



NOR'WESTER

PACIFIC NORTHWEST DIVISION—NATIONAL SKI PATROL

VOLUME 63 ISSUE 3 2012

DIVISION UPDATE

Dave Ulrich—Pacific Northwest Division Director, dulrichnsp@msn.com

Update from the January Meeting in Denver at National (things of interest) - Recruitment Video coming soon, Promote Safety from the new NSP Safety Team, (S&T) Transportation Instructor Pocket Guide, OEC Test will be available Online after March 1st, Branding and Promoting NSP – Public Perception of NSP – Our Image, 60% of NSP income from other than member dues –Thank you to 58 Sponsors and shop NSP Catalog, 5th Addition OEC Book (14,474 books sold as of January), Education Department active at NSP Office, NSP Website and IT Department upgrade, and 75th Anniversary January 31 – February 2, 2013 – Grand Hyatt downtown Denver and Denver Convention Center, NSP Board Meeting and Saturday Night Gala Dinner.

Elections – Northwest and Oregon Regions only had one person run for Region Director this year. Congratulations to Liz Dodge from Northwest Region and Craig Thornley from Oregon Region.

The Spring Executive Board Meeting has been moved for this year only to April 21st in Kennewick, Washington. The main order of business is to set and discuss the budget for our next year. Division Advisors please be getting in your request to Jim Whittaker as soon as possible.

Attention, Attention, are these dates on your calendar? Patroller Education Conference at Copper Mountain, Colorado April 12 – 14, 2012. Next would be April 28-29, 2012 at Crystal Mountain Ski Area and June 1 - 3, 2012 at Mt. Hood for "Nuts and Bolts" clinics. See S&T Advisors Report by Jeffrey Weitz in this publication for more information. Other dates are August 10 – 12, 2012 PNWD Convention at the Holiday Inn in Springfield Oregon.

I look forward to seeing patrollers as I travel to your areas and ski.

David C Ulrich, Pacific Northwest Division Director
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Inside this issue:

Convention 2012	2
Southern Idaho	3
Women's Program	3
Northwest Region	4, 9
Inland Empire	5
Oregon Region	6
PNWD Nordic Clinic Photos	7
WyEast Region, Patroller	8
Important PNWD Updates	9
Avalanche	10, 13
Transportation	11
OEC, PNWD Calendar of Events	12
YAP	13
Awards	14
Ski Flight 2013	15

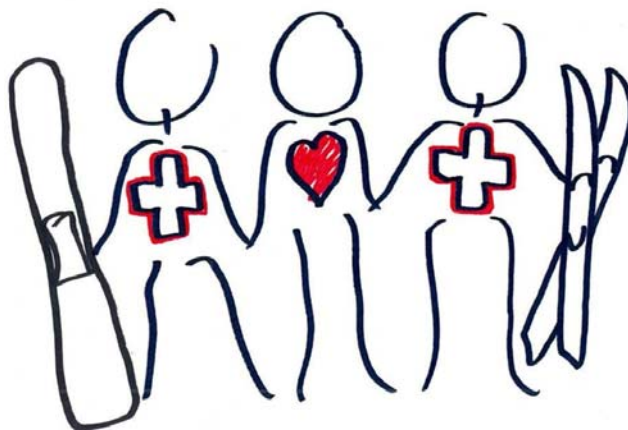
THE CONVENTION IS COMING!

The PNWD Convention is coming to the Eugene/Springfield area August 10, 11 and 12 of 2012 - mark your calendars and plan to join the fun!

Golf, wine tasting tour, water skiing and wakeboarding on Fern Ridge Lake, BBQ at the Eugene Yacht Club, live music, patroller-crafted beer tasting, patroller enrichment seminars, prizes/donations/sponsors/vendors including REI, Gortex, Cabella's, Leatherman, Keen, Columbia, Sporthill, Umpqua, SAM, Joslin Splint, Crossfit, Nike, Turtle Mountain, Dakine, and more.

Come play with the fabulously fun Oregon Region patrollers in August - this will be a memorable event!

Sneak preview of special VIP quests:



For registration details, cost, etc. contact:

PNWD Convention Chair, Sarah Aitken

541-868-4287

Sar8ken@gmail.com

SOUTHERN IDAHO REGION REPORT

By Phil Dixon, Southern Idaho Region Director

phily1@live.com

With the lack of early season snow storms, many of the ski resorts in the southern Idaho region experienced late openings, as we did at my home patrol, Soldier Mtn. Not only did we have a late opening this year, but we also experienced a county wide power outage on opening weekend that took 36 hours to restore. The following weekend we had our lift 2 derailment, with a full complement of customers on board, and as you know, that kept us very busy. But with all of that behind us now we are settling into a very good snow year.

I did have the opportunity to attend Senior clinics at Brundage Mountain and Anthony Lakes this year and got to visit with some of the Senior Candidates. It looks as though they are progressing along very well. Senior Evaluations will take place this year at Bogus Basin on March 10th –11th. Good Luck to all that are participating.

