



Pamm Ferguson RD

Is it possible that another ski season has come to a close? It was a quick, but busy one. Before your thoughts turn totally to spring and summer please take a few minutes to read this issue. It tells of successful ski area programs and Region programs in OEC, S&T, Venturing, Avalanche, Alumni, and member communication (hats off to Bill Gamble for our up to date web site, complete with aerial photos, and four issues of Valley Views). There was a high degree of patroller participation in programs this year and a pleasingly high rate of success. Local area trainers and region program trainers are to be commended for the superb jobs done in preparing people for the various "challenges" and "tests."

The Region was fortunate to have Deb Daniels and her team of expert Eastern Division trainers hold a Women's ski and toboggan enhancement clinic at Bristol Mtn. in March. Twenty plus women spent a weekend of learning techniques to improve finessing sleds through the icy bumps and foot deep spring "sugar". We are anxious to have her come back for those of you who missed the opportunity.



Figure 1 - The Women's Clinic Participants

The banquet/picnic season is approaching and I am mindful of all the dedicated people we have in our midst. As usual it will be a pleasure to attend those year end events where we have the chance to single out people who have put in special efforts this season, those with a long time of service, and also importantly, those new patrollers who are just starting out their patrol service.

Pete Peterson (successfully elected for his third term as ARD – congrats) and I are off to Albany to attend the Spring Officers meeting of Eastern Division. John Lawson will be joining us as the newly appointed Region Awards Advisor and proxy for John Bolonda, ARD. We'll report back via the web site and August addition of Valley Views.

It's been a good patrolling season thanks to each of you—enjoy your time off and see you on the lake, golf course, tennis court, bike paths or wherever....Pamm

REGIONAL ADVISORS:

Bob Finger Senior OEC

Congratulations to 7 top notch Senior level First Aiders!!! Those who HAD A BLAST were: Nick and Caroline Schiavetti, Ginny Illi, Nancy Least (Swain), Joelle Kraft and David Rearson (Bristol) and Peter Parker - now a full fledged Senior! (Hunt Hollow) ALL performed professionally at Brantling during the Senior OEC Final Exam Sunday, March 5th. The weather was kind to these folks as it refused to rain despite the forecasted doom...a first in about 3 years of soggy testing. Brantling once again provided a delicious chicken BBQ for lunch and liquid refreshments afterward.



Figure 2 - Some of the action at the Sr. OEC test

Thanks to Ski Valley, Hunt Hollow, Brantling and Bristol Ski Areas for the use of their facilities. We also met at East Roch. Ambulance, Honeoye Falls Ambulance and Harriet Hollister-Spencer Park. A BIG thank you to Norm Robinson and Melissa Doyle for their assistance in making my first year easier than anticipated. Hats off to all the

evaluators who participated in the training and testing. I think we used every available Senior I/T for this test. WE NEED MORE! Thanks also to Bill Halsey and Paul Tracy for their guidance. The "OEC Nazi" and "Mouflage Man" will forever forward have a place in this program. (you know who you are) See photos on the Region web site: <http://www.nspgvr.org>.

Finally, please consider this program to round out or begin your Senior quest. It is a fulfilling and rewarding program, expanding on your base knowledge of OEC, ultimately preparing you for a wide range of First Aid situations. We will again recruit at the Region's Refreshers this fall, or let me know earlier by e-mail: bobfinger@juno.com.

Bob

Marcia Mundrick Instructor Development

Want to give back a little to the organization? Do you have a little extra time to donate? Have you thought about keeping your skills razor sharp? Have you thought about becoming an NSP instructor?

If so, you'll need to sign up for 2 training courses. The first is Basic Instructor Development :Phase 1. The second part, Phase II is taught by instructors in the specific discipline in which you are interested. If you want to learn more about the process, you can call me or the Region advisor in charge of that program.

The next Phase 1 course is set for Tuesday, May 30th and Thursday, June 1st. It is an 8-hour course and can be counted as a Senior elective. If you are interested in signing up, please contact me at mmcm@frontiernet.net or call 716-229-4313.

Mike Lord OEC

Well the season is winding down, and all of you patrollers of the Genesee Valley Region can be proud of another great year on the snow. This past year seemed to fly by for me, and I want to take this time to thank all the Instructor/Trainers: John Lawson, Ben Emerson, Nick Schiavetti, Bob Finger, Kris Vasaluskas, Joe Menichino, Jeff Baker and Andy Cruickshank. They give of their time, and I would not be able to even begin this job without their help. I also want to say thanks to all the OEC instructors who did so much for our region this year, helping train our candidates and working to present the needed information at our refreshers. Without all their work we would not be able to even go out and patrol our mountains. Thank you one and all for all your hard work.

