THE COUNCILMAN



Inside: Highlights from the 83rd Annual Far West Ski Association Convention San Diego, California, June 4-7, 2015



"Salute to San Diego"



An Official Publication of the Far West Ski Association The Voice of the Western Skier

FEATURED:

FEATURED IN THIS ISSUE

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On Cover: The theme of the Ski Club Happy Hour on Friday afternoon of the FWSA Convention was "Surfin' for Ski Deals." We tried to set a record for the Guinness Book of World Records for the most people in a grass skirt. The event was organized by Debi Young of the San Diego Council of Ski Clubs, Convention host council. It attracted a large crowd and the attendance at the Annual Silent Auction and Trade Show following the Ski Club Happy Hour had the largest attendance in recent history. By Jane Wyckoff

Connie Burdette
Editor, *The Councilman*



By Steve Coxen, President

Far West Ski Association's roots go back to the founding of the California Ski Association in 1930. Over the course of 85 years our organization has grown to become one of the largest snowsports associations in the U.S. We are a non-profit, volunteer based organization funded by the generosity of the ski industry through their donations to our Annual Convention Silent Auction, ski industry sponsorship of our programs, and our very successful travel programs.

Our volunteers donate countless hours of their personal and family time to FWSA, to our councils and to our member clubs. We appreciate their hard work and dedication to FWSA at all levels. We also recognize that their involvement does allow for many opportunities to have fun and the satisfaction of participating in activities that impact not only our membership but all people involved in snowsports. We are always seeking new volunteers. If you are interested in joining this special group we want to hear from you. You can contact me or any other member of our Board of Directors, Trustees, Council Presidents and Committee Chairs. All contact information is on our website at www.fwsa.org.

Our 83rd Annual Convention was held in June 2015 in San Diego at the Town & Country Resort. When it comes to hosting a Far West Convention, our friends in San Diego Council are the pros. In place of the annual pub crawl on Thursday we had a Sunset Dinner on board the *U.S.S. Midway*. Approximately 200 people attended and it was an evening we won't soon forget. On Friday, we had a terrific Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament. I was very surprised to see so many people playing at my level. I'm no longer embarrassed and you can count me in for the tournament in 2016. Other optional activities included a "Trolley Tour" of Old Town San Diego, a "Seal Tour" in San Diego Harbor, a trip to the San Diego Zoo and more. All events were well planned and everyone had a good time.

Our annual Silent Auction was a huge success with an excellent turnout and aggressive bidding on some great ski and travel packages. The Travel Expo on Saturday morning gave delegates an opportunity for one-on-one conversations with ski area and tour operator representatives. We provided popular classes for our Snowsports Leadership Academy with topics of current interest and excellent speakers. Our Public Affairs panel session devoted most of their discussion to issues of climate change, its effects on snowfall and water for snowmaking, and recent court decisions regarding waivers on lift tickets and season passes. Our Awards Banquet and Dance on Saturday is an annual testament to why FWSA is held in high esteem for our awards to people for their outstanding service to the skiing public.

Our business meeting and elections were held on Sunday at which time I was elected the new President of FWSA. Having served as FWSA President 2000-2003 and on the Board of Directors for the last 20 years I suppose I use the word "new" loosely. I appreciate the opportunity to serve as your President and I encourage any of you to share your ideas with me and other members of the FWSA Board of Directors.

We have an exciting year ahead of us. There will be excellent travel opportunities with a Dive Trip to Bonaire in September 2015, our Ski Weeks in Telluride and Cortina and a mini ski week to Crested Butte all in 2016. We also have an adventure trip planned to England and Ireland in September 2016.



84th Annual Far West Ski Association Convention

June 9-12, 2016

DoubleTree Resort by Hilton Paradise Valley - Scottsdale
5401 North Scottsdale Road, Scottsdale, AZ 85250-7090
480-947-5400 • www.paradisevalley.doubletree.com

HOSTED BY ABIZONA SKI COUNCIL



Urizona is Uwesome

Double Ther Resort by Hilton Paradise Valley - Scottsdale

Reservations call 800-498-7396
Group Name Far West Ski Association
Online Reservations http://bit.ly/FWSA-2016-Lodging
Group Code FWS

Room Rates per night plus tax single or double occupancy — \$99

Room Registration Deadline May 15, 2016

HOTEL FEATURES

- 2 heated pools and whirlpools
- · Poolside Bar
- Lighted tennis court & sports court & a 9-hole putting green
- Spa Lamar and "Fitness by Precor" fitness center
- enFuego Restaurant award winning dining
- NO resort fees, NO parking fee, FREE Wi-Fi in quest rooms
- Rates are available 3 days pre and post Convention

TRANSPORTATION

- Air transportation is via Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport (PHX), located 12 miles from the DoubleTree Resort by Hilton.
- Rental cars and shuttle services are available at the airport.

CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

- Silent Auction
- Travel Expo
- · Snowsports Leadership Academy
- Celebrity Speakers
- · Public Affairs Panel
- Saturday Awards Luncheon
- Celebrity Multi-Media Presentation
- Saturday Awards Dinner
- Far West General Meeting & Elections

OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Thursday Activities
 - Old Town Scotttsdale Tour
 - 4 Pub Crawl
- Friday Activities
 - 10th Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament
 - Spa Day
 - Kayaking
 - Musical Instrument Tour
 - Pool Party

Jane Wyckoff FWSA Convention Chairperson

FWSA Convention Chairperson lanewyckoff1:a:cox.net or 949-933-9607 Jeannine Davis

Silent Auction / Travel Expo Chairperson SilentAuction of wsa.org or 415-328-2333 Linda Westlund

Arizona Host Council Convention Coordinator

HostConvention2016@fwsa.org or 480-216-2010

www.fwsa.org



A "Salute to San Diego" at the 83rd Annual FWSA Convention

by Jane Wyckoff Convention Chair, FWSA

The 83rd Annual Far West Ski Association Convention was held at the luxurious Town and Country Resort and Convention Center, June 4-7, 2015, hosted

by the San Diego Council of Ski Clubs. Located in the heart of Mission Valley, the hotel is rich in history, charm and character. The San Diego Council did an outstanding job in providing great entertainment and activities throughout the greater San Diego area.

Convention events began on Thursday with an Old Town Trolley Tour of the city and a Seal Tour. Thursday evening featured a Sunset Dine Out on the deck of the *U.S.S. Midway*, which took the place of the traditional pub crawl. A record number of over 200 attendees toured the historic ship with restored aircraft from World War II to Operation Desert Storm. Comments about the evening included awesome, spectacular, a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

Golf enthusiasts had an early start on Friday morning but only had to take a short walk across the street to the adjacent Riverwalk Golf Course for the 9th Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament. The adventurous enjoyed a day of kayaking La Jolla Cove. Bikers had an outing to Mission Bay, which catered to those who just wanted a fun cruising ride to those who were more serious bikers. Others headed off to the World Famous San Diego Zoo for a fun day among a wide variety of birds and animals.

The late afternoon Pool Party at Trellises Pool gave everyone a chance to mingle and compare notes from the day's activities. The event host, Central Council, provided a fun scavenger hunt. Friday evening's Ski Club Happy Hour was themed "Surfin' for Ski Deals" and participants all gathered together in a very large grass skirt in an attempt to enter the Guinness Book of World Records. The 30th Annual Silent Auction and Snowsports Trade Show offered ski, sport and adventure packages, plus equipment up for bid. A portion of the proceeds was donated to the United States Adaptive Recreation Center (USARC), and their volunteers served as bid runners. DJ Patrick Hill of "The Party" provided great music for dancing following the Silent Auction.

After a brief opening General Session, Saturday's Travel Expo enabled delegates to attend "regional" presentations where they learned about an entire region of resorts, with new and exciting locations for their club's snowsports and adventure trips. This was followed by one-on-one appointments with selected industry representatives. Saturday's Luncheon was a *South of the Border* theme with colorful decorations and great food.

Saturday's programs also featured two new modules of the Snowsports Leadership Academy, Public Affairs Panels, and a Far West Racing Association meeting. Industry partners presented bids for Far West Ski Week 2017, and judges convened to interview honorees for the Councils' Man and Woman of the Year recognition program. Following the luncheon and special awards, Keynote Speaker Stacey Cook gave an informative, multi-media presentation showing the realities of what it is really like to be on the road with the US Ski Team, with all the challenges and successes encountered along the way. The women's speed team opened the 2015 season with a bang, and Stacey Cook was a part of the excitement. Lindsey Vonn (1st), Stacey Cook (2nd) and Julia Mancuso (3rd) had the first-ever historic U.S. podium sweep in the Lake Louise downhill.

The San Diego Council again provided a very festive occasion with red, white and blue decorations for the theme *Salute to San Diego* at the Awards Banquet Saturday evening. Featured were volunteer and industry service awards and recognitions. Many delegates, guests and industry representatives danced late into the evening, thanks to the return of our fabulous DJ.

