

May, 2019

*Far West Ski Association*

## WHO & WHAT'S NEW FOR 2019

**Volunteers Needed For Some “Summer Fun”:** The [United States Adaptive Recreation Center](#) is preparing another summer of fun and adventure, offering instruction in water skiing, Jet skiing, fishing, sailing, and kayaking. Throughout the months of July and August [volunteers](#) can help in a variety of capacities.

Expertise in the water sports activities is not necessary, due to the team-teaching approach. During these sessions, duties may include helping on the dock, aboard a sailboat, water-ski boat, kayak, or fishing boat, jumping off jet skis, serving lunch, helping participants transfer from wheelchairs to boats or water skis and back, setting up tents, making s'mores, you name it! The training session will be **June 29**. We ask you to commit to six days of volunteering, including one of the Big Bear overnight sessions and four of the Big Bear single-day sessions, though you are welcome and encouraged to volunteer even more! **Volunteers must be 16 years of age**. If you are interested in learning more, please visit [www.usarc.org](http://www.usarc.org) or call 909.584.0269.

## FAR WEST CONVENTION

**Far West Annual Convention – TIME IS WAINING:** *Orange Council of Ski Clubs* is ready to host you and ALL of your ski club friends at the 87th Annual Far West Convention, June 13-16, 2019, in Indian Wells, California, at the beautiful *Hyatt Regency Indian Wells Resort & Spa*. You may register through your ski club, individual registration by mail, or on-line through Far West Connect. Visit [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org) and select Conventions. For room reservations, call **1-760-776-1234**. Reference our group name - **Far West Ski Association**. You can also book on-line at the FWSA room reservation site <http://www.hyatt.com/en-US/group-booking/CHAMP/G-FSKI>. Room rates are just **\$139** per night. *Orange Council* has planned some exciting activities for us, including a visit to the *Palm Springs Air Museum*, a *Legends & Icons Homes Tour*, and our infamous *Pub Crawl* on Thursday evening, which will be held partly in *Downtown Palm Springs*, at their weekly *Street Fair*. Friday is set for the *13<sup>th</sup> Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament*, a *Spa Day*, and/or a ride on the *San Jacinto Tram*, followed by a wet and wild *Pool Party* prior to the *Silent Auction*. Aside from the “FUN”, we also have two Public Affairs Panel Discussions planned, along with three SnowSports Leadership Academy sessions on Saturday. We will have one on “*Club and Council Insurance*”; one on “*Strategic Travel Planning*”; and one on “*Recruiting New Leaders into your Club and Council*”. We will also be holding our annual General Meeting & Elections on Sunday morning.

**Convention Registration is \$180 right now. ALL registrations made from May 7<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>, will be charged at \$180. After May 13<sup>th</sup>, the rate increases to \$195. If you haven't already sent yours in, please get it in as soon as possible.**

**May 21<sup>st</sup> is our Room Block deadline. All room reservations must be made prior to this date in order to receive the discounted rate of \$139 per night. Reservations made after that date, may not receive the discounted rate.**

**There is still a lot of room on all of the activities, so please feel free to sign up for your choice of the trip to the *Air Museum* or the *Legends & Icons Home Tour* on Thursday. Get out and see Palm Springs, enjoy the sunshine and lunch out with your friends. The “*Get Your Party On*” *Pub Crawl* on Thursday evening, is going to include drinks at each of the resort hotels, as well as a trip downtown Palm**

Springs to their weekly “*Street Fair*”, where you’ll be able to shop, eat & drink, and enjoy the downtown area. We have spots open for golf on Friday morning, spa treatments, or a trip to the San Jacinto Tram. Join your friends for a day of fun and then follow it up with an even MORE FUN Pool Party at the Oasis Pool. Have a drink on us, some snacks, play a few water games and relax before the events of the evening kick off.

Friday morning brings the 13<sup>th</sup> *Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament*, at the beautiful Indian Wells Golf Resort. Join your friends for a friendly round of golf, followed by a great lunch, and prizes. We also have a *Spa Day* planned, at the Aqua Serina Spa, onsite at the Hyatt, and a trip out to the *San Jacinto Tram* with lunch.

