



Rusty Parka News



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Summer 2017

Division Director's Report



John Thomas
Division Director

Summer is here and we are in full swing of OEC courses for new members, a never-ending Ski Patrol cycle. There is an issue with the OEC books that should be resolved by the time this article goes to print. However, if the backorder issues is not solved, the OEC team is working on the issue.

The National Board decided for new members to keep the dues structure as it is with the first year dues good for the initial 18 months of a candidates beginning year. Therefore the proposed RFA that would have extended it for more than 18 months failed. The impact of this is that any new members dues will be counted for the next season starting July 1 giving the new candidate 18 months in their initial year of joining. To further explain: if a course starts May 10, (prior to July 1) a candidate will need to pay the current season dues and the next season dues. The date is July 1st that new members dues covers the next season dues.

At the May National Board meeting it was decided to dissolve the OEC6 committee. This committee was created to manage the overall project of the OEC6 development. As most of the current activity is to establish a publisher and begin the editing for the text in partnership with the publisher the need for the whole committee wasn't currently needed. When the time comes to create the curriculum and roll out schedule for the OEC6 material the Board will re-examine the needs at that time on how best to manage the roll out.

I do need your help during the upcoming fall National Board member election. We need people on the board that will listen to the membership. I will be asking for your help again this election season by supporting nominees that will look at all the facts that affect the membership and listen to the membership needs when making decisions. More information about the election later.

Parka Picks

Do What You Love	P. 2
Mentee or Mentor	P. 3
Northern MI News	P. 5
Women Patrollers	P. 7
YAP News!	P. 9
Growing Season	P. 10
For Those Who Care	P. 11
Tribute to Donald	P. 16

To Do What You LOVE or to LOVE What You Do



**Dr. Julie Stone
ADD**

This may sound like one and the same, but there really is a subtle and wonderfully robust difference. Of course, ski patrollers pretty universally love what they do. It keeps us coming back each year, or returning after a break for college, career, or youngsters. Let's look at the difference in these phrases.

My friend Jerree was the first to explore this topic with me. We were both choosing topics for our dissertations, a project that would hang over our heads for several years. Everyone was stressing about finding a topic they loved in which to research, gather data, and generate conclusions. No one wanted to get tired of their topic half way thru and jeopardize their success. Jerree, however, said love the process, love WHAT you do, don't worry so much about finding the 'perfect' topic. Each step along the way then becomes joyful and fun. I admired this answer and have thought this way often, because not every moment of anything is always joyful, fun, and making me love it. However, when you look at the final outcome each individual step along the way matters less than the whole. The whole is what makes something wonderful.

This applies to the ski patrol for me. When I'm at the gym staying fit as I age so that I can continue to ski and patrol gracefully, each moment of exercise may not be fun, but the whole feeling of strength I get is great and I love the process, I love what I am doing. When I'm sweating while setting up fencing I may not be enjoying that moment. But the whole of the job makes patrolling wonderful and keeps me coming back. Each interpersonal moment (especially as a manager) may not be joyful, but the camaraderie of the group of us – and I'm talking about the 30K of us – is incredible. I know I am doing what I love.

Think about this as we finish one season and flow into our next patrol year. What can you do to make your patrol life even more joyful and fun? I love this organization because of the people and I know you do too. I love the process of our current work, the efforts toward securing our future, and the search for best practices in everything we do. And that is why I stay involved in any way I can and am willing to continue to serve the NSP at any and all levels. I am so very fortunate, and I'm sure you are too - because each of us has the choice to both **do what we love** and to also **love what we do!**

426 Fund

Otherwise known as the Dan Somalski Memorial Fund, this trust was set up to honor a very special friend, patroller and mentor, the late Dan Somalski. Dan, as many of us know, dedicated much of his 25 year patrol career to helping others attain their goals both on and off of the mountain. As a long time Certified (#426) and PSIA level 3 he was legendary both inside and outside of the traces. It is in memory of Dan's example that the trust was created to ease the burden of a patroller's credentialing costs while encouraging advancement.

The fund committee is currently seeking applications from interested patrollers that could use financial assistance in their quest for further credentialing advancement. Application forms are available online. www.nspcentral.org (Look for Dan's picture.)

The completed application form should be sent by email or fax to Assistant Division Director Tom Anderson.

Tom Anderson
Assistant Division Director
E: tpanderson@charter.net
P: 906-361-7609



Are you the Mentee or the Mentor? The Recruit or the Recruiter?



Tom Anderson
ADD

Attending a recent region spring meeting the question was posed of who was eligible for an AARP card. Needless to say the majority of the room raised their hands. Recruitment is and has been a topic on every level of our association. The Young Adult Program seems to be gaining some momentum. In some regions, the Mountain Host program is being used as a recruitment tool to attract prospective candidates by having them get acquainted with what ski patrolling is all about. In addition to recruitment, retention is just as important. Many hours of training by many members of a patrol are invested in a new candidate.

So, what attracted you? What enticed you to go back to a classroom after normal school days were over? Who was behind your recruitment? What keeps you involved?

Here is the requested action item.... visit <https://goo.gl/forms/vsECPDoW1xhjF0Q52> and leave your answers to these questions. Your input will be used to further our recruitment and retention efforts. Moving forward it will be up to each of us to actively do what we can to attract and retain our membership. As a member driven association our future is in our hands.



"The Patroller in all of us started on the right. Time to take someone to the hill."

Region Reports

Eastern Michigan Region



Mike Schons
E MI Region
Director

Let me recap the the warm short season we had in Eastern Michigan. All three Sections held their Basic Alpine Patroller evaluation with 100% success! Congratulations to all the new patrollers from all the resorts.