Continued on page 32





Event Sponsors

83rd Annual FWSA Convention

by Debbi Kor, VP of Marketing & Sponsorship

We extend our appreciation to the following sponsors of Far West Ski Association's 83rd Annual Convention. Their generous support was a significant contribution to the financial success of this year's Convention. By offsetting convention costs through the sponsorship program, we are able offer a more affordable delegate registration fee. Please include these industry partners in your travel plans for 2015-2016.





Environment Award

New this year, **Aspen/Snowmass**, **The Gant** and **Crestwood** are donating a 5-night ski package for two with lodging, lift tickets, rentals and a lesson.



Ski Heritage Award

Since 2000, **Steamboat** has donated a 5-night ski package for two with lodging, lift tickets, rentals, a tour and half day lesson.



Man & Woman of Year

Since 2001, **Big White Ski Resort** has donated a 5-night ski package for two with lodging and lift tickets to the Councils' Man and Woman of the Year winners.







Athletic Scholarships

Since 2004, funds for the scholarships are provided through contributions from **Whitefish**, **Grouse Mountain Lodge** and **Karbon**.





Safety Award

Telluride and Mountain Lodge are the new sponsors of the Safety Award. They are offering a 5-night ski package for two with lodging, rentals, and 4-day lift tickets.

FWSA 83rd Annual Convention Volunteers

Our thanks and appreciation to all the volunteers from the San Diego Council of Ski Clubs and Far West Ski Association for their assistance in making the 2015 Convention a success

Far West Ski Association President Linda Scott
FWSA Convention Chairperson Jane Wyckoff
Host Council Convention Coordinator Eileen Sanford
Convention Sponsorship Chairperson Debbi Kor

Silent Auction / Travel Expo

Silent Auction and Travel Expo Chairperson Jeannine Davis
Silent Auction Accounting William Shadbolt

Travel Expo Prize Donations Debbi Kor

Silent Auction Bid Runners Coordinator Fran Long, Sara Rosell

Host Council Silent Auction Volunteer Coordinator
Auctioneer
Auctioneer Assistant

David Arnold
Harry Davis
Karen Davis

FWSA Awards

Service Awards Chairperson Catherine Ohl
Club and Council Communications Awards Chairperson Crissymarie King
Councils' Man & Woman of the Year Chairperson Gene Fulkerson

Graphics and Design, Pins, Shirts

Catherine Ohl

Council Volunteer Coordinators Judy Schultheis, Laura Meldrum

Registration

Convention Delegate Registrar

Registration Tote Bags

Eileen Weiner

Delegate Registration Volunteer Coordinator

Celebrity Guests and VIP Registration

Randy Lew

Celebrity Guests and VIP Heatess

Registration

Randy Lew

Registration

Registration

Registration

Registration

Registration

Registration

Registration

Celebrity Guests and VIP Hostess

FWSA Convention Treasurer

Snowsports Leadership Academy, Credentials Chairperson

Jane Gutierrez

Optional Events

Old Town Trolley Tour of San Diego
Susie Vetter
Seal Tour
Debbie Schroeder
Sunset Dine Out on the USS Midway
Gene Fulkerson
9th Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament
Susie Vetter

La Jolla Cove Kayak Tour

Catherine Ohl

Mission Bay Bike Tour

Catherine Ohl

Hobe Schroeder, Stephanie Young

San Diego Zoo Laura Meldrum
Pool Party Fran Long
Ski Club Welcome Party Debi Young

Social Events Connie Sanders, Val Clem,

Jean McCasey, Tom Bundgard

Publicity, Public Affairs Panels

Convention Videos

Entertainment and Awards Banquet Decorations Coordinator

Nora Cole

FWSA Event Signage Coordinators Debbi Kor, Mary Olhausen

Convention Website - Webmaster

Catherine Ohl
Delegate Book Editor

Jo Simpson
Elections

Harry Davis
Parliamentarian & Resolutions

Convention Photographer - Van Pelt Productions, Inc

Eric Van Pelt

Awards Banquet DJ – *The Party*Signage - *Starbright Creations*Patrick Hill
Emilio Trampuz

Service Awards



Linda Scott, FWSA President presents Ann Cook, Director of Group Services, Mt. Bachelor with the Bill Mackey Award



David Briery (center), recipient of the Jimmie Heuga Award, with Sallie Pritchard, founder of the California Handicapped Skier's Foundation and Center in Big Bear (now USARC) and Tom Pierce, Executive Director of USARC



Linda Westlund is presented with the Hans Georg Award by Gloria Raminha, 2014 Hans Georg Award Recipient



Jo Simpson receives the Elizabeth "Schatzi" Wood Award from Debbie Stewart, 2014 Award Winner



George Kish, recipient of the J. Stanley Mullin Award, with Bob Ellis, 2013 Award Recipient and John James 1988 Award Recipient



Jennifer Fisher, Kandahar
Lodge in Whitefish and
Brant Giovanetti,
Whitefish Mountain Resort,
accepted the Tommi Tyndall
Award on behalf of
Whitefish Mountain Resort
from
FWSA President,
Linda Scott

Jeremy Jones, (not in attendance) Founder of Protect Our Winter was the winner of the Jordan-Reily Award

Media Awards



Chris Santella (not in attendance), Author of Fifty Places to Ski and Snowboard Before You Die: Downhill Experts Share the World's Greatest Destinations won the Bill Berry Featured News Award

Jane Wyckoff, Assistant Editor and Writer, Far West Skier's Guide, receives the Bill Berry Hard News Award from FWSA President, Linda Scott Red Bull Media House (not in attendance) for *Lindsey Vonn: The Climb* won the Warren Miller Modern Media Award

Racing Awards



Ken Calkins, ULLR League Chair, accepted the Roma McCoy Trophy for the most points per racer start (16.83)



Laura Priess, ROKKA League Chair, accepted the FWRA League Championships Trophy for the most points (742)



Nancy Ellis, recipient of the Terry Smith Award with Jo Simpson, President of Sierra League and Council

Program Awards



Far West Ski Association

ENVIRONMENT AWARD

ASPERT SROWNASS

Catherine Ohl of Los Angeles and San Diego Councils and Jennifer Nehrad Sultan, Los Angeles Council, are the first recipients of the new FWSA Environmental Award. With the winners is Mary Manning of Aspen/Snowmass, Sponsor of the Award

Linda Westlund, Arizona Ski Council and David Felker, Los Angeles Council -Councils' Woman and Man of the Year





The Western Ski Heritage Award was presented to the Mount Hood Cultural Center and Museum. L to R: Larry Young, Steamboat Ski Resort, Sponsor; Linda Scott, FWSA President; Sheri Parshall, Skiyente Ski Club, NWSCC; Alyssa Cartmill, Steamboat; Lloyd Musser, Museum Curator

Dr. Katherine Severin of Bay Area Snow Sports Council, received the Safety Person of the Year Award. With her is Patrick Rothe, Telluride Ski Resort, Sponsor of the Award and Dr. Richard Lubin, FWSA Safety Chair

Program Awards Continued Charity & Community Service



DIAMOND 1st CLUB Pacific Rim Alliance First Place in Novice Ski Club Class



DIAMOND 1st CLUB Skiyente Sigrid Noack with Sheri Parshall Northwest Ski Club Council



Diamond 2nd Club Sigrid Noack and Jane Gutierrez 4 Seasons West Los Angeles Council



1st COUNCIL Dennis Heffley and Paul Vlasveld Bay Area Snow Sports Council



President's Award



Snowsports Builder Award

Linda Scott presents the President's Award to William Shadbolt FWSA Treasurer

The Hensley Family
Founders of Kratka Ridge, accept the
Snowsports Builder Award from
FWSA President, Linda Scott (center).
L to R: Anna Hensley, Mary Hensley, Ray Hensley,
Tom Hensley, Tim Hensley

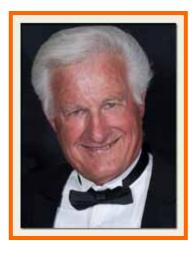
Snowsports Builder Award Continued

Jamic Hamlin accepts the Snowsports Builder Award on behalf of Ben Finley and Art Clay founders of the National Brotherhood of Skiers (NBS) from FWSA President, Linda Scott



Jane Wyckoff, FWSA Trustee, presents the Snowsports Builder Award to Chuck Morse, Past FWSA Executive Director, NSPS and Site Surveyor





Councils' Man and Woman of the Year by Gene Fulkerson, Councils' Man and Woman of the Year Chair, FWSA

The Far West Ski Association recognizes top volunteers from each council during the Councils' Man and Woman of the Year recognition program at the FWSA Annual Convention. Councils honor dedicated men and women who have made significant contributions to organized skiing within their club, council, community, race league and FWSA.

Since, I was new at this job, I worked closely with the Council presidents this past year in an effort to bring this recognition down to the grass roots level. The first thing we did was to rewrite some of the requirements before reassigning points that would stress leadership at the club and council levels. It was then agreed that the period of consideration would cover the last ten years of service. The council presidents have agreed to change this to five years of service for 2016.

Congratulations to this year's FWSA Councils' Man of the Year, **David Felker** of Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs and Councils' Woman of the Year, **Linda Westlund**, from Arizona Ski Council.

