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In This Issue

- From Our Director . . . 1
- Medical Committee Update 2
- Region 1 News 2
- Leap of Faith 3
- Nordic Program 3
- OET Update 4
- From the Assistant Director 4
- In Memory - Gary Hall 5
- OEC Update 5
- Nat'l Board of Directors 6
- Alumni News 6
- In Memory - Warren Bowman 7
- MTR 8, 9
- Avalanche Summary 10
- From Our Treasurer 11
- Calendar of Events . 11
- 2017 Division Meeting Info 12

From the Director



John Larson, Northern Division Director

Those of you who know me know how much I like to write stuff.

Justin Data at Huff Hills has stepped up to send info to the whole northern membership list, hopefully you are all getting info in a timely way.

Right now I am at the Division Director meeting prior to spring board meeting. I want to thank all of you who voted in the board election and Mike Huber has proved to be a

With the new computer platform you need to take time to keep your contact info up to date

I was hoping that there would be a bigger turnout for Powderfall.

great asset to the board team.

Your current DD
John Larson
johnroaldlarson@gmail.com

It sounds like most of you have had a good season. Karl Uhlig has stepped up run the inner division operations, since I haven't had any complaints I must assume that this is working well.



The sign says it all.



Medical Committee Update

by Charles Allen, Medical Advisor

The NSP medical committee is made up of a physician advisor from each division along with Dr. David Johe who is the national medical advisor. There are orthopedic, trauma and neurosurgeons along with a few ED docs, intensivists and outdoor emergency specialists on the committee. We have recently had phone conferences to discuss spinal protection/backboard use and medical oversight of what we do on the hill. The committee split up in to two groups of which I was on the spinal protection group. Each group reviewed multiple articles & protocols with great discussion, review and emails to formulate our recommendations.

Drs. David Johe & James Hamilton presented the recommendations to the OEC supervisors and the NSP board of directors this past week at Powderfall in Aspen. I did attend a few of these sessions and delighted that the board accepted our paper on use of the back boards. Details will be forthcoming in the next few months.

Medical oversight has been a topic in discussion by our committee for a few years. We are currently looking to set up a guideline to help document that we are doing on the

hill is what we are being taught. The committee feels the ideal is to have a physician affiliated in some role with each patrol. I would like to hear from each of our patrols who has a physician associated with their patrol and what role do they play. I would like to contact each physician so they are aware of our resources and learn what they do. I would also like to help those patrols that do not have an affiliated physician find one and help the doc feel comfortable in that role.

Availability of the medical advisor to the local patrols is important to me. When you have an event such as OEC/OET refresher, OEC class, run review etc I would be interested in attending a few each year. Advance notice of a few months is very helpful for me to make this happen. I have had the opportunity to visit a few patrols and it is always a great learning experience for me.

I hope you all had a great ski season. Thank you for doing what you do.

Charles Allen
Northern Division Medical Advisor
alforcat@icloud.com

Region I News

A ski season of contrasts is nearing its end... Here in Whitefish, Whitefish Mountain Resort ("Big Mountain") received near record snowfall with over 300" snowfall and still 125" on the ground. Bearspaw Ski Area near Havre never opened due to lack of snow and Showdown experienced low snow pack for most of the season. I am sure Logan Pass in Glacier Park will still have plenty of snow for skinning (or hiking) up and skiing down well into late June.

Personally I experienced a "first" this year: I was hit from behind by another skier (sunny day, groomed run, wide slope). The 2 good things about the accident were 1) I was just initiating a turn to my right and was clipped on my left side, not broadsided and 2) slammed down on my bad shoulder so I didn't end up with 2 bad shoulders. The skier never stopped. The incident left me with the realization that I rarely saw Patrollers on that hill just out skiing; mostly skiing "boo" for projects, tightening boundary ropes,

running sleds for accidents or sitting on call at the top of a lift. Later while skiing at Sitzmark (a small area in Northern Washington) and Maverick Mountain I saw the opposite: Patrollers on the slopes skiing, the reason most of us started Patrolling. I don't know if their visibility reduced accidents (my suspicion is it did), but they looked like they were enjoying what they were doing which is part of why we all Patrol.

As a backcountry Patroller there was a sense of camaraderie with my team and a sense of accomplishment and pride in helping with an accident or lost person, but going for a full moon ski with my wife and friends was far more preferential than being out all night on a search. So, get out of the Patrol room and ski and have fun when you have the chance.

