



Bill Gibson — Far West Division Directors Report, August 2, 2014

Wow, what a year for the members of the Far West Division. Mother Nature sure didn't help any of us this last season. But not all was lost. Even though I did not have one day patrolling at my home area, I had many days patrolling, teaching and evaluating at other areas around the division. I want to especially thank the Homewood Ski Patrol for adopting me and giving me a place to call home last winter. Some of the major events that I was able to be at were candidate training and testing, instructor training days, an ID class, a Senior OEC T/E clinic and a Senior OEC evaluation. Plus I was able to visit many of the ski patrols in the Tahoe area. Sure hope next season is a better one for all of us.

Even though the weather was a challenge and the skiing was not the best, there is good news about last season. Programs were delivered, candidates became patrollers and yes we all got to do a little skiing. In fact quite a few courses were registered and closed in the division. I was able to attend a few of the regional meetings and even a few patrols end of the years parties. And all in all the state of the division is really good, thanks to the outstanding members that continue to strive to make the Far West Division the best in the National Ski Patrol.

As the Division Director I have also been task with a few duties beyond the division level. As required I attend the National Board Meeting in Denver in June. At the meeting of the Division Director, I was ask to chair the group and I am also on this year's National Board of Directors nominations committee. Plus, I am working with a very select group on the issues we face with our IT and database problems. I have tapped into a few individuals with in the Far West Division to also help with these tasks. And we are starting to see some results even though a lot still lies ahead of us.

And if anyone thinks that the Far West Division isn't doing well then just wait until this year's awards dinner. Once again the members of the division are being honored for the outstanding work they have done this season.

Looking ahead, we are presenting a balanced budget that will provide funding for all the programs that were requested by our staff and supervisors and we will even have the reserves recommended by the IRS for a nonprofit organization. Our regions are providing training for our instructors and helping insure they meet the requirements as outline in the P&P. And next weekend I will be representing our members at the Pacific Northwest Divisions conference as we start working across division lines to provide the best programs in the NSP.

Thanks for your continued support to the members of the Far West Division and I am honored to represent our members as the Director.