



• The Arctic Turn •

A publication of the Alaska Division

Fall 2006

• FIRST TRACKS •



Photo by Lucas Clark (remote)

Lucas & Brenda Clark
on "Ear" Mountain

• WELCOME •

The Arctic Turn staff welcomes you to the 2006-

2007 season and hopes to hear from each of you often and soon. Each of you, regardless of your certification, has experiences both on and off the snow to share with your peers. Jot them down and send them in!

Most of all, have an exciting, fulfilling and safe boarding and skiing season!

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• CONGRATULATIONS •

to *Bill Ellis* and *Eric Schlabaugh!*

Their peers awarded their dedication by voting them as Verifiers for the current Alaska examiners core! This is quite an achievement.

Thank you both for all of your hard work.

• PLAN NOW •

Mini-Academy is the premier event of the season.

This year, the Alaska Division welcomes Deb Armstrong, Katie Fry, Megan Harvey, and James Schanzenbaker, and Megan Harvey. *See page 5.*

• DISABLED VETS SKI PROGRAM •

By Phil Livingston

A new Para Olympic ski program for disabled veterans has been established with a Rotary Foundation Grant at Challenge Alaska Inc. located at The Alyeska Resort. The Girdwood Rotary Club in partnership with the International Skiing Fellowship of Rotarians secured this grant as a follow-up to a March 2006 event where disabled veterans from the Alaska Disabled Veterans Sports Program (ADVSP) participated with Skiing Rotarians in a Challenge Alaska race.

The program will provide an accessible venue for disabled veterans, specialized equipment, and qualified instructors for ski training. An established program at the Alyeska Resort would stimulate interest in the Disabled Para Olympics for both veterans and other disabled persons. The Alyeska Resort has been a strong supporter of the Challenge Alaska ski programs. Continuing their generosity, they have donated two season passes to qualified Para Olympic veterans participating in the new program.

Stan Lowe, Wyoming Veterans Commissioner and member of the International Skiing Fellowship of Rotarians and its Foundation's board of directors, says: "the core benefit of this project is to provide an opportunity to our veterans (who have sacrificed a normal life for us in the service of their country) to reach their full potential, improve their independence, achieve a healthier lifestyle, and enjoy a higher quality of life."

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• **ARCTIC TURN PUBLISHING POLICY** •

The Arctic Turn is a publication of the Alaska Division of PSIA/AASI. The editorial staff reserves the right to edit submissions for content, clarity and space. All photos must be accompanied by name of any person(s) in the photo and credit for the photographer--without these items photos will not be published. Please submit articles and photos, along with a short bio as attachments to the Editor at leslie101@alaska.net.

• **AHHH SUMMER** •

By Bill Ellis

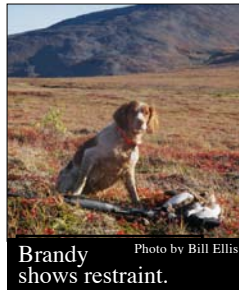


As a passionate snow sports enthusiast, I am frequently asked the question, "What did you do this summer?" As with winter, my passions do not melt with the snow.

This past summer, I rafted in Aspen and here in Alaska, as

well as took a 60-mile trip up the Yetna River to fish for Silvers. In fact, fishing and skeet and sporting clays are two of my summer passions.

None of my summer adventures match my love for bird hunting with my Brittney Spaniel, Brandy Rose. This fall, I traveled to Nome to hunt ptarmigan on the Taylor highway, an 80 mile access road to the mining community of Taylor. The weather was grand, the birds plentiful and the scenery beyond description.



Brandy shows restraint. Photo by Bill Ellis

While hunting for birds up a distant draw, my dog and I spooked some Caribou. The animals ran until they realized that we were not predators. I have several pictures of a female Caribou practically touching noses with Brandy.

While in Nome, Brandy and I took in all the sights that made Nome famous during its gold rush.

• **PHIL-LER** •

Fifty-five's the limit. One ought not be required to offer instruction to students more than 55 years one's junior.

~ Phil McRee

• **LEARNED FROM THAT** •

By The Membership

This issue's contributor:

Dan Garner **The last day**

of the season is always a mixed bag. Everyone, with the possible exception of Jeffra and Tom, our snow sports school director and assistant manager, is sad to see the season end. Of course there are those of the less-addicted looking forward to summer activities and new adventures. Like-wise for our guests and students.

