



# NCSP

NEWS

Upper Delaware  
River Chapter

October 2008

## From the Commodore

Greetings to all!

From all reports I have received, we have had another great season. I would like to thank all members for their time and efforts put forth on behalf of the NCSP and keeping the Delaware a safe river. We have had a great turnout of new and veteran members; thanks to you all. We are seeing the organization grow, develop, and adding to our already epic reputation.

I have turned my personal paddling to the world of professional guiding on the Lehigh. Our members are seen as the elite and the go-to folks for rescue situation in the Lehigh paddling community, a testament to our training and hands on experiences from the Delaware. We are still be best at "down and dirty" and "get it done" rescue, and where else can you get so much hands-on experience?

The 2009 season brings our 30th anniversary. We are in the process of planning some special events to celebrate this event. Please let us know if you have any ideas or want to help. We are always looking for members to help with committees and officer positions! If you would like to further your role in the NCSP as an officer, we want to talk to you!

I look forward to seeing you at the fall dinner and on the river!

Bill Walters  
Commodore, UDC of NCSP Inc.

## Skill Drills 2008 – Attaining an Edge

Our April training weekend exposes us to the swift water rescue skills that we need on the river. We must practice those skills so that we have a rapid and measured response to any emergency. In 2008 we introduced the concept of Skill Drills. Every 3rd Sunday of paddling season we would meet for 2 hours after our 9am sign-in at Zane Grey. A few specific skills were addressed each month, with lots of practice time, good instruction and warm weather conditions. Under the nearby Roebbling Bridge proved to be an ideal practice area.

Including the NPS Interns in our Skill Drills certainly was an added benefit. At the Skill Drills some of our NCSP members mentored and instructed as well as gaining practice time. But the biggest benefit was the mastery and real time use of what was taught.

In July, four NPS Interns joined about 8 NCSP members for Skill Drills on In-Water Mobility and Rescue Scene Management on Sunday morning. That same afternoon, an NCSP patrol was at the mouth of the Shohola creek on the Delaware. Two NPS Interns joined us on shore due to an approaching thunderstorm. We also pulled over two livery canoes to escape the rain & lightning. When the storm passed the two livery canoes paddled out to resume their trip but one tandem canoe flipped and pinned mid river. A team of 4 (including one NPS Intern) immediately scrambled to the scene using in water mobility skills, stabilized the victims, unpinned the boat and had them on their way in short order. The other NPS Intern, with no other instruction beyond what he learned that morning, immediately set up down stream safety for victims & rescuers. That is what it is all about!

We will build on this success for Skill Drills in 2009.

Dick & Dejay

## CLIFF DANIELS



(picture by NPS Susie Kaspar)

On Monday, Sept 22, friends met at a cookout to honor Ranger Cliff Daniels on his pending retirement in October. Many deserved honors & accolades were bestowed on the retiring law enforcement Ranger. Hal, Dejay, Dick & Mary K presented Cliff with an NCSP T-shirt as a token of our appreciation for his strong support over the last 27 years. Cliff joined the UDS&RR National Park in 1981 and was a friend of NCSP from the start. His wise counsel, humor and encouragement will be greatly missed.

Cliff is retiring, with his bike, to his place in Georgia. We wish him many great rides and remind him that he can escape those Georgia summers with some time on the Upper Delaware.

Submitted by Dick, Dejay & Hal

## SLATE of NCSP OFFICERS for 2009

The following are nominated for election at the annual dinner meeting on November 9, 2008.

Commodore	Bill Walters
Vice Commodore	Dejay Branch
Secretary	Mark Szupillo
Treasurer	Donna Ford

submitted by the nominating committee

## NPS 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration for UDS&RR

November 10, 2008 marks the 30th anniversary of the Upper Delaware legislation establishing the Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River (UDS&RR) as part of the National Park Service (NPS). NPS invited NCSP to participate in two events celebrating the anniversary.

Saturday October 25 - An Upper Delaware Expo is planned from 10 am to 4 pm at the Damascus School in Damascus, PA. While a number of exhibits will be held inside the school, NCSP was asked to provide an interactive display outside the entrance. We want to appeal to families & children. In addition to using our banners, photo displays and slide show, we are planning an interactive focus based on PFD wearing, tossing throw bags to hit ring targets and trying some knot tying.

