



The Official Publication of the  
Professional Ski Instructors of America  
Eastern/Education Foundation

## Marty Harrison Receives PSIA Educational Excellence Award

by Bill Hetrick, SnowPro Editor

Marty Harrison, Director of PSIA-E Region 2, and member of the PSIA-E Board of Directors, has been honored with the PSIA National "Award for Educational Excellence", recognizing her leadership role in bringing children's issues to the forefront, both divisionally and nationally. This is a prestigious award that recognizes exceptional members who, over the years, have authored AASI/PSIA educational materials, and/or have contributed significantly to, and possibly even changed, the educational direction of AASI/PSIA. They have exhibited dedication, devotion, and self-sacrifice as they have contributed to the AASI/PSIA educational system. Marty's name will be inscribed on a permanent Educational Excellence plaque in the national office. The award was presented to Marty during this year's National Academy at Snowbird.

Marty started her teaching career at Round Top, VT, part time in 1968. She moved to Okemo in 1970, and went full time in 1971. She earned her PSIA-E Certification in 1976, and became Ski School Director at Okemo in 1982, a position she held until retiring as the Learning Center Director at Okemo in 2002.

She served one term on the PSIA-E Board of Directors in the mid-eighties, and started the PSIA-E Children's Committee in 1986. Over the next two years the committee published the first children's teaching manual, produced the first video about teaching children, and

organized the annual children's symposium.

Marty became the first Chairperson of the new PSIA National Children's Committee in 1988. That committee started the National Children's Symposium, developed a number of educational materials for teaching children, and created the JETs (National Children's Educational Team). The development of the CAP model was one of the contributions of that group.

She then served additional terms on the PSIA-E Board beginning in 2000, and continuing to the end of the present term in 2006. She was appointed Treasurer during this period, and serves on the Executive Committee. Marty has served on four special task forces for PSIA-E, including the 15 Below club, the Organizational Task Force, and chairing the Children's Task Force. She participated in the last three Strategic Planning Sessions for the organization.

Marty is, indeed, a star among the PSIA-E and PSIA volunteer staff, and we all take great pride in the fact that she has been recognized by the PSIA national organization with the prestigious Educational Excellence Award. Congratulations, Marty, for your many stellar accomplishments in the snowsports industry, especially in promoting and supporting the teaching of children. And, thank you for your many years of loyal and dedicated service to PSIA and PSIA-E. ♦♦



Marty Harrison

### ON THE INSIDE

Editor's Desk	2
President's Message	3
Around the Regions	8
"15 Below" Club	14
New Certification Passes	16

## PSIA-E/AASI 2005 Election Results

Region	Board of Directors		Operational Committees	
	Director	Representative	Alpine Education & Certification	Snow Sports Management
5	Mickey Sullivan	Ron Kubicki	Roger Zilliox	To be appointed
6	Sue Moses	Scott Allard	Larry Dean	Doug Holl

The above chart lists the results of the winter 2005 elections for the PSIA-E Board of Directors and operational Committees. Appointments to open spots will be made at the June 3-5 Board of Directors meeting. Region 1 and 2 will hold elections in 2006.



EDITOR'S DESK

Guest Editorial

# Enhanced Guest Surface

by Peter Howard  
PSIA-E Education-Certification  
Chairman

No, this is not an end-of-season pep rally about the virtues and necessity of guest service, with a misspelled title. This is about what could be a new philosophy of premeditated surface shaping for the education and enjoyment of skiers and riders. When fully implemented, guests could have as much choice and enjoyment as they now experience with modern ski designs.

Many winters in the East begin with a prolonged period of cold with minimal snowfall. Thankfully, snowmaking allows us to ski and ride, albeit on a flat firm surface. This year in the Northeast, February brought abundant snow, and abundant smiles. I once heard an Austrian race coach say, "If you don't like jumps and bumps, take up basketball - the playing field is flat". His point was that skiing and riding are about terrain, texture and surface. When it snows we learn, smile, and glory in the variety.

Ski areas already know that shaped terrain can entertain and capture customers. Terrain parks are the prime example. Areas also take the time to prepare slopes for things like speed events, skier/boarder-cross courses, mogul competitions, and tubing.

It is only a small intuitive leap to start providing enhanced surfaces for everyone. In a sense, the surface is already being shaped. It's being shaped flat. Certainly, ripping some arcs in the corduroy or enjoying family cruising on the groomers will have its rightful place in the foreseeable future at most areas. Still, after months on blue-black boulevards of featureless frozen carpet, you begin to wonder: Does it matter which trail is chosen? Does it matter much how people ski and ride? Is anybody learning much of anything? Where am I? Is there a reason why the beginners who have the toughest time learning seem be able to select the same alder patch to run into. Could this be different?

Premeditated surface shaping would be different. It could be different for the beginner-novice, with surface contours designed

to teach stopping, gliding, turning in both directions, and staying on the trail. Learning areas could have simple maps showing numbered contoured paths that teach skills and enhance success. Features like plateaus, banked tracks and diagonal paths would gently guide our first-time guests.

Intermediate-zone skiers and riders could play and learn in subdued boarder/skier- cross courses. Trails could be sculpted with a series of gentle concave paths running down the length of the trail. Each concavity would be separated by a small berm. Carving could be learned in the concave paths, and absorption practiced on the berms. Patches of moguls could alternate between patches of flat trail, allowing skiers and riders to take short practice mogul runs followed by opportunities to rest and control speed.

Extreme gardens could simulate surfaces and pitches of higher or steeper mountains for guests who like to play in the advanced zone. A trail could be left ungroomed, and the cover "dusted" as needed throughout the season. Strips of ice could be purposely placed so learning to ski on ice takes place by choice, and in a predictable environment. Moguls could be left throughout the season in selected spots, groomed for desired size and lines, and dusted periodically to maintain desired conditions. The possibilities for enhanced guest surfaces are many, limited only by the imagination of management and the skills of the grooming department.

And, speaking of grooming, none of this is meant to belittle the difficult job our groomers and snow makers perform. They are the reason we really are not playing basketball in January. Most groomers and snowmakers are craftsmen, and their creativity goes well beyond mowing things flat.

From a risk management perspective, trails with noticeable surface features tend to slow down skiers and riders. Certain surfaces and features are likely to attract a certain style or ability of skier or rider. This has the potential to improve area traffic patterns and lessen both physical and "cultural" collisions. It is likely that trails would have a posted notice announcing that the surface has been shaped in a certain way, with suggestions for its use. If the surface is well designed, guests would learn behaviors conducive to selecting the right tactics for terrain they are likely to encounter in the future. Snowsports schools could provide guidance to fully utilizing the shaped surfaces.

As snowsports educators, we know how much difference the learning environment makes. We know the surface shapes that make learning fun. Area operators know fun stuff

continued on page 4



Volume 31, Number 5  
Bill Hetrick, Editor

The official publication of the Professional Ski Instructors of America-Eastern Education Foundation.

1-A Lincoln Avenue  
Albany, NY 12205-4907  
Phone 518-452-6095  
Fax 518-452-6099  
www.psia-e.org

## General Information

Submission of articles, photos or other items for publication is invited. Computer generated documents MUST be in IBM-compatible format, and accompanied by hard copy. Send all materials directly to:

Bill Hetrick, Editor  
110 Hubler Rd.  
State College, PA 16801  
Phone 814-466-7309  
psia-e@psia-e.org

Pro Shop header and Your Turn header photos by Scott Markewitz. Courtesy of PSIA.

All submitted material is subject to editing. Its use, whether solicited or not, is at the discretion of the editorial staff. All published material becomes the property of PSIA-E/EF. Articles are accepted on the condition that they may be released for publication in all National and Divisional publications.

SnowPro is published five times per year by the Professional Ski Instructors of America-Eastern Education Foundation. Permission is hereby given to all National and Divisional publications to copy original material from this newsletter providing credit is given to PSIA-E/EF and the author, and the material is not altered. Articles that contain specific copyright notices may not be reprinted without written permission from the author.

Subscriptions: Non-members can purchase a subscription to SnowPro by becoming an Affiliate at the rate of \$20 per year. Contact the Albany, NY office at the address above.

Note: Material published in SnowPro which has been provided by persons not writing in an official capacity, and for official purposes, is the responsibility of the author, and is not necessarily endorsed by the Association. PSIA-E/EF reserves the right to refuse or edit all advertising.





by Bill Beerman  
PSIA-E President

# An **Awesome** Event

## Reflections on my term in office

As I leave the office of President it is a pleasure to look back over the years and reflect on the challenges and successes of our organization. So many people have donated time and expertise to keep our organization moving forward. We are all lucky to have the opportunity to combine our passion and our profession while also enjoying the satisfaction of contributing to our organization! Becoming a member of PSIA-E in the early 1980s I quickly realized there was so much more to being a member than my own personal growth. I hope that my contribution as President has in a small way helped PSIA-E/AASI to grow in scope and in depth.

As we welcome our new president, Bob Shostek, I'd like to reflect on the past six years and the many changes we've experienced. Bringing on Michael Mendrick as Executive Director has brought a level of business expertise and association management experience that has benefited us greatly. The corporate structure and organization of our office has never been stronger. In addition, the strength of leadership in our key Discipline Coordinator positions has allowed us to bring all disciplines under one umbrella under the direction of our Education and Program Director.

All of this could not have been possible without the dedication and commitment of our many volunteers. To Board Members, Committee Members and Committee Chairs I extend my deepest gratitude for your time, energy and teamwork! I wish all the best to our past, current and new Board Members.

I will still look forward to seeing and skiing with many of you in seasons to come.

*Yours in skiing, Bill Beerman* ◆◆

by Doug Stewart  
Alpine ETS Member  
Stowe Mountain Resort, VT

This past February 10 and 11, Jay Peak played host to the Annual New England Powder 8 Championships, and I was excited to part of it. Those of us that skied in New England on those two days will always remember where we were, as we were blessed with a ton of snow from a friendly neighborhood Nor'easter for both of the days. Believe it or not, the first day of competition was actually cancelled because of the storm (because of lack of visibility, not excess of snow). Of course, all the competitors were very upset to have to ski the trees of Jay Peak all day long in over a foot of new snow! Needless to say, it was my best day of the year. That was until the next day, when there was even more snow - and good visibility.

Along with the visibility came a bit of wind. Getting to the competition trail required a little hiking because of wind-held lifts. Of course, our "VIP status" earned us rides up on snowmobiles. Jay Peak really took care of us! While the event is the POWDER 8's, my

team and the others had expected just skiing synchro runs on groomers, and were really excited to actually make 8's. We made last minute adjustments (some grabbed fat skis from the car) and did what we came to do. After a tumble, a lost ski, losing too much speed, getting out of synch, and getting back in synch, the results were in.

The top five teams all got great prizes, including nice trophies for 1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup> (I really must say that the 3<sup>rd</sup> place trophies looked the best, as that's what my partner and I both walked away with). The winning team was awarded free lodging and entrance into the Nationals at Big Sky in Montana this spring. The results were as follows:

- First Place: Doug Schwab (Stowe) and Doc Tulin (Okemo)
- Second Place: Scott Fine (Stowe) and Paul Annetts (Stowe)
- Third Place: Doug Stewart (Stowe) and Marsha Curtis (Stowe)
- Fourth Place: Micky Doheny (Jay Peak) and Dominique Godin (Jay Peak)
- Fifth Place: Ed Gill (Stowe) and Jim Nolte (Stowe)

Overall, the event was a blast, and I can't wait to do it again next year. Snow or no snow, skiing synchro turns at high speed with a partner is a good time, and really helps dial in your skiing. I'm proud to say that Stowe sponsored three teams at the competition, and I look forward to seeing even more ski schools represented next year. ◆◆

## PSIA-E/AASI

# Gift Certificates

Looking for a fun, unique and very useful gift for a friend, parent, spouse, or child who is a member of PSIA-E/AASI?

### How about a Gift Certificate?

Yeah, that's right, we now have two types of Gift Certificates available!

- **PSIA-E/AASI Event Gift Certificates are available in increments of \$50 and can be used toward Eastern Division events.**

They can be designated to be used during the current season when purchased, or can be designated for the immediate upcoming season. *Please note: Once designated, certificates cannot be carried over to another season.*

- **Or, purchase a PSIA-E/AASI Dues Gift Certificate** for the exact amount of the recipient's dues. Please contact the Office to obtain this amount!

To purchase a Gift Certificate, please call the PSIA-E/AASI office at 518-452-6095 and ask for Eileen Carr.

## Stay out of the back seat!

The Boot Bug keeps you and your students skiing in balance.



All ability levels improve quickly.

Call 603 498 5488  
bootbug@aol.com  
orders or info



\$45

**Guest Editorial, continued from page 2**

attracts and keeps happy people. It's a small intuitive leap. The only question is: Who will be first to implement a philosophy of Enhanced Guest Surface, with conviction? And, will you play a part in its design and adoption?

*Ed. Note: The above is a guest editorial. Members may feel free to contribute to this column. Please label the article, "guest editorial". Use of such articles for this column is at the discretion of the editorial staff.*

**Special Editor's Note**

The response from members for articles to be published in the SnowPro has been excellent, and almost overwhelming. Thank you to everyone who has submitted material. Please be aware that for more articles have accumulated than we are able to publish in a timely fashion. Please be patient. Most all material is safely in a backlog, awaiting its time for publication.

If there is someone who has a question about your specific article, please feel free to send an inquiry to the office ([psia-e@psia-e.org](mailto:psia-e@psia-e.org)) and we will attempt to provide some estimate regarding when it might appear.

Thank you for your understanding and patience. And, don't let this circumstance be a hindrance if you have a desire to submit an article. Keep it coming. Even if it ultimately does not get published, it is often good training and/or good therapy to commit your thoughts to paper!

Best wishes!

Bill Hetrick, Editor ◆◆

# Thank you Peter and Bill!

Lucatuorto served as Region 6 Rep, Board Secretary

Hetrick completing service as Past President

Congratulations and thank you are due to Peter Lucatuorto for his service as the Region 6 Board Representative (as well as Region 6 Director since October 2004) and Board Secretary on the Executive Committee during the past three years. Peter also served as Chair of the Education Foundation Scholarship Review Committee and was a valued contributor to the Board, division office and membership at large during his recently completed term.

