



N+R'WESTER

PACIFIC NORTHWEST DIVISION—NATIONAL SKI PATROL

December 2020

DIVISION DIRECTOR REPORT

By Shelley Urben, PNWD Director

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Greetings. As we head into December most, if not all of us, have completed our OEC refresher, our On-the-Hill refresher, and have taken or refreshed on our CPR skills. Many of our areas have already gotten snow, and some have gotten enough to actually open. Regardless of your areas current status, this is going to be an interesting year to say the least. Your RD's and your program supervisors at all levels have been talking and collaborating with me so that we can do all we can to support all of our members during this time.

In the PNWD some ski areas have been relatively quick to make opening decisions related to COVID-19, and I realize that others have been slower. Many of the slower resorts are smaller areas who have just recently brought employees back to work. For all patrols - reach out to your resorts and work together. There is a great deal of angst this year among many in the PNWD – patrollers and areas, especially with regard to safety. Again, I encourage you to work with your area. Their goal is to provide an enjoyable ski season to their patrons, while following appropriate guidelines. Talk, compare notes, make a plan, and be flexible. We know that guidelines will change. Local, state and federal COVID-19 procedures will alter depending on where you are and what is happening there. Remember to also use the COVID-19 procedure guidelines put out by the PNWD and those put out by National.

At the same time, give each other grace and allow for forgiveness. We are all going to make mistakes. We're going to miss a procedure, forget to follow a policy, fall back on our previous trainings in patient care, etc. Provide each other with gentle reminders and work as a team. And remember, grace includes those who choose not to patrol this year. It is highly likely that many patrols will have fewer people jumping in to patrol this season. As we move through the coming months, be thoughtful and as they hopefully return, welcome them back to patrolling with kindness.

Some additional information for you to know:

National News:

Bike Program

In October, the National Board of Directors for NSP voted to make Bike Patrolling a program. A program has an education component to it which includes a curriculum and courses. Programs within NSP include Alpine, Nordic, MTR, and so on. Bike will now be included. All NSP programs have National Directors, and if the Division has those programs, they generally have Division Advisors, Region Advisors, and Patrol Level

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Instructors/Leaders who work together to run that program. The PNWD is currently looking for a Division Bike Advisor. The person in this position will work with the other Divisions and the National Bike Director to build the program. If you or someone you know is interested in taking this on, please email me at shelley.urben@nsp-pnwd.org.

And, as I mentioned in the previous Nor'Wester, please contact me if your area or patrol is interested in forming a bike patrol or bike host unit.

Youth Protection

This is a reminder that some of you are now required to take Youth Protection Training. This needs to be completed by January 1st of 2021. Your completed certificates need to be sent to Kay Seidel at kaydeerpark@gmail.com. A record of your completion will then be passed on to National and it will be placed on your profile. This training is good for three years.

This comes directly from the National Website:

Who is affected/required to take a training?

- Key NSP leaders, including
- Patrol representatives, directors or unit representatives in any patrol or unit where protected parties are members
- Assistant Region Directors/Section Chiefs
- Region Directors
- Region Program Administrators or Advisors in any discipline in which protected parties participate in courses or other events
- Region Legal Advisors
- Division Directors
- Division Program Supervisors in any discipline in which protected parties participate in courses or other events
- Division Legal Advisors
- National Program Directors and Advisors
- National Board Members
- National Legal Advisors
- National Safety Team

Certain instructors will be required to complete this training as well. Please see Chapter 13 of NSP Policies and Procedures for complete information.

What kind of training is required? How long will it take?

There are several training programs that will fulfill the requirement. These include:

Armatus online training through Praesidium; required modules are: Duty to report; Preventing sexual activity among adolescents; Meet Sam (free - contact memberrecords@nsp.org with your name, member number and email address)

[Safesport.org training](#) (available for a small fee)

[BSA youth protection training \(free\)](#)

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DIVISION DIRECTOR REPORT—continued

Other online trainings may complete the requirement; your Division Director or designee must approve any alternative online training. In-person trainings that are provided by other youth-serving organizations like school districts and child care centers will also fulfill the requirement if they are at least 2 hours in length and provide documentation of completion.

If you have questions about the training, please contact me at [shelley.urben@nsp-pwend.org](mailto:shelley.urben@nsp-pwnd.org).

Associate RFA

As discussed in the September Nor’Wester, there is currently an RFA on the docket to make the associate members of Mt Hosts and Bike Hosts traditional members. This would allow these people voting rights, would give them full access to the store, would help them to feel like and be full members of the NSP rather than feel disenfranchised. It would also allow Alumni to transition to Host without losing any benefits, etc. Hosts pay the same dues as traditional members. Please feel free to contact me if you have any thoughts or questions about this RFA.

Lift Evacuation Manual

If you log onto the NSP website and go to Member Resources, you can scroll down and find information about the new Aerial Evacuation Resource Guide (AERG) -- formerly the Lift Evacuation Manual. According to the website, “The guide contains the latest information and best practices for the evacuation of aerial lifts as well as summer adventure attractions. It provides guidance for planning, training, rescue methods and techniques, and equipment usage so your teams can safely lower guests and employees to the ground when needed. ... The AERG is co-authored by the National Ski Areas Association and NSP...”

The document can be purchased digitally through the NSP Online Store for \$50.00, or you can purchase a printed copy through NSAA for \$115.00, unless you are a member of NSAA and are eligible for the discount.

Division News

Division OEC Supervisor

Please note that Karen Jensen is now our Division OEC Supervisor. Karen is an alpine patroller at Soldier Mountain in Southern Idaho Region. She has nearly 30 years of ski patrol experience, much of that involved with OEC instruction and training. She will be working this season with Kathy Lee and Leisa Garrett. Karen’s contact information is kaj3@centurylink.net.

OEC Instructors

Remember – all OEC instructors must complete the OEC 6th rollout certification if you plan to continue to teach OEC. If you still need a course, please contact Karen Jensen at kaj3@centurylink.net.

After you have signed up for a course, you will receive an access code to Jones and Bartlett Online OEC Course.

Instructions in the NSP website:

- Click on Member Resources
- In the right column under Member Resources, Click on Online Learning
- Select ‘Click Here To Enter the Online Learning Management System’.
- On the screen that says ‘Welcome to NSP Online Courses’ click on the blue box that says ‘Courses’. Then click the box with the photo that says ‘OEC National Roll-out Instructor Training’.

Once all of the modules are completed your certificate of completion will be available

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for you to send to the course IOR.

Remember - If you do not complete this OEC 6th rollout certification, you will not be recertified to be an OEC instructor.

Region Director/Division Supervisor Meetings

I have been meeting monthly with the PNWD Region Directors and Division Supervisors. Much of our discussion has revolved around COVID-19. It is unlikely that any patrol in our Division will hold an OEC Senior this year, but OET Seniors may happen in some areas. Of course, all of this could change, but at this time the risk for OEC Seniors seems too high. At the same time, some regions and programs are exploring creative ways to host courses. Please make sure to review the articles in this issue of the Nor’Wester. And if you aren’t sure what programs are holding classes this year, please contact your Region or Division Advisor for that program.

New Release Form – Waiver

If you are teaching any class this year, holding a refresher, or conducting any event that is NSP sponsored, please make sure that you are using the most recent waiver form. It’s located on the member’s side under Forms and Documents – Education. The title is NSP Event Training Release Form.

