



Region OEC Refreshers Honeoye Falls - Lima High School



Sat. October 3, 1998

Sun. October 11, 1998

Registration 7.30 AM

The 3rd edition of "OEC Emergency Care" is now available. This refresher will highlight the new material.

All patrollers must attend *one* of these refreshers. Be sure to bring your patrol pack and completed written test. It will be collected at registration. The test must be turned in to participate in the refresher.

Plan to buy your coffee, snacks and lunch to support the booster club.

Other Region Events

Region CPR Refresher **October 4, 1998 6:00pm** **East Rochester Volunteer Ambulance**

Region CPR Refresher **November 7, 1998 1:00pm** **East Rochester Volunteer Ambulance**

Call (716) 264-1460 and leave a message saying what session and how many. You will not be called back.

Mountaineering **Nov. 21, 1998** **Bristol**
Senior OEC **Begins Jan 27, 1999** **East Rochester Volunteer Ambulance**
Senior S&T **Begins Jan 21, 1999** **Various Locations**

Sign up for these programs at the OEC refreshers

ProNite (Muxworthy's) **Oct. 12 & 13, 1998 by invitation** **At Muxworthy's Ski Loft**
ProNite (Snow Country) **Oct. 13, 1998 by invitation** **At Burgundy Basin Inn**

On the Hill Refreshers

Bristol **Sept 26, 1998** **Bristol**
GV Nordic **Dec 5, 1998** **Cummings Nature Center**
Powder Mills **Nov 7, 1998** **Powder Mills**
Ski Valley **Nov 1, 1998** **Ski Valley**
Swain **Sept 26, 1998** **Swain**

Region Advisors

Norm Robinson **RD**

It happens every year at about this time.... The mornings are turning colder and the Ski Patrol related activities start up in full force.... So far this week I've been to an OEC Instructor refresher, our kickoff region meeting, and the first night of the OEC candidate course. The Ski Season is just around the corner! These meetings, pro-nite, and the OEC refreshers are a good place to catch up with friends and to find out what changes are in store for the upcoming season. Here's a few that I know of so far... We've got 2 new patrol directors in the region. Eric Jaeckel is now the PD for GV- Nordic and Rob Fischmann is the new PD at Ski Valley. New Region advisors include Mike Lord as our Region OEC administrator, Jim Mussnug as Region Avalanche advisor, and Holger Stave as Region Nordic advisor. If you see any of

these folks please congratulate them on their new positions! Changes from NSP include a new OEC book complete with a new procedure for patient assessment, a new title for our patrol directors - Unit Representative, and a welcome revision to the senior program....the elimination of the 3 years to completion rule! There will be plenty of opportunity to discuss these changes at the region OEC refreshers in October.

Information on region programs for the upcoming season is included in this newsletter, on the region Web site, and will also be advertised at the OEC refreshers. Please take advantage of these programs. They're a great way to improve your skills and share experiences with patrollers from other areas!

See you all in October!

Norm Robinson

Region Director

Genesee Valley Region skis into Cyberspace.....

<http://frontiernet.net/~emerson6>

All the latest region information is now on the web!

Region Advisors

Don Garmon

Awards

The 97/98 Season is over and again thanks go to the Awards committee for their efforts. John Bonczyk-Swain, Skip Millor-Bristol, Pete Peterson - Brantling, Pamm Ferguson-Hunt Hollow, and Jack Starke- Ski Valley all worked to recognize deserving individuals from all patrols. Awards from National that were given include:

Yellow Merit - Hunt Hollow - (Not Awarded as of Newsletter)

Purple Merit - Carl Mabrie - Bristol

National - Gordie Benoit - Ski Valley

Division returned one National and an "Outstanding Instructor" submission. Region Director Norm Robinson gave six Region Merit Stars and many Certificates of Achievement this summer at Patrol picnics.

Now we must turn to the 98/99 Season. With that thought in mind, I want to again urge people to participate in the awards process. You can participate as a patrol awards committee member, be nominated to the Region Awards committee or as an individual write and submit awards for deserving patrollers.

