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## WNY REGION PATROLLER AWARDED HIGHEST NSP HONOR

**JOSEPH "BUTCH" MACQUEEN HAS BEEN AWARDED THE MINNIE DOLE AWARD.**

Joseph "Butch" MacQueen has been a very active and enthusiastic member of many different NSP programs for four decades.

Joseph began his Ski Patrol career in the fall of 1978 when he joined the Buckaloons Ski Patrol as a candidate and became an NSP Alpine Patroller that season in 1979. When that northwest PA ski area closed, Joseph transferred to the Holiday Valley Ski Patrol and patrolled there for three seasons while training for Senior and serving as the official patrol photographer. Joseph transferred to the adjacent ski area in Ellicottville as a Senior Alpine Patroller with the Holimont Ski Patrol. While patrolling at Holimont, Joseph developed a passion for Nordic skiing and also became a Nordic patroller. He and wife, Mary MacQueen, founded the Allegany State Park Nordic Patrol in 2002 to serve the needs of the public using the trails in this large 65,000-acre park in southwest NY. This patrol covers the cross country trails in the winter and mountain bike races in the summer. Joseph served as both Alpine Patroller at Holimont and Nordic Patroller at Allegany State Park for 18 years and just recently decided to focus on Nordic service.

Joseph has been a career educator for his whole adult life first as science school educator, and upon retirement, he has redirected his teaching passion to various NSP programs. He has served in major leadership roles at all levels within the NSP and his ongoing commitment as a highly skilled instructor and Instructor Trainer in five of the NSP educational disciplines: Avalanche, Instructor Development, Mountain Travel and Rescue, Nordic/Backcountry and Outdoor Emergency Care. The list of courses he has participated in as a student or instructor is extremely impressive. As an instructor or Instructor Trainer, Joseph has taught countless patrollers and instructors using his wealth of knowledge and his years of teaching experience to delivery quality instruction content for the candidate, veteran patrollers and other instructors.

As summarized in his NSP Hall of Fame nomination, "His development of hands-on training modules for Instructor Development,

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*Joseph "Butch" MacQueen and Sue-Ellen Helmacy, NSP Eastern Division Awards Supervisor.*

## 2023 WNY AWARDS BANQUET

The 2023 Western New York Regional Awards Banquet was held on Saturday, May 20th at Kloc's Grove in West Seneca, NY. There were approximately 100 people in attendance. Due to the larger than expected attendance, our banquet had to be moved to the larger Garden Pavilion. The banquet Social Hour began at 6:00pm with an open bar and hors d'oeuvres. During the Social Hour, attendees were able to purchase tickets and place them in the baskets for the Basket Raffle. WNY member patrols donated gift baskets for the Basket Raffle. At 7:00pm a delicious family style meal was served. After the meal, the drawings for the gift baskets were held and the Awards portion of the evening started around 8:00pm.



### NEW SENIOR PATROLLERS

These patrollers have completed all the requirements for the Senior Program this year. To become a full Senior Patroller, candidates must complete the Senior OEC Module, the Senior OET Module, and three electives from the Senior Patroller elective list.

**Ryan Carlson - Kissing Bridge**

**Chris Porter - Peek'n Peak**

**Anthony Crowley - Holimont and Holiday Valley**

**Kevin Murray - Holiday Valley**

**David Rousseau - Buffalo Ski Center**



From L-R, New Senior Patrollers, Chris Porter - Peak'n Peak, David Rousseau - Buffalo Ski Center, WNY Region Director; Dan Meess. Not present; Ryan Carlson - Kissing Bridge, Anthony Crowley - Holimont & Holiday Valley, Kevin Murray - Holiday Valley.

### SERVICE AWARD

60 year NSP Service Award (belated as he has 64 years of service now)

**Lloyd Alexander - Western NY Alumni**



*Lloyd Alexander - 60 year NSP Service Award*

## WESTERN NY REGIONAL AWARDS

### JACK MCKENNA OUTSTANDING SENIOR CANDIDATE AWARD

Recognizing an individual who completed the final requirements for the Senior program during the current season and demonstrated favorable effort, attitude, performance on Senior evaluations, and improvement in skills. Nominations for this award may be made only by Senior emergency management and Senior S&T training staff. Recipient will be selected by the Senior Coordinator with input from the Senior training staff as necessary.

