

Western Ski Heritage Award

Jane Jackson

Jane Jackson has conducted historical research since 2005 into the early days of skiing in Northern Arizona. Her work has been published in the Journal of Arizona History and her work is continuing. She is currently working on the production of a 45-minute documentary entitled Echoes of the Peaks, An Early History of Skiing in Northern Arizona.

Jackson work has entailed over 20 taped and transcribed interviews with early skiers and their descendants.

She has acquired over 200 early photographs from the Jimmie Nunn collection and others, examined local Flagstaff newspapers and university publications, inspected Forest Service reports from 1948-51 on Arizona Snowbowl from the Cline Library collections at Northern Arizona University, and looked over USFS maps from 1939 and the 1950s.

Jane wrote “In addition to preserving history, my current film project, as well as my article and the various public presentations, address the need to save the memory of Flagstaff’s ski pioneers. Seven of the men I interviewed began skiing in Flagstaff before Arizona Snowbowl existed. Their stories are unrecorded until now: stories of Flagstaff winter sport activities since 1930, the log lodge at Snowbowl built by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1940s, the first private owner of the facilities in 1946, cutting trails and building today’s Agassiz Lodge in the 1950s. These anecdotes give listeners the feel of the camaraderie in the ski community and nostalgia for those days past when skiing was new and fresh and every day was an adventure.”

There has been skiing in Northern Arizona since 1915.



Jimmie Nunn at age 9



Scissorball Park (circa 1936), AZ Snowball (resort started 1938)