

Official Publication of the Eastern Division of the National Ski Patrol



Division Director's REPORT

by John Kane, Division Director

This past winter got off to a great start and never seemed to let up; well that's if you were north of I-90 and east of the Great Lakes, thereby leaving rain/snow events for our southern resorts and winter wonderland conditions to the north. No problem holding events for all programs this year.

As many of you have seen on Facebook, I have been making the rounds. This past year I was able to complete a promise to myself that I would visit every region during my term as your Eastern Division Director. I was doing that with my visits to NJ, Southern NY and finally with Western MA. The best part about finishing my 15th region visit was being on hand to celebrate a birthday with another long-standing, dedicated Eastern Division staff member—your and everyone's Muther, Laura Tucker; a Butternut Patroller and our own *Trail Sweep* editor. Laura has been bringing the business of the Eastern Division to every member in the Eastern Division as long as I can remember. If you have an appreciation for what Laura brings you twice a year, please let her know. And more than that please send her an interesting story. So, while the goal has been met, trips to many of the great regions in the Eastern Division are still on the calendar. I have been making trips to as many of the awards banquets as I can.

For those I have visited THANK YOU for allowing me to share in great patrollers receiving great awards. Thank you to all the patrollers who write up awards for those deserving. Please get started early! Yes, right now this summer for next year. It takes about 45 days for outstanding and significant awards to be processed. Sue-Ellen Helmacy and her Region Awards Team are ready to help you. If you've never written one, please look up your region awards advisor and just inquire. They are ready to help you to arrive at any appropriate award. Sue-Ellen came out with an Eastern Division NAG button. If you see it – ACT! If you don't – ACT! Do it now. You will be as satisfied as the person receiving an award by your hand. I guarantee it.

IN THIS ISSUE

- FirstNet Service
- Moodle User's Group
- Just a Kid
- Serendipity
- NAGs

!!!! DON'T WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE !!!!

ICS-100 is required of all patrollers by December 31, 2019.

To obtain the ICS-100 course materials or take the course online go to <http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/is100.asp>
WAIT, YOU SHOULD BE SAYING TO YOURSELF—

I READ THIS BEFORE

THAT'S BECAUSE YOU DID, IN LAST WINTER'S ISSUE—
DON'T SAY I DIDN'T WARN YOU

ICS-100 is federally-mandated and is required of all federal, state, territorial, tribal, private sector, and non-governmental personnel at the following levels of responsibility in emergency management operations: first-line supervisor (Sergeant/Lieutenant), mid-level management (Captain/Shift Commander), command (Battalion Chief/Division Chief/District Commander/PIO), and general staff (Operations/Planning/Logistics/Finance-Admin). The NSP falls into the last category.

We are encouraging all patrols and program supervisors to find ways to include ICS training with other training platforms as early and often as possible. It makes sense for this to happen at OEC courses, patroller schools, avalanche, and MTR courses. If we can do a little at a time it will be easier on patrols not having to do this by December. It is a self-paced course done by individual patrollers.

Any instructor can register a course and have their patrollers register. When the instructor closes the course, like any other, patrollers who registered and can demonstrate their certificate of completion will have it show up on their record. Any new candidate must complete ICS-100 prior to becoming a patroller. Please consult your patrol director, region, or division leadership with any questions.

Soon after the conclusion of the Spring Officer's Meeting the Eastern Division (with our partners at Subaru) provided Safety and Gear (SAG) vehicle support for the American Lung Association (ALA) for the "Trek Across Maine" which started in

Cont'd on pg 2

Brunswick, Maine at the Brunswick Landing, on to Bates College, up to Colby, and back to the Brunswick Landing. This is almost a 200-mile ride. There are smaller legs which are broken into three waves. This is our 4th year doing this and a continuing example of how valued the NSP is viewed off the ski slopes. If anyone is interested in becoming a bike medic or a SAG vehicle driver for next year's event, please give me a call to sign up early. You have also seen other worthwhile bike events all over the Eastern Division. Great articles have been written for *Ski Patrol Magazine* by our dedicated division patrollers. Thanks to all of you who participate in these events.

We are scheduled to host the 11th Annual Certified Boot Camp in Harrison, Maine July 26-28. Last year featured an MCI with a plane crash with the plane on fire. We involved the Harrison Fire Department, State Police, and other medical response teams. It was another eye-opening experience for all that came. I think even our examiners were amazed as we kept them in the dark too, until "go time." Prerequisite to all who arrived – one guess – ICS-100 had to be completed. Here's an incentive for patrollers to complete this course requirement. The OEC Team is planning something very different this year. Hope to see a great turn out again.

From the coastal side of the division to its western boundaries at Blue Mountain in the EPA Region Jeff Baker will hold the Advanced Patroller School (APS) on September 13-15. This format has both the instructor and participants working the accident together. It is offering a different learning experience that is getting great feedback from the participants. Both programs are learning from one another for future presentations. Please consider attending one of these outstanding forums.

I want to extend a heartfelt THANK YOU to our entire Eastern Division Board, Section Chiefs, Program Committees, and the membership at large for their guidance, support, and an all-around job well done. The Eastern Division is in excellent shape because of your dedication and tireless service to our membership and to the skiing/riding public.

Keeping with the changing of the guard, we also have three new Region Directors to welcome:

- Grant Fullman—Eastern New York
- Jeff Welch—Genesee Valley
- Carl Chaplin—New Hampshire

I have personally worked and trained with Grant and Carl over the years in the OET, OEC, and certified programs and look forward to working with them in their new positions. Jeff, I look forward to making some turns with you in the near future.

In line with their arrival we naturally have three departures from these posts:

- Alex Edwards—Past Region Director, Eastern NY. Alex's accomplishments are numerous. He was, and still is, responsible for helping to refine and stabilize our financial processes and our financial well-being for the Eastern Division. While only a region director for one term (two years), Alex has been serving the division for as long as I can remember and hopefully, he will stay connected to keep us fiscally sound. Thank you for your dedication in serving ENY as their region director and thank for your continued service and support of the Finance Committee as the Eastern Division Finance Advisor.

- John Topping—Past Region Director, Genesee Valley, NY. John was a two-term RD and instrumental serving on several committees that dealt with difficult issues. He also kept the ID Program in the bright lights when it needed it most. John held monthly meetings which navigated some muddy waters for the program which I believe has come a long way. Many other aspects of his work and contributions will not be seen in the limelight because John just goes about his business and doing the great work of delivering programs to his patrollers and for all division members. Thank you, John, for your support and service to the Eastern Division.

- Paul Kelly—Past Region Director, New Hampshire. From the day Paul took over the position as RD six years ago he was out of the gate putting together a high-quality NH team of instructors and advisors that would soon be invaluable to the Eastern Division in other capacities. Paul is not the loudest guy in the room. In fact, you wouldn't even know Paul was there if he wasn't introduced. Instead, Paul quietly looks to take on programs and processes no one would have thought to do. For example, Paul took on a dormant Long-Range Planning Committee and turned it into a meaningful and influential program developing a "Program Report" that now works to justify program budgets. This requires the program liaison and the program supervisor to work together to present a program that will best deliver its information to membership and hold them accountable to do it. This is just one of many of his contributions. Additionally, he has served on several committees one of which was responsible for finding our new division administrator. If you haven't heard, read about it, or know someone who knows, Paul is running for a seat at the National Board. With key people terming out at the board, Paul has all the tools, the value of independent thinking, and time to give to a job that needs the credentials that he possesses. Please take time to get reintroduced to Paul Kelly, candidate for the National Board. Thank you, Paul, for your guidance, service, and untiring commitment to the Eastern Division and the NSP.

We have a few others in leadership roles we have to say goodbye to and to welcome others:

- Steve Devine retired as the Eastern Division MTR Advisor—What a great job you have done for us in rejuvenating a good program into a great program. We will miss your enthusiasm and that great smile that is so inviting and contagious. Let's not forget that Steve is one of only a few Nordic Masters. You are the best of what a supervisor of programs can aspire to be. Thank you for your energetic contributions to the division. We have set up a committee to find someone to live up to the high standards set by Steve Devine.

- Eva Kunkle was only with us for one year, but she was so impactful in filling the big shoes of that little-known guy by the name of Jerry Sherman. In a short time, Eva took right over and made it her own. She overcame some of the many challenges that awards preparation can present and handled them wonderfully with a gigantic smile and awe-

some can-do attitude. Work got in the way forcing Eva to step down. Welcome Sue-Ellen Helmacy! Sue-Ellen comes with a lot of awards experience and a deep passion for recognizing people who deserve to be recognized. So much so she has created an Eastern Division NAG pin. She even created Eastern Division Airlines to assure deliveries of awards are delivered safely and ON TIME. True story (sort of)! Thank you for putting all your extensive awards knowledge to work to get us up to speed for all our benefit. And thanks again to Gerry Pollard's committee for your hard work.

- Ingrid Shuttleworth was asked to be the Eastern Division Events Coordinator. We thought to start her off with something easy...the Spring Officer's Meeting in Albany. Just the most important event for the business of the Eastern Division. At first, I had Nancy and Donna looking at each other "who?" But quickly Ingrid asserted her personality and business sense for how the meeting would be presented in the most professional way possible. Quite simply, and to our collective amazement, she did it! Thank you, Ingrid, for hanging in there. We look forward to working with you for many events ahead.

It is also worth noting the awesome work performed by these Eastern Division members at the national level. Let's not forget the great work these members do for us IN and OUT of division.

National Board members:

- Rick Knight, CT Region – Chair
- David Walker, EMARI Region
- Chris Pringle, EMARI Region
- Wendy Aarnio, SVT Region
- Bob Scarlett, EPA Region

National OEC Team:

- Bill DeVarney, newly appointed OEC Program Director
- Ed McNamara, OEC 6 Editor
- Dr. David Johe, Medical Advisor

Other members of the Eastern Division working at the National level are:

- Chris Brodersen, Certified Program Director
- Rick Shandler, Nordic/Backcountry Program Director
- Rick Hamlin, Historian

Just a quick note on the national elections. We have a wide-ranging field of candidates (12) from Alaska to the Eastern Division. They will be vetted and determined to be eligible for their bid to run for a seat on the board. We will begin to see national furnish the names that will listed on the website. Please take the time to read through the candidates' platforms. Cal Goldsmith has done an excellent job in providing members of the Eastern Division data and statistics that inform our members about the importance and value of your vote. Your vote really counts! Please take the time to read his article in this issue and to take the two minutes it takes to vote. It is that easy.

As we conclude another great year, the Eastern Division team is ready to serve all our members. Help them by communicating what you like about patrolling and what it is we need to work on to make your job more interesting

and productive. We take the very best information we have to work with to provide program support locally and make decisions based on your local and region representation, but we need your input. Please let your patrol directors, NSP representatives, section chiefs, and region directors know what is on your mind. Contrary to what you might think, we really do care about what is on your mind. So please help us to help you.

