

# **The NATIONAL SKI PATROL SYSTEM in Central New York State**



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To our readers:

What is provided in these pages is a basis for further and future research. Historians can always correct information as it becomes known. In the meantime, here is the history of the NSPS in Central New York as best as can be provided at this time.

My thanks to the following people for their kind and patient assistance on this project.

**CNY REGION:** Directors/Chairmen Henry Allen, Robert Williams, Richard Folts, Robert Hall, Myla Greene, and Bob Klos.

**SYRACUSE SECTION:** Section Chiefs Larry Van Alstyne Sr., H.L. "Ben" Hedges, B. Terry Avery, and Don Gallinger. NSP Fay Welch, Pulaski PL Harry Butler, Camillus PL Jerry Baril, Skaneateles PL Bunt Osborne, Cazenovia PL Jim King, Cazenovia Ski Club President Hume Laidman, Song Mountain PL Bill Rogers, Toggenburg PL Scott Manuel, Toggenburg owner Eugene Hickey, Labrador Mountain APL Don Hyde, Labrador Mountain owner Bob Wilson, Red Cross Manager Elton Fairbank, and Anne Woodruff.

**UTICA/HEADWATERS SECTION:** Section Chiefs Bob Gilchriest and Fran Combar; Awards Advisor Lou Hornbeck, McCauley Mountain APL Bob McAleese.

**LOWVILLE SECTION:** Section Chief Jack Parsell.

**SOUTHERN TIER SECTION:** Section Chiefs Tom Lipa and Ken Archibald; Greek Peak PL Jack Huntley, Section PR Advisor Roberta Gamel.

**GENESEEE VALLEY SECTION:** Swain PL Harry Stoneham.

**EASTERN DIVISION:** Director Don Page; Registration Coordinator Dorothy Woessner.

**NATIONAL:** Historian Gretchen Besser.

Jeff Paston  
Section Chief, Syracuse Section, NSPS  
Jan. 30, 1982

For updates in August and September, 2007, thanks also go to Asst. RD John Tuttle, Asst. RD Brian Bamberger, Paul Steiner, Roberta Fox (Gamel), Division Administrator Donna McGraw, and Tom Murch.

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## The NATIONAL SKI PATROL SYSTEM in Central New York State

In 1938, the National Ski Patrol System was formally organized as a committee of the National Ski Association (now United States Ski Association) by Charles Minot Dole. The NSA included many ski clubs, and logically, many of the first NSPS-registered ski patrols started with these clubs. In late 1938, the Red Cross published "Ski Safety and First Aid" to provide supplemental information for ski patrolers beyond the basic Red Cross first aid texts. This winter first aid manual was the text for early NSPS winter first aid supplement courses.

By 1941, the main divisions of the NSPS were in operation (paralleling the divisions of the NSA), including the Eastern Division, in which the Central New York Region would a few years later become a part. Sections became the first components of the new division. The rust parka was introduced as the uniform of the NSPS in those early years. The "registered" patroller wore a triangular patch denoting "Ski Patrol," while the "national" patroller, appointed a numerical position in the NSPS because of leadership and skill, wore a double triangle (six-pointed star) denoting "National Ski Patrol." The rust parka was officially adopted as the NSPS uniform in 1947.

In the 1941 National Ski Patrol System manual, there were a number of NSPS-registered patrols listed for the immediate Central New York area, including the Herkimer County Ski Patrol, the Sherrill Ski Patrol, the Oswego County Ski Patrol, the Rome Ski Patrol, and the Utica Ski Patrol. While some of these patrols remained in existence, others quickly disappeared. These early patrols were outgrowths of local NSA-member ski clubs and many of them formed about the time the NSPS manual went to press.

Richard Folts, patrol leader of the Herkimer patrol, which patrolled the Mohawk Valley Ski Club about five miles south of Herkimer, recalled that his patrol was organized in 1941 and it became necessary to quickly come up with a name for the new patrol to include it in the NSPS manual.

The Utica Section was formed in 1941, and according to the NSPS manual, Donald S. Rowles, PL of the Utica Ski Patrol became the first section chief. He was followed in that position about a year later by Henry Allen, PL of the Sherrill Ski Patrol. Allen was appointed National Ski Patroller number 492 and in 1944 was asked by "Minnie" Dole to be the first chairman of the New York State Region (later to be known as the Central New York Region). Allen, an executive with Oneida Silversmiths in Sherrill, recalled that Dole wanted someone with business background to run the new region, which stretched from Albany to Cleveland, Ohio,

## **CENTRAL NEW YORK REGION / NEW YORK STATE REGION: 1941**

(from the 1941 NSPS Manual)

### **Early National Appointments**

194 Howard Gunderson, Schenectady  
 195 Donald W. Stuart. Schenectady  
 196 Cecil M, Figueroa, Scotia  
 197 Edward S. Risely Jr., Old Forge  
 201 Ronald McKenzie. Lake Placid \* +  
 319 Ernest Williams, Lake Placid  
 320 Carl Ortloff. Lake Placid  
 321 Edward Doyle. Lake Placid  
 322 Loren Wrisley, Lake Placid  
 323 William Hovey. Lake Placid  
 344 Wilson Hasseltine. North Creek

\*Ronald McKenzie was Adirondack Section Chief. He laid out the cross-country ski trails for the 1932 Winter Olympics and was head of the 1980 Lake Placid Winter Olympic Organizing Committee until his death just before the start of the 1980 games.

### **Early Patrols and Patrol Leaders**

Adirondack Loj Chapter, Adirondack Mt, Club Patrol - Orville Cobane  
 Ausable Forks Ski Club Patrol - William Metz  
 Cooperstown Ski Club Patrol - Francis B, Harrison  
 Elizabethtown Ski Club Patrol - Wayne R. Merrick  
 Gore Mountain Ski Patrol - Wilson Hasseltine  
 Herkimer County Ski Patrol - Richard Folts  
 Keene Valley Ski Club Patrol - P.L. Tryon  
 Keeseville Sports Club Patrol - Wilber Prime  
 Lake Placid Ski Patrol - Carl J. Ortloff  
 Malone Ski Patrol - William Conroy Jr,  
 Northwood School Ski Club Patrol (Lake Placid) - Herbert A. Howard  
 Old Forge Ski Patrol - Edward S. Risely Jr.  
 Sherrill Ski Patrol - Henry Allen  
 Oswego County Ski Patrol - Harry E. Lee  
 Plaits burg Ski Patrol - Arnold Chapman  
 Rome Ski Patrol - Frederick C. White Jr.  
 Schenectady Ski Patrol - Cecil M. Figueroa +  
 Tupper Lake Ski Patrol - George Maltair  
 Utica Ski Patrol - Donald S, Rowles +  
 Winter Sports Club of Lake George Ski Patrol - Paul Goodness

+ Section chiefs — 1941

## **CENTRAL NEW YORK REGION**

Founded as the New York State Region: 1944

### **Region Chairmen/Directors**

1944-49	Henry Allen (Sherrill) — New York State Region
1949-53	Robert B. Williams (Syracuse) — Central New York Region
1953-61	Richard FoIts (Herkimer)
1961-68	Robert Hall (Old Forge)
1968-73	Frank Gilmore (Rochester)
1973-79	Myla Greene (Syracuse)
1979-87	Robert Klos (Syracuse)
1987-93	Vic Stress (Syracuse)
1993-99	James Smith (Watertown)
1999-2001	Tom Lipa (Ithaca)
2001-07	Bert Ebeling (Watertown)
2007-	Noel Rios (Syracuse)

### **Sections** (Years in CNY Region shown)

Adirondack	c1940-72 *
Capital District	c1940-72 *
Utica	1941-72 *
Syracuse	1944-96 ^
Lowville	1947-72 ++
Southern Tier	c1953-96 ## ^ (founded c1946)
Genesee Valley	c1953-77 ** (founded 1948)
Headwaters (Utica)	1977- #
Iroquois	1996- ^

Patrols in western part of state included in Western New York Region when region formed in late 1940s.

\* Eastern New York Region created in 1972 from these sections.

\*\* Transferred from Western New York Region about 1953; transferred back to WNY Region in 1977.

++ Merged with Utica and Adirondack sections in 1972.

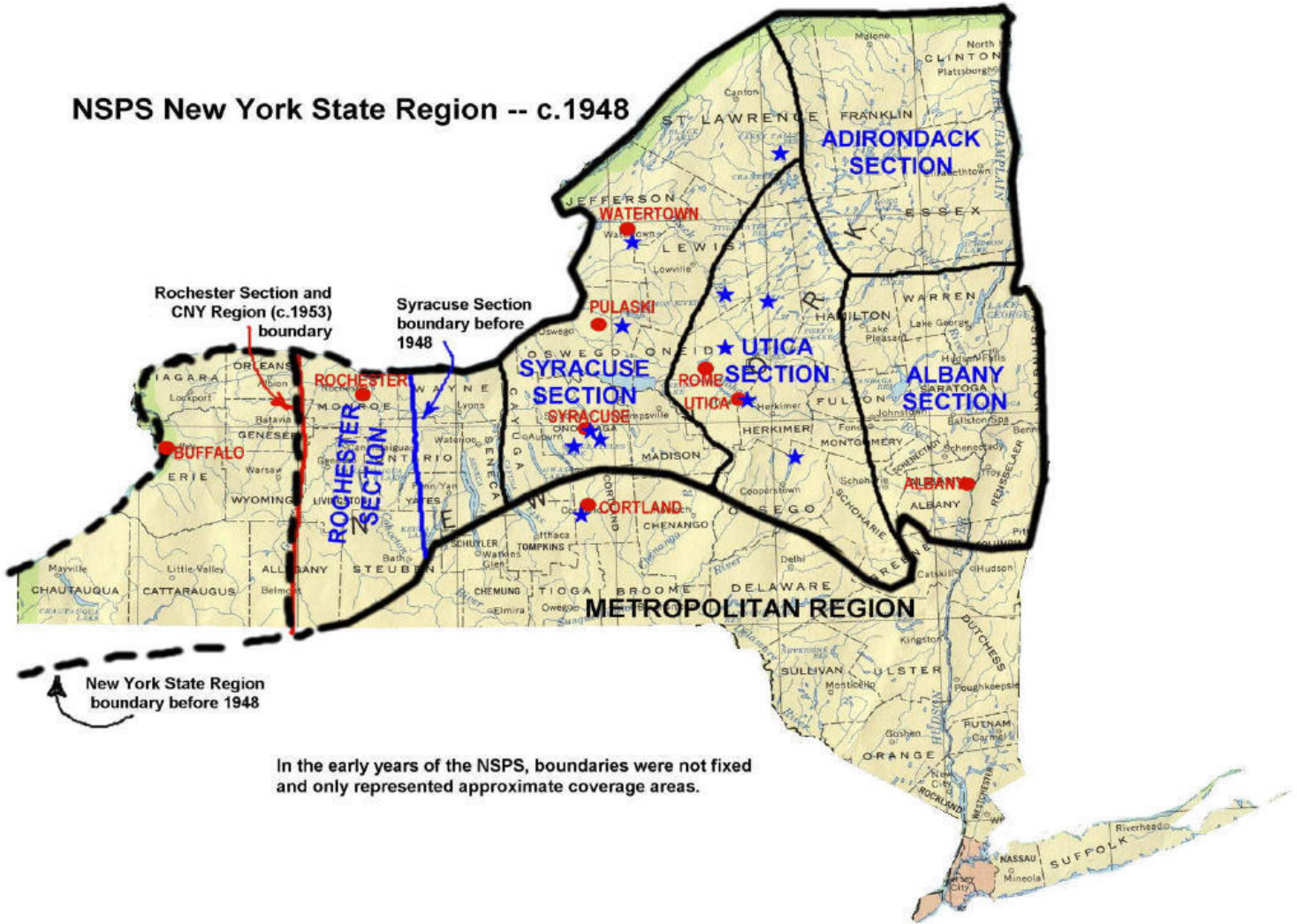
# Transferred back to CNY Region (and section name changed) in 1977

## Transferred from Metropolitan (Southern New York) Region about 1953.

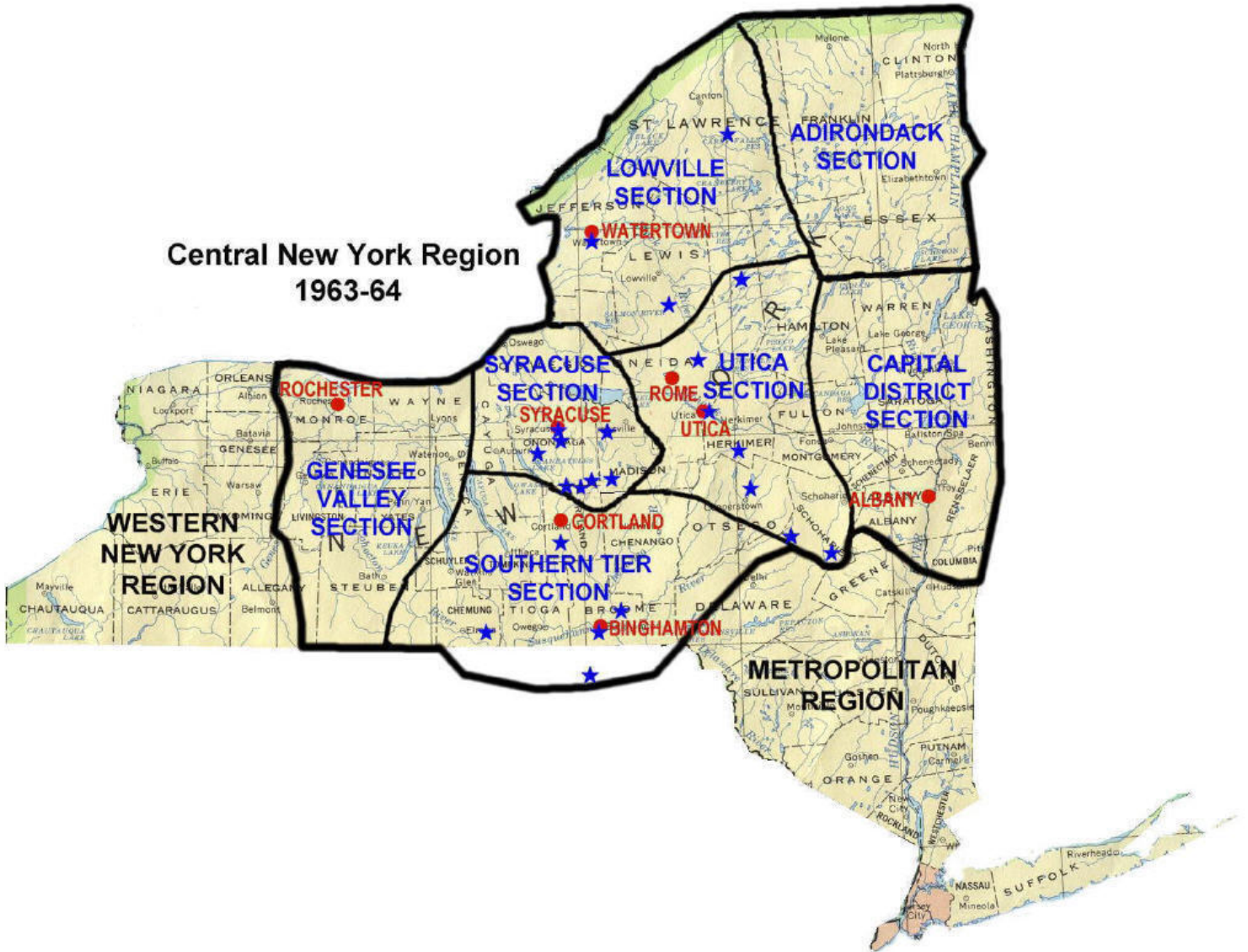
^ Iroquois Section formed from merger of Syracuse and Southern Tier sections in 1996.

In the early days of the NSPS, region and section boundaries were not always clear. The New York State Region of Henry Allen stretched from Albany to Cleveland, Ohio. The Western and Central New York regions were subsequently developed in the late 1940s. Dick Folts recalled that when he became regional chairman in 1953, the Central New York Region extended no farther east than the Albany area and no farther west than east of Rochester. He said that during his first year in office the Rochester (Genesee Valley) Section transferred from the Western New York Region, and the Southern Tier Section transferred from the Metropolitan (Southern New York) Region.

