

Fall 2022

# THE COUNCILMAN

"The Voice of the Western Skier"

F W S A

[fwsa.org](https://fwsa.org)

FAR WEST SKI ASSOCIATION

FOUNDED 1930

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Cover photo Mammoth June Lake

Photo credit: Anneli Ford, North Island Snowdrifters



## President Linda Westlund

I'm excited to be serving as FWSA President and working with our talented and dedicated Board of Directors, Trustees, Council Presidents, Committee Leads and volunteers. Our Annual Convention held in Portland, Oregon at the Holiday Inn on the Columbia Riverfront was fun, educational, and a financial success. Planning is underway for our next Snowsports Convention in Boise, Idaho at the Grove Hotel, June 15 to 18, 2023. We are developing ideas for Snowsports Leadership Academy (SLA) seminars and considering who to invite as a keynote speaker as well as for a relevant Public Affairs panel. The goal is to confirm and publicize featured sessions early to attract our members and industry partners, and to boost attendance.

Our travel programs are back on a regular schedule after two years of

challenges posed by the COVID Pandemic which put us in the mode of re-scheduling and revising many of our trips in 2020, 2021 and 2022. Nancy Ellis, VP of North American Travel, and Debbie Stewart, VP of International Travel, along with their travel staff and our tour operators, did a great job of continuously monitoring guidelines applicable to our destinations and taking action to modify plans where needed. Content of our Waivers were improved, and we now include force majeure clauses in contracts with our suppliers. Many changes have occurred affecting group travel, including lodging policies and multi-resort season passes. Debbie Stewart facilitated an SLA session on travel with four Tour Operator panelists at the June 2022 Convention. Audience participation was fantastic and added to the value. The information shared is already being applied to help FWSA and our ski clubs plan and

run ski and adventure trips in the evolving market.

I hope to see many of you on FWSA trips this winter and spring. I'll be at Jackson Hole for North American Ski Week, and Zermatt, Switzerland for International Ski week, as well as, participating in some trips offered by our Arizona Ski Council clubs.

Be sure to go to [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org) often to see what is happening in FWSA. Our website offers information on our travel programs, conventions, memberships, and more, plus our publications such as the annual *Skiers Guide* and *The Councilman* are also on the website. Encourage your club members and guests to view the online edition of the 2022-2023 Far West *Skier's Guide* when it is published this Fall.





## Sheri Parshall

### Portland Host Council Convention Coordinator

Well, we really did “Roll on the River”  
... FINALLY!

Northwest Ski Club Council was finally able to put the hard work of three years to use during our 89th Annual Far West Ski Association Convention, which took place June 9-12, 2022, at the Holiday Inn Portland-Columbia Riverfront.

And we had Mahre brothers.

Seriously.

The. Mahre. Brothers.

Our adventures began on Thursday, with a bus tour of Mt. Hood and ended with celebrating the 25th anniversary of the famous FWSA Pub Crawl. Vancouver, Washington was home for our pub crawl shenanigans, and even though a small torrential downpour kept us from completing our rounds, pretty sure fun was had by all.

Friday morning was time for more fun—the Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament couldn't happen because of a very wet golf course, but a mini-pub crawl at McMenamins Edgefield was enjoyed by all of the un-golfers. And a little rain didn't affect the wine tour—the wine drinkers were very obviously happy with their event as evidenced by their smiling faces. And even though we didn't use the pool, a pool party was had, darn it!

Friday night kept the good times “Rollin’ on the River” with the Councils’ Volunteer of the Year honorees being feted at their reception, and with everyone gathering together for the Silent Auction Welcome Party.

And what would Friday night be without the best event of the weekend! The annual Silent Auction & Snowsports Trade Show treated us to special time with our industry partners, and there was some serious ski trip shopping at the same time.

Our Snowsports Leadership Academy sessions had several offerings, that included “Strategic Travel in a Changing World,” “Avalanche Safety and Mountain Rescue,” and “How to Jumpstart Your Facebook Social Media Presence.” Public Affairs panels included sessions on changing weather and mountain operations, and athletes of the 10th Mountain Division.

Did I mention the Mahre brothers?

We could have listened to those gentlemen all day. They've given so much to the sport they (and most of us) love—they were just incredible.

Saturday was capped by our Awards Banquet and Dance, where many of our hardworking volunteers were honored with special awards, and we also thanked and recognized our long-term industry partners. So much dancing—so little time! The band “Thrill Ride” offered a much-needed outlet for some post banquet hi-jinks.

Sunday morning started with the 6:30 am “Eye Opener,” attended by over 50 hardy souls. And then it was time for our “workday,” with elections and business meeting. Club and Council communication and social media awards, charities awards, and the club history awards were handed out.

And then it was time to adjourn until

next year!

On behalf of Northwest Ski Club Council, I want to thank everyone for making the extra effort to come to Portland. It's been a long road these past few years, with challenges behind us, and more to come. We thank you for your support.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank an incredible group of volunteers, our NWSCC convention committee, who have worked for nearly four years to make this event happen.

#### **Shawn Storey (Bergfreunde Ski Club) – Pub Crawl**

Shawn worked with Debbi Kor on putting together a fabulous pub crawl. SO MANY things happened between the 2020 convention planning and what actually happened here in 2022, and Shawn and Debbi managed to get it all together. And didn't Shawn do a great job herding cats on Thursday night?

#### **Steve Coxen (Schnee Vogeli, Mountain High)**

Steve worked diligently on both the Mount Hood Adventure Tour and the Wine Tour. Once again, COVID restrictions and other challenges dealt Steve many trials between concept and finished product, but both events were great successes!

#### **Dale Parshall (Schnee Vogeli) – Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament**

We were so disappointed that the golf tournament didn't happen, but Mother Nature was just not in a cooperative

*(Continued on page 5)*



(Continued from page 4, Portland Host Council Convention Coordinator )

mood this year. We're happy to announce that the Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament has been re-scheduled for September.

#### **Linda McGavin (Mountain High) – Transportation Coordinator**

Another volunteer who worked hard on getting and keeping contracts for our buses, vans, and autos, Linda's great bargain-hunting skills were invaluable to helping us keep our transportation costs to a minimum.

#### **Sandi Shaub (Skiyente) and Fran Gaul (Skiyente) – Council Suite**

Sandi and Fran were my backups, my go-tos, my "what do you need" extraordinary helpers. Sandi was my back-up, helping me wherever I couldn't be. Sandi and Fran were our Host Convention Suite managers, in charge of

the Councils' Volunteer of the Year reception, all of the after parties, and the "Eye Opener."

#### **Julie Peck (Skiyente) – Social Media**

Julie worked on and maintained our Meet-Up for convention, helping drive additional traffic to our Silent Auction.

#### **Eileen Hines (Skiyente) – Volunteer Floater**

Eileen helped tremendously by being wherever we needed a body, whenever we needed a body.

#### **Tom Arnold (Altair) – Volunteer Floater**

Tom was another volunteer who participated in all the meetings, made sure info got to his ski club, and was here to help wherever we needed help.

And last but not least...

#### **Chris Ciardi (Mountain High) – Volunteer Sign-Up Coordinator/Floater**

Chris, along with Jeannie Reinhardt, designed and implemented our on-line volunteer sign-up website. This was a unique and tremendously successful endeavor that helped provide us with instant access to help us track our volunteers and provided them with up-to-date information on their scheduled commitments. Chris also provided valuable "floating volunteer" services where needed. Chris was also incredibly diligent with posts on our social media outlets, making sure all updated convention information went out to our contacts immediately.

My thanks also to Debbi Kor and Randy Lew for their guidance, and the many other FWSA board members and other FWSA club members who helped us with this event.

We'll see you in Boise in 2023!

Great travel bargains were available for bidders at the 36th Annual Silent Auction and Snowsports Trade Show

Photo credit: Adam Bacher



Delegates & Industry Reps enjoying the Silent Auction & Trade Show

Photo credit: Adam Bacher

# Event Sponsors

## 89th Annual FWSA Convention

by Debbi Kor, VP of Marketing & Sponsorship

*We extend our appreciation to the following sponsors of Far West Ski Association's 89th 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 2022-2023.*

## Program Sponsors



### Western Ski Heritage Prize

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



### Councils' Volunteer of Year

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



### Athletic Scholarships

Since 2004, funds for the scholarships are provided through contributions from **Whitefish Mountain Resort, Grouse Mountain Lodge, Kandahar Lodge and Karbon (Shure Sports USA)**



### Richard Lubin Safety Person of the Year Award

Starting In 2020 Mammoth donated a 4-night ski package for two with lodging, lift tickets and rentals.



### Environment Award

**Aspen/Snowmass, The Gant and The Crestwood** donate a 5-night ski package for two with lodging, lift tickets, rentals and a lesson to the winner of the Environment Award.



# 2022 Convention Sponsors

 <b>MT HOOD MEADOWS</b> Delegate Totes Convention	 <b>COOPER SPUR MOUNTAIN RESORT</b> <b>MT. HOOD SKIBOWL</b> Pub Crawl Thursday evening	 <b>Steamboat</b> Pub Crawl Thursday evening	 <b>GROUSE MOUNTAIN LODGE</b> Golf Tournament Friday Morning	 <b>Briarhead</b> Northwest Wine Tour Friday Morning
 <b>ASPEN SNOWMASS</b> <b>SNOWMASS</b> Pool Party Friday Afternoon	 <b>Mammoth</b> Silent Auction Welcome Party Friday Evening	 <b>ski group</b> Wine Sponsor Friday evening	 <b>JACKSON HOLE</b> Beer Sponsor Friday evening	
 <b>POWDER MOUNTAIN</b> Beer Sponsor Saturday Lunch	 <b>Club Med</b> Banquet Sponsor Saturday Evening	 <b>SPORTSAMERICA</b> Wine Sponsor Friday evening	 <b>Eye Opener</b> Eye Opener Hosts Sunday Morning	

Mt. Bachelor has been a participant in the Annual Silent Auction & Snowsports Trade Show for over 30 years

Photo credit: Adam Bacher



# Silent Auction 2022 Participants

by Mary Olhausen and Debbi Kor

*The Far West Ski Association and the Northwest Ski Club Council extend their appreciation and sincere gratitude to the 36th Annual Silent Auction Travel 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 2022-2023.*

49er Inn & Suites, WY	Mt. Hood Skibowl Resort, OR
Aspen Skiing Company, CO	Park City Peaks Hotel, CO
Best Western Premiere Hotel, UT	Powder Mountain Resort, UT
Big Sky Resort, MT	Powder Mountain Getaways, UT
Big White Ski Resort, Canada	Schweitzer Mountain Resort, ID
Brian Head Ski Resort, UT	SKI.COM, CO
Club Med	Ski Group.Net, CO
Columbia Sportswear, OR	Snowmass Tourism, CO
Cooper Spur Mountain Resort, OR	Sports America Tours, CA
Crystal Inn-Salt Lake City, UT	Steamboat Ski & Resort Corp, CO
Crystal Inn-Murray, UT	Sun Valley Ski Resort, ID
Double Tree by Hilton, Bend, OR	Sun Valley Inn, ID
Duluth Trading Company, OR	Telluride Ski Resort, CO
Elite Island Resorts	Timberline Ski Area, OR
Grouse Mountain Lodge, MT	Travel Portland, OR
Helly Hansen	VAIL Resorts, CO
Holidaze Ski Tours, NJ	Val D'Iserre Condos, Mammoth, CA
Humbird Hotel, ID	Visit Central Oregon, OR
Huntley Lodge, MT	Visit Vancouver USA, WA
Jackson Hole Mountain Resort, WY	Wanderlust Tours, OR
Kandahar Lodge at Whitefish, MT	Westin Monarche Resort, Mammoth, CA
Mammoth Mountain Ski Area, CA	Whitefish Mountain Resort, MT
Mountain Lodge Telluride, CO	Winter Park Resort, CO
Mt. Bachelor Ski Resort, OR	
Mt. Hood Meadows Ski Resort, OR	

Portland Band "Thrillride", entertaining the troops

Photo credit: Adam Bacher





### 2022 Club and Councils Communication and Outstanding Club Awards

<b>Wentworth Outstanding Publication Newsletter Club</b>	<b>First</b>	<b>Ed/Webmaster/ Pres</b>	<b>Second</b>	<b>Ed/Webmaster/ Pres</b>	<b>Third</b>	<b>Ed/Webmaster/ Pres</b>
Masters	Mountain High Snowsport Club - NWSCC	Emilio Trampuz	The Unrecables - LAC	Gordon Cardona		
Advanced	Castro Valley Ski Club – BAC	Dennie Warren				
Novice						
<b>Website Club</b>	<b>First</b>	<b>Ed/Webmaster/ Pres</b>	<b>Second</b>	<b>Ed/Webmaster/ Pres</b>	<b>Third</b>	<b>Ed/Webmaster/ Pres</b>
Masters	Mountain High Snowsport Club - NWSCC	Emilio Trampuz	Inskiers Ski & Snowboarder Club - BAC	Bob Burke	The Unrecables – LAC	Dee Armstrong
Advanced	Torrey Pines Ski Club – San Diego	Judy Fontanella				
Novice	Don Diego Ski Club – San Diego	Karl Cikste				
<b>Council Newsletter</b>	<b>First</b>	<b>Ed/Webmaster/ Pres</b>	<b>Second</b>	<b>Ed/Webmaster/ Pres</b>	<b>Third</b>	<b>Ed/Webmaster/ Pres</b>
	Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs	Gordon Cardona	Bay Area Snow Sports Council	Dennie Warren	Northwest Ski Club Council	Linda McGavin
<b>Council Website</b>	<b>First</b>	<b>Ed/Webmaster/ Pres</b>	<b>Second</b>	<b>Ed/Webmaster/ Pres</b>	<b>Third</b>	<b>Ed/Webmaster/ Pres</b>
	Northwest Ski Club Council	Linda McGavin	Bay Area Snow Sports Council	Cathy Wilson & Jenn Wilson	Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs	Sandy Blackwell
<b>Tollakson Outstanding Club</b>	<b>First</b>	<b>President</b>	<b>Second</b>	<b>President</b>	<b>Third</b>	<b>President</b>
Masters	No nominations received		No nominations received		No nominations received	
Advanced	No nominations received		No nominations received		No nominations received	
Novice	No nominations received		No nominations received		No nominations received	
<b>Outstanding Social Media Club/Council</b>	<b>First</b>	<b>Administrator</b>	<b>Second</b>	<b>Administrator</b>	<b>Third</b>	<b>Administrator</b>
	Northwest Ski Club Council Facebook Group – NWSCC	Marc Galt	Reno Ski & Recreation Club Facebook Page - Sierra	Sue Jacox	Get off Your Rockers Ski Club Facebook Group – San Diego	Linda Sterger

