



Mike Lord

RD



Here we are at the beginning of the summer season. Things are starting to ramp up for the coming season, and I'm not really sure that last season is truly over yet. I'd like to say thanks to all the program advisors, instructors and patrollers that took the time to make our region programs happen. I hope that more of you will take the opportunity this coming season to come out and participate in one of the fine region programs. I guarantee that you will have fun and learn something new while sharpening your patroller's skills too.

Last season saw much discord in our organization. While many of us have differing opinions on what went on, I would like to make one observation. This coming fall we will be voting on possibly seven new National Board members. When these New Board members are elected it will mean that in two seasons, the members of the National Ski Patrol will have directly elected twelve of the thirteen National Board members. We no longer will be able to say that our Board of Directors is not our concern. I urge every one of you to look to your e-mail for the notice of the coming election and take the time to become familiar with the people who are running for office. Please then take the time to cast your vote.

This fall at the region refresher, our region will also be electing the Region Director and an Assistant Region Director. I would like to urge any patroller interested in running for one of these positions to contact the region election committee and make your desire to run known to them.

The new season is closer than we think. The OEC Candidate class is about to begin, Instructor and region refreshers are being planned and before we know it snow will be on the ground and the new season will be here. I'm looking forward to seeing you all soon. Best wishes for a great summer and we'll see each other soon.

REGIONAL ADVISORS:

Nick Schiavetti Instructor Development

The Instructor Development course is offered to patrollers who want to become an instructor in OEC, S&T, MTR, or Avalanche. Participants will begin the process of becoming an instructor in this class by learning about

principles of effective teaching, observing demonstration models, and applying classroom and field techniques. This course counts as a senior elective.

The Instructor Development class is offered every spring after the end of the ski season to avoid all of the time conflicts that patrollers encounter during the ski season and will be presented in the Genesee Valley Region next year in May of 2007. Check the region calendar on the website for the exact dates and look for the flyers and signup sheets that will be available at the Region OEC and On-the-Hill Refreshers in the fall. You can also contact me at redhill3@rochester.rr.com for information about the course.

The instructors are looking forward to having another enthusiastic group of patrollers join us next year. We just completed the GV Region Instructor Development class in May 2006 with seven successful participants: Mike Middleton, David Dubreck, Eric Zeise, and Anthony Imperato of Genesee Valley Nordic, Robert Maloney of Powder Mill, Malcolm Inglis of Bristol, and Patrick Saeva of Swain. Talk to any of these people or to the other patrollers who have completed this course in recent years and you will hear lots of enthusiastic recommendations for this class.

In addition to completing the Instructor Development course, patrollers who want to become instructors need to complete the mentoring program with an experienced instructor in their discipline and be evaluated by an Instructor Trainer. The region has been very successful in recent years mentoring and evaluating patrollers and processing their applications through the national office to complete their instructor appointments. Experienced instructors are available to help out anyone in the region who wants assistance or advice on how to become an instructor or how to mentor or evaluate an instructor candidate.

Several experienced instructors at different patrols within the region who have teaching experience in each of the NSP disciplines taught the Instructor Development course this year: Marcia Mundrick (Bristol & GV Nordic: OEC, EMM, MTR, Avalanche), Mike Mooney (Swain: S&T), Glen Gebhard (Swain & GV Nordic: OEC), John Lawson (Hunt Hollow: OEC, EMM), Bob Andre (Hunt Hollow: OEC, EMM, MTR, Avalanche), and Nick Schiavetti (Swain: OEC, MTR, Avalanche). I would also like to acknowledge the substantial administrative contributions made over the years to the program by members of the region staff,

especially Region Director Mike Lord, Treasurer Diane Libby, and Webmaster Bill Gamble.

Instructor Development is the important gateway to training new patrol candidates and refreshing current patrollers and enables us to replenish our ranks and update our skills. We invite you to participate in an enjoyable learning experience and join the corps of instructors in the region who contribute so much both to the National Ski Patrol and to the skiing public.

Jim Mussnug **Avalanche**

It is sunny and 70 degrees outside as I write this, so it is difficult to think about traveling in avalanche terrain and sleeping in the snow. However, our dedicated Region staff is off planning this season's programs. So, get out your day-timers and PDA's and start making entries now for upcoming events. This upcoming season, 2006-7, we are planning to offer a combined Avalanche and Mountain Travel and Rescue program in Genesee Valley Region.

This will be the third time for running this type of combined program in the Region. We totally revamped the program when it was last offered to ensure we met program delivery requirements in a reasonably condensed format. The first night of the program, is devoted to MTR fundamentals such as clothing, sleeping bags, shelters, cooking, food. The next indoor session, is devoted to the classroom portion of the Avalanche program. The objective of this session is to cover the relationship of weather, snow pack, terrain and human element to provide the means to assess avalanche risk when traveling in the backcountry.

