

## Phoenix Convention Will See New Changes to Weekend Lineup

By Mike Sanford

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Well, another ski season is upon us and things are very busy, as usual. Many of our favorite destinations have already gotten good early snow dumps. There is lots of snow in Colorado, Oregon/Washington and the destination for our next Board meeting, Sun Valley.

As I write tonight I want to inform all of you of a growing requirement for new volunteers. I have been informed of several current volunteers intending to move on to other endeavors and so we have a need to fill in behind these folks. For those reading this article who may be sitting on the sidelines and want to get more involved, this is your opportunity. We have a number of positions that will become open very soon, including a need for a new Data Base Manager. If you want to know more about volunteering, please give me a call or an e-mail and I'll be happy to provide further info (858) 695-1442, bubasanfrd@aol.com).

I am getting great feedback that our travel trips are meeting with great success. I understand China was a great trip (or more correctly, two trips). Tucker and Kathy were up to their usual high standards and all came back raving about the fun and adventures they had. Lynnell says the Telluride trip is pretty much full and she is ready to deliver another outstanding Ski Week. I know Lynnell and her Council trip leaders have exciting things in store for us and a great trip planned. And, then there will be Zermatt and an exciting trip to Switzerland.

We are working hard to get things in order for our upcoming convention next June in Phoenix, AZ. We will have our normal travel industry expo and professional panels and some new changes to our weekend agenda. The feedback from the Long Beach attendees convinced the Board that we need to provide some



Mike Sanford, FWSA President

entertainment on Saturday in addition to just our professional panels. So, we are looking at how we might be able to have a multi-media session similar to the one we had last year. We are also looking at including a one hour session on Saturday to provide an open forum allowing candidates an opportunity to provide more detail on their intentions and proposals. We'll also have our usual Friday night industry show and Silent Auction. We are working on a great line-up of event sponsors and our usual list of special guests. Volunteers have been

*Continued on Page 2*

meeting regularly to plot all the fun and exciting events. Put the dates of 8-11 June on your calendar now and plan on attending the 74th Annual Far West Convention and our 76<sup>th</sup> Birthday Bash. Visit [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org) and get all the details. This will be a great time! Don't miss this event. A big thank you goes out in advance to all the Arizona Council Clubs for their efforts in planning for what I know will be a great time.

Your Board of Directors and Trustees met at Sun Valley early in December to plan our next year. All the Board members are working hard on their respective goals and projects. We are also continuing to empanel our three special committees to work on some difficult but

specific tasks: Family/Youth Involvement, Sponsorships and By-laws. These panels have now been meeting for two years and will continue their respective efforts at moving forward on a number of important and very relevant efforts.

Our catchy safety poster is being distributed to all our industry partner resorts for posting, so be looking for our posters at the bulletin boards and the top of chair lifts this winter at your favorite resort.

You've hopefully all received your 2005-2006 Skier's Guides by now. This is our third year to utilize a new distribution method through Certified Folder Displays to distribute over half of our copies to the major metro areas we serve. I know several councils have already been

very successful in distributing volumes of the Guide in their annual winter shows. The Guide was yet another outstanding job by Leigh Gierenger. I hope the rest of the Guides are being distributed through your Councils and you have your copies. Please ensure they get to each and every member so they can see for themselves this beautiful magazine and its contents. This is our one major annual publication and it does such a great advertising job of our many accomplishments and our close relationships with our industry partners. Please make sure your councils and clubs use the Guide in their active recruitment of new members and get them in to prominent and viewable areas at all your meetings.

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## Something for our FWSA "hot dog" Skiers and Boarders

Beginning this November, the *Jeep King of the Mountain series* started a national grass roots program; the *Jeep Terrain Park Challenge* to benefit the Heuga Foundation for MS (multiple sclerosis). This series enables local winter resorts/organizers across the country to stage Jeep Terrain Park events in an effort to determine which ski and snowboard representatives from their resort/event will compete for a national crown.

Top finishers (male/female, skiers & boarders) qualify for the regional events, four of which are being held in our FWSA area. The top 4 in each category then qualify for an expense paid trip to the Terrain Park Challenge Finals held in conjunction with the Jeep King of the Mountain Finals in Squaw Valley. There is no entry fee to participate, but competitors are encouraged to make a \$5 or more voluntary donation to the Heuga Center. All participants will be entered in the final JTPC prize drawing which will take place at the Finals at Squaw Valley. There will also be a 4 minute TV segment about the Heuga Center as part of the televised Finals in Squaw Valley.

Grassroots will be comprised of local organizer or resort run events which commit as a qualifier (limited

to 10-12 per region) to the *Regional Jeep Terrain Park Challenge*. In exchange for their commitment to organize the qualifying competitions, the grassroots events will receive materials to enhance their event: Heuga Center information, JTPC banners, JTPC generic posters with space to provide their own event information, certificates to present to winners qualifying for the regionals, additional sponsor merchandise for drawings at their event, a JTPC gift for the first 50 to sign up for their event, and more.....

### [Jeep King of the Mountain Series](#)

#### [2005-06 Regional Events](#)

Stevens Pass, WA January 21  
Giants Ridge, MN February 4  
Angel Fire Resort, NM February 11  
Boyne, MI February 11  
Sugarbush, VT February 12  
Snow Summit / Big Bear, CA February 20  
Sugarbowl, CA TBD

#### [2005-06 Finals](#)

Squaw Valley, California February 25 & 26

## VP of Marketing

# Annual Events Kick Off Season

By Debbi Kor-Lew



Debbi Kor  
VP of Marketing

It's ski season! The Schnee Vogeli Club of NW Ski Club Council recently held their annual "Pray for Snow" Dance. Los Angeles Council had their "Snow Gala", San Diego Council their "Winter Gala", and Bay Area had their annual "Snow Ball." I can't think of a better way to kick off the season!

After the sparse Northwest season we experienced in 2005, we are all red hot and ready for the terrific snow that is heading our way in 2006! And, to show you just how ready we are, here are some of the many places that our clubs and councils will be traveling to this year: *Beaver Creek/Vail, Breckenridge, Jackson Hole, Snow Basin/Powder Mountain, Big White, Whistler, Zermatt, Kizbuhel, and Val D'Isere*, as well as our Far West Ski Week to *Telluride*. Wow....we will be tearing up the slopes everywhere!

I attended both the Seattle Ski Show and the Portland Ski Fever Show the first of November. I can honestly say that everyone is jazzed up about a great new season. The

resorts are open and just waiting for us to come visit. So, grab your friends, your family, and head out to your favorite ski area for some fun in the snow. Whether you're a skier, a snowboarder, or a Lodge Bunny, there are some great places to visit!

I'm also happy to announce that we have had several new Benefits Partners join us this season, includ-



ing *The Canyons*, where members can enjoy up to a 35% discount off lift tickets. Lodging properties, such as the *Whistler Coast Hotel*, in Whistler, British Columbia; *The Cal Neva*; and *Hampton Inn in Lake Tahoe*; as well as *The Best Western Hotel* in Truckee are offering

discounted room rates. And, we have a couple new ski shops that came aboard. *Ski Essentials* and *Swans USA* joined the *Powder Haus*; *Sports Basement*; and *Replay Sport* offering up some terrific buys; and *Rentskis.com* has got a great deal for you! Check out the members benefits page for a complete listing of all of our Benefits' Partners.

