



# NOR'WESTER

## DIVISION UPDATE

*Dave Ulrich—Pacific Northwest Division Director, [dulrichnsp@msn.com](mailto:dulrichnsp@msn.com)*

As PNWD patrollers you should be proud, as voted on at the convention last August, PNWD donated \$5000 for a project at National. The Board selected to get the Patrollers Manual rewritten. These are quote's from National:

*“Thank you, All Patrollers in the Pacific Northwest Division are making a difference and this is just one example.”*

*“From all of us on the staff, I am writing to say thank you to PNWD for this very thoughtful gift.” - Tim*

*“Thank you for this wonderful gift. This will get this project launched and finished! We will also acknowledge this gift in the Preface of the manual itself. Thanks, **Bela L. Musits** - National Chair*

*“This is a great thing PNWD has done and the manual has been in need of being re-written for some years now.”*

**EMS and IDAHO:** At this time Senator Bart Davis has introduced RS 19924, drafted by Legislative Services, to amend Idaho law and clarify that ski patrollers are not included in the definition of "practicing medicine," and as such are not required to be regulated by the state. This bill is in committee at this present time and has become SB1021. Bart M. Davis, Idaho Senate Majority Leader - [bmdavis@senate.idaho.gov](mailto:bmdavis@senate.idaho.gov).

NSP has opposition on this bill. On February 3<sup>rd</sup> I sent the following: “I, as your Division Director, am calling you as an Idaho Patroller to Action. I would like to target the members of the Senate Health & Welfare Committee to get it out of committee. Otherwise, they may let it die due to Dr Sturkie's opposition. Below is that committee. Please make the call or email them and make sure that they know how you, as an Idaho voter, stand on the subject of regulating Idaho Ski Patroller's as EMT's. I personally do not want to be an EMT, but a Volunteer Ski Patroller helping the skiing public on the area mountain and then handing over said skier if injured to EMTs. Thank you for being a Patroller. David C Ulrich, PNWD Director.”

The Committee will meet on February 16<sup>th</sup> and National has sent out an email to all Idaho Patrollers requesting they attend in NSP Colors if they can, and also to continue contacting their local Legislators.

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**Voting** – Inland Empire and Southern Idaho Regions will be electing new Region Directors this spring. There are two people running in each region. As a Patrol please make sure that you get with your Patrol Director and your voice is heard with his/her vote.

Remember, PNSAA , our area partners, are looking to produce a Mountain Safety Video and have ask the Division to help fund this production. The Division Executive Board will address helping fund this at the Spring Board Meeting, April 30<sup>th</sup> . We will have discussions on these funds and keep you informed. If you have thoughts on this, please forward to your Patrol Directors and Region Directors.

**Attention, Attention**, is this date on your calendar? June 3-5, 2011 for the **All Discipline Instructor/IT Conference**. This will take place at Mt. Hood and coincide with the "Nuts and Bolts" clinic. The new **OEC 5<sup>th</sup> Book** will be out and available. You can all get an update on the new edition. I look forward to seeing all **Instructors and IT's** of all disciplines at this conference, so please schedule and put it on your calendar now. Remember Division will pick up some of the cost for all Instructors and IT's attending this Conference. The ski season at most resorts will be ended. This will be a very fun and informative conference with skiing at Mt Hood as a bonus.

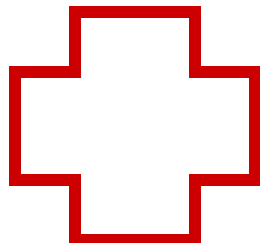
I look forward to seeing patrollers as I travel to your areas and ski.

David C Ulrich, Pacific Northwest Division Director, [dulrichnsp@msn.com](mailto:dulrichnsp@msn.com), 1-801-369-2731

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### DATES TO REMEMBER

- March 12th: Final Sweep for Meyer Avedovech and Harry Roberts—Brundage Mountain
- April 30th: Division Executive Board Spring Meeting
- June 3rd to 5th: All Discipline Instructor/IT Conference and Nuts and Bolts Clinic at Mt. Hood.
- June 25th: Deadline for PNWD Region Award Nominations
- August 11th to 14th: PNWD 2011 Convention in Twin Falls, Idaho



### FINAL SWEEP

On January 3, 2011, Meyer Avedovech, the National Ski Patrol's national awards coordinator, passed away.

Myer has been a member of the NSP since 1966, and was celebrating his 45th year of patrolling. He has patrolled in the Pacific Northwest Division all of those years, serving on several patrols, including Mt. Hood, Santiam Pass, Spout Springs, Mt. Bachelor, and currently Payette Lakes in McCall, Idaho.

Ralph Miller, the Payette Lakes Patrol Representative says that Payette Lakes Ski Patrol will be conducting a Memorial Sweep for Meyer Avedovech and Harry Roberts on March 12 at Brundage Mountain immediately following mountain closure.

