NOVEMBER 2025 • FALL ISSUE

THE SWEEP

The Official Newsletter of Mt. Hood Ski Patrol

PRESIDENT NOTES

BY DAVE WINTERLING
MHSP 1806

Fellow Members,
Normally at this time of year our Council members are focused on the upcoming ski season – putting things in place so that we're ready to go on-hill, and closely watching the weather and snowpack totals.

However, over the last month a big part of my focus has been on a pair of MHSP systems issues. At this point, with some great help from several people, it looks like we're going to see some nice improvements.

First – the MHSP website – *mthoodskipatrol.org*. About a month ago it "broke" – you may remember my email to the membership asking for help. Thankfully, we received a great response – (12) of our members offered to either do the work themselves, or provided references for trusted website developers.

Our savior was website developer Kris Lemert, whom we were connected to through her son Andrew Jones, a new MHSP member. Kris pulled out the stops and rebuilt our website in one week, on a popular current web platform. The new website is now online – take a look, it's a big improvement over the prior version. Kris did this work as a volunteer, and her contribution is VERY much appreciated!

No surprise, now that we have a lot of people looking more carefully at the content, we're getting a series of additional requests for corrections and enhancements, which is great. Keep them coming.

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Cover Photo Credit: Alaina Waller, MHSP 1857

PRESIDENT NOTES CONTINUED...

BY DAVE WINTERLING *MHSP 1806*

Second – the MHSP document storage system – which for many years was set up on Dropbox. For most of our members this system is invisible – a behind-the-scenes admin process to retain our financial records, Council documents, operations reports, photographs, etc.

Several years ago we did a partial migration off of Dropbox to Google Workspace, to reduce cost. Using two systems added some complexity, and we haven't yet been using the full feature set in Google Workspace. So, our Secretary Katherine Christensen and new (and tech-savvy) Patroller Wei Chiang are working together to build out an upgrade to our system setup, assist Council members to implement shared folders, and provide the training needed to fully-use the system features.

Katherine and Wei recently walked me through the structure of the upgraded system, and the large amount of migration work that they've already completed. It looks great, a much more robust system to retain our records for the future.

Again, this is a behind-the-scenes project that normally wouldn't get much visibility, but is so important to ensure efficiency and quality of the work done by our organization. Many thanks to Katherine and Wei!

Thanks everyone, see you soon...

DW, #1806

Chair evac practice at Timberline. Sunday, October 12, 2025. In the snow!

AREA OPERATIONS

AS OF NOW, ALL AREAS ARE CLOSED. STAY TUNED FOR OPENING DATES

SKIBOWL
TIMBERLINE
MT. HOOD MEADOWS
SUMMIT PASS
COOPER SPUR
TEACUP LAKE NORDIC

GENERAL MEETING NOTES

BY BRUCE HORN *MHSP 1817*

Meeting is Monday, Nov. 10th
We'd love to see you in person to join us in learning about health and fitness metrics from Jeremy Hyatt. The meeting will be held at 7pm at the usual location: Asian Health and Service Center, 9035 SE Foster Rd, Portland, OR 97266.

If you can't make it in person, please join us on Zoom: *http://tinyurl.com/MHSPGeneralMeeting*, use passcode 757929 (if needed)

What Gets Measured Gets Managed
Jeremy Hyatt, MS, CSCS
In today's world, we are constantly bombarded with health and wellness information, special workouts and diets, and tricks and tips to live forever. What do all of these really mean, what should we be really paying attention to and how do we measure and consistently evaluate the things that matter most? We'll talk about the 4 biggest indicators of overall health (and how to best measure them) and then some of the second tier elements that help complete the full picture, including wearables, lab tests and performance markers.

Bio: Jeremy Hyatt, MS, CSCS is a personal trainer and co-owner of Hyatt Strength + Wellness. He holds a BS in Education and a Masters in Kinesiology, both from Humboldt State University, and is a Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist through the NSCA. He believes it's important to start with the basics and move from there. Too often, people get into complicated movements and goals before they have the proper fundamentals, which can lead to negative results. Jeremy has been working in the fitness industry since 1995, and co-founded Hyatt Strength + Wellness in 2011.

PATROL CHIEF NOTES BY MATT WOOD *MHSP 1768*

As I write this, Timberline has had 9" of new snow in 24 hours and their snow stake is at 19" overall. While there's plenty of weather yet to happen, it seems likely we may have some early patrol days as we approach early winter.

