



Who & What's New For 2013

North Lake Tahoe Shuttle Bus

After 20 years of discussions and intense negotiations, several area ski resorts have launched the region's first area-wide free ski shuttle, serving North Lake Tahoe, Truckee and Donner Summit. The service runs between area lodging properties to nine ski resorts on weekends and holiday weeks. The shuttle's flexible schedule also allows more skiers to participate in apres-ski events since the shuttle service provides the drivers. This service is in addition to the Free Ski Shuttle system already in place by Alpine Meadows, Squaw Valley, Homewood Mountain Resort, and Diamond Peak resort. The handicapped-accessible busses are contracted separately.

Google Adds 38 Ski Slopes to Google Maps Apps

Forget squinting at faded ski-slope signs or fumbling around with wet, faded and torn resort trail maps. The new Google app marks green, blue and black runs on the screen as solid colored lines. Ski lifts are shown as red dotted lines. The app can help you plan your runs for the day, or assist you in getting your bearings if you are lost.

Convention News

It's Time to Book your Room for the Convention

The 81st Annual FWSA Convention will be held June 6-9, 2013 at the fabulous Grand Sierra Resort & Casino in Reno. Be sure to visit our brand new FWSA website at www.fwsa.org and link into the [2013 Convention](#). All registration information and forms are now on the website, as well as detailed information about the optional events.

A Grand Sierra Standard Room is \$79 and the Summit Suites Grand II upgrade is \$104 (double occupancy). To book your reservation, call 800.648.5080 or 775.789.2129 and use the Group Name: Far West Ski Association 2013. For booking online, go to <https://resweb.passkey.com/go/FarWestSki>. No password is required.

The Grand Sierra Resort & Casino also has an RV Park located next to the Resort. Call for information and to book a site.

Optional Activities

There are lots of fun activities being planned including the River Walk Pub Crawl, 7th Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament, Reno Run Whitewater Rafting, Tahoe Rim Trail Hike, Grand Sierra Spa Day, and Grand Sierra Resort Fun Day.

Convention Incentive

This year, FWSA is offering an "economic relief" program to provide a ski club the

opportunity to send more delegates to the Convention. For every six (6) delegates that have paid the full registration package, the club would get a rebate of one (1) paid registration after the convention.

Direct Members

If you do not belong to a ski club, you are still welcome to attend the Convention. See the FWSA website for detailed registration information for direct members.

Information

For additional information contact

- Jane Wyckoff, FWSA Convention Chair, jnewyckoff1@cox.net, 949-933-9607
- Linda Indreboe, BAC Host Council Convention Coordinator, bac.publicaffairs@skibac.org, 408-248-8426
- Industry members please contact Mary Olhausen, omary52@comcast.net, 503-880-7383.

ELECTIONS

Elections of officers will occur at the FWSA Annual Meeting & Convention June 6-9, 2013 at the Grand Sierra Resort & Casino in Reno, Nevada. Delegates will elect their President, Secretary and Treasurer for one-year terms and two (2) Trustee positions for two-year terms. In addition, the following functional Vice Presidents will be elected for two-year terms: VP of North American Travel, VP of Council Services and VP of Public Affairs.

If you are interested in running for any of the above positions, please contact Linda Westlund, Nominating Committee Chairman, by email: skierwesty@aol.com. Nominations for any of the open positions will be accepted up to the date and time of elections. Additional information on elections will follow in the April issue of the NewsFlash.

Awards

Far West Club & Council Communications Competition Awards

DEADLINE: March 31, 2013, all applications (Outstanding club essays, club and council newsletters and websites). April 24, 2013 for completed score sheets for early bird submission to earn bonus points; and April 30, 2013 from ALL judges for ALL competitions.

RECOGNITION: A special seal for placement on a website and a Certificate suitable for framing.

CONTACT: Crissymarie King, FWSA Club/Council Communication Awards Chair, 559-916-4901, communicationsawards@fwsa.org.

DESCRIPTION: The club and council recognitions are designed to promote excellence and outstanding performance and are open to all clubs and councils within Far West Ski Association. Entries are for the following five competitions: Tollakson Outstanding Club of the Year; Wentworth Outstanding Club Newsletter of the Year; Wentworth Outstanding Council Newsletter of the Year; Outstanding Club Website Award; and Outstanding Council

Website Award. This recognition is a work in progress while adhering to careful design created to promote excellence. The link to detailed information and forms is:
<http://fwsa.org/MemberCorner/Programs/program-communication.html>

Charity and Community Service Recognition Award

DEADLINE: March 15, 2013

RECOGNITION: The 1st Place Club will receive a \$300 donation and the 2nd and 3rd Place Clubs a \$100 donation for the charity of their choice.

