

TRAIL SWEEP

Vol. 55, No. 2 • Winter 2013

Official Publication of the Eastern Division of the National Ski Patrol



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Samaritans of the Snow



Out of print for many years, the National Ski Patrol is reprinting former NSP Historian Gretchen Besser's comprehensive book, *Samaritans of the Snow*, the ultimate historical retrospective of the National Ski Patrol. Newly updated for the 75th Anniversary celebration, Gretchen has written an epilogue to her original volume that covers many of the major events in the NSP since the book's original printing in 1983. This is a limited edition special so get your copy now. It's available in the NSP catalogue for \$14.95.



Changing & Demographics & Quality Programs

by John Shipman, Division Director

For the patrollers who were not able to attend the National Ski Patrol's 75th Anniversary Celebration at Stowe, VT on October 20, I'm pleased to report that the celebration was not only a success but also a historical event. Every patroller in the Eastern Division can feel pleased and proud of the result. Toward the end of the planning process and dealing with the details of the event, I was reminded of Forest Gump's popular saying, "Life is like a box of chocolates." Many of us, who worked on the anniversary event over the last year, learned that the preparation and execution of the celebration was packed with many wonderful surprises and some measure of disappointment. However, a great team of dedicated, talented, and helpful Division and National patrollers successfully pulled together and made, what I consider, a positive and lasting contribution to the proud and honorable history of the NSP and all those patrollers who have and will serve the skiing public.

Saturday was sunny and warm and the Northern Vermont fall foliage was spectacular. More than 200 patrollers filled the streets of Stowe and they were in a partying mood. Wearing red patrol coats, they crowded Stowe's Main Street during the ribbon-cutting ceremony dedicating the Stone Bench Monument to the Vermont Ski and Snowboard Museum. Earlier in the day, Brian Lindner, a Stowe patroller and historian, gave an interesting and informative presentation about the history of the Mount Mansfield Ski Patrol and its relationship to the NSP and the establishment of the 10th Mountain Division. If you are interested in the history of the NSP, check out the recent reprint of Minot (Minnie) Dole's book, *Adventures in Skiing*. Fascinating background information and a good read.

Following the Stone Bench Monument dedication, patrollers, family, and friends gathered at the Rusty Nail Restaurant to celebrate and take part in the presentations and photo ops, to stock up on some 75th logo memorabilia, and to enjoy the food and refreshments. Tim White offered welcoming remarks metaphorically comparing NSP to a sturdy ship...capable of weathering storms and an occasional mutiny; but, foundationally strong, with great spirit and here to stay. Our National Board Chair, Burt Mitchell, gave a warm welcome to the patrollers, many from around the country and offered a fitting story about the beginning of the NSP.

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Rick Hamlin, NSP's National Historian and currently Chair of the Vermont Ski and Snowboard Museum, introduced Stuart Gillespie, an NSP Alumnus with National Appointment #13! His daughter, Margot Iwanchuk, accompanied her father. Stuart gave a short presentation sharing a couple of timely reflections with all of us. Namely, change is with us and it's important to recognize it and adjust. He also talked about altruism, the unselfish concern with the welfare of others. As patrollers, that is what we do and who we are. At 99, still active and a member of Maine's NSP Alumni, Stewart participated in and enjoyed the day's activities.

Rick read a resolution from the Stowe, VT Select-board honoring Charles Minot Dole and the founding of the NSP and the special connection we share with the Town of Stowe. October 20, 2012 was proclaimed NSP Day in Stowe, VT!

Minnie Dole's grandchildren (Erika Hemphill and Dick Armstrong) and great-grandchildren (Natalia and Oliver Hemphill and Charlotte and Nicea Armstrong) were present to receive a pin from Meredith Scott, Curator and Director of the Vermont Ski and Snowboard Museum. The pin signified the induction of Minnie Dole into the Museum's Hall of Fame.

At the Rusty Nail, Chris Pringle, RD for the Eastern Massachusetts and Rhode Island Region, showed a video depicting the stages of production of the stone sculpture (from a 5000-pound boulder found on Mount Mansfield) to the finished stone bench. You can check out the video on the NSP website and YouTube.

The Stone Bench Monument, which sits outside of the Vermont Ski and Snowboard Museum and faces Main Street, includes a 6" diameter x 16" long stainless steel time capsule. The capsule will be filled with nitrogen and welded shut during the Eastern Division Young Adult Seminar, which will be held in March 2013 at the nearby Vermont ski resort, Smugglers' Notch. The time capsule will include many unique items, stories, and photos sent from patrollers.

The capsule will also include distinctive objects from National's 75th Anniversary Celebration, which will take place in Denver, CO January 31 to February 3, 2013 and be headquartered downtown at the Hyatt Grand Hotel. Events will include a ribbon-cutting ceremony to commemorate the NSP 10th Mountain Historical Exhibit. Friday will be a ski day with many activities at Ski Cooper and Saturday will include a silent auction and celebration dinner. The Denver 75th Celebration will run in conjunction with the Ski Industry Association's trade show, a significant annual event with plenty of interesting ski industry highlights to discover. For more details on NSP's Denver 75th Celebration, go to www.nsp.org

Now I'd like to shift gears and comment on one of our main tasks, delivering quality educational programs

to our members. Here are a few stats and some thoughts to share with you.

