

John Lawson RD

Well it has been an exciting year. Well, at least unique, if not exciting. Mother Nature gave us a real hard time in terms of snowfall. I guess to make up for it we really did have some excellent days for skiing - and where there was coverage, the snow conditions were generally excellent.

As a region, we were able to schedule and hold our events. The Senior program modules were very successful. Likewise other region events such as MTR went off without a hitch. I know I express the feelings of all the program participants when I say "Thank-you" to all the dedicated instructors who worked hard to provide excellent instruction in all of the programs.

There are personal changes in the Region. Everybody knows Pete Peterson but perhaps everyone does not know that after eight seasons as ARD Pete has stepped down - a victim of term limits (NSP never needed campaign finance reform). Pete has done a wonderful job in this position and his wisdom, guidance, support, and friendship will be missed at all of our region events. To fill his vacated chair a region election was held for the ARD spot. Bob Smith, Mile Lord, and Al Efron were the three candidates. The region was very lucky to have such qualified candidates - each person would be an asset. Bob Smith from Bristol Mtn. was elected as the new ARD. The region staff has already started working with Bob, and as expected, he is already effective in providing support and guidance. He will do an excellent job. Thanks to the election committee; Rob Fischmann (chair), Tim Cassidy, and Larry Mooney for conducting a very efficient election.

There are several other changes in the Region staff. First, Bob Finger is stepping down as Sr. OEC Advisor. Yes, Bob wanted to step down last year but held on for one more very successful year. After many very successful years Brian Schankat is also stepping down as Mountain Travel and Rescue Advisor. Bob Smith, with his election to the ARD post will step down as the region EVAC Advisor. Thanks to each of these people for the excellent job they have done. While their skills will be missed, it does provide an opportunity for others to hold a Region position. If you are interested in one of these positions please contact me or your patrol director.

Plans are underway for next year already. We just had the Division Spring meeting in Albany. There were many things discussed but top of the list was the plan for the restructuring of NSP. The restructuring is being undertaken

to allow the organization to be more responsive to the patroller on the hill. This means less micro-management from National and an opportunity for the Division and Region to change their organization to also be more responsive. Division Director Jerry Sherman has appointed a transition team to evaluate what is currently working in the Division and to identify areas where improvements can be made. This group has targeted the next spring meeting to present recommendations to the Division staff. Therefore, the upcoming season will not see many changes from the transition committee. It will be the following year when changes begin to be implemented.

The transition committee has nine members. GVR is represented by two, Henry Williams and Pamm Ferguson. Both of these people are in tune with the needs of the patroller and will provide excellent guidance to the committee. I know many people will have questions about how the re-organization will affect them and their patrol. If you have any questions, feel free to contact any GVR person on the Division staff, including Henry, Pamm, or me.

One other very important activity took place at the Division meeting of which we can all be proud. Region Legal Advisor, Henry Williams, was presented with a Yellow Merit Star for his legal work at the Division level. It was no surprise to me when Bob Scarlett, Division Awards Advisor, told me he wanted to reward Henry for his great work. All of us in the Region know of his contributions to Hunt Hollow and to GVR. It is really great to see him recognized by the larger organization. Congratulations Henry!!



Figure 1 - Henry Williams (L) receiving the Yellow Merit Star from Bob Scarlett

Well, get the skis put away. Get out the golf clubs, water skis, or gear for what ever you do in the summer. We will not look too close if the lawn gets a little long - the lawnmower does not count as summer gear here. Enjoy your summer and I look forward to seeing you all in the fall.

REGIONAL ADVISORS:

Marcia Mundrick Instructor Development THANKS!

A big "thanks" to all instructors in the region. You keep our patrols viable and up-to-date. Where would be without the NSP instructor?

Do you think you might want to join the cadre of NSP instructors? If so, which discipline...OEC, S&T, Avalanche, Mountain Travel and Rescue? Discuss your interest with your patrol's program advisor for that discipline or the region advisor. THEN – you need to sign up for the 8-hour Instructor Development course. The next one will be offered May 21st and 23rd at Honeoye Falls/Lima High School. Please contact me for further information. The ID course is a senior elective.