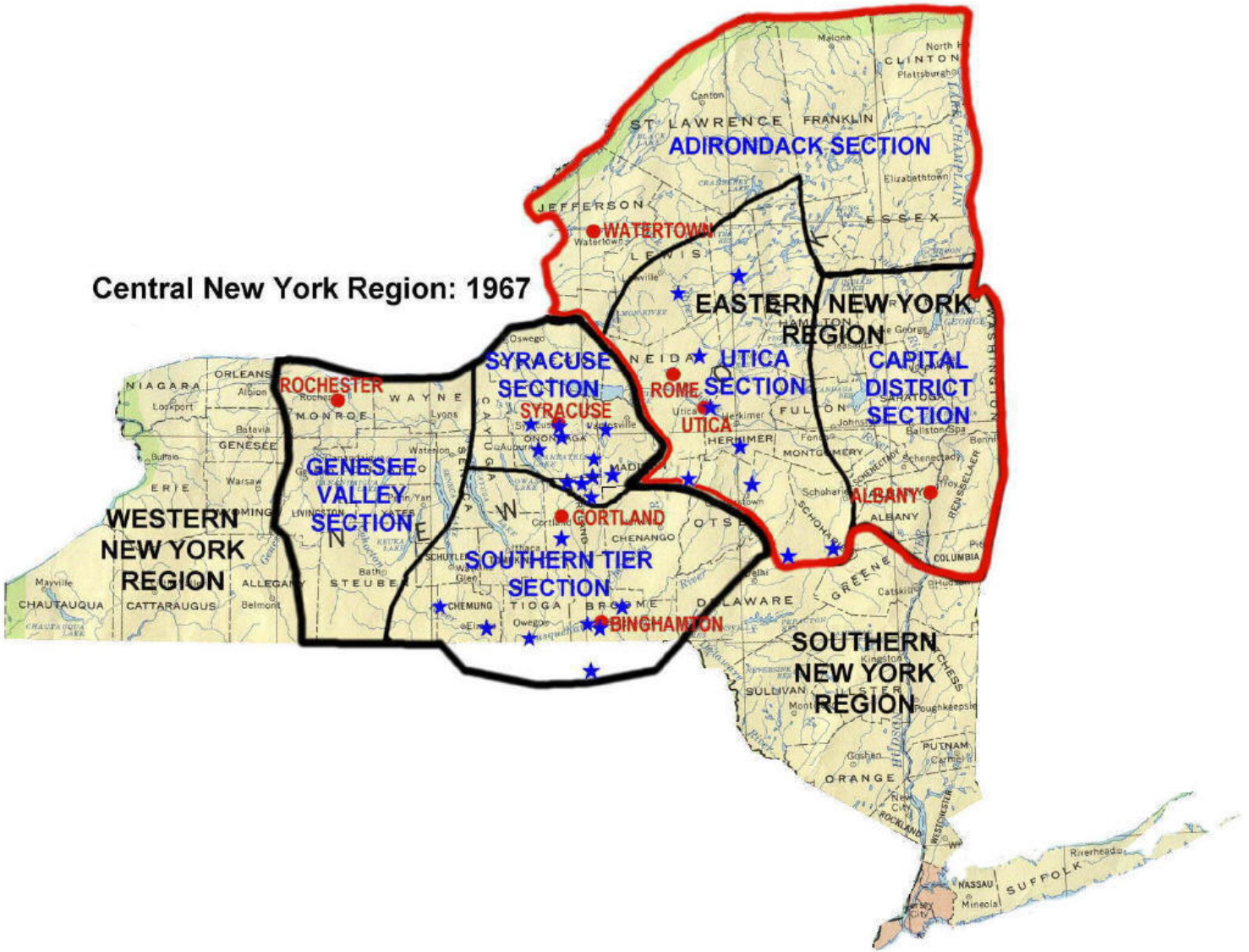
### NSPS New York State Region -- c.1948

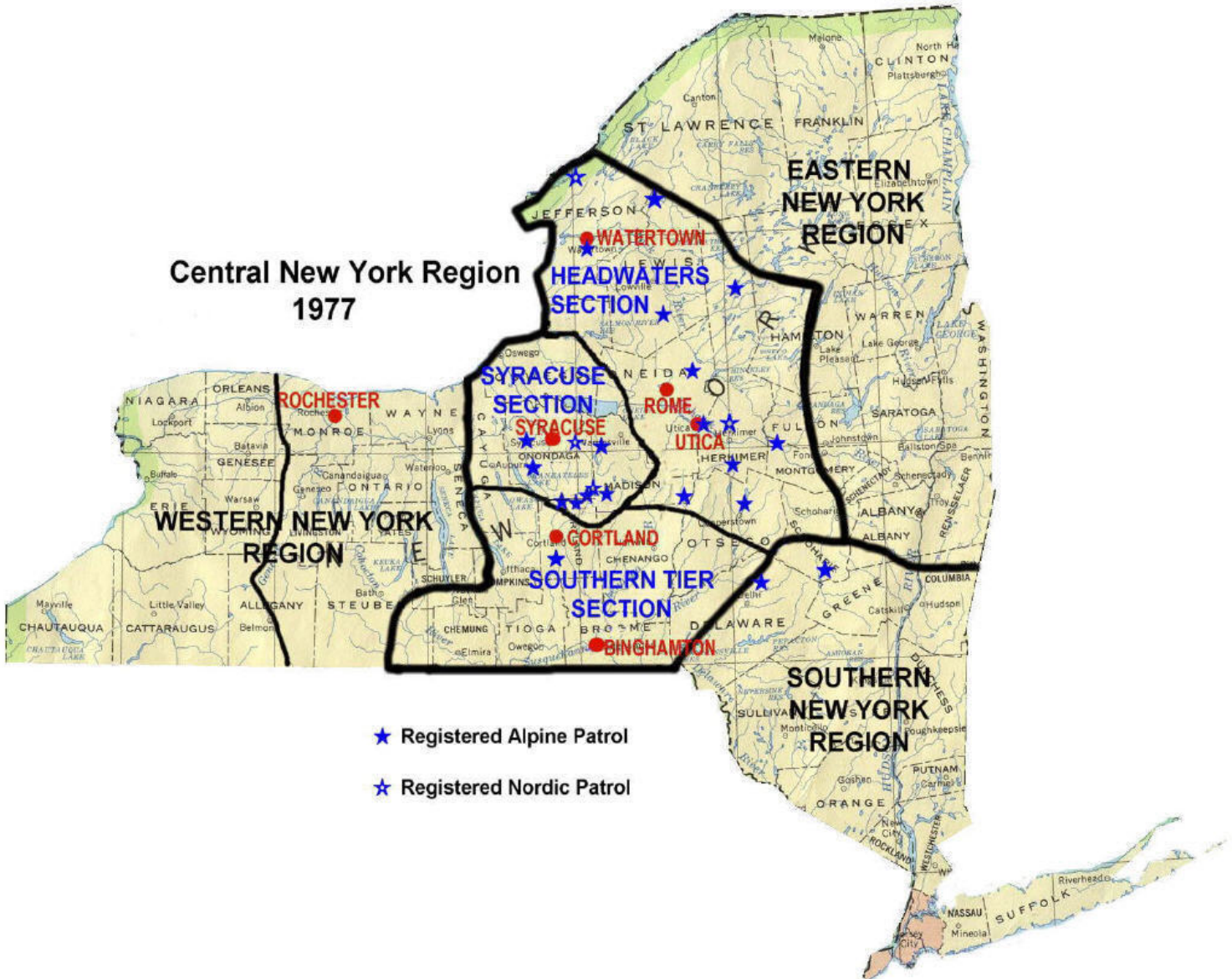


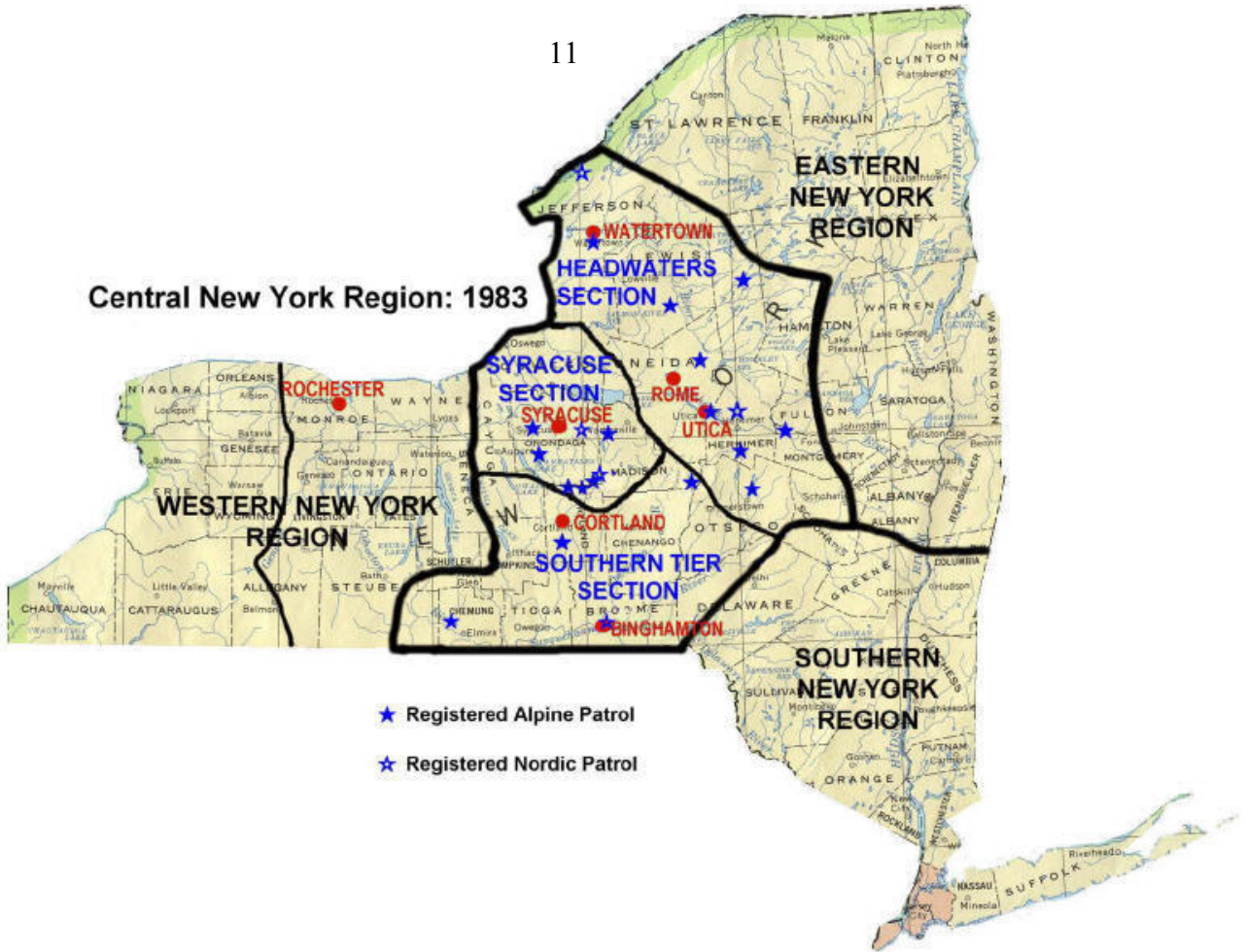
In the early years of the NSPS, boundaries were not fixed and only represented approximate coverage areas.



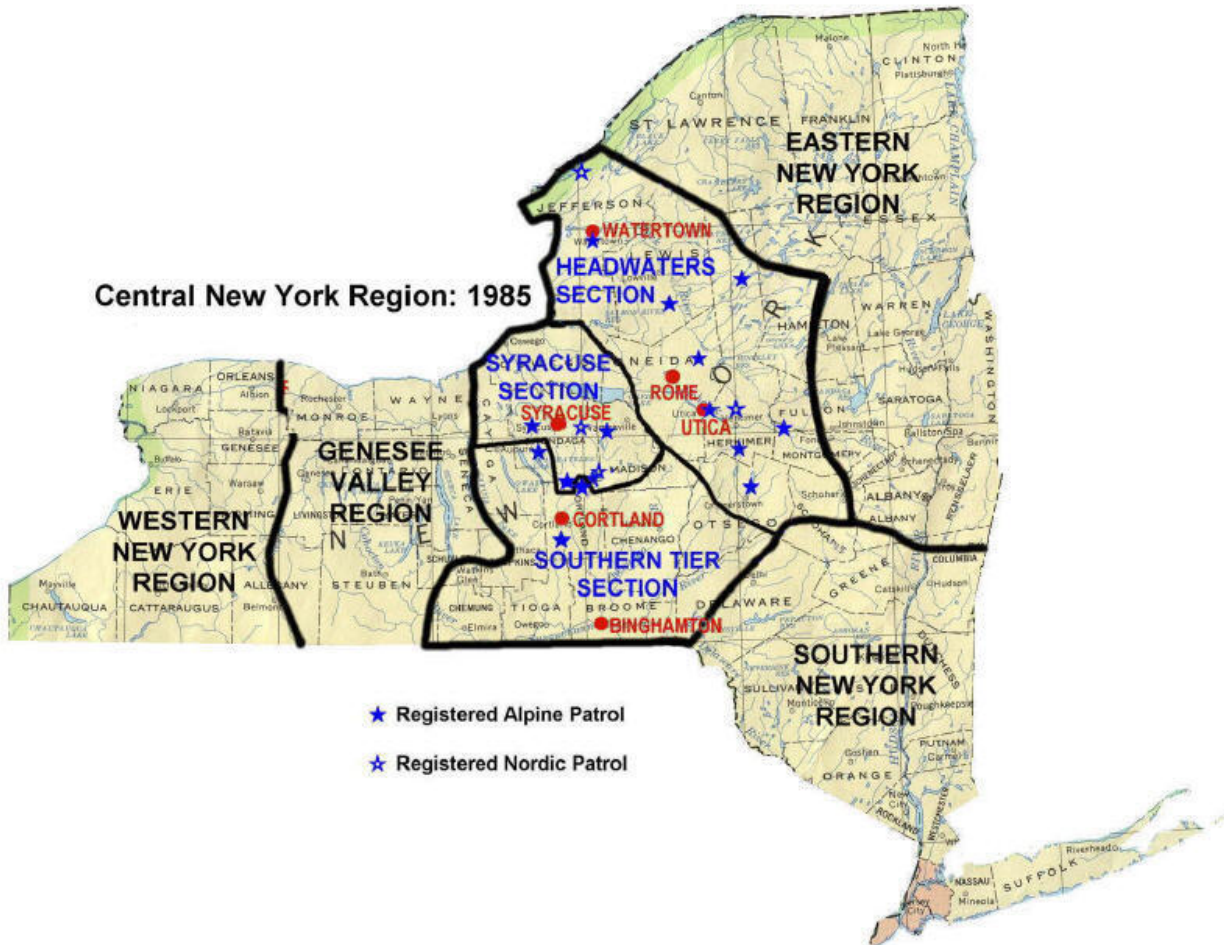
Central New York Region: 1967



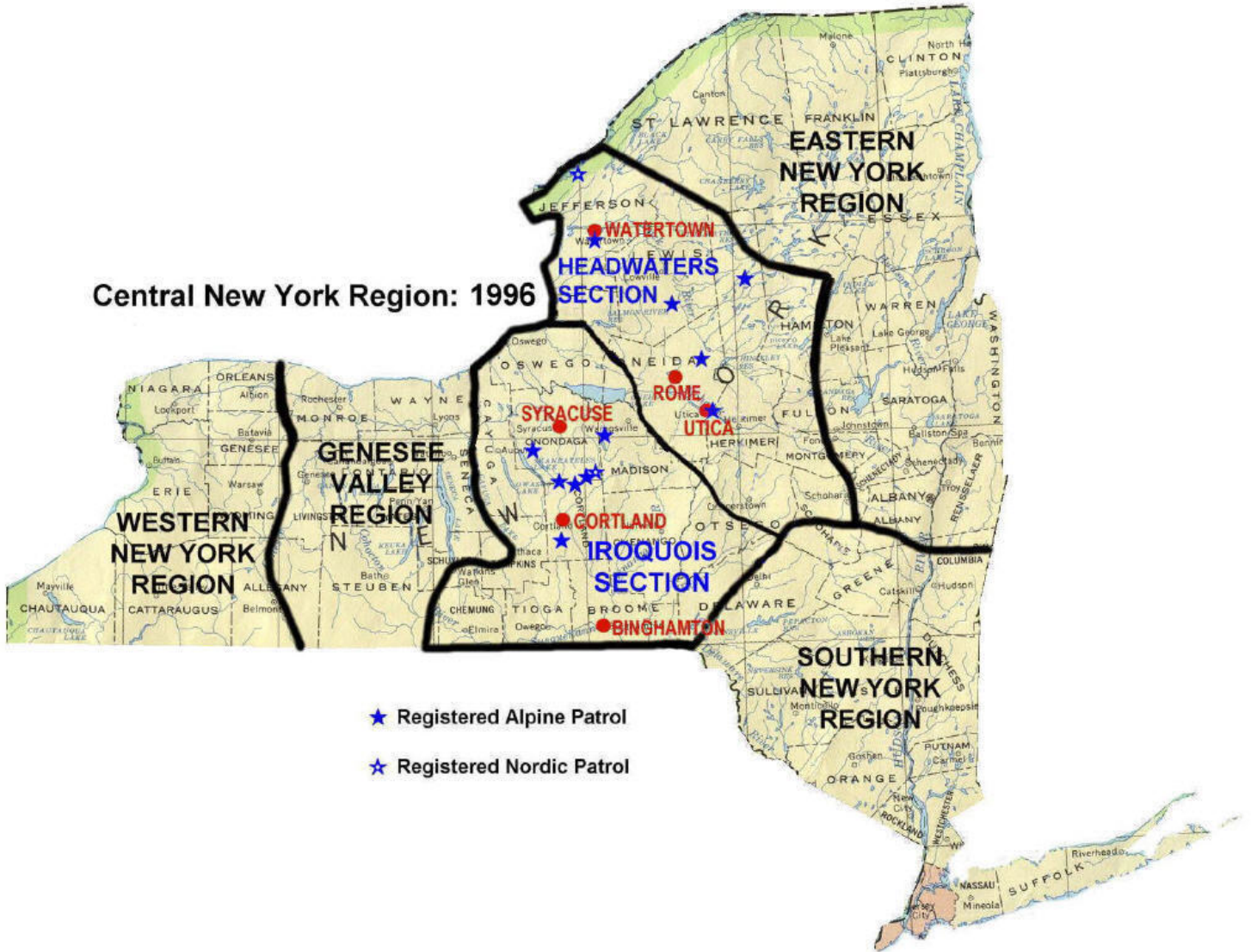




- ★ Registered Alpine Patrol
- ★ Registered Nordic Patrol



- ★ Registered Alpine Patrol
- ★ Registered Nordic Patrol



## **SYRACUSE SECTION**

The early years of the National Ski Patrol also included the years of World War Two. National Chairman "Minnie" Dole's belief that trained skiers would benefit the military should war break out brought about the creation of the U.S. Army's famed 10th Mountain Division ski troops.

