

Eastern Pennsylvania Region Stated Meeting Minutes

April 17, 2010



I. Section Chief and NSP Representatives Mini-Sessions from 8:30 to 9:30 AM

II. Section Meeting Reports

A. Southwest - Robert Bernatos

1. Season started late.
2. New Safety Program "Play it Safe."
3. YAP - Limited to high school students. Should the YAP age change from 18 to 21?
4. Act 37
5. Aging population; reduced number of patrollers due to years of service being granted reduced patrol commitment; new applicants are older. Recruitment suggestions.
6. Discussion of recruitment video.

B. Northern - Robert Morgan

1. Great year; not as much snow as the southern regions.
2. Recruitment issues for both small and large patrols.
3. Support Senior Program.
4. Glitch for those who are already in the EMS system. Some are not getting credit for the past 2 years from fall refreshers.
5. Recognition of Patrollers.
6. Sno Mountain: June 25 - 26 to host lift evac course; if interested see Bob Dourand
7. Records at National - difficult to research secondary Patroller information
8. Gerit concerned about lift evac course not being discussed with National or Region--not an NSP program; concern that a certification will be required for lift evac.

C. Pocono - Dina Manoway

1. Alumni program.
2. Recruiting candidates; larger mountains should pass along applications of individuals who need improvement on their skiing skills to smaller mountains.
3. Some areas having problems getting ambulances to respond.
4. Awards: please submit nominations; awards process is very cumbersome. Can we ask Division to take a look at the process to streamline it?

5. Senior program: how can we get it promoted? Asking other sections to share promotional information to get people enthusiastic about the program.
6. Gerit stated that he would like to see all mountains allow Patrollers to visit and ski as a Senior privilege.
7. Issue with paid v. volunteer.
8. Suggestions were made from members for promoting Senior program

D. **Central - Kurt Adam**

1. Reminded everyone that the TEs are very happy to meet Patrollers to help with training.
2. Numbers were up this year; accident rates were down.
3. Central section is not having a problem recruiting people.
4. Awards: important to get more people involved and more nominations.
5. Student program: try to get kids involved.

III. **Call to Order**

Gerit Lewisch, Regional Director, called the regular meeting of the Eastern Pennsylvania Region to order at 9:33 AM on April 17, 2010, at the Blue Mountain Ski Area. Gerit welcomed Margaret Smith and Carl Smith. Margaret was the RD for Southern NY until March 31st. Dina Manoway, new Pocono Section Chief; Kurt Adam, new Central Section Chief; Flo Rutherford, Instructor Development; Tim Kelly, legal; new Delegate George Hannon, and Bob Davies. Thank you for coming.

IV. **Secretary Report, Gerit Lewisch**

Minutes from the November 15, 2009 meeting have been posted on the EPA website. A motion was made by George Hannon and seconded by Brent Watts to forego the reading of the Minutes and to approve the Minutes from the November 15, 2009 meeting as published. The motion carried.

V. **EPA Special Awards Presentation, Gerit Lewisch and Ed Hirshman**

- A. Meritorious Service Award: Wolfgang Boernert (Alpine Mountain)
- B. Helwig Outstanding Administrative Award: Gerit Lewisch (Camelback)
- C. Yellow Merit Star presented by Meg Smith to award a Patroller who not only volunteers in his own Region but also volunteered in another region: Edward Hirshman

VI. **Moment of Silence**

Two friends from Spring Mountain Patrol passed away this year. Paul Frieze and Douglas Howlett.

VII. **“Your Job Description,” George Hannon and Edward Hirshman**

George Hannon presented “Your Job Description,” which explained more about the following positions:

- A. Division Appointed Staff

- B. Regional Director
- C. Alternate Regional Director
- D. Appointed Staff
- E. Section Chief
- F. Delegate at Large
- G. NSP Representative
- H. Section Chief Staff
- I. Local Area Patrol Director

Gerit discussed the Regional performance checklist:

- A. NSP representatives should train their replacements.
- B. Bring and discuss topics at the Division meeting.
- C. Submit written reports.
- D. Newsletter reports to focus on upcoming season and not past season.
Submissions for Regional newsletter are due June 1ST!!! Newsletter articles get submitted to Gerit.
- E. Support the Region policies.
- F. Be courteous when opposing.
- G. Try to be a part of mountain management, be courteous, and promote goodwill.
- H. Support the educational programs.
- I. Share information about all events; get events posted on the Region website.
- J. Follow up on the 990s early.
- K. Probe around: who is worth the "Outstanding" awards.
- L. Make sure those completing Senior requirements get their records upgraded.
- M. Attend meetings.

VIII. **Upcoming Division & Regional Elections - Bob Davies**

- A. Gerit starts his last term this month.
- B. Next election is for two Section Chiefs in 2011: Northern and Southwest
- C. Next Regional Director election will be in the fall of 2011 to take office in April 2012
- D. Gerit stated that he is running for Division Director and has two opponents.
Election for the Division Director is next week. There was discussion on Gerit's replacement.
- E. Bob thanked individuals for their help with the elections.

IX. **Pennsylvania Winter Sports Museum and Hall of Fame - Edward Hirshman**

- A. Gerit stated that this year there is an induction into the Pennsylvania Hall of Fame. This year, there are 3 inductees from EPA Region:
 - Doug Howlett
 - Ken Gable
 - Ed Hirshman
- B. The museum started at Camelback and Liberty now has one too. We are very proud that so many ski patrollers have been inducted.

- C. Ed Hirshman dedicated the presentation to Doug Howlett, who is going to be missed.
 - 1. The organization is a 501(c)(3) corporation.
 - 2. Display at Camelback; satellite display at Liberty.
 - 3. Hall of Fame for all winter sports.
 - 4. Nomination process.
 - 5. Sponsor.
 - 6. Induction at Bear Creek October 8th and 9th.
 - 7. Become a member.

- D. Ellie Jessum stated that the induction will be at Bear Creek on October 8th and 9th, and all are invited. Not getting the response that they have had in the past. Friday night there will be booths and silent auctions. There will be two MCs. Each inductee will be “roasted.” Saturday is the luncheon, and the awards are presented.

Meeting was suspended at 11:55 AM for the lunch break. Meeting was reconvened at 12:43 PM.

X. **National, Division, Region - Gerit Lewisch**

- A. OEC 5th edition will not be ready for the fall refresher.
- B. PD's should complete and return the questionnaire from National.
- C. New National Transportation Officer is Frey Aarnio.
- D. Section Chiefs will be voting on the Division budget.
- E. By-law changes to be voted on; Gerit discussed the By-law proposals.
- F. Promote Division pin in our Region.
- G. General agreement to promote instructors' pins.
- H. Wolfgang will be voting in Albany as proxy to Kurt Adams.
- I. Gerit visited Whitetail, Ski Liberty, and Ski Roundtop; appreciated the friendship of the Patrollers
- J. Joe Panczer is the new EMS liaison. Joe understands both the EMS system and the Ski Patrol as he is a paramedic and a Patroller. Wolfgang, Gerit, and Joe will be meeting with the DOH representative.
- K. Joe Panczer and Wolfgang Boernert discussed:
 - 1. Con-Ed Credits; fill out registrations properly; follow up to make sure you received the proper credits.
 - 2. More than 80% of patrollers from Western App signed up with EMS; over 90% of EPA signed up.
 - 3. Gerit discussed the bridge course for EMRs to EMTs; individuals may be able to take the OEC course to become an EMR--not necessarily a Ski Patroller.
 - 4. Joe Panczer talked about the EMS system and some advantages for the state in adding NSP OEC Technicians.

5. Joe discussed Act 37; which has been posted on the EPA website. Joe stated that if anyone has any questions or issues with the EMS system, please contact him. His contact information is also on the EPA website.
6. Wolfgang would like to add updated program information to the website. All updates should be submitted to him in Word format.
- L. Gerit discussed making the newsletter an electronic newsletter--no paper mailings. The majority agreed to have a digital newsletter after the next issue. Wolfgang talked about the newsletter advertising that has generated income. Wolfgang also mentioned that some email addresses are not valid, and some Patrollers block the mass mailings.
- M. Jack Peck has started to post events on the calendar; please let him know of any planned events.
- N. Gerit has been unsuccessful in getting an Alumni list from National.
- O. Wolfgang would like National to clean up the website and feels that the database is poor. Wolfgang requested a motion. George Hannon made a motion to bring up the issues of the National website and the problems with the database at the Division level. Jack Peck seconded the Motion. The Motion carried.
- P. Bob Bernatos asked if members would be interested in a Pennsylvania NSP license plate. There was general approval.

XI. **Awards - Gerit Lewisch; Ed Hirshman**

Annual Service Award: Tim Kelly (Elk Mountain)
 Outstanding Young Adult Patroller: Daniel Longacre (Blue Mountain)
 Outstanding OEC Instructor: William Walthour (Sno Mountain)
 Outstanding NSP Representative: Bob Dourand (Sno Mountain)
 Outstanding Large Alpine Patrol: Camelback Ski Patrol

XII. **OEC - Dennis Zercher**

OEC refreshers are listed on the calendar.

XIII. **Budget and Financial Matters - Gerit Lewisch, Jack Bogdon**

- A. Investment fund has continued to grow; \$12,000 ahead of where we were last year at this time.
- B. Expenses are about the same as last year; income has increased due to greater participation in programs and advertising receipts from the newsletter.
- C. Personal thanks to Wolfgang for moving us to PayPal. Record keeping is more streamlined.
- D. Fiscal year for the Region is April 1st to March 31st. Most of the expenses for the entire year were submitted during the month of March. Expenses must be submitted in a more timely manner.
- E. Do not send information as Registered mail. It is too difficult to retrieve this information from the post office.
- F. Every Patrol has to supply a roster. Blue Mountain, Jack Frost, Tanglewood, and Whitetail need to submit their Patrol rosters.
- G. 990 time. Due date is May 1st!!! Get these in as soon as possible.

H. Mileage is 25 cents for this coming year.

XIV. **Senior EMM Program, Greg Johnson**

- A. Two Senior clinics and two evaluations this year.
- B. Total enrollment of 34 (max); passing rate 85%.
- C. New TEs to help with training.
- D. Next year's events will be in the newsletter.
- E. Clinics and evaluations are scheduled for the upcoming year.

XV. **Open Discussion**

- A. Gerit thanked everyone for their support.
- B. Meghan Eckhart wanted everyone to know that the next YAP Seminar is at Sugarloaf in Maine and would like to coordinate a bus for all the YAPs in the region. Would like to get a head count as soon as possible.
- C. Wayne Eckelmann said that the YAP event has been scheduled for next year and the dates have been posted. Asking other areas to not schedule candidate events on that same weekend. Wayne also thanked the Region for the financial support and gave thanks to Blue Mountain.

XVI. **Adjournment**

Motion made by Bob Bernatos, seconded by Jack Peck, to adjourn the meeting at 2:40 PM. Motion carried.

Minutes submitted by: Nancy Mayberry

Minutes approved by: