



Don't Forget the Training

by Jerry Sherman,
Division Director

The day after Christmas and I am getting ready to go to the mountain for only my second day of patrolling. For most of us in the northeast the ski season is off to a slow start and probably will be shorter than average.

We recently surveyed a group of NSP members as part of our G1 restructure effort. We asked if they planned to continue to patrol; 85% said yes and we asked why.

Two of the most frequent responses were camaraderie and personal development. I would bet that the people you are closest to within your patrol or NSP are those that you trained with either as a candidate or as an instructor.

Maybe it was in the senior program or maybe it was on a long grueling advanced mountaineering trip to the top of one of the White Mountains. (I guess that dates me since it's now called Mountain Travel and Rescue.) Maybe it was the annual lift evac drill or CPR refresher at your mountain.

Every time you participate in any type of training you sharpen ski patrolling skills;

"If I had to point to one event that inspired me to get more involved ... it was that training seminar."

either your own or the skills of another student. So even in what is likely to be a short season please take the time to participate in some advanced training. You will find a calendar of region and division sponsored training events in this newsletter.

In 1988 I had the opportunity to take my son, Greg, to the National Junior Training Seminar at Whiteface Mountain. I had been patrolling for 10 years at the time and had finally become a senior; it was a lengthy process for me even without electives. I had attended a few Genesee Valley Section events, mostly meetings and junior competitions. This was my first real exposure to the National Ski Patrol outside of Western New York.

I met and worked with a number of people who are still very active, some are even members of my division staff. If I had to point to one event that inspired me to get more involved and probably led, 12 years later, to my becoming the Eastern Division Director it was that training seminar.

One of the people I met that week at Whiteface was the Division Director Hilbert "Huck" Finn. He served the NSP for 40 years and after leading the Eastern Division he went on to serve as an Assistant National Chairman. Huck inspired many people and worked tirelessly for the NSP. He will be missed.

By the way, I still attend junior seminars even though we now call them student seminars. Maybe I'll meet you at this year's event scheduled at Smugglers' Notch in March. As for my son, look for him on the 2002 Olympic Downhill Course. He is a pro patroller at Snowbasin, Utah.

NSP Board of Directors Election

by Don Page,
Election Coordinator

Nominations were solicited at the spring division officer's meeting and in the last issue of *Trail Sweep*. Nominations were received for Gerit Lewisch of Gardenville, PA, an incumbent, Pamm Ferguson of Rochester, NY, and John Peliciotta of Laurys Station, PA. John Peliciotta declined the nomination.

The national office will distribute ballots in February to those eligible to vote: patrol representatives, section chiefs, and region directors.

Patrol histories and election platforms for the candidates appear in this issue.

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Hunter Day

by Ron Veblauw, Past DD

The 32nd Patroller Recognition Day was held at Hunter Mountain on November 23. Mother Nature again tested the snowmaking ability of the mountain with limited winter temperatures existing only five days prior to our event.

Skiers were undaunted and still showed up even though there were only two trails and one lift available. As the day wore on and the temperatures rose the skiers had to walk to the lift as the snow continued to recede up the slopes. It was estimated that the total of skiing enthusiasts was in the vicinity of 500.



Ron Veblauw accepting this year's donation from Orville Slutsky at Hunter Mountain Day.

Patrollers present numbered 32 and represented 19 ski areas in seven regions. The SNY Region held a raffle with 20 prizes from skis to lift tickets which were secured by Selby Feldman and Betty Striker. The region coffers were enriched by \$775.00 with many of the tickets sold to skiers present that day by Don Page, Past DD; Bob Hamilton, SNY Section Chief; Laura Tucker, *Trail Sweep* Editor; Betty Striker, SNY Fundraising Chair; and many others.

The presentation ceremony at the close of the day included a \$100 check, an annual donation to the division by Richard and Harold Morant. A three-liter bottle of pennies from James Ray of Whitestone, NY, also donated annually, amounted to \$47.61. Ed Berry, ADD, and his wife Sandi graciously counted the loose change!

Hunter Mountain's Ski Hall of Fame welcomed a new recipient – Joe Jove, who has skied at Hunter for 31 years and been instrumental in developing annual ski race events for firefighters. A lieutenant and 30-year veteran of the New York City Fire Department, he was talked into retiring on

July 4, 2000 by his wife, who he met skiing at Hunter. He was with Ladder 11, which lost six firefighters on 9/11.

For the 29th consecutive year, Hunter Mountain will be hosting one of the most unusual ski races to be found anywhere. On Tuesday, January 29, teams of five NYC firefighters dressed in full turn-out gear attempt to navigate through a race course while carrying a 50-foot fire hose. This race is open to any New York City firefighter. Proceeds from this event will be donated to the NY Firefighters Burn Center Foundation.

Then on Wednesday, January 30, it's the East Coast Firefighters' turn. This race is open to any paid or volunteer fire company outside of New York City. The winners of the NYC race have the chance to race in the East Coast Firefighter's Race on Wednesday for the East Coast Championship

The final presentation from Hunter Mountain was a check for \$575 donated to the Eastern Division by Mr. Orville Slutsky. Hunter Mountain provides these funds as their contribution to sponsor our educational programs. Since the event's inception their donation has amounted to well over \$100,000. The two NSP show booths that are used at various shows and events in conjunction with NSAA (National Ski Area Association) were acquired with the help of the funding provided by Hunter Mountain.

TRAIL SWEEP

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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.

Jerry Sherman

Eastern Division Director

Laura Tucker

Editor

Jim Freeman/Barb DeMarco

Production

Editorial Office

23 Narragansett Ave.

Pittsfield, MA 01201

413-499-1795

e-mail: LETLBT@aol.com

S&T Enhancement Events

Telemark Enhancement Seminar

February 9-10
Smugglers' Notch, NVT
Contact: Kirby Van Vleet
19 Amethyst Drive
Queensbury, NY 12804
518-798-3962
Kirbyvv@aol.com

Toboggan Enhancement

February 9
Killington on Superstar and/or Outer Limits
No charge – bring 1 sled for 2 participants
Contact: John Holleran
Box 632
Manchester, VT 05254
802-362-2179

Open to all ED patrollers – first 20 to sign up

Select the events and complete the form on page 16.

Senior S&T T/E Clinics

February 9-10

Waterville Valley
Contact: John Kane
121 Cranberry Drive
Halifax, MA 02338
791-293-5421
jdmk1@aol.com

March 2-3

Elk Mountain
Contact: Bob Bluff
RD #3 Box 1067
Honesdale, PA 18431
717-253-5556
bluff@ptd.net

If you're interested in becoming a Senior S&T Trainer/Evaluator please contact your region S&T advisor for an application.

OEC Announcement

The Education Department is pleased to present our website announcement for the fourth edition Outdoor Emergency Care textbook and support materials.

Please take a moment to access the announcement using the following internet link: http://www.nsp.org/Education/new_oec.asp. This page is now accessible to all on the NSP's website at www.nsp.org under Member Education (Publications) and under What's New.

We encourage you to pass this information on to all members. All of us at the national office are extremely excited at the prospect of offering this outstanding publication.

Leif Eric Borgeson

Assistant Education Director
National Ski Patrol

NOTE: Check out the Certified program on the website: www.nspeast.org/html/certified.htm
All the information you'll ever need to get involved!