Voting

By the time this comes out, voting for the NSP National Board will be over. I sincerely hope that many of you were able to take the time to get your votes in.

It is my goal this year to visit as many areas around the Division as possible. This season is definitely going to be different for all of us. Let’s pray for lots of snow and lots of powder.

Please reach out to me at any time. I am here to support all our members and provide you with what you need to have a safe and successful ski season.

All my best,
Shelley Urben, PNW Division Director

From National:

The NSP Executive Director, Meegan Moszynski has left National Ski Patrol after 3 ½ years of service. NSP thanks Meegan for her leadership during the COVID-19 pandemic to keep our organization responsive and effective.

The NSP Board has begun a national search to fill the Executive Director position and will, of course, keep all of us posted on progress. During this interim period, the national office is in the capable hands of Ellen White, the Finance and Operations Director, who already oversees many of the day-to-day operations of the organization. These will continue uninterrupted – our members, partners and sponsors should see no interruption in service or ongoing initiatives.

NSP has worked hard developing and implementing model operational and staffing plans for the 2020-21 ski season. I am confident these will remain in place as we move forward.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at shelley.urben@nsp-pnwd.org

Thank you for your continued support of National Ski Patrol.

INLAND EMPIRE REGION REPORT

By Kelli Piper, Inland Empire Region Director

piper@zagmail.gonzaga.edu

The winter storms are beginning to come in off the pacific and dump snow in our mountains here in the Inland Empire Region. This year patrolling will be very different than prior years. A successful patrol season will demand us all to be flexible and creative while patrolling.

Inland Empire Region currently has three hybrid OEC courses at Mt. Spokane, Lookout Pass and 49 Degrees North. These three classes have a total of about 35 candidates enrolled. It is wonderful these new patrol candidates are taking OEC and using technology for education purposes.

The Senior program in the Inland Empire currently has about ten candidates. These patrollers started last year and are waiting to take the additional courses to finish. This program may not be offered this season due to Covid but will start up again when safe to do so. I encourage all those Senior candidates to keep teaching, learning and developing their skills. This is a great program, well worth going through to develop leadership in our patrols, Region and Division.

One good thing that has come from this pandemic is that Ski Patrols have been sharing information and using technology more. In our virtual meetings, it has been exciting to learn how patrols are using technology for teaching and gathering data or statistics. One patrol in our Region is reducing exposure by generating accident reports on the spot through use of an app, which tracks trends in accidents, accident locations and response times. This information will help patrols educate ski areas in ways to increase skier safety.

Any upcoming clinics and trainings that are possible for the Region to offer this season will be emailed out to Patrol Directors and posted on the Inland Empire Facebook page. Please reach out to me or any other of the Region Advisors if you have questions or need assistance this season.

Covid has challenged us in many ways. We could not have imaged working from home, home schooling our children or grandchildren. It is easy to become overwhelmed. Recognize what you are doing well, remain upbeat and get out and exercise. Chase the powder and take time to enjoy the lifestyle of a skier and patroller.

Take care and stay healthy,

Kelli Piper Inland Empire Region Director

piper@zagmail.gonzag.edu

Zoom Meetings available NOW

PNWD now has a Zoom license that is available for patrol business in our division. Contact Richard Murphy or Shelley Urben for information on use.

Richard Murphy: richard.murphy@nsp-pnwd.org

Shelley Urben: shelley.urben@nsp-pnwd.org

SOUTHERN IDAHO REGION REPORT

By David Campbell, Southern Idaho Region Director

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

Snow is in the air. All areas in the Southern Idaho Region have snow on the ground. Everyone is waiting for more and making plans for the season. By now everyone should have refresher's done and be gearing up for skiing. It's always a hard time for me waiting for the season to start. This year is even more difficult with the uncertainty of operations due to COVID. Make plans and in true ski patrol fashion be flexible and be ready to deal with whatever comes our way.

There have been some changes with advisors. Karen Jensen has stepped up to the division level as OEC Supervisor, Congratulation's Karen! Dave Kennedy will fill Karen's position on the region level, with Patrick Arnold as his assistant. Mark Lopsire is the region Safety adviser and Amy Swiger is working on becoming the new Instructor Development adviser, so Carol Fountain can finally step down and focus on traveling the world. Thank you Carol for your many years dedication. I'm still looking for a Snowboard and Nordic/Backcountry adviser.

At the region meeting, we had good discussion about the Senior Program. The consensus was that it's still too early to cancel. Ideas that are in being discussed are to make it available only to those that were not successful last year, and hold it later in the season for OEC, possibly after the areas are closed. We are working on this, if you have any ideas or concerns please let me know.

Southern Idaho will be hosting the Division Convention in 2021 in Boise. At this point, I still hope to have it in person. If that is not possible I'm thinking maybe a hybrid some in person and some virtual like schools are doing. Plans are in the works.

One last business item, ALL patrol directors and region advisers must do youth protection training. The NSP's new Youth Protection Policy establishes training and reporting requirements for NSP leaders and other members working with youth under the age of 18. Go to the NSP website for more information. It is not hard, so do it and send me the certificate and I will forward it on. Let's get it done.

Be safe, Stay Positive, Be adaptable to change, and have a great season.

Dave Campbell

Southern Idaho Region Director



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.



WY' EAST REGION REPORT

By Joel Stevens, Wy'East Region Director

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What a different start to a ski season. With lots of early snow and a La Nina in the forecast, Timberline opened on the day before Thanksgiving, and Mt. Hood Meadows the following Monday. In a normal year that would be great news, but this year it is tempered by all the Covid-19 restrictions that will make this a season like no other in our memory. Timberline just announced that they are discontinuing the reservation system that they had planned on implementing, but they are unique because they have a lot more uphill capacity than parking, so they will limit the number of skiers based on the capacity of their parking lot. They expect the Timberline road to close shortly after 7:00 am. Other Wy'east areas will probably still have reservations, unless they find it unnecessary.

Like other ski areas, the restaurants and bars in the Wy'east region will be closed. There will be limited access to the lodges. Visitors are encouraged to warm up and eat in their cars. Skiers will need to wear masks in the lift lines as well as in the lodge and when riding lifts. The First Aid rooms will be limited to patients who really need to be seen indoors and have no Covid symptoms.

The Mt Hood Ski Patrol has conducted Covid-19 Training and N-95 Mask Fit tests for all patrollers who expect to patrol this winter. As mentioned in previous articles, the Mt Hood Ski Patrol has a bit of an early start with Covid-19 operations because Timberline has Summer Skiing and Mountain Biking, and Mt. Hood Ski Bowl has Mountain Biking and a number of other Summer Adventure Park activities. So far, the operations have gone well with very few Covid-19 issues. Winter operation will obviously be a much bigger challenge because the cold, snowy weather will make staying outside much less inviting. Outdoor First Aid Pop Ups are set up, and admission to the First Aid rooms is limited to patients who really need to be admitted, and one parent or guardian of a minor, with no Covid symptoms. The use of lift shacks or top of the mountain patrol rooms for dispatch will be very limited. Patrollers will have to gear up in their cars, and all patrol morning meetings will be outside.

A number of patrollers, particularly older patrollers and those with medical issues or family concerns have opted to stand down this season, but there appear to be enough patrollers to provide adequate coverage to the areas and most of the team spots are staffed.

