

C VALLEY VIEWS D



The Newsletter of the Genesee Valley Region

Spring, 2001

John Lawson

RD

Where to begin? Frankly, we have had a phenomenal year. We had snow on the ground in November and yesterday, the second Sunday in April, was some of the best skiing of the year. Areas have been skiing in six consecutive months and I hear talk of Bristol trying to make it into May. We'll see what Mother Nature has to say about that but with the amount of snow on the ground it is a possibility.

I think the Genesee Valley Region ended the season in "good shape". I say this because I can look back and see the many accomplishments of our Region Patrollers. We had a lot of events planned, we have great instructors/advisors to organize and run the events, and this year many people participated in those events. This list is long and I won't repeat it here but as you read through this letter you will see from the advisors reports how much was actually accomplished. My thanks to all those who ran the different programs, and my congratulations to all the patrollers who participated in them, especially to our new Seniors.

We just finished up our Region elections. I had the distinction of running unopposed for a two year RD term. I was able to hold off the "dark horse", Anna Bodyelse, so I will be RD for the next two years. John Bolonda is stepping down as Assistant Region Director and five excellent candidates ran for his seat. They were Bob Smith, Mike Sheehan, Holger Stave, Jeff Baker, and John McManus. I have had the opportunity to work with each of these people. I knew from the start that anyone of them would be an asset to the Region. I thought to myself "How cool is this, five great candidates to choose from." With the number of great candidates we had, this election showed how strong our Region can be.

In the end, it took more than one balloting process, but John McManus was elected ARD. I have worked a lot with John over the last 5 years and know he will do an excellent job. Hats off to Norm Robinson and his committee of Melissa Doyle and Myron Crispino for doing a great job of nominating candidates and conducting the election.

I do have to admit a little to mixed emotions. Out-going ARD, John Bolonda, has been a good friend since our days as OEC candidates, and I'll miss working with him. John has always worked hard at what ever he has taken on and has been a consistent contributor. We will miss him on the region staff, but I'm sure he will remain an impact player in the region.

As I write this, the only other Region Advisor I know that is stepping down is Tim Cassidy. Tim was the individual who put the Student Venturing Program together and has done a great job as its Advisor ever since. Richard Stearns will be taking over from Tim. Richard has also been very active in this program and is an enthusiastic supporter. He will do a super job.

After a good year where do we go? I believe there are several areas where the Region can move forward. Two areas, that are related, are event scheduling/coordination and member communications. We have already started to schedule events for the 2001-2002 season. The dates scheduled so far are on the web page and they include the fall refresher dates. They are October 20 and Nov 4. The dates are being confirmed with the HFL school system. The confirmation process will be complete by the end of the school year.

All of the Region advisors are working hard to schedule events that will not conflict. In addition, we are doing our best to eliminate having two on-hill refreshers on the same day. It looks easy on the surface but with the number of events we have, keeping them all separate is not a trivial issue. Having a Region calendar that is up to date and available to all of us on the web is crucial to being able to schedule events so that they are available to all.

Because the web is such an efficient communication tool, we will continue to use its capabilities for disseminating information. We have a good number of patrollers receiving the Valley Views electronically; I would like to see this number increase. It will cut down on the printing and subsequent handling of the letters (folding, stapling, etc.) as well as cut down mailing costs. You will also get it sooner. We will continue to send it via snail mail to those who want to get it that way, but if you have internet access and e-mail, why not give it a try?

The Sr. Program will be having some "make-overs" this year. This will primarily involve modifying the OEC portion. As I write this, not everything is finalized. As a region however, we will be involved in the development of this program and I know some significant improvements will be made. One area that will be improved is the ability to become a Sr. OEC Trainer/Evaluator. Our region can use more OEC T/E's. Now may be a time for you to get involved, and the changes will make it easier.

Lastly, we have embarked on a project to better estimate the costs of our region programs. While collecting the required data is a large effort, I believe we will be able to offer better courses at fair costs to all patrollers. We started collecting the data on program costs this season, and will use that data in our next years budgeting process. Finances? Paperwork?? I know, but we will all benefit.

Guess I have gone on too long. I hope you all have enjoyed the season as much as I did. Thanks for your support over the last year. You have been a great group of people to work with and I look forward to seeing you in the "off-season".

