

# TRAIL SWEEP



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE  
EASTERN DIVISION OF THE  
NATIONAL SKI PATROL

Vol. 52, No. 2

WINTER '09 / '10

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## We've Got Trouble

by Rick Hamlin, Division Director

In the immortal words of Professor Harold Hill, "we've got trouble"... "trouble with a capital T" kind of trouble. The NSP has survived many threats to our existence, but this may be the one thing that finally does us in.

It is not a financial problem.

Although the NSP is a bit challenged in the money department, some very talented folks are working on that issue. Kudos to Norris Woody and his Fund Raising Committee for looking outside our membership to raise funds at the national level.

It is not the management of our organization. The long needed software update has proved to be a herculean task, but our Executive Director Tim White and his staff have pulled out all the stops and are working seven days a week to bring us into the 21st century with our management software. If you have an occasion to talk to the staff in Denver, please be sure to thank them for their efforts, they really are working very hard for us.

No, the threat to our organization is much more pervasive than anything

that might be happening at the national level. It permeates deeply into all levels within the NSP and is happening within almost every Patrol. I have had the opportunity to attend many refreshers this fall and I have seen the evidence with my very own eyes. In fact, I don't even need to travel to see the evidence of this threat to the NSP. Sometimes problems are clearly visible, black and white, so to speak. The problem confronts me every time I look in the mirror. This problem is grey, and odds are it is a problem that confronts you also.

The average age of Patrollers is now north of 50 years of age (call me average) and the data indicates that the average age is increasing. I don't know about you, but the thought of a full day of hauling sleds, moving tower pads, shoveling decks, and all of the other tasks that we do as Patrollers with a crew of 50 plus year-olds is a little unsettling.

But forget the heavy lifting concerns for a moment. The real issue is that in order for our organization to survive we have to attract new members to replace those that retire. More importantly, each

of us needs to repay the debt that we owe to the people who trained us, by training the next generation of Patrollers. The good news is that you can do something about this serious problem and the solution is easy...recruit a new Patroller.

It's not that hard to do. The National Ski Patrol is an organization that has a great reputation with the outdoor community. Notwithstanding shoveling decks, much of what we do is enjoyable, heck, even downright fun. We get to ski. We get to hang out with some really outstanding folks. We get to help people that need our help. Name another job where everyone wants to be there so much they are willing to do it for no pay. We get trained to save lives! On top of all of this, people like us. People want to join us. All we have to do is let them know that we want them to join and welcome them. It really is that simple.

Think you need some practice? Start with your family members. Talk to your children, encourage them to join. They're already members? Make contact

*Continued on page 2*

with the skiing public. When you head to the lift with your Patrol crew, split up, ride with the public, talk to them, recruit them. Invite the Girl Scouts to spend a day with your Patrol. Go to the terrain park. Don't just stand on the side of the trail and shake your head as the younger set gets big air. Hang out, make friends with the park ranger, learn the names of the regulars and recruit them. You get the idea. Let's make this season the season of recruitment and see what we can do to un-gray the NSP.

## Winter Sciences & Survival Seminar

The Eastern Division and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineer's Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory (CRREL) will be hosting another excellent annual Winter Sciences and Survival Seminar on Saturday, March 27, 2010. Located at 72 Lyme Road, Hanover, NH, their website is <http://www.crrel.usace.army.mil/crrel/contactus.html>.

Nick Collins from CRREL is lining up another round of superb speakers and outstanding demonstrations for this seminar. NSP members will pay a \$50 registration fee which will cover the continental breakfast, lunch, Saturday's dinner banquet, and other administrative expenses. It is \$75 for non-members. The registration form and check must be received by March 13 to avoid a \$10 late fee. All walk-ins on the day of the seminar will be charged an additional "really late fee" for a total of \$70 for NSP members and \$95 for non-members, so please get your registration in early and keep that extra money in your pocket.

If you are interested or involved in avalanche, mountaineering, or Nordic rescue or are just an enthusiast for cold, wet stuff don't miss out on this extraordinary event. You'll learn new aspects of winter science and survival.

A block of rooms is being held for participants at the picturesque Coolidge Hotel, 39 South Main Street, White River Junction, VT but you will have to make your own reservations. It is only seven miles from the Lab. We will hold our usual dinner and banquet there on Saturday night. We are also planning on a day of on-snow experiential learning at Killington Resort on Sunday, March 28 to fine tune the profound knowledge gathered from the erudite dissertations on the day before. Killington is a mere 35 miles from White River Junction.

To join in on this unique winter extravaganza, please email Scott Campbell at [scott.alan.campbell@us.army.mil](mailto:scott.alan.campbell@us.army.mil) to get a registration packet, or call him with any questions at 703-681-9426 (office) or 703-241-2640 (home). Please put "NSP CRREL Seminar" on the subject line of the email so the incoming emails can be better sorted out.

Remember, to avoid late registration fees please mail your registration form and check by March 13 to Scott Campbell, 3537 Devon Drive, Falls Church, VA 22042-4027. We hope to see you at CRREL!



## Your Last Trail Sweep?

by Al Pels, Alumni Coordinator

If you did not register for 2010, you will be deleted from the National computer and will no longer receive NSP publications. Join the Alumni for \$27.00 and keep your ties with NSP. Early next year the National Office will send you an application or join now by printing an application from the web page at <http://www.nspeast.org/html/alumni.htm>. Send the completed application and your check for \$27 made out to the National Ski Patrol to: Al Pels, 24 Mill Rd., Hancock, NH 03449.

You will be added to your Region's Alumni Roster. Contact your Region Alumni Advisor who can answer any questions and update you on the latest Region Alumni activities. Or you can contact me at [pels.hancock@gmail.com](mailto:pels.hancock@gmail.com).

Remember that \$10 of your Alumni dues is returned to the Eastern Division and distributed to the Regions, the Young Adult Patroller Program, and the Memorial Fund.

## Call for Candidates for Eastern Division Director

Eastern Division seeks a dynamic, committed, energetic patroller to fill the position of Eastern Division Director. Persons interested in being candidates for this position are asked to submit their names to the Eastern Division Nomination and Election Chair Don Weaver at:

253 Braxmar Road, Tonawanda, NY 14150

716 837 1039 (home)

716 479 1167 (cell)

E-mail: [dweaverb2@juno.com](mailto:dweaverb2@juno.com)

### ELECTION PROCESS

The election of the Division Director is to take place at the Spring Officers Meeting 2010. The Eastern Division Director is elected by the Board of Directors (the fifteen Region Directors) and the Division Director in case of a tie.

