

# TRAIL SWEEP



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE  
EASTERN DIVISION OF THE  
NATIONAL SKI PATROL

Vol. 51, No. 1

SUMMER 2008



## A Fork in the Road

by Rick Hamlin, Division Director

### IN THIS ISSUE. . .

- Happy Birthday NSP
- Awards
- New Certifieds
- White Lightning Strikes
- Finance Committee Report



Typically in this space in past years you would find my Division Director's report, as presented at the Spring Officers' Meeting. You will find my report summarizing the highlights of this past season's activities within the Division elsewhere in this edition of *Trail Sweep*. I wanted to use this space to cover some additional topics not covered in my annual report.

The first thing I would like to do is to recognize all of the hard work that your Region officers do. As you know when it comes to Region operations, the buck stops with your Region Director and I know, from having held the position, that keeping things running smoothly at the Region level takes a serious time commitment. What you may not know is that all of the Region Directors, Assistant Region Directors, and Section Chiefs also serve on numerous committees that support the Eastern Division mission. From Finance to Public Relations, Avalanche to *Trail Sweep*, your Region officers take on additional duties at the Division level. If you get a chance, ask them about their Division work. I am sure they would be more than happy to tell you about the projects they have and are working on. Their efforts have a significant

impact on the success of the Eastern Division mission.

This year finds the National Ski Patrol celebrating 70 years of "Service and Safety" to snow sports enthusiasts. Our history is rich with examples of volunteer service and those that have come before us have created an incredible heritage that allows us to be proud members of the NSP. Our founders charted a course for our organization that was remarkably on target and although there have been times we have strayed from the trail they blazed I believe we are now solidly back on that path. We have inherited a wonderful organization from the Patrollers who came before us and it is our responsibility to carry on the great tradition that they started 70 years ago.

As the officers of the Eastern Division and your National Board of Directors would I am sure agree, maintaining the NSP as an organization that represents the gold standard of outdoor emergency care is very hard work. There is an old story about a visitor to Vermont who stopped alongside the road to admire a handsome farm. Its buildings and fields were well maintained and all was picture perfect. The visitor hailed the farmer and complimented him on the perfect view before them and said that it looked like the farm could run itself. The farmer thought for a moment and looked at the visitor and said "ayuh, straight downhill."

At this year's Spring Officers' Meeting, we had a chance to discuss where the Patrollers of the Eastern Division wanted our organization to go. We are all certainly aware of economic forecasts that are not

*Continued on page 2*

Continued from page 1 - Hamlin

positive, the impact on savings and investments and certainly the almost daily reminder of how our economy is changing when we fill our vehicles at the gas pump. We discussed that we found ourselves at a fork in the road and must determine which course to take. One path would be to maintain our dues at their current level. This would mean that we would have to either reduce program delivery, or to deficit spend, which would deplete our reserve funds to below what your Finance Committee has recommended.

The other direction was to continue to grow program delivery to meet the increase in demand that we have experienced over the last few years, which would mean a need to increase our dues. Much time was spent discussing which path to take and examining the comprehensive economic and budget study that the Finance Committee had prepared (that has been reprinted in this edition of *Trail Sweep*). The final 46/3/3 vote of the representatives of the Patrollers of the Eastern Division strongly reflected a choice to not go backward and lose the momentum that we have worked so hard to achieve. This means that for the first time in over 20 years we will have a dues increase from \$10 to \$17. This increase will allow us to continue to grow and improve the key focus of the Eastern Division, providing educational and credentialing opportunities for our Patrollers, and doing our part to maintain the outstanding organization that we have inherited from those that came before us. Here's to another 70 years of Service and Safety. ❁



*A publication of Eastern Division, published twice per year.*

CHARTERED BY CONGRESS

*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.*

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## Eastern Division Archives Established

*by Gregor Trinkhaus-Randall, Archivist*

At the 2006 Spring Officers' Meeting in Albany, the Eastern Division Board of Directors authorized the investigation of a home for the creation of an Archive of the Eastern Division's records. During the course of that year, Dartmouth College was selected as the repository of these records. Following the 2007 meeting, Region Directors and Division staff began to collect records documenting the history of the Eastern Division and all its components (regions, sections, programs, etc.) At this year's meeting an excellent start was made with the collection of some 22 boxes of records.

However, we know that many people have records that are stashed away in attics, basements and offices that document some aspect of the Division's history including information on ski areas that no longer exist, the individual papers of patrollers and records documenting the creation and history of individual patrols. Rather than let these documents remain in someone's care with an unknown future, the Division would like to collect them before they are lost, as has occurred in several documented cases when people have passed away. Too much memory and history has already been lost. We cannot guess how much that really is, but it is time that we minimize this loss in the present and future.

At the moment we are collecting records, photographs, posters, broadsides, charters, incorporation records, constitutions and bylaws, minutes and agendas, substantive communications (correspondence and memos), financial and annual reports, membership lists, newsletters (one copy of each issue), statistics, procedural manuals, training curricula and documentation, photographs, and movies and/or videos that document any and all aspects of the Division's history up through 2001. In the future we will be collecting more recent materials as it was decided to retain the most recent seven years for current activities.

If you have any of these older records, or know of anyone who does, please contact your Region Director, or me, so we can make arrangements to get the materials to the Dartmouth College Archives either some time this year or at next year's Spring Officers' Meeting. It is recommended that the records be boxed in a standard banker's box and labeled with

*Continued on page 3*

*Continued from page 2 - Trinkhaus-Randall*

the following information: Unit Name: (e.g. Southern Vermont Region, Ascutney Patrol, Director), Type of Records: (e.g. reports, member lists, correspondence, Regon newsletters), Contact: (e.g. Ron Krause, P.O. Box 59, Williamsville, VT 05362-0059, [kkrause@sover.net](mailto:kkrause@sover.net)), and Dates: (e.g. 1973-1988).

Beginning to document an organization's history can be a slow process. The Eastern Division has a rich and storied history since 1953. We do not want this history to be lost. Therefore, please do not hesitate to donate your records. The staff at the Dartmouth College Archives will arrange and describe the materials in a professional and meaningful manner and put the finding aid on the Internet so that people can see how the process will work. This will also make the information available for researchers, patrollers, and interested persons to contact the Archives to access the materials in the future.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Peter Carini at the Dartmouth College Archives.

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Peter Carini, College Archivist  
Dartmouth College  
(603) 646-3728, [peter.carini@dartmouth.edu](mailto:peter.carini@dartmouth.edu)

## Free Lifetime Memberships!

The NSP Board unanimously approved a free Lifetime Membership for any member with 50 or more years of continuous service. Previously these were offered to 60+-year members.

Board Member Jim Decker stated "Fifty years of service is an outstanding achievement and is more realistic for a free Lifetime Membership."

Lifetime Memberships are currently available to any NSP member for \$700, and are available at a discounted rate of \$350 for 30+-year members. In addition, the NSP is currently hosting a Limited Lifetime Membership Drive, in which 200 memberships will be available for \$550 on a first-come, first-served basis.

Members with 50 or more years of continuous service are eligible for free Lifetime Membership and should contact NSP Member Services Manager Cheri Overton at [covert@nsp.org](mailto:covert@nsp.org) or 303-988-1111 x.2646. Eligible members are encouraged to contact NSP before the 2008/09 registration season. ❁

## Instructor Development What's Next? The Mentoring Phase

*by Flo Rutherford, Supervisor*

Let's assume you have just taken an Instructor Development class or completed the Instructor Development e-course. Now, ski season is over and you are ready for warm weather and summer.

OK, Fast Forward...

Summer is almost over and now you are wondering what you need to do to continue your goal of becoming an instructor. You totally forget what you were told at the completion of the class but remember something about a "mentoring program." You remember you filled out an Instructor Application, or you think you filled it out at the class.