With the fundamentals covered in the indoor sessions, the final session is a weekend. We have run the outdoor session at Webster Park. This provides reasonable terrain to work with, a shelter to conduct some training at night and to gather in for socializing, and close access to vehicles. This session covers topics such as orienteering, low angle rescue rope work, emergency shelters and fire starting, avalanche rescue beacons and probing. The culmination of the event is a practical search and rescue exercise including avalanche rescue techniques. All elements of the program are brought together, such as use of avalanche rescue beacons, probing, and search techniques, and use of Z-lines to extricate injured skiers.

This is a great opportunity to get two Senior electives completed in one combined course. Students and instructors all considered this format course to be a success. This season we expect to make a few minor tweaks to better differentiate the content in this basic level program from the advanced Level 2 programs. We expect to conduct the evening and Saturday indoor sessions in late November / early December. The final two day outdoor session is planned for mid-January. Look to the Region calendar for the latest information on the exact dates. Registration information will be posted on the Region web-site at both the Avalanche and MTR Program.

Eastern Division will be conducting an Avalanche Level 2 course this season. Look to the Eastern Division web-site calendar for dates. This is a phenomenal opportunity to advance your skills. This four day program has been revised over the last two sessions to focus on avalanche course content delivery without requiring overnight camping. This program is scheduled in early March, 2007.

We are very fortunate in the Region to have a very talented and hard working group of instructors in our programs. Due to the dedication of our Region instructor staff we continue to have one of the most active series of programs in Eastern Division. Please consider joining us for the upcoming Avalanche and Mountain Travel and Rescue programs. This is a great way to expand your skills, have a great time, and meet some new patroller friends.

Mike Long **OEC**

As most of you hopefully anticipate the approach of warm, sunny summer days, allowing the growth of rust on those neglected steel edges, the OEC Staff has already started the planning process for the 2006 – 2007 season. We are truly fortunate to have the return of the dynamic duo of Bill Teamerson and Steve Duncan to perform the duties of Instructors-of-Record for the OEC class. Rumors abound as to the expected numbers of candidates from each area. Where oh where shall the class be held? Considerations of equipment, logistics, candidate and instructor domiciles, availability of equipment, facilities, and cost are some of the factors that go into the selection of a location. The rumors will be solidified and location finalized sometime in August when the class actually gets underway and the eager new candidates actually appear and deplete their pecuniary resources.

The OEC class schedule will again be assembled by Marcia Mundrick with able help from Janet Remizowski and Joe Menichino. So when the OEC instructor gets their email request for fall teaching from this group, we are hoping for the reply of "any time, any subject as needed". Janet and Joe will continue to assist in the class and to offer the gentle last-minute reminder communication service to those instructors whose calendars suddenly vanishes just before the class.

Kris Vasilauskas and Ben Emerson will be working with me to develop an "Instructional Improvement Program" supported also by Nick Schiavetti. So as you think back to that OEC Class or Regional Refresher you attended and remember something that you think we could have done better, please send us an email at MikeLong@Rochester.rr.com. Also, Nick will continue to run the New Instructor Development & Mentoring Program.

On a final, and very happy note, we want to welcome the newest addition to the OEC Staff, Jr. ITT Greta Rosalind Marino, born to IT Andrea Shelley Marino on May 17th.

Steve Shelley

Lift Evacuation

As part of OEC, we train for a lot of first aid problems, and our hills have training for regular lift evacuations. However, there are situations that arise which are not covered in this regular training. For example, ravine extrications, handicapped skier lift evac., etc. This year, for interested people, we are planning a Region session to expose any interested patrollers to the methods that some of us have devised to address these situations. We have set the date of Saturday, November 11 at Hunt Hollow. If you are interested, please send a note to me at sshelly1@rochester.rr.com, and I will keep you informed as to the agenda. If you are **really** interested, and would like to help out, let me know; that would be great.

Bob Andre'

Senior EMM

Congratulate **Dawn Wright** and **Jon Hess** from Brantling, **Rick Micoli** and **Jeff Welch** from Bristol, **Pat Saeva** from Swain, and **Mel Gleason** from the Nordic Patrol for completing the requirements of Senior EMM this past season. They all worked very diligently along with the EMM Instructors to make this a successful season. We are very fortunate to have a large group of outstanding instructors in this region, which adds great value to the EMM program and makes my job as coordinator, a pleasure.

We also held an OEC Enhancement Seminar at Swain this year as part of the Senior Program. Chris Steigler and Mike Lord were very generous with Swain's facilities helping to make this a successful and FUN day on the slopes. Mike Long conceived this as a rally, so teams had to ski the area to find the scenarios and then treat the associated injured patients. The icy conditions led to some unique situations, with objects always ready to succumb to the slippery slide of gravity. Special thanks to our injured patients for the day for braving the cold conditions.