# Convention Volunteer VIPs

Far West Ski Association President	Gloria Raminha
FWSA Convention Chairperson	Debbi Kor
Host Council Convention Coordinator	Sheri Parshall
Convention Sponsorship Chairperson	Debbi Kor
Trade Show & Silent Auction Manager	Mary Olhausen
Silent Auction Accounting	Jane Wyckoff
Silent Auction Bid Runners Coordinator	Chris Ciardi
Auctioneer	Tucker Hoffman
FWSA Awards	Steve Coxen
Service Awards Chairperson	Joe Harvis, Steve Coxen
Service Awards Processes & Procurement	Leigh Gieringer
Awards Booklet	Joe Harvis
Awards Power Point Presentation	Bill King
Club & Council Communication Awards Chair	Sheri Parshall
Councils' Volunteer of the Year Recognition Chairperson	Fran Gaul, Sandi Shaub
Reception Hostesses	Bonnie Jondahl
Logo & Pins Graphics & Design	Chris Ciardi
Council Volunteer Coordinator	
Registration	Jean McCasey
Convention Delegate Registrar	Sheri Parshall
Registration Tote Bags	Jean McCasey
Celebrity Guests & VIP Registration	Barbara Blasé
Celebrity Guests & VIP Hostess	Barbara Razo
Coupon Books	Randy Lew
FWSA Convention Treasurer	Debbi Kor
FWSA Convention Finances/Contract Management	Jean McCasey
Snowsports Leadership Academy & Credentials Chair	
Optional Events	Steve Coxen
Mt. Hood Adventure	Shawn Storey
25 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Pub Crawl	Sheri Parshall
15 <sup>th</sup> Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tourn.	Steve Coxen
Western Washington Wine Tour	Fran Long
Pool Party	Debbi Kor
Door Prize Donations	Debbi Kor, Chris Ciardi
Publicity	George Stewart Northwest
Convention Video	Northwest Ski Club Council
Decorations	Fran Gaul, Sandi Shaub
Hospitality Room Coordinators	Joe Harvis
Convention Website – Webmaster	Jo Simpson
Delegate Book Editor	Steve Coxen
Nominations & Elections	George Kish
Parliamentarian	Linda Westlund
Resolutions	
Convention Photographer – Adam Bacher Photography	Adam Bacher
Awards Banquet Entertainment	Thrillride
Signage	Emilio Trampuz

Our thanks and appreciation to all the volunteers from the Northwest Ski Club Council and Far West Ski Association for their assistance in making the 2022 FWSA Convention a success.

Michael Bouton, Intermountain Ski Council, greets Max Jensen, Alpine Adventures; Noni Love, Copper Mountain and Kim Sorensen, Schweitzer

Photo credit: Adam Bacher







Members of the Golf Group at Dale & Sheri's enjoying their hosted lunch  
Photo credit: Adam Bacher

Fran Long, Mary Alexander, Gloria Raminha, relax on Sheri Parshall's deck following lunch  
Photo credit: Adam Bacher



Barbara Moran, 2022 Golf Sponsor, Grouse Mountain Lodge  
Photo credit: Adam Bacher



Mary Manning, Aspen/Snowmass; Lisa Jennings, Snowmass Tourism; Kim Sorensen, Schweitzer and Sara Clemons, Sports America. Some of our long-time Industry Partners

Photo credit: Adam Bacher



Larry Young, Steamboat and Noni Love, Copper Mountain, welcoming all to the party

Photo credit: Adam Bacher

Jan Silagi and Matt Wood, Mt. Hood Ski Patrol Bid Runners

Photo credit: Adam Bacher





Kevin Bracken, talking with a guest about Winter Park Resort

Photo credit: Adam Bacher

Mary Manning and Lisa Jennings explain their travel programs for Aspen and Snowmass Tourism to a Silent Auction attendee

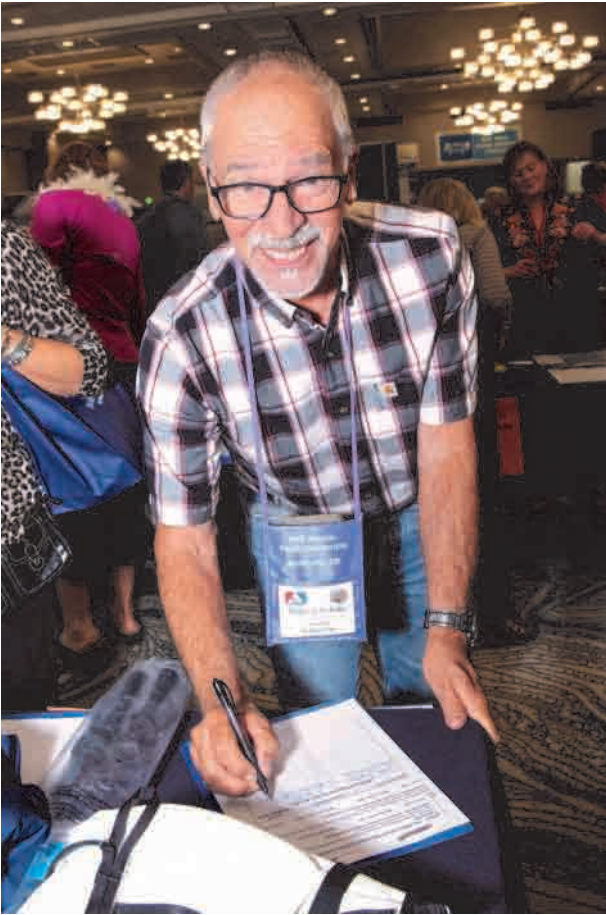
Photo credit: Adam Bacher



Alene Peaceman (Club Med) with Paul Markowitz at Silent Auction

Photo credit: Adam Bacher





Bill Behnke is saying "I hope I win this bid"

Photo credit: Adam Bacher



Laurie Steinbruck and Max Liebreich  
from Altaire Ski Club

Photo credit: Adam Bacher



Linda McGavin listening to Steve and  
Phil Mahre at lunch

Photo credit: Adam Bacher





Chris Ciardi, NWSCC President and Mary Olhausen, Silent Auction Manager present Jan Silagi, Host Director of Mt Hood Ski Patrol with a donation. The Patrol provided the Silent Auction Bid Runners

Photo credit: Adam Bacher

Friday saw many folks enjoying a wine tour of Southern Washington

Photo credit: Steve Coxen



Pam and Alan Christian enjoy "Date Night" at Far West Awards Banquet

Photo credit: Adam Bacher



Dale & Sheri Parshall  
Photo credit: Adam Bacher

We kicked off the convention with a Mt Hood Adventure tour with the first stop at Timberline Lodge for a site tour and photo opportunity

Photo credit: Steve Coxen



Tommi Tyndall award was presented to Aspen/Snowmass. Mary Manning accepting the award from Gloria Raminha  
Photo credit: Adam Bacher





Gloria Raminha presents Dr. John Gray with the Jimmie Heuga Award  
Photo credit: Adam Bacher

Nancy Elis presents Sheri Parshall with the 2022 Hans Georg Award  
Photo credit: Adam Bacher



Maxine Jensen auctioning off a trip to Croatia during dinner. The funds raised were donated to the Far West Ski Association's Athletic Scholarship Program  
Photo credit: Adam Bacher





Noni Love wins the trip to Croatia.  
Congrats, Noni!  
Photo credit: Adam Bacher

Honorees for the 2022 Councils' Volunteer of the Year recognition program. Left to right: Sue Rimkeit, NWSCC; Hannah Nishimoto, LAC; Chris Gill, San Diego; Fran Long, Central; Paul Markowitz, ISC; Karen Albrecht, BAC; Linda Johnston, Arizona and Lori Moore, NBSWR

Photo credit: Adam Bacher



Sheri Parshall presents Fran Long with the Councils' Volunteer of the Year Award

Photo credit: Adam Bacher

Michael J. Ballingall, Senior Vice President of Big White Ski Resort in British Columbia, Canada, was the recipient of the Bill Mackey Award, for outstanding service to the skiing public by a ski area employee. His contributions to FWSA and its councils and clubs are numerous. Big White has been the sponsor of the Councils' Volunteer of the Year (formerly Councils' Man and Woman of the Year) recognition program since 2001. On September 7, 2022 he was honored to receive the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Pin and Local Outstanding Service Medallion for his outstanding contributions to the community.

Picture Credit: Big White Ski Resort



Panelists for the morning Public Affairs Panel "Weather Changes Affecting Mountain Operations & Public Safety," with Lina Arnold, FWSA VP of Public Affairs were L to R: Matt Zaffino, KGW-TV Chief Meteorologist; Dave Tragethon, Vice President of Marketing, Sales & Communications, Mt. Hood Meadows; and Jordan Elliott, President of the Northwest Ski Areas Association

Photo credit: Lina Arnold

Lina Arnold, FWSA VP of Public Affairs with the panelists for the afternoon Public Affairs Panel "Athletes & 10th Mt. Division", Olympic Medalists Steve and Phil Mahre and Trux Dole, President of the 10th Mountain Division Foundation

Photo credit: Lina Arnold







Lowell Skoog, author of "Written in the Snows: Across Time on Skis in the Pacific Northwest" flanked by Lina Arnold, FWSA VP Public Affairs and Larry Young, Steamboat Resort, is presented with the Western Ski Heritage Award

Photo credit: Adam Bacher

Gloria Raminha presents the 2022 President's Award to Joe Harvis, VP Communications

Photo credit: Adam Bacher



Matthew Drake, representing the Drake Family and Mt Hood Meadows, receives the Snowsports Builder Award from Gloria Raminha

Photo credit: Adam Bacher





John Burton representing the Kohnstamm Family is presented with the Snowsports Builder Award by Gloria Raminha

Photo credit: Adam Bacher



Gloria Raminha presents the Snowsports Builder Award to Kirk Hanna of Mt Hood Ski Bowl

Photo credit: Adam Bacher



The 2022 J. Stanley Mullin award was awarded to John Reinhardt for his outstanding two-year service to FWSA

Photo credit: Adam Bacher



## Debbi Kor

### Convention Chairperson

#### *"Adventure Awaits in Boise"*

Far West Ski Association's 90th<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention is set for June 15-18, 2023, in Boise, Idaho. It will be, once again, co-hosted by Intermountain Ski Council and Bogus Basin Ski Club, with a little help from Arizona Ski Council. The **Grove Hotel**, will be the host hotel, located in downtown Boise, just 10 minutes from the airport. All of the Convention activities and meetings will be held at the **Boise Centre**...just a short walk across the commons. The 85<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention was held here, in 2017. We had such a good time, we decided to do it again!

Boise is a great "tourist town", with lots of history, and interesting things to see, including the famous "*Blue Turf*" of Boise State University. ISC and Bogus Basin Ski Club have planned some awesome activities for everyone to participate in, beginning Wednesday evening, June 14<sup>th</sup>, with a relaxing Happy Hour at one of the local Brew Pubs.

Thursday is shaping up with an exciting *River Rafting* trip on the Payette River. OR...you could choose, instead, to do a guided *Bike Tour* on either an electric or pedal-powered bike, along the Greenbelt, which will include a Wine Tour and lunch. Arriving back around 3 p.m. we will have time to get ready for the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Pub Crawl. This will be in the downtown area, where we will visit three of Boise's fin-

est Brew Pubs/Restaurants to mix and mingle for the evening.

On Friday, the 16<sup>th</sup> *Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament - With a Twist* will take place at **Top Golf**. This is a new craze that has hit the golf world, and Boise will be opening the doors to their Top Golf shop by the end of 2022. We will have an opportunity to team up, and have some fun competition for prizes, as well as, network with our industry partners, and finish off with a great lunch and awards. For the non-golfers, you will have the option of doing "*A Day on the Mountain*" at **Bogus Basin**. There will be hiking, mountain biking, zip-lining, and the new Mountain Coaster all at your disposal. Choose any or all of these activities to keep you busy for the day. Lunch will be provided.

But wait, there's more! Since The Grove does not have an on-site pool -- in lieu of our typical Pool Party and Club Happy Hour, we will be combining those two activities into two-and-a-half hours of interesting and enticing activities at **JUMP**. JUMP was the brainchild of Jack (JR) Simplot. It stands for *Jack's Urban Meeting Place*, with the mission: "*Creating an environment for inspiring human potential.*" Do group team-building sessions, make a short movie, choreograph a dance, or just spend time getting to know one another. Food and beverages will be part of the experience.

We will wrap up with all this in time to get to the Boise Centre for the 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Silent Auction and Trade Show on Friday evening. Network with your favorite ski resorts, plan trips for your club and council, get trip details and pricing, and participate in a fantastic Silent Auction that can bring you a plethora of adventure trips for the coming season. On Saturday, you will have the opportunity to sit in on some fascinating leadership sessions, listen to outstanding guest speakers, and spend time at lunch and dinner socializing with all of your Far West friends who come to this event.

For any of those who plan to stay over, a separate Adventure Trip has been planned. **CALLING ALL FISHERMEN** -- a trip to *Hells Canyon*, for Sturgeon fishing has been set up. Trip includes:

2 nights stay at Best Western Motel in Riggins, Idaho.

Fishing trip on Monday morning, June 19<sup>th</sup>, off of the Pittsburg Landing.

Return to Riggins for 2<sup>nd</sup> overnight stay

Head home on Tuesday morning, June 20<sup>th</sup>.

A "Save the Date" will be sent out to you all sometime this Fall. Convention Registration materials will follow in mid-February. See you in Boise! Come early, stay late. We want you to enjoy your awesome trip to Boise, Idaho.

