

Spring 2019

The Councilman

*Niseko, Japan,
Kathy Fang dangles on a
one-person chair*

Photo by Sandy Kyomura

**87th Annual
Far West Ski Association Convention
June 13 - 16, 2019
Hyatt Regency Indian Wells Resort & Spa
Hosted by the Orange Council of Ski Clubs**



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



GLORIA RAMINHA, PRESIDENT

Greetings:

What a snow season!!! Spring is here, but the winter season is far from over. Some of our favorite ski destinations have had the best snow falls which has translated into some fantastic skiing and riding for our members. With record snow falls this winter, several of the ski resorts will be staying open longer.

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I would like to thank Nancy Ellis, our VP of North American Travel, and her travel staff for a terrific FWSA Ski Week in Steamboat, Colorado. We had 360 members who participated in the ski week activities, such as racing, super bowl party, and our farewell banquet with the theme of “Night at the Movies. The councils showed up dressed in costumes for a movie theme that they chose, and their costumes were amazing. Many thanks to Larry Young, with *Steamboat Ski Resort*, and Sara Clemons, with *Sports America Tours*, for their extraordinary efforts in providing a great experience for our annual North American Ski Week. We were also fortunate to have our good friend of Far West Ski Association, Billy Kidd, take the time to attend all our functions.

The 2020 FWSA Ski Week will be held at Big Sky, Montana, January 25 to February 1. *Big Sky Resort* is known for the “Biggest Skiing in America” with more than 5,800 acres of terrain and a vertical drop of 4,350 feet, so be sure to book your spot early with your council. There will be lots of skiing, boarding, and some fantastic FWSA ski week activities.

This year’s Mini Ski Trip, led by me along with the help of our Tour Operator, Gloria Saiya-Woods with
Continued on next page



Indian Wells, California

Continued from previous page

Ski.com, was to Winter Park at the end of March with 26 members joining us. This trip is usually planned as an end-of-season trip, but this year, with all the amazing snow falls, everyone enjoyed the great ski conditions, the evening gatherings and farewell party. I also had wine and gift packages which were actioned. The proceeds from the auction will be used for grants to adaptive snow sports at resorts which will be selected by the Far West Ski Foundation for the 2019/2020 ski season. The 2020 Mini Ski Trip will be to **Big White Ski Resort**, British Columbia, March 29 to April 3, 2020.

A big thank goes out to Debbie Stewart, the VP of International Travel, who led nearly 80 participants in March to Japan's Hakuba Valley with a pre-trip to Niseko and a post trip to Kanazawa, Kyoto and Tokyo. Debbie has worked closely with **Holidaze Ski Tours** to create an excellent International winter ski trip which was an adventure of a life time. As this trip is finishing at the time this article is being written, please be sure to read Debbie's article in this issue of **The Councilman** which will cover more of the exciting adventures of this trip. In 2020, Debbie will take our International ski trip to Davos, Switzerland with the post trip to Portugal.

The FWSA travel program has expanded over the last few years, offering more trips and various types of trips compared to what we had in the past, so be sure to go the www.fwsa.org to see where FWSA can take you in your future travels. There are several ski and adventure trips already planned. FWSA trips provide opportunities to see and ski/board with old friends and to make new friends with people of like interests. These trips offer value provided by volume pricing and organized activities and tours, and a trip leader to help you with agenda questions and the unforeseen issues that might arise.

Our Athletic Scholarship Program continues to grow under the leadership of David Krupp. With the generosity of our industry partners, **Whitefish Mountain Resort**, **Averill Hospitality** (the owner of **The Lodge at Whitefish Lake** and **The Firebrand Hotel**), **Schure Sports, Inc.**, the makers of Karbon brand ski clothing and **Far West Racing Association**, we were able to award \$16,750 in scholarships to 19 deserving junior racers for the 2018/19 season. Thanks to all who donate to this program.

Debbi Kor and the FWSA convention staff are in the home stretch finalizing the details for our 87th Convention, "Fun in the 'OC' Sun" at Indian Wells. This year's convention is being hosted by the Orange Council of Ski Clubs with assistance from Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs at **Hyatt Regency Indian Wells Resort & Spa** June 13 to 16, 2019. FWSA Convention Chair, Debbi Kor and FWSA Convention Coordinator, Sheila Van

Continued on page 5



Indian Wells Fun in the Sun

By Sheila Van Guilder

Host Council Convention Coordinator

Indian Wells Fun in the Sun

Orange Council invites all to join us June 13 through 16 for the Far West Ski Association Convention. We are headed to Indian Wells, California to enjoy the desert sunshine. The 87th Annual Far West Ski Association Convention will be celebrated at the Hyatt Regency Indian Wells Resort & Spa. Hosting this event has been the main thrust of Orange Council of Ski Clubs for a year now. We have been ably assisted by Los Angeles Ski Council. Many of you remember what a wonderful experience it was when FWSA visited Indian Wells many years ago. It is a terrific opportunity for a vacation, come early and stay late.

Come out to play with us in the “playground” of the rich and famous. Palm Springs and Indian Wells offer a ton of fun. Go to the FWSA website and register now!

The Indian Wells Hyatt Regency is surrounded by golf courses, and if golf is not your thing then enjoy the seven swimming pools and whirlpools (one is adults only). If you do not want to swim, then there are three hard surface tennis courts, and a 24-hour fitness center which includes complementary classes. They also provide complementary bicycle rentals. Friday is a great day for a Spa experience promoted by Orange Council. Check out the resort website for additional information <https://www.hyatt.com/en-US/hotel/california/hyatt-regency-indian-wells-resort-and-spa/champ>.

The Optional Events will whet your appetite to get to know this region. The traditional Pub Crawl will partly be in downtown Palm Springs, where you can enjoy the *Thursday Night Street Fair*. We will have a Legends & Icons Home Tour, and a trip to the Palm Springs Air Museum earlier that day. Friday will be a trip to the San Jacinto-Area Tram, our annual Michael German Golf Tournament, and a Spa Day on Friday.

Friday evening activities begin at 5:30 with the Club Happy Hour. Following that, the doors to the ballroom

Continued on next page

Sheila Van Guilder - Continued from previous page

will open at 6:30 sharp, for the 34th Annual Silent Auction, offering ski and adventure packages to the highest bidder. Enjoy a free sponsored beverage on Far West from 6:30 to 8:00, and dance to the music of "Can DO Productions", with DJ, Victor Cannon.

Saturday evening, it is time to "Swing and Sway" in the Desert Breeze in the ballroom. Everyone will dress up in their best Aloha shirts and dresses for the Awards Banquet honoring all those who have worked so hard over the past year(s) and who will be recognized by their peers for their outstanding contributions to Far West Skiing Association. All this will be followed up by more music and dancing, putting a wonderful end to an even more wonderful event.

Sunday morning is the time set for our General Meeting and Elections, We will be voting for President, Secretary, Treasurer, 2 Trustees, V.P. of Public Affairs, V.P. of Council Services, and V.P. of North American Travel.

We look forward to seeing you all in Indian Wells.

Sheila Van Guilder
President, Orange Council of Ski Clubs



Gloria Raminha - Continued from page 3

Guilder have some very exciting activities planned for all. Be sure to read Debbi's article and go to www.fwsa.org, to read about the planned convention activities and to sign-up and register for the convention.

Joe Harvis, VP of Communications, has been extremely busy working with Club Express to convert our website to a new system. The new website will allow FWSA to better manage our membership, conventions, trips and much more. We are hoping to have a working demo available at the convention with plans to go live soon after.

I would like to thank everyone individually, and could go on and on about all that is happening with FWSA. We have many dedicated volunteers doing great work to improve our FWSA programs. Thanks to all the Board of Directors, Trustees, Committees, Council and Club Volunteers for their countless hours and continued outstanding efforts in helping to maintain the success of the Far West Ski Association.

Gloria Raminha
FWSA President



87th Annual
**Far West Ski Association
Convention**

June 13 - 16, 2019

at the



**HYATT
REGENCY®**

INDIAN WELLS
RESORT & SPA

Hosted by the *Orange Council of Ski Clubs*



Hyatt Regency Indian Wells Resort & Spa

44-600 Indian Wells Lane, Indian Wells, CA 92210

Reservations <https://www.hyatt.com/en-US/group-booking/CHAMP/G-FSKI> or

call 1-760-776-1234, Group Name: **Far West Ski Association.**

Room Rates per night plus tax single or double occupancy —
\$139 per night

Room Registration Deadline May 17, 2019

Hotel Features

- Agua Serena Spa
- 36 Holes of Championship Golf
- Heated Swimming Pool and Hot Therapy Pool
- Lantana Restaurant
- Oasis Poolside Bar
- Agave Sunset tequila bar and lounge, overlooking golf course
- Pool and hot tub • Fitness Center

Transportation

- Air transportation is via Palm Springs (30 minutes), or Ontario (1.5 hours) or Los Angeles LAX (2.5 hours).
- Transportation to the airport is available by car rental or shuttle.

Convention Highlights

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

Optional Activities

• Thursday

- ° Palm Springs Air Museum
- ° Legends & Icons Homes Tour
- ° "Get Your Party On" - Pub Crawl

• Friday

- ° 13th Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament
- ° Aerial Tram Ride in San Jacinto
- ° Spa Day
- ° Pool Party

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

Jeannine Davis
Silent Auction Chairperson
SilentAuction@fwsa.org
or 415-328-2333

Sheila Van Guilder
Convention Coordinator
svanguill@yahoo.com
or 714-656-6032

A portion of the Silent Auction proceeds will benefit US Adaptive Recreation Center (USARC). www.fwsa.org



**87th ANNUAL FAR WEST SKI ASSOCIATION
CONVENTION**
Hyatt Regency Indian Wells Resort & Spa • Indian Wells CA •
June 13-16, 2019



Fun in the "OC" Sun

Welcome FWSA Club Presidents and Convention Delegates:

Welcome to the Far West Ski Association's 87th Annual Convention – to be held in the fabulous city of Indian Wells, California, hosted by the Orange Council of Ski Clubs, with assistance by Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs.

Enclosed you will find the registration materials for the **Far West Ski Association's Convention**, Thursday through Sunday, **June 13-16, 2019** at The Hyatt Regency Indian Wells Resort & Spa, in Indian Wells, CA.

Deadlines:

May 6, 2019 is the deadline for early registration of **\$165**, a savings of \$30. The price goes up to **\$180 on May 7.**

May 6, 2019 is the deadline for submission of **ALL** event fees. These include Thursday's Legends & Icons Homes Tour, Palm Springs Air Museum, and the Pub Crawl "With A Twist"; Friday's 13th Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament, San Jacinto Tram Ride, and Spa Day, along with A **FREE** Pool Party, at the *Oasis Pool* in the afternoon from 2:00 pm to 4:00pm, before the evening events. **May 13, 2019 is the deadline for fees at \$180.** Fees go up to **\$195** beginning **May 14.** Submit all forms and payments to: **FWSA Registrar, c/o Jean McCasey, 10635 Esmeraldas Drive, San Diego, CA 92124**

Economic Relief Program:

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

Make Your Hotel Reservations NOW!:

Lodging at our group rate (double occupancy) is available at *The Hyatt Regency Indian Wells Resort & Spa*. Per our contract, we have **NO RESORT FEES; FREE IN-ROOM WI-FI & FREE PARKING**. Refer to the enclosed flyer for the FWSA contracted room rates for our group. The Hyatt Regency Indian Wells Resort & Spa is located at 44-600 Indian Wells Ln., Indian Wells, CA 92210, www.hyatt.com. Make your reservations by calling **760-776-1234**, and give them our Group Name: **Far West Ski Association**. You can also book your room reservations on-line at our special FWSA site at: www.hyatt.com/en-US/group-booking/CHAMP/G-FSKI. Make your room reservations before **May 17**, when the room block is released. **Once our room block is released, The Hyatt Regency Indian Wells Resort & Spa will endeavor to take reservations for rooms after the cut-off date, but this will be subject to availability.**

Transportation Information:

Flights should be booked in and out of the Palm Springs International Airport (PSP) located just 30 minutes from the hotel, or Ontario Airport (1.5 hours). Transportation to/from the resort is available by rental car or *Super Shuttle*.

Theme – Fun in the "OC" Sun:

This year's Convention theme is *Fun in the "O.C." Sun* featuring Thursday evening's Pub Crawl, "With a Twist" and Friday evening's Silent Auction and Trade Show. The Saturday Awards Banquet, with the theme *"Swing and Sway in the Desert Breeze"* will be **Island- apparel optional**.

Contact Information:

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

Sheila Van Guilder, Host Council Coordinator: svanguil@yahoo.com or 714-656-6032

Jean McCasey, Convention Registrar jlmccasey@yahoo.com or 858-560-8722

If you have any questions, please contact the appropriate person above. Welcome to the 87th Annual FWSA Convention!



