



NOR'WESTER

PACIFIC NORTHWEST DIVISION—NATIONAL SKI PATROL

March 2019

DIVISION DIRECTOR REPORT

By Liz Dodge, PNWD Director

lizpnwd@gmail.com

The sky is falling --- Snow Snow and More Snow!

Most of our areas have seen epic amounts of snow in 2019. This is great for the ski industry and fun for all patrollers. At the same time, it is an opportunity to reflect on our responsibilities of educating the public about staying safe through our safety messages.

January was 'Safety Month' within the NSAA and NSP. I've heard of some great safety days/events held by our patrols and our Mt Host units. This year the NSP board decided to send out safety packet 'swag' to all patrols thru the divisions instead of having only those units that wanted the swag to purchase it thru the office. This was a good thing, in that patrols who had never been able to get items in the past were better able to get something. The down side was that there was a very limited amount of materials issued to each division to be shared amongst their regions and patrols. The PNWD was fortunate enough to get 5 packets, meaning each of our region directors was sent a box. Some divisions were not that fortunate. It is my hope that as an organization we continue to get these materials spread among as many patrols as possible, and I also hope that the organization can provide a larger amount of materials in each packet. That takes money, so we'll see where that goes. Please remember that these materials are meant as swag for the public NOT for handing out to patrollers for their personal use.

Check out some of the Bogus Basin Mt Host units' efforts for Safety Messaging Great job team!



<https://www.facebook.com/328790331277/videos/766754710384312/>

February has brought epic amounts of snow to the PNWD and most west coast ski areas. By epic snow amounts I mean in some cases record amounts, and in others just ridiculous amounts of new snow, such as eight feet in one week, etc.... With this snow brings not only fun but tons of work for patrollers related to finding the buried tower pads and rope lines, resetting everything pretty much daily, doing avalanche mitigation work, and of course watching out for our patrolling partners as well as getting the safety messages out to the public. In area or out, use your knowledge, carry and use the proper (continued next page)

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equipment, and watch out for snow immersion situations. Stay safe out there.

Recruit – Retain – Reward - Goals for this year have been Recruit – Retain – Reward. In the past couple of articles, we talked about recruiting and retention; today I'm making the plug for 'Reward'. It is time to be working on the recognition of patrollers who have done great things this year. It is likely that Peter has some great information and encouraging words in the awards section of this newsletter; but just in case, or to echo the thoughts:

- Patrol leaders should be looking at their members and recognizing members for their accomplishments, big or small. A simple 'thank you or congratulations for a job well done' can go a long way in motivating a member to step up and do more, or engage at a different level. Many patrols have their own awards, but there are also ways to recognize members thru the NSP at various levels. Reach out to your region awards advisor, or Peter Schwartz our division awards advisor, for assistance or more information.

Region Director Elections -- Kelli Piper - Inland Empire, and Dave Campbell – Southern Idaho who were both elected by acclamation as Region Director for their respective regions. Congratulations to both, their term will start on June 1st.

Division Director Election – More information is in another section of this newsletter but yes, there will be an election, and we have good, well rounded, experienced candidates.

NSP National Board Election - As you all were notified through the NSP publications, the National Board Election was concluded and the newly elected board members took office the first of January for their term thru December 2021. The candidates and their number of votes were: Julie Stone* 4036, Brian Rull* 3883, Bob Scarlett* 3697, Richard Yercheck* 3151, and Bill Sinykin 1731. *The first four were elected.

Thank you to all the PNWD members who took the time to vote. Our participation levels were not stellar this year with the following being noted.

Region		# Alumni members who voted	# Active members who voted	# of voting members who voted	% of units voting members who voted
Inland		5	31	36	6.36 %
Northwest		7	59	66	6.59 %
Oregon		4	19	23	10.09 %
S Idaho		5	30	35	7.51 %
Wy'East		0	33	33	10.09 %
Admin		0	1	1	9.09 %
Division Total	2761	22	172	194	7.03 %
National overall	29070			5091	17.51 %

PNWD voters represented 3.81% of all voters who cast ballots in this election.

PNWD represents about 10% of the NSP membership, let's work a bit harder this next election to show that PNWD members care, and take the time to vote.

Other

- ICS 100 training – required for all NSP patrollers and candidates – Don't wait till next fall when you are busy, take the course now and be ready for next season. The ICS-100 course can be found at <https://emilms.fema.gov/IS100c/>