The "mentoring program" is like an internship in becoming an instructor. The candidate instructor works with an experienced instructor (or mentor) in the field of teaching interest. There are five NSP teaching disciplines: OEC, OET (Outdoor Emergency Transportation), MTR, Avalanche, and ID. You probably took the ID course already knowing what discipline you want to teach.

Who do you contact? If your interest lies in teaching OEC, you should contact your OEC instructor, your OEC I/T, and finally the ROA. If your interest is teaching OET, you should contact your local OET instructor, OET IT/TE, and your Region OET Administrator. To teach in the disciplines of MTR, Avalanche, and ID, you only need to contact the Regional Administrators in those fields. If you still don't know who to contact, as a last ditch effort contact your local ID Administrator. They will have access to all contact information in your region.

Now, your instructor mentor knows you will be in the formal mentoring stage. You will work with your instructor mentor doing lesson plans, practice teaching, and gaining experience. You should also keep an instructor record of everything you teach or assist in teaching. It is not uncommon as a candidate instructor to receive several observations throughout the mentoring phase. The observations serve as a monitoring device to see how your teaching technique is progressing. A final observation needs to be done by an I/T to grant final certification.

There is no time limit on the mentoring process to final certification. Remember, mentoring is an ongoing process throughout your teaching career.

Have a great summer! ❁



## Avalanche Program Report

by Phil Galka, Supervisor



The Avalanche Program continues to expand the quality of courses throughout the Eastern Division. I am happy to report that the Region Advisors, Instructor/Trainer (I/T) Staff and all Instructors have done an excellent job overseeing course operations, delivering quality, recertifying existing instructors, and developing new instructors.

As we look forward to the 2008-2009 season the NSP Avalanche Program Staff is planning to introduce a new edition of the *Avalanche Instructors Manual*. The new manual increases the focus of operating in avalanche terrain and expands on organized search and rescue in avalanche environments.

To accommodate the 2008-2009 program transition we have completed the following preparations:

Staff expanded the Instructor Refresher and Continuing Education Programs. This included detailed field operations and the integration of Incident Command into NSP Avalanche Search and Rescue operations.

Instructor/Trainer Staff assisted Regions with program support and created a plan for updating avalanche training equipment.

Region Advisors recruited new instructors, implemented courses, and sponsored regional avalanche education scholarships to support training staff.

Staff tested a pilot Level 1 course using a draft

course format of the proposed *Avalanche Instructors Manual*. This pilot used the Avalanche Fundamentals and Rescue curriculum at the regional instruction level and then moved to a Level 1 training excursion in Eastern Division areas with active avalanche environments.

Staff surveyed avalanche areas where Level 1 and 2 course objectives can be completed.

Region Advisors along with I/T Staff developed a 2008-2009 Course Calendar and Action Plan that will meet the new training requirements.

We expanded the Division's Avalanche Committee to include Avalanche Level 1 and 2 training areas and the past Division Avalanche Supervisor.

### AVALANCHE COMMITTEE FOR 2008-2009

**Supervisor:** Phil Galka EPA & NJ

**Chair:** Meg Smith SNY

#### Members:

Ken Black, WNY

Dick Harding, GV

Rich Hartman, EPA

Carl Smith, SNY

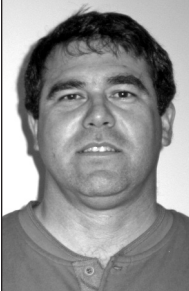
Matt Levinson, Whiteface

Dave White, Smugglers' Notch

John Knieriem, Tuckerman Ravine

Butch MacQueen, Past Division Avalanche Supervisor

The staff has worked very hard this season to prepare for the challenges ahead. I am sure that all of this season's hard work will pay great dividends in the future. ✨



## Outdoor Emergency Care

by Bill DeVarney, Supervisor

The OEC Program in the Eastern Division is one of the largest programs in the entire NSP organization. There are almost 1400 OEC Instructors, over 200 Instructor/Trainers, and a support staff of 15 Region OEC Administrators, multiple Assistant ROAs, five OEC Assistant Supervisors, and myself. Every member of the team has the same ultimate goal, to deliver quality training to the OEC technician, so that they can provide quality service and care.

With that in mind I first need to thank each of the Instructors, Instructor/Trainers, ROAs and each of the Assistant Supervisors for their dedication, time and effort. Even within that group there are some people that step up and offer more support than all the others.

Over the next few years there are going to be some changes in the OEC Program. The 5th Edition of the *OEC Manual* is scheduled to be out in 2010 with a whole different look and

layout. In addition the National OEC Program is in the final stages of standardizing several programs including the OEC Instructor/Trainer Program. This will lead to standard practice for developing, tracking, and mentoring OEC Instructors. This is all part of the OEC Quality Management program.

The Senior Emergency Management Module is on track to go through the same review with the intention of having a standardized program used across the entire national organization within the next few years. Once again the Eastern Division Program will play an important role in the development of this program.

One of the larger challenges the OEC Program is facing is eliminating patrollers who continue to show up on the OEC Delinquent Roster. These are patrollers that the national record system indicates as not having completed refresher cycles within the three-year refresher cycle period. There has been a lot of confusion in the past on this topic and there are currently 493 patrollers being tracked as

*Continued on page 5*

## Mountain Travel and Rescue Report

by Butch MacQueen, Supervisor

### PROGRAM SUMMARY

The courses that were completed this year are as follows:

- 1 MTR Fundamentals with 10 participants
- 6 MTR 1 with 64 participants
- 2 MTR 2 with 19 participants

A total of 93 participants completed MTR courses.

### CONTINUING EDUCATION

A Continuing Education Seminar was held on April 19th at the Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory of the US Army, in Hanover, NH. It was attended by 37 MTR, Avalanche, and Nordic instructors. Several outstanding presentations were made on a variety of topics including computer-aided avalanche forecasting, accident analysis and prevention, treating cold related injuries and hypothermia, and cold weather clothing design and construction. Updates for the three programs were also given along with visions of future developments in the program areas for the coming year.

### FUTURE PLANS

In the coming year specific plans for the program will include a concerted effort to increase the availability of Mountain Travel and Rescue courses across the division. Efforts have also begun to increase the corps of MTR instructors across the division. The goal will be to have either a Fundamentals or Level 1 course in every region next season and several Level 2 courses so that patrollers will have access to Level 2 courses without extensive travel time or costs. ❁

*Continued from page 4 - DeVarney*

not having attended training during that period. Many of those are Candidate or Inactive Patrollers. My concern is in the number of patrollers that have missed an OEC refresher cycle over the past years yet they continue to patrol. Over the next several weeks the OEC staff will be circulating the names of the patrollers showing up on this list to the Region Directors and the ROAs. The goal is to close this gap to just the Candidate Patrollers. There should never be an active patroller on the delinquent list.

Finally, with everything else that is going on it is time to start thinking about the upcoming season's OEC refreshers and not letting your skills get rusty. The OEC staff doesn't stop during the summer. As I am writing this there are I/T training classes and Senior EMM Trainer/Evaluator clinics being conducted and manuals being rewritten.

Commitment, communication, and consistency are the terms that I have used as the foundation to bring the Eastern Division OEC Leadership Team together. The outcome will be a competent program that meets the needs of every OEC technician.

Thank you Paula, Ed, Scott, Bob, and Paul for your dedication and effort. ❁

## Nordic Off-Season Conditioning

by Greg France, Supervisor

Stay simple...Train to your level...Heal the Aches and Pains of Winter.

Walking, using a diagonal stride and emphasizing your upper body action, is great. Work on lower/upper body timing and look for hills. A bike patrol is made for Nordics. Stay simple and maintain your conditioning.

### 2008-2009 NORDIC SCHEDULE

- 9/6-7/08 . . . . .Fall Instructors Meeting, Northfield, MA
- 12/1/08 . . . . .Nordic Master applications due
- 1/17/09 . . . . .Senior Nordic Evaluation, WAPP
- 2/27-3/1/09 . .NordicFest, SNY
- 2/09 . . . . .Senior Nordic Evaluation, TBD

### NEW AREAS TO PATROL

If you know of cross-county or back country areas that have potential for NSP patrols, please forward the information to me and your Region Nordic Advisor who is listed below.

- WAPP . . . . .Jerry Timcik
  - EPA . . . . .Pete Snyder
  - WNY . . . . .Butch MacQueen
  - GV . . . . .Holger Stave
  - CNY . . . . .Peter Oster
  - SNY . . . . .Karlis Kopans
  - ENY . . . . .Dave Galpin
  - CT . . . . .Chuck Boyd
  - EMARI . . . . .Robert Bentley
  - NVT . . . . .Hope Crifo
  - WMASS . . . . .Mary Ann Richardson
  - SVT, NH, ME . .TBD
- Have a great summer! ❁



## 2009 Special Olympics World Winter Games

FEBRUARY 2 -13, 2009  
BOISE, IDAHO

Have you ever volunteered at Special Olympics Winter Games in your State as a Mountain Guide/Ski Patroller? If so, why not join a bunch of dedicated NSP Patrollers from all over the country and participate in the 2009 Special Olympics World Winter Games? What an opportunity to not only make a difference but to make friends and have an unforgettable great time.

We are presently in the planning/gathering information stage and if you feel you might be interested contact Gerry Clark at gerrynsp@earthlink.net to have your name and email placed on the contact list so you can stay informed about the progress and be sent the registration information when it is available. ❁

## Reflection

by Frey Aarnio, S&T Supervisor



This past season I was asked to help teach at the patroller school held at Killington, Vermont, which brings together patrollers of all abilities from all over the Eastern Division. This was Super Bowl weekend and everyone was anxious to get to a TV on Sunday but the participants did not want to miss any of the information being imparted by the instructors. The enthusiasm and willingness to learn by all the attendees was amazing.

There were patrollers from small ski areas with 400 foot vertical elevation that wanted to experience and learn what working patrollers did as a matter of routine in the steeps with serious moguls at bigger and more challenging ski areas. They learned techniques and tricks that will make them better patrollers no matter what the ski area elevation. Participants like LeAnne, a diminutive young lady, who had never worked outside the handles was capable of maneuvering a loaded toboggan through some rather nasty moguls and ice, or Dwayne who honed his toboggan handling skills and then learned how to ski the bumps on the steepest terrain in the East serviced by a lift and a Brendan that had an epiphany in the steep bumps and then wanted to tire his PSIA instructor. There are so many similar stories experienced by attendees that learned from numerous NSP trainers and PSIA instructors that I can not relate them all.

On my way home from Killington, I reflected on my past, thinking about the trainers that influenced me and brought me to a performance level that made it possible for me to be selected to join the Eastern Division staff. They were patrollers like Walt Harrington (inventor of the Harrington backboard), George Wesson I (“Father of the Certified Program”), Milt Gilmore and Les Berg all from small Vermont ski areas. My trainers had so many years of experience that you could not count them on an abacus. They were so willing to share their knowledge with anyone willing to attend clinics and improve patrolling skills; all you had to do was ask.

The ski equipment has changed and the rescue sleds have changed over time to incorporate improvements inspired by the early years of patrolling and the forward thinking innovators that wanted to make patrolling easier and safer. Along with the improved equipment, our techniques have changed to make rescue transportation easier for the driver and tail person, not to forget the comfort of the patient. So what am I getting to? Well, at the Killington Patroller School there was over 200 years of patrolling experience being shared with attendees;

60 years of PSIA experience from demo team members and educational staff, all willing to share/impart knowledge gained through their years of exposure to equipment changes, technique changes and general safety relative to patrolling and skiing. When I hear “What’s in it for me?” from patrollers that do not get involved with training I wonder, are they patrolling to best serve their home ski area.

Part of the entire process of getting involved in clinics is the ability to receive and then deliver a consistent and current message and methodology on skiing and sled handling no matter where you attend an S&T clinic or training session within the Eastern Division. Your S&T Steering Committee and the entire S&T staff are continuously certified on a three-year cycle to ensure that training at all levels is current and consistent. Our staff is very willing and able to demonstrate and share their knowledge to anyone just willing to ask. Clinic attendees share knowledge with new patrollers at their home area for our continuation of current training standards. So, get involved, it is in your best interest for continued support of your home ski area.

P.S. I am still growing as evidenced by the thin hair spot on my head. I am pushing upward. ✱

## Alumni News

by Al Pels, Alumni Advisor

Congratulations to the following Alumni upon receiving Lifetime Memberships from National for their 60 years of service:

George Helwig – WAPP/former Eastern Division Director

Connie Manville – CT/former Region Director  
Virginia Whetten – ENY

Also, the Eastern Division paid the annual dues of 22 Alumni with 50 years of service each.

Contact me (pels.hancock@verizon.net) if you want to know more about the Alumni or need an application. Alumni pay annual dues of \$27.00, \$10.00 of which is returned to the Eastern Division. In turn, \$5.00 per Alumni is returned to your Region and the rest is applied to the Student Program and the Memorial Fund. ✱

### DIVISION WEBSITE REMINDER

If you want to get in to the Members’ Area of the Division website, the user name is Minnie and the password is 10thmtn.

## Students Galore!

by Jerry Hyson, Supervisor

Seventy-five student patrollers from around the Eastern Division participated in the annual Eastern Division Student Training Seminar held at Killington Mountain Resort in Southern Vermont. About 100 adults helped to coordinate and manage the three-day festivities. The students spent two days working on OEC skills, toboggan handling, and ski skills.

Performance evaluations were successfully completed and the following ten awards were presented at our closing banquet.

OEC  
1st – Aaron Franzi, CT  
2nd – Matt Butler, EPA  
3rd – Jordan Carlstom, NH

TOBOGGAN  
1st – Andrew Reisinger, NJ  
2nd – Andrew Brokelbank, WMASS  
3rd – Richard Dulac, WMASS

SKIING  
1st – Andrew Reisinger, NJ  
2nd – Matt Butler, EPA  
3rd – Sarah Thom, EPA

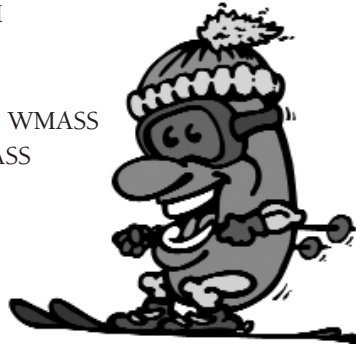
HANS HYSON AWARD  
Andrew Reisinger, NJ

As the Eastern Division Student Supervisor, I would like to thank all who helped make this event successful. Without the help of student advisors, division staff, evaluators, and my assistants, Craig Larson and Dan Pascucci, this event would have been more than difficult for any one person. My staff and I are evaluating this year's seminar to consider and implement changes to make next year's event even better...if possible! Please contact me if you have any suggestions or recommendations.

As always, all student patrollers are welcome and encouraged to participate in this event. We strive to make the seminar fun and educational. After the event we often hear that it was a favorite experience for our young patrollers, and staff as well, as was the case this year. We look forward to seeing old friends and new patrollers at next year's event. We're planning to head to Bolton Valley in the Northern Vermont Region the weekend of March 20-23, 2009 with hopes of 100 student patrollers in attendance.

My itinerary this past year included traveling around the division, visiting student patrols in Maine, Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Vermont. I look forward to traveling again next year to continue promoting the next generation of patrollers – our future.

I am here to help you with your student program. If you have questions or suggestions please email (hyski@verizon.net) or call (978-464-5939) me. ❁



## Public Relations Committee

by John Shipman, Chair

The ED PR Committee task assignment is “What’s next for public relations regarding NSP/Eastern Division and what will it cost?”

The 2008-2009 budget request was submitted for \$2500.00. We are currently looking into the possibility of putting NSP/ED logos on a few of the following items:

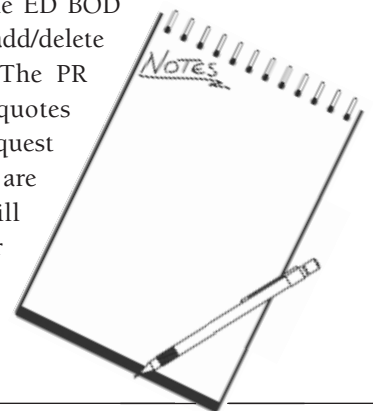
- Car license plate frames
- Snowboarder screwdrivers (pocket tool)
- Reprint/rewrite (in color and easy to read) of NSP's history in a tri-fold handout
- Squeegee for ski goggles
- Plastic “garbage bag” raincoat
- Ink pen
- Ski straps
- Hand/feet warmers
- Retractable cord for ski ticket/pass, which attaches to ski jacket or lanyard
- Note pad with some useful info (i.e.) lost skier info, 1<sup>st</sup> Aid reminders (SAMPLE, etc.)
- Foam Coozie – bottle/can insulated drink holder
- Temporary tattoos
- Eastern Division logo sweater pin

Set-up charges, number of units, colors, and shipping charges will factor into pricing.

Depending on the items, there may be a possibility of promoting and selling them on the division and region websites, newsletters, etc. The items could be priced so they would be self-liquidating, or, perhaps, open to the public and a profit center for the division/regions.

There has been some interest in a reprint of the poster with Chris Jaquith in the handles of a toboggan and the smaller NSP decal. Also of interest is the new insulated mug distributed at the '08 Student Seminar and '08 ED SOM. If the mugs prove to be a popular item, we could budget for another run.

Our next step is for the ED BOD to review the listed items, add/delete and sort out preferences. The PR Committee will request quotes and submit a firm budget request for approval. If approvals are granted, production will begin during the summer months and items should be ready for distribution this fall. ❁



## YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2008

### Treasurer's Report

by Jeff Barcus, Treasurer



The following treasurer's report is for the period ended March 31, 2008 which represents the activities for the 2008 Fiscal Year (April 1, 2007 through March 31, 2008)

The basic report now includes four basic statements, a Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Activities, Statement of Cash Flows, and a Statement of Functional Revenue and Expenses. This report also includes a proposed budget for the coming fiscal year.

The Statement of Financial Position is a snapshot of the organization's financial health as of March 31, 2008 and shows the organization to be very healthy with \$245,210 of accumulated unrestricted Net Assets (Patroller equity). This statement also shows Total Assets of \$313,834 comprised of cash, mutual funds and equipment.

The organization had a decrease (\$21,801) in Net Assets for the current year.

The Statement of Activities is a summary of the organization's activity for the past year according to the level of restrictions placed on the Net Assets.

The only restrictions placed on any of the Net Assets of the organization are all related to the Memorial Fund and the

scholarship program. Contributions made to that fund are permanently restricted – meaning we cannot use them for scholarships. The income is available to fund scholarships and to maintain the earning power of the Memorial Fund as described in our investment policy. These earnings are temporarily restricted until a scholarship is granted or a transfer to maintain the earning power is necessary. The Statement of Activities shows the amount available for future grants is \$1,800 and the total Permanently Restricted balance is \$44,275. This statement does not reflect the 2008 grants.

The Statement of Activities summarizes the activities and restricted balances. It shows the organization decreased all its Net Assets for the year ended March 31, 2008 by a grand total of \$21,801 which is much more than last year's decrease of \$8,979.

The Statement of Cash Flows simply reconciles beginning cash to ending cash for the year.

The Statement of Functional Revenues and Expenses shows in greater detail the results of the year's activity by "functional category," which represents each of the programs operated by the Division. These are Outdoor Emergency Care, Ski & Toboggan, Mountain Travel and Rescue and so on.

A copy of the complete Treasurer's Report in an Excel spreadsheet is available on the Eastern Division website under the Members' Area. ✨

### White Lightning Strikes!

by Nancy Pietroski, Bear Creek & Spring Mt. Ski Patrols

This year's EPA Women's Toboggan Enhancement Seminar, aka "Chicks on Sticks," was held at Snö Mountain on Saturday, February 23rd for the sixth year. Hosted by Sarah Keating of Elk Mt. with additional training support from Chrissy Ludka (Elk Mt.), Marie-Pierre Bloch (Liberty), and Sharon Friedel and Janet Boyer (Blue Mt.). This highly successful program was attended by 20 patroller chicks from Bear Creek, Blue Mt., Elk Mt., Liberty, Ski Roundtop, Spring Mt., Sno Mountain, and Whitetail Resort.

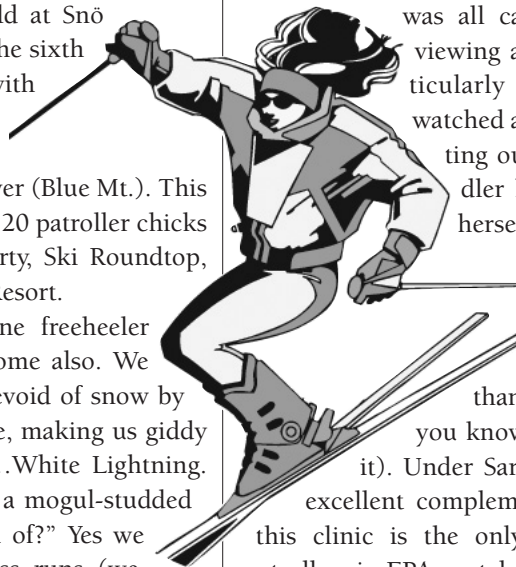
This year everyone was on skis (one freeheeler ...me), although boarder chicks are welcome also. We were blessed after an early winter fairly devoid of snow by four to five inches of freshies and sunshine, making us giddy as we glided off the lift and headed for...White Lightning. "You mean I'm going to take a sled down a mogul-studded precipice that I can't even see the bottom of?" Yes we did, and after what seemed like countless runs (we hardcore chicks stopped only for a brief power lunch), we felt like we had been struck by lightning.

But believe it or not, with the gentle but firm coaching of

the stellar training crew, we all, whether or not we had ever run a sled in moguls before (much less on a slope of this pitch), were successfully negotiating the challenging run both in the handles and on tail. And as a bonus (or bane), it was all caught on film, which we enjoyed viewing at an après-clinic party. In one particularly hysterical sequence which we watched about five or six times in a row splitting our guts each time, the tailrope handler lost control and managed to arrest herself by tackling the girl in the handles.

This program is absolutely terrific for female patrollers who want to hone their skills in a slightly less stressful environment than some of the other clinics (girls, you know what I mean; guys, you will deny it). Under Sarah's superb direction and with the excellent complementary skills of the other trainers, this clinic is the only one run specifically for female patrollers in EPA, so take advantage of it, girls!

Motto of the day (quote by unknown author): "Shoot for the moon. Even if you miss, you'll land among the stars [or on the toboggan handles!-author's note]. ✨







## Certified Report

by Dave Walker, Chair

This year's certified exam was held at Hunter Mountain, New York. It was a typical 2008 winter weekend where Friday was warm, foggy, and raining followed by a deep freeze on Saturday for the first aid events.

Hunter Mountain was a gracious host and as always has been an exceptional supporter of NSP and its programs. Special thanks to Patrol Director Bob Hostetter and certified member David Young for their effort in pulling this event together.

