

Far West Division **News and Views**

News and Views of the Far West Division, NSP; www.farwest.org, January, 2010

Volume Two, Issue One



From the Division Director. Stephen Simi

The Far West Division is Strong and Growing.

Largest Summer Conference! Working off of the largest attendance of our Summer Conference, 150 members were treated to all of our NSP educational programs. We are in the process of preplanning the 2010 Summer Conference targeted in the Southern California region. Watch for details of this event.

Special Tribute during the Winter **Conference:** We have prepared this year's Winter Educational Conference as a special tribute to the 50th anniversary of the 1960 Olympics. Gretchen Besser, PhD, NSP Historian, will be our keynote speaker for the conference, and the 1960 Olympics Ski Patrol Team will be our special guests. Again this March at NorthStar in Tahoe, 25 of the best NSP instructors in the division will be offering 11 NSP programs over the weekend. We have added this year Instructor Development, Nordic, and Introduction to Certified Program. Register online at www.FarWest.org and reserve your choice offerings. We are planning for and expecting this event will fill to capacity.

Welcome Arizona Snowbowl!! A very big welcome to another Ski Patrol unit. In the Arizona Region we welcome Arizona Snowbowl Ski Patrol. On 22 November, 18 NSP OEC resources assisted in an OEC Challenge for 14 ski patrollers in Flagstaff Arizona. Snowbowl is a strong ski patrol, and the Snowbowl Ski Area is ready to benefit from NSP. The FWD and AZ Region are

already hosting ID and TES and SES programs for Snowbowl members.

NSP Member Recruitment Efforts: The Far West Division instituted a division-wide recruitment program this year. FWD members from all 5-regions were present at shows promoting ski safety and recruiting new members. SnowJams, Ski-Dazzle, and Warren Miller shows each had NSP FWD visibility throughout the division. Many names of folks interested in joining NSP were collected. Nicely done, and the events were fun to support.

OEC Candidate Classes Swell!! Throughout the division, OEC candidate classes are experience growth with some having the largest class sizes to date.

Doing Our Job!! The Far West Division is focused on and performing well to our National Charter. ...to train and educate competent ski patrollers to serve, ...and to promote ski safety...

Website Enhancements: Please visit and peruse the enhancements of our website. We list our Educational Conferences, identify Who We Are, now have online PayPal non-profit donations, and the most-cool is a Google-Map of all FWD Ski Patrols at [http://www.farwest.org/?page=site_php /classes/patrols/patrols.php]. Many of our implementations serve as examples, and have been reproduced on the National level.

Thanks for your support to this organization. Be well, serve well.

Have a great 2010 Ski Season, Stephen Simi, Far West Division Director, NSP

FWD to host Winter **Education Conference**

Programs, Programs are coming to Northstar at Tahoe on Friday, March 19 to Sunday, March 21, 2010!

A list of speakers, lodging, registration and other information is available on the Far West Division web site.

Register now and sign up for your NSP programs and events. You'll want to register you, and family members, early for fun, education and networking!

Check the Far West website: www.farwest.org, or go to: http://fwdwinter.eventbrite.com/

See all the detail on page 5, inside; and, register early to get the best of optional programming!

What's Inside...

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email up-to-date?

Is your mailing address and eaddress current with the National office? Remember, the FWD gets its mailing lists and email lists directly from the National office in Denver. If you change your US mail or email address, drop a note to the Denver NSP office: www.nsp.org, or call 303-988-1111; and, notify your own patrol.

Don't miss out on exciting future issues of Patroller Peek and other NSP publications designed to help you maximize your membership in the Far West Division and the NSP!

FWD News and Views News of the Far West Division, NSP

Division Director, Stephen Simi Asst. Dir., Ron Evenson Asst. Dir., Bill Gibson Arizona Dir., Curt Grube Eastern Sierra Dir., Bill Hummer Mother Lode Dir.. Don Johnston Northern Cal., Jason Allen (Interim) Professional Dir., Rich Bailey Southern California, Don Harris **Secretary**, Janice Waits Treasurer, Keith Dickens Legal Advisor, Stewart Foreman Registrar, Peggy Jamison **Alumni Advisor**, Frank Showmaker Awards Advisor, Ken Bergmann Avalanche Advisor, Rich Bailey Certified Advisor, Michael Nolen Community College Advisor, Nancy Stromswold Conferences Advisor, Tony Atkins Instructor Development, Doug Hill Mountain Travel and Rescue Advisor. Karl Chulski

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Outdoor Emergency Transportation, Lance Vaughan

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The FWD News and Views is published three times yearly, in early Fall, December, and February. Deadline is the end of the month prior to publication. Features, photos; send to Tim Viall, fwdnewsletter@farwest.org, or mail to 5854 Turtle Valley Drive, Stockton, CA 95207.

Mailing address and Annual toboggan refresher; refresh or not?

Fall/early season means refreshers: OEC, chair evacuation and, of course, toboggan skills

I am often asked, "Who sets the standards", "What is expected in the refresher?" - Most of us feel confident Toboggan refresher", "Where can I operating a toboggan but we all can use a

"When is the deadline for refresher completion". I'll attempt to address these most common of questions and hopefully not create a standard.

While some of the answers will vary according to local standards and requirements a great starting outline is contained in the NSP

Policy & Procedures, available online on the NSP.org website. Look in the "My Bookshelf", "Policy & Procedures", and chapter 15. Please remember the NSP Policies & Procedures are guidelines of topics and skills you could be asked to perform in an annual Toboggan refresher.

"Who Sets the standards" - Each resort/area we serve can (and often do) add additional skills to the Toboggan skills standard. The Toboggan Instructor in charge of the Toboggan refresher is encouraged to work with the terrain and conditions for a safe run while meeting the local requirements.

"What is expected at a Toboggan refresh / annual check-off?" - Expect to operate the front of a toboggan and demonstrate a safe approach, anchoring, loading, route selection and descent. I encourage both the Toboggan Instructor supervising and the patroller to use this time as a learning session and an open exchange of ideas and techniques. Foremost for all remember safety of operators, riders, and skiing public.

"Where can I improve my skills?" -The annual Toboggan refresher is a great place to start or renew the continuous learning process. I encourage all patrols to register each toboggan refresher weekend as a Toboggan Enhancement Seminar. Registration of the refresher as a class provides documentation of annual training and skills renewal, a forum for interactive learning, and NSP coverage. If a patroller needs or wants additional help, instructors can utilize that moment to address areas of interest.

"Why must we complete an annual improve my skills", "Why must we do an warm up run each season especially annual refresher", and before we have the safety

of an injured person in our hands. Changes in equipment (remember when we would get new skis and boots in the fall) can provide a different feel as we operate toboggans. At the least most of us take a warm up run before we tackle a double black, so why not warm up before we are

expected to deliver someone's loved one to the base area via toboggan.

"When is the deadline for refresher completion?" - This is a little more clear cut from the Policies and Procedures, Section 15.4.1 F, states, "As part of NSP's annual requirements, all NSP members, except Alumni, inactive, and medical associates, must complete an on-thehill/trail practical refresher course as early as possible each season. (Auxiliary Patrollers need only participate in the Outdoor Emergency care portion of the refresher except where local or Division policy dictates otherwise.)