**Chris Porter - Peek'n Peak**



*Chris Porter - Peek'n Peak*



## MIKE REID MEMORIAL INSTRUCTOR AWARD

Recognizes a certified instructor in the WNY Region (open to all disciplines, including S&T, OEC, CPR, AED, instructor development, avalanche, and mountain travel & rescue) whose service extends beyond working with candidates. Training involvement should include a significant period of time, significant training accomplishments, and/or multiple instructional areas.

**Ann Manzella - Kissing Bridge**



L - R; Ann Manzella - Kissing Bridge, Dan Meess - WNY Region Director

## AMBASSADOR OF THE SLOPES AWARD

Recognizes a patroller who promotes a favorable image of the ski patrol to the skiing and snowboarding public. Factors to consider may include attentiveness to safety, customer service, community service, and professionalism. This patroller's actions enhance the public's impression of the resort, the sport, and/or the ski patrol.

**Ellen Conrad - Cockaigne and Allegany Nordic Patrols**



L-R; Ellen Conrad - Cockaigne and Allegany Nordic, WNY Region Director; Dan Meess

## DIANE AND FRANK SMITH SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD

Recognizes a patroller from any WNY patrol who constantly works behind the scenes without holding patrol office or a significant NSP position. A "doer" who performs activities such as committee work, fund-raising, maintenance, work parties, shift supervision, recordkeeping, planning, training, etc. at the patrol level and/or for the NSP.

**Gary Emmerson - Holimont**



L - R; Gary Emmerson - Holimont, Dan Meess - WNY Region Director

## GEORGE "SKIP" PFISTER MEMORIAL AWARD

Recognizes a patroller involved in the instruction of other patrollers in any of the NSP programs who displays Skip's outstanding volunteer spirit. The candidate must have successfully completed the Senior OEC program, the Instructor Development course and be actively involved in the mentoring phase of becoming an instructor.

**Emily Williams - Peek'n Peak**



L-R; Emily Williams - Peek'n Peak, WNY Region Director - Dan Meess



## WILL WENDELL AWARD

Recognizes a patroller who dedicates time and talent to the training of candidates and/or mentoring of inexperienced patrollers. May include training in OEC, S&T, snowmobile operations, patrol room procedures, resort practices, and other areas. The patroller may or may not be a certified instructor.

**Dave Kelsch - Holimont**

## OUTSTANDING AWARDS

### EASTERN DIVISION OUTSTANDING SMALL ALPINE PATROL COCKAIGNE SKI PATROL



*Representing the Cockaigne Ski Patrol, L-R; Doug Levy, Dan Russell, Barry Harris, Steve Rawlings, Ellen Conrad, Bryan Daniels, John McAlevy*

This Patrol Unit deserves recognition as the Outstanding Small Alpine Patrol because adversity has made them strong. And from adversity, they have made something wonderful. They are an all-volunteer patrol that was founded by a hardy cadre of outdoor enthusiasts whose community-minded, can-do culture they honor and embody to this day. They are proud of their legacy and the one they are building also, although re-building might better describe our journey.

Their journey began in the winter of 2018/2019, when a few of that original cadre reunited like the Blues Brothers to re-colonize after their home resort was destroyed by fire in 2011. Their 18 member patrol includes 4 members with fourteen years of service or more, and 12 members - trained on-site - with 5 years of service or less, and a retention rate of 83%.

Forgive the use of a well-worn reference, but they actually did rise, Phoenix-like, from the ashes. With nothing but remembered experience and resolve, they met the new owners at the finish line with a full component of well-trained patrollers on re-opening day. Camaraderie born of shared adversity is like none other.

Congratulations to the Cockaigne Ski Patrol. They now move forward to compete with the Outstanding Small Alpine patrols from all divisions for the coveted National Outstanding Small Alpine Patrol.

## SPECIAL AWARDS

### EASTERN DIVISION PATROLLER ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

This award is given for outstanding devotion and service at the local patrol level. These individuals have donated many years of time and talent in support of the local patrol.

**Mike George - Holimont**

### PATRIOT STAR

This award is given to all who have served and been honorably discharged from any branch of the United States Military.

**Matt Hayes - Holimont**

### PATROLLER CROSS

Awarded to a patroller who is injured while actively patrolling on duty for the National Ski Patrol.

**Curt Goetz - Peek'n Peak**

**Leanne Carlson - Peek'n Peak**



*Leanne Carlson - Peek'n Peak*

## YELLOW MERIT STAR - OUTSTANDING SERVICE

The Yellow Merit Star is awarded to patrollers for any outstanding act or service to the National Ski Patrol.

