



POLARIS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NORTHERN DIVISION NATIONAL SKI PATROL

FEBRUARY 2008

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What Happened to Pluto?

by *Dan-O Schafer, Huff Hills Ski Patrol*

News Flash!!!! We have lost planet Pluto! Not the Disney Dog! The Whole Planet!

How on earth can one lose an entire planet? Did we blow it up with one of our rogue satellites? Was it stolen in a turf war by an alien gang from Krypton? Perhaps it wants to be only known as a sign? (formerly known as Pluto) Or did it run away like an unwanted stepchild who had been ignored by the sun and other big needy planets? What a quandary!

Do you have any 'Plutos? And what are you doing with your 'Plutos'? You know the type, they orbit for years never really making any noise or getting any attention. But they are always there doing what needs to be done without question or need. Suddenly they do not show up for the refresher or meetings. Then the note, "I, Pluto, have decided not to continue on the patrol." Then the reflection begins, "What happened, did someone upset them? Did I? Did we fail as a group to keep Pluto interested?"

But like with Pluto, we forget them quickly and the reflection of our possible failure of this patroller goes away. You quickly fill that void with someone new and you move on. The patrol will survive; you are satisfied you trained another. Like with Planet Pluto it really doesn't change much about life. It just happens.

What the hell is your point here Dan? Glad you asked!

I frequently think about who will and who will not stay each year. It is never the ones you expect. Because they are Plutos, they just hang around, never making a fuss, but finally just leave. We need to look for those lost planets and save the ones we can. Sadly, some are moons and they will need go. But some are the foundations of the patrols they make up; if they go, it shakes up the whole group. So find them and save them. Pay attention to your foundation members. They are hard to replace.

I began to think about the OEC Courses and Refreshers. We have some 'plutos' hanging around. They are not always the ones in the back

of the room either. They are just around. Do we know who they are? When do you want to find out they are not the planet you thought, but only a moon/chunk of frozen stuff? Not out on the mountain/hill when the chips are down and you need medical help! Please look at the ones that may not always understand a principle regarding OEC education. You know the type, they would rather not ask a question in fear of looking dumb. They would rather pretend they know and move with the group. What are you doing to make sure everyone is getting their much needed refresher education?

Are we allowing people to orbit through the refreshers and OEC courses without paying extra attention to those who need it? Do we all insure we have competent OEC providers on the mountains and hills we patrol? This message is not just for the instructors. Patrollers that know who the "Pluto" patrollers are not always the instructors or patrol directors. It is the other planets out there that work day to day with them, and know that Pluto is a moon, but never bother to help them or advise someone. It not OK to let them slide! They may be trying to save you or your family someday!

I know we will have Plutos leaving our patrols each year. Sometimes it is a good thing, (like when Plaxico Burrese left football! A Cancer, I am telling you!) But we do need all the good and average patrollers we can get, so save the ones you can, but don't let someone slip through the cracks. To gamble with bad patient care is an intergalactic mistake with potentially heavenly results. Everyone who can (not just the OEC educators) needs to be on the look out and teach. REMEMBER THAT HALF OF YOUR PATROLLERS ARE BELOW AVERAGE. That is simple math! That means everyone above average has to help!!! You know who you are!!!!!! Thanks for your efforts!!!

Thanks for listening to me rant!
Dan-O the OEC guy from Huff Hills

by **Bill Cathey**, Northern Division



Happy New Year All,

I was driving down the road thinking about what I should write about for this article. I chose to write to everyone about the "Big Picture."

The first item that must be understood is the roll of the National Ski Patrol. That roll is to educate patrollers in NSP specific programs - OEC, Toboggan Handling, Avalanche Safety, Mountaineering and Nordic Patrolling. Each Division sends their advisors to national meetings to help make the programs better and to return with new information to pass on to instructors in those disciplines.

The next item we must accept is that the programs we utilize are the National Ski Patrol programs. The bottom line is that NSP makes the final decision on what will be taught in each program and how it will be taught. It is not our job, as patrollers, to change information in programs because we think our way is better.