REGIONAL ADVISORS:

Henry Williams Legal

FLASH - KANE CASE REVERSED

The Kane case, involving a million dollar award to the widow of a ski patrol trainee at Bear Mountain Ski Area by a California trial court, has been reversed and dismissed by the California intermediate appeals court. There is little chance that the final court of appeal in California will hear an appeal, so the ruling is, for all practical purposes, final.

The facts of the case arose from a final training session for a number of trainees at Bear Mountain Ski Resort. The trainer, who was a very experienced member of the Bear Mountain Patrol, directed his class to ski the most difficult run on the Mountain. The run was covered with ice and other natural hazards and the Kanes - husband and wife - were reluctant to take it on. At last, Mr. Kane went down the run. He lost his skis, slid down the trail and over the edge into a deep gully. Mrs. Kane, fearing he was injured, followed. She badly fractured her leg, and he, unfortunately, died.

The case was tried without a jury. The judge granted dismissal motions against all defendants except National Ski Patrol, holding it in on the theory that the trainer was an agent of National. It was this finding that devastated National and its insurance carrier because it opens National to endless liability from the activities of member patrols.

Bear Mountain Ski Area required that the Kanes and all candidates sign a general release. Defendant National contended in the suit that the release covered National and barred the Kanes from suing National. The judge declined to follow this argument on the ground that the activity of the area instructor in ordering the Kanes down the fateful slope was gross negligence. The appeals court reversed this finding. It said, if anything, it was ordinary negligence, hence, in theory at least covered by the release. The Court did not dismiss based on the release, however.

The action was dismissed based on the Kanes' assumption of the risks inherent in skiing and the consequent danger of injury. The Court cited two pages of cases in support of this ruling.

In spite of the appeals court having assumed, for the purpose of the case at least, that the instructor was the agent of National, this case is a landmark decision of great importance to ski areas, ski equipment manufacturers and National. The heat generated by the verdict in the Lower Court is at last dissipated.

If you have questions or comments or just want to shoot the bull about this case, e-mail henryww@rochester.rr.com, or call at 716.889.3000.

See you in court,
Henry

Sheila Fovel Alumni

The annual Alumni Ski Day was held at Hunt Hollow on Wednesday, February 14, 2001. All of the area ski patrols were represented. The alumni were given a complimentary pass and lunch by the Genesee Valley Region. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves, but unfortunately we were rained out in the afternoon. Look for another Alumni Ski Day to be held some time next February, 2002. If you did not receive a letter for this year's Alumni Ski Day, please contact Sheila Fovel at (716) 720-9909 or sfovel@nixonpeabody.com, and I will be sure that you receive the Alumni letter in December.



Figure 1 - Some of the Alumni enjoying lunch.

Marcia Mundrick Instructor Development

Have you heard the NEWS? The NSP is an educational organization! SO, we could always use quality instructors. Do you think you might want to join the cadre of NSP instructors? If so, which discipline...OEC, S&T,

Avalanche, Mountain Travel and Rescue?? Discuss your interest with your patrol's program advisor for that discipline or the region advisor. THEN – you need to sign up for the Instructor Development course. The next one will be offered May 21st and 24th at Honeoye Falls/Lima High School. Please contact me for further information.

AND—a big thank you to all current instructors. Without you, where would the rest of us be? We appreciate you keeping the programs happening! Have a great summer.

Richard Stearns Student Patrolling

The Genesee Valley Region Student Patrol / Venturing Crew finished this season with some of its members observing the Certified exam at Sugarbush. They were able to see the elite in action and participated as IP's for the first aid portion of the exam. The fact that a storm dumped 20+ inches of fresh snow on the hill, was frosting on the cake.

The Patrol/Crew signed on two new members this year, Adam Gebhard and Jeremy Willeths from Hornell. They got some exposure to first aid skills by participating in the Swain OEC practical exam as IP's. They would like to enroll in the OEC training next year if their schedules allow for the hours needed to complete the program.

In the three years since its inception the student program has seen four of its members complete OEC and S&T training to become regular members of the Swain patrol. In fact all the members collectively patrolled over 640 hours this season. Matt Crispino completed his Senior S&T requirements this year, and Jeremie and Nate Stearns are planning on entering the senior program next season. With the obstacles that they had to overcome and the time commitment that competed with school and jobs, they did a commendable job in achieving their goals.

Tim Cassidy, who spent countless hours and effort to put together the program, is stepping down at the Region Student Advisor. After serving as the Swain student advisor, I will be taking over the duties at the region level. Brian Walsh, from Ski Valley, has assisted for the last 2 years, as an advisor, and as the Liaison to the Otetiana Council of the Boy Scouts of America. Glenn Gebhard will be taking over the duties as Swain advisor.

It is my desire to see the program grow. Our early success at delivering quality patrollers to the ranks has proved that the program will benefit the Genesee Valley Region. We all know, just by looking at our fellow patrollers, and the mirror, that we need to get some young blood into the system. I would like to see active programs at the other slopes in the region. I am confident that there are several young men and women that, given the opportunity, would develop into excellent patrollers. It is a large commitment, as we all know, and the student program can help those interested achieve success with a dedicated group of instructors to guide and support their efforts.

If you have a daughter or son or know someone that might be interested in becoming involved please contact me at 716-343-4436 or rstearns@rochester.rr.com. Have a safe summer!!

Joe Menichino Awards

The Genesee Valley Region Awards Committee has been hard at it this season. We met three times to cover three different types of awards. The first session defined our submissions for Division Outstanding Award nominations. These nominations are based on last years Region award winners. The '00 Stephens Award for Outstanding Patroller of the Year was won by Eric Jaeckel from the Nordic side. The '00 Lehman Award for Outstanding Instructor of the year was won by John Topping from Hunt. The '00 Doyle Award for Distinguished Service was won by Jack Starke from Hunt. They all deserve congratulations and thanks for the hard work they have done. The second Awards meeting dealt with new national level awards such as National Appointments, Merit Stars, Meritorious Service Awards, etc. We put together quite a list and so far the returns from National have been excellent. The final meeting of the committee dealt with selection of this year's Stephens, Lehman and Doyle Awards, these are Outstanding Patroller, Instructor and Service respectively. This was the loudest, most fun and the quickest meeting considering it snowed about 10" that night, wet and sloppy, and it took us all hours to get home from Hunt. The choices we made are excellent and well deserved by the winners. John Lawson will be presenting these awards at upcoming Patrol parties and at the fall refresher.

In closing I'd like to remind you all who sits on our Region Awards Committee representing all our interests. These folks put in quite a bit of extra time in meetings, writing recommendations, compiling applications, etc.. I'll speak for us all in thanking them for their help this year. The committee includes:

| | |
|--------------|-----------------|
| Bristol | Michael Sheehan |
| Brantling | Pete Peterson |
| Hunt Hollow | Bonnie Hindman |
| Nordic | Skip Millor |
| Northampton | Anthony Simoni |
| Powder Mills | Glen Becker |
| Swain | Dave Hanning |

Have a great summer.

Joe Menichino Certified

The Genesee Valley Region was well represented at this year's annual Certified Test and Meeting, which was hosted by Sugarbush in Vermont. Jeff Baker from Hunt, Jerry Sherman from Bristol, Jim Nickerson, Tom Wallin, Richard Stearns and Joe Menichino, all from Swain, attended. Steve Barnes, Division Certified Advisor invited our Genesee Valley Student Patrol along to see first hand

what it is all about. Sadly, although all wanted to attend, only Jeremy and Nate Stearns were able to come along.



Figure 2 - Sled work in the 20" snowfall.

The weather and snow could not have been better. Sugarbush had 20+ inches of great new snow. This actually made the ski and toboggan portion of the test extremely difficult. Too much snow is just as bad as solid ice. Tom spent a good portion of Friday packing snow on the skills courses just so the candidates could run.



Figure 3 - The famous eye impalement moulage.

We all wound up as victims in the OEC portion on Saturday. The practical problems were particularly difficult this year considering they all included three victims typically piled up on top of one another with the worst one either in the middle or on the bottom. Not for the faint of heart. The best bystander problem (one Patroller with two untrained helpers) included one off trail victim with a stick impaled in his eye and a neck injury. One helper was set to "cast his cookies" the moment the eye injury was discovered. At least the examiners did not require the vomit to be directed at the candidate....

We all had a great time skiing Sunday morning. Castle

Rock is steep, and with all the new snow, it was amazing. Steve Barnes was reelected Advisor for another term, and the annual meeting was the shortest ever leaving us free for more skiing. Can't beat that. If you have an interest in challenging both all your patrol skills and your self-confidence let me know. I'd be happy to tell you more about the program. It isn't getting easier, but it is better run and more approachable every year I attend.

