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YAP Essay 2012

The young adult patroller conference is a wonderful event for young patrollers and trainees. Many people don't know what the conference entails and what it is about and who it is for. I got to attend this year's conference at Bromely Mountain and it was great and well worth it. I cannot wait for next year's event.

Recently, I decided to become a young adult patroller and I have gone through some of the training. So far I passed my S and T and will start attending an OEC course at the end of the month. While in training I heard there was a competition in Vermont for student patrollers in the Eastern Division. I was told by a few people that this event was just for patrollers not trainees and that it was just a competition, but they were wrong. I looked more closely into what this event entailed and that there was a training course. I was interested right away.

I helped raise money with, Mountain Creek, my mountains student patrollers to attend this trip and it became possible to attend quickly. I was the only trainee from my mountain, but three other students that were already patrollers from Mountain Creek went with me, but to compete.

At the Bromely Mountain Young Adult Patroller Seminar I learned and experienced a lot that at my mountain that I might not have been able to have done. I got to pull a sled through moguls which at my mountain is impossible due to us not getting moguls, and I was watched by three patrollers and I was working with just one other trainee. I also got to work on my free skiing which needed a bit of help, they really helped me improve my turning and also I was able to learn to mogul ski which was an experience. Along with the skiing part I got to work on OEC which I have never done, I got to see every other mountains technique and how they handle different situations as well as scenarios a patroller may never see on a day to day patrolling shift at the mountain. After the mountain closed we got to do line searches and missing person searches with a little crime scene investigation in it.

I am really glad I got to attend the YAP seminar. I got to meet new people and learn new things the whole time I was there while having a ton of fun. I think all young adult patrollers and student trainees should be able to attend this conference. The experience was great even for the learning courses and competing as well. I cannot wait for next year because I know it is going to be good. I hope more people learn about what the seminar is all about, so more people are able to attend.