



**Far West Division  
Summer Board Meeting – August 4, 2012  
Davis, California**

**DATE:** August 4, 2012  
**TO:** Far West Division Board  
**FROM:** Janice Waits  
Far West Division, Election Chairperson

**SUBJECT: 2012 Summer Election Report:**

**ELECTION RESULTS FOR:**

**2012 ASSISTANT DIVISION DIRECTOR**

2012-2014 Assistant Division Director Lance Vaughan  
2012-2013\* Assistant Division Director Tom Sherry  
\*special election to complete ADD position to May 31, 2013.

**2012 REGION DIRECTOR**

For **Arizona, Mother Lode, Southern California** regions.  
Positions are for 2 years — June 1, 2012 –May 31, 2014.  
Region directors may serve no more than 3 consecutive 2 year terms

**RESULTS: Region Directors for 2012-2014**

Arizona: Curt Grube (terms out in 2014)  
Mother Lode: Jim Simons  
Southern California: Don Harris (terms out in 2014)

**2012-2013 FAR WEST DIVISION  
ELECTION NOTIFICATION**

**ELECTION—Nominations are now open for Division Director and Assistant Division Director**

Two-year term June 1, 2013 – May 31, 2015.

Division Director position: presently held by Bill Gibson and

Assistant Division Director position: presently held by Tom (Thomas) Sherry\*\*

\*\*2012 special election held in to complete vacated term to May 31, 2013

**Please note the following dates.**

**December 3, 2012** — Nominations are DUE for Division Director and Assistant Division Director Positions. Any nomination or announcement must be accompanied by a one-page resume of the candidate's membership in NSP that demonstrates the candidate's eligibility for office and a one-page statement of the candidate's platform. All nominations, other than self-nominations, must be accompanied by written acceptance of the nomination signed by the nominee.

**January 7, 2013**— Division Director and Assistant Div. Director candidates list finalized by Elections Committee.

**January 14, 2013**—List of candidates for Division Director and Assistant Div. Director, their resumes and platforms to be posted to the FWD web site.

**February 4, 2013**—Date of Election, ballots will be distributed to electorate (via email).

**March 4, 2013**— Date all ballots to be received/postmarked by for Division Director and Assistant Div. Director positions.

**March 25, 2013**—Results announced (sooner if all eligible ballots are returned)

**PLEASE FORWARD ALL NOMINATIONS, PLATFORMS AND/OR ANNOUNCEMENTS TO:**

Email to: [waits\\_janice@cusdk8.org](mailto:waits_janice@cusdk8.org)  
Janice Waits, Election Chairperson  
1202 Rembrandt Drive  
Sunnyvale, CA 94087

**REGION DIRECTOR ELECTIONS:**

- Also be advised that **Eastern Sierra and Northern California** regions are due for Region Director elections, in spring 2013. Positions are for 2 years — June 1 –May 31. Region directors may serve no more than 3 consecutive 2 year terms.
- Incumbents: Eastern Sierra – Nancy Stromswold Northern California – Jason Allen
- Nominations are now open and will be accepted to later than **February 4, 2013**. Consult a region officer or your region's by-laws, officer's handbooks, and ski patrol manual for qualifications. Nominations are to be submitted to the Division Election Chairperson, Janice Waits.

**REGION ELECTION TIME LINE**

**February 4, 2013** —Pronouncements of Candidacy and letters of acceptance of candidacy due to Elections Chair/committee

**April 1, 2013** — Ballots sent out along with candidates platform and statement

**May 6, 2013** — Date all ballots to be received/postmarked — results announced



FAR WEST DIVISION DIRECTORS REPORT  
Far West Division Board Meeting  
Davis, California August 4, 2012

Another winter is in the books for the Far West Division. The biggest accomplishment this year was the work done by our staff in rewriting legislation (AB 1245) for California. The Professional Firefighters Union tried to get the legislature to enact legislation that would have severely limited who could be licensed as a first responder in California. If passed this legislation would have required licensing and background checks for all first responders and that would have included all OEC technicians in the NSP in California. With a lot of help from our industry partners; CSAA, Mammoth Mountain Ski Area, Squaw Valley Ski Area and the owner of the Mt Shasta Ski Park, we met several times with the other stakeholders at the Cal-EMSA office in Sacramento. The outcome of these meetings produced an exemption for members of the National Ski Patrol while performing duties at Ski Areas in California. This is a major milestone in the nations EMS and is already starting to have an effect on the ski industry in this and other states. At this time we are still waiting to hear if this legislation will be passed and if the Governor will sign it. If not we will still work with CalEMSA to be sure that the exemption is included in the California EMR regulations.

