



## WHO & WHAT'S NEW FOR 2014

**Women's Ski Jumping Names New Executive Director:** Women's Ski Jumping USA has hired *Melissa Brooke* as the foundation's new Executive Director. Brooke, of Park City, Utah, will support the top-ranked Visa Women's Ski Jumping Team and the new Fly Girls Athlete Development Program as the foundation continues to grow and flourish, thanks to the success and debut of women's ski jumping in the Olympic Winter Games.

**Julia Mancuso Presented FWSA President Award:** *Julia Mancuso*, the most decorated American Olympic female alpine skier, was presented with the Far West President's award at this year's Far West Ski Association Convention in Bend, Oregon. "Super-Jules" – as she is called by her teammates – has an on-snow resume boasting five World Cup wins, four World Championship podium finishes and three Olympic medals, including a gold in the giant slalom at the 2006 games in Turin, Italy. Congratulations, Julia.

**USSA Athletes Win Three ESPY Awards:** The U.S. Ski and Snowboard Association Snowboard Slopestyle medalists *Jamie Anderson* and *Sage Kotsenburg*, have won three 2014 ESPY Awards. Jamie was named Best Female Action Sports Athlete and Best Female U.S. Olympian. Sage was chosen as Best Male U.S. Olympian. USSA was the most represented sports organization at the Awards, with nine Olympic athletes nominated in five categories. Other nominees included Sochi Olympians: *Mikaela Shiffrin*, *David Wise*, *Maddie Bowman*, *Kelly Clark*, *Kaitlyn Farrington*, *Joss Christensen* and *Ted Ligety*. Congratulations to all of these fine athletes for their hard work!

**Snow Country's Best Mountain Resort Bike Parks:** Throughout the summer, many ski areas turn their resorts, hills and chair lifts into bike parks, offering up miles of downhill riding for all levels of mountain bikers. These bike parks create long, steep, bumpy rides found on the typical trail in most mountain biking parks. Riders can scream straight downhill, like an alpine racer, while negotiating twists and turns, rocks and stumps on the way. For the more mellow bikers, parks cut long, slow-swinging novice runs, similar to the green runs of the winter. Some of the parks recommended by Snow Country include: *Angel Fire*, *Crested Butte*, *Winter Park*, *Whistler*, *Northstar*, *Deer Valley* and *Sunday River*.

## FAR WEST BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Far West Summer Meeting:** The Far West Ski Association's Board of Directors met July 18-20, in Reno, Nevada to welcome new Board members, discuss what is happening with our many clubs and councils, plan trips for the next two years, and set goals for the coming year. Now that the 2014 convention is done and over with, we can move forward in the planning of next year's event, which will be held in San Diego, California at the *Town and County Resort & Convention Center*. The San Diego Council of Ski Clubs will be our hosts. Watch for further information on the Far West website and in future issues of the NewsFlash.

## FAR WEST SKI FOUNDATION

**Far West Ski Foundation Goals for 2015:** The Far West Ski Foundation has some challenges ahead of them for 2015. One of their goals is to at least match the \$13,000 awarded to our Junior Athletes in 2014 through the Athletic Scholarship Program. They hope to provide further grants for the rehabilitation of wounded servicemen and women, through snowsports and adaptive skiing, and they look to donate funds to the *US Women's Ski Jumping Team*.

The WSJ team will be in a rebuild phase through the 2018 Olympics. The Foundation will be looking to support them where they can. FWSF has a jumping suit that was awarded to them last year, and they hope to auction that off through various means this Fall, with the proceeds going to USWSJ.

Other goals include building a new and innovative web and seeking a better social media presence. Lastly, plans are being made to celebrate Far West Ski Association's 85th birthday and the 50th Anniversary of the Ski Foundation in the coming year.

## FAR WEST TRAVEL

**Far West Dive Trip:** The FWSA 5<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:fwsa13randy@telis.org).

**Far West Ski Week 2015:** Reservations are being taken now 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 are ready to take your deposits for this incredible once-a-year trip. See all of the information on our website ([www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org)) or check with your own council trip leader to get all the scoop.

**Far West Mini Ski Week 2015:** This trip to *Whitefish Mountain Resort*, March 30—Apr. 4, 2015, includes 3-4 days of skiing, lodging at Grouse Mountain Lodge; Welcome and Farewell Parties; and optional activities such as snowmobile tours, day spa, Glacier Park tours, dogsled adventures, sleigh rides, and more.

**Far West Adventure Trip 2015:** June 19—23, 2015 with two days June 23—24, 2015 in *New Orleans*. This trip will be a 3-night roundtrip paddleboat cruise aboard the *American Queen* from New Orleans. It will be a "Southern Culture Cruise" with stops at Oak Alley Plantation and Baton Rouge, LA. Trip includes all meals, wine/beer with dinner; soda, water, and coffee; 1 night at a local hotel before the cruise. It includes transfers to ship; steamboat style entertainment; daily lectures; and Welcome Party. June 23—24th will be at the New Orleans Hotel Bienville House. New Orleans tour options include airboat/swamp tours and ghost/paranormal tours.

## FAR WEST COUNCIL NEWS

**BAC has exciting events taking place:** On Saturday, August 23, 2014 the Bay Area Snowsports Council will hold their 9th Annual Tailgate BBQ/Oakland A's Baseball Game & Fireworks Show. **This event benefits Disabled Sports USA, Far West Division, located at Alpine Meadows.** This event will be supported by *Vail Resorts*, as they have supported it in previous years. We are projecting between 150 and 175 people to be attending the event.

Thursday November 6, 2014 the BAC will have their first *Hockey Night with the San Jose Sharks!* This event, scheduled between the *SnowBomb Ski/Board Festivals* in San Francisco, and the one in San Jose, is timed so that industry partners, in town for the SnowBomb events, can join council members at the game. **This event will benefit the Far West Ski Foundation** and help to support a local Junior Racer. Projected attendance for this event is between 35 and 50 people.

The 6th Annual BAC WinterFest Celebration Meeting set for Monday November 3, 2014, will feature a Travel Carousel / Silent Auction / Raffle, followed by dinner and prizes. Ski Industry Partners are invited to share in the fun. Lastly, a number of BAC Member Clubs will be attending the FWSA Ski Week in Whistler/Blackcomb, the FWSA Mini Ski Week in Whitefish, the FWSA International Trips and other great experiences.