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Polaris

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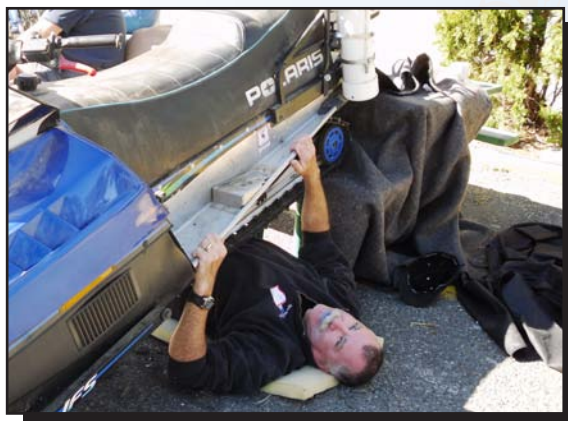
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Thank You Bill!!

Hello All,

I first met Bill Bucher when I became a basic candidate at Snowbowl. Realizing that we both worked-out at the Missoula YMCA at the same time of the day was just the beginning of our shared experiences.

Bill has been involved with every aspect of patrolling from administrative to the training of candidates. He has a great deal of experience and is a familiar face at many patrol functions. For many years, when Snowbowl would have their Fall OEC Refresher, it would be held at Bill's home outside of



Missoula. Everyone had a great time in a great atmosphere. There was always a bale of hay to sit on while an instructor was giving their yearly lecture. After the refresher, there would be a barbecue where we would all catch up on about what we had done during the summer and eat until we could not hold anymore. And of course, there were plenty of our favorite drinks.

Bill has spent a great deal of time traveling throughout the division helping at candidate tests, the winter tip-off, and other events. Bill is always available to help any candidate with

Bill Cathey, Northern Division Director

any problem. He wants every candidate to succeed and become a good patroller.

Bill has a wonderful insight for the entire division. Last year he came up with a fund raising idea and proposed it to the e-board and the discipline supervisors. It was not an easy sell. However, with the help of a few other people, the group took the idea and made about \$5,500 for the division which will be used to help offset dues increases.

Bill has been a huge help to me while I have been Division Director. For the last 3 years, he has been the Region 1 Director. He is always there to help where he can. For the past two years, Bill has taken care of the Northern Division shirt sales for the Division meeting. I did not have to worry about anything when Bill was taking care of this or any other task that he was asked to do.

Unfortunately, Bill has decided to take a break from his administrative duties in the patrol. He assures me that he and Penny will return when the time is right. Anyone that is as active as the Buchers are can appreciate their desire to take a little time for themselves and their children. His selflessness and ability to recognize what was best for the Northern Division, is very admirable. I know it was not an easy decision for Bill to make.



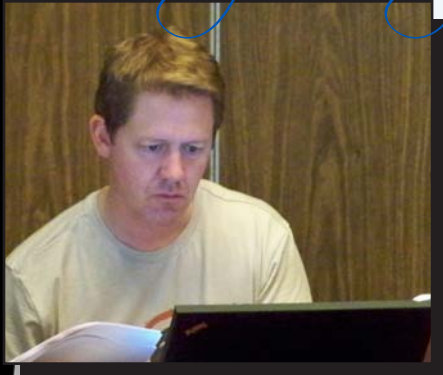
I thank Bill for all of his hard work and dedication to the National Ski Patrol, the Northern Division and all of the Patrols. His enthusiasm will be missed.

- Bill Cathey



Big Changes Coming

John Fradette, OEC Supervisor



Big Changes Coming with OEC 5th Edition

There has been some buzz on the street concerning the 5th Edition of the OEC manual, but little in the way detail. Six members of the Northern

Division; Bill Cathey, Chuck Allen, Jessica Suess, Dan Schaefer, Mike Marlow, and me, attended the yearly OEC meeting in Lakewood in December. We had an opportunity to review sections of the new manual, and we all agreed that it is great improvement over the 4th edition.

Our job at the conference was to review the 5th edition and 4th edition, and distill out the key differences. These changes to protocol and procedure were compiled and given to the OEC refresher committee. The Committee will then incorporate these topics into next fall's refresher. What I can tell you are that there are some significant changes that will require some retooling of our skills. Please be prepared to be open minded and willing to learn. The refresher itself may be expanded so that we can cover all of the major modifications to our current procedures.

