

A publication of the Eastern Pennsylvania
National Ski Patrol 2013–2014

The Regional



From the Director's desk

As I sit here on a rainy Friday morning contemplating on what to say, I have had many thoughts go through my head.

I will start with the past year. It was a very busy year. This was the first time I have been involved in leading a group of individuals as large as the EPA Region. I had set some goals for myself as a Region Director and also some goals for the Region and the membership. That was the easy part. Now it was time to actually put some of these ideas into action.

I learned very quickly, that you can not do everything yourself. If you try, you will just burn yourself out. I also learned that you have to learn patience and to think things through. You can't react to the first thing that pops into your head. This is probably the hardest thing to do. You have to learn to look at things from different perspectives and weigh out the consequences of your actions from several different viewpoints. You have to be willing to accept that your thoughts might not always be the best, and that sometimes your decisions will not always please everyone involved.

One of my goals for the Region this past year was to reduce the size of our funds. Easier said than done. My belief was that all of the members contributed to the surplus, so I wanted to make sure that whatever we did, it would benefit a majority of them. After consulting with the EPA leadership, the general consensus was that training was one of the main areas we would focus on. We purchased 4 new Cascade 100 toboggans for training use. There is one located in each Section. We purchased some new equipment for the Avalanche/MTR programs. We purchased a laptop computer for the Treasurer so that we can keep track of our finances. We also updated some of the equipment in the SOEC kits for the senior clinics and evaluations.

There were many ideas that were presented and all had some merit to them. We will continue to look at this and see what we can do this year.

It was also decided that we would have a dues forgiveness this coming fall. This means that the patrols will report the Region dues of \$8.00 for each member to the Region, but will not send us a check. It is



up to the local patrols on how they handle the actual collection. Some patrols have indicated they will not collect the dues, and some have said they will collect them and use them at the local level for internal patrol use. Please remember this is a local patrol decision that has to be addressed with your leadership.

One of the other things I have learned this past year is that I represent all of you at the Division level. I spent time last fall going to several of the refreshers and had a chance to talk to some of you. This year I plan on visiting several patrols and hope to have a little more time to meet with you when you are not running from station to station. There are a lot of things going on within the NSP at both the Division and National levels. Please do not hesitate to share your

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thoughts with me via email or phone.

Bob

How to Become An Instructor

There seems to be some confusion on the process of how a patroller becomes an Instructor. Below is the process for EPA. A goal of the ID staff is to expand the ID program to the section level. For example, due to distance, the Southwest section runs ID class on an as needed basis. I would like to duplicate this for the Northern Section. If anyone in the Northern section is interested in getting involved with this, please contact me, especially if you have a background in education.

How to Become an NSP Instructor in EPA Region

Take the Instructor Development course in person which is run twice a year, early spring and late fall.

After taking the class and filling out the

appropriate paperwork, you will be assigned a mentor by the person that runs the OEC/OET program for your patrol. NOTE: Avalanche, MTR, and ID are regional programs; you must contact the program advisor if you want to get involved in any one of these fields.

There is no time limit as to when an instructor candidate is signed off as a full instructor by an Instructor Trainer. When the mentor feels that the mentee is ready for final evaluation, the mentor must contact the IT.

If the Instructor Candidate is successful, the IT must process a Course Completion Record and submit it to the EPA Program Advisor of the discipline. The EPA Program Advisor will then submit the CCR to the National Office.

The NSP does offer an Online ID Course. If a patroller in EPA elects to take the online course, the patroller must still do all of the above. However, the course fee will be waived. This is an EPA protocol.

The ID class only needs to be taken one time, regardless of how many disciplines you want to instruct.

If anyone has any questions, concerns, etc. please contact me.

Sincerely,

Brent Watts

EPA Program Advisor
skikrazey@aol.com

Ski Safety (and Other Programs)

There can come a time in our lives – usually when we get well up there in years – when we look back and see who the people were who heavily influenced our lives and personal development. As I look back, I see a Titan named Bill Ballek. Bill and I worked for the same company and he became my mentor in ultimately becoming a ski patroller.

It was 1979 when Bill invited me to participate in the region's Ski Safety program that he had been heading. Having set the tone for the program, Bill was grooming me to take over the advisor position. As with all good managers, he was establishing continuity as he prepared to move

onward... and upward. And that he did, taking on the chairs from section chief to national director. And in all that time, he never slowed down dragging sleds and training new – and not so new – patrollers.

Bill knew enough about politics to navigate the choppy waters of the organizations he served, but it was his visionary and analytical strengths that made him so effective. Even aside from whatever office he could be holding, he could be counted on to act in ad hoc tasks such as dealing with area management on sensitive issues.

Even now, with over forty years as a patroller, I find myself at times having to deal with a difficult

situation and thinking, "How would Bill handle this?" Only a very few can leave such an influence on so many people.

We lost Bill this winter. He passed away just short of the age of eighty as he was getting ready to head up to the mountain... to drag sleds.

Jim Policelli –Ski Safety Advisor

Election Report 2013

March 2013 Section Chief/Region Delegate Elections

An election was held in March 2013 for Section Chief/Region Delegate for the Northern and Southwest Sections. The term for Section Chief/Region Delegate is for two years with a maximum of three terms for an individual. Paul Spear was elected to his second term as Section Chief/Region Delegate for the Northern Section. Richard Bensel was elected to his second term as Section Chief/Region Delegate for the Southwest Section.