- The graying of America is here and the population will continue to age up for decades to come. Today, our seniors (65 and over) account for about 13% of our population (about 40 million). In 2050, it is estimated seniors will be 20% of the population or 90 million. These demographic trends will impact all of us. The ski industry will not be able to ignore the reality of the population shifts already underway. The industry will need to adapt to the demands of the skiing and riding population. What the NSP was in the 20th century will not meet the 21st century realities.

- A *Washington Post* reporter, Liza Murphy, wrote a book, *The Richer Sex*, where she wrote that 40% of working wives now earn more than their husbands, and by 2030, that number will go to 50%. Women now make up more than half of college and university students. By 2020, if the trend continues, they will make up 60% of the undergraduate enrollment and 61% of those in graduate programs.

The take away message — our society is changing. The economic and educational order predicted for women and the aging of our population will impact us as we move through the years. For all our instructors who teach the various NSP program disciplines, it is important to recognize the inevitable changes and be sure we continue to make our programs accessible, fun, and meaningful for everyone. Your expertise and leadership is important and appreciated. ✨



Dole Autobiography Back in Print.

NSP founder Charles Minot Dole wrote an autobiography in 1965, *Adventures in Skiing*, documenting his lifelong relationship with skiing, from his early skiing adventures as a child to his work founding the National Ski Patrol and convincing the US Army to create the 10th Mountain Division. The book has been out of print for many years. Now, thanks to the efforts of Rick Hamlin, Marty Silverman, and others, the autobiography of the George Washington of the NSP is back in print for the 75th Anniversary celebration. It still has the introduction written by Lowell Thomas. Every patroller should have a copy of this first-hand account of the beginnings of the National Ski Patrol. It's available in the catalogue on the NSP website for \$14.95.

In case you have not heard, I am stepping down as your Division Treasurer at the Spring Officers Meeting being held April 26-28, 2013. The three and one-half years as your Treasurer has been exciting. From National Chairs to National Board Members, Division Directors, Region Directors, Section Chiefs, Program Supervisors and Division groupies, I have met many people who make patrolling easier for you.

There is a lot of work being done behind the scenes by a group of very talented hard-working individuals. It has been a pleasure meeting them, working with them, and occasionally solving some of their problems. I have won their hearts by my responsiveness and many of them have thanked me for my efforts. I have been lucky to have a strong, helpful, and cooperative Finance Committee headed by Rick Knight and I thank them for their support.

The 990 is finally done! It is posted on the website for your review. It is akin to herding cats with assembling and coordinating the finances of 215 patrols, 15 regions, and of course, my own division financial affairs. A couple of feral cats are still strays. The sum total of our cash positions and investments is a whopping \$1,498,000 at March 31, 2012. Consolidated revenues totaled \$784,000 and consolidated expenditures totaled \$703,000 with an excess of revenues over expenditures of \$81,000. The Division is on a firm footing as I depart. I may be missed, but I will also miss my involvement in the Division. *

How Minnie Dole's Son Got His Nickname.

NSP founder Charles Minot Dole has a son with the same given name. His son also had the same nickname of "Minnie."

One day his 2-year-old cousin was visiting and couldn't quite say "Minnie." When she said it, it came out as "Minty." The new nickname stuck, and he has been Mint ever since.



Training by Ski Patrollers for Ski Patrollers

by Carl Chaplin, PSPA President

Most ski areas have some terrain that, with the right (or wrong) weather conditions, can become difficult and dangerous to work around. If a skier slid off a trail, down an embankment and into the trees, would you know how to lower people and equipment down to the site and haul them back up again safely? Would you know how to do that with only a few people, like mid-week, when you are short staffed? Advanced training is something we talk about a great deal. But, not many of us actually get the chance (or act on the chance when it's offered) to get that advanced training.

There is an outfit in southwestern Pennsylvania called Wilderness Emergency Rescue Institute (WERI) which can provide in-depth training on several very basic ski patrol functions (lift evac, low angle rescue, etc.) as well as more advanced training in high angle rescue, and advanced search and rescue. The company is run by a lifelong, full-time firefighter, John Boburchuk, who also happens to be the Ski Patrol Director at Blue Knob All Seasons Resort. He not only has his PSPA and NSP Certified but also numerous NSAR Instructor classifications.

My wife and I took a 20-hour Basic Mountain Rescue and Low Angle Rescue course geared specifically towards ski patrollers. I can honestly say it was a very enjoyable, interesting, and informative weekend. I thought I knew some stuff but I was surprised at how much I had to learn!

The course ran from Friday night to Sunday late afternoon and it was amazing how fast the time went. In addition, it was a fun course to go through. The course material was explained in a thorough and complete manner, enabling everyone in the class to keep up. Some were there to prep for NSP and PSPA Certified, some were there to get more in-depth information on the subject. Some just wanted to fill in the holes from previous learning experiences. And still others were there because it was a requirement for their mountain. Whatever the motivation, it was well worth the time and effort to take the class.

I have my PSPA and NSP Certified and my wife is a full-time patroller. We are pretty good with knots and rope handling. We've both worked several live lift evacs in the past few years in all kinds of terrain and all kinds of weather. We've practiced low angle rescue on occasion mainly at the top shack on bad weather days, but not often enough to "know it cold." When we got the opportunity to take this course we jumped on it. We practiced knots before we went, hoping to not look foolish when we got there. An hour into the class on Friday night (after our 9.5 hour ride to southwestern PA where WERI is located) we realized we were rookies and the weekend was going to be a challenge.