I will be making my annual trek to the SIA show in Las Vegas at the end of January. This is the greatest ski show around, and the LARGEST! It is a week-long celebration and exhibit of all that's new for the coming season. It provides me the opportunity to meet with new vendors, check out new products, and renew my friendship with those whom I have gotten to know over the past few years as the VP of Marketing for Far West. I promise to bring back all that I can to share with each of you.

Here's to a fantastic ski season! See you on the slopes.

## Far West Championships will be at Kirkwood

By Bob Ellis

The Far West Championships will be at Kirkwood this year from March 17-19, 2006. Be sure to plan ahead and schedule your lodging well in advance, as this is a popular time at Kirkwood, which is known for great skiing all over the mountain and the most

snowfall in the Tahoe area every year. On Friday, March 17, we will have race clinics and the pacesetter races. On Saturday March 18, the Slalom event will be held along with our Awards Banquet and Silent Auction. On Sunday March 19, the Giant Slalom will be the final event.

## VP of Membership

# Membership in FWSA Has Many Benefits

By Barbara Bryant



Barbara Bryant  
VP of Membership

What is membership in Far West Ski Association all about?

- First of all, membership in FWSA begins with your club or direct membership. By joining a club you automatically belong to FWSA and can enjoy all of the benefits from this organization.

When people join clubs they do so for a variety of reasons.

- They may want the camaraderie of social activities, the opportunity for travel bargains, the chance to belong to a group of like minded individuals who are physically active, and the chance to participate in a leadership role within an organization.

While the social aspects are important, the role of skiing needs to be emphasized as well. Many of us enjoy getting together on our social ski days, while others desire the competition involved in racing. Our ski clubs and Far West Ski Association promote and make available these opportunities for member.

- If you do not belong to an affiliated ski club, you may join FWSA as a direct member. The annual fee is \$20. This allows you all the member privileges, including participation in trips. The web site [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org) provides the necessary application for a direct membership. Direct members will then receive a membership card, the Councilman, FWSA's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary booklet and the Skiers Guide.

By the time you read this you all should have received FWSA membership cards. The cards identify the cardholder as a member of not only their own club, but Far West Ski Association. If you haven't received your card, then urge your club/council presidents to distribute the cards so that you can use them for the terrific discounts available. A complete list of benefits is on the web site, but just to mention a few, you can save at Stockli Skis, Copeland Sports, Dominator Ski Wax, Hotel Telluride, the Canyons, Park City and other ski resorts.

I have sent out a brochure template to all council presidents for council and club use. Hopefully, the brochure will be of use as a recruiting tool. Also, I am in the process of designing a FWSA brochure for distribution among our councils. Pending approval by the FWSA Board of Directors, you can look for the brochure within the next few weeks.



## Hampton Inn and Suites



### RATES:

**\$79** per night weekdays

**\$119** per night weekends

Rates for 1-2 people, \$10 each add'l person, up to 4

### INCLUDES:

- Full Breakfast

- Shuttle to North Star, Alpine, and Squaw

- Jacuzzi, health spa, and restaurant

**Reservations:** (530) 587-1197, mention the Far West Ski Association

(Blackout dates: 12/17/05-12/31/05, 01/01/06-01/03/06, 01/13/06-01/16/06, 02/17/06-02/20/06)

11951 State Highway 267, Truckee, CA 96161

## VP of Public Affairs

# Airlines Back Down on Ski Equipment Policies

By Scott Bowker



Scott Bowker  
VP of Public Affairs

Northwest Airlines backs down After Significant Opposition from Travel Industry & Ski Clubs

In the fall of 2005, Northwest Airlines tried to change its skiing/snowboarding equipment policy to count skis and boots as 2 separate pieces of luggage. After significant opposition in the form of emails and letters from the travel industry and ski clubs including FWSA, Northwest Airlines changed its policy back to its original policy which allowed skis and boots to count as one piece of luggage.

This one piece of luggage can not exceed Northwest's standard 50 pound weight limit or it will incur a \$25 overweight fee up to 70 pounds and a \$50 overweight fee for up to 100 pounds. For information on Skiing and Snowboarding Equipment, see ([www.nwa.com/travel/luggage/specialitems.html#ski](http://www.nwa.com/travel/luggage/specialitems.html#ski))

Northwest accepts one item of skiing/snowboarding equipment in lieu of one piece of luggage included in the free luggage allowance. Skiing/snowboarding equipment is accepted as checked luggage only. An item of ski equipment is defined as one of the following: One (1) ski bag containing up to two (2) pairs of skis

and one (1) boot bag; One (1) snowboard; One (1) snowboard bag containing up to two (2) snowboards.

Thanks to our travel industry partners for notifying FWSA of this attempted change. Please notify FWSA ([PublicAffairs@fwsa.org](mailto:PublicAffairs@fwsa.org)) immediately if you hear of any air-

lines trying to change their skiing/snowboarding equipment policies. To reduce hassles on your next trip, go to Airline Baggage Rules in the Travel or Public Affairs sections of [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org), click on the relevant baggage rule link(s) and print out the airline's policy.

### Public Affairs Update Headlines Area Development

Arizona Snowbowl. Even though Arizona Snowbowl received approval in the final environmental impact statement for Alternative 2 improvement and snowmaking proposal with construction to start 7/1, Snowbowl agreed to postpone construction until the Federal District Court in Prescott, AZ renders a decision. A full trial which is expected to hinge on religious rights especially the Religious Freedom Restoration Act was concluded on 11/15 by Judge Paul Rosenblatt and a ruling is forthcoming.

Boreal Mountain Resort, CA is to become an all mountain terrain park, the first in northern California, for the upcoming 2005-2006 season.

Crystal Mountain, WA awarded a contract to Superior Tramway to build 100 passenger jigback tram over 2 years starting in spring 2007.

Hatcher Pass, AK regional ski resort proposed by JL Properties to Matanuska-Susitna Borough.

Mammoth Mountain, CA sale to Starwood Capital Group Global valued Mammoth at \$365 million and is expected to close in December 2005. This sale reduces Intrawest's stake to 15%. Starwood also formed joint venture with Intrawest real estate holdings to develop more than 1,000 residential and lodging units plus 30,000 square feet of commercial space in the Mammoth Lakes region. Mammoth is the 2<sup>nd</sup> most frequented U.S. ski resort with 1.5 million skier visits per year.

Mt Hood Meadows Ski Resort Snowmaking, OR. Environmental Assessment expected December 2006. Mt Hood National Forest Hood River Ranger District Permit Administrator Doug Jones [dgjones@fs.fed.us](mailto:dgjones@fs.fed.us) 541-352-6002

Mt Hood Ski Bowl Ski Trail Upgrades, OR. New 5 acre terrain park, beginner ski trail, 15 acres glade skiing with Decision Memo expected August 2005. Mt Hood National Forest Zig Zag District Special Uses Coordinator Paul Koehler [pdkoehler@fs.fed.us](mailto:pdkoehler@fs.fed.us) 503-622-3191 x614

Mountain High Resort, CA sold in July 2005 to Valor Equity Partners (Chicago based private equity investment fund) and former General Manager Karl Kapuscinski. Mountain High North (formerly Ski Sunrise) will open as an area dedicated to learning and snowplay.

Summit at Snoqualmie Pass, WA. Master development plan draft environmental impact statement expected September 2005, final EIS expected April 2006. Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest Team Leader Supervisor Larry Donovan [ldonovan@fs.fed.us](mailto:ldonovan@fs.fed.us) 425-744-3403.

