



## News from the Region Director: *Guy Day*

### Winter Issue:

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Well, let's hope Mother Nature decides to cooperate so all the resorts can keep making snow. This last week was conducive for making snow but the last several days in the low 50's / mid 40's does not help the cause. That being said, when you are reading this, at least three resorts will be open with others very close behind.

At this point all our preseason events/activities such as OEC, CPR and Chair Evacuation refreshers are all finished. Patrol registrations have been completed with membership cards being sent out shortly. The last refresher that we need to accomplish for Alpine Patrollers is the annual toboggan refresher also known as the "Frosty Refresher". This is a requirement for any Alpine Patroller (regardless of classification) if you wish to handle a toboggan on the hill. Please work with your local training staff to complete this event as quickly as possible. Once everyone has completed this, the local Instructor of Record, IOR, will send the completed records to National to update your personal profile.

Your Skills Development Team has been working hard to put together events and dates across the Region. This includes TES, TTW, STW, SES and Senior Program focused events. Check your email, later in this edition of the Downhill, or on the Ohio Region Website for dates & locations and/or changes. You need to register for many of these events on our website and on the national NSP website. I encourage you to take advantage of these programs. Regardless if you are a first year candidate or a 30+ year veteran, you always learn something or experience something new.

I know that it is a bit far off but the end of the season will come quicker than we think. Snow Trails is working hard to set up a great event for the Region as they host the Spring Region Meeting and Awards Banquet. There are a few details that have to be worked out and once those are done, we will be posting the specifics on the Region website, [ohionsp.org](http://ohionsp.org).

The deadline for the 2019 awards will be here before we know it. Please start working with your local awards advisor on putting together the details of those individuals that you would like to recognize and nominate for Region / Division / National Level awards. If you work together as a team then the work load is a lot less. Consider making it an evening or

afternoon event at the area where you can take breaks to make some turns. Before you know it, your patrol can have all of your awards written and ready to be submitted. If you have questions, please reach out to Lori, Clara or myself.

The last thing I would like to remind everyone about is the Fall 2019 Division Meeting that will be held in Cleveland September 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to help, please reach out to me and copy your patrol representative. We will take as much or as little time you are willing and able to offer for this event. We have some great things planned already and hope to finalize several others things in the next couple of weeks.

I hope that everyone has a safe and festive Holiday Season spending time with family and friends. I look forward to seeing you on the slopes!

**Guy Day, Ohio Region Director**

## Ohio Region

As our patrolling season kicks off, please remember some basics to keep ourselves injury-free:

- ✓ **Strength, flexibility and balance.** If you haven't been following a regular fitness program, it's not too late! A simple daily 30-minute routine of stretching and calisthenics (squats, push ups and core) will go a long way to get us and keep us ski-ready.
- ✓ **Check your equipment, especially your bindings.** According to the University of California SF, roughly half of all ski injuries are due to improper binding performance. And don't forget to check your helmet.
- ✓ **Know your limits.** Age, injury and lack of fitness take their toll.
- ✓ **Warm up.** Before hopping on the chairlift, do a little stretching to loosen and warm up cold muscles. Focus on calves, hamstrings, quadriceps as well as your shoulders.
- ✓ **Hydrate!** Drink plenty of fluids throughout your shift. We may not be at high altitude, but winter air is very dry and we can still dehydrate.
- ✓ **Avoid the "one last run" syndrome.** If you've had a busy shift and you're feeling spent, it's better to call it a day.
- ✓ **And if you haven't had your flu shot, go get it!**

Wishing everyone a safe and fun season, and very Happy Holidays,

**Clara Hilgefort**

**Assistant Region Director, Administration**



# 2018-2019 Women's Clinic

Hello Ladies of the Central Division! "Claim your Crown"

is the theme of this year's clinic!



The mission of the Central Division Women's Program is:

- To share passion with the purpose of encouraging and supporting other NSP women in a nurturing environment.
- To build participants' confidence to accept the challenges of leadership roles and improve their personal skill set.
- To encourage active recruiting of women in the NSP.

As a result of a women's focused program there is a conscious effort to see more women step up into instructor roles, mentoring roles, and leadership roles. The building of confidence, expansion of horizons, and mentoring in leadership provides a strong role model of women in the NSP. The women of the Central Division carry on the mission of the Women's Program, develop more leaders and promote recruitment of new women members in the NSP.

