



John Lawson

RD

Wow, what a start. Hopefully, each of you by the time you read this will have had several good skiing days in. I may have six local days in before Christmas (a personal record). Even last weekend when Rochester got rain the WHOLE weekend, the fingerlakes region got a foot of snow. We are off and running and it feels good.

The Region is also in good shape. The calendar is packed with activities that promise to be super. I know the organizers of the programs have done a great job preparing and there will be something for everyone. Make sure you check it out. The latest additions to the calendar are the Sr. OEC practice times. Please feel free to contact me or any of the program advisors (e-mail and phone numbers are on the web site) if you have any questions about a particular program being offered.

I also want to express my gratitude, and I speak for the whole region, to Mike Lord and Chris Stiegler for running such a successful candidate OEC class. This year's class was very large. Mike and Chris handled the challenge well. It was a lot of work and the results were very good. Super Job!!

Also, thanks to all the OEC instructors and ITs who put in a great deal of time in assisting the teaching of the class and doing the fall refreshers. You guys are the backbone of the organization and you all did an excellent job. The results speak for themselves. For the First aid class 100% passed the region test. We also had the division OEC supervisor for our region, Dennis Zercher, attended one of the fall refreshers. Dennis went away after complimenting Mike and his staff for a job well done.

Finally, congratulations to the new patrollers who have passed the first aid portion of their training. I was part of the evaluation team and am very confident you will all make excellent patrollers. Be proud of your accomplishment, and I wish you the best in your future patrolling years.

Happy Holidays to all. See you on the hill.

Now where did I put those little skis? They seem to hide behind things in the garage.

REGIONAL ADVISORS:

Sheila Fovel

Alumni

The Alumni Ski Day will be held Friday, February 14, 2003, at Hunt Hollow in Naples, New York. Skiing will be from 9:30 A.M. until 10:00 P.M. Complementary and guest tickets can be used for 7 consecutive hours of skiing. A flier will be mailed shortly with all the details. If you would like more information, please contact Sheila Fovel at 266-0116 or by e-mail at Sheila_Fovel@yahoo.com. Save the date for an enjoyable day of skiing and lunch.

Jeff Baker & John Topping

S&T

S&T Carvings

- The Genesee Valley S&T effort is in full swing with a great calendar of events to attend and enjoy. Regardless of whether you are on skis, snowboard or Telemark, every member of the Region S&T staff is looking forward to helping you to become a better patroller.
- The Eastern Division S&T Steering committee has been hard at work. The new directive from the think tank is to maintain a focus on instructing and evaluating skills with an objective based mindset. That is, help you to achieve the task at hand in a style which best suits **you**. There are lots of good ideas out there but the best idea is the one that works for **you**. As Instructor/Trainers, our job is to fill your bag of tricks, giving you as many options as possible. Our hope is that you find this a refreshing change and come out to join us in one of the many programs we are making available.
- The deadline for registration for the Senior program is near. If your aspirations are headed in that direction this season, you need to swing into action today. Ask any Senior whether they felt their time was well spent, and then click on the website for an application. We promise that your efforts will be rewarded. The wine and beer tastings alone are worth the price of admission.
- If you are already a Senior, see if you can remember when the last time was that you attended a refresher. If we just stumped you, it probably means you are due. We have made it

easy with events scheduled at Hunt, Bristol and Swain.

- Sorry boyz! The ladies in the group have a rare opportunity; the Division Women's Clinic is coming to Bear Mountain, Vermont. This not-to-be-missed event is for women only, run by the best women patrollers in the East. We're told that the guys can't keep up, so we shouldn't even think about it. (something about Mars and Venus?)
- Finally, the Staff is looking for a few good men and women. Interested in giving a little back? Give us a shout and we'll explain the process. As much fun as you can have with your Gore-tex on.
- Check the region website @ <http://www.nspgvr.org/html/s&t.htm> (special thanks to Bill Gamble for all his help) for the latest information, schedules, contacts and more.

See you slope side.

Skip Millor Awards

The Genesee Valley Region Awards Committee is pleased to announce the following award recipients.