Certified & PSPA Events

MARCH 2 OR 3
Certified Precourse
Killington, SVT
Contact: Joe Kulina
860-291-7789

FEBRUARY 6
PSPA Mid-winter First Aid Exam
Wachusett, EMARI
Contact: Dave Walker
978-582-9644
david.r.walker@verizon.com

MARCH 22-24
Certified Annual Exam
Gore Mountain, ENY
Contact: Steve Barnes
603-433-9556
talyxst@aol.com

MARCH 6-7
PSPA Annual Exam
Cannon Mt., NH
1st Aid Wed – S&T Thursday
Contact: Bill Mead
603-823-8591

Is It For You: Instructor Development?

by Marcia Mundrick, ID Supervisor

We are an educational organization. Without instructors, the NSP would be hard-pressed to put patrollers on the hill. Therefore, we need to keep the programs that train instructors viable.

The first step to becoming an instructor is to take the 8-hour Instructor Development course (previously called Phase I). If you are thinking about joining the ranks of instructors, you *need* to take this course. It may only be offered in your region once or twice a year.

So, don't wait! Sign up for it the next time it's offered. It counts as a senior elective, and you'll then be ready to progress to the next part of instructor training whenever you have the desire!

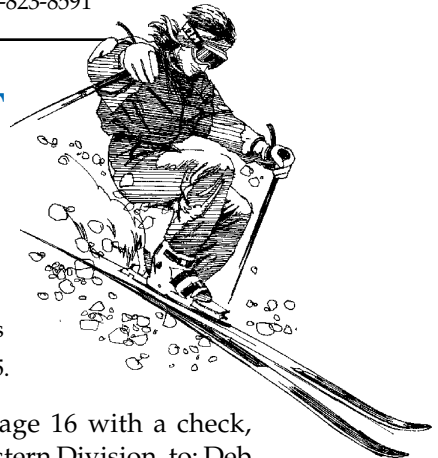
Women's S&T Enhancement Seminar

March 9-10
Sunday River, ME and
Holiday Valley, WNY
Limited to 12 participants

This seminar will cost \$75.

Return the form on page 16 with a check, made payable to NSP Eastern Division, to: Deb Daniels, 413 South Hill Road, Ludlow, VT 05149

Please tell us a little about your patrolling experience including an honest appraisal of your ability and what you would like to gain from this seminar.



Gerit Lewisch



Election Platform

I had the privilege to serve the last year as one of your Eastern Division Board Representatives at the national level.

Since the election was undertaken in an "off year" only one other new member joined the board. The group worked without interruption and could continue with pressing issues waiting to be resolved. As a representative from the Eastern Division I had the fullest

support, respect and advice from my colleagues from Eastern and other divisions of the National Ski Patrol.

My first experience as a board member was attendance at the 2000 Midwinter Meeting. Two major decisions have been made which will have a long-lasting impact on the future of our organization.

- The board will only handle issues of national importance
- The National Ski Patrol will be run like a business

Now we can bring focus to our organization on how we structure NSP to be effective and on how we deliver our product, the programs, to you, the patroller.

The G-1 Committee is working in conjunction with Association Management Inc. to provide the board with guidance on the restructuring of the National Ski Patrol. The board reviews these recommendations and the members will ultimately cast their votes. In effect the board is responsible for our future.

We are a non-profit organization and, as such, are tax-exempt under the statutes of the United States Congress. Nevertheless we have to conduct our affairs in a business-like manner. You, the patrollers, are our most valuable client and if we cannot satisfy your needs, we will lose you and our organization.

The summer meeting in Indianapolis, Indiana was the test of our declarations and the board was able to keep the dynamic spirit and the future direction was decided on. No question, there is a lot of time spent on business, but personal time and contacts created an atmosphere of friendship and mutual respect across the group. I am confident that with the present makeup we are in a position to continue our work as we intended.

The winter meeting of 2002 in Lakewood, Colorado will be an important one. All officers across the Eastern Division were briefed about the work of our G-1 Committee and now the board will have to start to implement the reorganization.

The report clearly shows the shortcomings in our system and points to the need to change. I fully support

these changes and I feel that we have to act now, to finish what we have started.

During my term as a board member, I will make sure that my vote supports you and the National Ski Patrol. I will devote my time to support and further our system. By traveling and making personal contacts in our division I was encouraged to continue the process and to make sure that the necessary changes are made to insure our future.

If you agree with me on the above, you can show your support for my actions and support me by voting and marking the ballot in my favor. If you have any doubts, questions, or concerns, I would like to hear from you. We all have a lot at stake and we must insure the future of our organization.

Thank you very much!

SKI PATROL HISTORY

2000-present	ED Board Representative
1996-2000	ED Awards Coordinator
1991-1997	Pocono Section Chief, EPA Region
1991-1992	Board of Directors Camelback Ski Patrol
1990	Basic Mountaineering
1988	Basic Avalanche
1986-2001	Region Senior S&T Trainer/Evaluator
1998-2001	Region Senior S&T Trainer/Evaluator/IT
1986	Senior Patroller
1985-present	S & T Instructor
1984	Joined NSP - Camelback Ski Patrol, EPA Region

NSP AWARDS/RECOGNITION

2001	Meritorious Service Award
1999	NSP Yellow Merit Star
1997	NSP Yellow Merit Star
1997	Regional Certificate of Appreciation
1995	Regional Certificate of Appreciation
1994	National Appointment # 7940

OTHER SKI RELATED HISTORY

2000-present	President, Alphorn Ski Association (local ski club)
1998-present	Certified PSIA Level II Ski Instructor
1998-2000	Vice President, Alphorn Ski Association
1995-1998	Certified PSIA Level I Ski Instructor
1995-1998	Program Director, Alphorn Ski Association
1985-present	Tour Director and Organizer for European Ski Trip

PROFESSIONAL/BUSINESS HISTORY

1973-present	Owner of the firm Gerit J. Lewisch, AIA Architect and Planner Gardenville, PA
	Building Code Board of Appeals, Plumstead Township, PA
	Historical Architectural Review Board, Chalfont Borough, PA
	Architectural & Environmental Committee Co-chair, Central Bucks Chamber of Commerce, PA

Pamm Ferguson



Election Platform

This past fall I've been fortunate to witness in action one of the cornerstones of the National Ski Patrol – exceptional education programs. From the Risk

Management and Chairlift Evacuation Seminar at Attitash Bear Peak, NH to the S&T Steering Committee Meeting at Killington, VT, to the Bristol Mountain, NY on-the-hill refresher, and all the fall region meetings in between, NSP members in the Eastern Division energetically planned and provided educational programs to meet the needs of fellow members and the snowsport areas they serve.

The anticipated outcome of all the education programs is gaining new and/or sharpened skills. However, we all know there are added benefits such as getting acquainted with other members and gaining new perspectives, which build an unmistakable esprit de corps among us. In light of that thought, it's interesting to note that the strategic planning committee (G-1) reported that about 50% of us count camaraderie and the spirit of volunteerism as reasons to remain members of the NSP. We get a tremendous amount from the education programs and the added benefit of enjoying each other's company in learning and providing rescue care.

