



**Bob André** RD

Once again it's time for the Winter Edition of Valley Views. A look out the window and the near forecast is not encouraging, but soon we will have cold and snow for another great season. The National election results should be posted soon and I want to

heartily thank all of who voted. You will see that your votes did count and in a big way! Elected to the National Board were:

Chris Pringle, Keith Cassidy, Bill Sinykin, Rick Knight, and Ken Kramer

The Region Calendar is now filled with dates for all our programs thanks to our Advisors and Bill Gamble. Courses are filling quickly which is great.

A special thanks to all the OEC Instructors, Instructor Trainers, and especially Deb, Rick, and Tom for their efforts in producing a successful OEC Candidate Class and Region OEC refreshers. Well done folks-you have again raised the bar for our OEC programs.

Since I will be handing the Region Director reins over to John Topping next spring this will be my final Valley Views contribution as RD. I have had what seems like a very short, but rewarding 6 years in this position and it has truly been an honor to serve our Region. When I was first elected our Region was running like a well-oiled machine, and I can only hope I have not gummed up the works too badly. I have gained new friends and sadly lost valuable old ones. Our Region is so remarkable, in that I have been able to lead as an organizer and supporter, with no need to be a referee or crisis solver. Our Advisors and Patrol Directors have worked as a team to benefit the Region and hence our individual Patrollers. Not every Region is this fortunate. We have Patrollers in leadership roles at every level of the National Ski Patrol. The knowledge and benefits that they bring home to us are immense. Each year our Patrollers distinguish themselves receiving awards for their contributions at every level of Patrolling.

How do we maintain this level of excellence? Do we just show up for our shifts? Do we Patrol so that we can ski or do we ski so that we can Patrol?

Volunteerism is currently declining in this country. Parents have jobs, kids sports, little free time, and in many cases, shrinking extra income. To be successful we need to involve our families as much as possible, have fun at what we are doing, and gain a sense of accomplishment. Embrace the camaraderie of our fellow Patrollers and function as a team. Enhance your Ski Patrol experience by taking advantage of the valuable continuing education offered in our Region and elsewhere. Become an instructor or gain a leadership role. All of these efforts enhance the teamwork and camaraderie ethic. And last but certainly not least-have fun, as part of the experience.

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## REGIONAL ADVISORS:

**Rick Micoli** Awards

The region's Awards committee has been busy this Fall refining our selection process as well as the timetable for GVR's Outstanding Awards. The awardees have been chosen and will be announced at the Spring Banquets for the 2013-14 season. I want to thank the members of the committee, who are Dave Vinke and Marsha Wait from Brantling, Glenn Becker, Betsy Landre and Kris Vasiliauskas from Bristol, John McManus from Hunt Hollow, Deb Whalen from Nordic, and Joe Menichino from Swain, for all their hard work at presenting nominations and our mission to streamline the process. My thanks also to John Lawson, Mike Lord and Jerry Sherman, who have guided me in taking over this position. Their words of wisdom have been very helpful in providing historical background to me and our committee.

Keep in mind that your recommendations are helpful in identifying your peers, who excel in their commitment to your patrol and to NSP.

**Mike Mooney** Instructor Development

Patrollers who want to become instructors in Outdoor Emergency Care, Ski & Toboggan Transportation, Mountain Travel & Rescue, or Avalanche need to enroll in the Instructor Development course to begin the process of becoming an instructor. This class is offered every spring after the end of the ski season to avoid the time conflicts that patrollers encounter during the ski

season and counts as a senior elective. Participants in the course learn the principles of effective classroom and field teaching techniques and observe a variety of demonstration teaching models.

