



Mike Lord

RD

What a great start to the season. Looks like global warming is taking a break for Christmas and we will all be having a white one. Thanks to all of you for being so focused and getting through our refreshers with your usual style. Mike Long has the records in and we're ready for the season to start. The candidate OEC class was a resounding success with all nineteen candidates passing and moving on to their hills. Please take the time when you see them to welcome them and make them part of our family. Marry Emmighausen and I would like to send our special thanks to all of you who helped us with the course and gave so freely of your time to our new patrollers.

Elections are over and we welcome John Topping as our new assistant region director. A sad fair well to Bob Smith after six years of serving the region as ARD but special thanks for all the hard work he's done over the years. My special thanks to all of you in the region who voted for me in my bid to join our national BOD. I finished in the middle of a strong list of candidates. I enjoyed the experience but look forward to finishing my term as Genesee Valley Region director too.

Everyone have a great winter, fun skiing and helping our skiing public. I hope to be able to get away and ski with you this winter. Happy Holidays and see you all soon.

REGIONAL ADVISORS:

Nick Schiavetti

Instructor Development

Patrollers who want to become instructors in OEC, S&T, MTR, or Avalanche are required to take the Instructor Development course to learn important principles of teaching adults, observe effective teaching demonstration models, and apply classroom and field teaching techniques. This senior elective class is offered every spring to avoid the time conflicts that patrollers encounter during the ski season. Talk to any patroller who has completed this class in recent years and you will hear lots of enthusiastic recommendations.

In response to student feedback regarding the late night classes of the past few years, we have modified the schedule for this coming spring. The course will be offered at Hunt Hollow in the Genesee Valley Region during the day on Saturday, April 26, with the second session in the early evening of Thursday, May 1, 2008.

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Check the region website for the information flyer. Signup sheets were available at the Region Refreshers in the fall and you can also contact me at redhill3@rochester.rr.com to register for the course.

In addition to completing the Instructor Development course, patrollers who want to become instructors need to complete the mentoring program with an experienced instructor in their discipline and be evaluated by an Instructor Trainer. Genesee Valley Region now has a Mentoring webpage that provides information about the mentoring process – you will find the link to it in the lower right column of the region homepage underneath the Instructor Development link. We have been very successful in mentoring and evaluating new instructors and there are lots of experienced instructors available in the region to give you assistance or advice on mentoring.

Region instructors from various patrols with teaching experience in each of the NSP disciplines will teach the Instructor Development course this year: Marcia Mundrick (Bristol & GV Nordic: OEC, EMM, MTR, Avalanche), Mike Mooney (Swain: S&T), Glen Gebhard (Swain & GV Nordic: OEC), John Lawson (Hunt Hollow: OEC, EMM), Bob Andre (Hunt Hollow: OEC, EMM, MTR, Avalanche), and Nick Schiavetti (Swain: OEC, MTR, Avalanche).

The Instructor Development class is your gateway to becoming an instructor who trains new patrol candidates and refreshes current patrollers. These activities enable us to replenish our ranks and update our patroller skills. We invite you to take part in an enjoyable learning experience and join the corps of instructors in this region who contribute so much extra to the patrols and to the skiing public.

Mike Long

OEC

The OEC class ended very successfully thanks to the tutelage of Mary Emmighausen and Mike Lord, the Instructors of Record, and the many very proficient and skilled OEC instructors of the Genesee Valley Region. All nineteen candidates passed with Brantling, Bristol, Nordic, and Swain gaining new patrollers.

The Region Refresher Cycle C, concluded with the recertification of 65 instructors by the OEC Region Staff in September followed by the recertification of almost 300 patrollers by the Region OEC Instructors. The clear favorite station at the region refreshers this year was the "screaming triage" station.