Having been involved as an instructor for the past three decades has afforded me the opportunity to learn program content, which then can be shared with other members. But, those times have also provided a chance to get to know many, many patrolers outside of my own local patrol area. Every person I've met has given me a different perspective on the NSP, including the complexity of the organization, the quality of programs being offered, and also the differing priorities from locale to locale. Through the various positions I've held as a patroler and instructor I've gained experiences in, and awareness of, the NSP, which continue to make me a more effective leader.

In addition to being actively involved in NSP programs, I've held staff positions at the local, region and division levels. And you know what I've found? These positions have also been educational. At each level I'm acutely aware of the importance of active communication. I try very hard to be a good listener and to be receptive to new ideas and change. In turn, these behaviors help me to be better informed and a better decision maker on behalf of

the people I represent. At no other time in our 63-year-history has being receptive to change been such an important attribute for a member of the NSP Board.

Working with Division Director Jerry Sherman, and the other assistant division directors this summer and fall, we reached out to every region in the division to communicate the results of the G-1 Committee. The findings were reported and we listened to your thoughts and reactions. By now region directors and patrol directors have had a chance to study the findings and communicate further insights to their board reps. In January your concerns and reactions will be taken by your current board reps to the Midwinter Board Meeting in Lakewood, CO. There, the board will continue to work through the process of strategic planning for an organization of 26,000 members (almost 30% of those residing and serving in the Eastern Division). We members are fortunate that the board had the foresight to choose highly qualified and experienced consultants to help them during this time of organizational review and planning. It's important in such an exercise to have an unbiased voice to keep the process on track.

An age-old saying goes, "nothing endures but change." I encourage you to reflect on Board Rep Bob McLaughlin's thoughts on this when he said, "this is a time of great adjustment and transition in the NSP. As a result, it is also a time of great opportunity. How well we guide this transition will determine what our organization becomes in the future, how its mission will be defined and how others in the ski industry will perceive us. We will also be determining how strong our relationships will be with the ski areas we serve, and even who our future members will be."

In the days ahead, as new plans are rolled out from the NSP Board, all we members need to keep a big picture in mind. In that big picture, I envision the National Ski Patrol as a satisfied, growing, member organization, as the industry leader in providing credentials for rescue services, and as a valued problem solver within the snowsport industry. I truly believe that the talent is there on board to take the NSP to the next level of organizational development. All divisions are represented, all educational programs are represented, and many, many years of patrolling experiences are represented on the NSP Board. They have pledged to be open minded and careful in hearing opinions from all the divisions, to give due consideration, and to

Continued on page 6



Continued from page 5 - Ferguson

try to sensitively understand them. I have the trust in our elected representatives to make good decisions for the future of the NSP. I hope you do too, and will place that same trust in me as you elect me to be your fourth representative.

As people listened to me this fall while traveling to region meetings, they learned that during these past 30 years of patrolling I have also been busy raising a daughter, been employed at the University of Rochester, and served on several community boards of directors. Many of the experiences from those boards have prepared me to represent you on the NSP Board. Of particular interest, I have been the chair and/or on board committees dealing with finance and investments, public relations, strategic planning, and organizational self-assessment. I served on the board of a large hospital and was part of the board reorganization and merger with another hospital. Tradition and change are not always comfortable partners. But with good leadership and trust in those decision makers, progress will be made and traditions will be honored.

Before closing, I would like to publicly thank Ed Berry who has dedicated these past six years to the work of the NSP Board and who has provided Eastern Division with excellent representation. I, like many of you, have watched the Eastern Division Board Reps during these past few years develop a teamwork approach to their work. I am eager to join that team and pledge to do my very best to represent each and every patroller. I will continue my efforts to promote events that maximize education and minimize time away from duty and family. I will continue to travel throughout the Division (my weekends are booked to do just that from now until the beginning of April) to listen to your concerns and constructive ideas for improvements. Please feel free to contact me; you can always reach me by phone (two numbers in the directory) or email.

During the recent holiday season we became especially mindful of events that have changed the lives of those around us, thankful for family and friends and hopeful that the new year would bring peace and goodwill among us all. My best wishes to all of you for a safe and fun ski season!

NATIONAL SKI PATROL HISTORY

2001	Senior S&T T/E
2000-present	Assistant Division Director, Eastern Division
1999-00	Director, Genesee Valley Region
1997-99	Assistant Director, Genesee Valley Region
1997	Alpine Toboggan Instructor
1996	Phase I
1995-99	Award Chairman, Hunt Hollow and liaison to Genesee Valley Region Awards Committee
1995-98	GV Senior S&T T/E Trainee
1990-01	S&T T/E, Hunt Hollow
1985-90	Patrol shift schedule coordinator
1985	Basic Avalanche
1984	Basic Mountaineering
1983-85	Patrol Director, Hunt Hollow
1981-83	Assistant Patrol Director, Hunt Hollow
1978-81	First Aid Advisor, Hunt Hollow
1977-79	Assistant First Aid Advisor, Genesee Valley
1977	Senior First Aid T/E
1977	Hunt Hollow Outstanding Patroller of the Year
1976-85	First Aid T/E, Hunt Hollow
1977	Senior Patroller
1976	Advanced First Aid and Emergency Care Instructor, American Red Cross
1975-79	Assistant Patrol Director, Hunt Hollow
1973-75	Basic Patroller, Hunt Hollow
1972-73	Candidate, Hunt Hollow, Naples, New York

NSP AWARDS/RECOGNITION

2001	Yellow Merit Star
1985	National Appointment #6485

OTHER COMMUNITY AFFILIATIONS

Rochester School for the Deaf

1999-present	Finance Committee
1998-2000	President, Executive Committee
1990-present	Executive Committee
1990-98	Long Range Planning Committee
1988-present	Board of Directors
1988-98	Fund Development Committee
1988-90	Public Relations Committee
1995-98	Finance Committee

Allendale Columbia School

1998-present	Building and Grounds Committee
1997-present	Board of Directors
1997-present	Investment Committee, Chair
1997-98	Long Range Planning Committee

ViaHealth Rochester General Hospital

1999-present	Advisory Council
1998-99	Patient Affairs Subcommittee, Chair
1998-99	Quality Care Committee
1996-98	Finance Committee
1993-97	Liaison to Rochester General Hospital Foundation Gala Committee
1991-98	Executive Committee
1991-96	Strategic Planning Committee, Chair
1988-99	Bylaws Committee
1986-98	Professional Affairs Committee
1985-96	Strategic Planning Committee
1984-87	Patient Affairs Committee
1983-99	Board of Trustees

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

Administrator, Department of Political Science, University of Rochester



S&T Staff Training – Minus Snow!

by Dave Walker, S&T Supervisor

A rainy, wet, warm start to the ski season shouldn't discourage those of you who depend on the snow to tune up your training staffs for the upcoming winter season. If you look at it as an opportunity to do some things that you normally skim over in your haste to get on the slopes, you may be surprised at how creative you can be and use the time spent effectively.

The division ski and toboggan staff meeting was held at Killington on the first weekend of December. Now that we are well into the ski season let me refresh your memory of that weekend. You could have worn shorts, gone to the beach for a picnic, played golf, tennis or done any other early fall activity. Killington was closed. It was the first time Killington had closed at that time of the season...ever! I am not one who is quick to cancel events, so I didn't. The steering committee rolled in Thursday night and Friday morning expecting that we would be skiing on marginal terrain, but it was worse than that.