In response to student feedback we made some changes to the timing for the course, the schedule is to present the course in an evening session with the students required to complete a CD/DVD prior to the evening session. The evening session reinforced the materials brought forward on the CD/DVD and allowed for practice by the students before presenting their mini lesson using the foundations developed in the course. Ten patrollers completed this Instructor Development class in April 2014 and are now going through the mentoring process to become instructors. In our survey of the patrollers who completed the course we received lots of enthusiastic feedback about the class format. Check the region website for further information. Two courses will be offered; the first is Monday March 30th 2015 and the second is Thursday April 16<sup>th</sup> 2015. You can also contact me at [mooney@geneseo.edu](mailto:mooney@geneseo.edu) 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 each discipline and be evaluated by an Instructor Trainer. Genesee Valley Region has been very successful in mentoring and evaluating new instructors and there are lots of experienced instructors who are available to give you assistance or advice on the instructor mentoring program. The region now also 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 GV Region homepage (<http://www.nspgvr.org>) right underneath the Instructor Development link. Another new feature on the region website this year is the posting of lists of the requirements and responsibilities of instructors in OEC, S&T, MTR, and Avalanche in this region on both the Mentoring and Instructor Development webpages in Adobe Acrobat pdf format for downloading. The intent of these documents is to help potential instructors develop realistic expectations regarding what an instructor does and what the time commitments are to instruct in each discipline before signing up.

We have instructors from various patrols in the region with teaching experience in each of the NSP disciplines who will teach the Instructor Development course this year: Marcia Mundrick (Bristol: OEC, EMM, MTR, Avalanche), Mike Mooney (Swain: S&T, OEC), John Lawson (Hunt Hollow: OEC, EMM), Bob Andre (Hunt Hollow: OEC, EMM, MTR,

Avalanche), Glen Gebhard (Swain: OEC) and Pam Welch (Bristol: S&T, OEC).

The Instructor Development class is the gateway to becoming an instructor who trains new patrol candidates and refreshes current patrollers. These training activities enable the region 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 both to the patrols and to the skiing public.

### **Tom Jenssen**

### **OEC**

#### **OEC Classes:**

Once again Deb Whalen and Rick Micoli were the IOR's for the OEC class. Thanks to Deb, Rick, and all the OEC instructors, 22 candidates passed the final on a cold and damp Saturday, Nov 1. Thanks to all instructors who worked with the class and especially to Deb and Rick for their two years doing the very demanding IOR job.

#### **Instructor Refreshers and OEC Refreshers:**

We got very positive feedback from the Patrollers attending this year's refreshers at Honeoye. The IT's and instructors did a great job making the material interesting and putting a focus on hands-on exercises and scenarios. More than 300 Patrollers are now recertified. Thank you to our instructor trainers (IT's) and OEC instructors who made this possible!

#### **Senior OEC:**

Please consider taking the Sr. OEC class this year. You will be a better Patroller after taking this course for sure. See Bill Teamerson's write-up.

### **Bill Teamerson**

### **Senior OEC**

As we head into the skiing season, I would like to remind you about the Sr. OEC program. (Yes, for you old timers, it is indeed called Sr. OEC again,).

We meet twice a week in January and February to sharpen our OEC skills, practice more difficult situations and problems, and in general have a good time while doing it.

This year's class has already started to form and we have 6 excellent patrollers already committed. We can comfortably accommodate 12, so there is still plenty of space. With the people already committed, we are sure to have some fun and challenging situations.

The class will be in a similar format to the OEC hands-on sessions and final that just finished, but the problems will be more difficult with multiple

patients, multiple injuries and more complex extractions.

If you have questions or are interested in joining, please contact me at:  
[bill@waysidegardencenter.com](mailto:bill@waysidegardencenter.com) or (585) 455-7000.

Thank you and think snow!  
 Bill

Here is the tentative schedule, and it is also posted on the Genesee Valley Region Website.

