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## SEM Starts "Senior" Season

Saturday, December 10 Brandywine Resort provided a wonderful snowy backdrop with temperatures in the 20s for this year's Senior Emergency Management evaluation. I am happy to announce this year's successful candidates:

Jim Bichl-BMBW  
Kristin Dawson-PNS  
Ed Dick-ST  
John Gambatese-BMBW  
Adam Heist-PNS  
DennisKrankowski- BMW  
Linda Lester-BMBW  
Dave Lowenfeld-BMBW, Walt Moskwa-BMBW  
Jim Seeger-PNS  
Cindy Soter-MRM  
Wesley Soter-MRM  
Mike Spector-BMBW Sandra Stringer-PNS  
Larry Torok-BMBW

Passing SEM was the final requirement for Linda Lester and she received her Senior badge on the spot from BMBW PR Bill Currier.

It was an intense day. After a "warm-up" scenario, each candidate's performance as an emergency care and rescue team leader was evaluated on two senior level scenarios. One of the scenarios was a multi-casualty incident. They were evaluated on decision making, problem management and leadership. The first round of the evaluations began at 9:15 am with six candidates rotating through three of the six test stations. Six more completed their test round before lunch. After the third round each candidate received feedback on their performance before the final results were announced at about 4:30 pm.

This year we had an 83% pass rate, consistent with our target. Fifty-seven patrollers and others gathered from around the Ohio Region to support 18 candidates through the evaluation process. Evaluators, Advocates, Helping Patrollers, Stations Managers, Observing (training) Evaluators, Patients and Bystanders, Administration and Logistics, all working together provided a series of realistic scenarios for candidate examination.

Based on the end-of-day feedback sheets, the event was a good experience for all. It provided

continued in next column

## SNOW SEASON EARLY START

The 2005-2006 season got off with one of the earliest starts in memory. PNS opened most trails on November 25<sup>th</sup>, the day after Thanksgiving. (PNS closed Monday November 28 through Thursday December 1 but have been open continuously since Friday December 2.) Clear Fork started their season on December 2. Mad River opened on December 9. School bus loads of skiers arrived at Boston Mills and Brandywine on December 10 for their opening day. Even the Nordic skiers were able to get on their skis in some parts of Ohio thanks to the real snow on December 8 and 9. Rumor has it that the first avalanche has already occurred in the region (the area was closed at the time and the evidence has been groomed.)

The "Senior Season" started on the snow December 10<sup>th</sup> with the SEM at the fully open Brandywine ski area. December Frostie schedules can be a reality this year. While most patrollers welcome the chance to get an early start skiing, these early December ski area openings have some patrollers scrambling for substitutes to cover their first shifts of the season.

### SEM continued

a supportive test environment for candidates, a learning experience for many others in a variety of positions, and an opportunity for great people around the region to meet again, catch up on each other's lives, share common interests, and develop new friendships.

My heartfelt thanks to my assistant, Rose DeJarnette-PNS, to Janet Glaeser-BMBW, who has not only provided endless support to me the last two years but always keeps me on my toes, and to all the representatives from each area who put up with my endless emails and reminders so that we could pull all this together. Boston Mills/Brandywine was a wonderful host. They provided a superb catered lunch - penna pasta with meatballs, tossed salad and cake prepared by Sue Hovanec! BMBW's team of patrollers and friends jumped in to support the SEM and truly helped to make it a success. Many visiting patrollers enjoyed skiing on the opening

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## Ohio Region 2005-2006 Calendar

## December 2005

1	<b>Postmark deadline</b> , National, LCA, DSA Nominations	Dick Nau
3	Instructor Development Course	Miami Twp Ed Humphrey
10	SEM Clinic	Brandywine Cheryl Raudabaugh
10-11	C Div S&T Workshop	Boyne Highlands Dan Moss & Greg Schmidt Nau/Raudabaugh
11	Nat Review Board Mtng	TBA
14	Frosty Refresher	Clear Fork Todd Vermilya
15	Frosty Refresher (if open)	Snow Trails Scott Kinnamon
17	Frosty Refresher (if open)	Snow Trails Scott Kinnamon
18	Avalanche Fundamentals & Rescue	PNS Kim Garrett
21	Frosty Makeup	Clear Fork Todd Vermilya
31	<b>Certified Application Deadline</b>	Guy Day