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- OEC Fund – There appears to still be classes with unpaid/outstanding amounts. These fees are based on student enrollments NOT students who finished or passed the course. These need to be paid no later than two weeks after the end of the course.
- YAP Advisor - (Young Adult Program) - We still have an opportunity for someone, maybe you. We are looking for an adult patroller to coordinate and advise on the program requirements, needs, and opportunities within PNWD. What is the YAP program you ask? It is an NSP program for youth ages 15-17 years old to get involved in patrolling. Note that not all ski areas/patrols in our division allow patrollers under the age of 18, and there are some state laws to consider, so ask questions before you start a local program.
 - Also remember that per PNWD P&P – OEC Course - Prerequisite to taking an OEC course within PNWD is and always has been a minimum age of 15 years at the beginning of the course.
 - Anyone interested in this division advisory position should send a resume including your qualifications, ideas, and goals for this position to Liz Dodge at dodger@ix.netcom.com.
- Women's Program Advisor - We still have an opportunity for someone, maybe you. We are looking for an adult female patroller to coordinate and advise on the program requirements, needs, and opportunities within PNWD. What is the Women's Program you ask? It is a program to embrace women in patrolling - Recruit, Encourage, Empower, Retain, are some of the key initiatives. There is a big misconception out there that this is a program for training women to run toboggans, it is not. Yes, there can be women only TES or SES programs to help women with these skills, but that is through the OET program and is not the primary focus or intent of the Women's Program.
 - Anyone interested in this division advisory position should send a resume including your qualifications, ideas, and goals for this position to Liz Dodge at dodger@ix.netcom.com.
- Powderfall – Powderfall is just around the corner and it is my understanding that a good number of PNWD members will be attending. If you are going, I hope that you take full advantage of the program offerings and I look forward to seeing you there.

Your questions, concerns, or ideas about anything related to this division or the NSP in general are important to me. Please contact me so we can discuss them. Email at LizPNWD@gmail.com or phone at 206-300-7711 and let's work together. Collaborative Teamwork is essential to the organization at all levels. The skills, energy, and enthusiasm that all of us bring to the organization are what make it fun and rewarding to be a ski patroller. T.E.A.M. - Together Everyone Accomplishes More.

Yours in Service,

Liz Dodge
Division Director, PNWD



Photo taken by Dave Kennedy.

This took 2nd place in a sculpture contest at Brundage Mountain.

Artist was Jimmy Bryan of the Payette Lakes Patrol

This is created with a shovel and snow saw!

PNWD MEDICAL ADVISOR REPORT

By James Hamilton, Medical Advisor

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The Signs of a Heart Attack in Women

James J Hamilton M.D
PNWD Medical Advisor

As first aiders we are all confident that we could recognize someone having a heart attack – they grasp their chest, complain of left arm pain and fall over. While that may be seen in men, almost half of the women diagnosed with a heart attack had NO chest symptoms!

While we assume the cardiovascular system is similar in men and women, heart attacks in men usually involve the larger vessels of the heart while in women the smaller vessels are involved. Because the smaller vessels are involved, women can experience episodes of these symptoms over a period of time. Women can have “silent” heart attacks and are less likely to survive their first heart attack than men. Half of the women diagnosed with a heart attack had shortness of breath, indigestion and anxiety, 48% had sleep disturbances and 71% had early warning signs. Women may experience symptoms for several weeks before an actual heart attack. 80% of women had symptoms for 4 weeks before their heart attack.

Men having a heart attack commonly complain of a severe “crushing” chest pain, shortness of breath, dizziness and a rapid irregular pulse. Women with a heart attack may also complain of an “uncomfortable” chest pain or pressure. Some women experience sudden sweating and shortness of breath. Commonly they experience severe fatigue unrelated to activity, a sense of impending doom or unexplained anxiety. They may have pain between the shoulder blade or both arms or their neck and jaw. They may feel light headed or dizzy, have a loss of balance and complain of nausea or severe stomach pressure.

The risk of a heart attack in a woman increases with high blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes and a history of preeclampsia during pregnancy. It is also increased if they have a relative with a history of a heart attack who is a male over the age of 55 or a female over the age of 65.

Unexplained recurrence of these symptoms over a period of time should alert the person to the possibility of a cardiac problem that needs medical evaluation for the possibility of a significant fatal cardiac problem.

Jim Hamilton

AWARDS

By Peter Schwartz, Awards Advisor

peteskiis@aol.com

NSP awards are important to recognizing and appreciating patrollers for their efforts! Thank you to everyone in the PNWD who is working on awards for patrollers. Everyone can get involved with awards! Certainly, those who have the direct role to write and submit awards are central to getting NSP award nominations through the NSP system. Please take a moment to thank your patrol’s awards representative for all their work on your behalf.

Even better is to offer your help to your patrol’s awards representative by helping your patrol’s awards representative for award nominations including merit stars, Patroller Crosses, National Appointments and Leadership Commendation Appointments, Distinguished Service Awards, Meritorious Service Awards, Outstanding Awards, Minnie Dole and Hall of Fame recognitions and more. There are also awards for local patrols and regions that are all meaningful and important for the recognition of the efforts, passion and dedication of our patrollers.

I know the Region Awards Committees are busy at this time of year drafting and reviewing their respective awards nominations. It would be great to get multiple PNWD Outstanding Award nominations in every category possible this year. Now is a great time to get involved to support your awards representative to recognize patrollers with qualifying awards nominations! Thank you in advance for all your efforts!

Best regards,

Peter Schwartz
PNWD Awards Advisor

WY'EAST REGION

By Joel Stevens, Wy'East Region Director

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The season got off to a slow start this year, with light coverage into mid December. We were a little too far to the South, and got more rain and less snow than the Washington areas. Like everyone, we got hammered in late February, though our snowpack is still below average. Avalanche danger went way up.

The Wy'east region has Level I Avalanche and MTR I and MTR II courses either scheduled or already underway this season.