Rusty Wells
Region 1 Advisor
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Leap of Faith

Erik Sakariassen, Awards Advisor

A little melancholy always seems to settle in when the bull wheel stops turning for the season. Yet closing weekend at Huff Hills saw a proud OEC candidate class pass their practical exams and a new batch of patrollers welcomed into the fold. Not too shabby. I couldn't help but think back to that orientation meeting last August when we warned them just what they were in for. "Be prepared to shell out the bucks," we told them. "And that textbook, it's got over 1100 pages. And you're going to be touching each other in uncompromising ways." Who in his right mind would sign up for this? It takes a leap of faith.

When you get down to it, this crazy sport takes a leap of faith. Who in his right mind would fix a pair of planks to his feet and barrel down a frozen mountain, fully expecting to reach the bottom in a single piece? The point is, we put ourselves out there again and again, confident that somehow we'll be safe. As patrollers, every time we respond to an emergency, we put faith in the quality of our training and in those who came before us and mentored us to be the best we could be. We do it without any expectation of gratitude or reward. It's just who we are.

That's why the NSP awards program is so vital. That extra bit of recognition for a job well done reminds us why we take that leap of faith in the first place. We're genuinely humbled by it. The deadline for the NSP Outstanding Awards competition is now closed, but it's not

too late to nominate a deserving patroller for a merit star. The Purple Merit Star recognizes a lead role in an action saving a life. A Blue Merit Star recognizes those who perform major support roles in saving a life. A Yellow Merit Star recognizes a lesser support role in saving a life or an outstanding contribution to the NSP. A Green Merit Star recognizes arduous or hazardous search and rescue work such as that rendered in an avalanche recovery.



These awards and others will be presented at the Northern Division annual awards banquet in September. Every year we come together for a great weekend of training, meeting, and celebration in anticipation of a new season to come. Friends old and new gather, share stories, and hoist a drink or two. If you've never been to a Northern Division annual meeting, I urge you to take a leap of faith and join us! See you in September.

Erik Sakariassen
Awards Advisor
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Nordic Program

by Dan'l Moore, Nordic Advisor

There are two Nordic patrols operating in the N.Div. Flathead Nordic Backcountry Patrol, and Five Valleys Backcountry Ski Patrol. Nordic patrols do not operate at a management area. Typically they work in conjunction with land management agencies (USFS) and county sheriffs. The mission is usually public education about winter travel and backcountry awareness, helping the local avalanche centers with education and observations, and Search and Rescue under the local sheriff. Members usually are required to have Avalanche 1 & 2 for rescue personnel, and Mountain Travel and Rescue 1 & 2, in addition to OEC. We are hoping to have some hands on skill stations at the fall division meeting, on Sunday morning. This will give everyone an opportunity to see some of the things we do "off area" as it were.

cheers,
Dan'l Moore
chforge@cyberport.net

DON'T MISS OUT!

Address or E-Mail Change?? Send your updated info to Bill Lay at: w.a.lay@bresnan.net

OET Updates

Mike Marlow, Northern Division OET Supervisor



Welcome to Spring! As the winter ski season winds down, we are coming off Powderfall 2017 and the latest national OET Face to Face meeting.

Powderfall was a BLAST! With a lot of great networking and learning opportunities. Aspen-

Snowmass was very gracious in their hosting and it is a GREAT area. You should have been there! Next time maybe?

The national team continues to update the roster of available classes available to OET instructors to use, trying to make the list make more sense. We are also working on using the new online learning platform on the NSP Website. No more having to login somewhere else and keep track of different logins and passwords. By OEC refresher time we will have at least 5 videos posted for patrollers to refer to, to help them remember/learn to correct way to do some basic toboggan maneuvers. We are posting videos on the wedge, side slip, falling leaf, hockey stop and traverse. As time allows, we will post more. These will be the official NSP OET videos

to refer to. No more trying to find something on YouTube or Vimeo to try to help yourself or someone else remember/learn a toboggan maneuver.

We are also working on putting up a new OET Toolbox. This will include things like OET Evaluation cards, Toboggan Refresher checklists, Senior OET Evaluation cards, etc.

One of the other items we are working towards is a new Introduction to Patrolling manual, the basic OET manual. This will be an online, downloadable manual like the old one (which hasn't been updated since 1999). We are working towards making all our materials available both in the NSP warehouse and online.

If you have comments, suggestions or questions as to anything the national OET team is working on, please feel free to contact me, either by email (or phone 406-443-8386).