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I am pleased to announce that Mary Emmighausen of Swain, Bill Teamerson of Bristol, and Gina Wyffels of Bristol and Nordic have agreed to join the Region OEC staff as ITs In-Training. They will be joined by the continuing Instructor Trainers Bob Andre, Patricia Camp, Ben Emerson, John Lawson, Mike Lord, John McManus, Nick Schiavetti, Jan Remizowski, and Kris Vasilas. If you see these individuals, please congratulate the newbies and thank those returning for the tremendous effort in their support of the Region OEC Program. Also, please join me in offering our thanks to Jeff Baker and Joe Menichino for many years of great instruction and challenging scenarios as they move on to other activities. Although Jeff will continue in the cosmetic arena, as you have probably noticed, Rick Micoli has joined the Gore Team and attends many of the functions adding a level of realism.

As we continue, the Senior EMM program will start soon with at least five aspirants lead by Bonnie Andre. For more information on this program see the full article in this Valley Views or contact Bonnie at ehf@frontiernet.net.

Bonnie Andre' Senior EMM

The senior program is an emergency management program. The actual program consists of you participating as leader or helper in scenarios designed to teach good leadership skills. This is a fun, very rewarding program that teaches leadership skills and refreshes OEC skills while exposing you to variations on how to succeed in the real world with multiple patients, aggravated bystanders, etc.

Senior EMM Schedule for 2008

Training starts Sunday January 13, 11:30 AM at Hunt Hollow

Sundays Hunt Hollow Noon

Wednesdays Powder Mills Park 6:30 PM

Other locations and times may be arranged for the convenience of the candidates.

Final Evaluation - Saturday March 1, 7:30AM at Brantling.

Please contact Bonnie Andre' prior to Jan 1 for details.

Senior EMM Trainer/Evaluators

Jennifer Grant, Chris Stiegler, John McManus, Jeff Baker, Bonnie Andre', John Lawson, Marcia Mundrick, Mike Lord, Pat Fluharty, Sue Navarra, Janet Remizowski, Bill Teamerson, Steve Duncan, Rick Micoli and Mike Long.

Bonnie Andre' Senior Trainer Coordinator
585-924-7215
ehf@frontiernet.net

Joe Menichino Certified

At last- we are skiing again. Welcome back. I just got home from the Division S&T Staff meeting at Killington and I'm excited. The snow was great as were the Valley Views

instructors and we had a terrific meeting concentrating on aligning expectations and consistent scoring practices. Keith Pomeroy has stepped down as Division S&T chair and has been replaced by Frey Arnio, long time Division Steering Committee member. Frey kept the team engaged from 7am till 7 pm on Saturday- wow. My job is program QA and I really think Frey did an excellent job getting the Senior and Certified S&T examiners to focus on requirements. I am confident it will pay off with stronger Senior S&T and Certified training programs and examinations this season. I hope you take advantage of them.

This year's annual Certified program will be held at Hunter Mountain in southern NY (pronounced Hunta by the locals). The three day program will be held in late March. Lucky for us this is an easy drive to a great mountain. If you have any interest in joining the program, seeing what it's all about or better yet, just for fun, participating as an IP in the OEC portion of the test on Saturday let me know. I can arrange passes for those that are willing to help. Helping with the First Aid test on Saturday is always fun and a great learning experience for patrollers at any level. DO NOT BE SHY ABOUT THIS- its actually a riot if you are not taking the test (have a macabre sense of pleasure). More importantly- you are welcome. You just need to let me know so we can make arrangements.

Important dates for this year are:

Certified School at Windham, NY

January 25 thru 27 (Cert S&T on Friday 25th)

Certified Pretest at Windham, NY

February 2

Certified Test at Hunter Mtn, NY-
March 28 to 30

As in the past I'd like to use this article to remind you of the excellent sources of information about the Certified program that exist 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". Dave Walker, Certified Program Chairman is working hard to make all aspects of the program fair, consistent and documented. He is making excellent progress working toward this goal and we will all benefit from it. New to the program this year is the requirement for a "sign-off" by a Certified patroller prior to taking the pretest. Call me if you have any interest in taking the pretest and we'll get into the details.