Again I am happy to report that the Far West Division is adding yet another new patrol to the Division. In our Southern California Region the San Gabriel National Forest has requested NSP patrol coverage of their Nordic ski trails. Members from neighboring Nordic patrols are pitching in to help form this new patrol. Also, the other newer patrols in our Division are report great success. Our newest Alpine patrol at Kirkwood Ski Area is growing and hopes to add additional members this next season. One of our Nordic patrols even supported a biathlon at Mammoth Mountain Ski Area, working closely with their patrol.

With the rather poor snow in the Sierras this last season, some of the programs that were scheduled had to be postponed or cancelled. This created opportunities for our patrols and regions to provide events at a more local level. Without our Winter Education Conference being held, Squaw Valley stepped up and provided a regional SEM. It was so successful that this may provide a model for future programs. This summer two of our regions are combining forces to conduct an Instructor Recertification Conference. Also in the works are new Senior Manuals for OEC and OET. We have had numerous conference calls and are working towards helping produce quality manuals that we can all use.

I have been active on the National Level. I was selected by my fellow Division Directors to serve on this year's nominating committee for the National Board of Directors elections. With a lot of teleconferences we were able to select a very qualified slate of candidates and would like to encourage all of our members in participating in this year's election. Also, I serve on the Planning committee, Governance subcommittee for elections / list of needs, and have been selected to be the assistant spokesperson for the Division Directors Team. There has been a lot of work on the National P&P with a draft that will be going to the National Board. The last section to be reworked covers the code of conduct. In my spare time I have attended as many regional meetings as I could and just recently met with the rest of the division staff to prepare this year's budget. I visited Southern California for a fellow patroller's memorial service and will be attending their Regional Awards Banquet in September.

Submitted by:  
*Bill Gibson* — Far West Division Director, NSP — [www.farwest.org](http://www.farwest.org)



## FAR WEST DIVISION Asst DIRECTORS REPORT

Far West Division Board Meeting

Davis, California August 4, 2012

Another winter is in the books for the Far West Division. A tough season for skiing, the Division made important steps forward with expense alignment and program delivery alignment model change. This year instead of running our events with a net loss of ~\$9000 we took another look at our program delivery model and are trying to push the subject matter experts out to the Regions for broader transfer of info our members. After reviewing the attendance of past years we noticed we were getting the same people to the conference events and our transfer of knowledge was not as widespread as we hoped. The Board expects the new program will increase the transfer of knowledge and skills to help build our brand and keep our product quality top rated.

Hosting the Summer Budget planning meeting at my house we discussed issues facing the Division at both the National level and the Division. State of CAL EMS program changes were discussed and it seems we have a workable solution for the NSP members and will avoid the background checks and bi-annual fees as OEC providers.

Funding for the program discussions were lively and all programs submitting programs were funded at near the requested amounts.

Going into this season, I look forward to working with the program supervisors as we implement the new program delivery model, supervisor delivery at the region and multi-patrol level.

Looking forward to better snow for skiing in season 2012 – 2013.

Submitted by:

*Lance Vaughan* — Far West Division Asst Director, NSP — [www.farwest.org](http://www.farwest.org)





REPORT TO THE FAR WEST DIVISION —

**NATIONAL SKI PATROL  
ARIZONA REGION  
Region Director Report**

The Arizona Region continue to try to let the members know all the education and training that is available. Current officers include Region Director: Curt Grube; Awards person Toni Sinclair; OEC Mike Koehlmoos; and a new Treasurer (we hope) from Sunrise. Are biggest challenges remains communication with Sunrise and snow.

