



Blue and Gold Banner Newsletter Western Michigan Region August 2009

REGION DIRECTORS MESSAGE:

It snowed at Glacier National Park this week, about 2" at 8,000 ft of elevation. The freeze level only has to lower another 7,500 and we can expect it here. (I think that means October/November here). That also means it's time to think OEC refreshers and how do we fit it into our busy schedules.

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. 11, 12, & 13 at Mackinac Island. Lots to do on Mackinac for the family and a lot planned for patrollers. Check the details via a link on the Division web site <http://www.nspcentral.org>

If you got a paper copy of the Blue and Gold newsletter either the National Data base does not have an e-mail address for you, your e-mail address is incorrect, or you elected to receive a hard copy. If you have not elected to receive a paper copy please correct or add your e-mail to your record on National database.

Thank you to all who wrote to the National Board. The National Board had proposed an additional \$10 National fee per person on all courses (TES, SES, SEM etc.) including the instructors (i.e. you would have to pay to teach). For example, those wanting to become seniors would have had an additional \$60 or more added to the cost with no benefit, just another tax without representation. The proposal was abandoned after an extensive e-mail and letter campaign from the real patrollers throughout the Nation and in particular the Central Division.

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

Tony

**Western Michigan Region
2009-10 Calendar**

- August 30 -** Caberfae, OEC instructor refresher, contact Tim Kirch timkirch@dow.com
- September 19/20 –** Caberfae, OEC and Chair Evac Refresher, open by permission,
Contact Tim Kirch timkirch@dow.com
- September 19/20 - Section I OEC Refresher, contact Stu Furrow SFURROW@bangorvikings.org
- September 26 - Crystal Mountain OEC midterm, contact Gregg Hoppe ghoppe@chartermi.net
- September 27 - Crystal Mountain OEC Instructor Refresher, contact Gregg Hoppe
ghoppe@chartermi.net
- October 10/11 –** Section II Refresher, Cannonsburg, contact Jack Katerburg
jack_katerberg@urscorp.com
- October 14 - Region Meeting, Branns Restaurant 7pm, contact Tony Wolfer
ajcjwtolfer@chartermi.net
- October 17/18 - Crystal Mountain, OEC and Chair Evac Refresher, open by permission,
Contact Gregg Hoppe ghoppe@chartermi.net
- November 22 –** Crystal Mountain OEC final, contact Gregg Hoppe ghoppe@chartermi.net
- November 22 – Caberfae OEC Final, contact Tim Kirch timkirch@dow.com
- December 1 –** Section II OEC start, contact Jack Katerburg jack_katerberg@urscorp.com
- December 1-31 - Nominations open – Section II Representative Election, Contact Erica Krol
erica.krol@wmich.edu
- January 6 -** Region Meeting, Branns Restaurant, 7pm, contact Tony Wolfer
ajcjwtolfer@chartermi.net
- January 9 - Caberfae, Examiner Calibration Clinic, contact Britt Gustafson
uptelegirl@gmail.com
- January 10 - Caberfae, Senior Hill Warm Up, contact Britt Gustafson uptelegirl@gmail.com
- January 15 - Section II Representative Candidate Statements due, contact Erica Krol
erica.krol@wmich.edu
- January 16 - Cannonsburg, Senior Emergency Management Workshop,
Contact Mike Fick MFICKSR@steelcase.com
- January 17 - Toboggan Enhancement Seminar – Bittersweet – contact Shawn Rhoda
strhoda@aol.com
- January 24 - Ski Enhancement Seminar – Timber Ridge contact Dennis O'Brien
dennissueob@aol.com
- February 7 -** Toboggan Enhancement Seminar – Caberfae – contact Shawn Rhoda
strhoda@aol.com
- February 14 - Toboggan Enhancement Seminar – Pando – contact Shawn Rhoda strhoda@aol.com
- February 15 - Section II Representative Election – ballots out – contact Erica Krol
erica.krol@wmich.edu
- February 21 - Section II Basic Hill Evaluation, contact Jack Katerburg
jack_katerberg@urscorp.com
- February 27 - Crystal Mountain, Senior Hill Bump Clinic, contact Britt Gustafson
uptelegirl@gmail.com
- February 28 - Crystal Mountain, Senior Hill Evaluation, contact Britt Gustafson
uptelegirl@gmail.com
- March 7 -** Cannonsburg, Senior Emergency Management Evaluation,
Contact Mike Fick MFICKSR@steelcase.com
- March 8 - Section II Rep Election ballots due to be returned – contact Erica Krol
erica.krol@wmich.edu
- March 10 - Region Meeting, Branns Restaurant 7pm, contact Tony Wolfer
ajcjwtolfer@chartermi.net
- March 17 - Blue and Gold Banner deadline, contact Colleen Wolfer ajcjwtolfer@chartermi.net
- May 1 -** Cannonsburg, Region Awards Banquet and Region Meeting,
contact Tony Wolfer ajcjwtolfer@chartermi.net
- May 20 – Section II OEC final, contact Jack Katerburg jack_katerberg@urscorp.com