Region Director Election Process

In January 2013 a notice was posted on the EPA web site announcing the next Region Director election. The winner of this election will start office April 1, 2014. Nominations for Region Director will be accepted beginning February 1, 2013 and will continue until August 1, 2013. Nominations may be submitted by any active member or by the member themselves. A candidate must submit their acceptance accompanied by their written resume, platform and picture. The resumes, platforms, and picture will be posted on the EPA web site and at the refreshers. Nomination forms are available from Bob Davies, Election Chairperson. Balloting will begin with the fall refreshers beginning with the first Instructor Refresher at Ski Roundtop on September 7, 2013 and continuing through the final Patroller refresher at Liberty Mtn on November 16,

2013. Results of the election will be available after the Fall Officers meeting on November 17, 2013.

All active members with primary registration in the EPA region and ALUMNI (see below) are eligible to vote for the Region Director. Medical Associates, Candidates, and Professional Division Members are excluded from voting. Absentee balloting will be allowed by contacting the Election Chairperson. Voting for write-in candidates will be allowed, but information must be supplied on the ballot so the Election Committee can contact the person for the necessary approval.

Eastern Division approved the use of electronic balloting for the election of the Region Director at their Spring Meeting in April, 2012. This fall during the OEC refreshers we plan on using electronic balloting for the Region Director election.

The Eastern Division Officers changed the Eastern Division by-laws at the Eastern Division Spring Meeting to allow EPA Region Alumni registered with National Ski Patrol to vote for our Region Director during the 2013 fall OEC refreshers.

The requirements for Region Director are:

- Active registered patroller in the region
- Minimum five seasons patrolling experience

- Have achieved Senior Alpine, Senior Nordic, or Certified status.
- Members currently registered as Patrollers (formerly Auxiliary) are qualified if they have met the above requirements sometime in their patrol career.

Future Elections of Section Chiefs/Region Delegates

In March 2014, NSP Patrol Representatives in the Central and Pocono sections will be electing their Section Chief/Region Delegates. All NSP Patrol Representatives in the EPA region will be electing the Region Delegate at Large. All current Section Chief/Region Delegates and Region Delegate at Large are eligible to seek re-election. Nomination forms will be sent to the NSP Patrol Representatives in the Central and Pocono regions in January 2014 seeking patrollers interested in running for the office of Section Chief/Region Delegate. Nomination forms will also be sent to all NSP Patrol Representatives in the EPA region seeking a nominee for the Region Delegate at Large office.

Watch the EPA Web Site to view the Region Director Candidates, news and information concerning the upcoming Region Director Election

Bob Davies, Election Chairperson

What is your Goal? Elk Mt. Patroller School 2014

It's time to set your goals for next season and take your S&T skills to the next level! Are you a new patroller learning to run sleds? A seasoned patroller looking to hone your skills on the steeps and bumps? Are you ready to pass the Senior S&T Exam or become a Trainer Evaluator? Maybe you're ready to accept the challenge of the Certified Program? Whatever your goal, the famous Elk Mt. Patroller School has a program for you. This year's menu has options for new patrollers, senior candidates, seasoned patrollers, TE candidates and an Intro to the Certified program. Alpine, Tele or Snowboard we've got you covered. All groups will be led by the best S&T instructors from EPA and the around the division. Participants can look forward to a full day of sleds in small groups, so everyone gets plenty of time in the handles. Day two will feature ski and skills clinics with top level PSIA instructors. ...and don't forget patrol school wouldn't be complete without the Saturday afternoon pizza party!

We sincerely hope you will join us this year and be a part of the longest running S&T program in the country. Founded 26 years ago by long time Elk Mt. Ski Patrol member and Certified Patroller Paul Kozic. The model has been adopted by the division and nationally. There is no better way to experience the camaraderie among fellow patrollers than attending this weekend clinic. Consider getting a group together from your mountain and make the road trip to Elk for the weekend. Tentative dates for 2014 are January 25th and 26th. If you have any questions or need more information contact Matt Nebzydoski manebzy@yahoo.com

Certified Program

This year the Certified exam was held at Sugarbush, VT. We blessed with 30 inches of snow throughout the week. It was the best snow conditions since I have been in the program. I would like to congratulate EPA's new Certified members. Inese Jardine Certified # 761 from Bear Creek Mountain Resort. Inese is the first Certified patroller in Bear Creek's history. Clint Boyd Certified # 764 from Whitetail Resort. Clint was the first Whitetail patroller

to obtain his Certified status in the Eastern Division. I am very proud of you both and your great accomplishments.

Billy Jordan from Elk Mountain has taken over Eastern Division Certified Chairman position. Good Luck to Billy as he moves the program forward.

Next year's event is slated for Killington, VT.