Juneau always seems to pull a bluebird, sunny day out of a bleak forecast, making shredding the last day even more special. Last day lineup is generally subdued, filled with the normal chit-chat: what are you gonna do over the summer?, etc., and the ever present, all encompassing boot stare. You know the stare - the low-brow, no-eye-contact-stare of instructors examining their boot buckles for new, miraculously appearing blemishes, desperately hoping for no students. Instructor avoidance behavior at last day line up is a performing art due its own Academy Award.



Enjoying . . . Photo by Leslie Antolick

Invariably someone will show up for a lesson that has been waiting all year for the last day to come have fun and learn a little. Such

was the case last year. Beware the last day, your guard might be down.

Prodded by her boyfriend, a young woman arrived with a special request; she wanted to learn how to stop without fear. And since I didn't win any line-up Oscars . . .

During our get-to-know-each-other chat, I learned she had skied a number of times at Eaglecrest, had taken a few lessons years ago, had skied the lower mountain without falling, but had trouble stopping—casually mentioning she got scared and then, couldn't stop. Hmmm. *Should have paid more attention to that.*

Starting in our never-ever area, I reviewed some of the balance, gliding, stopping-in-a-wedge, and initial turning-to-a-stop drills. She performed these with very little trouble *while I stood below her.* It was clear she had the abilities and was ready for our beginner hill.

With each run slightly increasing in stopping skills, speed and linking tighter turns we skied the beginner hill a dozen times or so. *I was usually leading, in front and downhill of her.* She even pulled off some fairly high speed hockey-stops: coming to a full stop right in front of me, *above me. Again I was downhill of her.*

continued ~ page 4

Learned from That...

from ~ page 3

Hockey Stops were new for her and added a good deal of confidence. She showed no signs of fear or a wavering of skills, just a bigger and bigger smile.

It was such a nice day, we decided to head for our Hooter chair accessing longer, steeper, green runs—terrain she had skied before. *Leading in front, usually below her*, we progressed into more difficult terrain and made a number of stopping and speed control moves. She wasn't timid and was having a good time practicing and discovering her new skills. What a great lesson on a great last day.

Should have left well enough alone. She also mentioned earlier that she had never been to the top and wanted to try it; if I thought she was capable. Here at Eaglecrest, there are green terrain choices from the top. It was a beautiful, warm sunny day with a promise of a spectacular view. So we went for it on our last run together.

Starting off slowly, we skied through the only area of real terrain concern on the way down, The Throat. *Skiing in front of her, I led*

her through this area. At the bottom of the Throat we regrouped, ***with her stopping below me.*** Explaining the terrain choices ahead, reviewing our progress and congratulating her on a great lesson, I was totally unprepared for what happened next.

While I looked uphill for traffic, she started sliding, struggled to hold an edge, then just let go and pointed herself down the hill. Her first scream was a surprise and quite far away. It seemed she was joking at first. But she wasn't, and was headed to a ninety-degree corner in a cloud of snow and fading, blood-curdling screams.

I couldn't even begin to catch her and wasn't sure what to do if I did. I started to get a little concerned



... the view at Eaglecrest.

Photo by "Lori"

about my own control issues going that fast--and I'm generally fearless. I don't know how she managed to stop. Invoking the names of many powers for help, it was a relief to find her standing up; but, as you could guess, in a sobbing meltdown just past the corner. With some words of encouragement, hugs, congratulations and apologies, we struggled back to the lodge.

What is there to learn here? Pay very close attention to any verbal clues offered at the beginning of the lesson: This student took the trouble to explain she was afraid to stop, to the point of not being able to, and wanted to learn a fearless stop.

It makes sense to let students ski away from you, down hill, on their own so-to-speak, so they get a better sense of self-determination (if they are ready). It may be that as long as someone was in front of her she was fine. However, perhaps with the enthusiasm of her lesson progress, the last day scenario and the new terrain;

when she stopped below the instructor, instead of above, she wasn't in control of her fears as she was before; when things were laid out in front of her with the instructor as a safety net.

If you have a good lesson going, sometimes it's best to leave well enough alone. Perhaps the instructor shouldn't have taken her there that day.

As a last resort, remember, invoking help from higher powers in moments of panic might work.