A heartfelt thanks also goes to longtime leader Bill Hetrick as he completes his three-year term as Immediate Past President. Though serving in a non-voting capacity, Bill was able to objectively contribute historical insight as well as creative new ideas during the past three years. The "15 Below" youth club was Bill's brainchild and will serve as one of his many legacies with the organization.

While we're at it, we should also acknowledge Ron Hawkes for stepping up and "pinch hitting" as a Region 6 Board Rep during the last six months, filling a vacancy created by the resignation of Alex Sharpe. Thanks Ron . . .

Both Peter and Bill will be officially recognized at the 2005 Snowsports School Management Seminar banquet next fall.

Thanks so much, Peter and Bill. Bravo on a job well done!

**PSIA - Eastern Education Foundation and PSIA/AASI - Eastern Division**

**Staff**

**Michael J. Mendrick**

Executive Director

**Mickey Sullivan**

Acting Director of Education & Programs

**Board of Directors**

**President**

**Bill Beerman**

**Vice President**

**Bob Shostek**

**Immediate Past President**

**Bill Hetrick**

**Region I**

**Director – Ross Boisvert**

**Representative – Dutch Karnan**

**Region II**

**Director – Marty Harrison**

**(Treasurer, PSIA-E)**

**Representative – Rich Weiss**

**Region III**

**Director – Ray DeVerry**

**Representative – David Welch**

**Region IV**

**Director – Eric Jordan**

**Representative – Jay Minnicks**

**Region V**

**Director – Mickey Sullivan**

**Representative – Ron Kubicki**

**Region VI**

**Director – Sue Moses**

**(Secretary, PSIA-E)**

**Representative – Scott Allard**

**Region VII**

**Director – Steve Kling**

**Representative – Bill Cox**

**Committee Chairpersons**

*Umbrella Steering Committee*

**Bob Shostek**

*Alpine Education & Certification Committee*

**Peter Howard**

*Snowsports School Management Committee*

**Steve Howie**

*Alpine Education Staff/BOE*

**Kristi Robertson**

*Children's Committee*

**Open**

*PSIA Representative*

**Ray Allard**

*Adaptive Coordinators*

**Gwen Allard, John Lincoln**

*Nordic Coordinator*

**Mickey Stone**

*AASI Advisor*

**Rob Bevier**

*Race Programs Committee*

**Charlie Knopp**

*Area Rep Program Coordinator*

**Joan Heaton**

*"15 Below" Club Advisor*

**Gary "Griz" Caudle**

**AVALANCHE**  
outerwear for pros  
distinguishable!  
tough!  
warm!  
lifties  
patrol  
instructors  
snowmakers  
racers  
any department  
418.877.5584  
avalancheskiwear.com



straight talk from the association

## Moving with Control

by Frank Cartwright  
Alpine Dev Team Member  
Hunter Mt., NY

For many of us, flexion-and-extension has long been a simultaneous two-step process. Using our old traditionally shaped skis, we extended at the top of the turn to release the skis and flexed both legs at the bottom to absorb the build-up of pressure.

However, over the past decade the shape of the ski design has changed dramatically, thus allowing skiers to hold against two solid edges and move their bodies laterally further into the turn than ever before. The ripple effect of this change has given the ski gurus the opportunity to re-evaluate the techniques used to manage the modern ski...in particular flexion and extension. This is not meant to imply everyone must ski like Bode Miller, but to emphasize the greater importance of flexion and extension in our everyday skiing.

For example, let's start with THE COMPLETION PHASE of a turn. With a slightly wider stance we begin to gradually flex the outside leg, while allowing the current inside leg to extend. This leg movement helps to keep the Center of Mass directed down hill in the direction of flow, with minimum vertical movement. This lateral movement also put the skis on edge much earlier than experienced on the old traditional skis.

Now, this is where it gets interesting! Those of us that are still holding onto the old style (and skis) will tend to straighten up during the transition so that the skis can be pivoted first, then tipped on edge somewhere at or after the fall line. To me, this indicates a lack of trust in the ski to support the body at the TOP OF THE TURN. So, how do we find and build this trust? Among many things, I have found two approaches that have helped me at turn initiation:

- Committed direction into the new turn, and...
- Consistent and gradual flexing of the (new) inside leg, while continuing to extend the new outside leg (old inside leg).

For the non-Bode Miller types, the level of commitment into the new turn is no greater than the commitment given to a simple sideslip, with the upper body directed slightly downhill and the ankles flexed forward enough to activate the tips of the skis. Once this commitment of the Center of Mass across the skis has been made, it's all down hill from there. By flexing the new inside leg gradually and consistently, we end up transferring the majority of our weight onto the new outside ski. This weight transfer delivers enough pressure to the outside ski, at the top of the turn, to not only stand against the inside edge, but also help provide direction to the outside ski. By continuing to flex the inside leg during the turning process, both skis tip higher on edge thus keeping both skis actively involved in the turning process, the Center of Mass moves closer to the center of the turn, and our weight is managed/distributed between both skis. This type of support underfoot provides some of the most exciting and relaxing skiing ever...not to mention more endurance and

less muscular fatigue because of better skeletal support from a longer outside leg.

So, next time you watch a race or skiing video, take notice of how actively the inside leg is utilized. It's more than just a resting place for your bottom. Consider the following concepts:

- Control your movement into the turn with the use of your inside leg.
- Equipment now allows greater inclination and angulation, thus CM is more inside.
- Leg movements occur at the same time...like a bike.
- It's the simple movements that sometimes demand closer attention, as one gains more experience.
- Controlling pressure with the inside leg and its effect on the outside ski, edging and rotary.
- The shape of today's skis has given greater importance to the use of the inside leg.
- To accomplish this, you don't have to be a racer. ♦♦



## Annual Spring Rally Race Results

Mount Snow, VT April 2-3, 2005

### Hannes Schneider Memorial Race

15 Below Club Girls		15 Below Club Boys	
Marika Paras	31.34	Kyle Keefer	32.13
Alpine Women 16-29		Alpine Men 16-29	
Amanda Rodi	31.63	Kevin Connor	28.74
Alpine Women 40-49		Alpine Men 30-39	
Pam Greene*	29.74	Jeff Ogborn	27.68
Alpine Women 50-59		Alpine Men 40-49	
Rebecca Withers#	39.97	Ray DeVerry*	25.83
Alpine Women 60+		Alpine Men 50-59	
None		Mickey Sullivan#	26.78
Nordic (women)		Alpine Men 60+	
Carolyn Corbato	36.37	Bill Rosenberg	31.77
Snowboard (women)		Nordic (men)	
Kathy O'Connor	44.81	Andrew Dawson	35.18
		Snowboard (men)	
		Mike Sullivan	34.93

Hannes Schneider overall race winners designated by "\*" Willcocks Trophy winners designated by "#"

continued next page

# Spring Rally Race Results



**Spring Rally Hannes Schneider age group winners celebrate their runs. Pictured (l to r) are Ray DeVerry (overall men's winner), Mickey Sullivan (Willcocks Trophy men's winner), Mike Sullivan, Amanda Rodi, Rebecca Withers (Willcocks Trophy women's winner) and Bill Rosenberg. Not pictured here: Pam Greene (overall women's winner).**



**Acting Director of Education & Programs Mickey Sullivan and Rebecca Withers share a happy moment with the Willcocks trophy for turning in the best time for the fifty-plus set.**



**Nordic tele race winner Andrew Dawson celebrates a narrow (9/100ths of a second!) victory over Nordic Coordinator Mickey Stone.**



**Ray DeVerry proudly holds up the Hannes Schneider trophy after winning the men's title with a best run of 25.83.**



**Pam Greene shows her "winning form" after winning the women's overall title in the Hannes Schneider race with a best run of 29.74**

# Congratulations!

## Master Teacher Certification Indoor Courses Scheduled

The fall indoor core courses, optional courses, and mid-course and final testing for the Master Teacher Program will be held September 22nd – 25th, 2005. The fall selection of courses will be held at the Holiday Inn Saratoga Springs in Saratoga, NY. The schedule for courses (with their event numbers) is as follows:

### Thursday, September 22nd

- 5. At Your Service
- 6. Conversation with Fear
- 7. Stance and Alignment \*\*

### Saturday, September 24th

- 11. Anatomy
- 12. Teaching Skiing in Spanish
- 13. Communication Station

### Friday, September 23rd

- 8. At Your Service
- 9. Motor Learning
- 10. Exercise Physiology

### Sunday, September 25th

- 14. Communication Station
- 15. Outdoor First Care
- 16. Skiing With All Your Smart Parts (Using Multiple Intelligences to Teach and Learn)

Please go to the PSIA-E website ([www.psia-e.org](http://www.psia-e.org)) for information on course content.

\*\* Bring your boots

**Registration:** Fees and registration information will be posted on the Eastern Division website, [www.psia-e.org](http://www.psia-e.org) after July 1<sup>st</sup>. This information will also be in the Summer Sno Pro Issue.

**Testing:** A Master Teacher candidate who has completed 10 or 11 credits of coursework by Sunday, September 25<sup>th</sup> will be eligible for mid-course testing. The candidate will be given a comprehensive test that includes 10 multiple-choice test questions from each course taken. Each exam will be individualized for that particular member. The candidate must score seven out of 10 correctly for each course. If a member is unsuccessful on the quiz for any course, (s)he will be able to retake that quiz one time without retaking the course. After one failed retake attempt, the candidate will be required to retake the course. When the candidate applies for the mid-

course test, (s)he will receive an exam based on the first 10 or 11 credits of coursework taken. Any candidate who has completed the entire MTC program (all 20 credits) by Sunday will be eligible to take the final exam. The same testing guidelines as outlined above apply to the final test. A member may not retake a failed quiz in the same testing session.

Test Schedule:

Session 1: Sunday, September 25<sup>th</sup> from 7:30 AM -9:00 AM (Event #17)

Session 2: Sunday, September 25<sup>th</sup> from 4:30 PM – 6:00 PM (Event #18)

Please indicate on your application if you are applying for a mid-term or final exam.

Indoor testing will also be offered during the ski season at different sites throughout the division. Be on the lookout for a testing schedule in the Early Fall Snow Pro newsletter and on the website.

We have reserved a small block of rooms at the Holiday Inn Saratoga for the weekend. The rate is \$121.95 single or double occupancy, per room per night, plus tax. You should identify yourself to the reservation desk as part of the PSIA – Eastern group to receive this

discounted rate. Reservations must be made by September 1st, 2005 to reserve a room from this block. Any remaining rooms will be released at that time.

**IMPORTANT:** Saratoga Springs is a popular fall visitor destination and weekend lodging fills quickly so don't delay in making reservations if you plan to attend. There are many hotels and motels in the Saratoga area representing a wide range of cost. You may call the Saratoga Chamber of Commerce at 518.584.3255 or check out [www.discover-saratoga.org](http://www.discover-saratoga.org) for additional lodging suggestions. ♦♦

## Alpine Educational Staff Selected



***Congratulations to the new Alpine Development Team members that were selected at Hunter Mountain, NY on March 24. Pictured (top) are Nick Eastman, Marsha Curtis and Keith Rodney and (bottom) Mark Palamaras, Heather Bedell and Jay Barranger. The new team will be ratified by the Board of Directors in June.***



***Congratulations to the new Examiner Training Squad members that were selected at Mount Snow, VT on March 4. Pictured (l to r) are Scott Allard, Tim Bradley, Frank Cartwright, Kathleen Brennan, Doug Stewart and Matt Erickson. The new squad members will be ratified by the Board of Directors in June.***



***Congratulations to new Advanced Children's Educator squad members that were selected at Hunter Mountain, NY on March 24. Pictured (top) are Joel Dewey, Dana Scronek and Chris Saylor and (bottom) Sharon Foehl and Mack Jackson. The new ACE squad members will be ratified by the Board of Directors in June.***



## Region 1 (ME & NH)

Ross Boisvert, Regional Director, reports: It's March 20, and every ski area here is still going strong. What an incredible season we've had. It was a little questionable in December, but January, February, and March have been fantastic. I have talked to many ski school directors and area owners in Region 1, and most are saying they had a great season.

I'd like to share a very special story with you. In November of this season I received a phone call from one of the schools that comes for a weekly ski/ride program at our area. The question was asked whether we could accommodate two children in wheelchairs. Being a small area, we had never worked with adaptive skiers with that need. My reply to the school was I would have to have more information of the needs of the two students, but felt sure that we could work it out. I contacted Amanda Rucci at New England Handicapped Sports Association (NEHSA), located at Mt. Sunapee. Amanda and I talked about the possibility of NEHSA instructors coming down to work with these two students. She said it could be done. We arranged a meeting with the school administrators, nurses, aides, and the students' mother. It was totally amazing to me to make this all happen. Amanda was fantastic in every way. She had an understandable answer to every question that was asked. Every time I thought something would be a problem, Amanda either found a way around it or said it wasn't an issue. After several meetings with the school and parents, and many calls and e-mails to Amanda, it was the day we had all been waiting for - January 3, 2005. The day that two kids who thought they would never have the chance to ski were going to do it.

Amanda and her staff arrived about a half hour early to make sure everything was set. The students arrived and everything went like clock work. They enjoyed every minute they were out on the snow sliding around. The staff from the school, nurses, and ski club coordinators were amazed at how smooth and successful it was to give these two students the opportunity to try a sport that lasts a lifetime. The smiles on their faces and the look in their eyes were incredible. After our 5-week program, these two students went to Sunapee and took another lesson with NEHSA; and their Dad, after 10-plus years of not skiing, got back out there too.

I want to give a special thank you to Amanda Rucci for helping me make this happen, and a special thank you to her incredibly dedicated staff: Betsey, Jess, and Bobby Luscinski, Hank Small, Dave Finley, and Ray Luscinski. You guys, and everyone at

NEHSA, are incredibly talented.

I trust everyone had a great ski season, and I hope you have an enjoyable spring and summer. The PSIA-E Board of Directors will be meeting in June. If there are any questions, thoughts or ideas that you would like to have brought to the BOD's attention, please email me at: ([ross@mcintyreskiarea.com](mailto:ross@mcintyreskiarea.com)).

