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The Sweep!

The NSP Month in Review

NATIONAL SKI PATROL

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From the Desk of Tim White



The New Jersey helmet bill is rolling through the state legislature and will be soon signed into law by Governor Chris Christie. The bill will require children 18

and under to wear a helmet while skiing and snowboarding. When enacted, the bill will make parents and local law enforcement responsible for complying with and carrying out the new law, not ski area operators or patrollers. This is the first helmet bill of its kind, but probably not the last. What this means to patrollers is that with mounting pressure from state legislatures and state OSHA officials, helmets are likely to become the norm in the future for both guests and employees.

On another legislative front, efforts have been underway by ski patrollers and ski area operators in Idaho to pass legislation to ensure that OEC-trained technicians can continue to practice their skills as they have in the past, unencumbered by EMS licensure. The bill took a step

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forward this past week when it was passed by a margin of 7-2 in the Senate Health and Welfare Committee. It will now go to the Senate for a full vote and, pending a successful vote in the Senate, the process will be repeated in the House. I am confident that the dedicated patrollers of Idaho, led by patroller/attorney Scott Eskelson and Bogus Basin Patrol Director Joe LaGue, will see this to a successful conclusion.

Moving from the legislative to the education front, I am pleased to report that with the leadership of Education Director Darcy Hanley, NSP is moving quickly into the e-Learning era. Currently, there is a beta test for a distance-learning platform using the Instructor Development course. More than 30 patrollers and ID instructors are evaluating the platform. The distance-learning component could be used with all education programs that require a classroom learning environment. Results of the beta test will be completed the first week in March. Special thanks to National Instructor Development Adviser John Keith and a number of ID instructors and supervisors for their assistance with this project.

Lastly, I, the national office staff, and the board wish to express our condolences to the family of Leif Borgeson and Arapahoe Basin. Leif, the snow safety director at Arapahoe Basin and the NSP's training director from 2001-2004, passed away while skiing at Aspen Highlands on February 8. Close to 1,000 people attended his memorial service, and a [memorial website](#) has been created. We would also like to extend our best wishes for a recovery to Snowmass patroller Tim Brown and his family. Tim was injured during his end-of-day sweep on February 13. You can follow Tim's recovery at a blog the family has set up [here](#).

Stay safe out there.

Sincerely,
Tim White
Executive Director, NSP

NEW NSP Board Chair

At the January board meeting, Burt Mitchell, of the Pahquioque Ski Resort in Connecticut, was appointed the new board chair. Mitchell has been a patroller since 1987, and is serving his third year on the board. He was awarded National Appointment Number 9644 and a Distinguished Service Award, and has taken all Avalanche and MTR courses, as well as Instructor Development. He is an OEC IT, MTR 1 and 2, Avalanche Level 2, and Senior EMM instructor.



As chair, Mitchell wants to keep the board focused and following procedures, have the board's work done in committees, and build the trust of the membership in the board by being member focused. He also wants to ensure NSP products remain the gold standard, and do so in part by implementing a quality management system.

"The board chair is only as good as those he surrounds himself with or appoints to the job, and only if he doesn't lose sight of his roots," said Mitchell. "All of the members of the board are active sled-pulling, OEC-certified regular patrollers who are out working with the skiing public. All are very passionate about the NSP."

NEW Young Adult Adviser Appointed



Christopher Rousseau, of Milford, N.H., has been appointed as the national young adult adviser. Rousseau started his ski patrol career as a junior patroller at Pat's Peak in New Hampshire. He later became a OEC and CPR instructor, and works with the New Hampshire Fire Academy. He returned to Pat's Peak as its student adviser in 2003, and in 2004 was chosen as the Region adviser for the student program, during which time he helped shepherd student patrol advisers at other resorts, built a student

patrol website, published a student patrol manual and adviser manual, and developed practical scenarios for continuing education. With the Region, he also worked with a local TV station, WMUR Channel 9, to produce a promotional video highlighting the importance of student patrollers. We are confident Christopher can help steer the Young Adult Program to further levels of success on a national level.