This year the region has over two-dozen candidates who have completed the OEC training course and the practical exam. I'll let each of their patrol representatives tell you which of these folks made it all the way to patroller status in their comments. Congratulations to all you candidates.

Your hard work and dedication will pay you back with many great experiences in the years to come.

For those of you that like these things early I'll pass along the dates for some of the OEC functions next season. Don't carve them in stone because we all know how things can sometimes change. At this point I don't see any problems with these dates, so they shouldn't change.

The Region Candidate class will start on **August 7th** at **Honeoye Falls-Lima High School**. Chris Stiegler will be the IOR again, but we will be starting a mentoring program to train the next IOR. Anyone interested in running OEC classes in the future contact Chris or me. A reminder to all patrols to get the names and addresses of your candidates to me as soon as possible so we can mail the course information to those interested.

The instructor OEC refreshers will also be held at **Honeoye Falls-Lima High School**. The dates will be **Tuesday, September 12th** and **Monday, September 18th**. Instructors will be receiving a letter from me some time in late April or early May with details for these refreshers.

The region OEC refreshers will be held on **Saturday, October 28th** and **Sunday November 5th**. Please remember that all patrollers need to bring their completed test questions from the refresher guide, their first aid pack and OEC card.

And finally I will be scheduling an OEC Phase II course following the region Phase I course being offered this spring. All of you interested in becoming OEC instructors please contact me with your name and address, so I can get the information about the course to you as soon as I have a firm date.

Thank you all for another great year and I will be looking forward to seeing you all this fall.

Joe Menichino Certified

Hard to believe another season has passed. I still have the urge to load up my gear and head up to the slope. Winter seems to be holding on pretty hard down here in the southern tier, but not hard enough to cover the slopes. Just enough to tease us into remembering how great skiing really is. This season was typical for the Certified program, with one Pretest at Windham early in the season, one Pretest at Pico, late in the season and the Certified Meeting/Test held way up in northern Vermont at Jay Peak the last weekend of March. I happened to be at both Windham and Pico the weekends the Pretests were held, and conditions were excellent for the candidates. No interest from our region I'm afraid. Sounds like conditions were fabulous up at Jay. I was unlucky and had to miss, due to a overlapping business trip. Jay is really a great mountain. Lots of glades skiing and a gondola.

Peter Osbourne and I taught at the Certified Patroller School down in Windham this last January. I really recommend this program. Gordie Bell runs a great 2 day clinic. Windham is close, and the local patrollers are terrific hosts. The weekend included clinics for all levels of Patrollers, not just Certified candidates. It did include a Certified pretest and a day of introduction and clinics for those interested in seeing what the Certified program is all about. Peter and I taught a group of West Point cadets toboggan skills in preparation for their local S&T exam at the Point. Wish I could learn as fast as those kids did.

I have a new Certified Program guide for this season and would be happy to share a copy with anyone that is interested. Just give me a call at 716-596-3406 and get me your name and address. Next season will be around before we know it, and if you are at all interested in the program you should get a look at this detailed manual now.

Have a great summer- Joe M

Jeff Baker Lift Evacuation

There is never a dull moment in the exciting world of Lift Evacuation.

The '99-'00 season saw Doug Holler successfully coordinate a Division-wide lift evacuation seminar at Holiday Valley. All those in attendance brought their personal experience and concerns and returned with new ideas, solutions and enthusiasm. The event inspired new practices and positive improvements at each of the participating mountains.

It was not a moment too soon for the Ski Valley Ski Patrol. A pesky, weight sensing, overload safety on the graying chair, gave the intrepid evac team lots of practice this winter.

The first evacuation of the season, (yes Virginia, he said the FIRST evacuation), was made more sporting as the temperature was 5° F, with a brisk wind. As luck would have it, the lift was fully loaded, the club having sponsored a race day with lots of athletes in speed suits. [Note: (Lycra) + (-15° F wind chill) = damn cold skiers]. The team worked well together and delivered all safely to the snow, with a few skiers narrowly avoiding hypothermia. After a careful examination of the lift and minor adjustments, (plus some crossed fingers, incense burning and a chicken sacrifice, 'er, barbecue) the lift was restarted. It ran smoothly until a week later, nearly to the minute, when the patrol was provided with yet another opportunity to hone their lift evacuation skills. Any wrinkles had been ironed out in the previous week's practice, the weather was more cooperative, and all went well. By the end of the second event, the skiing public showed a renewed interest in the surface lifts. Mountain

management, along with the help of the patrol, dug deeper and found a drive train component which appeared physically sound, but, in bench tests, had lost it's punch. Adequate safety backups existed to prevent a catastrophic failure, but a lift evacuation is clearly not the exercise of choice for any patrol. Both evacuations were executed with professionalism and efficiency giving the patrol a lot to be proud of.

