



# WINTER 2010-11 PSIA-AASI NEWSLETTER



FEBRUARY 2011

## From the President

Dear NI Members:

Greetings from the NI Board of Directors and staff. This has been a very busy and productive year. I would like to address some of the more timely events and then come back to some of the other activity we have been part of in 2010-2011.

The launch of the NI Microsite: Kenneth Scholz approached the NI Board 1½ year ago proposing a “dynamic” website for the Division. Lew Peterson, Nordic Chair, had developed and maintained the current NI website. This website as you know, housed mainly contact information, educational events and certification standards. Lew predicted the need to eventually have a more dynamic website. TJ Kauth and Kenneth have been working with National staff to develop a new “Microsite” for NI. We are officially announcing the launch of:

<http://community.thesnowpros.org/THESNOWPROS/NorthernIntermountainDivision/Home/Default.aspx>.

Please visit and cruise around. Drop down tabs allow you to search events for each discipline, certification guides, and other resources. The home page is filled with links, articles, discussions, blogs, etc. This will be a valuable tool to communicate and keep in touch with Division members as well as contacts across all Division platforms.

PSIA/AASI-NI Spring Symposium will be held at Brundage Mtn. April 1-3, 2011. Seth Jacobson and Kevin Briem have worked hard and fast to get a program out to the membership. Chris Katzner, NW Division, recent Alpine D-Team member will be our guest clinician for this event. Please review the information in this newsletter and online, and plan to attend, what should be a spectacular event for ALL disciplines!

PSIA 50Th Anniversary in Snowmass, CO, April 4-9, 2011. This is going to be an incredible, once in a lifetime event! Snowmass has rolled out the red carpet!

<http://www.thesnowpros.org/index.php/PSIA-AASI/site-info/a-big-party-for-you>

This past year has been full of “firsts.” In September there was a Small Divisions Summit in Bozeman, MT. Walt Coiner and I drove to Bozeman to meet with Presidents, ASEA Board members, Executive staff from Alaska, Northern Rocky Mountain and Northern Intermountain Divisions. Eric Sheckleton, ASEA President was also in attendance. This first of it’s kind meeting of multiple Divisions proved to be a breeding ground of cooperation and understanding of our Division’s individually and collectively. We will have more to report after the 50th Anniversary event.

In November, for the first time in NI history, an actual strategic planning session took place. This meeting started with a ½ day fact finding/sharing event with member and non-member school Directors/Administrators. We learned more about their needs and shared what NI has to offer in education and certification. Michael Hickey, NRM President facilitated the strategic planning session. From that, the Board, VP’s, and committee chairs left with a clearer understanding of our roles and responsibilities to you, members of Northern Intermountain, and each other. Already we are seeing better communication and activity. We still have a lot to work on and towards as we map out the future of Northern Intermountain Division.

Eric Zimmerman has been named Education VP, succeeding Bill McGarry. We want to thank Bill for his dedication and contributions, and welcome Eric to his new post. We now have a full compliment of VP’s. Education, Certification and Professional Development. We also have all committee chair positions filled and moving forward. Our newest committee chair(s) are Jani Sutherland, Children’s Chair and Kenneth Scholz, Website Coordinator.

Please join us at Brundage Mountain and in McCall for the NI Spring Symposium!

Best Regards,  
Tom Koto  
PSIA/AASI Northern Intermountain Division

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## PSIA/AASI-NI

### Exam Results 2010

Thanks to all those that participated in the 2010 PSIA/AASI Exams here in Northern Intermountain. Posted below are those individuals who have achieved a new level of certification this past season. Congratulations!

## SNOWBOARD

### Level I

Travis Blatchley  
Jamie Wees  
Amy Gothard  
Holly Gilchrist  
Shana Biggs  
Elizabeth Mayes  
Dusty Spath  
Emily Gregory  
Chuck Chiu  
Sarah Fuller

Chris Lenington  
Sidney Parkhill  
Kristine Storer  
Danny Garipey  
Adryan Hink  
Bill Rosser  
Ashley Clark  
Amie Jacobsen  
Lauren Hoover  
Nicolas Murchison

Burket Kniveton  
Tyson Miller  
Treb Dayvid Cobb  
Ben Slutz  
Skyler Thaxton  
Joseph Maddox  
Kirk Ostrander  
Theron Walker  
Paxton Alexander

### Level II

Nicole Armstrong

### Level III

Tim Ball

Ian Sundby

Brian Jacobsen

## ALPINE

### Level I

G. Michael Smith  
Craig Meyers  
Christian Pravda  
Travis Zerba  
Brent Estep  
Sam Masson  
Casey Jeffus  
Shanda Wheat  
Cody Pugil