# OEC SUPERVISORS REPORT

By Janie San Romani, OEC Supervisor

[jsanromani@comcast.net](mailto:jsanromani@comcast.net)

The Division OEC Supervisors from all Divisions in NSP gathered together at the NSP National Office in Lakewood, CO early in December. We broke into groups, divided the chapters in the new OEC book and proceeded to review and list all the big changes between the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Editions of the OEC textbooks. The new 5<sup>th</sup> Edition is still on schedule and should be available the first part of May. The Instructor Manual will be electronic and downloadable for no charge to instructors and a new test bank will be created. The PNWD will have a Roll Out conference at Mt. Hood, June 3, 4, & 5, 2011 coinciding with the Nuts and Bolts Clinic. All Division OEC IT's, OEC Advisors and OEC Instructors should plan on attending this clinic. It is obvious that not all instructors will be able to attend so we shall provide the information for the Advisors and IT's to present to their OEC Instructors as soon as possible. There will be some big changes in the 5<sup>th</sup> Edition and all instructors will need to be made aware of these changes before presenting OEC Classes. There will be more information in the future regarding this conference.

By now, all OEC Refreshers have been completed, or should have been, and Senior EMM or SEM clinics

and final evaluations are being scheduled. Please remember to register all clinics with the National Office. There will be a new SEM manual coming out soon. As for new OEC Classes, it has been requested that the IOR register a class two weeks before it is slated to begin. Also, please remember that there is a \$10 per student Division fee for all OEC students, not just those that pass the class. That also includes Challenge classes. The fees need to be sent to the Division Controller, Dolores LaLiberte and not to the National Office or the Registrar.

This spring will bring many new exciting changes to the OEC program so be prepared to meet it with an open mind and with adaptability.

Janie SanRomani  
PNWD OEC Supervisor, [jsanromani@comcast.net](mailto:jsanromani@comcast.net),  
541-688-5425

## ***Mark Your Calendars!***

### ***You Don't Want to Miss This!!***

#### ***June 3rd, 4th and 5th of 2011 at Mount Hood***

All Discipline Instructor/IT Conference and Nuts and Bolts Clinic at Mt. Hood

Join us for an incredible weekend sure to be filled with a multitude of opportunities to expand your skills in OEC Instruction and toboggan handling.

For more information and to register please contact:

Janie SanRomani at [jsanromani@comcast.net](mailto:jsanromani@comcast.net)

Walt Langkait at [langkait@comcast.net](mailto:langkait@comcast.net) or Jeffrey Weitz at Wy'East/Mt. Hood

**PNWD CONVENTION 2011**  
**A DESERT ODYSSEY II**  
**(TEN YEARS AFTER)**  
**AUGUST 11<sup>TH</sup>-14<sup>TH</sup>**

**REGISTRATION**

CHECKS PAYABLE TO: PNWD CONVENTION 2011

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Patrol \_\_\_\_\_  
 Spouse or Friend \_\_\_\_\_ Patrol Office/Title \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ NSP# \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Eve \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Day/ Cell \_\_\_\_\_  
 T-Shirt's 2x \_\_\_ XL \_\_\_ L \_\_\_ M \_\_\_ S \_\_\_ Extra T's add \$15.00ea \_\_\_\_\_

**\*Early registration**

	Number	Amount
Early Registration 8/16/2010- 6/30/2011	_____	\$45.00 _____
Late Registration 7/1/2011 & after	_____	\$55.00 _____
Friday Dinner Buffet	_____	\$12.00 _____
Saturday Breakfast Buffet	_____	\$7.50 _____
Saturday Lunch Buffet	_____	\$15.00 _____
Saturday Banquet Buffet / Prime&Fish/Veg	_____	\$28.00 _____
Sunday Breakfast Buffet	_____	\$7.50 _____
Golf Jerome Country Club 10min drive from hotel 8:00 am	_____	\$40.00 _____
White Water Rescue Class/Trip Snake River (incl. lunch)	_____	\$15.00 _____
<b>*All pricing includes tax&amp; tip</b>		
<b>Total</b>	_____	\$ _____

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Visa/Master Card      Acct#      3digit code#      Exp. Date  
 \_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_

**Card holder Name (print):** \_\_\_\_\_ **Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

Credit card info by phone or mail  
 Contact Thomas Baldwin 208-420-5868 [waterrat@cableone.net](mailto:waterrat@cableone.net)  
 Or Robin Ulrich 208-934-8528 [hangingj@msn.com](mailto:hangingj@msn.com)  
 P.O. Box 92, Gooding , ID 83330

Place: Twin Falls, ID,83301,Contact Red Lion Hotel, Blue Lakes Blvd. for room info  
 CALL 1-800-43HOTEL  
 Refer to PNWD 2011 Ski Patrol

# WY'EAST/MT. HOOD REGION UPDATE

By Jim Trett, Region Director

[trett1380@msn.com](mailto:trett1380@msn.com)

First of all, I would like to introduce myself. My name is Jim Trett and, as of June 1<sup>st</sup>, I am the new Region Director of the Wy'east/Mt. Hood Region. I will be trying to fill the shoes of Rod Legg who has served with distinction in this position for last six years. The Wy'east/Mt. Hood Region and its members want to extend many thanks to Rod for his excellent work. I extend my personal thanks to Rod for his great help making my transition into this position so easy.

