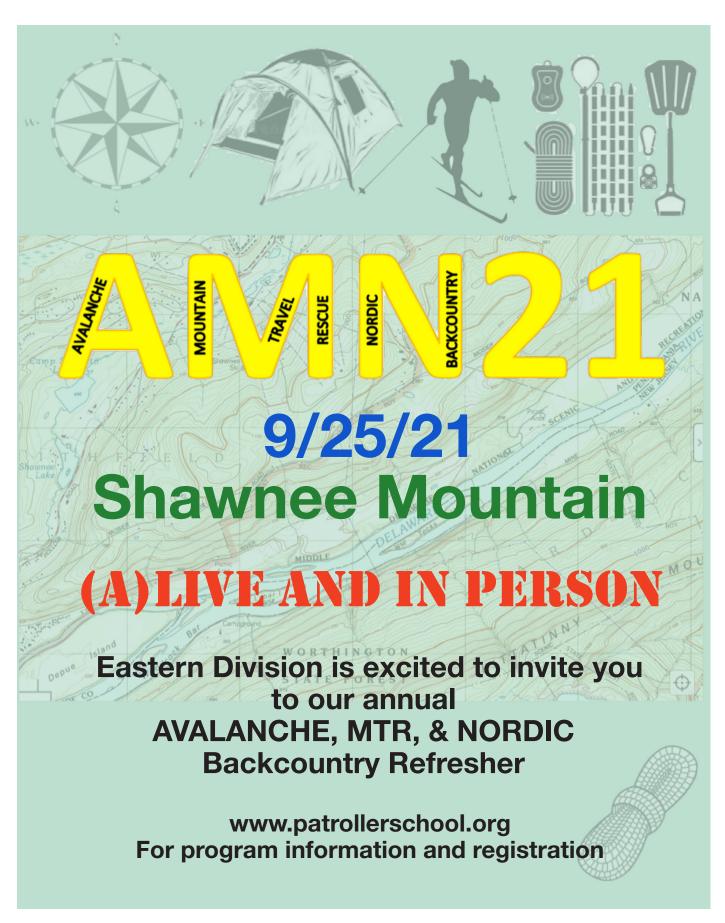
For more information visit:

https://www.nspeast.org/safety/stressawareness



Your Mental Health is Important.







by Chuck Boyd, Supervisor

The ski season ended early for most of us here in the East. Unable to do more than training at our local patrol level, all division programs were shut down for the season. As we continued to personally train, Assistant Avalanche Program Director Dave Childs and I plan separate trips to climb and ski in the Washington Cascades.

When the season is over, it is time to remove the batteries from your transceivers to prevent corrosion. Put the plastic protectors on the bottom of your skins. Throw a quick coat of base wax on your skis, cover the edges too, then store it all in a cool dry place. Then it's time to start researching next year's adventures.

Plans have started for this year's AMN (Avalanche/Mountain Travel Rescue/Nordic-BC) instructor refresher and training. The location will be Shawnee Mountain Ski Area, 401 Hollow Road, East Stroudsburg, PA on the weekend of September 24, 25, 26/2021, with the theme "A Live and in Person AMN 21." Keep an eye out for more details on the division website and at www.patrollersschool.org. Also coming in November is the ESAW (Eastern States Avalanche Workshop) normally held at the Fryeburg Academy just outside of North Conway, NH. This mini ISSW type event with guest speakers from around the country, is a great CE training for all avalanche instructors. Instructors should consider attending. I can't wait to

meet everyone again together in person at these events.

We are planning two more Avalanche Roll Out Courses around the AMN time frame in September. If you don't see this completed roll out course listed on your NSP profile, you will have to attend one of the evening Zoom calls to maintain your avalanche instructor status.

When we get back to normal, our plan will be to return to our regular schedule of three division level one avalanche courses at Smugglers' Notch, VT; Whiteface Mountain, NY; and Mt. Washington, NH. I'm in contact with the Rocky Mountain and Intermountain Divisions regarding scheduling an Inter-division Level 2 Avalanche course in Colorado or Utah. Please contact me at chucknspavy@gmail.com if you are interested in doing this. Space will be limited.

We are still working on adding classroom sessions in an online format for learning at your own pace. If you are interested in helping with this process to create online classroom material, reach out to Dave Childs at thenderboltpatrol@gmail.com.

Looking forward to some in-person training, hands on instead of Zoom. Enjoy the summer. If they open the travel restrictions to Chile, you might find Linda and me skiing there at the end of August or beginning of September. See you at the AMN!!



### **Social While Distant**

by Craig Larson & Chris Tota, Supervisors

"Social Distancing." I remember first hearing the term in March of 2020 and chuckling thinking "how can you be social, yet distant?". Little did we know that within weeks, this term would come to dictate nearly all aspects of our life, including ski patrol.