Philip Dixon S.I.R.D.
phily1@live.com

WOMEN'S PROGRAM REPORT

By Cyndy Meno, Women's Program Advisor

Cymeno@gmail.com

Hello Everyone,

I thought I might introduce myself to you. I'm Cyndy Meno from Willamette Pass Ski Patrol. I've just been appointed the new position of Women's Program Advisor for the PNWD. I'm honored and thrilled to represent the women of PNWD.

I joined NSP the winter of 1991 at Big Sky Mt. I transferred to Willamette Pass the next year. I have been a Paid Patroller, (Auxiliary) Patroller and a Senior Alpine Patroller. I'm an OEC IT and S and T Instructor. I feel I've had experience with a little bit of everything on the patrol.

In my extra time, I am a mom, wife, instructional assistant in Special Education, EMT B and fitness nut. I'll do anything to ski stronger and longer.

I am looking forward to traveling around our 3 states and getting to know more patrollers and supporting the Women's Program. I was fortunate to join Heather Van Houten at Mt Hood for a fantastic Women's clinic. Val Stilwell from Willamette Pass attended and here is what she had to say, "The women's S & T clinic on Mt Hood January 14th delivered the goods on so many levels. Taught by Heather and Cyndy, the training provided us with the opportunity to focus on what we were doing right and learn how to correct what needed work. Not only were the instructors en-



couraging, they amplified the notion that women can be incredible patrollers. As teachers, they brought caring to the lesson. As mentors, they brought the gift of inspiration. And most of all, as women they are luminaries in the field! Would I attend another? Without hesitation!"

If you would like to share your thoughts or ideas about the Women's Program please send them to me. I would love to hear from you.

I hope to see you at PEC in April. Bring your skiing legs, smiles and a splash of competition. The Patroller Challenge is something you won't want to miss. It only takes 3 to make a team.

See you there,
Cyndy
Cymeno@gmail.com

NORTHWEST REGION REPORT

By Liz Dodge, Northwest Region Director

liz.dodge@nwr.nsp.org

The season is in full swing with lots of snow at the NW Region ski areas. Patrollers are busy doing what patrollers do best, assisting the public whether injured, lost, or just in need of directions. While not doing that they are busy training patrol and senior candidates, taking a variety of NSP educational programs, developing their skills to become NSP instructors and just plain enjoying the slopes with their patrol buddies.

We have completed a couple of Avy 1 and Avy 2 classes, and MTR I and II classes. Several patrollers have taken the ID course via the on-line program. The region's senior training program is alive and going strong, having recently completed its first full weekend of regional EMM and Alpine S&T training clinics. By the time you read this the second senior S&T training clinic will have been completed. Thank you to Alpentel and Mt. Baker for allowing these clinics to be held at their areas. Due to circumstances beyond our control the date for our final evaluations has changed. The Senior final evaluation clinic will be held at White Pass on March 24 and 25. Thank you in advance to White Pass for providing the place to play.

The NW Region Women's clinic was held last weekend with WSES and WTES sessions. Thank you to The Summit at Snoqualmie area management for allowing this clinic to be held at Summit Central. About a dozen female patrollers participated and enjoyed the weekend. I encourage all female patrollers in the region and across the division to participate in either a TES or WTES to fine tune their skills.

Having said that I actually encourage all patrollers to take a Ski/Ride/Tele Enhancement Seminar and/or a Toboggan Enhancement Seminar to fine tune your skills and add a new skill or two to your bag of tricks.

All disciplines are looking to add some new instructors, so any patroller who is interested should consider looking into becoming an Instructor. For discipline specific details and information contact the Regions program advisor. The basics are: Following the normal completion of the prerequisite courses for the discipline and the Instructor Development course, patrollers interested in becoming instructors must complete an **Instructor Application**. This application and a copy of their NSP member profile must be sent to the Region's Instructor Development Program Administrator – Bernie Goddard at bhgoddard@aol.com. The application will be logged onto a master list and then sent on to the discipline specific program administrator. If you have questions on this process or your instructor status; please contact either Bernie or myself. (continued on page 9)

SPECIAL OFFERING -- MARK YOUR CALENDARS -- April 28 / 29, 2012

The NW Region will be conducting a training opportunity later this spring on the weekend of April 28 and 29th. Plans are underway to have **on snow training sessions for all disciplines - OEC, ID, Avy, MTR, and of course S&T**. What each of these sessions will look like has yet to be determined, but we have a great venue and opportunity to give patrollers what they are looking for. Where you ask? - Crystal Mt, Washington.

