

Spring 2012

THE COUNCILMAN

2012 Far West Convention

Ogden, Utah

June 7-10, 2012

PANAMA CANAL
CRUISE

Why Do People Join
Groups?



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

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THE COUNCILMAN EDITOR
CONNIE BURDETTE

cmburdet@pacbell.net

From the Editor...

Welcome to my first edition of *The Councilman*! I hope you enjoy reading the newsletter as much as I enjoyed compiling and arranging the contents. I love the creativity involved and the challenge of making it all work.

I come to you from Après Ski Club where I was a long-time board member and editor of the award winning *Scribe* newsletter. It is with pleasure that I welcome the opportunity to be your new Councilman editor and welcome any suggestions and/or comments you might have.

Connie Burdette

First FWSA Film Fest

By Randy Lew, President FWSA

Hello! Another ski season is now wrapping up and Mother Nature threw us a curve ball as many areas throughout the U.S. recorded significantly warmer temperatures and marginal snowfall. Unlike last year where California and the Pacific Northwest could not dig out fast enough, we have had to endure marginal conditions at many ski areas. The first three months of 2012 have seen twice the normal number of tornadoes. And 36 states set daily high temperature records on Thursday March 15th. The Lower 48 had its fourth warmest winter on record, while Alaska had its coldest January on record. Two different weather phenomenon — La Nina and its northern cousin the Arctic Oscillation — are mostly to blame, meteorologists say. Global warming could also be a factor because it is supposed to increase weather extremes, climate scientists say.



Randy Lew
FWSA President

I want to thank Gloria Raminha and her travel staff for the outstanding ski week at Jackson Hole, Wyoming with approximately 375 participants. We all enjoyed great snow conditions (the best in the U.S. that week!) and the outstanding terrain of this large resort. Three races were held with Cabernet Ski & Race Club named the top club and Sierra Council winning the Lake Louise Council Trophy. In addition, Sierra Council won the Council Challenge Race.

Approximately 130 participants are planning on attending our international ski trip to Chamonix, France, the birth place of extreme skiing. Eighty of those participants will be going on to experience the culture and sights of Morocco. Norm and Mary Azevedo along with Debbie Stewart have worked diligently to provide a very exciting trip.

Our first North American Spring Fling ski trip was held the end of March at Big White Ski Resort, the amazing ski area in the beautiful Okanagan Valley of British Columbia, Canada. Led by Gloria Raminha and Fran Long, we all had a great time with excellent snow conditions.

The third FWSA scuba dive trip will be September 1–8, 2012 to Cayman Brac, one of the premier dive sites in the world, with amazing wall and reef dives and a dive of a Russian shipwreck. We also have an exciting 2-week Panama Canal Cruise planned the end of September 2012.

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 partners Whitefish Mountain Resort, Grouse Mountain Lodge, and Karbon Skiwear we were able to award \$13,750 in scholarships to eighteen deserving junior racers.

Are you getting your “FWSA News Flash” yet? This monthly info is distributed via a list serve to any interested member. Thanks to the efforts of Debbi Kor, the News Flash includes trip info and current information on FWSA programs. You may view it on the FWSA web site or subscribe by going to the FWSA web site and clicking on “Subscribe to FWSA News” button.

We have been working diligently on our upcoming Convention and Silent Auction in June. Our 80th Convention “How the West is ONE!” will be hosted by the Intermountain Ski Council at the Ogden Eccles Conference Center, Hampton Inn in Ogden, and Marriott Ogden in Ogden, Utah, June 7-10, 2012. Linda Scott, ISC Convention Coordinator, Don Anderson, ISC President, Catherine Ohl, Graphic Design and Activities Coordinator, and Jane Wyckoff, FWSA Convention Chairperson have some very exciting activities planned for us. Activities include an Historic 25th Street Pub Crawl, the 6th Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament, Weber River White Water Rafting, Hiking, the Salomon Center, and a Pool Party. Friday will include some optional activities, our industry show and Silent Auction. On Saturday, we will have our Travel Industry Expo, some professional panel sessions, and a session with some very special guest speakers. We are also planning the next two modules of our very popular Snowsports Leadership Academy.

The 1st FWSA Film Fest will be held in conjunction with our convention at Peery’s Egyptian Theater on Sunday June 10th from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. featuring *Can Do – The Legacy of Jimmie Heuga, Ready to Fly* featuring

Continued on page 4

VP of Marketing & Sponsorship

Another Epic NW Year

The 2011-2012 ski season, will wind up in the record books as another incredible year on the mountains in the Pacific Northwest and Western Canada. The word from the California areas in early March was that of enormous amounts, ranging from 45 to 60 inches of snow fall within 72 hours.

This past ski season found our FWSA members enjoying themselves in a lot of great places, including Aspen, Mammoth, Park City, Snowbasin, Telluride, Banff, and of course, in Jackson Hole for the annual Far West Ski Week.



One special trip was taken by the 2011 winner of Far West's Safety Person of the Year Award. Aspen/Snowmass awarded that honor to Gordon Cardona, of The Unrecables at the 2011 Far West Convention in Los Angeles last June. Gordon and his mom joined San Diego and Northwest Ski Club Council on their joint trip in December, and turned it into a week of fun for everyone. Gordon skied with Bob Lemley, his expert ski instructor for the week, making runs on Snowmass, Aspen Mountain and Buttermilk. He was very excited to be able to ski with Mary Manning, Senior Sales Manager of Aspen/Snowmass on his final day. Some kind words from Gordon to Mary: "I would like to thank Mary Manning and Company for continuing to sponsor the FWSA Safety Person of the Year award. It is one of the most prestigious awards in the FWSA and it was a fabulous trip".

Each January, I have the pleasure of attending the SnowSports Industries America (SIA) show. Held in Denver, this is the largest ski show in North America. I meet with representatives from various hardline and soft good manufacturers, with goods ranging from skis, boots and poles, to sunscreen and hand warmers, to incredible ski wear. It gives me the chance to see all the new products, catch up with old friends, and to garner some great items used each year at convention for door prizes for the Travel Expo. I anxiously look forward to all of the wonderful items that we get each year, and can not wait to see what is coming our way for Convention, 2012.

I would like to thank those businesses who contributed door prizes for the Welcome Party at this year's Ski Week in Jackson Hole. Among the many were: the Four Season's Spa, Avanya Spa, Hoback Sports, Pepi's Sports Shop, Grand Targhee Shops, Mangy Moose Bar, JH Fine Dining, Wort Hotel/Silver Dollar Bar, Snake River Brew Pub, The Bunnery, Teton Steakhouse, Alpenhof Bistro, Lee's Tees, Jackson Hole Sports, Teton Village Sports and Jackson Hole Mountain Resort.

Thank you to all of our wonderful industry partners for showing us such a good time wherever our many Far West clubs went! We look forward to seeing you all in Ogden in June.

Randy Lew - Continued from page 3

Lindsey Van and the US Woman's ski jumpers; and ***The Movement*** a film directed by Kurt Miller on physically challenged skiers. Proceeds from this event will be donated to *Can Do MS Foundation*, *Woman's Ski Jumping USA*, and *MakeAHero Foundation*. Trailers of these movies can be found on www.fwsa.org under Convention.

If you need further Convention info, please check our website www.fwsa.org. Everything has been posted there including the event flyers and registration forms. Put the dates June 7-10th on your calendar now and plan on attending the 80th FWSA Convention.

Our 2013 Convention will be hosted by Bay Area Snowsports Council at the Grand Sierra Resort in Reno, Nevada. Dennis Heffley is already getting BAC volunteers organized.

The success of FWSA is due to a significant number of volunteers who have contributed a tremendous amount of time and expertise. We need you!! 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) me or one of our Functional VP's. All of our Functional VP's require a working committee to be truly successful.

Thank you for your continued support.

VP of International Travel

Packing for Chamonix and an African adventure in Morocco

by Norm Azevedo, VP of International Travel



*Norm Azevedo
VP of
International
Travel*

When you read this article we will be back home with tales of great skiing and a Moroccan adventure. We are skiing Chamonix-Mont-Blanc, France starting March 9, 2012. Chamonix, the site of the 1924 Winter Olympic Games, is a popular tourist destination that links Italy via the Mont-Blanc tunnel. There is lots to do for both skiers and non-skiers. Our lift passes cover skiing Verbier, Switzerland and Courmayeur, Italy; and we plan to ski both. For the tourists we have exciting day trips to Montreux and Aosta. Montreux/Chillon Castle is an architectural jewel located in a beautiful setting between Lake Geneva and the Alps; this monument is over 1,000 years old. Aosta, Italy has a rich history with Roman ruins dating back to 25 B.C.

There are one hundred thirty-one people joining me for the Chamonix ski week. The trip was filled in November and had a significant waiting list for someone to cancel, but no one did.

After Chamonix, seventy-nine participants will travel to Lyon, France, where they will catch a plane to Casablanca for the beginning of a life time adventure. One group of forty-four will try to see it all in one week since they cannot afford to take two weeks away from the job or home. The other group of thirty-five will try to see it all in two weeks. Both groups start in Casablanca; however, they are taking different paths traveling through the country and ending in Marrakech. A highlight on both trips will be setting off into the desert on camels to the middle of nowhere in high dunes to see an incredible sunset, spend the night in Berber tents with tagine dinner around a romantic campfire in a small desert oasis.

2013 INTERNATIONAL SKI WEEK AT INNSBRUCK WITH AN EXTENSION TO GARMISCH AND MUNICH -- DO NOT MISS IT!

Put this ski week and extension on your 2013 calendar. We will leave the U.S. on Saturday, March 2, 2013 for Innsbruck, where we will ski our hearts out for six days (seven nights). Those who can afford to take two weeks away from home will be off to Garmisch, Germany for a post trip extension. Garmisch is renowned for site seeing as well as good skiing. We will stay in Garmisch until March 15 (five nights); then off to Munich for two nights before flying home on March 17. Trip details will be available in May 2012. Keep checking the FWSA website for prices and details as they develop.

FOR ALL TRIP FLIERS & CURRENT TRIP DETAILS GO TO: www.fwsa.org

Or contact Norm & Mary Azevedo, for International Travel at fwsaitravel@sbcglobal.net (925-944-9816)

FWSA PLANS FIRST FAR WEST FILM FEST



Far West Ski Association is planning the first Far West Film Fest in conjunction with its Annual Convention in Ogden, Utah, June 7-10, 2012. The Film Fest will benefit various charitable organizations and will feature "CAN DO: The Legacy of Jimmie Heuga"; "Ready To Fly" the women's ski jumping film starring Lindsey Van; and "The Movement" a film produced by Kurt Miller on physically challenged athletes.

The 80th Annual FWSA Convention, hosted by the Intermountain Ski Council will allow you to enjoy great outdoor activities, partake in two new modules of our Snowsports Leadership Academy, meet ski celebrities, participate in a wonderful Silent Auction for ski trips and travel opportunities, and see how far your golf ball can fly at a higher altitude at the 6th Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament. Meetings will be held at the Ogden Eccles Conference Center, a modern state-of-the-art facility with breathtaking mountain views. Lodging will be at the Marriott Ogden or Hampton Inn & Suites Ogden, just steps away from the Conference Center. We look forward to seeing you there.

Panama Canal Cruise This Fall

By Gloria Raminha, VP of North American Travel



*Gloria Raminha
VP of North American
Travel*

2012 FWSA Ski Week in Jackson Hole Was a Big Success

Thanks to Mother Nature, we were provided with great snow conditions. We had 375 members attend the ski week. Not only was the skiing fantastic, but the parties (welcome, banquet, après & picnic) served up some outstanding food. The day trip to Grand Targhee was an outstanding day for everyone who had the opportunity to ski there. The feedback received from the trip has been very positive.

I would like to thank our ski week Tour Operator, Mike Hibbard; Sara Clemons and Monica Grammenos from Sports America Tours; and Spencer Long and Shawn Daus from Jackson Hole for working with FWSA at organizing another outstanding ski week. I would like to thank my ski week staff (Marilyn, Lynnell, Ken, Nancy, Bob, Susan) and our Council Trip Leaders (Scott, Paula, Mary, Wayne, Judith, Barbara, Sheila, Susan and Debbie) for their dedication to FWSA at making our ski weeks the continued success they have been over the years. These are all volunteers that I call my "Travel Team".

Big White FWSA "Spring Fling"

Big White is the location of our first FWSA (smaller) North American Ski Trip. Our first "Spring Fling" ski trip will be held March 27 to April 1. I would like to thank Jim Loyd and the Big White Staff along with Fran Long for being the FWSA Group Leader for the trip to Big White.

2012 Mammoth Summer Trip

Fran Long is organizing a Mammoth Summer Adventure Trip coming up in August. Please check www.fwsa.org in the Family & Youth Involvement section for more information.

Fall of 2012 – Cruise the Panama Canal with FWSA

We will set sail from Los Angeles September 28th for a 14 day cruise on the Norwegian "Pearl" ship. The ports of call for this cruise are: Cabo San Lucas, Puerto Vallarta, Huatulco, Puerto Chiapas, Puntarenas, Transit the Panama Canal, and Cartagena. We will arrive in Miami on October 12th. (see flyer on page 25)

Details and sign-up information for this cruise can be found on the fwsa.org website in the travel section. All pricing includes taxes and port fees. If available, cabins in other categories not listed on the flyer can be booked once a \$400 deposit has been received. Prices will vary for different category levels.

Plans are underway for the 2013 Ski Week in Aspen/Snowmass

Aspen/Snowmass, Colorado is the location of our 2013 ski week. The ski week will be held February 2nd to 9th. Trip Leaders and Travel Staff have started preparing for another great ski week. Mary Manning from Aspen/Snowmass and Mike Hibbard from Sports America Tours provided a fantastic site inspection with tours of several

Continued on page 7

lodging properties, party locations and the mountain which will help with the planning of our 2013 ski week. Aspen/Snowmass offers one lift ticket good for four mountains. Here is the list of mountains and some of their characteristics:

❖ **Snowmass Ski Area**

- Top Elevation – 12,510 ft
- Vertical Rise – 4,406 ft
- Ski Terrain – 3,132 acres
- Longest Run – 5.3 miles
- 21 Lifts
- 9 Restaurants

❖ **Buttermilk Mountain**

- Top Elevation – 9,900 ft
- Vertical Rise – 2,030 ft
- Ski Terrain – 470 acres
- Longest Run – 5 miles
- 6 Lifts
- 2 Restaurants

❖ **Aspen Mountain**

- Top Elevation – 11,212 ft
- Vertical Rise – 3,267 ft
- Ski Terrain – 675 acres
- Longest Run – 3 miles
- 8 Lifts
- 4 Restaurants

❖ **Aspen Highlands**

- Top Elevation – 11,675 ft
- Vertical Rise – 3,635 ft
- Ski Terrain – 1,028 acres
- Longest Run – 3.5 miles
- 5 Lifts
- 4 Restaurants



Skiing Aspen Snowmass

The four mountains await our presence. The Aspen/Snowmass flier is on the fwsa.org website. If you are interested in participating in the 2013 ski week in Aspen/Snowmass, you can sign up with one of the Council Trip Leaders listed on the flyer.

Be sure to check out the fwsa.org website for these and all FWSA Travel plans.



Athletic Scholarship Chairperson

Wrapping Up One Season and Preparing for the Next

By Dick Shawkey, Chairman, FWSA Athletic Scholarship Committee

Gears are grinding and plans are brewing for the coming athletic scholarship program fundraising. The Karbon raffle at Jackson Hole yielded \$2,300, an amount a bit below raffle funds during the previous three Karbon raffles. There will be fundraising at the FWRA Championships in Mammoth Mountain, CA, and the FWSA Convention in Ogden, UT, in early June. Hopefully, participants at these events will support the program. In the meantime, we are grateful to our partners who support individual athletes and the Far West Ski Foundation that is increasingly an important contributor to our fundraising effort.

Many of our young racers have had excellent results as the season progresses towards the U.S. Championships. For example, Morganne Murphy from the Squaw Valley Ski Team, recently took two 1st places in Slalom at Mammoth Mountain on March 10th and 11th. The Western Regional Championships in Schweitzer Mountain Resort, ID, gave several athletic scholarship recipients a stage for continued excellence. Among the junior men, Cai Yamamoto took a 5th and 6th in Super G and Stephan Splitstoser, sponsored by Mountain High Snowsports Club of Portland, OR, grabbed a 12th in Super G. Among the junior women, Ali Gunesch from Mt Hood Ski Team, sponsored by Bergfreunde Ski Club of Portland, OR, scored a 6th in Super G on March 9th, and Haley Hanseler took a 2nd in Super G in the same race. Lila Lapanja, our first scholarship recipient to earn a place on the U.S. Ski Team, has had a remarkable season for a first year development team member. On March 18th, Lila picked up a 1st place in Slalom at the Eastern Cup in Waterville Valley, NH, and a 1st in the Eastern Cup Giant Slalom at Stowe Mountain, VT on March 2nd. She also took 7th place in Super G at the Eastern Cup at Burke, VT, on February 29th, and 13th place in Slalom behind Foreste Peterson of the U.S. Ski Team, sponsored by Castro Valley Ski Club, at the Coupe Nor-Ams in Quebec, Canada on March 14th. Foreste scored an 11th in GS on March 13th at the same race venue. This is a sampling of the successes our athletes have had during this season. It is



***Dick Shawkey
Athletic Scholarship
Chairman***



Lila Lapanja

**First scholarship recipient to earn
a place on the U.S. Ski Team**

expensive to travel around the country (and the globe) competing in national and international competition. Far West members can be proud that we are out there making a contribution to the continued success of western athletes.

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

VP of Communications

Your Far West Ski Association communications team is working hard to bring you the latest news from throughout the Association and across the ski industry.

Have you had a chance yet to meet our new Editor of *The Councilman*? Her name is Connie Burdette, and she is from the Bay Area Snow Sports Council. She formerly was the editor for *The Scribe*, a ski club newsletter for the Après Ski Club. Connie brings new talent and creativity to *The Councilman*, and we welcome her on our team. This is her first issue of *The Councilman*, so do not miss it!

In addition to *The Councilman*, we have an annual publication entitled the *Far West Skier Guide*. Leigh Gieringer is the longtime editor, and you must check it out. A digital version of the magazine can be found on the *FWSA.org* website, and on many ski council websites as well. Within the magazine you will find informative articles, pictures and information about individual clubs and councils, and valuable information from resorts and ski equipment vendors. The digital version changes quarterly, so check back often!

Our FWSA Facebook page is loaded with all the current news from around the FWSA thanks to Steve Coxen. Have you become our “friend” yet? If not, check us out, become our “friend,” and stay on top of all the latest happenings in the snow sports industry.

While you are behind your computer, check out our *FWSA.org* website. George Stewart is our webmaster, so thank him for his hard work next time you see him. You will find snowsports news on the website, along with everything you need to know to sign up for the 80th Annual Far West Ski Association Convention. If you haven’t heard, our convention is going to be held in Ogden, Utah from June 7th through June 10th, and will feature loads of fun, optional activities, awards ceremonies, our annual silent auction, our Snowsports Leadership Academy, and much more. Our first ever Far West Film Fest will be on Sunday, June 10th beginning at 1:00 p.m., so plan to stay in Ogden Sunday night and enjoy the extra events.

In addition to our Facebook, website, and *The Councilman* and *Far West Skier Guide* magazines, we publish press releases and provide them to the appropriate media outlets. We also maintain liaison with convention and tourist bureaus in order to keep folks informed of FWSA news and events.

If you are interested in joining our team, just let me know at louandlt@hotmail.com

By Linda Scott, VP of Communications



**Salomon Center
Ogden, Utah**



FAR WEST SKI ASSOCIATION

Steve Coxen, Nominations Committee Chairman

Elections for officers will occur at the Far West Ski Association Annual Meeting & Convention June 7-10, 2012, to be held at the Eccles Conference Center, Ogden, Utah. Delegates will elect the one year positions of President, Secretary, Treasurer, and two (2) year positions of two Trustees. In addition, functional Vice Presidents will be elected to the two (2) year positions of Marketing, International Travel, Communications and Membership. There are no By-Laws amendments endorsed by the Board of Trustees and the Board of Directors currently proposed.