Day	Date	Time	Location	Focus
Sun	1/4	12:30-3:30	Hunt Hollow	SKILLS CHECK OFF AND ORIENTATION
Tue	1/6	6-9	Powder Mills	EMM Scenarios based on OEC Skills-Upper extremities
Sun	1/11	12:30-3:30	Hunt Hollow	EMM Scenarios
Wed	1/14	6-9	Powder Mills	EMM Scenarios based on OEC Skills-Lower extremities
Sun	1/18	12:30-3:30	Hunt Hollow	EMM Scenarios
Tue	1/20	6-9	Powder Mills	EMM Scenarios based on OEC Skills-Backboard
Sat	1/24	9:30-12:30	Brantling	EMM Scenarios
Wed	1/28	6-9	Powder Mills	EMM Scenarios based on OEC Skills-Hips/Pelvis
Sun	2/1	12:30-3:30	Hunt Hollow	EMM Scenarios-Mid Term Session
Tue	2/3	6-9	Powder Mills	EMM Scenarios based on OEC Skills-Chest/Shoulders
Sun	2/8	12:30-3:30	Hunt Hollow	EMM Scenarios
Wed	2/11	6-9	Powder Mills	EMM Scenarios based on OEC Skills-Mountain Mgmt
Sun	2/15	12:30-3:30	Hunt Hollow	EMM Scenarios
Tue	2/17	6-9	Powder Mills	EMM Scenarios based on OEC Skills-Multiple Patients
Sun	2/22	12:30-3:30	Hunt Hollow	EMM Scenarios
Wed	2/25	6-9	Powder Mills	Review
Sat	2/28	8-3	Swain	FINAL

**Tom Wallin** **S&T**

We are looking forward to another great season of skiing and running sleds. With the season finally

underway, our plans for the Senior S&T program are finalizing. We are looking at a pretty good-sized class this season, with members from around the region. We have our first class on January 4<sup>th</sup>, and there is still time to sign up. If you have any questions regarding Senior S&T please contact me. My contact info is on the Region website. Of course this program is for you. You will get to ski or board, and work on your technique to make you a better skier/snow boarder. Then we get to play with sleds, and moguls, and tweak those skills. By the time we have finished the program, you will see a noticeable improvement in your skiing and sled skills.

There are also a number of Division S&T clinics being offered this season. The Patroller Schools give you typically one day of skiing with a PSIA instructor, working on ski skills, and one day working on sled skills. You get to meet a lot of wonderful patrollers from all over the Division, and get great feedback from the PSIA, and some of the best Sled handlers in the Division. The Patroller Schools are being offered at Sunday River, ME; Elk Mountain, PA; Killington VT; Holiday Valley, NY; and Windham Mountain, NY. The dates and contact information for the schools is located on the bottom of the Senior S&T schedule currently posted on the Region website.

**Nick Schiavetti for Pamm Ferguson** **Alumni**

The Genesee Valley Region Alumni Advisor, Pamm Ferguson, has headed south to Florida for this winter, so I have been asked to stand in temporarily for her to run the region Alumni Ski Day at Hunt Hollow on **Friday February 27, 2015**. So I am asking all of our Alumni to mark your calendars for that date, and plan to join us for this year's annual event that the region sponsors to thank our Alumni for their service over the years. So many of our Alumni have enjoyed this event each year and I hope to see lots of them again this year. As usual we will have great skiing, a delicious lunch catered by Hunt Hollow, wines by Deer Run and Hunt Country, and, of course, great camaraderie.

In the Genesee Valley Region, in addition to the Alumni ski day event each year, Alumni receive Ski Patrol Magazine and the Ski Patrol Catalog from National, "Trail Sweep" on-line newsletter from the Eastern Division, "Valley Views" on-line newsletter from the Genesee Valley Region, and invitations to the local Ski Shops' Pro Nights.