For the S&T section, I have asked that the NW Region Outdoor Emergency Transportation (OET aka S&T) Advisors team up with the Division, and have asked Jeffrey Weitz, the Division Transportation Supervisor, to work with the NW Region OET staff to plan a special program. Not a replacement to the Nuts and Bolts which is held annually at Mt Hood; but a different kind of offering; **A SKILLS AND DRILLS ON ADVANCED TERRAIN CLINIC**. The current plans include advanced terrain SES and TES sessions as well as sessions for S&T Instructors to work together to hone their teaching and evaluating skills on advanced terrain.

Watch for more information and a flyer coming out soon. But mark your calendar now.

April 28 and 29, 2012 Crystal Mt Washington

INLAND EMPIRE REGION REPORT

By Sonia Van De Brake, Inland Empire Region Director

sonybaker@hotmail.com

Inland Empire 2012 Calendar of Events

March 3rd & 4th

S&T Sr Evaluation – 49 Degrees North

Kthrogmorton@yahoo.com

OEC Sr Evaluation – 49 Degrees North

ryanmu@comcast.net or

cookgl@comcast.net

April 14th

Inland Empire Region Meeting – 9:00 am,
Valley Hospital, sonybaker@hotmail.com

What a great winter it has been, the snow fall in the Inland Empire Region started fast and furious and then stopped. Lucky thing we have such awesome groomers at our mountains that they are able to make the used snow seem all new and fluffy again, how do they do that?

As it is only halfway through February, I am positive there is a lot more snow to come, and we will all have some great late season skiing and some fabulous blue bird spring days with plenty of fresh powder.

I have had the pleasure of visiting a few areas this year. First stop was Mt Spokane for the S&T Instructor Calibration Clinic. It was well attended and everyone had a great time.

Second, I visited Lookout Pass for the first of two S&T, OEC Enhancement Clinics. We have around 9 patrollers working hard on their OEC Senior requirements and around 8 working on their S&T.

Third, I went to Bluewood for a Region S&T Enhancement Clinic. At Bluewood, Keith Shultz, Bill Hofer and I spent a day with their crew. It was one of those crazy non stop code days, but between all the codes we did get in a little training. It was a very insightful trip for us, they operate their patrol way different than any of the mountains I have had the pleasure of visiting. Being a smaller patrol, made up of mostly EMT, Paramedics and eight NSP members,

they have the whole process down to a fine art. With a limited number of patrollers on the mountain on any given day, they typically respond to an incident solo with a toboggan and all the gear they hope they will need, take care of the guest by themselves unless the code warrants other patrollers. They work like a well oiled machine. Their aid room is spotless and very organized, which impressed me from an all male patrol. I left there learning more from them than I think they learned from my visit. I will definitely visit there again. The terrain and skiable acres are a well kept secret, so don't tell anyone.

I would like to congratulate Gary Deaver, paid Director of 49 Degrees North, on his appointment to the Board of the NSP. Gary will be a great asset to the Board and will do an outstanding job.

Mt Spokane has recently implemented a search and rescue notification system www.iamresponding.com. They have around 130 members, the system notifies you by text, you dial an 800 number to let them know you will respond to a search, and based on your approximate travel time set in the system it lets them know when you will be there to assist. You may want to check it out if you need to notify your members about searches, chair lift evacuation or any other emergency that may come up. It can also be used to remind your members of meeting and other important information like your refresher.

Last but not least I want to wish all of the patrollers in the Division and Region going for your senior, BEST OF LUCK. All of the instructors, advisors, patrollers and support staff that help out, thanks so much for everything, we couldn't do it without you!

Sonia Van De Brake
Inland Empire Director
sonybaker@hotmail.com

OREGON REGION REPORT

By Craig Thornley, Oregon Region Director

thornley@cs.uoregon.edu

In my previous life I used to be a rock climber. I enjoyed all kinds of climbing from bouldering, to multi-pitch cracks, to big walls, to sport climbing. Climbing, like most sports, requires attention. It is different from the other sports I've done or do in that it could consistently focus my attention without much effort on my part. Tie in, start climbing, and I could be right in the moment immediately, not thinking about what I was going to have for dinner or issues at work. This is generally a good thing as climbing is a serious activity that requires one to control emotions while also executing athletically, with potentially serious consequences for errors.

But, sometimes that focus can be a detriment. One of the mental techniques I used to employ, thanks to author and climber Dale Goddard, was the concept of zooming in and zooming out. When doing a difficult move that required complete concentration and focus I needed to zoom in, ignoring everything else. All of my attention would be focused on the tiny edges of rock my feet and hands were on. But spending all of my energy executing single moves could have resulted in missing good rest opportunities or not knowing where I needed to clip the protection. Should I climb above the pro, clip, and then come back down and rest? This type of attention, while equally important, required zooming out, or changing the focal point of my lens to a perspective a little farther away from the tiny edges I was standing and holding onto. Finding that perfect combination of zooming in and zooming out is when I would climb my best and what I always strived for.

