

October, 2017

Far West Ski Association

WHO & WHAT'S NEW FOR 2017-2018

Mount Hood Meadows: Happy 50th Birthday to **Mount Hood Meadows**. Their 50th Anniversary celebration will commemorate and honor the achievements of Meadows since it opened in January of 1968. There will be special events, special lift ticket deals, a Golden Ticket promotion and a huge party on January 27, 2018, culminating with the awarding of a 50-year season pass. New additions to Meadows this year include a remodeled Demo Center, a new Quad Chair, more seating at the Hood River Meadows Lodge, and 2 new groomers. Congratulations to all the staff at Meadows currently and those who have worked there in the past.

Happy Anniversary Snowmass: **Snowmass** is celebrating their 50th Anniversary this year, and with it, they will be offering up \$6.50 lift tickets on Friday, December 15th, 2017. What's the catch? Ticket must be booked with a minimum of 1 night's lodging through "Stay Aspen Snowmass". The Lift Ticket is ONLY good on Snowmass Mountain. And, remember, snow conditions at this time of the year are unpredictable. But, hey.....it's a \$6.50 ticket and a chance to celebrate Snowmass' anniversary.

Five Things To Expect On Opening Day: *High Energy* will be abounding. Everyone is excited for opening day, and can't wait for that first run on the season. *Costumes*. Some snowsport enthusiasts will bust out their favorite, funky or retro gear costume. What better time to wear it? *Bacon Bloody Marys* at Arapahoe Basin are the "in" drink....especially during early season. *Cameras*. Media will be out in force on opening day. Have that super smile ready. Lastly...*CROWDS*. Of course there will be crowds. What do you expect? It's OPENING DAY!

Deer Valley Acquisition Complete: KSL Capital Partners and Henry Crown & Company announced last week that *Deer Valley* has become part of a new, yet to be named, company. Through this transaction, Deer Valley will be part of an impressive portfolio of 13 resorts with more than seven million skier visits, and 22,000 skier acres. They join *Squaw Valley/Alpine Meadows, Mammoth Mountain Ski Area, Snow Summit, Bear Mountain and June Mountain in California; Deer Valley Resort in Utah; Steamboat Ski & Resort and Winter Park Resort in Colorado; Blue Mountain Ski Resort in Ontario; Mont Tremblant Resort in Quebec; Stratton Mountain Resort in Vermont; and Snowshoe Mountain Resort in West Virginia.*

FAR WEST TRAVEL

Far West Annual Ski Week 2018: **Space still available**....February 3-10, 2018 are the dates set for the next Far West Ski Week, which will be held in *Banff*. Known for its exceptional natural beauty, wildlife, and incredible landforms, Banff is an awesome place to ski. Whether you ski at Sunshine, Lake Louise, or Mount Norquay, you will get an event-packed week of skiing, apres parties, a Welcome Party, Awards Dinner and much, much more. Contact Nancy Ellis @ fwstravelnancy@sbcglobal.net, or your own council Trip Leader.

Far West International Trip 2018: There is **still room** on the 2018 International Trip to *Les Trois Vallees*. The dates are 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. Contact Debbie Stewart @ fwsaintltrvl@prodigy.net, or go online www.fwsa.org for more information.

Debbie is also looking into an Adventure trip for October, 2018 to India, and working on RFP's for a March, 2019 ski/adventure trip to Japan, and a 2020 trip to Davos. Stay tuned.

Far West Annual Mini Ski & Adventure Week: *Important Info...* February 25-March 4, 2018 are the dates set for the next Mini Ski Week at *Alyeska Resort*, and in Anchorage, at the *Captain Cook Hotel*. Located 40 miles southeast of Anchorage, Alyeska is set in the Chugach Mountain wilderness. A fun place to ski, and the hotel Alyeska, a wonderful ski in/ski out place to stay.