For years, Alumni members have requested the convenience of online renewal. As many of you may have noticed in the National Ski Patrol's "The Sweep" e-mail newsletter, NSP has changed the method of renewing Alumni membership this season. Current Alumni members can renew their membership through the NSP Online Store, so the

national office will no longer send you an invoice for the next year's dues. Now you need to log on to the national website with your patrol number as your user ID and enter your national website password and then sign in to the NSP Online Store with your email address as your user ID and another password that you have to set up the first time you sign in. National office recommends that you use the same password that you already have set up for logging in to the national website. One important note for married couples who are both Alumni: the new computer system at the national office will not let you both use the same email address to sign in to the NSP Online Store, so one of you will have to create an alternative email (for example, a Hotmail account) to sign in to the NSP Online Store. You will pay the \$27 dues (same amount as it has been the last few years) with a credit card on-line and then national will send you your Alumni card for 2015. Please note that on-line renewal applies only to current Alumni members. Patrollers who are joining as Alumni members for the first time still need to send in a paper registration form and a check for their dues to the national office. The paper form is available to you as a PDF download on the GV Region website at:  
<http://www.nspgvr.org/alumni/alumnibrochure2014.pdf>

Here is a note about the national Alumni dues that most people are unaware of: about one third of your dues is sent by national to your division and region to support their programs. The Genesee Valley Region uses its share of your dues to underwrite the Alumni ski day, so you not only get national but also local benefits from joining.

I will be sending out specific information about the region Alumni day via email with sign-up instructions around the beginning of February. Meanwhile please don't hesitate to email or call me with any questions at [redhill3@rochester.rr.com](mailto:redhill3@rochester.rr.com), or 585-243-5079. If you have changed your email address since your last registration with NSP, please update your profile on the national website and send me your new email address so I can update the region database and be sure that you receive the Alumni ski day registration notice.

**Joe Menichino** **Certified**

Hi folks -  
The season has started early for many of us, and that is welcome news. Making those first few turns on my first run of the season always feels great. It is just a bit amazing to me how the skills just wake up again after a long summer off.

As usual, the Certified staff have a busy year ahead. The staff are running a large number of Skier

Enhancement and Intro. to Certified seminars all around the Eastern Division, from Pa. to Maine. Look them up on the Eastern Division web site calendar page. Tom and I both plan to work at the Windham program planned for the weekend of February 7 and 8. I am sure you will find Jeff and Jim at some of these programs as well. This year's Windham program includes a Basic Patroller School, a Senior S&T TE Recertification and an Introduction to Certified school. Something for everyone for sure.

The annual Certified Exam will be held at Smuggler's Notch in Vermont, March 20 thru 22. Smuggs is a terrific mountain, and the local patrol is very welcoming. Tom Wallin is already arranging a house for us. Please let Tom and me know if you are interested in coming up and participating. The only hard commitment expected is that each member will be available to be an IP during the OEC portion of the test on Saturday morning. That always turns out to be a Hoot for the IP's. If you have any interest in the program this trip is the best way to learn. As always, all of the Certified Patrollers in our Region are ready to talk to you about the requirements. Please don't hesitate to contact Jeff Baker, Tom Wallin, Jim Nickerson or myself. If you are ready to challenge your skills, your self-confidence, and your determination, this is the program for you.

Have a great and safe season. Hopefully those first few turns will feel as good for you as they did for me!

**Patrick Saeva** **MTR**

Hopefully winter is here to stay and the snow will continue to fall. The MTR instructors and class participants are already preparing for a great overnight field session at the end of January. Whether it be starting our stoves, practicing our knots, or using our compasses in the back yard, much preparation occurs ahead of time to show proficiency when the time comes. This is the time of year when our spouses or significant others start to think that we are a little crazy. I hear things like, "honey, why is your stove in the freezer?" or, "why are you trying to start a fire in the dark?" or, the best yet, "why do you have a harness on and hanging from a rope in the basement"? MTR gives us a little taste of mountaineering and technical rescue in the outdoors. I hope you all consider taking the class in the future, mostly because it is fun and informative, but also because the more people who enjoy my passion, the fewer people will think I am odd. (That will not help with my wife, though.)