Sunrise Patrol: Greer - White Mountains, AZ This patrol has 88 members. There large three peak resort including a ride park provides lots of opportunities for skiers and patrollers to work. They seem to have a good relationship with management as well as the pro division. They tried some more fund raising activities on the slopes last winter, but it was a tough season for everyone. They are working hard to get everyone up to speed with OEC this year, working with Mt. Lemmon to share refreshers

Mount Lemmon Patrol: Tucson, AZ. They remain a small patrol (22 real members) in the desert, working hard to provide service to their local area. Their relationship with management continues to get better every year now. Their Patrol Rep. is very well organized and dedicated. They are doing ongoing training at nearly every meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Curt Grube

## EASTERN SIERRA REGION STATUS REPORT

Nancy Stromswold, Director — [easternsierraragion.org](http://easternsierraragion.org)

August 4, 2012

Davis, CA

### **2011-2012 HIGHLIGHTS TO DATE: The season that refused to start and sputtered throughout.**

- Strong working relationship with MLR: communication, training, collaboration
- 5 OEC classes held in East Bay, Tahoe (2 Intensive), Reno, and Incline.
- Morrow and Tatsukawa attended NAS in October, 2011 with financial assistance from ESR.
- 5 new ID Instructors: 2 from Northstar, 3 from Homewood.
- 2 SEM hosted by Squaw Valley and Homewood; 15 evaluated from ESR and MLR
- Senior Ski and Toboggan at Squaw Valley; \_\_ evaluated from ESR and MLR
- 6 patrols submitted for awards: 1 Nat. Appointment, 4 merit stars, several annual awards
- Website continues to be a valuable tool and the place to go to get information (Rye Livingston)

**Registration/Membership:** 2011 = 537 + 61 SV Pros; 2010 = 557; 2009 = 554.

**Financial:** New treasurer, reviewing budget format; no dues assessed the past 6 years and again in 2013

### **PATROL REPORTS:**

**ALPINE:** now owned with Squaw Valley by KSL/JMA; negotiating same benefits as Squaw; 3 cand.

**DIAMOND PEAK:** 22 patrollers; PR and others retiring due to health; starting Aux. group of patrollers

**NORTHSTAR:** now owned by Vail Corp, volunteers in all resorts same training and benefits; WEC at Northstar (?), starting Aux. group of patrollers, Tough Mudder in September.

**HEAVENLY:** also owned by Vail Corp; beta testing on-line refresher, closed; ~6 candidates.

**HOMEWOOD** new PR Dave Stromswold; permits for development in 2014; management shuffle

**MAUNA KEA:** 6 patrollers, concerns are recertification in OEC, OET and recruitment; ageing patrol

**MT. ROSE:** shrinking numbers; no new candidates this year thus far.

**SIERRA AT TAHOE:** will host SEM March, 2013; 32 active last year; 1 new this year.

**SQUAW VALLEY:** now owned with Alpine; 80 patrollers; losing ~3, gaining ~3 new cand/transfers.

**TAHOE BACKCOUNTRY:** 10 candidates 90% done; visiting patrol welcome; working in Boreal FAR

**TAHOE DONNER:** new PR Dave Low; ageing patrol, OET instructor(s) needed, Nye will assist.

**TAHOE X-C:** new patrol, PR Tom Moore; no snow, rough start; recruiting dual enrolled patrollers

### **GOALS, EVENTS FOR 2012-2013: GOOD SNOW FOR A PRODUCTIVE SKI SEASON!**

- "What can the Eastern Sierra Region do for your patrol?"
- Continue to communicate and coordinate training with other regions in the Division. (ESR Advisors)
- Program Advisors teach and Instructors in all disciplines participate at Instr. CE on 9/15/12 in Davis
- Vote on bylaw revision at November meeting (ESR Board)
- Training for Senior Advisor in Denver, then schedule "Calibration" clinics for SEM evaluators; implementation of new Senior manual requirements (Training Evaluators, patrols hosting SEM)
- Recruiting and educational booth Ski Dazzle in San Jose and Sacramento (Jim Margolis)
- Purchase one Nordic Ropes Training Kit (ESR); purchase 2 kits for backcountry caches (TBSP).
- Avalanche 1 and 2 courses forming (Morrow, Chernin, Derby); dates TBD on ESR website
- Women's OET Clinic at Heavenly Feb. 24, 2013 (Trudy Nye)
- OET Clinic/Senior evaluation at Squaw Valley March 13-15 (Squaw Valley)
- Every patrol submit for at least one award ('11-'12 = 6 of 12; '10-'11 = 5 of 11) (Leilani Connolly)
- Increase paid staff participation in training events and membership (all ESR patrols)

### **ISSUES and RESOLUTIONS**

- Ageing patrollers: recruitment
- Retirement of Bill Person: new appointments to cover his extensive responsibilities
- Small class sizes in OEC this year and last year: recruitment, advertising of classes.
- MTR and Nordic Advisor positions open: appointments by November, 2012

