

# Eastern Pennsylvania Region

## Stated Meeting Minutes

April 16, 2011



- I. **Section Chiefs and Patrol Directors Mini-Sessions from 8:35 AM to 9:30 AM**
- II. **EMS Coordinators Work Meeting 8:35 AM to 9:25 AM**
- III. **OEC Committee Work Meeting 8:35 AM to 9:25 AM**
- IV. **Section Chiefs Meeting Reports**
  - A. **Southwest - Richard Bensel (Newly Elected S.C.)**
    1. Whitetail Open 96 days with good crowds
    2. Joint Safety Meeting: 67% of injuries were 11-17 year old males on snowboards in terrain parks
    3. New OEC books for upcoming OEC courses
    4. Round Top is getting a quad
    5. Liberty is putting a conveyor in
  - B. **Central - Kurt Adam**
    1. Thank Gary Lombardo for letting us hold the Senior S & T Test here.
    2. Eagle Rock skier and tubing visits were up.
    3. Blue Mountain had 15,500 people in one day; 16 successful Senior OEC & S & T
    4. Bear Creek skier visits were up; new snowmaking; accidents were the same; snowmobile drag race the weekend after closing; ToughMudder was a huge event and is getting more popular each year
    5. Spring Mountain was busy December and January; new snowmaking; 5 candidates pass OEC; 7 candidates pass S & T; new banquet facility in the area; zip lines open; 2 new trails over the next couple of years and new chairlift.
  - C. **Pocono - Dina Manoway**
    1. Shawnee good year; new high-speed quad successful
    2. Saw Creek had an excellent year; new snowmaking operating at 90%; first year that they turned profit; helmet signs posted
    3. Jack Frost accident rate was down; new structure with co-directors sharing the responsibility; features in the glade
    4. Big Boulder had a good year; closed April 10th; less accidents this year

5. Camelback had a very good year; skier visits were down during Presidents weekend and March; accident rates were down; two Open Houses for recruiting; putting down a rubberized floor in first aid room
6. Youth Program was opened to the group at Alpine Mountain; YAPs skied one day; medical the next day. Thanks to Wolfgang for feeding them well.

**D. Northern - Paul Spear (Newly Elected S.C.)**

1. The Hideout had an OEC class that more than doubled their patrol; discussions about starting a YAP program next year; working on mass casualty command; open to suggestions for expanding first aid area
2. Upper Delaware Nordic had one new candidate; coverage expanded; one patroller achieved Master Nordic
3. Elk Mountain had largest ever Patroller School; open 100+ days; next year planning expansion with water retention ponds; next year lifts may be changed
4. Sno Mountain started season last June with lift evac course with attendees from NY, NJ and PA; this weekend the same course will be held; 4 candidates; 3 transfers; 4 patrollers made Senior with 3 patrollers passing SEMM; inventive retirement program; OEC class in the fall
5. Mast Hope Rapids had a good year.
6. Tanglewood was closed last season and has been sold. Unknown what their future is.

**V. Call to Order**

Gerit Lewisch, Regional Director, called the regular meeting of the Eastern Pennsylvania Region to order at 10:15 AM on April 16, 2011 at the Blue Mountain Ski Area. Thank you Blue Mountain for hosting. I would like to introduce Ellie Jessum, Flo Rutherford, Ron Pagotto, Ron Dallago and John Pellicciotta. Thank you for your support and thank you for coming today. Four patrollers passed away: Harry Slagle of Camelback Bernie McManus from Upper Delaware Nordic, Michael Manoway from Camelback, and Brian Lock from Blue Mountain. Minute of silence to remember all of our departed patrollers.

**VI. Secretary Report**

Minutes have been duly posted on the EPA website. Motion made by Gerit Lewisch to approve Minutes; George Hannon seconded. Minutes approved.

**VII. National Awards - Gerit Lewisch, Steve Buzzard**

Yellow Merit Star to Frederick M. Tim of Camelback  
Yellow Merit Star to Robert Bernatos of Round Top  
Purple Merit Star to Thomas Bronder of Ski Round Top  
Purple Merit Star to Lisa Harach of Ski Round Top  
Meritorious Service Award to Jack Bogdon of Camelback

Distinguished Service Award to Robert Morgan of Upper Delaware Nordic  
National Appointment to Ron Pagotto of Sno Mountain  
National Appointment to Ron Dallago of Blue Mountain  
National Appointment to Robert Durand of Sno Mountain  
National Appointment to Dina Manoway of Camelback Resort

**VIII. Current Legal Actions in the Winter Sports Industry - Andy Miller, Esq.**

Reviewed types of negligence; importance of releases and waivers.  
Two substantial cases in 2010 regarding liability.  
Explained other legal cases in the country.  
Liabilities still exist on the slopes.  
Proposed amendments to current law.