"The Voice of the Western Skier"



90<sup>th</sup> Annual

## Far West Ski Association Convention

June 15 - 18, 2023

at the

Boise Centre

850 S. Front Street, Boise ID

[www.boisecentre.com](http://www.boisecentre.com)

*Adventure Awaits in  
Boise!*



*FWSA Convention 2023*

Hosted by the *Intermountain Ski Council & Bogus Basin Ski Club*

### The Grove Hotel

245 S. Capitol Blvd., Boise, ID 83702.

[www.grovehotelboise.com](http://www.grovehotelboise.com)

**Reservations:** Call 888-961-5000 or 208-489-2222 Option 1,  
Group Name: **Far West Ski Association.**

**Room Rates per night plus tax** single or double occupancy **\$162**

### Hotel Features

- The Grove Fitness Center and Spa
- Trillium Restaurant & The Bar
- Rates are available 3 days pre and post Convention
- Walking distance to shops, restaurants, museums, theaters & more

### Transportation

- Air Transportation is via Boise Airport (BOI), located 10 minutes from Boise Centre.
- The Grove Hotel offers free airport shuttle service.  
Call 208-333-8000 when you arrive. Ask for the Front Desk for ground transportation.

### Convention Highlights

- Silent Auction  
& Snowsport Trade Show
- Snowsports Leadership Academy
- Celebrity Speakers
- Public Affairs Panels
- Saturday Awards Luncheon
- Saturday Awards Banquet
- FWSA General Meeting & Elections

### Optional Activities

#### • Thursday

- Rafting on Payette River
- Bike Ride through Boise
- Pub Crawl

#### • Friday

- 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament
- A Day on the Mountain, Bogus Basin Mountain Recreation Area

Debbi Kor  
FWSA Convention Chairperson  
[conventionchair@fwsa.org](mailto:conventionchair@fwsa.org)  
503-314-7078

Jennifer Coutts  
Intermountain Host Council  
Convention Coordinator  
[hostconventionchair@fwsa.org](mailto:hostconventionchair@fwsa.org)  
817-832-5364

A portion of the Silent Auction proceeds will benefit TBA.

[www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org)





## Sheri Parshall

### Councils' Volunteer of the Year

As most of you are aware, in 2021 our council presidents took the opportunity to change up our "Councils' Man and Woman of the Year Recognition Program" to bring it a little more up to date, creating a single volunteer award that could be given to anyone. They thereby changed it to "Councils' Volunteer of the Year Recognition Program," and this is the first year that award was given, at the 89th Annual FWSA Convention, which was held in Portland, Oregon in June.

We are, of course, honored and grateful that we continue to have the support of an incredible program sponsor, **Big White Ski Resort**. Big White has sponsored our program since 2001, providing ski trips to our winners, and we look forward to working with them for many years to come.

I would like to take this moment to also thank all of the clubs and councils who continue to support this program. Without your support, the program wouldn't exist!

Without further ado, I'm pleased to be able to introduce you to this year's 2022 Councils' Volunteer of the Year, **Fran Long**. Fran is a long-time, active member of SLO Skiers in San Luis Obispo, CA, and has been president of **Central Council of California** for several years. She has served in many positions on the SLO Skiers board, as well as on the board of **Far West Ski Association**. She believes strongly in giving back to the organizations that give her such pleasure. Fran is currently a Trustee on the board of

FWSA.

As our list of honorees wasn't available at last publication time, please join me in also recognizing and congratulating all of our 2022 honorees:

#### Arizona Ski Council

##### Linda Johnston

Linda has been the spirit of the Phoenix Ski Club for many years. Currently, she serves as Club President, and has previously served as Board Member at Large, Vice President of Activities, and Ski Trip Coordinator. As Ski Trip Coordinator, Linda has increased member participation by creating popular trips filled with extra events that capture the flavor of each ski resort.

#### Bay Area Snowsports Council

##### Karen Albrecht

Karen is a life-long skier and long-time Inskiers Ski & Snowboard Club member, serving on its board for close to 20 years. She enjoys travel, sports, adventure and spending time with family and friends.

#### Intermountain Ski Council

##### Paul Markowitz

Paul lives in Boise and has worked for the Forest Service for twenty-five years. He likes to ski, fish and spend time with the grandkids. He has skied for 65 years, including instructing in the Army.

#### Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs

##### Hannah Nishimoto

Hannah is a long-time member, ski instructor and volunteer of the Unreables, an adaptive ski program. She is an advocate for adaptive sports and recreation and is currently the equipment manager for the club.

#### National Brotherhood of Skiers – Western Region

##### Lori Moore

In addition to being an avid skier, Lori Moore has been a volunteer with numerous ski clubs within the National Brotherhood of Skiers since the 1990s. She enjoys scuba diving, photography and traveling the world. When she's not on the slopes or underwater, Lori is an ophthalmologist in Los Angeles.

#### Northwest Ski Club Council

##### Sue Rimkeit

Sue has been a volunteer for the Cascade Prime Timers for 22 years, including the board of directors, and chairing the "Socials" committee. She is the greeter at every social/meeting and chairs the club Adopt-A-Highway program. She is also Vice President of Northwest Ski Club Council.

#### San Diego Council of Ski Clubs

##### Chris Gill

Chris has served as the VP of Council Services for FWSA for the past three years, as well as Membership Chair for the National Ski Council Federation. She enjoys skiing, hiking, overseas travel and volunteering within the organizations.



## Joe Harvis

### VP Communications

What a great time we had at the Portland Convention. They certainly gave us a good show and the Mahre Brothers too. Wow, what a treat! The Convention photos should be available on the website soon, if they aren't already there by the time you read this issue.

Since then, it's been busy ramping up the website for all of the upcoming travel programs, starting with Croatia and the annual Dive Trip to Cozumel, not to mention this issue of *The Councilman* and next year's convention. The team has been hard at work providing FWSA members with the *NewsFlash*, *The Councilman* and the *Far West Skier's Guide* as well as our Social Media presence on Facebook and we're eagerly awaiting our new Marketing Media slide shows and videos. Our Social Media team is currently setting up a FWSA Instagram page so we can all share photos on that platform. Stay tuned.

Did you know that all clubs and councils can add their functions and trips to our events calendar? That's correct, your club or council can add your events and trips to the FWSA calendar. It's easy to use, you can even link it back to your website. Consider this to possibly grow your participation.

We have been reaching out to past membership vice presidents to get their files from past Snowsports Leadership Academy sessions so we can add the information to the website and

make it available to our membership. It has been a slow process but we are plugging away to get this done and make all of the seminars available to you online at a finger's touch.

We have been moving our revenue generating activities to the ClubExpress payment processing. Currently we process Direct Membership dues and Dive Trip payments within this system. The goal is to migrate other trips and the convention to the process and retire FWSA Connect. It's taking time but we will get there.



Currently it isn't necessary to log into the site but soon if you register to attend an event, travel program or convention, you will need to register via the website. At that time, you will need to login to make those reservations. Members who have registered should sign in and review their member profile to update any missing or incorrect information. **We encourage members to verify your information is correct.**

Others can click on **"Member Signup"** and create and complete the registration form. One can even sign up to receive the **Far West NewsFlash** simply by checking the **"New Flash subscription"** box under the **"Interests"** section of the Member Profile.

We hope everyone enjoys reading this edition of **The Councilman**. Nick Cowell, our editor, continues to do a great job bring this publication to you twice a year. Please send any comments or suggestions to Nick and me at [councilman@fwsa.org](mailto:councilman@fwsa.org). A big thank

Steve Mahre, Joe Harvis, and Phil Mahre, Portland Convention

Photo credit: Adam Bacher

you also goes to our ever-ready proofreaders, Debbi Kor, Jane Wyckoff, Robyn Gant, and Todd Hood. Also, Nick has expressed a desire to step down after next year so we are on the

*(Continued on page 34)*





## Chris Gill

### VP Council Services

The role of VP of Council Services is to provide a platform for all council presidents of the western region to meet several times a year to collaborate and administer the FWSA awards programs down to the club level.

#### Council Services oversees the following FWSA Programs:

- **Club and Council Communication and Outstanding Club Awards**
- **Councils' Volunteer of the Year Program**
- **Charities and Our Community**
- **Social Media Recognition Award**

The **Club and Council Awards** provide an opportunity to recognize those hard working volunteers. Our committee chairs strive to administer competitions that are relevant and easy to enter.

The **Charity & Community Service Recognition Program**, chaired by **Sigrid Noack**, highlights the good work our clubs and councils do to benefit their communities. Both clubs and councils provide an enormous amount of support to local and national charities. During the FWSA Convention the clubs and councils' charity ef-

forts are showcased by a video presentation.

This year, the program formally known as the **Councils' Man and Woman of the Year**, was officially changed to **Councils' Volunteer Of The Year**.

One candidate is chosen to represent their council at the FWSA Convention. Each candidate is invited to attend a social reception, FWSA luncheon at a special table and participate in an oral interview. **Sheri Parshall** chairs the **Councils' Volunteer of the Year Recognition Program** and coordinates with each candidate to ensure they have a wonderful experience. We are continually grateful to **Big White Ski Resort** for their continued sponsorship of the program over the many years. **Big White Ski Resort** donates a ski trip for two to the winning honoree.

The **Social Media Award** has had another great year with several clubs and councils submitting many entries. The program uses Facebook as the social media platform for this award. The judging criteria is based on metrics derived from the percentage of audience, activity, engagements and reactions.

**Todd Hood** is the **Social Media Award** chair

and has also been providing ongoing social media Facebook tutoring throughout the year.

**Bill King**, who chairs the **Club and Council Communications and Outstanding Club Awards**, has made the submission and judging process much simpler thanks to his hard work. The clubs and councils submit their newsletters and upload a link to their website to be judged. The editors and administrators of the website are rewarded for their efforts for keeping their information current. An electronic Medallion is given to the clubs and councils for them to display on their website or newsletter.

Council Services strives to provide roughly 150 FWSA ski clubs with tools and information to successfully serve their members. We welcome ideas and feedback from all club members and anyone reading this publication, Please contact me with your ideas and requests for information at [vpCouncil-services@fwsa.org](mailto:vpCouncil-services@fwsa.org). I look forward to hearing from you.

Sandra Blackwell, LAC, our newest recipient of the Elizabeth "Schatzi" Wood award presented by previous recipient Chris Gill

Photo credit: Adam Bacher





## Debbie Stewart

### VP International Travel

#### **2022 Croatia Adventure Trip was a Huge Success**

After a two-year delay due to COVID, we finally were able to go on our trip to Croatia, originally planned for 2020. Far West Ski Association partnered with Alpine Adventures for this Balkan country adventure trip. Croatia is known for its 3,625-mile-long Adriatic coastline with over 1,000 islands. Our 36 participants left the US on September 1 for our trip held from September 2-12. Our excellent itinerary included the most popular sites in Croatia: Zagreb, Split, Plitvice National Park, Dubrovnik, and the beautiful Croatian islands along the Dalmatian Coast.

We started the trip in Zagreb, the capital city of Croatia, with a delicious 3-course welcome dinner including wine, a very nice introduction to Croatian cuisine. That night we stayed at the 4-star Zagreb Hotel Panorama. Next on our trip was Plitvice National Park. Our group enjoyed the spectacular world-renowned scenery, especially the 16 natural terraced lakes and many waterfalls that extend into limestone canyons. This area is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. We had guided tours of Split and Trogir, on the beautiful Adriatic coast. Split, as the second largest city and located on the coast of the Adriatic Sea, offered an attractive blend of modern and ancient charm.

We loved our nights on the luxury 5-star MS President yacht. We had this sleek, modern cruiser all to ourselves. We stayed in well-appointed en suite cabins and enjoyed the large inside

restaurant and bar, as well as, the outdoor terrace, huge sun deck and plunge pool. We had time for swimming, snorkeling and relaxing. The highlight was exploring the stunning Croatian islands and Dalmatian coast. We had guided tours on the islands of Hvar, Korcula and Brac. We enjoyed wine tasting on Hvar, olive oil tasting on Brac, and a traditional peka meal on the island of Vis, farthest from the mainland. What a fine gastronomical experience.

Our last stop in Croatia was the stunningly picturesque city of Dubrovnik, known as the "Pearl of the Adriatic" for good reason. It is known for its culture, art and architecture, especially its popular 16th century stone-walled Old Town, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Dubrovnik was a filming location for The Game of Thrones.

#### **FWSA's 11th Annual Dive Trip in 2022 to Cozumel, Mexico was Excellent**

Far West Ski Association collaborated, once again, with the specialists at Roatan Charter Inc. for our fantastic dive and vacation adventure to the Iberostar Resort in Cozumel from October 8-15, 2022. The 5-star all-inclusive Iberostar Resort located right on the beach within the Marine Park, offered us three pools, including two lagoon-style pools plus a variety of entertainment. We appreciated the resort's shopping area, spa, and pool hall. Every night there was something happening, from theatrical performances to live music. We also had our

choice of tennis, nonmotorized water sports, archery, rifle shooting, beach volleyball, table tennis, basketball, water aerobics and gym. We enjoyed all of this plus dining at the specialty restaurants.

The real reason for the trip was the scuba diving. The Palancar and Santa Rosa Wall reefs surround the hotel and is a protective area within the marine park. This impressive reef is part of the Great Barrier Reef of the Western Atlantic, also known as the Great Mayan Reef, a diving area second only to the Great Barrier Reef. We were very pleased with the dive package that included five 2-tank dives, 2 Cenotes dives, one night dive and complimentary nitrox. Their Dive Shop, a PADI CDC Center in business for 25 years, has an unstained historical safety record with 0% accident rate. Dressel Divers imparts training programs to its staff that directly result in higher safety for its guests. We liked their convenient dive center right on the resort property along with equipment storage and a drying room.

#### **FWSA 2023 Ski Week – Zermatt, Switzerland**

We enjoyed skiing in Zermatt in 2014 and our trip participants voted to go back and we are. This season's FWSA International Ski Week is February 25-March 4, 2023 with an extension trip to southern Spain including Costa del Sol and 3 nights in Mallorca. This popular trip is selling very quickly.

