

Winter 2012

# THE COUNCILMAN



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

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*Editor, The Councilman*

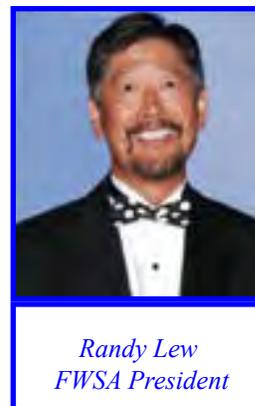
Winter is upon us and the snow and ski season has begun. I hope you enjoy the Winter issue of *The Councilman* with its touch of the holidays reminding us they are just around the corner. I wish you all a wonderful Holiday Season!



# President

By Randy Lew

## FWSA has some exciting trips planned



Randy Lew  
FWSA President

Hello. Another ski season is now upon us and mother nature has blessed Utah, Colorado, Montana, and parts of Canada with early snow. We all hope that this year brings more snow and better conditions than last year's dismal winter. I wish you a very safe and enjoyable ski season and I hope to see you at our 2013 Ski Week in Aspen/Snowmass.

The FWSA Board of Directors held its winter meetings at the *Peppermill Resort Spa Casino* in Reno, Nevada. I want to thank the *Peppermill Resort Spa Casino* and *Mt Rose* for their hospitality, excellent service, and partnership. We were able to conduct two full days of productive meetings and enjoyed skiing at Mt Rose. FWSA continues to thrive through its continued partnerships with the industry.

The FWSA web site <http://www.fwsa.org/> has been totally redesigned and updated due entirely to the efforts of *Catherine Ohl*, our new Web Master. This site includes information on our Travel Program, Member's Benefits, Convention, Awards Program, Athletic Scholarship Program, and a link to be used to subscribe to the "FWSA News Flash".

The new 25th Annual 2012-2013 *Far West Skier's Guide* has been distributed to each Council and ski show that we have participated in. We are also distributing over 50% of these, utilizing Certified Folder Displays to reach the major metro areas that we serve. A big thank you to *Leigh Gieringer* and *Jane Wyckoff* for the outstanding job and tremendous effort that they put into it. It is the best one yet with great articles and information on the ski areas and clubs. Please contact your Council President if you have not received your copies to distribute to your club members. This is our major annual publication and it does a great service in advertising our many accomplishments and close relationship with our industry partners. Please be sure your councils and clubs use them in recruiting new members.

The FSWA Travel Program continues with great success under the leadership of *Gloria Raminha* and *Debbie Stewart*. We recently held our third scuba dive trip to the beautiful island of Cayman Brac where we all enjoyed great weather and spectacular reef and wall diving. At our upcoming ski week in Aspen/Snowmass in February 2013 we are anticipating 500+ participants. I know that Gloria, the FWSA Ski Week staff, and the Council Trip Leaders have planned a great trip with many exciting things in store for us. The International ski trip in March 2013 is to Innsbruck, Austria with an exciting post-trip to Garmisch and Munich. The next scuba dive trip will be to Belize in September 2013. It's not too late if you act now! The benefits of participating in a FWSA trip include: traveling with a group of skiers and snowboarders, friends that you already know, the opportunity to make new friends with people of like interests, value provided by volume pricing and organized activities and tours, and a trip leader to help you with agenda questions and the unforeseen issues that might arise.

I am very proud that our Athletic Scholarship Program under the leadership of *Dick Shawkey* has continued to grow. With the generosity of our industry sponsors *Whitefish Mountain Resort*, *Grouse Mountain Lodge*, and *Karbon Skiwear*; and partners *Bergfreunde Ski Club*, *Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs*, *Mountain High Snowsports Club*, *San Diego Council of Ski Clubs*, *Skiyente Ski Club*, and our newest partner *Northwest Ski Club Council* we were able to award \$11,925 in scholarships to sixteen deserving junior racers.

## Randy Lew - Continued from page 3

*Debbi Kor*, VP of Marketing, has done a great job of improving the *Far West News Flash* which is distributed via a list serve to any interested member. The *News Flash* includes trip info and current information on FWSA programs. You may subscribe by going to the FWSA web site and clicking on *Far West News Flash* under News on the home page.



The success of FWSA is due to a significant number of volunteers who have contributed a tremendous amount of time and expertise. We have an ever increasing need for new volunteers. For those reading this article and want to get more involved, this is your opportunity. The more volunteers, the easier the work load. If you want more information on volunteering either call (503-682-1563) or email ([fwsa13randy@telis.org](mailto:fwsa13randy@telis.org)) me or one of our Functional VP's. All of our Functional VP's require a working committee to be truly successful.

Our 81st Convention "Mountain Magic Moments" will be hosted by the Bay Area Snow Sports Council at the Grand Sierra Resort and Casino in Reno, Nevada June 6 – 9, 2013. *Dennis Heffley*, BAC President, *Linda Indreboe*, BAC Convention Coordinator, and *Jane Wyckoff*, FWSA Convention Chairperson have some very exciting activities planned for us including a River Walk and National Auto Museum tour, bowling, spa day, hike, pub crawl, and the 7th Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament. They have been meeting regularly to plan all this fun. *Mike Sanford*, Past President is diligently working on lining up an all-star cast of celebrities and *Debbi Kor* is working on sponsorship for this great event. Friday will include some optional activities and our industry show and Silent Auction. On Saturday, we will have our Travel Industry Expo, some professional panel sessions, two modules of our highly acclaimed Snowsports Leadership Academy, and a session with some very special guest speakers.

Northwest Ski Club Council will be hosting the 2014 Convention at The Riverhouse Resort, Hotel & Convention Center in Bend, Oregon. They are already starting to research fun activities and options for a great summer trip to Central Oregon.

Thank you for your continued support.



## *VP of Communications*

*by Linda Scott*

# We have a new website!

You must visit our brand new website at [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org)! Many of you know Catherine Ohl of *A Cat Meowz Graphic Designz*. She is a long-time supporter of the Far West Ski Association, and last year she took on the task of redesigning our website. When you visit, you will find that the new site has lots of great graphics, well-presented information, and functionality. This spring, for the first time ever, you will be able to register for the 2013 FWSA Annual Convention in Reno, Nevada directly from the new website. How easy is that? Check it out!



Leigh Gieringer, the editor of our *Far West Skier's Guide*, has recently published our silver anniversary edition. That's right; we have been publishing this magazine for 25 years this year! We are excited to bring you this very special edition of our fabulous *Far West Skier's Guide*, and it is full of informative, interesting and exciting information. Also, do not forget to visit the digital version of the *Far West Skier's Guide*. You can find a link to it on our webpage at [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org), or from our Facebook page. Many FWSA member councils have also added a link to the magazine on their webpage, so if your council has not done so yet, ask them to add it so you can visit it often. It has just amazing interactive graphics, and is a must to read. It is also updated quarterly, so visit it often to view the latest.

Have you seen the latest edition of the *The Councilman* newsletter? Connie Burdette is our fantastic editor. This FWSA newsletter is published three times a year, and if you have not had a chance to view her latest edition, you should definitely put it on your "to do" list. It has a new format, a new glossy cover, and is not only pleasant to look at, but informative too! You can find a link to *The Councilman* on our webpage at [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org) or on our Facebook page.

Steve Coxen manages and updates our **Facebook** page. He has been very busy keeping the page full of current snowsports news. Make sure you become our "Friend," and visit us often for all the latest FWSA news and fun facts you can find there. Steve does a great job keeping the page fresh and current.

Debbi Kor keeps track of all the current events in the ski world, so do not miss any issues of her monthly *Far West News Flash*. She compiles and disseminates all the latest ski news in email format, and makes it easy and enjoyable to read. To join the mailing list and receive Debbi's newsletter, just visit our website, click on Member Corner, then Publications, and you can view past editions, and add your email address to the dissemination list in order to have the *News Flash* sent directly to your email address. You will be glad you did.

The past year has been exciting and fun as we have worked hard to update and refresh our communication programs. I can speak for all the folks on our team when I say that we are excited about the coming year, and look forward to bringing you snowsports news in a fresh, interesting and vibrant way.

We are always looking for new talent, so if you are interested in joining our team, just contact me at [vpcommunications@fwsa.org](mailto:vpcommunications@fwsa.org).



## *VP of Council Services*

*By Eileen Sanford*



The FWSA Board is looking forward to a fabulous year. As Vice President of Councils, I am excited about working on the FWSA leadership team. I have the responsibility and unique opportunity to work with the presidents of the eleven member councils to identify strengths that can be shared, and to identify common problems and work to support joint solutions.

The FWSA Outreach Program funds were awarded to Northwest Ski Club Council, Sierra Council and Intermountain Ski Council this year. Congratulations and we hope all the councils will participate in the program next year.