This past year, we did not receive nominations from the patrols for the outstanding patroller of the year. I cannot believe that some outstanding patroller isn't waiting to be recognized. We have two Region awards of significance: 1. Region Award for Outstanding Patroller of the Year -The Stevens Award, and 2. Region Award for Outstanding Instructor of the Year - The Lehman Award. The Lehman Award will be given at the Fall Refresher, but again we had only two possible nominations.

For the past few years I have urged patrollers to submit names of deserving patrollers to their respective awards committee or Region Awards Committee representative. Obviously not every award that your committee submits and goes forward to Division gets through the process, But we haven't done too bad percentage wise on the nominations submitted and awards returned. Sometimes an award nomination needs to be resubmitted two or more times and that effort is worth it when the awards does get through. Valley Views

I am suggesting something different this year and that is for you to send directly to me the name and brief reason why you think a particular patroller should be recognized. I will give the name to the committee representative for that patrol so that they can dig up the information and write the appropriate award submission. You can participate in the awards process many ways. Please find one way and submit a name of a fellow patroller who is deserving.

Any questions, please call me.

Patroller Cross Award - Text from the proposal to establish the Patroller Cross Award:

Policies and Procedures 11.7.4 was forwarded to me after the Winter Meeting of the NSP. It reads:

Patroller Cross

A. The Patroller's cross may be awarded, upon approval of the division director or designee, to a member who is seriously injured in one of the following categories.

1. During scheduled on-the-hill duty and/or training
2. While performing search and rescue activities under the direction of a recognized authority.
3. When performing avalanche control work under the direction of area management.
4. When performing lift evacuation under the direction of area management.

B. The definition of a serious injury is an injury requiring physician care over a long period of time, surgery, extended rehabilitation and/or lost work time. It is further described as an injury that prevented the member from returning to their normal patrolling duties for the balance of the ski season.

C. The request for the award must be on the approved form with the required documentation. A member can receive this award more than once. This award becomes effective with the 1998 Midwinter Board of Directors Meeting. Retroactive to the beginning of the 1997-98 ski season (9/1/97)

The committee discussed fatal injuries. In these cases, it was felt that it is more appropriate to award a distin-

Region Advisors

Don Garmon

Awards

guished service award to the family.

As I read this my first thought was that the award would recognize those in service to the skiing public and the NSP. However, the more that I thought about the purpose of this award, the more concerned I became about what thought processes are functioning, if any, in Denver and elsewhere within the NSP. Why should somebody be recognized for getting injured? Isn't this the basis of a major lawsuit now causing the NSP problems? Wasn't a poor decision made by the instructor and the injured and dead parties. If the guidelines are followed as indicated and A. 1. applied to the Kane case, then one Distinguished Service Award (for the deceased) and one Patroller Cross (wife of the deceased) would be awarded.

My career has been in the area of health and safety for over thirty years. One of our stated missions in the NSP is to promote skier safety. Articles have appeared in the Patroller Magazine on the subject of preventing frostbite, proper lifting of patients, and the danger of Carbon Monoxide in enclosed areas and other safety and health issues relevant to Patrollers. With that in mind, why now does the NSP ignore the issue of proper procedure and safety and health of the patroller by recognizing those who didn't consider the safety and health of themselves and others?

It seems to me that the Denver Office has once again sent a mixed message that makes no sense. As Region Awards advisor, I would not feel comfortable submitting applications for this award. Why did I write this? I want your opinion on this new award and on any other award issues. I think other awards from National are more important such as a formal letter thanking a retiring patroller for his/her years of service or the White Merit Star that was proposed to Eastern Division for recognition of local patrollers for long terms of service in activities that do not meet "national significance" criteria. Am I wrong?

Don Garman E-Mail: xyxsoftguy@aol.com
Genesee Valley Region skis into Cyberspace.....

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All the latest region information is now on the web!

