



WHO & WHAT'S NEW FOR 2016

Paralympian named to Board of LA 2024: Congratulations *Candace Cable*, a nine-time paralympian and leader of the adaptive sport movement. Candace was recently named the Vice Chair of the Board of LA 2024. She is a Far West Ski Association **Jimmie Heuga Award** recipient and was the Keynote Speaker at our 2013 convention in Reno. She is the first American woman to win medals in both the Summer and Winter Paralympic Games (12 medals, including 8 gold). Her amazing career also includes 84 first-place finishes in marathons around the world. Candace stated that she looks forward to connecting the bid for the Los Angeles 2024 Summer Olympics with her broad perspective on diversity and inclusion of, not just disability, but gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, race and socioeconomic status, so the inherent design and universal values the sport embodies, will ensure that the LA Games in 2024 would be the perfect experience for all athletes.

For Rent: One New York Ski Area: Want to show all of your friends and family a super fun time? For only \$2,500 Per Day, and up to 250 people, you can rent **Plattekill Mountain**, located about three hours from New York City in the Catskills. It may not be as big as other northeastern ski areas (there's only 4 chairlifts), but what the ski area lacks in size it makes up for in authenticity. Independent and family-owned, Plattekill aims to "keep it real" by allowing skiers and snowboarders to rent the entire mountain. According to Plattekill's website, that price also includes use of the ski area's facilities including the rental shop, food options in the cafeteria, drinks served up at the bar and a lineup of instructors to teach you.

FAR WEST CONVENTION

Far West Annual Convention THREE Months And Counting: HEY, EVERYONE! Arizona Ski Council has been working these past few months to plan some very fun events to keep us all busy at the Far West Ski Association's 84th Annual Convention, June 9-12, 2016, in Scottsdale, Arizona, at the beautiful *DoubleTree Resort by Hilton Paradise Valley-Scottsdale*. Rooms are still available, so make that call or go on-line to get your reservation made **NOW!** Just call **1-800-498-7396**, reference our group name - **Far West Ski Association**, and you're in. You can also book on-line at the FWSA room reservation site <http://bit.ly/FWSA-2016-Lodging>. The Group Code is **FWS**. Room rates are just \$99 per night. Visit www.fwsa.org and select Conventions. Your friends from *Arizona Ski Council* have planned lots of fun activities for us, including a *Segway Tour of Old Town Scottsdale* and a *Journey to the West*, on Thursday, before we all head out for the annual *Pub Crawl*, which will be held in Scottsdale's Entertainment District. Friday brings the *10th Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament*, a *Spa Day*, a *Musical Experience of the World*, followed by a wet and wild *Pool Party* prior to the *Silent Auction*. Come early, and stay late to take in all that's available in this beautiful city.

FAR WEST RECOGNITION AWARDS

CHARITIES AND COMMUNITY SERVICE: DEADLINE: *March 20, 2016*

The intent of The Charities and Community Service Recognition program is to encourage charity and community service involvement in all of our FWSA councils and clubs, and to recognize those groups for

their outstanding financial and/or volunteer support to one or more charitable organizations. The program has been recognizing clubs for their charitable work at each convention for the past 8 years.

There are 2 classes for clubs: *The Double Diamond Class* – for clubs who have won this recognition in a prior year, and the *Diamond Class*, for all other participants. The top 3 clubs will be invited to display a picture board at Convention. From these three, the winning club will receive \$300, and the two runner-up clubs will received \$100 each, to be donated to the charity of their choice. In addition, \$100 will be awarded to the top ski club council, which will also display a picture board of their charitable activities. All groups applying will be recognized at Convention. FWSA also has the “Honor Roll of Clubs and Councils Supporting Charities” program, listing all groups who are involved with any kind of Charity & Community programs. For more information regarding this wonderful programs, and how easy it is to apply for this recognition, check the Far West website (www.fwsa.org).

CONTACT: Sigird Noack, FWSA Charities & Our Community Chair; sig4ski@earthlink.

SAFETY PERSON OF THE YEAR AWARD: DEADLINE: *March 20, 2016*

RECOGNITION: *Telluride Ski Resort and Mountain Lodge, Telluride* have donated a 5-night ski package for two with lodging, 4-day lift tickets, and 4-day rentals.

