# THE COUNCILMAN





Featuring a recap of the 82nd Annual Far West Shi
Association Convention
held in Bend, Oregon
June 12-15, 2014

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

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On cover: Arctic Heli-Skiing Revelstoke Selkirk Tangiers *Photo courtesy: Arctic Heli-Skiing* 

"Heli-skiing is off-trail, downhill skiing that is accessed by a helicopter, as opposed to a ski lift. Heli-skiing is essentially about skiing in a natural, albeit highly selected environment, without the effort required for hiking into these areas as in ski touring or ski mountaineering.

Most heli-skiers are seeking specific, pleasurable skiing conditions that are hard to replicate in the highly manipulated terrain of ski resorts: particularly powder snow, but also long descents, natural terrain contours and features, smooth corn snow, old-growth tree glades, and steep slopes.

The presence of the guide and aircraft offers protection against the risks and discomforts unavoidably associated with entering this mountainous environment, allowing skiers with little or no mountain sense to enjoy a natural environment.

The term heli-boarding is used if the participant is snowboarding instead of skiing. For the purpose of this article, "heli-skiing" also covers snowboarding in this manner. "

Source: Wikipedia: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Heliskiing



Editor, The Councilman cmburdet@pacbell.net

Convention Photos courtesy of Doug Miller, Photo Visions

## FWSA HOLDS SUCCESSFUL CONVENTION AND MUCH MORE

### By Linda Scott, President

I am proud to announce that our recently concluded 82nd Annual Far West Ski Association Convention held in Bend, Oregon was a huge success. This success is a direct result of many hours of planning and execution by our talented and dedicated volunteers, as well as the generous support of our sponsors and donors. Thank you to all whose contribution made the convention special, and one for the history books.

The planning and coordination of our Convention was led by Jane Wyckoff, our FWSA Convention Chair. I sincerely thank Jane for her extraordinary dedication and hard work. I would also like to thank Debbi Kor for her diligent work with our convention sponsors and industry registration; Catherine Ohl, who worked tirelessly with audio visual presentations, our awards programs, and with designing all of our materials; and Mary Olhausen, Host Council Convention Coordinator and FWSA Silent Auction Chair, who did a superb job organizing and directing the Silent Auction while providing great leadership organizing



Linda Scott FWSA President

volunteers. In addition, Mary initiated our first Taste of Bend, which was a huge success and hopefully can be replicated at following Conventions. Thanks go to all the Northwest Ski Club Council volunteers for their hard work, in particular our Optional Events leaders Debbi Kor, Heidi Munson, John and Jeannie Reinhardt and Dale Parshall for conducting these events. Others who stepped forward to volunteer were Committee Members Linda McGavin, Dave and Julie Rasmussen, Sheri Parshall, Sue Rimkeit, Louise DuFresne, Emilio Trampuz and Norvin Peer. Thanks also to Harry Davis and his lovely wife Karen who were our fantastic Silent Auction Auctioneer and Auctioneer Assistant. All of your efforts are greatly appreciated!

Thanks also to our industry partners and sponsors who, through your generosity and support, are instrumental to our growth and success.

We had fantastic VIP presentations from guests including: Jess McMillan, a World Tour Champion Freeskiier who has won more Freeskiing competitions than any other competitor; Billy Kidd, 1964 Olympic Slalom Silver Medalist and Director of Skiing at Steamboat; John Gifford, President of Pacific Northwest Ski Areas Association; Matthew Drake, National Ski & Snowboard Association Director for Pacific Northwest Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Mt. Hood Meadows Ski Resort; Curtis Norsen, Patrol Director and Risk Manager at Mt. Bachelor; John Allen, Forest Supervisor, Deschutes National Forest; and Dave Ludwig, founder of Hope on the Slopes, an organization that has raised over \$2.5 million for the American Cancer Society.

Also attending our convention this year was one of our FWSA Athletic Scholarship Recipients: Jordan Schweitzer. Jordan is a five-time scholarship winner and is sponsored by Skiyenti Ski Club. Congratulations go to all our award winners!

Our Snowsports Builder Award for 2014 was awarded posthumously to Cliff Blann, who for over 50 years worked to promote and develop Mt. Bachelor. Dennis Heffley of the Rusty Bindings Ski Club and a member of Bay Area Snow Sports Council was awarded the FWSA Safety Person of the Year, and Emilio Trampuz of the Northwest Ski Club Council and Mountain High Snowsport Club received the FWSA Western Ski Heritage Award for assembling a history of skiing on Mt. Hood.

FWSA is a non-profit, volunteer based organization funded by the generosity of the ski industry through their Silent Auction donations, industry sponsorship of our programs, and successful travel programs. Our volunteers donate countless hours of their personal and family time to FWSA.

We are always seeking new volunteers, so if you are interested in stepping forward and volunteering your time, we want to hear from you. All our contact information is on our website at www.fwsa.org.

We also held elections on Sunday morning of the convention, and I want to welcome all our newly elected Board of Directors officers. We have a busy agenda ahead, and I look forward to hearing your ideas and goals to modernize FWSA. We are also bidding a fond farewell to those officers stepping aside. Thank you for all your efforts, achievements and dedication.

I am excited about the coming year and look forward to taking FWSA to the next level by creating an outreach program to recruit more clubs into the FWSA family. I will be working closely with our new VP of Membership Jane Gutierrez to accomplish this goal. We are also working to continue to improve our online registration and payment system, streamline our awards and recognition programs, create a new Environmental Protection and Preservation Award, and much more. Far West Ski Association is on the march, so stay tuned for a great year at FWSA!

## **VP of Communications**

**By Jim Nachbar** 

Now that Convention is over, I am pleased to report that online registration for Convention is a reality, with over 50% of the Convention registrations being done online. In addition, some members used FWSA-Connect to add additional Convention activities to their datebook even after the original registration was complete and paid for. FWSA-Connect allowed them to view their registrations whenever



they wanted, and provided proof positive that their registrations and credit card payments had been received.

FWSA-Connect (currently hosted at <a href="https://fwsa-connect.herokuapp.com">https://fwsa-connect.herokuapp.com</a>) allows you to create your own account, and then sign up for trips, events, and the Convention. You can also upload your FWSA-related photos and videos, so we can include them in our slideshows and publications. You can also submit photos and videos by texting them to 343434 with keyword "FWSA" (without the quotes).

For the coming year, in addition to adding more trips and events as they become available, we plan to add additional interactive features, as well as a mechanism for clubs to promote their trips and events across FWSA, and a simpler and maintenance-free mechanism to let their members know about FWSA events and activities. Let us know your ideas for how the interactive features of FWSA-Connect can help you and your club!

FWSA.ORG (*http://www.fwsa.org*) continues to be the main venue for you to learn what FWSA is doing. Catherine Ohl designed and maintains the site, as well as doing most of the other design work for FWSA. Connie Burdette publishes *The Councilman* three times a year, and Leigh Gieringer has started work on the 2014-2015 edition of the *Far West Skier's Guide*.

At Convention, I had several members suggest that we periodically send out an email with info about Far West. Actually, we have been doing that for several years. Every month, Debbi Kor sends out the *Far West News Flash*. To get it, go to *http://fwsa.org/MemberCorner/Publications/NewsFlash/NewsFlash.html* and enter your email address and read the previous and current months' copies.

George Stewart has been busy producing and publishing multimedia videos to our YouTube channel at <a href="https://www.youtube.com/user/FarWestSkiAssoc">https://www.youtube.com/user/FarWestSkiAssoc</a>, including videos about the recent Zermatt and Spain trips, and the upcoming Cozumel Dive Trip. Take a look and remember the fun (or see what you are missing!)

We have also been looking for volunteers to help us post on *Facebook* and *Twitter*. If you would like to join the communications team and help post for us, please let us know!

We are excited about the coming year, and look forward to hearing from you how we can further improve the FWSA Communications Program.

### Council Services Welcomes New Presidents

The FWSA Council Presidents welcome three new council presidents to our group.

The new Orange Council President is Sheila Van Guilder. We wish Judy Thurman a well-deserved rest, although it will be short-lived since she will be our host convention chair for 2018.



Jo Simpson VP Council Services

Steve Coxen is the new Northwest Council President. Mary Olhausen did a great job as our just-ended 2014 convention host. Thank you Mary for everything you did to give us a wonderful convention.

Tom Bundgard is the new San Diego Council President. Eileen Sanford did a great job chairing our group for four years as Vice President Council Services. She will not be getting much rest, however, since she is host council chair for our convention next year in San Diego.

We congratulate our new presidents and extend our best wishes to those who are leaving the group.

Our focus for our July council presidents meeting will be budget preparation and looking at making some changes in the Club and Council Awards Program for the coming year. Crissymarie King has worked hard to professionalize the program and in cooperation with Catherine Ohl, put the submissions process and the judging on line. Catherine designed electronic forms for all the awards submissions. We extend our appreciation to both of them for all their good work.

In addition to the Club and Council Awards, Council Services programs include Charities and Our Communities, Man and Woman of the Year, and Family and Youth.

As the link between FWSA and our club members, the council presidents are looking forward to planning for the new club, council and FWSA year at our July meeting.



Celebrating "Volcanic Paradise"



Jenna Bell Hall and Katie Balkwill from Big White Ski Resort with Jo Simpson

## VP of Marketing & Sponsorship By Debbi Kor

## THAT'S A WRAP FOR ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL CONVENTION

Members of *Northwest Ski Club Council* are breathing a sigh of relief after spending the past year planning *one of the best conventions ever!* Members organized, led and volunteered at the many events and activities held throughout the weekend of June 12-15, including the Pub Crawl on Thursday night, as well as the Golf Tournament, the Geological Hike at Smith Rock State Park, and the fun and fabulous, Shop-Dine-Wine in the Old Mill District of Bend on Friday.



Debbi Kor VP of Marketing and Sponsorship

Our friends Ann Cook and Terese Jarvis from *Mt. Bachelor* organized an event on Thursday morning for those who came into town early. After being picked up at the Riverhouse by the Bend Trolley, they left for a quick tour of Bend and then headed up to Mt. Bachelor for lunch at Pine Marten Lodge. After lunch, the group had the choice of returning to the Riverhouse, or going biking with Cog Wild or canoeing with Wanderlust Tours.

The Pub Crawl, sponsored by *Steamboat Ski & Resort Corporation*, and led by Your's Truly, took our 115 guests to five spots throughout downtown Bend, beginning with *Deschutes Brewery* on the west side of town. The Brewery is a full-scale brewery with a beautiful meeting/dining room on the 2nd floor, overlooking Bend, with a great view of Mt. Bachelor. We spent an hour or more checking out the great brews on tap, as well as a wonderful buffet of pulled pork sliders, carved turkey breast, buffalo wings and fresh fruit and cheeses, while visiting with the many friends that we've not seen since last Convention. From there, our buses took us downtown Bend, where we were on our own to visit three other hot spots: *Press Northwest in the Double Tree Hotel*, the *Pine Tavern*, and *Bend Brewing Company*, before meeting up at our final stop, *McMenamin's Old St. Francis School* for dessert and a night cap before heading back to the Riverhouse. Many joined in Mt. High Snowsports Club version of "The Amazing Race" as they toured about downtown, seeking clues which led them to some fun prizes at the end of the evening.

The 8th Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament, held at River's Edge Golf Course, and led by *Skiyente Ski Club* and *Schnee Vogeli Ski Club* on Friday was a memorable one. Thirteen teams of golfers began their morning with a quick breakfast followed by a shotgun start at 7 a.m. For something fun and different, we had hole sponsors this year. The sponsors had the choice of doing something special at their particular hole, and took advantage by making the players choose their club from a deck of cards, downing a Jello Shot, or using a "plumbers tool" on the 18th hole. Lots of stories and photos were shared throughout the weekend of all the fun.