**IX. Regional Elections - Bob Davies**

September 2, 2011 is the deadline for declaring to run.  
Guidelines for Region Director elections.  
To date, there are two candidates for Region Director.  
Region Director will be elected at fall OEC refreshers.  
Candidate platforms are on EPA website.  
Candidates for Region Director were allowed to make campaign statements:  
    Bob Bernatos  
    John Stinsmen  
Requirements to become Region Director and/or Section Chief.  
Election Chairman Bob Davies and the Election Committee met during the lunch  
break concerning the Region Director election in the fall.

**Lunch break at 11:45 AM. Meeting reconvened at 12:40 PM.**

**X. Regional Awards - Steve Buzzard, Gerit Lewisch**

Outstanding YAP Award to Craig D'Cruz  
Outstanding Large Alpine Patrol Award to Sno Mountain Ski Patrol  
Outstanding Alpine Patroller Award to Thomas Kniess  
Outstanding OEC Instructor Award to Rich Hartman  
Annual Service Award to Wolfgang Boernert  
Outstanding Patrol Rep Award to Ron Helm  
Outstanding OEC Instructor Award to Greg Johnson  
Irv Naylor Award to Lehigh Valley Medical Center ER  
2009-2010 Helwig Award to Gerit Lewisch

**XI. OEC 5th - Flo Rutherford**

Objectives  
Evolution of AFA, WEC, OEC  
Chapter Changes  
Textbook Cost and Ordering Process  
MyNSPKit.com  
OEC eBook

## Current Proposals and Updates

### **XII. National, Division, Region - Gerit Lewisch**

Burt Mitchell new National Chairman;  
Jim Decker, John Lawson, Wally Shank and Bella Musits on the National Board;  
The National Awards Advisor passed away. Bill Boulter, our Eastern Division Awards Coordinator, has been appointed National Interim Awards Coordinator.  
Eastern Division Meeting in Albany;  
990's must be submitted;  
Gerit appointed Megan Eckhart to succeed Wayne Eckelmann as YAP Advisor;  
Gerit appointed Joe Joyce as the Paid Patroller Advisor;  
EMS Update;  
Bring Copies of Reports to Meetings;  
Newsletter submissions due June 1st for September/October publication;  
Correct your email address on National website and with the EPA;  
Advisors should use the sections on the EPA website to keep information current;  
On the EPA website, registration is open 30 days prior to an event; some advisors will manage their own registration but patrollers can still pay online;  
Request for a recruitment video;  
Howard Rosenthal and Gerit Lewisch worked on PA NSP license plates which were approved. Howard volunteered to continue with the administration of that project.  
The Outstanding OEC Instructor Award has been named the Outstanding OEC Instructor Award in honor of Doug Howlett;  
The new Military Honors Award was named the Bruce Holmberg Military Honors Award and a special plaque was given to Liberty Mountain Resort;  
Motion made by Gerit Lewisch to ask Region counsel to research EPA logo trademark. George Hannon seconded. Motion carried.

### **XIII. Budget and Financial Matters - Gerit Lewisch, Jack Bogdon**

990's due by May 15th!  
Treasurer's Report  
Deadlines must be met  
If Jack doesn't continue as Treasurer, Region should have an audit of the books for the next Treasurer;  
Region has healthy funds in reserve  
Sarah Keating does a great job running her program, spending the money allotted; and contributing to the treasury.  
Propose reimbursing a certain amount of money to each patroller who submits a receipt for the purchase of the new OEC 5th Edition. Table the issue until November.  
Pete Benson from the Eastern Pennsylvania Ski Council presented Jack Bogdon a check for \$300.

### **XIV. OEC - Dennis Zercher**

The refresher dates are on the website. Some might change. Check the website for updates.

**XV. Open Discussions - Line Officers & Attendees**

November 13, 2011 is the next meeting at Bear Creek;

YAP meeting is March 31st at Blue Mountain;

Have a very happy summer and get some rest.

Thank you Blue Mountain for hosting this meeting.

**XVI. Adjournment**

Motion made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 2:25 PM. Motion carried.

Minutes submitted by: Nancy Mayberry

Minutes approved by: