

**Far West Assistant Division Director
Lance Vaughan
Summer 2014 report**

I attended the Winter National Board Meeting in Feb in Denver. Interesting activity occurred and I enjoyed watching Tom Sherry take a seat at the Big Table and soon after lead the entire board in a technology presentation. Our new board members bring new perspectives to the table and will challenge several of the past power bases on the board. I think it is a wonderful thing to watch the new board members engage and take leadership roles while they question and push the board to take more strategic views on industry issues.

I am the Far West Division representative on the Certified Committee. This national committee is tasked with creating a resource study guide for Certified Classification. Progress is constant and positive with a document representing the goals across the NSP. The Committee was also tasked with defining the Certified Program – a more challenging task than it might seem. Progress on this topic is rapid within the Committee, a bit less so outside the committee.

This Summer I was asked/appointed a member of the task group planning Powder Fall 2015 at The Canyons Resort in Park City Utah. The group is comprised of NSP members from across the US, with one from the Far West Division. One meeting to date and the program development alludes to an exciting program with on and off snow activity for the whole family. I'll report more in the near future, but do consider attending Powder Fall. Most West Coast patrollers can leave home and fly to The Canyons faster than if they were driving to most West Coast resorts on a Friday night.

Program supervisors are engaged with program delivery and instructor evaluation; to the extent the snow coverage allowed program delivery. I have talked with Transportation, Avalanche, & OEC and programs did occur on a very limited basis.

I did not attend the Summer Board meeting; family events prevented my travel to Denver. I did keep up on the events and activity via phone calls and emails. Interesting times indeed.

We have another election this fall; Bill Hummer is running for a second term. I strongly support Bill and I do not support those on the Ballot who as Board members filed suit against the National Organization. More details later via request.

Summer planning meeting was fruitful, creating a budget and reviewing Staff appointments. Change is a constant and the organization is stronger as we introduce new ideas at the program Supervisor levels.

Today I am planning to attend the Tri Advisory meeting, Winter Board meeting / Powder Fall.

Thank you,

**Lance Vaughan
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