We invite everyone to share what you learned with your peers: stunning occurrences in your career or your new learning experiences. Maybe something you wished you had done a little differently, or some brilliant solution you figured out on the fly. Whether based upon sheer terror, moments of panic, everyone has some real life gems to share - take a few moments and think back about some of the more memorable ones or pay close attention to occurrences in future lessons and make a note. We understand the potential need for, and will accept, anonymous contributions!

• NEED GEAR? •

Contact:

Al Clough for Volkl skis and snowboards, Tecnica boots, and Marker bindings. (cloughja@alaska.net)

Bill Ellis for Atomic. (bellis@ruralcap.com)

Mini-Academy Clinicians . . .

• **KURT FEHRENBACH** •

Kurt brings a holistic approach to skiing and ski instruction through his yoga studies. As a practitioner and teacher of yoga, Kurt is developing a program that combines yoga with ski instruction. His ski instructing career began in Vermont, at Okemo and Pico Peak ski schools. Following that with two years as a race coach at the Chateau Ski School at Mt. Ruapehu, New Zealand, then teaching tours at the Schweitzer Schischule, St Moritz, Switzerland, and Esquela Super-Ski, Cerro Cathedral, Bariloche, Argentina. For 11 years, 1986-1997, Kurt also taught at Vail/Beaver Creek. While he loves to tackle the biggest vertical and the steepest runs, his yoga keeps him grounded.

~ Kurt's bio provided by PSIA website.

(www.psia.org)

• **KATIE FRY** •

Katie grew up in Aspen, CO where she is the Managing Director of the Ski and Snowboard Schools of Aspen. After spending nine years (1978-1987) racing for the Aspen Valley Ski Club before finding her home with the Aspen Skiing company—teaching, managing and directing training for the Schools there. She has been a member of the PSIA Demo team since 1996 and is currently the teams manager.



• **MEGAN HARVEY** •

The 06-07 season marks Megan's 11th year on the PSIA Alpine Demo team. Megan has presented clinics at Alyeska, Juneau and Fairbanks. Though she summers in Maine, she returns to her hometown of Aspen, CO each winter to teach skiing and train some of the 1,200 ski pros for the Ski and Snowboard Schools. Megan is looking forward to visiting Alaska again and claims she can't wait to show her older sister, Katie, (by 22 minutes) around the great city of Fairbanks this year!

• **DOUG PIERINI** •

Doug's ski teaching career grew out of part-time seasonal work at Plattekill Mountain Ski Area. After college he worked at Squaw and Steamboat before moving to Jackson Hole. In 2003, Doug took on the responsibility of 200 plus employees as ski and snowboard school director at Sierra-at-Tahoe. During the summer of 1999, Doug ventured Down Under to teach at Mt. Buller in Australia and in 2000 he tried Portillo, Chile. A licensed sailboat captain and avid racer, in 1998 Doug captained a 60-foot ocean-racing sailboat to victory in the classic Newport-Bermuda race. This is Doug's second term as a PSIA Alpine National team member.

~ Doug's bio provided by PSIA website.

(www.psia.org)

• **JAMES "SCHANZY" SCHANZENBAKER** •

Schanzy calls Aspen Snowmass home right now! Alyeska is lucky enough to have their mini-academy staffed by Schanzy this year! He's a one term Demonstration Team member, though, his knowledge and experience goes far beyond that. He is a current verifier for the Rocky Mountain Division. He examines some of the best examiners in PSIA! Schanzy is a Rocky Mountain division clinic leader and examiner. He is an instructor in New Zealand in the summertime as well. He and his girlfriend, Georgie, make quite the skiing team, as she is now the ski school director at Aspen Mountain.

Mini-Academy Dates . . .

Feb. 3 & 4 at Alyeska
Kurt Fehrenbach
James "Schanzy" Schanzenbaker

Feb. 9, 10 & 11 at Eaglecrest
Doug Pierini

March 2, 3 & 4 in Fairbanks
Katie Fry
Megan Harvey

... **Don't Miss This One!**

AK Division 2006 - 2007 Activity Calendar . . . Subject to Revision ~ Contact Education / Certification Chairs with Questions

• **ALPINE** •

Date	Event	Location	Leader
Dec 9, 10 (10a-5pm)	Examiner Training w/Verificaton Tasks	Alyeska	Bill Ellis, Eric Schlabaugh
Dec 16 (2:30-5:30p) <i>Free</i>	Inspiring Life-Long Passion for the Mountain Experience in a Child	Alyesda	Caroline Ahres, Bill Ellis
Jan 6, 7	Development Series Level I, and Level II <i>Exam</i>	Hilltop	Ruth Kircher
Mid-Jan	Telemark Cross-over Clinic Everybody / Any level welcome	Alyeska	Brooke Edwards
Jan 13, 20, 27 (6-8p)	Development Series Level I, II, & III	Alyeska	Emily Bass, Ruth Kirscher, Bill Ellis, Eric Schlabaugh
Jan 28 (2:30-5:30p)	Teaching Tactics for the Upper Level Adult	Alyeska	Caroline Ahrens, Bill Ellis
Feb 3, 4 (10a-5pm)	Mini Academy	Alyeska	Kurt Fehrenbach, James "Schanzy" Schanzenbaker
Feb	Development Series Level I, II, & III	Eaglecrest	TBA
Feb 9, 10, 11	Mini Academy	Eaglecrest	Doug Pierini
Feb 10, 17, 24 (6-8p)	Development Series Level I (con't)	Alyeska	Emily Bass, Ruth Kirscher, Bill Ellis, Eric Schlabaugh
Feb 10, 17 (6-8p)	Development Series Level II & III (con't)	Alyeska	Emily Bass, Ruth Kirscher, Bill Ellis, Eric Schlabaugh
Feb 25	Level I Exam	Eaglecrest	TBA
Feb 25 (2:30-5:30p)	Video Assisted Movement Analysis/Feedback	Alyeska	Bill Ellis, Eric Schlabaugh
Ma 3, 10 (6-8p)	Development Series Level II & III	Alyeska	Emily Bass, Ruth Kirscher, Bill Ellis, Eric Schlabaugh
Mar 2, 3, 4	Mini Academy	Fairbanks	Katie Fry, Megan Harvey
Mar 4 (1:00-5:30p)	Level I Exam (written exam earlier)	Alyeska	Max Rothman
Mar 31 (6:00p)	Level II & III Witten Exam	TBA	Proctor: max Rothman
Mar 31	Level II & III Written Exam	Eaglecrest & Fairbanks	Proctors: TBA
Apr 1 (2:30-5:30p)	Conquering Steeps	Alyeska	Eric Schlabaugh
Apr 7, 8 (10a-5pm)	Level II & III Exam (meet lower level Sitzmark)	Alyeska	TBA
Apr 7, 8	Level I Exam	Eaglecrest	TBA
Apr 14 (10a-5pm)	Examiner Training	Alyeska	Bill Ellis

• **SNOWBOARD** •

Date	Event	Location	Leader
Feb 25	Level I Exam	Eaglecrest	TBA
TBA	Clinics & Exam	Fairbanks	Mark Eisman
Apr 7, 8 (10a-5pm)	Level II & III Exams	Eaglecrest	TBA

• **NORDIC ~ TELEMAR** •

Date	Event	Location	Leader
TBA	Clinics	Alyeska	Brooke Edwards
TBA	Clinics	Eaglecrest	Tom Brayton
TBA	Exam	Alyeska	Scott McGee

• **NORDIC ~ TRACK / CROSS COUNTRY** •

Date	Event	Location	Leader
Nov 9, 10-12	Clinics	Fairbanks	Dan Clausen, Warren Souther
Spring	Cross Country Clinic / Track Exam	Fairbanks	Dan Clausen

• **ADAPTIVE** •

Date	Event	Location	Leader
Jan 14	Adaptive Techniques for Non-Adamptive Instructors	Challenge AK	Emily Bass, Lou Beaudry
Feb 11	Having Fun with Adaptive Equipment	Challenge AK	Emily Bass, Lou Beaudry

• **ALL DISCIPLINES** •

Date	Event	Location	Leader
Mar	History & Future of PSIA/AASI and Snowsports Instruction -- Off-Snow Presentation	Alyeska & Eaglecrest	Ray Allard, Mark Dorsey

• NEWS FROM FAIRBANKS •

Submitted by Doug Woolley

How do you write

an article for *The Arctic Turn* incorporating exciting news about Nordic Demo-Team member Dan Clausen coming to Fairbanks in November, Alpine Demo-Team members Katie Fry and Megan Harvey arriving in March, a killer recipe for French toast, the *Woolley Hilton*, while looking outside at a green lawn? Piece of cake!

