

Sweep Newsletter
South Central Region
Central Division
National Ski Patrol

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Service Through Education



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SOUTH CENTRAL REGION
CENTRAL DIVISION

Sweep NEWSLETTER



SPRING

2008



REGION DIRECTOR'S NOTE
Thom Rabaglia

What a winter! In several of our programs the faces have changed but the quality of the product remains.

Our Senior OEC program had lower numbers this year but Jason Erdmann lived up to the marks of his predecessors. Deb Endly, QA from Division and our OEC Supervisor had many points of praise for the event. Our Senior On Hill has gone through some growing pains trying to conform to the new directions from Division. As you can read in Steve Loukin's article Bob Engleman, QA from Division was extremely pleased with our operation. Tim Troutt and the MTR gang always provide an event to remember. Kevin White bit off several Ski Enhancement Seminars and Keith Rosenbaum followed with Toboggan Enhancements Seminars where both were productive.

With this seasons events ending we will be starting in April to plan for next year. Kevin Ketter and Tony Ortega our ARD's will be conducting a meeting to plan and set dates for next year's events. If you would like an event at your hill, confer with your

PD/PR and hill management and then let Kevin, Tony and the Advisor of that discipline know. We like to move the events around the Region, as always terrain permitting.

One of the highpoints of this year was a visit from, our Division Director, Jim Woodrum. Jim had the pleasure to meet several of you. He also had the pleasure to ski at six of our Region hills during some of the best conditions we have ever had.

One area of concern is Instructor Development (ID). There seems to be a lot of confusion as to how the Compact Disk version is to be used and course completion accomplished. National has appointed a new Director for ID, Ed Humphreys and he promises to clear things up. Mike Cahill, Peg Soma and I will be meeting to get information in writing for the text SWEEP.

Dominic and Jody DeRosa are organizing our Region Banquet. As usual it will be held on the first Saturday of May. Plan to visit Wisconsin Dells the weekend of May 5th. Dom and Jody will have more information in this SWEEP.

I've said it before, and here it is one more time, South Central Region is hosting the Fall Division Meeting in Milwaukee. Education events will be conducted and if you remember the last one that SC Region held in Oshkosh, a great time was had. Mike Husar is our Chair and look for additional information in this SWEEP and

Rusty Parka.

It is never too early to start planning. Your National refresher committee has met and plans are in process for the 2008 OEC refresher.

Unfortunately, do to budget cuts at National there will not be an "On Scene" magazine. Look for your refresher material in the summer edition of the Patroller Magazine.

Please have a safe summer, let the biking begin!

C U at the banquets
Thom

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Mountain Travel and Rescue

Tim Troutt MTR Advisor

The MTR 1 and 2 classroom session was held on January 5, with 7 students and 6 Instructors in attendance. We followed up with the MTR 1 Field Session on February 2 and 3 at Blue Mound State Park, with 5 of the Students, and 5 Instructors attending. We did have plenty of snow this year. This is the first year we have had good snow cover for the MTR 1 Field since 98.

The schedule started at 10:00 am with a ¾ mile hike to the campsites, set up tents or shelters and made lunch. At 12:30 we started the Land Navigation course which had 6 points they had to find, and took about 1 hour to complete. This course was designed to include topographical map reading, compass readings, compass bearings, and distance estimation. The students were given a topographical map, a starting point and a heading to the first Point. They followed directions which included distances, observations and headings to the remaining 5 Points. The travel distance was about 1 mile over terrain ranging from woods to marked trails.

The next subject was a Low Angle Ropes Rescue course that explained the types of rescue equipment used; knot tying, anchor points, slings, mechanical advantage, and harnesses. They were taught how to assemble and operate a 3:1 Mechanical advantage, and to raise or lower a patient within the 15-40 degree slope range.

At the conclusion of the Ropes course we took a break and made dinner. The last item was the night Search and Rescue. The Students worked as a team to locate 1 lost hiker. They were given the "last seen" information, and had to check out each set of tracks that they found. Once they had located the patient, they had to tend to their medical needs and transport back to camp utilizing the emergency sled they had with them. We debriefed the day's activities and turned in around 10:30pm. The next morning we broke camp and headed home.

Our next event, MTR 2, will take place on March 7, 8 and 9 at Copper Falls State Park. We are planning to build at least one Quincie and hopefully some other snow shelters. The Search and Rescue problem will involve, all of the skills they learned in the MTR 1 field exercise and their Patrolling skills. If you are interested in this program for next season send me an email and I will put you on the information list.

Snowboarding News

Twelve inches of light fresh powder followed by rain, which resulted in death cookies that got scraped off to reveal a hard packed gleaming ice sheet only to be followed by five inches of fresh snow which promptly turned into Styrofoam when the temperature plummeted. That's Wisconsin snowboarding and those are the conditions I've experienced in just the last two weeks of riding.

So, how'd it go? Big smile. Death cookies? Ice sheet? Still smiling. Each condition presented different challenges and tested my skills. But, I had it easy. Matt was there with me in the death cookies giving me tips on my balance. Dale worked on dynamic pressure with me in the hard pack. Ron gave me some vision and rotational ideas that helped transitioning from the ice glaze to new snow. Then there was Tom who drilled me on edging techniques that kept my board tipped and allowed me to carve up that Styrofoam instead of letting it drag me down.

Who are those guys? No they're not the guys in the dark sunglasses. They're guys you want on your side. They're the instructors we've had at the Snowboard enhancement seminars the last few years.

Do you find yourself skidding on the ice? Washing out in the transition from soft to hard snow? Do you dread the off ramp or won't go near the moguls? Have bruises on your butt?

Stop the stress and pain. Put a smile on your face. Use these guys. Sign up for a lesson or snowboard seminar next year. See your there.