The manual was written to incorporate new AHA (American Heart Association) protocols, and to align with national EMS standards. The biggest difference we saw was that the book was written with "one voice" meaning there was a single set of authors. What we get from the "one voices" is consistent information from chapter to chapter, which has been a source of frustration with the 4th edition. Unlike the

4th edition, information is not repeated from chapter to chapter, but instead you are referred to where the detailed information is located. The workbook, currently a separate book, is now part of the manual itself. In addition, each chapter starts with a scenario and that scenario progresses to completion as you read the chapter. We did not get an opportunity to see the graphics, but we were assured that the gratuitously graphic photos have been limited. There are also extensive online study tools and adjuncts. Lastly, the manual will be stocked and maintained by the publisher so that it will be available to other organizations to purchase, not just an exclusive manual for NSP.

Each Division will be responsible for the rollout in own territory, be on the lookout for additional information regarding the roll out plans for this Division.

Some key dates and information:

- The OEC 5th Edition will be available May 1, 2011
- The publisher, Brady, will be providing a purchase coupon on the NSP web site on May 1, 2011. The cost is \$65.60 (includes shipping). The book will be shipped directly to you. The cost is 25% of the regular list price and is good for one year from publication.
- OEC Refresher Guide for Cycle A(2011) will be available in June
- OEC 4th edition materials/tests will not be available after May 1, 2011. All classes using the 4th edition must be completed before May 1. Contact me if this will be an issue for anyone. My recommendation is that you do not start any new classes until after May 1.

Feeling Left Out?

Bill Lay, Registration

Feeling that you aren't receiving all of the information and mailing out there? Then I would suggest that you get on the e-mail bandwagon and register your e-mail with NSP. This is the fastest and most economical way to get the information to you. We also use it at the Division level to do the same thing. It is as secure as we can make it and the list is not "farmed out" to others; only by those Ok'd by NSP.

Don't forget to check out both the NSP and the Northern Division websites. They are www.nsp.org and www.nspnorth.org, respectively. Please notify your Patrol Director &/or myself of changes in your contact information.

Bill Lay, Northern Division Registration
w.a.lay@bresnan.net • 406-799-0739

In Memoriam - Myer Avedovech

Myer was born June 11th, 1940 in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. He was an attorney by vocation but his real love was patrolling as an avocation, one that he spent 45 years enjoying to the fullest. He was a Patrol Director, Region Director and Division Director as well as holding many patrol, region and division offices.

Having run for the position of Nation Chairman many years ago he then dedicated his energies to supporting his wife as a Nation Board Rep., Division Director and then as a Board member. He found his true commitment as the National Awards Coordinator and really enjoyed visiting the Divisions in that role.

His visits to the Northern Division were highlights of his tenure in that position. He frequently recounted his experiences with those he met in that Division and felt a true welcome from the members there.

Myer passed away January 3rd, 2011. He is survived by his wife and fellow patroller Barbara Dixon, 7 children and 13 grandchildren and all of his fellow patrollers.



News From Region 2

We are at least mid way through the season and it will be a very memorable year for some patrols in Region II. There have been some heavy learning experiences this year!

Most areas started early with plenty of snow, let's hope the weather continues to cooperate through the remainder of the season!

There are a number of candidates in the process of becoming Patrollers, having successfully completed OEC courses for Huff Hills, Sleeping Giant, Casper and Big Horn/Antelope Butte, and probably other areas I've missed.

Don't forget to thank those individuals within your patrol who go the extra mile to facilitate OEC, MTR, Avalanche and other training. It takes a lot of work to put together these classes and even though the instructors don't

Carl Schiner, Region II Advisor

work for "awards", they sure appreciate it when someone takes the time to provide a formal thank you for a job well done. Patrol Representatives should also make sure that appropriate award nominations are submitted for those patrollers who are involved in situations that are above and beyond the call of duty.

Remember there will be a Senior program going on next season and Region II has been poorly represented in the past. No one seems to want to get off their duff and participate in this wonderful learning experience! So poke, prod and generally harass and if necessary even support you fellow patrollers in moving ahead in the NSP through enrollment in the Senior training program.

- Carl Schiner

ELECTION NOTICE

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 4, of the Northern Division Bylaws, Division Director Bill Cathey has appointed an election committee to conduct elections for Region 1 and 2 Director. Voters for Region Directors are the Patrol Representatives in that region. Region Director qualifications are provided in the current 2010-2011 NSPS Policy and Procedure manual, page 75. Qualified candidates for Region 1 and 2 Director should send a cover letter of interest and a resume on or before March 14, 2011, to:

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

Alternatively, candidates may also send these materials to: slyskier@yahoo.com.