The Friday before the staff meeting is the day for the steering committee to fine tune the events for the weekend. We knew that our work was cut out for us when we were told that Killington had no plans to open for the weekend. I wasn't worried. Over the past eight years I have come to know the members of this committee and their talents pretty well.

We had a couple of aces up our sleeves because a part of the program needed to be done indoors anyway. We rolled out a new scoring booklet that, coupled with a division-made video, solved a big part of the problem. It is amazing how creative you can be when you are forced into dry-land training with a group that thrives on being outdoors.

When the region advisors and the rest of the staff showed up on Saturday morning most of the conversation centered around what the plans might be for the day. My faith in the people of the steering committee was not unfounded. We split the 50 or so attendees into three groups depending on their function and started the day off with discussions that really have been needed for several years. We gave each of the three groups an opportunity to talk about their programs; who, when, where and how they get rolled out, and discussed any concerns they had.

One of the groups spent the day talking about their responsibilities and how to best roll out programs to their regions while the others spent

the afternoon running toboggans down the driveway of the Killington Pico Motor Inn. When you think about it most of what we do is teach, coach, and work to improve our presentation skills to those who aspire to improve. Snow and terrain is necessary to evaluate the patrollers' understanding of the philosophy of toboggan handling. However, sharing teaching ideas can be done anywhere. Division or region procedures can be reviewed and discussed, problems associated with any programs can be resolved, and it is a great opportunity to share ideas on the "how to" of any program.

My hat is off to the members of the Eastern Division Ski and Toboggan Steering Committee for an outstanding effort on what could otherwise have been a disastrous weekend. The division is fortunate to have such a dedicated and talented group of patrollers working for us to improve on all of the programs included in the ski and toboggan disciplines. The members of the committee are:

<i>Frey Aarnio</i>	<i>Southern Vermont Region</i>
<i>Steve Barnes</i>	<i>New Hampshire Region</i>
<i>Bob Bluff</i>	<i>Eastern Pennsylvania Region</i>
<i>Deb Daniels</i>	<i>Southern Vermont Region</i>
<i>John Kane</i>	<i>Maine and EMARI Regions</i>
<i>Randy McNeil</i>	<i>Western New York Region</i>
<i>Mike Morgan</i>	<i>Genesee Valley Region</i>
<i>Bela Musits</i>	<i>Eastern New York Region</i>
<i>Peter Neefus</i>	<i>Eastern New York Region</i>
<i>Doug Shaw</i>	<i>Northern Vermont Region</i>
<i>Kirby Van Vleet</i>	<i>Eastern New York Region</i>



*Eastern Division Women's Toboggan
Trainers Workshop
Bromley, SVT – January 5-6, 2002*



FEBRUARY 2002

- 6 PSPA Mid-winter First Aid Exam**
Wachusett, EMARI
Dave Walker
508-795-3288
david.r.walker@verizon.com
- 9 Avalanche Awareness**
Eagle Rock, EPA
Rich Hartman
215-576-0914
rchrdrhtmn@aol.com
- 9 Toboggan Enhancement Clinic**
Bristol Mtn., GV
Jim Nickerson
585-654-9821
nickers51@aol.com
- 9-10 Senior S&T T/E Clinic**
Waterville Valley, NH
John Kane
791-293-5421
jdmk1@aol.com
- 9-10 Telemark Enhancement Seminar**
Smugglers' Notch, NVT
Kirby Van Vleet
518-798-3962
KirbyVV@aol.com
- 15 Alumni Day – GV Region**
Hunt Hollow, GV
Sheila Fovel
585-266-7389
sfovel@nixonpeabody.com
- 16-18 Advanced MTR Outdoor Session**
CANCELLED
Mary and Butch MacQueen
716-354-9235
nitrogoldens@yahoo.com
- 17-18 Advanced MTR Outdoor Session**
TBA
Butch and Mary MacQueen
716-354-9235
nitrogoldens@madbbs.com
- 22-24 Advanced MTR**
Canaan Valley, WV
Dave Shaeffer
304-242-3062
saminc@ovnet.com
- 23-24 Level I Avalanche**
Sterling College, VT
Roger Damon
802-748-3630
rogdor@hcr.net

- 2/14 Basic MTR & Level I Avalanche**
Holimont & Peek 'n' Peak,
WNY
Butch and Mary MacQueen
716-354-9235
nitrogoldens@madbbs.com

MARCH 2002

- 2-3 Senior S&T T/E Clinic**
Elk Mountain, EPA
Bob Bluff
717-253-5556
bluff@ptd.net
- 2-3 Level I Avalanche**
Mt. Washington, NH
AMC Reservations
603-466-2727
- 2 or 3 Certified Precourse**
Killington, SVT
Joe Kulina
860-291-7789
- 6-7 PSPA Annual Exam**
Cannon Mt., NH
6th – First Aid, 7th – S&T
Bill Mead
603-823-8591
- 7-10 Level II Avalanche**
Pinkham Notch, NH
Doug Graham
603-763-3469
powderpig@nhvt.net
- 9-10 Women's Seminar**
Sunday River, ME and
Holiday Valley, WNY
Deb Daniels
802-228-5032
dansurva@tds.net
- 15-17 Student Training Seminar**
Smugglers' Notch, NVT
Jerry Hyson
978-464-5939
gerald.hyson@mrc.state.ma.us
- 22-24 Certified Test & Annual Meeting**
Gore Mountain, ENY
Steve Barnes
603-433-9556
Talyxst@aol.com
- 27 Alumni Day – NH Region**
Ragged Mtn., NH
Clay Caddy
603-483-2142

APRIL 2002

- TBD MTR Continuing Education**
TBA
Pete Snyder
570-698-6173
psnyder@ptdprolog.net
- 6 Basic MTR**
Bolton Valley, NVT
Bill Hulstrunk
802-485-5678
bhulstrunk@cvcac.org
- 7 Avalanche Awareness**
Sterling Forest, SNY
Margaret Smith
973-635-7576
smithmeh@juno.com
- 19-21 Division Officers' Meeting**
Desmond Americana, Albany, ENY
Donna McGraw
518-371-4843
DonnaInsp@aol.com

SEPTEMBER 2002

- Annual A/MTR/N Instructors' Meeting**
REMO, Albany, NY
Pete Snyder
570-698-6173
psnyder@ptdprolog.net or
Nick Schiavetti
716-243-5079
redhillwagon@aol.com



EASTERN DIVISION OFFICERS & STAFF DIRECTORY

Division Director

Jerry Sherman, 5641 Poplar Cove,
Honeoye, NY 14471
Res: 716-367-3705, Bus: 716-527-4489,
Fax: 716-231-7666
E-mail: jshernsp@rochester.rr.com

Division Administrator

Donna McGraw, 20 Sleepy Hollow Dr.,
Clifton Park, NY 12065
Res: 518-371-3762, Bus: 518-371-4843,
Fax: 518-371-4157
E-mail: donna1nsp@aol.com

1st Asst. Division Director/Board Rep

Bob McLaughlin, 71 Prospect Street,
Newburyport, MA 01950
Res: 978-463-9240
E-mail: bmclough@mediaone.net