In the Utica Section, Donald Rowles, recently installed as section chief, left to join the military in 1942, turning over the reigns to Henry Allen. Allen served as both section chief and regional chairman once the region was formed in 1944. (He turned the section duties over to Richard Folts in 1946).

In the Syracuse area, a patrol had been registered with the NSPS in Oswego County in 1941, but the war apparently prevented it from continuing since it was not in existence when the section was formed in 1944. Drumlins became the first NSPS-registered patrol under the auspices of the new section in 1944, even though it had a first aid patrol reportedly as early as 1938. Cazenovia Ski Club, founded in 1937, was said to have had a first aid patrol early in its existence, although it did not register with the NSPS until the late 1950s. The Pulaski Ski Club also had a first aid patrol, but only registered with the NSPS between 1946 and 1948.

In 1944, the new regional chairman was seeking more patrols for the NSPS, so Allen sought out Drumlins patroller Larry Van Alstyne to form a new section in the Syracuse area. He nominated Van Alstyne for a national appointment. On Jan. 21, 1944, Van Alstyne was awarded National Number 691, becoming the first NSPS member in what was to become the Syracuse Section.

According to Van Alstyne, during World War Two, Drumlins was one of many sites selected for recruiting the U.S. Army's new 10th Mountain Division ski troops, a unit screened by members of the NSPS and NSA. (The NSPS also had a hand in selecting troops for the Army's 87th Mountain Infantry Regiment). Van Alstyne said he had been placed in charge of publicity for the recruitment of soldiers at the Drumlins site. Forty years later, he proudly noted that he still had his ID card signed in 1940 by Senior Chief of Staff Gen. George C. Marshall. After the war, Van Alstyne said he received a citation from the War Department and a Yellow Merit Star from the NSPS for his efforts.

The Drumlins patrol and the recruiters based there were also utilized by Van Alstyne for a winter rescue unit, the first in the Syracuse area, according to Van Alstyne. He said he received an NSPS Green Merit Star for his rescue work.

During its early years, the Syracuse Section reached from northern New York State to the Southern Tier and from Rochester to Utica. In addition to Drumlins, which registered with the NSPS in 1944, Van Alstyne also belonged to the Pulaski Ski Club. Its patrol registered in 1946, followed in 1947 by the Syracuse University Ski Patrol. Dry Hill near Watertown and St. Lawrence University patrols registered about 1948.

To become a patroller in those years, a candidate had to successfully pass the American Red Cross first aid course, and the United States Eastern Amateur Ski Association (USEASA) Third Class Skiing Proficiency Test. Early patrollers were classified as either "nationals" or "registered" patrollers. Later, patrol classifications were expanded to include "national," "senior" (presumably a registered patroller over the age of 18), and "junior." (It wasn't until the early 1960s that the senior test was developed and the classifications changed to "national," "senior," "local," and "junior").

During his administration, Van Alstyne said he felt that the available first aid courses did not offer enough training for ski patrol orientation, so he and Red Cross instructor Bill Gallipeau developed a local winter first aid and rescue course that they offered each year to section patrollers. These courses, taught at Drumlins, offered training in first aid techniques best suited for ski patrollers, improvised toboggan

construction, and winter rescue. The focal point of the Ski Patrol's involvement with the Red Cross during the 1940s and early 1950s was the only woman director of safety programs at the time, Mrs. Loretta "Sammy" Newgass, who was also a registered nurse. She coordinated first aid training for the Ski Patrol from the Red Cross and provided instructors like Bill Gallipeau.

In an effort to train more patrollers and disseminate information on skiing safety, the region's first Ski Safety Conference was organized by National Appt. # 10 Harold Gore, and held at Old Forge on Oct. 26 and 27, 1946. The conference ended up training Red Cross first aid instructors to go back to their home areas and train ski patrollers. Among the attendees was Ben Hedges of Syracuse, who was in the process of setting up a patrol at Syracuse University. His patrol was registered in 1947 at the completion of first aid courses for the new patrollers. Hedges said he received a Yellow Merit Star on May 15, 1947, for setting up the new patrol.

Meanwhile, in 1946, the Pulaski Ski Club, skiing at Potter's Hill in Orwell west of Pulaski, registered its ski patrol with the NSPS. The following year, the patrol was involved in two heroic rescues, one of which was included in "Minnie" Dole's book "Adventures in Skiing."

In late 1947, Robert Williams, a member of the Syracuse University patrol, succeeded Van Alstyn as section chief. He was awarded National Number 899 on Feb. 20, 1948. During his administration, the Dry Hill and St. Lawrence University patrols were registered with the NSPS, and the Pulaski patrol passed out of existence. Williams quickly moved up the ladder and replaced Allen as regional chairman in 1949.

That year, Ben Hedges became section chief. Hedges proudly recalled that during his lengthy administration he made sure all patrols under his jurisdiction were brought up to the NSPS/USEASA standards. He also included a ski safety lecture as part of required training offered by SU patroller and National Number 810 Fay Welch. Welch was founder of the SU Ski School from which the ski patrol evolved at Syracuse University. Both Welch and Hedges had a hand in developing SU's ski patrol and both men felt that accident prevention through ski safety courses was as important to the patrol as first aid work. (Hedges was appointed National Number 1044 on May 22, 1950).

In 1949, because of the long travel distance, Hedges had the Dry Hill and St. Lawrence University patrols transferred to the Lowville Section.

The call to duty for the Ski Patrol was hard to overcome for Ben Hedges. In a Feb. 7, 1948, letter to Syracuse University Ski School Director George Earle, Hedges said he wanted to step down as head of the SU patrol at the time of the formal opening of the new SU Ski Lodge at Skytop. He cited increasing business and family commitments as reasons for turning the position over "and let another have that honor and attending responsibilities."

Less than a year later, Hedges accepted the job of section chief and held the position for the next decade. More patrols were formed and registered with NSPS during Hedges' administration, including the Onondaga Ski Club Patrol (1954) and Toggenburg (1958). Labrador and Cazenovia patrols were trained during Hedges' term and were registered in 1960 during the first year of John Collins' administration. The year 1961 saw the establishment of three patrols: Mystic Mt., Skaneateles Ski Club, and Song Mt.

SC Jack Woodruff formed the Syracuse Metropolitan Ski Patrol in 1962 to pick up extra candidates who wished to join the NSPS, and to provide section patrols with a pool of patrollers for substitution or duty during peak periods.

Under Woodruff's direction, the section took over the responsibility from individual patrols for providing the annual fall first aid refresher. The section-wide refresher, according to Myla Greene, who helped coordinate it, started in 1962. It was a two-day affair that included a banquet at the refresher site, Drumlins. (The refresher evolved in subsequent years to a one-day section and one-day local patrol session). The refresher concept initiated that year started as a result of attendance at the Eastern Division

Winter Seminar (later called the Fall Forum) at Stratton Mountain, Greene said. Prior to the section-sponsored refresher, patrollers could attend patrol-run refreshers or could update Red Cross cards at the CNY Region Ski Safety Conference, held annually since the first one in Old Forge in 1946. The Conference continued into the early 1960s at various sites in the region, including Whiteface Mt., Greek Peak, Oak Mt. (Speculator), or Royal Mt. (Johnstown). Greene recalled that patrollers could attend two out of every three years to these "refreshers," made up of one classroom day and the next day outdoors. In later years, these sessions included the region first aid competition. Conferences included sessions on improvising splints, toboggans, and winter rescue. (Possibly it was this material that former SC Larry Van Alstyne claims that he and Bill Gallipeau started teaching in the Syracuse Section back in the 1940s).

During the late 1960s and early 1970s, the Syracuse Section reached its peak in growth, reaching almost 400 patrollers and 11 active patrols. In 1968, the section initiated a section-wide, section-sponsored Winter Supplement first aid course, taking the responsibility from individual patrols and first aid instructors.

By the late 1970s, inadequate snow conditions, bankruptcies and changes in ski area ownership caused the demise of a number of ski areas and their patrols — Drumlins, Intermont, Ironwood Ridge, Syracuse University, and eventually, Mystic Mt.

Section bylaws were written during the administration of Jack Woodruff, dated 1966, and rewritten during Myla Greene's term of office, dated 1972. The later version limited the section chief's term of office to two two-year terms.

By 1976, in addition to the demise —or imminent demise— of several ski areas, recruiting and retaining patrollers on the other Syracuse Section patrols was becoming more difficult due to increased time required to become a patroller. In 1974, the Red Cross had changed its first aid programs and textbooks. The former 30-hour combined standard and advanced courses had grown to a 52-hour Advanced First Aid and Emergency Care course. Added to this was the 12-hour section Winter Supplement first aid course.

SC Don Gallinger in 1976 asked his first aid advisor, Gene Smith, to prepare a document to voice section concerns to the Eastern Division administration so they in turn could bring these to the national meeting.

Smith wrote the section "white paper," a six-plus page report urging that minimum entrance standards to the NSPS be reduced, taking into account that patrollers are volunteers and the high number of hours required for the advanced course were too much to ask from a candidate to take on speculation that he or she would be accepted into the NSPS. Smith argued that the 21-hour Standard First Aid and Personal Safety course of the Red Cross, plus the Winter Supplement, should be sufficient training for entrance into the Ski Patrol. The "white paper" was not enthusiastically received, and the higher standards remained in effect.

The Syracuse Section received more positive notice in the 1970s from a variety of projects. In 1970, under the direction of Bob Klos, a 16mm motion picture for training patrollers was filmed by students from Syracuse University. This film was well received by the national administration of NSPS and was sold to other sections and regions of the NSPS.

Between 1972 and 1979, the section designed and frequently upgraded a promotional exhibit that featured photos and displays about Ski Patrol and ski safety. The exhibits, developed under the direction of Jeff Paston, were displayed at local ski shows and shopping centers. At the 1978 Eastern Division Fall Forum, the section exhibit was awarded a first place trophy.

Paston also designed a ski safety sign, which promoted courtesy and safety on the slopes. The sign

received widespread distribution between 1975 and 1978 throughout the US, and also in Canada and Europe.

A medical authorization card designed by Skaneateles PL John Derbyshire in 1975 was widely distributed by the section. The section also designed and had manufactured waxed cardboard splints, which were marketed throughout the US.

In the 1960s, Intermont patroller Dick Charles developed what he had hoped would become the symbol of the NSPS. He, with artist and fellow patroller Fred Thrane, designed a St. Bernard dog and named it "Fondue." Charles had pins made and approached the national administration. However, the idea did not interest them. Charles donated the dog to the Syracuse Section in 1977 as a mascot. The section sponsored a contest in the national NSPS newsletter for a new name for the dog in 1978. Eighty-year-old John Hessey of Wayzata, MN, then the oldest active patroller in the US, won the contest, submitting the name "Rusty." In 1980, the national administration adopted "Rusty" as the official mascot of the NSPS.

During the early 1980s, the Syracuse Section increased its public ski safety campaigns with numerous binding check clinics conducted at most ski areas in the section. A "Rusty the St. Bernard" costume was custom made (to fit the more than 6-foot frame of Ski Safety Advisor Norm Kiehle) and the NSPS mascot made the rounds of section ski areas to promote ski safety and the Ski Patrol. The section also made a strong effort to gain more senior patrollers under the leadership of training and testing advisor Steve Laffer.

Both the Syracuse Section and the Central New York Region celebrated 40th anniversaries as components of the National Ski Patrol System during 1984. Formal recognition of the milestone was observed during the Eastern Division Fall Forum held at Greek Peak Sept. 14-16, 1984.

In the mid 1980s, the Eastern Division realigned the Central New York Region to better balance the number of patrols in each section. Skaneateles patrol was transferred in 1984 and Labrador in 1985 to the Southern Tier Section, which by that time had only Greek Peak.

After 54 years, the Syracuse Section's name was retired in 1996 when the Division merged it with the Southern Tier Section and formed the new Iroquois Section, named for the confederation of native American tribes that once occupied upstate New York. The once huge Central New York Region was now left with only two sections: Iroquois and Headwaters.

## SYRACUSE SECTION

Founded: 1944

Merged into Iroquois Section: 1996

### Patrols (*Date patrol registered with NSPS follows patrol name*)

<i>Camillus</i>	(1965-2000)	<i>Onondaga Ski Club</i>	(1954-1967)
<i>Cazenovia</i>	(c.1960)	<i>Oswego College</i>	(1963; 1965; 1970**)
<i>Drumlins</i>	(1944-1976)	<i>Pulaski Ski Club</i>	(1946-1948)
<i>Dry Hill</i>	(c.1947 #)	<i>St. Lawrence University</i>	(c.1947 #)
<i>Four Seasons</i>	(1972**)	<b>Skaneateles</b>	(1961 ##)
<i>Highland Forest Nordic</i>	(1982)	<i>Syracuse Section Nordic</i>	(1978; 1979-1997)
<i>Intermont</i>	(1966-1976)	<i>Syracuse Metropolitan</i>	(1962-1967)
<i>Ironwood Ridge</i>	(1967-1977)	<i>Syracuse University</i>	(1947-1978)
<i>Labrador</i>	(1960 ####)	<b>Song Mt.</b>	(1961)
<i>Mystic Mt.</i>	(1961-1986)	<b>Toggenburg</b>	(1958)
		<i>Van Buren Central Park</i>	(1975**)

\*\*registered one season

transferred from section: #—1949 ##—1984 ###—1985

Oswego County Ski Patrol registered c.1941, but not in existence when section formed in 1944.

During its peak registration years in the late 1960s and early 1970s, the Syracuse Section had almost 400 patrollers serving as many as 11 active patrols – making it larger than many NSPS regions!

### Section Chiefs

1944-47	Larry Van Alstyne Sr.
1947-49	Robert B. Williams+
1949-59	Herbert L. "Ben" Hedges
1960-62	John Collins
1962-66	Jack Woodruff
1966-68	B. Terry Avery
1968-69	William Nealon
1970-71	Les Borland Sr.
1971-73	Myla Greene ++
1973-77	Don Gallinger
1977-79	Barbara Gerber
1979-81	H. Gene Smith
1981-85	Jeff Paston
1985-87	Fred Ferguson
1987-89	Lynn Dodge
1990-94	Bernard Perry
1995-96	Ed Siegenthaler ( <i>Served as Iroquois Section Chief until 1998</i> )

+Bob Williams became regional chairman in 1949, and Eastern Division chairman in 1954, a position he held until 1959,

++Myla Greene served as regional director from 1973 to 1977.