As fall approached, it became more and more clear that the pandemic would continue to be with us and would be leaving its mark on the 2020-2021 ski season. Our mounting cravings for a semblance of "normalcy" would have to wait to be satisfied. With that realization came significant questions about the plans for patrolling.

Afterall, a normal ski patrol season is the antithesis of social distancing--working closely with patients, cramming into summit patrol huts, and, my favorite, traveling to clinics and events to work with patrollers from all over the division. So what would the "marks of the pandemic" be on this season? Would there be training? Would patrollers be allowed out of state to patrol? Would vaccines be available for patrollers?

With uncertainty everywhere, one thing was resoundingly certain: the Eastern Division Young Adult Program was as dedicated as ever to achieve our mission--to speak the "language" of the young adult patroller. And we had a major advantage on our side. Young adults are on the cutting edge. They are masters of technology! They can use social media to create amazing content. And they can unite multiple generations through their enthusiasm and use of modern communication skills. So, we allowed ourselves to be inspired by their example and committed to "meet them where they are" (metaphorically!) as we planned how to provide programming in such unconventional times.

The Eastern Division Young Adult Program started the season with our new series, the "Everyday Heroes Live Broadcast." With our first episodes airing over the summer, we streamed live interviews with guests from within the NSP on the EDYAP Instagram, Facebook, and YouTube channels. We had some truly thoughtful conversations about all sorts of NSP topics. The best part was that our viewers played an integral role in the direction and quality of the interview as we live-time fielded their questions and comments on the various platforms during the live stream!

As early winter turned into full-on ski season, mountains continued to open more terrain and people were having the chance to ski some sweet snow conditions! That meant one thing for us. It was time for our first virtual "on snow" event – the #EDYAP-AllOverTheMap Scavenger Hunt! This week-long scavenger hunt convened over 100 participants from multiple divisions and produced over 675 pictures posted on social media with some of the funniest patrol pictures we have ever seen!

Seriously, pause your reading to go check out our young adults making waffles, wrestling snow snakes, and selfies with patrol

directors! Just search "#EDYAPAllOverTheMap" on Instagram. Of course, in true EDYAP fashion, swag was up for grabs, and the three winning teams found themselves decked out in new goggles, helmets, and other gear mailed directly to their houses!

Building off the energy of our scavenger hunt, we launched our first-ever Ski-A-Thon in mid-February! Both adult and young adult patrollers teamed up to see who could ski the most runs and vertical feet in a single day. In total, about 65 people were up for the challenge, and many teams were made up of patrollers from different regions and divisions, who chatted online and used social media to hype each other up!

The result? Some pretty wild stats! Cumulatively, skia-thon participants skied 741,398 vertical feet and 828 runs in a single day! As a reference point, that's like skiing from the summit of Mount Everest to sea level over 25 times! All the submissions were impressive but we've got to give a special shout-out to young adult Matt Farrrante from Killington who skied 73,592 vertical feet in one day!

While the winners in our small, medium, and large mountain categories won bragging rights and some more free swag, everyone who participated had a great time competing against themselves and their peers, as patrollers always love to do!

The snow melted, and the winter season came to a close. However, the Eastern Division Young Adult Program is continuing to push forward to plan future virtual events and to engage with patrollers around the world through our social media channels. If this year has taught us anything, it is how resilient our young adult patrollers are and how well they adapted to overcome a challenge like their generation has never faced before. Our young adult patrollers absolutely won this season. They showed up for a season of limited training and without the prospect of the mountain, region, and division events they look forward to year after year.

They turned it into a season filled with events we'll all remember for years to come! As a member of the Eastern Division Young Adult Program, I've never been prouder of the young adult patrollers in the Eastern Division and across the country. As our organization continues to grow and evolve, it gives me great hope to know that our future is strong in the hands of these incredible individuals full of attitudes of perseverance and positive energy which they put on full display this year! They are the future leaders of the National Ski Patrol, and the future is bright!

ME

**Meritorious Service Award** 

David Farrar

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WAPP

Mercy Flight

Mike Morgan Denise Pascussi

Russ Perrin

**Gary Sphar** 

Tom Wallin

Rick Wambach

Cindi Sherman

Greg Sherman

Doug Sinsabaug

<b>Silver Merit Star</b> Erik Edelstein Peter Edelstein	GVR GVR
Silver Merit Star Erik Edelstein Peter Edelstein  Yellow Merit Star Cynthia Anthony Tom Anthony Shannon Bielaska Bob Bresson Peter Falist Will Hart Bruce Hogwarth Peter Lux John Mahian Brian Mayou Elaine Pratt Steve Sippel  Blue Merit Star Colin Lockwood Scott Shear  Green Merit Star Todd Anderson Jay Didas Kevin Smith  Patroller Cross Donald Ludwig Cindy Vars Steven Walker	WAPP WAPP GVR GVR WAPP GVR WAPP GVR GVR
Blue Merit Star Colin Lockwood Scott Shear	GVR GVR
Green Merit Star Todd Anderson Jay Didas Kevin Smith	GVR GVR GVR
Patroller Cross Donald Ludwig Cindy Vars Steven Walker	CT GVR GVR

Patriot Star	
Amanda Aldred	CT
Kevin Boehm	GVR
John Caoili	CT
Zachary Deutscher	CT
Ron Fenner	CT
Jack Flynn	CT
Scott Graham	
WAPP	
Richard Harding	GVR
Robert Lachman	CT
John Maihan	
WAPP	
Matthew Myers	
WAPP	
Timothy O'Connor	CT
Kenneth Post	CT
Chuck Regan	CT
Jami Rushford	GVR
William Tobin	GVR
Jim Tully	CT
Dave Vinke	GVR
Rod Weinberg	CT
<b>National Certificate</b>	
of Appreciation	
Skip Millor	GVR

#### Cindi Showman **GVR Patroller Achievement** Award

#### 50 Year National Lifetime Service Award

William Ellison CT CT James O'Connor William Schmidtmann GVR

#### 50 Year Eastern Division Award

Louis Cherichetti CT John Flynn CT CT Philip Griggs Robert Lachman CT CT Patricia Perry Kenneth Post CT Herbert Winkle CT

#### 55 Year National Lifetime Service Award

Louis Cherichetti CT CT John Flynn Robert Lachman CT Patricia Perry CT CT Kenneth Post Herbert Winkler CT

#### 60 Year National Lifetime **Service Award**

CT Philip Griggs



### Eastern Division Awards

I'm pleased to introduce our new Assistant Division Awards Supervisor Lainie McDonnell and the following new region advisors (NAGs):

Bert Ebling, CNY

Mike Bafuma, CT

Tim Breen, EMARI

Steve Barnes, Eastern Region Pro Division

Their contact info can be found on the division webpage by clicking on the awards tab.

This year there were a total of 38 nominations for the Eastern Division Outstanding categories. Once all these awards

#### by Sue-Ellen Helmacy, Supervisor

have been presented, they will be listed on the webpage and in *Trail Sweep*.

Recently, an awards committee was set up so that patrollers who are registered in the Eastern Region of the Pro Division could be nominated for well-deserved awards. Congratulations and thanks to Steve Barnes for his willingness to head this committee! His contact information is also available on the division website. If you have any questions, I am willing to help as well, along with Matt Chaffin, the Pro Division Awards Supervisor.

'Silent gratitude isn't worth much to anyone.' G.B. Stern

### 2021 DAVID J. NELSON SR. MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS

by Harriet Frawley, Supervisor ment information, each applicant submits a short autobiography. These narratives often provide the most meaningful insight and lasting impression of each applicant.

This year, four \$1,000 Scholarships and four \$250 Honorable Mention awards were announced at the Spring Officer's Meeting. Listed below are the names, patrols, and future plans of each awardee, plus a fact or two that makes

In the final weeks of the ski season, there was a flurry (pun intended) of activity as Memorial Scholarship appli-

cations were prepared in time for the March 31 deadline. In addition to personal information, patrol affiliation, refer-

ences, transcripts, extra-curricular, volunteer, and employ-

### **SCHOLARSHIPS**

#### **EMILY PAGE**

#### West Mountain, ENY

A high school senior at Queensbury High School, Emily plans to study Biology in a 3+2 direct-entry physician's assistant program at Le Moyne College. She plays cello in both her orchestra and chamber group. Admirably, she has played as a volunteer for cancer patients at Glen Falls Hospital.

#### **ETHAN SELBY**

#### Liberty Mountain, EPA

Ethan is a high school senior at Westminster High School who will attend West Virginia University seeking to become a nurse practitioner. He plays violin in his orchestra, plus mandolin and guitar in a bluegrass band. Ethan's father is also a patroller.

#### **AUBREY MOYER**

#### Spring Mountain, EPA

each one a true stand-out.

A high school senior at Souderton Area High School, Aubrey will focus on English and communications at the University of Vermont. She volunteers in programs for children with special needs, including a social inclusion group that brings together children both with and without disabilities. Aubrey comes from a family of four patrollers.