So I hear you saying, "Craig, this is a ski patrol newsletter. What does this have to do with patrolling?" I pulled out this climbing reference last weekend at a Senior OEC training session. Not sure I did a good job articulating it, but I wanted to get the point across to the candidates that this technique could be used when leading multi-patient scenarios. Zoom in for your assessments, when listening to patients, or splinting a broken bone. Really pay attention and focus. But you can't stay zoomed in indefinitely as you have other things going on which also require your attention. Zoom out to make sure you have a plan for the whole scenario, and evaluate if it is working or not. Is my other patient crashing? Do all my helpers have a job, and are they working efficiently? I suggested that they needed to be able to zoom in and zoom out

many times during their 20-minute scenario. It's finding the right combination of the two that is the tricky part.

I think this could also be applied to ski patrolling on a larger scale. Do you have your head down putting in your patrolling days and clicking off the requirements, or are you also looking down the road at the bigger picture? Are you working toward senior status, an instructorship, a board or advisor position on the local, region, division, or national board? Are you doing the things that will help you achieve your goals? Do you have goals? If you are in a leadership position is your patrol headed in the right direction? Do you need to make adjustments or changes to policy or procedures? It's easy to get caught up in the day-to-day minutia, but don't forget to zoom out and see the bigger picture.

Looking forward to seeing many of you at the joint Wy'east and Oregon regions Senior OEC and OET finals which have been moved to Hoodoo Ski Area on March 31 and April 1. Be sure to check out the Oregon Region website (<http://www.nsp-orre.org/>) for information on the remaining clinics and courses in the region.

Craig Thornley
Oregon Region Director
thornley@cs.uoregon.edu



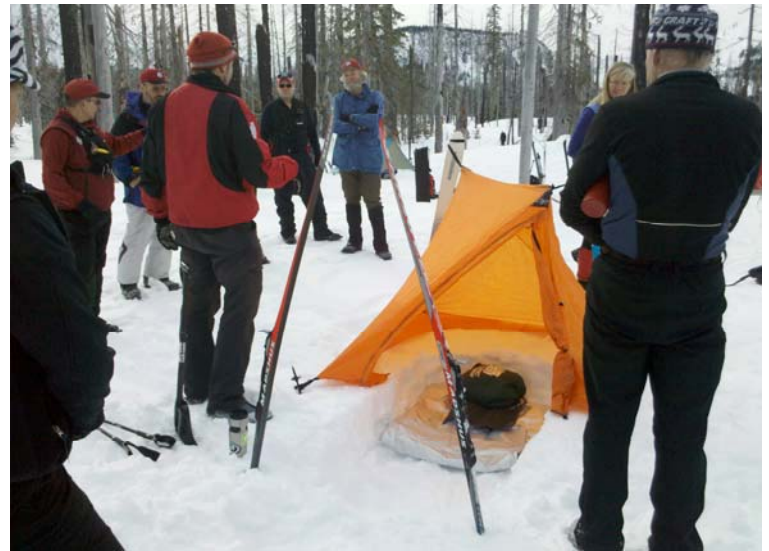
PNWD Nordic Clinic hosted by the Oregon Region at Hoodoo Ski Area

PNWD NORDIC CLINIC AT HOODOO SKI AREA

(Photos courtesy of Craig Thornley, Oregon Region Director)



Doug McCarty bowling water near his emergency shelter



Joseph discussing an emergency shelter.



Instructor Mike Dirksen giving us skating lessons.



Emese Foss and Chris (from Washington) with the z-pulley system that was used to pull a patient out from a deep tree well.



Joseph Calbreath showing us his improvised toboggan.



Doug at the end of the big scenario. He prepared the emergency shelter that we put the patient in after hauling her up from the tree well.

WYEAST REGION REPORT

By James Trett, Wy'East Region Director

trett1380@msn.com

As I sit down to write this I have to wonder how we could be so late into the ski season. I guess it is true, "time fly's when you are having fun".

The season is moving along very nicely for the areas we serve on Mt. Hood. The mountain has just received a major snow dump, which will be of a big help to the lower area on the mountain.

The only region activities that are going on right now are our Senior OEC and S&T programs. I am told that both programs are going well and candidates are progressing nicely.

The Wy'east Region will once again join the Oregon Region in conducting their final evaluations. This year's Senior OEC final will be held on Saturday, March 31st, and the Senior S&T final will be conducted on Sunday April 1st. Both events will be held at the Hoodoo Ski Area located at the top of Santiam Pass.

The Mt. Hood Ski Patrol will hold tryouts for next years recruit class on Sunday, March 25, 2012. If you know someone in the Mt. Hood area, northern Oregon or SW Washington, who has talked to you about joining the ski patrol community, you can refer them to the Mt. Hood Ski Patrol website at mthoodskipatrol.org.

I hope you are all having a great ski season and we will look for you on the slopes.