REPORT TO THE FAR WEST DIVISION  
*Northern California* REGION STATUS REPORT  
***END of 2011/2012 SEASON REPORT***

**FROM:** Jason "JJ" Allen

**DATE:** Last minute July 28, 2012

**END OF SEASON HIGHLIGHTS**

Mt.Shasta ended on a strong note with late season snowpack

Registration/Membership: 70

Financial:

Report on Patrols:

Mt.Shasta with some good growth as paid patrollers recognize the benefits of the NSP membership. Lassen and Coppers Lake holding on with limited patrollers and no growth. Hope to work with Mike Kelly to bring back numbers to Lassen. Possible work with national parks to bring in 20 existing VIP volunteers into NSP. Plan to work with new executive director of the Mt.Shasta Nordic to create a Nordic Patrol.

Mt.Shasta taking on more Off Season events. Ski area mountain bike race, Mud Run, Microbrewery festival, 4<sup>th</sup> of July run in Mt.Shasta, and the Mossbrae Music festival in Dunsmuir, CA

Had one Ski Enhancement Seminar at Mt.Shasta. Plan on one or two for upcoming 2012/13 season

**ISSUES and RESOLUTIONS:**

Mt.Shasta had to cancel both Avy 1 and MTR 1. Will schedule for upcoming 2012/13 season.

Lack of OEC course for Mt.Shasta Patrol. Working on building new OEC instructors and working with [www.firewhat.com](http://www.firewhat.com) to have at least an annual if not semi-annual OEC course using their facilities.

**GOALS FOR COMING SEASON:**

More advanced level training for patrollers.

Possible APP Mini Clinic at Mt.Shasta

Recognize patrollers with awards at Fall refresher

continue to recruit new patrollers and more paid patrollers

More Snow!!!!



REPORT TO THE FAR WEST DIVISION  
*Southern Cal* REGION STATUS REPORT  
***END of 2011/2012 SEASON REPORT***

**FROM:** Don Harris / Lisa L

**DATE:** Last minute July 28, 2012

END OF SEASON HIGHLIGHTS **Notes from Lisa Larra**

Had great snow, and wanted to share that with us.

Registration/Membership:

Financial:

Report on Patrols:

Expanded region by adding Las Vegas Snowbowl, recruitment efforts remain – using social media as a tool, Facebook, Ski Dazzle and await the full report from Don Harris.

Added a SAR team in SCal, reporting to CAL EMA, backcountry skill set, SR level avalanche training filling a void in the SAR orgs in SCal.

Mammoth Basin provided First Aid for the Biathalon event this past winter, imagine – skiing, shooting.

ISSUES and RESOLUTIONS:

GOALS FOR COMING SEASON:

REPORT TO THE FAR WEST DIVISION  
*Pro* REGION STATUS REPORT  
***END of 2011/2012 SEASON REPORT***

**FROM:** Pro Liaison — Rich Bailey

**DATE:** 7/29/2012:

END OF SEASON HIGHLIGHTS

Drought season. Ski resorts financially challenged. (June, Mammoth, Bear Valley, etc.) Narsids again an issue. Dr. Gregory/Dick Pennemen ski area surveys. APP held numerous clinics in California, Oregon, Washington, New Mexico, etc. Spring Clinic at Mt. Bachelor. **NARSIDS now called SIS – Snow Immersion Suffocation**

Registration/Membership:

Financial:

Report on Patrols:

Proposed Pro Liaison position in the future. Mutual between FWD/APP and similar in the PNW NSP.

ISSUES and RESOLUTIONS:

Financial health of ski industry after last winter remain a concern, Town of Mammoth Lakes files Chap 11, and Mammoth is closing June Mtn ski area. Education on snow immersion deaths, perception of Paid / Volunteers still an issue in some areas.

GOALS FOR COMING SEASON:

APP clinic most likely at Mammoth. Working on another Risk Mgt seminar first day. Hope to get head of educational unit/Cal Osha and Oregon/Washington counterparts to be apart. New organization within APP. **Build better relationships between Paid and Volunteer staffs at several key mountains via the APP structure. With the APP regionalization issues between the APP and NSP arise and need addressing across these other divisions notably Pacific Northwest, Rich suggested working with the PNW to add a Paid rep position with the PNW to help with the patrol org relationships.**