Proposed Membership Classification Change

RFBA 07-08, which concerns changing the auxiliary classification to patroller, is currently under consideration by the board. Before voting on it, the board would like feedback from the membership. As part of a broader membership survey the national office will be conducting in March, there will be several questions regarding the membership's opinion on the proposed RFBA. Currently, the *NSP Policies and Procedures 7.5.3* lists an Auxiliary as a patroller who undergoes NSP training to administer emergency care on the slopes, but who does not receive NSP toboggan training.

Under RFBA 07-08, the auxiliary classification would be eliminated. Instead, auxiliaries would be referred to as patrollers, while toboggan-trained patrollers would be referred to as alpine patrollers or Nordic patrollers. Senior auxiliaries would be classified Senior patrollers, while current toboggan-trained patrollers would be classified Senior alpine or Senior Nordic.

This RFBA would be implemented in two steps. The first would require approval from the board, while the second would require a line-by-line explanation of how the *P&P* would be amended to reflect the change.

Please look for the membership survey in March, and answer the questions on the proposed change so the board has a better idea of how the membership feels on this change, and if there are any concerns related to it.

NEW NSP Members

Patrols and Mountain Hosts

We want to welcome the latest patrols and mountain host programs to the NSP family.

New Volunteer Patrols

F021: Arizona Snowbowl - Flagstaff, Ariz.

E062: Whaleback - Enfield, N.H.

New Mountain Host

F085: Squaw Valley - Olympic Valley, Calif.



Accident Protection and other benefits
for as little as \$20 per month.



Adventure Advocates
Protecting our members & the environment

Call (800) 211-9002 or visit www.AdventureAdvocates.com/NSP

Marketing/ Communications/ Events

RAMP New NSP ski and board sponsor; find them on the Pro page.

[RAMP](#) is a brand new ski and snowboard sponsor. They are a small company with lots of ski industry experience and testing behind their products. They are based out of Park City, and are there for you to talk with and have your questions answered. They truly love the sport, just like you do! Go to the NSP Pro Page and check out RAMP. Patrollers receive up to 60 percent off of skis, boards and bindings! In addition, RAMP is welcoming you to join their **RAMP Rep program**. Check out the [Rep link](#) to sign up. Anytime somebody buys equipment and your account is attached to the order, you earn 10 percent commission.



Sponsor Spotlight: Yakima

Whether you're dreaming of fields full of powder, miles of single-track, or perfect flows on your favorite river, Yakima's got your back. With new products like the ultra-lightweight, aluminum [HighLite](#) and the premium [SkyBox LoPro Onyx](#), Yakima is here to get you, your family and ALL your gear to your favorite spot. Be sure to check out all the new stuff from Yakima, and access your VIP pricing through the NSP Pro Page. Take it easy...with Yakima.

Sponsor Spotlight: Grabber Warmers

Are your hands and feet freezing with all this cold weather the U.S. has been having? There is no excuse! Order your Grabber Hand and Feet Warmers from the [NSP Online Catalog](#) for CHEAP!!! Less than \$2.00 a pair!



Patagonia Patrol Jackets on SALE

Are you in need of a new Patrol jacket? This is the time of year to get one on SALE!! Go to the NSP Online Catalog and order yours today! Get 25 percent off the already discounted NSP price for the Patagonia Primo Flash and Primo Jackets. The Primo Jacket is available in both black/crimson and all crimson. Limited sizes available. Sale ends March 31!!!

Looking for photos!

Did you hand out NSP-logoed lip balm this year? If so, we would love any photos you have showing patrollers handing out the lip balm. Our sponsor, Natural Ice, is requesting the photos. Please help us out so we can keep providing you with this lip balm every year! Please send photos to calbertson@nsp.org

We still have a limited supply of the NSP-logoed lip balm available. Order your

supply today and hand it out for Spring Break! Call Christine Albertson at the national office to order, 303-988-1111. You only have to pay for shipping!