Mike Lord OEC

I'd like to take this opportunity to say well done to all you patrollers in the Genesee Valley Region. All of the instructor trainers and I hope that we in some way have helped you be the best patroller you can be by bringing to you the national Ski Patrols OEC material in ways you can use. We appreciate the time you all spend at refreshers and on the hill to help make skiing a better experience for the public with the help we give when needed. Thank you all.

I also want to thank all of the region's OEC instructors for their efforts in keeping our region up to speed. Without them the job just wouldn't get done. They spend many hours helping patrollers, training candidates and answering questions, much of which goes un-rewarded. We all owe them thanks and let's please let them know how much we appreciate them the next time you have the chance.

One more thanks for the year to all the Instructor/trainers that have helped me and continue to make the job as easy as they can. My heartfelt thanks to; Ben Emerson, Nick Schiavetti, Joe Menichino, Ginny Illi, Jeff Baker, John McManus, Sue Navarro, John Lawson, Andy Cruickshank, Kris Vasiliauskas, Bob Finger, Mike Long, and Leslie Kelly. Please feel free to write any of us any time you need information about OEC or have a question you need an answer for.

Please take time to stop by the web page and check out next year's refresher dates. There is a possibility that the region OEC refresher in October may have to change due to a conflict with HFL's homecoming. Any changes will be posted as soon as we know. The region candidate class will start in August, so get your friends who want to be ski patrollers to contact me as soon as possible. and I'll add their info. to our mailing list. And last but not least, we will be running an OEC Phase II course as soon as Marcia finishes Instructor Development. Time and location to be announced.

Thanks again for all the support you show our OEC program and have a great summer.

Bob Finger Senior OEC

The 2001 Senior OEC program went on this year rain free, and in a shortened format.

Leadership qualities are really what the Senior OEC program is all about. Although based in first aid, the testing used is highly centered around the ability to direct and control chaotic situations. Basic patrolling skills cover the breaks, stresses and strains we encounter while on the slopes, etc. Senior patrolling skills go one step further by training people how to keep calm and control in a multi-patient and multi-injury scenario. It's similar to managing five kids as opposed to one. We practice yelling and distracting the leader to attempt to throw off his or her focus on the problem.

This program can help us all work better in a chaotic environment by testing our abilities under fire. When they happen for real, we are then able to call upon these practice scenarios to bring order to disorder.

On March the 4th we tested 7 of this Region's patrollers in the art of leadership under fire.

At Brantling Ski Slopes Peter Jones, Bonnie Andre', Cathy Bentzoni, Patrick Fluharty, and Jeff Talon made the grade by passing their leadership scenarios. We also tested two from Central Region, Matt DaRin, and Brian Luton, who also made the grade. Jeff Tallon completed his Senior requirements and became a full fledged National Ski Patrol Senior on the day of our test. Congratulations to Jeff. Good luck to those who aspire to the same.



Figure 4 – Sr. OEC problem - two injured, one with an impaled ski pole.

In the coming years we will follow a format which will allow both S+T and OEC to test without conflict. OEC will test the LAST Sunday in February while S+T will test the FIRST Sunday in March. As a result, Senior OEC will begin the second Tuesday in January rather than the third. This will allow those who wish to do both in one season to test one week apart.

Enjoy the summer. See you in the fall!

Jeffrey Baker

Lift Evacuation

As the year winds down the good news is that it was a quiet season for Lift Evac. No catastrophic failures; nobody moved, nobody got hurt. A few lifts were rumored to have been offloaded with auxiliary power, but no ropes were flaked out in an emergency. Proof positive that Ski Valley didn't open this year.

A gathering of patrollers met this year at Hunt Hollow to share ideas, innovate new systems, shake the cobwebs out of the old systems and in general, have a good time eating chili. The excellent cross section from various patrols brought a variety of challenges to the table to be discussed and thrown about. Each person left a bit richer than when they arrived, a good sign of progress.



Figure 5 - Ascender demonstration at the Evac. Clinic.