Other outside activities on Friday included the Geologic Wonderland Tour to Smith Rock State Park, led by *Bergfreunde Ski Club*, with 30+ participants, or an outing to the Old Mill District for shopping, lunch and wine tasting at Naked Winery. This event, sponsored by *Aspen Skiing Company* and *Snowmass Tourism*, was led by *Cabernet Ski and Sail Club*.

Once everyone was done with their morning activities, they returned to the

Continued next page

Riverhouse and a relaxing party on the deck of the Riverhouse. The River Party was sponsored by the *The Riverhouse Hotel and Convention Center* and *Copper Mountain*, and hosted by *Central Council*, who did an outstanding job of keeping their guests busy with a number of games and activities, while having the chance to mingle with friends and catch up on their day.

Friday night's Silent Auction was a huge success, and boasted wine tasting by *Naked Winery* and *Volcano Vineyards*, as well as the *Taste of Bend*, featuring bites of Central Oregon cuisine. What a great new option for guests as they made their way around the ballroom, bidding on terrific ski and adventure packages. This event was sponsored by: *Sun Valley, Jackson Hole Mountain Resort, Mt. Hood Meadows, Winter Park Ski Resort, Whistler/Blackcomb, Tourism Whistler, The Crystal Lodge, Tantulus Lodge* and Lodging *Ovations of Whistler*, as well as *Portland Ski Fever & Snowboard Show* and *Northwest Ski Club Council*.

Saturday morning's Travel Expo also saw a slight variation of the typical Travel Expo that we've been doing. Instead of everyone meeting one-on-one with our industry partners, we began the morning with the resorts broken out into one of five Regions. Participants chose two regions that they wanted to meet with, and were able to get a 10-minute overview of each particular region before then sitting down for their four required one-on-one appointments. We are anxious to receive feedback on whether our participants want to see this model used in the future.

Saturday's luncheon, sponsored by *Vail Resorts* was the time to recognize a number of our guests and to listen to our keynote speaker, *Jess McMillan*, Free Skiing World Tour Champion. Jess spoke of her May, 2012 challenge to climb and ski 15 volcanoes in 15 days throughout California, Oregon and Washington, with friend and fellow skier, *Chris Davenport*. Ending the *Ring of Fire* tour on Washington's Mt. Baker on May 19th, they climbed a total of 78,674 vertical feet and hiked more than 141 miles.

Saturday night's awards banquet, hosted by *Ski Group.Net* and *Ski.Com*, was a great way to end another fun-filled convention. Awards were presented to the honorees of the FWSA Service Awards, the Far West Council's Man and Woman of the Year, the Western Ski heritage Award, and the Safety Person of the Year, as well as to those industry partners who have participated in the Silent Auction over the past 25 years. Also recognized were the many sponsors of our convention activities and events, including *Telluride Ski Resort* and *Mountain Lodge Telluride* who sponsored our outstanding band, "*Thrillride*". What a great way to end our evening!



Silent Auction Trade Show



Central Council members host the River Party

## VP of Membership By Jane Gutierrez

Hi everyone! My name is Jane Gutierrez and I am delighted to be the new Vice President of Membership on behalf of Far West Ski Association. I would like to thank Linda Scott, Jane Wyckoff, and Sandra Knapp for having the confidence in my abilities and I would also like to thank the councils for the vote of assurance! For those of you who are unaware of my background, let me give some insight into my history.



Jane Gutierrez VP of Membership

I am the current President of Four Seasons West Ski and Snowboard Club, which is one of the largest Urban clubs in the United States and was incorporated in 1966. The founder of Four Seasons, Ben Finley met Art Clay of Snow Gophers of Chicago in 1972, and decided that they could develop a summit with similar clubs in the United States. The first summit of 13 African American ski clubs met in Aspen, Colorado in February, 1973. By 1975, the National Brotherhood of Skiers (NBS) was incorporated. The NBS has grown to approximately 77 clubs in 43 cities with a membership of 8,000 plus members. The NBS is recognized by the ski industry as one of the largest ski organizations and its summits as the largest gathering of skiers and riders, more than any other ski convention in the United States. The mission of the NBS is to identify, develop, and support athletes of color who will win International and Olympic winter sports competitions representing the United States.

I have been an active member of Four Seasons for 25 years, and have served as new membership director, Operations Improvement Coordinator, trip leader, event planner, board member, Vice President, and my current position. Four Season's West is an integral part of the Los Angeles Council as well as the NBS. The NBS is also a member of the National Ski Council Federation. As your new Vice President I will immediately begin to integrate some of my sister clubs to participate. It is also one of my goals to increase collaboration between all of these factions because we all have many things in common. We all want more members, more families with youth who will train in the sport and represent the United States in competition. We also want to keep the industry alive so that we all can continue to enjoy this wonderful thing we call snowsports. Finally, we want to have fun while we work towards all of these goals!

I also would like to assess what the clubs are doing to improve their membership. What kinds of activities do you offer? Are there summer activities as well as winter programs? How do you welcome your new members? How do you prepare members for the physicality of snowsports? How are your marketing efforts?

I am quite excited about next year's leadership academy. I am anxious to hear what topics you would like to experience for next year. Would you enjoy a class on email marketing, Facebook, Instagram, or Meetup? Need some recruitment ideas? Do you know how millenials think? Let me know, and I will get to work! I am looking forward to meeting and working with you!



## **Town and Country Resort & Convention Center**

Reservations call 800-772-8527

**Group Name** Far West Ski Association

Online Reservations http://bit.ly/FWSA-lodging

Room Rates per night plus tax single or double occupancy

(choice of Royal Palm Tower, Regency Tower/Courtyard, Garden Room)

Deluxe Room \$140

### **Hotel Features**

- 32 lushly-landscaped acres in the heart of Mission Valley, 5 restaurants & 3 lounges, 3 Pools and Whirlpool, 14,000 sq. ft. Bella Tosca Day Spa-Salon-Fitness Center, 27-hole Championship Golf Course, adjacent to Fashion Valley Shopping Mall & Light Rail Trolley Stop
- NO Resort Fees, FREE In-room Wi-Fi
- Parking is \$5 per day
- Rates are available 3 days pre and post Convention

### **Transportation**

- Air transportation is via San Diego International Airport (SAN), located 7 miles from the Town & Country.
- Rental cars and shuttle services are available at the airport.
   The Cloud 9 Super Shuttle is currently \$11 per person one way.
- Jane Wyckoff
   FWSA Convention Chairperson
   janewyckoff1@cox.net
   or 949-933-9607
   fwsac
- Debbi Kor
   VP Marketing & Sponsorhip
   <u>fwsadebbi@comcast.net</u> or 503-314-7078

## **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
  - Midway Tour
  - Pub Crawl
- Friday Activities
  - Michael German Golf Tournament
  - Kayaking La Jolla Cove
  - Biking around Mission Bay
  - · Hiking
  - Pool Party

• Eileen Sanford
San Diego Host Council Convention Coordinator
eileensanford12@gmail.com or 858-695-1442

## VP of International Travel

By Debbie Stewart

It is my pleasure and a great honor to be re-elected for FWSA's VP of International Travel for a second term. Our International Travel program is continuing to advance at a steady pace and our commitment to capturing the imagination of our members, create adventuresome travel experiences with lasting friendships and memories continues to evolve.

I am happy to announce that FWSA's first Online Trip Registration starting with our 2014 South African Adventure trip has been utilized by several trip participants. Even though we have had our growing pains, together with Jim Nachbar developing our online registration, we have made great accomplishments. While progressing in this new direction, we plan on offering all future International trips as an online registration process.



Debbie Stewart VP of International Travel

As we continue to reach out to our members garnering their feedback about their desires and how to meet their international travel needs we have received some very interesting feedback from our Zermatt and Spain trip participants regarding their choice of lodging categories and pricing. Here is what they told us:

- A. 3 Star STANDARD lodging approx. cost \$1250.00 \$1750.00 = 2%
- B. 3 + Star STANDARD PLUS approx. cost 1751.00 2250.00 = 28.5%
- C. 4 Star DELUXE lodging approx. cost \$2251.00 \$3000.00 = 48%
- D. 4+ or 5 Star LUXURY approx. cost over \$3000.00 = 21.5%

To accumulate more accurate information, our International travel team will reach out to participants who traveled with FWSA in the past two years. I suspect these figures may vary some, but it is clear to me that many people do not want to travel with FWSA "Cheap".

George Stewart continues to create FWSA Travel videos which highlight and feature the values and benefits of traveling with FWSA. As of now we have a general travel overview video, a Zermatt video with 117 views, a Spain video with 64 views, a South Africa video with 105 views and a Dive trip video with 10 views. He will be creating a video for the 2015 International trip including Paris, Val d'Isere and Provence very soon. To view the Africa video go to: <a href="http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=50Lxa9X">http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=50Lxa9X</a> 514

In April, I once again represented FWSA at the Mountain Travel Symposium (MTS) in Beaver Creek, CO. I had the opportunity to meet many fellow travel directors and trip leaders from all over the U.S. The trade exchange portion of the week was very productive, meeting with various industry and resort representatives from all over the world. I continued to connect with our fellow FWSA ski club trip leaders to share ideas on how we can work together better. I feel it is very important to collaborate, not compete with our member clubs, therefore, I plan on working closer with our council and club presidents to not only complement, but enhance all travel opportunities. We all agreed that a master travel calendar to include all clubs, councils and FWSA trips would be extremely beneficial for our members.

### FWSA 2014 ADVENTURE TRIP to SOUTH AFRICA and VICTORIA FALLS:

We currently have 34 people signed up for this trip either by online registration or the traditional snail mail and are adding members on a case by case basis. There are many reasons to join FWSA for this trip of a lifetime:

- Your "Bucket list" destination that you have always wanted to experience.
- This trip has something for everyone the adventurer, nature lover, animal lover, wine taster, historian, photographer and the shopper.

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- Staying in top value 4-Star African Lodges and hotels for the unique African experience
- Post trip to Victoria Falls one of the "Great Wonders of the World": Sept. 16-19, 2014

This journey will take you to one of the most beautiful countries in the world, while experiencing a wide range of topography from plains to the mountains, to sandy beaches as well as a wide variety of history and culture. The animal and nature lover as well as the adventurer and photographer will experience nothing like it. You will participate in photographic safaris that will offer the true experience of world-class game preserves while we search to see the "Big 5" and many other animals and native birds in the wild. Besides the activities already included in the trips, we are offering optional activities while in So. Africa and Victoria Falls including helicopter rides, tree top canopy zip-line tour, Segway tour, mountain biking, elephant back safari and horseback safari tours.

This trip will be an experience of a lifetime and one you will always remember!

### **FWSA ANNUAL DIVE TRIPS:**

The 5th FWSA scuba dive trip will be held October 11-18, 2014 at the Occidental Grand in Cozumel, Mexico. This trip is available for both diver and non-divers and is priced accordingly. Randy Lew is once again the trip leader and we are currently taking signups.

The RFP is being developed for the 2015 dive trip to Fiji. This will be an exciting trip for both scuba divers and non-divers alike. Plan for yourself and invite your friends to join us for this one! Details will be available under the International Travel section at: www.fwsa.org

#### **FWSA 2015 INTERNATIONAL SKI WEEK:**

Our March 2015 International Ski Trip will be to Val D' Isere, France with optional pre-days in Paris and an extension trip to Provence and the French Riviera. We will spend 4 nights in Paris with a guided city tour, free



time to explore on your own and two optional activities – Palace of Versailles and Normandy. The Paris trip must be in conjunction with the ski week in Val d'Isere. Keep checking www.fwsa.org for exact trip dates and pricing.

Val d'Isere is truly a spectacular area which will offer our travelers a unique ski experience when one skis over the ridge to Tignes where their enormous ski area combined with Val D' Isere will be a skier's paradise. After careful bid comparison and analysis, Holidaze Ski Tours was selected as our tour operator. We will be offering two lodging properties. The Kandahar, a 3-Star property located in city center offers our members a lower- priced lodging option, yet only a short walk to the shuttle stop. The L'Aigle des Neiges, a 4-Star property offers our members excellent ski access to

the mountain and an upscale lodging option to meet those requests we have received from past participants. Daily breakfast and five dinners are included, leaving two evenings free to enjoy the local French restaurants.

The Provence/French Riviera trip can be included as an extension trip or as a "Stand Alone" trip in which we will make air transportation arrangements to have you meet the group in France. We will first spend three nights in Aix en Provence then travel to Nice with excursions to the French Riviera.

### PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE:

In our effort to announce trips earlier, the 2016 Adventure Trip has been approved by the board to offer days in London, the English Countryside and Ireland. Details to come.

We realize that our 2014 & 2015 trip destinations, while being top class, also demand higher pricing. Therefore, we are working diligently on making everyone's travel experience successful and we are researching locations that will offer our members more economical destinations while still providing them top quality trip experience. We are considering Italy and Austria for 2016 & 2017. More information will be provided soon.

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## VP of North American Travel

By Nancy Ellis

### 2015 WHISTLER/BLACKCOMB SKI WEEK

FWSA councils are busy selling spots for our 2015 Whistler Blackcomb Ski Week, January 31—February 7, 2015. We have allocated 590 pillows for this trip and I anticipate that we will reach 600 or more on this trip as word spreads that Whistler is our destination resort. Our councils will be staying in the following properties at Whistler: Aava Whistler; Aspens; Coast Blackcomb; Crystal Lodge & Suites; Delta Whistler Suites; Glacier Lodge; Stoney Creek; Tantalus; Four Seasons; and Westin. This resort is consistently ranked the number one resort in North America and features the Peak to Peak Gondola which moves between Whistler and Blackcomb Mountains. The resort features more than 200 shops, 90 restaurants and bars, and accommodations galore. It features a variety of winter activities for all, and was the proud host mountain for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympics games. Information about this trip and how to sign up is posted on the Far West Ski Association website <a href="https://www.fwsa.org">www.fwsa.org</a>.



Nancy Ellis VP of North American Travel

#### NORTH AMERICAN TRAVEL PROGRAM ADDS THREE NEW STAFF

The North American Travel Program welcomes three new assistant staff members for the Whistler Ski Week. It is not often that openings occur on ski week staff, and due to the anticipated large numbers on the Whistler trip as well as the retirement of assistant staff member Susan Shaffer (San Diego Council) at the end of the Aspen/Snowmass trip, FWSA board and Council Presidents were asked to send out the job announcement for one full time and two part time staff positions for the Whistler Ski week. We welcome Mary Alexander, Central Council, to the full time position assisting with air/ground transportation and other ski week tasks; Debbi Kor, Northwest Council, assisting with Registration and Parties (part-time); and John Walsh, Bay Area Snowsports Council assisting with racing (part-time).







Left to right: Mary Alexander, Central Council, Debbi Kor, Northwest Council and John Walsh, Bay Area Snow Sports Council

### 2015 MINI SKI TRIP—WHITEFISH MOUNTAIN RESORT

March 30—April 4 will be the mini ski trip to Whitefish Mountain Resort (staying at Grouse Mountain Lodge). Gloria Raminha will be our trip leader to Whitefish Mountain Resort. The first 100 people signing up for this trip are guaranteed an authentic Montana experience. The trip features airport ground transfers, 3- or 4-day lift tickets, transfers to the ski resort, and welcome and farewell parties. Other options include snowmobile tours, Summit Nature Center, day spa, Glacier Park tours, dogsled adventures, and sleigh rides. Adult package prices range from \$380-\$600. Contact Gloria Raminha 661-829-5996 or 661-800-8229 or garski2011@gmail.com.

#### 2015 MISSISSIPPI RIVER CRUISE

June 19—25 are the dates for the Mississippi River Cruise trip with an optional two day stay in New Orleans. The Continued on next page

### Nancy Ellis - Continued from previous page

American Queen Steamboat Company offers this 4-night paddle wheel trip from New Orleans with stops at Oak Alley Plantation & Baton Rouge, LA before returning to New Orleans. The adult package price for this trip is \$2,050--\$3,150 double occupancy. Trip includes all meals; wine & beer with dinner; one night's lodging in New Orleans before cruise; shore excursions; showboat-style entertainment; daily lectures, and more. A two day optional stay in New Orleans after the cruise includes lodging at Bienville House French Quarter Hotel. Participants can sign up for optional swamp boat tours and paranormal city excursions while in New Orleans.

Contact Nancy Ellis, Trip Leader, for information and to sign up: *fwsatravelnancy@sbcglobal.net*; (530) 414-8261.





Sign up for a Signature 5-day trip to Revelstoke, BC March 16—21, 2015 and heli-ski with other Far West friends. This trip includes 4-½ days of heli-skiing, all meals, snacks, lodge accommodations, use of specially designed heli-skis and poles, as well as training in and use of avalanche transceivers. It provides 71,000 feet of skiing of which 49,700 is guaranteed. A \$500 non-refundable deposit reserves your spot and the price is \$5,830 (twin occ. plus taxes), \$6,480 (single occ. plus taxes).

Sign up directly with Julie Noble, *jnoblecmh@msn.com* or (503) 841-8662. Request trip 15-RE135 March 16-21, 2015 and identify yourself as a member of Far West Ski Association. C

Contact Nancy Ellis *fwsatravelnancy@sbcglobal.net* for more information.

#### 2016 SKI WEEK BID PRESENTATIONS

Twenty-five council trip leaders, council presidents, ski week staff, and FWSA board members attended the bid presentations for 2016 Ski Week during the FWSA Convention in Bend. Presentations were given by the following six resorts: **Big Sky Resort** and **Ski.com**; **Breckenridge Ski Resort** and **Sports America Tours**; **Sun Valley** and **Skigroup.net**; **Telluride Ski Resort** and **Ski.com**; **Steamboat Ski Resort** and **Sports America Tours**; and **Winter Park Resort** and **Skigroup.net**. Each resort had approximately fifteen minutes to showcase their resort. Councils have received their bid summary information and will submit their votes for where they would like to go. The three resorts receiving the most council votes will be presented to the FWSA board at their July meeting with one resort being selected to host 2016 Ski Week.

#### 2016 MINI SKI TRIP

We are reviewing bid proposals for the 2016 Mini Ski Trip. This program gives the smaller ski resorts and lodging companies an opportunity to showcase their places and put on a ski trip for a group no larger than 100 people. This trip, scheduled for late ski season, includes 3—4 days of skiing, has a welcome and farewell party, and gives participants free time to schedule their own activities. At the time of publication, the following resorts had submitted proposals for the mini trip: Crested Butte Mountain Resort and Sports America Tours; Grand Targhee Resort; Nancy Greene's Cahilty Lodge; Panorama Mountain Village and Skigroup.net; Ski Banff, Lake Louise Ski Resort, Sunshine Ski Resort; and Sunshine Mountain Lodge. We will announce the location of the mini ski trip after the July FWSA board meeting.

Contact Nancy Ellis at **fwsatravelnancy@sbcglobal.net** or check the Far West Ski Association website **www.fwsa.org** for updates on the North American Travel program. Looking forward to seeing you on one of our trips!

## **VP Public Affairs**

**By Mike Sanford** 

I thought you would enjoy some post Olympics stories from a few different perspectives and some season statistics (from '13, not '14 – they will be out shortly).

Pondering the environmental impact and future of the costly Winter Olympics.

### By John Fry

The organization of the recent Sochi Olympics was superb, and it's no historical exaggeration to say that the staging of the competitions may have been the best of any Winter Games. When it comes to organizing mass events, there's something to be said for autocracies, or \$50-billion kleptocracies like Vladimir Putin's Russia.

ISHA's own Jean-Claude Killy, the IOC chief coordinator for the 2014 Winter Games, told the *Wall Street Journal* that a key to addressing problems was his access to Putin. "We always had the capacity to go to the top man," said Killy, who first met Putin in Guatemala City seven years ago. "When you become friends with this guy and ask for something and you see it within two hours, that's impressive."

"They did a heckuva job!" Roger McCarthy told me. McCarthy should know. The re-designer of Breckenridge and Tremblant, he and Ecosign's Paul Matthews of Whistler, B.C., planned the trails and base for the alpine competitions at Rosa Khutor outside Sochi. More manmade terrain features were built for the 2014 snow competitions, Mc-

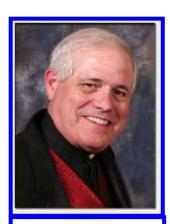
Carthy estimates, than at all previous Winter Olympics.

If the Russians didn't achieve success all by themselves, they were smart enough, and had a fat enough wallet, to import experts from around the world to prepare the venues.

While western journalists and politicians criticized the IOC for endorsing a political system lacking civil rights, former Crazy Canuck downhiller Steve Podborski, who headed his country's Sochi mission, reflected better what was in the minds of the athletes and coaches. "It's their country," said Podborski. "If it's something you don't agree with, well then the Olympics is really not the place to do it. You're going to the Olympics to compete."

"Have the courage to address your disagreements in a peaceful political dialogue, not on the backs of the athletes," said IOC president Thomas Bach, in reminding critics of the organization's political agnosticism.

Sochi attracted participation by 88 nations, a striking contrast to the 1980 Moscow Summer Games that were boycotted by 60 nations. And even if they cost an excessive, corruption-padded \$50 billion, Russia now has four world-class ski areas, 50,000 hotel rooms, new docks, international airport, and a railway and road between the sea and the gorgeous Caucasus Mountains. Sochi, a traditional summer vacation magnet for Russians, has been dramatically upgraded.



Mike Sanford VP Public Affairs

Mixed Media - If you missed it, in a recent article "The End of Snow," *Powder Magazine* editor and writer Porter Fox deplored the carbon emission-caused global warming that is likely to lessen the number of potential Olympic host cities that are within an hour of the mountain elevations and temperatures needed for ski and snowboard competition.

Fox also stated that most American ski areas are struggling financially. Actually more today are profitable than at any time. Skier and snow-boarder visits to U.S. resorts in the period 2003-13 increased by almost 10 percent over the 52-million annual average of the period 1993-2003.

Fox cited statistics that "the winter sports industry contributes \$66 billion annually to the U.S. economy, and supports more than 960,000 jobs." However, those numbers encompass just about all the infrastructure of tourism—lodging, retail, travel, food service. Perhaps ironically, the loss to the ski industry from global warming due to the warmer climate may actually increase, not

Continued on next page

destroy, jobs in overall tourism.

Fox goes on to report: "Of the 19 cities that have hosted the Winter Olympics, as few as ten may be cold enough by midcentury to host them." None of the ten, coincidentally, is presently on the fluctuating list of cities that say they want to host the 2022 Games.

Western nations have become averse. The German and Swiss publics, and now the Swedes and French, don't want to shoulder the huge expense and environmental impacts of an Olympic games. The burden is heavy: Winter Olympic medal competitions, now at almost a hundred, have doubled in the past 25 years, accompanied by a huge increase in hotel room demand.

Pyeongchang, the South Korean site of the 2018 Winter Olympics, will put the Games in the setting of a ski resort, with competitions scattered around four locations. Korea is cold in winter (Ed note: I know, I spent two years there at the US Embassy). Vast amounts of chemicals shouldn't be needed to salvage the ski and snowboard events, as happened at the mountain cluster of Rosa Khutor, Laura, and Krasnava Polyana. Sochi mirrored the IOC choice of another sea-level city, Vancouver, for the 2010 Winter Games, where fog, rain and predictably warm weather on Cypress Mountain and the base of Whistler plagued ski and snowboard competitions.