2021 Nuts and Bolts is still up in the air. Hopefully, the vaccines will be widely distributed by then, and we can start getting back to a more normal life.

Sláinte (which is Irish for “to your health”)

Joel Stevens Wy'east RD



PNWD REGISTRAR REPORT

By Blaine Price, Registrar

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PNWD Registration Overview

As an Opt-Out Division for dues collection, we are now at the point where most members of the PNWD have paid their Region and Division dues, PD/PRs have 'Notified' NSP of their finalized 'Formed' roster after any known 'Adds' or 'Removals', and members have been invoiced for their National \$60.00 dues.

Now it is up to PD/PRs to monitor their on-line roster at NSP to see that member's 'Paid Through Date' shows as 12-31-2021, following up with those who haven't paid National to pay before a \$5.00 PNWD late fee or \$10.00 National late fee is assessed. Late fees are assessed Jan. 1st for PNWD, and Feb. 1st for National. The objective in PNWD is to target all dues paid by December 31st.

Of course, patrols will be adding New Member Candidates and perhaps Transfers as the season goes on.

It is up to individual members to take responsibility for paying their own dues on a timely basis. So, as you read this, have you done your part? Thanks to all that have done so, and if not, take this as a reminder to go ahead and do so now.

When you do go in to pay National, also take the time to review your 'Profile' on line at NSP and be sure all of your personal information is current, updating where needed. Things like gender, DOB, email addresses and phone numbers are important. DOB will now only show month and year, and not the date.

If you haven't paid, at some point do not be surprised if your PD/PR advises you that you can't be on the hill for duty days, or wear the uniform until you have paid.

Patrolling Under COVID 19

Some members may be facing difficult decisions as to how they will participate, or if they will continue under a time of COVID 19. There are options you should consider before you make a final decision.

1. Some ski area managements may choose to be very forgiving on duty requirements during this trying time, with an eye on having ready patrol staffing in a following year after the pandemic gets under control. Your PD/PR will be talking with management about how your area will approach these issues. Talk to your PD/PR if you have concerns.
2. Patrollers also have the option of going 'Temporarily Not Patrolling' which means they do OEC/CPR refreshers etc., but can't wear the uniform or participate in the FA room or on the hill. They pay full dues, and can be brought back to active patrolling at any point by the PD/PR by changing status back to 'Active'. This allows the patroller to temporarily step back from on hill exposure without losing years of service.
3. The other option is to go 'Alumni' paying \$35.00 annual dues. Alumni can still be instructors and IT's like in OEC, be a Secondary Alumni on their patrol, and still have access to the NSP Store and Pro Deals and continue to build 'Years of Service' in NSP. But they can't patrol or work the FA Room. In such a situation, they can keep up OEC certification if they choose, and come back to 'Active' in a later year. However, if their OEC lapses, they would have to take or challenge the class again as a 'Candidate' and meet other local standards before being advanced to 'Patroller' or above again.

If you feel the need to make a difficult decision about continuing, consider these options, and at least choose becoming an Alumni before walking away.

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REGISTRAR —continued

Doing so preserves your ability to come back later with years of service intact, and get that coveted 25 or 50 year service pin you've worked so hard to achieve. And remember, no matter what, your member ID # in NSP never changes.

As always, contact me if you have questions at bcprice58@msn.com

Let it snow and snow some more!

Blaine

OREGON REGION REPORT

By Andy Bechdolt, Oregon Region Director

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Greeting Oregon Region Patrollers –

We're getting ready for what will definitely prove to be an interesting season. Nearly all of you have completed a vastly different OEC Refresher, as well as a vastly different CPR refresher or full class.

As this is written, the Oregon Region is in the midst of a bit of a freeze. A freeze from the pandemic – we're currently not dining out, not working out in gyms, and always wearing face coverings. We're also in the midst of a weather freeze. I spent yesterday playing in the snow near Willamette Pass. If this weather continues on its current pattern, we're likely to have a great season!

In the Oregon Region, we are currently not planning on conducting any clinics – Senior, OET, TES, etc. This year seems like a great year to hold local training and firm up local protocols, while of course remaining safe and healthy.

Whether you are temporarily not patrolling, active or alumni this season; remember to stay healthy. Please follow the guidelines set forth by the CDC, the NSP and your local mountain management. This is temporary and we'll be back to some sense of normal by next season.

Andy Bechdolt
Oregon Region Director



PNWD MEDICAL ADVISOR REPORT

By James Hamilton, Medical Advisor

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Are You and Your Patrol Ready for a Challenging Season?

Fall has arrived and ski season is just around the corner. This year we have lots of work to prepare ourselves, and our patrols, for a safe and successful season. For the past 8-10 months many of us have been “cocooning.” As such, we now have to start getting back into some reasonable physical conditioning to ensure our personal safety as we renew strenuous activity. I would strongly encourage everyone to start some routine exercises before you get out on the slopes.

The second thing we need to check is our equipment. Make sure that your toe pieces allow you to twist out. Bone is at its weakest in torque. It really is easy to apply a twisting force to a bone and cause a spiral fracture. Your toe piece is the factor that saves your leg from several months in a cast or surgery needed to stabilize the fracture.

Additionally, we face a new set of extremely serious problems this season – COVID-19. As I write this article tonight, the US has hit a record 1500 deaths today, up from 1000 deaths per day at the start of the month. Hospitals are reaching capacity and 49 states are experiencing significant increases in cases. It is predicted that this will rise to 2000 deaths per day by the end of the month. People are tired of restrictions and want to return to “normal.” Unfortunately, many ski area patrons are young males who consider themselves “invincible” or that COVID-19 is “just another flu” and nothing to worry about. 21% of COVID infections are in the 20-29 year-old age group with 988 deaths since February. However, many survivors in this age group have severe lung and organ damage which will be a problem for the rest of their lives. Commonly they have ignored wearing a mask in their social circles and many are infected and asymptomatic. Unfortunately, with cold weather and activities transitioning indoors, Thanksgiving and Christmas with students returning from college, and increasing numbers of events such as the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally and multiple political rallies, the possibility of a catastrophic surge in cases is very real. Multiple localities with infection rates rising to over 10% of those tested (some areas actually reaching 25%) are instituting state-wide mask restrictions with significant limitations on gatherings and social settings. The most common areas for infection transmission are bars, restaurants and gatherings in homes, clubs or other enclosed areas. I fully anticipate by Christmas we may well be seeing 4000 deaths/day.

If ski areas are allowed to continue to be open, how can patrollers protect themselves? Because someone can be infected for several days with COVID-19 before showing symptoms, EVERYONE you encounter MUST be considered as possibly infected. At a minimum that means you should be wearing a mask whenever others are near – this includes other patrollers! Consider eating outside away from others. Religiously cleanse your hands and equipment after any contact with others. Don appropriate mask, gloves and eye shield/goggles for EVERY patient and a gown when a bleeding wound is present or CPR or intubation is required.

If you are 65-74 years old, you have a 90X greater chance of dying from a COVID-19 infection than someone 18-29 years old. If you are 75-89 years old, the death rate increases to 220X that of the 18-29 years old. If you are in these senior groups, you may want to consider an alternative role with ski patrol until the pandemic is controlled and/or a vaccine is widely available for you to obtain.