It has been a tough year for patroller injuries, with at least three NSP volunteer patrollers in our region out for the season so far. Be careful out there.

Be sure to check out Jeffrey's article about Nuts & Bolts. It is back again this year, starting on Friday May 31st.

Joel Stevens

Wy'East Region Director

NORTHWEST REGION

By Michael James, NW Region Director

marinecare@msn.com

Greetings Patrollers.

I hope you have had a good winter so far. My home ski area, Summit Central, has had a banner year so far and even set an all time record snowfall for 24 hours at 31.5 inches. I hope you are seeing the same or similar snowfall, but not so much as to choke your area's ability to open.

My goal this year was to expand the region's leadership base. First and foremost I wanted to grow the senior program at the patrol level. The future of our leadership is the senior program. I am proud to say we had an amazing turnout for the senior program this year and I hope to see tremendous success at the final exams coming up soon. Good luck to all the senior candidates. You can do it! Also I would like to thank all the senior trainers and advisors, for without you we would not be able to have a successful program.

I am calling on all patrols in the region to establish, if not already done so, a senior advisor for your patrol. The role of this advisor is to develop the senior program and recruit senior candidates. Next, I would like to see at least two senior candidates from each patrol enter the program yearly. Let's plan ahead and see if we can make this goal a reality. Senior OET and OEC candidates can further their skills by:

- 1) Participating in OEC/OET recerts.
- 2) Participating in Comm for scene/multiple scene management skills.
- 3) Participating in the yearly OEC/OET candidate classes.

I firmly believe we as a team can grow the senior program to levels never seen before. Once we have a strong senior, the next step is a National Appointment!!! Nice job everybody!

Michael James

INLAND EMPIRE REGION

By Kevin Voss, Inland Region Director

voss.kevin@gmail.com

General

We had a slower start early in the season at a few resorts, but now the region is buried in snow and most of our resorts are having a great year. We have some reports of record skier visits. We all seem a little happier when the snow is fluffy and deep.

Our first region open/senior clinic was at Lookout Pass. We had great participation and the Lookout patrol supplied a great lunch, soft snow, and even some sunshine –Thank you! Our next open/senior clinic is right around the corner at Loup Loup, then our senior final evaluation is at Silver Mountain in March. See the calendar below for details.

Now that the season is under way, please consider those who have put in extra effort. The NSP has an outstanding awards program and it's a great way to honor those who stand out or put in extra effort. Please make an effort to submit an award nomination (or offer assistance to your awards coordinator). These award submissions can take a little time to complete, but the recipients can earn region, division, and even national recognition. These awards can be a huge honor and can make a real impact on people's lives. We all know a few patrollers who deserve some recognition for their work. Last year we were unable to hand out some of our awards at the region level because there weren't any applicants – please don't let this happen again!

Finally, it has truly been an honor to serve as Region Director over the past four years. I have enjoyed getting to know the patrollers across the region and have developed many friendships that will hopefully last for many years. It continues to amaze me how selflessly patrollers serve. Thank you for all that you do for your local patrols, our region, and the NSP. Kelli Piper will take over as our next Region Director this spring. Kelli served as Region Director prior to my term and did an outstanding job. I look forward to her leadership over the next few years.

Thank you,

Kevin Voss
Inland Empire Region

Region Calendar

The dates below are tentative. Updates will be sent if changes are necessary.

Open & Senior Clinic (OEC/OET)	Loup Loup	Feb 23-24 2019
Senior Final.....	Silver Mountain	Mar 9-10 2019

DIVISION DIRECTOR ELECTION

The Division Director shall be elected by a vote of the ballots cast for the Division Director. The eligible votes are the members of the PNWD Board. That being the Region Directors and the Patrol Directors/Unit Representative that are in good standing.

Election Time Line

March 15, 2019	Ballots will be emailed to voting members
March 31, 2019	Ballots due back to the Election Coordinator
April 3, 2019	Announcement of election results

The Election Coordinator must receive ballots no later than March 31, 2019

Dolores La Liberte

E-mail: ath@air-pipe.com

Please send a cc of your ballot to: Shirley Cummings at shirleycu@msn.com

Nominations and ballots may also be returned in person, by mail, or e-mail to:
Dolores La Liberte. Address: 24271 N. Fish Lake Road, Rathdrum, Idaho, 83858
Also copy Shirley Cummings. 3005 Webster Point Rd. NE, Seattle, WA 98105

In case of a tie the election results shall be determined by a drawing of the name by the Election Coordinator at the Spring Board Meeting as the first order of business. The newly elected Division Director will be expected to attend the PNWD Meeting the last Saturday in April of 2019. Place TBD.

SOUTHERN IDAHO REGION REPORT

By David Campbell, South Idaho Region Director

habit@eoni.com

Hello from Southern Idaho Region, covering, Ferguson Ridge; Anthony Lakes; Bogus Basin; Southern Idaho Nordic; 705 Backcountry; Payette Lakes; Soldier Mountain; Spout Springs; and Magic Mountain.

I would like to thank everyone for having faith in me as regional director. The election is over and I will be serving you for another 2 years. Please change my email contact to dcampbell@eoni.com. If there is anything I can help with, please let me know.