Timberline Express Chairlift Proposal, OR. Draft environmental impact statement released 3/25/05, final EIS expected August 2005. Mt Hood National Forest Zig Zag District Special Uses Coordinator Paul Koehler [pdkoehler@fs.fed.us](mailto:pdkoehler@fs.fed.us) 503-622-3191 x614. DEIS at [www.fs.fed.us/r6/mthood/projects/](http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/mthood/projects/)

White Pass Ski Area Expansion, WA draft environmental impact statement (EIS) released 12/23/04 and final EIS expected January 2006. Wenatchee National Forest Naches District Recreation Planner Susan Ranger [sranger@fs.fed.us](mailto:sranger@fs.fed.us) 509-653-1446

### **Consumer Advocacy/Trends**

California Snow Campaign launches with a 30 second ad featuring California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger skiing along with greetings from CA snow sports figures such as Glen Plake, Shane McConkey, and Daron Rahlves. The ad encourages visitors to "grab (their) sunscreen and party hat and head to California." Campaign includes print and broadcast ads, internet website ([www.VisitCaliforniaSnow.com](http://www.VisitCaliforniaSnow.com)) and interactive online game where you can Race The Gov in a slalom course.

2006 Winter Olympics kick off for the next Snow Search All Stars event will be on NBC. This Snow Monsters event will include a race, Superpipe, slopestyle and big air.

Winterkids SnowSchool: [www.WinterKids.org](http://www.WinterKids.org) program invites 5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade students and teachers to their local ski areas for a half-day on-hill math or science lesson and an afternoon of skiing, snowboarding or other healthy outdoor activity.

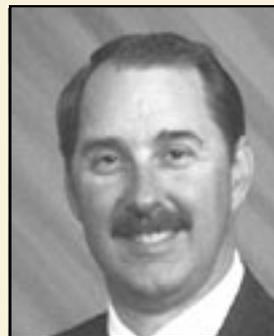
Squaw Valley, CA Third Annual Military Discount Program allows active military personnel to ski/snowboard for free except on holidays.

New snow toy. Airboard is an inflatable sled/snow bodyboard with underside runners for turning and stopping produced by Swiss engineer Joe Steiner who is a quality control expert for the shipping service DHL.

## **VP of Racing**

# **Racing Has Started**

By Bob Ellis



*Bob Ellis FWSA VP of Racing  
& FWRA President*

The 2005-2006 year is starting off slow in California, but is going strong in Colorado and Idaho. This year we will be starting our race season in Colorado with the Keystone Nationals on Dec. 7-11, 2005. This will be the first recreational national ski race since USSA and USRSA stopped putting on national ski races. We are hoping this could turn into a great annual event.

Every league in Far West has their own race schedule published on their websites or you can look at them on [www.FWRA.com](http://www.FWRA.com). The website includes photos of previous events, race results and contact information for various leagues and Far West.

The Far West Championships will be at Kirkwood this year from March 17-19, 2006. Be sure to plan ahead and schedule your lodging well in advance, as this is a popular time at Kirkwood which is known for great skiing all over the mountain and the most snowfall in the Tahoe area every year. On Friday March 17, we will have race clinics and the pacesetter races. On Saturday March 18, the Slalom event will be held along with our Awards Banquet and Silent Auction. On Sunday March 19, the Giant Slalom will be the final event of the weekend.

This year the race fee for the weekend will be \$40, and the Awards Dinner will be \$35. Rules changes will be minimal, as the largest change will be changing the Veterans class from age 45 to age 50 as of November 1, 2005.

## VP of Councils

# Volunteer for Ski Offices

By Michael German

I personally invite every member of the Far West Ski Association (FWSA) to attend the annual FWSA convention to be held June 8-11, 2006 at the Sheraton Wild Horse Pass Resort in Chandler, Az., Phone: (602) 225-0100. Make your reservations now. The convention offers three days of fun, entertainment and business. If you are not representing your club as a convention delegate, you can participate as a NON voting delegate. This allows you full participation in all events (recreation, pub crawl, silent auction, banquets and business meeting).

You should have received your FWSA membership cards from your local ski club(s). Some clubs have printed their own membership card on the back side of the FWSA membership card. This card will provide FWSA members with discounts and benefits at various local and national businesses. It also entitles member benefits offered by the National Ski Council Federation. By being a member of FWSA you are also a member of the NSCF.

For discounts and benefits available to you, check out the FWSA and NSCF web sites. ([www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org) and [www.skifederation.org](http://www.skifederation.org)). Benefits are available on magazines, car rentals, resorts, helmets, equipment rentals, ski wear and others. Many FWSA Board of Directors members are working hard to expand the benefits program. Each year the list grows. If you have any questions about the benefits program, please contact your local Council President.

The FWSA Board of Directors work to insure each and every member of FWSA has an opportunity to participate in FWSA travel, recreation, safety and history. The FWSA web site is continually updated with the latest information and updates on travel opportunities, safety awards, history awards, club awards, Man and Woman of the Year awards and service awards. The web site gives interested participants the opportunity to meet due dates, deadlines, and to sign up in a timely manner. I personally send out reminders to Council Presidents on due dates for various FWSA programs. I will continue to let the Council Presidents know the importance of communicating FWSA opportunities to their club members.

The Board of Directors will make every effort to get a 2005-2006 Skier's Guide to each and every member of our FWSA community. Skier's Guides are available to each member of FWSA. If you have not received a copy please contact me at

[mgermancv@hotmail.com](mailto:mgermancv@hotmail.com) or contact your Council President. The *Skier's Guide* is a excellent resource document. It contains a list of all FWSA officers, clubs, club presidents, ski resorts, resort contacts and other valuable information.

The Board continues to improve the process of Man and Woman of the Year. Thank you to Big White and Silver Star Ski Resorts for sponsoring the Man & Woman of the Year competition through the year 2006. This is a long term commitment. When you get an opportunity, thank Jim Loyd and Michael J. Ballingall for their sponsorship. Congratulations to Steve Coxen (Northwest) and Barbara Bryant (Sierra) the FWSA 2005-2006 Council's Man and Woman of the Year. We plan to have 2006 applications on the FWSA web site.

The Board is continuing to work on an initiative to display FWSA information at each resort in Far West. A safety poster from FWSA will be located in prominent places. This will attract more attention and members to our Association. Look for these posters at your favorite mountain resort this winter.

The Board is working on a family ski trip to Mammoth Mountain. The trip will be held during Mammoth's Ski Club Appreciation weekend in April, 2006. There will be many activities during the weekend with reduced prices and special events held for young adults and children.

As I said many times, FWSA has numerous opportunities for ski club volunteers to continue their involvement in programs that have impact throughout the FWSA community. If you are interested in serving the FWSA Board, local council or your ski club, contact any board member and your services will be utilized and appreciated. If you require assistance, contact me at [mgermancv@hotmail.com](mailto:mgermancv@hotmail.com).



Michael  
German  
VP of Councils

## *VP of North American Travel:*

# **Steamboat, FWSA 2007 Trip**

By Lynnell Calkins

Our 2006 ski week in Telluride is February 4 – 11, 2006. Our ten council trip leaders and ski week travel staff have been working hard to accommodate the participants from each council. Lodging is available in both the historic town of Telluride and in the Mountain Village. Everyone is looking forward to a week of skiing and partying with ski club members from all over the western United States.

Telluride has groomed trails, bowls, glades and chutes for all skiing ability levels. The mountain has 24% beginner terrain, 38% intermediate terrain and 38% expert terrain. Prospect Bowl links the two sides of the mountain with terrain for all ability levels.