Section bylaws rewritten during administration of Myla Greene. In these, the term of the section chief was limited to two two-year terms.

### Section Achievements

- 1978—1st Place Trophy -- Syracuse Section NSPS exhibit; awarded at Eastern Division 1978 Fall Forum.  
 1979—William Gross Memorial Award (for outstanding lifesaving first aid): awarded to Douglas Scharbach, (Song Mt. Ski Patrol).  
 1980—Outstanding Ski Patrol in the Eastern Division: Song Mt. Ski Patrol.  
 1980—NSPS Unit Citation: Song Mt. Ski Patrol.

### Section Contests

*CNY Region First Aid contests:* Syracuse Section patrol teams participated in these first aid contests during the 1960s and early 1970s, after which the contests were eliminated due to a lack of interest.

*Syracuse Section First Aid Competition:* The Section attempted to rejuvenate first aid competition with a Section-wide event held during the 1976 and 1977 Onondaga Ski Club Ski Shows. The 1976 winner was a team from Song Mt., and the 1977 winning team was from Toggenburg.

*The John Gardiner Memorial Trophy:* Awarded to an outstanding Section patroller each year in memory of late Toggenburg and Syracuse University patroller. Trophy awarded c.1959 to 1968. Retired in 1968 to the Gardiner family. Names of winning patrollers inscribed on trophy. SC Bill Nealon replaced the outstanding patroller award with an annual race as a "living memorial" to Gardiner. The John Gardiner Memorial Race was run into the early 1970s, when interest waned.

### Section projects

*Ski Patrol Training Film (1970):* 16mm motion picture filmed by Syracuse University students. Project developed by RD Bob Klos. Film sold to other sections/regions in NSPS.

*"Rusty" St. Bernard Dog mascot:* Once official mascot of the NSPS. Developed in 1960s by Intermont (later Toggenburg and Song Mt.) patroller Dick Charles with fellow patroller and artist Fred Thrane; originally named "Fondue." Mascot given to Syracuse Section by Charles in 1977; named "Rusty" (the official Ski Patrol parka in those days was rust color) in national NSPS newsletter contest in 1978 by John Hessey of Wayzata, MN, who at 80-years-old was then the oldest active patroller in US. Adopted by NSPS as mascot in 1980. (Dog mascot first proposed to National as fund raiser by SC Bill Nealon in 1968).

*Medical Authorization ID card:(1975):* Developed by Skaneateles PL John Derbyshire. Distributed widely in area and through NSPS.

*Cardboard Splints:* Waxed, folded cardboard splints were developed and marketed by the Section since the 1960s.

*Ski Safety Signs (1975-1978):* Signs showed Skier's Courtesy Code and were marketed throughout the NSPS. Developed by Jeff Paston.

*Section Exhibit (1972, 1973, 1975):* Exhibit promoting Ski Patrol and ski safety, developed by Jeff Paston with Don Gallinger and Walt Manderfield, Shown at area ski shows and shopping centers. Awarded 1st Place Trophy at Eastern Division NSPS 1978 Fall Forum.

*Section Exhibit (1979):* New exhibit to replace previous display, designed and built by Jeff Paston with Steve Laffer. Paston built at least two more exhibits.

**National Appointments**

521	Claude M. Campbell	1943	Syracuse University (Transferred to SU patrol in 1948)
691	Larry Van Alstyne	1/21/44	Drumlins
810	Fay Welch	1946	Syracuse University
856	John N. Gardiner	1947	Syracuse University
899	Robert B. Williams	2/20/48	Drumlins
1043	Gene Beckeman	1949	Syracuse University
1044	Herbert L. Hedges	1949	Syracuse University
1186	H. Philip Farnham	1950	Drumlins
1187	Richard P. Van Saun	1950	Syracuse University
1634	John Ralph	9/20/54	Drumlins
2087	John Collins	1958	Drumlins
132	Elaine K. Creegan	1959	Syracuse University
2183	John Tewey	1959	Syracuse University
2463	Elton Fairbank	1-1-60	Labrador
2448	John Woodruff	12-6-61	Toggenburg
2565	Lars Lorentzen	1962-63	Onondaga Ski Club
167	Carol Abar	1962-63	Drumlins
2805	William Wadsworth	12-4-64	Syracuse University
2806	Barbara Wadsworth	12-4-64	Syracuse University
2814	Les Borland (Sr.)	1964-65	Toggenburg
2815	Myla Greene	6-4-65	Intermont
2816	Kurt Paye	6-4-65	Labrador
3135	Phil Resch	5-29-67	Toggenburg
3151	B. Terry Avery	5-29-67	Labrador
3152	Jack Erickson	5-29-67	Song Mt.
3227	Les Borland (Jr.)	3-28-68	Toggenburg
3228	William Nealon	4-1-68	Toggenburg
3263	William Rogers	5-10-68	Song Mt.
3264	Andrew Misura	5-10-68	Intermont
3265	Andrew Leidal	5-10-68	Mystic Mt.
3312	Fred Pullus	10-28-68	Song Mt.
3490	Donald Gallinger	9-24-69	Song Mt.
3491	Harold Hill	9-24-69	Song Mt.
3492	Russ Hartwell	9-24-69	Labrador
3627	Shirley Gallinger	6-22-70	Song Mt.
3628	Vern Williams	6-22-70	Song Mt.
3629	Florence Mazurek	6-22-70	Song Mt.
3630	John Magruder	6-22-70	Song Mt.
3631	Frank Spann	6-22-70	Labrador
3639	Ronald Smith	6-22-70	Toggenburg
3922	T. Hume Laidman	10-15-71	Song Mt.
3944	Phil Stevens	1-10-72	Labrador
4058	Bill Diefendorf	6-22-72	Ironwood Ridge
4079	Jerry Baril	9-20-72	Camillus
4227	Bernard Perry	1973	Titus Mt. (later joined Toggenburg)
4320	Sandy Stein	1-25-74	Song Mt.

4343	Ann Altmeyer	4-1-74	Cazenovia
4344	Bunt Osborne	4-1-74	Skaneateles
4465	Ernie Case	4-4 -74	Labrador
4466	Robert Klos	5-10-74	Song Mt.
4467	Bill Nugent	4-4-74	Labrador
4468	Peg Laidman	5-10-74	Cazenovia
4469	Martin Connors	5-10-74	Labrador
4573	Nelson Putnam	3-20-75	Labrador
4576	Walt Manderfield	3-20-75	Song Mt.
4593	Lu Putnan	3-28-75	Labrador
4594	Barbara Hodgkins	3-28-75	Labrador
4801	Barbara Gerber	3-8-76	Labrador
4802	H. Gene Smith	3-8-76	Song Mt.
5018	George Rowland	11-16-76	Labrador
5143	Bernie Sheehan	4-9-77	Labrador
5239	Ed Sutfin	3-27-78	Labrador
5338	Volker Weiss	4-27-78	Toggenburg
5340	Richard Kilgore	4-27-78	Labrador
5382	Jeff Paston	11-14-78	Song Mt.
5383	Dean Ottaway	11-14-78	Toggenburg
5629	Eileen Snyder	3-26-80	Labrador
5717	Howard Bethel	5-80	Song Mt.
5759	Jerry Mahoney	6-30-80	Toggenburg
5799	Ronald Marks	4-4-81	Song Mt.
5832	Fred Ferguson	4-17-81	Song Mt.
5927	Donald Hyde	1982	Labrador
6084	Paul Wicker	1982	Song Mt.
6085	William Wells	1982	Camillus
6097	Bryan Hedges	1983	Labrador
6278	Lynn Dodge	1984	Toggenburg
6279	Paul Steiner	1984	Toggenburg
6431	Stephen Laffer	1985	Labrador
6749	Karen Krichbaum	1986	Song Mt.
6801	Elaine Gingold	1987	Labrador
6936	Cynthia Mahoney	1988	Labrador
7022	Kurt Lavin	1988	Song Mt.
7055	John Tuttle	1989	Labrador
7501	Bruce Heukrath	1992	Toggenburg
7690	Ed Siegenthaler	1993	Toggenburg
7707	Matt Kossegi	1993	Song Mt. (Secondary reg.; received award at Whiteface Mt.)
9452	Peter Durdon	2001	Labrador
9548	Noel Rios	2002	Labrador
9906	Robert Sloan	2003	Song Mt.

Interestingly, the National Numbers on these pages are believed accurate as to the number actually issued to the individual. However, on NSPS lists, the numbers do not always coincide, perhaps because groups of numbers were issued at a time and were recorded in different order than presented.

#### Leadership Commendation Award

2020	Bill Halsey	1995	Song Mt
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## **DRUMLINS Ski Patrol**

Registered with NSPS 1944-76  
Patrolled Drumlins ski area, Syracuse, NY

### **Patrol Leaders**

1944—Larry Van Alstyne Sr.  
1947—A. Kendrick Plumraer  
1948—Philip Farnham  
1952—John R. Ralph  
1956—John R. Collins  
1958—Theodore Weisberg  
1960—Carol Abar  
1965—Jack Woodruff\*  
1966—Arley Morey  
1968—Don Wood  
1975—Joseph Procopio

\*Acting PL -- Jack Woodruff as SC and as area manager filled the PL vacancy when Carol Abar left the patrol.

### **Patrol History**

The Syracuse Section was founded in 1944 with Drumlins PL Larry Van Alstyne as its first section chief. Since the formation of the NSPS in the Syracuse area was generated by Van Alstyne, it followed that his patrol would be the first to register with the NSPS once the section had been formed. (Prior to the section being formed, a patrol had been registered in Oswego County in 1941, but showed no activity after that and was not in existence when the section came into being). The leadership of the new section in its early years came mainly from Drumlins, and a few years after, from Syracuse University Ski Patrol.

Drumlins Country Club's ski area started about 1938. The ski slope was actually a drumlin located in the middle of the club's golf course.

During World War II, Drumlins became a recruiting base for the US Army's 10th Mountain Division ski troops. Van Alstyne had been in charge of publicity for the recruiting effort. After the war, he said he received a Yellow Merit Star from the NSPS for his work.

At Drumlins, Van Alstyne said he set up the Syracuse area's first winter rescue unit, made up of people working on the recruitment effort at Drumlins and of the area's first aid patrol. Drumlins reportedly had a first aid patrol in existence from its earliest year.

Throughout its existence, Drumlins was often used as a training site for the Ski Patrol and was used for refreshers and Winter Supplement courses. The ski area and ski school were operated by SC Jack Woodruff, who leased the facilities from Rod Burlingame, owner and founder of Drumlins.

In the early 1970s, the ski area was often not open due to a lack of snow cover, a result of a number of mild winters in Central New York. Once billed as the place "where Central New Yorkers learned to ski," the newer, larger ski centers had taken a toll on tiny Drumlins. The final blow came when Syracuse University purchased Drumlins from the Burlingame family and decided to close the ski hill in 1976. The Drumlins Ski Patrol was dissolved that year.

(The Section files show that Drumlins patrol members were not registered for the 1965-66 ski season due to a delay in the receipt of registrations. Apparently, the registrations were received after the June 30, 1966, deadline. SC Terry Avery directed registration fees be refunded or applied to the dues for the following season in an effort to straighten out the confusion).

**Notable Patrol Members**

Larry Van Alstyne—Syracuse SC

Carol Abar—Section membership advisor; APL Syracuse Metropolitan

John Collins—Syracuse SC

Les Borland Sr.—Syracuse SC; PL Toggenburg; Section treasurer

John Erickson—ASC—First Aid

Philip Farnham—PL Onondaga

Don Wood—Syracuse city firefighter

Jack Woodruff—Syracuse SC; Toggenburg PL; owner/leasee of Drumlins Ski School and ski area (early 1960s-1973)

## **PULASKI SKI CLUB Patrol**

Registered with NSPS: 1946-48

Patrolled Potter's Hill near Orwell, east of Pulaski, NY

### **Patrol Leaders**

1946—Harry Butler

1947—E. Ray Arnold

### **Patrol history**

The Pulaski Ski Club had a first aid patrol early in its existence, however it did not register with the NSPS until 1946. The club had been in existence for several years when it registered its patrol, and it lasted a few more years after dropping its patrol affiliation. According to Harry Butler, former PL, when the club moved to a new hill in the late '40s, interest waned and the club went out of existence.

Although the patrol was short lived, it distinguished itself with two heroic rescues in March, 1947. Butler wrote reports on the two incidents, which made local newspapers. The first one was included in NSPS founder Charles "Minnie" Dole's autobiographical book "Adventures in Skiing" (1965, Franklin Watts Inc., New York). It is quoted below from page 70:

The Pulaski, New York, Patrol sent the following report:

"At 11:30 p.m. on March 5, Dr. Fred Loomis issued a call for our patrol. A visitor from Auburn had suffered ruptured stomach ulcers which required immediate hospital attention. Dr. Loomis, with the help of the State Police, had secured an Aeronca aircraft equipped with skis and pilot. The severe storms and heavy snow made local aircraft unobtainable. The pilot, Dick Chapman of Syracuse, was to take off, fly to Richland airport four miles east of this village, pick up Mr. Wallace there, and return to Syracuse.

The roads between here and Richland were almost impassable, but our job was to get the patient from the ambulance and into the plane. A snowplow preceded the police car and ambulance and we eventually got within three hundred yards of the airport. A flare path was laid out and the plane landed at 1:10 a.m. The snow was four feet deep, and a path had to be beaten out for the plane before takeoff. Five attempts to take off were made without success.

Then word came that a locomotive had been found in the Richland railroad yard. We took the patient from the plane to the locomotive, where we had to change him on the patrol stretcher, which was smaller and fitted into the engine deck. At 3:40 a.m., the engine started for Watertown with the patient and Dr. Loomis. At 4:55, a successful operation was finally performed in the hospital. The patient is comfortable, but his condition is still serious."

Butler recalled that he felt sorry for the patient because of the extreme pain. He said the patient suffered every time the patrollers rocked the wings of the plane in the attempt to free it from the snow for takeoff. But, he noted, the rescue of two days later was even more harrowing for the skiers.

On March 7, 1947, the patrol was called to a farm to transport a youth with a ruptured appendix. The farm was located well off the road near Fernwood, a community five miles south of Pulaski. After making their way through extremely deep snow, the youth's father commented that "it was a shame the patrollers worked so hard getting there, because his son's pain had gone away," Butler recalled. The patrollers, he said, packed the youth's abdomen in snow and loaded him on their toboggan for the long trek by ski to Fernwood, where roads had been plowed one lane wide.

## SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY Ski Patrol

Registered with NSPS: 1947-78  
 Patrolled Syracuse University Skytop area,  
 Syracuse University skiing events,  
 Hufftail Hollow trail,  
 Little Tuck

### Patrol leaders

1947— Ben Hedges	1966— Donald DeSalvia
1948— John Gardiner	1967 —David Araor
1955 —Lars Lorentzen	1968 —Martha Loew
4/57 —Wayne Leach	1970— Richard Loew
5/58 —Barbara Wadsworth	1971— H. Edward Walker
4/59 —Thomas P. Barrett	1972 —Bryan Hedges
11/60—Myla Greene	

### Patrol history

Ski Patrol activity in the early Syracuse Section was generated from two of the section's earliest patrols: Drumlins and Syracuse University. The SU patrol had been plagued in its later years by a lack of candidates presumably due to more interest in joining the larger hills south of Syracuse; by a lack of interest by the University to keep the Skytop Ski Area going; and by mild winters which forced Skytop to remain closed due to lack of snow in the years 1955, '56, '57; '76, and '77. The leadership of the patrol turned out to be a family affair when the son of the first patrol leader became the last patrol leader. When mild weather kept Skytop closed in 1976 and 1977, the University decided to close the area permanently. It was Bryan Hedges who filed the patrol's last NSPS registration in 1977 for the season ending in May 1978.

The nucleus of organized skiing in Syracuse was probably centered in the University community. Fay Welch, National Number 810, recalled that in the early 1930s, he was one of three people who skied in the University area. He said he and one other faculty member of the State University's College of Forestry (located adjacent to the SU campus), and a dean in the SU Law School skied in those days. He remembered the notoriety he gained when he skied down from the University hill campus to the local Marshall Street shopping district for lunch.

It was Welch who started the Syracuse University Ski School, and who became director of skiing for the school and director of the ski team. The Ski Patrol evolved from the ski school and was founded by Welch and Ben Hedges, a power company accountant, with assistance of Welch's Forestry College associate Robert Williams.

Hedges recalled attending the Region Ski Safety Conference in Old Forge on Oct. 26 and 27, 1946, where first aid instructors were trained so they would return to their patrols to train more patrollers in first aid. Many of the early SU patrol members had been taking first aid instruction on and off since 1945, and a new class was wrapping up in early 1947 as the patrol was being registered. For his efforts in forming the new patrol, Hedges said he was presented with a Yellow Merit Star on May 15, 1947.

The patrol covered University skiing events and also patrolled what was later to be known as Skytop, as well as the Hufftail Hollow Trail, and Little Tuck. Hufftail Hollow Trail, located near Jamesville on the Jamesville-Apulia Road, was on property owned by SU Ski Team coach George Earle, who was with the College of Forestry and was a member of the World War II ski troops. Little Tuck, located near Otisco at the intersection of Otisco and Woodmancy roads, was acquired by the University in 1947. (Little Tuck was so named because it resembled a small version of Tuckerman's Ravine in New Hampshire. The University turned the area over to the Onondaga Ski Club about 1954).

After serving a year as patrol leader, family and business pressures, coupled with the birth of Bryan in March 1947 and the death of his father in December, Hedges wrote on Feb. 7, 1948, to George Earle, who was now director of the ski school. Hedges said he would step down as PL upon the formal opening of the new SU Ski Lodge at Skytop later that year. Meanwhile, his fellow patroller Bob Williams had become Syracuse Section Chief in late 1947. On Feb. 20, 1948, Williams was appointed National Number 899. Hedges selected National Patroller 856 John Gardiner as his successor as PL. Gardiner had been very active with the Snow Ridge patrol in Turin before joining SU.

The lure of Ski Patrol leadership brought Hedges to the section chief's position about a year later when Williams moved up to regional chairman. (Hedges and fellow SU patroller Gene Beckeman were made nationals on May 22, 1950 -- Hedges with 1044, and Beckeman with 1043). Hedges later joined the Onondaga Ski Club Patrol, when that patrol was formed.

Among the many notable accomplishments of members of the SU patrol was the "Outstanding Ski Patroller in the Syracuse Section" award to PL Myla Greene for 1963-64. On Dec. 4, 1964, the NSPS' first husband and wife recipients of national appointments were SU patrollers Bill and Barbara "Bobbie" Wadsworth -- 2805 and 2806.

### **Notable patrol members**

John Albright—fonner Post-Standard ski columnist  
 Elton Fairbank—Red Cross Safety Programs Dir., Chapter Mgr.. ARC Div. Dir.  
 Myla Greene—Syracuse SC, CNY RD, PL Intermont  
 Ben Hedges—Syracuse SC  
 Lars Lorentzen—PL Onondaga, PL Intermont  
 Jim Staeck—Patrol Dir. Killington  
 Barbara Wadsworth—SU Dir. of Skiing for Women  
 William Wadsworth—Camping Dir., Boy Scouts of America HQ  
 Fay Welch—Dir. of SU Ski School and Ski Team  
 Robert Williams—Syracuse SC, CNY Reg. Chrmn., Eastern Division Chrmn,  
 Joseph Creegan—PL Toggenburg

## **ONONDAGA SKI CLUB Ski Patrol**

Registered with NSPS: 1954-67  
Patrolled Little Tuck Ski Area near Otisco

### **Patrol Leaders**

1954—H. Philip Farnham  
1956—Robert H. Barnes  
1957—Robert L. Hale  
1959—Paul Stephens  
1/62 —Leonard D. Nelson  
1963—Lars Lorentzen

### **Patrol history**

The Onondaga Ski Club patrol was founded in 1954 by H. Philip Farnham. The club secured use of the Syracuse University-owned area of Little Tuck east of Otisco at the intersection of Otisco and Woodmancy roads. The area was so named because it reminded skiers of Tuckerman's Ravine in New Hampshire. One of the club's presidents, John Magruder, constructed the lodge for the area.

In the 1960s, the club made plans to develop Little Tuck into a larger ski area. Reportedly, when the University found out about the ski club's plans, the school decided to develop Little Tuck into a public ski area itself. Unfortunately, the University found the development costs would be too high, so the area was closed in the mid-1960s.

Without an area to patrol by 1965, the club's patrol finally disbanded in 1967. Its last patrol leader, Lars Lorentzen, became the first PL for the new Intermont Ski Patrol.

### **Notable patrol members**

John Albright—Post-Standard ski columnist  
Myla Greene—Syracuse SC. CNY RD. Intermont PL, SU PL  
\*Ben Hedges—Syracuse SC, SU PL  
Lars Lorentzen—PL Intermont  
H. Philip Farnham—PL Drumlins

\*Hedges retired from the NSPS in 1966

## TOGGENBURG Ski Patrol

Registered with NSPS: 1958

Patrols Toggenburg Mountain Ski Center: Fabius, NY

### Patrol Leaders

1958 —Joseph Creegan	1977—Gerald Mahoney
1960 —Leslie Borland Sr.	1980—Scott Manuel
1961 —Jack Woodruff	1982---Lynn Dodge
1962 —Phillip Resch	1984---Nancy Carroll
1965 —Jack E. Middleton	1986---Robert Triggs
1966 —Leslie R. Borland Jr.	1988---Ed Siegenthaler
1969 —Ronald Smith	1993---Bill Goode
1970 —Kent Heacox	1999---Craig Collins
1971 —Volker Weiss	2001---Cindy Hoalcraft
1972 —Bruce Heukrath	2006---Rich Tordoff
1974— Donald DeSalvia	2007---Geff Dennee
1975— Paul Steiner	

### Patrol history

Before Toggenburg opened, the largest slopes in the Syracuse area were at hills owned by local ski clubs, or at Drumlins or Syracuse University's Skytop. Most skiers had to travel to Snow Ridge near Turin or to the Adirondacks or Vermont for big-time skiing. The area traces its beginnings to 1953.

When Eugene Hickey, Frank Mueller and Harry Ehle started Toggenburg , a first aid patrol was formed. Soon, it was apparent the new patrol should meet national standards and have a national affiliation. So in 1958, the Toggenburg Ski Patrol registered with the National Ski Patrol System. The patrol had only seven members, a few of whom transferred from Drumlins and SU. The rest were newly trained.

In the early years, Toggenburg patrollers wore a distinctive red parka with a white cross and the words "Toggenburg Ski Patrol" in white script lettering across the front. Later, the patrol adopted the NSPS uniform rust parka. As the patrol celebrated 50 years with the NSP, it once again was in a red parka with National Ski Patrol insignia and a distinctive Toggenburg patrol patch. The patrol has grown to almost 50 members who meet standardized "Outdoor Emergency Care" and ski and toboggan training.

Among the patrol's highlights over 50 years:

In December, 1974, patroller Paul Steiner received the NSPS Purple Merit Star for saving the life of a back injury patient on the Toggenburg slopes a year earlier.

In 1975, Toggenburg was one of the first rescue organizations in the nation to use the "Harrington Body Splint" for neck and back injuries. It was a gift from former Patrol Leader Kent Heacox in memory of his daughter.

In 1977, a Toggenburg Ski Patrol team won the Syracuse Section First Aid Competition.

In 1993, the patrol was the cover story in the NSP's national magazine.

Toggenburg's patrollers have served the NSP and the community with distinction over the years: The NSP's "Rusty" the St. Bernard mascot was developed by Toggenburg patroller Dick Charles. The late John Gardiner was so respected that a yearly Syracuse Section ski race in the late 1960s and early 1970s was named after him. Patroller Joe Mercurio travelled to New Zealand in 1969 and traded valuable information with patrols there. The late Dorothy Woessner served as Eastern Division registrar for many years and in 1981 was given one of the few honorary national appointments (#56) ever awarded. The late Bill Nealon served as an Assistant Division Director and division treasurer. Myla Greene was the Central New York Region Director. Les Borland Sr., Lynn Dodge, Myla Greene, Jeff Paston, Bernie Perry, Ed

Siegenthaler, Larry Van Alstyne, and Jack Woodruff all served as Syracuse Section chiefs. Paul Steiner served as both section and region treasurer for more than 25 years. Kay Seibert was a section public relations advisor, and Ellie White was a mountaineering advisor. A few patrollers even served as patrol leaders at other areas before coming to Toggenburg: Al Chartrand (Mystic Mt.), Donald DeSalvia (SU), Harold Fraedenburg (Mystic Mt.), John Gardiner (SU), Myla Greene (SU and Intermont), Martha and Richard Loew (SU), Gary Litvin (Mystic Mt.), Paul Martellock (Clarkson-Seven Springs), Kay Seibert (Intermont), Larry VanAlstyne (Drumlins), and Jack Woodruff (Drumlins; Jack also owned the Drumlins Ski School and operated the ski area for many years).

Concurrent with celebration of the patrol's registration with the NSP for 50 years in 2008, member Phil Resch also celebrated his 50th season as a patroller.

### **Notable patrol members**

Les Borland Sr.—Syracuse SC

Dick Charles—(member of Toggenburg, 1975-80) developed NSPS "Rusty" St. Bernard dog mascot

Al Chartrand—PL Mystic Mt.

Donald DeSalvia—PL Syracuse Univ. Ski Patrol

Lynn Dodge—Syracuse SC, Section treasurer, mountaineering advisor

Harold Fraedenburg—PL Mystic Mt.

John Gardiner—PL Syracuse Univ. Ski Patrol

Myla Greene—(joined Toggenburg 1977) CNY RD, Syracuse SC, PL Intermont, PL Syracuse Univ. Ski Patrol

Gary Litvin—PL Mystic Mt.

Martha Lowe—PL Syracuse Univ. Ski Patrol

Richard Lowe—PL Syracuse Univ. Ski Patrol

Paul Martellock—PL Clarkson-Seven Springs

Joseph Mercurio—travelled to New Zealand in 1969 and exchanged ideas with ski patrols there.

Bill Nealon—Syracuse SC, Eastern Div. treasurer, Asst. DD, Div. registration coordinator, Section treas.

Dean Ottaway—PL Intermont

Jeff Paston—(joined Toggenburg 1993) Syracuse SC; ASC; Section PR advisor, ski safety advisor; CNY Reg. PR and ski safety advisor; CNY Reg. awards advisor

Bernie Perry—Syracuse SC

Kay Seibert—PL Intermont; Section public information advisor; Section secretary

Ed Siegethaler—Syracuse SC

Paul Steiner—Syracuse section treasurer; CNY Region treasurer

Larry Van Alstyne Sr.—Syracuse SC, PL Drumlins

Gail Wagner—Section secretary

Ellie White—Syracuse Section mountaineering advisor

Dorothy Woessner—Eastern Div. registration coordinator; Honorary National Appt. 56 (1981)

Jack Woodruff—Syracuse SC, PL Drumlins, American Red Cross; owned Drumlins Ski Area and Drumlins Ski School.

## CAZENOVIA SKI CLUB Patrol

Registered with NSPS: c.1960

Patrols Cazenovia Ski Club, near Chittenango and Cazenovia, NY

### Patrol Leaders

1/60 —Phyllis Kent \*  
 1962 —James N, Capps M.D.  
 1968 —George Bickford  
 1972 —Ann Altmeyer  
 1973 —Peggy Laidraan  
 12/75—David Adams  
 1977 —Ralph Swalm  
 1980 —T. Hume Laidman \*\*  
 1981 —James King  
 1984 —Richard Husted  
 1985 —Robert Horstmyer  
 1995— Peter King

\*Earliest registration in Section files dated 1/18/60. The form indicates no previous registration, but crossed out above that line are the years "1958-59." The 12/60 registration indicates the previous registration to be "1959."

\*\*Acting PL. James and Russ King took over the duties jointly of patrol leader. Laidman was PL for registration purposes after Ralph Swalm stepped down. Brothers Peter and Jim King have alternately served as PL in subsequent years. As of 2007, Jim King was PL.

### Patrol history

The Cazenovia Ski Club was founded in 1937 and reportedly had a first aid patrol from the start. There have over the years been many doctors belonging to the Cazenovia club, so first aid care had not really been a problem.

Cazenovia Ski Club members had been very active in the leadership of the United States Eastern Amateur Ski Association from the club's earliest days. The NSPS was once a part of the National Ski Association (now US Amateur Ski Association), which was the parent organization to the USEASA. Reportedly, NSPS National Chairman Minot Dole came to Cazenovia after the war in his efforts to set up patrols, but Cazenovia did not register at that time. (Word of Dole's visit is strictly from memory of club members as there is no written record of the visit).

(Section files show the patrol apparently registered with the NSPS in January 1960, however there is some confusion on that first form due to crossed out dates.)

In 1972, an all-woman team from the Cazenovia patrol—consisting of PL Ann Altmeyer, Peggy Laidman, Janet Munro, and Lisa Feldmeier—won the Central New York Region First Aid competition held that year at Labrador Mt. ski center.

## **LABRADOR Mt. Ski Patrol**

Founded: 1960 Registered with NSPS: 1960  
Patrols Labrador Mt., near Truxton, NY

### **Patrol Leaders**

1960—James W. Pilcher	1988—Don Keupper
1965—Frank Spann Jr.	1991—Bill Brochu
1968—B. Terry Avery	1992—John Tuttle
1970—Russ Hartwell	1995—Pete Durdon
1973—Ernest Case	1996—Bob Richeda
1975—Bernie Sheehan	1999—Eric Brauer
1977—Eileen Snyder	2002—Jim Zoyhofski
1979—Jerry Chomyszak	2005—Scott Launt
1982—Donald Hyde	2006—Kris Petty
1985—Gary Rake	

### **Patrol history**

The Labrador Mt. Ski Area was opened in 1957 by owner Bob Wilson on his property near Truxton, NY. The area opened with two rope tows. A T-bar was added in 1959. During those years, a first aid patrol provided coverage to the new area.

In 1960, an NSPS-affiliated patrol was started. The patrol has distinguished itself over the years by providing a number of section-level administrators and division-certified skiing and first aid examiners. Labrador is a division-certified senior ski test site.

The patrol has raised funds for its support through Steak Roasts (for about 15 years), and through the Labrador Winter Carnival for another 20 years starting in 1980, which included the steak roast, pancake breakfast and family ski races.

Labrador once sponsored a Winter Conditioning Course, developed and taught by patrol member Phil Stevens, a former region mountaineering advisor and member of the US Army 10th Mountain Division in World War II.

The patrol became the second patrol in the section to implement a VHF radio system. The two-way radios, which were put in service during the 1979-80 season, increased the patrol's efficiency and response time to accidents.

In the 1978-79 season, Labrador Mt. started an independent paid patrol to supplement the volunteer NSPS-registered Labrador Ski Patrol.

In 1985, Division leadership was not happy with an imbalance in the Central New York Region since the Southern Tier Section had lost so many patrols and patrollers over the years. With only Greek Peak remaining, DD John Clair came to Central New York and persuaded the Syracuse Section to give up Labrador in an effort to add more membership to the Southern Tier Section. The Skaneateles patrol was transferred for the same reason a year earlier.

### **Notable patrol members**

B. Terry Avery—Syracuse SC  
 Ted Coholan—Syracuse Section ski safety advisor  
 Dorothy Curran—Syracuse Section secretary  
 Cathy Cummings—Nat. Ski Areas Assn. marketing  
 Barbara Gerber—Syracuse SC  
 Don Hyde—Syracuse Section junior, safety, telecommunications advisor; CNY Reg. fund-raising

Russ Hartwell—Section mountaineering advisor  
Stephen Laffer—Syracuse ASC, Alpine T&T advisor  
Craig Lawson—PL Colgate  
William Nugent MD—Reg./Sect. medical advisor  
Curt Pay—Syracuse ASC; T&T advisor  
Gordon Pike—Syracuse ASC; T&T  
Nels Putnam—Syracuse ASC  
Noel Rios—CNY RD; Iroquois SC; Reg. OEC coordinator  
George Rowland—Section awards advisor  
Steve Smithson—Section ski safety advisor  
Phil Stevens—Southern Tier Section SC; CNY Reg. mountaineering advisor  
John Tuttle—Asst. CNY RD; CNY Reg. T&T administrator

## **SKANEATELES Ski Patrol**

Registered with NSPS: 1961  
Patrols Skaneateles Ski Club hill near Marietta, NY

### **Patrol Leaders**

1961—Gilbert Hill  
1967—Orville "Bunt" Osborne  
1973—John Derbyshire  
1976—Joseph Hubbard  
1977—Roy Truswell  
1979—Patrick Gannon  
1984—Joy Eberhardt  
1986—Patrick Gannon  
1990—William Sahn  
1995—Patrick Gannon  
1997—Orville "Bunt" Osborne  
2007—Tom Hughes

### **Patrol history**

The Skaneateles Ski Club was formed in 1959 and a site was purchased for its ski hill that summer. In 1961, a ski patrol was formed. Fifteen club members took the Red Cross first aid courses taught by Gil Hill. A rope tow was installed that year. The area grew with addition of a T-bar in 1964.