Richard Doyle - Distinguished Service Award, **Jeanne Eldridge** - Distinguished Service Award, **Merle Eldridge** - Distinguished Service Award, **James Guderian** - Distinguished Service Award, **Jack Hustler** - Distinguished Service Award, **Bob Finger** - Meritorious Service Award, **C. D. Peterson** - Meritorious Service Award, **Henry Williams** - Yellow Merit Star, **Chuck Hatlestad** - Purple Merit Star, **Mike Lord** - Yellow Merit Star, **Marcia Mundrick** - Patroller's Cross

Each year the committee recognizes individuals for contributions to the Genesee Valley Region. This year's recipients are **Jeffery Baker** - **Stevens Award** (Outstanding Patroller Of The Year), **John McManus** - **Lehman Award** (Outstanding Instructor of the Year), **Henry Williams** - **Doyle Award** (Distinguished Service Award), **Harold Stoneham** - **Doyle Award** (Distinguished Service Award).

Congratulations to everyone and we thank you for your leadership, dedication and all the non-patrolling hours you have given to the National Ski Patrol.

Joe Menichino Certified

Wow- What a great start to the season. I just came in from plowing over a foot of snow down here in Alfred. It's only mid-December and it's the 3rd time I have needed the machine. Lots more fun running the plow than mowing lawn.

I'd like to use this article to introduce you to the excellent source of information about the Certified program that exists on the NSP Eastern Division Web page. The Certified Web Page is found at <http://www.nspeast.org/html/certified.htm> . I wish I had an

information source as comprehensive as this when I joined. Everything you might want to learn about the program is defined.

The Program Guide located at - <http://www.nspeast.org/html/certguide.htm> is particularly excellent for completely detailing each step in the Certification program. Makes interesting reading even if you are only "wondering". I suspect our good friend Bill Gamble has had a hand in developing this fine resource.

If you want to attend a great clinic and meet some of the great people in the program at the same time I highly recommend the Patroller School & Intro to Certified program which is scheduled for January 25-26 at Ski Windham, NY. Contact Gordie Bell at 717-637-7216, ggbell@blazenet.net to register. I number of us are planning to go and its always fun. The atmosphere is relaxed and the learning opportunities are great. Note that the Intro to Certified clinic is actually separate from the Patroller School.

The Certified test will be held April 4-6, 2003 at Sunday River, ME. Lots of Genesee Valley Region folks have come to the test in recent years to help as injured skiers in the OEC portion, and its always a riot. Plus a 3 or 4 day pass at Sunday River is fun too. Let me know if you think you might like to "witness" and help. I'll try to arrange it.

Enjoy your season and the upcoming holidays and please be careful.

Kevin and Patricia Campbell MTR

In the "flurry" of the Christmas season 11 patrollers and one brave new spouse made the time to attend the Region's indoor portion of this seasons MTR1 course. It was led by Ben Emerson (IOR) along with instruction from Brian Walsh, Dennis Whitney, John Benitez, Bob Andre, Skip Millor, and Nick Schiavetti. The class was held at the VA's Outpatient clinic in Rochester. As always a busy night was in store. Because no one got up and left muttering "you are all crazy" it would appear that all the students will be continuing on to the outdoor overnight portion to be held in Webster Park on January 11&12. We expect, as usual, that tons of fun is yet to be had by all in January. Jealous yet??

On another note, Genesee Valley Region was represented by instructors at the indoor portion of the Division's MTR2 course held in Highland Forest- Fabius, N.Y. on December 7th&8th.

Look for a post-course follow-up article in the next addition.

Richard Stearns Student Patrolling

The region Student Patrol is in its 5th year with four new students who are headlong into the OEC program. Amelia Feller, John Gaehring, Andy Mattison, Malorie Osypian are all from the Avon area and have been alternating their training between Avon and Swain. The goal this year is to complete the OEC program in the Spring. Adam Gebhard and Wesley Buth both completed OEC last year and will be working on S&T this year. Jeremy Willetts completed both OEC and S&T last year and was awarded the Candidate of the Year Award for Swain last year. Congratulations! We will also be setting up some S&T sessions as the season moves on and we hope to go on the road and visit some other areas.