#### **NATE JABLONSKI**

#### National Winter Activity Center, NJ

Nate is a high school senior at St. Peter's Preparatory School planning to study political science in the pre-law program at the College of the Holy Cross. He competes in fencing, acting as his school's team manager. Nate also placed 1st in a local VFW "Voice of Democracy" essay contest. Both his father and younger brother are patrollers.

### **HONORABLE MENTIONS**

#### **NICKLAS LABANOWSKI**

#### Otter Ski Patrol/Killington, SVT

A high school senior at Ramsey High School, Nick will study biology on a pre-med track at the University of Vermont. He has worked with the Christopher Brandle Joy of Life Foundation, fundraising in support of childhood brain cancer patients.

#### **MADELYNN BENNETT**

#### Ski Roundtop, EPA

Madelynn is a senior at Cumberland Valley High School who plans to study bioengineering at the University of Pittsburgh. She has been a soccer buddy for autistic kids, plus created a church community garden with her girl scout troop. Madelynn's father is also a patroller.

#### **EMILY LIGOURI**

#### Gore Mountain, ENY

A high school senior at Niskayuna High School, Emily will major in environmental science at Marist College. Emily is her rowing team captain and competed at the World Indoor Rowing Championships as well as the NY State Championships. Her twin sister is also a patroller!

#### **CYNTHIA GARVEY**

#### Plattekill Mountain, SNY

Cynthia is an adult learner with 15 years patrol experience. She is an alpine senior, an OET instructor and led her local women's program. With a B.A. in Art History and Studio Art, she works as a Gallery Archivist. Cynthia noted that had she started patrolling as a YAP, she would probably have gone into nursing. With that in mind, she will begin her nursing education at Maria College this fall while continuing to work full time.

# n Memoriam

#### **CHARLES JOSEPH CATHCART**

Charles Joseph Cathcart, a former resident of Hinsdale and West Chesterfield, NH and a Lifetime Member of the National Ski Patrol passed away at his home in Yarmouth, ME on March 18, 2021, at the age of 93. He was born in Woburn MA on December 14, 1927, to Charles and Betty Cathcart.

Charlie attended high school in Merrimack, NH and graduated from the University of New Hampshire in 1949. He enlisted in the United States Army where he was stationed in Korea as a member of the Counterintelligence Corps, 2nd CIC Detachment and remained engaged with that Unit until it was dissolved just a decade ago.

Charlie married Nina Tucker in 1954 and they had three children. He is survived by his three children, Karen (John) Lynch of Jonesboro, AR; Chip (Wendy) Cathcart of Portland, ME; and Lynn (Gene) Avery and his sisters, Dottie (Clayton) Todd and Carol Pelletier all of Amherst, NH. He is also survived by eight grandchildren and two great grandchildren. The greatest source of joy in his life was his family where he was a continually active and devoted father and grandfather.

He was a kind, caring and selfless man who found an extended family within the Brattleboro Ski Patrol in southern Vermont in 1961. He actively patrolled until 1996 and continued that service as an alumni patroller until 2020. After being recognized as the "Patroller of the Year" in 1971, he became the Patrol Leader from 1972-1974 and again as the Assistant Patrol Leader in 1996. He served as the Southern Vermont Region Section Chief from 1982-1990. He was the recipient of a Yellow Merit Star and a coveted National Appointment Number 6434 in 1985.

A long-time ARC/WEC/OEC instructor and a remarkable trainer he actively contributed to the training of new patrollers and was an avid trainer/coach for any patroller engaged in advanced training programs. He also played a key role in support of the NSP's Avalanche and Mountaineering Programs for 20 years through his organizational assistance for highly advanced technical seminars at the U.S. Army Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory in Hanover, NH.

As if six decades of service to the NSP wasn't enough, Charlie's devotion to his community was astounding. He championed the effort to capture and preserve the historical records of the Brattleboro Ski Patrol which was formed in 1938 in support of the Brattleboro Historical Society. Charlie was also an avid and active supporter of the Brattleboro Snow Sports Association which maintains and operates the world acclaimed Harris Hill Ski Jump. If he wasn't providing ski patrol coverage of international events, he could be found working behind the scenes to help maintain, upgrade, and prepare that facility for competition.

The Cathcart family and the National Ski Patrol have lost one of its most beloved and finest members. Charles Joseph Cathcart was an influential thinker and an effective leader in every stage of his life. This quiet, humble, caring, and selfless man has left us with a remarkable legacy of enduring kindness. Rest in peace Charlie.

Terry L. Randolph Bromley Ski Patrol

#### DAVID P. HODGDON



Dave Hodgdon, 79, died at his home in Randolph, Massachusetts on February 3, 2021. Dave grew up skiing and loved it! In January 1960, at the age of 18, he became a member of the National Ski Patrol.