The EMM final was held at Brantling on a very cold icy day. It was good that we had plenty of ice practice this season as walking on the frozen surface was tricky. Thanks again to Marsha Wait and the Brantling Patrol for the generous use of their facilities, and especially to Marsha for the breakfast goodies. Kim Buell and crew once again produced an excellent celebratory chicken barbeque. Special thanks to Jeff Baker, the Eastern Division OEC representative, for the sound effects.

The EMM staff is constantly evaluating the existing program and looking for ways to improve the experience. As with most all of our NSP programs there is a balance between candidates available time and program content and depth. We are looking at some changes for next year to address that situation and refine the program. Stay tuned to the EMM web page on the GVR site for next year's activities.

John Topping

S&T

This past year was another successful one for the **Senior S&T** program.

Of Course, success is measured in many ways. We feel our candidates are successful if they come away with a positive experience and having learned new skills or improved their current skills. We had 7 candidates in the program and watched as each one improved their patroller and toboggan handling skills. Bob Andre, Steve Duncan Rick Micoli, Gary Marks, Dave Neighbour and Mike Stamp were successful in passing the Senior S&T final evaluation held at Hunt Hollow and Bristol Mtn in March. We look forward to a new group of candidates next year to help them improve as well.

We had a very successful toboggan clinic this year. Division Advisor Keith Pomeroy came into town to lead this event at Bristol Mountain. We had many positive comments regarding the day with Keith and staff.

Next winter look for more Programs to hone your skills. The S&T staff may be coming to your hill next year to try and bring the program closer to the end users. More information will follow on this in the fall. The Senior staff will be looking at how we can improve the program we bring to you.

We would like to thank the ski areas for allowing us to use their facilities. Without them being so generous, we would not have such a diverse program.

Skip Millor

MTR

No snow, rain and mud do not make conditions ideal for Level 2 Mountain Travel and Rescue. Nick Schiavetti, our instructor of record, tried two different dates for the outdoor portion of the course and is now working on a third date for next year. Special thanks to Brian Walsh for all his work on setting the outdoor course this season.

Our number one goal for next season is to complete this year's Level 2 course. We will also help teach Eastern Division's Level 2 course. Our plan is to bring our candidates to the Division's Level 2 course.

This year we committed to Division that we would help Eastern NY establish an MTR program. We have been working with ENY's MTR advisor and hope to complete our work by the end of next season.

With a very full schedule, we will try to hold a combined Avalanche/Level 1 MTR course in our region next season. Look for the dates and course applications on our region website in early October.

It's finally spring although we had frost here last night. Froze all my parts this morning riding my bike to work. Skiing is much more fun.

This year's annual Certified program was hosted by Cannon Mountain in central New Hampshire on the weekend of March 25. Bodie Miller's home town actually, although he wasn't around. Even though the program was held 1 week earlier than normal we still lacked sufficient snow to hold the ski and toboggan portions of the exam. Everything was groomed flat. That is the first time in the history of the program as far as I know. It was a tough call for the Certified leadership team. The rest of the program came off without a hitch. With the ski test cancelled, the schedule opened an entire day for the rest of us and I had lots of time to run all the management and safety interviews that I am responsible for. 19 interviews were run in all. Pass rates ran in the neighborhood of 50%. This sounds tough but it is typical for the program. The OEC portion was less dramatic this season and more to the point including very challenging but realistic problems. It is really the most interesting part of the test. Dave Walker our new chair ran an excellent examiner recert day on the Thursday before the exam. Over forty Certified patrollers attended from all over the east. Each discipline ran a clinic in an effort to re-qualify examiners. All sessions were well run and well attended. Even though the 4 day program ran long the benefit of recertification was well worth it and I hope we get a chance to do it again soon. Candidates working at this level deserve the best in both test programs and examiners. Only a few Genesee Valley Region folks were present this year including Jeff Baker- Certified Secretary, Tom Wallin- certified candidate and myself, chair of the Management and Safety Interview modules.

Please feel free to call me (607-587-8229) or any of the Certified patrollers in our region if you want to discuss any aspect of the program. Have a great and safe summer.....and wear lots of clothes when you are riding your bike in the cool morning air.

John Lawson

Awards

The Awards Committee for GVR has completed another busy and productive year. This has been possible through the efforts of many dedicated people from each patrol in the region - Thank-you for all of your hard work! I would also like to thank the Awards Committee members specifically for their contributions. These people are:

Swain – Myron Crispino, and new mom, Andrea Marino

Bristol –Rick Micoli and Kris Vasiliauskas

Hunt Hollow – Bonnie Andre and John Topping

Brantling – Pete Peterson

Powdermills Park – Therese Costich-Sicker

GVR Nordic – Gina Wyffels

In addition, both ARD's John McManus and Bob Smith, provided continuous support to planning and executing the

award submittals. Their contributions are also very much appreciated.