The other event of note is the Winter "Camporee" that is being set up for the Scout Troops in the area. This has been a very popular winter event in the past. 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 the information. If you would like to get involved in the training - either OEC or S&T - let me know. The diversity the region offers makes for a great learning experience for all involved, and it is fun teaching enthusiastic students.

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.

NEWS FROM THE PATROLS:

BRISTOL

Bristol has been open since Thanksgiving, conditions have been great, and the new snow received in December has just made it better. We've all had an opportunity to ski the two new trails, Nova and Milky Way, too. The Bristol Patrol has welcomed two transfers to our team, Jeff Baker from Hunt Hollow and John Melville from Powder Mills. Gina Wyfells is joining our Auxiliary Staff as a dual patroller with Nordic. Also 26 Bristol Candidates have successfully completed the GVR and Bristol OEC program. There are many thank you's to be handed out to all the instructors responsible for their success. Especially to Mike Lord for his leadership in the Region program and Cathy Bentzoni and Tom Lyons for Bristol. The candidates will now begin S&T training headed up by Brenda Rizzo.

Win Beers

POWDER MILLS PARK

Well, as of the 14th, the season has started for us. Thanks to the early cold weather, we have a couple of feet of snow blown on the hill to start the season.

Valley Views

Unfortunately, opening day was a little on the wet side, but it did not seem to "dampen" the enthusiasm of the youngsters. We had a full complement of patrollers, instructors and novice skiers of all ages to start out the season.



Figure 1 - Powder Mills Opening Day

We had a great turnout for the On-hill November 2nd. The weather cooperated on that day as well with a dusting of fresh snow to put us all in the mood. The day started off with the usual socializing for our own group and we had representatives from just about all of the other hills. Check out the region website for nice pictures of the event.

We followed the On-hill with set up for the season on the weekend before Thanksgiving. Many hands made for light work so that we had the fences, posts and the patrol room all set up before lunchtime. Thanks to all for their help. We're off to a good start this season with some early snows, and it's shaping up to be a good season. See you out there.

Glenn Becker

BRANTLING

It's been a busy Fall out at Brantling, Wayne County's largest ski area, for both the patrol and the area. Patrollers kicked off the 2002-2003 season with their annual On-the-Hill Refresher October 12. Patrol Rep **Steve Mitchell** welcomed back almost all of last year's crew with lots of news and announcements. Scheduling APD **John Williams** had many words of wisdom for the assemblage, prior to their filling out November and December availability forms. John did an excellent job last season in equitably scheduling coverage duties and expects to receive full cooperation in doing the same this year. Following the general session, attendees broke into smaller groups for specific skills sessions that lasted until noon. OEC APD **Bob Hillegeer** did his usual fine job in setting up the sessions and keeping things moving smoothly. Aply assisting Bob were instructors **Terry Bruno, Kim Buell, Marcia Cleason, Karen Merritt,**

Chuck Norton, Pete Peterson, Jim Reid, Martha Rich, Cindy Showman and Marsha Wait. After a short break Martha Rich and Chuck Norton put patrollers through a CPR refresher, as well as AED training in anticipation of our acquisition of an AED unit this winter. A number of patrollers stuck around later for a work party on the hill and in the patrol room. Earning no extra credit but a lot of thanks were **Mike McManus, Rich Koehn, Greg Bernhard,** Jim Reid, Martha Rich, Bob Hillegeer, John Williams, Steve Mitchell, Pete Peterson, **Brian Mayou,** Cindy Showman and Marsha Wait. A great day of getting back together, refreshing our skills and getting ready for the season!

And three weeks later, on November 3, we made some money. The Brantling patrol's largest money-making venture of the year is the annual chicken barbeque, held in conjunction with the area's open house and used equipment sale. Attendance at this year's event was high, and the patrol realized well over \$400.00 in profit. The usual HUGE thank you goes out to chief organizer and head chef Kim Buell for another job very well done! And as always several patrollers chipped in to help: **Brian Bartleson,** Jim Reid, Mike McManus, Brian Mayou, Marsha Wait, John Williams (the hamburger man), Rich Koehn and Pete Peterson.