After the March 14th, 2011, deadline, ballots will be sent to Patrol Representatives in the respective regions with a deadline for completed ballots to be returned."

Mountain Travel & Rescue News for 2010-11

Troy Walker, Mountaineering Supervisor

We have had a busy and a great year with the MTR program in the Northern Division this season! The



instructors and I have had many discussions and input for how things in the program are working within the division and what we can do to achieve our goals for next season. I appreciate all the feedback and input and want everybody to know that our MTR instructors are working very hard within the division to keep a quality and fun MTR program for all to enjoy.

We have a Mountain Travel & Rescue level one course happening on February 16th through February 20th at the Great Falls ski resort area by Dave Ocenosak. Thanks to Great Falls and Dave for putting this course on.

At a National level we are still moving forward on the completion of the new student manual that by this time next year we hope to have a new printed manual for distribution.

Anybody that may be interested in doing their classroom portion of the level 1 & 2 MTR course at their local area and then attending the field portion at Alta, Utah on April 29th through May 1st 2011 please feel free to contact me about how this could happen for you.

The events for the Mountain Travel & Rescue Level 1 & 2 combined course at Flathead Nordic ski patrol this year. Below is their explanation of how the course was done and some wonderful pictures of their course.

Flathead Nordic Ski Patrol recently completed a combined MTR I/II class. Three evening classroom sessions were held in November 2010. We added one more evening session from our previous offering of this class to ensure that we had time to cover the myriad topics that need to be addressed. We started with 9 patrollers and 2 associated students all of whom completed the classroom portion of the class. Time and other conflicts dropped down our field session participants to 7 patrollers, which along with the instructors, was a good sized group for our outdoor trip.

Our field session took place over January 7-9, 2011. We left the parking lot about 9AM in the rain (!) but by the time the weekend was over temperatures had dropped to below zero Fahrenheit. The field session started with an orienteering course set up by one of our veteran patrollers. Students paired up to see who could complete the course with the quickest time.

We then put the finishing touches on our packs and pulks and hit the trail for about a three mile ski to our base camp site. Much of the rest of the day was spent building shelters, but after dinner we did make time for a transceiver exercise/competition. One of the co-instructors, Dan'l Moore, had been in a couple of days prior to build an igloo, and the other participants put together a four person quinzhee and a three person tarp shelter.



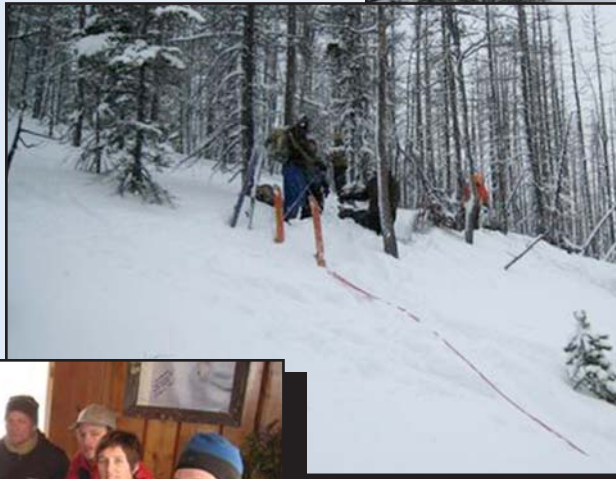
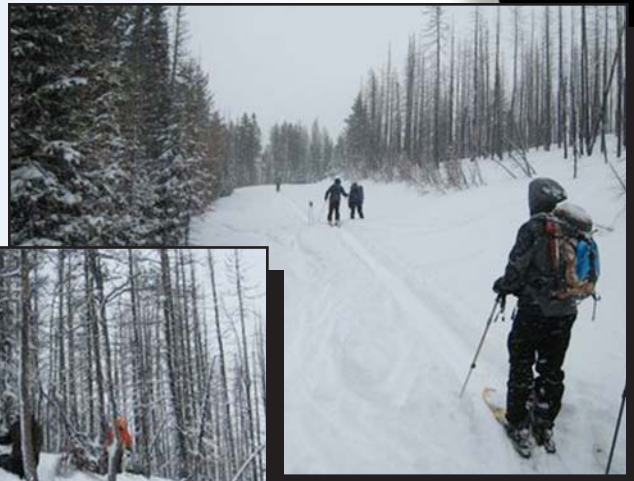
Temperatures dropped through-out the weekend, approaching zero degrees Fahrenheit by the time we were ready to go through the night search scenario, which by and large went quite well. We were able to try out our new lightweight "rescue bubble" transport sled in less than ideal conditions.