After you have taken the ID course, you will be mentored in your chosen discipline. Completing the mentoring and receiving your instructor certification is also a Senior elective credit.

Mike Lord OEC

Another season is finished and I'd like to once again thank all the OEC instructors and Patrollers for their hard work during the season. I know the commitment that you all make in time and energy to provide the best care for our customers. As the Fourth Edition of the OEC Program Manual nears completion I promise to make the program as accessible as possible to everyone, so our time is well spent and we can get on with the business of Ski Patrolling.

At this time the new OEC material has been sent to the printers and should be available for purchase some time in July. For this year's refresher cycle, the National Office will give references to both the old and new text. As the refresher format will stay the same as last year, spend some time reading and practicing, and the refresher day will go quickly and smoothly. The region is investigating a bulk order of OEC materials for the OEC instructors to purchase at the instructor refreshers, or possibly sooner. Perhaps the Region will be able to do the same for Patrollers, if the cost is not prohibitive.

The dates for the refreshers are not set yet, but I will be planning for the traditional times in October and November

for the region days and September for the instructor refreshers. Watch the web page in June for the firm dates. Any patroller who has a conflict with the published dates should contact their Patrol Representative, so we can make arrangements for a refresher alternative as soon as possible.

The 2002 Region Candidate Class will start on Monday Aug 5th at the Honeoye Falls/Lima High School at 7:00 p.m. Please have anyone interested contact your patrol and then me, so I may add them to the mailing list.

Any patroller who has finished the Instructor development course or taken the old Phase I course and wishes to be an OEC instructor, please contact me so I can enter your name in the mentoring program. Mentoring is a kinder, gentler way of becoming an OEC instructor but there will be a certain amount of paper work I need to start. Over the last few months I've spoken to a number of patrollers about being instructors. If you are still interested please drop me a line so I can get a more formal list started.

That's about all for now. So have a great summer and we'll see you in the fall.

Joe Menichino Certified

The season is over and I already miss skiing. I guess I need to learn to like golf but every time I get the clubs out I think of Mark Twain who wrote, "Golf is a good walk spoiled". Those of you who know Dick Taylor from Swain would want to know that he proved this saying on his first round this season by slipping and tearing his right quad tendon from the patella. His surgery is complete and 4 weeks in a cast will be enough to remind how dangerous golf really is. I'll stick to skiing - much safer.

Now on to Certified happenings. This year's annual combined meeting and test was held right near home at Gore. It was great to not have to drive so far. Gore proved to have a small quantity of extremely challenging terrain right at the very top of the mountain. I hadn't skied Gore for years and remembered it as primarily beginner / intermediate terrain. This new area added at the top is excellent and challenging. The snow was perfect even though the program was run at the end of March. The ski test was run on a steep double diamond that was properly covered with glare ice and modest bumps. Not for the faint of heart. We ran re-certs on Saturday morning on this slope. All Certified patrollers have to re-certify their skills for skiing and sled handling every 3 years. Tests are usually run on the same slopes as the candidates test, and trust me, they are typically a nerve-racking experience to endure. It turned out that all of us were ready this year and in a fun way the most difficult part of the run for us was climbing into the sled half way down the slope. If you weren't careful you could slip and slide a long way before finding a spot to stop. Jim Nickerson Jeff Baker and I successfully re-certified along with Bill Sachs, our illustrious National Chairman (yes, he is a long time

Certified patroller). Getting a chance to re-cert on this slope made me feel both compassion and regard for those candidates that had worked through the entire S&T test the day before. Only a few passed but all went away knowing they had tried their best and challenged conditions way beyond normal. Happy with the results or not, they will be better sled handlers for it.