Demonstration and then practical, demo then practical, demo then practical was the mantra throughout the weekend. The instructors were there to help but not to do it

for you. I wish I had a nickel for every figure eight knot I tied over the weekend. There was more than enough equipment available for each team of two or three to have their own setup and to practice. The focus was on the patroller, so even though the “real” equipment was there to use we were also shown the workarounds.

We learned how to correctly use common webbing instead of climbing harnesses or fancy, expensive, premade straps. This is important because unless you have an unlimited budget and a good-sized truck to carry everything, you are going to be looking for safe and effective ways around the “gear” issues. I was amazed how much you can do with a few pieces of webbing.

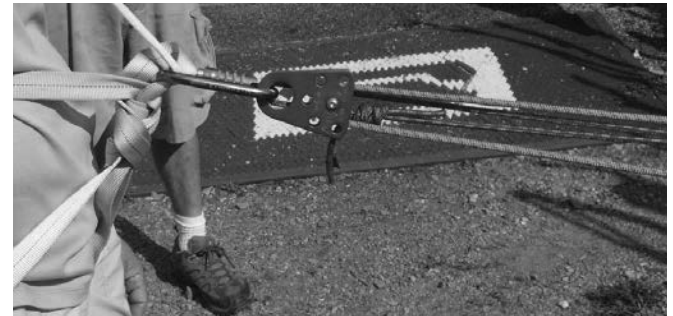
At the end of the weekend, we took a trek out to a local gorge with Rescue Randy, a 160-pound dummy that was hidden 260 feet down a steep embankment. Strategically placed, it forced us to splice the 200’ rescue rope and pass the knot through all the lowering and hauling pulleys, biners, and other devices. The team got a real lesson in communication (or should I say lack thereof) as well as working on the rescue. We got it done, but it wasn’t pretty. It takes lots of practice. Again, everyone there will be much more prepared when/if the need arises.

With all that said, get out and get some training! Step outside your comfort zone and take a training course. Expand your present knowledge base by building on what you already know, or try something completely different. There is no shame in admitting you aren’t an expert at something. There’s even no shame in admitting you are a novice. 😊

For more information about John Boburchuk and courses available at the Wilderness Emergency Response Institute go to www.wildernesseri.com or contact him at administration@wildernesseri.com. *



John Boburchuk, Master Instructor



Webbing and biner used when hauling/assisting someone uphill.



Demonstrating a hauling system.



The entrance to WERI's training facility.

ISSW 2012

– Anchorage, Alaska

by Chuck Boyd

Continuing education is an important process for our Eastern Division avalanche instructors and program advisors. This past September I had the fortunate experience of attending the International Snow Science Workshop, held in Anchorage Alaska. This international conference is held every two years in the USA, Canada, and Europe with snow scientist and avalanche professionals getting together for what is themed “A Merging of Theory and Practice.” The conference opens on Sunday night and runs through the following Friday.

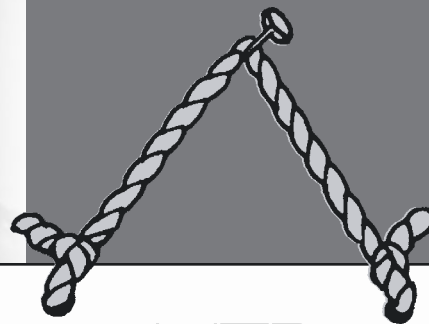
Weather in Alaska can always be interesting and the week of the conference was no exception. I arrived during an intense rain event. As the winds increased many flights were delayed, except if you were flying on Alaska Airlines. High winds continued throughout the week with two days of 80+ mph and six inches of precipitation.

Sunday I attended the American Institute for Avalanche Safety and Rescue’s instructor training. Thirty instructors from around the world attended the eight-hour refresher, which is required every two years. After the refresher, we all went to register for the conference and afterwards the reception. It’s always great to meet old friends, make new ones, get to talk with your mentors, the authors of our text books, and hang out with NSP National Avalanche Supervisor Mike Laney.

Monday and Tuesday we attended lectures on Snow Science, Avalanche Safety, and Avalanche Control methods. The opening address was by Jill Fredston, author of several well-known books on avalanches and rowing. One of the more interesting presentations was “Avalanche Analysis and Management in the Ski Resort Rosa Khutor Regarding the 2014 Sochi Olympic Games.”

Fanny Bourjaillant talked about how her team of avalanche professionals developed avalanche mitigation strategies for the downhill site of the 2014 Olympic Games. Five years ago the area was undeveloped and just a National Park. The place is totally wild and everything is being built from scratch. The area receives huge amounts of snow annually and her images show many 12’-24’ avalanche crown faces, with debris ending up where buildings were planned to be built and lift lines installed.

In the afternoon during the Snowpack Structure, Variability and Metamorphism session, Brad Straton from Montana State University gave a presentation on



MTR Enhancement Seminar on Low Angle Rope Rescue

by Matt Speier, MTR Advisor SNY

On October 27 the Thunderbolt Ski Patrol hosted an MTR Enhancement Seminar focusing on Low Angle Rope Rescue skills at Mt. Greylock, MA. Eight patrollers from the Eastern Division spent a full day learning best and safest practices for rigging low angle rope systems.

Building on rope skills introduced in MTR 1 and 2, topics covered included risk management, equipment, terrain assessment, knots, anchors, patient access, patient packaging, litter rigging, litter handling, single person belays, lowering systems, and mechanical advantage.