New Pro Page Ordering System - Polarmax Base Layer Clothing

Polarmax technical base layer clothing has moved to **an online ordering system**. It is so convenient and easy! Patrollers are saying this is some of the best base-layer clothing they have ever used. Check it out at the [NSP Pro Page](#) under Member Services.

First WINNER of a pair of skis for NSP Safety Quiz

Connor Doran, a 19-year-old lifeguard in Maryland, had no idea his habit of surfing the NSP website would pay such dividends. Doran has long been a fan of NSP, and likes to read the latest news on the website in his spare time. When he saw the link for the online NSP Safety Quiz, he decided to take it. That 10 minutes paid off when he was entered into the drawing for a brand new pair of **Nordica** skis, which he won. Doran will be happily using the skis on the slopes at his favorite mountain, Seven Springs. Congratulations Connor!!

Need handouts for Spring Break?

NSP and Subaru have teamed up to create a "Stay In Control" sticker and interactive handout. If you are looking for something to hand out in lift lines, food courts, and in the first aid room during March, let us know. These stickers and handouts are FREE. We just ask that you pay for shipping. To order, please contact Christine Albertson at 303-988-1111

NASTAR National Championship at Winter Park CO - March 25-27

NSP is working with NASTAR to promote safety at the National Championship in Winter Park, Colo. NSP is looking to also help increase the fundraising anniversary campaign by selling NSP Travel First Aid Kits and *NSP Cookbooks*. If you are in attendance, please stop by our booth!

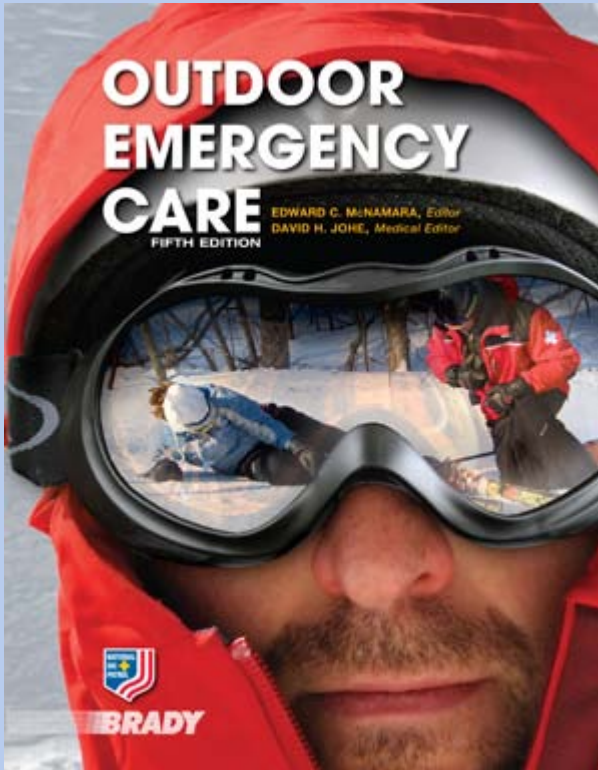
Subaru Master of the Mountain

Subaru is hosting Master of the Mountain programs all across the U.S. this winter. If you see them with a tent and handouts at your resort, stop by and say hello. Please be aware that all NSP members receive a GREAT deal on a new Subaru. You can find the information on the [NSP Pro Page](#) or by calling Christine Albertson at 303-988-1111.

NSP Photo Site You do not need a login ID to view the photos posted by your fellow patrollers at the NSP photo site. Simply click this [link](#), or go to [Flickr](#) and search for NSP Photos under Users. The login ID is used if you want to post new photos of an event or your patrol. To post photos, go to [Flickr](#), click Sign In, enter the login ID "nspphotos" and the password. The password for March is Targhee

(capitalize the "T"); if the login does not work, e-mail [Candace Horgan](mailto:Candace.Horgan).

