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## Far West Has Some Exciting Trips Planned

By Randy Lew



Randy Lew, FWSA President

Hello. Another ski season is now upon us and mother nature has blessed Utah, Colorado, and parts of Canada with lots of snow and great early season conditions. I wish you a very safe and enjoyable ski season and I hope to see you at our 2008 Ski Week in Whistler.

I would like to congratulate Mike Sanford, Past President of FWSA, on being elected President of the National Ski Council Federation (NSCF). This is a volunteer non-profit organization comprised of the majority of US ski councils and ski industry partners. The goal of NSCF is a sharing of best practices among the councils, standardizing RFP's on a national level, and representing the recreational skier in public affairs issues.

The FWSA Board of Directors held its winter meetings at The Cliff Lodge in Snowbird, Utah. I want to thank Snowbird

Ski & Summer Resort, The Cliff Lodge, Alta Resort, skiNsee Ski Rentals, Le Bus, Salt Lake Convention & Visitors Bureau, Ski Salt Lake, Solitude Mountain Resort Lodging, Hilton Salt Lake Center, and Sheraton Salt Lake Center for their hospitality, excellent service, and partnership.

We were able to conduct 2 full days of productive meetings and enjoyed skiing at both Snowbird and Alta. FWSA continues to thrive through its continued partnerships with the industry.

The new 2007-2008 Far West Skier's Guide has been distributed to each Council and ski shows where we have participated. We are also distributing over 50% of these through Certified Folder Displays to reach the major metro areas that we serve. A big thank you to Leigh Gieringer for the outstanding job and

tremendous effort that she 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 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) me or one of our Functional VP's. All of our Functional VP's require a working committee to be truly successful.

The FSWA Travel Program continues with great success under the leadership of Gloria Raminha and Norm Azevedo. Our upcoming ski week in Whistler will consist of approximately 750 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. Gloria has also arranged an Alaskan Cruise departing from Seattle the day our 2008 Convention finishes. You can plan a great week and a half vacation around these events.

The International ski trip in March 2008 is to Les Trois Vallees, France with an exciting post-trip to Provence and Paris. The last planned trip for 2008 will be an exciting two or three week (your choice) excursion to the Greek Isles with a post-trip to Turkey. You will be able to visit the beautiful areas of Athens, Rhodes, Crete, Santorini, and Mykanos.

Barbara Bryant, VP of Membership, has done a great job of implementing the FWSA News Group, including a monthly "Hot Sheet" which is distributed via a list serve to any interested member. The hot sheet will include trip info and current information on FWSA programs. You may subscribe by going to the FWSA web site and clicking on "Subscribe to FWSA News" button. This is just our first pass at this service and it is our intention of improving on both functionality and service in the future.

The FWSA web site <http://www.fwsa.org/> has been updated and improved due entirely to the efforts of Steve Coxen, former President and Web Master. This site includes information on our travel program, mem-

ber's benefits, Convention, awards, Athletic Scholarship program, and a link to be used to subscribe to the new *Hot Sheet*.

I am very proud that our Athletic Scholarship Program under the leadership of Robb Margrave 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 \$5,000 in scholarships to deserving junior racers.

Our 76th Convention "Northern Exposure" will be hosted by the Northwest Ski Club Council at the Meydenbauer Center and the Westin Bellevue in Bellevue, Washington June 5th – 8th 2008. Mary Olhausen, NWSA President, Sheri Parshall, NWSA Convention Coordinator, and Steve Coxen, FWSA Convention Coordinator have some very exciting activities planned for us including kayaking in Puget Sound, a wine tasting tour, shopping, pub crawl, and the 2nd 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-Lew 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, and a session with some very special guest speakers. The Seattle area ski clubs are very excited about showing you a great time in their beautiful city.

We have not yet decided on the site for our 2009 Convention. We are evaluating venues in the Reno/ Sparks area, Salt Lake City area, and a potential Ski Cruise convention. I guarantee that we will have a very fun and enjoyable Convention with a lot of VIP's and a new exciting format for you.

Thank you for your continued support.



## VP of Marketing

# Another Season is Upon Us

By Debbi Kor



*Debbi Kor-Lew*

Here we are, at the beginning of another ski season. After Convention, the summer just flew by, and we're back at the beginning of a new year. Early snow means early openings for the ski resorts. Arapahoe Basin ran their chair for the first time on October 10th. WOW, maybe this Global Warming thing could be a good thing! We're all looking forward to a fun and exciting year.

Season kick-offs happened all around the Far West area: NWSCC had the Seattle Ski & Snowboard Show, followed by their annual Ski Fair, and finally the Portland Ski Fever show, all within a weeks' time. Not to mention the annual Pray for Snow (Northwest) event. Ski Dazzle was held November 29th to December 2nd, and the Snow Gala on November 3rd in LA. What a great way to get started.

From Aspen to Heavenly, from Mammoth to Sun Peaks. Our members will be traveling in many directions this coming season to follow those fresh tracks. Other trips planned are to **Jackson Hole, Whitefish Mountain Resort, Big White/Silver Star, Keystone, Sun Valley, Alta, and Snow Basin**. Add to this, Far West's annual Ski Week trip from January 19th-26th, this year to Whistler, BC and our European trip to Les Trois Vallees, France in March. That amounts to a lot of miles, and a lot of vertical feet!

Some of you may be aware that Big Mountain is now called **Whitefish Mountain Resort**. They have some new faces to go along with the new name. Jeremy Smith is the new Director of Sales at WMR. Stop in and say hello to Jeremy and the rest of the gang while you're there. Other staff changes during the off season, besides Jeremy, include Brian Flickinger, National Sales Manager for **Vail Resorts**, Tyler Lucas, Group Sales Manager at **Crested Butte**, and Erin Johnson, who handles the group sales at **Sunlight Mountain Resort** to mention a couple. We will all miss the smiling faces of John Morgan (**Jackson Hole**) and Lynn Skall (**Keystone**) who have moved along within their respective resorts. Good luck to all.

Many of our Benefits Partners have returned this year. We have some variations of the original offered packages, so be sure the check out the benefits page

on the FWSA website to see what's new. Here are a few examples: **Dominator Wax** is back with a new package. **Ski Metrix** is still with us, so contact them for a pair of Booster Straps. New this year: **Level Nine Sports** in Salt Lake. If you need new skis, check out their website ([www.levelninesports.com](http://www.levelninesports.com)). Carlos should be able to give you a hand, along with a very good price! **Arapahoe Inn** in Taos, New Mexico; and the beautiful **Grand Sierra Resort & Casino**, in Reno, Nevada, are still with us. Joining the team this year, is our newest lodging partner, **The Peppermill**, offering up some choice lodging. When you're planning your annual trip, check out the website first to see what deals you might be able to get on your lodging, or when you plan on doing some shopping for new gear.

I'll be hitting the SIA show again this year, on my annual jaunt to Las Vegas, checking out all the new and exciting stuff. I'll be talking with the many vendors there, promoting Far West and seeing what I can do to bring in more Benefits Partners and possible sponsors. These folks are the ones who so generously donate the great door prizes that we receive each year at convention.

I continue to work with our existing program sponsors: **Aspen/Snowmass, Steamboat, Big White/Silver Star** and our Athletic Scholarship sponsors: **Whitefish Mountain Resort, and Grouse Mountain Lodge**, as well as the folks at **Schure Sports**, who have donated a custom ski suit each year during Ski Week for the past three years.

I will be contacting all of our Industry friends in the next few weeks about event sponsors for the 76th Annual Convention to be held in beautiful Bellevue, Washington June 5th through 8th, and would encourage any of you who may know of a business, resort, or team looking to join us in Bellevue, please send them my way. I'd be happy to set something up with them.