Rebecca Anne Murray  
Hannah Smith  
Sunny Poppler  
Pirkko Jenner  
Tony Jefferson  
Pat Meakins  
Gerry Downey  
Kendra Kotter

Allen Benner  
Frank Fiaschetti  
Carrie Philbrick  
Jennifer Provonsha  
Trisha Keating  
Adam Summerfield  
Steve Horowitz  
Lianne Wong

### Level II

Tyler Anno  
Kent Schroeder

Lanette McDermott

Carol Bickford

### Level III

Dave Rader

# Bring the Stoke

Jake Bolin and Brian Jacobsen

Snowboarding has, and always will be, the culture. Rider Rally 2010 was a perfect platform to showcase ideals that snowboard instructors share across the nation. All participants that gathered shared the passion for the lifestyle and sport.

After driving all night from Boise to arrive at Copper Mountain, Colorado (800 miles plus a twenty mile detour on a single lane county road that involved snow-bank surfing, winding roads, and "locals") we were greeted with smiles from all. The meet and greet dinner was quite interesting; by about the first hour we had a group of seven grown men in an intense eating contest. The mission was to devour one-dollar tacos in a single bite. Under ordinary circumstances asking complete strangers to engage in such activities could be impossible, yet we were at Rally 2010 and all participated enthusiastically.

The next morning with foggy heads and taco bombs in our guts we awoke with five to six inches of fresh. Every morning we met to discuss the day's agenda. The forum of Rider Rally 2010 was very relaxed, ranging from tour-de-mountain activities to aggressive half-pipe and terrain-park riding, including access to Woodward at Copper snow sport-training facility.

After the first day of riding, in which we focused on all mountain riding with D-teamer Gregg Davis and team coach Lane Clegg, it became apparent that all participants in the Rally were there for one reason...to ride.

The following days would bring much of the same general schedule; wake up early to new snow, meet with the whole group, and then break into smaller rider groups to focus on more task specific riding. Each day the demo team would switch groups trying to keep everything fresh and upbeat.

About midway through rally, we both came to the same realization. Rider Rally wasn't about getting better, or taking the most out of every focus group, it was about 'bringing the Stoke.' Everyone was there because they wanted to be, and shared the same passion for snowboarding.

As instructors, no matter how bad a day we may be having or how rotten it is in the city, on the mountain we should always try to bring a positive, upbeat attitude. Think of it like when you are out riding with friends. Some days are filled with nothing more than riding beginner terrain and playing board (similar to the basketball game 'pig' however on a snowboard) or seeing who can ollie the highest, or slide the farthest from the chair when getting off.

The point is, sometimes when we love a sport, and make a career involving that sport it can be hard to remember why we love it. When you take a passion and add monetary value to it, the thrill of something once loved can quickly fade. It can become just what you never wanted it to be, a job. That's why it's always important to 'bring the stoke', let the passion shine through and forget the rest. Have fun trying not to be the best, or dialing in a trick. Step back and remember why we are all doing this.

So what did we bring back from Rider Rally 2010? The most we could ask for, we brought back the good memories and great relationships that we made with like-minded riders that shared the same love for the sport as we do. This season try to take a few moments to remember why or how you began in the snow-sport world. Thank whoever got you involved in this constantly evolving sport, or better yet make a memory with a new person that may want get involved.

Go ride, and remember to BRING THE STOKE!

## PSIA/AASI-NI.org

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Walt Coiner  
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# In Memoriam



Levi Harold Stanger, age 76, of Burley, left this world to join his love on Saturday, June 26, 2010.

Harold was born on October 24, 1933, in Burley, ID, to Charles and Hazel Draney Stanger. He joined his two sisters, Elaine (Bill) Toolson and Sherma (Jack) Clark, and brother, Charles Earl Stanger. He was raised on the family farm in the View area south of Burley. Harold graduated from Burley High School in 1951, where he played the clarinet in the band and in the orchestra. On October 2, 1952, he married his high school sweetheart, Norva Lynn Fisher. They lived in Logan, Utah, while Harold attended the university. While in Logan, their daughter, Teri Lynn was born. A few years later, Harold chose to move back home and help his father on the farm. Six years after Teri, Steven Levi was born and 16 months later, Tracy was born.

Harold helped run the Pomerelle Ski School and was on the board of directors and past president of the Professional Ski Instructors of America. He was also a longtime member of the Cassia County Sheriff's Posse.