The ski season got off to a slow start in our corner of the world, but everyone is now having a good year, with the exception of Spout Springs. They will not operate this year, as management is unable to come to an agreement with the Forest Service.

I have attended both Senior Clinic's; first at Anthony Lakes, then at Bogus Basin. Snow sports enhancement seminars were held at Anthony Lakes, Bogus Basin, Brundage, and Soldier Mountain. 705 Backcountry held an Avalanche I Module 3 Class. These were great opportunities to enhance skiing and patroller skills, not to mention lots of fun. I encourage all to take advantage of the classes and clinics whenever possible.

Senior evaluation was hosted by Payette Lakes Patrol this year at Brundage Mountain on February 23-24. We had 9 candidates for skiing, 11 for tobogganing and 7 for OEC. Out of those, 9 of them could have successfully completed all modules and become Seniors. This is always a hectic but fun weekend to spend time with patrollers from all over the division.

A reminder about awards. There are always patrollers that go the extra mile to help the skiing public. Most think nothing of it, but sometimes it's nice to be recognized for your efforts. If you know of anyone who deserves a pat on the back, please nominate them for an award.

We are looking for a new snow board advisor. Our current advisor had to step down due to foot problems. (He's back in ski boots.) Please let me know if anyone is interested.

Some Upcoming events:

- The 705 Backcountry Patrol (P059) will be hosting a Level 1 Avalanche class at Tamarack Ski Resort on March 15-17.
- SheJumps Jr. Ski Patrol day is coming to Bogus Basin on Sunday, March 24th through the hard work of Denise McLaughlin, Senior, Bogus Basin Pro Staff.
 - SheJumps is a non-profit organization. Their mission is to increase the participation of women and girls in outdoor activities to foster confidence, leadership, and connection to nature and community through free and low cost education. The Jr. Ski Patrol program is part of the SheJumps Wild Skills initiative. Online registration for Bogus Basin will begin near the end of February. This event will be open to girls age 8 - 17. There is a \$45 registration fee which is a national fee charged by the SheJumps organization for providing resources for the event and also supports that national organization. Through sponsorship with D. L Evans Bank, lunch will be provided along with lift tickets for those that need them. We are expecting to host 32 - 40 girls at this event.
 - We are striving to fill all of the lead volunteer roles with women patrollers to provide female mentorship. The patrol will be leading the day with help in registration, the morning meeting, first aid skills, toboggan skills, beacon/avalanche skills, skiing and end of day activities. The goal is to give the girls an overview of all the really cool things we do every day and have some fun along the way! For more information you can view the video from the Jr. Ski Patrol day last year at Sun Valley - <https://www.facebook.com/SheJumps.org/videos/10155982549332529/>. Please help us make this a great event for Bogus and the Patrol. We have hopes that it will become an annual event.

Hope to see you on the snow,

Dave Campbell

OREGON REGION

By Andy Bechtoldt, Oregon Region Director

fiver49@gmail.com

Wow! What a winter we are having!! Ski areas all over the region have been enjoying some great winter weather - especially over the past couple of weeks. We've been busy in the region. We have held a senior OEC clinic, a senior OET clinic, a MTR 1 class, an Avalanche 1 class, an OET instructor clinic and currently an OEC class is going on. Hopefully everyone who was able to go to the Oregon Region Nuts and Bolts Clinic on February 23 and 24 at Mt. Bachelor had a great time. Our OET advisor Joe Harwood and I will be at Warner Canyon on the 23rd holding a Toboggan Enhancement Seminar for their patrol. Coming up, the Oregon Region Senior OET Final will be held at Mt. Bachelor on March 3rd and the Senior OEC Final will be hosted by the Wy'East Region.

We've also had our share of sad times in the Oregon Region. On February 16, Mt. Ashland Ski Patrol lost one of their own. Johnny Walker died in a tragic accident involving a tree well. Johnny was described as an exceptional person in every aspect of his life. There will be a celebration of Johnny's life in Ashland on February 27. Please keep the Mt. Ashland Ski Patrol, Mt. Ashland mountain community and everyone who knew Johnny in your thoughts.

Keep the snow dances going!!

Andy Bechtoldt
Oregon Region Director

INSTRUCTOR DEVELOPMENT

By Kathy Alexander, ID Advisor

katalexander911@mail.com

Hi ID Instructors and ITs:

There are several ID courses being held this winter throughout the division and the Oregon region. Just a reminder to ID Instructors: please cc me the course roster when closing a course on-line; this will really help me in identifying courses and for statistics.

For resources for ID Instructors, go to "Online Learning Management System", and review the short course on **"Introduction to Mentoring"**. Please encourage other Mentors to review this information as well.

For resources for ITs or you want to become an IT, go to "Online Learning Management System", and review the **"Instructor Trainer Guidelines"**.