**Al Quimby - Denton Hill**



*Al Quimby - Denton Hill*

## MEDICAL MERIT STARS

### PURPLE MERIT STAR

The Purple Merit Star is conveyed to the patroller or patrollers who are most directly responsible for saving a life. However only if the patient survives at last 24 hours.

### BLUE MERIT STAR

The Blue Merit Star is awarded to patrollers who are immediately involved in supportive roles to saving a life or if the actions do not result in the patient surviving.

### YELLOW MERIT STAR

The Yellow Merit Star is awarded to patrollers who are involved in life saving actions however their actions are less vital to the life being saved.

**Purple Merit Star - Cynthia Slisz - Buffalo Ski Center**

**Purple Merit Star - Michael Mayernik - Holiday Valley**

**Blue Merit Star - Rosalie Mayernik - Holiday Valley**

**Blue Merit Star - Mike Kirsch - Allegany Nordic**

**Blue Merit Star - Robb Finicle - Holiday Valley**

**Yellow Merit Star - Greg Boberg - Holiday Valley**

**Yellow Merit Star - Ben Graham - Holiday Valley**

**Blue Merit Star - Robb Finicle - Holiday Valley**

**Blue Merit Star - Larry Schottke - Holiday Valley**

**Purple Merit Star - Dan Russell - Cockaigne**

**Purple Merit Star - Steve Rawlings - Cockaigne**

**Blue Merit Star - Barry Harris - Cockaigne**

**Blue Merit Star - Melanie Goulding - Cockaigne**

**Blue Merit Star - Bryan Daniels - Cockaigne**

**Purple Merit Star - Alex Nagle - Peek'n Peak**

**Purple Merit Star - Steve Snyder - Peek'n Peak**

**Purple Merit Star - Matthew Hersch - Peek'n Peak**



*L-R; Mike Kirsch, Robb Finicle, Greg Boberg, Michael Mayernik, Rosalie Mayernik*



*L-R; Larry Schottke, Robb Finicle*





*L-R; Bryan Daniels, Dan Russell, Steve Rawlings, Barry Harris*

## DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

The Distinguished Service Award is to be given to individuals who have performed extraordinary service to the National Ski Patrol and the skiing Public over a long period of time. (A minimum of 20 years) This is distinguished by exceptional devotion to duty and outstanding performance.

**Frank Frohnapple - Holimont**

**Greg Boberg - Holiday Valley**



*Frank Frohnapple - Holimont*



*Greg Boberg - Holiday Valley*

## LEADERSHIP COMMENDATION APPOINTMENT

The Leadership Commendation award is convey to patrollers who have demonstrated leadership, diplomacy, positive attitude, and exemplary qualities of patrolling ability with service beyond the local patrol level. This service may be to the region, division or national organization.

**Bill Schaaf, Peek 'n Peak – Leadership Commendation Appointment #8575**

## NATIONAL APPOINTMENT

An honor bestowed upon a patroller who demonstrates leadership and exemplary service to the National Ski Patrol beyond activities with the home patrol. Partial completion of the Senior Program is required for LCA and Senior Patroller status is required for a National Appointment.

**Anna Jaremko - Holiday Valley - National Appointment # 12303**



*Anna Jaremko - Holiday Valley*

## WESTERN NEW YORK REGION PATROLLER OF THE YEAR

Recognizes an outstanding patroller who sets an example for others through service to the local patrol, ski resort and NSP service through their leadership and behind-the-scenes efforts, and through attitude, effort, skills, accomplishments and length of NSP service.

**Kim Crotty - Holimont**



*Kim Crotty - Holimont*



## 2023 AWARDS BANQUET CANDIDS





## 2023 AWARDS BANQUET CANDIDS





## 2023 AWARDS BANQUET CANDIDS





Avalanche, Mountain Travel and Rescue and the Nordic Backcountry Programs is noteworthy. His crowning achievement to the National Ski Patrol became a reality through his creative contributions to the introduction, development and implementation of the nationally recognized Nordic Master Program.” Joseph MacQueen is still extremely active, patrolling the trails in Allegany State Park in the winter and summer, teaching Instructor Development and OEC courses in the WNY Region, serving as Region Awards Advisor and Nordic Advisor and serving as the training officer for the Allegany State Park Nordic Patrol. He also serves on the Eastern Division Avalanche, Instructor Development, MTR and Nordic/Backcountry Program Committees.