TEAMS, OPENING SCHEDULE & COMMITMENTS

We are about 95% done setting final teams rosters as I write this. Hill Captains and Associate Supervisors will be reaching out to all team members soon with welcome and planning messages. **We encourage teams to meet early to train together.** Even if the resort lifts are not spinning, there's good training to be done to get ready for the season. Hill captains will be in touch about convening team orientation and training prior to resorts opening.

Skibowl D Team is at partial strength and really needs help. If you were not selected for a team and have some willingness to help, we need two Associates and Three Hillers to help out HC Chico Brooks!!

I apologize for some prior confusion about team start dates. This is a little bit of a weird concept as we must schedule team start dates in early November, before we really have a handle on when the resorts will actually open.

• C/D teams start date is November 8-9.

• A/B teams start date is November 15-16. This is also the traditional Meadows training weekend.

Of course, with Ullr, anything is possible. If patrollers are needed at the areas prior to the first full weekend in November, we will accept folks for duty as long as they have completed all training requirements and paid dues.

FINAL OEC REFRESHERS AND CHAIR EVAC TRAINING DATES

Chair Evacuation: Meadows – Saturday 11/15

All Meadows team members must attend the MHM chair evacuation session. If you are not a Meadows team member and missed all the Timberline and Skibowl evac dates, please check in with me and with MHM APC Roger Meier to see if there is room for you.

Dispatched groups will be emailed details for the day a week or so prior to each event.

MHM OEC Refreshers: Meadows – Sunday 11/16

MHSP will conduct the refresher for the MHM paid patrollers and as usual, we can accept a small number of MHSP patrollers for folks who missed MHSP in-town sessions. Space is VERY LIMITED. Please contact me to see if space is available. Please DO NOT DISPATCH for this event unless you receive prior approval.

Willamette Pass SP is holding their OEC refresher in Eugene on 11/9 and may have some space available. Contact me for WPSP contact info if this is of interest.

DUES

MHSP dues are now overdue and subject to late fees.

Here's an important reminder about the annual dues payment schedule. As in every prior year, all our members pay two sets of dues:

• The first payment is to MHSP/PNWD before the start of the winter season – MHSP dues were due on 10/31/25 to fix our roster. Late fees now apply to MHSP dues.

• The second payment is NSP dues. AFTER you have paid MHSP dues, our registrar Steve Barnett will add you to our NSP patrol roster for 2025-26, and you will then get an email from NSP to pay national dues, which is done via the NSP website. NSP dues must be paid by 12/31/25 but please pay as soon as you receive the email from NSP!

Our goal is to have all member NSP dues paid by Thanksgiving – PLEASE help us out! NSP late fees will apply to any dues submitted after 12/31/25!

DISCOUNTS AND PRO DEALS

A reminder that we get some awesome pro discounts on the NSP site as well as at local shops. Here's a reminder of the nuts and bolts of pro deals.

Business ethics reminder regarding Pro-Deals:

1. NSP Pro-Deals are for NSP patrollers only. Local and other pro deals may be available to our Mountain Hosts.
2. The Pro-Deal options are for YOU the patroller only, not for family, friends, or holiday gift giving. Be considerate of the companies that ALLOW us access to pro-form benefits; if we abuse them, we WILL lose our opportunity. Certain exceptions apply – example: Patagonia offers a "Friends and Family" deal 1-2 times annually.
3. DO NOT share this or any Pro-Deal pricing with anyone other than fellow patrollers.
4. DO NOT go to your local retailer saying you are with MHSP and expecting Pro-Deal pricing (unless you have talked w/someone on the clothing/equipment committee and MHSP has already set up an agreement – see below).

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PATROL CHIEF NOTES CONTINUED...

BY MATT WOOD *MHSP 1768*

5. About using local retailers to get size, fit, color, etc. Be courteous when visiting. It's not good to say you're with Patrol and you're just there to get info and will be ordering the equipment online (please be discreet).
6. If you have a favorite equipment, garment, gear manufacturer and would like to see if we could get a Pro-Deal, and have a contact, please refer your contact to someone on the Clothing Committee folks at MHSP (VP Kevin Havre) so they can make a single request to the manufactures/retailers/etc. and enable the whole patrol with the opportunity.