As any group worth their salt would do, the Ski Valley patrol reviewed their experiences critically and identified areas of need. The result was to take steps to: add another evacuation set up, increase the availability of radios for patrol use, improve the inspection and repair process for equipment, and review options in every aspect of lift evacuation.

Next season the goal is to have a less stressful, but equally interesting season. We hope to collect interested folks from the region and share a day of lift evacuation ideas and techniques. The session will require a host mountain, early enough in the fall season to make it possible for all to attend. If anyone can offer a site, please contact: Jeff Baker @ JeffreyBaker@msn.com or 716-233-5838.

Sheila Fovel Alumni

The Genesee Valley Region Alumni Ski Day was held at Hunt Hollow on February 9, 2000. We had a great turn out. It was a beautiful day and the skiing very enjoyable. The alumni were treated to a complimentary ticket and lunch. Alumni from Ski Valley, Bristol Mt., Swain and Hunt Hollow attended. I hope that more of the alumni will join us next year, as everyone this year seemed to enjoy themselves.



Figure 3 - Some of the Alumni

I will be hosting another ski day sometime in February. Watch for the announcement in *Valley Views*, and I will be sending information as the time approaches. Have a wonderful summer, and I'll look forward to seeing you at our next ski day.



Figure 4 - More of the Alumni, w/ RD Pamm Ferguson

Henry Williams Legal and Risk Management

From the standpoint of legal and risk management, the year has been a good one with little negative activity. The Patrols are very alert to the legal requirements of protecting the skiing public. This consciousness is raised by cooperative and hands-on insurance carriers. Organization documents for all of the Patrols are in near-perfect order. Patrols are proactive, anticipating legal and risk issues before they occur.

The only area for some improvement is those pesky accident reports. Some people don't like the accident forms. If this is the case with you, please let me know and the Region will do something about the form. Remember when you fill them out: they are the cutting-edge of the litigation/liability prevention war which is on-going. Think law suit. Think three years hence.

Most of the individual matters were routine: inquires about fundraising activities on the hill, a question about the patrol exemption and whether individuals could take deductions, an issue about child labor laws, and an excellent patrol-day protocol from Ski Valley. Only one of the issues rose to the category of "major": the Ski Valley bankruptcy. Because of the exemption from taxation, it is important that ski patrol property be segregated so it does not mingle with non-exempt property. The Ski Valley Patrol has this issue under total control.

Two great things happened for me this year: the new Division Legal Advisor, Bob Scarlett, called a meeting of all Region attorneys last fall and it was a very productive idea-fest. In addition, I had a call from Bob the other day notifying me that Bill Sachs has appointed me Eastern Division Assistant Legal Advisor. To all who helped make this possible, I am very grateful: Jerry Sherman, Pamm Ferguson, Don Garman and many others.

Jim Mussnug Avalanche

This year we piloted a new format basic avalanche course – a one-day format. This past fall, at the Eastern Division Avalanche and Mountaineering Instructors' meeting, we had an opportunity to share the format of programs given throughout the Division, and we found nearly unanimous support for a one-day basic avalanche program. Since the fall, our region avalanche instructors worked to revamp the program, with the challenge to keep the course fun, interactive, and educational, while meeting all of the Basic Avalanche requirements in a one-day format. We met our objective, with a fast moving daylong program.

The basic avalanche course was conducted on February 5, 2000 at the Immanuel Lutheran Church facilities in Webster, NY. The day started with overview sessions covering avalanche hazards and characteristics. Next, sessions covering weather, snowpack stability, terrain / route analysis, and human element were covered. An interactive simulation was used to demonstrate a tool for making data-based decisions to manage avalanche risk. Practical exercises were used to gain hands-on experience with use of rescue beacons, rescue plans, and probe lines. The outdoor search exercise was a success, with "Willie Die" being located under 2 feet of avalanche debris! The day finished up with a quick "Avalanche Jeopardy" session.

Overall, the one-day format was viewed as a success. First off, the integrity of the course was not compromised. The course met the objectives of a basic, overview program. The course also provides the foundation for those interested in gaining more in-depth knowledge from the 4-day Advanced Avalanche course. Additional interactive sessions were added to keep the day fun and interesting. Finally, the one-day format provides a quick means for those needing a senior elective, or for those just wishing to have a foundation in avalanche.

Discussions are underway between the avalanche and mountaineering programs to design a one-weekend combined Basic Avalanche and Basic Mountaineering course for the 2000 – 2001 season. Stay tuned for more announcements on this topic!

Bill Gamble Member Communications

I want to again thank all of the patrols and advisors for welcoming me and my camera at their events this past season, and all of the involved patrollers. I really appreciate it. Also, thanks to the patrollers who supplied me with pictures of some of the events I was unable to attend, and to Nick Schiavetti for his building and maintenance of the Avalanche section of the web site.