Our annual Women's Clinic will be held at: Perfect North Slopes, Lawrenceburg, IN, January 25-27, 2019! We are very excited to go to Perfect North Slopes this year! The fee for this clinic is \$60 that includes: Friday night team building and casual fun, 2 days of skiing/riding/toboggan handling, and a dinner with evening program on Saturday night.

Your coaches for the weekend are there for you! This is what makes this clinic so unique - the staff (your coaches) have an agenda to help you move to your next level. We want to help you get out of your comfort zone in a nurturing and encouraging environment.

Of course, FUN is a big part of our objective! Just getting 40 or so ladies together, sliding on the snow, enjoying the friendships and networking. That is what the weekend is all about, plus the great coaching from our highly qualified PSIA Certified Ski Instructors and NSP Toboggan Certified Instructors. The Ohio Region will host the opening reception on Friday evening.

The rotation of the annual Women's Clinic is designed to move the clinic around the Central Division. Deadline for registration is January 15, 2018 or until filled. A waiting list will be maintained.

## Women's Clinic Registration Process

Step 1. Go to the [Women's Registration Page](#) and fill in the information.

Step 2. When completed [click](#) the "Release Form" at the bottom of the page to go to the NSP Release Form.

Step 3. Once you have agreed to the NSP Release Form click on the "Continue to PayPal" at the bottom of the page. It is not required to sign-up for a Paypal account to pay with credit card. When on Paypal find and click the link "Don't have a Paypal Account?"

Step 4. Your final step is to complete the individual registration step on [NSP.org](#). This is a new requirement from national for all courses. Once you log in, go to Member Resources, Course Schedule, and enter the number below for your course to register. This step is required for you to receive credit for your attendance on your NSP records.

- Ski/Ride SES Number: C076190001
- Toboggan TES Number: C076190002
- If you select multiple options, you need to register for EACH OPTION

If you have questions about the program, please let us know! Visit our Face Book page for fun photos, updated information, and networking! We can't wait to ski/ride/slide/toboggan with you!!

Kerstin Hammarberg

Central Division Women's Program Supervisor, 612-600-5082

Email : [cdwomensprogram@gmail.com](mailto:cdwomensprogram@gmail.com)



## Instructor Development Strengthen That Six-Pack

A stack of ski instructor and NSP OET manuals, NSP's Outdoor Emergency Care textbook, videos from the NSP website, and gems of insight from years of experience patrolling all provide great content, but what is the plan? A group of students stand waiting for this content to be delivered in an orderly, active, and meaningful manner, and the NSP's six-pack lesson plan format helps the instructor organize what will be taught and how to teach it. Instructors should show up to work with a developed plan, spend time perfecting it, polish skills with instruction time and be prepared to modify the lesson plan in an instant to make the experience enjoyable.

As we begin this new winter season instructing on the snow, please use this abbreviated review of the six-pack lesson plan for all on-hill skills.

### Six-Pack Lesson Plan

#### *Step 1: The Set*

Focus their attention and motivate them.

#### *Step 2: Concluding Objective*

Let the students know the objective of the lesson and explain the importance of the skill. A simple and brief statement.

#### *Step 3: Content Delivery*

Skill demonstration and explanation.

#### *Step 4: Learning Activities*

Guided practice in a safe and effective arrangement after the demonstration.

#### *Step 5: Summary*

What did the students learn and gain from the lesson? What are their goals for the next practice session?

#### *Step 6: Monitoring and Evaluation*

This step is an ongoing process. Make necessary corrections if needed, run another demonstration if students are not able to perform the skill, and ultimately provide immediate and positive feedback.

For more details on the six-pack lesson format as well as additional insight on strengthening instructional skills, take another look at the *NSP's Instructor Development: Training the Adult Learner* manual found on [nsp.org](http://nsp.org) under Member Resources/Instructor Resources/Instructor Development Instructors.

## New Instructors Wanted...

Ready to add to your patrol toolkit and become one the Ohio Region's newest instructors? Need to add an elective to your Senior journey? You are all invited to join the Ohio Region's Instructor Development team and show off your instructor skills at our next Ohio Region Instructor Development course. The class will be held the morning of the Ohio Region Spring Banquet. This event's time and location will be announced soon.

Please check [ohionsp.org](http://ohionsp.org) the beginning of February for more details. To be placed on the early enrollment list, contact Denise Galicki. Hope to see you there!

