

Ohio Region Awards Newsletter, July 2018, National Ski Patrol System, Inc. Volume 46, #3



News from the Region Director: Guy Day

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Well the temperatures just kicked over 90 degrees here in Northeast Ohio. I'm sure wishing it was about 24 to 25 Degrees with a 18" of fresh snow on the ground.... wouldn't that be nice! At this point our patrols are in full summer mode. OEC Classes have kicked off or may even be half way through. The areas are working hard on the summer maintenance to get ready for next season. The National Office and Board are doing the same thing.

If you have not heard, the National Ski Patrol has added Bike Patrols as a formal classification. International Mountain Bicycling Association (IMBA) can now join the NSP. They can join as a Bike Patrol Registration Unit, Bike Patrol Host Unit or become an Associate Member. There have been conversations with the Cleveland Area Mountain Bike Association joining the ranks as well as a new Registration Unit that was formed called the Central Ohio Bike Patrol. This will be working in conjunction with ODNR; Columbus Metro Parks & Wayne National Forest. Welcome aboard both groups!

Another significant opportunity is the EMT pathway to OEC Technician. This can provide an excellent way for EMT/EMT-A/EMT-P to receive an OEC card. The National Office sent out a message on May 24th explaining the details and requirements that need to be followed for this to occur. The Modified Challenge course will be made available in the fall of 2018 for those new or current candidates who are also current EMT/EMT-A/EMT-P. It is still up to local patrol leadership and local ski area management if a modified course will be offered. Please check with your local leadership.

The Ohio Region had a fantastic showing with division winners -- stay tuned to the fall division meeting to see who! All of these individuals and BMBWAV Patrol will be recognized at the Fall Division Meeting in September.

If you have not heard the Ohio Region will be hosting the Fall Division meeting in Cleveland in September of 2019. The contract for the hotel should be signed by the end of the month. The Region will be looking for volunteers to help with all kinds of activities and programs that will be offered. There will be Educational & Social Events offered. If you have an idea, please share with myself or any of the Region

Leadership Team. We want this event to be focused on the patrollers of the Ohio Region and provide an opportunity to kick off the season with some great events.

Before we know it, the kids will be heading back to school and the temperature will be lowering. Then we will be jumping into the Fall to get ready for the 2018-2019 season. Please take a look at your local patrol calendar to make note of the different fall refreshers that will be taking place. If you can't make your local OEC refresher, check out the Region Calendar to see when other events are being planned. Enjoy the rest of your summer sailing, biking, riding, hiking or whatever else you do to be outside. Thank you for all that you do for this great organization. See you in the Fall.

Guy Day, Ohio Region Director



2018 Region Awards Banquet

The 2018 Ohio Region Banquet was held at Roses Run Country Club in Stow, Ohio on April 21st after a day of region spring business meetings. The Ohio Region appreciates all the hard work that Boston Mills Brandywine Alpine Valley and Tom Ciranna did in planning the event. Roses Run Country Club is a lovely facility that was a working Thoroughbred farm until it was converted, barns and all, into the event facility and golf course that it is today, complete with a real racetrack starting gate at the entrance to the building.

Special guest present for the banquet was Jay Zedak, National Board Member. Among the highlights of the night were the announcement of 40 and 45 year service awards, and the announcement of two Purple Merit Star this year for life saving CPR incidents by Snow Trails patrollers. Of extra special importance was Ron Gerdes' National Appointment, and Bryan Loveless' Distinguished Service Award. Ron Gerdes and Janet Glaeser appeared to be the unofficial killers of the trivia questions as well!

We had some excellent award submissions this year, as always, and I expect we will see the Ohio Region represented at the Division Awards level. I'd like to take this opportunity to urge anyone interested in the awards process to contact either their local awards advisors or myself for more information. The earlier you start in the season, the better! Believe me, NOW is not too soon. Likewise, if you would like to become involved as a judge please contact me and I will tutor you in the process over the summer.

A strong awards program takes time and patience to build, but it's all worth it when your patrol or someone in your patrol gets recognized as Division or National Outstanding!

Lori Ringley MHS PT Ohio Region Awards Advisor



2018 OHIO REGION NSP SERVICE



Service Award Certificates are issued in five year increments of registered NSP service. The certificates are mounted on plaques starting at year twenty five for those present to receive them. Service award pins are available in five year increments from 10 to 65 years. Names on this list were compiled from the Ohio Region NSP February 2018 database. 118 service awards were awarded this year, with 25 of those being 25 years or beyond, and 20 being 35 and beyond.

