

# DOWNHILL



<http://www.ohionsp.org>

Ohio Region Award Newsletter, June 2019, National Ski Patrol System, Inc. Volume 47, #3



***Guy Day, Ohio Region Director***

The 2018-2019 season has essentially come to an end in the Ohio Region. We had a small but very enthusiastic group at the Region Spring Business Meeting and Awards Banquet in the beginning of May. Snow Trails did a wonderful job of hosting the event at Mohican Lodge. It was announced at the meeting that Chris Raudabaugh will be appointed the interim Region Director by John Thomas (Division Director) at the end of June to complete the last year of my 3-year term. I feel very confident that the Region will be in good hands with Chris. All four of the Assistant Region Directors will be staying to help Chris this upcoming season. I am very appreciative of Chris, Amy, Bruce, Clara and Rich for staying on during this transition year.

The Region will be hosting the 2019 Fall Division Meeting September 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> in Cleveland. The event will be hosted at the Hilton Downtown Cleveland. We have lots of fun and exciting things planned for the meeting. All details will be posted on the Region Website in the very near future. Check the calendar for other upcoming events across the Region as well.

We had a successful Senior Event Weekend which was hosted by BMBWAV. At the end of the weekend, we had nine (9) new Senior Alpine Patrollers and seven (7) new Senior Patrollers. Thank you to Twyla, Janet, Alida, Kevin and Julie plus all the volunteers that helped make the weekend so successful for these new Seniors. We also had some great success in the Certified Program March with Mark Branham (#826) and Tracy Buchanan (#829) completing their journey and earning their Certified numbers at the Division Certified Event hosted by Nubs Nob and Boyne Highlands.

We have a couple of Region Advisor positions that need to be filled and the job openings are posted on the Region Website, [www.ohionsp.org](http://www.ohionsp.org). If you have any interest or questions about the roles, please reach out. If you would like to get involved at the next level, please fill out the application and submit your name for consideration.

Thank you for a wonderful five years and the opportunity to represent the Ohio Region at the Division Level. I am truly blessed to be a part of the best Region in the Division. Guy

## ***Message from Chris Raudabaugh:***

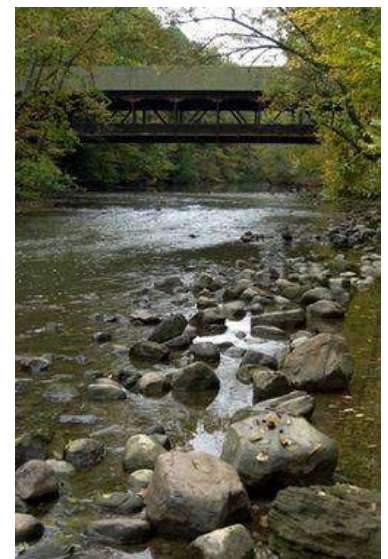
Starting July 1<sup>st</sup>, I will be helping out the Ohio Region as Region Director to finish out Guy Days term, while Guy moves over to the Division Staff in a new role as an Assistant Division Director. I know Guy will do a great job in his new position and wish him the best.

I look forward to helping out and directing the current Ohio Region staff during the 2019/2020 season. One of our top priorities is staffing, and I invite all Ohio Region patrollers who are interested in taking their leadership and region experience to the next level by visiting [ohionsp.org](http://ohionsp.org) for open staff positions. If you don't find anything interesting, please bookmark it for future postings.

Please keep the Region calendar posted with summer events, this is a great resource for patrollers and myself for coming to your patrol to visit during the off-season. Send event information to myself, or to our webmaster, Rose Dejarnette (r.defarnette@gmail.com), so we can add it to the calendar.

Please do not hesitate to call or email me with any questions or concerns.

Chris Raudabaugh  
[chris@evidia.com](mailto:chris@evidia.com)  
614-581-4954 (mobile)



## 2019 Region Awards Banquet

The 2019 Ohio Region Banquet was held at Mohican State Park Lodge and Conference Center

on May 4th after a day of region spring business meetings. The Ohio Region appreciates all the hard work that Snow Trails did in planning the event.

Special guest present for the banquet was Jay Zedak, National Board Member. Among the highlights of the night were the announcement of three 55 year service awards, and the announcement of two Purple and two Blue Merit Stars this year for a (24 hour) life saving CPR incident by Perfect North patrollers, unfortunately on one of their own. Of extra special importance was Troy Green's National Appointment, and Sue Hendricks Leadership Commendation Appointment.

We had some excellent award submissions this year, as always, and I actually already know that the Ohio Region represented well 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







## 2019 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 2019 database. 100 service awards were awarded this year, with 36 of those being 25 years or beyond, and 20 being 35 and beyond.

### ALUMNIS 15 – 35 YEARS

JIM ERIKSON	CATHERINE RAKOVAN
DAVID LAVERGNE	ALDO BARSOTTI
PAUL MEDEIROS	JOANN CHES-CARTER
RICHARD MORRIS	JOHN CHOI
FRANK PULSFORT	DENNIS DITTIACUR
FRED SCHILL	LAYTON IVES III
THOMAS MEEK	BRYAN LOVELESS
CYNTHIA ORR	OREST MELNYK
	ALAN OGLE

### ALUMNIS 40-60 YEARS

ERIC ABELL	BARBARA
CAROL CURRIER	WEINFURNTER
PATRICIA HAUPT	MIKE PETKASH
NANCY PETERSON	JOSEPH PETSCH
<b>BILL CURRIER</b>	ERNEST STROMMER
CLAUDIA GRIEVE	JOHN ARMSTRONG
ANNE RASSIGA	MAYILYN HANSEN

### 5 YEAR SERVICE AWARDS

JERA BARRETT	JAMES WILLIS
KELLY ANN DAVIS	PETR ZORICA
DENISE GALICKI	SALLIE EVANS
MEREDITH JUNKO	DAVID FAULKNER
JASON LOTZ	DAVID MCKENNA
RACHEL REXROAD	DOUGLAS
MIRIAM RICKETTS	SANDERSON
ERIC SCHEIDER	<b>TWYLA SOUTHAL</b>

### 5 YEAR SERVICE AWARDS

WALTER TAYLOR	ROBERT DOERNING
JUSTIN TUGAOEN	STEVEN DREFAHL
JULIE WINGARD	HANNAH
KAREN BEATON	GOLDSTEIN
PHILLIP BEATON	CHRIS GREENWOOD
JERRY	RON HAGER
GETTELFINGER	LESLEY HAHN
MICHAEL LEWIS	ANDREW HAYES

### 5 YEAR SERVICE AWARDS

STEPHANIE	CURT GOETZ
HILGEFORT	TRINA MARTIN
CARLO	SHARI
PEROTTINO	MATCHNEER
RICHARD PITT	RUSSELL
SEAN SELFE	RIDGEWAY
	CHRISTOPHER
	TONTI

### 10 YEAR SERVICE AWARDS

RASHID FARAHATI	GARY BACHINSKI
SUZANNE FORTUNA	NICK GALLO
DOLORES GALASKA	DAVID HIGHMAN
LAURA HUDEK	HEATHER QUILLET
MELANIE KILMER	JEFFREY SCHNEIDER
JASON PURUCZKY	BILL SPECT
JEFF REYNOLDS	MICHAEL STIVES
DEBORAH ROWANE	DANIEL THERIAULT

### 10 YEAR SERVICE AWARDS

KATHERINE	DAVID
CHARLTON-	JACKSON
PERKINS	DAVE
KELLI	MCKINLEY
DENNISON	KYLE NEWSOM
KIM DURRAM	HAROLD PARK
JADE GARRETT	



### 15 YEAR SERVICE AWARDS

RICH COMPTON	ROGER
KURT MCLAUGHLIN	SHAMBAUGH
<b>DAVID THARP</b>	SCOTT CHAPMAN
KURT FARRELL	STEVE
DAN FANCEY	COTTINGHAM
DUNCAN HIGHMAN	SCOTT DAWSON
RICHARD JACKSON	SCOTT HEMPEL
	DAVID PFLUM

### 15 YEAR SERVICE AWARDS

JIM BICHL	PETER RONIS
PAT CALVEY	DAVID PURUCZKY
RUDRA	SALVATORE
CHOUHDURY	MENDOLERA
PETE DOLSON	DENNIS
SILVIA DOLSON	KRANKOWSKI
JASON KLABIK	WILLIAM SMUTS

### 20 YEAR SERVICE AWARDS

JIM BURNS	PATTY JOHNSON
KAREN HOOPER	BARRY MESLEY
ROBERT	GARY NORTH
HOOPER	DIANE
SCOTT VARNEY	HERSHNER

### 20 YEAR SERVICE AWARDS

KIM GARRETT # 11172  
RON GERDES # 12034  
JOHN MCGOFF # 10888  
**ALIDA MOONEN # 10884**  
BRUCE HEICHELBECH # 11794

### 25 YEAR SERVICE AWARDS

SHARON BORROR	JEB SHEIDLER
ROB HOVANEC	LEN KEARNEY
JAY MARTIN	MATT CLAPPER
JOE NG	KELLY HERRMANN
KELLY	BRUCE SMITH
WIERZCHOWSKI	

**25 YEAR SERVICE AWARDS**

AMY ARNOLD # 11792  
TROY SOUTHWICK #11264  
JAMES VICKROY # 9862  
SCOTT KINNAMON # 8465

Scott  
Kinnamon



**30 YEAR SERVICE AWARDS**

**MICHAEL MCCOY**

**35 YEAR  
SERVICE AWARDS**

MICHAEL POPIK  
CHRIS EICHBERGER  
ROGER COFFMAN  
KEN GORET  
JOE JACOB

**35 YEAR SERVICE AWARDS**

**JANET GLAESER  
# 7409**



**40 YEAR SERVICE AWARDS**

ELLEN MULQUEENY  
TODD BERGSTROM  
RICHARD KOHARIK  
WALT KRAWCZONEK  
BRIAN WHITE  
PETER YANDA

**45 YEAR  
SERVICE AWARDS**

PAUL DEFRANCO  
# 7584  
KATHLEEN NEWELL  
# 6787

**50 YEAR  
SERVICE AWARDS**

**WALTER PAIKO**

**55 YEAR  
SERVICE AWARDS**

**ARMIN KOEP**

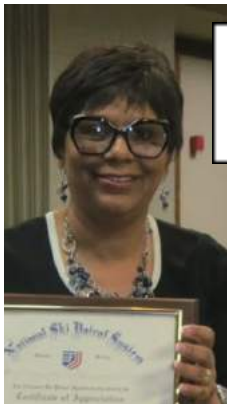
**GARY WEAVER # 6447**  
**TOM WORLEY # 5073**

Gary Weaver  
55 Years



## Certificates of Appreciation!

Several certificates of appreciation were announced, and also recognized were retiring region personnel: Tracy Buchanan, Jim Burns, Twyla Southall and Brian Harrison, Kim Durram and Dana Zedak. Division Certificates of Appreciation were given to Sandi Hammons and Bill Currier as retiring Division Awards Judges. Tim Durbin received a Certificate of Appreciation for work with MTR as an instructor.