If you are interested in challenging yourself and greatly improving your patrolling skills come to the event to observe the exam and also attend one on the Introduction to Certified Programs throughout the division. Please check the division's website for updated locations of the Certified Events. If you have any questions about the program feel free to contact me at skipatrol523@gmail.com
Brant Maley

Eddie

There is a time in your life that it is hard to make some decisions but they need to be made and this one is from my heart to yours as I decided to join those who are registered with NSP as an ALUMNI Patroller. Last season was my 46th year with NSP, EPA and the Ski Roundtop Patrol as a very active Volunteer Senior Patroller.

I been there, done that and been recognized and honored by my peers and that have been appreciated many times over. To those who I have served with these many years I like to say thank you for everything you did for our beloved organization and the times you guided me and make suggestions. Yes things are a lot different from those early

years as a volunteer NSP Patrolmen which we were called. My office area at home has its walls full of plaques, certificates and other honors and just looking at them takes me down memory lane and adds a little sparkle to my day.

"Why not try and get 50 years in active duty" some have asks me and I replied the body just cannot continue to do those black diamond toboggan runs at the required performance skill levels that they should be at and believing that to be an active duty member at my home area there is no second class Alpine Senior Patroller.

Yea I could just let those young healthy able body al-

pine patrollers run the sled for me but that is not the "fast eddie" you have known all these years.

Therefore I will finish up my active NSP OEC instructing and IT life at the upcoming fall refreshers and come January 1, 2014 officially register as an NSP Alumni Patroller and on goes the ALUMNI HAT. I already turned in my area Red parka with a smile and a few wet eyeballs to go along with that action but I will be the Southwest Alumni Advisor and work on some day trips for those interested and still try to recognize my peers with well deserving award nominations for a while. Active duty is now a thing of the past and it has been an enjoyable heart

filled career of 46 seasons.

My best wishes go out to RD Bob Bernatos, his Staff and the Line Officers for your dedicated services to the members of EPA Region, the NSP organization along with the area operations you serve; you all make me proud to be associated with you and please keep up your great services as an volunteer or paid member of the Eastern Pennsylvania Region - Eastern Division.

Yes I will miss you but it is time for those sunny warm filled days on the slopes without a fanny belt (First-aid belt) and on those rainy ugly days I will be catching a snooze at home in front of the big screen once the 2013-2014 season starts at Roundtop Mountain Resort wishing for my southern future re-location..

Pennsylvania Snow Sports Museum and Hall of

On October 19th and 20th 2012 at the Liberty Mountain Resort & Conference Center, the Hall of Fame inducted six new members and the Class of 2012 Inductees was -

- Frank Cressman * - Instruction & Organizer
- George Salter * - Retail & Innovator
- Eric Flynn - Area Operations & Organizer
- Dr. Hubert Seemann - Area Operations & Adaptive Sports
- Gerit Lewisch - Patrol & Instruction
- Lars Gunnar Skylling - Area Operations & Instruction Deceased

The next induction will be hosted by the Seven Springs Mountain Resort and for more information about this future event or the organization please contact:

Paul Prutzman museum vice president
Info@paskimuseum.com

or

Hall of Fame Committee Chairperson Jim McHale
jmchale02@comcast.net

Ed Hirshman - class of 2010

The Chain of Command... What it Means to You

Some of you with a military, EMS, or some other type of structured program are probably familiar with the term 'Chain of Command'. Here is one definition I found on the internet: The order in which authority and power in an organization is wielded and delegated from top management to every employee at every level of the organization. Instructions flow downward along the chain of command and accountability flows upward. Sounds pretty intimidating, but I don't want you to feel that it is.

The basic concept of the 'Chain' is that there is some structure to how your organization is run. In it's simplest form, you can't have all of the Indians running the tribe and you can't have all of the complaints go directly to the chief.

As it applies to you at your local patrol, if you have an issue you can't resolve on your own, your first stop should be your PIC, Hill Captain, or whatever other term you may use. Depending on what your local protocols are, it will work it's way up until you reach your Patrol Director.

For the most part, you always want to try and follow this 'chain'. There may be times where there may be a conflict with the next level in the chain which would create a need to go to the next level. That is ok, but in most cases you should try avoiding going straight to the top.

At this point I am going to skip past the involvement with your local area management. I am pretty sure that each patrol's relationship with the local management is different, so we will leave those questions up to your local PD.

The next step in the chain is the section chief. The section chief is elected by the NSP reps in that section. From this level on up the chain, our focus is limited to the scope of the NSP Organization, it's bylaws and policies and procedures. We do not have the authority to question or overturn any actions taken at the local patrol level by either patrol leadership or local management. This is probably the hardest part of the job for me, especially if it involves termination from a patrol. There is simply nothing that the section chief, myself, the Division Director, or even anyone at National (cont page 11)

Wounded Warrior Patrol Annual Outstanding Volunteer Award

At the 2nd Annual Wounded Warrior Patrol's Family Event in February held at Seven Spring Mountain Resort, Tom Buckwalter (Ski Roundtop Patrol) was honored and recognized with a plaque as the *Wounded Warrior Patrol's 2013 Outstanding Volunteer*. The first awarding of a volunteer was Dr. Bob Hall in 2012.

For more information on this 100% volunteer 501c3 organization, please visit their website - www.woundedwarriorpatrol.org.

eddie (USAF Vet)

Chicks on Stix 12th Edition

It was another successful year for the Women's program. I was going to pull executive privilege and attend this years event, but was unable to ski because of an injury.