In the meantime, think about those outstanding moments of patrolling, those patrollers who have performed outstanding work as patrollers, instructors, leaders at their ski resorts and communities. Each of the regions has award advisors and many patrols do also. If you think to yourself that a patroller deserves recognition for his/her performance and accomplishments, please check with your patrol advisor or call the advisor in your region. We can help you determine what award is appropriate for the event. Also think about your patrol. Are you proud of your team, leadership, and the resort as a whole? If so, there are awards for this. Be proud and recognize your patrol – large or small. Recognizing one's accomplishments can be done by way of awards.

**In a volunteer organization Awards, in most cases,
are our only currency!**

On behalf of the Eastern Division, I hope you all will have a wonderful and SAFE summer and fall with family and friends.



Melinda Mingus, MD
Safety Supervisor

Melinda began working as an Alpine ski patroller in 2002 at Mohawk Mountain in Cornwall, CT. She currently holds positions as a Senior Nordic Patroller, Mountain Travel Rescue instructor, CT Region Medical Advisor, and Eastern Division Safety Team Supervisor. She holds PSIA level I Nordic Downhill and Cross Country Track/Skate certifications.

Melinda was awarded the CT Region Director's Award in 2014, the CT Region Patroller of the Year Award in 2016, and the Eastern Division Pete Snyder Outstanding Nordic Patroller Award for 2018-2019. As a board-certified Anesthesiologist and Pain Medicine Physician and former Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care (AAAHC) Surveyor, she has over 30 years of leadership in healthcare safety and risk management.

Married with two children, Melinda spends much of her time skiing, hiking, climbing, and promoting outdoor safety with the Mohonk Preserve, Wilderness Medical Society, Appalachian Mountain Club, Catamount Trail Association, and the American Alpine Club.

We Have Liftoff!

by Jim Miller, ID Supervisor

Eastern Division has approved the purchase of a Moodle Online learning account at its Spring Officers meeting. I explained this type of learning in the Summer 2018 issue of *Trail Sweep*. If you didn't read it, it's available on the division website. What this means, is that Eastern Division will be leading the way offering online courses, up to 200 patrollers at one time. Avalanche and OEC have done some work with this online program. Instructor Development is finalizing the ID portion of Continuing Education for NSP instructors. A committee has been formed to determine the best way to use this resource.

An updated Instructor Development Instructor's Manual can now be found on the NSP and Eastern Division websites.

I attended a meeting, prior to Powderfall 2019, to discuss issues with Instructor Development. The biggest issue was the online Instructor Development program. The other Division ID Supervisors, National ID Chair, and NSP Education members went through 22 pages of complaints/problems that were part of the online course evaluation.

The results are that a newer, updated, more user-friendly version will be available. The exact date has not been set; we are hoping for a Fall 2019 release.

Frustrated having your students not able to register for one of your courses? Use our new Deep Links for Instructors



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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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NSP's website will process a technical deep link directly to your instructor's course registration site. Any NSP instructor can provide students with a DEEP LINK. This deep link will first bring students to the NSP log-in page and then immediately to the instructor's course registration page. If the student is already logged onto the NSP website, the deep link will immediately bring them to the instructor's course registration page.

Deep Links require three (3) critical parts, added together with NO spaces:

- URL Event Address
- Query String (text and symbols that follow a basic URL)
- NSP Course Number (received from NSP after course is registered by instructor)

The URL Event Address and Query String NEVER changes, only the NSP course number will change. When you add the URL Event Address with the Query String and Course Number, the NSP website will process the request directly to the course registration area provided by the course number.

Here is what it looks like, one component at a time:

- The URL Event Address represents the NSP Events page:
<https://www.nsp.org/Event.aspx>
- The Query String:
?EventKey=
(Notice it starts with a question mark and ends with an = sign)
- The Course Number:
Provided by NSP
(placed right after the = sign)

Putting the three together, in order, with NO spaces: URL Event Address, Query String, and Course Number completes the deep link.

Here is an example:

<https://www.nsp.org/Event.aspx?EventKey=XXXXXXXXXX>



Course Number

Word documents and email providers allow instructors to edit the displayed name of the link while retaining the actual deep link address. This allows the instructor to give the link, via word document or email, a specific name.

You will still have to remind students that they will have to click the "Register Myself" button and then "Proceed to Checkout" to complete the course registration.

I have made a sample course for you to see how it might look. Paste the link below into your web browser:

<https://www.nsp.org/Event.aspx?EventKey=E047180019>

One Note of Caution: If you decide to use this method, the National Office will NOT be able to assist you, if you are having problems with Deep Links contact me for assistance.

NSP Eligible for FirstNet Service by Dick Woolf, National Telecom Advisor

I have been receiving numerous inquiries from members about FirstNet following our presentations at Powderfall 2019. Here is the information we have available as of the publication deadline for this issue of *Trail Sweep*.

NSP has been moving ahead with discussions with AT&T relating to the nationwide rollout of FirstNet availability to our members who hold valid OEC certification. AT&T, in its role as the contractor responsible for building and operating FirstNet for the First Responder Network Authority (an agency of the US Department of Commerce), has approved OEC certification as proof of EMS first-responder eligibility, equal to EMT licensure. It is not NSP membership that grants eligibility, it is a valid OEC certification that imparts first-responder status.

Members who elect to opt-in to FirstNet will be responsible for payment of their own bill. Typical costs for a first-responder service plan are less than that of a consumer plan. You will be able to “port” your existing cell number or obtain a new number. Existing AT&T customers may migrate their service.

Look at the linked article and embedded video from CNET which describes FirstNet in non-technical terms. FirstNet is a parallel cellular network; it is not the “consumer” network of AT&T. AT&T’s role is to build and operate the network—the channels on which it operates are con-

trolled by the First Responder Network Authority and are restricted to first responders.

<https://www.cnet.com/news/firstnet-black-sim-puts-first-responders-calls-ahead-of-yours/>

For EMS providers, the FirstNet ecosystem will ultimately make available hardware and software which will enable simple in-the-field diagnostics and transmission of patient’s vital signs (such as EKG) and other acoustic and imaging information to the next point-of-care, or to medical control. Non-invasive emergency diagnostics, which include field ultrasound and auscultation, will make it easier for remotely located medical professionals to advise the first responder if the patient is high-priority.

For further details, please refer to the FirstNet documents which will be posted in a new “FirstNet” section within the Telecom Program section of the NSP (member) website.

Once the arrangements for FirstNet rollout to ski patrolers have been finalized, you will receive additional information. We are trying very hard to complete all arrangements during the summer.

Direct comments or questions to telecom@nspserver.org.

FIRSTNET.
Built with AT&T

Interesting Patrol Party by Paul Bruno, Mountain Creek PD

On Saturday May 4, the Mountain Creek Ski Patrol in Vernon, New Jersey had our end of season party at Skydive Sussex in Sussex, New Jersey. Besides food and music, patrollers and their family members (if they wanted to) could sky dive! Out of 100 people who attended, 13 of us, including me, took the plunge from 14,000 feet. A few patrollers were able to ride in the copilot seat of the plane which was a heck of a ride especially coming back down.

The weather did not fully cooperate which hampered about four more brave ones from jumping. They plan on coming back later this summer. One of our patrollers is the owner of Sussex Skydive and all you have to do is show your patrol card, regardless of what patrol you are on, and he will give you a 20% discount. Pictured from left to right is Paul Bruno, Eileen Dalton, and Rod Schmidt in the last two pictures. The three of us shared Chris Pirl as our instructor. He also happens to be a lift maintenance technician at Mountain Creek in the winter.



Pictured from left to right is Paul Bruno, Eileen Dalton, and Rod Schmidt in the last two pictures. The three of us shared Chris Pirl as our instructor who also happens to be a Lift Maintenance technician at Mountain Creek in the winter.

Central New York Region Turns



by Jeff Paston, CNY Historian

This fall, the Eastern Division's Central New York Region reaches a significant milestone in the annals of National Ski Patrol history. Formed as the New York State Region in the waning years of WWII, the region now observes its 75th birthday, having been born just six years after the NSP itself.

In 1938, the National Ski Patrol System was formally organized as a committee of the National Ski Association (now United States Ski Association) by Charles Minot Dole. The NSA included many ski clubs, and logically, many of the first NSPS-registered ski patrols started with these clubs.

By 1941, the main divisions of the NSPS (paralleling the divisions of the NSA) including the Eastern Division, were in operation. Sections became the first components of the new division. The 1941 NSPS manual showed several registered patrols listed for the immediate Central New York area, including the Herkimer, Sherrill, Oswego County, Rome, and Utica Ski Patrols.

While some of these patrols remained in existence, others quickly disappeared. These early patrols were outgrowths of local NSA-member ski clubs. Many of them formed about the time the NSPS manual went to press.

In 1984, I tracked down early patrol leaders for a history of the region. Richard Folts, patrol leader of the Herkimer Patrol, which patrolled the Mohawk Valley Ski Club about five miles south of Herkimer, recalled that his patrol was organized in 1941 and it became necessary to quickly come up with a name for the new patrol to include it in the NSPS manual. The Utica Section was formed in 1941, and according to the NSPS manual, Donald S. Rowles, patrol leader of the Utica Ski Patrol, became the first section chief, but left to join the military in 1942. He was followed in that position by Henry Allen, patrol leader of the Sherrill Ski Patrol.

Allen was awarded National Ski Patroller #492 and in 1944 was asked by Minnie Dole to be the first chairman of the New York State Region. Allen, an executive with Oneida Silversmiths in Sherrill, recalled that Dole wanted someone with business background to run the new region.

In those early days of the NSPS, region and section boundaries were not always clear. The New York State

Region of Henry Allen stretched from Albany to Cleveland, Ohio. The Western New York Region was subsequently carved out in the late 1940s, and the New York State Region changed its name to the Central New York Region.

Dick Folts recalled that when he became region chairman in 1953, the Central New York Region extended no farther east than the Albany area and no farther west than east of Rochester. He said that during his first year in office, the Rochester (Genesee Valley) Section transferred into the CNY Region from the Western New York Region, and the Southern Tier Section transferred from the Metropolitan (Southern New York) Region.

In the Syracuse area, a patrol had been registered with the NSPS in Oswego County in 1941, but the war apparently prevented it from continuing since it was not in existence when the section was formed in 1944. Drumlins, a tiny "learn-to-ski" hill in Syracuse became the first ski area to register with the NSPS under the auspices of the new section in 1944, even though it had a first aid patrol reportedly as early as 1938. Cazenovia Ski Club, founded in 1937, was said to have had a first aid patrol early in its existence, although it did not register with the NSPS until sometime around 1960. The Pulaski Ski Club also had a first aid patrol, but only registered with the NSPS between 1946 and 1948.

