

SKI PATROL

Donner Ski Patrol Newsletter

Mar 2017

Squaw Valley Clinic...

Do you want to take your ski patrol skills to the next level? All of my patrol experience has been at Donner Ski Ranch and I thought my skiing and toboggan skills were pretty good. Well I put that to the test at the Squaw Valley Senior Alpine and Toboggan clinic for three days of training from 3/15—3/17. I have to admit I was a bit nervous. I'd be skiing with people I didn't know and I'd be tasked with tackling steep and deep conditions that we don't have at DSR.

First day

The photo on the right was taken near the patrol base. As you can see it is a beautiful day and that the slopes are a bit steeper than at DSR. It takes an army of patrollers to cover this mountain resort. Well there has to be over a hundred patrollers (Pro & National) to get the job done. The clinic participants were divided into two main groups. One group for toboggan training and the other for the ski enhancement part. The groups switched after lunch where toboggan group would go to the ski enhancement training and ski enhancement group would go to the toboggan training. Each day the groups switched again so if you started your day on toboggan you would then start your day with ski enhancement. The third day we would switch again.



Take your NSP training to the next level...



Siberia...

Hello from the top of Siberia. Well does this look inviting or what? In the photo to the left we have the following: Michael , Rupert, Ivo, Evan, and Jack. The views are just stunning here.

Ski Enhancement—A beautiful day to get turns in

Tower 16

I thought I've skied all the runs at Squaw but here we are at Tower 16, just below the Funitel that passes overhead. You can see in the distance below, the Squaw Valley. This was a thigh burner run to say the least. Michael took us all over the Squaw resort. To places I've not been to since I was a teenager, which was a long time ago.

I loved it when standing at the top of Headwall, Michael ask me if I'm ok if we ski the "Slot". I said I don't know that one , but my new friends looked at me and said it will be fine and so to the slot we went. To get to this place involves taking your skis off and doing a bit of hiking. Well it was extreme, but fun too. At least I wasn't the first to ski it...lol. It pays to watch others tackle it first.



PSIA Level III Instructor—Michael Costello

Clinic Success

The focus everybody had during our three days together was intense. The level of instruction was top shelf. This was my first time doing any patrol training at a different ski resort and the level of professionalism was awesome. We are bound together for the love of skiing and helping people. Each of us learned a lot from the instructors and we made new friendships. Was it worth it to attend this clinic? Yes! I highly recommend that patrollers take the time to attend patrol clinics at resorts other than their own. Squaw Valley set the bar high for NSP clinics.



Thank you Squaw Valley and thank you Donner Ski Patrol for sponsoring me for this clinic. I expect to share what I've learned with all of you soon.

Cheers,

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