



## WHO & WHAT'S NEW FOR 2014-2015

**Deer Valley Purchases Solitude Mountain Resort:** *Deer Valley* has entered into an **Hope on the Slopes**: *HOTS heroes* is being introduced for **Hope On The Slopes 2015**, in order to help raise awareness on the mountain. Whether you're an individual or a team participating, please bring out your best costume this year. Dress up like Superman or Wonder Woman and fly down the hill to show that you are a hero or a survivor and want to beat Cancer! Whatever your reason may be for participating at HOTS, lets get **dressed up, go out and show your support** for beating this disease! We have 10 resorts hosting HOTS in 2015 including: *Brundage Mountain, ID; Greek Peak, NY; Breckenridge, CO; Mountain High, CA; Mt. Spokane, Stevens Pass, Crystal Mountain, and White Pass, WA; Ski Bowl, OR; and Eaglecrest, AK.*

**U.S. Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame:** The U.S. Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame announced ten athletes and sport builders as inductees elected to the Hall of Fame who will make up the Class of 2014. Among the inductees are Olympic champion snowboarder *Ross Powers*, World Alpine Championship medalist *Erik Schlopy*, noted big mountain skier *Chris Davenport*, ski instruction pioneer *Curt Chase*, and goggle innovator *Bob Smith*. Others include resort designer *Joe Cushing*, World Cup race winner *Kristina Koznik*, alpine development leader *John McMurtry*, women's innovator *Jeannie Thoren* and *Ralph Miller*, one of the great American ski racers from the 1950's. Their induction will take place in **Steamboat Springs, CO** on April 11, 2015.

**U.S. Ski Team Names 2014-2015 Roster:** **Copper Mountain**, home of the U.S. Ski Team Speed Center was the place to be on November 8th. Olympic gold medalists *Ted Ligety*, *Lindsey Vonn*, and *Mikaela Shiffrin*, were on hand as 42 athletes were named during a public celebration at Copper's Center Village. The event was to kick off the start of the 2015 Audi FIS Alpine World Cup and Vail/Beaver Creek 2015 World Championships winter. Thirty five athletes were named to the 2015 A, B and C Teams, with another seven to the Development team. The men's A-Team includes: *David Chodounksy*, Crested Butte, CO; *Travis Ganong*, Squaw Valley, CA; *Jared Goldberg*, Holladay, UT; *Tim Jitloff*, Reno, NV; *Ted Ligety*, Park City, UT; *Bode Miller*, Franconia, NH; and *Andrew Weibrecht*, Lake Placid, NY. The Women's A-Team includes: *Stacey Cook*, Mammoth, CA; *Julia Mancuso*, Squaw Valley, CA; *Alice McKennis*, Glenwood Springs, CO; *Mikaela Shiffrin*, Eagle, CO; *Leanne Smith*, North Conway, NH; and *Lindsey Vonn*, Vail, CO.

## FAR WEST SSKI FOUNDATIONS

**Far West Ski Foundation Supports Women's Ski Jumping USA:** Women's Ski Jumping USA is a nonprofit group, with more than 60 percent of their annual budget provided by individual donation, fundraising, and grant support. WSJ-USA has a goal to raise \$60,000 by 2016 for the Fly Girls Athlete Development Program and Camp. It takes a village of motivated and caring people and coaches to create a movement and raise an Olympian. Hundreds helped women's ski jumping get into the Olympic Games and are now pushing that momentum forward to bring

up the next generation of Fly Girls. If you are interested in donating to WSJ-USA, please do so today by sending your contributions to the Far West Ski Foundation, which will in turn send your donation on. Contributions may be made online at: [www.farwestskifoundation.org](http://www.farwestskifoundation.org) or by mail to: FWSF, Box 861, Fallbrook, CA 92088.

## FAR WEST ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIPS

**Far West Athletic Scholarship Recipients Announced:** The Far West Ski Association Athletic Scholarship Committee would like to announce the scholarship recipients for the 2014-2015 season. 14 individuals were awarded scholarships this year to assist them in their racing endeavors. They are: *Lila Lapanja* (Diamond Peak), *Elyse Burandt* (Schweitzer), *Alexandria Oseland* (Crystal Mountain), *Molly Leavens* (Park City), *Nathan Gunesch* (Mt. Hood), *Korbyn Edmondson* (Schweitzer), *Haley Louis* (Sugar Bowl), *JP Fourie* (Sugar Bowl), *Ashley Lodmell* (Mt. Bachelor), *Amelia Henry* (Alpental Snoqualmie), *Kayleigh MacGregor* (Mammoth Mountain), *Erin Maidman* (Mammoth Mountain), *Devan LaMere* (Jackson Hole), and *Jimmy Wehsener* (Mammoth Mountain).