While preparing for the November arrival of PSIA guests, I found a recipe for Oven Baked French Toast topped with Pecan Praline and Raspberry Syrup. As a sucker for a good breakfast, who loves to cook for friends, I decided to try the new recipe out on my lovely (and patient) wife, Betsy. If the prepared dish was a hit it would give me one more cooking option with Dan Clausen, Warren Souther and Tom Brayton, all of whom have booked rooms at the *Woolley Hilton* for the November 9th-12th Nordic Track Instructor Exam and Clinic.

Betsy agreed with me that the recipe was a culinary accomplishment that would be well received by our Nordic guests. There was only one major problem. After eating the meal, we were barely able to climb the stairs to the bedroom where we fell in the bed stuffed and hardly able to move. The extremely tasty and **very rich brunch** had all but incapacitated us for the rest of the afternoon. We decided this version of French toast shouldn't be the first choice for someone who is going to be conducting or attending a Nordic Track Ski Exam.

If you don't have any plans for the rest of your day, don't have to operate any heavy equipment and have a desire to increase your cholesterol to four digits, give it a try. (See *Recipe ~ page 11*) It goes very well with *Lambic* raspberry beer.

If all goes well, Fairbanks will be graced with the presence of Megan Harvey and Katie Fry March 2nd-4th. Everyone is excited about the prospect of having "The Twins" conduct the 2007 Fairbanks Alpine Mini-Academy. Megan's 2004 Fairbanks Mini-Academy was fun and informative and is still talked about to this day. She is truly the Ambassador of Skiing. After listening to Megan's stories of the antics only identical twins could get away with on the mountain, I know Fairbanks pros will have the time of their lives with Megan and Katie at the helm.

RSVP Doug Woolley if you wish to attend Megan and Katie's Fairbanks Mini-Academy. Please provide the day(s) you wish to attend. PSIA members are always welcome at the *Woolley Hilton*.

(Contact Doug Woolley)
dougw@gci.net
Doug Woolley is Fairbanks Rep. PSIA/AASI-AK.

• NORDIC NEWS •

Submitted by Warren Souther

We have great news for the Nordic

membership regarding new educational developments. The Nordic Master Plan was adopted in June of this year. The Plan combined with the new Telemark and Track/Skate handbooks are designed to educate and train. We also have adopted the "Declaration Format," a policy designed to insure regular certification, fiscal responsibility and unity among our Nordic instructors. Check these items out in detail: the tasks have changed and follow the current national image, representing how we actually teach. These documents are available for download on the division's website now.

The track clinic and exam in Fairbanks in November was initiated when the Fairbanks Nordic Club contacted the Alaska Division asking for training. Dan Cluasen from Central Division came to Fairbanks for four days and the event filled quickly. More information about Dan is available on the website.

Bringing Dan to Alaska is the direction the Nordic Committee hopes to continue with other national team members. The National Team members are uniquely suited to deliver a precise, professional and focused clinic, training Alaska's pros to the best Nordic instructors representing a state that has a huge Nordic population. To do this better we need to hear from YOU, what would you like for training? Is your interest in children, backcountry, teaching techniques for newer equipment or some thing we are missing? Are you interested in becoming certified for track or telemark this year? Contact the Nordic Committee and submit your interests so we can better meet your needs. There has been interest in another exam for track. If we can fill the exam, the Nordic committee would like to have another event this spring, possibly with Dan Clausen again!

The website www.teletips.com is an excellent site for articles from former Nordic D-team member, Urmas Fransch, as well as articles from other sources. Another site, www.yurmountain.com will have clips from our National D-team giving pointers for all disciplines. This is being done in an attempt to present to the public what PSIA/AASI represents.

Just prior to Thanksgiving is the National Examiners College; this year's focus is on Track/Skate. The Alaska Division is sending two people to this event, and the Nordic Committee is planning on rewriting the track portion of the Nordic Master Plan to represent the current national image along with current teaching techniques.

So get those skis out and think about what your division can do to help prepare you for the season. We are here to assist you, let us know how we can help.

Keep your heels free.

Warren Souther is a dual member of RM and AK, chairman on the AK Nordic Committee, Nordic trainer at Beaver Creek, CO, and is Level III, Alpine and Nordic.