We held another successful, and very large, Senior on and off-hill evaluations with two new Senior Patrollers and four new Senior Alpine Patrollers!

Congratulations to Eastern Michigan's newest Certified patrollers! Keith Natrass and Jeff Jurcak completed their journey and received their Certified numbers this season. This is an outstanding program, especially for those who wish to take their training to it's peak.

Cheryl "Cricket" Nick became EMR's newest region staff member as our Youth Advisor.

Nancy Trout, Women's Programs Advisor, held a very successful Women's clinic. One of our goals is to get more women involved as instructors and evaluators in our on-hill programs. Nancy and ARD, Allison Lavene are working on completing this over the next few years.

In short, despite the warmer than normal weather, we were able to hold all but one on-hill event and all of our scheduled off-hill courses and events including a couple unscheduled courses. Our region's annual awards banquet reflected the dedication a good number of our members put in to accomplish all these events, giving the region again, it's forward momentum.

Speaking of weather, the Summer Solstice is just a couple weeks away. As the days start to get shorter, we are hoping for weather that is more conducive to our sport.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the Division Fall Meeting, this year held at Boyne Mountain.

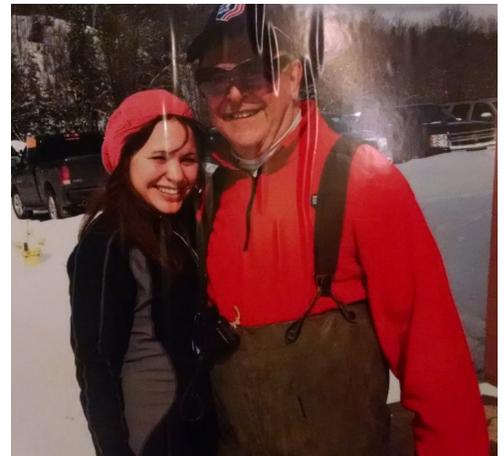


Noth Central Region



Les Robinson
NC Region Director

We in North Central have lost a great patroller this last week. Roger Bennett passed away at a way to early time. He will be dearly missed by his family and friends. Roger received his 50 year service award recently, he was very involved in the region most recently as section chief and many years as OEC MSP evaluator. He was a mentor for nearly all of his 50 years to many patrol members, senior evaluators, patrol reps, section chiefs, and myself as RD. He was always a worker and was behind the scenes as well as in the frontline. Roger we will miss your smile.



Welcome to the summer, it is here if we could have had some of the precipitation we've had this spring and summer last winter it would've been awesome. Hopefully you've all taken some time off from patrol activities in the early summer, because it's time now to think about OEC and our refreshers.

I want to congratulate all the winners for NSP awards in all the regions, all the merit stars, outstanding award winners, COA's, nationals, and locals. Great job all not only those who won but all who patrolled. Be sure and attend the division awards at Boyne Mountain this September to celebrate the division winners. Don't forget the events calendar <http://www.nspcentral.org/calendar.php>

South Central Region



Steve Paladini
South Central
Region Director

Introduction

As it turned out, the record highs in February caused many ski areas to close by the end of the month. The rest followed suit by early to mid-March. But even with poor weather conditions, South Central Region managed to still accomplish its annual programs and others, on the snow: Both the Senior On-Hill and OEC Clinics and Evaluations, two Toboggan Trainers Workshops, a Skiing Enhancement Seminar and the Women's Clinic. South Central also hosted one of the two Division ASDW's at Cascade Mountain in December of 2016. The Region also held two Low Angle Rescue classes, which have not been done in some time. One at Mt. LaCrosse in early March, not in the snow, but in the mud. The other at Little Switzerland in late April.

Region Update

The South-Central Region Awards Banquet was held on April 29, 2017 at the Little Switzerland Ski Ara. The Region had a very nice turn out, which also turned out to be one of the largest attendances in a number of years. The Region also exceeded previous years with seven "Outstanding" awards handed out. Also on the long list of awards: one Green Merit Star, two Blue Merit Stars, two Purple Merit Stars, one Distinguished Service Award and a National Appointment. Thank you to all that wrote awards and congratulations to all the award winners.

Paul Fuchs: Section Chief, Section I and Tom Merritt: Region Taboggan Advisor, will step down from their positions at the end of June, I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for their service to the South-Central Region. Respectively, Erik Hudson of Alpine Valley and Jeremy McPherson of Cascade Mountain will fill the positions

I want to thank the Region Board of Directors and the Region Staff for all they did during the past season. It takes a lot of work and time to put on classes, seminars, clinics and evaluations. I hope everyone has safe and enjoyable summer. See you in the Fall.

Northern Michigan Region



Richard Jacques
N MI Region
Director

NMR celebrated a successful 2017 season and started geared up planning for 2018 at the annual Spring Meeting and Awards Dinner April 29th. In addition to planning the normal activities the Region Board, Staff and members reviewed and approved the preliminary plan for the Fall 2017 Central Division Patroller Conference and Board Meeting.

Region Awards:

Several years of prodding, arm twisting and helping hands by region awards advisors and section chiefs resulted in a banner year for NMR Awards. With multiple nominations in most categories the awards committee had to carefully analyze each application and score candidates based on the National Awards score grid. The quality of this year's submissions resulted in only a few points separating nominees. Congratulations to all the award writers on a great job.