All of the pictures of events are archived on the Region web site at <http://www.nspgvr.org>. Most are

accessible from links on the Region Events page, but some are linked from the pages of the individual disciplines. I hope you will all get a chance to check them out if you haven't already. Also, if you have any potential candidates in mind, you can refer them to the pictures to get an idea of the sorts of activities patrollers engage in.

Keep in mind, too, that the calendar of events on the web site is the most up to date. The calendar published in each issue of Valley Views is current when it goes to press, but there can be changes even before the newsletter arrives in your homes.

As a result of some corporate organization changes, we have recently lost our access to free copying for this newsletter. Because of the expense of doing this commercially, and the expense of mailing, we will be asking each patroller who needs a paper copy of Valley Views mailed to their home to "sign up" to remain on the mailing list at the Fall refreshers. Those who have Internet access will be able to read the newsletters on the web site, as they can now, and doing so will enable the Region to save a significant portion of the \$1,000+ we spend on the paper version each year. We will also be asking those with Internet access for their e-mail addresses as part of the re-registration process, so we can notify them when the latest Valley Views is available for viewing.



The deadline for submission of articles for the Fall issue of Valley Views is August 21. Send materials to me at my e-mail address: gamblewl@cs.com (preferred) or via snail mail to 8 High Gate Trail, #5, Fairport, NY 14450. If you want to contact me, my phone number is 716-425-2134.

NEWS FROM THE PATROLS:

HUNT HOLLOW

The Hunt Hollow patrol had a very, very good year. We put the final touches on our new patrol building and were able to patrol very effectively from it this past season. We accepted eight excellent candidates, and all of them successfully passed all requirements in fine form and are now new patrollers. We welcome Bonnie Andre, Rob Bilhorn, Brad Buechel, Ben Herbert, Mike Leary, John Long, Peter Mietus, and Joe Stephan to our patrol. Our thanks certainly go out to the all the instructors who made

the Region OEC course a roaring success! We also had two patrollers achieve full Senior status this year; congratulations to Chris Ebmeyer and Peter Parker.



Figure 5 - Chris Ebmeyer with Al Efron



Figure 6 - Peter Parker with Pamm Ferguson

We also enrolled five patrollers in the Senior S&T challenge, and all passed, so they are well on the road to Senior. Hunt Hollow also hosted both days of Mike Morgan's Division Skier Enhancement Seminar in late January and it was well attended and enjoyed by a number of the Hunt patrollers. This was a great event, and we thank Mike for putting this together. Finally John Topping, our S&T APD, successfully became a Senior S&T IT. We're very proud of all of these fine folks.

The skiing was great this year, with the hill fully open with good coverage for the first time in the past few years; our new Mountain Manager Paul Trippi (and soon to be a patroller) has his act fully together and made the most of the cold weather. We hope and expect this situation will become the norm in the future.

Hunt Hollow had fewer accidents than usual this year, but several were significantly more severe than we generally

get. Fortunately, the patrol was able to handle them just fine, so the training obviously works. Excitement like this we can do without, though.

We're now making final plans for our end-of-season Banquet on May 6 and have just selected the date of September 17 for our fall On-Hill Refresher. We did this early last fall and it was very enjoyable, as it was a warm sunny day. We found that the nice weather permitted a more in-depth review of some of the procedures.

We're hoping next season will be as good to us. Have a good summer.

Dick Hitchcock, PR

NORTHAMPTON

It was another successful season at Northampton. There are many young skiers now ready to pursue a lifetime of skiing. With one trail and one towrope, the possibilities might seem limited, but there are still a few skiing families who spend the day at Northampton.

The Ski Patrol did a fine job taking care of the bumps and bruises that come with this fine sport. In one instance, a patroller discovered shock in a leg-injured patient he had transported uphill to the lodge. He quickly contacted the local ambulance, and the patient was transferred to the hospital. Shock is not a typical scenario we deal with at Northampton; tears are the usual response.

I know that Spring has sprung, but with temperatures in the 30's, I still can't help looking at my board each morning when I leave the house. Some habits die hard.

Have a nice Summer, and keep your tips up.

Happy trails,
Tony Simoni, PR

BRISTOL

Bristol Mountain had a great season. The mountain was open for 117 days this season, up from 107 days last year. Skier visits were up 12-15%. Most skiers were enthusiastic about the improved snowmaking, wider trails (Comet and Southern Cross) and the high-speed quad lift.

Bristol Mountain hosted the Women's Ski Clinic in mid-March. In spite of the fog at the top of the mountain, rock hard moguls on Galaxy and eight inches of sugar snow at the bottom of the mountain (due to an early thaw), all participants had a wonderful time. Just ask anyone who attended about the "falling leaf" toboggan technique. It sure beats getting hung up on the top of moguls with a loaded sled!

