



WHO & WHAT'S NEW FOR 2017

Sun Peaks - Fastest Growing Town in BC: The Sun Peaks Mountain Resort Municipality, home to Sun Peaks ski resort reported the largest growth of all incorporated municipalities and cities in British Columbia with a 66% population increase. Recent Canada Census information reflects that from May 2011 to May 2016 Canada's population grew at a rate of 5% over this period and British Columbia's growth was 5.6%. The town of Sun Peaks went from a year-round population of 371 in 2011, to 616 people in 2016. While wintertime population grows at the rate of 2,500 visitors per day, once ski season is over, that drops down to a quiet average of under 700.

Mountain Collective Adds Two New Areas: Join the Mountain Collective for the 2017-2018 season, for the opportunity to ski 16 world class destinations, for 32 days, with 50% off any additional days and NO black out days. Sugarbush and Snowbasin are the two newest resorts to join M.C. Check it out at: whatsnew@mountaincollective.com.

SIA Snow Show Wrap Up: The 63rd annual SIA Snow Show (*SnowSports Industries America*) wrapped the 2017 SIA Snow Show on January 31st after a four-day event in Denver, Colorado, followed by the On-Snow Demo at Copper Mountain. Nearly 18,000 retailers, suppliers, representatives and winter sports industry folks came together for the world's largest gathering of winter-specific business. At that show, Nick Sargent, President of SIA, announced that they'd signed a 10-year extension with the City of Denver, and the Denver Convention Center, to bring the SIA show back each year until 2030. Next year's event will be January 25-28, 2018.

Squaw Valley Alpine Meadows First to Say "Skiing Until July 4th": *Andy Wirth* said it, so it must be true. Andy commented on how much snow they've had this year, stating: "we've seen many feet of snow fall and, this is one for the records books. We've received more snow through early March than in any other season since these mountains have been open for skiing—more snow and intense weather than has been seen in over sixty years. The snowfall this season has made for phenomenal skiing, and will have us skiing on July 4th".

FAR WEST CONVENTION

Far West's 85th Annual Convention: The Far West Ski Association invites all snowsports enthusiasts to attend its' 85th Annual Convention, to be conducted at the Boise Centre, June 7-11, 2017. Activities open to the public during the event include a Fountain Party on Friday on the

newly renovated Grove Plaza, the Silent Auction and Trade Show, Saturday Program, and Awards Banquet.

Delegates will convene at the Convention to discuss programs in public affairs, skier safety, ski heritage, athletic scholarships, racing, communications, travel, council development, ski industry and community outreach. The event will be hosted by the Bogus Basin Ski Club and Intermountain Ski Council.

The Fountain Party on Friday afternoon will be a community event. *Bogus Basin Mountain Recreation Area* is celebrating their 75th Anniversary, and have asked us to be a part of their celebration. We will have entertainment, wine and microbrew tasting, and be introduced to some of the local culture, *The Oinkari Basque Dancers*. Our Keynote Speaker, *Charlie Linville*, a Boise native, became the first military amputee to summit Mountain Everest in 2016. He will be available in a "Meet & Greet" on Friday evening during the Silent Auction, and will be our featured speaker at lunch on Saturday.

The Silent Auction & Trade Show gives attendees the opportunity to bid on ski and travel packages. This event is open to the public and there is no cost to attend, so we are hoping for a large turnout.

The rest of the weekend is filled with Education Sessions and Public Affairs sessions on Saturday morning and afternoon, followed by our Awards Banquet on Saturday evening, recognizing outstanding club members and industry partners. Sunday winds up with our Annual Meeting and Elections.

Additional information about all the programs to be conducted at the 85th Annual Far West Ski Association Convention and registration information is available at www.fwsa.org.

FAR WEST AWARDS

FWSA RECOGNITION AWARDS NOMINATIONS DUE MARCH 26: The deadline for submitting nominations for the FWSA Recognition Awards is March 26. These awards are great ways to have your club or council recognized for your good work--and to honor hardworking volunteers. Applications and instructions for all the awards are on the FWSA website. The awards nominations due March 26 are: Safety, Western Ski Heritage, Charity and Community, History, and Environment Award.

CHARITIES AND COMMUNITY SERVICE RECOGNITION PROGRAM: DEADLINE: *March 26, 2017*

FWSA encourages all clubs and councils to get involved with charities and community service. FWSA will award the winning clubs \$200 and the second place with a \$50 donation to the club's favorite charity. The winning council will receive a \$100 check for their favorite charity. The top two Clubs 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. For any Charity & Community Service questions, contact Sigrid Noack at skisig@gmail.com.

SAFETY PERSON OF THE YEAR AWARD: DEADLINE: *March 26, 2017*

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 26, 2017*

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 26, 2017*

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 26, 2017*

COMMUNICATION AWARDS: Club and Council Newsletter and Website and Outstanding Club. The newsletter and website nominations are super simple this year. Just send a link to your newsletter or website to Paul Vlasveld at: pvlaveld@comcast.net. Also, you don't have to name a judge. Please consider entering! There's still time!

FAR WEST ELECTION

Election of FWSA Officers: Election of officers will occur at the FWSA Annual Meeting and Convention June 7-11, 2017. 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 Council Services – *Jo Simpson* (incumbant)

VP North American Travel – *Nancy Ellis* (incumbant)

VP Public Affairs –

FWSA Qualifications for Positions as approved by the Board of Directors

PRESIDENT:

1. Held a voting position on the FWSA Board for a minimum of four (4) years.
2. Attended at least three (3) FWSA conventions within the five (5) years prior to the current convention.
3. Attended at least one (1) North American Ski Week within the five (5) years prior to the current convention.

TREASURER:

1. Understanding of cost center accounting and GAAP (Generally Accepted Accounting Principles)
2. Working knowledge of MS Excel and QuickBooks or the current FWSA accounting software.
3. Held the Treasurer position in a FWSA ski club or council or has demonstrated equivalent job experience as an accountant who has done financial preparation and analysis.

TRUSTEE:

1. Held a voting position on the FWSA Board a minimum of three (3) years.

2. Strong business, financial, and leadership skills.
3. Attended at least three (3) FWSA Conventions within the five (5) years prior to the current convention.

VP OF NORTH AMERICAN TRAVEL AND VP OF INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL:

1. Assisted as a volunteer on at least two (2) FWSA trips to run for office of VP of North American Travel or VP of International Travel with one (1) of the FWSA trips being related to the VP Travel office running for.

If you are interested in running for any of the above positions, please contact Gloria Raminha Nominating Committee Chairman, at: garski2011@gmail.com. Nominations will be accepted up to the day and time of elections.

FAR WEST TRAVEL

Far West International Trip 2018: The 2018 International Trip will be to *Les Trois Vallees*. The dates are set for March 3rd to 11th, 2018 for the main part of the Ski Week. The optional extension, to *Lyon, Beaune, and Paris*, will begin March 11, and end March 18, 2018. Stay tuned for more info.

Far West Dive Trip 2017: Far West is headed to *Roatan, Honduras* for our 2017 Annual Dive Trip. Scheduled for September 23 – 30, 2017 at the Mayan Princess Beach Resort, the trip includes 7 nights lodging, 3 meals per day, alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, and 16 boat dives for the amazing ground package price of \$899 per person double occupancy. The non-diver price is \$849 per person double occupancy. Please contact Randy Lew for more information at 530-304-0802 or fwsa13randy@telis.org.