By the time you read this article, it's probably too late to join us for Telluride but it's not too late to sign-

up for our 2007 ski week in Steamboat Springs, Colorado. The dates are January 27 – February 3, 2007.

Located in the Colorado Rockies, Steamboat is one of North America's largest ski mountains. With 143 trails, 3600 vertical feet, and nearly 3,600 skiable acres, Steamboat provides a variety of terrain for every level of skier. The trail classification is 13% beginner, 56% more difficult and 31% advanced/expert. There are definitely runs for every skier.

Steamboat is a complete mountain range with Mt. Werner, Sunshine Peak, Storm Peak, Thunderhead Peak, Christie Peak and Pioneer Ridge. Steamboat's six peaks are filled with groomed cruisers, bumps, steeps, open meadows, and legendary tree



*Lynnell Calkins,  
VP of Domestic Travel*

skiing. The term “champagne powder snow” was coined in Steamboat.

During the 2004-05 season, Steamboat invested over a million dollars improving their chair lifts. Their uphill capacity is 32,158 skiers per hour with an eight passenger gondola, high speed quads, and a total of 20 lifts.

The last time the FWSA ski week was in Steamboat was 1997, when we had 640 participants. Sign-ups for this trip will begin in March, 2006. So, plan now! Save the dates January 27 – February 3, 2007 to attend our Far West Ski Week in Steamboat.

## **More Public Affairs Update Headlines**

By Scott Bowker

### History

U.S. National Ski Hall of Fame 2005 inductees included the following: Hilary Lindh ('92 Olympic silver downhill); Erich Sailer (Director of Buck Hill, MN race program whose protégés includes U.S. Ski Team members Kristina Koznick, Sarah Schleper, Lindsey Kildow, and Resi Stiegler); David (Darcy) Brown (Aspen president for 22 year and founder of the National Ski Areas Association); and Walter Foeger (developer of Jay Peak Ski Resort, VT).

### Transportation

Southwest Airlines to begin service in Denver area in January 2006 after a 20 year hiatus with expected initial service to about 39 cities which includes direct flights to Phoenix, AZ; Las Vegas, NV and Chicago, IL.



*Michael and Barbara German enjoying gifts from their FWSA friends*

## VP of Communications

# COMMUNICATIONS COMPETITION AWARDS

By Elaine Cobos

This issue of the Councilman is again prepared and edited by our crack team, Mary and Norm Azevedo, from the Snowchasers Club in the Bay Area Council. They do an excellent job, are extremely dedicated and the Far West Ski Association (FWSA) is extremely lucky to have such dedicated and qualified volunteers! We also want to thank Steve Coxen for his dedicated support as webmaster of the FWSA website. Thanks, Steve!

We had very good response this year for the FWSA communication competitions for best newsletter and website. Thanks to all the clubs and councils that entered to participate in this time honored tradition to honor the best of our communication vehicles throughout the FWSA community.

You spoke and we listened, as I'm sure you would expect! This year, each newsletter and/or website will have three (3) judges each to ensure a balanced view of the entries. All Council and club presidents, newsletter editors and webmasters, in addition to judges, were sent the list of assigned judges to help in locating who is judging whom and how to contact them right away. Wentworth Outstanding Publication and Outstanding Website recipients receive certificates that are available upon request in .pdf format for greater distribution and website uploading. All judging is completed prior to the convention. The judging timeframe is November 2005 through April 2006.

In July 2005, the FWSA Board voted to approve additional recognition for winning entries in these competi-



Elaine Cobos  
VP of Communications

tions. A charitable donation will be made by FWSA in the name of the winning club/council and FWSA to the winner's designated local charity. The local charity must be a "Qualified charity" and provide proof to FWSA that they are a valid 501(c)(3) organization in order to receive funds. \$50 will be awarded to a qualified charity of choice for FIRST place in *each* class, for Wentworth Outstanding Publication and Outstanding Website. \$100 will be awarded to a qualified charity of choice for FIRST place winners in *each* class, for Tollakson Outstanding Club of the Year.

## Tollakson Outstanding Club of the Year Competition

ALL clubs in FWSA are eligible to enter the Tollakson Outstanding Club of the Year competition. A revered panel of judges will review all entries. Entries should consist of an essay describing how your club deserves to be named FWSA's Outstanding Club of the Year. Your essay should address what your club does for philanthropic efforts, the sport of skiing, and social events. Deadline for submittal is **May 1, 2006**. Essays should be no more than three pages. Send all entries to [vp.communications@cox.net](mailto:vp.communications@cox.net).

Rather than address club organization as in past years, the judges will focus on evaluating a club's activities for the year, as detailed in the essay. The categories or activities judged include the following, consistent with prior years' Tollakson Awards. Please structure your essay

in the order of categories noted below. Emphasis this year will be placed on areas of community outreach highlighted in bold:

- o **Non-Ski Activities** (30 points maximum)
  - Club & Member Community Activities and Services
  - Club Social Activities (Parties, athletic events, dinner dances, banquets, etc.)
- o **Sports Awareness / Promotion Activities** (20 points maximum)
  - Beginner/youth sports/ski programs
  - Handicapped/disabled skier programs
  - Ski area/community sports/ski programs
  - National Forest/Park guides, volunteers, etc.
- o **Sports Development Activities** (20 points maximum)
  - Sports/ski safety and instruction
  - Equipment update and information
  - Fitness, exercise, conditioning
- o **Sports Activities** (30 points maximum)
  - Ski (Alpine/Nordic) Competitive Events (Club, League, Council, FWRA, Other)
  - Non-Ski Competitive Events – tennis, volleyball, softball, skating, other Club, League, Council FWSA ski trips

Tollakson Outstanding Club recipients receive hard copy plaques. All judging is completed prior to the convention. Good luck to everyone, and may the best club be honored!

# Wild, Wild Horse FWSA Convention 2006

By Arleigh Meiners  
Host Convention Coordinator

The 74th Annual Convention will be held June 8<sup>th</sup> thru 11th, 2006, at the **Sheraton Wild Horse Pass Resort & Spa**, in Phoenix, Arizona. Located 11 miles from the Phoenix International Airport on the Gila River Indian Community, this spectacular new resort is a great escape for travelers and locals. 500 luxurious guestrooms, all with private balconies & patios, are decorated with authentic art from the Pima and Maricopa Indian tribes. Wild Horses can be seen roaming the Sonoran Desert from the upper lobby. The Riverside Oasis features cascading waterfalls as well as adult and children's pools.

The Golf Tournament on Friday will be held at the Whirlwind Golf Club. This Golf Club offers 36 holes of championship Troon Golf designed by Gary Panks, home to the PGA Nationwide Insurance Tour each October. There will be a special spa day at the Aji Spa on Friday. Convention attendees will have access to the Aji Spa with

its 17 treatment rooms, fitness center, salon, juice bar, Watsu pools and wellness center. The Koli Equestrian Center offers trail rides & riding lessons. There are 8 dining venues available on the property; including fine dining from James Beard award winner Janos Wilder. Upscale shopping, dining and entertainment is less than 5 minutes away at the new Casa Paloma & Chandler Fashion Center. A hike in the South Mountain park is planned for Friday morning also.

FWSA members can reserve their rooms for the 2006 event, at nightly rate of \$129 for single or double occupancy by calling 1-866-837-4156. It's not too soon to start planning to attend!

The Arizona Ski Council is proud to be hosting their 3<sup>rd</sup> convention. The FWSA Annual Convention was held in Scottsdale in 1994 and in Phoenix in the year 2000. Arleigh Meiners is the Convention Chairperson for 2006. Watch for more detailed announcements on the 2006 Convention on the FWSA Website and in other FWSA publications.



