

Far West News *Flash*
April, 2014

Far West Ski Association

WHO & WHAT'S NEW FOR 2014



Happy Anniversary: *Northwest Ski Club Council* is celebrating their 35th anniversary this year. They will hold a celebration at their June Council meeting. Congratulations NWSCC!

USSA Has New Leader: *Tiger Shaw*, a two-time Olympian whose business career includes past positions at K2 and Volkl Skis, joined the USSA as chief operating officer (COO) in 2013 and became CEO in March 2014. Tiger moved through the ranks of the USSA development system, making the U.S. Ski Team a few years before the 1984 Olympic Winter Games in Sarajevo. He participated in his second Olympics in Calgary in 1988. During his athletic career, Tiger won nine U.S. Championship titles, and held top-15 world rankings in two disciplines. Since his racing retirement in 1991, Tiger has been involved with the grassroots level of skiing, serving as head junior coach and on the board of Ford Sayre Ski Club in Hanover, NH.

Mikaela Shiffrin Partners With Vail Valley: *Mikaela Shiffrin*, the youngest slalom champion in Olympic Alpine Skiing History, has signed on to help endorse her community and the 2015 World Championships over the coming year. The one-year partnership features a collaboration of funding partners that include the Town of Vail, the Town of Avon and the Vail Valley Foundation/2015 World Championships Organizing Committee. Mikaela told reporters "I was born and raised here. "I'm just so happy to be part of this group, part of the scene, and to be able to give back a little bit. And, I can't wait for Vail/Beaver Creek 2015."

Rossignol Race Center: Mike Braun, the Far West Race representative from Rossignol, has offered Far West racers a deal for next year. He is now taking pre-season race orders for any Rossignol, Dynastar, Lange and Look race products. Get your order in by May 1st to receive "racer price", and have the items that you want before they're sold out. Contact Mike for more information: mike.braun@rossignol.com.

FAR WEST SKI ASSOCIATION CONVENTION

Have You Made Plans To Attend The *Volcanic Paradise Convention*??? What are you waiting for? The 82nd Annual Far West Ski Association Convention, June 12-15, 2014, in Bend, OR, is drawing closer than you think!! FIRST—make your lodging reservations. Simply call The **Riverhouse** at **800.547.3928 or 541-389-3111**. Group Name: Far West Ski Association 2014. Hotel rates honored three days pre and post-Convention. Traveling in your RV? Reserve space now as spots fill fast! Scandia RV Park www.scandiarv.com. Crown Villa RV Resort www.crownvillaresort.com

How About That FWSA 6-Pack Program—To Save On Registration Fees??? Clubs and Delegates— Take advantage of the FWSA 6-Pack Program. This is a super deal. For every six (6) delegates that have paid the full registration package, from same club, the club will receive a rebate of one (1) paid registration after the convention (voting & non-voting delegates qualify). You get 6 delegates for the price of 5. That's a savings not to be overlooked!

Need Some R&R Before Or After The Convention??? Don't forget—The Riverhouse offers convention rates 3 days prior and 3 days post. There is SO much to do in Central Oregon—this is the place to relax, unwind, or take advantage of all those outdoor activities that abound in the Bend area. See Visit Bend at www.visitbend.com or Central Oregon Visitors Association at www.visitcentraloregon.com for all the information you need to plan your extended stay in Central Oregon! Be sure to arrive before Thursday so you can take advantage of the Mt. Bachelor Tour, Lunch & Activities. That evening you can enjoy the infamous Pub Crawl at Deschutes Brewery, McMenamins, and other hot spots in downtown Bend. Good food, good fun, discounted beverages, and prizes.

Sign Up Now For Convention Optional Activities!!! Friday is Optional Activity Day with the 8th Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament at River's Edge Golf Course; Hike and sight-see at the world-famous Smith Rock State Park; or Shop-Dine-Wine at the Old Mill District. The Pool Party on Friday afternoon will cool you off before the annual

FWSA Silent Auction on Friday night.

Get Ready For Silent Auction And Travel Expo!!! The Silent Auction is open to all FWSA delegates and guests. Bid on ski, sport and adventure packages and enjoy a Taste of Bend. Silent Auction is open to the general public (FREE admission!) and we encourage our Bend and Redmond communities to take part in this event. Saturday brings Travel Expo where industry and delegates meet to talk about club travel. Saturday afternoon is set aside for our Multi-Media Presentation with our keynote speaker, Jess McMillan, as well as Public Affairs and Snowsports Leadership Academy sessions.

Saturday Night Dancing To Thrillride!!! Saturday night erupts for the real *Volcanic Paradise*. We'll have a live band this year and NWSCC guarantees you'll dance your flip-flops off to the sounds of *Thrillride*. Did we say flip-flops? Yes, break out those flip-flops---the attire for Saturday night is black tie & shorts.

Come Meet Featured Guests!!! We are excited to have *Jess McMillan* (professional big mountain free skier), and *Billy Kidd* (former Olympic medalist) as special guests.

Still Need More Information??? We're here to help - for more information, please contact Host Council Convention Coordinator Mary Olhausen at omary52@comcast.net.