Each patrol has skilled Toboggan Instructors available to help patrollers maintain or re-master skills as needed. We all are busy over the summer, working & not skiing, and we are all racing a Birth Certificate, each year we find some things easier and some less so. Do not be shy about keeping your skills intact and running a smooth and safe sled, we owe it to our Brand and reputation to offer a strong product to the resorts we serve you a well trained and competent patroller.

See you on the slopes, gravity calls.

Lance Vaughan is FWD Outdoor Emergency Transport Advisor; email Lance at: fwdoet@farwest.org



Job Opening - New Toboggan Instructors Wanted!

This fall during your OEC refreshers or On the Hill events, many of your patrollers where recognized for their years of service as Toboggan Instructors with 12 or 18 year service awards. I realize some of those awarded 18 year awards in fact have more than 18 years of Toboggan

Instructor Service; however, the records from National are vague or incomplete prior to 1990. I am happy to help correct the record when needed and do appreciate and



value your years of service if you have more than 18vrs of service.

The Far West Division is blessed with an experience team of Toboggan Instructors over 65% of our Instructors have 12 or more years of Toboggan Instructor experience. This is good and great news and creates a unique opportunity for our members, a chance to mentor and learn from a skilled and knowledgeable team.

In today's environment a hiring company is news. Your company the National Ski Patrol is hiring today and all season—Toboggan Instructors.

We offer training, coaching on communication skills, demonstration skills and motivation skills.

Requirements are clear and obtainable by all applicants.

- 1. Complete Instructor Development Course either in person or via On-line option.
- 2. Contact your Patrol Rep, local Toboggan Instructor Trainer, or myself for pairing with a local Toboggan Mentor.
- Start Teaching segments of Candidate class, Toboggan Refreshers and Toboggan skills

Clinics

- 4. When ready to show your new skills, meet with a Toboggan Instructor Trainer and demo your knowledge. (Or attend a regional Toboggan event and share your skills)
- 5. Help your Instructor Trainer

complete y o u r paperwork for change of status to Instructor.

We need you, your interest, your time and your enthusiasm to capture as much of the experience and in stitutional

knowledge as we can and continue to make our product a strong, value added part of the ski industry. At many hills the NSP Toboggan Team instructs the new Paid staff, I see this trend as a confirmation that the NSP Brand is respected and our resorts value our products and training. This is a positive trend and serves to reinforce the value and NSP Brand with resorts in the FWD.

Take the challenge, join a team that ensures our injured guests are delivered safely and securely each time we provide care. Please contact me directly if you need help linking with local resources, I can be reached at LanceVaughan1@gmail.com or 415-377-0057.

Handiman/woman? Find a winter project. Make a ski patrol info center for patrol esprit de corps; it's a great tool for new patroller recruitment and touting patrol awards!



Risk Management for the NSP toboggan handler

With Risk Management being the focus of discussion in the Snow Sliding World, we need to ask: "What can we do as Patrollers handling toboggans to minimize risk?"

- 1. Show up early season in shape and ready to go. We all know that it takes a little time to get our "ski legs" back, but this time can be shortened by pre-season training. Most people that are attracted to ski patrolling are outdoor enthusiasts and keep very fit, but we all need to ask: "If I am the driver of the loaded sled, am I going to get a little wobbly before I get to the bottom of the hill?"
- 2. Perform annual sled checks or recertifications. The NSP has criteria established (NSP Transportation Handbook) for Basic Patrollers. Each Resort has a skill set required for patrolling. These two sets of criteria blend to establish what is expected of new patrollers, as well as returning patrollers. Everyone needs to display proficiency annually through organized and scheduled recertifications. Remedial training can be made available for those who need it.
- 3. Check your toboggans. Each time you take a toboggan to a scene, remember to look it over. It is so easy to get in a hurry and eliminate this quick check, but that loose bolt or frayed rope can lead to something none of us want to consider. Pre-season is a great time to look over each sled for major repairs. Cascade Toboggan has some great pointers on their website for direction on what to look for.
- Train beyond your current comfort zone. Most toboggan handling is done well within our comfort zone, but every now and then, we find ourselves rescuing an injured guest off a double black diamond. Are you ready for this? How can you prepare? Each Patrol offers toboggan clinics to go beyond basic sled handling. The Senior and then the Certified Program in the Mother Lode Region offer clinics that will challenge you and expand your comfort zone. Check the Mother Lode Calendar for these clinics at Dodge Ridge, Sierra Summit, Squaw Valley and Sugar Bowl; talk to your local Senior Advisor about these events and the Senior Program, same with Certified.

Have a great season and be safe. Please call or contact me if you have any questions. Remember, most clinics will "sell out" so make your plans early.

Jim Simons, Mother Lode Toboggan Advisor, Phone: 559-730-6631; or, email: vinredco@sbcglobal.net

Avalanche training offers NSP career, life enhancement!

The diverse terrain in the Far West Division includes the steep slopes and deep snow pack, which is conducive to avalanches. Every year, within this Division, general public as well as ski patrollers are being subject to and even

caught in the troughs of avalanche slides.

The NSP Avalanche program is targeted toward educating both general public, and more so ski patrollers, to snow science, travel, and rapid and effective rescue in avalanche terrain. The NSP Avalanche courses fulfill all of the requirements of the level I and II curricula adopted by the American Avalanche Association with one important

exception; the NSP courses includes additional topics related to organized rescue.

Please note that actual avalanche control work and rescue operations are under the direction and control of ski area management or other authorized local and state agencies.

The Far West Division supports the offering of three NSP Avalanche courses: AFR, Ava-I, and Ava-II.

In a typical season, the Division, though NSP instructors, offers approximately 14 courses, which educates approximately 220 folks in Avalanche.

Whereas the Avalanche Fundamental



and Rescue (targeted predominately to general public, e.g., SAR teams) and Avalanche Level-I are typically presented locally on the patrol or region levels to allow regular access to these offerings, the Avalanche Level-II course with its average of 13 hours of classroom instruction and three days of practical field work, is intensive, and is used mainly by advancing NSP Avalanche Instructors and NSP Professionals more adapt to work Avalanche Control for the

Areas. As such, the Avalanche-Level-II course is more typically offered and taught by a combination of Region and Division resources.

Our goal and mission is to support and offer resources to all three courses,

> meeting the educational needs of our membership as well as general pubic across the division. The Division will identify Avalanche Centers of Excellence through out the division, and identify an Avalanche program offering schedule each ski season, so that access to these educational offerings serve all regions and patrols within our division boundaries.

See the FWD website for more information and sign up to expand your knowledge!

Contact Avalanche Advisor Rich Bailey at fwdavalanche@farw est.ora



Mountain Travel and Rescue

Our Mission/Objective is to introduce and train NSP members, associated group members, and interested public in the travel and survival in comfort in the outdoor winter mountain environment, with quality instructors and relevant up-to-date course content.

You will find a wealth of courses and activities, and more information on the FWD website, www.farwest.org, and gather more insight. Also, scan your own Region for more activities and options to get into these great programs!



Please contact Far West **Division Mountain Travel and** Rescue Advisor, Karl Chulski at: fwd-mtr@farwest.org

Far West seeks alumni involvement!