## Far West Ski Association Ski Tahoe Discount Lodging Cal Neva Resort

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# Charities & Our Community Chair

## FWSA Councils Involved in Community Causes

By Sigrid Noack

Far West Ski Association clubs and councils continue to stay very involved with their community and other charitable events. Here are just a few of the charitable activities and organizations receiving loving support around the Far West:

**ARIZONA SKI COUNCIL** and its member clubs are involved with the following charities: Arizona Winter Special Olympics, the U.S. Ski and Snowboard Team, and the Arizona Blind and Deaf Children's Foundation.

This year's **Arizona Ski Council (ASC)** Silent Auction, held on Friday, October 21, 2005, was a HUGE success! All proceeds from the auction will benefit blind and deaf youth through *Arizona Blind and Deaf Children's Foundation*.

**Phoenix Ski Club** is involved with Shoebox Ministries, Adopt-A-Highway, and the MS150 for Multiple Sclerosis.

**Scottsdale Sea & Ski Club** supports the Adopt-A-Highway program.

**Party Time Sports** is involved with Havasu For Youth, and the Lake Pleasant Trash Pick Up.

**Boeing Employee Adventure Club** helps out on Community Service Day at Usury Park, Phoenix.

**NORTHWEST SKI CLUB COUNCIL** clubs are very involved with charities.

**Bergfreunde Ski Club** had 41 volunteers at Mt. Bachelor to help with the Special Olympics Oregon Winter Games. The athletes competed in downhill skiing, snowboarding and cross country skiing for a chance to represent the state of Oregon at the national championships and possibly represent the USA at the next

Special Olympics World Games. There are currently some athletes from Oregon who have won gold at this year's event in Japan. In May, the club held its 2nd annual Le Tour de Valley. It included a bike, hike and walk fundraiser for Special Olympics at The Oregon Garden in Silverton, southeast of Portland. The event is the brainchild of Dave Sather who has done an outstanding job of bringing together the nurserymen (Oregon Garden), local merchants, outdoor enthusiasts (bikers, hikers & walkers) to enjoy themselves while fundraising for Special Olympics. All

events concluded at the Oregon Garden with a spaghetti feed and tours of the garden.

**Skiyente Ski Club** is an all women's ski club, focusing their primary charitable work on family and women-related issues as well as snow sports related endeavors. This fall, club members participated in their twice yearly Highway Clean-up project, sponsoring a two mile section of Highway 35 near Mt. Hood Meadows, one of the local ski areas. They have been doing this community service for nearly 10 years. In late September, the Mt. Hood Cultural Center and Mu-

seum in Government Camp held their annual Fall Festival fundraising event. Many Skiyente members donated their time to help organize and work the very successful event. This is another example of how



*Sigrid Noack, Charities & Our Community Chair*



*Participants in the Vertical plus Jimmie Huega fund raising*

*Continued on Page 12*

Skiyente Ski Club is active in the community. When one of their member's was very personally touched by Hurricane Katrina, Skiyente jumped right in and donated their meeting's 50/50 raffle proceeds. Tracy and Carl Chosa took in four of their relatives, who had made their way from New Orleans, with only what they



*Kathy Paisley is able to ski thanks FWSA Club Members' support*

could carry to Vancouver, Washington. Club members also held a "Katrina Shower" helping the family with household and personal items they needed. If you know Skiyentes, it was another great reason to have a party!

Club members are also selling Holiday Drawing tickets. Tickets are sold for a chance to win one of about 25 prizes ranging from lift tickets to jewelry and wine baskets. This holiday drawing is a long standing tradition. This year's proceeds will be donated to Shepard's Door, a local women's and children's shelter which is part of Portland's Rescue Mission. Last year they donated over \$500, and they are hoping for a similar response this year. Additional charitable activities are being planned. One of their traditions is to support an up-and-coming female junior racer with a scholarship awarded through the NW Snow Sports Foundation.

## [SAN DIEGO COUNCIL OF SKI CLUBS](#)

donated the proceeds from the Winter Gala and annual picnic to the Jimmie Heuga Center.

**Get Off Your Rockers Ski Club** rebuilt a house on the San Pasquel Reservation under the Habitat for Humanity Program.

**North Island Snowdrifters Ski Club** participated in the Canned Food Drive for the Needy, brought winter clothing for the San Diego Youth Community Services (Youth at Risk) Program, and donated Toys to the U.S. Marine Corps for distribution at Christmas. Club members auctioned off a Gingerbread House with proceeds going to the charity of their choice.

**Torrey Pines Ski Club** participates in the Toys for Tots Program at Christmas.

**Don Diego Ski Club** participates in the Toys for Tots Drive and collected over \$500 in donations to the USO for the military in Iraq.

[LOS ANGELES COUNCIL](#) and many of the member clubs are again donating funds toward sending one person with a disability, and her companion from The Unrecables Ski Club (Disabled Sports, USA) on the annual trip to Telluride.

## **[ASC Silent Auction Hits It Out of Park for Ski-Related Charity](#)**

This year's Arizona Ski Council (ASC) Silent Auction on Friday, October 21, 2005, was a HUGE success!

There was more than double the attendance and more than double the donations with more than double the funds raised! Our hats go off to all those who attended and successfully bid on some great ski trip packages and items.

All proceeds from the auction will benefit blind and deaf youth through *Arizona Blind and Deaf Children's Foundation*. The students and their guardians will head up to Telluride in February 2006 to learn to ski with the fantastic folks of the *Telluride Adaptive Sports Program (TASP)*.

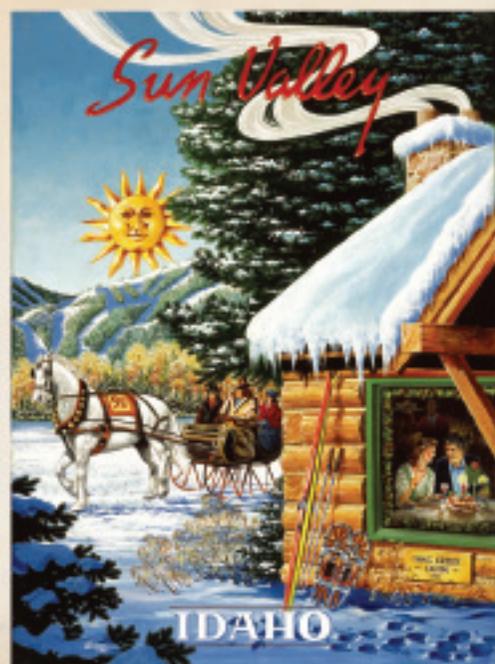
By Elaine Cobos



## Just look at all the places your lift ticket can take you.

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BEGINNERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS EVENT. THIS IS A GOOD OPPORTUNITY TO TRY SKIING AND BOARDING. LESSONS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE RESORT. BEGINNER PACKAGES ARE VERY REASONABLE.

# FWSA AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS

By Robb Margrave  
Chairman, Scholarship Committee

2005 was the second year where the Far West Ski Association has been able to award scholarships to deserving junior alpine racers. Applicants must reside in one of the six western states where FWSA has a presence or compete in a United States Ski Association (USSA) sanctioned program in one of these states.

Funding for our scholarships is provided by Big Mountain Resort, Grosse Mountain Lodge, and Schure Sports, Inc, makers of Karbon brand ski clothing. From donations by these fine enterprises, FWSA was able to accrue \$1,750. The Association added \$250 so that we were able to award a total of \$2,000 in scholarships.