Dave was already a downhill patroller, versed in cross-country skiing, climbing, mountaineering and SAR, when he inaugurated the Nordic Ski Patrol. In 1968, Dave was asked by NSP to run a pilot program for Nordic ski patrollers in

the east, where the highest numbers of cross-country skiers were at the time. The program developed by Dave, with assistance from a handful of cross-country enthusiasts like Bill Frenette, Gordon Spencer, Nathan Fawcet, and John Frado, was met with enthusiasm and NSP formally adopted the Nordic program in 1974.

Dave patrolled at the 1980 Lake Placid, 1988 Calgary, 2002 Salt Lake

City, and the 2010 Vancouver Olympics. His main skiing location was in the Blue Hills Reservation where he knew virtually every trail, and you could see him out skiing almost any day there was skiable snow.

You might have seen him skijouring with his pet Labrador.

Dave was also a Nordic Senior Patroller and an Avalanche and Mountaineering instructor teaching hundreds of patrollers Circle A&M. During his 61 years with the National Ski Patrol, he served in many other capacities – too many to list.

David was founder and executive director for Blue Hills Adventures and Quarry Museum where he was responsible for their outdoor curriculum and education. Dave's enthusiasm for skiing and in particular, for Nordic skiing and the Nordic Program will be missed.

Donations in his memory may be made to Friends of the Blue Hills, PO Box 416, Milton, MA 02186, FriendsoftheBluehills.org or American Heart Association, PO Box 417005, Boston, MA 02241-7005.

Robert Bentley, Patrol Director EMARI Nordic Patrol

# In Memoriam (cont'd)

#### **ERIK M. LAWRENCE**



Erik Lawrence, age 50, of Holyoke, MA died suddenly on Sunday, April 4, 2021. He was born in Gardner, MA on August 2, 1970, son of the late Neil P. and Margaret M. Lawrence. He lived most of his life in Holyoke. He attended Holyoke Public Schools and was a graduate of Holyoke High, Holyoke Community School of Nursing, and The University of Massachusetts School of Nursing where he earned his Bachelor

of Science in Nursing.

Erik worked for many years at Baystate Medical Center. He began his work there as a kitchen worker and ultimately became a nursing supervisor. Most recently he was employed as a nursing supervisor at Cooley Dickinson Hospital. He was a strong advocate for his patients and his nursing colleagues.

Erik was an enthusiastic skier. At Mount Tom in Holyoke, MA he began

as a snowmaker but went on to join the National Ski Patrol. After Mount Tom closed in 1998, he went on a hiatus but came back to patrolling in 2009 at Ski Butternut in Great Barrington, MA. A senior alpine patroller he was also an OET and OEC instructor. There was no one who enjoyed skiing the way Erik did. He was at his happiest on the slopes.

He had a passion for all music and was an avid Grateful Dead fan. He greatly enjoyed spending time surrounded by family and friends camping, at the beach, and attending concerts. Besides his parents, Erik was predeceased by his brother, Neil P. Lawrence. He is survived by his four children: Madysen H. Lawrence and his spouse Adara North of Burlington, VT; Kassidy J. Lawrence; Ella G. Lawrence; and Lily F. Lawrence and their mother Tamara (Motyl) Lawrence. He also leaves behind three sisters: Eileen Regan and her husband Gene Regan, Mary Lawrence and her husband Jeff Francis, and Amy Lawrence and her husband Mark Fitzgerald, all of Holyoke. Erik also leaves behind several nieces and nephews, several grand nieces and nephews, a loving extended family, and many, many friends. Donations in Erik's memory may be made to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP), 199 Water Street, 11th Floor, New York, NY 10038 or to Autism Speaks, 1060 State Road, Second Floor, Princeton, NJ 08540.

### GUY LOMBARDO July 8, 1928 – October 27, 2020



We are saddened to announce the passing of former Western Appalachian Region Director Guy Lombardo, a friend and mentor to many patrollers in the Region, at the age of 92.

Guy's godfather was THE Guy Lombardo, the big band leader. Guy's father, Frank Lombardo, was a big band leader himself. Since the Lombardo name was taken, his father's band went by the name of Frankie Bar and

His Orchestra. The two Lombardos were good friends, so when Guy was born, he was named for the famous Guy Lombardo.

While Guy was in Europe in the army of occupation after World War II, he learned to ski at Berchtesgaden. The Americans built a recreation facility there with a Poma lift. Guy was quartered in the barracks formerly used by the SS guards.

Guy was a lineman for Bell Telephone when he joined the Seven Springs Ski Patrol in Western Pennsylvania in 1962. Long before radio communication was available, Guy wired the slopes of Seven Springs with call boxes to facilitate emergency communication among patrollers.