Asst. Division Director

Rick Andriole, 10 Sherman Dr.,
South Deerfield, MA 01373
Res: 413-665-3030, Bus: 413-774-9174,
Fax: 413-772-2394
E-mail: RCA-NSP@mediaone.net

Asst. Division Director

Pamm Ferguson, 125 White Wood Lane,
Rochester, NY 14618
Res: 585-473-1196, Bus: 585-275-5403,
Fax: 585-271-1616
E-mail: pamm.ferguson@rochester.edu

Asst. Division Director

John Pellicciotta, 5450 Ashley Dr.,
Laurys Station, PA 18059
Res: 610-261-9736, Bus: 610-261-0299
E-mail: jpell@fast.net

Asst. Division Director

Jim Smith, 24269 County Route 159,
Watertown, NY 13601
Res: 315-782-3933, Bus: 315-788-3410
E-mail: jtsmith@gisco.net

Board Rep

Ed Berry, 22 Canterbury Hill,
Topsfield, MA 01983
Res: 978-887-6218, Fax: 978-887-5094
E-mail: edberry@mediaone.net

Board Rep

Gerit Lewisch, 6001 Pt. Pleasant Pike,
Doylestown, PA 18901-9301
Res: 215-297-5652, Bus: 215-297-5344,
Fax: 215-297-5345
E-mail: glewisch@geritlewisch.com

ADVISORS

Alumni

Al Pels, 24 Mill Road,
Hancock, NH 03449
Res: 603-525-6688
E-mail: pels@top.monad.net

Avalanche

Nick Schiavetti, 4178 West Lake Road,
Geneseo, NY 14454
Res: 716-243-5079, Bus: 716-245-5127
Fax: 716-245-5434
E-mail: redhillwagon@aol.com

Avalanche Assistant

Butch MacQueen, 1386 Braley Hill Rd.
Frewsburg, NY 14738
Res: 716-354-9235, Bus: 800-367-3889
Email: nitrogoldens@madbbs.com

Awards

Bill Boulter, 203 Williams Street,
Watertown, NY 13601
Res: 315-788-5259, Bus: 315-788-0612
E-mail: tenor1@gisco.net

Certified

Steve Barnes, 76 Summit Avenue,
Portsmouth, NH 03801
Res: 603-433-9556, Bus: 603-433-9055,
Fax: 603-433-6526
E-mail: Talyxst@aol.com

Instructor Development

Marcia Mundrick, 4164 Abbey Road,
Honeoye, NY 14471
Res: 716-229-4313,
E-mail: mmcm@frontiernet.net

Legal Counsel

Robert Scarlett, 201 N. Charles St. #600,
Baltimore, MD 21201
Res: 410-825-1484, Bus: 410-468-3100,
Fax: 410-332-4026
E-mail: Rscarlett@ScarlettCroll.com

Legal Counsel Assistant

Henry Williams, 12 Rochester St.,
Scottsville, NY 14546
Res: 716-889-9786, Bus: 716-889-3000,
Fax: 716-889-3044
E-mail: henry_williams@msn.com

Lift Evac

Doug Holler, P.O. Box 1679,
Graham, NH 03753
Res: 603-863-2768, Bus: 603-795-2143
E-mail: doug.holler@dartmouth.edu

Medical

Jeffrey Lozman, MD, 35 Axbridge Lane,
Delmar, NY 12054
Res: 518-439-8240, Bus: 518-489-2666,
Fax: 518-478-0089
E-mail: lozmannj@aol.com

Memorial Fund

Dave Nelson, 2 Terrace Rd.,
Boonton, NJ 07005
Res: 973-334-6761, Bus: 973-455-4960,
Fax: 973-455-3008
E-mail: David.J.Nelson@Honeywell.com,
djnelson@nac.net

Mountain Travel/Rescue

Pete Snyder, 1632 Lake Ariel Hwy.,
Lake Ariel, PA 18436
Res: 570-698-6173, Fax: 570-698-6053
E-mail: psnyder@ptdprolog.net

MTR Assistant

Mary MacQueen, 1386 Braley Hill Road,
Frewsburg, NY 14738
Res: (716) 354-9235
E-mail: nitrogoldens@yahoo.com

Nordic

Pete Snyder, (Interim) See MTR

OEC Administrative Supervisor

Bill Halsey, 3586 Whistlestop Lane,
Elbridge, NY 13060
Res: 315-689-7335, Fax: 800-776-8470
E-mail: ezsailin@twcny.rr.com

OEC Supervisor

Ed McNamara, 103 Flanagan Hill Road,
Sterling, MA 01564
Res: 978-422-8016
E-mail: emcnamara@cmemsc.org

OEC Supervisor

Paul Tracy, 148 Allwood Rd. Unit 4A,
Clifton, NJ 07014-1616
Res: 973-472-0327

OEC Supervisor

Dennis Zercher, 4035 West Market,
York, PA 17404
Res: 717-792-2121
E-mail: zerden@juno.com

Professional

Bruce Dougherty, Mt. Sunapee Ski Area,
Mt. Sunapee, NH 03772
Res: 603-526-6149, Bus: 603-763-2356,
Fax: 603-763-5989
E-mail: bdougherty@mtsunapee.com

Risk Management

Steve Neal, 214 Rt. 115,
N. Windham, ME 04062
Res: 207-892-5254, Bus: 207-874-8620,
Fax: 207-874-8937
E-mail: SCN@ci.portland.me.us

Ski & Toboggan

Dave Walker, 495 Burrage St.,
Lunenburg, MA 01462
Res: 978-582-9644, Bus: 978-343-8345,
Fax: 978-342-2988
E-mail: david.r.walker@verizon.com

Ski & Toboggan Assistant

Randy McNeil, 11226 Caddie Lane,
Cleveland, OH 44077
Res: 440-352-3204
E-mail: rjm@mcneilindustries.com

Special Olympics Liaison

Dick Violette, 185 Kings Highway,
Hampton, NH 03842
Res: 603-926-5973, Bus: 603-926-4402,
Fax: 603-929-1913
E-mail: dickviolettehamptonnh@rcn.com

Student Patroller

Jerry Hyson, Box 387, 124 Mountain Rd.,
Princeton, MA 01541
Res: 978-464-5939, Bus: 508-754-1757,
Fax: 508-853-3496
E-mail: gerald.hyson@mrc.state.ma.us

Telecommunications

Dick Woolf, 241 Rock Creek Lane,
Scarsdale, NY 10583
Res: 914-472-3456, Bus: 718-543-1222,
Fax: 718-601-1132
E-mail: RWOOLF@XTECHSYSTEMS.COM

TRAIL SWEEP Editor

Laura Tucker, 23 Narragansett Ave.,
Pittsfield, MA 01201-1021
Res: 413-499-1795
E-mail: letlbt@aol.com

Treasurer

Rick Andriole, 10 Sherman Dr., South
Deerfield, MA 01373
Res: 413-665-3030, Bus: 413-772-9174,
Fax: 413-772-2394
E-mail: RCA-NSP@mediaone.net

Webmaster

Bill Gamble, 8 High Gate Trail #5,
Fairport, NY 11450
Res: 716-425-2134
E-mail: wgamble.me65@gtalumni.org

**NOTE: Changes to this directory
are printed in color.**

Use of Sport/Family Radios at Ski Areas

by Dick Woolf, Telecom Advisor

Over the past few years, the use of so-called "sport" or "family" radios by guests at ski areas has grown substantially. The manufacturers of these products have seen that outdoor sports enthusiasts, particularly skiers, represent a market with desirable demographics, and have targeted advertising and promotional activities (e.g. event sponsorship) towards them.

