



WHO & WHAT'S NEW FOR 2015-2016

SIA Names New President: *Nick Sargent*, former vice president of global business alliance at Burton Snowboards, has been named the new President of *Snowsports Industries America*. Sargent will begin in a transitional role on August 24, before succeeding David Ingemie as president following the 2106 Snow Show in Denver.

Town of Vail to Ban Marijuana: *Vail's* temporary ban on retail marijuana could become permanent very soon. Although legalized in the state of Colorado, towns and counties are allowed to impose their own bans. In the Vail Valley, retail operations were allowed in Eagle County and the town of Eagle, but the Vail Town Council has never permitted recreational sales. The Vail town council passed an extension of a 2014 moratorium banning pot shops, and will now consider a permanent ban.

Telluride Ski Resort Buys the Peaks Resort & Spa: *Telluride Golf & Ski* has announced that it will take over the ski-in/ski-out *Peaks Resort and Spa*. The Peaks features 177 rooms and is known for their 42,000 square foot spa, indoor and outdoor pools and plenty of meeting space. The purchase will fulfill the demand for Telluride to book larger events, using the Peaks conference facilities. This comes at a great time with Far West running their annual Ski Week to Telluride in January, 2016.

Future of Whitefish Mountain's Jesus Statue: This iconic 6-foot statue of Jesus, at *Whitefish Mountain Resort*, may be heading to a new home. An atheists group has asked that it be removed from the U.S. Forest Service property. The statue, erected in 1954 by The Knights of Columbus, was to memorialize soldiers who died while fighting during the Second World War.

Fenway Park to Host a Snowboarding Competition: One of the country's most popular and widely known baseball stadium, may be getting a radical makeover this winter. *Fenway Sports Management* and the *U.S. Ski & Snowboard Association* are working on putting together a competition, complete with a 100-foot ramp. "Our intentions are to stage the biggest and best big-air competition in the history of the sport at Fenway Park", said Michael Jaquet, US Ski & Snowboard Executive. We'll wait and see what happens next winter.

Purgatory is Purgatory Once Again: The southern Colorado ski area of *Purgatory*, which has been know as "*Durango Mountain Resort*" for the past decade, has a new owner. Local businessman, James Coleman, is the resort's new owner, and he is changing the ski areas' title back to it's original name of *Purgatory*. The resort will be celebrating their 50th season in 2016.

FAR WEST SKI FOUNDATION

Far West Ski Foundation Website: *The Far West Ski Foundation* has a new, BIG, beautiful, entertaining and educational website. Designed by Crissy Marie King, the site is designed to show details of the four principal missions of the Foundation, and provides a way to make tax deductible contributions

to support these missions. Each program – alpine racing, adaptive skiing, women's ski jumping and legacy preservation- has at least one gallery of images on the site. FWSA Scholarship winners and the national jumping team members will be updated annually. Scholarship sponsors and partners are recognized here. Legacy preservation features the *Mt. Hood Museum and Cultural Center* and the latest news on the *Squaw Valley Olympic Museum and Winter Sports Heritage Center* may be found here. Check it out.

FAR WEST TRAVEL

Far West Dive Trip: September 26-October 3, 2015 are the dates set for the annual Far West Dive Trip. 2015, and..... **There are still spots open!** We'll be staying at the **Plaza Beach Resort, Bonaire**. The Diver package price is \$1,115, with the non-diver price is priced at \$836. This includes 7 nights lodging in a Junior Suite (dbl occ), all meals and drinks (alcohol included), use of paddle boards, kayaks, and catamarans, 6 days of 2-tank boat dives and unlimited shore diving. Airport transfers are also included. Join us for this extraordinary trip. You'll have time to explore and experience the local culture, or simply relax and enjoy the resort. Contact Randy Lew, your Trip Leader at: fwsa13randy@telis.org.

Far West Annual Ski Week 2016: January 30th-February 6, 2016 are the dates set for next year's Ski Week to **Telluride Ski Resort**. Ski Week staff and the folks at Telluride have some exciting events planned for everyone, including a Mountain Picnic, 5-6 day lift tickets, lots of racing, and something new... "Cruise the Blues". Join us to get in on all the fun. Check with your council's Trip Leader to make your reservations for this fantastic week. More details to come.

Far West Mini Ski Week 2016: This trip to **Crested Butte Mountain Resort**, March. 21—26, 2016, includes 5 nights lodging at the **Grand Lodge**, 3-4 day lift tickets, a Welcome Party and Farewell Party. Plenty of optional activities are available as well, including Snowmobiling, Snowbiking, Zipline Tours, a Sleigh Ride Dinner and much more. Contact Gloria Raminha for more information: garski2011@gmail.com. Payment may be made by credit card.

Far West International Trip 2016: 2016 Int'l Ski Week trip to **Cortina d'Ampezzo** and extension trip to **Florence and Rome, Italy**. The optional extension trip will be to the **Tuscany** region – 3 nights in Florence with day tours to Sienna & San Gimignano and 4 nights in Rome. If one chooses to not go to Cortina, we will fly you from the US to join us for the extension trip – we call this the "Stand Alone" trip. Contact Debbie Stewart for more information: FWSAintltrvl@prodigy.net.

Far West Annual Ski Week 2017: Ski Week 2017 has been set, and will be in beautiful **Breckenridge, Colorado**, January 28-February 4th, 2017. The town of Breckenridge has a colorful history full of gold mining, saloons, booms, and busts. There is much to do to keep skiers and non-skiers busy for the week. There are historical tours, shopping, spas, pubs, and plenty of restaurants.... Gold Runner Alpine Coaster and Starlight Mountain Top Dinners included. We have lots of slope-side lodging with many close to town. Council trip leaders will begin promoting this trip in Spring, 2016.

Far West Mini Ski Week 2017: **Nancy Greene's Cahilty Lodge at Sun Peaks Resort** is our destination for the 2017 Mini Ski Week. Sun Peaks Resort is located in Southern British Columbia, 40 minutes from Kamloops, and serviced by airports in Kamloops, Kelowna and Vancouver, British Columbia. Cahilty Lodge is located in the heart of the village, just steps from the ski hill. Watch for more information on this fun trip on the FWSA website.

FAR WEST COUNCILS

Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs: New President, Kathleen Byrnes has announced a catered lunch and Leadership Training on Saturday, August 22nd, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Contact Kathleen at: lacpresident@lacouncil.org. Beach City Ski Club, has their annual Clambake planned for September 24th-27th at Live Oak Campground, just 15 miles NE of Santa Rosa. Sign-ups are due by September 15th. For more information, contact Bruce at: clambake@bcskiclub.org.

IN REMEMBRANCE

Founder of Snowbird Passes: *Dick Bass*, partner and chairman of **Snowbird Ski and Summer Resort**, passed away on Sunday, July 26 at the age of 85, in Dallas, Texas. Bass spent 44 years building Snowbird into a world-renowned, year-round destination mountain resort. He maintained sole ownership of the resort until selling the majority interest in Snowbird in May 2014. Dick received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Ski Areas Association in 2006.

Red River Ski Instructor Passes: *Wally Dobbs*, **Red River Ski Area** instructor, guide, and head of their Ski School for many years, passed away in July. Wally lived in the Red River area for more than 50 years, doing what he loved best. He was inducted into the New Mexico Ski Hall of Fame in 2012, and could often be seen driving his Willys Woody throughout his many travels as a representative of the New Mexico Ski Industry. Wally enjoyed many things in life and would tell people who he came in contact with "Life's been great!".