This coming season will undoubtedly bring with it some new techniques and equipment to be mastered and I would encourage all of you to grab the opportunity to better yourself, your patrol and your value to the mountain, when the rope swings your way. We have an unusually strong region with many people eager and able to lead the way. Use their enthusiasm and knowledge to help you to your next level of competency and confidence.

Have a fun and safe summer!



Figure 6 - An explanation of lift operation at the Evac. Clinic

Alan Efron

S&T

This was a busy season for the S&T program, comprising an S&T Instructor's Course (Phase II) at Hunt Hollow, a one-day Advanced Snowboard Clinic at Swain, a two-day Division Skier Enhancement Seminar at Swain, 10 Senior S&T Clinics at Bristol, Swain and Hunt Hollow, and the two-day Senior Evaluation Clinic at Bristol. While we had hoped to include a Basic Snowboard Clinic and a Toboggan Enhancement Seminar, these did not materialize due to lack of interested patrollers.

The Advanced Board Clinic, run by a PSIA Level III instructor, received general praise from the relatively few attendees. Most of the morning hours were devoted to general riding skills, culminating in some work with empty sleds. The afternoon was mostly devoted to loaded sled work on a variety of terrain, focusing on moguls. The day concluded with a couple of free fun runs.



Figure 7 – The Advanced Board Clinic Participants

The Division Skier Enhancement Clinic was also conducted by a PSIA Level III instructor, and was well run and praised by the attendees. Unfortunately, only three of the registered patrollers participated, including one from

Campgaw Mountain in New Jersey and two from Swain. The first day featured challenging conditions after a period of freezing rain the night before, compounded by high winds. The second day was much better, culminating in a beautiful sunny afternoon.



Figure 8 – Senior empty sled work in moguls

The two-day Senior Evaluation Clinic gave all of the Senior candidates a good workout, comprising skiing skills and empty sled running on the first day and loaded sled skills on the second day. Successful Candidates were: Amy Feltner, Nancy Least, John Long, Matt Crispino, Jan Scott, David Rearson, Tom Lazzaro, Chris Van Staalduinen and Rick Walzer. The Senior Evaluation next year will be on March 3rd, a week after the OEC Evaluation, and will be in the one-day "challenge test" format. The two-day format will be used again in 2003.

Thanks and kudos to the many S&T instructors and T/E's who worked so hard all season to make these programs a success.
(W. L. Gamble for A. R. Efron)

NEWS FROM THE PATROLS:

SKI VALLEY

It has been approximately a year since the Board of Directors of Ski Valley Ski Club decided to cease operations. For those that haven't followed the action, the Bank holding the mortgage on the hill moved to foreclose and take ownership. The hill decided at the last minute to file for bankruptcy protection that effectively stopped the foreclosure. The bankruptcy trustee now controls the hill and the rumors I hear are that the trustee has not had any seriously interested buyers. Further, the Bank is moving to have the trustee grant them permission to once again attempt to foreclose on the hill, however I don't know the status of that action.

Those of us still registered as Ski Valley patrollers (21) have decided to continue for one more year. This will

provide some an opportunity to avail themselves of transfer possibilities when available and others a dimming optimistic hope that something may yet happen to bring the Valley back.

We would like to publicly thank our fellow patrollers at Hunt Hollow that provided us use of their patrol facility and some nicely priced lift tickets for a family social outing in February. Those of us that attended had a great time doing the things that patrollers like to do: Ski, eat, socialize and have fun.

Jim Dudley, PR

HUNT HOLLOW

This was a good year for Hunt Hollow and the patrol. In June we were fortunate enough to be able to offer transfers to six former Ski Valley patrollers; they are all outstanding and we are very happy to have them. They've "fit right in" and are contributing heavily. Soon after we went to work in mid-summer by building a deck on the hill-side of our patrol building. The funds for this were provided by generous contributions from a group of retired Hunt patrollers and design and hammer swinging was done by the active patrol. It looks good! Our fall On-Hill refresher was conducted in September on a nice day and featured practice on complete beginning-to-end accident scenarios and a fly-in visit by Mercy Flight. On November 4, Jeff Baker coordinated a Region Lift Evac Clinic, which was most interesting and enjoyable; this was followed by Jeff's famous chili and a selection of fine malt beverages (note I said followed) and a spirited discussion of the technical fine points. We think we found a good solution for the "very-small-child" evac case; give me a call if you are interested in this.