COVID-19 will require your patrol to also take measures to prepare for the season. One major problem will be obtaining sufficient supplies and PPE. The second one will be establishing protocols to:

1. Limit the people who come into the FAR.
2. Establish protocols limiting the number of patrollers who care for an individual patient.
3. Realize that patrollers may have to quarantine after an exposure to a COVID patient and staffing may not be reliable.

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MEDICAL ADVISOR REPORT—continued

4. Possibly establishing a screening/treatment area outside of the FAR to decrease traffic into the FAR.
5. Educating patrollers how to screen a patient for a possible COVID infection without exposing themselves.
6. All patients requiring assistance MUST wear a mask. Failure to comply should be assessed as refusal of assistance. Patrollers will need to carry an extra mask in case the patient does not have one.
7. When using O2 on a patient, place it OVER the patient's mask to prevent the patient's exhaled air contaminating the FAR.
8. Consider the placement of a portable air purifier/HEPA filter in the FAR and leaving door/windows open to increase air circulation.
9. Consider a policy that allows your elder patrollers to maintain their membership while not being required to actively patrol on-the-hill and how a decrease in this group will affect patrol shifts.

We have many challenges ahead. With careful decision making and policy implementation and with all patrollers being careful, not only while on patrol, but also in their personal lives, hopefully we will all be spared this infection and have a safe and healthy ski season!

Jim Hamilton



2021 PNWD Convention

Southern Idaho Region is still moving full steam ahead to host the PNWD Convention on August 13-15, 2021 in Boise, Idaho. Our goal is very much to have a convention that is safe for everyone. We don't know what lies ahead. Dealing with all the volatility is making it very difficult to make plans. We feel there is no substitute though for the value you get from a live, in person event, so that is the direction we will continue to focus on. This becomes more of a challenge in terms of forecasting.

We know that there will be a small portion who will not want to attend our convention because of Covid, but we feel if we can prioritize hygiene, health and safety, with modifications to our original plans as needed, as well as adhering to necessary safety protocols, our convention and side events can take place as scheduled. We will continue to monitor the situation closely.

2021 Southern Idaho Convention Chairs

Pam Carson, Bogus Basin

Sarah Mello, Anthony Lakes

INSTRUCTOR DEVELOPMENT REPORT

By Kathy Alexander, ID Advisor

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This report is directed to PNWD NSP Instructors and Instructor Trainers in all Disciplines for updated information on courses, recertification, and other practical information.

RECERTIFICATION

For Instructors in all disciplines, the NEW “NSP Instructor Skills Review for Continuing Education” is now available in NSP’s OnLine Learning; complete the course once in a 3-year cycle; save the Course Completion Certificate and send a copy to your Region Advisor in your discipline. AND then enroll in a registered “NSP Instructor Skills Review for Continuing Education” course in order to receive credit for completing the requirement for recertification: NSP will track completion date and update your Member Profile. NOTE: check with your Region ID Advisor or myself for a registered course which replaces the need for an in-person Session.

30 Instructors are presently enrolled in course P024200015 “NSP Instructor Skills Review for Continuing Education” which I will close on Dec. 15th. Thank you all for completing this course: and remember to send me a copy of the Course Completion Certificate.

I will register another “NSP Instructor Skills Review for CE” if you are interested: please let me know.

NEW: Instructor Development eCourse (2020)

This updated course is available in NSP’s OnLine Learning: this is Part 1 for Patrollers who are interested in becoming an Instructor: no enrollment needed; self-directed learning; complete course then save the Course Completion Certificate. Contact your Region ID Advisor in order to complete Part 2.

USE NEW FORMS

Updated “Instructor Application 2020” (Course Tools: Instructor Development page).

Updated : “Event Training Release Form” sent in the Nov. 3rd Instructor eNews from NSP.

COURSE TOOLS information for all Instructors and ITs

Written Tutorials with Visuals (Adobe PDF files) and YouTube videos are available for:

Register a Course

Edit a Course

Mark a Course Complete

Cancel a Course.

And a special THANK YOU to PNWD’s 50 ID-Instructors and 18 ID-ITs who help make this NSP program so responsive and adaptable to all Patrollers. Happy Holidays...stay well...stay safe...and do your SNOW Dance.

Hope to be able to visit a few Regions in 2021...please contact me if you have questions or need help

Kathy at 541-325-3827



PATROLLER & SAFETY REPORTS

By Jodie Jeffers, Patroller and Safety Advisor

jodie.jeffers@nsp-pnwd.org

HOW ARE YOU?!

This is TOUGH and we NEED to help each other!

Patrollers & patrols by nature are a supporting group, but there comes a time - a covid time - that we need to look to the left, to the right and in the mirror...do not assume. Take a good look, reach out, offer a zoom coffee or "other" beverage choice and catch up with patroller friends. Meet in a parking lot and use the distance of vehicles to chat briefly. Check in with each other & reach out!

We are in a time of ongoing frustration, unknowns, stress, confusion, with ever changing ways it seems. This has been, currently is, and will be a significant toll to all. However, we will probably experience it at different times. For some, there may have been just a little change, but for others a-lot. Now that it is winter, maybe you are affected more than before? The take home message is how to deal with it now and in moving forward. Reflect on how you are sounding, voicing, emailing. Focus on the things you have control in, versus the things you can not control.

It is our nature to keep busy and be productive, besides being helpful. We may not be elbow to elbow now, but together we can share that spirit of community. Need some ideas to get started? I am happy to help with general or patrol ideas, including safety, doing things for the community, etc. Here are just a few items to consider.

- Using social media, do a "Ski Tip of the Day?" Week or Month?
- Recognize your patrollers and feature them on social media...depending on the number, maybe have several per week?
- Offer safety education to schools/teachers...we all are becoming very proficient at using webinars, Zoom etc. Wear your patrol gear, talk for 5-10 minutes about so many possible things. Show how you wear a mask. Depending on how it goes, your patrol may be asked to come back for a weekly tip? Record or pre-record some topics and share. I am sure there are a-lot of teachers that would love to have you join them or be able to show your quick video tip.
- Reach out to your areas and coordinate additional things to share to their website, keeping the public engaged. Even if your area doesn't open, don't you want to showcase your patrol and patrollers?

The National Safety Team is looking to host a webinar on various safety related items to be possibly held in January. If you have any thoughts, ideas, interest, please let me know.

Remember, now is the time to avoid being complacent in regards to COVID. Maybe you see this at places, but we as patrollers need to be aware and find ways to ensure we do not and encourage others to do the same.

Please take care of yourselves. Be supportive of each other. Together we will get through this!

Jodie Jeffers



OEC REPORT

By Karen Jensen, OEC Supervisor

karenannjensen@icloud.com

Greetings. My name is Karen Jensen and I am excited for this opportunity to serve the PNWD as your new OEC supervisor. I thought I would take this chance to introduce myself for those who don't know me and tell you a little bit about myself. I joined the NSP for the 1990-91 season making this my thirtieth year as a patroller. I spent most of that time at Bogus Basin outside of Boise, and in the last few years transferred to the Soldier Mountain Ski Patrol in Fairfield, Idaho.

While at Bogus, I served a number of years as the patrol's OEC advisor and have served the Southern Idaho Region as the Region OEC Advisor for the last eight years.

My profession is as a RN in both the acute care hospital setting and as adjunct faculty for a local university's nursing program. I love to teach, so the faculty job allows me to combine both of my passions. I have two adult children, one of which is a patroller at Bogus Basin, and two (almost three, in March) adorable granddaughters.