(Contact Warren Souther)
telewarren@msn.com

• CHECK YOUR PROFILE •

Submitted by Paul Todd

As a member you are entitled (unless you opt otherwise) to receive mailings including the Professional Skier or Pro Rider, Accessories Catalog, the Alaska Division newsletter *The Arctic Turn*, and as a convenience, an annual membership renewal form. If PSIA/AASI doesn't have your correct address, you don't receive these mailings.

The Alaska Division also broadcasts group e-mails with Board of Directors minutes and agendas, clinic reminders, etc. If we get this back "undeliverable," this information also doesn't get to you.

To insure that you receive timely info, please go to the national website, click on "Members Only" and follow the directions using the six-digit national number from your membership card, or the label from Pro Rider, Professional, or the Accessories Catalog. If you have never used this service before, follow the "Activate Your Account" instructions. Once your member profile appears, check all contact info. Click on "Edit Contact Info" if you need to update mailing address, phone numbers or e-mail address.

Thanks for helping us serve you.

If you need further assistance, please contact me.

Paul Todd, Secretary

(National Website)
www.psia.org

(Alaska Division Website)
www.psia-a.org



Eaglecrest's Fourth of July Parade Float

Photo by Al Clough

• LEADER TRAINING •

Submitted by Paul Todd

There are over 5,000 nonprofit corporations in Alaska, and the PSIA/AASI Alaska Division is one of them. The vast majority are small, all-volunteer organizations.

Many are having increasing difficulty obtaining directors and officers. One reason is that often they are expected to "jump in and swim" without familiarization or training.

Volunteer directors and officers deserve to be trained for their jobs making them better at what they are expected to do. A majority of the past Board recognized this in 2005 and met with the The Foraker Group's CEO Dennis McMillion. They found this helpful, as described in an earlier Arctic Turn article by Ellen Twiname (2005 Fall/Winter).

In April, the current 2006-2009 Board followed up with Foraker Group Vice President Laurie Wolf for custom-facilitated session. Bill Ellis, Ellen Twiname, Dan Garner, snowboard clinician Kurt Meehleis and I attended. Tom Brayton was commercial fishing in the spring, and later took "Board Financial Oversight" with Dan in Juneau. Warren Souther was working Outside in the spring, and later took "Effective Board Leadership" and "Budgeting for Nonprofits" in Anchorage with Bill and me. The cost to the Division was \$300 for Ms. Wolf's advice and facilitation, and \$25 per person for each separate "canned" 2-hour session presented by a contracted trainer.

The Board has benefited by achieving better consensus on basic principles of managing our corporation and its resources to serve the core mission: providing education and certification services for our members. The facilitated 3-hour session with Ms. Wolf, including goal setting for the coming season, was highly valuable. Some of the shorter "canned" sessions tended to the theoretical, rather than hands-on, and there was a fair amount of subject matter overlap.

Ms. Wolf wrote a summary of the goal setting session during the last hour of this training. The documented highlights and detailed notes of the session are available from me and will be posted on the Division website shortly.

*Paul Todd, the AK Division Secretary
is Level II Alpine and
Level I Adaptive certified.*

• NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT •

Submitted by Tom Brayton

Well things are happening in Fairbanks—a Nordic exam in November and a new Snowsports School has joined the

Division. I would like to welcome Birch Hill Ski/board School and the Fairbanks Nordic community to the Alaska Division of PSIA/AASI. I would like to thank (not only as a representative of PSIA/AASI-A but personally as well) Doug Woolley and Warren Souther for all their hard work that has kept PSIA/AASI-A alive and well in Fairbanks. THANK YOU. I also want to let our members in Fairbanks know that providing training opportunities for you this year is a top priority for the board.

Hilltop Ski School is also joining the Division—I extend a warm welcome to them as well. With the Fairbanks Nordic community and two new member schools the division membership grows, with more members comes more training that PSIA/AASI-A can offer; we all become better instructors and coaches and, in turn, more of the general public gets turned on to the healthy, fun winter activities that snowsports has to offer. Talk about your win-win situations.

We have great people serving on the Snowboard, Alpine and Nordic committees, as well as the Board. I'm sorry that I didn't make a few key appointments sooner. I plan on to get ahead of the curve next year and will make those appointments late next spring. (I'm on the learn as you go plan.)