Our Alumni Mission/Objective is to support former patrollers who decide to remain associated with the NSP. Provide services for NSP outside of any requirements for days of skiing. Assist with NSP recruiting. Represent NSP to organizations of common interest. The Far West Division currently has 279 Alumni, with approximately 20 lifetime members.

The Alumni program is beginning to expand on the National-level. There is an ad hoc group exploring suitable duties that may benefit the Division and National organization. Scan the web, and consider if you might get involved at your patrol level!

Please feel free to contact Frank Shoemaker, fwdalumni@farwest.org. And, no, Frank does not always have a mike pressed to his lips - just the best photo we had!



Winter Education Conference coming to Northstar at Tahoe

Programs, Programs, Programs are coming to Northstar at Tahoe on Friday, March 19 to Sunday, March 21, 2010!

Twenty-three (23) of the best National Ski Patrol Instructors in the Far West Division are converging from each of our 5 Regions for this event. They will be on-hand and prepared to support this Weekend Winter Educational Conference. The weekend features 8 NSP Program Offerings (see the agenda listed below). If we fill each program, we will be prepared to accommodate up to 85 patrollers.

Our focus is Ski (and snowboarding), Toboggan handling, and Outdoor Emergency Care. When you register and sign up, please

identify your morning and afternoon program interests. Note: We are planning NSP's Senior (OEC) Scene Management (SEM). This senior program has pre-requisites. The SEM is scheduled for Sunday. Saturday will include the OEC skills check-off component. This SEM offering is limited to 9 patrollers (first come first serve). If you sign up for this, our IOR will be contacting you to ensure that all pre-requisites are met to ensure everyone's best chances of success.

Families Too!! We have painstakingly planned and worked with the Northstar Resort and Ski Patrol to make this an action-packed affordable educational conference for you, that includes activities that can met your guest and familes needs as well. If

National Ski Patrol - Far West Division

Winter Educational Conference

1,800 Trained First Responders







Join the Ski Patrol, Contact us: at www.farwest.org
National Ski Patrol, Inc. federally chartered charitable service organization
(36 USC Sec 152701-Statue, 501(c)3-Non-profit)

your family/guest ski/board, Northstar is offering discounted lifts (\$39/day for adults and \$17/day for 12 and under).

The Northstar Ski Patrol is offering guided ski tours for all levels of skiiers/borders (Friday, Saturday, and Sunday). Additionally, the Northstar-at-Tahoe Resort has so much to offer those who won't be on the hill with us. See Northstar's website for shopping, dining, and winter activities for all. Discounted lodging is offered through Northstar. See the lodging details on the registration form.

Register now and sign up for your NSP programs and events. See you there.

<u>Check the Far West website: www.farwest.org.</u> or go to: http://fwdwinter.eventbrite.com/

FWD's Search and Rescue (SAR) Teams working with State of CA

In 2001, the Far West Division and the State of California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (OES) signed a Memorandum of Understanding to have our ski patrol members be available to support emergency service functions under the provision of the Emergency Services Act. Since 2001, members have been linked-in and serve SAR functions for OES in both Northern and Southern California.

Our Mission/Objective is to promote the opportunity for NSP FWD patroller members to volunteer and provide services to the State of California Emergency Management Agency (CALEMMA) providing for Emergency Medical and Search and Rescue operations under the direction of OES.

A signed Memorandum of Understanding dated November 3, 2001 specifies authorized provisions and services between the State of California Governors Office of Emergency Services and the Far West Division of the National Ski Patrol remains current and is on file with the State of California (CALEMMA) and the FWD.

The FWD has authorized two geographically located Nordic patrols to host Search and Rescue teams servicing Northern and

Southern California.

- · Northern CA FWD SAR Team Tahoe Backcountry Nordic, Mike Kelly Team Leader
- · Southern CA FWD SAR Team Mt. Pinos Nordic, Mike St. Clair Team Leader

Registered Team participants are trained and equipment ready to operated in severe winter environments. All training and mission operations are authorized and covered under the State of California in regards to workman's compensation personal safety issues.

Contact John Kretschmann, NSP/FWD SAR Liaison, 209-694-8523. John has all the insight as to Far West Divsion involvement in this expanding program!



Outdoor Emergency Care is your guide to quality!

The Mission/Objective of FWD OEC is to facilitate the development of the best Outdoor Emergency Care (OEC) training, testing and quality assurance program for all FWD patrollers, OEC Instructors, and Instructor Trainers. Improve alignment, communication, and to better share ideas between National, Division, Region, and local area OEC protocols. Support and provide the FWD OEC Instructor Trainers the tools in which to build and maintain a knowledgeable and experienced Instructor base within each Region.

- Continue to build an active network of quality OEC Instructor and Instructor Trainers (ITs).
- Work from the individual Patrol level to the National level towards identification and development of improved program delivery and content.
- Increase the understanding and relationship between ITs, Instructors, and Mentors.
- Increase the registered OEC courses by 15%.
- Provide OEC program and Senior Scene Management support for the Far West Division Winter Education Meeting.
- Travel to two Regions to attend local training activities as well as provide OEC updates from the National Office.

- Encourage all patrollers to become more involved with some of the Division sponsored educational/recreational events like the Tri-advisory in Yosemite and the Northstar Mid Winter Education clinics.
- Represent the best interests of the FWD OEC at the National OEC Supervisor's meeting.
- Continue working with the National OEC Committee on standardized OEC practical finals, improving the written OEC final, establishing IT training guidelines and contributing to OEC 5th edition

For more information and a wide host of FWD OEC courses, classes and atvitivties, see the FWD website.

Your FWD contact: Keith Tatsukawa, Far West Division OEC Supervisor, phone: 858.353-4466; or, via e-mail at: fwdoec@farwest.org.



Nordic geared up for a serious backcountry winter; join us!

The Mission/Objective of the Nordic Program is to deliver ongoing educational support of backcountry skills, techniques, or disciplinary guidance to area management and the general public from qualified and active ski and toboggan instructors.

We provide a support structure for new and current backcountry ski and toboggan instructors to ensure the delivery of skills are safe, positive and supports NSP as well as area management's safety guidelines.

The Nordic Program Plan for 2009-2010 is to continue to support the IT representatives in the North and one in the South to appropriately develop new instructors while ensuring the current instructor base is maintaining the current level of high standards while performing their duties as instructors. Annually review the needs for additional IT's Two Pinecrest Nordic patrollers burn a few



and make changes as required. extra calories working to light that Annually develop a plan to re-backcountry stove for a bit of nutrition!

certify instructors based on the availability of IT's and instructors that require this refresher. Nordic patrols and patrollers are some of the FWD's fastest growing segments, so, come on out and join in the fun!

You'll find much more insight beyond this limited space on the FWD website: www.farwest.org. several FWD Nordic patrols have taken top honors in the National Ski Patrol awards categories in recent years - join with our award winners, learn new skills...

Contact Jeffrey Gurrola, f w d nordic@far west.org, Phone: (415) 491-1400 home, (510) 625.5570 work.



Instructor Development: Becoming an NSP Instructor...