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>

CONTACT: Richard Lubin DC, FWSA Safety Chair, 925-828-7454, botaboardr@comcast.net; and Mike Sanford, VP of Public Affairs, 858-761-6191, bubasanfrd@aol.com

WESTERN SKI HERITAGE AWARD: DEADLINE: *March 20, 2016*

RECOGNITION: Since 2000, *Steamboat Ski & Resort Corporation* 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.

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>

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

ENVIRONMENT AWARD: DEADLINE: *March 20, 2016*

RECOGNITION: Sponsors, *Aspen Skiing Company* and *Snowmass Tourism*, *The Gant* and *Crestwood Condominiums* have donated a 5-night ski package for two with lodging, lift tickets, rentals, and a full-day group lesson.

DESCRIPTION: The Environment Award is designed to encourage good stewardship of our environment. We want to inspire and reward creative efforts to conserve and protect our environment. This award should recognize a special action that the applicant took, or something he or she put in place that made a difference. Some areas to consider are: Volunteering at the community level, particularly in a leadership role; conducting or arranging for an environmental event (s) for the club, council, or public; writing a series of columns regarding environmental conservation, education or protection in your ski club or ski club council newsletter; or being pro-active in environmental protection.

CONTACT: Mike Sanford, VP of Public Affairs, 858-761-6191, bubasanfrd@aol.com

FAR WEST HISTORICAL RECOGNITION PROGRAM: DEADLINE: *March 20, 2016*

RECOGNITION: Certificate suitable for framing.

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>

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

FAR WEST ELECTIONS

Election of FWSA Officers: Election of officers will occur at the FWSA Annual Meeting and Convention

June 9-12, 2016 at the Double Tree Resort by Hilton, Paradise Valley – Scottsdale AZ. Delegates will elect their President, Secretary, and Treasurer to 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 Communications
- VP International Travel – *Debbie Stewart* (incumbant)
- VP Marketing – *Debbi Kor* (incumbant)
- VP Membership

If you are interested in running for any of above positions, please contact Sylvia Kearns, Nominating Committee Chairman, at Sylviakearns@outlook.com.

FAR WEST TRAVEL

Far West Adventure Trip 2016: The 2016 Far West Adventure Trip will be to ***England and Ireland*** September 12-22, 2016, with an extended bike tour in *Ireland* from September 22-26. If you haven't put this on your calendar yet, now is the time to do that. Your trip leaders, Debbie and George Stewart have a phenomenal trip planned for you. The trip includes nightly accommodations and most meals. Tour London, see the Roman Spas, ferry to Rosslare, Ireland from the Welsh town of Fishguard. Visit the Waterford Crystal Factory. Climb Blarney Castle to kiss the Blarney Stone. See the Ring of Kerry, the Guinness Storehouse and try a pint. Tour Dublin and much, more. For further information, contact

Debbie at: FWSaintltrl@prodigy.net. You can view a short video by clicking on:
<https://www.dropbox.com/l/s/udeOiKPIUpM5Ng2K5DiyIt>

Far West Dive Trip 2016: Get ready for the trip of your life! Far West is going to **Fiji** September 24-October 1, 2016. We will be at the amazing Beqa Lagoon Resort, and/or October 1-October 8 at a second resort (yet to be secured). Register for either week of stay for both weeks. The land & dive package for Beqa Lagoon Resort is \$1916 (dbl occ), and roundtrip air from Los Angeles into Nadi, Fiji is \$1,578 per person. Cyclone Winston resulted in insignificant damage to Beqa Lagoon, with only minor landscape damage, which has already been cleaned up and they are operating at 100% capacity again. For other information, contact Randy Lew, your Dive Trip Leader at: fwsa13randy@telis.org.

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 to keep you active. 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*, boasting to being the second largest ski resort in Canada, is our destination for the 2017 Mini Ski Week, March 21-26, 2017. We will have an incredible trip with 133 runs to choose from, spread out over 3 mountains, a ski-in, ski-out village, and virtually no lift lines. We will have more information about this trip in the near future, so stay tuned.