## Region 2 (VT)

Marty Harrison, Regional Director, reports: It's now a few days before Easter, and we're heading into the last few weeks of what has turned out to be a really good winter in Region 2, despite a slow start. I skied a foot of light fresh powder this morning - a very welcome surprise to all of us!

There are still many events being held in our region in early April, including the Spring Rally and 15 Below event, several AASI exams and AASI Dev Team tryouts, and a Master Teacher exam. Hopefully, the snow and weather will continue to be really great for all of them. The large number of events held in our region is good exposure for our snowsports centers, as well as showing a solid commitment to PSIA-E/AASI by the area managers in our region.

Looking ahead to next season, it's not too early to remind you that we have a Region 2 election next year. This includes two seats on the Board of Directors as well as representation on the Snowsports Management Committee and the Alpine Education & Certification Committee. We need your participation, whether you choose to run for one of these positions, or you simply make the effort to vote. One of the most important benefits of membership is the ability to help chart the direction of the organization through exercising your right to vote.

### MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

October 6 - The annual James Leader Memorial Golf Tournament will be held at the Okemo Valley Golf Course.

November 21 - The Region 2 annual meeting will be held. Location to be announced later.

There will be additional details on both of these events in future issue of SnowPro. Happy Spring!

## Region 3 (MA, CT & RI)

David Welch, Regional Representative, reports: It doesn't seem possible, but here we are wrapping up another season. Mother Nature's slow start had us all a little on edge here in Region 3. But, as the season progressed, winter finally kicked in and now we're putting the finishing touches on what turned out to be a decent season!

The big news this season was *terrain features*. Many areas in our Region opened new terrain parks, or expanded their existing parks. Hopefully, many of you were able to get out and enjoy some of the excitement that they offer and have shared it with your classes! Whether you're grinding on a rail, dropping into the half pipe, sliding on the fun box, or gliding over the rollers, these parks can provide a great learning environment. So, try to utilize them whenever you can.

It's the time of year when a BIG THANK YOU goes out to the areas that hosted our events in Region 3. The Resort Owners, Managers and School Directors put in a lot of effort to see that these events happen! THANK YOU TO ALL!

## Region 4 (PA & NJ)

Eric Jordan, Regional Director, reports: Region 4 got off to a slow start to the season, but things really turned around and we had some of the best conditions in years. As I am sitting down to write this summary, it is March 10, and the temperature is a balmy 12 degrees. By the time everyone reads this those frigid temperatures will be a distant memory and everyone will be swinging their golf clubs and riding their bikes.

I attended several educational events throughout Region 4, and attendance seemed to be very strong. Speaking of strong attendance, we had a great turnout for the Regional membership meeting. Over 50 members attended the meeting, which was held at Elk Mountain in January. I would like to thank all the members who attended the meeting. The feedback I received was very insightful, and I look forward to bringing up the various concerns/suggestions at the Spring Board of Directors meeting.

Congratulations to all Region Four members who were successful in the quest for certification, and a special congratulation goes out to Tim Bradley from Elk Mountain. Tim has been selected to the Alpine Examiner Training Squad, and he will be a great asset to Region 4 as well as the entire division.

That's all for now from Region 4. I hope everyone has a safe and enjoyable spring/summer.

## ***Region 5 (Western NY State)***

Ron Kubicki, Regional Representative, reports on behalf of himself and Mickey Sullivan, Regional Director: We hope everyone had a successful and busy season. It seemed that most of our region and the east were quite busy after a slow start in January.

We held two regional meetings this past season. The first was at Greek Peak in early January. The second was at Kissing Bridge in late February. Both meetings were fairly well attended, with approximately 20 members at each meeting. The Kissing Bridge meeting began by covering some of the operational changes of PSIA-E/AASI - in particular the changed schedule of the SnowPro, the reason for the increase in dues, and the fact that we need membership to take an active role in the organization by: voting; writing for the SnowPro; running for office; joining committees; and, promoting the organization to new and non-members on their staffs.

There was also discussion on the new exam format, with the 3 half-days for skiing for Part 1, and clarification of the module format for Part 2. Most of the members felt we were headed in the right direction. The only concern expressed by a few was that there may not be a total "buy-in" by members of the Ed Staff. There was a DCL member present and he very capably assured these people that the commitment to the new format would be very apparent once they saw it in practice. From my discussions with Mickey Sullivan and Steve Howie, the PSIA-E Education Staff is very committed to the new format and feels that it is the best exam system that we've offered our members to date.

The attendees then raised some thoughts and concerns, and some vigorous discussion followed on: the retention of members; the role of "15 Below" and youngsters heading into the organization, vs. those youngsters who are already working as "Juniors"; the cost of dues to younger college-age members and the benefits they receive.

Some of the suggestions offered for the Board to consider were:

- Make some of the higher action and more adrenaline pumping events available and open to non-members on a one-time-only basis to let them experience the value of the courses. Perhaps an Intro to Bumps or Racing, etc.
- Develop a non-member area of our website that we could link from resort websites to promote PSIA-E/AASI to non-members and, perhaps more importantly, let the public access the site as a promotional vehicle for selling the value of higher-end lessons.
- Perhaps explore a family membership.
- Maybe allow a one-day update.

All in all, it was a very active and lively group at both meetings with a lot of exchanges, and points were well made. Despite the lively discussion and sometimes disagreement, there was a sense of camaraderie that comes from being part of an open and proactive association that looks to its membership for guidance. Both Mickey and I plan to share the concerns and suggestions with your PSIA-E/AASI Board members at the June meeting.

Having two Regional meetings to cover the large geographical area of Region 5 has proven successful and we will plan to continue this meeting format. Any Snowsports School interested in hosting a meeting should contact Mickey or myself. We have found that it works well when you have a PSIA-E or AASI event scheduled at the same time as the meeting. So, once you know when you will have an event, feel free to contact us.

Mickey and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who voted for us. We will both be returning to the Board of Directors as your Director (Mickey) and Representative (Ron). We are very proud to represent Region 5 on the Board and hope to hear from any of you on concerns or issues you would like us to carry to the Board.

Enjoy the warm weather - have fun, stay safe and stay in shape.

## ***Region 6 (Eastern NY State)***

Peter Lucatuorto, Regional Director, reports: We held two Regional Meetings this year. The first one was held at Hunter Mountain on January 6, in conjunction with AASI exam prep events. Sixteen members attended, despite a substantial snowstorm. The second one was on February 10, at Hunter Mountain, in conjunction with several Alpine events. Forty-eight members attended, also in a snowstorm... Maybe we should hire ourselves out as "snowmakers".

A report on the state of the association was given at both meetings, questions and discussion followed. Candidates for Board of Directors and Education-Certification Committee were introduced and given an opportunity to present themselves to those present, giving the membership an opportunity to meet each candidate present.

The February 10 meeting was also attended by Alison Clayton-Cummings, Joan Heaton, and Bob Shostek. Alison, as Advanced Children's Educator Coach, spoke on the purpose of the ACEs, and discussed openings on the ACE team. Joan Heaton spoke about the Area Rep program. Bob Shostek was introduced as our current Vice President, and next President. He spoke about some of the current events in the Division, and about some future items currently in the works that will affect the

membership. Several questions were raised by members and addressed by myself and Bob.

Since the meetings, Region 6 elections were held. Sue Moses was elected the Regional Director, Scott Allard was elected the Regional Representative, Doug Hall was elected to the Snowsports School Management Committee, and Larry Dean was elected as the Alpine Education and Certification Committee Representative. I would like to congratulate the new team and express my confidence that they will continue to represent the Region 6 membership in the highest standard. I would also like to express my thanks to all those members that helped me as your representative over the past three years. And, a special thanks goes to Alex Sharpe for his counsel during my first years, and Ron Hawkes and Hunter Mountain for stepping up to the plate when I needed help in setting up the Regional Meetings.

This season is over, and was a successful one despite a very slow start. Let's hope next season will start out better, and even exceed the success of this year.

## ***Region 7 (States South of PA & NJ)***

Steve Kling, Regional Director, reports: The big news for this report is that this past February 4, at Massanutten, we held the first ever "Region 7" regional meeting. 47 people attended, and most were "rank and file" instructors, as opposed to ski school management. We tried holding this meeting in conjunction with a number of educational events being held at Massanutten at the same time - everything from a Level 1 Exam to a Master Teacher course - and this approach seemed to work well for attracting participation. Members were present from MD, DC, VA., NC and WVA. Also, we were fortunate in having Vice President Bob Shostek in attendance, which gave the members much more detailed answers to some of their concerns than might otherwise have been the case.

Perhaps the biggest issue raised by the members was the question of scheduling weekend events and exams. The scheduling process is a bit complicated, but the bottom line is that the availability of weekend events is dictated largely by the willingness of areas to host them. Our event host areas provide complimentary lift tickets, and we tend to take up significant portions of the hill over the course of a day. So, there is an understandable reluctance for an area to agree to weekend events between Christmas and President's weekend. There is also the issue of event quality. Weekday events, despite the inconvenience

***continued next page***

for many, usually afford less crowded slopes and better quality snow.

We reviewed concerns regarding upper level AASI events in the Region, and John Legge of the AASI Steering Committee was present to speak to the overall picture of AASI scheduling. We'll be working to bring more upper level AASI events to the Region.

The members present seemed generally supportive of the Association and were accepting of the upcoming dues increase. There was no dissatisfaction expressed with the Certification process, except a general concern that more exams and prep events need to be scheduled in or near Region 7.

At the end, Massanutten had a great cake for us, with the PSIA/AASI logos and the date of this first Region 7 meeting; a fitting way to end our first Regional meeting. And, the cake was great! ◆◆

## **Congratulations** to our newest **AASI Development Team** members

Dan Munn, Stratton, VT and Bryan Fielding, Snowshoe, WV! Welcome to the Team!

***Pictured (from left to right): Front: John Hobbs, Dan Munn, Bryan Fielding, John Iannelli. 2nd Row: Rob Bevier, Ted Fleischer, Adam Steckler***



### ***In Memoriam***

Jeddie P. Brooks passed away on August 9, 2004. He was an Alpine Level III member of PSIA-E, having passed his exam in 1956. He was a member until 1988. We thank his daughter, Catherine Brooks-Sanginetti, for kindly providing us with the following regarding her father:

“Dad’s ski career began on the Thunderbolt ski trail on Mt. Greylock in Adams, MA. He enlisted in the 10th Mt. Division at the age of 18. He fought in Italy and earned the Silver Star and Purple Heart. Upon his return, he became the Director of the Otis Ridge Jr. Ski Camp, in Otis, MA, a position that he held for over 30 years. He also taught skiing at Brodie Mt., in New Ashford, MA, and, upon his retirement, he enjoyed skiing with his friends at Jiminy Peak, right through March of last season. My Dad proudly wore his “white badge.” He encouraged many young instructors to become PSIA certified, including myself and my husband. He trained them, encouraged them and was a positive influence for the PSIA organization.”

*PSIA-E/AASI extends its heartfelt sympathy to friends and family of our passing member.*



*You oughta be in pictures...*

## Hey Riders!

AASI will be putting together an exam standards riding video, and is looking for video of AASI members in free-riding and freestyle situations.

All levels of riding will be included, and we want as many riding styles represented as possible (rails, pipe, park, powder, groomers, trees, bumps, etc). Video of your crash scenes, and footage of other sports will be included (mini dv format - edited if you have it). We also need your homegrown/local music - all styles and types - solos or band - to be included in the project (quality recording on disc please)!



*"The Snowboarding Level 1 event at Mt. Abram on March 24-25 was an excellent experience. Chandler Simpkins, AASI - ETS, and Dave Lynch, AASI Examiner, reviewed more information during our on-slope testing, and gave us more feedback on our riding technique than could be expected to be squeezed into a two-day session. They continually encouraged and challenged us as a group to do our best, while giving one-on-one assistance at every opportunity. I am excited to take more AASI clinics next season. Thanks so much!"*

*Paul Kucharski, AASI Level 1, Shawnee Mt., PA*

We will give credit to any and all who submit music or finished pieces of video, so be sure to include the info. This is a member-driven video - please help us get the footage we need! (We will not return anything sent - so make sure you keep a copy for yourself!) This is your opportunity to be a superstar! Please send to:

Attn: Liz/Video  
PSIA-E/AASI  
1-A Lincoln Avenue  
Albany, NY 12205

Thanks!

*Tom Vickery, AASI Examiner, Whiteface, NY*



YAKKITY YAKS KAYAKS  
AT THE JERSEY SHORE  
**PRE-SEASON  
TRUCK LOAD SALE**  
ON  
BIC SPORT KAYAKS.

VISIT [BICSPORTKAYAKS.COM](http://BICSPORTKAYAKS.COM)  
TO VIEW MODELS

2 PERSON \$599  
1 PERSON \$399, \$449, \$599  
TOP QUALITY SEATS AND PADDLES  
INCLUDED IN PRICE  
WEBSITE [YAKSKAYAKRENTAL.COM](http://YAKSKAYAKRENTAL.COM)  
E-MAIL [YAKSKAYAKS@AOL.COM](mailto:YAKSKAYAKS@AOL.COM)  
732-830-5640

# Women's Riding Improvement Event

Compiled by Holly Andersen  
AASI ETS  
Mount Snow, VT



After three years of having women's specific events on the AASI Schedule for the Eastern Division, we finally had one that went off - and went off it did! Eleven of the finest women riders in our division came together at Hunter Mountain to ride moguls, rails, and steeps. Below are some of the testimonials from the ladies that attended the clinic, and some photos of the group:

*"I would highly recommend to all ladies this opportunity that I had to enhance my riding skills, meet wonderful women riders and share not only riding experiences, but learning experiences."*

*"This clinic was loads of fun! I encourage all female instructors to sign up for a women's clinic. The group dynamic was so positive, we couldn't help but learn!"*

*"Having other women of all ages to ride with was a huge plus! The intimidation factor was zero! Having all girls made everything easy going and informative. We were honest and open about skills and fears."*

*"The women's only riding improvement clinic was a great idea. I hope AASI continues to have events like this and advances the topics covered in the clinics!"*

*"Everyone in the group was great! It was a great experience riding with these women. They were all supportive and everyone encourages each other."*

*"Having experienced co-ed snowboarding events before, the women's only clinic was a breathe of fresh air. The environment was unconditionally supportive, encouraging each of us to reach new skill levels. Communication and learning styles are different, and this clinic allowed us to capitalize on our strengths."*

*"This was the best event I have ever taken. All the women were great and there was no intimidation factor. Not only was our clinician encouraging, but so were the women. There are so many tasks I would have been nervous doing - not being in my comfort zone - but the clinic made these tasks seem easy and possible. With great explanations, demonstrations, feedback, practice, and encouragement I feel comfortable to say that I can now Rip and tear!"*

*"I had a blast riding with the girls. It was everything that I expected, and more. I was sorry to see the two days come to an end. We all made new friends to ride with and learn from."*

*"The first women's riding improvement clinic was great! The group dynamic was good! Because it was an all female clinic, it provided a great learning environment. Clinics like these must go on and grow! We need more females out there and the more female AASI riders out there, the more females we will have on the hill."*



Thank you to those who attended, and to those who will attend in the future. Making a commitment to your continual education and personal advancement within AASI is fantastic! ♦♦



adaptive news

## It's a **Big Fat Lie!**

by Gwen Allard  
PSIA-E Adaptive Coordinator

Have you ever heard, "If you can walk, you can cross country"? Or, "Anyone can cross country"? Those statements are so far from the truth, it is ridiculous. It's a big fat lie!

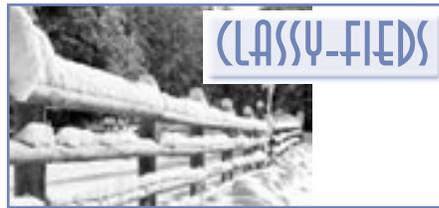
Having just completed a two-day Downhill Level I clinic/exam, and having very little experience on cross country skis, I can attest to the demanding skills and coordination a person needs to make those skinny skis and flimsy boots perform. If you want to immediately become aware of the importance of balance, simply jump onto a pair of Nordic skis and attempt some of our usual Alpine maneuvers. Parallel turns in Alpine boots are a piece of cake compared to attempting the same turns on skate or classic skis and those less-supportive Nordic boots.

Lets talk about endurance. We all pride ourselves on being fit, able to ski all day, ski in any conditions, endure the cold, or anything else Mother Nature cares to throw at us. True, on Alpine equipment we are good at sliding downhill and riding back up. We are a hearty lot. However, that Nordic bunch has us totally beaten. They gracefully, and without stress, skate up the very mountains we slide down. From my recent experience, this is not a leisurely gliding herringbone uphill; they fly UP the mountain, challenging the speed of any motorized lift! Plus, they think this is fun!

In addition, they bushwhack over anything within their nearby surroundings. The snow does not have to be packed, groomed or tilled, they simply ski it, glide over it and enjoy winter in its purest form.

The two-day clinic/exam was fascinating, as well as being challenging. It was stimulating to be the student again. It was with awe and respect that I watched this skilled Nordic clinician design and implement a program that fit the needs of the group. (The clinic group consisted of skiers from their mid 50's to mid 70's. They represented 46 peak hikers, bikers, paddlers, etc. - the usual active, in-good-shape senior.) The clinician skillfully monitored our pace, presented challenges that we could attain, and then let us practice to cement our newly found skill. To be honest, some hard breathing and panting could be heard, but every single one of us was successful. At the end, we all recognized that regardless of the physical condition we were in, additional conditioning was needed to conquer the challenges of intermediate or advanced cross country skiing. This Level I Downhill was no "walk in the park"!

So, to conclude: Raise your glass of aquavit or wine, grab some salmon, cheese and crackers and toast some of the most hearty and professional people within our PSIA family. Better yet, join them at one of their events. Experience something new and I guarantee you will have a great time. ♦♦



WANT TO BUY: Old ski books, pins, patches, postcards, posters produced before 1970. Natalie Bombard-Leduc, 69 Mount Pisgah Ln., Saranac Lake, NY 12983. 518-891-4781

The custom Skithotic Footbed us now available to all PSIA-E members at a considerable discount. Full length composite graphite, engineered for skiing and boarding. Call PSIA member Dr. Charles Morelli for an appointment. Custom casting required. 914-835-6604

EFFECTIVE SKI COACHING: A New Text CoachesParentsCompetitorsInstructors by Tom Reynolds Price\$24.95+\$4.00s/h VISA/MASTERCARD accepted Write: New Additions, P.O. Box 883, Farmington, ME 04938. Phone: (207) 778-3471.

Les 2 Alpes Summer Ski Camp. Learn French while skiing with a French ski camp. Adult programs in slalom, giant slalom and snowboarding. Visit: [www.summerskicamp.com](http://www.summerskicamp.com) or call: 202-338-0079.

Healing Touch Therapeutic Massage. 161 Main St, Bethel, ME, (207) 824-5445. Specializing in Sport, Neuromuscular, Deep Tissue Massage Therapy. Seaweed and Sedona Mud Facial and Body Treatments. PSIA Discounts. Louisa Abarno, LMT, Wellness Specialist, Certified Instructor and Educator, Certified PSIA Instructor. ♦♦

Official Sponsor of the  
PSIA-E Racing Program

[www.reliableracing.com](http://www.reliableracing.com)

643 Upper Glen Street • Queensbury, New York 12804  
800/223-4448 phone • 800/585-4443 fax



# Something Really Special!

.....Dad and Son "15 Below" Testimonials

## Riding and Sliding at 15 Below

by Ryley Davis  
Age 12  
"15 Below" club  
Ski Beech, NC

I am Ryley W. Davis and I am currently part of the PSIA-E/AASI "15 Below" program. So far, my experience in the "15 Below" has changed me a lot and has been great. Currently, I am a volunteer at Ski Beech, working at scheduled times. I have many friends now and am recognized as part of the team there because of the "15 Below" club.

Because of the "15 Below" club, many significant changes have occurred. For example, my 'S' turns are becoming smoother and many flaws seen in my preceding season have been corrected. Also, I have assisted with some lessons, which has improved my teaching ability, and I have learned new ways to help others reach their snowboarding potential. Finally, as a person, I have become more mature from being around in public and I feel my social skills and confidence have improved a lot too!

Through my recent experiences, I have been inspired to many new things. For the most part, the "15 Below" club has inspired me to significantly improve my snowboarding and to, one day, go for Level I AASI certification! In addition, one day I hope to work at a mountain when I am at legal age. Also, through this program, I have put myself up to the challenge to new and fantastic goals.

Before I say my final words, I would like to say this would never been possible without my Dad and Step Mom who sponsored me and helped me all the way through. Thanks guys!

The "15 Below" club has been a great experience for me and I encourage others to join too. It, for me at least, inspires and teaches, and I personally think there is no better program to use to learn about snowsports. It has been great for me and it can be great for others like you! So, will you step up to the plate and be a member of the "15 Below" club?

## "15 Below"... From a Dad's Eyes

by George Davis  
PSIA-E Alpine Level I  
Ski Beech, NC

The "15 Below" club has been filled with many pleasant surprises and rewarding experiences for everyone involved. I first learned of the "15 Below" in the Fall issue of SnowPro. Frankly, even after further research regarding specifics and requirements of the program,



**A 15 Below club member shows the big folks "how it's done" during the Spring Rally race at Mount Snow on April 3**



**Nearly sixty club members gathered for the 15 Below wrap-up event at Mount Snow on April 2-3 (during the Spring Rally). Despite steady rain, the kids got in plenty of hill time plus some innovative indoor sessions along with the classic "pizza and video" party. Thanks to Club Advisor Gary "Griz" Caudle for his unwavering enthusiasm, energy and devotion to the club!**



**Club Advisor Gary "Griz" Caudle surprised Sarah Phelps of Bromley, VT with a check in the amount of \$99 to cover her event fee for the weekend at Mount Snow. Sarah wrote the winning essay on "Why I want to teach snowsports." Congratulations to Sarah!**

I was still unsure of its benefit. Wow, was I wrong! So, drawing from our fabulous experience during our first year as PSIA-E members, we decided to press forward and participate.

When we presented our son, Ryley, with this opportunity, he was enthusiastic and jumped into it with both feet. That was surprise number one! While he is an avid snowboarder, I was skeptical of his reaction. My own personal motives were to introduce a commitment to volunteer work, exposure to different people and a chance to be with me on the weekends. I hoped at the end of the day he would develop an appreciation for work, discover a talent and foster his passion. The rest of those pleasant surprises fell into place as the season progressed.

While I sponsored Ryley into "15 Below, he reported to the supervisors in the Youth Learning Center in his volunteer assignment. I wanted a hands-off approach on my part with his duties and responsibilities. The supervisors assigned him his duties on day one and treated him like the rest of the Learning Center staff. In the beginning, he assisted with equipment set up and lunch, entertained the younger customers and was responsible for clean up. I remember back when, at the end of his third day of work, he came running into the Snowsports School to show me his instructor jacket he was issued. He earned it by his contribution to the Center. From there, it was on to shadowing and assisting with lessons. Now don't get me wrong, it wasn't all work and no play. Ryley put high mileage on his board with the other instructors during slow or free times. By season's end, there was a noticeable improvement in his riding and confidence.

I am truly sorry to see this season end. I already miss hearing of his new challenges, adventures and experiences during our drives home or by the evening fire in the den. We shared much laughter and play in our free skiing/riding time together! The days are being counted to next season!

I can say this has been a remarkable experience. I have seen a young man mature and come to believe in himself. Greater confidence and independence were a direct result of the opportunities presented by the "15 Below" club. And, I have benefited too. But, that is for another time and story. Thank you to our Snowsports Director, our PSIA rep and our Learning Center Director and his staff. Your support and faith made this possible for all the club members involved. Finally, thanks to PSIA-E/AASI for making the program possible. It's a fantastic success! ♦♦

# Master Teacher Program 2004-05 Graduates

PSIA-E is proud to acknowledge the following recent graduates of the Master Teacher Certification program. Master Teacher programs are intended to provide ski teachers with an in-depth educational background in a variety of different areas. In order to receive Master Teacher Certification, the instructor must complete 20 days of coursework and pass a written test on each course. Coursework includes indoor lectures as well as on-snow application. Congratulations to the following 2004-'05 Master Teachers.

Carl Andersen  
Ronald Belay  
Colleen Cohen  
Ronald Conetta \*  
Kevin Cresci  
Dalton Hunkins  
Eric Johnson  
Robert Klemm

John Klumpp  
Kimberly Landis  
Susanne Louisell  
Ronald Maehr  
Barbara McHale  
James McHale  
Dean Morakis  
Lloyd Muller

Bruce Rohr  
Chris Roundy \*  
Marc Schanfarber \*  
Thomas Shipkowski  
Leonard Steigerwalt  
Kim Tapper  
Jenny Williams

\*Three of these members also received their Level III Certification as a result; a double congratulations to them!



**On Hill video analysis with Peter Palmer  
Soft-Comfort boots  
Race Room Boots  
The most comprehensive boot shop in the East**

**CUSTOM BOOT SOLE PLANING  
BOOT SOLE LIFTERS ,3,5,8,MM.**

**P.S.I.A. DISCOUNTS ALWAYS EXTENDED**

LOCATED AT FIRST RUN SKI SHOP / STRATTON MOUNTAIN , VERMONT  
www.skibootfitting.com / gmol@sover.net / 802-297-4405

# Congratulations to the following members who passed their **new Level II and Level III certification** during this past season!

## Alpine Level III Certification Examination

Virgil E. Abbott, II  
 Michael Anglin  
 David A. Beckwith  
 David Bowyer  
 Jennifer Brown  
 Tina Buckley  
 Ruben Caldwell  
 Derek Canova  
 Massimo Cavalli  
 Ronald Conetta  
 Jay A. Crawford  
 Paul V. Crenshaw  
 Sean Cronin  
 Sharon Crossan  
 Christopher Cummings  
 Timothy Felton  
 George Ed Fish  
 James M Garvey  
 Martin Hamburger  
 James Hanzlik  
 Matthew Hauck  
 Wayne Hill  
 Russell G. Kauff  
 Timothy Kelly  
 Joseph Kennedy  
 Demetria Koninis  
 Witold Kosmala  
 Myles Kuchas  
 Martin Lamoureux  
 Thomas P. Loring  
 Stephen Maloney  
 Glenn Mottau  
 Kathryn Murphy  
 Bernadette A. Nelson  
 Mark A. Ouellette  
 Thomas M. Owen  
 Timothy Politis  
 Randell Mayo Reid  
 Chris Roundy  
 Charles Santerre  
 Marc L. Schanfarber  
 Michael Simpson  
 Robert L. Smith  
 Peter St. George  
 Kim Stoloski  
 David Stonebraker  
 Stewart Sulloway  
 Patricia Summers  
 David Swits  
 Leighton Terwilliger  
 Gregory C. Thall  
 John K. Trant  
 Diana Warhall

Dave Abrams  
 Jim Adams  
 Lev Akhsanov  
 Joseph Albert  
 Bonnie B. Andre  
 Ellen Arnold  
 James D. Baker Jr.  
 Michael Baker  
 Constance Bay  
 Christopher Beltz  
 David Bennett  
 Daniel Blackwelder  
 Sue-Ellen Booher  
 Neil Booth  
 Maureen E. Bothfeld  
 Jane Brady  
 Kristen Brennessel  
 Thomas F. Brown  
 Brendan Burdick  
 Elise Burgess  
 Peter M. Burnham  
 John Canavan  
 Jack C. Carney  
 Richard Carrara  
 Joshua Aaron Cave  
 Lisa Cavi  
 Gene Chiorello  
 Kevin Clarke  
 Julia Cline  
 Glen Coates  
 Jeffrey Cohen  
 Mary Coombe  
 Paul Mansfield  
 Corneal  
 Matthew Cornelius  
 Deborah Cowell  
 James B. Curren  
 Peter R. Daly  
 Donald DeRosa  
 Nicole DiMario  
 Kevin Dixon  
 Richard Donahue  
 Marilyn Martin  
 Dunwoody  
 John J. Egan  
 Matthew Erickson  
 Brendon Evans

Gerald A. Farraenola  
 Serge Filkin  
 Brendan P. Finn  
 John Foca  
 Bridget Freudenberger  
 Fred H. Funk  
 Michelle Gambino  
 Gregory Paul Gaspar  
 Philip L. Giammarino  
 Qamil Gjurkaj  
 William Glaser  
 Charles Gold  
 Marcia Goodwin  
 David H. Gould  
 Diane Gravel  
 David B. Gray  
 Maureen Gray  
 Roger Gray  
 Joshua Brent Greenbaum  
 Mark Guenther  
 Alfons P. Gutmann  
 David Hall  
 David Hals  
 Walter Hammond  
 James Hanzlik  
 Matthew Heller  
 William Hosmer  
 Tim Hudson  
 Michael Humphries  
 Wayne Hunt  
 William Intner  
 Gaston Irigoyen Sr.  
 Kalin C. Jaffe  
 Catherine Johannes  
 William Morgan Johnson  
 Heather Johnston  
 Kimberley Kalinowski  
 Sam H. Karaki  
 Philip Kelly  
 David Kemmeur  
 Sharon M. Kennedy

## Alpine Level II Certification Examination

Daniel Keyes  
 Erin Lane  
 Don Laskowski  
 Rodrigo Latorre  
 Facundo Lopez Oliva  
 Natalie J. Lowe  
 Brian Lynch  
 Paul Marcus  
 John Mariconti  
 Robert Marquez  
 Philip Marshall  
 Kathy McAfoose  
 Thomas McClain  
 Allyson C. McGraw  
 Jeffrey M McWilliams  
 Stephen Miller  
 Andrea L. Miner  
 Mary P. Morris  
 John R. Nedzel  
 Matt Olinski  
 Mary Ormrod  
 Kenneth Orr  
 Ralph Paddock  
 Susan Paglierani  
 Nick J. Palazzetti  
 Robert Patty  
 John Petersen  
 Meritt Phillips Munro  
 Dean Plymale  
 Brian J. Polizzi  
 Ginger Ratsep  
 Greg Reeves  
 Raymund Reynolds  
 Dominick Riina  
 Barbara Risteen-Garvey  
 Brian F. Ritchie  
 John Rogers  
 John Rosettie  
 Frank Rusnock  
 Steve Rusnock  
 Jonathan Ryan  
 Beth Scavone  
 David Schiffhauer  
 Vicki L. Schlosnagle  
 Howard Seares  
 William See, III  
 Karen Shields  
 Peter Shoemaker  
 Daniel G. Silverman  
 Christopher Spagna  
 John Edward Squier Jr.  
 Robyn Stein  
 Kyle Steinmetz  
 Shona Stockwell  
 Cynthia Stratton  
 Erik Timmerman  
 Alison Tomlinson  
 Jack Tosone  
 Marc Tron  
 Bruce Tubbs  
 Amanda Tucker  
 Robert Tucker  
 Timothy D. Upton  
 Karen Vanover  
 Ric Vargoshe  
 Trish Wade  
 Daniel Walker  
 Kate Walsh  
 Gail Webster  
 Daniel Weiskopf  
 Terri Wernick  
 Deborah Reid Wickwire  
 Cindi Wilkinson  
 Thomas Williams  
 Guy Williamson  
 Tom Wolkin  
 Randy Wood  
 Sarah C. Woodyard  
 Agnieszka Wusatowska-Sarnek  
 George Yankosky  
 Mark B. Zangrilli  
 Mikhail Zelenko  
 Letitia Zell

## Snowboard Level III Certification Examination

Donald Carman  
John Derrico  
Jeremiah Dixon  
David Grace  
Michael Jennings  
Tyler Jeppesen  
John Legge  
Mark G. Marino

Ryan McInnis  
Tom Morsch  
Eric Netzloff  
Aron Shao  
Joe Valaitis

## Snowboard Level II Certification Examination

Daniel Bonora  
Tom Bryan  
Tom Buchanan  
Thomas Burke  
Victoria Cauthorn  
William Cooney  
Meghan DeCoursey  
Caroline Dixon  
Thomas G. Ference  
Frank Fohrenbach  
Nicholas Fusco  
Daniel Gerdy  
Isa Helderman  
Darcy Hill  
Brian Igoe  
Carl E. Klein Jr.  
Alistar Mahoney  
Philip Martin  
Eric Mcnamara  
Adam Minchington  
Hunter Mollin  
Katheryn Morsch  
Greig Mullen  
Danielle Needle  
John-Paul Newell  
Christopher Norsworthy  
Kevin O'Connell  
Gregory O'Horo

Damian Olivato  
Emily Pierce  
Carol Plante  
Joseph Porter  
James Pritchard  
Ashleigh Rector  
Mark Robie  
Adam Roys  
Michelle Samuel  
Joshua Sawtelle  
Jon M. Schaeffer  
John Schaible  
Chris Shea  
Billy Shreve  
Jason Sinclair  
Kenneth C. Small  
David Snyder  
Scott St.Germain  
Josh Summering  
Jerry Tartaro  
Brian T. Tekulve  
Holly M. Townsend  
Cory M. VanGulden  
Lance Viola  
Darragh Walsh  
David G. White  
Holly Winters  
Roger Wright



## Nordic Downhill Level III Certification Examination

Shannon Belt  
Erik Donaldson  
David A. Wales  
Ward Wilson

## Nordic Downhill Level II Certification Examination

Mark Anderson

## Nordic Track/Skate Level II Certification Examination

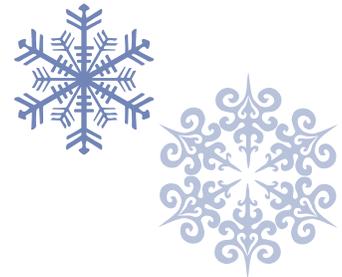
Sally Brassill  
Joel E. Hinshaw  
Gregor Kolpus

## Adaptive Level III Certification Examination

Peter Corsi

## Adaptive Level II Certification Examination

Mary E. Bozzone  
Thomas Cannalunga  
Jennie Crossley  
Karen Feldman  
Nancy Geibel  
Meryl Jacobson  
David J. Micalizzi  
Jim Morris



Keep your tootsies toasty with half-price socks & other ski accessories. First quality deals for snow-industry pros at:

[www.SnowProDeals.com](http://www.SnowProDeals.com)

**Ski & Board socks \$4**  
**Longunderwear \$12**  
**Sock liners \$2.50**  
**Glove liners \$2.50**

Goggles, gloves, facemasks  
nose warmers, neck  
gaiters and clothing.



Order on the web  
[www.SnowProDeals.com](http://www.SnowProDeals.com)  
Discount Code: psia-e



# GREAT SOCKS & more ...



**We ship anywhere**



## Kids are People Too!

by Tim Bradley  
PSIA-E Alpine Dev Team  
Elk Mountain, PA

I have coached Junior Ski Racers for twenty-five years and there are some inviolate rules for teaching kids, whether it be in a lesson, a clinic, or a seasonal program - and, incidentally, the rules also apply to adults!

### Rule #1

#### It's called "Skiing" for a Reason

I remember taking one for the team one day and volunteering for a particularly challenging age group. I round them up off the chairlift and begin to introduce myself. Before I even get to open my mouth, Calvin says: "Dude, it's called ski class, not stand-around-and-talk class". Lack of respect notwithstanding, the little @\$% had a valid point. Rarely is something so important it needs to be discussed at length on the side of a ski slope. Actually, nothing is that important.

### Rule #2

#### Simple Beats Not Simple, Every Time

You may have a fascinating in-depth understanding of the psychomotor reflex and how it relates to eccentric contraction in a short radius turn. Just keep it to yourself.

### Rule #3

#### Kids Know When You are Full of It

Honestly, the Lambada Turn you thought up the night before after a few pints may indeed be the best thing since shaped skis. Trying it out with kids the next morning - or with your fellow ski professionals - may not be.

Teach what you know. More accurately, teach what you know works.

### Rule #4

#### Kids are Brutally Honest

A child, in a comfortable learning environment, will tell you when something is stupid. An adult will only think it. Don't leave your stupid detector at home or in your locker. Bring it with you out on the hill. And turn it on once in a while.

### Rule #5

#### Lather, Rinse, Repeat

When you want Calvin and his buddies to remember something: Tell 'em what you're going to tell 'em; then tell 'em; and then tell 'em what you told 'em. This works surprisingly well with adults also.

Speaking of Calvin, he asked me what kind of car I drove. I may not be the brightest candle in the candelabra, but I knew what he was up to. So, I lied. Knowing he hadn't seen me pull into the lot in my Mitsubishi with 290,000 miles on it, I told him I had a new Porsche 996. Of course, his old man had a Porsche 996 Twin Turbo, rendering my imaginary car very lame in comparison. Moral of the story: There is no room for modesty in lying.

### Rule #6

#### All the Previous Rules are Useless if it ain't Fun

You may be the greatest ski technician with the firmest grasp on Movement Analysis since Joubert, but if it doesn't start out fun, stay fun, and end fun, you are toast.

I believe my man Calvin put it best when he said: "Coach, if it's not fun...I'm leaving".

Fair enough. ♦♦

## Clarification on Children's Academy certificate

There was confusion expressed by some members relative to documents distributed to attendees of the Children's Academy in December of 2004. The documents were not intended to imply that attendees were being awarded diplomas or college degrees in children's snowsports education. Rather, they were simply an exercise in creativity on the part of the Children's Committee. We regret any confusion or concern caused by the distribution of these certificates.

## Any Sean Sightings Lately?

by Lisa Gouwens  
PSIA-E ACE Team  
USSA Regional Coach  
Whiteface, NY

Sean is a very inquisitive child, always asking questions, always wanting to please; the sort of kid that likes to be in the front of the group, and lets you know he's not happy by staying in the back. He is constantly moving, especially his mouth. Sean is an athlete that participates in our winter race program (only the name has been changed to protect the innocent). During the week he spends his afternoons with the After School Program (non-skiing).

One day, while getting my workout in at a local gym, I saw a bunch of kids in the pool. I noticed Sean, so I went in to say hello. He was very excited to see me. We talked for a while as he sat in the hot tub, then I asked, "How's your swimming?" He was thrilled that I asked and, when I continued and asked him to show me his stuff, he put his cap on and dove right in. He swam his little heart out from one end of the pool to the other, hardly taking a breath. He looked back to see that I was watching, and when we made eye contact I gave him a big thumbs up.

Speaking with the after school staff that was there supervising - great people by the way - who have children of their own, I heard, "Wow" he's a handful." "Challenging." "Maybe a bit of ADD."

Armed with that information I thought I'd probe his race coach to see what his thoughts were about Sean's behavior. The feedback was totally opposite: "He's awesome." "He knows the rules." "He loves this sport." "Sometimes the kids do push-ups if they're messing around, but they kind of look to it as a cool thing." "He loves when I ask him to push the limit."

Could Sean really be this different? I credit the coach's success with Sean to his approach to each day, his routine. Every Saturday and Sunday the kids meet at the top of the Gondola and perform their warm-up exercises. Then, the morning is spent working on activities on the lower mountain - drills which, if performed well, are rewarded with lots of time in the glades, terrain park and Nastar. The coach knows that all the activities he's selected are good for his kids' skiing, but uses an instinct reward system for them. Of

course, the coach told me that, "All goes to the wind on a powder day."

Now, I know that all kids aren't angelic, but perhaps there's a way to deal with different personalities and activity levels by channeling the energy they have in a positive direction. As I think about the kids in the pool, I ask, "What could have made these kids, ages 10 & 11, enjoy their time there and not just hanging in the hot tub?" Perhaps group warm up, some pool games, an easy, appropriate competition and free swim to show their talent in their favorite stroke.

Could this situation be similar to one we've experienced with our ski/ride groups? Yes! Specific, upfront guidelines, parameters, rules, work and reward, can lay the groundwork for a successful experience for your group, as well as for you, the coach. After you've done your introductions you might want to consider this:

**Guidelines:** Outline the group policy. Everything that follows - parameters, rules, work and reward - fall under guidelines.

**Parameters:** What are the boundaries of the class? Example: "We will treat each other with respect, safety talk and on hill etiquette."

**Rules:** A prescribed guide for action or conduct. Example: This I characterize as the absolutes, issues that have no flexibility. Your group philosophy will fit in here. For example: "I will not tolerate swearing, physical aggression, etc."

**Work:** An activity in which one exerts strength - mental or physical - to do or perform something. What you want your students to achieve. Example: If we can perform 3 whirly-birds we can then get the Reward. Be creative when making your students work, think outside the box, keep them moving.

**Reward:** Something that is given in return for service. Give them what you promise - Glades, Nastar, or a hot chocolate - just make sure you deliver.

In closing your session reinforce the positive aspects of what your group has accomplished, not only in their improvement of skiing/riding, but in their ability to follow the guidelines. Maybe we can all do better to for the Seans in our groups. ♦♦

# Children's Instructors Play Key Role in the Industry

by Dana Scronek  
Region 5 Children's Committee Rep  
Assistant Snowsports School Director  
Holiday Valley Resort, NY

As I write this I've just returned from the ACE exam at Hunter Mountain. It was great! The fact that I was successful, however, is not what made it great - what made it great is that I took with me from the process some excellent clinics shared by some of the best teachers in the industry.

I decided to try out to become an ACE because I feel that children are the future of the Ski and Snowboard industry. With skier/rider visits flat-lined, showing little growth, we need to do something about it. NSAA, partnered with PSIA, has recognized this and encouraged a focus on growth and retention throughout the industry. Most of this focus has been put on adult beginners, but, as Children's' Instructors, we need to reinforce the key role we play in this goal. PSIA-E has validated Children's Education by making it a pertinent part of the exam process at all levels of certification. As instructors we are constantly challenged to meet the growing expectations of children, parents and management, and we face these same challenges in PSIA. As an ACE I hope to do my part to help resorts realize and obtain this goal.

With the season winding down now is the time to make room in your budget for training next season. If you are a Manager or Instructor interested in improving your Children's program by tapping into the resources that the ACEs have to offer, then speak up now, because if you wait until fall the budget may all be spent!

Have a great Spring and Summer! ♦♦

## Movement Analysis Software

Go to [www.v1home.com/PSIA](http://www.v1home.com/PSIA)

Try it for free. Get the side by side version for \$39.95.

[www.TheRusty.com/video.htm](http://www.TheRusty.com/video.htm)

has more info.