## NEWS FROM THE PATROLS:

### **SWAIN**

We have begun another season at Swain with somewhat heavy hearts at the loss of two dedicated Patrollers - Myron Crispino, and Mark Whitford - since the end of last season.

Over the course of the summer, there were a number of remodeling projects we have been doing to update our building, including updating our three bathrooms, some repainting of our upstairs, and replacing our exterior stairs. Our snow makers have given us some good snow to start the season off, in spite of Mother Nature's spring condition temperatures lately. We look forward to some colder temps and more snow to get pumped out, and to officially break in the newest fan gun in our inventory.

From this fall's OEC class, we would like to congratulate our Candidates on the successful completion of the course - April Iachetta, Rebecca Och, David Ermer, Grant Lyons and Adam Werth. From the OEC class at Nazareth College we welcome two new Candidates Kira Duffy and Heather Gallipeau. Returning to patrolling this season are Keith Miller, and Mike Long. Joining us as dual registered Patrollers this season are Mike Podhorecki, and Damon Flick.

Tom Wallin

### **BRISTOL**

Bristol Mountain took advantage of the earlier than normal frigid temperatures to get a jump on snowmaking operations. With one of the earliest start dates in their history, Bristol Mountain kicked off their 51<sup>st</sup> season on Thursday, November 20<sup>th</sup>. The earliest opening date on record was November 9, 1991. Last year the season began on November 26<sup>th</sup> and ran for 134 days. This is a wonderful start to (hopefully) a fantastic season.

We are proud to announce that All of our candidates passed their OEC exams on Saturday, Nov 1st!!! Thanks to all of our instructors for a job well done! Welcome to....Lara D'Ambrosia, Larry Day, Carina Hastings, Randy Lewis, John Stewart, Emily Swarts, Jared Streb, Richard Watson, Jennifer Young and Will Young. DOUBLE CONGRATS TO OUR TWO NEW ALPINE PATROLLERS....Scott Shear and Colin Hogarth

For the past several years the BMSP has been putting together a team of 8 to 10 patrollers to help provide emergency medical support for the State Level, Special Olympics; the Summer, Fall, and Winter Games (even when they are not held at Bristol Mountain); when they are within reasonable

driving distance of Rochester. The Patrol will continue this humanitarian support project; thereby supporting these Special Athletes who are far less fortunate than ourselves. Our last support was provided in June, when we provided a team that supported the 2014 Summer Games in Buffalo. We are looking forward to supporting our special athletes for the 2015 Winter Games, to be held in the Syracuse area on 7 February (Saturday). Thank you to Al Kraus for coordinating this support.

I am proud to represent this incredible group of individuals.

Pam Welch, PD

### **NORDIC**

Welcome to the early snows and early grooming at Mendon Ponds Park and Harriett Hollister, we have dusted off our "skinny skis". With the successful completion of OEC our newest patroller, Mike Burkett, will be out on the snow with us.

Please join us at Cumming Nature Center for our Annual Nordic Hot Dog & Chili Days on Saturday, February 21st and Sunday, February 22nd. Snowshoe and ski rentals are available on site to check out the beautiful trails of the nature center.

Alpine Patrollers interested in learning more about "skinny dipping" with the NSP Nordic Patrol of the Year, please join us for as long or as little as you like at any of our 3 venues and check out the beautiful groomed trails any Saturday or Sunday in January or February. Please visit our website [www.gvnsp.org](http://www.gvnsp.org) for contact information and more.