5 YEAR SERVICE AWARDS

Janet Aiken	Tim Carr
Ricky Aminaka	Travis Carver
David Andrian	Daniel Deems
Antone Atkins	Marc DuBay
Jessica Berg	Julie DuChane
Kristen Bickel	Jim Eller
Todd Bidwell	Larry Fordyce
Ryan Blackburn	Holly Gessel

5 YEAR SERVICE AWARDS

Matt Gray	Doug McClish
John Hackett	Timothy McTaggart
Kristin Hampel	Dennis Medica
Brian Harrison	Eric Meli
Shawn Heilman	Jen Oleksy
Josh Herchl	Robert Richardson
Mike Kopf	Paul Ritenour
Greg Kovach	Elizabeth Rupp

5 YEAR SERVICE AWARDS

Sue Schelosky
Kenneth Skorepa
Helen Stanley
Matthew Swiger
Saul Tucker
Jacqueline Ward
Charles Watts
Christian Weiss III

10 YEAR SERVICE AWARDS

Emily Aquila	Stuart Kanchuger
Terry Butt	Larry Paule
Robert Carpenter	Bruce Thompson
Cyndie Crewdson	Brad Turner
Heather Ferguson	Rick Walker
Alan Grossman	Cindy Wert
Cheryl Hess	Nate West
	Chris Yanda

15 YEAR SERVICE AWARDS

Blair Barnhart	Bob Gannon
Karen Binns	Neil Hauenstein
Anthony Bodnyk	Adam Heist
Mark Branham	Todd Jordan
Don Brown	Charles Mardis
Tim Chylik	Steve McClave
Pam Cicigoi	Mark Misulich
Stu Deadrick	Walt Moskwa

15 YEAR SERVICE AWARDS

Brenda Patterson
Dan Pflum
Steven Sant
Paul Strick
Lawrence Torok
Lisa Van Nieuwal

20 YEAR SERVICE AWARDS

Tim Burkholder	Michael O'Hara
David Faller	Diana Raming
Henry Hiddinga	Robert Ritzi
Kristie Jarrett	Kristin Rohyans-
Rod Loy	Andersonn
Dia McDermott-Hall	Bob Tansey
Robert Moser	Sherman Wentz
John Murphy	Kevin Zehe



Raming

25 YEAR SERVICE AWARDS

Tom Ciranna
Keith Neale
Michael Thomas
Greg Schoenman # 10352
Jay Zedak # 9842



Jay Zedak Tom Ciranna Guy Day and

40 YEAR S

Beverly

Doris

Jim W

30 YEAR SERVICE AWARDS

Bob Wells

35 YEAR SERVICE AWARDS

Paul Gaffney	David Busick
Harry	#8148
Kleppinger	Rene Niemoller
Mike Namaky	#8720
John Norris	

40 YEAR SERVICE AWARDS

Jim Balchak

Fred Bradshaw

David Cox

Arthur Davenport

Marty Sinkewich

Tony Williams



Bev Janke, Sue Hendricks, Guy Day,

Sue Hendricks, Snow Trails Patrol Representative, spoke very movingly of her mother's (**Doris Noe**) and her good friend's (**Bev Janke**) lengthy service to the NSP and how they influenced her life and her own service to the NSP. Plus, there was some awesome ski fashion on exhibit as you can see:





O'45 YEAR
SERVICE AWARDS

Richard Hange
Edward Hoffman
Nelson Whisler
Gordon Gavin #8554

Richard Hange: 45 Years



Several certificates of appreciation were announced, and also recognized were retiring region personnel: **Tracy Buchanan, Jim Bichl, Jim Vickroy** and **Eric Massanyi**. Tracy also received special recognition for being the Central Division Runner Up Outstanding Instructor for 2017. **Jim Bichl** also received a division certificate of appreciation for providing quality assurance services for the division. **Bev Janke** was also recognized as a retired awards judge, and the best we can figure is that she did that for almost 40 years as well. Not really – but a really long time!

Jim Bichl:
Outstanding Service as OEC Administrator. 2015-1



Tracey Buchanan:
Outstanding Service as Senior Administrator. 2015-18

The Ohio Region Snow Sports School recognized those who advanced their skills by passing PSIA tests: **Megan Goeppinger** passed Level I Alpine and **Dave McKinley** for passing BOTH Level II and Level III Nordic this season. **Amy Arnold** also passed her Level I Nordic test this season.



Additionally, PNS patrollers **Harold Park #819** and **Andrew French #820** recognized as successfully passing all modules and becoming Certified Patrollers.



BRAVO AWARD – given to that Ohio Region patroller with the most duty hours, and as usual, **Nelson Whisler** of Snow Trails, with 347 hours this season, ran away with this award – DESPITE missing 6 weeks of the season with an illness.



SAGE AWARD – given to the “most experienced” Ohio Region patroller, was given to **Armin Koep**, also of Snow Trails, whose date of birth should remain.....a mystery. (But it’s 2-9-35.)



SPIRIT AWARD – One outstanding patroller was recognized for his selfless efforts on behalf of his patrol, being willing to do any job that needs to be done, large or small, all without any expectation of recognition or glory. This was **Keith Brown** of BMBWAV. This region specific award is a memorial award for Dennis Maslar and Chuck Huff, both of whom passed of very untimely deaths within a couple of weeks of each other, both of whom were willing to do anything their patrols needed.



DALE MIHUTA AWARD –**Tracey Buchanan** of BMBWAV was honored with this region specific award that recognizes long standing, outstanding contributions to Ohio Region Ski and Toboggan Programs.



Purple Merit stars were awarded to two Snow Trails patrollers, who used life saving CPR skills off site. **Anthony Bodnyk** was at Home Depot when a customer suffered an acute MI, and **Beth Cramer** was at her tennis club when the same thing happened. Both patients lived thanks to the heroic efforts of these two outstanding patrollers.