The National office and this Division are going through a great deal of change. For the last couple of years, we knew that these changes were coming. All of the programs have been or are in the process of being revised. Some of the revisions are to make the programs more user-friendly and some changes are driven from a liability aspect. Our division has taken the responsibility to educate and better train all of the supervisors by sending them to as many national meetings and division events that we can so that we are aware of the changes.

The sharing of new information starts at the Northern Division meeting in September. At the board meeting, the Patrol Representatives are informed of new information for each of the Disciplines. The patrol reps job is to pass this information onto their patrollers. The reps must also take this opportunity to inform the division board of what does or does not work within their patrol.

While that board meeting is going, in the next room there is a meeting with instructors from all disciplines and advisors from those disciplines. They too are talking about what is working in the Division and what is not. This information is then passed on to the division board, and then at the National Advisors meeting. My point is that we are all working together to make a better Northern Division.

As you are aware one of our biggest problems is the vast area that this Division covers. We must touch every patrol in our Division so that they are aware of what is expected of them from a Division and a National stand point. It is my goal to increase the number of instructors, Instructors Trainers and Instructors of Development throughout the Division in all disciplines. This will help cut down on the number of miles that need to be traveled to attend and/or put on a clinic.

We have a great group of Advisors in the Northern Division. Please take advantage of their knowledge. The advisors attend the national meeting and fight for what works best in their Division. Sometimes their point is adopted by all, but not always.

At some point you will be a part of a training, clinic or testing situation. I ask that you enter into that situation with an open mind and think about the "Big Picture." There will be different things taught when you go to these events. Understand that, from the NSP position, they must make a program that works for the majority most of the time. However, not everyone will be satisfied all of the time. That is when we must put ourselves in another Division's position and understand that the protocol may work for the majority of the Divisions and that is why it is to be done everywhere.

So when you attend a training event and there is something that you don't like, you must understand that it cannot be changed at that time. Please do not beat-up or try to force change onto the advisors. They are doing their jobs by carrying out what the National and Northern Division has decided. If you have suggestions or constructive criticism, please put it in writing and send it to me. I promise you that your opinions will be reviewed and you will get a reply back.

I welcome all of the new instructors and new patrollers that have joined the National Ski Patrol in this Division. We need you in our Division and I think you will have a very rewarding experience.

Thank you,
Bill Cathey
406-370-8362
bill@missoulasaws.com

The old time tested adage all skiers have said at least once in their life. Usually reserved for powder days missed, I find it more and more applicable to the way skiing used to be. Not just missing yesterday, but missing the way things were years ago.

I turn 40 this summer, 37 of those years have been spent waiting all summer for the first flakes to fall. I begin daydreaming about riding lifts in July, and it does not let up until I click in and make the first turns of the year. I keep thinking that the condition I have will improve, but I do not think there is a cure for what many others and I have. We have lived with the seasons bringing us what we crave, what we need. I could not imagine a winter without skiing.

I was lucky enough to grow up in Hayden Lake Idaho, skiing Schweitzer in Sandpoint in the 1970's and 1980's. I would mow yards all summer for the \$179 season pass, and my father would make sure 40 plus days a winter were spent exploring every inch of the South Bowl and hiking for turns above Coburn Lake. I recently went home to find Schweitzer all shiny and new. High speed lifts, state of the art condominiums, dining and lodging. The shiny and new part is all in the eye of the beholder I suppose. I fondly remember the old outdated lodge, and the way chair 7 would freeze up and quit all together. I remember the hole punch the ski patrol would use to give your pass a "warning", the deal was three and you were done for the year. Before computers had all your information logged away, we would get two before Christmas, then for \$5 get a "new" replacement pass after you told the nice lady "I washed mine in the laundry and it fell apart". That third punch was not an option. The parking lot was a mess, the road with all the switchbacks was a roll of the dice every day, and the farthest a tourist came from was maybe Walla Walla. The couple that owned the ski shop, who still own the ski shop to this day, would park cars in the parking lot for extra cash. It was simply put very 1970's. This is where I could easily tell a patron of Schweitzer today "you should have been here yesterday."