So far we have presented a number of the awards at awards banquets or spring patrol picnics. The following awards have been presented:

Region Awards

Certificate of Achievement - Marie Revekant,
MacKenzie Osypan, Travis Clark, Nick Crispino
White Merit Stars – Jeanne Eldridge, Myron Crispino,
Marie Osypan
Doyle Award – Russ Perrin
Williams Award – Glenn Becker



Figure 1 - Russ Perrin receiving the Doyle Award for Distinguished Service to the Region.

National Awards

Yellow Merit Stars - Mike Tallon, Charles Feller, Brian Schankat
Distinguished Service Award – Hugh Turner



Figure 2 - Mike Tallon, Charles Feller and Brian Schankat received Yellow Merit Stars.



Figure 3 - Hugh Turner receiving the National Distinguished Service Award from RD Mike Lord.

National Appointments

Special recognition goes to Susan Navarra from Hunt Hollow and Hugh McMillan from Bristol for receiving their National Appointments.

Congratulations to all the recipients. It is your extra work that makes the GVR the strong region that it is. We are proud to recognize your accomplishments.



Figure 4 - Sue Navarra, flanked by (L) Hunt Hollow PR John Topping, and (R) ARD John McManus, GV Awards Advisor John Lawson and ARD Bob Smith.



Figure 5 - Hugh McMillan (R) receiving his National Appointment from RD Mike Lord, with Kris Vasiliasukas looking on.

Bill Gamble

Alumni

On Friday, February 24th, 9 Alumni and 4 of their guests enjoyed a day of skiing at Hunt Hollow. It's too bad that more of the 42 Alumni registered in the region could not attend. Hopefully, more will be able to make it next year.

The "mission" of the Alumni Association is "to utilize the experience, knowledge and energies of those who have retired from active patrolling, while extending to them the recognition, dignity and awards they have earned." Alumni can stay involved by teaching NSP courses, as long as they maintain their teaching credentials, they can be members of courtesy patrols, work with the Special Olympics, act in administrative capacities as newsletter editors, webmasters, treasurers, registrars, social directors, etc., and assist with any and all NSP-sponsored activities.

In the Genesee Valley Region, in addition to one "Alumni Ski Day" per year, Alumni receive Ski Patrol magazine and the Ski Patrol Catalog, Trail Sweep, the Eastern Division newsletter, Valley Views, the Region newsletter, and invitations to local Ski Shops' Pro Nights.

The registration fee for Alumni membership is \$27 per year. Lifetime membership is \$700, or \$350 for members with 30 years of active service. It is free for those with 60 years service. In the Eastern Division, the first year is free for those with 25 years service. Lifetime Patrollers retain lifetime status as Alumni. For an application form, see the GVR web site at <http://www.nspgvr.org>, or contact me at wgamble.me65@gtalumni.org.

As a matter of interest, in the Genesee Valley Region we have two Alumni with more than 50 years of service: Richard Wambach (Hunt Hollow) with 55 years, and Harry Stoneham (Swain) with 52 years. Of course, Herb Lehman (Swain) who is still active, eclipses everyone!

Henry Williams **Elections**

ELECTION NOTICE

Two Region offices are slated to be on the ballot at the Fall Refreshers: **Region Director** and **Assistant Region Director**. Mike Lord has announced that he will be running for re-election as RD. John McManus's ARD seat will be vacant. John has served the number of full terms that are provided in the By-Laws, and he will not be eligible again.

If you are interested in running for either seat, please tell your Patrol Director or call or write the election committee, care of Henry Williams, Chairman, P.O. Box 8, Scottsville, NY, 14546, and enclose a resume and a campaign statement. Or email at HenryWW@rochester.rr.com

NEWS FROM THE PATROLS:

HUNT HOLLOW

The Hunt Hollow Patrol held their annual banquet on May 6th at Shadow Lake Golf and Racket Club. We had 75 attendees that came to celebrate the end of the 05-06 season. We had a number of patrollers and some spouses that braved the cooler weather for nine holes before the party again this year. It seems like it has become part of the annual event for some of us.

Bonnie Andre was nursing some sore feet from surgery, so husband Bob gave out some fun awards. Greg Cox was given the avalanche award for being part of and causing Hunt Hollows first avalanche. Karen Kelliher won the "nurse bunny" award for attending the most accidents. Mike Podhorecki earned the liftee's favorite patroller award. Our annual "yard sale" award was given to Jeff Tallon for his spectacular wipeout many of our patrollers witnessed. Andrew Cruickshank got an award for getting a real job. His days at Deer Valley have been traded for the Washington DC scene. Katy Foley was recognized for providing the patrol with M&M's throughout the season. Some of us had to start diets immediately after the season ended.