Skaneateles PL John Derbyshire developed a medical authorization ID card in 1975, and donated it to the Syracuse Section. The card was well publicized throughout the section, and received some distribution to other patrols and regions outside the Syracuse Section.

In March 1984, the Skaneateles patrol was transferred from the Syracuse Section to the Southern Tier Section as part of a realignment of the Central New York Region.

## SONG MOUNTAIN Ski Patrol

Registered with NSPS: 12/61  
Patrols Song Mountain ski area; Tully, NY

### Patrol Leaders (designated as Patrol Director in 1979)

1961—Marshall K. Doughty  
1963—Robert E. Kirk  
1965—William M. Rogers  
1983—Ron Marks  
1988—Douglas Scharbach  
1990—Jack Hayes  
1992—Patrick Reap  
1997—Joe Procopio

### Patrol history

Song Mountain was built during 1961. At the request of the area's designer and first manager, famed ski promoter, author, coach, and instructor Otto Schniebs, an NSPS-registered patrol was formed with a meeting held Oct. 26, 1961. In December, 1961, the patrol was registered. The stability of the patrol's first two decades and its leadership is evident by the fact it had only three patrol leaders until 1983 -- Marshall Doughty, Robert Kirk, and Bill Rogers. Rogers served 18 years and continued for a few more years as a patrol-management liason.

The patrol distinguished itself with a high degree of participation in the Syracuse Section and Central New York Region leadership. Many innovations have come from members of the patrol, and many awards have been won.

In the 1968-69 ski season, the patrol applied for the Outstanding Ski Patrol in the Eastern Division award. It did not win, but another attempt was made 10 years later, in which Song Mt. tied for second place with another patrol. In 1980, the Song Mt. Ski Patrol was named "Outstanding Ski Patrol in the Eastern Division," and was placed in nomination for outstanding patrol in the entire NSPS.

In 1979, patroller Doug Scharbach was awarded the Eastern Division's William Gross Memorial Award for saving the life of a man where he worked. As of 1982, 28 per cent of all national appointments made in the Syracuse Section (16) had gone to Song Mt. patrollers.

Song Mountain is designated as a division-certified senior test site. First aid teams from the patrol won three CNY regional first aid competitions, and in 1976, won the Syracuse Section First Aid Competition held at the Onondaga Ski Club ski show.

The patrol pioneered the use of VHF two-way radios in the Syracuse Section when it was first to implement them during the 1978-79 season. Radios increased the efficiency of the patrol, which numbered as many as 70 members and once covered the area day and night seven days a week. That intense schedule decreased somewhat with new area ownership in the 1990s.

The patrol developed a chairlift evacuation ladder, which was used by Killington ski area in Vermont; and also developed trail name/closing signs.

In the early 1960s, the patrol built its own patrol room adjacent to the area's T-bars. In 1977, the patrol renovated a former maintenance garage. The new patrol facilities included a clinic, an off-duty room, and a locker room. Fire destroyed the patrol room and adjacent barn in 1980. That year, management built a new facility on the foundation of the former structure; construction starting almost immediately after the fire.

The patrol also included a member who suffered the worst on-duty injury in the Syracuse Section. On Feb. 21, 1973, patroller Walt Manderfield fell on sheet ice and wrapped around a snowmaking pipe for

which the protecting hay bales had apparently been removed by youths building a jump. Internal injuries kept the 63-year-old Manderfield in the hospital for three months. His accident was instrumental in shaping workmen's compensation rules for ski patrollers.

In 1979, Song Mt. management decided it wanted the right to designate its own patrol leader, so Bill Rogers accepted the position of Patrol Director, ending years of electing the top job.

### **Notable patrol members**

Howard Bethel—Sect. & Reg. mountaineering advisor; National mountaineering inst.

Dick Charles—(joined Song Mt. 1980) Sect. FA advisor; developed NSPS dog mascot "Rusty"

Cindy Eldridge—Sect. first aid advisor; ASC

Jack Erickson—Sect. first aid advisor; ASC

Fred Ferguson—Syracuse SC; ASC; first aid advisor; telecommunications advisor

Don Gallinger—Syracuse SC; Division mountaineering inst. #5 (1969)

Shirley Gallinger—Section mountaineering advisor; awards committee

Bill Halsey—Div. OEC supervisor; CNY Reg. OEC coordinator; APL Mystic Mt.; Early recipient of NSP Leadership Commendation Award (LCA) in 1995

Harold Hill—Sect. avalanche advisor, awards advisor; Div, avalanche inst. #45 (1970)

Robert Klos—CNY Reg. Director; Reg. & Sect. first aid advisor

Harry Klodowski—Sect. avalanche advisor

Karen Krichbaum—Sect. FA advisor

T. Hume Laidman—Sect. awards advisor

Glenn Litchfield—1980 Olympic Patrol; Reg. legal advisor

Bob Lenseth—Red Cross Safety Programs director

Jay Linkletter—1980 Olympic Patrol

Herb Issacs—Sect. public relations advisor

Ron Marks—PL Mystic Mt.

Jeff Paston—Syracuse SC; ASC; Section public information advisor, ski safety advisor; CNY Reg. PR and ski safety advisor

Joe Procopio—PL Drumlins

Fred Pullus—Div. mt. inst. #4 (1969); Sect. ASC- first aid; Sect. mt. advisor; Red Cross First Aid Committee chair-Syracuse

Doug Scharbach—NSPS Purple Merit Star; East. Div. William Gross Memorial Award (1979)

Joy (Eberhardt) Sistos—PL Skaneateles

Warren Smith—Red Cross Safety Services director-Cayuga County

Gene Smith—Syracuse SC; ASC; Sect. first aid advisor; PL Intermont

Sandy Stein—Sect. ASC-first aid; public relations advisor

Don Wood—PL Drumlins

Paul Wicker—CNY Reg. and Sect. T&T; ASC

## MYSTIC MT. Ski Patrol

Registered with NSPS: 1961-86  
Patrolled Mystic Mountain, New Woodstock, NY

### Patrol Leaders

12/61--Phyllis Kent (also PL Cazenovia Ski Club Patrol)	1974—Christine DeVoe
1963—Richard W. Proctor	1975—Al Chartrand*
1965—Andrew Leidal	1976—David Remick
1967—W. A. Diefendorf	1978—Scott Marion
1/68—Andrew Cerio (left for Peace Corps duty (2/69))	1979—James Owen
2/69—Robert D. Jones	1981—Don Cotogno
5/69—Merrick Owens	1983—Gary Litvin*
1970—Harold Fradenburg	1984—Dick McDonald
1973—Ronald Marks	

\* caretaker patrol leaders

### Patrol history

The Mystic Mountain Ski Patrol was registered with the NSPS in December 1961 following a letter of request from Robert Friedman, president of Mystic Mt. Development Corp. Phyllis Kent, PL of Cazenovia Ski Club Patrol, agreed to also serve as PL of the new Mystic Mt. patrol.

By the late 1960s, Mystic Mt. was showing the financial strain and operating difficulties that would plague it for years to come. In late 1967, much of the patrol transferred to Ironwood Ridge due to the problems at Mystic. The patrol struggled for several more years to gain and maintain membership, but continuing operating difficulties caused another mass exodus of patrollers to other areas in 1975.

The 1975-76 patrol registration with the NSPS showed that the Mystic Mt. patrol served Toggenburg ski area near Fabius. PL Al Chartrand served as a "caretaker" patrol leader.

Mystic Mountain had gone bankrupt and the area remained closed through the 1975-76 ski season. The area was sold by the federal Small Business Administration to local developer Robert E. Lee of Cazenovia, who reopened the area by December 1976.

The patrol once again started to gain new members, and was maintaining its strength when weather conditions and a new set of financial problems forced Lee to return the area to the SBA just before the 1983-84 season, and after a number of unsuccessful attempts to sell Mystic Mountain. Again, Mystic patrol members were assigned to ski other areas (most at Toggenburg; some at Song), while a number of members transferred their membership to the other patrols and a few went inactive.

During the 1983-84 season, Section Chief Jeff Paston appointed Gary Litvin as a "caretaker" patrol leader.

In early 1984, Justin Green purchased the area. He put his son and daughter-in-law in charge and the facilities were extensively renovated during the year. The lodge was remodeled and snow-making capacity was expanded. With a new season planned, Paston named Dick McDonald patrol leader and Bill Halsey as APL.

Under McDonald's leadership, the patrol rapidly gained new strength. The patrol continued in existence for another year, until hard times once again forced closure of Mystic Mt.

### Notable patrol members

Bill Diefendorf—PL Ironwood Ridge  
Andrew Leidal—Mgr. of Mystic Mt. (1970-74)

Dave Remick—PL Ironwood Ridge  
Glenn Remick—PL Ironwood Ridge  
Ron Marks—PL Song Mt.  
Gary Litvin—Sect. recruitment advisor  
Norm Kiehle—Sect. ski safety advisor

## **SYRACUSE METROPOLITAN Ski Patrol**

Registered with NSPS: 1962-67

### **Patrol leaders**

1962—Donald Wood  
Carol Abar (APL)

### **Patrol history**

The Syracuse Metropolitan Ski Patrol was formed in 1962 under the direction of Section Chief Jack Woodruff for the purpose of picking up extra patrol candidates in the section who wished to join the NSPS, and to provide section patrols with a pool of trained patrollers for substitution duty. Don Wood served as patrol leader and Carol Abar as assistant patrol leader during the patrol's existence. The patrol was disbanded in April 1967.

### **Notable patrol members**

Carol Abar—Section officer-membership; Drumlins PL  
Larry Van Alstyne Sr.—Syracuse SC  
Elt Fairbank—Red Cross Safety Programs Director; Chapter Mgr.  
Myla Greene—Syracuse SC; CNY RD; SU PL; Intermont PL  
Don Wood—Drumlins PL

## **CAMILLUS Ski Patrol**

Registered with NSPS: 1965-2000  
Patrols Camillus East Hill; Camillus, NY

### **Patrol Leaders**

1965—John J. Charles (resigned patrol 10/67)

12/67- Gerald E. Baril

1972—William D. Wells

1974—Robert Sheffield

1976—William D. Wells

1980—James Caryl

1995—Dave Bushnell

### **Patrol history**

Camillus East Hill Ski Patrol was first registered with the NSPS in 1965 to patrol the Camillus Ski Club ski area on East Hill in the Town of Camillus. The patrol changed its name from Camillus East Hill Ski Patrol to Camillus Ski Patrol in December 1968.

Jerry Baril was a principal force behind building the patrol in the late 1960s. In 1968, Baril was named the Syracuse Section's "Outstanding Ski Patroller of the Year." During the 1971-72 season, he moved to Connecticut, where he continued his NSPS activities by becoming Eastern Division Junior advisor.

Bill Wells took over from Baril in 1972 and continued efforts to build and maintain the patrol. By 2000, the patrol was no longer registered.

## **INTERMONT Ski Patrol**

Registered with NSPS 1966-76

Patrolled Intermont ski area, near Solon, NY, east of McGraw.

Transferred to Syracuse Section: 1967

### **Patrol Leaders**

1966—Lars Lorentzen

1967—Fred Haynes

1968—Myla Greene

1970—Jay E. Anderson

1971—Richard Wessels

1973—H. Gene Smith

1974—Catherine "Kay" Seibert

1975—Dean Ottaway

### **Patrol history**

Intermont started out to be an area in size and vertical drop that would compete with Greek Peak and Song Mt., but financial and operating problems began to plague the area in the early 1970s. The area was reached by way of McGraw and Solon, NY, somewhat southeast of Cortland. Skiers drove to the lodge, which was located at the top of the mountain. In later years, an access road was built to a small lodge at the base of the area. The road placed the area only seven miles south of Labrador Mt. and Truxton, NY. However, financial problems soon meant no payment to the owner of the road's right of way. The road was closed. The area finally ceased operation in 1974.

The patrol was formed in 1966 and was initially registered with the Southern Tier Section, transferring to the Syracuse Section in 1967. Its first patrol leader came from the disbanding Onondaga Ski Club Patrol.

Although its existence was short, Intermont's patrol made its mark on the Syracuse Section. During the 1969-70 ski season, the patrol won the "Outstanding Patrol in the Syracuse Section" award. PL Myla Greene prepared an excellent comprehensive patrol operations manual, ideas from which were shared with the section.

With the area closed in 1974, patrollers started transferring to Labrador, Toggenburg, Song Mt., and Insbruck USA. The entire patrol had transferred by the 1975-76 season. PL Dean Ottaway registered the patrol with only his name still active that last year as he served as caretaker for patrol property.

### **Notable patrol members**

Dick Charles—developed "Rusty" St. Bernard dog mascot of NSPS; While he was at Intermont, the dog was named "Fondue" and Charles hoped to interest the national office (NSPS finally adopted the mascot in 1980)

Jack Charles—Syracuse ski store operator; PL Camillus

John Derbyshire—PL Skaneateles

Lynn Dodge—Section treasurer; Syracuse SC

Myla Greene—CNY RD; Syracuse SC; PL SU

Bob Lenseth—Red Cross Safety Programs director (Syracuse)

Lars Lorentzen—PL Onondaga Ski Club patrol

Kay Seibert—Section secretary, public information advisor

H. Gene Smith—Syracuse SC; ASC

Gail Wagner—Sect. secretary

## **IRONWOOD RIDGE Ski Patrol**

Registered with NSPS: 1967-77

Patrolled Ironwood Ridge, located on Oran-Delphi Road south of Oran, NY

### **Patrol Leaders**

1967—Bill Diefendorf

1975—David Remick

1976—Glenn Remick

### **Patrol history**

The Ironwood Ridge Ski Patrol was formed in October 1967. The ski area suffered from a chronic lack of snow cover and financial difficulties. The area was finally closed in 1977. A majority of the patrol was absorbed into the Mystic Mt. Ski Patrol.

### **Notable patrol members**

Bill Diefendorf—PL Mystic Mt.

Andy Leidal—PL Mystic Mt.; Mgr. Mystic Mt.

Peter Reynolds—owner of Ironwood Ridge

## **SYRACUSE SECTION NORDIC Ski Patrol**

First registered with NSPS: 10/78

Registered with NSPS: 12/79-1997

### **Patrol Leaders**

1978 — Robert Rock

1979-97—Arvo Tars

### **Patrol history**

An early attempt was made to have a Nordic ski patrol in the Syracuse Section by former SC Ben Hedges. No patrol was ever formed, but Hedges attended training sessions and participated in patrol activities in New England during the 1970s.

SC Barbara Gerber first registered the Syracuse Section Nordic Ski Patrol in October 1978 with Robert Rock of the State University College at Oswego as patrol leader. Rock, National Number 895 and former Western Massachusetts Section chief, had planned to recruit patrollers through Scouting's Explorer program. The APL was Richard Weber. Nothing ever developed with the patrol at that time. Despite Weber's early enthusiasm for starting the patrol, his ownership of a cross-country ski store took too much of his time and his interest in the project waned.

Under SC Gene Smith's administration, ASC Jeff Paston pushed for the establishment of the patrol in 1979. He recruited Arvo Tars, an associate of Weber's, as patrol leader. The patrol was registered in December 1979 and under Tars' guidance, it grew. The patrol served two areas — Green Lakes State Park, and Highland Forest county park.

In 1982, Highland Forest got its own Nordic patrol. The Syracuse Section Nordic patrol continued to serve Green Lakes and various events, including the annual Tug Hill Tourathon in northern New York State.

By registration time in 1997, the Syracuse Section Nordic patrol faded from existence.

### **Notable patrol members**

Arvo Tars—Section ASC—Nordic T&T

Russell Little—Asst. Reg. Mgr., CNY Parks and Rec. Commission

Nancy Barney—Park caretaker, CNY Parks and Rec. Commission

## **HIGHLAND FOREST NORDIC Ski Patrol**

Registered with NSPS: 1982

Patrols Highland Forest County Park near Fabius, NY

### **Patrol Leaders**

1982—Michael Wright

1984—Robert Stenger

1988—Pam Mead

1991—Nancy Bridges

1994—Joe Homola

1997—Peter Oster

2002—Pam Mead

2004—Joe Homola

2007—Gary Bustos

### **Patrol history**

The Highland Forest Nordic Ski Patrol evolved from the Syracuse Section Nordic patrol. The new patrol exclusively serves Highland Forest county park, located near Toggenburg ski area and Fabius in southeastern Onondaga County.