Jim Trett
trett1380@msn.com



PATROLLER ADVISOR REPORT

By Jodie Jeffers, Patroller Advisor

tailwaggen1@mac.com

Hope all are making the best of the snow this year! Even though it is early in the year and just getting past our last conference, it is time to begin thinking of how to make the Patroller (former Auxiliary) breakout time during our next fall division conference best for you. So I am asking you to please let me know how to best make that happen. Unfortunately for last year, I was called out for a family emergency and I want to make it up to everyone.

So reference to the breakout time for the Patroller (former Auxiliary), help me to help you for your wants and needs. Please let me know what you want to have happen, see & do! What is a pressing need, a new suggestion or a way out request? I want to get

started now for YOU and to work with this years hosts to have our breakout time be great for you! Remember it will be held on August 10-12th in Springfield, OR. Look for more information about the conference elsewhere in the Norwester.

Looking forward to hearing from you!

Jodie Jeffers
Patroller Advisor
tailwaggin1@mac.com

NORTHWEST REGION REPORT Continued From Page 4

NW Region Awards Banquet - The Miller Memorial award presentation and Region Awards Banquet will be held on April 21st at the Kiona Winery in Benton City (aka Eastern Washington - between Yakima and Kennewick). The White Pass patrol is our host patrol and they are working on the planning. To encourage people to come to the east side of the state they are working on having some daytime activities (biking, golf, winery tours, etc...) leading up to the evening banquet. More information will be forthcoming in the near future. So for now save the date - April 21st; and plan on a road trip to attend this banquet. For those of you wondering, this is the same date as the Division spring meeting which will be held in Kennewick. So if you are attending that meeting, you are welcome to attend the NW Region's awards banquet to round out your day.

Recruiting - The future starts now. As I stated in the last issue it is not too early to start thinking about recruiting new candidates for next year. As you meet skiers on the hill this winter, take the time to ride the chair with them and/or take a minute and talk to them

about the NSP and patrolling. If they sound interested get their name and contact info and give it to your patrol director or candidate training advisor. You've planted a seed and with proper follow-up and a bit of watering with information, you'd be surprised how many new recruits can be cultivated.

Remember Teamwork is essential. It's not what can this organization give to you; but rather the skills, energy and enthusiasm that you bring to the organization that makes it so much fun and rewarding.

Any Patrollers in the Region who have questions, concerns, or ideas that they would like to discuss should contact me via email at dodger@ix.netcom.com or phone at 206-300-7711.

Enjoy the rest of the winter and spring skiing.

Liz Dodge
dodger@ix.netcom.com

IMPORTANT PNWD ITEMS TO NOTE— PLEASE MARK THESE DOWN!!

Updates to the PNWD Directory:

- Kent Nelson, Patrol Director of Mt. Baker in NW Region has a new address. It is 2658 Lake Whatcom. Everything else for him is the same.
- Wy'East/Mt Hood Region: Steve Eversmeyer, Patrol Director for the Mt. Hood Ski Patrol, has a new email. It is steveeve@mac.com. Jodie Jeffers, Awards Advisor's email should be corrected to: tailwaggin1@mac.com.

Date Change:

The spring executive board meeting has been moved to the third weekend in April. The new date will be April 21st, for this one year only.

AVALANCHE ADVISOR REPORT

By Drannan Hamby, Avalanche Advisor

bdhamby@bendbroadband.com

Top item. Thank you to all of the instructors, IT's and their helpers for getting avalanche information and associated skills out to patrolers of the Division and other interested skiers, riders, searchers and backcountry travelers. It's not only useful information and skills, it's interesting! Continuing to learn and teach about our favorite playground is one of the joys of living.

So it looks like everyone in the Division has enough snow to ski on at this point. At Bachelor we've had interesting weather recently, one spell that was very reminiscent of past weather that led to big avalanches out of our upper cirque; i.e., a long cold spell with very little snow fall, then a big dump followed by warming, some rain and more heavy snow. Apparently however, control measures, warm temperatures and rapid settling and snow pack stabilization have mitigated our situation. Currently we are enjoying some of our best skiing of the year, some sunshine, good snow, and the winds have quieted to make for some beautiful February days.

As you probably know, as Avalanche Program Supervisor, I have a restricted site on the NSP website that lists all of the avalanche courses currently registered with National, where they are held, IOR and the status of each course. I am concerned with the website however, because I know of at least one instructor who has registered a course, received a course number from National and the course is not listed on my website. That makes

me worry that there are more courses out there of which I am not aware. Below is a list of the courses currently posted, IORs, and Region. Several of these courses have been completed and CCRs have been submitted. Please, if you know of additional courses that are not listed here, e-mail me course numbers and IORs so that I can get the records straight.

L1ARP

21353, Burchard, NW
21433, Holquist, NW
22087, Nagler, SI
22565, Willy, NW
22657, Geisler, NW
23131, Alexander, OR
23228, Posekany, OR

L2ARP

21407, Rossi, NW
21408, Rosen, NW
22996, Hamby, OR

L1ASA

22071, Murphy, NW

L1AC2

22587, Alexander, OR
22636, Whiting. SL1A???

