

VALLEY VIEWS

The Newsletter of the Genesee Valley Region

Winter, 2013

Bob André

RD

I am glad I waited past Bill Gamble's deadline for Valley Views submissions as I can now pass on good news. John Lawson was reelected to the National Board. Congratulations to John and thanks from all for the effort he puts into this position. This has been a trying year for the board and John's reelection can only have a positive impact going forward. I want to thank all of you for exercising your right to vote in this year's National election. I will obtain our percentage voting totals at a later time and appreciate your support.

My other good news is that the National Weather Service with all its supercomputing power is forecasting a break from our current weather pattern in the near future that will bring cold air from Canada and keep it here for a while, just in time for Christmas. Hopefully the Lake Erie and Lake Ontario snow guns will fire up to assist our Mountain efforts. I think we are all ready to break from training mode to actual Patrolling!

Welcome Dick Harding as our new Avalanche Advisor. Jim Mussnug has taken a position in the Albany area and will be unable to administer the Avalanche Program as he has done so successfully for many years. Many thanks to Jim for his years of leadership in this program. Jim received a Meritorious Service Award for his many years as the Avalanche Advisor-much longer than any current advisor-thanks Jim and we will miss you. Dick comes well prepared to assume this position as a Level II Avalanche Instructor and member of the Division Avalanche Steering Committee.

The Region has two new Patrol Directors: Deb Whalen with Genesee Valley Nordic Patrol and Rick Church at Powder Mill. They both bring strong skills to their positions and have become valuable members of the Region Executive Committee.

Genesee Valley Region had a great turnout at the National Ski Patrol's 75th Anniversary celebration at Stowe in October. Contingents from both Bristol Mountain and Hunt Hollow gathered for the dedication of the bench in front of the Vermont Ski and Snowboard Museum on Main Street in Stowe. It was truly impressive to see so many red jackets in downtown Stowe. If you are going to Stowe be sure to stop and check out the bench, located directly

across from the turn onto the Mountain Rd.; it is impressive.



Figure 1 - National Executive Director Tim White and National Chairman Burt Mitchell cutting the ribbon on the NSP Bench at the National Ski and Snowboard Museum in Stowe, VT.

Mike Lord, our Awards Advisor, will have the details but the highlights all came up gold at the National level, with Hunt Hollow awarded National Outstanding Large Alpine Patrol and all current Patrollers receiving Gold Merit Stars. John Lawson received a Gold Merit Star as National Outstanding Administrative Patroller, and Bob André a Gold Merit Star as National Outstanding Instructor. Not bad for our small Region! Recall that in near history Joe Menichino, Jerry Sherman, Marcia Mundrick and our Genesee Valley Nordic Patrol also received Gold Merit Stars for National Outstanding Awards.

One last request for all is to consider joining a fellow Patroller and signing up for one of our education courses, whether it be a Senior Level, National course or a seminar. You will benefit by meeting Patrollers from other areas and will become a more confident and well-rounded Patroller. Do it!

Bill Teamerson**EMM**

Hi Everyone,

As I am writing this, it is raining outside and my optimism of being back on the slopes any time in the near future is dwindling with each drop.

We have a large class for SEMM this year: Eric Leinberg, Michael Wangler, Pat O'Hara, Steve Briggs, Andrew Fleming, Val Sorrells, Marie Osypian, Mark Bowker, Arron Duncan, Steve Sippel, Alex Webster, Geri Cherubim, Kent Hughes, and Kelly Leuthan. However, we do have an opportunity for (2) more people to join us.

If you see any of them in passing, why not wish them luck? Better yet ask them about the program or if you can help them in any way!

With such a large class, we could use extra help from OEC instructors! If you could spare a little time to help with the practice sessions, it would be appreciated by both the Trainer Evaluators and the Candidates. If you have already taken the EMM class, it would be great to have your added experience! If you have not taken the class, it will give you an excellent opportunity to see what it is all about.

We could also use some extra help on Evaluation Day; Injured patients, staging help and runners would all be really appreciated.

Peter Parker**S&T**

We have a few interested patrollers so far, but we'd love to have more! Go to the GVR Website for the schedule and plan your winter to have more fun than previous winters! Join us as we travel to different local resorts and work on our skiing skills, Patrollers' skills, and toboggan handling skills.

We strive to have fun during every session while at the same time preparing each candidate to be successful during the final evaluation in March.

IF you're interested, and I hope you are, do 1 or both of the following:

1. Call me on my cell at (585)613-8486 if you desire further information or have questions regarding the program.
2. DECIDE you're ready to go - download the application - fill it out - have your PD sign it - then mail it to me with a \$50 check for the program.
Peter Parker, 33 Superior Rd, Rochester, NY 142625
3. SEE YOU IN JANUARY AT HUNT HOLLOW FOR THE KICK-OFF SESSION.

Now let's go make some tracks!