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(Continued from page 27 International Travel)

When most people think of Zermatt, they think of one thing: the Matterhorn. This amazing icon looms over Zermatt since the 1860's. The lovely car-free pedestrian town of Zermatt has so much to offer both the skier and non-skier. Zermatt is home to 9 of the 10 highest mountains in Europe; this high altitude guarantees an excellent snow record in a long season, which makes Zermatt special. Our participants will find many things to do and experience while sitting at the base of the Matterhorn.

### **FWSA Chile Ski and Adventure Trip – Summer 2023**

Our skiers have asked for years to provide a South American Ski Trip and we have plans to deliver just that. We are working on plans for a trip during the summer of 2023. This will be a Ski and Adventure Trip to Valle Nevado, Chile with additional skiing available at La Parva and El Colorado.

Valle Nevado is South America's premier ski resort, offering access to over 7000 acres of terrain and has the most modern lift operation on the continent. They are proud of their laid-back environment with no lift lines, inviting ambience and delicious gourmet food. The awe-inspiring peak of El Pomo towers above the twin valleys, in which the three best ski areas of South America are located. Far West participants will be flying into Santiago then travel 90 minutes to the ski area of the world-famous Andes Mountains. This area provides amazing views, varied terrain, and an incredible experience during our summer, which is their winter. This trip will be limited, so it will be important for people to sign up quickly once registration materials are available.

After Valle Nevado, we will be traveling to the Atacama Desert, a desert plateau covering a total area of 40,541 square miles stretching 600 miles from southern Peru into northern Chile, west of the Andes mountain range. Because

the Atacama Desert sits at 6,000 feet, it offers exceptional skies and 330 clear nights each year resulting in worldwide recognition for its focus on astronomy. The Atacama Desert is the driest place in the world and the only true desert to receive less precipitation than the polar deserts. Most of the desert is composed of stony terrain, salt lakes, sand, and felsic lava that flows towards the Andes. Some parts of the Atacama Desert are similar to the surface of Mars.

According to *The New York Times*, the Atacama Desert is the #2 place to visit. To get there, we will take a 2-hour plane ride from Santiago to Calama, which is known for the largest open pit copper mine in the world. We will have the opportunity for hiking, biking, and adventuring out to see unique environmental landscapes. There are sand dunes, salt flats, lagoons inhabited with flamingos, areas with geysers, unique flora and fauna, various animals and so much more!

### **FWSA 2024 International Ski Week – Madonna di Campiglio, Italy**

We are planning to go back to the amazing Dolomites in mid to late February 2024. Madonna di Campiglio is the main point of access to the Dolomites mountain range. This vibrant Italian ski area links four small sectors known both for excellent grooming and steep runs. The slopes spread out widely. The ski area has 57 lifts and 93 miles of ski runs with a capacity of more than 31,000 people per hour. A spectacular 16-minute gondola ride connects to the neighboring resort of Pinzolo.

Madonna di Campiglio is one of the world's classic ski centers and one of Italy's most famous ranking with Cortina, Courmayeur and San Martino. Considering its long history in winter sports, it has the benefit of an extensive and hugely enjoyable ski area with lifts coming right down into the town, unusual assets compared to many other famous ski resorts. The resort's altitude gives it more dependable con-

ditions than many traditional winter sports centers.

### **FWSA Africa Adventure Trip - 2024**

We are researching locations in central and east Africa for another Adventure Trip. We toured South Africa in 2014 and now it is time to experience another amazing area of Africa. We hope to see the "Big 5" during this photographic safari trip and explore areas that FWSA has not been to in a very long time. Let's join together and experience the local culture, as well as, seeing the many magnificent animals in their natural habitat.

### **FWSA 2025 Ski Week – Val d'Isère, France**

Our last ski week to Val d'Isère was in 2015 and we had a fantastic time. The skiing was incredible, hotels were great, people were friendly, and the town is charming with many shops and restaurants. We look forward to returning there.

### **FWSA 2026 Galapagos Adventure Trip**

Research is underway for the 2026 Adventure Trip to the Galapagos, which is part of Ecuador, and possibly Machu Picchu, which is in Peru, or to another destination. Stay tuned for the announcement of this trip.

As FWSA Vice President of International Travel, I realize that vacation days are precious. The best ones are those that leave people feeling recharged, inspired with the feeling that the explorations were worthwhile, ones where the most cherished souvenirs bring the grandest memories.

For updates or information on the FWSA International Travel Program:

Debbie Stewart at:  
FWSAIntlTrvl@prodigy.net

Mobile – 559/737-0882

FWSA Travel Videos: <http://www.youtube.com/user/FarWestSkiAssoc/videos>



**Debbi Kor**

## **VP Marketing and Sponsorship**

### **Catching Up and Moving Forward!**

Spring and Summer, 2022 have been very busy for our many clubs and ski club councils! Now that we are, for the most part, through the COVID Pandemic, businesses are up and running again, and our members are out there doing things! They are meeting up with friends: attending outdoor concerts, going on hikes, going on bike rides, rafting, kayaking, golfing, and enjoying getting together. The past couple years have been tough on everyone, so it's nice to be able to meet, greet, and eat with each other! Most clubs are still holding meetings virtually, simply because we all got used to it, and it is a lot easier than jumping in the car, and heading out to a meeting spot, instead of just walking down your hallway, to a quiet space in your home, to tune in for an hour.

The 89th Annual Far West Ski Association Convention was held in Portland, Oregon this past June 9-12. This was the event, which was to be held in 2020, but was postponed, due to COVID. We had just 8 short months, after the San Diego Convention to get things in order, and pull off a successful event. Luckily, Northwest Ski Club Council had everything planned out from 2020, so we just picked up where we left off, dusted off the contracts, and got things going again. We had a great Mt. Hood Adventure, taking a chartered shuttle to Government

Camp, making stops along the way at Timberline Lodge, the Mt. Hood Museum, and Cooper Spur Mountain Resort for lunch. We then made our way back by way of the Columbia River Gorge, with a quick stop at Multnomah Falls, before heading back to the hotel, in time to fluff and buff for the Pub Crawl on Thursday evening.

The Pacific Northwest's "liquid sunshine" made an appearance just in time for the Pub Crawl. Our first stop was at the "Heathen Feral Public House", in beautiful downtown Vancouver, USA. We were set up on their outdoor patio, but luckily – under cover. The rain began in earnest as we prepared to leave for Stop #2 at "Who Song & Larry's", a wonderful Mexican Cantina, nestled on the banks of the Columbia River. Due to the rising river, from all the rain the week before, our group was entertained, several times over, by the raising of the Interstate Bridge. For those who had never seen a drawbridge in action, it was quite a show! A third stop had been planned, but it entailed walking along the Vancouver waterfront, and since it was pouring buckets – the Activity Leaders arranged with the restaurant for our group to stay put, stay dry, and enjoy a couple more adult beverages.

Friday morning, due to continued rain, we held the first "Un-Golf" Golf Tournament. Those who had signed up, drove to McMenamin's Edgefield, the site of our tournament, had a light

breakfast, and toured the grounds of Edgefield, which is a part of Portland's history. This was followed by a wonderful on-deck BBQ at the home of our Golf Hosts, Dale & Sheri Parshall. Lunch and awards were presented before making our way back to the Holiday Inn. A second activity on Friday was the Southwest Washington Wine Tour. Thirty-one participants boarded their shuttles, and were off wine-tasting, lunching, and enjoying the fabulous tastes of Maryhill Winery, and Windy Hills vineyards before heading back to the hotel to prepare for the Pool Party and Club Happy Hour. These activities combined to make way for a great Mix and Mingle, and a chance to network with our friends and industry partners in a very relaxed atmosphere.

The 36th Annual Silent Auction on Friday Night was a great success, generating over \$22,000 of purchased ski and adventure packages and goods. A raffle was held for all of our attendees who deposited their entry tickets into a raffle drum, in the hopes of winning one of two Far West Trip Gift Certificates. Randy Lew and Barbara Blase were the winners of those gift certificates, which may be redeemed for any Far West trip through the 2023 season.

The Athletic Scholarship Program raised \$6,200 between the raffle, a live auction with Whitefish Mountain Re-

*(Continued on page 34)*





## Jean McCasey VP Membership

I would like to introduce myself, Jean McCasey, the new VP of Membership and very new to the board of the Far West Ski Association (FWSA). I would like to invite you all to check out FWSA.org. Don't forget to go to all the websites offered on FWSA.org and drill down at the councils and club levels. You will find a plethora of things to do with all the details.

We have had a big jump in Direct Membership this year, going from 44 to almost 70. This is due to the spectacular trips being offered as so many more people want to get back to normal life. It would give Direct Members many more opportunities if they would look into joining a council or club in their area. There are more choices if one is into hiking, skiing/boarding, biking, golf, theater or a myriad of activities as the clubs do so much more and all the councils also do trips. Another advantage is there are more people to meet with similar interests at the club

level.

We do understand that there are areas that do not have a local club. This is why I would like to invite all the Direct Members to join us next year in Boise, Idaho for our 90th FWSA Convention. It is a 3/4 day fun filled and educational experience. We have very interesting sessions on Saturday to educate our members on the how-to's of starting, enhancing, and improving clubs. That is not all that goes on at our conventions. One of the highlights is the auction of travel packages donated by ski resorts and other vacation reps. The money made on these packages helps fund the FWSA and contributes to our young ski/board racers. Without the help of ours and other organizations these young racers may not be able to keep on the circuit to their goal of the Olympics.

At the FWSA Convention this year we had two Olympic medal winners

speaking at our luncheon and dinner. Olympic Medalists Phil and Steve Mahre. Their talks were not only enlightening but also personal. They explained how tough it was for them to find the money to make their dreams come true.

Wait, there is more, once the flyers are ready in February 2023, you will see all the many activities to join in on Friday. Oh, but come a day earlier and attend the Annual Pub Crawl, which is always a favorite.

Now when you all go on your trips this year be sure to ask questions of the many members of clubs that are on your trip. They can fill you in on many more areas that have not been touched upon in this article. Your trip leader, when they have a moment, can answer just about all of your questions if you are interested. We all want to enhance your enjoyment in this wonderful Association.

Accepting the 2022 Charities & Our Community Recognition Awards included: Jane Gutierrez, Tina Weber, Sandra Knapp, Fran Long, Chris Gill, Paul Vlasveld, Bill King, and Karen Bonine with Sigrd Noack, FWSA Charities & Our Community Chair. Kneeling L to R: Sheri Parshall, Barbara Bryant, and Monica Palmer. Photo credit: Jane Wyckoff



The 2022 Club & Council Communications & Social Media Award winners included: Standing left to right: Sigrd Noack, Dr. John Gray, Hannah Nishimoto, Emilio Tram-puz, Linda McGavin, and Paul Vlasveld. Sitting L to R: Anelli Ford, Sandra Blackwell, and Marc Galt. Photo credit: Jane Wyckoff





## Bob Ellis VP Racing

FWRA conducted its Annual Meeting on September 10, which due to COVID, we have not had in the last few years. We will be having elections and discussing details of the Far West Championships and the challenges we

are experiencing with the ski areas. This year, some of the leagues have had a very difficult time getting hill space for races.

Far West Ski Week will be in Jackson Hole this year, and we will race the

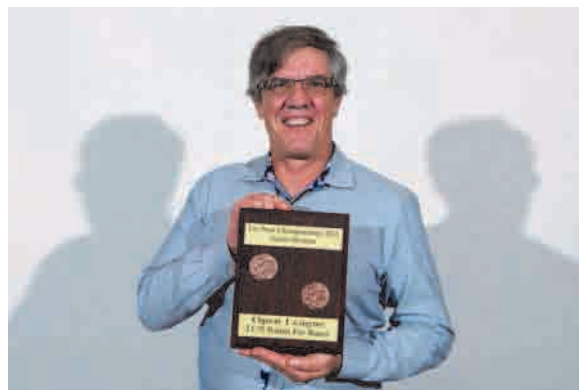
Council Challenge at Jackson Hole and the GS at Snow King.

We are still working on a date for the Far West Championships, which will be in the Tahoe basin.



Alpine/San Diego League is awarded the 2022 Roma McCoy Trophy for Most Points Per Racer. Pictured is Lina Arnold. Photo credit: Adam Bacher

Paul Vlasveld, BAC President is presented with the 2022 Junior Division Most Points Per Racer award. Photo credit: Adam Bacher



Peter Dodd of the PacRat League wins the 2022 Terry Smith Award. Photo credit: Adam Bacher



Jo Simpson accepts the FWSA Race League 2022 Championship Award for Most Points for the Sierra League. Sierra Junior Division won Most Points also. Photo credit: Adam Bacher



## Nancy Ellis

### VP North American Travel

#### **ALASKA INSIDE PASSAGE & DENALI TOUR - JUNE 21- JULY 2, 2022**

There was so much excitement to do this trip. We started the trip with two days in Fairbanks, Alaska, followed by two days in Denali National Park, and then boarded the Majestic Princess in Whittier, Alaska for a week-long cruise through the inside passage. Due to a landslide that damaged the dock in Skagway, we stopped in Haines and ferried to Skagway to do the various excursions or sightsee at this port. We then cruised to Juneau and Ketchikan before disembarking in Vancouver, BC.

The Majestic Princess was built in 2017. It can hold 3,560 people and our ship had just under 2,000 people. This made for a comfortable cruising experience and safe traveling during COVID. Safety protocols were in place for mask wearing at inside venues, sanitation stations throughout the ship, and handwashing stations as you entered the Marketplace dining area. We had the option to eat inside or outside, and there were many open seating areas due to the reduced number of people on the ship.

We travelled by plane, train, bus, and cruise ship as we went across Alaska and enjoyed the diverse and beautiful landscape of this massive state. We saw reindeer, sled dogs, moose, bald eagles, whales, puffin, bears, seals, salmon, waterfalls, glaciers, rain forests, tundra, and more!

We had some planned group tours

such as the Fairbanks Riverboat Cruise where we visited the late Susan Butcher's kennel and saw her champion sled dogs in action, visited a replica of an Athabascan Indian Village, and saw a bush float plane take off and land in the water. We took a Natural History Tour in Denali.

There was so much to see and do, and our participants filled their days with horseback and bike riding, riding ATV's and an historic gold rush train, hiking, rafting, walking with reindeer, riding trams, taking airplane and helicopter tours, and watching an Alaskan lumberjack show.