The Silent Auction kicks off at 6:30 pm. Come in, enjoy a beverage, compliments of Far West Ski Association, and mingle with our many Industry Partners, who will have tables set up throughout the ballroom, all just waiting to talk with YOU about a trip that you want to plan for yourself, or for your group.

**SOMETHING DIFFERENT** this year, as you visit with the various ski resorts, and tour operators on Friday night, you may get your Passport signed off and drop it in the basket for entry into the drawing for the Grand Prize of a trip to the 2020 Ski Week in Big Sky, Montana. You may still attend the Travel Expo on Saturday morning, and visit more resorts, with a chance of filling out a 2nd passport for that added opportunity at the chance to win the Ski Week trip.

**Dr. Jon Kedrowski**, climber extraordinaire will be our *Keynote Speaker* on Saturday afternoon, following lunch. His expeditions to Everest in recent years (2012, 2015 & 2018) have been featured on Discovery Channel, Smithsonian, NBC, Dateline NBC, CBS, ABC, Fox, and CNN. On April 25, 2015, Jon was at Everest Base camp in Nepal when a devastating 7.9 magnitude earthquake struck. All summit attempts were aborted but Jon was able to assist the Nepalese people with rescue efforts as well as collecting data for the USGS about the earthquake.

Jon is the author of three books: “*Sleeping on the Summits: Colorado Fourteener High Bivys*” and “*Skiing and Sleeping on the Summits: Cascade Volcanoes*”, and “*Classic Colorado Ski Descents* (2017). He is also an expedition leader, guide, and sought-after keynote speaker. In Jon’s talks, mountains are metaphors for accomplishing goals in life, both professionally and personally.

As this issue is sent out, Jon has just completed leading a group on an Everest Basecamp trek and was back in Kathmandu in the Khumbu Everest region of Nepal where he was resting for a few days. He will then head to Tibet where he be back on Everest guiding the north side and even skiing some from the north side route before a summit attempt in mid-May!

The Awards Banquet will begin with a no-host cocktail hour at 6:30 pm, followed by dinner at 7:00 pm. This is the time that we honor our outstanding club and council members, our special guests, and our Industry Sponsors with various awards for outstanding achievement.

**Victor Cannon**, of “*Can Do Productions*” will be our guest D.J., so put on your Island Gear, get your dancing shoes on, and come “*Swing and Sway to the Desert Breeze*” following the Awards Banquet. Victor will also be playing on Friday night, from 9:30 – 11:00 pm.

## FAR WEST ELECTIONS

**Election of FWSA Officers:** Election of officers will occur at the FWSA Annual Meeting and Convention June 13-16, 2019. Delegates will elect their President, Secretary, and Treasurer to one-year terms and two (2) Trustee positions for two-year terms. In addition, the three functional Vice Presidents will be elected for two-year terms. Announced candidates at this time are as follows:

- President – Gloria Raminha (incumbent)
- Secretary – Sheri Parshall (incumbent)
- Treasurer – Randy Lew (incumbent)
- Trustees (2) – Tom Bundgard, (incumbent), Jo Simpson, Norbert Knapp
- VP of Council Services –
- VP of North American Travel – Nancy Ellis (incumbent)
- VP of Public Affairs – Ron Abramovich

If you are interested in being a candidate for any of the above positions, please contact Steve Coxen, Nominating Committee Chair by email [sacoxen2000@gmail.com](mailto:sacoxen2000@gmail.com). For a copy of FWSA Qualifications for the positions of President, Treasurer, Trustee and VP of North American Travel, please contact Steve Coxen.

All candidates must be members in good standing of clubs affiliated with FWSA or a direct member of FWSA. Qualified nominees for any of the open positions will be accepted up to the date and time of the elections.

FWSA By-Laws, Job Descriptions and the Operations Manual are available on the FWSA website at [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org). Click on the “About” tab, then click on the “Governance” tab.

For information or advice on running for any FWSA office contact any member of the FWSA Nominating Committee:

- Steve Coxen, Nominations Committee Chair – [sacoxen2000@gmail.com](mailto:sacoxen2000@gmail.com)
- Todd Hood, Succession Planning Committee Chair – [todd@itsmailed.com](mailto:todd@itsmailed.com)