## **DRY HILL Ski Patrol**

Founded c.1947

Transferred in 1949 to Lowville Section at request of Syracuse SC Ben Hedges.  
Patrols Dry Hill near Watertown, NY (Part of Headwaters Section since 1977)

## **FOUR SEASONS Ski Patrol**

Registered with NSPS: 1/72 and 6/72.

Located in Oswego County near Altmar, NY

No patrol activity as only PL registered.

### **Patrol Leader**

1972—Gordon Scofield

## **OSWEGO COLLEGE Ski Patrol**

Patrolled Fallbrook Ski Area at State University College at Oswego

Registered with NSPS: 11/63 and 6/65

No patrol activity as only PL registered.

### **Patrol Leader**

1963—Marcia J. Spaeth

## **FALLBROOK SKI AREA Ski Patrol**

Registered with NSPS: 11/70 for 70-71 season

Patrolled Fallbrook Ski Area at State University College at Oswego

### **Patrol Leaders**

1970—Herbert Kushner

Fred Fergerson (APL)

## **ST. LAWRENCE UNIVERSITY Ski Patrol**

Founded c.1947

Transferred in 1949 to Lowville Section at request of Syracuse SC Ben Hedges  
Patrolled St. Lawrence University Snow Bowl, located near South Colton, NY

## **VAN BUREN CENTRAL PARK Ski Patrol**

Registered with NSPS: 10/75

Located near Baldwinsville, NY

### **Patrol Leader**

1975—Michael Perrotto (Dir. of Parks and Rec.)

### **Patrol history**

In 1978, the Town of Van Buren operated a ski area at Central Park. No patrol was registered that year, but volunteers from various Syracuse section patrols provided coverage.

## **OSWEGO COUNTY Ski Patrol**

Registered with NSPS in 1941 before the Syracuse Section was formed.  
There is no record of any activity or further registration of this patrol since.

### **Patrol Leader**

1941— Harry E. Lee

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## **Patrols not registered with NSPS SYRACUSE SECTION**

### **CARDIFF GIANT Ski Patrol**

An attempt was made to start a patrol in 1962 and 1963 in the Town of LaFayette, NY.

### **90 ACRES Ski Patrol**

An attempt was made to start a patrol in 1963 at 90 Acres Ski Area near Fayetteville, NY. The area is still in business as "Four Seasons," but there is no record that any patrol activity got underway there.

### **POMPEY HILLS**

An attempt was made to organize a ski patrol in 1975 to serve the Pompey Hills Country Club near Pompey, NY. While patrollers from Syracuse Section patrols volunteered to cover the area during its one year of operation, no patrol was ever registered for Pompey Hills.

### **WEST GENESEE HILL Ski Patrol**

An attempt was made to start a patrol in 1963. This was finally registered as the Camillus Ski Club Patrol in 1965.

## **IROQUOIS SECTION**

Founded: 1996

Created from merger of Syracuse and Southern Tier sections

### **Patrols** *(Date patrol registered with NSPS follows patrol name)*

<i>Camillus</i>	<i>(1965-2000)</i>
Cazenovia	(c. 1960)
Greek Peak	(1960)
Highland Forest Nordic	(1982)
Labrador	(1960)
Skaneateles	(1961)
Song Mt.	(1961)
Toggenburg	(1958)

### **Section Chiefs/Asst. RDs**

1996-98	Ed Siegenthaler
1998-99	Peter Durdon
1999-2007	Noel Rios*
2007-	John Tuttle*

\* In early 2000s, the Section Chief title was eliminated and the position became Assistant Region Director.

The nature and structure of the National Ski Patrol had been evolving and changing over the years, so by the 21st century, many past traditions and procedures had become obsolete or ineffective. Among those changes was the section-level structure.

It had become obvious through the 1970s, '80s, and '90s that keeping a ski area in business was a tough proposition due to changing weather and financial conditions. Nowhere was this more obvious than in the Southern Tier Section, where areas and patrols came and went – mostly "went." For most of its later years, the section had only one patrol, Greek Peak.

Eastern Division leaders, specifically DD John Clair, tried to remedy this imbalance of patrols and patrol members in the CNY Region sections by moving patrols from the "powerful" Syracuse Section. For decades, the Syracuse Section operated much like a region with its own training programs and advisors. The Syracuse Section had once reached some 400 members and 11 patrols, exceeding numbers in many NSPS regions.

In 1984, the Skaneateles patrol was moved from Syracuse to Southern Tier Section in an effort to boost numbers. A year later, Labrador patrol was also moved south.

By 1996, the numbers in both the Syracuse and Southern Tier sections were not so great in an era of diminishing strength and function of sections. (About a decade earlier, the Genesee Valley Section in Western New York was made into a two-section region.) It was decided the CNY Region could justify a need for only two sections, so the Syracuse and Southern Tier sections were merged into a new Iroquois Section, named in honor of the native American confederacy that is/was headquartered in Central New York. Iroquois Section joined the Headwaters Section in forming the CNY Region.

The new section continued to hold monthly meetings, but programs once left to the sections were restored to the region level. The meetings eventually were reduced in number to almost none at all. By the 21st century, even the need for the section chief title was unnecessary, so section chiefs became assistant region directors for the respective sections, and an annual region meeting generally covered the needs of present day ski patrol administration.

## **UTICA SECTION**

The earliest published existence of the Utica Section is recorded in the first National Ski Patrol System Manual, published in 1941, in which Donald S. Rowles of Utica is listed as a section chief in the Eastern Division. Rowles was patrol leader of the Utica Ski Patrol in addition to his subsequent section chief duties. At the time, there were a number of patrols—some still in existence—in the area now known as the Headwaters Section: the Cooperstown Ski Patrol, the Herkimer County Ski Patrol, the Old Forge Ski Patrol (now McCauley Mt.), the Sherrill Ski Patrol, the Rome Ski Patrol, and the Utica Ski Patrol. The Herkimer County patrol served the Mohawk Valley Ski Club located about five miles south of Herkimer. The patrol was headed by Dick Folts, who would later become SC and Regional Chairman. The Sherrill Ski Patrol was led by Henry Allen.

Rowles followed the NSPS leadership in his efficient efforts to recruit new patrols to the system and new patrollers. He asked Fred Ramage of Lowville (National #488) to form a ski rescue patrol in conjunction with the Tug Hill Ski Club, of which Ramage was a member. (Ramage later formed the Snow Ridge Ski Patrol with members of this earlier patrol).

With World War II, Rowles left the patrol in 1942 to serve in the military, appointing Henry Allen of Sherrill as his successor.

Allen also worked hard to expand the NSPS in Central New York. When Herkimer County patrol PL Dick Folts joined the Army Air Corp in 1943 in Portland Oregon, he joined the Mt. Hood Ski Patrol. Allen kept in touch with Folts and nominated him as a National Ski Patroller (#783) while he was with Mt. Hood. When Folts returned in 1946, Allen asked him to become Utica Section chief.

In the meantime, Allen himself had been awarded National Number 492 and was asked in 1944 by NSPS National Chairman Minnie Dole to become chairman of the New York State Region. Allen recalled that Dole wanted someone with a business background to form and head the new region.

The region, which later would be known as the Central New York Region, stretched from Albany, NY, to Cleveland, Ohio. Between 1944 and 1946, Allen served in a dual capacity; section chief and regional chairman.

The Utica Section provided the region with a number of regional chairman—Allen, Folts, and Robert Hall of Old Forge. (Hall later became Division Director).

The Central New York Region annually sponsored Ski Safety Conferences to train first aid instructors for individual patrols, to offer first aid refresher credit to region patrollers, and in later years, to upgrade first aid skills through competition. The New York State Region held its first Ski Safety Conference in the Utica Section. Under the direction of NSP #10 Harold Gore, it was held at Old Forge on Oct. 26 and 27, 1946.

In the 1970s, the Central New York Region underwent some major changes, which directly affected the Utica Section. The region was split in 1972, and the Eastern New York Region was created. As part of the split, the Lowville Section, which had been in existence since about 1947, was split between the Utica and Adirondack sections, and the Utica Section became part of the Eastern New York Region.

An Eastern Division reorganization of New York State in 1977 to better balance the NSPS membership in regions put the Utica Section back into the Central New York Region. As part of the transfer, the section had to give up its two southernmost patrols, Oneonta and Scotch Valley (to Eastern and Southern regions, respectively), but added one former Lowville Section patrol, Juniper Hills, which had been in the Adirondack Section since 1972.

Since the section had grown in size and not only covered central New York, but northern New York as well, the section changed its name in 1977 to Headwaters Section. (The name is in reference to the headwaters of the Black River, which flows from the Adirondacks north of Utica and Rome, northwesterly to the Watertown area and Lake Ontario).

A region realignment was again needed in 1982 to provide more patrols to the Southern Tier Section. Trainer Hill (Colgate University) was transferred from Headwaters to the Southern Tier section.

## UTICA / HEADWATERS SECTION

Founded: c. 1941

Part of Central New York Region: 1944-1972; 1977-present

Part of Eastern New York Region: 1972-1977

### Patrols (Date patrol registered with NSPS follows name)

<i>Cooperstown (Mt. Otsego)</i>	(1939) [Area closed]
<i>Griffiss OAP</i>	(1993-95)
<i>Gunset (Gunset Snow Bowl)</i>	(c.1956) [Area closed sometime around 1983]
<i>Headwaters Nordic</i>	(1980-2003)
<i>Herkimer County (Mohawk Valley Ski Club)</i>	(c. 1940) +
<i>Juniper Hills (Harrisville)</i>	(1966-1979) ** [Area closed]
<b>Old Forge ( McCauley Mt.)</b>	(1938)
<i>Oneonta</i>	(1976) #
<i>Pine Ridge</i>	(1972 only)
<i>Rome +</i>	
<i>Salmon Hills Nordic</i>	(c. 1999-2003)
<i>Scotch Valley</i>	(1970) ##
<i>Sherrill +</i>	
<i>Shu-Maker Mt.</i>	(1972- 2000) [Area closed around 2000]
<b>Snow Ridge</b>	(1946) *
<i>State University at Cobleskill #</i>	
<i>Thousand Islands Nordic</i>	(1981- 2005)
<i>Trainer Hill (Colgate Outing Club)</i>	(1962-1991) (name changed: 1977) ^ [Area closed in 1991]
<b>Utica/Val Bialas</b>	(c.1941)
Utica patrol known as "Tyrolean Ski Patrol" in 1950s and early 1960s. Patrol served club area at Parkway Slopes. Name changed back to "Utica Ski Patrol" in 1963; area name changed to Val Bialis in 1965; Patrol name changed to "Val Bialis" in 1999. Records do not show patrol registration for 1997 and '98.	
<b>Watertown (Dry Hill ski area)</b>	(c. 1947) **
<i>White Acres (Clayville)</i>	(1964-1970)
<b>Woods Valley</b>	(1965)

\*Transferred from Lowville Section: 1972

\*\*Transferred from Adirondack Section, ENY Region: 1977

#Transferred to Eastern New York Region: 1977

##Transferred to Southern New York Region: 1977

^Transferred to Southern Tier Section, CNY Region: 1982

+Disbanded during World War Two

### Section Chiefs

c1941-42 Donald S. Rowles

1942-46 Henry Allen [also served as regional chairman when NYS Region (now CNY Region) formed in 1944]

1946-53 Richard Folts

1953-61 Robert Hall

3/61-67 Frederick S. Doolittle

1985-86 George Blakeman

1967-69 Milton Gutheinz

1986-87 Vic Stress

4/69-74 Fran Combar

1987-92 Jim Smith

1974-76 Fred Bennett

1992-99 Bert Ebeling

1976-82 Bob Gilchrist

1999-2002 Jon Wilson

1982-84 Paul Mullin

2002- Brian Bamberger

## SNOW RIDGE Ski Patrol

Registered with NSPS: 1946

### Patrol leaders

1946-50	Fred Ramage	1971-73	David Summerville
1950-52	Stanley Miller	1973-75	Kermit Klingbail
1952-53	Mer Williams	1975-77	George Blakeman
1953-54	Warren Manning	1977-79	David Reichert
1954-55	Warren Manning, Ken Phelps, Ken Cox, and Stan Miller *	1979-81	Ronald Roggie
		1981	Bernie Smith **
1955-58	Clinton Mills	1981-83	John Burr
1958-60	Jack Parsell	1983-85	Jim Smith
1960-62	Gene White	1985-87	John Van Zant
1962-64	Henry Watkins	1987-89	Gilbert Malerk
1964-66	Vincent Irvin	1989-91	Richard Sanford
1966-68	Jack Lynch	1991-97	Thomas Murch
1968-70	Gerald Palmer	1997-2000	Michael Washburn
1970-71	Robert Alleksaht	2000-	Thomas Murch

\* PL position by committees 1954-55 season

\*\* Moved from area after elected PL due to job change.

### Patrol history

*by Lou Hombeck and Jack Parsell (1982)*

The founding of the Snow Ridge Ski Patrol was made possible in large part by the presence in the area of trained volunteers, some of whom had been active in the Tug Hill Ski Club, named for the ridge on which Snow Ridge was later located.

The date of December 8, 1938, is significant to skiing in the Turin area. On that date an article in the Black River Democrat informs the public that the state bans the new ski club trail. The Tug Hill Ski Club, represented by Fred Ramage of Lowville, attended a hearing in the interest of new ski trails in New York State. The state did not grant a trail to the club for its use, but authorized the one established at Whetstone Gulf. The improvement of this trail was the removal of two trees!

The program of the club in its second year included slalom, downhill, and cross country runs. Fred Ramage was a key figure in negotiations with the state and club leadership.

At the outset of the war, Don Rowles, Utica, representing local emergency services and the National Ski Patrol System, requested Fred Ramage to organize a rescue group in this vicinity for the purpose of aid to pilots and passengers of downed planes. Fred responded by organizing a local group. Many of these were members of the Tug Hill Ski Club. Certainly, there were ready and able skiers with overland travel capability without the benefit of snowmobiles. Through this means, Fred Ramage's membership in NSPS dates back to Jan. 19, 1942.

Sometime in 1946, Lawton Williams, co-owner of Snow Ridge ski area, approached Fred Ramage about the formation of a ski patrol. Fred readily agreed, and organized a patrol group with the help of Stanley Miller and other skiing friends. A letter from "Minnie" Dole, founder of the NSPS, dated Oct. 31, 1946, and addressed to Miller, acknowledged a request for a Ski Patrol manual, and instructed Miller on how to register the patrol.

After preliminary steps in organization and first aid qualification, the patrol was organized with a small group of charter members: Thomas Carpenter, W. Kenneth Cox, Frank R. Thomas – Port Leyden; Leonard Harris, Walter S. Keen, John S. Miller, Stanley B. "Gabber" Miller, Fred Ramage (PL) – Lowville; Larry Pfaff – Lyons Falls; James F. Prime – Boonville.

Ken Phelps, later a Snow Ridge Ski School instructor, joined the patrol in January 1947. Starting a long line of additional members were Gene Beckeman of Syracuse, and John Gardiner of Schenectady and Syracuse.

Ramage's first report at the end of the '46-'47 year indicated the strong support, cooperation and appreciation of Snow Ridge management. Total accidents handled were 55, including six fractures and two dislocations.

The patrol maintained a stable membership of about 20 to 25 until the 1961-62 season, when at the suggestion of PL Henry Watkins, Snow Ridge management provided family passes for men who rendered 125 hours of service per season. This expanded membership to 36.

In recognition of his outstanding service, Fred Ramage was presented with the National Ski Patrol award and the Yellow Merit Star by "Minnie" Dole, NSPS national chairman. He was also appointed section chief of the Lowville Section. "Minnie," in his commendation wrote Ramage in May 1947, "I do not know how we would function without the help and interest of men like yourself." Ramage was awarded National Number 488.

In 1970, the Snow Ridge patrol was awarded the "Outstanding Ski Patrol in the Eastern Division." PL Gerry Palmer received the award for the patrol at the Snow Ridge 25th anniversary celebration.