Please continue to encourage patrollers to become instructors. Here's how to help them get started. Pass on the following information:

WANT TO BECOME AN NSP INSTRUCTOR? HERE'S HOW TO GET STARTED:

1. "Sign In" at www.nsp.org
2. Select "For Members"
3. Click on "Education Resources"
4. Click on "Instructor Development"
5. Select "2018 Roadmap to Becoming an Instructor" and "Instructor Roadmap 2018 Visual"

Then continue:

6. Return to "Member Resources"
7. Click on "Online Learning"
8. "Click Here to Enter the Online Learning Management System"
9. In the Navigation Bar on top, click on "Courses"
10. Click on "Instructor Development e-Course"
(Complete the e-course, take a Final Exam and course survey, then print certificate)
11. Complete a Classroom Session with an ID Instructor
12. Begin and complete the mentoring program

Thank you all for all you do for the education of patrollers.

Enjoy the season,

Kathy Alexander, PNWD and Oregon Region Instructor Development Advisor

SAFETY REPORT

By Jodie Jeffers, Safety Advisor

tailwaggin1@mac.com

SNOW

SNOW IS AWESOME,

Snow can be kind and friendly,

Snow can be scary and deadly

Awareness, Education, Prevention is on all of us!

Take advantage real time and plan for quick and very important information to be given to all. It takes only a moment to do. We need to do more so that it becomes habit and not a chore. We all need to work with our patrols, our areas, our public young and old. This needs to happen not just in January but to keep on throughout each patrol season.

Being part of NSP, we train and train to develop muscle memory, habits, and learn new ways to do our job. Getting that message out on SAFETY needs to be the same.

Accidents will happen. However let's get that safety momentum from the convention rolling further and do more self promoting and education to all.

Is this something you want to do and learn more on while representing your patrol and region? Please contact your Patrol Director, Region Director or myself to increase our leadership on this. Please contact me by March 17th.

While we all are enjoying snow and more snow, it is a time to remind ourselves and the public about the potential hazards that all of this snow can create.

⇒ **Avalanche:**

Did you know that February is statistically a higher avalanche danger time? Have you practiced this month using your patrol's beacons? Probing? Take some time to look over "Know Before You Go" videos as well as your local avalanche reporting sites.

<https://kbyg.org/#videos>

⇒ **Tree Well & Deep Snow Safety**

This website is very helpful to refresh and refer to:

<http://www.deepsnowsafety.org>

Please, take a moment for Mt Ashland's Pro Patroller- Johnny Walker, "Man of the Mountains" who died February 16th from a tragic ski accident tree well immersion. Thoughts and prayers to his family and friends, fellow patrollers and Mt Ashland family during this time.

Jodie Jeffers—Safety Advisor

PNWD 2019 Convention

August 9-11, 2019

Valley River Inn (VRI)– Eugene, Oregon

*****Bonus this year!!!**

Registration for First Time Attendees is \$25.00.

Convention website: <https://www.pnwdcon.org/>

To make online VRI hotel reservations: [Click Here](#) *

>> If you are interested in signing up for a bicycle ride on Friday, August 9th, email Myrick O'Connor: occonnor_myrick@hotmail.com

* https://be.synxis.com/?adult=1&arrive=2019-08-08&chain=18494&child=0¤cy=USD&depart=2019-08-11&group=0819SKIPAT&hotel=54960&level=hotel&locale=en-US&rooms=1&sbe_ri=0

ALUMNI

By Josie Elting, Alumni Advisor



NSP ALUMNI INFORMATION

What is an alumni member?

An alumni member is a special registration category for people who, for various reasons decide to no longer provide emergency care or rescue services, but wish to maintain their relationship with the National Ski Patrol. If a member is interested in staying connected with their patrol, upon patrol approval, the patrol representative can electronically register them on the patrol's secondary registration roster.

Alumni membership is available to anyone who has been registered with the NSP as an active patroller for a minimum of one season. This does not include the candidate season. There is no time limit to make the decision to go from active patroller to an alumni member. Currently there are over 4,200 members with over 470 in the PNWD.

Why should you join?

Because sometimes life gets in the way. As an alumni member, you won't be required to fulfill any skill or educational requirements; however, you may decide to keep OEC refreshers, instructorships, etc. current and/or serve as an instructor or in another capacity to local units of NSP. For more details, go to www.nsp.org click on "Programs" and then "Alumni". Information is in the Alumni Manual, click below the manual to open.

Under current membership rules, if a patroller drops membership even for a year, you start all over again accumulating years of service. Continual registration as an alumni member allows a person to maintain continuous years of membership.

If at any time, you decide you want to return to patrolling, simply follow the registration requirements with your patrol.

Alumni Dues and Registration

Alumni dues are \$30 annually. Alumni registration can be completed on line at nsp.org or by mail. The division receives \$10 back from NSP of the \$30 Alumni Dues.

For questions:

Pacific Northwest Alumni Advisor

Josie Elting

Email: imaginejosie@yahoo.com

National Ski Patrol Alumni Program Advisor

Tim Viall

tviall@msn.com

Purchase with purpose. Amazon donates to Pacific Northwest Division National Ski Patrol when you shop at smile.amazon.com.

Go to Amazon Smile and select PNWD as your designated charity.



