

Spring 2018

THE COUNCILMAN



***86th Annual Far West Ski Association Convention
June 7-10, 2018***

Atlantis Casino Resort Spa, Reno, Nevada

Convention highlights p.4-11



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



Steve Coxen, President

Greetings,

Far West Ski Association was founded in 1930 as the California Ski Association. Today we are an association of 9 regional Councils in 12 Western states with 150 clubs and approximately 50,000 members.

Annual Convention: Now that ski season is drawing to a close it is time to focus on our upcoming 86th Annual Convention in Reno. The Convention will be co-hosted by the Bay Area Snow Sports Council and Sierra League and Council at The Atlantis Casino Resort Spa in Reno, Nevada June 7-10, 2018.

Debbi Kor is our new FWSA Convention Chair. Jane Wyckoff stepped down as chair but she still has a role in the administrative duties of the Convention. Debbi has assembled a terrific team who has some very exciting activities planned for us.

Optional activities will begin on Thursday with rafting on the Truckee River and the annual Pub Crawl in the evening. Friday's activities include the 12th Annual Michael German Golf Tournament, a Hike at Lake Tahoe, Spa Day, and Pool Party.

We will hold our annual Silent Auction Friday evening. The annual Silent Auction is a great opportunity to get exceptional bargains on trips – skiing and adventure. Saturday events include the Travel Industry Expo, three modules of our Snowsports Leadership Academy, two public affairs panel sessions, a racing seminar, and some very special guest speakers.

Check our website www.fwsa.org for complete information on the FWSA Convention activities and to download registration materials. Book your hotel room by May 17 to take advantage of the FWSA discount.

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Travel Opportunities: FWSA has an exceptional Travel Program that is well recognized in the national skiing community. We held our Annual FWSA Ski Week in Banff, Canada in January, a Mini Ski Week at Alyeska and Anchorage in February, and the Annual FWSA International Ski Week in Les Trois Vallees, Brides-les-Baines, France in March.

If you missed these trips there are more travel opportunities ahead in 2018. Our Annual FWSA Dive Trip will be to Grand Cayman in September. We also have a FWSA Adventure Trip to India in October 2018.

For 2019 our Annual Ski Week will be in Steamboat, Colorado in early February. The International Ski Week will be in Japan and the Mini Ski Week will be at Winter Park, Colorado in late March. We also have a Windjammer Cruise in the British Virgin Islands in May. And, that is just the first 5 months of 2019.

Communications: Our association uses a number of popular forums to reach out to our members and the public. We have our website at www.fwsa.org which is a wealth of information about FWSA. We update our website frequently. We have a **Facebook** page and we post videos of our conventions and travel on **YouTube**. FWSA has three publications. The annual ***Far West Skier's Guide*** is available in September and the digital version is linked to our website soon after publication. The ***Skier's Guide*** is distributed at Fall Ski Shows, to our members through our Councils, and at Certified Folder displays in select locations. We publish ***The Councilman*** in the Spring and the Fall. We also publish a ***Far West News Flash*** each month to people who have signed up to receive the newsletter. The Councilman and the News Flash are also available on our website.

It has been a privilege to serve as FWSA President for the past three years. I have enjoyed working with your Board of Directors, Council Presidents and Committee Chairs. They are truly a dedicated and hard-working group. Please show them your appreciation.

To all of you, I extend a heartfelt thank you for your contributions to the success of your clubs, councils and Far West Ski Association. If you are looking to get more involved in Far West please contact any member of the FWSA board and our committee chairs.

I look forward to seeing you at the 2018 Convention.

Steve Coxen, President, Far West Ski Association

"The Voice of the Western Skier"



86th Annual Far West Ski Association Convention

June 7 - 10, 2018

at the

Atlantis
CASINO RESORT SPA • RENO



Hosted by **Bay Area Snow Sports Council**
and **Sierra League & Council**

Atlantis Casino Resort Spa

3800 S. Virginia Street, Reno, NV 89502

Reservations <https://reservations.travelclick.com/98418?groupID=2016540>

or call **800-723-6500**, Group Name: **Far West Ski Association**

Room Rates per night plus tax single or double occupancy —

\$80 (Sun - Thurs) **\$129** (Fri and Sat)

Room Registration Deadline May 17, 2018

Hotel Features

- World Class Casino
- Forbes 4-Star Spa Atlantis
- Indoor & Outdoor Pools & Outdoor Whirlpool Spa
- 8 Award Winning Restaurants; 10 Bars & Lounges
- Atlantis Family Entertainment Fun Center
- NO Resort fees, FREE Wi-Fi in guest rooms, FREE Parking
- Rates are available 3 days pre and post Convention

Transportation

- Air transportation is via Reno-Tahoe International Airport, located just 15 minutes from the Atlantis
- The Atlantis offers free airport shuttle service (4:30 am - 12:15 am)

Convention Highlights

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

Optional Activities

- **Thursday**
 - Rafting
 - Pub Crawl
- **Friday**
 - 12th Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament
 - Hike at Lake Tahoe
 - Spa Day
 - Pool Party

Debbi Kor
FWSA Convention Chairperson
fwsadebbi@comcast.net
or 503.314.7078

Jeannine Davis
Silent Auction Chairperson
SilentAuction@fwsa.org
or 415.328.2333

Paul Vlasveld
BAC Host Council
Convention Coordinator
pvlaveld@comcast.net
or 408.314.4649

Jo Simpson
Sierra Host Council
Convention Coordinator
jo_simpson@sbcglobal.net
or 775.722.6468

A portion of the Silent Auction proceeds will benefit TBA.

www.fwsa.org



86th ANNUAL FAR WEST SKI ASSOCIATION CONVENTION Atlantis Casino Resort Spa • Reno, NV • June 7-10, 2018

"High Sierra Stampede"



Welcome FWSA Club Presidents and Convention Delegates:

Welcome to the Far West Ski Association's 86th Annual Convention – to be held in the Fun-Tastic city of Reno, Nevada, hosted by the Bay Area Snow Sports Council and Sierra League & Council.

Enclosed you will find the registration materials for the **Far West Ski Association's Convention**, Thursday through Sunday, **June 7-10, 2018** at The Atlantis Casino and Resort Spa, in Reno, Nevada.

Deadlines:

May 7, 2018 is the deadline for early registration of \$159, a savings of \$16. The price goes up to \$175 on May 8.

May 7, 2018 is the deadline for submission of ALL event fees. These include Thursday's Rafting on the Truckee River and the Reno Rumble Pub Crawl; Friday's 12th Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament, Hike at Lake Tahoe, and Spa Day at the Peppermill Spa and Casino. A FREE Pool Party is in the afternoon on Friday before evening events.

May 21, 2018 is the deadline for fees at \$175. Fees go up to **\$190** beginning May 22. Submit all forms and payments to: **FWSA Registrar, c/o Jean McCassey, 10635 Esmeraldas Dr., San Diego, CA 92124**

Economic Relief Program:

Again, this year, FWSA offers an *"economic relief"* program to provide a ski club the opportunity to send more delegates to the Convention. For every six (6) delegates that have paid the full registration package by the registration deadline of May 7, the club will receive a rebate of one (1) paid registration after the Convention (limit of one rebate per club).

Make Your Hotel Reservations NOW!:

Lodging at our group rate (double occupancy) is available at The Atlantis Casino Resort Spa. Per our contract, we have **NO RESORT FEES** and **FREE IN-ROOM WI-FI**. Refer to the enclosed flyer for the FWSA contracted room rates for our group. The Atlantis Casino Resort Spa is located at 3800 S. Virginia St., Reno, NV 89502, www.atlantiscasino.com. Make your reservations by calling 800-723-6500 or 775-825-4700, and give them our Group Name: **Far West Ski Association**. You can also book your room reservations on-line at our special FWSA site at: <https://reservations.travelclick.com/98418?groupID=2016540>. Make your room reservations before **May 17**, when the room block is released. **Once our room block is released, The Atlantis Casino Resort Spa will endeavor to take reservations for rooms after the cut-off date, but this will be subject to availability.**

Transportation Information:

Flights should be booked in and out of the Reno-Tahoe International Airport (RNO) located just 10 minutes from the hotel. The Atlantis Casino Resort Spa provides complimentary shuttle service to and from the airport. The shuttle runs every half hour. You can catch it out the double doors just past the Baggage Claim area on the lower level of the airport.

Theme – "High Sierra Stampede":

This year's Convention theme is *"High Sierra Stampede"* and features the Thursday evening Reno Rumble Pub Crawl and Friday evening Silent Auction and Trade Show. The Saturday Awards Banquet will be Black-Tie optional.

Contact Information:

Debbi Kor, FWSA Convention Chairperson: fwsadebbi@comcast.net or 503-314-7078

Jo Simpson, Sierra Host Council Convention Coordinator: jo_simpson@sbcglobal.net, or 775-722-6468

Paul Vlasveld, Bay Area Host Council Coordinator: pvasveld@comcast.net, or 408-314-4649

Jean McCassey, Convention Registrar jlmccassey@yahoo.com, or 858-560-8722

If you have any questions, please contact the appropriate person above. Welcome to the 86th Annual FWSA Convention!

Debbi Kor, Jo Simpson, Paul Vlasveld, Jean McCassey



Get Ready For “A High Sierra Stampede”

***By Debbi Kor
Convention Chairperson***

Bay Area Snow Sports Council and Sierra League and Council invite you to join them in the “Biggest Little City” - Reno, Nevada, this summer for the 86th Annual Far West Ski Association’s Convention. The event will be held June 7-10 at the beautiful Atlantis Casino Resort Spa.

These folks are planning some fun and exciting optional activities for those who want to get out and do something while in town. Kicking the weekend off, will be a wild and crazy raft trip down the Truckee River on Thursday. Mary Ann Mudge, of *Brian Head Resort*, is our host for this adventurous trip. Upon your return to the Atlantis, you’ll have time to fluff and buff before the “*Reno Rumble*” Pub Crawl. One of our most popular activities, the Pub Crawl will take us throughout the *Downtown Riverwalk District*. We’ll visit 3 spots: *Stick Sports Lounge*, *Silver Peak Grill & Taproom*, and *The Rack*, which has a 6-lane bowling alley, foosball, ping-pong, darts and arcade games to keep you all busy.

Our Friday activities include the 12th Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament, which will be held at the beautiful Lakeside Golf Course; a South Lake Tahoe Hike; and a Spa Day. When you return from all of these activities, head to the Atlantis’ outdoor pool for a fun-filled Pool Party, hosted by Central Council, and sponsored by Jackson Hole Mountain Resort. Pool-side games and refreshments will be available.

Friday evening will provide you plenty of time to visit with your friends at the Club Happy Hour, from 5:30-6:30 (snacks provided), prior to stepping into the ballroom for the 33rd Annual Silent Auction & Trade Show. This event begins at 6:30 and is open to the general public. It starts off with a sponsored Happy Hour until 8 pm, with each attendee receiving a coupon for a free beverage. All of your favorite, friendly ski industry partners will be on hand to help you choose a destination ski vacation for next year for you, your club, and your friends. Stop in and chat with a sales representative, a tour operator, or lodging partner to see what they have to offer. Take time to look over their event donation and bid on a great vacation package. The Silent Auction goes until 10:30 and will be followed by dancing to the sounds of DJ *Kevin Shea* until 11:00.

Saturday morning kicks off with a healthy Continental Breakfast, sponsored by Mammoth Mountain Ski Area. We will hear them talk about what’s new at Mammoth, and then we will have a short general session meeting to announce what all is happening for the day.

Continued on next page

Atlantis Casino Resort Spa, Reno, Nevada



The featured event on Saturday morning will be the Travel Expo, consisting of five 15-minute meetings with your favorite ski resort to talk about trips. At the end of the Expo, a raffle will be held for those who have completed all of their meetings. Grand Prize is a trip for one to *Steamboat Springs*, to our Annual Far West Ski Week, 2019.