Please don't be afraid to talk to your board members or committee members, as they all want provide educational opportunities to help you to become the best instructor you can be. Do you want to be a Clinician or Examiner--they will help you with that also. A final reminder: You only get out of something as much as you put into it. PSIA/AASI-A is the same way.

• FISCAL REPORT •

Submitted by Bill Ellis

My fellow Snow Sports Professionals,

I have been acting treasurer since December 2005 and I am happy to report that the division's finances are on track and up to date. In closing the books on fiscal year 2006, which covers July 1, 2005, through June 30, 2006. We had a positive cash balance of **\$792.07**.

While a positive net income is good news, the great news involves our workers' compensation policy. When I temporarily took over the treasurer's position, I noticed a disturbing number of invoices for additional money from our provider. Acting on a hunch, I called for an audit of our account and supplied the provider with three years of financial statements detailing our clinic payroll.

I am pleased to report that the audit revealed an over payment and instead of owing money, we received a refund check for **\$1,196.31**. So you see, we really finished the fiscal year with a positive net income of \$1,988.38.

At the close of fiscal year 2006, our balance sheet showed that we have the following amounts in our accounts.

NBA Checking account	\$ 8,286.33
Solomon Smith Barney	\$ 25,120.74
Pre paid Workers' Comp.	\$ 783.98
<i>Total assets</i>	<i>\$ 34,191.05</i>

As you can see, the division is in great financial shape.

If anyone would care to see the complete profit and loss statement please contact me Also, I would love to pass off the treasurers responsibilities to another volunteer.

• SECRETARY REPORT •

Submitted by Paul Todd

Wow. There is certainly plenty to

do in this position. If I had a real job this fall, it would have been a real challenge. Fortunately, I have obtained lots of information and support from former secretary Caroline Ahrens, continuing director Bill Ellis, and former president Ellen Twiname. So here's a big thanks to them for transition help.

If you are reading this you have renewed your PSIA/AASI memberships through National in Colorado or applied for new memberships through me over the summer. It is usual for dozens of new members to enroll as they are hired by Alaska ski and snowboard schools and I encourage you to welcome them.

Last year we began emailing Board meeting agendas about a week in advance, and Board minutes a couple of weeks after the meeting. Members are welcome at Board meetings. The Anchorage site will usually be my home or RuralCap at 8th and Gambell where Bill Ellis works. The Juneau teleconference site usually is Dan Garner's home. Speakerphones are at both locations. If you would kindly call the host at least two days in advance, it would help to plan document copies as well as coffee and tea for your convenience. Meetings are held through teleconference in order to include these two locations and Warren Souther in Montana. If you would like to attend a meeting but cannot get to one of the locations, contact me for arrangements.

In recent weeks we e-mailed a reminder to check your contact information on the National website and another reminder appears in this issue. Please try to keep your information current.

If you have any problems or questions, please feel free to contact me at any time.

• NATIONAL BOARD/PRESIDENTS' COUNCIL REPORT •

Submitted by Bill Ellis & Warren Souther

The 2006 October board meeting held in Lakewood,

Colorado was significant because our new board president and new executive director were sitting at the table. Ray Allard was elected president of the board in June and this was his first meeting in his new position.

The American Snowsports Education Association (ASEA) also has a new executive director, Mark Dorsey. A previous member of the Alaska division, Mark was given the nod by both the National Ski Patrol (NSP) and ASEA boards. He officially took over from Steve Over, retiring from the ED position. Since the national office shares staff with the NSP, Mark is now the executive director of both organizations and we wish him well.

Several other new faces occupy national board positions, Eric Sheckelton from Northern Rocky Mountain (NRM) was elected Executive VP, Craig Albright from Western, was elected Operations VP and Jerry Warren, from Intermountain (IM) was elected communications VP.

Other staff changes include the recent retirement of Linda Crockett, Education Department head. She was instrumental in developing many of our education products and will be sorely missed. Linda's resignation sent chills up my old bones, but as with everything in life, when a window closes generally a door opens.

In through our door came a very able person named Kim Severs. Previously the education director for the Eastern Division, Kim was responsible for a program within a division that has a budget as large as the national budget. We wish her well and look forward to the educational projects that will take form through with her leadership.