Between certified members, candidates, and volunteer help this exam was attended by 130 people. It was my pleasure to award three certified numbers and pins at this year's event for the successful completion of the program.

Joe Greenwood	Wachusett	#680
Tom Wallin	Swain	#681
Steve Suomala	Wachusett	#682

There were two certified precourses held this year, one at Windham Mountain and the other at Sunday River where a total of three new candidates qualified for entry into the program. Although the number of applicants to the program was down, there is a substantial number of patrollers who plan to get started. Thanks go to Ted Davis from the Windham Mountain Patrol and John Kane from the Sunday River Patrol for their efforts in organizing these precourses.

The certified program continues to reach out to potential candidates by holding a certified ski and toboggan training clinic at Hunter Mountain in January that offers candidates and interested patrollers an opportunity to practice their skills under the supervision of certified patrollers. Bill Cline from Seven Springs and Brant Maley from Ski Roundtop were instrumental in organizing this event. Sharon Freidel from Blue Mountain ran a certified OEC clinic at Windham Mountain. This clinic gave our candidates an opportunity to practice complicated OEC scenarios similar to what they would find at the exam. Not only are there many opportunities across this division to get access to training for the certified program, there is an unbelievable amount of talent in the ranks of our membership who are willing to run formal or informal training clinics in any discipline. If the patrollers in this division don't take an interest in this worthwhile program they may never have access to them.

In an effort to improve the program, Bob Bluff, Elk Mountain patroller and Certified Avalanche Chair, presented a recommendation that was accepted by the membership to update the avalanche module. Each division must follow guidelines as outlined in the Patroller's Manual, but this module gives each division a lot of leeway in how it is presented, from using explosives to doing a simple beacon search. Our current module includes a beacon search and a written exam. We feel that it is very important that patrollers understand the mechanics of snow as well as how to identify and avoid areas that are prone to slide. Bob's improvements will be incorporated into next year's exam.

Each year I make an attempt to encourage patrollers from the division to come to the certified exam to find out what it is all about. If you have any doubts, ask any of the three new certified patrollers listed at the top of this report if the program was worth their efforts. Come up and see what it is all about, show up to help as a patient or helper, shadow the exam and see where you stand in relation to the standard. There is an education here. Guests can shadow any or all parts of the exam, watch most of it, and even try their hand at some of the events when there is a lull. I would like to encourage, invite, or otherwise compel any or all patrollers to see what this exam is all about. As a guest, we will put you to work, explain the different parts of the exam, and encourage you to try your hand at the program. I am always impressed with the level of technical expertise at this exam shown by the examiners and also patrollers from all over this division who come to help. Come and learn

The 2009 Certified Exam will be held at Sugarloaf USA in Maine on March 27-29. ✱

*Tom Wallin, Steve Suomala, Joe Greenwood (left to right)*



## Division Director's Report 2008

by Rick Hamlin, DD

The annual Division Director's Report serves two purposes. The first is to provide a brief review of the Division's records of the year's events and the second is to provide our National Board with a summary of what is happening in each Division. With those goals in mind, here is an overview of the 2007-2008 season.

Each year we strive for improvement. We were fortunate that one element that we have no control of, the weather, was for the most part very cooperative, especially when compared to last season. The season got off to a good start and although there were a few rapid thaw cycles, recovery for most areas came fairly quickly. Many areas closed with full snow coverage after very successful seasons. Our year in the Eastern Division could be described in a similar manner.

On the "rapid thaw" side of the score card, I would have to include voter turnout for the National Board of Directors election. About 16% of the eligible members of the Eastern Division cast votes in the NBOD election. While on the one hand this would be considered a very good turn out for a volunteer organization where 7-10% is expected, it still means that a very small proportion of members are deciding who will sit on our National Board and decide the course of our organization. Yes, voting does require some time to be set aside to review the candidates' credentials and platform statements, but achieving excellence in our organization means that we all need to participate in this very important process, a process that we worked very hard to put in place.

On the "blizzard" side would have to include Sarah Carlstrom, from Pats Peak, New Hampshire, winning the National Student Patroller of the year. I had the pleasure of presenting the award, along with Region Director Pete Kaufmann and Patrol Director Bob Wright, to Sarah at her refresher last fall. Sarah certainly exemplifies the characteristics of the Young Adult Patrollers that we hope will steward the NSP into the future. Congratulations Sarah!

As part of a tradition that goes back many years, the EMARI Region once again staffed the Eastern Division booth at the Boston Globe Ski Exposition, one of the northeast's biggest shows, kicking off the start of the snowsports season. Some of our goals for this event are to reach out to the public, answer questions from potential NSP candidates about joining the Patrol, and to put a face on the NSP for the skiing public. Last year one of the tools used to open that line of communication was a very successful poster. This year two items were commissioned to hand out, one was a bumper sticker celebrating 70 years of the NSP and the other was a smaller sticker with the NSP logo shown to the right. It has proved to be a very successful outreach tool.

Coming just in time to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the founding of the National Ski Patrol, film producer Rick Moulton, working in conjunction with the New England Ski Museum, finished the film "Ski Sentinels, the Story of the National Ski Patrol." The Eastern Division provided support for the film through assistance with production expenses and also providing archival material. I had the pleasure of working as the NSP liaison to the museum and the producer and was very surprised to see that portions of an informal interview that I participated in made it into the film. Producer Moulton did a wonderful job of capturing the essence of the NSP. The film premiered on Vermont Public Television and garnered fine reviews from both Patrollers and non-patrollers. The National Board agreed, and has approved its inclusion in our catalog.

Throughout the season, Instructors delivered quality courses to Patrollers across the Eastern Division, doing the foundation work that is our primary mission. This year, the equivalent of more than one out of every three Patrollers in the Division took advantage of courses to improve their knowledge and skills. This is a dramatic increase over the 27% for each of the past two seasons. A total of 216 courses were presented, up from 183 last year. The numbers are below:

Active Division Members	Number of Course Units Delivered*	Percent Course Units to Members
6835	2512	36.75%

\*The course unit number does not include refreshers, or Senior evaluation events, just those courses registered with the National office.

At the National level, we have a new National Chairman, Terry LaLiberte and our Assistant National Chairman, Bela Musits, hails from the Eastern Division. The NBOD seats are now all filled with members voted for by Patrollers. I have attended all of the NBOD meetings and participated in the NBOD monthly conference calls, and I believe that the Patrollers of the Eastern Division would be pleased at the progress and the decisions that your National Board is making. Our Executive Director, Tim White, unlike past Executive Directors, works only for the NSP and within a few months we will no longer share any staff with the ASEA/PSIA. Our National office staff is now completely focused on serving the members of the NSP. Given the condition of our national organization that they inherited and the antiquated tools they have to work with, they are doing an outstanding job.

What's ahead for members of the Eastern Division? We are examining our programs and services and finding out from Patrollers what is and what is not working. Here are some of the highlights:

One of the things that is not working is the Senior Continuing Education process. Currently Seniors are required

*Continued on page 11*

*Continued from page 10 - Hamlin*

to attend a Ski and Toboggan continuing education clinic every three years. There are no record or reporting requirements and it is not uniformly practiced, so the S&T program folks are looking at eliminating this program until such time as it can be done uniformly and in a meaningful way.

To help people learn about the Senior Program and the components that must be completed, the Senior Committee is working on a web-based version of the old newsprint Senior Manual. The web version will bring that old document up to date and should provide a “one stop shopping” source for all things related to the Senior Program.

Approximately 75 Student Patrollers attended the Student Seminar this year and each year the number grows. It is a great event enjoyed by all and we are looking to provide more value to the event by structuring the event components so that along with the event experience, Student Patrollers will also receive course credit toward OEC and S&T clinic type courses, which in turn can be counted toward Senior elective requirements.

This year the Nordic Master program was piloted. The goal of this program is to provide another level of Nordic Patroller classification beyond Senior Nordic, much the same way that the Certified Program provides another skill level for Alpine Patrollers beyond Senior Alpine. Three Patrollers signed up to participate and we look forward to hearing the recommendations from the Nordic Program related to this new concept.

We now have a course release form provided by the National office for courses and events. If you don't have a specific release form that your mountain, or Region provides, this form is available on the Eastern Division website for your use.

Control of expenses is a constant topic of discussion among the Eastern Board of Directors. At our recent meeting we discussed the expense of mailing the Eastern Division newsletter, *Trail Sweep*, to all members of the Division. The unanimous consensus was that it is a very important communication link to the Patrollers of the Eastern Division and that it should continue to be mailed so that it may reach all members. The EDBOD did agree to explore the inclusion of advertising in *Trail Sweep* to help reduce the expense to the Eastern Division for mailing costs.

Speaking of costs, it comes as no secret that fuel costs are rising faster than a chair on a detachable quad. One of the goals of the Eastern Division is to provide course opportunities to Patrollers as close to their home mountain as possible. However this means that Instructors must travel to provide those courses. We have not increased our mileage rate for several years and in order to support our Instructors, the mileage rate should be raised this year. This will be a topic of discussion as a part of this year's budget approval process.

Course enrollment limits have also been a point of discussion with the EDBOD. In the past many programs have set a minimum enrollment limit for a course to occur. As it turns out, this has hurt local programs, especially when instructor ranks have dwindled. The consequence is that key courses people need to become instructors, to maintain their instructor credentials, or to finish Senior electives are not offered due to enrollment that is below the minimum limit. While the minimum limit makes sense from a purely economic standpoint, it does not make sense if programs and our ability to deliver programs to Patrollers suffer, especially when the damage becomes cumulative. This is truly a case of “a stitch in time saves nine.” This will also be a point of discussion at the Spring Officers' Meeting.

As can be noted by a review of the topics presented above, the root issue often relates to expense and the impact on the Eastern Division Budget. Based upon the very hard work of the Eastern Division Finance Committee, our Division Treasurer, and our Program Supervisors, we have a proposed budget for the coming year that has been created by every program examining their expenses, sharpening their pencils, and making a request for “no fat” program budgets for the coming year. Our goal is to continue to improve our programs and increase their rate of delivery to the members of the Eastern Division. Working against us however is the rapidly rising cost of fuel, the rapidly decreasing return on our investments, the slow down of our national economy, the shift of some expenses from the Region to the Division level that came with our reorganization in 2004, and our Finance Committee's very strong recommendation to reach a balanced budget and stop spending from our reserves. We clearly find ourselves at a crossroad with a very important decision to make regarding our dues. Do we hold the line and keep our dues the same as they have been for twenty years, and see our program delivery greatly reduced because we cannot properly support our instructors? Or do we raise our dues, so that we can insure that program and instructor expenses can be paid, but as a result, lose members. Clearly, there is no easy answer. No officer of the Eastern Division takes this issue lightly because there is little question that no Patroller in the Eastern Division wants a dues increase, so much time will be spent discussing this topic at the Spring Officers' Meeting.

Speaking of dues and registration, some Patrollers experienced delays in getting their registration cards this year. It is important to note that all of the registration materials are provided to the Regions in late summer for distribution to Patrols. I highly encourage line officers to process the registration materials as quickly as possible and forward them to Donna McGraw, the Division Administrator, as early as possible so that she can forward them to the National office. The National

*Continued on page 12*

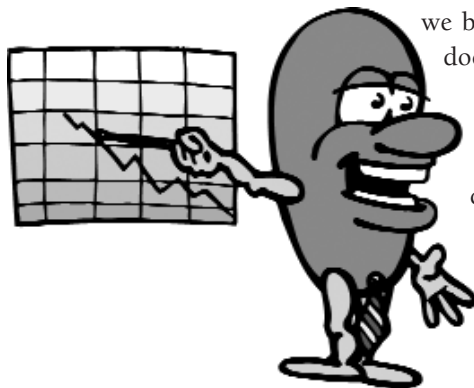
Continued from page 11 - Hamlin

office staff works very hard to process the registrations, but they are new to this task and are hobbled by having to deal with antiquated software.

This report brings me to the end of my second term as your Division Director. Four years ago I never would have believed that so many changes could occur within the NSP in such a relatively short time. We have gone from having very limited input from Patrollers in the selection of Region Directors within the Eastern Division to a one Patroller, one vote process of election. We have gone from having virtually no say in how our National Board is elected to a one Patroller, one vote process for the NBOD election also. We used to share our National Executive Director and staff with another organization, now the new staff works 100% (actually 110%) for just the Patrollers of the NSP. Our National Mission Statement now actually reflects the service that we provide to the public. The quality and the quantity of programs delivered within the Eastern Division have both gone up, and the administrative chain of command within the Regions and Division communicates more regularly than at any time in our history. Terms like respect and trust can be returned to our vocabulary when referring to our National leadership. But of all these changes, the change that I think is most important and marks the milestone of future NSP success is our ability to be proud of our organization once again. Is everything perfect? Heck no. Do we still have a lot of work to do? Absolutely, but I do know

that we can honestly say that we belong to the best outdoor rescue organization in the world, the National Ski Patrol.

Finally, and this can never be said enough, I would like to thank all of our Instructors and Instructor/Trainers for taking time away from their families and careers to deliver outstanding courses to the Patrollers of the Eastern Division. Well done! ❁



## Finance Committee Report

Chris Brodersen, Finance Committee Chair

As many of you are aware by now it was decided at the Spring Officers' Meeting to increase the membership dues from \$10 to \$17. I would like to take this opportunity to outline the reasoning behind the increase. Everyone who voted for the increase was sympathetic to the fact that the vast majority of our members are volunteers who devote countless hours and incur significant personal expense to provide service to the skiing/riding public.

First, I would like to introduce you to the members of the Eastern Division Finance Committee to give you an idea of the professional nature of the group:

Jeff Barcus is the current Treasurer of the Eastern Division, has held numerous positions on non-profit organization boards, holds a BS degree in Accounting from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, has spent 23 years in public accounting and has been a CPA since 1983.

Chris Brodersen is the RD from NJ and Chair of the Finance Committee. He has been a financial professional on Wall Street for over 20 years focusing on financial statement analysis and global micro and macro economics. Chris holds a degree in Finance from the Whitman School of Management at Syracuse University.

Rick Knight is the RD from the Connecticut Region. Rick has owned his own manufacturing business for the past 12 years. Prior to that he was a General Manager for a BFGoodrich unit. Rick started his career in public accounting. He has a degree in Accounting from New England College, an MBA degree from the University of Hartford and is a CPA. Rick has 11 years experience on the finance committee of his local YMCA.

John Tuttle is an assistant RD from CNY. He has spent 33 years in financial services and is both a Wealth Management Advisor providing financial planning to affluent families and president of a company providing retirement and employee benefit plans for business owners and their employees. John has received Masters degrees in Financial Services (MSFS) and Management (MSM) from The American College, Bryn Mawr, PA.

Attorney Henry Williams, Eastern Division Counsel, is a member of the Boards of Directors of several not-for-profit membership corporations and publicly traded stock corporations, former Treasurer of Genesee Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council, former Majority Leader Monroe County Legislature, and member and Deputy Supervisor of the Town of Wheatland, NY (annual budget of over \$2,000,000).

The Finance Committee spent countless hours

Continued on page 13

*Continued from page 12 - Brodersen*

analyzing the finances of the Eastern Division in the year leading up to the decision to raise the dues. Their focus was on the ED's financial history, the outlook for our organization, and the best way to continue the excellent program delivery offered by the Eastern Division to our members.