The class concluded with a mock rescue on the historic Thunderbolt Ski Trail on Mt. Greylock. The scenario allowed the students the opportunity to put their skills to use in a realistic setting.

If you have interest in bringing this course to your ski area contact Matt Speier at 646-319-2747 or matt@peakrescue.org.



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"Analysis of Surface Hoar Growth Under Simulated Meteorological Conditions." Working in a cold lab at Montana State he created the proper conditions to grow surface hoar crystals. He showed 3-D video of the actual crystal growth!

Tuesday night was movie night at a local dinner theater. Fred Beckey, an iconic American mountaineer, talked about his life of adventures from the Cascades to Alaska and Kit Deslauries, the first woman to ski all seven summits, talked about an all-woman expedition titled "A Ski Journey through Alaska's Brooks Range."

Wednesday was the field trip study day. All conference attendees and spouses had the opportunity to board the Alaska railroad train and travel south from Anchorage to Moose Pass, to visit avalanche control sites, and learn the history of the Alaska railroad. Along the way side trips broke off, starting at Girdwood, to visit additional places. One was a tour of the Alyeska Ski Resort's avalanche control methods. Others went on buses to tour the highway's avalanche control methods. Some went mountain biking, others went kayaking, and the rest learned about the railroad's avalanche control strategies. In the evening the US and Canadian ski patrols had the traditional ISSW spaghetti dinner. It was great to meet other patrollers from around the country, make new friends, and share ideas for improving our programs.

Thursday was back at the conference center for more presentations. Outside in the lobby many of the industry equipment providers had booths selling their products or providing educational material. NSP also had a booth talking up our program and encouraging new membership.

Thursday's lecture topics started with "Education, Regulation, and Legal Risks" followed by "Avalanche Forecasting." After lunch it was "Instrumentation and Measurement," then "Hazard Mitigation and Risk Management." One of the more interesting presentations was "Using a Thermal Imager to Quantify Buried Thermal Structure in Natural Snow." Bruce Jamieson and Karl Birkland tag-teamed to present Chora Shea's data from two study plots in the Canadian Rocky Mountains over two years' time. The data included thousands of thermal images as well as visual macro images of the snow crystals in each pit layer to monitor changes. They actually observed strong temperature gradients on the scale of individual snow crystals.

The ISSW banquet was held in the evening. After a good dinner, awards were presented. Then Dr. Matthew Strum gave a presentation on his over 25 expeditions in the Arctic and Antarctic and Native American language terms for snow and ice. The evening ended with renowned local Native American singers performing local folk songs and dances. The audience was encouraged to join along and we all learned the native dances.

Friday, back at the conference center, was for me the

best day as most of the material presented was for the practitioners and educators. Instead of everyone in a lecture hall the convention center was divided into a workshop format. I started by attending the workshop on Rescue Devices. Dale Atkins moderated as Manual Genswein talked about "Transceiver Performance When Searching for Multiple Burials." This was followed by "The Effect of External Interference on Avalanche Transceiver Functionality" and ended with "The Airbag System."

After the morning break I jumped between two workshops. The first was Spatial Variability and the initial two topics, "Zoning with the Avalanche Terrain Exposure Scale" and "Avalanche Trigger Locations in Complex Terrain", were of interest to me. Then I headed over to the Human Factors workshop where I really wanted to hear Bruce Edgerly lecture on "Talking the Talk." Human factors continue to lead the way in making poor decisions in avalanche terrain and will be a major topic at our L2 avalanche course at Whiteface Mountain, NY this coming March.

The final session in the afternoon was on "Avalanche Accidents and Rescue," followed by a spectacular presentation by Kevin Wright on the "Historical Analysis of Avalanche Fatalities in Denali National Park." Kevin's photos of the Alaska Range were breathtaking, especially the ones of the range from Anchorage, where after staying for nine days, I never got a view beyond the sound.

The next ISSW is in Grenoble, France in 2013 but, for our avalanche programs, next year is the "National Avalanche School" where we try to send instructors who wish to become Level 2 certified instructors. In September 2014 the ISSW is scheduled in Banff, Alberta, Canada, and I hope to attend.

So, if you haven't, take an avalanche course, and have a safe winter. *



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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.

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2013 Level II Avalanche Course

by Chuck Boyd

Whiteface Mountain provides premier training terrain for advanced avalanche courses with its ample lift-served, side-country access to avalanche-prone slides. Join us for the next Level II Avalanche Course and improve your knowledge and understanding of avalanches and rescue operations. Anyone with aspirations of being an avalanche professional or a patroller in avalanche-prone terrain or who spends a lot of time in the backcountry should sign up now!

The 2013 Level II Avalanche Course is scheduled for March 14-17 (Thursday through Sunday) at the Atmospheric Science Research Center and Whiteface Mountain, NY. Participants should plan to arrive Wednesday evening, March 16. The purpose of the L2 course is to help prepare the patroller and backcountry user for all aspects of avalanche hazards and rescue operations. More information describing the course will be available on the Eastern Division website.

During the first two days of the course, participants will complete the first half of the program, by attending a wide variety of presentations by industry professionals, NOAA, and our trained staff of L2 instructors. There will also be many outdoor activities including ski tours. Two evening sessions include trip planning/navigation and a rescue simulator session. The simulator is an indoor mockup of a rescue problem designed to provide realistic situations and decision-making typically encountered

in avalanche rescue operations. The next two days include the outdoor portion of the course in which participants will ski to field exercises including snowpack and terrain analysis, rescue beacon use, and companion and organized avalanche rescue operations.