In 1944, Allen, the new region chairman sought out Drumlins' patroller Larry Van Alstyne to form the new Syracuse Section. He nominated Van Alstyne for a national appointment. On Jan. 21, 1944, Van Alstyne was awarded National Appointment #691, becoming the first NSPS member in what was to become the Syracuse Section.

According to Van Alstyne, during WWII, Drumlins was one of many sites selected for recruiting the U.S. Army's new 10th Mountain Division ski troops. Enlistees were screened by members of the NSPS and NSA. The NSPS also had a hand in selecting troops for the Army's 87th Mountain Infantry Regiment. Van Alstyne said he had been placed in charge of publicity for the recruitment of soldiers at the Drumlins site. Forty years later, he proudly noted that he still had his ID card signed in 1940 by Senior Chief of Staff General George C. Marshall.

After the war, Van Alstyne said he received a citation from the War Department and a Yellow Merit Star from the NSPS for his efforts. The Drumlins Patrol and the recruiters based there were also utilized by Van Alstyne for a winter rescue unit, the first in the Syracuse area, according to Van Alstyne. He said he received an NSPS Green Merit Star for his rescue work.

During his administration, Van Alstyne said he felt that the available first aid courses did not offer enough training for ski patrol orientation, so he and Red Cross instructor Bill Gallipeau developed a local winter first aid and rescue course that they offered each year to section patrollers. These courses, taught at Drumlins, offered training in first aid techniques best suited for ski patrollers, improvised toboggan construction, and winter rescue.

In an effort to train more patrollers and disseminate information on skiing safety, the region's first Ski Safety Conference was organized by National Appointment #10, Harold Gore, and held at Old Forge on October 26 and 27, 1946. The conference ended up training Red Cross first aid instructors to go back to their home

Cont'd on pg 7

areas and train ski patrollers. Among the attendees was Ben Hedges of Syracuse, who was in the process of setting up a patrol at Syracuse University. His patrol was registered in 1947 and Hedges said he received a Yellow Merit Star for his work.

Also, in 1947, the Pulaski Ski Club's ski patrol (registered in 1946) was involved in two heroic rescues, one of which was included in Minnie Dole's book *Adventures in Skiing*.

If all the patrols that once were part of the CNY Region were counted, there would be at least 85. But

over the years, many patrols came and went; many ski hills disappeared as well. Redefining region boundaries also affected the number of patrols. Today, in its 75th year, the Central New York Region has 10 patrols still registered with the NSP: Cazenovia Ski Club, Greek Peak, Highland Forest Nordic, Labrador, Old Forge, Skaneateles Ski Club, Snow Ridge, Song Mountain, Toggenburg, and Watertown.

The 75-year history of the CNY Region is rich in stories about the evolution of the NSP over those decades – far too much to be shared here. As with other regions of the NSP, the CNY Region continues to move forward, taking part in the continuing growth of the NSP. ☀

by Jon Wilson, Chair

CERTIFIED



This past season held onto its snow well into spring. Many Certified patrollers gathered in May to ski Killington and were reminded of the stellar season we just had.

Congratulations to Jay Biersbach, Certified #832, of Holimont Ski Area and Denice Kaus, Certified #833, of Holiday Valley. Their strength of focus and hard work paid off as the most recent ski patrollers to earn their Certified status.

Our annual exam was hosted by Jay Peak in Vermont. Over 135 people were in attendance from as far way as Ohio and West Virginia.

There were ten NSP members, one was a PSPA reciprocity candidate, taking part in the exam.

We had outstanding snow conditions for the OET component, brutally cold conditions for the OEC, and phenomenal terrain for the Avalanche portion. As

always, the Certified leadership team found great terrain for the Low Angle Rescue component as well as the Lift Evacuation. The Outdoor Risk Management component had a new group of candidates to work with as well as a team of interested people looking at the program for next season.

Dinner at the Jay Peak Lodge was incredible with fantastic food and like-minded patrollers enjoying the camaraderie of a well-earned weekend. The awards ceremony was hard to top with Yellow Merit stars, Chairman's and Gordie Bell awards, and the announcement of

the induction of Bill Cline into the NSP National Hall of Fame.

In working with our leadership team and remembering this past season, learning curves and plateaus are the takeaways. Always be learning something new. The current learning curve you are on must be ongoing, because if you are at a plateau and think you know everything, your training is incomplete. Jay Biersbach and Denice Kaus know that the training involved is more than they planned for, yet they maintained their laser-like focus and persevered.

Please go to www.patrollershool.org and review these upcoming Certified Boot Camps: July 26-28, 2019 at HurriKane Cove, Harrison, ME and September 13-15, 2019 at Blue Mountain, PA As always, we are busy planning the next MCI and key learning points for all patrollers.

We are providing excellent training scenarios for Certified candidates and learning experiences for all others who attend. If you are interested in the program, ask a Certified patroller if his or her training was worth it? I am quite certain all will agree. Get involved now, schedule out your calendars, attend Patroller Schools, and attend Certified Pretests and Calibrations. Here is the schedule for the upcoming year:

Feb. 1, 2020.....Killington Ski and Toboggan Pretest
Feb. 8, 2020.....McCauley OEC, LAR, LE, Avy Calibrations
Feb. 22, 2020.....Hunter Ski and Toboggan Pretest (TBD)

Do not let your ski patrolling skills remain static—step up and raise the level of your skills by taking part in the Certified Program.

Please see the Certified page on www.NSPeast.org for more information. We look forward to seeing the leaves change colors and seeing you on the slopes.



Avalanche Program, Never at Rest

Well the season is over for most unless you're planning to head south of the equator to ski this summer. The rest of us should be putting a coat of wax on our skis to protect the edges until the next ski season begins. I have a couple of things planned to prepare for next season. The first is to go to the certified boot camp at JK's lakefront property in Harrison, ME. Not only will there be an exciting MCI incident, there will also be other skill stations. A couple of avalanche instructors will be helping people hone their skills for the certified exam, or just general skill improvement.

We are also involved in planning the annual AMN meeting, which this year will be held at Northfield Mountain, MA. Navigation will be a theme. Do you know which aspect of the mountain you are about to ski? Or the aspect and slope angle of the snow pit that you are digging? When a whiteout happens because you're a little bit late with your timing, did you take bearings so that you can navigate back to the trailhead? Just because the ski season is over does not mean you should forget these skills until the next year. Summertime is a good time to practice some avalanche and MTR skills so that when it does snow again just focusing on skiing will feel more comfortable.

Rob West received the division's Avalanche Scholarship and this October will be attending the National Avalanche School's indoor sessions. I hear that next February, Rob and a couple of other division avalanche instructors are planning to team up and take the NAS Pro 1 course.

The Eastern States Avalanche Workshop will be held in the North Conway area of New Hampshire in November. This mini ISSW is a highly recommended continuing education event for all avalanche instructors.

My wife, Linda, is finally off her crutches and we will focus on getting her back in shape so that she can relive the event at the next Patroller School in Old Forge. There will be a big MCI incident involving an avalanche and incorporating both MTR and Nordic skills to pull off a successful rescue. Being in the parade through town and the fireworks, also make this a great event.

Hope everyone has a great summer and takes a little time to practice some skills that we don't need snow for. Get out and ride your bike, this will keep your legs in shape. There are still some patrols looking for MTB patrollers too.

Avalanche, the Pro Track

You're getting nervous waiting your turn, you watched four others go ahead of you, not knowing the outcome. It's now your turn to complete the 7-minute avalanche rescue drill, a pass/fail component of the Pro 1 Avalanche Course. The signal's given and the clock starts. You skate/ski as fast as possible in the thin air at 12,000' in Arapahoe Basin's bowl below the East Wall.

Breathing hard you try to unzip your jacket to get the beacon out, no time to remove the gloves. The lanyard tangles in the straps while you try to switch the beacon to receive. You've practiced this all year, why is it a problem now? Quickly you pick up two signals, and with your Tracker 3 you go into big-picture mode to eliminate terrain. Still skiing, you head off in the direction of the closest signal. Once you get within the lowest signal, you let the beacon hang off the lanyard, get out of your skis, take off your pack, remove and assemble your shovel, remove and assemble your probe, and proceed with the pinpoint search.

By now you're breathing harder and sweat is beginning to break out on your forehead as you start probing and get a strike. Dropping to your knees you start digging, your probe has confirmed the depth to be well over a meter down, your breathing increases. Voila! You've got the first pack and have brought it to the surface. Then you use the suppression button to suppress the signal from the beacon you just found to help locate the next burial. Like all things in a perfect world it doesn't work, and your beacon wants to keep you coming back to the one that you just found.

How much time has gone by? This seems like it's taking forever, as the sweat pours down your forehead and you're gasping for air. Being experienced, you decide on another technique, the micro strip search. You already know which quadrants of the debris field that you've eliminated with the big picture mode, so you start moving into the quadrant where you think the burial is and start doing a strip search until you pick up the new signal. Luckily the snow was supportive as you raced towards the second buried beacon. You quickly pinpoint the second beacon, get a probe strike, and start digging.

This one is only a little over a meter down and you shovel like a madman. With all your remaining energy you pull the second pack to the surface. By now you're on all fours heaving for oxygen, feeling like you're going to puke. Ryan Evanczyk (A-Basin's Snow Safety Director) skis over standing above you and says, nice job man you pass, 5 minutes 38 seconds. A wave of relief washes over you, this was not your first time doing this; it was a retest after your first attempt two months ago during the course where you failed by 20 seconds. Seven minutes, 20 seconds that time will always remain in your head. You knew that you were good at this, but then to have failed was a crushing moment. You pride yourself at success, and this was a humbling moment. So, what did you do after you beat yourself up emotionally after a few beers? You got out there and started practicing again. Over and over until you knew that you could do it.

But taking exams can be difficult for some people. No matter how good you are, you need to fight things like nervousness, fear, mild dyslexia, and a host of other conditions which might appear when under pressure. As patrollers we all face our demons, whether it's at an OEC, OET, senior, certified, Nordic master, or Pro Avalanche exam believe in yourself and work hard, you can do it.

Why Getting Out the VOTE in Other Divisions is GOOD for the Eastern Division

by Cal Goldsmith, Assistant Division Director

Last fall I published an article in the EMARI newsletter telling the story of how the NSP came to be an organization that elected its National Board of Directors (NBOD) leadership by popular vote. The story was told to me by Rick Hamlin, National Historian. He gave me a first-person account of his experiences as Eastern Division Director during the 2004-2006 period when he and other division leaders brought about a huge change in the governance of NSP.

This group sued the NBOD to stop their practice of basically selecting new board members in their own image (a simplification to be sure), and their plan to anoint a National Chair for 13 years at a time and board members for nine years. The result, after several hundred thousand dollars, and two years of extreme stress for those involved, was our current system of one patroller one vote.