Stephen Hellems M.D. Medical

After a disappointing El Nino winter, we do our best to dry ourselves off and plan for next winter

In my capacity as the Regional Medical Advisor, I have been working on a project that many have seen a need for. A question that I am often asked at Swain Ski Patrol is "Did you ever hear what they found on that injured skier we saw last (week)?" There is seldom a follow up report.

I have spoken to several of knee local emergency room medical directors who feel that we may be able to set up a system that would give feedback reports to the PDs to allow further evaluating and disposition of the injured skier/ boarder's report.

I feel, as do patrollers that I have spoken to, that this will be a useful teaching tool to help us improve our skills at assessment triage.

Of course, I anticipate some growing pains to these attempts. The creation of a simple release form is necessary. This will need to be available both at the Patrol Room (so that the injured skier/ border can be asked directly) as well as in the Emergency Rooms (particularly for the or severely injured, who may be taken directly to the ambulance). Concerns about patient confidentiality and malpractice may impair our access to this information. I hope to be able to avoid these pitfalls and provide medical feedback.

The second major issue this season is in the role of helmets for skier/ boarder safety. This was recently addressed in Patroller Magazine by an R I T professor who also lectured for members of patrols and area management. While the issue is far from settled, helmets do appear to reduce the risk of mild and probably moderate concussions. However, most severe concussions and even the recent accidental deaths of Sonnie Bono and Michael Kennedy may not have been preventable with any helmet. Professor Sheahy points out that in accidents at speeds higher than 20 M P H - not uncommon in racers or among advanced recreational skiers - no current helmet would adequately protect the head, nor protect against the other bodily injuries that may occur.

Hopefully this issue will be more carefully researched before any laws or rules requiring helmets be written.

Stephen Hellems M.D.

Region Advisors

Jim Mussnug

Avalanche

Nick Schiavetti was asked to and has agreed to become the Eastern Division Assistant Avalanche Supervisor. The selection of Nick to this position is a testament to his leadership and instructional skills that he has exhibited the last four years as the Genesee Valley Region Avalanche Advisor. In Nick's role he will be working in conjunction with Doug Graham to coordinate the Avalanche Programs within Eastern Division. Nick will continue to assist within the region as an avalanche instructor for the basic avalanche course. Good luck to Nick in his new position, and thanks for his dedication and contributions to the Genesee Valley Region Avalanche Program.

I am Jim Mussnug, and would like to introduce myself as the new Region Avalanche Program Administrator. With Nick's move up to Eastern, he asked me to take over the region avalanche program. I have been a patroller at Swain for nine years. I am a Senior Patroller, and member of the evac team and an S & T instructor. As I was working for Senior, I enjoyed participating in the electives for both basic and advanced mountaineering and avalanche. With this background, Nick recruited me to the avalanche instructor ranks. I have assisted instructing at the last two region basic avalanche courses. I look forward to helping to deliver the high quality avalanche programs that our patrollers have enjoyed within the region.

1997-98 Season Review

Fourteen patrollers from the region completed the 1997-98 Genesee Valley Region basic avalanche course and received their basic avalanche certificates from the national office. The class included an indoor session at the Immanuel Lutheran Church in Webster in December and an outdoor session at Bristol Mountain in February. Both sessions were enjoyable and educational experiences that gave the participants the opportunity to broaden their horizons, learn about snow science, see some great film footage of actual avalanches, develop more respect for the awesome powers of nature, and improve their skills in the important rescue mission of ski patrolling. The outdoor class consisted of a simulated avalanche rescue under very realistic conditions that advanced the patrolling and leadership skills of all involved. Jim Hopkins joined our

ranks this past year as a new instructor-in training.