The big news in our region explains the heading at the top of this article. The Mt. Hood Region of National Ski Patrol has been officially renamed the Wy'east Region. Wy'east is the native name given to what is now Mt. Hood.

The reasons for the change was to eliminate the on-going confusion between the business of Mt. Hood Ski Patrol (MHSP) and the business of the NSP region. It was also felt that a name change would be more inclusive of the Cooper Spur Ski Patrol which is in the Wy'east Region but not affiliated with MHSP.

I want to thank the Wy'east Executive Board, PNWD Division Director Dave Ulrich and Cheri Overton of the NSP office for their time and efforts in making this change possible in an easy business like manner and with a timely and efficient process. Also

a big thank you to John Haworth the Division Webmaster for changing the banner on the Division website.

Senior EMM and Senior S&T training is well underway in the Oregon and Wy'east Regions. Once again the Oregon and Wy'east Regions are joining forces to offer the Senior Program to its members.

A Senior EMM skills assessment clinic was conducted on December 6<sup>th</sup> in Tualatin, Oregon and Senior EMM training is now in progress. The two regions conducted a two day training clinic on February 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> at Summit Ski Area on Mt. Hood.

Senior S&T clinics are also going strong. Once again the Wy'east Region joined forces with the Oregon Region for a Senior EMM clinic at the Summit Ski Area on Mt. Hood on February 5, 2011. The final Senior Program evaluation, also a joint adventure between the Oregon and Wy'east Regions will be held on April 2<sup>nd</sup> on Mt. Hood.

Senior S&T training is also well under way. The Oregon and Wy'east Regions are also working hand in hand to make their S&T candidates ready for the final evaluation weekend on April 3<sup>rd</sup>.

The combined Oregon and Wy'east Senior S&T clinics are open to anyone who is a senior candidate or potential candidate and interested in attending. Please contact me if you are interested in attending and I will



get you registered. I may be reached at [trett1380@msn.com](mailto:trett1380@msn.com) or by phone at 503-559-0358.

The dates for the S&T clinics are:

- February 26<sup>th</sup> at Mt. Hood Ski Bowl hosted by Wy'east Region
- February 27<sup>th</sup> at Mt. Ashland hosted by Oregon Region
- March 12<sup>th</sup> at Mt. Hood Meadows hosted by Wy'east Region
- March 27<sup>th</sup> at Mt. Hood Ski Bowl hosted by Wy'east Region

Final evaluations for both Senior EMM and Senior S&T will be conducted April 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> at MT. Hood Meadows on MT. Hood.

Jim Trett—Wy'east Region Director

# OREGON REGION REPORT

By Craig Thornley, Oregon Region Director

thornley@cs.uoregon.edu

Region Auxiliary advisor Frank Ratti and I visited the Santiam Pass Ski Patrol at Hoodoo on a very wet Oregon January day. The original motivation for the visit was to attend the Division/Region Nordic clinic that I had heard so much about. Spending the weekend with Dan Miller (the speaker from the Wilsonville convention two years ago – remember, the guy with the drums) and Joseph Calbreath (the weatherman) building emergency toboggans, beating drums, eating granola, and avoiding the chairlifts sounded like a fun time. Due to scheduling constraints the clinic was canceled at the last minute but we decided to go to Hoodoo anyway. While we didn't get to ski with any patrollers, because, well, they were smarter than us and stayed out of the rain, we did



Bob Freund and Frank Ratti

get to visit and see some of things that made them the 2008 National Outstanding Large Alpine Patrol. They are definitely a well-oiled, efficient operation.

A few weeks later I spent the night at the Willamette Back-

country cabin at Gold Lake. Don Elting, the region controller, and Josie Elting, former RD, were gracious hosts, cooking me dinner and breakfast and talking everything patrol. Even though the cabin is only a mile away from my home patrol, I had never actually paid close attention to their duties, procedures, etc. Again, no skiing or snowshoeing. It hadn't snowed in several weeks and the light drizzle that fell during the night froze by morning and I was headed up to Willamette Pass to patrol that afternoon anyway. The backcountry patrol is a very different patrolling experience than what I'm used to. They only get a few medical incidents a year, but do a lot of interacting with the public and patrolling trails and shelters miles from their patrol cabin. It's a much slower pace. Much more relaxing and low key. If you haven't been there before I suggest you go check 'em out. They might even offer you some hot chocolate.

I hope to also visit Ashland and Bachelor this year. Pack your rain gear when I schedule my visit.

Awards time is coming up. Jody Tuttle, region awards advisor, would like to remind all patrols that your nominations for outstanding awards need to be to her no later than May 31, 2011. She would like the nominations emailed to her at [jody@thegarnergroupp.com](mailto:jody@thegarnergroupp.com) with a follow up mailing of the hard copy with original signatures. We are tentatively planning a region "Patroller Enrichment Barbecue" at



Willamette Backcountry Ski Patrol Cabin at Gold Lake

Willamette Pass on Saturday, July 16 to give out the region awards. Stay tuned for details.

Training for Senior EMM and S&T (OET) final on April 2 and 3 at Mt Hood has been happening throughout Oregon. There was a joint EMM clinic at Mt Hood (Summit) on Feb 5-6. Region Asst OEC advisor Laurie Coventry reports: "Four out of the five candidates were able to attend the clinic. Two candidates were from Wy'east Region (formerly called Mt Hood) and two from Bachelor. Candidates, evaluators, advocates, and patients all braved the continual rain on Saturday to participate. Needless to say the evaluation sheets didn't hold up as well as the candidates that day. On Sunday one of the candidates graciously offered his 2 single car garages to stage the scenarios so we all stayed dry. We completed 8 scenarios on Sat. and 4 on Sun. (breaking by about noon on Sun. so all could get home to watch the Super Bowl). Each candidate was able to lead a total of 6 scenarios (continued on page 7)

# SOUTHERN IDAHO REGION REPORT

By Philip Dixon, Southern Idaho Region Director

phily1@live.com

Well here it is, the end of February. The ski season is in full swing and the patrols throughout the region are enjoying the abundance of snow and are busy with their daily area routines, as well as the training of new basic and senior candidate programs. The Region has also been very busy with sponsoring and attending Ski/Snowboard and Toboggan enhancement seminars at various areas through out the Southern Idaho Region. I would encourage everyone to participate in any of these programs no matter their ability. There are a lot of benefits and much to gain from programs and instructors involved.

I would like to thank Loren Livermore (PSIA Ski Instructor) and Kevin Briem (AASI Snowboard Instructor) both of Brundage Mountain in McCall Idaho. This year Eddie Orbea, Senior Evaluations with 20 some candidates, has proven to be an epic and memorable event. Congratulations to all of you who have achieved this first step in advancement and leadership in the NSP. Your efforts are notable and will be self rewarding.

As a reminder I would like to mention that there will

be several memorial sweeps this year with the first coming up in March on the 12th for Myer Avedovech and Harry Roberts, both of Payette Lakes Ski Patrol in McCall Idaho. Another will take place on March 19th for Becky Keeling of Anthony Lakes Ski Resort between Baker City and La Grand, Oregon. Please mark your calendars for these events and plan to attend and show your support for the families and patrols of these well known Southern Idaho Region fallen patrollers.

On the EMS verses OEC in Idaho senate Bill subject, SB1021, the Idaho Senate Health and Welfare Committee Voted 7 to 2 to send the bill on to the Senate floor. This is the first "win" in the approval of the Bill. Now the Senate will vote on this issue, which goes on to the House Committee and then on to the full House. Thank you to everyone that has participated in this project, your voice has not fallen on deaf ears. As always, think snow and continue to have a safe season, see you on the slopes.

Southern Idaho Region Director

Philip D. Dixon

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## Oregon Division Report Continued from page 6

and thus leave with not only more experience, but at least a few passes towards their four required."

Region S&T advisor, Al Klascius reports that there have been four combined Oregon and Wy' east S&T clinics and a women's S&T clinic. "The combined effort of both regions has been very productive and has given many female patrollers some advanced sled handling skills. I hope to encourage more female patrollers to become Seniors and then S+T instructors. This season the combined regions have one of the most experienced group of S+T ITs that we have had during the previous decade. Every patroller in both regions and from other regions are welcome to attend any or all of our remaining clinics. Please contact me if you are interested for details," he reports. Here are the remaining opportunities before the April 3 final at

Mt Hood Meadows:

February 26 – Wy' east Region at Ski Bowl

February 27 – Oregon Region at Mt Ashland

March 12 – Wy' east Region at Hood Meadows

March 27 – Wy' east Region at Ski Bowl – (Optional date if needed.)

See you on the hill.

Craig Thornley  
Region Director

<http://www.nsp-orre.org/>

# PNWD NORDIC REPORT

By Joseph Calbreath, Nordic Advisor

[calfam3@comcast.net](mailto:calfam3@comcast.net)

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We have had a series of setbacks for the Nordic program this season here in the Division, with the cancellation of our Senior Clinic at HooDoo Ski Area. A scheduling conflict made it impossible for us to conduct the clinic in the way we needed to. There is always next year though.

At the National level we are plodding along and some decisions have been made on the direction we are headed with the new National program. There is work being done to develop a new Nordic Skills Course, which will be required for all Nordic patrollers. We are going to divide the Nordic program into two classifications; Resort and Backcountry.

## Resort:

This will be Nordic patrols or patrollers that work at a Ski Area (resort) where there are groomed trails and set tracks.

## Backcountry:

This will be Nordic patrols and patrollers that work for Government Agencies, such as US Forest Service, Na-

tional Parks, State Forest Service and State Parks. These areas have un-groomed trails and are self tracked.

The skill sets for each will have a slightly different emphasis especially when it comes to transportation and means of travel. On groomed trails at a resort, the types of sleds and methods of pulling them are much different than on un-groomed trails in the backcountry.

We have updated the skill list and are starting to break them down based on the Resort or Backcountry classification. If anyone would like to look at them just email me at [calfam3@comcast.net](mailto:calfam3@comcast.net), and I'll send you the list.

Joseph Calbreath - PNW Nordic Advisor  
Willamette Backcountry Ski Patrol  
541-954-9998

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# PNWD TRANSPORTATION (S&T)

By Walt Langkait, Transportation (S&T) Advisor

[langkait@comcast.net](mailto:langkait@comcast.net)

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The season is in full swing and as usual some areas have an abundance of snow and others are wishing for more. Our home area finally opened and I am looking forward to finally patrolling there again after a two year hiatus. It is enjoyable to patrol at other areas, but as the saying goes "there is no place like home". The clinics for Senior Training and final evaluations have been set throughout the division and I wish everyone success in obtaining their goals.

I have sent a copy of proposed changes to the Transportation Manual to the Region S&T Advisers as well as the Region Directors for their input. Many of these proposed changes have provided lively discussions with other Division Advisers throughout the NSP. I will try and keep everyone posted as to when the final decisions are cast in concrete.

I wish to thank all the instructors for the efforts they provide in enhancing everyone's skill levels for we

know it is extremely time consuming, but truly rewarding when we see the smiles on their faces. This is all for now and I am still trying to determine which clinics I can attend, as we are already in the middle of February.

Enjoy the season and hope to see many of you in the future!!!

Sincerely,  
Walt Langkait, PNWD Transportation (S&T) Advisor  
Summit East (HYAK) Patroller  
NSP National #8766

Jeffrey Weitz, Asst. PNWD Transportation Advisor  
Mt. Hood Ski Bowl  
NSP National #10406

# INLAND EMPIRE REGION REPORT

By Chris Stern, Inland Empire Region Director

loghead@methownet.com

The calendar says that it is still winter (didn't the groundhog see his shadow?), but the weather reminds me more of spring. I don't know about you, but it's way too early, for me, for the snow to be melting!

We have just finished our second of two Open Clinics. The first at Silver Mountain (thank you Gary, Dave & your team!), and this most recent one, at Mission Ridge (thank you Marv, Dave & Mark). We call them "Open Clinics" because we are trying to encourage any Patroller in our Region who wants to improve their skills to attend and gain some benefit. Too much of our Region's expertise and funds are invested in these clinics not to have them open to all. Make no mistake, we train to the Senior Level for those who have that goal, but our training teams make accommodations for the level of the participants. As I step down from the RD position I hope we continue to encourage better attendance at these clinics. Phil, Kelvin & Brenda have done a tremendous job encouraging all to attend, but we have a ways to go yet. At your refresher in the fall, be sure to ask when and where the clinics are, and plan to attend. I know you will be glad you did!

It has been interesting to watch the participation levels

from the 10 patrols in this Region. I would guess that similar swings in activity occurs in most Regions, and is due to any number of things. Perhaps management takes on a stronger interest to encourage their patrol to step things up. Perhaps it is one charismatic individual who wants to extend beyond the traditional envelop and bring others along with them, or sometimes it's a forgotten tradition that has been revived. Whatever it is, that patrol then surges with renewed enthusiasm and their Region benefits. Take a look around; perhaps you are the catalyst just waiting to jazz your Patrol up.

Back in '08 I anticipated that the Inland Empire would register 500+ Patrollers, but it didn't happen that year, or the next, but we finally hit 501! So I can honestly say, while signing off, that the Inland Empire is bigger and better now than it has ever been! Come visit any one of our areas & we will show you a good time, but come before the snow melts!! Cheers from the Inland Empire.

Chris Stern, Inland Empire RD  
loghead@methownet.com

## MTR REPORT

By Frank Rossi, MTR Advisor

rossifp@nwlinc.com

The US Army Research Institute of Environmental Medicine (USARIEM) has three new papers (2010) available as PDF downloads at the website show below. These and other listed papers should be viewed by OEC and MTR Instructors.

<http://www.usariem.army.mil/Pages/downloads.htm>

Borden Institute Monograph Series: Water Requirements and Soldier Hydration (2010).

Borden Institute Monograph Series: Load Carriage in Military Operations: A review of historical, physiological, Biomechanical and Medical Aspects (2010). It also contains good information on blisters and other injuries from carrying heavy loads.

Altitude Acclimatization and Illness Management. TB MED 505, September 2010.

USARIEM conducts research on all environmental factors that effect the soldier – heat, cold, altitude, clothing, nutrition, hydration, etc. USARIEM is located at Natick, MA.

The Borden Institute, an agency of the US Army Medical Department Center & School, publishes the *Textbooks of Military Medicine* The Borden Institute is located at Fort Detrick, MD.