Saturday night saw temperatures of about -5 degrees Fahrenheit, which reinforced for those of us in the snow shelters that snow truly is a great thermal insulator.

Our ski out was uneventful, and by early afternoon we were at a local restaurant enjoying some “team building” and getting feedback from participants about what worked well and what we might improve upon. Our next offering will be during the 2012/2013 season.

By: Jerry Lundgren



Thanks to many instructors at Flathead Nordic for putting this program on for the Northern Division.

Always feel free to contact me of any questions you may have with the MTR program.

Troy Walker
Mountain Travel & Rescue Supervisor
Northern Division.
801-360-2445 troywalker13@gmail.com

www.nspnorth.org

The Boom Crew

Every New Years Eve, members of the Great Falls Ski Patrol, led by Mel Carnahan, help light off the fireworks display at Showdown Ski Area. To date, nothing other than the fireworks has been ignited or blown up.

Good Job Boom Crew!



WANTED: Outstanding Patrollers

Judy Handstede, Awards

^{Advisor}
Wanted: Northern Division NSP Patrollers

Requirement: Outstanding Service in NSP & form/letter of recommendation with accreditation proof by sponsor.

Application Deadline: April 13, 2011

Payment: Recognition of nominee to show NSP appreciation for services.



It's a great winter/spring season (**Ski Patrol**). Gather up your ski gear (**make your selections**). Load everything in the car (Gather Information). Head down the road (**Put Pen to Paper**). Click into your ski bindings (**Provide Required Info**). Feel the thrill of snow beneath your skis on the slopes (**Turn In Nomination Completed correctly**). Receive personal satisfaction as a ski patroller (**You Have Done A Good Deed**). Experience the feeling you have assisted skiers on your ski hill (**By Acknowledging Fellow Patrollers**). Be a part of the Northern Team (**Outstanding Deeds And Service**). It's been a great ski day. *Read regular print and the highlights separately.

I encourage each of you to work with your patrol awards coordinator to submit your choices of fellow patrollers to be recognized and awarded by Northern Division and the National Ski Patrol Office. Let your fellow patroller(s) know he/they are appreciated. The time you and your awards coordinator spend will give you unbelievable satisfaction when that patroller receives deserved recognition. Yes...I know we as patrollers are not on the ski slopes for the purpose of blowing our own horn...but I cannot put into words how to describe the unbelievable feelings I have felt in being part of assisting with awards and receiving an award myself. I want you to have that feeling and I want to be greedy to also share in your feelings.

The BIBLE for Awards is: NSP Policies & Procedures.

Go to the NSP Website (nsp.org) home page, member services, sign in, at this point you will be able to obtain to print out of read on line the Policies and Procedures for Awards and obtain Award Nominations and Forms. **Only nominations submitted on current forms will be considered for approval or competition. Information submitted is checked for accuracy, make sure it is correct.**

In order to make the best presentation possible the **deadline for Outstanding nomination submissions** (E mail copy- MS format so can be updated with your approval for improvement/corrections) is **April 13** to Judy Handstede at hermana_4@msn.com . **Original hard copies are due ??????** snail mail them to Judy Handstede, 1105 16th St. Havre, MT 59501. **The cover page identifies the nominee and the desired**

Outstanding Award. Do not include in your support documentation/sponsor letter of recommendation or accompaniments for National submission the patroller's name (1st,last, nickname) name of patrol, patrol location, events/training location names, Division, Region that would identify your nominee. Northern Division requires a sponsor recommendation letter that does state the nominee's name and with sponsor signature to kept in Division Awards file if verification of credentials is needed. You must have the patrol reps signature on the hard copy when I receive it. If you do not have the additional signatures by the deadline, you need to contact those officers whose names are required and have their approval to forward your nomination to me. If your nomination is chosen to represent our Division I will see the additional signatures are obtained before it is submitted to National. *Take time to enhance your nomination, this is a competition; your nomination needs to stand out.

For Merit Stars, National Appointments, Leadership Commendation Appointments, Patroller's Cross and Service Awards the Aprils 13 deadline does not apply. Send these nominations to me on current forms with appropriate signatures and required information. The N. Division Officers/Advisors/Review Board will monitor the content and approve requests deemed worthy. The National Office has a min. 45 day turnaround time from the time the request is received by the National Awards Chair. It is imperative that you allow time for processing at the Division and National level to receive results for the Division Banquet in September.