OEC UPDATE: Dan Goldberger

Greetings WM patrollers. August is always a busy month for the OEC program. Your instructors are busy planning for refresher and you all should have received your summer edition of the ski patrol magazine. This includes this year's Cycle B refresher information. If you are like me and manage to lose it, you can access the update at the NSP web site. Please review this information well ahead of your refresher! Be sure to check refresher dates so that you can make alternate arrangements if you have a schedule conflict with your patrol date. This is also a good time to pull out that patrol belt and update your aid supplies. Many of us encounter summer accidents, so it's a good idea to keep your supplies in your car. Your OEC IT staff has a busy agenda for this year. We plan to hold instructor recertification clinics in each section. A number of patrollers have completed the Instructor Development course in the past year and will be teaching at refreshers and OEC classes this season with IT observations. They will need instructor mentors, so please consider helping out if you are asked. We welcome Jackie Bottomley to the OEC IT staff, and give our heartfelt thanks to Brian Klebba and Sherwin VanKlombenberg for their past service. Central Division has adopted updated, standardized grading policies for the OEC program, this information will be reviewed at the recert clinics. See you on the hill!

REGION AWARDS WINNERS

Merit Star – Green: R. Scott Swanson

Merit Star – Purple: Daniel King

Merit Star – Purple: James Heethuis

Merit Star – Yellow: James Smith

National Appointment #10958: Dayle Hadden

**NSP Patroller Education Conference 2009, Snowbird, Utah, Patroller Challenge, 4th Place
- Bob Anderson, John Donnelly, Don Smith**

Region Outstanding Alpine Patrol Large: Crystal Mountain

Region Outstanding Instructor Alpine: Patrick Mulvihill

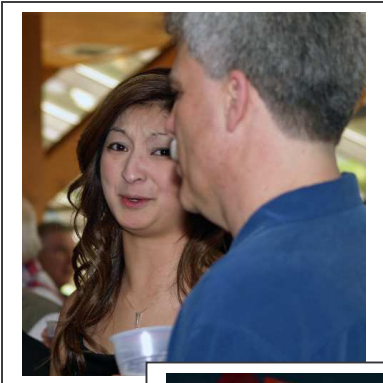
Region Outstanding Instructor OEC: Dani Doolittle

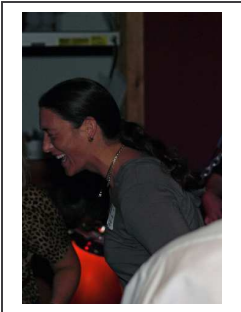
Region Outstanding Patroller Alpine: John Donnelly

Region Outstanding Patroller Auxiliary: Thomas Mulvihill

Special Region Award – Outstanding Service as Assistant Region Director: Gregg Hoppe

**CELEBRATING
THE 2008-09
SEASON AT THE
END OF THE
YEAR BANQUET**





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