Twyla  
Southall



Bill  
Currier



Tim  
Durbin



The Ohio Region Snow Sports School recognized those who advanced their skills by passing PSIA tests:

Jim Seeger Perfect North Slopes Level II PSIA.





**A moment of silence in recognition of those patrollers who passed recently was observed at the 2018 Ohio Region Awards Banquet:**



**MAX HESS 1951 – 2018**

**BRIAN WEDGE 1966 – 2019**

**DON KNOWLES 1928 - 2019**



**PNS patroller Mark Branham # 826 and Tracy Buchanan # 829 of Boston Mills Brandywine Alpine Valley 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 506 hours this season, ran away with this award...again....



**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 Andrew Dangler of Paoli Peaks. 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.







Purple Merit stars were awarded to two Perfect North patrollers, who used life saving CPR skills on the hill to save, at least for 24 hours, the life of one of their own. Brian Smith and Al Czarnecki were awarded purples, and Eric Johan and Mike O'Hara were awarded blues in support of that tragic incident.

Critical Care Awards were given to Henry Hiddinga of Paoli Peaks, Jason Dahlman of Snow Trails and 4 PNS patrollers – Chris Greenwood, Tanya Cooper, Stephanie Hilgefort and John Corrigan – for incidents of medical complexity that didn't rise to the level of a purple or blue.



Jason (Jay)  
Dahlman

In recognition of the danger we patrollers are sometimes in while in the line of duty, the Purple Cross is given to those who suffered a significant injury that requires surgery, extensive rehab, loss of work or patrol time.

This year, 3 from Paoli were injured in the line of duty



Ohio Region  
**PATROLLER CROSS**

**ALEX HEICHELBECH**

**TOM STORCK**

**GREG LISKE**

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

### SENIOR PATROLLERS

BOSTON MILLS BRANDYWINE  
ALPINE VALLEY  
DEB NIKRANT  
FELDA SIMON  
JOHN WHITNEY EAKIN  
RITA JOHNSTON  
TRICIA MENCIN

### SENIOR ALPINES

BMBWAV	PNS
KELLY DAVIS	MEGAN SUNDERHAUS
MRM	SCOT GILB
JUSTIN TUGAOEN	STEPHANIE HILGEFORT
JONAH TUGAOEN	CAROL TETER
WALLY TAYLOR	CAROLE CANGIONI

## Certificates of Appreciation

A special certificate of appreciation from the Women's Program was presented by Dana Zedak to Yvette Gerdes for her many years of service and leadership to the Ohio Region, her commitment and pursuit to become a certified patroller and for her energy, uniqueness and encouragement of women patrollers.

Further region awards were the Wally James to Scott Griffith for Outstanding Line Officer, the Dick Schleicher to Dave Baumlein for Outstanding Administrative Officer, and the Region Directors Award to Dana Zedak.

Scott  
Griffith



Dave  
Baumlein



Dana  
Zedak



To close our awards banquet, we were honored to have a Leadership Commendation Appointment, LCA, and one of two newly appointed National Appointments (one will have to wait till the Division Meeting this fall) to present.

# Sue Hendricks



Scott Kinnamon, Chris Raudabaugh, **Sue Hendricks**, Guy Day, and Jay Zedak

## Sue Hendricks; Leadership Commendation Appointment Recommendation

On behalf of myself, and our ski patrol; I would like to nominate this outstanding candidate for her Leadership Commendation Appointment. As a dedicated patroller, she has demonstrated outstanding leadership qualities. She began her ski patrol career in 2001 as a candidate and within a very short period time, she turned out to be one of our best patroller's. She enjoyed helping and training of others so much that she became an OEC instructor. She continued as an OEC instructor from 2002 through 2014. Also during that time she also became our IOR in 2007, for which she held that position until 2012.

Due to her commitment to NSP and our patrol, she was elected Assistant Patrol Director in 2007 and held that position until she was elected Patrol Representative in 2012 through 2018.

During her reign as Patrol Representative, she used her skills in communications and leadership to the benefit of our patrol and to the Ohio Region. The accomplishments included her ability to work with area management to provide ongoing safety meetings with schools and outside organizations. She also provided OEC cross training with the local Red Cross. She also started a program called "lids for kids" in 2014 to help kids get helmets. She helped raise money to support Lids for Kids, which still continues today.



Also, she has worked within the region to support regional meetings be hosted by our patrol. To name a few; Ohio Region Spring meeting and awards, Senior OEC, Region Women's Clinics. She also has promoted involvement within the Ohio Region making sure her local patrol maintains an active role in the Ohio Region.

Because of her outstanding leadership, and commitment to the skiing industry and to the Ohio Region, She won the 2015 and 2018 Outstanding Patrol Representative for the Ohio Region and went on to be runner up in the Central Division in both 2015 and 2018.

She continues to lead by example by supporting Regional S & T clinics and attending them. She knows that by improvement of one's personal skills, as a group we all gain in excellence.

There several NSP awards that recognize her ongoing efforts such as in 2008, she earned a Blue Merit Award, NSP 10-year Service Award, 12 Year OEC Instructor Service Award.

Sue's leadership and enthusiasm in regard to the NSP organization and her involvement at the local level is inspiring to say the least. Her dedication to helping others at all levels within the NSP is why I highly recommend Sue Hendricks for a Leadership Commendation Appointment.

