



Blue and Gold Banner Newsletter

Western Michigan
Region

Region Directors Message

Hi Everyone!

My OEC Instructor's guide showed up in the mail this week. That must mean it's time to get ready for the 08-09 season. Inside you will find the calendar listing refresher dates, contacts, etc., the calendar is also on the Web at <http://www.nspc203.com>. If you can not make your Section or Patrol's refresher call ahead to the one you want to attend to insure there is room for you, what the cost will be, the location, the starting time. You can also find the list of refresher dates and contacts for any Central Division Patrol, Section or region refresher in the RUSTY Parka News or on the Division Web Site <http://www.nspcentral.org>. Remember call ahead if you can't make your normal refresher. Let your PD know where you took your refresher too, that way he can be looking for the paperwork from that refresher's instructor of record.

Don't forget the Fall Division Awards Banquet and Meeting, Sept. 5-7 in Milwaukee, WI. Details via a link on the Division web site. Lots to do, and a excuse to ride the Hi Speed Ferry.

Elections results: **Thank you to everyone who voted,**
Region Director – Tony Wolfer re-elected for a second term.

Section III Chief – Tom Fisher re-elected for a second term.

New Patrol Director / Representatives
Caberfae – Tim Kirsh
Crystal Mountain – Gregg Hoppe (interim)

Bittersweet's Patrol Room has undergone major renovations, details inside.

Crystal Mountain will be getting a new Patrol Room this season. Stop by and see both of them this season. If you would like to visit and patrol at any of the Regions areas, please call ahead to the Patrol Representative for availability and the Patrols requirements.

There is a National Dues increase of \$6 from \$35 to \$41 the last increase was 2000 and the previous one was 1989. A full explanation can be found on the National web site www.nsp.org

What cool things can you do when the snow is here??

A ski enhancement seminar (SES) is a good way to hone the ski skills. Where can you have the most fun? At a TES (toboggan enhancement seminar), really you can! What a better way to refresh your toboggan skills. If you haven't run a sled very often with shaped skis, it is an experience. If your timing is good, your can even fill your instructor's collar with snow. I am being very careful this year of who is up hill of me when I am in a sled, something about a payback 😊

I hope to be able to see all of you this year, either at a refresher or on the snow!

Tony

Frederick G. Sherman

Cannonsburg Ski Patrol lost one of its original members when Fred Sherman passed away on March 17th. Fred was Cannonsburg's first Assistant Patrol Leader, serving from the date the patrol was organized in 1965 until he was promoted to become a Section Chief in the Southern Michigan Region.

In the 1960s many patrols still transported injured skiers down the hill squatting over the front of our old wooden toboggans. Fred designed modifications to add pipe handles, chains, stiffeners and tail fins to our sleds. Then he got the parts made and we converted our toboggans so we could handle them anywhere like they do today with a modern Cascade.

Fred was a ski and toboggan tester and trainer. In his time, the senior ski test required the candidates to climb the hill and ski down to pass the endurance part of the test. Fred was always ready to serve as one of the three examiners who climbed and established the elapsed time the candidates must meet. Of course, this could be expected of him. He played football and ran track in high school and had been a semi-pro football player with the Grand Rapids All Stars. He also proudly served our country in the army during the Korean Conflict.

As a Section Chief, Fred still patrolled at Cannonsburg until he finished his assignment and decided to join the PSIA. He continued to serve the Cannonsburg Ski Area as an instructor until he was overtaken 12 years ago with Alzheimer's and was forced to give it up.

Fred's wife LeAura, all of his children and grandchildren are skiers. They really miss skiing with Dad or Grandpa.

Submitted by Bob Flink, Cannonsburg Ski Patrol



Greetings West Michigan Patrollers

As summer nears its end (already?!), your OEC instructors are very busy planning programs for this season. Locations and dates are available on the region website. Putting on refreshers and OEC classes is a great deal of work for the organizers, but their biggest challenge is getting volunteers to help out. You all have a lot of skills, and it is to your advantage to see that the patrollers on your shift and your new candidates are up to speed when you approach that serious mishap. So answer the call when you are asked, or better yet, check with your lead instructors to see what you can do to help!