THINK GLOBAL/ACT LOCAL

We enjoy wonderful support from a variety of local businesses, see below. If you know of a local business that's friendly to patrollers, please let us know!

• The Mountain Shop is an original, old-school supporter of MHSP and is owned by our very own Marcus Stephens! Discounts are available on gear, tuning and rentals. They recently moved into a beautiful new space – check 'em out!

• Hillcrest on SE Burnside – Dexter at Hillcrest has been a great partner and supporter of MHSP for many years. Even if you missed his pro night, there are still plenty of deals to be had on skis, gear, rentals and tuning.

• Next Adventure is on hiatus, but the good news is they have a new investor and will keep the SE retail facility going. Stay tuned to the news for details.

• TREW Gear – SE 2nd Ave – have an in-store discount. We are working with them to get more new red coats, stay tuned.

• Showers Pass – SE 6th Ave – since you're in the area to buy TREW already, stop in at Showers Pass. SP have a strong legacy of supporting patrollers. Their socks, according to legend, actually are waterproof.

• Deviation Skis – Matt Hilbert and his crew take very good care of us. Any patroller contacting them should know they're in good hands.

• ON3P – Jay Volak is the person to contact here; they have a pro deal and an influencer program.

TRYOUTS

The tryout date for 2026 has been set tentatively (but likely) as SATURDAY FEBRUARY 28 at Skibowl. Our best recruiters are YOU – spread the word to friends, co-workers, family and anyone who will listen and encourage them to 1) Fill out an application on the MHSP ORG site and 2) Attend tryouts! Let's get some stellar candidates for the 2027 class!

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR NOTES

BY SCOTT CHANDLER
MHSP 1811

Congratulations to everyone who completed their OEC Refreshers, CPR trainings/refreshers, and signed up for an area teams. A big shout out to the everyone who helped make refreshers an incredible success once again this year. A special thanks to all of this year's apprentices that showed up to help play patients, and in the process, boost their own knowledge.

Once again, it's that time of year to discuss opportunities for growth.

ASSOCIATE SUPERVISOR IN TRAINING

Associate Patrollers wishing to step up to becoming an Associate Supervisor, we would like to hear from you. Candidates, ideally, should have successfully patrolled a couple of seasons, demonstrate strong leadership skills, and have a desire to lead, or co-lead, teams of Associate Patrollers at Timberline and Skibowl. Associate Supervisor in training will need to complete the Instructor Development module, and a mandatory NSP Youth Protection Course. Additionally, it is highly encouraged to enroll in the Senior Aid Room Module (see below). Both the Instructor Development and Senior Aid Room modules are only a few evenings each, and are very beneficial.

Team leaders, if you have an Associate Patroller on your team, or one you've patrolled with frequently, that you feel would be a good candidate, please reach out to me. Sometimes a referral is the best avenue to encourage someone to consider the opportunity.

SKIBOWL ASSOCIATE SUPERVISOR SOUGHT

Speaking of Associate Supervisors, we have an opening for Associate Supervisor on Skibowl C Team this season. If any Associate Supervisors not already committed this season that are looking for a great team to join, this a good opportunity to enjoy excellent terrain that Skibowl has to offer.

PATHWAYS TO OET

Any Associate Patroller who has a desire to go through OET training program and become a Hill Patroller, you no longer need to wait until the next round of try-outs in February, or at Nuts-and-Bolts in June. MHSP can schedule an IT to evaluate your skiing/riding skills during the season, to be part of the 2026/2027 training cohort.

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ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR NOTES CONTINUED... BY SCOTT CHANDLER *MHSP 1811*

Again, team leaders, if you have a particularly skillful Associate Patroller, please reach out to Matt Wood or myself, and we'll connect with the candidate. As stated before, sometimes the referral is the best path.

SENIOR AID ROOM MODULE

Another session of the Senior Aid Room Module is being offered this season. Last year, we had an excellent cohort of five talented patrollers. If a similar number of patrollers can commit to it, then we can move forward with solidifying the course schedule. It is highly encouraged that all Associate Supervisors have taken this course, but it is just as valuable for the Associate Patroller or the Hill Patroller. Contact Kathy Lee or me if you are interested.

More info: Aid Room Module of the Senior Program (AR-MSP)

The module includes an educational element and an evaluation element that encourages Patrollers to participate in written exercises, panel discussions, and aid room scenarios. This is to help them gain a deeper understanding of aid room operations and related area management policies. Note: This is not a repetition of the Outdoor Emergency Care Module of the Senior Program (OEC-MSP) in an aid room environment.

Mission Statement

The mission of the AR-MSP is to provide the Senior Patroller Candidate an opportunity to demonstrate a global expertise in the operation of the Aid Room and care of patients.

Purpose

The AR-MSP is a required component of the National Ski Patrol's (NSP) Senior Program for Senior Patroller Candidates. The AR-MSP encompasses training where the Senior Patroller Candidate will:

- Demonstrate Aid Room procedures that foster an organized and efficient operating environment
- Demonstrate an understanding of medical interventions
- Demonstrate and utilize strategies for conflict resolution
- Demonstrate the ability to interface with agencies in the continuum of patient care
- Demonstrate skills and strategies for interfacing and communicating with patrollers and area management

Goal

The Goal of the AR-MSP is to enhance the Senior Patroller Candidate's skills and knowledge of aid room procedures and related area policies. Training emphasizes further development of skills in leadership, decision making and problem management while enhancing existing OEC aid room skills. The Module also prepares Senior Patroller Candidates for leadership roles within the NSP.

NORDIC NOTES

BY TOM CLARKE *MHSP 1912*

Preseason training is well underway for the members of the MHSP Nordic group. On Oct. 18, 2025, the Nordic group's team leadership met to discuss the upcoming season and to undertake advanced land navigation and rope rescue training. In attendance was Michael Cummings, Steve Potter, Tom Clarke, Katherine Christensen, and Chris Pearson. I would like to say thank you to Matt Wood, Patrol Chief, for attending and for providing his perspective and experience to the group discussion as a long-term leader for the MHSP.

Photo Credit: Chris Pearson, MHSP 1961. Tom Clarke provides instruction on land navigation.

On Oct. 25, 2025, the first of two scheduled Nordic refreshers were conducted at Teacup Lake. Each year prior to the start of patrol season every Nordic patroller is required to participate in one day of skills training. This year our Nordic instructors provided updates on land navigation, improvised toboggans, fire building, shelter construction, and technical rope rescue. In attendance were Nordic Patrollers Michael Cummings, Ian Eustis, Rhiannon Cochrane, John Fairgrieve, Chris Pearson, and Mike Sterner. In addition, Nordic Apprentice Kelly Falkner was present and introduced to the Nordic group and had a chance to

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NORDIC NOTES CONTINUED...

BY TOM CLARKE *MHSP 1912*

meet a portion of the Nordic patrollers she will be training with starting in January 2026. Lastly, John Fairgrieve, a Nordic instructor in training provided excellent instruction on fire building and shelter construction.

Photo Credit: Chris Pearson, MHSP 1961. Michael Cummings and Katherine Christensen practicing building a fire.

None of this would be possible without the help of my fellow Nordic instructors. As always, I am appreciative of the efforts that Steve Potter and Katherine Christensen contribute to provide the highest quality of instruction to the Nordic group. Their efforts ensure that the Nordic group is prepared for the upcoming season and any challenges that may arise.

Photo Credit: Chris Pearson, MHSP 1961. Nordic rookie Ian Eustis is preparing a sled pack.

I am looking forward to the upcoming ski season and the chance to work with such an excellent team. As always, stay fit and healthy and if you need anything please call, text, or email me.

FUNDRAISING NOTES

BY JAN SILAGI *MHSP 60054*

Member driven fundraising for the 25-26 year is off to a great start! New opportunities and larger numbers of members involved are really paying off!

The Sunday Snowvana teardown crew. Left to right: Rick Skeen, Greg MacLean, Jeff Omelchuck, Rick Anderson, Judy Bice, Gary Risley (kneeling), Jeff Alexander, Lisa Alexander and James Lincoln.

This is the second year that MHSP has participated in the Portland Marathon Lifestyle Expo and the first time we have had Sno-Park Permits to sell at the event. The Expo takes place one day prior to the Portland Marathon, at which the participants of the marathon pick up their credentials for the race. Vendors selling products runners use are invited to set up a booth. MHSP has provided support to the marathon for many years and thus was invited to participate in the Lifestyle Expo. This event has turned out to be a terrific opportunity for recruiting, and now for fundraising as well. We sold 89 permits at the Expo this year! Not bad for a first-year effort!