Accommodations during the course will be available at the Whiteface Chalet (518-946-2207) near Whiteface and will include breakfast in their restaurant. The group rate is \$94.00 per night, double occupancy. Reservations can be made online at www.whitefacechalet.com. Make sure that you ask for the rooms reserved for the avalanche course. Catered lunches will be available at ASRC each day at a very reasonable price, including trail lunches for the outdoor sessions. Registration cost for the course for NSP members will be \$250 and \$325 for non-NSP members.

Completion of both an L1 avalanche course and a mountain travel and rescue course, within the last three years, is a prerequisite. Winter hiking experience, with proper outdoor clothing and ski touring equipment, along with strong skiing skills are also essential. You must be able to ski the black diamond terrain at Whiteface. Interested participants should understand that the outdoor fieldwork is done in a winter mountain environment that involves physical exertion and sustained exposure to winter elements and hazards. Interested participants with physical or medical restrictions must consider these factors before applying.

Attendance is limited, so sign up early! To register for the Level II Avalanche Course, please complete and return the form below with a check for \$250.00 NSP members, \$325.00 non-NSP members made out to "Chuck Boyd" by March 1, 2013. For information contact L2 Avalanche Instructor of Record Chuck Boyd at 860-508-5273 or (chucklin3@gmail.com). *

2013 L2 Avalanche Course

Whiteface Mountain, NY

March 14 - 17, 2013

Name _____

NSP Reg. # _____ Patrol _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

**Please return
this form with
payment by
March 1, 2013
to:**

Chuck Boyd
L2 Avalanche
1 Daventry Hill Lane
Suffield, CT 06078

Certified 2012-2013

by Dave Walker, Supervisor

This year's annual Certified Exam and Meeting will be held in Vermont at Sugarbush. Sugarbush offers great mid-winter skiing even this late in the season and will challenge every level. 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!!

This past summer we offered two certified events that were dubbed "Certified Boot Camps." One was held in Maine at HurriKane Cove on Long Lake in August. The second event was held in New York at Keuka Lake in September. Many thanks to John Kane and Jeff Baker for hosting these well-attended events. There were opportunities to practice low angle rescue with a practical application, incident investigation, risk management, lift evacuation, and interesting OEC problems involving a hot tub rescue and an arborist hung up in a tree. Check out the division website for photos.

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 is on the Eastern Division website at <http://www.nspeast.org/images/certapplic.pdf>. You can download, complete the application, and email it to Credentials Committee Chair Karl Johnson at johnson.building@verizon.net. Be careful, the deadline for applications is 30 days before the exam. Submissions have to be made by February 21 to be considered.

There is a program guide available on the same site that describes each part of the program. Training for the program starts whenever you are ready. Just email me at 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. *

2012-2013 Schedule

DATE	LOCATION	EVENT/CONTACT
Mon, 1/14	Killington	PSPA Precourse Marc Abend Marc Abend, marcabend@livenation.com
Fri, 1/25	Hunter Mountain	Certified Precourse: Brant Maley Brant Maley, skipatrol@comcast.net
Sat-Sun, 1/26-27	Windham**	Intro to Certified Justin Guth, jdguth@msn.com
Sat-Sun, 1/26-27	Elk Mountain**	Intro to Certified/Patrollers School Bill Jordan, cert169@comcast.net
Sun, 1/27	Cannon Mountain	PSPA Precourse Lee Murphy, Leemurphy@metrocast.net
Wed, 1/30	Saddleback	PSPA Precourse Carl Chaplin, carlc@rmspphq.com
Thurs, 1/31	Sunday River	Intro to Certified/Precourse Dave Walker, cert372@yahoo.com
Sat-Sun, 2/2-3	Killington	Certified Training Terry Randolph, terryrandolph@comcast.net
Sat, 2/8	Sugarbush	Certified Precourse Brant Maley, skipatrol@comcast.net
Tues, 2/21	Application Deadline	Karl Johnson, johnson.building@comcast.net
Wed-Thur, 3/6-7	Hunter Mountain	PSPA Annual Exam Carl Chaplin, carlc@rmspphq.com
Thurs-Sun, 3/21-24	Sugarbush	Annual Exam & Meeting Laura Tucker, certifiedpatrol@yahoo.com

** NOTE: Registration for the Intro to Certified at Elk Mountain and the Windham event are done online at <http://www.eventbrite.com/event/>. Check the Eastern Pennsylvania Region calendar for the Elk Mountain event ID number and the Eastern Division calendar for the Windham event ID number. And keep watching the division calendar, there may be more opportunities that are not listed here.

Nordic Master Program

Approved as  National Program by Greg France, Supervisor

After three seasons as a pilot program, originating in the Eastern Division, the Nordic Master Program received unanimous approval by the National Board as a recognized part of National Ski Patrol's Nordic Program.

Entering its fourth season in the Eastern Division, the new national program currently has eight Master Patrollers with five other Nordic Seniors working through the program.

During the past three seasons, there were times when moving the program to the National level had the feel of amending the U.S. Constitution. Without the encouragement of Division Directors Rick Hamlin and John Shipman the program very likely would have died at the division level. The support of National Chair Burt Mitchell and National Nordic Program Supervisor Kevin Johnson, whose skill at navigating the program through the maze of the organization proved invaluable, also deserves recognition.