Award Recipients:

- Senior Plaques - Jim Luyckx and Marcia Velting both completed the requirements for Alpine Senior during 2017 Season.
- Outstanding Instructor – Annaka Norris, Nub’s Nob Ski Patrol
- Outstanding OEC Instructor – Rod Kivell, Hickory Hills Ski Patrol
- Outstanding Patroller – Howard Bates, Nub’s Nob Ski Patrol
- Outstanding Paid Patroller – Matt Quinn, Boyne Highlands Ski Patrol
- Outstanding Patrol Director - Randy Frykberg, Boyne Highlands Ski Patrol
- Outstanding Ski Patrol – Otsego Ski Club Ski Patrol
- Distinguished Service Award – Tena Lechtanski, Boyne Highlands Ski Patrol
- National Appointment # 11908 - Annaka Norris, Nub’s Nob Ski Patrol
- Region Director Special Recognition – Sharon Crockett, Tena Lechtanski, Bob Lechtanski, Meghan Walls and Rod Kivell for continued service as lead instructors and/or IOR of OEC Classes in conducted in the region.
- Purple Merit Star – Kendal Mudler, Schuss Mountain Ski Patrol for saving the life of a skier with a severed artery.
- 50 Year Service Award – Diane Frykberg, Boyne Highlands Ski Patrol

2018 Region Program:

Sep 23, 2017	7:30am – noon noon – 4:30pm	OEC Instructor Refresher OEC Refresher
Sep 27, 2017	7:00pm – 9:00pm	Fall Board Conference Call
Oct 18, 2017	7:00pm – 9:00pm	Senior Program Kickoff Conference Call
Jan 6, 2018	8:00am – 4:00pm	On-Hill Instructor Calibration Clinic
Jan 7, 2018	8:00am – 3:30pm	On-hill Candidate Clinic
Jan 20, 2018	8:00am – 4:00pm	OEC MSP Clinic
Feb 3, 2018	8:00am – 4:00pm	Ski/Board Enhancement Seminar
Feb 4, 2018	8:00am – 4:00pm	Toboggan Enhancement Seminar
Feb 25, 2018	8:00am – 4:00pm	Senior On-Hill Evaluation
Mar 4, 2018	8:00am – 4:00pm	OEC MSP Evaluation
Mar 18, 2018	8:00am – 4:00pm	Women’s Clinic

2017 Central Division Patroller Conference and Board Meeting

What has nearly half of the NSP Board of Directors, training in MTR, Adaptive Lift Evacuation, Low Angle Rescue and CPR, seminars in orthopedic emergencies, patroller legal Issues and bike patrolling? Answer, The 2017 Central Division Patroller Conference and Board Meeting. The weekend of September 8, 9 and 10 promises something for everyone at Boyne Mountain in Northern Michigan. Learn how skis are made by touring Shaggy’s Copper Country Skis in Boyne City, Surf at Avalanche Bay and talk with National Board Members and honor Central Divisions Outstanding Award Winners. See the detailed announcement in this RPN or visit http://www.nspnrm.com/store/c1/Featured_Products.html to register. Hotel Reservations can be made at <https://www.boyne.com/reservations/grp-mt-09-17-10m58z/Trip-Planner/Lodging?CresPropCode=000000&MultiPropCode=G&UnitTypeCode=GIQ&ArrivalDate=09%2f07%2f2017&DepartureDate=09%2f10%2f2017&GroupCode=10M58Z&Market=G>

Breaking News: Jeannie Thoren at the 2017 Patroller Conference:

Paul Engbretson of Viking Ski Shop Inc. says:

“A pioneer in the design and fitting of ski equipment for women, Jeannie Thoren has been addressing boot fitting issues with discerning skiers for decades. She has worked with many ski shops, including Viking Ski Shop in Chicago, and helps annually with fitting at the National Ski Patrol’s swap in the Windy City Ski Show. For her role in the advancement of our sport, Jeannie was inducted into the U.S. Ski & Snowboard

Hall of Fame in 2014.”

We are pleased to be offering the expertise of Jeannie Thoren for boot fitting analysis on Saturday September 9th. Recommendations for boot fit will be made in 30 minute appointments with Jeannie. Boyne Country Sports will have staff available for custom footbed preparation during those appointment times. To schedule an appointment with Jeannie and get further information regarding fee and location contact Tena at 231-529-6209. This opportunity is available to spouses as well as patrollers.

Northern Michigan Region



Central Division
2017 Fall Meeting

Greetings Central Division Women Patrollers!



Kerstin Hammarberg
Women Seminar

First, a tremendous THANK YOU to the crew from Southern Region who hosted us for the 2017 Women's Clinic at Sundown Mountain Resort! What a great time we all had! Looking at the mission of the Women's Program, we really had this working!

The mission of the Central Division Women's Program staff is:

- To share their passion with the purpose of encouraging and supporting other NSP women in a nurturing environment.
- To build participants' confidence to accept the challenges of leadership roles and improve their personal skill set.
- To encourage active recruiting of women in the NSP.

Mark your calendars for January 26-28, 2018 as we explore an area in the Western Region – Lutsen Mountains!! If you are working on your foundation building skills as an Alpine Patroller, seeking skills for your Senior journey or considering a Certified journey – this is a great opportunity to check out the terrain and work with some of the best women in the Division! Something NEW in 2018, there will be a NORDIC event in conjunction with the alpine event! This is a new opportunity to bring more women an event that is just for you!

Also check out our FaceBook page and thank Darcy Hanley for managing it! More event modules and information will be published in the fall. Registration will be on-line in the fall! We can't wait to have you be a part of the fun!

OEC Update



Susan Hayes
OEC
Supervisor

Ahhh.....summer.....the “off season” for Ski Patrollers.....it’s warm, the sun is out, we relax and sit by the water, reflecting on last season and dreaming about next year’s powder tur- (cue loud record scratch!) Whoops!!! That is NOT happening if you’re an OEC Instructor. For OEC, the NSP season lasts all year!!