Declared candidates at this time are:

President: **Randy Lew***, **Sheri Parshall**

Treasurer: **Linda Coxen**

Secretary: **Wanda Ross**

Trustee 1: **Linda Westlund***

Trustee 2: **David Krupp**

VP Marketing: **Debbi Kor***

VP International Travel: **Norm Azevedo***

VP Communications: **Linda Scott***

VP Membership: **No declared candidate**

*** Incumbent**

"The Voice of the Western Skier"



*Steve Coxen
Nominations
Committee Chair*

If you are interested in running for any of the above positions, please contact Steve Coxen, Nominating Committee Chairman, by email stevecoxen@yahoo.com. Nominations for any of the open positions will be accepted up to the date and time of elections.

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 your weekend schedule for details). 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. The job descriptions for this year's open positions can be found on the FWSA website on the Governance tab.

Web address: <http://www.fwsa.org/docs/JobDescriptionManual-%28R2%292006.pdf>

VP of Membership

By David Krupp, VP of Membership

Snowsports Leadership Academy 2012

The Snowsports Leadership Academy, one of the highlights of the Far West Ski Association's annual convention, prepares to shift into overdrive this year with an array of topics combined into the two-session format. The academy seeks to provide information on a variety of subjects pertinent to members of the ski club community.

The morning session this year is titled "The Future Is Now," and will feature a presentation from USSA as an update on the various disciplines currently offered in snowsports including alpine, freestyle, freeskiing, and snowboarding.

In the afternoon, a brainstorming/presentation session will explore aspects of ski club involvement such as club advertising, cultivating future club leaders, and communicating your message in "Marketing, Mentoring, and Media."

These sessions have provided a high degree of enthusiasm and interest from those who have attended in the past and I think this year will be the best yet. Don't miss out. See you in Ogden.



*David Krupp
VP of Membership*

Charities & Our Community Chairperson

By Sigrid Noack, Charities and our Community Chairperson



***Sigrid Noack,
Charities
and
Community
Chairperson***

“Charity & Community Service Recognition”



The sixth annual FWSA “Charity & Community Service Recognition” is well under way. A great big thank you to the clubs and the council, that took 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.

This special club/council recognition is given by FWSA and will be presented at the FWSA Convention this June in Ogden, Utah. A \$100 check will be donated to the winning group’s favorite charity. All clubs and councils that have applied will be recognized at convention, and three groups will be asked to prepare a photo display board showing their charitable activities. Our delegates, industry friends and other convention guests are always very impressed by the

amazing dedication to charitable work within our FWSA family.

Thank you and congratulations to the groups that have applied this year: Balboa Ski & Sports Club (Orange Council), Fire & Ice Ski Club (BAC), Monterey Ski & Social Club (BAC), Los Angeles Council, Phoenix Ski Club (ASC), Santa Barbara Ski & Sports Club (Central Council), and Reno Ski & Recreation Club (Sierra Council). All of you are already our winners!

FWSA’s other important charity and community service program, now in its second year:

“Community Service Awareness Program”

Last year we started another program to further encourage “giving back” to our communities. The “Community Service Awareness Program” is all about getting more of our FWSA family involved with charitable activities. Our eleven FWSA councils were presented with this challenge: To have every one of the clubs in their council be involved with at least ONE charity by convention in June 2011. We actually did quite well with two of our councils receiving the “almost 100%” recognition!

Congratulations again San Diego Council and Arizona Council!

Since then, I have again emphasized to all the councils the importance of becoming involved with charitable organizations. Councils were asked to make community service an agenda item at every council meeting, thereby stressing the importance to club representatives to have their ski club be involved with at least one charitable organization every year.

Hopefully by this June 2012 in Ogden, Utah, we will have some councils that have reached the goal of 100% community involvement!

Good luck councils! See you in June, when we will recognize our top Community Service councils & clubs!

FWSA is aiming for 100% charitable involvement!

VP Public Affairs

FWSA SAFETY & HISTORY CONTESTS

By Scott Bowker, VP Public Affairs

FWSA Safety Person of the Year Contest 2012 due 4/26 - Win free 6 day vacation for two at Aspen

The FWSA Safety Program is seeking to name the 2012 Safety Person of the Year. The winner of the 2012 contest will be named the FWSA Safety Person of the Year and will receive a roundtrip airfare for two to Aspen, seven nights lodging and six days skiing plus rentals at any of the fabulous mountains in Aspen.

The purpose of the FWSA Safety Person of the Year, which is sponsored by the Aspen Skiing Company, is to recognize the person who has shown safety leadership by doing the most to effectively promote snow sports safety awareness.

Promoting snow sports safety may include any of the following examples: writing safety newsletter articles; creating safety banners or signs; speaking or arranging for professional or semi-professional safety speakers at club meetings; creating a committee to think of ways to raise safety awareness; volunteering for the Ski Patrol or similar on-mountain safety related activities; learning and then teaching members safety practices; showing safety videos at meetings or on trips; creating a written club safety policy; creating similar club or council contests for prizes rewarding safety involvement; reaching out and cooperating with ski areas to jointly promote safe skiing; or, just being a constant proponent of safe skiing.

An entry form is available at www.fwsa.org under the Awards section.

FWSA Western Ski Heritage Contest 2012 due 4/26 - Win free 5-day vacation for two at Steamboat

The Association's Western Ski Heritage program will annually recognize the best effort in the prior year that communicates the contributions to skiing from the community at large. The prize is sponsored by Steamboat Springs Ski and Resort Corporation and is awarded at the annual Convention held each June. Steamboat Springs itself is an area rich in the history and personalities who were involved in the development of skiing in the West. Steamboat Springs, home of champagne powder, will annually make available a skiing vacation to the top history contender for the Western Ski Heritage Award.

The purpose of the Association's Western Ski Heritage program is to raise the awareness of skiers and non-skiers alike of the contributions made by individuals, groups and companies to all aspects of skiing - competitive as well as that of outdoor winter recreation and fitness. A parallel purpose is to convey the positive role skiing has had in its contributions to the communities in the West. It recognizes outstanding effort in the area of ski history to find, preserve, document and share the history of skiing in the West.

The award is open to an individual or a group leader (it is not restricted to Association membership) and can be self-nominated or nominated by a club or club member. Materials and history programs will be evaluated against the objectives of the program by individuals selected for their knowledge of the history of Western skiing and that of the Association. Evaluations of history efforts will be conducted each spring in preparation for the annual convention. A variety of methods may be used to achieve the objectives of the program. This can include any of the following: original documentation of facets of snow sports (in the legendary Bill Berry tradition); organization histories (club, council, league, company, etc); videos; photos; books; field trips; speaker programs; or descriptions of past major events.

The winner receives a 5-day vacation for two from the sponsor, Steamboat Ski & Resort Corporation, including 5-day lift tickets to Steamboat, 5-days of rentals, a half-day lesson for two, and 5-nights lodging.

An entry form is available at www.fwsa.org under the Awards section.

FWSA Club & Council History Recognition 2012 due 4/26 - Win \$100 to be donated in winner's name to charity of choice

The purpose of the FWSA Club & Council History Recognition is to capture historical information about snowsports from the participants' perspective and especially that of the club participant. Selection for the prize will be based on digital presentation of club or council history according to a set of weighted criteria and judged by knowledgeable ski historians.

Applicants are welcome to apply for both the FWSA Club & Council History Recognition and FWSA Western Ski Heritage Award.



**Scott Bowker
VP Public
Affairs**

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HAVE A BOOT SCOOTIN' GOOD TIME AT THE 80TH ANNUAL FWSA CONVENTION

By Linda Scott, Host Council Convention Chairperson

Have you registered yet for the 80th Annual Far West Ski Association Convention, hosted by the Intermountain Ski Council? This will be an event you do not want to miss, so do not delay! The dates are June 7-10, 2012, and it will be held just steps from the Historic 25th Street in Ogden, Utah. The theme is **How the West is ONE!** So grab your hat and dust off your boots for a boot scootin' fun time out west in this historic ski town.

The Convention will be held in the Ogden Eccles Conference Center, attached to the Hampton Inn and Suites Ogden and just one block from the Marriott Ogden. The hotels feature restaurants, lounges, pool/hot tub, fitness center, wireless internet, NO Resort Fees, FREE Parking, and they are a short walking distance to Historic 25th Street. The Hampton Inn and Suites Ogden is offering our group rate of \$106 if you mention Far West Ski Association. The special rate includes a Continental Breakfast. You can contact the hotel at 801-394-9400 or at www.hamptoninnogden.com. If you prefer to stay at the Marriott Ogden, the hotel offers our group rate of \$94 if you mention Far West Ski Association. You can contact the hotel at 800-627-7468 or 801-627-1190, or at www.marriott.com/slcog. Use the Group Code *farfara* to make reservations on-line. Book your flight into Salt Lake City, Utah, and ground transportation is available to Ogden by shuttle or taxi, or transfers are available through Canyon Transportation at 800-255-1841. A 20% discount is available if you mention FWSA1657.

Before May 11, 2012 the Early Bird Registration Fee is \$149 with our special hotel pricing guaranteed. May 11th is also the deadline for signing up for any of the Convention's optional activities. After May 11, 2012 the Registration Fee will increase, so register early. All the details can be found at www.fwsa.org on the Convention tab.

The optional activities begin with a Historic 25th Street Pub Crawl on Thursday, June 7th, all within walking distance of the hotels and conference center. On Friday, June 8th, the 6th Annual Michael German Golf Tournament will be held at Wolf Creek Golf Course. As the only Audubon Society certified golf course in Utah, it's designed to honor alpine flora and northern Utah fauna, while rewarding golfers with playable links that stay true to the grand traditions of the game. Breakfast and lunch will be served, along with transportation, prizes, and 18 holes of fun.

If golf is not your favorite sport, other optional activities available are: a Weber River White Water Rafting trip which includes rafts, a guide, lunch and transportation; Hiking in the mountains along with lunch; and the Salomon Center, which includes iFLY, bumper cars and glow golf. A Pool Party will be held at the Marriott Pool following the optional activities.