It was so exciting to hear participants' experiences and what they saw of Alaska while doing these activities. I highly recommend a trip to Alaska!

#### **2023 JACKSON HOLE SKI WEEK- JANUARY 21-28, 2023**

We're excited to be going to Jackson Hole Resort for our 2023 North American Ski Week. There is a variety of terrain for all levels, consistent snowfall, and enhanced terrain for beginners and intermediate skiers. There is much to do in the Town of Jackson Hole and the surrounding area, as well. Grand Targhee, Yellowstone National Park, and Grand Teton National Park are day trips for those that want to venture outside the area. Area activities include Cross Country Skiing; Snowmobiling; Sleigh Rides; Snowshoe; Elk Reserve Sleigh Rides and Museum; Mountain Coaster and Tubing at Snow King Mountain.

The following FWSA Councils are sell-

ing the Jackson Hole Ski Week: Arizona, Bay Area, Central, Los Angeles, Northwest, Orange, San Diego, and Sierra Councils. Our participants will be staying at the 49er and Elk Country in town, and Snow King Hotel at the base of Snow King Mountain. Jackson Hole Resort has partnered with IKON pass and those who have purchased the full pass will get 7 days of skiing/riding at Jackson Hole Resort and those with the IKON Base Pass Plus will get 5 days of skiing/riding. Snow King Mountain is in town and offers our participants a group rate for a daily lift ticket. They have a new gondola that gives access to the back of the mountain for added terrain. The mountain also has a coaster and tubing area for those wanting extra fun!

Our itinerary for the week:

#### **Saturday, January 21**

Arrival Day

#### **Sunday, January 22**

Welcome Party-Snow King Resort

#### **Monday, January. 23**

Ski at Jackson Hole Resort or Snow King Mountain, Council Activities

#### **Tuesday, January 24**

GS Race & Picnic-Snow King Mountain, Council Activities

#### **Wednesday, January 25**

Ski at Jackson Hole Resort or Snow King Mountain, Council Activities

#### **Thursday, January 26**

Council Challenge—Jackson Hole

*(Continued on page 33)*



(Continued from page 32 North American Travel)

Resort, Farewell Banquet & Dance

### **Friday, January 27**

Council Activities

### **Saturday, January 28**

Departure Day

Jackson Hole Resort Mountain Statistics:

- 2,500 total acres
- 116 runs
- 15 lifts
- 1 Tram
- 2 Gondolas
- Base Area 6,311 feet
- Summit 10,449 feet
- Trails—10% Beginner; 40% Intermediate; 50% Expert
- Season snowfall: over 400" a year

### **Other Highlights:**

A Mountain Sports School has been added mid-mountain with adult classes at every level

Enhanced terrain for beginner and intermediate skiers

Sandy Gaudette, Skigroup.net, has teamed with Jackson Hole Resort to plan an extraordinary ski week experience for our group. Information about the 2023 Jackson Hole Resort Ski Week and Council Leader contacts are available on the FWSA website [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org).

### **2023 TAOS SKI VALLEY, NEW MEXICO MINI SKI TRIP—FEBRUARY 25—MARCH 2, 2023**

We will be going to Taos Ski Valley, New Mexico for the Mini Ski Trip. The trip will be late February/early March 2023. The Far West Ski Association (FWSA) Mini Trip is a six day, five night trip. It features a Welcome event where participants learn about the resort and meet other participants. There may be informal activities during the week at the discretion of the group, and then a Farewell event at the end of the week.

The Councilman, Spring 2022

### **Mountain Stats:**

- 1,294 acres
- 110 trails 24% beginner; 25% intermediate; 51% expert
- 14 lifts; 1 gondola; 1 high speed quad; and 11 other lifts
- Base altitude—9,350'
- Summit altitude—12,481'
- 100% of beginner and intermediate slopes have snowmaking

Taos is on the IKON pass for the 2022-2023 season. The full IKON pass gives participants 7 days of skiing/riding without any blackout days. The IKON Base pass gives skiers/riders 5 days with blackout dates over certain holidays.

The following are available in the area in addition to skiing/riding:

- Ice skating
- Snowmobile tours
- New Mexico cultural tours
- Shopping and a variety of restaurants
- Cross country skiing
- Spa and wellness center

The FWSA mini trips are popular with people wanting a small group travel experience at smaller ski resorts. People have free time to ski/ride, explore the area, and meet other FWSA members from other states. I invite you to join us on the Taos Ski Valley Mini Trip this spring. Information about the trip and sign up details are on the [fwsa.org](http://fwsa.org) website

### **2024 STEAMBOAT RESORT SKI WEEK—JANUARY 27—FEBRUARY 3, 2024**

Steamboat, Colorado is the destination for our 2024 ski week. It's one of the largest ski resorts in Colorado. It has over 2,965 acres of skiable terrain, 169 named trails, and 18 lifts. The base elevation is 6,900 feet and the summit elevation is 10,568 feet.

Steamboat is undergoing major transformation of the base area and mountain. Phase I has been completed

which includes adding an escalator and gondola in a new base area. Phase II for winter 2022-2023 includes the opening of an ice rink, the Greenhorn Ranch Learning Center, the opening of the Range Food & Drink Hall, the opening of the lower leg of Wild Blue Gondola to Greenhorn Ranch learning center, and more. Phase III will be completed in winter 2023-2024 when the gondola will be completed to the top of Sunshine Peak, the Pioneer Ridge terrain expansion will be completed, and new snowmaking will be operable to Sunshine Peak. We will be able to enjoy most or all the "new Steamboat" when we go to our ski week January 27—February 2024.

Trip participants will have a range of room types available, such as hotels or condos with ski in/ski out options and lodging a short walk to the ski hill. There are a range of activities to enjoy in winter and non-skiers are encouraged to join the trip to experience the history and beauty of the area. Activities include scenic gondola rides, snowmobile tours, spa treatments, tours, and sleigh ride dinners.

Steamboat is on the IKON pass. We will provide a link to sign up for the 2022-2023 IKON pass through our tour operator. Participants purchasing the pass using the link and then signing up for the trip will receive a special benefit to be announced closer to the trip.

Watch for information and trip sign ups on the [fwsa.org](http://fwsa.org) website beginning in March 2023.

### **UPCOMING NORTH AMERICAN TRIPS**

2024 NA Ski Week—Steamboat, CO  
2024 Mini Trip —Big White, BC  
2025 Adventure Trip TBD

Looking forward to seeing you on one of the Far West North American trips! Contact Nancy Ellis at [fwsatravel-nancy@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fwsatravel-nancy@sbcglobal.net) or [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org) for updates on the FWSA North American Travel Program.

(Continued from page 29, Marketing)

sort, Kandahar Lodge, and Grouse Mountain Lodge, during lunch, and then a second live auction after dinner, presented by Alpine Adventures. Maxine Jensen auctioned off a trip to Croatia. The Convention Sponsorship Program also raised \$14,000, thanks to all of our Convention Sponsors: Aspen/Snowmass, Snowmass Tourism, Mount Hood Meadows, Mt. Hood Ski Bowl, Timberline Lodge, Powder Mountain, Brian Head Resort, Jackson Hole Mountain Resort, Steamboat Ski & Resort Corp., Sports America Tours, SkiGroup.Net, Mammoth Mountain Ski Area, Grouse Mountain Lodge, Club Med, and Big White Ski Resort. Door prizes on Sunday morning were donated by: Columbia Sportswear, Powder Mountain, Ski.Com, City of Portland, Hillcrest Ski Shop, Timberline Lodge, Beaches Restaurant, Telluride Ski Resort, and Steamboat Ski & Resort, and many others.

Fall is the time of year, when I seek out our many Member Benefits Partners, renewing the agreements we currently have with them, and garnering new partners, to provide our members with lodging deals, rental packages, and discounts on transportation in your favorite resort town. The Transportation Network in Park City, or Go Alpine, in Steamboat offer a quick shuttle ride from airport to resort, or resort to mountain. We also have some good pricing on ski and board rentals through any one of a number of our partners, like: Black Tie Rentals, Ski Essentials, Ski Butlers, and Epic Mountain Rentals (formerly Rent-skis.com). If you are going to be traveling to a destination resort this year, check out the Far West Benefits Page. We have many lodging partners who would love to see our members come for a visit. We have partners in Utah: Crystal Inn & Suites in both Midvale, and Salt Lake City, and the Forest Suites Inn, in Lake Tahoe. If you're headed to Bend for a few nights, check

out the Shilo Inn or Double Tree by Hilton. Don't forget to stop in and say "hello" when you are visiting one of our Partner hotels and let them know how your stay was.

There are a number of ski shows happening this year. Check out the Ski Dazzle Show, in Los Angeles, December 9-11, 2022; Snow Jam, in San Diego, November 11-13, 2022 and in Las Vegas, November 19-20, 2022. It's time to get back into the swing of things, and support your local clubs and councils, as well as, the many ski partners at these ski and snowboard shows.

Be safe. Be healthy. We will look forward to seeing you all in Boise, Idaho next June 15-18, 2023 for the 90th Annual Far West Ski Association Convention, hosted by the Intermountain Ski Council and Bogus Basin Ski Club, with some assistance by Arizona Ski Council. The theme will be "Adventure Awaits in Boise."

(Continued from page 25, Communications)

lookout for a new editor. If you know of anyone who is interested please contact me.

Leigh Gieringer and Jane Wyckoff are preparing for the 35<sup>th</sup> annual edition of the **Far West Skier's Guide**. This issue will again be **digital only**. The board came to this decision as we again expect low advertising income to offset the printing and distribution costs. We do hope to gain some "digital only advertisers." Both Leigh & Jane put numerous hours proofreading all the articles and formatting each issue. Please send comments to Leigh, Jane, and I at [skiersguide@fwsa.org](mailto:skiersguide@fwsa.org). If you are available to proofread either publication, please let me know. Also, if you know of a possible advertiser, please get us their contact information, or put them in touch with us at [skiersguide@fwsa.org](mailto:skiersguide@fwsa.org). Every little bit helps.

Contact us for rates.

Debbi Kor writes, edits and publishes the monthly **Far West NewsFlash**. You can find current and past issues on the website under Publications. If you are not already receiving the **NewsFlash** in your email inbox you can subscribe simply by checking the "**New Flash subscription**" box under the "**Interests**" section of the Member Profile. All clubs and councils are encouraged to submit appropriate articles of interest for the activities, events, and travel programs for publication in the **NewsFlash** simply by sending the information to Debbi at [news-flash@fwsa.org](mailto:news-flash@fwsa.org). Debbi too has expressed the desire to step away from the NewsFlash at a point in the future so we will be looking for someone to take over preparing this publication too. Please contact me with any interested persons.

All our publications are in digital format and are accessible from the Far West

website at [FWSA Publications](https://www.fwsa.org).

Our website also contains many photo albums from our varied activities over the years. Additionally, we have several videos on our You Tube page. George Stewart continues to produce our videos and slide shows. As our Multimedia Chair, he produced marketing videos this past year and we are looking forward to the many new videos for our 90<sup>th</sup> Convention in Boise and our trips to: Jackson Hole; Zermatt, Switzerland; Southern Spain; and Taos, New Mexico. They can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/user/FarWestSkiAssoc>.

Jane Gutierrez, our Social Media Chair, manages our Facebook and Twitter pages and our new Instagram page as well. If you are a social media guru and would like to help or contribute, please reach out to us at [socialmedia@fwsa.org](mailto:socialmedia@fwsa.org).



## Lina Arnold

### VP Public Affairs

As you read through this and other articles, in this issue of *The Councilman*, you will find a lot of current information regarding ski area development, consumer advocacy and trends, snowsports history, safety, and environment. FWSA strives to keep our members informed as to what is happening in all of these areas. In addition to the information you see here, there is much more to be found on the FWSA website: [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org). Just click on Members Corner, then scroll down to Public Affairs.

#### **Consumer Advocacy & Trends**

As you are getting ready for the next ski vacation and are traveling to the resorts here are some guidelines on what the airline ski & snowboard baggage policies are from the various different airlines. Each airline has a different policy for ski and snowboard bags. But in most cases, airlines treat a ski or snowboard bag as a normal - not oversize - bag. Sometimes they count a ski bag and a boot bag together as one bag, too.

#### **Alaska Airlines Ski & Snowboard Baggage Policy**

Skis or snowboards are subject to normal checked baggage fees under Alaska Airlines' ski and snowboard baggage policy. Oversize and overweight fees are waived. They do not specify whether boot bags are included.

#### **American Airlines Ski & Snowboard Baggage Policy**

American Airlines' ski and snowboard luggage policy counts a ski or snowboard bag AND a boot bag as one regular checked bag. The policy specifies that items other than boots, helmets, and bindings are not allowed in the boot bag, or travelers will be charged for an additional bag.

#### **Delta Airlines Ski & Snowboard Baggage Policy**

Delta Airlines' ski and snowboard policy allows travelers one ski or snowboard bag, and one boot bag as a single checked bag. If the combined weight of these two bags exceeds 50 pounds, there will be an excess weight



fee.

#### **Frontier Airlines Ski & Snowboard Baggage Policy**

Frontier Airlines' ski and snowboard baggage policy counts a ski or snowboard bag and boot bag as one checked bag, unless the boot bag weighs more than 25 pounds. If this is the case, the bags are counted as two items. Overweight charges over 50 pounds still apply, too.

#### **Southwest Airlines Ski & Snowboard Baggage Policy**

Again, according to Southwest Airlines' ski and snowboard baggage policy, a ski or snowboard bag AND a boot bag qualify as one checked bag. No excess size charges will be applied, but the bags are still eligible for excess weight charges.

#### **United Airlines Ski & Snowboard Baggage Policy**

United Airlines' ski and snowboard baggage rules count ski or snowboard bags AND boot bags as one checked bag. Normal baggage fees apply, as well as excess weight fees if the bags weigh more than 50 pounds in total.

**Important Note:** *This list may not be up-to-date. Always check directly with your airline about the most recent baggage policy for your specific flight. Baggage Information from EVO Adventures Website.*

#### **Ski Area Development**

Here is a list of development projects at eight ski resorts that will significantly change resorts across North America. *Resort updates courtesy of Sam Handy at Avanti Ski.*

**Steamboat, CO.** Working on a 3-Year \$135m Master Plan to re-design the base area, build the fastest gondola in North America and open 600+ acres of new skiable terrain has been in the making for ten years. Full project completion is Winter of 2023.

