



NOR'WESTER

PACIFIC NORTHWEST DIVISION—NATIONAL SKI PATROL

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PACIFIC NORTHWEST DIVISION UPDATE

By Dave Ulrich, PNWD Division Director

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As all patrollers are, I am excited about another ski season starting. The forecasters say that this year's ski season looks to be a good one. Some areas are open, with some waiting for just one more good snow storm, while others need the sky to open up and dump. I look forward to traveling to your areas and skiing with as many patrollers as I can.

Refreshers are behind us, except for a couple, and we are getting geared to hit the slopes. I just attended my home patrols refresher and stood back for a few minutes to watch the activities. Patrollers and instructors from other patrols around the Region attended. It was great to see ideas being shared while making sure that basics were covered. I would like to personally thank every Instructor in the Division for the time and effort that it takes to be involved and help put on your Patrols Refresher every year. A lot of time, effort and dedication go into each refresher every year, **Thank you.**

The Draft Legislation is moving forward and will be before the Idaho Legislative Body in January, to make it a law that patrollers are exempt. As an Idaho Ski Patroller you can be involved by calling your local Legislator and asking them to support this bill.

PNSAA, our area partners, are looking to produce a Mountain Safety Video and have ask the Division to help fund this production. Two Regions and one Patrol have already donated to this. Matching funds were available from a sponsor until November 1st. The Division Executive Board will address helping fund this at the Spring Board Meeting and bring it before that whole Division at the August convention in Twin Falls. I have ask Scott Kaden, the PNSAA President, for more information on this project and he has offered to come to our Convention to speak on this subject. As I receive the information I will forward it out. I personally feel that Mountain Safety fits within our Division and NSP's mission and would like to support and partner with PNSAA on this. But we as a Division need to continue to be financially responsible and we will have discussions on these funds and keep you informed.

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. Our new OEC book should be out and available. We 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. 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.

Voting – Have you voted in the NSP National election yet? I hope that the matrix chart that the Division had on our web site was a useful tool in helping you in your selection process. I took a straw poll at the last patrol meeting I attended and around 54% of that patrol had voted already with the rest discussing the candidates. And yes, I understand that some of you may not vote but I encourage you to. I would like to see 80% to 90% of our Division voting and continuing to be one of the Leadership Divisions of NSP.

David C Ulrich, Pacific Northwest Division Director
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OREGON REGION

By Craig Thornley, Region Director

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The region meeting on September 26, 2010 at Sarah Aitken's "cabin" near Willamette Pass was well attended by 25 patrollers from five of the six region patrols. While her "cabin" is bigger than my home and has plenty of space, we were only expecting 16-20 so we were just a little surprised at the turnout. It was nice being able to sit on the big deck in the mountain air and conduct a meeting. Thanks to all who attended and to Sarah (and Greg) for hosting. I'll recap for those who weren't there.

In the morning, advisors and patrol directors shared their goals for the coming year. I've always found public goal setting to be good, if not just for the goal-setter to focus and identify what they would like to accomplish, but also to let others in on them so we can help, assist, and share solutions or ideas. There was a lot of collective experience there. I'm looking over all the goals we shared as I write this, and remember advisors, one of our collective goals is to develop the web site, each of you working on your discipline's pages. Yes, that was a subtle reminder.

We had one guest, Dave Brown, come talk to us about the successful Ski Patrol Youth (SPY) program he and his wife Kay Lee have developed over the last 9-10 years at Willamette Pass. Originally sponsored by

Camp Fire USA, the program is quite different from NSP's Young Adult Patroller category. The SPY Team members do not take the OEC class or run toboggans, but they do just about everything short of that. Dave emphasized that it's not simply an invitation to come up and play full time. There are duties and guidelines that are spelled out in writing and form a contract with participating individuals. About 50 youth have participated in the program and several have gone on to become full patrollers. In the current candidate class at WPSP, four out of the eight candidates are from the SPY program. After Dave's presentation, the Oregon Region BOD voted that I recommend the division direct the \$5000 committed to a national program at the August convention, to the national youth program.

The afternoon was spent on region business. It's always fun to try to allocate the small region budget so that all advisors can meet their goals. Our income usually consists entirely of dues. Since the region covers a large area of the state, the whole budget could be consumed by travel for a single discipline! This led to a discussion of the need for fund raising. If you have any ideas, either contact me directly or talk with your PD.

Another item of business was the addition of a region awards BBQ, a gathering after the patrol banquets but before the division convention. Region awards would be given out at this late spring or summer soiree. The consensus was yes, if it were fun. A tentative date of July 16 at Willamette Pass has been set. Details forthcoming, but mark your calendars. It will be fun.

Since the meeting we have had at least one other important development. The Oregon Region has agreed to switch division convention hosting years with Mt Hood since they have their 75th anniversary in 2012. Oregon Region will be hosting the PWND convention in 2012 and Mt Hood will be hosting in 2014. Yeah, it seems like we just hosted it, but this prevents two consecutive conventions in Oregon. The location for the 2012 convention is likely to be Wilsonville again. If you are interested in helping let me or Assistant Region Director Anne Greenwood know.

La Nina is our friend. See you on the hill.

Craig Thornley
Region Director
<http://www.nsp-orre.org/>

MEMORIAL SWEEP—JANUARY 8, 2011

There will be a Memorial Sweep in memory of Paul Rudd, long time patroller at Anthony Lakes Ski Patrol, on Saturday, January 8, 2011. The event will take place after the regular mountain sweep at Anthony Lakes Mountain Resort. There will be an Anthony Lakes Patrol sponsored potluck afterwards. Please bring a headlamp since we will likely be in the dark. NOTE: There is also the first Southern Idaho Senior Clinic at Anthony Lakes on this same date.

NORTHWEST REGION

By Liz Dodge, Region Director

dodger@ix.netcom.com

The weather is getting colder and the snow has started to fall. Ski areas are very close to opening. It looks like an early start for the ski areas in the NW Region. If this weather pattern continues, some will be open before Thanksgiving. Patrols and patrollers have been gearing in preparation of what looks like will be a long season with lots of snow. New candidates are being trained and returning patrollers have been refreshing themselves and readying their equipment and patrol rooms.

Refreshers are for the most part done, with only a couple 'On Hill Refreshers' to go and a couple make up OEC refreshers. There are plans for make-up OEC refreshers for Cycles A, B, and C. These are scheduled for mid December and information can be found on the NSP website. There is a full complement of educational programs planned for this season. Watch the websites for more information.

Renee Lewis from White Pass just joined our region staff as an OEC Program Administrator. She hit the ground running and we are fortunate to have her working with Leisa Garrett with our OEC programs. We are still looking for individuals to fill the positions of: Nordic S&T Program Admin-

istrator and Legal Advisor. If you know of someone that might be interested in one of these positions (including yourself), please have them contact me.

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 that were training to become an instructor and no one knew about it. Cur-

rently 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.

I encourage all members to exercise their right and responsibility as a member of the NSP to vote for their choices in the National Board Election that is currently ongoing.

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

Enjoy all the snow this winter and take advantage of the programs offerings and patrol camaraderie.

Think Snow and see you on the hill!

Liz Dodge
NW Region Director

INLAND EMPIRE

By Chris Stern, Region Director

loghead@methownet.com

Greetings from the Inland Empire. Since the last issue of the Nor'Wester most of us have had our first snowfall, and taken care of our respective refreshers. I think our most significant news is that the latest word from Ski Bluewood is that they will be open this season. Many of our areas have done great things on their facilities this past summer and to best view and hear, check us out on-line:

- 49 Degrees North, near Chewelah, WA: www.ski49N.com
- Mission Ridge, near Wenatchee, WA: www.missionridge.com
- Silver Mountain, near Kellogg, ID: www.silvermt.com
- Mount Spokane, near Spokane, WA: www.mtspokane.com
- Cottonwood Butte, near Cottonwood, ID: www.go-idaho.com/cottonwood-butte-ski-resort
- Snowhaven, near Grangeville, ID: www.grangeville.us/idahocounty/snowhaven/index.htm
- Loup Loup Ski Bowl, between the Okanogan & Methow valleys, WA: www.skitheloup.com

- Ski Bluewood, near Dayton, WA: www.bluewood.com
- Lookout Pass, on Highway 90, straddling Idaho & Montana: www.skilookout.com
- Bald Mountain, near Orofino, ID: www.skibaldmountain.com

The 10 areas that make up the Inland Empire Region (didn't know we were so big?) include a wide variety of experiences, and to say that you have really skied the Pacific Northwest, you must ride Silver's gondola, Snowhaven's T-bar, floundered in Lookout's powder, run a toboggan down 2 Face at Mt Spokane (twice), enjoyed the hospitality at Cottonwood, skied the trees at Bluewood, the glades & the newest runs at 49N, hiked to the microwave at Mission, find Dave at Bald Mountain, and skied "Volunteer" (and know how it got its name) at the Loup.

Not much of a "report", not much to report for now, but respectfully submitted all the same. Until the next, more substantial report, ski safe, wear a helmet & have fun.

Chris Stern, Inland Empire RD

SOUTHERN IDAHO

By Phil Dixon, Region Director

phily1@live.com

With refreshers behind us and winter fast approaching we look forward to getting on with the winter festivities of our home patrols. Along with local patrol functions there are many other regional activities taking place as well, starting with the region fall meeting. I'd like to thank everyone that attended and invite those that didn't to plan to in the future. Just as a reminder every registered patroller in the region has a vote at the region meetings so plan on attending and let your voice be heard. A big THANK YOU to the 705 Backcountry for hosting the fall meeting, a job well done.

Some of the other things taking place this season starting in January is the first Senior clinic at Anthony Lakes with SEMM on Saturday the 8th and TES on Sunday the

9th. All your senior candidates should plan to attend. Also on a sadder note Anthony Lakes Ski Patrol is mourning the loss of one of their own as a result of a tragic hunting accident this fall and are having a memorial sweep for Paul Rudd on Saturday the 8th after closing sweep. Please plan to attend if you can, your support will be greatly appreciated.

On January 15th there is a WTES at Mt. Hood, on January 29th a WTES & TES at Soldier Mtn., on February 5th & 6th the second senior clinic at Soldier Mtn., February 12th & 13th at White Pass another WTES and then the piece de la résistance, ta da! Senior evaluations at McCall on the weekend of February 25th. Yes, it's been moved up earlier in hopes of better snow conditions.

Southern Idaho Region has voted to make a donation to the PNSAA (Pacific Northwest Ski Area Association) of \$1000.00 for the production and development of a safety video. Our donation was also matched as was others by the Northwest Winter Sports Foundation. Thus far PNSAA has raised \$36,000.00 toward a goal of \$80 K. Rest assured that when the time comes for production, that the Southern Idaho Region as well as others will be recognized for underwriting this important slope-safety project.

As you can see Southern Idaho Region has a busy schedule so mark your calendars and attend if you can, think snow, have a safe season, and see you on the slopes.

Philip Dixon SIRD

INSTRUCTOR DEVELOPMENT

By Bernie Goddard, ID Advisor

bhgoddard@aol.com

To all ID Instructors: Please email or send me your records for teaching ID. I need to have this information so that I can either renew or cancel your Instructor status. Also, if you have been dropped as an ID Instructor, please send me your teaching record, so you can be reinstated if you were missed in the recent past. I will be renewing those of you that are due to expire in December 2010, so I need your teaching records for the past three years.

Thank you,

Bernie Goddard

bhgoddard@aol.com Cell 206-947-2644

COMMUNICATIONS

By Bernie Goddard, Communications Advisor

bhgoddard@aol.com

COMMUNICATIONS NOTICE

Please one LAST TIME: Will all of you PD's throughout the Pacific Northwest Division respond to Dick Woolf's questionnaire regarding your radio communications IF YOU HAVE NOT DONE SO. It does not take very long and it is definitely needed by Dick at the National office. If you have questions, please contact me, and I will assist in whatever way I can. This is needed by all patrols in PNWD. Thank you in advance.

Bernie Goddard, Communications Advisor

bhgoddard@aol.com Cell 206-947-2644

AWARDS—RECOGNIZING THOSE WHO SERVE

By Rich Maris—Awards Advisor

rgmaris@msn.com

When we put on our patrol parkas or vests we also open our “patroller eyes” as we head out to serve our ski areas and insure that the patrons have a safe and enjoyable recreational experience. For most ski areas this encompasses the winter ski season but for a few it may include summer recreation activities at the resort. The Awards Program provides a broader scope of service that reaches wherever our members may be, on or off the hill, year ‘round, but still with our “patroller eyes” open recognizing situations where our skills may be provided.

This year-round mission may include not only OEC responses but also services to other organizations related to the NSP and of benefit to people of all walks of life, as in the case of medically related merit stars. We may have a member removed from patrolling but we will seldom find a former patroller who has lost their sense of a patroller’s services to others. That is our awards’ program mission, recognizing those who serve, with our patroller’s eyes and mind open at all times and places.

To insure that we are able to correctly identify such services within the four year (ski season) limitation of the suite of Outstanding Awards, I would like to clarify the means of identifying the year/season in

which any services occur. The element of uncertainty of identification for a given ski season where a single year is used, such as 2007, arises in finding that historical reference point. Is that the beginning or ending year of a submitted season’s activity?

For your pending and future Outstanding and other nominations, please provide the full season, such as 2007-2008. This will insure that there will be no uncertainty if the data is outside of the four year/season scope so that the nomination can be considered in compliance, and that those services are not lost or deleted in a misunderstood communication and evaluation of the nomination. It will be clear that all activities and the data provided is within that season that bridges two calendar years’ dates.

Merit Stars use the actual date of the incident and corresponding services so that there is no uncertainty need for those nominations. However, an incident may be identified generally within the bridging ski season’s years with the actual date specifically used to place it within that season.

Lastly, for activities related to instruction, only NSP Certified Instructors can be identified as instructors or instructing an activ-

ity. If patrollers are not certified instructors, their involvement should be identified as making presentations in assistance to the Instructor of Record. You should take the extra measure to go into your personal profile in the NSP to verify that your instructor certifications are correctly shown, as those profiles are used to double-check the accuracy of nominations as they rise through the levels of competitive evaluation. Better to make your own corrections at the nomination drafting stage than to have those mistakes seen as errors by later evaluators. Honesty is the best policy for the integrity of all of our members.

Snow is here. Patrons will be on the slopes; and our members will have a great season to provide their services for the fun, safety, and hopefully returning patronage of everyone on the slopes. Have a great season, and keep your eyes open as patrollers and nominators in recognizing all who serve.

Rich
541-345-4566



THE SPLINT GUY—CARDBOARD SPLINTS

We have found a new supplier after discovering the previous plant had been sold and will hopefully have stock available to ship starting December 20th. Commencement Bay Corrugated has been kind enough to step forward and offer to supply us with splints. We are discussing lengthening them by 4 inches and adding a split in the tongue to help lock the folds together better.

I would appreciate receiving new reminders for your requested quantities of splints and the info for those who offered or might have warehouse space available to hold a pallet or 2 for stock in Boise, Portland, Seattle, and Spokane. From these points splints can be picked up or we can ship upon request via UPS a few stacks at a time. Shipping would require a UPS account number from the recipient.

Thanks – Glen Dodge (The Splint Guy)

dodger@ix.netcom.com

PACIFIC NORTHWEST DIVISION

NSP EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES

By Ann Werner, Secretary

annw8131@comcast.net

Date: 8/13/2010
Time: 1:10 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Place: Embassy Suites,
Bellevue, Washington

Names per sign in sheet:

Board Members Present: Dave Ulrich, Division Director; Liz Dodge Northwest Region Director; Jim Trett, Mt Hood Region Director; Chris Stern, Inland Empire Region Director; Phil Dixon, Southern Idaho Region Director; Craig Thornley, Oregon Region Director;

Officers & Advisors Present: Rich Maris, Awards Advisor; Kathy Lee, assistant OEC supervisor; Thomas Baldwin, 2011 Convention Chair; Shelley Urban, Nor'Wester editor; Al Richardson, Legal; Dolores LaLiberte, Controller pro tem; Ann Werner, Secretary

Others Present: Josie Elting, National Alumni Director; Joe LaGue, Bogus Basin P.D.; Greg Tate, Southern Idaho Nordic P.D.; Ed Gately, Inland Empire; Michael Ryan, Northwest Region; Mark Milliette, Inland Empire; Patty Gooderham, Southern Idaho; Mike Gooderham, Southern Idaho; Larry Bost, National Board Member; Blaine Price, Northwest Region; Jill Hoff, Inland Empire; Earl Esson, Southern Idaho; Rosalind Liston-Riggs, Northwest Region; Frank Rossi, Northwest Region; Anne Greenwood, Oregon; Peter Schwartz, Northwest Region; Alan Werner, Northwest Region.

Agenda was approved as presented.

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

Minutes of the teleconference held August 3, 2010 were read by Ann Werner, secretary. Liz Dodge requested a point of clarification on the amount of money to be donated to National was suggested as \$5000. Identification of the program for the money would be accomplished at the general meeting on Sunday. Chris Stern asked how a teleconference becomes a meeting with minutes. Dave Ulrich stated he sent out information for the meeting 7 days before the date stating the secretary would be taking minutes. *Motion was made, seconded and passed to approve the minutes with the point of clarification as suggested by Liz.*

Treasurer Report: Dolores LaLiberte, the controller pro tem, presented information on an error of money and books which reflected as a double deposit. This was corrected. She also removed the OEC monies from the budget. Applications for controller are being accepted at this time. *Motion made, seconded and passed to approve the treasures' report as presented.*

Budget: Dolores presented the proposed budget.

Changes for administrative advisors and training advisors were made to make reporting on the 990 form easier. Income was discussed. Convention return will be listed as income.

Expenses: Nor'wester. Shelley Urban, the new publisher, was introduced. Discussion was held on various issues re the Nor'Wester such as font size and number of issues. The Nor'Wester is the main method of communication among the Division patrollers. Non-profit organizations are required to provide information to members and this is the preferred method per the patrollers. Four issues will be distributed with publication dates in June, September, December and March. Articles need to be submitted 3 weeks prior to publication.

Glen Dodge has brought the last of the splints to the convention. Splints have not been ordered in about 5 years and the plant has been sold and changed hands. Glen will have to discuss with the new owners whether they will continue making splints.

Advisor training: The name of the Education Conference needs to be changed. Originally the Education Conference was to be divided among the Regions. *Motion was made, seconded and passed to change the name to Region Education Conference. Motion was made, seconded and passed to move money from special projects and placed in the region education conference.*

Discussion was held on the redistribution fund of \$10 per patroller. Concern was expressed on fairness of the distribution to the patrollers. Some felt the best way to get the money to the patrollers would be to forgive Division dues for one year. The decision was made to send the money to the Region and each may decide on the distribution either assisting with purchase of the new OEC book or using it for additional training. Additional discussion was held on sending money to National to assist with an educational program. Discussion ranged on what programs would be appropriate, how National decides to spend the money from dues and whether

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PACIFIC NORTHWEST DIVISION

NSP EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES CONTINUED

By Ann Werner, Secretary

annw8131@comcast.net

it is used appropriately to improve programs. *Motion was made seconded and passed to add \$5000 to the budget for a one-time donation to a National education program.* The executive board will decide on the program. Information will be sent to other Divisions requesting their assistance with the project.

Motion was made and seconded to approve the proposed budget as presented. Motion passed.

EMS & NSP. Dave reported there is a National task force working on each issue as they come up. Washington is exempt as of now. Idaho is exempt after a ruling from the Idaho Attorney General's office. There is a draft to the Idaho Legislative Body to make it a law for patroller exemption. Other states have been working with their Division and National leadership to solve the issues. Terry LaLiberte states the Washington state EMS bureau does not license non transport agencies making the ski patrol exempt from their licensing requirements. Oregon has not been concerned. All states are in the process of reviewing their laws and rules.

Use of the AED is under discussion in some states. The use of the machine by patrollers trained to ARC or American Heart Standards and maintenance is encouraged by the federal government. A lawyer in the Intermountain Division states the use of the AED must be prescribed by a physician.

Also under discussion is the use of oxygen. Oxygen is a controlled substance; however, it may be used in a non-prescription use during an emergency situation of oxygen deficiency or resuscitation where there is not time to contact a physician.

Winter Board Meeting: Dave Ulrich. PSIA instructorship levels could be a part of the S&T program. NSP is looking for input on instructors with PSIA. Currently NSP has a ski school registered with PSIA and offers a unified teaching method of skiing and more liability insurance to the S&T instructors. There are several divisions active with PSIA. This may be another area that could grow in the PNWD. Further discussion will be held at the Winter Board Meeting in January. Al Richardson will be holding a session on how instructors may be affected by their training.

Dave also reported on the discussion of the rating of Board candidates by two Divisions. Central Division developed a rating sheet. Eastern Division did not have a uniform process and criteria, however, when compared the two evaluations were similar in identifying the top 3 or 4 candidates, which helped the line patroller determine how to vote. This process appeared to improve the voting participation from those Divisions in the last National Board Election. Further discussion was held on how PNWD may participate in some way. Encouraging the patrollers to read the NSP Forum and ask questions of the candidates, encouraging them to read the information sent out from each of the candidates, conducting telephone interviews with the candidates to get a personal feeling were points of the discussion. It was felt patrollers do not always understand what is important in the background of the nominees for service on the National Board. Many may feel there is too much information to read. Discussion also followed on the use of the rankings. Alan Werner presented his experience and perspective as a candidate rated last year. The process of the divisions making rankings used by their voting patrollers now allows those divisions to set the board through the majority of the votes. The question was raised as to what the National nominating committee is looking for in the candidates for the board. Also asked was the information on the rating sheets used by the two Divisions. One suggestion was to have the national nominating committee limit the selections to two persons per vacancy. This would reduce the number of candidates for the patrollers to assess.

Dave will look at the rating sheets and bring the information back to the e-board to assist them with making a decision as to the attributes and experience of the candidates. Region Directors should take the information to their Region to develop a list of 5 attributes and bring it back to the Division Director by September 15. Dave will then compile the attributes and return it to the Region Directors by Oct. 1. He also will provide an article to the Nor'Wester encouraging voting and the reasons why voting in the National Election is important. The list of attributes should also be sent to the line patrollers suggesting they use it as a method of comparing the candidates for the voting. Hopefully this will get our patrollers engaged in voting. It is also important to make the patrollers feel the outcome is important to them. Then they will be more interested in voting and making a decision. Dave will take this discussion back to the NSP Winter board meeting.

NSP Logo or Brand. There are presently 13 or more NSP logo's. The ski areas would like to see one logo.

Six new sponsors have been added by National.

A Memorandum of Understanding between the National Forest Service and NSP is being developed.

Old Business

Advisors Job Descriptions: This is continuing as an ongoing project. Copies of the job descriptions have been obtained from Dolores.

P&P: The executive board will continue to work on this using email and conference calls. The first 8 chapters are completed. Drafts
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PACIFIC NORTHWEST DIVISION

NSP EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES CONTINUED

By Ann Werner, Secretary

annw8131@comcast.net

have been created and need to be reviewed for each of the remaining chapters. A hard copy of the P&P was distributed to the RDs in April. Craig Thornely volunteered to complete the electronic tracking of the document.

Bylaws: Voting will not be done this weekend as the information was not sent out in time for a vote. The subject will be revisited at the next executive board meeting in the spring.

IRS reporting packets: Phil Dixon is the chair and will take the information and move forward. Dolores LaLiberte is waiting on information to complete the form. One applicant for the controller position will not take the job unless the IRS reporting packet is completed.

All discipline conference Sept 18: Kathy Lee. Very little response has been received for attending the conference. Discussion was held on the number required for attendance, the time of year, and the use of the new OEC book. The date for distribution of the book has been changed and it will not be coming out when previously planned. The new book will also have a required training for instructors. If the date were changed to June, it would be in a new fiscal year and change would need to be made to the budget. Each region could have an all discipline conference one year and there could be a Division conference the next year. Patrol directors should explain and encourage instructors to attend continuing education offerings. A proposal was made to have all an discipline conference at the same time as the nuts and bolts in June with skiing in the a.m. and breakout sessions in the p.m. Discussion followed. There is potential to grow the skiing program and PSIA instruction. John Gasteneau reports there has been good response with increasing attendance to the nuts and bolts. Since it is held the week before ski camps begin, space and housing could also be available in Government Camp as well as Timberline. The suggestion was also made for a one week national level one avalanche program at the same time. This could potentially be a money maker for the Division as well as a multiple discipline education seminar for instructors and patrollers. *Motion was made, seconded and passed to cancel the all discipline conference in September and hold it in June at Mt Hood coincidentally with the nuts and bolts conference.*

Certified program: Dave Ulrich: Currently there are very few certified patrollers in the country and less than 15 active in PNWD. The program is most active in Central and Eastern Divisions. Discussion was held on the use of the certified program, which can be used to challenge patrollers after achieving Sr. status. Rick King was at the Certified exam at the Central Division and several there were willing to come to the Pacific Northwest to assist with an exam. There are several patrollers in the Snoqualmie Pass area that are interested and may be others in the Division if they are informed. Rick will be available to talk with others about the program on Saturday.

Sr. Auxiliary: The program for is not the same across the Division. Oregon Region has some patrollers in the program. Sr. Auxiliary was moved to OEC management several years ago. Dave would like feedback from those who have taken the Sr. Auxiliary program recently.

Registration: Connie Fellows. Registration will be on line. Connie addressed the group on some issues. Birthdates will be used instead of social security numbers and therefore must be correct. Middle initials may be required to find a name in the system. There is limited ability to edit information after it is entered. Secondary patrols need to be entered after the primary patrol. Only one person per patrol will have access to the data base.

New Business (Action Items)

2011 Convention: Tom Baldwin. Dates are: Aug 11-14, 2011 in Twin Falls, Idaho. The basics have been done. Pre registration forms are available. No credit card info will be entered until next May. Friday is planned for golf and the executive board meeting in the morning and white water rafting in the afternoon. Lunch is included in the price with a special catered BBQ for dinner.

Longer training for new patrol directors is suggested.

Dates for all discipline conference and nuts and bolts is June 3-5, 2011

Motion made, seconded and passed to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Werner,
PNWD Secretary

NORDIC PROGRAM

By Joseph Calbreath

calfam3@comcast.net

There are a lot of exciting things going on Nationally in the Nordic Program. Our new National Advisor, Kevin Johnson is working with the Division Advisors and some past Division Advisors to update the Nordic Program. We have already developed a rewriting of the Nordic section of the National P & P's. We are also **working on** some new stand alone classes for the Nordic Program.

This proposed program would serve to close the perceived skills gaps, provide standardized training to all NSP Nordics, and assure proficiency. The program would consist of the following:

A list of required Nordic skills;

For candidates:

- A skills proficiency sheet covering all required skills;
- A Nordic Skills Course (new);
- MT&R1 or MT&RF; and
- Introduction to Ski Patrol.

For patrollers:

- A skills proficiency sheet covering required skills for each season;
- A standardized On-the-Trail Refresher (new); and
- A Nordic Skills Refresher Course (new).
- A Nordic Training Manual (new), preferably online;
- A Nordic Instructor Manual (new), preferably online; and
- A Quality Assurance Program (new).

We have made a good start but still have a lot of details to work out yet. I would invite all Nordic patrollers and patrols who would like to see some of the draft work we are doing to contact me directly so I can keep you informed and get your input on what is being done. We already have a working skills list and I would like to have as many eyes as possible look at it as it gets developed.

Joseph Calbreath

PNWD Nordic Advisor, Willamette Backcountry Ski Patrol

calfam3@comcast.net 541-954-9998

PNWD TRANSPORTATION (S&T) REPORT

By Walt Langkait, Transportation (S&T) Advisor

langkait@comcast.net

The snow is starting to fly and some of our areas in the Division have already started their season. The rest of us will just have to wait, but it seems the wait will not be that long. The dates for clinics and Senior Evaluations are starting to firm up and when all the dates are in I will be providing the information to all the Region Directors and Region S&T Advisors.

I want to thank the Region S&T Advisors for updating the instructor and IT rosters in a timely manner. We had the information for all the Regions except one into National by November 1, 2010. This was the due date so instructor cards could be printed. Thank you again for this is the earliest this has happened in several years.

Jeffrey and I hope to attend some of the clinics and evaluations in the coming season just to show our support to the instructors. It is a task that I enjoy and only wish that I could attend all the clinics and evaluations. However, I do have a hill to patrol in my home area, which is finally going to open with two new chairs.

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



PACIFIC NORTHWEST SKI AREAS ASSOCIATION (PNSAA)

P.O. Box 1720

Hood River, Oregon 97031-0720

Press Release

What's new at Pacific Northwest Ski Areas for 2010-2011

Contact: Scott Kaden, PNSAA, (541) 386-9600

Release Date: Monday, September 27, 2010

Seattle, WA – Last winter's epic ending helped ski area operators afford facility improvements at many Pacific Northwest ski areas. With a promising winter weather forecast, and snow already falling in the mountains, ski area operators are completing gondola and chairlift installations, ski trail projects, and day lodge construction projects. Throughout the region, ski area operators are completing improvements to existing ski lifts, lodges, parking facilities, and guest service programs. Please call the PNSAA office, or the ski area directly, for details on improvements at your favorite mountain.

WASHINGTON The **49° North** trail crew added a finishing touch to seven alpine trails and 170 acres of glades on the 5,295-foot Angel Peak – the terrain west of Chair 4. In addition, **49° North** constructed restroom facilities at the summit of the mountain and expanded the sundeck on the front of the lodge. With travel time of less than 10 minutes and a vertical rise of nearly 2,500 feet, the new Mt. Rainier Gondola will provide year-round lift access to **Crystal Mountain's** Summit House Lodge. In addition to providing warm and dry transport for non-skiers and skiers alike, the gondola will serve as backup when the Rainier Express is not able to transport guests to the summit due to high winds. **Loup Loup Ski Bowl** re-routed and improved the popular Flat Loop Nordic Trail. **Loup Loup** also remodeled its day lodge rental shop and kitchen. **Mt. Spokane Ski & Snowboard Park** added guest locker storage areas to the main day lodge and is happy to report the resurfacing of State Park Highway 206. Schedule wise, **Mt. Spokane** added eight nights of skiing, added a seven-days-a-week operation for Spring Break 2011, and will extend the ski day until 6:00 pm for the final two weeks of March 2011. **North Cascade Heli-Skiing** continues its partnership with J.R. Helicopters and will offer backcountry heli-service with a fast, powerful Eurocopter AS350 AStar B3 aircraft. After a landslide took out a portion of the ski complex in January 2009, **The Summit at Snoqualmie** is re-opening **Summit East** with two new chairlifts that access 150 acres of skiing and riding. On the front side of the mountain, the East Peak Triple will unload at the top "knob" and load in the base area, eliminating a hill climb to access the base of the lift. The Hidden Valley Chairlift will lift-serve 65 acres of terrain on the backside of **Summit East**.

After decades of perseverance, **White Pass** is proud to announce the opening of Paradise Basin, an addition of 767 acres that doubles the size of **White Pass**. Rolling alpine meadows, skiing and riding in the trees, and glorious views of nearby Mount Rainier characterize Paradise Basin. The expansion terrain is served by new Doppelymayr CTEC chairlifts: the Couloir Express (quad chairlift) and the Basin Quad. Located on a slight ridgeline between the Couloir Express and Basin Quad, the new High Camp Lodge will provide all the amenities necessary to spend the entire ski day in Paradise Basin. With this significant expansion of the lift network, **White Pass** installed a radio frequency identification (RFID) ticketing system, which will make processing lift tickets faster and more efficient.

OREGON **Mt. Bachelor** installed a fully enclosed, 200-foot, moving carpet-style lift for beginners at the West Village base area, and relocated the Martee West moving carpet to the Sunrise Lodge. **Mt. Bachelor** purchased two Prinoth snow cats to augment its grooming operation, including a winch-equipped snow cat. **Mt. Hood Meadows Ski Resort** created an adventure terrain park specifically for its ski and snowboard school operations, and equipped it with a rope tow lift. **Mt. Hood Meadows** developed the Fresh Tracks Deli and Vertical Restaurant and Meeting Center in its North Lodge. **Timberline Ski Area** added two Prinoth 350 snow cats to its grooming fleet and has made more than \$4 million in improvements to the lodge complex – including the paving of all parking lots. **Timberline** has added a landmark sign at the approach to Timberline Road, and has begun offering a new Timberline Parenthood Pass for new parents. Made for families with kids too young to ski, the Timberline Parenthood Pass is a transferable season pass designed for two parents to share, which also features 25% discount privileges on other lift ticket products.

(continued on page 11)

What's new at Pacific Northwest Ski Areas for 2010-2011

Continued From Page 10

ALASKA Alyeska Resort focused its energies on improvements to the beginner terrain, streamlining the snowmaking infrastructure, and completing the groundwork for new real estate opportunities at the resort. **Eaglecrest Ski Area** installed the new Porcupine Chairlift, which will greatly enhance the ski area's beginner terrain by providing easier lift access and opening up additional terrain. **Eaglecrest** also improved 2.2 miles of the Nordic trail, which connects the Eaglecrest Day Lodge to the historic and popular Treadwell Ditch Trail.

IDAHO Bogus Basin Mountain Recreation Area installed a 400-foot, moving carpet lift in the Coach's Corner beginner area and is partnering with Jackson's Food Stores to offer the crowd favorite Ski-4-Less Program. Celebrating its 75th year of operation, **Lookout Pass** is pleased to announce additional tree thinning on all aspects of the mountain – including Lucky Friday, Buffalo Gulch, Meadows, and front side glades. **Lookout Pass** submitted its 20-year master development plan to federal land managers, which includes a request for a second base area, nine new ski lifts, and 2,000 acres of skiing on two adjacent peaks. **Silver Mountain Resort** is pleased to announce the nation's only "Snow and Splash" season pass product, which provides access to skiing and snowboarding at Silver Mountain and surf and splash opportunities at Silver Rapids – Idaho's largest indoor waterpark and only Flowrider®.

MONTANA This summer, **Whitefish Mountain Resort** constructed two, new parallel zip line sections – 1,600 feet and 1,400 feet, respectively – and now have more than one mile of zip line offerings. Work crews made mountain bike trail improvements on the Summit Trail (improvements on the switchbacks near Chair #2 and the downhill section commonly known as Dave's Dive), and cleared and prepared the lift line for next spring's installation of a new fixed-grip triple chairlift.

CALIFORNIA Mt. Shasta Ski Park constructed a new, 300-space parking lot and will equip this lot with shuttle bus service to greatly increase parking capacity and expedite guest access to the lifts. **Mt. Shasta Ski Park** also purchased a Prinoth Bison X snow cat, which will help maximize the **Ski Park's** overall grooming efficiency and improve the quality of the groomed snow surface and terrain park features.

For additional information on these exciting developments in the mountains, please contact the PNSAA office at (541) 386-9600.

The Pacific Northwest Ski Areas Association is a non-profit trade association, which represents the interests of ski and snowboard facilities located in Washington, Oregon, Alaska, Idaho, Montana, and California. The Association's member ski areas – most of which operate on public land – collectively host an estimated 5.3 million visits annually. For additional information on Pacific Northwest skiing and snowboarding, contact the PNSAA office at (541) 386-9600, or visit www.pnsaa.org to link to the website of your favorite mountain.



SKI FLIGHT 2011

By Jack Melill, Ski Flight Advisor

jack.melill@juno.com

FORTY EIGHT DEPART FOR SWITZERLAND SKI FLIGHT 2011

Forty eight excited Ski Patrollers, family and friends will depart from various USA gateway cities for a flight to Zurich and ten days of skiing, sightseeing and exchanging with European patrols as well as a tour of the prestigious Swiss Avalanche Institute. Patrollers are joining PNWD from six states outside the division, including one NSP National Board member, Frank Davis from Denver.

We mostly ski (a lot) we also plan to visit the castles at Oberammergau, Germany and view the sights of Munich before boarding the plane for our Polar Flight home.

SPECIAL RELEASE—SKI FLIGHT 2012

By Jack Melill, Ski Flight Advisor

jack.melill@juno.com

Ski Flight Advisor Jack Melill would like to announce that next years (2012) Ski Flight has recently been planned for the Olympic Resort of *Lillehammer, Norway*.

SCENIC SNOW TRAIN TO BERGEN

The group will depart USA gateway cities on SAS airlines flying The Polar Route direct to *Oslo, Norway* then transferring via railway to *Lillehammer* for 5 days of skiing. From *Lillehammer* we will board the “snow train” to Vos and Bergen, traveling through the scenic wintery high plateau to ski and visit before returning to *Oslo* and returning home.



PATROL EXCHANGES IN NORWAY ARE ALWAYS STIMULATING

As stated by Jack Melill, Ski Flight Advisor, regarding his prior experience in Norway: “Norwegian patrols were most receptive and anxious to exchange tips and experiences with us. Patrol exchanges in *Norway* have always been worthwhile and stimulating. In many resorts the hill manager would greet us with ski passes each morning. I came away with the feeling that Norwegians really enjoyed visiting Americans.”

THE OLYMPIC DOWNHILL COURSE IS EXHILIRATING

ENJOY THE MARVELOUS ATTRACTIONS IN OSLO AND BERGEN

Both *Bergen and Oslo, Norway* offer marvelous attractions. Viking long ships, Fram (North Pole) Artic Museum, Hollerkammen Olympic Ski Jump, etc. and night skiing is all possible in Oslo.

Ski Flight is open to patrollers, family and friends and is the official fund raiser for the Pacific Northwest Division.

Watch for an announcement in future Nor.westers for more details and signup information or contact Jack at: jack.melill@juno.com.

SAVE THE DATE!!

Please save the date of 8/11/11-8/14/11
and put it into your Calendar for

CONVENTION 2011- TWIN FALLS,
IDAHO.



Twin Falls, Idaho!
2011

Watch for registration information
and details in the March issue of the
Nor'wester.

The 2011 Convention Chair and Committee.

Thomas Baldwin & Robin Ulrich – Co Chairs



**THE NOR'WESTER
PACIFIC NORTHWEST DIVISION,
NATIONAL SKI PATROL
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The National Ski Patrol (NSP) is a Federally Chartered non-profit membership association dedicated to serving the public and the mountain recreation industry by providing education services about emergency care and safety.

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

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



www.nsp.org

www.nsp-pnwd.org

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