Denise Galicki  
Ohio Region Instructor Development Administrator  
[dg@ohionsp.org](mailto:dg@ohionsp.org) or [dzgalicki@gmail.com](mailto:dzgalicki@gmail.com)  
(440)725-7063



## NEW REGION ORG CHART

An updated org chart for the Ohio Region has been posted to the Region website. Take a look if you'd like to learn how the Region staff is structured and who is in it. <https://www.ohionsp.org/org-chart>

## REGION-LEVEL ROLES

Be on the lookout for new Region-level job postings. There are always opportunities that come up to build leadership skills, expand your ski patrol network and contribute beyond your local area. We need new talent and fresh ideas!

## ALUMNI

There is not much happening with region Alumni at the moment. By now registrations should be nearly complete. As soon as they are finished I will update the Region Alumni roster and send it out to local Alumni advisors. Also, I'll ask the Patrol Representatives to reach out to any of their patrollers who have retired and ask them to consider registering as alumni.

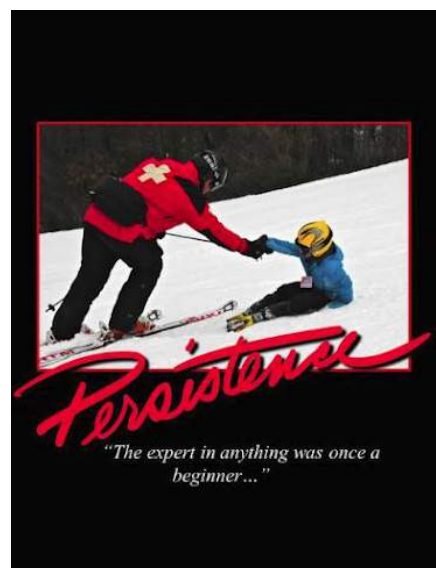
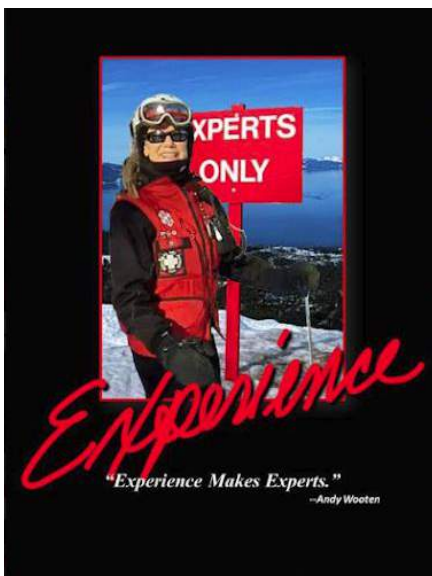


By the time you read this Ohio resorts should be open for the 2018-2019 season.

For those of us still sliding on the white and slippery, enjoy and be safe. For everyone, I hope you are enjoying being a retired ski patroller and still keeping in touch with fellow alumni, current and former patrollers. Once a month BMBWAV Alumni get together for lunch at a local restaurant. It's a great way to keep in touch and share stories. Here are a couple of photos from a recent luncheon.

As always please let me know of any Alumni activities that you would like me to feature in a future Downhill article and send some pic's as well.

### Bill Currier, Ohio Region Alumni Advisor



## 2018 – 2019 Ohio Region Senior Program

The 2017 – 2018 season was quite a challenge for the Senior Program. Fortunately, we were able to hold the Senior OEC portion of the testing. However, mother nature did not cooperate and the ski & toboggan tests had to be cancelled. **A big thanks** goes out to Perfect North Slopes, PNS, for hosting the Senior OEC test. PNS went way beyond our wildest expectations by opening their facilities and performing spot grooming just so the Senior OEC test could be safely held.

As a result, the Ohio Region now has 3 new Senior Patrollers. 11 other individuals got a great start on their Senior journey by successfully passing the Senior OEC portion of this program. Presently, there are 44 active candidates in the Senior program. My goal is to see another 20 candidates successfully complete their Senior journey this season.

All individuals that registered and sent in their sign-offs in anticipation of taking the ski and/or toboggan test last season, do not need to start over with the sign-off process. All these individuals need to do is get one ski/snowboard signature and one toboggan signature to show that they have been working with their Senior Trainers. All other individuals that are taking the ski and/or toboggan test for the first time must obtain all the necessary signatures.