The following day at the Portland Marathon 33 members of MHSP participated, providing support at the First Aid tents and on bikes on the route. These hours of emergency response support have generated a donation of $2,000 for many years. Last year we expanded our support by providing drivers for the Support Aid Group (SAG) vehicles. Last year we drove two vehicles, this year an additional vehicle for a total of three. Each of these vehicles has generated an additional $200 in donations, bringing our total donation this year to $2,600. Many thanks to Troy Donaldson who headed up our partnership with the Portland Marathon again this year, and to all of you who volunteered!!

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FUNDRAISING NOTES CONTINUED... BY JAN SILAGI *MHSP 60054*

On October 22nd, Glen Anderson and Astrid Zervas sold Sno-Park permits at the annual premier of the Matchstick winter movie at Cinema 21. We have had this opportunity to sell permits and do a bit of recruiting for several years now. Thanks Glen and Astrid!

Snowvana was a huge success for our fundraising this year. More of our members were connected to the MHSP bank account this year using their phones as a point of sales than in previous years. Many thanks to Lisa Hargarve, Treasure MHSP, for her efforts getting so many members online! We purchased 1,400 Sno-Park Permits this year and at the three-day event we sold more than 1,000 permits and came away from Snowvana with 8 permits in hand and more events to go!

Snowvana also had moments that made us all smile. One was Brian Ritacco reuniting a lost child with his parents at the event, in true Host fashion! Nicely done Brian! The other was a visit to our booth by a fellow by the name of Bill Wagner, who was the recipient of CPR at Timberline in January of 2024. He was understandably very grateful for the care he received, and boy did it feel good to see him, healthy and getting ready to go up the mountain this season! By the way, he bought a Sno-Park Permit and some raffle tickets, and won four lift tickets to Timberline!

Our teams who did setup shifts for Snowvana on Thursday, October 23rd and teardown shifts on Sunday, October 27th really rocked the house! The Thursday team of eight MHSP members started at 1:00pm and had the entire swap set up, a truckload of Christmas trees in place for décor, helped several vendors unload their trucks and had a huge pipe frame structure assembled and in place by 4:30pm! An amazing effort! The Sunday crew of twelve started at about 4:20 and had the swap completely packed, all those Christmas trees hauled out, and the pipe frame structure disassembled and packed by 6:30pm! It was amazing! The efforts of these two teams generated a $2,000 donation to MHSP from Snowvana, as well as covering the fee to have our booth, electricity and WiFi! This is a huge chunk of change in addition to what we earned with our sales! Many thanks all!

Seven additional books of permits were purchased to sell at additional events. We had a presence at the Portland showings of the Warren Miller movies last year to talk about safety and do a bit of recruiting, and thanks to the efforts of Gordy Winterrowd this is the first time we have had the opportunity to sell Sno-Park Permits at these movies and sold five of those seven books! Additional permits were also sold at an annual fall event at the Multnomah Athletic Club which Glen Anderson has been heading up for several years now.

And every little bit helps! Jeff Vachter sold 33 permits to his fellow members of the Schnee Vogeli Ski Club and Jenn Thoman-Curtiss set up a fundraiser night at her Spin Cycle class for MHSP and sold 18 permits there! Our thanks to their initiative in fundraising!

It should be remembered that the fundraising mentioned in this article has taken place in the midst of all the refresher training that MHSP members are involved in at this time every year. To each of you who participated in these efforts during such a busy time, I thank you very much for your time and talent. It truly takes a Village!

WY'EAST REGIONAL DIRECTOR NOTES

BY HEATHER VAN HOUTEN
MHSP 1793

OET Refresher

Now that OEC Refreshers and Chair Evacs are finished for the most part, please prepare for OET Refreshers. These will be taking place the first two weekends in **January 2026 (1/3-1/4 and 1/10-1/11)**. As we have done over the last few seasons, we will have our OET Instructors at each area to get all of our Hill Patrollers through. Please sign up on *Troopiter*. If you are patrolling that day you should be able to sign up for both your patrol spot and a refresher spot.

If you haven't participated in an OET Refresher in the last season or two, you will need to participate in one this January, as well as, one of the advanced toboggan training dates. See schedule below.

Women's Clinic

Last Spring we had a great turn out at Skibowl! 15 Patrollers participated in our Women's Clinic, and we had patrollers from all disciplines: Hill, Associate, Apprentices, and Nordic. It was a great day, sunshine and lots of fun for everyone! A special thanks to Steve Barnett for leading the troops, along with Steve Bonham and Stacy Stokes for supporting him, as I was not able to be on the slopes that day due to my broken leg. We had a great debrief/late lunch at the Bowman Center after. I'd like to thank Gretchen Stover, Mary and Jim Stempel for helping coordinate the food. This year's clinic is scheduled for **Saturday, March 7, 2026 at Skibowl**. Watch for it on *Troopiter*!

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WY'EAST REGIONAL DIRECTOR NOTES CONTINUED...

BY HEATHER VAN HOUTEN *MHSP 1793*

OET Senior Training

Wy'East Region and Oregon Region are joining together this season for our OET Senior program. We are encouraging all hill patrollers who are interested in raising the bar of excellence to participate in this years training. It doesn't take up a lot of time and you'll enjoy the camaraderie. We will have about three Advanced Toboggan Training dates at Skibowl and Mt. Hood Meadows. Oregon Region will also be hosting some training dates. Between the two regions, we will be hosting the OET Senior program final the weekend of March 28-29, 2026 at Mt. Bachelor in Bend. Those interested in participating in the OET Senior program please contact me, heather Van Houten, for more information. Jeffrey Weitz, Brit Andersen, Toby Willey and I will be heading up the Advanced Toboggan Training this season. Please join us.

Advanced Toboggan Training:
Skibowl 1/25/26 and 2/8/26

OET Senior Training w/OR region:
Mt. Hood Meadows 2/21/26, Willamette Pass, OR 3/14/26

OET Senior Evaluation w/OR region:
Mt. Bachelor 3/28-29/26

MOUNTAIN HOST NOTES

BY JAN SILAGI *MHSP 60054*

The Snow is Falling!

It is wonderful to write for the November issue of *The Sweep* when there is actually snow falling on Mt. Hood for inspiration! The past couple of falls have been rather dry on the mountain, so precipitation is a welcome sight!

Our Host membership is in a good position to begin the season. Training is behind us and dues are paid. Many Hosts have also already completed their required shift in support of fundraising or training this fall! I am grateful to all of you for your proactive work in being ready for the season start. Dispatch will be on *Troopiter* and will be announced via email as soon as Timberline and Summit are ready for us!

We Hosts are excited that the Bruno chairlift at Timberline is fully operational this season. Beginner skiers/riders did well using the rope tow last season, but a chairlift really elevates the experience of newbies to winter downhill sports and makes life a bit easier for our Mountain Hosts as well.

The 2025-26 Host Apprentice Class

We have the largest apprentice class for the Host membership in years. We are welcoming thirteen talented and eager folks to the fold! Our apprentice class will begin their training at the Host Apprentice Orientation November 8th at the Bowman Center and will be on the hill in early December to train. Many thanks to Brian Ritacco, Sara Drage and Jeff Alexander for all your support with interviews!

Outdoor First Care Class

Keep your eyes peeled for an announcement about the Outdoor First Care class in January. It is recommended that all Mountain Hosts take this course to enhance their skills in supporting our patrol colleagues with an injured guest. The course is a two-part process similar to CPR. The first section is done online, followed by a day of skills instruction. This is a rewarding experience well worth the time commitment!

Support for Fundraising or Training

The Outdoor Emergency Care class, which is the emergency responder training for the patrol apprentices, is underway every Tuesday evening at Ida B. Wells High School. Volunteers are needed at each of these classes to act as patients as the apprentices learn and practice their skills. If you need to get a shift in support of fundraising or training out of the way, please dispatch for one of these classes on *Troopiter*. Address and time is posted on dispatch. The OEC class will conclude in January at which time the apprentices take their final exams.

Looking forward to getting back on the hill with all of you! Hope you have a lovely Thanksgiving, and we will see you soon!

TOBOGGAN TRAINING COACHES NEEDED

BY AARON OLSEN
MHSP 1824

MHSP Is Seeking Toboggan Training Coaches

Mt. Hood Ski Patrol is seeking qualified individuals to join our team as Toboggan Training Coaches for the 2025-26 season. This is an excellent opportunity to contribute to the safety and efficiency of our patrol while helping to train new patrollers in essential toboggan skills.