This year, there were two events, one at Elk Mtn (the first time) and also at Camelback. There were over 50 women in attendance. I always receive outstanding reviews for the events that have been held. Sarah and her staff have done an excellent job over the last 12 years in grow-

ing this program. You can read her comments on the Women's Program in the last issue of Ski Patrol Magazine

But alas, Sarah feels that is time for a change. Chrissie Ludka will be taking over the program this season. Sarah will still be involved, so when you see her skiing around this season, be sure to thank her for all she has done for the program.

This year the goal is to bring

the program a little further south. Chrissi will be working on the location and date, so be sure to check the Region calendar throughout the season for updates.



Electronic Voting

This year, the fall election for Region Director will be done electronically. The Region will be purchasing software from AssociationVoting.com.

All members who have a valid email address in their member profile in the National data base will receive an email when the election opens. The email will contain directions on how to vote.

It is important that if you wish to vote electronically, that you make sure that your email address is current and correct. The last time I checked, there were over 200 patrollers and alumni who did not have an email address on file.

This will not prevent you from voting. For those that don't have a valid email address on file, or the email bounces for some reason, you will receive a paper ballot in the mail. We are trying to keep this number as small as possible, since we need to print and mail these ballots.

If your keen eye saw that I mentioned alumni, by virtue of a by-laws change at the Division this past spring, alumni patrollers now have the right to vote. Those patrollers who are currently registered in the EPA Region will have the ability to vote.

The election period will open with the first

instructor refresher on Sept 7, 2013 and will close at 11:59 pm on Nov 16, 2013 of the last refresher at Liberty Mtn. Paper ballots will have to be post marked by the end of the last refresher.

If you have any questions, please contact me. I have had several people run through a demo of the product, and all were satisfied with the performance and security of the product.

Please add announcement@associationvoting.com to your "safe senders" list.

Bob

History

One of my goals when I took office was to document our history online. To this point, I have not had a volunteer step forward to be our Historian. So, I am going to get the ball rolling. I am going to look to all of the members (especially the more senior members) to help fill in the blanks.

A few years ago, the Division undertook a project to preserve our history. A call went out for people to submit their paper records to be submitted to the newly designated archives at Dartmouth College. They have been diligently cataloging hundreds of boxes of records. The only down side to this, we don't have easy access. So this is where you come in. I would like to build an electronic version that we can maintain.

The list of Region Directors starts with L.C. Copeland in 1948, so I am going to assume that is when the Region was formed. I have a list of all of the RDs going forward. We now need to fill in all of the other people who have held office. So, if you have ever held an office at the Region level, please let me know.

The next part is all of the past patrols. We currently have four sections, Northern, Central, Pocono, and Southwest. I have been told that at one point, there were 5 sections. So if anyone knows what this was, please let me know. I have also heard the term 'area patrols used. If you are familiar with any of these please let me know as much information as you can.

Here is a list of current patrols in the sections. I know that some areas have changed names, so I am going to list what I know. If you know there has been a name change, please provided me with the names and date of change if possible. I

would also like to know the date the area opened.

Some of the areas that are closed or in the lost Ski Area list may or may not have had an active ski patrol.

Northern

Elk – opened 1959

Crystal Lake Nordic – opened

Crystal Lake Alpine—opened 1971 closed 1996

Hideout – opened

Big Bear Mast Hope – opened 1976

Sno Mtn — opened 1984

Changed to Montage – date

Changed to Sno Mtn – 2013

Tanglewood – opened closed 2012

Upper Delaware Nordic – opened

Central

Bear Creek – opened 1969

Doe Mtn—date of name change

Blue Mtn – opened

Little Gap—date of name change

Eagle Rock—opened 1997

Spring Mtn – opened

Valley Forge Nordic – opened 2012

Blue Marsh – opened closed – 2005

Apple Hill—opened closed 1978?

Senior Emergency Management Module

As usual in this region, we held two clinics and two evaluations. The clinics were held at Sno Mountain and Ski Roundtop. The evaluations were held at Eagle Rock and Camelback respectively. I would like to give my heartfelt gratitude to the local patrollers and the management that help me prior to, and during those events. Thanks again to all and the liaisons.

For the past several years I have always said to the SEMM Trainer/Evaluators that training comes first. Once again, it has proven correct. So, if you passed the S&T portion and all of the other requirements that go with it, well then congratulations to the full seniors. You have definitely earned it.

The backbone of the program is the candidate themselves. They toil, get nervous, sweat, and even on a occasion, get a few bumps and bruises just to get to where they are today to better themselves as a patroller. A well prepared candidate will go far into the program and succeed. Thus, I would like to thank the candidates for making the program for what it is today by utilizing the training staff that is available. So, please get out there and talk about it amongst yourselves with all fellow patrollers to get involved so that they can evolve into a better patroller, a better patrol, and a better region.

Congratulations go to Michael Balk, Balent Balog, Matt Diloreto, Tyler Hammond, Marc Mandel, Kevin Scallan, Lewis Wertley, Robert Bartorillo, Bruce Crawford, Mark Drizing, Steve Furguson, Julie Wise Hall, Robert Nitch, and Jessica Schmidt for your hard work to improve yourself and your patrol.