OEC REPORT

By Janie SanRomani, OEC Advisor

jsanromani@comcast.net

This time of year brings about all of our Regions' Outdoor Emergency Care Module of the Senior Program (OEC-MSP) training and final evaluation. I know, that is quite a mouthful for a title and not many people enjoy the changing of the names of the different programs, but nothing we can do about all that! Three out of our five regions are hosting a final evaluation this year and everyone knows how much work goes into being part of this program. The candidates really spend a huge amount of their time working the various scenarios that focus on fine tuning and developing decision making, problem management and leadership skills. Of course the trainers and evaluators also make a huge effort and commitment to this program and everyone, not just the candidate, comes out a winner---everyone learns and improves their skills. Some candidates might have to take a bit more time to successfully complete the OEC-MSP but they gain an enormous amount of confidence and skill in dealing with complicated, serious situations. I realize that this training can be stressful but it is truly really worth all the effort. I hope that many of you are supporting your regions' Senior Programs and helping out in any way you can. I will be attending all of the final evaluations and look forward to seeing everyone again and meeting new people.

Our National OEC Program Director, Deb Endly, will be stepping down this year and a new director will be taking over. Also, our National Medical Director, Dr. David Johe, is stepping down so there might be some changes occurring in the future. Both of these people have done a fabulous job but their term limits of their positions have expired. I think they will both be around to help complete the 6th Edition of the OEC Text. This new text will likely bring about some changes too, so be prepared to learn new practices and procedures to keep our OEC program up to date and make it the best program it can possible be. Change can be difficult but every OEC technician can grow and improve to keep NSP the fabulous organization that it always has been.

As most of you know, the summer PNWD convention usually hosts a clinic or continuing education course from the OEC Discipline on the Friday of the convention. I would love to hear from all of you as to what you might want to have presented at this year's convention. Your feedback is very important to the OEC committee so please drop me a note or give me a call regarding this. All of these courses/clinics require quite a bit of preparation by the OEC supervisors so we need to know ahead of time what people need and want.

As always, feel free to contact me about any OEC concerns. I will be attending our supervisor's national meeting the first week in April—I can take your concerns and questions with me and I will be bringing back lots of new information for everyone.

Have a safe and fun winter!!

Janie San Romani, PNWD OEC Supervisor
jsanromani@comcast.net
541-953-5373---cell, 541-688-5425--home

MTR Report

By Frank Rossi, MTR Advisor

rossifp@nwlinc.com

Magnetic Declination is changing!

The World Magnetic Model is recomputed every five years. The change in magnetic declination over five years is normally less than 1°. However, the north magnetic pole has been moving more rapidly recently. This out-of-cycle World Magnetic Model was needed for navigation north of 55°N.

World Magnetic Model Out-of Cycle Release information:

<https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/news/world-magnetic-model-out-cycle-release>

<https://www.cnn.com/2019/02/05/health/north-pole-magnetic-moving-russia-scli-intl/index.html>

For the current Magnetic Declination Estimated Value at your location, use NOAA's online calculator.

<https://www.ngdc.noaa.gov/geomag/calculators/magcalc.shtml>

Frank Rossi
MTR Supervisor

PNWD REGISTRAR REPORT

By Blaine Price, Registrar

bcprice58@msn.com

Registrations for 2018-19:

With the exception of a couple of submissions, all registrations for the PNWD have been submitted, and nearly all in a single submission per patrol. Only one patrol took more than one significant submission. With that exception, and the usual additional new members and late transfers, and a very few late payers on some patrols, the process is essentially done.

Why? We all applied the experience and lessons learned after refining our PNWD and patrol procedures. Also, much thanks to some very attentive and participative PD/PRs and Registration Reps who attended the registration breakout at the Division Convention. As such, we mastered the process of submitting dues for the Division and Regions as an Opt-Out Division, while having patrollers pay National dues directly on line.

That is a real accomplishment. So I want to commend PD/PRs and where applicable, Patrol Registration Reps, for the excellent job they did this year. I know it's frustrating at times, but it is working for us.

Tentative Counts and Division Dollars as of 2-21-2019:

Region	Returning	Transfers	New	Total
IE Region	403	6	57	= 466
NW Region	674	5	84	= 763
S Idaho Region	351	8	19	= 378
Oregon Region	263	5	15	= 283
Wy'East Region	224	2	12	= 238
PNWD Admin Patrol	3	1		= 4
Totals:	1,918	27	187	= 2,132

Total PNWD Division dues submitted: = \$16,970.00 Your region treasurer will report on region dues submitted for your region.

Late Fees Division:

Division – With attentive handling in the division, there have been very few late fees assessed for PNWD dues.

National Dues Payment and Suspension:

As of today, there are still a good number of patrollers who have not paid their \$55.00 National dues on line. REMEMBER, it is the PD/PRs responsibility to see that their members have paid National, doing so by monitoring the member's 'Paid Through Date' column in their Patrol Roster at NSP, and following up when necessary. And when a member won't pay on a timely basis taking action, including perhaps suspending those patrollers from on hill duties until paid, or in some cases 'Removing' the person from their roster at NSP. Unless it shows a 'Paid Through Date' of 12-31-2019, they have not paid.