Figure 2 - The Certified Snowplow Course at Gore

The Genesee Valley was well represented this year. Beside Jim and Marilyn Nickerson, Jeff and his wife Pam (who I did not break skiing) and I, Tom Wallin, John Bolonda, Jerry Sherman, Dick and Joanne Taylor all attended as well. All were made welcome and actively participated in the OEC portion of the test working as injured skiers. We all attended the annual banquet on Saturday night. I'm proud to say that Jim was honored at that banquet by being inducted into the "Certified Lifetime Emeritus" status. He is the 8th member to achieve this honor of the 600 or so hundred members qualified nationally since the Certified program began in the sixties. This fine honor recognizes the long and complete commitment he has shown in all aspects of the program. Congratulations to Jim (he no longer has to re-certify so I am jealous).

Enjoy your summer and be careful if you are prone to golf.....

Bob Smith **Lift Evacuation**

It's the end of the season and time to put the skis up for another season. It's also time to do a little maintenance and inspection on that lift evacuation equipment that sat all season and hopefully didn't get used. Take some time now so you know that everything is in good shape for next season. Check that all the pieces of each evacuation set are still there and didn't grow feet over the winter. If something is missing you have the whole summer to replace it. Check that the rope has not frayed or been chewed by some critter that decided to nest in it. Storage is very important to the life of your rope and equipment. Consider protecting the ropes and equipment from UV rays, water, dampness, and critters looking for a nest. Use

rope bags, hang the bags and the rest of the system high and in a dry place. If you need to retire or replace all or part of your system, consider the manufactures' recommendation for shelf life and frequency of use and your evacuation plan needs. Make sure what you get is compatible with your lifts and that it satisfies the latest code requirements which change from year to year. Check this website for the latest requirements:

<http://regulation.healthandsafetycenter.com/s/Part11.asp#SectionNumber:11.9>.

Here is some information that I picked up at the Spring Officers meeting in Albany from Mary Davis. Hopefully this will give you something to think about over the summer.

ARE YOU READY?

- Consider who uses your lifts and the diversity of the customer base: small children/ski wee programs, adaptive riders, 70+'ers, deaf and/or mute passengers?
- Consider the diversity of activities: traditional slide/ride/ski, mountain biking, winter foot passengers and/or elegant dining guests?
- The economics of lift installation often drives where the path will run. Does it consider users? We're stuck with it? Now what?
- Identify the problems BEFORE they find you! Who are our passengers? Are they dressed for the evacuation environment? Are they compatible with our evacuation system? Will there be mobility problems once they're on the ground?
- Brainstorm possible solutions! If there's not a single evacuation device suitable for all physical concerns, what do we need? Are we prepared for adverse weather conditions (cold, darkness, wind, etc.) and/or for evacuating ladies in high heels and evening gowns? What access/egress routes do we have in areas of hostile terrain? (they will double for access for construction, too).
- Implement solutions. Assure sufficient quantity/diversity of equipment to satisfy conditions likely to be met. Have a Plan A, Plan B, Plan C.....(plan for the contingencies, as they do and will happen). Assure sufficient ground crew and ground conveyances to return passengers to base area.
- Evacuation planning starts with lift planning. Can we avoid some of the hardships by identifying them during lift planning? Integrate

suitable evacuation considerations w/lift design and profile. Each lift may require a special bit of hardware to help in evacuation. Make sure the evacuation systems come with it!

I hope that this will start you thinking about the question **ARE YOU READY?** Have a great summer and see you on the snow.

Richard Stearns Student Patrolling

The region Student Patrol completed its 4th year with three new students who have completed the OEC program: Adam Gebhard, Jeremy Willetts, both from Hornell, and Wesley Buth of Corning. Jeremy also successfully completed his S&T to become Swain's first boarder that did not transition from skis, congratulations to all.

The other event of note was the Winter "Camporee" that was held Swain March 1st thru the 3rd during Swain's Winter Carnival weekend for the area Scout Troops. The turnout was less than we would have liked, but that did not diminish the good time had by those who showed up. If you are involved in Scouting keep your eyes open for information through the Scouting Organization, or drop me a note and I will see that you get information for next years events.

I still have hopes that we can get more participation from other areas in the program. There are four or five students that expressed an interest in joining at Swain this coming year, and we are looking forward to further successes with the program. Swain has retained all the students that completed the program, even through their first years of college, and have reaped the benefits that youth can bring to the organization.