Once again, we are going to try and hold a “Senior” weekend and hold all three modules over one weekend. This year, all Senior testing will be held at Boston Mills/Brandywine. We are also holding the Senior testing earlier in the season on February 9 and 10. This will allow us to utilize our evaluator teams more efficiently and have excellent ski conditions. We also have plans to hold Senior Ski/Toboggan clinics to help get sign-offs or just additional practice. The dates for the various clinics and evaluations are provided below.

**Senior Specific TES Clinic (C106190005)** – January 5, 2019 (Perfect North Slopes)

**Senior Specific SES Clinic (C106190002)** – January 6 2019 (Perfect North Slopes)

**Senior Evaluator Recalibration** - January 5 – 6, 2019 (Perfect North Slopes)

**Senior Specific TES Clinic (C114190011)** – January 12, 2019 (Boston Mills)

**Senior Specific SES Clinic (C114190012)** – January 13, 2019 (Boston Mills)

**Event application/sign-offs completion deadline** – January 23, 2019

**Senior OEC Evaluation** – February 9, 2019 (Brandywine)

**Senior Ski/Snowboard Evaluation (C106190007)** – February 10, 2019 (Boston Mills)

**Senior Toboggan Evaluation (C106190008)** – February 10, 2019 (Boston Mills)

**Event application/sign-offs completion deadline** – January 23, 2019

For those of you that are interested in starting your Senior journey or want to find out more about the program, I encourage you to visit the Senior Program page on the Ohio Region Website, <http://www.ohionsp.org/programs/senior>. It contains all the necessary applications, dates and links to any of the forms that you will need. You will be setting yourself up for success by reading through all of the information and making sure that you have the correct deadlines for applications and sign-offs for each of the modules.

I look forward to a very successful season for all our new and current Senior Candidates! Please feel free to reach out to me and let me know what I can do to help you along on your journey!

Kevin Rankey  
Ohio Region Senior Program Advisor  
[Kevin.rankey@ge.com](mailto:Kevin.rankey@ge.com)



## OUTDOOR EMERGENCY TRANSPORTATION, OET

We have just returned from our Division ASDW at Boyne Highlands where our region was proudly represented as participants and Division staff. We are very fortunate to have an outstanding group of folks coming from Ohio!

I am pleased to announce two new members to our Ohio region team. We have GUY DAY joining our Region IT group and CHRIS MILLER joining our Senior Toboggan Evaluator Team. Our Region staff of OET, Snowsports and Senior Programs have been hard at work planning events for our Ohio region patrollers; whether they are Senior candidates, Alpine toboggan trainers or the average patroller looking for extra training time to better their skills.

We look forward to working with all of you this year and creating clinics that best serve the needs at your local patrol. We are so fortunate to have an amazing group of outstanding Region Trainers that are willing to travel to different resorts to provide these clinics and it's up to all of us to encourage our patrollers to take advantage of this opportunity!

Our OET clinics dates and locations are listed below:

### DATE & LOCATION EVENT

Jan 5-6 Perfect North ASDW (Invite Only) / Senior

Jan 12 th Mad River Mtn TES/TTW

Jan 13 th Boston Mills TES/TTW/Senior

Jan 27th Paoli Peaks TES/TTW

Feb 3 rd Snow Trails TES/TTW

All of the above clinics are listed on the Ohionsp.org site and registration is active!

PLEASE remember to also sign up on the National site @ NSP.org to receive credit for the clinic through National!!

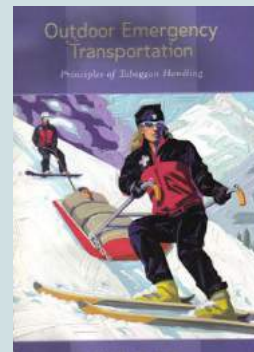
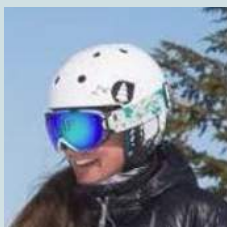
See you on the Snow!

Tracy Buchanan

Ohio Region OET Advisor

Tracybuchanan928@gmail.com

330-703-3431



## Snowsports

As we look to the 2018-2019 ski season we are hoping to add to the base of enhancing our fundamentals in skiing. In addition, we are hoping to provide a clear path with mentoring to those individuals that wish to pursue an education role. We have a tremendous amount of talent in the Ohio Region! There is great opportunity to enhance that talent as our seasoned veterans mentor those that are coming up through the ranks. The Ohio region has demonstrated through the past years that we are up to the challenge of educating, learning and bringing new talent forward.