We did have our share of more serious awards too. David Neighbour was selected as our Patroller of the year. In addition to being a HHSP Board member, David helped to organize all of our events for the past 4 years, including the banquets, our annual picnics and the famous corn snow parties. We are thankful for David's dedication to our patrol. Julie Neighbour was given an angel pin for all the support she has given the patrol over the years. Julie played a major part in the great food we ate at our picnics and corn snow parties. Yvonne Wambach was given a stained glass angel for her positive attitude and perseverance in a health related battle. Other notable announcements were: Bob Andre earned his senior patch,

David Neighbour passed Senior S&T and Rick Roxin became a full basic patroller.

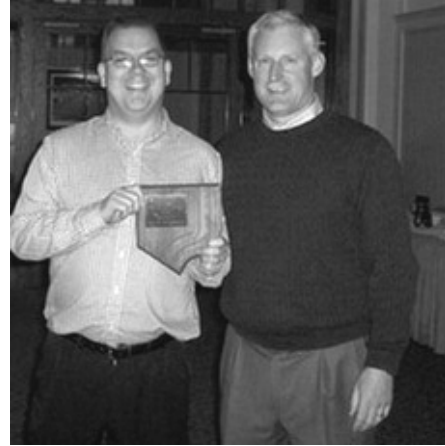


Figure 6 - Dave Neighbour, Hunt Hollow Patroller of the Year, with PR John Topping.

We had a number of service awards this year: Caitlin Wilterdink, Bob Andre and Jeff Konzel – 5 years, Joe Hoff, William Lutz, Sharon Baker and Mark Tornatore – 10 years, Steve Wilterdink and Greg Cox – 15 years, Norm Robinson – 25 years, Marsha Wait – 30 years

The Region award was special with John Lawson, Bob Smith ARD and John McManus ARD presenting Sue Navarra with her National Appointment. Sue has been model patroller at Hunt Hollow for many years, a leader and instructor along with being a wonderful person and friend. We couldn't be more proud of her.

Have a great summer.

John W Topping
PD Hunt Hollow

BRISTOL

I hope everyone had a great winter. Although the weather could have been better, Bristol Mountain had many days of great skiing and riding. Thanks to all of the patrollers who made the season successful. There are so many patrollers who always go the extra mile to provide the excellent service to the public that I couldn't possibly mention all in this article, we have a great team.

The Bristol Patrol officially ended the season with our end of the year picnic at Gannett Hill Park on May 13th. The day was a typical New York day, sunshine, warm, rainy and cold with a little thunder thrown in. But, we still had an excellent turnout of over 100 patrollers, family and friends. The food was great and everyone had a good time. We handed out many awards for length of service and some just for fun. The following is a list of our annual awards:

Awarded National Appointment – Hugh MacMillian
Dick Doyle Award from the Region – Russ Perrin
DSA Award from National – Hugh Turner
Patroller of the year - Mac Warner (sorry, no picture available – ed.)

Pro Patroller of the year – Jerry Sherman
 Auxiliary of the year – Brad Bjorkland
 Instructor of the year – Keith McIntyre
 Hill Chief of the year – Pam Thompson
 Candidate of the year – Steve Roat



Figure 7 - Jerry Sherman & Keith McIntyre



Figure 8 – Brad Bjorkland and Steve Roat.

The season has just ended and we are already planning for the next season. We have already interviewed potential candidates and transfer patrollers. July and August we hope to do work to do on our morning star hilltop and reorganize the patrol building. **September 9th** is tentatively scheduled for our on the hill refresher and **December 3rd**, will be our black out chair evac. I hope everyone has a great summer let's hope for lots of sunshine.

Cathy Bentzoni, P.R.

NORDIC

Nordic skiing is a primitive art that requires the generosity of Mother Nature and that does not enjoy the luxury of mechanized snow making or lift serve. As our alpine brethren experienced this season, the Region was sparse with natural snow, plus mild temperatures and copious liquid sunshine.

Two of the three Nordic areas served by the Genesee Valley Nordic Ski Patrol saw little action at Mendon Ponds Park and Cumming Nature Center; however, the hand of Harriet Hollister Spencer was upon our third area at 2,100 feet elevation atop Canadice Hill. Patrol operations started at Harriet Hollister Spencer State Recreation Area on December 31st and remained open through March 5th with a foot of natural snow still on the trails. During the season, only one weekend was closed due to a complete melt down over the entire region. High School Section V Nordic ski races and New York Statewide High School Nordic ski races were championed this season at Harriet Hollister because of her resilient snow pack.

