

# NORTHFIELD MOUNTAIN NORDIC SKI PATROL



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## NORTHFIELD MOUNTAIN FALL REFRESHER October 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>

**OEC Refresher:** Yes, the rumors are true. We'll be at a different location for the OEC component of our Refresher. Detailed directions to the **Barton Cove** Campground and Canoe Rental Office can be found on page two in Tom's *Chocolate Pot Chat*. Registration starts at 7:30am on **October 14<sup>th</sup>**, with the program starting at 8:00am. Please bring your OEC card, *completed* Refresher Study Guide, lunch, weather gear, and patrol pack. Don't forget to also bring your checkbook, as all patrollers will need to pay their dues when they register (\$53 – make checks payable to the Northfield Mountain Nordic Ski Patrol). Patrollers who met their patrolling requirements last season may opt to have the patrol pay their dues for this year.

**CPR/Hill Refresher:** We'll be back at the mountain's visitors' center on **October 15<sup>th</sup>** for day two of our Refresher. CPR recertification will start at 8am. Patrollers who have completed this requirement elsewhere can plan to arrive by 11:30am for a group pizza lunch, then put on their thinking caps and bring their sense of direction for afternoon activities. On tap: a quick look at accident documentation protocols and a Search & Rescue exercise using modern day marvels.

We anticipate both days will wrap up around 4:30pm. Contact Tom Deam if you are unable to attend either day and need to make other arrangements: (978) 544-5420 or [tcdeam@verizon.net](mailto:tcdeam@verizon.net). The patrol calendar will be available all weekend. Sign up for some or all of your patrol days. We didn't let Bill Gabriel give a weather forecast, so maybe we'll have lots and lots and lots of snow.

## MOUNTAIN MUSINGS

by Bill Gabriel

Greetings from the mountain. The big news over the summer is the sale of the Northfield generating assets (the Visitor Center is part of the asset). The successful bidder in the sale was Energy Capital Partners. Energy Capital Partners (ECP) is a relatively new private investment company that invests in power infrastructure. The sale is expected to close by early November. At his time we are not expecting any major operational changes to occur.

Aside from that, we're busy prepping the trails for the season. The high rainfall in the spring and summer washed out a few of the trails, nothing that requires "Worm Extrication", just a lot of small grading and fill projects to help make the trails smoother. Bring your sunscreen to the yurt this year, there should be a small sundeck installed for afternoon basking. We're still looking for a food vendor, so if any one knows of someone that might be interested please pass the information along.

I've been told not to make any weather predictions for the coming winter; however these thoughts keep coming to mind: a wong linter with plenty of seep dnw, wold ceather, and, peed dowder, this all points to a sreat geason. See you all at refresher! Shink Tnow!

For a great tarp/shelter set up and folding site check out <http://www.equipped.com/tarp-shelters.htm> Scroll down a ways. I think this guy took an origami class to learn some of these folds!

## RATTLEBONE GOES ELECTRONIC

Starting with this issue, the *Rattlebone* will be emailed (in pdf format) to everyone on our mailing list as well as posted on our website. We will continue to snail mail copies to our patrol members who don't have an email address. Feel free to send your name and email address to Joannie if you aren't a member of our patrol, would like to continue receiving the *Rattlebone*, and don't think we have your address. Please note 'Rattlebone' in the subject line. If we don't hear from you, the December issue will be the last one snail mailed to you.

*The next issue of the Rattlebone will be published in December. Please get all articles, information, dates, etc. to Joannie Duris by December 17<sup>th</sup>.  
36 Lombard Road, Hubbardston, MA 01452  
(978) 928-5587 or [jduris@charter.net](mailto:jduris@charter.net)*

**WWW.NMNSP.ORG**

**Don't forget to check our website for the latest patrol news and dates of upcoming courses and events.**

**If you don't remember the user name and password for entering the 'patrol room', contact Bill Schweikert at: [webmaster@nmnsp.org](mailto:webmaster@nmnsp.org)**

# CHOCOLATE POT CHAT

by Tom Deam

Hi all! This is the first Rattlebone of the 2006/2007 Season. I'm looking forward to Refresher, snow, Patrol Meetings, snow, Patrol Training, snow, and patrolling on snow.