I'm asking for those of you that are seasoned instructors to refresh your skills, add new items to your teaching and reach out to those coming up. Those of you that are new, reach out and ask to be mentored. We both can learn from each other as we move forward. Let's continue to strive to make the Ohio Region the best it can be!

Brian Harrison,

Ohio Region Snow Sports Advisor



## Mountain Travel and Rescue

The Mountain Travel and Rescue II (MTRII) class was held on November 9-11, 2018 at Lake Hope State Park on the Zalewski State Forest Hiking Trail. There were 6 people who attended the event. The weather cooperated with a to a low of 15 degrees again this year and lots of sunshine.

Special thank you to Greg Schmidt, (PNS) Chris Korte (PNS) and Tim Durbin (STSP) for teaching the class. Tim Durbin was certified as an IT for the Mountain Travel and Rescue program. We certainly used our cold weather training and gear that weekend.

The Mountain Travel and Rescue I (MTRI) is being planned for March 29-31, 2019 with the location to be announced. Both MTR I and II are considered senior electives.

The MTR I course offers hands on practice and basic techniques in wilderness navigation, mountain travel, and survival, including emergency shelters, the Incident Command System, group dynamics, and SAR. The FEMA courses IS 100 and 700 are required for this class.

The MTR II course offers at least two days and night field session of in-depth practice in land navigation, search and rescue, rescue rigging, survival skills and emergency shelters. To pass MTR II, students must demonstrate independent proficiency in a well defined set of backcountry travel, land navigation and emergency shelter. The prerequisites are MTR I, FEMA course IS 200.



If you are interested in the program as an elective for senior, for your edification, or for lots of good comraderie, contact Cat Hufnagle at [crhufnagle1@hotmail.com](mailto:crhufnagle1@hotmail.com).

### Catherine R Hufnagle, Ohio Region MTR Advisor



Fall 2018 MTR Event at  
Lake Hope  
See more photos at  
<https://www.ohionsp.org/2018-mountain-travel-and-rescue-lake-hope>



## Senior Outdoor Emergency Care

It's official... ski season has arrived everywhere! I hope you are spending more time outside enjoying it and preparing for the upcoming Sr OEC Exam schedule for February 9, 2019 at BMBW.

The first T/E Clinic was held at Mad River Mountain on December 1, 2018. The T/E Clinic scheduled for December 16 at Snow Trails was cancelled due to low registration. With less than 10 Evaluators that were up for re-certification this year, there was not a significant need for the T/E Clinics.

If you are planning to participate in the Sr OEC test you should already be participating in the training sessions at your local resort. Please contact your Sr OEC Representative ASAP if you are not already engaged in local training. Remember the test date was moved up this year so there is less time to complete the training and to gather your required and sign-offs.

Please remember to practice the new Spine Motion Restriction protocol and don't forget that you are required to recruit and bring volunteers to the test.

### Upcoming Key Program Dates:

- \*Jan 9<sup>th</sup> Sr OEC Rep & T/E Conference Call – 8pm
- Jan 11<sup>th</sup> – Submit Candidate Names
- \*Jan 22<sup>nd</sup> Sr OEC Rep & T/E Conference Call – 8pm
- Jan 23<sup>rd</sup> – Candidate Application/Sign-offs, Fees due
- Feb 8<sup>th</sup> - Calibration clinic with all test staff
- Feb 9<sup>th</sup> – Senior OEC Test (BMBW)

*\*I will send conference bridge information via email*

For more information or to review all of the requirements, please visit the Ohio Region's website Senior Program page <https://www.ohionsp.org/programs/senior>. If you can't find what you're looking for or if you have additional questions, feel free to contact me.