ED Bylaws Article 6.1

### ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR DIVISION DIRECTOR

- A. Active Registered Patroller in the Eastern Division
- B. Have a minimum of five seasons of patrolling experience [note: the local candidate year is excluded from counting as a season of patrolling].
- C. Must have achieved Senior Alpine, Senior Nordic or Certified Status. Auxiliary Patrollers are qualified if they have met the requirements described above at some point in their patrol career.



*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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Laura Tucker/Editor

Jim Freeman & Barb DeMarco/Production

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*[https://www.nsp.org/nsp2002/member\\_services\\_template.asp](https://www.nsp.org/nsp2002/member_services_template.asp) to change your record.*

- D. All of the above must be met on the day that a candidate announces his or her candidacy.

ED Bylaws Article 6.1

### DIVISION DIRECTOR DUTIES

The Division Director shall preside at all meetings of the Board of Directors and shall have responsibility for the day-to-day activities of the organization. The Division Director shall perform all duties described in the published regulations of NSP and all other duties incident of such office and such other duties as may, from time to time, be assigned by the Board of Directors. The Division Director shall propose members of the standing committees of the Board for each calendar year subject to ratification by the Board of Directors.

The Division Director shall be responsible for overseeing the following non-inclusive duties:

- A. Follow the objectives of the Board of Directors;
- B. Make regular contact with the Board of Directors;
- C. Report decisions made to the Board of Directors;
- D. Manage support services such as Awards, Memorial Fund, Website, and so forth;
- E. Act as liaison with the National office;
- F. Act as liaison with Program Supervisors;
- G. Distribution of the Division calendar of events;
- H. Appoint Special Committees; and,
- I. Distribution of the proposed Annual Budget and any proposed By-law amendments at least ten days prior to the Annual Meeting.
- J. Ensure that New York State, Department of State Division of Corporations contact information is kept current with the new Division Director's Name.

ED Bylaws Article 6.2,3

## Use of Coban™ or Coflex®

*by Scott Rockefeller*



In the last issue of *Trail Sweep* an article outlined the use of Coban™ or Coflex® as a quick sling and swathe. The use of this material has not been approved by NSP as it could compromise blood flow. For

slings and swathe the published method is cravats. In the same context Coban™ or Coflex® should not be used for bandaging or splinting applications.

Please refer to the 4th edition of OEC or your local protocols for any treatment methods.

## Focus on Nordic

by Greg Banner, Supervisor

"The Nordic program was rolled into the new Transportation program in the mid-90's in what was defined as a cost-saving measure. As a part of Transportation, the Nordic program has suffered from neglect and inattention.

"Nordic activities are a growing part of winter sports with new venues opening and special events occurring in many of our divisions. Nordic patrols are also becoming resources for local search and rescue operations and patrollers need the special training for extended backcountry activities and emergency care techniques."

The above is part of a presentation being made to the National Board, by the Intermountain Division, bringing national attention on the expanding area of Nordic patrols.

Revisions to the Nordic Manual including greater focus on backcountry, updates on equipment, out-of-area medical techniques, and the addition of the Nordic Master Pilot as part of the National Nordic Program are part of a new look at NSP Nordic.

On the division level, Rick Shandler, of the EPA Region, will be working as Assistant Nordic Supervisor. Rick is a Nordic Senior who is an MTR and Level II Avalanche Instructor. He is currently participating in the Nordic Master Program.

Congratulations to Chuck Boyd and Steve Devine for being the first patrollers to complete all areas of the Master Nordic program.

The WNY Region will be holding a Senior Nordic Evaluation on February 27. If you're a Nordic Patroller and interested in attending as a candidate or as an observer, contact Butch MacQueen for more information.

If you are a Senior Nordic who wishes to attend as a Senior Evaluator, please contact Greg France or Rick Shandler.

"The Nordic program plays an important part in the fulfillment of our National Charter in providing training and services to the winter sports enthusiast. A strong Nordic program will result in opportunities for NSP to reach into new markets, attract new members, and provide service and support to many public agencies that serve national parks and other backcountry areas."



## Treasurer's Report

by Alex Edwards



It has been a busy first five months as your Treasurer. With the help of the finance committee the investment and expense reimbursement policies were updated and formally adopted at the Fall Officers Meeting held September 13th. The new policies have been posted on the Division website.

On a positive note the Division investment portfolio has rebounded from its February low. The balance has increased from \$147,752 to \$227,156. Net of new money of \$20,000 the gain was \$59,404 or roughly 40%.

The work of consolidating the 170 patrols, 15 regions, and the Division finances has been completed for preparation of the IRS form 990 which will be filed shortly. Thanks go out to all the patrol and region treasurers whose efforts make this possible. Consolidated revenues for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2009 were \$1,043,561 and expenditures were \$907,393. Consolidated assets totaled \$1,354,374 composed primarily of cash in bank of \$1,178,482. A copy of the 990 will be posted on the member side of the Division website for your review.



Pictured left to right: Phil Galka, Greg France, Burt Mitchell, Chuck Boyd, Pete Snyder, Butch MacQueen

# Master Nordic Certifications

by Greg France, Nordic Supervisor

The Avalanche, Mountain Travel & Rescue and Nordic Supervisors are pleased to announce that the Eastern Division has awarded the first Master Nordic Certifications.

The patrollers who completed all the requirements for Master Nordic Certification are Chuck Boyd and Steve Devine, both of whom are Senior Alpine and Senior Nordic Patrollers. They have concluded two seasons of advanced work in the disciplines of Avalanche, Mountain Travel & Rescue and Nordic Skiing.

Chuck Boyd is a patroller with Ski Sundown Alpine and Nutmeg Nordic in the CT Region. Chuck is an accomplished mountaineer and climber. He has been a member of expeditions to Everest and K2. An instructor in all three disciplines and an IT in both Avalanche and Nordic S&T he currently serves as Assistant Avalanche Supervisor for the Eastern Division.

Steve Devine is also an instructor in all three disciplines and is an IT in Nordic and Alpine S&T. He is a certified Dive Master and has completed the Vasaloppet, (90k ski marathon) in Sweden. A driving force in the development of the NJ Region's Bike Patrol he also leads a NJ Region Search & Rescue Team working in coordination with New Jersey's NSAR Team.

The Division has also awarded Honorary Appointments of Nordic Master to Pete Snyder and Butch MacQueen for their contribution in the development of the Master's Program and their exceptional contribution to the Nordic, MTR and Avalanche Programs through the years.

Master Nordic Certification requires a patroller to work independently, at an advanced level, in the disciplines of Nordic Skiing, Mountaineering & Avalanche.

Information regarding the Master Nordic Program can be found at <http://www.nspeast.org/html/amn.htm>.