How does the use of these radios impact ski patrols? Let's first discuss the technical parameters of these radios. They operate on 14 channels in the UHF band (460 MHz range), which is different than the VHF 155 MHz band used by the majority of ski patrol radios. Although the FCC has allocated 14 frequencies for this purpose, not all models of radios offered for sale can communicate on all 14 channels. Lower-priced radios often have fewer channels.

The manufacturers have decided on 38 tone squelch codes (aka PL codes) to prevent hearing other users on the same channel. The FCC does not regulate tone squelch coding. Again, not all radios have the 38-tone capability. The very low-tier models have no tone capability at all. The radios use a narrow-band method of transmission, which creates certain technical issues when anyone is trying to communicate with one of them from a professional two-way radio.

Some ski areas have encouraged their guests to contact the ski patrol by radio to report accidents, etc., similar to the road signs one saw during the CB radio days telling motorists that "State Police monitor channel 9." Typically, the ski patrol has one of these family radios at their dispatch location and monitors a given channel. Since these radios were designed for limited range (they only have 1/2-watt output power at most) and they have small antennas for convenience, the ski patrol's ability to monitor for emergency calls throughout the ski area may be difficult.

There was some talk among the manufacturers for an "emergency" button on the radios, one that would automatically take the user to a designated channel (much like the channel 16 button on a marine radio). However, this idea did not garner much support because there were only 14 channels, and designating one for emergency use would leave only 13 for "everyone else." Also the

manufacturers were concerned about liability... what if someone pressed the button and called for help, and no one answered.

One must also consider that many sport radio users do not understand how to operate these radios; to change the channel and/or tone from the default values set when they first turned the unit on. Further, is a risk created if a ski area posts a sign advising guests to call the ski patrol on (for example) channel 9, tone 11 (the radio would display 9-11), and the ski patrol didn't hear the call for help?

Given these issues, if a ski patrol wants to improve its signal coverage for monitoring sport radios, there are some things that can be done.

- Install a UHF narrowband base station (mobile radio) with an outside antenna.
- Have the radio programmed for no-receive tone squelch (carrier squelch only), and transmit tone only on the desired tone.
- Evaluate signal coverage throughout the ski area by using an actual sport radio carried by a patroller, and communicating back and forth with the patrol dispatcher.
- Adjust the base station antenna height and/or location to reduce or resolve coverage problems.
- For larger resorts, remote-controlled base stations, or even special types of repeaters can be used.

If you have further questions on this topic, please let me know.

Training Opportunities Galore!

by Dave Walker, S&T Supervisor

Some of the questions that continue to be asked by patrollers, particularly those who are just getting started are:

- What courses do you recommend to improve skills?
- Do I jump into the senior program?
- Is there a recommended sequence or list of programs that are available?

There are several trains of thought to answer that question especially for those of us who want to promote our own programs. After all, those who do the best marketing job usually get the most attention. The most important question to ask yourself is:

Continued on page 11

Where do your interests lie? What program would best suit where or what you want to improve? The options for a patroller, whether just getting started, or for someone who has been around for a while, are numerous.

If it's skiing skills you are looking to improve there are several options. The Eastern Division holds several ski, snowboard, or telemark enhancement seminars every year that are available to all patrollers regardless of their level. High-level PSIA instructors teach these seminars; either demo team members, examiners, or staff members who are hand picked for each event. These clinics are not cheap for patrollers because of the expense of the clinic plus travel and accommodations but they are well worth it.

Every region in this division is represented by a very talented group of people who have completed their senior ski and toboggan trainer evaluator requirements. These people are versed in all aspects of skiing and tobogganing skills and are a tremendous resource for patrollers. There are no costs associated with some of the clinics they run and a minimal cost for others.

Many regions offer a modified version of an "official" enhancement seminar and hire their own instructors to run a clinic during the season. Check with one of the trainer evaluators in your region or call your region S&T advisor for details about the programs that they run and the availability for patrollers who may, or may not, want to participate in the senior program.

For the cost-conscious patrollers, your home ski school can be a great asset. Most ski schools welcome patrollers into their lessons. Stop by and talk to the ski school director. He or she can direct you to a lesson level that should provide you with a challenge and an opportunity to improve your skills. Another option through your local ski school is their clinics. PSIA instructors are always striving to improve and are required to attend several calibration or improvement clinics given by the local "technical" representative. They usually last an hour or two and give each of the instructors something to work on. It's amazing what buying a cup of coffee, or an adult beverage, for one of your instructors can gain you when you are looking for a one-on-one opportunity to learn some of their newly discovered teaching methods.

When it's toboggan skill training you are after, the senior program is still your best bet. Your

region S&T evaluators are the experts at running sleds. They are a tremendous source of information and practice for anyone aspiring to improve. The senior S&T program will train you and evaluate your performance against the standard, so you will improve your skills.

If the pressure of an evaluation is not your cup of tea try an enhancement seminar. This year every region will have the advantage of a Toboggan Enhancement Seminar. This non-intimidating, no-pressure clinic is great for improving or practicing your skills with some of the best trainers that the division has to offer. Who knows, maybe you are better than you think you are and will get an opportunity to help with the training.

For the women, we have the women's seminar, which is becoming very popular in this division; in fact, it's becoming popular all over the country thanks to the efforts of Deb Daniels and her staff (two invitations to *Powderfall*, so far). At the women's seminar there is a mix of skiing and toboggan stations over the course of the weekend so those who attend can improve their skills in both disciplines.

If the pressure of an evaluation is not your cup of tea try an enhancement seminar.

The Southern Vermont Region is hosting their first "any terrain you would like to try" Toboggan Enhancement Seminar at Killington this year for those of you who have a need for a challenge. Contact Jim Spellman at 802-228-5032 for more information about that clinic. Register soon because this course can only accommodate a limited number of participants.

Toboggan training is much like skiing in that it is important to develop and practice proper methods rather than repeating bad habits. The best way to keep abreast of the proper methods is to attend a clinic held by qualified trainers. Your region's S&T advisor is the key to many informal, worthwhile, and inexpensive clinics that are held close by.

The National Ski Patrol, particularly here in the east, offers a wide variety of high-quality events that have something for everyone. Whether your interests are hiking, avalanche, teaching any discipline, OEC, skiing or toboggan skills the courses are readily available for those who want to get involved. If not for the value of the course content then use it for an opportunity to meet new people with similar interests.

Risky Business

by Steve Neal, Risk Management Advisor

The Eastern Division continues to nurture a working relationship with area management and the National Ski Areas Association. The year 2001 marked the third one that NSP has been invited to join with our ski industry partners as an active participant in the New England Ski Industry Fall Summit and Trade Show.

The summit, held last September at Attitash Bear Peak in New Hampshire, attracted patrollers from all over the northeast who attended workshops and seminars relevant to their role in ski area operations. By design, a number of sessions had a risk management theme. This event was combined with the National Ski Area Association's Fall Workshop series, which toured the United States in September, October, and November.