This was a heroic effort, with treasure spent and risks taken to give each of us the right to select our board members. So, it is with dismay that those of us who know the story, Rick especially, look upon the participation level in our elections. Maybe not so much for the last few years in the Eastern and Southern Divisions, but for NSP as a whole.

The 2018 NBOD election saw a participation rate in the Eastern Division of just over 30%, which in most any organization would be considered good, maybe even very good. The year before we pulled out ALL the stops and got nearly 50% (49.7%) election participation. That was an astounding total by anyone's measure.

The 2018 participation of 30% for Eastern Division was exceeded only by the Southern Division's 37.5% voting rate. NSP, as a whole, was at 17.5%. But, when you take out the Eastern and Southern Divisions numbers, the rest of NSP voted at a 10.6% rate! One in ten voted. With that level of participation by other divisions' patrollers, it's easy for Eastern and Southern to dominate the NBOD elections.

So, we celebrate our success and feel good about putting the people we believe are good for the NSP on the NBOD. In fact, we can almost do so at will now, and that fact has not gone unnoticed, nor should it.

Powderfall was an interesting event, in that several people from Eastern and other divisions approached Division Director Kane and me and said what amounted to "if I want to get on the NBOD, I know I need to get your (Eastern Division's BOD) support." In other words, "make me a National Director." After all, everyone we supported from any division in 2017 and 2018 got elected. It only makes sense. It is a pragmatic approach by

these candidates. But my contention is that this situation is bad for division relations, bad for the election process, and bad for NSP.

Division Relations

For whatever reasons, mostly geographic, the NSP is divided into divisions that vary greatly in size. The state of New York has the most ski areas of any state in the nation. Other Eastern Division states are not far behind, especially Pennsylvania. This is all about smaller mountains, smaller towns scattered densely throughout the Northeast, and several very large population centers within easy reach of all these mountains. Our ski areas are measured in hundreds of acres for the bigger ones, while out West it is not unusual to see 3-5,000-acre resorts. But they are not as numerous, and the wide-open spaces are far less populated than in the east.

The result is for, instance, that the Northern Division has approximately 430 patrollers, about the size of my region in Eastern Division. This division is dwarfed by the EPA Region of nearly 1,500 patrollers. So that division asks, how will I ever put a representative on NBOD without support from Eastern Division? It's a fair question.

The result of understanding these statistics discourages other divisions from putting up good, qualified candidates for national leadership on the board. If Eastern Division continues to have this power to choose board members, it is bound to foster resentment and anger in other divisions. It would have to, no matter how fair we think we're being in choosing the candidates we choose to anoint. We get some credit for sure for spreading the wealth, choosing people from other divisions, and not stacking the board with more than our share of representatives.

We're blessed with good intentions, and think we're doing what is best for NSP; being good stewards of NSP. But I contend that such a situation is ultimately unsustainable. There will be resentment from those we choose not to anoint, and we'll inevitably make mistakes in our choices, selecting candidates weaker than others just because we know them or because they came to our meetings.

Election Process

Following that theme, how could we possibly make the best choice for NSP? It would be presumptuous of us to think we could. But more importantly, should we be doing so just because we can? I believe not. That is not how elections on a national scale work best. All geographic areas should contribute leaders with diverse experiences, ideas, and opinions who should come together and work cooperatively for the good of NSP. That is the undisputed

Cont'd on pg 10

ideal. And it should be possible for any division to put a highly qualified candidate on the board.

If the Eastern Division controls the elections, and the candidates we support are the only ones that get elected, then by our get-out-the-vote effort, we have actually undermined the workings of the election process Rick Hamlin and company worked so hard to get us. It might be a good thing for one or two difficult years to get the board stable and functioning well, which is an undeniable result of the last couple elections. But again, in the long run, it is unsustainable and damaging for our election process.

NSP as a Whole

If we undermine the election process, we run the risk of the best people not getting elected. And our people, our incredibly talented, diverse people are the real strength of the NSP. We need the best and the brightest on the NBOD. And, we need to attract them first, before we can elect them. An election process dominated by one party will not lead to attracting the best from across the entire organization.

We could push our advantage aggressively on the other divisions, but that will lead to calls for a different process to decide representation on the board. Maybe not for a while, but it will come. The election process will be broken, and everyone will be able to see that.

Eastern Division prides itself on being proactive on issues, on often leading the organization in new directions, and on being a good steward of NSP. We have put up some amazingly talented leaders who have been very good for NSP. And when we have new board members, they are counseled to understand that they are not representatives of Eastern Division interests, but of all interests for all patrollers worldwide. And I honestly believe that is how our NBOD members from Eastern Division have tried to conduct themselves on the board.

Solutions to this Success Dilemma

So, what is the answer? We could back off, stop pushing election participation and drop back down to the level of the rest of NSP to make it fairer? Well, obviously, this is a poor choice as the goal is, and should be, to get high election participation, to get as many members as possible actively involved in decisions that affect our organization, and in choosing its leadership. Our strength as an organization lies in our diverse, talented members and the interest they take in that organization.

The answer, members of the NSP, has several facets:

- First is for other divisions to bring focus and energy and specific efforts to their own election campaigns and get more than 10.6% of their voting members to vote. They should get it to 15%, or even 20% as a matter of course, every year. Push harder as they learn how to do it and hit 30%. Talk to us, we'll be willing to give up our secrets to help up NSP's voting percentage. (Mostly it's just about hard work and organization.)
- Second, it is critical that all divisions keep all election campaigns unwaveringly positive. People join NSP for noble reasons, trying to do good. We're all trying to do good things and help our skiing/riding public. We've dedicated

significant percentages of our lives to this goal. The nobility of our efforts and our cause deserve nothing less than a positive atmosphere for our national elections.

- We should all encourage our best people to step up and offer their help at the national level. NBOD needs the best we have.

Eastern Division must continue to work hard to keep our voter participation rate as high as we can. A lot of people toiled very hard and applied creativity and energy and enthusiasm, not to mention time and money, to achieve our 30% and 50% voter participations. We're not going to let it regress. We simply cannot.

But Eastern Division will do several things to help level the field:

- We will not endorse an official slate of Eastern Division candidates to our members that includes more than the number of board members we have right now (five). We cannot control who decides to run for the NBOD, but we can control who and how many we endorse from our division on our official slate.
- We do reserve the right to endorse candidates from other divisions on our Eastern Division slate when we see exceptional talent, but we will also likely refrain from endorsing a full slate in every election.
- We will encourage our members to vote for a full slate, even when we're not endorsing a full slate, thereby encouraging them to review all the candidates and make up their own minds about who to vote for. We do this anyway, but most people just go with our approved slate if they don't know the candidates well. We encourage them to do some research and cast a vote for each open seat.
- And lastly, we in the Eastern Division leadership will continue to forge strong bonds with the leadership of other divisions, geographic and pro. I went to Powderfall this year to spend two days in the NBOD meetings, talking with division directors, other assistant division directors, as well as board members. What an impressive, dynamic group of people! Very sharp, very motivated people. NSP is in very good hands.

Our Division Director John Kane, came into this job three years ago with his usual irrepressibly upbeat and uplifting attitude, swearing that he was going to mend fences with other divisions. Well, he has been amazingly successful, and has shown us all how far a positive attitude with a healthy dose of humor can take us. The new Central Division Director, Mike Schons, has that same attitude, and I think we'll be able to get a lot of good things done in cooperation with him and with all the other division directors. We are all patrollers. We all want what is best for NSP to help our organization survive and prosper. It's good to recognize and acknowledge that, once in a while, to keep us grounded and focused on our mission of doing good for the skiing public.

Ski Patrol & SAR Train Together

by Rob Winter, Highland Forest Nordic APD

On Saturday February 2, 2019 four members of the Highland Forest Nordic Ski Patrol co-trained with members of the Central Adirondack Search and Rescue Team (CASART) and Boonville Search and Rescue Team (BSAR).

The training area was located at Moss Lake, a few miles north of Old Forge, NY in the Adirondack Park. This particular use area is state-owned wild forest with multi-use trails and a large lake as the focal point.

This is in the “service area” for CASART, with BSAR attending as a neighboring team. Two of the Highland Forest patrollers, Jeff Sargent and Rob Winter, are also members of CASART. Jeff and Rob provided some of the instruction for the day covering emergency shelters. Patrollers George Shaheen and Tyler Lewis rounded out the Highland detail.

The search and rescue (SAR) teams are already trained to NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) wildland search standards and this was a training exercise focusing on a search evolution followed by patient care or survival skills. NSP Mountain Travel and Rescue (MTR) skills are virtually identical to those used by SAR teams and the mind and skill set aligns well between searcher and patroller.

The training day commenced with a general safety briefing and then a briefing on the simulated subject, circumstances, and search area. ICS format and forms were utilized. Teams would be utilizing grid search or ‘type III’ techniques.

The scenario dictated that the lost subject was suspected to be incapacitated or unable to respond to searchers. With recent heavy snows, a close interval with grid technique was necessary to ensure proper coverage and detection.

Once teams were established and team leaders or ‘crew bosses’ identified, teams conducted gear and communication checks before navigation to the assigned search blocks.

Movement to the search area was done administratively, or without active search efforts, focusing instead on navigation and negotiation of the deep snow on snowshoes in single file with everyone taking turns breaking trail.

Once arrived at the assigned blocks as confirmed by GPS coordinates and terrain association, members conducted sweeps on snowshoes to a ‘bump line’ which was, in this case, a terrain feature (small creek) that provides an end point upon which teams can shift for successive sweeps of the assigned area until subject location, completion, or recall by command. Searchers looked for sign of the subject, the subject themselves of course being the ultimate clue, returning in successive strips of the area until it was completed.

Some sign of the subject’s presence in the search area was discovered in the form of identifiable personal property, under a few inches of powder snow, however the subject was not

located. A scripted radio call announced that the subject had been located elsewhere and command ordered the search operations to cease after about two hours of searching.

Following the completion of the search evolution, a debrief and lunch break, the group split again and reviewed and practiced emergency shelter and fire-building techniques at two separate stations.

At the end of the training day, following sign out from the SAR exercise and sign in to the trail register, the Highland patrollers donned skis and took a tour of the 2.5 mile loop of the lake (the skiing was too good NOT to!) before signing out one last time and returning home.

Great snowpack provided about three feet of snow in the woods that weekend, beginning with overcast conditions and ending with additional snowfall that day.

All three organizations look forward to future co-training opportunities. We encourage NSP members to seek out opportunities to familiarize themselves with other volunteer agencies in their areas that may share a similar mission, like search and rescue. Many members already work in dual roles or know a patroller who does.



Jeff Sargent and Mike Krumme from CASART discuss the finer points of hasty shelters.