I graduated from Coeur d' Alene High school and moved to Lake Tahoe to enroll in the prestigious South Lake Tahoe Community College. A blatant excuse for me and my girlfriend to ski and snowboard every square inch of Squaw, Heavenly, Homewood, Donner, Kirkwood, and any place in between. I traveled to Jackson, Baker, Banff, Whistler, Bachelor, Breckenridge, and finally hit the jackpot when I married an Air force nurse and found myself in Germany for three years. I experienced the Alps the Dolomites and even rode a rope tow in Turkey just to say I did. I have ridden triples, quads, gondolas, and trams. I have hiked for turns, and have ridden

You Should Have Been Here Yesterday.

by
Michael Williams

on heated seats. I now find myself living in Montana, a member of the National Ski Patrol and patrolling at The Great Divide. 30 minutes from home, located in Marysville Montana, Great Divide is a glorious peak into the past. Great Divide boasts five lifts, all of which are doubles, and could never be

confused with anything "high speed". The lodge is outdated, the parking lot is a mess, the road is a crapshoot, and the number of local dogs inside the lodge usually outnumbers the dogs outside. The TV in the bar never has the big game on, and nobody seems to care. The only lodging is the lodging you bring with you, and the owners, Kevin, Nyla and their 3 daughters cook the food, rent the gear, sell the tickets, and see that the lights are turned off at the end of each day. My daughters are now 5 and 7, this is their third season skiing with mom and dad, and I hope that one day they will appreciate what this gem of a mountain has to offer. I know there will be a day that they too will travel off in search of "better" skiing. I hate to tell them that this, in many respects, is as good as it gets. Sure, there is no Palisades, or Corbett's, no Mangy Moose or 5 star dining at the top of the tram. It is after all still yesterday at the Great Divide.



I recently read an article by Warren Miller, he was waxing poetically as always about the good old days in the parking lot of Sun Valley, the teardrop trailer that he called home, and skiing for twenty cents a day. If I closed my eyes, I could hear him narrating as if he was sitting next to me. I could tell he missed the good old days. I have never had the pleasure of meeting Warren, but as I set off each ski day, I know that 30 minutes gets me to the Great Divide, 90 minutes gets me to Big Sky, Moonlight Basin, and if I ever bought a winning lottery ticket, the

Yellowstone Club. Warren is currently the director of skiing at the Yellowstone Club, and I am sure that I would find the place spectacular. I am sure that the high-speed lifts would get me a few more turns on fresh days, and the menu probably goes beyond pizza and chicken strips. I also know that if he ever wanted to venture to Marysville I could aptly play the role of director of skiing for the day. We would squeeze into the patrol hut at the top of Mount Belmont, brown bag it for lunch, and he would never hear me say, "You should have been here yesterday". Because you see, every day is yesterday at The Great Divide. Just the way we like it, and I am sure just the way Warren would too.

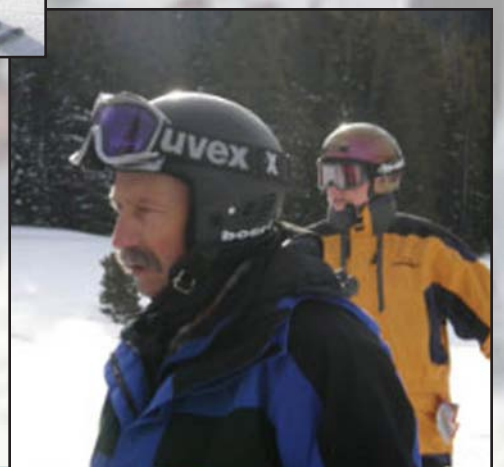


Michael Williams is a freelance writer from Clancy Montana. Raised in Coeur d' Alene Idaho he was a golf professional for 10 years in Northern California and Germany, and is currently a member of the National Ski Patrol. He is working as a freelance writer, novelist, and screenwriter and can be reached at montanafreelancewriter@yahoo.com



2009

WINTER TIP-



TIME TO THINK ABOUT AWARDS!!