## OLD FORGE (McCAULEY MT.) Ski Patrol

Registered with NSPS: 1938

### Patrol leaders

1938-41	Ed Dumas
1941-43	Edward Risely
1943-46	PATROL INACTIVE
1946-56	Robert Hall
1956-58?	Don Miner
cl958-64	Charles Steiger
1964-77	Robert Cole
1977-79	Robert Oehne
1979-81	Ray Spies
1981-83	Bob McAleese
1983-89	John Quinn
1989-1998	Brian Bamberger
1998-	Rusty Martin

### Patrol history

The Old Forge Ski Patrol is certainly one of the oldest ski patrols in the NSPS, first registering about 1938—the year the NSPS was formed. The patrol was listed in the first NSPS Manual in 1941 with Ed Risely Jr. (NSP #197) as PL.

According to former PL, later Section Chief, Region Chairman, and Division Director Bob Hall, the early years of the Old Forge patrol included patrolling cross-country-type trails. The patrollers were known as "Trail Sweepers" because they swept the 6-7 miles of trails, often starting as early as 2 p.m. Hall noted that winter recreation enthusiasts came to Old Forge on the New York Central Railroad snow trains.

Those early years featured a "senior patrol" and a "junior patrol" at Old Forge for those aged over 16, and those from 13-16, respectively, Hall said. "There was no first aid training as we know it today," he noted. "They were more 'sweepers' and carried metal first aid kits on belts." The kits were made by Johnson and Johnson, he said.

During the war years (1943-1946), the patrol was inactive. After the war ended in 1946, the patrol was reactivated and reorganized by Hall.

On Oct. 26 and 27, 1946, the patrol hosted the first New York State Region Ski Safety Conference, a forerunner to today's refreshers. The conference was organized by NSP #10 Harold Gore to train first aid instructors, and to standardize first aid instruction in the region. The conference included competition to strengthen first aid skills.

Old Forge hosted a number of Ski Safety Conferences for the region until the early 1960s, when Eastern Division Fall Forums replaced the region conferences. (Conferences also were held at other region areas during those years).

The Old Forge Ski Patrol served the Maple Ridge ski area in Old Forge during its earlier years, and has served McCauley Mountain since that ski area was opened in the mid-1950s. The patrol name was changed to McCauley Mt. Ski Patrol on registrations filed since the mid-1970s. By the 1990s, the name returned to Old Forge Ski Patrol.

## **LOWVILLE SECTION**

Founded; 1947

Merged with Utica and Adirondack Sections; 1972

### **Patrols** *(Date first registered with NSPS follows patrol name)*

Watertown (c1947) \* # (Dry Hill)

Juniper Hills (Harrisville) (1966) #

St. Lawrence University (South Colton) (c.1947) \* #

Seven Springs (near Potsdam) (1968) +

Snow Ridge (1946) \*\*

\*Transferred from Syracuse Section to Lowville Section: 1949

\*\*Transferred to Utica Section: 1972

#Transferred to Adirondack Section: 1972

+Became Potsdam College ski area. Apparently not registered with NSPS when region reorganized (1972)

### **Section Chiefs**

1947-55 Fred Ramage

1955-60 Stan Miller

1960-71 Jack Parsell

1971-72 Jack Lynch

### **Section history**

When World War II broke out, Utica Section Chief Don Rowles asked Fred Ramage, a member of the Tug Hill Ski Club, to organize a rescue service to aid potential victims of downed aircraft. Many of the members of this rescue organization were members of the Tug Hill club.

In 1946, Ramage was asked by Lawton Williams, co-owner of the just-opened Snow Ridge ski area, to form a ski patrol. With the help of Stan Miller, the Snow Ridge Ski Patrol was started.

In May 1947, NSPS National Chairman C. Minot Dole commended Ramage on his work in a letter that accompanied the award of National Number 488. Dole also presented Ramage with a Yellow Merit Star and appointed him chief of the Lowville Section.

In 1949, the section grew with the addition of Watertown and St. Lawrence University patrols, transferred that year from the Syracuse Section.

Two small areas organized patrols in the 1960s: Juniper Hills and Seven Springs. Seven Springs was only a public area for a few years before becoming the ski area of Potsdam College. Apparently, the patrol was not registered after 1972.

The Central New York Region was split in 1972, creating the Eastern New York Region from Utica, Adirondack, and Capital District sections. At that time, the Lowville section was dissolved and Watertown, St. Lawrence University, and Juniper Hills patrols transferred to the Adirondack Section; and Snow Ridge Ski Patrol was transferred to the Utica Section.

## **SOUTHERN TIER SECTION**

The Southern Tier Section was formed about 1946 to cover any ski patrols at areas in south central New York State (Cortland-Binghamton-Elmira areas). At the time, however, there was only one ski area and one patrol: Cortland Ski Patrol, serving an area on Rt. 281 across from the Cortland Country Club just outside that Central New York city.

In its earliest days, the Southern Tier Section was part of the Metropolitan Region (now called Southern New York Region) of the NSPS. In about 1953, the section was transferred into the Central New York Region.

Ken Archibald was the first section chief, a position he held until 1960. Archibald, an employee of the telephone company, was instrumental in forming the area's second public ski slope, Snow Crest. The Cortland patrol moved to the new area in 1947 from the Rt. 281 site. When Greek Peak was opened in 1958, Archibald was among the directors. The Cortland patrol also took on the responsibility of serving the new area.

Another patrol formed in the section during the 1950s was the Elmira Ski Patrol, which served Harris Hill, about 20 miles from Elmira. The Elmira patrol also helped patrol Greek Peak in the area's first year of operation.

When Snow Crest closed in 1960, the Cortland patrol became the Greek Peak Ski Patrol. The Elmira patrol remained registered with the NSPS until 1961.

Jack Huntley became both section chief and Greek Peak patrol leader in 1960. In 1967, the Eastern Division administration ruled that officers cannot hold two administrative positions, so Huntley gave up the SC job. Jerry Gwin remained as SC for the next 11 years and was replaced in 1978 by Tom Lipa.

During 1965, 1966, and 1967, seven ski patrols were registered in the Southern Tier Section, the highest number ever reached by the section. Fourteen separate patrols (not including name changes) have been registered with the section over the years; most of these during the mid and late 1960s. Patrols included Cortland/Greek Peak, Elmira, Thunderbird, Smith Hill, Meteor Valley/Endless Mountains, Vestal Ski Club, Little Innsbruck/Innsbruck USA, Tall Timber, Tutelow Creek, Intermont, Pinnacle, Trainer Hill, Skaneateles, and Labrador.

Ski areas in the section had been plagued by management and financial problems throughout the years. Most of the areas were closed by the early 1970s; Pinnacle by 1977. Only Greek Peak remained, and only the Greek Peak and Innsbruck patrols were still registered in 1981. (The Innsbruck patrol served Greek Peak, since Innsbruck USA closed in 1973).

In 1982, because of the lack of patrols in the section, the Eastern Division and Central New York Region administration acted to increase the number of patrols. Trainer Hill (Colgate University) was transferred from Headwaters Section, and plans were implemented to create a new Binghamton Nordic patrol. Pinnacle reopened in 1982 and its patrol was reactivated. The nordic and Pinnacle patrols didn't hang on for long.

Again in 1984, only Greek Peak remained, so Skaneateles Ski Patrol was transferred from the Syracuse Section, followed by Labrador Mt. a year later.

In 1996, the Southern Tier Section and Syracuse Section merged to form the new Iroquois Section.

## **SOUTHERN TIER SECTION**

Founded: c.1946 (as part of Metropolitan Region)

Part of Central New York Region since about 1953

Merged into Iroquois Section: 1996

### **Patrols** — *(dates of NSPS registration follow patrol name)*

Greek Peak (Virgil, NY) (1960) \*

*Cortland (served Snow Crest and Greek Peak) (c.1945-1960) \**

*Binghamton Nordic (1982)*

*Elmira (Harris Hill) (195x-1961)*

*Innsbruck USA (Little Innsbruck) (1965) \*\* [Closed in 1973]*

*Intermont (1966-76) (Transferred to Syracuse Section: 1967)*

Labrador (1960) *(Transferred from Syracuse Section: 1985)*

*Meteor Valley/Endless Mountains (Spruce Run; Montrose, PA.)(1964-70)++*

*Pinnacle of NY (Corning) (1968-1977; 1982-1983) \*\*\**

Skaneateles (1961) *(Transferred from Syracuse Section: 1984)*

*Smith Hill (Binghamton) (1964-1967)*

*Tall Timber (Tall Timber and Harris Hill areas near Elmira)(1965-67)*

*Trainer Hill (Colgate University) (1962-1991) (Transferred from Headwaters Section: 1982) [Hill closed in 1991]*

*Tutelow Creek (in PA. near Waverly, NY) (1965-67)*

*Thunderbird (Binghamton) (1962-1972)*

*Vestal Ski Club (1964 only)*

\*Cortland Ski Patrol served area near Cortland NY on Rt. 281 across from Cortland Country Club starting about 1945.

That area closed and Snow Crest on Page Green Road opened in 1947. In January 1958, Greek Peak opened and the Cortland Ski Patrol with aid of Elmira Ski Patrol served both Snow Crest and Greek Peak. Snow Crest closed in 1960 and the patrol exclusively served Greek Peak since.

\*\*Innsbruck USA Ski Patrol served Greek Peak since the Binghamton ski area ceased operations in 1973.

\*\*\*Pinnacle of NY ski area closed in 1977. Area reopened on three-day week schedule in 1982, and patrol reactivated.

++Meteor Valley name changed to Endless Mountains in 1966

### **Section Chiefs**

c1946-1960	Kenneth Archibald
1960-1967	Jack Huntley +
1967-1978	Jerry D. Gwin
1978-1982	Thomas Lipa
1982-1985	Michael Blomfield Brown
1985-9/91	Phillip Stevens
9/91-1996	Marilyn Nickerson

### **National Appointments**

784	Kenneth Archibald	1946	Cortland
2416	Jack J. Huntley	1962	Greek Peak
2583	Donald Tomanck	1963	Greek Peak
2617	William Fordyce	1963	Greek Peak
2620	Windsor Smith	1963	Greek Peak
2954	Norma Kerper	1965	Greek Peak
3012	Jerry Gwin	1966	Greek Peak
3064	Harry Westerholt	1966	Greek Peak
3104	Iris Carnell	1967	Greek Peak
3105	Frederick "Fritz" Prill	1967	Greek Peak

3225	Michael Carpenter	1968	Greek Peak
3266	Michael Blomfield-Brown	1968	Greek Peak
3446	Armin Wimmer	1969	Innsbruck USA
3478	Mark Sullivan	1969	Greek Peak
3554	C. Peter Austin	1970	Greek Peak
3741	Archer Martin	1971	Pinnacle
3834	Marjorie "Ginger" Prill	1971	Greek Peak
4165	James Brown	1973	Greek Peak
4213	James Dougherty	1973	Greek Peak
4214	Donald Moran	1973	Greek Peak
4229	Gerald Horwitz	1973	Greek Peak
4230	James Tombs	1973	GreekPeak
4414	Thomas Lipa	1974	Greek Peak
4574	Robert Wildoner	1975	Greek Peak
4595	Keith Snyder	1975	Pinnacle
4596	Kenneth Blair	1975	Innsbruck USA
4605	Robert Wiley	1975	Innsbruck USA
5031	Edgar Schmidt	1977	Greek Peak
5236	Theodore Fendick	1978	Greek Peak
5285	Albert Gillis	1978	Greek Peak
5286	Roberta Schmidt	1978	Innsbruck USA
5304	Jack Shamberger	1978	Greek Peak
5421	Bruce Barrett	1979	Greek Peak
5422	Terrance Cribbs	1979	Greek Peak
5554	George Henegar	1979	Greek Peak
5627	Bruce Federko	1980	Greek Peak
5628	Nye Williamson	1980	Greek Peak
5807	David Geller	1981	Greek Peak
5904	James Nickerson	1981	Greek Peak
5905	David DuBois	1981	Innsbruck USA
5930	Harley Gamel	1982	Greek Peak
5931	Roberta Gamel	1982	GreekPeak
5932	Richard Hill	1982	Greek Peak
5933	James Judski	1982	Greek Peak
5934	Boyd Kennicutt	1982	Greek Peak
5945	Duane Zagorsky	1982	Greek Peak
6416	Ann Bednarsky	1984	Greek Peak
6424	John Gerty	1984	Greek Peak
6978	Jeffrey Gotro	1988	Greek Peak
6979	Carol Rehkugler	1988	Greek Peak
7741	Marilyn Nickerson	1993	Greek Peak
8108	John Megivern	1995	Greek Peak

The National Numbers on these pages are believed accurate as to the number actually issued to the individual. However, on NSPS lists, the numbers do not always coincide, perhaps because groups of numbers were issued at a time and were recorded in different order than presented.

## CORTLAND / GREEK PEAK Ski Patrols

Registered with NSPS: c.1945

Served Snow Crest and Greek Peak ski areas

### Patrol leaders

1945-53	Ken Archibald	1987-94	Tom Lipa
1953-59	John Doll	1994-95	Don Moran
1959-60	Larry Potter	1995-2000	John Megivern
1960-82	Jack Huntley	2000-2003	Paul Collin
1982-84	Don Moran	2003	Sue Gillis
1984-86	Roberta Gamel	2003-	John Megivern
1986-87	Dr. George Henegar		

### Patrol history

The Greek Peak Ski Patrol can trace its lineage back to about 1945, when the Cortland Ski Patrol was formed. According to newspaper accounts from the *Cortland Standard*, a ski area was opened on Rt. 281 outside Cortland by district forester James D. Kennedy in late 1945. The area was small and featured a rope tow. However, Kennedy and others wanted a larger ski area for the public than this one opposite the Cortland Country Club.

Kenneth Archibald, who apparently was the Cortland patrol's first PL and the Southern Tier Section's first SC, along with Dr. Edward Higgins, Russell Parsons, Porter Bennett, and Robert Thompson (later to become president of Greek Peak), found a site on the Lang farm on Page Green Road four miles south of Cortland. The rope tow was moved from the Rt. 281 site to the farm, and Snow Crest ski area was born in the Fall of 1947.

The area grew and night lighting was installed. It was served by the Cortland Ski Patrol under the direction of Archibald. In 1953, John Doll of Dryden became the patrol's PL. By 1956, at the recommendation of Thompson, the Cortland Ski Club, operator of Snow Crest, set up a committee to develop an even larger ski area at Greek Peak near Virgil.

Greek Peak Inc. was formed by the end of 1956 and after a year of construction, the new area was opened on Saturday, Jan. 11, 1958. The Cortland Ski Patrol was supplemented by the eight-man Elmira Ski Patrol headed by John Tewey so that adequate coverage could be provided to both Greek Peak and Snow Crest.

The 10-man Cortland patrol included APL Harold Armstrong, Chip Armstrong, Larry Potter, Jim Metzger, Peter Leonelli and Henry Halstead, all from Cortland; Doll from Dryden; and three others from Binghamton, the newspaper account reported at Greek Peak's opening.

Snow Crest continued in existence for two more years as a supplement to Greek Peak. The area closed in 1960, and the patrol exclusively served Greek Peak after that. Larry Potter succeeded Doll as PL. In 1960, Jack Huntley became both PL and section chief. Huntley served as SC until an Eastern Division ruling in 1967 forbid dual office capacities. He remained as Greek Peak's PL, a position he held for 22 years.

The patrol changed its name from Cortland Ski Patrol to Greek Peak Ski Patrol in 1960. The Greek Peak patrol has distinguished itself over the years by providing leadership to the division, region and section. Most section officers and advisors came from Greek Peak, and numerous region advisors have been members of the patrol. The ski area itself has grown into a major ski resort with chairlifts and condominiums and summer recreation facilities.

The patrol's most distinguished achievement was being named the Outstanding Ski Patrol in the NSP Eastern Division twice in its history: 1966 and 1993. In both cases, Greek Peak was placed in nomination for Outstanding Patrol in the National Ski Patrol System. It placed third in the nation in 1966.

**GENESEE VALLEY SECTION**

Founded: 1948

Part of Central New York Region; c.1953-1977

**Patrols** *(Date first registered with NSPS follows patrol name)*

Alfred (1967)  
Brantling  
Bristol Mt.  
Burby Hollow (1949-53) (area near Bristol)  
Frost Ridge  
Happy Valley (Alfred)  
Honey Hill  
Hunt Hollow  
Northampton (1970)  
Powder Mill (c.1946)  
Rochester Ski Club (served Powder Mill park near Rochester)  
Rochester (served Bristol Mt.)  
Ski Valley  
Swain (1947)

**Section chiefs**

1948-58? Dwight Hill  
c1958-61 Bill Miller  
1961-63 Ray Meyering  
1963-66 Frank Gilmore  
1966-69 John Sherman  
1969-71 Arthur Fisher Jr.  
1971-74 Jack Hire  
1974-79 Don Warren