George Shaheen, Jeff Sargent (Highland PD), Rob Winter and Tyler Lewis



Online Instructors User's Group

by Orest Ohar, Communications Advisor

NSP instructors of all disciplines have been exploring various ways to teach courses over long distances. They have developed hybridized methods of teaching using teleconferences, email-driven teaching, and PDF driven assignments to maximize learning and minimize old-fashioned classroom attendance.

OEC has led the way into more modern approaches as Pearson, the textbook publisher, has improved their Learning Management System offerings. Pearson has been continually evolving their online OEC course to provide a richer experience. But what about NSP's other courses? Instructor Development, Avalanche, Mountain Travel and Rescue (MTR), as well as Outdoor Emergency Transportation (OET) are all developing online courses within Eastern Division.

Individual instructors around the division are developing online versions of NSP courses using the Moodle Learning platform. A few years ago, the famous open source learning software company created "Moodle Cloud" by spinning-up their software onto the cloud for the benefit of teachers and schools everywhere. Once it was put on the cloud, any instructor could open a free www.moodlecloud.com account and begin building their own courses using the richest university-level software available.

Instructor Development IORs have been using Moodle as a teaching platform for a few years. Last season the Division Avalanche Staff moved all their Level One courses to Moodle. MTR is now following suit and in my NSP Discipline, OET, rumor has it that the old "dryland training" that Trainer-Evaluators used to attend during the autumn, are coming back as "self-paced" online Moodle courses.

Teaching courses on the Moodle Cloud platform helps NSP instructors to flip the classroom experience for students. Avalanche and MTR traditionally present a large volume of information using traditional classroom teaching. There is much foundational information that students need to learn to develop basic knowledge before setting out into the mountains or into the dangers of avalanche terrain to develop and practice new skills. Using the sophisticated university-level platform offered by Moodle, NSP students can confidently learn the classroom portion of the curriculum in the comfort of their own home. They can learn at their own

pace, take their time, and work through the classroom material with as much depth as they like.

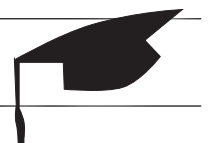
"Classroom Flipping" is the term in education that describes the use of online activities where students learn the traditional material, take their quizzes, and participate in classroom discussions moderated by the teacher. Once completed, students meet at the mountain for the fieldwork and instructor-guided practice. While in-person, with the entire group, the instructors get to focus all their attention on just the practical portion that leads to developing skills.

Open-source software is developed in collaboration with a large group of writers spread out around the world dedicated to offering it for free. Because of Moodle's tradition of being open-source free software, and now that cloud-based applications can run so efficiently, it was only natural for them to set up a free cloud-based version. Spinning-up, on-demand cloud servers have become an inexpensive computing commodity. Moodle's type of software is uniquely suited for being openly offered to any teacher looking to create online courses. Many NSP instructors have taken that opportunity to create their own courses. Many NSP instructors using Moodle have found themselves helping each other learn more effective ways to build NSP online courses. We have come together to form an Eastern Division Moodle Users Group.

The Moodle User Group's mission is to help each other with course building ideas and strategies. We offer each other technical support, guidance, and a place to discuss anything related to online learning, from teaching to course creation. Each of us maintains our own Moodle Cloud account for developing courses, and when its time to offer the course to ski patrollers, we port these courses over to the new Eastern Division Moodle School which is maintained by the Division Instructor Development Supervisor, James Miller. Using the Moodle Cloud service, courses taught by Division Staff instructors will be organized on "EasternDivisionNSP.MoodleCloud.com." Watch for available course offerings at www.patrollerschool.org by checking the calendar or shopping by NSP educational discipline.

If you are an instructor and are interested in discovering what the Moodle Cloud has to offer, setup your own free account and begin experimenting by building a course. If you are interested in participating in the Eastern Division Moodle User's Group, reach out by email: orest.ohar@PatrollerSchool.org.

Orest Ohar is a longtime OET Instructor Trainer and a Division OET Steering Committee member. He manages the IORs who use Patroller School to organize their Eastern Division hosted events.



OET Instructor Progression: Guidelines & Responsibilities



by Denice Kaus & Jim O'Connor, OET Steering Committee

In the last few years, the Steering Committee has been working to improve our system for keeping OET instructor records accurate and up-to-date, and to do so in compliance with National's requirements for submitting instructor updates. The OET Help Desk found on www.patrollerschool.org is the new way to request new toboggan instructor appointments and report recertification of all OET instructors and TEs (Trainer Evaluators). The Instructor Trainers (IT) are the key people who will be reporting this information to the OET Help Desk.

What are the requirements and responsibilities of each level of an OET instructor?

Local OET Instructor (TI)

The requirements to become an OET instructor are to take the Instructor Development course, complete the mentoring process under supervision of an IT, take a TTW (Toboggan Trainer Workshop), and complete the OET instructor application available on www.nspeast.org. Your application must be signed by your IT mentor who will submit the application to the OET Help Desk through the patroller school website. In order to stay active as an OET instructor you will have to take two courses every three years: a TTW and an Instructor Continuing Education Clinic (OETIC). You will need to register for both courses through www.NSP.org in order to document the courses on your NSP profile.

Trainer Evaluator (TE)

The requirements to become a TE are listed on the Eastern Division website OET page in the document titled OET TE Guidelines. The responsibilities of a TE are to train and evaluate local and senior candidates. Once you have completed the TE guidelines, you will have to attend a patroller school and take three courses: a TTW, STW (Ski Trainers Workshop), and OETIC. You will have to register for these three courses in two places: at the patroller school website and at national. National tracks the courses you complete on your NSP profile. The

Eastern Division patroller school website accepts payment for the events, gives you all information regarding the event, sends registration information to the instructor of record, and provides a link to send you to the national website to register there. In order to stay active as a TE you will need to attend a patroller school every three years and take all three courses (TTW, STW and OETIC). The same registration process will update your instructor status on your NSP profile.

Instructor Trainer (IT)

ITs have a significant role. They are TEs, Staff, Regional Advisors (RAs) or Steering members who are appointed yearly by the Eastern Division OET Supervisor. Responsibilities include: training and mentoring local OET instructors and TEs, understanding the requirements to become an OET instructor and TE, running TTW and OET Instructor Continuing Education Clinics in your region, identifying and developing new TEs, guiding current TEs through the recertification process, and identifying nearby patroller schools that are available through the patroller school website. ITs are responsible for submitting records of successful new instructors to their RAs for record retention and uploading this information the OET Help Desk. These actions activate new OET instructor appointments and recertification of all OET instructors.

Key Points to Note

National requires all new toboggan instructor submissions, and all recertifications be submitted to the Education Office from October 1 to December 31. This means if you take a course to become a new instructor or recertify after January 1, we compile all submissions to the OET Help Desk through the ski season and submit them to National on October 1. Your NSP profile will show that you completed the required courses but your status as an instructor will be updated the following season when national accepts updates to instructor records. So, it is important to recertify instructor status in the ski season of your third year or in the early season before December 31 to avoid a lapse in instructor status. National will make exceptions during the ski season to update instructor records. You will need to explain the circumstances in an email to the Eastern Division OET Supervisor Jim O'Connor or Denice Kaus, who will then compile the submission for national. Also, national will update an OET instructor status after January 1, however your instructor status will be for two years. In other words, you will need to recertify one year earlier if your instructor status is updated after January 1. Yes, this can be complicated. This is why we keep track of instructor records on the OET Help Desk. We will keep track of when you took the courses and submit them to the national office October-December of the year you expire. Any courses that are held in December for instructors expiring that year must be submitted to the OET Help Desk **before** December 31 so that we have time to submit them to National before the deadline.



Running OEC Courses

by Deb Foss, Supervisor

Welcome Summer! It is time to put away our snow skis and take out our water skis. Either that or you can probably go to Snowbird as they are still skiing!

The snow is gone at our areas, and it is time to rejuvenate and start the many OEC courses. Many areas are finishing up their OEC basic course and the new test package will be out in at the beginning of July. The Cycle C OEC Refresher information should have been received by all the existing members and if not it is posted on the www.nsp.org website.

A couple of reminders for those involved in running an OEC course:

- If your OEC course is completed before June 30, then your students need to register on nsp.org as non-members. Have the IOR contact the Education Office at National to set up the non-member course. By doing this the students will pay the same price as members which is \$60.00. Once they have successfully completed the course, the IOR can send their information with the course number to the National office and they will be switched over to member status. This will alleviate the double charging of the membership fees.
- The OEC Modified Challenge is only for EMTs, AEMTs, and Paramedics. All others who are challenging the course in accordance with the P&P will be registered under "OEC Course" and will follow the normal procedures for a challenge class including the written test and practical exercise. The modified challenge does not alleviate the need to make sure that EMTs are trained on the specifics of the equipment that we use and the specific skills of OEC.
- When registering an OEC course, please put the date that the test is needed in the notes as well as in the specified area. That date might very well be different from the end date of the course. Please be aware that in the Eastern Division the test will be mailed to the IT along with the certificates of completion. The National office will mail out the final evaluation package to the IT two weeks before the date of the exam.
- If you are registering a course and you cannot see the IT on the drop-down list, choose another IT and then email the National office with the course number and the correct IT name and they will manually add that IT to the course. This is a frequent issue when crossing division boundaries such as Eastern and Southern or Eastern and Pro.
- Students MUST be enrolled in a course to get credit for the course. In the past, instructors signed up as both instructors and students and they did not get credit for attending a class. This has led to a lot of issues with OEC delinquency. Enrolling as a student is required to get credit. When enrolling as a student in the course, do not forget to hit the "SUBMIT" button to finish the enrollment process.
- IORs: A best practice is to download and print the course roster before your class begins. Use this as an attendance roster. If people show up for the class and they are not enrolled they need to do that to get credit. The IT should verify the roster while at the class as part of the review process. After making sure that everyone is enrolled print or save the roster of all the students before you close the course. Then make hand notes of the students that did not finish the course, did not take the course, or who were not successful. Their names are submitted for removal during the course closing activity. Once the course is closed, you cannot see who was in the class. Be sure everyone who is in the class is on the roster. Once you close the course it will go to the IT for approval. Please make sure the IT approves the course in a timely manner. Another good practice is to send the IT a roster of those who were successful and those who were not.
- If you are closing a course and a student is incomplete but did not fail, please email education@nsp.org prior to closing the course to transfer that student to a different course. You will need to give National the course number that they came from and you will need to register a new course to have the student transferred into that new course. (Saves some cost to the student as well).
- Make sure you read the latest edition of the Policies and Procedures manual to determine the age someone must be to enroll in the OEC course. Currently the P&P reads: *Course prerequisite: Must be 15 years of age on or before December 31st of the year the course is conducted. Subject to Federal and State law.*
- If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your Region OEC Administrator or your assigned Assistant Division OEC Supervisor. They can be found on the www.nspeakst.org website.

Enjoy your summer, fall is only short time away.

