MHSP SnoJob
January 2008

President's Notes

SPIF—Ski patrolling is fun!

In the past, some Associate Patrollers have expressed concerns about public recognition as members of the Mt Hood Ski Patrol. The council is addressing this issue in several ways including the addition of shoulder crosses making all of us more visible from almost every angle. We hope this will help with the recognition issue.

We also authorized changing the back cross for Associate Patrollers from "First Aid" to "Mt Hood Ski Patrol." This will make it clear we are all members of the same Patrol. Many of you may be aware of the speculation about changing the color of the Associate Patrollers parkas. While we certainly want your input on this, not all of our ski areas are in favor of a change to red for Associate Patrollers. Because we have to meet the area's requirements, we must stay with the navy blue parka for Associate Patrollers and red parka for Hill Patrollers for now.

The correct outdoor parkas are red for Hill Patrollers, and navy blue for Associate Patrollers. Parkas must have a back cross saying Mt Hood Ski Patrol (First Aid is acceptable until you purchase a new parka). The uniform includes two shoulder crosses, and a MHSP Shield on the left side front, with a name tag above the shield. National Ski Patrol patches are allowed on the right side, opposite the shield, but are not required. An American flag is allowed (but not required) on the right shoulder above the shoulder cross.

Associates may wear a red vest or shirt with back cross outside, when on foot, but not when skiing or boarding.

We have pretty much ironed out the benefit packages from all of the ski areas. There are a number of changes from last year. (See the MHSP Wiki for the most current benefit information. http://www.mthoodskipatrol.org/wiki/) While most Patrollers will see improvement in benefits, a few may feel like they lost ground. One of the problems with a large diverse patrol such as ours is not everyone wants or needs the same thing, and our benefits are ultimately determined by the ski area management. If you feel the current benefit package does not serve you well, please let a council member know. In our next survey, we will ask more questions about how our patrollers use benefits, to guide us in our negotiations next year.

Remember SPIF (Ski Patrolling is Fun)

Joel Stevens

Important Information:

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MHSP General MEETING NOTICE -

It's on YOUR calendar, right?

<u>January Meeting</u>: Regular Time and Regular Place

DATE: MONDAY, January 14,

TIME: 7:00 PM.

PLACE: Athey Creek Middle School, 2900 SW Borland Rd, West Linn.

Vice President – John Gastineau

Govy Building

Here are a couple of things to note regarding the Govy building:

1) Effective January 1, 2008, the nightly fee is $10, per council action.

2) Starting January 1, there will be a sign-in book kept near the dispatcher's desk. Sign in when you stay the night. Please remind others to do the same.

3) If you lock the deadbolt at night, you'll need to respond to patrollers knocking at the door. Sometimes patrollers work or ski the night shift at one of the areas, and then stay in the Govy building. If the key is already checked out and is in the building, the only way in is if the patrollers inside open up. So, if you need to get in and the key is checked out already, don't be afraid to knock.

We are exploring creating a dispatch for the Govy building, but in the meantime if you want to reserve a bunk, remember it is first come, first served. Drop your gear on a bunk on Saturday morning if you like. Remember patrollers working the next day have priority over all others.

Membership Commitment

Gold = 20 days total including 2 summer days.

Silver = 20 days total, including 1 summer dayh

Bronze = 12 days total

Total days includes training days and days as an instructor or coach.

Ski year ends on Labor Day

Patrol Chief - Paul Podett

What's new?

New Equipment.

Four new sleds going to Timberline and Ski Bowl.

Thanks to Jeffrey Weitz, Tom Payne and all the apprentices for getting our variably aged sled fleet up and running this year.

New Apprentices.

Tryouts in December? What a great idea. Thanks to Lisa Hargrave for putting it all together and special thanks to Mel Toney for hosting the tryouts at Mt. Hood Meadows.

Although a couple of the testers where challenged by lost apprentices and two 10-50's including a back-board case and grey zone radio communication, we managed to place sixteen additional hill apprentices into the class of 2008 as "Inverts". Thanks to our hill coaching staff; Al Klascius, Jon Horak, John Malowney Joe Sheean, Mike Miller, Eric Pool, Jeffrey Weitz, Toby Willey, Joel Stevens, Gordy Winterrowd who helped with evaluations.