We appreciate Big White Ski Resort for its continuing support and sponsorship of the Councils' Man and Woman of the Year program since 2001. Our winners were awarded a 2016 ski vacation for two at Big White that includes 5 nights lodging, lift tickets and rentals.

Scoring and judging was handled electronically this year. Thank you judges for scoring the submissions prior to the Convention, spending all Saturday morning in the interview process and sharing your experiences with the new process. Judges were Karen Bonine, Paul Vlasveld, Jennifer Deater, Linda Coxen, Penny Edlund, Rusty Etzel and George Stewart. Thank you George Kish and Arleigh Meiners for your help in tallying up the scores.

Councils' Man and Woman of the Year

Arizona Ski Council Linda Westlund

Bay Area Snow Sports Council Mark Greenberg Michelle Nightengale

Los Angeles Council
David Felker
Karyn Pfening

Sierra League and Council Peter Olsten



The 2015 Winners Linda Westlund and David Felker

Northwest Ski Club Council Llovd Musser

Mary A. Olhausen

Orange Council
Jess Gorman
Betsy Pedley

San Diego Council of Ski ClubsJerry Stokely
Debbie Schroeder



Join Far West Ski Assn. - 6th Annual Dive Trip

PLAZA BEACH RESORT BONAIRE



September 26 – October 3, 2015

(FWSA LAX group air departs Sept. 25th)

Diver Package Price - \$1115.00 Non-Diver Package Price - \$836.00 Single Supp. Add - \$372.00 (UPGRADES AVAILABLE)

Price Includes:

- 7 nights at Plaza Beach Resort Bonaire in a Jr. Laguna Suite based on Double Occupancy
- All meals daily & all drinks daily including alcohol (excludes premium brands)
- Use of paddle boards, kayaks & catamarans and frequent daytime activities
- 6 days of 2 tank boat dives and unlimited shore diving
- Unlimited Nitrox (32% for certified nitrox divers)
- Free WiFi
- Airport Transfers
- Bonaire Marine Park fee of \$25.00 which requires ALL divers to do an equipment/buoyancy check out shore dive & orientation prior to first dive
- Hotel taxes & tips (tips for diving not included)





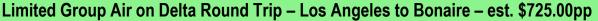
Create New Memories with Friends, Old and New!





Experience Local Culture

FREE TIME TO EXPLORE!



- Subject to changes in taxes and fuel charges
- Pricing is based on contract minimum
- We will gladly assist you in air transportation from other airports please specify on registration form

Contact: Randy Lew

FWSA Dive Trip Leader 7007 SW Iron Horse St. Wilsonville, OR 97070

Cell: 530/304-0802 e-mail: FWSA13Randy@telis.org

You must be a Member of a Far West Ski Assn. affiliated club or a FWSA Direct Member!

CST # 2036983-40

2015 Convention Sponsors



Neck Wallets
Convention



Delegate Book Printing Convention



Delegate Tote Bags Convention



Delegate Tote Bags Convention



U.S.S. Midway
Dinner
Thursday evening



Bike ToursFriday Morning



Golf Tournament Friday Morning



KayakingFriday Morning



San Diego Zoo Tour Friday Morning



Pool Party Friday Afternoon



Silent Auction Welcome Party Friday Evening



Wine Sponsor Friday Evening



Beer Sponsor Friday Evening



Continental Breakfast
Saturday Morning



Luncheon Saturday



Beer Sponsor Saturday Lunch



Keynote Speaker Saturday afternoon



Keynote Speaker Saturday afternoon



Banquet Wine Service Saturday Evening



Banquet Wine Service Saturday Evening



Sunday Morning

2015 CONVENTION SPONSORS Debbi Kor, Vice President Marketing, Presenter



Gloria Saiya-Wood Ski.Com



Bob McErlean Holidaze Ski Tours



Steve Remillard Mammoth Mountain Ski Area



Heather Robertson
Crested Butte Mountain Resort



Mary Manning,

Aspen and Karla Baker,

Snowmass Tourism



Ann Cook, Mt. Bachelor and Eric Rock, DoubleTree-Bend



Mary Ann Mudge Brian Head Resort



Tayt Knowles
Sun Valley Resort



Jeannine Davis with Debra Goodman Beaver Run Resorrt



Megan Schafer Ski Banff-Lake Louise-Sunshine



Ryan Dohnal Vail Resorts



Eric Kerr Red Mountain Resort



Patrick Rothe, Neil Hastings, Cody Benjamin, *Telluride*



Jeannine Davis with Alyssa Cartmill and Larry Young Steamboat Ski Resort Corp.



Mike Hibbard Sports America Tours

Communications



By Jim Nachbar Vice P resident of Communications

2015 Communication Award Recipients

Category	First	Second	Third
Tollakson — Club of the Year			
Masters	Pacific Rim Alliance— Catherine Ohl, President	Reno Ski & Recreation Club— Dianne Hilliard, President	Mountain High Snowsport Club— Debbi Kor, President
Advanced	Idaho Falls Ski Club— Peggy Hinman, President		
Novice			
Wentworth — Outstanding Publications			
NL-Masters	Pacific Rim Alliance— Catherine Ohl, Editor	The Unrecables— Gordon Cardona, Editor	Mountain High Snowsport Club— Emilio Trampuz, Editor
NL- Advanced	Idaho Falls Ski Club— Debbie Rasch, Editor	Las Vegas Ski & Sports Club— Nancy Swan, Editor	Snowchasers Ski Club— Lionel Digal, editor
NL-Novice	Rusty Bindings Ski Club— Tim Peterson, Editor	Castro Valley Ski Club— Dennie Warren, Editor	
NL-Council	Bay Area Snow Sports Council— Dennie Warren, Editor	Sierra League & Council— Beth Perryman, Editor	
Outstanding Web Sites			
WS-Masters	Pacific Rim Alliance— Catherine Ohl, Webmaster	The Unrecables — Bonnie West, Webmaster	Mountain High Snowsport Club— Emilio Trampuz, Webmaster
WS- Advanced	Snowchasers Ski Club— Steve Rhode, Webmaster	Rusty Bindings Ski Club— Tony Baker, Webmaster	Single Ski Club of Los Angeles— Danielle Battut, Webmaster
WS-Novice	Reno Ski & Recreation Club— Kats Cannell, Webmaster	Conejo Ski & Sports Club— Ken Walker, Webmaster	
WS-Council	Intermountain Ski Council— Lennia Machen, Webmaster	Bay Area Council Open League— Debi Phelps, Webmaster	Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs— Bonnie West, Webmaster

Council Services



By Jo Simpson Vice President Council Services

COUNCIL PRESIDENTS TO EVALUATE PROGRAMS AND PLAN FOR 2016

We are pleased to welcome three new council presidents for 2015-2016, Sylvia Kearns, Northwest Ski Club Council, Paul Vlasveld, Bay Area Snow Sports Council, and Kathleen Byrnes, Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs.

The year 2015 was a year of major change for the Club and Council Communications and Outstanding Club Awards. The competition categories were changed from club size to attempt to create a more level playing field. Clubs who had won or placed in the past were put into Masters and Advanced categories respectively. Those who had never won or placed were in the Novice category. The hope was that the change would encourage more entries, but the numbers remained about the same as 2013 and 2014. Committee chair Crissymarie King is simplifying the application process and the council presidents have committed to stimulate interest in their clubs to apply for the awards.

The Charity Awards, under Sigrid Noack's leadership, also changed categories this year. As with the communications awards, the goal was to increase entries by putting those who had won in a separate category from those who had not. The numbers increased for the Novice (now called Diamond) category. There was one submission for the Masters (now called Double Diamond). We were pleased that the strategy to get more entries from clubs who had not won before resulted in an increase in submissions.

Our overall goal of increasing award submissions in all the club and council categories was met. The Safety Award had a record breaking five entries and the new Environmental Award had two.

The Man and Woman of the Year program, in its first year with Gene Fulkerson as chair, had some changes to give more points to club level work and less to work at the council and FWSA level. The interview questions were revised to encourage candidates to talk about the work of their clubs, and received praise from the judges.

Family and Youth, under Fran Long's leadership, is phasing out Savvy Snake and skin cancer prevention. Fran is forming a committee to evaluate the Family and Youth Program.

International Travel



By Debbie Stewart Vice President\, International Travel

The Travel Program continues to advance! The FWSA International Travel Program has been totally revamped with the creation of new areas and new travel adventure concepts. We are arranging trips with our FWSA members in mind and with great passion! We want to experience the unexpected, in all sorts of ways. We want to taste the unpredicted, to experience the blending or many cultures, to allow for free time to explore, to indulge in the "must-see" attractions, to feel the magic of each region through unique explorations and best of all, we will handle your trip details while you revel in the adventure!

FWSA's 6th Annual Scuba Dive trip to Bonaire

Our scuba dive trips are becoming more popular for both the scuba diver and the non-divers who want to have an exceptional vacation experience. The Beach Plaza Resort in Bonaire had all the resort amenities and was the perfect location for the getaway one was looking for. We were excited to provide our participants two new options. We provided group air transportation from LAX to Bonaire at an unbelievable price and we now offer another payment option using our PayPal online payment program. Under the leadership of dive trip leader, Randy Lew and our dive tour operator, Roatan Charter 34 members enjoyed an incredible vacation experience in a beautiful all-inclusive beach resort. Our next dive trip plans are currently in progress, so mark your calendars for Fiji in 2016!

2016 International Ski Week to Cortina d'Ampezzo and extension trip to Florence and Rome, Italy

We will be in Cortina d'Ampezzo March 5-12, 2016 for our international ski week where our members can experience the unique and awesome skiing in the Dolomites. Cortina d'Ampezzo is one of Italy's most famous and extensive ski towns. The resort staged the Winter Olympics in 1956 and is a popular stop on the World Cup skiing circuit for the women's speed disciplines and is set to host the 2021 Alpine World Championships. It boasts interesting slopes for all levels of skiers and is one of the historic resorts in the "Best of the Alps". Cortina, one of the most beautiful settings in the Alps is located in the Grand Dolomiti Superski circuit with 1200 kilometers of skiable terrain. It offers a total of 140 kilometers of ski trails and 43 lifts along with cross country skiing, telemarking, snow shoeing, snow kiting, ice driving, ice climbing and much more. The town itself is a large resort with two cable cars from either end of the Centre accessing the main ski areas. The Centre has been pedestrianized along the Corso Italia. Among the luxury hotels, visitors can also see many high-fashion clothing and sports shops.

Trip includes:

• All airport ground transfers. Multi-lingual guide meeting the FWSA Group Air people upon arrival

• 7 nights' accommodations with breakfast daily at your hotel and Wi-Fi

• 5 Dinners at your hotel – 2 nights **FREE** to experience the local Italian restaurants of your choice.

Welcome/Orientation and Farewell Party

• Gratuities to bus drivers, transfer guides and restaurant staff

Après ski party – details to be provided

• Venice optional day tour will include St. Mark's Square and Basilica, the Clock Tower and of course a gondola ride, yet leaving free time to explore!

Continued next page

Debbie Stewart - Continued from previous page

- DIC 11071

After Cortina d'Ampezzo, March 12 – 19, 2016 we will explore our extension trip in Florence for 3 nights, then off to Rome. We will be staying at the beautiful 4-Star Hotel Adriatico while in Florence. Each day will have an exciting activity starting with a walking tour of Florence, go to the Ufizzi Gallery, bus to Sienna & San Gimignano and explore on your own to seek out the gems of the area.

We will spend 4 nights in Rome at the Superior 4-Star Mediterraneo Hotel and experience historic places like the Colosseum and Roman Forum, the Vatican and Museum, St. Peter's Cathedral, the Sistine Chapel and much more. You can join us for the Florence and Rome portion as a "Stand Alone" (no Cortina) trip too!

2016 International Adventure trip to London, English countryside and Ireland

Changing of the Guard, Westminster Abby, Big Ben, St. Paul's Cathedral, Trafalgar Square, Tower of London are just some of the major attractions that we will be experiencing while in London. Not only will we be enjoying the big city, we will be traveling to the beautiful English countryside while visiting Bath, Stonehenge, the Cotswolds and staying overnight in Stratford upon Avon.

After England, we will push the boundaries even further as we travel to Ireland. We will celebrate the art of living Irish style. We will be visiting several unique and different destinations including Waterford Crystal, Guinness Storehouse, Cliffs of Moher, in addition to spectacular scenery and incredible vistas. While in Dublin we will have a guided day tour with free time to explore and yes, this is exactly what you have been dreaming of - the relaxed Irish way of life, the finest seasonal cuisine and the essence of an unforgettable holiday.

What's Ahead....Alot! Mark your calendars now!

In September a dual lodging site inspection/familiarization trip was conducted in St. Anton/Arlberg Region of Austria and Les Trois Vallees – Brides les Bain and Meribel, France for future international ski week trips. We are also pursuing India as a possible adventure trip destination for 2018. Details to come.

We are proud to announce the following trips:

2017 International Ski Week - St. Anton, Austria

2017 Summer Ski and Adventure trip - Valle Nevado, Chile

2018 International Ski Week - Les Trois Vallees, France

2018 Possible India Adventure trip

Enrich your life and indulge yourself with adventures to be discovered with FWSA's International Travel" Program.

For updates or information on FWSA International Travel Program: Debbie Stewart at: FWSAIntlTrvl@prodigy.net

Cell – 559/737-0882 Website: www.fwsa.org

Marketing and Sponsorship



By Debbi Kor Vice President Marketing and Sponsorship

Another One For The Record Books

Summer passed by so quickly. We have said goodbye to our warm weather, sunshine, golfing, biking, back yard picnics and barbecues. We have had fun with all of our friends, enjoying outdoor concerts, wine and beer festivals, sailing on the river, and the myriad of wonderful things that come with summer.

The most notable event, at the beginning of June, was one that many of us shared. The 83rd Annual Far West Ski Association Convention was held in beautiful San Diego, California. Hosted by the San Diego Council of Ski Clubs, this four day get-together included such fun activities as a Seal Tour, an Old Town Trolley Tour, biking around Mission Bay, kayaking in La Jolla Cove, golfing in the 9th Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament, and who can forget the incredible Sunset Dinner onboard the *U.S.S. Midway*! What a wonderful evening that was.

Friday night was devoted to the Silent Auction and Trade Show, hosted by Ski Dazzle, Sun Valley, and Sports America Tours. The Silent Auction was a huge success, with a portion of the proceeds going to the U.S. Adaptive Recreation Center at Bear Mountain. USARC provided our bid runners for the Silent Auction this year, and did a wonderful job.

Saturday morning was the time for the Travel Expo. We began the first half of the Expo with Regional Sessions, hosted by four of our Tour Operators: Sandy Gaudette (Ski Group.Net), Gloria Saiya-Wood (Ski. Com), Mike Hibbard (Sports America Tours), and Bob McErlean (Holidaze Ski Tours). These sessions allowed each of the tour operators to introduce representatives of ski areas in the Upper and Lower Rockies, the West Coast States, and lastly, the Canadian Resorts. It was a great way to briefly showcase each resort in a quick, 2-3 minute presentation. Then, it was on to the one-on-one meetings with club/council travel leaders and resort representatives to plan for future trips.

Saturday's luncheon, sponsored by Vail Resorts and hosted by Jackson Hole Mountain Resort, was the time to recognize a number of our guests, and to listen to our Keynote Speaker, Stacey Cook, speak on her experiences as an Olympian, and member of the US Ski Team. Stacey took 2nd place in the historic, first-ever podium sweep in the Lake Louise Downhill in 2015. As a California resident, she has become good friends with former Governor, Arnold Schwarzenegger. She and good friend, Kelly Clark, the greatest women's half-pipe snowboarder of all time, have a goal of bringing the ski and snowboard worlds closer together. Thank you Stacey, and thank you to Mt. Bachelor and Sunriver Resort for sponsoring Stacey.

Saturday evening's Awards Banquet, sponsored by Ski Group.Net and Ski Banff-Lake Louise-Sunshine, was devoted to honoring our many industry partners, sponsors, and participants. Also honored, were several outstanding people involved with Far West Ski Association, who were presented with FWSA Service Awards, the Far West Council's Man and Woman of the Year, the Western Ski Heritage Award, the Safety Person of the Year Award, and our new Environment Award.

I would like to personally thank all of our wonderful industry partners for your sponsorships and your participation in our annual event. You make it fun! You make it exciting! Without you, we would not be able to provide the successful event for all of our members and guests that we do. We look forward **to seeing e**veryone in Scottsdale, Arizona next June 9-12, when our Arizona Ski Council will be hosting the 84th Annual Far West Convention. It will be Awesome!



By Jane Gutierrez Vice President Membership

The Benefits of Membership

Did I see you at the convention? If you were not in San Diego this year, you missed a good one! The venues were full of seasoned and new attendees, and much was provided to enlighten all. The first event which was provided for new attendees was "Convention 101", a power point presentation detailing the weekend events with room for questions. The next learning experience took place during Saturday's Snowports Leadership Academy, which is a forum where experts in their particular field speak on a topic of interest related to the industry of snowsports. Of particular interest this year was learning about the technological advancements of social media, which is tantamount to improving club membership, especially with the millennial population. Craig Broussard, owner of Mobiigo, LLC, talked about the importance of having a primary presence on Google. The advantages of having a Facebook account were also discussed. Craig also discussed why it is so important to have your website mobile friendly; after all, many millennials do not even use a computer if they do not have to. Their phone is their friend, and your organization needs to reach out to them in this manner!

Jamic Hamlin, Vice President of Four Seasons West Ski and Snowboard Club, spoke about the benefits of using Constant Contact as an upgraded email service. Programs such as Constant Contact modernize the look of your email. If you want to send a beautiful flyer or brochure, you can. If you want to send out your newsletter in a wonderful linked format, you can. The notice can be sent in a personalized format without anyone seeing the other recipients. Your notice can also be linked to Facebook and twitter and can be sent at the same time, which saves you the extra effort. The email is also mobile friendly. Jamic also spoke about a new way to acquire new members, Meetup.com. This is a site which matches up groups with similar interests. Millennials and people who are moving to your particular city use the site as a way to meet new people. For a nominal monthly fee, Constant Contact and Meetup can give your organization a new "lift".

Mike Whitaker, a Bolle-Nordica roaming ambassador, brought some skis with him that were literally "out of this world" with the new shaped design. I am looking forward to demo some of these shapes and see if they can step up my game on the slopes!

Do not forget, it is time to renew your direct membership! The advantages are many! Not only do you get to attend FWSA's annual convention and experience the Snowsports Leadership Academy, you also get to travel to great locales with generous discounts, as well as vendor discounts and access to numerous Far West informational literature. Please check out our website, download the direct membership application, and I will help you with the rest. Do not be left out!

North American Travel



By Nancy Ellis Vice President North American Travel

2016 TELLURIDE, COLORADO SKI WEEK



January 30—February 6, 2016 will be the FWSA Ski Week to Telluride Ski Resort. There is still time to sign up for the Telluride Ski Week. Telluride's historic charm along with the modern luxury of the Telluride Mountain Village, make it a great location for our ski week. The Mountain Village has views of some of the highest and most magnificent peaks seen in the San Juan Mountains. Guests will find that the on-mountain location provides easy access to many snow sports, spas, shops, and restaurants. The Town of Telluride is just a 13 minute gondola ride away where one can find more shopping and dining op-

tions. The mountain boasts 2,000+ skiable acres; 125 trails; 4,425 vertical drop that is lift served; and average annual snowfall of 309 inches. Terrain: 23% Beginner, 36% Intermediate, 41% Advanced/Expert. Contact your Council Trip Leader to sign up!

2016 MINI SKI TRIP—CRESTED BUTTE, COLORADO



On-line registration is now open to sign up for the March 21—26 mini ski trip to Crested Butte Mountain Resort in Colorado. Crested Butte is one of a few places that can be called a true Colorado ski town. The small town charm where there are no traffic lights or chain stores, and where one will find them

self in an unspoiled setting surrounded by majestic peaks and wide valleys. The mountain has abundant wide open green and blue groomed trails and more advanced long cruisers, as well as the famous extreme limits of the North Face and Headwall. Crested Butte is a great location for our mini ski trip with 1,547 acres of skiable terrain, uncrowded slopes, and grooming and snow conditions that are fantastic.



2017 BRECKENRIDGE, COLORADO SKI WEEK

Sports America Tours and Breckenridge Ski Resort has teamed up for our 2017 Ski Week to Breckenridge January 28—February 4, 2017. The town of Breckenridge has a colorful history full of gold mining, saloons, booms, and busts. There are many historical tours, activities, stores of all kinds, bars, pubs, and restaurants from casual to classy to keep skiers and non-skiers busy for the

Continued from previous page

week. We will have lots of slope-side lodging and be close to town for those interested in enjoying Breckenridge's mountain town charm and nightlife. Its five peaks span 2,908 acres with something for all abilities and interests. All beginner and intermediate runs are groomed nightly. The resort also features the Gold Runner Alpine Coaster, Starlight Mountain Top Dinners, and the Spa at Breckenridge. Council trip leaders will start advertising this trip about April 2016. Check the Far West Website, *fwsa.org* for information this spring!

2017 MINI SKI TRIP



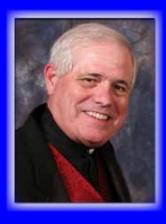
Nancy Greene's Cahilty Lodge A family oriented, condo-style hotel with combinable rooms—most with kitchens. Ski lockers, hot tubs, underground parking, and restaurant are on-site. Ideal ski-ln/ ski-out location near grocery and liquor stores, restaurants, and shops.



Nancy Greene's Cahilty Lodge at Sun Peaks Resort has been selected to host our late March 2017 mini ski trip (dates TBD). Cahilty Lodge offers all the amenities and services you need for an enjoyable stay and relaxing time while skiing at Sun Peaks Resort. Cahilty Lodge is in the heart of the village just steps from the ski hill. Sun Peaks Resort is located in southern British Columbia, 40 minutes from Kamloops, and is serviced by airports in Kamloops, Kelowna, and Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. It has everything across all three mountains--gladed areas, bumps, steeps, long cruisers, and alpine bowls. Watch the Far West Ski Association website for more information on this 2017 ski trip, *fwsa.org*.

"We believe that travel should be easy. It should be fun. It should be worth your time and have exceptional value. It should energize and transform...and above all else it should be beyond the ordinary." (FWSA Travel Vision Statement 10/2014)

Looking forward to seeing you on one of the Far West North American ski trips! Contact Nancy Ellis at fwsatravelnancy@sbcglobal.net or www.fwsa.org for updates on the FWSA North American Travel Program.



By Mike Sanford Vice President of Public Affairs

Climate Change & Sustainable Slopes Topics Highlight Public Affairs Panels

By Steve Coxen (substituting for Mike Sanford)

The FWSA Public Affairs panel sessions were held Saturday morning and afternoon at the Far West Ski Association Convention in San Diego with Mike Sanford, VP of Public Affairs, as Moderator. Panel members were the following experts in issues related to snowsports:

Matthew Drake, Chairman and CEO of Mt. Hood Meadows Resort. Matthew is also a member of the National Ski Areas Association Board of Directors and the Pacific Northwest Ski Areas Association Board of Directors.

Shawn Styles, meteorologist and lifestyle reporter for CBS News 8 in San Diego. Shawn is a former ski racer and "extreme skier" who still loves to surf, ski, snowboard, fish, sail and play tennis, among other activities!

Chuck Morse, a recipient of the 2015 FWSA Snowsports Builder Award for his close to 50 years of outstanding service in the snowsports industry.

The session began with introductions and background recitals from each panel member. Lively and informative discussions were conducted on several topics important to the topic of Public Affairs.

- Climate Change Shawn Styles led the discussion on the effects of climate change on global weather patterns and the impact on natural snowfall at ski areas. Drought conditions exist in much of the U.S. which will impact the ski resorts that rely on snowmaking equipment. Shawn believes the U.S. should exercise its global leadership role to influence world governments to adopt measures to reduce carbon emissions and other potential causes of global warming
- Sustainable Slopes Matthew Drake confirmed that unusual snow conditions pose a real challenge to many ski resorts.
 Matthew is a strong supporter of the "Sustainable Slopes Environmental Charter" of the National Ski Areas Association.
 In May, 2015 Mt. Hood Meadows was one of nine ski areas awarded the "Golden Eagle Award for Environmental Excellence", the ski industry's most prestigious award for recognizing ski area environmental programs and projects.
- Ski Area Lift Ticket Waivers Matthew led the discussion on legal issues involving the waiver on lift tickets. The Oregon Supreme Court ruled in 2014 that a skier paralyzed in a 2006 accident did not lose his right to sue the ski resort by signing a blanket liability waiver, required by the ski resort to obtain a season pass. The Supreme Court ruled such waivers "unconscionable". The decision will have implications beyond Oregon's ski resorts
- Ski Area Employment Concern was expressed about lift ticket prices with the movement in many areas to increase the minimum wage. Matthew explained that most, if not all, employees are paid at rates above the minimum wage.

The afternoon session adjourned early to "Charlie's" so that panel participants could watch "American Pharoah" become the first horse since 1978 to win the Triple Crown.



Charities and Our Community

By Sigrid Noack Chair, Charities and our Community

The 9th annual FWSA "Charity & Community Service Recognition" was another smashing success. A great big thank you to the five clubs and one council, that took time out of their busy schedules to apply for this prestigious competition. Four groups were asked to present a picture board to display and share their wonderful charitable activities with our industry friends, our FWSA family and guests at the Convention in San Diego. It continues to amaze me just how caring the members in our FWSA clubs are.

This year we upgraded our charity recognition program again. We listened to our member ski clubs' suggestions and now have two separate recognition groups *for clubs!* Those clubs, that have previously won first place in the Charity Recognition apply in the *Masters Class*, and other clubs apply in the *Novice Class*. The two separate levels give all groups an added incentive to apply, and then to apply again in future years. The first prize in each club category is \$200 and for second place \$50 to be donated to the club's favorite charity. The top two clubs in each category are invited to display a picture board at convention. In the councils group, the winner receives \$100.

This year we had one applicant in the Masters Class, four club applicants in the Novice Class and one applicant in the council division.

A great big thank you and congratulations to the groups that were involved this year. You are all winners for the wonderful charity work you do all year! Masters Ski Clubs: Skiyente Ski Club (NWSCC), Novice Ski Clubs: Wailers Ski Club (LAC), Pacific Rim Alliance (SDSC & LAC), Rusty Bindings Singles Ski Club (BAC), and 4 Seasons West Ski & Snowboard Club (LAC). Ski Councils: Bay Area Snow Sports Council.