The Biennial Avalanche and Mountaineering Seminar was held April 4, 1998 at the Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory (CRREL) in Hanover, New Hampshire. Several Genesee Valley Region patrollers attended this event which was arranged by the Divisional Avalanche and Mountaineering Advisors. The seminar featured some internationally recognized experts in various aspects of avalanche and mountaineering as well as some of our own divisional patrollers, and included the biennial classic lecture by Dr. Murray Hamlet, the US Army cold weather injury specialist. In addition, attendees were treated to a cook's tour of the impressive scientific and engineering facilities at CRREL and had a chance to appreciate our tax dollars hard at work in the advancement of our understanding of the effects of cold weather phenomena. The CRREL seminar was an excellent opportunity to learn more about avalanche and mountaineering as well as an enjoyable social event. A large contingent of Eastern Division patrollers stayed at the classic Calvin Coolidge Hotel in White River Junction, Vermont for the weekend, with a Saturday night banquet and a day of skiing at Killington on Sunday capping off the agenda.

We enjoyed an active educational, and exciting season in the avalanche program for 1997-98 with a lot of rewarding hard work and enjoyable experiences meeting new people and learning new patrol skills.

Basic Avalanche Class

The region's basic avalanche course is now held on alternate years from the advanced avalanche course. The basic avalanche class within the Genesee Valley Region will be held next ski season (1999-00). If you are interested in attending a basic avalanche course this year, please contact either Nick Schiavetti or myself, and we can provide information on other region's sessions.

Eastern Division Advanced Avalanche Class

1998-99 is the ski season for the advanced avalanche course in the Eastern Division. The advanced class is offered in alternating years with the regional basic course so patrollers can schedule the two courses over two ski seasons. The 1998-99 Eastern Division advanced course will include an indoor session held at the

Region Advisors

Jim Mussgnug **Avalanche**

Appalachian Mountain Club in Pinkham Notch, NH on Thursday and Friday, March 18 & 19, 1999 and an outdoor session held in Tuckerman Ravine on Mount Washington on Saturday and Sunday, March 20 & 21, 1999. Prerequisites for the advanced avalanche course include both the basic avalanche and basic mountaineering courses. Details and registration forms for the advanced class will appear in a forthcoming edition of the Trail Sweep. A class size of approximately 45 patrollers from the entire Eastern Division can be accommodated and these places fill early, so get your reservation in as quickly as possible after you see the Trail Sweep announcement. The advanced avalanche class is a chance to experience a challenging winter camp-out, learn more about avalanches, gain important hands-on experience in avalanche prediction and rescue, work with patrollers from other ski areas around the division, dig snow pits for snowpack analysis, practice transceiver use, improve your ski patrolling skills, and complete one of the elective courses for the senior program.

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Request for new instructors

As with any program, we are interested in adding to our instructor ranks. The avalanche program is an interesting, challenging, and fun elective, and especially beneficial to better prepare yourself for skiing or mountaineering in avalanche prone areas. Prerequisites for becoming an avalanche instructor include completing both the basic and advanced avalanche courses, and the basic mountaineering course. If you are at all interested in becoming an instructor, please contact me. I would also encourage participating in this season's advanced avalanche course at Mount Washington. This is a great opportunity to work with experts from across Eastern Division in an intensive and challenging program of both class and practical field experience in actual avalanche terrain.

Jim Mussgnug, Region Avalanche Program Administrator

Joe Menichino **Certified**

The Annual Meeting and Test

The annual Certified Meeting and 2 day test took place March 27 through March 29. Candidates have been prepared for months for tests in first aid, skiing, tobogganing, chair evac, avalanche, rope rescue, area management and risk management.

This year's test was at Killington. On Friday candidates took a ski skills test in the morning. Level eight skills must be demonstrated to clipboard welding

Region Advisors

Joe Menichino

Certified

examiners in freeskiing, bump skiing, steep skiing, snowplow, sideslip, transistions and equipment carry. The afternoon session includes toboggan driving skills (with no tailroper), transistion course and empty sled runs. The nastier the bumps the better. Once again, level eight skills must be demonstrated to the same armada of examiners. After the toboggan tests are complete, candidates change gears and move into chair evac skills. It always turns out to be a long day.