Scott Kinnamon #8465

# Troy Green



Guy Day, Chris Raudabaugh, Troy Green, and Jay Zedak

**NATIONAL APPOINTMENT # 12093 was given to Troy Green of Mad River Mountain, and this was his nomination letter.**

**TROY GREEN NATIONAL APPOINTMENT LETTER**

It is with great pleasure that I recommend this patroller for a National Appointment. He has truly demonstrated the leadership and commitment to the National Ski Patrol through his dedication to the Ohio Region and his local patrol at Mad River Mountain. He began his Outdoor Emergency Care (OEC) class in 1995 and was registered as a patroller in 1996. His skills were tested soon thereafter in a community incident for which he was awarded a Purple Merit Star.

As soon as he became an Alpine Patroller, he began working on his Senior requirements. The goal of Senior Alpine Patroller was promptly achieved. He also wanted to give back to the system that helped him, so he became an OEC instructor. He is still very active in OEC and currently helps as a Training/Evaluator in the Senior OEC Module. He contributed further by becoming an Outdoor Emergency Transportation (OET) instructor.

He continued to give back by serving as an assistant patrol representative, and at the end of this term, he was voted in as a Patrol Representative by his peers. His management style worked well with the membership. For the next 5 years he would be tested, enduring three general manager changes. During this time, he was able to focus on keeping the patrol operating in a way to provide the skiing public with the best service possible, as well as providing for the needs of the patrol membership. The biggest challenge during his time of leadership was when the ski area suffered a fire.

The fire consumed the entire lodge including the Ski Patrol room with all of the patrol's equipment. He rose to the challenge by working many hours with management and its insurance company to recover equipment and facilities. He had to get the patrol ready for a winter season that was only 2 months after the fire occurred. Refreshers were scheduled with no place to hold them. He worked with local officials to secure a facility that had enough space to accommodate the 100+ patrollers and to set up stations where the topics could be taught and refreshed.

Since the fire had consumed all of the equipment, he worked with vendors like Cascade Rescue, and the local hospital to acquire Rescue toboggans, Lift evacuation equipment, Cots, Oxygen tanks, masks, and other medical supplies needed to start the season. With the help of area management, a Trailer was brought to the hill and converted into a First Aid room with tool chests to house the medical supplies. Not a day went by that he wasn't planning, coordinating, negotiating, purchasing and setting up what was needed for us to provide service to the area. In the end Mad River Mountain had a safe and successful season with all the patrollers refreshed, facilities to care for its guests, and equipment to bring them safely off the hill.

Fundraising was a focus for Troy. He felt that the patrol should help offset costs incurred by instructors in keeping and advancing their certifications for the good of the patrol. He also wanted the patrol to be able to fund patrol events that were normally paid by its membership. He wanted the patrol to have the quality equipment necessary to best serve the skiing public. He initiated a fundraiser activity at the Outdoor Festival (sponsored by Subaru). He also made patrollers available for the annual Savage Race where proceeds for services were donated to the patrol. He also has set up various other fundraisers at Nationwide arena where patrollers donated time for food and drink sales. Not only was this to help raise funds, but to get the NSP out in public for awareness and recruiting.

As a Patrol Representative, Troy attended many Region and Division meetings and Senior testing events both OEC and OET to show support to his fellow patrollers. He has served in the Ohio Region leadership as advisor to the Safety Team and is currently the advisor for the Young Adult Patroller program.

Troy has shown the dedication and contributions estimable of a National Appointee and it is with great pleasure we present him his national number, 12093.

**Troy Southwick  
Mad River Mountain**

# 2019 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.

*Tracy Buchanan*

**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.



## What's a Patroller?

Someone who can be kind to a child with a bloody nose and make them laugh and feel better!



**Can be calming to their team in a stressful situation, while never showing the stress themselves.**

**Their wiliness to use their skill and knowledge as a Region IT for OEC, Division Instructor for Ski/Toboggan and a Level 3 PSIA instructor, to inspire others to believe in themselves to reach their goals!**

**This patroller possesses exceptional organizational skills, attention to detail, and the ability to effectively manage issues within their patrol as a Hill Captain and Board member, as well the Region Transportation Program Advisor and as Division Staff.**

**This Patroller is always willing to step up to the plate and help where needed!**

**The quote from Maya Angelou, “Nothing will work unless you do” sums up why we are nominating this Patroller for the Outstanding Administrative Patroller!**

## ***Dan Fay*, Snow Trails**

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



**As a dedicated patroller, he has demonstrated outstanding leadership qualities. He began his ski patrol career in 2006 as a candidate and he is an excellent patroller who has fostered team building by being the “Cookie” on his duty shift. This patroller has always been part of the support team for refreshers and OEC Classes, including organizing the OEC class for mass casualty event at his patrol for many years. It wasn’t until 2016 that we finally got him to complete his instructor training and become an official instructor with our patrol. This patroller was given the award last year at our patrol as the Outstanding Patroller. He has become ‘a man on fire’ with regard to helping teach the new candidates in the OEC classes. Since becoming an OEC instructor he has embraced the job with vigor with both OEC classes, the Fall Refreshers, an OES class in 2018 and now as a Toboggan Instructor.**

In 2018 this patroller taught multiple classes. The class structure was changed from a lecture type class to an online course learning module. The in-class instruction became a hands-on skills class which is actually more difficult to plan. This new structure was used to align with National Ski Patrol's intent for the on-line learning modules with the Fall Refresher. This patroller excelled at the new structure. His ability to provide top quality hands-on demonstrations and keeping with the six-pack teaching method. He showed up and volunteered to help candidates with almost every class. He co-organized an OES class that was attended by candidates from two different ski patrols. The class was attended by over 50 participants; 18 candidates, 30 volunteers and many instructors, who made this mass casualty event a success. Some of the volunteers were college students needing to fulfill their community service hours.