Please remember to check your refresher dates for possible conflicts so that you can make alternate arrangements if you have a conflict. Most patrols will accept visitors, but they can only take limited numbers and need advance notice. I would also like to make a strong pitch to new patrollers to advance your OEC skills and support your patrols by getting involved in Senior OEC and/or Instructor Development. Some of the old guard are getting a bit weary and can use your enthusiasm! Have a great, safe ski season.

Dan Goldberger, OEC Advisor



WESTERN MICHIGAN REGION 2008-9

CALENDAR

August 2008

- 15- 2008 Subunit Financial Report Due
- 17- WM1 Instructor Refresher, Bronson Center, 7am-4pm, contact Dan Goldberger
- 18- WM 1 OEC class begins at Timber Ridge patrol room, 6:30pm
contact Dan Goldberger for Bittersweet or Jen Squires for Timber Ridge
- 24- Caberfae Peaks Instructor Refresher, Caberfae Peaks, 8:30 am, contact Cassie Proctor or Tim Kirch
- 24- Caberfae Peaks OEC class begins, 3:00pm
contact Cassie Proctor or Tim Kirch

September 2008

- 5-7- 2008 Central Division Fall Meeting, Milwaukee, WI, hosted by South Central Region, see Division web site or Rusty Parka News
- 20- WM1 OEC Refresher, Bronson Gilmore Center 8am-4pm, contact Dan Goldberger
- 21- Bittersweet BLS and Chairlift Evacuation Refreshers, Bittersweet, contact Dan Navis
- 21- Timber Ridge BLS/Chairlift Evacuation Refreshers, Timber Ridge, 8am, contact Sue Brann
- 25- WM2 Instructor Refresher, 6pm Cannonsburg, contact Mike Fick
- 27-28- Caberfae Peaks Refresher Weekend, Caberfae Peaks, Sat 9am OEC refresher, 9am Sunday BLS/Chair Evacuation refresher. Open to Caberfae patrollers and a limited number of others on a first come first served basis. No walk-ins. Contact Tim Kirch.
- 28- Crystal Mountain OEC Instructor Refresher, Crystal Mountain, contact Jackie Bottomley

October 2008

- 11- Crystal MTN refresher weekend, Crystal MTN. Open to only Crystal MTN ski patrollers. OEC refresher, contact Jackie Bottomley
- 11- WM2 refresher weekend, CPR/Chairlift Evacuation Refresher, Cannonsburg, 8am, contact Mike Fick
- 12- Crystal MTN refresher weekend, Crystal MTN. Open to only Crystal MTN patrollers. CPR/Chairlift Evacuation Refresher, contact Jackie Bottomley.
- 12- WM2 Refresher Weekend, OEC Refresher, Cannonsburg, 7am, contact Mike Fick.
- 15- Region meeting, Branns, 7pm, contact Tony Wolfer.
- 16- WM2 Section OEC class midterm, contact Mike Fick.

November 2008

- 6-9- Grand Rapids Ski Swap, Cannonsburg, www.nspskiswap.com or Becky Steiner
- 8- Bittersweet and Timber Ridge candidate OEC class final, Timber Ridge Patrol Education Room, contacts Dan Goldberger and Jen Squires.
- 13-15- Kalamazoo Ski Swap, Wings Stadium
- 17- WM 2 OEC class final, Cannonsburg, contact Mike Fick

December 2008

- 1-Deadline for registration packets, contact Sherwin VanKlompberg
- 1-30- Nominations open for WM1 Section Chief, contact Erica Krol
- 6- Caberfae Peaks OEC class practice clinic

- 6- Senior Emergency Management clinic, Bittersweet, contact Dave Corey

- 7- Caberfae Peaks OEC class final exam, contact Cassie Proctor or Tim Kirch

- 13-14- Division Ski/Snowboard Trainer workshop, Boyne _____, contact Gregg Hoppe

- 31- WM1 Section Chief nominations close, contact Erica Krol

January 2009

- 1- Senior sign up sheet due, contact Brit Gustafson
- 4- WM1 Alpine Toboggan Instructors Clinic (RESTRICTED), Toboggan Enhancement Seminar, Timber Ridge, 8am, contact Shawn Rhoda
- 7- Region Meeting, Branns, 7pm, contact Tony Wolfer
- 10- Senior Alpine Evaluator Calibration Clinic, Caberfae Peaks
- 11- Senior Alpine Hill warm up, Caberfae Peaks, 8am
- 15- WM 1 Section Chief Candidate Statement due, contact Erica Krol
- 17- Ski Enhancement Seminar (TENTATIVE) Cannonsburg, 8am, Chip Knappen
- 18- Ski Enhancement Seminar, Timber Ridge, 8am, contact Chip Knappen
- 19- Awards due to Section Chiefs, contact Patrick Mulvihill
- 24- Ski Enhancement Seminar, joint with Northern Michigan Region, Nubs Nob, 8am, Chip Knappen
- 25- Toboggan Enhancement Seminar, Boyne MTN, with Northern Michigan Region, Shawn Rhoda
- 26- Awards due to Region, contact Patrick Mulvihill
- 28- National Appointment nominations due. Nominations can be sent in at any time. Tom Norton

February 2009

- 1- Senior Emergency Management Evaluation, Bittersweet, 8am, Dave Corey
- 7- WM2 Section and Timber Ridge Basic Alpine Hill Test, contact Jack Katerberg or John Ritsema
- 15- Ballots mailed for WM1 Section Chief, Erica Krol
- 15- Toboggan Enhancement Seminar, Pando (OPEN TO REGION), contact Shawn Rhoda
- 21- Senior Hill Candidate Bump Clinic, Crystal MTN, 8:30am, (NOT MANDATORY), Brit Gustafson
- 22- Senior Alpine Hill Evaluation, Crystal MTN, 8:30am, contact Brit Gustafson
- 22- Alternate date WM2 Section and Timber Ridge Basic Alpine Test, Jack Katerberg/ John Ritsema

March 2009

- 7- WM1 Section Chief Election ballots due, contact Erica Krol
- 7- Caberfae Peaks Basic Alpine Hill, contact Tim Kirch or Dave Worfel
- 9- Blue and Gold Banner newsletter information due, contact Colleen Wolfer
- 18- Region Meeting, 7pm, Branns, contact Tony Wolfer

April 2009

- 1-Blue and Gold Newsletter mailing, Colleen Wolfer
- 3-5- Central Division Spring Meeting, Oak Brook, IL

May 2009

- 2- Region Meeting and Awards Banquet, Bittersweet, Meeting 2pm, Banquet 5pm, Tony Wolfer

Region Officers and Staff

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Patrol Representatives**Bittersweet Patrol Representative**

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**Caberfae Peaks Patrol Representative
Elect**

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Bittersweet Expands Training and First Aid Facility

The Bittersweet Ski Patrol is finishing a major expansion and renovation of their Training Center and First Aid facility. The expansion includes the addition of 730 square feet of training and treatment area along with the addition of a garage for the snowmobile and equipment storage. The second floor of the facility has been doubled in size and has a large window over looking the ski hill. The project started last October with the removal of the 2nd floor walls and expansion of the 2nd floor towards the hill. The building was expanded on the first floor for additional treatment area and the addition of a garage for the snowmobile all of which was functional for the 2007-8 ski season. A team of patrollers (Fred Smith, Steve Stryd, Stu Furrow, and Bill Clair) have been working (over 500man hours) now since the area closed completing the new facility. Finishing the project and the move of equipment back into the building is planned for early August. A new high technology bed was donated by Stryker Corporation and is a nice addition to the new treatment area. Thanks to Bittersweet management for their support on the project. See the pictures below.



Blue and Gold Banner Newsletter
7840 Myers Lake Rd.
Rockford, MI 49341

**2008 Ski Swap
at Cannonsburg Ski Area**



**November 6-9
(Thursday-Sunday)
Mark your calendars-
Tell your friends!
www.nspskiswap.com
(updated in October)**