

2010 • 2011 *Far West* **SKIER'S GUIDE**

**FWSA Travel
Destinations...
Ski, Dive & Other
Adventure Trips**

**Where are the
Other 90%?**

**Far Off the
Beaten Path**

**Use Social Media
to Communicate &
Increase Club
Membership**



**Ski Club
Ski Resort
Information**

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AN OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE FAR WEST SKI ASSOCIATION

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Skiers prepared for race day at FWSA 2010 Ski Week at Keystone. Race Program - Page 20
photo / Ken Calkins

Ski season is about to start. The lifts are almost ready. Get those skis out of storage. It's time! Keystone photos / Ken Calkins

Santa Fe race attracts numerous snowshoers. Councils offer a variety of activities. Page 62
photo / Michelle Martinez

After a day on the slopes, pamper yourself at the spa! Page 50

photo / Willow Stream Spa / Banff, Alberta

LOWER PHOTOS: LEFT TO RIGHT:

Hundreds of skiers traveled to Keystone for Ski Week 2010. Next year, the Ski Week will be in Sun Valley. You'll want to be there! Page 12 photo / Ken Calkins

Some fabulous trips can be obtained at the Convention's Silent Auction. Page 26 photo / Eric Van Pelt

Let the music begin at the FWSA Convention. Don't miss the 2011 Convention in Industry Hills. Page 36
photo / Scott Bowker

Jimmy Petterson enjoys DEEP Turkish powder. Page 54 photo / Hervé Thivierge

ON THE COVER:

Alpine Meadows Ski Resort offers skiers and boarders over 100 trails on 2,400 acres of varied terrain. The awesome views of Lake Tahoe make it a real treasure. - photo / Alpine Meadows Ski Resort, Jonathan Selkowitz, photographer





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Publisher:

Leigh Gieringer Graphic Services

**Editor, Production Coordinator
& Advertising Manager:**

Leigh Gieringer

FWSA Member Contributors:

Don Anderson	Peter Mitchell
Norm Azevedo	Michelle Nightengale
Norman Benedict	Sigrid Noack
Scott Bowker	Catherine Ohl
Steven Breitbart	Mary Olhausen
Barbara Bryant	Pat Ostroff
Donn Bryant	Sheri Parshall
Ken Calkins	Jimmy Petterson
Bob Ellis	Gloria Raminha
Nancy Ellis	Mike Rogers
Gene Fulkerson	Eileen Sanford
Maxine Hanlon	Michael Sanford
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David Krupp	Wayne Stolfus
Randy Lew	Bill Stratton
Fran Long	Hervé Thivierge
Richard Lubin, D.C.	Judy Thurman
Ed Martin	John Watson
Michelle Martinez	Bob Wilbanks
Sherrie Marco	Jane Wyckoff

**FWSA Convention
Photographer - 2010**

Eric Van Pelt / San Diego

Council/Club Circulation:

Mike Rogers - Arizona
Dennis Heffley - Bay Area
Fran Long - Central
Wayne Stolfus - Inland
Don Anderson - Intermountain
Dan Crawford - Kansas City
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Mark McNeil - Las Vegas
Norbert Knapp - Los Angeles
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George Kish - Orange County
Sheri Parshall - Northwest
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Randy Lew (530) 304-0802
E-mail: fwsa13randy@telis.org

IMMEDIATE PAST

PRESIDENT

Mike Sanford (858) 695-1442
E-mail: bubasanfrd@aol.com

SECRETARY

Debbie Stewart (559) 594-5129
E-mail: gwstewart@prodigy.net

TREASURER

Cindy Krupp (310) 319-3757
E-mail: cindykrupp@roadrunner.com

VP COMMUNICATIONS

Linda Scott (307) 256-7535
E-mail: louandlt@hotmail.com

VP COUNCIL SERVICES

Don Anderson (208) 238-8081
E-mail: andersonbloom@yahoo.com

VP MARKETING & SPONSORSHIP

Debby Kor (503) 314-7078
E-mail: fwsadebbi@comcast.net

VP PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Scott Bowker (408) 598-2481
E-mail: sbowker.fwsa@gmail.com

VP MEMBERSHIP

David Krupp (310) 319-3757
E-mail: membership@fwsa.org

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E-mail: rellis9681@aol.com

VP NO. AMERICAN TRAVEL

Gloria Raminha
Phone: (661) 829-5996
Fax: (713) 777-8318
E-mail: fwsa.natravel@sbcglobal.net

VP INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL

Norm Azevedo (925) 944-9816
Fax: (925) 944-0420
E-mail: fwsaitravel@sbcglobal.net



CHAIRMAN TRUSTEES

Linda Westlund (480) 441-3523
E-mail: skierwesty@aol.com

TRUSTEE

Steve Coxen (503) 635-0974
E-mail: sacoxen@yahoo.com

TRUSTEE

Jane Wyckoff (949) 933-9607
E-mail: janewyckoff1@cox.net

TRUSTEE

Fran Long (805) 712-5781
E-mail: fancat@yahoo.com



FWSA Offers Many Benefits, Activities & Travel

by Randy Lew
President, FWSA

Welcome fellow snowsports enthusiasts to "The Voice of the Western Skier", the Annual Far West Ski Association's *Far West Skiers Guide*. This *Far West Skiers Guide* is published each year to provide information and reference material to both our ski club members and anyone that may be interested in joining an organization dedicated to servicing its skier and boarder membership. New this year, our publication - in addition to the printed version - will also be available as an interactive Digital Edition at www.fwsa.org. We believe this will be a very beneficial resource for our members, readers and advertisers.

The Far West Ski Association (FWSA) is a non-profit, volunteer organization with emphasis in skier safety, ski travel, communications, club programs, recreational ski racing, ski area development, and family ski involvement. Since its beginning, in 1930, FWSA's purpose has been to develop and provide benefits for all affiliated ski clubs and members. In doing so, the Association has benefited all skiers. We welcome all snow enthusiasts, young and old; and we encourage participation in all snowsports, as well as provide numerous other activities to enjoy.

Our ski clubs provide an opportunity for finding friends who share the same interests. They have active year-round social and recreational events, including ski trips, recreational ski racing, water skiing, river rafting, dinners, theater, cruises, diving, biking, softball, volleyball, go cart racing, car rallies, potlucks, wine tasting, camping, parties, and just about any other activity you can think of. If you want to join with other active, social people and get discounted rates for your favorite event, a ski club is the place to find it!

The benefits of participating in a FWSA trip include: traveling with a group of skiers and snowboarders, friends that you already know, the opportunity to make new friends with people of like interests, value provided by volume pricing and organized activities and tours, and a trip leader to help you with agenda questions and the unforeseen issues that might arise.



FWSA is one of the country's largest ski associations. Our eleven active councils represent skiers and boarders in the thirteen western states of Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Hawaii, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming. In California, there are six individual councils: Bay Area, Central, Inland, Los Angeles, Orange, and San Diego. Arizona Council is based in Phoenix, Intermountain Council is based in Pocatello, New Mexico Council is based in Albuquerque, Northwest Council in Portland, and Sierra Council in Reno. If your ski club is affiliated with one of these eleven councils, you are a member of the Far West Ski Association.

Most of our member councils offer recreational ski racing sanctioned by the Far West Racing Association (FWRA). Racers are classified by age and ability level so everyone can have fun and be competitive within their class. The 2011 FWRA Championships will be held at Alpine Meadows, California, April 1-3, 2011, and should be a truly memorable event.

Our Association has established important relationships with the National Ski Council Federation (NSCF), National Forest Service, International Ski History Association (ISHA), North American Snowsports Journalists Association (NASJA), United States Ski & Snowboard Association (USSA), the United States Ski Team, and Snowsports Industries America (SIA). We are strong supporters of the National Ski Areas Association (NSAA) Environmental Charter and have approved their "Sustainable Slopes" objectives. We are active participants in the informal and bipartisan Congressional Ski and Snowboard Caucus. Our goal is to efficiently represent the interests of all our members and those of the snowsports public.

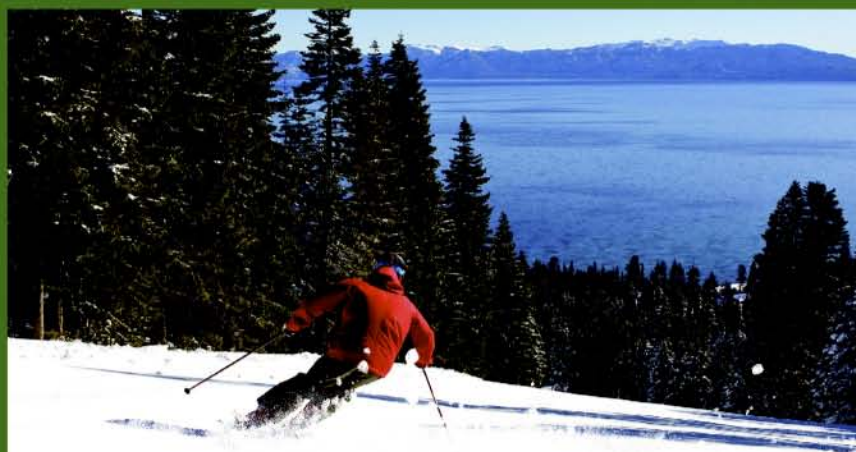
The Far West Travel Program is the most visible benefit that we provide to our membership. Approximately 365 members attended our annual Ski Week in Keystone last January. Those participants experienced great snow, superb weather, awesome skiing, chal-

lenging racing, and wonderful parties and dinners. In 2011, we look forward to taking 500 plus participants to the great snow and skiing of Sun Valley, Idaho.

We also have a very active International travel program that included a ski trip to the beautiful mountain town of Cortina, Italy with the optional extension to Vienna and Budapest this past March. In September, FWSA ran its first scuba dive excursion to Cozumel, Mexico. Our 2011 International Ski Week will be to Engelberg, Switzerland with a post-trip extension to Bansko and Sofia, Bulgaria. A third week is also being offered on a motor coach tour of Bucharest and Transylvania, Romania. And, we are planning a July/August New Zealand ski trip with an Australia post-trip extension.

Annually, FWSA convenes with our industry partners to conduct a Travel Expo and the business of the Association. At our 2010 Convention held at the Renaissance Esmeralda Resort & Spa in Indian Wells, California, special guests included *Billy Kidd*, 1964 Olympic Silver Medalist; *Steve Reneker*, who participated in the American 1995 Mt Everest expedition and carried FWSA banners to the top of the world; *Doug Pfeiffer*, skiing legend and former *Skiing Magazine* Editor-In-Chief; *Chuck Morse*, former Executive Director of FWSA; *Austin McInerney*, Senior Facilitator/Mediator and Land-Use Planner; *Peter King*, General Counsel for the Los Angeles City Attorney's office; *Linda Whittle*, Can Do Multiple Sclerosis Center volunteer and former US National Adaptive Ski Team coach; and *Walt Roessing*, ski journalist. We have another outstanding event planned at the Pacific Palms Hotel and Conference Center in Industry Hills, California in June 2011, as we celebrate our 79th Annual Convention. The Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs is currently planning many exciting events and we hope to have a number of former Olympians as special guests.

We have a wonderful 2010-2011 year planned. The FWSA Board of Directors, Trustees, and committee volunteers are an exceptional team, totally dedicated and committed to making our Association a better organization, by focusing and providing our members with the very best services and representing interests of the western skier in all our endeavors. We value your suggestions. Please contact me, or any of our Board Members, to share your ideas and feedback. I hope to see many of you on the slopes this coming year at our ski weeks and the FWRA Championships. And, please join me in Industry Hills for our 2011 Convention. ▲



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COMMITTEE CHAIR**

Dick Shawkey (209) 795-4792
E-mail: rshawkey@comcast.net

**ANNUAL CONVENTION
CHAIR**

Jane Wyckoff (949) 933-9607
E-mail: janewyckoff1@cox.net

AWARDS COMMITTEE CHAIR

Catherine Ohl (858) 467-9469
E-mail: ohl@acatmeowz.com

**CHARITIES & OUR
COMMUNITY CHAIR**

Sigrid Noack (310) 823-1373
E-mail: skisig@earthlink.net

**COUNCILS' MAN & WOMAN
OF THE YEAR RECOGNITION
PROGRAM CHAIR**

Donn Bryant (530) 550-9452
E-mail: gsracer@calis.com

**FAMILY & YOUTH
INVOLVEMENT
COMMITTEE CHAIR**

Fran Long (805) 712-5781
E-mail: fancat@yahoo.com

**FAR WEST SKIER'S GUIDE
EDITOR & PUBLISHER**

Leigh Gieringer (480) 940-7420
Fax: (480) 940-7558
E-mail: fwsg@cox.net

FWSA.ORG WEBMASTER

George Stewart (559) 594-5129
E-mail: gwstewart@prodigy.net

**HISTORY COMMITTEE CHAIR/
PARLIAMENTARIAN/BYLAWS
COMMITTEE CHAIR**

John Watson (760) 723-6539
E-mail: geospace@pacbell.net

**HOST CONVENTION
COORDINATOR - 2011**

David Krupp (310) 319-3757
E-mail: david.krupp@roadrunner.com

**INFORMATION SERVICES
DIRECTOR**

Nancy Ellis (530) 582-0566
E-mail: nancyellis2@sbcglobal.net

SAFETY COMMITTEE CHAIR

Richard Lubin, D.C. (925) 828-7454
E-mail: botaboardr@sbcglobal.net

**SILENT AUCTION
COORDINATOR**

Mary Olhausen 503-880-7383
E-mail: omary52@comcast.net

THE COUNCILMAN EDITOR

Mary Azevedo (925) 944-9816
E-mail: maryliz4@yahoo.com

THE SKIER'S NEWS EDITOR

Barbara Bryant (530) 550-9452
E-mail: gsracer@calis.com



Far West Benefits From National Ski Council Federation

by Jo Simpson

*Public Affairs Chair, National Ski Council Federation,
Sierra Council President, FWSA*



Council presidents from around the country gathered in Aspen/Snowmass for their annual meeting to exchange ideas which impact clubs and councils.

- photo by Bob Wilbanks

The Far West Ski Association and ten member councils benefit greatly from belonging to the National Ski Council Federation. This association allows Far West councils to interact with ski councils in the central and eastern United States at an annual meeting to exchange ideas and to get information to pass along to member clubs. Dialog with ski industry representatives is an integral component of the national meeting, which was held September 16-19, 2010, in Aspen/Snowmass, Colorado.

The Federation provides a wide variety of benefits to members, which include club members of the participating councils. Beginning this year, NSCF has engaged in a long-term agreement with The Ski Channel that will give clubs and councils an opportunity to host a premier of two films as a fund raiser.

Also new for members this year is a unique ski pole offered by The Royal Shaft that incorporates the NSCF and member council logos for sale to members. Skiset North America is offering NSCF members discount on rentals at more than 750 shops in 11 countries in North America and Europe.

The Federation was formed in 1997 to provide councils an opportunity to exchange information and to discuss important issues that impact clubs and councils throughout the US. It provides educational materials to members and disseminates information in to assist ski councils in serving their members and to encourage honesty and integrity with member ski councils.

NSCF Officers are elected every two years. Beginning their second year in office are: President, *Joe Harvis* (New Jersey Ski Council); Vice President, *Dennis Heffley* (Bay Area Snowsports Council); Treasurer, *Dawn Peterman-Harris* (Metropolitan Milwaukee Ski Council); Secretary, *Lisa Beregi* (Crescent Ski Council – Eastern U.S.).