The Minnie Dole Award is the National Ski Patrol’s Highest Recognition. In the organization’s 85 year history, only 28 members have received this honor.

To be considered for this award, the member must:

- Have closely exemplified the long-term dedication, devotion, and self-sacrifice of the founder of the NSP, Charles Minot “Minnie” Dole.
- Served at least 30 years of active patrolling service
- Be registered as an active patroller at the time of nomination

• Have provided continuous leadership for more than 15 years

- Served in a variety of offices/adviserships from NSP patrol representative through division and/or national levels
- Have designed and/or implemented a program, project, and/or procedure that has had an overall positive impact on the entire National Ski Patrol.

Nominations must be approved by a 3/4 vote of the National Awards Committee and of the National Board.



*Mary MacQueen pinning a Minnie Dole Award pin on Butch MacQueen*

## WNY PATROLLER PRESENTED NSP NATIONAL SERVICE EXCELLENCE AWARD

On Friday, June 2, 2023, Chuck Dunn was presented the NSP National Service Excellence Award via Zoom call by Rick Boyce, NSP National Chair, and David Hemendinger, National Instructor Development Program Director in recognition and acknowledgement for his extraordinary contributions as co-chair of the NSP Center for Learning design and implementation team.

At our Regional level, Chuck is:

- an active Kissing Bridge Patroller
- an OEC Instructor
- Senior Trainer Evaluator (TE)
- and an Instructor Trainer (IT).

At the National level Chuck’s service includes:

- - Co-chair Center for Learning Core Team
- - Member Management System (MMS) Implementation Core Team member
- - Education Committee - member-at-large
- - Planning Committee - member-at-large
- - Initiative for Change Task Force member
- - Code of Conduct Update Task Force member
- - Policy and Procedures Review Working Groups member
- Education Committee
- Governance

Chuck joined the NSP in 1997 with the Kissing Bridge Patrol and was awarded Leadership Commendation Appointment #8447 in 2012.



*Chuck Dunn’s NSP National Service Excellence Award Certificate and Paperweight.*



## NSP WNY REGION RIDE FOR ROSWELL TEAM

The 28th annual Ride for Roswell took place on Saturday, June 24th. The overnight rain and morning fog didn't dampen the spirits of our 20-person team composed of patrollers from Western New York and some family members and friends. Patrollers from Cockaigne, Holiday Valley, Holimont, Kissing Bridge and Peek 'n Peak participated under the leadership of team captain, Kim Crotty. Demonstrating their skills and stamina, riders selected the 30-mile river course; the 45-mile, 65-mile or 100-mile (shortened to 65 miles due to weather) country course; or the 45-mile course through Canada. Through their efforts, over \$15,000 was raised to support Rowell programs. Five of the riders reached a fundraising goal of over \$1,500 each to become a member of the Extra Mile Club. Thanks to the team members and all the supporting donors for this fantastic accomplishment. Mark your calendars for Saturday, June 22, 2024, and join us next year! It is a great event for a great cause.





## MORE RIDE FOR ROSWELL PHOTOS



## DIANE SMITH RETIRES AS LONG-TIME KISSING BRIDGE PATROL DIRECTOR

The June 3, 2023 Kissing Bridge Awards Banquet was filled with all types of emotion. Highlights include Mary Murrett and Brian Goris receiving their NSP 50-year service awards and lifetime NSP membership, Diane Smith receiving her 55-year service award and Diane passing the patrol director reins to Chris Galvin, as the new KB Patrol Director.

Diane joined the NSP for the 1967-68 season at Glenwood Acres and quickly became a Senior Patroller. The Glenwood Acres Patrol transitioned to the Kissing Bridge North Patrol after KB purchased this adjacent northern property. Diane served as Assistant Patrol Director for several seasons on the KB North Patrol before North and Central patrols merged in 1981. She served as an outstanding Patrol Director for 37 years from 1982-1993 and again from 1997-2023 at the request of Kissing Bridge management.