Pete Snyder came up with the idea of a Master Nordic Program the early 90s. Along with Pete, it was brought to fruition by strong contributions from Butch MacQueen (MTR) and Phil Galka (Avalanche) along with a dynamic Telemark Instructional Opportunity by Rick Shandler at this season's PEC Conference. All deserve acknowledgement for their commitment.

The 2011/12 season broke new ground for the Nordic Program not only with the establishment of the Nordic Master Certification but also with the first Snow Science Program at West Point and a joint Hut-to-Hut Tour in Switzerland with the European Division.

Unfortunately, the Nordic ski season in the Eastern Division had more than its fair share of cancellations in 2012. With anemic natural snowfall, events scheduled in areas that literally did not open forced multiple cancellations and emphasized the positive influence of integrating active mountaineering, bike, or search & rescue programs with our Nordic patrols which can sustain patroller interest through lean seasons.

In 2013 the National Program will be working on a new Nordic Manual and taking a look at Nordic Senior Standards. In the Division we have an active schedule with a PSIA Ski Enhancement at Bolton Nordic followed by a Bolton-to-Trapp Tour scheduled for the last weekend in January.

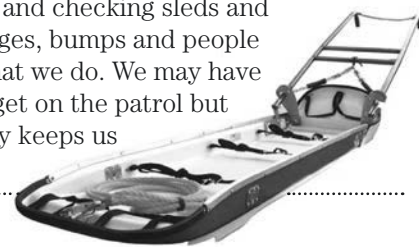
Northfield Nordic will be hosting a Nordic Women's Ski Enhancement on February 2 followed by a Senior Nordic Evaluation to be held at High Point Nordic, in New Jersey, on February 16.

The Nordic Division Events will finish the season with Nordicfest, hosted by Laurel Valley Nordic in the Western App Region March 1-3. Please check the division website calendar for contact information and details for all events. Stay involved and have a great season! *

As alpine and Nordic patrollers, transportation of injured skiers and riders is a core responsibility after administering first aid. Lifting, loading, and checking sleds and dodging rocks, trees, ledges, bumps and people while running sleds is what we do. We may have had to pass a ski test to get on the patrol but running a toboggan safely keeps us on patrol.

Have You Run a Toboggan Lately

by Bob Bluff, S&T Supervisor



Recently, the national office sent out an email to all patrol representatives stating that the toboggan refresher roster is to be used annually to document that patrollers have refreshed in all toboggan-handling skills. Quoting their memo, "Transportation of our customers is as critical as our first responder skills. These are the two national program areas that require an annual refresher."

In order for all members to be in compliance, follow these steps:

1. The patrol representative must access the toboggan refresher roster for the specific mountain(s) they represent.
2. Assign an NSP current registered S&T Toboggan Instructor, T/E or IT.
3. This designee should register the course as a "Toboggan Refresher" (use a long date range if necessary to ensure adequate time to get all patrollers through the process).
4. An NSP Toboggan Instructor must administer the course.
5. Minimum course requirements are to have each patroller demonstrate in a safe and effective manner the following:
 - a. Run an empty toboggan.
 - b. Run a loaded toboggan.
 - c. Demonstrate effective use of the tail rope (in accordance with local patrol protocol).
6. After completion, an S&T Instructor Trainer must sign off on the toboggan refresher roster.
7. The patrol representative submits the roster to national with a copy to their Region S&T Advisor.

For those patrols with no or few S&T instructors we are marshalling our resources to ensure that this is only a temporary problem with lasting rewards. We will, through our Division and Region S&T staffs assist any patrol that needs assistance to get the refresher requirement completed along with toboggan instructors. The Eastern Division S&T Staff is dedicated to promote a program that is positive, objective, safe, and most of all, fun. Our guarantee is to help make your good toboggan handlers better.

For more information, contact your Region S&T Advisor. Also, check out the division and region calendars with location, date, and contact person for one of the many region women's programs and patroller schools offering everything from basic patroller, senior patroller, toboggan instructor, T/E intro, and Intro to Certified. My staff and I look forward to working with you this season. *

YAPS

Take it Up a Notch

by Craig Larson, YAP Supervisor

The snow dance has started early, very early! Cool fall mornings provide a great opportunity for me to show off my dance moves as I stand with my children at the end of the driveway waiting for the school bus.

“Dad, what are you doing? Please stop! Stop! The bus is coming!” Silence. As a dad eager to share my wisdom, I responded with “Dance. Dance. DANCE with me! Learn the snow dance and learn it fast.” After last winter’s warm days and few snowstorms that amounted to much, I am eager for the coming days, even if it means dancing alone at the end of the driveway.

Last season, Young Adult Patrollers from around the division converged on Bromley Mountain with unseasonably warm temperatures for a weekend filled with morning fog, sunny afternoons, melting snow, and an abundance of smiling faces. Each run presented patrollers with a new set of challenges as a rock appeared here, a puddle over there, a bump line with mud in the troughs, and an ever-shrinking snow path back to the main lift. What a GREAT weekend it was and a great display of patroller skills. Here are the results of the competition:



SKI 1. Jordan Trafford - Shawnee Peak
2. Colin Bridge-Koenigsburg - Shawnee Peak
3. Cody Barba - Ski Sundown

TOBOGGAN 1. Jordan Trafford - Shawnee Peak
2. Kyle Romanelli - Mountain Creek
3. Colin Bridge-Koenigsburg - Shawnee Peak

OEC 1. Matthew Brown - Wachusett Mountain
2. Jeremy Lessard - Wachusett Mountain
3. Sam Lovitz - Nashoba Valley

OVERALL 1. Sam Lovitz - Nashoba Valley
2. Nick Laycox - Killington/Pico
3. Michael Seremula - Blue Mountain

HANS HYSON AWARD
Ian Kendrick - Pat's Peak

Are you ready to take your skills up a notch? Join us at Smugglers Notch Mountain Resort for the Eastern Division Young Adult Patroller Seminar March 15-17, 2013. With a vertical of 2610 feet, Smugglers' Notch offers over 1000 acres of skiing/riding fun.

