



REPORT TO THE FAR WEST DIVISION
Southern California REGION STATUS REPORT
2017-2018 SEASON REPORT – due JULY 26, 2018

FROM: Diana St. Clair

DATE: 11 July 2018

SEASON HIGHLIGHTS TO DATE:

We started the season with the untimely death of my Assistant Region Director, Lisa Larres-Jernigan. This left me, Snow Valley Patrol and Big Bear Resorts reeling and lost. We had to scramble to get it together. Big Bear seemed to do better than Snow Valley Patrol and me. We pulled together to support the patrollers at Snow Valley, providing Lay Counseling through our Counseling program. And I jumped in to handle big issues and concerns for the Patrol Rep where requested.

This season I have been slow, behind schedule and lagging on timely matters. My apologies.

Registration/Membership: 475

Financial: Holding steady, considering a lower member number.

Report on Patrols:

Big Bear Resorts - Over the past four years, PR Jim Murphy, and an able staff, were successful in melding together two major resorts (Bear Mtn and Snow Summit) into one, not without a few bumps along the way. The majority of Patrollers embraced it as a new adventure, gaining a new area to patrol and welcoming a new patroller family.

Snow Valley - In the last two years, Snow Valley has lost two longtime patrollers to untimely deaths. The loss, less than a year apart, has rocked the patrol. As they were scrambling to make sense of the loss of Bill Trumpfheller, nine months later they lost Lisa Larres-Jernigan. The last two seasons have been trying and emotional.

Lee Canyon Resort - Over the past four years, Lee Canyon has experienced three Patrol Rep Changes, at the request of Mountain Management. Each subsequent Patrol Rep has jumped in, taken the bull by the horns and worked with both the patrollers and mountain management to move their patrol forward. Issues are brought forward and we work to resolve them.

San Gabriel Backcountry Nordic - Small two person patrol with some twenty plus secondaries, not much went on this season, due to a lack of snow.

Buckhorn Ski - Over the past four years they have been working with Forest Service to try and re-certify their lift. For now, they remain open to backcountry skiing, snowshoeing, sledding, tubing, etc.

Mountain High - Over the past four years they have experienced two patrol rep changes, at the request of mountain management. In my June conversation with mountain management, I was advised that they are in the middle of summer operations. Working with Upper Management to appoint or vote in a new Patrol Rep will have to wait until September, this issue will be addressed and we will help them to move forward. Mountain management has phoned and /or sent me email questions, which I reference the answers from the National P&P and Division, so they know we are following protocol. They also keep in contact with their Section Chief, Angeles Crest Section Chief - James Pruitt.

Mt. Baldy - Major problem is a lack of snow. Mtn High has adopted Mt. Baldy patrollers as secondaries and they do time at Mtn. High.

Mt. Waterman - Major problem is a lack of snow. Mtn. High has adopted Mt. Waterman patrollers as secondaries and they do their time at Mtn. High.

Mt. Pinos Nordic - Even the smallest amount of snow and all of Los Angeles County finds their way up the mountain. Their numbers are small, but they are mighty.

Alta Sierra - Over the past four years, they have experienced major attrition. Their new Patrol Rep has been working with the remaining patrollers on marketing to grow their patrol.

Mammoth Basin Backcountry Nordic - A small but mighty patrol, with an area greater than the state of Rhode Island! (?).

June Mtn. - Another Small patrol on a wonderful mountain. Management requested the assistance from the patrols in our SoCal Region, asking for patrollers travelled to June to assist with patrolling duties. And we did, in spite of the 8 - 10 hour drive.



ISSUES and RESOLUTIONS:

The major issues we have faced was the frustration in respect to the National IT system. I am ever-so-grateful for our Division's chain-of-command. It is nice to have someone local to go to with questions, frustrations and concerns. Instead of being accusatory and laying blame, she would help to find the answer. Thank you!

SEASON GOALS STATUS:

I have left two goals undone (sorry FWD), which I have already discussed with the incoming Region Director. I have also volunteered to assist with resolution, if he would like. I didn't realize how hard it would be to step down at the end of my term and give you all up. Over the past four years (my go to statement this report) I have gotten to know most of you and find you all amazing, hysterical, persnickety, and brilliant. I will miss you all.

I can adjust form & font to make it fit 1 page!