Some updates from the Division and National OEC Meetings that occurred at the beginning of April:

You’ve now received your Ski Patrol magazine with the Refresher- Cycle A- Workbook enclosed. This should give you ample time to pace yourself as you review for your Fall Refresher. The Refresher committee heard your requests for sequencing to match the online material and to keep it short and relevant. Waiting until the night before your refresher is like “cramming” before a test when you were in school. It doesn’t help retain learning and only adds stress to the process. Do a little bit at a time and you’ll be ready to retain (and enjoy!) more of what you learn at your refresher.

Last year Central Division spent extra time and focus on improving our delivery of OEC Classes, certifying new OEC Instructors, and re-certifying our OEC Instructors. The time you spent paid off! We improved our Basic OEC Pass rate to 92%! That’s a big thank you to all of you!! Keep it up!

Specifically for IORs of the OEC Classes:

As some of you have heard, the OEC 5 textbooks were on back order. Pearson/Brady has informed us that the books are back in stock and are being shipped soon as of 6/1/2017. If you are still having difficulty getting books, please let your Region OEC Administrator know ASAP.

Please know that we expect the new version of the OEC Final- Written and Practical to be ready in early July. The process for getting the test is this:

- IOR Registers the OEC Class with the Closing of the course coinciding with the closing date of the course. You cannot IT your own course. If the IT is not known, follow the guidelines of your ROA.
- Candidates “ENROLL” in your course and pay for it. (This is important and determines how many exams that your IT will receive). Further details were distributed to your Region OEC Administrator.

Check now to make sure that you can get onto your OEC resources: NSP OEC Instructor Resources, the OEC section of the Central Division website, and Pearson Resources. If you do it now, you won’t be in panic mode when the OEC classes and Fall Refreshers roll around.

Thank you so much for all that you do to improve our programs and patrollers on the OEC side of patrolling! Our ski areas and injured guests are our customers and need you. Thank you!!



OEC
OUTDOOR
EMERGENCY
CARE

YAP News



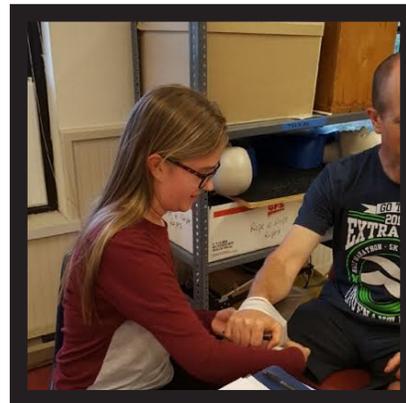
Jane Bickerstaff
YAP Advisor

Welcome to summer! A time for relaxing and enjoying another season, and mentally putting away our OEC skills for the moment. Not so for 9 students involved in the OEC course going on at Mt Brighton ski patrol. These 9 dedicated students, 8 from Boyne Highlands ski patrol, and 1 from Mt Brighton, are midway through their 15 week OEC course with 8 additional adults. In an attempt to make OEC more feasible for high school students to attend, Mt Brighton agreed to push their course which typically runs from August through November, up to May through August. In addition, the switch was made to a hybrid format with class time on Tuesday nights only. There has been a huge partnership between the

Boyne Highland instructors and patrollers, many of them parents of the YAPs, and the Mt Brighton instructors, with both groups working side by side each Tuesday to run all of the candidates through skill stations. The young adults have held their own and are keeping up with the pace of the course in spite of competing high school final exams. A big shout out to these 9 students that have had the courage, motivation, and dedication to join what we all already know is an awesome organization!

We are hoping that this format could work for other areas in our division to increase the numbers of young people involved in ski patrol. If you have any questions about YAP programs, please feel free to shoot me an email.

Enjoy your summer!



Growing Season



Rob Carpenter
Senior Supervisor

First, I'd like to start with a quote from the movie **Being There**.

Doctor Allenby [*preparing a needle for a shot*]: This won't hurt a bit.

It's summer and "growing season" for plants. Many of us are busy this time of year growing plants of one type or another, whether they are ornamental or for food. My wife and I have been very busy this year growing grass in our lawn. We have some very large bare areas left where we removed distressed evergreen trees. Getting plants to grow can be a lot of work requiring good soil, fertilizer, seed, appropriate cultivating, and water, water, and more water. Even with all of the work it can be very satisfying, however, watching the plants come forth out of the soil and mature. Our grass is coming along and our lawn is beginning to look much better, but it's a process not a quick fix.

As patrollers, rather than summer, our "growing season" tends to be in the fall and winter when most of our training takes place. Like our lawn, our patrolling skills can have bare or sparse areas that could benefit from being filled in. If you are relatively new to patrolling your skills may benefit from additional "thickening" or if you have been patrolling a long time you may have allowed some bare spots to form in your skills. The senior program is great way to grow your patrolling skills and fill them in. Like growing plants it can be a lot of work, but very rewarding. Please consider the senior program as you look forward to the upcoming patroller "growing season" and plan to fill in some of the thin spots in your skills.



And now I'd like to conclude with the remainder of this quote from the movie **Being There**.

Chance the Gardener [*impassively, after being injected*]: It did hurt.

... but I hope not too much. See you soon!

Standards



Dan Moss
PSIA / AASI
Liaison

At this year's Certified test in Marquette, our colleague Tom Anderson reminded all of us who were evaluating that we must always make room for someone's personal signature. Tom was reminding us that we don't want to allow someone's distinct moves to obscure our view of the ski/rider in relation to the standard.