Left to right: Phil Galka, Dave Nelson, Steve Devine, Greg France

## AWARDS

### NATIONAL OUTSTANDING ALPINE PATROLLER OF THE YEAR

Joe Menichino GV

### WILLIAM J GROSS FIRST AID MEMORIAL AWARD

Percy Carballo NJ

### NATIONAL APPOINTMENT

Dennis Nealon	10950	ENY
Dave Benoit	10974	WMASS
Paul Descoteau	10976	WMASS
Deborah Nechay-Hoer	10988	NJ

### LEADERSHIP COMMENDATION APPOINTMENT

Cynthia Taylor 8417 WNY

### DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Charles Caldwell	WMASS
Raymond Gaynor	WMASS
Trish Watson	WMASS

### MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD

Kim Terwilliger	SNY
Bob Snoby	WAPP
Ken Schweinsburg	WAPP
Keith Pomeroy	WMASS

### PURPLE MERIT STAR

Joe Connelly	ENY
Virginia Hoyt	ENY
Frank Reidy	ENY
Linda Clifford	WMASS

### BLUE MERIT STAR

John Carbone	ENY
Christopher Dagger	ENY
Ellen Dubois	ENY
Thomas Dubois	ENY
Tom Everett	ENY
Grant Fullman	ENY
Katja Kellett	ENY
Gary Marchuk	ENY
Thomas Ordway	ENY
Paul Skudder, Jr.	ENY
Rick Martel	WMASS

### YELLOW MERIT STAR

Derrick Holt	WMASS
Scott Latvalla	WMASS
Mark Piacenti	WMASS
Bill Smith	WAPP

### PATROLLERS CROSS

Ray Schwartz WMASS

### PATRIOT STAR

Dick Barron	WAPP
Bill Marx	WNY



## Certified 2009 - 2010

by Dave Walker, Supervisor

This year's annual Certified Exam and Meeting will be held in Vermont at Sugarbush South, a change from the original plan. Sugarbush offers two mountains of great skiing and will challenge every level. A very interesting interconnecting lift makes it easy to travel from Sugarbush South to the former Glen Ellen. Plans are being made for housing and will appear on the division website or via email to members and candidates shortly. Curious about the program? Come up and join us!!

For all of you aspiring Certified patrollers, onlookers, and candidates, the Certified program will be offering several "Introduction to Certified" program clinics across the division. Pre-registration is required at the email addresses shown below. Please don't make the mistake of showing up without letting us know that you are coming. Every event we run requires pre-registration.

Precourses require prior approval before attending.

Applications for the Certified program can be submitted any time of year (actually, the sooner the better). The application can be found on the Eastern Division website: <http://www.nspeast.org/images/certapplic.pdf>. You can download, complete the application, and email to Credentials Committee Chair Karl Johnson at [johnson.building@verizon.net](mailto:johnson.building@verizon.net). Be careful, the deadline for applications is 30 days before the exam. Submissions have to be made by February 25 to be considered. There is a program guide available on the same site that describes each part of the program. Caution: The avalanche module has changed. Information about the changes is in the program guide on the website. (Note: The bylaws have not been updated to indicate changes). For first hand information on the changes contact Bob Bluff at [bluff@ptd.net](mailto:bluff@ptd.net)

Training for the program starts whenever you are ready. Just email me at [cert372@yahoo.com](mailto:cert372@yahoo.com) and I will direct you to someone who can help get you started. Remember, everyone is welcome to come to the exam, but you must preregister at [certifiedpatrol@yahoo.com](mailto:certifiedpatrol@yahoo.com).

## 2010 Certified & PSPA Schedules

DATE	LOCATION	EVENT/CONTACT
Sat. 1/9/2010	Bristol Mountain	Intro to Certified, Jeff Baker, <a href="mailto:jeff@timberdesigns.net">jeff@timberdesigns.net</a>
Thurs. 1/21/2010	Sunday River	Intro to Certified/Precourse, Dave Walker, <a href="mailto:cert372@yahoo.com">cert372@yahoo.com</a>
Fri. 1/22/2010	Hunter Mountain	Certified S&T Training & Precourse, Justin Guth,
Sat./Sun. 1/23-24/2010	Elk Mountain	Intro to Certified** Bill Jordan, <a href="mailto:cert169@comcast.net">cert169@comcast.net</a>
Sat./Sun. 1/23-24/2010	Windham	Intro to Certified** Brant Maley, <a href="mailto:skipatrol@comcast.net">skipatrol@comcast.net</a>
Sun. 1/31/2010	Killington	Certified Precourse, Dave Walker, <a href="mailto:Cert372@yahoo.com">Cert372@yahoo.com</a>
Thurs.-Sun. Mar. 25-28	Sugarbush	Annual Exam & Meeting, Sarah Keating, <a href="mailto:sarah.keating@keystone.edu">sarah.keating@keystone.edu</a> Laura Tucker, <a href="mailto:muthrtuckr@yahoo">muthrtuckr@yahoo</a>
Weds. 1/13/2010	Sugarloaf	PSPA Precourse
Sun. 1/24/2010	Cannon	PSPA Precourse
Weds. 1/27/2010	Sugarbush	Precourse
Weds. 3/3/2010	Whiteface	PSPA Annual S&T Exam
Thurs. 3/4/2010	Whiteface	PSPA Annual OEC Exam

The contact for all PSPA events is:  
Marc Abend ([Marc@pspa.org](mailto:Marc@pspa.org))

### \*\* IMPORTANT NOTE:

Register for the Patroller School and Intro to Certified at Elk Mountain online at: <http://www.eventbrite.com/event/428705269>.

Register for the Windham Patroller School and Intro to Certified online at <http://patrollerschoolwindham2010.eventbrite.com>.



## Avalanche... It's That Time of Year

by Chuck Boyd, Assistant Supervisor

We are starting to get ready for this winter season and you may be thinking about heading out into the backcountry or taking that ski trip out west. Maybe you're planning on becoming a senior patroller and need to take an elective. How about thinking about taking an Avalanche course following the new guidelines set forth by the National Avalanche Program Director and the American Avalanche Association.

This year we will run three Level I courses using the new three-day format that was initiated last season, with huge success. Ask any of the students who attended. The courses start on Friday morning and run through Sunday with 60 % of the time spent in the field. You need to be fit and have good ski skills because these courses require you to travel into avalanche terrain which is plus 25 degrees or black diamond terrain at most ski areas.