When you register you must sign up to attend an SEMM clinic before attempting an evaluation. These are set up to assist you in

how to manage the scenario's problem and triage if needed. Upon receiving your registration you will receive a packet via e-mail; this is to be printed out, which has to be completed before the evaluation. In this packet will be a skill and scenario's worksheet for the candidate to work on. The skills session can be signed off by an OEC Instructor. The practical scenario sessions must be signed by a Trainer/Evaluator (TE).

Last but not least, are the accolades that are due to the TE's that helped in the SEMM program this year, especially Andy Kline, Flo Rutherford, and the four T/E's that attended all four events. Every T/E goes above and beyond their regular duty days to help administer and support this program. They are there because they care about the quality of the program, and most importantly they are there to help you gain that higher skill level through the SEMM program. Remember they are trainers first. So, ask them any questions that you may have about the program, or what to expect while you are in training.

As some of you already know I will be stepping down as the EPA SEMM Trainer/Evaluator Administrator next season. Andy Kline will be taking this position for the 2014 ski season. I wish him well and I am sure you will give him your full support. This program has always been a passion and close to my heart for many years and I hope that reflected on the programs continuing success.

Thank you all for your support.

Greg Johnson EPA SEMM T/C

Fall Refreshers

The fall refresher season is upon us. The registration has been opened for the instructor refreshers. If you are an OEC instructor, please make sure that you attend one of these refreshers so that you will be able to work at the patroller refreshers.

The patroller refreshers will open up for registration the week of Sept 4. Please be courteous and only register for one refresher. The attendance is capped for each event based on the number of instructors who will be there. If you are registered for more than one, that means you are keeping a slot from someone who may want to attend that event. Wolfgang will be checking, and if he finds that you are registered for more than one, he may try to contact you to find out which one you will attend, or he may delete you from one. Don't forget to have a current CPR card, your current OEC Technician card, your completed study guide, and a lunch. The more prepared we are at the start of the day, makes everything run smoother throughout the day.

Section Chief's Reports

Central Section

The 2012/2013 ski season opened late for the second year in a row. As Yogi Berra would say, "It was dega vue all over again." Fortunately once January started the cold weather followed. By the time Patroller School came around Swen the God of Winter was working with us. All the areas within the Central Section had a wealth of activities.

Eagle Rock opened a week later than last year. Eagle Rock listed a 20% increase in skier visits from last season. Conversely, they had 80 reported incidents. That number is ten fewer than last year. Great ratio, more skiers, less accidents. Eagle Rock hosted a SEMM clinic which helped those who had never been to Eagle Rock to discover how much fun it is to ski. Eagle Rock also hosted an S&T clinic in February. As usual, there was a great turnout for the S&T clinic. Through the hard work and dedication of several patrollers Eagle Rock now has three new toboggan instructors. As I note every year, Eagle Rock is the best kept secret in the EPA region.

Blue Mtn. reported a 97 day season this year. Blue Mtn recorded 324,000 skier visits which was off from the past several years. Blue Mtn reported 1223 skier accidents during the 2102/13 season. Blue Mtn reported that they are taking on 11 new candidates for next season. Blue Mtn also reported that they three YAP's take place in the division YAP competition at Smuggler's Notch with one of their own finishing fourth overall. Blue Mtn also participated in the NSSA Safety Week to promote safe skiing. This event took place in February. Anyone who visited Blue Mtn may have noticed the construction at the main entrance. Summer Fun is coming to Blue. The area is in the process of building a water park. Fun times beyond the ski season.

The newest member of the Central Section is Valley Forge Nordic. Valley Forge Nordic reported that the patrol consists of 20 patrollers. While the ski season was not great for Nordic skiing they are "gearing" up for bike patrol during the spring

and summer. Valley Forge Nordic also reported that they are developing an MOU with the park that will hopefully be the model for the National Park Service. A major goal of the patrol is to assist and educate the general public. If any one is interested in helping out at Valley Forge please contact Rick Shandler via e-mail. Rick's contact information is on the NSPEPA website.

Bear Creek finished the season with a bang. Inese Jardine became Certified Patroller #761. Inese is the first Bear Creek patroller to successfully complete the Certified test. Bear Creek reported they had nine new patrollers this past season. They instituted a new electronic reporting system for accidents. There are no longer any paper/hard copy accident reports. Everything is done via laptop. The program is web based through Trail Creek. Bear Creek was a pilot site for the Trail Creek system. The web based form is identical to the NSSA reporting form. Last for Bear Creek was they reported 517 accidents this past season.

Spring Mtn reported that incidents were down during the 2012'13 ski season. Spring Mtn also reported that skier visits were also lower this past season. Spring Mtn added tow new patroller and have ten new candidates for next season. Spring Mtn and Bear Creek will work together by holding a joint OEC training class. Spring Mtn also held an S&T evening clinic this past season. There was great participation in the event as usual every year we visit Spring Mtn.

Even with a slow start to the season there was still a wealth of things to keep busy. There was good snow, good conditions and a ton of fun over the past season. Congratulations to all who improved their respective skills whether it was to become a new patroller, becoming a "senior" or the pinnacle, the certified program. Have a great season and don't run me off the road. Remember, "point em' down hill and let em' run."