With a National Appointment Number of 7777, Guy was all Seven Springs. He became a Red Cross First Aid Instructor in 1962, senior patroller in 1965, OEC instructor, Senior EMM TE, CPR instructor, and was presented the Phillip Dupre Distinguished Service Award in 1994.

Guy was deeply involved in service to the Western Appalachian Region and Eastern Division as well. He served as Region Director from 1998 to 2004, and twice as Western Section Chief from 1992 to 1998 and 2009 to 2014. He received nearly every award available, including the Region Outstanding Patroller Award, two Yellow Merit Stars, the Distinguished Service Award, and the Eastern Division Patroller for Patrollers Award in 2009.

The love of his life, Nancy, passed away in March of 2020. We wish Guy endless powder.

Marty Silverman former Region Director Western Appalachian Region

# n Memoriam (cont'd)

#### SCOTT ROCKEFFELLER



Scott Russell Rockefeller, 71, of Lee, MA died suddenly on Monday May 31, 2021. It is fitting he was passed away on Memorial Day, a day of Remembrance for Service to others. He was the son of Edward and Grace (Kellogg) Rockefeller, born December 31, 1949, in Great Barrington. He attended schools in Great Barrington, Massachusetts, graduating from Searles High School in 1967.

Scott attended Springfield College after high school. He received a bachelor's degree in Professional Studies from State University of New York, Empire State College in 1990 while raising a Family and working countless hours.

Scott went to work at Kimberly-Clark, now Schweitzer-Mauduit, in Lee, Massachusetts. at age 18. While there, he was a member of the Emergency Response Team. He received various promotions with the last being an IT Project Manager. He was transferred to South Carolina for the last year he was employed and decided to retire in 2010 to spend more time with his family.

Scott was the ultimate volunteer on multiple levels. He became an American Heart Association CPR Instructor in 1977. He literally trained thousands of EMS, police, fire, first responders, school faculty, and lay people including elementary and high school children. He also became a Stop the Bleed instructor. Scott became an EMT in 1995 and joined the Lee Volunteer Ambulance Service. In 2006 he was awarded the Berkshire County Basic EMT of the year. Once the ambulance service merged to become the Lee Fire Department, a paid service, he vowed not to get paid but to remain a volunteer, which he did. He became a Massachusetts EMT Examiner in 2007.

He taught numerous continuing education, CPR, and First Responder classes to EMS, police, and fire organizations throughout Berkshire County. He was co-partner in EMS Training of the Berkshires where he taught many people who wanted to become Basic EMTs. Scott would only charge for the cost of materials but never for his time, only to cover the cost of materials.

Scott wanted to become an NSP patroller but didn't know how to ski! At the age of 45 he learned to ski, took Outdoor Emergency Care, joining the Butternut Ski Patrol in 1993. In 1995 he completed instructor development and he an OEC instructor in 1996.

Scott was a regular instructor of annual OEC refreshers, and you could always count on him to have a most interesting and well-prepared session to test your OEC skills. Often, he would design and built simulated equipment so that skills could be practiced. At one refresher where extraction of an injured patient was to be practiced, Scott built a small, life-like airplane that had crashed.

Scott became so committed to teaching OEC and CPR that he personally stocked 2 trailers containing all the equipment to practice OEC and CPR skills. Each year, instructors at the Butternut OEC refresher depended on Scott's OEC trailer to provide them with the equipment for each station in that year's sequence. He was always coming up with truly innovative devices to help simulate an injury. He even had a devise that allowed you to practice the Heimlich Maneuver. If the skill was practiced correctly a projectile would blow across the room.

He held the position of WMASS Outdoor Emergency Care Administrator from 2000 to 2005 and was responsible for delivering the curriculum assuring strict quality control measures.

He received a Yellow Merit Star in 2004 in recognition of leadership and years of service and again in 2005 for outstanding service to the Western Mass Region for implementation of a region wide OEC course. He was the recipient of another Yellow Merit Star the same year when he was selected as the Eastern Division Outstanding Instructor. In 2011, he received one for his time and expertise in the development of the OEC 5th Edition serving as a Text Reviewer, stating he was "instrumental in making the book the most successful emergency care book in the history of NSP."

Scott was awarded Leadership Commendation Appointment #8345, received the Western Mass Region Director's Award for outstanding contributions to OEC, and in 2013 received a Maine Region award for his outstanding support of Maine's OEC programs. He contributed to the division in an advisory capacity for the OEC Committee. When he was no longer physically able to ski, he continued to serve in the patrol room and as an instructor. He had a trailer full of equipment and props which he gladly took from area to area, region to region, and program to program. He was known for building props, creating scenarios, and doing moulage to make scenarios realistic.