Harold is survived by his three children, Teri (Ken) Christensen of Heyburn, Steve (Kym) Stanger of Burley and Tracy (Hal) Warr of Rupert; 17 grandchildren; his siblings; and numerous nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Norva, who passed away on July 9, 2006; a great-granddaughter Corrine Warr; and a sister-in-law, Deon Hurst Stanger.

He will be greatly missed by all.

## Camp Rainbow Gold Ski Day at Bogus Basin

By Molly Mouser

The morning of March 13, 2010 brought a pleasant surprise to most of us skiers and riders – almost 7 inches of fresh snow at Bogus Basin! Yet my concern was for a group of young cancer survivors and their siblings, who were traveling up to Bogus via bus, for the first Camp Rainbow Gold Ski Day to be held at Bogus Basin. For several years, this heart warming event had been hosted at Dollar Mountain in Sun Valley, but having the opportunity to host it at Bogus Basin eliminated several logistical challenges. Luckily, the winter storm that hovered over the resort all day did not ruin the fun that was had by the participants and the volunteers.

As an organizer for this event, I was able to round up over 40 fantastic volunteers to help with CRG Ski Day. Instructors (and their spouses) from Recreation Unlimited Adaptive Sports and Bogus Basin Ski & Board School worked together to ensure that these children had a safe and rewarding experience on the hill. Many of the young participants came unprepared for the stormy weather, and it was great to see so many volunteers willing to dig into their backpacks and loan out gloves, goggles, hats, etc for the children. Amazingly, every item was returned to its owner!

Over 45 children were unloaded from the bus according to the group to which they were assigned.



Thank you to Black Diamond Sports and Bogus Basin for covering 50% of the cost for the camper's lift tickets and rentals!

CRG Ski Day progressed very smoothly thanks to the many volunteers who devoted a day to these children. Everybody was flexible, as the ability of the skiers was assessed after a few runs. The assigned groups spread out, and participants landed where they felt comfortable. The visibility was very poor that day, but the smiles of the children shined through the fog. Lunch was served in the JR Simplot

This helped with the flow of participants through the rental shop to get their gear. Black Diamond Sports did an amazing job of making sure this process went smoothly. When the bus was empty, I walked through the rental shop and realized most everyone was already on the hill enjoying the snow!

lodge, and then they had time to head out for more runs! After many hugs and promises to come back next year, we sent the kids back down the road on the bus. Camp Rainbow Gold staff commented that "This was the best CRG Ski Day ever!!". If you are interested in volunteering for CRG Ski Day 2011, please contact Heather Hammond, at 208-422-0174, or [heather.hammond@cancer.org](mailto:heather.hammond@cancer.org).

Camp Rainbow Gold was established 25 years ago, and is administered by the American Cancer Society. Held annually in August at Cathedral Pines in Ketchum, Idaho, Camp Rainbow Gold oncology camp truly is a celebration of life. The week long camp provides nearly 85 cancer survivors with an escape from the rigors of their illness. For more information, visit: [www.camprainbowgold.org](http://www.camprainbowgold.org).





# **WE WANT YOU**

## **AASI-NI DCL TRYOUTS March 31 at BRUNDAGE**

Contribute to the professional growth of AASI-NI and its members by working as a member of the Snowboard Education Staff. Candidates must be active members in good standing and must be Level III Certified Snowboard Instructors. Event applications and resume due two weeks before the event, lift tickets included. Contact TJ Kauth at [tjkauth@bogusbasin.org](mailto:tjkauth@bogusbasin.org) for event applications or for more details.



# PSIA/AASI-NI SPRING SYMPOSIUM



**April 2 and 3, 2011 — Brundage Mountain**



**Join us at Brundage Mountain for fun in the sun on springtime snow. The 2011 symposium offers an opportunity to gain knowledge and skills for both sliders and riders. Everyone is welcome!**

## **Clinics**

This year's clinic offerings are sure to be the best yet. In addition to a wide variety of fun, focused clinics lead by our DCL staff, we are proud to announce the attendance of Chris Kastner (former PSIA Alpine Team Member and current Director of Snowsports services at Mt. Hood Meadows). Chris's reputation as a ski professional is golden and he looks forward to participating in our annual bash. Make sure to register early as available spots in this and other clinics are sure to fill up quickly.

A schedule of clinic assignments and weekend events will be provided in the registration packet. Registration packets can be picked up at the Shore Lodge lobby, Friday, April 1st, from 5:30 to 7:00pm. They will also be available Saturday, April 2nd, on the 3rd floor of the Brundage Mountain lodge, from 8:30 to 9:30am.

The General membership meeting with the Board of Directors will begin at 6:00pm in the Shore Lodge Downstairs conference room, Friday, April 1st.

## **Activities**

The Saturday evening banquet will be held at the Shore Lodge in McCall beginning at 6:00pm. In addition to a deluxe dinner buffet prepared by the professional staff at Shore Lodge, the banquet party will include a silent and live auction to raise donations for the Education Foundation. Laughter, camaraderie, and memories are included!

The Sunday BBQ will be held at the base of the Bluebird Lift at the base of Brundage Mountain and is included in the registration fees for Sunday or Full weekend participants.

## **Lodging**

Participants are responsible for their own lodging arrangements. As our banquet host and preferred lodging partner for this year's symposium, Shore Lodge is offering special rates starting at \$99 per night. Listed below as well are several other local accommodations in approximate order of room rate, high to low:

### **Hotels:**

Shore Lodge	(208) 634-2244
Hunt Lodge Holiday Inn	(208) 634-4700
Super 8 Motel	(208) 634-4637
Hotel McCall	(208) 634-8105
Best Western	(208) 634-2230
Western Mountain Lodge	(208) 634-6300
Scandia Inn	(208) 634-7394
Brundage Inn	(208) 634-2344

### **Condos and Houses for Rent:**

Accommodation Services	(208) 634-7766
Johnson & Co.	(208) 634-7134
InIdaho.com	1-800-844-3246



# PSIA/AASI-NI SPRING SYMPOSIUM



**April 2 and 3, 2011 — Brundage Mountain**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Membership# \_\_\_\_\_ Cert level \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ St \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Cell # \_\_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration Fees**

**Enter \$ Amount**

**Two-Day Instructor Package** (No Lifts or Banquet) \$125.00 per person.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Includes Registration Fee, 2 Days Clinic, and Sunday BBQ)*

**One-Day Instructor Package** (No Lifts or Banquet) \$65.00 per person.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Includes Registration Fee, 1 Day Clinic, and Sunday BBQ)*

**Saturday Evening Banquet** (Significant others welcome) \$35.00 per person.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Upscale Dinner Buffet includes: Mixed Baby Green Salad, Potato Leek Soup, Top Sirloin with Mushroom Jus, Chicken Breast with Herb Cream Sauce, Roasted Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Seasonal Roasted Vegetables, Huckleberry Apple Cobbler with Vanilla Crème Auglaize)*

**Discount Lift Tickets** \$25.00 per person/per day\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Ticket vouchers will be provided in your registration packet. Please list family members who will be purchasing lift tickets\*:

\_\_\_\_\_

\*only participants in Symposium and family member(s) listed on the roster qualify for discounted lift tickets of \$25.

Add a \$20.00 late fee after March 25th, 2010.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check # \_\_\_\_\_  Cash.....\$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Make checks Payable to PSIA-NI.** Mail application, with payment, to Brundage Mountain Resort, PO Box 1062, McCall, ID 83638, Attn: Kevin Briem. Application must be received by **March 25, 2011** to not incur the late fee. Applications received after will be accepted only on a space available basis and charged the \$20 late fee. **No refunds** unless injured (doctor statement required) less \$20 administration fee.

**LIABILITY RELEASE FORM (release must be signed to attend):** Recognizing that skiing/boarding can be a hazardous sport, I hereby **RELEASE AND FOREVER DISCHARGE PSIA-NI, PSIA-NI-EF**, the host area and agents and employees of each from liability for any and all injuries of whatever nature arising during or in connection with the conduction of the event for which this application is made. Applicant hereby relinquishes and assigns to PSIA-NI & PSIA-NI-EF all rights to the use of Applicant's name and likeness or pictorial representation in photographs, motion pictures or other representations concerning Applicant's participation in said Event.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Return this sheet along with your registration form!

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

**Saturday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> - Clinics run 9:30-3:30***Select your Saturday topics from the list below  
(Please mark your 1st and 2nd choice)***Adaptive Clinic Topics for Saturday** Intro to Adaptive**Alpine Clinic Topics for Saturday** Beyond Level III\* (w/ Former D-Team Clinician)

\*Featuring guest clinician Chris Kastner; former PSIA Alpine Team Member and current Director of Snowsports Services at Mt. Hood.

 All Mountain Skiing Challenge the Mountain Drills for Skills For Ladies, By Ladies Low-Fly or High-Fly Freestyle Seeing is Believing (Video Analysis) Small Bumps or Big Bumps Tactics for the Senior Skier Teaching with a Focus Tippin' & Rippin'**Snowboard Clinic Topics for Saturday** All Mountain Riding Low-Fly or High-Fly Freestyle Trench it Out**Telemark Clinic Topics for Saturday** Free-Heel Fest Video Analysis

\*See clinic topic descriptions below.