CONTACT: Sigrid Noack, FWSA Charities & Our Community Chair, 310-823-1373,
skisig@earthlink.net

DESCRIPTION: The intent of this recognition program is to encourage charity and community service involvement in all our FWSA councils and clubs and to recognize a club or council for its outstanding financial and/or volunteer support to one or more charitable organizations. All clubs and councils that apply will be recognized at the FWSA Convention. Three clubs and one council will be selected and notified by April 15. They will then prepare a picture display board to be presented at Convention. The link to detailed information and entry form is: <http://fwsa.org/MemberCorner/Programs/program-community.html>.

Safety Person of the Year Award

DEADLINE: April 19, 2013

RECOGNITION: Since 1998 Aspen/Snowmass, The Gant and Crestwood have donated a 6-night ski package for two with lodging, lift tickets, rentals, half-day group lessons, on-mountain tour, transfers, air transportation and TV Interview with Plum TV.

CONTACT: Richard Lubin DC, FWSA Safety Chair, 925-828-7454,
botaboardr@comcast.net

DESCRIPTION: The FWSA is a proponent of safety in skiing and snowboarding. Every year we hear about tragic deaths and injuries that happen during our favorite winter activities that remind us of the great importance of safety. We have a number of ways in which we promote safety and one of our more viable ways is through the Safety Award. The award is for the individual, within the association, that has done the most to promote safety through a number of criteria. These include articles on slope safety, and other ways to raise safety consciousness. The link to detailed information and entry form is: <http://fwsa.org/MemberCorner/Programs/program-safety.html>

Western Ski Heritage Award

DEADLINE: April 26, 2013

RECOGNITION: Since 2000, Steamboat has donated a 5-night ski package for two with lodging, lift tickets, rentals, on-mountain tour, half-day lessons and a lunch at Ragnar's Restaurant.

CONTACT: John Watson, FWSA History Committee Chair, 760-723-6539,
geospace@pacbell.net

DESCRIPTION: The Far West Western Ski Heritage program annually recognizes the best effort in the prior year that communicates the contributions of snowsports to the community at large. The purpose of the Far West Western Ski Heritage program is to raise the awareness of snowsports participants and non-participants alike of the contributions made by individuals, groups and companies to all aspects of snowsports – competitive as well as that of outdoor winter recreation and fitness. A parallel purpose is to convey the positive role snowsports has had in its contributions to the communities in the West. It recognizes outstanding effort in the area of snowsports history to find, preserve, document and share the history of snowsports in the West. The Award is open to an individual or a group leader (it is not restricted to Far West membership) and can be self-nominated or nominated by a club or club member. Materials and history programs will be evaluated against the objectives of the program by individuals selected for their knowledge of the history of Western snowsports and that of the Association. The link to detailed information and entry form is: <http://fwsa.org/MemberCorner/Programs/program-wsh.html>

Far West Historical Recognition Program

DEADLINE: April 25, 2013

RECOGNITION: Certificate suitable for framing.

CONTACT: John Watson, FWSA History Committee Chair, 760-723-6539, geospace@pacbell.net

DESCRIPTION: The FWSA launched the Historical Recognition Program in 2008 to develop club, league and council histories. The objective of the annual program is to capture important information about skiing from the skier's perspective and especially that of the club skier. Selection for the award is based on digital (preferable) or mailed presentation of club or council history according to a set of weighted criteria and judged by knowledgeable ski historians. The History Recognition is not for outstanding club or council, although it is anticipated that material may be common to both types of presentations. Think of these histories as museum or library reference resources. The link to detailed information and entry form is: <http://fwsa.org/MemberCorner/Programs/program-historical.html>.

Far West Councils' Man & Woman of the Year Program

The Councils' Man & Woman of the Year program recognizes top volunteers from each council at the FWSA Annual Convention. Since 2001, Big White Ski Resort has donated a 5-night ski package for two with lodging, lift tickets and transfers for the Councils' Man and Woman of the Year.

Far West Travel

North American Travel Program

With ski season in full swing and other upcoming fun North American adventure trips, Far West would like to remind you and your ski club members, friends, and family of upcoming trips for the Far West North American Travel Program.

Mt. Bachelor Mini Ski Week 2013

- The 2nd annual mini ski week trip is to Mt. Bachelor, March 25-30 with lodging at the Riverhouse in Bend, Oregon. We have a great ski package, so be sure to check the flyer on the website for sign-up details.

Mammoth Summer Fun 2013

- June 27-30 is our Summer Fun Adventure at Mammoth Mountain. More details for the trip will be posted on the website soon.

Caribbean Cruise 2013

- Fall of 2013, we are planning a Caribbean cruise on Norwegian Cruise Lines. Details, along with dates and pricing will be available on the Far West website soon.