Education



A Message from Education Director Darcy Hanley

The *OEC 5th edition* is on its way! Please continue to monitor **The Sweep** for the latest information regarding release and ordering. The cost of the book is \$65.60, which is 25 percent off retail. OEC ITs will be able to obtain an e-book on April 1 at no charge. An e-blast will be sent at the end of March about how to obtain the e-book. Brady will also send an e-mail alert saying the e-book is available. Please note the e-book will be available for one year at no charge for the iPad and personal computer. The printed book for OEC ITs is no charge. You cannot print the entire e-book.

As OEC technicians, the *5th edition* will have the most current, up-to-date information to use in the field.

Postponing purchasing the book or trying to share a copy will compromise your training and competence as an OEC technician. The national office is ready to answer questions and assist in any way possible. Continue to watch **The Sweep** for information and updates.

All other OEC technicians will be able to order the book **May 1** by logging on to the NSP website, then using the link provided to Brady Books. You will be given a coupon code to use on the Brady site. The price includes shipping. Below are some questions I have received which may assist in making decisions.

Are there instructor materials?

Yes, they will be found in an electronic format under MyNSPKit. These materials will be available to instructors. Brady will provide information about how to access NSPKit after you have purchased the book. These include all instructor collateral materials, such as PowerPoints, test questions, case presentations, etc. The Instructor Manual will be released close to the shelf date of the book, and will include OEC specific materials for registering a course, generic OEC candidate evaluations, and scenarios.

Will the Refresher Guide and Instructor Guide be available around the same time as last year?

Yes, if you are planning a fall refresher, the materials will be available in the summer issue of ***Ski Patrol Magazine***. It will be called **5ECycle A** and will include required skills in Cycle A and all the new material in the *OEC 5th edition*. There will be an online portion that will be required called ***Crackin the Book***, as well as new acronyms called **Mind the Gap**.

I am an instructor; how will I learn material in the 5th edition?

Your OEC Division supervisor will be providing a rollout of *OEC 5th* materials. This will help instructors prepare for upcoming refreshers and candidate classes.

What about the 4th edition and collateral materials?

Some *OEC 4th edition* books are still available. All collateral materials will **not** be available for order after May 1. This includes test bank, scenarios, PowerPoint, or any PDF files. It is recommended patrols use the *OEC 5th edition* with any future candidate classes.

My patrol is interested in purchasing multiple copies of the book; how is this done?

Many patrols may want to purchase multiple copies of the *OEC 5th edition* and have the books bulked shipped to one address. Bulk orders (five or more books) shipped to one address may be ordered by contacting Brady (800-922-0579). If you are purchasing five or more books, there will be a shipping charge of 8-10 percent added. The effort is to have patrollers purchase the book online directly from Brady and shipped to their address, saving shipping costs. ***The Sweep*** will have all details and information about ordering books as a candidate, patroller, instructor and OEC IT.

Message from Refresher Committee Chair Greg Bala

The NSP Refresher Committee spent a productive weekend generating your ***2011 5ECycle A Refresher Guide***. The refresher is based entirely on the *OEC 5th edition*. We encourage you to take advantage of the discounts offered by Brady and have the book shipped directly to your home address. The 5ECycle A content will be augmented by a full complement of new material found in the *OEC 5th*, so our suggested format will change slightly from past refreshers. We're still offering a "Complete Sample Refresher," with learning objectives, skill expectations, and scenarios, as well as the "Plan Your Own Refresher" content with learning objectives and a station planning toolkit. We anticipate that completing this portion of your refresher will take no more time this year than it has in years past. In addition, we will also be delivering a didactic exercise that will cover all new concepts from 5e; this piece of your refresher is a required element, and will be difficult to complete without the new text. Our anticipation is that you will complete this portion of material at your leisure prior to attending your

refresher.

