Mt. Hood Ski Patrol

Snojob

January 2014

Essential Reading

- Verification of Insurance Form, *page 1*
- Chilly Chili Luau on January 11, *page 1*
- Carpooling, *page 2*

President's Message: Verification of Insurance

By Jim Trett, President, AS90244

Last summer we were informed that RLK and Company needed to revise the terms of the agreement that we work under to provide service to Timberline Lodge. There were several discussions between Timberline management and MHSP Council regarding a need for Timberline to reduce the potential for future legal liability, as well as ensure Mt. Hood Ski Patrol would continue to provider volunteer services. The revised agreement has a few minor changes but there is one new article that affects volunteers serving the Timberline Ski Resort.

The new article in the agreement will require all volunteers (patrollers and hosts) to sign a Verification of Insurance Form. Signing the new form indicates the volunteer's understanding that no form of medical health care is provided to you by any of the ski resorts or the patrol, which has been an understood policy since the inception of the patrol. Also, there are two categories on the form to select that indicates you are either insured by a health insurance company (and provide the company's name) or are self-insured. Information on these two categories will be provided to ensure you select the one that applies to you.

The Verification of Insurance Form will be made available soon and we will ask all patrollers and hosts to complete the form so we may continue to provide our services to Timberline.

It should be noted that Jodie Jeffers and Jeffery Weitz, both of whom serve as Pacific Northwest Division program directors, have said the discussion regarding medical insurance is not unique to Mt. Hood. They have been involved in conversations about this while attending NSP meetings in Lakewood, Colorado. It is reported that resorts in at least two other states are talking to their volunteer patrols about signing similar forms.

I encourage you to come to the January general membership meeting where we will schedule some time to provide more information and an opportunity to answer questions.

I hope to see you at the meeting, and that you have a fantastic 2014.

Chilly Chili Luau – All-member Meet & Greet

By John Malowney, Junior Trustee, SHC 1153

It's time to kick-off the 2014 ski season in style.

We've got a robust group of Apprentices, Hosts, and Patrollers so it's time to get to know one another without having to use 10-codes. Half-past-sweep on Saturday, January 11, we'll be tapping a keg and kicking back in luxurious folding chairs while warming our bones with some homemade chili under the cover of our pop-top tents.

We all work way too hard during the week along with being volunteers on the weekend so it's time to "give something back to the mountain". The sole purpose of this event is provide an opportunity for everyone to get to know one another a little bit better.

So dust off your skis, mark your calendars, and plan to join some of the friendliest people on the mountain in an attempt to ring in the 2014 ski season via some adult beverages, great food and captivating conversations (i.e. "war stories").

If you have any questions or would like to help with the festivities please contact me directly at; john.malowney@pgn.com

PATROLLER OPERATIONS

Let's all Carpool!

By Doug Stanton, Patrol Chief, HC 995

Did you know that MHSP has a really cool carpooling application on the Wiki?

I see a lot of emails go out from our membership asking if anyone would like to carpool which is great but maybe not as targeted to the audience that the patroller is seeking. The Wiki solves the problem of finding who's heading where and where they're located.

If you haven't explored the carpool feature, check it out.

- Log into the Wiki, click Carpool on the left side menu near the top.
- Once on the Carpool page, scroll down to see your next three or four dispatch dates.
- You can email patrollers for the resort you're dispatched to on that specific date, email all patrollers dispatched to any resort on that date, or view a map with pins locating all patrollers dispatched on that date.
- Click on the pin to get specific contact info for that patroller.

It's a really great tool and one that should save time locating a carpool partner. All the resorts are encouraging us to carpool as much as possible, reserving parking spaces for the resort guests. We do a pretty good job already but this tool can help us do an even better job, save a little money, and make a long journey to the mountain more entertaining. Keep up the good work and enjoy the ride with a carpool buddy.

Our Home on the Hill

By Doug Stanton, Patrol Chief, HC 995

Our recent cold snap caused plumbing problems in the Govy Building. A huge, "Thank you", to Harlan Mitchell and Mountain View Plumbing in Boring. Who took care of it for no charge.

The Govy Building is our oasis, a comfy little hostel on the mountain, and is an important part of our identity. There are a few Do's-and-Don'ts for keeping the building running smoothly; here is the link to the Wiki.

http://www.mthoodskipatrol.org/wiki/pmwiki.php/Site/GovernmentCampBuildingUse

Please take a few minutes to review it, and let's all do what we can to take care of our home away from home.

Timberline Teams and Dispatch

By Doug Stanton, Patrol Chief, HC 995

Timberline dispatch is open and slots have been filling quickly. Teams are now formed with primary members – but don't think there are no open slots available. Weekends in January and February have lots of room for Hill Patrollers and Associates. Any slot that is open is available to dispatch into.

There has been a lot of worrying that teams at Timberline would impact an individual patroller's ability to dispatch due to limited slots. This is certainly not the case. Go to the master calendar and click on the date you're interested in patrolling. I think you'll be surprised.

If you are interested in learning more about teams at Timberline, contact Jeffrey Weitz.

Associate Director

By Jodie Jeffers, Associate Director, AS 90256

Hope everyone had a wonderful Holiday, Christmas and a Happy New Year!! Now that it is 2014, hopefully the snow will decide to return in full and not be shy. This brings back memories of my apprentice year, a bit worse reference to conditions for our motto was "Ski the Rain". Since we are a year round patrol, try to think of this as a delayed fall with a great dumping of snow just around the corner. The apprentices are working hard in OEC and this month will begin their on hill training, please welcome them as well as last year's newly inducted group having their Rookie year!

This slower snow season has also given us some extra time to ensure we are ready for the season with our equipment, fitness, clothes, and education. Please don't forget to have your dispatch slots filled so you don't get caught off guard when that next storm hits. Any questions, suggestions or concerns, please contact me.

Teacup Nordic Operations

By Jeff Hepler, NP 30006

Teacup Nordic has generously put a mobile phone on the wall in the cabin that the public can use to dial 911. From the inside looking out the front door the phone is located above and to the right.

Obviously this phone is only accessible when the cabin is open but It's a great step forward in improving emergency communications. I recommend you stay on state SAR for now at Teacup so that the sheriff has a means of communicating with us albeit limited. I did make a test radio call from the cabin to T-line and it was clear.

MOUNTAIN HOST OPERATIONS

Happy New Year!

By Jan Silagi, Mountain Host Director, HS 60054

As I write this article mid-December, for a January publication, I am anxiously watching the weather reports every day. In 26 years with the Host program, I do not remember another year when we waited so late into the season for the snow to fall! Hopefully by the time this goes to print, the lack of snow will be a moot point and everyone will be enjoying all the slopes of Mt. Hood!

Throughout December the Mountain Hosts greeted lots of guests who were disappointed with the conditions. Our fellow Hosts did a wonderful job of lifting spirits and setting the tone for a fun day on the mountain. Many thanks to all the Hosts for your excellent customer service skills and for adding a positive note to the overall experience of every guest you came in contact with! Your efforts are a wonderful example of the mission of our courtesy patrol! Bravo!

Apprentices

Despite the low snow conditions, we did complete all the training days for our apprentices at Timberline during December. We are so excited about the range of skills and background experience this group is bringing to our program, and we are so pleased to see their enthusiasm as they begin working with guests. We are postponing our Skibowl training dates to mid-January and are looking forward to having this talented team settle in to focus their apprentice year there. We geared our recruiting efforts at building our volunteer contribution for Skibowl and this apprentice group is devoting the bulk of their required shifts there this season. Good luck to all our apprentices as they continue their training! You have already made a big impression on all us veterans Hosts!

Planning Your Schedules

In a previous message to all Hosts, I suggested an outline to use as you plan your dispatch schedule, to ensure that you complete your required 11 shifts on the mountain during the winter season. The recommendation was to complete 2 shifts during November/December, 3 shifts in January, 3 in February and 3 in March. If you follow this outline, you will have your required shifts completed prior to April 1, allowing plenty of time to make up a shift that you may have had to reschedule. I encourage you all to plan ahead in this way, and keep in mind that if you postpone your shifts too late into the season, you may not have an opportunity to complete them. Last season we closed our dispatch on May 4, which caught a few people off guard. You never know about the snow! Last season we had none in the spring, this year we had none to start the year! We welcome as many additional shifts as you would like to work, but please remember we will be evaluating our membership to see that each of you complete the minimum requirement.

Stay in Touch

We understand that life has its challenges. I recently talked with a Host to ask about her ski history from the past two years, because she had not completed the required number of shifts. She told me that she had been injured at work in 2011 and it affected her ability to be on her skis. She is recovered from her injuries and assures me that she can complete her shifts this season. If something prevents you from completing your shifts, injury, illness, job loss, etc., please let me know! In an effort to have 100% of our membership comply with our shift requirements, we will be in touch with you...so ***stay in touch*** with us!

And along those lines...when you are preparing to head up the hill to work a shift, put the name and number of the Supervisor of the day in your cell phone. If anything happens to you to cause you to be late (flat tire, road conditions, etc.), call the supervisor and let them know you are behind schedule. The supervisor can then make any necessary adjustments to the schedule to accommodate your arrival. Additionally, let us know if you will not make your shift. If we do not hear from you and you do not show up, your Ski History will show a “No“ for the shift. ***Stay in touch!***

Do a Shift at Skibowl

If you have never done a shift at Skibowl, please consider adding that to your schedule this year. If you reach out to the Supervisor of the day and let him/her know that you are coming to do your first shift there, they will make sure that you are given any training you need, to be comfortable at the resort. As you know, several stations are the same at both resorts, and consequently you already have most of the skill set you need, so no worries! If the dispatch is full, let us know and we will add you. We'll take as many Hosts at Skibowl as we can get!

