



WHO & WHAT'S NEW FOR 2016

Copper Mountain Resort is Open: Winter has officially arrived at *Copper Mountain* Skiers and snowboarders are celebrating today, with fresh new snow and the opening of the American Eagle chairlift. Other terrain is open as well including the Excelerator lift. On Saturday, November 19th, Olympic Gold Medalist, Ted Ligety and other members of the U.S. Ski Team will set the pace for NASTAR courses around the country at Coppers' Pacesetting Event.

Newell Brands Makes New Announcement: In the October Issue of the NewsFlash, I wrote that Newell had announced the company's intention to sell or abandon its entire collection of winter sports brands by January 1, 2017, including *K2, Völkl, Marker, Full-Tilt, Marmot, Line Skis and Ride Snowboards*. **LATEST WORD** now, is that the company *will* continue, even if the company cannot successfully divest itself of those brands in 2017. So, don't give up on your favorite brand.

Dynafit Ski Boots Recalled: Three models of Dynafit Alpine Khion touring ski boots have been recalled in the U.S. and Canada as incidents have occurred where the boots have inadvertently switched from "ski" to "walk" mod. Additionally, the boots' upper cuffs can separate, and in one model, the boot shell can crack, posing a fall hazard and risk of injury to the skier. These are men's, women's and carbon boots sold since October, 2015.

Tamarack Homeowners Save Ski Resort: The Tamarack Municipal Association, the owners' association of Tamarack Resort, will operate the Idaho ski area after acquiring the resort's assets and averting a tax auction that had been scheduled. The plan to begin making snow in late November, and hope to open on December 9th.

Powder Mountain Adds Acres, Lifts, Villages: Opening this season with 1,000 more skiable acres and two new lifts, *Powder Mountain* is once again the largest ski and snowboard area in the country. The lifts will open up terrain that was "guide-only" and provide access to a pair of planned mountain villages with up to 500 home sites. Powder now surpasses Park City Mountain in size...covering 7,957 acres.

Mt. Bachelor Adds New Chairlift: Mt. Bachelor's new "*Cloudchaser*" high-speed detachable quad lift will expand the resort's terrain to a total of 4,318 skiable acres, making it the fifth largest ski area in the U.S. Skiers and Boarder can now descend Mt. Bachelor's southeast face beyond the Sunrise Getback through the Low East sector all the way to the East Catchline, without having to hike uphill to return to a lift.

Proposed Law Could Let You Pay for Lift Tickets with Pre-Tax Dollars: Legislation currently pending in both houses of the U.S. Congress could soon let you pay for lift tickets, season passes, ski equipment, and more with pre-tax dollars. The *Personal Health Investment Today Act* (Senate Bill 2218), would allow a medical care tax deduction for up to \$1,000 (\$2,000 for

joint return or head of household), of qualified sports and fitness expenses defined as “amounts paid exclusively for the sole purpose of participating in a physical activity, including: membership at a fitness facility, participation or instruction in physical exercise or activity, or for equipment used in a program of physical exercise or activity. Stay tuned.

Happy Birthday To Characters In Our Past: I’m sure we all grew up with these characters and made them a part of our childhood. Let us wish a belated happy October birthday to: *Dumbo*, who turned 75, *Tom and Jerry*, who turned 76, *Mickey Mouse* who turned 89, and *Winnie The Pooh*, who turned 90 years old. May they continue to be a part of our past, our childrens’ and our grandchildrens’.

FAR WEST CONVENTION

Far West’s 85th Annual Convention: The 85th Annual Far West Ski Association Convention will be held June 7-11, 2017, in beautiful Boise, Idaho, at the *Grove Hotel and Boise Centre*. The theme is “**BOISE IS...**” and the event will be co-hosted by *Bogus Basin Ski Club & Intermountain Ski Council*. Their Convention Committee has been hard at work planning activities and events to keep everyone busy for the four days we will be there. The resort is located minutes from the airport, in the heart of downtown Boise, so there will be plenty to do, whether you are doing a Far West activity, or just want to take some free time to shop and see the town. For room reservations, call the *Grove Hotel* at **888-961-5000** and refer to our group name: “**Far West Ski Association**”. You can also register on-line at the FWSA room reservation site located at: <http://bit.ly/FWSA2017-lodging>. For addition information, visit the FWSA website (www.fwsa.org). Further information will be posted as it becomes available. Don’t miss this wonderful opportunity to attend our *FIRST-EVER* Convention in Boise. Come early - stay late and enjoy all that Boise and its surrounding area has to offer.

Charities and Community Service Recognition Program: FWSA encourages all clubs and councils to get involved with charities and community service. The *Charities and Community Service Recognition* Program has been recognizing clubs for their charitable work at each convention for the past ten years. A couple of years ago we implemented some changes for the Charity Recognition Program by creating two different levels of application for Clubs. We now have the Diamond and Double Diamond award. Any Club that has won first place in this wonderful Recognition Program in a past year will apply in the Double Diamond category. All other Clubs will be in the Diamond category. The two separate levels will hopefully give all groups an added incentive to apply, and then to apply again. Each Club category will have a first and second place winner. The Council category will recognize a first place winner. FWSA has not yet determined how the winners will be recognized. But certainly it will be special! Please stay tuned.

The top two 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. **Application deadline is in March 26, 2017.** Information and applications can be obtained on the Far West website: 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 skisig@gmail.com.

FAR WEST TRAVEL

Far West Annual Ski Week 2017: January 28th-February 4, 2017 are the dates set for the next FWSA Ski Week to **Breckenridge, Colorado** Ski Week staff and the staff at **Breck** will have some great things planned for everyone, including a Mountain Picnic, 5-6 day lift tickets, racing, and lots of socializing. Join us in Breckenridge to get in on all the fun. Check with your council's Trip Leader to make your reservations for this fantastic week.

Far West Mini Ski Week 2017: The 2017 Far West Ski Association's "**Spring Fling**" Mini Ski Trip will be held at *Sun Peaks Resort / Nancy Greene's Cahilty Hotel and Suites*, British Columbia, Canada, March 21st to 26th. Sun Peaks Resort offers incredible access to cross-country skiing, downhill skiing and snowboarding. Optional activities during your stay may include: dog sledding, snowmobile tours, snow bikes, tubing, ice skating, snowshoeing, spa day. We are pleased that we now have on-line payments through *PayPal* after your initial deposit has been mailed. To sign-up for this trip, please complete the registration and waiver forms and mail your initial deposit to Gloria Raminha. After that, participants may make payments online at www.fwsa.org using PayPal, or can be mailed to Gloria. If the dates don't fit into your schedule, we can arrange for an earlier or later arrival or departure. **Remember, Sun Peaks is in Canada, so you MUST have a passport. Your passport must be valid for at least six months after our trip dates.**

Far West International Trip 2017: **THERE'S STILL ROOM LEFT** on the international ski trip for 2017 to **Austria and Hungary**. Ski week is set for March 12-19 in **St. Anton**, with an extension trip from March 19-26, to **Vienna and Budapest**. The extension trip is also being offered as a "Stand Alone" trip for those interested. Participants will be staying in one hotel for the week in St. Anton - The *Schwarzer Adler Hotel*, and will be getting one lift pass, which allows skiing in 5 areas. You'll experience a Welcome/Orientation, a mid-week day tour, mid-week après party and a Farewell party. We have 24 people signed up for ski week thus far. If you want to add your name to this growing list of participants, contact Debbie Stewart at: FWSAintltrvl@prodigy.net.

FAR WEST SKI FOUNDATION

Far West Ski Foundation Lists Investments for 2016: Thanks to our partners, sponsors and contributors like you, the Foundation has been able to make grants to ski racing schools (the home bases of our Alpine scholar-athletes), women's ski jumping USA and adaptive ski schools (enabling the disabled). The Foundation has been successful since 2009 in making grants to the three of our missions related to training of athletes, mostly junior racers. We will one day soon make a grant in the fourth mission, that of education (mainly museums and research). The *2018 Peongchang Olympics* are coming in February 2018 and the *Squaw Valley Olympic Museum and Western Ski Heritage Center* is certain to begin development in 2018 or 2019. You can still make investments in this year's cycle on any mission or for the best current use of the Foundation. FWSF has a no-fee arrangement with PayPal; your contribution to Far West Ski Foundation will then be transferred to the current accounts in the bank used by FWSF. Or, you may send your investment directly to John Reinhardt, Treasurer FWSF, 6105 SW Sheridan Street, Portland, OR 97225 or you may use our website at www.farwestskifoundation.org.

The *Women's Ski Jumping USA TEAM, 2016-2017* consists of: *Sarah Hendriksen, Nita Englund, Tara Geraghty-Moats, Jessica Jerome, Abby Ringquist, Gabriella Armstrong, Cara Larson, Nina Lussi, Logan Sankey, Kailey Bickner, Anna Hoffman, Sophia Nester, and Samantha Macuga.*

Junior Racers who have been awarded scholarships for the 2016-2017 season include: *Cheyenne Brown*, *AJ Hurt* and *Max Wingard* (Squaw Valley), *Valerie Festavan* (Park City), *Bruno Amon-Franceschi* and *Sheldon French* (Mammoth Mountain Ski Area), *Patricia Kerslake* (Crystal Mountain), *Tyler Larson* and *Kris Westman* (Stevens Pass), *Ashley Lodmell* (Mt. Bachelor), *Teegan Lowe* (Alpental/Snoqualmie), *Dalton Swallow* (McCall), *Hayden Terjeson* (Sun Valley), and Calvin Wilson (Diamond Peak).

Foundation Grants were awarded to: *Disabled Sports Eastern Sierra*, at Mammoth Mountain Ski Area and *Adaptive Sports* at Sun Peaks, in Kamloops, British Columbia

Intermountain Ski Council: Members of *Intermountain Ski Council* are planning a number of trips this coming season, including a trip to Sun Valley January 8-15, 2017. It's a rendezvous-style trip... pick your days come for a few or the full week. If anyone wants to join us, contact Paul Markowitz: pmarkowitz@cableone.net.

FAR WEST SKIER'S GUIDE

Far West Skier's Guide is Out: Check your local ski shop or resort for a copy of the 29th annual *Far West Skier's Guide*. *The 2016-2017* is an awesome publication giving us information about our clubs, councils, trips we're taking and events that will be happening in the coming season. Pick up a copy or check out the Digital Edition at:

<http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/farwestskiersguide/2016-17/>. It has an additional 28-page insert not found in the hard copy.