The patrol recognizes the achievements of two new seniors, Leslie Kelley and Cyndi Sommers upon their successful completion of the S&T test. Don Burgess

passed his Senior S&T on a snowboard. Dave Rearson and Joelle Kraft passed the Senior OEC test held in March at Brantling. Congratulations to all.



Figure 7 - Cyndi Sommers with Al Efron



Figure 8 - Leslie Kelley with Al Efron

Elections were held in early April. The officers for the 2000-2001 season are:

Patrol Representative - Melissa Doyle
1st Assistant - Win Beers
2nd Assistant - Kris Vasiliauskas
Treasurer - Al Kraus
Secretary - Leslie Kelley

Pat Monaghan, our treasurer for the last four years and a patroller at Bristol for 21 years has decided to retire. We thank Pat for his many years of service.

On a sad note, Don Warren passed away this April. Don was a former Section Chief for the Genesee Valley Region and a Bristol Mountain Patrol Director. Don patrolled at Bristol for over 25 years and made many contributions to the patrol. He will be missed.

Melissa Doyle, PR

POWDER MILL

Another great season has drawn to an end. With a generous supply of snow making and a little help from Mother Nature, we were able to get in pretty much the full season. We were open in time for the Christmas week ski camp and closed up the second weekend in March. We only had one patroller leave us, and were able to slip in a ringer with Kate Levy joining us this year as a dual patroller here and at Bristol. We're lucky to have built a nice little group of regulars who have stayed with us for several years now.

Speaking of which, hats go off to our former Patrol Director and long time driving force behind the patrol, Paul Haley. Dan Fuller and Bristol Mountain recognized him for his long term dedication and commitment in building our patrol over the years. The entire patrol joins them in expressing our appreciation to Paul.

The patrollers also got as much notice this year for our off-hill support as for on-hill. We were included in Bristol's section of SKI magazine's "I love New York" article as the only ski area in the US with a life preserver on the wall amongst our rescue equipment. Fortunately, it did not see any use this year, although we pulled several sledders out of the water by hand (fencing protects the skiers).

All that is left for this season now is to plan and hold our year ending party. Our minds have already turned to preparing for the new season. During the course of the January and February ski lessons, several parents interested in joining the Patrol approached us. We are looking forward to seeing a few new candidates in OEC this year. Enjoy your summer and we will see you next season.

Glenn Becker, PR

SWAIN

Another successful ski season has come to a close. I think everyone would agree, while it lasted we enjoyed terrific skiing conditions this year. Many instructors and candidates worked diligently throughout the year preparing for the OEC / S&T test. A lot of hard work and enthusiasm was put forth by a lot of dedicated individuals. Many thanks go out to all the instructors and candidates for devoting many long hours to the program. Congratulations to the following people for successfully completing the S&T training to become patrollers:

Amy Feltner
Chris Hickok
Bob Illi
Paul Pavone
Dr. Lorne Campbell

In addition the following people successfully completed the OEC training to become Auxiliary Patrollers:

Stephanie Brietzke
Bob Laughlin
Nathaniel Stearns

The following instructors attended and passed the Senior OEC Training:

Ginny Illi
Nancy Least
Carolyn Schiavetti
Nick Schiavetti

Thank you to Ginny Illi and Tom Wallin for their roles as APD in providing programs and leadership in both OEC and S&T respectively.

Swain Family Fun Day was held on March 18th. Everyone in attendance had a great day of fun and food! Fun Day is also Appreciation Day to the members and families of the Canaseraga Ambulance. Festivities for both families included: Toboggan rides, skiing and tubing and the Annual Volleyball Tournament between the ambulance members and patrollers. Finally, the Patrollers succeeded in bringing home the trophy! The day's events concluded with the great toboggan race. Winners in the Men's race were: Micah Eldridge and Chris Hellems. Winners in the Women's race were: Amy Feltner and Mary Osypian.

Many thanks to the following people for making this years fun day a huge success: Mary Osypian and family, Jennifer Conine and family, Mary Emmighausen, Jo Newkirk, Bernice Morehouse, Doug Hollinger Dave Hanning, Kevin And Trisha Campbell, Mark Whitford and the patrollers who assisted through out the day events, and especially to Jeanne and Knobby Eldridge for chairing this event again

Four Student Venturing patrollers from Swain attended a seminar at Pico Mountain this past March. Attendees were: Jeremy Stearns, Nathaniel Stearns, Joe Menichino Jr. and Matt Crispino. The patrollers performed well in all aspects of the seminar.

The Swain Ski Patrol Picnic is scheduled for June 17th, at the A-ON-DO-WA-NUH Sportsman Club in Cuylerville. Time: Noon...? For reservations or more information please contact Roger Slade @: (716) 245-9606.