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**Twyla Southall**  
[tdsouthall@yahoo.com](mailto:tdsouthall@yahoo.com)  
**Ohio Region SROEC Administrator.**



Check out <https://www.ohionsp.org>

## Ohio Region Certified

Hey everyone! I hope you're all set for the holidays. I am excited that the ski season has started. I have taken the reigns of the Certified Program for the Ohio Region from Eric Massanyi this season. Certified is an exciting and challenging program and I want to give everyone a good idea of what's involved:

Certified is a national skills development and verification program that provides a readily identifiable resource of highly motivated, skilled, and knowledgeable patrollers to better serve NSP, ski area management and the outdoor recreation community. Bottom line, Certified is an intense program. There are 10 different modules that must be completed within a three year period. They consist of OEC, Skiing/Boarding, Toboggan, Rope safety (Low Angle Rescue and Char Evacuation), Avalanche Safety, and Area Operations/Risk Management. It's a lot, but don't let that overwhelm you. This program is focused on leadership development and giving back to the National Ski Patrol. Covering this much information will make you one of the most well-rounded, skilled patrollers in the NSP. To date, there are under 850 patrollers that are Certified in the entire history of the NSP. Keep in mind, we have 27,000 active patrollers in the US. So, Certified is literally the top 1% of patrollers. Feel overwhelmed yet? Ha! Stay with me.

Certified requires two main things: Skills and Giving Back. Clearly your skills need to be at their peak - you're being tested in several arenas. Just as important is how you're giving back. Along with your skills, you are also evaluated on how you have and are currently involved in the National Ski Patrol.

The Ohio Region website has the information you need about the Certified Program. Check it out at [OhioNSP.org/Programs/Certified](https://OhioNSP.org/Programs/Certified) to learn more. If you have any questions about them, please reach out to me, or any Certified Patroller. If you're interested in entering the program, and meet the pre-reqs, complete the application. It must be completed by December 31, 2018 - No exceptions. The Ohio Region hosts the Qualification Clinic every year for those desiring to enter the program. The Qualification clinic will give you a taste of Certified and allow the staff to evaluate your skills and service with the NSP. If you just want to learn more and observe the program, you are more than welcome to attend. Send me an email and let know.

### Qualification Clinic - January 5 & 6, 2019 - Perfect North Slopes

You can do two things at this clinic - Come as a guest, or participate in the Qualification. Again, if you want to join the program, complete and submit the application by Dec 31, 2018. If you want to be there as a guest, email me. We're happy to have you observe and learn more.

### Central Division Certified Exam - February 28-March 2 - Boyne Highlands/Nubs Nob

The Certified exam will be held in up state Michigan this year. Qualified candidates will test at this event. For those interested in attending to observe, let a Certified staff person know.

Dave McKinley  
[davemckinley4@yahoo.com](mailto:davemckinley4@yahoo.com)  
Ohio Region Certified Advisor



## Snow Trails Ski Patrol

The 2018-2019 ski season kicked off on December 7<sup>th</sup>. Snow Trails snow making took advantage of the early cold temperatures to stockpile snow in late November. We were open December 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> to sunny skies and great snow conditions. Management made the decision to close during the following week and re-open on December 14<sup>th</sup>. We are now open for business.

We added 7 new candidates and they are very excited to get out and ski. I feel each of these patrollers will bring something new to the patrol. I want to thank Cat Hufnagle and Dia McDermitt-Hall for all of their time and hard work in preparing the course layout for these candidates. I also want to thank Dan Fay and Joe Mack for their part as instructors during the candidate training. They kept the training interesting, informative, and enjoyable.

Dr. Dave Walker has accepted the position of medical advisor for the Snow Trails Ski Patrol. Dave has been a secondary patroller with us for several years now and we are thrilled to have Dave working with us.

The area purchased a Polaris 4x4 for the patrol this year. Management does not want snowmobiles on the ski slopes while skiers are on the hill. We will have to re-think how to position ourselves on the hill to prepare the transportation of an injured customer to the patrol hut. The Snow Trails Patrol will be stepping up our training of toboggan handling to ensure both patrollers and customers are safely transported down the hill.

**Bill Harkins**  
Patrol Director, Snow Trails Ski Patrol



## Paoli Peaks

Greetings from the Paoli Peaks Ski Patrol! We have been busy preparing for the upcoming ski season. December has been here and is almost gone! The Christmas decorations are up and they have been playing carols on the radio. It's time to Ski!

Snowmaking began at Paoli Peaks early in the morning of December 7, but we aren't open yet and look forward to be opening this coming week!

Our OEC class had a strong finish thanks to the efforts of our IOR, Julie DuChane, and her team of instructors. We began the class with eight candidates and all eight completed the course! Please join me in welcoming Lucas Baurichter, Chris Boggs, Doug Durham, Rick McMullen, Douglas Pedersen, Evan Pedersen, Carter Robbins, and Chad VanDam to the Paoli Peaks Ski Patrol and to the Ohio Region!