We all have distinctions in our ski/riding, similar to how we walk or run differently. Recognize that silhouette coming down the mountain?

How then do we make room for 'signature' without compromising the standard?

I suggest first that it's important to verbalize what each element of the standard is and to be clear as to what the skier/rider looks like 'at' standard. We do this as participants, trainers and evaluators, when we verbalize each element of the

standard, and then in our training try to ski/ride 'at' the standard.

In application, we could use a simple one of rounded turns, relative to the terrain we are skiing. Rounded turns are more difficult and require more intentionality and preciseness. As we present the standard, we would expect a ski/rider trying to achieve a 'consistent and controlled descent' using smaller and rounded arcs on steeper pitch for example.

If my signature creates inconsistent turn shapes, or shapes that are not appropriate to the pitch or my speed is increasing throughout the run, then I have not met the standard. Yet if my signature (let's say a particular head movement) is present and yet I maintain turn shape and speed appropriate to the run, I have not compromised the standard, and I've applied my personal touch as I dance with the mountain.

It is also important to remember that a standard is a standard. We must honor them and do our very best to understand them and evaluate against them knowing that we are using subjective eyes to do so. With honor and integrity, we apply ourselves to a standard. With honor and integrity, we evaluate as best we can against the standard.

If you are with a particular standard maybe you could ask yourself, where would be without them? Standards of care in OEC might get a little loosey-goosey. Transportation might get a little out of control, and people might get lost in Mtn. travel...the list goes on. We need our standards and we need our freedom to express ourselves with our personal touch as we travel about the mountain.

Thanks for the reminder Tom.

For Those Who Care About Classes and Students



Virginia Rodeman
Instructor
Development
Supervisor

Who is the BEST instructor/teacher/professor that you have ever had? What did he/she do that made him /her so good...a sense of humor?...a knowledge of the subject?...show personality?... empathy?... answer any question that was posed? Now, what NSP Instructor(s) have made an impression? I hope you have been able to name some, and I hope you know why. We have a number of excellent instructors, we have another group working on becoming excellent instructors, and we have some who need some help. The question is how do we get all NSP instructors to be effective? Instructors need to be a little creative, need to spend time with the subject to know it, need to enjoy what they do, what else?

It seems that there are still some instructors who want to read from the book. It seems there are instructors who do not plan for the class; I was informed there was an instructor who didn't even know the topic. Where is the Quality Assurance for the class or for the instructor? What is the IOR doing while others are instructing? In OEC, we expect our students to all read and sometimes answer questions before they come to class. Don't we expect the same for MTR, Tobogganing, and Avalanche? Shouldn't the Instructor plan and prepare also?

I am interested in your thoughts and ideas. Do we need more IT intervention during classes not just for instructor recertification? Is there something in Instructor Development that we are missing? Is it discipline specific challenges? I know there isn't magic, but I want all Instructors to be the best they can. The next time you instruct ask yourself, "Did I do my best for my students?"

Instructors on another note, the Instructor Development Continuing Education booklet has had some revisions to it, and we are working to make it a help in instructor recertification. It is just a part of the CE module to be used by whomever does your CE in whatever discipline. Questions, comments?

Facebook

Submitted by: Darcy Hanley, Division Tip of the Week Contact

Your FB page continues to grow to over 928 “likes”! We have provided messages of patrol success, Powderfall 2017 at Snowmass, another board election, those we have lost and of course Tip of the Week!

The posts that go on Facebook are also part of the Twitter feed too! The social media will continue to grow the likes, and post Tip of the Week. Once again in the fall, will be equipment reviews and upcoming events in the division as well from the national office. Summer is also the time to condition and continue your outdoor adventures. Post often about what you are doing, zip lines you have ridden, bike trails that were adventures or maybe go to Buck Hill and do some summer skiing! The snow will fall again soon so get out there and have some summer fun!

You are encouraged to visit the division website for updates on the calendar and to register for the upcoming division meeting. <http://www.nspcentral.org/>. The National website has the electronic summer catalog and the 2017 Refresher information. Check out the Powderfall 2017 pictures! <http://www.nsp.org>

Let me know if there is something you would like to see on the FB page! Have a great summer/fall!



National Board Members from Central Division

Brian Rull
brianrull@hotmail.com

Ty Damon
Tydamon@me.com



Jay Zedak
jay@bugbusterinc.com

Jim Woodrum
jrwoodrum@centurytel.net



2017 Central Division Fall ~~Meeting~~ Patroller Conference

Reserve the dates September 8, 9 and 10 2017 for the 2017 Central Division Patroller Conference at Boyne Mountain Michigan. With classes in MTR, Low Angle Rescue, Adaptive Lift Evacuation, Risk Management, Bike Patrols and more this weekend promises great education and camaraderie.