The problem has been the IOC's pursuit of bigger and bigger Games hyped with bigger and bigger money. Ever since Grenoble in 1968, IOC-chosen host cities have

spent billions on buildings, highways and facilities, often with meager after-use. John Fry is president of the International Skiing History Association. To learn more, go to http://johnfry.net.

### NSAA FACT SHEET

FACTS About Skiing and Snowboarding Safety

As reported by NSAA skiing and snowboarding enjoy an excellent safety record and are less dangerous than other high-energy participation sports. Still, skiing and snowboarding are challenging activities and they require physical skills that are learned over time, with practice and personal responsibility (don't we know that!). Snowsports involve a certain level of inherent risk, but in some measure, it is the thrill that entices most skiers and riders to pursue them. Even with these attendant risks, the health and fitness benefits of skiing and snowboarding are enjoyed by people of all ages across the slopes each season.

## STATISTICS ON SKIING / SNOW-BOARDING

For purposes of compiling accurate data on fatalities and serious injuries, the National Ski Areas Association (NSAA) collects information from all ski areas in the United States annually, either directly or through one of the three main insurance companies that provide coverage to ski areas.

Fatalities – During the past 10 years, an average of 39.6 people per season have died while skiing or snowboarding at a ski area. During the 2012/13 season, 25 fatalities occurred at U.S. ski areas, out of the 56.9 million skier/snowboarder days reported for the year – a decline of nearly 50

percent from the previous year, in which there were 46 fatalities.

The rate of fatality for the 2012/13 season converts to 0.44 per million skier/snowboarder visits, which is the second lowest fatality rate in the last 10 years. While skier visits were very close to the 10-year industry average of 57.3 million, the 25 fatalities were significantly lower than the 10-year industry fatality average of 40 per season.

Of the 25 fatalities, 23 were skiers and 2 were snowboarders, 20 were male and 5 were female. Regarding helmet use, 14 of the fatalities were wearing helmets at the time of the incident and 11 of the fatalities were not wearing helmets.

Serious Injuries – During the past 10 years, skiers and snowboarders suffered an average of 49 serious injuries (paralysis, broken neck/ back, traumatic brain injuries, and other serious injuries) per season. During the 2012/13 season, there were 73 serious injuries out of 56.9 million skier visits. (2013-14 stats will be released soon). The rate of serious injury was 1.28 per million skier/snowboarder visits. Over the past 10 years, the average serious injury rate is 0.86 serious injuries per million skier visits. That is a statistic for which I think the industry should be very proud.

Skiers suffered 55 of these serious injuries, and snowboarders suffered 14 (4 were not identified to equipment type). Among the injuries, 44 were wearing a helmet at the

Continued on page 19

## VP of Racing By Bob Ellis

This year seemed challenging at times due to the weather and lack of snow in many areas. In the end, we were able to complete most of our races throughout Far West.



Bob Ellis
VP of Racing

The first large event this year was at Beaver Creek in Colorado, the location of Far West Ski Week. The Qualifier race and Slalom race went off perfectly, with the slalom race being 55 slalom gates with a wonderful variety of terrain on Bear Trap, a full FIS slalom course. After two exhilarating runs, the winners in each class were celebrating. The next race of the week was the GS, and after 28 inches of Sierra Cement type snow, for the first time in many years, we were forced to cancel the GS. The next day it was still very soft, however we were able to complete the Dual Council Challenge GS Race with Sierra Ski Club Council (Sierra) winning the Council Challenge and Bay Area Snow Sports Council (BAC) taking 2nd and 3rd Places. In the overall points for the slalom, Sierra took 1st, BAC was 2nd and Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs was 3rd. BAC won the Costume Award, and the Joe Ross Award winners for top club were Cabernet Ski Club (Sierra) was 1st, Modesto Ski Club (BAC) was 2nd, and Reno Ski and Recreation Club (Sierra) was 3rd.

It should be noted that even though the GS was cancelled, the racers still had a great time skiing the vast terrain at Beaver Creek in the fresh powder. The Beaver Creek Race Department did a fantastic job of setting the courses, the timing, and producing the results each day for our races.

In early April, we convened at Mammoth Mountain for the Far West Championships with splendid racing weather and good snow conditions after several snow storms. Beat Hupfer and his Race Department did a wonderful job of putting on all the races and setting the courses. This year's Terry Smith Award winner Brent Forsythe was in charge of the Mammoth On-Hill Race Crew, and once again they performed with excellence all weekend long with all the races.

The Overall Total Points winners were for the Junior Division, Open took 1st with 270 points. In the Overall Total Points for the Adult Division, Rokka took 1st with 836 points, Open was 2nd with 700 points, and San Diego was 3rd with 563 points. The Roma Mc Coy Trophy winner was San Diego with 18.16 points per racer, Rokka was 2nd with 17.78, and Open was 3rd with 15.90.

In 2015, the Far West Championships will be at Mammoth Mountain on March 27-29, this is a change from the previously released dates. Racing results and future schedules can be found on the *www.fwra.com* website.

The Far West Ski Week will start on January 31 at Whistler in British Columbia. All the races this year will be held on the race arena on the Blackcomb side of the mountain.

## FWSA Scholarship 2014-2015 Season

The 2014-2015 fundraising campaign began in January this year at Ski Week in Beaver Creek, Colorado with \$2,370 raised from the Karbon raffle. Jack Scott (husband of Linda Scott, FWSA President) was the lucky winner. We will be looking forward to seeing Jack in his new apparel next season.



David Krupp Athletic Scholarship Chairman

At our recent Far West Convention in Bend, Oregon, \$4,348 was donated from the members who attended the convention with USA Team apparel at our Friday Night Silent Auction, Saturday's Live Auction (with auctioneer Harry Davis in attendance) for trips to Whitefish, and our Sunday raffle. Thanks to the many people who donated raffle gifts. Special thanks to our sponsors **Whitefish Mountain Resort** and **Grouse Mountain Lodge** for their support for another year. In addition, I would like to thank Skiyente Ski Club and Grindelwald Ski Club for their donations of \$1,500 and \$1,000 respectively. Grindelwald gave their donation in memory of club member Louie Buhler who passed away recently. Total for the year so far is \$9,218.

Notification for applications were sent out to ski clubs affiliated with the United States Ski and Snowboard Association's (USSA) Far West, Pacific Northwest, and Intermountain Divisions in the spring. These three divisions make up all the USSA junior racers in states with affiliated councils in Far West. Additional announcements were sent to Taos, Santa Fe, and Flagstaff race teams with affiliated councils in Arizona and New Mexico.

Last year, Far West sponsored 19 racers throughout the west who were awarded scholarships that totaled \$13,950. We are looking to do that again this year. Scholarships are awarded on the basis of financial need, competitive ranking, academics, and community service. Junior racers need to raise approximately \$20,000 per season; a formidable financial challenge. That need will no doubt increase. With your help, we look forward to another successful year with the scholarship program.

I personally want to thank Dick Shawkey who chaired the scholarship program for several years and handed over the reins to me this year. Dick helped make it the successful program it is today.

### Debbie Stewart - Continued from page 11

We believe that travel should be easy. It should be fun. It should be worth your time and have exceptional value. It should re-energize and transform...and above all else it should be beyond the ordinary. Our International travel team and I strive to provide you the trip that you deserve - One that is hassle free and lets you leave your worries at home. To you, it's peace of mind. To us, it's integrity!

For updates or information on FWSA International Travel Program:

Debbie Stewart at: fwsaintltrvl@prodigy.net

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

## Charities and Our Community

By Sigrid Noack, Chairperson

This year was our eighth "Charity & Community Service Recognition". We continue to encourage councils and clubs to get more involved with charities and community activities with this recognition. With the photo display boards at convention, we show the ski world how much volunteerism and charity work our clubs and councils are involved with and how important this is to our FWSA family. The clubs and council most involved with charity work receive a check from FWSA to be donated to their favorite charity. This year six clubs and two councils participated in this wonderul FWSA program! The winning ski club received \$300 while the two runner-ups each received \$100. The winning ski council receives \$100. All winnings are donated to the group's favorite charity. The top three clubs and the top council displayed their picture boards at this convention.



Fran Long, Central Council President, accepts the first place \$300 Charity Ski Club Recognition check for SLO Skiers from Sigrid Noack, Charities & Our Community Chair. The club will donate it to "Central Coast Parkinson's Support"

il displayed their picture boards at this convention.

The 2014 Ski Club winner of the "Charity & Community Service Recognition" is SLO Skiers of Central Council, Kathleen O'Neill and President

**John Smith.** Thank you and congratulations also

to our finalist clubs Monterey Ski & Social Club of Bay Area Snow Sports Council, Doug Weaver & President Greg Robinson, and Fresno Ski Club of Central Council, Cherry Reitz and President Scott Knutson. The following clubs also had a wonderful charity program this year and took the time to apply for the Charity Recognition: Sequoia Ski Club of Sierra Council, President Woody Hogan; Four Seasons West Ski and Snowboarding Club of Los Angeles Council, President Jane Gutierrez; and Wailers Ski & Snowboard Club of Los Angeles Council, President Pete Smith, Lydia Kemper & Sandra Gale.

The 2014 Ski Council winner of the "Charity & Community Service Recognition" is Northwest Ski Club Council (NWSCC), President Mary Olhausen. Congratulations and thank you also to Bay Area Snow Sports Council, President Dennis Heffley for doing so much volunteer work and for taking the time to apply for this special

recognition.

Our "Community Service Awareness Program" is about getting all of our clubs and councils involved with charitable activities.

For this program we have put together a "Council & Clubs Honor Roll of Charities", a list of all the many charity organizations that our FWSA members have been involved with. The list is amazing ... quite phenomenal! You can see the whole long list on our FWSA website and in our convention delegate book.

Congratulations to all of our clubs and councils who work very hard supporting charitable organizations! Please keep up the wonderful volunteer work.





Sigrid Noack,

**Charities** 

and our Community

Chairperson

NWSCC President accepts the first place \$100 Charity Ski Council Recognition check from Sigrid Noack, Charities & Our Community Chair. The council is donating the funds to the "FWSA Athletic Scholarship Program".

## Youth and Family Involvement

By Fran Long, Chairperson

Slip, Slop, Slide Slither with Savvy Snake Sun Safety Program for Children and Families





Fran Long Youth and Family Involvement Chairperson

FWSA's Youth and Family Involvement program continues to sponsor the Savvy Snake program in an effort to continue awareness of the dangers of sun over-exposure. All snow sports enthusiasts, but especially our young people, need to be aware of the role they play in protecting their skin from too much exposure to sun and the damage it may cause. It may be cold and it may be overcast, but the level of sun exposure on the snow is extremely high. Materials supporting this program are available to ski clubs and councils throughout the Far West Ski Association region. Further information can always be found on the FWSA website.

Most of us have experienced the joy of taking our children and/or grandchildren for a weekend or a week of fun. Have you considered taking your children/grandchildren on a group ski trip? It might not be 'fun' every time you go, but they certainly add a different level of fun once in awhile! The Far West Ski Association continues to support and encourage youth and family involvement in snow sports. Most FWSA ski and adventure trips are open to families with children under 21 years of age. Should you be interested in taking your children, or grandchildren, skiing...snowboarding...traveling to another country...check out the availability of FWSA trips by accessing the website: <a href="https://www.fwsa.org">www.fwsa.org</a>. Youth is definitely our future, whether it is in organized skiing or any other walk of life.

### Mike Sanford - Continued from page 15

time of the incident; 22 were not (for 7 helmet use was not reported).

Overall, the number of fatalities was near historic lows. There is no discernible explanation for why the number of serious injuries was higher.