**Sunday, April 4<sup>th</sup> - Clinics run 9:30-3:30***Select your Sunday topics from the list below  
(Please mark your 1st and 2nd choice)***Alpine Clinic Topics for Sunday** Beyond Level III\* (w/ Former D-Team Clinician) All Mountain Skiing Challenge the Mountain Drills for Skills For Ladies, By Ladies Low-Fly or High-Fly Freestyle Seeing is Believing (Video Analysis) Small Bumps or Big Bumps Tactics for the Senior Skier Teaching with a Focus Tippin' & Rippin'**Snowboard Clinic Topics for Sunday** All Mountain Riding Low-Fly or High-Fly Freestyle Trench it Out**Telemark Clinic Topics for Sunday** Tele for All**ADAPTIVE CLINIC TOPICS**

**Intro to Adaptive** – Come find out what it is about. This introduction will provide you a basic foundation of information as to what is adaptive and opens the door for you begin to working with this client. **Saturday only.**

**ALPINE CLINIC TOPICS**

**Beyond Level III** – Striving for the next level in your teaching and skiing? Join Chris Kastner (former PSIA Alpine Team Member and current Director of Snowsports services at Mt. Hood Meadows) for a truly forward thinking experience! Explore advanced techniques/tactics designed to improve your experience as an instructor as well as that of your guests.



**ALPINE CLINIC TOPICS cont.**

**All Mountain Skiing** – Challenge your skiing with a mountain tour de jour. Learn tactics and technique to ski a variety of terrain in the mountain environment

**Challenge The Mountain** – Bring the mountain to its knees; don't be the passenger be the driver. Take command of your skiing, be it from wedge turns to that 'sick' line through the bumps or the trees. Don't keep saying 'move down the hill', learn and feel what it's all about.

**Drills for Skills** – Come 'drill down' to see how the various use of drills effectively develops movement patterns. You'll spend time applying the drills and their tactical application in varying terrain and conditions to better enhance your edging, rotary, and pressure movements and increase balance.

**For Ladies, By Ladies** – Taught by top female clinicians. It's fun to ski with the girls and not always worry about keeping up with the boys. Come work on your personal skill development while enjoying the pacing and camaraderie found when skiing with this women's only group.

**Low-Fly or High-Fly Freestyle** – Come find out what the park is all about or push your skills to the next level. Groups will be split based on ability and comfort levels. The group(s) may be a mix of skiers and snowboarders, depending on sign ups.

**Seeing is Believing (Video Analysis)** – It is one thing to receive feedback as a skier. It is entirely another to see yourself on video. This clinic will help you bridge the gap between desired movement patterns and what you feel. Learn to differentiate between cause and effect by developing your eye to unveil the 'root causes'.

**Small Bumps or Big Bumps** – For skiers who have limited experience with the bumps or are accomplished bump skiers wishing to hone their skills with an aggressive group of skiers. Appropriate group splits will be made at the event. Clinics will focus on the technique and tactics of skiing bumps on terrain appropriate to the group's level.

**Tactics for the Senior Skier** – Low impact alternatives when working with the senior client for skiing a wide variety of terrain. This clinic will focus on various strategies and tactics for this demographic to ski more with less fatigue.

**Teaching With a Focus** – Focused teaching is where you want to be and your client needs you to be. This clinic will help the participant identify and describe, with precision and accuracy using the Teaching Cycle, skill blends and movement patterns in skiers of all ages and abilities in varied skiing tasks, snow conditions and terrain options.

**Tippin' & Rippin'** – Your tracks will tell the tale. This clinic will explore the art of carving in a safe and fun atmosphere. Learn to ski clean, efficient turns while exploring the hill.

**SNOWBOARD CLINIC TOPICS**

**All Mountain Riding** – Challenge your riding with an upper mountain tour de jour. Learn tactics and technique to ride a variety of terrain in the mountain environment.

**Low-Fly or High-Fly Freestyle** – Come find out what the park is all about or push your skills to the next level. Groups will be split based on ability and comfort levels. The group(s) may be a mix of skiers and snowboarders, depending on sign ups.

**Trench it Out** – Get your corduroy carving legs ready and come rip it up. This clinic will explore the art of carving in a safe and fun atmosphere. Learn to ride clean, efficient turns while exploring the conditions of the day.