## January 2006

5	Frosty Refresher (make up date)	Snow Trails Scott Kinnamon
7	Frosty Refresher (make up date)	Snow Trails Scott Kinnamon
7	Ski Along/Patrol Info Session	MRM Jim Vickroy
8	Certified Pre-Qualification Clinic	PNS Guy Day
7-8	Ski Trainer Workshop/Toboggan	PNS Moss/Schmidt
13 & 15	Certified Mini Clinic	BMBW Guy Day
14-15	Ski Trainer Workshop/Tobog	BMBW Moss/Schmidt
15	Avalanche Fundamentals & Rescue	tbd Kim Garrett
21-23	PSIA Demo Team	BM Bill Currier
	Limited reservations for visiting patrollers	
28	Ski Enhancement Seminar	Alpine Valley Dan Moss
29	Ski Enhancement Seminar	Snow Trails Scott Kinnamon
28	Toboggan Enhancement Seminar	PNS Greg Schmidt

## February 2006

1	Section Chief Election Announcement deadline	Nancy Kohlrieser
4	Ski Along/Patrol Info Session	MRM Jim Vickroy
4	Ski Enhancement Seminar	PNS Dan Moss
4	Toboggan Enhancement Seminar	BMBW Jim Burns
4	Toboggan Enhancement Seminar	MRM Greg Schmidt
4-5	Clear Fork Winter Festival	Clear Fork Todd Vermilya
4-11	Central Div Avalanche II Course	Utah Kim Garrett
5	Toboggan Enhancement Seminar	Snow Trails Jim Burns
11	Region <b>DEADLINE</b> for SENIOR S&T APPLICATIONS	
11-12	Ski Enhancement Seminar	PNS Dan Moss
18	Ski Enhancement Seminar	Clear Fork Todd Vermilya
19	Ski Enhancement Seminar	MRM Jim Vickroy
25	Section Chief Nomination Deadline	Nancy Kohlrieser
25-26	Senior S&T Test	PNS Bill Harkins
25-26	Winter Carnival/brat burn	Snow Trails Scott Kinnamon

## March 2006

2-5	Division Certified Evaluation	Marquette MI Guy Day
4	Ski Along/Patrol Info Session	MRM Jim Vickroy
4	Ohio Memorial	PNS Gary Lunsford
10	Downhill Deadline	Max Davis
11	Ohio Region Awards Review	Snow Trails Greg Schoen-
	man	
12	Winter Carnival	PNS Darcy Hanley
14-16	Instructor Development Course	Brandywine Glaeser/Shima
20	SC Candidate Resumes & Position Papers Due	Nancy Kohlri-
	eser	
25-26	MTR Level II	PNS Gerdes
27	Downhill Mail/Post	Max Davis

## April 2006

1	SC Ballots, resumes, position papers mailed	Nancy Kohlri-
	eser	
13-17	Powder Fall 2006 in Chamonix, France	<a href="http://www.NSP.org">www.NSP.org</a>
	<b>SOLD OUT</b>	
29	Ohio Region Meeting & Banquet	PNS Chris Raud-
	abaugh	
29	SVC election results announced at Reg. Mtg.	Nancy Kohlri-
	eser	

*Downhill Skiers, Telemarkers and Boarders are all welcome at Region Ski Enhancement Seminars and Toboggan Enhancement Seminars*

## Certified Program Dates

If you are interested and would like to find out more about the Certified Program, please contact Guy Day at [guyeday@aol.com](mailto:guyeday@aol.com). The deadline for new applications is December 31st. There will be a Division/Region Certified Pre-Qualification Clinic held at PNS on Sunday, January 8th. There will be another "Mini Clinic" at Boston Mills on Friday, January 13th (6pm to 11pm) and Sunday January 15th. The Division Certified Exam is at Marquette Mountain on March 2nd - 5th.

**Guy Day** Ohio Region Certified Advisor

SECTION 01 AND 04 CHIEFS  
ELECTION NOTICE

An election for Section Chiefs will be held spring 2006 for Section 01 and 04. The elected line officers will serve a three- year term starting July 1, 2006. The qualifications and duties of this position include:

Qualifications: Shall be a registered Senior, able and willing to provide administrative and operating leadership to assure a high standard of training and testing of Section Patrollers and to assist Patrol Directors (Representatives) in their management of their patrols (Section 5, Ohio Region Operating Policies 9/26/2004.)

General Duties: Shall meet the applicable planning, reporting, budgeting, and records requirements listed under Ohio Region Officer's and Advisors General Duties (Section 8, Ohio Region Operating Policies 9/26/2004.)

## ELECTION CALENDAR:

(Section 16, Ohio Region Operating Policies 9/26/04.)

February 1, 2006	Deadline for election announcement
February 25, 2006	Nomination Deadline
March 20, 2006	Candidate resumes and position paper due
April 1, 2006	Ballots, resumes, position papers e-mailed to electorate
April 29, 2006	Election results announced at Region Spring Meeting

Please contact me with questions, comments, and/or nominations.

**Nancy Kohlrieser**,

Ohio Region Elections Officer  
[ndkohl@woh.rr.com](mailto:ndkohl@woh.rr.com)

## Patrol & Section News

### Section O2 News

The Open House and Ski Swap weekend was an incredible success this year thanks to the organization skills of Layton Ives, and the tireless work of more than 80 BM/BW patrollers. Hundreds of pairs of skis, boots, and poles were sold along with lots of other ski related gear and apparel. The proceeds from the swap will allow the patrol to continue running its educational programs and support patrollers who attend meetings, clinics and other events around the region and division.

The 3 refreshers held in our section, 2 run by BM/BW and 1 by the Cuyahoga Nordics allowed patrollers from our section, as well as a number of visiting patrollers to complete their refreshers in an interactive, scenario based program that met all of the guidelines established by National for this year. We were fortunate to have great weather which allowed us to work outside comfortably during the OEC activities, and made the Chairlift Evacuation and Low Angle Rescue refreshers a more pleasant experience as well.

After our test weekend on November 12 and 13, Boston Mills and Brandywine are pleased to welcome 13 new Auxiliaries to our patrol for the upcoming season. They are Scott Chmielecki, Susan Deming, Juliann Fausel, Mark Fischer, Rick Hackett, Rick Hager, Bob Kenny, Nazeer Lotfi-Fard, Bill Maxwell, Sylvia Pelka, Afif Sanyurah, Mel Simon, and John Somers.

It seemed like December 10, the date for SEM was far in the future, then all of a sudden it is here! More than 70 patrollers from around the region will be gathered at Brandywine to test the mettle of our 18 SEM candidates. Thank you to Peak Resorts and the BMBW Ski Patrol for their willingness to host this event and provide lunch to the participants. And thank you to the many SEM evaluators and other patrollers who will be the station managers, patients, helpers, and support staff for this important event. By the time you read this the results will be known, but at the time this is being written the most we can say is good luck to each participant.

**Janet Glaeser-**

Section O2 Chief

### Boston Mills/Brandywine

Yep, opening day is imminent!! White stuff is falling from the sky as I sit writing this. There are strange looking obstacles sprouting up in all directions from the slopes and they are spewing forth white clouds; they must be snow guns. There are ominous looking red tracked vehicles crawling about the slopes and pushing piles of snow about; think they must be groomers!! Peak Resorts has announced that, weather permitting, BM and BW will open Friday, December 9. There is no doubt about it, because Dick Goddard, legendary weather person from Fox CH 8 in Cleveland, predicts cold and lake effect snow through Thursday, and Robin and Kent Graham held their annual Christmas reception for the BMBW staff on Sunday evening (we always open a few days following).

The Patrol is ready to go thanks to all who have been busy training, examining, refreshing, cleaning, packing, painting, compiling duty schedules and bringing in equipment and supplies for the season. We registered 260+ returning patrollers and new auxiliaries last week. We welcomed 13 new Auxiliaries who successfully completed the Basic OEC course during the weekend of Nov. 12 and 13. We are looking forward to seeing these folks in the aid rooms and in the Ski

/ Board Training as soon as the areas open.

By the time you read this we will have hopefully congratulated several new Senior OEC Patrollers to our ranks. They have been busy training for several weeks for the Region SEM exam that will be held on December 10 at Brandywine.

If you want to take advantage of one of the best ski and board enhancement seminars for the money, mark your calendars now for the D-Team event that is planned for January 21-23, 2006. Spots in the events will be available to BMBW Patrollers on a first-come, first-served basis. Unfilled spots will be offered to other Ohio Region patrollers and ski schools members. Local events are being planned for Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 21 & 22 at BM and BW, and a bus trip to either a New York or Pennsylvania destination is being planned for Monday, Jan. 23. If interested, please contact Jay Zedak, Event Chairperson, for more details and a registration form.

In closing this time, it is with great sorry and sadness that I must report the passing in mid-October of yet another long-service BMBW Patroller, Gunter Sprockhoff. See memorial elsewhere in this edition.

Best wishes for a safe and rewarding season,

**Bill Currier,**  
330-467-6787

BMBW Patrol Representative  
[curriewd@aol.com](mailto:curriewd@aol.com)

### New Patroller Candidates

Every season we welcome our new NSP members. Thanks to lists and news letters sent to DOWNHILL, the following partial list was compiled:

**Boston Mills/Brandywine:** Scott Chmielecki, Susan Deming, Juliann Fausel, Mark Fischer, Richard Hackett, Rick Hager, Robert E. Kenny III, Nazeer Lotfi-Fard, William C. Maxwell, Sylvia Pelka, Afif Sanyurah

**Mad River Mountain:** Frank Cheatham, Les Fischer, Terri Glenn, Gail Huber, Hiro Kobayashi, Kieran O'Connor, Erieann O'Connor, Karen Rankey, Jon Roy, Jan Roy, Josh Soter, Chris Watkins, Brandon Wiemeyer

**Perfect North Slopes:** Chris Cotter, Kim Krimpenfort, Brandy Sullivan, Ken Flannery, Andy Baer, Paul Schutte, Susan Hill, Phil Seybold

### Avalanche Fundamentals and Rescue

The Avalanche Fundamentals and Rescue (AFR) course is a Senior Elective and a prerequisite for the Advanced Avalanche Course held in Utah. You might believe that these Avalanche Courses are the best kept secrets in the Ohio Region. An AFR course will be held at PNS on Sunday Dec. 18th. We can get'r done in one day. Registration is at 8 AM by the fireplace. You'll need to bring a checkbook (Kim hasn't decided how much to charge yet). You will receive a book (Snow Sense). Bring some warm clothes because we will be outside a bit for probe lines and transceiver work. There is another AFR course tentatively scheduled for Sunday Jan. 15, 2006. If you want to attend this course contact Kim Garrett (859)586-1034 or [kwgarr@aol.com](mailto:kwgarr@aol.com).

**Dale Mihuta**

Central Division Avalanche Supervisor

[dmihuta@fuse.net](mailto:dmihuta@fuse.net)

## In Memoriam – Gunter Sprockhoff Remembered

“Passion for skiing, compassion for people” Even if you are not reading the title of this article, many Ohio Region Patrollers will know that we are talking about Gunter Sprockhoff. Gunter lost his long battle to cancer in the middle of October.

Looking at his history with the Patrol, Gunter served and helped in many ways, the least of which was taking on the job of Patrol Director. When he retired from active Patrolling a few years ago due to his illness, he took on the task of sending and personally delivering flowers and his famous baskets of fruit to fellow Patrollers and/or their family members who had suffered injuries, illnesses or other personal tragedies. He always managed to add his special touch to each and every delivery. He was a wonderful sight as he mysteriously appeared at your door smiling and offering a firm hand shake.