*(Continued on page 43)*





## David Krupp

### Athletic Scholarship Chair

The Far West Ski Association Athletic Scholarship Program is in its 18th year, growing from an initial \$1,000 in scholarships in 2004 to \$7,900 and 14 recipients in the 2021-2022 season. The total awarded since the program's inception is over \$184,000 to 131 different recipients.

The program is designed to provide financial assistance to junior ski racers throughout the western United States where FWSA has a presence. Applicants must be junior alpine ski racers affiliated with the United States Ski and Snowboard Association (USSA) and must participate in racing programs in states where FWSA has regional councils. These include California, Oregon, Washington, Nevada, Arizona, Idaho, Utah, and Wyoming. Scholarships are awarded based on financial need, athletic performance, academic achievement, and community service.

Skiing is an expensive sport and the costs involved in ski racing cannot be left up to the parents alone to incur. For younger athletes the costs are modest. However, for 16 through 20 year olds, where competition becomes national and even international, the costs can be significant. Without the

help of outside resources, many junior racers simply cannot compete. For a top competitor, expenses can reach \$20,000 per year. This is not a seasonal sport for these racers; it includes a full year of ski-related involvement. After the winter race competition has concluded, competitors engage in dry-land training; then off to summer camps. Camps typically run about \$1,200 per week, not including transportation.

Winter training costs range from \$1,000-\$1,500 each season. Most applicants work part time to offset expenses. The demands on their time is significant. They must balance their time between training, competition, school, work, and community service. Despite these demands, the average GPA for these recipients consistently exceeds a 3.9 average. Our scholarships are modest compared to the need, but they do make a difference in the overall scope of the resources they require.

The funding of the scholarships come from a number of sources: raffles, auctions, club and council partnerships, and direct contributions from club members, clubs, and councils. The

FWSA has greatly benefitted from the generous support from its sponsors including Whitefish Mountain Resort ([www.skiwhitefish.com](http://www.skiwhitefish.com)), a year round winter and summer resort, Kandahar Lodge ([www.kandaharlodge.com](http://www.kandaharlodge.com)), and Grouse Mountain Lodge ([www.glacierparkcollection.com/lodging/grouse-mountain-lodge](http://www.glacierparkcollection.com/lodging/grouse-mountain-lodge)) in Whitefish, Montana; Schure Sports, Inc. ([www.karbonmail.com](http://www.karbonmail.com)), maker of the Karbon line of snowsports apparel; the US Ski Team, and the Far West Racing Association. Their contributions of vacation packages, snowsports apparel, and cash bring in approximately \$10,000 per year as raffle and auction proceeds, as well as, direct cash donations.

In addition, our partnership program through clubs and councils afford us approximately one third of our scholarship funding each year. Finally, the Far West Ski Foundation ([www.farwestskifoundation.org](http://www.farwestskifoundation.org)), a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization, is a valuable resource for encouraging tax exempt donations. For more information on the Far West Athletic Scholarship Program, please visit [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org).

Tea Keisel, age 19, is a FWSA Athletic Scholarship recipient from Incline Village, Nevada. Tea skis for the Palisades Tahoe Ski Team. Photo credit: Tea Keisel





## Sigrid Noack

### Charities and Our Community Chair

FWSA is proud of the phenomenal charity work our members do to help others. A huge thank you to all our FWSA clubs and councils for being involved with charitable activities. It's amazing how many charities, and what a wonderful variety of organizations, have been impacted by our FWSA members' generosity.

The 16th Annual Charity Recognition program was a huge success. Our video expert Paul Vlasveld, BAC president, had agreed to produce our second charities video. A great big thanks for this excellent presentation of what our FWSA family members are all about. They love to help out charitable organizations.

And a special thanks to the nine ski clubs, one council and one race league for supporting the **Charity & Our Community Recognition Program**. These groups took time out of their busy schedules to share their charitable activities in photos with the FWSA.

The following groups were recognized in this year's charities video:

- **Arizona Ski Council**
- **Bogus Basin Ski Club - Inter-mountain Council**
- **Four Seasons West Ski & Snowboard Club - LAC and National Brotherhood of Skiers - Western Region**
- **Grindelwald Ski Club - Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs**
- **Get Off Your Rockers Ski Club - San Diego Council of Ski Clubs**



- **Monterey Ski & Social Club - Bay Area Snow Sports Council**
- **Mountain High Snow Sport Club - Northwest Ski Club Council**
- **Reno Ski & Recreation Club - Sierra Council**
- **SLO - Central Council of California**
- **Skiyente Ski Club - Northwest Ski Club Council**
- **PacRat Racing - Northwest Ski Club Council**

At this year's convention in Portland, these outstanding groups received a FWSA Charity Recognition Certificate of Appreciation and an electronic FWSA Medallion to post on their website and to use in their newsletters.

Our industry friends, our FWSA family, our delegates and guests at this convention, enjoyed stopping by and taking a look at our beautiful interesting charities video, which was played all weekend. It continues to amaze folks, just how really caring our FWSA club members are.

Looking forward to showing another Charity Recognition video in Boise,

Idaho at our 2023 FWSA Convention. Let's get ready, and hopefully we will be seeing even more of our ski clubs



Kristy Welsh, Arizona Ski Council president volunteering at "Feed My Starving Children"

Photo credit: Sigrid Noack



Seasons West of LAC club members prepared nearly 300 toiletry packages for donation to the Jenesse Women's Center

Photo credit: Sigrid Noack

and ski councils showcasing their charity activities in our third charity video.



## Fran Long Environment Chair

FWSA is committed to doing its part to preserve and protect our snowsports environment. As an organization of 50,000+ snowsports enthusiasts, FWSA's environment program encourages snowsports participants to take an active role in conserving and protecting our environment in our clubs, homes, communities, and mountains.

One way in which FWSA encourages individual club and council members' efforts to promote and implement practices that will support a healthier environment in their communities and snowsports areas is through the FWSA Environment Award recognition program.

The Environment Award is designed to encourage good stewardship of our environment. We want to inspire and reward creative efforts to conserve and protect our environment. This award should recognize a special action that the applicant took, or something he or she put in place that made a difference.

Conduct or arrange an event(s) for your club, council or the general public that focuses on the principles of "Protect Our Winters' (POW)" mission to engage and mobilize the snowsports community to lead the fight against climate change with a focus on educational initiatives, advocacy and community-based activism. Stage an event based on one or more of the seven actions of the POW pledge. Learn more about POW at [http://](http://protectourwinters.org/about-us/)

[protectourwinters.org/about-us/](http://protectourwinters.org/about-us/).

Work with your club or council and your local ski area to develop or improve your ski area's "Sustainable Slopes" program. This program was adopted by the ski industry in 2000. It provides an overarching framework for ski areas on sustainability and enhanced environmental performance. Learn more about Sustainable Slopes and NSAA's Environmental Charter <http://www.nsaa.org/environment/sustainable-slopes/>.

Since its inception, the Environment Award has been graciously sponsored by [Aspen/Snowmass](#), [The Gant Aspen](#) and [The Crestwood Condominium Hotel](#). Aspen/Snowmass, an early leader in the ski industry reducing their carbon footprint, proposed this award for FWSA in 2015.

More information about the award, the award application, and about previous winning programs, can be found on the FWSA website: [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org).

The incoming program chair, Janine Rands ([j9rands@gmail.com](mailto:j9rands@gmail.com)), will happily work with you to submit an application for this very important award.

At the Far West Ski Association's 89th Annual Convention in Portland on June 12, 2022, the ski club delegates at the General Session voted to approve the following resolution in support of the Snowsports Industries America (SIA) ClimateUnited initiative. The Resolution was written by

Randy Lew, a Past President of the Association.

WHEREAS, our planet is getting warmer, threatening not just our snowpack, but increasing the number of wildfires, droughts, and devastating storms; and

WHEREAS, the winter sports \$76 billion industry is dependent on consistent winter seasons which have already become shorter and more volatile; and

WHEREAS, the Far West Ski Association (FWSA) membership of approximately 51,000 recreational skiers and riders in the twelve western states of Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, Wyoming hope to enjoy robust winter seasons for many years to come;

AND WHEREAS, FWSA was the first Ski Council in the US to support the National Ski Areas Association (NSAA) "Sustainable Slopes Initiative" which every major ski resort is now a participant in;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, FWSA enthusiastically supports the Snowsports Industries America (SIA) ClimateUnited initiative for their membership of manufacturers and retailers to work with their supply chain partners to reduce emissions from product manufacturing and transportation.





## John Watson History Chair

There are a number of reasons why we have a history program. First, to expose or educate members to the dynamic history of their sport. Second, to provide educational material for public use. Third, to promote the establishment, growth, and continuance of preservation in learning centers and museums. Fourth, to provide opportunities for research into snow-sport history. The foundations of this program began in the early 2000's under the leadership of then president, Mike Sanford.

We started with the Ski Club/Council History Recognition patterned after the Outstanding Ski Club competition. We laid out a detailed template for guidance on what could be in such a history. The competing entries would be judged by an expert panel. Criteria include support activity in the public community. Such histories show the pace of Associations development (within the larger universe of snow-sports industry development), inform members – and conceivably be patched together into a broader history. It can be used for outreach and recruiting. Congratulations to this year's winner for the **Club & Council History** competition to Après Ski & Social Club of the Bay Area Snow Sports Council.

The amount of work that must go into a substantial history discouraged participation and caused us to create a recognition other than the original. So, we started the **Historic Ski Club (HSC)** program for clubs who could prove operation for 50 years or more. Note that this now means formation before and operation since 1972. Just provide the History Chair an application available on [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org), your proof of founding date and a good hi-res color logo. The HSC program proves the enduring attraction of clubs and the need for them to provide a basic information center at the grass roots. We welcomed three additions to the HSC alumni this year at the convention in Portland. Congratulations to All Seasons Ski Club of the NBS Western Region Council, Après Ski & Social Club and Rusty Binding Singles Ski Club, both members of Bay Area Snow Sports Council.

The HSC programs also include Ski Patrols and Ski Schools within the Far West region. If you know of a deserving Ski School; or Patrol that has been in existence for 50 or more years, please, as above, contact the FWSA History Chair with a completed application available on [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org), along with proof of founding date and a good hi-res color logo.

The **Western Ski Heritage Award** is sponsored by Steamboat. Western Ski Heritage is an odyssey. It was designed to recognize recent work which designed to show the role of snow-sport in the larger community. We have recognized many authors and research projects, all shown on [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org). This year the WSH was awarded to Lowell Skoog, author of *Written in the Snows: Across Time on Skis in the Pacific Northwest.*

We still have work to be done in the preservation of Association records and the trends that could be gained from them. If you read through previous issues of the *Far West Skier's Guide*, *The Councilman* and/or our *90th Anniversary* booklet, you will see several possible historic sketches that need authors. Using the Secretary's minutes and reports from councils and committee chairmen, an annual narrative could be written. All good for recruiting. Any volunteers out there that enjoy research and writing? Get in touch with us and let's start planning.

Congratulations to all of this year's winners.



The Councilman, Spring 2022





## Alan Christian Far West Ski Foundation President



The new FWSF brochure was distributed to all FWSA convention attendees, click on this link, [FWSF brochure](#) for an electronic version of the brochure.

The FWSF Wine and See's Candy Auction at the convention raised over \$1000 and is earmarked for adaptive sports. The See's Candy Yum Raising fund raiser will be conducted by the Foundation in December. Check for detailed information at [www.farwestskifoundation.org](http://www.farwestskifoundation.org).

The **SNOW Sports Museum** at the entrance to Palisades at Tahoe (Squaw Valley) is well into permitting and will be a focus of FWSF fund raising. Our goal is to maintain the prominent display we've enjoyed at the

Western America Ski Museum as it transitions to the new SNOW Sports Museum facility. Coincidentally the museum in conjunction with Coolfire Sports received our Warren Miller Modern Media Award at the convention for their production of *"Magic on the Mountain."*

The profound impact of our/your fund raising supporting junior racing through the Athletic Scholarship Program was portrayed in Phil Mahre's emotional presentation at the convention. We should all take pride in this program and strive to increase our support.

The FWSF website is under major revision and is scheduled to be completed in the fall. It will be structured to enhance our new initiative to procure

grants which is headed by Jane Wyckoff. If you have skills or experience in soliciting or administering grants, we want your input.

I am touring major ski museums in the central Rocky Mountains. Send me the contact/location of any local ski archive that you know of anywhere in the FWSA region. I am compiling a list of possible legacy recipients.

FWSF is recruiting individuals who are interested in joining the Board. Candidates must be willing to actively participate in our fund-raising efforts. This is one great way to contribute to the Legacy of the sport that has meant so much to all of us. Call or text me at 925-451-9314.

Alan Christian & Trux Dole of The 10th Mountain Division Foundation exchanging fund raising ideas  
Photo by Randy Lew





## Monica Palmer Safety Chair

### The Importance of Ski Conditioning

Beginning a new activity without stretching, strengthening, or any activity preparation, creates the risk of musculoskeletal injuries to our joints, muscles, or bones. Even experienced skiers need to prepare for an upcoming ski season after several months between ski seasons.

Different activities or sports use muscles in different ways. You may have been golfing, swimming, or playing tennis, but that doesn't necessarily put you in shape to be back on your skis. Also, when we have not actively participated in a sport recently, the body's systems need time to adapt to the sport again, or for the first time. It can take about 3 weeks for the body to adapt to the new activity and/or exercise before it's ready for another challenge.

Many injuries from snowsports could have easily been prevented or been less severe with proper conditioning before the season started. One of the most common and preventable injuries during this sport season is the Anterior Cruciate Ligament (ACL) tear in the knee.

Starting the ski season with the proper conditioning and strength training can help you to ski better and tire less easily. This all contributes to a better day on the slopes and is important for skiers of all ages and levels of expertise.

Get in shape and enjoy the new ski season.