For detailed information regarding the NSCF, including participating councils and member benefits, please visit www.skifederation.org. ▲



Far West skiers and boarders are getting excited for the new ski season and to experience all that new fresh powder that awaits them. Aspen/Snowmass is the Sponsor of the FWSA Safety Award Program. - photo courtesy of Aspen Skiing Company

2011: A Season To Remember

by **Debbi Kor**
Vice President - Marketing, FWSA

Look around you. Where did the summer go? It seems to have come and gone with the blink of an eye. Now it's time to tune the boards, shake out the sweater, check the zipper on the jacket, and test the bales on your boots. It's SKI SEASON!!!

We're all set for bluebird days, and powder, powder, powder. Our members are heading to Aspen, Whistler, Telluride, Breckenridge, Heavenly, and Park City, just to name a few destinations, and then heading across the mighty Atlantic to Engelberg and Interlaken, Switzerland for our 2011 International Ski Week. We'll be skiing, boarding, and making the most of our favorite resorts, with the largest party planned from January 22nd to 29th, in beautiful Sun Valley, Idaho. This is the time set for our FWSA Annual Ski Week, and we anticipate an amazing 500+ members joining us on our week-long adventure.

I go into each ski season, knowing that all I have to do is click on our FWSA website, go to Membership Benefits, and scroll down through the ever-growing list of product vendors, service providers, ski areas, and lodging properties to find some great deals. Our many benefits partners lend much enhancement to being a member of FWSA. Where else, with just a flash of your membership card, or a mention of FWSA by phone, can you get the many bargains made available to our members? Familiarize yourself with all that is out there, literally at our finger tips!

The Far West Ski Association provides a number of ways for our members to connect with the various area reps and product sponsors from their ads in our publications to the informative Travel Expo and Silent Auction each year at the FWSA Annual Convention.

Our program sponsors were out in full force this year at the 78th Annual Far West Convention, held in Indian Wells, California. **Aspen/Snowmass** - sponsor of the FWSA Safety Award; and **Steamboat** - sponsor of the FWSA History Award were there. **Big White** and **Silver Star** sponsor the FWSA Councils' Man & Woman of the Year Program; and **Whitefish Mountain** and **Grouse Mountain Lodge** participate as sponsors of the FWSA Athletic Scholarship Program. We've come to know all of these fantastic folks through their continued support and commitment to FWSA, and our many wonderful programs. For this, I would like to extend my sincerest *thank you*. If it weren't for these sponsors, all of our event sponsors, and the large number of industry friends who participate in the Silent Auction and Travel Expo each year, we would not be able to put on the tremendous convention that we do! A complete list of all Silent Auction participants is shown on pages 28-29. Also mentioned are those participants who received their 5-year, 10-year, 15-year, 20-year, and yes... even 25-year certificates for participation. Thank you all!

If you are a vendor who would like to join us as a Members Benefit's Partner, as Black Tie Ski Rental Delivery, Dominator Wax, Ski Butlers, Cal Neva Resort, Hampton Inn, Lake Tahoe and Liftopia have done, or are an industry member interested in a FWSA sponsorship, please contact me. We have three levels of sponsorship to offer, from product and program sponsors to a corporate sponsorship for upcoming events. I can be reached at: fwsadebbi@comcast.net. ▲



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Meeting Location Rotates
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E-mail: president@arizonaskicouncil.org
Website: www.arizonaskicouncil.org

Bay Area Snow Sports Council

P.O. Box 25180, San Mateo, CA 94402
2nd Monday 7:30 PM
The Englander, 101 Parrott Street San Leandro
President: *Dennis Heffley* (925) 825-3262
E-mail: bac.president@skibac.org
Website: www.skibac.org

Central Council

2561 Alameda Drive, Paso Robles, CA 93446
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Hosted by different Central Council Clubs
President: *Fran Long* (805) 238-1375
E-mail: fancat2007@sbglobal.net
Website: www.centralcouncilskiclubs.org

Inland Ski Council

232 NE Nightshade Court,
Lee's Summit, MO 64086
Meetings Vary
President: *Dan Crawford* (816) 805-0384
E-mail: macrci@aol.com

Intermountain Ski Council

P. O. Box 4621, Pocatello, ID 83201
Meetings Vary
President: *Don Anderson* (208) 238-8081
E-mail: andersonbloom@yahoo.com
Website: www.intermountainskicouncil.org

Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs

P.O. Box 83338, Los Angeles, CA 90083
1st Monday, 7:00 PM The Grinder Restaurant
Sepulveda and Manchester, Westchester
President: *Norbert Knapp* (323) 793-4250
E-mail: lacpresident@lacouncil.org
Website: www.lacouncil.org

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P.O. Box 415, Edgewood, NM 87015
Meetings Vary
President: *Diane Stearley* (505) 281-3755
E-mail: dmstear@att.net
Website: www.skinewmexico.org

Northwest Ski Club Council

P.O. Box 1915, Portland, OR 97207
Meeting quarterly - refer to website
Shanghai Noble House Restaurant
President: *Sheri Parshall* (503) 912-0064
E-mail: president@nwskiers.org
Website: www.nwskiers.org

Orange Council of Ski Clubs

20630 Travis Road, Yorba Linda, CA 92887
1st Monday, 7:00 PM. Location TBD
Check website.
President: *Judy Thurman* (714) 779-8534
E-mail: ylskicat@aol.com
Website: www.orangecouncil.org

San Diego Council of Ski Clubs

P.O. Box 17496, San Diego, CA 92177
1st Wednesday 6:30 PM
Meeting location rotates
President: *Eileen Sanford* (858) 761-6192
E-mail: esanford1@san.rr.com
Website: www.skisandiego.org

Sierra Council

1691 Ashbury Lane, Reno, NV 89523
Meetings Vary
President: *Jo Simpson* (775) 787-7556
E-mail: jo_simpson@sbglobal.net
Website: www.sierraleague.com

Communications: The Key to Success!

by **Don Anderson**
Vice President - Council Services, FWSA

Most people in the Far West Ski Association know Council Services gather council presidents together quarterly to discuss common problems and situations. What is not so well known is how our various programs help improve our councils and strengthen communications between clubs, their members and the FWSA. Through these programs, information and feedback flow up from the grassroots level and club members to the FWSA Board of Directors. The system works in the opposite direction as well; particularly if you attend an annual FWSA Convention. This completes an invaluable "full circle" of shared ideas, successful programs, and fun-filled large group travel. Witness this first hand at our next Annual Convention in Southern California June 9-12, 2011 at the Pacific Palms Hotel and Conference Center in Industry Hills, California.

Publisher *Leigh Gieringer*, does a fantastic job with our annual *Far West Skier's Guide*, which is our best marketing tool to the ski industry and general public. This year will mark the 23rd consecutive year for the printed magazine. And, we are proud to announce that we will be entering the digital world, as well, with the first interactive Digital Edition of the *Far West Skier's Guide*. It will be available on the www.fwsa.org website. Links will also be provided on council (see column to the left) and the National Ski Council Federation - www.skifederation.org - websites.

VP of Communications, *Mary Azevedo*, edits *The Councilman* which is a newsletter to council and club presidents and others. *The Skier's News* is an e-mail monthly newsletter managed by *Barbara Bryant* and available to anyone who registers for it on our website at www.fwsa.org.

There is nothing like competition to bring the best out of people. The *FWSA Councils' Man & Woman of the Year Program*, chaired by *Donn Bryant*, helps recognize the "movers and shakers" from the club and council level to the exciting conclusion at the FWSA Annual Convention. It is truly an honor to be among such fine, hardworking people. See *Donn's* article about this year's honorees on page 27. Club and council competition for the best website, newsletter and best overall continues to be refined and is now judged over the internet, under the capable management of *Catherine Ohl*. A wealth of information can be learned from these clubs and councils with the announced winners being recognized each year at the FWSA Convention in June.

If you belong to a local club, don't forget to regularly visit their website for ongoing activities. If not, see club listings under the Council's sections beginning on page 62. If you are a member of a club that's not a part of a council, ask them to contact their local council for membership. Contacts are listed to the left of this article. You will be glad you did. ▲

FWSA 2010 Newsletter and Website Winners

by **Linda Scott**
Vice President - Communications, FWSA

Twelve clubs and councils competed for the FWSA outstanding club and council web site awards, while ten clubs and councils entered the newsletter competition for the **Wentworth Award for Outstanding Club and Council Publications**. Each of the clubs were placed in a category based on their membership levels. Class A reflects membership from 10-149, Class AA reflects membership of 150-249, and Class AAA reflects membership of 250 or more. After being placed in the appropriate category, each of the newsletters and websites were judged by a select group of independent judges using preselected, approved criteria. The winners were announced at the 2010 FWSA Convention.

The winners of the **Tollakson Outstanding Club Award** for 2010 are: **Class AA** - North Island Snowdrifters and **Class AAA** - Mountain High Snowsport Club. **Outstanding Website Award** winners were: **Class A** - Single Ski Club of LA, **Class AA** - North Island Snowdrifters, **Class AAA** - Apres Ski Club. Winner of the **Outstanding Council Website Award** was Northwest Ski Club Council.

The winners of the **Wentworth Outstanding Club Publication Awards** were: **Class A** - Unrecables Ski Club, **Class AA** - North Island Snowdrifters, and **Class AAA** - Mountain High Snowsport Club. Winner of the **Outstanding Council Publication Award** was Northwest Ski Club Council. Check out our website at www.fwsa.org, and look under the "Awards" tab, to learn the identities of all the winners, including the second and third place winners in each category. Congratulations to all the winners and runner's up.

Get the Most of Your Snowsports Program

by David Krupp
Vice President - Membership, FWSA

Membership in FWSA

Want to get more out of your winter program? Become a member of FWSA! Most of the FWSA members are already included due to their involvement in a club that is part of the Far West Ski Association. With approximately 180 ski and board clubs from Washington State (and now Alaska) to New Mexico, there are many groups from which to choose. However, not everyone has a club or council near them. As a result, there are those who are direct members. As a direct member, one receives the same benefits that all members receive: access to all Far West trips and events (year-round domestic and international travel, recreational racing, attending the FWSA Convention) news and information (travel, industry, history) member discounts (passes, lodging, gear, clothing) and the camaraderie of your fellow snowsports enthusiasts.

Snowsports Leadership Academy

The Snowsports Leadership Academy expanded its platform at the 78th annual Far West Convention in Indian Wells this past June. The purpose of the program is to provide an informational forum to the members attending and has evolved into a valuable resource at the Conventions. Originally facilitated by former VP of Membership, Barbara Bryant and New Mexico Council President, Diane Stearley, this was the third year for the program and now involves six components:

- **Taking Office**
- **Membership and Communications**
- **Risk Management**

We need to thank FWSA Awards Chairman Catherine Ohl, and FWSA Vice President of Council Services, Don Anderson, for all their hard work administering the Awards Programs. We also need to thank our dedicated judges, who spent countless hours evaluating all the entrants. If you are interested in judging next year's websites or newsletter competition, contact Catherine, Don, or me, Linda Scott, FWSA Vice President of Communications louandlt@hotmail.com, for further information.

We need your help. Our press release program is an ongoing project that requires the most current contact and publication information. If you have a favorite local publication, where you would like to read articles about the FWSA, please contact me. I will include this information in my database for future press release dissemination. Thank you.



FWSA's Snowsports Leadership Academy - Travel Program Management segment, originally introduced in 2009 was repeated at the 2010 Convention due to its popularity in helping clubs run their travel programs. - photo courtesy of Diane Stearley, Program Chair

- **Travel Programs Management**
- **Technology Resources**
- **Ethical Responsibilities**

In addition, as an integral part of the program, each delegate to the Convention was given the Leadership CD which contains a myriad of information on each of those components (with expanded topics). Look forward to this outstanding resource being available on our website soon. Next year, we will introduce a new installment to the series on how to build excitement by creating an effective race program for your club and a return to a prior discussion on what to do when you take office as a board member of your club. (More information on page 35.)

FWSA News

Barbara Bryant continues to issue *The FWSA News* on a monthly basis. The News is sent via email and provides up-to-date information on the industry, travel, public affairs, history, and safety, to name a few covered subjects.

Any questions regarding Membership, the Snowsports Leadership Program, or the FWSA News can be addressed to membership@FWSA.org. See you on the slopes. ▲

"The Voice of the Western Skier"



FWSA DIRECT MEMBER APPLICATION 2010-2011

Effective through September 30, 2011. For an individual or family who is NOT a member of a FWSA-affiliated snowsports club.

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■ FWSA Membership Card ■ Member Benefits & Discounts ■ Copy of the annual *Far West Skier's Guide* ■ *The Councilman* subscription ■ Invitation to the Annual FWSA Convention and Silent Auction ■ FWSA Travel Program, and more.

ANNUAL DIRECT MEMBER DUES: \$30 per member; \$50 per couple; \$60 per family. Please make checks payable to FWSA and mail to: **FAR WEST SKI ASSOCIATION** c/o David Krupp, VP - Membership, FWSA, 1524 10th Street, #K, Santa Monica, CA 90401.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Home Phone #: _____

Daytime Phone #: _____

Fax #: _____

E-mail: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

☐ Are you interested in information about ski or snowboard clubs in your area?

Please list the 2010-2011 FWSA trips you plan on attending.

The Far West Skier's Guide can be sent directly to you.

The FWSG is available at no cost to members through your ski club, however, if you wish to have the magazine sent to you directly, please xerox form, fill out and return with a check for US\$5.00 to cover postage and handling. Send to:

FAR WEST SKIER'S GUIDE
3115 South Price Road
Chandler, AZ 85248

☐ 2010-2011 ☐ 2011-2012

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____



Ski Week 2011 to be held in Sun Valley

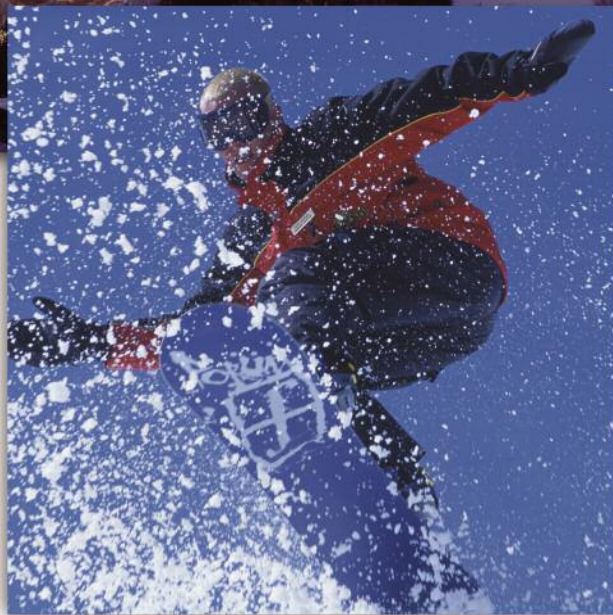
FWSA Destination 2011: The World Class Resort of Sun Valley, Idaho offers fabulous skiing, boarding and much, much more!

The year 2011 is most certainly the year to be in Sun Valley for a vacation not to be forgotten. Sun Valley will be celebrating their 75th winter season. Besides all the fantastic events that the Far West Ski Association will be conducting, Sun Valley is planning events for all ages. The FWSA will be holding their Sun Valley Ski Week from January 22 to 29. FWSA Travel Staff and Trip Leaders are working with Bert Witsil of Sun Valley, Stephen Hall and Sandy Gaudette with *Ski.group.net* to plan a week of activities (welcome party, pub crawl, mountain lunch, ice skating party, racing, banquet and dance and an après party) sure to be enjoyed by all. It's time to start planning your costumes for the banquet as we go "Back to the Fifties". Don't be surprised if a hoola-hoop and limbo contest breaks out. We are planning on prizes for the contest winners and will have awards for best "fifties" costumes.

Besides all the FWSA activities and the 75th Sun Valley Winter celebrations, Sun Val-

ley has a lot to offer with two ski mountains. Bald Mountain provides vertical runs with perfect pitch from its peak of 9,150 to a 5,750 foot base, all downhill on a variety of slopes suited more for the advanced and intermediate skiers. Bald Mountain currently has a total of 12 lifts and 66 varied runs on either side of the mountain with seemingly endless runs that stretch over 2,054 acres to the edges of the Sawtooth National Forest. Crowds? There aren't any in Sun Valley with its lift capacity of 29,717 skier/riders per hour and average skier day of only 3,000.

Dollar Mountain is known as "the finest teaching mountain in the world" and caters to the needs of beginners with 10 runs and 628 feet of vertical rise. Instructors specialize in making the novice skier or snowboarder's experience a breeze.



photos - Sun Valley Resort

Not a "Die Hard" Skier? With your five multi-day FWSA lift ticket, our participants will have the opportunity to redeem their lift tickets for other activities. You'll be able to redeem one day for one of the following activities (up to a \$40 value):

- *Nordic Package*
- *Ski or Snowboard Group Clinic or Private Lesson*
- *Ice Skating Package with Lunch*
- *Sunday Brunch in the Lodge Dining Room*

North American Travel

by Gloria Raminha

Vice President - North American Travel, FWSA

The Far West Ski Association's North American travel program is great for those who prefer group travel. FWSA trips provide an opportunity to see and ski/board with old friends and make new ones. FWSA ski weeks provide our members a great value in pricing which includes seven nights lodging, five or six days of lift tickets and a week full of organized activities. To come to a ski week and join in the camaraderie that is a Far West Ski Association Ski Week you must be a member of the Far West Ski Association. The Far West Travel Staff and Council Trip Leaders work together throughout the year to organize and ensure that all participants receive the best possible value for their travel dollar. Each year, resorts and tour operators present bids during our Annual Convention which is attended by invited council representatives, members of the FWSA Board of Directors and FWSA Travel Staff. The invited representatives review and compare the various bids to assist in casting their votes on which resort will be chosen to host the ski week. The resort receiving the most votes from the representatives is awarded the ski week.



After a day on the slopes, relax in one of three pools. The Sun Valley Inn pool, 55' in diameter, provides a picturesque view of Bald Mountain.

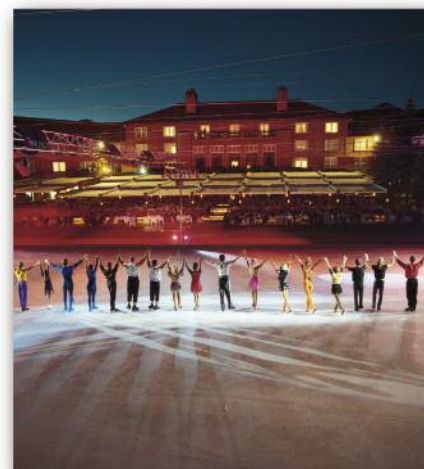
- Dinner and Entertainment Packages
- Massage
- Gifts from Sun Valley Signature Stores or Lodge Gift Shop
- Sun Valley Heli Skiing
- Village Shopping

Other activities to experience that do not require a lift ticket are spending a day mushing a pack of huskies, ice skating at the famed Sun Valley ice rink, cuddle up in a cozy yurt or hop a horse-drawn sleigh for a hearty dinner at the legendary Trail Creek Cabin. Snowmobiles provide an easy means to explore the incredible backcountry, while the devoted fishermen can try out the local rivers. Additionally, you may want to visit the town of Ketchum and spend an afternoon at galleries, spas and boutiques. You may also pay your respects at the grave of Ernest Hemingway.

The Sun Valley Nordic and Snowshoe Center is located at the Sun Valley Club in the backyard of the world famous Sun Valley

Lodge. Sun Valley may have the best cross country skiing in America, with unmatched trail quality, training programs, clinics, rentals and a state of the art clubhouse for skiers of all levels. The Sun Valley Nordic and Snowshoe Center provides the ultimate experience from a gentle terrain to challenging hills.

Why the name Sun Valley? It is named that because the brilliant sun shines 80 percent of the ski season in an azure blue sky. After all, it was "winter sports under a sum-



Ice skating is a popular activity at Sun Valley for guests of the resort, but the professional ice shows are spectacular to watch.

mer sun" that put Sun Valley on the map 75 years ago this coming winter. You will not want to miss this exciting destination during this milestone year to a World-Class resort! The Sun Valley trip is filling up quickly. Secure your spot now!

If you are interested in participating in the 2011 FWSA Ski Week at Sun Valley, sign-up with one of the Council Trip Leaders listed on the flyer. The flyer is available on the FWSA website at www.fwsa.org. ▲



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Where will the Far West Ski Week be in 2012?

JACKSON HOLE, WYOMING

Jackson Hole was selected for the 2012 FWSA Ski Week and will be held January 28 to February 4, 2012. Spencer Long with Jackson Hole and Mike Hibbard with Sports America Tours are excited to have the pleasure of hosting our 2012 Ski Week. As Spencer commented, *"Our team worked hard to put together a competitive bid, and we'll work even harder to ensure the 2012 Ski Week is one of the most memorable that FWSA has ever had"*.

Jackson Hole is ranked #1 for steeps and back country access by *Ski Magazine*. Jackson Hole Mountain Resort offers visitors one of the best ski and snowboard experiences in the world. Known for its steep terrain, consistent fall line, deep light powder and endless back-country, Jackson Hole also allows beginners and intermediates to excel at their own pace on a variety of groomed runs and open bowls. Jackson Hole Mountain Resort is a year-round adventure outpost offering an incredible environment for recreation enthusiasts. Sitting at the gateway to Grand Teton National Park

and Yellowstone National Park, you'll certainly find breathtaking beauty in this winter wonderland like no other.

Jackson Hole is in a realm all its own when it comes to premier ski resorts in the West. An impressive 2,500 acres of inbounds terrain and a diverse trail system allow both beginners and experts to enjoy everything from powder-filled chutes and bowls to long wide-open groomers. Jackson Hole offers one of the most advanced lift systems in the country, which includes both an eight-passenger gondola accessing intermediate and family terrain and the iconic 100 passenger aerial tram leading to the expert's winter playground. With one of the highest vertical rises of any ski resort in the U.S. and an epic annual snowfall of over 400 inches, Jackson Hole dominates every list of top ski resorts.

Be sure to check the FWSA website for more details on this trip and other FWSA trips. Package pricing will be available through a Council Trip Leader in March of 2011. ▲



photos courtesy of Jackson Hole Mountain Resort

Jackson Hole has added a 25% boost in snowmaking over the summer meaning more terrain will open earlier, and remain in better shape longer.



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Photo © Chuck Haney



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WHITEFISH, MONTANA



Partially Located on National Forest Lands

Main Photo © Noah Clayton

CARVE ON THE WILD SIDE.



Daily direct flights available into Jackson on
Delta, American and United.



**JACKSON
HOLE**.COM

Exciting International Travel Opportunities Available to FWSA Members

by Norm Azevedo
Vice President - International Travel, FWSA

Why travel with FWSA? Let me tell you: Our travel participants, drawn mainly from our many ski clubs west of the Rockies, are friendly, fun, intelligent, exciting and a pleasure to travel with. We meet for meals and gather almost every evening to celebrate the day's end, make plans and team up for the following days' skiing and/or adventure. We travel to exciting world renowned locations to ski and explore. Our trips are thoroughly planned and well organized. Far West contracts with experienced, proven and reliable tour operators, who coordinate great accommodations and professional guides that provide support and hold your interest throughout the trip. We strive for and have been successful in getting our whole group into one hotel, making it easy for all to meet each other, party and keep abreast of all activities. It's imperative that our participants go home with lasting memories, tons of pictures and new friends. We strive to provide continuous opportunities for people to reconnect on our trips. Take a look at this season's adventures. Even if you do not ski, there'll be something for you.



Cozumel offers world-class snorkeling and diving. The area attracts thousands of underwater enthusiasts each year. It is the home of the largest reef system in the western Hemisphere. Cozumel is ringed by more than 40 dive sites teeming with tropical fish and a kaleidoscope of multi-colored coral reefs. photo - Isla Cozumel

COZUMEL 2010 THE FIRST ANNUAL FWSA DIVE TRIP....

A group of divers and tourists went to Cozumel, September 5 - 12, 2010. They stayed at the Wyndham Cozumel Resort & Spa. It was at a great all inclusive experience. This was the Far West Ski Association's First Annual Dive Trip. We chose Cozumel, famous all over the world for its coral reefs, thus, we really planned to do it right.

For non-divers, Cozumel offered a wealth of other activities including sun bathing, deep-sea fishing, snorkeling, kayaking and touring the wilds. Cozumel's mostly undeveloped territory at the center of the island is covered by jungle and swampy lagoons, which are home to tiny mammals and endemic birds. Most significant is the Chankanaab National Park and the Punta Sur Ecological Reserve. This huge protected area at the southern tip of the island includes Punta Celarain and its historic lighthouse; as well as, the Colombia turtles and their nesting areas. The FWSA will be planning more adventure trips in the future. Information will be posted on the website as it is developed.

TRAVEL INFORMATION IS PLACED ON THE FWSA WEBSITE

The website, www.fwsa.org, has all current travel announcements, fliers and details. Check them out. Our travel opportunities are open to all FWSA members. Placement is based on the date deposits are received by FWSA International Travel.



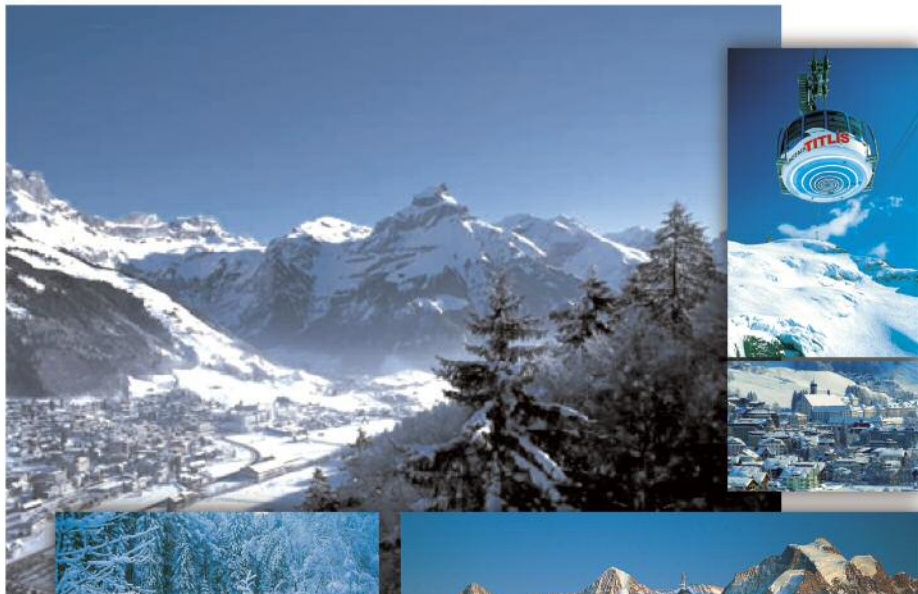
Expect to see Adelie penguins romp on the ice on the Antarctica Adventure trip. - CoolAntarctica.com

AN ANTARCTICA ADVENTURE, PLUS CELEBRATE NEW YEAR'S EVE IN BUENOS AIRES.....

FWSA with Holiday Ski Tours plans to leave December 29, 2010 for a 15 day cruise with three nights in Buenos Aires for New Years Eve. After Buenos Aires, participants will fly to Ushuaia and board the MS Fram for a 10 day Antarctica adventure. The cruise includes meals, lectures, guided tours and boat landings, Drakes Passage, glacier-lined Lemaire channel, Neumayer Channel, Whaler's Bay, Half Moon Island, Yankee Harbor, Paradise Harbor, Neko Harbor, Petermann Island, Cuverville Island, and Wilhelmina Bay and more. Expect to see whales, seals, penguins, icebergs, snowy peaks, and ice cliffs to name a few. We will be joining other ski councils across the United States for this trip. Demand for this trip has been so successful that we are considering doing it again in 2011.

THE 2011 ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL SKI WEEK: ENGELBERG & INTERLAKEN, SWITZERLAND.....

Far West is going to spend five nights in Engelberg, Switzerland starting February 25, 2011. Engelberg is located beneath the 11,624 foot Titlis Mountain. Titlis offers 6,000 feet of snow-covered glacier and forested runs with spectacular views. It's Switzerland's largest ski resort close to Zurich and Lucerne; and one of the oldest mountain villages in the country. After five nights in Engelberg, it's on to Interlaken for three nights. Interlaken lies between two lakes and offers a visit to castles, shops,



- Engelberg-Titlis Tourismus AG

Engelberg village is located in a valley surrounded by mountain peaks in the Canton of Obwalden. It is the leading mountain resort in central Switzerland. Since 1850, it has been a major vacation area during both the winter and summer seasons.

The cabin of the unique Rotair cable car rotates as it ascends from the village to Klein Titlis. The terrain is largely for advanced skiers, but there are some easier pistes for all ability levels. Titlis or Jochpass are predominantly north-facing and typically have a long ski season. Brünni, on the opposite side of the valley - and south facing - is much more suited to the novice and the more timid intermediate skier.



LOWER: Skiing at Maennlichen, Eiger, Moench and Jungfrau can be accessed from Grindelwald in the Bernese Oberland...a short train ride from Interlaken. TOP: Take the cable car to the summit of Schilthorn to enjoy the awe-some views of the surrounding peaks and glaciers, and a delicious meal. - swiss-image.ch

great restaurants and is known for its world class chocolate. The Jungfrau winter sports region provides over 125 miles of runs within easy reach of Interlaken. A free ski bus is available. See the Jungfrau article in the 2009-2010 *Far West Skier's Guide*.

After Switzerland, we'll fly to Bansko Ski Area, Bulgaria for three nights and a couple of days skiing. It's the biggest and most modern winter resort in the country, with 62 km ski pistes with various difficulties. Bansko is known for the remains of an ancient fortress, archeological excavations, and more. The town center is a World Heritage Site. The city clock tower has provided time for over 150 years. After Bansko, we'll travel to Sofia. Founded over 7,000 years ago, Sophia is Bulgaria's capital. Over 250 historic landmarks and architectural

monuments blend in with the city's modern skyline. After Sofia, some will return to Zurich for a night and back to the USA. Those who can afford more time will travel on to Romania for another week's adventure.

Romania (Count Dracula's country) is the center of many cultures. There are feudal fortresses, Byzantine decorated monasteries and quaint village houses. Dracula's castle is only one among many fascinating castles and palaces. Romania's heritage is not simply one of folk art. Bucharest used to be called Little Paris. We'll visit fortified churches and trace Dracula's Path through Transylvania. Those returning home after Romania will spend another night and part of a day in Zurich before catching their flight home.

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background photo by Jimmy Petterson



Lake Wanaka boasts four world-class ski areas – Cardrona Alpine Resort, Treble Cone, Snow Farm and Snow Park, with Coronet Peak and The Remarkables just an hour away, giving you the most varied New Zealand skiing and snowboarding experience.

Treble Cone, Off Piste - Lake Wanaka, (image Mark Watson) www.lakewanaka.co.nz

SKI NEW ZEALAND - TOUR AUSTRALIA..... Summer, 2011

FWSA has a three part New Zealand ski and tour trip planned. It starts with a two-night Rarotonga (Cook Islands) tropical tour. The next eight nights will be spent in New Zealand (Auckland, Wanaka and Queenstown). A seven night extension to Sydney and Cairns will be available for those able to take advantage of it.