He was a true gentleman as well as a gentle man. Gunter was always there for fellow Patrollers to listen and share his ideas. He has been a wise advisor and staunch supporter for those of us who have followed in the footsteps as Patrol Director. You could always count on Gunter to be there at your call. He was always ready to help in any way he could or to just listen if something was bothering you or there was a hard decision that had to be made.

Gunter was not only very active during the ski season, but he always came out to as many off season events as his busy schedule and health allowed. It was not uncommon to see him at Art Fest and the Ski Swap, again helping in any way he could. Always with his wonderful smile and firm hand shake and that twinkle in his eye.

Gunter was also very active outside of the ski patrol. He participated in Senior Olympics not only as a competitor but also as a judge and race official( which he was very proud of). Gunter was also an active biker and a tennis player for as long as he was able. It was hard for many of us who were his junior to keep pace with him.

These are just a few thoughts and memories that we have from the short time that we really got to work with Gunter and to know him.

**Bill Currier**, BMBW PR, and **Freddie Shima**, Past BMBW PR

SEM continued from page 1  
day for the BMBW season.

Next year's event will be hosted by Mad River Mountain and the event administration will transition to my successor, Rose, who I'm confident will do a superb job. While I will be happy to leave behind the headaches that often go with any event planning, I am thankful to have had the opportunity to be part of the leadership in the evolution of the SEM program as a whole.

Please take time to recognize the success of these hardworking Ohio Region candidates. If you were not involved this year, consider being part of the program next year. There is definitely room for all that are interested in being part of the experience!

**Cheryl A. Raudabaugh** - Ohio Region OEC Administrator

## INSTRUCTOR DEVELOPMENT COURSE

Ed Humphrey conducted an Instructor Development Course at a Miami Township Fire Station on Saturday December 3. He was assisted by ID Instructors Rose De Jarnette, Yvette Gerdes, Kim Garrett and Max Davis. The new Instructor Development manual "Training the Adult Learner" was available for the first time locally and was considered an improvement over the old "Training Patrollers Effectively" manual. Completing this full day course is the first step in becoming an instructor for all NSP courses. Three patrollers from MRM and one patroller from PNS completed the course.

## PROFIENCY

Where did this great body of Ski Patrol know-how come from?

In many aspects of our lives, mentors have played a key role in our success and obtainment of knowledge and skills. Please recall your Patrol experience and how you acquired the skills necessary to become an effective Patroller. I bet there was a mentor or coach in there someplace.

Many of us become very interested in our programs - OEC, Avalanche, Toboggan, Mountaineering, Skiing/Riding, Certified and Instructor Development - and more often than not, that interest to **know more** leads one to become an instructor. In the process of becoming that great instructor, we are mentored, coached and advised. Mentoring is the "constant" in our learning environments.

In an effort to bring more focus to the art of mentoring, the Ohio Region has created a new Instructor Development Administrator position to support our programs. Alida Moonen will lead this effort and will coordinate the launch of our mentoring curriculums and best practices for effective mentoring of new patrollers, instructors and instructor trainers.

This willingness to engage and share knowledge is one of the great traits of the NSP.

Pass it forward.

By now our refreshers and OEC classes are completed and we have an early start for the season. I hope you will catch one of our many programs - SES, TES, Certified, OEC or STW activities this season. Hey Senior candidates...find an OEC, NSP-C Ski School or Toboggan Instructor and get mentored!

Revisions to the Ohio Region Operating Policies were approved by the Board at the recent fall meeting. Notable changes included the adoption of the Central Division Senior Manual, consolidation of Senior Program Administration and related Senior course and event management responsibilities and duties, new titles for the Senior Program, Toboggan and Ski School Advisors, process added for OEC, ID and Toboggan Instructor Trainer appointment, IT duties and responsibilities and adoption of policies for the Region Ski School and Instructor Development programs. These changes will be found on the Region web site under Procedures.

See you around the bumps.