- Judy Handstede, Awards Advisor

Outstanding Awards Nominations are due just around the next run. Sharpen those edges, make some curves on the snow and put the pen to the paper.

Northern Division has many dedicated individuals who perform outstanding services to our local ski hills, the skiing public, serve as Division Directors/Board Members/ reps./advisors and offer outstanding dedication to their local patrols. Of the 26,000 patrollers in NSP we have some of the best patrollers' right here in our own Division. I encourage each of you and your patrol to submit Outstanding Nominations to the N. Division Review Board for Division and National recognition.

Bill Cathey brought to my attention that some nominations are not presented because of the task of compiling information requested on the forms. If you start preparing your nominations now, you will find it much easier than waiting until the last minute. It is wise for a patrol to have someone in charge of collecting data for its members (ex: past awards, past duties, status earned, outstanding service). This will assist your patrol, when it comes time to submit nominations. Patrol reps. can access their patrol member's information and Division Advisors can access instructor records on the NSP Website. I assure you, the Awards Committee is willing offer assistance. We work for you and we want to see as many deserving persons as possible receive recognition.

***Review the Policies and Procedures pertaining to each nomination.** Nominations must be submitted on current forms (many new forms adopted in January 2009). Access the information and **current forms** by going the NSP Website (nsp.org), sign in to "Member Services", click on "My Bookshelf" and then "Downloads." All forms are under the first heading. **The reason Outstanding Awards' limits contributions to recent years is to show that the nominated patroller is currently an outstanding active patroller.** An excellent letter of support for a nomination is often what makes a nomination the winner. The letter should not be just a re-enlistment of nomination form items. Stretch the information to make the patroller stand out from other nominees (what effect his/her patrol actions and volunteer services have on the patrol, division, community etc.) When a nomination states that you go back a specific number of years when listing assets/credentials, this does not mean in your letter of support that you cannot say the nominee has done many

advantageous acts and what they are over many years. It means when doing so don't write number of years or exact dates. Rambling lengthy letters do not keep a judges attention. Do not include the name of the nominee or a specific location that would enable a judge to identify the nominee (information that is not to included is not to be blacked/crossed out).

All outstanding award nominations must be sent to me electronically (e-mail address hermana_4@msn.com) to arrive by **April 10, 2009**. All outstanding award nomination hard copies -- signed by the appropriate officer -- must be snail mailed to me (1105 16th St. Havre, MT 59501) and post marked **no later than April 10, 2009**. You must send me **both the electronic copy and the hard copy of each nomination!** This timeline is crucial in order for all nominations to be sent to the Northern Division Review Board to be judged, the results sent back to me and for me to forward to the National office for consideration for National Outstanding Awards. (Some Divisions select a Division Winner in categories for the current ski year, rework the winning division nomination and submit for a National Outstanding Award Nomination the following year. It has not been decided at the time of the Polaris printing if this is something we are going to do in our Division, for the time being let us go with our Division Winner being our submission to National for 2008-2009).

Please don't forget to honor those who are deserving of other awards such as merit stars (Purple, Green, Blue and Yellow) and National Appointments, Leadership Commendation Appointments, Patrollers Cross. The April 10 deadline does not apply. Don't hesitate sending these to me with the appropriate signatures in order for me to get them back from the National office in time for the Division Awards Banquet in September. These forms have been revised so please don't submit nominations on outdated forms.

*** If you want to keep a patroller around longer take note:
NSP membership life expands when we let a patroller know he/she is appreciated.**

*"Here's to a lifetime of turning those boards
in a winter wonderland."*

Judy Handstede (N. Division Awards Advisor)

From Your SS&T Advisor

by **Bruce Amrine**, SS&T Advisor

Howdy Everyone,

Hope your ski season is Great !!!!!!!!!!!

Thanks to everyone who attended the Winter Tip-Off. It was well attended this year with 30 participants on Saturday and 26 participants on Sunday. We had skiing and tobogganing on Saturday and Sunday and it seem to workout really well. Thanks again to George and Showdown, Bob's Bar and Bob Short and Pacific Hide and Fur for their generosity and Hospitality !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

We still have a few patrols who have not registered their candidates class with National. The course is *Introduction to Patrolling*.

Please take the time to notify me of any testing dates or requests for clinics.

I want to take a minute to Thank all my instructors for their help so far this year !!!!!You been Great !!!!!!!

Live to Ski,
Bruce Amrine
N.SS&T Advisor

Avalanche Update

by **Allan Rabbitt**, Avalanche Advisor

Greetings,



Hope everyone is having a good winter so far. Personally, I am having a good ski year. I have been to, or have plans in the works to visit and teach several courses in the division. I am also glad to report there are several other courses going on around the division. This is good, since the snow pack is lousy throughout much of the Northern Division, especially in the

backcountry. Please be careful.

I am continuing to weed out non-current instructors. Out of the 28 registered instructors, I have been able to renew 16 instructor certifications. I thank those who have responded, and I will continue to work on the remaining 12. I have also ordered the new instructor manuals for the current instructors, so up-to-date information is being taught.

The Winter Tip-off was again a success. Thanks to all who attended and organized the event. I was able to meet with some of the Avalanche Instructors who attended the event. It is always nice to have an opportunity to meet face to face. I also learned that even though some patrols do not show any current instructors on Nationals roster, they still

have Avalanche classes being taught. This is not good for two main reasons, and numerous other little reasons. First, and this goes for all instructors of all disciplines, if you do not register the class, and something goes wrong, you are solely, as the instructor, liable. However, if you have registered the class, the event is then covered under Nationals liability insurance policy. Secondly, the students who are in the class will not receive credit for the taking the class. So I would like to invite those folks who are teaching these classes to become current instructors. I admire your dedication to teaching, lets just do it right.

I would again offer my services, as well as those of the region advisors, to any patrol out there that would like an Avalanche Class taught, to contact me and we will get something going. To prove it, I am off to North Dakota this weekend. We are also going to be having a Level II class in 2010, hope to see you there!

Have a great ski season. Be Safe!
- Allan

P.S. Thanks again Bruce for your interest in the Avalanche Program.

“Dust On Crust”

by **Bill Bucher**, *Region 1 Director*

“Dust On Crust” otherwise known as “LOUD Powder”.

It's that time of year when sharp edges are welcome on the slopes. We were lacking in the white stuff and then POW we were hit with a full on assault. Many ski areas in Region 1 were getting by with 30% of the mountain open when BAM we were open 100% with lots of beautiful powder. Then came the sun and spring conditions. Now we

able to assist with.

Keep your skis tuned and your beer cold.



are back into Jack Frost's Locker with minus temperatures and a base layer good until the 4th of July (almost).

Lost Trail Ski Patrol just had their OEC evaluation for their first group of new candidates on Saturday January 24th. Snowbowl had their final exam on Wednesday January 14th. It is truly a pleasure to see these candidates go through the paces with so much dedication. Things have sure changed since I started dragging sleds to the scene of an accident 27 years ago.

I am asking all PR's in Region 1 to let me know if you have any events coming. My dance card is getting full fast with invites to OEC evaluations and S & T clinics and evaluations. I want to make it to all areas if possible but it would help if you have something going on that I might be

Note: Something to think about. Saint Patrick Hospital in Missoula will be holding their annual Spring Fever and Trauma Solutions Conference May 29 and 30. I was hoping to have more information to pass on at this time but they won't have anything out until the first of February. If you are interested, please email me and I will forward the information to you as soon as it comes out. From what I understand, this conference has a module dealing with interaction between first responders and ALS. It would be interesting to see what their perspective is.

