

THE EDWIN TERRELL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

“Mountains have so much to give and give it so lavishly to those who will wrestle with them that men love the mountains and go back to them again and again....the mountains reserve their choice gifts for those who stand upon their summits.”

Sir Francis Youngblood

The Edwin Terrell Memorial Clinic is a very special clinic to many people in the Southern District. It is an event that brings back happy memories of a person who inspired many ski instructors. As the years pass, we realize that many new and shining star instructors join the ranks of the Southern District Ski Schools. Some may have had the privilege of meeting Edwin but many have not been so lucky. We have put this little piece together so that you can better know why and how this clinic came about. It is also intended to give you an overview of what has been covered in previous clinics and perhaps inspire you to new directions and challenges in the future.

A LITTLE HISTORY

Edwin Terrell died while on a mountain - climbing expedition in Nepal in 1986. He was 31 years old at the time of his death. For many years, Edwin had spent his winters skiing and his summers climbing.

Edwin lived in Santa Fe all of his life, except for the six years that he was a ski instructor at Purgatory Ski School. Edwin graduated from Santa Fe High School in 1973 and attended the University of New Mexico.

He worked as a racing coach and trainer on the Santa Fe Ski School staff until his death. As a matter of fact, Edwin learned to ski in one of Santa Fe Ski Area's "School Programs", a program designed for public school kids to get a taste of what skiing was all about.

In December 1985, Edwin achieved a very important accomplishment in his skiing career when he was chosen as a division clinic leader for P.S.I.A.- Rocky Mountain.

His friends say that he died where he wanted to be. Those who do not climb mountains might wonder why men risk their lives to endure the hardship and discomfort of high places. Certainly, some men go for the exhilarating beauty and solitude. Others go to satisfy their egos or to feed an obsession. Not Terrell, Edwin climbed because he loved to. He climbed for the joy and exuberance of it. He skied for those very same reasons. But he also skied to experiment, discover and improve. He also lived to share with others why he loved to ski.

CRITERIA AND GUIDELINES OF THE EDWIN TERRELL SCHOLARSHIP

Edwin Terrell was an exceptional athlete who was extremely motivated by his desire to learn more about the world of skiing and ski instruction. Edwin devoted many hours and considerable personal expense to achieving more information by attending numerous clinics and workshops. This desire to learn and improve had its final reward in his achievement in being selected as a Division Clinic Leader with PSIA-Rocky Mountain, a position he filled proudly and exceptionally well.

Because Edwin was the way he was, his family and friends felt it necessary to establish a fund that would continue the spirit of learning that was so important in Edwin's life.

It is with honor, pride and a sense of long-term commitment that we established the EDWIN TERRELL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND.

There are many criteria for the scholarship fund, but perhaps the most important ones are that the eligible applicants must meet the following qualifications:

1. Be at least a current registered member of PSIA-Rocky Mountain-AASI.
2. Be actively teaching in a Southern District Ski School.
3. Fill out and send in a clinic application form (If a scholarship recipient please denote on the form).
4. Must be pursuing a higher level of education in skiing and ski instruction.
5. Must be exceptionally motivated to learn and share knowledge.
6. Due to the exploratory nature of the clinic, participants must be willing to actively participate and possibly even deliver a presentation on the theme of the clinic.

NOTE:

- Each Southern District Member School is eligible to send one instructor on a scholarship
- The host area is eligible to receive up to 5 scholarships (4 additional). The recipients will be required to give a presentation on the theme of the clinic.
- All other clinic applicants must fill out and send in a clinic application form along with payment of the clinic fee by the registration deadline posted on the website.

It is with these thoughts, that we challenge you to continue to keep the spirit of Edwin alive and shining in all your days of teaching.

THOUGHTS FROM EDWIN

In November of 1985, Edwin prepared a document on his personal goals for his year as a trainer for the Santa Fe Ski School. Since so much of what Edwin thought about in his skiing has related to the previous clinics, we wanted to share his words with you:

“First, in order to show where I would like to go in my skiing, I must show where I have been.

Much of my skiing background has been in racing. When I started racing my skiing skills were rather poor. I made up for my lack of skill with aggression. This generally got me down the hill but did very little in the way of forming a technically good base.

Eventually I got hurt enough so that I had to slow down, and by doing so I could start to feel what was going on with the skis.

With this “beginning of awareness” I was able to make some breakthroughs in my understanding of what makes the skis work. At this point Milt was very instrumental in guiding my discoveries.

I think that at this time I started understanding the mechanics of skiing, and by doing so was able to better see what my students would benefit from. I had been teaching for about seven years before I gained this understanding. Talk about the blind leading the blind.

Anyway, I spent several years skiing very habitually,,,, kind of grooving my strokes, or turns as it were. Simply learning the movements that allow one to ski well.

This is pretty much where my skiing stands. It is time, in my own mind anyway, to do some exploring. To find again where the limits are.

I have the ability to put lots of energy into the ski. I would like to spend the year playing with directing this energy down the hill in a controlled, smooth and lively manner.

For me most of this is mental. It is difficult to not make some lazy turns, especially when going from short to longer ones. I want to always make the ski MOVE through the arc of the turn. In order to do this I will have to be very disciplined.

My teaching and climbing skills are, I believe, a little more polished than my skiing skills. During this season I hope to be able to work with the staff both in groups and on an individual basis.

I would like the challenge of developing a comprehensive training program for the staff. The end result of this program would be a ski school whose instructors give lessons that are fun and informative. That students come back to for the second and third lessons are so damned good.

Ski racing is a large part of the picture. At least in my mind. This season I hope to start weekly instructors' races; or maybe at Santa Fe weekly employees' races would be better. Also a masters or veterans citizens series, complete with race clinics, schedule, posted times, etc.

My managerial skills in the ski industry are fairly rudimentary. Except for class splits and monitoring, I really don't have much experience of the behind the scenes picture. I don't want to carry a clipboard all day long, but I wouldn't mind learning that part of the business. In other words I would like to do some supervisorial work along with teaching and training the staff.

I realize that as far as goals for both my skiing and work this isn't quite a play by play 1,2,3 format, but it probably gives a better feeling of what I would like to accomplish this year.”

Signed Simply: Edwin