This patroller continues to "Lead by Example" by supporting the OEC program at his local patrol, as a mentor for two of the candidates on his duty shift. In addition, he is still "Cookie" on his duty shift providing hot meals; then heading to the slopes to work with candidates on toboggan handling to make sure they are ready for their end-of-season test. He strongly believes in making sure the new candidates are well trained, encouraged and made to feel welcome on our patrol and on their duty shift.

On a personal note we join patrol as candidates and form bonds with our classmates that last a lifetime. It is that bond that makes this patroller even more special to me. It is that bond that had him showing up to support the class and to ensure that his friend who had recently become the Instructor of Record was successful in their new position. One has brothers in life but few are chosen. This patroller's dedication to helping others is why I highly recommend him for the Outstanding OEC Instructor award.

## *Michael Bock*, Boston Mills Brandywine Alpine Valley

**Outstanding Young Adult Patroller Recognizes the best young Patroller who is less than 20 years of age by June 1st**



We have patrolled with this patroller on Friday nights for a number of weeks at our area. As a result, we each had the opportunity to work with and see this patroller function as a highly responsible and effective patroller. Not only does he perform the normal expected duties as a patroller, he truly recognizes the importance of skier safety and overall experience. For example, he individually took it upon himself to mark an area of the hill that was unsafe to skiers, which took extensive effort. In another recent case, he jumped into action to assist in shepherding skiers into line to make for a more efficient chairlift line and skier experience. As a new patroller that just joined this ski season, these are truly worth noting, especially since he is a young man of only 17 years of age. He quickly blended with Friday patrollers that have worked together for many years. We are always confident in his skills when we are dealing with any incidents on the slopes or in the patrol hut.

From the start of this year's ski season until January 25, 2019, he has logged 79.24 hours, an amazing commitment to the resort's Patrol, especially as a new patroller. His enthusiasm for being activity involved in the ski patrol does not end with patrolling, he has also been actively involved in the Ski Patrol Ski Swap Fundraiser and ArtFest, a community event requiring significant volunteer time of the Ski Patrol. Outside of the ski patrol, he is working towards his EMT certification and is activity involved in a Chief Fire Explorer program and Scouts BSA Troop 102.

We give him our highest recommendation for the honorable recognition of National Ski Patrol Outstanding Young Patroller.

I am the Hill Captain for the Saturday night shift at the Resort and have been a member of the Ski Patrol for thirteen years. I have had the pleasure of knowing this patroller since 2015 when he began regularly skiing with us as a guest of our shift. He showed interest in joining our Patrol very early on and would often assist us by helping to mark scenes, fill ice bags, and other tasks.

As soon as he was eligible to joined the Ski Patrol he did and successfully completed the OEC course in November of 2018. An eager student, he regularly sought out and attended additional training sessions to ensure he would pass the practical evaluation and become a competent first aid provider. All the while, he continued in his coursework at iSTEM Early College High School and in his EMT courses at a local Career Center.

Throughout the ski season he has worked to improve his skiing in our OET program. As with the OEC class, he has often sought out additional help from both patrollers and member of our area's PSIA staff. He has become a valued and dependable member of my shift. He has also assisted with short-staffed shifts and the Senior Toboggan Evaluation despite his busy schedule.

In short, I am proud to call him a fellow patroller. His enthusiasm for patrolling is contagious. He is an asset to any shift that he patrols with and is well-deserving of being this year's NSP Outstanding Young Patroller.

## ***Tom Ciranna*, Boston Mills Brandywine Alpine Valley**

**Outstanding Patrol Representative, for that NSP PR who demonstrates excellent leadership  
in all they do**



Guy Day and Tom Ciranna

It is a privilege, and with great pleasure, that we nominate this individual for Outstanding NSP Patrol Representative. He has been the PR for our patrol for 13 years. Why so long? That's easy. The patrol is so satisfied with his leadership that we have never wanted to (or in fact ever have) challenged his re-election.

We are a large patrol that supports several ski areas. This creates an administrative challenge that requires a high level of cooperation and collaboration and, most importantly, finely tuned leadership. Our PR's ability to work with the unique needs of the separate areas, with their various personalities and challenges, is a hallmark of his administration. With the support



and skill of several strong assistants and an elected representative board, he successfully coordinates an operation that runs smoothly and effectively.

Advocacy is a particular strength of our PR. He consistently advocates to area management for the patrol as a whole, and on behalf of individual member concerns as they arise. Several times, management has notified him of changes they would like to make which could negatively impact the patrol and/or patrollers. He has been quick to point out how such management changes would affect the patrol and its ability to operate effectively. More often than not, his reasoning has altered the anticipated change. When it doesn't, he has taken the heat from patrollers who take issue with the change. He maintains his cool in these situations and works to either mollify the patroller or thank them for their service if they choose to leave the patrol in protest.

The wonderful work of our PR has not gone unnoticed. He has twice earned the Outstanding PR award at the region level (once earning Division Runner Up), and has twice earned a Yellow Merit Star for leading the patrol when it won the National Outstanding Large Patrol award.