Merrily Hoover**Alumni**

Save the date of Friday February 22, 2013 at Hunt Hollow for our annual alumni get together. Last year we had great skiing, great conversation and great food and wine. We expect to repeat that again this year. Details will be emailed out in January but in the mean time I would like to ask a favor of all of our alumni. Last year we said we were going to get together to identify some history for the Genessee Valley Region. Unfortunately, that did not occur during the summer so I thought we may as well use our annual get together to explore some of that history.

If you have some anecdotal history to share, just put it in writing and either bring it with you in February or send it to me at mbkhoover@aol.com. If you have any photos to share that would be great too. We are interested in the early days—so if you know anything about or perhaps patrolled at Berbey Hollow or Ski Valley, we want your stories. If you know anyone who has recently retired and has not joined the National Alumni Association, please direct them to the Genessee Valley Webpage and navigate to the Alumni page and follow the directions there for joining. We currently have the second highest alumni registration in the Division—lets make us #1.

We look forward to seeing everyone in February.

Joe Menichino**Certified**

Hi folks- here we are again with a late start to the season—bummer for sure. I wish there was something we could do about it. We'll just have to wait it out. Patience was never one of my virtues

OEC training and recertification was excellent this fall. The OEC class ran super smoothly and produced a fine group of new members. Congratulations to candidates and instructors both. The Instructor and Region OEC refreshers were also well run. Sorry if we got you sticky with all the fake bleeding. The Italian sausage evisceration moulage survived both Instructor refreshers and both Region refreshers. What a testament to everyone's treatment skills.

The Certified program was active this Fall. Jeff Baker hosted an excellent 3 day Patroller school on Keuka Lake. It was a very relaxed session with everyone sharing ideas and skills as we worked thru some very complex scenarios. The food and water skiing was terrific as well. I can't recommend this class enough if Jeff is kind enough to invite us back again next year.

The next school coming up is at Windham in the Catskills in mid- January. This session is actually 2 in one covering either Patroller ski and sledding sessions or an Intro to Certified. Tom Wallin and I plan to go down and teach. This is always an excellent weekend of training for anyone that wants to improve skills and meet patrollers from around the Eastern Division.

For those of you that are considering starting the program please give me a call and we can discuss requirements. Before you start you need to be an experienced patroller with some amount of leadership in your resume. A strong background in instructing really helps. The best place to start is to sign up as an OEC or S&T instructor and work your way up to the senior TE level. This path will expose you to many of the Certified members that you'll work with once you start the program.

Finally, the Annual Certified Meeting and test is scheduled for late March at Sugarbush. All NSP members and families are welcome to come and watch and help. Let me know if you want in on the 3 day weekend. You will be welcomed and it's always fun.

Let's hope we all start skiing soon. Happy Holidays!

Tom Jenssen **OEC**

Another busy "OEC Season" has come to an end (except for Sr. EMM – please see Bill's notes). We recertified well over 300 patrollers and had 12 people pass the OEC final.

A tremendous "thank you" to the instructors, instructor trainers, instructor candidates and mentors. These are the people who worked hard to make it all work.

Cathy Rague and Mark Bowker did another great job leading a successful OEC class. Their notes will have more details.

We are well along to our goal for the upcoming year of adding 12 new OEC instructors. If you are interested and have not done so, please contact me.

Thinking snow.....

Patrick Saeva **MTR**

The National Ski Patrol is currently selling bumper stickers that say, "We're a different breed". Certainly it refers to all of us, but it makes me think primarily of those who partake in the MTR and Avalanche coursework. It takes a certain type of person to camp in the winter and it takes a different breed of people to look forward to it.

As you know, the Genesee Valley Region is offering a combined MTR 1/Avalanche course that starts on December 11th. The class is full and the participants and instructors are looking forward to some foul weather in which we can build emergency shelters, use avalanche probes, and further enhance our skills.

For those of you who have already taken MTR 1 and have yet to take MTR 2, we are looking to conduct a course next year that may lead us up to the ADKs or Tug Hill again looking for the right conditions. As always, if you have taken the coursework in the past, you are welcome to join

us for the field work to freshen up your skills and test out new gear. If you are interested, please let me know (psaeva01@rochester.rr.com).

NEWS FROM THE PATROLS:

NORDIC

The Genesee Valley Nordic Patrol is looking forward to the upcoming season at Mendon Ponds County Park, Cumming Nature Center and Harriett Hollister Spencer State Recreation Area. Following a successful on-trail refresher of SKEDS, maps, knots and Z-drags we hope for an abundance of the cold white stuff for everyone.

We would like to extend an invitation to all patrollers, families and friends to come out and join us in the great outdoors. Even if you are not able to challenge yourself on light equipment please consider joining us at Cummings Nature Center February 23 & 24 for our annual Nordic Hot Dog and Chili Sale.

For more information about the Nordic Patrol and activities please go to www.gvnsp.org or visit with us at any of our venues Saturdays or Sundays once the snow arrives!