Day 2 of the test starts with a written Emergency Care and Mass Casualty Incident exam. Multiple choice and essay questions challenge the candidates for 2 hours. I remember dying for a cup of coffee! Once the written test is complete, candidates move into the practical first aid test. The first part of the test is a Bystander problem which involves a number of emergency care challenges that must be managed using only untrained helpers. My problem involved a compound femur with a helper that couldn't stand the site of blood. After the Bystander problem, candidates move into the practical test during which they must lead one problem and help on 2. Each problem involves multiple victims with multiple injuries. In addition to level eight technique, strong problem management and leadership skills are critical to success in these problems.

As time allows starting on Day 2 and into Day 3, the interview portions of the test begin. Candidates are tested in their knowledge of Risk Management and Patrol Management.

Do you know which state and federal codes regulate our industry? Would you be comfortable planning a budget and organizing a new patrol? Finally, candidates are tested on low angle rope rescue and avalanche rescue techniques. These last four segments are fun if you are prepared and have survived the first two days of Skiing and Emergency Care testing.

Candidates have 3 seasons to complete these requirements. The first year you take the entire test. After that, you take on those segments that remain incomplete. By mid day on Sunday the test results are announced, new certified patrollers are honored and the annual Certified Meeting begins.

From Genesee Valley Region, Ski valley's Jeff Baker is

in his second season of Certified candidate testing. He did extremely well in his first test last year and has been working the bumps at Ski Valley like mad to prepare for this years opportunity to try again. I've worked with Jeff and his confidence is high and his skills are strong. Let's hope he can finish all the remaining requirements this year.

The path to Certified is not easy. It's not for everyone, actually it's not for most. But for those that find a challenge irresistible, that want to develop their skills to the highest levels and that can handle pressure, it can be very rewarding. The program involves skiing at great mountains, working with terrific patrollers, and making new friends. It offers a million opportunities to learn. In addition to be successful, you have to get in great shape both mentally and physically. Can't beat that. Good luck to Jeff-

Melissa Doyle

Senior OEC

Sunday March 7th turned out to be a rainy day for the Senior OEC test. We had 12 candidates, 10 from Genesee Valley and 2 from Western New York. Seven people passed, six from our region. Congratulations to Jeannine Gambrel, Leslie Kelley, Brenda Rizzo, Bill Smith, Cyndi Somniers, Rick Walzer and Kevin Baker (Cockaigne). Bob Finger and I would like to thank Brantling for the use of their ski area and the delicious chicken barbeque. Also, a big thank you to our trainer/evaluators - Jeff Baker, Mike Long, Mike Lord, Pete Marasco, John McManus, Norm Robinson, Ed Smith, Marcia Cleason and Pam Porter. A special thank you to all our injured patients who braved the cold and rain and gave Oscar winning performances.

For OEC instructors out there who currently have senior status and wish to become Senior OEC trainer/evaluators, there will be three sessions offered this year in nearby regions. Dates will be available soon and be published in the Trailsweep news.

This year's OEC Senior indoor training sessions will be held at East Rochester Ambulance on Wednesday nights. Dates are January 27, February 3, 10, 17, 24 and March 3. Outdoor sessions will be on Sunday mornings in February at Bristol Mountain. Skill evaluation will be Sunday, March 7. (Ski area TBD).

Region Advisors

Melissa Doyle **Senior OEC**

Prerequisites for the OEC evaluation are:

- One full year as a basic patroller
- Application form filled out, approved and signed by patrol director
- Review basic skills (OEC & CPR)
- Submit written answers to two open-ended practice scenarios problems
- Create one new senior-level training scenario
- Participate as a leader in a minimum of four practice scenarios
- Participate in training clinics

Cost will be \$35. Students must also purchase The Ski Patroller's Manual, Fourteenth Edition, copyright 1997. (This replaces the paper manuals used in previous classes. Cost is approximately \$13 and can be purchased through the Patroller Catalog or preordered for the class.)