Area improvements over the summer were extensive – primarily, a major expansion of the snowmaking system. A new pump house was built at the far end of the expanded pond, with a new pumping system and generator. Nearly a half mile of new 8", 6" and 4" water lines were installed and buried, increasing snowmaking capacity by 50%. And on December 3 a new groomer appeared on the scene to smooth out the man-made and natural snow that began covering the mountain in late November. Brantling opened for the season on Saturday, November 30 and as of this writing (December 11) had all main slopes, about 50% of the area, in operation. The whole Brantling family, including the ski patrol, is looking forward to a great season!

Pete Peterson, Newsletter Editor

SWAIN

Swain has gotten off to a great start this season. For once natural snow has been abundant. Combined with our new snow making equipment we were able to get an excellent early start. Can't beat that. Our patrol added 5 new candidate members this season. All are doing well as they progress through the OEC qualification process. S&T training has started as well. We also added 4 new Student Venturing Members. This brings our Venturing group up to 6, all excellent, bright and attentive learners. They are a pleasure to work with and train. The aid room is in excellent shape this year with our new "Hopkins" Memorial storage/tuning room adding much need space for "uncluttering". Everyone is doing their part to keep the

place ship shape. Our Evac team did an excellent job training uncountable numbers of PSIA instructors in basic belay skills over the last few weeks. A number of follow on Evac training sessions are planned for the remainder of the season. Happy Holidays and best wishes for a Happy New Year to all from the members of the Swain Ski Patrol.

Joe Menichino

HUNT HOLLOW

The early cold weather allowed Hunt Hollow to test the new snowmaking equipment and it allowed us to tie the earliest opening for the Club; November 30. The skiing has been great and I hope that the early conditions continue. We are looking forward to the completion of the new surface lift to be primarily used by the racers and terrain park enthusiasts. We are also looking forward to using our newly lighted trail, Sky Coaster.

Welcome to Peter Parker Sr. who joins us an auxiliary patroller. Peter joined the Nordic Patrol this year and agreed to help us out in the Aid Room on our busier days. We are glad to have him.

Hope to see you on the slopes.

Andrew Cruikshank



Figure 2 - The bottom of Hunt Hollow's new surface lift being installed.

Calendar

As of 12/19/02

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DISCIPLIN E</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>CONTACT</u>
Nordic Skiability Clinic	Nordic Candidates	January 4	10:00 AM	Mendon Ponds or Harriet Hollister	Tom Adler, MD. 585-787-1441 tomadler@worldnet.alt.net.com
Senior S&T Clinic - Short, Med, Long Rad. Turns	Senior S&T Candidates	January 7	7-9:30 PM	Bristol	John Topping
Senior S&T Clinic - Pat. Skiing Skills	Senior S&T Candidates	January 9	7-9:30 PM	Hunt Hollow	Al Efron
MTR 1 Course Outdoor/Overnight Session	All Interested Patrollers	January 11 & 12, 2003	TBA	Webster Park	Kevin & Patricia Campbell H: 315-462-6490 soups@rochester.rr.com
Senior S&T Refresher	Seniors	January 11	9:30 - Noon	Bristol	Jeff Baker 585-615-1576 bakernsp@rochester.rr.com
Nordic Skiability Clinic	Nordic Candidates	January 11	10:00 AM	Mendon Ponds or Harriet Hollister	Tom Adler, MD. 585-787-1441 tomadler@worldnet.alt.net.com
Senior S&T Clinic - Sleds - Basic Theory	Senior S&T Candidates	January 12	9:30 - Noon	Swain	John Bolanda
Senior S&T Clinic - Free Skiing Skills - Beginning Bumps	Senior S&T Candidates	January 18	9:30 - Noon	Hunt Hollow	Peter Osborne
Nordic Skiability Clinic	Nordic Candidates	January 19	11:00 AM	Mendon Ponds or Harriet Hollister	Tom Adler, MD. 585-787-1441 tomadler@worldnet.alt.net.com
Region Officers' Breakfast Meeting	Region Staff	January 19	8:30 - 10:30 AM	Bristol - Sunset Loft	John Lawson H: 585-248-5093 jlawson@rochester.rr.com
Senior S&T Clinic - Sleds Inside Handles	Senior S&T Candidates	January 23	7 - 9:30 PM	Hunt Hollow	Jerry Sherman
Senior S&T Clinic - Big Mountain S&T Training	Senior S&T Candidates	January 25-26	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Ski Windham	Gordie Bell
Senior S&T Refresher	Seniors	January 25	9:30 - Noon	Swain	Al Efron
Patrollers' School & Introduction To Certified	Interested Patrollers	January 25 - 26	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Ski Windham	Gordie Bell