The student program is succeeding in producing some very enthusiastic, ambitious and highly qualified patrollers for the region. If you know someone that might be interested please feel free to contact me and I will answer any questions you may have. My e-mail is rstearns@rochester.rr.com or call me at 716-343-4463 evenings.

Jeffrey Baker S&T

This season was a wonderful success regardless of the weather. The Senior S&T program saw 6 patrollers complete their S&T requirements on March 9th. The conditions were challenging with everything from sun to driving rain mixing the snow conditions like a Cuisinart. Congratulations to the following folks: Ann Robinson and Jennifer Grant from Bristol; Rob Bilhorn, Peter Jones and Peter Mietus from Hunt Hollow and Cathy Rague from Swain. The Senior S&T module was the crowning touch for Peter Jones as he completed his last section and was awarded full Senior status. The entire candidate class showed exceptional skill along with a very upbeat attitude throughout the course. Truly first rate folks and a pleasure to be associated with.

The Genesee Valley training staff is one of the strongest and most dedicated in the Division and it has been a privilege to be able to work with the group. To continue this fine tradition we have chosen a few people to be mentored to full trainer/ evaluator certification and they are working hard to be ready to help every patroller sharpen their skills. The region would benefit from your talents as well. Simply drop me a line and I will explain the process and get you involved.

Speaking of involved..... Many of you have had the pleasure to know and work with John Topping. He seems to be everywhere helping out whenever some has a need. It was clear to me that this enthusiasm should be captured and John has officially accepted the position of co-advisor to assist in the guidance of the S&T program this coming 2002-2003 season.

Which leads us to next season. The schedule is firming up with some new ideas and programs coming. One idea in the embryonic stages is a pre-season, conditioning series. We will be looking at a variety of fun activities that will target those ski-specific muscle groups.

Muxworthy's Ski Loft has offered to fix up those skis and boards before you put them away for the season. Their summer hours are limited so call ahead. They are offering the patrol a tune and wax for \$15 or hot wax only for \$5. Have a great summer, soak up some margaritas, stay safe and enjoy some BTU's. Thanks again for a great season.

NEWS FROM THE PATROLS:

POWDER MILLS PARK

Spring has sprung, the fish are running at Powder Mills, and the skis, sleds, backboards, etc. are put away for the season.

We have wrapped up another great season. Like everyone else, we had a late start to the season. We opened just before New Years and had a busy January and February as most of the students from December classes moved into those months. We tore down the patrol room and stored our equipment for the season in Mid - March. Thank you to those folks who were able to come out and help. It was a beautiful Spring day and we made short work of the clean up activities.

I would like to thank each of the patrollers again this season for their outstanding hill presence. They spend a tremendous amount of their time working with the new skiers as more than just patrollers. They also help the instructors, lift attendants and frequently serve as courtesy staff to the many parents at the hill.

There are a few upcoming events for the late Spring and Summer. The MRB meeting is scheduled for May 21st. A key part of the agenda is planning our Summer picnic and our Fall events. The Summer Picnic is planned for July 20th. We are doing something a little different this year. We will be holding the event at the Pultneyville Yacht Club. It has a nice picnic area we can use, a couple of patrollers are planning on bringing out their sailboats and some folks are also planning on staying late and camping overnight as well. As we finalize the details, we will be sending them on to the patrol.

We have also scheduled our Fall kickoff meeting for September 10th. The meeting will start at Glenn's house at 7pm sharp. We have moved the elections we deferred from the postponed Spring meeting to that date rather than tie up time at the picnic with Patrol business. Tentatively we have also blocked off November 2nd for our on-hill. We will confirm that once we see the dates for the region refreshers.

Enjoy your summer.

Glenn Becker, PR

BRANTLING

The Brantling Ski Patrol ended the season with their spring banquet on April 20th at the Sodus Bay Country Club. Pete Peterson was presented with a 25 Year LCA Service Recognition Award and Ann Boise a 15 Year Service Recognition Award. John Williams was awarded Brantling's Patroller of the Year Award (in memory of Harry Rich) for his outstanding work, bringing our scheduling into the computer and E-mail age. Pete Peterson (as one of his last official acts as ARD) represented the Region at the Brantling banquet, in that the Region Staff were all in Albany.