Want a bargain? Here's what you get for your \$350:

- Three nights of lodging (Friday, Saturday, Sunday)
- Breakfast on Saturday and Sunday
Dinner on Friday, Saturday and Sunday
- Lift tickets
- Free Skiing on Friday and Monday
- Division evaluators and staff
- Mystery events
and (hopefully) lots of FUN!!!

Get your applications in early, but no later than February 15, as we cannot guarantee that late registrations will have space. If you are a YAP ready to take it up a notch start your snow dance today and dance often! I can be reached at 508-365-7540 or larsenfloorcompany@yahoo.com with any questions. See you at Smugglers'!!!! *

YOUNG ADULT PATROLLER SEMINAR REGISTRATION

SMUGGLERS' NOTCH, VT – MARCH 15-18, 2013

REGISTRATION DEADLINE FEBRUARY 15, 2013 – NO REFUNDS AFTER MARCH 1, 2013

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 \$350.00 check made payable to NSP Eastern Division to:
Craig Larson, 46 Brooks Road, Paxton, MA 01612

THIS FORM IS ALSO AVAILABLE ON THE DIVISION WEBSITE AS A PDF

Please type or legibly print all information except for signatures.

Last _____ First _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ E-mail _____
Age _____ Date of Birth _____ Male Female
NSP # _____ Mountain _____

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

Young Adult Patroller Signature _____

TO HELP US PLAN, FILL IN THE FOLLOWING:

FREE SKI FRIDAY _____

FREE SKI MONDAY _____

ENHANCEMENT TRACK _____

COMPETITION _____

ARRIVAL _____

DEPARTURE _____

*TICKETS WILL BE GRANTED TO THOSE WHO CHECKOFF FREE SKIING FOR THE ABOVE DAYS.
YOUNG ADULT PATROLLERS WILL BE ENROLLED IN THE COMPETITION UNLESS CHECKED OTHERWISE.*

Advisor/Chaperone attending with Young Adult Patroller _____

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 five (5) young adults per advisor/chaperone

To help with staffing please check your status (check all that apply)

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

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

Patrol Director/Young Adult Advisor (Print/Signature) _____

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 _____ Emergency Contact # _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

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 2013 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, 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 2013 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 2013 Eastern Division Young Adult Training Seminar. As further consideration for being permitted to participate in the 2013 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, 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 _____ Participant Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian _____ Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____



NSP founder Charles Minot "Minnie" Dole is inducted into the Vermont Ski & Snowboard hall of fame. Accepting on his father's behalf is his son, Charles Minot "Mint" Dole.



National Executive Director Tim White and National Chairman Burt Mitchell cut the ribbon at the sculpture dedication as the great-grandchildren of Minnie Dole look on.

Induction of "Minnie" Dole into the Vermont Ski and Snowboard Museum's Hall of Fame on October 20th, 2012 at the 75th Anniversary Celebration and Bench Dedication in Stowe, Vt.



The National Ski Patrol commissioned Stowe sculptor Chris Curtis to make a 75th anniversary stone sculpture, in the form of a bench, from a rock taken from the base of Mt. Mansfield's.



The bench sits in front of the Vermont Ski & Snowboard Museum and is engraved with a dedication to the National Ski Patrol.



The sculpture contains a time capsule. The metal cylinder will be sealed until the 150th anniversary of the NSP 75 years from now.



The grandchildren and great-grandchildren of NSP founder Minnie Dole are among the first to sit on the bench, along with Executive Director Tim White.



Later in the day, the crowd moves to the Rusty Nail, a nearby watering hole, to continue the celebration.

2012 AWARDS

National Appointment

Stephen Wright	11238	CT
Merritt Willey	11320	ENY
Scott Krall	11352	ME

Leadership Commendation Appointment

Pat Boccardi	8461	WAPP
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Distinguished Service Award

Inga Hawrylow	SVT
Wendy Thompson	WAPP

Meritorious Service Award

Tim Walker	SVT
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Yellow Merit Star

Justin Guth	EPA
John Henderson	EPA
Jenna Jariel	EPA
Brant Maley	EPA
Michael Millin	EPA
Bob Scarlett	EPA
Conrad Brown	ME
Tom Bull	ME
Jonathan Busko	ME
Anthony Curro	ME
Mami Iwamoto	ME
David Lemieux	ME
Glen Semple	ME
Terry Randolph	SVT
Michael Athen	WAPP
Karen Blocker	WAPP
Jan Bohrer	WAPP
Zoe Hermann	WAPP
Thomas Rawcliffe	WAPP
James Sanders	WAPP