Kurt

Pocono Section

Upper Delaware Nordic- Without an overabundance of natural snow, the patrol still managed to have a good season. They sponsored a community snowshoe hike in the Varden Conservation Area and had 22 participants. The patrol, which now numbers 22 members, also had multiple training days this past season.

The Hideout- This past season saw the patrol increase its numbers with 2 transfers and 3 new candidates. In 2005, there were 4 patrollers and due to the recent additions the patrol now numbers 17 members. Great job and hats off to Cathy Long, Patrol Director! There were reported record crowds over the Xmas holiday week. In February, the only groomer broke so the ski patrol and ski instructors hand groomed the slope so they could stay open. Talk about commitment and dedication! The area closed for the season on March 10th.

Elk Mountain- There was a record season with skier visits despite a lack of a lot of natural snow with everyone thankful for a great snow making and groomer crew. The area was open in excess of 100 days and closed on March 30th with all trails still covered in snow. There were 10 new patrollers added to the patrol this year, 2 of which were transfers and 8 candidates. The annual patroller school was held in January and, as usual, was very successful. There were 4 patrollers who passed the Senior S&T evaluation which was held at the area in early March. Howie Wyandt, Patrol Director received the Outstanding Patrol Representative Award for both the EPA Region and Eastern Division for the 2012-2013 season. Sarah Keating, not to be out done, received the Outstanding Alpine Patroller Award also for the EPA Region and Eastern Division. And, Dr. Bill Jordan was elected Chairman of the Eastern Division Certified program. Senior Patroller Jerome "Jerry" Washo received the Most Valuable Patroller (MVP) Award for the EPA Region Northern Section. Congratulations to

all of the award winners!!

Big Bear/ Mast Hope- The patrol added 4 new toboggan instructor trainers and 3 new OEC instructors this past season. They have 8 potential candidates for next season. The area is increasing snowmaking capabilities and expanding the patrol room for next season. A new off season endeavor will be that the patrol is staffing the Hawley-Honesdale marathon this summer. Way to go!!

Montage Mountain (Formerly Sno Mtn, formerly Montage Mtn.)- As the saying goes, what's old is new again! There is new ownership of the area and the name was changed back to Montage which is making a lot of people happy. The owners are going to make capital improvements and the management which is being retained will continue to support the patrol. This past season they added 4 candidates who became patrollers. The patrol has 1 new Senior and 3 patrollers passed the SEMM. The plan is for 10 candidates for next season.

Crystal Lake Nordic- The area which has 30 miles of trails reports a great season due to the perfect weather conditions. They opened on December 8th and closed on March 9th. There are currently 5 patrollers and 1 new next season. The patrol sponsored Moonlight XC Tours on 2 dates as a fundraiser and were very successful. Also, the patrol provided emergency medical backup during the Crystal Lake Ski Chase race held on 1/27/13. Check out their website and come on up for great XC Skiing!!!

Paul Spear

Southwest Section

Even with a late December start all three Southwest Section had a great season. Seasonal weather allowed for great snowmaking which resulted in the areas being 100% open for most of the season. Reports from the section areas are as follows:

Whitetail Mountain Resort

The patrol accomplishments for the season were many. In the education area the patrol implemented a regional CPR program by holding class in several geographically diverse areas. A Low Angle Rescue course has been developed and will be open to all section patrollers and will be held at Whitetail on August 24 & 25. The instructor ranks grew by adding five new OEC instructors, 3 S & T instructors, an OEC TE and a S & T TE.

Thirteen candidates were successfully completed the training pro-

gram and are now full patrollers. Four patrollers passed the senior S & T test. Clint Boyd honored his patrol by becoming a certified patroller. Jay Thompson received the Section MVP Award at the Patrol annual picnic for his above and beyond contribution to patrol training.

The mountain 'Play It Safe' Program was promoted by conducting daily (weekend) talks to Ski School and Patrol, talks with outside groups and Nite Club Card Members, and signage on the mountain.

Liberty Mountain Resort

Liberty has approved several major renovations to our facilities: the existing Carroll Valley hotel building will be demolished and a new 3 story building will constructed

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Southwest Section (cont)

possibly open for the upcoming season. Multi-million dollar renovation of existing water support system for both snow-making support and for the golf course will start this summer. Renovation of current Liberty hotel is progressing well and almost complete.

Liberty was open for 92 days this past season. Liberty Ski Patrol along with Liberty Mountain Safety Team continued to crack down on out of control and too fast for conditions skiers and boarders. Liberty was rewarded with not a single acutely serious accident this season. POLICING DOES WORK, as the rate for this past year was within the low of normal.

Mountain management was very happy with the Patrol's effort to reduce accidents, especially serious accidents and collisions. Liberty began a monitoring system to judge the "happiness" of its customers. Liberty Patrol scored well above the goal set by

management.

Seven candidates completed OEC and six completed S & T. Three new OEC instructors were added: Sarah Hirsh, Matt Crow & Kevin Scallan and one new senior Kevin Scallan.