The Ohio Regions successful new Senior Patrollers and Alpine Patrollers were named as follows:

Ohio Region SENIORS
SENIOR ALPINE
 • **Phill Wiland -BMBWAV**
 • **Dana Zedak - BMBWAV**
 • **Andrew Hayes - PNS**

Ohio Region SENIORS
SENIOR PATROLLERS
BMBWAV **MRM**
Kristina Dorn **Kristen**
Marge **McKenna**
Ricksecker
John Darr



Dana Zedak

A special certificate of appreciation from the Instructor Development Program was presented by Denise Galicki to **Rose DeJarnette** for her enthusiasm and support for re-invigorating the Instructor Development program.



A special certificate of appreciation from the Women's Program was presented by Dana Zedak to **Jacki Kim** for encouraging and inspiring women throughout the Ohio region and beyond through her leadership, tenacity, initiative and heroism.



Diana Raming and Janer Glaeser:
received Certificates of Appreciation for





NATIONAL APPOINTMENT # 12034 was given to Ron Gerdes of Perfect North Slopes with his nomination letter following:

Please accept my letter of recommendation for Ron Gerdes, Certified Patroller #636, from Perfect North Slopes, in the Ohio Region, and Central Division. Ron has been an active patroller at Perfect North Slopes for 18 years. Even as a candidate, Ron showed promise of leadership, high commitment and an engaging personality that was bigger than he is.

Ron was one of the first patrollers from Perfect North Slopes to pass the Certified exam. He brought excitement to the PNS Patrol for the Certified program and recruited others to join. This led to the Ohio region having over 10 Certified Patrollers on the Certified roster and more in the pipeline. Ron continued to exhibit his leadership skills by serving as the OEC lead for the Certified exam. Ron supports other patrollers as they make their journey and has been instrumental in encouraging Ohio Region patrollers to get involved in the Certified Program. He provided leadership for the Certified pre-qualification event at PNS. His leadership at the division level continued when he became the assistant program advisor for the certified program. He assisted in all aspects of the 3 day exam. He currently is the Central Division Certified Program supervisor for the Central

Division. He holds a strong commitment and representation on the monthly calls, and demonstrates leadership with other certified division supervisors as they bring a revised manual forward for the national certified program.

Ron assumed leadership of the MTR program in the Ohio Region when his predecessor was appointed as the national MTR advisor. Ron stepped up and led several MTR courses in the region so the program maintained continuity. Ron quickly became involved with local patrol duties by serving as a Friday night Crew Chief and continues to this day. Ron has consistently taken a leadership role in the annual refresher by leading stations, chair evacuation and low angle rescue. Ron served on the PNS Patrol Board at Perfect North Slopes, as one of 11 patrollers providing leadership for the Patrol.

Ron embraced the NSP-C ski school, becoming a certified PSIA Alpine Level II skier. Ron then became an OET trainer for candidate patrollers training every Wednesday night, including skiing and toboggan handling. Included in his training repertoire was also doing the annual frosty for patrollers at his area. (already listed above.)

In the off season, Ron realized a need for the Flying Pig marathon held yearly in Cincinnati. Ron took the initiative to start a bike

patrol for the annual Flying Pig Marathon. He successfully recruited patrollers to act as first responders on bikes while on the race course, resulting in a program that continues to grow and even more importantly, provides a great community benefit.

Ron is an OEC instructor, OEC IT, and MTR instructor and MTR IT and has been a co-IOR for the OEC candidate class in 2008 and 2011. Ron demonstrates knowledge and commitment to the NSP programs and maintains his certifications.

Ron is always positive, supportive and enthusiastic for the National Ski Patrol. He has demonstrated leadership at the local, region and division level. It is without reservation that I nominate Ron Gerdes for his National number.

Regards
Darcy Hanley
National #10740
Certified # 742



DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Given to members who have performed extraordinary service to the National Ski Patrol and the skiing public over a long period of time, distinguished by exceptional devotion to duty and outstanding performance. A member is normally the recipient of this award only once.



Bryan Loveless of Snow Trails was awarded the Distinguished Service Award with his nomination letter following:

2018 DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

It is our pleasure to nominate Bryan Loveless of the Snow Trails Ski Patrol for a Distinguished Service Award. Bryan has dedicated 32 years of service to National Ski Patrol, and has been actively involved in their local and regional ski programs. Starting his patrol journey as an Alpine Patroller, his interests and training took him down the path to become a Senior Patroller - passing the SEM and ARM in addition to being both Skiing and Snowboard certified Senior Alpine Patroller. Bryan is also PSIA level II ski and toboggan instructor, the Senior Advisor for the local patrol and a Region Certified Toboggan Trainer for both Ski and Board at the local and regional levels. In addition, Bryan is the local NSP-Division Ski School Advisor for the Ski/Ride Program and a Ski and Board Senior level evaluator.

He had used his unique gift of diplomacy at the local and regional level to influence instructors and others of influence to make changes to the local ski/board programs. On the local level Bryan was instrumental in creating a sign off sheet for new patrollers for ski and toboggan training. In addition, he set up access spread sheets for instructors to use to track students' progress and add comments for other instructors to see and track the candidates progress.