Industry News

BCA issues updated software for Tracker 2

Backcountry Access has issued an updated firmware for its Tracker2 beacon. This firmware was created in part to address an issue discovered by members of the Jackson Hole Ski Patrol, where the Tracker2 would freeze and reboot

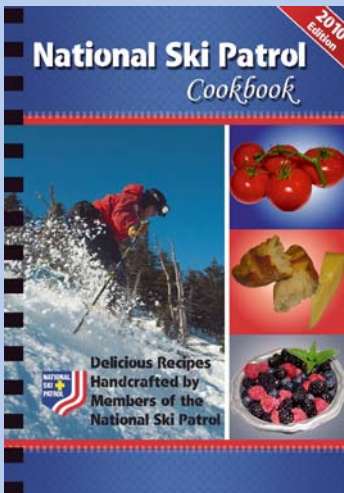
From the [BCA website](#): To determine if you already have version 4 software, disconnect and reconnect one battery while the unit is off. After displaying "t2," the unit will then display the software version. If the display reads "r04," then you have the most recent software. This software has been included in all Tracker2 units shipped since late December.

There are techs traveling around the country who can do firmware updates on the Tracker2 in the field. Alternately, the BCA website [lists a procedure](#) for sending the beacon back for an update.

Fundraising

NSP First Aid Travel Kit

Thank you for your support of the new NSP First Aid Travel Kits. We have modified the SKUs for these kits. If you are buying kits individually, 1-5 kits, the SKU will remain the same, 18320. If you would like to order six or more kits, the new SKU is 18321. We have had a great response from patrols and resort managers who have purchased several kits; they make a wonderful fundraiser and look great on a checkout counter in a ski shop! Keep the orders coming in; all proceeds go to the NSP Fundraising Campaign, which is integral in offsetting costs of books and other education materials. Individual Kits are \$15 each, and bulk ordered kits are \$10 each. Thanks to Adventure Medical Kits for teaming up with NSP on this project!



2010 NSP Cookbook Reduced in Price for March!

The NSP Cookbook has been reduced in price for this month only. The cookbooks are now only \$15 each! If you have not purchased yours yet, do not miss out! The books not only make a wonderful gift, they also are great for your own kitchen. These recipes are fantastic! the National Office can vouch for several tasty recipes firsthand! All recipes are the personal creation of NSP members nationwide, including a few from Europe. Take advantage of this month-long offer by ordering cookbooks for all the chefs in your life. Live to ski, eat to

live! Enjoy the food.

Catalog Items



Featured Item: Deuter

Are you ready for spring and summer? Neither are we, but it is going to be upon us before we know it! Make sure you have a solid backpack for your hiking and camping adventures. The Guide 35+ is a generously-sized pack that can do way more than just carry skis on long backcountry hikes and hut trips.



Take it with you on your next camping trip or day hike. The Guide 35+ is hydration compatible, so it not only satisfies your gear-carrying needs, it also satisfies your thirst. If you are looking for a smaller hydration specific pack, the Hydro Lite 2.0 is perfect! The Hydro Lite 2.0 is great for trail runs, hikes, and any other activity that requires hydration to be at the peak of your game. The Guide 35+ is discounted at \$89 (MSRP is \$149) and the Hydro Lite 2.0 is discounted at \$35 (MSRP is \$59).

NSP Visitors of the Month



Dorothy and George Dumontier

Dorothy and George Dumontier of Christie Mountain Ski Patrol in Wisconsin came by the office for a visit.

Thanks for stopping by!

John Hogg

John Hogg, an Alumni patroller, stopped by the office on his way back from skiing Mauna Kea in Hawaii.



Thanks for stopping by!!



Jeanne Longmuir

Jeanne Longmuir of the Heidelberg Ski Patrol in Germany visited the NSP offices on February 7.

Thanks for stopping by!!

The Sweep was created to keep NSP members informed about national news. An archive of all issues of The Sweep is maintained under the Newsletters section of [Member News](#). After logging in, click Newsletters from the Quick Links menu. If you have news that's relevant to the national ski patrol audience, we invite you to submit it for consideration for The Sweep. Please e-mail it to [editorial](#) by the 15th of each month.

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