Bring your friends to the Silent Auction and Dance on Friday night where you will find great deals on ski packages. Door prizes and special give-a-ways are yours for the taking. There is no admission charge and the event includes a complimentary drink. And, if you do not get to chat with industry representatives that night, do not worry! You will get a second chance at the Travel Expo on Saturday where over 100 resort representatives and tour operators will be there to answer questions on how to plan your group's next trip. Snowsport celebrities will be featured at the afternoon Multi-Media Presentation.

This year's FWSA Snowsports Leadership Academy promises again to offer valuable information to take back to your councils and clubs. Topics will include *The Future is Now*, and *Marketing, Mentoring, and Media*. This year's modules will be more interactive than in the past, and all attendees will receive a Certificate of Completion. You will not want to miss it!

Saturday night will feature the Awards Banquet and Dance, and is a chance to let your hair down and dance the night away after the volunteer and industry recognition awards are presented during the evening. The event is a western theme with some good old rock 'n roll music. Get ready to have a great time!

Of course we always have to mix business with pleasure, so on Sunday we will elect a new slate of officers

Continued on page 20

80th Annual Convention & 1st Far West Film Fest

2012 Far West Ski Association

How the West is **ONE!** hosted by *Intermountain Ski Council*



June 7-10, 2012 *Ogden Eccles Conference Center, Utah*

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

Special Event Sunday 1-5 PM

- **Far West Film Fest** \$10 donation

Optional Activities

- Historic 25th Street Pub Crawl
- Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament
- White Water Rafting
- Salomon Center
- Hiking
- Pool Party

Information

- **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 Scott** ISC Host Convention Chair
louandlt@hotmail.com or 307-256-7535
- Visit www.fwsa.org

CONVENTION Lodging

Hotels Feature

- Restaurants, Lounges, Pool, Fitness Center, Wireless Internet, NO Resort Fees, FREE Parking, Close proximity to Historic 25th St.
- Rates available 3 days pre and post Convention

◆ Hampton Inn & Suites Ogden

2401 Washington Blvd., Ogden, UT 84401
www.hamptoninnogden.com

Reservations call 1-801-394-9400

Group Name Far West Ski Association

Rates per night plus tax

Single/Double Occupancy **\$106**

Junior Suite **\$149**

Executive Suite **\$169**

Includes Complimentary Breakfast

◆ Marriott Ogden

247 - 24th Street, Ogden, UT 84401

www.marriott.com/slcog

Reservations call 1-801-627-1190 or 1-800-627-7468

Group Name Far West Ski Association

Rates per night plus tax

Single/Double Occupancy **\$94**

Junior Suite **\$124**

Transportation

- 38 miles from Salt Lake City International Airport.
- Ground Transportation from airport by Shuttle or Taxi.
- Transfers available from Canyon Transportation at 800-255-1841.
 - 20% discount if you mention Far West.

12.05.2011



80th ANNUAL FAR WEST SKI ASSOCIATION CONVENTION

Ogden Eccles Conference Center, Ogden, Utah • June 7 - 10, 2012



WELCOME LETTER

January 2012

Dear FWSA Club Presidents and Convention Delegates:

Enclosed you will find the registration materials for the **Far West Ski Association's 80th Annual Convention**, to be held Thursday through Sunday, **June 7 – June 10, 2012**, at the Ogden Eccles Conference Center, located in Ogden, Utah, hosted by the Intermountain Ski Council. We are excited to be conducting our annual Convention in the historic ski town of Utah, and are receiving great support for our event from the local community and snowsports industries. Please read all the materials enclosed in this registration packet carefully.

Deadlines:

- ☐ **May 11, 2012 is the deadline** for early registration of \$149, a savings of \$26. The price goes up to \$175 on May 12.
- ☐ **May 11, 2012 is the deadline** for submission of ALL event fees. These include the Thursday Historic 25th Street Pub Crawl, Friday Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament, White Water Rafting, Hiking and Salomon Center.
- ☐ **May 25, 2012 is the deadline for fees at \$175.** Fees go up to \$190 beginning May 26.
- ☐ Please submit all forms and payments to: **FWSA Registrar, c/o Nancy Ellis, PO Box 9681, Truckee, CA 96162**

Make Your Hotel Reservations NOW!

Lodging at our group rate (double occupancy) is available at either the Hampton Inn & Suites or Marriott Ogden. Per our contracts, we have **NO RESORT FEES** and **PARKING IS COMPLIMENTARY** at either property. Refer to the enclosed flyer for the FWSA contracted room rates for our group. The Hampton Inn & Suites Ogden is located at 2401 Washington Blvd., Ogden, UT 84401 (www.hamptoninnogden.com). Make your reservations by calling 801-394-9400 and tell them you are with Far West Ski Association. Make your reservation with the Marriott Ogden by calling 801-627-1190 or 800-627-7468 and mention Far West Ski Association. You may also register on-line at www.marriott.com/slcog and use the Group Code: farfara. The address is 247 – 24th Street, Ogden, UT 84401. Make your room reservations before **May 15**, when the room block is released. We cannot guarantee you will be able to book a room after the room block is released.

Transportation Information:

Flights should be booked in and out of the Salt Lake City International Airport. Downtown Ogden is located 38 miles from the airport. For ground transportation contact **Canyon Transportation** at 800-255-1841 and mention the Far West Code: FWSA 1657. You will receive a 20% discount. Travel with friends for additional savings.

Theme – “How the West is ONE!”:

This year's Convention theme is *How the West is ONE!* Grab your hat and dust off your boots, for a boot scootin' good time out west in the mountains of Utah. The Awards Banquet on Saturday evening is a western theme, with some good old rock 'n roll music.

Far West Film Fest:

Far West is pleased to announce our first **Far West Film Fest**. The event will be held on Sunday, June 10, 1:00 – 5:00 PM, so make plans to attend. The featured films are: *CAN DO: The Legacy of Jimmie Heuga*, *Ready to Fly* and *The Movement*. Detailed information is located in the enclosed Convention Brochure.

Contact Information:

Jane Wyckoff	FWSA Convention Chairperson	janewyckoff1@cox.net	949-933-9607
Linda Scott	ISC Host Convention Coordinator	louandlt@hotmail.com	307-256-7535
Nancy Ellis	Convention Registrar	nancyellis2@sbcglobal.net	530-582-0566

If you have any questions, please contact the appropriate person above. Welcome to the 80th Annual FWSA Convention and Far West Film Fest!

Sincerely,

Jane Wyckoff, Linda Scott, Nancy Ellis



80th ANNUAL FAR WEST SKI ASSOCIATION CONVENTION

Ogden Eccles Conference Center • Ogden, Utah • June 7-10, 2012

"How the West is ONE!" – DRAFT SCHEDULE OF EVENTS



Thursday, June 7, 2012

3:00 pm - 6:00 pm Delegate Registration – Delegate Bags *Sponsored by Ogden/Weber Convention & Visitors Bureau*, Delegate Neck Wallets *Sponsored by Nancy Green's Cahilly Lodge*
 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm Industry Exhibitor Registration
 5:30 pm - 11:00 pm Historic 25th Street Pub Crawl - *Sponsored by Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority*

Grand Ballroom Foyer

Grand Ballroom Foyer

Meet in Marriott Lobby

Friday, June 8, 2012

6:00 am - 3:45 pm 6th Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament at Wolf Creek Golf Resort (Optional Event - Shotgun Start at 8:30 am) - *Sponsored by Snowbasin, a Sun Valley Resort*
 9:00 am - 2:00 pm Hiking (Optional Event)
 9:15 am - 3:00 pm Weber River White Water Rafting (Optional Event)
 9:30 am - 3:00 pm Salomon Center (Optional Event)
 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm Far West Ski Foundation (FWSF) Trustees Meeting (Invitation Only)
 2:30 pm - 6:00 pm Industry Exhibitor Registration & Set Up
 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm Pool Party - *Sponsored by Mt. Bachelor and Hosted by Arizona Ski Council*
 3:00 pm - 9:30 pm Delegate Registration
 4:30 pm - 4:45 pm Industry Exhibitor Meeting
 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm FWSA History Committee Meeting & Historical Movies
 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm Councils' Man & Woman of the Year Meeting (Invitation Only)
 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm Ski Club Happy Hour (No Host)
 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm Silent Auction Happy Hour – *Sponsored by Ski Dazzle*
 6:30 pm - 10:30 pm Silent Auction and Dance – Musical Entertainment by "Disc Jockeys Now" - *Sponsored by Telluride Ski Resort*
 10:30 pm - 11:30 pm Exhibitor Booth Breakdown

Meet in Marriott Lobby

Meet in Hampton Inn Lobby

Meet in Hampton Inn Lobby

Meet in Hampton Inn Lobby

Meeting Room 201

Grand Ballroom

Meet at Marriott Pool

Grand Ballroom Foyer

Grand Ballroom

Meeting Room 203

FWSA Marriott Suite

Grand Ballroom Foyer

Grand Ballroom

Grand Ballroom

Grand Ballroom

Saturday, June 9, 2012

7:00 am - 12:00 pm Delegate Registration
 7:00 am - 8:00 am Continental Breakfast – *Sponsored by Jackson Hole Mountain Resort*
 8:00 am - 8:30 am FWSA General Meeting - Opening Session
 8:45 am - 10:40 am Travel Expo – *Grand Prize - Far West Ski Week Sponsored by FWSA*
 9:00 am - 12:15 pm Councils' Man & Woman of the Year Judging (Invitation Only) - Awards *Sponsored by Big White Ski Resort & Silver Star Mountain Resort*
 10:00 am - 12:15 pm Far West Racing Association Meeting (Invitation Only)
 10:00 am - 12:15 pm Bid Presentations – FWSA Ski Week (Invitation Only)
 10:45 am - 12:15 pm FWSA Snowsports Leadership Academy - *"The Future is Now"*
 10:45 am - 12:15 pm Public Affairs Panel & Guest Speakers
 10:45 am - 12:15 pm Outstanding Club / Council Recognition Programs
 12:30 pm - 1:30 pm Luncheon & Awards Presentation - Luncheon *Sponsored by Vail Resorts*, Beer *Sponsored by SkiGroup.net*, Western Ski Heritage Award *Sponsored by Steamboat Ski & Resort Corporation*, FWSA Safety Person of the Year Award *Sponsored by Aspen/Snowmass, The Crestwood & The Gant*
 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm FWSA Snowsports Multi-Media Presentation - *Sponsored by Mt. Bachelor & Sunriver Resort*
 2:40 pm - 4:00 pm FWSA Snowsports Leadership Academy - *"Marketing, Mentoring, Media"*
 2:40 pm - 4:00 pm 2013 FWSA Ski Week Staff Meeting (Invitation Only)
 2:40 pm - 4:00 pm Public Affairs Panel & Guest Speakers
 4:15 pm - 5:30 pm Council Caucuses
 6:30 pm - 7:00 pm Reception (No Host)
 7:00 pm - 12:00 am Awards Banquet & Dance *"How the West is ONE!" - Sponsored by Ski Banff, Lake Louise, Sunshine; Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel; Banff Lodging Company*, Wine *Sponsored by Country Inns & Suites, Utah*, Musical Entertainment by "Disc Jockeys Now" - *Sponsored by Steamboat Ski & Resort Corporation*

Grand Ballroom Foyer

Grand Ballroom

Grand Ballroom

Main Floor Ballroom 1-3

Meeting Room 202

Meeting Room 103

Meeting Room 203

Meeting Room 101/102

Executive 100

Meeting Room 201

Grand Ballroom

Grand Ballroom

Meeting Room 101/102

Meeting Room 203

Executive 100

Meeting Rooms 101/102,

201/202, Executive 100

Grand Ballroom

Grand Ballroom

Sunday, June 10, 2012

7:00 am - 8:00 am Eye Opener Party – *Sponsored by FWSA & Intermountain Ski Council*
 8:15 am - 10:30 am FWSA General Meeting – Elections, Club and Council Outstanding Awards, Communication Awards
 10:30 am - 11:30 am Delegate Brunch - *Sponsored by Taos Ski Valley Resort*, Club and Council History Awards, Door Prize Giveaway
 11:30 am - 12:15 pm FWSA General Meeting Continued
 12:15 pm - 12:45 pm FWSA Board of Directors and Board of Trustees Meetings
 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm 1st Far West Film Fest – featuring *"CAN DO: The Legacy of Jimmie Heuga"*, *"Ready to Fly"*, *"The Movement"*

Marriott FWSA Suite #163

Grand Ballroom

Grand Ballroom

Grand Ballroom

Executive 100

Peery's Egyptian Theatre

Delegates are welcome to attend all events unless otherwise indicated. Participation in Travel Expo is especially encouraged and the Grand Prize will be awarded only among those who participate. Delegates with mandatory assignments to other meetings during Travel Expo will receive instructions from their Meeting Chairman.



Far West Ski Convention 2012



REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Mobile Phone _____

Ski Club _____ Council _____

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

Except for your email address, which is not divulged, 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. ☐

Convention Packages

Full Package if paid by May 11, 2012. \$149 _____

– \$175 after 5/11, \$190 after 5/25

Saturday Expo, Meetings & Lunch \$50 _____

Awards Lunch Only \$30 _____

Awards Dinner & Dance Only \$60 _____

Hard Copy Delegate Book \$10 _____

– Electronic copy included in full package

Embroidered Denim Convention Shirt \$30 _____

– Specify ☐ F ☐ M

– Specify ☐ S ☐ M ☐ L ☐ XL ☐ XXL

Optional Activities

 Priority given to Registered Delegates/Industry

Historic 25th Street Pub Crawl \$42 _____

Michael German Golf Classic \$110 _____

– Specify Handicap _____ OR Novice ☐

OR Last 3 Scores _____

Golf Club Rental \$25 _____

– Specify ☐ Left or ☐ Right Handed

White Water Rafting \$75 _____

Hiking \$30 _____

Salomon Center \$65 _____

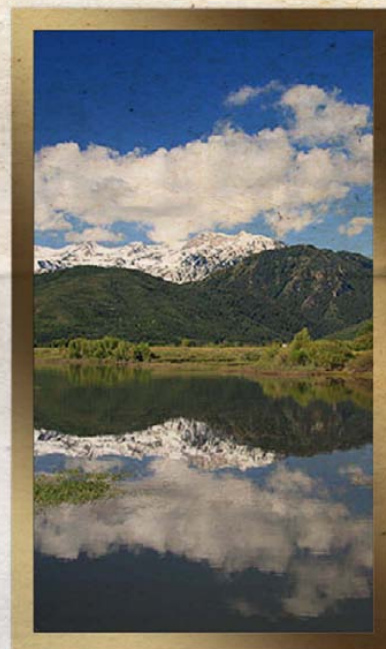
Far West Film Fest (Sunday 1-5 PM) \$12 _____

Make check payable to FWSA
(No Refunds).

Submit this form and
payment to

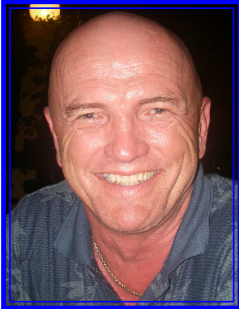
FWSA Convention Registrar,
Nancy Ellis,
P.O. Box 9681,
Truckee, CA 96162.

DEADLINE: May 11, 2012.
For additional information
visit www.fwsa.org.



Ogden Valley in the spring is
absolutely breathtaking.

revised 1/1/2012



*Mike Rogers
Arizona Council
President*

Arizona Ski Council



SUMMER IN ARIZONA

SPRING BASEBALL was a highlight in Arizona over the month of March. Along with wonder weather and spring baseball all the clubs have shifted into their “other activities” mode. The Alpine Outdoor and Travel Club (AZOTC.org) has taken a lead role in providing organized hiking opportunities through out Arizona. AZOTC has been very active in hiking, Phoenix biking, camping in Arizona, and 4X4 off-road trips for all clubs in the AZ Council. This is an example of how the Arizona Council is getting synergy amongst the clubs.

The review of the Arizona Council by-laws is nearing completion with a major change in the definition of membership. Historically, member clubs were required to attend all council board meetings which made it virtually impossible for clubs outside the greater Phoenix area to attend. In creating an associate membership category, clubs outside the area can become members in the council and do not count as part of the quorum required for board meetings.

The council co-sponsored a movie night with the Scottsdale Audi dealership to view *The Road to Glory*, a ski movie about the U.S. Ski Team. This was opened to the public and participation afforded the opportunity to recruit new members to the ski clubs. In the area of non-profit support, the major event in March was the MS150 Bike Ride that had participation in riding and rest stop support from the Phoenix Ski Club. Other efforts continue to be on-going which each club doing something to support the community.

The reduction in membership has brought many ideas forward as to how to increase membership. In the forefront is a conversion of adult-only to family clubs. Currently only East Valley and AOTC are the only council family clubs open to the public. The Boeing Club is a company club which allows family membership. The council is reviewing and working with the clubs to see what family events we might be able to sponsor to give the ski clubs more appeal to the public.

Intermountain Ski Council



*Don Anderson
Intermountain Ski
Council President*

The stage is set, the lights are ready, and actors know their lines. Everything is ready for the first FWSA Convention hosted by the Intermountain Ski Council to be held June 7-10 in Ogden, UT. We will be using the Hampton Inn & Suites and the Marriott Ogden with meetings in the Ogden Eccles Conference Center all in downtown Ogden. Salt Lake City Airport is extremely easy on travelers. All you have to do is register and book your room and transportation. Plan to stay Sunday afternoon so you can enjoy the first ever Far West Film Fest. Just seeing the beautifully restored theater is worth the admission price! I understand quite a few people are coming out early and staying later to enjoy the many exciting activities in the local area. Remember the group hotel rates have been extended to three days before and after the convention. We know you will have a good time, so make your plans soon. The Intermountain Ski Council team is so excited to have you in our “playground”.

Since our last article, we had a fun-filled council trip to Snowmass, enjoying excellent weather and grooming. Most first-timers were impressed with the large number of runs and terrain in the resort.

Don Anderson, President



Central Council of California

WHY DO PEOPLE JOIN GROUPS???

By Fran Long, Central Council President



**Fran Long
Central Council
President**

We are all members of at least one group, and most of us are members of many. Although our membership within some of these groups is involuntary (e.g., family), we seek out and join other groups voluntarily. We join book clubs, bowling leagues, congregations, ski clubs and ski councils, just to name a few.



As president of Central Council Ski Clubs, I have to ask myself, "Why should anyone join 'my' group?" There really are only six good reasons for joining Central Council:

- Avalanche Ski Club, Bakersfield
- Camber Ski Club, Salinas
- Fresno Ski Club
- Santa Barbara Ski and Sports Club
- SLO Skiers, San Luis Obispo
- Snow Trackers, Exeter

These are the six fun loving, active, outdoor sports-focused clubs that make up Central Council. Together, they pretty much cover the fun in our part of central California. They offer their members ski trips throughout the United States and Europe in the winter time and numerous outdoor sports and activities the rest of the year. They offer discounts, organization, friendship, and more fun than I can possibly list in this short article.

Check out some of our clubs award-winning websites for a snapshot of what we are all about:

- Santa Barbara Ski and Sports Club
www.sbski.org
- Fresno Ski Club
www.fresnoskiclub.com
- SLO Skiers
www.sloskiers.org



Youth and Family Involvement

Contributed by Fran Long, Central Council President

Far West Ski Association proudly supports youth and family involvement in all snowsports activities. There are numerous social, emotional, and physical health benefits associated with family centered recreation. Let's hear it for Peter Deleff as he explains his reasons for snow sports as a family activity.

The Three Best Benefits of Skiing - A Family Activity

By Peter Deleff

Skiing has been around in one form or another for centuries, but has recently grown in popularity due to improvements in equipment and technique.

The first and most obvious benefit of skiing is exercise. The natural process of getting yourself down the mountain involving the use of your arms and legs, and the drawing in and out of that fresh mountain air, has benefits beyond measure. You are involved in a total body workout, burning calories, and enjoying world class views while you are working out, an unbeatable combination.

The second benefit of skiing is the social aspect. Here is one sport where everyone can ski together, even for just a couple of runs, and spend some family time together. In these days, where kids, especially teenagers, have their own activities, where it can be tough to get the whole family involved.

Skiing provides a venue for family interaction. You cannot put a price on the value of kids and parents all laughing together and having a good time.

The third benefit is that many ski resorts are now full service facilities that provide numerous activities besides skiing. There are usually numerous activities to choose from, with skating leading the list. Many resorts now have full size skating rinks that can accommodate large groups of people at the same time.

Tubing is another popular winter activity that can be enjoyed by the whole family. Most North American ski resorts offer other amenities such as horse drawn sleighs, and night skiing.

In this day and age where kids can be insulated by video games and television, skiing can be one form of activity that can bring the family back together again. Why not get your family together, get some laughs and some exercise, and take the family skiing this winter.

Article Source:

http://EzineArticles.com/?expert=Peter_Deleff



LOS ANGELES COUNCIL

By Norbert E. Knapp, President



Our council annual trip this year was to Silver Mountain and Schweitzer, Idaho, February 4-11, 2012. Fifty-one participated, and all had a great time.

The L.A. Council Snow Gala on November 5th celebrated the Men and Women of the Year from our participating clubs. This year's winners were Sigrid Noack of Unrecables Ski Club, and Aaron Algazy of Century City Ski Club. They will ably represent us in 2012 at the Far West competition.

Our new format of a friendly afternoon champagne brunch at the popular Castaways Restaurant overlooking Burbank was a huge success and we will be repeating it this year on October 27th at The Odyssey Restaurant, another in a chain of hilltop buffet restaurants and banquet halls. We expect between 85 and 100 attendees! As always, the silent auction to support our adaptive ski club, The Unrecables, was a big success and we hope to repeat that success again this year.



Norbert Knapp
Los Angeles Council
President

The L.A. Council Annual Ski & Race Camp was conducted December 9 through 18, 2011. Although the snow was minimal, those attending were still able to ski and race, and from all reports, a good time was had by all. As a reminder, Alaska Airlines now flies into the Mammoth-Yosemite Airport; check for schedules and prices.

Our 2013 annual trip is scheduled for Mt. Bachelor, Oregon. More information about this trip can be found on our website, www/lacouncil.org.

Forty-three Los Angeles Council (LAC) skiers attended the FWSA Ski Week in Jackson Hole. The Sunday night welcome party was sumptuous and several LAC members took home door prizes. Our LAC team of Don Shafe, Larry Gowing, Mae Lon Ding, Laura Gowing, Joyce Rodela, Dave Mashaw, Ian Roman and Rick Harrington came in second (missing first by only eight seconds!!) Our second team came in fourth. LAC also claims the fastest man and woman on the hill: Don Shafe and Laura Gowing. All in all it was a fabulous week!

Los Angeles Council is alive and well, and we are expecting to accomplish big things in the next couple of years. Hope to see all of you in June at the FWSA Convention in Ogden!

Linda Scott - Continued from page 13

Chairperson at louandlt@hotmail.com, 307-256-7535 or Jane Wyckoff, FWSA Convention Chairperson at janewyckoff1@cox.net, 949-933-9607. Industry partners can contact Debbi Kor, VP of Marketing, at fwsadebbi@comcast.net, 503-314-7078. Registration materials have been distributed and are available on www.fwsa.org.

In addition to all our exciting events and awards that you have learned to expect, we will be hosting the first ever Far West Film Fest on Sunday, June 10, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., so plan to stay an extra day and enjoy this exceptional event. The Film Fest will be held in the Peery's Egyptian Theatre, and will feature films including "CAN DO: The Legacy of Jimmie Heuga," "Ready to Fly," and "The Movement." They are all fantastic films, and proceeds will be donated to *Can Do MS*, *Women's Ski Jumping USA* and *Make a Hero*. Go into www.fwsa.org to view a trailer of each film.

Do not delay, get your registration in the mail soon, and save your spot at this very special Convention. See you there!

BAY AREA SNOW SPORTS COUNCIL

By Dennis Heffley, Bay Area Snow Sports Council (BAC), President



***Dennis Heffley
BAC President***

Finally ~ after “The Winter That Almost Wasn’t” . . . on the Ides Of March the snow really began to fall in the Sierra Nevada Mountain Range. We are talking “feets” of powdery, fluffy and fun snow! Now we can only hope that this will continue into April!

The Bay Area Snow Sports Council (BAC) is very lucky to have our volunteers who step forward to assist all of us with our fun. Two that I would like to feature here are **Debi Phelps** (BAC Open League Race Director) and **Mitch McPeck** (BAC Singles League Race Director). These people have been in contact with the resorts who have hosted our Recreational Race Leagues. They have been checking on the weather and snow conditions being prepared to blast out information to all of our clubs who have members on their race teams. This has been a most challenging season to say the least. Thank you to Debi and Mitch along with the club race directors for keeping everyone informed and safe.

During our BAC General Council Meeting, **Paula Kinahon** (BAC Travel Director) reported on two (2) very successful trips. First was the FWSA Ski Week to Jackson Hole. The weather was prefect, accommodations perfect, snow conditions perfect, parties perfect . . . what can be said . . . it was a great trip! Then she talked about the BAC Salt Lake City Ski Trip led by **Linda Henning**. Again, this was another Great Trip. The BAC has already begun accepting deposits for the 2013 FWSA Ski Week in Snowmass/Aspen, CO.

Nominations have been for all offices in the BAC BAC President which was is with pride that I share with have at least one (1) nomina-April 9, 2012 BAC General nominations will be opened, ficers will be voted on that to share that Dennis Heffley ary to his 9th consecutive Yes, this also means that as the BAC Past President!



Beautiful Lake Tahoe, California

opened for two months with the exception of voted on in January. It you that at this time we tion per office. At our Council Meeting the then closed and all of-night. I would also like was re-elected in Janu-term as BAC President. **Karen Davis** continues

During our March BAC Gen-eral Meeting we voted on the Theme/Slogan for the BAC hosting the **81st FWSA Annual Convention June 6 ~ 9, 2013 at The Grand Sierra Resort & Casino in Reno, NV. The BAC theme/slogan for the FWSA Convention in 2013 is . . . Mountain ~ Magic ~ Moments.** A special Thank You goes to **Doug Weaver of the Monterey Ski and Social Club** for coming up with this title! There were two others titles nominated and the above was the clear winner. The above title will be officially submitted to the FWSA Board of Directors at the FWSA April Quarterly Meeting for their approval.

Other long range planning being done is the **7th Annual BAC/Disabled Sports USA/Tailgate BBQ/Oakland A's Baseball Game & Fireworks Show.** This event will be again led by **Norm Azevedo** and takes place Friday September 14, 2012 at the ballpark in Oakland, CA. You're all invited to come on out “To The Ole Ball Game”!

So much more to share . . . but I will sign off . . .

NORTHWEST SKI CLUB COUNCIL



You know La Nina is here when it's snowing in Portland in March! Wahoo!

So much snow...so little time!! While early-season snow was a little scanty, Mother Nature is more than making up for it now. Nearly 30 feet of snow has fallen in the

past three weeks, and boy, are we having fun!

The PACRAT race league has been tearing up the slopes of Mt. Hood this winter. Going into the last two races, the top three teams are only five points apart. With over two hundred racers participating this year, our PACRAT and put on some great races. In races, we also hosted our second Open," inviting snowriders of NASTAR program. Mt. Hood for this event.

NWSCC snowriders have given several fundraisers this year. our favorite, and most wonderful. On April 14th, the first will take place on Mt. Hood. last year with ALS, has been this first-ever event. Other

Alpental" and "Stevens Pass Springfest" benefiting Outdoors for All, and "Hope on the Slopes" and the "Oregon Cancer Ski-Out" benefiting cancer organizations here in Oregon.

Northwest Ski Club Council was honored to be able to help with the International Ski Hall of Fame presentation on Mt. Hood, hosted by the Mt. Hood Cultural Center and Museum, and Timberline Lodge. Several members of our council joined with FWSA attendee John Watson at the Saturday night Induction Ceremony in Seattle, NWSCC splitting the cost of the table with FWSA. They included Maureen Richards from S'No Jokes, William Shadbolt from Seattle Singles Yacht Club and his wife, Sarah, all of Seattle; and Mary Olhausen (Mountain High), Steve Coxen (Schnee Vogeli) and me (Skiyente) from Portland.

Last but not least, NWSCC is also proud to introduce you to our 2012 Council Man and Woman of the year, Bruce Ellison and Debbi Kor, both of Mountain High Snowsports Club. Congratulations to these two hard-working club volunteers.

See you in Ogden!!



***Sheri Parshall
Northwest
Ski Club
Council
President***



Mt. Hood as seen from the Japanese Tea Gardens

board has done a terrific job addition to our usual slate of annual "PACRAT/NASTAR all ages to participate in our Ski Bowl provided support

their time and money to Many of you know one of the most fun, local ski celebrities, Fred "Ski to Defeat ALS" event Fred, who was diagnosed a fabulous ambassador for fundraisers included "Spree at



Mt. Hood Cultural Center and Museum

ORANGE COUNCIL OF SKI CLUBS

By Judy Thurman, President



*Judy Thurman
Orange Council
President*



Breckenridge, Colorado.

Orange Council sent 25 people with trip leaders, Sheila Van Guilder and Maxine Hanlon to Jackson Hole, FWSA 2012 Ski Week. This week was filled with mountain picnics, racing and après parties held at the Mangy Moose. And as if that was not enough to do, some of the other activities were one day skiing at nearby Grand Targhee, visiting the Elk Reserve, (if you have never seen an elk up close, this is quite an experience to see a whole herd) and for those of you who are not interested in elk, there was, of course, shopping in Jackson. After the shopping, and skiing and sightseeing, our group could be found in the town of Jackson, resting and meeting up with people they met during the week at the Million Dollar Cowboy Bar and the Silver Dollar Bar. A great time was had by all.



Million Dollar Cowboy Bar

The Council is looking forward to attending FWSA 2013 Ski Week in Aspen/Snowmass Colorado, February 2-9, 2013. Aspen/Snowmass has a great week planned for us in 2013 so don't miss this trip. For information please contact Sheila Van Guilder, VP Travel, svanguil@yahoo.com.

Orange Council held their annual President's dinner February 16, 2012. For the second year, we were very proud and honored to have as guest speaker Jane Wyckoff, FWSA Trustee. Jane spoke to the group about the upcoming FWSA Convention to be held in Odgen, Utah, June 7-10, 2012. She provided information on the benefits and opportunities of attending the Convention. We always appreciate Jane speaking to our group and wish to give her a big thanks.

Orange Council has a very strong race program. For information on our race program, please contact Maxine Hanlon, Race Chairman, Maxch@prodigy.net.



National Elk Refuge, Jackson, WY

Starting in May most of the council clubs change from winter activities, to summer activities, such as tennis, sailing, summer concerts, bicycle tours, and other activities. For information on all Orange Council clubs and their activities contact Orange Council at www.orangecouncil.org.

Sierra Ski Club Council

Sierra Council Races 6, Weather 8

Sierra Council's race league cancelled eight races, and still managed to complete six races in the regular season. This is remarkable because the Lake Tahoe resorts have had the most sparse snow conditions seen in many years. Runs normally used for racing had rocks and twigs showing well into March. And then the snow came in feet and the makeup races had to be cancelled. It's been a crazy season.



*Jo Simpson
Sierra Council
President*

Sierra and the Bay Area Council Singles League have shared the race hill for the past two seasons. This season we collaborated with the BAC Open League to stage make up races that were cancelled. This collaboration allowed the Sierra and Singles Leagues to complete six races. Unfortunately, two make up races scheduled in March for all three leagues had to be cancelled because of too much snow after having to cancel five for too little.

As the resorts continue to raise prices for race venues, the NorCal leagues will need to be ever more creative and collaborative to keep costs affordable for racers.

Sierra Council won just about all the racing awards at FWSA ski week at Jackson Hole. The council placed first in points, our first team won the Council Challenge, the Cabernet Ski and Race Club won top club race points and the Reno Ski and Recreation Club won third. Sierra Reno racers won first and third place women racers and first place in male racer with the most points.

Some of our Tahoe Donner Senior Alpine Ski Club members went to Ski Week at Jackson Hole for the first time and their Kung Fu Fighting Pandas team won second place in the Council Challenge costume contest.

It was a wonderful ski week. We appreciate the efforts of the FWSA travel staff and our Vice President for Travel, Debbie Stewart, for a flawless week of skiing, racing and social events.

Our clubs are wrapping up their trip schedules. Capital Ski and Snowboard went to Crested Butte. The Las Vegas Ski, Snowboard and Sports Club has enjoyed an extensive trip schedule that includes Steamboat, Mammoth, Ogden, Whitefish and Brianhead and Eagle Point, Utah. Their sister club, Alpine Ski and Snowboard Club, went to North Lake Tahoe and Whitefish.

As we head into the spring, our council and member clubs are preparing to hold elections and planning summer activities.



The Tahoe Donner Senior Alpine Ski Club
Fighting Pandas pose after their Council
Challenge race at Jackson Hole.



FWSA 2012 FALL PANAMA CANAL CRUISE

September 28th to October 12th, 2012

\$1450.00 Inside Room - Category ID

\$1875.00 Outside Obstructed Window Room - Category OK

\$2885.00 Balcony Room - Category BA

Price is per person based on double occupancy

Price Includes: Welcome & Farewell Parties

Taxes and Port Fees which are subject to change

Price does **NOT** include air or ground transportation, tips & shore excursions.

\$25.00 Credit to be deducted from final payment
for outside room with \$500.00 deposit
paid by 12/31/2011

\$50.00 Credit to be deducted from final payment
for balcony room with \$500.00 deposit
paid by 12/31/2011

***All participants paying a \$500.00 deposit prior to May 15th, 2012
will be able to select their room numbers based on availability.***

Room selection will be awarded when the deposit is received.

Final payment is due by July 1, 2012.

Cabins in other categories and deck levels may be requested based on availability.

Pricing may vary.

**Check out the Far West Ski Association's website at www.fwsa.org for more
detailed information regarding this cruise and other FWSA trips.**

Itinerary & cancellation policies for this trip are available on the FWSA website.

This is the only FWSA approved Panama Canal Cruise.



The Ports of Call are:

Los Angeles

At Sea

Cabo San Lucas, Mexico

Puerto Vallarta, Mexico

At Sea

Huatulco, Mexico

Puerto Chiapas, Mexico

At Sea

Puntarenas, Costa Rica

At Sea

Transit Panama Canal

Cartegena, Colombia

At Sea

At Sea

Miami

"The Voice of the Western Skier"



To make your reservation, contact: 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@sbcglobal.net

CRITERIA

- Basic organizational identity, location and service area, corporate status, and mailing address, both postal and electronic (5 points)
- Objectives and purposes of the organization, mission and vision statements (if available), plan for the future (10 points)
- Membership profile, numbers, demographics (10 points)
- Timeline, founding, significant events during your history to date (20 points)
- Annual event menu and descriptions - recreational, social, competitive, community service, travel (20 points)
- Description of major events and achievements from your timeline (20 points)
- Highlighted member profiles and special interest connections (5 points)
- Appendices may include governing documents such as by-laws, articles of incorporation, operations manuals, officer and member rosters, both historic and current (5 points)
- Accessing information on your media, ease of navigation, indexing (5 points)

An entry form is available at www.fwsa.org under the Awards section.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS HEADLINES

- **Area Development.** Ski Area Recreational Opportunity Enhancement Act (S. 382/H.R. 765) allows seasonal or year-round natural resource-based recreational activities that encourage outdoor recreation and enjoyment of nature while harmonizing with the natural environment. It also provides that such activities are located within the developed portion of the ski resort. This Act was signed into law by President Barack Obama in November 2011. Activities expressly permitted include zip lines, mountain bike terrain parks and trails, frisbee golf courses and rope courses. Excluded activities are tennis courts, water slides and water parks, swimming pools, golf courses, and amusement parks.

- **Arizona Snowbowl.** In March 2012 Save the Peaks Coalition filed for a rehearing of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, San Francisco, CA. A three-member panel unanimously ruled in February 2012 in favor of Arizona Snowbowl in the Save the Peaks v. U.S. Forest Service lawsuit, which was originally filed in September 2009. The panel agreed that the U.S. Forest Service adequately considered the risks of using reclaimed water to make snow by Arizona Snowbowl. Also in February 2012 the Hopi Tribe filed an appeal to the December 2011 Coconino County Superior Court ruling by Judge Joe Lodge which was in favor of Flagstaff. The new lawsuit (Hopi Tribe v. City of Flagstaff) is based on whether the city's contract with Arizona Snowbowl and the use of reclaimed water is going to meet the Arizona code. Pipeline assembly to complete the \$15 million snowmaking project is expected to start in March 2012 under the assumption by Arizona Snowbowl that it will prevail again legally. Construction began in May 2011 on an initial \$1.3 million underground segment of the 12-inch-diameter 6.5 mile pipeline from Highway 180 along the Snowbowl Road corridor to the Snowbowl. The total 14-mile long pipeline project from Flagstaff in phase 1 is expected to provide snowmaking for 134-acres of the approved 205-acres starting in the 2012-2013 season. Arizona Snowbowl won approval of its snowmaking plan when in June 2009 the U.S. Supreme Court declined to hear the previous case Navajo Nation et al v. U.S. Forest Service (originally filed June 2005) that had been decided in Arizona Snowbowl's favor at the U.S. 9th Circuit Court level.

- **Breckenridge, CO.** Ski Resort Peak 6 Development Project Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). New terrain and high speed 6-pack chairlift. Draft EIS Notice of Availability (NOA) 6/10/11, estimated Final EIS NOA April 2012, decision/implementation expected April/June 2012. (Joe Foreman jgforeman@fs.fed.us 970-262-3443 - www.fs.fed.us/nepa/project_content.php?project=23387)
- **Canyons Resort in Park City, UT** proposed its Daybreak Lift linking to Solitude Mountain Resort base in Big Cottonwood Canyon, UT in September 2011. Further details were released in November 2011 including the SkiLink name; 8-passenger tram size; 1,000 people/hour capacity and 11-minute connection time. The two resorts are about 5 miles apart but a 45 minute drive through Salt Lake City is currently required.
- **Cherry Peak Ski Area, UT.** New ski area Cherry Peak (Logan Checketts developer) located near Richmond,

Continued on page 27

UT received a conditional use permit for its Master Plan in February 2012 from Cache County Planning Commission. Plans call for a peak of 1,000 skiers per day on 203 acres of property with four ski lifts, a 10,000-square-foot lodge, a terrain park, zip line, cable tow for a tubing hill, maintenance facilities and a warming hut. www.cachecounty.org/devservices/currentprojects/projcherrypeak.php

