

Valley Views



The Newsletter of the Genesee Valley Region

Summer, 2011

Bob André

RD



I received my 5th Edition OEC text this week and found time to read the first chapter last night. While I had previously reviewed several of the chapters last year, this was my first time at having the entire bound book at hand. My lasting impression is that we are all going to need to not only purchase, but also READ this

new book to stay current in our flagship OEC course. There is a wealth of new information in this text. Some of this is essential to our OEC certification, and much is an excellent extension of our knowledge base. There are chapters devoted to NSP history and our interface with the EMS system as well as legal background for our daily procedures. These chapters should be of great value for the new Patroller and provide opportunity for review by our experienced Patrollers. The expansion of our knowledge base will give you a much better understanding of why we do certain procedures in addition to how to do them. Please go to the NSP website soon to purchase your text at a 25% discount including free shipping. Brady, the publisher is offering this package for only one year. Click on the text information on the webpage and follow directions to receive your discounted copy. You will need this text before the fall refreshers! If you are an OEC instructor plan on attending the instructor refreshers this summer before the start of the candidate class in August. All Patrollers will need to be individually checked off on the new skill sets to retain their OEC certification, without which you cannot Patrol.

Our Region had a very successful and rewarding evening at the Eastern Division Spring Officer's Meeting. We received awards for Outstanding Instructor of the Year, Outstanding Pro Patroller of the Year, Outstanding Auxiliary of the Year, and Outstanding Nordic Patroller of the Year. I give great credit to our equally outstanding Awards committee now chaired by Mike Lord. As many of you know Jerry Sherman retired as Awards advisor in mid year when he moved up to Division Awards Advisor. I'm not trying to steal Mike's thunder here, but to recognize the quality of Patroller and leadership we are so fortunate to have in this Region. For the past four years in a row the Division Instructor of the Year has been a GVR Patroller and that speaks to the quality of our entire instructional program. My thanks to all of you.

Be sure to check your information, particularly your email address, on your NSP member page. Trail Sweep will be going all electronic with the next issue, and without a valid email address, you will miss out on Division information as well as the wealth of information now coming to us from National. Go to your member page and review your entire resumé and correct any errors.

Get involved with both your Patrol and the Region in this off season, by helping to support Patrol summer projects as well as the Region involvement in the Stuart Horse Trials Parking, Medical and SWAT efforts. In addition we are providing medical support for four Genesee Valley Riding and Driving Club events and are planning on staffing a booth at the Dome Sale this fall to represent our Patrols and provide information on joining the National Ski Patrol. These activities are essential to our well being and a great opportunity to meet Patrollers from other areas and Regions in the summer season.

I wish to thank the entire Region staff for above and beyond sacrifices in their time and support of the Region this past year. It is this quality of support that makes our Region so successful.

A special thanks to Marcia Mundrick, who is retiring as ARD. Marcia continues to be a diligent advisor and supporter of the Region as she has been in the past in her many roles.

Bob

Marcia Mundrick

ARD

Thanks to GVR

As I retire from the position of Assistant Region Director, I would like to thank all the Patrollers I have had the pleasure to work with over the past few seasons. You are a talented, industrious group. Here's "passing the torch" to our new ARD, **Nick Schiavetti**, whose many productive years of experience will enrich our Genesee Valley Region - the best region out there! Have a great off-season.

REGIONAL ADVISORS:

Gina Wyffels

OEC

I hope you all had a great winter and spring.

The OEC ITs and instructors are preparing for a very busy summer and fall. The 5th edition of the OEC manual is sufficiently different than the current edition and all patrollers will need to be "certified" to a number of new and revised first aid skills. We are excited about the new book as a huge improvement over the current book in content, format and clarity plus many on-line resources and training aids for candidates and instructors. See your patrol rep for the best method of ordering your book.

Many important dates will soon be posted on the GVR webpage, so be sure and check often. In particular, the ITs and instructors will be meeting in June and July at the Victor HS for their certification, and planning for the candidate class and region refreshers. The candidate class will begin in early August and continue until early November at the Victor HS. The Region Refreshers will be held in September and October at the Honeoye HS. This is an exciting transition year for us. With everyone's assistance and cooperation I know it will be rewarding as we work to maintain the high standards that we are proud of in the Genesee Valley Region.