Mark Whitford, Secretary

NORDIC

The Genesee Valley Nordic Patrol has greatly benefited from a membership re-building program during the past two years. From this effort we have doubled the number of participating patrollers from ten to twenty, and have a possibility of adding seven new candidates for next

season. We wish to thank the Nordic recruiters and trainers who have made this possible.

Five candidates participated in an intensive training program led by Brian Schankat, and all passed the first aid and skiing requirements to become Basic Patrollers. They are Tom Adler, Mel Gleason, Jeananne Thomas, Mike Tallon, and Karin Wittman. Dave Buschner of the Hunt Hollow Patrol and Skip Millor of Bristol Mountain have been approved as dual alpine/nordic patrollers. We also had patrolling assistance from Visiting Patrollers Therese Costich-Sicker, Gordon Crosby, Bruce Martin, and Marcia Mundrick.

Our promising pool of candidates for the coming season now consists of Bruce Herendeen, Craig Horton, Peter LePage, Eric Miller, Mary O'Conner, Tom Spence, and Gina Wyffels. With our increased membership we look forward to expanding coverage at Cumming Nature Center and Mendon Ponds Park, and/or adding a new area to patrol.

New officers were elected at our March 7 meeting. Holger Stave replaces Eric Jaeckel as Patrol Director, Chuck Crockett succeeds Jack Hustler as APD, Karin Wittman takes Holger's place as Treasurer, and Daan Zwick stays on as Secretary. The office of Chaplain, to pray for snow, is yet to be filled.

Eric Jaeckel, Outgoing PR



Figure 9 - The Nordic Patrol hosted a Mercy Flight demo at Mendon Ponds Park Feb. 6

BRANTLING

The BIG B Ski Patrol closed a very successful 1999-2000 season with their annual banquet on Friday, April 14 at the Sodus Bay Heights Golf and Country Club. Highlight of the evening was the presentation of long-service pins and certificates to three Brantling patrollers; Ski and Toboggan APD Martha Rich for 25 years of service, treasurer Jim Webster (20 years) and Kristen Peterson, our only snowboard patroller, (10 years).

The season just past was one of the best in several years, not only for the patrol but for the area, also. After a false start in early December, things got rolling just before the holidays, as a combination of Mother Nature's lake effect and Brantling's excellent snowmaking resulted in outstanding skiing for two solid months. From the "trails" area on the south side to the new tubing and terrain parks, the area was blanketed with a heavy cover of packed powder from the holidays to early March, including a few days of real powder skiing in mid-February.

And then it ended. But not until Brantling's three candidates, now new patrollers, passed their S&T clinic on Saturday, March 4, the final day of operation. We welcome Webster's Terry Bruno and Karen Merritt and Scott Crighton of Williamson to the ranks of Brantling patrollers. Well done! And despite officially closing the previous day, we saved enough snow to once again host the Genesee Valley Region Senior OEC clinic.

The patrol is looking forward to a restful and fun-filled summer and another even greater season next winter.

Pete Peterson, ARD

SKI VALLEY

Over the past two years, the Ski Valley Ski Patrol has set and accomplished some aggressive goals. We have significantly improved our financial health, upgraded equipment, renovated our patrol room and recruited some top-notch new patrollers. Most importantly, as we have retired many patrollers with 20 or 30 years of service, in our new recruits we have fostered and successfully nurtured the camaraderie and dedication to competency that is at the heart of our patrol.

John Melville, with some help from Scott Wild and APD Jim Dudley, was able to get 4 of 6 new candidates through Ski Valley's Skiing and Toboggan Handling candidate test at the end of February. Congratulations to Chris Frank, Nicole McCool, Jeff Minter and Todd Haran, who all passed the S&T Exam. Tim Scanlon and Peter Liao both showed outstanding progress throughout training but are not quite ready in the ski skills area. Both Tim and Peter have been asked to complete their OEC requirements this coming fall in anticipation of further on-the-snow training. All the candidates excelled in one area – Attitude – with excellent teamwork and a cheer for all as the test was underway.

Thanks to "Dogmeister" Ray Geary, the patrol was able to raise over \$300 in one short afternoon as hot dogs and soda were generously peddled on the deck at Ski Valley. Andy Baisch, Christina Hickock (high score senior skier and assistant dogmeister), Doug Rowe, and Meredith Osborne all helped to make this a success. Many hands make light work, even if it's just carrying hot dogs!

Elections for 2000 – 2001 ski season officers were held with Jim Dudley being elected as the new Patrol Representative (Patrol Director), Kirk Simpson returning as Secretary/Treasurer, Scott Rasmussen taking over Testing and Training, and Scott Wild being elected to the Advisory Board. The APD race was a close one; so close in fact, that it ended up a tie between Jeff Baker and Brian Walsh. Depending on our operating situation going into next season, we will have a run-off election to break the tie. Congratulations to all the new officers.

One other goal that our patrol had this past year was to try to help Ski Valley from a financial standpoint. Besides the many projects that our patrollers volunteer their time to perform (most of these dedicated to hill operations, and not to any specific ski patrol activity), the entire patrol also voted to buy weekday tickets which they could then sell or give away. The patrol also volunteered to purchase much of our equipment and supplies over the past few years, lessening the financial burden on the club. Despite these efforts, the Ski Valley Board of Directors has decided to declare Chapter 7 bankruptcy, essentially putting Ski Valley up for sale. Though this puts our existence as a patrol in question, there is a possibility that an investor or group of investors might restart operations as a different business entity. If this happens, the patrol will be ready. Plans are to register the patrol for the 2000-2001 season, and try to remain as intact and ready for operations as possible. CPR training and regional refresher training will be mandatory for all patrollers wishing to remain on the Ski Valley roster. Other possibilities for registration are also being investigated. My thanks to Jerry Sherman, Pamm Ferguson, and Henry Williams for their help or offers to lend a hand.

That's it for now. You can bet were going to have one heck of an end of year party!

Rob Fischmann, PR



Figure 10 - Sled work at the Senior Challenge Test at Ski Valley



Figure 11 – Senior Candidates in the moguls at Ski Valley

IN MEMORIAM



The members of the Swain Ski Patrol were saddened to learn on January 6, 2000, of the death of **Dr. George Lowell Emerson** at the age of 83, in Belfast, ME. The former resident of Scottsville, NY, Dr. Emerson was Medical Advisor to the Swain Patrol for almost 30 years, from 1958 until the late 1980's, when knee and back problems forced him to give up skiing.

George's love of skiing brought him to Swain most Thursdays and almost every weekend, and his quiet, unassuming presence on the periphery of an accident scene or in the first aid room gave welcome support to volunteers who were dealing with a difficult diagnosis or treatment of an injury. He was always accessible to the Patrol as a resource for training purposes and on many occasions secured speakers and film presentations to help in training. He also recruited and screened a staff of doctors who assisted him as medical advisors to the Swain Patrol.

George Emerson was born in Bridgewater, MA, the son of doctors. A graduate of Harvard and the University of Rochester Medical School, he was a pioneer in thoracic surgery first as Chief Resident at Yale-New Haven Hospital and in 1948 returned to the University of Rochester Medical Center to become the hospital's first thoracic surgeon. Highly regarded among his colleagues for his skills as a surgeon, George was noted for his warm interpersonal skills with patients and his friendly bedside manner.

In addition to his love of skiing, George Emerson was an avid sailor and, because he suffered from allergies, especially hay fever, he would escape from

the operating room during the summer months to the family's summer home on Vinalhaven Island, off the Maine coast. There, he and his family would cruise the coast of Maine and the Canadian Maritimes aboard his sailboat, the Night Wind.

As the years went by, the summer respites became longer and longer but each fall he would return to his home in Scottsville near Rochester where he would resume his surgical practice and his other interest, cabinetmaking. George had a very complete woodworking shop in the barn behind his home, where he transformed cherry and other hardwoods into beautiful furniture for the benefit of family and friends.

And, of course, when winter came, as long as his health permitted, he would return to Swain Ski Slopes. We miss his friendship and his quiet, competent support in the First Aid room.

Predeceased by his wife Marion, Dr. Emerson is survived by his son, Jon Emerson (Eileen), of North Haven, Maine, his daughter, Lynn Storey Emerson Whitney (David), of Brookville, Maine, and five grandchildren.

Harry R. Stoneham, Swain Ski Patrol, 2-24-00

Dr. Roland E. Stevens, Jr., medical advisor to the ski patrols of the Genesee Valley Region, died February 8, 2000 at his home of apparent heart failure at the age of 88. Dr. Stevens, a prominent surgeon who specialized in occupational medicine, was a medical advisor on both the 1960 Olympic Ski Patrol at Squaw Valley and the 1980 Olympic Ski Patrol at Lake Placid and was a pioneer in the development of skiing in the Rochester, NY area.

Born in Hartford, VT, in 1911, he was educated at Phillips Exeter Academy, Dartmouth College (where he was a four event competitor on the ski team, excelling as a jumper), and the University of Rochester School of Medicine. After completing his surgical residency at the University of Chicago, where he worked with Nobel Laureate Dr. Charles Huggins on prostate cancer research, he returned to Rochester to set up his medical practice, teach at the University of Rochester Medical School, and establish the program in Occupational and Environmental Medicine at Strong Memorial Hospital. He set up occupational medicine programs for large companies such as Xerox, Wegmans, and General Railway Signal Corporation and also served the medical community in a number of administrative capacities, assuming the Presidency of the Rochester Academy of Medicine, the 7th District Chapter of the American College of Surgeons, and the University of Rochester Medical Alumni.