87th Annual FWSA Convention 2019

June 13-16, 2019, Hyatt Regency Indian Wells Resort & Spa



REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____

Street/Apt. # _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

Mobile Phone _____

Ski Club _____

Council _____

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

Dietary Requirements ☐ Vegan ☐ Vegetarian ☐ Gluten Free

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

☐ **This is my first FWSA Convention**

Convention Packages (Fri: June 14 — Sun: June 16)

Full Package if paid by May 6, 2019 \$165 _____
– \$180 after 5/6, \$195 after 5/13

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

Saturday Travel Expo, Meetings & Lunch \$55 _____

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

Awards Dinner & Dance Only (Must purchase in advance) \$65 _____
– “Swing & Sway in the Desert Breeze” (Island dress optional)

Extras

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

Men's Shirt (Orange only) ☐ L ☐ XL ☐ XXL ☐ 3X \$20 _____

Ladies' Shirt (White) ☐ M ☐ L ☐ XL ☐ XXL \$20 _____

Optional Activities (Priority given to Registered Delegates/Industry)

Legends & Icons Homes Tour (Thurs: June 13) \$51 _____

Palm Springs Air Museum (Thurs: June 13) \$35 _____

Pub Crawl (Thurs: June 13) \$69 _____

Michael German Golf Tournament (Fri: June 14) \$145 _____

Specify Handicap _____ OR Novice ☐ OR Last 3 Scores _____

☐ Need Transportation to the Golf Course

Club Rental: Left ☐ or Right ☐ Handed \$75 _____

San Jacinto Tram Ride (Fri: June 14) \$56 _____

Spa Day (Fri: June 14) A) ☐ Facial or B) ☐ Massage \$150 _____
or C) ☐ Mani (\$80) D) ☐ Pedi (\$80) \$80 _____

GRAND TOTAL \$ _____

You can pay & register online at
fwsa.org



**You can also submit this form
with your payment to:**

FWSA Convention Registrar

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

For additional information visit
www.fwsa.org.

Full Package Includes—

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

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

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

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



87th Annual FWSA Convention 2019

June 13-16, 2019, Hyatt Regency Indian Wells Resort & Spa



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES



\$51

Legends & Icons Homes Tour

Thursday, June 13, 2019, 9:30 am – 2:00 pm

Includes: Transportation, guided tour, and lunch

Leader: Maxine Hanlon, maxch@prodigy.net; 714-412-9121

Sponsor: TBA



\$35

Palm Springs Air Museum

Thursday, June 13, 2019, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

Includes: Transportation, admission

Leader: Ken Muzzy, muzzyks11@gmail.com; 714-745-4564

Sponsor: TBA



\$69

"Get Your Party On" Pub Crawl with a Twist

Thursday, June 13, 2019, 5:30 pm – 10:30 pm

Includes: Transportation, 2 drinks, hors d'oeuvres, Street Fair & dessert

Leader: Judy Thurman, ylskicat@aol.com; 714-883-1216

Sponsor: Steamboat Ski & Resort Corporation



\$145

13th Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament

Friday, June 14, 2019, 6:30 am – 2:30 pm

Includes: Transportation, continental breakfast, lunch & awards

Leader: Sally Lash, sallylash@juno.com; 626-524-5274

Sponsor: Club Med



\$56

San Jacinto Tram Ride

Friday, June 14, 2019, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Includes: Transportation, and box lunch

Leader: Carol Kane, paul_kane@att.net; 714-488-4644

Sponsor: TBA



\$150

Aqua Serena Spa Day

Friday, June 14, 2019, 11:00 am – 3:00 pm Includes champagne & light lunch

Includes: Facial or Massage (\$150), Manicure (\$80), or Pedicure (\$80)

Leader: Maxine Hanlon, maxch@prodigy.net; 714-412-9121

Sponsor: Aspen Skiing Company

Snowmass Tourism



Free

Oasis Pool Party

Friday, June 14, 2019, 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

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

Hosts: Central Council of California

Sponsor: TBA

Sign up for 2019 FWSA Optional Activities by May 6, 2019 using the **Registration Form** or online at fwsa.org.



87th ANNUAL FAR WEST SKI ASSOCIATION CONVENTION
Hyatt Regency Indian Wells Resort & Spa • Indian Wells CA •
June 13-16, 2019

Fun in the "OC" Sun



Thursday, June 13, 2019

9:00 am - 2:30 pm Palm Springs Air Museum – *Sponsored by*
 9:30 am - 2:30 pm Legends & Icons Home Tour – *Sponsored by*
 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm Far West Ski Foundation Meeting (Invitation Only)
 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm Delegate Registration - Delegate Bags *Sponsored by Girolibero Cycling Holidays,,* Neck Wallets -
Sponsored by Ski Dazzle Shows, Delegate Book - *Sponsored by TBD*
 1:00 pm - 6:00 pm Industry Exhibitor Registration
 5:30 pm - 10:30 pm Pub Crawl (Optional Event) - *Sponsored by Steamboat Ski & Resort Corporation*

Meet-Hotel Lobby
 Meet-Hotel Lobby
 Villa Capri & Patio
 Indian Wells Foyer

 Indian Wells Foyer
 Indian Wells Foyer

Friday, June 14, 2019

6:00 am - 2:30 pm 13th Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament at Indian Wells Golf Resort, Shotgun-
 Start at 7:00 am - *Sponsored by Club Med*
 7:00 am - 6:00 pm Silent Auction Room Set Up
 9:00 am - 3:00 pm San Jacinto Tram - *Sponsored by TBD*
 11:00 am - 4:00 pm Spa Day at Agua Serena Spa – *Sponsored by Aspen / Snowmass & Snowmass Tourism*
 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm Pool Party - *Sponsored by TBD, Hosted by Central Council*
 1:00 pm - 6:30 pm Industry Registration and Booth Set Up
 3:00 pm - 8:00 pm Delegate Registration

 4:45 pm - 5:00 pm Industry Exhibitor Meeting
 5:00 pm - 5:30 pm Convention 101 Meeting for New Convention Delegates
 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm Councils' Man & Woman of the Year Meeting (Invitation Only)
 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm Club Happy Hour
 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm Silent Auction Welcome Party - *Sponsored by TBD,* Beer *Donated by TBD,* Wine Service
Sponsored by Aspen/Snowmass & Ski.Com
 6:30 pm – 10:30 pm 34th Annual Silent Auction & Snowsports Trade Show - Musical Entertainment by "Can Do
Productions" – Victor Cannon, D.J.
 10:30 pm - 11:00 pm Exhibitor Booth Breakdown

Meet in Hotel Lobby

 Indian Wells Ballroom
 Meet in Hotel Lobby
 Meet in Hotel Lobby
 Oasis Pool
 Indian Wells Ballroom
 Indian Wells Foyer

 Indian Wells Ballroom
 Hibiscus AB
 FWSA Suite
 Verde Vista Terrace
 Indian Wells Ballroom

 Indian Wells Ballroom

 Indian Wells Ballroom

Saturday, June 15, 2019

7:00 am - 12:00 pm Delegate Registration
 7:00 am - 8:00 am Continental Breakfast - *Sponsored by Mammoth Mountain Ski Area*
 8:00 am - 8:30 am FWSA General Meeting - Opening Session
 8:45 am - 10:25 am Travel Expo - *Grand Prize - Far West Ski Week - Sponsored by FWSA*
 8:45 am - 10:25 am FWSA Snowsports Leadership Academy - *"Are You Covered" a look at your club's liabilities,*
causes & insurance– Fred Liebel & Jim Hovren
 8:45 am - 12:15 pm Councils' Man & Woman of the Year Judging (Invitation Only) - Awards *Sponsored by Big White*
Ski Resort
 10:30 am - 12:15 pm Bid Presentations – 2021 FWSA Ski Week (Invitation Only)
 10:45 am - 12:15 pm FWSA Snowsports Leadership Academy – *"Strategic Travel Planning...Delivers Successful*
Trips"- Debbie Stewart, Stephen Hall, Joan Thornton
 10:45 am - 12:15 pm Public Affairs Panel & Guest Speakers
 10:45 am - 12:15 pm Far West Racing Seminar
 12:30 pm - 1:30 pm Luncheon & Awards Presentation - Luncheon *Sponsored by Vail Resorts,* Wine Service
Sponsored by Sports America Tours & Big Sky Resort, Beer *Hosted by Jackson Hole Mountain*
Resort, Western Ski Heritage Award *Sponsored by Steamboat Ski & Resort Corporation,* Safety
 Person of the Year Award *Sponsored by Telluride Ski Resort and Mountain Lodge Telluride.*
 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm Keynote Speaker - *Sponsored by BikeTours.Com*

Indian Wells Foyer
 Indian Wells Ballroom
 Indian Wells Ballroom
 Mesquite "M"
 Indian Wells "N"

 Far West Suite

 Desert Vista "A"
 Indian Wells "N"

 Indian Wells "O"
 Desert Vista "B"
 Indian Wells Ballroom

 Indian Wells Ballroom

2019 FAR WEST COUNCIL MAN / WOMAN OF THE YEAR RECOGNITION PROGRAM

Hello Everyone, and Happy Spring (at least, it is warming up here in Oregon)!!

First of all, our thanks to **Big White Ski Resort** for their continued support of our program! Our award is SO much more fun to give, knowing that the winners get to take a trip to this fabulous resort. I am delighted to report that we have fifteen men and women participating this year, representing eight councils.

These honorees, “**Guests of Honor**,” will be feted at this year’s FWSA Convention in Indian Wells, California. They will join **Big White Ski Resort** as guests of honor at a private reception on Friday night, receive special seating and introduction at the Saturday luncheon, and special honors for the Man and Woman of the Year at the Saturday night banquet.

And one more shout-out: to all of the councils who participated in this year’s program. We can not make this happen without the support of the councils, the council boards, and all of clubs who are allowing us to honor your hard-working members. A huge THANK YOU to all of you.

I am so pleased to introduce you to this year’s Council Man and Woman of the Year honorees:

BAY AREA COUNCIL

Gail Burns – Inskiers

INTERMOUNTAIN SKI COUNCIL

Tama Lamm – McCall Winter Sports Club

Colby Nelson – McCall Winter Sports Club

LOS ANGELES COUNCIL OF SKI CLUBS

Regina Reilly – Wailers Ski Club

Victor Chan – Unrecables

NATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF SKIERS WESTERN REGION

Teri Allard – Inland Empire Ski & Sports Club

Todd Hood – Snowbusters Ski Club of Pasadena

NORTHWEST SKI CLUB COUNCIL

Becki Robinson – Bend Ski Club

Ryan Rooper – Cascade Ski Club

ORANGE COUNCIL OF SKI CLUBS

Sheila Van Gilder – Balboa Ski & Sports Club

Drew Young – Balboa Ski & Sports Club

SAN DIEGO COUNCIL OF SKI CLUBS

Mary Jo Lau – North Island Snowdrifters

David Arnold – North Island Snowdrifters

SIERRA COUNCIL

Debi Phelps – Tahoe Donner Senior Alpine Ski Club

Steven Kelly – Reno Ski and Recreation Club



***Steve Coxen,
Nominations Committee Chairman***

2019 FWSA Officer Elections

Elections for officers will occur at the Far West Ski Association Annual Meeting & Convention June 13-16, 2019, to be held at the Hyatt Regency Indian Wells Resort & Spa, Indian Wells, CA. Voting will be held on Sunday, June 16. Delegates attending the convention will elect their President, Secretary and Treasurer to one-year terms and two Trustees to two-year terms. In addition, VP of Council Services, VP of North America Travel, VP of Public Affairs will be elected to two-year terms. There are no By-Laws amendments currently proposed.

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

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

President:

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

Treasurer:

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

Trustee:

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

VP of International Travel and VP of North America Travel:

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

Continued on next page

Desirable experience with the following:

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

If elected to either VP of Travel position:

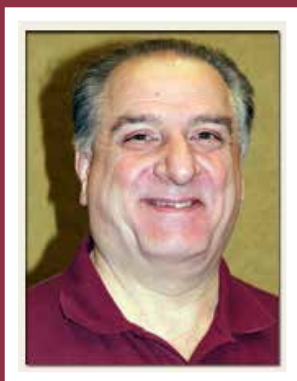
- *May not receive personal financial or other benefit as a result of being a club, council, or FWSA Trip Leader for an FWSA sponsored trip. For example—a trip leader who works as a tour operator or for a travel agency may not receive compensation or other benefit for their business or company. They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

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

Declared candidates at the date of this publication are listed below. Even though an incumbent is running for re-election to their position, potential candidates should not be discouraged from running for a position.

- President: **Gloria Raminha** (incumbent running for re-election)
- Treasurer: **Randy Lew** (incumbent running for re-election)
- Secretary: **Sheri Parshall** (incumbent running for re-election)
- Trustee 1: **Tom Bundgard** (incumbent running for re-election)
- Trustee 2: **no candidate** (incumbent has decided not to run for re-election)
- VP Council Services: **no candidate** (incumbent has decided not to run for re-election)
- VP North America Travel: **Nancy Ellis** (incumbent running for re-election)
- VP Public Affairs: **no candidate** (no incumbent)

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



Joe Harvis, VP of Communications

Communications Report

The past few months have been very busy, in that we began the process of finding a replacement for our website and conducted demos and in-depth analysis on the two leading membership based software to replace the website and enhance the administrative capabilities available to us. We narrowed our focus to two contenders, Club Express and Sports Engine. After an extensive review of each of these systems it was recommended to the board to select Club Express.