An 'NSP Leadership Update' went out on 2-21-19, to all PD/PRs and RDs stating that \$10.00 late fees are being applied as of 2-4-2019, and non-paying individuals were changed to 'Suspended' (SN) status. That means those members will be unable to sign up for courses, can't purchase from the On-Line Store or from Pro Deals, and they also will no longer receive the Ski Patrol Magazine, the OEC Refresher Workbook or Summer Catalogue if dues are not paid by April 15th.

Once they pay, the system will update their records the next day and their privileges will be restored. So work with your patrollers, and where needed PD/PRs need to shake the trees. If needed direct questions to memberrecords@nsp.org accompanied by name and member ID #.

(Continued on next page)

OET/TRANSPORTATION

By Jeffrey Weitz, Transportation Advisor

jw@northrimpx.com

NSP/Division/Region updates:

- NSP
 - NSP is gearing up for Powderfall 2019 at Snowbird with some very exciting courses being offered on the OET side. There will be “Get Your Toboggan Cover Photo”, “Get Your Ski Cover Photo”, TTW Clinics, 4 Handle Toboggan Clinics, Toboggan Steep and Deep Clinics and many more! Come join us at Snowbird starting on April 4th – April 7th.
 - A few weeks ago I was invited to assist in putting on a series of 4 handle toboggan clinics at SnowBowl outside of Missoula, Montana. Our gracious hosts from their division included—OET Mike Marlow and the Division Director Karl! Over 20 participants attended with beginning, intermediate and advanced 4 handle clinics going on all day. Shout goes out to Travis from Inner Mountain and to Sal for helping out, along with Marc Barlage, our National OET Director, for making this an amazing event! This was a great opportunity to share ideas and techniques and to collaborate cross division lines! Thanks Mr. Marlow for having Daryl from Far West and myself out to share knowledge and enjoy a good time.
- PNWD
 - Senior training is wrapping up and the final evaluations are starting this weekend. Congrats to all those who have put in the time and dedication to improving your skills and learning advance leadership skills and techniques in your on hill patrolling careers. I encourage all those seeking leadership opportunities and mastery of toboggan/OEC skills to pursue their senior accreditations! It is an amazing program run by our top instructors in the PNWD . Talk to your region supervisor today about how you can train for this amazing program! Best of luck to all our 2019 candidates!

Multi- Day Training Clinics:

We are looking forward to our 18th annual Nuts and Bolts multi-day training clinics on Mount Hood at Timberline starting on May 31st – June 2nd 2019. This is a wonderful opportunity to get in some valuable training on near laboratory quality terrain on the Palmer Glacier! We have plenty of snow on Hood to be able to provide us with some epic spring conditions come June! Last year we had over 100 patrollers attend the 3 day event! The flyer will be out in by the beginning of March so look for it on your e-mail on the Division Website! Thanks again to David Atkinson and Doug Stanton for organizing and coordinating all the amazing events this coming year! This year our theme is “ Throw one on the barby and join us down under! “

If there is anything you need assistance with at your mountain or region, don't hesitate to give a shout out and lets make this the best season ever!

Cheers! Let it Snow!

Jeffrey Weitz,
2019 PNWD Outdoor Emergency Transportation Supervisor

REGISTRAR CONTINUED From Page

NSP Member Cards:

At this time Member Cards can't be printed at the nsp.org website. This may be corrected soon, but if a problem, send an email request to memberrecords@nsp.org along with name and ID# and they can send you a copy by email.

Thanks again to patrol leadership for their great attention to handling Region and Division dues this year.

I will be working with patrols collecting dues in the Spring for new members in training and for those taking OEC classes before the new patrol year starts July 1st. Contact me if you have questions on any registration related issues.

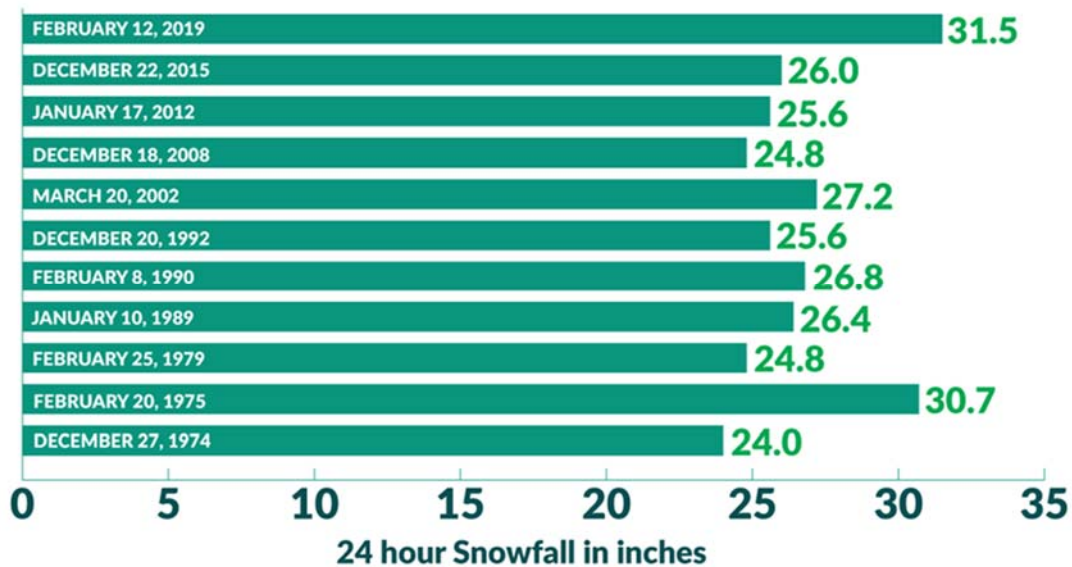
Blaine Price, PNWD Registrar
bcprice58@msn.com
206-954-4909 Cell