Happy skiing!

## VP of Membership

# Thank You to All the Volunteers

By Barbara Bryant



*Barbara Bryant  
VP of Membership*

It's time for Direct Member renewals. Your membership is effective through September 30, 2008. Direct members enjoy all of the benefits of ski club members: FWSA membership card; discounts on lodging, merchandise, ski rentals; Far West Skier's Guide subscription; the Councilman subscription, membership in the FWSANewsGroup.

It also includes membership in the National Ski Council Federa-

tion, an invitation to the annual FWSA Convention and Silent Auction, and the FWSA travel program. Go to [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org); click on Membership to download your application. It's very simple – make out a check for \$20 to FWSA and send it and your application to the address on the form.

As a member of FWSA you also belong to the National Ski Council Federation, an organization of ski councils and clubs from throughout the United States. On its website, [www.skifederation.org](http://www.skifederation.org), you will find great resources to tap for communication, education and benefits. For example, one of the web pages contains forms for ski club/council bylaws, trip budgets, fam trip evaluations and more. You'll find substantial savings on the Members Benefits page.

Club and council members, for the latest in travel information (and you know how quickly those trips fill up) subscribe to the FWSA News. You'll be getting a head start on what's going on. You'll also find out what's happening in the industry, the newest in safety, information on benefits, tidbits on ski history and many more interesting bullets of information. Each month a subscriber's name is drawn for a prize. So far the prizes have been **Diamond Peak** lift tickets, a coupon for a discount at the **Sports Basement**, and two **Black Tie ski rentals**. It's easy to join the FWSA NewsGroup. Just contact Barbara Bryant at [membership@fwsa.org](mailto:membership@fwsa.org) or go to [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org) and click on FWSA News.

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## You are invited to join the FWSA news group at Yahoo! Groups

FWSA sends a "FWSA Hot Sheet" once a month with short bullet points of information about FWSA with links to the web site. The bullet points will also include the latest information on FWSA Travel.

You can unsubscribe at any time. To protect your privacy, your email address will not be visible to other members of this group and only a few moderators will be allowed to post messages. Your email address will not be used by any other group or sold to anyone.

There are three ways to join:

1. Go to: <http://sports.groups.yahoo.com/group/FWSAnews/>. or
2. [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org), click on FWSA News, click on subscribe, or
3. contact [membership@fwsa.org](mailto:membership@fwsa.org) and the FWSA VP of Membership will add your email address to the newsGroup.

## 8th Annual Learn to Ski or Snowboard

By Scott Bowker



*Scott Bowker  
VP of Public Affairs*

December 8-9, 2007 (Dates may vary by resort due to weather/resort conditions so contact the resort for more info.) Bring your friends and family to Lake Tahoe for the 8th annual Learn to Ski or Snowboard / FWSA – BAC Friends & Family Weekend. This is an excellent opportunity to introduce/reintroduce your

friends and family to wonderful world of snowsports - skiing or snowboarding.

\* For only \$25/day, first time skiers and snowboarders will receive an all-day beginner lift ticket, lessons and gear rental on December 9-10.

\* This \$25 rate is a savings of up to \$75 off the normal cost for this package.

\* Furthermore, upon completion of a group lesson, skiers and riders may be given coupons for return visits.

\* Reservations are not required, but participants should arrive early. Usually, it is recommended that you arrive at the resort about 2 hours before the lesson to allow for time to obtain the rentals and to get to the lesson location.

\* Participating resorts include:

**Alpine Meadows** [www.skialpine.com](http://www.skialpine.com) (800-441-4423),

**Boreal Mountain Resort** [www.rideboreal.com](http://www.rideboreal.com)  
(530-426-3666),

**Diamond Peak** [www.diamondpeak.com](http://www.diamondpeak.com) (775-832-1177),

**Granlibakken Resort** [www.granlibakken.com](http://www.granlibakken.com)  
(800-543-3221),

**Homewood Mountain Resort**

[www.skihomewood.com](http://www.skihomewood.com) (530-525-2992),

**Mt. Rose** [www.mtrose.com](http://www.mtrose.com) (800-SKI-ROSE),

For resort specific information, call each resort - usually the resort's snow sports school/ski & snowboard school will have more information about the lesson times. Learn to Ski and Board lodging/event packages are available, beginning at \$69 per person/per day, based on double occupancy. For more information on the lodging/event packages, call 888-434-1262 or visit Event calendar for December at [www.gotahoenorth.com](http://www.gotahoenorth.com).

### 2008 FWSA Western Ski Heritage Contest

Win free 5 day vacation for two at Steamboat

*FWSA Annual Western Ski Heritage Award  
Sponsored by Steamboat Springs Ski Resort  
in conjunction with FWSA History Committee*

The Association's Western Ski Heritage program annually recognizes 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. Steamboat Springs is an area rich in history and is the location of champagne powder.

The purpose of the Association's Western Ski Heritage program is to raise the awareness of skiers and non-skiers alike - the contributions made by individuals, groups and companies in 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.

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. Applications are due 4/30/2008 and evaluations will be conducted each spring. 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 snowsports (in the legendary Bill Berry

*Continued on Page 12*

## 2008 FWSA Whistler Trip is Just Around the Corner

By Gloria Raminha

### 2008 Ski Week

January 19 - 26, 2008 members will be in Whistler/Blackcomb, BC for the FWSA annual North American ski week. Our council trip leaders have been working with the FWSA travel staff to provide everyone with a wonderful ski week.



*Back Country Wildlife Tour*

Approximately 750 FWSA members are looking forward to a week of skiing and will enjoy the planned activities that FWSA will be providing during the ski week. By the time you read this article, this trip will be sold out; however, if you're interested in going,



please contact a Council Trip Leader to have your name put on a waiting list in case there are last minute cancellations.

### Alaskan Cruise June 8-5, 2008

Following the FWSA Convention in Bellevue, Washington,



on Sunday afternoon, June 8th. FWSA members who sign up for the trip will be sailing on Norwegian Cruise Lines, *Norwegian Pearl* which will be leaving from Seattle, Washington. NCL offers front row seats to the greatest



show on ice. The ship will be sailing to: Inside Passage, Juneau, Skagway, Glacier Bay, Ketchikan, Victoria and back to Seattle. To sign up for the cruise, go to the FWSA website at [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org) and click on the "travel" tab on the left, then click on the attached link for the cruise. FWSA members still have time to sign-up.

### 2009 Ski Week

Mark your calendars! BIG SKY, Montana was selected by the Councils for the 2009 FWSA ski week which will be January 24 – 31, 2009.

#### *General Information:*

Big Sky Resort was conceived and built by the late NBC newscaster, Chet Huntley. It first opened for skiing in December 1973. In 1976, Boyne USA Resorts purchased the resort and has owned and managed it since then.

Big Sky consists of three mountains with 3812 skiable acres, seventeen lifts, 400 inches of light, dry snow annually; no lift lines and the nation's second largest vertical drop of 4350 feet. Combined with Moonlight Basin, there is a total of 5,512 acres of skiable terrain.

Guests may take a day off from the slopes to experience the Yellowstone National Park. You can tour the park either by snowmobile or snow coach. There are also highly rated cross-country ski trails, snowshoeing, dog sledding, fly-fishing, sleigh ride dinners, and snow-cat dinners.

This will be the first FWSA ski week at Big Sky. Sign-ups for this trip will begin in March of 2008. Save the dates January 24 – 31, 2009 to attend the Far West Ski Week in Big Sky, Montana.