The trip to New Zealand will begin in Wanaka, where you will stay for two nights to enjoy the skiing or visit the charming town. A motor coach will take us to Queenstown where you can ski again for four days. For the non-skier, Queenstown has so much to see and do. Some of the options are to take a riverboat or go across the lake for a New Zealand dinner and see sheep shearing. You can experience white water rafting, bungee jumping, skydiving, a helicopter trip, or a canyon jet boat ride. For food, you will enjoy gourmet pizza or you can choose your own steak in a frontier restaurant.



Sydney is the largest and most populous city in Australia and the state capital of New South Wales. It is located on Australia's south-east coast of the Tasman Sea. The city is built on hills surrounding Port Jackson which is commonly known as Sydney Harbour; which is the largest natural harbor in the world. The iconic Sydney Opera House has five halls, including a large concert hall; and opera and drama theatres. It is the home of Opera Australia - the third-busiest opera company in the world - and the Sydney Symphony. The Harbour Bridge is another well-known landmark. The metropolitan area is surrounded by national parks, and the coastal regions feature many bays, rivers, inlets and beaches including the famous Bondi Beach. Within the city are many notable parks, including Hyde Park and the Royal Botanical Gardens. - content edited from Wikipedia

If you choose to go on the pre-trip to Rarotonga, you can scuba dive or snorkel on this beautiful island. We will have a party with drinks and finger food; every morning you will enjoy a tropical island breakfast.

In Australia, we will go to Sydney, take a Captain Cook Coffee Cruise and then enjoy three nights visiting the city. After Sydney, we

move on to Cairns, where the weather is wonderful. We'll stay in Cairns for four nights. You can snorkel, scuba dive, or relax on the beach. You can also swim with the seals and dolphins. *So much to do!!!*

We are now taking registrations for this exciting adventure and opportunity to ski New Zealand and visit Australia.

GENERAL.....

Our councils and clubs distribute trip information and fliers as soon as possible so our members can join us on our trips. As new trips are announced, they will be advertised on the Far West website www.fwsa.org. ▲



The 2012 International Ski Week will be held in Chamonix known for its long slopes, glade skiing and off-piste runs.

THE 2012 ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL SKI WEEK: CHAMONIX/MONT-BLANC, FRANCE.....

Mark your calendars for the end of February - early March, 2012. The Annual International Ski Week will be held in Chamonix/Mont-Blanc, France with the normal pre/post extensions. Chamonix offers skiing/snowboarding for all levels. It is known for its tremendously long slopes, glade skiing, free ride and off-piste. Chamonix also offers slopes ideal for children and beginners.

There are many ski areas in which to choose:

- Brévent/Flégère offers south-facing slopes and exceptional views of the Mont-Blanc chain
- Grands Montets has high altitude north-facing slopes which dominate the village of Argentière
- Balme area has wide-open slopes at the top of the Chamonix valley, bordering on Switzerland
- Les Houches lies at the opposite end of the valley and is accessible from Mont-Blanc

The first Winter Olympic games were hosted by Chamonix in 1924 and the valley became a winter Mecca, with many more lifts built in the ensuing years. Chamonix is a popular tourist destination that links Italy via the Mont-Blanc tunnel. The town attracts many tourists because they have preserved the exceptional natural environment. Chamonix has a rich architectural heritage encompassing traditional and modern styles. Hotels and palaces exhibit the golden age, where you will see Art Deco facades, traditional farmhouses, colossal villas and chalets. You will not want to miss visiting this world-class ski destination!

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nancyellis2@sbcglobal.net

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Competition Chairman:

Jim Sommer (775) 322-5805
sommerskier@aol.com

FWRA Championships 2011:

George Eachus (949) 493-8738
geachus@cox.net

FWRA Race Program

by Bob Ellis, FWSA VP Racing

This year has been very interesting. It was a great year for snow in the Sierra's, and a lot less snow elsewhere. The FWSA Ski Week went off without a hitch in Keystone. We had nice firm snow to race on, cool weather, well set courses by the Keystone Race Department and many enthusiastic racers who enjoyed the competition. Many of the racers were very impressed with the Go Devil run where we raced, as it pushed their limits to complete some of the courses. Overall, we had a great experience at Keystone.

In the local races in Tahoe and at Mammoth, racers were fighting mother nature all year long. Almost every local race experienced soft fresh snow conditions this year. The inconsistent conditions made it difficult to put on quality race events, but that is what we attempted to accomplish.

Sierra League and Singles League combined their efforts for several races to save money for both leagues, as both leagues lost racers due to the major economic issues this year.

NorCals and SoCals both had good turnouts for their events at Squaw Valley and Mammoth Mountain respectfully with good weather.

The Far West Championships were just completed at Mammoth Mountain with great enthusiasm from all competitors. This year, we incorporated many cost saving measures in advance of the event in lieu of smaller participation. The competitors did not notice a difference in the quality, even though we saved some money by being more frugal. The \$1,000 donation for the shirts from the Far West Ski Association at the event was well received by the Far West members. We also received a \$1,000 donation from John Ascuaga's Nugget in Sparks, Nevada for the shirts. Many positive comments were made about the wonderful food at the Awards Banquet on Saturday night and the fun we had racing earlier in the day. The Mammoth Race Department provided competitive, well planned courses that were on-time with accurate timing.

Our summer meeting was planned for the second Saturday in August in Mammoth Mountain to discuss future rules changes, the 2011 and 2012 venues, and other possible changes in FWRA.

The elections held at the Championships had one major change, *Marty Purmort* retired as Treasurer after several years of superior service and *Nancy Ellis* was nominated and elected as the new FWRA Treasurer. The other officers that were re-elected are: *Barbara Bryant*, Secretary; *Bob Warzynski*, Vice-President/Rules; and *Bob Ellis*, President.

Next year the *Far West Championships* will be held at *Alpine Meadows* the first weekend in April, 2011. Aspen/Snowmass is planning to host the next *National Ski Club Championship Races at Snowmass* on January 3-7, 2011. The event will be held

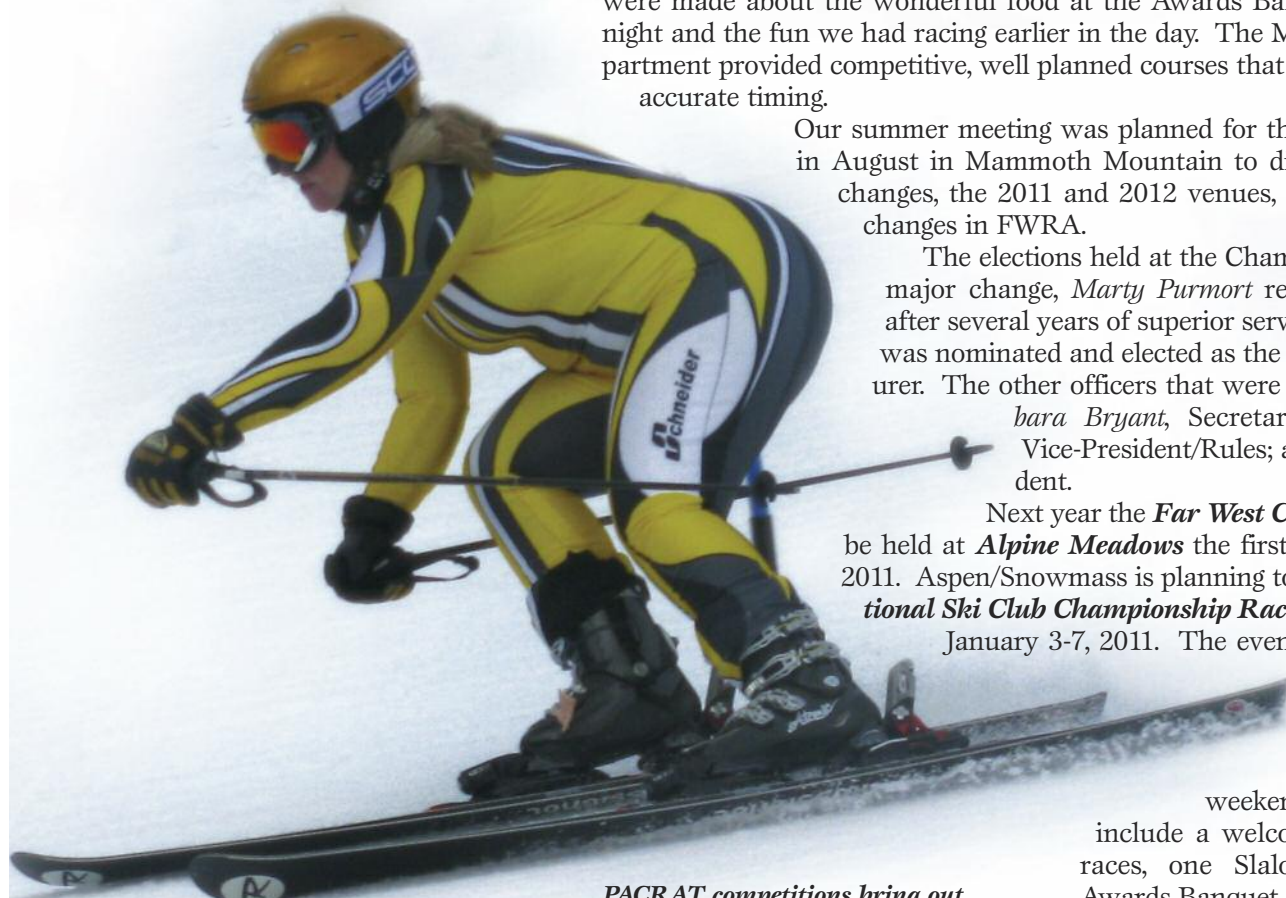
mid-week so competitors will not miss any local races on the

weekend. The event will

include a welcome party, two GS races, one Slalom race, and an Awards Banquet on Thursday night. Racers, and others, from around the country will be invited. ▲

PACRAT competitions bring out the best in their racers.

- photo provided by Sheri Parshall



Silent Auction and Raffle Donors at the 2010 Far West Racing Association Championships

by Barbara Bryant

Far West Racing Association would like to thank all of the generous donors to the Silent Auction and Raffle held at the 2010 Far West Racing Association Championships at Mammoth Mountain. A portion of the proceeds helps to fund the Far West Ski Association Athletic Scholarship Program for J1-J3 racers.


Adobe	Dynastar
Alpine Meadows	Ellis, Bob
Alta Ski Area	Fairmont Hotels and Resorts,
Arapahoe Basin	Banff Springs &
Banff	Chateau Lake Louise
Big Red Cats - Cat skiing	Footloose Sports Mammoth
Big 3 Canada (Banff Mt. Norquay,	Granite Chief
Lake Louise Ski Resort, and	Great Alaska Adventure
Sunshine Village)	Guided Fishing
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FWRA LEAGUE RACE CHAIRS / 2010 - 2011

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 E-mail: gofastdebi@yahoo.com

Singles League
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 Jeff McCabe (530) 550-7889
 E-mail: jeffmccabe2@sbcglobal.net

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 E-mail: andersonbloom@yahoo.com

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www.rokkracing.org
 Laura Preiss
 E-mail: rokkracers@aol.com

ULLR League
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 E-mail: ken.kawahara@verizon.net

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 Barbara Parshall (503) 267-9522
 E-mail: bparshall@equitygroup.com

ORANGE COUNCIL
Schuski League
www.orangecouncil.org
 Maxine Hanlon (714) 641-8513
 E-mail: maxch@prodigynet

SAN DIEGO COUNCIL
San Diego Alpine League
www.skisandiego.org
 Roy Akridge (858) 674-5666
 E-mail: akridge@cox.net

SIERRA COUNCIL
Sierra League
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 Jo Simpson (775) 787-7556
 E-mail: Jo_simpson@sbcglobal.net

- Keystone - photos by Ken Calkins



2010 - 2011 FWRA Race Schedule

by Bob Ellis, President, FWRA; VP-Racing, FWSA

DATE	FORMAT	LOCATION
Open League		
Dec. 12	Clinic	Northstar-at-Tahoe
Dec. 19	Clinic	Northstar-at-Tahoe
Jan. 8	GS	Northstar-at-Tahoe Race #1
Jan. 9	GS	Northstar-at-Tahoe Race #2
Feb. 5	Clinic (Slalom)	Squaw Valley
Feb. 6	SL	Squaw Valley Race #3
Feb. 12	SL	Alpine Meadows Race #4
Feb. 13	GS	Alpine Meadows Race #5
Mar. 5	SL	Sugar Bowl Race #6
Mar. 6	GS	Sugar Bowl Race #7 (MacT)
Mar. 18	NorCals - Clinic	Sugar Bowl
Mar. 19	SL	Sugar Bowl
Mar. 20	GS	Sugar Bowl
Rokka/ULLR Leagues (Schuski & San Diego - see ULLR League)		
Dec. 6-10	Rokka Ski & Race Week	Mammoth
Dec. 11	Rokka & ULLR 1 - GS	Mammoth
Dec. 13-17	LAC Ski, Board, & Race Week	Mammoth
Jan. 8	Rokka & ULLR 2 - SL	Mammoth
Feb. 26	Rokka & ULLR 3 - GS	Mammoth
Mar. 19	SoCals - GS	Mammoth
Mar. 20	SoCals - SL	Mammoth
Singles / Sierra League		
Jan. 8	GS	Alpine Meadows Race #1
Jan. 9	SL	Alpine Meadows Race #2
Feb. 5	SL	Sugar Bowl Race #3
Feb. 6	GS	Sugar Bowl Race #4
Feb. 12	SL	Squaw Valley Race #5
Feb. 13	GS	Squaw Valley Race #6
Feb. 26	TBD	Make-up Race - Resort TBD
Feb. 27	TBD	Make-up Race - Resort TBD
Mar. 5	Super G Clinic	Northstar-at-Tahoe
Mar. 6	Super G	Northstar-at-Tahoe Race #7
Mar. 12	GS	TBD - Race #8
Mar. 18	RACY AFFAIR - location TBD	Sugar Bowl
Mar. 19	NorCals - Clinic	Sugar Bowl
Mar. 20	SL	Sugar Bowl
Mar. 20	GS	Sugar Bowl
Pacrat League		
Jan. 9		Timberline
Jan. 23		Mt Hood Meadows
Feb. 7		Mt Hood Skibowl
Feb. 27		Timberline
Mar. 13		Mt Hood Meadows
All Leagues		
Jan. 3-7	1st Annual Snowmass Alpine Nationals - Aspen, CO (Qualifier GS, Slalom, GS)	
Jan. 22-29	FWSA Ski Week (Qualifier GS, GS, SL)	Sun Valley, ID
Apr. 1	FWRA Championships Clinics/Pacesetter Races	Alpine Meadows
Apr. 2	Championships-Slalom	Alpine Meadows
Apr. 3	Championships-GS	Alpine Meadows

Race dates subject to change.



League winners of the FWRA Championships at Mammoth for 2010 are honored at the Annual FWSA Convention. Picking up the plaques for their leagues are: Maxine Hanlon, Chair of Schuski Race League, Jeff McCabe, Chair of Singles Race League, and Laura Preiss, Chair of Rokka Race League.

- photo / Eric Van Pelt: Keystone racer by Ken Calkins.

League race camps not only can develop racing techniques, but also can improve recreational skiing or boarding abilities.

Snowmass Alpine Nationals

Aspen/Snowmass, CO

January 3–7, 2011

Race Package: \$190

Mon., Jan. 3 - Optional Clinics;
Race Registration - 7-9 pm

Tues., Jan. 4 - Racing &
Welcome Party

Wed., Jan. 5 - Racing Awards Banquet

Thurs., Jan. 6 - Skiing

Fri., Jan. 7—Skiing & Travel Day

Add-on package components include: race clinics; lift tickets; & lodging options

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The Far West Ski Association founded its Athletic Scholarship program in 2004 to provide financial assistance to deserving young ski racers. Applicants must be junior alpine ski racers licensed by the United States Ski Association (USSA) and participate in racing programs in the states represented by the councils of the FWSA. Scholarships are awarded based on financial need, academic performance, competitive achievement and community service. Additional information is available at the FWSA website - www.fwsa.org.