Deb Whalen, PD

### **POWDER MILLS**

The Powder Mills Park Ski Patrol is geared up for another great season in Powder Mills Park, Bushnell's Basin. Chris Brugger, the new area manager last season, is returning to run the operation again this season. The ski patrol membership is up by two, accounting for inactive status changes, a transfer in, and a successful candidate in this year's OEC class. Our season is shorter than those of the big hills, open days on the weekends, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday nights, and during Christmas Week and President's week. Check the Swain website for a link to the Learn to Ski brochure and operating hours here; <http://www.swain.com/monroe-county-parks/>

If you're finding you have grandkids just starting out, bring them to Powder Mills Park if you're on the east side of town, or Northampton Park if you're on the west side. It is not our intention to poach from other



patrols, but if you find the rigors of patrolling at the big hill a bit too much for your personal athletic ability or time schedule, instead of giving up patrolling entirely, consider patrolling at either Powder Mills Park or Northampton Park this season. Talk to any patroller on duty or get in touch with Rick Church, PMPSP Patrol Rep at [rick\\_church@ieee.org](mailto:rick_church@ieee.org). We hope to see your family enjoying the hill at Powder Mills Park this season.

Rick Church, PD

## **NORTHAMPTON PARK**

Northampton Ski Patrol is looking for a new Patrol Director. If you are interested, please contact Shannon Bielaska at [sbielaska@gmail.com](mailto:sbielaska@gmail.com) for details.



Figure 1 - Northampton Park

## **BRANTLING**

The first significant snowfall at Brantling began during the week before Thanksgiving thanks to the snowmaking expertise of the Operations staff at Brantling. The many mounds of "homemade white stuff" were groomed and combined with last week's gift of lake effect, allowing the 2014 -15 ski season to begin with great conditions!

This season, OEC class of 2014 Patroller David Mitchell joins our roster. Welcome David!

The Brantling Patrol's word of the year is recruitment. We expect to carry this focus through the season, due to a number of our "seasoned" patrollers leaving our family. We are saying good-bye to Mike McManus, Paul Loveless and Jon Hess,

as they have retired. Joanne Ferri, Balazs Zsenits, Annamaria Kontor, Luke Cino and Pat Cirincione have opted to be inactive this season. All of those leaving will be missed for their contributions to NSP and our patrol. Fortunately, this year's roster contains a great group of recently educated, vibrant and active Patrollers who are beginning to recognize and take ownership of those opportunities created by those leaving. There are signs of a great season being underway.

Brian Mayou, PD

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## **IN MEMORIAM**

### **Mark Whitford**



The Swain Ski Patrol in upstate NY lost one of our key members when Mark Whitford, 56, died of cancer on August 28, 2014.

Mark contributed to his patrol and region beyond expectations as both a patroller and an auxiliary for his 26-year NSP career, functioning as both a teacher and leader to help fulfill the NSP educational mission. He began as an alpine patroller in 1988 and served in that role at Swain for approximately 15 years. A medical condition ended his ability to continue driving and tail-roping toboggans, but that did not deflect his determination to continue serving the skiing public. He maintained his registration as an auxiliary and continued to fulfill shift requirements in the first aid room weekly on a night that sees approximately 400 school children on the hill. As a veteran patroller, he set an example for younger patrol candidates as he worked closely with them during the training season and served as a mature and friendly role model inspiring them to complete their training. His enthusiasm and skill continued at the highest levels into his third decade of patrolling and he was recognized for his many contributions over his long patrolling and auxiliary career with the

awarding of the Eastern Division Outstanding Auxiliary Patroller Award in 2011.

Mark made substantial contributions to his patrol and to the Genesee Valley Region as an OEC instructor, a CPR instructor, and as an administrator on his patrol's executive committee. He served as an OEC instructor teaching at the region OEC candidate class, the region OEC refreshers, and at the patrol on-the-hill refreshers. He consistently taught OEC classes each season to the patrol candidates from the seven ski patrols that are enrolled in the region OEC candidate course and for many years he directed OEC modules at the on-the-hill refresher. In 2000 his local patrol voted him the instructor of the Year Award for his excellent work in OEC and CPR instruction.