Enjoy your summer ski season!

Iechyd Da!
Michael Marlow
Northern Division OET Supervisor
Mmarlow@infosysmt.com

From the Assistant Director

Karl Uhlig, Assistant Division Director

Northern Division Patrollers:

We all know the 2016-2017 ski season is rapidly winding down. Open OEC, OET, and Intro to Patrolling classes are finishing up for the season. We hope your recruitment classes are bringing new enthusiastic patrollers to your local ski areas and the Northern Division. I have a few notes to share with you as the season concludes

The Executive Board will meet on April 29th. If you have any issues that you would like discussed during the Board meeting please discuss them with your Patrol Representative and if appropriate forward those to either Jana Barnes or me and we will get them added to the agenda.

We are trying to maintain an up to date division calendar. If your patrol is having a summer get

together or is involved with a community event, I encourage you to send a brief synopsis of those events to Justin Data at justin.j.data@gmail.com so he can add them to the Division calendar on our web site. You never know who from the Northern Division might be in your area and show up to visit.

The annual Division meeting date is already set for the third weekend in September, the 16th and 17th. The meeting location will be decided during the Spring Board Meeting held on April 29th. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend.

Enjoy the rest of your ski season and summer.

Karl Uhlig
Assistant Division Director
KUhlig@wgmgroup.com

In Memory - Gary Hall

Gary Hall, a 50 year plus veteran of National Ski Patrol and the Northern Division, died of natural causes in Havre, MT on February 14th of this year. Gary joined NSP in 1962 at the age of 19 and patrolled with many Northern Division Patrols (both Alpine and Nordic) over his career including: Missoula Snow Bowl, Marshall Mountain, Bridger Bowl, Lost Trail, Five Valleys Nordic, Bitterroot Nordic and Flathead Nordic. He received National Number 3112 in 1967 and was an Instructor in OEC, Avalanche and MTR. Steve Thompson recalls he and Cheri having Gary as an Instructor in their first MTR (then known as Basic M) class: a 3 night trip on Carlton Ridge.

Gary's Level II MTR classes (then known as Circle M) were well known annual climbs of Trapper Peak in the Bitterroots. In 1969 he helped develop the NSP Nordic program and in 1973 was instrumental in helping Flathead Nordic get its start in Essex, MT often driving from Hamilton to Essex to teach classes for the new Patrol. During his active years in NSP,

Gary was a member of 3 different Patrols in the Northern Division when they won National Outstanding Patrol Awards and once was awarded Outstanding Patroller of the Northern Division. He was also awarded a Green Merit Star for his help in the Peter's Ridge avalanche of New Year's Eve 1994. That particular incident left fresh rescuers depleted after an arduous all night and next day search so Gary took on the task of writing protocols for locating Mutual Aid assistance on multi-day winter incidents.

Professionally he was a member of the U.S. Air Force (where he loved flying Hurricane missions), a professional drummer for Blues and Jazz Bands, a Realtor in the Bitterroot Valley and a Chemist for Montana Environmental Laboratory in Kalispell.

Gary was a mentor and friend to many of us in the Northern Division.

OEC Updates

Hello everyone, I hope all of you had a great season. I wanted to take this opportunity to bring you up to date on the OEC program after I attended the OEC National committee meeting April 5 and 6.

The most exciting news is that the work has started on the OEC 6th edition. It is right now in the planning stages and the target date is summer of 2019. That is a tentative date and it may move. The editors for OEC5 will also be the editors for OEC6, Dr. David Johe and Ed McNamara. The good thing is that we own the content, which means the editors will not be starting from scratch as they had to with OEC5. We are due for an update to the manual because of the changes in emergency medicine that have occurred since OEC5 was published. OEC will still remain at the EMR level "plus", i.e. between an EMR and an EMT. As work progresses I will provide updates.

My NSP-Kit is no longer supported by the publisher and will be closed down sometime in May or early June. The student content will be moved from the current site to the learning platform hosted by Pearson. It is the same platform that is used for the Hybrid OEC Course. The instructor content will be migrated to the NSP site. Details regarding the access to the student resources will be sent once that is worked out by the National Education Director. Likely there will be a charge if access is needed.

John Fradette, Northern Division OEC Supervisor

The OEC Refresher committee heard you loud and clear concerning the repetition of the content of the workbook and the online part of the hybrid refresher. The workbook will be more skills focused to help prepare you for the skills that will need to be demonstrated at the refresher. The online portion will be easier to access as we have moved that to a different learning platform. All you have to do is log into the NSP site and click the link for the online refresher. There is no separate log-in.