Have a great summer!!

Peter Parker

S&T

This year had the highest number of candidates we've seen in a long time. 13 patrollers went through the Final Eval on March 6th – 9 of them from the GVR. Congratulations are due for Jennifer Conine, Mike Mooney, and Al Donnelly who were all successful and are now full Seniors. Others that were successful but still have some Senior requirements to complete were – Peter Feltner, Rick Wilcox, Joe Harding, Mike Wangler, and Marie Osypian.

In February the Region hosted a Trainer Evaluator clinic at Bristol. Not only did we have successful recertifications for the TEs, we added 3 new ones to the Region Staff. Scott Wild, Jeff Welch and Mac Inglis all became S&T Trainer Evaluators!

I hope you all have a great warm season and decide to experience the fun and adventure next winter in Senior S&T.

Mike Mooney

Instructor Development

Patrollers who want to become instructors in OEC, S&T, MTR, or Avalanche are required to take the Instructor Development course to learn important principles of Valley Views

teaching adults, observe effective teaching demonstration models, and apply classroom and field teaching techniques. This senior elective class is offered every spring to avoid the time conflicts that patrollers encounter during the ski season. Talk to any patroller who has completed this class in recent years and you will hear lots of enthusiastic recommendations.

In response to student feedback regarding the two class dates of the past few years, we modified the schedule this past spring. The course was offered at Hunt Hollow in the Genesee Valley Region on Thursday April 14th. Students were required to complete a CD prior to the actual course meeting. On the evening of the class meeting students reviewed information from the CD with instructors, completed a lesson plan and each member of the class provided a short instructional lesson to the class. Eight students completed the course in outstanding fashion.

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. Genesee Valley Region now has a Mentoring webpage that provides information about the mentoring process – you will find the link to it in the lower right column of the region homepage underneath the Instructor Development link. We have been very successful in mentoring and evaluating new instructors and there are lots of experienced instructors available in the region to give you assistance or advice on mentoring.

Region instructors from various patrols with teaching experience in each of the NSP disciplines teach the Instructor Development course: Marcia Mundrick (Bristol & GV Nordic: OEC, EMM, MTR, Avalanche), Mike Mooney (Swain: S&T), John Lawson (Hunt Hollow: OEC, EMM), Bob Andre (Hunt Hollow: OEC, EMM, MTR, Avalanche), Nick Schiavetti (Swain: OEC, MTR, Avalanche), and Pam Welch (Bristol: OEC).

The Instructor Development class is your gateway to becoming an instructor who trains new patrol candidates and refreshes current patrollers. These activities enable us to replenish our ranks and update our patroller skills. We invite you to take part in an enjoyable learning experience and join the corps of instructors in this region who contribute so much extra to the patrols and to the skiing public.

Nick Schiavetti

Alumni

The region Alumni program has two basic purposes: 1) to acknowledge the previous contributions of Alumni in the region and 2) to encourage continued participation of Alumni in the region activities. This year's Alumni Day addressed both of these purposes as a good opportunity to recognize our Alumni for their prior service and to re-engage them with region patrollers and activities. We hope to build on this successful contact with the

development of expanded region Alumni opportunities in the future.

The 2011 Genesee Valley Region Alumni Day was held on February 25 at Hunt Hollow Ski Club. Despite the significant snowstorm for the second year in a row that made for difficult travel, 37 people attended the event, including 20 Alumni and 17 guests. The new snow made for some fun skiing and it was a very enjoyable day of reunion and camaraderie among current and retired patrollers. Also for the second year in a row no one went home hungry! The Hunt Hollow caterer did a repeat performance of providing a bounteous buffet lunch and a group of generous patrollers, guests, and Alumnae, Carolyn Schiavetti, Nancy Cleveland, Merrily Hoover, Marcia Mundrick, and Joy Seaman baked a table full of scrumptious desserts. In addition, we were fortunate to have wines provided by Deer Run and Hunt Country Vineyards that added a real measure of class to the meal.

Bob André welcomed the group on behalf of the Genesee Valley Region and thanked them for their past service and encouraged their future participation in appropriate region events.