Last year's program helped 13 young athletes from Washington, Oregon, California and Nevada. All but two finished last season in the top ten in their year group in one or more disciplines. Most notable of these was *Kenny Wilson* from the Squaw Valley Race Team who finished in the top ten for all four disciplines. *Lila Lipanjan* from Diamond Peak and *Nicolo Monforte* from Squaw Valley had three top ten finishes. Continuing her winning ways, *Jordan Schweitzer*, from the Mt. Bachelor Race Team, not only was first in her year group in downhill, but also won the J-2 National Women's Championship.

This year, 34 athletes applied for scholarships. These include 19 junior women and 15 junior men from four western states. Seven are former scholarship recipients. Ninety percent have a 3.5 or better grade point average (GPA) with 12 having

Lila Lipanjan is from the Diamond Peak Race team. She is a J-2 racer and lives in Incline Village, NV.

The FWSA Athletic Scholarship Program

by **Richard Shawkey**
Athletic Scholarship Program Chair, FWSA

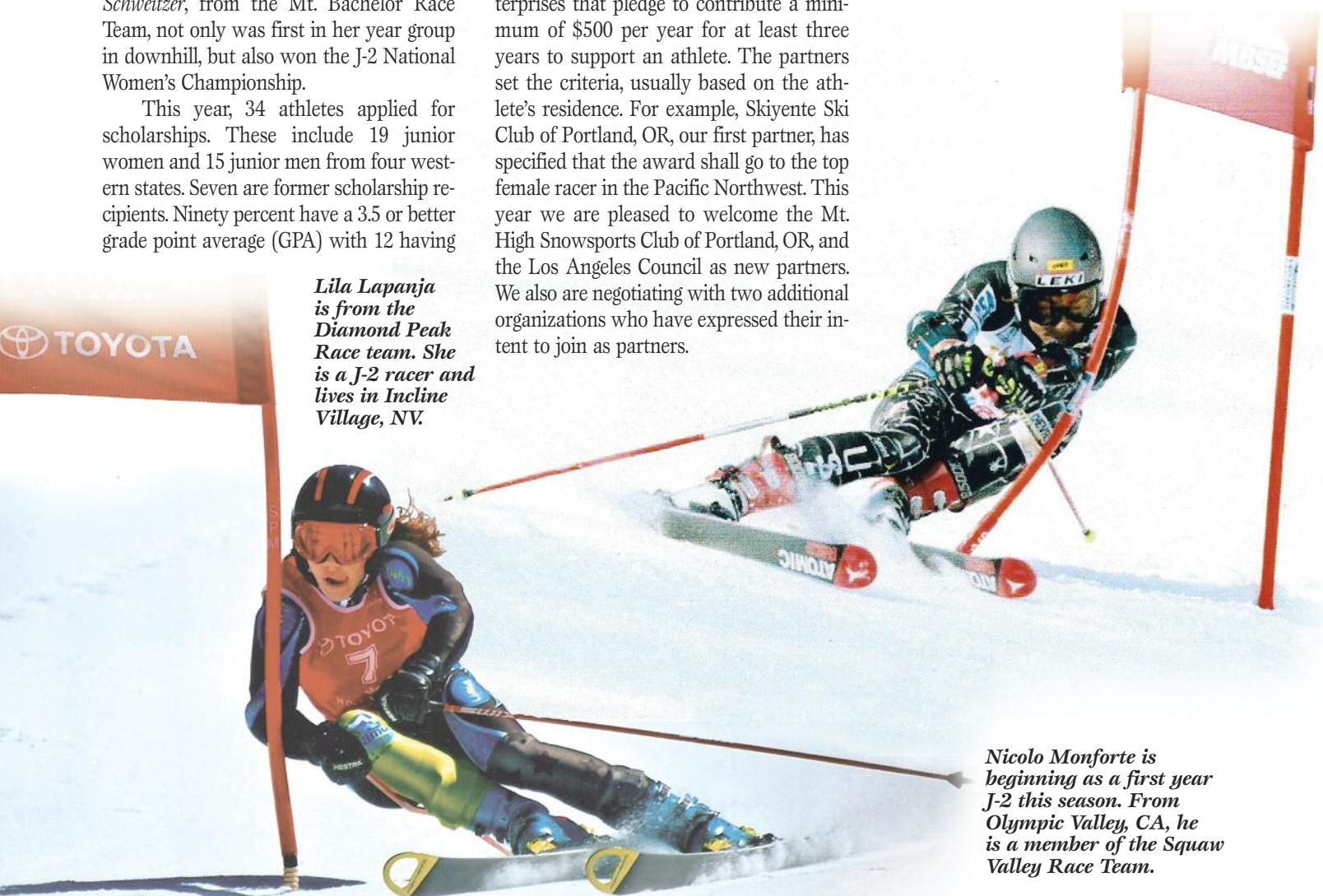
4.0s. Over 67 percent rank top twenty in one or more ski racing disciplines. We anticipate that the number of scholarships for the 2010 - 2011 season will increase to 15. Approximately 44 percent of the applicants will receive scholarships. Beginning with two recipients in 2004, the scholarship program has experienced consistent growth. Members of the Far West Ski Association take pride in the scholarship program and its contribution to junior ski racing. The FWSA looks forward to the day when it is able to support all the deserving scholar-athletes.

One of the program's greatest achievements in 2010 is the growth of the partnership program. Scholarship program partners are clubs, councils or commercial enterprises that pledge to contribute a minimum of \$500 per year for at least three years to support an athlete. The partners set the criteria, usually based on the athlete's residence. For example, Skiyente Ski Club of Portland, OR, our first partner, has specified that the award shall go to the top female racer in the Pacific Northwest. This year we are pleased to welcome the Mt. High Snowsports Club of Portland, OR, and the Los Angeles Council as new partners. We also are negotiating with two additional organizations who have expressed their intent to join as partners.

The FWSA Athletic Scholarship Program has greatly benefited from the generosity of its sponsors:

- **Canadian Mountain Holidays**
heli-skiing and heli-hiking at its best
- **Whitefish Mountain Resort**
a year around family fun destination
- **Grouse Mountain Lodge**
the premier choice in mountain resorts
- **Schure Sports Inc.**
maker of the Karbon brand of snowsports apparel
- **Far West Racing Association**
America's top recreational ski and snowboard racing venue.

We extend our sincere thanks to these sponsors for their continued support. ▲



Nicolo Monforte is beginning as a first year J-2 this season. From Olympic Valley, CA, he is a member of the Squaw Valley Race Team.

Far West Ski Foundation Announces Partnership Program

*Robb Margrave
Elected Trustee*

by John Watson
President, FWSF

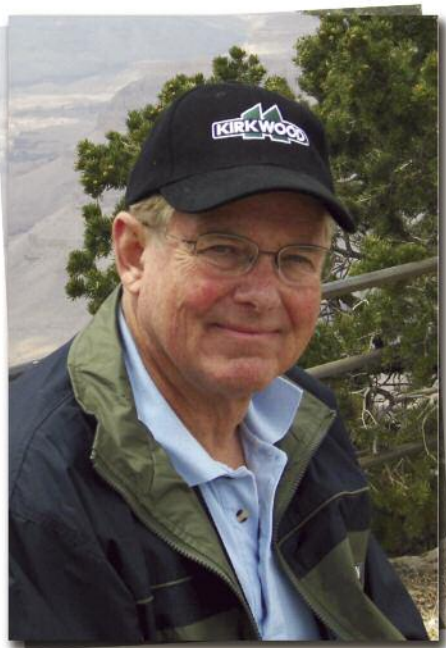


photo provided by Robb Margrave

The Foundation is building for the future on a proud snowsports legacy. In 2009, new Trustees were elected, and with re-statement of purposes, Far West Ski Foundation, a 501c3 organization under the IRS code, has rebounded to commence new roles in support of several categories of programs. These categories include supporting scholarships for Far West student-athletes aged 13-19, development of histories of skiing and preservation of printed and photographic materials for research and museums, adaptive snowsports for reanimation from injury, and certain issues which could affect the sustainability of snowsports.

The Trustees have made great progress in revitalizing the Foundation. A set of Trustees were elected who were familiar with the ski world but not consumed by responsibilities in other organizations. In July,

we elected *Robb Margrave* of Novato, California as a Trustee. Robb brings a broad range of ski world skills to FWSF, including his former role as the FWSA Scholarship Chairman, a position now held by *Dick Shawkey* of Arnold, California. Our re-stated Articles were approved by the California Secretary of State on March 26, 2010. Fed ID number is 94-1540125; our reporting is current thanks to our Treasurer, *John Reinhardt* of Portland.

We'd like to find funds for every scholarship applicant – they're that good. We are instituting an FWSF Partnership Program, mainly for individual donors, one option of which calls for a multi-year pledge. With the anticipated increase in taxes in 2010, now is the time to think about offsetting this increase with a countermeasure contribution. Pledge documents may be obtained from geospace@pacbell.net. In addition, we always welcome proposals from groups who can conduct fund raising

events for FWSF. Contributions are tax deductible within the limits of the law and code.

We also have an objective for historic preservation and recognition. There are resources out there that are 75 years old that need some form of electronic preservation. One example is the pair of 1940-1942 Western Ski Annuals, little soft covers that provide insight into the world of skiing in the Western USA. Additionally, there are some now fleeting opportunities to get photos of and interviews with the skiers of the 1940s and 1950s. These things belong in museums or in periodicals where students and the public can use them. They represent the legacy of skiing.

We welcome your contributions. Make your check payable to FWSF and send to *John Watson*, Box 2768, Fallbrook, CA 92088. Further information may be obtained by contacting fwsfpresident@gmail.com. ▲

We'd like to find funds for every scholarship applicant. They're that good!



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FWSA 2010 Convention Snowsports Celebrities, Multi-Media Show & FWSA Leadership Info Panel Sessions Delight & Inform Attendees

by **Scott Bowker**
Vice President - Public Affairs, FWSA



A Public Affairs panel including Doug Pfeiffer, Chuck Morse and Steve Reneker discussed different aspects of issues affecting snowsports. Convention photographs by Eric Van Pelt

The FWSA 2010 Convention Special Guests included **Steve Reneker** (climber/mountaineer who carried FWSA flags to the top of Mt. Everest in 1995 and CIO City of Riverside), **Billy Kidd** (1964 Olympic Slalom Silver Medalist); **Peter King** (General Counsel, Los Angeles City Attorney's Office), **Austin McInerney** (senior facilitator/mediator, natural resource/land-use planner, and public outreach specialist), **Chuck Morse** (former Executive Director - Far West Division USSA, former VP Marketing Snowbird, and former Western States Managing Director of Sales & Marketing Vail/Beaver Creek), **Doug Pfeiffer** (former *Skiing Magazine* Editor-In-Chief, and co-founder PSIA), **Walt Roessing** (ski and travel journalist formerly of *San Francisco Examiner* and *San Jose Mercury News*), and **Linda Whittle** (Can Do Multiple Sclerosis Center volunteer, and former coach US National Adaptive Ski Team).

THE MULTI-MEDIA SHOW

The Multi-media Show was a moving presentation by **Steve Reneker** about his climbing and mountaineering experiences. Steve is an avid climber/mountaineer who has climbed Mt Everest, Mt Elbrus in Russia, Mt Kilimanjaro in Tanzania, Africa, and many others. He has been a member of the National Ski Patrol for over 30 years; currently with Snow Summit. He is the chief information officer for the City of Riverside and Executive Director for SmartRiverside - a non-profit organization. As Steve said in an article in the 1995-1996 *Far West Skier's Guide* entitled "The Seventh Summit: The 1995 American Mt Everest

Expedition Becomes a Tribute to a Fallen Friend: "After high winds for nearly two months, a window of opportunity opened. On May 16, 1995, the Summit of Mt Everest was reached. I carried two extra items with me on this adventure: the ashes of my best friend, Dave Tollakson, which will rest forever on his Seventh Summit and Far West Ski Association banners, one of which flew in the wind for the thirty minutes we were there. FWSA has reached new heights. Dreams do come true. They're not always easy to achieve, there can be major set backs to overcome and you definitely have to work hard for them to become reality, but in the end, it's worth it."

The Leadership Info Panel Sessions included Public Affairs, Outstanding Club/Council Recognition Programs, plus two new Snowsports Leadership Academy sessions.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS PANELS

Scott Bowker (FWSA VP Public Affairs) led the Public Affairs sessions with guest speakers **Austin McInerney**, **Chuck Morse**, **Doug Pfeiffer**, and **Walt Roessing**. The wide ranging discussions covered the future of skiing, the impact of snowboarding, the effect of demographics, and the impact of economic downturns. The role of FWSA was also discussed, along with the US Ski & Snowboard Hall of Fame - selection process/future direction, snowsports media - getting its attention and communicating your message effectively, effective public advocacy and area development, environmental impact of resort development, More details, and other topics, are covered in the Public Affairs section appearing later in this issue.

RECOGNITION PROGRAMS

Steve Coxen (former FWSA President) and **Sigrid Noack** (FWSA Charities & Our Community Chair) led the Outstanding Club/Council Recognition Programs session about how to get the most out of these programs and take your club to the next level.

THE FWSA SNOWSPORT LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

The FWSA Snowsport Leadership Academy is in its third year as a major educational program for FWSA Convention attendees. More information highlighting this program can be found on page 35 of this issue.

Attendees all agreed that the panels and programs offered an abundant amount of information that they could take back to their clubs. ▲

FWSA Convention Industry Programs

by **Mary Olhausen**
Silent Auction & Travel Expo Chair, FWSA



If you are a ski club or council trip leader, or an individual snowsports enthusiast looking for a place to ski, board or travel, the Far West Ski Association Convention is the place to be! FWSA, in conjunction with its industry partners, provides a wonderful opportunity for delegates and guests at the Convention to dialogue with representatives from over 150 national and international ski resorts, tour operators and lodging properties. This program is unique to our Association.

The Friday evening Annual Silent Auction, celebrating its 25th year in 2010, provides the opportunity to visit with industry representatives at their booths, and bid on close to \$100,000 in snowsport and travel packages. The festive event, open to delegates, guests and the public, features a DJ for dancing and a hosted beverage at the Welcome Party. During the evening, Convention delegates sign up for appointments on their Passports for the Saturday morning Travel Expo. Door prizes



photos by Eric Van Pelt

are awarded at the end of the evening, drawn from the names of those delegates filling their Passports with appointments.

During the Travel Expo, delegates have the opportunity to meet on a one-to-one basis with the industry representatives, to plan a club or council trip or perhaps even a business or family trip. Each appointment is ten minutes long and each delegate rotates around the room to their scheduled appointments. Industry partners are prepared with detailed information and pricing to accommodate very large to very small groups. Many delegates learn about new and exciting places to visit at the Travel Expo. At the conclusion of the event, Passports signed by the industry representative at each appointment are placed into a prize drawing for the opportunity to win a Far West Ski Week package, plus many other prizes.

Industry representatives attending the FWSA Convention also participate in the many social events offered throughout the Convention weekend, so a bonus opportunity is provided to spend some quality time on an informal basis with the industry. Throughout the weekend, trips are planned and booked, and a wealth of information is provided for Convention delegates to take back to their clubs and councils. For complete information about the FWSA Convention industry programs, please contact *Mary Olhausen*, FWSA Silent Auction/Travel Expo Chair at 503-880-7383 or *omary52@comcast.net*. ▲



FWSA Councils' Man & Woman of the Year Program Recognizes Outstanding Volunteers!

by **Donn Bryant**
MWOY Program Chair

And, the 2010 winners are - Helen Harris and Jim Sommer.