Belize Drive Trip 2013

- The 4th annual FWSA Scuba Dive Trip will be to the wonderful island of Ambergris Caye in Belize, and includes seven nights lodging at Ramon's Village (double occupancy), 6 days of 2-tank boat dives, full breakfast daily, plus airport transfers. The cost is \$1,159 per person for divers and \$879 per person for non-divers, excluding airfare. Contact Randy Lew 530-304-0802 or fwsa13randy@telis.org

Beaver Creek Ski Week 2014

- Save the date for next year's Far West 2014 Ski Week in Beaver Creek, Colorado. The dates are January 25 to February 1st, 2014. Council Trip Leaders and Travel Staff have just returned from the site visit, during which they had the opportunity to visit many lodging properties to begin making plans for this incredible trip. Information will be made available soon.

International Travel Program

The FWSA International Ski Week trip to Innsbruck, Austria was a tremendous success! Eighty six participants joined this kick-off trip for new VP of International Travel, Debbie Stewart. Much, much fun was had by all, and our new leader says of future trips with her at the helm... "Expect the Unexpected".

Far West International Ski Week 2014: The RFP has been sent out to seven tour operator companies for FWSA's 2014 International Ski Trip to Zermatt, Switzerland with an extension to Spain and/or Portugal. The last time FWSA went to Zermatt was in 2004, and it's time to return. We are looking at March 2014. The exact details will be provided once a bid decision has been made.

Far West International Adventure Trip: The RFP has been submitted for bids for an African Safari in the fall of 2014. This trip will be an experience of a lifetime, one you will not want to miss! Destination and details to come.

Check the Far West [website](#) often to find the most up-to-date travel information.

Far West Clubs & Councils

Northwest Ski Club Council

The Northwest Ski Club Council is hosting a movie night on March 20th, featuring the film "Ready to Fly", which tells the journey of the US Women's Ski Jumping Team finally receiving the much-fought-for approval to be entered into the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi. The proceeds from the movie will benefit this very deserving team of women.

Northwest Council and FWSA Board of Directors members, Randy Lew and Steve Coxen are putting together a Far West Ski Association team to be entered in the annual "Ski to Defeat ALS" (Lou Gehrig's Disease) event on April 13th at Mt. Hood Meadows. The team goal is to raise \$2,500 for the cause. You don't have to ski to participate. If you would like to join our team or donate to the team please check out our [webpage](#).

US Ski Team News

The Second Annual Governor's State of Sports Awards

Utah native ski jumper Sarah Hendrickson will be honored with the "Olympian of the Year" award on April 16th, 2013. The awards ceremony will honor individuals and groups that have made significant contributions to sport in Utah in 2012. In celebration of Utah's Olympic Legacy, Governor Herbert and the Utah Sports Commission will present this year's award to Sarah to recognize her excellence and achievement in Olympic Sport. "Utah is proud of its Olympic legacy and the success of our Olympic athletes that live and train here," said Governor Herbert. "Our world class venues, athlete training and hosting of major sporting events has helped to create successful Olympians like Sarah Hendrickson."

Sarah grew up not far from the Utah Olympic Park in Park City. She has established herself as one of ski jumping's biggest stars, winning the 2012 FIS Ski Jumping World Cup title. She is a member of the US Women's Ski Jumping Team who will be competing in Sochi I 2014. "Since I was born and raised in this wonderful state of Utah, it is such an honor to receive an award from the Governor himself," said Hendrickson. "Having an award given to an athlete just shows how much pride the state puts in its athletes and sport programs. I am very honored".

Lindsey Vonn

What an outstanding 2013 season! World Champion Lindsey Vonn (Vail, CO) won a record 17th Audi FIS Alpine World Cup globe and record sixth straight downhill titles. Vonn won three of seven World Cup downhills this season and missed two due to injury following her super G crash at World Champs. U.S. Ski Team won the women's downhill standings by 457 points over the Swiss thanks to nine U.S. podiums from five different women.

Ted Ligety

World Champion Ted Ligety (Park City, UT) punctuated the best season of his career with a sixth giant slalom win at the World Cup Finals on Saturday. He joined Ingemar Stenmark as the only other man to win six or more World Cup giant slalom races in a single season. He has stood on all eight giant slalom podiums this season, a feat not accomplished in the last 31 years. His triple World Championships gold was punctuated when he locked his fourth Audi FIS Alpine World Cup giant slalom last week after winning in Kransjka Gora, Slovenia. With his historic victory, Ligety eclipsed 1,000 World Cup points for the first time in his career and guaranteed a third place finish in the overall standings.

Mikaela Shiffrin

World Champion Mikaela Shiffrin (Eagle-Vail, CO) came from behind to win her fourth slalom race of the season, sealing the first Audi FIS Alpine World Cup slalom title of her young career. Shiffrin, who celebrated her 18th birthday March 13th, became the first U.S. slalom World Cup champion since Tamara McKinney in 1983-84. The thrilling race came to a crescendo as Shiffrin erased a 1.17 first run deficit with the fastest final run time to win over Bernadette Schild of Austria and overall champion Tina Maze of Slovenia. Mikaela was also honored as the Longines Rising Star, signifying the top young female racer of 2013.