Anchorage is the site for the ceremonial start of the Iditarod dog sled races and the Fur Rendezvous. Many optional events will be made available, such as a wildlife tour, dog sledding, glacier walk, glacier cruise, heli-skiing/cat skiing, sleigh rides. **November 15th is the deadline date** to sign up for these, so don't miss out. Contact Gloria Raminha @ garski2011@gmail.com.

FAR WEST COUNCILS

Bay Areas' Apres Ski Club: Season Kick Off Party is planned for Friday, November 10, 2017, beginning with a Wine Tasting Event at 6 p.m. for new members, followed by a truly amazing party with food, fun, friends, music and dancing. There will be a Silent Auction and raffle prizes throughout the evening. You can't get much better than that! The place for this fun-filled night is **Napredak Hall**, in San Jose. Become a new member and receive 1 night's free lodge stay, discounted admission to the event, and free admission to the wine tasting event. For more information, contact Debbie Hudgens at: debbie@dogdynastyinc.com.

Orange Council: Orange Council is having their annual picnic. The date is Saturday, October 21st Noon to 3 PM at Bonita Canyon West Picnic Area, Newport Beach. There will be Hot Dogs, Hamburgers and Cookies to satisfy your appetite!

There are tennis courts, basketball courts, a large grassy area for fun, you supply the equipment. RSVP to your club council representative ASAP.

FAR WEST CONVENTION

Eight Months And Counting: *The Bay Area Snow Sports Council and Sierra League and Council* are very busy planning the 2018 Convention, to be held June 7-10, 2018 at the Atlantis Casino and Resort Spa. We'll have kayaking on the Truckee River, our Annual Michael German Golf Tournament, a day hike in South Lake Tahoe, and other fun things planned, along with our usual Silent Auction, Travel Expo, Educational Seminars, Panel Discussions with local experts on forestry, ski areas, and other issues, a great Keynote Speaker, and just a good time for everyone. Make your reservations now: <https://reservations.travelclick.com/98418?groupID=2016540>.

It takes a village to host a convention and we are asking our FWSA family to help us. If we can get a lot of volunteers to help out with the myriad of tasks, it will spread out the work and make the convention fun for all of us. We need volunteers beginning with registration and pub crawl sign in on

Thursday afternoon, helping get optional event participants onto busses Friday morning and registration on Friday afternoon. Helping hands are needed throughout the convention to take meal tickets, staff hospitality suite events and many small tasks that will take only a short amount of time and help to lighten the host councils' load. Contact the convention host coordinators: Jo Simpson, jo_simpson@sbcglobal.net and Paul Vlasveld, pvlasveld@comcast.net.

Sheri Parshall, the new coordinator for the **Council 's Man & Woman of the Year** competition, has been working with Chris Gill, San Diego Council President, and Jo Simpson, VP Council Services, to reinvigorate the program, and, hopefully entice more participation club entries. Here's a sneak peek at the changes which have been sent to the FWSA council presidents:

A new FAQ answer sheet which we hope provides everything your clubs want to know about the MWOTY program; A newly-revised application, only 3 pages long, which will be heavily weighted on council and club participation (not just leadership), with some points awarded for regional and national participation. Legislative, environment, and safety questions will be deleted from the application (though may come up in interviews); lastly, Honorees will be seated at a VIP tables during the Saturday luncheon, and receive special recognition along with our sponsor, **Big White**. The goal is to encourage more participation from club members by simplifying the application process, clarifying who is eligible, and confirming FWSA's continued commitment to provide financial assistance to honorees so that they can attend the convention

FAR WEST MEMBER BENEFITS

2018 Member Benefits: The Far West website has now been updated with the 2017-2018 Member Benefits. Please check it out when planning your ski trips for the coming season. You can find deals on lodging, lift tickets, equipment rentals and sales, as well as transportation in Reno (Bell Limo), Steamboat (Go Alpine), and the Park City area (The Transportation Network). Don't miss these great deals.

Thank you to ALL our many Member Benefits Partners for your continued support of Far West Ski Association.