Bryan was a Ski and Board instructor for SES throughout the region from 2008 through 2017. In addition, he was a trainer for the Ski/Board toboggan handling for the Senior Program and achieved his PSIA Level II, AASI Level II instructor throughout the region during the same time period. On a local level Bryan organized the SES from 2010 to 2016. On the regional level he organized Ski Trainers Workshops from 2010 through 2014. Ensuring quality ski, board and toboggan training has been a passion of Bryan's throughout his entire patrol career.

His leadership and organization skills lead Bryan to be appointed an Assistant Patrol Director from 2003 through 2008, and is currently an Assistant Region Director of Programs for the Ohio Region. Advisors reporting to him include MTR, avalanche, Certified and Senior Program advisors, along with YAP advisor, Safety Team and the Women's Program. The Women's program has been a long time passion of his, hoping to mentor and lift up women not only with their skills but their leadership potentials.

Looking to help our patrol representative in her quest to recruit more patrollers as our local patrol is rapidly aging, Bryan served as the narrator of a promotional video about ski patrol to help recruit new patrollers to Snow Trails.

Bryan greatly deserves to be recognized with the Distinguished Service Award as he has shown such dedication to Snow Trails and the National Ski Patrol through their various ski instructor and leadership positions over 32 years. He has been an excellent role model to other patrollers with his positive attitude, mentoring and helping develop ski patrollers skills in skiing/boarding and leadership skills with their dedication to the sport of skiing and the National Ski Patrol. Snow Trails and the Ohio Region recognizes his many contributions over the years, recently throwing him quite a retirement party. We have no doubt that Bryan will continue to serve the NSP in any way possible, so it is with pride we submit him now for arguably the NSP's highest honor, the Distinguished Service Award. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,



Catherine Hufnagle, Snow Trails Ski



Patrol

2018 Ohio Region National Outstanding Winners

NSP OUTSTANDING nominations are competitive and are based on the current and three previous season's records and activities. The nominations must follow a strict format and are scored using a NSP specified set of criteria. Region winners automatically become contenders for Division outstanding recognition in the same category. NSP National Outstanding winners are selected from the Division winner pool.

Amy Arnold, Snow Trails

Outstanding Administrative Patroller - For that patroller who demonstrates excellence in performance of their region administrative duties. (This patroller MUST hold a position beyond the patrol level.)



Our nomination for Outstanding Administrative Patroller, while historically preferring to fly under the radar, has grown from an unassuming patroller to now being Assistant Region Director of Proficiency. This position encompasses the meat and potatoes of patrolling – OEC, SROEC, ARM, Instructor Development, Snow Sports School, OET, and the region Medical

Advisor program. One may easily argue hers is the most important ARD position, and her supervision has allowed these programs to continue serving the patrollers, and the patrons, of the region's areas well.

She has certainly left her mark, both administratively and personally, on the Region and Division's Women's Program as one of the programs she is passionate about. She has developed extraordinary instructor skills which she has shared with her fellow patrollers. She used her diplomacy to standardize ski training throughout the region and bringing up the calibration level of the snow sports team. This in turn created a very organized Region Ski and Board Program. This Patroller has continued her dedication to National Ski Patrol by carrying this enthusiasm and passion over to the other disciplines that fall under her responsibility as ARD Proficiency. This individual has been able to resurrect TES's/SES's that have been cancelled and only two days later been able to coordinate staff to support a dozen participants. She has been instrumental in re-energizing the instructor development programming through her communication and persuasion. In her role as ARD Proficiency, she has worked with our Region ARM Advisor long with our SROEC Administrators to help bring the ARM module to a viable resource and module of the Senior Program. She has facilitated meetings with the OET Advisor, Snow Sports Advisor, ARD Programs and Senior Program Administrator to help establish the evaluation teams for our Region Senior Alpine Event. Outside of the Patrol she has attained her Level III Alpine certification. She has not stopped there. She has just recently passed her Level I Tele-mark Certification. She could by definition have skipped her Level I with her Level III Alpine certification but choose to earn each of her Tele-mark Certification Pins. No taking short cuts with this one. She provides an outstanding example of a leader within this organization for both men and women patrollers. She really wants this organization to grow and succeed, and with her current ARD position and all the administrative duties that entails, to her dedication as an instructor, our nominee for Outstanding Administrative Patroller is doing her part to ensure its growth and success.

James Burns, Boston Mills Brandywine Alpine Valley

Outstanding Instructor - for exhibiting excellence in instructing multiple disciplines of the NSP with the exception of OEC.



(SEXY BEAST)

When members of our patrol are discussing toboggan training and need questions answered, there is one instructor that is the "go-to". This patroller's experience and skills have earned him respect throughout the region. Our recommendation for Outstanding Non-OEC Instructor Patroller is this go-to patroller because of his leadership skills, use of humor and the intangibles needed to lead. This go-to patroller is the trainer's trainer!

Since joining the patrol this patroller has shown those intangibles needed to lead. This patroller is active in a number of Region roles and is a Senior Toboggan Evaluator working with and mentoring Senior

candidates throughout the Region. This Region involvement allows this patroller to feel the pulse of the patrol and is reflected in his work within his Section and for our Region.