Congratulations to FWSA Councils' Man of the Year, *Jim Sommer* of Sierra Ski Council and Woman of the Year, *Helen Harris* of San Diego Council. FWSA recognizes top volunteers from each council during the Councils' Man & Woman of the Year Recognition Program at the FWSA Annual Convention. Our councils honor dedicated men and women who have made significant contributions to organized skiing within their council over a multi-year skiing and ski organization career. These honorees have volunteered their time to support club, council, community service, race league, and FWSA efforts to enhance the skiing experience for our members.

The 2010 Council Honorees are:

<i>The Bay Area Snowsports Council</i>	<i>Nancy Ellis</i>	<i>Keith Oatney</i>
<i>Intermountain Ski Council</i>	<i>Linda Scott</i>	
<i>Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs</i>	<i>Judith Miller</i>	<i>John Dwight</i>
<i>Northwest Ski Club Council</i>	<i>Colleen Walter</i>	<i>Dave Rasmussen</i>
<i>Orange Council of Ski Clubs</i>	<i>Betty Bains</i>	<i>Jess Gorman</i>
<i>San Diego Ski Council</i>	<i>Helen Harris</i>	<i>Hobe Schroeder</i>
<i>Sierra Council / League</i>	<i>Beth Perryman</i>	<i>Jim Sommer</i>

A big "Thank You" to **Big White** and **Silver Star Ski Resorts** for their continuing support and sponsorship of the FWSA Councils' Man & Woman of the Year Program. Our winners were awarded a week-long ski vacation for two at Big White or Silver Star and each of the other council honorees received a weekend ski vacation for two to Big White and Silver Star! Program Chairman *Donn Bryant*, introduced the winners at the banquet. *Michael J. Ballingall*, Vice President and *Jim Lloyd*, Director of Sales, presented the winners with their plaques and trip certificates. ▲

FWSA 2010 Service Award Winners

Snowsports Builder Award -

Doug Pfeiffer, Co-Founder PSIA

Hans Georg Award - *Sigrid Noack*, FWSA Charities & Our Community Chair

Elizabeth 'Schatzi' Wood Award -

Gloria Raminha, FWSA VP of North American Travel

J. Stanley Mullin Award - *Richard Shawkey*, FWSA Athletic Scholarship Program Chair

Jimmie Heuga Award - *Linda Whittle*, Can Do MS Foundation

Jordan-Reily Award - *John Wentworth*, Mammoth Lakes Trails and Public Access Foundation

Bill Mackey Award, *Brian Flickinger*, Vail Resorts

Tommi Tyndall Award - *Mammoth Mountain*

Bill Berry Hard News Award - *Sylas Wright*, Sports Editor "Sierra Sun"

Bill Berry Featured News Award - *Mckay Jenkins*, Book "The Last Ridge - the Epic Story of America's First Mountain Soldier and the Assault on Hitler's Europe"

Warren Miller Modern Media Award - *Darin Talbot* and *Robert Frolich*, "Around Tahoe - Skiing & Snowboard Tour Guide"

President's Award Recipients:

Lindsey Vonn, US Ski Team

Jane Wyckoff, FWSA Convention Chair

Program Award Recipients:

Western Heritage Award - *Jane Jackson*, Arizona Skiing Historian

Safety Person of the Year - *Richard Rizk*, Northwest Ski Club Council

For information about the FWSA Service Awards program, contact *Catherine Ohl*, Awards Program Chair, at *ohl@acatmeowz.com*. ▲

Event Sponsors

78th Annual FWSA Convention

by **Debbi Kor**
VP of Marketing & Sponsorship

We extend our appreciation to the following sponsors of Far West Ski Association's 78th Annual Convention. Their generous support was a significant contribution to the financial success of this year's FWSA Convention. By offsetting Convention costs through the sponsorship program, we are able to offer a more comprehensive and informative program, and a more affordable delegate registration fee. Please include these industry partners in your travel plans for 2010 - 2011 and beyond.

Event	Sponsor	Website
Golf Tournament	Snowbasin, a Sun Valley Resort	www.snowbasin.com
Pub Crawl	Reno-Sparks Convention Visitor's Authority	www.visitrenotahoe.com
Spa Day	Snowmass Tourism	www.snowmassvillage.com
Pool Party	Mt. Bachelor Northwest Ski Club Council	www.mtbachelor.com www.nwskiers.org
Silent Auction DJ / FWSA Safety Person of Year	Aspen-Snowmass	www.aspensnowmass.com
Silent Auction Happy Hour	Ski Dazzle	www.skidazzle.com
Delegate Bags	Ski Oregon	www.skiorregon.org
Delegant Neck Wallets	Sun Valley Resort	www.sunvalley.com
Saturday Continental Breakfast	Mammoth Mountain	www.mammoth.com
Saturday Beverage Sponsor	Ski Banff - Lake Louise - Sunshine	www.skibig3.com
Saturday Luncheon	Vail Resorts (Vail, Beaver Creek, Breckenridge, Keystone, and Heavenly)	www.vailresorts.com
Multimedia Presentation	Mt. Bachelor Sun River Resort	www.mtbachelor.com www.sunriver-resort.com
Awards Banquet Band	Steamboat Ski & Resort Corporation	www.steamboat.com
Awards Banquet Beverage FWSA Western Ski Heritage	Ogden CVB & Partners	www.visitogden.com
Sunday Morning Coffee Service	Telluride Ski Resort	www.tellurideskiresort.com
Sunday Morning Brunch	Taos Ski Valley	www.skitaos.org
Councils' Man & Woman of the Year Competition	Big White Ski Resort / Silver Star Mountain Resort	www.bigwhite.com www.skisilverstar.com
FWSA Athletic Scholarship Program	Schure Sports USA Whitefish Mountain Resort Grouse Mountain Lodge Canadian Mountain Holidays	www.karbon.net www.skiiwhitefish.com www.grousemountainlodge.com www.canadianmountainholidays.com
Grand Prize Travel Expo	Far West Ski Association Travel Program	www.fwsa.org
Eye Opener	San Diego Council	www.skisandiego.org

Aava Hotel, BC, Canada
 Adventure Tours, CA
 Alaska/Horizon Airlines
 Alpine Meadows Ski Area, CA
 Alta Ski Resort, UT
 Alyeska Resort, AK
 Anchorage CVB, AK
 Arapahoe Basin, CO
 Aspen Skiing Company, CO
 Aspen/Snowmass, CO
 Aston Lakeland Village Resort, NV
 Atlantis Casino & Spa, NV
 Banff Lodging Company, AB, Canada
 Beaver Creek Resort, CO
 Betty Donellan, CA
 Beyond Rapture Day Spa, BC, Canada
 Big Sky Resort, MT
 Big White Ski Resort, BC, Canada
 Black Tie Ski Rentals, CO
 Breckenridge Resort, CO
 Brighton Ski Resort, UT
 Brian Head Ski Resort, UT
 Brundage Mountain Resort, ID
 Canyon Transportation, UT
 Capella Lodging, CO
 CMH Heliskiing, Canada
 Copper Mountain Resort, CO
 Country Inn & Suites, UT
 Crested Butte Mountain Resort, CO
 Crested Butte Mountain Properties, CO
 Custom Ski Escapes, CA
 Davis Area CVB, UT
 Deer Valley Resort, UT
 Destination Hotels & Resorts, CO
 El Dorado Ranch, Mexico
 El Monte Sagrado Resort & Spa, NM
 Fairmont Hotels & Resorts, AB, Canada
 Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel, AB, Canada
 Fernie/Kimberley Resorts, BC, Canada
 Forest Suites Resort, CA
 Grand Sierra Resort & Casino, NV
 Fraser Crossing/Founders Pointe, CO
 Grouse Mountain Lodge, MT
 Heavenly Mountain Ski Resort, CA
 Heavenly Tahoe Vacations, CA
 Hilton Garden Inn, UT
 Holiday River Expeditions, UT
 Holiday Ski Tours, NJ
 Homewood Mountain Resort, CA
 Jackson Hole Mountain Resort, WY
 Jackson Hole Resort Lodging, WY
 Juniper Springs Resort, CA
 Kandahar Lodge at Whitefish, MT
 Keystone Resort, CO
 Kirkwood Mountain Resort, CA

2010 Silent Auction & Travel Expo Participants

by Mary Olhausen and Debbi Kor

Silent Auction Coordinator and Vice-President, Marketing respectively, FWSA

The Far West Ski Association and San Diego Council of Ski Clubs extend their appreciation and sincere gratitude to the 25th Annual Silent Auction and Travel Expo participants. The success of this event is made possible by the continued support from our industry partners to the efforts of our Association. Please include these industry partners in your travel plans for 2010-2011.

The support from our Industry Partners continues to grow. In 2011, we look forward to the 26th Annual Silent Auction and Travel Expo at the 79th Annual FWSA Convention in Industry Hills, CA.

LaPosada Santa Fe Resort, NM
Lakeside Resort Properties, UT
Madrona Manor, CA
Mammoth Mountain Ski Area, CA
Miracle Springs Resort, CA
Mountain Resorts, CO
Mt. Bachelor Ski Resort, OR
Mt. Rose - Ski Tahoe, NV
Nancy Green's Cahilty Lodge, BC, Canada
Northstar-at-Tahoe/Sierra-at-Tahoe Resorts, CA
Ogden Comfort Suites, UT
Ogden Convention Visitors Bureau, UT
Ogden Hampton Inn & Suites, UT
Pacific Coach Lines, BC, Canada
Pangwitch Lake Resorts, UT
Panorama Ski Resort, BC, Canada
Park City Mountain Resort, UT
Park City Peaks Hotel, UT
Park City Transportation, UT
Peppermill Resort/Casino, NV
Powder Mountain Ski Resort, UT
Red Mountain Resort, BC, Canada
Red Mountain Resort Lodging, BC, Canada
Renaissance Esmeralda Resort, CA
Reno Sparks Convention Visitors Authority, NV
Resort at Squaw Creek, CA
Resorts of the Canadian Rockies, BC, Canada
Rocky Mountain Tours, CO
Schweitzer Mountain Resort, ID
Sego Lily Spa, UT
Selkirk Lodge, ID
Shore Lodge, ID
Sierra at Tahoe, CA
Silver Legacy Casino, NV
Silver Star Resort, BC, Canada

Silverado Lodge, UT
Ski Banff-Lake Louise-Sunshine, AB, Canada
SKICOM, CO
Ski Dazzle, CA
Ski Group.Net, CA
Ski Oregon, OR
Ski Santa Fe, NM
Snakedance Condominiums, NM
Snow Tours, NJ
Snowbasin Ski Resort, UT
Snowbird Ski & Summer Resort, UT
Snowmass Ski Resort, CO
Snowmass Tourism, CO
Solitude Ski Resort, UT
Sports America Tours, CA
Steamboat Ski & Resort Corp., CO
Stonebridge Inn, CO
Sunriver Resort, OR
Sun Peaks, BC, Canada
Sun Valley Resort, ID
Tahoe Resort Village Property, CA
Taos Ski Valley, NM
Telluride Ski & Golf, CO
The Canyons Resort, UT
The Crestwood, CO
The Cliff Lodge, UT
The Gant, CO
The Grand Lodge at Brian Head, UT
The Huntley Lodge, MT
The Lodge at Brian Head, UT
The Riverhouse Resort, OR
Timberline Condominiums, CO
Trickle Creek Inn, BC, Canada
Vail Resorts, CO
Whistler/Blackcomb, BC, Canada
Whitefish Mountain Resort, MT
Winter Park Ski Resort, CO
Wolf's Den Lodge, BC, Canada ▲



Charity Banker and Patrick Rothe from Telluride Mountain Resort receive their 25 year participation certificate from Mary Olhausen. - photo / Eric Van Pelt

2010 FWSA Travel Expo/Silent Auction Participation Milestones

- Indian Wells Convention -

5 Year Award

Destination Hotels - Vail
Red Property Management
Rocky Mountain Tours
The Crestwood Condominiums

10 Year Award

Betty Donellan-Sengeance
Fernie - Kimberley
Snowbasin
Sugar Bowl
USARC

15 Year Award

Fairmont Lake Louise
Forest Suites

20 Year Award

Sunriver Resort

25 Year Award

Mt. Bachelor
Northstar-at-Tahoe
Park City Mountain Resort
Steamboat Ski & Resort Corp.
Telluride Ski & Golf

2010 Convention Door Prize Donors

Big Sky
Forest Suites
Mt. Bachelor
Northstar-at-Tahoe
Omeez Boot Toppers
Schweitzer Mountain Resort
Squaw Valley USA
Steamboat Ski & Resort Corp
Sugar Bowl
Whistler Blackcomb
Zero Gloves



Brian Flickinger Receives Bill Mackey Award by Mike & Eileen Sanford

Brian Flickinger, National Group Sales Manager for Vail Resorts Corporation, received the Far West Ski Association's Bill Mackey Award for outstanding service to the skiing public by a ski area employee. The award was presented at the Annual FWSA Convention in Indian Wells.

Vail Resorts is one of the oldest patrons of the FWSA's Silent Auction program, and since assuming the position of National Group Sales Manager in 2005, Brian has ensured their continued participation at a very high level. He also ensured the area he represented remained among the most generous in support of FWSA, its councils and recreational ski programs in general. Vail Resorts annually participates in the Convention Sponsorship program. He personally visits many council and club events and outings, and provides sponsorships and donations in support of their programs. He has done a tremendous job for FWSA and its councils in its ski programs. Under his leadership, FWSA produced the highly successful Ski Week 2010 at Keystone, Colorado. "Flick" has enthusiastically embraced the concept of partnering with FWSA in support of mutual goals and has become a great supporter of its future.

Brian has also become a very vigorous supporter of the recreational skiing across the country, expanding his support to include an active participation with the National Ski Council Federation (NSCF), of which FWSA and its councils are active members. Like Bill Mackey, his love of the mountains and support of skiing is an inspiration to us all. ▲



The FWSA Tommi Tydall Award was presented to Mammoth Mountain. Laura Kennedy receives the plaque from Randy Lew and Dick Kum.

Mammoth Mountain Recognized with Tommi Tyndall Award

by Gene Fulkerson & Catherine Ohl

Mammoth Mountain received the Far West Ski Association's Tommi Tyndall Award, presented to a ski area who has made a distinguished contribution to skiing. Accepting the Award at the 78th Annual FWSA Convention in Indian Wells on behalf of Mammoth Mountain, was Laura Kennedy, Regional Sales Manager.

The Far West ski clubs have a long-standing relationship with Mammoth Mountain. Mammoth is where the Los Angeles, Orange, San Diego and Inland Councils continue to hold their four to eight yearly club, league and council ski races. Mammoth hosted the Far West Championships for many years, and again in 2008 and 2010. For more than 10 years, Mammoth has hosted a "Skier's Appreciation Weekend" for all ski club members. This annual "Thank You" event has evolved over the years with each year being a bit bigger and better than the last. This event is not just limited to the "local" ski clubs. Ski clubs throughout the nation are also welcome and invited to attend.

Mammoth has participated in the FWSA Silent Auction and Travel Expo programs for more than 20 years. Over the years, they have jumped on board to sponsor and donate to FWSA, council and club events. Their donations and continued support go back more than 50 years. Mammoth continually gives back to its local community. Mammoth set up a foundation to first raise money for a high school, then for a college and recently for a ski museum.