Diane was a first aid/WEC/OEC instructor and examiner at the local and senior levels. For her leadership, Diane was awarded National Appointment #4871 in 1976. Diane received the WNY Region Patroller of the Year Award in 1982. She was also awarded two Purple Merit Stars for saving a life, a Blue Merit Star for assisting in a life-saving situation and two Yellow Merit Stars. Diane was awarded the NSP Distinguished Service Award in 1996. Diane was awarded the Eastern Division Outstanding Patrol Representative Award for the 2002-03 season and a Silver Merit Star for being selected as NSP National's first runner-up for this award. She received the Meritorious Service Award in 2006. These were followed by the NSP 50-year service and lifetime membership awards in 2018.

In 2021, without Diane's knowledge, the Kissing Bridge Patrol recommended that the WNY Regional Kissing Bridge Central Special Recognition Award be renamed the Diane and Frank Smith WNY Regional Special Recognition Award based on the exemplary service of this couple, and this was quickly implemented.

Although Diane has passed the reins to Chris, she will continue to patrol at Kissing Bridge. We wish the best to Diane now, not as just a regular patroller but as an exceptional Senior Alpine Patroller without the PD headaches.



L-R: Mary Murrett - 50 years, Brian Goris - 50 years, Diane Smith - 55 years.



# PATROLLERS COMPLETING 50 YEARS OF SERVICE IN 2022

## WILLIAM “BILL” MARX – ALUMNI

Bill began his ski patrol journey as a candidate with the Kissing Bridge Patrol in 1973. He earned his Senior classification in 1976 and became a S&T senior trainer/evaluator in 1980, a position Bill held for 20 years. He was awarded National Appointment #6144 in 1983 for his leadership as a S&T trainer in the WNY Region. Bill patrolled the KB's Concord Ski Club as a patrol leader from 1981-83 then was called back to Kissing Bridge the next season. Bill was appointed WNY Region S&T Advisor in 1985 and he served in that capacity through 1992. Bill served as Patrol Director of the WNY Regional Ski Patrol from 1985 to 1987 and continued on this patrol until 1991 when this group disbanded. He transferred to the Holiday Valley Ski Patrol in 1991 where he patrolled until his temporary retirement in 2013 as an Alumni. He received a Yellow Merit Star in 1992 for his many contributions to the Region's S&T program. Bill served as an extraordinary Patrol Director of the Holiday Valley Ski Patrol from 1999 to 2003. During his tenure, the Holiday Valley Ski Patrol was awarded the NSP Outstanding Large Alpine Patrol for the 2001-02 season and Bill was also awarded a Yellow Merit Star for his leadership of the patrol. Bill also served as a CPR instructor from 1990-97. Following his service as PD, Bill served as the Patrol's treasurer from 2004 to 2012. In 2011, Bill was awarded the Eastern Division Patriot Star and the NSP Distinguished Service Award. A lifetime NSP member, Bill was made Holiday Valley Patroller Emeritus in 2017 and served the patrol in various capacities for the following years. He joined the Holiday Valley Century Patrol in 2020.

## JOHN TATON – ALUMNI

John started as a candidate with the Bluemont Patrol in 1973. He earned his Senior status in 1978. When Bluemont (subsequently named The Mountain) was nearing the end of its operating years, John transferred to the Holiday Valley Patrol for the 1984-85 season, where he patrolled until his retirement from active patrolling in 2019. John was known for coming up with and constructing various unique floats to haul down the Mardi Gras slope for the spring carnival parade and entries in the dummy downhill. He always displayed a great sense of humor and was one of the patrollers who always chipped in to perform maintenance and repairs on the old ski patrol building and equipment. John was awarded the Holiday Valley Patroller of the Year in 2001 and the WNY Kissing Bridge Central Special Recognition Award in 2002. He joined the Holiday Valley Century Patrol in 2007 and was awarded a lifetime NSP membership by the Holiday Valley Ski Patrol in 2008 for his many years of outstanding service. John was awarded the Distinguished Service Award in 2010 and the Eastern Division Patroller Achievement Award in 2013.

## FRANK FROHNAPPLE – HOLIMONT

Frank began his patrolling career at Holimont Ski Resort in 1973 and he quickly obtained Senior status. Since he was a math teacher during his non-patrolling time, he had a passion for teaching and was a natural instructor for Outdoor Emergency Care. He is always willing to help out patrollers with OEC whether it is during scheduled clinics or one-on-one time with both local and senior candidates to sharpen skills and give additional practice. He became very involved with the OEC Regional Staff and spent many years working with Senior Candidates. For many years after retiring from his teaching position, he coordinated annual “on-the-hill” refreshers for the weekday patrollers.