When asked what patrol accomplishments he was most proud of, the response was “the continuing flow of new trainers and the ever increasing level of skill and enthusiasm that comes with that”. His hands-on approach and variety of life experiences has been an asset to our toboggan training program and this patroller’s mentorship is well sought after.

This patroller is an outstanding asset to our patrol and commitment of many years of Non-OEC instruction has ensured our patrol to provide the highest level of service to the skiing public. If you want time in the handles, this patroller is your go-to.

Harold Holt, Paoli Peaks

Outstanding Paid Patroller - For that Alpine or Nordic paid patroller who demonstrates outstanding service to their area and care to their patients



I think most people would agree that by the time someone gets an award, it seems that not only does everyone agree that they are deserving of the award, but it seems that it is long overdue. This submission more than fits that description. This patroller, while technically a paid patroller, is truly one of those people who do what they do with little fanfare or people even being aware of the incredible value they provide. This patroller literally lives at the ski area thru the winter and does so much more than most of the patrol members are even aware of. He is the one out on the hill with a shovel digging out protective bales that have been covered by snowmaking and grooming operations. He is the one who makes sure we have all the medical supplies that we need, that our snowmobiles are running as they should, and are gassed up and ready to go. He works many times on the day side at the resort with minimal help and at times may be the only patroller available. He is a master at doing more with less by utilizing other ski area staff members and the skiing public to help him when needed. His medical skills are exceptional and

he has a very calm, reassuring bedside manner. Hopefully you are getting the picture of how valuable this patroller is both to the ski area and to our patrol.

One additional item that makes him exceptional and interesting is his constant companion, a smallish black lab mix dog that showed up one day at the ski area and in spite of his attempts to find its owner, he adopted this dog. She rides on the snowmobile with him and follows him everywhere he goes. She has become a part of the patrol as well and you do not see one of them without the other close by. Finally, this patroller serves as much in a volunteer role as he does as a paid patroller. He is the first one to step up to fill in for someone needing a sub and does it many times after an already long day serving the skiing public. This season he logged 81 hours as a volunteer which, given our shortened season, was a higher number than the majority of our volunteer patrollers. He is easy going and impossible not to like. I certainly hope from this description you give this patroller what he so richly deserves, and is so overdue, the recognition as an Outstanding Patroller.



Matt Ogle, Mad River Mountain

Outstanding Young Adult Patroller Recognizes the best young Patroller who has not reached their 19th birthday by June 1st



This young patroller was the perfect example of an outstanding one before he was even officially a patroller. As a freshman in high school, he took the initiative to join the ski patrol as training for his future career goal in emergency medicine. During the OEC training classes, beginning in January 2016, this young man chose to be an active participant at the resort as a patroller-in-training, called an "Observer." As an Observer, he did not have any mandatory shifts or training; however, he chose to attend the 3-hour skiing sessions once a week as a means to improve his own skiing.



In addition to the training, he volunteered at the many fundraising events, cooking brats to be sold. Whenever anyone needed a person to complete a task, this young man would step up and complete the task. As recognition for the young man's dedication, he was awarded the Patrol Director's Award at the local banquet, despite him not even having yet completed the OEC course to become a patroller.

To begin his first season as a ski patroller, this young man took on the enormous task of scheduling for the patrol. Quickly learning the rules and the online program, he has maintained an organized schedule for both weekly shifts and late-night ski shifts. He also volunteered at two more fundraising events, as a worker at both the all-day Savage Race and the Ski Swap Sale. With that coming of snow and ski shifts, this patroller has been hardworking and diligent in his ski training. To date, he has worked 150 hours, almost triple the hours required.

For being a young patroller, this young man is very mature and hardworking, two characteristics that seem to be lacking in his generation. Through his participation, he is also convincing his two brothers to also join the patrol by joining the upcoming OEC class this spring.



Sue Hendricks Snow Trails

Outstanding Patrol Representative, for that National Ski Patrol, Patrol Representative who demonstrates excellent leadership in all they do



As patrol representative she has been very busy, innovative and dedicated to making the patrol stand out to area management, our guests, and the community. This includes providing coverage for various community events off ski season, along with working with our local handicap skier program to be sure Snow Trails stayed current on the set ups of their skis and arranged for them to attend the chair evacuation refresher. She was also instrumental in the development, promotion to management and coordination of fund raising for an ongoing "Lids for Kids" program which this year provided discounted pricing on 40 helmets for kids to own, and 177 rentals for children under 18.

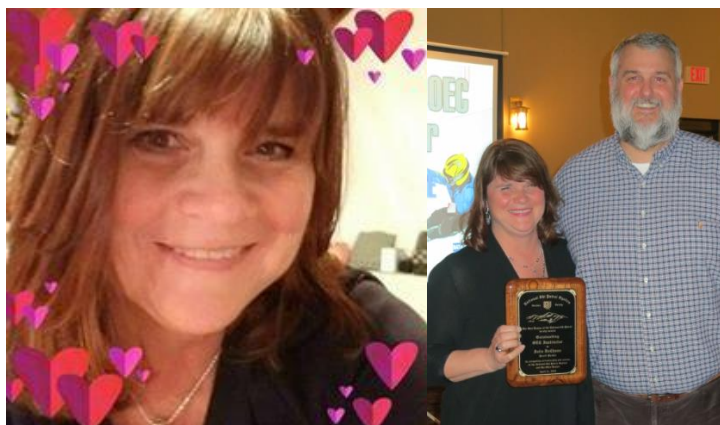
Recognizing the issue of an aging patrol she has sold the idea of developing a program that will allow aging patrollers to continue their association with the area and patrol after they would normally retire from patrolling. Developed as

primarily a PR program she was instrumental in implementing a “Ski With The Patrol” day, offering a behind the scene look at the patrol by skiing with a patroller for at least a shift. This program is for guests that are interested in knowing more about the ski patrol or have interest in joining the patrol. Those who participated in this program that were interested in becoming a patroller were instructed how to apply and had to participate a “ski along” for potential candidates. We have a 100% retention rate for those who went through the “Ski With The Patrol” program.



Julie DuChane – Paoli Peaks

Outstanding OEC Instructor - For that Patroller who exhibits excellence in instructing all things OEC



There are a myriad of reasons why this patroller is so deserving of this award. The first is humility. Preparing this award submission has been challenging in making sure that this patroller had no knowledge that this was being done because if she had, she would have insisted it not be done as she would not feel worthy of this recognition. However, nothing could be further from the truth. From the day this patroller joined the patrol, her enthusiasm for this sport and the service we provide has been inspiring to all those around her. While her tenure has been relatively short compared to many award recipients, the shadow she casts is huge. She worked tirelessly using all available resources as an OEC candidate to not only pass the course, but learn all she could as she had no previous medical background. Upon completion of OEC, she immediately took on Instructor Development and within one year became the IOR for our OEC class which she has done annually now for 4 years. She also has become an Instructor Development Instructor in order to help mentor and guide instructors in the OEC classes. She has attended every OEC class with only a couple of exceptions for the last 4 years. She guides and insures the quality of instruction and worries constantly about whether she is doing a good enough job. She is also long overdue for her OEC IT appointment which should be done before next season as she has more than earned it. In 2016 she led a small committee to create the first OEC Hybrid course for our patrol. She personally spent many hours on the phone with Division OEC instructors and others who had gone down this path to learn all she could about how to make this the best it could be. This course was rolled out in August of 2017 and resulted in what in my opinion was one of the best groups of OEC candidates since my involvement of OEC began over 15 years ago. She constantly used the online platform to monitor the progress of the candidates and provide feedback and motivation to them. These candidates posted the highest average final written exam scores we have ever had and

then blew away their evaluators with their practical skills on exam day. She has now moved on to working at the Region level in the Senior program and has recently affected a huge change that was long overdue in parts of the Senior OEC evaluation. One additional personal trait that I feel also points out why this patroller deserves this special recognition. Outside the OEC arena, she showed her drive and tenacity in completing her Alpine Patroller certification. Due to some physical limitations, the ski and toboggan training came much harder for her than for most skiers. She left my training sessions a number of times so frustrated that she could not perform at the level she wanted. Rather than give up or give in, she doubled her efforts and overcame her physical limitations to eventually succeed in attaining her Alpine Patroller status. Once completed, she did not do what I have seen many patrollers do which is to begin the slow atrophy of skills, but rather, she is out there at every available training session trying to always improve her ski and toboggan skills. Having written few of these submissions, I feel that less is probably more in the fact that I hope you get the theme that this patroller is one of those unsung, humble NSP heroes that is so deserving of this recognition. Please give her every consideration for this award that will mean more to her than you can ever imagine.

Alida Moonen, Boston Mills Brandywine Alpine Valley

Outstanding Alpine Patroller - an Alpine patroller who does not hold an appointed position beyond the patrol level, but gives outstanding effort and devotion to their local patrol.



Joining a newly formed patrol in 1999, this patroller immediately stepped into leadership positions in the OEC and Instructor Development programs for the local patrol and has held Instructor and Instructor Trainer positions in both programs since that time. She achieved Senior Alpine status and went on to achieve Senior Trainer Evaluator status in the OEC program and has maintained that status ever since.

She has been involved in the planning and execution of the annual OEC refresher for many years and has played roles in the local, region, and national levels in the refresher program. On the local level, this patroller is part of the team that annually ensures that all content is covered and that all patrollers are actively engaged in both knowledge and hands-on objectives. Quality assurance audits are essential to ensuring that all patrollers achieve refresher objectives and this patroller has travelled to various patrols across the region to provide QA for both Instructor and Patroller refreshers. On the national level this patroller participated as a member of the refresher planning committee for 3 years (2013-2016). Anyone who did a hybrid refresher in those years saw the results of hundreds of hours of work by this patroller in the online refresher station as this patroller bore the major responsibility of designing this element of the refresher during those 3 years.

This patroller has been committed to the OEC Module of the Senior Program as a local instructor and is the 2017-18 Co Senior Test Coordinator for the Region for the OEC program. The region has also done a major re-write of the Aid Room Module this season (in advance of receiving the national draft of this program) as part of mentoring and supporting the new ARM Administrator for the region, and this patroller has been an essential part of this effort. We believe that this re-write will give the ARM much more credibility as a core requirement for the Senior Patroller program.