If you want to attend a great clinic and meet many of the people in the program at the same time I highly recommend the Patroller School & Intro to Certified program which is scheduled for January 26/27 at Ski Windham, NY. Contact Brent Maley at

skipatrol@comcast.net to register. A number of us are planning to go and its always fun. The atmosphere is relaxed and the learning opportunities are great. Note that the 2 day Intro to Certified clinic is actually separate from the Patroller School. Bill Jordan, Certified OEC Chair is actually coordinating the OEC portion of the Certified school and he can be contacted at Bill Jordan, cert169@adelphia.net . NOTE-This is great Senior training too.

Please feel free to call me (607-587-8229) or any of the Certified patrollers in our region if you want to discuss any aspect of the program. Have a great, safe season,.....and pray for snow.

John Lawson

Awards

Well the ski season has begun and the holidays are upon us. All of us have been through the fall and early winter training and refreshing. Clearly everyone has spent many hours at their local on hill refresher and the region OEC refreshers. In addition, many other educational programs are being offered this season. The programs will be outlined in other portions of this newsletter. I would like to encourage each of you to reflect upon the programs you have participated in or plan to participate in and think about how much preparation and presentation time the instructors volunteer. The instructors – your fellow patrollers – teach all region programs without any compensation other than the satisfaction that they are giving back to the skiing community. In addition, there are managerial positions our patrollers participate in at the local, Region, Division, and even at the National level. These people providing service to all of us without compensation for the time volunteered. Again, the satisfaction of giving back to the skiing community is the main reward.

The skiing community can however provide tangible recognition of the effort volunteered by your fellow patrollers. Here is where the awards committee comes in. The region awards committee actively encourages you to submit the names of people you believe have “gone above the call of duty”. The awards committee will work with you to define the best award for the activity and then go ahead and get the award ready for presentation. All we really need is your input. While we try and keep informed about what is happening in the region not everything is obvious to us. Here is where you can participate by bringing the names of deserving patrollers forward. There are many hard working patrollers in our region. Please help us identify them so we can enhance their job satisfaction with the recognition they deserve.

Last year the awards committee consisted of **Kris Vasiliauskas** and **Rick Micoli** from Bristol, **Myron Crispino** from Swain, **Pete Peterson** from Brantling, **John Topping** and **Bonnie Andre** from Hunt Hollow, **Therese Costich-Sicker** from Powdermill, and **Gina Wyffles** from GV Nordic. In addition the committee was supported by RD, **Mike Lord**, and ARD's, **John**

McManus and **Bob Smith**. I want to thank each of these people for there efforts in a successful year.

The following people received recognition in the last year:

Yellow Merit Stars:

John McManus for his service as ARD for 6 years

Bill Teamerson and **Steve Duncan** for being co-instructors of record for the region OEC class for the previous two seasons.

Distinguished Service Award:

Fifi Steinrotter, owner operator of Brantling Ski Slope, for many years of support to the National Ski Patrol.

Mac Warner, upon retirement, for many years of training support to the GVR

Pamm Ferguson, upon retirement, for many years of patrol leadership at all level of the NSP system – including sitting on the National Board.

National Appointment:

Marcia Wait for many years of dedicated service to the NSP including four years as Patrol Rep for Brantling.

The region recognized the following this year for outstanding service:

Marcia Mundrick was awarded the **Lehman Award** for being the regions outstanding instructor. **Skip Millor** received the **Stevens Award** for Region Patroller of the year. **Pamm Ferguson** was also awarded the **Williams Award** for community service that exemplifies the volunteer spirit of the NSP.



Figure 1 - Mike Lord presenting the national DSA to Pamm Ferguson



Figure 2 - Skip Millor receiving the Region Stevens Award as Patroller of the Year from Awards Advisor John Lawson.