Applicants were evaluated on: Financial Need – 30%; Academics – 25%; Prior Competitive Achievements – 20%; Community Activities – 15%; and their Goals and Desires – 10%.

This year the decision process was much more difficult than in the inaugural year of 2004 due to the volume of applications received by The Committee. A total of nine applications were received, from which The Committee awarded three scholarships.

## \$750 Scholarship

Anton Hiltz is a J2 racer who races with the Mt Batchelor Ski Education Foundation. He attends Summit High School in Bend, Oregon where he maintains a 3.8 GPA. In 2004 – As a J3 during the 2004 - 2005 season, Anton won two races at the national level: The Giant Slalom at the Lake Placid Race of Champions, and the Super G at the Junior Olympics at Snowbird, UT.



## \$750 Scholarship

Chris Hinkley is a J2 racer who competes for the Sugar Bowl Ski Team. He attends Sugar Bowl Academy in Norden, California, where he maintains 4.0 GPA. Chris, whose parents live in Juneau, AK, showed strong finishes in many races throughout the west in his first year of competition at the J2 level.



## \$500 Scholarship



Andee Wallace is a J3 racer who competes for the Mt Batchelor Ski Education Foundation. She entered Summit High School in Bend, Oregon in September. In her first year as a J3, Andee returned several fine finishes in local races in the Pacific Northwest.

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# Arizona Ski Council

By Marge Fons

## Surround yourself with great people

The first half of my term as President of the Arizona Ski Council (ASC) has been completed. When I took office, I followed the advice my parents had given me to be successful leader; surround yourself with great people. Get the best. I took it to heart and followed it; because I've found out they've been right more often than not. It is amazing to see what has been accomplished within such a short time with the great volunteers within ASC! I would like to take a moment to say thank you to the team that make up the ASC board; the volunteers, representatives and presidents who tirelessly have given their time and energy. With their assistance and effort we have accomplished much!

Kudos go to **Elaine Cobos**, chairperson **Jeff Peebles**, and their volunteers for organizing and implementing the second annual Silent Auction. The Arizona Ski Council kicked off their season with the Second Annual Silent Auction. Friends and family gathered at the historical Wrigley Mansion (wow!) in Phoenix, AZ on Friday October 21, 2005. There were twice as many in attendance and an outstanding amount of money was raised for the Arizona Blind and Deaf Children's Foundation. This money will provide scholarships for students from the Arizona Schools for the Deaf and Blind to travel to Telluride to learn to ski through the outstanding Telluride Adaptive Sports Program.

Special thanks go to the representatives from the five clubs of ASC. Coordination, communication and cooperation are the keys to providing variety and successful ski trips for all clubs. Clubs have been working together to coordinate a variety of trips for members. Four of the trips on the clubs' schedules are joint trips to allow ASC members to ski together. Wolf Creek, Durango, Steamboat and Telluride are joint destinations. Thank you reps for your inter-council workings to provide great trips for all!

I need to thank two men who have taken on great undertakings. Having led both these trips before; I know how time consuming, exhausting, and meeting

intensive both of these jobs are. First, thanks to **Jaan Vehik**, who has taken on coordination of the toughest trip of the entire council, *Arizona Days!* When you combine five different buses leaving at four different times from three different sites to two different lodging accommodation to one fantastic site - you have a spreadsheet nightmare! Secondly, I need to thank **Dan Romanenko** for his determined work for the *FWSA Ski Week* to Telluride. This has been a unique ski week for Arizona and has provided many challenges for Dano - Thank you for sticking with it! Hats off to both Jaan Vehik and Dan Romanenko. I owe you guys a beer for your tireless efforts!

Representatives from each of our clubs met to brainstorm and coordinate a PR committee. Each club took on a separate mission to facilitate the promotion of ASC and individual clubs. Special acknowledgements go to **Paul Beloud** for his unique idea to link realtors to the ASC and local club sites! As a committee we worked to reestablish our presence at the Singles Fair, ski shows, and the Warren Miller film. Thanks go to **Mary Beth Fitchlee, Sam Harris, Ken Sparks, Sue Thiebes, David Towar, and Jaan Vehik** for all of their ideas and efforts! Special thanks also goes to **Barb Bryant, VP of Membership**, for providing the inspiration and format for a council brochure. Thanks Barb, we appreciate all of your efforts!

Lastly, remember that Arizona Ski Council is the host for the FWSA Convention in June of 2006. One group has been working diligently since this past June. Our convention committee, under the coordination and direction of **Arleigh Meiners**, has been working hard to organize some wild events! (Make sure to read Arleigh's article found within this issue!) Mark your calendars; June 8-11, 2006, you won't want to miss this Wild, Wild West extravaganza in the desert!



Marge Fons, Arizona Ski Council President



# Bay Area Snow Sports Council

By Dennis Heffley



Dennis Heffley  
BAC Council President

Another amazing year for the Bay Area Snow Sports Council!

Continuing with our focus on improving the quality of our clubs, we are adding pages and ideas to our "Tuning For Success" binder that has been provided to our Board Members and Representatives of our BAC member clubs.

We held a fun and energy filled BAC General meeting in September where we broke out into small groups and addressed various topics that were chosen by the participants. The "focus" of the meeting was "Membership." The results were amazing!

There will be an upcoming BAC General Meeting where we will have a similar format and the focus will be on "Finding Leaders."

In November, our "speaker program" began at our BAC General Meetings. First to visit the BAC were Rob Rankin of Mike Wiegles Heli Skiing and Collier Cook of Homewood Mountain Resort. At future meetings, we will have visitors coming in from Heavenly, Northstar at Tahoe, Huega Foundation, Mammoth and possibly Squaw Valley!

A situation that we have dealing with since October 17, 2005 is the

California Seller of Travel (CST) issue. We are in continuing communications with Mr. Michael Hughes ~ Deputy Attorney General of the State of California. The BAC had a CST number that had not been kept active over a number of years. Repeated requests have been made asking for guidance from Mr. Hughes as to what steps are needed to be taken to bring the BAC to a current status with the state. There is a Mr. Kent who is supposed to be getting in touch with the BAC so that we can move forward. The most recent e-mail from Mr. Hughes is dated November 29, 2005.

OK ~ back to the FUN STUFF! The BAC had tables at both the San Jose Ski Dazzle Show and the Adventures in Travel Show in San Francisco. Then, there was the 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Snow Ball with the Singles League



division of the BAC. What an amazing party! Again, we had wonderful support from so many of the resorts and vendors with great Raffle and Silent Auction donations! This years' Grand Prize was donated by Ms. Tania O'Toole of Sun Peaks Ski Resort and Ms. Denise Austin of the Fireside Lodge in Sun Peaks Village.

The Snow has arrived and it is time to Slide and Ride!

Please Remember ~ You're The One Who Makes The Difference!

## Layering Strategy with Ski Clothes

by Richard Lubin, D.C.



Richard Lubin, D.C.  
Safety Committee Chair

The recommended way to dress for snowsports is by layering.

The *first layer* (next to your skin) should be a highly wickable, breathable base layer. **The moisture generated by your body sitting on your skin is largely responsible for making you cold.** There are many sophisticated fabrics on the market, which move the moisture away. Polyester seems to be the most popular, but you may also find long underwear, which is polypropylene, silk, or other fabrics. Most tops start at about \$15 and increase based on quality and features. I like the zippered ones because you can modulate your warmth level better.