Working with Club Express we have started the process of converting the website to the new system. This will take us approximately 3-4 months, depending on complexities either required by FWSA or delays in capturing the necessary data to upload to the new system. Our goal is to have a working prototype available to demo at the convention with a go live date shortly thereafter.

Once the new system is live, it will allow the FWSA to manage its membership, conventions, trips and other events much more efficiently plus have all our membership information in one consolidated database.

If any of our clubs or councils are looking to replace their existing website and deploy a simpler process to keep the site current and manage its membership and events, seriously consider one of these vendors. Both Club Express and Sports Engine are equally capable member management and website systems. FWSA chose Club Express over Sports Engine for the added functions built into their system that Sports Engine does not have now.

FWSA Connect has been enhanced this year to allow industry to register for the convention online, as the membership has been doing for the past few years. This will make it easier not only for the industry to register, but also allows them to upload their auction certificates and documents. It also will make life much easier for our Convention Committee. Many thanks to Jim Nachbar for these enhancements.

FWSA Connect, Far West's interactive portal located at <https://connect.fwsa.org> continues to include not only Far West trips and online payment options, but also Council and Club trips are posted there, too. All the Councils and Clubs hosting trips that want to advertise are encouraged to post them. To post trips, leaders will need to create an account on FWSA Connect and then let us know to add them to the list of members authorized to post trips – probably the most reliable way to contact me is to send an email to vpcommunications@fwsa.org with the subject "FWSA Connect Help Needed". Once authorized, you can post, update, and remove your trips. You can upload fliers and brochures, as well as links to websites with more information. We look forward to seeing your trips on FWSA Connect!

Continued on next page



*Greater
Palm Springs
area*

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Far West has three publications available to members and industry partners, *The Councilman* is published twice yearly, spring and fall, *Far West Skier's Guide*, published yearly in the fall and our monthly newsletter, *Far West News Flash*. Connie Burdette is the editor/publisher of *The Councilman*, Leigh Gieringer is editor/publisher and Jane Wyckoff is assistant editor of *The Far West Skier's Guide* and Debbi Kor is the editor and distributor of the *Far West News Flash*. All these publications are in digital format and are accessible from the Far West website at <http://fwsa.org/MemberCorner/Publications/publications.html>.

If you want to be kept up on what FWSA is doing, sign up to receive the News Flash at <http://fwsa.org/MemberCorner/Publications/NewsFlash/NewsFlash.html> and enter your email address.

George Stewart, our multimedia chair, continues to produce and post photos and video from our trips and conventions to our *Facebook* page on a regular basis. If you have not "liked" our page do so now so as not to miss anything from FWSA. Any videos produced by and for the FWSA can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/user/FarWestSkiAssoc>.

We have been keeping Catherine Ohl, our webmaster, very busy adding and updating web content for the upcoming Convention in Indian Wells, California. Check out the website, www.fwsa.org, to keep current on happenings at FWSA. If you have any questions or comments about the website, please direct them to me at vpcommunications@fwsa.org.

Please join me in thanking these people for their continued service to FWSA. They do a lot and are not always recognized for their efforts.

Additionally, one of my roles as your VP of Communications, has me leading an Outreach Committee that works to define and develop plans to grow our membership and our programs and ultimately measures the success or failure of our efforts. The committee usually meets monthly via online conference call. Working with Family and Youth Chair, Linda Coxen, we collectively developed and plan to grow family and youth involvement within our clubs and councils. Linda has begun to put some of these ideas into place and will keep us informed as to her progress.

We have now moved our focus to Membership working with VP of Membership, Michael Bouton. We are developing ideas to help grow membership. Feel free to send us any ideas.

Joe Harvis



Jo Simpson, VP Council Services

Council Services Programs Have Productive Year

The committee of council presidents is pleased to have Bill King of the Northwest Ski Club Council as our Club and Council Communications and Outstanding Club Awards Chair. Bill volunteered to serve in this important position at the July 2018 board meeting and has been hard at work administering the awards program. We are pleased that submissions by clubs and councils have increased this year over last year, particularly for club websites.

The Family and Youth Program has renewed attention this past year. Linda Coxen is in her second year as chair of this program. She asked the FWSA Outreach Committee to address the Family and Youth program as their first focus for 2019-2020 and they spent their fall conference call meetings coming up with ideas and focus for the program.

Sheri Parshall is in her second year as Man and Woman of the Year chair. Her increased recognition for the council representatives at the 2019 convention was well received and she has plans for the 2020 convention that build on last year's experiences. Big White continues to be an amazing and much appreciated sponsor of this program by providing a free trip for two to the winning Man and Woman of the Year winners.

Sigrid Novak, our long time Charities and Our Communities chair, works tirelessly to encourage clubs and councils to support charities and community service projects.

It is with pleasure that we welcome Todd Hood, vice president of the National Brotherhood of Skiers Western Region (NBSWR) to our committee of council presidents. NBSWR is the newest council to join FWSA.

I am grateful to all my fellow council presidents for their support and dedication to their jobs and support to me as Vice President Council Services for the past 6 years. This is my final year in this position, and I believe that working together we have accomplished a lot by representing our clubs' interests on the FWSA Board of Directors and promoting FWSA programs to their clubs.



Debbie Stewart, VP International Travel

“OPERATION VACATION” is in effect! Far West Ski Association International travelers’ vacation for many reasons, many experiences inspire you to create life-long lasting memories. The FWSA International Travel Program offers our members opportunities to have unique experiences, whether while on the annual ski week trip or an adventure trip every other year. Our goal is to provide unique and unexpected experiences while giving the active traveler great opportunities for excitement, fitness, thrills and the adrenaline rush while allowing everyone to have meaningful stories to reminiscence. While bonding with fellow travelers, this gives us many occasions to learn about others. You will acquaint yourself with the local culture and have a better understanding, broaden your perspectives, expand your horizons with a worldwide view including gratitude and mindfulness.

2019 International Ski Trip to Hakuba Valley Ski Resort and Extension trip

Many FWSA members have Japan on their bucket list... and 77 participants experienced it in March! We whisked everyone from

their normal everyday activities to “The Land of the Rising Sun”. If one ever fantasized of being immersed in enchanting Japanese culture...we made their dreams come true.

Japan is...The Land of the Rising Sun, while still immune to the forces of globalization. They strive to keep their country unique, strive to stay culturally distinct and rich with their ancestral traditions and rituals. The people are kind, considerate, helpful and very charming.

Japan is...a small country with lots of people. There are 127 million people with 1/4th living in Tokyo. The average life expectancy is 83 years and 25% are 65 years or older. Their birthrate is declining, yet their jobless rate is only 2.8%. They strive to live a wholesome, comfortable family life which in many cases include several generations of family members all living under the same roof.

Japan is...clean, free from graffiti & homeless and most of all very safe. This was very refreshing to learn and appreciate.

Japan is...an island with many micro-climates, changing its weather patterns moment by moment. This encouraged me to make several changes on the fly

and to embrace the term “fluid and flexible”.

Japan is...home to several religions. Here we toured many Buddhist Temples and Shinto Shrines, to UNESCO World Heritage sites including the ZenBuddhist Golden Temple - Kinkajoki. Despite the hyper-modernity, the old rituals are still present. Many Tea Houses can be visited, which offer their 4-hour ritual tea ceremony. The Shinto philosophy is kind of nature’s way of enduring that every creature has a holy spirit. Shinto is a flexible religion that has no founder, no strict rules, they can eat anything, and Shinto priests can even marry.

Japan is...home to the famous Cherry Blossoms which opened early this year to greet us. They proudly lined the streets, displaying their beauty in gardens, parks, zoos and were viewed while one strolled through various paths exploring the countryside. On our extension trip, a ½-day city tour was included in Kanazawa, Kyoto and Tokyo. While in Kyoto, several walked along the Philosophers Path, passing by a variety of cafes, storefronts and Zen gardens arriving at the Silver Temple.

Japan is...home to the

Continued on next page



Debbie Stewart - Continued from previous



*Enjoying ramen at
Happo Ski Resort in
Hakuba Valley, Japan -
photo by
Sandy Kyomura*

Samurai Warriors. While touring the Samurai historical district, we learned that they were the guardians of the Emperor.

Japan is...respectful of their whisper-soft Geisha districts. The Geisha tradition is still alive and well, while highly respected as an honorable profession.

Japan is...known for their beautiful kimonos. While seeing many young people sporting kimonos, we learned that they were typically from other Asian countries playing the role. Many of us were fooled and were excited to take their pictures. We learned that the real Geishas do not parade like this in their culture.

Japan is...known as a skier's paradise and proud of their JAPOW! Traditionally, Japan receives over 400-500 inches of light, fluffy powder annually. Forty-one people enjoyed the pre-trip to Niseko, on the island of Hokkaido. The large, modern Hilton Niseko Village Hotel, located at the base of the ski area, was the perfect choice. It served us with convenient ski lockers, a large breakfast buffet with both Japanese and Western choices, and three restaurants for dinners. We were very pleased that the hotel had an Onsen (Japanese hot springs). Honoring the Japanese custom, men and women bathed separately and nude. First, we washed our bodies then soaked in both indoor and outdoor Onsen. How relaxing it was after a day of skiing.

After leaving Niseko, they flew back to Tokyo to join the group for the Basic Ski Week welcome orientation then transferred to the Hakuba Valley Ski area. Seventy-three members chose from 9 ski areas and had the opportunity to be guided for a mountain tour on the first day. Due to questionable weather forecasts, we switched our optional day tour to an earlier day and allowed our members to experience their famous JAPOW mid-week. They enjoyed watching the mogul competition and loved the amazing food on the hill.

During the Basic ski week, we offered a day tour to see the famous Snow Monkeys, a sukiyaki lunch in the charming town of Obuse and visit the Zenko-ji Temple. The world's famous Jigokudani Wild Monkey Park is home to about 200 wild monkeys who spend their days soaking in the natural hot springs, keeping warm from the harsh winter. The park was opened in 1964 and is the only place in the world to see snow monkeys bathing in the wild. The hike to the hot-springs took about 30 minutes each way. After lunch we traveled to Nagano City, the home to Zenkoji Temple, designated a national treasure and has a history of over 1,400 years. It is one of Japan's most revered temples and houses the first image of Buddha brought to Japan in the 7th century. The streets surrounding the temple are lined with lantern lit shops and tiered roofed stalls, souvenir shops and galleries.

Once again, betting on inclement weather, we added another day tour including the Matsumoto Castle, Ishii Miso Brewery, Ukiyoe Museum and the Kametaya Sake Brewery. Matsumoto's namesake castle is the oldest existing castle in Japan and is recognized as a National Treasure. The contrasting black and white plaster of the exterior stands out boldly against the magnificent backdrop of the Japanese Alps. Built with many unique architectural elements, Matsumoto Castle also features a moon viewing pavilion, indicative of the lifestyle of the feudal lords. The Ishii Miso Brewery was founded in 1868 (the end of the Edo era) and is still producing miso by a unique traditional and natural method. In Ishii Miso Brewery, you can see inside the brewery and have a lunch including miso soup, salad with miso dressing, rice and even ice cream made using their miso. Many of us bought some to keep or give as gifts. The Ukiyoe Museum is a print maker's dream, holding the largest private collection of ukiyo-e (woodblock prints), paintings screens and old books in the world. The Sakai family has collected more than 100,000. We were shown a video on how the process is done which was quite interesting. At the Kametaya Sake Brewery, we were invited to try some of the brewery's sake, and free to browse their gift area.

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*Niseko, Japan
Part of the group
photo by
Wanda Ross*



Debbie Stewart - Continued from previous page

Japan is...recognized for a diverse culinary offering and of course...chop sticks and sake. We enjoyed superb French cuisine, had the opportunity to visit the Tsukiji fish market where 2000 tons of seafood pass each day, eat sushi, tempura, miso soup, pho, udon noodles and enjoy many unrecognizable specialties along the way. Japan has over 100 Michelin star restaurants, boasting their Wagyu beef as the best in the world.

Japan is...traditional, serene, ultra-modern, chaotic, big city... perfectly Tokyo. This complex city also recognized for its vibrant city sections, brightly lit neon boulevards, sleek, futuristic and fashion-forward people. Their Ginza district will rival any big city's 5th Avenue or Rodeo Drive. One can immerse yourself in the rich cultural history, while being on the cutting edge of business, finance and innovation.

Japan is...a country whose culture strives for perfection in all things, offers a seamless blend of modern and traditional and have an insatiable desire for the latest and greatest including the first foods of the season, while paying top dollar (or Yen). Their rich history is based on strict consensus, conformity, refined and simple esthetics. Yet, in the big cities, it may change to a crazy collision of east meets west, modesty and madness likened to a carnival.

Japan is...a SPECIAL TREASURE, and we FOUND IT!

FWSA's 10th Annual Scuba Dive trip to the Philippines

Let your adventure start by departing the US and fly into Manila, Philippines. Roatan Charter, Inc. has teamed up with the FWSA Int'l Travel team to plan another amazing tropical vacation for the Scuba Diver and Non-Diver alike.