The National Ski Patrol Instructor Development Program is the path to become an Instructor in any of the five NSP education disciplines:

- · Avalanche
- · Mountain Travel and Rescue
- · Outdoor Emergency Care
- · Outdoor Emergency Transportation
- · Instructor Development

The program consists of two components:

- · the Instructor Development Course, and
- · the Instructor Mentoring Program.

The Instructor Development Course consists of an interactive classroom session of approximately 6-8 hours, and covers such topics as principles of teaching adults, learning styles, teaching methods, lesson planning, and evaluation techniques. Prior to taking the course, you should purchase and read the NSP textbook, "Instructor Development, Training the Adult Learner", NSP catalog #502, \$19.50 + \$9.00 shipping. The Instructor Development Course is also an elective for the NSP Senior Program.

The Instructor Development Course is also available on Interactive CD, which replaces the classroom session, for \$39.50 + \$9.00 shipping, NSP catalog #535. This method still requires enrolling in an Instructor-supervised course. For more information on this alternative means of taking the Instructor Development Course, contact Douglas Hill at fwd-id@farwest.org.

After completion of the Instructor Development Course, the instructor candidate will enter the second component of the Instructor Development Program, the Instructor Mentoring Program, in the discipline in which he or she is interested in teaching. This component gives the instructor candidate actual teaching experience under the guidance of an experienced NSP Instructor and Instructor Trainer in that discipline.

For more information on the Instructor Development Program for the Far West Division, or if you are interested in attending an Instructor Development Course or would like the course offered to your patrol, please see the FWD website!

And, contact FWD Instructor Development Supervisor Douglas Hill at his email address: fwd-id@farwest.org



Certified program beckons; fun, and skills improvement!

The Mission/Objective of the Certified program is that, through a program of training and testing, to provide a venue for outstanding Patrollers to demonstrate a high level of proficiency in all aspects of Patrolling to better serve Ski Industry Management and their guests. At the same time provide an ongoing opportunity for Patrollers to seek out new knowledge and skills in Patrolling.

Although not a recognized NSP Program (yet), the Far West Division maintains a brothership and provides a portal for our members to educate and train toward Certified status under the Association of Professional Patrollers. NSP members typically progress into this program after completion of achieving NSP Senior classification status.

The Regional Certified Program Administrators have two primary responsibilities:

Working with the National Ski Patrol Unit Representatives and Patrol Directors, identify individuals who have the ability and desire to successfully complete the Certified Program and encourage them to enter the program.

Provide small group and individual training required to successfully complete the Certified Program Modules.

The Far West Division Certified Program Supervisor is



responsible for monitoring the Regional Training Programs. The Supervisor works to coordinate these events to provide more training opportunities for those Patrollers who are able to travel outside their region for training.

The Supervisor also works closely with the Association of Professional Patrollers (APP) to ensure that the training is consistent with National Ski Patrol Certified Program content and the APP Testing Criteria. The Supervisor facilitates the participation of Volunteer Patrollers in Association of Professional Patrollers Certified Training Workshops and the APP Mid-Winter and Spring Testing and Training Clinics.

The Supervisor verifies the candidate's successful completion of all the requirements of the Certified Program. The Supervisor

submits the paperwork to the National Office for their NSP Certified Number and certificate of completion.

You will find a great deal of insight into the Certified program on the FWD website, or, contact Michael K. Nolen, FWD Certified Advisor, 559-893-2346(H); 559-908-5015 (cellular), email at: fwd-certified@farwest.org.



NSP Volunteers going from the mountains to the water...

Just what did you do during your summer, to save a life...?

either life guard or other rescue personnel, the fall.

the National Water Ski Racing Association recognized that their racers were in jeopardy if any accident occurred during one of their events.

That was more than two years ago when the organization discussed the idea with Terry Jesse, a 40 year NSP member. After talking with a few of us, he drafted a plan and presented it the Race Control committee and received total support. Over the next few months Terry put a lot of time and money in upgrading two speed boats to rescue boats. He installed a hoist system in both and equipped them with backboards, C-collars, trauma bags, O2, and everything that a first responder may ever need.

As soon as the boats were ready, we organized a team of NSP patrollers from the Southern California region and started training on land and water, protocols were developed and documented. Since then, three years have passed and the crew has grown into a solid support team. Currently, the members are comprised from four separate dazed competitive skier. patrols.

On Sunday, October 12th the National Water Ski Championships were being held at Mission Bay in San Diego. California. The crew utilizes two old boats that were converted to rescue boats by Terry Jesse. During Heat 5, The final championship race for the 51-60 class, the same race that Mr. Jesse the team caption was a participant/contestant for the championship at the US Open races..

The heat started smoothly, and Terry had the inside lane at the start. As the boats rounded Radar Island at 85MPH, it appeared Terry had the lead. Coming away from the island, he seemed to continue to hold the lead. Suddenly, at about 100 MPH Terry hit some sea weed in the water. The Rescue crews witnessed Terry cart wheeling over the water. Both rescue boats immediately headed toward the scene. Terry ended up unconscious

After witnessing prior failures by face down in the water about 200 feet from driver and Eric Mirzaian in rescue 2





Top photo, two side-by-side racers navigate a hard turn at 75 MPH; below, Rescue Boat #1 picking up a downed,

As Rescue 1 (the closest boat) arrived and the scene was safe to enter, patroller Denise de Vines was the first in the water. Swimming and climbing over the sea weed to get to Terry, who was face down unconscious in the water in front of her.

When Denise arrived she turned him over and he started throwing up sea water and blood. Shawn Biglari was the next in the water. Joe Green the driver of rescue #1 asked for vitals, symptoms and ABC's. Denise relayed the victim needed oxygen. By this time rescue 2 was at the scene. The regulator and mask were attached to the O2 bottle from Rescue boat #2's Ready Pack, the boat was driven to alongside Rescue 1 and the race boat that was polling Terry.

The O2 bottle handed to Rescue 2 and Natalie Muraciov dove in to assist Denise and Shawn with the O2 bottle. Don Harris relayed to San Diego paramedics by radio

the vitals, symptoms, ABC's, and LOC (loss of consciousness) status. Rescue 1 put their stokes litter into the water and maneuvered it to the skier. By this time, the injured had regained full consciousness; he was throwing up sea water and spitting blood. Joe Green in rescue 1 made a radio call to Coast Guard and EMS alerting them of the age and condition of our patient.

This rescue, like many we have all experienced was not completely textbook. Our preference was to backboard the patient in the water, place them in the Stokes, and hoist them aboard. This would have kept us in control for the entire rescue process. Mr. Jesse would have none of that. His position of comfort for breathing was a modified "tripod position." So we hoisted him aboard, on all fours in the Stokes litter. In the rolling water I was concerned that in his altered state he might fall out of the Stokes litter. Fortunately his weight was not centered and our rescue

swimmer had to accompany the Stokes as it was hoisted aboard.

As we shot for shore, Terry was kneeling on all fours in the Stokes, desperately gasping for air. Shawn shot me a concerned glance. We had not practiced transporting a victim off the backboard in the Stokes at high speed over choppy waters. I nodded, and as Shawn Biglari and Pete Calderon held Terry tightly, I weaved through the swells to the dock.

The SDFD met us on the dock. Five minutes later the team had him on shore and passed off to the paramedics who rushed him up the gangway to the waiting ambulance.