Dawn Wright completed her S&T training and will start next year as a registered patroller.

We wish everyone a safe and enjoyable summer.

Steve Mitchell, PR

HUNT HOLLOW

Even though it may have been a relatively short season, much was accomplished at Hunt Hollow. We moved the Aid Room to the Patrol Building and have settled in completely. The Club finished the first have of the snowmaking expansion and will finish the project this summer.

It was also a busy year for patrollers and their achievements. All four candidates, Bob Andre, Jeff Konzel, Greg Palm and Caitlin Witterdink, passed their S&T requirements in February and became Basic Patrollers. Joe Hoff, Peter Jones and John Long all

completed their Senior requirements and became Senior Patrollers. Last but certainly not least Pamm Ferguson was elected to the Board of Directors for the National Ski Patrol. Congratulations to all for their accomplishments.

I hope that everyone has a great summer.

Andrew Cruikshank, PR

SWAIN

Easter week marked the end of the ski season at Swain. Although the season started off later than normal, the weather cooperated to ensure great spring conditions. Hats off to the maintenance crew for outstanding snowmaking when Mother Nature wasn't looking!

The second annual snowmobile races were another successful event held at the area. The event was exciting and wild as riders raced through the course. The number of entrants and spectators continues to increase each year.

This year's Swain Fun-Day was held on St. Patrick's Day. Despite marginal weather and not the best conditions, we had one of our more successful Family Fun-Day's this year. Once again we entertained the Canaseraga Fire and Ambulance crew and everyone had a good time. Although we were unable to get the annual volleyball game in, the Great Toboggan Race was run and was won by Tom Wallin and Steve Shelley in the men's division and Jennifer Conine and Lori Kloesz in the women's division. Competition as usual was fierce and the six other teams involved will be ready for the challenge next year.

This family day marks its 18th year. Our thanks to a committee of 15, who make it all work. Jeanne Eldridge, who has done an outstanding job as fun day chairperson, will pass on the reins to Marie Osypian. Thank you Jeanne for organizing and running this event year after year.

Congratulations to the following patrollers for achieving patroller status after successfully completing the S&T test:

Stephanie Brietzke
Ed Grandusky
Shane Grandusky
Keith Price
Jeremy Willetts
Adam Gebhard (Student Patrol Status)
Wes Buth (Student Patrol Status)

Congratulations to Cathy Rague for passing the Senior S&T test.

Don't forget the patrol picnic to be held June 15th at A-ON-DU-WA-NUH Sportsman Club in Cuylerville. For more information on the picnic log on to: <http://www.rit.edu/~mao8676/swain>

Mark Whitford, Secretary

BRISTOL

Congratulations to the following Bristol Patrollers:

- Jami Rushford and Jeff Minter successfully completed the Senior OEC program.
- Ann Robinson and Jennifer Grant successfully completed Senior S&T.

Reminder: The Instructor Development course (formerly Phase I) will be held Tues. & Thurs. evenings, May 21 & 23 at Honeoye Falls - Lima H.S. This course counts as a Senior elective. If interested, contact Marcia Mundrick, ASAP, at mmcm@frontiernet.net or 585-229-4313.

All available chairs from Bristol's North Chairlift have been sold. With the proceeds the Patrol has purchased a new AED and Trainer. The Patrol also made a donation of \$1000 to Naples Volunteer Ambulance in appreciation for their service.



Figure 3 - Chris Vasiliauskas and Win Beers presenting the check to Lina Almekinder of NVA

The annual Patrol picnic/pig roast and awards program will be held on Saturday, May 18th at the Gleason Recreation Center in Honeoye Falls. The Bristol On-Hill refresher is scheduled for 8 am Saturday, September 28th. The Blackout Chair Evacuation is set for 4 pm Sunday, December 8th.