This last eight months have brought many challenges for the OEC program. First and foremost is the loss of Janie San Romani. She was a strong advocate for the PNWD's OEC program and I learned a lot from her over the years. She will be sorely missed.

The biggest challenge, of course, has been Covid-19 which has been an unpredictable and highly contagious virus. It has caused patrollers, as well as all aspects of healthcare, to adjust how we care for patients and how we train to maintain competency.

Finally, the rollout of a new edition of OEC always presents challenges, and with social distancing we were unable to come together in person to do that. With online education and meetings, we were able to accomplish the rollout for the 6th edition of OEC.

And we did what patrollers do, we faced the challenges and adapted in order to train safely and patrol safely. Many of our group activities will continue to be curtailed over the season, but hopefully, in the not too distant future, we will be able to meet in larger groups again.

As we are approaching a new season, refreshers are winding down and instructor rollouts are about complete. I would like to say a big thank you to Kathy Lee and to Leisa Garrett who have been assisting me on my learning curve in this role.

Karen

SOCIAL MEDIA – STILL NEEDS YOU!!!

For more information contact both:

Richard Murphy: richard.murphy@nsp-pnwd.org and Jodie Jeffers: jodie.jeffers@nsp-pnwd.org



Denis Van Winkle

Featured Alumni

I joined the Willamette Backcountry Ski Patrol in the mid-90's as a volunteer patroller. I held several patrol positions including Finance Director and Patrol Director. My work situation changed and in addition to expanded duties, I also needed to work in another state. I realized that I would not be able to stay fully active as a patroller. I switched to alumni status and kept up on my OEC refreshers and yearly training. I stayed as active in the patrol as I could with my work and family obligations. Following retirement from my "day job" in 2013, I returned to full patroller status. This year my patrol honored me with their "Outstanding Patroller" award. Whatever your reason for choosing it, the alumni program is a great way to stay connected!

Alumni Membership

An alumni member is a special registration category for people who, for various reasons decide to no longer be an active patroller, but they wish to maintain their relationship with the National Ski Patrol (NSP). You are not required to stay connected with your patrol. However, if a member is interested in staying connected with their patrol, upon patrol approval, the PD/PR can register them on the patrol's secondary registration roster. **Please note** that the patrol registrar will not be able to add the alumni until the National Office releases the NSP ID number from the patrol. If you have any questions or trouble please contact me.

OEC Refreshers

Alumni members are not required to fulfill any refresher requirements except those needed to maintain any instructor certifications they may wish to continue. Any registered alumni who satisfies the continuing requirements for being an instructor, may serve in that capacity within the division.

Frequently Asked Questions

The Alumni Program is a good choice to take a break with the option to return to patrolling at a later date. If that sounds like something you would like to consider, discuss the process with your Patrol Director/Patrol Representative. If you have questions, about the Alumni Program you can go to nsp.org and check out the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's) or contact me.

Become An Alumni Member Today

Alumni membership dues are \$35 per year and membership is available to anyone who has been registered with the NSP as an active patroller for a minimum of one season past their candidate season. There is no time limit to make the decision to go from active patroller to an alumni member.

This decision can be made at any time during the season or, if you have been away from NSP for a number of years, you can still become an Alumni. Currently there (continued p.16)

Alumni Advisor Report—continued

are over 5,000 NSP Alumni members with over 450 in the Pacific Northwest Division. **To Become an Alumni:** Log on to nsp.org as a member. You can find additional information at Programs/Alumni, click on Become An Alumni Member Today. Complete the form and follow the directions on the form.

Important: Under current membership rules, if a patroller drops their membership even for one year, your membership starts all over and you will lose your previous years of membership.

Outstanding Alumni in the PNWD

Alumni members serve in a variety of ways such as instructors, recruiters, advisors and so on. The alumni members can be found in advisory capacities at local, region, division, and national levels of the NSP. We would like to appreciate the outstanding alumni in our division. Please let me know about your Outstanding Alumni to feature in our next Nor'Wester.

Josie Elting
PNWD Alumni Advisor
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MTR Report

By Dick Willy, MTR Advisor

rdwmcw@comcast.net

Our Brave New World – Zoom, Zoom...!

This isn't MTR specific, but....

Over a year ago, the National MTR Program started a site for sharing online course ware. The intent, to facilitate sharing of material & methods which would allow us to lessen travel, share best practices, and ease the difficulty of finding classrooms. Then came Covid-19.

We now have Zoom, Teams, etc. as common delivery tools in day-to-day life. Mother Necessity took over, and these tools are now ever-present in our personal and work lives. Not that I have day-to-day expertise in any....I marvel at how far we've come in such a short period.

Zoom, for example, can record a Powerpoint presentation as well as a video of the presenter discussing each slide. This is not the time or place to get into "how to", but if you don't know how, but need to know, reach out.

Here's a link to an Avy 1 presentation done last season by NW Region Avalanche Advisor, Erik Olson. Holler if you have questions. I probably can't answer them, but I can hopefully get you to someone who can. Check out one of Erik's videos here: <https://bit.ly/3liUffg>

Dick Willy
PNWD MTR Supervisor

I have put off writing this article for longer than I should have. In fact, I was to have it finished yesterday. For that I apologize to those affected by my tardiness. I was having a difficult time coming up with decent topics. This is the longest I have gone without skiing for as long as I can remember. I know the same goes for most of you as well. I spent most of the summer close to home. Other than work, I didn't get out much at all. I usually enjoy a few other activities that many people would consider risky. Instead, I spent more time working on my yard than I have in the 29 years I have lived here combined. The irony is, I had more injuries than I do engaging in my "risky" pursuits.

The virtual PNW Division Convention was held in August. My virtual breakout session was an attempt to get people thinking about developing a Safety Matrix for conducting courses. Namely OET courses, but it can be applied to all endeavors. My plan was to avoid a canned Power Point presentation with me clicking on slides and droning on about a potentially mind numbing subject. Rather, I thought, I would attempt to encourage a discussion of the topic and a way to record and disseminate the information to those involved. Not having much experience with a virtual presentation, I didn't anticipate the fact that with limited face-to-face interaction, we lose a huge part of how we communicate. I had no idea if those in attendance were sleeping, taking notes, or getting any kind of useful information out of the presentation. Inquisitive looks were non-existent. No eye contact left me unable to coax comments or suggestions from the audience. There were no hushed side conversations that often lead to questions or to further ideas. I do hope it wasn't a complete waste of time for those who stuck it out. If these challenges we are facing continue, I will work on my virtual presentation skills.

On a much more up note, I would like to formally announce the recent addition of four new OET instructors. Doug Renken, from Bogus Basin, Southern Idaho Region, Peter Muskat from Bogus Basin, Southern Idaho Region, Chase Hauseman, from Mt Spokane, Inland Empire Region, and Janelle Flores from Mt. Spokane, Inland Empire Region. I thank you all in advance for undertaking this most noble of human interactions. The passing on of knowledge is, in my humble opinion, the best thing we can do to improve the future. I encourage you to not only pass on what has been passed on to you, but to add your signature to the creativity that is quality instruction. Thank you for all you do, and are about to do!