Roundtop Mountain Resort

The Patrol had good patient outcomes with lots of feedback from satisfied guests. The online "customer surveys", Twitter, Facebook, and other social media resulted in very positive remarks made by the skiing public. Several critical cases prove that our continued training initiatives are effective. Four of our Senior S&T candidates were successful, and Marc Mandel and Ian Selby are now full senior alpine patrollers. We also had four SEMM candidates succeed. This season we added three first time patrollers (alpine) and two patrollers (auxiliary).

We have successfully made the transition to own CPR Training Site. Our three patrols should be consistent with how we are reimbursed from management for this effort and expense. While we have turned an expense into a minor profit center, we need to have the ability to invoice our areas for this expense/effort.

Roundtop hosted a National Ski Patrol Aid Room Management course that created four new senior patrollers (auxiliaries). Aid Room Management is a senior patroller core requirement. Roundtop also hosted a sectional S&T Clinic and Advanced Lift Evacuation Clinic.

Dick Bensel

History (cont)

Southwest

Ski Roundtop Opened 1964
Renamed Roundtop Mountain Resort 2012
Whitetail – opened 1991
Liberty Mountain – opened 1965
Opened as Charnita renamed 19?
Renamed Liberty Mtn Resort 20
Blair Mtn – opened 1961 closed 1966

Pocono

Alpine Mtn – opened 1984
Big Boulder—opened
Jack Frost—opened 1972
Shawnee Mtn – opened
Saw Creek – opened
Pocono Ranchlands – opened
Camelback – opened 1963
Split Rock – opened 1946 closed 2004 (still operating?)
Fernwood – opened closed 1999

Lost Ski Areas

Sharp Mtn Pottsville
Big Valley (Hahn Mtn) Lenhartsville
Richmond Hill Furnace Chambersburg
Buck Hill Falls Buck Hill Falls
Chadds Peak Chadds Ford
Crystal Ridge
Hickory Ridge Cherry Ridge
Highland Ski Area Huntersville
Lancaster Host Resort Lancaster
Flying Dutchman Ski Hill
Meadow Valley Ski Area Lancaster
Middle Creek Ski Area Lititz
Montrose Ski Bowl
Mount Airy Lodge
Mount Tone
North Mtn
Pine Forge Ski Area
Piper Hill Ski Area
Pocono Lake Preserve

Pocono Manor Ski Area

Poco-North
Richmond Hill Greencastle
Royal Mtn Clifford
Sharp Mtn Pottsville
Honeybrook Hill
Lackawanna State Park
Summit Inn
Tamiment Resort Bushkill Falls
Big Pocono Ski Area Tannersville
Walnut Hill Philadelphia
Wolf Hollow Ski Area Del Water Gap
Wonderview Ski Area Bloomsburg

Chain of Command (cont)

can do to overturn a decision at this level. If the action involves termination, unless there is a serious Code of Conduct charge, you are being terminated from a local patrol. Your membership from the National Ski Patrol is not being terminated. You may have an appeals process at your local level that you can pursue, but not all patrols are the same and you will need to consult your local patrol to see what their process is.

The Code of Conduct process is covered in the National Bylaws and Policies and Procedures.

The Grievance procedures are

covered in Article 12 of the current bylaws. This spells out what the process is and how it applies. Although the right to appeal decisions up to the Division level are covered for non-National related problems, it does not state that the Region or the Division has the authority to override a local decision. We can investigate the appeal that has been brought forward to insure that all Region, Division, and National bylaws, and policies and procedures have been followed, but we cannot overturn a decision.

Chapter 5, Member Guidelines and Policies of the Current Policies and Procedures

explains what the requirements are for membership. The NSP Code of Conduct is explained in Chapter 6. Section 6.1.1.3 goes on to explain that the code does not regulate the relationship of members and local management. Section 6.1.2 explains the Standards of Conduct that is expected from every patroller who is a member. Section 6.1.3 explains the Disciplinary Procedures.

Reporting a Code of Conduct Violation should not be taken lightly. This can become a very serious matter which eventually may lead to involvement by legal advisors. This is not meant to deter anyone

from pursuing this process, but if you are going to go down this road, be well prepared. You will be asked to provide irrefutable evidence proving your claim. Once the violation is reported, you are protected against any retaliation by the accused.

Most of you will never be faced with this process in your patrolling careers, but I want to let everyone that there is a process in place and how it works. If you have any questions about this, please do not hesitate to ask.

Bob

2013 Awards

The EPA Region continues to generate many nominations for deserving patrollers. EPA members have received recognition at the Region, Division and National levels for their service, rescue work and contributions to the NSP. Our region is recognized as one of the most active for awards and patroller recognition. Please continue to nominate your peers for the recognition and awards they deserve!

As the EPA Awards Advisor, I work for you – awards are our volunteer “pay checks”. Let’s make sure our people are “paid” accordingly.

Please call or email me with any awards questions. Thanks!