Lastly there is a lot of talk in the medical community over the use of backboards for spinal immobilization. At this time our standard of training regarding the use of backboards remains the same. A thorough and complete assessment should be the determining factor when deciding to do spinal immobilization. The Medical Committee has made a proposal that was supported by the OEC committee and approved by the Board to revise the curriculum for the use of spinal immobilization. It is scheduled to be released not with this refresher cycle, but with Cycle B in the summer of 2018.

John Fradette
jfradette@deloitte.com

National Board of Directors

Mike Huber National Board of Directors

After many years of great ski patrol experiences and wonderful friendships, I now find myself three eventful and informative months into my three (3) year term on the National Board of Directors.

We are all aware of the major NSPS programs. We are also well aware of the many hours and the hard work that people put in on local and Division levels. For many patrollers the only time we really think about things at the National level is when we are experiencing frustrations whether related to signing into a program, dealing with a lost record or some other 'national requirement'. Just in my very short time on the Board the first thing I can assure you is that if you think people put in a lot of time locally you can't imagine the work people put in on the National level.

As an example of National efforts let's consider one of everyone's favorites, Information Technology (IT). I don't know of anyone who is pleased with our IT system. I also don't know of anyone who probably doesn't think they could do better. I can assure you that our system is more complex than you can imagine and there are some very

talented people putting in heroic efforts to improve our system while keeping it from crashing. The same is true of all aspects of the National operation.

I am serving on the OEC 6 development committee. The publishers expressed disbelief when they learned that our OEC authors and editors do so completely without compensation. I can tell you that everyone, other than the staff at the National office, does so on a totally volunteer basis and many of these people literally volunteer thousands of hours doing that exciting work of trying to improve program delivery. All of this is in addition to maintaining active on the hill ski patrol schedules.

Anyway, being chosen to serve all of you on the National Board is truly one of the greatest honors in my life. I thank each and all who supported me and will try to be worthy of your confidence. Also please contact me with any thoughts or suggestions.

Mike Huber
meh@courts.state.wy.us

Alumni News

Hello everyone! So the questions are: "What is going on with the Northern Division Alumni Program" and "What's in it for me"? The answer to the first is "variable". I've only heard back from two patrols about the success they are having with developing their individual programs.

The answer to the second question is this: the Northern Division Alumni Program only exists to support your local alumni programs and to represent your interests to the National Program Advisor and the National Board. For this reason, it is important that you and your patrols develop a program that works best for you— this has to be done independent of the Northern Division. From the National level, your membership fee (no fee to life-time-members) allows you to receive the Ski Patrol Magazine, the Sweep, and all other distributed materials. You, also, get to continue to purchase items from the ski patrol store and some pro-deals too.

The Montana Snowbowl Ski Patrol is hosting end of the season pot-luck and party on May 6th, 2017 At the former Marshall Mountain Ski Area. We are inviting all former and current members of the Missoula Ski Patrol and it's offshoots: Montana Snowbowl Ski Patrol, Marshall Mountain Ski Patrol, Bitterroot Ski Patrol, and Five Valleys Backcountry Ski

Marty Merwin, Northern Division Alumni Advisor

Patrol. Before that party we will be testing our OEC candidates practical skills and have extended an invitation to these same people to come watch and participate as they choose. You see, who better to play the role of a patient than those who have taken care of patients. We all know how important it is to stay in character as signs and symptoms help us find and treat problems. We also plan to extend this invitation to our fall refresher.

As part of the Northern Division Fall Meeting, I will be budgeting for another "Meet-N-Greet" on the Friday, Sept. 15, 2017 at 3:00 pm . The purpose of this gathering is to answer questions and to introduce interested persons to the alumni program.

If you have suggestions and ideas on how to build your program please share them with your local Patrol Representative, local Patrol Alumni Advisor and/or me so we might share that with others.

Have a great summer!

Martin (Marty) Merwin. (406) 251-4220
Northern Division Alumni Advisor
112 Grandview Way, Missoula, MT 59803
mamerwin@yahoo.com

Just for fun, if you read all the way to here please send me an email:

In Memory - Warren Bowman

National Ski Patrol mourns former Medical Adviser Warren Bowman Jr., M.D.