This year the Savvy Snake Ski Cancer Prevention Program continued to be promoted by Fran Long and her committee. Fran won the Aspen sponsored FWSA Safety Person of the Year award for this worthwhile project. She came up with Savvy Snake, a cute logo to remind kids to use sunscreen while skiing or boarding. The Savvy Snake stickers were a big hit at the trade shows in Western States. The pamphlet explaining the program objectives also included a puzzle for the kids on the back. The banner was displayed at trade shows and at the FWSA Convention brought attention to the program. The funding came from California so the program was focused on that state this year. Thanks to Fran for a job well done. We will continue to promote the program next year.

FWSA Councils' Man & Woman of the Year Program, chaired by Donn Bryant helped recognize the council leaders at the FWSA Convention. It is one of the Council Services finest programs and Don does an outstanding job of putting all the pieces together and honoring the council candidates and winners. This year's winners were Sigrid Noack from Los Angeles Council and Norm Azevedo from Bay Area Snow Sports Council. Congratulations for a job well done!

Two important charity and community service programs are now included at the FWSA Convention: The Charity & Community Service Recognition Program and the Community Service Awareness Program. These awards encourage our councils and clubs to get more involved with charities and community service. Thanks to Sigrid Noack for her continuing leadership of this program. See her article for this year's winners.

Club and council competition for the outstanding website, newsletter and club was refined by Lennia Machen, Communications Awards Chairperson and Catherine Ohl. This year they reviewed and edited the judging criteria and created a web page for the competition to allow posting of information, criteria, rules, dates, and develop training materials for judges. They also developed an icon for the winning clubs to put on their website.

The Youth and Family Program will host another Mammoth Adventure this year from July 29-Aug. 5. The week-long trip will host daily activities for kids and adults. The participants camped or stayed in a hotel. Thanks goes to Fran Long for organizing and hosting the event.

If you belong to a local club, do not forget to regularly visit their website for ongoing activities. Also check the council website for your area. Remember to check [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org) and sign up for the FWSA monthly email on that site. We appreciate all the local club and council support of FWSA programs.

Thanks goes to Intermountain Ski Council for a great Convention in Ogden, Utah. We are looking forward to going to Grand Sierra Resort and Casino in Reno for the June 6-9, 2013 Convention.

## *VP of Marketing & Sponsorship*

*By Debbi Kor*

# A new ski season has arrived



*Debbi Kor  
VP of  
Marketing  
and  
Sponsorship*

The 2012-2013 ski and snowboard season is officially here! In the midst of its annual fall open house on October 7, officials at **Wild Mountain Ski Area** in Minnesota opted to take advantage of cold weather to expand upon the snow provided for its 2012 Log Jam, by making snow for public skiing and snowboarding on the “Dandy” novice slope. So, our favorite Utah and Colorado resorts had to take a backseat to that “first opened” title. However, **A-Basin** did open in its entire splendor on October 17. Colorado’s Opening Day drew approximately 2,000 people testing the (waters) snow. **Loveland Ski Area** was anticipated to be right behind, followed by all of our other favorite resorts. Let us hope that this is a sign of lots of early snow with a spectacular ski and snowboard season ahead of us!

Kicking things off in typical fashion for the New Year, our clubs and councils have a lot going on! There are ski shows and opening events in every corner of the Far West map from **Northwest Council’s Ski Fair and Pray for Snow Party**, to **San Diego Council’s Snow Gala**, to Arizona’s **Kick-Off Picnic**. Along with that, clubs and councils are getting psyched up about the new season by attending some of the many Teton Gravity, Ski Channel or Warren Miller films showing around the country.

Trips planned by our Far West clubs and councils for the coming year include: **Snow Basin** and **Powder Mountain, Park City, Vail, Brundage Mountain**, the **Lake Tahoe resorts**, as well as **Aspen/Snowmass** for the **Far West Annual Ski Week** and the first Far West mini-ski week to **Mt. Bachelor** in Bend, Oregon. The FWSA International trip will be to Innsbruck in March, 2013, with our new VP of International Travel, Debbie Stewart.

Far West has many Benefit Partners who team up with us to make our winter travels less frantic. They provide ski rentals and tune ups, discounts on new equipment and/or clothing, and some fantastic rates on lodging! Check out our new website. Click on “Member Corner” and use the drop down arrow to go into our ever-growing list of member benefits. Here you will find **The Powderhouse** in Lake Tahoe and **The Powder House** in Bend, **Ski Butlers** in over 30 resort areas, and **Terry Sports** in Taos and Steamboat, along with many other shops offering our members some great deals throughout the year. And do not forget to check out our lodging partners for some great bargains in your favorite ski areas. **Phoenix Inn & Suites**, in Bend, Oregon has joined us, along with **Howard Johnson’s** and the **Shilo Inn** in Salt Lake City, and **Park City Peaks Hotel** in Park City, where you can meet the Cookie Man each and every afternoon.

I will be hitting the road over the next few weeks to visit the Seattle and Portland Ski Shows and then on to Denver in January to check out the SIA show to see what is new in the way of skis, clothing, gear and gadgets for the coming season. I always look forward to this show to renew acquaintances with old friends and see what is going on for the coming season. It is such a high-energy environment that it is hard not to get caught up in all of the excitement! I am really looking forward to it.

Our sponsorship programs are all doing really well! I have just renewed our commitment with **Aspen Skiing Company** as the sponsor of our Safety Person of the Year, and **Grouse Mountain Lodge, Whitefish Mountain Resort**, and **Karbon** as sponsors of the Far West Athletic Scholarship program. **Big White** and **Silver Star Mountain** will be returning as sponsors of our Far West Councils’ Man and Woman of the Year, and **Steamboat Ski & Resort Corporation** continues their sponsorship of the Western Ski Heritage Award. Our many thanks go out to all of our sponsors for your continued support.

*See you all on the slopes!*

## ***VP of International Travel***

*By Debbie Stewart*

This coming year will be an exciting time for FWSA's International Travelers! Now that the autumn season is upon us, we are looking forward to the upcoming ski season and our members are ready to make their travel commitments for next year's domestic and international ski season.

Since the June election, our travel committee has been very busy. We researched and merged survey travel data presented to the FWSA Board of Directors at the July business meetings. Based on our research, it became very apparent which destinations our members want to travel to in the future.

### **FWSA 2013 INTERNATIONAL SKI WEEK:**

You will enjoy FWSA Ski Week from March 2 – 10, 2013 in Innsbruck, Austria. You will spend seven nights at the 4-star Hotel Grauer Bar with daily breakfast and dinner included. Innsbruck, the Tyrolean capital, hosted the Winter Olympics in 1964 and 1976. It has over 320 miles of trails easily accessible in 25 surrounding village resorts. There are nine major ski areas that provide varied terrain for all levels of skiers. The post extension trip from March 10 - 17 will offer five nights in Garmisch for skiing and adventure, then two nights in Munich, Germany. Both weeks will offer optional tours for both skiers and non-skiers alike. Along with my husband, George, I have recruited Gloria Raminha as the travel assistant for this trip. We plan to bring 100-130 participants on this trip and sign-ups are growing these days.

Now is the time to reserve your spot for the FWSA 2013 International Ski Week in Innsbruck, Austria with an extension to Garmisch and Munich, Germany! We still have spots available, so do not delay and sign up today!

### **PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE:**

Let us take the FWSA International Travel Program to the next level in the upcoming year. In order to provide our members the best travel experience, I feel it is important to explore relationships with additional tour operators. As part of my campaign platform, I said I would work towards establishing new and renewing old relationships with additional tour companies. Having said this, I have been communicating with one new company and renewing our relationship with one previous tour operator.

I have been working closely with our travel committee to update and forecast future trip schedules, work on goal setting, standardize forms & RFP's [Request for Proposals] and create a strategic marketing plan for all FWSA travel opportunities. As a team, we work hard to provide our members added value, offering seamless ease of travel, and exciting experiences that our members have come to expect from us in an even more inviting and sophisticated way. **All you do is, write the check....we'll do the rest!**

### **FWSA ANNUAL DIVE TRIP:**

The 3rd FWSA scuba dive trip was held early September to the beautiful island of Cayman Brac. Twelve participants enjoyed great weather and spectacular diving around the walls and reefs of Cayman Brac and Little Cayman. The hospitality and food at the Brac Reef Beach Resort was exceptional and the valet diving offered by Reef Divers has truly raised the bar for dive operators in the Caribbean. Our boat captain, Erik from Sweden, did a great job of picking superb dive sites, and our dive masters, Beccy from England and BJ, a local Bracker, did a great job of drawing pictures of the dive sites and pointing out very interesting sea life. We saw turtles, sharks, barracuda, moray eels, groupers, parrotfish, trunk fish, trumpet fish, snappers, a variety of coral and sponges. Join us next year in Belize!

### **FWSA 2014 INTERNATIONAL SKI WEEK:**

The FWSA 2014 International Ski Week will be to Zermatt, Switzerland with an extension to Spain and/or Portugal. The



*Debbie Stewart  
VP of  
International  
Travel*

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## *VP of Membership*

*By Mary Azevedo*



*Mary Azevedo  
VP of  
Membership*

As we come into the fall season, we start looking at our ski equipment and deciding if we need updating or some remedial work for our skis or boots. If you have really old stuff, there are websites that will purchase your ancient ski equipment (just kidding). When you take your equipment into your nearest ski shop, talk up your ski club to the employees and ask if they will refer people to your club. See if they or their friends seem interested in the race program we have.

Another place to recruit members can happen when your club members participate in a group of racing or recreational bicycling. Many clubs are learning that people who bicycle are often skiers. Why not schedule bike rides for your club. In addition, if some of your members do belong to bicycle groups, encourage them to talk up your ski club.

Another area that may “hook” your members is through participation in ski issues in your area. A letter writing campaign could energize your members into action. Nine out of ten ski resorts in the West are on public land managed by the U.S. Forest Service.

How about your health club? We have our kick-off meeting at a gym that has a large room where we can meet. We have gotten new members from this gym and the management likes it because it is a way for them to recruit new members.

Here are some ideas that can help your ski club get exposure in your area. Do you have a Sports Basement near you? Every year they have an event where they ask ski equipment manufacturers to display their wares on a Sunday afternoon for the skiing public. Our club and council always have tables with literature about the local clubs, council, and FWSA. In fact, in some areas the Warren Miller organization allows local ski clubs to have displays in the theater lobby. We also participate in a local ski swap and snow shows. You never know where you can display information about your club; the worst thing that can happen is that they will say, “No”.

I have been thinking about what subjects to cover at the convention in June with the Snowsports Academy Leadership classes. We have had such great classes in the past. How can we come up with something new? Well, I thought long and hard and have decided that some of our members may want to learn how other clubs are using Facebook, Twitter, iCloud, Craigslist and other websites. Steve Coxen, our own past FWSA president and webmaster, has a fabulous background in these areas. We are fortunate to have him volunteer to speak at the convention about these new ways to keep our members and prospective members up-to-date on club activities. In the next issue, I will let you know the topic of the second class. I think you will be as excited as I am about the other topic.

### **Debbie Stewart - Continued from previous page**

last time FWSA went to Zermatt was in 2004 and it is time to return with great expectations. The details will be provided.

### **FWSA 2014 ADVENTURE TRIP:**

We will be planning an African Safari in the fall of 2014. This trip will be an experience of a lifetime and one you will not want to miss! Destination and details will be provided.

**“Keep holding on to your hats, scarves, walking shoes and passports...**

**Let’s embrace the world with FWSA’s International Travel Program and adventures to be discovered”.**

**For updates on the FWSA International Travel Program:**

Website: [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org) or Debbie Stewart at: [FWSAIntlTrvl@prodigy.net](mailto:FWSAIntlTrvl@prodigy.net)

## *VP of North American Travel*

*by Gloria Raminha*

### **2013 Aspen/Snowmass Ski Week**

Where has the time gone? Ski season is here and four amazing mountains are awaiting the presence of FWSA members for the 2013 Far West Ski Week, February 2-9 in **Aspen/Snowmass**, Colorado. The Travel Staff and I have been working for more than a year with Mary Manning from **Aspen Ski Company**, Mike Hibbard and Sara Clemons with Sports America Tours to prepare for another FWSA outstanding ski week.

With our 5 or 6 day lift ticket package, over 500 FWSA members will have an opportunity to ski **Snowmass Ski Area**, **Buttermilk Mountain**, **Aspen Mountain** and **Aspen Highlands**. Our ski week activities will consist of:

- Welcome/Super Bowl Party
- Pub crawl
- Races
- Après Party
- Mountain lunch
- Awards Banquet and Dance
- & More

Our theme for this ski week is “Mardi Gras”. For those entering the Council Challenge races, this is your time to stand out by racing in your best Mardi Gras costume. We would also like everyone to dress up for the Mardi Gras party at our farewell banquet and dance.

### **Mt. Bachelor – 2nd Annual Mini North American Ski Trip**

Join FWSA members on our 2nd Annual mini ski trip to **Mt. Bachelor** from March 25 – 30, 2013. This trip is 5 nights and 3 or 4 days of skiing. The trip package also includes a full American breakfast every day, a welcome party, last tracks après ski party, tubing party and a farewell party. The flyer and sign-up details are on the [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org) website. Included in the trip package is: This FWSA trip is limited to the first 100 signups. A \$50 refundable (until November 15) deposit will guarantee your spot. **Transportation is not provided by FWSA.** Air reservations should be made into Redmond/Bend Airport. Roundtrip shuttle service from Redmond Airport to The Riverhouse will be provided for free. For more details and sign-up information for this trip, go to [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org).



**Mt. Bachelor**

### **2014 Ski Week will be in Beaver Creek**

Mark your calendars for 2014 North American Ski Week. **Beaver Creek** was selected for the FWSA Ski Week in 2014. *“Not exactly roughing it”!* That is what FWSA members will be doing for the 2014 Ski Week, January 25 to February 1. This ski week will be the first FWSA Ski Week to be held in **Beaver Creek**.

Stephen Hall and Sandy Gaudette from Skigroup.net, along with Todd Strickland from **Vail Resorts** have been putting together an itinerary for the **Beaver Creek** site inspection which is scheduled for January 10 to 13. Travel Staff and Council Trip Leaders will be touring a variety of lodging and facilities where we will hold the ski week activities.

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With **Beaver Creek's** outstanding groomed runs, base village escalators and cookie-time every afternoon, you will think you are in Heaven. More details for this ski week will be available early next year.

## Panama Canal Cruise

A great time was had on the Panama Canal Cruise as you can see by the photos.



Gloria Raminha & Linda Westlund on a Mangrove Tour in Puerto Chiapas



George Muller & Bonnie Driggers toasting on the Panama Canal Cruise



Bonnie Driggers and Linda Westlund going through the Panama Canal



Bridge of the Americas between North and South America



Locks at the Panama Canal



The black arrow shows the space between the ship and the concrete in the canal

# *National Ski Council Federation (NSCF)*

*by Jo Simpson, Chair*



## **National Ski Council Federation Newsbeat**

**October 2012**

### **Lindsey Vonn asks to race men's downhill**

American skiing ace, Lindsey Vonn has conquered the women's downhill, so, she is now asking World Cup race officials to compete against the men. Vonn has sent a letter to the International Ski Federation (FIS) asking to be allowed to enter the Men's Winterstart Downhill scheduled for Lake Louise in Alberta, Canada next month. The Women's Lake Louise Downhill follows a week later. If Vonn's request is approved, it could easily boost interest and television audiences for alpine ski racing via the Lake Louise competition. [Read more.](#) (First Tracks)

### **Head injuries still increase along with helmet use**

Injuries and fatalities from skiing and snowboarding in the U.S. have not declined, despite measures aimed at making these popular winter sports safer, according to two studies being presented in Denver this week at Scientific Assembly, the annual meeting of the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP). "Skiing and snowboarding-related head injuries requiring emergency care have increased at a higher rate than all other ski and snowboard injuries, despite an increase in helmet use," said Mark Christensen, D.O., of Western Michigan University, a study author. "Males, snowboarders and teenagers are most likely to be injured." [Read more.](#) (First Tracks)

### **NASTAR adds slalom course-NASTAR founder comments on Vail Resorts withdrawing from NASTAR Program**

The traditional modified NASTAR-GS course is popular with 100,000 participants annually and this year more than 115 Nature Valley NASTAR resorts will have the option of setting NASTAR slalom courses too. NASTAR founder, John Fry calls Vail's decision to withdraw from NASTAR and offer their own standard racing program "a disservice to its guests." [Read more.](#) (NASTAR)

### **2012-13 U.S. Ski and Snowboard Season opens...in Minnesota**

The title for the first North American ski resort to open for the season goes not to perennial favorites Loveland Ski Area or Arapahoe Basin, both in Colorado, but to an underdog in Minnesota. In the midst of its annual fall open house, Wild Mountain officials on Oct. 7 opted to take advantage of cold weather to expand upon the snow provided for its 2012 Log Jam, which took place yesterday, by making snow for public skiing and snowboarding today on the Dandy novice slope, serviced by a rope tow. [Read more.](#) (First Tracks)

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## **Sugar Bowl to operate Royal Gorge XC; Truckee Donner Land Trust will own**

Sugar Bowl Resort on storied Donner Pass in the California High Sierra signed an agreement Oct. 1 to lease and operate neighboring and expansive Royal Gorge Cross Country Ski Area, which is being purchased by the Tahoe Donner Land Trust. [Read more.](#) (SnoNews)

## **Colorado's Monarch Mountain keeps growing at home and abroad**

Southern Colorado's Monarch Mountain continues to embrace resort partners, not only in the United States, but all over the world. In addition, the owners of the resort outside Salida, Colo., have ponied up \$2.3 million to expand and renovate the base lodge.

On the ticket side, Monarch now has 33 other resorts that honor its season passholders with varying degrees of free and reduced-price skiing or snowboarding. New this season is British Columbia's Red Mountain Resort and Spain's Masella Resort. Red Mountain joins Revelstoke as Canadian partners. [Read more.](#) (SnoNews)

## **Breckenridge Peak 6 expansion appealed**

Two appeals were lodged against the Forest Service decision to allow Breckenridge's Peak 6 expansion, giving the agency 45 days to respond. The proposed expansion would add 413 acres, much of it designated as intermediate, a six-pack chairlift, fixed-grip chair, and 143 acres of hike-to skiing.

The appeals argue that the project will result in more crowding on the slopes at Breckenridge, and that the proposed intermediate terrain is unsuited for that ability level. While one appeal notes that the Forest Service failed to consider the impact on lynx habitat, the Forest Service has determined that the area in question is not suited for lynx habitat.

## **California's Bear Valley to open**

After a shaky 2011/12 season, Bear Valley Mountain Resort, Calif., has said that it will reopen this year. Typically, Bear Valley hosts 140,000 skier visits, but last season saw only 75,000. Also at issue was whether the resort would file a new operating plan with the U.S. Forest Service by October 15. According to *MyMotherLode.com*, the deadline will be met and employees rehired. (SAM)

## **At Keystone, vacationing kids ski free**

Keystone Resort is taking kid-friendly programming to new heights: throughout the entire 2012-2013 winter season, children 12 and under will ski/snowboard for free at Keystone, so long as their families stay two or more nights in one of Keystone's owned and operated accommodations.

If the accommodations condition is met, the program has no blackout dates and is available on all weekends and holidays. There are no restrictions on the number of children per adult. Reservations must be booked through the Keystone website or its toll-free reservations line. Families can choose from a range of accommodations, including a hotel room or a condominium. [Read more.](#) (SAM)

## **Ski Area Management publishing 6-part series of the future of the industry**

If you are interested in a comprehensive discussion of where the ski industry is headed, check out the series on the SAM website. SE Group recently completed an informal survey about the future of the industry. Respondents represent a true cross section of the industry—all regions of the country, destination resorts and day-use ski areas, old guard and young guns, suppliers and consultants, GMs and moneymen. Here are the links to the first two segments: [CHALLENGE #1: THE ECONOMY](#), [CHALLENGE #2: FUNDING CAPITAL EXPENDITURES WHILE PROVIDING VALUE TO THE CUSTOMER](#).

## ***VP of Racing***

*by Bob Ellis*

The upcoming season looks promising as we have several races scheduled throughout the west coast. Pacrat in Oregon have several races scheduled, Sierra, Open and Singles League have their schedule prepared, and Rokka and ULLR at Mammoth Mountain have their race schedule set in stone. All we need now is some snow, and my meteorological sources tell me we should have a good snow year this season. I hope that is true!



***Bob Ellis  
VP of Racing***

This year the Far West Ski Association Ski Week will be at Aspen/Snowmass on February 2-9, 2013. We plan on having a great time there, with plenty of races planned during the Ski Week at Snowmass. We plan on having a Qualifier Race for those that have not raced with us recently, a Giant Slalom, a Slalom, and of course the Dual Giant Slalom Council Challenge race with teams racing for bragging rights. Last year Sierra League won the coveted Council Challenge Race. Our races include 11 skill classes, four age classes and classes for women and men, so we have a race class for anybody and everybody.

Later on in the year, SoCals will be held at Mammoth Mountain. The Far West Championships will be held at Alpine Meadows this year on April 5-7, 2013, so plan on coming to Northern California for some great skiing and some competitive racing. This year we plan on having two runs on each course for every participant, so they can get their money's worth on each day of racing.

We look forward to another fun year of racing and we hope the weather and the economy will be better so more people can enjoy this wonderful sport.



## ***FAMILY & YOUTH INVOLVEMENT***

*By Fran Long, Chairperson*

Whether you are with your family, your friends, or both, the most important part of anything we do in life is the people we share those experiences with. So, what DOES make a good trip, and when is that trip right for the under twenty-one set?

The price, the terrain, the lodging choices, the après ski opportunities, and the ease of travel all factor in to where clubs, councils, and FWSA book trips. Sometimes those trips are very adult specific, and sometimes they are perfect for children of all ages. FWSA supports youth and family involvement and seeks lodging and activities that will be appropriate for minors as well as adults on most FWSA trips. Several of our member councils and clubs support family-friendly trips as well.

If you have children or grandchildren you would like to spend some time enjoying on the slopes, think about looking for a FWSA trip that would suit your interests and be appropriate for your family. If your club/council does not support activities for those under twenty-one, consider partnering with a club or council that does. Interested??? Visit [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org) and look for our family-friendly trips and activities.



***Fran Long  
Chairperson  
Family  
& Youth  
Involvement***

# Athletic Scholarship

By Dick Shawkey, Chairman

## The 2012 Scholarship Recipients Have Been Selected

The 2012 scholarship recipients are being notified as this edition of the Councilman goes to print. Sixteen junior athletes, six junior men and 10 junior women, will be awarded scholarships ranging from \$500 to \$1525. This year's recipients are from California (6), Oregon (4), Washington (2), Utah (2), Idaho (1), and Nevada (1). This year's recipients have an average academic GPA of 3.78, with seven having scored 3.9 or better.



*Dick Shawkey  
Athletic Scholarship  
Chairman*



**Ali Gunesch**

U.S. Ski Team member and former Diamond Peak, NV, racer, Lila Lapanja received our top score this year and will receive a \$1000 scholarship. From her first application in 2009, Lila was recognized as a strong all-round athlete who held top ten standings in all four racing disciplines. In 2011, Lila joined the U.S. Ski Team's Development Team and during the 2012 race season she exceeded expectations. She took fourth place in Slalom at the U.S. Nationals and finished the season ranked first in Giant Slalom, first in Super Combined, second in Slalom, and third in Super G for her year group.

Following Lila are five more junior women: Ali Gunesch, from Government Camp, OR; Elyse Burandt, from Spokane, WA; Molly Leavens, from Park City, UT; Jordan Schweitzer, from Bend, OR; and Haley Hanseler, from Longview, WA. Like Lila, Ali, Jordan, and

Haley are former scholarship recipients. All three 2012 high school graduates are taking academic sabbaticals to focus on one last shot for the U.S. Ski Team. During the 2012 season, Ali had fourteen top ten finishes in which she reached the podium eight times. Ali has been selected for Skiyente's Erin Nicole scholarship (\$1525). Despite a serious injury in December 2011, Jordan, who will receive the Mountain High Snowsports Club scholarship (\$1000), held on to her number one standing in Downhill and pulled in a tenth place for Super G in her year group. Haley (\$750) had ten top ten finishes of which five landed her on the podium. Molly Leavens and Elyse Burandt stand second and third, respectively, in overall points for year group 1997. Molly (\$1000) had podium finishes in eight races in 2012 and finished the season ranked number one in Slalom. Elyse finished the 2012 season with sixteen top ten finishes, six of which were in the top three. Elyse has been selected by our newest partner, the Northwest Ski Club Council, to receive a \$1000 scholarship.



**Lila Lapanja**

San Diego Council has awarded \$900 to Alexa Wehsener, a San Diego resident, who is a member of the Mammoth Mountain Ski Team. Alexa had one top ten finish in addition to several near misses. Austin Dean, a Portland native will receive the Bergfreunde Ski Club scholarship of \$500. During the 2012 season, Austin placed in the top ten seven times, including two second place Slalom and Giant Slalom finishes. Los Angeles Council is to be commended for sponsoring 15 year old Kayleigh MacGregor (\$500) who is a member of the Mammoth Mountain Ski Team. Kayleigh formerly lived in Malibu, CA, but her parents recently moved to Mammoth so that she could take advantage of the training opportunities. Last season, Kayleigh finished fifth in the Far West Downhill Championships. She also had two top ten finishes in Downhill and Super G. Her achievements are all the more remarkable because Kayleigh is afflicted with cystic fibrosis. Kayleigh's courage and fortitude exemplifies a true champion.

The FWSA Athletic Scholarship Program continues to be indebted to its sponsors who have supported the program from its inception: Whitefish Mountain Resort ([www.skiwhitefish.com](http://www.skiwhitefish.com)), Grouse Mountain Lodge ([www.grousemountainlodge.com](http://www.grousemountainlodge.com)), Schure Sports Inc. ([www.karbonmail.com](http://www.karbonmail.com)), maker of the Karbon brand of snow sports apparel, and the Far West Racing Association ([www.fwra.com](http://www.fwra.com)).