However, during the season more than three-quarters of the fatalities and serious injuries (77 percent) were the result of collisions with trees or fixed objects or due to impact with the snow.

Gender played a large role in the total number of fatalities and serious injuries, which is consistent with past seasons. Out of the 98 total incidents (fatalities and serious injuries), 81 were male, and 17 were female.





Mary Olhausen

FAR WEST SKI ASSOCIATION

## CONVENTION 2014!

By Mary Olhausen, 2014 FWSA Convention Host Council Coordinator

The Northwest Ski Club Council (NWSCC) rocked Bend, Oregon with the Volcanic Paradise while hosting the FWSA 82nd Annual Convention at The Riverhouse Hotel & Convention Center in Bend, Oregon, June 12-15, 2014. Delegates enjoyed superb weather, good friends, and incredible landscapes with volcanos!! NWSCC outdid themselves (again) on the wonderful tote bags given out – including tons of goodies! Many of those items were donated by our member clubs – Bergfreunde Ski Club, Skiyente Ski Club, Mountain High Snowsport Club, NWSCC, and PACRAT Racing League.

Optional events were outstanding!! We added a pre-Convention activity, hosted by Mt. Bachelor Ski Resort. On Thursday they treated 30 attendees to a narrated historical tour ride around Bend, then headed up to the resort for a ride on the Pine Martin chair lift and lunch on mountain. Several attendees extended their afternoon with mountain biking or canoeing.

For the annual Pub Crawl on Thursday night, Debbi Kor and Mountain High Snowsport Club hosted 115 participants as they enjoyed dinner at Deschutes Brewery; then visited four pubs in downtown Bend, aided by directions from club members stationed on the streets, and finished up with dessert and prizes for completing the Amazing Race game, at McMenamins St. Francis School.

The 8th Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament, was hosted by Schnee Vogeli and Skiyente Ski Clubs. Dale and Sheri Parshall and Dave and Julie Rasmussen led the tournament. This year was extra special with "hole sponsorships", sold for \$25 each. Donors included ski clubs, private businesses, NWSCC, and National Ski Council Federation (NSCF). Of note was the 8th hole where everyone had to play the entire hole with their 8 iron; on Skiyente's hole jello shots were served; and the 18th hole was the "toilet hole," where participants had to putt with a special themed putter into a toilet seat.

The Smith Park Geologic Wonderland Tour was hosted by Bergfreunde Ski Club. Heidi Jo Munson and Bergies offered three different levels of hiking - aided by Jean Yates narrating about the geology of Smith Rock State Park. Participants enjoyed the scenery, the geology, and lunch.

The Old Mill District Shop-Dine-Wine event was hosted by Cabernet Ski & Sail Club. John and Jeanne Reinhardt hosted participants to a short hike at Benham Falls, followed by a shopping experience in the Old Mill District (aided by a \$20 gift card), lunch at Anthony's, and wine tasting at the Naked Winery.

The traditional Pool Party became the River Party this year (new & different!), and was extended to two hours by popular demand. Hosted by Central Council - delegates and industry enjoyed networking on the deck overlooking the Deschutes River. Beverages, snacks, and beach balls were provided.

Continued on next page

The 29th Annual Silent Auction was a great success – raising over \$38,000 to support FWSA programs. Kudos to Bend Ski Club for supplying volunteers to assist welcoming guests to their city and the Silent Auction activities. We had 125 walk-ins!! The highest bidders purchased ski trips, golf and adventure trips, and sports and recreational equipment. Guests also enjoyed the brand new - Taste of Bend, where they received delicious samples of food and wine tasting. Much thanks also to Oregon Adaptive Sports (OAS) for providing volunteers as bid runners for the auction. NWSCC is pleased to announce that OAS will receive a check for \$500 for use in their charitable programs. And of course kudos to the A-Team for putting on another successful Silent Auction for FWSA (Linda McGavin, Sigrid Noack, Debbi Kor & Jane Wyckoff), and to Harry Davis for serving as Auctioneer!!!

Travel Expo on Saturday morning was a huge success, thanks to Sigrid Noack!! This year brought a few changes – the event no longer overlaps with Ski Week bid presentations and "Regions" were developed: Cascades (AK, ID, OR, WA), Sierras (CA, NM, NV), Colorado Rockies (CO), Mountain Rockies (MT, UT, WY), Canadian Rockies (Canada). Delegates had two 10-minute appointments in Regions and four 10-minute appointments in One-On-Ones with Industry. We received numerous compliments for the new format. Industry representatives look forward to Travel Expo as a large part of why they attend FWSA Conventions. They appreciate the Club Profile/Lead Sheets provided by the numerous clubs participating in Travel Expo.

Saturday afternoon was dedicated to a presentation by Jess McMillan, a Freeskiing World Tour Champion who has won more Freeskiing competitions than any other competitor; she gave an amazing talk which riveted the audience. Billy Kidd, 1964 Olympic Silver Medalist, also attended and spoke about his friend and 1964 Bronze Medalist, the late Jimmie Heuga. The key presenters in the Public Affairs panel were John Gifford, President of the Pacific Northwest Ski Areas Association; Dave Ludwig, founder of "Hope on the Slopes"; Matthew Drake, National Ski & Snowboard Association Director for Pacific Northwest; and John Allen, Forest Supervisor, Deschutes National Forest. The Snowsports Leadership Academy featured talks by Greg Coulter, owner of Boots and More Performance in Troutdale, OR, on ski equipment and Curtis Norsen, Mt. Bachelor Ski Patrol Director and Risk Manager, on avalanche safety. Bids were presented to the FWSA Travel Committee for selection of the 2016 FWSA Ski Week with the results to be announced later in the summer.

The Saturday night Awards Banquet & Dance erupted like a Volcano!! Dinner was yummy, many received well-deserved awards and we danced the night away with our killer band, Thrillride!! Flip-flops and shorts prevailed for this fun evening. Guests were greeted with a video of volcanos from the Northwest on the big screens and the awesome Volcano centerpieces were made by Skiyente Ski Club (as the night wore on those volcanos became hats).

Sunday morning brought the annual Eye Opener Party – hosted by Bergfreunde Ski Club, Skiyente Ski Club, and PACRAT Race League. Attendees enjoyed beverages and pastries to get going for another day of meetings! The FWSA General Meeting was held – complete with elections, delegate brunch, resolutions, club & council awards recognition, charities recognition, and door prizes!

NWSCC appreciates ALL those who volunteered in small and large ways to make the 2014 Convention very successful. Special thanks is extended to Karen James for her work on getting all delegates registered and to Catherine Ohl for all her work on graphics, website, and awards.

We look forward to the 83rd Annual Far West Ski Association Convention – June 2015 - in sunny San Diego, CA at the Town and Country Resort & Convention Center, hosted by the San Diego Council of Ski Clubs. For additional information regarding the Far West Ski Association, please visit www.fwsa.org.

## **Event Sponsors**

## 82nd Annual FWSA Convention

by Debbi Kor, VP of Marketing & Sponsorship

We extend our appreciation to the following sponsors of Far West Ski Association's 82<sup>nd</sup> 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 to offer a more affordable delegate registration fee. Please include these industry partners in your travel plans for 2014-2015.

## **Program Sponsors**







### **Safety Award**

Since 1998, Aspen/Snowmass, The Gant and Crestwood have donated a 7-night ski package for two with lodging, rentals, lift tickets, a half day lesson, transfers & air.



### **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 for Councils' Man and Woman of the Year.





### **Athletic Scholarships**

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

## Saturday awards luncheon



Team Winners of the 8th Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament, Bert Witsil, Sun Valley; Sylvia Kearns, Skiyente Ski Club; Woody Hogan, Sequoia Ski Club; Dave Spence, Sunshine Village



Services Manager and Wayne Purcell,

Owner of The Riverhouse.

Billy Kidd, Olympic Medalist and Director of Skiing at Steamboat, congratulates Emilio Trampuz, recipient of the 2014 Western Ski Heritage

Award, sponsord by the resort.



Mary Olhausen, NWSCC Host Council Convention Coordinator, presents a \$500 check to Suzanne Lafky, Executive Director of Oregon Adaptive Sports for their assistance with Bid Runners for the Silent Auction.

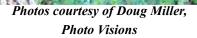


Jess McMillan, Freeskiing World Tour Champion, with her exciting Keynote presentation "Personal Responsibility in the Mountains"

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Jess McMillan Keynote Speaker





accepts a \$1,000 donation check for the program from Ann Lawson, Grindelwald Ski Club, and Sandy Knapp, President of Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs,

David Krupp, Athletic Scholarship Chairperson,

in memory of Louis Buhler, Co-Founder of Grindelwald Ski Club.

Category **First** Second Tollakson — Club of the Year Snowchasers AA Fresno Pacific Rim Alliance Idaho Falls AAA Mountain High Reno Wentworth — Outstanding Publications NL-A The Unrecables Snowchasers Edelweiss NL-AA Pacific Rim Alliance **Huntington Beach** Fresno NL-AAA Mountain High Idaho Falls Reno **NL-Council** Sierra Bay Area **Northwest Outstanding Web Sites** WS-A The Unrecables Capital Snowchasers

WS-AA Pacific Rim Alliance Fresno Huntington Beach

atherine Ohl Crissymarie King Dick Thiel & Frank

WS-AAA Mountain High Idaho Falls Cascade Prime Timers

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WS-Council Intermounain Sierra

Lennia Machen Pavel Bosin

### **DOOR PRIZE DONORS 2014**

Eurosocks Boneyard Brewing

FastStrap GoodLife Brewing Mt. Bachelor

Chaos Rat Hole Brewing Brian Head Ski Resort

Skida Derma Spa Snowbird

Fernie/Kimberly Wanderlust Tours Big White Ski Resort

H20 Guides Oregon Adaptive Sports

Riverbend Brewing Co
Cog Wild

## **2014 Convention Sponsors**









**Delegate Totes**Convention

Neck Wallets
Convention

Delegate Book Printing Convention **Pub Crawl** Thursday evening



Mt. Bachelor Tour Thursday Morning



Old Mill District Shop-Dine-Wine Friday Morning



Old Mill District Shop-Dine-Wine Friday Morning



**River Party** Friday Afternoon



**River Party** Friday Afternoon



**Beer Sponsor** Friday Evening



Beer Friday Evening Saturday Lunch



Continental Breakfast Saturday morning



**Luncheon** Saturday



Beer Sponsor Saturday Lunch



**Multi-Media**Saturday afternoon



**Multi-Media** Saturday afternoon



Banquet Wine Service Saturday Evening



Banquet Wine Service Saturday Evening



Banquet Entertainment Saturday Evening



Banquet Entertainment Saturday Evening



**Eye Opener** Sunday Morning



**Eye Opener** Sunday Morning



**Brunch**Sunday Morning

## **Taste of Bend Sponsors**

Whistler Blackcomb, Tourism Whistler, The Tantalus Lodge, Lodging Ovations, Crystal Lodge, Mt. Hood Meadows, Jackson Hole Mountain Resort, Winter Park Resort, Portland SkiFever & Snowboard Show, Northwest Ski Club Council



## Silent Auction & Travel Expo – 2014 Participants

## by Mary Olhausen and Debbi Kor

The Far West Ski Association and Northwest Ski Club Council extend their appreciation and sincere gratitude to the 28th Annual Silent Auction and Travel Expo participants. The success of this event is made possible by the continued support from our industry partners.

Please include these industry partners in your travel plans for 2014-2015.