Position:
Toboggan Training Coach

Role: Instruct and lead in toboggan handling and the Outdoor Emergency Transportation (OET) curriculum.

Requirements:
- Strong skiing or snowboarding ability (advanced or expert level)
- Experience as a MHSP Hill Patroller
- Ability to absorb/learn/teach NSP OET curriculum
- Complete the NSP Instructor Development course
- Current OET certification (must be a current hill patroller)

Responsibilities:
- Train current patrollers and new recruits in safe and efficient toboggan operation
- Provide hands-on instruction and demonstration in various conditions
- Ensure all toboggan training is conducted in accordance with NSP OET training curriculum
- Assist in evaluating trainees' skills and providing feedback
- Help conduct annual OET refreshers (normally in January)
- Assist with OET Toboggan Enhancement Seminars (TESs) and work with OET Instructor Trainers (ITs).

Benefits:
- Opportunity to contribute to the safety of MHSP
- Gain valuable teaching and leadership experience
- Enjoy camaraderie with all MHSP OET Instructors and other trainees

If you are passionate about skiing, boarding and mentorship, we want to hear from you! Interested candidates, please contact: heather Van Houten (hVH), OET Regional Advisor, Instructor Trainer, MHSP 1793, at hvh18mhsp@gmail.com.

We look forward to having you as part of our team!

SENIOR TRUSTEE NOTES

BY CLEO HOWELL
MHSP 1444

Elections for Executive Council members will be in April 2026. As part of that process we must form a nominating committee and those members must be approved at the November 10 General Meeting. The following members have agreed to be on the nominating committee.

- Dave Myers
- Dianne Applegate
- Brit Andersen
- Steven Schafer
- Madalyn Seyer

A BIT OF MHSP HISTORY

1930s. Ralph Wiese running the sled.

1993. Skibowl Upper Bowl.

AVALANCHE NOTES BY GRETCHEN STOVER *MHSP 1938*

NOVEMBER AVY PROGRAM UPDATE

Avalanche Level 2
Every other year we offer Avalanche Level 2. **AND THIS IS THE YEAR!**

Any and all patrollers who have completed Avalanche level 1 and who desire to raise their avalanche skills should consider taking Avy 2.

This course is designed for ski patrollers and other organized search-and-rescue team personnel who desire advanced knowledge and skills beyond Level 1. Emphasis in this course is on snow science, hazard evaluation and forecasting, and rescue leadership. Prerequisite is successful completion of Avalanche Level 1.

Lecture:
There will be 4 lectures: **Feb 4, 11, 18 and 25. All are from 6:30-8:30 via Zoom.**

Field Session:
There will be a field weekend Feb 28 and March 1 from 7 AM to 4 PM. Location is TBD based on conditions.

Tour Day:
There will be a student led backcountry tour March 7 or March 8. Students will be assigned into groups, and will plan and lead a backcountry tour with the help of an instructor advisor.

Lead an Avalanche Level 1 Rescue Day:
Leadership is a key element of Avalanche Level 2. Avalanche Level 2 students will be expected to lead one of the two Avalanche Level 1 Rescue Days (formally known as Refreshers) – **either 3/15 or 3/21.**

THERE WILL BE AN AVALANCHE 2 ORIENTATION SESSION DECEMBER 10TH VIA ZOOM. ANYONE INTERESTED IN AVY 2 SHOULD ATTEND. DISPATCH ON *Troopiter* NOW.

Photo Credit: Ian Nicholson.

AVY LEVEL 1 RESCUE CLASS

All Hill and Nordic Patrollers need to take an Avy 1 Rescue class (formerly known as Refreshers) once every three years. Note this is the minimum requirement. If you are patrolling in avy terrain, you should consider taking this more frequently.

Avy Level 1 Rescue (Refreshers) are a one-day scenario intensive exercise in companion and organized rescue. There are several videos that participants need to watch prior to the on-hill activity.

***This year, Avy Level 1 Refreshers are scheduled for:* Feb 14, March 15 and March 21**

All Rescue Classes (Refreshers) will be from 7 AM to 4 PM. Exact location will be determined based on snow condition at the time of the event.

All are on *Troopiter* now and open for registration.

MORE INSTRUCTORS NEEDED!!