We are all looking forward to cold weather and a great season!

**Joe Collins,**  
Paoli Peaks Ski Patrol  
Patrol Representative



## Mad River Ski Patrol

### Hello from the Top of Ohio,

Mad River is pleased to welcome 9 new OEC technicians this season. We are currently putting the final touches on our Mountain Host (M), program which we hope to have the 12 new MH on the snow soon. We are hoping to use the MH program as a bridge to the patrol as well as helping the potential candidate get an idea as to how the Patrol operates as well as learning how the area operates. This season Mad River will be teaming up with Snow Trails for a OES that Snow Trails will be hosting.

Mad River will be hosting a TES and a SES in January. We have made some improvements to the Patrol room to help maximize our space. The area has decided to change our Midnight Madness hour from 2am to 1am our members are happy about that considering a few years ago we were open until 4am.

Mad River Mountain Ski Patrol would like to wish everyone a happy and safe holiday and ski season.



**H. Scott Griffith, Patrol Director**  
Mad River Mountain Ski Patrol  
1000 Snow Valley Road  
Zanesfield, Ohio 43360  
☎: 1-800-321-SNOW ext. 219  
☎: 614-309-5557



## Perfect North Slopes

Life is humming along at Perfect North as we get ready for the beginning of the 2018-2019 season. Thanks to the decision to add an NSP Mountain Host program and outstanding work on the part of our recruiting team, we are adding 16 Mountain Hosts and 18 candidates to our ranks this season. We are thrilled by the response to our new program and hope it works as a feeder to our OEC program. All of our OEC candidates passed their written and on the hill tests so they are anxious to get on the snow and earn their red jackets.

Our Management is in the process of building a new self-contained aid building for us. While we could not convince them to do the hot tub thing, the new building will have heated concrete sidewalk areas, air conditioning, indoor lockers for everyone, meeting rooms and as an aside, centralized oxygen, more beds and treatment areas, additional private rooms, a mini-kitchen and all sorts of other goodies. We had hoped to be in prior to the start of the season but it now looks like we will be transitioning mid-season. Ownership is making a huge investment in the patrol and we cannot wait to get in there. We would love to show it off so if you get the chance to ski or board at Perfect North this year, please let us know.

For many years, our primary liaisons at Perfect North had been Denise Keller and Mike Mettler and when Mike left, more people were added to the contact list. Management decided to create a new position at Perfect North with that person being the point of contact between our Patrol and Management. It was recognized that one of the requirements for holding such a position should be having worked as a Patroller. The insight into the realities of being a patroller and the understanding of both Management's and Patroller's needs was deemed to be invaluable. As a result, Alex Herrmann was selected by Management to actually become a year around employee of the area and to serve as the primary point of contact between the patrol and Management. Alex will continue to work as a patroller but will also take on many additional responsibilities, including some aspects of risk management. We are very happy with the selection of Alex for this new role and think that it represents both an additional investment in the Patrol as well as a better, more efficient means of communication between the two organizations. Alex has been a real boon to the Patrol, serving in many time consuming important roles for a period of many years. He has done an outstanding job running our Refreshers the past few years, has lead or assisted our OEC classes for many years, served on our Board, helped create our new website and came forward with the idea of the Mountain Host program, as just a few examples.

While the year is young, it is an exciting time to be a Patroller at Perfect North Slopes.

**Mike Reed**  
Patrol Director Perfect North Slopes



Check out <https://www.facebook.com/National-Ski-Patrol-Ohio-Region-660867657298115/>



**Ohio Region 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](mailto:downhilleditor@gmail.com). News items can be created in Word and/or the articles can be included in the body of an email. Please use Calibri or Times New Roman 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 eight or higher gigabyte photos, but these are really much too large. One or two gigabyte photos are plenty big and still can 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 DOWNHILL. Send photographs from your area or that might be of interest to our patrollers. The Spring/Summer Edition will deal primarily with awards and patrol news! Please send any items before May 1st, 2019.**

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

**Thank you to all who sent articles and photos for this edition!**

**Thank you Ken Rose for sharing the Inspirational Posters**



*“Being dependable, means that we do what we have said we would do, when we said we would do it, and in the best way we can.”*