CONGRATULATIONS to our 2015 FWSA "Charity & Community Service Recognition" winners: Our runner-up ski club in the Novice Class is 4 Seasons West. President Jane Guitierez' club is donating the \$50 to Jenesse Center, a Domestic Violence Intervention program. Our 2015 ski club winner in the Novice Class is Pacific Rim Alliance. President Catherine Ohl's club is donating the \$200 to Can Do MS, formerly known as the Jimmie Heuga Center for Multiple Sclerosis, which was founded by our good friend Jimmie Heuga.

Our 2015 ski club winner in the *Masters Class* is **Skiyente Ski Club**. President Sandi Schaub's club is donating the \$200 to the Far West Ski Foundation.

Our 2015 ski club *Council* winner is **Bay Area Snow Sports Council**. President Dennis Heffley's council is donating the \$100 to Disabled Sports USA-Far West Division.

Thank you to all the groups and congratulations to our winners, who spend a huge amount of time supporting so many charitable organizations. (see photos in 2015 Convention Award Winners, p.13)

FWSA has another opportunity for recognition for our ski councils, the "Community Service Awareness Program". Our nine council presidents are encouraging all their clubs to get involved with charitable activities. We like to recognize the "Honor Roll of Councils", which is all councils that have any of their clubs involved with charities. We are hoping that soon all clubs in every council will be involved with at least one charitable activity.

Congratulations to all the councils and clubs for putting forth this great effort in supporting their favorite community organizations. It is time to start looking ahead to next year's Charity Recognition Program!

Time to get your clubs and your council involved with charity activities!

Arizona Ski Council



By Arleigh Meiners President Arizona Ski Council

Arizona Ski Council (ASC) represents six clubs and between 600-700 members, primarily in the Phoenix metro-area, with membership open to non-profit ski clubs in the state of Arizona. Our clubs serve skiers, snowboarders, hikers, bikers and social members. The Arizona Ski Council held their annual ski season kick-off picnic on Saturday September 6, 2014. About 60 members attended the picnic. A summer monsoon dust storm cut the evening activities short. Twenty-six members from the Arizona Ski Council participated in the FWSA ski week that was held in Whistler, BC the first week of February 2015. The Arizona Ski Council is hosting the 2016 FWSA convention at the Scottsdale Double Tree Hilton Resort June 9-12, 2016. Linda Westlund is the Arizona Ski Council Chairman for this event. Monthly planning meetings have started already. The Arizona Ski Council website is www.arizonaskicouncil.org

The Phoenix Ski Club, (PSC), is busy with their ski season now. PSC started their ski season with the annual ski trip to Wolf Creek, Colorado in December 2014. Then PSC did their annual "Arizona Days" ski trip to Telluride, Colorado in January 2015. This is a joint trip of Scottsdale Ski Club members and Phoenix Ski Club members. Then PSC will go to Whitefish Big Mountain, Montana in February 2015. Schweitzer, Idaho in March 2015 is next and the PSC will end their ski season with their annual "Surf The Rockies" ski trip to Telluride, Colorado in April 2015. In September 2014, thirty PSC members went on a sightseeing trip to Ireland. Everyone had a very enjoyable time. The Phoenix Ski Club had its annual Oktoberfest party at one of the member homes which was a wonderful evening for everyone. Please go to www.phxskiclub.org for more information about the Phoenix Ski Club.

Arizona Outdoor Travel Club, (AzOTC), which is mostly a hiking club, continues to have hikes all year long. They have exercise hikes planned every Tuesday in the Phoenix Mountain Preserve. . Several AzOTC members went to Crested Butte, Colorado in August 2014 to watch the CO/USA Pro Cycling Challenge. In October of 2014, fourteen members of the AzOTC spent 14 days hiking the Big Island (Hawaii), Maui and Kauai. AzOTC sends out a weekly e-mail to their members telling them about the hikes and other activities happening during the week. Go to www.azotc.com for more information on these and other exciting trips.

Sailing Adventure Club, (SAC), which is a member of the Arizona Ski Council, is a social club based in Phoenix, Arizona with activities ranging from local sailing, and non-sailing events, to out of country sailing

Continued on next page



Arleigh Meiners - Continued from previous page

adventures. 2015 brings rest and relaxation with the Arizona Sailing Adventures Club. After doing taxes the club will go to San Diego to get back into a sailing mind set April 17-19. The long trip for the Arizona Sailing Adventures club will be to the southern most point of the United States - Key West. The boats will find their way from Key West to Dry Tortugas October 19-27. To view details of Arizona Sailing Adventure club, please view their Meetup website at http://www.meetup.com/SailingAdventure.

Scottsdale Sea & Ski Club, (SS&SC), is an adult ski and social club also. SS&SC hosts a happy hour every Friday evening. The SS&SC enjoyed Lake Powell on a Houseboat trip in September of 2014. Ralph Wills brought his ski boat and led tours of Rainbow Bridge. Ray Yonan brought along his jet skis for everyone to play on. Bonnie and Gene prepared a delicious Italian dinner. No one went home hungry (or thirsty) from this trip! Also in September of 2014 the SS&SC went to Catalina Island on two of Mike Nolan's sailing boats. There was sailing every day and plenty of sightseeing. It is hard to describe the beauty of Lake Powell and Catalina Island. The SS&SC will also be going on a ski trip to Breckinridge, Colorado in February 2015. The SS&SC will offer a dive trip to Roatan in June 2015. In September of 2015 the SS&SC will be doing a sight seeing adventure to London and Paris. For more information go to www.scottsdale-skiclub.com.

Boeing Employee Adventure Club continues their social schedule and family events around town. Employees may contact www.boeing.com for more information about recreation activities that are planned! Partytime Sports, (PTS), is an adult ski, boating, and social club that plans boating trips to get them through the summer heat. During the winter they do a ski trip to Telluride, Colorado during Arizona Days. For more information, contact them at gg4@qwest.net.

Feel free to check out any of the clubs activities through Facebook or links for the council website www.arizonaskicouncil.org.

Submitted by, Arleigh Meiners President ASC

Central Council of California





By Fran Long President Central Council of California

Central Council serves ski, sport and social clubs throughout the central California area. Currently, clubs are located in Fresno, Exeter, Bakersfield, Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, and Salinas. Interested snowsports enthusiasts living in any of our geographical areas are encouraged to check out our Meetup site and consider joining one of our clubs. Our site can be found by searching Meetup in the Paso Robles area.

Central Council is gearing up for a fantastic snowsports season this winter. We have a healthy group of 40+ looking forward to going to Telluride with the FWSA North American Ski Week. In addition, we are busy planning for 2-3 short trips to Mammoth Mountain, and at least one short trip to the Tahoe area.

Our council is always supportive of Far West Ski Association trips and activities. In addition to the Telluride ski week, we have members excited about skiing with FWSA in Italy, as well as going on the upcoming dive trip. Once again, Central Council will be hosting the pool party at the annual FWSA convention, being held next year in Arizona.

As a council, we are all about supporting our seven member clubs, building friendships, and supporting our larger organizations, Far West Ski Association and the National Ski Council Federation. Visit our Meetup site for council information, and links to our member clubs' information:

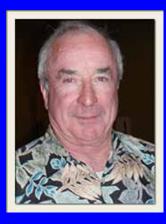
http://www.meetup.com/Central-Council-Ski-Clubs/members/184988046/

Jane Wyckoff - Continued from page 5

Elections, ByLaws voting and FWSA business was conducted at the Sunday General Session. Steve Coxen from the Northwest Ski Club Council was elected President for a second time, as he served as FWSA President from 2000-2003. Clubs and councils were recognized for their outstanding community service efforts, and the Outstanding Club and Council Awards, and Club and Council Communication Awards were presented.

We extend a special thank you to our industry partners who support our Association by participating in the Silent Auction/Travel Expo and as sponsors throughout the weekend. We are also very appreciative of the team of FWSA and SDCSC council volunteers involved with hosting this year's Convention under the leadership of Eileen Sanford, Host Council Convention Coordinator. Detailed information and pictures highlighting our many programs conducted at the Annual FWSA Convention are included in this issue of *The Councilman*.

Intermountain Ski Council





Paul Markowitz President Intermountain Ski Council

All clubs in the Council are making strides to retain and recruit new members. We are looking for those younger outdoor enthusiasts. The Bogus Basin Ski Club will be working several mountain biking events this summer to sell the club and its benefits.

The Idaho Falls Ski Club is working with other organizations to recruit new members and has had an open house to let the community know about them.

The Cheyenne Club has had some new members and one is interested in working with the council. They are planning their calendar for the upcoming season.

The Council's ski trip is being planned for February, 2016. We will be going to Powder Mountain and Snow Basin. More details will be coming soon.

The Council is in the early planning stage for the 85th Annual FWSA Convention in Boise 2017. It will be a very ACTIVE and EXCITING convention with many FREE events. Put the dates on your calendar now. (June 5-9, 2017)

By Michael Bouton

Steve Coxen - Continued from page 3

Our 84th Annual Convention will be in Scottsdale, Arizona in June 2016. We are planning many fun optional events, another exciting Silent Auction on Friday and our schedule of many activities on Saturday. You can expect improvements to our program and some pleasant surprises. Please mark your calendar for this event and make plans to attend.