**TELEMARK CLINIC TOPICS**

**Free-heel Fest** – Take the latest movement patterns from the national level and work to develop your skills to maximize your efficiency. Expect an all mountain clinic with the objective of maximizing your versatility with modern equipment in the conditions of the day. **Saturday only.**

**Movement Analysis** – This clinic will cover cause and effect and help you in your movement analysis skills to find the root cause of what you are seeing in your student's skiing.

**Tele For All** – An introduction to telemark with a twist. It will emphasize a progression that takes full advantage of the skills already honed in efficient alpine skiing to enjoy the telemark experience. Take the latest movement patterns from the national level and work to develop your skills to maximize your efficiency. For new and cross-over tele'ers. **Sunday only.**

# Synchro Competition at the 50/50

by Kelly Beairsto

On April 4-9, 2011 we will observe a very special year for the PSIA in Snowmass, Colorado with the 50/50 Celebrations marking the first 50 years of PSIA and the next 50 to come. Join the Divas, an all women Synchro ski team since 1998, and start the party early by competing in the 10th Aspen World Synchro Championships. April 1-3, 2011.

The 50/50 is a wonderful chance to look at past, present and future of the PSIA. Synchro skiing is a perfect reflection of this theme. Some of you are saying, 'Those were the good old days, I remember when I used to do that, didn't that die off a long time ago?' It conjures up images of Instructors in one piece suits all skiing in unison, with their legs held tight, like an old clip from an 80's Warren Miller movie. Doesn't that bring a smile to your face?

So why are a group of diehard instructors dedicating themselves to various Synchro comps? It's a BLAST!!! Year after year, our Aspen event provides a fun chance to party with fellow competitors while challenging ourselves technically. Combining with the 50/50 this year, we expect to see a record number of National and International teams.

On the day of the event, it's a great show. With the music pumping, a crowd gathers on the deck of Bonnies Restaurant on Aspen Mountain to enjoy the spectacle. Whether they are making fun or just having fun, guests around the mountain can be seen trying their hand at Synchro. Last year, even the Aspen Ski Patrol put in an effort on the competition hill between passes. It's contagious.

Have you been to a level 3 course recently? Among the hardest maneu-

vers to pass the standard are the short turns. What better way to improve your shorts but to practice about a million and a half of them? No, you don't magically improve your precision skiing with this formula, but like most things in life, you get out of it what you put in.

The challenge of trying to sync off the leader forces you to look ahead and ignore any little...or big imperfections in your path. You just turn and turn again regardless. It builds skills, stamina, commitment and courage with touch. Add to that, lane changes by hitting the edge harder while keeping the same tempo, then breaking into long carving turns and then at speed coming back into shorts. Now **that's** a challenge for pressure management.

Sync skiers are only successful when they match mechanics, timing and blending of skills. To stay in sync you need to be getting the skis on edge at a similar time, with similar pressure, and with similar steering. Synchro practice gives you a chance to sustain, work on and even improve your skill level.

Another dimension is teamwork. In a sport which is primarily individual, Synchro training can give you an opportunity to ski at performance level with a fantastic group of friends on a regular basis.

It's very motivating! Some days when the alarm goes off that early and the mercury has dropped, let's face it, an 8am lift load does not sound worth it. Then when you get treated to the most amazing morning light and you are long past that difficult wake up and you are in this magical world with a great group of friends, you are reminded of the joys of this chosen

profession. Being on a Synchro team gives you a sense of belonging where strong bonds and longtime friendships are formed. Much of our work now comes through our connections and so it is easy to see the value in Synchro as this team becomes part of your valuable network.

I know I'm not talking to everyone out there, there are many who are motivated to go for a run before and after work and on days off. If not, the structure of Synchro can be that extra motivation needed to get you out there.

The thrill of competition and the rush of performing under pressure can be exhilarating. It can also bring you to new levels of performance which you may not have believed possible when pushed by fellow team members. There is also the strong pride which can come from receiving the first place trophy.

Whether you are a Snowsports School Director, trainer or coach who would like to inspire some of your staff to form a team or you would like to be on a team, we can't wait to hear from you! We can help you get started. For the rest, come out a couple of days early to the 50/50 at Aspen Mountain and cheer on the teams.

For more information on The Aspen World Synchro Championships, and other National Synchro competitions, USA Powder 8's or Synchro Carving, visit [www.aspenteamdiva.com](http://www.aspenteamdiva.com) or email [teamdiva@hotmail.com](mailto:teamdiva@hotmail.com).

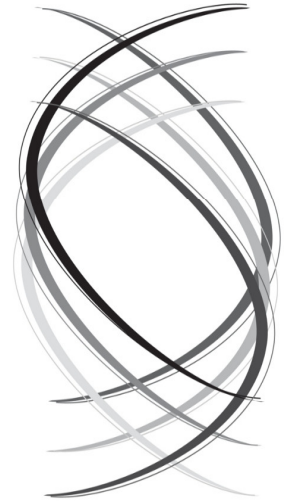
Think Sync!