**Do not fill in on the form to whom the award should be sent/date needed by or press release by section as this is for me (JH) to complete when I forward to the National Office.

Northern Division is a contender for 2010-11 Outstanding Awards and Recognitions. I will do my best to assist you in answering your questions and concerns if you contact me. **"AWARD RECOGNITION STARTS WITH YOU"- Start right now (today), prepare, complete, submit, reward and award.**

Zen and the Art of Toboggan Handling

Mike Marlow, SS&T Advisor

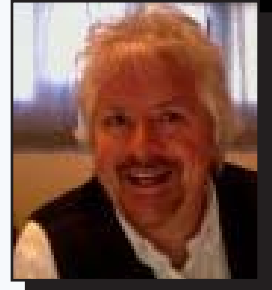
Joe took a toboggan to the scene of the accident at the top of Power Dive. He helped load up the IP and got in the handles. This was the first time this year he'd run a toboggan. By the time he got to the patrol hut at the bottom, he was sweating profusely. He thought, "Maaaaan, now I remember why I don't run toboggans, TOO MUCH WORK!"

Is this you? Is this how you feel when you either drive or tail rope a toboggan? It shouldn't be. Running a toboggan shouldn't scare the bejesus out of you!

When you are running a loaded toboggan, you have many tools at your disposal. You have your ski edges to help control you. Make sure you are back in the handles and centered over your skis. Secondly, have the chain brake at the ready, meaning make sure the chain is unhooked and ready to be dropped at a moments notice. If you are going faster than you feel comfortable, drop the chain. When you are ready to speed up, lift up on the handles, which helps to release the chain. By "feathering" the chain, you can easily control a toboggan, just you and the chain.

Do you need to slow down more? Communicate with your tail rope operator. Up to this point in time, your tail rope operator has been skiing behind the toboggan, following your lead, with tail rope in hand, awaiting further instructions. Let the tail rope operator know that you need some braking. Stay in

communication with them, let them know when you're transitioning and what route you are taking. Let them take some of the weight but under YOUR direction. The tail rope operator is there to help the driver but is not there to take all the weight of the sled.



By the time you get to the patrol hut, neither driver nor tail rope operator should be worn out, sweating profusely or feel like they are the one that did ALL the work. It's always a TEAM effort.

Need more practice? Grab another patroller or two and an instructor and make a toboggan run. All the SS&T Instructors in the Northern Division are always ready to help other patrollers improve their toboggan handling. They won't judge you, they are there to help. If you want more than a run or two of help, let the patrol leader know and I'll help them set up a Toboggan Enhancement Seminar, because you probably aren't the only one that wants or needs help.

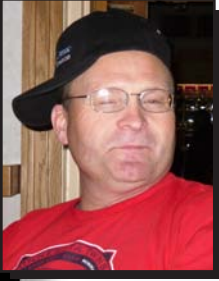
Follow these simple routines and whether you're a burly patroller or 90 pounds soaking wet, you should feel comfortable jumping into the handles or grabbing the tail rope and get that feeling of "ahhhhhhh" That's called getting into the Toboggan Zen State!



Candidate Test - Sleeping Giant



The New OEC Manual *Dan Schaefer, Huff Hills, Mandan, ND*



If you have read John Fradette's article your read the statement about the new 5th edition OEC manual, you will know the 5th edition is a huge improvement from the 4th edition. The meetings also enlighten me regarding the people who have worked very hard to make this edition what it is. I was amazed to see how very cognitive the committee was to

bridge up the weak areas in the 4th edition and very openly took the advice of numerous people with ideas to improve this edition.

We were also privileged to be addressed by our Executive Director Tim White. One point that Mr. White brought to our attention were the issues regarding some pacific northwestern states that wanted to control the OEC under state EMS protocol's. The NSP worked very hard to keep the OEC out from under the controls of the state governments. I personally want to say that I agree with Mr. White on that statement with not wanting the state to control us, but I do what the states to recognize our efforts in patient care. To do this, NSP/OEC providers must work to keep a great relationship with our local EMS support system. We also would need to keep the communication between the two groups a very mutually respected relationship. To do that, we need to do more training together and understand the differences and similarity of EMS and OEC. While both are specialist in emergent care of people, we both are unique in our training and in the environment we serve. I would like to site the case review

that we were invited to last spring in Red Lodge. The Beartooth patrol, EMS and the hospital staff with the medical director, sat down with pizza at the local hospitals and had discussion on the management of the cases that passed through the ED at Red Lodge. What a great way to understand our positions. We are stronger together if we work hand in hand with each agency to keep that animosity from forming. Of course some of us are trained in both, but in general, OEC providers are not EMT's, and EMT's are not trained OEC providers. Both the EMT and the OEC provider have that niche' that makes what they do very special.