Terry showed amazing team spirit as the medics wheeled his gurney up the ramp to the waiting ambulance. Still Please see next page...

NSP water rescuers, continued from p. 8...

fighting the medics who were trying to give him oxygen, Terry raised one fist high and shouted "great job guys" in between coughing and gasping for air, all the while smiling. Of course, he has n o memory of any of this but in fact, every member of the team reacted in lightning fast time and truly worked as a finely meshed team. h ambulance took him to the hospital after a couple minutes.

After passing Terry off to the paramedics who rush him to the hospital in San Diego we posted up again are rescue boats at the north

and south end of the course for the next races.

After the races were over it was a fiasco trying to figure out which hospital the ambulance had taken their friend and teammate. Nobody could remember and no one had any information. It took the team almost an hour of calling every hospital in the vicinity to figure out where he was and how to get there. We had a caravan of cars and two rescue boats in tow as we drove through town to get to Terry. We parked the boats in front of the hospital and got some funny looks. Terry was in





to the hospital in San Diego
we posted up a g a i n a r e rescue boats

Top photo, Joe Green, Denise de Vines, and Shawn Biglari in Rescue Boat #1; bottom, Team Members from Rescue #1 and #2:
we posted up right to left: Top row: Natalie Muraciov, Denise de Vines 2nd row Steve Thorsted,: Shawn Biglari, John Prosser MD, Don Harris, Pete Calderon and Terry Jesse, team Captain

pretty good spirits considering he was in a c-collar and could barely speak and 2 black eyes.

In three years and more than a dozen events, the team is still providing support. Always ready to put their NSP training into action. One thing the team agrees on is that they hope it will never be another one of their own.

With questions or comments, please call Terry Jesse. Daytime number 562-497-5086, cell 909-957-8116. Submitted by **Terry Jesse**, NSP for 41 years and NWSRA Rescue Team Captain for 3 years.

Use early ski season for readiness... Easy as the "A, B, Cs"!

A: Skis:

Get those skis tuned (take them to a ski shop for an edge and base job).



B.

Breakfast of Champions? Plan to eat well, and with good nutrition on your ski days. And, get plenty of hydration - you'll be a better and safer skier because of good choices!

C. Get fit: Give some time

to
getting
fit; drop
a few
pounds,
walk,
play
golf, jog
or get
into the
gym!



Rewards come "on slope"! Snow is hammering the Sierra hard as we write! Be ready...



Thanks for fantastic response; new Royal Gorge Ski Patrol!

Gorge Ski Patrol was brand new last year. there as well (both for \$21). Where else up our trails either. If you take advantage

from 30. We're having a lot of fun and some of us are mastering new skinny skiing techniques - and losing weight as well! I firmly believe that all patrollers should try this exhilarating sport and take in the beautiful scenery at Royal Gorge. We have over 9000 acres of primo trails at the summit just off Highway 80 (Soda Springs exit).

In an effort to get you to try this great sport I have convinced management to offer all Nationals a

"twofer" throughout this season. Just show up with your NSP ID and a partner and both of you will ski for the price of a single-day trail pass (\$29 weekends and high-season midweek, \$25 low-season midweek) – good any time and no limit. If

This year we will have 45 patrollers, up can two people ski all day on rental gear of this offer, please stop by our patrol



One of the more spectacular vistas from Royal Gorge Ski Area; contact NSP Patrol Leader Mike Kelly to see this wonderful location in the Sierra this ski 2009-2010 season, season!

for \$50? Kids under 11 ski free and a trail pass for kids 11-16 is only \$16. The 16 and under rental rate is \$12. They also rent snowshoes.

I warn you that this resort can be addictive. Just about all of our patrollers are hard core downhillers. They haven't

Most of you know that the Royal you need rental gear you can get a twofer given up the steeps, but they wouldn't give

room and introduce yourself; you probably know one or more of our patrollers already. We can give you tips on the best trails to ski based on your experience and stamina. Bring a camera and your cell phone - 9000 acres is a lot of territory and a cell phone and ski partner make for good insurance. Hope to see you there soon.

If you know of anyone who might be interested in joining us for the please have them contact me at

mikellyattorney@aol.com. Submitted by Mike Kelly, Patrol Leader, at mjkellyattorney@aol.com.

Hangtown Classic means fun, service with Donner Patrol, May 20-22, 2010!

Join with Donner Ski Ranch patrollers from May 20-22 to provide first-aid service to this 42nd running of the motocross classic!

Coordination between the ambulance company, TLC, and AMA first aid team and the DSR patrollers provided immediate response on the race course when any rider went down. Especially on Thursday and Friday which were the amateur races. We all were stationed at strategic locations over the race course

so we could be on scene, normally, in less than a minute. There were several incidents with the riders falling, but



Racing action fast/furious at the Hangtown Classic races!

luckily, this year no major injuries. The major injuries were mostly dazed riders after a fall involving 3 to 5 bikes during the start of the races. After they, came

around and observed by us and/or the paramedics, most returned to racing later in the day.

Hangtown is the 2nd Race of the year for the Motocross Outdoor Championship series. This year was the 41st year that this event has been held in Sacramento at the Prairie City State Park.

For more info or to volunteer, contact Keith Romig, DSP Patrol, 530

741-3210; 916 215-3210 cell; romig535@pacbell.net.

FWD Patrols invited to join Sea Otter Bicycle Classic first-aid team; great fun at Laguna Seca Raceway, April 15-18, 2010

FWD patrols and patrollers are invited to join over 50 members and friends in providing first-aid in a fun and fundraiser at the April 15-18, 2010 Sea Otter Bicycling Classic.

In April, 2009, 10 patrols worked the four day, multi-event, nationally-acclaimed bicycling blockbuster. The Classic offers everything from mountain biking, dual slalom, road racing, cross-country - thrills and spills that draw 9,000+ (yes, 9,000 competitors!) avid pro and amateur bikers and 50,000 spectators to Laguna Seca Raceway near Monterey/Salinas. For more insight, check the Sea Otter web site: www.seaotterclassic.com.

The patrols had a grand time and earned income for their patrols! Again in 2010, patrollers and their first-aid assistants (spouses, friends) earn \$30 per first-aid day - so a patrol that musters 15 first-aid days makes \$450!

Patrol first-aid crews manned the 20 mile cross-country course and other aid slots, and found time to watch the races, trek through over 350 trade show vendors and find new

friendships, good food and drink in the evening around the camp-fire in Ski Patrol Central, in the paddock at Laguna Seca.

Last year, patrollers and friends camped out right in the Laguna Seca paddock at Ski Patrol Central. Eight motorhomes, several camping trailers and a handful of tents made for cozy accommodations and all enjoyed the Saturday night barbeque! In 2010, a larger Ski Patrol Central is planned, with plenty of room and grand Friday night and Saturday night barbecues on the docket!

Plan now for 2010: Mark your calendars, April 15-18, 2010; come down to Laguna Seca, have a great time, practice your skills, earn funds for your own patrol and assist with all these professional and amateur athletes!

To volunteer or for more info, call or email **Tim Viall, FWD** and **Dodge Ridge Patrol Sea Otter Coordinator**, 209.952.2750; tviall@msn.com.