For information on all these trips and more, check out the FWSA website at [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org) and click on the "travel" tab.



*Gloria Raminha,  
VP of N American Travel*



## FAR WEST SKI ASSOCIATION 2008 SKI WEEK

# WHISTLER

**January 19 - 26, 2008**

Average Price \$980

**\*Price does NOT include air or ground transportation.**

Prices vary depending on lodging selection.

**Price includes 7 nights lodging (double occupancy) and the FWSA amenity package.**

The FWSA amenity package includes:

- Registration
- Welcome Party
- 3 Races
- Mountain Picnic
- Après Ski Party
- Farewell Awards Banquet
- 6 day Lift Ticket for Whistler & Blackcomb

For more information, check out the FWSA website, [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org)

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Must be a Member of Far West Ski Association

CST # 2036983-40

# *VP of International Travel*

## **Back from China/Tibet Les Trois Vallees and Greek isles in 2008!**

By Norm Azevedo

Now that the winter is upon us, we need to start thinking snow. But first let's review our fantastic China trip.

FWSA took 91 people on a fast moving China adventure. We started in Beijing on September 15th, 2007 and were startled by how advanced China had become. Mary and I were last in China in 1995.



At that time, new construction was everywhere and the streets were jammed by thousands of bicycles. This time Beijing was a megametropolis of towering buildings with smoggy streets jammed with cars. After touring Beijing, e.g. Tian'anmen Square, Forbidden City, Great Wall, Hutongs, etc. we flew off to Lhasa, Tibet, where we climbed to the top of Dalai Lama's Potala Palace and spent days experiencing Tibetan life. Next we were off to Chengdu, where we saw pandas, and some of our people bottle feed baby pandas. Chengdu was the splitting point where 41 of our group went off to Xi'an to visit the world famous Terracotta Warriors.

Then, off to Shanghai and a ride on the maglev train to the airport (fastest commercial train in the world – 310 mph). The 50 re-

maining people traveled to Leshan where they saw the worlds' largest Buddha (210 feet high) carved into a mountain side. After several stops, we flew to Guilin where we traveled through bamboo, water chestnut, sugar cane and rice fields. The countryside of Guilin is like no other in the world, green covered-mountains shoot straight up into the air.

We cruised the famous Li River passing through scenic Yangshuo. We saw fishermen using cormorants (water birds) to catch fish. Finally we were off to the very modern Shanghai for a couple of days of touring, taking the maglev train to the airport. This was a trip of a lifetime. Our tour company was China Focus out of San Francisco who only does travel to China.



We have two great FWSA International trips scheduled for 2008. On March 7th we fly to Les Trois Vallees, France for our 2008 ski week. Les Trois Vallees is the largest ski area in the world. We stay at LaTania located a short distance between Meribel and Courchevel, France. Les Trois Vallees has 200 lifts and 540 square miles of terrain. Something for every skier. Our post trip extension includes

3 nights in Aix-en-Provence and 4 nights in Paris. I'm sorry to say the Les Trois Vallees trip is sold out.



*Norm Azevedo, VP of International Travel*

FWSA second international trip is a Greek Isles Adventure Trip in the first two weeks of October, 2008. We plan a 17 day tour with an optional week extension into Turkey for those wanting more. This trip is designed to be an adventure where we mix with the locals. We fly into Athens, where we board an overnight ferry at Pireas and sail to Rhodes. We spend a few days in Rhodes, fly to Crete for a few days, take a high speed boat to Santorini (tour the ancient volcano island), take another high speed boat to Mykonos for a few days, and then a private caique (boat) to Delos. From Mykonos we fly to Athens for a visit to the Acropolis, National Museum and old town. Those on the optional Turkey week will fly to Samos. From this point they visit Kusadasi, Izmir, Ephesus, Kanakkale. and Istanbul.

On all our International trips, we accept all placements based on the order deposit are received by FWSA International Travel. It's very important to us that as trips are announced that all Councils and clubs distribute the information and fliers as-soon-as-possible our members have a fair opportunity to join on any trip. As new trips are announced they will be advertised on the Far West website: [www.fwsa.com](http://www.fwsa.com).



# GREEK ISLAND TOUR

October 1 - October 17, 2008  
\$3390 per person\*



3 and 4 Star Hotels  
Breakfast Daily

12 Dinners  
3 Lunches

## USA to Athens (Oct 1)

*Athens to Rhodes* - Take Ferry from Pireas to Rhodes. Dinner, sleep and have breakfast on board. Rhodes accomodations on the seaside part of town. Stay in Rhodes Four Days. Enjoy tours, see Palace of Knights, wine tasting, visit Ancient Kamiros, take small ferry to visit Lindos, enjoy "Meze" snacks, traditional Arhangellos dinner, music, and dancing.

*Crete* - Fly to Crete, stay four days. Dinner at Loukoulos, see Minoan Palace, wine tasting at Peza, visit Thrap-sanos pottery, dance at Arolithos village, see valley of Lassithi Plateau with windmills, walk or donkey ride to Kyra. Dinner at Agios Nicolaos. See Emetian Chanea and evening optional Creten cooking lesson.

*Santorini* - High speed boat between islands with two days at Santorini. Tour ancient Acrotiri excavations and afternoon at Oia to see their famous sunset. Take donkey ride to old port and boat trip to volcano. Back to port, then on cable car or 487 steps. Visit Museum at Fira, donkeyride to boat, view caldera.

*Mykanos* - High speed boat to Island. Three days that will include walking tour to meet Peter the Pelican and see windmills, private Caique boat to Delos, a multicultural center of the ancient world; one of the greatest ancient sights. BBQ on the beach. Tour to the old lighthouse.

*Athens* - Fly to Athens. Two days in Athens. Time to see Acropolis, National Archeological Museum, tour Plaka. Farewell party with typical Greek dinner with Folklores show and music.

## Depart for USA (Oct 17)

*\* Does not include exchange rate changes, air and departure taxes. Approximely \$293. Delta airfare in conjunction with this trip is based on 2007 actual airfare. As soon the 2008 airfare is available, we will let you know if there are any changes.*

October 17 - 24

## Optional Extension to Turkey

\$1050 per person\*

*Athens to Samos* - Flight to Samos, short ferry ride to Kusadasi, Turkey.

*Izmire/Ephesus* - Tour Ephesus (Greco-Roman City), Basilica of St. John, and house of Virgin Mary. Tour Izmir.

*Kanakkale* - Enjoy a Pergonum's Hellenistic City Tour and visit the Acropolis. Visit Asklepiion (earliest Asia Minor Health Center), Troy, ferry across Dardnelles to Istanbul.

*Istanbul* - Tour Blue Mosque, Grand Bazaar, St. Sophia, Suleymaniye Mosque, and other sights. Cruise Bosporous strait with stops at Rumelihisar Fortress, Saryer fishing village, and Beylerbeyi Palace.

## Depart for USA (October 24)

*\*Does not include exchange rate changes, air and departure taxes. Approximely \$100*

**\$200 deposit per Greek participant, \$200 deposit per Turkey participant. Limited space - only 64 participants. A \$25.00 fee will be charged for all cancellations. Cancellation fee information after April 1, 2008 will be included in your trip information packet. Limited single supplements.** Priority placement based on first received post-marked mail envelopes. Make checks out to Far West Ski Association with "Greece" in the check "for" space. Include the following: (1) your legal name and address, (2) phone number, and (3) email address. (4) designate Greece only, or Greece and Turkey. (5) designate SFO or LAX departure airport. **No flight deviations for this trip.**

Mail to: FWSA, c/o Norm Azevedo, 901 Sousa Dr., Walnut Creek, CA 94597. Email [fwsaitravel@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fwsaitravel@sbcglobal.net) to confirm that you sent a check and /or request more information. Norm and Mary Azevedo can also be reached on (925) 944-9816.