Avalanche Refreshers!! Next topic of interest to me, and I hope to you is Avalanche Refreshers. Refresher information in the AIM is limited to page 5-91 and is brief. A stand alone refresher is described as well as a three year refresher cycle. Up front my concern is the number of refresher courses being taught, which appears to be too few. I am aware that there is no National requirement for avalanche training as there is for first aid training, OEC;

and also no National requirement for avalanche refreshing as there is for OEC. Avalanche training and its perceived importance is a local issue. Certainly patrollers working in areas with significant avalanche potential should be taking L1ARP and then either doing a stand alone review every three years or doing a short, 1/3 of the program refresher every year.

My refresher concerns center around human need for review of information if it is to be available and useful when needed, and around the very real increase in knowledge and information about the field. I have been made aware of some of that new knowledge through attendance at the most recent ISSW and NAS and have attempted to disseminate some of that information to Regional Avalanche Advisors for further distribution to instructors.

I have been soliciting information on what people are doing in their refresher courses. I have been made aware of at least one very well thought out stand alone refresher with associated supplemental teaching materials. Jeff Hamilton (hamski7@aol.com) has sent me a description of his level one stand alone refresher which includes a power point and movies. He has agreed to send course materials to interested instructors; you will need to send him a USB flash drive and he will have some advise for you regarding necessary software to run his program. I

(continued on page 13)

TRANSPORTATION ADVISOR REPORT

By Jeffrey Weitz, Transportation Advisor

jw@northrimpx.com

Now that our Season is in full swing and all of our PNWD Patrols are hard at work we are thankful to Mother Nature for finally bringing old man winter to the slopes of the Pacific Northwest.

There have been many excellent S & T clinics and calibrations that have taken place in all 5 of our regions. Senior S & T Training is going strong with the region finals coming up soon starting at the end of February and continuing through April. If you have any Senior Candidates that are not able to make your regions final your S & T Region Advisor can request those individuals to attend clinics out of their regions, but that must be approved and cleared with the specific Region's S and T Region Advisor you are looking to send your candidates to.

The Women's Clinics at Mt Hood was held in January with an excellent turnout and well attended by ladies from across Oregon and instructors from Oregon and Idaho attending. Additional Clinics are being held in the Pacific NW Region, Inland Empire and Southern Idaho and you can check on the NSP Roster of Courses for specific times and dates. Go Ladies! And thank you to all of the Women Coaches and Trainers for making this happen this Season!

This Season The PNWD will be hosting 2 great multi-day Clinics open to all NSP Patrollers in good standing to attend. The first one coming up will be a brand new 2 day clinic to be held at Crystal Mountain in Washington on April 28th & 29th. This clinic is the all new "Skills and Drills on Advanced Terrain" and should provide some excellent training and collaboration of instructors and attendees on some very challenging advanced terrain, all graciously hosted by the Crystal Mountain Resort. A flyer for the Clinic details with registration should be coming out to everyone in the division by the end of February—so mark you calendars!

The second PNWD Clinic will be held again at Mt Hood's Timberline Ski Resort. Now in it's 11th Season the Annual "Nuts and Bolts" 3-day clinic will be on June 1st, 2nd and 3rd. The flyer and registration should

be out by the end of March and will be hosted again by The Mt Hood Ski Patrol. Again, mark your calendars for some great fun.

In addition to those 2 great opportunities for skiers and riders to advance their skills here in the NW, don't forget that the annual PEC Conference is being held at Copper Mountain, CO this year on April 12th - 14th. I hope to see many of our fellow members of the PNWD over there learning and enjoying the slopes and training at Copper this year!

In an ongoing effort to update the NSP Transportation Manuals NSP has sent out a revised draft of the proposed update of Instructor Transportation Pocket Guide reprint. I will be sending a copy to the S & T Region advisors and Senior Region Coordinators in our Division for their input so that I can solicit comments to get some feedback to National. If you would like to see a draft copy just send me an e-mail and I will shoot you a copy to review..

If you have any suggestions about specific training that you would like to see us plan for our Division this season or in the future please do not hesitate to e-mail me and let me know what is on your mind. I always welcome your comments and the sharing of information amongst the many diverse patrols which make up our Division. Wishing everyone a safe and snowy springtime!

Let it Snow!

Jeffrey Weitz,
2011-2012 S & T Division Advisor
Wy 'East Region Senior S & T Advisor
Mt Hood Ski Patrol - Hill Captain

OEC ADVISOR REPORT

By Janie SanRomani, OEC Advisor

jsanromani@comcast.net

All of the OEC Supervisors from each Division of NSP, including European Division, met in Denver this last December for their annual meeting. Much was accomplished. A new manual for Senior OEC (SROEC), formerly EMM, was finalized. The goal was for everyone in NSP to be training and testing Senior Candidates using the same procedures and policies. All divisions made some concessions and changes in order to come to an agreement on the new manual. I believe that all of us in the PNWD can accept the changes without much trouble. This manual has been sent to all Region OEC Advisors and is available on the NSP website. The manual and guidelines can be implemented this season, or divisions can wait until next season to use it. But it does replace any former manuals that have been used in the past. Quote from the new manual: "The established program outlines and policies must be followed without local modification. The SROEC Program is supervised by the Division OEC Supervisor." Consistency and quality assurance is a very important ingredient in everything NSP stands for.