Mark was elected by his peers to serve as Patrol Secretary for four years. After his term was over, he was then selected by the Patrol Director to be the Assistant Patrol Director for OEC on the basis of his prior contributions as an OEC instructor. He readily assumed this responsibility and completed important administrative accomplishments at Swain. These duties included scheduling and coordination of the annual on-the-hill refresher for the entire patrol of approximately 100 volunteer members and overall management of the patrol room, including first aid supplies, budget, inventory control, purchase orders, and replenishment of disposable material and repair of durable equipment. In this capacity, he also served on the patrol executive committee that works with management for the overall administration of patrol activities.

Mark was a certified American Heart Association CPR instructor and annually taught the CPR course for the region candidates from the seven area ski patrols who were enrolled in the region OEC candidate course. In addition he organized, administered, and taught four CPR refresher classes per year for his home ski patrol to keep the local patrollers up to date in their CPR certification, receiving a Yellow Merit Star in 2006 for his teaching activities. Off the hill, he also taught CPR for the Lakeville NY Volunteer Fire Department and the Livonia NY Ambulance Corps, both of which he served as a long-standing member and officer, and for the Conesus Lake Scuba Diving Association. His CPR teaching benefited many people who were in need of emergency services from his town's firefighters, ambulance crews, and diving instructors.

Mark is survived by his wife of 35 years Debbie, sons Mark, Jason, Shawn, and Kyle, grandchildren Maddie, Kian, and Rhys, and many other relatives in his large family. He will be remembered as both a friend and colleague by many patrollers throughout the Genesee Valley Region and his gentle manner,

constant smile, and sincere personality will be missed by all of us who knew and served with him.

Nicholas Schiavetti  
Swain Ski Patrol Alumnus

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## Myron Crispino



It is with great sadness that the Swain Ski Patrol announces the passing of Myron Crispino, and his loving wife Anne, who were killed in a tragic motorcycle accident in early June 2014. Myron started his patrolling career in 1970, at Pinnacle Mountain in central New York, as a junior patroller. While at Pinnacle, Myron worked his way through the Senior rank, and with the encouragement of Jack Huntley at Greek Peak, became a Senior S&T T/E. When Pinnacle closed in 1977, Myron transferred to Ski Denton in Pennsylvania for several years before transferring to the Swain Ski Patrol in 1981. While at Swain, Myron served in many capacities, including OEC instructor, S&T instructor, Chair Evac instructor, APD overseeing the S&T program, Coordinator for Trail Marking repair and replacement, Awards Chairman, and Patrol Director.

Myron was never one to sit still. Several years ago he decided to become a dual registered Patroller, going back to Denton Hill as his secondary patrol. While there he volunteered for many of the patrol's fundraisers, including the summer archery festivals, and annual ski swap. He would volunteer to patrol on the day the Denton Hill Patrol did their annual On The Hill refresher in January, so that all their patrollers could be refreshed at one time. He would also contribute his decades of experience patrolling to the patrol and help advise on policy/procedure changes and updates, or on any subject where a need arose.

Myron has two sons, Matthew and Nicholas, both are patrollers. Matthew, who started at Swain, moved to Colorado, married Rachel (also a patroller), and is now a pro patroller at Steamboat. Nicholas also grew up in the Swain Patrol family, and is still a patroller with us.

Myron was never at a loss for words. As Swain Patrol Director, he constantly acted as a strong and

outspoken advocate for the well-being of all of his patrollers with mountain management and Region program administrators to ensure that everyone under his direction was treated fairly. He took the job of Patrol Director very seriously, and protecting his patrollers was part of the job description. After many long years of service to the patrol he was awarded National Appointment #9092 in 1999. Myron was awarded a National Distinguished Service Award, posthumously, in September 2014.

He wasn't afraid to have a good time, kick back and have fun either. He was happy to have a beer with you, light a good cigar, and talk deer hunting, tell tales of sailing across the Gulf of Mexico and eating fresh caught yellow fin tuna, driving out to Sturgis for the motorcycle rally and almost getting run over by a bison, or about doing laps around Watkins Glen in one of his Audi's. He would often regale us with tales of his home town of Corning, New York, or his annual ski pilgrimage to Steamboat to visit Matthew and Rachel, often dragging along other patrollers with him to enjoy the trip and some great hidden area skiing with Matthew and Rachel as tour guides. Even on the trips to Steamboat Myron would inevitably end up in the patrol room talking patrolling techniques, stories, motorcycling, hunting, or anything that came to mind.