Our hill instructors will have their hands full with the added numbers and this year's added drills. This year's training will include associates participation in hill setup, First Responder Training and ski enhancement drills. Training as a team to work as a team.

After morning drills the group will then divide up into their respective disciples. Sled action for the hillers along with a new drill added to the list, First Aid Room duty. Got to know where the band aids are.

New Benefits;

The one reason I became a patroller, 30 years ago, was so I could ski, and for those of you who feel riding is a priority, see the Wiki-Benefits

And for those who still ask what's a Wiki and for whom benefits don't matter, I would like to thank you for your spirit of volunteering and helping me work the best job I never got paid for. For doing all you do and asking for nothing in return. For the memories, the history and the pride of this organization and the continued commitment to the areas we serve.

Remember SPIF (Ski Patrolling Is Fun). It is one of the main reasons we do it.

Associate Director - Dave McKay

By now, you've probably read Joel's article on associate uniforms* and specifically about the color of the associate parka. I would like to elaborate a bit about this.

In August, the council asked a committee consisting of several associate and hill patrollers be convened to review the issue of visibility and recognition of associate patrollers. I spoke to quite a few of you, and heard about many instances where associates were not recognized as a member of ski patrol, or as someone promoting safety, or helping with an injury/illness. There were concerns about a consistent look and two different colors (blue and red) may be confusing to the public.

A committee consisting of two hill patrollers, two associate patrollers and myself met three times during August and September, and reviewed as much information as we could find on the subject. This included a thorough review of our own MHSP policies, procedures, bylaws and uniform requirements; the NSP policies and procedures, conversations with leaders of other patrols, discussions with area patrol directors, and a web search regarding the use of colors for identifying first aid providers. At the same time, the Executive Council made it clear we serve at the direction and discretion of the area patrol directors. Any changes to our uniform must be supported by them, our membership, and of course, by the council.

Discussions with the area patrol directors resulted in overall support of associates wearing a red parka, however, there was concern about ski proficiency of those wearing the red parka. This issue has not yet been resolved. As Joel summarized in his article, we're making progress on improving recognition of associate patrollers by using the new arm crosses, changing to the MHSP back cross, and wearing the red vest while on foot.

As the season progresses, I would like to know about any instances in which an associate patroller is not recognized as a ski patroller, as someone that can provide first aid, or is demeaned for being an associate patroller. Please send me an email with details about the incident. I will need as much information as possible such as date, a summary of what happened, and the names of those involved.

Regardless of what color our parka is, we should all be very proud of what we do. We are all highly trained and skilled professionals that help people; and we save lives.

*See page 1

Last SnoJob?

The mailing list for hard copies of the SnoJob is under review. If you are receiving a printed copy via US Mail and want to continue receiving it, you must complete and send in the form below. If you do not send the form, this will be the last hard copy of the SnoJob you will receive.

Yes, please keep me on the mailing list to receive a hard copy of the SnoJob.

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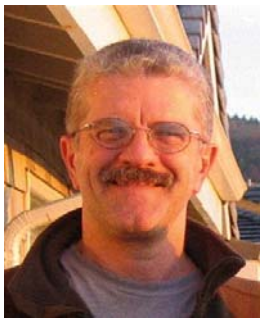
Portland, OR 97208

Note:
Paper copies limited to MHSP members and affiliates

Radio Rant– worth repeating (get it?)

by Rad I. O'Rant (MHSP #0000)

Never pick up a radio by the antenna! If the antenna is bent too far, too often, the internal conductor will break. This invisible failure reduces the range of the radio. One police department surveyed their handheld radios and found that some 60% of the antennas were invisibly broken due to poor handling. If you want to be heard, treat your radio with care, every day.



Nordic News - Michael Curtis,

Thanks to the expertise of MHSP Nordic Patroller Dave Ewen, the Nordics were put through the paces on the combined technical and on-the-hill day of training. Feedback from the free-heel types applauded Dave and thanked him for the rich experience he brings to the patrol. De-mystifying the wizardry so often accompanying the stars in the wonder world of knots, ropes and rescues, Dave fully embraces the KISS method. (KISS? - Yeah—you know—keep it simple, sweetie!) Under any type of circumstance, with time being precious and only a few patrollers to pull out the injured and a long traverse accompanying most Nordic rescues, simple and do-able are our creed.