Kelly Beairsto

PSIA 3, CSIA 3, Aspen Team Diva Manager and Aspen World Synchro Championships Event Organizer.



ASPEN WORLD



SYNCHRO  
CHAMPIONSHIPS

# History of the PSIA/AASI-NI Belt Buckle

Lex Kunau

In 1985, PSIA-NI Board of Directors decided to recognize their officers, directors and committee chair members with an engraved belt buckle.

These were ordered with enough extra to last NI through 1996.

In 1997, more buckles were needed and a different style buckle was chosen.

Most of the earlier recipients liked the new buckle better so they were given the opportunity to purchase an engraved new buckle for \$100.00 with NI paying the additional cost of the buckle and engraving. All former recipients did not take advantage of this.

New buckles have been received with a change in the area where the name and classification are engraved.

The first few years, the buckles all had the PSIA-NI shield. In recent years, the option of PSIA-NI or AASI-NI has been available.



## Children's Specialist 1 & 2

Jani Sutherland

A small group of people have been working on standards for the new Children's Specialist 1 & 2 certification. This will replace ACE. The national board approved the standards at its June meeting. Divisions will be receiving copies of the standards soon, in time to review at their fall board meetings.

book for level 1 and a workbook for level 2. To take the level 1 course you must be a level 1 instructor and currently ski at that level. To take the level 2 course you must be level 2 or 3 and currently ski at that level. The courses will include the workbook, quizzes, on hill teaching and skiing plus group discussions.

tions about classes you have taught and your favorite games. Everyone is very excited to have an evaluation for children's teaching that is standardized throughout the country. The Children's Specialist 1 & 2 should be ready for the 2010-2011 season. There is a CS1 assessment scheduled in March at Bogus Basin. Check the website or newsletter for more updates.

Also created were standardized workbooks that will be used by all the divisions. The workbook is full of questions (many questions on the same topic) so the divisions can choose which ones they would like to use. There is a workbook questions cover the CAP model, Piaget, multiple intelligences, the learning partnership, learning styles, Maslow, teaching cycle, parent issues, tough kids, spider webbing and a lot more!! There are also ques-

Any questions please contact Children's Chair Jani Sutherland at [janiski@cox.net](mailto:janiski@cox.net).

# Spring Symposium 2010 at Sun Valley

By Jani Sutherland, Children's Chair

The last multi-division spring symposium I attended in Sun Valley was 1984. I was looking forward to another, even if the trip would be shorter this time: not from Mt. Bachelor as it was in '84, but from Dollar Mountain, Sun Valley's kid's mountain.

I was also looking forward to participating in the children's clinics, just as I was in 1984. And I was looking forward to seeing old friends from both the Northwest and Intermountain divisions. Most importantly I would get to see my mentor and good friend, Jerry Warren, get inducted into the Hall of Fame.

The children's clinic topics were (of course) games and ideal vs. real movements. Both clinicians used guided discovery as their teaching tool. The emphasis in both clinics was rotary and balance. Too many children use too much edge in their wedge so edging and pressure were not emphasized.

In the 26 years between my symposiums at Sun Valley I realized that teaching children has changed yet stayed the same. We are getting more sophisticated but kids are still kids and good teaching is still good teaching.



ASEA Executive Director, Mark Dorsey received a belt buckle from NI.

Clinic lead by Dave Carney



Clinic lead by Yuji Matsuyama



Weylin Barrett and Seth Jacobsen with their clinic group.



PSIA/AASI-NI Secretary/Treasurer, Lex Kunau received his 50 year member pin.



# Rubbing Elbows with Ski Instructors from Around the World!

By: Molly Mouser

The art of networking certainly paid off for me and my fellow ski instructors this past spring. While attending the 2010 PSIA-AASI Multi Divisional Spring Event at Sun Valley, I met Weylin Barrett, the Snowsports School Supervisor at Sun Valley Company. As the new Chair of Education for Recreation Unlimited Adapted Sports program, I expressed to Weylin my desire to increase the num-



ber of adaptive ski instructors who seek PSIA certification. Weylin must have kept this in mind when he called me in June to say that there was a scholarship available to the International Congress on Adapted Sports at Mt. Hood that month. I jumped on the opportunity to ski with adaptive ski instructors from around the world! For dinner, I met adaptive instructors from Japan, Belgium, Iceland, and all over the United States! For the next 5 days, we grew quite close as we had to be at Timberline Lodge by 7:15 every morning. The clinics lasted until 12:15 pm, then lunch was served at camp followed by afternoon optional discussions and dinner at camp. Sharing teaching techniques with these instructors from around the world was an opportunity I could not pass up. Below is a small sampling of the knowledge that was shared during the congress.