I am also proud to offer a belated welcome to Andy Hatfield from Mt. Baker, Northwest Region as my replacement for NW Region OET Advisor. I have enjoyed working with Andy for several years and NW Division has gained a tremendous asset having him as an advisor. Heather Van Houton from Mt. Hood is the new Wy'East/Mt Hood Region OET advisor. Heather is also an outstanding instructor and I look forward to working with her this season and many more. My only regret is for those areas that are losing some quality time with two outstanding educators.

The weekend of November 14-15, 2020, was hill setup at Crystal Mountain. With as much snow as there was, in a non-new-normal season, it would have been the best opening weekend I can remember. We had 34 inches at base and 46 inches at the summit on Saturday. We as volunteers would not have been called in for the full hill setup. In a non-new-normal season, the paid staff would have spent a few days setting up the miles of rope lines, installing and/or adjusting tower pads, and marking hazards, basically working their toes and everything above that to the bone. We are far from non-new-normal. Saturday and Sunday after the paid staff did control work to keep all of us safe, we assisted them with all of the aforementioned. I was a rag doll by 2:00 Saturday. Note to self, "improve your physical fitness before next season starts, because too much is never enough. The powder was amazing in those rare opportunities, we took advantage. It was similar to sweeps from the first run. If you saw another person on the hill, you knew it was a fellow patroller. If you wanted a few fresh tracks, pick a line. If you wanted to figure eight your own tracks you could. But why would you? It was a great day.

(continued p.18)

OET ADVISOR REPORT—continued

As it stands now, Inland Empire, Southern Idaho, and Wy'East/Mount Hood, are moving ahead with plans to administer Senior OET events. Oregon is not planning on any OET event, but has offered their assistance to Wy'East for their program. Thank you Joe Harwood for the offer. I applaud everyone for making these difficult choices. Please take every precaution to keep our people safe. Know for certain, you have my full support in all your decisions. If there is anything I can do to assist your programs, I am at your disposal.

Well. For someone who didn't have anything to say, I have managed to carry on for long enough. Be careful out there.

Have fun, and be well.

Jack Ramsey
PNW Division OET Super visor

SKI FLIGHT

By Sally Seeley

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What's next for Ski Flight?

Currently Ski Flight is still planning on a 2021 trip to Portillo Chile in August. So excited!

As of right now I don't anticipate having any additional information until January, as it's still a bit early for the hotels etc.

Please call, text, or email me to be added to the mailing list for updates. Thank you to those of you who already have!



AVALANCHE REPORT

By Brad Acker, Avalanche Advisor

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In this issue I have some exciting news...We have filled the empty N.W. Region Avalanche Advisor roll, and I'm super excited!! Please join me in welcoming Erik Olson from Hyak Ski Patrol, up on the Snoqualmie Pass. This now rounds out our dream team of Regional Avalanche Advisors. If you have not been taking notes, I'd like to thank them all. Eric Griffith at Anthony Lakes in the Southern Idaho Region, Gabe White at Silver Mountain in the Inland Empire Region, Jim Hutchinson at Willamette Pass in the Oregon Region, and Mike Levis at Mt. Hood Ski Patrol in the Wy'east Region. If you have been taking notes, you may have noticed that Mike Levis has just taken over from Nichole Gaines. I'd like to thank Nichole for her energetic help and wonderful attitude in the time she was the Wy'east advisor.

Moving on, it's re-certification season. Every three years instructors need to recertify. Your advisor should have reached out to you. If you are unsure of your status please reach out to the advisor for your region. In addition, this year we have a new Avalanche Instructors Manual (AIM) for Level 1. As a result, we will be hosting an AIM roll-out clinic which is REQUIRED for ALL avalanche instructors and is recommended for all patrollers on the path to becoming instructors. If you are a current instructor, you can now download the current AIM from the NSP webpage. If you are working with future instructors, please provide this new AIM to them. Keep an eye out for the on-line AIM roll-out clinic, it will be about 90 minutes and we are planning on a division wide call. Should be pretty cool.

Are you becoming a Senior Patroller and looking for an avalanche elective? We have you covered! This season the National Avalanche Committee (NAC) has added two new options to satisfy senior elective requirements without taking a 24 hour avalanche class. The classes are Companion Rescue and Avalanche Senior Elective. The Companion Rescue class is only listed individually if it is being offered as a senior elective; otherwise all the content is the same as the companion rescue portion of the Level 1 class. The other class, Avalanche Senior Elective, is a very flexible class with the content being up to the instructor of record. If these are classes that your patrol may need, please contact your Regional Advisor.

Finally, I'd like to add a note about the evolving terminology in the avalanche education field. Now that we are a few years into the professional/recreational education split, the current terminology is Pro1,2,3 for a professional level course and simply Level 1 or 2 for the recreation level class. As this is evolving it is always a good idea to verify with the instructor what the actual certificate will be. At this time the NSP curriculum is approved by the American Avalanche Association (AAA) in the recreational path. I should also mention, while there are a handful of wonderful education providers on the market, not all Level 1's are created equal. They all must satisfy the minimum requirement of AAA, but different organizations may have different end users in mind and thus provide (or don't) additional education. For example, NSP classes will tend to have more content on rescue, snow science, reporting form, and operational issues to name a few key items. As such, not all Level 1 certifications can be accepted across the board as equal to an NSP Level 1, additional classes may be required. Work with your Regional Advisor if you have questions about other providers.

Brad Aker



OUTDOOR RISK MANAGEMENT REPORT

By Joe Ferraro, ORM Advisor

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As we all know, 2020 is an extremely bizarre and peculiar year. Outdoor Risk Management is now prominent in our thoughts and actions for upcoming ski and snowboard season. PNWD and National have provided great amounts of quality information on reducing the risk of contracting COVID-19. Additionally, we now have received information from Australia and the developers of Medic-52. These patrollers documented their experiences and checklists in a comprehensive document. It can be found on the following link and it is free to download. Please take a look at it, as these patrollers have already lived through a ski season with the pandemic.

<https://www.medic52.com/2020/10/14/dealing-with-covid-19-in-the-ski-patrol-context/>

Secondly, the pandemic is causing, as we say in the military “collateral damage”. Psychological and mental illness rates are uncontrollably rising throughout our society. We need to prepare ourselves for the consequences of these effects. The Kevin Love Fund, named after the famous forward for the NBA Cleveland Cavaliers, is an organization that addresses depression and suicide. This pandemic is affecting individuals similar to when an athlete is sidelined for a career ending injury. We are not able to get out do our normal, everyday, life fulfilling actions due to the lockdowns and closures. Kevin says, “I've learned that, you know, nothing haunts us like the things we don't say. So me keeping that in is actually more harmful”. This current state of our society can have enormous negative effects on our mental health and feeling of wellbeing. We all know a good thorough debrief after a traumatic incident can really help with the psychological after effects. If you need help, The Kevin Love Fund and Headspace are offering free mindfulness tools to help America with Covid-19 related anxiety. This current crisis is an especially difficult time for healthcare professionals, so Headspace is offering free access to Headspace Plus. Please read more at the following link and take advantage of these free resources.

<https://www.eifoundation.org/partner/kevin-love-fund-headspace/>

As far as the new NSP Outdoor Risk Management Program, we are in the discovery phase and are starting to put the pen to paper. We have an excellent outline, provided by Mark Petrozzi, and will be filling in the blanks for the next several months. Hopefully, we will have a product substantially finished for the 2021-2022 season.