*Some of this Information is courtesy of ROC.*

### Richard Lubin Safety Person of the Year Award

The "Richard Lubin Safety Person of the Year Award", formerly known as the "FWSA Safety Recognition Award" is making a resurgence following the cancellation of the 2019 annual Far West Ski Association Convention due to COVID, and, sadly, the death of Richard Lubin in 2020 who had served as FWSA Safety Chair for 16 years. I am the newly appointed Safety Chair, Monica Palmer. I have been a Safety Administrator for the Reno Ski and Recreation Club (RSRC) since the fall of 2012, and I am now also Safety Chair for FWSA since last fall.

Based on a very low interest in the safety award this past year, I am trying to enhance more interest in safety awareness throughout the FWSA. We need to promote safety for all of our members. While this may not happen in every club, it could be something within each council and shared with the clubs. I provide articles on various types of safety for my club's monthly newsletters. Several years ago, I held a contest with the RSRC members to create a safety slogan. More recently I held a safety story contest where the writer, who had to be a club member, wrote about a personal experience where either lack of safety caused an

injury, or use of safety saved the victim. I was able to use all of the stories in our newsletter over the following several months. The writers could choose if they wanted their names identified. I believe that these activities helped to create more interest in safety among our membership. It gave them opportunities to be involved.

Any ski club member throughout FWSA can participate in providing safety awareness for their own club or council. Then you can enter the 2023 "Richard Lubin Safety Person of the Year Award." Watch for details from FWSA or check [FWSA.org](http://FWSA.org).

My policy is, **Safety Is Not a Part Time Practice**. Since my own club is a year-round club, I provide safety recommendations for numerous sports over all 4 seasons of the year and for other activities at home or work.

Linda Arnold, VP of Public Affairs and Monica Palmer, Safety Chair enjoying the festivities at the convention

Photo credit: Adam Bacher







## Jane Gutierrez

### Social Media

Facebook continues to be the leading online marketing tool that Far West Ski Association uses. Our organization currently has 802 people who are engaged with our Facebook page and Facebook group. The largest group of engagement is over the age of 65 with 20% women and 16% men. Our main focus on promotion has been our major events, such as our annual convention, our domestic and international trips, and many events related to the world of skiing.

The current Facebook team consists of

social media volunteers from throughout the Far West Ski Association and include:

**Debbie Stewart**  
**Joe Harvis**  
**Randy Lew**  
**Jane Gutierrez**  
**George Stewart**  
**James Nachbar**  
**Catherine Fulkerson**  
**Stephen Coxen**  
**Chris Gill**

### Linda Westlund

The Facebook page continues to be popular, but we also need your help. As a member of FWSA our Facebook posts are a great way to advertise your council and club activities and events. FWSA would also like to see our social media platform grow! Council presidents, don't forget to like our page and continue to mention to your club presidents that we want them and their members to like us as well!

Thanks for your support!



## Todd Hood

### Succession Planning

The Succession Planning Committee of the Far West Ski Association is in place to fuel the pipeline of leadership for the Far West Ski Association, and to share succession planning best practices for council and club sustainability and success.

Most organized snowsports nonprofit organizations are driven by volunteers. Being a volunteer organization is far different than being a non-profit organization. Nonprofit organizations may have compensated leaders with financial funding and human resources that

volunteer organizations may not have.

Without intentional actions for succession planning, we see volunteer organizations struggle and wither away due to a lack of inspired leadership. Does your organization have a succession plan in place? Do you regularly monitor to ensure you are executing your succession plan? How well is your succession plan serving your organization?

Some indicators of a strong organization are:

- fully occupied leadership positions
- contested elections
- rotating leadership roles
- leader attendance at meetings
- leadership participation at events and activities

If your organization would like to join a network of organizations to share succession planning techniques, we invite you to email [successionplanning@fwsa.org](mailto:successionplanning@fwsa.org).

### **Squaw Valley / Alpine Meadows, CA.**

Squaw Alpine began construction on the highly anticipated base-to-base gondola with tree-cutting this past May. The 8-person gondola will transport 1,400 riders per hour from the Village at Squaw Valley to the Alpine Meadows base area (or vice-versa) in 16 minutes. Riders will have the option to disembark at the K-22 mid-station to access K-22's legendary terrain. Completion date is TBD.

### **Sugarloaf, ME.**

The crown jewel of Sugarloaf's 2030 Master Plan, this 450+ acre project includes a new high-speed lift, more than 10 new trails, a tubing park, a lift-serviced mountain bike trail network and new real estate development. The West Mountain trail expansion will increase Sugarloaf's beginner and intermediate terrain and alleviate congestion at the Whiffletree and Super Quad lifts. The resort has already implemented RFID scanning technology at all lifts to cut down on wait times. Completion 2025.

### **Mayflower Mountain Resort, UT.**

Construction of a new resort on the back side of Deer Valley.

With the potential to become the first new full-service resort in the United States in 40 years, the proposal for Mayflower Mountain Resort envisions 1,000 skiable acres, 18 ski lifts, up to 825 hotel rooms, a 68,000 square foot

recreation center, and up to 250,000 square feet of commercial and retail space. The plans also call for a significant residential component, eventually composed of 1,500+ units. Extell's Gary Barnett is the developer and he reported that the project would receive up to \$250 million in MIDA-approved bonds, a fraction of the \$3.2 billion of spending anticipated over the next 5 years. The proposal has run into a myriad of roadblocks, but preliminary infrastructure work has begun and ground was recently broken on the first major piece of the project – a 442-room, 625,000-square-foot hotel featuring 100 rooms reserved for the United States Air Force. Completion is TBD.

### **Deer Valley, UT.**

Replacement of the Snow Park Lodge with a new lodge and additional services.

The architecture of the new base will be "inspired by the mountains." The Utah resort has announced a major renovation and expansion of its Snow Park Base Area, including new skier services facilities; new, contemporary food, beverage and après options; an expansive ski beach; an integrated transportation and mobility hub; underground parking facilities; and chairlift reconfiguration. Completion is TBD.

### **Mammoth Mountain, CA.**

Redeveloping the Main Lodge and Base Area to create a "Gateway to the Sierra".

Alterra has announced a complete redevelopment of the main lodge at Mammoth, where they aim to create a "Base Camp to the Eastern Sierra." The new base area will feature the "world's best" ski beach, state of the art services, an Adventure Concierge Center, an array of boutique dining and retail experiences, luxury lodging and a variety of residential ownership options. Debuting in 2023, the Canyon Express and Broadway Express chairs will be replaced with new, high-speed 6-pack chairs. Completion is TBD.

### **Taos Ski Valley, NM.**

\$300-million master plan including a frontside to backside gondola and other major lift upgrades.

Proposal for a new four-season gondola to link the frontside and backside base areas, decreasing travel time and alleviating congestion. Several Lift upgrades and a new backside restaurant. Expanding summer programs which will include mountain biking and new construction of new trails. Completion to TBD.

**Keystone, CO.** More than 500-acre expansion into the Bergman and Erickson bowls.

Keystone has received US Forest Service approval to expand their lift-accessed terrain into the Bergman and Erickson Bowls. The expansion would feature a new high-speed, detachable lift, 16 new trails, and over 500 acres of skiable terrain. Completion to TBD.

FWSA Past Presidents with the Mahre Brothers. Pictured left to right: Steve Coxen, Gloria Raminha, Jane Wyckoff, Mike Sanford, Harry Davis and Randy Lew. Kneeling left to right: Steve Mahre & Phil Mahre

Photo credit: Adam Bacher





## Kristy Welsh

### Arizona Ski Council

The Arizona Ski Council (ASC) was formed to promote skiing and friendship among the clubs. Our mission has been to promote activities, promote safety on the slopes and build camaraderie of fellow skiers and adventurers. Our clubs serve skiers, snowboarders, hikers, bikers and social members/adventurers, in the state of Arizona. ASC currently represent two ski clubs, with members primarily in the Phoenix metro-area.

#### Phoenix Ski Club (PSC)

#### Scottsdale Sea & Ski Club (SSSC)

The Arizona Ski Council does not directly run any ski trips but support our clubs and their trips. PSC and SSSC work together and have reciprocity between them. It is very common to see our skiers' attending events with both clubs. It is great that our clubs support each other.

In the past, the Arizona Ski Council has hosted a number of activities. The pandemic seems to finally be behind us, and the clubs have been very active, with numerous ski trips and events, notably the Far West ski week in Aspen, Park City, Purgatory and Copper Mountain. Delegates attended the Far West Convention in Portland in

June, and despite the rainy weather, fun and education was had by all. In the Fall, the Scottsdale Ski club is going to do a River cruise in France, Phoenix Ski Club is doing a Tanzania safari trip in June and a Canada cruise. There are numerous ski trips planned for 2022-2023 ski season.

The Phoenix Ski Club is more than just a ski club. PSC is an active adult social club, which just started up its monthly meetings and is on its way. This active adult social club will be going full speed ahead with its year-round, non-profit, social and outdoor activities. They have always prided themselves in offering a variety of amazing activities, to appeal to everyone. They even have "spur-of-the-moment" events, which are mind-boggling. They did it all and will do it all.

For more information and events:

<https://www.phxskiclub.org>

The Scottsdale Sea & Ski Club is a premier activities club, making their comeback. SSSC is oriented towards active adults 21

years and older.

SSSC is a year-round, non-profit, volunteer-run social and outdoor activities organization with a variety of events designed to appeal to just about everybody. They have weekly happy hours and many other events like hiking, bicycling, kayaking, skiing, camping, golfing, cruising, concerts and both domestic and international trips.

Check out their activities and ski trips. You'll find SSSC a friendly group, and constantly on the go. Subscribe to their email mailing list for up-to-date information on the activities.

<https://sssc.clubexpress.com/>

Don't just dream of having an exciting life, join one of our clubs and make it happen. If you can dream it, we can do it.

For other exciting Arizona Ski Council events or links to our club websites, please access:

<https://arizona-ski-council.org/>

The ladies of the Arizona Council, Linda Johnston, Karen Bonine and Linda Westlund strike a pose flanked by Steve Mahre (left) and Phil Mahre (right)

Photo credit: Adam Bacher







## Paul Vlasveld Bay Area Snow Sports Council



***You will always hear how proud we are of the volunteers within the Bay Area Snow Sports Council (BAC)!***

We are conducting hybrid meetings with a combination in person and virtual. I would like to welcome the following BAC Board of Directors that were elected at our April BAC General Council Meeting:

Treasurer – Open  
Secretary – Karen Davis  
Membership – Benelia Terry  
Industry Liaison – Janet Spencer  
Benefits – Open  
Travel – Gail Burns  
Communications – Dennie Warren  
Past President – Dennis Heffley  
Public Affairs – Harry Davis  
Marketing -- Open

The BAC is moving forward having events during the non-ski season to continue a focus on what our council represents and validate why clubs should be part of us. In turn, we are also sharing why people should join our Member Clubs.

Thirty-two (32) BAC members will be in Italy in August participating in the BAC Bike and Barge Trip. This should be a fantastic trip. BAC is also planning a winter mini trip to Sun Peaks in BC Canada in February 2023.

We are planning another Hockey night where one lucky participant may be able to wear the goalie's uniform and have all the others take a shot at the goalie.

This year, at the 89<sup>th</sup> annual FWSA convention in Portland, the BAC won several awards. I would like to congratulate all the clubs, individuals, and the council for the well-deserved recognition for Council newsletter, Charity, Website, and Historic club awards:

Historic Clubs – Rusty Bindings and Apres Ski Club

Charity – Monterey Ski and Social club

Club Newsletter – Dennie Warren – Castro Valley Ski Club

Council Newsletter – Dennie Warren

Council Website – Cathy and Jenn Wilson

We completed a successful race season and are planning for next year. It was great to see everyone in person at the races. We really missed the in-person contact. I had some difficulty remembering how to race.

Here are some fun end-of-the-summer events we had:

Rusty Bindings Ski club–50-year Reunion–Sept

Monterey Ski and Social Club – Pebble Beach Concours de Elegance – Aug

Inskiers -- Inskiers Potluck at Ed and MaryAnn's in Belmont – Aug

Santa Rosa Ski Club – Movie Premier of Biketown – Aug

In closing . . . I have had the honor and privilege of representing The Greatest council in FWSA. The dynamic and diverse people who have been and currently are members of the Bay Area Snow Sports Council and Far West Ski Association Board of Directors that continue to make BAC a thriving and successful Council.

Bay Area members at the FWSA Convention with Steve and Phil Mahre

Photo credit: Adam Bacher





## Fran Long Central Council



Far West Ski Association councils are composed of ski clubs in a designated geographical area. Central Council is made up of ski clubs in the central part of California. Clubs are located in Bakersfield, Fresno, Clovis, Salinas, San Luis Obispo, and Santa Barbara. Some of those clubs are significantly large, while others are rather small, but all have activities to offer their membership.

Following are some of the varied year-round activities offered by our clubs:

**Avalanche Ski and Sports Club**, in Bakersfield, is one of our smaller clubs. They meet monthly at different restaurants in the Bakersfield area. While they do not organize ski trips on their own, they do support the FWSA ski weeks, as well as other FWSA travel trips. Additionally, they often join SLO Skiers for a fun-filled SLO Skiers ski week.

**Camber Ski Club**, located in Salinas, is a fairly inactive club but has a number of members that organize informal ski trips. Some active new members would certainly give this club a boost!

Fresno Ski Club, serving the greater Fresno area, is a large, active, vibrant

club. In addition to one or two ski weeks per year, Fresno Ski Club supports its local ski area, China Peak, with multiple 2-3 day trips. In addition to skiing, Fresno Ski Club has an active summer program encompassing many outdoor adventure opportunities.

**Santa Barbara Ski Club** is on par with Fresno Ski Club. Again, one of our clubs offering a wide variety of programs, Santa Barbara Ski Club offers a couple of week-long ski trips each winter, and supports their local mountain, Mammoth Mountain, with multiple 3-4 day bus trips each year. Summers are filled with happy hours, bike rides, and a multitude of other fun in the sun types of activities.

**SLO Skiers**, serving San Luis Obispo County and northern Santa Barbara County, is also one of our larger clubs. SLO Skiers plans two week-long ski trips each year and sprinkles in a few local trips to Tahoe or Mammoth. Other year-round activities abound... wine downs, dine-arounds, happy hours, and summer adventure trips.

In addition to just having fun, all Central Council clubs are involved in doing some sort of charitable or philanthropic

activities within their geographic communities.