The Philippines, Center of the World's Marine Biodiversity, consists of more than 7,600 islands in the western Pacific Ocean and spreads across over 132,000 square miles. It has an uncountable number of coral reefs, deep and shallow dive sites, 3,000+ marine species that will spoil divers forever! Every dive will be a new experience from whale sharks to juvenile frogfish, from flamboyant cuttlefish to ghost pipefish, this trip is not to be missed.

The full two-week trip will include 5 nights at the **Azure Dive Resort** in Dauin/Dumaguete area on the island of Negros where we will get to dive with whale sharks at Oslob along with some great muck diving in the Dauin Marine Sanctuaries with Blennies, seahorses, and juvenile frogfish along with an amazing number of different nudibranchs. When we complete our 5 nights

at the Azure, we will fly back to Manila and shuttle by bus and boat to the wonderful **Marco Vincent Dive Resort**. We will spend 9 nights there enjoying the renown "White Beaches" of Puerto Galera on the island of Mindoro. There we will be diving an area that was declared a United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Man and Biosphere Reserve in 1973. Famous dive sites include Verde Island and Apo Reef. Whether you're an experienced or beginning diver, or just want a gorgeous vacation escape...you will love and will not want to miss your trip to the Philippines! (see flyer on page 25)

2020 Int'l Ski/Adventure Trip to Davos, Switzerland with Portugal extension trip

If you looking to go big, then a Davos ski vacation is right up your alley! Organizing with **Holidaze Ski Tours**, we will be enjoying our Int'l Ski Week from March 6-14th and the Extension trip March 14 – 20, 2020. When in Davos, we will be staying at the 5-Star **SEEHOF Hotel** while offering some incredible prices.

Davos is an alpine town and municipality in the Prattigau/Davos region in the canton of Graubunden, Switzerland. Davos is located on the river Landwasser in the Rhaetian

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More photos -- Japan trip



Group Photo in Niseko, Japan



*George and Debbie Stewart
at Golden Temple*



*Dennis
Nicholson
takes in a
day tour*



Cherry Blossoms, Tokyo, Japan



Golden Temple



Snow Monkey Park



Japanese Doll Festival Exhibit



Dinner at the Tokyu Hotel in the Tatami Room

Japan Ski Photos



Bob Voss, Jim Stewart, Mari Curran - Photo by Toya Dryden



Nisei Ski Club at Goryu47-Hakuba - Photo by Armand Gutierrez



Cindy Low and Ken Pace



End of the Day



End of Day - Group 3



Skiing Freshies in Hakuba



Linda Eaton, Betsy Couch, Lockett Miller by Linda Eaton



Rafa from Italy and George Stewart



Corine Ghosn - Fresh Powder



Debbi Kor, VP of Marketing

Putting the Ribbon on the 2019 Ski Season

What an AWESOME SKI SEASON! Wow, so much snow, it was hard to decide where to go, where to ski. Everyone was snowed in at least one day or two this season, whether you were in Colorado, Utah, Nevada or Canada. People were digging their cars out from the snow, and ski resorts were digging their lift chairs out. A number of resorts have announced that they will be open until June or July, so come on out for some fun summer skiing.

As we look forward to warmer weather, planning for golf outings, hiking, biking, back yard picnics and barbecues, we can fondly look back on our many club and council trips to Big White, Aspen, Vail Resorts, Bogus Basin, Mt. Shasta, and many other winter resorts. We have skied and boarded, cat-skied, and enjoyed all kinds of winter activities. Thank you to all of our industry partners who provided us warm lodging, great snow, fantastic apres ski parties, and the chance to spend time in the great outdoors!

Ski Week 2019 in Steamboat, was a big success! Larry Young, April Bruder, and even Billy Kidd, along with Mike Hibbard (Sports America Tours) provided our guests a week beyond all weeks. The Welcome Party and all of the other activities were beyond fun! Thank you, too, to those local businesses in Steamboat who provided door prizes for the Welcome Party, including: The 8th Street Steakhouse, Tap House Sports Grill, Salt & Lime, Back Door Grill, Rocky Mountain Day Spa, Howelson Ice Complex, Fuzziwigs Candy Emporium, Steamboat Trading Company, and F.M. Light & Sons.

Gloria Raminha and Linda Westlund were able to help David Krupp out this year, getting volunteers to assist with selling raffle tickets for the Karbon ski outfit, benefitting the Far West Athletic Scholarship Program. A total of just a bit over \$3,000 was raised for the Scholarship Program. Thank you to all who contributed. The winner of the Karbon wear was Mary McRory, a Far West Direct Member, from Parhump, Nevada. Way to go, Mary. We will look forward to seeing you next year in your "hot" new Karbon outfit.

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With ski season, 2019 coming to a close, our thoughts can begin focusing on the 87th Annual Far West Convention, taking place this coming June 13-16, in Indian Wells, California, at the beautiful Hyatt Regency Indian Wells Resort & Spa.

The Orange Council of Ski Clubs has been hard at work for the past year or more, planning and putting together an action-packed four days for us all, including a tour of the Palm Springs Air Museum, a Legends & Icons Homes Tour, and the fun “Get Your Party On” Pub Crawl on Thursday evening. These events will be followed by a wide variety of activities on Friday, beginning with the 13th Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament, at the beautiful Indian Wells Golf Resort. We will also have a Spa Day, and a trip to the San Jacinto Tram for anyone who wants to hike, or simply ride the tram up for a beautiful view of the San Jacinto Mountains and the valley below.

After the morning’s activities on Friday, you can join your friends at the Pool Party before the Silent Auction & Trade Show on Friday night, and the usual convention activities throughout the remainder of the weekend, including the Travel Expo, Public Affairs Sessions and our Education Sessions. Our industry partners are coming forward to sponsor many of our events and activities, and insuring that our major fund raiser of the convention, our Silent Auction, is the huge success that it typically is. We look forward to seeing you there!



Far West Ski Association Environment Award

Are you interested in doing something to affect the negative changes that are taking place in our environment, especially our snowsports environment? Would you enjoy spending 5 days skiing at Aspen/Snowmass with your lodging, lift tickets, air, and rentals all paid for you upon arrival? The FWSA Environment Award is graciously being sponsored by Aspen/Snowmass, The Gant Aspen, and The Crestwood Condominium Hotel, Aspen/Snowmass. As an early leader in the ski industry reducing their carbon footprint, this award was proposed for FWSA in 2015. Read on to see how you could be the recipient of this award in 2020.

About the Award

The environment Award is designed to inspire and reward creative efforts to conserve and protect our environment. This award should recognize a special action that the applicant took, or something he or she put in place that made an impact in the community.

- Conduct or arrange an event(s) for your club, council, or the general public that focuses on the principles of “Protect Our Winters (POW)”. The mission of POW is to engage and mobilize the snowsports community to lead the fight against climate change with a focus on educational initiatives, advocacy, and community-based activism. Stage an event based on one or more of the seven actions of the POW pledge.

Learn more about POW at: www.protectourwinters.org.

- Work with your club or council and your local ski area to develop or improve your ski area’s “Sustainable Slopes” program. This program was adopted by the ski industry in 2000. It provides an overarching framework for ski areas on sustainability and enhanced environmental performance.

Learn more about Sustainable Slopes and NSAA’s Environmental Charter at: www.nsaa.org/environment/sustainableslopes.

Who is Eligible

The Award is open to any individual who is a member of a Far West Ski Association Club or Council.

The winner will receive a 5-night ski/board package for two that includes:

- 5 nights lodging split between The Gant in Aspen and The Crestwood Condominium Hotel in Snowmass.
- Air
- 5-day lift ticket good at Aspen, Snowmass, Aspen Highlands, Buttermilk
- 5-day equipment rental
- Half day group lesson

Lodging is based on space availability, and restrictions may apply.

Additional information can be found on the FWSA website: www.fwsa.org; or by contacting Fran Long, Environment Award Chair: fancat87@gmail.com.

FWSA 10th Annual Scuba Dive Trip – The Philippines

September 28 – October 12, 2019



5 nights – Azure Dive Resort in Dumaguete
9 nights – Marco Vincent Resort in Puerto Galera

Azure Dive Resort – September 28-October 3, 2019

Diver Land Package = \$1139.00 Superior Hotel Room - Double Occupancy
Non-Diver Land Package = \$684.00 Superior Hotel Room – Double Occupancy
Single Supplement Hotel Room Add = \$381.00
Lodging Upgrades Available – contact Randy Lew for details
(air transportation not included in above pricing)

Marco Vincent Dive Resort – October 3 - 12, 2019

Diver Land Package = \$2621.00 Superior Hotel Room - Double Occupancy
Non-Diver Land Package = \$2192.00 Superior Hotel Room – Double Occupancy
Single Supplement Hotel Room Add = \$386.00
Lodging Upgrades Available – contact Randy Lew for details
(air transportation not included in above pricing)

****Passport must be Valid thru April 12, 2020****

Price Includes:

- ** Transfer to and from airport to resort
- ** Complimentary Wi-Fi
- ** Resort Amenities
- ** PADI Certified Dive Resorts
- ** Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner daily
- ** Resort fees, government taxes & gratuities (dive tips not included)
- Azure Dive Resort – 4 days of 4 dives per day – Oslob Whale Shark Diving
- Marco Vincent Dive Resort – 8 days of diving – 24 boat dives



*Experience Local Culture
& Entertainment*

Create New Memories
with Friends,
Old and New!



Enjoy a Beautiful Resort



Kayak, snorkel, spa
services and more...



Contact: Randy Lew
FWSA Dive Trip Leader
829 SE 11th Place
Battle Ground, WA 98604
Cell: 530/304-0802
E-mail: FWSA13Randy@telis.org

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

CST # 2036983-40



Michael Bouton, VP Membership

FWSA Membership Report, April 2019

As of this date, FWSA has 162 direct members and 1 direct club on our roster. I've got to say with the new web site and electronic processes coming; we should have more direct members next year at this time. It has been proven that the electronic enrollment process is much more proficient and streamlined. My local club has used it this year and it works.

Much of the success of our direct member roster is to our travel committee and the types of trips they are planning. We have members from Connecticut to Hawaii wanting to travel with Far West. Please plan on attending the SLA session on travel at the convention this year.

At the convention in Reno last June, a resolution was presented for FWSA to start a movement to recruit younger members and work closer with Families and youth. I am proud to report success in this direction. My local club has recruited 10% of our club roster which is under the age of 50 years old and a few are under age 30. We have done this by listening to what their expectations and desires are. Believe it or not, they want opportunities to ski and board with others. They want to be invited to be involved in race leagues and go on trips.

I truly believe that when clubs recruit, get to know, and elect some younger members to your boards, you'll get more young (under age 50) members into your clubs. The traditions and legacy of your clubs don't need to change; just new components can be added. Don't be against change, just embrace the new ideas; how about a dance with a different genre of music?

I suggest clubs look for new ways of inviting younger members into their clubs. I will be sharing some during the SLA sessions at the convention, June 13-16, 2019 in Indian Wells, CA. "Let the ideas flow."

In conclusion, I believe FWSA is stuck in an old tradition trench and needs to find ways to climb out of it. We need to look at programs that will entice the younger people to be involved and participate in decision making. We need to find ways to break down the barriers and listen more to what these people are expecting out of a club. Thank you for reading this and your suggestions are always welcome.

Michael Bouton, V.P. of Membership, FWSA



Todd Hood, Regional Vice President National Brotherhood of Skiers, Western Region

The Western Region of the National Brotherhood of Skiers (NBSWR) has taken the winter season by storm... literally! Weathering a snowstorm at each of our two annual trips, Western Region attendees have experienced the best of snow conditions.

Firstly, 130 registrants representing the thirteen member clubs of the Western Region, the four member clubs of the Rocky Mountain Region, and a score of others from states across the USA, convened at Zermatt Utah Resort and Spa for Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday in Midway, Utah. Following a snowstorm preceding our arrival, skiers and boarders were treated to a Day at Sundance that highlighted our annual Mountain Lunch; then a day at Park City on Saturday to host races and fun in the snow; followed by a free day on Sunday after the annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Breakfast Program featuring Urban Winterfest 2019 Youth! The weekend was full of food, fun, friends and family, as we had a couple families represented by three generations. In the midst of so many trips for adults, we pride ourselves in serving and saluting families at our annual Urban Winterfest. We'll look to see more of you at Urban Winterfest 2020 from January 16-21, 2020. Information will be available at <http://www.nbswr.org>

Another 168 registrants from the Western Region also attended this year's National Brotherhood of Skiers "Black Summit" at Steamboat from March 2-9, 2019. Over 1,000 skiers, boarders, telemarkers, monoskiers, and partygoers registered for this year's event. Of course that means another several hundred others attended for the fun, unofficially. We were greeted by a week of record snowfall, warm hospitality, smiling faces, and great times. The National Brotherhood of Skiers Black Summit always brings long-time and new friends together for camaraderie, and adventure; and Summit at Steamboat delivered the goods. The Western Region hosted the Wickedly Wild, Wild West Apres Ski Happy Hour on Monday night, and it was well received by all in attendance, including nearly 50 registrants from two African descent clubs from the UK/Great Britain! The rest of the week featured races, visits by Billy Kidd, a Mardi Gras Apres Ski, comedians, and plenty of dancing! Western Region women and men even led in many of the race categories.