Clockwise from left top, James Hernandez of Snow Summit settles in under umbrella on XC course; the Sunday morning NSP contingent readies to head into the backcountry for their first-aid duty, tents and motorhomes made for cozy evenings at "Ski Patrol Central" (and, right next to bathrooms) and a pack of lead cyclists approach on Sandstone Ridge course! Join with the NSP in 2010 for fun, new friends





FWD News and Views, January, 2010

Check the new FWD web site: www.farwest.org

Dodge Ridge Patrol joins to celebrate awards and training

The Dodge Ridge National Ski Patrol earned the 2009 award for FWD Large Alpine Patrol and a National Silver Merit Star by being named Runner-up in the NSP!

Along with Patrol Leader John

Keenan, the patrol members and alumni gathered for their two-day refresher, a patrol photo and an awards dinner in October. Dodge Ridge nutrition staff whipped up a great meal, and a fine time was had by all.

The Dodge Ridge Ski Patrol hopes you'll come and see us sometime soon at the family-friendly and challenging Dodge Ridge Ski Resort, just 30 miles east of Sonora on Highway 108!









At top, the 95 members of the Dodge Ridge National Ski Patrol gathered for the 2009-2010 patrol photo with the new Dodge Ridge Family Lodge to rear; at top right, Patrol Leader John Keenan and Past-Patrol Leader Mike Morrision celebrate the 2009 FWD Large Alpine Patrol of Year Award, and the National Merit Star as National Runner-up; at lower right, Past PL Mike presents the FWD Instructor of the Year Award to Mike Loy, who was out of the country and missed the FWD Awards Dinner in August.

FWD seeking recruiters!

FWD is actively recruiting for new candidates, class of 2010-2011. Volunteers from patrols through out the FWD worked recently at five trade shows, using posters from NSP and FWD, and information from their own Regions and patrols.

Snow sport safety, education about our different patrols: nordic, alpine and back country and and trying to match skills and interests to specific patrols was offered at Snow Jam- San Diego Nov13-14, FWD Coordintator: Brian Long, snowpatrol@dslextreme.com; Snow Jam- Las Vegas Nov 20-22, FWD Coordinator: John Morreti, jmorelli702@gmail.com; Ski Dazzle- Los Angeles Oct 29-Nov 1, FWD Coordinator: Brian Long; Ski Dazzle- San Jose Nov 21-22, FWD Coordinator: John McGuigan, j.t.mcguigan@gmail.com; and Ski Dazzle-Sacramento Nov 13-15, FWD Coordinator: Shaun Gartman Shaun@cstonetech.com. A special thanks to the coordinators and to those patrollers who volunteered their time!

If you are interested in volunteering at future shows, or have other recruiting ideas to share, please contact us. Show your pride in belonging to NSP, FWD and your local patrol. Last year, I met several ex-patrollers who were just happy to stay in touch and share their experiences. We have the opportunity to meet, educate and recruit many snow-sporters! Submitted by Jim Margolis, FWD Recruitment Advisor, jamadapa@att.net

FWD Calendar of Events

19-21, Programs, patrol. Programs, Programs are details! coming to Northstar at Summer Educational Tahoe on Friday, March Conference, usually 19 to Sunday, March 21, 2010! See page 5 for all the details!

April 14-16, Patroller Continually check out Education Conference, Snowbird Resort, Utah, see p. 14 within.

April 15-18, Sea Otter www.farwest.org! Bicycling Classic at Laguna Seca Raceway near Monterey, options to serve as first-aiders,

Winter Education course marshalls and Conference, March earn income for your See p. 11 for

> early August; location and program details to be announced!

> the FWD Web site for updated calendar and training opportunities:

Awards...NSP recognition due to many patrollers!

Patrolling offers many awards; skiing with friends, private lift line, preventing injuries and saving a life. The National Ski Patrol offers official awards for those who have provided outstanding service to their fellow members and/or those who have used their ski patrol skills to intervene in life threatening situations.

None of this happens unless a member chooses to take the time to write up and honor a fellow member. There are many deserving members who have never been nominated because no one was willing to write up the award. I will help you by providing clear directions and sample nominations for your use. It is up to you to proactively seek out and nominate members who are deserving of recognition.

For patrollers who have intervened in a life threatening situation the NSP offers a series of Merit Stars. These Merit Stars cover everything from an individual saving a life to search and rescue operations. These awards can be submitted at any time for any kind of rescue. The rescue does not have to be on the hill. In fact, many of our Merit Stars are awarded for off area rescues. These awards can be submitted at any time and take 45 working days to process.

The NSP offers several ways to acknowledge those patrollers that have provided outstanding service. The Distinguished Service Award, Meritorious Service Award, and our highest honor, the National Appointment have some very strict requirements. If you know a member who you feel deserves one of these awards consult the NSP Policies and Procedures (see side bar for instructions) for eligibility. These awards can be submitted at any time and take 45 working days to process.

The Outstanding NSP award honor members for outstanding service to the NSP. These awards are submitted in February and are judge by a panel of your peers. The awards are given out at the Regional Level. The regional winners are then submitted to Division. A Division level winner is then submitted to the National level. The MLR has had several patrollers and patrols win at the National level.

These awards include group honors for Outstanding Alpine Patrol (small and large) and Nordic Patrol. They also include individual honors for outstanding Alpine Patroller, Nordic Patroller, Professional Patroller, Auxiliary, Instructor, Administrator and Student Patroller.

These awards must be submitted by late February and take some time to prepare. Allow a few hours to fill out the form and do the needed research. A well researched, carefully written award will go up to the Division and possibly National level.

Questions, comments, contact: Ken Bergmann, FWD Awards Advisor, email:

fwdawards@farw est.org



AWARD FORMS:

To get blank award forms...

- 1. Go to www.nsp.org
- 2. Click on "Member Services"
- 3. Log into the site using your member number and password.

Don't have a password? NSP will send you one. Just click on "login Help"

- 4. On the left side of the page click on "My Bookshelf"
- 5. Click on "Downloads"
- 6. Click on the link for award forms. "available forms can be found here"
- 7. The box on the right hand side of the screen give you options for downloading the Word and/or PDF version of the forms.

AWARD Policies and Procedures:

To read the Policies and Procedures (P&P) for the Awards are strictly followed by the NSP in their quest to preserve the integrity of the awards process. Before submitting a nominee, take a minute to read over the P&P for that particular award.

Chapter 10 of the NSP P&P covers the awards process. You are also welcome to contact your region awards advisor for guidance. To read the NSP Policies and Procedures....

- 1. Go to www.nsp.org
- Click on "Member Services"
- 3. Log into the site using your member number and password. Don't have a password? NSP will send you one. Just click on "login Help"
- 4. On the left side of the page click on "My Bookshelf"
- 5. Click on "Policies & Procedures"
- 6. On the right side, click on "P&P 2007-2008" (The date may change by the time you do this.)

FWD News and Views: seeking patrol/patroller news, photos!

Your Far West News and Views newsletter is actively seeking news and photos of the patrols and patrollers of the Far West Division.

FWD News and Views is published three times yearly, in September, January and early March. Deadline is the 25th of the month prior to publication.