We have three courses available this year: the first course is scheduled for February 5-7 at Smugglers' Notch, VT, the second one is at Pinkum Notch and Tuckerman Ravine, NH March 12-14, and the third is at Whiteface Mountain, NY in the "Slides," on March 19-21. Next year we will be offering our Level II course again, so you need to complete your Level I course this year as the prerequisite for the Level II course in 2011. Come learn from our experienced staff of avalanche instructors who have attended the National Avalanche School, work in avalanche terrain, and climb and ski mountains all over the world. Maybe you can get Chuck to tell you some stories about avalanches on Mount Everest and K2?

The Avalanche Fundamentals and Rescue course no longer exists, so it is no longer a prerequisite for the Level II course. We will still be offering a one day Introduction to Avalanche Safety and Rescue course. It is a senior elective and contains much of the same material as a Level I course, but without the field time. We are experimenting this year with a new idea for people who cannot get the extra day for the three day Level I course. If you take the Intro to Avalanche Safety and Rescue, you can sign-up for two days of field work to complete the Level I requirement if space is available in the Level I course. The first of these courses will be held at the Mountainfest in Keene Valley, NY on the MLK weekend of January 15, 16, and 17. We are encouraging those students to sign-up for the two days at the Whiteface Level I in March. Check the division calendar for all the dates and who to contact for registration.

Come join us and learn about the snow you ski on and the danger it sometime poses. With many ski areas now opening their boundaries, the conditions that exist on the other side of that fence are way different from what you ski on inbounds.

### AVALANCHE LEVEL I COURSE

WHITEFACE MOUNTAIN, NY

MARCH 19-21, 2010

REGISTRATION CLOSES FEBRUARY 19, 2010

*Pre-requisites taken within the last three years for Level II:*

Introduction to Avalanche Safety and Rescue

AND

Level I Mountain Travel & Rescue

*Cost of course:* NSP members-\$200 Non-members-\$250

Please neatly complete the form below and return it with your check payable to Chuck Boyd.

### REGISTRATION FORM

*Mail to:*

**CHUCK BOYD, 1 DAVENTRY HILL LA., SUFFIELD, CT 06078-1964**

*by JANUARY 5, 2010*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (home) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (work) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Patrol \_\_\_\_\_ Region \_\_\_\_\_ NSP# \_\_\_\_\_

Check off your selection to Intro to Avalanche Safety and Rescue:

Jan. 15-17 - Mountainfest, Keene Valley, NY

Check off your selections for Avalanche Level I:

Feb. 5-7 - Smugglers' Notch, VT

Mar. 12-14 - Pinkum Notch/Tuckerman Ravine, NH

Mar. 19-21 - Whiteface Mountain, NY

*Registration is not considered complete unless accompanied by your check made out to Chuck Boyd.*

For a complete calendar for this year's Avalanche Program, go to the Division Website Calendar. There is a link in the right hand column to a PDF that you can print out.

**GREAT NEW MERCHANDISE  
AVAILABLE AT:**

<http://www.nspeast.org/html/merchandise.htm>





Whatever your patroller level come join in on the fun!

Many Eastern Division Patroller Schools are scheduled for this season. These two-day programs, available to all patrollers in the Eastern Division, will feature several venues designed to meet the needs of the individual patrollers. All of the venues count as a Senior Elective or for National Continuing Education. Please see specific patroller schools listed here for dates, locations and the venues.

### VENUE 1 – TRADITIONAL FORMAT

The weekend consists of one day skiing/boarding with a PSIA Instructor and one day with an NSP Alpine Toboggan Instructor. This is for the candidate, auxiliary, or basic patroller. Instruction will be individualized for alpine, telemark, and snowboard. Regardless of the type of equipment you prefer, the emphasis is on a fun, stress-free learning environment.

### VENUE 2 – SENIOR FORMAT

This will be for patrollers taking the Senior S&T exam. We will show the senior candidate the “whole test” in a positive non-testing environment. Patrollers will receive individual feedback about their strengths and the areas in which they may need a little extra help. This clinic meets Senior Clinic requirements that need to be taken prior to the Senior Exam.

### SUNDAY RIVER, ME - JANUARY 21-23, THURSDAY-SATURDAY

#### Venues include:

- Traditional Patroller School for Alpine, Snowboard and Telemark
- S&T Clinic (Friday and Saturday)
- Senior S&T Candidate Clinic (Friday and Saturday)
- Senior S&T T/E Candidate Clinic (Friday and Saturday)
- Intro to Certified (Thursday Only)
- Certified Precourse (Thursday Only)

**Program Fee:** \$35.00 per day

**Contact:** Jim Wackell, jimiski@hotmail.com

### ELK MOUNTAIN, PA - JANUARY 23-24

#### Venues include:

- Traditional Patroller School for Alpine, Snowboard or Telemark
- Alpine Toboggan Instructor Clinic
- Senior S&T Candidate Clinic
- Senior S&T T/E Candidate Clinic
- Intro to Certified Program

**Program Fee:** \$60.00

**Contact:** Bill Jordan, cert169@adelphia.net.

For simple, convenient online registration, go to <http://www.eventbrite.com/event/428705269>.

**\*\*Program fees include instruction, lift tickets, and social events.\*\***

**For additional, current information, please see the calendar on the Eastern Division Web Site at [www.nspeast.org](http://www.nspeast.org)**

## OEC News

*by Bill DeVarney, Chief Supervisor*

Another season has begun and the OEC staff is looking forward to another year of OEC training, SEMM events, and supporting the Young Adult Program. As I have written many times before, the program is all about Commitment, Consistency and Communication. All of us have tried hard over the last couple of years to bring the same programs to the regions so that there is the same constant message being sent about OEC.

The standard of training is the same for all OEC programs not only in the Eastern Division but across the country. The training curriculum is written into the *OEC Instructor's Manual* and supported by the OEC text. Over the last year there

have been some liberties taken by instructors to interject different methods or materials that don't always meet the basic standards of training as outlined in the OEC manuals. Please take the time to make sure that what you're teaching is, in fact, part of the standard of training.

On a different note, the 5th edition continues to move forward and having several important people on this project from the Eastern Division it is good to know that it looks like we will be rolling out a new program before starting next year's fall training classes. The OEC committee is planning on meeting in April to determine how best to roll out this program over the next year.