CST# 2036983-40

For more detailed itinerary, visit [FWSA.Org](http://FWSA.Org), (travel section)

# Charities & Our Community Chair

2007 - 2008

## Club and Council Recognition

By Sigrid Noack



Sigrid Noack, Charities & Our Community Chair

Last year we had a very successful first effort at our new Charity Recognition for Councils and Clubs. Eleven of our FWSA Clubs and Councils applied for this Charity & Community Service Recognition. All eleven groups were recognized at the Convention and three of the top applicants presented beautifully informative picture boards at the FWSA Convention in Santa Clara.



Again, thank you Skiyente Ski Club of NWSCC, Phoenix Ski Club of ASC, and Bay Area Council for presenting your picture boards. This is such a wonderful way of sharing your volunteering and charitable activities, and it gives our Industry friends and other clubs and councils a chance to see what our FWSA family is doing for others. It shows just how much we care about our communities.

Now it's time to start planning for this year's recognition. Start thinking about this great way for your council or club to receive FWSA recognition.

At the 2008 FWSA Convention, the *Charity & Community Service Recognition* will be awarded to the FWSA Club or Council who has shown an outstanding effort in donating time and/or financial support to one or more charitable organizations.

### What is the purpose of this recognition?

To encourage charity and community involvement in all our FWSA councils and clubs; to recognize a club or council for its outstanding financial and/or volunteer support to one or more charitable organizations; to show the ski world how much the FWSA encourages volunteerism and charity involvement; to show our Industry partners what a big and kind heart the members of FWSA have.

### What is the application procedure?

Any council or club, currently affiliated with FWSA may apply.

An application form is included in this Councilman issue. Application forms will also be available on the FWSA Website. Complete and e-mail your application to Sigrid by March 15th, 2008.

A committee made up of Charity Committee volunteers will review the applications.

Three clubs or councils will be selected and notified by April 15th. They will then prepare a picture display board to be presented at 2008 Convention. \*\*\*

### What will be the recognition?

All clubs and councils that apply will be recognized at the FWSA convention.

The First Place winner will receive a \$100 donation from FWSA for the charity of their choice.

This is the FWSA's way of publicly supporting our clubs and councils in that same giving spirit.

\*\*\*The picture board presentation at convention is an excellent way to show the FWSA Charity and Volunteerism commitment. These picture boards will also serve as encouragement for other clubs and councils to get more involved with charitable community activities.

**FWSA "CHARITY AND COMMUNITY SERVICE RECOGNITION"  
APPLICATION for 2007-08**

This application is due to Sigrid at [skisig@earthlink.net](mailto:skisig@earthlink.net) by March 15, 2008

Club or Council (circle one) Name \_\_\_\_\_ Council \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person: Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

President (if different): Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Event(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
(you may use as many forms or pages as you need)

Name of charity organization(s) \_\_\_\_\_

How many members involved \_\_\_\_\_

Time involved in preparation plans, promotional activities, actual event, follow-up:

\_\_\_\_\_

Estimated Impact (funds raised/miles cleaned, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

Narrative of event itself (who, where, what, when details):

Does FWSA have your permission to use this information in its publications? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_  
The top **three applicants will be announced by April 15<sup>th</sup>** and will be asked to prepare a  
picture board for the FWSA convention in Bellevue, Washington on June 6-8, 2008?  
Are you willing to do this? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

For more information: contact Sigrid Noack, chairperson FWSA Charities & Our Community  
[skisig@earthlink.net](mailto:skisig@earthlink.net) or 310-823-1373.

# *Athletic Scholarship Chairperson*

## **FWSA Awards Scholarship**

By Robb Margrave



*Robb Margrave, Athletic Scholarship Chairperson*

In September, the Far West Ski Association awarded Athletic Scholarships to five young alpine ski racers participating in United States Ski Association (USAA) two western-most regions. Two of the recipients were from the Pacific Northwest Ski Association and four were from the Far West Region. The value of scholarship ranged from \$700 to \$1,000.

Scholarships funded at \$1,000 were awarded to: Jake Baker, a J1 racer, and Mark Engel, a J2 racer, both competing for the Sugar Bowl Ski Team; and Anton Hiltz, a J1 Racer, competing for the Mt Bachelor Ski Foundation. Baker is in his last year at the Sugar Bowl Academy where his favorite subjects are english and history. After high school, Jake hopes to attend a four year college where he can compete in Division 1 ski racing.

In 2004, Baker won the “Overall” title at the J2 Junior Olympics. Hiltz’ is a three year recipient of FWSA scholarships. He is in his last year at Summit High School in Bend, Oregon. Last year Anton was awarded a Rick Hom scholarship which recognizes both athletic and academic achievements. Hiltz wants to attend a four year university where he can compete in Division 1 ski racing. Engel attends Sugar Bowl Academy where his favorite subject is mathematics. He hopes to graduate at the age of 16, take a year off, then, attend a four year university. In college, Mark wants to major in mathematics.

Scholarships funded at \$700 were awarded to Jetta Rackleff and Riker McClaskey, both are J2 racers. A scholarship funded at \$600 was awarded to Shannon Hartman, a J1 racer. Rackleff, a two year recipient of a FWSA scholarship, attends Summit High School in Bend, Oregon where she maintains a 4.0 GPA. She has many interests

which, in addition to ski racing, include playing the cello and playing goalie on the school’s hockey team. McClaskey is unique, in that he does not live next to the ski hill, but attends school in Danville, California. During the winter quarter, he attends Sugar Bowl Academy in Norden, California. Riker’s favorite subjects are math and science.

Hartmann, who is in her second year as a J1, has completed high school where she attained a 3.6 GPA. Shannon has received scholarships from two division 1 colleges. When she starts college, she wants to pursue a degree in Kinesiology.

The Scholarship Fund cannot do the work we do without participation from our sponsors, **Big Mountain Resort, Grouse Mountain Lodge, Schure Sports, Inc**, the makers of Karbon Brand ski clothing, and of course, FWSA membership.

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*Continued from Page 5, Public Affairs, Western Heritage Award*

league, company, etc); videos; photos; books; field trips; speaker programs; descriptions of past major events.

The winner of the Western Ski Heritage Award will be provided a 5 day vacation for two at Steamboat and will be announced at the FWSA convention.

The deadline for entry for selection is April 30, 2008. Entries should be made electronically to John Watson (FWSA History Chairperson) at [geospace@pacbell.net](mailto:geospace@pacbell.net) with a copy to Scott Bowker (FWSA VP Public Affairs) at [PublicAffairs@fwsa.org](mailto:PublicAffairs@fwsa.org) with FWSA Western Ski Heritage in the email

subject line. Hard copy addendums, documentation, articles or other media entry substantiation should be identified to John who will provide further instruction. John Watson’s mailing address is: Box 2768, Fallbrook, CA 92088. Entry form available at [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org), go to Awards section.

# Silent Auction and Raffle Donors 2007 FWRA Ski Championship

Far West Race Association would like to thank all of the generous donors to the Silent Auction and Raffle held at the 2007 FWRA Championships. A portion of the proceeds helps to fund the Far West Ski Association Athletic Scholarships.

Alpine Meadows	Mt. Bachelor Ski Resort
Alta Ski Area	Mt. Bachelor Village, Bend OR
Aramark Lake Tahoe	Mt. Hood Meadows Ski Resort
Awbrey Glen Golf Club	Mt. Hood Ski Bowl
The Back Country	Mt. Rose Ski Resort
Bear Valley Mt. Resort	Northgate Golf Course
Big Red Cats – Cat Tours	Northstar Race Department
Big Mountain Ski Resort	Northwest Ski Club Council
Big Sky	Ogden Visitor’s Bureau
Bobo’s Mogul Mouse	Peairs, Greg
Bolle	Pacific Crest Snowcat
Booth Creek	Panorama Ski Resort
Brundage Mountain Resort	Paul Vlastad
Canyons	Phoenix Inn Suites – Bend, OR
Cedar House Sport Hotel	Pine Tavern Inn – Bend, OR
Coyote Moon Golf Club	Powder House Ski Store – Bend, OR
Crested Butte Mt. Resort	Reno Sparks Convention and Visitors Bureau
Deer Valley Resort	Red Resorts, Inc
Deer Valley Lodging	Red Shutter Inn
Dynastar	Remax Sunset Realty- Sunriver, OR – Barb Parshall
Elite Feet Northstar	Reno Mt. Sports
Frank App – Airplane Sightseeing Ride	Resort at Squaw Creek – Six Peaks Grille
Glider Ride - Greg Peairs	Riverhouse Hotel
Granite Chief	Royal Gorge Cross Country Ski
Grouse Mountain Lodge	Seventh Mountain Resort – Bend, OR
Haber Vision	Ski Anthony Lakes Ski Resort
Hampton Inn & Suites	Snowbasin – A Sun Valley Resort
Head North	Sorensen’s Resort
Heavenly	Sports Exchange
HeliTahoe	Spy Goggles
Helmets R Us	Start House
Homewood Ski Resort	Steamboat Ski and Resort
Jackson Hole Mt. Resort	Stockli
Jim and Beth Sommer	Sugar Bowl Ski Resort
K2 Skis Corporation	Sun Peaks Ski Resort
Ken’s Bike & Ski	Sun Valley Ski Resort
Keystone Resort	Tahoe Dave’s
Kirkwood Mountain Resort	Tahoe Donner
Lake Tahoe Cruises	Tahoe Mountain Club
Lake Tahoe Snowmobile Tours	Tahoe Truckee Inn Best Western
Long Board Louies Restaurant, Bend OR	Wild Creek Golf Course
Mammoth Race Camp	Wolf Creek Resort
McGrath’s Fish House	Vail Resorts
Mountain Resorts at Steamboat Springs, CO	Village Ski Loft
Mountain Shop	Walk-EZ
Mourelatos Lakeshore Resort – Lake Tahoe	Whistler/Blackcomb

"The Voice of the Western Skier"



*FAR WEST SKI ASSOCIATION*  
and  
*NORTHWEST SKI CLUB COUNCIL*  
Present



*The FWSA 76<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention*  
*At the Meydenbauer Center in Bellevue, Washington*  
*June 5-8, 2008*



***Convention Highlights:***

*Silent Auction*  
*Travel Expo*  
*Celebrity Speakers*  
*Saturday Awards Luncheon*  
*Celebrity Multi-Media Reception*  
*Saturday Awards Banquet & Dance*  
*FWSA General Meeting and Elections*  
*Educational Breakout Sessions*

***Fun Optional Activities:***

*Pub Crawl*  
*Golf Tournament*  
*Kayaking*  
*Seattle Area Sightseeing Tour*

***Hotel Amenities:***

*Upscale Shopping and Dining at Bellevue Square*  
*Lap Pool and 24 Hour Fitness Club*  
*Wireless Internet Service*

***Hotel Reservations:***

*The Westin Bellevue*  
*600 Bellevue Way NE, Bellevue, WA 98004*  
*\$137 per night plus tax, double occupancy*  
*Call 1-800-937-8461*

*Internet: [www.westin.com/bellevuewa](http://www.westin.com/bellevuewa)*

***Information:***

*Sheri Parshall, Host Council Convention Leader*  
*Email: [cougs skier@aol.com](mailto:cougs skier@aol.com)*  
*Phone: 503-245-3782*

# Host Convention Coordinator

## 2008 Convention Plans

By Sheri Parshall



*Sheri Parshall,  
Host Convention  
Coordinator*

The snow is flying, the rain is falling, and the sun is peeking through in the midst of it all. It must be autumn in the Northwest! June seems so far away. But we've already got a fabulous group of Far West snowriders hard at work on next year's convention, and we're here to make a pledge: If this convention doesn't go down as one of Far West's best conventions ever, I'll buy you a Starbucks!!

We have so much planned for you. The always-popular golf tournament at Willows Run, a kayaking tour of Puget Sound, the opportunity to fling fish at Pike Place Market...the list goes on and on!!

The panel sessions are coming back, and your club members and officers are going to be totally WOWed when it comes to the topics we've got planned: how to run club trips, public affairs, and communication and leadership panels.

And the celebrities? Let's just say *mum's the word* on our line-up. Aren't secrets fun? The Northwest is home, after all, to so many of our Far West friends. We hope many, if not all of them will be joining us again in Bellevue.

The Silent Auction is already on its way to being one of the great ones. We've got Washington resorts joining in for the first time EVER. You could be

the first FWSA club member to buy a package at Crystal Mountain. As we all know, the whole Silent Auction thing just can't be beat. I mean, what can possibly be better than shopping for vacations, with FREE BEER? (And remember, it's the Northwest... home of the best microbrews in the universe.)

And don't forget...you can RECOVER from the 2008 FWSA Convention on a cruise! Yep, you'll be able to vote for president in the morning, and be sipping cocktails on the Promenade Deck of a cruise ship in the afternoon. I'm getting tired just thinking about all the fun there is to be had.

It's all here, Far West clubbers: the fun, the adventure, and yes, maybe even some rain. But throw all that in with fresh ocean air, crystal white mountains, and your buddies in the best ski club association on the planet, and what's not to like?



***It's time, after all, for a little  
"NORTHERN EXPOSURE."***

So head on up to Bellevue...visit [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org), go to the "convention" page, and make your reservations today. If you have questions, just give me a shout at [cougs skier@aol.com](mailto:cougs skier@aol.com). We can't wait to see you.

# Safety Committee Chairperson

## Snowsports Always in High Altitude

By Richard Lubin

SNOW Sports take place at high altitude, so here are some exercises to help you get ready.

**AEROBIC** (cardiovascular) can include dancing, running, elliptical trainers, ski or stair machines, road or mountain biking to get ready for skiing.

### **KNEE BENDS**

Support yourself with a chair back turned sideways. Standing on one leg, bend down with a slow smooth motion. Try to get down to a 90 degree bend. Continue until you feel fatigue (*the burn*) in the leg. Switch to the other side. Visualize yourself carving nice turns down the hill.

### **DUCK WALK**

This is another great exercise. Squat down and try walk-

ing. Walk backwards, sideways, varying your foot and leg angles. Try it on an incline and on stairs. *Caution:* If you have problem knees, do not go down any further than is comfortable. Consider limiting the motion to under 60 degrees.

### **JUMPING**

Try jumping side to side. Jump over an imaginary line through the middle of your body. Pretend you are on moguls or on a steep incline. Those little trampolines are great for this.

### **BALANCE**

Try standing on one leg with no support while bending just a little.



*Richard Lubin,  
Safety Committee Chairperson*

### **OTHER EXERCISES**

Do exercises like Tai-Chi that help you find your “center.” Try walking along a curbside, increasing the pace as you go. Good skiing and boarding is all about balance and shifting weight.

### **STRETCH**

This is very important - look at stretching exercises on the net.

The bottom line is to start thinking about being up in the snow. Incorporate these and other activities into your everyday life. After all, you can do some of these things on the phone or while you are doing other passive activities.

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## 2008 FWSA Safety Person the the Year Contest

Win free 6 day vacation for two at Aspen

The FWSA Safety Program is looking to name the 2008 Safety Person of the Year! The winner of the 2008 contest to be named the FWSA Safety Person of the Year will receive a trip for two to **Aspen**, seven nights lodging and six days skiing plus rentals at any of the fabulous mountains in Aspen. The winner also will also receive roundtrip airfare for 2 people (airlines may vary depending on departing city and may not be direct).

All applications are due April 30, 2008. The judging criteria

focus on promoting safety awareness among FWSA members and demonstrating support for safety on the slopes. Also important will be the overall performance of the winners club in doing the same. In other words, a club that has best demonstrated a willingness to involve itself in safety promotion and actions will select and nominate its candidate for Safety Person of the Year. The nominee must be able to document that through his/her leadership, the club demonstrated its safety involvement and sponsor-

ship of safety related activities during the 2008 ski season. Judging will be by club nomination and will be done by an esteemed group of safety experts and leaders of FWSA.

Promoting safety means acting as a club safety representative, publishing articles on safety in newsletters, speaking on safety issues at meetings or on trips and raising the awareness of members toward the need for everyone to practice safety 100% of the time.

*Continued on Page 17*

## *VP of Council Services*

By Fran Long

Recently, my ski club held its annual membership mixer. As the publicity director, it was my job to advertise the event in such a way as to generate interest in our club. One such way was to post the event under 'groups' through Craig's List.

Interestingly, the two people who came to the mixer based on that ad were both male, in their 20's, new to the area. In talking to them, they both love to ski and came to the mixer to get to know people with common interests in their new community. You can guess what they asked me! Are there any young people in your club? Sadly, I had to say 'no'. I immediately followed that comment with, 'but, you could help get young people involved,' and proceeded to give them some great ideas.

This encounter really emphasized why it is so important that we, as Far West Ski Association,

continue to look at ways to involve our youth in organized skiing. Young people want that involvement, but there just isn't much out there for them.

This brings me to 'where is your organization skiing this year'? Happily, I can report that we now have a couple of ski venues available to families and young people. FWSA has organized a family friendly ski trip to **Bear Valley** (nicely located east of Stockton). It is a great, smaller, ski area. It is nice for families because of its size, inexpensive lift ticket prices, and excellent equipment/lesson packages. Look for information on this February 8-10, 2008 trip coming to the FWSA website soon: [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org).

Additionally, Skiyente Ski Club in Oregon is sponsoring a family friendly trip to **Sun Valley**. That trip will be during the same time frame, February 6-10, 2008 (not a conflict as the trips will serve



*Fran Long  
VP of Councils*

different geographical areas and/or time frame commitments). If you have not already, you will also be able to access information on that trip through the FWSA website: [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org).

This edition of the Councilman focuses on the many resorts our clubs and councils will be visiting this year. As you read through these pages and begin to look seriously at all your ski options, or as you finalize plans for your ski adventures this season; consider one or both of these venues as well. Bring your kids, grandkids, neighbor's kids, or NO kids and join the fun. We make provisions for adult accommodations and activities as well.

### **Suggested Safety Activities**

*Continued from page 16*

- Newsletter articles
- Creation of banners or signs
- Speaking or arranging for professional or semi-professional 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
- Just being a constant proponent of safe skiing

The deadline for entry for selection is April 30, 2008. Entries should preferably be made electronically to Richard Lubin (FWSA Safety Chairperson) at [botaboardr@sbcglobal.net](mailto:botaboardr@sbcglobal.net) with a copy to Scott Bowker (FWSA VP Public Affairs) at [PublicAffairs@fwsa.org](mailto:PublicAffairs@fwsa.org) with FWSA Safety Person in the email subject line. If you wish to submit your entry by mail, please send to Richard Lubin, 8655 Wicklow Lane, Dublin, CA 94568. Entry form available at [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org), go to Awards section.



2008  
Far West Championships  
Mammoth Mountain  
April 4 - April 6, 2008

## MAMMOTH LODGING

The Village at Mammoth  
Juniper Springs Resort  
Mammoth Mountain Inn

For special group rates, make your own reservations  
before March 5, 2008

Call : 1-800-626-6684

Reference group name to get discount: Far West  
or

Book on line at [www.mammothmountain.com](http://www.mammothmountain.com)

Group ID: 2725  
Password: 370004430  
Password: Far West

## Race Schedule

Fri 4/4	Pacesetter Trials
Sat 4/5	Slalom Races/Awards Banquet
Sun 4/6	Giant Slalom Races

For more information, contact Bob Ellis, FWSA  
Phone (510) 414-4270 (cell)  
Email: [bobellisracer@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bobellisracer@sbcglobal.net)

# Bay Area Snow Sports Council

By Dennis Heffley



*Dennis Heffley  
BAC President*

We in the Bay Area Snow Sports Council have a wonderful situation ~ the Tahoe Basin is located only a few hours away from most of our clubs! ANY WEEKEND during the winter you'll find a race or function taking place at one of the many resorts near Lake Tahoe.



Trips taking place with the Bay Area Snow Sports Council and FWSA are the **Keystone Nationals, Colorado** ~ Les Trois Vallee, France ~ **Schweitzer/Silver Mountain, Idaho** ~ **Whistler/Blackcomb, Canada** ~ **Mammoth Mountain, CA** ~ Alaskan Cruise and the Greek Island adventure tour.

Tahoe Region that are organized by various in Here are a few trip locations beyond the Lake dividual clubs within the Bay Area Snow Sports Council ~ and it's a wonderful variety of places to go!

- Park City/Deer Valley, Utah**
- Breckenridge, Colorado**
- Steamboat Springs, Colorado**
- Vail, Colorado**
- St. Mortiz/Lucerne/Zurich, Switzerland**
- Various Resorts around Salt Lake City, Utah**

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## *Annual FWSA Club/Council Awards*

Each year Far West Ski Association sponsors an annual club awards program including the Wentworth Outstanding Club Publication Award, the Tollakson Outstanding Club Award, and the Outstanding Club Website Award. All judging will be completed before the June 5-8, 2008 annual FWSA Convention, in Bellevue, Washington, with the awards announced at the FWSA Convention.

Extended deadline for club entries and council entries is December 15, 2007.

Participating clubs and councils must enter the program by completing the entry form which is available at the FWSA website ([www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org)) or through current FWSA Council presidents and publications.

The entry form needs to include the name of a person in your club who is willing to judge newsletters and/or websites of other clubs. All entries will be judged by four (4) judges.

Save four copies of the November and December 2007, and

January, February, and March 2008 issues of your paper newsletters to provide to assigned judges.

Judges should be able to access club and council newsletters from those five months. Website judging will be by random assignment over the same period of time.



# Central Council of California

By Fran Long



*Fran Long  
Central Council of  
California President*

The snow is falling! The snow is falling! It's that time of year when we anxiously await our club meetings, show up with our check books in hand, and sign up for a whole new array of ski/snow sports trips. It all looks so easy at this time of year; the research is done, the arrangements have been made; all it takes is the time and

the money and we can ski just about anywhere, anytime, all season long.

Whether you want to ski for a weekend, and extended four day time period, or an entire week, Central Council has trips galore to offer. SLO Skiers will be off to Big Mountain, Montana in January and Taos, New Mexico in March. At about that same time, Santa Barbara Ski and Sports Club will be enjoying Crested Butte, Colorado and Alta/Snowbird, Utah; and Fresno Ski Club will head to Sun Valley Idaho. Along with our own week-long trips, many of our members have also made plans to join



FWSA at Whistler and Les Trois Vallees. And those are just our weeklong trips!

Central Council is fortunate to have equal access to the Tahoe ski areas, Mammoth Mountain, and everything in between. Where do we plan to ski/ride on weekends? Just about everywhere! Many trips are planned to Mammoth Mountain and to the variety ski areas Tahoe has to offer. We will support our local mountains, Sierra Summit and Bear Valley, as well. By the end of ski season we are pretty much taking all of this for granted, but right now, it is new and exciting all over again!

## Public Affairs Update Headlines

Contributed by Scott Bowker

### Arizona Snowbowl

On 3/12/07 9th U.S. Circuit Court William Fletcher reversed U.S. District Court Judge Paul Rosenblatt's decision that Forest Service met all procedural requirements for approval of facility upgrades at Arizona Snowbowl and use of reclaimed wastewater to make artificial snow. District Court Judge Rosenblatt had concluded that the goal of providing a reliable ski season was consistent with the Forest Service's multiple-use mandate. This case is one of the first legal challenges

to the Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993. This case sets an important precedent which extends American Indians the right to practice their religion in a way and to an extent the federal government deems appropriate and adequate on public lands (not Indian reservations) instead of protecting American Indians' religious rights as they themselves define those rights and the necessary circumstances for practicing their religions. Ultimately this case is predicted to go to the Supreme Court. In October 2007 a

request for a rehearing en banc at the U.S. Circuit Court level by a 15 judge panel instead of the original 3 judge panel was accepted. See [www.reclaimthepeaks.com](http://www.reclaimthepeaks.com) for more information.

### Alpine Meadows

Sold by Powdr Corp (owner of Park City, Mt. Bachelor, Boreal, Soda Springs, Las Vegas Ski Resort, Killington, Pico) to JMA Ventures (owner of Homewood Resort and developer of Ghirardelli Square in San Francisco) closed in July 2007.

*Continued on page 21*

### American Skiing Company

(Owner of The Canyons, Sugarloaf, Sunday River) dissolved in September 2007 with its sale Steamboat to Intrawest Corp. in December 2006, Killington & Pico to Powdr Corp. in February 2007, Mount Snow & Attitash to Peak Resorts Inc. of Missouri in February 2007, Sunday River & Sugarloaf/USA to Boyne USA Inc. of Michigan in June 2007, and planned sale of The Canyons to Taliskier Corp. which is embroiled in litigation.

**Bearfire Resort**, planned Texas outdoor ski and snowboard resort in Dallas/Fort Worth area is scheduled to open in the fall of 2009. Bearfire Mountain is to be a 25 story mountain with Snowflex material that has 650,000 square feet skiable area on a 50 acre outdoor complex with chairlifts, half pipes, hotel, convention center, spa, tubing hill, and ice skating rink. [www.bearfireresorts.com](http://www.bearfireresorts.com)

**Booth Creek Ski Holdings Inc.** transfers control of Loon Mountain, NH & Summit at Snoqualmie, WA to Boyne USA Inc. in October 2007.

**Dyer Mountain**, planned California four season ski resort 85 miles northwest of Lake Tahoe. In September 2007 Lassen County California Board of Supervisors approved development of 7,000 acre resort community which will include 3,000 acres of ski/snowboard terrain; 2,400 foot vertical drop and 12 lifts.

*Continued on page 25*

## Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs

By Judith Miller

It's been quiet in LA Council land although we did have one tragic event. Our VP of Membership, JoAnne Taylor, passed away after a day of sailing and scuba diving in the Virgin Islands. She took a nap and never woke up. JoAnne's middle initial was V and that was for Volunteer as she was always the first to do so. She twice went to help the victims of Katrina, cleaned our Pacific Coast beach on that special day, and contributed many hours to her church and the junior athletes at her tennis club. She was a member of Four Seasons West Ski Club and they have put together a DVD that will be shown at our Snow Gala.

Speaking of which, by the time this message goes out, LA Council will have selected its Man and Woman of the Year to send to the FWSA 2008 Convention in Seattle. We have some strong candidates again this year, so plan to give the other councils a real challenge. The event will also include a silent auction for the Unrecables Ski Club to help with their treasury, and LAC will



*Judith Miller, Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs*

conduct their annual raffle, first prize being a trip for two to **Sun Peaks**, where our LAC 2008 Ski Week is being held.

The second week in December, we will again be

holding our annual Ski, Board and Race camp at, it is hoped, Mammoth. Last year, due to the lack of snow, the week was split between Mammoth and Colorado. This year we hope for better conditions.

The Rokka League will also be holding their Ski, Board and Race Camp the first week of December. Our first league races will take place December 8-9.

In 2008, we have a whole variety of ski trips: January 12-19 to **Sun Peaks**; February 7-11 to **Snowbasin and Powder Mountain in Utah**; February 28-March 11 to **Coeurmayeur**; and March 12-16 to **Coeur d'Alene (Schweitzer and Silver Mountains)**, Idaho. We have spaces available on all these trips.



# Northwest Ski Club Council

By Mary Olhausen

Winter greetings to all of you!! I hope it's snowing wherever you are. I'm just sitting down to read my NW Skiers' Directory, published by our Council. We've compiled a calendar for all of our club trips. What a great way to see where clubs are going, and it's a means to encourage other club members to join these club trips. On any given weekend, our clubs are skiing all over the map! NWSCC will be taking several skiers to **Silver Star** for our annual early-season trip. Two clubs are running Family Trips - Skiyente Ski Club is going to **Sun Valley** and Desert Ski Club is going to **Anthony Lakes**. Mt. High will offer another Canadian Ski Safari and their infamous Mystery Trip.

Washington based clubs are going places like **Sun Peaks, Mission Ridge, Vail-Beavercreek, Schweitzer, Crystal Mtn, Whistler, Lake Tahoe, Big Sky, Mt. Bachelor, and Bogus Basin**. Oregon-based clubs are making their way to places like **Lake Louise, Whitefish, Steamboat Springs, Mt. Ashland, Anthony Lakes**, and Ogden, UT. International trips include Switzerland, Italy and Austria. NWSCC is taking 50 skiers to the FWSA Ski Week at

**Whistler/Blackcomb** in January. Mt. High is running a trip to **Mammoth Mountain** to coincide with the FWRA Race Championships in 2008 - watch out NWSCC will be back! Several of our clubs have mountain lodges - open to all clubs.

Our PACRAT racers are ready for another great season. Six races will be held on **Mt. Hood**. PACRAT racing information can be found at [www.pacrats.org](http://www.pacrats.org). Our monthly Council meetings are a great way to meet other club



members. Meetings are fun with themed nights, guest speakers and educational topics related to club management. Oh and did I say door prizes and pizza too? The Northwest Ski Challenge lives on - in our 3rd year now. NWSCC sponsors a program developed to drive traffic to the resorts as well as highlight all the ski areas in the three states covered by NWSCC--Oregon,



*Mary Olhausen Northwest Ski Club Council President*

Washington, and Idaho. Qualify for prizes by skiing all the resorts in these states. Northwest Snowsports Advocates continues to inform club members about ski area developments, etc. You can find information on how to help, on our website at [www.nwskiers.org](http://www.nwskiers.org).

The biggest event for NWSCC is the 2008 FWSA 76th Annual Convention. NWSCC - Host Council is putting together a most memorable convention. Make your plans now for a club trip to "Northern Exposure" in Bellevue, WA, June 5-8, 2008. We'll be at the Meydenbauer Center/Westin Hotel.

