



Skinny Briefs



Pinecrest Nordic Ski Patrol Newsletter
December '02, Issue 1A

Announcements

◆ **Timothy Helwig passed his OEC course this fall!!**

With a tremendous amount of courage and diligence, Tim triumphed over the difficult course in Fresno. There were a few occasions where the prospects of becoming a full-fledged patroller seemed out of reach, but Mr. Helwig prevailed and now is a proud member of Pinecrest Nordic Ski Patrol – Patroller!!!

◆ **Thanksgiving behind us:**

We can now look forward to open meadows and hills of new-fallen snow. Patient's grasshoppers - snow happens.

First in keeping with tradition ... we need to give thanks to a few hardy souls who endeavored over the past weekend to provide room and comfort to our wayward patrollers ... YES PATROLLERS - THE PATROL SKI CABIN IS NOW OPEN. Thank you's go to: Steve Bailey - Forest Service ... for providing us with a place to stay, putting up with our anxieties, and doing the hauling and stowing of truckloads of patrol supplies. And a hearty thanks goes to my fellow volunteer patrollers: Larry Crawford, Dean Fanara, Dana Hutchinson and David Kelly.

Please be considerate of all house guests by maintaining good housekeeping and providing warm hospitality. Ask your fellow patrollers if you're unsure of acceptable standards and protocols to be adhered to while using the house.

And now it's time to THINK SNOW / PATROLLING. December portends to be dry, that may mean limited skiing and patrolling opportunities for awhile ... but don't let that stop you from getting some training and practice in wherever you can ... there are hills open with man-made snow.

I note with my usual dismay the non-cooperative performance of many patrollers not having entered their required eight days of patrolling on the web site for this season. Of course after all these years this comes as no surprise to me ... it just *&%@ me off ... OK - so that's just me can you take it personally (from me) if you so wish.

With that happy and encouraging note, It'll be looking forward to patrolling with everyone this season ... and if you'll be skiing with me you can bet we're having fun on all those exciting tele-runs through the trees.

John Kretschmann

◆ **Instructor Development (ID)**

For those of you interested in becoming instructors, there are two ID classes being offered on December 7 - one in Modesto and one in Stanford (at SLAC). If you are interested in registering for the Modesto class, contact Barbara Hickman at bhickman@patterson.k12.ca.us. If you are interested in registering for the Stanford class, contact Sean Brennan at sean.brennan@stanford.edu. If you have not taken ID, it is HIGHLY recommended. Becoming an instructor is one of the most rewarding things I have done in the Ski Patrol.

◆ **On the Trail**

On the Trail is January 11 and 12. Everyone is required to attend. More to come on this important and exciting event. Stay tuned to this station.

◆ **Basic Mountain Travel and Rescue (BMTR)**

The BMTR class is January 18 and 19 this year. All Pinecrest Patrollers are required to attend this class within the first two years of patrolling. Aside from being required, it is a lot of FUN! The class consists of 1/2 day of classroom lecture and a day and a half of field exercises. You get to build a snow shelter, practice your beacon skills, and participate in a mock SAR exercise. Act quickly, the registration deadline is December 1, yikes! An application for enrollment can be found at:

http://www.motherloderegion.org/uploads/126/5/Mountaineering_Enrollment_form_03.pdf.

Or http://www.motherloderegion.org/uploads/126/19/Basic_Mntg_Agenda_03.doc.

Accolades & Thanks

- ◆ Oren Eshell for volunteering his time and patience for the web page advancement. There's a lot of work to be completed and he has certainly stepped up to the plate on this project!

Reminders

◆ Sign up for your patrol days!

The 02-03 calendar is up on the website. Several of you have already signed up and we thank you for your initiative. It would be great to have everyone sign up for their 8 patrol days by Thanksgiving. By signing up on the website, you make the Nordic Team Leaders job much easier. They do not have to track you down and encourage you to join us for another fun weekend of skiing. It also helps us identify gaps in patrolling and work to close those early in the season.

◆ Equipment Purchase:

Let us know what equipment you intend to purchase this year. We would like to consolidate our efforts with our Pro-Deal Coordinator -Ed Lopez.

Contacts

Board of Directors:

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- ◆ **Robert Parkhurst** BOD, Senior (408.374.9028, rtparkhurst@msn.com)

Pinecrest Nordic Ski Patrol Calendar

Jan 11-12 On-The-Trail (Mandatory)
Jan 25 Ski w/ a Ranger
Feb 1 Ski w/ a Ranger
Feb 15 Ski w/ a Ranger
Mar 8 Ski w/ a Ranger
April 5-6 Last Ski Patrol Weekend
April ?? Cabin Clean-up

Nordic Team Leader Assignments

Date	Patroller	Date	Patroller
Dec 14-15	Bill Lowell	Feb 22-23	Dean Fanara
Dec 21-22	Bill Lowell	Mar 1-2	Tim Helwig
Dec 27-28	Jeff Bowser	Mar 8-9	Bill Lowell
Jan 4-5	Jeff Gurrola	Mar 15-16	Oren Eshell
Jan 11-12	Dean Fanara	Mar 22-23	Jeff Bowser
Jan 18-19	Tim Helwig	Mar 29-30	Dean Fanara
Jan 25-26	Oren Eshell		
Feb 1-2	Oren Eshell		
Feb 8-9	Jeff Bowser		
Feb 15-16	Unknown		

Classes/Training: NSP/Motherlode Region (Nordic Oriented)

Dec 21	Ski Enhancement – Donner Ski Ranch
Jan 4	Sr. Nordic Ski & Toboggan Instructor Clinic
Jan 11-12	Level 1 Avalanche
Jan 18-21	Basic Mountain & Travel, Pinecrest
Feb 1-2	Level 2 Avalanche
Feb 7-9	7th Annual Bear Valley Telemark Festival (Non NSP)
Feb 22	Sr. Emergency Management Clinic-Bear Valley
Feb 22-23	Level 1 Avalanche –Sugar Bowl
Feb 23	Sr. Nordic Ski & Toboggan Clinic – Pinecrest
Mar 1-2	Level 2 Avalanche
Mar 16	Sr. Emergency Management Clinic –Donner Ski Ranch
Mar 29-30	Level 1 Avalanche – Sierra Summit
Mar 29-30	Sr. Nordic Ski & Toboggan Eval.

Motherlode & NSP Regional Events

Jan 25	MLR Breakfast Meeting – Dodge Ridge
Mar 17-20	NSP Powderfall, Snowbird UT
May 3	MLR Awards Dinner

Web Sites

www.pinecrestnordic.org

www.motherloderegion.org

www.nsp.org