Other events happening throughout the day, include three Snowsport Leadership Academy Sessions, and two Public Affairs Panels with guest speakers from the skiing community, U.S. Forest Service and others, as well as a Racing Seminar mid-morning. Saturday's Luncheon, sponsored by Vail Resorts, will provide an opportunity to catch up with others on what they have been doing all morning. The 2019 Convention will be held at The luncheon will be followed by a session with our Keynote Speaker (yet to be named).

The Awards Banquet will be held in the Grand Ballroom on Saturday evening, where we will announce the Far West Council's Man and Woman of the Year; Safety Person of the Year, Western Ski Heritage recipient, Environment Award winner, and other folks being recognized for their many contributions to the ski industry. All of this will be followed up with dancing to the sounds of *Sweet Success*, a Reno band.

Sunday morning, we will be holding our annual business meeting and elections, along with announcements of the winners of the Outstanding Club, Club and Council Communications. Charity and Our Community, and Club History Awards. We will have a sponsored Brunch mid-morning, as well as door prize give-away and finish up the business meeting before hearing from Orange Council of Ski Clubs, who will be our hosts in 2019, with Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs assisting them with volunteers. The 2019 Convention will be held at the beautiful Hyatt Regency in Indian Wells, California, June 13-16.

Please make your reservations early for lodging at the Atlantis Casino Resort Spa, www.atlanticcasino.com. Or, you can call 800-723-6500. Group name: Far West Ski Association. You can also make your reservations online: <https://reservations.travelclick.com/98418?groupID=2016540>. The room rate is \$80 Sun-Thurs. and \$129 for Friday and Saturday, which is good from June 4-13. Once our room block is released on May 17, the group rate is not guaranteed.

I look forward to seeing you all in Reno in June. Come early, stay late, and make the most of your week. Reno is an awesome city, with many things to do and see, and beautiful Lake Tahoe is just a half hour away.



86th ANNUAL FAR WEST SKI ASSOCIATION CONVENTION

Atlantis Casino Resort Spa • Reno, NV • June 7-10, 2018

"High Sierra Stampede" - Draft Schedule of Events



Thursday, June 7, 2018

8:30 am - 4:30 pm Rafting on the Truckee River - *Sponsored by Brian Head Resort*
 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm Delegate Registration - Delegate Bags *Sponsored by Reno Tahoe*, Neck Wallets - *Sponsored by Nancy Greene's Cahilly Hotel & Suites*, Delegate Book - *Sponsored by TBD*
 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm Industry Exhibitor Registration
 5:30 pm - 10:30 pm Reno Rumble Pub Crawl (Optional Event) - *Sponsored by Steamboat Ski & Resort Corporation*

Meet in Hotel Lobby
 Grand Foyer
 Registration Desk
 Grand Foyer
 Grand Foyer

Friday, June 8, 2018

6:30 am - 2:30 pm 12th Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament at Lakeridge Golf Course (Optional Event), Shotgun Start at 8:00 am - *Sponsored by Club Med*
 7:00 am - 6:00 pm Silent Auction Set Up
 7:30 am - 3:00 pm Hike at Lake Tahoe (Optional Event) - *Sponsored by TBD*
 9:30 am - 3:00 pm Spa Day - *Sponsored by Aspen/Snowmass*
 2:00 pm - 8:00 pm Delegate Registration
 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm Far West Ski Foundation Meeting (Invitation Only)
 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm Industry Registration and Set-Up
 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm Atlantis Outside Pool Party - *Sponsored by Jackson Hole Mountain Resort, Hosted by Central Council*
 4:45 pm - 5:00 pm Industry Exhibitor Meeting
 5:00 pm - 5:30 pm Convention 101 Meeting for New Convention Delegates
 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm Councils' Man & Woman of the Year Meeting (Invitation Only)
 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm Club Happy Hour
 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm Silent Auction Welcome Party - *Sponsored by Sports America Tours*, Beer *Donated by TBD*, Beer Service *Sponsored by TBD*, Wine by *TBD*, Wine Service *Sponsored by TBD*
 6:30 pm - 10:30 pm 33rd Annual Silent Auction & Snowsports Trade Show - Musical Entertainment by *Kevin Shea*, *Mobile DJ - Sponsored by TBD*
 10:30 pm - 11:00 pm Exhibitor Booth Breakdown

Meet in Hotel Lobby
 Grand Ballroom
 Meet in Hotel Lobby
 Meet in Hotel Lobby
 Grand Foyer
 Emerald A
 Grand Ballroom
 Outdoor Pool
 Grand Ballroom
 TBD
 FWSA Suite
 Promenade
 Grand Ballroom
 Grand Ballroom
 Grand Ballroom

Saturday, June 9, 2018

7:00 am - 12:00 pm Delegate Registration
 7:00 am - 8:00 am Continental Breakfast - *Sponsored by Mammoth Mountain Ski Area*
 8:00 am - 8:30 am FWSA General Meeting - Opening Session
 8:45 am - 10:25 am Travel Expo - Grand Prize - Far West Ski Week - *Sponsored by FWSA*
 8:45 am - 10:15 am FWSA Snowsports Leadership Academy - "Make Your Non-Profit Passion a Successful Reality" (*Dave Ludwig*)
 8:45 am - 12:15 pm Councils' Man & Woman of the Year Judging (Invitation Only) - Awards *Sponsored by Big White Ski Resort*
 10:30 am - 12:15 pm Bid Presentations - 2020 FWSA Ski Week (Invitation Only)
 10:45 am - 12:15 pm FWSA Snowsports Leadership Academy - "Knock Knock..Who's There to Take Over? Successful Succession Planning" (*Todd Hood*)
 10:45 am - 12:15 pm Public Affairs Panel & Guest Speakers
 10:45 am - 12:15 pm Far West Racing Seminar
 12:30 pm - 1:30 pm Luncheon & Awards Presentation - Luncheon *Sponsored by Vail Resorts*, Wine by *TBD*, Wine Service *TBD*, Beer *TBD*, Beer Service *TBD*, Western Ski Heritage Award *Sponsored by Steamboat Ski & Resort Corporation*, Safety Person of the Year Award *Sponsored by Telluride*, Environment Award *Sponsored by Aspen Skiing Company*
 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm Keynote Speaker - *Sponsored by Bike Tours.Com*
 2:40 pm - 4:00 pm FWSA Snowsports Leadership Academy - "I Want To Go On The Trip Too. Maximizing Travel of you Clients with Special Needs: (*Jane Guterrez*)
 2:40 pm - 4:00 pm Trip Leader Seminar
 2:40 pm - 4:00 pm Public Affairs Panel & Guest Speakers

Grand Foyer
 Grand Ballroom 1-4
 Grand Ballroom 1-4
 Grand Ballroom 5-7
 Emerald AB
 Treasures A
 Treasures CD
 Emerald AB
 Emerald C
 Treasures B
 Grand Ballroom 1-4
 Grand Ballroom 1-4
 Emerald AB
 Treasures CD
 Emerald C

Schedule of Events Continued on the Next Page

3/12/2018



86th ANNUAL FAR WEST SKI ASSOCIATION CONVENTION
Atlantis Casino Resort Spa • Reno, NV • June 7-10, 2018
"High Sierra Stampede" - Draft Schedule of Events



Saturday, June 9, 2018 (Cont'd)

4:15 pm - 5:30 pm Council Caucus - BAC / Sierra
 Intermountain / Northwest / Central / Direct Members
 LAC / Orange / San Diego / Arizona

6:30 pm - 7:00 pm Reception (No Host)

7:00 pm - 11:00 pm Awards Banquet & Dance *"High Sierra Stampede"* - *Sponsored by TBD*, Wine by *TBD*, Wine
 Hosted by *TBD*, Councils' Man & Woman of the Year *Sponsored by Big White Ski Resort*,
 Musical Entertainment by *"Sweet Success"* - *Sponsored by TBD*

Grand Ballroom 5
 Grand Ballroom 6
 Grand Ballroom 7
 Grand Ballroom 1-4
 Grand Ballroom 1-4

Sunday, June 10, 2018

7:00 am - 8:15 am Eye Opener - *Sponsored by FWSA & Hosted by Bay Area Snow Sports Council and Sierra
 League & Council*

8:30 am - 10:30 am FWSA General Meeting - Elections

10:30 am - 11:30 am Delegate Brunch - *Sponsored by TBD*, Outstanding Club & Council Awards, Club & Council
 Communication Awards, Charities Awards, Club History Award, Door Prize Giveaway

11:30 am - 1:00 pm FWSA General Meeting Continued

1:15 pm - 2:15 pm FWSA Board of Trustees and Board of Directors Meetings

FWSA Suite

Grand Ballroom 1-4
 Grand Ballroom 1-4

Grand Ballroom 1-4
 Grand Ballroom 5

Delegates are welcome to attend all events unless otherwise indicated. Participation in Travel Expo is encouraged for all club trip planners and board members. A Travel Expo Prize will be awarded only among those who participate. Other prizes will be awarded among all registered Convention delegates.



Beautiful Emerald Bay at Lake Tahoe



86th Annual FWSA Convention 2018

June 7-10, 2018, Atlantis Casino Resort Spa, Reno, NV



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES



\$105

Rafting on the Truckee River

Thursday, June 7, 2018, 7:30 am – 4:00 pm

Includes: Transportation, lunch, bottled water

Leader: John Walsh, johnwalsh37@sbcglobal.net

Sponsor: Brian Head Resort



\$59

Reno Rumble Pub Crawl

Thursday, June 7, 2018, 5:30 pm – 10:30 pm

Includes: Transportation, 4 drinks, hors d'oeuvres, dinner & dessert

Leader: Linda Russ, luss10@hotmail.com

Sponsor: Steamboat Ski & Resort Corporation



\$110

12th Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament

Friday, June 8, 2018, 6:30 am – 2:30 pm

Includes: Transportation, Green Fees & Cart at Lakeridge Golf Course, continental breakfast, lunch & awards

Leader: Bob Ellis, rellis9681@aol.com

Sponsor: TBA



\$33

Hike at Lake Tahoe

Friday, June 8, 2018, 8:30 am – 3:00 pm

Includes: Transportation, Subway sandwiches, granola bar, cookies & bottled water

Leader: Lauri Thompson, tahoeki10@yahoo.com

Sponsor: TBA



\$130

Spa Day at the Peppermill

Friday, June 8, 2018, 9:30 am – 3:00 pm

Includes: Facial or Massage (\$130), Manicure or Pedicure (\$78)

Leader: Jo Simpson, jo_simpson@sbcglobal.net

Sponsor: Aspen Skiing Company
Snowmass Tourism



Free

Pool Party

Friday, June 8, 2018, 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Includes: Fun and Games, snacks, 1 pool-side beverage

Leader: Fran Long (Central Council of California)

Sponsor: Jackson Hole Mountain Resort



Sign up for 2018 FWSA Optional Activities by **May 7, 2018** using the **Registration Form** or online at **fwsa.org**.



86th Annual FWSA Convention 2018

June 7-10, 2018, Atlantis Casino Resort Spa, Reno, NV

REGISTRATION FORM



Name _____
 Street/Apt. # _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Email _____
 Mobile Phone _____
 Ski Club _____
 Council _____

Delegate Status ☐ Voting ☐ Non Voting ☐ Alternate
☐ Guest ☐ FWSA Direct Member

Dietary Requirements ☐ Vegan ☐ Vegetarian ☐ Gluten Free

Except for your email address, which is not released, the information above will be provided to industry sponsors and donors to the Silent Auction. You may exclude your information from this list by checking this box. ☐

☐ **This is my first FWSA Convention**

Convention Packages (Fri: June 8 — Sun: June 10)

Full Package if paid by May 7, 2018 \$159 _____
 – \$175 after 5/7, \$190 after 5/21

Meetings Only (No meals or parties) \$50 _____

Saturday Travel Expo, Meetings & Lunch \$55 _____

Awards Luncheon Only (Must be purchased in advance) \$35 _____

Awards Dinner & Dance Only \$65 _____
 – Must be purchased in advance.