A wonderful gift was bestowed upon the Nordic Ski Patrol this season. Last summer, New York State Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation purchased a parcel of property, on top of the hill, that cut through the middle of the Harriet Hollister Spencer park. The property was once a Baptist summer youth camp. The parcel included a 5,000 sq.ft. A-frame chalet surrounded by twelve cabins. NYS Parks bequeathed one of the cabins to our Patrol operations. The cabin started out as a large empty shell, but with the time, energy, contributions and ingenuity of our dedicated Patrol, the cabin was renovated with electrical service, wiring and lighting, propane and electric heat, insulation, replacement windows and a two-way radio repeater and antenna. Previous to this, patrol operations at Harriet did not have a permanent, heated shelter except for our personal vehicles, providing a "ski or shiver" experience. Our new home at Harriet has been named "The Hogan," and a long awaited convenience to our Patrol service.

The annual membership meeting and awards banquet was held on April 29th at the historic Cobblestone House within Mendon Ponds Park. It was an eloquent occasion with a sell out crowd enjoying the ambiance of the old home. The delicious dinner was a catered affair organized by Mike Tallon and crew. The first order of business at this affair was election of 2006-'08 officers and Advisory Board Members. Nordic Patrol election results were:
 Patrol Representative - "Nordic Tony" Imperato
 Assistant Patrol Director - "Nordic Geri" Cherubim
 Secretary - "Nordic Chaz" Feller
 Treasurer - "Nordic Mike" Tallon
 Advisory Board, 2 year term - "Nordic John" Benitez
 Advisory Board, 3 year term - "Nordic Debbie" Whalen

The ranks of the Nordic Ski Patrol have swelled to 27 members. Patrol Representative Tom Adler welcomed

Eric Zeise as our newest basic Nordic patroller, and Joe Giorgi and Justin Cherubim as our new auxiliary patrollers awaiting fresh snow to complete their S&T training. Former Patrol director and Genesee Valley Nordic Ski Patrol founder Charlie Effrige was eulogized by Tom Adler. National Appointment member Charlie retired from the Nordic Ski Patrol in 1984 and passed away two weeks before our banquet. APD "Nordic Mell" Gleason was our awards matron of ceremony and eloquently introduced each recognition to her peers and feller patrollers, including those awards for Thick & Thin Service, Wet Pants, Mr. President, Patrollers with pending retirements, refresher organizers, our OEC, S&T, MTR and SAR instructors, new member recruitment and candidate mentoring, Winterfest and Mercy Flight, Hot Dog Days fund raiser, our summer picnic, and to those patrollers with significant contribution to the new Hogan at Harriet Hollister Spencer State Park.

Significant awards presented at our awards banquet were:

"The Charlie Effrige Memorial Excellence in Leadership and Achievement in Patrol Work Award" to Nancy Effrige, Charlie's daughter. (Sorry – no picture available, ed.)

"The Daan Zwick Outstanding and Continued Service to the Nordic Patrol" to Grant Fowler for candidate mentoring. Five Year Service recognitions to John Benitez, Mike Tallon and Gina Wyffels.



Figure 9 - Grant Fowler with the Daan Zwick Outstanding and Continued Service to the Nordic Patrol Award.

And finally, former Region Director Marcia Mundrick stepped to the podium to present National-level Yellow Merit Stars to each of three merry Nordicteer patrollers for their service organizing start-up patrol operations at a new ski area - a new ski area when there has been attrition of ski areas throughout the entire country - Mike Tallon,

Valley Views

Charles Feller and Brian Schankat. It is a rare occasion to have two Yellow Merit Star awards presented, not to mention how special three might be! Harriet Hollister Spencer Recreation Area is the newest ski patrol area in the Nation.

The awards banquet closed out this past Nordic ski season and a new season is soon upon us, beginning with Patrol service on July 20 at the Stuart Horse Trials. "Nordic Jim" Drew will coordinate the Nordic Cavalry Skinny Ski Chargers.

Thank you to everyone who made the Nordic awards banquet a delightful occasion, and to everyone who has supported the Genesee Valley Nordic Ski Patrol. For those who missed the banquet, you should be sure to attend our summer picnic. ... And any patroller who is still on shaped skis and wants to have a fun-filled work out on skinny skis, check out the Genesee Valley Nordic Ski Patrol at <http://www.GVNordic.org/>, or contact any Nordic ski patroller, especially candidate coordinator Grant Fowler GrantFowler@FrontierNet.net. Complimentary ski area passes are always provided!

See you on the trail to the Stuart Horse Trials.

Respectfully submitted,
Charles "Nordic Chaz" Feller, Nordic Secretary

SWAIN

The eight student patrollers at Swain have been very busy this past season mixing fun and learning. Five students started at first snow fall working on their S&T skills under the supervision of Myron Crispino, completing and passing the final exam given in February.