Aava Whistler Hotel, Canada Alpine Adventures, FL Anthony's Restaurant, Bend, OR Aspen/Snowmass, CO Banff Lodging Company, Canada Beaver Creek Resort, CO Beaver Run Resort, CO Betty Donellan Big Sky Resort, MT Big White Ski Resort, Canada Bike Tours Direct. TN Boneyard Brewing, Bend, OR Breckenridge Hospitality, CO Breckenridge Ski Resort, CO Brian Head Ski Resort, UT Brundage Mountain Resort, ID Cedar Breaks Lodge, UT Central Oregon Visitors Assoc, Bend, OR Cog Wild Bicycle Tours, Bend, OR Collette Vacations, RI Cooper Spur Mountain Resort, OR Copper Mountain Resort, CO Crested Butte Mountain Resort, CO Crystal Lodge, Canada Deer Valley Ski Resort, UT Destination Hotels & Resorts, CO Discover Sunriver Vacation Rentals, OR Double Tree by Hilton, Bend, OR Drury Hotels, Various Locations Eldorado Resort, Mexico Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel, Canada Fairmont Chateau Lake Louise, Canada Fairmont Chateau Whistler, Canada Fernie Alpine Resort, Canada Forest Suites Resort at Heavenly, CA Frias Properties Glacier Park, MT GoodLife Brewing, Bend, OR Grand Lodge Hotel & Suites, CO Grand Targhee Resort, WY

Heavenly Mountain Ski Resort, CA Hertz Rental Cars, Bend, OR Holidaze Ski Tours, NJ Homewood Mountain Resort, CA Huntley Lodge, MT Jackson Hole Mountain Resort, WY Jackson Hole Resort Lodging, WY Kandahar Lodge at Whitefish, MT Keystone Ski Resort, CO Kimberley Alpine Resort, Canada Lodging Ovations, Canada Mammoth Mountain Inn. CA Mammoth Mountain Ski Area, CA McMenamins Pub, Bend, OR Miracle Springs Resort-Spa, CA Mountain Lodge Telluride, CO Mt. Bachelor Ski Resort, Bend, OR Mt. Bachelor Village Resort, OR Mt. Hood Meadows Ski Resort, OR MS Dixie/Tahoe Queen, CA Naked Winery, Bend, OR Nancy Green's Cahilty Lodge, Canada Northstar Ski Resort, CA Old Mill District, Bend, OR Panorama Ski Resort, Canada Pine Mountain Sports, Bend, OR Red Mountain Resort, Canada Resorts Canadian Rockies, Canada River's Edge Golf Course, Bend, OR Riverbend Brewing, Bend, OR Schweitzer Mountain Resort, ID Selkirk Lodge, ID Sierra At Tahoe Ski Resort, CA Silver Star Mountain Resort, Canada SKI.COM. CO Ski Banff-Lake Louise-Sunshine, Canada Ski Dazzle, CA Ski Group.Net, CA Ski Oregon, OR Skibowl Resort, OR

Snakedance Condominiums, NM Snowbird Lodge, Canada Snowbird Ski & Summer Resort, UT Snowmass Ski Resort, CO Snowmass Tourism. CO Sports America Tours, CA Steamboat Ski & Resort Corp., CO Subaru of Bend, Bend, OR Sunriver Resort, OR Sunshine Mountain Lodge - Canada Sunshine Village Resort - Canada Sun Peaks Ski Resort. Canada Sun Vallev Resort. ID Tantalus Lodge, Canada Taos Ski Valley Resort, NM Teewinot Lodge, WY Telluride Alpine Lodging, CO Telluride Ski Resort, CO The Bend Trolley, Bend, OR The Cliff Lodge, UT The Crestwood, CO The Gant Hotel, CO The Hunt Lodge, ID The Lodge at Whitefish Lake, MT The Riverhouse Hotel/Resort, Bend, OR The Tantalus Lodge, Canada The Vintage Hotel, CO Timberline Lodge, OR Tourism Whistler, Canada Trickle Creek Lodge, Canada VAIL Resorts, CO Val D'Isere Condos. CA Visit Bend, Bend, OR Wanderlust Tours, Bend, OR Whistler/Blackcomb, Canada Whitefish Mountain Resort, MT Winter Park Resort, CO Winter Park Resort Lodging, CO Wyndham Vacation Rentals, CO

Great Western Lodging, CO

Grouse Mountain Lodge, MT

SkiFever & Snowboard Show, OR

## FWSA awards



Gloria Raminha, Far West Ski Foundation Trustee received the Hans Georg Award, presented by Catherine Ohl, Past Hans Georg Award recipient



Debbie Stewart, FWSA VP of International Travel, received the Elizabeth "Schatzi" Wood Award, Presented by Nancy Ellis, 2013 Elizabeth "Schatzi" Wood Award Winner



Emilio Trampuz,
Northwest Ski Club Council,
received the
J. Stanley Mullin Award,
presented by Bob Ellis,
2013 J. Stanley Mullin Award
Recipient



Accepting the Snowsports Builder Award from FWSA President Linda Scott, was Dave Blann, on behalf of his father, Cliff Blann, a founder of Mt. Bachelor Ski Resort



FWSA President Linda Scott with Dave Blann and members of the Blann Family who attended the Awards Banquet to honor the late Cliff Blann, recipient of the Snowsports Builder Award

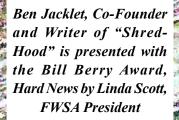


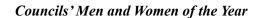
Recipients of the President's Award with Linda Scott, FWSA President and Billy Kidd, Olympic Medalist - Jo Simpson, Sierra Council President, Catherine Ohl, FWSA Webmaster and Graphic Artist, and Jane Wyckoff, FWSA Trustee and Convention Chairperson



Linda Scott, FWSA President
presents the Bill Mackey Award to
Jason Forrest.
Director of Sales & Marketing,
Whitefish Mountain Resort









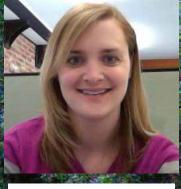
Maxine Hanlon,
Past Recipient of the
Terry Smith Award
presents the award to
Hannah DeGoey,
Mammoth Mountain Ski Area,
accepting on behalf of
Brent Forsythe, Mammoth
Mountain Race Department

Dennis Heffley, President of Bay Area Snow Sports Council accepts the Safety Person of the Year Award from Mary Manning -Aspen /Snowmass, sponsor of the recognition program and Richard Lubin,

FWSA Safety Chairman

Katie Balkwill - Big White Ski Resort, Sponsor with Gene Fulkerson, Los Angeles Council, Councils' Man of the Year and Nancy Ellis, Sierra Council, Councils' Woman of the Year





Kayla Walker Jordan-Reily Award



Lee Perry, Jr. Jimmie Heuga Award



Mt. Hood Meadows Tommi Tyndall Award



Christopher Van Tilburg,
MD

"The Adrenaline Junkie's
Bucket List: 100 Extreme
Outdoor Adventures to Do
Before You Die"
Bill Berry Award Featured News



Red Bull Media House in conjunction

Red Bull Media House in conjunction with Matchsticks Productions "McConkey" Shane McConkey Warren Miller Modern Media Award



Julia Mancuso U.S. Ski Team President's Award

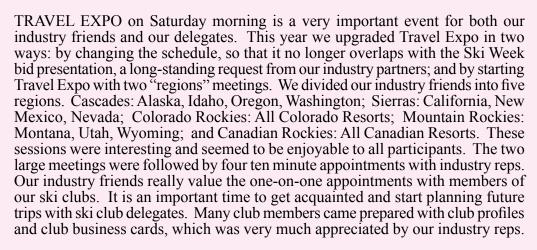




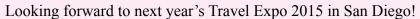
## Travel Expo 2014 – Upgraded For Our Industry Friends

by Sigrid Noack

Thank you Northwest Ski Club Council for hosting a wonderfully successful convention in beautiful Bend, Oregon. What a gorgeous setting! Delegates and our industry friends seemed to enjoy the whole weekend starting with the Mt. Bachelor tour on Thursday all the way to the fabulous band on Saturday night! Great job to Council President, Mary Olhausen and all your worker bees!



A great big thank you to all our industry friends and ski club delegates, who participated in Travel Expo. And thank you also to our wonderful volunteers, who moderated the regions sessions, helped to set up the room and also assisted throughout Travel Expo.





Travel Expo: Rich Daigle of Bike
Tours Direct addressing delegates at
a "Regions" Session.



Sigrid Noack



Sigrid Noack, Travel Expo coordinator pointing out the new "Regions" to delegates.'



At Travel Expo Todd Campbell of Taos Ski Valley Resort helping delegates plan club ski trips.



At Travel Expo Norm Azevedo of BAC getting some travel suggestions from Jamie Brooks of Winter Park Ski Resort.

By Arleigh Meiners, President

Arizona Ski Council (ASC) represents six clubs and between 500-600 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 and social members. The Snowbowl in Flagstaff, Arizona was able to stay open all winter this year. This is the first time in many years that has happened. This was due to the fact that the Snowbowl now has snow making equipment. The Phoenix Ski Club and the Scottsdale Ski Club had election of officers during the month of April 2014. The new President of the Scottsdale Sea & Ski Club (SS&SC) is Ed Carmines and the new President of the PSC is Larry Reineck.

Five members from the Arizona Ski Council attended the FWSA convention that was held in Bend, Oregon from June 12 through June 15. Jim Nachbar from the Scottsdale Ski Club represented the Arizona Ski Council as their Man of The Year. Jim Nachbar was also reelected to the Far West Ski Board as Vice President of Communications. ASC is very proud of Jim.

The Phoenix Ski Club, (PSC), is busy putting their 2014-2015 ski trip schedule together. They are going to Wolf Creek, Colorado in December. PSC will be going to Telluride, Colorado two times this year. Once in January and again in April at the close of the ski season. The Phoenix Ski Club will also be attending the Far West Ski Week at Whistler. Two more ski trips have been planned for this ski season. One is to Whitefish, Montana and the other one is to Schweitzer, in Washington. The Phoenix Ski Club is doing an adventure trip to Ireland in September. PSC also will be going to Rocky Point, in Mexico during the month of September. Please go to www.phxskiclub.org to

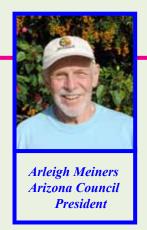


see the many activities the club has planned.

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. AzOTC members will be going to Crested Butte, Colorado in August to watch the CO/USA Pro Cycling Challenge. Some members of AzOTC will be spending 14 days in October hiking the Big Island (Hawaii), Maui and Kauai. A few members of AzOTC did a June Full Moon Hike in the Grand Canyon Go to www.arizonaoutdoortravelclub.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 adventures. Singles, couples and families are welcome to join this club. Go to www.sailingadventure-club.org for more information on this clubs activities.

Scottsdale Sea & Ski Club, (SS&SC), is an adult ski and social club also. SS&SC have happy hours every Friday evening. SS&SC also are doing campouts, pub crawls, wine and cheese parties, tubing and kayaking, baseball games, casino nights and many more events. SS&SC ski trips for 2014-2015 are in the planning stage also. The SS&SC will be joining the PSC on the Telluride, Colorado Ski Trips. SS&SC will also be doing a ski trip to Breckenridge, Colorado and to Big Sky, Montana. For more infor-



mation on their club activities go to www.scottsdale-skiclub.com

Boeing Employee Adventure Club is a corporate club of the Arizona Ski Council and 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.

The Arizona Ski Council had their election of Officers at their April Board Meeting. Results of that election are: President Arleigh Meiners Vice President Jim Bergmann Secretary Jim Nachbar Treasurer Dodi Bailey and Past President Mike Rogers. Judy Upton represents the PSC. Scott Peterson represents the SS&SC. Bud Tasch represents AzOTC. Glenn Pyle represents Boeing Employee Adventure Club. Gary Giertz represents Partytime Sports and Melita Hillman represents the Sailing Adventure Club.