“JUST A KID”

It was a brutally cold January day when I was riding up Lift 7 at Belleayre Mountain with a veteran patroller, and we were discussing mountain procedures for calling in and responding to accidents. As a Young Adult Patroller just turning 15 years old, I had almost two months under my belt and was just beginning to feel a part of the team, so I talked about my experience regarding a few accidents I had been on. I was told, “that’s a nice thought, but just listen and keep your eyes open, you’re just a kid” as we hopped off at mid-station to go open our trail.

Fast-forward to my freshman year of college; my fourth year patrolling. I had gone through my mountain’s Junior Patroller Program (that’s what we called it at Belleayre back then), gotten my cross, and was now beginning to work on becoming a senior patroller. We had a large crop of new candidates that year, most of whom were around my parents’ age, and I tried my best to help them learn the ropes and give pieces of advice when I thought it was valuable. While the group was mostly receptive, there were certain situations where some candidates clearly couldn’t care less about what I was telling them. I was even asked once, “How do you know that? Aren’t you still in high school?” All I heard in my head was, “you’re just a kid.”

[I hope that as I continue to grow older as a patroller, I can pay it forward to the leaders we are creating today, just as those before me did.]

As my patrol career continued, I became the Southern New York Region YAP Advisor, and was tasked with creating our first real Young Adult Program. I remember my first conference call with all the YAP advisors from the Eastern Division while in my dorm room, and I was speechless at the amount of knowledge, dedication, and years of service that these advisors had. I thought in my head, “How do I work with this inspiring group of adult leaders, I’m just a kid.”

Five years ago, I joined the Eastern Division Young Adult Program staff, and went from serving a region with five programs to an entire division of programs. The challenge was real. The challenge was awesome. So many new friends to make. So much program to help grow. I felt like I was in a position where I could truly start to help make a difference on a larger scale.

As part of my role, I traveled to the Eastern Division Spring Officer’s Meeting, where all the head-honchos get together to make decisions affecting the over 8,000 members of the division. As I looked around the room,

I noticed I was definitely the only person under 30, maybe even 40. There were so many leaders present at that gathering: National Board members, national appointees, national and division program supervisors, lawyers, doctors, and members with 30-, 40-, or 50-plus years of service to NSP. I thought to myself, “Wow, I’m really am still just a kid.”

I now sit writing this piece, in my house (scary thought), a patroller for 13 years (scarier thought), with an NSP-wrapped Subaru in my driveway (awesome thought). How did these 13 years fly by? It feels like literally yesterday I was just learning how to run a sled, tail-rope, and traction splint, and now I teach others how to do that on a weekly basis. I get to spend almost every weekend, and certainly every weeknight, working to support the Young Adult Program, and in doing so, create the future of the National Ski Patrol.

I’ve been given such an awesome opportunity by NSP and Subaru this year to spread their message of service, safety, and giving back, which is truly what my work as a patroller and the work of the Young Adult Program is all about. I look at all of this and how my patrol life has grown, and I think to myself, am I still just a kid?

I’m going to go out on a limb here and say, no, I am not just a kid anymore. My whole patrol career I have been just a kid, and now I am realizing that I am in a position of small, but meaningful “leadership.”

If there is anything to take from my story it is this: Right now, at almost every ski resort in the nation, there are Young Adult Patrollers, high school students, even college-aged students, who want to be involved as more than just participants in NSP! These kids are our future national board members, future program supervisors; the leaders who will adapt and evolve the National Ski Patrol into the challenges the 21st century will bring. They each may now be “just a kid” but it is time to start challenging them and accepting them to become the leaders we are training them to be and we need them to be! In 13 years, I’ve grown as a patroller and “leader” because of all those patrollers who supported me when I was just a kid. I hope that as I continue to grow older as a patroller, I can pay it forward to the leaders we are creating today, just as those before me did.

The best and brightest of our future as the National Ski Patrol is found within our youngest members, with all their dreams, goals, and ambitions even if right now WE view them as just kids. They are not, just kids. Let’s support them with everything we’ve got, because the FUTURE IS NOW!



SERENDIPITY

by Paul Bruno, Mountain Creek PD

At the NJ Region Awards Dinner on May 19, 2019, a Purple Merit Star was awarded to Eileen Dalton for a save on February 10, 2017. Following the incident, there was a chain of events that took place over the next year and a half that made this award different from others.

On February 10, 2017 a snowboarder crashed into a tree at Mountain Creek South and suffered a ruptured spleen. Eileen was dispatched to the scene, assessed, and determined from his symptoms (tenderness and rigidity to his left abdominal area) that he had a potential spleen injury which we all know is a high priority. She dispatched patrol headquarters for the proper resources and requested ALS with helicopter transport.

Two other patrollers, Blake McQuade and Sam Moen, arrived and they quickly treated and transported the injured snowboarder to the waiting ambulance where he was then transferred to the LZ for the flight to the trauma center in Morristown, New Jersey. We learned later that the ER doctor said that if another ten minutes had passed, he would not be here with us today.

Nine weeks pass and our snowboarder fully recovers. The third week of April 2017 he ran a Spartan Race at Mountain Creek South. That weekend our patrol had a recruiting booth set up at South. We had a pop-up tent there with a table, posters, and the National Ski Patrol Subaru. As our snowboarder walked by on his way to get a cup of coffee, he noticed the booth, and stopped to chat with one of the five patrollers collecting names of those who might be interested in joining ski patrol. He explained to the one patroller that he was rescued by us back in February after he crashed one night and had to be flown out by helicopter, and that he made it to the ER with only ten minutes to spare. As fate would have it, he was telling his story to the patroller who was first on scene, Eileen. After a minute or so went by, they realized who they were. They hugged and then took and posted a picture.

For me this was a no brainer about who I was going to nominate for a Purple Merit Star. Blake McQuade and Sam Moen were nominated for Blue Merit Stars. One question I had was if I would be able to get Paul Milazzo, the rescued snowboarder, to attend the dinner. The other question was if he did show up, would Eileen recognize him. Well, he did show up and Eileen did not recognize who he was even though they

sat at adjoining tables. It wasn't until the end of my speech that Eileen realized that he was there.

I won't say that there was not a dry eye in the place, but I will say that some water was running. For me there were times when I was practicing my speech that I would get a little choked up thinking about the situation. I guess trying hard not to mess the speech up in front of 120 people kept me from getting emotional.

In many cases, we don't know for sure what happens to the people we rescue. HIPAA rules prevent us from directly finding out what happens to our patients when they leave our care. We can only hope that no news is good news. But when an event like this happens you know that all the training you have done was worth it. Somewhere out there somebody is remembering the time they were rescued by you, and who knows, maybe you will run into them again someday with the same gratitude that Paul gave to Eileen.



Paul Milazzo and Eileen Dalton first meeting

Paul Milazzo and Eileen Dalton at awards banquet



AWARDS

by Sue-Ellen Helmacy, Supervisor

“Silent gratitude isn’t much use to anyone.”

It has been a pleasure working with so many of you since being appointed as the new Awards Supervisor. We miss Eva Kunkel and wish her the best with the additional responsibilities she’s taken on with her position at the college.

In less than one month of starting this position, I processed more than six times the number of nominations that I submitted in 14 years as the NJ Region Awards Advisor (RAA). It was crazy busy, but incredibly rewarding to see how much good we do, especially without being asked!

I realize some people don’t believe in being awarded for what we do, feeling that is our ‘job’ to do these things as a patroller. But like one of my favorite quotes above, who ever said patrollers can’t be rewarded for a job well done, and for going over and above the normal patrol expectations? Please make me busy and submit nominations for deserving patrollers all year long! Summer is a great time to review the past season and submit nominations before the fall refreshers. Beginning an Outstanding nomination now gives you plenty of time to get them in before the March 1 deadline.

Going from a Region Awards Advisor to this has been a bit of a learning curve. I attended the SOM Awards Meeting every year and there were always new things to learn, so I’m hoping all RAAs can attend next year. Watch for new submission forms, online, from NSP toward the end of summer. Please always use

the latest online form and submit it electronically.

One new change we did institute in May was asking each patrol director to appoint a “Patrol NAG” (Nimble Awards Gatherer). Those of you at the SOM may have seen some of us wearing the NAG pins. Each region has one pin for each patrol NAG. We’re asking the patrol NAG to wear the pin to generate award conversation, and let patrollers know that, in most cases, they can submit a fellow patroller for an award. I hope each NAG will familiarize himself/herself with NSP P&P Chapter 12 regarding awards, encourage nominations, and HELP write those nominations if requested. We have a grand board of RAAs that are available for assistance if needed. As a reminder, I must say that the Review Board, PD, and RD have the final say as to whether the nomination gets accepted and moved on to Division.

In New Jersey, we presented the pins as an award to patrol NAGs at our Region’s Spring Banquet. It did get many laughs but made patrollers aware that it’s not just the person presenting awards at a banquet that writes awards, it’s every single one of us!

Please remember my favorite quote from GB Stern “Silent gratitude isn’t much use to anyone.” Make me busy! Have a great summer!



New Jersey Region Patrol NAGs with DD John Kane (far left) and RD Joe Manna (second from right)



2018-19 AWARDS

National Hall of Fame – Class of 2019

Bill Cline	WAPP
Bill DeVarney	EMARI
James "Butch" MacQueen	WNY
Burt Mitchell	CT

2018-19 Division Outstanding Awards

Alpine Patrol (Large)	Wachusett Mountain	EMARI
Alpine Patrol (Small)	Powder Ridge	CT
Alpine Patroller	John Laitala	EMARI
Administrator	Nancy Mayberry	EPA
Alumni	Ed Hirshman	GVR
Instructor	Pamela Welch	GV
Nordic Patroller	Melinda Mingus	CT
Nordic Patrol	Valley Forge	EPA
OEC Instructor	Glenn Gebhard	GV
Paid Patroller	John Doremus	EPA
Patroller	Barbara Collins	GV
Patrol Representative	Bob Zande	ENY
Young Adult Patroller	Madeline O'Connell	EMARI

William J. Gross First Aid Award

Deborah Whalen	GV
Skip Millor	GV
Brian Denley	ME

Jerry Sherman Division Director Award

Paul Kling	NH
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Donna McGraw Patrollers for Patrollers Award

Gerald Hyson	EMARI
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Roger Damon Avalanche Award

Linda Helms	NVT
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Significant Monkey "990" Award

Orest Ohar	NH
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501(c)3 Award

Denice Kaus	WNY
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National Appointment

National Appointment		
Deborah Brown	12036	NH
David Aibel	12077	NH
Forrest Abild	12089	WMASS
Paul Sebben	12107	WMASS
Larry Scovell	12113	NJ
Nick Rasher	12119	EMARI
Mike Sauer	12120	NJ
Justin Regan	12125	CT
Jay Biersbach	12126	WNY
Mark Bowker, Sr.	12130	GV
Rob Winter	12131	CNY
Steven Suomala	12134	EMARI
Melinda Mingus	12136	CT
Eric Strom	12138	CT