Michael Grant of the Maine Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) covered the basics of Incident Command Systems (ICS). Mr. Grant did an excellent job relating the ICS process to situations that arise in the day-to-day operation of a ski area. The second half of the ICS session involved a tabletop exercise that had participants using the ICS process to plan for a "special summer event" (a civil war reenactment).

"If we are to have the snowsports industry see us as full partners in the management and operations of the areas and resorts we serve, we need to stay connected to all aspects of our business."

The exercise demonstrated the benefits of using ICS techniques in managing everything from daily operations to a major catastrophic event. It was based on an independent study course available from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Going on-line at www.fema.gov/emi/ishome.htm to review this material is useful, but having a FEMA professional to facilitate the course is the best way to learn how to apply the ICS process to your operations. The plan is to bring this session back at next year's event.

A session titled "When You Are in the Hot Seat...The Litigation Process and You," offered participants a chance to see first-hand how they can impact the outcome of the litigation process. Three NSP members; Kevin McQuillan, from Central Division; Pete Koch, Risk Manager at Sunday

River; and this author developed this session. Participants were led through two different post-incident scenarios, both ending in litigation.

An emphasis was placed on the importance of planning, training and awareness, documentation, and thorough investigation. Role-playing through short, mock depositions demonstrated the pitfalls one can encounter when not properly prepared. This session was one of the NSAA Fall Workshop Series, and was presented at all the NSAA venues across the country.

Another session had Kevin McQuillan, an attorney, squaring off with Mark Seiger, national counsel to Burton Snowboards, in a mock trial. Titled "On Trial...The Terrain Park and Your Resort," this session was an excellent demonstration of the trial process at work. It also provided insight into many of the current "hot issues" involved in daily terrain park operations.

As in past years, lift evacuation sessions were offered at the event. Doug Holler, our lift evac advisor, coordinated an afternoon of interactive lift-side sessions. Participants had an opportunity to compare experiences, equipment and ideas, and explore options for dealing with various problems that arise during a lift evacuation.

The above is just a sample of what you missed if you were unable to attend. Other covered topics included Fall Protection for OSHA Compliance, Terrain Park Issues, Leadership Development, Employee Training & Performance, Grooming Practices, Snowmaking Practices, Insurance Issues, Marketing, and Ski School Programs.

Having events like the New England Ski Industry Fall Summit and Trade Show and NSAA Workshops invite the National Ski Patrol and its members to participate, both as presenters and attendees, is critical. If we are to have the snowsports industry see us as full partners in the management and operations of the areas and resorts we serve, we need to stay connected to all aspects of our business.

Mark your calendars! The 10th Annual Northeast Winter Sports Summit will be held at the Mount Washington Hotel and Resort and is scheduled for September 4-5, 2002. This year's event will again offer great seminars, a trade show, and a chance to network with professionals from varied backgrounds in the snowsports industry. Seven ski associations, 100 exhibitors, and over 400 attendees from more than 50 ski areas make this a "don't miss"

Continued on page 14

REGISTRATION DEADLINE FEBRUARY 24, 2002.

Fill in completely and return with a \$250 check made payable to NSP Eastern Division to:
Jerry Hyson, Box 387, 124 Mountain Road, Princeton, MA 01541

Please type or legibly print all information except for signatures.

2002 STUDENT PATROLLER SEMINAR REGISTRATION

Last _____ First _____

Address _____ Nickname _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____ DOB _____ Age _____

Patrol _____ Region _____ NSP # _____

Advisor/Chaperone (print) _____ Advisor/Chaperone (signature) _____

Attending adult advisor/chaperone must be at least 21 years of age and be endorsed by the student patroller's parent or guardian. No more than 5 students per advisor/chaperone

Parent/Guardian (print) _____ Parent/Guardian (signature) _____

The above named student patroller is a registered member of NSP and approved for the seminar.

Patrol Director (print) _____ Patrol Director (signature) _____

Your status (check all appropriate)

Student Advisor Adult Chaperone Snowboard S&T T/E OEC T/E OEC Instructor Toboggan Instructor

To help us plan ahead please fill in the following:

I plan to: Clinic Compete | Clinic Compete | Clinic Compete
(Skiing, Toboggan, OEC)

I plan to ski Friday Monday

Arrival (date & time) _____

Arrival (date & time) _____

If student patroller is under 18 years of age the following medical authorization must be completed.

MEDICAL AUTHORIZATION FOR MINORS UNDER 18

This authorizes the ski patrol, EMS personnel, a licensed physician, surgeon, or other recognized hospital staff member to carry out emergency medical care deemed necessary for my child/ward in an emergency, when normal permission is unavailable.

Name of Minor _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Parent Work # _____

Physician's Name _____ Physician's # _____

Insurance Company _____ Policy/Plan # _____

Special Emergency Information/Instructions _____

RELEASE AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT - REQUIRED FOR ALL STUDENT PATROLLERS

The undersigned, as a participant, or as a parent or guardian of a minor who is participating in the 2002 Eastern Division Student Training Seminar, in consideration for being allowed to participate in such event, hereby releases the National Ski Patrol System, Inc. and the Eastern Division, Smugglers' Notch Resort and any and all officers, members, volunteers, agents and employees thereof from any and all claims or liabilities of any kind whatsoever arising out of my or such minor's participation in the 2002 Eastern Division Student Training Seminar. I/we further release and waive any rights, causes of action, or claims against said Ski Patrol or Ski Area, and any officers, members, volunteers, agents, and employees thereof which I/we may have arising out of any personal injury, property loss or damage, or any other liability incurred during skiing and related activities of the 2002 Eastern Division Student Training Seminar. As further consideration for being permitted to participate in the 2002 Eastern Division Student Training Seminar, I, or we on behalf of said minor, hereby agree to indemnify and hold harmless the National Ski Patrol System, Inc. and the Eastern Division, Smugglers' Notch Resort and any and all officers, members, volunteers, agents, and employees thereof from all damages, judgments, expenses (including attorney's fees) and costs whatsoever arising out of any claim or demand by the said minor or by persons acting for or on behalf of said minor in respect of the aforesaid injuries or damages.

Participant (print) _____ Participant (signature) _____

Parent/Guardian (print) _____ Parent/Guardian (signature) _____

Date _____ (Required if participant is under the age of 18)



Introducing Butch MacQueen

Assistant Avalanche Supervisor

My NSP membership card says my name is Joseph, but few people even know it and I would never answer to that name...I'm just Butch. I started my NSP career in 1980 as a candidate at Peak n' Mountain Ski Area in Youngsville, PA. That soon became Buckaloons Ski Area. Orphaned in 1983 when that area closed, I transferred to Holiday Valley, Ellicottville, NY then in 1987 I transferred just over the next ridge to ski days instead of nights with the Holimont Ski Patrol.

In 1989 I became a senior patroller, an OEC Instructor in 1996, an Avalanche Instructor in 1998, a MTR Instructor in 1999, and Avalanche IT in 2000. I've been a daily crew chief at Holimont since 1998 and became the editor of the WNY Region newsletter in 2001.

Outside of ski patrol, I am a professional photographer. My favorite photography is wildlife and landscapes, but that doesn't pay the bills so I have a full service studio in Warren, PA, where the majority of the work is portraits and weddings.

Working with young people has always been most enjoyable for me. I am a part-time teacher at a school for gifted students in Warren teaching photography, digital imaging, desktop publishing as well as horticulture, ecology, and biology. As a councilor of several merit badges, I also volunteer with the Boy Scouts of America and was scoutmaster of a troop until 1996. I still try to help with major events in the council as time permits.

The all-time love of my life is raising and showing golden retrievers with my wife, Mary, who also is a member of Holimont Ski Patrol and the Assistant MTR Supervisor. We have also founded Kinzua Search Dogs, a group that specializes in K-9 search and rescue. Other hobbies include skiing (of course) both alpine and nordic, as well as hunting, shooting, camping and archery.



Huck Finn



Continued from page 12 - Neal

event. For more info, contact Greg Sweetser at Ski Maine: Tel: (207) 761-3774; Fax: (207) 879-9483; or on the web at www.skimaine.com.

Summit organizers are always looking for interesting new topics to add to the lineup of presentations. If you would like to put together a presentation of interest to patrollers and other industry personnel, let us know. If you are not interested in presenting, but have a suggestion for topics that should be covered, let us know. Send your interest and comments to: Steve Neal, 216 Tandberg Trail, Windham, ME 04062 or e-mail at posneal@aol.com.

Whether you choose to contribute as a potential presenter, or simply as an attendee, your participation in these types of events is encouraged. It's a great way increase your personal knowledge base, and another way to make the National Ski Patrol and its members an essential component of the snowsports industry.

Hilbert “Huck” Finn

Hilbert (Huck) Finn, 76, of Lenox, MA, died December 16, 2001 at Berkshire Medical Center after being stricken at home.

Known to everyone as “Huck,” Mr. Finn was a veteran member and former officer of the National Ski Patrol, and a familiar figure on Berkshire slopes, most recently at Jiminy Peak, where he was signed on for this year, his 40th as a patroller.

Huck began skiing in 1946 at Snow Ridge, Turin, NY and began his patrol career in 1962 at Blandford Ski Area (formerly the Springfield Ski Club) in the WMASS Region. He was a Senior S&T Examiner from 1964-68. He served as the WMASS Region Director, 1969-73; Assistant Division Director, 1973-81; Division Director, 1981-85; Eastern Division Board Representative, 1985-90; Assistant National Chairman, 1990-96 under Marlen Guell and Jack Mason; and as Special Projects Advisor, 1996-2000.

For promoting a national binding check program Huck received the John J. Clair Ski Safety Award in 1975. He was also the recipient of the Charles Minot “Minnie” Dole Award, two Yellow Merit Stars, and received National Appointment #3160 in 1967.

In 1980 he was named to the alpine ski patrol for the Olympic Games at Lake Placid, N.Y. At 54, he was, by a number of years, the oldest ski patrol member on duty. To join the Olympic Ski patrol, Mr. Finn was required to pass stringent tests to assure those in charge that he would be able to fulfill his duties. But in the minds of those who knew him, there was no doubt that he would be up to whatever tasks arose.

It was 26 years later, at the age of 71, that he was determined to climb Mount Kilimanjaro, a 19,340-foot peak in Africa. With the help of intensive training at Lenox Fitness Center, he made the climb. Interviewed a few months afterward, he commented, “I set a goal, worked toward it and met the challenge.”

He climbed Mount Rainier with his sons, hiked 150 miles of the Appalachian Trail, and was an avid downhill skier, certified scuba diver, marathon runner and fisherman.

In October, Mr. Finn realized another dream by traveling to Nepal, where he climbed Mount Kala Patar, a peak near Mount Everest. He was easily the oldest person in the group. Reaching a height of some 19,000 feet, he photographed Everest, two miles above him, and described the trek as the experience of a lifetime.

He was born in Haddonfield, N.J., on March 31, 1925, son of F. Hilbert and Edna Finn.

During World War II, Mr. Finn enlisted in the Navy at the age of 17 and served from 1942-45 as a pharmacist’s mate on an attack transport in the South Pacific. He was called back to duty during the Korean War, shortly after graduating from Syracuse University in 1950.

Family and friendships were of primary importance to Mr. Finn, and he took pleasure in skiing with his grandchildren and taking care of the younger ones. In addition, he and his wife hosted Robert Yancey of New York City as a New York Herald Tribune Fresh-Air Fund child 36 years ago and maintained a relationship with him that most recently brought Mr. Yancey to Lenox for Thanksgiving.

Huck was a retired insurance agent for Massachusetts Mutual Insurance, a position that brought him and his family to the Berkshires in 1965.

As a volunteer, he was active on many Berkshire fronts. An environmentalist, he was involved in the original project that created Canoe Meadows Wildlife Sanctuary in Pittsfield and served on its advisory committee.

At various times, he served as chairman of fund raising for the Business Friends of Tanglewood, as president of the Center for Berkshire Families and Children, as president of Berkshire County Life Underwriters, as vice chairman of the Berkshire Scenic Railway trustees, as president of the Lenox Library board of managers and as a member of the board of the Berkshire Visitors Bureau.

Mr. Finn is survived by his wife of 50 years, the former Charlotte Ruth Allen. The couple was married Sept. 22, 1951.

He also leaves a daughter, Barbara Karen Finn of Charlottesville, Va.; two sons, Peter A. Finn of Sheffield and Bruce R. Finn of Silver Spring, Md., and five grandchildren. Besides his wife, daughter and sons, he leaves his daughter-in-law, Nancy Finn; his son-in-law, Richard Hewitt, and his beloved grandchildren, Jaime, Cassandra, Logan, Mitchell and Haley. Donations may be made to the Lenox Library, 18 Main St., Lenox, MA 01240.

A memorial service for Huck Finn was held on Saturday, January 5 followed by a reception at the Lenox Club. Approximately 300 people, including a balcony full of National Ski Patrol colleagues, attended the service celebrating his life.



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Program Registration Form

Return this form with a check for the correct amount, **payable to NSP Eastern Division**—unless directed otherwise—to the contact person of the event you plan to attend. Make a separate copy of this form for each program.

Last _____ First _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____ Fax _____

Patrol _____ Region _____ NSP # _____

Status: Candidate Patroller Toboggan Instructor Senior Senior T/E
 Certified Candidate Certified Other _____

I would like to register for:

2002 Level II Avalanche Course, Pinkham Notch, NH, March 7-10, 2002
For this seminar complete the above information and send to Doug Graham, 406 Edgemont Rd., Sunapee, NH 03782-2105, powderpig@nhvt.net by February 1, 2002

2002 Women's S&T Events
() March 9-10, Sunday River, ME, @ \$75
() March 9-10, Holiday Valley, WNY, @ \$75

On a separate sheet of paper please tell us a little about your patrolling experience including an honest appraisal of your ability and what you would like to gain from these seminars.

For this seminar complete the above information and send to Deb Daniels, 413 South Hill Road, Ludlow, VT 05149, Dansurva@tds.net

2001/2002 S&T Enhancement Events
() February 9-10, Telemark Enhancement Seminar, Smugglers' Notch, NVT, @ \$75
() February 9, Toboggan Enhancement, Killington, SVT, Free

For these complete the above information and send to the appropriate contact name listed on pg. 3