The *Middle layer* should be also breathable and have some lofting ability. By that I mean trapping air to act as insulation. In nice warm ski weather you may skip this layer altogether. Fleece is one of the best materials to use. It is lightweight, does not restrict motion too much and feels great. Another great material is a relatively new breed of fabric like Gore-Tex Windstopper. This

*Continued on page 21*

## Central Council of California

By Fran Long



*Fran Long  
Central Council of  
California President*

Ski season is upon us once again, and Central Council and its member clubs have a full calendar of ski activities ready to go. Central Council sponsors two ski trips each year. Our first trip is to Mammoth Mountain, January 5-8, 2006. Forty members from SLO Skiers, Avalanche Ski Club, and Camber Ski Club will meet for skiing or boarding, friendship, and partying. Our second ski trip of the year is Telluride, of course.

Central Council will be taking about 15 members on the FWSA week-long trip to Telluride with expectations of participating in skiing and social activities. In addition, Camber Club members enjoy a full calendar of skiing at Tahoe, and SLO Skiers head to Mammoth or Tahoe about twice a month throughout the ski season. SLO Skiers also sponsor two week-long trips each year. This year the high season trip is to Aspen/Snowmass and the spring fling is to Sun Valley. As you

can see, there is plenty of skiing for everyone!

We are now in the planning stages for our summer activities. In the works are our annual float trip down the King's River and a couple of bike rides. The float trip is out of Kelly's Beach in Reedley on a weekend to be determined in July. The bike rides will be in the beautiful Paso Robles wine country. One will be in May, to coincide with the Paso Robles Wine Festival and one will be in early June.

I want to welcome Santa Barbara Ski and Sports back to Central Council.

We love you and look forward to continuing our friendships through some combined activities throughout the year. Santa Barbara now enjoys dual membership in L.A. Council and Central Council.

Finally, I want to recognize and thank the Central Council board for their support and understanding as we continue to develop into an active and supportive council.

Thank you... Billy Ellis, Mary Alexander, Donna Barnes, Jim Grady, Carolane Grady, Kiyomi Stineman, Jayne Camic, and our newest member, Rita Wrolstad. We are a team, each doing a small part to keep our council alive and well.



## Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs

By Rinda Wohlwend



*Rinda Wohlwend  
Los Angeles Council President*

### **Hello from LA Council!**

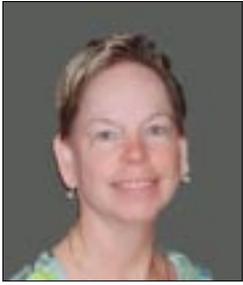
After hosting an amazing, spectacular Convention over the summer, LAC is now fully into the '05-'06 ski season. Our kick-off for the season is always our Snow Gala which occurred just last month. As always, it proved to be an elegant and fun event! My hearty congratulations to our new Snow Queen, Laura Preiss and Our new Snow King, Ray Craig. Now, if our theme of "Let it snow, let it snow" will just cause it to snow like it did last year!

LA Council member clubs are off and running with trips, trips, and more trips. All of which are listed in our hot-off-the-press LAC Directory. Including, of course, the FWSA trip to Telluride, in which several different clubs in LA Council will be participating. Mammoth trips abound in LA Council's member clubs and I think you could go every weekend if you chose to! This year LAC Race Camp will be December 9-18 at Mammoth. And, if you've been holed up on a mountain somewhere and haven't heard, Mammoth is undergoing some terrific changes to make it even more outstanding. I'm sure we'll see a few of those changes this season. Following in February [23<sup>rd</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup>], is a fun filled trip to Powder Mountain and Snow Basin. To be followed by a fabulous trip March 17-25 to Kitzbuhel, Austria and Prague. Wow! We truly are a bunch of happy folks who LOVE TO SKI!

Speaking as one of those who does love-to-ski, the snow is falling and I'm off to Mammoth next weekend. Be safe. Ski with pride-watch all sides-let it ride! See ya on the mountain...

# Northwest Ski Club Council

By Mary Olhausen



Mary Olhausen  
Northwest Ski Club  
Council President

Hope you've all gotten in more skiing by now - as compared to last season!! As I write this article, many of our NW resorts have opened up and skiers are reveling in the white stuff. Our own Mt. Baker is

boasting the deepest snowbase in the world!! NWSCC geared up for the season with a Council booth at the Seattle and Portland ski shows and then hosted our annual Ski Fair event. The evening of November 9th found us visiting with 40+ ski industry and clubs. A silent auction/raffle was held and we honored our Commercial Members with awards. All of these ski shows gave us ample opportunity to distribute our NW Skiers' Directory and the FWSA Skiers' Guides. Speaking of NW Skiers'

Directory—let me take a moment and say a big THANKS to all of our Commercial Members that support the Council and our Pacrat racing program.

Council meetings generate enthusiasm with a variety of speakers and “theme nights.” Something for everyone as we hold discussions about club operations, benefits, leadership roles, travel, charities, racing, etc. Meetings are open to all and a great way to find out what's happening with clubs and industry.

NWSCC will have been to their early season ski trip to Breckenridge, December 7-12. This was a joint trip with San Diego Council. Our council looks forward to FWSA Ski Week in Telluride. In February, Skiyente Ski Club is hosting a 4-day “family” ski trip to

Big White. We'll be at Mt. Bachelor again for our “St. Patrick's Day” weekend trip in March, and April will take us to Whistler/Blackcomb for spring skiing.

*PACRAT racing gets underway early 2006 with five races scheduled for Mt. Hood ski areas and the grand finale “Rat Attack” party in April. PACRAT racing information can be found at [www.pacrats.org](http://www.pacrats.org).*

**The Ski Oregon Challenge** is our latest event. The Council Board is challenging Northwest skiers to ski or board nine of Oregon's eleven ski resorts during the 2005-06 ski season and qualify for the Council's year end drawing for prizes – equipment, services, 2006-07 lift tickets and a ten-time punch pass at Mt. Hood Meadows. Turn in proof that you have skied nine of the Oregon ski resorts, and your name will be entered in a drawing. Ski all eleven areas and you qualify for a special award. Resorts include: Anthony Lakes, Cooper Spur, Hoodoo, Mt. Ashland, Mt. Bachelor, Mt. Hood Meadows, Mt. Hood Ski Bowl, Spout Springs, Timberline, Warner Canyon, and Willamette Pass. Watch next year for expansion of this event into Washington and Idaho resorts.

Our Washington skiers can purchase the new Ski & Ride Washington license plate. A portion of the plate fee goes to support NW Winter Sports Foundation which provides youth initiatives to promote active winter health & outdoor activities and educational activities devoted to snow sports safety. NWSCC club members will fill up their ski days by participating in the many ski events for charitable causes put on by our Northwest resorts to benefit such organizations as Special Olympics, American Cancer Society, Jimmie Heuga Center/MS, Cystic Fibrosis, Ski Patrol, Toys for Tots, and local food drives for the underserved.

Ski area development is a big issue for NWSCC – we've set up a special section on our website, “NW Snowsports Advocates”, to inform the skiing public about ski area development issues at resorts in Oregon and Washington. This site provides skiers the opportunity to take an active role in helping with ski areas get US Forest Service approval of their master plans.

*Please visit our website at [www.nwskiers.org](http://www.nwskiers.org) to find out more about NWSCC and all the great things our council and clubs are doing!!*



# San Diego Council

By Bobbie Owens



*Bobbie Owen  
Past San Diego  
Council President*

The San Diego Council of Ski Clubs has been very busy during the fall

getting ready for the ski season ahead. We held our annual Ski Swap in conjunction with Ranch Craft Ski Shop on October 22<sup>nd</sup> and the proceeds went to help San Diego Youth and Community Services.