**John McGoff**

ARD Proficiency

## NSP-C Ski School Membership

The annual application for members of the NSP-C Ski School, and *all potential members* can be obtained at: [www.nsp-cskischool.com](http://www.nsp-cskischool.com). All directions are on the form. Membership fees must accompany the form. For applications filed after the December 1 deadline, include the \$10 late fee.

**Membership Benefits:** Support the local NSP-C Ohio Region ski school • Promote member camaraderie • Promote skiing/riding standardization • Provide insurance that travels with you • Provide ski/ride enhancement seminars for all patrollers • Support NSP patrollers in PSIA/AASI development • NSP Senior Level Testing

**Dan Moss** Ohio Region Advisor NSP-C Div.PSIA Ski School

11/28/05

## OEC News

**Fall Refreshers** – All OEC refreshers in the Ohio Region are completed and the QA documents submitted to National. A special thanks to the IT team Refresher QA teams this year. Refresher IT's were: Alida Moonen, Dave Walker, Kim Hiser, Steve Lord, Rose DeJarnette, Max Davis, Fredda McGoff, Dan Moss, Freddie Shima, and myself. I heard lots of good comments about the refreshers this year and overall progress being made in getting our patrollers ready for the season through sharpened OEC skills.

**OEC Course QA** – This year we added QA processes for the OEC Courses and feedback has been very positive from both the areas and from the participating IT's. It's great to be able to share ideas across the region, and also helps to keep us all on our toes. Participating IT's were: Dave Baumlein, John Vining, Alida Moonen, Janet Glaeser, Freddie Shima, Jim Burns, Kim Garrett, and Yvette Gerdes. Again, thanks to all these folks for their time, energy, and enthusiasm to keep our programs at their best.

**OEC Instructor Recert Clinics** – As promised, we hosted two more recertification clinics in 2005, one in July by PNS, the second at Brandywine on November 19. Instructors from five ski areas attended the clinics. Based on the evaluation comments, we successfully achieved our objectives for refreshing instructor skills and for sharing ideas and information. We developed a somewhat standardized template for running the clinics, but we highlighted different topics and discussed latest OEC news at each event. Please make sure that all of your OEC instructors are aware of the requirement to attend an OEC instructor clinic at least one time every three years and know about the benefits to be gained in attending these clinics.

**New Instructor Trainers** – Speaking of quality, I'm thrilled to introduce the three new Ohio Region IT's that have been appointed this year. All were involved in mentoring programs with other IT's and each has been part of our QA process this year under guidance of another IT. Please welcome and congratulate: Fredda McGoff (PNS), Yvette Gerdes (PNS), and John Vining (ST). All three have brought new energy, excitement, dedication, and ideas to our program and they have already proved to be assets to our team. It's great to be able to recognize them for their efforts.

**EM Clinic/Test** – Eighteen Senior Candidates are scheduled to participate in the December 10 SEM at Brandywine. About seventy five patrollers will support the candidates as evaluators, advocates, patients, helpers, and administrators. Thanks to everyone who helped make the SEM possible

The communication lines are open! Please contact me and/or my assistant, Rose DeJarnette, with any questions, issues, or ideas that you have related to the OEC programs. We would love to hear from you. I look forward to seeing most of you soon at the SEM. In the meantime, have a great Thanksgiving holiday.

**Cheryl A. Raudabaugh** Ohio Region OEC Administrator

## 2006 Winter Olympics

The 2006 Winter Olympics is less than 2 months away. This winter the Olympics will be held around Torino Italy from February 10 to February 27, 2006. NBC's web site [www.nbc.com/olympics2006](http://www.nbc.com/olympics2006) has a schedule of the events. A survey taken on the site allows viewers to vote on the event that they would most like to view. At the time of this writing curling is the leading choice, followed by cross country ski racing. Apparently no one wants to see snowboarding.

Anyone can visit the site and vote ... as often as they please.

# Ohio Region Staff and Advisors for 2005-2006 Season

Visit the Ohio Region Website for latest changes  
www.ohionsp.org

National Ski Patrol  
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Ohio Region

Revised Dec 11, 2005

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