In January all eight students participated in the OEC Enhancement Seminar held at Swain by the region. New skills and fun were obtained by all. The first weekend in March the students hosted a Boy Scout Jamboree for a weekend of camping, skiing, and fun at Swain. The second weekend in March the region students met at Bristol for a skills enhancement clinic in preparation for the March student Division seminar. Thanks to all the top region instructors that helped! The lunch wasn't too bad either.

The weekend of March 17-20 six Swain students participated in a competition in the Eastern Division National Ski Patrol Student Seminar held at Jiminy Peak in MA. The student's skills were tested in the following categories: Skiing/Boarding, Toboggan Handling, Outdoor Emergency Care (OEC) and Assessment.

Student Patroller Mackenzie Osypan, from Avon, NY took first place in the area of Outdoor Emergency Care (OEC), third place in Assessment and seventh place overall skills. Student Patroller Marie Revekant, from Pittsford, NY took first place in the area of Assessment, fourth place in Outdoor Emergency Care and eleventh place overall

skills. Student Patroller Travis Clark, from Alfred, NY took fifth place in the area of Outdoor Emergency Care. Student Patroller Trevor Mooney, from Geneseo, NY took ninth place in the area of Assessment, eleventh place in toboggans and ninth place overall.

Other Student patrollers participating were Matt Apenowich from Wallace, NY, and Nick Crispino from Corning, NY. All Students did well in the competition due to their dedication to learning, hard work and the support of the region.



Figure 10 - The Swain Students at the Eastern Division Seminar.



Figure 11 - Some of the OEC action at the Student Seminar.

The student program is succeeding in producing some very enthusiastic, ambitious and highly qualified patrollers for the region. We currently have four interested students Corey Bryant, Greg Kramer, Luke Rague and Claire Revekant who will be starting OEC in the upcoming season. If you know of anyone else interested in joining the student program at Swain or another area please feel free to contact me at osypianmarie@yahoo.com or 585-

226-2889 evenings. Students are the future of patrolling and a lot of fun to work with.

Tim Cassidy, PR

POWDER MILLS

With the cold weather and snow in early December it looked like this was going to be another great season with tons of snow. Opening day was on Christmas Eve with all trails and lifts open. Little did we know that the fickle weather of Rochester would send us one of the warmest January and February on record. Even with all the challenges of keeping what snow we had, we managed to be open for all lessons and camps. In fact there was a lot of great skiing to be had for those willing to overcome the "no snow in my backyard" syndrome. Through much effort on Swain's part, the hill and lift were able to stay open for the March lessons and we closed for the season on March 11. Our annual end of year picnic is scheduled for June 10th.

I wish to extend a special thanks to Glenn Becker who is leaving the Powder Mills patrol after 10 years of service. Glenn has been a great asset over the years as a patroller, member of the MRB and as Patrol Rep. For the past couple of years Glenn has been dual patrolling with Bristol. His plans are to continue patrolling with Bristol next year. (I guess the action at Powder Mills was just too much.) Glenn, we wish you all the best and will welcome you as a guest patroller anytime.

Looking forward to next year, (it's not too early to start thinking snow) the Powder Mills on-hill will take place in early November. Keep an eye on the Regional calendar for confirmation of the dates.

Doug Bennett, PR

BRANTLING

Well, it wasn't the best of years out at Wayne County's largest ski area, but we managed to make it through, from a very successful chicken BBQ in the fall, through hosting yet another region Senior EMM final exam (with still more famous chicken) to a fun evening at our annual end-of-season banquet.

Highlight (?) of the ski season was the first visit of a Mercy Flight helicopter to Brantling. Fortunately the patient survived (He was never in any real danger; just a precautionary call by ambulance personnel for a suspected pelvic injury.) and so did our esteemed Patrol Director who was lucky enough to be on duty that evening. Ask Marsha about her adventure sometime. At the aforementioned end-of-season party at Sodus Bay Heights we honored several patrollers for their long service: **Dave Vinke** (15 years), **Jim Reid** (25) and **Greg Bernhard** (30), and oh yes, the also aforementioned PD, **Marsha Wait** for her 30 years...at Greek Peak, Hunt Hollow and fortunately for us, at Brantling. If you see **Brian Bartleson**, who wasn't able to make the banquet,

Summer, 2006

don't tell him he was honored as Brantling Patroller of the Year for all his fine efforts this past season. We want to surprise him.

A big task awaits us this fall; in an effort to reverse the slowly declining membership of the patrol, Brantling plans to run their own OEC candidate class at the area. A big stumbling block in recruiting is the travel time potential patrollers have to spend making twice weekly trips to Bristol or Hunt Hollow for classes. So if we get enough candidates and the support of our instructors, we plan on running our own course.

That's the story from Wayne County...see you all in the fall.