Frank has been an outstanding leader and an effective OEC instructor for the HoliMont Ski Patrol for nearly 50 years. He knew the importance of recognizing important moments and celebrating the successes of others. At final evaluations, Frank would be bursting with pride as he watched his “students” perform their OEC skills and managing the scenarios so confidently. He even sponsored an annual award for the HoliMont banquet to recognize a patroller (or a team of patrollers) who performed incredible OEC skills during the past season. He understood that celebrating those moments would help everyone rise to the next level.

Frank was the OEC training officer for many years, organized and acted as IOR for fall refreshers and acted as Assistant Patrol Director from 1991-94. He continued to lead by example and was always a team player: respectful of others and knew that actions spoke louder than words. Frank had been recognized for his outstanding leadership and contributions by receiving HoliMont's Patroller of the Year in 1990 and 2011 as well as the WNY Ambassador of the Slopes in 2018. Frank was awarded a Yellow Merit Star in 2010 and a Blue Merit Star in 2018 for assisting in a life-saving rescue. He also received numerous regional awards recognizing his passion for OEC instruction. His highest honor was receiving his National Appointment (#6759) in 1987. Frank was awarded the NSP Distinguished Service Award at the 2023 WNY Region Awards Banquet.

Frank was awarded the NSP 50-year service and lifetime membership award at the June 20, 2023 HoliMont Patrol Banquet.

## BRIAN GORIS – KISSING BRIDGE

Brian is a longtime member of the Kissing Bridge Ski Patrol where he started as a candidate back in 1973 according to NSP records, although he appears to have had one or two additional years in advance of that official NSP start date. Shortly after becoming a basic patroller with the Kissing Bridge Ski Patrol, he began assisting in training and earned Senior status in 1978.

Brian took an interest in avalanche and ski mountaineering and participated in Circle A, Circle M and ski mountaineering instructor courses in PA and NH.

Brian saw the need and stepped up to the plate when called on by the Western New York leadership to become what was called at the time a Ski Mountaineering instruc-



tor. He ran many clinics over the years in the Western New York Region as well as participating in Eastern Division events. His expertise in this area is renowned and he was awarded National Appointment #6632 in 1986 for his leadership in ski mountaineering.

Due to this mountaineering expertise, it was only natural that he was asked by his local patrol to instruct in Chairlift Evacuation methods and served as the KB Evacuation Officer for many years. Brian was also asked and served as WNY Regional Evacuation Advisor from 1986-88 so his skills could be shared among the regional patrols.

In 2001, he was formally recognized for his ten years as WNY Region Assistant Mountaineering Advisor, and he received a Yellow Merit Star for those efforts. Brian was named Kissing Bridge Ski Patroller of the Year in 2002.

Brian was also a long-time shift leader from 1988-2003 and served as Coordinator of Nativity School Ski Club from 1985-1990 and then Chaperone of the Club from 1990-95.

Brian was awarded the NSP Distinguished Service Award in 2007 for his many years of outstanding service. He has also been awarded Blue Merit Stars in 2011 and 2014 for significant support in saving a life and another Yellow Merit Star in 2021.

Brian has continually performed duties and accepted responsibilities beyond that of routine patrolling and has done so throughout his 50 years of service with the National Ski Patrol. He is a soft-spoken, quiet person who loves to ski and patrol. He is proud of the Kissing Bridge Ski Patrol as well as the National Ski Patrol. Brian was awarded the NSP 50-year service and lifetime membership award at the June 3, 2023 Kissing Bridge Awards Banquet.

### **MICHAEL LEFFLER – HOLIMONT**

Mike joined the NSP as a Junior Patroller (now known as Young Adult Patroller) candidate at Bluemont in 1973. He transferred to the Tamarack Patrol when Bluemont was closing. Mike transferred to HoliMont, his current patrol, when Tamarack was acquired by the Buffalo Ski Club.

Mike is a quiet patroller who enjoys patrolling and can be counted on in any situation. Michael was awarded the NSP 50-year service and lifetime membership award at the June 20, 2023 HoliMont Banquet.

### **MARY MURRETT – KISSING BRIDGE**

Mary began her patrol life as a candidate of the Bluemont Ski Patrol in 1973 and quickly earned her Senior certification in 1976. When Bluemont closed, the Kissing Bridge Patrol welcomed Mary into their ranks in 1982.