“Happy Turns to You, Until We Ski Again”

Bill Bucher
Region 1 Director
billbucher@lambros.com



MOUNTAIN TRAVEL & RESCUE TRAINING: Northern Division - Flathead Nordic Ski Patrol

- Dan'l Moore, Flathead Nordic Ski Patrol

The 2008 Mountain Travel & Rescue course was offered to approximately 18 people from the ski patrol and search and rescue communities. We often work together on missions, so this provided some good inter-agency bonding and skill development. There were 2 classroom sessions in November, followed by a weekend in the field during December. Students were given a home study guide to complete, which greatly lessened classroom time and distance issues. Classroom time was split between navigation, rope and knot work, rescue packs, gear toboggans, camp logistics for the weekend, and answering questions on various topics.

Friday of the field session started with collecting the study guides, a written test, then a slide show presented by the instructors (Alice Ford, Jerry Lundgren, Dan'l Moore) on various aspects of mountaineering related skills and trips with examples of glacier travel, route selection, rope handling, etc. Then everyone piled into vehicles for the drive to our Goat Creek Camp in the Swan Mountains. Goat Creek is the drainage just north of Swan Peak.

Ned Sohl setup an orienteering course, which we all ran through in teams of two; followed by a half mile walk (only an inch of snow, and a couple hard core skiers) into camp. Temperatures hovered around freezing, sometimes wet snow, sometimes rain, but not constant. Needless to say keeping the fire going was challenging. Everyone setup camp and had dinner before doing some transceiver searches in the dark.

The next morning started with some rope work, rappelling, and ascending with prussic. Then we set out on foot for the overland trek to Scout Lake, following roads, trails, compass bearings etc. with plenty of discussion on route finding, merits of GPS, compasses, skis, snowshoes, and just about any-thing else. After returning to camp and fixing dinner, it was time for the night search scenario. While waiting for the missing persons to go missing, the group swapped stories of emergency shelters, being lost, and tricks that work around the fire. Then the search commenced. Dog teams were deployed, trackers sent out. All in all it was a good group exercise. The missing parties were located, then all were debriefed of what occurred.

Sunday morning we broke camp, then did a couple of stations: improvised toboggan building, and hauling systems for moving a rescue toboggan up or down steep slopes, utilizing pulleys and belays. After that we stopped at the local pub in Swan Lake for a little more debrief, prizes awarded, backs slapped, celebratory beers quaffed. All in all, a good weekend and course. We all learned something; from a new knot to how much work is involved running a

course. Flathead Nordic Ski Patrol will probably be offering MTR Level 1 & 2 again in the 2010 - 2011 ski seasons.



Call to Election: Region 1 and 2 Directors

Pursuant to Article V, Section 4 of the amended Division By-Laws, Division Director Bill Cathey has appointed an Election Committee to conduct elections for Region 1 and 2 Directors. Voters for Region Directors are the Patrol Representatives in that specific region. Region Director qualifications are as provided in the current NSPS Policy and Procedure manual. Qualified candidates for Region 1 and 2 Director should send a letter of interest and resume on or before February 27, 2009, to:

Brent Brooks, Election Coordinator
4302 Huckleberry Lane South, Billings, MT, 59106

as an alternative, candidates may also send these materials via email to: slyskier@yahoo.com

After the February 27, 2009 deadline for candidate filing, ballots will be prepared and sent to Patrol Representatives in the respective Regions with a deadline for their return.

Region II News

Several patrollers from Region II attended the Winter Tip Off at Showdown in Montana on January 10th and 11th. It was a great learning experience and a lot of fun. We now have several new Toboggan Instructors.

I have talked with several patrol representatives from the region and have the following news.

Antelope Butte is still for sale and closed; the Forest Service is still looking for a buyer.

Big Horn is closed a sale is pending and it may still open this season if the deal closes.

There will be an Level I Avalanche Course offered in Buffalo and on Powder Pass presented by members of the Big Horn, Casper, and Antelope Butte Ski Patrols, on February 7th and 8th.