Among those training for the day were long distance Nordics, Jeff Heppler, John Roshell and Bonnie Lynch. Jeff stays in touch from the far reaches of Afghanistan while John and Bonnie now reside in Scotland, they did their best to be virtual participants communicating by email.

We have the snow, and out we go.
Happy New Year.

Skibowl Update - Mike Klein

Just a couple quick notes if you are going to the Bowl over the holidays. The **Palace** door locks could use some work and the dead bolt must be used or a quick shove will open the door if only the handle is locked. **Make certain the deadbolt is locked.**

There is a new O2 pack up at RC. It is a large-size Traverse Rescue backpack in red color like many of us use. Be sure you are grabbing your own pack if you are headed out of RC and not the O2 pack. Your own pack shouldn't be that heavy anyway. Very soon there will be an AED inside the O2 pack as well. It just arrived and as soon as Erich has it fitted into the pack it will be available for use if needed.

Mike Klein

Randy Carrier and Peggy O'Leary join Mike as the APCs for SkiBowl

A 2006 Search and Rescue training emphasizes the protocol of working through the Sheriff's dispatch to ensure smooth operations with Incident Command—who knew we'd be so busy?

Calling Women Hill Patrollers

Come enjoy a day of running sleds the EASY way.

Learn new sled handling techniques and bring your own to share. These Toboggan Enhancement Seminars are designed to take the muscle out of running a sled.

Saturday January 5 – Timberline Lodge OR

Saturday, January 26 – Soldier Mt., ID

Saturday February 16 – Summit East, WA

TBD, 49 Degrees North, WA

To register or for additional Info:

Heather Van Houten, info@3bdog.com, 208-890-4361

Brian Merryman, Merryman@msn.com, 253-381-0506

MTR – Mountain Travel and Rescue

We plan to hold an MTR class again this year. This class focuses on mountain travel in snow conditions, and includes sections on navigation, route selection, winter survival, and Search And Rescue. It is required for all Nordic Patrollers and anyone participating in SAR events. It is recommended for all Patrollers and is one of the electives for NSP Seniors. The class has five week night classes, one Saturday day class, and one weekend overnight session. It starts in March and ends mid-April. Sign up on the Dispatch, or send me an email Joel@SDELtd.com if you are interested. Holding the MTR Class depends on having at least 6 participants.

Dispatch Web Site Tools for You

Here is a tool to help you E-mail people who are dispatched for a particular day:

Bring up the Daily Area Report, and "Download an Excel-ready version of this page" Open the page in Excel and copy the column with the e-mail addresses. Paste it into the "To" line of your e-mail. You can repeat this for all of the areas if you need to reach everyone patrolling on the mountain that day. This also makes it easy to edit the list, if you don't want to send to everyone on it.

Recruitment

Mountain First Apprentices

Invitations have been extended for 15 Associate and 15 Hill Apprentices to begin the new Mountain First! Apprentice training program. These apprentices will be learning the ropes on the mountain prior to beginning OEC training in March

The Mountain First (or M1) apprentices DO NOT have OEC training although they may assist patrollers to the same extent as a Mountain Host or member of the public. So when you are working with an apprentice be sure to ask if they have their OEC card before assuming that the situation is a good opportunity for them to practice being in charge.

Tryouts

Next Tryout opportunity will be March 1 and 2. If you have friends or family who are interested in joining please make sure they register with the Recruitment Committee by filling out the interest form on the website or call Lisa Hargrave or Jaye Miller with their name and contact information.

Patrollers interviewing would be Mountain First! Applicants...