To all of you, have a fun ski season and stay safe. I look forward to seeing you on the slopes, on some of our trips, and at our Convention in Scottsdale, Arizona.



Northwest Ski Club Council



By Sylvia Kearns President Northwest Ski Club Council

The Northwest Ski Club Council (NWSCC) came back from a fantastic FWSA Convention in San Diego energized and ready to move forward in the planning of the 2015-2016 Ski Year. We are currently in the midst of Board of Director Retreats and monthly meetings to put structure to new ideas and increase communication with our members. Our quarterly meetings and annual Ski Fair are the primary focus for increasing participation. New board members are being supported by those that continue in their role as board members. On June 17th, 2015 the annual combined election of officers occurred. The council board and our race league (PACRAT) both elect officers at this time. Some board members serve on both boards which increases support overall. The officers as listed below for NWSCC are:

President: Sylvia Kearns
Vice President: Sue Rimkeit
Secretary: John Orefice
Treasurer: Bill King
Director at Large: Linda McGavin
Director at Large: Barbara Bousoum
PACRAT President: Andy Hobart

Additional directors were appointed by Sylvia Kearns and confirmed by the elected board members. Outgoing President, Steve Coxen thanked other outgoing officers that are not returning for their **years** of dedicated service. Julie Rasmussen- outgoing secretary and Marcia Brighton- outgoing treasurer were given recognition at the June 17th general meeting. NWSCC recognizes that without volunteers in NWSCC, FWSA and National Ski Council Federation (NSCF) we would not be able to provide charitable support, travel and racing programs, to name a few.

An unseasonably warm winter provided a number of challenges to all aspects of snowsports. Some club members found that "following the snow" was the answer to their ski dreams. For those with less flexibility it was more difficult. Ski racing at all levels was put to a new challenge. Double race days, skiing in foggy weather and shedding a few layers in March was unusually common. That brings to our attention the benefit of being in organizations that provide many opportunities across the country. As we plan for the upcoming year we are learning to remember how to plan and be flexible.

NWSCC's safety person, Sue Rimkeit, also serves as Vice President. She is always on the lookout for opportunities to provide information for safer ski travel, time spent on the slopes and overall snowsports safety. She is currently outlining a program to implement a "whistle" campaign that would provide members with a NWSCC logo specific safety whistle.

We look forward to another year working with our Industry Partners and nonprofit organizations.

Sylvia Kearns, President NWSCC

president@nwskiers.org www.nwskiers.org www.pacrats.org





Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs

By Kathleen Byrnes
President Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs

Did you know--it rained hard in the city of Los Angeles several times this summer, which it almost never does! This has raised expectations for an El Nino winter here in Southern California with lots of precipitation, at least some of which will hopefully be white and fluffy.

I was recently asked what activities Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs (LAC) sponsors during the 'off season' and I replied, "None, as we could never compete with all the outings and events our clubs offer during the non-skiing seasons". Two clubs, Westwood and Century City, offer water skiing weekends throughout the summer to the Sacramento Delta, and another, The River Rats, go skiing on the Colorado River. Then there was the 4 Seasons Houseboat trip, Snow Busters trip to Belize, and the almost weekly outings hosted by the clubs --biking, hiking, sailing, wine-tasting, kayaking and golfing as well as every flavor of party that could be imagined. In September, Beach Cities will once again host its world-famous (or is it, infamous!) Clambake 'glamping' event in the Santa Ynez valley and 4 Seasons will float their houseboats over Lake Mead before heading out to Tuscany in November.

While the temperatures still soar, it is hard to think about winter but a number of LA Council clubs have trips scheduled for the 2015-2016 season: Beach Cities to Vail; Conejo to Jackson Hole; Grindelwald to Snow Mass; Pacific Rim Alliance and Singles to Big White; and Long Beach/Century City/Space Park/ Edelweiss combining for a trip to Aspen. More trips are still to be announced but, with the Far West trips to Telluride, Crested Butte and Cortina/Florence/Rome, it appears there will be a full calendar of trips to tempt everyone.

LA Council was well represented at the FWSA Convention by over 30 club members and 14 of the clubs and club members were recognized with FWSA awards, including Man of the Year for Dave Felker, Century City Ski Club.

Four new LAC Council Board members were elected earlier this year: Secretary—Ginger Caples-Urode, Single Ski Club; Membership—Todd Hood, Snowbusters Ski Club; Communications—Joshua Erwin, 4 Seasons Ski Club; and President—Kathleen Byrnes, Wailers Ski Club. They joined four continuing members who provide a great balance as we move into this new year: Past President--Sandra Knapp, Grindelwald Ski Club; Programs--Paula Hazzard, Edelweiss Ski Club; Treasurer--Karen James, Edelweiss Ski Club; and Travel--Sandy Blackwell, Single Ski Club.

On August 22, the Council hosted club presidents to come together to share challenges and ideas over a catered luncheon, followed by a leadership training session.

Continued on next page



Councils' Man and Woman of The Year 2015 Award Winners: Linda Westlund and

LA Council's Dave Felker



Kathleen Byrnes - Continued from previous page

Two additional activities will mark the coming year.

- The annual Snow Gala will be held the evening of October 24 at Pickwick Gardens in Burbank. The theme for this evening of dinner and dancing is Masquerade Snow Ball. As in past years, the event includes a silent auction benefiting the Unrecables Ski Club's adaptive sports program and a raffle for exciting prizes including a Mammoth Mountain weekend and custom-made skis.
- Once again, LA Council will participate in Ski Dazzle, the Los Angeles Ski Show and Snowboard Expo on December 4-6 at the Los Angeles Convention Center with the goal of attracting new club members.



LA Council Members Attending 2015 Far West Convention

LA Council BOD



Orange Council of Ski Clubs





ORANGE COUNCIL OF SKI CLUBS

By Sheila Van Gelder President Orange Council of Ski Clubs

Orange Council had eighteen attendees at the recent FWSA Convention. We are proud of our Orange Council Man and Woman of the Year, Betsy Pedley and Jess Gorman. Outstanding members of their own ski clubs, they have spent many years supporting the sport of skiing. Orange Council thanks them for representing us so well.

We are most proud of George Kish who won the J. Stanley Mullin award for his efforts in club, council and national organizations serving and supporting the sport of skiing. Not just for the prior two years but for many years.

The annual Orange Council picnic is being held on October 10. It was a big success last year and we are planning to use the same location in Newport Beach again this year. Last October we had over 40 attendees and Huntington Beach Ski Club provided a croquet set engaging many players for a rousing game. There are also tennis courts available for the ambitious athletes.

We are looking forward to the Telluride Ski Week. VP of Travel, Jess Gorman reports that the trip is almost full. The Balboa Ski and Sports Club is taking 30 with Connie Peacock in the lead, Carol Kane will be leading a group from Snowbounders Ski Club. Sheila Van Guilder is planning an exciting trip to Italy next year, April 26-May 1, 2016.

In June, July and August Balboa Ski and Sports Club holds their meetings on the Newport Bay, where dinner is served and dancing follows. John Symes, a long time member and pro DJ spins the platters. This popular venue usually brings out 80 to 100 members.

Judy Thurman has accepted the position of Convention Chair as Orange Council moves forward to host the 2018 FWSA Convention. Judy has spent four years as council president and her leadership and hard work is much appreciated by the Council.

San Diego Council of Ski Clubs



By Tom Bundgard President San Diego Council of Ski Clubs



Our Italy Bike and Barge Trip April 4-12 was another wonderful experience for all participants.

I would like to thank all of the volunteers that made the 83rd Annual Far West Ski Association Convention on June 4-7 a huge success. Our Host Council Director (and Past President) Eileen Sanford did an awesome job coordinating everything.

We thanked the council officers, representatives and club presidents for all their time and effort keeping San Diego Council successful with a Council Appreciation Dinner at Hunter Steakhouse Mission Valley on June 17, 2015. The Annual Council Summer Happy Hour will be held at 57 Degrees on August 5, 2015 from 5 to 7 p.m. (or whenever) in lieu of our regular council meeting.

The Viking Rhine River Cruise on August 21-28 is full (with a waitlist).

Our next big event is the Gala at The Holiday Inn San Diego Bayside in Point Loma on November 7, 2015. This event brings all the clubs together to open the ski season with a BANG! Men and Women of the Year from each club will be honored and San Diego Council of Ski Club's (SDCSC) Man and Woman of the Year will be announced.

The following weekend, November 13-15, SDCSC members will volunteer at the annual Snow Jam event at the famous Del Mar Fairgrounds.

Get Off Your Rockers has a few openings on their "once in a lifetime" Egypt and the Eternal Nile trip, November 9-23, 2015. All SDCSC members are invited. This all-inclusive trip is \$4500 per person double occupancy. For more information, contact Judi Ravetti at judi.ravetti@gmail.com.

The highly successful Council trip to Aspen 10-16 December is full (with a waitlist).