Extras

Full Delegate Book (All Reports) \$10 _____
 – Electronic copy available on fwsa.org

Convention Hat (Adjustable, fits all) ☐ Blue ☐ Black \$26 _____

Convention Visor (Adjustable, fits all) ☐ White ☐ Black \$20 _____

Optional Activities Priority given to Registered Delegates/Industry

Rafting on the Truckee River (Thurs: June 7) \$105 _____

Reno Rumble Pub Crawl (Thurs: June 7) \$59 _____

Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament (Fri: June 8) \$110 _____

Specify Handicap _____ OR Novice ☐ OR Last 3 Scores _____

☐ Need Transportation to the Golf Course

Club Rental: Left ☐ or Right ☐ Handed \$25 _____

Hike at Lake Tahoe (Fri: June 8) \$33 _____

Spa Day (Fri: June 8) ☐ Facial or ☐ Massage \$130 _____

☐ Manicure or ☐ Pedicure \$78 _____

GRAND TOTAL \$ _____

You can pay & register online at fwsa.org



You can also submit this form with your payment by May 7, 2018 to:

FWSA Convention Registrar

Jean McCasey
 10635 Esmeraldas Drive
 San Diego, CA 92124
Jlmccasey@yahoo.com
 858-560-8722

For additional information visit fwsa.org. **No refunds after May 7, 2018 deadline.**

Full Package Includes—

All FWSA business meetings, elections and panel sessions, convention pin, convention delegate book, hosted parties, 4 meals, complimentary beverages and activities.

• **Friday** - Pool Party, Silent Auction & Snowsports Trade Show

• **Saturday** - Continental Breakfast, General Meeting, Travel Expo, Awards Luncheon, Keynote Speaker presentation, Snowsports Leadership Academy, Public Affairs Panel, Racing Seminar, Cocktail Reception, Awards Banquet and Dance

• **Sunday** - Eye Opener, Buffet Brunch, FWSA Business Meeting & Elections

2018 FWSA Officer Elections

Steve Coxen, Nominations Committee Chairman

Elections for officers will occur at the Far West Ski Association Annual Meeting & Convention June 7-10, 2018, to be held at the Atlantis Casino Resort Resort Spa, Reno, Nevada. Voting will be held on Sunday, June 10. Delegates attending the convention will elect their President, Secretary and Treasurer to one-year terms and two Trustees to two-year terms. In addition, VP of Marketing, VP of International Travel, VP of Communications and VP of Membership will be elected to two-year terms. There are no By-Laws amendments currently proposed.

If you are interested in being a candidate for any of the above positions, please contact Steve Coxen, Nominating Committee Chairman, by email sacoxen2000@gmail.com. Qualified nominees for any of the open positions will be accepted up to the date and time of elections. All candidates must be members in good standing of FWSA.

FWSA Qualifications for Positions as approved by the Board of Directors are:

President:

1. Held a voting position on the FWSA Board for a minimum of four (4) years.
2. Attended at least three (3) FWSA conventions within the five (5) years prior to the current convention.
3. Attended at least one (1) North American Ski Week within the five (5) years prior to the current convention.

Treasurer:

1. Understanding of cost center accounting and GAAP (Generally Accepted Accounting Principles).
2. Working knowledge of MS Excel and QuickBooks or the current FWSA accounting software.
3. Held the Treasurer position in a FWSA ski club or council or has demonstrated equivalent job experience as an accountant who has done financial preparation and analysis.

Trustee:

1. Held a voting position on the FWSA Board a minimum of three (3) years.
2. Strong business, financial, and leadership skills.
3. Attended at least three (3) FWSA Conventions within the five (5) years prior to the current convention.

VP of International Travel and VP of North America Travel:

1. Must meet either a) or b) below:
 - a) Held the position of club or council "Trip Leader" and led a minimum of 2 trips of 25 or more people, or
 - b) Served as an FWSA Trip Leader, assistant Trip Leader, or FWSA Ski Week staff member for a minimum of two (2) trips.
2. Assisted as a volunteer on at least one trip related to this position.

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Desirable experience with the following:

- Standard accounting procedures
- California Seller of Travel Program
- Travel Budgeting generating an organizational profit
- Writing Requests for Proposals (RFP's), conducting a bid process, and writing and negotiating trip contracts
- May substitute other similar experience for any of the above

If elected to either VP of Travel position:

- *May not receive personal financial or other benefit as a result of being a club, council, or FWSA Trip Leader for an FWSA sponsored trip. For example— a trip leader who works as a tour operator or for a travel agency may not receive compensation or other benefit for their business or company. They may not use FWSA participant contact information as a source for their personal or business marketing.*
- *Will oversee all FWSA trips assigned to their Travel position and attend those trips unless an FWSA Trip Leader has been assigned to coordinate/run that trip.*

FWSA By-Laws, job descriptions and the Operations Manual are available on the FWSA website at www.fwsa.org. To find the link, click on the “About” tab, then click on the “Governance” tab. Declared candidates at the date of this publication are:

- President: **Gloria Raminha**
- Treasurer:
- Secretary: **Sheri Parshall***
- Trustee 1:
- Trustee 2:
- VP Marketing: **Debbi Kor***
- VP International Travel: **Debbie Stewart***
- VP Communications:
- VP Membership:

*** Incumbent**



All candidates will have access to space for flyers and election materials at the registration area and on the tables on Sunday. In addition, each will have the opportunity to speak to delegates (see the Convention Schedule of Events for time and location). The elections will be held during the general assembly on Sunday. The Nominating Committee Chairman will oversee elections. Members for an elections committee will be solicited at the Convention. All elections will be by secret ballot. Vote totals are confidential to the elections committee and records will be destroyed after verification by the committee and certified by a Trustee exercising oversight.



Cindy Krupp, VP Communications

We have a great team of dedicated volunteers that all contribute to keeping you informed and engaged in Far West Ski Association Activities.

Connie Burdette publishes *The Councilman* twice per year, and we have changed to an electronic format and are posted at <http://www.fwsa.org/MemberCorner/Publications/Councilman/Councilman.html> under Member Corner/Publications/Councilman. Leigh Gieringer published another beautiful *Far West Skier's Guide* this year and Debbi Kor puts together and sends out the *Far West News Flash* every month. If you want to be kept up on what FWSA is doing, sign up at <http://www.fwsa.org/MemberCorner/Publications/NewsFlash/NewsFlash.html> and enter your email address. You can also see current and past issues on that page. After talking to some people, we have realized that some of our new members are not aware of these great resources. Please make sure your councils and clubs are aware of these tools to keep them up to date and what is going on in the ski world!

George Stewart continues to produce more multimedia programs which are posted at <https://www.youtube.com/user/FarWestSkiAssoc>. In addition to the videos produced by George, we also have the videos posted from the 2017 FWSA Convention—you have got to check them out! We had some amazing speakers who talked about topics important to our leaders within our membership.

We are also looking for volunteers to help us post on *Facebook* and *Twitter*. Catherine Ohl, Randy Lew, and Steve Coxen have done a tremendous job of keeping us updated with the 2018 Winter Olympic stats, latest resort updates, and FWSA trip photos. Link into *YouTube* from <http://www.fwsa.org> to view the videos. Please remember to “like” what you see and enjoy so that others in your feed can see what fun they are missing out on!

Catherine Ohl is managing the website (<http://www.fwsa.org>) which is updated frequently. If you have any questions or comments about the website, please direct them to me at cindy.krupp@gmail.com.

We are also working on improving our *PayPal* features to include payment options for more trips, services, etc. As a reminder, FWSA Connect, Far West's interactive portal located at <https://www.connect.fwsa.org> continues to include not only Far West trips and online payment options, but also Council and Club trips are posted there too. Remember to Login with your credentials once you get to the site to see the updated events and activities. All of the councils and clubs hosting trips they want to advertise are encouraged to post them. To post, trips leaders will need to create an account on FWSA Connect and then let me know to add them to the list of members authorized to post trips—probably the most reliable way to contact me is to send an email to cindy.krupp@gmail.com with the subject “FWSA Connect Help Needed”. Once authorized, you can post, update and remove your trips. You can upload fliers and brochures, as well as links to websites with more information. We look forward to seeing your trips on FWSA Connect!

If you have any other questions, comments or feedback, please let me know!



[Wilbur D. May Museum at Rancho San Rafael Regional Park](#)



Jo Simpson, VP Council Services

Council Presidents Build on Success of Simplified Club and Council Communications Awards Applications Announce New Committee Chairs

The significant changes to the Club and Council Communications and Outstanding Club Awards for 2017 greatly increased submissions, so we are continuing them this year. We also made further changes to the Outstanding Club application to eliminate some redundant items.

We also are continuing having a panel of judges recruited by the council presidents so that clubs do not have to provide a judge to enter. We are grateful for Cindy Krupp and Paul Vlasveld continuing as program co-chairs again this year.

We have a new Councils' Man and Woman of the Year chair, Sheri Parshall. She has made some enhancements to the application form and has some fun ideas for the Friday evening reception for nominees and their guests. We continue to be grateful to Big White for sponsoring the award with a free trip for the winning candidates. We are building on increasing the recognition of all the council nominees at the convention by having them seated at a special table at the Saturday convention lunch with Big White representative Katie Balkwill. They will be recognized in the convention delegate book again this year.

We also have a new Family and Youth program chair. Linda Coxen has assumed that role and is looking at refreshing the program which has been dormant for a while.

Sigrid Novak works tirelessly to encourage clubs and councils to support charities and community service projects.

I am grateful to my fellow council presidents for their support and dedication to their jobs. They represent their clubs' interests on the FWSA Board of Directors and promote FWSA programs to their clubs. We represent the grassroots of the organization on the Board of Directors.



Annecy Boat Tour



City of Annecy

Debbie Stewart, VP International Travel

There is always more to see, do and learn while exploring international destinations with a group. While sharing the experience, you learn from your fellow group travelers, share your perspectives and experiences and expand your, travel horizons while enjoying every moment. It enhances your journey. We were able to visit many popular locations with a group which enables you to skip the long lines, so you can enjoy many sites in a short period of time. You may learn of the legends, forests, castles, timbered home and cobblestone streets in fairy tale villages, yet they are real-life stories and places while the magic still awaits.

2018 Int'l Ski Week in

Les Trois Vallees/Brides-les-Bains

Meribel, Courchevel, Val Thorens...Oh My! We customized this trip with *Holidaze Ski Tours* which was above and beyond standard tours. This trip was so successful that we oversold our primary hotel and were fortunate to acquire a second lodging property to accommodate the additional participants. Unlike the normal European lodging and meal package, were able to make special arrangements for all 113 of our members to have dinner together at the Grand Mercure Hotel des Thermes. Our diverse group came from 8 U.S. states and 2 from Europe, flying from 8 different airports. We had 38% of the participants as a first timer on a FWSA international trip. Although large, the groups for both Ski Week and the Extension trip were orderly, respectful, timely, cohesive and very fun.

Brides-les-Bains is a charming quaint village where many took walks, browsed in shops, went snow-shoeing or simply enjoyed the beauty of the location.

The hotels were centrally located which provided an easy walk to the ski lockers, equipment rentals and a gondola to Meribel where you could ski anywhere from there. We had excellent snow conditions, lots of skiable terrain with many groomed runs and plenty of off-piste slopes for those avid skiers who hiked up hill for the exceptional ski runs. Several skiers enjoyed the daily live entertainment on the hill at the Folie Douce, including musicians, dancers, actors and a joyful party scene.

Midweek, we offered an optional day tour to Annecy. It is the largest city of Haute-Savoie department in the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region in southeastern France. It lies on the northern tip of Lake Annecy, 35 kilometers (22 miles) south of Geneva. Annecy sits along a beautiful lake in which the water is very clean and flows to the Rhone river. It is often referred to as the "Venice of the Alps" since it has several waterways flowing through both the old and new city.

Annecy was a settlement from the time of the Romans and was the court of the counts of Geneva from the 10th century. It passed to the counts of Savoy in 1401 and in 1444, it became the regional capital of the provinces of Genevois, Faucigny, and Beaufortain. With the advance of Calvinism, Annecy became a center for the Counter-Reformation, the old Bishopric of Geneva being transferred to it in 1535. During the French Revolution, the Savoy region was conquered by France. Annecy became attached to the department of Mont Blanc, whose capital was Chambéry. When Savoy was sold to France

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in 1860, it became the capital of the new department of Haute-Savoie.

After lunch, we regrouped for a scenic boat ride on Lake Annecy which was a highlight enjoyed by all. The majestic mountains with the crystal-clear skies matching the beautiful blue waters are images that will be remembered forever.

We concluded our ski week in Les Trois Vallees where some traveled home, some traveled elsewhere and 54 of us appreciated the extension trip to Lyon, Beaune and Paris. We learned that Lyon is a very beautiful city and is the second largest city in France which had much to offer any tourist or local. We were given a city tour sharing the lay of the land and getting us acquainted with this very interesting city. It is in the country's east-central part at the confluence of the rivers Rhône and Saône, which made it easy landmarks to navigate our way around. The city is known for its cuisine and gastronomy, and historical and architectural landmarks. Lyon is an epicurean's delight with many restaurants, brasseries and bistros where excellent eating, drinking, and people watching is a favorite past time.

Part of it is registered as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Lyon was historically an important area for the production and weaving of silk. Economically, Lyon is a major center for banking, as well as for the chemical, pharmaceutical, and biotech industries. The city contains a significant software industry with a focus on video games, and in recent years has fostered a growing local start-up sector. The next day we went to the Domain du Clos St Marc winery where we were given a tour, tasted their delicious wines and were treated to a specialty lunch. We left with our tummies full and beverages to enjoy later.

We left Lyon and rode the bus through the legendary wine country trail heading to Beaune. Beaune is a quaint town known as the Burgundy Capital of the World which specializes in Chardonnay and Pinot Noir wines. We toured the huge Hotel-Dieu/Hospices of Beaune which is a hospital funded by donations and an annual wine auction. Many of the wealthy would donate to the hospital for the poor to save their souls. We also

toured the famous La Moutarderie Fallot mustard factory and museum, while tasting several varieties of specialty gourmet mustards. We then experienced another wine tasting in the cave of the Bouchard Aine & Fils winery. Our guide was very knowledgeable giving us the background of the winery and various skills to identify the characteristics of their unique wines. We enjoyed all their wines including their very special Grand Cru.

Then off to Paris we went...passing beautiful countryside scenery until we entered the outskirts of Paris when we were greeted by the amazing view of the Eiffel Tower. Yes...we are really here! We arrived at our hotel which was conveniently located near the Metro and an easy walk to the Eiffel Tower. Many went off to explore the city by visiting museums, cultural activities, restaurants and more. Once again, our guide Odile was very knowledgeable and provided much information and history with such a pleasant sense of humor. We had a full day tour of Paris highlights including the Notre Dame Cathedral and a lovely boat ride on the Seine on a warm sunny day. We lucked out with the weather until our last day in Paris when the clouds came in, it began to rain, and the rain turned into snow! I said we brought the snow with us from Les Trois Vallees, but Paris is stunning wind, rain or shine.

2017 8th Annual Dive trip to Roatan, Honduras

35 FWSA members received warm greetings attending the dive and adventure trip in Roatan, Honduras. We discovered Roatan's pristine reef yet increased development that allows current visitors to enjoy paved roads, well-stocked supermarkets, medical clinics, phone and wireless internet access but the island is still a small, tropical paradise...and one of the best-kept secrets in the Caribbean.

The Mayan Princess Resort was the perfect Caribbean paradise getaway for both the

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Debbie Stewart - Continued from page 17

scuba divers and those that just came to relax and enjoy an amazing vacation. Many are already planning on next year's trip to Grand Cayman.

2018 9th Annual Dive trip to Grand Cayman

We have been coordinating with Roatan Charter, Inc. for next year's trip, September 15-22, 2018. Trip registrations are now being processed for another exciting scuba dive and non-diver trip. The Cobalt Coast Resort property is a PADI and SSI Certification and Instructional Dive Resort and features many resort amenities. Don't hesitate...sign up today by contacting our dive trip leader, Randy Lew at: FWSA13Randy@telis.org

2018 India Adventure trip – October 5-21, 2018

We are pleased to offer FWSA's next adventure trip to India. Our members have spoken, and we listened. Alpine Adventures is our tour operator for this trip and we are currently sold out and taking names for the waiting list.

We will be enjoying the magic of India and experience the melting pot of cultures while visiting the "Must-See" attractions in Delhi, Jaipur and Agra where the Taj Mahal proudly stands. To get away from the hustle & bustle of the big cities, we'll venture to the countryside to visit a charming tea plantation, the Ranthambore National Park, enjoy 2 animal safaris eventually ending up in the Kerala Region where we'll cruise on the backwaters of the southern end of the country. We will even stay overnight on a houseboat!

All our lodging will be 4 and 5-star accommodations and it will be exciting to visit the world's sacred places – temples, churches and hallowed ground. It is a way of

connection with different cultures as well as yourself.

2019 Int'l Ski Trip to Hakuba Valley, Home of the 1998 Nagano Olympics

Many FWSA members have Japan on their bucket list...and we are going there March 2019! We are finalizing details with Holiday Ski Tours. The tentative dates are March 9-16 (departing the US March 8th) for the Int'l Ski Week with an extension trip March 16 – 21, 2019.

Hakuba Valley Ski Resort area has 9 ski resorts to choose from and is where the 1998 Olympics were held. They are known for some of the greatest powder skiing in the world. They call it JAPOW. You will have some of the best skiing in the world with a mountain guide on the 1st day of skiing, as well as enjoy such a rich and unique culture that spans thousands of years. Japan offers something for everyone, whether it is deep powder skiing, long winding groomed skiing, or just sightseeing in some of the ancient temples, or the Wild Monkey habitat, there is something to please everyone here.

Our guide will escort us to Kanazawa, Kyoto and Tokyo. We will visit many attractions that include Buddhist temples and Shinto shrines, cobblestone streets with old wooden buildings housing shops that sell samurai swords and kimonos, the glimpses of clip-clopping geishas. These will be memorable experiences for a life time as we refresh, engage and build intimacy with our dreams, goals and culture.

As FWSA VP of Int'l Travel, I realize that your vacation days are precious. The best ones are those that leave you feeling recharged, feeling inspired and feeling that

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your explorations are worthwhile. Ones that your most cherished souvenirs are those that can bring you the grandest memories.

What's Ahead...A lot! Mark your calendars now!

2020 Int'l Ski Trip to Davos, Switzerland and extension trip TBD

2020 Int'l Adventure trip to Croatia – details TBD

For updates or information on FWSA International Travel Program:

Debbie Stewart at:

FWSAIntlTrvl@prodigy.net

Cell – 559/737-0882

Website: www.fwsa.org

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



Debbie Stewart and Wanda Ross



Debbie during Apres Presentation



Ken Pace and Armand Gutierrez



*Chris Kramar, Pirate Actor
and Terry Powers*



Charlann Boesch and Dale Olesberg



Paul Tidball and Margaret Mallory



Dale Olesberg



Group at Eiffel Tower



Debbi Kor, VP of Marketing and Sponsorship

...And, It's Still Snowing by Debbi Kor

What an incredible ski season this has been. What began as a rather “iffy” year for snow, and snow sports, turned out to be another wonderful year. Snow is still coming down in some areas! Far West made themselves visible in so many places throughout the season, including: **Brundage Mountain, Alyeska, Telluride, Snowbird, Alta, Aspen, Vail, Park City, Silver Star, Sun Peaks, and Mammoth**, just to name a few places. We have skied, we have snow boarded, and enjoyed ourselves in so many outside activities. Thank you to all our industry partners who provided us with an awesome time, and, to the Snow Gods who provided some incredible snow!

Ski Week 2018, which took place in **Banff, Alberta** was fantastic! The weather was chilly, but once you got used to it, it was okay, and it even warmed up by week’s end. Steve Pampel and Megan Shaffer did an awesome job, along with Sandy Gaudette, of *SkiGroup.Net*, in making sure our group had a super time while they were in Banff. Our awesome Far West Travel Staff did a great job, as always, in putting everything together for our group. Thank you, as well, to the many local businesses in Banff, who generously provided the many door prizes for the Welcome Party including: *Abominal Sports, Bison Restaurant, Park Distillery, Wild Bill’s, Elk & Oarsman, Banff Avenue Brew, Aardvaark Pizza, Banff Grizzly House, Old Spaghetti Factory, and Saltlik Steakhouse*.

Sandy Blackwell, along with a little help from other council members, sold raffle tickets for the Far West Athletic Scholarship Program. The prize, again this year, was a **Karbon** ski outfit, which the winner will choose from a catalog of next season’s designs. A total of \$1,900 was raised for the Scholarship Fund throughout the week, culminating in the give-away on Friday night at the Farewell Reception and Awards Presentation. Congratulations to this year’s winner, Debbie Stewart, of Sierra Council, and our own V.P. of International Travel. Many thanks to **Schure Sports** for their continued support and generous donations to Far West Ski Association. This is the 14th year that they have donated to the Athletic Scholarship Program.

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The Riverwalk District--Reno's New Downown

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Typically, about this time of year, we all start thinking of Springtime activities. However, with the snow still falling in a lot of places we may be extending that ski time a little longer. Please plan on joining us in Reno, Nevada, June 7-10 for our 86th Annual Far West Convention, at the ***Atlantis Casino Resort Spa***.

This will be the first time that Far West has held a convention at the Atlantis. The event will be hosted by *Bay Area Snow Sport Council and Sierra League and Council*. Jo Simpson and her crew, along with Paul Vlasveld and many members of BAC have been hard at work planning all the fun activities and events for us.

We are looking forward to a fun-filled day of rafting on the Truckee River, followed by the “*Reno Rumble*” *Pub Crawl* on Thursday evening. Sierra Council has some great stops for us to take advantage of. On Friday, we will be holding the *12th Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament*, at the Lakeside Golf Club, and we will have a leisurely hike in South Lake Tahoe, and for those who want to be pampered, we will have a Spa Day at the Peppermill. Once everyone returns from their adventurous day, they can join in the always-fun Pool Party, which will be held at the Outdoor Pool of the Atlantis, hosted by Central Council.

We will have many of our industry partners joining us in the Silent Auction and Trade Show on Friday night and the Travel Expo on Saturday morning, ensuring that our major fund raiser, continues to be the huge success that it always is. Come join us in *The Biggest Little City* of Reno, and see what the town has to offer!



Jane Gutierrez, VP of Membership

It is a pleasure for the sixth year as VP of Membership to coordinate another interesting and provocative Snowsports Leadership event during the “High Sierra Stampede” at the Far West Ski Association Convention. Last year our board of directors wanted to increase the amount of sessions from two to three and this progression was well received. We also recorded and placed on our website the sessions for everyone to see, review, and to use in their organizations.