The other manual that was completed and sent out to Regions and websites is the Instructor Trainer manual. To quote from the IT Manual, "This manual is not about what you will learn when you study to become an instructor trainer. It's not about curriculum or lesson plans, and it's not about OEC job descriptions. What it is about is how to go about becoming an instructor trainer: the responsibilities involved, the monitoring required, and the mentoring required, and the mentoring you will do. Quality of the OEC program is the main responsibility of the I/T. This manual is designed to support that purpose."

Many years of preparation have gone into these manuals and it is wonderful that they are completed and ready to use. The Education committee has also reviewed them both.

The final written test for the 5th Edition OEC class was also discussed at length at the Supervisor's meeting. Provisions are being made to make the written final a better test and provide consistency and QA throughout

NSP. At present, many of us are in the process of reviewing the test bank questions for the OEC Course and text.

Expect some changes for testing in the near future. An online, distance learning course has also been developed and is ready to use for those needing this type of OEC Course.



NSP and OEC are definitely trying to keep up with the times and the various needs of the different patrols throughout the National Ski Patrol organization. Quality and consistency are the top priority in our organization along with the ability to change with the times and needs of its members.

Janie SanRomani, PNWD OEC Supervisor
jsanromani@comcast.net

****MARK YOUR CALENDARS**** **IMPORTANT PNWD DATES TO REMEMBER**

- April 12th to 14th, PEC at Copper Mountain, Colorado
- April 21, PNWD Spring Board Meeting in Kennewick, Washington
- April 28th and 29th—Skills and Drills on Advanced Terrain Clinic at Crystal Mountain
- June 1st, 2nd and 3rd—Nuts and Bolts Clinic at Mount Hood
- August 10th, 11th, and 12th—PNWD Convention 2012 in Springfield, Washington

YAP ADVISOR REPORT

By Dave Brown, Young Adult Advisor

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The fourteen Willamette Pass (Ski Patrol Youth) SPYteam, YAP members have been vital to the patrol this season. Our January season start compressed candidate, senior and patrol training together. SPYteam members have been in high demand as “patients” for each of these groups, thus freeing up the adult patrolers to train and do their normal patrol duties. At the same time, SPYteam Members have been working on their own skill checklists.

The NSP website now has a Young Adult Program Resource Center to assist with programming needs. If your patrol is looking to establish a YAP program, the resource center has documents, directions and tips to help get your program going. Patrols with existing YAP programs can get assistance with maintaining and supporting their program. All patrols will find recruitment ideas and supplies, including the new YAP program posters.

NSP has developed a YAP Best Practices Recognition Program. Guidelines and applications are now on-line at the NSP website. The goal of the Best Practices Program is to “Reach for the Gold Standard in Young Adult Programs.” I encourage all YAP programs to complete and submit the Best Practices documents. To better serve you, I am gathering information about all of the Pacific Northwest Division YAP

programs, be they called Jr. Ski Patrol, YAP or any other title. Along with contacting me directly, a convenient Self Reporting Program Form is located at the YAP Resource Center. Completing this form allows you to share your patrol information with the National Office. They will display your information on a program locator for interested young adults looking for patrols near them.

Like the Willamette Pass Ski Patrol, the National Office has found the Young Adult Patrollers to be valuable to the NSP system. Christopher Rousseau, the National YAP Advisor, will be representing the YAP program with a booth at PEC. He will be answering questions, taking suggestions, and he will have the new posters about the YAP program and the Best Practices Program to distribute.

I encourage all patrols to develop a Young Adult Program and achieve the Best Practices recognition. The NSP resource center, Chris and myself are available to help you establish and develop your YAP program.

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AVALANCHE ADVISOR REPORT Continued From Page 10

would appreciate receiving refresher course descriptions from other instructors with the intent of discussion and sharing the information at next summer’s Division meeting.

Instructor continuing education. Because of new developments in the avalanche field, I strongly encourage instructors to find ways to attend the International Snow Science Workshop this year and/or the National Avalanche School next year (see their websites for dates and places). There are other opportunities for obtaining and sharing new knowledge about snow science. One is the Northwest Snow and Ava-

lanche Summit; for information Google their website.

Another more local way to go is Regional Instructor Conferences such as the one put on by the Southern Idaho Region on Nov. 19th of this fall (contact john.taggart@hp.com for details).

Again. Thanks to all the people in the Division who work to make our Avalanche education program a success.

