

# Far West NewsFlash

July, 2022

## Far West Ski Association

**SNOWSTORM IN AFRICA:** A snowstorm dumped more than 3" snow at Afriski Mountain Resort, in Lesotho, southern Africa in recent days. The ski area now has a base of 16". While we would all normally scoff at a mere 3" of snow, this is a BIG deal in Africa. Afriski is the only ski area in Lesotho, but one of 3 in southern Africa. The resort can accommodate about 320 people and offers a one-kilometer ski slope, and beginner's slope, and operates during the winter months (June–August). Afriski also operates in the summer months and offers a variety of activities, from mountain biking, guided Enduro motorbike trips, paintball, hiking, trail running, and more.

**PARK CITY UPGRADE PLANS BLOCKED:** The Park City Planning Commission blocked plans for the mountain to upgrade their 6-pack and 8-pack chairs, planned to be completed for the 2022-2023 ski season. The move was being done to eliminate the long lift lines, currently at those 2 chairs, and being able to move people quicker, and more easily up the mountain. The city cited that the proposed lifts were not consistent with the 1998 agreement that governs the resort. More review will be required in order for the changes to go forward.

**TOP TEN SMALL SKI RESORTS IN NORTH AMERICA':** If you are a true "powder hound", perhaps you've skied one or more of these ski areas, which have just been named the Top 10 Small Ski Resorts for good, good powder. Starting with #1, running down to #10: Grand Targhee (WY), Brighton Ski Resort (UT), Whitewater (BC), Wolf Creek (CO), Red Mountain (BC), Revelstoke (BC), Silverton (CO), Arapahoe Basin (CO), Jay Peak (VT), and Bridger Bowl (MT). Get out your map and start planning your trip now!

**FAR WEST SAYS GOODBYE TO TWO LONG-TIME MEMBERS:** *Nancy Sanford*, the first female president of Fountain Valley Ski Club, and past president of Orange Council of Ski Clubs took that last adventure trip in the sky on July 10<sup>th</sup>, after developing congestive heart failure. Nancy was a long-time member, of Fountain Valley, Orange Council and Far West. She was a Travel Agent and Tour Operator who planned trips for her club, her council, her friends, and went on many, many wonderful trips all over the world. In 2001, Nancy was awarded the Elizabeth "Schatzi" Wood award. She was such a vivacious, fun-loving person, who has left a lot of friends behind. Our heartfelt condolences go out to Nancy's family and friends.

*Stephen Hall*, co-owner of Moguls Mountain Travel and owner of Skigroup.net passed away on July 7, 2022. Stephen was known by many of his ski industry friends as "Chief of Karma". He took SkiGroup.net, from 2007 to it's present day, through good times and bad. He skied at more than 50 resorts, covering many, many trails. Stephen was definitely one of the "good guys". In 2021, he and his son, Dylan, started MountainGolf.. He was a volunteer firefighter, a member of the Sunshine Historic Society, and a hippie at heart. Always smiling, always happy to help in whatever way he could, and it showed! Stephen, you will truly be missed!

## FAR WEST TRAVEL

**FWSA 2022 DIVE TRIP:** *Limited availability* on the FWSA 2022 dive trip to Cozumel. We will be staying at Iberostar Cozumel Resort in their standard bungalow style rooms from **October 8 – 15, 2022**. All meals, alcoholic & non-alcoholic beverages, 5 days of 2 tank dives including 2 Cenote dives, and a night dive. Iberostar Cozumel is located on the Southwest side of the island, and is close to the best dive sites. Dressel

Divers, a PADI 5-Star Instructor Development Center dive operation is located on the property. The information is now available on the FWSA website at [Dive 2022 Cozumel - Far West Ski Association \(fwsa.org\)](https://www.fwsa.org)

**FWSA NORTH AMERICAN SKI WEEK:** *Jackson Hole Mountain Resort* will be the destination for the 2023 Ski Week. Dates are **January 21 – 28, 2023**. Stay tuned for further information, or contact Nancy Ellis, VP of North American Travel: [fwsatravelnancy@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fwsatravelnancy@sbcglobal.net).

**FWSA MINI SKI WEEK:** *Taos, New Mexico* will be the destination for the **2023 Mini Ski Week**. Dates are yet to be determined. Taos offers: Slope-side lodging, complimentary ground shuttle to Taos Valley, plus complimentary ski & board rentals for Round Trip flights. Non-stop air service is available between Taos, NM and Austin and Dallas TX; also non-stop from Carlsbad-San Diego and Hawthorne-Los Angeles to Taos Ski Valley.

**FWSA 2023 INTERNATIONAL TRIP:** **Registration is now OPEN** for The Far West 2023 International Ski Week, which will be to *Zermatt, Switzerland*, with an extension to *Costa del Sol, Southern Spain and Mallorca*. For further information, contact Debbie Stewart, VP of International Travel: [fwsaintltravel@prodigy.net](mailto:fwsaintltravel@prodigy.net)

## FAR WEST COUNCILS

**SIERRA LEAGUE AND COUNCIL:** The Las Vegas Ski Club is supporting the *Huntman's Senior World Games*, October 3-15, 2022, in St. George, Utah. For those of us who want to remain in shape for the snow skiing season, we recommend attending these Games. Pat Smith, new member of LVSC, has attended as a volunteer, spectator, and as a registrant for mountain bicycling in 2021. Since the Games have over 34 sports, you may identify as a potential athlete and list yourself under "Partner Finds." Check it out. The experiences of "Active Aging" and "Living Your Best Life" are certainly celebrated! Members interested in learning more can sign into: [www.seniorgames.net](http://www.seniorgames.net). You can also contact Pat directly at: [psmith7959@icloud.com](mailto:psmith7959@icloud.com).

**LOS ANGELES COUNCIL OFSKI CLUBS:** *"Thailand with a Twist"*. The Conejo Ski & Sports Club is planning a custom, action-packed itinerary developed specifically for members of their club who are looking for just the right combination of outdoor adventure, cultural exploration, and relaxation. 16 days, 15 nights (5-Star hotels), roundtrip air on Japan Airlines, with 25 meals provided. The dates are November 18 – December 4, 2022. Begin your trip in Bangkok, and end it in Phuket, with lots of great stops in-between. Contact Carolyn Phillips for more information: [phillipscaroc@gmail.com](mailto:phillipscaroc@gmail.com), or 805-796-7015.

*Stay Safe! Stay Healthy!*