Although this patroller has shown significant leadership in the OEC program this has not been the only contribution she had made to the patrol on the local and region level. As an Instructor and Instructor Trainer in the Instructor Development program this patroller has taught and mentored numerous NSP instructors and has been a QA auditor for this course on the region level. Although it has not been in the past few years, this patroller is also a former Region Administrator for the ID program.

As a patroller interested in improving essential patrolling skills, she attended several SES and TES clinics including programs presented by the PSIA D-Team and the Region and Division Women's Program clinics, including this season's Region Women's clinic.

Regarding awards, she was the Region Outstanding OEC Instructor and Division Runner-up in this category in 2014. She also received the Region Outstanding Administrative Patroller and Division Instructor Development Administrative Citation in years past.

She is truly dedicated to education for themselves and others, and has also worked hard to support the programs of the ski area. The state's Special Olympics program take place at our area and she has supported this program both on the hill and in the lodge. Off season, she has worked annually at the local Ski Swap, which is the patrol's major fund raiser, and assisted with the annual patrol banquet. The patrol supports the ski area at its annual 2 weekend juried art show by providing support for the artists and first aid coverage for the patrons of the shows. When Thomas the Train comes to our local area each spring this patroller volunteers to provide first aid coverage for this event. And she has volunteered every year for the past 5 years at a water station at our local marathon /half marathon/5K race.

The instructions for this award note that only participation for the last four years should be noted. One of the major reasons why this patroller is deserving of the Outstanding Alpine Patroller is that they have maintained a high level of participation not just for the last four years, but throughout the entire of their patrolling career. Anywhere where specific dates are not noted would include those long-term commitments and activities that include the last the required four years, and in most cases many years beyond.

Boston Mills Brandywine Alpine Valley

Outstanding Large Alpine Patrol – For the outstanding Ohio Region patrol over 41 members





What does it mean to be outstanding? After all, the National Ski Patrol is an organization where outstanding is the norm – in fact, it is expected. How does one patrol stand out from others? Aren't we all pretty incredible? We are. And this patrol is

outstanding because we epitomize the elements that count: collaboration, communication, a commitment to excellence as a learning organization, and recruiting and retaining the best people to serve as patrollers.

**Tom Ciranna:
Boston Mills/ Brandywine/ Alpine Valley
Patrol Representative**

Collaboration is the glue that keeps the team together at this, one of the largest patrols in the NSP system with a membership of 288 registered patrollers. Providing coverage for 3 ski areas 40 miles apart that operate 7 days a week, the effort to build a team-based patrol is daunting. This patrol works collaboratively in a number of ways: from the top down,

with an effective, representative leadership team that works together and with the many teams they lead; from the bottom up, where each shift, our various discipline training teams, and our I/Ts, collaborate to ensure that everyone can demonstrate consistent protocol-based skills and knowledge; in the region, division, and national efforts, to support the outstanding continuing education that the NSP provides year-round; with our resort management group, who provides wonderful support for our work, and who responds to our requests and suggestions with respect and listening ears; with the community, and especially the 325 schools whose advisors have become friends and whose students provide the future for our three areas; and with the wonderful staff at the different resorts, who keep the lifts running, groom the hills, create the outstanding terrain parks we enjoy, and who feed us well. We are keenly aware of how we all must work together to provide the best experience for the skiing public – and we do this very well indeed at this patrol.

An excellent example of collaboration in our patrol involves our Annual Ski Swap and Open House. This 4 day event involves 80-100 patrollers, who put in many hundreds of hours of effort to sell 7,000 used items to the skiing public. We work with our area management, and a major retailer to bring the “new” equipment and clothing that will be available during the upcoming season, while people sign up for passes, lesson programs, and seasonal events. It’s a fun weekend in October when our patrol raises funds, we build teamwork, and we all enjoy getting together again.

Collaboration relies on excellent communication, and this patrol goes into overdrive with a variety of media and methods to ensure that we all remain informed and involved. Our patrol representative leads the way, communicating regularly and directly with the whole patrol in the form of regular bulletins, updates, and consistent acknowledgement of the many contributions, small and large, that our patrollers make. He also maintains regular communication with area management, communicating concerns, critiques and congratulations to the entire patrol through a variety of means. Hill captains keep their shifts informed with the frequent updates that come from area management, the patrol leadership, and customer feedback. We have an area website that stays up to date with contact information, links to patrol policies and procedures, by-laws and meeting minutes. We also now use a convenient sign up site for everything, including candidate, Senior, and Certified ski and toboggan training, OEC class teaching sign ups, refresher, chair evac, and finding substitutes, and to sign up for our resort’s year-round events like Artfest, a juried art show over two weekends that presents the work of 200+ artists, and Day Out with Thomas, a popular local program whereby thousands of local families ride the vintage trains run by the Scenic Railway in our local National Park, and our main fundraising effort, the annual Ski Swap. And throughout the year, we utilize an email blast and text message system that provides instant communication, especially about changing conditions that area management determines.