In Memoriam - Tony Nowak

On Saturday March 30, Swain Patroller Tony Nowak succumbed to brain cancer. He was 57.

Tony was born and raised in Hamburg, N.Y., attended St. Francis High School, was a graduate of Conesus College where he majored in Physics, and was employed as a computer programmer for a number of different companies. He served 4 years in service to our country as a member

of the U.S. Air Force as a pilot based in California. Upon receiving his flight instrument accreditation, which enabled him to fly at night, he and some buddies flew 10 miles to a nearby town for a Pizza run to celebrate. He carried his flight experience into his private life and would often fly friends to various projects they were involved in.

Tony's love of the outdoors carried him in many directions. He was a member of the Adirondack Mountain Club and for 18 years he would go with other members to the Sagamore Great Camp over Memorial Day to get the camp ready for the summer season. In addition to skiing, he also loved hiking and biking, logging many miles on trails and roadways through the years. He was a member of the Rochester Bicycling Club, the Genesee Valley Cycling Club, the Monroe Y Ski Club, and the Huggers Ski Club.

Tony was an intellect and enjoyed the challenge of learning all things new. Always on his computer, he was interested in various things including mapping and anything to do with science and technology. He was self-taught on the classic guitar and enjoyed many hours entertaining his family and close friends.

A deeply devoted religious man, Tony participated in many church activities. He and a group from his parish at St. Mary's made 2 trips to Medjugorje in Bosnia. The strength of his faith served him well when he was told he had brain cancer.

Tony joined the Swain Ski Patrol in 1984 and soon became one of our most dedicated members. Although a quiet man, he had a great sense of humor and enjoyed being in the company of his fellow patrollers. He would often be seen with his trusty camera catching patrollers in action. Last year he was one of the first recipients of the Swain Commendation Award, given for devoted service to our patrol. He set a high example for us to follow in strength of character and devotion to service. Tony's brother Ed told us how proud Tony was to be a Swain patroller. We are equally proud to have had him as one of our members and to have known him as our friend.

His brother Edward and his devoted cousin Jean Lindenfeld both of Hamburg, N.Y., survive Tony. Jeanne Eldridge & Nick Schiavetti - Swain

Calendar

As of 5/1/02

| <u>EVENT</u> | <u>DISCIPLINE</u> | <u>DATE</u> | <u>TIME</u> | <u>LOCATION</u> | <u>CONTACT</u> |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|-------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| Bristol Picnic | Bristol Patrollers | May 18 | | Gleason Rec. Center, Honeoye Falls | Win Beers H: 585-442-2418 winb@eznet.net |
| Instructor Development Course | Instructor Candidates | May 21 & 23 | Evening | Honeoye Falls-Lima H.S. | Marcia Mundrick H:585-229-4313 mmcm@frontiernet.net - \$5 fee; sign up by April 21. |
| Candidate OEC Class Starts | Region Candidates | August 5 | 7:00 PM | Honeoye Falls-Lima H.S. | Mike Lord H: 607-776-1353 mglord31@hotmail.com ; mglord@aol.com |
| Bristol On-Hill Refresher | Bristol Patrollers | September 28 | 8:00 AM | Bristol | Win Beers H: 585-442-2418 winb@eznet.net |
| Powder Mills On-Hill Refresher | Powder Mills Patrollers | November 2 | | Powder Mills Park | Glenn Becker H: 585-924-5113 Glenn.Becker@usa.xerox.com |
| Bristol Blackout Chair Evacuation | Bristol Patrollers | December 8 | 4:00 PM | Bristol | Win Beers H: 585-442-2418 winb@eznet.net |
| 2003 Senior S&T Evaluation - Two-day | Senior Candidates | March 1 & 2, 2003 | 8:15 AM | Bristol | Jeff Baker 585-943-5837 jeff@newenergyworks.com ; jeffreybaker@msn.com |

Check out the GV Region web site at <http://www.nspgvr.org> regularly for updates to the calendar and other news items, as well as occasional coverage of Region events.

CHECK OUT OUR WEB SITE AT:
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