This is the opportunity to brush up on OEC skills, meet patrollers from other areas and exchange ideas on bandaging and splinting. This course benefits all who are involved, trainees, our "injured patients", and even instructors. Most past participants will agree that it is a worthwhile course. Signup sheets will be available at Honeoye Falls-Lima High School refreshers in October.

Melissa Doyle
394-1828 (Home)
mdoyle@eznet.net

Gordy Benoit **Ski & Toboggan**

Senior S&T Lives!!!

Its that time of year again - W I N T E R or more correctly spelled S K I S E A S O N. Its time to get back into some form of an exercise program so that you do not die in the third hour of your 4 hour shift. Assuming you are in shape by ski season, one of the often neglected areas when you get ready to hit the

slopes in the morning is stretching your muscles in an organized, controlled way. Yes, some of us do a couple of leg stretches at the top of the hill on the first run- for most of us the adrenaline kicks in and we just take off down the hill as soon as we reach the top. This can lead to some serious muscle pulls as your body is just acclimating to both the cold and new range of motion that skiing or snowboarding requires. Range of motion that you have not used all summer. Studies show that over 50% of all muscle pulls occur during the first run of the day - I wonder why?

The best way to avoid the problem is to isolate specific muscle groups and "pre-stretch" the muscles to or beyond their expected range of motion for the day in a slow, controlled manner either in the lodge or on the hill. If you think about it for a minute and go over in your mind what motions you will be forced (or plan) to make skiing or snowboarding, they fall into several distinct areas: neck rotation (all directions), shoulder rotation, arm extension, trunk rotation (both directions), trunk flexing (forward and back), leg rotation, leg extension, lateral extension of the legs. Think about a specific stretching exercise for each of these muscle groups and spend 5 minutes stretching BEFORE skiing every day and you can avoid at least the preventable form of muscle pulls.

Enough on this already, now for a summary of last year. Due to a continuing decline in enrollment in the senior program in both the Genesee and Western Regions, Mike Morgan suggested that we attempt a joint two day clinic/evaluation at a common site. Roland Lunser and I discussed this possibility and decided to give it a try. After a lot of emails and planning, the joint two was held on Feb. 28th and March 1 at Holiday Valley and Holimont. All candidates were lodged with either other candidates or examiners, with no one incurring lodging costs. To say that the Western Region was a excellent host is an understatement. The arrangements for all aspects of the program were well thought out and executed. Holiday Valley and Holimont are first of all excellent mountains with ample senior terrain, and the lodge space provided for the group was outstanding, to say nothing of the food during the entire event. Patrollers from both areas pitched in to transport sleds up the hill so that candidates did not get tired between runs. Sleds were in abundance for all stations and the moguls were in rare form on both days. The weather wasn't the finest but this did little to dampen the overall assess-

ment of the event. Everyone that attended had glowing reviews (as with all senior events we had the candidates fill out an event evaluation form- we scored 4.8 out of 5 in their overall assessment of the 2 day). Thirteen candidates from both regions participated, 6 from the Genesee Region. Four candidates from our region passed, Pam Porter (congratulations for hanging in there after many attempts), Mark Haboian recertified as a senior on a snowboard, Keith Henderson and Cindy Wandling both passed and became seniors at this event. Congratulation to you all. Twelve trainer evaluators participated in the event- with 5 coming from our region. The 2 day for 1999 is planned for our region and we are already starting to plan to try to match the Western Region hospitality- it won't be easy. Al Efron will be coordinating the event and he will be asking some of you to assist with the event so be prepared and sign-up for senior S&T this year, it will be a memorable year!

As usual we will have a sign-up at the fall refresher- all dates will be defined by that time. Training clinics will begin in mid January with the 2 day clinic-evaluation in early March. The Division is continuing to support Senior Continuing Education- events will be held at most areas so sign up early! If you have any questions concerning Senior S&T, please contact me by email at gbenoit@frontiernet.net or by phone at 716-924-9274. See you this fall!