Casper Mountain has been busy with 5 candidates in training. They recently hosted a Kids Safety Day and

by Carl Schiner, Region 2 Director

provided a package that included a ski helmet and a ski around with the ski patrol that was very successful, over twenty five helmets were sold to kids (at almost give away prices) and every one had a great time.

Huff Hills is open and going strong, they also have an Avalanche Course going in Mid February.

Minot reports lots of snow , the patrol is helping with a ski race program that is keeping them busy.

Sleeping Giant is hoping to open next season, they have several potential patrollers who are looking at an online OEC course to help them shape their existing EMS skills into the ski patrols format.

There should be a lot of Great Snow and a lot to learn at the Patroller Education Conference (formerly Power Fall)at Snow Bird this Spring on April 15 -17th. Plan on attending and sign up early, it's lots of fun!

- Carl

A Note from the Regional

Medical Advisor

by Jessica Bayless, Medical Advisor

Hello All,

I was fortunate to have the opportunity to attend the Winter Tip off at Showdown. It is an excellent area, which I enjoyed greatly. I also benefited from the chance to brush up my toboggan skills, which was sorely needed. In addition I had the opportunity to meet Dr Chuck Allen, a patroller and emergency physician in Bismarck, ND. In light of the size of our division, Bill Cathey, our fearless leader and division director has been encouraging all advisors to get an assistant in order to better serve to our patrollers. I think I have found the ideal candidate in Dr Allen. Firstly, is his training and employment as an emergency physician, and secondly, is his participation in the NSP as a local patroller.

The plan is for him to be the resource for the Eastern part of the division. Here are the things I've asked him to help us with:

- 1) Be a resource for local patrols for medical information and assisting with protocols.
- 2) Assist when possible with refreshers.
- 3) If possible, help as an instructor, mentor or evaluator for OEC courses.
- 4) Patrol when possible.
- 5) Recruit medical expertise into patrols as possible.

Hopefully, he will accept this role, which would be a benefit to us all.

Sincerely,
Jessica Bayless



Great Falls Ski Patrol Refreshers



LEVEL I Avalanche Course - Great Divide

- Don Paul, Great Divide Ski Patrol



Digging Snowpits



Where is he?



Rutschblock test

A level I Avalanche course was held at the Great Divide January 23-25. The class of 12 was made up of both patrollers and non-patrollers as there always seems to be a lot of interest in the local community for this course. The class room sessions were warm and cozy however the field portions were rather cool (zero degrees without the wind). Of course once they started digging especially in the avalanche debris that was created with the help of a snow cat they warmed up quickly. They all got a good lesson in how difficult probing and of course digging someone out can be.

Don Paul, Avalanche Instructor



Questions or Comments on the Polaris?

Contact the Editor
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Great Falls, MT 59404

Your pictures, articles and input are much appreciated!

Calendar of Events

January 30-31	Level 1 Avalanche, Huff Hills	A. Rabbitt
February 6-8	Level 1 Avalanche, Big Horn	C. Schiner
February 28	S&T Clinic, Lost Trail	B. Amrine
March 7	S&T Clinic, Huff Hills	B. Amrine
March 7	Candidate Practical Test, Lost Trail	B. Amrine
March 14	S&T Clinic, Casper	B. Amrine
March 21	Candidate Practical Test, Snowbowl	B. Amrine
June 13	Division E-Board Meeting, Bucks T 4 Lodge, Big Sky, Montana	B. Cathey
August 15	Registration due for Division Meeting	B. Cathey
Sept. 18 - 20	Division Meeting Bucks T 4 Lodge, Big Sky, Montana	B. Cathey
Sept. 19	Division OEC Refresher - TBA	M. Parnell
Sept. ?	Division Instructor Refresher, TBA	S. Thompson

"The difference between 'involvement' and 'commitment' is like an eggs-and-ham breakfast: the chicken was 'involved' - the pig was 'committed'."