The October national board meeting takes place simutainiously and jointly with the Presidents' Council meeting. The Presidents' Council consists of the nine divisional Presidents and their presence at the fall meeting adds a strong voice from the membership. During a joint meeting of the board and the Presidents Council, briefings were given by key staff, including Eric Sheckleton and Katie Fry, as well as guest presenters.

One guest presenter was Lisa Winston, a consultant hired to research material for the association's recruitment and retention message. Her findings reveal tremendous inconsistencies in the nine divisions' recruitment and membership practices. The findings were not a surprise to me, considering this division cannot send a consistent recruitment message across our state.

A new DVD by Dan Egan of Egan productions was previewed during the joint meeting. The very exciting product that was funded by the national board features our national team members and is part of a program to tell ASEA story. The DVD is packed with skiing and riding tips and is designed to dovetail into our *Go With a Pro* promotional program. It has some footage to die for and will be shown in major US markets. Millions of American viewers are going to see our team members thanks to this project. *This very exciting DVD will be sent free to our member schools.*

The *Go With A Pro* promotional program, is part of the "tell our story marketing program." One of the aspects of the program is a custom print on demand program, free to members through the national web site. Member ski schools will be able to customize and then download promotional print on demand materials usable on cups, posters and lunch tray papers. The member school will be able to take the file to an inexpensive local printer. It is a very exciting program and should be very useful to the member schools here in Alaska. Additionally, Demo-Team members from all disciplines will be featured in video clips available on yurmountain.com.

As a final note, one concern to all Division Presidents, as well as the national board is the apparent lack of attention that our Children's Pros are not receiving both nationally and in individual divisions. The Alaska division is a perfect example. We have invested money in examining to improve consistency, as well as invested money in skiing improvement clinics. Have we invested one dollar in our children's pro? The answer is no. One idea being persued in order to encourage and support our children's instructors, is a Children's College for Fall 2007; this based on the success of the recent Examiners' College.

The Party Doll . . .

Favorite Recipes from The Membership

Share your favorite recipe with your peers--party recipe, breakfast, lunch, dinner, drinks . . .

• BAKED FRENCH TOAST •

This issue's contributor: Doug Woolley

The Bread

1 loaf French Bread (13 to 16 ounces)	1 tablespoon vanilla extract
Butter, for pan	1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
8 large eggs	1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg
2 cups half-and-half	Dash salt
1 cup milk	Praline topping, recipe follows
2 tablespoons sugar	Raspberry syrup, recipe follows

Slice French bread into 20 slices, 1-inch thick each. Arrange slices in a generously buttered 9 by 13 inch flat baking dish in two rows, overlapping slices.

In a large bowl, combine eggs, half and half, milk, sugar, vanilla, cinnamon, nutmeg and salt and beat with a rotary beater or whisk until blended, but not too bubbly. Pour mixture over the bread slices, making sure all are covered evenly with the milk-egg mixture. Cover with foil and refrigerate overnight.

The next day, preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Spread Praline Topping evenly over the bread and bake for 45 minutes, until puffed and lightly golden. Serve with Raspberry Syrup.

Praline Topping

1/2 pound (2 sticks) butter	2 tablespoons light corn syrup
1 cup packed light brown sugar	1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1 cup chopped pecans	1/2 teaspoon ground nutmeg

Combine ingredients over in a medium bowl and blend well. Spread over bread as directed above.

Raspberry Syrup

1 cup raspberry preserves
3 tablespoons water

• THE LAST RUN •

Welcome the new season of *The Arctic Turn*! We are excited to bring you the newsletter of the north! We hope to see your contributions coming in today. Be sure to check out and contribute to our new column "Learned from That." It is for you and by you—lessons we've learned in our lessons. We all have something to share. Eaglecrest's own Phil McRee always has a bit of wisdom—watch for his "Phil-lers." Of course if there are enough articles/photo submissions there would not be a need for a filler.

If you are a Pro Rep, get your info to *The Arctic Turn* . . .

If you have a favorite recipe for the next party, get it to *The Arctic Turn* . . .

If you have a special photo a special interest, share it with your peers in *The Arctic Turn* . . .

How do you prepare for your lessons or train for the season, share it with *The Arctic Turn* . . .

The point is . . . this is your newsletter. Most of all, have a safe season.

Deadline for the next issue is ***December 28***, 2006 . . . start now!

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... and so it begins ...

Photo by Jeffra Clough