Warren Daniel Bowman Jr., M.D., a renowned ski patroller, physician, mountaineer, outdoorsman and author, died on March 3, 2017, at his home in Billings, Montana. He was 87 years old.

"Warren represented all of the best of the National Ski Patrol," said NSP National Board Chair Jim Woodrum. "His pioneering efforts to train ski patrollers in Outdoor Emergency Care have helped save many lives. The ski industry is forever grateful for his vision, selflessness and hard work."

Dr. Bowman was a committed patroller, serving as medical adviser to the National Ski Patrol for 30 years and writing the acclaimed medical textbook "Winter Emergency Care," as well as three subsequent editions of the textbook. He was an acknowledged expert source for ski patrol systems across the globe and was the recipient of the 1989 Award of Excellence in Education from the American Society of Association Executives. He was also extremely active in the Wilderness Medical Society.

He was the recipient of many of the National Ski Patrol's highest honors for his exemplary service, including the National Outstanding Ski Patroller Award in 1977 and 1987 and multiple Distinguished Service Awards. He was inducted into the National Ski Patrol Hall of Fame in the inaugural class of 2013.

In 1990, Warren was recognized with the Minnie Dole Award. This extremely rare award recognizes those exceptional patrollers who have closely exemplified the long-term dedication, devotion, and self-sacrifice of NSP founder Charles Minot "Minnie" Dole.

"Warren was a thoughtful, generous, kind and gentle man with a great sense of humor, and I have always felt honored to have known him," recalled long time fellow patroller Mike Huber, an NSP board member.

Current NSP National Medical Adviser David Johe, M.D., stated, "Warren was my mentor and a very good friend. He loved the ski patrol and his kind demeanor was unsurpassed. I will miss him."

Dr. Bowman was born on Jan. 4, 1930, in Richmond, Va., the first child of Dr. Warren D. and Olive Smith Bowman. He grew up in Washington, D.C., graduated from Bridgewater College in Virginia in 1950, and received a medical degree from the University of Pennsylvania in 1954.

Warren had a lifelong love of the outdoors, and joined the Billings Clinic in 1960 in part because of the access to Montana's unique and beautiful wilderness. He started at the clinic as a general internist and soon became one of the first board-certified hematologists and oncologists in the region. He was deeply respected, and saw thousands of patients from Montana and Wyoming over nearly 40 years of practice.

He is survived by his wife, Dorothy; his children, Carolyn, Joan, Amy and Eric and their spouses and children; and by his stepchildren, Mary and Steven, and their spouses and children.

About the National Ski Patrol

The National Ski Patrol is a federally-chartered nonprofit membership association dedicated to help keep people safe on the mountain and during other outdoor activities. For 79 years, the NSP has been at the forefront of safety and emergency care education programs. The association's 28,000 members serve the skiing public at over 600 resorts. For more information, visit www.nsp.org.



Hello Mountain Travel & Rescue Followers !

Here we are at the end of another Ski Season and time for some Summer Activities!!!

The Mountain Travel & Rescue (MTR) has been going through a fair amount of updating on a National level through this last year! All of the MTR Supervisors have been on consistent phone conference meetings all across the nation as we have not only completed the new student manual in the past year, we have now brought the MTR Instructors manual up to date with all the changes that have been implemented to meet the needs of all our students and instructors.

As we move forward into our 2017-2018 ski season here in the Northern Division we will plan on having a combined MTR Level 1 & 2 course hosted by the Flathead Nordic Patrol group usually starting in November for our classroom sessions and then the field session to follow

As follows in the next pages are some of key changes made within the MTR Program for course descriptions and outlines of the courses offered, along with a snapshot of the core changes for our MTR instructors to be aware of.

MTR INSTRUCTORS' MANUAL 2016 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT CHANGES

Myron Allen, MTR National Program Director, August, 2016

This document summarizes significant changes in the 2016 MTR Instructors' Manual with respect to the previous MTR Instructors' Manual, published in 2003. All page numbers refer to the new document, unless otherwise indicated. The basic goals of the MTR program remain unchanged (see page 9):

The primary goal of NSP's MTR program goal is to provide ski patrollers and interested members of the public with the knowledge and skills needed to serve as assets and leaders in search and rescue (SAR) operations, especially in winter settings and in mountain environments. A second goal of MTR training is to enable ski patrollers to serve as highly skilled, safety conscious leaders of outdoor activities in the mountains, by providing a broad, balanced array of outdoor skills related to survival, navigation, travel, group dynamics, terrain management, environmental awareness, search and rescue, and emergency care.

1. Terrain guidelines. The new manual provides specific terrain guidelines adhering to NSP's policy that "[t]he Mountain Travel and Rescue Program does not provide training in high angle technical rescue on snow, ice, or rock" (see Policies and Procedures, Appendix I). According to the new guidelines (see page 15), MTR training must not take place:

- on slopes 60 degrees or steeper, consistent with the definition of high angle terrain given in *Mountain Travel and Rescue*, 2nd edition, page 206.
- on glaciers, where crevasses and moulins may be present,
- in settings where instructors cannot safely manage rock fall, avalanches, lightning, and other mountaineering hazards.

afterwards. We also plan on having a Level 1 MTR course hosted at Lost Trail Resort and we will confirm the dates in our 2017 Polaris issue along with posting dates on our website calendar.

I feel, along with all the other Division MTR Supervisors, that we have brought the program into alignment with the industry standards along with complementing our Nordic & Avalanche programs and also meeting the needs of many other outdoor programs that would benefit from our MTR program in their training needs. If you feel you would benefit in your local area and are in need of some more information in regards to our MTR program I always look forward to hearing from those of you that may have questions or more interest into the program to enhance your skills and or your patrol area needs.

Have a Wonderful Summer
Troy Walker – MTR Supervisor
801-360-2445
Troywalker13@gmail.com

2. FEMA course requirements. MTR Fundamentals and MTR 1 require completion of the following free online courses in the Incident Command System:

- IS 100.b, Introduction to the Incident Command System
- IS 700.a, National Incident Management System.

MTR 2 requires, in addition, completion of IS 200.b, ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents.

These courses provide nationally recognized certifications and have been a part of the MTR curriculum in several divisions for many years.

3. Prerequisite structure. MTR Fundamentals no longer qualifies as a prerequisite for MTR 2. MTR 1, which requires an overnight field session, is the prerequisite; see page 10. The rationale for this change is that MTR 2 requires a field session spanning two consecutive nights, and MTR Fundamentals, which does not require any overnight field experience, does not provide adequate preparation. Exceptions are possible for students who have documented previous overnight field experience; see page 124.

4. Skills checklist for MTR 2. MTR 2 now requires that students complete a skills checklist; see page 173.

The skills tested include

- Skills listed in ASTM F2209 14, "Standard Guide for Training of Land Search Team Member," the national standard for search and rescue team members
- MTR related skills required for the Nordic Senior ski and toboggan test.

To pass MTR 2, students must demonstrate these skills independently and without coaching.



DESCRIPTIONS OF MOUNTAIN TRAVEL AND RESCUE COURSES

NSP provides several levels of MTR education. The table below summarizes the MTR courses currently available and provides an overview of their contents.

Course Title	Target Audience	Summary Description
MTR Fundamentals (MTR F)	Ski patrollers and members of the public who seek awareness of and proficiency in skills needed to be assets in search-and-rescue (SAR) operations, especially those conducted in the winter or in mountainous terrain. <i>People who plan to take MTR 2 should complete MTR 1 instead of MTR F.</i>	This course covers basic techniques of wilderness navigation, mountain travel, and survival, including emergency shelters, the Incident Command System, group dynamics, and SAR. <i>MTR F does not include an overnight campout. Students must complete two National Incident Management System courses in the Incident Command System: IS-100.b and IS-700.a.</i> ¹
MTR 1	Ski patrollers and members of the public who seek awareness of and proficiency in skills needed to be assets in search-and-rescue (SAR) operations, especially those conducted in the winter or in mountainous terrain and in settings involving possible overnight outings. <i>MTR F is not a prerequisite.</i>	This course provides hands-on practice in wilderness navigation, mountain travel, and survival, including emergency shelters, the Incident Command System, and SAR. <i>MTR 1 includes a mandatory overnight field session. Students must also complete two National Incident Management System courses in the Incident Command System: IS-100.b and IS-700.a.</i>
MTR 2	Ski patrollers and members of the public who have completed MTR 1 and who seek to demonstrate proficiency in MTR skills at a level appropriate for team leaders in mountain and winter SAR operations. <i>Completion of MTR 1 is a prerequisite, since MTR 2 requires overnight exercises.</i>	This course involves classroom work and at least two field days in addition to a two-night field session. The course includes in-depth practice in land navigation, search and rescue, rescue rigging, survival skills, and emergency shelters. To pass MTR 2, students must demonstrate independent proficiency in a well defined set of backcountry travel, land navigation, emergency shelter, and

¹Materials, tests, and certification instructions are retrievable at the following URL:
<http://training.fema.gov/IS/NIMS.aspx>.