We are constantly looking for individuals who want to join our Avy instructor team. If you have an interest, reach out to me (*avy@mthoodskipatrol.org*) and we can discuss how we make this happen.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NOVEMBER

Avy Awareness	11/1 (Mon)	All Day	Online
OEC Training	November	Tues, 6:30pm-10pm	Ida B. Wells High School, Portland
Nordic Refresher	11/2 (Sun)	All Day	Teacup Lake
Executive Council Meeting	11/3 (Mon)	7pm-9pm	Zoom
Instructor Development	11/7 (Fri)	6:30pm-8pm	Zoom
Host Apprentice Orientation	11/8 (Sat)	9am-3pm	Bowman Center
General Meeting	11/10 (Mon)	7pm-10pm	Zoom and **
Instructor Development	11/12 (Wed)	6:30pm-8pm	Zoom
MHM Chairlift Evac	11/15 (Sat)	7:30am-5pm	MHM (MHM Patrollers Only)
LEAD Committee Meeting	11/17 (Mon)	6:30pm-9pm	Zoom
PNWD Educational/Safety 4 All	11/18 (Tues)	6:30pm-8pm	Zoom
Avy Awareness	11/30 (Sun)	All Day	Online

DECEMBER

Senior OEC Training	December	Thurs, 6:30pm-9:30pm	Ida B. Wells High School, Portland
Executive Council Meeting	12/1 (Mon)	7pm-10pm	Zoom
OEC MSP TE Clinic	12/3 (Wed)	7am-9pm	Zoom
Host Apprentice On-Hill Training	12/6 (Sat)	7:15am-3pm	Timberline & Summit Pass
General Meeting	12/8 (Mon)	7pm-9pm	Zoom and **
OET Instructor Clinic/Dryland	12/13 (Sat)	All Day	MHM
LEAD Committee Meeting	12/15 (Mon)	6:30pm-9pm	Zoom
PNWD Educational/Safety 4 All	12/16 (Tues)	6:30pm-8pm	Zoom
OET Instructor Clinic	12/21 (Sun)	8am-3pm	Skibowl

JANUARY

OET Refresher	1/3 (Sat)	8am-3pm	MHM, Timberline, Skibowl
OET Refresher	1/4 (Sun)	8am-3pm	MHM, Timberline, Skibowl
Executive Council Meeting	1/5 (Mon)	7pm-10pm	Zoom
Avy 1 Online	1/7 (Wed)	6:30pm-8:30pm	Online
OET Refresher	1/10 (Sat)	8am-3pm	MHM, Timberline, Skibowl
OET Refresher	1/11 (Sun)	8am-3pm	MHM, Timberline, Skibowl
General Meeting	1/12 (Mon)	7pm-9pm	Zoom and **
Avy 1 Online	1/14 (Wed)	6:30pm-8:30pm	Zoom
LEAD Committee Meeting	1/19 (Mon)	6:30pm-9pm	Zoom
PNWD Educational/Safety 4 All	1/20 (Tues)	6:30pm-8pm	Zoom
Avy 1 Online	1/21 (Wed)	6:30pm-8:30pm	Zoom
Advanced Toboggan Training	1/25 (Sun)	All Day	Skibowl
Avy 1 Online	1/28 (Wed)	6:30pm-8:30pm	Zoom
Avy 1 Field Weekend	1/31 (Sat)	All Day	TBD (Most likely White River)

***In Person General Membership Meetings: Asian Health and Service Center, 9035 SE Foster Road, Portland.*

UNUSED CHITS

Historically, our team patrollers use 30%-50% of the chits that are earned, ***the rest expire!*** Unused chits can be very useful to many who are not so fortunate to get them otherwise. MHSP supports programs where people cannot afford to ski otherwise. If you have chits that you won't use, PLEASE send to our MHSP Secretary: Katherine Christensen, 7624 S Corbett Avenue, Portland, OR 97219

Mt. Hood Ski Patrol is a member–driven organization dedicated to rescue, emergency care and public safety for the Mt. Hood recreational community. We are composed of nearly 200 patroller volunteers, all dedicated to providing quality rescue and emergency care to alpine and nordic skiers and snowboarders.

Primarily, we support weekend and holiday operations. In addition, our support extends year–round to summer skiers and mountain bikers. We also boast nearly 70 mountain hosts who provide guest services and other assistance.