Finally, if you or your ski areas are in need of additional Outdoor Risk Management information, please feel free to reach me at my email. I have risk management experience from both sides of the table, both as a ski patroller and a resort manager.

Sincerely,

Joseph S. Ferraro

PNWD ORM Advisor

WOMEN'S PROGRAM

By Sally Seelye, Womens Program Advisor

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Last edition I asked us all to think about what type(s) of clinic(s) we would like to see our areas host—in an effort to create an ongoing calendar of events within our division each ski season (hopefully starting 2021/22) to build and maintain a sense of community. *Those ideas are still needed*, as well as a point person from each area to be involved in planning and such.

Another topic for discussion—How can we increase our female NSP membership?

Some women are concerned that they have too much on their plate already. They work, they have children, and/or their spouse isn't a patroller., (or possibly not even a skier). They don't know that they can fit it all in. Yet, there are many of us who prove it can be done. And in an exceptional manner.

In an effort to show that we can all be a successful addition to patrol, starting in January I'd like to every month showcase one of our amazing members on our Facebook page—[National Ski Patrol - PNWD Women's Program](#). These posts or videos would be sharable to our individual Facebook pages, should we so choose. Let's get the word out! There are likely others who are watching us and are intrigued by what we do, yet either do not know where to start or may not believe they can manage it all.

**** Who do you know that you would like to recommend be showcased?

**** What specific questions/topics do you think would be great to cover?

Also, with Covid, we are now used to doing more and more online. Why not take advantage of that and have some skills/drills, training/learning opportunities online?! For example:

- Toboggan skills & drills with/without a toboggan
- On-going conditioning
- Skiing tips & tricks—including tune & wax
- What about MTR?
- What about OEC?
- What about Avalanche?
- What else?

**** If not yourself, who do you recommend put a skills/drills video together?

Lastly, here are some truly skilled, fearless, and amazing women I knew nothing about until very recently, the Night Witches. The Night Witches were women Russian pilots who fought the Nazis in WWII. They were issued outdated crop dusters made out of plywood and canvas, with a top speed of 94 mph. They were considered coffins with wings. Having a top speed slower than the stall speed of the Nazi planes, however, meant they were hard to target.

They flew in threes. Two would go in as decoys and deliberately attract the attention of the Germans. Once the searchlights were pointed at them the two planes would separate, flying in opposite directions and maneuvering wildly to shake off the searchlight operators. With their ground target now illuminated by the searchlights, the third pilot would fly in, shut off her engine to make a silent dive, release her bombs (sometimes climbing out on the wing to release a sticky trigger) and then restart the engine as they pulled away. They would rejoin the other two planes, switching places until all three had delivered their payloads.

The planes flew with only two bombs at a time, with a pilot upfront and a navigator in back. This meant they would perform 10–18 missions per night.

There were 12 commandments the Night Witches followed. The first was “be proud you are a woman.” As such, when not working they still did needlework, patchwork, decorated their planes and danced. Pencils they used for navigation performed double duty as eyeliner.

Like us, the Night Witches were volunteers. With dedication and desire, we too can achieve our goals.

Mission statement for the Women's Program: The NSP Women's Program mission is to empower patrollers by advancing skills and developing leadership in a women-focused program.

Sally Seelye

HISTORIAN/SPECIAL PROJECTS

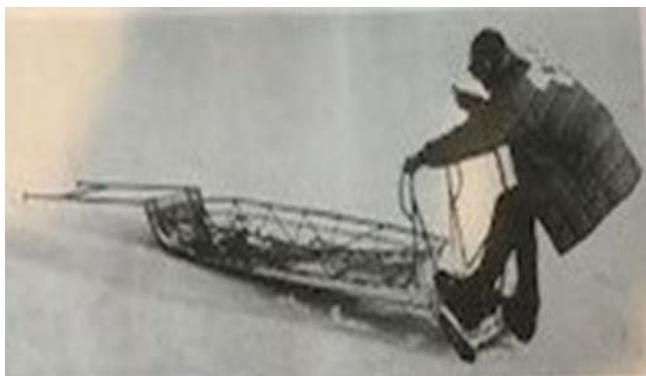
By Shirley Cummings

shirleycu@msn.com

Many patrols/patrollers are said to have “invented” the toboggan and some of its features, but the provenance of the equipment is impossible to validate for sure. Compared to the sleds we use today; the early rescue toboggans were somewhat primitive. They were harder to steer, harder to stop and generally trickier to maneuver. Gradually toboggans were rigged with a variety of handles for steering and numerous braking systems. The early **Cannon Mountain Toboggan** required that the in-front patroller crouch down and grab the front bar in the upward curve of the toboggan and that the rear patroller hang back on a rear low bar while balancing his foot on a brake-like slab at the back of the toboggan. The improved version on that was the **Welin-Rescue toboggan** when two long handles were added to the front of the sled; the rear patroller was still in a somewhat crouched-down position balancing on one foot and using the other foot to push down on a braking system.



Cannon Mountain Toboggan



Wellin-Rescue Toboggan

Most of the early toboggans such as those pictured above were first used at mountains on the East Coast with the most frequent upgrades credited to New Hampshire patrols. However, West Coast innovators were about to make themselves known.

Before the early-mid sixties, toboggans were mostly made from the same type of hickory wood used for recreational toboggans. These were the akias (AKA ackja, akijs, akja) which were imported from Austria where they were widely used. PNWD past director, Kurt Beam, immigrated to the US from Austria in 1941 and introduced the akia to America. Akia patients rode directly on the wooden platform of the sled. Then, in the late forties, Nelson Bennett, a Sun Valley (Idaho) patroller invented the **Sun Valley Sled**. His design attached long handles to the toboggan front. Bennett’s innovation used a “stokes litter” fastened to the wood platform which held passengers more securely and comfortably. He made some ‘fins’ out of an old mattress frame he found at the garbage dump; the “fins” greatly improved operator control. Bennett also installed a chain under the sled’s nose which slowed the sled down when the front operator pushed down on the handles. Many of us trained on this early type of akia sled. If your patrol still has one, hold on to it, it is a gem from the past!



Sun Valley Akia Sled with wooden platform and stokes litter.

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HISTORIAN/SPECIAL PROJECTS

By Shirley Cummings

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The 60's were a busy time up and down the West Coast; numerous ski resorts were opening, and steeper terrain was being cleared for skiers. This necessitated that even more changes were needed so that the toboggans could be safely handled on the steep terrain. Lots of innovations were made to sleds during the 1960's; both the Cascade 100 and the Crystal Sled were developed at about the same time.

Development of the first fiberglass sled is credited to Vic Bradley, a volunteer patroller at Stevens Pass, (Washington). Some of the best features of that toboggan were that the handles could be folded down and locked or locked as rigid straight handles in place. This sled was tested at Stevens Pass and a patent for the design was acquired; the **Cascade Toboggan** was born and soon became the industry standard.



Cascade 100 Sled

Throughout the years further sled improvements were made. The fiberglass Cascade 100 had handles in the front and a tail rope in the back. It was the sled many of us trained on. For many years this was the only sled many resorts used. Keep in mind, in those days first aid equipment was owned, purchased and maintained by the ski patrol; patrollers became proficient in swapping out parts and making repairs. Lots of fundraisers were held to buy and maintain toboggans. Many resorts used only the Cascade 100 for many years.



Many patrollers prefer the Cascade regardless of the terrain.