	<i>Students for MTR 2 also must have completed all three -1 avalanche curriculum or equivalent training from a provider recognized by the American Avalanche Association.</i>	rescue rigging skills. <i>Students must also complete the National Incident Management System course IS-200.b, in addition to the courses IS-100.b and IS-700.a completed as part of MTR 1.</i>
MTR Clinic (MTR C)	Ski patrollers and members of the public who seek additional expertise in specific MTR skills, at a level typically involving six hours or more, up to two field days. There are no prerequisites other than proper clothing and equipment and ability to participate in the planned activities.	MTR Clinics allow focused, in-depth training in one or two specific topics, based on patrollers' local needs. Examples include search and rescue techniques, land navigation, rope rescue, survival skills, and extended backcountry patient care.
MTR Enhancement Seminar (MTR E)	Ski patrollers and members of the public who seek additional expertise in specific MTR skills, at a level typically involving six hours or more, up to two field days. MTR E normally requires completion of MTR F, MTR 1, or MTR 2..	Similar to MTR Clinics, MTR Enhancement Seminars allow focused, in-depth training in one or two specific topics, based on patrollers' local needs. MTR E assumes a prior level of knowledge consistent with completion of a full-length MTR course.

Avalanche Program Summary

by *Steve Thompson, Avalanche Supervisor*

As I prepare for the e-board meeting the end of April, I'm doing a final wrap-up for the Northern Division Avalanche Program. Following the e-board meeting, I will be turning the "shovel, probe and transceiver" over to Matt Radlowski. Matt is a long time patroller at Snow Bowl. He has been active in the avalanche world for many years and is a professional member of the American Avalanche Association (AAA). In addition to professional, family and patrol lives, he has been an observer for the West Central Montana Avalanche Center in Missoula. Matt brings a wealth of knowledge to the Northern Division avalanche world. I encourage all patrollers to take advantage of his expertise.

As the snowpack slowly turns into liquid, it is time to recap the season in the avalanche world. Things were a bit slow this past season. There were two Level I courses this year - one in Great Falls and one at Lost Trail. Nine avalanche awareness classes were taught in the Seeley Lake, Potomac and Lincoln junior high and high schools. Matt was also active in helping to teach courses through the West Central Montana Avalanche Center - completing 4 Level 1 courses, presenting Know Before You Go programs at Frenchtown Middle School, Sentinel HS and an avalanche awareness class for the Lost Trail Freeride team.

A Level II course was planned for this season based on interest expressed last season. When the registration period closed (even after an extended deadline), only 3 people had registered. Those low numbers didn't warrant the time and expense for a course, so it was cancelled.

During a conference call in February, the National Avalanche Committee (NAC) worked on updates for the Avalanche Instructor Manual (AIM) and also discussed the updating of the Avalanche Rescue Fundamentals (ARF).

Matt and I attended the NAC meeting in Snowmass April 4 - 7. This meeting was held in conjunction with

Powderfall 2017. During that meeting, the committee spent two days reviewing the Avalanche Instructor Manual (AIM) Level 1, Modules 1 and 2. The wording within these 2 modules was brought into agreement with the wording in equivalent AAA courses. The remaining Level 1 module updates will be completed electronically.

We also developed a new module - Small Group Rescue. This module was developed to better serve some of the geographical differences of patrols throughout the country and to come into better alignment with the new AAA guidelines. This new module will have no prerequisites.

The committee felt that with the instructional changes in the Level 1 courses, an instructor CE roll-out session will be needed. While the schedule for publication of the new AIM and its accompanying CE roll-out has not been determined at this time, it is anticipated that the roll-out will be during the 2017-18 season and the new AIM will be available for use in the 2018-19 season. At this time, the current AIM is appropriate for use.

Lin Ballard, who along with Dale Atkins, is the author of "Avalanche Rescue Fundamentals" (ARF) gave us a brief summary of the upcoming new edition of ARF. The new edition is due out in 2018. The current edition will be good for the 2017-18 season.

Very Personal Note - I have enjoyed the past 7 years and my involvement with the avalanche program. I have had the honor of working with some outstanding members of the Northern Division and herein I personally would like to thank each and everyone of those patrollers. I hope you all take advantage of the experience and expertise that Matt is bringing into this position.