Despite the time he spends conducting his PR duties, our PR also serves as a teacher and mentor. At the region level he is sought out as a resource for newer PRs who haven't had his experience. He willingly attends PR meetings and seminars, where he both learns from, and shares his experience with, other PRs in the region and beyond. He also serves as an OEC Instructor and IT, for both new candidates and for those seeking to earn Senior level and beyond. Most recently, for example, he was a core member of the team that trained our Senior OEC and ARM candidates to an outstanding result. And finally, he also coordinates the efforts of our OEC IT team, which plans all of our first aid training programs, ranging from the OEC candidate class, our Annual Refresher, and the Senior OEC and ARM.

Our patrol hosts many region events as well as division events on a rotating basis. We frequently host region meetings and banquets, OET and OEC training events, and more. Most recently, for example, two of our areas hosted our region's "Senior Evaluation Weekend" – i.e. where OET and OEC and ARM take place at once. This year, we will host the Division meeting in September. Our PR is working actively with the planning committee to ensure that we have a successful meeting.

Our patrol operates in ski areas that lie in one of America's most-visited national parks, where we are needed and utilized in several ways. We regularly provide first aid coverage for park events hosted by the areas, and our PR ensures that patrollers who serve receive special perks for doing so. For example, our ski area hosts an annual, 2-weekend set of juried art shows that draw thousands of patrons and visitors. Patrol members help with service at the opening night festivities, and then they provide support for the artists during the long (and often hot!) days of the show. Our PD ensures that we get the equipment and support we need to work at these events – and he does his bit by serving and helping the artists as well. It's both fun, and a privilege, to get the opportunity to work directly with the amazing and talented artists who compete vigorously to participate in these events.

Our patrol holds an annual ski swap that serves as our most important fundraiser. Our PD ensures that the event, which takes enormous planning and 7 full days of action, has a capable coordinator. He then supports the coordinator and the 50+ patrollers who work the event by liaising with area management, ensuring that we have the equipment and support that we need, and then helping out however is needed to ensure a successful swap.

It may seem as though our PR does too much. This may be true, since our PR seems to be everywhere and always available. However, we want to emphasize that the challenge of managing what are essentially three separate areas with a patrol that is one of the biggest in the country, requires constant oversight. The PR role at this patrol is not for the faint of heart, nor for someone who can't combine both good delegation skills with a fine eye for oversight. He is excellent at delegating the leadership responsibilities necessary to run our large, multi-area patrol, and he has a wonderful team of patrollers and leadership staff who also work very hard to support him and get the job done.

This PR doesn't just sit at the head of the table and leave the work of the patrol to others. He does his duty hours the same as any other patroller, and is the hill captain for his regular shift. He doesn't interfere with those who have been given program responsibilities, but actively participates in support roles for the classes and/or activities of the patrol. He is that unique mix of a well-respected, well-seasoned leader and is also an 'average' patroller just like the rest of us, who knows when to stand back and let others shine. This unique combination of gifts and talents, drive and compassion, patience and urgency – they combine into what we firmly and passionately believe to be an excellent candidate for Outstanding NSP Patrol Representative for 2019.

## ***Alida Moonen*, Boston Mills Brandywine Alpine Valley**

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



For some people teaching represents the core of who they are as a person – it is in their blood and is essential to their life. The individual we are nominating for the Outstanding OEC Instructor is just such a person. She excels with both content competency and understanding of the process of teaching and learning. She always seeks ways to enhance the learning of students in a way that maximizes their involvement, understanding, and retention and minimizes her presence as “the sage on the stage.” She is constantly aware of achieving the objectives in the OEC program whether involved in the OEC candidate class, the OEC Module of the Senior Program (OECMSP), the Aid Room Module (ARM), or assisting with our candidates practicing for the OEC portions of the Certified Program. Additionally, she is an evaluator for all except the Certified level and strives to assure a fair and balanced test situation in whatever role she plays in the testing process.

This instructor began her NSP career in a small start-up patrol in our region in 1999, achieving her Alpine Patroller status in that year. Since the leadership for that small start-up patrol knew of her background in teaching she was immediately drafted to become an OEC and ID instructor for the patrol. She was quickly also approved as an IT for both programs so that she could assist in building their instructor corps by offering local ID courses and then mentoring the new instructor candidates. She has maintained each of those Instructor and IT statuses since attaining them. The area only lasted until 2001 but in those few years she was active in all OEC related courses and refreshers, and was responsible for the training, mentoring, and appointment of several OEC Instructors. In the next 2 seasons she transferred to 2 other patrols in the region where she continued her involvement in OEC courses and refreshers. In 2003 she moved to the part of the region where she currently resides and joined the patrol there, and there she has stayed. And of course she has become an integral part of the OEC Instructor

and IT teams. In 2003 she also completed her Senior Alpine Patroller requirements and became certified as a Trainer/Evaluator for the OECMSP.

In addition to her work at the local levels, she has taken on task at the region level Co-Administrator for the OECMSP for the last 2 years. She has served the division as an IT for OEC and ID since 2000 and, as mentioned above, as a Trainer/Evaluator for the OECMSP since 2003. Additionally, she worked on the national level developing instructor materials for the OEC 5th edition, and as a member of the refresher committee from 2014-2016.

Although she does teach during our OEC candidate class and annual refreshers, her more usual role is as a mentor and internal QA person. With her background as an educator as well in the ID program she is the ideal person to work with both new and experienced OEC instructors to ensure that presentations don't sink to the level of 'Death by Powerpoint' or endless lectures. She will confer with an instructor on a lesson plan and make multiple and creative suggestions of how the instructor can increase the level of student or patroller involvement in the class or refresher station. And if an instructor is ready to be certified, or is up for recertification, she may do an observation and appropriate kudos and/or constructive feedback as needed.