From the start, Mary became involved at the local level with candidate training, patrol refreshers and Senior first aid training, in the Western New York Region as WNY First Aid Advisor, with the Eastern Division Staff as a TE and IT in the team that provided three continuing education events each summer for FA/WEC/OEC Instructors, sharing her enthusiasm and commitment to excellence with all she encountered. During those years, she also served as a first aid trainer at three National Junior (YAP) Training Sem-

inars as well as coordinating that training for two of the seminars.

In 1978, she began as a First Aid Instructor and Instructor Trainer even serving 15 years as an American Red Cross CPR instructor. In 1984, Mary was appointed to lead and administer the WEC/OEC Program as Eastern Division Supervisor. Along with the other supervisors throughout the NSP, Mary contributed to the revisions of collateral materials of the 2nd Edition of the WEC textbook.

In 1994, the Winter Emergency Care Program was renamed Outdoor Emergency Care in order to embrace the training of emergency care givers other than ski patrollers. The Division Program Supervisors were tasked with the role of broadening the training perspective of all patrollers to include alternate outdoor environments, i.e., river guides, forest firefighters and mountain bike patrols. In 1994, the Outdoor First Care text and program were introduced for Hosts across the system with assistance from the Division Supervisors.

Mary's success in this role caught the attention of others, and in 1996 she was appointed the daunting task of National OEC Program Director. In all of these positions, Mary contributed to, and over-saw revisions of the patroller's first aid manual, coordinating instructor materials, student workbook and refresher materials. During her 6-year term, the 3rd Edition of the OEC text was published. As the National OEC Program Director, she was responsible to the NSP Board of Directors for the effective management and operation of the National OEC Program. Mary managed all of the task groups that were updating and reformatting the OEC instructor materials and the Student Workbook. Also, during her term, approval was obtained, and the early editorial work was begun by the Medical Advisors for the OEC 4th Edition which hit the streets in 2003.

After retirement from her National role in 2002, Mary has continued to be active at the local level with refreshers, quality assurance reviews, development of graphical presentations and serve as a role model for future leaders of NSP.

For Mary to have been called up to serve in leadership roles that contributed to the success of many patrollers across NSP in multiple programs over a period spanning more than two and a half decades speaks volumes.

For her exceptional leadership, Mary was recognized with National Appointment #5246 in 1978, the NSP Distinguished Service Award in 2000, the National Educational Retirement Award in 2002 and a Yellow Merit Star in 2003.

Mary was inducted into the 2021 Class of the NSP Hall of Fame at a special Kissing Bridge Awards Banquet on September 18, 2021 and the award was re-presented at the Eastern Division's 2022 Awards Banquet.

In these 50 years, this patroller's dedication has been exemplary, not only at the patrol level, but at region, division, and National levels as well; and Mary did so with dignity, grace and professionalism.

Mary was awarded the NSP 50-year service and lifetime membership award at the June 3, 2023 Kissing Bridge Awards Banquet.





*Peek'n Peak Oxbow Patroller - by Paul Yoe*

## 2023 WNY REGION PHOTO CONTEST WINNER

**C**ongratulations to Paul Yoe for winning the 2023 Western NY Region Photo Contest. Paul is an Alpine Patroller on the Peek'n Peak Ski Patrol. He captured

this photo while he was patrolling. Paul's prize was an Eastern Division Mug and Flask.

## 2023 WNY REGION FALL OEC REFRESHER DATES ANNOUNCED

**I**t is that time of year again where we begin ramping up for another ski season. The Fall OEC Refresher dates have been set throughout the Region. Below is a list of the Refresher Dates. Don't forget to log into NSP.ORG and complete the online course listed in the Learning Center.

### **Allegany State Park**

- Patrol Refresher - October 22nd

### **Buffalo Ski Center**

- Instructor Refresher - TBD
- Patrol Refresher - September 23rd

### **Cockaigne**

- Patrol Refresher - October 7th

### **Denton Hill at Ski Sawmill**

- Instructor Refresher - September 17th
- Patrol Refresher - October 15th

### **Holiday Valley**

- Instructor Refresher - September 7th
- Patrol Refresher - October 16th

### **Holimont**

- Instructor Refresher - October 21st
- Patrol Refresher - November 4th

### **Kissing Bridge**

- Instructor Refresher - September 12th
- Patrol Refresher - October 7th

### **Peek'n Peak**

- Instructor Refresher - September 24th
- Patrol Refresher - October 29th