Features, photos welcomed, please submit items with the "Five W's: Who, What, When, Where and How, and, if sending photos, please include an identifying "cut line" noting the photo's content. If you are mailing photos and want them returned, please enclose envelope.

Send submissions to Communications Advisor Tim Viall, either electronically to: <u>fwdnewsletter@farwest.org</u>, or by U. S. mail to 5854 Turtle Valley Drive, Stockton, CA 95207.



Patrols of the Far West Division

Arizona Snowbowl

Alpine Meadows

Alta Sierra

Bear Mountain

Bear Valley Ski Patrol

Big Bear Valley

Boreal Ridge

Buckhorn Ski Club

Diamond Peak

Dodge Ridge National Ski Patrol

Donner Ski Ranch

Elk Ridge Patrol

Heavenly Area

Heavenly Area

High Sierra

Homewood Vol

June Mountain

Lake Alpine Nordic

Las Vegas Ski & Snowboard Resort Mountain Patrol

Lassen Volcanic

Mammoth Basin Nordic

Mauna Kea

Mount Lemmon

Mountain High

Mt Baldy

Mt Pinos Nordic

Mt Waterman

Northstar

Pinecrest Nordic

Redding

Reno Ski Patrol

Royal Gorge

Sierra Ski Patrol

Sky Tavern

Snow Valley

Soda Springs

Squaw Valley

Sugar Bowl

Sunrise

Tahoe Backcountry

Tahoe Donner

Yosemite

Legislation Protecting Good Samaritans Signed Into Law

Honorable Arnold Urgency clause. Senator Benoit Schwarzenegger, signed thanks you for your help and legislation on two Good dedication to seeing this Samaritan bills last week. The through the legislative process. Far West Division of the Please give me a call if you have National Ski Patrol supported any questions. Thank you again. the Good Samaritan Legislation (AB-83, and SB-39 bill) signed Gary, into 1 a w .

our protection as volunteer can help in any other way. emergency care providers. AB- Regards, Stephen Simi, 83 (Feuer) added non-medical Director, Far West Division, wording to medical care and aid National Ski Patrol. providing, and SB-89 (Benoit) provides immunity to volunteer Stephen, workers under the disaster It is I who must thank you. volunteer programs.

for SB-89 in Sacramento last Sacramento, CA 95814

The Bills sailed through the

Subject: SB 39 (Good Samaritan Protection Act)

wants to send the word that his Division. bill was signed into law by Governor Schwarzenegger effect that last December's court Division. ruling had on people willing to help in times of emergency has been drastically diminished because of this law being signed

California Governor, & enacted today due to an

Good word/work - lifting a In short, the Bills strengthened cold beer up. Let us know if we

Without your efforts and The Division wrote letters of diligent work, this bill may have support, and due to the strength went by the wayside. Lift it up of our message we also have our high and drink it down while it's membership name attached to cold. Have a great evening. these two important bills. Legislative Director, Senator Additionally, I was one of two John J. Benoit, 37th District, that testified before the Senate State Capitol, Room 4066,

My sincere appreciation to Legislature without an our legal staff (and his friends) opposing vote, overturning a and our BOD that helped make December state California this strengthen our protection as Supreme Court ruling. Both volunteers possible. The bills were signed Thursday and support for and the passing of take effect immediately, these Bills not only serves to promote our Charter, makes our The Senator's Office was very volunteer service safer, but also complementary of our support, increases the visibility of the with the following insights National Ski Patrol when care offered in the below: providing is required for others in their time of need.

Please feel safe knowing that signed by the Governor today. care providing to others is now Hello all, Senator Benoit more protected within our

Kind Regards, Stephen today. Thankfully, the chilling Simi, Director, Far West

Sugar Bowl NSP member is women's bicycle champion

Reprinted by permission of the UNION newspaper

Linda Eckhart, 41, rode to first place in the women's single speed category of the Sept. 12 Tahoe-Sierra 100 bicycle race. The 100-mile course, which includes 13,000 feet in elevation gain, began at the Ice Lakes Lodge in Norden and finished at French Meadows. She finished fifth overall, including racers riding multiple bikes.

The next morning, just 24 hours later, she loaded her single speed bike onto her BMW motorcycle and headed to Durango, Colo., to compete in the Single Speed World Championship on Sept. 19. Results from the race were not yet available as of press time.

With world-class biking credentials, you might think this woman does nothing other than train full-time and promote her racing career. Nothing could be further from the truth. Linda is a CPA and the financial controller for Holdrege and Kull Consulting Engineers and Geologists in Nevada City.

She trains for races by commuting on her single speed bike from Auburn to Grass Valley several times each week. And in the offseason? She has been on the Sugar Bowl Ski Patrol for the last 14 winters.

'She's tough to keep up with both in the powder and après ski," said Frank Marshall, her supervisor at Sugar Bowl.

Eckhart became interested in single speed about eight years ago, and has honed minimalism to an art. She is drawn to the simplicity and lightness of the single gear



bike. Her 29-inch bicycle weighs 24 pounds, and has only front suspension. While she is able to install different gears for a variety of conditions, she cannot change gears during the race. This demands that the rider maximizes her technique and chooses the best lines through rocks, ruts and stumps.

This two-time world champion has pedaled to victory at the Single Speed World Championship in 2003 in Castlemaine, Australia, and in 2004 in Berlin, Germany. She is one of three twotime women's world champs, and hopes to become the first and only three-time

Her strategy is simple, but apparently quite effective;

"Stay relaxed, have fun. It's all about the experience," she said.

The SSWC has been compared to the Bay to Breakers. The participants bring color and costume to the race, and spectator participation includes cheers, jeers and makeshift bars.

This year's course begins in Durango at 6,600-feet in elevation, with surrounding peaks up to about 13,000 in elevation with the actual course kept secret until race m

So what is the coveted prize? The SSWC does award a title, but instead of a jersey, the winner receives an immediate tattoo.

The race promoters warned, "... do not win if you do not want the tattoo." Linda has two victor's tattoos, and, without hubris, is contemplating the location for a third.

Patroller Education Conference coming back to Snowbird

Registration is open for the 2010 Patroller Education Conference (PEC)! Join NSP in Snowbird, UT April 14-16, 2010. The value in this year's PEC is one of a kind. You will improve your patrolling knowledge and skills while having fun in Snowbird's champagne powder!

NEW THIS YEAR at the PEC:

- A Three Part MTR Program Sponsored by PETZL Headlamps
 - Lift Evacuation Clinic
 - Helicopter Clinic
 - Attendee/Vendor Lunch

included in registration fee

MORE REASONS TO JOIN US IN SNOWBIRD



Of Snowfall

- Ski in/Ski out Lodging at the Legendary Cliff Lodge for Only \$99
- Discounted Ski & Snowboard Rentals For Amazing Powder Skiing & Riding
- Participate Or Cheer On Teams Of The Famed Patroller Challenge
- Meet New Friends Who Share Common Interests

PEC 2010 is the place to be for incredible value, education and camaraderie! Click here for the PEC brochure including the

agenda and clinics and the registration form. Contact Chris Bourne at pec@nsp.org or 303-988-1111 if you have any Best Spring Skiing Anywhere - More Than 500 Inches questions. Act soon, before this event sells out!