- **Homewood Mountain Resort, CA.** Phase One of the Homewood Mountain Resort Master Plan approved by Tahoe Regional Planning Agency (TRPA) Governing Board in December 2011. Construction of the \$500 million project is expected to begin in 2014. In January 2012 Earthjustice, on behalf of The Sierra Club and Friends of the West Shore, filed a lawsuit in the U.S. District Court of Eastern California against TRPA and Placer County seeking a new Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for this Homewood Master Plan that “properly mitigates the effects of development near Lake Tahoe’s shores, as required by the Tahoe Regional Plan.” Some highlights from the EIR (preferred alternative 1A) include an 8-passenger high speed gondola, high speed quad and new beginner mid mountain ski lifts; resort lodge five star boutique style hotel with 75 rooms and 70 condo units at North Base area; mid mountain day lodge and outdoor swimming pool; village center/ice skating rink at North Base area; total of 39 new buildings at North and South Base areas (155 tourist accommodation units, 177 residential units and 13 workforce/employee housing units) to be built on 23 acre development using LEED gold standard. www.trpa.org/default.aspx?tabindex=0&tabid=407
- **Kicking Horse Mountain Resort in Golden, British Columbia** sold to Resorts of Canadian Rockies Inc (Calgary, Alberta) by Ballast Nedam NV. Kicking Horse has more than 120 trails on 2,800 acres; 4,133 foot vertical drop; 5 lifts (8 person gondola, 2 quad chairs, 1 double chair, 1 surface lift) and has operated for 11 years. Resorts of the Canadian Rockies owns 5 other Canadian ski resorts (Fernie & Kimberley Alpine Resort in British Columbia, Mont-Sainte Anne & Stoneham Mountain Resort in Quebec, Nakiska Ski Area in Alberta) plus a number of accommodation properties, golf courses, and a central reservation agency.
- **Kirkwood Mountain Resort, CA.** Purchased along with undeveloped sites at the base area by Vail Resorts for \$18 million in February 2012 with closing expected in March 2012 subject to U.S. Forest Service approval. Kirkwood has 2,300 skiable acres, top elevation of 9,800-feet with a vertical drop of 2,000-feet, 14 lifts and more than 72 trails. Kirkwood’s Master Development Plan expected to be reviewed by Vail Resorts for potential capital improvements. www.kirkwood.com/site/mountain/land-use-approvals
- **Monarch Mountain, CO.** In December 2011 Forest Service Regional Ranger Jerri Marr accepted the Master Development Plan (MDP) for Monarch that was released in June 2011 which proposed adding a 344-acre No Name Basin on the west side of the Continental Divide with 62-acres of cleared trails, 68 -acres of gladed terrain, a fixed grip double chairlift, and a warming hut that would increase total skiable acreage to 1,144 acres.
- **Mt Ashland, OR.** Based on new environmental studies U.S. Forest Service asks U.S. District Court in Medford, OR in February 2012 to lift the U.S. Circuit Court injunction. The injunction based on Pacific fisher habitat stopped the 71-acre expansion which will include 2 new lifts, new trails, 3 new buildings and a snow tubing area.
- **Mt Hood Meadows, OR.** Buttercup Chairlift Replacement & Realignment CE. Scoping start 12/5/11 with decision & implementation expected March and May 2012. Michelle Lombardo mlombardo@fs.fed.us 503-668-1796
- **Mt Spokane, WA.** Ski area expansion onto the mountain’s northwest face with a new chairlift and 7 new ski runs on 279-acres was approved by Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission in May 2011. Draft Supplemental EIS expected in March 2012. The ski resort only occupies about 10 percent of Mount Spokane’s 14,000-acres. Permits and additional environmental reviews are not expected to be completed until at least the summer of 2012. www.mtspokane.com/107/backside-expansion/
- **Snowbird, UT.** Snowbird Ski Resort Gad Valley Improvements Environmental Assessment (EA). Eleven proposed projects to be completed over the next 5-years within Snowbird’s permitted boundary include

Continued on page 28

Gad Two to upgrade to a high-speed quad, adding beginner ski terrain adjacent to the Baby Thunder area, providing night skiing from the Gadzoom chairlift and an expansion of Creekside Lodge Adaptive Sports facilities. Scoping start June 27, 2011; the estimated 215 comment period legal notice April 2012; and decision/implementation June/July 2012. Other proposals in Snowbird's amendment to its master plan filed in May 2010, include expansion into the 780-acre, above treeline Mary Ellen Gulch (west of Mineral Basin), along with a second tram from Hidden Peak to West Twin Peak (11,489 foot) of American Fork Twin Peaks; a lengthening of Mineral Basin Express by 50%; and a third lift from the bottom of Mary Ellen Gulch to Sinners Pass ridge for descent back into Mineral Basin will be addressed separately at a later date.

- **Squaw Valley USA, CA (owned by KSL Capital Partners) & Alpine Meadows, CA (owned by JMA Ventures) announced merger in September 2011 which closed in November 2011 after approval by US Forest Service and the California Tahoe Conservancy.** KSL is the majority shareholder & JMA is the minority shareholder in the new Squaw Valley Ski Holdings LLC with access to more than 6,000-acres, 8 mountain peaks, 44 lifts, more than 270 trails, and a common shared ridgeline. Planned \$50 million Squaw Renaissance capital improvements over next 3-5 years will continue. Substantial investment in guest experience at Alpine Meadows expected.
- **Stevens Pass Mountain Resort, WA sold to CNL Lifestyle Properties for \$20.5 million in cash by New Stevens, LLC (a division of Harbor Properties Trust) in November 2011.** Stevens Pass Mountain Resort LLC which is an affiliate of Mountain High Resort Associates, LLC, CA will operate the resort under a long term triple net lease agreement. Stevens Pass has 1,125 skiable acres; 10 chairlifts with a total uphill capacity of 15,800 skiers per hour; 1,800-foot vertical drop; and 37 primary runs. Stevens Pass also offers night skiing, 17-miles of Nordic ski trails and a base village with three-day lodges. CNL Lifestyle Properties' ski and mountain lifestyle portfolio now has 23 properties in the U.S. and Canada, including Crested Butte, Sugarloaf, Cypress, and Northstar-at-Tahoe.
- **Vail Mountain, CO.** Vista Bahn Lift Replacement CE. Remove and replace existing Vista Bahn chairlift with gondola. Analysis completed. Decision February 24, 2012. Implementation expected April 2012. Don Dressler drdressler@fs.fed.us 970-827-5715

Consumer Advocacy/Trends

- Snowsports market sales for August to January 2012 versus year ago were down 4.5% in dollars to \$2.7 billion and -12% in units. Alpine skis (flat skis sold without bindings) in the >80mm waist width category are up 19% in dollars to \$36 million and +22% in units. Reverse camber ski sales are up 75% in units to more than 106,346. Reverse camber/rocker snowboard sales are up 9.5% in units (accounting for 73% of all snowboards sold) and +7% in dollars. Adult twin tip flat skis & ski systems sales are + 25% in units sold to 102,400 and +34% in dollars to almost \$50 million. www.snowsports.org
- Lindsey Vonn wins 4th overall FIS Alpine World Cup title in March 2012 passing up U.S. Phil Mahre, Austrian Petra Kronberger, Swiss Vreni Schneider & Croatian Janica Kostelic who each had 3 overall titles. Only Marc Girardelli of Luxembourg (5) and Annemarie Moser-Proell of Austria (6) have more overall titles. Also, for the season ending in 2012 Lindsey captured the following FIS World Cup season long discipline titles: 5th downhill title, 4th Super G title, and 3rd super combined title plus set the all-time women's point total record with 1,980. She added 12 FIS World Cup wins (American record) this season to reach a career total of 53 which ranks 3rd all time among women behind Annemarie Moser-Proell of Austria (62) and Vreni Schneider of Switzerland (55) and 1st all time for the U.S. list ahead of Bode Miller (33) and Phil Mahre (27).
- Sixteen year old Mikaela Shiffrin (Vail, CO) earned her first FIS Alpine World Cup podium with a 3rd place at women's slalom in Lienz, Austria in December 2011. She is the youngest female skier to podium in World Cup slalom since American Tamara McKinney (1978). It has been more than two years since an American woman was on a World Cup slalom podium.
- Squaw Valley, CA opened world's first ski-through Starbucks on the mountain at 8,000 feet in Gold Coast mid-mountain complex in February 2012. www.flickr.com/photos/squaw-media/sets/72157629261178105/

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Ski History

- U.S. Ski & Snowboard Hall of Fame Class of 2011 inductees named in November 2011 with induction ceremony to be held in April 14, 2012 at Seattle's Bell Harbor Center. Joe Pack (2002 Olympic silver medalist, 3 World Cup wins, 12 World Cup podiums, 2 World Championship bronze medals), Eva Twardokens (1985 World Championship bronze medalist, 3 World Cup podiums), Nick Badami (resort builder - Alpine Meadows, CA; Park City, UT; Powdr Corp), Phil Gravink (resort builder - Peak N Peek, NY; Gore Mountain, NY; Loon Mountain, NH); Mason Beekley (ski historian, International Skiing History Association founder), Dick Dorworth (speed skier and author), Harry Leonard (ski show pioneer), Tyler Palmer (2 World Cup wins, 4 World Cup podiums and pro ski racer). www.skihall.com/index.php?a=document&doc_id=15
- Stevens Pass Director of Marketing, Chris Rudolph, age 30, Freeskiing World Tour head judge, Jim Jack, age 46, and local carpenter, John Brenan, age 41 (all from Leavenworth, WA) were killed in avalanche near Stevens Pass, WA in backcountry area in Tunnel Creek drainage off Cowboy Mountain in February 2012. The only survivor was able to deploy her avalanche airbag. Chris Rudolph attended the FWSA 2008 convention in Bellevue, WA.
- Canadian freeskier, Sarah Burke (Squamish, British Columbia), age 29, died in January 2012 from injuries sustained while training in Park City Mountain Resort, UT in the Eagle Superpipe. She was a pioneer in women's ski halfpipe and slopestyle, a 4-time Winter X Games gold medalist and a 5-time World Cup winner. Sarah is survived by her husband, skier Rory Bushfield. Donate at www.giveforward.com/sarahburke

Safety

- Learn to Ski and Snowboard Month in January 2012 had Glen Plake (3-time World Hot Dog Ski Champion, Down Home Tour ambassador), Bode Miller (5 Olympic medals, 2 overall World Cup titles, 4 discipline titles), and Daron Rahlves (12 World Cup wins, 28 World Cup podiums, 7 U.S. National Titles) as the national ambassadors who communicate the excitement and lifestyle benefits of snow sports participation and why it helps to take lesson from a pro when starting out or trying to improve. The theme was "Humans were never meant to hibernate" with the message "Bring a friend". The 2012 estimated number of participants was 100,000 up from 75,000 in 2011. www.SkiAndSnowboardMonth.org
- 13th Annual National Ski Areas Association (NSAA) National Safety Awareness Week January 14-21, 2012. Lids on Kids, Heads Up, Smart Style, Get Smart, Objects Are Closer Than They Appear, ASAP. See www.nsaa.org and resort websites for event details. Do n't Be Caught Upside Down – learn more about tree well safety at www.treewelldeepsnowsafety.com
- FIS World Snow Day – January 22, 2012. FIS World Snow Day goal is to encourage children with their families to enjoy and explore snow while learning about the environment, health benefits of snow activities and safety on and off the snow. Two hundred twenty-five events in 39 countries were expected. www.world-snow-day.com

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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
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*Nancy Ellis,
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For Complete Information on FWSA, visit our website:
www.fwsa.org

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*The Voice of the
Western Skier*