We have been successful in recruiting several new Alumni members in the region again this year through our outreach attempts to invite Alumni to join us on Alumni day. Our primary goal for next year is to find creative ways to provide additional financial support for Alumni day, as the region expenses have mounted a bit with increased participation. We will begin this summer by encouraging Alumni participation in the Stuart Horse Trials that is a major fund-raiser for the region.

I would like to welcome Merrily Hoover as our new region Alumni Advisor. Merrily took over the program as of May 1st and I look forward to her stewardship this year. She assisted me in the region duties this season to learn the ropes and is quite experienced in region administration, so we should have a very smooth transition. She is planning for another great Alumni Day next winter, so keep your eyes on the website and your email for breaking news when the plans are set!

Skip Millor **MTR**

MTR2 dates for 2011 are now posted on our region calendar. Click on the following link and go to December, January and February for dates.

<http://www.nspgvr.org/html/calendar.htm>

John Topping will be the instructor of record for the 2011 course. Course registration forms will be available on the region web site after October 1, 2011. We need a minimum of 7 participants to conduct the course so we encourage you to sign up early.

I would like to recognize the following **MTR1** participants for all their hard work last season. They were a delightful Valley Views

group to work with and they conducted one of the best SAR exercises we have ever observed. Thanks to **Marie and Malorie Osypan, Ann Bosie, Michele Whitcomb, Deb Goodwin, Kelley Louthan, Jennifer Conie, Mary Emminghausen, Lorie Kloesz, and Will Ober** (from Central NY Region).

Bill Teamerson **EMM**

Hi everyone, I know that the temperature on 5/31 was a record breaking 91 degrees, but it really is time to be thinking about Ski Patrol.

We are planning a challenging year for EMM. With the new OEC manuals out, it gives us the opportunity to utilize it and help everyone get up to speed on any new procedures and techniques.

Many of you have said that you feel "too rusty" or that you do not get enough experience at your mountain to take the EMM class. We are working on a program that might help you with that. We are starting the EMM program earlier this year, and spending the first few weeks just working on OEC skills, and then progressing into the more difficult EMM problems. I have found that the OEC skills are a stumbling block for many patrollers, whether it is because "they take care of the at the base", or "we just never see that at our mountain", I think everyone will benefit from some extra skill sessions. This will also be the time that we can work to bring everyone up to speed on the new manual!

I am also going to change up the schedule a little this year to try to make the sessions more available for everyone! So look at the GVR website to get the actual schedule.

Enjoy the summer and see you on the slopes soon!

Joe Menichino **Certified**

Hi folks- summer is almost here and if it ever stops raining I'll start riding my motorcycle. Don't recall ever seeing such a wet spring. At least it hasn't snowed for a few weeks....

This year's annual Certified exam and meeting was held at Gore at the end of March. Once again our Region was well represented by all of our Certified members and many interested Patrollers from Swain and Bristol. Dave Walker was elected to another term as our leader. He continues evolving and improving the program, placing strong emphasis on consistent requirements, efficiently organized test events and, believe it or not, training. The skiing and sled work was very challenging based on spring ice, steep headwalls and lots of bumps. The First Aid section was fairly quiet and very fair using typical but complicated problems not uncommon in a real world situation. The candidates worked hard thru the 3 day event. Most were still smiling by Sunday morning. Certified candidates really do need the 3 years to work thru this program. The annual dinner was fun and the annual Eastern PA house party

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was amazing as usual. At one point the dancing bounced the first floor at least 2 inches and many of us thought disaster was looming. Luckily everyone survived including those that wound up in the pool.

Next year's exam is at Jay Peak. It's a fantastic place. If you have an interest in attending as a guest let me know early so I can make arrangements. Three days of free skiing at Jay, with parties and a chance to work with so many excellent patrollers from the entire Division, all for 3 hours of helping in the OEC portion of the exam, is not a bad deal. Spouses and significant others are welcome too.

Sadly the Certified and the NSP lost a good friend named George Wesson this last season. He was a member of the 10th Mountain Division, he was instrumental in starting the Certified program, he managed many of the large ski areas in Vermont and he loved the NSP. I'm glad I got to work with him. The family is planning a celebration of his life at Killington on July 3.

I see the OEC IT refresher programs are starting up again. Fine with me. I miss the challenges and working with you all. Have a great and safe summer.

Jim Mussnug

Avalanche

This past season we conducted a combined Avalanche Safety and Rescue and Mountain Travel and Rescue program in Genesee Valley Region. We were fortunate to have Dennis Whitney organize this course as Instructor of Record. We ran the Introduction to Avalanche Safety and Rescue course along with Mountain Travel and Rescue Level I. This was a great opportunity to get two Senior electives completed in one overall course. We have designed a program to ensure we meet program delivery requirements in a reasonably condensed format. We had 8 students complete both the MTR program and the Avalanche program: 5 from Swain, 1 from Brantling, 1 from Hunt Hollow, and 1 from Greek Peak.. The first night, Thursday, December 2, 2010 we devoted to MTR fundamentals such as clothing, sleeping bags, shelters, cooking, and food. The next indoor session, Saturday, December 11, 2010, we concentrated on the classroom portion of the Avalanche program. The objective of this session is to cover the relationship of weather, snow pack, terrain and the human element to provide the means to assess avalanche risk when traveling in the backcountry. We also used this session to inspect everyone's pack to ensure they have assembled the appropriate gear for the upcoming overnight session.

With the fundamentals covered in the indoor sessions, the final session was a weekend event conducted on January 15-16, 2011 at Webster Park. We have found that Webster Park 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 in case of an emergency. 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 was a practical search and rescue exercise. The weather was great for this outing - we had plenty of snow, and reasonably moderate temperatures for the overnight. Everyone had a fun time and contributed to the overall success of this program.

This coming 2011-2012 season we do not have an avalanche course in the Region. Look to the Division Calendar for other events being conducted throughout the Division.

NEWS FROM THE PATROLS:

BRISTOL

Bristol held its year end picnic and awards ceremony at Mendon Ponds Park on Sunday, May 22. The food was great and a good time was had by all. Congratulations to all our award recipients. Bob André, Mike Lord and Jerry Sherman gave several awards from National, the Region and the Eastern Division:

- Rick Micoli was awarded the Patroller's Cross.
- Scott Mundrick, was awarded the George F. Wesson Jr. Outstanding Pro Patroller Award.
- The Region Patroller of the Year (Stevens Award) went to Bill Gottermeier.
- Brenda Rizzo received a Purple Merit Star for saving a life.
- Bill Gottermeier, Lynne Houle, and Martha McIntyre received Blue Merit Stars for assisting in the lifesaving rescue.
- Keith McIntyre and Scott Mundrick received Yellow Merit Stars for assisting with the management of the accident.



Illustration 1: Scott Mundrick received the Eastern Division George F. Wesson, Jr. Pro Patroller of the Year Award.



Illustration 2: Brenda Rizzo received a Purple Merit Star for saving a life.



Illustration 3: Bill Gottermeier received the Region Stevens Patroller of the Year Award.



Illustration 4: Rick Micoli was awarded a Patroller Cross for a serious injury received in the line of duty.

The Bristol awards were:

- Patroller of the year - Joe Herbert
- Instructor of the year - Mark Bowker

- Candidate of the year – Shelley Fiumano and Eric Thomas
- Hill chief of the year - Al Kraus
- Auxiliary of the year - Deb Whalen
- Pro of the year - Rick Walzer
- Nick Anastas unsung hero award – Vito Vasiliauskas
- Pro Choice awards for those who are most helpful - John Bolonda, Mark Bowker, Jerry Butler, Joe Herbert, Dave Merrill, Andy Thompson, and Duffy Zornow. (This is the 2nd year in a row that Mark and Joe have won this award!)

Many NSP Service Awards were given out. Retiring Patrollers Keith McIntyre, Annie Neubauer, and Eva Pazral were recognized. Patrollers who are relocating; Lynne Houle, Mac Inglis, and Jared Krishevsky.

We look forward to a busy upcoming year. Bristol has 12 candidates who will be taking OEC. Our tentative date for our On-Hill refresher is Sunday, September 25.

Pam Thompson, PD

HUNT HOLLOW

We had a strong season with plenty of snow to keep the hill open into early April.