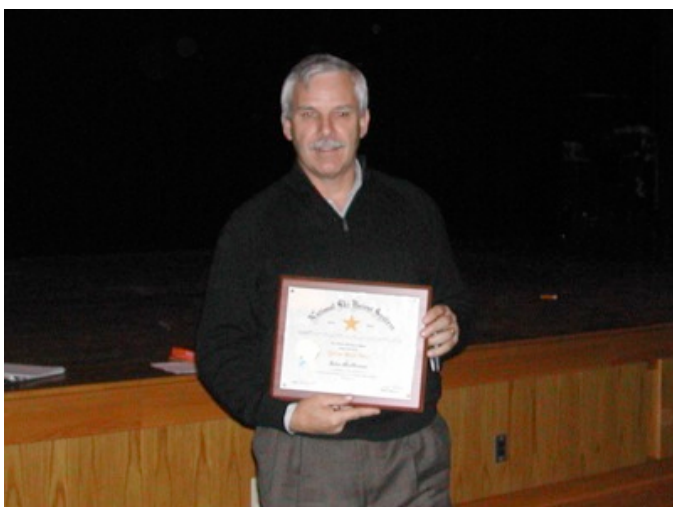


Figure 3 - John McManus with his Yellow Merit Star



Figure 4 - Bill Teamerson and Steve Duncan with their Yellow Merit Stars

(Other recipients' photos published earlier. *Ed.*)

Skip Millor

MTR

We have seven patrollers participating in MTR 2 this season. **Dennis Whitney**, instructor of record, is doing a great job organizing this year's program.

Encouraged by the early snow and cold, Dennis is working with **Brain Walsh** on the final plans for the outdoor session to be held in early February.

Special thanks to the Region for purchasing a Digital projector for use in all Region program delivery. Being able to use the Region projector allows us to keep MTR program fees down because we don't have to pay \$70 shipping to get a projector from Division.

Jeff Baker

S&T

Awesome, incredible, amazing! The conditions simply couldn't be betterso come take a run with the GVR S&T staff and experience all that they have to share with you!

Thanks John! And when you hit the slopes, please take a moment to stop **John Topping** the next time you see him. Tell him **"Thanks!"** for all the hard work he has put into guiding the S&T program all these many years. He skillfully and patiently nurtured the program and all of us who partook in its many advantages. It was a ton of work for the benefit of each and every one of us. Quite a guy.

Senior Program: This year we have some changes coming your way. **Good and exciting stuff!** We've listened carefully to you and understand how hard it is to pull "just a few more hours" from your busy life schedules. It has become clear that it's **time to make some changes** to the way we offer our training for the Senior program. So this year we're rolling out a new format, **shaking things up** and providing what we hope will be a welcomed approach. Simply put, think of it as having 4-6 of **your very own, personal trainers**. Coming to you to help you with the things that matter the most for YOU and working hard to meet YOUR schedule. Sound inviting? Drop us a line today and we'll tell you more, we know you'll be glad you did.
jeff@timberdesigns.net

Continuing Education: Want to **skiboard** or **tele** better? In the S&T program we know we can all perform better when we share our ideas and experiences. The GVR extended learning programs are designed to embrace a **friendly, constructive and relaxing** environment. Maybe you just want to have **more confidence** running a sled. Maybe it's time to try a **new dimension** to the sport of sliding downhill and boarding or tele marking looks like it's just be the ticket. Or maybe you are ready to **try the new techniques** and really make those shape skis sing for their supper. Beginner or advanced, **you are welcomed** and guaranteed to walk away smiling! We take the time to listen to what you need and then provide a fun and safe platform to try new ideas and techniques. **Learning and laughing** with others is what we are all about.

Certified Program: Adventure, Skiing, Toboggans, Fun, First Aid, Lift Evac, Challenge, Avalanche Rescue, Patrol Management, Knowledge, Risk Management, Low Angle Rescue and Happy Hour Survival Techniques. Okay, so maybe it's not for everyone.....but it might just be **perfect for you!** If that little voice inside you has been stirring and you think it's time to find out just how far you can stretch your body and mind, the **GVR S&T staff is here to help.** Those who have experienced the thrill of this unique program are eager to help prepare you for the journey. Check with **Joe Menichino**, our regions advisor for the program. There's none who are better equipped to help you to get started on this **great adventure.**

A few good....teachers: Wondering how you can be part of all of this and want to contribute? The invitation is engraved and waiting for your name. We can use your knowledge and expertise. No need to worry if you have what it takes, we offer on-the-job training. Every patroller you help is like getting a raise and an extra week of vacation all at once. Drop me a line and let's chat!

