



# NOR'WESTER

## DIVISION DIRECTOR'S REPORT

BARB DIXON, DIVISION DIRECTOR  
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It snowed here yesterday! I think that bodes well for the season in this Division. I know there are a lot of restless patrollers out there so this will be an energy packed season. Area operators should expect almost 200% from us (100% for this year and close to that from last year's left over energy).

Speaking of 100%, those of us that attended the PNWD Convention in Seattle were treated to that much effort and more from the Northwest Region. Thanks from all of us in the Division for all the hard work and a job well done. For those who didn't attend, you missed some valuable training and information, good food, great prizes and awesome camaraderie. Start planning now to attend Boise 2006.

The minutes from the Exec Board meeting, General Board meeting and the Open Discussion are published in this issue. Please take the time to read them all and be an informed member. We are still compiling and collecting suggested resolutions to the concerns expressed at

the Open meeting. We are far from covering each concern and would appreciate input from patrollers who attended as well as those who may read about them for the first time in this issue. It is important that we help the National Board find solutions that we can all abide by.

I attended the PNSAA Board meeting on September 15th in Portland. Obviously the general concern was last season, but everyone was optimistic and making plans for a great season this year. Rick Pignone reported on his attendance at our convention and made special note of the awards and which ski areas they were from. Both owners and operators are pleased when patrollers from their area are honored. I had a very brief talk with Michael Berry, President of NSAA. He has been following the concerns of NSP members closely and in fact attended the hearing in Denver the day before. He was concerned that the political climate and current issues would have some impact on patroller relations at the areas. I assured him that

the patrollers in this Division wanted to patrol and do the very best job that they could for the areas. NSP politics will not carry over to our job on the hill. I feel more than confident that all patrollers in this Division share that feeling.

### National News

The patrollers petition has passed and as a result, a court hearing was held. The court ordered that the petitioners had the right to petition and that there is a basis for an election. The four Divisions that sponsored the petition, their attorney and the attorney for the National Board are currently negotiating how and when to conduct the election. You can log on to the following websites for more information: [www.nspeast.org](http://www.nspeast.org); [www.nsprmd.org](http://www.nsprmd.org); Don't forget NSP's, [www.nsp.org](http://www.nsp.org); as well as the forum.

Several refreshers have occurred, candidate classes have started, regions have met and set dates for activities. Let's focus on patrolling and have a great year as usual.

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## MESSAGE FROM THE STRATEGIC PLAN COMMITTEE

PNWD Patroller,

The document you will find on page three of this newsletter is the Strategic Plan for the Pacific Northwest Division for your review and use, and comment.

The Strategic Plan is a roadmap, a plan, for the future operations of the Division. It may not be exciting or stimulating, until one reads it and visualizes the vision it represents. Think of the Strategic Plan as an outline reading from high level (Vision) to detail (Action Plans). The Vision

is unlikely to change while the Action Plans are meant to be finite and change as required. The Action Plans will be the actions to accomplish the Strategic Plan as a whole. The Strategic Plan is a *Living Document*, meant to modify according to the mandates of the members, the skiing industry, and other factors.

The ultimate goal for the Strategic Plan is it will be the basis for all Division programs and budgets in that the program will either fit the Strategic Plan or the

Strategic Plan will change to suit. Either way, the conduct of Division operations will be deliberate and visible.

The PNWD currently has the ability to chart its own course for the future and therefore the actions of all patrols and the patrollers in its area. We may be proactive to attain the goals we desire, or to follow the directives of others. Using the Strategic Plan is one method to take our own future in our control. Using the Strategic Plan, what is your vision of the

*Continued top page 2*





### Message from Strategic Plan Committee

*Continued from page 1*

PNWD future? The Strategic Plan is in the hands of the Patrol Directors and the Regional Directors. By the Nor'Wester, I am sending it to you directly.

The Strategic Plan contained here is for your input. What are your reactions, and your opinions for future changes? If we as a Division act together, in the Strategic Plan or other, then we can focus on our patrollers, our clients (the areas), the public, and how we will relate to all of them. The emphasis here is the plan that you, as the local patrol member, wish to live with for the future. What I, as one of the task force members, am concerned with is the Action Plans we may not have seen and written down. You, as the patroller on the hill, will probably have a better vision and we ask you to share that vision with us.

Good or bad, I look forward to hearing from you on behalf of the Task Force.

Alan Werner, Strategic Plan  
Committee Chairman  
Myer Avedovech (Southern Idaho)  
Don Gardner (Mt. Hood)  
Harold Heacock (Pacific Northwest)  
Rod Legg (Mt. Hood)  
Lyle Sheen (Pacific Northwest)

## FOLLOW NEW REGISTRATION PROCEDURE CAREFULLY TO AVOID POSSIBLE DELAYS

CHUCK COFFEY, DIVISION REGISTRAR  
clskiers@comcast.net (425) 483-4091

The 2005 convention in Sea-Tac, Washington has come and gone and my hats off to the Northwest Region who really put out the red carpet for those of us in attendance. Chairman's Bernie Goddard, Chuff Barden and Elizabeth Dodge and those unsung heroes who assisted them, provided a great time for all who attended.

The convention agenda had a number of great informational programs, such as OEC Enhancement Seminars, Moulage, Patrol Financing, Instructor ID Course, Patrol Director leadership class, MCI, Search and Rescue.

As summer winds down, with fall just around the corner it's time to start thinking about those things that keep us up to date as members of the NSP. This year the Registration process for the National Ski Patrol has changed. In years past, Registration forms and dues have been processed through the Region and Division Registrar's prior to being sent to the National Office. This year the National Office is requesting to have all National dues and Registration forms from each patrol be sent directly to the National Office in Colorado. These must be submitted no later than December 31, 2005.

The National office sent each Patrol Representative a Registration packet for his/her patrol in mid-July.

Region and Division Registration and dues collection will be handled at the Region and Division level.

Please review and complete the Registration forms, making sure that the appropriate forms are used and **completely filled out** before submittal. If you need more forms they are on NSP website. The National Office will not process incomplete or inaccurate forms. They will simply return the packet to the Patrol Representative for corrective action. This will greatly delay the Registration of your patrollers. The NSP will send the Patrol Representative the membership cards for the Patrol members, **ONLY** after they have received forms and dues. Please double-check your work.

Each Region collects different amounts of dues. Please find out the amount required for your Region and submit a copy of your Registration forms and appropriate amount of dues directly to your Region Registrar.

As for the Division the dues are still \$13 per registered member. Please collect and forward the Division dues and a

copy of all membership applications to Division Registrar. Send these directly to the Division Registrar at:

Lynn Coffey  
PNW Division Registrar  
PO Box 82156  
Kenmore, WA 98028  
(425) 483-4091  
clskiers@comcast.net

Make sure to keep a copy for your records. If you need any help please feel free to call or email.



## KUDOS TO THE NORTHWEST REGION FOR A WONDERFUL AND WELL ATTENDED 2005 ANNUAL PNWD CONVENTION

SHIRLEY CUMMINGS, HISTORIAN  
shirleycu@msn.com, 206-522-5551

"Great Job!" That was the most oft repeated phrase on the summary evaluations from the 2005 Convention evaluation sheets. Congrats to co chairs **Chuff Barden** and **Bernie Goddard** and to their steering committee: **Lynn Coffey, Gary Cummings, Shirley Cummings, Glen Dodge, Liz Dodge, Celeste Onorati, Robin Pradell and Randy Riggs**. A special acknowledgement goes to Bernie Goddard for hotel negotiations as well as for obtaining the majority of the door prizes, silent auction items and food/beverage donations. Because there was a very large proportion of donated items and because all of the hotel room requirements were met, a big convention profit was realized.

A special thank you also to all the support help that came from patrollers at the major contributing patrols at **The Summit at Snoqualmie**:

**East at Hyak:** Friday BBQ & Historical Display, Audio Visual, Decorations, Finance Golf, Registration, Program, Agenda, Name tags, Handouts  
**Central:** Hospitality Room  
**Alpental:** Silent Auction  
**West:**

Recommended topics for future years were: (1) Give tips for recruiting & retaining patrollers (2) Provide information on Fund Raising; (3) Offer training using computers in patrol administration, (4) Explain National support for programs other than OEC (Avalanche, MTR, S&T).

Although providing a business forum is the purpose of the annual division convention, it was interesting to note that less than 15% of questionnaire respondents were patrol directors/unit representatives or region directors. On the

other hand, over half of questionnaire respondents were OEC instructors, one-third were S&T Instructors, and nearly one third instructed in more than one discipline. Several people suggested that some of the national manuals be available on consignment so they could be viewed and purchased at convention.

Next year's convention will be hosted by Southern Idaho Region and will be held in August on the second week-end, **August 11-13, 2006**. Convention chair, Bill Farnsworth, and committee are already hard at work planning the activities and the meeting agenda. They welcome early registrations (even available now

on credit card!) Early registration fee is **\$40**. So hurry and send your money in early before the price goes up! Registration forms will be available in the

Nor'Wester, at future region meetings and on-line via the division web site [www.nsp-pnwd.org](http://www.nsp-pnwd.org). The convention committee welcomes your input on suggestions for terrific

session speakers as well as donations and door prizes from any all sources. For questions, contact Convention Chair, Bill Farnsworth, [billfarnsworth@cableone.net](mailto:billfarnsworth@cableone.net) or Division Event Coordinator, Shirley Cummings, [shirleycu@msn.com](mailto:shirleycu@msn.com).

**Convention 2006  
Hosted by  
Southern Idaho Division  
August 11 - 13**



## STRATEGIC PLAN, AUGUST 2005

### Pacific Northwest Division, Nat'l Ski Patrol



#### VISION

**The Pacific Northwest Division is the foremost ski patroller association comprised of volunteer and paid patrollers, dedicated to maintaining performance standards in the ski patrol environment.**

#### MISSION

**The Pacific Northwest Division is structured to implement and administer programs that train Pacific Northwest ski patrollers. The main purpose of the ski patroller is to deliver up-dated, quality emergency care and rescue services to the skiing and outdoor-recreation public. The Pacific Northwest Division is an integral part of the National Ski Patrol System, Inc.**

1. Maintain a membership base for ski patrol related safety and rescue services.
  - a. Recruit and retain competent patrollers on the patrol level.
  - b. Encourage continued training by patrollers in all of the various disciplines.
  - c. Encourage community outreach by setting up avalanche and MTR awareness courses open to the general public.
  - d. Recruit qualified individuals for Ski Patrol tryouts.
  - e. Initiate PNWD ski patrollers into Medical Reserve Corp units are made up of locally based medical and public health volunteers who can assist their communities during emergencies
  - f. Assist with General Outreach to Skiing Public to achieve training, recognitions, recruiting and support to:
    - Positively encourage skiers to ski safely
    - Reward individual skiers with some form of recognition for good, safe skiing (i.e. wearing helmets, showing concern for others, helping out)
    - Answer public questions as needed
  - g. Assist with other targeted outreach in off-hill public events
    - Athletic events.
2. Promote the use of NSP-related training materials and performance standards as the basic acceptable level of performance for all patrollers.
  - a. Provide training programs that complement NSP programs to meet local needs through directed PNWD task forces.
  - b. Set up a PNWD task force to determine appropriate training achievement standards for PNWD review
  - c. Evaluate consistency with standards for all discipline training within PNWD
  - d. Improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the Mentoring Program.
  - e. Assign mentors to new recruits or trainees—to call and check in on progress, answer questions, invite to ski, etc
3. Provide educational resources, services, training, and products to PNWD members.
  - a. Disseminate NSP materials at the local patrol level through discipline channels.
    - Provide literature review and news broadcast on the divisional level concerning educational materials complementary to NSP programs
4. Interface with host ski areas regarding patrol operations.
  - a. Provide divisional assistance to local patrols in patrol operations as requested.
  - b. Set up a databank of "good ideas" for ski patrol operations.
  - c. Establish mutually agreed upon targets for ski patrol training, staffing, and performance evaluation with appropriate organizations.
    - PNSAA
    - APP
    - Work with the individual area operators to insure that volunteer patrol staffing levels are adequate to provide on the hill coverage at all times.
    - Integrate paid and volunteer patroller training and evaluation programs to the extent practicable.
  - d. Create a PNWD network focused on area operation managers to establish communication channels.
    - Periodically survey all ski areas within our division boundaries regarding training concerns and needs with feedback to the patrols
    - Serve as a focal point to gather information for benefits, performance, and quality of service comparisons between ski areas within the PNWD geographic.
5. Provide leadership and education opportunities for ski patrol members.
  - a. Obtain a 25% increase in Instructor Development certification in five years.
  - b. Obtain a level of 50% qualified instructors in all given disciplines among patrollers of five or more years tenure.
  - c. Expand the PES program to become unique to the PNWD to offer leadership training opportunities, information dissemination, and patroller comprehension of NSP and PNWD background.
    - Establish a PNWD Task Force to examine and publish leadership opportunities.
  - d. Plan existing programs more in advance with
    - Specific locations and times advertised and posted through Division and Region channels
  - e. Establish a Public Relations committee to coordinate media outreach
    - To draft press releases, focusing on Patrollers of distinction;
    - To build and maintain list of media contacts at major print and news broadcast media, including community newspapers
    - To occasionally coordinate media around high value Patrol activities to educate the public about patrol activities
    - Assist with general media outreach concerning ski patroller activities and actions of distinguished service.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS EXECUTIVE MEETING - FRIDAY AUGUST 12, 2005

### PACIFIC NORTHWEST DIVISION, NATIONAL SKI PATROL

Friday, August 12, 2005  
SeaTac Marriott Hotel  
2:10 p.m. to 3:35 p.m.  
SeaTac, Washington

*Names per sign in sheet:*

**Board Members present:** Barbara Dixon, DD; Rod Legg, Mt. Hood RD; Sue Garcia, Inland Empire, RD; Dave Ulrich, Southern Idaho RD; Michael Ryan, Northwest RD; Josie Elting, Oregon RD.

**Officers & Advisors Present:** Dolores LaLiberte, Controller; Ann Werner, Secretary; Al Richardson, Legal; Don Keenan, Sr./Certified; Dave Herfindahl, Medical; Ed Gately, Avalanche; Lynn Coffey, Registrar; Dixy Campbell, Auxiliary; Anne Greenwood, Awards.

**Others Present:** Gary Deaver, Pro Director 49° N; Chuck Hemphill, PD Alpentail; Nancy Kirner for John Kirner, PD Crystal Mt.; Charles Butrick, PD Bogus Basin; Mike Skeels, representing Mt. Bachelor; Liz Dodge, PD Summit at Snoqualmie-Central; Bill Melvin, PD Mt. Spokane; Tom Stewart, PD Payette Lakes; Celeste Onorati, PD Summit at Snoqualmie-West.

All present were introduced and a quorum of voting members was established.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Baseball type hats in various colors were distributed to Region Directors and Division staff to provide a visible source of contact for any patroller wanting information during the Convention.

Division rosters are being completed to be distributed Saturday at breakfast.

Barbara discussed the plans for the Saturday Patrol Director's breakfast and the Sunday Advisor's breakfast. Saturday the Region Directors are to meet with their Patrol Directors to plan specific dates for training, evaluations, etc. Sunday will give the Division Advisors a chance to meet with their Region Advisors to make plans, set dates, provide information, etc.

**Registration.** Lynn Coffey explained the current registration system for National, Division and Region. All National registration monies and forms will be sent directly to National by the patrols. Division and Region membership monies and registrations will be sent to Division and then Region monies will be returned to the Region as was done last year.

**Sr./Certified program.** Don Keenan discussed his reasons for the meeting on Saturday. Managing risk during Sr. skiing and toboggan evaluations is required

including attention to the safety of the candidates. He feels many times the Sr. program evaluations are too arduous which can result in injuries. He states the Association of Professional Patrollers (APP) which completes the Certified Program requires a technically difficult but not arduous evaluation. This needs to be discussed Division wide to get consistency and fairness in the testing.

Minutes from the Spring Executive Board meeting, April 30, 2005, were distributed to the Region Directors. Motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes. Motion passed.

#### OLD BUSINESS

**Credit card machine.** The machine has been purchased. Use must be established with each specific bank and a minimum 3-month fee paid to use credit cards during Division Conventions. Liz and Glen Dodge will give the information to Dolores LaLiberte and Bill Farnsworth.

**Budget.** Dolores LaLiberte presented the proposed budget for discussion prior to presentation at the Board of Directors meeting. Changes were made in the Expenses-Administrative section for the purchase of a LCD projector to be used during budget discussions. Charles Butrick, Bogus Basin PD, has access to used and refurbished machines.

**Expenses-Advisors.** Discussion was held on the cost of the Nor'wester. It was decided not to change the amount. The Alumni project, to pay the first years dues for a patroller retiring after 20 years service and joining the alumni, was discussed.

**Education Conference.** There are to be changes in the new candidate OEC testing, instructor development program, and mentoring of all disciplines. Discussion was on where and when the conference would be held and subjects to be presented. The place would be the Boy Scout Headquarters in Kennewick with dates to be arranged. Motion was made and seconded to withdraw the conference from the budget to begin planning this year and place it in next year's budget. Motion passed.

Further discussion on the date was completed with the decision to have the conference in the spring or early summer, possibly June, to avoid the fire season. Since that timing would be on this year's budget the above motion was revoked and the conference was reinstated in the budget.

**Awards.** The amount was increased per the advisor request. Money was also added to the category to allow the advisor

to attend a National Awards Advisors meeting. The National Awards Advisor is asking each of the Division Directors to fund attendance of their Division Awards Advisor as there has not been a meeting in many years and it is not likely National will fund one.

Motion was made and seconded to accept the changes to the proposed budget to be presented to the Board of Directors on Sunday. Motion passed.

Dolores LaLiberte must have the Profit/loss statement from each patrol for income tax purposes by Aug. 1 to submit the Division statement to National by October 15. She has currently received only 2. She asked each of the Region Directors to inform each of their patrols so the Region Controllers can receive the information to then send it on to the Division Controller within the correct time. Dolores will be giving a class Sat. afternoon to explain the process.

**Student Program.** Sue Garcia, Josie Elting, and Dixy Campbell. Sue thanked Rod Legg for sending information on the student program at Mt. Hood. The committee encourages all to look at the student program. There are some negatives. Students require more time for training, need more supervision, and may leave the area sooner. On the positive side they bring energy, can relate to the younger boarders and skiers, add to the experience of patrolling, and add to the sense of family when patrolling. Over the years the Pacific Northwest Division has had 3 National Outstanding students and 1 runner up. Being a student patroller fosters leadership and personal growth. We need to encourage the student program and provide patrols, areas and management the information they need to allow student programs.

**Instructor Development.** Bernie Goddard, Sue Garcia, Michael Ryan and Alan Werner are meeting. It will be part of the education conference on mentoring.

**Audit Committee.** Rod Legg chairman. The committee will meet at 5:00 p.m. on Saturday.

**Avalanche.** Ed Gately stated that the cost of copying the information to a CD is \$80/100 pages. He thinks this is too expensive and would like to have someone volunteer to scan the information.

#### REPORTS

Barb provided the Region Directors a copy of her Division Director's report that was sent to National.

**Strategic Planning.** Rod Legg reports Alan Werner has scheduled meetings this weekend. There will be a report

at the Board of Directors meeting on Sunday.

**Advisor's Reports to the Nor'wester.** Barb states the Advisors' end of the year reports from the Spring Executive meeting need to be sent to the editor of the Nor'wester as well as the Region Directors. Barb will be sure the correct people know this for next year.

#### NEW BUSINESS

**OEC Magazine.** A new magazine produced by National that will have the refresher information for the general patrollers. The magazine should be delivered to all patrollers next week. The format will be different than most patrollers are familiar with. It is hoped the new format will make the refreshers a better learning experience.

**PSAA.** Associate membership has been renewed. The Division has joined the International Federation of Ski Patrols (FIPS). This will give the PNWD an international presence.

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed. Meeting was adjourned followed by a closed session to discuss personnel and legal concerns.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Ann Werner  
PNWD Secretary*

## NEWS BRIEFS

**Retirement.** In September NSP announced the retirement of Steven Over as Executive Director to be effective December 31, 2005.

**Membership.** PNWD joins FIPS (Federation Internationale Des Patrouilles De Ski) As you may read in the minutes we have joined FIPS along with four other Divisions. For more information log on to [www.fips.cam.org](http://www.fips.cam.org). More articles and information will follow in the next Nor'Wester issues.



## GENERAL MEETING - SUNDAY, AUGUST 14, 2005

### PACIFIC NORTHWEST DIVISION, NATIONAL SKI PATROL

SeaTac Marriott  
8:45 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.  
SeaTac, Washington

#### Names per sign in sheet:

**Voting Members Present:** Barbara Dixon, Division Director; Michael Ryan, NW RD; John Kirner, PD; Harold Heacock, proxy PD; Bruce Rustad, PD; Walt Langkit, PD; Liz Dodge, PD; Celeste Onorati, PD; Charles Hemphill, PD; Rod Legg, Mt. Hood, RD; Jim Trent, proxy PD; Kathy Lee, proxy PD; Larry Cahill, proxy PD; Steve Eversmeyer, PD; Jodie Jeffers, PD; Sue Garcia, Inland Empire RD; Bill Melvin, PD; Penelope Geisler, PD; Bob Johnson, proxy PD; Jack Andrews, proxy PD; Bob VanMeer, proxy PD; Becky Aldrich, proxy PD; Josie Elting, Oregon RD; Mike Skeels, proxy PD; Jane San Romani, PD; Don Elting, proxy PD; Wayne Deeter, PD; Don Tilton, PD; Dave Ulrich, Southern Idaho RD; Charles Butrick, PD; Steve Myatt, proxy PD; Brain Fullen, PD, Thacher Carter, PD; Tom Stewart, PD.

**Non-voting members present:** Blaine Price, Randy Riggs, Doug Burchard, Norman Onorati, Alan Werner, Mike Graves, Rosalind Liston-Riggs, Chuck Aldrich, Tim Heffron, Alex Boutacoff, David Herfindahl, Kristina Hines, Phoebe Duke, Jacquelyn Bratcher, Ed Gately, Chuck Coffey, Ed Stolarik, Bill Wassberg, Bob Streich, Jim Trett, Bob Garner, Deb Garcia, Jim Whittaker, Tom Fellows, Shirley Cummings, John Jones, Alex Kerr, Nancy Espelin, Roger Gresley, Al Richardson, Robin Ulrich, Andy Youngblood, Dixy Campbell, James Dodge, Laurie Coventry, Bret Chytras, Anne Greenwood, Archie San Romani, Jim Benton, Glen Dodge, Roger Parks, Don Keenan, Robert Schroeder, Bill Farnsworth, Scott Putnam, Karen King,

Carol Fountain, Nancy Kirner, Frank Rossi, Jan Stanford, Dave Ackley, Rob Stanford, Robert Johnson, Bob Barci, Gary Cummings, Brenda Steinbach, Sonia VanDeBrake, Janet Andrews, Linda Nelson, John Beery, Kathy Alexander, Andrew Lonestreth, Mike Gooderham, Patty Gooderham, Daniel Baker, Ken Hoffman, David Benson, Gary Deaver, Brian Merryman, Chuff Barden, Dave Leonard, Nicole Dodge.

**Others present:** Meyer Avedovech, National Awards Advisor; Dick Everett, National Board, Terry LaLiberte, National Board

Roll call was taken with a quorum of voting members established. Division Convention committee 2005 was introduced and presented with Thank You certificates.

Motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the August, 2004 Board of Directors meeting. Motion passed.

Bill Farnsworth presented information on the 2006 Division Convention to be held in Boise, Idaho August 10-13, 2006.

**Treasurer's Report.** Dolores LaLiberte. The Division ended the year with a net income due to no spending because of the lack of snow.

**Budget Presentation.** Dolores LaLiberte. The proposed budget was presented with an explanation of the Advisor expenses. Special Projects: Bernie Goddard explained the Alumni project which is the Division will pay the first year dues for patrollers joining the alumni program after a 20 year patrolling career.

A survey of area owner/managers was done in Far West Division. This will provide information on programs available

through the NSP to the area. The survey will also be sent to areas not currently in the NSP system. Education conference is to be an inter discipline meeting with instructor development mentoring in the morning and discipline specific meetings to discuss programs in the afternoon. All Division Advisors would attend, Regions would send as many of their advisors as possible. The conference was unable to be scheduled this year and is being planned for May 20, 2006 in Kennewick, WA. Harold Heacock will arrange hotel availability and meeting rooms. S&T travel was explained in that the Region Directors are to visit neighboring regions to observe the program. The plan is to have the Directors go to a different region the coming year.

Motion was made and seconded to accept the budget as presented. Discussion was held on travel for advisors. Motion passed.

**Audit Committee.** Rod Legg. Region directors met with the controller to review the financial reports for the year. They reviewed all expenses and the investment strategy for the future. The PNWD is in good financial health with no major discrepancies discovered. Questions were answered. The suggestion for future investment to have current money market funds placed into certificate of deposits will be taken under advisement.

**Strategic Planning.** Alan Werner. The task force met over the weekend. The strategic plan is to be considered a roadmap for division business with 5 strategic goals, objectives under the goals and action plans for most. They will be placed on the Website, in the Nor'wester, and sent to the Patrol Directors for comments. Alan expressed thanks to the members: Harold Heacock, Lyle Sheen, Myer Avedovech, Rod Legg,

Don Gardner, Jack Walker and others who provided information, Terry LaLiberte and Barb Dixon.

**Registration.** Lynn Coffey restated the changes for this year. National dues will be sent by patrols to National with separate checks sent to Division for the Division and Region dues. Contact Lynn for questions. Information will be sent to the Patrol Directors.

Region Directors have been issued Division rosters. Packets for registration will be coming from the National office.

**OEC magazine.** Jim Benton provided information on the new magazine published by National, "On Scene." The Refresher study guide is published in the magazine with some changes in the way it is presented. Jim says, "Read, follow the directions and bring to the refresher completely filled out." It is hoped patrollers will enjoy the new information. Some patrols have already completed their OEC refresher for the coming year. It is hoped the magazine will be distributed earlier next year.

**Instructor Development.** There is an electronic version and a new manual out. It is possible to take the course on line. Bernie Goddard will send copies of the CD to those instructors requesting them.

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed. Barbara announced after a short break the session will be reconvened for discussion on National Issues and all members will have a voice and a vote.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ann Werner,  
PNWD Secretary



## GENERAL SESSION ON NATIONAL ISSUES

### PACIFIC NORTHWEST DIVISION, NATIONAL SKI PATROL

SeaTac Marriott  
August 14, 2006  
SeaTac, Washington

Barbara Dixon gave a short history on recent past occurrences. There have been concerns expressed by Divisions of NSP about governance, national board membership, objects in catalogs among other topics. Some of these have been voiced to the national board. Eastern, Central and Rocky Mountain Divisions have presented questions and suggestions for change to National. Barb Dixon

was asked how the PNWD felt and she stated she supported the other DD's but wanted to wait until our meeting in August before answering about the PNWD.

An article in the June Nor'wester informed patrollers about information available listing concerns through the Hank Steiner site. In that article it was suggested Terry LaLiberte, National Board member and Barb could be contacted for additional information.

Members were allowed to state their concerns. It was hoped that a solution could be given with each concern stated.

Voting to determine the major concerns would occur at the end of the meeting.

The following concerns, possible solutions and their position in the voting are listed as follows:

1. The National Board does not fund any programs other than OEC. There have not been any other Division advisor meetings for other programs. Solution: National Board funds meetings for Division advisors to meet with National advisors. Unanimous
2. NSP has become a member oriented group or a professional organi-

zation which gives just a card for belonging. NSP needs to work for the patroller, not the converse. Unanimous

3. NSP leadership should have a geographical context for representation. This was a unanimous concern but a return to the previous numbers on the Board was not recommended.

4. Members must have a direct vote in the conduct of NSP. Unanimous concern

5. NSP needs to return to a rescue organization. Very few felt this was a concern.

Continued on page 6



## GENERAL SESSION ON NATIONAL ISSUES *(continued from page 5)*

### PACIFIC NORTHWEST DIVISION, NATIONAL SKI PATROL



6. NSP is a ski patrol organization not an outdoor recreation organization. Unanimous concern

7. The most valuable thing received from NSP is the OEC program. Not a concern, only one vote in favor

8. Patrollers need clear, calm, thoughtful, factual, timely, and truthful communication from the Board. Unanimous concern.

9. Term limits need to be set and the executive committee eliminated. Few were interested in eliminating the executive committee; however, many felt the term limits were far more important. Unanimous.

10. The NSP Board represents the patroller not the converse. Unanimous. This was determined to be a solution.

11. Where did the NSP Board get the direction to change the mission statement? This was restated that the NSP Board needs to revisit the mission statement and work with the Strategic plan. Unanimous concern

12. More attention needs to be paid to the quality control of products sold and fabricated by NSP. First editions of the manuals should be high quality. There should be some consistency through having the same reviewers throughout the process. Unanimous

13. We perform for the area with training provided by the NSP. This was felt to be a statement that most patrollers agree with. Unanimous agreement

14. NSP should be promoting the patrollers and their abilities to the area owners/land owners and public. Unanimous.

15. NSP board/employees/staff need to continue to attend Division meetings to hear our thoughts. The dialogue needs to go both ways. This was felt to be a solution and needs to be continued to improve. Unanimous

16. Has NSP Board accountability to patrollers disappeared? What matrices exist and can be demonstrated for accountability? Identify the checks and balances. Unanimous.

17. There needs to be ways to promote and integrate professional patrollers into the NSP programs. This was felt to be a local patrol issue that each patrol needs to address. Unanimous

18. Hold a National Board/National convention with patrol representatives. Unanimous. This was felt to be a solution.

National Board representatives, Dick Everett and Terry LaLiberte addressed the group in rebuttal to the above concerns. There was agreement they need to be out listening to patrollers concerns. The election and voting issues are in a task force that includes 3 Division Directors. Time is required to work out the issues. Dick stated this was the first time he had heard about the Quality control issues. He asked to have feedback ASAP when quality control issues are found. He will take the information back to the Board.

Communication issues are recognized. The issue has always been getting the communication up and down the line. It is important for the patrollers to communicate with the Board as well as the board with the patrollers. The geographical representation did not always keep the line of communication clear.

One solution submitted by a member of the session was to hold a National forum with a general session in the morning, breakout in groups for the afternoon, then come back together for problem solving.

Term limits are being evaluated by the governance committee. The Board recognizes it may have been a mistake to change them.

The Mission statement is not a fixed item. Mission statements must change as the world changes. Dick stated the Board looks at it every 6 months when they meet. He says they need good constructive feedback from the patrollers. NSP does have a "radar screen" (strategic plan) as well as a mission statement.

They recognize there is much talent that can help solve problems. It is important to have patrollers step forward and volunteer.

The NSP Board is looking at things like liability insurance. This seems to be a money dependent item depending upon inflation. It is a last resort insurance that takes effect after all other insurances have been used.

Dick challenged the group to bring issues back with solutions or possibilities of solutions.

He asked, "Has what has transpired at National had a negative impact on the patrollers in their areas?"

One patroller responded, "There is a feeling of disenfranchisement of the patrollers. They feel they are an instructor bank potential, a money source or a liability."

Another responded that area managers are questioning the value of an organization that has poor communication with their members. Area managers want a strong NSP or they may feel they do not need the NSP.

Dick responded NSP and NSAA have formulated a task force to determine some of the issues between NSP and NSAA and the above questions. There is no report at this time.

Another patroller responded that the Board needs to make the membership

comfortable with the idea they will respond back to questions and concerns.

Terry LaLiberte stated he joined the NSP Board because he felt it was important to make changes from within. The PNWD concerns are much the same as those presented in June. At that time the major issues were divided between the major committees on the Board for discussion and possible changes.

Terry stated he tries to respond to all communications. Change takes time but they will happen. It is important to be cohesive from bottom to top. Communication is always a major issue. The Board will continue to keep working on the issues.

They are unable to answer questions on the issues until all committees have reviewed the issues. All this takes time.

Terry stated a report on the issues will be in January at the Board meeting. Information will be available through the website in the minutes from the Board meeting.

Harold Heacock read a statement: "We members of the PNWD support open meetings with the Division Directors and the Board to discuss issues of concern and possible solutions." He also read, "This group of National Ski Patrol members expresses its concern regarding recent actions by the NSP Board of Directors. We endorse the PNW Division Director's actions regarding the concerns expressed by this group of registered ski patrollers."

Barb stated the issues will be put on the website, given to the region directors and patrol directors. She would like to have solutions returned to her by October 1, 2005.

She then thanked all for their attendance and their patience.

## INFORMATION AFFECTING THE DIVISION

### BARB DIXON - PNWD DIVISION DIRECTOR

Last May and early June I disseminated information to Division members via and NSP E Blast and my Division Director's quarterly article in the Nor' Wester.

The E blast was sent by Hank Steiner with my proof and permission using my code for sending to members. The message contained information regarding the previous Patroller's Committee meeting in Detroit and how to obtain more information if you so desired.

The Nor' Wester article referred to political discussions occurring and where to go for further information - Hank Steiner's email, Terry LaLiberte email and my own.

I have been sanctioned for those actions and those sanctions will ultimately affect this Division.

The NSP Exec Committee, with the consensus of the NSP Board of Directors, found that I used NSP assets (NSP email broadcast server and PNWD

newsletter, Nor' Wester) to encourage NSP members to visit another "organization's" website believed to be a potential competitor. They informed me that my NSP user information was non-transferable and that even after I had reviewed the message I should have known that I was doing harm to the NSP.

In light of that finding I have lost the Division Director email access for the period of one year. Any broadcasts must be sent to Steve Over for approval/review

and broadcast. In addition the Subaru sponsored vehicle privileges are permanently suspended.

Within 60 days of notification of those sanctions and accusations I appealed the following: I did not intentionally try to harm the NSP. I was not aware that I could not send an E blast (that had been approved) through another source. The E blast and the Nor' Wester article did

*Continued bottom page 7*

## WATCH FOR KEY PRINCIPLES IN S&T - PROGRAM VALUE & GREAT INSTRUCTION

BRIAN MERRYMAN, DIVISION SKI & TOBOGGAN ADVISOR  
bmerryman@msn.com (360) 446-7838

**Roger Gresley Steps Down** – Roger has retired as Division Ski & Toboggan Advisor. Dedication and hard work were tops among the attributes Roger relied on to manage S&T programs in the PNWD. He maintained a strong foundation of teamwork and sense of community. His leadership has brought us to a great point of beginning for new accomplishments. Thanks Roger, - and don't be a stranger!



### Coming Home - It's

always nice to come home! The feeling is particularly rewarding when "Home" is the place in ski patrolling that has provided some of the most memorable and rewarding times in one's patrolling experience. As I return to serve another turn in the role of Division Ski and Toboggan Advisor, I'm looking forward to meeting

new people and re-establishing contact with those I've known in the past.

**Pick a Good Route So You Won't Get Lost!** – Expect two key principals to be critical standards against which we will measure future success in S&T program activities.

**S&T programs must sell themselves on their merit.** This is the big one! Programs will be fun, they will be available, and they will return positive value to each participant. Value will be returned at all levels of skill, basic through senior; and in all types of involvement, from candidate to instructor.

**We will have the best instructors in the business.** Quality instruction is the single most effective means we have available to use in making programs sell themselves. Great Instructors enable access to knowledge. Great Instructors provide inspiration. Great Instructors

create the setting in which participants grow and learn, and are challenged to continue and learn more. Great instructors are the key element in making Ski & Toboggan programs fun and rewarding. Fun and rewarding programs "Sell Themselves"

Sounds like a pretty simple system for success. All we have to do is hunker down, get a bit of traction on the issues, and apply some good old ski patrol energy to the challenge.

**Post Script** - At this writing we've already seen the snow in the High Cascades. That can only mean one thing...Better take leave till the next Norwester article is due and work on the skis. After all, good instructors know to prepare their equipment – Sharp edges and a fresh coat of wax, and I've got to work on both. See you all on the hill!

### Nor'wester Deadlines

**October 1**  
**February 1**  
**June 1**

The Nor'wester is a quarterly publication of the Pacific Northwest Division, National Ski Patrol, a non-profit educational organization. 2,800 issues are distributed to its current membership four times a year. Please update your address with National Ski Patrol through the website. Please direct all submissions to editor/publisher, Deb Garcia, dgarcia@uci.net, 541-443-6821.

## DIXY DIVES INTO AUXILIARY

DIXY CAMPBELL, DIVISION AUXILIARY ADV.  
dixpatrol@yahoo.com  
(541) 388-4847

Well, here we are again, getting ready to start a new season. For those of you who don't know who I am, my name is Dixy Campbell and I'm the new Auxiliary Division Advisor. I'm still not real comfortable with my new position but as time goes on and the moral dive in I'm sure it will become old hat.

I missed last year's convention and it was practically in my backyard. I'd had prior commitments before I'd realized I'd like to go. This year I made it to the Seattle convention and they did a

spectacular job with it. Thank you to all those who participated in putting it on. I learned a lot. Met a lot of people and had a great time to boot. I'm really looking forward to next year's convention in Idaho. Anyone who can get away to go really should experience it.

I had the opportunity to meet with several other Auxiliary Patrollers and discuss the varying ways we differ and are similar in our different patrols. I plan to contact those of you I didn't get the opportunity to meet with, to discuss the same. I'd like to know the Auxiliary's role on your particular mountain. I look forward to speaking with each of you and hope to meet you in the future.

Until next time, I hope you all have a snow filled season. Happy skiing!



## AVALANCHE TRAINING TIME - COURSES AND RESOURCES

ED GATELY, DIVISION AVALANCHE ADVISOR  
edgately@att.net (509) 327-3756

The snow is falling; refreshers are happening. It looks like the ski season might have a good start. I hope those of you who plan on skiing where avalanches can happen have gotten a chance to get out and look at the terrain you will be skiing.

The instructors who were at the convention discussed the possibilities of our putting on avalanche awareness classes, these classes only need to be three hours or less. This would be a great service to the skiing public and other winter enthusiasts including snowmobile riders. I think a small charge for this service maybe a way to support individual programs.

The National Avalanche School phase I, starts on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of October. I know this school is fairly expensive but it is sure worth the money. If this school is beyond your means, I would suggest the possibilities of attending the phase II, which is less expensive. A phase II will be held at Crystal Mountain sometime in January.

Many instructors are planning Avalanche courses this year and I wanted to make sure that each of you knows we have a fairly good set of audio-visual aids. That includes the following.

- Weather 2 slide sets 1 pour point set
- Route finding slides
- Avalanche path recognition slides
- Rescue equipment slides
- Rescue technique slides
- Most of the videos that are out.
- Plus more

Please let me know if I can be of assistance or if you want to use any of the above aids

Ed

## INFORMATION AFFECTING THE DIVISION (CONT.)

*Continued from page 6*

not suggest visiting a competitors website. I was not allowed a hearing.

It has been 30 days since my appeal and I have had no word from the Chairman. However, the sanctions have been put in place regardless. E blasts must be reviewed and the Subaru has been recalled without another being issued.

I believe these sanctions will limit my ability to communicate with the Division members as well as add a financial burden to this Division and I have sent a

sworn affidavit to that effect. I had hoped the appeal would be addressed and that the sanctions would not be put in place (as required in the Policies & Procedures) until that resolution. That not being the case, I felt it extremely important to let the members know the situation. It has always and only been my goal to keep this Division informed on all levels and allow members to form their own opinions. I'm sorry that the National Board viewed my efforts in any other way.

## INLAND EMPIRE REGION EXPERIENCING SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENTS TO AREAS & SERVICES - NEXT, SNOW!

SUE GARCIA, INLAND EMPIRE REGION DIRECTOR  
sgarcia@theofficenet.com (509) 935-6659

Today (October 2), I walked through the first snow of the year on the top of 49, and it was cold and exciting. Let's hope we see and feel many feet of it this year.

First, I'd like to thank the outstanding group of patrollers who resigned from Inland Empire Region positions this Spring, for their service and dedication; this includes Craig Schwynn (region director), Kim Degenhardt (OEC Adviser), Vicki Brooks (Secretary), Larry Briney (Legal Adviser) and Nancy Espelin (Treasurer/Registrar). Craig and Nancy both agreed to stay on in new positions as Section Chief and Senior Coordinator.

Second, I welcome our new group of volunteers, including Brenda Steinbach and Becky Aldrich as OEC Co-Advisers, Sonja Van DeBrake (Secretary), Rick DeBenedetto (Treasurer/Registrar), Doug Siddoway (Legal), Robert Garner (Awards), Deb Essig (Auxiliary) and Jon Mathis (Apple Valley Section). Brenda and Becky have already done an outstanding job of organizing OEC mentoring and IT Refresher and OEC class supervision this fall.

Our fall region meeting Sept. 17 had outstanding attendance, with 12/15 region officers/advisers and representatives from 5/9 areas. Guests included

Division Director Barb Dixon and Division Instructor Development Adviser Bernie Goddard. Bernie did a clear and succinct job of reviewing the instructor development process, and explaining to region leaders how to improve the mentoring process. Barb created some excitement by announcing the division all-adviser/instructor conference to be held in Kennewick May 20.

Several patrol representatives announced significant improvements to their areas or area services. Mission Ridge is completing installation of a new high speed quad lift, which replaces Chair 2. Dick Zollars (ask him why his new name is "Lucky"), of Look Out, reports more runs have been cleared, anticipating installation of a third chairlift next summer. Jack Andrews, of Silver Mountain, reports that the new mountain condominiums sold out in an evening, and a new year-round water park is to be built near the base of the gondola. Penelope Geisler, of 49 Degrees North, reports that 49 intends to finish burning off several hundred acres of new terrain as soon as cooler weather allows.

Most refreshers in the region will have been completed by the time this goes to print, but if you still need to at-

tend one, the two latest are 49's on October 22 and 23 and Loup Loup's on Nov. 5 and 6.

The remainder of the region schedule is as follows:

**S and T/OEC Calibration Clinic**  
Mt. Spokane Jan 7-8

**Senior Clinic**  
Silver Mountain Jan. 14-15

**Senior Clinic**  
Mission Ridge Jan. 21-22

**Snowboard Clinic**  
49 Degrees North Feb. 18-19  
Contact Janet Andrews at 208-660-8757

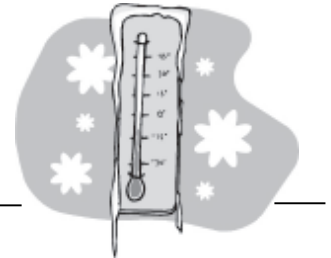
**Senior Evaluation**  
49 Degrees North Feb. 25-26

For more information regarding these clinics, contact Becky Aldrich at 509-884-6060, Brenda Steinbach at 208-773-4077 or Bill Bernhardt at 509-989-1635.

Avalanche 1	November 25
Avalanche 1 and 2	November 26
Avalanche 2	Dec. 17/18
Avalanche 2	Dec. 31

For information regarding avalanche, contact Eric Geisler at 208-686-1380.

On a final note, you'd have to have been out of the country and away from email not to have heard some controversy this summer regarding NSP and its value to the average patroller. Please remember that we are an almost entirely volunteer organization and rely on already busy people to step up to organize and make your opinions heard. We, the patrollers, are the NSP, and it will always be our responsibility to keep it that way. If you don't take the time to vote, don't complain about the outcome. Those of us who live in Washington know that one vote does matter. And, most of all, pray for powder...lots and lots of powder.



## OREGON REGION

JOSIE ELTING, OR REGION DIRECTOR  
imaginejosie@yahoo.com

The Oregon Region Annual Meeting was hosted by Willamette Pass on September 25th, our thanks to Willamette Pass Ski Area, Patrol Director, Laurie Monico and her crew. Anne Greenwood was presented with a plaque in appreciation of her past service as Region Controller. Also board members were recognized for 10 years or 100 hours of service to the Oregon Region with striking white polo shirts trimmed with red and black and embroidered with the Oregon Region logo. New Assistant Advisors, John Berry (OEC) and Rick Scher (S&T) were welcomed to the board as were the new additions of Mike Skeels, Instructor Development, Fred Bartel, Controller and Special Projects Advisor, Anne Greenwood. Advisor reports were given, the budget approved and the training/events calendar established. Please check the Oregon Region Website for the Board Advisors and Directors as well as the calendar of events and training. OEC classes and Patrol refreshers are in full swing. Please see our website at [www.nsp-oregon.org](http://www.nsp-oregon.org) for more details.

## SO. IDAHO REGION GETS READY FOR THE SEASON WITH TRAINING AND TESTING

DAVE ULRICH, SOUTHERN IDAHO REGION DIRECTOR  
dulrich@micron.com (801) 369-2731

Greetings! We have snow at some areas, not a lot but hopefully just a taste of what is to come yet this winter. As of this writing I have attended three Refreshers (Spout Springs/Ferguson Ridge, Anthony Lakes and Bogus Basin). All Instructors of Record (IOR's) and Instructors have been doing an excellent job preparing and putting on these refreshers. Patrollers came prepared and ready to refresh, exhibiting great participation and enthusiasm. There are two refreshers to go, (Payette Lakes, Nov. 5-6 and Soldier Mountain, Nov. 12-13). I look forward to attending these refreshers also.

There is a new twist to Basic Candidate Training this season, which was presented at the summer Convention. If you are a trainer for your Patrol, all Patrol Directors were at the Convention and can share this new material and direction with you. Hopefully they have already done this if you have a class in process and going. For those other Patrollers interested in the new process, please get

with your Patrol Director or Trainer. I feel that it is going to be a great program and insure consistency across the Nation. The Senior Program at a Divisional level is being looked at also. The RD's and Division S&T Advisor have had one conference call and will be having another with the S&T Regional Advisors also. The goal is to bring consistency from region to region across the Division. At present it is a work in process, but hope to have more information on this in the future. This is one of the subjects that all Regions are covering at their Regional Meetings.

Southern Idaho Region Meeting is October 15th at Wallowa Lake, Oregon. All Patrol Directors will be there and will bring back to the Patrols a report about what is happening at Region. All Patrollers are welcome to come join us in the beautiful Eagle Cap Mountains. Spout Springs is the Host Patrol and Tom Fellows is the contact.

Senior will be held at Soldier Mountain

Patrol as the Host this year. It will be around the first of March and I invite all Patrollers to attend. We have a two-day format, Skiing and OEC on Saturday and Toboggan on Sunday. Just a reminder that for those Senior Candidates we do have two Senior Clinics, one the first of January and one the first of February. Please make sure that you attend one of these, or both. The dates and locations will be forthcoming after our Region Meeting.

Convention 2006 will be in Boise, Idaho, hosted by Bogus Basin Patrol, August 10-13. The Contact is Bill Farnsworth. More to come on this - Bill and his team are well in process and working hard to make this a great Convention. Hope to see you all in Boise.

If any Patroller in the Region has an issue or question on anything, please feel free to contact me via email at (dulrich@micron.com) or call me at (801-369-2731). Thank you for letting me be your RD. Let it Snow!

## SKI FLIGHT ANNUAL REPORT - 2006

JACK MELILL, ADVISOR

JACK.MELILL@JUNO.COM (425) 313-4632

### 40 TH ANNIVERSARY FOR SKI FLIGHT

With Special Tour to Innsbruck, Austria

February 3-11, 2006 is the scheduled date for Ski Flight's 2006 special anniversary tour to the Olympic town of Innsbruck, Austria.

This unique trip features stays at a 4-star hotel, Tyrolean dinner and festivities, patrol exchanges, lift passes, Bobsled Night, 3-day Vienna or Ski Safari backcountry (guided skiing) extensions. All priced with RT air and transfers for a low cost of \$1699.

Ski Flight, founded in 1965 by Curt Beam then PNWD Director, as a fundraiser has provided over \$10,000 in revenue for the division's general fund as well as providing valuable exchanges of patrol lore, avalanche, rescue and first aid techniques. Curt was succeeded by Scott Chambers until 1985 when Jack Melill, the present advisor, took over.

In 2005, ten Ski Flighters visited St. Anton, Austria where due to heavy

snows and avalanche fatalities a planned exchange meeting was not feasible. In previous years Ski Flight has visited: Kitzbuhl, Lillehammer, Cortina, Val d'Isere, Sophia, Bulgaria, Slovak Republic, Czech Republic, Slovenia, Meribel, Sere Chevalier, Davos, Saint Moritz, Russia and skied the Haute (high) Route of Austria at the request of the Austrian Government.

Much practical and useful information has been learned as well as experiencing new cultures and ideas. Also a lot of practical hands-on experience. Plus the fun and pleasure of skiing with our European counterparts.

Since 9/11 participation has dropped dramatically but hopefully Ski Flight and its fund raising is returning to its former levels with the Innsbruck tour.

Jack C Melill  
Ski Flight Advisor since 1985

# Ski Flight

## INNSBRUCK ANNIVERSARY TOUR - FEBRUARY 3 - 11

JACK MELILL, ADVISOR

JACK.MELILL@JUNO.COM (425) 313-4632

### GALA ANNIVERSARY TOUR SET FOR INNSBRUCK, AUSTRIA

Feb, 3 to Feb 11

### SUPERB TRAINING AND EXCHANGES

Innsbruck as capital of the Tyrol headquarters all the rescue organizations in the region. Patrol events and training are being planned. We have already confirmed a bobsled running evening with the Austrian bobsled team.

### INNSBRUCK 2006

Holder of two world Winter Olympics (1964 and 1976), Innsbruck has much to offer, six ski areas plus nearby Kitzbuhl Stubai Glacier and St. Anton guarantees good skiing. Join Ski Flight for this special 40th anniversary trip when we visit Austria.

### THE CITY IS A CULTURAL EXPERIENCE

Built in the 12th century, Innsbruck treasures are open to all. Walk its streets past the Golden Roof, Ambras Castle, The Imperial Palace, theaters, museums, opera houses and much more. Combine this with fantastic skiing and the surrounding mountain beauty, Innsbruck is hard to top.

### SIGN-UP FLYER

The tour, priced at \$1699, is over half sold-out but there is still time to sign up. Please contact me to receive a flyer with full details.

### QUESTIONS

Call or e-mail Jack Melill Ski Flight Advisor at 425 313 4632 or Jack.Melill@Juno.com

## 2004-2005 AWARDS

ANNE GREENWOOD, AWARDS ADVISOR  
anne@green-woods.com (503) 399-35318

### NATIONAL AWARDS

#### National Outstanding Alpine Patroller Gold Merit Star

Ed Gately Silver Mountain

#### National Outstanding Nordic Patroller – Gold Merit Star

Bill Rostad Hyak

#### National Outstanding Auxiliary Patroller – Gold Merit Star

Tom Yadon Crystal Mt.

#### National Runner-Up Alpine Patrol (large)

Silver Merit Star  
Summit at Snoqualmie - Central

#### National Runner-Up Student Patroller

Silver Merit Star  
Forrest Schwyn Mt. Spokane

#### National Runner-Up Administrative Patroller

Silver Merit Star  
Michael Ryan Crystal Mt.

#### National Runner-Up Professional Patroller

Silver Merit Star  
Gary Deaver 49 Degrees North

#### Yellow Merit Stars

Charles Hemphill, Alpentel, Outstanding Patrol Representative  
Karen Alfonso-King, Bogus Basin, Outstanding Instructor

### Unit Citation

Ferguson Ridge Ski Patrol

### Distinguished Service Award

Eric Geisler

### DIVISION AWARDS

#### Outstanding Alpine Patroller

Gary Cummings Summit East Hyak

#### Outstanding Auxiliary Patroller

Celeste Onorati Snoqualmie Pass

#### Outstanding Nordic Patroller

Steve Oder Santiam Pass

#### Outstanding Instructor

Walt Langkait Summit East Hyak

#### Outstanding Student Patroller

Kristy Hines Mt. Spokane

#### Outstanding Patrol Representative

Liz Dodge Summit at Snoqualmie -Central

#### Outstanding Professional Patroller

Bernie Goddard Summit at Snoqualmie

#### Outstanding Large Alpine Patrol

49 Degrees North

#### DD's Outstanding Administrator

Bernie Goddard

### DD's Distinguished Serv

Harold Heacock

### Division Outstanding Instructors

Alpine Ski & Toboggan: Russ Purnell, Alpentel  
Avalanche: Douglas Burchard, Snoqualmie Pass  
OEC: Walt Langkait, Summit Hyak

### National Appointments

Rick Kruger #10198, Mt. Hood  
Clare Olson #10148, Soldier Mountain  
Gary Champlin #10146, Soldier Mountain  
Brenda Steinbach #10276, Silver Mountain  
Dave Warnica #10262, Mt. Spokane  
Robin Ulrich #8371, Soldier Mountain  
Karen Alfonso-King #10236, Bogus Basin

### Blue Merit Stars

*Life Saving Attempt*  
Evan Neumann, Summit Central Professional Staff  
Jessie McCoy, Summit Central Professional Staff  
Joe Uffelman, Santiam Pass





















### Green Merit Stars

Greg Bauermeister, Crystal Mt.  
Bill Brousseau, Crystal Mt.  
Mick Garson, Crystal Mt.






### Yellow Merit Stars

Jason Gaylor, Summit Central Professional Staff  
John Kemple, Summit Central Professional Staff  
Sarah Robinson, Lookout Pass


## PACIFIC NORTHWEST DIVISION ADMINISTRATION & ADVISORS

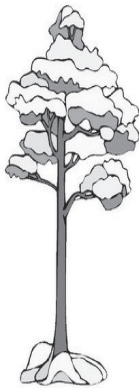
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## PACIFIC NORTHWEST DIVISION ADMINISTRATION & ADVISORS (cont.)

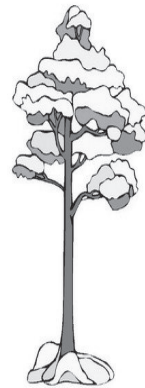
<p><b>ALPINE SKI/TOBOGGAN</b>                  Brian Merryman                  13520 Military Road                  Rainer, WA 98576                  Res/Bus: 360-446-7838                  bmerryman@msn.com</p>		<p><b>SNOWBOARDS</b>                  Bob Barci                  36110 SE 25th                  Falls City, WA 98024                  (425) 222-5058                  bobbb@redlinebicycles.com</p>		<p><b>AVALANCHE</b>                  Ed Gately                  5819 N. Birch Place                  Spokane, WA 99205                  (509) 327-3756                  edgately@att.net</p>	
<p><b>MT. TRAVEL &amp; RESCUE</b>                  Frank Rossi                  8031 128th Ave SE                  Newcastle, WA 98056                  (425) 271-8114                  rossifp@nwlink.com</p>			<p><b>SENIOR/CERTIFIED</b>                  Don Keenan                  Box 351                  Jacksonville, OR 97530                  (541) 899-1234                  dee@ramahmaus.com</p>		

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Most of the above photos are courtesy of Barb Dixon. We are asking everyone in these charts to please make a photo available for publication in the Nor'wester. If you have a digital file, it can be emailed to [dgarcia@uci.net](mailto:dgarcia@uci.net), or you can USPS a copy to Deb Garcia, PO Box B, Pilot Rock, OR 97868. Please provide clear instructions about returning any photos mailed to me. Thanks!



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## IN MEMORIAM

It is with heavy heart that I have to report the death of **Donald Dietsch**, former Division Director, National Board Representative and Patrol Director from the Pacific Northwest Division.

Don joined the Bogus Basin Ski Patrol in Boise, Idaho in the winter of 1959-60. Don then transferred with his work to Lewiston, Idaho and luckily for Bogus Basin he was transferred back to Boise in 1964 and rejoined the Bogus Basin Ski Patrol.

Don was elected to the position of Section Chief and then a few years later he was elected Regional Director of the Southern Idaho Region. Don was elected Division Director from 1982 to 1985 and later was elected as a National Board Representative for the Pacific Northwest Division.

Throughout his long patrolling career Don was a Advance First Aid Instructor, a CPR instructor, a Avalanche a Ski Mountaineering instructor. Don was named Avalance Instructor of the year for the NSP in 1976.

After retirement from the Bogus Basin Ski Patrol, Don served as the Alumni Director for the PNW Division for a few years and has always had the interest of the NSP and his patrol on top of his interests.

Don also received a Gold Merit Star for the saving of a life at Lucky Peak Dam. It goes to show that ski patrol first aid training also extends into the summer boating activity.

I have been lucky enough to count Don as one of my personal friends for over 30 years.

Don passed away after a short diagnosis of leukemia. Don was a fighter to the end and will be missed by patrollers throughout the ski patrol community as well as his business friends, and above all, his wonderful wife Janet and family members.

Ski the Deep Powder in Heaven my friend, you will be missed by all.

Sincerely, Marlen Guell, Past National Chairman 1986-92



**Don Keeling**, a member of Anthony Lakes Ski Patrol in the Southern Idaho Region, passed away on August 4, 2005, of cancer. He came from a family

history of ski patrolling. His father, Ken Keeling, was an original member of the NSP in Snoqualmie Pass area, and had National #276. The tradition was carried on by Don's brother, Ken Keeling Jr., who patrolled in Western Oregon. Don's wife Becky is currently an NSP member at Anthony Lakes Ski Patrol and has National #7962. Don's National # is 8998.

Don's was always willing to contribute the extra effort to patrolling by inventing new equipment, serving as an OEC Instructor, OEC Instructor Trainer, and Section Chief of the Powder Lakes Sec-

tion. He also served as an unofficial liaison with the interaction between his Anthony Lakes Ski Patrol, Union County's Search and Rescue and the La Grande Sno-drifters Snowmobile Club. He was a La Grande Volunteer Fireman for nearly four decades and served as a Volunteer Firemen's Captain, Chief of the Volunteers, and Assistant Fire Department Chief.

Most recently Don was focused on the development of the Eastern Oregon Fire Museum and Learning Center. He spent many hours researching the history of Fire Protection in Eastern Oregon and restoring antique fire trucks and the fire apparatus. He enjoyed sharing his love of antique fire trucks by allowing hundreds of children of all ages to ride with him in parades and other community events. Don recently received the Oregon Fire Service Museum's Chief Ted Miller Historical Preservation Award.

He will be missed by, not only his ski patrol friends, but his community friends also.



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