Events:

- Motorcycle Ride on some of Northern Michigan's curviest roads including the famous M119 and the Tunnel of Trees.
- Golf at Boyne Mountain (Golf Fees extra).
- Tour Shaggy Skis and learn how skies are made. Shaggy's is Northern Michigan's Artisan Ski Maker.
- CPR Refresher. Bring your current CPR Card and face mask (both required) for an AHA CPR Refresher. (Note. There is an additional \$15.00 fee for this program)
- Medical presentations by Northern Michigan Orthopedic Surgeons
- Risk Management with the attorneys that represent our resorts and us.
- Incident scene investigation for patrollers, what should be investigated and what evidence should be protected until the investigation team arrives.
- The classroom portion of Mountain Travel and Rescue level 1. (This class requires a field session that will be scheduled at a later date.)
- Everything you want to know about bike patrols (well almost everything)
- Senior Trainer/Evaluator for OEC Instructors. We will have an online program for the didactic materials before you arrive and do the scenario portion here.
- Presentation session for a hybrid Instructor Development Class. Complete the online portion and bring your certificate to complete "hands-on" portion of the class.
- Ski Industry Trade Show. Meet and talk with vendors.
- Fall Division Board Meeting.
- Patrol Director 101 Update.
- Jeannie Thoren for boot fitting analysis (additional fee applies)

A modest \$25.00 Registration Fee covers all the above programs unless otherwise noted. [Reserve your space today](#)

Meals:

- Friday night "Back Yard Cook Out" on the Shore of Deer Lake.
- Saturday Night Awards Dinner and celebration of member accomplishments.
- Sunday Morning Patrol Directors Breakfast with Region Director John Thomas.

Other Things to do:

- Zip across Boyne Mountain or Boyne Highlands on a Zip Line Tour.
- Fly Fish some of best trout streams, guided or on your own.
- Surf at Avalanche Bay.
- Bike from nearby Gaylord to Mackinaw City on one of our longest "Rails to Trails" paths (62 miles) in Northern Michigan. Then take the ferry to Mackinaw Island and bike Michigan's only motor vehicle free state highway M185. Or ride the chair to the top of Boyne and bike the local trails.
- Climb a Sand Dune at Sleeping Bear National Lake Shore.
- Discover one of Northern Michigan's Wineries or Microbrews.
- Float or paddle the Jordon River.
- And lots, lots more.

Housing:

Mountain Grand Lodge King or Queen - \$127.00

Boynehof Queens - \$112.00

Clock Tower Deluxe - \$90.00

(Room rates are per night and are subject to 7% Resort Services Fee, 6% Michigan Sales Tax and 5% Local Lodging Assessment.) Reserve your room at [Boyne Mountain Resort Reservations](#) or call 800-462-6963 and ask for National Ski Patrol Meeting.

Join us at Boyne Mountain to Explore, Refresh and Enhance our patrol skills.

Certified Central Division



**Patrick Perlman
Certified**

This year's Certified Evaluation was held March 2nd through March 4th at Marquette Mountain, MI. This was the 35th anniversary of the Certified program in the Central division. Seventeen candidates, forty-three staff members and twenty-five supporters participated in the event. Four patrollers completed all of the requirements of the Certified program at this event. Jeff Jurcak of Pine Knob was presented as Certified Patroller #808. Lauren Vaerewyck of Swiss Valley was presented as Certified Patroller #809. Keith Natrass of Pine Knob was presented as Certified Patroller #810. Donald Smith of Cannonsburg was presented as Certified Patroller #811.

Next seasons annual evaluation is scheduled for March 1st through 4th at Lutsen MN. Qualification and recertification clinics will be scheduled throughout the division as well. Anyone interested in learning more about the certified program is welcome to attend any of these events. Ron Gerdes will be assuming the role of Certified program advisor next season. I would like to thank the staff and the division board for the supporting myself and the certified program for the past four seasons.



New Certified Advisor



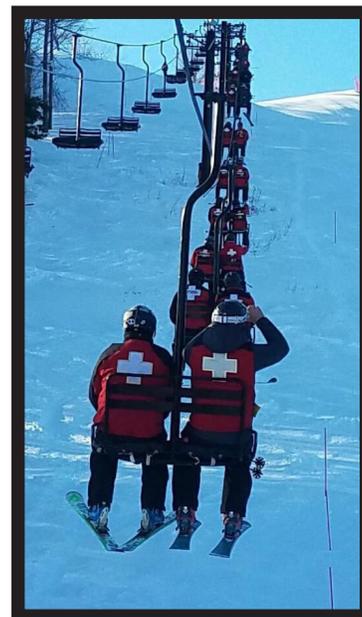
Hello folks. My name is Ron Gerdes, Perfect North Slopes, Certified #636. It is my honor to be taking over the position of Division Certified Advisor from Patrick Perlman.

The National Certified program has been going through some significant changes in the last several years. It is my goal to continue on Patricks path and grow the program, both within the division, and across the NSP system.

**Ron Gerdes
Certified**

If you have any questions about the Certified program, do not hesitate to send me a note.

Respectfully
Ron Gerdes #636
rjgerdes@gmail.com



Skills Development Program



**Cheryl Raudabaugh
Skills Development**

Some of our most important skills are about more than skiing or toboggan...

Over the last few months Chris and I have been the recipients of support in our NSP family. From calls, to text, to emails, to visits, we knew that they were there for us in our personal time of sorrow and stress and it meant so much. As you go through the summer, helping in OEC, MTR, or perhaps quizzing someone in various dry land techniques, you may find that your emotional support can provide as much impact as your technical skills.

The skills team is already working to prepare for our December Alpine Skills Development Workshops (ASDW) to help the region S&T programs to kick off their training seasons. We expect to have East and West sessions again this year and should have more details available for the next RPN. If you have suggestions/requests for this years program, please contact me directly via our website: www.centraldivision.org. Your input is importance to us.

And as you go through the year helping others develop their skills while you enhance yours, remember that your knowledge is important, but your true caring support at any time for members of your NSP family can be priceless.



Tribute to Donald L. Olson

Donald L. Olson was a 10th Mountain Division Veteran and Western Region, Central Division Patroller January 8, 1926 – November 25, 2016

Another World War II 10th Mountain Division veteran has gone to join his ski troop buddies who blazed that trail before him. Donald L. Olson, of New Brighton, Minnesota, passed away on Nov. 28, 2016, at the age of 90 at his home and now rests at Fort Snelling National Cemetery in Minneapolis.