Drannan Hamby
PNWD Avalanche Advisor

AWARDS ADVISOR REPORT— Recognizing Those Who Serve

By Rich Maris, PNWD Awards Advisor

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When it is time to consider nominations for the NSP awards that are given within the patrol and region, I have previously mentioned that those nominated for the Outstanding types of awards need to be considered from the earliest stage as being written for eventual competition at the National Outstanding level. Gathering the data and writing the Letter of Nomination/Recommendation must fulfill the nomination instructions as they are presented on the first page of the nomination form downloaded from NSP. The data must be as complete as possible as sponsors gather information within the four season scope that is allowed. The letter writing needs to step outside of the box of quantitative facts and enter the realm of quality with personality and image evoking wording; that brings the nominee to life in the minds of the judges/evaluators at every step of the way from region up to the national level.

By my banner wording, and the concept of NSP awards, sponsors and patrols need to seek out those patrollers who serve the system, public, and ski industry on their own. Awards are not designed or intended to lead potential nominees to the winners circle by chasing the points for the various nomination sections. The program is looking for patrollers who serve on their own volition. Too often nominees are voted by

the patrols for those members with outgoing demeanor, who are everyone's friend, always visible and making themselves known by their personality on the hill and in the patrol room. There is nothing wrong with that persona or services. I am asking you to look a bit deeper into your patrols for unrecognized members who quietly and often without request or recognition serve the ski area and the public on their own.

I am asking you to look for and seriously consider those patrollers who serve without the attention getting personality, vocal presence, or frequently with their hands up in volunteering before the group. Some very deserving patrollers will quietly do a task or complete a mission without the full patrol knowing of it. The duty leaders will know that things are being taken care of without their direction for each task. The public may be complementary of the care and services that they received, but perhaps only to the area management or patrol leadership. The quiet providers may have been in your patrol for many years and yet they, in their own ways are taking care of what needs to be done when they could otherwise be cutting new tracks and making run after run in a pursuit of their own pleasure of skiing.

Please, make a review of such members in your patrol. It may be a challenge to bring them forth as nominees for an Outstanding Award ahead of the more visible and vocal personality members who everyone sees, hears, and thinks of first. We need both types of highly serving patrollers and neither should be forgotten or passed by. Remember, the NSP and Division Awards Programs are to recognize those who serve. Thanks for considering it.

Rich Maris,
PNWD Awards Advisor



Ski Italian and Austrian Alps Visit Innsbruck and Venice, Italy

The Ski Symposium to Europe, Ski Flight will do all of this as well as exchanges and informational meetings with local ski patrol and mountain rescue groups on this ten day tour in February of 2013.

ENCHANTING VENICE, ITALY TO START

Plans are to begin the trip in Venice, Italy where everyone flies in and meets at our four star hotel for two days of sightseeing in enchanting Venice. We then motor coach (private) to our four star hotel located high in the Lombardy Alps near the Austrian Border at Bormio. We ski five days here enjoying daily scrumptious Italian meals prepared by a master chef.

SKI AUSTRALIAN ALPS-THEN INNSBRUCK

We then move on to the Oetz Valley in Austria for two additional ski days before transferring to Innsbruck, Austria and our flights back to the USA.

EXCHANGE WITH RESCUE GROUPS

Meetings and exchanges are planned with the local ski patrols and mountain rescue groups as well as an optional visit to a local ski factory to see how skis are manufactured.

INCLUDED IN TOUR PACKAGE

Included in this ten day tour, estimated at \$2685 and set for early February 2013 are: first class hotels based on double occupancy, scrumptious breakfast and dinner daily, group transfers by private bus, meetings and exchanges with Italian and Austrian ski patrols, all escorted by Jack Melill Ski Flight Advisor. Airfare is not included so you may use your mileage or buy on the internet. The trip is open to all patrollers, family and friends. But warn them we like to ski, a lot.

Ski Flight ski symposium to Europe is planned as an educational and informational experience for ski patrollers but is open to everyone. The tour is not sponsored by the Pacific Northwest Division or the National Ski Patrol.



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The National Ski Patrol (NSP) is a Federally Chartered non-profit membership association dedicated to serving the public and the mountain recreation industry by providing education services about emergency care and safety.

NSP also reaches members through nationally funded education materials and programs, division newsletters, and local clinics. Through its divisions, NSP conducts training events to supplement training provided by the ski areas. This cooperative effort ensures that members are serving the needs of area management while staying in tune with a nationally standardized system.

Vision Statement: The Pacific Northwest Division is the foremost ski patroller association comprised of volunteer and paid patrollers in the host ski areas, dedicated to maintaining performance standards in the ski patrol environment. The main purpose of the ski patroller is to deliver up-dated first aid and rescue services to the skiing and outdoor-recreation public. The Pacific Northwest Division is an integral part of the National Ski Patrol Systems, Inc.



www.nsp.org

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