Figure 9 – Self-Evac. Practice at Hunt Hollow

On November 19 we conducted a clinic and training for those Hunt patrollers who wished to learn (voluntary) self-evacuation techniques. We then put all of these evac skills to the test on December 17 with a full-blown night blackout lift evac drill. Evac teams were selected at random and all

other patrollers (except safety instructors) boarded the lift. This was successful, despite very challenging weather (winds around 50 mph and glare ice all over the slope), but we did identify some areas for improvement and these will be addressed.

Skiing was excellent this season at Hunt Hollow; the weather cooperated, and the hill opened right on schedule. The number of accidents we've handled this year are about on average, and apart from two early-season Mercy Flight calls, we have been free from really major accidents (the hill is still open as I write this – so we're "knocking on wood").

We took on four candidates this year, but two had to quit due to work requirements. The remaining two successfully completed all requirements and were made full patrollers in February. Congratulations to John Athans and Will Hitchcock (my 16 year old son...perhaps the youngest full patroller in the Region?).

Training continued with Hunt hosting most of the Sr. OEC clinics, and we had 4 Hunt patrollers successfully complete Sr. OEC. This makes one of them, Jeff Tallon, our newest Senior! Hunt also hosted several of the Sr. S&T clinics, and John Long successfully completed that requirement.

Our thanks go out to all of the instructors, both Regionally and in-house, who contributed skill and time to the training of the candidates, patrollers, seniors, and lift evac folks. You are the folks who make us better!



Figure 10 – Jeff Tallon receiving his Senior patch from RD John Lawson.

A mid-season "Corn Snow Party" was held at the patrol building and was a great success and enjoyed by all. This was apparently a prelude to the second half of the season, which featured snow, snow, and more snow! We found ourselves shoveling snow UP off the new deck and digging out toboggans. Wow!

A special thanks goes to Bill Gamble, the Hunt Hollow webmaster, who built and maintained a great web page for

us thru the season; this turned out to be an excellent way to communicate news and operational activities to the whole patrol. This is accompanied by a secure bulletin board, which was very useful to arrange schedule swaps. I expected that the frequent schedule changes would drive Bill to insanity, but he handled it with aplomb!

In Region elections this spring, John Lawson was re-elected for a full term as Region Director and John McManus was elected as the new ARD. They'll both do a great job for you we're sure.

Next month the patrol will elect a new PD/PR and one new board member. I've greatly enjoyed being PD and leading this outstanding group of people...who really need very little leading at all! I am grateful for the honor and opportunity!

Best wishes for the spring and summer.

Dick Hitchcock, PR

BRISTOL

Hello patrollers,

Bristol Mountain was still open today, April 8, 2001. It was amazing. Only Challenger and Eclipse were closed and the other trails had plenty of snow. It is a truly "Awesome April". (That's the name of the \$49 April executive ski pass.) The mountain has done a great job of grooming and promoting the area. General Manager Dan Fuller would like to even ski one day in May!

We have four new patrollers and one new auxiliary. Chris Frank, Chris Manville, Jeff Minter and Keith Peter are patrollers and Bob Hagen is our newest auxiliary. In addition, Paul Haley, Jami Rushford and Bill Smith successfully completed the S&T and are now basic patrollers. Congratulations to all. Their hard work and effort has paid off.

Dave Rearson, Tom Lazzaro and Jan Scott successfully completed the Senior S&T. Jan has now passed the exam on skis and snowboard. Dave Rearson is now a full-fledged Senior. Good job!

Our only candidate for Senior OEC was Cathy Bentzoni and she had a successful day at Brantling. Congratulations.



Figure 11 – Dave Rearson with his new Senior credentials.



Figure 12 - Jan Scott with her second (!) set of Senior credentials.

Elections for the next season were held on April 3rd. Our new slate of officers are:

Win Beers – Patrol Representative
Kris Vasiliauskas – 1st Assistant
Steve Cunningham – 2nd Assistant
Al Kraus – Treasurer
Leslie Kelley – Secretary

MRB:

John Bolonda
Tom Lazzaro
Paul Maciaszek

April 8th was also the date for our first Alumni reunion at Bristol. Win and Judy Beers helped host the event. We had several patrollers from the 1960's attend. If you think of it, the patrol becomes part of your family and it is a great honor to be associated with an organization such as this. That's the reason why we are attempting to contact more alumni for future events.

Since this is my last letter as Patrol Representative, I'd like to thank all the patrollers not only from Bristol, but also patrollers from the Region that have contributed to the patrol operation this year. We've been through the opening of new trails and a lift on the south side of the mountain, dealt with trying times of a fatal accident, hosted Region breakfasts, meetings and Senior S&T, and run fund raising hot dog sales in inclement weather. The patrol's successes are indicative of the hard work of its members. Thank you all.

Have a great summer.

Melissa Doyle, PR

SWAIN

Skiing officially ended at Swain on March 25th, after one of the best snow fall seasons of record. The late season snowfall was a warm welcome to the snowmobile races held at Swain for the first time on March 31st and April 1st. It sounds like this event was a great success and could become a yearly event.

Elections for Executive office were held on April 8th. The following patrollers were elected to represent the patrol for a two-year term:

Patrol Director: Joe Menichino
Treasurer: Roger Slade
Secretary: Mark Whitford

The patrol is very appreciative to Myron Crispino for an outstanding tenure as Patrol Director for the past four years. The office of Patrol Director is a very demanding position in which Myron served with great distinction and respect to all of his fellow patrollers. Myron, we thank you and wish you well in your endeavors.

The Family Fun Day held on March 17th was very well attended. Jeanne Eldridge and company provided a fun-filled day for the patrol, which included members of the Canaseraga Ambulance squad and their families. The ski patrol came away again with the coveted volleyball trophy for another year. The winners of "The Great Toboggan Race:

Men's category: Jim Nickerson & Matt Crispino

Women's Category: Jennifer Conine & Marie Osypian

The Ski Patrol Picnic is scheduled for June 16th, 2001 at the A-ON-DO-WA-NUH Sportsman Club, in Cuylerville. Time: Noon til? For reservations, Please contact Mary Emmighausen by June 2nd @: (716) 226-8971 for more information.

Congratulations to the following patrollers who successfully completed the S&T test at Swain to become patrollers: Kevin Campbell, Ron Honan, Bob Loughlin, Tim Scanlon,

Eric Scott, Andrea Shelley, Nate Stearns And Bill Schmidtman.

The following patrollers successfully passed the Senior S&T test: Amy Feltner, Matt Crispino and Nancy Least. Congratulations to each and every one of these patrollers.

Eight candidates will be asked to participate in the fall OEC class.

If you would like to receive E-Mail newsletters from the patrol or your e-mail address has changed please send your corrected E-Mail address to: whit5974@aol.com

Mark Whitford, Secretary

BRANTLING

Brantling Ski Slopes and the Brantling Ski Patrol finished up the area's best season ever on Sunday, April 1 (no foolin'). Mother Nature, who provided nearly 200 inches of her winter specialty, coupled with Brantling's improved snowmaking, resulted in a November 24 – April 1, 96-day ski season.

And we proved the adage "If you build it, they will come": the expanded Brantling lodge, with over 100% more upstairs lounge space, played host to more school groups, more races, and more skiers than ever before.

The patrol handled over 80 accidents and numerous "incidents" throughout the season, added a new toboggan to the fleet and upgraded patrol equipment and supplies.

Fall saw a very successful chicken BBQ fund-raiser and in March the patrol again hosted the Genesee Valley Region Senior OEC Clinic, providing another delicious chicken BBQ lunch to patrollers and the skiing public.

Two potential patrollers went through ski and toboggan training, and upon successful completion of the OEC course, will be added to the roster next fall. We congratulate **Chris Van Staaldin** on his successful completion of Senior S&T and wish him well in the Senior OEC program next season.

Thanks go out to AR **Steve Mitchell**, APD-S&T **Martha Rich**, APD-OEC **Kim Buell** and APD-Scheduling **Alan Pundt** for their leadership and efforts the past two years. We're in the process of electing officers to two-year terms, with results to be announced at the patrol's annual end-of-season banquet to be held on Friday, April 20 at the Sodus Bay Heights Golf and Country Club. Other patrol awards will also be announced at this event, topping off a truly memorable season.

Pete Peterson, Patrol Newsletter Editor

NORDIC

The wax is still warm from being in my pocket, and the skis still wet from the last snow of this fabulous snow season.