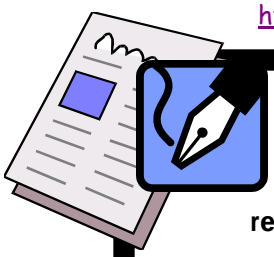
Important Dates

- *January 5, 6—Women's Toboggan Clinic (See page 5)*
- *January 5, Christine Cato Memorial Ski Race—contact Bill Johnson with MHSP Mountain Hosts*
- *January 7—Sr EMM Written Scenarios due*
- *January 8 , 22 - Avalanche Level II 6:30 pm*
- *January 12, 20 —S & T Senior training*
- *January 13, Avalanche Refresher—8 am—4 pm, meet at Govy*
- *BACK TO ATHEY - January 14—General Meeting— Athey Creek Middle School, 7—9 pm*
- *January 16 —Mount Hood Ski Patrol Executive Council , 6:45 pm*
- *Janury 24— —SnoJob Deadline*
- *January 26, 27—Sr. EMM Training Clinic*
- *Janary 29 MHSP Alumni Luncheon— 1 PM Eastmoreland Golf Course*

January 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Happy New Year	2	3	4	5 Women's Toboggan Clinic/ Cato Race
6 Women's Toboggan Clinic	7 Senior EMM Scenarios—written	8 Avalanche Level II	9	10	11	12 S & T Senior Training
13 Avalanche Refresher	14 General Meeting/	15	16 MHSP Council Mtg	17	18	19
20 S & T Senior training	21 Martin Luther King Day	22 Avalanch3 Level II	23	24 SnoJob Deadline	25	26 Sr EMM Training Clinic
27 Sr EMM Training Clinic	28	29 MHSP Alumni Luncheon	30	31		

http://www.mthoodskipatrol.org/members/snojobs.cfm



The MHSP SnoJob email address:

SnoJobEditor@gmail.com.

Now that you can hardly wait to be a contributing writer, remember:

- **Send copy as simple text in emails,**
- **Send pictures, graphics as jpg files,**
- **Send copy and all graphics separately;**
- **Make sure to identify who is in your contributing photo,**
- **Editors DO get editorial privileges to help formatting and standards of the publication.**

Donna Disch & Lisa Hargrave

The official MHSP event calendar is available on-line through Google. Links are available from the MHSP Dispatch website through www.mthoodskipatrol.org — OR— if you have your own Google account access the calendar directly from your web browser by typing *calendar.google.com.* The name of the calendar is "*Mt Hood Ski Patrol – Oregon*". It is a public calendar so anyone may view it.

SEND! Stories, pictures & those wonderful words-of-wisdom for the SnoJob to SnoJobEditor@gmail.com

Important Dates

- *February 2—FRT practice session*
- *February 5—Avalanche Level II*
- *February 9—Avalanche Level II field session*
- *February 9—S & T Training*
- *February 10—Sr EMM Training*
- *February 11 —General Meeting—Athey Creek Middle School, 7—9 pm*
- *February 13 — Mount Hood Ski Patrol Executive Council , 6:45 pm*
- *February 16—Avalanche Level II Field*
- *February 16—Avalanche Refresher*
- *February 19—Avalanche Level II*
- *February 21—SnoJob Deadline*
- *February 23—FRT*
- *February 23—Avalanche refresher*
- *February 24—FRT Evaluation*

February 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 FRT Pratice session
3	4	5 Avalanche Level II	6	7	8	9 Avalanche Level II Field Session/S& T Training
10 SR EMM Training	11 General Meeting	12 Lincoln's Birthday	13 MHSP Council Mtg	14 Valentine's Day	15	16 Avalanche Level II Field/ Ave Refresher
17 S& T Senior Training	18 President's Day	19 Avalanche level II	20	21 SnoJob Deadline	22 Washington's Birthday	23 FRT evaluation/ Avalanche refresher
24	25	26	27	28	29	

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Succession planning—mentoring on Mt Hood - photo by Michael Curtis

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Mount Hood Ski Patrol

P.O. Box 4384
Portland, OR 97208

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READ THIS NEWSLETTER ONLINE!

Make sure to visit Mount Hood Ski Patrol Website

www.mthoodskipatrol.org

MHSP
Executive Council

President - Joel Stevens
Vice President - John Gastineau
Secretary - Mark Diamond
Treasurer - Kathy Lee
Patrol Chief - Paul Podett
First Aid Chief - Cleo Howell
Associate Director - Dave McKay
Nordic Director - Michael Curtis
Senior Trustee - Mac Sheldon
Middle Trustee - Matt Hickok
Junior Trustee - Steve Eversmeyer