Train your eyes.

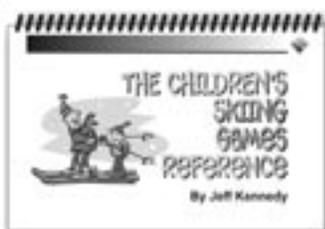
Prepare for your

next exam! Be a

better pro!



## Ever Teach a Child to Ski?



This book has been designed as a tool for Ski Instructors, to help them teach children.

With more than 100 games indexed by ability level, age group, movement pool, terrain type and skill development - this book is a must have for your library!

A child's avocation is playing and since learning is their vocation, merging the two is a highly successful teaching method.

Order NOW!

\$15.<sup>00</sup>

Volume Discounts Available

Plus Shipping & Handling



KIDology, LLC. ♦ Savage, MN ♦ (800) 856.7131 ♦ [www.kidology.com](http://www.kidology.com)

# "On Any Gear" Jumping Event

Lake Placid, NY  
July 11-12 and  
September 14-15, 2005

PSIA-E would like to announce the second dryland training Jumping Clinic: Two offerings - Monday and Tuesday July 11-12, and Tuesday and Wednesday, September 13-14, 2005, at the Lake Placid Jumping Complex. To register, please visit the website at ([www.psia-e.org](http://www.psia-e.org)) for an event application, fill it out, and submit by the deadline of 6/18/05 for the July event or 8/26/05 for the September event. The cost is \$180 for PSIA-E members, and \$200 for nonmembers. Applicants must be 16 years of age or above to participate. This event can be used for update credit for any discipline. Price includes coaching by PSIA-E Educational Staff and ORDA Freestyle Coaches, daily pool fees (\$15/day), trampoline usage, handouts and facility usage.



## Preparation

You will first be doing a fun warm up and stretching/flexibilities each day prior to training on trampolines for at least half the morning (depending on prior background). Wear clothing appropriate to working out. No shoes allowed, so wear appropriate socks. Also, jewelry and sharp objects need to be taken off. These trampolines are outside, so we need to be prepared to dress for whatever the weather.

## For the pool you will need:

- Boots that can get wet for telemark, snowboard or alpine.
- Skis or boards, preferably short, 150-175, and it works best with less shaped skis/boards, so your straightest, shortest pair would be the best.
- Helmet a must. A pro tec or ski helmet is preferred - no bike helmets because you need some type of soft or hard earflap in case you don't land quite right in the water. Strap must be worn.
- PFD-approved personal flotation device - not a seat cushion over your shoulders.
- Mouth guard found at any sports store - one you put in hot water and form to your mouth.

- Wax - paraffin only. No need for ski wax. Gulf wax found in the grocery store in the baking section. It is a white bar. Apply to sliding device twice daily.

## Optional:

- Wet suit, shorty, Lycra suit, etc. Whatever you will be comfortable in during the temperature of the day. The water is not heated. It is cool - 70's.

- Towels, sunscreen and cameras or video.

There's a lot of lodging nearby. Go to Lake Placid Lodging on the web. There are a lot of places to suit your style and wallet. Less expensive places we have used are the Jack Rabbit Inn, Holiday Inn, Howard Johnson, Spruce Lodge B&B and the Ramada. Make reservations ahead of time. You never know when a hockey tournament or something is coming into town.

The schedule will be 9:00-4:00 each day, with a one-hour lunch break. Feel free to bring lunch. There is a snack bar with lunch at the pools, and it is a short drive to town.

## SCHEDULE

### Day 1

Meet at the Complex Gatehouse (which is just above the pools) at 8:30 am. The jumping complex is located just east of Lake Placid on Route 86. Approaching it on 86W, the pools and jumps are on your left. You can't miss it. Just drive to the base of the 90-meter jump.

*NOTE: Upon arrival you will need to sign a waiver (which will be provided by PSIA-E), for the use of the pool.*

8:30-9:30 Meeting/Organizing/Handouts/  
Waivers

9:30-Noon Framing Safety and Training  
Groups

\*Warm-up/Flexibilities

\* Trampoline Etiquette

\* Landing/turning/twisting/height  
\* Advanced moves for those with  
past training

\* Viewing Canadian Freestyle  
Team

### Lunch

Afternoon Gear Prep/Waxing/Safety on  
Jumps/Into the water!

\* Approach/Takeoff/Maneuver/  
Landing

\* Adding tricks

### Day 2

Continuation of above. Trampoline to warm-up and into pool when ready. The goal is to become more accurate with the basics and to add more tricks.

This is an excellent event to begin your Freeride career. It allows you to learn how to become more aware of your body in the air and what movements affect you during approach, take-off, performing the maneuver and landing. Basic trampoline maneuvers will be performed before any tricks are added. The basic and simplest maneuvers will be experienced before adding any more difficult. We look forward to your participation. ♦♦



**PSIA-E/AASI  
2005-2006  
Event Application**



**OFFICE USE ONLY**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Please print. Fill out all sections. Application must be received by event deadline. One event per form.**

**Member No:** \_\_\_\_\_  **Primary Discipline/Level:** \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ **Date of Birth:** \_\_\_\_\_  
If a new member, check box

**Division:** Eastern Alaska Central Intermountain Northern Intermountain  
Circle one Western Northwest Rocky Mountain Northern Rocky Mountain

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Male / Female**  
Last First Circle one

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Street/Box  
Check box if a change   
City State Zip

**DAYTIME PHONE:** ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

**EVENT #:** \_\_\_\_\_ **E-mail address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**EVENT:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Alpine / Adaptive**  
Type Location Date Nordic / Snowboard

**PAYING BY CHECK**  **CHECK #:** \_\_\_\_\_ **AMOUNT:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **Race / Children's**  
Circle one

**OR, Please charge to my:** MasterCard  or Visa  **Exp. Date:** \_\_\_\_\_  
     
**\$ Amount** \_\_\_\_\_ **Signed** \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail or fax to: PSIA-E or AASI, 1-A Lincoln Ave, Albany, NY 12205 Fax# (518) 452-6099**

Call (518) 452-6095 for information only. No applications accepted via phone.

**New members.** circle the region in which you live (or work) for mailing and voting purposes.

- 1 - ME, NH                      2 - VT                      3 - MA, CT, RI                      4 - PA, NJ
- 5 - Western NY                      6 - Eastern NY                      7 - DE, MD, VA, WV, NC, SC, GA, FL, DC

Please note: Current members wishing to change region must notify the office; change is not generated from this form.

**All applicants must sign the following Release Form:**

Recognizing that skiing can be a hazardous sport, I hereby release PSIA-E, PSIA-E/EF, AASI, the host area, and agents and employees of each from liability for any and all injuries of whatever nature arising during, or in connection with the conduction of the event for which this application is made.

**Signature**

**Date**

**If applying as a new member, or for any certification level, your Ski/Snowboard School Director must complete the following:**

As Director, I attest to the following: This applicant is a member of my staff. If a candidate for any level of certification, the candidate has received exam training and preparation. If a candidate for Registered or Level I, the applicant has completed the PSIA/AASI entry level requirements, including 25 hours of teaching/training for Registered, or 50 hours for Level I.

**Director's  
Signature**

**Name of School**

**ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGES FOR NO-SHOWS, CANCELLATIONS AND RETURNED CHECKS**

**TRANSFERS:** Up to one week prior to original event.....\$10.00

During the week prior to original event (notice no later than 4:30 PM on last business day before event).....40 % of fee

**NOTE: Transfers to another event must be before the three week deadline of that event.**

**NO-SHOWS:** Regardless of reason.....75% of fee

**CANCELLATIONS:** Up to one week prior to event.....\$15.00

During the week prior to event (notice given no later than 4:30 PM on the last business day before event)....50 % of fee

**RETURNED CHECKS/DECLINED CHARGES:** Checks returned for insufficient funds will not be redeposited.

Registrant's application will be voided unless such checks or charges are replaced by certified check, money order or cash prior to the event. For returned checks, this must include a processing charge of \$20.00.



# Thank-you to our Sponsors



## 2004 Snowsports Management Seminar - Mount Snow, VT.

Avalanche Skiwear	Karbon Skiwear
Beyond X	Manzella
Dolomite /Elan	Never-B-Cold
Green Mountain Orthotic Lab	Reliable Racing
Jones Helmet Cam	

## 2004 Snow Pro Jam & Master's Academy - Killington, VT.

Auclair Sports	Never-B-Cold
Avalanche Skiwear	Nordica
Dolomite / Elan	Reliable Racing
Dynastar / Lange	Rossignol
Fischer Skis	Surefoot
Green Mountain Orthotic Lab	Tecnica / Volkl
Jones Helmet Cam	

## 2005 Annual Spring Rally - Mount Snow, VT.

Avalanche Skiwear  
Jones Helmet Cam  
Tecnica / Volkl



manzella



# for the 2004-2005 Season!





## Nordic Highlights

by Mickey Stone  
PSIA-E Nordic Coordinator

The season started out with just enough snow here in the East to allow our large training events to stride off with a good kick. The Mini Academy and Tele ITC week, along with the Nordic ITC, all had two full groups. We are seeing a major growth in the weekend Mini Academy each season. Killington and Great Glenn Trails have been very gracious and accommodating hosts. New snow helped at each of these events. As you will remember, we awarded John Tidd with a 25-year Examiner award at the Tele ITC banquet. Imagine that - Just being in PSIA for 25 years, let alone 25 years being an Examiner! Once again, congratulations to our mentor!

Anticipation and organization are both the top two thoughts on our mind in the beginning of the year. Oh yeah, hoping for snowfall too. Unfortunately, January took on an El Nino look, and our events suffered participation levels for the month. We should all be very thankful and fortunate that we did not end up with a season like the Northwest and British Columbia. Most areas didn't even get the chance to open. For many years Nordic Coordinators have had clinics with only a few kilometers of snow, or even making events go in the rain under bridges. Though January was tough, we made it through, and then the season and numbers steadily grew.

The thing that surprises us is that our "Learn To", Crossover and intermediate clinics in both Tele and Track/Skate have been our most popular events. Three to five years ago our advanced and exams were the most popular. There is a definite trend within our organization for PSIA-E members to become multiple-certified, or to become diversified in other disciplines. Fortunately, we recognized this and reflected it in our course selection for last season and this. This also reflects the trend in the ski industry. Many recreational snowsports enthusiasts are trying many different types of sliding tools.

## Big Mountain - Freeride Telemark Skiing

You'll remember we introduced Tele skiing at the Ski School Management Seminar, and introduced rental programs to ski schools here in the East. Many schools are now starting to purchase Tele gear for their rental shops. Smaller areas across our division are seeing many more Tele skiers at their mountain to add to the challenge. New England Telemark, North Atlantic Telemark Organization, Mad River Tele Festival, other small festivals and local shops are all seeing great participation for growing the sport. The Nordic Industry is continually trying to get resorts to buy into getting Tele gear into their rental shops so the customer has the chance to give this eloquent sport a try.

The funny thing is that these organizations are having great successes, but resorts still haven't got on the bandwagon of obtaining the gear. The number one growing snowsport discipline right now is Tele skiing, on and off-piste. In the big mountain snowsport arena, Tele skiing is taking off. The skis are so versatile and movable (though Radonee skiing equipment has evolved into the same light weight and versatile properties that Tele skiing has, and is seeing a growth spurt also).

With this off-piste cult, deep powder skiing euphoria, earn-your-turns mentality, and the quest to explore and travel in the snow, new equipment and techniques have evolved. The gear now is very light but has the properties of Alpine skiing. The boots are 4-buckle and higher, with denser/stiffer/lighter plastic, walk modes, and comfortable bladders. The bindings are made of steel-aluminum alloys, and the cables are derived from the airplane industry and tailored like mini lift cables. The skis are now not mid-fats for all around skiing, but 95 to 110 mm under the foot and skied in the length of 180-200.

Now, with this big-time equipment that floats, surfs, hydroplanes, plows and motors through cruddy and powder snow, the technique has evolved into a different style. Big mountain skiers make fewer turns because of the less sidecut, stiffer torsional rigidity, mid flexing sweet spot, and just being a bigger, wider tool in the snow. They track well and plane right up in big snow conditions. But, don't try the tight trees with these unless you are very strong, or can point them right down the fall line. We are in the age "freeride skis". Just plain hauling a\_\_ on big mountains!

A few visual differences of big mountain, or freeriding telemark skiing are:

- Pointing the skis straight down the hill, and less mid/short shapely turns. The turn shape is like a banana for King Kong. Long and shallow.
  - The weight or center of the skier has moved so far back that they are literally sitting on the rear ski. With stiffer tails and faster speeds you wouldn't want to be anywhere else. Imagine moving onto the front ski going 40 plus miles and hour down a 38 degree pitch in 30 inches of snow!
  - The fore and aft movement of the skis, or making the lead change, is much slower to allow for the planing of the skis to rise to the top of the snow. Constant movement will keep them in the snow and tire your legs.
  - Less twisting/countering movements are also related to big mountain skiing. At higher speeds on steep terrain, with a big bendable ski underfoot, you do not need the twisting movements for turn initiation as much. Basically, rise to the top of the snow, make a slow lead change, and hang out until the next turn.
  - More weighting and unweighting happens with these bendable skis. They seem to do it naturally. Either up-and-down or suction retraction, it doesn't matter, all will work..
  - Finally, don't leave any arms behind, or swinging torsos, or it is corkscrew city. Keep a stable upper body that moves and follows the direction of the skis.
- Try this style in the spring in the slushy wet snow. It can be very effortless and bouncy. You will find that you are skiing over top of the terrain instead of skiing to the terrain and turning on every terrain change. Grab hold, join the Tele Freeride Revolution, and get some fat under your foot.

## Backcountry Accreditation

Five talented and dedicated telemark and radonee skiers successfully finished the 6-day off-piste backcountry course. This season we were blessed with beautiful sunny days, cold, and ample snowpack. Camel's Hump, Bolton/Woodward area and Mt Mansfield became our playground for 4 days. Snow pits, orienteering, triangulation, beacon retrieving, body awareness and ski technique were all part of our daily skills. Miles of gladed skiing through hardwood forests, and miles and miles of skinning up and over mountains to earn our turns at the end of the day were experienced. Being on top of the Hump and Mt Mansfield and looking across Lake Champlain at the Adirondacks, or turning around to the East and seeing Mt

*continued next page*

## XX-ploring, continued

**Getting ready  
for the big day**



**What off-piste  
Backcountry is all about**



**Top of Teardrop on Mt  
Mansfield looking at  
Lake Champlain and  
the Adirondacks**



**Lisa Schwartz coming  
out of the snowy  
woods at 4000 ft.**

Washington and the southern Presidential, is truly a sight to behold. PSIA-E Nordic would like to congratulate the physical and cognitive prowess of this year's participants:

Jean Marie Miller - Ski Sundown, CT.  
Chris Roundy - Gunstock, NH  
Lisa Schwartz - Maine Handicapped Skiing  
Glenn Browning - Yawgoo Valley, RI  
Solomom Marini - Nashoba Valley, MA

Special thanks to Bart Howe from Mad River Glen, who participated in 4 days on snow and has extensive background in backcountry off-piste skiing in our local area of Vermont. Bart shared his local lore and wisdom as well as his wilderness first aid experience.



**Level III rail sliding in the woods by Eric Donaldson**



**One satisfied tele exam group**

## Track/Skate and Telemark Exam

We would like to thank Garnett Hill Touring area for hosting our 2-day Track/Skate Exam. Participants showed their skills in classical and freestyle skiing, teaching, knowledge of the sport, waxing and skiing 7 hrs a day on skinny skis.

Congratulations to the following Level II Candidates who passed:

- Sally Brassill - Jackson Ski Touring Center, NH
- Gregor Kolpus - Stratton Ski Touring Center, VT
- Joel Hinshaw - Sunday River, ME

Thank you to Sugarbush Ski Area in Vermont for hosting our 3-day Telemark Exam. This event has an off-piste component of 65%. The conditions were quite challenging and the terrain was quite diverse at Sugarbush.

Congratulations to the following Level II candidates who passed:

- Mark Anderson – Sugarbush, VT

Congratulations to the following Level III candidates who passed:

- John Parker – Bromley, VT
- Ward Wilson – Holimont, NY
- David Wales – Sugarbush, VT
- Shannon Belt - West Mt., NY
- Erik Donaldson – Belleayre, NY

In addition, we've also added two great Development Team Members, who are very talented, with many years of Telemark and Nordic experience. Congratulations to:

- Mark Lacek - Gore Mt., NY
- Melissa Shea - Sugarbush VT

Thanks to all of you that supported the Nordic discipline this season. We hope you had an enjoyable and educational season. Just to prep you for the summer, we will be having two Summer Pool sessions at Lake Placid, NY. Our freestyle event (for all disciplines) will include trampoline and jumping into the pool, as well as flexibilities in the morning. July 11-12 and September 13-14 are our dates for the learn-to-fly in the air program. Look for more details in the next SnowPro. ♦♦



# 2004 - 2005 Pro Shop



Merchandise & Materials Available from  
Professional Ski Instructors of America - Eastern Division  
1-A Lincoln Ave., Albany, NY, 12205-4900 Fax: (518) 452-6099

<b>SHIPPING INFORMATION</b> All orders sent via UPS, with exception of some small orders. Please allow 1-2 weeks for delivery. See shipping and handling fees below.		<b>SHIP TO:</b> Name: _____ Address: _____ City, State, Zip _____	
<b>PAYMENT INFORMATION:</b> Please enclose check or money order made payable to PSIA-E, or <input type="checkbox"/> Master Card <input type="checkbox"/> Visa Card #: _____ Exp. _____ Signature _____		Membership Number: _____ Daytime phone _____ E-mail _____	

MANUALS AND VIDEOS (PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE)	PRICE	QTY	TOTAL
---	-------	-----	-------

### ALPINE

Core Concepts Manual - <i>For all disciplines</i>	\$24.50		
Alpine Technical Manual	19.50		
Basic Alpine Set (Core Concepts & Alpine Tech Manual)	39.50		
Alpine Technical Video	22.50		
Alpine Handbook - Vail publication	<i>Now Available!</i> 17.00	N/A	Temp. out of stock
Alpine Stepping Stones Pocket Guide	<i>New in 2004-05!</i> 9.50		
Movement Analysis Pocket Guide	<i>Popular item!</i> 5.50		
PSIA-E Alpine Exam and Study Guide	<i>Valuable resource!</i> 5.00		
<i>In the Yikes! Zone: A Conversation with Fear</i> by Mermer Blakeslee	16.95	N/A	Temp. out of stock
<i>Effective Ski Coaching</i> by Tom Reynolds	24.95	N/A	Temp. out of stock
<i>Skiing &amp; the Art of Carving - E. Foster 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed.</i> 25% off special	13.50	N/A	Temp. out of stock
<i>Skiing &amp; the Art of Carving - Video</i> 25% off special	22.50		

### NORDIC

Nordic Technical Manual	<i>New in 2004-05!</i> 22.00		
PSIA-E Nordic Exam Guide (Copier duplicates)	2.00		
Nordic Skiing Sequences Video	13.95		
Telemark Video	<i>Close-out at cost!</i> 13.95		

### AASI / SNOWBOARD

AASI Snowboard Manual	19.95		
AASI Snowboard Video	19.95		
Snowboard Handbook - Vail Publication	<i>Now Available!</i> 17.00		
Snowboard Movement Analysis Handbook	14.50		
AASI Snowboard Level II/III Exam Guide (Copier duplicates)	2.00		
AASI Snowboard Level I Study Guide (Copier duplicates)	2.00		

### ADAPTIVE

Adaptive Snowsports Instruction Manual	24.50		
PSIA-E Adaptive Workbook and Exam Guide (Copier duplicates)	3.00		

### KIDS

PSIA/AASI Children's Handbook	14.50	N/A	Temp. out of stock
Children's Ski & Snowboard Movement Guide	<i>New in 2004-05!</i> 12.50		
Children's Handbook for Alpine - Vail Publication	<i>New in 2004-05!</i> 17.00	N/A	Temp. out of stock
Children's Handbook for Snowboard - Vail Publication	<i>New in 2004-05!</i> 17.00		
Power Play - Kids & Snowsports Video	19.95		
Recipes for Learning - Cookbook of Tricks	<i>Great value!</i> 10.00	N/A	Temp. out of stock
Captain Zembo's Guide For Kids - 2 <sup>nd</sup> Edition	9.50		
<i>The Children's Skiing Games Reference</i> by Jeff Kennedy	15.00	N/A	Temp. out of stock

### PINS

Lapel pins	3.00		
PSIA Level I	7.00		
Alpine/Nordic/Adaptive Level II or III (*Alpine II & III - temp. out of stock)	9.00		
AASI Level I or II or III	10.00		
Master Teacher	10.00		

Shipping/handling fees based on total amount of order.			Sub.
Up to \$14.99 - \$4.00	\$15.00 to \$49.99 - \$6.00		
\$50 to \$99.99 - \$9.00	\$100.00 to \$199.00 - \$11.00	\$200 and over - \$13.00	S/H
WE MUST HAVE PAYMENT WITH ORDER - THANK YOU Ski and Snowboard Schools, call for quantity discounts.			Total



education foundation news

# 2004-05 EF Scholarship Award Recipients Announced

The following PSIA-E/AASI scholarships were selected by the Scholarship Committee and Terry Fund Committee to receive awards toward furthering their snowsports education during the 2004-05 season. Thanks to Scholarship Committee Chairperson Peter Lucatuorto and his review team of David Welch, Ray DeVerly and Bart Hayes for their efforts and time in making these difficult selections. Also, thanks to PSIA-E/AASI President Bill Beerman and Children's Committee Chair Ellen Minnicks and the Terry Fund donor for reviewing the Terry Fund applicants. ♦♦

Total scholarships awarded: \$5,001

Thanks also to all applicants for expressing interest in these valuable scholarship benefits and making the effort to participate. Congratulations to the following award recipients:

## Betty Gates recognized.

*We extend a big "thank you" to Betty Gates for her generous contribution of \$1,000 to our membership scholarship fund. Betty's dedication to making snowsports educational opportunities available to more of our members is greatly appreciated. Thank you Betty!*

FULL NAME	REGION	FUND
John Lincoln	01	C.E. Burbridge Memorial Scholarship
Sara E. Mele	02	C.E. Burbridge Memorial Scholarship
Terrie Anne Bennett	01	Board Of Examiner Scholarship
Matthew Boyd	01	Board Of Examiner Scholarship
Christopher Ericson	06	Board Of Examiner Scholarship
Lauren G. O'Reilly	01	Board Of Examiner Scholarship
Terrie Anne Bennett	01	Leader Memorial Scholarship
Bart Howe	02	Leader Memorial Scholarship
John Lincoln	01	Leader Memorial Scholarship
Sherman W. White	02	Leader Memorial Scholarship
Bonnie B. Andre	05	Membership Scholarship
Keith M. Brown	04	Membership Scholarship
Tina Buckley	04	Membership Scholarship
Marc Carlin	06	Membership Scholarship
Cady Cummings	01	Membership Scholarship
Jonah R. DiPasquale	05	Membership Scholarship
Erik Donaldson	06	Membership Scholarship
Joshua Greenbaum	04	Membership Scholarship
Howard Harrison	06	Membership Scholarship
Caroline Harrow	06	Membership Scholarship
Kimberley Kalinowski	03	Membership Scholarship
Jim K. Kapp	04	Membership Scholarship
Joel Koch	01	Membership Scholarship
Patricia Miller	05	Membership Scholarship
John Perri	04	Membership Scholarship
Joanne Roberts	07	Membership Scholarship
Janice TerKuile	03	Membership Scholarship
Scott Unsworth	01	Membership Scholarship
Tami Maheux	01	Terry Fund Scholarship

## Submitting to SnowPro?

*The copy and ad closing date for the Summer 2005 issue is June 15, 2005. The issue will be mailed out to members in July.*



members' opinions

## Just Do The Task!

by Gordon Carr  
PSIA-E Alpine Level II  
Sugarloaf/USA, Maine

In March last year, after I took Part II, Teaching, of the Alpine Level II Certification exam, several things became apparent. First, I was impressed by the significant amount of information and assistance available to all of us going through the PSIA-E certification examinations: the PSIA "Alpine Technical Manual" and "Core Concepts" manuals, the "Alpine Exam and Study Guide", and the "Levels I, II, and III Study Guides"; the training provided by home mountain training staff; the diverse PSIA-E on-snow clinics; and, last, but not least...the motivation and support provided by the actual certification Examiners. During both the Skiing and Teaching portions of the exams, which occurred over two successive seasons for me, I was encouraged by how much the Examiners worked to create a testing environment to lower our anxiety during what is admittedly a stressful situation. Without providing specific feedback to anyone, they were supportive of our performance and gave us all inspiration to "give it our best shot"! They obviously wanted everybody to succeed! Second, even with all these resources available, there were participants in my exam groups whose performance did not fully meet the Level II standards on the exam days.

It was only afterward, on the drive home, when my own anxiety was back to some degree of normalcy and when the emotional high of having "passed" had abated, that I began to review the performance of people in my exam groups and tried to make sense of the outcomes. I remembered, then, that prior to both Part I and Part II, the clinic leaders reminded us that the exam process is a slice in time... a snapshot of our performance, based only upon what we actually do during the individual modules of the exam as measured against the Level II standards. Our efforts during the exam hopefully correlate with our skiing ability and teaching performance back home, but the

relationship may not be perfect; hence, my observation that good skiers and obviously competent teachers, on the day of the exam, apparently did not demonstrate Level II skiing or teaching. How could this be? What was going on?

Then I heard the words of Peter Howard, (Sugarloaf/USA's Training Coordinator and PSIA-E Alpine Examiner) saying, as I had heard him say so often to instructors at Sugarloaf preparing for PSIA Level examinations: "The three most important things to keep in mind during an exam are: 1.) Do the task assigned; 2.) at the skill level required (e.g. Level II); 3.) demonstrating the consistent mechanics reflective of modern skiing. AND, of the three, the first is most important! DO THE TASK ASSIGNED!" He reminded us repeatedly that an exam is NOT graded on how well you ski or how competently and creatively you teach at your home mountain. The Examiners can only assess what you actually do on the day of the exam...on the tasks required by each module. So, if you don't do the task assigned, the positive assessment of your performance may be compromised.

Bearing this in mind, I understood the common elements which characterized some of my colleagues' performance who were unsuccessful. There probably were also other, more subtle technical elements of performance which the Examiners observed and scored, but what I remembered was often that the people DIDN'T DO THE TASK ASSIGNED! For example, during the Part I, Skiing Exam, at the top of a slope, the Examiner said, "This is sort of a free ski challenge...have fun...ski the hill with your style and flair, BUT I want to see a combination of short, medium, and long radius turns." Perfectly clear... But, one of my exam cohorts came down the entire assigned section of the slope with beautifully consistent, but unchanging MEDIUM radius turns. This was even after, on the first day, the Examiner had specifically told us what all the Examiners would be looking for on that free ski segment...namely: execution of short, medium and long radius turns related to terrain features. Could the person in this example make varying radius turns? Of course they could... I had observed their skiing during other parts of the exam. But they didn't do the blend of turn sizes when instructed to do so, and when it counted. Likewise, on the "five short turns and lane change task", a different candidate simply went down the hill with short turns...nicely done... but with NO lane change. They didn't do the task assigned!

During the Part II, Teaching exam, some of the candidates who were unsuccessful also just didn't do the task required, in contradiction to the Level II exam standards published in the "Alpine Exam and Study Guide". For example, during the Creative Teaching Module,

"the coaching should create a bridge from the (outside) experience/activity to the skiing movements to be learned", (and the obvious implication is that it should be somehow creative). During this module, one of the people was teaching pole use... and simply, and straight-forwardly talked of and demonstrated pole use...nothing very creative. This also was not an *outside* activity which could TRANSFER (cleverly and creatively) to skiing, which our examiner had stressed as important at the start of the module. Also, in this same module, the "Alpine Exam and Study Guide" makes very clear, as did the Examiner, that the activity or creative teaching exercise must be able to be modified "to meet the needs of children as well as seniors". In spite of this requirement, and even after the Examiner gently prodded another candidate, who failed to spontaneously modify his activity to kids and seniors, "Well, how would you modify your exercise to deal with kids or older skiers?", the person confidently stated, "Oh, no! My exercise wouldn't work with kids...it doesn't apply." !?