Even though our patrol schedule ended in early March, the amount of snowfall allowed some of us to ski to our heart's (and body's) content. GV Nordic had a great season, wrought with many personal and Patrol achievements. Having grown so rapidly in the past three years, we experienced a fabulous growth in organizing our training and teaching of the many skills required of our patrollers. The result is a template of requirements and goals that will help establish a comprehensible recruiting brochure, provide a smooth training regimen, and conclude with sensible evaluation criteria.

Three candidates successfully completed our ski-ability, toboggan training, extrication and rope work, completing all requirements for patroller status: Congratulations to Gina Wyffels, Bruce Herendeen, and Eric Miller.

The joint venture at Bristol Mountain, patrolling the Nordic Skiing New York State Championships, proved to be a successful project for many of our patrollers, and a great event for Bristol.

The patrol wishes everyone a great summer recess, and looks forward to next year!

Holger Stave, PR

POWDER MILLS

Spring has sprung, the fish are running at Powder Mills, and the skis, sleds, backboards, etc. are put away for the season.

We have completed another terrific season. We opened on Dec 16th with plenty of snow. We ran through the season (and extended an extra week) for a final day on March 25th. It was a great last day with plenty of sunshine and snow. We even ended up pulling out the picks and shovels to take down some of the fencing that was still buried in the snow.

Kudos go out to everyone for the tremendous on hill presence which kept the number of bumps, bruises and incidents down to a minimum this season. With class sizes on the weekends reaching into the 70s, our patrollers turn into part time lift attendants, instructors, courtesy staff, crossing guards and crowd control (parents) as necessary. That's well beyond the scope of what we trained for in OEC, but preventive care keeps the emergency care to a minimum.

We also welcomed several new members to the patrol this year. These were all folks who joined us from Ski Valley. They are John Melville, Jim Knapp, Barry Soper and Norm Deets. These folks were wonderful additions to an existing group of great folks I have the pleasure of patrolling with.

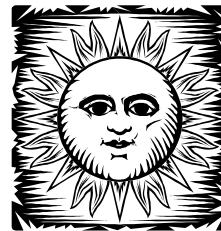
The MRB is scheduled for April 26th. A key part of the agenda is planning our Spring / Summer picnic and our Fall events. Stay tuned, we will be e-mailing those to the

patrol as well as posting them on the web page (with Bill Gamble's help).

Enjoy your summer.

Glenn Becker, PR

Have a great summer!



See you in the fall.

Calendar

As of 4/13/01

| <u>EVENT</u> | <u>DISCIPLINE</u> | <u>DATE</u> | <u>TIME</u> | <u>LOCATION</u> | <u>CONTACT</u> |
|--|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|--|--|
| Brantling Banquet | Brantling Patrollers | April 20 | 6:00 PM | Sodus Bay Heights Golf & Country Club | |
| Instructor Development Course | Potential Instructors | May 21 and 24 | 6:30 - 10:30 PM - \$5 fee | Honeoye Falls-Lima High School | Contact Marcia Mundrick: H: 716-229-4313 mmcm@frontiernet.net to register. |
| Hunt Hollow Banquet | Hunt Hollow Patrollers | May 5 | | | |
| Bristol Picnic | Bristol Patrollers | May 19 | | | |
| Nordic Banquet | Nordic Patrollers | May 19 | | | |
| Swain Picnic | Swain Patrollers | June 23 | | | |
| Basic OEC Class Starts | Candidates | August 6 - Mondays and Wednesdays | | Honeoye Falls-Lima High School to start. | |
| Valley Views Deadline for Fall Edition | Region Staff | August 10 | | | Bill Gamble – wgamble.me65@gtalumni.org |
| OEC Instructor Refresher | OEC Instructors | September 12 & 20 | | Honeoye Falls-Lima High School | |
| Swain On-Hill Refresher | Swain Patrollers | September 22 | | | |
| Bristol On-Hill Refresher | Bristol Patrollers | September 29 | | | |
| Region OEC Refresher | All Patrollers | October 20 (tent.) | | Honeoye Falls-Lima High School | |
| Region OEC Refresher | All Patrollers | November 4 | | Honeoye Falls-Lima High School | |
| 2002 Senior OEC Evaluation | Senior OEC Candidates | February 24 | | TBA | |
| 2002 Senior S&T Evaluation | Senior S&T Candidates | March 3 | | TBA | |

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.