Leadership Commendation Appointment

Ralph Cooke	8537	NJ
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Distinguished Service Award

Jeff Baker	GV
Brian Bamberger	CNY
Don Cirkot	CT
Matthew Fulton	NH
Jeffery Galm	WMA
Sue-Ellen Helmacy	NJ
Thomas Lester	WNY
Tom Maroney	WNY
Joe Menichino	GV
Mike Mooney	GV
Alex Murchison	WNY
Jim Nickerson	GV
Norman Robinson	GV
John Topping	GV
Scott Wild	GV

Meritorious Service Award

MaryLyn Boberg	WNY
Steve Devine	NJ
Sue Kelly	NH
Skip Mudge	CT
Lee Murphy	NH
Orest Ohar	NH
Mark Reinhard	WNY
Jason Tamulen	EMARI
Ingrid Shuttleworth	EMARI
Lowell Sylwester	WNY
Mark Vining	CT
William Welch	WMA
Ray Whitley	NH

Yellow Merit Star

Shannon Bielaska	GV
Alex Edwards	ENY
Craig Garland	NH
Karl Johnson	ME
Paul Kelly	NH
Mark Kendrick	NH
Scott Krall	ME
Daniel Rogers	NH
John Topping	GV
Daniela Walsh	CT
Virginia VanHaelen	CT
Mark Whitmore	CNY

Purple Merit Star

Jerry Butler	GV
Eileen Dalton	NJ
Brian Denley	ME
Samantha DeWeese	GV
Skip Millor	GV
Deborah Whalen	GV

Blue Merit Star

Walt Behuniak	CT
Mark Bowker, Sr.	GV
J. Scott Cameron	ME
Jamie Feldman	CT
Michael Fox	ME

Alejandro Galea	ME
Nathaniel Goodwin	ME
Pietra Bret Kelly	ME
Jonathan King	ME
Gary McManus	NJ
Blake McQuade	NJ
Sam Moen	NJ
Robin Nesbeda	ME
Elaine Pratt	GV

Green Merit Star

RRichard Adamczyk	WMA
David Childs	WMA
Joshua Crittenden	WMA

Patroller Cross

Elizabeth Ackerman	WNY
Linda Boyd	CT
Carolynne Cronin	WNY
Christopher Galvin	WNY
Rob Gates	CNY
Anne Kidney	WNY
Thomas Langan	WNY
Ann Manzella	WNY
Robert Priore	WNY
Trey Stephany	GV
Grant Violini	WNY

Patriot Star

Tiger Baird	NVT
Jeffery Barcus	WMA
Charles Bauer	WNY
Stuyvesant Bears	WMA
Al Belovarac	WNY
Edward Beauchaine	WMA
Shannon Bielaska	GV
Alan Billings	WNY
Mike Blomfield-Brown	WNY
Jack Brinegar	WMA
William Brown	WMA
Jim Bubar	WNY
Thomas Buckley	CNY
James Cahill	EPA
Cliff Cole	WNY
Peter Columbia	NH
James Creighton	NH
Marcel 'Skip' Diller	NJ
Gerald Dulay	EPA
Jessica Elder	WNY
Geoff Feltner	GV
Hermes Fernandez	GV
John Fiorenza	NVT
Rusty Fogle	WNY
Corey France	NJ
Louis Galm	WMA
J. Kirk Garber	WMA
Dean Gardner	GV
Michael Geyselaers	WMA
Craig Guglielmo	WMA
George Hall	NVT

James Harrison	WMA
Peter Hawley	WMA
James Hopkins	GV
Bob Hough	CNY
Thomas Hughes	CNY
John Jagggers	EPA
Bob Kaus	WNY
Roy Kemsley	WNY
James Kille	EPA
Jeff Lamarche	CNY
Bill Lawrence	WNY
Simon Lissner	WNY
Grant Lyons	GV
Butch MacQueen	WNY
Mary MacQueen	WNY
David Marks	EPA
Tony Martin	CNY
Douglas Matthews	CNY
Chris McArdle	WNY
Brian McLaughlin	EMARI
Robert Millar	WMA
Lee Minkler	NVT
Steve Mitchell	GV
Jeff Morris	EMARI
Jim Morrison	CNY
Joseph Mosa	WMA
Mark Musante	WNY
Lawrence Nies	WNY
Mike Novello	GV
Mike Oberholzer	WNY
James Oliver	GV
Martin O'Toole	CNY
Bob Parry	CNY
Heather Patalano	GV
Sadie Prescott	WNY
Al Quimby	WNY
Carter Riley	CNY
Bill Ronolder	WNY
Bill Schaaf	WNY
Bernd Schliemann	WMA
Kenneth Schwartz	WMA
John Sober	WMA
Paul Solomon	EPA
Paul Spear	EPA
Paul Steiner	CNY
John Taton	WNY
John Tulloch	WMA
Dave Vastola	WNY
Rob Winter	CNY
Valerie Witherington	EPA
Paul Weitz	GV
Walt Welenc	NJ
Fred Whipple	WNY
Paul Wiech	WNY
Jason Wlochowski	WMA
April Yamashiro	WMA
Steve Ziolkowski	WNY

Cont'd on pg 19



AWARDS

Cont'd from pg 18

Patroller Achievement Award

Bonnie Alco	EPA
Steven Andre	EPA
Ralph Bott	CNY
Chris Boucher	WNY
Patty Boucher	WNY
David Celommi	EPA
Marcel 'Skip' Diller	NJ
Edward Ede	NH
Christine Gibson	NH
Kent Hughes	GV
Kenneth Koehlert	NH
Val Larioni	EPA
Ronald Lahnemann	EPA
Richard Long	EPA

Joseph Mazzoni, Jr.	EPA
Gary Morog	WNY
Lucas Pollits	EPA
Del Von Volkenberg	WNY
Peter Warren	NH
Dawn Wright	GV

Angel Pin

Judy Diller	NJ
Stephanie Hayes	NH
Sue Messier	NH
Grace Ott	NJ
Sue Sypniewski	NJ

70-Year National Service Award

Stephen Warner	CT
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60-Year National Service Award

Charles Warren	CT
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50-Year National Lifetime Service Award

David Bastola	WNY
James Bubar	WNY
Don Cirkot	CT
Robert 'Chip' Erhardt	NJ
Walter Larkin	EPA
Terrence Moreschi	CT
Jim Nickerson	GV
Roy Normen	CT
Rick Polesak	PRO

50-Year Eastern Division Award

James Bubar	WNY
David Bastola	WNY
Campgaw Ski Area	NJ

Above & Beyond Award

This year a special one-time award went to Joe Manna (NJ) and Mark Melnick (EPA) for piloting a round trip, 5-hour flight to retrieve some things that Awards Supervisor Sue-Ellen Helmacy needed for the Spring Officer's Meeting.



Remembrance of Lost Patrollers

At the Eastern Division Spring Officers' Meeting in May, each region announced the names of active and retired patrollers who passed away.

CT

Jack Vining

CNY

Pat Jank
George Rowland
Anne Ryan

EMARI

Toby Abend
Ralph Henry, Jr.
Edward Givler
Richard Townsend

ENY

Will Holt
David Ostrom
Alan Sandler

EPA

Reba Dein
Ron Helmuth
Joseph Kearney
Joseph Lopue
Dick Murphy
Karen Altenburg Ulshafer

GV

Nick Anastas

ME

Tom Gyger
Carroll Hardy
Pat Murphy

NH

Janis Albrecht
Patrick Dalton
Paul Fulton
Matthew Thomas Welch

NJ

Lilly Martins
Charlotte Plath
Richard Plath

NVT

Evan 'Mac' MacEwan
Barrett Peterson
Chuck Warnock
Chuck West

SNY

Ron Hulse
Gary Port
Manny Schweitzer

SVT

Nick Collins
William Ryan
Myron Van Ness

WMASS

Charlie Caldwell
Frank Hicks

WNY

Stanley Alex
Dan Buchanan
Debbie Hackett
Jane Hansen
David Harig
Paul Pionessa
Donald Smith
Franklin Smith
Robert Spangenberg
Mary Alice Tocke
Heinz 'Dutch' Wolf
Frederick Worosz

Memorial Scholarship Fund

by Harriet Frawley, Supervisor

I am pleased to announce the recipients of the 2019 David J. Nelson, Sr. Memorial Scholarship. In addition to awarding four \$750 scholarships, this year four applicants received an Honorable Mention and were awarded \$250.

While this year's applicants are in different stages of their academic careers, all are dedicated patrollers seeking to further their education. Please join me in encouraging and congratulating them.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEES

Zachary Williams, Hunter Mountain/ENY; second generation patroller

- Senior at Millburn High School
- Cross Country Team captain
- Trombonist, played in the County Honor Band
- Ski Racer who qualified for NY State Championships
- Ran a fundraiser for blind Paralympic skier Staci Mannella to reach her goal of attending the Sochi Paralympic Games
- Has an outstanding academic record, earning a 4.0
- Plans to attend Colgate University as a pre-med major, competing in cross-country/track

Caitlin Mooney, Mount Snow/SVT; her father, uncles, and cousin are all patrollers

- Senior at Shrewsbury High School
- Played Varsity Soccer, was Ski Team Captain
- National Honor Society member
- Volunteered at Second Chance Animal Shelter
- Honor Roll throughout high school
- Is undecided on a college, but plans to study Biomedical Engineering
- She has shown resilience and growth in dealing with recent health challenges.

Jack Sarnacki, Berkshire East/WMASS

- 21-year-old college senior at Westfield State University studying Criminal Justice with a Business Minor
- Plays college rugby
- He was a U.S. Lacrosse Academic All American, plus Wrestling & Cross-Country Captain in high school
- Has always dreamed of being a police officer and will soon graduate from a part-time police academy
- Is an EMT
- Plans to continue his education at Westfield State, pursuing a Master's in Public Administration/Criminal Justice

Lauren Porter, Nashoba Valley/EMARI; her mom is a patroller

- Senior at Greater Lowell Technical High School
- Swim Team Captain and participated in track and soccer
- Volunteered with Nashoba Valley Shooting Stars at the Special Olympics for three years
- Honor Roll for all four years of high school
- Will attend the University of Massachusetts majoring in Chemistry/Forensic Science
- She often referred to the patrol as "family" in her application

HONORABLE MENTIONS

Jacob Ermer, Swain Ski Patrol/Genesee Valley

- Freshman attending Alfred State College of Technology
- Eagle Scout, Order of the Arrow (Boy Scout Honor Society)
- Volunteers with the Alfred Station Fire Department
- Is studying Machine Tool Technology

Camden Davis, Hermon Mountain/Maine

- Has an Associate's degree in Early Childhood Education and works as a K-6 Technology Teacher
- She decided to return to school to pursue her Bachelor's degree nine years after receiving her Associate's. Is currently taking core courses at Kennebec Valley Community College and plans to transfer to the University of Maine, while also raising a son and continuing to work full-time

Henry Fredricks, Campgaw/NJ; second generation patroller

- Freshman at Oklahoma State University
- Participated in 2018 YAP Seminar where he had a top 10 finish
- Received an Excellence in Science Award in high school
- Currently studying Mechanical Technology Engineering

Peter Vogric, Camelback/EPA; second generation patroller

- Freshman at Drexel University
- Participated in high school lacrosse, hockey, and ski team
- Class L State Ski Champion
- Is an EMT
- Appreciates the support of his patrol family following a recent accident in which he was hit by a car
- May study environmental engineering. He says he is "passionate about saving winters, so future generations are able to take part in the sport that made me the person that I am today."