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

## Bay Area Snow Sports Council

By Dennis Heffley, President





Dennis Heffley Bay Area Snow Sports Council President

The Bay Area Snow Sports Council (BAC) is celebrating the awards given to members and clubs from our council during the 82nd Annual FarWest Ski Association (FWSA) Convention in Bend, OR. FWSA Council Newsletter Award ~ Dennie Warren (BAC Communications Director/Castro Valley Ski Club), FWSA Club Historical Award ~ Mary Azevedo (Snowchasers Ski Club), FWSA Tollakson Award for outstanding

ski club ~ Snowchasers Ski Club, FWSA Safety Person of the Year ~ Dennis Heffley (BAC President/Rusty Bindings Ski Club) and a FWSA Community and Service Recognition Award once again going to the Monterey Ski and Social Club for all they accomplish in the greater Monterey Peninsula.

At the FWSA Convention the BAC had a number of people elected to the FWSA Board of Directors Wanda Ross (SnowDrifters Ski Club) Elected FWSA Secretary. Harry Davis (Snowchasers Ski Club) and Robb Margrave (North Bay SnoWonders Ski Club) both elected as FWSA Board of Trustees. The list above only covers those elected this year to their positions. Our BAC has many others volunteering their time to the leadership of the FWSA. We appreciate all of their efforts and accomplishments!

During the past few months, a focus at our Monthly BAC Council Meetings is to share information about the "SWOT/SMART" way of our clubs improving their strengths to gain new and retain current members. This presentation was made to the National Ski Council Federation (*www.skifederation.org*) at our 2013 Annual Summit Meeting by Mary Manning (Aspen/Snowmass) and Andrew Kwang (VAIL Resorts). There are plans for the BAC to take this presentation a step further and create regional meetings. This would allow us to share the information to the grass roots of our member clubs.

August 23, 2104 is the 9th Annual BAC/Disabled Sports USA Far West Division/Tailgate BBQ/Oakland A's Baseball Game & Fireworks Show. This annual event is once again being supported by VAIL Resorts! We only have 200 tickets to the Game and as of the writing of this article; we have over 130 advanced tickets sold! Go to

www.skibac.org for complete details and join us at "the old ball game"!

November 3, 2014 the BAC is holding our 6th Annual BAC WinterFest Meeting. This event takes place the Monday after the SnowBomb Show at Ft. Mason, SF. Many of the vendors who are in town stay for a couple of extra nights to participate at our event. This event continues to grow as it benefits our Industry Partners, the BAC and our Individual Club Members. We Have Fun! Please contact me with any questions about the event!

We continue to promote the FWSA Trips and our Race Leagues. It's all about getting people on the slopes and having a great time!

Dennis Heffley ~ President Bay Area Snow Sports Council (bac.president@skibac.org)

## Central Council of California

By Fran Long, President





Fran Long Central Council President

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.

Central Council supports 3-4 short ski trips to Mammoth Mountain each year. In addition, a variety of summer activities are provided for our member clubs. Activities this year have included a kayak trip on the Owens River in and around Bishop, and a hiking/backpacking trip to Chickenfoot Lake, also in the eastern sierra area. Both events were supported by a small group of members, all of whom had an excellent time. Coming up are the Nevada County Celtic Festival and a golf tournament in Morro Bay. Information on all events can be found on the website: www.centralcouncilskiclubs.org.

Our council is also very supportive of Far West Ski Association trips and activities. Central Council recently hosted the pool party at the annual FWSA convention in Bend, Oregon. Taking the lead on this event was member club, Fresno Ski Club, and our outstanding hostesses, Kim Riehl and Cherry Reitz. Thank you, ladies, for the creative "mixer" puzzle pieces and questionnaire. It would appear that everyone in attendance had a wonderful time.

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.



Eileen Sanford, Jean McCasey, Stephanie Young, Barbara Blasé, Chris Gill, Erin Barber, Mike Sanford and Tom Bundgard introduce Salute To San Diego, Convention 2015

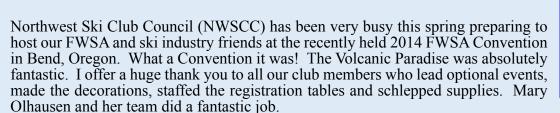


Glenn, Pat, Alyssa, Chris, Barbara, Mike and Steve enjoy an 18th hole break at the annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament at Bend, Oregon.

### Northwest Ski Club Council

by Steve Coxen, President







Steve Coxen Northwest Ski Club Council President

NWSCC's Man & Woman of The Year - Sandi Shaub (Skiyente Ski Club) and John Reinhardt (Cabernet Ski & Sail Club) competed at the Convention in the Council's Man & Woman of the Year competition, sponsored by *Big White Ski Resort*. While Sandi and John were not the overall winners at the FWSA level, they are winners to all of us! They are two very hard working individuals who have put in numerous hours and effort on behalf of their clubs, NWSCC and FWSA.

On June 18 we had a Council meeting and elected new officers. The following officers were elected to one year terms:

President – Steve Coxen Vice-President – Sylvia Kearns Secretary – Julie Rasmussen Treasurer – Marcia Brighton Director – Norvin Peer Director – Christine Ciardi

Additional directors will be appointed by Steve Coxen and confirmed by the elected board members.

Our new board met for the first time on June 25. We have a board retreat planned for early July where we will set a course for the coming year, with strategic focus on (1) developing new relationships with younger skiers/snowboarders, (2) recruiting new board members, (3) hosting more meetings in the Seattle area to promote club participation in Washington, (4) strengthening industry relationships through our Commercial Membership program, and our annual Ski Fair, (5) producing the annual *Northwest Skiers' Directory*, (6) participating in industry ski/snowboard shows in Portland and Seattle, (7) having another successful PACRAT race season, and (8) adding Protect our Winters to the agenda of our Public Affairs program and webpage "Northwest Snowsports Advocates".

Northwest Ski Club Council is member of Far West Ski Association, the National Ski Council Federation, Oregon Snowsports Industries Association – "Ski Oregon" and Pacific Northwest Ski Areas Association. I plan to represent the Council at the National Ski Council Federation meeting in Park City in September.

#### Steve Coxen

President - Northwest Ski Club Council

Email: stevecoxen@yahoo.com

Websites: www.nwskiers.org and www.pacrats.org



**ORANGE COUNCIL OF SKI CLUBS** 



Sheila Van Guilder Orange Council President

Orange Council had eleven attendees at the FWSA recent convention. Representing Orange Council were Maxine Hanlon, George Kish, Judy Thurman (Pres.), and Sheila Van Guilder. Balboa Ski and Sports Club sent Susan Corum, Joe Culver and Agnes Johnson. Huntington Beach Ski Club was represented by Penny Edlund (Pres.), Marty Gold, Vera Pavelic and Art Scotten.

We are proud of Orange Council Man and Woman of the Year Susan Corum and George Kish. 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.

The Council is looking forward to the Whistler/Blackcomb Ski Week. VP of Travel, Jess Gorman has already received numerous sign ups. Balboa Ski and Sports Club with Christy Walchli leading, Carol Kane will be leading a group from Snowbounders Ski Club.

The annual Orange Council picnic is being planned for late September or early October. It was a big success last year and we are planning to have the same location in Newport Beach. Tennis courts are nearby and were very popular.

Balboa Ski and Sports Club (BSSC) is planning to attend a Kenny G concert at the Verizon amphitheater in August and kayaking in Los Alamitos Bay in July. In June, July and August their meetings are held on the Newport Bay, 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.

The Snowbounders Ski Club has recently taken the train to San Clemente for lunch.

Past President, 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.



Fran Long leads the fun



Councils' Men and Women of the Year with Sponsor banner

# San Diego Council of Ski Clubs

By Tom Bundgard, President



I just returned from the 2014 FWSA convention and Northwest Ski Club Council put on a great event in Bend. While there, I gladly accepted the Roma McCoy Award on behalf of The San Diego Alpine League, the 2014 recipient. This coveted trophy is awarded for most points per racer during the Far West Championships. I am looking forward to this next race season and hope to see more participants from San Diego at all the races. Pac Rim

n Diego



Tom Bundgard San Diego Council of Ski Clubs President

won Far West Wentworth Outstanding Club Publication and Outstanding Club Website for Class AA. Congratulations Catherine Ohl.

As the new President of San Diego Council of Ski Clubs (SDCSC), I would like to thank outgoing President Eileen Sanford for seven years of leadership. I am excited to continue working with her as Past President and Chair of the Convention Committee for the **83rd annual FWSA Convention** at the Town and Country Resort and Convention Center in Mission Valley, the heart of San Diego. We will be there Jun 4-7, 2015. The theme is "Salute to San Diego." We will have a Pub Crawl, Golf, Ocean Kayaking, and a host of other outdoor activities. Plus we will have the silent auction, travel expo, education sessions, VIP athletes and much more! Check the flyer in this edition of the *The Councilman*.

We had our SDCSC annual **Appreciation Dinner** on June 9 at The Godfather Restaurant in Kearney Mesa. There was a great turn out and all shared their memories of SDCSC and club activities this year. We invited board members, Man and Woman of the Year contestants, and others who have contributed to the success of SDCSC this year. Thanks again to all.

This summer we are planning a Council Happy Hour by the beach and a Council Night at the San Diego Symphony by the Bay. We will enjoy weekly bike rides around San Diego Bay again this summer to keep those ski legs going strong.

SDCSC has a **Serengeti Safari** scheduled for Aug 18-Sep 5, 2014 with Overseas Adventure Travel (OAT), led by Eileen Sanford. The trip is full, with a waiting list. The basic trip price is \$5,695 for 13 days including airfare from the United States and 33 meals. Check our website, *www.skisandiego.org*, or contact *esanford1@san.rr.com* for more information.

Our official start of the ski season will begin with our formal **Gala** on Nov 8, 2014.



Tom and Erin, SDCSC Man & Woman of the year

This wonderful event is organized by Barbara Blasé, Chris Gill and Jean McCasey. The clubs will select an outstanding man and a woman as a way of honoring their most valuable and active members. We will choose the SDCSC man and woman at this event. Last year our award winners were Erin Barber and myself of San Diego Ski Club (pictured right). We both attended the FWSA Convention in Bend and represented San Diego well. Thank you Erin! Gene Fulkerson of Pac Rim won FWSA Man of the Year. Congratulations Gene!

The council will host an **Aspen Ski Trip** from Dec. 11-17 run by Mike Sanford. This trip ranges from \$1000-\$1265 depending on lift options, for six nights at the Gant. Those that have been on one of these annual trips can tell you that you are up for an incredible trip, this trip sells out early so get your spot now. Check our website, *www.skisandiego.org*, or contact *bubasanfrd@aol.com* for more information.

Alan Godwin, our new Travel Director, will once again serve as trip leader for the **FWSA Ski Week to Whistler, Canada** from Jan 31-Feb 7, 2015. This trip ranges from \$1140-\$1550, depending on lodging options, plus air and ground, for seven nights lodging and 5-day lift ticket and includes a welcome party, pub crawl, <u>races</u>, mountain picnic, Ski Week Banquet, Awards Après Party, and Council Night Event. Check our website, <u>www.skisandiego.org</u>, or contact <u>alan@skiclub.us</u> for more information.

### Sierra Ski Club Council

By Jo Simpson, President

## Sierra Council Salutes Summer While Planning for Winter

The Sierra Council clubs are in full summer mode with lots of outdoor activities. Their summer fun includes outdoor parties, barbeques and picnics, plus camping trips, hiking, biking, playing golf, kayaking and enjoying outdoor entertainment. The fun doesn't stop when the snow melts!

The Las Vegas Ski, Snowboard and Sports Club is taking a group on a Panama Canal cruise this coming January. The clubs are working on their winter ski trip schedules. The Reno Ski and Recreation Club is already taking signups for a Two Hot Springs trip that includes a soak in the Glenwood Hot Springs and skiing at Steamboat Springs.