Frank Rossi, rossifp@nwlinc.com

# NORTHWEST REGION REPORT

By Liz Dodge—NW Region Director

[liz.dodge@nwr.nsp.org](mailto:liz.dodge@nwr.nsp.org)

What a winter this has been. Early snow and early openings for many areas, and then a mix of weather patterns from snow to rain to sun and back again, with warm dry, warm wet, and cold dry and cold wet weather. Some areas still have plenty of snow and others have experienced melting trends resulting in conditions looking more like late spring. Hopefully the weather has turned again and we'll have snow into the late spring.

Good news from the Summit at Snoqualmie— two years after they had a slide that took out a chair lift and much of their hillside at Summit East, they are back open for alpine operations. They replaced the front side chair with a longer one in a slightly different location. That chair is now open for operations. The new chair on the back side, which will open area to skiing that has not been serviced for over 20 years, is in waiting mode as they need more snow before it can be opened. Needless to say the Summit East patrollers are very happy to be once again patrolling on their 'home' hill.

Patrollers at both White Pass and Crystal Mt are getting used to their areas new expansions and lifts. Both patrols report that all is going well and as planned. Both areas have also reported that they have seen an increased number of skiers/riders going out of bounds this year. This activity has brought more challenges to these patrols, patrollers, and the areas they serve.

Training - Candidate training was very successful within the NW Re-

gion with all patrols adding to their rosters. Our Senior training programs are well underway and we look forward to many successes at the finals in March. Continuing in our goal for education for our members, we have had quite a few programs completed, ongoing, and more scheduled for the months to come. Some of these include: Completed or ongoing CPR Refreshers (over 300 patrollers participated), Avalanche Fundamentals, Avalanche Level I and Level II, MTR Fundamentals, MTR Level I and II, Instructor Development, TES, SES, WTES, WSES, etc... Scheduled for later this spring: ID (instructor development), TES (toboggan enhancement seminar), SES (ski enhancement seminar), and STW (ski trainers workshop).

In addition to working on our education programs the region awards committee have been busy working on awards. Stay tuned for more information later in the year.

Watch our web based calendar - we have already started setting dates for our 2011-12 courses and events.

Instructor Applications – As a reminder I am restating the information that was published in the last Norwester:

One small change that we have instituted in this region is in relation to how one submits an application to become an instructor. Following the normal completion of the prerequisite courses for the discipline and the Instructor Development course, interested patrollers complete an Instructor application. A couple years ago we instituted the request to have an NSP member profile attached to the

application, and suggested mentors written on the application form. Now the new change – instead of submitting these directly to the Region Administrator for the program of interest, the instructor applications will now be sent to the Region's Instructor Development Program Administrator – Bernie Goddard. The application will be logged onto a master list and then sent on to the discipline specific program administrator. Why you might ask? Well, it is simple. There seems to have been a number of applications either lost or not properly submitted and therefore there have been patrollers thinking that they were training to become an instructor and no one knew about it. Currently we are working to make sure that we have all instructor trainees 'mentees' on this master list. So far we have identified over 50 patrollers working on becoming an NSP instructor. If you have questions on this process or your instructor status; please contact either Bernie or myself.

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](mailto:dodger@ix.netcom.com) or phone at 206-300-7711.

Take advantage of the program offerings and patrol camaraderie during the remaining months of this season.

Think Snow and see you on the hill!

Liz Dodge—NW Region Director  
[liz.dodge@nwr.nsp.org](mailto:liz.dodge@nwr.nsp.org)

# SKI FLIGHT 2011—AN EXCELLENT TRIP!!

By Shelley Urben and Stuart Saslow

Take a group of ski patrollers plus various family members and friends, throw them all on an airplane, plop the mix in the middle of Europe for an eleven day ski trip – and what do you get? Jack Melill, Ski Flight 2011 and Jerry and Janice Dahl did just that – and the result was an incredible trip full of breath-taking views, wonderful skiing, and most of all the formation of numerous friendships and the intermingling of various patrols throughout PNWD and beyond.

This year's trip included two days of travel, nearly two days of sight-seeing, seven days of skiing, plus valuable time spent with the ski patrol in Davos, Switzerland, a tour of the Swiss Institute for Snow and Avalanche Research, and a nearly full day with the Austrian Ski Patrol in Innsbruck.



Parsenn—Davos, Switzerland

The trip began in Davos, Switzerland ([www.davos.ch](http://www.davos.ch)). After getting settled in our hotel, and attempting to get a good night's sleep, we spent our first morning taking a brief tour of the ski area known as Jakobshorn ([www.davos.ch/en/winter/mountain-cableways/jakobshorn.html](http://www.davos.ch/en/winter/mountain-cableways/jakobshorn.html)) from a couple of local ski patrollers. We learned



Danny—Davos, Switzerland Patroller and our tour guide

some rather interesting facts: There are six ski areas around Davos and each run with around six to ten (ish) patrollers, all paid. One patroller takes the call along with the sled and one (possibly the same one via radio) contacts the ambulance. The responding patroller then takes the loaded sled to the ambulance, helps put it into the ambulance, accompanies the guest to the hospital, and then returns to the area – total time approximately forty-five minutes. A small group of us had the opportunity to see this all happen in person (not due to an injury to any of us, fortunately!) It was quite an experience.