Editor's Note: Below is the FWD Election Notice, posted at the Summer Division meeting, August, 2009. Candidate statements that were filed are posted on p. 17.



Far West Division Summer Board Meeting – July 31, 2009

Davis, California 2009-2010FAR WEST DIVISION ELECTION NOTIFICATION

ELECTION—Nominations are now open for Assistant Division Director

Two-year term June 1, 2010 – May 31, 2012.

The Assistant Division Director position, presently held by Ron Evenson.

Please note the following dates.

December 7, 2009—Nominations DUE for Assistant Division Director Position. A 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 may be accompanied by a one-page statement of the candidate's platform. A nomination also must be accompanied by written acceptance of the nomination signed by the nominee

January 4, 2010—Assistant Div. Director candidates list finalized by Elections Committee. January 18, 2010—List of candidates for Assistant Div. Director, their resumes and platforms to be posted to the FWD web site.

February 1, 2010—Date of Election, ballots will be distributed to electorate.

March 1, 2010— Date all ballots to be received/postmarked by for Assistant Div. Director **positions.**

March 8, 2010—Results announced (sooner if all eligible ballots are returned)

PLEASE FORWARD ALL N OMINATIONS AND/OR AN NOUNCEMENTS TO:

Email nominations and/or announcements to: waits_janice@cupertino.k12.ca.us Janice Waits, Election Chairperson

1202 Rembrandt Drive Sunnyvale, CA 94087

REGION DIRECTOR ELECTIONS:

Also be advised that **Arizona**, **Mother Lode**, **and Southern California** regions are due for Region Director elections, in spring 2010. Positions are for 2 years — June 1 –May 31. Region directors may serve no more than 3 consecutive 2 year terms

Nominations are now open and will be accepted to later than February 1, 2010. 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 1, 2010 —Pronouncements of Candidacy and letters of acceptance of candidacy due to Elections Chair/committee

April 5, 2010 — Ballots sent out along with candidates platform and statement May 3, 2010 — Date all ballots to be received/postmarked — results announced

Tim O'Brien statement for Assistant Division Director

I am a candidate for the position of Assistant Division Director for the Far West Division of the National Ski Patrol. I believe my experience as a patroller, the leadership positions held in the national ski patrol organization and extensive involvement with program delivery would make me a very good candidate for the Assistant Division Director. I would appreciate your support in making that possible.

For the last 24 years I have been proud to be a member of the Far West Division. During that period of time, we have experienced a great deal of change in our national organization, division and local patrols. Change brings opportunities to grow and prosper. I would like to continue the tremendous progress the division leadership has made over the past six years.

The vision of our organization to

provide outstanding educational programs to the outdoor recreation community is growing stronger each year. The programs our membership have created are simply the best available. The acceptance of our programs by other agencies, including the Governor of California's Office, is growing each day.

These facts require that the division continue to concentrate its efforts to oversee program delivery to our members. A critical component to the effective delivery of programs is our instructors. The Division Board of Directors will need to support instructors with funding and educational opportunities and developing new instructors. Some of our long standing programs such as the tri-advisory are being joined by new programs to provide a successful model for support and education of our instructors and members. I would like

to continue this effort to reach out to and provide education and development opportunities for our membership.

During my years in this organization, I have been committed to finding ways to work together and enhance the product we deliver to the members, the public and our ski areas.

I would appreciate your support by electing me the next Assistant Division Director for the Far west Division.

Tim OBrien

14628 Alder Creek Road Truckee, Ca 96161 530-448-6879 National # 6192 tobrien@tahoemountainlodging.com

Lance Vaughan statement for Assistant Division Director

Far West Division National Ski Patrol Members,

Hello,

I'm writing to you to ask for your vote for Assistant Division Director for the Far West Division.

I am a second generation patroller, from an extended family containing seven patrollers. I am the current FWD Toboggan Supervisor, a past Patrol Representative, Toboggan Instructor Trainer, and a Certified patroller with both the NSP and Association of Professional Patrollers. I was honored with the awarding of a Gold Star for being the National Outstanding Patrol Representative and later a Silver Star for the National Outstanding Administrative Patroller Runner-up.

I've had the good fortune of working with many talented patrollers in

collaborative roles, working together we have established a thriving Women's clinic series and increased the cross regional training throughout the division. I spearheaded the effort to supply each Toboggan Instructor in the FWD with the new Toboggan Training Manual, over 300 copies in the hands of our delivery team. These efforts support a key component of our brand: a well trained, documented patroller with a predictable level of skills.

I have enjoyed great rapport and a wonderful working relationship with the FWD board as the FWD Toboggan Supervisor for the past six years. I look forward to continuing to support our program delivery teams with training and education as we extend our efforts to build our brand and market our most vital product - You the trained and skilled patroller serving the skiing public.

I would like your support and vote allowing me an opportunity to continue to contribute and guide our organization as we move into the next decade. Please contact me if you have questions or would like to discuss items.

Thank you,

Lance Vaughan

119 Groveland St, Portola Valley, CA 415-377-0057

LanceVaughan1@gmail.com

Fall is training and refresher time in the Far West Division



Photos, from top left: OEC Classmates at Squaw Valley, several patrols gathered for OEC Refresher at Homewood, Steve Moran plays the victim (thanks to Tom Moore for photos), Mary Ross instructs at Dodge Ridge Refresher







FWD Officers and Program Chairs - contact them...

Administrators

Division Director Asst. Division Director Asst. Division Director Arizona Director Eastern Sierra Director Mother Lode Director Northern California Professional Director Southern California Director

Legal Advisor Registrar Secretary Treasurer

Alumni Advisor **Awards Advisor** Avalanche Advisor Community College Advisor Conferences Advisor Instructor Development Advisor Certified Advisor Mountain Travel/RescueAdvisor Nordic Advisor Communications Advisor Outdoor Emergency Care Adv. **Outdoor Emergency Transport** Recruitment Advisor Webmaster

Name:

Stephen Simi Ron Evenson Bill Gibson **Curt Grube** Bill Hummer Don Johnston Jason Allen Rich Bailey Don Harris

Stewart Foreman Peggy Jamison **Janice Waits** Keith Dickens

Frank Showmaker Ken Bergmann Rich Bailey Nancy Stromswold Tony Atkins Doug Hill Michael Nolen Karl Chulski Jeff Gurrola Tim Viall Keith Tatsukawa Lance Vaughan Jim Margolis Tom Moore

E-mail Contact:

fwd-dd@farwest.org fwd-add1@farwest.org fwd-add2@farwest.org fwd-az@farwest.org fwd-easternsierra@farwest.org fwd-motherlode@farwest.org fwd-norcal@farwest.org fwd-propatrol@farwest.org fwd-socal@farwest.org

fwd-legal@farwest.org fwd-registrar@farwest.org fwd-secretary@farwest.org fwd-treasurer@farwest.org

fwd-alumni@farwest.org fwd-awards@farwest.org fwd-avalanche@farwest.org fwd-communitycollege@farwest.org fwd-conferences@farwest.org fwd-id@farwest.org fwd-certified@farwest.org fwd-mtr@farwest.org fwd-nordic@farwest.org fwd-newsletter@farwest.org fwd-oec@farwest.org fwd-oet@farwest.org fwd-promotion@farwest.org webworker@farwest.org