There were several key issues raised by the Finance Committee in considering the need for a dues increase which are outlined below:

Traditionally most non-profit organizations aim to keep a financial reserve equal to 1-2 times their annual operating expenses to protect against unforeseen expenditures that could threaten their existence. Last year the ED Board of Directors voted to set aside unrestricted reserves of 1.5 times our annual operating expenses. Comparing the current reserve base against the initial proposed budget for the 2008/2009 season our reserves would have been at 1.4 times. Comparing the unrestricted reserves against a proposed budget to include an increase in the mileage rate and a couple of other small adjustments (more about that later) would have brought our reserve number closer to 1.3 times unrestricted reserves.

In the past couple of years the Eastern Division has found itself in the position of deficit spending for program delivery when compared to the revenue base. The difference was made up from investment returns from the reserve base of the Eastern Division. It is the opinion of the Finance Committee that deficit spending should cease. In the face of declining returns from the financial markets and in our investment accounts this year, we would not be financially responsible fiduciaries to continue to make withdrawals to balance the budget.

The mileage rate paid to our members for reimbursement was \$0.20 per mile last year. With gasoline prices at record highs this sum is not enough to cover the cost of gas for most members, let alone wear and tear on their vehicles. The prime responsibility of the Eastern Division is to assure the quality of the educational experience delivered to our members. The volunteers on the Division staff are asked to give countless hours to improve the programs of NSP, but those programs should reimburse those volunteers for their out-of-pocket costs. Therefore the BOD elected to raise the mileage rate paid to \$0.30 per mile increasing the overall budget by \$5,000 assuming the historical trend of 50,000 miles submitted for reimbursement annually. The BOD was mindful of the fact that this may not be enough to cover the cost of gasoline based on current trends and predictions for energy costs.

The projected deficit for the Eastern Division based on the initial draft budget was approximately \$30,000. After accounting for the mileage increase the deficit grew to \$39,000 or \$5.79 per member. The Finance Committee drew attention to

the fact that \$5.79 would cover the deficit all else being equal. In other words, this number could grow with unforeseen increases in costs for program delivery.

During the course of the Finance Committee presentation the question was asked of the BOD, delegates, and members at large: "how many of you have incurred expenses in the course of your duties and not submitted for reimbursement?" Every hand in the room went up which speaks volumes to the dedication of our members. However, the Finance Committee is of the opinion that as the cost of living continues to rise in the face of a weak economy, many of our members who have absorbed expenses in the past will be forced to submit for reimbursement. The primary issue is the inability of the Program Supervisors and Advisors to predict the level of program delivery cost voluntarily borne by the members in the past or how large an increase can be expected in the form of expense reimbursement going forward.

During the review of the historical finances of the ED it was discovered that our organization has not had a dues increase for over 20 years at which time dues were raised from \$5 to \$10 per member. It was calculated that applying a long-term rate of inflation of 3.4% to the \$10 dues beginning in 1988 and compounding to today would result in a dues increase of \$20.30. In other words, while a \$7 dues increase is significant it is still below the rate of inflation and well below the dues paid by members of other similar organizations such as the PSIA.

Beginning in 2004 a number of expenditures, borne by the Regions in the past, were shifted to the Division. At the time of this change there was no increase in the dues. For more information on this subject please check our website for a document entitled "Division versus Region Expense Guidelines" posted last year.

No doubt there are a number of you reading this article right now saying to yourselves "who cares about program delivery?" However, during the course of the 2007/2008 season 36% of our members participated in an Eastern Division educational event in one form or another, up from 27% in the prior two seasons, and this costs money.

Again, let me reiterate my earlier statement that everyone involved in this decision is sympathetic to our members paying dues, volunteering their time, and often making significant sacrifices in the name of service to the public. However, if the ED is to continue serving the membership we need to be financially sound. Given the economic outlook, costs for the ED versus revenues, and the need to stop reducing the unrestricted reserve base, it was deemed by the vast majority of those in attendance at the Spring Officers' Meeting, that a dues increase was warranted. ❁



# AWARDS

## EASTERN DIVISION

<b>ALPINE PATROL</b>	Mt. Southington	CT
<b>ADMINISTRATIVE PATROLLER</b>	Bill DeVarney	EMARI
<b>NORDIC PATROL</b>	Mountain Trails	SNY
<b>PAID PATROLLER</b>	Charles Long	EPA
<b>INSTRUCTOR</b>	Marcia Mundrick	GV
<b>OEC INSTRUCTOR</b>	Chris Fletcher	EMARI
<b>PATROL REPRESENTATIVE</b>	James Dailey	EPA
<b>YOUNG ADULT PATROLLER</b>	Virginia Bruce	CT

### JERRY SHERMAN DIVISION DIRECTOR AWARD

Donna McGraw Division Administrator

### PATROLLERS FOR PATROLLERS AWARD

Bill Gamble Division Webmaster

### WILLIAM J. GROSS MEMEORIAL FIRST AID AWARD

Zach Marlowe EPA

### SIGNIFICANT MONKEY "990" AWARD

Chris Brodersen Finance Committee Chair

### NATIONAL APPOINTMENT

Rick Norton	10568	NJ
Eric Schweitzer	10680	SNY
Richard Boguslaw	10682	SNY
Brian Bishop	10686	SVT
Neil Dixon	10690	EMARI
Scott Swenson	10692	NJ
James "JC" Cowell	10696	NJ
Michael Jarriel	10698	EPA
Mike "FM" Pereira	10700	NJ
Stan Martin	10714	WNY
Kristen Marx	10716	WNY
Denise Kaus	10718	WNY
Tim Goff	10732	WNY
Dave McLallen	10734	WNY
Jennifer Laitala	10738	EMARI
Rusty Martin	10762	CNY
Stewart Gray	10764	CNY
Dave Watson	10776	WMASS

### DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Dave Larrabee	CNY
Burt L. Mitchell	CT
Sam Newman	EPA
Ed McNamara	EMARI
Robert Schwartz	SNY
Alfred Gardner	WMASS
Randy Frye	WNY
Jeff Burgess	WNY
Roland Lunser	WNY
Randy McNeil	WNY
Bill Ronolder	WNY
Al Hohl	WNY

### MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD

Richard R. Knight	CT
Ronald Ellison	CT
Jack Swartz	WNY
Carolyn King	WNY
Bob Spangenberg	WNY

### YELLOW MERIT STAR

Charles W. Boyd	CT
John F. Flynn	CT
Keith Nappi	CT
Mark A. Vining	CT
Tom Everett	ENY
Patricia Burns	SNY
Jeffrey Gilbert	SNY
Richard Parrish	SNY
Molly Bovard	WNY
Bill Lawrence	WNY
Mary Lynn Lulas	WNY
Dick Was	WNY

### PURPLE MERIT STAR

Nina Santini	CT
Mark Ewart	EMARI
Erik Holm	EMARI
Peter Dagg	ENY
Ann Farmer	ENY
Roy Slaunwhite	ENY

Percy Caraballo	NJ
Richard Jakucs	NJ
Ken Marsh	NJ
John Meola	NJ
Mike ("FM") Pereira	NJ
Elizabeth Hermann	WAPP
Gordon Trexler	WAPP
Greg Chapman	WMASS
Steve Draisey	WMASS
Cheri Johnson	WMASS

### BLUE MERIT STAR

Ken Deutschlander	ENY
Ann Hoyt	ENY
Jim Hoyt, Jr	ENY
Jim Hoyt, Sr.	ENY
Garth Learning	ENY
Matt Levinson	ENY
Mike Tarrantelli	ENY
Josh Wirth	ENY
Tim Breen	EMARI
Pete Elleman	EMARI
Matt Faler	EMARI
John Frost	EMARI
Larry Galkowski	EMARI
Scott Hilton	EMARI
Cary LeBlanc	EMARI
Barry Leckonby	WMASS

### PATROLLER CROSS

Alan Levesque	CT
Patrick Holland	CT
Joe Probst	WNY
Dick Grainger	WNY
Curtis Neureuter	WNY

### MEMORIAL FUND SCHOLARSHIP

Kimberly Klauber	CT
Karianne Kopchick	WNY
Luke Rague	GV
Brendan Silkey	EMARI

## Awards

by Bill Boulter, Awards Coordinator

This year has been a good year for the awards program. We are making strides towards a goal I set last year. That goal was more awards. Did we make it? We did not, but we are striving towards the goal nonetheless.

