



## Welcome to the Alumni E-News

Today well over 4,500 NSP Alumni are registered throughout the US and other countries. There are many reasons to go "inactive" besides "retirement": family responsibilities, time constraints, school, work demands, health issues and more. Our alumni's collective experience can substantially add to the current success of patrol, region and division activities and leadership.

This issue reports on the recent survey of our alumni members, and seeks your feedback; let us know what you think by dropping a line to National alumni advisor Tim Viall, [tviall@msn.com](mailto:tviall@msn.com)!



## Alumni survey: what we found, and what we are doing with the info

Thanks to over 1,100 NSP Alumni who responded to the survey that went out in mid-February. In March, results were tabulated and the survey was the focus of the Division alumni advisor's meeting in early April.

Your division alumni advisors (photo above) recently met for two days of planning.

### Alumni survey questions elicited these responses:

#### Why did you stop active patrolling?

Top answers, in order, were: advancing age, physical demands of patrolling, other (with over 250 responses), time commitment, work demands, moved or changed locations, health issues, family responsibilities, resort too far to travel to, and, school.

#### Question: Why did you become an Alumni member?

This query elicited 1,036 responses; most frequently noted were:

- I love being part of NSP and did not want to lose that
- Maintain my status/credentials in the NSP
- Maintain contact with the National NSP organization
- Maintain contact with my former patrol (and/or region, division)
- Maintain benefits, and/or, Pro Deals
- Hope to return someday to active patrolling/keep OEC current

### What are top five benefits of your alumni membership?

The responses to this question were, in order:

- Subscription to *Ski Patrol* magazine
- Ability to order from the NSP online store and catalogues
- Fellowship with other NSP members
- Access to NSP website, access to Pro Deals
- Continued service years, education resources
- NSP Alumni ski-related activities
- New NSP quarterly Alumni News E-newsletter

More highlights of the survey can be found by clicking the button below; should you desire additional insight, write Tim at [tviall@msn.com](mailto:tviall@msn.com) and we will send you the PowerPoint presentation of survey results.

Congratulations to **Fred Herter** of Eastern Michigan, **Fred Bartel** of Oregon and **David Beaulieu** of Alaska: As an incentive to taking the survey, we drew three survey-takers from the 1,200 responses, and these three alumni each won Patagonia gear in the drawing.

[View the survey results summary](#)

## Meet your fellow NSP alumni

*Active alumni turn to the program for several reasons. Here, several alumni share why they joined the alumni program.*



*Shorter term alumni, using the option to bridge a changing life:*

**Jason Takacs** is a member of the Dodge Ridge NSP in the Far West. A newer member of the patrol, Jason was faced with a new job and heading towards marriage. Since he needed a bit of time off, he became an alumni member, kept his OEC credential up-to-date, and when he recently returned to active patrolling, his alumni membership allowed an easy bridging of the gap.



*Veteran members who seek to remain active in the NSP:*

Consider **Dr. Jim Margolis**, who just volunteered as new alumni advisor for the Far West Division. “Doc Jim” has been active in ski patrol for over 30 years and is a past Patrol Representative from Homewood at Lake Tahoe. As an alumni member, he continues to be the medical advisor for his patrol, an OEC IT, and the Eastern Sierra

Region’s recruitment and medical advisor. His long-standing commitment to patrolling has been recognized with an LCA, DSA, Purple Merit Star and several Yellow Merit Stars. He continues to practice medicine as a child psychiatrist and teaches medical students at both University of California at Davis School of Medicine and California Northstate University Medical School. He has published two articles in *Ski Patrol*

magazine, and works to give back to the NSP.

*Alumni who want to remain connected to the NSP:*

Many alumni members invest in an alumni membership to remain connected to their years of NSP service, receive *Ski Patrol* magazine, several e-newsletters, catalog and pro deals, NSP voting rights and much more.

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## Meet your Division Alumni Advisors

Meet **Gerry Clark**, alumni advisor for the Eastern Division: Gerry is a 33 year member of National Ski Patrol, and has been associated with NSP for the last 40 years. Gerry has been a WEC instructor, OEC and IT. She ran the Senior OEC program for New Hampshire for 10 years and the NH Special Olympics Ski Patrol for over 30 years. In 2006 she was humbled and honored to be presented with LCA Award #8381. She notes, "NSP is family and friends, lots of wonderful memories and many more to come."

**Click here** for Division alumni advisors and their contact information.

## Recruit other "retiring or taking time off" patrollers to join the alumni ranks

Encourage your friends who may be taking time off from patrolling to join as an alumni member. Please forward this email or the flyer below to others who will benefit from seeing it!

[Download the "Become An Alumni Member" form](#)

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## Have you shopped lately?

Have you shopped **NSP Pro Deals** recently? You'll find wonderful and myriad options among scores of quality suppliers. Alumni get the same Pro Deals as do active patrollers, with three exceptions: the Patagonia discount is 20%, and Black Diamond and Scarpa are excluded.

[Check out NSP Pro Deals](#)

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## Upcoming events and opportunities for NSP alumni

***NSP Alumni Celebration Week, Whitefish Mountain, Whitefish, MT, February 2-9, 2020:***

Our first Alumni Celebration Week, held in Whitefish, MT this last February, drew over 35 alumni and friends fun, good food and great skiing. Participants (pictured here) received discounts on rooms at the Grouse Mountain Lodge and skiing discounts for veteran skiers age 62 and older.

Mark your calendars for February 2-9, 2020, and **click here** for additional details!

Lastly, watch the your division, region and patrol websites and your email for other alumni opportunities close to home. ***Make the most of your NSP alumni membership!***

[Learn more about Alumni Celebration Week 2020](#)

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