About this same time when the "(Cascade) "tail rope sled" was being developed; another innovation was being worked on. When Crystal Mountain (Washington) opened in 1962, it became apparent that a wooden sled (akia with stokes liter), with or without a liter attached would not be suitable for some of the Crystal terrain. Paul Talbot, Crystal Mountain patrol director was determined to adapt patrol sleds for Crystal's steeper, more hazardous

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HISTORIAN/SPECIAL PROJECTS

By Shirley Cummings

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terrain. He commissioned the Clark Boat Company to create a four-handle boat type sled using mostly marine materials which came to be known as the “**Crystal Sled**”.



Early 4 Handle Sled

The Cascade 350 (four handle sled) is the most common of toboggans on hills today. The Cascade 350 can be found in 23 countries and is most likely used at every ski resort in the USA.



“Training on the Four Handle”

The West Coast inventors may not have been in on the design of the very early toboggans which were created on the East Coast, but West Coast innovators have definitely made up for it. West Coast patrollers and businesses have made continued improvements and eventually set the industry standard for quality in toboggans.

Photo credits given to Cascade Rescue & Toboggan, Sahalie.org, NSP Samaritans of the Snow.

AWARDS

By Peter Schwartz, Awards Advisor

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Please congratulate the patrollers listed below. The following awards were presented this past August at the 2020 PNWD Virtual Convention:

2020 PNWD Division Director's Distinguished Service Award

Jodie Jeffers – PNWD Patroller & Safety Supervisor

2020 PNWD Crystal Snowflake Award

Anne Carney – Summit Central/Crystal Mountain Ski Patrol – Northwest Region

NSP Patroller Cross Awards

Michael Marler – Hyak Ski Patrol – Northwest Region

Gary Erikson - Hyak Ski Patrol – Northwest Region

Michael Mays – Santiam Pass Ski Patrol – Oregon Region

Valerie Luscher – Santiam Pass Ski Patrol – Oregon Region

Ryan Rose - Santiam Pass Ski Patrol – Oregon Region

2020 PNWD Outstanding Awards

Young Adult Patroller – Devon Newman – 49 Degrees North – Inland Empire

Alumni – Joseph Calbreath – Willamette Backcountry Ski Patrol – Oregon Region

Administrator – Richard Murphy – PNWD Webmaster - Summit Central - Northwest Region

Instructor – Jack Ramsey – Crystal Mountain Ski Patrol – Northwest Region

OEC Instructor – Patrick Arnold – Bogus Basin Ski Patrol – Southern Idaho Region

Paid Patroller – Toji Sakamoto – Bogus Basin Ski Patrol – Southern Idaho Region

Patroller – Dennis Comfort – Crystal Mountain Ski Patrol – Northwest Region

Nordic Patroller – Matt Strauser – Santiam Pass Ski Patrol – Oregon Region

Alpine Patroller – Ian Doremus – Willamette Pass Ski Patrol – Oregon Region

Bike Patrol Representative – Denny Burt – Lookout Pass/Hiawath Trail – Inland Empire

Patrol Director – Eric Ewing – Mt. Spokane Ski Patrol – Inland Empire

Paid Patrol Director – Albert (Doug) Volk – Mt. Ashland Ski Patrol – Oregon Region

Bike Patrol -- Lookout Pass/Hiawath Trail – Inland Empire

Nordic Patrol – Willamette Backcountry Ski Patrol – Oregon Region

Small Alpine Ski Patrol – Magic Mountain – Southern Idaho Region

Large Alpine Ski Patrol – Hyak Ski Patrol – Northwest Region

NSP Merit Stars - Purple

Chris Coulon – Hyak Ski Patrol – NW Region

Leif Haslund - Hyak Ski Patrol – NW Region

Tom Carvajal – Bogus Basin Ski Patrol – Southern Idaho Region

Dave Amsden - Bogus Basin Ski Patrol – Southern Idaho Region

NSP Merit Stars – Blue

Dale Miracle – Bogus Basin – Southern Idaho Region

Ted Spencer – Bogus Basin – Southern Idaho Region

Joe Mabbutt – 705 Backcountry Ski Patrol - Southern Idaho Region

Debra Mabbut – Soldier Mountain Ski Patrol - Southern Idaho Region

Annette Batzer – Mt. Ashland Ski Patrol – Oregon Region

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AWARDS— continued

NSP Merit Stars – Blue

Karic Roberge – Mt. Ashland Ski Patrol – Oregon Region
John Rodriguez – Mt. Ashland Ski Patrol – Oregon Region
Jason Berard – Mt. Ashland Ski Patrol – Oregon Region

NSP Merit Stars – Green

Dan Bolduc – Santiam Pass Ski Patrol – Oregon Region
Thomas Emerson – Santiam Pass Ski Patrol – Oregon Region
Marc Johnson – White Pass Ski Patrol – Northwest Region
James McCauley – Mt. Hood Ski Patrol – Wy'east Region
Brad Acker – 705 Backcountry Ski Patrol – Southern Idaho Region
Mark Daly – Mt. Ashland Ski Patrol – Oregon Region
Theo Barker – Mt. Ashland Ski Patrol – Oregon Region
Kerry Metlen – Mt. Ashland Ski Patrol – Oregon Region
Zachary Kauffman – Mt. Ashland Ski Patrol – Oregon Region
Micha Willits – Mt. Ashland Ski Patrol – Oregon Region
Steven Walters – Mt. Ashland Ski Patrol – Oregon Region

NSP Merit Stars – Yellow

Tripp Androy – Mt. Ashland Ski Patrol – Oregon Region
Robert Taylor – Mt. Ashland Ski Patrol – Oregon Region

NSP Distinguished Service Awards

John Nelson – Mt. Spokane Ski Patrol – Inland Empire Region
Robert Streich – Mt. Spokane Ski Patrol – Inland Empire Region

NSP Leadership Commendation Appointment

Marianne Becker #8549 – Lookout Pass Ski Patrol – Inland Empire Region

NSP National Appointment

George White #12157 – Mt. Spokane Ski Patrol – Inland Empire Region
Jack Ramsey #12204 -- Crystal Mountain Ski Patrol – Northwest Region
Mark Timm #12205 -- Crystal Mountain Ski Patrol – Northwest Region

2020 NSP Outstanding Awards

Young Adult Patroller – Adam Kipust – Summit West Ski Patrol – Yellow Merit Star
Instructor – Kirk Crum – Lookout Pass Ski Patrol – Yellow Merit Star
Nordic Patroller – Heidi Bartos – Hyak Ski Patrol – Yellow Merit Star
Large Alpine Ski Patrol – Bogus Basin – Unit Citation
Administrator – Kathy Lee – Mt. Hood Ski Patrol – Runner-up - Silver Merit Star
OEC Instructor – Tom Wolfe – Crystal Mountain Ski Patrol – Runner-up - Silver Merit Star
Alpine Patroller – Danial Baker – 49 Degrees North Ski Patrol – Runner-up – Silver Merit Star
Patroller – Carol Schultz – 49 Degrees North Ski Patrol – Winner Overall - Gold Merit Star

Congratulations again to everyone listed above!!!



THE NOR'WESTER
PACIFIC NORTHWEST DIVISION,
NATIONAL SKI PATROL
960 SUNMIST CT SE
SALEM, OR 97306

SERVICE
and
SAFETY

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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