## Day One: Foundations of Teaching Adaptive Snowsports Lessons

This clinic provided experience in evaluating physical condition, equipment selection and teaching methodologies. We learned about ways to help skiers with disabilities get up from a fall. Such as facing the student, instead of standing next to them. And then positioning your knee next to theirs to provide stability for getting up. New tools were introduced and evaluated. For example, the “trombone bra” attachment provides more movement between the feet, whereas the regular bra does not allow the ski tips to move. There was a “seat

belt” that can be used on students who have a tendency for seizures, to ensure they stay secure on the ride up a chairlift. Then when disembarking from a chairlift, it was demonstrated how an instructor could place a hand on one knee of the student to prevent them from standing prematurely.

I was particularly interested in this clinic, as I have had adult students with visual impairments, and I wanted to learn more about teaching them. This clinic offered concepts of guiding the visually impaired and communicating with them. Before we left Timberline Lodge, we were given tips on how to determine the student’s vision indoors:

- Watch what happens when you reach out to shake your student’s hand.
- Ask questions about their diagnosis and lifestyle.



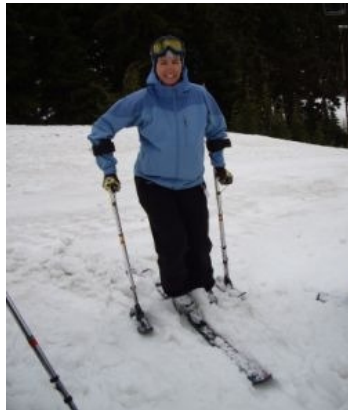
## Day Two: Teaching and Guiding Skiers with Blindness or Low Vision

Test if they can see your hand in front, on the side, etc.

On the ski hill, continue this evaluation by asking how much they can see. Verbal cues are very important when teaching the visually impaired. Give commands BEFORE you want them to make a turn. I.e: "And turn left....and turn right...and stop".



sacks. But we continued to take runs after the clinic ended to gain more experience in using our leg, not the outriggers, to do most of the work. If you have the chance to ski with outriggers, give it a shot.



### Day Three: Learn to Use and Teach Outrigger Techniques for Stand and Sit Skiing

This was a highly interactive clinic where we got to use outriggers during the whole clinic. At first I was nervous about giving up one of my skis, and relying on the outriggers. But when the clinician noticed I was struggling to keep my balance by dangling my "unused" ski in the air, he convinced me to take that ski off and really feel what it's like to ski with one leg and outriggers. Wow! What a difference! By truly having to use my one leg, being able to balance correctly, and learning how to use the outriggers, this was my favorite clinic. The weather that day was the worst! It was raining and we were all wearing garbage

### Day Four: Skiing is Skiing

This clinic was meant to point out the commonalities between adaptive skiing and alpine skiing. A good portion of the clinic involved movement analysis which can be applied to both disciplines. I was given a few pointers on how to improve my own skiing which I will repeat in my head while skiing until it becomes second nature.

### Day Five: Instructor Skiing Skills and Techniques for Tethering Sit Skiers

Our clinicians from the National Sports Center for the Disabled (in Colorado) hauled several sit skis to Mt. Hood to enable every participant the opportunity to both tether a sit ski and to ride in a sit ski. The other

instructors with experience in this discipline were so helpful in making this a great learning experience for me. My trust in them allowed me to experience the sit ski from the disabled skier's point of view, without worries. It was cool to sense how easily I could initiate my own turns in the sit ski, without any pull from the person tethering. We also covered loading and unloading a sit ski onto the chair lift, using the "STOPP" checklist:

**Safety strap is ready?**

**Tether is there?**

**Outriggers ready?**

**Pin undone?**

**Practice, practice, practice.**

In conclusion, I encourage everyone to take the opportunity to participate in continuing education through PSIA and other resources. If I had not attended the PSIA-AASI Multi Divisional Spring Event at Sun Valley, I would not have had the opportunity to learn from adaptive ski instructors from all around the world. The congress ski experience was invaluable, but I should also add that spending time with these folks at Rat-skeller's Bar in Government Camp built friendships that cannot be matched.



Subject: Newsletter Submission  
Ruth@bogusbasin.org

Please e-mail articles, ads, etc. for publication to:

<http://www.psia-ni.org>

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