Gordy Benoit
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Patrol News

Brantling

Our El-Nino shortened season was successful in that we were able to get in all of our scheduled S & T candidate training sessions except one, and we had to move up our evaluation one week. We welcome Leigh Edelmann to our patrol. We were happy to be able to once again host the Senior OEC evaluation and El-Nino came through with a nice drenching rain as the final round of problems were done. Master vegetarian chef Kim Buell was able to hold the Chicken B-B-Q until everyone had finished and could come out of the cold.

We are reviewing our options for a portable di-fib unit for our area. Our fall on the hill featured a demonstration of the unit and it was coincidental that one of our last accident reports was a possible heart attack on a visitor to the area. With monies promised by the management, anonymous, and corporate donors, we will be able to afford an inexpensive unit.

Our patrollers are looking forward to our spring awards banquet where Harry Rich will be honored for his 30 years of service.

We all look forward to a busy summer of surfing and sailing, vacationing and visiting, and refreshed for a new season, ready to take on the senior program or one of the other electives.

John Van Staalduinen Brantling Ski Patrol

Bristol

On March 6, 1998 Bristol celebrated its 100th day of continuous skiing. It was a good battle won over Mother Nature, who has not been kind to the snow user this season. We all need to tip our hats to the ones who fight it out and win.

Those of you who visited Bristol after the February school break will have noticed that our carpenters turned painters turned carpet installers have finished the second floor of the old patrol building. This area is used by visiting patrollers and family. It now has a refrigerator, sink and microwave available along with a very nice changing room. A big thanks for a great job.

Next year Bristol will have small candidate class of four to five to fill some slots on our day shifts. These shifts can get very taxed with a lot of customer groups starting to show up during day hours.

Four patrollers passed their Senior OEC and one person, Mark Haboian, passed his Senior S&T on a snowboard. Two patrollers passed their basic on the snowboard. John McManus has become a Senior S&T and OEC T.E. Congratulations to all!

John Bolonda, PD

Hunt Hollow

I am sure you have all heard that the ski patrol is erecting a new building at Hunt Hollow. The building will be operational at the start of the ski season. Its purpose will be to provide facilities for the patrol; personal space such as lockers, and work related space, such as additional training area. It will have a full basement that will be used for storage and will allow, if needed, moving the first aid room from the main lodge to the ski patrol building.

To be ready by snowfall a lot of work is required. By the time you read this, the basement will be complete and all the utilities will be available. A Ranch-Chalet style building was ordered from Key Homes on 20 Aug. It is scheduled for delivery the last week of September. The building will then be placed on the basement. Hooking-up the utilities and sewer to the building will then be required, as well as, doing the interior modifications such as painting and building the lockers. The building will be available for an informal open house at Colorfest, an annual fall event Hunt Hollow sponsors, this year scheduled for 18 October. We are excited about our new building and all the work the patrol has put into the project and we really look forward to showing it off this fall. Please stop by and visit.

The building has been purchased with money raised by the patrol. Our main sources of income have been donations of time and materials, patroller contributions, and member contributions. We have done very well in raising funds but still have a ways to go. If anyone in the region wishes to make a tax deductible contribution please contact myself, John Lawson, or Henry Williams.

This year Hunt Hollow will be taking on three candidates and two transfers. With the addition of these five people our overall numbers will remain essentially the same as last year.

Here's to a good skiing season and I hope to see you on the slopes.

John Lawson Patrol Director HHSP

SWAIN

Despite the generally poor winter weather this year, Swain had a busy season. Night skiing ended on Saturday March 14 and the area closed on Saturday March 28.