Finally, most of us have been through the refresher cycle and completed the I Can performance

*Continued on next page*





## WINDHAM MOUNTAIN, NY - JANUARY 23-24

### Venues include:

- Traditional Patroller School for Alpine, Snowboard or Telemark
- Senior S&T Candidate Clinic
- Spouse's Clinic (That's right! Bring your spouse along for the weekend for two half-day PSIA ski lessons – fee \$50.00)

**Program Fee:** \$70.00

**Contact:** Brant Maley, skipatrol@comcast.net.

For simple, convenient online registration, go to <http://patrollerschoolwindham2010.eventbrite.com/>

## KILLINGTON MOUNTAIN, VT - FEBRUARY 6-7

### Venues include:

- Traditional Patroller School for Alpine, Snowboard or Telemark
- Senior S&T Candidate Clinic
- Senior S&T T/E Candidate Clinic

**Program Fee:** \$70.00

**Contact:** Brian Bishop, brianbishop@mail4me.com or go to [www.nspeast.org](http://www.nspeast.org). Go to the calendar page and click on the link under comments.

**\*\*Program fees include instruction, lift tickets, and social events.\*\***

**For additional, current information, please see the calendar on the Eastern Division Web Site at [www.nspeast.org](http://www.nspeast.org)**

## VENUE 3 – TOBOGGAN INSTRUCTOR/ SENIOR TRAINER EVALUATOR FORMAT

Designed for those patrollers who are planning on becoming an Alpine Toboggan Instructor or a Senior S&T Trainer/Evaluator, emphasis will be placed on teaching and training effectively. If you are interested in becoming an Alpine Toboggan Instructor for your mountain or a Senior S&T T/E, come join us, and we'll get you on your way.

## VENUE 4 – INTRO TO CERTIFIED

Interested patrollers will be given a broad overview of the Certified Program. Over the course of two days you will be running sleds, participating in a hands-on OEC clinic, and be introduced to other modules of the Certified Program. Please sign up early as this venue will be limited to the first 12 patrollers who sign up.

And what is a Patroller School without a Saturday evening après Patroller School Party! Join in on the fun and talk with other attendees and instructors sharing what you accomplished for the day.

Thanks for supporting the Eastern Division Patroller Schools. We look forward to having you for a fun and exciting weekend!

*Continued from page 8 - DeVarney*

objectives. As you went through the refresher I hope you all challenged yourselves to ensure that you could complete the objectives as they were outlined. Refreshers are designed to identify your skill efficiency and your skills need to meet the minimum requirements of an OEC technician. So in that period of time between the refresher and your shifts starting up, take the opportunity to practice the skills even more. Neurological injuries, orthopedic trauma and cold injury management are the backbone of what working patrollers deal with on a regular basis. We should all be prepared and capable of performing any skill prior to the ski season not only after it opens.

I want to close by extending a continued thanks to all of the Assistant OEC Supervisors, Region OEC Administrators, SEMM Training Coordinators, Instructor Trainers and Trainer Evaluators that support all of the patrollers in the Eastern Division. It is up to this group of individuals to maintain consistency in the standard of training, communicate information concisely and to the standard, and above all show the level of commitment to all of the patrollers in the Division. Thank you.

## WANTED!

### Labrador Mountain Ski Patrol Alumni

Please contact Scott Launt at  
[slaunt@twcnj.rr.com](mailto:slaunt@twcnj.rr.com)

or

315-652-6318,

regarding our

50th Anniversary Celebration

to be held September 2010

# In Memoriam

## ROBERT F. RENNICK

The Stratton Ski Patrol is saddened to report that Robert (Bob) Rennick passed away on August 25, 2009 at the age of 86.

Bob originally joined the NSP at Loch Ledge, a small hill in Westchester County, NY (now a golf course) and transferred to Stratton in 1964. A very active member of the Stratton patrol, Bob amassed a unique record averaging 44 patrol days per season.

Bob was an avid outdoorsman. While attending a Boy Scout camp in Canada, Bob saved a drowning Scout, and received Canada's Royal Lifesaving award. He attained the rank of Eagle Scout.

During World War II he served in the Pacific as an Army radioman. After the war he attended New York University, where he graduated with honors in electrical engineering and mathematics. He spent his working career with the Long Lines Department of AT&T, where, as a project engineer, he helped design Telstar, the world's first commercial communications satellite.

After retiring from AT&T, Bob joined a group of ham radio operators known as the "4 PMers." Each afternoon, they took to the airwaves to converse about the happenings in their lives. He and his wife of 54 years, Irene, who predeceased him, travelled regularly throughout the US and Europe.

Bob will be remembered as a person of great character and dedication to his family and friends, and as one who believed in personal responsibility and service, whether as a Boy Scout, a soldier, an executive, or a ski patroller.

He is survived by his children Robert Rennick and Jan Varley, four grandchildren, and one great-granddaughter.

*Andy Hopping &  
King Wright  
Stratton Ski Patrol*



**RONALD A. VERBLAUW**

Friends and fellow patrollers of the Eastern Division mourn the passing on August 21, 2009, of Ronald A. Verblauw of Sunapee, NH, at age 75. Born in Rochester, NY in 1933, Ron graduated from Cornell University and served in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War.

He lived in North Caldwell, NJ for many years before moving to Sunapee five years ago. Ron owned and operated Da-Ron Service Company in NJ for over 40 years until his retirement in 1998. During this time, he patrolled at Vernon Valley/Great Gorge, where his daughter Monica began as a Junior Patroller.

Ron received National Appointment #4550 in 1974. He served as a Section Chief of the New Jersey Region (1982-85), Assistant Division Director (1985-89), National Board Representative (1989-93), and Eastern Division Director (1993-99), during which period he was a member of the Belleayre Ski Patrol in NY. When he moved to NH in 2005 he joined the Ragged Mountain Patrol for two seasons before registering with the Alumni.

He chaired the annual Hunter Day fundraiser for the Eastern Division from 1990 to 1994. Ron was also Past District Governor of Rotary International District 7490. In addition to skiing, he loved boating and horseback riding.

All of us who knew him will miss Ron's bright smile, enthusiastic personality, and dedication to the NSP. He is survived by his wife, Carol Armstrong Verblauw; three daughters, Monica Wroten, Donna Clayton, and Rhonda Simons; five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. He was predeceased by a daughter, Joanna Verblauw, in 1998. Memorial contributions may be made to the charity of one's choice or in Ron's memory. Please do a kindness to another family in need.

*Dr. Gretchen R. Besser  
National Historian*

# S&T Makeover

by Frey Aarnio, S&T Supervisor



In my travels around the division I keep hearing comments about the ski and toboggan program that reflect some older conditions and concepts. So let me try to enlighten you on the S&T program history and its evolution to where we are today.

Over the past few years our ski and toboggan program has gone through several iterations of how best to deliver S&T training clinics and evaluations to our members. In the far past our biggest focus was on senior exams where you showed up to a senior-rated ski area and demonstrated your skill as you skied past examiners standing along the trail with pen and clipboard in hand. As our organization moved forward toward an educational focus we clearly developed objective goals for each skill in order to reduce the subjectivity associated with many past evaluations.