++ IF YOU CAN HELP FOR AN HOUR OR TWO ON OCT 25 IN DAMASCUS, PLEASE CALL DICK RHODES AT 570-685-1320 or [CANOERRR@AOL.COM](mailto:CANOERRR@AOL.COM)

Saturday November 8 - A day long Retrospective Symposium will be held at the Central House Family Resort in Beach Lake, PA. NCSP is on the program under "Volunteers & Partners - No One Can Do It Alone" 'Our First Partners - National Canoe Safety Patrol'. Dejay & Dick are preparing a short slide/video show of NCSP's first 29 years of service with an introduction by our Commodore.

We and Vidal Martinez will share the highlights of this day long Retrospective, including an NPS vision for their next 30 years, at our NCSP dinner the following day, Sunday November 9 from 4:30 - 7pm at The 20 Front Street Restaurant in Port Jervis, NY.

Submitted by Dejay Branch and Dick Rhodes

## Service Statistics 2008

In 2008, a record 47 NCSP Members served 4 or more days in the patrol season from May 1 thru Labor Day. Congratulations! A total 66 members volunteered for at least one day this year.

## Fall Dinner Details

The 2008 NCSP Fall Dinner will be held at  
"Restaurant at 20 Front",  
20 Front Street,  
Port Jervis NY  
on Sunday, November 9th from 4:30 to 7pm.

RSVP Vice Commodore DeJay  
at [vcom@nationalcanoesafetypatrol.com](mailto:vcom@nationalcanoesafetypatrol.com)  
or call 646-205-2724 with your choice of Entree  
(Beef Tenderloin, Chicken, Fish, or Pasta  
Primavera) and number attending.  
The cost will be \$25/person.

Please see the NCSP website for additional menu  
details and directions:  
[http://www.nationalcanoesafetypatrol.com/dinner.h  
tml](http://www.nationalcanoesafetypatrol.com/dinner.html)

## Carl Brown

Carl Brown of Damascus was quite active in the  
NCSP, but we missed him this season. Carl has  
been diagnosed with MDS and is undergoing  
chemotherapy. I know that he would appreciate  
your prayers and support as he works through his  
course of treatments to get back to good health.  
His email is [francie@ptd.net](mailto:francie@ptd.net)

Dick

## Articles and Photos

We are always looking for articles and Photos;  
please submit directly to  
[newsletter@rivergod.com](mailto:newsletter@rivergod.com). As always, the NCSP  
may or may not publish a contribution.

## NCSP Contact Information

### Commodore:

Bill Walters  
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570-587-2446



### Vice Commodore:

DeJay Branch  
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570-685-1824



### Secretary:

Mark Szupillo  
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845-304-9536



### Treasurer:

Donna Ford  
[NCSPTreasurer@NationalCanoeSafetyPatrol.com](mailto:NCSPTreasurer@NationalCanoeSafetyPatrol.com)  
201-280-3133



### Training Director:

Megan Duffy  
[NCSPTraining@NationalCanoeSafetyPatrol.com](mailto:NCSPTraining@NationalCanoeSafetyPatrol.com)  
(860) 228-5127



### New Member Liason:

Dick Rhodes  
[Canoerrr@aol.com](mailto:Canoerrr@aol.com)  
570-685-1320



## New Membership Information and Initial Application

The NCSP was founded in 1978 for the purpose of encouraging and promoting boating safety, including, but not limited to:

- To provide a shore and boat based safety presence in cooperation with river management agencies, race organizers and other safety and rescue organizations.
- To provide rescue and recovery assistance upon request of, and in cooperation with, river management agencies and other safety and rescue organizations.

Most rescue patrols run on the Delaware River between Skinners Falls at Milanville and Port Jervis  
Each member is obligated to provide a minimum of 4 full days of service on the river each season.

Interested in Joining or have further questions? Please contact one of the officers listed earlier in this newsletter and/or attend training weekend. You may join and pay dues on arrival. If you have missed training, plan on attending the first available training, usually the last *full* weekend in April. Please mail dues of \$20 per individual for \$40 per family to:

Treasurer  
NCSP  
PO Box 91,  
Lackawaxen, PA 18435

Please include the following information.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Note, you will be required to sign a waiver prior to any patrols, *and* you must have the use of a canoe or kayak.