3 Candidates went through OEC and successfully passed S&T - welcome our new Basic Patrollers – Callen Feeney, Kevin Paine, and Kevin Shi.

We also had 3 Candidates pass S&T and will begin OEC this August – Nick Podhorecki, Jimmy Schaeffer, and Parker Wild.

Our Banquet was a big success with various awards handed out, most notably:

- Marcia Mundrick, Skip Miellor and Bill Gamble received well-deserved National Distinguished Service Awards.
- Blue Merit Stars were awarded to Greg West, Ted Plenge, Alex Webster, and Greg Cox for an unsuccessful lifesaving attempt. For assisting, Yellow Merit Stars were awarded to Marcia Mundrick, Greg Sherman and Bob Andre. Denise West was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation for her assistance in the accident as a non-Patroller.
- Bonnie Andre received the Region Henry Williams Award for volunteer service exemplifying the spirit of the NSP.

Additionally, Joe Hoff was elected as our new Patrol Director.

There are a few projects planned for the patrol to work on over the summer, as well as help staff the Stuart Horse Trials coming up in July.



Illustration 5: The three DSA recipients - Bill Gamble, Marcia Mundrick and Skip Millor, with the presenters Bob Andre, John Lawson, Jerry Sherman - and Henry Williams.



Illustration 6: The Blue and Yellow Merit Star recipients.



Illustration 7: Bonnie Andre received the GVR Williams Award for volunteer service exemplifying the spirit of the NSP.

Have a great summer!
Peter Parker, PD

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POWDER MILLS

This was a great year for learning to ski at Powder Mills Park. We closed for the season on March 13 and held our annual end of year picnic on March 19. A fine time was had by all in attendance!

Congratulations to Barb Collins who passed the Senior EMM this year. James Revekant was our new Candidate this year and he did an excellent job.

Looking forward to next year, our on-hill will take place in early November. Keep an eye on the Regional calendar for confirmation of the dates.

Robert Maloney, PD

NORDIC

The Genesee Valley Nordic Ski Patrol season ended on an up note sponsoring the Eastern Division Nordic Fest on March 4-6. The Base of Action started with Breakfast at Cummings Nature Center with more than 20 people sleeping in overnight. The Senior S&T test was taken with an all day session on Saturday by 6 regional Nordic skiers at Harriet Hollister Spencer Park. The evening dinner and awards ceremony was provided by the many helping hands from our patrol coordinated by Patrol Director Geri Cherubim. Sunday morning was graced by a beautiful fresh snow for a Telemark Clinic at Hunt Hollow Ski Area. Thanks to Our Regional Patrol Director Bob Andre for the special tickets for the hardy souls and Randy French PSIA-E Nordic Examiner for the challenging lesson.

The Annual Awards Dinner at The Rabbit Room in Honeoye Falls was topped off with the Charlie Effrige Award to Skip Millor for excellence in leadership to update our training and new rope and extrication equipment. The Daan Zwick Award went to Tom Adler for his great service keeping us focused on the changing needs of the patrol and revamping our website (www.gvnsp.org Check it out!) . Cheers to Grant Fowler for his many years of faithful service, recruiting, and light hearted comments as a dual patroller and now retiring. New to the Nordic Patrol are Carol Strieter, Dennis Whitney, and Andy Warner Fleming as crossovers along with Vic Cherubim and Mike Stave.

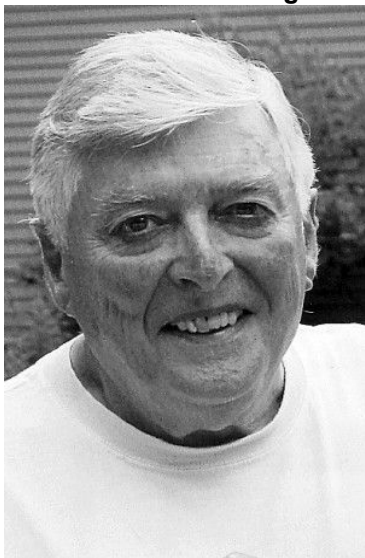
Goals for this next year is to increase our membership and fundraising to cover the costs of radio equipment for the three areas that we cover. Think Beautiful Sunny Summer and another Great Winter.