This year, the Snowsports Leadership Academy continues to be more innovative and useful for clubs professionally and personally. Education begins on Friday, June 8th at 5:00 PM with Convention 101 orientation. This session is brief but full of information about the weekend and I will be available for questions during this time.

On Saturday, June 9th, the Academy will begin, where topics related to help clubs and councils are presented with time for questions afterward. The first session at 8:45 AM is “Make Your Non-Profit Passion a Successful Reality” with guest speaker David F. Ludwig, CPM. David founded Hope on The Slopes and Ski and Ride for a Cure. David will lead a “fireside chat” about the steps that it takes to turn a dream idea of a non-profit into a successful reality.

The second session beginning at 10:45 AM will be presented once again by our own Todd Hood, who will be talking about “Knock, Knock...Who’s There...To Take Over? – Succession Planning for Success”. This is a topic that is vital to talk about because we all need to preserve our love for our organizations by finding people who will move it forward with proper guidance.

After lunch and our keynote speaker, our last session at 2:45 PM will be about an issue that has affected me in a personal way. “Maximizing Travel Opportunities for Members with Special Needs” is a panel session where key speakers will talk about how they maximize the comfort and enjoyment of passengers with special needs and how they minimize emergencies.

Once again, these sessions will be recorded and placed on our website for future review. Looking forward to spending time with all of you this June!

Italy Bike & Barge FAM Trip

by Steve Coxen, FWSA President

Girolibero sponsored a Bike & Barge FAM Trip to Council trip leaders the last week of March 2018. This trip was offered to all FWSA Councils and four Councils (Northwest, Bay Area, Central, and Intermountain) sent 19 participants. Our boat was the “Ave Maria” with 17 cabins and a capacity of 34 people.

We had a very experienced crew which included our guide Helmut, boat captain Riccardo, chefs Alberto & Cristina, and engineer Federico. These people were very helpful and fun to travel with. Alberto & Cristina prepared wonderful and unique Italian cuisine for us each night of the trip.

We boarded “Ave Maria” in Venice on Saturday, March 24 with a guided walking tour of this beautiful and historic city the next day. Our week long journey would take us along the Po River, arriving in Mantova on March 31. Our bike rides ranged from 25 to 40 km each day. This tour was mainly flat so even novice cyclists would not feel overwhelmed. Some of us had e-bikes which are an advantage on hills or if it is windy. Our weather was exceptionally good for March.



*Bicycle tour on the Island of Lido.
Venice in the distance*

On Monday our boat stopped on the island of Murano and we had a tour of “Gino Mazzucatto” one of the Murano’s famous glass factories. Then we biked on the islands of Lido and Pellestrina, across the “lagoon” from Venice. We docked in Chioggia for the night. Chioggia is often referred to as “Little Venice.”

During the week our bike rides took us through small towns along the river like the city state of Ferrara which attracted architects, artists and scholars for centuries. Ferrara is dubbed the “Cycling Capital of Italy.”

We had overnight stops in Adria, Zelo and Mantova. The cycling trip from Zelo to Mantova took us through the heartland of Grana Padano (the arch-rival of Parmesan) and a tour of a cheese factory, then on to the village of Bergantino, home of the distinctive Museum of Fairground Rides. After lunch we followed the Po River to Ostiglia, famed for its medieval fortress. Our final days on the boat included a trip to Girolibero’s corporate offices in Vicenza and a guided tour of Montova.

All of the participants on this trip are committed to helping to organize future Bike & Barge trips through Girolibero for their club or council. Please contact me if you would like more information about this trip at president@fwsa.org.



Our group on a tour of the Castle Estense in the city of Ferrara with cycling guides Giovanni (squatting) and Helmut (far right)



The Ave Maria



Canal in Venice

*Basilica di San Marco in
Piazza San Marco,
Venice*



*Participants Maggie Parkinson,
Sheri Parshall with our Girolibero host
Giulio Vallortigara having a refreshment
in Chioggia*



Sagebrush -
State flower of Nevada

Nancy Ellis, VP of North American Travel

2018 BANFF SKI WEEK, ALBERTA CANADA

We had a fantastic week at Banff this year! The snow arrived as people set foot in Calgary, so people enjoyed a great week of skiing. There was so much to do--checking out the many restaurants and shops, going on ice walks, racing, skiing at three areas—Mt. Norquay, Sun Shine, and Lake Louise, ice sculptures, bowling, sightseeing gondola to the top of Sulphur Mountain, hots springs and more.

Many people made this a successful ski week: Steve Pampel and Megan McCullough, ***SkiBig3***; Sandy and Phil Gaudette, ***Skigroup***; Hilary Urquhart, ***Banff Park Lodge***; Jason Connell, ***Lake Louise Ski Resort***; Craig Schade, ***Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel***; Elizabeth Lewis, ***Canadian Rockies Public Schools***; and Nikki & Laura, ***Groups at Lake Louise Resort***. Thank you to our Council Trip Leaders and Ski Week Staff for all their work throughout the year to prepare for the ski week: Linda Johnston and Bill Behnke, Arizona; Gail Burns, BAC; Fran Long, Central; Sandy Blackwell, LAC; Barbara Bousum, Northwest; Jess Gorman, Orange; Alan Godwin, San Diego; Debbie Stewart, Sierra; Wayne Stolfus, Sitzmarkers; Marilyn Sigler, Events; Ken Calkins, Photographer; Bob Ellis, Racing; Lynnell Calkins, Lodging; Mary Alexander, Registration; Gloria Raminha, Transportation.

We are most appreciative to the following Banff merchants for their generous donations: ***Abominal Sports; Bison Restaurant; Park Distillery; Wild Bill's; Elk & Oarsman; Banff Ave. Brew; Aardvaark Pizza; Banff Grizzly House; Old Spaghetti***; and ***Saltlik Steakhouse***.

We will be having bid presentations at the Reno Convention for 2020 Ski Week. Two representatives from each FWSA Council and FWSA board members will be invited to these bid presentations and will bring the information back to councils for their review and selection where the ski week should be held. The FWSA Board of Directors will make the final decision and announce the location following the July FWSA Board of Directors meeting.

2018 MINI SKI TRIP—ALYESKA RESORT/ANCHORAGE IDITAROD START

Forty-one people went to ***Alyeska Ski Resort*** for five days and then traveled to Anchorage for the start of the 2018 Iditarod Races. This trip was about two weeks after the Banff Ski Week and again, it started snowing as we arrived, bringing about two feet of fresh snow, making for some great powder skiing.

People had so many things to choose from and we had people take part in all that was available: skiing/boarding; sightseeing gondola to the top of Mt. Alyeska for the fantastic views of the region; heli-sightseeing

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over the many glaciers; dog-sledding; ice walks; wildlife tours; shopping; and hot-tubbing. We had get-togethers each night to share the activities of the day and to plan for the next day. We headed to Anchorage after 5 days in Alyeska and stayed at the **Hotel Captain Cook** in the heart of the start of the Iditarod. We watched 67 mushers and their dog teams take off for their ceremonial starts. There was so much energy in the dog teams! We even had people in our group run with the reindeer, a local fundraising event.

Thank you, Mike Hibbard and Gretchen Muller, **Sports America Tours** and Gloria Raminha, FWSA Trip Leader for putting on a great trip. Everyone had a wonderful time!

2019 STEAMBOAT SKI WEEK—FEBRUARY 2--9, 2018

Our ski week next year will be to Steamboat. Nearly \$30 million in on-mountain improvements have taken place since we were last in Steamboat. There is enhanced terrain to challenge all levels of ability, faster and more comfortable chairlifts, more restaurant options, high-tech snowmaking, and much more. Several bars, restaurants, and stores have been added in downtown Steamboat as well as a new music venue.

The mountain boasts almost 3,000 total acres, 165 trails 18 lifts, and 3 terrain parks. Whether you enjoy skiing trees, cruisers, bumps, glades, or chutes, Steamboat has something for everyone.

Council Trip Leaders and FWSA Travel Staff went on a site inspection to Steamboat recently and trip information and pricing will be available soon for those interested in signing up for the Steamboat trip. Contact one of the following Council Representatives or check the Far West Ski Association website, www.fwsa.org for more information:

Arizona	Ke Sumiec	(480) 297-9180	kensumiec@cox.net
BAC	Gail Burns	(650) 255-7883	gailburns@earthlink.net
Central	Mary Alexander	(661) 487-0590	maryalexander0535@sbcglobal.net
LAC	Sandy Blackwell	(818) 441-6191	sandyblack976@gmail.com
Northwest	Barbara Bousum	(503) 224-3584	travel@swskiers.org
Orange	Jess Gorman	(714) 743-6521	ejessgorman@gmail.com
San Diego	Alan Godwin	(619) 663-6626	alan@skiclub.us
Sierra	Jo Simpson	(775) 722-6468	jo_simpson@sbcglobal.net

Thanks to Mike Hibbard and Gretchen Muller, **Sports America Tours**; Larry Young, **Steamboat Resort**; and the lodging properties **Bronze Tree**; **Canyon Creek**; **Dulany**; **Eagle Ridge Lodge & Townhomes**; **Kutuk**; **La Casa**; **Snowflower**; **The Lodge at Steamboat**; **The Ranch**; and **Timber Run** for hosting us at the site inspection March 24—27.

ISLAND WINDJAMMER CRUISE—MAY 19-26, 2019

We are excited to offer an adventure trip cruising the British Virgin Islands on a 7-day cruise visiting the islands of Virgin Gorda, Norman Island, Cooper Island, Jost Van Dyke, and Tortola and all the adventures those islands have to offer. Prices range from \$1,800--\$2,300 pp/double occupancy. Cruise price includes all port taxes, meals, beer, wine, and soft drinks. Air fare to Tortola must be booked separately by individual, arriving on Tortola no later than Saturday, May 18th. First 24 to sign up! \$500 pp deposit required to reserve. Contact Sheri Parshall at cougskier@aol.com; 503-706-0522.

Looking forward to seeing you on one of the Far West North American ski trips! Contact Nancy Ellis at fwsatravelnancy@sbcglobal.net or www.fwsa.org for updates on the FWSA North American Travel Program.



Paula Hazzard, VP Public Affairs

Altera Mountain Company, is a name that all snow enthusiast will be hearing about in years to come. The company owns and operates a range of recreation, hospitality, real-estate development, food and beverage and retail businesses. Headquartered in Denver, Colorado with destinations across the continent, they are rooted in the spirit of the mountains and united by a passion for outdoor adventure. Snow locations include: Aspen/Snowmass, Steamboat, Winter Park Resort; Squaw Valley/Alpine Meadows, Mammoth Mountain, June Mountain, Big Bear Mountain Resort; Stratton; Snowshoe; Tremblant, Blue Mountain; Deer Valley Resort; CMH Heli-Skiing & Summer Adventures, Alpine Aerotech; along with Honua Kai Resort and Spa. Most recently, Altera has unveiled a \$555 Million Dollar Capital plan investing in its portfolio of 12 mountain resorts over the next five years.

Vail Resorts Management Company, another VERY familiar name, (Crested Butte, Brighton, Grand Tetons, Wilmont, Beaver Creek, Breckenridge, Park City, Heavenly, Keystone, Afton Alps, Kirkwood, Northstar, Rocket Resorts, and Vail) recently announced that Resorts of the Canadian Rockies (RCR) with 6 ski resorts across Canada, will join in a long term alliance beginning with the 2018-2019 winter season. Also participating with Vail Resorts with another long term alliance

is Japan's largest mountain resort regions –the nine ski resorts located in Hakuba Valley.

Season pass face-off begins Epic Vs. Ikon. The New Ikon Pass, Altera Mountain Company came out first, followed by the Epic Pass from Vail Resorts. Here are just a few of the differences.