The second half of that first day was spent touring the Institute for Snow and Avalanche Research. After a very informative video we were taken into the research lab. Our guide talked to us about various aspects of avalanche causes and control and about the research conducted at the institute. The tour ended with a very brief visit inside one of the chambers they use for the study of snow crystals and their formation.

On the sixth day all forty-seven of us more or less crammed our bodies and our gear into a bus and headed to-

ward Innsbruck, Austria. On the way we stopped to take some turns at an area known as St. Anton am Arlberg ([www.stantonamarlberg.com](http://www.stantonamarlberg.com)). It was a beautiful area, one I'd certainly enjoy going back to. The next two days were spent in Innsbruck. On the first day our



Our leaders—Jerry and Janice Dahl on top of the world at the Stubai Glacier in Austria

group was hosted by the Nordkette Innsbruck Ski Patrol. Bruno, their director, met us at our hotel and escorted us to the ski area via the Innsbrucker Nordkettan Bahnen (train). We were welcomed by a full contingent of patrollers and the director of

the Tyrolian region avalanche forecast center. He then led a Power-Point presentation describing their avalanche forecasting system, and recent avalanche events. We toured their aid room and one of our patrollers became the patient for a demonstration of their on-hill aid response using their clamshell (continued on page 12)

# THE SPLINT GUY

By Glen Dodge

[glend@casadecolumbia.com](mailto:glend@casadecolumbia.com)

The splints have arrived! Thank you to Commencement Bay Corrugated for stepping up to help us out with a new batch of splints. Our past supplier sold the division that made them for us and the new owners declined to help. You will notice that they are basically the same but for 2 changes.

1) they are 4 inches longer and 2) the tip has been split to allow a locking maneuver that helps hold them in the folded position. See if you can discover the new advantage or continue as before.

We have located supplies of these in a couple locations.

- Sonia Van De Brake has a couple pallets stored in the Spokane area that can be accessed by calling 509-891-8802 or [\[mailto:Sonybaker@imsupplyinc.com\]](mailto:Sonybaker@imsupplyinc.com)

- Charles Butrick has a pallet stored in the Bogus Basin area that can be accessed by calling 208-871-4163 or [charles@skibbsp.net](mailto:charles@skibbsp.net).
- Cleo Howell has some for the Mt. Hood region at 503-680-2472 or [howell.cleo@gmail.com](mailto:howell.cleo@gmail.com).
- And last but not least I have some that can be accessed in the Seattle WA. or Sherwood, OR. areas by request at 206-396-3960 or [glend@casadecolumbia.com](mailto:glend@casadecolumbia.com)

Happy Splinting – Glen the Splint Guy

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## Ski Flight 2011 Continued from page 11

backboards and vacuum bag splint. They then demonstrated a difficult rescue down a very steep chute – a 40 degree slope with 1400 feet of vertical - bootpacking a belayed sled down on crampons. Afterward they treated us to lunch and drinks and sent us off to ski the chutes. The Nordkette Patrol and their Tyrolean Region Avy Center was very friendly and very interested in continued collaborations with the NSP. We left them with trinkets from our various areas and will be sending another package, if anyone wants to contribute items. They were all skilled volunteers, with a heavy focus on training, very similar to our own system.

The last day and final evening were spent in Germany. We finalized the trip with a visit to the famous Hofbrauhaus in Munich.

We could not have had a better trip. Many thanks to Jack Melill for organizing it, and to Jerry and Janice Dahl for being our ever faithful and patient leaders during our travel!!



Arlberg Ski Area in St. am Anton, Austria

If anyone is interested in more information please check out the trip on Facebook – just run a search for Ski Flight 2011. Also – Ski Flight 2012 to Norway is coming up soon . See page 13 of this issue for registration information.

# *Lillehammer, Oslo & Bergen, Norway Set For Ski Flight Symposium 2012*

A spectacular 11 day tour of skiing and exchanging with patrols in Norway is set for Ski Flight Ski Symposium late January to early February of 2012.

## **AIRFARE—USE YOUR OWN AIR ARRANGEMENTS OR USE OUR GROUP SPACE**

Tour members will fly directly to Oslo, Norway and train to Lillehammer where the symposium will begin. This will allow participants to use their air mileage and make their arrangements or use the group air space on a major air carrier. Following patrol meeting in Lillehammer we will travel across the high scenic Hardendager snow plateau with a stop in Vos Ski Region before going on to Bergen via the scenic fjords.

## **TOUR COST ESTIMATES AND AIR TAXES**

Tour cost for patrollers, family and friends is estimated at \$2,655 for land only and \$3,155 using the group prearranged air space—probably on SAS Air Lines. Air taxes, fuel and TSA fees are not included in either estimate as they vary greatly from day to day.

Deluxe hotels with bath will feature half board (breakfast & dinner). Rooms and prices are based on double occupancy, single rooms when available carry a surcharge. We may receive free ski passes but, like any personal items, they are not included in the trip cost.