Our annual Winter Gala was held on November 12<sup>th</sup> at the Hilton Harbor Island. Everyone who attended had a great time. San Diego Council's new 2005 man and woman of the year were Rick Bonnet and Cheryl Riess of North Island Ski Club, our 2005.

We also announced this year's Joe Harris award recipient, Norm Cullen, for his many years of hard work and dedication from the club level to FWSA.



*Cheryl Riess  
New San Diego  
Council President*

# Sierra Council

By Cliff Young, Sierra Council President

It was about eight years ago when Doug Ball finally convinced me to come out for a Sierra League race. I've loved skiing for as long as I can remember and joined my first race team in 1971. Going through middle age, my enthusiasm was starting to get a little flat and my belly a little fat, so I thought if nothing else, trying to race again would get Doug off my back. Much to my amazement, my handicap times have improved each year, my enthusiasm for recreational skiing has skyrocketed, and racing has provided additional incentive to stay in shape year round.

I wanted to share some of the excuses I've heard from others about why they won't race, and I encourage you to build on these arguments to nag your friends about joining us.

1. "I'm afraid to get hurt." Running gates teaches you proper technique that carries over to skiing in every snow condition. What you learn about carving turns prevents injuries, because you develop good habits and proper form. Racing is about making good turns, not being reckless. It's OK to slow down and still maintain a stance suitable for racing. You never know when you'll ski through poor light and hit an icy section on the slope. Racing teaches you how to initiate a turn when you're sliding out.

2. "I don't want to wait around, when I could be skiing." If you spend \$100 for the annual race pass, Sierra League offers on-line registration, eliminating the need to register by 8:15 a.m. the day of each event. You just show up at the start, and after the first run, hurry back for your second run. Visiting with other racers

at the start is usually one of the high points of my day. When the event is over, racers group up and ski together. Some of the best skiing tips I've ever received came from fellow competitors after the race.

3. "I just want to ski for fun." I guarantee that it's more fun to ski when you know how to control them. Outsiders would expect that racers keep their speed secrets to themselves. In our league, just the opposite seems true. Our willingness to share tips about ski tuning or technique with each other is heart warming. Reno Ski & Rec member, Keisha Curtis, went from never skiing a day in her life three years ago to becoming the fastest woman in the eleven states of the Far West Division. She started racing about six weeks after her first day on skis, and this year won both the Slalom and GS races in the S-1 Open division at the West Coast Championships and the Nor Cals. Her incredible learning curve was largely due to fellow club members like Paul Laudenschlauger, Chris Buttenburg and Jim Sommers constantly giving her tips and encouragement while free skiing after the races.

I don't think there's a faster way to improve your skiing than racing. There ain't no style points for keeping your feet together, like in mogul competitions. The results in a race against the clock are totally objective, and I think that's why the exhilaration of a great run through a closed course is so satisfying. Thanks again Doug for keeping after me for so long to try racing.

# Snowbasin Commits to Three Year Sponsorship

by Jane Wyckoff,  
FWSA Industry Marketing Representative

The Far West Ski Association is pleased to announce that Snowbasin, a Sun Valley Resort, Utah, has committed to a three-year sponsorship of the Golf Tournament held in conjunction with the Association's Annual Convention. Snowbasin was the sponsor of the Golf Tournament held this past June in Long Beach at the FWSA's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Convention, hosted by the Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs. Therefore, their sponsorship will extend from 2005 thru 2008.

Due to the outstanding sponsorship support FWSA received this past year, a decision was made to offer interested industry partners an opportunity to secure a two or three year commitment for sponsorship of their favorite event. The snowsport and travel industries were especially generous in their support of the Far West Ski Association's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Convention. The amount of cash, certificates, and product sponsorships set a new record in support of our special event. The 74<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention will be held June 8-11, 2006 at the Sheraton Wild Horse Pass Resort & Spa in Chandler, Arizona, hosted by the Arizona Ski Council.



As a non-profit organization, the Association's programs and services are supported through fund raising programs and sponsorships. This year's Convention sponsorships enabled the Association to conduct the Snowsports History Reunion and Reception and other special activities in celebration of our 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

Some of the marketing promotional benefits all sponsors receive are: multimedia exposure before, during and after the event, locally & regionally; banner prominently displayed at the Convention; logo displayed on event promotions; acknowledgement on the FWSA website, [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org); acknowledgement in the annual Far West Skier's guide, recognition in *The Councilman* newsletter; registration for two representatives to attend the FWSA Convention; exhibit space at the Convention, and special marketing promotions based on the event sponsored. Advertising in the *Far West Skier's Guide* and *The Councilman* is also included as a sponsorship benefit for some of the larger Convention events and Association programs.

For additional information regarding Far West Ski Association sponsorships contact Jane Wyckoff via E-mail at [janewyckoff1@cox.net](mailto:janewyckoff1@cox.net) or call 949-933-9607.

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*Layering Strategy - Continued from page 16*

material is breathable but resists air blowing through you by sandwiching a membrane in between the fabrics. A vest of this material will keep you cozy and keep your arms very mobile. You can zip it up to store your warms, or unzip for cooling. If you want to get really fancy, the Gore company is making products called Airvantage. This includes an inflatable bladder in a vest, which can be inflated or deflated to adjust your amount of insulation, what a concept!

The *outer layer* should be water and wind proof and ideally still have some breathe-ability. The windproofness reduces convective heat loss. By waterproof we really mean water-resistant. There is an inverse relationship between breathe-ability and

waterproofness. A rubber rain suit is very waterproof, but does not breathe. You will sweat inside and get wet and miserable. The best fabrics like Goretex XCR are light, breathable and relatively waterproof. Unfortunately, it is also expensive. A fabulous Mountain Hardware shell like this can cost you over \$400.00. Many companies have their own version of a breathable but waterproof fabric.

Invest in a good pair of *ski socks*. They use great wicking and insulating fabrics. Some use different panels to adjust for pressure and wear in your foot. Snowboard specific ones have a forward lean to them. Don't wear cotton or some crappy ones. If your feet are uncomfortable you won't have a good time. Make sure your boots fit properly and do not impair your circulation.

# 2005-2006 FWSA

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## Did You Change?



By Ken Calkins  
*Ken Calkins*  
*Data Base Manager*

The data base is used to send important information as well as the councilman to both individuals and clubs. If you have had any personnel changes or your club has changed officers recently, you should send updates to me at:

2211 Gates Ave #B  
Redondo Beach, CA 90278

or e-mail me:

[FWSAKen@aol.com](mailto:FWSAKen@aol.com).

A new form can be obtained at [FWSA.org](http://FWSA.org). Click on membership and then Club Officer Update. Download the form and fill it out. If you have a change, please send your name, the name of your club, the bad information followed by the good information.

Any requests for information from the database must be sent to the FWSA President (Mike Sanford) for approval before information will be dispersed.

The Voice of the  
Western Skier



# The Councilman

*The Councilman* is published three times a year by the Far West Ski Association in July, January, and April, which coincides with the FWSA Annual Convention and the busy ski season. It is published for FWSA members and can be seen at [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org).

*The Far West Skier's Guide* is published annually in October for all FWSA members, as well as interested snowsport enthusiasts, and industry representatives. The content of both publications is meant to be shared by FWSA council and club members so they have a knowledge and understanding of the Association and the benefits that come with membership in the FWSA.



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