AVALANCHE ADVISOR REPORT

By Patrick Stanton, Avalanche Advisor

pcstanton@gmail.com

What a year! We started the season out a bit slow with an El Nino forecast over our heads, but for most of the division the snow came in big here in February. Close in at Snoqualmie Pass, we were setting records in 24-hour snowfall, see figure below from WSDOT.



Fortunately, with these large snowfalls in the division, the local avalanche centers have been aggressively getting the word out about conditions. So far, this season have not seen any avalanche accidents that have resulted in a fatality in our division as far as I know. But don't forget NARSID (Non-Avalanche Related Sudden Immersion Death), which has unfortunately claimed a couple of lives in our division this year.

In the US, we have seen several avalanche accidents, looking at avalanche.org they are showing 13 fatality avalanche accidents so far in 2019.

Avalanche Courses

I know instructors have been busy already this season teaching courses through the division. A few courses are complete, a few are in progress and a few are still coming up. If you want to take a course, please hop on nsp.org and look up the course that you are interested in.

Instructors

Current instructors, hopefully you found some teaching time already this season, if not reach out to see if you can help with your local courses. At a minimum make sure you are practicing what we preach, digging in the snow and practicing your proficiency with your gear. Aspiring instructors—now is a great time to work with your local avalanche instructors, advisors to get going on your application and mentoring.

Regards
Patrick Stanton

NORDIC AND BACKCOUNTRY REPORT

Joe Mabbutt, Nordic Advisor

joe.mabbutt@supervalu.com

In my last Norwester Article I gave a “Shout Out” to invite patrollers throughout the division to join us at Hoodoo for the 2019 Senior Level Nordic/Backcountry Clinic. The clinic was a smashing success! We had patrollers from Oregon, Idaho and even from the Inter-mountain Division. A total of 7 different patrols were represented.

I would like to thank Dan Miller, Joseph Calbreath , Bob Freund, Deb Mabbutt and Matt Strauser who gave of themselves to bring this clinic to fruition as Instructors. I would also like to thank Anne Greenwood and all the Santiam patrollers who made us welcome and acted as our liaison to the mountain management.

Matt Strauser put together a video to give a taste of the two-day event. Copy and paste into your browser.

<https://bit.ly/2EaTWjx>



Joe Mabbutt
PNWD Nordic/Backcountry Supervisor



Ski Flight '19 Returns from Switzerland & Austria!

Ski Flight returned February 19th from Davos Switzerland and Innsbruck Austria. Our first day in Davos was decent snow and visibility. The next day it dumped snow and there was almost no visibility—although the skiing was good. The third day—and from there on— we woke up to bright blue skies and lots of pow! More than one of us commented that on a scale of 1-10, the skiing that day (and the next) was an 11.

Parsenn and Jacobshorn were the two most skied by us as they were closest—plus we got picked up right at the hotel. A favorite run from Parsenn was the 12km run down to a small town called Kueblis—it runs out right at a horse pasture. A train ride away, St. Moritz was enjoyed one day as well, by about half the group.

Walking around town and shopping was also a good time, as was watching skiers at the huge Nordic center. There were plenty of others activities to do as well, although mostly we skied. And then skied some more.

Once we arrived in Austria it was more bright blue skies. Some were off to the Stubai Glacier, while others enjoyed skiing Axamer Lizum. The return trip back to the hotel from the glacier that first day there was slightly delayed as the road crew cleared an avalanche off the road.

There was also lots to look at in and around town. With the 2019 Nordic World Championships starting the day after we were leaving there was plenty of activity at the Bergisel ski jump. I spoke with one of the coaches there as he was getting ready to tune a pair of skis ... they were 280s! Also, apparently as the skiers are waiting to jump the only thing they can see below is a very old cemetery. Yikes.

Both hotels were top-notch, offering great service and amenities such as saunas, steam rooms, pools and more. 24-hr wifi was definitely a nice touch, as often times in Europe it's only offered during certain hours or areas of the hotels.

Breakfast is the best meal in Europe. Buffet style and full of breads, cheeses, dried fruit, canned fruit, meats, as well as cereal offerings. It's always my favorite meal and usually tides me over to dinner. That being said, it was impossible to resist cappuccino at the many hillside restaurants.

What's the plan for 2020? Here's a hint: Ski shini ikimasho!

For more information please contact:

Sally Seelye, Ski Flight Advisor
E-mail: sallyseelye@gmail.com
Cell/text: 253-468-0725

Ski Flight is for all patrollers, and is open to family and friends. Tell them we like to ski—a lot.
Ski Flight is a fundraiser for the Pacific Northwest Division and is not sponsored by the division or the National Ski Patrol.



**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

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