The 11,053' Mammoth Mountain dominates the Eastern Sierra skyline and the minds and hearts of its die-hard fans and weekend warriors. Major improvements in recent years have made the on-mountain experience unmatched. Trendsetting season pass deals have helped re-affirm Mammoth's status as a world-class mountain with something for everyone. ▲

FWSA Recognizes Clubs with Over 50 Years of Service

**by John Watson
History Chair, FWSA**

Many clubs within the Far West Ski Association have a surprisingly long history of service to members and their community. The Association launched in 2010 a program to recognize clubs and councils with over 50 years of service as "Historic Ski Clubs." Startup dates appear to have been in waves: the 1930s on the West Coast, post World War II in the 1940s, and then the recreational bloom associated with the 1960 Olympics at Squaw Valley. A club desiring such designation must request it by letter accompanied by an executive summary of its history of operations and providing proof of existence prior to 1960. Incorporation is not required. The rolls are always open for further requests for designation. Seven clubs were recognized with historic designation at the annual meeting in June, 2010.

■ **Cheyenne Ski Club**, Cheyenne, Wyoming Organized 1959, but precursor Happy Jack SC existed as early as 1947

■ **Fresno Ski Club**, Fresno, California Organized 1934, Incorporated 1937

■ **Grindelwald Ski Club**, Los Angeles, California - Organized 1949

■ **Longview Ski Club**, Longview, Washington - Organized 1936

■ **Sequoia Ski Club**, Visalia, California Organized 1935

■ **Single Ski Club of Los Angeles**, California - Organized 1960, Incorporated 1961

■ **Skijente Ski Club**, Portland, Oregon Organized 1955 from an existing all-women's club ▲

FWSA History Committee Meeting Held at Convention

The FWSA History Committee met on Friday at the FWSA Convention. The committee's focus is to ensure the rich history of the development of snowsports in the western U.S. and the contributions to it by the FWSA are recognized and preserved. Discussions included a review of the FWSA Club & Council History recognition program, FWSA Historic Ski Club program effective history interview questions and resources for digitizing historical video footage. If you are interested in joining the committee and/or writing history articles, please contact John Watson at geospace@pacbell.net as membership is open to anyone. ▲

FWSA Club History Recognition - 2010 - F R E S N O S K I C L U B -

by John Watson
History Chair, FWSA

The purpose of the FWSA Club & Council History Recognition is to capture historical information about snowsports from the participants' perspective and especially that of the club participant. The winner receives \$200 to be donated in the winner's name to the charity of their choice.

Founded in 1934 and incorporated in 1937, the Fresno Ski Club is one of the nation's oldest incorporated ski clubs. The club has reinvented itself, revolving with the ski industry and changing demographics of skiing and snowboarding, evolving into a vibrant, active social and recreational organization during eight decades of our existence. Fresno Ski Club, Inc. continues to be a solid, well managed organization for its members and a reliable Association member.

The club traces its origins to the early development days of our local ski resorts, Badger Pass and China Peak/Sierra Summit. The Central Valley geographic area was home to many people of Scandinavian heritage. The snowy western slopes of the

High Sierras offered a perfect opportunity to introduce the sport of alpine skiing, cross country skiing and snow shoeing to the community. In the 1930's, 40's and 50's, club activities focused on ski racing for skill development. During the 50's the club evolved its interest in ski safety by establishing an all volunteer ski patrol, the "Fresno Ski Patrol" and developed standardized testing to assess and rank a skier's skills and abilities. These early tests became a precursor to the battery of assessment tools used by today's National Ski Patrol.

Over the years, the Fresno Ski Club has adjusted its menu of skiing, off-season recreational and social activities, and thus reinventing itself to meet its constantly changing membership profile and enthusi-

asms. Three times since the 1960's, the club experienced a decline of membership numbers. Responding accordingly, the club was resourceful in its rejuvenation. Strategies were identified to recruit and retain new members. Additional events and activities were added. Traditional functions were adjusted to meet emerging interests.

The club currently offers a full calendar of pre-season, seasonal and off-season recreational and social activities that are designed to meet the interests and varying abilities of its members - be it ski and snowboard skills, member time and/or budget abilities. Today, the club has a stable base of 211 members, of which many are long standing. Annually, the club takes upwards of 300 members on ski trips to local and nationally recognized destination resorts. Plus, just as many members put-on-the-ritz to attend their numerous social and fundraising activities. Another 250 members participate in off-season activities ranging from day hikes and water ski ventures, to weekend wine tours. Evening meetings for the general membership are well attended, averaging 55-60 members. There is always something for each member. ▲



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Richard Rizk of Beaverton, Oregon is a member of the Cascade Ski Club in the Northwest Ski Club Council (NWSCC). He developed a winter safety speaker awareness series which addressed winter driving, terrain park safety, ski risks and the law, and ski patrol advice. Richard also contributed significantly to the development the NWSCC P.I.E. (Prepared Informed Ecological) Campaign which addresses safety issues. He spearheaded an influenza awareness initiative for Cascade Ski Club and NWSCC. Richard recently completed a 17 session backcountry ski safety course which included avalanche training. He also has First Aid and CPR training.

Richard has taught boating rescue and safety techniques as a YMCA camp boating instructor and performed search and rescue in lakes and pools as a YMCA lifeguard. As a Special Olympics Coach with physician supervision, he regularly monitored downs syndrome participants for medication and safety compliance. He has worked with commercial insureds to develop strategies for making workplaces safer. From an environmental safety perspective as an Environmental Claim Supervisor, Richard authorized and directed the clean up of some of the nation's most contaminated

sites. He also advocates for safer play areas for children.

Professionally, for over 20 years, Richard Rizk has resolved insurance claims. He has worked within insurance companies, for insurance companies and for the past nine years, he represented those with claims against insurance companies. He has resolved disability, injury, environmental and property damage claims of all sizes in many states.

Richard was president of Cascade Ski Club from 2004-2008, is now Vice President of the Northwest Ski Club Council; and is nominated for Northwest Ski Club Council

Richard Rizk Earns FWSA Safety Person of the Year 2010 Award

Sponsored by Aspen Skiing Company

by Richard Lubin, D.C.

The Snowboarding Chiropractor, FWSA Safety Chair



President. Richard lives in Beaverton, Oregon. He enjoys downhill, backcountry and cross country skiing on and around Mount Hood.

The winner of the FWSA Safety Person of the Year Award receives a six day vacation for two from *Aspen Skiing Company* including six-day lift tickets for all four mountains (Ajax, Aspen Highlands, Buttermilk and Snowmass), six days of rentals and a half day group lesson for two. In addition, the winner receives seven nights lodging provided by *The Crestwood Condominiums* and *The Gant* plus round trip air. ▲

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Jane Jackson Wins 2010 Steamboat Western Ski Heritage Award

Explores Early Days of Skiing in Northern Arizona

by John Watson
History Chair, FWSA

Jane Jackson has conducted historical research since 2005 into the early days of skiing in Northern Arizona. Records show that pioneers were skiing as early as 1915. Her work has been published in the *Journal of Arizona History* and her work is continuing. This will include the production of a 45-minute documentary entitled *Echoes of the Peaks, an Early History of Skiing in Northern Arizona*. She is also a Ski Patroller at Arizona Snow Bowl in Flagstaff.

Jackson's work has entailed over 20 taped and transcribed interviews with early skiers and their descendants, acquisi-



Scissorbill Park, circa 1936. Arizona Snowbowl Resort dates from 1938.

"In addition to preserving history, my current film project, as well as my article and the various public presentations, address the need to save the memory of Flagstaff's ski pioneers. Seven of the men I interviewed began skiing in Flagstaff before Arizona Snowbowl existed. Their stories are unrecorded until now: stories of Flagstaff winter sport activities since 1930, the log lodge at Snowbowl built by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1940s, the first private owner of the facilities in 1946, cutting trails and building today's Agassiz Lodge in the 1950s. These anecdotes give listeners the feel of the camaraderie in the ski community and nostalgia for those days past when skiing was new and fresh and every day was an adventure." - Jane Jackson

tion of over 200 early photographs from the Jimmie Nunn collection and others, examination of local Flagstaff newspapers and university publications, Forest Service

inspection reports 1948-51 on Arizona Snowbowl from the Cline Library collections at Northern Arizona University, and USFS maps from 1939 and the 1950s. ▲



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The Association's Snowsports Builder Award is made to a person or persons who have made an indelible positive impact on snowsports. The builder honored may be for achievements in athletics, the press, publishers, historians, industry, humanitarian work, area development, technology; in short, for any indelible contribution to snowsports. Doug Pfeiffer has made such an indelible contribution to snowsports as a teacher, innovator and integrator of many facets of snowsports over the past six decades.

In December of 1998, *Skiing Magazine* fittingly included him among the 25 most influential people in skiing during the last 50 years. Quite a tribute, to add to his inclusion as an Honored Member of the USA National Ski Hall of Fame, and his receiving of the North American Snowsport Journalist Association's Golden Quill Award. He has also been inducted into the Canadian Ski Hall of Fame as one of the sport's great innovators. In the fall of 1999, *SKI Magazine* included him among the 100 most influential skiers of the century.

Early on, he wanted nothing more than to be a ski instructor and his teaching career dates back to 1946 in his native Canada. He emigrated in 1951 to Squaw Valley to instruct under Emile Allais. He then, came to South-

Snowsports Builder Award - 2010

Doug Pfeiffer,
Big Bear Lake, California

by John Watson
History Chair, FWSA

ern California and joined Tommi Tyndall at Snow Summit in 1953. His relationship with Snow Summit extends to this day.

He also helped grow the skier base by teaching dry land classes on carpets in gymnasiums, on shaved ice, pine needles, and just grass in many parks of Southern California. *"Over a period of several weeks, we even taught almost 500 military personnel on the sand dunes at the Naval Ordinance Test Station at China Lake."* That was when he and Tyndall were attempting to build a skier base for a resort they had hoped to develop near Onion Valley in the Inyo Basin just west of Independence, California.

On the basis of his experience in several instructors organizations over a decade, he integrated this experience into the concept of a national instruction organization. Pfeiffer served as an examiner for many years and in 1961-62 as President of the Far West Ski In-



structors Association. This affiliation led to co-founding with Bill Lash and five others the Professional Ski Instructors of America, an association now numbering over 26,000 ski teachers across the USA. Always an avid student of serious ski technique, yet he advocated that learning must be helped with a large helping of fun. He introduced many improvements and refinements to ski teaching methods and techniques. He cites as some of his contributions such actions and phrases as: hockey stop; edge control; control by pressure on front, middle, and/or tail of skis; anticipation, tip-thrust, differential edging, and a whole host of phrases related to freestyle skiing moves. PSIA now provides certification in snowboarding and adaptive skiing. Doug is certified to instruct snowboarding.

Doug has had several careers running sequentially, as well as, concurrently. For over ten years from 1962 to the late 1970s, he published several ski-related magazines. Doug shifted course in 1963 to become National Editor of *Skiing Magazine*. In 1966, as editor in chief of it and several other related magazines, he led it and its several associated ski publications through a decade of innovative journalism, pioneering in graphic presentations of new developments in ski technique, in objective testing of each year's new skis and in the selection and encouragement of skilled ski journalists like John Jerome, John Henry Auran, and Al Greenberg. He and his staff were one of the main forces in raising ski journalism to a polished professional level in the 1960s and 1970s.

His reading of Dr. Fritz Reuel's ("royal") 1929 book *"New Possibilities in Skiing"* led him to experiment with trick skiing during the course of which he invented some of the basic ballet freestyle moves in use until quite recently. His basic competition format, with the exception of ballet skiing, has gone on to become a Winter Olympic gold medal sport. He and Tommy Corcoran basically invented freestyle skiing at Waterville Valley in 1971. He is considered the "Father of Freestyle Skiing."

Integrating his many backgrounds in skiing, he founded the International Ski History Association in 1991. ▲

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Snowsports Leadership Academy Certification Program a Success!

by Diane Stearley, Chair - Snowsports Leadership Academy

The Snowsports Leadership Academy sessions at the 2010 FWSA Convention in Indian Wells were well attended and received high marks on the Exit Survey/Evaluation Form distributed to attendees and collected at the end of each session. These forms have proven very helpful in garnering ideas for upcoming education classes. Personalized course certificates were issued at the completion of each session.

Norm Azevedo (FWSA VP International Travel), **Barbara Bryant** (former FWSA VP Membership), and **David Krupp** (Past Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs President and current FWSA VP Membership) led the Snowsports Leadership Academy “**Overview: Membership & Travel Wise – Smart Tips for Trips**” session. It was an excellent overview of several previous presentations. Topics included a Snowsports Leadership Academy overview, as well as understanding the travel process. Travel topics included potential participants, trip selection RFPs, con-

tracts, vendor selection, liabilities, trip insurance, seller of travel/certification, accounting/pricing, communication to participants, airline ticketing, baggage policies, waivers, code of conduct, and other trip leader guidelines and useful documents.

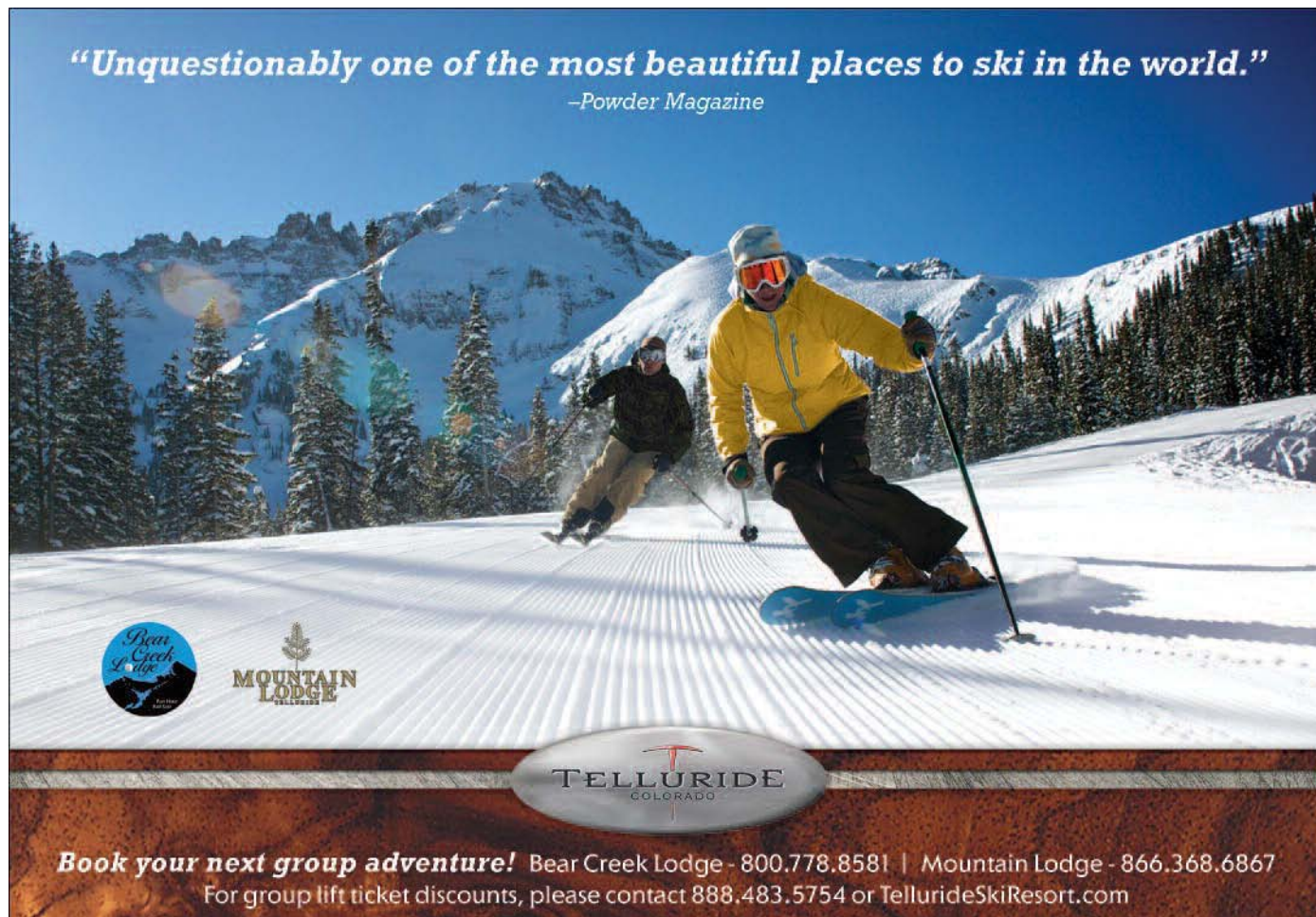
Peter King (General Counsel, Los Angeles City Attorney’s Office) and **Linda Coxen** (CPA and former Northwest Ski Club Council Treasurer) led the Snowsports Leadership Academy “**Ethics – Doing the Right Thing**” session. A highly informative and timely presentation, topics included codes of conduct, personal conduct, conflict of interest issues, embezzlement issues, articles of incorporation/ bylaws/standing rules, FAM trips, sponsorships and contributions. It was an audience interactive session in which real life scenarios were presented to help members brainstorm about situations that do or might present a problem in their clubs.