## **SIGHTSEE SCENIC BERGEN, NORWAY**

Plans include a day of sightseeing in Bergen, the old fishing village and public market, as well as riding up the funicular for spectacular views and perhaps lunch on a pleasant day before flying home to the USA the following morning.

## **WANT MORE INFORMATION?**

Watch the Norwester for more information or the Division website - [www.nsp-pnwd.org](http://www.nsp-pnwd.org).  
Or contact the Ski Flight Advisor Jack Melill at [jack.melill@juno.com](mailto:jack.melill@juno.com)

*Ski Flight is the official fundraiser for the Pacific Northwest Division.*

# AWARDS—Recognizing Those Who Serve

By Rich Maris, PNWD Awards Advisor

[rgmaris@msn.com](mailto:rgmaris@msn.com)

Those of us who learned of the passing of Myer Avedovech, so suddenly and without warning outside of his immediate circle, were shocked and saddened. Myer gave more of himself at all levels of patrolling and to the NSP than can be listed here without omissions. Myer truly was a patroller and leader of the NSP National Awards Program who must be recognized, without any hesitation, as One Who Has Served with distinction and honor. He will be greatly missed. Our hearts and prayers go out to Barb, his closest companion and friend who with Myer, formed a leadership team that has rarely been seen in the NSP. Their twinkling eyes, big smiles, encouraging and guiding words have mentored many of us across the years. Sound of judgment, clear in guidance, and supportive of efforts, they both have and I am sure that Barb will continue, to bring immeasurable services to our division and the NSP.

Until a new NSP Awards Coordinator is selected and has the time and opportunity to settle into the massive role that Myer provided, all nominations going “up the ladder” from division levels are being suspended. Except for the National Outstanding Awards, all others had been mailed from the division awards advisors directly to Myer. It is the consensus of the National Awards Committee and the NSP office, to pause until

this vacant office is filled and the nomination processes can be resumed in an efficient manner.

Don't stop your search for award nominees or the preparation process to bring forth the best that you can for these dedicated patrollers. The rules of the awards program have not changed, and most likely the procedures will not either. Certainly not at the patrol and region levels. When you are developing your nominations, pause for a moment and reflect, “How would Myer have wanted to see this?” I think that he will be watching and cheering you on. He wanted the Awards Program to be the FUN part of the NSP programs; continually looking for the newer nominees who had not been recognized before. Keep it fun. Awards Recognitions are the largest part of a patroller's paycheck that we can provide for them.

Rich Maris  
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541-345-4566

## *Region Awards Advisors*

### *Deadline for 2011 Nominations*

Submission of Region Nominations to PNWD for all Awards Must be received on or before **Saturday, June 25, 2011**. Email Attachments with wet-signed hard copy follow-up. PDF of signed Original Nomination Form and Letter of Nomination.

To be transmitted only by Region Awards Advisors to: [rgmaris@msn.com](mailto:rgmaris@msn.com)  
Postal to: Rich Maris, PNWD Awards Advisor 513 Pinto Way, Eugene, OR 97401

## SUBARU'S VIP PROGRAM

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When you are driving up to the mountains, do you ever worry about how your car will handle in the snow and ice? The National Ski Patrol wants all its members to stay safe on the roads, and that is why NSP and Subaru have partnered to offer members an amazing NSP member benefit.

Subaru offers all NSP members the advantage of the Subaru VIP Partners Program. With this program, NSP members can save up to \$3300 on the MSRP of a new Subaru, depending on the model and accessories chosen. If you finance or lease a new Subaru, you may also qualify for special rates. All the popular Subaru model lines, including Outback, Forester, Impreza, Legacy, and Tribeca, are included in the VIP Program.

To get the VIP Partner pricing, you must receive an approved Dealer Visit Authorization form **prior** to visiting your local Subaru dealership to choose your car. To receive an Authorization form, go to the NSP Pro Page, accessible from the Member Services section of the NSP website, and click the Subaru link. You will need to enter your member number, name, home address, daytime phone number, e-mail address, the model of car you are interested in, and the dealer you want to purchase it from. If you do not indicate a dealer at this time, one will be assigned to you based on your home address. This form is good for 45 days.

Once your eligibility is verified, NSP will forward the request for participation to VIP Program Headquarters and a Dealer Visit Authorization form will be processed and mailed to yourself and faxed to the selected dealer within 48 hours. VIP pricing will not be honored without the Dealer Visit Authorization form.

After filling out the Subaru info, check out all the other great discounts you can receive from sponsors available on the NSP Pro Page, many of which do not appear in the catalog. The number of sponsors has doubled in the last three years, and includes a variety of excellent outdoor gear manufacturers. Among the many companies offering gear are Patagonia, Polarmax, Dynastar/Lange, Rossignol, Nodica, prAna, Merrell, Smith Optics, Hestra, GoPro, Backcountry Access, and Yakima.



**THE NOR'WESTER  
PACIFIC NORTHWEST DIVISION,  
NATIONAL SKI PATROL  
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Portland, OR

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](http://www.nsp.org)

[www.nsp-pnwd.org](http://www.nsp-pnwd.org)

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