The two passes compete for short-term business. Each offers free skiing and snowboarding at so-called “partner resorts” for limited periods. The **Epic Pass**, which is now 10 years old, offers unlimited skiing and riding at 15 resorts – 13 in the U.S., one in Canada (Whistler Blackcomb) and one in Australia (Perisher). The **Ikon Pass**, debuting in 2018-2019, offers unlimited access to 12 resorts that Alterra, just formed this past season, owns and/or operates. That includes eight in the West, three in the East and one in Canada (Tremblant).

To learn which pass works best for you is to scour the list of resorts under each pass, and decide which ones are on your favorites’ list. Both passes split out with unlimited access, local alternatives and short-term free access – plus a few side perks. Each pass has some non-mountain savings, such as retail, lodging and food discounts.

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Ski Museums of the World.....In nearly all skiing countries of the world such as China, Slovenia, Spain, and the United Kingdom, there are museums devoted to skiing history. The Norwegian Ski Museum has existed for 80 years, and even before its opening in 1923, there had been ski artifacts on exhibit as far back as 1655. The museums are not all of a kind. Some are devoted solely to the preservation of skiing material, other are part of a small, local museum, yet others offer a section of a vast collection of folk history. Great Idea to add to your 5 favorite activities when traveling in foreign cities. <https://www.skiinghistory.org/resources/ski-museums-world>.

North Americans first 8 passenger chairlift being installed. Big Sky Resort plans to install North Americas first eight –passenger chairlift. The “Ramcharger 8” will be a deluxe Doppelmayr D-line High Speed lift featuring heated seats and blue bubbles. The new lift will replace the existing Ramcharger high-speed quad.

SeniorsSkiing.com an online magazine for 50+ Snow Enthusiasts. Jon Weisberg in his 62nd consecutive season of skiing, making him 72 years old along with long-time friend and college frat brother Mike Maginn who also started skiing in the 60’s, (with the long, skinny skis) started an online magazine: www/seniorsskiing.com. Valuable discounts along with many snow specials are listed in the site. Free to sign up!



The Village at Squaw Valley

ANNUAL HOT AUGUST NIGHTS, RENO, NV.



Bob Ellis, VP Racing

Racing Report by Bob Ellis

This has been a challenging year for snow, but now we seem to be getting snow in waves in the Tahoe area. We have completed a few races, and plan to have the FWRA Championships at Mammoth Mountain on April 4-6, 2018. On Friday April 4th, we will be having 2 race clinics, and the Pacesetter Races, and registration. On Saturday, we will have the slalom races and Silent Auction in the Sierra Room in the Mammoth Mountain Inn, and on Sunday we will have the GS races and final awards presentation.

The races at Ski Week at Lake Louise went off with great snow conditions and nice long GS runs. The Awards for Ski Week were the Phoenix Ski Club winning the Joe Ross Award for the most points per club for the week, Cabernet Ski Club was second, and Scottsdale Ski Club was third. Sierra Council won the Lake Louise All Councils Award for the most points per League, Arizona was second, and Los Angeles Council was third.

The Council Challenge Race was cancelled due to too much snow on Thursday, which most skiers did not have a problem with as they got to ski in knee deep powder instead of racing.

Next year, ski week will be at Steamboat Ski Area, and we will plan on having 2 GS races and the Council Challenge Dual GS Race, and hopefully some nice powder.



Sigrid Noack, Chair Charities & Our Community

Charity & Community Service Recognition 2018

by Sigrid Noack

The 12th annual FWSA “*Charity & Community Service Recognition*” is well under way. A great big thank you to the clubs and councils, that have been supporting charities throughout this past year. Some of our groups were able to take time out of their busy schedules to share their wonderful charitable activities with the rest of our FWSA family. It continues to amaze me just how caring the members in our FWSA clubs are.

We have two separate recognition groups ***for Clubs!*** Those clubs, that have previously won first place in our Charity Recognition program applied in the ***Double Diamond Class***, all other clubs applied in the ***Diamond Class***. The two separate levels give all groups an added incentive to apply, and then to apply again in future years. The top clubs in each category are invited to display a picture board of their charitable activities at convention. For our ***Councils*** recognition, there is only one class, and the winner will be invited to display a picture board at convention.

The application procedure was the same as in previous years. Application forms were available on our www.fwsa.org website with more specific information given about this special recognition.

Awards will again be presented at the FWSA Convention this June in Reno, Nevada. All clubs and councils that applied will be recognized at the convention. Our delegates, industry friends and other convention guests are always very impressed by the amazing dedication to charitable work within our FWSA family.

Please note, that a couple of changes have been made to the Charities Recognition Program. There will be no monetary awards this year. The winning clubs and council will receive electronic medallions to post on their club/council websites and to use in their newsletters. Also, if you prefer, your group may display a digital picture board at convention instead of the traditional cut-and-paste card board.

Looking forward to seeing what interesting charitable work our FWSA clubs and councils have been doing this past year. See you in Reno!

FWSA is aiming for charitable involvement within all our member clubs!

Our beautiful *Charity Recognition* winning picture display boards from 2017



A.J. Hurt, Far West scholarship recipient, skis for the U.S. Ski Team National Training Group (NTG) and lives in Carnelian Bay, California.

David Krupp, Athletic Scholarship, Chair

FWSA Athletic Scholarship Program 2017-2018

The Far West Athletic Scholarship Program, now in its 14th year as a means of making a positive contribution to junior racing, has continued to garner more support each year. Since 2004, FWSA has awarded 123 scholarships for a total of well over \$100,000.

United States Ski Association licensed junior racers in the U21, U19, and second year U16 classes in states represented by FWSA affiliated councils are eligible for a scholarship. Currently, junior racers in California, Nevada, Arizona, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Utah and Wyoming are eligible. Scholarships are awarded on the basis of financial need, competitive accomplishments, academics, and community service.

This year's recipients are featured on page 33.

All funds for the scholarship program are deposited with The Far West Ski Foundation, an IRS 501(c)3 charitable foundation, that was incorporated as a partner of FWSA to provide a means of accepting contributions. The foundation qualifies contributions to the scholarship program as income tax charitable deductions.

Continued on next page

FWSA Athletic Scholarship Program 2017-2018

RECIPIENT	AGE	TEAM	AWARDED
Iam Calaway	15	Whitefish	\$1,000 from FWSA
Luke Bradbury	17	Northstar	\$500 from San Diego Council
Kevin Caravelli	18	Squaw Valley	\$500 from FWSA
Bruno Amon-Franceschi	16	Mammoth Mountain	\$1,000 from Los Angeles Council
Zazie Huml	16	Northstar	\$1,000 from the Frank App Memorial/Sierra League
AJ Hurt	17	U.S. NTG	\$1,500 from FWSA
Tyler Larson	16	Stevens Pass	\$1,000 from Northwest Council
Cassell Lefevre	16	Mt. Hood	\$1,000 from Mt. High Ski Club
Jessica Liu	16	Northstar	\$1,000 from the Vern Sprock Memorial/FWSA
Teegan Lowe	17	Mt. Bachelor	\$1,000 from Skiyente Ski Club
Cole Matteson	16	Squaw Valley	\$1,000 from the Vern Sprock Memorial/FWSA
Chilli Messner	15	Sugar Bowl	\$500 from FWSA
Michelle Morozinski	15	Bear Valley	\$750 from FWSA
Charlie Regelbrugge	16	Mammoth Mountain	\$750 from FWSA
Luca Robillard	15	Squaw Valley	\$750 from Castro Valley Ski Club
Matthew Smallhouse	16	Diamond Peak	\$750 from FWSA
Dalton Swallow	16	Park City	\$1,000 from FWSA
Sydney Weaver	16	Park City	\$750 from FWSA
Kris Westman	17	Stevens Pass	\$1,500 from FWSA



The annual National Championship Air Races takes place in Reno, Nevada each September and draws over 150,000 aviators and spectators worldwide.



Linda Coxen, Chair Family and Youth Involvement

The youth of today is our future. FWSA continues to support and encourage youth and family involvement in snow sports. Our goal is to build interest in family skiing/snowboarding and to ensure continued involvement in ski and snowsport clubs and organizations. In order to succeed we need our members to be actively involved in this effort. That includes clubs, councils and Far West. What is your club or council doing to involve youth and families? How does your club or council reach out to local college ski or race clubs? What about High School clubs and teams? I want to know. I would like to hear from all clubs and councils as to what you do to encourage youth and family involvement. Let's see how we can expand on local ideas to the Far West level. Consider it a challenge to all of you. I look forward to reporting on what I hear from everyone in the next publication of *The Councilman*. Stay tuned....



Leigh Gieringer, Editor Far West Skier's Guide

As the editor of the *Far West Skier's Guide*, I was speaking to many resort representatives about their summer programs at the FWSA Convention in Boise. Most ski and social clubs do plan year around activities for their members; and are looking for fun and different destinations; and adventures to add to their planned activities. Many resorts have been expanding their summer program activities for our clubs to enjoy! As such, I am in the process of creating the 2018 *Far West Skier's Guide - Summer Supplement*. This digital publication will provide information about some of these great destinations for your clubs and members to enjoy. Look for it in April.



Richard Lubin, D.C., Safety Chair

SAFETY PERSON OF THE YEAR AWARD

Folks, once again it is time for the safety person of the year award. If someone in your council or club has promoted safety, please nominate them or encourage them to enter. The entry form can be found by going to the Far West website at <http://www.fwsa.org/Awards/awards-recognition/recognition-awards-safety.html>. Have them fill out the award and send it to me by April 15, 2018 to botaboardr@comcast.net. For questions, please call 925-819-2337.

The award is sponsored by *Telluride*. The winner gets a \$750 Gift Card. It is a great award. Please instruct people to send me this as soon as possible. We announce the award at the convention. The High Sierra Stampede, how exciting!

FWSA HELMET POLICY

The FWSA is a proponent of safe skiing. The BOD announced that helmets would be required for all complementary passes issued by FWSA. The majority of skiers and snowboarders wear helmets. This trend has consistently increased within the last 15 years and is recommended.

Your safety chair began wearing helmets in the late 90s mainly because I boarded often in the trees. Also, we snowboarders have a great affinity for bouncing. I would often hear from experienced skiers that, "I am a very safe skier." My response is, "What about the person who runs into you accidentally?"

RECENT AVALANCHE ACTIVITY

In early March 2018, there were a couple of noteworthy incidences. In contradistinction to last year, this has been an unremarkable snow year. However, these recent storms brought 4 to 6 feet of snow over just a few days.

Squaw Valley, March 2, 2018. The body of a helmeted 42 year old snowboarder, who had been lost from the day before, was recovered. As the snow continued falling the same day, ski patrol kept doing their avalanche control. An inbounds avalanche took place below the Olympic lady chair near KT22. The avalanche involved five people, two of them hospitalized. One, was noted to have a serious lower body injury (a broken leg), the other was evaluated and released. Many people witnessed the avalanche. The snowboarder was buried under 2 to 3 feet of snow. Fortunately, his board was sticking out of the snow and nearby folks began digging him out very quickly. A very compelling video shows how rapid response saved his life. The resort was closed for the remainder of the day. Many ski patrollers and responders became involved doing a thorough survey of the area. The video of this incident is available at <https://www.mercurynews.com/2018/03/02/avalanche-hits-squaw-valley-ski-resort-video-shows-apparent-rescue-of-buried-snowboarder/amp/>

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Arleigh Meiners, President, Arizona Ski Council

Arizona Ski Council (ASC) totals about 600 members, representing two ski clubs, a hiking club, a corporate club, and a Meet Up sailing/social club, primarily in the Phoenix – Scottsdale metro-area, with membership open to non-profit ski clubs in the state of Arizona. Our clubs serve skiers, snowboarders, hikers, bikers and social members. The Arizona Ski Council had 48 skiers on the FWSA ski week trip to Banff the first week of February. The Phoenix Ski Club won the Joe Ross Award for the club with the most points for the two races at the 2018 Banff Ski Week. The Arizona Ski Council won second place in the racing awards for councils at the 2018 Banff Ski Week. ASC is having a Pub Crawl in downtown Phoenix on April 7th. Because the Phoenix Ski Club and Scottsdale Sea and Ski Club run so many ski trips and other events, the Arizona Ski Council does not run any trips or events, except participate in the FWSA North American Ski Week. The Arizona Ski Council website is www.arizonaskicouncil.org.