Jo Simpson Sierra Council President

Our racing schedule is coming together and should be finalized shortly. We are all hopeful for at least an average snowfall for the coming season and not a repeat of the one just past.

We salute our 2014 FWSA award winners: Woman of the Year, Nancy Ellis; Elizabeth "Schatzi" Wood, Debbie Stewart; Second Place Outstanding Council Newsletter and Website; Second Place Outstanding Club Website Class A, Capital Ski & Sports; Second Place Outstanding Club and Outstanding Newsletter Class AAA, Reno Ski & Recreation; and President's Award, Jo Simpson.

Our council Vice President, Travel, Debbie Stewart, was re-elected FWSA Vice President International Travel.

### Tom Bundgard - Continued from page 38

Eileen Sanford will be leading a Bike and Barge Trip from Mantova to Venice, Italy on April 4, 2015. The trip is full, with a waitlist. This trip is \$1600, plus air, for 8 days/7 nights. Check our website, www.skisandiego.org, or contact esanford1@san.rr.com for more information.

Eileen Sanford will be leading a Rhine Getaway on Viking Cruises from Amsterdam to Basel from August 21-28, 2015. This trip starts at \$2431, plus air, for 8 days/7 nights, 6 guided tours in 4 countries (Netherlands, France, Germany and Switzerland), breakfast, lunch, dinner, and welcome party. Optional pre/post 2-night trips from \$549. We have 36 people going at this time and can take more. Check our website, <a href="https://www.skisandiego.org">www.skisandiego.org</a>, or contact Eileen Sanford- 858-695-1442 or <a href="mailto:esanford1@san.rr.com">esanford1@san.rr.com</a> for more information. It is open to all FWSA club members.

**SDCSC supports various charities**, such as Can Do MS, the American Cancer Society, American Heart Association, Special Olympics, United States Adaptive Recreation Center (USARC), Habitat for Humanity, San Diego Community Youth Sports Mentoring, Toys for Tots and Becky's House. One of our clubs maintains an active account at the San Diego Blood Bank in case a member needs blood. We believe in supporting our community.

The officers for the 2014-15 year will be: Tom Bundgard, President, Chris Gill, Vice-President, Eileen Sanford, Past President, Debbie Schroeder, Secretary, Stew Smith, Treasurer, and Alan Godwin, Travel Director.



# **FWSA International Travel Program**

Presents in the Fall of 2014:

# SOUTH AFRICA SAFARI ADVENTURE TRIP

**September 5th - 16th**, **2014**—South Africa 10 Day Eastern Cape & Garden Route Tour **Note:** Sept 5th US departures will arrive in Port Elizabeth on September 7th

September 16th - 20th, 2014—(Optional) 4 Day Victoria Falls Extension

### SOUTH AFRICA MAIN TOUR PACKAGE SUMMARY:

- **♦ Several Morning, Day & Evening Wildlife Safaris**
- **Excursion through Knysna Lagoon to the Featherbed Nature Reserve**
- **♦** Cape Town City Tour
- **♦** Winelands Tour
- **♦** Cango Ostrich Farm Tour
- **♦ Cango Caves Tour**
- Most Meals
- All Lodging & Ground Transportation

### \*\*Main South Africa Tour Package prices (without air) start at:

\$2915.00 pp—Double Occupancy (South Africa ONLY Trip) \$3434.00 pp-Single Supplement (South Africa ONLY Trip)

### VICTORIA FALLS (post trip) PACKAGE SUMMARY:

- **♦ Sunset River Cruise**
- **♦ Victoria Falls Tour**
- **♦ Historical Bridge Tour**
- **◊** Safari at Victoria Falls Private Game Reserve
- **♦ Breakfast & Dinner**
- ♦ All Lodging & Ground Transportation

### \*\*Victoria Tour Package prices (with inter-country air) start at:

\$1757.00pp Standard Room(Dbl Occ) or \$2156.00pp Deluxe Room (Dbl Occ)-Victoria Falls Extension \$2340.00 pp-Single Supplement Victoria Falls Extension

### Air prices:

FWSA Air-San Francisco, CA—Approx. \$2302.00 pp—\$750 Deposit FWSA Air-Los Angeles, CA—Approx. \$2302 pp—\$750 Deposit

**Note:** Secondary Airports and Air Deviations can be purchased for you as a Non-Refundable ticket and must be paid for at the time of booking.

All Prices are based on current exchange rates and subject to change

Make checks out to Far West Ski Association (FWSA). Please reference "FWSA Africa Safari"

Send to: Debbie Stewart

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

Or register online at: https://fwsa-connect.herokuapp.com

For more information contact: Debbie Stewart at FWSAIntlTrvl@prodigy.net or cell: 559/737-0882

Check our website at www.fwsa.org. Click on the "Travel" tab, for all FWSA trips

CST #2036982-





Join Far West Ski Association for our 5th Annual Dive Trip in

# **Occidental Grand Cozumel Resort**

**OCTOBER 11 - 18, 2014** 









FWSA CST #2036983-40

Dive Price: \$1,138

Non-Diver price: \$758

# **Price includes:**

- · Package includes:
- · 7 nights at Occidental Grand Cozumel w/2 per deluxe room
- · ALL MEALS daily
- · All Drinks daily including ALCOHOL
- · All non-motorized watersports
- · 5 days of 2 tank boat dives with Pro Dive right on site!!
- · Unlimited Nitrox!!
- · Hotel taxes and tips (tips for diving not included)



Contact: Randy Lew • 530-304-0802 • <u>FWSA13Randy@telis.org</u> 7007 SW Iron Horse St., Wilsonville, OR 97070



# **FAR WEST SKI ASSOCIATION**

Whistler • Jan 31 - Feb 7, 2015







# Package Includes:

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

CST # 2036983-40

# **Contact Information**

Arizona
Bay Area
Central
Los Angeles
Orange
Northwest
San Diego
Sierra

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SKI.COM

# 2015 Heli-Skiing Trip

Join a Far West Heli-Skiing Trip March 16—21, 2015



# Signature Skiing 5-day trip to Revelstoke, BC

Price:

\$5,830 (twin occ.-taxes not included)

\$6,480 (single occ.—taxes not included)

#### Includes:

· All meals, snacks, and non-alcoholic beverages

 All lodge accommodations and use of lodge facilities such as saunas, hot tubs, etc. (lodging located in town of Revelstoke)

· Use of specially designed heli-skis and poles

Use of radio/shovel/probe/guest pack

Training in and use of avalanche transceivers

Provides 71,000 feet of skiing of which 49,700 feet guaranteed

### Schedule:

Mar. 15, 2015--Fly to Kelowna, BC and stay overnight (not included in price)

Mar. 16—CMH Bus takes you to Revelstoke—ski that afternoon

(participants may drive directly to Revelstoke-must arrive in time for afternoon ski)

Mar. 17-20 -Full days of skiing

Mar. 21—CMH bus takes you back to Kelowna in the morning and you return home

\$500 non-refundable deposit due when you reserve your spot

Sign up directly with Julie Noble, <u>inoblecmh@msn.com</u> (503) 841-8662

Request trip # 15-RE135 March 16-21, 2015 and identify yourself as a member of Far West Ski Association

Spaces go quickly —first come first served—don't miss out!



For more information contact:
Nancy Ellis, VP North American Travel
Far West Ski Association
fwsatravelnancy@sbcglobal.net

530.414.8261 (cell) 530.582.0566 (home)

Must be a member of a Far West Ski Association affiliated club or FWSA Direct Member

FWSA CST #2036983-40





8th Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament
- Sheri Parshall, Dale Parshall, Linda Westlund and
Dodi Bailey



Randy Lew - FWSA Past President, Jordan Schweitzer - Mt. Bachelor Ski Team and Athletic Scholarship Recipient and Billy Kidd, Olympic Medalist



FWSA Presidents at the Awards Banquet (L to R) Steve Coxen, Randy Lew, Linda Scott, Harry Davis, Jane Wyckoff and Mike Sanford

# FAR WEST SKI ASSOCIATION

Mississippi River Boat Cruise—June19—25, 2015



#### Package Includes

- 1 night New Orleans Hilton 6/19
- Transfers to Ship
- Welcome Party
- 4 day Paddleboat Cruise
- All means while on cruis.
- Shore excursions: Daily Lactures
- Steamboat Style Shows
- House French Quarter Hotel
  - A123 A 6/24
- Eurowell Party

Optional Activities in New Orleans

- Airboet/Swamp Tours
- Ghost/Paranormal Tours

### Adult Package Prices \$ 2,050— \$ 3,150

Air and Ground Transportation not included

Enjoy a 4-day roundtrip paddleboat cruise aboard the American Queen from New Orleans. A "Southern Culture Cruise" with stops at Oak Alley Plantation and Baton Rouge, LA, capital of LA. Two nights in New Orleans after the cruise with a Farewell Party and optional tours.

#### Contact

Nancy Ellis, VP North American Travel P.O. Box 9681, Truckee, CA 96162 530-414-8261 (cell)

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Must be a recreive of an affiliated chaldcouncil or a Direct Monder of FIVSA.





# Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs

by Sandra Knapp, President





Sandra Knapp Los Angeles Council President

Los Angeles Council elections returned all but one officer to the board; our new Vice President of Membership is Kathleen Byrnes of Wailers Ski Club. We are very excited to have her on our board and look forward to new membership activities. Continuing officers are: Sandra Knapp, President; Pam Worden, Secretary; Karen James, Treasurer; Paula Hazzard, VP Programs; Sandra Blackwell, VP Travel; and Norbert Knapp, Past President. We are also looking at renewing the position of VP Communications.

Fifteen representatives from LA Council attended the FWSA Convention in Bend, OR. Congratulations and thanks to Mary Olhausen and the Northwest Ski Club Council volunteers for a superb Convention! **Karen James** was Convention Registrar (*congratulations on a tough job well done!*) and members of Grindelwald Ski Club assisted her for much of the registration period.

Besides having a fabulous time, we were thrilled to have another LAC member elected to the FWSA Board: Jane Gutierrez, President of Four Seasons West, was elected VP Membership of FWSA! She joins President Linda Scott, who holds dual membership in Intermountain and Los Angeles Councils and Jane Wyckoff, Trustee. David Krupp is the new Athletic Scholarship Chairperson.

In addition, LA Council received a variety of awards, such as Rokka Ski Racing League winning the Mammoth Mountain League Championships with 836 points. Obviously the Rokka and Los Angeles Council learn to ski and race weeks were effective! Plan to attend in December 2014! Wailers Ski Club was recognized for Outstanding Service and Dedication to Community Service and Charitable Organizations; several LAC clubs won recognition for publications and websites; AND, LA Council's Man of the Year, Gene Fulkerson was chosen FWSA's Man of the Year!

We are planning another President's luncheon August 9 since last year's was so well received. Presidents have a lot to offer each other at this informal gathering. We also are already planning for the 2014 **Ski Dazzle** at the L.A. Convention Center December 4-7, where we will provide considerable exposure for the Council and its clubs.

Please take a look at Los Angeles Council's new and improved website. We will continue to up-date the content and make it more interactive. As I start my second year as president of LA Council, I look forward to exciting growth and changes for the council and its clubs.

# FAR WEST SKI ASSOCIATION 2014-2015



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### **Did You Change?**

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 (Linda Scott) 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:

FWSA DATABASE Jim Stewart

Res: 925-362-4325

Email: fwsais-2013@yahoo.com



Jim Stewart Information Services Director

For Complete Information on FWSA, visit our website: <a href="https://www.fwsa.org">www.fwsa.org</a>

FWSA DATABASE C/O Jim Stewart 448 El Capitan Drive Danville, CA 94526

The Voice of the Western Skier