Illustration 8: Skip Millor received the Charlie Effrige Award from PD Geri Cherubim.

In Memoriam

Robert J. Thurling



The Swain Ski Patrol lost one of our alumni when Robert Thurling passed away on Tuesday, Feb. 22, 2011, after a long illness. He was 78 years old.

Bob was a member of the National Ski Patrol at Swain for 18 years from 1978 to 1996, serving on the awards committee and as Secretary for 4 years.

Born on June 16, 1932, in Schenectady, N.Y., Bob was the son of Joseph and Florence (Morrison) Thurling and was a graduate of Nott Terrace High School and Union College. While in high school Bob began his lifelong commitment to making music, playing the saxophone and clarinet in dance bands in the Capital District and Rochester. His

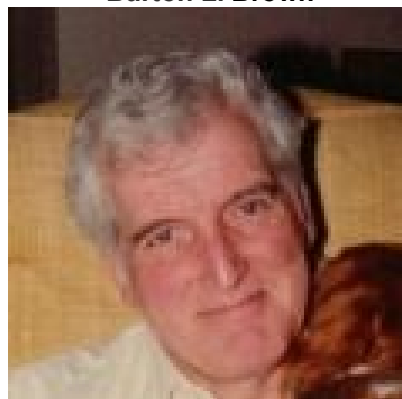
military service was with the 29th Army Band, 10th Mountain Division. Bob had a passion for skiing, music, woodworking, and all activities related to his children. He was a longtime leader of the Boy Scouts of America and an elder in the Presbyterian Church.

In 1960, Bob married Janeth Beinetti and they raised four children. He worked for Eastman Kodak for 25 years in Rochester, and upon his retirement in 1996, they returned to the Adirondacks, where he served on the Town of Chester Planning Board, the Warren County Planning Board, and on the Board of Directors of the North Country Outreach Center and Upper Hudson Musical Arts.

Bob is survived by his wife, Jan, his sister, Betty Wales of Schenectady, his daughter, Diane Drogosch, his sons, Andrew, John, and Matthew, and eight grandchildren. A memorial service was held on Saturday, March 5, 2011, at the North Creek United Methodist Church. A family celebration of Bob's life is planned for this summer at his beloved Atateka. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the C.R. Wood Cancer Center, 102 Park St., Glens Falls, NY 12801, or the North Country Outreach Center, P.O. Box 201, North Creek, NY 12853.

*Nick Schiavetti and Harry Stoneham
Swain Ski Patrol*

Burton L. Brown



The Swain Ski Patrol mourns the loss of Burton L. Brown who died peacefully at his home in Scottsville, NY on May 2, 2011. He was 88 years old.

Burt first joined the National Ski Patrol in 1958 at Frost Ridge where he became a Senior Patroller in 1966 and then transferred to Swain in 1972. He patrolled for a total of 28 years, retiring in 1986.

Born in Scottsville, NY in 1923, he was educated at the University of Rochester and served in the U.S. Navy in both the European and Pacific Theaters during World War II. He and his wife Loretta attended many happy reunions with his shipmates from the USS Ordronaux. After completing his navy service he worked for the Hartford

Insurance Company in Connecticut and then opened his own insurance office in Scottsville, NY, working there until he recently sold it to James Sullivan.

Burt was an avid skier, sailor, musician, singer, and dancer whose love of music was spread throughout his family, several of whom played instruments and sang hymns and songs, especially his favorite Rogers and Hammerstein song, "Edelweiss" at his Memorial Service at the Scottsville Union Presbyterian Church. He was a devoted member of his church and of the Scottsville Free Masons who paid a wonderful tribute to him at his memorial. Burt was an avid story teller and a friend to everyone he met. His gentle laugh and generous spirit will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

Burt is survived by his loving wife of 55 years, Loretta; daughter, Susan; son, Robert; granddaughters, Winnifred, June, Shana, and Heidi; brother, Arthur; sister, Marian Johanknecht. In lieu of flowers, friends may send contributions to the Union Presbyterian Church of Scottsville or the Scottsville Free Masons.

Harry Stoneham and Nick Schiavetti
Swain Ski Patrol

For the latest information on Region matters, visit the Region web site regularly: <http://www.nspgvr.org>.