We established senior two-day training clinics in order to improve overall patroller performance so we could then best serve our home mountains and the ski industry. The thrust of these clinics was to develop an atmosphere for learning and sharing of ideas and techniques based upon very specific goal-oriented objectives with some critical standards. Numerous patrollers participated in these clinics and learned new skills or improved their own skills. Attending patrollers that met the established performance objectives were then “signed off” in their senior ski and toboggan.

After a few years, participation dwindled due to travel expense and the division again looked at various methods of invigorating our senior training programs. Patrol directors, at the same time, increased duty days due to expanding ski industry growth and it was determined that training should and must be accomplished at the local level to minimize patroller time away from their respective areas. This is basically where we are today – training is or should be done at the local level.

Parallel to industry growth and demand the division and NSP developed specific criteria for each performance level, from basic to senior to certified patroller. Eastern Division developed training and scoring booklets that outline each and every skill. Concurrently, trainer evaluators with a high skill level and willingness to train, not to mention the extra time devoted to the preparation and training process, were selected to assist in program delivery at region and local areas.

The Eastern Division utilizes a numerical scale from 1 to 10 to assess performance in the senior program. A score

of “6” is the minimum to become a senior. This same scale is also used for trainer evaluators, but it must be on much more difficult terrain and it has an additional scoring requirement for teaching. The minimum score to become a trainer evaluator is “7” in all categories. Our division has 189 qualified S&T trainer evaluators and they recertify every three years.

You may ask, how does one arrive at this numerical score? Well, we continuously train in order to quantify performance. We have moved into the technological age and have employed outside assistance with creating video footage for study, evaluation and scoring. This evaluation is based on PSIA and AASI training standards and through continuous training sessions indoors and on the hill we are achieving a keener eye and a focus on the objectives of performance. Each candidate entering into the S&T program is provided with a score book to be used as a tool to allow individual measurement and feedback as they work toward completion.

We all have a personal mental image of how a senior patroller should perform, as well as trainer evaluators and certified patrollers, but there are specific objectives that may be contradictory to your subjective mental image. We are continuously working to take out that subjective mental image, which usually is based on personal style. Regardless of what else may be going on in someone’s performance, our basic question is “Does the candidate meet the objective and critical standard of the maneuver?” This is the foundation for consistency and success of our training and testing (yes, I said testing) programs. It is still the responsibility of the candidate patroller to perform skiing, skills and toboggan handling on senior rated terrain.

The steering committee has mandated that “judges” will no longer stand along trails with clipboard and pen in hand, but ski and ride along with candidates. Evaluators will no longer set bamboo courses to create artificial conditions for seniors and bibs will no longer be used during evaluations. All region S&T advisors meet in December and get instructions on how training and testing events should be conducted in order to have consistency throughout the division. If you have questions regarding ski and toboggan events, your S&T Advisor is the key point of contact.

So what am I saying? If you have not attended a senior training program or senior evaluation recently, please reacquaint yourself with the training and evaluation process. I believe you will be pleasantly surprised with the objective-based training and evaluation.

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For those of you who are interested in becoming a senior trainer/evaluator, please see the website for all T/E event dates, contact information and application to attend.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Notes from the National Legal Advisor

by Bob Scarlett

One thing I can say as NSP's Volunteer National Legal Advisor is that I miss being Eastern Division's Legal Advisor. More specifically, I miss working with my friends in the Eastern Division who work hard, on a daily basis, to make sure the Eastern Division is a great and rewarding place to volunteer their time. Simply put, I miss you guys.

Not surprisingly, the legal issues which face the Eastern Division are the same ones faced by every Division in NSP. I was not surprised to learn that Eastern Division's sophisticated understanding of legal principles involving ski patrolling has helped lead NSP in improving the legal protection of patrollers. These legal issues continue to evolve and some of the current ones facing our organization are set forth below.

### Accident Scene Management

One of the primary legal objectives which NSP has been attempting to improve this past year is re-emphasizing the need to legally manage an accident scene. NSP wants to remind patrollers that they not only have an obligation to medically manage an accident, but also to legally manage an accident scene. These efforts have caused a re-emphasis on basic risk management techniques. These techniques include properly documenting an accident and recognizing when to supplement normal accident forms with additional and more detailed information.

These legal management skills include, for example, (1) the patroller in charge becoming aware of when an accident scene's problems have escalated to where he or she needs to call another patroller just to have another witness at the scene, (2) training patrollers how to deal with the potentially serious situation when an injured skier refuses first aid care, (3) the need to preserve evidence, especially evidence which could protect the patroller. The objective is to increase the patroller's understanding that he or she needs to master the skills of caring for the injured skier while also taking care of the legal aspects of every accident scene. Increasing the education of patrollers, throughout the country, on legal principles has already succeeded in reducing the legal risk of patrolling and continuing to support the historic fact that patrollers are hardly ever sued. Continuing this legal and risk management training remains an objective of NSP legal.

### Insurance Protection

During the past two years, NSP has not remained content with the already good insurance protection it has

*Continued on page 14 - Scarlett*

## Young Adult Seminar It's All About the Training!

by Jerry Hyson, Supervisor

Those of you who have participated in the past know what fun the Division Training Seminar can be. But the important thing to understand is that it really is a great training event.

Reading through this issue of *Trail Sweep* have you noticed how many training events are scheduled this season? They're being offered on every level. Want to be a senior, senior trainer/examiner, certified? There are patroller schools and clinics galore being offered throughout the division.

Our young adult event is no different. It's not just a competition that allows some really talented students to go home with trophies. It's a full-fledged training opportunity for all students who attend. This year we'd like to expand the training side. Each year we divide the students who attend into four groups for rotation between the stations. This year we plan to offer a "training only" group. The students who opt into this group will be given in-depth training in ski skills, toboggan handling, and OEC.

We'd like to encourage more students to think about signing up for this opportunity. Are you a first year patroller? This would be a great thing for you! Patrol directors and region young adult advisors, please assess the skill level of your young adult patrollers and tell them if you think they would benefit from a great training opportunity. Encourage them to opt into this group.

The traveling will be easier for some this year since we're going to Jiminy Peak which is located in the middle of the Eastern Division. But don't think since it's not way up north that it's not a "big" mountain because it certainly is. With a vertical of 1150 feet there's plenty of great skiing available for everyone and there's a high-speed six pack to get you to the top quickly.