Several Western Region members also plan to visit the NBS Midwest Region as they celebrate their Last Call trip at Mammoth, March 31 through April 7, 2019. With the bumper crop of snow this year, the member clubs of the Western Region are likely to add a few more club trips to their calendar before we begin our summer schedule with the Regional Presidents' Meeting in San Diego from May 4-5, 2019, the FWSA Annual Convention in Indian Wells, CA June 13-16, 2019, and the BEST/OYC Youth Camping trip at Lake Castaic on June 21-23, 2019. You can be certain, there's more to come from the NBSWR!



Nancy Ellis
VP North American Travel

2019 STEAMBOAT SKI WEEK

A total of 360 Far West Ski Association members had a fun time at this year's Steamboat Ski Week Feb.2-9. We had fresh snow during the week which made some great powder skiing. The theme for the Banquet/Dance was ,“ Night at the Movies” with councils dressed as characters from such movies as “Wizard of Oz,” “The Untouchables”, and “Night at the Oscars”. It was also Winter Carnival in Steamboat Springs, so there were many community events, demonstration ski jumping, and fireworks to add to the festivities. Thanks to ***Suresports*** for their donation of a Karbon outfit for the Athletic Scholarship drawing, and the following merchants donated to our Welcome Party door prizes:

| | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|
| <i>8th Street Steak House</i> | <i>Tap House Sports Grill</i> | <i>Salt & Lime Restaurant</i> |
| <i>Back Door Grill</i> | <i>Rocky Mountain Day Spa</i> | <i>Howelson Ice Complex</i> |
| <i>Fuzziwigs Candy Emporium</i> | <i>Steamboat Trading Co</i> | <i>F.M. Light & Sons</i> |

We also appreciate the generous group discounts we received for food, beverages, group snowsports lessons, Outlaw Mountain Coaster rides, rentals, and more from Steamboat Resorts and Steamboat Springs Merchants. Thank you Larry Young and April Bruder, ***Steamboat Resorts***, and Mike Hibbard and Sara Clemons, ***Sports America Tours*** for all your work in planning and supporting our ski week! We especially like the original ski week pin and were so happy that Billy Kidd joined us at several of our events and signed posters for our group. What a great Ambassador he is for Steamboat!

WINTER PARK MINI TRIP—MARCH 24—29, 2019

There were 26 people who went on the mini ski week to ***Winter Park*** this year. We stayed in the ***Vintage Resort Hotel***, steps from the Cabriolet, that took us to the base of the mountain. We enjoyed a great welcome breakfast at the hotel and farewell dinner at ***Doc's Roadhouse***. Thank you Jamie Brooks, ***Vintage Resort Hotel***, and Gloria Saiya-Woods, ***Ski.com*** for coordinating our trip!

ISLAND WINDJAMMER CRUISE—MAY 19—26, 2019

A few spots are open for this 7-day adventure trip cruising the British Virgin Islands of Virgin Gorda, Norman Island, Cooper Island, Jost Van Dyke, and Tortola. Prices range from \$1,800--\$2,300 pp/double occupancy. Cruise price includes all port taxes, meals, beer, wine, and soft drinks. Air fare to Tortola must be booked

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separately by individual, arriving on Tortola no later than Saturday, May 18th. Do not miss this fun trip with your FWSA friends! Contact Sheri Parshall at cougskier@aol.com; (503)706-0522.

BIG SKY SKI WEEK—JANUARY 25—FEBRUARY 1, 2020

Council Trip Leaders, Travel Staff, Sara Clemons (Sports America), and I went on a site tour of Big Sky Resort, the largest North American Ski resort with 5,800 skiable acres and four mountains giving people of different abilities a range of terrain to enjoy. The new Ramcharger 8 opened this season. It's one of the largest lifts in the world with roomy, heated seats and an enclosed bubble to keep you warm while you ride up the mountain. We have some great lodging for our group—*The Huntley Hotel; The Summit Hotel; Shoshone Condominiums*; and *The Village Studios*. All properties are in the main village close to the ski hill and ski week events. There are many great restaurants in the base village and in the town a short shuttle ride away. There will be a day trip to West Yellowstone where you can explore the park by snowmobile or snow coach. Another option is to visit the Grizzly & Bear Sanctuary. All Councils will have on-line registration this year which will streamline the registration process and lessen the amount of paperwork to be completed. Participants have the option to pay by check or credit cards. Big Sky is on the IKON pass so those purchasing their pass online with their registration will get an additional benefit of either \$30 or \$50 off their lodging package based on the type of pass they purchase.

THE IKON PASS—For the best perks & prices....buy your 2019-2020 IKON pass NOW through our Travel Partner for the 2020 FWSA Big Sky Trip—*Sports America*. Whether you're renewing a pass or buying for the first time, if you purchase on this site prior to April 24th, you will qualify for the discounted "renewal" rate **AND** qualify for the lodging discounts on the 2020 FWSA Big Sky Trip! Purchasing the Full Pass will get you a \$50 discount on your Big Sky Lodging package. Purchasing the Base Pass will get you a \$30 discount on your Big Sky Lodging package. There are several ways to purchase the pass: <http://www.sportsamerica.com/ikon-fwsa>; Go to the Far West website: <http://www.fwsa.org> and there is a link to the Sports America Ikon website on the home page; Sign up on your Council's Big Sky on-line registration page which will be open in April.

BIG WHITE MINI TRIP—MARCH 29—APRIL 3, 2020

Big White is our destination for the 2020 Mini Ski Trip. We will be staying at the Inn at Big White which features an outdoor heated pool, hot tub, games room, fitness center, complimentary Wi-Fi, heated underground parking, and ski locker storage. Each room (double occupancy) will receive 2 FREE lift passes per night booked. The trip package includes a Welcome Party, Farewell Dinner, and complimentary Snow Host Mountain Terrain Tour. Activities include ice climbing, horse drawn sleigh rides, dinner & sleigh rides, dog sled rides, snowmobile

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rides, day spas, tubing, ice skating, snowshoe tours, and local hockey games. Clubs and councils are encouraged to bring a group of 12 or more on this trip and earn the per person incentive for promoting the trip to their club and getting sign ups. Contact Nancy Ellis, VP North American Travel, for more information about this trip or for bringing a group: fwsatravelnancy@sbcglobal.net or (530) 414-8261.

ZERMATT UTAH RESORT & SPA/PARK CITY-CANYONS—March 2021

We will be staying at the *Zermatt Utah Resort and Spa Utah* and the dates for this trip will be determined soon. We plan to have ski days to *Park City/Canyons, Deer Valley*, and *Sundance Ski Resort* ski areas. *Ski.Com* will be our travel partner and they are planning the various activities for our group. There will be fun activities for both skiers/boarders and non-skiers! Watch for more information about this trip on the North American Travel page on the Far West website.



2021 NORTH AMERICAN SKI WEEK

Requests for proposals (RFP's) have gone out for our 2021 North American Ski Week and three resorts will be invited to present their proposals June 15th at the FWSA Convention in Indian Wells. Two Council representatives and FWSA Board Members will be invited to attend the bid presentations and take the information back to their Council Boards for review and voting on the destination for the 2021 Ski Week. *Aspen/Snowmass Resort, Sun Valley Ski Resort, Big White Resort, Park City/Canyons*, and *Whistler Resort* are some of the places suggested by our past ski week participants. There may also be some new resorts that we have not been to that will be proposed by our travel partners. I look forward to seeing what is presented to our group for our 2021 Ski Week!

2021 NORTH AMERICAN ADVENTURE TRIP

Where would you like to go for an adventure trip in North America: Alaska Inside Passage Cruise? White water rafting at Grand Canyon? Fall colors on the East Coast? Wine tasting and biking in the Napa Valley? A kayak and biking trip? Touring the National Parks? I am looking into several ideas and welcome your thoughts! Email me: fwsatravelnancy@sbcglobal.net. I will be sending out requests for proposals to our travel partners this Spring.

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



Linda Coxen, Chair Family & Youth Involvement

Our mission is to disseminate club and council activity information in regional areas to sustain and grow the family and youth markets. To meet our mission we will be setting up regional **Meetup** groups to post trips and other family and youth activities your clubs and councils are organizing. Look for links coming soon to the **Meetup** groups on the FWSA website.

Other options for getting out our message will be:

- FWSA Connect
- Social media – Facebook

Stay tuned to our website and **Facebook** page.

BNP PARIBAS OPEN, 2019

The 2019 BNP Paribas Open (also known as the 2019 Indian Wells Masters) was a professional tennis tournament played at Indian Wells, California in March 2019. It was the 44th edition of the men's event and 31st of the women's event, and was classified as an ATP Tour Masters 1000 event on the 2019 ATP Tour and a Premier Mandatory event on the 2019 WTA Tour.





Bob Ellis, VP Racing

Racing Report by Bob Ellis

This year has been very challenging for skiers and racers alike due to the huge amount of snow we have received in California. There is near record snow in Northern California and Southern California this year and it appears it will not be slowing down soon.

Sierra League, Singles League and Open League have been able to complete 4 races so far and have rescheduled 2 races for mid-April after the Championships. Southern California leagues have had low attendance this year and are not planning on completing any races this year, but plan on having races next year.

The Far West Championships were held on March 22-24 at Heavenly on the Nevada side at the Stagecoach lift. The slalom was on Saturday, and the Giant Slalom was on Sunday with 2 runs for all racers on both days.

This year, we had Ski Week at Steamboat Ski Resort, and we had a great time. The race courses were very firm with fresh snow on top, for all our race days. In the Council Challenge Match Race, we changed the format to the team with the least difference from the first run to the second run. Once again, the Los Angeles Council team was first with only 1.76 seconds, Sierra Council took second with 2.37 seconds difference, and Sierra Council 2 was third with 3.29 seconds difference. In the Costume Division, Sierra Council took first with the best costumes and San Diego Council was a close second.

In the two GS races, the results for the Lake Louise Top Council Award was won by Bay Area Council with 760 points, in second was Los Angeles Council with 398 points, and third was Sierra Council with 356 points. The Joe Ross Award for Top Club was won by Rusty Bindings with 282 points, second was Cabernet with 244 points, and third was Aerospace with 187 points. The individual results had Don Shafe being the fastest man both days, and the fastest women were Joyce Hedlund on Monday and Kathy Brewington on Wednesday. Congratulation to all of the winners!

Next year we will have Ski week at Big Sky Resort in Montana, and we hope to have the Far West Championships at Mammoth!

Alps. The alpine village consists of two parts – the **Davos Dorf (village)** to the northeast towards Klosters and **Davos Platz (place)** to the southwest which opens into the valley. Davos in Grisons is a place of superlatives. The largest ski resort in Switzerland and the highest city in Europe, Davos features 5 separate skiing areas: Parsenn - the largest with pistes for all levels and the longest downhill run. Jakobshorn – renowned for its snowboarding as well as a variety of skiable terrain. Pischa, Madrisa and Rinerhorn – all family friendly with many outdoor activities on and off the mountain. Davos is very well known for excellent skiing, the prestigious conference center which holds the world's Economic Forum and reputation for high quality Wellness Centers. Davos offers many opportunities for both skiers and non-skiers alike...a FWSA International Ski Week trip you will not want to miss.

During the Portugal extension trip we will stay 3 nights in Lisbon, 3 nights in Porto while adventuring out from there for our day tours along with free days to explore on your own. As soon as we arrive in the capital of Portugal, and Europe's second-oldest capital Lisbon, we will understand why everyone talks about its special light. The almost constant presence of sunshine and the close relation with the River Tejo transforms the Portuguese capital into a mirror of infinite colors - highlighting the city's unique architecture and beauty. There are so many things to see and do in Lisbon that you will be happy to lose yourself in the streets... As you walk through Lisbon you will find streets filled with heritage monuments, belvederes with breathtaking views, and the narrow typical streets of the old neighborhoods where the city was first developed. The modern side of the city will also captivate you, with architectural

masterpieces that deserve a stop to be admired. At night, the options are also endless! You can discover more about the soul of the city in a 'Fado' house or visit the bohemian bars and riverside clubs at Bairro Alto and Santos.

We will enjoy the charm of Porto and of course...enjoy the Port! We hope Lisbon will captivate you and be engraved in your best travel memories forever!

Trip registrations are being taken NOW...do not hesitate to sign up...for this exciting Ski Week and Adventure Trip you will not want to MISS!