Myron was always cool under pressure, and in the many serious incidents we worked with Myron over the years, he always kept a level head. That same trait he shared with Matthew and Nick. He always had a great sense of humor, even as he was transitioning to telemarking. He wasn't too graceful at first, and we would often tease him about needing to screw his heels back down, but he kept at it until he was good enough to patrol on his telemark skis. He still maintained his checkouts every year on both skis and teles.

Myron was involved in many activities in his home town of Corning as well. He served on the Corning City Council, on the Corning City Finance Committee, as Deputy Mayor, and as President of the Corning Lions Club. He put his financial experience as a Credit Union professional to good use in service to his community by volunteering to teach Corning High School students the elements of personal finance to establish their creditworthiness and avoid financial perils as they entered college or the job market. He had such an influence, that his presence will be greatly missed by many people for a very long time. Myron was a great father, husband, and patroller. He was a friend to everyone who knew him. He will be sorely missed by both patrols.

Tom Wallin

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## Dick Wambach



Longtime Ski Valley and Hunt Hollow Patroller Dick Wambach has passed away. Dick was on patrol for Hunt Hollow's inaugural season. With over twenty years of Hunt Hollow service in the rust and blue, his big smile (and bigger cowboy hat) were fixtures on the mountain in its early years. Much of the success of the Hunt Hollow Patrol today is due to the foundation laid by Dick and our other pioneering members. For that, we all owe Dick a debt of gratitude. *(Joe Hoff, Hunt Hollow PD)*

He left peacefully on 11 December 2014 at the age of 83. Predeceased by his son-in-law Daniel Dismuke. Survived by his loving wife of 60 years, Ann. Children Catherine Dismuke, Susie (Bob) Caspar, Rick (Yvonne), and Nancy (John) Leadley. Grandchildren, Danielle, Hanna and Gia Dismuke; Ryan, Brady and Charlie Caspar, Rachel and Gretchen Wambach; Michelle and Liz Leadley. Brother Dan.

Dick graduated from Cornell University Class of '53, Phi Beta Kappa, and was a member of the Alpha Delta Phi fraternity, also serving as the chapter Alumni President for several years.

Dick served proudly in the US Army and Reserves retiring as a Colonel with the 98<sup>th</sup> division (go Iroquois!). Dick was also a 30 year Eastman Kodak Company employee as a Manufacturing Engineering Manager in the Apparatus Division. Dick grew up on the water and was a boater/fisherman/waterskier/yachtsman his entire life. He and Ann cruised the Great Lakes and Eastern Seaboard aboard the Whitecap with family and friends for nearly 30 years. He was a longstanding member of the Rochester Yacht Club, where he was Power Fleet Captain and a mainstay of the annual Club Cruise for many years. He was also a member of the United States Power Squadron, serving as the Commander of the Rochester Squadron, and sharing his expertise in



Seamanship, Piloting, and Navigation with other mariners for years.

When the seasons turned the water to snow, Dick could be found on the ski slopes. He dedicated forty-one of his skiing years as a volunteer with the National Ski Patrol, earning a National Appointment. He helped build a ski slope with fellow students at Cornell in the early 1950's, where he first patrolled. He later patrolled at Ski Valley and completed his patrol service with over 20 years at the Hunt Hollow Ski Club.

We will never forget our family outings with him on the water, on the slopes, in the Adirondacks, at Alden Camps in Maine, and in our own backyard at Kirklees Road.

We would like to thank The Friendly Home, especially his crews in Seldon and Lindsay Place, who provided such loving care to him over his last two years. *(The Wambach family)*

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