Purple Merit Star

Virginia Hoyt	ENY
Wendy Neefus	ENY
Randy Rock	ENY
Bill Silta	ENY

Blue Merit Star

Mike Baker	ENY
Barry Brogan	ENY
Bob Doolittle	ENY
Nate Hofrichter	ENY
John Kowal, Jr.	ENY
John Mathiason	ENY
Cindy Neil	ENY
Bill Pfaffenbach	ENY
Greg Pulver	ENY
Dan Reilly	ENY
Nancy Rendinaro	ENY
Don Uhler	ENY
Andrew Athen	WAPP
Hugh Blocker, Jr.	WAPP
Michael Calabrese	WAPP
Elizabeth Hermann	WAPP
Jesse Hill	WAPP
Tim Parnell	WAPP
TJ Parnell	WAPP
Michael Wess	WAPP

Green Merit Star

Mike Noyes	WMA
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Patriot Star

Burt Mitchell	CT
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Patroller Achievement Award

David Carter	SVT
Tim Finney	SVT
Norman Jamieson	SVT
Alan Justin	SVT
Pete Utrera	WMA
Bill Zimmerman	WMA

National Certificate of Appreciation

Marybeth Blocker	WAPP
Brady Hillegas	WAPP

2012 Eastern Division Outstanding Awards

The William J. Gross Memorial Award

Jon Cohen	NVT
Linc Prescott	NVT

2012 National Outstanding Awards

Outstanding Large Alpine Patrol

Hunt Hollow	GV
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Outstanding Administrator

John Lawson	GV
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Outstanding Instructor

Robert André	GV
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Outstanding Young Adult Patroller

Kaitlin Henry	NH
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Outstanding Nordic Patrol Runner Up

Upper Delaware	EPA
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Outstanding Paid Patroller Runner Up

Marc LeBlond	ME
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Tales of the Green Merit Star

by Jeff Paston, CNY Awards Advisor

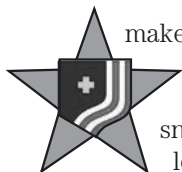


A valuable lesson for some out-of-bounds skiers resulted in NSP Green Merit Stars for two Snow Ridge patrollers. The valuable lesson is the often-told tale of skiers getting trapped in an off-area predicament and their subsequent rescue. Patrollers Perry Tooker and Michael Washburn received the honors for their actions.

The Green Merit Star is awarded for heroic rescue, something that doesn't happen much in the Eastern Division, and especially in the Central New York Region.

In the Snow Ridge Patrol Leader Tom Streeter's narrative, three teenagers skied out of the area limits and found themselves stuck in four-foot deep, lake-effect snow near the top of nearly vertical terrain. One of the teens, a 15-year-old, managed to crawl out and

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make it back to a lift attendant. The report came to the patrol a mere 15 minutes before sweep! Two 13-year-olds were stuck in the heavy snow for about an hour by the time the patrolers arrived. Tooker and Washburn performed the rescue in a two-stage maneuver using rope evacuation techniques in which the patrol had trained should there ever be such an event. While Tooker got to the teens, Washburn lowered himself part way down the "cliff." Then Tooker lowered the teens to Washburn, who lowered them the rest of the way to the bottom, where two management snowmobiles were waiting.

One of the 13-year-olds suffered frostbite, but they were otherwise in good condition in what, those on the scene agreed, could have been a lot worse. Washburn is a 26-year veteran of ski patrol; Tooker is a 21-year member.

Until these awards there was no record of a Green Merit Star previously being presented in the Central New York Region, but before the award was even conceived, an

early patrol met such criteria in two rescues.

The Pulaski Ski Patrol, located in the snow belt of north-central New York State (due west of today's Snow Ridge), rescued two people in separate incidents on March 5th and 7th, 1947. With snow at least four feet deep, the patrol was called upon by local authorities to get a victim with ruptured stomach ulcers from an ambulance to a waiting airplane. The plane could not get off the ground because of the intense snowfall, so the patrol took the patient to a nearby railroad yard and strapped him to a railroad locomotive for the trip to a Syracuse hospital. The story was included in NSP founder Minnie Dole's book *Adventures in Skiing*.

The second incident during the same snowstorm involved getting a youth suffering a ruptured appendix out of a remote farmhouse. Patrolers had to trek through the extremely deep snow and pull the patient out in a toboggan to where a road had been plowed one lane wide in a nearby community. *



SHAWN FARMER

In Memoriam

Shawn Peter Farmer, 51, of Jay, NY passed away Tuesday, September 25, 2012, at his home, following a courageous two-year battle with Glioblastoma. His family and friends were at his side at the time and have been there every day since his surgery in 2010.

Shawn was born on Feb. 25, 1961, in Utica to William and Marguerite (Matera) Farmer of Old Forge. Shawn worked as a ski patroller at Whiteface Mountain since 1989, and has skied more vertical in the past 23 years than most people will ski in their lifetime. Following his surgery in 2010 to remove a brain tumor, he returned to the mountain to continue his service there. After the surgery and during radiation treatment he continued to patrol at Whiteface and even under extreme adversity was kind and helpful to all he met.

He is survived by his wife, Ann; their children, Jamie, Sam and Jeremiah; and grandchildren, Declan, Kimberlynn and Shawn.

There is an old saying, some attribute to American Indians. It says "a man dies two deaths, the first when his physical body no longer lives, and the second when his name is spoken for the last time by those who know him." May you hold Shawn and the memories of him close to you, and share those memories with others, so that he will continue to live beyond this day, and tomorrow.

The Whiteface Patrol would like to wish Shawn good luck and Godspeed on his "Final Sweep." *