FAR WEST BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Far West Elections: Elections of officers will occur at the FWSA Annual Meeting & Convention June 12-15, 2014 at the Riverhouse Hotel & Convention Center in Bend, Oregon. 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 International Travel, VP of Communications, VP of Membership, and VP of Marketing. If you are interested in running for one of these positions, job descriptions, Bylaws, and the Operations Manual are linked to the FWSA website under About-Governance at www.fwsa.org. For more information contact Steve Coxen at stevecoxen@yahoo.com.

FAR WEST SKI FOUNDATION

Foundation Sets Sights for 2014: The Far West Ski Foundation will be at the convention to afford the delegates the opportunity to make tax deductible contributions for scholarships, adaptive skiing, women's ski jumping, or ski history and education, or any other donation. Partners may make their contributions early to allow advanced visibility into the funds available to grant for scholarships. John Reinhardt, Treasurer, will be available to receive funds. This will be the final FWSF meeting with members at convention.

Joe Harvis (NSCF) has donated two cases of wine to benefit the Rehab mission. Karen Kimball has donated a mink jacket in Autumn Haze that we can auction off to benefit the women's ski jumping. The jacket is appraised at \$1,000. Harry Davis will be the auctioneer, or we may offer a buy now option. Randy Lew may assist with leads developed from Ski Week. Stay tuned for further details.

THANK YOU FAR WEST MEMBERS FOR YOUR CONTINUING SUPPORT. AS YOUR SISTER ORGANIZATION, THE FOUNDATION MAKES GRANTS IN YOUR NAME - ORGANIZED SKIING.

FAR WEST TRAVEL

South Africa is Calling: There is still room to sign up for the South Africa Trip, which is set for September 5-16, 2014, with an extension to **Victoria Falls** September 16-20, 2014. Just go to FWSA's new interactive website at: <https://fwsa-connect.herokuapp.com>, click the "sign up" link to create a new account; click on the "confirm" link in the email you receive and then use your new account to "log in". Look in the Trips menu to sign up for our trip to Africa. You can also view the trips you have signed up for and make online payments using your PayPal account on your credit card. We're shooting for 40 people on this trip, so register NOW. Click on the link to view the Safari video on YouTube at <https://youtu.be/SzDrEr7Lhg>. Contact Debbie Stewart for more details at: fwsainttrvl@prodigy.net.

Far West Dive Trip: The FWSA 5th annual scuba dive trip will be October 11-18, 2014 to Occidental Grand Cozumel

Resort on the great island of Cozumel, Mexico. The price is \$1,138 for divers and \$758 for non-divers. Price includes 7 nights at the Occidental Grand Cozumel (2 persons in a deluxe room), all meals and drinks including alcohol!. The dive price includes 5 days of 2 tank boat dives and unlimited Nitrox. Contact Randy Lew at 530-304-0802 or fwsa13randy@telis.org

Far West Ski Week 2015: Reservations can soon be made for the North American Ski Week to **Whistler Blackcomb**, January 31 to February 7, 2015. A fun week is being planned by our travel staff, along with Ski.Com and all the folks at **Whistler**. The council trip leaders and travel staff returned from their Site Inspection with lots of information, and will have full details to us soon. Watch for further updates in the News Flash, or contact your own council's trip leader for more information.

Far West International Trip 2015: Our 2015 International Ski Trip will be to Val D' Isere, France with additional days in Paris and Provence. Stay tuned for further details.

FAR WEST SKIER'S GUIDE

Digital Edition Now Available: Have you visited the Digital Edition of the 2013-2014 issue of the *Far West Skier's Guide* yet? In addition to all the information found in the printed edition, there is also an extra 28 page insert with more feature articles including one on Yellowstone National Park, the end of the ski season resort fun, Exploring the World on Two Wheels, the answers to the Resort Quiz found in the printed issue and much more. The link can be found at , www.skifederation.org, www.fwsa.org, FWSA council websites and many of their club sites. The direct link to the Digital Edition is <http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/farwestskiersguide/2013-14/> .

DEADLY AVALANCHE STRIKES SOCHI OLYMPIC VENUE

Just one day after opening to the public following the Olympic and Paralympic Games in Sochi, an avalanche struck Russia's Rosa Khutor ski resort on Sunday, leaving two dead. Resort officials indicate that six skiers were on the resort's blue-square Labirint run when the avalanche struck. The slide propagated from the resort's black-diamond "Crazy Khutor" run above, which was closed. Two unidentified women were buried, and rescuers were unable to locate the victims before they died. The four others reportedly escaped unharmed.

MT. ASHLAND LOSES ENTIRE SKI SEASON

For 50 years, southern Oregon's Mt. Ashland hasn't missed a single ski season...until now. With less than a foot of snow on the ground and a warm weather forecast, officials at the non-profit community ski area last week formally threw in the towel on the 2013-14 ski season in the Rogue Valley. A U.S. Forest Service snow survey released March 3rd confirmed this is the worst year for snow pack in the Siskiyou Mountains since the survey's inception in 1963. "At some point we had to face the fact that the weather was not going to cooperate," explained Kim Clark, the ski area's general manager. Mt. Ashland officials are offering passholders two options: they may return their 2013-14 season pass and receive a tax deductible donation for the 2014 tax year, or may receive a 50% discount on a season pass for next winter.