2020 Adventure trip to Croatia

FWSA and *Alpine Adventures* are currently coordinating this 2020 adventure trip to Croatia. We will be visiting all the must-see locations, such as Split, Zagreb, Plitvice National Park, Dubrovnik. We will enjoy the beautiful Dalmatian Coast. While in Zagreb, the capital city of Croatia we will experience the local culture, arts, architecture and of course the local gastronomy. The UNESCO World Heritage Sites of Dubrovnik with its 16th century stone-walled old town is popular and known as the "Pearl of the Adriatic". Its popularity has been bolstered to global recognition after serving as the filming location for *The Game of Thrones*. Split is the second largest city offers a similar blend of modern and ancient charm. The spectacular landscapes in the Plitvice National Park will certainly be scenery to remember with its breathtaking terraced lakes and many waterfalls. Plitvice Lakes are a natural phenomenon you will not want to miss consisting of 16 natural lakes joined by waterfalls that extend into limestone canyons. This too is a UNESCO World Heritage site and we can not wait to explore this area.

This Balkan country adventure

trip with its 3,625-mile long Adriatic coastline and over 1,000 islands will certainly be a bucket item to be checked off.

This trip will be limited, so do not wait to sign up!

2021 Int'l Ski/Adventure trip to Sölden, Austria

The Austrian charm and hospitality are incomparable. Sölden ski area offers 3 areas: Sölden, Obergurgl & Hochgurgl. They kick off the winter season with the Audi FIS Alpine Ski World Cup Opening in October. And...it has one of the action scene sites for the James Bond movie "Spectre". The infinite number of slopes and ski trails for all levels and abilities coupled with the perfect grooming of not less than 91 miles of slopes make Sölden a truly unique winter sports center. Thirty-two state-of-the-art ski lifts and gondolas with a total capacity of 70,000 persons/hour guarantee ultimate skiing fun without queuing.

BIG 3 – Think BIG, Think SÖLDEN! Sölden is Austria's first resort offering no less than three mountain peaks beyond 10,000 feet. Sölden's marvelous BIG 3 peaks mark a new dimension in skiing and experiencing the Alpine scenery, opening new perspectives with their viewing platforms. Snow is guaranteed from October through May thanks to its high alpine location of the slopes up to 10,958 ft., 2 glacier ski areas and excellent snow-making systems covering about 75% of the slopes with 350 snow guns. Sölden is synonymous with sports and entertainment. Besides the great variety of skiing and snow sport activities, Sölden also offers a wide range of entertaining highlights. You will enjoy great après-ski atmosphere

Debbie Stewart - Cont'd on page 50



Sigrid Noack, Chair Charities & Our Community

Charity & Community Service Recognition 2019

The 13th annual FWSA “Charity & Community Service Recognition” is well under way. All our clubs and councils have been supporting charities throughout the years. Some groups shared their wonderful charitable activities with the rest of our FWSA family. It is amazing how caring the members in our FWSA clubs are.

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

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

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

The winning clubs and council will receive electronic medallions to post on their club/council websites and to use in their newsletters. Also, if you prefer, your group may display a digital picture board at convention instead of the traditional cut-and-paste card board. Either presentation will be beautiful for all of the attendees to admire.

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

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

Below are our beautiful Charity Recognition winning picture display boards from 2018 of Bogus Basin Ski Club in Intermountain Ski Council and Monterey Ski & Social Club in Bay Area Council.



Bogus Basin Ski Club of Intermountain Ski Council was 2018 winner of “Charities & Our Community” Recognition in Diamond Class.



Monterey Ski & Social Club of Bay Area Snow Sports Council was 2018 winner of “Charities & Our Community” Recognition in Double Diamond Class.



David Krupp *Athletic Scholarship Chair*

FWSA Athletic Scholarship Program by David Krupp

Athletic Scholarship Committee Chair, FWSA

The Far West Ski Association Athletic Scholarship Program will be entering its 16th year this coming fall, growing from an initial \$1,000 in scholarships in 2004 to \$16,750 and 16 recipients in the 2018-2019 seasons. The total awarded since the program's inception is now over \$150,000 to over 108 recipients.

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

Skiing is an expensive sport and the costs involved in ski racing cannot be left up to the parents alone to incur. For younger athletes, the costs are modest. However, for 16 through 20 year olds, where competition becomes national and even international, the costs can be significant. Without the help of outside resources, many junior racers simply cannot compete. For a top competitor, expenses can reach \$20,000 per year. This is not a seasonal sport for these racers;

it includes a full year of ski-related involvement. After the winter race competition has concluded, competitors engage in dryland training; then off to summer camps. Camps typically run about \$1,200 per week, not including transportation.

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

The funding of the scholarships come from a number of sources: raffles, auctions, club and council partnerships, and direct contributions from club members, clubs, and councils. The FWSA has greatly benefitted from the generous support from its sponsors including Whitefish Mountain Resort (www.skiwhitefish.com), a year round winter and summer resort; Averill Hospitality, a premier choice in mountain resort accommodations; Schure Sports, Inc. (www.karbon.com), maker of the Karbon line of snowsports apparel, the US Ski Team, and the Far West Racing Association. Their contributions of vacation packages, snowsports apparel, and cash bring in approximately \$10,000 per year as raffle and

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Indian Wells Golf Resort

proceeds, as well as direct cash donations.

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

FWSA Athletic Scholarship Program 2017-2018

| RECIPIENT | AGE | TEAM | AWARDED |
|-----------------------|------------|---------------|--|
| Anatasia Seator-Braun | 16 | Mammoth | \$500 from FWSA |
| Cheyenne Brown | 19 | Squaw Valley | \$1,000 from the Vern Sprock Memorial |
| Jillian Ferre | 17 | Squaw Valley | \$1,000 from FWSA |
| Bruno Amon-Franceschi | 17 | Mammoth | \$1,000 from Los Angeles Council |
| Ryan Herhusky | 15 | Sugar Bowl | \$750 from FWSA |
| AJ Hurt | 18 | U.S. Ski Team | \$1,500 from the Frank App Memorial/Sierra Council |
| Tea Kiesel | 15 | Sugar Bowl | \$750 from FWSA |
| Tyler Larson | 17 | Stevens Pass | \$1,000 from Northwest Council |
| Aidan LeFrancois | 15 | Mammoth. | \$750 from San Diego Council |
| Teegan Lowe | 18 | Mt. Bachelor | \$1,000 from Skiyente Ski Club |
| Chilli Messner | 16 | Sugar Bowl | \$750 from FWSA |
| Michelle Morozinski | 15 | Bear Valley | \$750 from FWSA |
| Keely Podosin | 16 | Mammoth | \$750 from FWSA |
| Luca Robillard | 16 | Squaw Valley | \$750 from FWSA |
| Matthew Smallhouse | 17 | Diamond Peak | \$1,000 from the Vern Sprock Memorial |
| Sophia Staudenmayer | 17 | Sugar Bowl | \$1,000 from FWSA |
| Dalton Swallow | 17 | Park City | \$1,000 from FWSA |
| Kris Westman | 18 | Aspen | \$1,000 from Mt. High Snowsport Club |
| Drew Wingard | 17 | Squaw Valley | \$750 from FWSA |



Richard Lubin, D.C., Safety Chair

SNOW ❄️ SNOW ❄️ SNOW

This season has seen an incredible amount of snow. According to the snow lab located in Echo Summit near South Lake Tahoe we are at over 150%. That is a lot of snow! The good thing is that means lots of water in the “bank,” which slowly gets dispersed during the rest of the year. According to one of my best friends, who lives in South Lake Tahoe, “most winters I limit my skiing to mid-week because of the big crowds on the weekends from the bay area and Sacramento. This year is totally different. People all over know about the amazing snow and people are here from all over the U.S. due to the knowledge of the great snow.” He notes, “If you do not get to Heavenly early, even mid-week, it is very hard to find a parking spot.” Heavenly, Lake Tahoe is the largest ski area in the Lake Tahoe area. It can accommodate something like 20,000 people on the busy weekend day. It is one of the largest U.S. resorts spanning almost 5,000 acres, part in Nevada, part in California. I had a season pass there for 10 years. Oh, further note that digging out so many times this year has been a real

pain.

Conversely, the bad weather has inhibited many people, especially the less hard-core crowd, from driving in the difficult conditions. In addition to the huge snow conditions, there have been many days where the snowfall and high winds have shut down many of the upper lifts at the big ski areas like Squaw Valley and Heavenly.

Some resorts have “smashed some of the records,” with up to 300 inches just in February alone.

Alpine Meadows has had close to 600 inches this winter, so far. This has certainly been one of those years where one measures some storms in terms of feet not inches. Many resorts have already announced an extended season.

AVALANCHES

In a typical year, 27 people die in avalanches in the U.S. Overall, as of the time of this writing, there have been 22 U.S. fatalities due to avalanche this year according to the authority, www.avalanche.org. These reports included the western United States. As usual, Colorado is the leading

state for avalanches and slides. A few of these were skiers or snowboarders at a ski area. Only two of these fatalities occurred inbound at a ski resort. Many years there are no inbound deaths due to avalanche at all.

Ski resorts in the US are extraordinarily safe from these conditions because of the guidelines and assessments done by the ski patrol. If an area is unsafe, they close it if there are any questions. They are terrific at doing avalanche abatement. Some of the worst areas in Northern California that I know of are at Alpine Meadows, Squaw Valley, Kirkwood and Mammoth. With massive snowfall this presents tremendous challenges and yet these areas have a very good safety record.

Of those 22 reported, 9 were snowmobilers, and 9 were backcountry skiers or tourers.

In Europe, many skiers have been impacted with a large number of avalanche deaths due to adverse storm conditions and lots and lots of snow, at one point an estimated 13,000 people were stranded at the Swiss resort of Zermatt.



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So, what about you? I would like to hear from you as to how this snowfall has impacted your ski season. Do you like powder? Or do you hate driving in snow conditions.

FWSA SAFETY AWARD

The FWSA has an annual Safety Award sponsored by Telluride Ski Resort and the Mountain Lodge. Do you know somebody in your ski club or council that has done extraordinary work promoting a safety program within the club, council and/or community? Nominate them or self-nominate for the FWSA Safety Award. The award includes prize package is a 4-night, 5-day stay at Telluride, complete with lodging, lift tickets and rentals for two people. You have an opportunity to raise the consciousness of safety for your fellow skiers and snowboarders. Make your ski club proud and help your fellow snow sport Enthusiast. The winner will be announced at the FWSA Convention in Indian Wells, California this June 13-16. For more information and to get the application go to <http://www.fwsa.org/MemberCorner/Programs/program-safety.html>. Fill out the application and send it electronically to Richard Lubin, botaboardr@comcast.net AND Gloria Raminha, garski2011@gmail.com.

Do you have the URGE? Does skiing or snowboarding make you slightly insane?

I was in my garage sometime around 1:30 a.m. The odd but not unpleasant odor of melting wax filled my nostrils. I knew I had to get up in about 4-1/2 hours to drive another 3-1/2 hours.

Is this the act of a sane person? It is something that I call, "the URGE."

Oh yes, I started as a normal person learning how to do cross country skiing, then downhill, then snowboard. I was averaging about twice a year for the first 10 years, and then it started to happen. It went up to four times a year, and then eight times a year, 12, 18, you get it. I had a job running a Chiropractic clinic in the bay area so these visits were limited to weekends. Eventually, these ramped up 50 then 65 times a year. Oh yes, I had it bad. It is all over for me now but I am glad it happened.

How about you? You are probably a member of a ski club. Maybe you spend thousands of dollars, hundreds of hours just so you can do our favorite activity, sliding down the hill.

I call it "the urge" especially when it takes over. I think many of you know exactly what I am talking about. I will go into more depth than that in a later more extensive article.

Safe skiing the rest of the year! There is plenty of snow! Go get some skiing or snowboarding!

Remember, safety is thinking first!



Wanda Himler, President Arizona Ski Council

Arizona Ski Council Clubs are very Active!!!

The Arizona Ski Council (ASC) was formed to promote skiing and friendship among clubs, safety on the slopes and a general education of the skiing community. ASC now represents five clubs with members primarily in the Phoenix metro-area. We did lose one club, at the end of 2018 (AOTC/ AHTC).

- Phoenix Ski Club (PSC)
- Scottsdale Sea & Ski Club (SS&SC)
- Sailing Adventure Club (SAC)
- Boeing Employee Adventure Club
- Party Time Sports (PTS)

Our membership is open to non-profit ski clubs and activity clubs, in the state of Arizona. Our clubs serve skiers, snowboarders, hikers, bikers and social members.

Seven members from the Arizona Ski Council attended the FWSA convention in Reno, as Delegates. Incentives were provided for participating delegates.

The Arizona Ski Council officers are:

- President - Wanda Himler
- Vice President - Karen Bonine
- Treasurer - Dodi Bailey
- Secretary - Jim Nachbar
- Past President is Arleigh Meiners

Our clubs have the following representatives:

- Bill Behnke & Arleigh Meiners – Phoenix Ski Club
- Linda Westlund - SS&SC
- Mike Rogers - the Sailing Adventure Club
- Glenn Pyle - Boeing Employee Adventure Club
- Gary Giertz - Partytime Sports

The ASC hosts weekly Happy Hours during the summer months, for all clubs to participate. We also provide other events throughout the year, including a Pub Crawl, bowling, and bicycle ride.

ASC had about 31 people who went on the 2019 FWSA ski week trip to Steamboat, Colorado.