Where the OECMSP and ARM are concerned, however, she is VERY hands-on with our patrol's candidates, spending hours each week in both planning and training sessions. Our local training program has always effective, but has been rather loosely put together. This year, she set a goal of increasing the organization so that candidates and trainers would know what the topic and goals were for each training session. A syllabus was developed and distributed and activities and/or scenarios were pre-chosen to allow candidates and trainers to just jump in and get started at each session. Achievements of skills and scenario check-offs were recorded on a spreadsheet as well as each candidate's form so that everyone was aware of what we'd accomplished and what we needed to finish up. It took our effective program and made it efficient as well.

Our region's OECMSP program was struggling 2 years ago, and she offered her services (along with her co-administrator) to work on making necessary changes and providing mentoring for a new Region Administrator. Under their leadership, the region's TE clinics became more hands-on and interactive and the calibration clinic for the test was taken from just the TEs sitting around discussing the scenarios, to an all hands on-deck demonstration of each by the team that would be participating and/or evaluating each of them. As the new ARM standards have been implemented, she (they) worked closely with the region's new ARM Administrator to provide a symbiotic relationship between the OECMSP and the ARM which allowed candidates to easily complete both evaluations each of the last 2 years – with much success I might add. Speaking of success, for the last 2 years our OECMSP candidates have gone from a miserable success rate I don't even want to mention to 70+% of candidates passing each of the last 2 years.

It would be easy to continue to citing the dedication and accomplishments of this remarkable OEC instructor and IT, and of course this doesn't even cover the ways she serves the patrol in non-instructor roles – and they are numerous as well. However, I hope I've been able to communicate the essence of her impact on the OEC program on every level, and I trust you will agree that she well deserves the Outstanding OEC Instructor Award.



## *Alex Herrmann*, Perfect North Slopes

**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.**



This Patroller joined the National Ski Patrol in 2010 and has become an integral part of our OEC program. Upon completion of his candidate year, he began his journey to become an OEC instructor, which he accomplished in 2012. He then became IOR of the OEC candidate class in 2013, co-IOR the 2014 OEC, IOR of the 2015 class, co-IOR of the 2016 Class, co-IOR of the 2017 class and IOR of this year's class. This level of support not only shows consistent commitment, but this leadership is the base from which patrol expanded service at our local patrol and area.

In 2014 he became active on our recruitment team. He has helped rewrite the application process, attended the ski-alongs and evaluated prospective candidates to ensure that our OEC class has a good mix of dedicated and committed individuals. He then established and formalized a mentor program for our new candidates, once they are on snow. In 2016 this patroller managed a committee to establish criteria and skill "check-offs" for the mentors and candidates. Successful completion of this program is now required before the candidate completes our Candidate Patroller program.

Last season our local Ski Area Management asked that we accelerate the growth of our patrol. This patroller led committees to develop two new programs, one culminating in the creation of a new NSP unit. Knowing our patrol could not staff a one day ski-along for 100 recruits, he initialized a new program utilizing ski-along evenings. He organized a dozen seasoned patrollers to conduct the evening long sessions, during which, the recruits are assessed. This new program enabled a better understanding of potential candidates, resulting in more interested and better qualified candidates. The new program resulted in better retention during the transition from recruiting to actually participating in OEC classes. This patroller recognized that many of the recruits were not able to commit to the long OEC Class and focused on developing a new NPS Mountain Host Unit for those recruits. Our local ski area embraced the new program and urged that this patroller manage the program. In total, the recruitment program reviewed 65 applicants and offered training to 48. He gathered several patrollers to help and enlisted Mountain Host recruits in a First Care NSP class. The area approved the program, the NSP approved the new unit and this patroller accepted the position of Mountain Host manager.. He was instrumental in obtaining

new Mountain Hosts distinctive jackets and administered their new schedules. This season, 18 recruits passed OEC and became patrollers and 15 passed the new Mountain Host program resulting in a total 33 new area volunteers.

In his personal life this Patroller provides management of a local dance academy, also providing support with prop and set design and construction, music editor, and travel agent. Our local ski area decided to hire a full time employee to manage their ski patrol. This new employee would assume patrol duties from two existing managers and one administrative assistant. This patroller was on the short list of possible candidates, was interviewed and accepted the position. This patroller now interacts with area managers, patrol Crew Chiefs, customers and patrollers. He conducts follow-up interviews with all injured customers, conducts all day to day business involving the patrol and manages all patrol and Mountain Host scheduling.

## *Perfect North Slopes*

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



We are fortunate to have a wonderful, dedicated group of Patrollers who come together from near and far with a single purpose in mind-to help guests enjoy their visits to our snow facility safely and failing that, to give them the best and fastest care available using a combination of National Ski Patrol training, local protocols and area management.

Our local Ski Area Management asked that we accelerate the growth our patrol. Our patrollers have been very successful for years recruiting new patrollers conducting a one or two day “ski along”. Typically we added 12 to 15 new patrollers each year. But to double that number, things had to change. Two new programs were developed, one culminating in the creation of a new NSP unit. We could not staff a ski-along for 100 recruits, so a new program was developed utilizing ski-along evenings. A dozen seasoned patrollers volunteered to conduct the evening long sessions. During the evenings the recruits were assessed. This has enabled us to get to really know potential candidates, resulting in more interested and better qualified candidates. The end result is that we get better retention in terms of the transition from recruiting to actually participating in the OEC class. We were also able to provide a program for those recruits that were interested but not able to commit to the rigors of OEC and the full patroller obligation. The end result for our ski area? We enlisted 18 new patroller candidates and 15 new Mountain Hosts, effectively doubling our new staff and meeting our areas’ request. The recruitment program reviewed 65 applicants; we offered the programs to 48

and finished with 33 new area volunteers. How does this help NSP? The Mountain Host program was registered with the NSP as a new unit with all the training provided by local NSP patrollers. One of our seasoned patrollers is their PR. How does this help our Patrol? The new Mountain Hosts wear distinctive jackets, are scheduled with our Patrollers and assist on the snow, and already, three Mountain Hosts have committed to OEC next year.