FWSA wishes these individuals the best for a successful season. In addition, FWSA would like to thank all of the sponsors, partners, and individuals who contributed to make this possible.

## FAR WEST TRAVEL

**Far West Ski Week 2015:** We're getting closer to our annual North American Ski Week, which will be held in **Whistler Blackcomb**, in 2015. The dates for the trip are January 31 - February 7, 2015. A fun week of activities is being planned by our travel staff, along with Ski.Com and all the folks at *Whistler*. There will be plenty of skiing, a Welcome Party on Sunday, February 1st, a Pub Crawl, a picnic on the mountain, a Mountain Rally, and the Awards Apres Party on Friday, February 6th. The council trip leaders are taking payments now 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 the entire scoop.

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

**Far West International Trip 2015: Val d'Isere** will be the destination of the 2015 International Ski Trip with a pre-trip to Paris, March 10-14, the main trip March 14-21, and a post-trip to Provence and the French Riviera March 21-28, 2015. There are actually 5 options for this trip: a) Paris & Val d'Isere; b) Val d'Isere Ski Week; c) Paris, Val d'Isere and Provence/French Riviera; d) Val d'Isere and Provence/French Riviera. Paris will NOT be sold alone, but you can do a Stand Alone trip to Provence and the French Riviera. (FWSA can assist you with transportation on a case by case basis). Contact Debbie Stewart for part or all of this incredible trip: [fwsainttravel@prodigy.net](mailto:fwsainttravel@prodigy.net).

The Pre trip to Paris, will be March 10-14th with lodging at the Mercure Eiffel Hotel, featuring a daily buffet breakfast. Enjoy a half-day tour of Paris by motor coach with English speaking guide. You'll have an optional tour to le Palaise de Versailles and Normandy.

The week-long trip to Val d'Isere will be March 14-21st, staying at the Hotel L'Aigle Des Neiges or the Hotel Kandahar. Your stay includes 5-6 days skiing (lift tickets will be pre-sold as dates

draw nearer), a Welcome Party, an Apres Ski Party, a Farewell party, ground transportation, and luggage transfers.

Finally, the Post trip or stand-alone trip to Provence and the French Riviera on March 21st-28th, will have you staying at the Grand Hotel Roi Pene for 3 nights. Daily breakfast is included. Enjoy a 2-hour walking tour of Provence with an English-speaking guide. You can take in a full day to Luberon, Lourmain, and Provence while enjoying wine tasting along the way. After all this, transfer from Aix to Nice and take the sight-seeing tour upon arrival. You'll be staying at the Westminster Hotel, and partake in day trips to Cannes and Grasse, as well as Monaco for 4 days.

**Far West Mississippi River Trip:** June 19 - 23, 2015 with an additional 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, soft drinks, water, and coffee. Also included is 1 night at a local hotel before the cruise. It includes transfers to the ship, steamboat-style entertainment, daily lectures, and a 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. See the Far West website for further information.

**Far West Ski Week 2016: Telluride Ski Resort** has been selected as the location for the Far West Ski Week trip in 2016. Dates for this trip will be January 30 to February 6, 2016. The council trip leaders will be planning a site inspection to Telluride in January of 2015 to check on lodging, party locations and race course possibilities.

**Far West Mini Ski Week 2016: Crested Butte Mountain Resort** will be the destination for the Far West Mini Ski Week trip in the early spring of 2016. Stay tuned for further information.

## FAR WEST CONVENTION NEWS

**Save the Date:** *The San Diego Council of Ski Clubs* is delighted to host the 83<sup>rd</sup> Annual Far West Ski Association Convention at the luxurious **Town and Country Resort & Convention Center, San Diego, California** from June 4-7, 2015. Make plans to arrive early and stay late to take advantage of all that San Diego has to offer.

Optional events on Thursday will feature a Historic Trolley Tour of San Diego, the Seal Tour on San Diego Bay and a very special evening Sunset Dine Out on the USS Midway. Friday events include a golf tournament, kayaking, biking, and a trip to the San Diego Zoo.

Make your room reservations now!! Call 1-800-772-8527 or book online at our FWSA room reservation site at <http://bit.ly/FWSA-lodging>. When calling for a room reservation, be sure to reference our group name - Far West Ski Association. Our special group rate offers a choice of accommodations in one of the high-rise towers, or a charming garden bungalow. Free Wi-Fi in guest rooms is included.

For complete details about all the *Salute to San Diego* - Convention meetings, educational seminars and events, visit [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org). The website for the Town and Country Resort & Convention Center is located at [www.towncountry.com](http://www.towncountry.com). For additional information, contact Eileen Sanford, Host Council Convention Coordinator at [eileensanford12@gmail.com](mailto:eileensanford12@gmail.com). FWSA industry partners can contact Debbi Kor, FWSA VP of Marketing and Sponsorships at [fwsadebbi@comcast.net](mailto:fwsadebbi@comcast.net).