A very accomplished patroller who joined the NSP at age 54, along with his wife, Alice, he served his local patrol, Wild Mountain and our Western Region for 28 years until he retired from patrolling, only to pursue and pass his Professional Ski Instructors of America Level I at age 84 years young. This exemplifies his incredible passion for skiing, teaching, working with kids, and mentoring many.

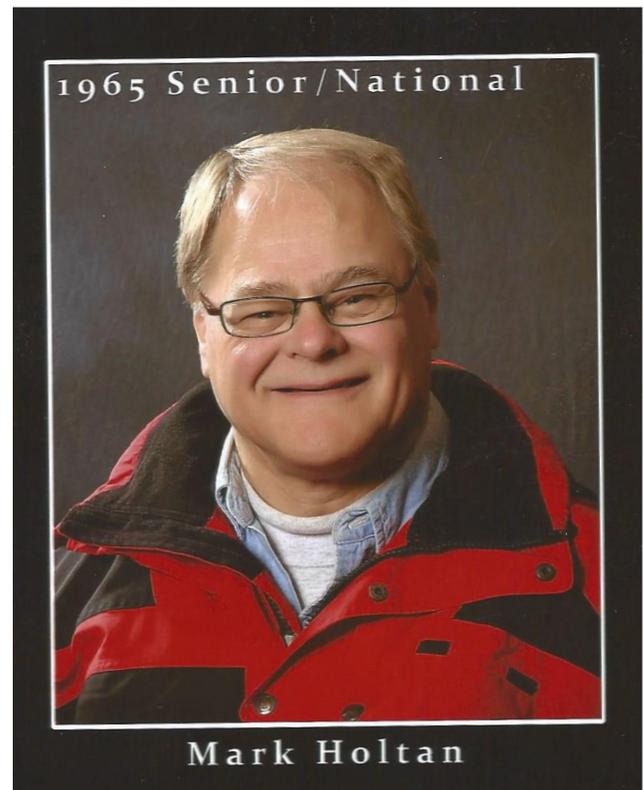
Don attended Edison High School in Minneapolis, then enlisted in the Army and joined the ski troop training at Camp Hale, Colorado, known as the 10th Mountain Division. From there, Don went to Camp Swift, Texas for more training. The 10th Mountain Division troops landed in Naples, Italy, then walked, climbed to, up and over mountains. During the night they assaulted and surprised German troops on Mount Belvedere. Troopers in front of and behind Don were hit. To his dying day, Don and his wife kept in touch Del Riley, the soldier in front of Don, who took a bullet in his shoulder saving Don's life, Walt Neller (Murphys, CA), and George Nelson (deceased May 2014), who went on to develop Lutsen Ski Area on the North Shore of Lake Superior.

Don served as president of the North Central Chapter of the 10th Mountain Division from 1989 to 1992. The boundaries of the North Central Chapter of the 10th are nearly the same as our Western Region in the Central Division of the NSP. Don had a vision of an award to be presented to a Western Region patroller and presented the award idea to the North Central Chapter members, who gave full support. Don then presented this proposed award to our Western Region board, and with acceptance, this award, the 10th Mountain Division Association, North Central Chapter Award, aka 10th Mountain Award, was created in 1991.



The 10th Mountain Medallion, which is the focus of the award, can only be obtained through a member of the 10th Mountain. Initially, all nominees were submitted to the North Central Chapter for evaluation of criteria and selection of the recipient. A few years ago, this selection process was transitioned to our region awards committee due to the attrition of these veterans. The 10th Mountain Award is deemed to be the most coveted award within our Western Region. Don was the ninth recipient of this award, in 2000, the first year he was eligible.

After the war, Don studied civil engineering at the University of Minnesota. Needing a class in design, he enrolled at the Minneapolis College of Art



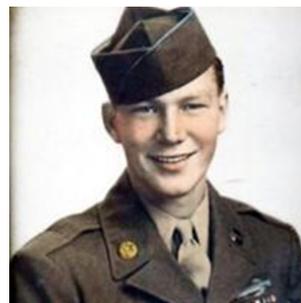
and Design (MCAD) in an industrial arts program, where he met Alice in a commercial art course. Don felt sorry for Alice because she wasn't Norwegian! The best thing he could do for her was to marry her. Alice's comment was, "We all know who got the best of this union!"

Don worked 34 years as a civil engineer for the city of Minneapolis, then after retirement was a realtor for several years.

Don was a hunter with shotgun, rifle, and bow, loading his own rifle and shotgun shells and making his own arrows. He trained four hunting dogs, a Chesapeake, two black labs, and a springer. For years, he was active in the Minnesota Springer Spaniel Field Trial Club and did well with his springer. Don and Alice also enjoyed fishing trips to Lake Kabetogama bordering Canada.

In honor of Don's passing, memorials can be sent to the 10th Mountain Division Foundation, Inc., at 133 S. Van Gordon St., Suite 200, Lakewood, CO 80228.

Mark Holtan and Martin Fahje Alumnus Western Region and Coffee Mill Ski Patrol, Minnesota



NSP-C Snowsports News



Marty Blaszkowski
NSP-C Snowsports
School

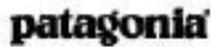
Good news! The ski school now has a zero cost to join! We are even working on a new ski school jacket. There was a strong turnout at powderfall and it was a success for Ski School. Looking forward to seeing you on the slopes!