Our ski area also decided to build a new patrol room last fall. A dozen patrollers volunteered and helped management design the new building. A patient quick assessment area, patroller locker room, patroller dressing rooms, an eating and meeting areas are included as well as expanded and private injured skier assessment areas. The dock area for squad access will be concrete and private as well. The hope was to be open for business this season but rain and engineering changes delayed completion. The building is nearly roofed and we look forward to it use next season. During the ski season our patrollers aid injured skiers but also work to prevent injuries on the snow. Management wants to provide the first time customer with an enjoyable and safe outing, so they return often. We actively help on busy days at lift unload stations so the new skiers can safely and effectively exit the popular lifts. We have one of the lowest rates of injury at our tubing hill, noted to be the finest and safest tubing park in the nation, and we work with Management to maintain those low injury rates. We are supported financially by our Ski Area Management and work hard to support them. Our Management appreciates the devotion and hard work of the patrollers and it shows. They are supportive of our goals and regularly invest in the Patrol, looking at both short term and long term goals. Our Management is interested in our perspectives on operations and equipment. They work cooperatively with the patrol and value its input. This year, our management invested in 40 new digital radios for our patrol, the radios cost over \$1200 each, the new system greatly improved communication on the snow. Our area also recently created a new paid, full time staff position that is to always be filled by a patroller. While the Patrol Director has always worked directly with various staff, the person holding this position will be the new Patrol Director contact, and as a patroller, will embrace the position with a ski patrol perspective and understanding that even the best intentioned management personnel cannot match.

Our patrol is busy year around and this is possibly the reason our retention rates are 96%. Prior to ski season OEC and CPR training is completed. Our OEC program uses classroom contact, online classes and weekend skills practice. This year nearly all our patrollers were CPR certified using our own instructors and our mannequins. 190 people completed our CPR classes. 18 candidates passed our OEC classes and 15 passed our Mountain Host training. During the ski season on snow training is extensive. Our patrol's PSIA and AASI ski and toboggan trainers maintain or improve their level 2, level 3 and Ed staff credentials, adding two new credentialed new trainers this season and two more passing upgraded status this year. Many attended a training weekend where two PSIA D Team members conducted personal improvement training. Our trainers conduct On the Hill Toboggan refreshers, Candidate, Senior and Certified training nearly every day. This season we expect 15 new Alpine patrollers, 5 new Alpine Seniors and wish the best to our three new Certified candidates. All training records are kept live and available online using a secure Google drive accessible to trainers and candidates in the patrol room, from home or on our smartphones. We have a new patroller web site, running separate for the first time, from our area's web site, although there remains links to both. We have tried to centralize communications with 24-7 access to the web site but also, a weekly e-blast containing important updates, being sent to all of our patrollers.

Once the local snow has melted, our patrollers continue with Avalanche classes, mountaineering weekends and other volunteer efforts including a variety of civic and charitable events, providing first aid services annually at bicycle races, running events, triathlons, car shows, mud runs and other events open to the general community. One of our former junior patrollers recently saved a life of a potential drowning victim using the CPR skills she learned from our CPR instructors. Another of our patrollers recently intervened in an automobile accident and was featured in both print and television news. Our patrol also has established charitable fund for use by patrollers in time of need. We recognize that bad things happen to good people; accidents, health problems, loss of employment and other issues can arise and have major impacts on our lives. We believe we are a family and that family helps each other through hard time, emotionally and financially. It has been our privilege, through the generosity of fellow patrollers, to be able to help our family through difficult times. We have helped patrollers with medical and funeral bills, have helped with dues and equipment and tried to not let anyone fall through the cracks. This patrol cares about each other and demonstrates it regularly.

It is our patrollers that make this patrol grow and flourish. Our members enjoy the snow sports, enjoy volunteering and helping others and reap the rewards personally through of self growth. They support our ski area, its growth and profitability. They support the National Ski Patrol, with current and past management posts including Region Director, Region Staff positions, Division Director, Division Staff positions, National Board Members, National Education Director, National MTR Program Director and last years' National Board Chair. They support the ski industry with numerous PSIA and AASI credentialed instructors and several Ed Staff positions. They support their community with countless volunteer activities. Possibly most importantly they provide each other with selfless hours of comradely and training to support the improvement of personal skills. Our dedicated members are actively tuning first aid, ski and snowboard skills, improving communication skills and skills to provide effective leadership. Please recognize this patrol with the honor and significant recognition this award represents.



**Accepting for Perfect North Slopes:  
Mike Reed, Patrol Representative**

**Thank you to Lori Ringley for compiling and formatting all the awards, ordering the awards, and the presentation at the Awards Banquet! Thank you to Joe Collins, Paoli Peaks Patrol Representative, for taking photographs at the banquet.**

**If there are any corrections or additions, please contact me at [downhilleditor@gmail.com](mailto:downhilleditor@gmail.com).**

**Leah Morgan, editor**