Our council does not currently offer any ski trips or activities directly. Rather, we support our clubs in their endeavors to provide exciting trips for their members. We also encourage all our member clubs to support one another, offering all our snowsports enthusiasts more options and opportunities for fun. Many of our members seek out a club going to the destination of their choice, contact that club, and enjoy traveling with them and making new friends.

As an active member of the Far West Ski Association and the National Ski Council Federation, Central Council distributes information to all member clubs regarding member benefits, travel options, and current trends in snowsports. We also participate in the wide variety of travel programs offered: FWSA North American Ski Week, FWSA Mini Ski Week, FWSA International Ski Week and Adventure Trips.

For additional information on our activities and plans for the upcoming season, please check our website at: [www.centralcouncilskiclubs.org](http://www.centralcouncilskiclubs.org).



Right: Fresno Ski Club members gather at the top of the run at China Peak. Photo credit: Fresno Ski Club

Left: SLO Skiers volunteers at a Beach Clean Up Day. Many ski clubs participate in programs giving back to their local communities Photo credit: Fresno Ski Club







## Jennifer Coutts Intermountain Ski Council



The Intermountain Ski Council was represented at the 2022 Convention in Portland by 7 attendees from Bogus Basin Ski Club (BBSC). They took part in the optional activities such as the Mt Hood Adventure, Golf Tournament and Pub Crawl. The council, along with several members of BBSC, is also actively planning the 2023 FWSA Convention scheduled to take place in Boise, Idaho.

The ISC will be returning to Sun Valley, Idaho from January 9-15, 2023 for the annual council gathering and ski week. It is always a fun week of ski-

ing, socializing and soaking in the hot tubs at the world-renowned Sun Valley Lodge.

The ISC is made up of ski clubs across the intermountain West and currently has 11 clubs in its membership. One of the most active clubs in the council is the Bogus Basin Ski Club in Boise, Idaho. They are a year-round club that stays busy with ski trips, fun bike rides through downtown Boise, activities on the Boise River, as well as, charitable events like silent auctions and other fundraisers. The Northern Wasatch Ski & Social Club in northern Utah is

also active in the council, providing both the president and treasurer for the ISC along with volunteers for the upcoming 2023 FWSA Convention in Boise. This club has events throughout the year such as group ski days, Spring skiing tailgate parties & costume ski days, monthly dinners, hiking and biking.

You can learn more about the Intermountain Ski Council at <https://intermountainskicouncil.weebly.com>.

Intermountain members pose with Phil & Steve Mahre at the Far West Ski Convention in Portland, Oregon this past June. Pictured from left to right are Kim DeWit, Suzette Newcomb, Steve Mahre, Donn Bryant, Paul Markowitz, Horace Hunt, Barb Bryant, Phil Mahre, Michael Bouton

Photo credit: Kim DeWitt.







## Sandy Blackwell

### Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs



The Los Angeles Council (LAC) of Ski Clubs has over 20 clubs in the Los Angeles area, which include snowsports, water sports, and of late, more social clubs mainly due to aging membership. LAC covers a big area and with such a large range of clubs there is something for just about everyone.

Mammoth Mountain Ski Resort (Winter and Summer) is the Go To resort for most of our LAC Clubs because of their winter and summer activities. The great variety of terrain, magnificent lifts, racecourses that are pretty challenging, and dining choices works for the winter season, and then their summer programs (jazz, mountain biking, hot springs and even camping, breweries, and, oh yes, a bit of hiking,

with Mt. Whitney just down the road a bit.) There are very few councils that can offer what LAC has a few short hours from downtown Los Angeles.

The next ski week that our LAC clubs are looking forward to is the 2023 Jackson Hole with Far West. There is just so much to do – skiing at Jackson Hole, Grand Targhee, a trip to Yellowstone, out to the Elk Reserve. You cannot be bored going to Jackson Hole.

The Councils' quarterly meetings are still via Zoom, mainly because we get more people on them. So why ruin a good thing! Our latest meeting was held May 2nd, and we installed a few new officers, and, acknowledged those incumbent officers. A number of the

clubs have a good summer program – hiking, biking, a bike/barge trip. And a new trip has been set at the end of the year for 12 days in Thailand (Conejo).

Back again is the LAC annual (except for COVID years) Snow Gala set for November 5th, and that is when we ask the clubs to put forth their honoree for our Council Volunteer of the Year (formerly known as the Councils' Man and Woman of the Year).

A meeting was held on August 1 to keep all the clubs updated about the upcoming year's council and FWSA events.

For details regarding all of the Los Angeles Council clubs and activities, please visit us at [www.lacouncil.org](http://www.lacouncil.org),



LAC members at the Portland Convention. Pictured back row from left: Dr. John Gray, Hannah Nishimoto, Suzie Wheeler, Tan Nguyen, Sandra Knapp, Norbert Knapp, Sandra Blackwell, David Krupp, Todd Hood. Front row: Sigrid Noack & Dee Armstrong

Photo credit: Sandra Blackwell

Los Angeles Council President Sandra Blackwell with the Mahre Brothers at the FWSA Convention, with Phil on the left and Steve on the right.

Photo credit: Sandra Blackwell





## David Geiger

### National Brotherhood of Skiers, Western Region



The National Brotherhood of Skiers Western Region (NBSWR) covers California, Nevada, Arizona, Oregon, and Washington and is comprised of 14 member clubs serving their area communities. Many of our member clubs have year-round adult and family activities from skiing – Alpine and Nordic, snowmobiling, bicycling, hiking, camping, river rafting, houseboating, and attending jazz festivals. *"We are focused on the growth and prosperity of our clubs, supporting the mission of the NBS, promoting diversity in Snowsports with passion, unity, and harmony through fun and education"* - David Geiger, Vice President NBSWR.

Currently, the NBSWR is in full swing marketing and preparing for an entire week of snowsports activities and fun at the NBS 50th Anniversary Summit to be held February 4-11, 2023 at Vail Resort in Colorado. Our tour operator is Ski.com. The event is expected to draw over 2000 participants from the United States and internationally.

The NBS 50th Summit will be a week-long celebration, including food, fun, festivities, fashion, family, and friends. Attendees will have an opportunity to meet many of the nineteen student-athlete members of Team NBS, corporate representatives from our many NBS Black Summit sponsors, and staff representatives from Vail Resorts and Special recognition is in the planning for Art Clay and Ben Finley, who made history this year as the first Black inductees to the U.S. Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame. The two founded the National Brotherhood of Skiers back in the '70s in an effort that would The Councilman, Spring 2022

encourage the formation of minority ski and snowboard clubs across the county, introduce thousands to Snowsports, and eventually create a pathway for athletes of color to achieve their Olympics pursuits.

Art and Ben made history together, conceiving and organizing the first



Photo of Art Clay-left and Ben Finley-right

Photo credit: Tyler Macleod

gathering of 13 black ski clubs in Aspen, Colorado, in 1973 with 350 attendees. This event laid the foundation for what became the biennial Black Summit and the National Brotherhood of Skiers (NBS).

The NBSWR attended and paid tribute to one of our Western Region founding clubs, All Seasons Ski & Snowboard Club in Oakland, CA. The NBS and NBSWR have recognized them for their service and commitment to promoting, enhancing, and providing recreational opportunities in Winter Snowsports within the African American and minority communities.

All Seasons Celebrated its 50th



Photo of All Seasons Ski & Snowboard Club

Photo credit: David Geiger

Anniversary with a fantastic summer-time outdoor BBQ event held on July 30, 2022, at the San Leandro Marina Park and was very well attended.

Lastly, the NBSWR has sold out its summer FunFest 2022 fundraising trip to Panama City, Panama, at the all-inclusive Westin Playa Bonita Resort, taking 104 travelers.

That's all for now, more to come.

Members of the NBS Western Region enjoying the Annual Banquet at the Portland Convention take time out to pose with the Mahre Brothers

Photo credit: Adam Bacher







## Chris Ciardi Northwest Ski Club Council



For the NWSCC, continuing virtual meetings is the way to go. We have members from all over the Pacific Northwest and Hawaii who cannot attend meetings in person; so virtual is our way of allowing participation from members everywhere. Planning for future speakers has already begun. If you have an idea, or want to speak, let me know.

Our Social Media presence is increasing memberships in our Facebook Group and Page. Many clubs continue to increase their presence as well, with the help of

FWSA Jump Start emails every Sunday. We continue to watch the statistics, to continue helping our Industry members and member clubs. We are advocates for all clubs (and their members), non-profits, and industry.

Our Racing League, PACRAT, continues with two groups of racers that were started during the pandemic (one week day, one weekend day). They took a vote and are listening to their racers that liked it. We just heard that it's going to be another La Niña ski season, which should make the skiing

and racing in the Pacific Northwest great.

NWSCC and PACRAT are participating in the Snowvana Ski Show November 18-20 at the Portland Convention Center. We are looking forward to meeting everyone in person again.

NWSCC is marketing the FWSA Ski Week in Jackson Hole/Snow King in January 2023. Our clubs are planning trips for the 2023 season. We continue updates to our website as trips are announced.



NWSCC members pose for a group photo with Phil & Steve Mahre at the Portland Convention

Photo credit: Adam Bacher





## Sheila Van Guilder Orange Council of Ski Clubs



Orange Council has had a good year with our clubs back to their regular activities. Activities range from water sports, volleyball, biking, tennis and, of course, winter sports.

Council clubs have trips planned to many different ski slopes this winter, **Fountain Valley Ski Club** has planned a trip to Park City, Utah for their annual event and they regularly hold Wow (Wednesdays on the Water) events to kayak or stand-up paddle board in Sunset Beach. Jim Ribalski is

the venerable leader of this enthusiastic group.

**Huntington Beach Ski Club** plans to go to Sun Valley, ID. For their annual ski trip. They also have many club activities planned along with their regular monthly meetings.

**Snowbounders Ski Club** has monthly dine-outs, luncheon meetings. They vary the restaurants they visit. Carol Kane will be holding a gala Christmas event in her home.

Orange Council will be holding one of their annual events on October 8th, and all club members are welcome. This is our 10th anniversary of this event and it is free to all. Jess will be barbecuing hamburgers and hot dogs for all. Please check the Orange Council website, <https://orangecouncil.org>, to make your plans to attend one of the many events listed by clubs and council.

Huntington Beach Ski Club members enjoying a "Blue Bird" day at Mammoth Mountain on one of their club trips

Photo credit: Maxine Hanlon



Left and right: Balboa Ski & Sports Club of Newport Beach has had a very active tennis program for many years. Members of all ages and ability levels enjoy the fun and exercise that the sport offers Photo credit: Maxine Hanlon





## Ira Lindenfeld

### San Diego Council of Ski Clubs



The San Diego Council of Ski Clubs is made up of seven active clubs. In addition, we have two new potential clubs that may fold into our Council. What this means is: we are growing! This is a great trend to increase our pool for skiing, boarding and travel.

Collectively, our Council clubs have a minimum of 17 ski trips planned for the upcoming ski season! This equates to

a great variety of terrain and skill level for all skiers and boarders. Several travel trips are under consideration which offer another variety of locale domestically and internationally for our skiers and non-skiers. We are fortunate and very grateful to have dedicated trip leaders willing to accept the challenges that currently exist.

To honor our Volunteer of the Year, we

transitioned from a Gala in November to offering four Happy Hours throughout the year. Our December Happy Hour will include announcement of our Council Volunteer of the Year. These Happy Hours are well attended and encourage members of all clubs to meet and get acquainted.

See you on the mountain!



North Island Snowdrifters End of Year Party

Photo credit: Lina Arnold

A Portugal River Barge Trip is scheduled for San Diego Council departing on October 4, 2023

Photo credit: SDCSC







## Jo Simpson Sierra League & Council



### Sierra League & Council Celebrates Mostly Normal Times



Reno Ski & Recreation Club members enjoy a patio happy hour

Credit: Sierra League & Council

Sierra held our annual picnic and general meeting September 17 in Tahoe Donner. The gathering provides an opportunity to catch up with ski friends we didn't see over the summer, enjoy good food, and get members excited for upcoming FWSA trips and activities.

Looking farther ahead socially, we soon will be announcing our annual holiday party for early December.

Our allocation for the Jackson Hole Ski Week is almost filled—in fact it was mostly filled shortly after we announced

the trip. We had several members who attended the FWSA's International Ski Week to Croatia this fall.

Our larger clubs have fully returned to their pre-pandemic social activity and meeting schedules.



Reno Ski & Recreation Club members enjoy a summer bike ride at Palisades ski resort

Photo credit: Sierra League & Council



Bobbie Beaudoin plays corn hole at a Reno Ski & Recreation Club campout at Washoe Lake State Park

Photo credit: Sierra League & Council





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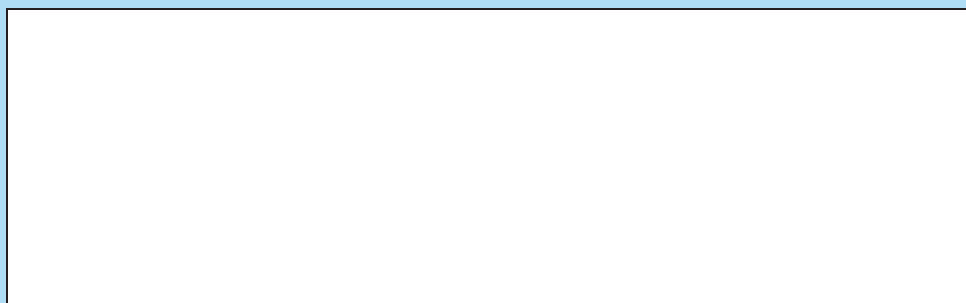


***Nick Cowell, Editor  
The Councilman***

***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. Changes in: club or council officers; membership addresses and phone numbers; members' club affiliations; club or council meeting location; or, requests for information from the database must be sent to the FWSA President, Linda Westlund at [president@fwsa.org](mailto:president@fwsa.org). The Far West Ski Association website at [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org) has a Ski Club Officer Update Form. Clubs can upload the [Officer Update Form for 2022-2023](#).***

***FOR COMPLETE INFORMATION OF FWSA, VISIT OUR WEBSITE***

***[www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org).***



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