Steve Buzzard (steve.buzzard@dart.biz) 717 413 4316

EPA Awards Presented during the 2012 – 2013 Season:

Yellow Merit Star:

Greg Mohr - Pocono Ranchlands
Chris Asher - Big Boulder
Katherine Weber - Jack Frost
Terry Ownes - Big Boulder
Bob Evraets - Jack Frost
Steve Pappanastasiou - Jack Frost

Purple Merit Star:

Hasan Pehlivan - Whitetail
Sean Augustine - Whitetail
Chip Taylor - Whitetail
Frank Abbadessa
Tom Bronder - Roundtop
Mitch Musser - Roundtop
Sam Pellerite - Blue Mountain
Kevin Scallan - Liberty
Jenna Jarriel - Liberty
John Rollhauser - Liberty

Blue Merit Star:

Mirodrag Circovic - Whitetail

Distinguished Service Award:

Fred Tim - Camelback

Patroller’s Cross:

Chris Mason - Roundtop
Bob Bernatos - Roundtop
Andy Kline - Roundtop

Ed Hirshman Annual Service Award:

Dennis Zercher - Roundtop

EPA Region Outstanding Awards:

Young Adult Patroller: Eric Curran - Eagle Rock
Patroller: Carol Erno - Roundtop
Paid Patroller - Doug Rice - Whitetail
Alpine Patroller - Sarah Keating - Elk
OEC Instructor - Sue Ballek - Camelback
Administrative Patroller - Wolfgang Boernert - Alpine
Patrol Representative - Howard Wyandt - Elk
Large Alpine Patrol - Roundtop

National Appointment:

Chris Raup # 11318- Roundtop
Cindy Bensel #11332 - Roundtop
Steve Buzzard #11298 - Roundtop

Eastern Division Annual William J. Gross Memorial Award: (For Outstanding Rescue)

Liberty Mountain Resort:

Jenna Jarriel
Kevin Scallan
John Rollhauser

Eastern Division Outstanding Patroller:

Carol Erno - Roundtop

Eastern Division Outstanding Alpine Patroller:

Sarah Keating–Elk

Eastern Division Outstanding Paid Patroller:

Doug Rice–Whitetail

Eastern Division Outstanding Patrol Rep:

Howard Wyandt–Elk

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Awards (cont)

Eastern Division Patroller Achievement Award (2012):

Sam Arfanella - Sno
Joe Budney - Sno
William Capers - Roundtop
Mark Clem - Whitetail
George Fueshko - Sno
Roger Gorman - Roundtop
Jim Hanks - Roundtop
Michael Legg - Roundtop
Julie Mancus - Sno
Len McNabb - Sno
Daniel Miller - Roundtop
Leanne Spurlin - Roundtop
Carl Urich - Roundtop
Bob Vocke - Whitetail

Passings

William (Bill) Ballek March 11, 1933 – Feb 2, 2013

Camelback Ski Patrol lost a 50 year patroller this past February. Bill's many contributions to the National Ski Patrol Camelback will be missed. Bill was a former Region Director from 1983 to 1990. Bill was an Alpine Senior Patroller and held National Appointment number 5423.

Dr Walt Peters Feb 25, 1925 – Nov 23, 2012

Walt was also a Camelback patroller with 45 years of service to the National Ski Patrol. Walt was an Alpine Senior Patroller and held National Appointment number 9528. Walt was a past Medical Advisor for the EPA Region.

James (Jim) Trout May 6, 1922 – Jan 13, 2013

Jim was an Alpine Senior Patroller from the Ski Roundtop Ski Patrol. Jim had retired from patrolling in 1999. Jim was an Alpine Senior patroller with 36 years of service to the National Ski Patrol.

Memorial Web Page

I would like to start an online memorial web page for all of the past patrollers from the EPA Region who have taken their final turns. Please try to include name, date of birth and passing, number of years patrolled, home area, any leadership information, patroller classification, National number, and a picture if you would like. If you are not a family member, please get permission from the family before we post to the website. Please send to me bob.bernatos@nspepa.org and I will coordinate it with the webmaster.

Bob



NSP Eastern Pennsylvania Region
2177 Merrimac Ave
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

Phone: 855-754-6777
E-mail: bob.bernatos@nspepa.org

EPA Region Profile:

The Eastern PA Region National Ski Patrol is a nonprofit organization, deriving its primary financial support from membership dues, donations, user fees, and corporate sponsorships. The EPA Region covers ski areas in eastern Pennsylvania, and is staffed by part-time volunteers to handle administrative and educational duties.

Our Mission:

The EPA Region provides quality focused education and training in:

- ◆ Safety for the skiing public
- ◆ Emergency transportation services for injured skiers
- ◆ Educational programs for maintaining patroller skills and certifying new patrollers



Help Wanted

We are currently looking to fill three positions on the EPA staff. The first is Historian. Ellie Jessum had been our Historian for a long time and has stepped down.

One of the things I would like to do is build an online History page on the website. This would include a list of all patrols that have been registered with EPA, past officers and as much information as we can get. The time is now while we still have the early members around to fill in the blanks.

The second position is Newsletter editor. This job description is pretty easy. You only have to work once a year. Thanks to some input from past editor Linda Doell, I taught myself Microsoft Publisher last year and

this newsletter is the result. Just imagine what we could have if we have someone with a little more experience than me.

The third position is the Election Chair. Bob Davies has indicated this will be his last year. This is one job that I can not pick up the slack and do because of the conflict of interest. These are great opportunities to get involved in the NSP beyond your local patrol and help round out your ski patrol resume. If you are interested in any of the positions, please contact me for further information.

Bob Bernatos