I want to thank the ski industry for all their support of NWSCC, the Directory, our Ski Fair event and for all the support you provide to our member clubs. Wishing everyone a great 07-08 ski season!! Visit the NWSCC website for all the latest news and club activities - [www.nwskiers.org](http://www.nwskiers.org).

# Sierra Council

By Jo Simpson



*Jo Simpson, Sierra Council VP*

Sierra sold out their initial allocation of spaces on the FWSA Whistler-Blackcomb trip almost as soon as the trip was offered. And a number of Sierra racers are traveling to Keystone for the third annual Keystone National races, Dec. 17-21.

The Sierra Council's Las Vegas Ski Club has a full schedule of trips lined up for the coming season. Additional information on the trips and the club is available at [www.lasvegasskiclub.com](http://www.lasvegasskiclub.com).



**Sun Valley**  
01/26/08 – 01/02/08

**Odgen/Snow Basin**  
02/15/08 – 02/18/08



**Aspen/Snowmass**  
03/01/08 – 03/06/08

**Coeur d' Alene Resorts  
Schweitzer/Silver Mtns**  
03/12/08 - 03/16/08



**Brianhead, UT**  
03/28/08 - 03/30/08

**Mammoth Mountain**  
04/10/08 - 04/13/08



Also, Salt Lake City, 12/06/07 – 12/09/07, and Lake Tahoe North Shore, 01/10/08 – 01/13/08

## Sierra Council's Race League Sponsors Corporate Challenge

Sierra's race league is sponsoring a corporate challenge race March 22-23 at Alpine Meadows. Sierra League invites the teams from corporations, businesses, clubs, and recreational groups to compete.

Six-member teams will compete for medals and prizes Open, Junior, and Veteran classes. Each team should have at least two women or juniors (under 18) or veterans (over 50). Juniors can be on a team only if their parents race.



Racers must be associated with the group they represent for at least 90 days.

Registration cost will be \$475 per team, which includes 2 days of racing (2 runs of each slalom and giant slalom), Saturday Apres Ski party, and T-shirt. A portion of proceeds will be donated to local charities.

With questions contact Bob Ellis, Race Director, at [rellis9681@aol.com](mailto:rellis9681@aol.com) (530)414-4270 or Pavel Bosin at [president@sierraleague.com](mailto:president@sierraleague.com).



**Sierra Women Racers**

Kathy Stewart, K.D. Doing, Carol Rotkel, Linda Hale, Jo Simpson, Barbara Bryant



**SKIER'S GUIDE EDITOR**  
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[fwsg@cox.net](mailto:fwsg@cox.net)

### Did You Change?

FWSA keeps a database on members, clubs, and councils. It's important that information in this database is 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.



*Nancy Ellis, Information  
Services Director*

*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

Email: [nancyellis2@sbcglobal.net](mailto:nancyellis2@sbcglobal.net)

## Consumer Advocacy Trends Council

Contributed by Scott Bowker

**U.S. skier/snowboarder** visits 2006/2007 were down 6.5% with total at 55.1 million primarily due to abnormally warm temperatures and below average snowfall in most regions according to annual Kottke National End of Season Survey final report. The 2006/2007 season is down 0.9% from the ten year average of 55.57 million visits.

Winter sport overall sales for specialty stores decreased 2% in dollars to \$1.782 billion, in chain stores increased 1.7% to \$550 million while internet stores (tracked for the first time) totaled \$341 million for the August 2006 through March 2007 period according to SIA (Snowsports Industries America). In specialty stores snowsports apparel gained 8% in dollar sales to \$623 million, midfats advanced up 13% in units and 20% in dollars, fat systems jumped 79% in units and 80% in dollars, and twintips climbed 11% in units and 24% in dollars while snowboard equipment sales fell -13% in dollars to \$181 million.

**Young Skiers.** Get them involved while they are young is critical to developing life long snowsports enthusiasts. The 2006 National Skier/Boarder Opinion Survey by Leisure Trends Group showed 62% started skiing before age 18 and 30% started after encouragement from friends.

**2014 Winter Olympic Games** were awarded in July 2007 to Sochi, Russia with ski/snowboard events at Rosa Khutor resort in the Kasnaya Polyana valley of the Caucasus Mountains.

**Amer Sports Corp** opened U.S. headquarters in Ogden, UT in September 2007 for Winter & Outdoor unit that includes Atomic, Salomon & Suunto.

**Jarden Corp** completed acquisition of K2 Inc which adds the brands K2, Marker, Marmot and Volkl to Jarden's Outdoor Solutions segment in August 2007.

**Bode Miller** will match his independent Team America sponsors' combined donation of \$5,000 per World Cup win over the next 3 seasons to his Turtle Ridge Foundation which has donated tens of thousands of dollars to Bretton Woods adaptive ski program, Lance Armstrong Foundation, the Boys & Girls Club and other worthwhile causes.

**Mount Pegasus**, proposed Georgia indoor ski resort on 400 acres along Lake Lanier near Atlanta was presented to Dawson County Development Authority in September 2007. Plans call for one million foot indoor ski dome with 2,500 foot slope, 300 foot vertical drop, 5 runs, 2 quarter pipes, a half pipe, super pipe, mogul field and indoor snowmobile track.

**PingTian Resort** in consultation with the SE Group (designer of Deer Valley) is continuing construction of "China's first world class luxury ski resort" in the Tianshan Mountain range of northwestern Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region during winter 2007/2008 and is now expected to open in November 2008.

**Summit at Snoqualmie Pass, WA.** Master development plan draft environmental impact statement 12/31/05, final EIS expected March 2008,

implementation June 2008. Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest Team Leader Sean Wetterberg [swetterberg@fs.fed.us](mailto:swetterberg@fs.fed.us) 425-744-3403

**USFS National Forest Management Act – 2007 NFMA Planning Rule** (36 CFR part 219), framework to streamline planning process, to strengthen role of science in planning, to reaffirm principle of sustainable management consistent with Multiple Use Sustained Yield Act; draft environmental impact statement 8/31/07 analyzed and disclosed potential environmental consequences of planning rule, final EIS expected December 2007, implementation February 2008. [www.fs.fed.us/emc/nfma/2007\\_planning\\_rule.html](http://www.fs.fed.us/emc/nfma/2007_planning_rule.html)

**White Pass Ski Area** Expansion, WA draft environmental impact statement (EIS) released 12/23/04, final EIS June 2007, implementation May 2008 Wenatchee National Forest Naches District Recreation Planner Susan Ranger [sranger@fs.fed.us](mailto:sranger@fs.fed.us) 509-653-1446

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# The Councilman

## **Words from the Editor:**

In this issue, the theme encompasses the Ski Resorts that our members plan to visit with their club and council. I am sure that you will find almost any place you are interested in skiing is available with one of these organizations. You can also find more trips if you visit the club and council websites on the net. The next issue will be full of information about the convention next June in Bellevue, Washington.

*The Councilman* is published three times a year by the Far West Ski Association in July, January, and April. The July issue provides a complete recap of the Annual FWSA Convention. It is published for FWSA members and can be seen at [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org).

*The Far West Skier's Guide* is published annually in October for all FWSA members, as well as interested snowsport enthusiasts, and industry representatives. The content of both publications is meant to be shared by FWSA council and club members so they have a knowledge and understanding of the Association and the benefits that come with membership in the FWSA.

## **THE VOICE OF THE WESTERN SKIER**

For Complete Information on FWSA, visit our website:

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

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