We had an active candidate class complete their OEC and S & T training. We all owe a big debt of thanks to Knobby Eldridge and Ginny Illi who ran the OEC program and to Tom Wallin and Roger Slade who ran the S&T program. Thanks also to all the instructors who assisted them in teaching the OEC and S&T classes. The following passed the OEC to become new auxiliaries this year: Kevin Campbell, Tricia Campbell, Doug Hollinger, Marie Osypian, and Bob Terranova. Also completing the S&T were: Richard Brockmann, Ron Neracker, Norb Holderle, Cathy Rague, and Jennifer Conine. In addition, ski patroller Dennis Turner completed the S&T test on a snowboard to become our third snowboard patroller. Congratulations also to Pam Porter who passed the Senior S&T test and finished all of her requirements to become our newest Senior. Family funday was held at Swain on Saturday March 14 with a big crowd of patrollers and their families. The winners of the Annual Great Toboggan Race were Joe Menichino and Bill Bonczyk. This was Bill's second time and Joe's third time winning the trophy, so Joe now joins the other three time winner Jon Gorton as officially retired from the race - they can run in the race for fun in the future but can't be an official winner. Thanks to Jeanne Eldridge for all of her hard work organizing another great family funday that included this annual event as well as the usual Patrol Director's Race, 60-second race, family fun races for all the kids, and a big chicken barbecue for the patrol families and the members of the Canasarega Ambulance Corps whose support is so important to us every year.

On Saturday June 6 we held our patrol barbeque at

SWAIN

Mendon Ponds Park under the able direction of Tim Cassidy, Alan Efron, and Judy Scott. This reunion after the snow melted was our chance for one hard-earned day of relaxation and fun together without any of the usual responsibilities that are incumbent upon us when we patrol together. In addition, we were pleased to welcome Jerry and Carol Sherman representing the Eastern Division and Norm Robinson representing the Genesee Valley Region at the picnic.

We were delighted to see Dave Hanning honored for his service by being presented the William G. McKenna Award as the Patroller of the Year. As deserving as the award was this year, this was not the only year that Dave has given outstanding service - he's been a dedicated member for 34 years and we've indeed been fortunate to have him with us all these years. Congratulations Dave and thanks for all you've done! Many of us will be attending the dedication of the Minnie Dole National Ski Patrol and 10th Mountain Division Memorials in September thanks to Dave's hard work and persistence in developing this project.

The following were given Service Certificates at the picnic: 10 years - Janet Cushing, Charles Feller, Ray Filkins, Glen Gebhard, Virginia Illi, Nancy Least, Tim Pellman, Nick Schiaavetti, Judy Scott, Tom Smith and Richard Stearns; 20 Years - Mike Mooney and Joan Schmidtman; 30 Years - Jon Gorton and Ed Szelwach, and 35 years - Anne Harrison. That's a total of 245 years of combined service - an impressive record!

We look forward to the 1998-99 season and working with our new management team at Swain. Let's hope the new season brings us more natural snow than we saw this past year.

GENESEE VALLEY NORDIC

The 1997-98 season ended with our annual banquet held in March at the Scotch & Sirloin Restaurant. We were fortunate to have several alumni: Clyde Glover, Stan Perry, Dick laarvey and Ann Knitell present. Mso, it was great to have Jerry Sherman and Norm Robinson in attendance.

The officer election that took place resulted in PD Brian Schankat, after 4 years of outstanding leadership,

handing the Patrol over to APD Eric Jaeckel. Jack Hustler was elected APD and Holger Stave and Dann Zwick retained the positions of Treasurer and Secretary respectively.

A picnic was held at Jack Hustler's cottage on Canandaigua Lake in August. It was decided at the picnic that getting new patrollers was the most important effort for the oncoming year. Our patrol has lost several people over the last few years and our numbers are getting low. We held a firm brainstorming session at the picnic to generate ideas for recruiting. If there are any current members of other patrols who might be interested in becoming a dual patroller please call Eric Jaeckel at 473-5685.

CALENDAR

On-The-Hill Dec 5 8am-5Pm Cumming Nature Center
Cumming Trail Work 9am Dec 20

Genesee Valley Region skis into Cyberspace.....
<http://frontier.net/~emerson6>
All the latest region information is now on the