The Phoenix Ski Club, (PSC), is busy wrapping up their ski season now and planning for a busy 2018 with lots of activities. PSC did their annual “Arizona Days” ski trip to Telluride, Colorado in January. This is a joint trip of Scottsdale

Ski Club members and Phoenix Ski Club members. PSC went to Purgatory, at Durango, Colorado for a 2018 New Year’s trip. This was a family ski trip. In March, 2018, PSC will be at Mt. Bachelor, in Bend Oregon. PSC will end their ski season with a ski trip to Copper Mountain in Colorado. PSC is celebrating their 70th anniversary this year. PSC had an entry in the Scottsdale Parada Del Sol Parade on February 10th, and over 60 PSC members took part in the Parade. PSC will also be doing a 70th anniversary banquet. This Banquet is planned for October 20, 2018 and over 100 members and guests will be attending that. The PSC will be going to Egypt the end of March 2018. In May 2018 PSC goes to Cuba. In September/October of 2018 the PSC will be doing a Rhine River cruise. Please go to www.phxskiclub.org for more information about the Phoenix Ski Club.

Arizona Outdoor Travel Club, (AzOTC) has changed their name to **ARIZONA HIKING AND TRAVEL CLUB (AHTC)** which is mostly a hiking club, continues to have hikes all year long. They have an exercise hike every week in the Phoenix area. In the summer time AHTC will have at least one hiking adventure that will be a week

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trip in the cool mountains of Arizona. AHTC is doing a hiking trip in the Dolomites of Italy. That trip will take place June 19, 2018 through June 27, 2018. AHTC sends out a weekly e-mail to their members telling them about the hikes and other activities happening during the week. Go to www.azotc.com for more information on these and other exciting trips.

Scottsdale Sea & Ski Club, (SS&SC), is an adult ski and social club. SS&SC is kicking off the summer with happy hours every Friday evening. SS&SC did a ski trip to Park City, Utah for their New Year's trip. SS&SC also takes part in the "Arizona Days" ski trip to Telluride, Colorado in January. The SS&SC have a lot of summer adventure trips planned. First in May of 2018, they are going to Machu Picchu. Then in June of 2018 SS&SC is doing a Beach Week in Belize. September of 2018 the SS&SC will be doing a trip to Croatia and a trip to Lake Powell. Some of the other activities planned are, wine and cheese parties, campouts, pub crawls, and many more events. For more information go to www.scottsdale-skiclub.com

Sailing Adventure Club, (SAC), which is a member of the Arizona Ski Council, is a sailing/

social club based in Phoenix, Arizona. Due to challenges finding someone to maintain the website and newsletter, the SAC is now a Meet Up group. In doing so, they have attracted about 50 new members. The SAC did a 10 day Canal Boat Trip in France in September of 2016. SAC is no longer charging dues, so anyone can join via Meet Up.

Boeing Employee Adventure Club is a Corporate Company of the Arizona Ski Council and continues their social schedule and family events around town. Employees may contact www.boeing.com for more information about recreation activities that are planned!

Partytime Sports, (PTS), is an adult ski, boating, and social club that plans boating trips to get them through the summer heat. During the winter they do a ski trip to Telluride, Colorado during Arizona Days. For more information, contact them at gg4@qwest.net.

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

Submitted by,
Arleigh Meiners
President ASC

Richard Lubin - Continued from page 35

Mammoth Mountain, March 3, 3028. An inbound avalanche occurred near the High Five express. This involved six employees and two guests. Everybody freed themselves because they were only partially covered.

Kirkwood. The very same first weekend in March a freakish accident happened. A mother and child were killed when snow fell from the roof of a condominium. Kirkwood Mountain receives the most snow of any of the California resorts.

China Peak, a central Sierra resort near Fresno experienced a snow related inbound fatality. The resort was not even open due to lack of snow just days before. There was one individual who succumbed after falling into deep snow.

Mount Bachelor. The same weekend a snowboarder and skier died falling into a snow covered tree well.

Ski With Pride - Watch All Sides - Let It Ride



Paul Vlasveld, President Bay Area Snow Sports Council

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

It is amazing that this is already my 4th year as president of this fantastic organization. By attending the various FWSA board meetings and events, I have learned how BAC can be a force for change in FWSA. In addition, I am learning how to work with my board members to provide the direction for our member clubs. My current challenge is to provide the direction as the co-council for this year's FWSA Convention.

With this issue I would like to highlight the activities that some of our member clubs have been involved with.

RUSTY BINDINGS

Rusty Bindings is one of five San Francisco Bay Area Singles League ski and social clubs affiliated with the Bay Area Snow Sports Council and the Far West Ski Association open to singles over 21 years of age. We offer an active winter ski schedule for recreational skiers, downhill racers and snowboarders as well as a year-round social program with a variety of activities including bicycling, volleyball, water skiing, sailing, scuba diving, camping, rafting, softball, tennis, golf, dancing, wine tasting, concerts, picnics and many other great activities organized by members!

Rusty Bindings renowned ski race team was the Singles League Race Champions in 1991 – 1995, 1997, 1999 – 2011 and yes...2012. The team has an excellent program with ski and race clinics, orientation for new skiers, discounted accommodations and lift tickets, awards, gifts and an opportunity to ski and race with others of the same skiing ability. Our members range from 21 to 60+ with equal numbers of men and women. Many of our members are not skiers but joined the club to participate in our year-round activities with other active singles.

<http://www.rustybindings.com>

MODESTO SKI CLUB

Thanks for visiting the Modesto Ski Club web site. The Modesto Ski Club organizes activities and holds meetings and social gatherings year around, but obviously skiing is our first passion. We also enjoy camping, hiking, bicycling, and waterskiing activities. Friends, fellowship, and responsibility are an important part of membership enjoyment. New members are sponsored by existing members, so if you're interested, contact us and introduce yourself. Don't be shy!

<http://modestoskiclub.com/>

BAC has had another busy and successful year to date. This is in no small part due to the dedicated cadre of volunteers that have the passion and drive to make BAC the fantastic Council that it is and will continue to be.

Continued on next page

The next BAC Board of Directors will be elected at our April BAC General Council Meeting. We have many incumbents who are nominated with hopes of continuing their positions. There are a couple of new people who have also stepped forward. At this time no formal announcements will be made about who our 2018/2019 BAC BOD will be. There might be further nominations the night of our elections!

The BAC is moving forward with 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.

We do this by having our 13th Annual BAC Tailgate BBQ/Oakland A's Baseball Game & Fireworks Show benefiting Achieve Tahoe. This event has grown over the years and we now have reserved seats in one the best sections of the Coliseum. We invite representatives from Achieve Tahoe (Formerly DSUSA). This year's event is Saturday August 11, 2018 at the Oakland Coliseum. Let us know if you are going to be in town and would like to join us. ***Sign Up Early Because We Will Sell Out our Tickets!***

Plans are already being made for the Bay Area Snow Sports Councils 10th Annual Winter Fest Celebration Meeting. When we started this event we had only 3 resorts participate. Now . . . it's grown to great heights! This event will tentatively take place Monday November 5, 2018 between the SnowBomb Show in San Francisco and San Jose. During this year's FWSA Convention, invitations will be handed out about this event to our Industry Partners. This way, those attending the SnowBomb Shows can plan on sharing an evening with the BAC!

The FWSA Ski Week in Banff, Canada was another big hit! The snow conditions were, to put it mildly, fantastic. **Gail Burns (BAC Travel Director)** put together a Fun Filled BAC Council Night during the trip. Thank you also to **Ms. Nancy Ellis (FWSA VP of North American Travel), Bob Ellis (FWSA VP of Racing) and the Entire FWSA Travel Staff** for all their contributions and efforts in making this a successful and fun trip! The BAC had a very successful extension trip to Jasper after the Banff Ski week.

Next year is going to be a fun and busy travel year for the BAC... The FWSA Ski Week to Steamboat Springs in 2019 is already being promoted and deposits will be accepted starting in April/May. Then the BAC is working on plans for a few of our own Council Trips for 2019 including a Bike and Barge Trip to Italy and a possible mini-trip to Taos New Mexico.

During our current monthly BAC Council Meetings we have been focusing on the upcoming 86th Annual FWSA Convention in Reno. There have been presentations and handouts provided about the various club and individual recognition awards available at the event. We are encouraging our Clubs to participate both in the awards program and to attend as delegates. As the co-hosting Council along with Sierra Council, we will make this another fantastic Convention.

This year we are very proud to be represented by our BAC Man and Woman of the Year. Our BAC Woman of the Year is Nikki Rubio from our Rusty Bindings Ski Club. Mr. Brian Burgess from Inskiers Ski Club is our BAC Man of the Year. Congratulations to both!

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 make BAC a thriving and successful Council.

***Respectfully,
Paul Vlasveld
Bay Area Snow Sports Council President***



Fran Long, President Central Council of California

Central Council is made up of six member clubs. Our mission as a council is to build friendships, and support our larger organizations, Far West Ski Association and the National Ski Council Federation. Visit our Meetup site for council information, and links to our member clubs' information: <http://www.meetup.com/Central-Council-Ski-Clubs>.

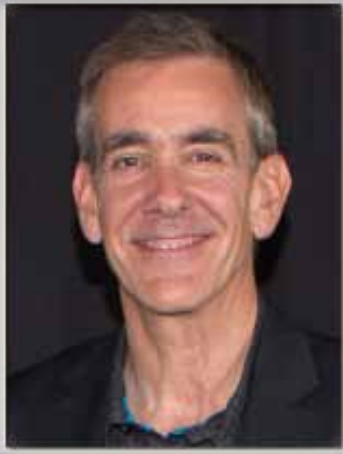
Central Council ski clubs had a very successful ski season this year, despite the limits of the season's snowfall. Thankfully, we all enjoyed the late season snowfall that blanketed California, Utah, and Colorado! Central Council club members could be seen enjoying the FWSA North American ski week to Banff, Canada, as well as club trips to Telluride, North Lake Tahoe, Whistler, Mammoth, Park City, Crested Butte, and South Lake Tahoe.

Our clubs work together by supporting one another's ski trips. It's not uncommon to see several members from one club going on a ski week with another Central Council club. We want our members to ski where they want to ski, and it's nice that our clubs support each other in this way.

As our ski season comes to an end, Central Council is looking forward to some summer fun in the sun. The council has a weekend event planned to coincide with the Paso Robles Wine Festival. We will hold our summer meeting, taste some great wine, and have a fun council event in addition to attending the wine festival.

Our clubs also have some fun events in the works for summer. Hikes, bike rides, camp trips abound within our clubs. Information on summer events can be found on the club's individual websites/meetup sites:

- Fresno Ski Club: www.fresnoskiclub.com
- SLO Skiers: www.sloskiers.org
- Santa Barbara Ski Club: www.sbski.org
- Avalanche Ski Club: Contact Donna Webb, blazekwebb@gmail.com
- Camber Ski Club: Contact Jayne Camic, camicski@aol.com
- Outdoor Recreation Enthusiasts: Contact Bob Strickland, bstrick60@att.net



David Krupp, President Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs

The Los Angeles Council (LAC) of Ski Clubs currently consists of 26 snowsports clubs that cover a large area from Santa Barbara to the north, the Inland Empire to the east and Long Beach to the south. There is much diversity in terms of the club makeup in the council and the activities that result.