See the S&T schedule of events on the Region web page: www.nspgvr.org/html/s&t.htm

Marie Osypian Student Patrolling

The eleven student patrollers in the Genesee Valley Region are very busy getting ready for the upcoming season mixing fun and learning. I would like to introduce you to all the regions students: Lucas Candall (Swain), Michaela Donnelly (Swain), Aaron Hook (Swain), Greg Kramer (Swain), Shane Kramer (Swain), Luke Rague (Swain), Marie Revekant (Swain), Claire Revekant (Swain), Colin Ronald (Bristol), Ryan Smith (Swain), and Connor Walsh (Bristol).

In November the Swain Students hosted a Region Student Evac Enhancement Seminar thanks to Steve Shelley. New skills and fun were obtained by all. Nine student patrollers participated along with two students from Alfred Fire Company venture crew.

Four students completed OEC training this fall. Colin Ronald (Bristol), Claire Revekant (Swain), Aaron Hook (Swain), Lucas Candall (Swain).

Colin Ronald (Bristol) worked his first shift as a full certified Alpine Patroller this past Sunday. Connor Walsh (Bristol) and Marie Revekant (Swain) both certified Alpine Patrollers are busy patrolling at there areas.

Eight Swain students will start at first snow fall working on their S&T skills under the supervision of Mike Mooney. Good luck, Lucas Candall (Swain), Michaela Donnelly (Swain), Aaron Hook (Swain), Greg Kramer (Swain), Shane Kramer (Swain), Luke Rague (Swain), Claire Revekant (Swain), and Ryan Smith (Swain),

The second weekend in March the students at Swain will host a Boy Scout Jamboree for a weekend of camping, skiing, and fun.
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The weekend of March 14-17 six students plan to participate in the upcoming 2008 competition in the Eastern Division National Ski Patrol Student Seminar held in Killington VT. The student's skills will be tested in the following categories: Skiing/Boarding, Toboggan Handling, Outdoor Emergency Care (OEC) and Assessment.

Genesee Valley Region students were strong at last years seminar: Student Patroller Malcolm "Mac" Inglis (Bristol), from Honeoye Falls, NY took second place in the area of Toboggan Handling, third place in Skiing and second place for Overall skills. Student Patroller Trevor Mooney (Swain), from Geneseo, NY took second place in the area of Skiing. Student Patroller Marie Revekant (Swain), from Pittsford, NY took fourth place in the area of Assessment. Other Student patrollers participating were Matt Apenowich (Swain) from Wallace, NY, Corey Bryant (Swain) from Brockport, NY, Claire Revekant (Swain) from Pittsford, NY, Luke Rague (Swain) from Chili, NY and Connor Walsh (Bristol) from Brighton, NY. All Students did well in the competition.

Bill Gamble Alumni

The Alumni Day for 2008 has been set for February 29 at Hunt Hollow. Invitations have been sent to all registered Alumni.

There is an Alumni information/registration form on the Alumni page of the GVR web site. For any other questions, contact me at 585-243-9555 or gamblewl@hotmail.com.

NEWS FROM THE PATROLS:

HUNT HOLLOW

The Hunt Hollow Ski Patrol refresher on October 13th was a very special one for us. Pamm Ferguson's retirement from the NSP was recognized with a Distinguished Service Award for her 35 years of exemplary service.

Another highlight from the day was the presentation of a plaque naming our patrol building at the base in honor of Henry Williams. The Williams Building, as it will be known, was in recognition of Henry's seemingly never-ending commitment to the Hunt Hollow Ski Patrol, the Genesee Valley Region, and the NSP.

Snow is on the slopes and the hill is open. Hunt Hollow underwent some major renovations during the off-season with a lodge expansion. The deck was expanded, new trail signs placed, and there were many more behind the scenes changes.

Rick Roxin, a member of the Hunt Hollow Ski Patrol, was hired as General Manager of the club and was in place

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to oversee the building. Rick hired Greg Sherman as Chief of Mountain Operations and he, too, is a member of the Hunt Hollow Ski Patrol.