- steve
slthompson44@me.com



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

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From Our Treasurer

Greetings Fellow Patrollers,

We are all aware of the potential for scam artists to try to infiltrate our businesses and/or personal lives, but most of us don't think it will happen to us.

Well, it did happen to us - at the Northern Division level. On January 24th, I received an email from "John Larson," the Division Director, which was titled "Request." He briefly asked if I was at my desk and would be able to process a wire transfer, electronic payment or write a check to a vendor. I wrote back and told him that I was at work but could write it in the evening. Following this first email, there were 3 or 4 more stating that this was an emergency, asking which method of payment I could use, and then one detailing the information.

When I got home that evening at 5pm, I read the detail and was shocked. "John" wanted me to send a check by FedEx or Ups and send him the tracking number. He would have called me to request this but he was currently "at a friend's funeral" and was unable to make or accept calls. Then I read the amount. He wanted \$10,700 and that he would have the paperwork ready later that evening.

I was afraid that he was in some kind of financial trouble. I realize that we have 'checks and balances' in the patrol for this reason. I felt uncomfortable about sending this money

Jeannette Amrine Northern Division Treasurer

so I called a trusted friend, Bob Short, the previous Treasurer, to ask for his thoughts. Bruce, my husband suggested that I talk to Karl, the Assistant Director.

Following Bob's, Bruce's and Karl's advice, I replied to the email and attached the appropriate board members, asking John why the urgency since it was not an approved budget item. I also stated that I felt uncomfortable writing this check.

Consequently, the 'real' John replied to this email and said that it was a scam. Apparently, his email had gotten hacked into. It amazed me how much the hacker figured out about us. Fortunately I didn't send the check and all is well with our funds.

It's important that we trust those instincts that tell us "something is not right." The message to all ND patrol treasurers and all on the executive board is to be prepared in the event of a scam. What sort of checks and balances are in place at the local level to prevent scammers from accessing hard earned patrol funds?

Warmest Regards,
Jeannette Amrine
Northern Division Treasurer
kenaidenali@yahoo.com

Calendar of Events

April 29, 2017	Division Board Meeting	Contact - Karl Uhlig KUhlig@wgmgroup.com
August 30, 2017	Deadline to Register for Division Meeting	Contact - Janette Amrine kenaidenali@yahoo.com
September 15-17, 2017	Division Meeting, TBD	Contact - John Fradette jfradette@deloitte.com
July 25, 2017	Polaris Article Deadline	Contact - Joann Lacey joann@advancedlithoprinting.com

"On Mercury a day lasts 1,408 hours. Just like every Monday does on Earth"

2017 Northern Division Meeting

September 15, 16, 17, 2017

Location to be determined

Friday, September 15, 2017

- 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. New Patrol Directors Meeting (mandatory)
- 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Annual Golf Tournament (contact Mike Marlow at (406) 443-8386 or mmarlow@infosysmt.com)
- 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Registration - Social Hour

Saturday, September 16, 2017

- 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Patrol Directors Meeting (mandatory)
- Noon to 1:00 p.m. Catered Lunch
- 1:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. OEC Refresher
- 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Cocktails
- 7:00 p.m. to Awards Banquet

Sunday, September 17, 2017

- 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. MTR Sessions

AGENDA SUBJECT TO CHANGES/ADDITIONS

To better prepare for this event, each person planning on attending needs to return the registration form by the due date 8/30/17) to the Northern Division Ski Patrol.

YOUR to do list:

- Send in your registration along with \$109 payment.
- If registering after September 5th, pay late registration fee of \$130.
- Make your own room reservation before September 1st.
- Bring your patrol belt/vest to the refresher.
- Do your online OEC Refresher - print the certificate of completion and bring it with you. You will NOT be able to participate if this is not provided at check-in on Saturday.
- Instructors - Do your Instructor Refresher online

Please plan to come to the 2017 Northern Division meeting. You can see old friends, make new friends and get refreshed in your OEC skills all at the same time. Remember that all OEC Instructors must also go through a complete OEC refresher every year. Just by being an instructor at a refresher does not qualify as your refresher.

The Northern Division pays half of the registration fee for instructors that work at this Northern Division Refresher. If you have been chosen to help at this refresher, please pay full registration fee up front, then complete and submit an expense voucher at the end of the refresher requesting one-half of your registration fee (\$54.00), and your mileage and room expense.