Applications for the 2020 Scholarships will be accepted from January 1, 2020 through March 31, 2020.

In Memoriam

CHARLES (CHARLIE) CALDWELL



Charles Caldwell, 88, of Pittsfield, passed away on Friday, April 26, 2019. Born in Weirton, WV, the son of Donald and Ethel Long Caldwell, he was a 1948 graduate of Weirton High School. He earned a bachelor's degree in engineering from the Franciscan University of Steubenville in Ohio.

Charlie was a US Army veteran during the Korean War. After leaving the military, he was an active mem-

ber of the Army's Military Auxiliary Radio System (MARS). He worked for General Electric in Pittsfield as an electrical engineer for over 30 years, retiring in 1991. He was a member of the GE Quarter Century Club and Pensioners, a member of the Lenox Sportsman's Club, and was a Boy Scout Leader.

Charlie Caldwell was an NSP member for 47 years, retiring in 2012 at the age of 82. He was a member of the Brodie Mountain Patrol for 38 years, serving as Patrol Director for seven years and as their Lift Evacuation Trainer. He also served as the Lift Evacuation Advisor for the Western Mass Region. After Brodie closed, he served nine years as a member of the Bousquet Ski Patrol.

Charlie was the go-to guy for rope tow splices while at Brodie. He spent a great deal of time informally training fellow patrollers in ropes, ski and toboggan handling, and many 'tricks of the trade.' He also worked with Junior Patrollers and with those seeking their Senior. Charlie was known for his abundance of knowledge in many areas. It was not uncommon to walk into the patrol room and see him teaching knots or rope splicing to fellow patrollers.

In the off season, he and his family hiked many miles of trails running telephone wire for trailside call boxes in the years before patrol use of radios. Charlie received National Appointment #5124 in April 1977 and a Distinguished Service Award in October 2009.

Because of his influence, four of Charlie's children became patrollers: Roger served eight years at Brodie, Linda served 15 at Brodie and is in her 13th year at Bousquet, Dennis served three years at Brodie, and Laurie served 27 years at various locations. A son-in-law, Jim Gibbons, and four of Charlie's grandchildren have also become patrollers. His family has a total of 162 years of service to NSP.

Charlie was known for being capable of building or repairing most anything. He built the family's first color television, he repaired his own car, and did his own body work. He was the go-to guy within the neighborhood and his friends when it came to solving almost any problem.

Charlie enjoyed hunting, rifle and pistol shooting, loading his own ammo, fly fishing, tying his own flies, hiking, canoeing, photography, welding, metal machining, woodworking, amateur radio operation, locksmithing, and swimming and scuba diving. He taught scuba diving and life-guarding and was a member of Northern Berkshire Amateur Radio Club,

Masonic Lodge of West Stockbridge, Lenox Sportsmen's Club, and the GEAA Rifle and Pistol Club. He served on the Pittsfield Civil Defense for several years. Charlie donated his radio tower to the Berkshire East Ski Patrol in 2014.

He is survived by his wife, Doloris Caldwell (nee Ewaskey), who he married on August 25, 1950. He also leaves his four children, Audrey Cullen (m. Thomas Cullen), Linda Clifford (m. Daniel Clifford), Dennis Caldwell, and Laurie Little (m. Timothy Little); seven grandchildren; and one great grandson. He was predeceased by a son, Roger Caldwell (m. M. Catherine Chavez) who passed away in 2009 and also by son-in-law, James Gibbons (m. Laurie Caldwell) in 2007. Donations can be made in his memory to the Shriners Hospital for Children, in care of the Dwyer Funeral Home, 776 North Street, Pittsfield, MA 01201.

PHIL RESCH



Phil Resch was a man who put community service above all else. And, when it came to community, he was always there to help as evidenced by the organizations in which he volunteered. The ski patrol, fire department, and scouting lost a leader and dedicated servant when Phil passed away at the age of 91 on May 4, 2019.

A 60-year member of the NSP, Phil, known as "Phip" to his friends, joined the Toggenburg Ski Patrol in the Central New York Region when the patrol itself became affiliated with the National Ski Patrol System in 1958. He served as Toggenburg's Patrol Leader from 1962 to 1965. For his service to the NSP, Phip was awarded National Appointment #3135 in 1967.

When the call came out for volunteers to serve on the 1980 Winter Olympic Ski Patrol in Lake Placid, Phip responded and was selected for the honor of membership.

During his last few months, health problems impacted Phip's independence. Thanks to his family, he was fortunate to have been able to attend Toggenburg's 60th Anniversary Dinner in November, 2018, and the patrol was indeed fortunate to have had him there. He took the opportunity to briefly address the gathering, reminding them of the patrol's heritage.

Phip was an outstanding skier. His love and knowledge of the sport prompted him to take a part-time job for many years with a local ski shop, where he advised skiers on the latest and best-suited boots and skis for their needs.

His real job was as a mathematics teacher for the suburban Syracuse, N.Y., Fayetteville-Manlius School District, where he taught for 22

Cont'd on pg 22

In Memoriam

Cont'd from pg 21 - RESCH

years, and for a number of years at the private Manlius-Pebble Hill School.

In addition to skiing, Phip was an avid bicyclist, hiker, and outdoorsman. These attributes complimented his leadership in a local Boy Scout troop and at national BSA events. He also served the DeWitt (NY) Historical Society and the local Meals on Wheels program.

But his greatest service to the community was his 69-year membership in the DeWitt Fire Department. He spent countless hours at the fire station in his spare time, as well as taking duty shifts. Over the years, he served in various administrative roles in the department. As this is written, the fire station is draped with black bunting in his memory.

A memorial service was held on May 18 for Phil. Ski patrollers attended, wearing their patrol parkas, and firefighters showed up in uniform to honor a man who gave so much and to thank him for a lifetime of caring for his community.

*Jeff Paston
CNY Region Historian*

NICHOLAS HERMAN COLLINS



After serving 73 years of dedicated service to the National Ski Patrol, Nick Collins took his "final hike" as he called it on February 14, 2019. Nick was born in Brattleboro on March 2, 1932. He grew up within walking distance of the Guilford Street Ski Tow and was six years old when his mother presented him with his first pair of skis. They were well used, ratty, and worn but to him they were "sure super." At the age of 14 he joined the Brattleboro

Ski Patrol and at 16 he passed and earned his patroller status. In 1952 he became a senior patroller and was awarded National Appointment #3532.

Nick attended Norwich University as an ROTC Cadet, earned his MBA from George Washington University, and joined the United States Army in 1955 as an armor officer. He was deployed to Germany for tank school and assigned to the Military Traffic Management Command in Rotterdam, Netherlands. He served in South Korea in the demilitarized zone with a tank battalion and in Vietnam twice as a transport officer making sure weapons, vehicles, parts, equipment, and supplies reached troops at the front line. On a second deployment to Rotterdam, Netherlands he served as an operations officer for cold war combat convoy outfitting and deployment to Holland, Belgium, and Germany. Just prior to his retirement in 1984 as Lieutenant Colonel he was assigned as the Deputy Director of the Army's Cold Research Environmental Laboratory in Hanover, NH.

Throughout Nick's military career, if on U.S. soil, he would drive 20 hours round trip to fulfill his responsibilities to the Brattleboro Ski Patrol.

As a member of the National Ski Patrol Nick was an avalanche and MTR instructor for the Southern Vermont Region and the Eastern Division. He taught both courses to military personnel, including members of the 10th Mountain Division. He spent two stints with the International Division at Garmisch (1956-57) and Berchtesgaden (1975-76). In 2011 he received the Eastern Division Patriot Star Award. Dr. Gretchen Rous Besser, past National Ski Patrol Historian, featured Nick in an article about patrollers that had served sixty plus years with NSP in *Ski Patrol Magazine's* Winter 2008 issue. Nick served many years as Brattleboro Ski Patrol's Leader/Director.

Nick served Hanover, NH Troop 45 for several decades starting in the 1980s, as its scoutmaster and committee chair. Nick attended National Jamborees, working logistics to keep 30,000 scouts fed. A Wood Badge instructor; he had the privilege of learning and instructing at Gilwell Park in England, home of adult Scouter training. Nick ran 57 WB courses and trained thousands of Scouters, who went on to teach hundreds of thousands of scouts across the nation. He was honored at the council and regional level with the Silver Beaver and Silver Antelope Awards.

Nick's passion for Brattleboro and the little hill he skied at age six was unending. When the Town of Brattleboro closed their ski area due to an aging lift and lack of snow-making capabilities, Nick volunteered and work tirelessly for twenty years to ensure that the local Brattleboro Ski Hill continued to remain open. He helped keep it financially sound and become what it is today. Nick realized that this small ski area could provide a skiing experience at an affordable cost to the community and surrounding areas.

We all know it takes a team however, he can be credited with the following:

- Helped to form a new non-profit organization known as Living Memorial Park Snow Sports (LMPSS);
- Devoted his time to acquire needed parts, materials, and labor to refurbish the ground lift and snow making system;
- Assisted in securing finances to cover the snow making guns from the Brattleboro Rotary Club; and
- Assisted in the purchase of the first snow groomer.

Nick dreamed of having a maintenance building to house the groomer and equipment (currently stored outside). LMPSS will dedicate the building in Nick's honor and has plans to start construction as soon funds become available. Donations to honor Nick can be sent to LMPSS, PO Box 1945, Brattleboro, VT 05302.

Nick is survived by his sister Ellen Brouillette; son Wesley (Susan); Alexandra (Andrew) Collins Gambarani; and Kaitlin (Joshua Chastain) and granddaughter Imogen Wendy. He is also survived by countless veterans, patrollers, Lions Club brothers and sisters, scouts, scouters, and fellow Buffalo whom he called "friend." He was predeceased by his wife, Ellen, in 2001 and daughter, Wendy, in 1977.

*Ruth Lane & Barbara Gilmore
Brattleboro Ski Patrol, Vermont*