We have several candidates lined up to begin their Ski and Toboggan training in January then move on to OEC in August. Some are former patrollers, others are children of patrollers, and some are volunteers in other organizations, but the common denominator is they all love to ski and are looking forward to becoming members of the National Ski Patrol.

Peter Parker
PD Hunt Hollow



Figure 5 - Hunt Hollow PD Peter Parker showing Henry Williams the plaque that will identify the Hunt Hollow Patrol Building as the Williams Building.

POWDER MILLS

Powder Mills is scheduled to open for the season on Wednesday, Dec 26th.

After a two-year hiatus in Steamboat Springs, Colorado, we are pleased to have Bob Lechner return to manage the operations at Powder Mills. I invite all patrollers in the region to encourage families they know who are considering getting into skiing to look into the four week learn to ski programs at both Powder Mills and Northampton. They are an affordable way to get into skiing! Sessions are available in both January and February on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings as well as Saturdays and Sundays. Thursday evenings are reserved exclusively for adults who want to learn to ski.

Any patrollers in the region with kids who are learning to ski are welcome to bring them to Powder Mills during any of our open ski times. Just check in with the patroller on duty and they'll get you and your family on the hill.

Thanks,
Eric Leinberg, PD

NORTHAMPTON

I am working on registering the Outdoor First Care with NSP. If Northampton is open, the course will be taught Valley Views

on the following dates: Feb 6, 13, 20 - 6:00 to 9:00 PM at the lodge at Northampton Park. It is an 8-hour course and will cost \$30.00. Anyone interested should register by calling Dick Taylor at 585-589-4786. The course will provide an introduction to patient assessment and BSI practices. This course could be a good avenue to introduce future candidates to Ski Patrolling First Aid.

Dick Taylor, PD

BRANTLING

Before we get on to summertime happenings and how the first month or so of the 2007-08 season has progressed (?), a brief repeat of the big Brantling news from the spring. At the annual end-of-season banquet long-time Brantling owner Fiffi Steinrotter was presented with the NSP Distinguished Service Award and Patrol Director (now entering her third two-year term) Marsha Wait received National Appointment number 10548. Another round of congratulations to both.

Biggest news of the summer at Wayne County's largest ski area was the transfer of ownership from the Steinrotters to long-time employee Kevin Spear. Over the past thirty-plus years Kevin has served in many positions, instructor, race coach par excellence, mechanic, groomer; anything that needed doing, Kevin has done. And wife Dee moves into the office manager position. The transition has proved seamless, as Pat and Fiffi have stayed on. As Fiffi says "We're just employees now"...and loving it. More time to vacation in Germany and at the western home in British Columbia.

The season itself got off to a fast and snowy start in early December; programs got underway early and the Christmas camps boasted of the best attendance in years. Unfortunately the new year saw warm and wet (rainy) weather which put a damper on things, but by mid-January things were looking up (at snow clouds). The Brantling Ski Patrol, as mentioned under the direction of reelected PD Marsha Wait, got off to a good start also. Our three candidates successfully completed the OEC course; we welcome Lindy Fitzsimmons, Martha Lightfoot and Michele Whitcomb to the patrol. S&T training, under Greg Bernhard and Mike McManus, is now underway. Patroller Bob Hutteman made a very welcome Christmas gift to the patrol; two professional examination beds in excellent condition now grace the patrol room. In addition to many pro features the beds take up less space, making for a roomier, more efficient facility. Bob spied the beds on a government excess equipment web site and quickly jumped at the opportunity. Way to go, Bob!

The Patrol hosted the annual Genesee Valley Region breakfast meeting on January 13 and will again play host to the Region Senior EMM Clinic on Saturday, March 1, complete with the usual Chicken BBQ! Come on snow!!!

Pete Peterson
Brantling Newsletter Editor

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SWAIN

No report.

BRISTOL

No report.

Calendar

For the current calendar of events, see the Region web site at

<http://www.nspgvr.org/html/calendar.htm>