For more information: <http://www.arizonaskicouncil.org/contact.html>

The Phoenix Ski Club, (PSC), PSC is more than just skiing. This active adult social club goes full speed ahead with its year-round, non-profit, social and outdoor activities. They pride themselves in offering a variety of amazing activities, to appeal to everyone. They even have 'spur-of-the-moment' events, that are mind-boggling. They do it all.

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Here are some of their events for 2018-2019:

- Weekly happy hours
- Monthly dinners
- Monthly social meetings
- Parties
- Boat trips – Rhine River Cruise / Lake Powell / Mexican Riviera cruise / Grand Canyon Rafting Adventure
- Hikes
- Ski trips - Telluride / Steamboat / Lake Tahoe / Japan / Copper / Sunrise /
- Family ski event - Flagstaff – kids learn to ski free
- Other trips – Egypt / India / New Zealand
- Charities
 - Adopt-a-highway
 - Shoebox Ministry
 - Toys for Tots
 - Sojourners Center
 - Phoenix Rescue Mission

For more information: www.phxskiclub.org

Scottsdale Sea & Ski Club, (SS&SC), is the premier activities club, in the Valley of the Sun. It is a non-profit social club, run by its members. SS&SC provide year-round activities, including snow skiing/snowboarding, hiking, biking, tubing, kayaking, camping, road trips, theme parties, and various other amazing trips.

Here are some of their events for 2018-2019:

- Weekly happy hours
- Monthly dinners
- Monthly social meetings
- Parties – Luau / Trailer Trash / Toga Party / ...
- Pub Crawls – Cave Creek / Prescott
- Boat trips – Croatia / Moselle Bike & Boat Adventure / Mamma Mia cruise / ...
- Ski trips – Park City ski college / Telluride / Steamboat / Aspen / Park City / Flagstaff
- Scuba Diving trips – Belize / Cozumel / Roatan
- Jingle Bell Rock Holiday Light Tour – double-decker bus
- Other trips – Cuba / Machu Picchu / Napa Wine weekend
- Other events – Concerts / Baseball games / Golf / Staycations / BBQs / Wine tasting / bicycle rides / Dance lessons / Road Trips

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Paul Vlasveld, President Bay Area Snow Sports Council

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

It is amazing that this is already my 5th year as president of this fantastic organization. By attending the various FWSA board meetings and events, I have learned how BAC can be a force for change in FWSA. In addition, I am learning how to work with my board members to provide the direction for our member clubs.

With this issue I would like to highlight the activities of some of our member clubs.

INSKIERS SKI AND SOCIAL CLUB

Inskiers is one of five San Francisco Bay Area Singles League ski and social clubs affiliated with the Bay Area Snow Sports Council and the Far West Ski Association open to singles over 21 years of age. The Inskiers are a group of single adults who love winter sports and the mountains! As a member of the Bay Area Singles League, we enjoy skiing, snowboarding, racing and social events with other clubs from the Bay Area. As a year-round club, we also enjoy other sports and activities such as biking, hiking, picnics,

wine tasting, dining, movies and many types of events. The big event for the Inskiers is the annual auction in May.

<http://www.inskiers.com>

OAKLAND SKI CLUB

The Oakland Ski Club (OSC) is an outdoor-oriented club that owns and operates the OSC Donner Lodge on a non-profit basis for the exclusive use of its members and their guests. Its purpose is to make skiing and other outdoor activities both affordable and available. Located just below the Gondola at Sugar Bowl on Old Donner Summit Road, the family-friendly lodge is open to members winter and summer. During the ski season our resident caretaker prepares weekend meals. The rest of the year members use the fully equipped lodge kitchen to prepare their own meals.

Rich in history, OSC was founded in 1938 by Oakland residents, but membership is now open to people throughout the Bay Area. Originally, the only way to reach the OSC Donner Lodge in the winter was to hike in. Today members contribute financially towards plowing the county road for wintertime access, but the can-do, adventurous spirit of the founding members persists, and we enjoy

carrying on the traditions of the club. <http://oaklandskiclub.com>

SOUTHBAY SKI CLUB

The Southbay Ski Club was established in 1954 by a small group of skiing enthusiasts from various backgrounds. Motivated by their love of skiing they decided to form an area ski club to make skiing more available to more people.

Today our purpose is still centered on Alpine and Nordic skiing and Snowboarding but members enjoy a variety of muscle-powered outdoor mountain sports and use the lodge in all seasons. <http://www.southbayskiclub.org/>

SNOWDRIFTERS SKI CLUB

We are a winter ski and snowboard club composed of singles over 21. Our club was founded in 1974. While our primary focus is on winter skiing we do participate in a number of other activities, including hiking, biking and other outdoor activities. Additionally we also have social activities including theater and dining out. There are club meetings held at La Paloma in Santa Clara on every first Tuesday of the month at

Continued on next page



Spectacular torchlight parade closes out the year at Snow Summit, Big Bear Resortx

Continued from previous page

6:30. If you are interested in joining the club, come to one of our meetings to sign up! <https://www.meetup.com/SnowDrifters/>

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

The next BAC Board of Directors will be elected at our April BAC General Council Meeting. We have many incumbents who are nominated with hopes of continuing their positions. There are a couple of new people who have also stepped forward. At this time no formal announcements will be made about who our 2019/2020 BAC BOD will be. There might be further nominations the night of our elections!

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

The FWSA Ski Week in Steamboat Springs, CO was another big hit! The snow conditions were very good. Gail Burns (BAC Travel Director) put together a fun-filled BAC Council night during the trip. Thank you also to Ms. Nancy Ellis (FWSA VP of North American Travel), Bob Ellis (FWSA VP of Racing) and the Entire FWSA Travel Staff for all their contributions and efforts in making this a successful and fun trip!

Next year is going to be a fun and busy travel year for the BAC. The FWSA Ski Week to Big Sky, Montana in 2020 is already being promoted and deposits will be accepted starting in April/May. Then, the BAC will have a Utah mini trip in 2020.

This year we are very proud to be represented by our BAC Woman of the Year. Our BAC Woman of the Year is Gail Burns from our Inskiers Ski Club. Congratulations to Gail.

In closing . . . I have had the honor and privilege of representing the greatest Council in FWSA. The dynamic and diverse people who

have been and currently are members of the Bay Area Snow Sports Council and Far West Ski Association Board of Directors that continue to make BAC a thriving and successful Council.



*"Spirit of Indian Wells"
by*

*Marna Schindler, featured
artist at 2016 Indian Wells
Art Festival*

For more information: <https://www.scottski.org/content.aspx?sl=945479575>

Boeing Employee Adventure Club - Although one needs to be a Boeing employee to participate in the club, the Boeing Adventure Club is a participant in the Arizona Ski Council and eligible for all the advantages afforded ASC members.

The Adventure Club provides outdoor activities to Boeing employees and their families. They have weekly hikes and monthly camping trips. Employees may contact www.boeing.com for more information about recreation activities that are planned!

For information: <http://www.skisite.com/clubsDetail.cfm?id=6977>.

Party Time Sports, (PTS), is a non-profit club consisting of active adults, family members and friends over the age of 21. They enjoy year round outdoor/indoor activity or adventure. Such activities as skiing, hiking, biking, boating, BBQ's, art shows and all types of party gatherings.

During the winter they do a ski trip to Telluride, during Arizona Days. For more information, contact them at gg4@qwest.net.

Sailing Adventure Club, (SAC), is a Phoenix-based club, with activities ranging from local sailing, and non-sailing events, to out-of-country sailing adventures. They are more than just a sailing club, they are an activities social club.

If you look for their web site, you might not find them, but you can certainly find them, as a Meet Up group. They now have a membership of 134.

In September, SAC did a canal boat trip to Burgundy, France. Their current activities include, St Patrick's Day hike, Picket Post Mountain hike, and a Chiricahua Big Loop hike and camp event.

SAC is no longer charging dues, so anyone can join via Meet Up.

For more information: <https://www.meetup.com/SailingAdventure/>

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

Submitted By:
Wanda Himler
ASC President



Fran Long, President Central Council of California

Central Council has seven member clubs available for ski, sport, and social enthusiasts throughout the Central California area. We invite you to consider joining one of our many clubs and start enjoying the fun! Currently, clubs are located in Fresno, Exeter, Bakersfield, Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, and Salinas. Check out our **Meetup** site for additional information. Our site can be found by going to our website: www.centralcouncilskiclubs.org. Contact information for our clubs can be found under 'about us'.

While we do not sponsor any ski trips directly, we are supportive of our individual club trips as well as all FWSA ski and adventure trips. We had a small, but successful presence at Steamboat for the recent FWSA ski week, and we are already busy promoting and recruiting for the 2020 FWSA ski week to Big Sky, Montana.

Wanting to do our part to support the organization that offers us so much fun and valuable information, Central Council will again be hosting the pool party at the annual FWSA convention this June, in Indian Wells, California. Why not consider attending this fun and educational convention, and supporting Central Council at the pool party.

As a council, we are all about supporting our member clubs, building friendships, and supporting our larger organizations, Far West Ski Association and the National Ski Council Federation.

Our clubs are currently busy planning for a summer filled with fun events. Hikes, bike rides, camp trips, BBQ's, etc. can be found in any one of our member clubs. Information on summer/fall events can be found on the club's individual websites/meetup sites:

- Fresno Ski Club: www.fresnoskiclub.com
- SLO Skiers: www.sloskiers.org
- Santa Barbara Ski Club: www.sbski.org
- Avalanche Ski Club: Contact Donna Webb, blazekwebb@gmail.com
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- Outdoor Recreation Enthusiasts: Contact Bob Strickland, bstrick60@att.net
- Clovis Ski and Travel Club, kimriehl18@gmail.com
- Central Council, www.centralcouncilskiclubs.org

Join us for an amazing adventure!



Sandra Blackwell, President LA Council of Ski Clubs



The Los Angeles Council (LAC) of Ski Clubs currently consists of 24 clubs, which include snow sports, water sports, and a bit more social type of club, that covers a large area from Santa Barbara to the north, the Inland Empire to the east and just south of Long Beach.

A long time newscaster, Jerry Dunphy always opened his newscast with "From the desert to the sea, to all of Southern California, a good evening." LAC has pretty much that same area, as you can see above, and WE do it all -- Snow skiing/boarding, sailing, biking, socials, movie premieres, ski patrol, you name it, we have a club that does it -- and we can because we have the most diverse area that can encompass ALL of those activities. Not every council can boast this mix of activities available to their members.

The home base for most of the council clubs is Mammoth Mountain Ski Resort, a five hour drive from central Los Angeles. Mammoth offers an entire array of outdoor activities year round (skiing, biking, hiking, camping, jazz concerts, hot springs, and fishing) for the club members. Los Angeles Council also participates in the FWSA Ski Week each year with our new VP of Travel, Todd Hood, handling this event for our Los Angeles group of skiers/racers/boarders. Just recently, back from joining Far West Ski Association in Steamboat Springs, Colorado for the great skiing, wonderful pricing, and the fun and friends that you get to meet up with and ski with on some beautiful terrain, Todd made this report:

We are Back! What an amazing trip! You have not traveled until you have traveled with the LA Council of Ski Club attendees at the Far West Ski Association's Annual Ski Week. These people know how to have fun. Attending my first Annual Ski Week was an adventure, but as I have found, I was not the only virgin. There were several of us that were attending for the first time, but it was no one's first rodeo. Everyone was very familiar with "the drill", and they were most helpful to the trip leader. The Super bowl welcome party was a hit, especially with the evacuation drill! Our lodging was well-received, and the location was prime for mountain views and access to the village. The races were well-coordinated and LA Council won the Council Challenge Race. The Movie Night Dinner and Dance Theme Party was a big hit, with LA Council taking the Adventure Film of the Year for "Pirates of the Caribbean".

From meeting in Long Beach airport, to the hugs goodbye at the same airport, travelers were hospitable, gracious and fun. But the LA Council is one to be reckoned with. The travelers of the LA Council joined together, participated at a high level, and won awards. Thank you to all the attendees from Los Angeles

Continued on next page



*Indian Wells'
Tennis Gardens,
site of the 2019
BNP Paribas
Open*

Continued from previous page

Council member ski clubs. Kudos to Aerospace Ski Club for the most attendees, to Wailers Ski Club for the party atmosphere they inspired, and special appreciation to Los Padres Ski Club for hosting the Margarita Madness Group Condo Party featuring Scott Anderson Memorial Tacos! We are looking forward to next year in Big Sky, Montana.

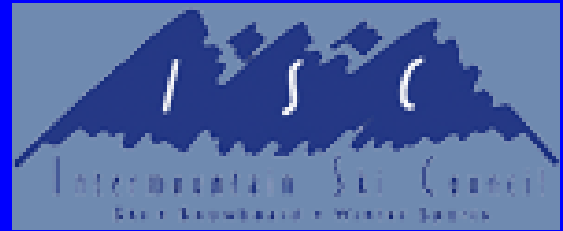
LAC also takes advantage of FWSA's mini-ski weeks, Winter Park, Colorado this month, and Big White, Canada – in 2020. (These trips offer great pricing and unique skiing fun available at some smaller resorts that other states and Canada have) and the international trips which have expanded to a year-round schedule. Still, with all these options, many of our council clubs also offer their own out-of-state and international trips for skiing, biking, and adventuring.