Looking to pursue his love of skiing in the Rochester area, he helped found the Rochester Ski Club in 1936 and

convinced county officials to build a 20 meter jump and ski slope complete with a rope tow in Powder Mill Park, which for several years was the only public ski facility in the area. After serving in the U.S. Army Air Force Medical Corps from 1942 to 1946, he returned to his practice in Rochester and to the promotion of local skiing. He helped to lay out the Brantling Ski Area and served as medical advisor to the Rochester Ski Club (1946-62), Bristol Mountain (1963-1970), and Swain (1970-1991) Ski Patrols, as well as serving the National Ski Patrol as Genesee Valley Sectional and Regional Medical Advisor from 1963 to 1995. In 1991 he was awarded the Distinguished Service Award by the National Ski Patrol for his many years of significant service to the skiing public.

Predeceased by his first wife, Mary, Dr. Stevens is survived by his wife Lois Wendell Stevens, sons, Roland E. III, Peter M., daughters, Carolyn, Elizabeth, Deborah, and Pamela, stepchildren, Alec, Gordon, and Fred Wendell, 21 grandchildren and 9 great-grandchildren.

An enthusiastic, outgoing person, Roland Stevens was always interested in the life experiences of his patients. As his surgical colleague at the university said upon learning of his death: "He related to the whole patient, the whole person. He was not just interested in operating. He got to know his patients as people."

Rollie Stevens lived life to the fullest, reluctantly giving up alpine skiing at age 86, but continuing to play tennis regularly and to enjoy the family's summer home in the Thousand Islands. He will be missed by all who knew him and especially by his many friends on the ski patrol.

Harry Stoneham and Nick Schiavetti
Swain Ski Patrol, 3/14/00



Figure 12 - Rollie receiving his NSP Distinguished Service Award in 1992

Calendar

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DISCIPLINE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>CONTACT</u>
GV Nordic Patrol Banquet	GV Nordic Patrollers	April 29	6:30/7:30 PM	Spring House, Pittsford	Holger Stave - H: 716-398-2868 W: 716-381-6060 hgstave@aol.com
Hunt Hollow Patrol Banquet	Hunt Hollow Patrollers	May 6	6:00 PM/7:00 PM	Shadow Lake Golf & Raquet Club	Sheila Fovel H: 716-266-7389 sfovel@nixonpeabody.com
GV Region Meeting	Region Staff	May 11 (tentative)	7:30 PM	Bristol Patrol Bldg.	Pamm Ferguson - H: 716-473-1196 W: 716-275-5403 ferg@troi.cc.rochester.edu
Instructor Development (Phase I) Course	Instructor Candidates	May 30 & June 1	6:30 - 10:30 PM \$5 fee.	TBAI	Marcia Mundrick - H:716-229-4313 mmcm@frontiernet.net
Senior OEC T/E Recertification Clinic	OEC	July 8	TBA	Wachusett C.C., Mass.	Bob Finger H: 716-394-9392 bobfinger@juno.com
Region Candidate OEC Class starts	New Candidates	August 7	TBA	Honeoye Falls-Lima H.S.	Chris Stiegler 716-396-0760, Ext. 18 Chris@tradewindsmarina.com
Senior OEC T/E Recertification Clinic	OEC	August 12	TBA	Peek n Peak, WNY Region	Bob Finger H: 716-394-9392 bobfinger@juno.com
Region OEC Instructor Refresher	OEC Instructors	September 12	TBA	Honeoye Falls-Lima H.S.	Mike Lord H: 607-776-1353 mglord@aol.com
Region OEC Instructor Refresher	OEC Instructors	September 18	TBA	Honeoye Falls-Lima H.S.	Mike Lord H: 607-776-1353 mglord@aol.com
Hunt Hollow On-Hill Refresher	Hunt Hollow Patrollers	September 17	TBA	Hunt Hollow	Dick Hitchcock H: 716-586-6215 hitchck@kodak.com
Swain On-Hill Refresher	Swain Patrollers	September 23	TBA	Swain	Myron Crispino H: 607-936-3177 W: 607-936-1269 mcrispin@stny.lrun.com
Region OEC Refresher	All Patrollers	October 28	TBA	Honeoye Falls-Lima H.S.	Mike Lord H: 607-776-1353 mglord@aol.com
Region OEC Refresher	All Patrollers	November 5	TBA	Honeoye Falls-Lima H.S.	Mike Lord H: 607-776-1353 mglord@aol.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.