The manual was written to incorporate new AHA (American Heart Association) protocols, and to align with national EMS standards. This happen for a reason as we needed to keep our treatment as close to the EMS standards as possible. By keeping most of our treatments in line with EMS, we lend more credibility with EMS and hopefully better patient transition leading ultimately to better patient care. I feel very fortunate at Huff Hills as we have a built in EMS/OEC training program. But just last Sunday our Ambulance drove right pass out new Patrol Station delaying the transport of a patient. Guessing we have some more cross training work to do here too!

Until next time, keep the sponsor side up and petex down.

Dan Schaefer
The New OEC manual and EMS.

Tax Time

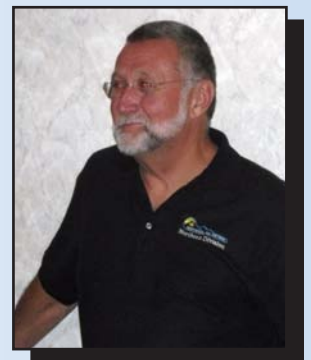
Bob Short, Northern Division Treasurer

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to of the Patrol's treasurers for submitting their financial information in a timely manner. The Northern Division has a non- profit tax status and is required to file a tax return with the IRS. We do not have to pay taxes but there are strict rules for filing the return and penalties for not filing.

For all patrollers, I would like to review the procedure for submitting expense reports to the Northern Division. If you travel at the request of the Northern Division you need to submit an expense report with all receipts to the Program Supervisor. (ie you were requested to help out at an OEC refresher. You would submit the expense report to the OEC Supervisor). The expense report can be downloaded from the Northern Division

Web Site. The Supervisor then approves the report and sends it onto the Division Director for approval. Once the Division Director approves the report, it is mailed to the Division Treasurer and a check is issued.

We have improved the reimbursement time with the use of e-mail. The expense reports need to be submitted within 30 days of the event. If the report is not submitted within the 30 days then the expense report will be denied. If you have any questions on this procedure you can talk to any Supervisor, Patrol Representative, Assistant Division Director, Division Director or me.



Winter Tip-Off Wrap Up

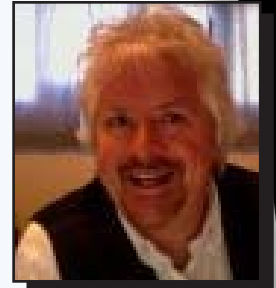
Mike Marlow, SS&T Advisor

I want to thank everyone that came to Moonlight Basin to the Winter Tip Off this year. I believe fun was had by all and a lot of leaning occurred. I look forward to this event every year not only because of the knowledge that is passed around but also because of the camaraderie and the seeing of new faces.

This event seems to get better every year. This year we had 42 participants and great conditions (maybe a little chilly but the Huff Hills patrol thought it was a heat wave).

If you have never been, join us next year. Same place, same time.

A big thank you goes out to Moonlight Basin, Buck's T4, the PSIA Instructors and especially the Northern Division SS&T Instructors. See you on the slopes!



DON'T MISS OUT!

Address or E-Mail Change?? Send your updated info to

Bill Lay at: w.a.lay@bresnan.net

Calendar of Events

March 4, 5, 6	Level II Avalanche Class , Essex, MT Contact Greg Fortin
March 18, 19, 20	Level II Avalanche Field Session , Big Sky Contact - Allan Rabbitt
April 13	Outstanding Award Nominations due Contact - Judy Hanstede
April 29 - May 1	Field Portion Level 1 & 2 MRT , Alta, UT Contact - Troy Walker
April 30	E-Board Meeting , Bozeman, MT
May 1	5th Edition OEC Manual available
September 10	Application for Senior Test Due
September 16, 17, 18	Division Meeting - Big Sky, Montana Contact - Bill Cathey

"Advice is what we ask for when we already know the answer but wish we didn't." -- Erica Jong

Update Your Member Info!

Please take a moment to go to the NSP website, login, and click Member Resources above the scrolling banner on the welcome page to check that your mailing address, phone number, and e-mail address are up-to-date. This is especially important so that you can receive the board election ballots being mailed by Votenet, as well as other information and special offers from NSP.

Polaris

NEWSLETTER

*The official publication of the
Northern Division of the National Ski Patrol*

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