The home base for most of the council clubs is Mammoth Mountain Ski Resort, a five hour drive from central Los Angeles. Mammoth offers a myriad of outdoor activities all year for the club members. Los Angeles Council also participates in the FWSA Ski Week each year with VP of Travel, *Sandy Blackwell* at the helm for the Los Angeles contingent. Banff was on the schedule for this year. In addition, LAC takes advantage of FWSA's international trips which have expanded to a year-round schedule. Lastly, out-of-state and international trips are taking place at the individual club level.

Los Angeles Council is also involved in a well organized race season within Far West Racing Association. Los Angeles is comprised of 2 race leagues: Rokka and ULLR, headed up by *Laura Preiss* and *Ken Kawahara* respectively. Included on the schedule is Rokka Race Camp, the Ski, Ride & Race Week, 3 race weekends, the SoCal Championships, and the Far West Championships coming up in a few weeks.

The council has 2 main events it hosts during the year on an annual basis: The Presidents Luncheon held in August and the Snow Gala held in November. Both are excellent opportunities for the clubs to get together and share in the ski lifestyle we all enjoy.

Next month, LAC is having our annual elections which will be a banquet at a French bistro. Everyone will be dressing up!

For details regarding all of the Los Angeles clubs and activities, please visit us at www.lacouncil.org.

Vitem, quem il horta no. M. Anum nondacenist prae avereī puliusc retilic emplic vo, simus etiam nicam cus, Catus



Barbara Bousum, President Northwest Ski Club Council

Northwest Ski Club Council (NWSCC)

NWSCC's more than 40 snow sports clubs have enjoyed a busy ski season. Our clubs and organizations participated in many ski trips to favorite northwest ski areas, on international trips, and more! There's just no substitute for enjoying the slopes with our friends.

NWSCC enjoyed the wonderful, fresh snow on the FWSA Banff Ski Week trip last month. For the first time in recent memory, all 6 of our elected officers and directors were there. We documented the rarity in a photo at our Council Night at the Balkan. Participants showed that they could not only ski, but belly dance with the pro, and then throw plates with enthusiasm! It was a fun evening together with tasty dinner and spicy entertainment. All the fresh snow assured a good week at the Ski Big 3 areas. Although that snow caused many tangles with transportation, we forgot those snags once we experienced the powder.

Our PACRAT racing league held its races on Mt. Hood all through the months of January and into March and now anticipate their end-of-race season party and awards night, the Rat Attack, in April.

Annually, NWSCC offers a Ski and Ride Challenge for members of all clubs to experience the many ski areas in the Northwest, primarily our Industry Partner resorts. A winner is chosen from lift ticket submissions presented at the end of the season. For the previous ski season, there were two winners, who had skied together, so they tied for sampling the most resorts! These 2 women were awarded lift tickets to help enjoy this ski season.

In the fall of 2017, both NWSCC and PACRAT were found reaching out to prospective club members with booths at two Portland consumer shows: Snowvana, in its second year, and the long-running SkiFever Show. Club members shared their club stories and the benefits of membership, and it is always fun to anticipate the new ski season at these events. Pre-season, we also hosted a productive evening with club presidents, where ideas and challenges were discussed.

In December, we introduced our first Winter Fair at a local brewpub. Pizza and salads were enjoyed, favorite beverages were quaffed, and skiing-related options were offered in a silent auction. Our Man and Woman

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of the Year were announced, affording them a season of recognition. It was a fun evening, and we expect the event to grow next season.

In Portland, we are blessed with headquarters of many sportswear and equipment brands. Our planned event at the Columbia Sportswear's flagship store on February 21 sadly was postponed due to a rare snow-storm that day that created havoc in the area's transit. And this was the second time in two years that snow interfered with this event! What are the chances?

As ski season is winding down, NWSCC skiers and boarders still can be found enjoying our volcanic slopes. Much fun is still to be found, as we extend ski season into spring.

--Barbara Bousum, NWSCC President



NWSCC's Elected Officers and Directors at Ski Week in Banff

Front row, from left: Bill King, Treasurer; Barbara Bousum, President; Sue Rimkeit, V.P.
Back row, from left: Linda McGavin, Director; Christine Ciardi, Director; Jeanne Reinhardt, Secretary



Sheila Van Guilder, President Orange Council of Ski Clubs

Orange Council of Ski Clubs has followed in the tradition of many years and its clubs and members have enjoyed the wonderful snow in various places these past few months . The farthest away has been Les Trois Vallees, and include Mount Bachelor, Banff, Aspen Snowmass , Lake Louise, Park City, our local mountains of Bear and Summit and of course, Mammoth Mountain Resort. We have moved our schedule around several times this year because clubs have been skiing.

On February 19th we celebrated our annual President's Day dinner. Our guests were Sara Rosell, of United States Adaptive Recreational Center at Bear Mountain and our friend Jane Wyckoff who discussed the upcoming 86th FWSA convention in Reno.

Judy Thurman our Orange Council 2019 convention chairman for the 87th FWSA convention has been working hard. We wish to acknowledge Ken Muzzy as the winner of our logo contest for the 2019 convention . Orange Council welcomes the help of Norbert Knapp and his Los Angeles Council volunteers to work with us at the Indian Wells Convention in 2019. We are looking forward to joining Bay Area and Sierra Councils at the Reno convention in June 7-10, 2018.



Nevada Desert Scene



Chris Gill, President San Diego Council of Ski Clubs

Croatia Boat Cruise 2017

The mission of San Diego Council of Ski Clubs (SDCSC) is to support and promote the sport of recreational Skiing, racing, snowboarding, and domestic & international travel in the Southern California area. Currently the council has 9 active clubs. We are in the process of adding another club to our council. Many of our clubs enjoying biking, hiking, bowling, golf, bridge, and day trips from wine tasting in Baja or Day Tripper tours of museums, rose parade. The best parts of being in adventures and memories flyaway ski trip and on floats and the space shuttle. a ski club are the friendships, that are made on a bus or a international travel.

The council did an Croatia on a large yacht. There was also a pre-trip Dubrovnik. The boat coast. The group took night, enjoyed swimming local markets and visit-



The San Diego Council will be doing the following trips in 2019, the first April 27 to May 4 on a new luxurious boat the Manifique III with Girolibero. Then in October the council will be touring Australia & New Zealand with a post trip to Fiji. We will be with Grand Circle Tours.

The Alpine Race League took over Snow Jam in November to help raise money for their racers. A big concern with racing is the rising cost of racing and lack of more new racers. The council & Alpine League are looking at ways to attract new racers.

The council had their annual gala, which had the theme of Casino Royale. This event was very well attended. Along with the casino games we also had bingo.

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We were very happy to have more clubs participate in nominating their Man & Woman of year. This years winners were Tom Sekreta from Action Ski Club and Jean MCCasey from North Island Snow Drifters. The Joe Harris award went to Rusty Etzel from Torrey Pines Ski Club.

The San Diego Ski Council had their annual Aspen Ski Trip in early December. We took 66 people The snow was a bit sparse this year but Ajax Mountain came through. We re-instated the pub-crawl. Tim & Kristina Powers put together 4 great places to wine and dine. We also had a wonderful spa day at the Hotel Jerome.

The clubs resumed their regular indoor meetings with sign ups for ski trips in 2018. Some clubs combined bus ski trips to Mammoth Mountain this year.

Flyaway trips for the council ski clubs in 2018 will be Utah and Steamboat. Many club members also went to the FWSA Ski week in Banff Canada. Alan Godwin our trip leader said they had great conditions and enjoyed learning curling.

The San Diego Council had Sara Rosell from the Adaptive Program (USARC) of Big Bear give a presentation on how the program works and the benefits to those who participate with this organization. Jim Ortiz who has been a member of North Island Snow drifters has been a volunteer with this organization for several years and provided us with teaming up with Big Bear Adaptive program. The San Diego Ski Council has decided to give a charitable donation to this organization. The Ski Council feels it is important to give back to an organization that helps those with disabilities enjoy the freedom of skiing again.

The SDCSC is looking forward to a spring happy hour followed by our board elections in May. The Alpine Race League will have their end of year party and honor those racers that did well this past season. We will also have our induction of new officers at this event.

The SDCSC will be starting to make changes with the current web page and update it with a new format. Summer will bring more outdoor activities, Far West Convention and our council appreciation dinner for the hard working people on our board.

Chris Gill
President of SDCSC



Man of the Year
Tom Sekreta, Action Ski Club

Chris Gil, President
San Diego Council of Ski Clubs

Woman of the Year
Jean McCasey
North Island Snow Drifters



Jo Simpson, President Sierra League & Council

Sierra Council Preparing to Co-host Convention 2018

Sierra is co-hosting the upcoming convention with the Bay Area Snow Sports Council. We have some interesting optional preconvention activities planned. The Thursday pub crawl will be a Reno Rumble in downtown Reno. The last stop, The Rack, has a six-lane bowling alley and some old school coin operated game machines.

The Lake Tahoe hike will be a relatively flat trail going by Diamond Peak Ski Resort with wonderful views of Lake Tahoe.

While you will find lots more information about the convention in this issue, we want to issue our personal invitation to join us for all the fun activities and informative sessions.

Sierra Council members enjoyed Ski Week at Banff and we won the trophy for most council race points! A huge thank you goes to our Travel VP Debbie Stewart for managing the trip and taking excellent care of us. Sadly, Debbie is “retiring” as our Travel VP after almost 15 years. She will be deeply missed.

Our clubs are traveling. Reno Ski and Recreation Club members went to Whistler in January. The Las Vegas Ski, Snowboard and Sports Club went on their annual President’s Weekend trip to Ogden to ski Powder Mountain and Snowbasin.

We are thrilled to have Zazie Huml as our new Frank App Memorial Scholarship recipient. Zazie trains at Northstar. She and two other Northstar athletes are the first from that program to be awarded FWSA scholarships.

FWSA 9th Annual Scuba Dive Trip – Grand Cayman

September 15 - 22, 2018

Cobalt Coast Resort



Diver Land Package = \$1330.00 Garden Room - Double Occupancy

Non-Diver Land Package = \$1061.00 Garden Room – Double Occupancy

Single Supplement Garden Room Add = \$299.00

Lodging Upgrades Available – contact Randy Lew for details

(air transportation not included in above pricing)

****Passport must be Valid thru March 22, 2019****

Price Includes:

- 7 nights at the Cobalt Coast Resort – Garden Room Dbl. Occupancy with all meals daily
- 6 days of 2-tank boat dives
- Complimentary use of dive computer (required)
- Complimentary Wi-Fi
- Resort Amenities
- Transfer to and from airport to resort
- Resort fees, government taxes & gratuities (dive tips not included)
- PADI & SSI Certification and Instructional Dive Resort
- Welcome Party and Farewell Dinner



*Experience Local Culture
& Entertainment*

*Create New Memories
with Friends,
Old and New!*



Enjoy a Beautiful Resort



*Kayak, snorkel, spa
services and more...*



Contact:

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FWSA Dive Trip Leader

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*You must be a Member of a Far West Ski Assn.
affiliated club or a FWSA Direct Member!*

CST # 2036983-40



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FWSA keeps a database on members, clubs and councils. It is important that information in this database be current so that communications are received in a timely manner. Let me know if there are changes in club or council officers, changes in membership addresses and phone numbers, changes in members' club affiliations, or if your club or council has changed its meeting location. Requests for information from the database must be sent to the FWSA President, Steve Coxen at president@fwsa.org for approval before it will be dispersed. The Far West Ski Association website at www.fwsa.org has a Ski Club Officer Update Form. Clubs can **upload** the Officer Update Form for 2016-2017.

.FOR COMPLETE INFORMATION ON FWSA, VISIT OUR WEBSITE

www.fwsa.org

The Voice of the Western Skier