Included are great lodging, great food, great skiing, great friendships, and a full schedule of fun! The seminar officially kicks off on Friday evening at dinner but skiing and riding are available that day to those that arrive early. Free skiing and riding are also available on Monday for those who can stay. We conclude the official event with an awards banquet on Sunday night. Here's what you get if you attend:

- 3 nights of lodging (Friday, Saturday, Sunday)
- Dinner on Friday, breakfast and dinner on Saturday and Sunday, and breakfast on Monday
- Lift tickets
- Division evaluators and instructors
- Mystery events
- Lot's of fun!!!

Patrol directors and advisors please encourage your students to participate in this year's training event. Just fill out the registration form and mail it in by February 15th. The registration form will also be available on the division website at: <http://www.nspeast.org/html/youngadult.htm>

# EASTERN DIVISION YOUNG ADULT PATROLLER SEMINAR REGISTRATION

REGISTRATION DEADLINE FEBRUARY 15, 2010 – NO REFUNDS AFTER MARCH 1, 2010

Registrations received after the deadline will be charged a late fee of \$50, if there is still availability, as space is limited

Fill in completely and return with a \$295 check made payable to NSP Eastern Division to:

Jerry Hyson, Box 387, 46 Brooks Road, Paxton, MA 01612

Please type or legibly print all information except for signatures.

Last \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_ Nickname \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  Male  Female  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_  
Patrol \_\_\_\_\_ Region \_\_\_\_\_ NSP # \_\_\_\_\_

I understand my commitment and responsibilities to the National Ski Patrol while I am attending this seminar.

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

To help us plan ahead please fill in the following:

I would like to participate in a full training program  I plan to ski  Friday  Monday

Arrival (date & time) \_\_\_\_\_ Departure (date & time) \_\_\_\_\_

Advisor/Chaperone attending with Young Adult Patroller (print) \_\_\_\_\_ Advisor/Chaperone attending with Young Adult Patroller (signature) \_\_\_\_\_  
Attending adult advisor/chaperone must be at least 21 years of age and be endorsed by the young adult patroller's parent or guardian. No more than 5 young adults per advisor/chaperone

Parent/Guardian (print) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian (signature) \_\_\_\_\_

The above named Young Adult Patroller is a registered member of NSP and approved for the seminar.

Patrol Director/Young Adult Advisor (print) \_\_\_\_\_

(signature) \_\_\_\_\_

In order to help with staffing please check your status (check all appropriate)

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

## REQUIRED 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 YOUNG ADULT PATROLLERS

The undersigned, as a participant, or as a parent or guardian of a minor who is participating in the 2009 Eastern Division Young Adult Training Seminar, in consideration for being allowed to participate in such event, hereby releases the National Ski Patrol System, Inc. and the Eastern Division, Jiminy Peak The Mountain 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 2009 Eastern Division Young Adult 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 2010 Eastern Division Young Adult Training Seminar. As further consideration for being permitted to participate in the 2010 Eastern Division Young Adult 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, Jiminy Peak The Mountain 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) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian (print) \_\_\_\_\_ Parent/Guardian (signature) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
(Required if participant is under the age of 18)

enjoyed for many years. It has tried to improve on that insurance protection by seeking out supplemental policies to offer our patrollers and instructors. Let me make it clear, offering these additional policies does not mean that NSP's \$4,000,000 policy protecting NSP, its instructors, and its members during NSP events is not a great policy. Please remember that these policies do not cover patrollers while they are patrolling at their home mountains. NSP, and its Board, believes that adding insurance options for its members, such as the \$66 per year \$2,000,000 instructor insurance and the \$35 per month patroller insurance, only gives our membership more choices. This is viewed as a good thing.

Information on these two new supplemental insurance programs can be obtained on NSP's website or by calling NSP. The NSP's efforts to add these two policies reflects a continued commitment by NSP not to be satisfied with the good work that NSP has accomplished in the past, but to always strive to improve what is currently offered as insurance benefits to membership. Finally, I would be remiss not to remind everybody to properly register any NSP training event to make sure it is properly insured by NSP's general insurance policy.

#### **Ski Safety and Helmet Laws**

During the past two years, NSP has taken a more active role in making sure that laws which are being considered support NSP's basic purpose of promoting skiing safety while always remembering that it has a primary duty to make sure that these new laws also protect NSP members. Protecting NSP's purpose and members remains two primary goals of NSP. An example of this effort can be seen in NSP's support of a congressional patroller National Immunity Law aimed at providing ski patrollers the equivalent of Good Samaritan protection but on a national level.

An example of NSP trying to promote new laws which protect patrollers can be seen in the efforts of NSP representatives in California who were invited to testify to improve the state's Good Samaritan Law and make sure that it covered their volunteer patrollers. In part, from NSP's testimony, California changed its Good Samaritan Law in the manner recommended by NSP. Patrollers in California now have better legal protection when they patrol.

In New Jersey, NSP has been monitoring, and involved in, proposals for new helmet laws making sure that the proposed legislation does not make

patrollers, in any way, liable in case an individual violates the proposed helmet law by not wearing a helmet while they are skiing. Eastern Division's New Jersey legal advisor, Jackie Veit, has been assisting on this project with the support and thank you from NSP (next time you see her give her a thanks for her good work).

Eastern Division's Legal Advisor, Henry Williams, is helping NSP monitor potential helmet laws being submitted in the New York State Legislature. Simply put, from a legal perspective, NSP is very focused on protecting its patrollers from potential legal liability. This will allow them to do what they have historically done best, ski down and take care of injured skiers who need help without fear of being sued.

With respect to helmet laws, with the death of Natasha Richardson, more states are looking into requiring skiers to wear helmets while skiing. Bills have been introduced in the states of New Jersey and New York to require mandatory use of helmets. Many ski mountains are now requiring helmet use by their patrollers. Jackson Hole Ski Area was cited by OSHA for not requiring its patrollers to wear helmets. NSP is carefully monitoring this new trend in laws and regulations requiring the use of helmets to make sure that the new laws and regulations promote skiing safety while also making sure that they do not increase patrollers' liability or responsibility for implementation.

#### **OEC 5th Edition**

Other areas which NSP legal, and especially the National Ski Patrol Legal Committee, have had tremendous influence on is the new *Outdoor Emergency Care 5th Edition*. The National Legal Committee, made up of all the different Divisions' legal advisors, met last September in Lakewood, Colorado and adopted the principal that the *OEC 5th Edition* should be written to the same standard of training as the *OEC 4th Edition*. This recommendation was later adopted by NSP's Board of Directors and has been the cornerstone of the development of the *OEC 5th Edition*.