**OEC Refresher this year will be Saturday October 14<sup>th</sup> at the Barton Cove Campground and Canoe Rental Office.**

It's located on RT 2 in Gill, just down from Bob Perry's Performing Arts Center/Grass Mower Emporium. For those with Map quest, it is 82 French King Highway, Gill MA (no zip code). For those without it, is 3 miles east from Exit 27 on I 91 North and 2.75968324 miles west of the French King Bridge. Yes, it is a different location thanks to my inattentiveness when answering a question. The building will hold our patrol plus about 10 and has plenty of room outside for imaginative stations. There is one flush toilet in the building, one in the old building and 2 (hopefully) porta potties. No heat, so dress accordingly, and bring your own lunch and plenty of water.

**Sunday's On-the-Hill and CPR/FPR will be at Northfield Mountain, as usual.** CPR/FPR/AED recerts will take the morning. CPR/FPR updated procedures will be shown and taught. **Lunch will be provided!** The afternoon will be spent outside, on the hill.

Patrol meetings this year will include a training portion. Subjects scheduled include: ski skills, toboggan handling, and moulage fun. Meetings will also have a fun and games or social event. Mark your calendars for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sundays of December, January, February and March at 6:00pm for each meeting. As always there are exceptions and November's meeting will be November 19<sup>th</sup>, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday. A guest speaker will present imaginative ways to include moulage in our OEC classes and training at this meeting.

Finally, a plug for the OEC EMM Program, or Senior EMM Clinic. Ralph Rossi can speak to the benefits better than me as he completed, successfully, the program in 2004. The time spent will vastly improve your OEC skills, assessment, and scene management. The first meeting/session will be at Bousquet on October 14<sup>th</sup>. Contact me or Bryon Sinclair, 413-684-1303, [e65223@aol.com](mailto:e65223@aol.com) for more info.

## CANDIDATES' CORNER

All interested public, potential candidates and returning candidates are welcome to join us for our first Patrol Meeting of the season on Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, 6:00pm, at Northfield Mountain. If you are interested in joining the patrol, but unable to attend that night, please contact our Patrol Representative, Tom Deam, at: (978) 544-5420 or [tcdeam@verizon.net](mailto:tcdeam@verizon.net).

You can also learn more about our patrol, how to join, and what to expect by checking out our website: [www.nmns.org](http://www.nmns.org).

## THE SEASON AHEAD

Mark your calendars and reserve the dates noted below. Snow or no snow, this season promises to be both a fun and educational one. All events are at Northfield Mountain. Check our website for more details and other events of interest.

**October 14 & 15: FALL REFRESHER**

**Sunday, November 19, 6pm: PATROL MEETING, CANDIDATES' NIGHT, AND MOULAGE MADNESS**  
Welcome new candidates and answer their questions. Our special guest will be Amanda Cannon from the Mohawk Ski Patrol. Her moulage experience will show us how to add a touch of realism to our scenarios and become Oscar contenders for the best makeup artists.

**Sunday, December 10, 6pm: PATROL MEETING, BACKBOARDS/ORION SLED, HOLIDAY PARTY**  
Find out if we can successfully secure Santa on our new Orion sled. For the party: bring something for a potluck dinner, and bring a gift to join the traditional present swap (cost of presents, around \$10). *Family members/significant others are welcome to join us for dinner and the party.*

**Sunday, January 14, 2007, 6pm: PATROL MEETING, AVALANCHE TRANSCEIVER TRAINING**  
Learn how to use the latest transceivers during a search & rescue exercise. Who knows what you'll find at the beacon.

**Sunday, February 11, 6pm: PATROL MEETING, SKI SKILLS/TOBOGGAN HANDLING, CARNIVAL**  
Practice your S & T skills, win prizes in our winter carnival.

**Sunday, March 11, 6pm: PATROL MEETING, OFF-SEASON SKI MAINTENANCE WORKSHOP**  
Bring your skis; learn how to keep them cleaned, stored and ready to go for the next season.

## THE BEAR PATROL

Bob and Joannie Duris had a surprise visitor for lunch on Labor Day. What patrol-related captions can your creative minds come up with for the picture below? Bob snapped the picture from our deck—with the door open for a quick escape if needed. Email your ideas to Joannie at [jvduris@charter.net](mailto:jvduris@charter.net) by December 17<sup>th</sup>. The best captions will be published in the next Rattlebone.