In these examples, the exam candidates in one way or the other didn't do the task assigned, even with subtle probing by the Examiners. I'm pretty sure these omissions were related to the candidates' less than successful exam results.

So, to all of us who will be attempting certification exams in the future...1) Study all the PSIA manuals and exam guides... be knowledgeable of the scoring standards; 2) Listen very closely to the Examiners when they assign skiing or teaching tasks...they really do try to elicit our best performance; and, 3) JUST DO THE TASK WHICH HAS BEEN ASSIGNED! ♦♦

*This section is utilized for the publication of articles from the membership, and we invite your active participation. Content reflects the opinion and knowledge of the writers only, and is not to be interpreted as official PSIA-E information.*

# The “Become a Pro” Program

by Garry Crane  
PSIA-E Alpine Level 1  
Mt. Sunapee Resort, NH

On the weekend of January 8-9, Steve McGrath and Gary Hendrickson, members of the DCL Educational Staff, delivered an in-house First Tracks under the new “Become a Pro” format. Twenty-one instructors from around the area, all of whom were members of the Mt. Sunapee Resort Learning Center, made “First Tracks” with PSIA-E, and became the first group to take advantage of the new “Become a Pro” program.

We were introduced to the “stepping stones” process of teaching within the American Teaching System. We received on-snow analysis of our movement patterns, and received coaching in the latest methods used by PSIA-E to promote learning and fun in skiing.

The program provided us with an overview of the PSIA structure and a means to give us a more common understanding of the terms used within teaching.

The First Tracks program picked up where our initial employee training program left off, and included lesson plans that can be used beyond the first-timer “get into” lessons. During chairlift conversations we compared notes on how to handle several common situations



Courtesy of Mt Sunapee Photo

that arise in teaching. The clinic style structure allowed us to network with other instructors who received different initial trainings over several years, and from different resorts. One aspect of the program that I particularly liked was the amount of time spent skiing, and the small amount of time spent talking skiing.

The real benefit of the “Become a Pro” program was the reduced cost to become involved in PSIA-E. This program allows for initial membership in PSIA-E, but does not require that you join PSIA National until you take your Level 1, or until your 2nd year in PSIA-E. This

cost savings is a great boon to those who have limited resources, particularly students, and for those looking to “try the waters” of PSIA. Many of those in attendance have now gone on to get their PSIA-E Level 1 Certification.

As you can see from the happy faces of the 21 folks at the Mt Sunapee event, the “Become a Pro” program is a great way to go! Join in at your area if you have the opportunity. ♦♦

---

## Maintain Perspective to Maintain the Joy of Skiing

by Sue Pursel  
PSIA-E Alpine Level 1  
Ski Roundtop, PA

Exam preparation is hard work. For years I had taken development clinics every weekend morning. Some days, getting out there and on snow by 8 am was easier than others. I became very focused - too focused - on getting ready for the exam. I critiqued every turn I made, thought about each movement, and analyzed the fun right out of it! One day while skiing a focused run it dawned on me - this wasn't fun anymore. I had lost the spark. How could I carry the joy of skiing to my students, when I had lost it myself?

I stopped taking clinics. After hundreds of hours of training, I knew what I had to do. I still came out at 8 am those weekend mornings,

but I enjoyed the quiet. The crowds weren't there yet, and I enjoyed the freshly groomed snow under my feet. I listened to my body, and it told me when I was “doing it right”. At first, I felt a small spark – a Zing beneath my feet. Then, with more skiing, it became a few turns with Zing. Finally, whole runs with that Zing. I had rediscovered the joy again. It just felt right. I knew I was ready for the exam.

The last weekend of spring skiing I went for a run with our ski school director who confirmed that I could plan to go in 2005. But, early winter 2005 was dreadful. The January thaw came with a vengeance, leaving our hills looking like white and brown Swiss cheese.

The surface was anything from mashed potatoes to snow cones, and the Zing evaporated. But, I continued to ski and to listen, and, when the snow returned, so did the Zing.

My Zing was threatened though, when I came to the exam. Everyone was wringing their hands and criticizing themselves. “What if I don't pass?” they wailed. It was no longer fun. There was no joy.

Well, I had worked entirely too hard getting back my Zing to let it go without a fight. I was here to have a great time skiing for two

*continued next page*

# Mentoring is a Social Contract!

by Carl Brown  
*PSIA-E Alpine Level I*  
*AASI Level II*  
*AASI Advisor*  
*Elk Mt., Pa.*

days with great people, and if they wanted to get all wound up about what someone else thought about their skiing, well, that was their business. When I fell in the bumps the first morning, I got up. No big deal. (Heaven knows it had happened plenty of times before!) I skied my best because it felt good. It was more fun. My skis gave me the feedback I needed, making even wedge turns fun. The sky was blue and clear, and the snow delightful. My colleagues, though, seemed to have a different purpose. They asked each other, "How was it, how did it look?" By the second day I was so sick of hearing everyone berate themselves that I laid down a new rule - anyone who engages in negative self-talk is going to get my pole up their you-know-what! People started to smile, and things went better for everyone.

After the exam, and while the results were being tallied, my training partner and I took a ride up the lift. We talked about our groups and our skiing. I had achieved everything I wanted - two days of skiing with some great people. He was disappointed, still critical of each turn he made.

When they posted the results, there were happy faces and some sad ones. Unfortunately, my training partner's number wasn't there. He was disgusted, and said he'd never go to an exam again. That made me think about the exam process, and the different approaches we choose to take.

What did I stand to lose by going to the exam? If I was not a PSIA-E member and I came up skiing with my 17-year-old son, it would have cost me \$144 for two days and I'd have to listen to "When can I get a car?" on the lifts. When I ski for two days at an exam, not only do I get lift tickets, but great company as well. I'm matched with people who ski pretty much the same level, and they usually wait for me. That's more than I can say for my family! The worst thing that can happen is that someone may tell you that you are not yet skiing at Level II. Now, let's keep this in perspective. No one is telling you that you can't ski any more. No one is telling you that you are a bad person. No one is taking anything away from you. YOU, however, can lose something that is completely under your control - your joy of skiing. And, isn't sharing that joy what this is all about in the first place?

Now, if I can just maintain perspective for Part II.... ◆◆

One of the tasks I selected for our AASI Level II candidates this season was to write a quality document about the snowsports industry, snowboarding, teaching, learning, or customer service. It had to be relevant and have merit so they could submit it to "The SnowPro" if they chose to. The document could be technical, allegorical, or inspirational, and this was my example to them:

## Mentoring (A social contract!)

Mentors can come from all aspects of our life, and sometimes from unexpected places. They always seem to have the time to guide us so we can find the answers we need. Why do they give to us so freely and ask little in return?

If we think about it, we can all come up with a few people that have influenced our lives. A mentor could have been a parent, a teacher, or a friend. He could have been that old man from down the street who taught you how to fish & hunt, to respect life, nature, and also, respect yourself. A mentor may have been your grandmother that taught you how to bake the family's secret apple pie recipe. Then, whisper in your ear, "You must pass it on someday". A mentor may be a person that reminds us why we teach skiing or snowboarding. We teach to share our enthusiasm and passion for these sports!

One particular mentor of mine put it into perspective for me. He offered to teach me all that he knew about carpentry and life. All he asked from me was that I promise to learn, and when the time comes, to freely give all that I have learned to others who would continue the tradition of learning and passing it on again. I think this is why our mentors gave so freely. They were trying to repay their mentors. Like in the movie, "Play It Forward", for each kind deed you receive you should try to repay it by doing a kind deed for three other people.

I know from my own training experiences at Elk Mountain, and with most other ski

schools, learning, and then passing it along, is now, and has always been the tradition! I'm asking each candidate to agree to these same terms. To learn all that you can about teaching skiing or snowboarding so that when your time comes to pass it on, you can keep this social contract with each other and the past.

Good luck and best wishes in this wonderful, sharing process of certification training!



# More than Skiing

by Judi Dixon  
*PSIA-E Alpine Level II*  
*Ski Sundown, CT*

Teaching children to be skiers can include more than just showing them how to turn and stop. At our area, Bob Switzgable, the owner, gives small classes of young students a tour of the snowmaking facilities and grooming equipment. Children can see how the large pumps work, watch yards of ice-filled hoses hung to melt under huge dryers, look at diagrams of reservoirs and feeder streams, and follow the hoses filled with water and compressed air to all the different kinds of snowmaking equipment - cannons and tripods and towers.

From a safe distance, the remarkable capabilities of the snowcats are demonstrated. The front plow is articulated. The tiller churns the snow. The comber makes that soft corduroy. Then, with the groomer turned off, students can get up close and personal, and even get a chance to sit in the copilot's seat.

Older students have a real interest in how the grooming crew creates and maintains the freestyle parks. Jumps and half-pipes are just the beginning; boxes and rails of many shapes are making their way onto the mountain. Students taking freestyle lessons would enjoy and benefit from meeting the crew, who are often experienced freestylers themselves.

Skiing is more than a skill; it is part of a lifestyle. We can go beyond just teaching skiing. We can help children become skiers for life. At the end of Bob Switzgable's tour, he gives each student a job application. "Come see me in a couple of years," he says. The most common response? "Awesome." ◆◆

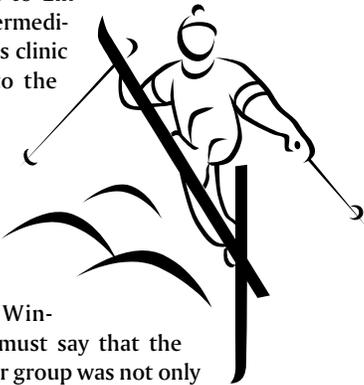
# Great Bumps Clinic!

by Joseph Darmofalski  
PSIA-E Area Rep.  
Wintergreen Resort, VA

Every now and then you come across an exception to the rule. In the world of Snow Sports School Instructors, we work with a variety of personalities, age groups, genders, skill levels, and different cultures from all over the world in our classes. We have classes that are successful, and then there are those that don't turn out quite the way we wish they had. I recently went to Elk Mountain for an Intermediate Bumps Clinic. This clinic was the exception to the rule in every respect.

Out of a group of eight, three of us were from Wintergreen resort. There were also instructors from Ski Liberty, Roundtop, Winterplace, and Elk. I must say that the Examiner that had our group was not only accommodating to the various characteristics of students in the class, but she was, indeed, exceptional in every way. She not only recognized the needs of the individuals in our group, but her own energy level and open-mindedness to ideas and tasks took our group to a new level of skiing adventure. The tasks we were asked to perform were not only challenging but were educational in all aspects; she offered us the best and it brought out the best in all of us. The rewards of the change in our performance were noticeable to all.

The Examiner's ability to bring out the DYNAMICS in our group made the clinic top notch in every way. Her ability to capitalize on these dynamics flowed for the two days that we were together. We all wished that the clinic would not end and that we could have stayed on longer. Those of us in this group would like to say a special thank you to LIZ STARR for a great job, well done. May she shine in all her Clinics as she did in ours. THANK YOU, Liz, for a GREAT Bumps Clinic! ♦♦



# Perfect Ski

In a perfect world, where men are tall  
and ski instructors never fall.

Where sexy girls float through the air  
adorned in leopard underwear.

Who dictates what is blended form?  
Who dares to say what is the norm?

Should they not ski to just be free,  
and not biomechanically?

Which way to look and how to turn  
should not be cause for one to spurn

a skier with no thought to learn  
the form for which instructors yearn.

For what is perfect, who should say,  
but just enjoy a snowy day.

The glittering sun on frozen snow,  
softly in a downward flow,

edges grasping for a bite  
to turn the ski with such delight!

Softly sail upon the snow,  
smooth and graceful as we go.

Heightened senses, mountain air,  
this is skiing's beauty fair!

by Holly Brouker PSIA-E Alpine Level 1,  
Jiminy Peak, MA, and friend Don Pascucci.  
Inspired by fellow instructors and trainers  
at Jiminy Peak.



...find the latest PSIA-E/AASI info at



# WWW.PSIA-E.ORG

# Thanks

Once again, we extend a big “thanks” to the following areas who hosted one or more of our scheduled events this past season. Their generous support continues to assist us in providing members with quality programs at the best possible value.

Ascutney Mountain Resort  
Attitash Bear Peak  
Belleayre Mountain  
Blue Knob All Season Resort  
Bretton Woods Mountain Resort  
Bristol Mountain  
Bromley Mountain Resort  
Buffalo Ski Club Ski School  
Cannon Mountain  
Catamount Ski Area  
Elk Mountain Ski Resort  
Gore Mountain  
Greek Peak  
Gunstock Ski Area  
Holiday Valley Resort  
Holimont  
Hunter Mountain  
Jack Frost  
Jay Peak Resort  
Jiminy Peak

Killington Mountain Resort  
Labrador Mountain  
Mad River Glen  
Magic Mountain  
Massanutten Resort  
Middlebury College Snow Bowl  
Montage Mountain  
Mount Snow  
Mountain Creek  
Mt. Abram Family Resort  
Okemo Mountain Resort  
Pat’s Peak  
Peek’n Peak Resort  
Pico  
Ragged Mountain Resort  
Seven Springs  
Ski Shawnee Mountain  
Ski Beech  
Ski Butternut

Ski Roundtop  
Ski Sundown  
Ski Ward Ski Area  
Smugglers’ Notch  
Snowshoe Mountain  
Song Mountain  
Stowe Mountain  
Stratton Mountain  
Sugarbush  
Sugarloaf USA  
Sunday River Ski Resort  
Verizon Sports Complex  
Wachusett Mountain  
Waterville Valley  
West Mountain  
Whiteface Mountain  
Windham Mountain  
Wintergreen Resort  
Wisp



Professional Ski Instructors of America  
Eastern/Education Foundation

1-A Lincoln Avenue  
Albany, NY 12205-4900  
Phone: 518-452-6095

**NON-PROFIT**  
**U.S. Postage**  
**PAID**  
**Albany, NY**  
**Permit No. 249**

TIME VALUED MATERIAL