The key to the success of the new *OEC 5th Edition* is the choice by NSP of its new publisher; Pearson Education, Inc. Pearson, also known as Brady, is the leading publishing company for textbooks such as the OEC textbook. Pearson brings to NSP a level of quality that NSP hopes will continue its tradition of excellence in its OEC textbooks and will improve the quality of the textbook that it publishes to its members. The textbook is being completely rewritten by NSP so, at the end of its contract with Pearson, NSP will be able to

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use the materials in the textbook to develop new programs and textbooks.

Although NSP recognizes that states have their own particular emergency medical systems, NSP has designed its OEC program and textbook in accordance with its historic tradition of trying to provide the best possible emergency care for injured individuals in the outdoor environment. The *OEC 5th Edition* is not being written to particular states' EMS requirements but, instead, to the level of training that patrollers have been trained to in the past. This reflects a commitment by NSP to maintain the quality of the programs it has developed over its 70-plus-year history. It also will mean, in the future, that NSP will have to make the effort to educate the different states on the skills its patrollers have, on how good the OEC system is, and how much the OEC system benefits the skiing industry. OEC remains its own standard of patrol training which NSP believes is the "gold standard." It was not designed to satisfy any particular state's EMS system, but many states have adopted it and incorporated OEC as an accepted standard of emergency care training. Managing OEC's interface with state EMS systems, while maintaining NSP's OEC individual identity and standard of training, will be a challenge for the future.

#### **Guidelines for Spending Non-Profit Monies**

In the past two years, NSP has looked at the issue of use of monies by patrols. NSP legal has developed written guidelines to assist patrol leaders and patrols in spending non-profit monies. A position statement has been developed which is available to patrols from NSP. This position statement sets forth guidelines useful to patrol representatives and patrols in explaining issues which need to be taken into consideration when spending monies that were given for non-profit purposes to NSP. When these non-profit monies are maintained by patrols remember that there are spending liability issues (remember, no snowmobiles). We need to remember that while our patrollers need to be equipped to give the best possible care to injured skiers there are non-profit tax considerations. There is never a perfect solution in making decisions with regard to the use of non-profit monies; however, NSP legal has tried, through these guidelines, to provide some assistance to its patrols in making such decisions.

#### **Fund Raising**

At the National Board level, the focus remains trying to improve services to the members while reducing the monetary burden on members. To accomplish this,

NSP has formed a fund raising committee which has already, in its two short years, raised sufficient monies to have effectively reduced the need for a dues increase by about \$5.00 per member. The efforts for fund raising, and obtaining monetary assistance for NSP that is not dependant upon membership dues, is still in its early stages of development but, for the first time, I believe NSP is on the road to trying to eliminate dues for its members while remaining financially strong. This will not happen overnight; however, it will only happen with the good work and dedication of many members' efforts to improve both fund raising and the financial protection of our organization.

In conclusion, NSP is simply a great organization. Its greatness comes from its proud history and its members. The Eastern Division remains one of the leaders of our organization and has consistently contributed its members to help lead NSP. It is a Division which should be very proud of the work it has done and the importance it has within the National Ski Patrol organization. But, in the long run, at the National level, we are all patrollers. We are patrollers who have inherited a vision from our founder, Minnie Dole, to help individuals who are in need of our special emergency first aid care.

It is the dedication of our individual members toward this historic purpose that has made us a great organization and, at the national level, it is the dedication of such members that will take us into NSP's bright future. I now work with individuals throughout our country to achieve these purposes; but I will always miss working directly with the special people who make up the Eastern Division and who have helped NSP and the Eastern Division for so many years.

## **NSAA Workshop**

*by Doug Holler, Risk Management/NSAA*

Some patrol-specific programs were offered at the NSAA/Ski Maine program at Bretton Woods this past September. Several seminars relating to Emergency Action Planning, creating a Lift Evacuation Plan, and hands-on evac opportunities were attended by over 45 people in each session. If you would like some patrol-specific learning opportunities, contact your Region Advisors to arrange programs of interest to your patrol or region.

# TRAIL SWEEP

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## Annual Division S&T Meeting

by Frey Aarnio, Supervisor

The ski and toboggan program had its season kick-off meeting at Killington, VT, with all staff and region advisors, without the ability to be on snow on the mountain. Lack of snow and limited terrain prevented us from being outside. To celebrate the tropical conditions in Vermont, and the entire Northeast, the steering committee members showed up in their Hawaiian shirts. Who says they don't have a sense of humor!

Alternate plans were put into motion by the steering committee on Friday, to adapt, improvise and overcome. It is a challenge to present an S&T program without being on the hill.

Friday evening, all staff attended an interactive informational meeting. Topics included the administration of programs, the new course records, the new instructor insurance program, organizational changes, and staff responsibilities. A good amount of time revolved around the senior S&T program training, evaluation, and how to best serve our patrollers.

During the general session on Saturday morning Meritorious Service Awards were presented to Keith Pomeroy (not present) and Kimberly Terwilliger by S&T Committee Chair Terry Randolph and Transportation Supervisor Frey Aarnio. Keith served as the Transportation Supervisor for three years, and on the steering committee and division staff for many years. He patrolled at Butternut (WMASS) and as a pro patroller at Vail.

Kimberly was the SNY Region Advisor for more than a dozen years spearheading a very successful senior S&T program.

A special award was presented to Peter Frykman, a Blue Hills patroller, for his unselfish time and devotion for video support of the division S&T program. Peter spent countless days filming S&T events all over New England and then endless hours editing video for our division training program.

Peter's video was put to good use during our weekend training sessions which included evaluating toboggan handling, patroller skills, and ski skills. Staff created lesson plans, wrote "snippets" and worked on error detection and correction from the video. The steering committee will collate, compile, and edit all snippets that were generated during the weekend and create a database of "snippets" for all trainer evaluators to use.

This non-skiing weekend feedback was touted as an outstanding educational experience with a recommendation that it be repeated every few years.

New division staff members this year are: Eric Kreckel (Whiteface), Fred Fritz (CT), Ted Fitzgerald (NH), Bob Hoot (ME), Bela Musits (ENY), and Wendy Aarnio (SVT). There are two new Region Advisors: Burt Ebeling (CNY) and Brian Bishop (SVT). The steering committee also added three new members: Brant Maley (EPA), Jon Wilson (CNY,) and Jane Williams (EMARI).



The S&T Steering Committee sans their Hawaiian shirts.



Division Director Rick Hamlin presents the National Outstanding Patroller Certificate and Award to Joe Menichino of Genesee Valley.



Meritorious Service Awards were presented to Keith Pomeroy (not present) and Kimberly Terwilliger by S&T Committee Chair Terry Randolph (left) and Transportation Supervisor Frey Aarnio