We are looking forward to the FWSA and SDCSC trip to Telluride. Alan Godwin will lead our group of happy San Diegans.

We are happy to announce the 2016 SDCSC trip to Ireland and Scotland September 1-15 for \$3651 with an extension to Octoberfest (Munich) September 16-18 for an additional \$699. There are options for separate trips to Ireland September 1-9 for \$2279 or Scotland September 9-15 for \$2640. Come join Eileen Sanford on this exciting trip. Information and flyers for all trips can be found at www.skisandiego.org.

Sierra Ski Club Council





By Jo Simpson President Sierra Ski Club Council

SIERRA COUNCIL CLUBS ENJOY SUMMER

Our larger Sierra Clubs have been enjoying summer activities, while looking forward to the coming ski season.

The council held our annual end of season party in early May where we elected officers for 2015-2016. Our officers are: President, Jo Simpson; Vice President, Greg Peairs; Vice President, Travel, Debbie Stewart; Secretary, Glynis Foulk; Treasurer, Lauri Thompson; Race Director, Nan Carnal; Head Gatekeeper, Bill Ramoni; Newsletter Editor, Beth Perryman; and Webmaster Pavel Bosin.

The Las Vegas Ski and Snowboard Club have been escaping the scorching heat by attending summer theater performances at the Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, which is at a higher (hence cooler) elevation than Las Vegas. They enjoyed a golf weekend in St. George, Utah, in May. They also have been taking day hikes into the nearby mountains.

The Reno Ski and Recreation Club held their annual Facademies party and awards evening in June. The annual event involves both serious and humorous awards presentations and the dinner and dance. They are taking a week long camping trip to Crater Lake in August and a trip to Sierra City to stay in cabins or RVs along the Yuba River. They are looking forward to a ski trip to Vail in March.

The Cabernet Ski and Race Club held their annual summer party at the home of Barbara and Donn Bryant.

For the council, our race league schedule is almost set. We will be having our annual budget and planning meeting in early fall to get ready for the coming season. We are hoping for bountiful snow!



By Richard Lubin, D.C. Safety Committee Chair

Greetings! This year saw a lot of qualified safety entries. It should be this way every year! Your responses indicate the need for good applicants to compete for this award on a yearly basis. It would be excellent if each council president could get a nomination from their group.

This year we had entries from Northwest Ski Club Council, Sierra Ski Club Council, Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs, Bay Area Snow Sports Council and San Diego Council of Ski Clubs.

It is important that everyone understands that what we are looking for well done, novel ideas--ideas that are well implemented and seen by many. Also, some of the great classic things like ski patrol.

This year safety award winner Kat Severin, O.D. made a video about ultraviolet light. She had this posted on the NSAA website. She handed out business cards with this logo at several different places. It should also be posted on the Far West website. She has given us permission to do so. If you have not seen it take a look. I learned a few things by watching it myself. This is the YouTube website address: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OXNXqIH_5dc

As always, it has been a great honor to serve.

FAR WEST SKI ASSOCIATION

Telluride • Jan 30 - Feb 6, 2016





Package Includes:

Welcome Party
Mountain Rally
Mountain Picnic
Racing
Pub Crawl
Banquet
Awards après Party
5-6 day lift tickets

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FWSA 2016 Int'l Ski Trip to Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy



Ski Week in Cortina d'Ampezzo – March 5-12, 2016*

*Tentative Departure dates for the BASIC Cortina Ski Week: depart the US on March 4, 2016 and return flight from Italy on March 13, 2016 HOLDANI (Due to proper AIRLINE schedules, during the Basic Cortina trip there may be an overnight stay in Mestre (Venice airport hotel) prior to returning to the US – details to be pro

BASIC Cortina trip: Estimated SFO air transp. = \$1132.00* Estimated LAX air transportation = \$1094

Optional Extension or Stand Alone trip – Florence and Rome March 12-19,

#Tent. Departure dates for the BASIC Cortina Ski Week & EXTENSION Florence / Rome: depart the US on March 3, 2016 and return from Italy on March (Due to proper AIRLINE schedules, there may be an overnight stay upon arrival in Mestre(Venice airport hotel) during the Basic & Extension trips – details to be

<u>BASIC & Extension trip:</u> Estimated SFO air transp. = \$1094.00* Estimated LAX air transportation = \$10 (Alternative airport arrangements may be made and deviations are limited)

(Air prices **Do Include** estimated Fuel surcharges, Taxes and current Exchange Rate – subject to clearly our are arranging your **OWN** flights but wish to take the FWSA bus transfers, you **must** coordinate your schedule with the FWSA. No special alternate pick up or drop offs by the bus will be permitted.

It is HIGHLY recommended to use FWSA air transportation!

*The Cortina pricing based on a min. of 80 people and the Extension pricing is based on a min. of 30 peo subject to change if requirements are not met. Exchange rate of 1.10 US Dollar vs.1 Euro. All local taxes in

Ski Week in Cortina d'Ampezzo - March 5-12, 2016

2 Lodging properties to choose from...1 Ski Resort to enjoy!

Approximate Land Package at Hotel Concordia (Not including Air) = \$1354.00pp Double Occupancy
Approximate Land Package at Hotel Ancora (Not including Air) = \$1417.00pp Double Occupancy
Single Supplement rooms, Jr. Suite rooms & Suites are available – quantities are limited

Pricing based on a min. of 80 people & current exchange rate of 1.10 US Dollar vs. 1 Euro which is subject to cha



Cortina d'Ampezzo is one of Italy's most famous and extensive ski towns. The staged the Winter Olympics in 1956 and is a popular stop on the World Cucircuit for the women's speed disciplines and is set to host the 2021 Alpin Championships. It boasts interesting slopes for all levels of skiers and as or historic resorts in the "Best of the Alps". Cortina, one of the most beautiful set the Alps, located in the Grand Dolomiti Superski circuit with 1200 kilometers of terrain. It offers a total of 140 kilometers of ski trails and 43 lifts along will country skiing, telemarking, snow shoeing, snow kiting, ice driving, ice climber much more. The town itself is a large resort with two cable cars from either elemants.

Centre accessing the main ski areas. The Centre has been pedestrianized along the Corso Italia. Among luxury hotels, visitors can also see many high-fashion clothing and sports shops.

Trip includes:

- All airport ground transfers. Multi-lingual guide meeting the FWSA Group Air people upon arrival
- 7 nights' accommodations with breakfast daily at your hotel and Wi-Fi in hotel room
- 5 Dinners at your hotel 2 nights **FREE** to experience the local Italian restaurants of your choice.
- Welcome/Orientation and Farewell Party
- Gratuities to bus drivers, transfer guides and restaurant staff
- Après ski party details to be provided
- Venice optional day tour will include St. Mark's Square and Basilica, the Clock Tower and of course a gondoryet leaving free time to explore!

Make checks out to: Far West Ski Association (FWSA). Please reference "FWSA 2016 ITALY Trip" on each check.

Send to: Debbie Stewart

FWSA VP of Int'l Travel 430 S. Church St. Visalia, CA 93277

FwsaIntlTrvl@prodigy.net or cell: 559/737-0882

CST # 2036983-40



Far West Ski Association's

2016 Mini Ski Trip

March 21st to 26th, 2016

Adult & Senior package prices range from: \$580 to \$775

Price does NOT include air or ground transportation

"The Voice of the Western Skier"



FOUNDED 1930

Included:

Five night's deluxe lodging

@ Slopeside Grand Lodge
(Condos available upon request)

3 or 4 Day Lift Tickets
Welcome Party
Farewell Party

Optional Activities:

Snowmobiling
Snowbiking
Zipline Tours
Day Spa
Sleigh Ride Dinner
Snowshoe Tours

Adventure Park:

Mini Golf Bungee Trampolines Tubing Wall Climbing

Mountain Resort is considered a holdout, retaining its small town charm and adventurous soul that it's always had. The mountain has an abundance of wide open green & blue groomed trails to more advanced long cruisers & the famous extreme limits of the North Face & Headwall. The mountain has it all.





This trip is limited to a maximum of 100 participants
(Dates are flexible based on availability)

Contact Gloria Raminha
661-829-5996 or 661-800-8229

garski2011@gmail.com

or

Signup and make payments online at www.fwsa.org Must be a Member of a Far West Ski Association affiliated club or a FWSA Direct Member

FWSA CST #2036983-40



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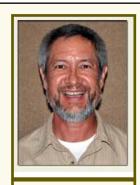
johnoreinhardt@hotmail.com



Leigh Gieringer, Far West Skier's Guide Editor

FWSA keeps a database on members, clubs, and councils. It is important that information in this database be current so that communications are received in a timely manner. Let me know if there are changes in club or council officers, changes in membership addresses and phone numbers, changes in members' club affiliations, or if your club or council has changed its meeting location. Requests for information from the database must be sent to the FWSA President (Steve Coxen) for approval before it will be dispersed. The Far West Ski Association website (www.fwsa.org) has a Ski Club Officer Update Form that can be downloaded, completed, and mailed to me at:

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