## Charities and Our Community

by Sigrid Noack

# Community service & charities should be on every club's meeting agenda .... and every council's too...



*Sigrid Noack,  
Charities  
and our  
Community  
Chairperson*

Now that all of you have elected your new Board of Directors, it's time to review your schedule of activities for the year. Every club has some special interests ... this year let us make sure that your group does at least one activity supporting an organization that needs help. Support a charitable organization or some interesting community program. Make it a priority for your group in 2012-13!

If your club or council has not done charity work in the past, start by listing Charities or Community Service on your meeting agenda for every meeting. It would be great if you could get someone in your club to take over that topic and lead the group in that direction ... to have a fun activity, as a group, feeling good about supporting others less fortunate. If you need some suggestions, please check the [fwsa.org](http://fwsa.org) website, where I have listed all the charities that our clubs and councils have been supporting. It's quite an impressive list!

FWSA feels that supporting charities is an important part of our organization. For that reason we have a couple of ways of giving recognition to clubs and councils at our annual conventions:

Our “**FWSA Charity & Community Service Recognition**” is in its seventh year now. We recognize clubs and councils for their involvement with charitable organizations. There is a very simple process: You download the application form from our [fwsa.org](http://fwsa.org) website, fill it out, describing your club's charity involvement, and then send it by March 15 to me at [sigski@earthlink.net](mailto:sigski@earthlink.net).

The other recognition is the “**Community Service Awareness Program**”, which is in its third year. We recognize councils who have the highest percent of clubs involved with at least one charitable organization. **FWSA is aiming for 100% club participation.** Help your council to reach this goal. Our top councils have been San Diego Ski Club Council, Arizona Ski Council, Central Council, and Intermountain Ski Council.

You still have 7 months until Convention 2013 to get all your clubs involved. Let's really work on reaching our 100% goal this year!



# Why come to the Convention?

By Mary Azevedo

Why come to the FWSA Convention? First and foremost, you will make lasting friendships. When my husband Norm and I went to our first convention in San Jose many years ago, we hardly knew anyone. Now we have many convention friends. When you go, take some members from your club with you so you have people to hang out with.

Almost every meal has tables labeled with the council names. When you sit at these tables, you will meet people who live in your local area; take time to introduce yourself and talk about skiing and any other subject that interests you. As the weekend progresses, you will see these same people at all kinds of events. As time goes by, you will have some friends that you look forward to seeing at the conventions year after year.

Why come to the FWSA convention being held at the glamorous and remodeled Grand Sierra Hotel and Casino in Reno? It is so easy to get there by plane, car, or RV. Arrangements have been made for RV owners to enjoy the same amenities as hotel guests. Just make sure you use the FWSA code when making your hotel reservations to receive our group rate.

This year the FWSA is offering 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, the club will receive a rebate of one (1) paid registration after the Convention.

Starting on Thursday night, you are in for lots of fun at the **Pub Crawl**, being planned by Catherine Ohl and Gene Fulkerson, who did an outstanding job running last year’s event. The Pub Crawl includes both ski members and the ski industry representatives. This is a great opportunity to meet the industry and find out what is new at their ski resort and what the hot new ski equipment is. They are very congenial people, and you will enjoy talking to them about skiing.

Friday is the day to enjoy great events that have been planned for you. Most of these events start in the morning and will be over by the time the Beach Party starts. You can: play golf in the **7th Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament** at the LakeRidge Golf Course; go **White Water Rafting**; take a **Historic Walk Along the Truckee River** and visit the **Auto Museum** (with tour guides), Play **Miniature Golf, Bowl and learn Pai Gow** or enjoy a **Spa Day** all at the Grand Sierra Resort; or Hike Mt. Rose (if the ice is gone).

That evening, you can go to the Silent Auction and bid on over \$100,000 in ski and adventure trips (both domestic and international) and sports equipment. The packages are a tremendous value. You will get caught up in the bidding and REALLY want to win one of the packages. As the bidding gets close to closing, you will see the serious bidders standing nearby, watching to see if anyone wants to make a higher bid than yours. Hang in there, YOU CAN WIN real bargains!!

On Saturday the Travel Expo, panel sessions and Snowsports Leadership Academy give attendees knowledge they can take back to their clubs. For example, helping ski club members communicate on the net and providing ideas on how to energize meetings. The Saturday keynote speakers are always interesting and informative. The Saturday evening Awards Banquet and Dance is something we always look forward to. You will see awards handed out to our most honored volunteers and industry partners. To enter the individual, club and council recognition programs, go to the FWSA.org website for deadlines and rules.

All this fun and activity will be followed on Sunday morning with the business end of the Convention. This is when officers are elected, by-laws and resolutions are voted on, and all other FWSA business is addressed. The morning’s General Session is all planned around a sumptuous Sunday Brunch.

Make your plans now to attend the **81st Annual Far West Ski Association Convention June 6-9, 2013**, hosted by the Bay Area Snow Sports Council. It is not only fun and a great place to meet people with similar interests, but very educational. For complete details and contact information, see the FWSA Convention flyer in this publication.

# Far West Ski Association

81<sup>st</sup> Annual Convention

*Mountain Magic Moments*



## June 6-9, 2013

### Grand Sierra Resort & Casino



2500 East 2nd Street Reno, NV 89595  
(775) 789-2129 (reservations)  
www.grandsierraresort.com

hosted by *Bay Area Snow Sports Council*

"The Voice of the Western Skier"



FOUNDED 1930



## Grand Sierra Resort & Casino

**Reservations** call 800-648-5080 or 775-789-2129

**Group Name** Far West Ski Association 2013

**Online** <https://resweb.passkey.com/go/FarWestSki>

**Rates per night plus tax** single or double occupancy

Grand Sierra Room **\$79**

Summit Grand II Upgrade **\$104**

### *Hotel Features*

- 11 Restaurants, 5 Bars & Lounges, Casino, Beach/Pool, Spa/Health Club, Movie Theater, Bowling, Miniature Golf
- NO Resort Fees, FREE In-room Wi-Fi, FREE Parking
- Rates available 3 days pre and post Convention
- FREE TRANSFER from Reno International Airport
- **Room block release date is May 15, 2013**

### *Convention Highlights*

- Silent Auction
- Travel Expo
- Snowsports Leadership Academy
- Celebrity Speakers
- Public Affairs Panel
- Saturday Awards Luncheon
- Celebrity Multi-Media Presentation
- Saturday Awards Dinner
- Far West General Meeting & Elections

### *Optional Activities*

- Pub Crawl
- Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament
- Adventure Trips
- Spa Day
- Kayaking
- Beach Party

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

#### • Jane Wyckoff

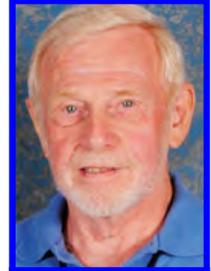
FWSA Convention Chair  
janewyckoff1@cox.net or 949-933-9607

#### • Mary Olhausen

Silent Auction/Travel Expo Chair  
omary52@comcast.net or 503-880-7383

#### • Linda Indreboe

BAC Host Convention Chair, 408-248-8426  
bac.publicaffairs@skibac.org



**Arleigh Meiners**  
*Arizona Ski Council President*

## Summer activities are over and snow is flying in the high country



**Just Cruisin’**

The clubs in the Arizona Ski Council had a busy summer. The Phoenix Ski Club had a house boat trip to Lake Powell, sailing in the British Virgin Islands, kayaking on the Salt River, and a trip to Rocky Point, Mexico. Arizona Outdoor Travel and Adventure Club had many hikes and campouts in the high country of Arizona. Scottsdale Sea and Ski club had their annual summer events which were a Pub Crawl in Prescott, Arizona and a Topless Road Rage to Jerome, Arizona. Of course, we cannot forget all the swimming parties, social happy hours, local bicycle rides and dinners of the month that were planned and very well attended.

The Arizona Ski Council will hosted their annual Ski Season Kick-Off Party on Saturday, Nov. 3 at North Mountain Park. The Arizona Ski Council 2012-2013 ski trip schedule is complete and most of the trips are sold out already. Phoenix Ski Club is going to Wolf Creek in early

December, Park City over New Years, Telluride for Arizona Days in mid-January, Taos in February, Beaver Creek and Big Sky in March, Telluride in April and then the FWSA trips to Snowmass and Mt. Bachelor. At this time the Scottsdale Sea and Ski Club does not have any ski trips planned.

The Phoenix Ski Club will be having their 65th Anniversary celebration next year and a lot of the planning of events is already under way. The first event is a picture poster event that will be held Nov. 17 at Dreamy Draw Park. On Feb. 9, 2013 the club will enter a float in the annual horse drawn parade called the Parada Del Sol. Saturday April 20 will be the 65th Anniversary Banquet and membership appreciation dinner. This event will be held at Pinnacle Peak Patio and about 200 people will be attending this event. Then on May 17 – 19, 2013 there will be a bus trip to Laughlin, Nevada. More events may be planned.

The Warren Miller Movie will be shown at two locations in Phoenix, the Orpheum Theater and Grady Gammage center at ASU, and one location in Scottsdale, the Scottsdale Performing Arts Center. The Arizona Ski Council will be attending these events and will be distributing the *Far West Skiers Guide*.

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



**Captain Paul Castaldo**



**Docked for the Day**

# *Bay Area Snow Sports Council*

*By Dennis Heffley, President*



*Dennis Heffley  
Bay Area Snow  
Sports Council  
President*

The winter of 2010 ~ 2011 was too much snow. The winter of 2011 ~ 2012 was too little snow. This means **The winter of 2012 ~ 2013 will be a “Goldilocks winter” . . . when we’ll get JUST THE RIGHT AMOUNT OF SNOW!**

As the Bay Area Snow Sports Council (BAC) enters the winter of 2012, many things have been accomplished, other tasks and events are being worked on and we are looking forward to 2013!

On September 14, 2012 BAC held its 7<sup>th</sup> Annual BAC/Tailgate BBQ/Oakland A’s Baseball Game & Fireworks Show benefiting Disabled Sports USA Far West (DSUSAFW) Division. For the second year in a row, this event was supported by VAIL Resorts. We had about 110 people at our Tailgate BBQ and a total of 156 people in the ballgame with us! Attending the game from VAIL Resorts was Todd Strickland and Jennifer Van Gilder. Also at the game was Haakon Lang-Ree, DSUSAFW Snow School Program Director, his wife and two daughters!

It is snow sports show season! BAC has booths at the Snow Bomb and other local shows where we will be promoting our council, clubs, FWSA & the National Ski Council Federation.

BAC is hosting the 81<sup>st</sup> Annual FWSA Convention June 6 ~ 9, 2013 where our theme is “Mountain Magic Moments”. Monthly planning meetings are taking place. A variety of optional Friday events are set. The various parties are all lined up! Educational topics are being worked on. Please encourage your clubs and members to come to the Grand Sierra Resort & Casino and join the BAC and FWSA at the convention. They will both have fun and bring back valuable information to your club!

To promote the upcoming FWSA Convention the BAC created a Power Point presentation to educate our clubs and their members on the purpose, benefits, recognition award programs, leadership academy and other facets of the event. Another topic discussed was the FWSA Incentive Program to ALL CLUBS encouraging them to send voting delegates to the 2013 FWSA Convention. Every sixth voting delegate registration fee from a member club will be reimbursed to the club after the end of the 2013 FWSA Convention.

During the BAC Monthly Meeting on November 5, 2012 we will have our 4<sup>th</sup> Annual WinterFest Meeting. Resorts will join us that evening in a travel carousel/silent auction format sharing information with various members of our BAC Clubs.

BAC accomplishes all that it does from the vision, efforts and energy of our volunteers!

***Thank You for Being the One Who Makes the Difference!***

# Central Council of California

By Fran Long, President



## The value of ski/snow sports councils

Central Council holds such fond memories of ski trips, water ski trips, volleyball tournaments, friendships, etc., with lots of participation from members of our six clubs. As we struggle to rebuild our council to its former glory, we sometimes wonder if it is really worth all the effort! Then we have an event that DOES bring together some of those past friendships, and we realize that it is indeed well worth the effort.

Below is the modified review of one such event, bringing together members of SLO Skiers of San Luis Obispo County, and Santa Barbara Ski Club. Thank you, Lauren Nagle, for allowing me to use pieces of your wonderful review of our camp and bike weekend.



Twenty SLO Skiers and five Santa Barbara Ski Club members enjoyed a weekend of camping at Camp Comfort in Ojai. The weather was warm but not beastly hot. Friday the RV's and tent campers rolled in. A margarita party was a welcoming beacon to the travelers. There was plenty of help when Hal and Sharon put up their tent trailer. John and Fran Long gave tours of their lovely new motor home. Barbara Collins brought samples of sun screen and moisturizer for the group. Spence and Carol stayed in a Ventura Hotel, but were there to help with the party and dinner. We were the only campers in the park so we didn't have to abide by the usual 9 p.m. quiet hour.

Saturday morning we made our activity decisions for the day, with some opting to shop or fish rather than bike ride. We were very appreciative that Caryn Maddalena volunteered to stay behind and dog sit for the many canine campers.

The bike ride has one killer hill, just outside the campground, and then it's downhill for 14 miles into Ventura. After lunch and a little shopping in Ventura, we chugged back up the hill to Ojai to rest and prepare for the evening festivities.

And then there was wine tasting... The Rosewalls took first place with their red wine selection. Lauren Nagle took 1st place in the white wine category. The group dinner was fabulous, with many great cooks between our two clubs.



After dinner the group from Santa Barbara introduced us to a simple gambling game called RIGHT, LEFT, CENTER. From all the noise the dice rollers made it must have been a great game.

After a wonderful weekend, renewing old friendships and making new ones, we packed on Sunday and headed home at a leisurely pace with smiles on our faces...

# *Intermountain Ski Council*

*by Michael Bouton, President*



*Michael Bouton  
President  
Intermountain  
Ski Council*

The council is growing. We have two new clubs coming on board this season; Boise State University and Mountain Home AFB ski and snowboard clubs. We will be welcoming them to join in on the fun and friendship with the council. Another club I am working with is a women's ski group in Boise, the Vertigals. I hope I can convince them to join us.

The council is hosting a ski trip to Grand Targhee, WY February 21-24, 2013. The trip will be a fun four day affair with social events Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evenings. Saturday's event will include a silent auction and raffle. The cost is very affordable, \$350.00 per person based on double occupancy staying in the slope side Teewinot Lodge. If two people want to stay in the Targhee Lodge, which has smaller rooms and is a little more rustic, the cost is only \$250.00. Both include three days of lift tickets. There is a deluxe motor coach from Boise through Pocatello and Idaho Falls Thursday the 21st. If room is available, others can get on board. The cost of the bus round trip from Boise is only \$45.00. I do not think one could drive there for this cost and there will be a few libations on board.

This will be the sixth ski trip the council has sponsored and we encourage anyone else that would like to join in with us. Targhee usually has the best powder of the year at this time. It should be great skiing and riding. The price is hard to beat as well.

We are planning a weekend ski and share information with other clubs in Park City, UT, spring 2013. Dates are not firm yet. We will have round table discussions as to how the council can best serve our clubs. We'll have some fun too.

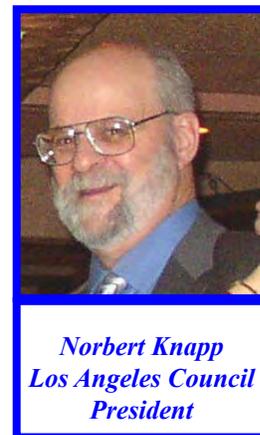
Think Snow!



**Grand Targhee, Wyoming**

# Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs

by Norbert E. Knapp, President



Los Angeles Council is proud to again be sponsoring a young ski racer this season. **Kayleigh MacGregor** is 15 years old. Her parents moved from Malibu to Mammoth so she could train with the Mammoth Ski Team. In 2011 Kayleigh had top ten finishes in downhill and Super G including a 5<sup>th</sup> place Downhill finish at the Far West Championships. She also was selected for the J-3 Junior Olympics. What makes Kayleigh special is that she is competing with notable results despite being afflicted with cystic fibrosis. Her coach describes her as a “key member of the team, a role model for younger athletes and a leader amongst her peers.” She was last season’s Spencer Riffel Memorial Scholarship recipient in recognition of her superb sportsmanship.

of the team, a role model for younger athletes and a leader amongst her peers.” She was last season’s Spencer Riffel Memorial Scholarship recipient in recognition of her superb sportsmanship.

Los Angeles Council is also proud to announce that Sandra Blackwell of Single Ski Club was named 2012-13 LA Council Woman of the Year and Steve Elkins, also of Single Ski Club, was named Man of the Year. They were presented with flower leis at our Hawaiian themed Snow Gala on October 27, 2012, at the Odyssey Restaurant in Thousand Oaks. Thanks to the efforts of Sigrid Noack, the Council again raised over a thousand dollars to support the Unrecables Ski Club, part of the Adaptive Skiers program in Southern California. Also, Judith Miller received the Fay Mumbauer Award for her many years of contributions to the skiing community in Southern California.

Hopefully, Mother Nature will favor us this year with abundant snow. We are looking forward to a great year at Mammoth Mountain and the many club-sponsored trips, as well as participating in the FWSA Trip to Aspen/Snowmass February 2-9, 2013. The Los Angeles Council is taking a trip to Mt. Bachelor Feb. 23-Mar. 2, 2013. For additional information, contact the VP of Travel, Sandra Blackwell at [sblackwell@brightandbrown.com](mailto:sblackwell@brightandbrown.com).



**Steve Elkins and Sandra Blackwell**



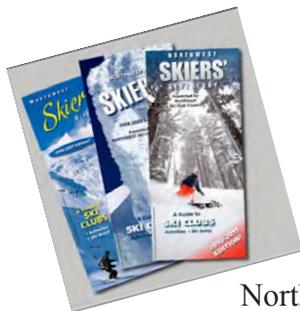
**Judith Miller receives Fay Mumbauer Award**

# Northwest Ski Club Council

by Mary Olhausen, President



Mary Olhausen  
Northwest  
Ski Club Council  
President



The gorgeous fall colors are fading into colder weather, rain, and early snow. We are all very busy praying for snow and attending lots of ski shows, swaps---and even one of our member club's Pray For Snow Dance. Our publication, *Northwest Skiers' Directory*, just hit the streets. The Directory is a great way to find out all that's happening here in the Northwest. The calendar will tell you the many places our clubs are traveling to – we are skiing and snowsporting all over the map!

Council meetings will be held every other month – beginning in 2013. Meetings are fun with themed nights, guest speakers and educational topics related to club management. A strong area of focus for us this year will be safety on the slopes and snowsport related safety issues/topics. In my presidency role I am trying to personally visit with more clubs – locally and far away. In September, while in Honolulu, I had the opportunity to meet with the Hawaii Ski Club. They treated me to a Hawaiian Happy Hour and I learned a lot about their club membership. Our **Pacific Northwest Area Clubs Recreational Alpine Teams (PACRAT)** racers are ready for another great season with six races to be held on Mt. Hood. PACRAT racing information can be found at [www.pacrats.org](http://www.pacrats.org).

The Northwest Ski Challenge lives on - in our 8th year now. The Challenge encourages skiers to visit resorts in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Alaska, Hawaii, and Canada. Qualify for prizes by skiing many of the resorts in these states. Northwest Snowsports Advocates continues to inform club members about ski area developments, and advocacy issues. You can find information on how to help, on our website at [www.nwskiers.org](http://www.nwskiers.org). I am pleased to announce that Northwest Ski Club Council (NWSCC) has just signed on to participate in the FWSA Athletic Scholarship Partnership Program—supporting a NW area USSA junior racer in the J1 to J3 age bracket. We are excited to be a part of such a wonderful and rewarding endeavor!

Congratulations are in order for our very own Steve Coxen, current NWSCC board member who was recently awarded the **Gene Landsmann Gemutlichkeit Award**. This award is presented from Ski Oregon for a member who exemplifies the spirit of Gene Landsman—an ambassador of skiing who embodies Gemutlichkeit – a German concept of warmth, cheerfulness and willingness to spend quality time.

NWSCC invites all clubs and councils - to join in the upcoming Mt. Bachelor Springtacular Blast---being held April 25-28, 2013. This trip will offer fabulous spring skiing at **Mt. Bachelor**, combined with activities like hiking, biking, golf, climbing, kayaking, and shopping. We will be entertained and skiing with the “Freestyle Legends” in a fun race and retro outfit contest. Music, barbecue, and party all await those who sign up. The Council will hold a Ski Day at **White Pass Resort** on March 16, 2013 and a Ski Day at **Crystal Mountain** in late March. NWSCC will be taking about 34 skiers to **Aspen/Snowmass** for FWSA Ski Week in 2013.

For all the latest and greatest news on NWSCC clubs and activities, visit our website at [www.nwskiers.org](http://www.nwskiers.org).

## Orange Council of Ski Clubs

By Judy Thurman, President



Judy Thurman  
Orange Council  
President



Orange Council's ski trip for 2013 will be the Aspen/Snowmass FWSA Ski Week trip, February 2-9, 2013. This is going to be another fabulous fun-filled ski week with Après ski parties, racing, mountain picnics, and awards dinner/dance on Friday night. For information on this trip please contact Sheila Van Guilder at [svanguil@yahoo.com](mailto:svanguil@yahoo.com).

Currently, Orange Council has 11 ski clubs located in the Southern California-Orange County area. Whether you live in North, Central, East or West Orange County, there is a club especially for you. Each one of our clubs offers activities unique to their organization. Activities range from paddle boarding, snowboarding, tennis tournaments, ski racing, kayaking, Halloween parties, boat parades and Christmas parties.

Mammoth Mountain for our local ski clubs. to Mammoth Mountain will be December 6-9, have an organized ski from January to April will be going to Aspen/Week Trip, February another fun-filled week ing, mountain picnics, on Friday nights. For information on all our clubs' ski trip schedules, monthly meeting dates and times contact [www.orangecouncil.org](http://www.orangecouncil.org).



is a favorite destination The first ski weekend trip tain for most of our clubs 2012. Most clubs will weekend, or mid-week trip 2013. Orange Council's Snowmass for FWSA Ski 2-9, 2013. This will be with Après Ski parties, racing and award dinner/dances

Orange Council has a strong racing program and is a member of the Schusski Race League with four races held at Mammoth Mountain starting in December 2012 to March 2013, which leads to the Far West Racing Championship to be held in April 2013. If you are interested in racing for Orange Council please contact Maxine Hanlon, VP of Racing at [maxch@prodigy.net](mailto:maxch@prodigy.net) or [www.orangecouncil.org](http://www.orangecouncil.org)

We are looking forward to a very good 2013 ski season.



# San Diego Council of Ski Clubs

By Eileen Sanford, President



Summer is over already! After a very busy ski season clubs switched to summer activities. **San Diego Council of Ski Clubs** (SDCSC) members savored white water rafting, bike rides along the bay, bocce ball, ethnic dining, happy hours, twilight concerts, tennis, a

chili cook off, Padre Games, tours of the San Diego Botanic Gardens, Salk Institute, The Cleopatra Exhibit at the California Science Center in Los Angeles and a train trip to Santa Barbara. Pacific Rim Club has a summer group called the River Rats that did waterskiing many weekends.

This summer SDCSC hosted a Summer Happy Hour at the Barefoot Bar & Grill on Mission Bay on Sept. 13, 2012. We had a super big turn-out at the cool and comfortable California bar by the bay. We had a representative from Grand Circle Travel and OSA Adventure Tours speak to us about our upcoming Burgundy to Provence river cruise. The Council is planning another European **bike ride in 2013 to the Loire Valley** Sept. 19-23, 2013 staying at hotels and riding past wineries and chateaus during the day. Then the post-trip will be 13 days on the Grand Circle and OSA tour of Burgundy and Provence on the barge **Provence** that holds 44 people. We will start with three days in Paris with tour guides and end with one night in Nice. We now have 20 on the Loire Valley Bike Ride and 24 on the Burgundy cruise. See website, [skisandiego.org](http://skisandiego.org) for more information or contact: Eileen [esanford1@san.rr.com](mailto:esanford1@san.rr.com)

We will work bag check and have a SDCSC booth at the **SnowJam Ski and Snowboard Show** on Nov. 9-11, 2012 at the Del Mar Fairgrounds. Each club can send workers for four hour shifts and earn money for their club. We usually have about 30 workers and earn over \$1,000 for clubs. At this time we pass out the new **Far West Skier's Guide** and information on the Savvy Snake Skin Cancer Prevention program.

The 2012-13 ski seasons will open with December SDCSC trips to Vail and Mammoth. The Mammoth trip will host our first Alpine League race of the season. In December of 2012 Mike Sanford will lead 46 of the crazy San Diegans and John Reinhardt will bring 14 Oregonians to join us in Vail this year. It will be our fifth joint San Diego and Northwest council trip. Dec. 6-11, 2012. We now have 36 participants going to Aspen with FWSA for Ski Week in February 2013.

**Qualcomm Ski Club** will lead a trip to Park City. **North Island Snowdrifters Ski Club** (NIS) and **Torrey Pines Ski Club** will take 41 people to **Whitefish Mountain Resort** in Montana in March, **Don Diego Ski Club** and **Torrey Pines Ski Club** will have two mid-week Mammoth trips. **North Island Snowdrifters** and **Action Ski and Snowboard Club** will each have four weekend bus trips to Mammoth this year.

We will have our annual Council Holiday Happy at the Hotel Del Coronado on Dec. 20. The theme this year is Snowflakes and Candy Canes. There will also be singing around the Del's huge Christmas tree.

Our official start of the ski season began with our Galafest on Nov. 3, 2012 organized by Barbara Blasé. It was held at Rock Bottom Brewery in La Jolla. The clubs selected an outstanding man and a woman as a way of honoring their most valuable and active members. Vail, Aspen and Telluride sponsored the event and we had beer taps with their logos on them! Mammoth Mountain donated lift tickets to the candidates and Hansen's Surf Shop donated \$50 gift certificates to the winners. This year each club made up baskets worth \$50 or more to auction off for the **Jr. Racer Scholarship Award Program**. We continue to give the **Far West Ski Foundation** a \$500 donation for the Jr. Racer program. It is our third year participating in this program. We are proud to have **Alexa Wehsener** as our Jr. Racer for this program.