An active member of the First Congregational Church in Great Barrington, MA he was always involved in potluck dinners and built a popcorn wagon and a manger for the Nativity set. He especially enjoyed attending the Sunrise Easter and candlelight Christmas Eve Services. He delivered meals and did various errands or projects for those members who could not attend church services.

He was a community helper at Cheshire Elementary School where his grandchildren attended, and also a reader for the Dr. Seuss Read Across America Day for several years at the Lee Elementary School. He enjoyed golf, projects of any kind, dinner and movie dates, camping, and attending his grandchildren's sporting events. He and Eileen made numerous trips to Aruba and in 2017 they went to Alaska fulfilling his bucket trip list.

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# n Memoriam (cont'd)

#### Cont'd from pg 14 - ROCKEFELLER

Scott always enjoyed telling jokes, pulling pranks, and always found time to laugh. His smile was infectious. He will be missed.

Scott leaves behind the love of his life, his wife, Eileen (Meczywor) Rockefeller of 23 years; two daughters, Melissa Hill and her husband Daniel of Cheshire, MA and Tracey Murtha and her husband Tom of South Lee, MA; five grandchildren: Michael, Christopher, Sarah, Garrett, and Makayla and two great grandsons. He leaves his sister, Margot Rockefeller and her husband Dale of Pittsfield, MA and his brother-in law,

Jeffrey Meczywor of Lenox, MA. He leaves many aunts, uncles, nieces, and nephews. In addition, he leaves a multitude of friends, too numerous to count.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Scott's memory may be made to Butternut Ski Patrol or Lee Ambulance Squad in care of the Kelly Funeral Home, 3 Main St., Lee, MA 01238. *Editor's note: Any donations made to the Butternut Ski Patrol are being forwarded to the Eastern Division Memorial Scholarship Fund.* 

#### **PETER TAGUE**



Peter Michael Nickum Tague, 64, of Lanesborough, MA, loving husband and father and dear friend to many, passed away on March 17, 2021, as a result of a skiing accident.

Peter was the son of William H. Tague, Jr., and Irene Lanthier Tague. He attended Mount Greylock High School, graduated from Darrow School of New Lebanon, NY, in 1976 and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology

from Nasson College of Springvale, Maine, in 1982.

In 1990 he re-ignited his friendship with his teenage girlfriend, Bethany Nickum. They were married in 1994 and shortly thereafter moved to Southwest Harbor, Maine, on Mount Desert Island, where they established the Yellow Aster Bed & Breakfast. It quickly became a favorite place for visitors. Peter loved being an innkeeper. He had mastered his skills of hospitality and cooking through his many years as a waiter. He had the gift of gab and genuinely enjoyed assisting his guests in planning their many adventures in Acadia National Park, whether it be trails to hike, water to kayak, or restaurants to dine in.

It was in Maine they found a loving church community that fostered Peter's strong faith. In 2008 Peter and Bethany returned to the Berkshires and made their home where Peter grew up, at the foothills of Mount Greylock.

Peter was passionate about many things. He enjoyed playing soccer, kayaking, gardening, cooking, and of course, skiing, all of which he did boldly. He was on the National Ski Patrol for more than 30 years starting

his career at Brodie Mountain, in western Massachusetts, where he was also a ski instructor. When he moved to eastern Massachusetts, he joined the Wachusett Ski Patrol. During his tenure there he became a senior patroller, both OEC and OET instructors, and an OET TE. Moving to Maine he joined the Camden Snow Bowl and served on the Maine Region staff. When he returned to the Berkshires to be close to family, he joined the Butternut Ski Patrol. In the end, because of its proximity to his home he joined the Mt. Greylock Ski Club Patrol.

He was a great cook and took pride in creating wonderful meals for his family. More recently, inspired by observing his son, Jesse, play violin, he returned to playing it himself. He had played briefly as a child and always yearned to play again. He loved Tanglewood, walks up Mount Greylock with his dog, Sadie, and skiing at Mount Greylock Ski Club.

He was one to tell the truth, even though at times unfiltered and a bit unwelcomed, but he was always steadfast in his love and compassion for his family and friends, being there for anyone at any time.

Peter was predeceased by his father, Bill; mother, Irene; and brother, Tim. He is survived by his wife, Bethany, and son, Jesse; his sister, Susan Tague Gonzalez (Raphael) of Denver, CO; his uncle Marcus Lanthier (Sally) of Arden, NC; as well as several nieces and nephews.

A scholarship fund for violin will be established in Peter's honor at the Berkshire Music School. If you would like to contribute, please contact Natalie Neubert, Executive Director of the Berkshire Music School nneubert@berkshiremusicschool.org.

Memorial donations may be made to the Berkshire Humane Society in memory of Peter's love of animals, particularly dogs.