Pete Peterson,
Newsletter Editor

He earned a Purple Merit Star, received a Presidential Citation for initiating the use of CPR by laypersons, a National Red Cross Gold Merit Award for CPR and First Aid, a commendation from the Monroe County Sheriff for Search and Rescue operations, and he was the first recipient of the Genesee Valley Ski Council Award for being the person who contributed the most to skiing in 1972.

He was active in ski organizations outside of patrolling including the Rochester Ski Club, the Genesee Valley Ski Council, serving as president and vice president of both organizations. He was in charge of local fund-raising for the 1973 winter Olympics and organized a ski program for the Rochester School for the Deaf.

He touched the lives of many with his humor, gentleness, stubbornness, and enthusiasm, and he will be missed.

Tom Adler, GVNSP Rep

**In Memoriam
Charles Effrige
1924 - April 8, 2006**

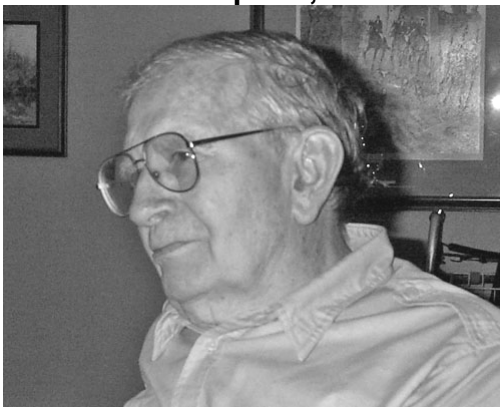


Figure 12 - Charlie at the Nordic Banquet in 2003.

Charlie joined the Ski Patrol in 1951 and was a charter member of three Rochester area Ski Patrols, Swain, Brantling, and Bristol Mountain. He was the Assistant Patrol Leader at Bristol Mountain, and then Assistant Patrol leader and Patrol Leader at Hunt Hollow before founding the Genesee Valley Nordic Patrol in 1976 and serving as its Patrol Leader. He served as head of the Genesee Valley Section (now Region).

Charlie started with a background in ski racing, and was a US Eastern Classified racer and served with the military in Normandy prior to his Ski Patrol career. He became a National Patroller in 1966, and was active in teaching CPR and First Aid to patrollers and laypersons from the very beginning. He taught alpine skiing for 25 years, and served as the Ski School Director at Brantling, and taught Nordic skiing for 6 years, with 3 years as the head of the County Nordic Racing program. He served as a Senior First Aid Examiner from the 1960's until he retired from patrolling in 1984.

Calendar

As of 6/26/06

OEC/EMM	S&T	AVALANCHE	MTR	NORDIC	CERTIFIED	STUDENT	ALUMNI	INST. DEVEL.
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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.

	SEPTEMBER					
Bristol Patrollers	On-hill Refresher	Saturday, September 9	7:30 AM	Bristol	Cathy Bentzoni 585-738-5350 catherine.bentzoni@co.ontario.ny.us	
	NOVEMBER					
Lift Evacuation	Region Lift Evac. Clinic	Saturday, November 11		Hunt Hollow	Steve Shelley 585-392-6945 srshelley@rochester.rr.com	
Avalanche MTR	Avalanche/MT R Level I Combined Course	Thursday, November 30	6:30 - 10:00 PM	TBD	Brian Walsh 585-383-1811 brian_walsh@rge.com	
	DECEMBER					
Bristol Patrollers	Patrol Meeting & Blackout Evac. Drill	Sunday, December 3	5:00 PM	Bristol	Cathy Bentzoni 585-738-5350 catherine.bentzoni@co.ontario.ny.us	
Avalanche MTR	Avalanche/MT R Level I Combined Course	Saturday, December 9	8:00 AM - 4:00 PM	TBD	Brian Walsh 585-383-1811 brian_walsh@rge.com	Continued from 11/30 session.
	JANUARY					
Avalanche MTR	Avalanche/MT R Level I Combined Course	Sat. - Sun., January 6-7		TBD	Brian Walsh 585-383-1811 brian_walsh@rge.com	Field overnight session, continued from 11/30 & 12/9 sessions.
2007	FEBRUARY					
MTR	Rescheduled MTR Level II Outdoor Session	Fri. - Sun., Feb. 9 - 11	Fri. 8:30 AM - Sun. 1:30 PM	TBD	Nick Schiavetti 585-243-5079 redhill3@rochester.rr.com	Class open to those who completed last season's MTR-II indoor session.
	APRIL, 2007					
Instructor Development	<u>ID Course</u>	Saturday, April 28 & Thurs., May 3	Sat. 8AM - 4PM; Thu. 7PM-9:30PM	Bristol (?) - TBD)	Nick Schiavetti 585-243-5079 redhill3@rochester.rr.com	

CHECK OUT OUR WEB SITE AT:
<http://www.nspgvr.org>



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Genesee Valley Region
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Geneseo, NY 14454

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