This year NIS sponsored five wounded veterans (Wounded Warriors) from the Veterans Administration Hospital in a golf tournament in San Diego and hosted by Wyle, Inc., Mike Sanford's employer. San Diego Council was proud that we had 91% of our clubs participating in charity events this year.



Eileen Sanford  
President  
San Diego Council  
of Ski Clubs

Continued on page 26

## *Sierra Ski Club Council*

*By Jo Simpson*



The Sierra Council Clubs and Race League are ready for ski season. We have a whopping 80 members going to FWSA Ski Week at Aspen/Snowmass—an amazing turnout for our small council.



*Jo Simpson  
Sierra Council  
President*

Speaking of travel, we are thrilled that our great Sierra Council Vice President for Travel is now FWSA Vice President for International Travel. Fortunately for us, she is staying on as Council Travel Vice President.

The Las Vegas Ski, Snowboard and Sports Club has trips scheduled to Salt Lake City, Park City and Mammoth. The Reno Ski and Recreation Club has a trip to Telluride scheduled that includes travel in sleeper cars on Amtrak.

Our race schedule is set with eight races for the regular season, including the popular Super G race. With the exception of the first race weekend, we will be sharing the race course with the Bay Area Council Open and Singles Leagues. We have been sharing with Singles League for the past three seasons to keep costs affordable for our racers.

Last season's problematic snow conditions led us to combine several races with Open League to maximize the number of races for all leagues in a compressed season. It worked out well for all and enabled the three leagues to achieve additional economies.

Combining our race schedules has the added advantage of not competing with each other to schedule races at the resorts, resulting in an improved race schedule for all.

We are looking forward to our December Winter Party where we will honor our club nominees for Council Man and Woman of the Year and announce who will be representing Sierra at the FWSA convention.

Daily snow dancing is encouraged for all!



*Eileen Sanford - Continued from page 25*

Pacific Rim Snow Sports Alliance Club (Pac Rim) held its 12th annual Wine Maker Dinner for Multiple Sclerosis in honor of Jimmie Heuga. People flew in from as far away as Bend, OR to attend this prestigious dinner. 100% of the proceeds (\$2,300) were donated to Can Do MS ([mcsando.org](http://mcsando.org)). Catherine Ohl and Gene Fulkerson donated the food excellently prepared by Chef Mary Trimmins and expertly matched to wines donated by the Hope Family Winery, Trincherro Family Estates, Sole Water and Charles Heidsieck Champagne. The Jimmie Heuga Center Endowment ([jhce.org](http://jhce.org)) lent Pac Rim a preview copy of the soon to be released movie about Jimmie” “Can Do: the Legacy of Jimmie Heuga.” There was not a dry eye in the house. Pac Rim is planning a BBQ and preview of the movie in January as a fundraiser for the Endowment.

As another ski year fast approaches remember: Ski and Ride with Pride, Watch All Sides, and FWSA- First with Safety Awareness!

"The Voice of the Western Skier"



# Far West Ski Association

Aspen / Snowmass  
2013 Annual Ski Week

presents

## February 2-9, 2013

# ASPEN SNOWMASS

THE POWER OF FOUR

### FWSA Package Includes

- 7 Nights Lodging (dbl. occ.)
- **Far West Amenity Package**
  - ~ Registration
  - ~ Mountain Rally
  - ~ Welcome Party
  - ~ Races
  - ~ Pub Crawl
  - ~ Mountain Picnic
  - ~ Ski Week Banquet
  - ~ Awards Après Party
  - ~ Transportation to FWSA Events
  - ~ 5 of 7 Day Lift Ticket good at 4 Resorts^

from  
**\$1,250\***



revised May 15, 2012

^ 6 of 8 day lift ticket also available

### FWSA Package does NOT Include

- Air or Airport Ground Transportation

**\* Prices vary depending on lodging selection**

### About Aspen / Snowmass

- FOUR Awesome Mountains
- 5,305 Acres
- 329 Named Trails
- 316 Miles of Trails
- 42 Lifts
- 5.3 miles is Longest Run [Snowmass]
- 17 On-Mountain Restaurants
- 22-Foot Superpipe [Buttermilk]
- FREE Bus to/from Resorts
- Skiing & Boarding for all Abilities

For more information contact a council Trip coordinator

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**Gloria Raminha**, FWSA VP North American Travel, 12707 Windy Ridge Dr., Bakersfield, CA 93312  
661-829-5996 [phone/fax] • 661-800-8229 [cell] • fwsa.natravel@bak.rr.com [new email]

Must be a member of a Far West Ski Association affiliated ski club or a FWSA Direct Member

**CST #2036983-40**

# Innsbruck, Austria Ski Week - March 2 to 10, 2013

## \$965.00 per person double occupancy (w/o air)

\$1,085\* for air from SFO or LAX

\*Includes estimated US departure taxes, customs, immigration and fuel charge of \$642



Innsbruck, the Tyrolean capital, hosted the Winter Olympics in 1964 and 1976. It has over 320 miles of trails easily accessible in 25 surrounding village resorts. There are nine major ski areas that provide varied terrain for all levels of skiers. Combined with the spectacular natural beauty surrounding it, Innsbruck, 800 years old, has the famous Golden Roof, the Ambras Castle, imperial palaces, theaters, opera houses, museums, and lots of shopping.

### Price includes:

- 7 night's accommodations in Innsbruck at the 4 Star Hotel Grauer Bar
- Breakfast buffet & Dinner (3 course with salad bar) daily at the hotel
- All airport ground transfers
- Multi-lingual guide and hospitality desk every evening & free WIFI throughout the hotel
- **Welcome/Orientation on March 3<sup>rd</sup>**, four hosted parties and nightly no-host après gatherings
- Dedicated Ski Bus exclusively for the FWSA to Innsbruck Ski Areas (in addition to free ski bus with lift ticket)
- Optional day tours to Royal Castles, Salzburg, Venice, Bolzano, St. Anton/Arlberg Region and Kitzbuhel

## Garmisch Ski/Tour & Munich Week

March 10 to 17, 2013 extension

Both weeks: \$ 1,770 per person

Double occupancy (w/o air)



### Garmisch-Partenkirchen Ski Area

With Germany's highest mountain, the Zugspitze (9,781ft) towering over them, the twin-Bavarian towns of Garmisch and Partenkirchen jointly comprise the best known ski resort in Germany. The area includes five mountains and Germany's only glacier skiing and the Austrian ski resort of Oberau. The area has 32 lifts which include a funicular, cable cars and gondolas. It's famous for its annual World Cup races.

© copyright Garmisch-Partenkirchen Tourismus **Garmisch & Munich week only is available, no Innsbruck; \$1,055 db occ. w/o air**

### Price includes:

- All airport ground transfers for both weeks
- 5 night's accommodations in Garmisch at the 4 star Mercure Hotel
- Welcome Garmisch orientation at the hotel with bi-lingual guides and farewell party at Garmisch or Munich
- Breakfast buffet daily and 4 night's buffet dinners at the hotel. Optional tour program
- Bi-Lingual guide and hospitality desk each evening in Garmisch
- Optional day tours to King Ludwig's Castles (Neuschwanstein, Linderhof); Mittenwald and Violin Museum; Seefeld, Austria, with horse-drawn sleigh-ride; Berchtesgaden Saltmines and World War II Museum
- Half day city tour of Munich upon arrival with local bi-lingual guide
- 2 night's accommodations in Munich with daily breakfast buffet at the 4 star Holiday Inn City Centre

- Prices are based on current exchange rates and flights based on 2012 rates and subject to change.
- Single rooms are available at additional cost. [ask for details]
- The second week to Garmisch & Munich can be taken separately without Innsbruck. Cost is \$1050.00 pp (dbl occupancy)
- See website for updates, details and forms - [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org)
- Complete pages 1 & 2 of Registration Forms and send your payment to Reserve your SPOT.
- See page 3 for Payment Schedule and Cancellation policy.

Make checks out to: Far West Ski Association (FWSA). Please reference "FWSA 2013 Int'l Trip" on each check.

Send to: Debbie Stewart,  
FWSA VP of Int'l Travel  
430 S. Church St.  
Visalia, CA 93277

For information contact:  
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CST # 2036983-40



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### **Did You Change?**

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 (Randy Lew) for approval before it will be dispersed.*

The Far West Ski Association website (FWSA.org) has a *Ski Club Officer Update Form* that can be downloaded, completed, and mailed to me at:

FWSA DATABASE  
C/O Nancy Ellis, P.O. Box 9681  
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Email: [nancyellis2@sbcglobal.net](mailto:nancyellis2@sbcglobal.net)



*Nancy Ellis,  
Information  
Services Director*

For Complete Information on FWSA, visit our website:

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

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