Deb Whalen, PD

BRISTOL

Our On-Hill Refresher was Saturday, September 29. We focused on chair lift evacuation. Several awards were given out, including the following:

35 Years of Service: **Craig Ronald.**

In addition, at the On-Hill and at the GVR Region Refreshers, there were the following awards:

Purple Merit Stars - **Tim Eygabroad** and **Mike Stamp**
Blue Merit Star Awards - **Andy Baisch**, **Mark Bowker**, **Jeremy Hellems**, **Jeff Simpson**, and **Rick Walzer**
Yellow Merit Stars - **Theresa Muench**
Eastern Division Patroller Achievement Award: **Peter Marasco**, **Rachel Miller**, **Russ Perrin**, and **Brenda Rizzo.**

Bristol continues to await the arrival of snow, or at least more cold weather to make snow. We are pleased to welcome 5 new Patrollers, who did very well on their OEC final and are in the midst of additional training on Bristol-specific protocols. We also have 2 new Mountain Hosts.

Our CPR and Blackout chair lift drill took place on Sunday, Dec. 2. Still more Awards were distributed:

Eastern Division Patroller Achievement Award: **Peter Falise, Mike Long, Craig Ronald, and Pam Welch.**

We will hold our annual Hot Dog Fundraiser on President's Weekend, February 16, 17, and 18. Please stop by!

Pam Thompson, PD



Figure 2 - National Award Recipients Bob André, Outstanding Instructor; Hunt Hollow (represented by John Topping), Outstanding Large Alpine Patrol; and John Lawson, Outstanding Administrative Patroller.



Figure 3 - Outgoing Avalanche Advisor Jim Mussnug (L) received a National Meritorious Service Award.

For the latest information on Region matters, visit the Region web site regularly: <http://www.nspgvr.org>.

In Memoriam **John Hynd**



The Swain Ski Patrol lost one of our alumni when John Hynd passed away peacefully on June 23, 2012, at the age of 81.

John was a member of the National Ski Patrol at Swain for 28 years from 1980 to 2008 and became a senior patroller in 1984. He served the Genesee Valley Section and the Western New York Region for many years as the Sectional and Regional First Aid Administrator and Senior First Aid Advisor and was awarded National Appointment Number 6892 in 1989.

John was a graduate of the University of Rochester, majoring in chemistry, and worked for many years as a product engineer at Eastman Kodak Company. He completed his military service as a gunnery officer with the US Navy. John was an avid outdoorsman who also enjoyed biking and golf in addition to his regular skiing all winter long. John was very active in the Rochester Ski Club for which he was the founder of their annual Okemo trip. He directed the Okemo trip for over a decade and he also ran the Rochester Ski Club's Sunday River trip for a few years. John was also very active in his community, especially in his volunteer work for Good News Jail and Prison Ministry.

John is survived by wife Laurilyn, his children, Barb (John) Cotton, Nancy (Mike) Maiorano and Bill (Jean) Hynd; 10 grandchildren and one great grandchild; step-children Meggin (Rob) Hernick, Todd Carey; and 3 additional grandchildren. John leaves a sister Cathy (Art) Richie of Memphis TN, several nieces, nephews, and cousins.

A celebration of his life was held on Friday, July 13, 2012, at the Pearce Memorial Church in North Chili. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Good News Jail and Prison Ministry, 130 Plymouth Ave. South, Rochester, NY 14614.

Nick Schiavetti
Swain Ski Patrol

Winter, 2013

EMM SCHEDULE 2012-2013

Day	Date	Time	Location	Focus	Instructors
Sat	12/15	9:00 – 12:00	Bristol Family Room	SKILLS CHECK OFF AND ORIENTATION	Bill, Rick, Tom
Sat	1/5	12:30-3:30	Hunt Hollow	OEC Skills	Bill, Gary
Wed	1/9	6-9	Powdermill	EMM Scenarios based on OEC Skills- <u>Upper extremities</u>	Jennifer
Sun	1/13	12:30-3:30	Hunt Hollow	EMM Scenarios	Gary, Bob, Bonnie
Tue	1/15	6-9	Powdermill	EMM Scenarios based on OEC Skills- <u>Lower extremities</u>	Mary, Marcia, Steve
Sun	1/20	12:30-3:30	Hunt Hollow	EMM Scenarios	Bob, Bonnie
Wed	1/23	6-9	Powdermill	EMM Scenarios based on OEC Skills- <u>Backboard</u>	Tom, Steve
Sat	1/26	12:30-3:30	Brantling	EMM Scenarios	Bill
Tue	1/29	6-9	Powdermill	EMM Scenarios based on OEC Skills- <u>Hips/Pelvis</u>	Mary, Marcia
Sun	2/3	12:30-3:30	Hunt Hollow	EMM Scenarios- <u>Mid Term Session</u>	Gary (?)
Wed	2/6	6-9	Powdermill	EMM Scenarios based on OEC Skills- <u>Chest/Shoulders</u>	Jennifer, Steve
Sat	2/9	12:30-3:30	Hunt Hollow	EMM Scenarios	Bob, Bonnie
Tue	2/12	6-9	Powdermill	EMM Scenarios based on OEC Skills- <u>Mountain Mgmt</u>	
Sat	2/16	8-3	Swain	FINAL	Bill, Tom, Gary, Bob, Bonnie, Joe, John T, John L, Gina, Steve, Janet R.