Central Division Calendar

To find the most recent and update version of the Central Division Calendar please visit the link below
<http://nspcentral.org/calendar.php>

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Central Division Staff Roster

Administrative Staff



DIVISION DIRECTOR

John 'JT' Thomas 72212
300th Ave
Lake City, MN 55041
H) 651-345-5160
C) 507-254-9067
jttheskibum@gmail.com



ELECTIONS/ MEETINGS/MSAA

Ken Meldahl
63 North Avenue
Fox Lake, IL 60020
H) 847-587-2397
C) 847-204-0634
kmeldahl@comcast.net



LEGAL & RISK MNGMT

Kevin McQuillan
1155 S. Washington St., Suite 202,
Naperville, IL 60540
H) 630-355-5950
W) 630-373-4121
NSPCentralLegalAdvisor@hotmail.com



TREASURER

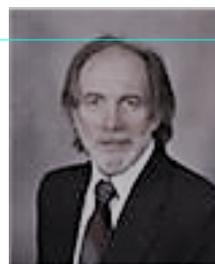
Marty Jarvi
(h) 262-377-6447
marty.jarvi@gmail.com



REGISTRATION

ADMIN. ASSISTANT

Laurel Oetjen



AWARDS

Martin Fahje

(h) (319) 321-7493
(w) (507) 255-7568
fahje@mayo.edu

laurel.vansoest@live.com



RUSTY PARKA NEWS

Katie Flanagan

C) 248-767-4146
rustyparka1@gmail.com

REGION DIRECTORS



E MI REGION

Michael Schons

H) 248-683-0465
schonsm@gmail.com



NC REGION

Les Robinson

751 Blue Ridge Lane
Nekoosa, WI 54457
H) 715-325-3025
llobins@wctc.net



N MI REGION

Richard Jacques

H) 248-398-3379
rjacques@smsp.us



OHIO REGION

Guy Day

3149 W 165th Street
Cleveland, OH 44111
H) 216-221-9617
W) 216-695-0714
gcday@sbcglobal.net



SC REGION

Steve Paladini
1700 Carriage Lane
Appleton, WI 54914
W) 920-740-6222

scrsection4@gmail.com



SOUTH REGION

Don Steen
519 Meadowview Dr.
Clinton, Ia 52732
H) 563-243-3950
C) 563-249-5735

Donald.Steen48@yahoo.com



WEST MI REGION

Chip Knappen
W) 269-741-4141 ext 254
C) 269-352-3274

cknappen@knappen.com



ADD

Chris Raudabaugh
173 Tar Heel Drive
Delaware, OH 43015
H) 740-369-9634
W) 740-368-5931
chris@raudabaugh.net



PSIA LIAISON

Dan Moss
1003 Alvarado Rd
Georgetown, Co 80444
W) 614-578-9002

dan@mossremodeling.com



AVALANCHE

Dale Mihuta
(h)
(w)(218) 410-9078

daniel.hamilton@arcelormittal.com



NSP-C SNOW SPORTS SCHOOL

Marty Blaszkowski
(h) (248) 393-0973
(w) (248) 393-0973

mjb8804@yahoo.com
nsp@ccrventures.com



CERTIFIED

Patrick Perlman
9430 128th Ave
Kenosha, WI 53142
H) 262-857-6575
C) 847-421-6575
p_perlman@hotmail.com



SAFETY TEAM

Mike Husar
H) 262-629-4902
mike@husars.com



WEBMASTER

Kent Anderson
H) 763-577-0843
C) 612-730-6324
kjanderson@labycon.com



NORDIC

Peter Wollan
1701 10th St NE
Rochester, MN 55906
H) 507-281-9769
peter.wollan@gmail.com



ADD

Dr. Julie Stone
H) 314-691-2340

jactstone@gmail.com



OEC

Susan Hayes
C) 507-421-0243
H) 507-255-5921

hayes.susan@mayo.edu JF4seasons@aol.com



YAP Advisor

Jane Bickerstaff

janebic@yahoo.com



MEDICAL

Stephen Werner MD
PO Box 368
Clarkston, MI 48347
H) 248-625-2730
C) 248-408-4313
steve.werner@usa.net



PUBLIC RELATIONS

Russ Livermore
(h) (248) 761-8371
(w) (248) 761-8371

livermore.russ@us.sika.com



Social Media

Darcy Hanley

C) 303-927-9437
drhanley@gmail.com



ADD

Tom Anderson
112 Pineview Drive
Marquette, MI 49855
H) 906-228-6126
W) 906-475-7640
tpanderson@charter.net



INSTCTR DEVLPMNT

Virginia Rodeman
1817 Potomac Dr.
Toledo, OH 43067
H) 419-536-1179
W) 419-531-1618
rodewoman@yahoo.com



WOMEN'S SEMINAR

Kerstin Hammarberg
(h) (612) 600-5082
(w)(612) 600-5082

bhsp-pd@hotmail.com



SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

Cheryl Raudabaugh
173 Tar Heel Drive Delaware, OH 43015
H) 740-368-5931
C) 614-582-6080
nsp@ccrventures.com



ALUMNI

Mark Holtan

TOBOGGAN

Troy Southwick

8380 Papillon Ave.
Reynoldsburg OH 43068
H: 614-861-1442
Tsouthwick@lb.com

SENIOR

Rob Carpenter

10916 Arbour Drive
Brighton, MI 48114
H) 810-227-5269
rajcarpenter@msn.com

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Paul Botnen

H) 612-860-3033
botnenp@gmail.com



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Office

Division Director

John ‘JT’ Thomas
72212 300th Ave
Lake City, MN 55041
651-345-5160

Editor

Katie Flanagan
28486 Cottage Lane
New Hudson, MI 48165
248-767-4146

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