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

The council has two main events it hosts during the year, either the Presidents Luncheon (a gathering for club officers and a presentation to assist clubs with membership or succession planning) traditionally held in August, OR, the Council Picnic, which will be held in May or June this year. And, LAC's fabulous Snow Gala is held in November. The Snow Gala is another event that gathers our clubs together for dining, dancing, and the ever important and popular Man and Woman of the Year competition. Many of the LAC level winners have gone on to be the Councils' Man & Woman of the year in FWSA, so, it is a very important part of this event!

The Council's bi-monthly meetings have been announced to the clubs as we are visiting restaurants in the many different areas of Los Angeles to assist our many clubs in attending our meetings. Los Angeles traffic can be a slow grind on the "freeway," thus by moving the meetings around the LA area, it changes the dynamics of who can and does attend, and seems to be working well.

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



Michael Bouton, Treasurer Intermountain Ski Council

Our little council continues to chug along. Our nine clubs have been very active with activities and trips this season. We have Nominees for the Man and Woman of the year to be honored at the FWSA convention at Indian Wells, CA. They are Colby Nielsen and Tama Lamm of the McCall Winter Sports Club (MWSC) of McCall, ID. McCall Winter Sports Club is our newest club to the council and is very active. I hope you have an opportunity to meet them at the convention, June 13-16.

A report from Big White Ski Resort and the Man of the Year, 2018 trip:

My wife, Julie, and I flew to Spokane, WA, rented a car and drove to Sandpoint, ID to visit Schweitzer Mountain Resort. It is a “Powder Alliance” resort so we had free lift tickets with our Bogus Basin Season passes. What a great mountain. In case you did not know, Schweitzer Mountain has the largest skiable terrain in Idaho, over 2900 acres.

We got to experience The Idaho Pleasure Guest Ranch after we left Schweitzer Mountain’s Selkirk Lodge. This place was amazing with horse drawn sleigh ride with hot cider, then back to the hot tub, followed with a family style dinner that was to die for. It was a wonderful time.

The next morning we awoke before breakfast with the beautiful sunrise of North Idaho. It was magnificent sight through the trees, with the snow covered pastures. After a hearty breakfast, we started our 6 hour journey to Big White in B.C. Canada. What a scenic trip we had through North Idaho into Washington. We stopped in Colville, WA for food and beverages for our six-day stay at **Big White Ski Resort**. The border crossing was without consequences even though I declared we had American beer on board. The officer looked at me and scowled.

We arrived at Big White just before it started snowing and it snowed all night. We awoke to 9 inches of new powder. The mountain hosts were a great group to show us around and then gave us certificates for a free beer and appetizers at the Happy Valley Lodge.

The next 4 days of skiing were terrific and we found the best places for food and drink. Did you know there is a micro brewery, the highest in elevation in the Canada, at Big White? It is called Sessions and they have the best beer and smoked meats anywhere. You need to try it when you visit.

We had a wonderful time at **Big White Ski Resort** and encourage any of you reading this article to go and enjoy all that it has to offer. Next year FWSA is having its “mini ski week” at Big White. You just got to go! I highly recommend it and to those Council Man and Woman of the Year honorees, Good luck at the upcoming convention.

In conclusion, thank you to the management of **Big White Ski Resort** for sponsoring this program with Far West. I think it is the best one we do.



Chris Ciardi, President Northwest Ski Club Council

Living in the Pacific Northwest (and Hawaii), we enjoy nature in all seasons. With more than 40 snowsport clubs and organizations in Oregon, Washington, and Hawaii, Northwest Ski Club Council (NWSCC) represents thousands of Alpine and Nordic skiers, snowboarders, and other snow enthusiasts. We do not just ski or snowboard; we enjoy year-round activities especially during our beautiful summer. Club members hike, picnic, bicycle, canoe, camp, backpack, wind-surf, sail, golf, and enjoy a seemingly endless list of activities. Thanks to our clubs, members can add camaraderie to the pleasures of enjoying the outdoors.

Since our last article, we have all been skiing our hearts out. All clubs offered trips to different resorts all over the US and Canada. There is still lots of snow on our local hills too, so the spring ski season is on in full force. All local resorts have the 'ski the rest of the season' passes available to help those non-season pass holders.

PACRAT recreational ski racing organization races are almost complete for this season. Will be fun to see the final tally. The annual Rat Attack party and awards ceremony is scheduled for April 12. Fun will be had by all.

The Clubs have been filling the summer schedule with fun in the sun activities, like biking and hiking. Early resort investigating and planning for trips for the 2019 ski season are under way.

Our council participated in the annual FWSA Ski Week in beautiful Steamboat in February, with over 40 participants this year. In the spring of 2018, we brought back "The Bachelor Blast," and this year's event is looking even better with almost 40 skiers participating.

Committee meetings for the FWSA 2020 Convention in Portland, Oregon are underway. Many ideas are in the works. The theme for 2020 is "Rollin' Down the River"; the host hotel is Red Lion on the River - Jantzen Beach. Watch your email for more details. Have something that you think we should be doing? Let us know.

--Christine Ciardi, NWSCC



Sheila Van Guilder, President Orange Council of Ski Clubs

Orange Council of Ski Clubs (OCSC) is in the throes of preparation for the 2019 FWSA Convention, with thought for little else. It has been a stunningly fine winter with so much snow in the local mountains that it was hard to get there. Many of our clubs are skiing there.

And, there are not enough words to describe our delight at the conditions at Mammoth Mountain this winter. Huntington Beach Ski Club has been making drive up trips regularly to enjoy all that Mammoth has to offer. They also enjoyed a successful ski week in Jackson Hole.

Fountain Valley Ski Club really had a great time on their ski week at Aspen/Snowmass. They have made regular drive up trips to Mammoth to ski all over the mountain. But, spring is here in Orange County and their Wet Wednesdays will be starting soon (Fountain Valley Wet Wednesdays are paddle boarding in Alamitos Bay.)

It has been and promises to be a great snow season lasting well into spring. For more about OCSC check out our website.

Debbie Stewart - Continued from page 31

as well as weekly events such as night skiing and Solden Party.

As FWSA VP of Int'l Travel, I realize that your vacation days are precious. The best ones are those that leave you feeling recharged, feeling inspired and feeling that your explorations are worthwhile. Ones that your most cherished souvenirs are those that can bring you the grandest memories.

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

For updates or information on FWSA International Travel Program:

Debbie Stewart at: FWSAIntlTrvl@prodigy.net



Chris Gill, President San Diego Council of Ski Clubs



The San Diego Council of Ski Clubs has been very busy this last past year with two important changes. One of the changes is our brand new logo. The council felt that we needed to update our logo to one that would reflect what the San Diego Ski Council is all about. We incorporated a skier, and a bicyclist for all our outdoor activities along with positioning a plane above the mountains to reflect the international adventure trips we do.

The next change was that we updated our entire website and are now working with **Club Express**. Alan Godwin took this challenge and made our new website much more enticing to view. Our new website should be fully operational in May 2019.

The San Diego Council had their annual Gala in November. This Gala marked the 55th year of being a Council and a part of FWSA organization. In honor of this event, tokens were given out that was a ribbon with a wooden medallion which displayed the different positions each club/council member held. The council awarded ribbons for Council Man or Woman of Year, Joe Harris, Club President, Council President and had Club Man or Woman of the year. Some club members went home with quite a few.

The council made a huge banner and put all the pictures up of those past and present in each of the categories. A special honor and tribute was given to Virginia Cobb who was the first woman of the year. Her husband Carl received the ribbon in her honor.

The San Diego Council has two international trips this year. The first trip will have taken place in April. This was a Bike and Barge trip from Amsterdam to Bruges, Belgium with Girolibero. There was also a post trip to

Greece with Mayflower tours. The council enjoyed seeing all the beautiful tulips, the red light district and the famous Kuekenhof gardens. In Greece the group toured Athens, Mykonos and Santorini.

The next council trip will be in October. The group is going with Grand Circle Tours to Australia, New Zealand and Fiji. This tour has 48 people going. Eileen Sanford has already booked our 2020 international trip, which will also be a bike & barge trip down the Mosel River. There will also be pre trip to Iceland with Mayflower tours. These trips will take place in the July 2020 time frame.

The Council took about 50 plus people to FWSA Ski Week in Steamboat. Everyone had such a great time. They enjoyed meeting and getting to ski with Billy the Kid, happy hours, racing and enjoyed the great town of Steamboat. Alan Godwin, Council Trip leader, had a nice council dinner and everyone enjoyed having his son on the trip.

Several of the San Diego Ski Clubs have enjoyed all the great snow the mountains received this year. Action Ski Club went to Revelstoke and Beaver Creek. North Island Snowdrifters went to Sun Peaks for their fly away trip. Don Diego and Torrey Pines combined together and did several bus trips to Mammoth. Pacific Rim went to Big White again this year.

The Council will be attending the FWSA Convention along with several ski club members in June. As always we look forward to seeing everyone and our industry partners as well.



***Jo Simpson, President
Sierra League & Council***

Our northern California and Nevada members are continuing to enjoy an amazing winter with many feet of snow and resorts staying open into April and May, plus some into the summer months.

Our racing program has completed four of six scheduled races. The early March race that we canceled because of a snow storm has been rescheduled to April 13-14.

Our new co-trip leaders, Debi Phelps and Carlene Boutacoff, led us on a fun trip to the FWSA North American Ski Week at Steamboat.

Our Reno Ski and Recreation Club went to Big Sky for a week of skiing and fun activities. The Las Vegas Ski, Snowboard and Sports Club went on a trip to Mammoth.

Our larger clubs are planning for summer activities such as hiking and camping.

We are thrilled to have AJ Hurt return this year as the Sierra Council 2018 Frank App Scholarship winner. AJ turned 18 in December and she is already on the US Ski Team's B Team. AJ was our 2017 scholarship winner and also received a Far West Ski Association scholarship last year.

Schedule of Events, Continued from Page 10

| | | |
|-------------------|--|------------------|
| 2:40 pm - 4:00 pm | FWSA Snowsports Leadership Academy – <i>"The Ifs, Ands, and Buts of recruiting new leaders for your club and council."</i> – <i>Afarah Board & Todd Hood</i> | Indian Wells "N" |
| 2:40 pm - 4:00 pm | Trip Leader Seminar | Desert Vista "A" |
| 2:40 pm - 4:00 pm | Public Affairs Panel & Guest Speakers | Indian Wells "O" |

Saturday, June 15, 2019 (Cont'd)

| | | |
|--------------------|--|--|
| 4:15 pm - 5:30 pm | Council Caucus - BAC / San Diego / NBS Intermountain / Northwest / Central / Direct Members LAC / Orange / Sierra / Arizona | Indian Wells "P" Indian Wells "O" Indian Wells "N" |
| 6:30 pm - 7:00 pm | Reception (No Host) | Indian Wells Ballroom |
| 7:00 pm - 11:00 pm | Awards Banquet & Dance <i>"Swing & Sway in the Desert Breeze"</i> – <i>Sponsored by TBD</i> , Councils' Man & Woman of the Year <i>Sponsored by Big White Ski Resort</i> , Musical Entertainment by <i>"Can Do Productions"</i> – <i>Victor Cannon, D.J.</i> | Indian Wells Ballroom |

Sunday, June 16, 2019

| | | |
|---------------------|---|-----------------------|
| 7:00 am - 8:15 am | Eye Opener - <i>Sponsored by FWSA & Hosted by Orange Council of Ski Clubs</i> | FWSA Suite |
| 8:30 am - 10:30 am | FWSA General Meeting - Elections | Indian Wells Ballroom |
| 10:30 am - 11:30 am | Delegate Brunch - <i>Sponsored by TBD</i> , Outstanding Club & Council Awards, Club & Council Communication Awards, Charities Awards, Club History Award, Door Prize Giveaway | Indian Wells Ballroom |
| 11:30 am - 1:00 pm | FWSA General Meeting Continued | Indian Wells Ballroom |
| 1:15 pm - 2:15 pm | FWSA Board of Trustees and Board of Directors Meetings | Indian Wells "N" |

Delegates are welcome to attend all events unless otherwise indicated. Participation in Travel Expo is encouraged for all club trip planners and board members. The Travel Expo Grand Prize will be awarded at lunch on Saturday. Other prizes will be awarded among all registered Convention delegates on Sunday morning.



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Far West Skier's Guide



Connie Burdette, Editor

The Councilman

FWSA keeps a database on members, clubs and councils. It is important that information in this database be current so that communications are received in a timely manner. Changes in club or council officers; membership addresses and phone numbers; members' club affiliations; club or council meeting location; or, requests for information from the database must be sent to the FWSA President, Gloria Raminha at president@fwsa.org. The Far West Ski Association website at www.fwsa.org has a Ski Club Officer Update Form. Clubs can upload the Officer Update Form for 2019-2020.

FOR COMPLETE INFORMATION OF FWSA, VISIT OUR WEBSITE

www.fwsa.org

The Voice of the Western Skier