Mark Haring
Regional Snowboard Advisor

PS Congratulations are due Matt Schmit. He passed both phases of the Senior on the hill test in February becoming only the third regional snowboarder to have done so.

Senior Alpine

A hearty thanks to everyone involved in this year's Senior Alpine Evaluation, starting with the candidates: Dean Dolence, Matt Schmitz and Tom Merritt from Sunburst, Fred Decker, Doug Meier Samantha Pegelow and Brooks Vrooman from Tyrol Basin and Tim Roback from Alpine Valley. Thanks for your efforts, the fruits of which were reflected either in your passing of the on-hill evaluations and/or of you stepping your sliding and tobogganing skills up to the next level. Congratulations and good luck with the SEM portion of the program and/or facing our challenges again next year. You are all well on the path to becoming Senior patrollers.....with one notable exception: Tim, it's been a pleasure watching you progress all the way through the program and "get the patch" this year. You said that you originally enrolled to "kick your skiing and patrolling skills out of a rut", and you did that in spades. You are what becoming a Senior Patroller is all about. On the opposite side of the "clipboard", it's impossible to adequately thank all the evaluators and assistants who made this year's clinic and evaluation a success. First, and very much foremost, to my partners in crime, Jim Carman and Peggy Butler, what a great team effort. Bill Gavinski, Bill Bailey, Mike Leggett, Tony Ortega and Keith Rosenbaum, where would we be without your seasoned toboggan eyes? Tim Weinand, Katie Voss, Rich Manteufel, and Mark Haring, likewise your ski-pro eyes? Mike Cahill and

Thom Rabaglia, our candidates couldn't have asked for better advocates. Thanks Bob Englemann for providing quality Divisional "quality assurance". Chris Driscoll, Jan Homuth, Nicole Fehringer and Rob Wangard, thanks tons for helping with toboggan handling; without your assistance we could not possibly have stayed on schedule. Lastly and certainly not least, a million thanks to Don McKay for once again providing the program with a quality venue, for the delicious lunch at the calibration clinic, and for going out of your way to make sure Senior-level terrain was available at all of this year's events. Your efforts made me proud to be a member of the Tyrol Basin Ski Patrol. Steve Loukin
PS: Tim & Katie: congratulations on your level 2s!

OEC NEWS

At the SEM eval on February 16, we acquired a new Senior patroller in the SC region. A big congratulations goes out to Rob Wangard of Tyrol Basin, who passed the last part of his Senior training that day. I would like to thank all of the ITs and patrollers who came out to help both at the clinic and at the eval, you guys put a lot of time and effort in, and it really turned out quite well. We couldn't do the program without you. Special recognition goes to Jan Westemeier of Cascade, who really deserves an Oscar for her portrayal of a patient with first and second degree burns on her face and hands. Also to Gretchen Kristola of Sunburst, chef extraordinaire, who provided some really great meals for everyone in the SEM program. And finally a big thank you to both the patrols and management of Sunburst and Cascade for hosting our events this year. Your hospitality was greatly appreciated.

So that's all that we have to think about for OEC related things for the next six months or so, right? Well...almost. By now many patrols have scheduled their refreshers for next fall. If your patrol has, be sure to get it into your calendar now. Everyone must participate in a refresher every year to maintain your patrol status. I know of several people from last year who were scrambling around last minute to try to find another patrol's refresher to attend. Not all of them succeeded. If you can't make your own refresher, find another one that you can attend and get registered with them early to save yourself a lot of

? ? ? Address Changes ? ? ?

Please submit any change in your address, telephone number or email to NSP. If you are on the Sweep Roster, also submit them to Debbie Hunt
writedsign@pensys.com

www.nsp-southcentral.org

The NSP keeps all the databases for the South Central Region Patrols. Mailings will now be done from the NSP. So, if you want to receive Region information, please keep the NSP updated with your current address and phone number, etc.

? ? ? Address Changes ? ? ?

headache.

Lastly, OEC instructors, does your instructor card have an expiration date of 12/08 written on it? If so, that means that you need to attend a CEIC and be observed teaching at a basic OEC class or at a refresher by an IT. Planning early for this will get you better chances to get a class that you are really interested or good at (or both!) for the lesson that you teach. As we get into summer, we'll start scheduling CEICs, and will post the information on them on the region webpage and we'll put it in future editions of Sweep as they get set up.

Now back to all that wonderful snow. Have a great rest of the season!
Jason Erdmann
Region OEC Administrator

INSURANCE

I am taking leave of my usual "rant" about covering your heinies and protecting your asset accumulations to add to Thom's hype for our hosting the fall banquet classic..

In putting on this annual soiree, a program is part of the material handed out to attendees. I want to fill that piece with some really nice self-serving ads from some of you who are or want to add to your business success.

I may have mentioned that I will be promoting our insurance agency and garnered the interest of a dental clinic in our building to advertise their specialty. Even if you might feel it is nothing more than throwing some money at a very worthwhile event and organization, I'd like you to contact me to do so.

The ad space is reasonably priced so even if you really think that seeing your name in print is worth the "kick", let's "git 'er done."
Jim Stein

ELECTION SECTION III

Since there were no nominees for Section III Section Chief, we will not be holding an election. Thom Rabaglia has appointed Brad Bailey to another term. Brad has graciously accepted. Thanks for continuing as our Section Chief and for the great job.

Debbie Hunt
Election Coordinator

2007 - 2008 Region Calendar

05/03/08 Region Banquet - Dominic DeRosa
10/01/08 Sweep Articles Accepted - Debbie Hunt
10/21/08 Sweep Articles Due - Debbie Hunt
11/14/08 Sweep Mailing Week - Debbie Hunt

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