This patrol’s commitment to excellence as a learning organization begins with our training programs. While retaining over 95% of our membership annually, our patrol invites 20-30 skiers and snowboarders to join the patrol through our OEC Program. The OEC Instructor Trainers and course IORs work many hours to ensure that the 50+ OEC Instructors are well prepared and effective. We are proud that 90% of our OEC candidates successfully complete the program, going on to be excellent patrollers.

Our OEC IT team and our large cadre of instructors put on up to 3 complete refresher events each year, and our trainers work with local fire departments and emergency room staff to train on the hill and in the ED so that we all understand the continuity of care. Our in-house CPR instructor team offers CPR recertification annually to all members for no charge, a popular and well-attended program.

Our patrol holds shift captains’ training with all 30 shift captains to review patrol responsibilities, Incident Reports, Patrol Policies, and problems encountered from the previous year. These training sessions also include continuing education on timely/relevant issues such as managing opioid overdoses and a revamping of our Concussion protocol. We also hold our Chair Evacuation training during our “Opening Week”, when all patrollers experience this training, and spend time reviewing policy and procedure changes, and various special topics. In 2017, for example, we invited our area “Three Trackers” group to give special seminars about adaptive snowsports. They brought and demonstrated equipment, spent time explaining how they worked with adaptive athletes, and provided valuable opportunities for us to learn more about managing scenes that might involve them. Response to this effort was very positive and we will be sure to include this hands-on experience in future Opening Week events.

Once the first aid training ends each fall, our patrol turns to building excellence in skiing, boarding and toboggan handling. Our S&T team is large, varied, and committed to producing a highly proficient cadre of patrollers who demonstrate skill on the hill as skiers and toboggan handlers the way they excel in OEC and the other disciplines. Our systematic approach begins with extensive ski training for new candidates, providing up to 6 hours of ski and toboggan training each week in small

groups that provide plenty of individual attention. We provide thorough Frosty refresher training and remediation for current patrollers, hold frequent Ski, Snowboard, and Toboggan seminars at all 3 resorts that are open to all patrollers, and we encourage even more excellence with the challenging ski and toboggan training we provide to our Senior and Certified candidates. Of particular pride at this patrol is the "D-Team" weekend we hold for patrol members, local instructors, and even family members. For more than 20 years, we have invited 3-4 PSIA D-Team Members to our resort for our NSP Ski and Snowboard Enhancement Seminars. With over 100 patrollers participating each year the skills of our patrollers are greatly improved. We also build camaraderie and have a lot of fun by capping off the training with a one day ski trip – of course!

The most critical factor in our efforts to be an outstanding patrol is, at its heart, our people. We recruit and retain the best volunteers in the world, whose drive comes from our unwavering dedication and commitment. Our patrollers volunteer over 25,000 hours on hill each year and provide first aid to injured skiers and snowboarders in over 1,200 incidents annually. We donate considerable funds and time to volunteer organizations like American Heart, American Red Cross, American Cancer Society and other rescue organizations, including the 10th Mountain Division. We also have patrollers who provide hundreds of volunteer hours to our local national park and metro parks system, and to our local, internationally recognized zoo. And then, we have the SOBs – Skiers on Bikes. These SOBs, comprised of patrollers, alumni, and family members, provide a 75-person water stop for the local Marathon in May, from which we earn funds to support MS research and treatment. Then, in August, the SOBs participate in, and raise funds for, the MS150 Bike Ride – contributing again to the MS Society. Ultimately, several thousand dollars are raised for this organization alone. And the best part? It's fun, and builds our commitment to our community and to each other.

The commitment extends beyond the local level with our patrol, including a National Board member, members in Division leadership roles, the region Director, two assistant Directors, and eight Line Advisors. We provide consistent support for the National Ski Patrol at all levels, believing that this connection at all levels is crucial to building excellence and sustaining the effort. Our new candidates benefit from these people, because every day the veterans mentor and guide and encourage them to achieve their goals, have fun, and feel valued the way we all do. Very few, if any, ski areas in the world could afford to pay for the quality and quantity of training, patron outreach, partnership and skier safety that our patrol provides each season. Ultimately, our patrol is outstanding because we collaborate, we communicate, we are truly a learning organization, and we have the best people as volunteers in our organization. We thrive because we care – and we will always care as long as there is a ski area here to serve. For these reasons, we are honored to present this patrol as the 2018 Outstanding Large Patrol in the National Ski Patrol system.



Downhill Editor: Leah Morgan

As editor of the Ohio Region Newsletter, Downhill, I would like to request that all news items and recent photos be sent to downhilleditor@gmail.com. Word is fine and/or the articles can be included in the body of an email. Please use Calibri and 10 point font with single spacing. If you send a PDF file, please include a Word file also that is saved as a Word 97-2003 or Word 2010, not 2013. Digital photos should be clear and 300 DPI, dots per inch, or more. Many of the new cameras take 8 or higher gigabyte photos, but these are really much too large. One or two gigabyte photos are plenty big and take a long time to download. Please write out all acronyms..... as new members do not always know the lingo yet!

All patrollers are welcome to submit articles to be considered for publication in the DOWNHILL and to send photographs from your area or photographs that might be of interest to our patrollers. The Fall Edition will deal primarily with programs and patrol news! Please send any items by September 15, 2018.

If you have suggestions for the "Downhill", feel free to send them to me along with information in a timely