## FAR WEST CHARITIES

**Charities and Community Service Recognition Program:** FWSA encourages all clubs and councils to get involved with charities and community service. Change were implemented for the 2014/15 Charity Recognition Program by creating two different levels of applications for Clubs: There will be the Novice and the Masters award. Any Club that has won first place in this wonderful Recognition Program in a past year will apply in the Masters category. All other Clubs will be in the Novice category.

The 2 separate levels will hopefully give all groups an added incentive to apply, and then to apply again. The first prize in each Club category will be \$200 and for second place \$50. The Council award remains the same, with one category and with a \$100 recognition for first place. All prizes will be donated to the charity of the Clubs and Council's choice. The top 4 Clubs in each category and the winning Council will be invited to display a picture board at Convention. All groups that apply will be recognized at Convention.

Information and applications can be obtained on the Far West website: [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org) regarding this wonderful program, and how easy it is to apply for this recognition. For any Charity & Community Service questions, contact Sigrid Noack at [sig4ski@earthlink.net](mailto:sig4ski@earthlink.net).

## FAR WEST COUNCIL NEWS

**Bay Area Ski Club Council:** Monday November 3, 2014, The 6th Annual Bay Area Snow Sports Council (BAC) *WinterFest* Celebration Meeting. This is set up as a Travel Carousel / Silent Auction & Raffle. All ready signed up to join us for the event are Whistler/Blackcomb, Whitefish, Telluride, Mammoth Mountain & Tourism, Big White, Sun Peaks, Homewood, Squaw/Alpine, Sugar Bowl, VAIL Resorts & Sierra at Tahoe.

Thursday November 6, 2014, *BAC Hockey Night with the San Jose Sharks*. The BAC has over seventy (70) people attending this event. Included in our group are Patrick Rothe (Telluride Ski Resort) Katie Balkwill (Big White Ski Resort) and Colin Brost (Sun Peaks Ski Resort). This is also a Fund Raiser to support a Local Junior Ranked Racer through the Far West Foundation.

**Los Angeles Council's Snow Gala:** Los Angeles Council has set Saturday, November 1st as the date for their annual *Snow Gala*. It will be held at the Woodland Hills Hilton Hotel. A live band, dancing, awards and raffle prizes galore will be on the evening's agenda, along with a live auction, benefitting the Council and The Unrecables Ski Club. The live auction will feature a chance to bid on a California Gold Pass, valued at \$2,000 and good at more than 25 ski areas throughout California and the Lake Tahoe Area. Bids can be made by phone, so if you're interested, call Sandra Knapp at: 323-256-2775 or 323-793-7946 by October 31st.

## FAR WEST MEMBER BENEFITS

**Benefits Partners Added for 2015:** Each year we add to our ever-growing list of Benefits Partners for our club and council members to take advantage of. As you plan your trips for the coming season, check out the Benefits page on our website to plan where you may want to stay. We have a long list of lodging partners, as well as ski rental companies who work with Far West to provide great deals for you all. Check it out at: [www.fwsa.org/member](http://www.fwsa.org/member) corner.

## SKI NATION MOBILE APP NOW AVAILABLE

Olympic Gold Medalist and World Champion, *Billy Demong* and former U.S. Ski Team member *Jack Turner*, announced the official launch of their **Ski Nation Mobile Application**, available now on iOS (iPhone). Android version launches Friday, November 21, 2014. The Ski Nation Mobile App features updated snow conditions, trail reports, trail maps, photos, and resort information for more than 950 ski areas in North America, a list that's expected to grow as more off-the-radar areas are found. All ski venues are pre-loaded including downhill alpine areas, cross-country, and even ski jumps. The list includes major resorts, regional areas, local ski hills, and community facilities. Skiers and snowboarders can also collect free digital pins to track a lifetime of all the places they've been, how many seasons on snow, gear preferences, skill, and more.

"Ski Nation is for all skiers regardless of age, experience, skill, or their home mountain," says Billy Demong. "This is the first app that includes alpine, cross country, and ski jumping." "It's the modern version of old-school ski pin collecting," says Jack Turner. "Ski areas large and small have submitted unique designs that users can keep in an online pin collection. They're in one place, won't get lost, and digital ski pins don't rust." The first version of Ski Nation is a starting platform to build an open, independent, and comprehensive network for skiers and industry members to connect. or skiers, it's free and their personal information is secure. "This is a humble start to a never-ending work in progress," says Turner. "We're a grassroots, bootstrap operation and success is only possible with the support and participation of skiers, snowboarders, and industry members across the continent. After that we'll go global."