Nordic Skiability Clinic	Nordic Candidates	January 26	11:00 AM	Mendon Ponds or Harriet Hollister	Tom Adler, MD. 585-787-1441 tomadler@worldnet.alt.net.com
Senior S&T Clinic - Sleds/ Tail Rope.	Senior S&T Candidates	January 28	7 - 9:30 PM	Swain	Jim Nickerson
Senior S&T Clinic - Pre-evaluation/Critique	Senior S&T Candidates	January 30	7 - 9:30 PM	Bristol	Mike Morgan
Division Women's Clinic	Women Patrollers	February 1-2	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Bear Creek, VT	Laura Tucker
Division Snowboard Enhancement Seminar	Snowboard Patrollers	February 2	9:30 AM - 5:00 PM	Hunt Hollow	Jonah DiPasquale, PSIA; Jeff Burgess
Nordic Skiability Clinic	Nordic Candidates	February 9	10:00 AM	Cumming or Harriet Hollister	Tom Adler, MD. 585-787-1441 tomadler@worldnet.alt.net.com
Senior S&T Clinic - Sleds - Outside Handles - Beg. Bumps.	Senior S&T Candidates	February 9	9:30 - Noon	Bristol	Jim Nickerson
Senior S&T Clinic - Sleds - Bumps	Senior S&T Candidates	February 13	7 - 9:30 PM	Bristol	Scott Mundrick
Region Alumni Ski Day	GV Region Alumni	February 14	9:30 AM - 10:00 PM	Hunt Hollow	Sheila Fovel H: 585-266-0116 Sheila_Fovel@yahoo.com
Nordic Skiability Candidate Assessment	Nordic Candidates	February 15	10:00 AM	Mendon Ponds or Harriet Hollister	Tom Adler, MD. 585-787-1441 tomadler@worldnet.alt.net.com
Senior S&T Refresher	Seniors	February 15	9:30 - Noon	Hunt Hollow	John Topping
Senior S&T Clinic - Sleds - Bumps	Senior S&T Candidates	February 16	9:30 - Noon	Bristol	Joe Menichino
2003 Senior EMM Evaluation - Register by August 30, 2002!!	Senior Candidates	February 23	8:00 AM	Brantling	John McManus H: 585-586-4109 mcgroh@rochester.rr.com
Senior S&T Clinic - Pre-evaluation Practice	Senior S&T Candidates	February 23	9:30 - Noon	Bristol	John Topping
Senior S&T T/E Evaluation	Senior S&T T/E's	March 1-2	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Greek Peak	Randy McNeil
2003 Senior S&T Evaluation - Two-day	Senior Candidates	March 8-9	8:15 AM - 5:00 PM both days	Bristol	Jeff Baker 585-615-1576 bakernsp@rochester.rr.com

Region Officers' Meeting	Region Staff	March 5	7:30 PM	TBA	John Lawson H: 585-248-5093 jlawson@rochester.rr.com
Certified Exam	Certified Candidates	April 4 - 6	7:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Sunday River, ME	
Region Officers' Meeting	Region Staff	April 9	7:30 PM	TBA	John Lawson H: 585-248-5093 jlawson@rochester.rr.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.

SOME PICTURES OF THE CANDIDATE OEC FINAL EXAM AT SWAIN



CHECK OUT OUR WEB SITE AT:

<http://www.nspgvr.org>

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