

Far West News *Flash*

AUGUST 2020

Far West Ski Association

WHO & WHAT'S NEW FOR 2020-2021

THE REEL DEAL 2020: The first crop of new ski movies has landed, and it is “officially” time to get stoked for the coming winter. We may be watching a digitally-imaged movie, or sitting in our cars at a “Drive-In”, but here are a couple “must see” movies to get the adrenaline flowing: “*Huck Yeah*”, (*Matchstick Productions*) highlighting some of the best female skiers in the world. *Teton Gravity Research*, celebrating 25 years of ski movie-making, present their newest film “*Make Believe*”. This movie brings to light many pro skiers, all the way, from their humble beginnings to where they are in the ski world today.

PURGATORY AND SILVER MOUNTAIN INTERESTED IN COMMUNITY SKI HILL: Two southwest Colorado ski area operators are interested in working with the Town of Silverton to grow the remote community’s Kendall Mountain ski area into a year-round amenity. Durango’s Mountain Capital Partners and local Silverton Mountain answered Silverton’s initial call for possible partners at the 16-acre Kendall Mountain ski area. Both operators have different visions for the community ski hill. Mountain Capital Partners, or MCP, which owns Purgatory and seven other ski areas in four states, sees opportunity in a proposal for five new lifts and 300 acres of ski terrain climbing up toward the summit of Kendall Peak. The current owners of the 18-year-old Silverton Mountain ski area, about 10 miles out of town, think a smaller option with maybe just one new lift supports community interest in affordability and family-centric terrain. The ski area can handle about 160 visitors a day. The resulting 68-page viability study sketched two possibilities for pushing skiing up the steep slopes above the town. One proposal creates 800 acres of skiing accessed by four chairlifts, with a price tag north of \$25 million for the community of 600. A second proposal weaves 300 acres of skiing between privately owned mining claims with five lifts, including a beginner chair at the base. The ideas also indicates new base buildings and an array of summer attractions, like ziplines and an alpine slide. We’ll have stay tuned to see what the end result will be.

ANNUAL NSCF MEETING: The NSCF Annual Meeting will take place online, Saturday, August 22, in order to conduct necessary business to enable the organization to continue operating through the next fiscal year. Thanks to the officers, committee chairs and council presidents, or their representatives, for giving up their Saturday to attend the virtual meeting. We will miss our usual face to face meeting that includes participation by and collaboration with our industry partners.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY ROMA: A very happy belated birthday to *Roma McCoy*. Roma celebrated her 100th birthday on August 12th. Here’s to many more wonderful times!

FAR WEST’S 90TH CELEBRATION: Far West Ski Association is turning 90 on October 7, 2020. We are preparing a “*Celebration Book*”, a compilation of the history of FWSA in its current form, and plan to have it available at that time. Advertisements for your business or organization is available. Any advertisements should be made **right now**, through Leigh Gieringer, Publisher of the Far West Skiers Guide at: fwsq2@cox.net.

AMAZON SMILES WITH FAR WEST SKI FOUNDATION: Far West Ski Foundation is a participating charitable organization with *Amazon*. Please consider signing up for the *Amazon Smile Charitable Program* and select the Far West Ski Foundation as your charity. Amazon will then donate a percentage of each purchase to FWSF, with no additional cost to you.

FAR WEST TRAVEL

FWSA SUN VALLEY SKI WEEK 2021: *Spots Still Available!* FWSA Councils are selling the 2021 Sun Valley Ski Week January 30—February 6th. Contact your Council Trip Leader to reserve your lodging. We are selling hotel rooms at Sun Valley Inn and Sun Valley Lodge, as well as 2 & 3-bedroom Lodge Apartments. Trip package includes lodging and FWSA and Council parties. Additional costs for lift tickets, group air/ground, and Council Challenge races. Free shuttle to town, ski hill, and activities for non-skiers/boarders! Space is limited so sign up now. NO FWSA fees to cancel prior to October 10th. Go to: www.fwsa.org, for Trip Leader contact information or contact Nancy Ellis, fwsatravelnancy@sbcglobal.net.

FWSA 2021 SOLDEN SKI WEEK: *Information Coming Soon!* *Holidaze Ski Tours* has been granted the contract on this trip. Dates are February 19 – February 27, 2021. The trip will have an extension to *Southern Spain*, from February 27 – March 7, 2021. Stay tuned for more information.

FWSA 2021 ZERMATT MINI SKI WEEK: *Registration Open.* Sign-ups are now being taken for the *Zermatt Utah Resort* Mini Trip March 21--27, 2021. This resort is located in Midway, Utah. Participants have the option to ski/ride *Deer Valley, Park City, and Sundance Resorts*. There's a lot do for non-skiers such as art classes at Sundance Resort, shopping, tubing, ice skating, snowmobiling, sleigh rides, or soaking in a 10,000-year-old Crater Hot Springs. Contact Gloria Raminha, Trip Leader: garski2011@gmail.com; 661-800-8229. For further Information, click onto: www.fwsa.org.

FWSA 2021 INSIDE PASSAGE CRUISE TO ALASKA: *Spots Still Available!* There's plenty of time to sign up for the *Denali Tour and Alaska Cruise* June 19--30, 2021. Participants can sign up for the Denali Tour or Alaska Cruise or for the combined two trips. The Denali Trip starts with two days in Fairbanks, AK, followed by two days in Denali, and ends in Anchorage for those doing this portion only. The Inside passage Alaska Cruise starts in Whittier and travels southward with stops in Skagway, Juneau, and Ketchikan before docking in Vancouver, BC. Trip information and registration available on the FWSA.org website or contact Nancy Ellis, VP North American Travel, fwsatravelnancy@sbcglobal.net; (530) 414-8261.

"NEW" FWSA SKI WEEK 2022: *Aspen/Snowmass Resort* will be the destination January 22—29, 2022 for the annual Far West Ski Week. We will be staying in Snowmass Resort and participants have a choice of ski in/ski out lodging or units a short walk to the ski hill. The Snowmass base area has many new restaurants, lodging, and activities such as a climbing wall and ice rink. The *Alpine "Breathtaker" Mountain Coaster* now traverses the mountain slopes. Put the dates of the trip on your calendar and watch for sign up information to be available in March 2021.

FWSA SUMMER 2021 CHILE SKI/ADVENTURE TRIP: *Valle Nevado, Chile* ski trip with extension to *Atacama Desert* is currently being researched for details of Atacama Desert conditions. Possible dates would be late July or August 2021.

FAR WEST 2021 DIVE TRIP: The 2021 Dive Trip has been contracted and will be October 9-16, 2021 to the wonderful Anthony's Key Resort in *Roatan, Honduras!* We have great pricing for their top of the line Key Deluxe lodging, meals, and 6 days of 3 tank boat dives. The registration forms and additional information will be available by the end of July.

FAR WEST COMMUNICATIONS

FWSA WEBSITE: Our newest website has been live for several months now. We continue to add content and grow the site. Please take some time to review it, and feel free to suggest any changes and/or additions you may have. We just added a *NEW* Benefits Partner, *Meier Skis*, out of Colorado. They will provide 20% to 30% off standard graphic and handmade custom skis. Our Publications are all available on the website. Look under *Publications* in the "*Member Corner*" drop down. You can also subscribe to the *News Flash*, simply by updating your member profile and check the "*News Flash Subscription*".

SPECTACULAR PHOTOS - RESORTS AROUND THE WORLD: *Jimmy Petterson*, friend and a FWSA award-winning writer and photographer has another book out. If you're interested in seeing some incredible

scenery, covering seven continents, visiting over 500 ski resorts in 70+ countries; experience world famous resorts, heli-ski destinations, glacier skiing, and unique and fun places, consider his *Skiing Around the World Volumes I & II*. **Contact: Leigh Gieringer 480.600.6099, or lgieringer2@cox.net for inquiries and orders.**

FAR WEST COUNCILS

NORTHWEST SKI CLUB COUNCIL: Northwest ski clubs have been trying to plan some activities while still staying socially distanced, and within the guidelines of the Covid-19 Pandemic. *Mountain High Snowsport Club* had a bike ride in the Columbia Gorge on Sunday, August 9th. Eleven members participated in a ride into The Dalles, OR, with a stop at the *Columbia Gorge Discovery Center* for lunch. It worked well with everyone adhering to the 6-foot distancing and wearing masks when in group settings. They plan a second one soon. *Schnee Vogeli Ski Club* held a golf tournament at Welches Golf Course on Saturday, August 8.

SIERRA LEAGUE AND COUNCIL: *The Reno Ski and Recreation Club* is holding weekly socially distanced happy hours at area parks. It's a **BYOC,S & B** ("bring your own chair, snacks and beverages). They also did a tube float down the Truckee River and a bike ride and are planning a miniature golf tournament before the end of the summer. *Tahoe Donner Senior Alpine Ski Club* members are playing golf as well.

INTERMOUNTAIN SKI COUNCIL: *Bogus Basin Ski Club* has been doing bike rides and holding monthly meet-ups in the park in Boise. They plan to have a group going to Sun Valley for the Far West Ski Week in January. For more information, check with Paul Markowitz: pmarkowitz@cablone.net.

As you can see, it is easy to plan get-togethers with your clubs and councils, but please be SMART about it. Wear your face masks and stay socially-distanced. We have all been having struggles with this Covid-19 Pandemic. We just want to make sure that EVERYONE is doing EVERYTHING possible to stay well.

stay safe! stay healthy!