Finally...

Happy New Year! I hope the winter of 2014 provides you lots of joy as you volunteer, joy with your family and friends, and in your professional life too! And as this season proceeds, let me know your thoughts about your fellow Hosts. I look to you to nominate candidates for Outstanding Mountain Host, Apprentice of the Year and Supervisor of the Year. This recognition should come from you, the Mountain Hosts of Mt. Hood Ski Patrol! Reach out to me and let me know who you think is most deserving!

See you all soon on the hill!

TRAINING

Senior S&T Training Schedule Set

By Doug Stanton, Patrol Chief, HC 995

Senior S&T training for the 2013/14 season is on the calendar and ready for all Hill Patrollers that have completed at least one year of patrolling.

Sign up for this very important next step in your development as a patroller. The Ski and Toboggan (S&T) portion of the senior training is one of the funnest and skill building portions of the Senior program and a big component of your leadership training. Seniors is probably the single biggest development program offered through NSP. So quit contemplating and sign up for training. Your Level I and II commitment provides you up to four training credits for the season so there is really no reason to not take advantage of the Senior S&T program.

Coaches for this season are David Atkinson, Tom Payne and Doug Stanton. Dispatch has been set up for the entire season so you can begin dispatching for the training dates across the region. Below is a calendar of all clinics and finals. There will be an S&T orientation meeting in January for all interested candidates. Contact any one of the three coaches for details and/or questions about the program. Hope to see you in training this season.

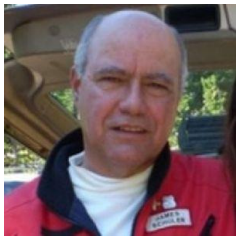
Training Schedule

- January 11th - Senior S&T Clinic - Wy'east Region Mt Hood Meadows
- January 12th - Women's Clinic Mt Hood Meadows
- January 19th - Senior S&T Clinic - Oregon Region Mt Bachelor
- January 26th Senior S&T Clinic - Oregon Region Willamette Pass
- February 2nd - Senior S&T Clinic - Oregon Region Warner Canyon
- February 15th - Senior S&T Clinic - Wy'east Region Mt Hood Meadows
- February 23rd - Senior S&T Clinic - Wy'east Region Mt Ashland
- March 1st - Senior S&T Clinic - Wy'east Region Mt Hood Meadows
- March 15th - Women's Clinic Hoodoo
- March 16th - Senior S&T Clinic - Wy'east Region Hoodoo
- March 22nd - Senior S&T Clinic - Wy'east Region Mt Hood Meadows
- April 5th - Senior S&T Final - Coaches Calibration Willamette Pass
- April 6th - Senior S&T Finals Willamette Pass

FIRST AID

Vital Signs

By James Schuler, First Aid Chief, AS 90481



WOW!! Christmas has come and gone and Santa Claus still had wheels on his sleigh. That just isn't right. Regardless of how he got around, I hope Santa brought you lots of new gear for the rest of the ski season.

Starting this week, our new apprentice class will be learning the skills and duties of patrolling on hill. They are a very talented group and eager to learn. They've been in OEC class for nine weeks now and have a pretty good handle on what will be expected of them as First Responders. When you meet them on the hill, or while enjoying a late afternoon "Debrief" with team and coaches, be sure to introduce yourself and make them feel welcome. I would also encourage you to dispatch and help out at our Wednesday night OEC classes. There's no better way to get to know our new apprentice group while refreshing your own skills.

While we're on the topic of OEC skills, it's been a slow start to the season and that can make for some cobwebs in the first aid pack and rusty OEC skills. Take some time to practice the easy but critical skills. I'm talking about VITALS here (radial, brachial, carotid, femoral and pedal pulses). Make it fun. Practice on your significant other, a

sympathetic friend or even a pet (I dare you to take a pulse at the femoral artery on your dog or cat). Crack open your OEC 5th Edition and browse through chapters 20 and 21 (you may be surprised at what you've forgotten). And last but not least, when you finish practice, don't forget to reward yourself with a hot mug or cold glass of your favorite winter refreshment!!

See you on the hill and please – KEEP UP THE SNOW DANCE!

OTHER NEWS

Elections

By Kathy Lee, Senior Trustee, SS 90232

At the November General Meeting, the following people were elected to the Nominating Committee:

John Howard
Cliff Leighton
Gordy Winterrowd

The Committee is charged with nominating at least one qualified member for each Executive Office to be filled. All offices are open, with the exception of the Senior Trustee (current Middle Trustee becomes Senior Trustee).

Anyone interested in running for any of the offices is encouraged to contact one of the members of the Nominating Committee. You may also be nominated from the floor at the February, March and April General Meetings.

New Communication Method for Clothing Committee

Please direct all clothing related email to mhspclothing@gmail.com.

Troops Triumph Event

By Sue Bishop, MH 60179

Troops Triumph is an annual, one-day event of skiing/riding for disabled veterans. This is a multiple agency effort that provides a day on the snow with adaptive equipment, trained coaches, and companions for each athlete free of charge.

Timberline is host to the event and will honor both current and expired Timberline vouchers, to provide lift tickets to the athletes, coaches, and companions. You can help by donating your unused Timberline vouchers to the cause. There is a collection box in the a Host closet where vouchers can be dropped off or you can give them to any Host Supervisor. Your help is greatly appreciated! More event information to come next month!

Safety Day 2014 Cancelled

By Jodie Jeffers, AS 90256

January is Safety Month nationwide every year and Service and Safety is NSP's creed. We hope you have enjoyed the safety reminders that have appeared in the Snojob.

The goal was to have a group of patrollers as well as other agencies to come together and participate at all the areas for an all-mountain safety event on the 18th of this month. This was not a small task and needed lots of help before and during the event. Unfortunately for this year, we were not able to get that participation and will not be able to have the one day event as previously hoped for, it had to be cancelled.

That is not to say we won't continue to spread the safety message out to the public year round in our day to day activities. We will regroup and plan on 2015 for its debut but truly will need your help. Please contact Jodie Jeffers for more information.

Snojob Deadline is the Third Monday of the Month

By Lisa Hargrave, Snojob Editor, SHC 1053

Send your articles or photo submissions to snojobeditor@gmail.com. Please identify any people appearing in your photos.

Woman's World Cup in Banff/Lake Louise

Friend of MHSP, Charlie Cutter, sent a note and a few photos from his stint as a volunteer patroller at the Women's World Cup.

Just returned from a great week of COLD (-40c one morning) Woman's World Cup ski racing in Banff/Lake Louise (Dec1-8)...

Lindsey Vonn made was there as well as PORTLAND native Jacqueline Wiles--a new member of the USA team... she started in the 50's, and had a few top 20 finishes!!

We do "Long-Line rescue" (If someone falls on the course, we package them and helicopter them off course...

Editor's Note: If you are attending or volunteering at the Olympics or other events, please drop a line to Snojob Editor@gmail.com. We'd love to share information about other volunteer experiences.

CALENDAR

For the most current information and details check the online calendar at www.mhspdispatch.org.

January

NSAA Safety Month
6 Council Meeting
11 Chilly Chili Luau at Govy Bldg
Senior OEC at Summit
Senior S&T at Meadows
12 Women's' S&T at Meadows
13 General Meeting
18 Mt. Hood Safety Day
19 Senior S&T at Meadows
20 Snojob Deadline
25-26 Senior OEC at Summit
26 Senior S&T at Willamette Pass

February

2 Senior S&T at Willamette Pass
3 Council Meeting
8 Women's' S&T at Hoodoo
10 General Meeting
15 Senior S&T at Meadows
17 Snojob Deadline
23 Senior S&T at Mt. Ashland

March

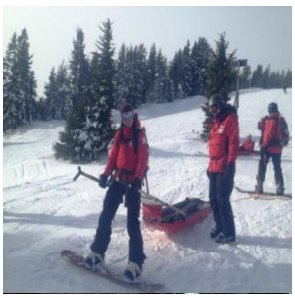
1 Senior S&T at Meadows
3 Council Meeting
8 Senior OEC at Summit
10 General Meeting
16 Nuts and Bolts at Hoodoo
22 Senior S&T at Meadows
17 Snojob Deadline
22-30 Oregon Spring Break

December ice storm at Timberline. Photos by Brett Wesson.

2014 Women's Clinic
Toboggan Enhancement Seminar

NSP Certified Clinic
Sponsored By the Wy'East Region of the PNWD

Sunday- January 12, 2014
Mt. Hood Meadows, OR
8:00am to 3:00pm
Meet In the South Lodge

Pre-Registration and red patrol jackets are required, space is limited and clinic is free to NSP members
Contact Jeffrey Weitz at jw@northrimpdx.com (503)-358-7555
or Cyndy Meno at cymeno@gmail.com (541)-953-1522

We will be focusing on finesse, not muscle, beginning to advance techniques for skiers and riders on both two handle and four handled sleds. Skiing and riding techniques specifically taught by women for women in a nurturing learning environment.