# In Memoriam (cont'd)

#### HOWARD C. WYANDT



Surrounded by family, Howard C. Wyandt, of Union Dale, Pennsylvania, died peacefully on July 3, 2021, of complications of Parkinson's Disease. A wonderful father, husband, and friend, Howie was born in Scranton, Pennsylvania, on February 6, 1947, the son of the late Howard and Anna Bohr Wyandt.

After graduating from Scranton Technical High School, Howie joined the United States Army. From his military

experience, Howie knew that he wanted to pursue a career in the medical field, and, following his honorable discharge, he obtained a bachelor's degree in nursing from Widener University. With his nurturing and caring ways, nursing came naturally to Howie. With his high standards and dedication to his profession, Howie's leadership qualities were recognized early in his nursing career.

As he took on more administrative roles, Howie's drive to best serve the community led him to obtain a master's degree in public administration from Marywood University. Always adopting a team approach to service, Howie was widely admired for his guiding spirit, gentle wit, and attention to detail throughout his long career in health care administration.

These attributes and his love of the outdoors led Howie to join the Elk Mountain Ski Patrol over 50 years ago. An avid skier from his early teenage years, Howie quickly became an invaluable member of the ski patrol with his strong skiing skills, medical know-how, and unparalleled commitment to skier safety. In 2004, Howie became director of the Elk Mountain Ski Patrol, a position which he held until his retirement in 2014.

Howie's training abilities and professionalism were recognized far beyond his local service to Elk's patrol. He served as a section chief, an assistant region director, on the Eastern Division OEC Steering Committee, and as an OEC senior TE. He was awarded the rare honor of

receiving National Appointment #6584. In 2015 Howie was inducted into the National Ski Patrol Hall of Fame, the highest honor that can be granted a ski patroller. He was recognized twice as the Eastern Division Outstanding Patrol Representative, once as the Outstanding Administrator, and once received a Silver Merit Star as the National Outstanding Administrator runner-up.

Mentoring generations of young patrollers who provided decades of service to the skiing public, Howie never sought accolades or awards, he sought only to serve, to keep skiers safe, and to have his fellow patrollers be the best they could be. Throughout the years, Howie considered the Elk Patrol as family; their greatly appreciated ongoing support and concern for him showed that this feeling was reciprocated.

With his signature tenacity, Howie pushed through many challenges presented by his advancing disease. Without complaint and equipped with his well-honed problem-solving skills, Howie approached setbacks by making the most of what he could do rather than focusing on what he could not. As his disease progressed, glimpses of Howie's humor and caring spirit remained despite all odds.

Howie is survived by his wife Karen Mangan Wyandt, his son Ryan Lafferty and wife Kim, and his granddaughter Leah Lafferty. He is also survived by his sister Diane Rava and husband Joseph, cousin Marilyn Hiller and husband William, brother-in-law Timothy Mangan and wife Carolyn, and many nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents, he was predeceased by his mother-in-law and father-in-law, Mary Kelly Mangan and John Mangan, and his brother-in-law Jack Mangan.

The family would like to express special thanks to the caring staffs of the Forest City Nursing Home and Traditional Home Health and Hospice. The family also thanks Dr. Neil Davis for his guidance and compassionate care during Howie's illness.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Elk Mountain Ski Patrol, 344 Elk Mountain Road, Union Dale, PA 18470, or to the Michael J. Fox Foundation, PO Box 5014, Hagerstown, MD 21741.

### REMEMBRANCES OF PAST PATROLLERS

CNY
Martin C. Connor
John "Jack" Martin, Jr.
John "Jack" Colgan McNeil II
CT
Jack Barter
Dawn Pinkowish

EMARI Dave Hodgdon Dilara O'Connell ENY Eric Jones Ron Baker Bill Pfaffenbach Ton Terwilliger EPA

Mike Crump Nick Matregano Tom Schanley Rick Shaack Al Teterick GVLY Bob Hacker John "Jack" Colgan McNeil II Jerry Sherman

ME J. Michael Tighe, Jr. Jeffery Alan Jones Tom Chasse

NH Ed Sacco NJ Alfred Tatyrek Charlie Abate NVT

Charles "Rhoady" Green Vic Oberg Nelson Putnam Hilton Strayer

Dr. Richard Boguslaw

SVT A. Peter Ducharme Jim Breitenstein Charles Cathcart

WAPP John Clark Glenn Kovak Guy Lombardo Jack Winter

WMASS
Erik Lawrence
Peter Tague

WNY
Jim Decker
Frank Flagella
Ken Kallin
Robert W. Lewis, Sr.
Ted Morgan
Linda Payne
Jack Roetzer
Edward Ziegenfuss