I have been very busy this year with our National Awards Committee. We have met three times by phone and have successfully rewritten Chapter 10 and all the awards forms. We also corrected these forms when we found errors and I

can now say I believe we are done.

We have also changed the Outstanding Awards adding the Outstanding OEC Instructor Award. One of our big accomplishments is the new Memorial Award for patrollers who are killed in the line of duty. I hope we never have to give this award out but I am proud to say it is in place. It is also possible that Eastern Division artwork will be used for this award.

Looking into the future you all know my thoughts on awards and their importance. I have updated my web page three times this year, as requested, and have emailed my Awards Committee three times this year. I also asked my Awards Advisors to contact me so I would know they were receiving the communications I sent. There are 15 members

*Continued on page 15*

## IN MEMORIAM

### ROSEMARY MASLOWSKI O'CONNOR

Rosemary O'Connor, 71, died March 23, 2008, at her home. A native and lifelong resident of West Stockbridge, MA Rosemary was born at the family home on September 11, 1936. She graduated from the former Williams High School in Stockbridge and later from Russell Sage College in Albany, N.Y., with a bachelor of science degree.

Rosemary was a valued member of the Butternut Ski Patrol in Great Barrington, MA. She joined NSP in 1979 and retired after the 2004 season with 26 years of service. In 1992 she was instrumental in the implementation of a Hepatitis vaccination program at the mountain. She was a dedicated first aid, OEC, and CPR/AED instructor. One of the highlights of the patrol room was when Rosemary would arrive with a crockpot filled with her "mustgo" soup. It became a staple of the patrol.

In 2001, Rosemary retired from Fairview Hospital, Great Barrington, MA where she had worked as a registered nurse and charge nurse for many years. An active member of the community, Rosemary was an usher at Tanglewood Music Festival (the summer home of the Boston Symphony Orchestra), a member of the Greenock Country Club, and a communicant of St. Patrick's Church.

A devoted mother and grandmother, she cherished spending time with her family and friends. She leaves two sons, Neil Maslowski of West Stockbridge, MA and Mark Maslowski of Plymouth, MA; and two grandsons, Quinn and Parker Maslowski. ❀

*Laura Tucker  
Editor, Trail Sweep*

### WILLIAM R. MACDOUGALL

William R. MacDougall, a 50-year member of the Catamount Ski Patrol and 40-year member of NSP, passed away at his home in Salisbury, CT on September 27, 2007.

Born on December 4, 1922, Bill attended Dartmouth College, but left after Pearl Harbor to enlist in the military where he became a pilot and flew B-17 "Flying Fortress" bombers at the age of 21. He was soon elevated to the position of squadron leader in the 452nd Bombardment Group, 731st Squadron, where he flew combat missions over Europe.

When radar was first installed in planes he led an elite group called the "Path Finders" but was shot down while on his 43rd mission and became a POW for the remainder of the war until liberated by General Patton's troops. He went on to serve in the Air Force Reserves, retiring as a lieutenant colonel in 1955.

Following the war, Bill became a civilian pilot with American Overseas Airlines, which merged into Pan American World Airlines. He retired as the senior-most captain at Pan Am in 1982.

When he wasn't flying, Bill was an avid outdoor adventurer and explorer. He skied, hiked, camped, and hunted all over the world. He was a member of the Explorer's Club, the Camp Fire Club of America, and Order of the Arctic Adventurers having crossed the Arctic Circle. He held a dog mushers license and was aboard the "Kapitan Khlebnikov" for the first-ever circumnavigation of Greenland.

He skied throughout Europe, Canada, and the United States. However, Catamount was the mountain to which he always came home. As a member of the "greatest generation," the Catamount Ski Patrol is proud to call Bill one of our own and his presence will be greatly missed. ❀

*Fred Harder  
Catamount Ski Patrol, ENY*

### WILLIAM FRENNETTE

William Frennette, a lifelong resident of Tupper Lake, NY died December 20, 2007 at the age of 80. He served in the Marines and attended St. Lawrence University.

Bill had a great love of the outdoors whether he was hiking, skiing, hunting, fishing, or paddling. He was an accomplished skier and outdoorsman.

Bill served as Section Chief for the Lake Placid Section of Central New York during 1965-67 and then as the Eastern Division Mountaineering Advisor from 1967-1975. In later years he inherited the role of Tupper Lake Historian which he carried out with his sense of humor and attention to detail. ❀

*Don Page  
Past Division Director*

*Continued from page 14 - Boulter*

of my committee; 7 of the 15 did not respond. I hope to have better success in the future.

My big project for next season will be to expand my Division web page with a link to an information page I am now developing. I am also working on a new Division Award for the future. Keep an eye on the web for details. The Board last year charged me with better communication with the Division. I will continue to strive towards that goal. ❀



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## NSP Telecom Questionnaire Imminent

*by Dick Woolf, Telecom Advisor*

All patrol directors and patrol representatives will soon be receiving an email from the National office relating to an NSP telecom questionnaire. This questionnaire is designed to obtain information about each patrol's use of telecommunications technology.

The questionnaire is detailed, technical, and contains about 30 questions. Instead of sending the document as a long email to each patrol, the PD/PR is asked to forward the email to the person responsible for the patrol's radio system. The email is actually an invitation...clicking on the link in the email will bring you to the questionnaire site maintained by Zoomerang, NSP's survey provider. They will compile the survey results for NSP.

The person who will be completing the questionnaire should have certain documents available to refer to while answering the questions. The needed reference documents (copies of licenses, etc.) are listed in the invitation email. Please gather the documents before starting on the questionnaire.

If you have questions regarding the questions in the questionnaire, please email me at [rwoolf@xtechsystems.com](mailto:rwoolf@xtechsystems.com), and I will be pleased to respond to your questions. Thank you for your cooperation in this very important project. ❁

## Memorial Fund Scholarships

*by Dave Nelson, Fund Chair*

The Eastern Division is proud to announce the winners of this year's Student Scholarship Awards. Congratulations to all!

The winners and the amounts of the awards are:

- Luke Rague from Swain, GV - \$500
- Karianne Kopchick from Kissing Bridge, WNY - \$500
- Kimberly Klauber from Mohawk Mountain, CT - \$400
- Brendan Silkey from Wachusett Mountain, EMARI - \$400

Since 1978, we have awarded over \$27,000.00 to 71 students. To apply for a scholarship using the new and easier application form, please go to the Eastern Division website and click on the Memorial/Scholarship link. All of the information and the application are there as well as a summary of how the whole program began and how it is funded.

Briefly, as a reminder, when "life happens" and your patrols lose a loved one, you can honor his/her memory with a donation to the Memorial Scholarship Fund which serves as a living, growing entity that forever remembers your loved one by the engraving of his/her name on a plaque displayed at the headquarters of the Eastern Division Patrol of the Year thereby rotating for all to view and admire. ❁

## Happy 70th Birthday NSP



*By Andrew Forster, Titcomb Mountain, ME*

A funny story goes with this picture we took to honor NSP's 70th. While patrolling with a colleague during the Christmas vacation a year ago, a couple of young girls came up to us and asked us if we were the, "Plus Guys." They thought our white crosses were plus signs. Since then, we are now referred to as the "Plus Guys." In honor of NSP's 70th, we decided to do a little NSP math using "Plus Guys." ❁