Sheri Parshall (Northwest Ski Club

Council President) and **Becki Robinson** (Altair Ski Club Communications) led the Snowsports Leadership Academy “**Tech Works – Using Social Media to Build Your Club**” session. Topics included effective use of social media tools such as Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Meetup, Evite, Constant Contact, Survey Monkey, and much, much more. The session was not only an outstanding presentation of social media tools, but also a lively interactive one, as not all participants agreed on the use and value of some of these new methods of communication.

The overall consensus of the survey was that the Snowsports Leadership Academy program is a huge success and the members are looking forward to more education topics and a repeat of past presentations in the future. The next two sessions currently planned for the 2011 FWSA Convention are “**How to Build Your Club through Racing**” and “**Your Personal Ski Equipment**”. The past session presentation is still being considered.

I look forward to working with FWSA in expanding the scope and vision of this very successful and valuable program and ramping it up to the next level. ▲▲



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Convention 2011 - Making History -

City of Industry, California
June 9-12, 2011

by Cindy Krupp

LAC FWSA Convention Publicity Coordinator

Once again, Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs is excited to host the 79th Annual Far West Ski Association Convention, which will take place June 9-12, 2011 when we plan on "Making History" with a week-end filled with celebration, recognition, development, and...oh yeah, some business, too!

The Convention will be held at the Pacific Palms Hotel and Conference Center in Industry Hills, located just 25 minutes from downtown Los Angeles. Recently renovated, the Pacific Palms will be practically ours with 292 oversized rooms, each with a balcony. The resort offers a variety of food and beverage options including fire-side dining and cocktail seating on the patio overlooking Celebration Lake. The resort is centrally located between the major airports in the L.A. area: LAX, Ontario, Burbank, Long Beach and John Wayne. There are no resort fees. Parking is complimentary.

Pacific Palms is proud to boast its 36 hole championship golf course which just received a multi-million dollar makeover (*I know, it's so L.A.!*) If that's not your speed, how about The Spa at Pacific Palms which offers a tranquil setting and unique treatments tailored for your customized experience. The fitness center and wireless internet service are complimentary. In addition, the hilltop oasis pool and sauna offer views of the city like you've never seen before.

Please check www.fwsa.org for pricing. When making your reservation, call **800.524.4557**. Use the group name **Far West Ski Association**. Alternatively, you can make reservations online through the FWSA/Pacific Palms Convention Reservation website located at www.pacificpalmsresort.com/FWSAlogin.htm. (Login -

fwsa / Password - **2011**) The Pacific Palms Hotel & Conference Center website is located at www.pacificpalmsresortUSA.com.

The 5th Annual Michael German Golf Tournament will be conveniently held on the Babe Zaharias Course at the Industry Hills Golf Club at Pacific Palms, one of California's most historic and noteworthy golf facilities. The Industry Hills Golf Club at Pacific Palms was named "2010 Golf Course of the Year" by the National Golf Course Owners Association. Just in case you didn't catch the hint earlier, it's where the extreme makeover took place. Breakfast and Bar-B-Que lunch will be served. We're planning additional fun and frolic with optional activities including a Pub Crawl, Pacific Palms Spa Day, San Antonio Winery Tour, The Huntington Art Collection and Botanical Gardens visit, and a Pool Party.

Bring your friends to the Silent Auction and Dance on Friday night where you'll find great deals on ski packages. Door prizes and special give-a-ways are yours for the taking. There is no admission charge and the event includes a complimentary drink. And, if you don't get to chat with industry representatives that night, don't worry! You'll get a second chance at the Travel Expo on Saturday

where over 100 resort representatives and tour operators will be there to answer questions on how to plan your group's next trip. Snowsport celebrities will be featured at the afternoon Multi-Media Presentation, and special historical presentations about Hollywood and local skiing legends will be made throughout the weekend.

This year's FWSA Snowsports Leadership Academy promises again to offer valuable information to take back to your councils and clubs. Topics will include building membership through racing and personal equipment and revisiting the subject of what to do when you take the position of an officer in your club. You won't want to miss it!

Saturday night is when we let our hair down...or rather I should say when we put it up! The Awards Banquet and Dance is our excuse to get spruced up. Volunteer and industry recognition awards will be presented during the evening. Put your dancing shoes on and be ready to have a great time!

And of course, it wouldn't be a FWSA Convention if we didn't take care of business. Officers will be elected on Sunday. If you want your club's voice to be heard, it's through your choice! Contact **David Krupp**, Host Council Convention Chairman at david.krupp@roadrunner.com for additional



Red Lake, Guest Pool, sample guest room

information. Industry partners can contact Debbi Kor, VP of Marketing at fwsadebbi@comcast.net.

Registration materials will be distributed early in 2011 by clubs and councils. They will also be made available at www.fwsa.org. We invite you to come on down, and join us in Making History at our 79th Annual Convention! ▲



- photos courtesy of the Pacific Palms Hotel & Conference Center



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Password - 2011)

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The new owners of Panorama Mountain Village have plans to develop the resort into one of the best family-focused mountain resorts in Canada. It has developed a gladed area, new black diamond terrain will be opening this year, and it is increasing the night skiing terrain. And, that is just for starters! Keep an eye on their development. - photo / Panorama Mountain Village, BC

PUBLIC AFFAIRS: 2010 UPDATE

By Scott Bowker

Vice President - Public Affairs, FWSA

The Far West Ski Association (FWSA) www.fwsa.org is a non-profit, volunteer organization with a wide range of programs. Many people are familiar with our programs such as travel, membership and councils. An area of interest that is becoming much more well known is the Public Affairs area. FWSA, as the Association for organized recreational skiers in the western states of Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, New Mexico, Nevada, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming is the umbrella organization for approximately 11 regional councils, 180 ski clubs, with over 50,000 recreational skiers and snowboarders representing countless visits to ski areas in the United States. Additionally, FWSA has about 150 supplier donor partners who provide equipment, goods, and services for the advancement of organized recreational skiing/snowboarding and competition. FWSA is also a member of the National Ski Council Federation (NSCF) www.skifederation.org, an organization with 29 regional councils and about 330,000 recreational snowsports enthusiasts nationwide. As the "Voice of the Western Skier", FWSA has been very active in a whole host of areas that affect ski area development, safety, volunteer liability, transportation, taxation, ski history, and consumer advocacy.

The Public Affairs portfolio of programs

is designed to present to the outside world the positions of the FWSA. A wide variety of subjects interest the membership. Topics such as airline luggage rules, reduced prices for season passes, news about ski country direct flights and the ever-increasing tendency of areas to develop along the lines of the European ski village environment are of interest to the membership. Also, we attempt to better educate our members in areas such as the impact of changing demographics and the need for increased diversity, snowsports industry efforts like the Model for Growth to address trial and retention, regulatory efforts to modernize state ski laws similar to the Colorado model, expanding snowmaking capabilities, the development of e-commerce in the snowsports industry, resort developments focused on consumer tendencies, the analysis paralysis forced on the Forest Service in resort development, and the need to meet a visiting family's variation in ages and interests.

In summary, the width and depth of the FWSA Public Affairs program is significant and the FWSA is committed to do its part in communicating issues and educating its membership on the wide and interesting variety of Public Affairs topics. Of most significant importance over the last year has been our involvement in area development, consumer advocacy, safety, transportation and history.

We strongly encourage you to get in-

involved now in the issues that affect you by writing letters/emails to appropriate government officials, newspaper editors, and other key influencers, attending public meetings, and sharing your views with others in a wide variety of situations including on the chairlift. To stay informed about relevant issues, visit www.fwsa.org and subscribe to the FWSA News (monthly electronic newsletter).

Area Development

The most prominent topic in Public Affairs is area development, which covers ski area expansion and enhancement, proposed new areas, and the preservation of potential areas for future skiing or recreational use. Action in this arena affects all snowsports enthusiasts; has long-term implications; requires unified regional action; involves the ski industry with us; and can be exasperatingly tedious and drawn-out, as well as very costly. Generally, the Association must deal with county, city and even state governments, the US Forest Service, community organizations, area operators or permittees, and an ever-changing spectrum of organizations interested in protection of the environment.

The Council on Environmental Quality has been working to modify the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) as appropriate to reduce process gridlock. To further improve the expensive and time consuming NEPA, the National Ski Areas Association (NSAA) has suggested categorical exclusions for certain on-mountain activities such as lift replacements following the same alignment, additional snowmaking on trails that are al-

ready treated with man-made snow and use of existing service roads and trails for new uses like mountain biking.

We maintain an active network of “issue watchers” in strategic areas of the western states. There are currently several expansion issues we are keeping close watch on such as the Arizona Snowbowl, AZ; Mt Hood Meadows, OR; Summit at Snoqualmie Pass, WA; and White Pass Ski Area, WA as well as logging issues such as Forests with a Future. We have been aggressively involved in letter writing campaigns to ensure “the Voice of the Western Skier” is heard as an even handed proponent for rational development.

In addition to specific expansion issues, we are strong supporters of responsible resort management and have endorsed the NSAA “Environmental Charter” and the “Sustainable Slopes” initiative.

▲ **Keep Winter Cool** www.keepwintercool.org, a joint effort of NRDC (Natural Resources Defense Council) and NSAA (National Ski Areas Association) launched in 2003 continued its eighth season as part of the NSAA Sustainable Slopes initiative. One example of this initiative is that 68 resorts are buying renewable energy credits to offset all or part of their operational energy use of which 34 are offsetting 100% of their energy use.

▲ **NSAA Environmental Charter** is currently endorsed by more than 190 U.S. resorts representing over 75% of skier visits plus partnering organizations and participating organizations. 2010 marks the 10th anniversary of the Sustainable Slopes initiative launched in 2001. www.nsaa.org/nsaa/environment/

Area Development Update

▲ **Chairlift Installations.** Western planned chairlift installations 2010. **CA:** *Heavily* - Galaxy Express high speed quad. **CO:** *Arapahoe Basin* - Black Mountain Express high speed; Vail - High Noon Express high speed quad. **MT:** *Bridger Bowl* - Bridger triple. **WA:** *Crystal Mountain* - Summit gondola, High Campbell Basin quad; *Summit at Snoqualmie* - East Peak triple, Hidden Valley double; *White Pass* - Chair 6 Express high speed quad, Chair 5 fixed quad. **Alberta, Canada:** *Sunshine Village* - Strawberry Express high speed quad. **British Columbia, Canada:** *Whitewater* - Glory Ridge triple. and **Saskatchewan, Canada:** *Table Mountain* - Chair 2 quad.

▲ **Arizona Snowbowl, AZ.** Construction plans are on hold due to a new lawsuit *Save the Peaks Coalition v. U.S. Forest Service* (filed September 2009). The Arizona Snow-

bowl did win approval of its snowmaking plan when in June 2009 the U.S. Supreme Court declined to hear the previous case *Navajo Nation, et. al. v. U.S. Forest Service* (originally filed June 2005). It had been decided in Arizona Snowbowl's favor at the U.S. 9th Circuit Court level and the USDA finally granted a snowmaking permit in July 2010. Attorney Howard Shanker argued the new Save the Peaks Coalition case in July 2010 in front of U.S. district court judge, Mary Murguia in Phoenix, AZ on behalf of the Navajo tribe, asserting that the federal government did not adequately consider whether reclaimed water was safe for snowmaking if the snow were to be ingested. Also, Arizona Snowbowl is asking the Flagstaff City Council to amend its water contract to include the usage of recovered reclaimed water for snowmaking, which is unused reclaimed water pumped out of the reclamation facility and percolates back into the aquifer. The Flagstaff City Water Commission ruled in favor of this amendment after hearing comments from the public at a July 2010 meeting and then forwarded the recommendation to Flagstaff City Council for approval at an expected special August 2010 City Council meeting. Some Native American tribes including the Hopi and Havasupai are expressing their refusal to consider any water source for snowmaking for Arizona Snowbowl.

▲ **Brian Head, UT.** The asking price is \$34.75 million for Brian Head Resort's 1,744 acres includes 156 acres zoned for residential and commercial development, plans for 1,350 residential units, another dozen ski-in/ski-out residential lots and 500 acres set aside for golf and skiing. Brian Head has two mountains linked by one of its nine lifts, 640 skiable acres on 63 runs, a base elevation of 9,600 feet, a vertical drop of 1,320 feet, and averages 141,000 skier days. March 2010.

▲ **The Canyons, UT.** In October 2009, Vail Resorts abandoned its bid for control of The Canyons leaving Taliskier Corp which purchased The Canyons from American Skiing Company last year as the undisputed owner. The Canyons is going to drop the 'The' from its name. It will now be known simply as 'Canyons', or 'Park City's Canyons'.

▲ **Coconino National Forest, AZ.** Forest plan revision (recreation use included in revision topics) EIS. Notice of Adjustment May 2010. Phase 1 public input and feedback July/August 2010. Draft EIS expected November 2011 with decision and implementation expected in September and October, 2012. Coconino National Forest Planner Yewah Lau

ylau@fs.fed.us 928-527-3411 www.fs.fed.us/r3/coconino/plan-revision.shtml

▲ **Cooper Spur, OR.** Cooper Spur Government Camp Land Exchange EIS. Forest Service would convey 120 acres of property at Government Camp and acquire 770 acres of private land at Cooper Spur. Kristy Boscheinen - kboscheinen@fs.fed.us 503-668-1645 www.fs.fed.us/nepa/project_content.php?project=33072

▲ **Copper Mountain, CO.** Powder Corp (Eight resorts: Park City Mountain Resort and Gorgoza Park, UT; Killington and Pico, VT; Boreal and Soda Springs, CA; Mt Bachelor, OR; Las Vegas Ski & Snowboard Resort, NV) purchased Copper Mountain in December 2009 from Intrawest. There are nine remaining ski resorts as of 2009: Whistler Blackcomb and Panorama, BC, CAN (*sold 2010*); Tremblant, Quebec, CAN; Blue Mountain, ON, CAN; Winter Park and Steamboat, CO; Stratton, VT; Mountain Creek, NJ; and Snowshoe, WV) which is owned by Fortress Investment Group. The deal was estimated at around \$100 million (at the peak in 2006 multiples were typically 9-10x operating income, but now are closer to 7-8x). The total volume of property transactions in the Copper Mountain area for the nine months ending September 2009 fell about 50% to \$20 million. Intrawest originally purchased Copper Mountain in 1996 for \$192 million.

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“Voice of the Western Skier”,
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in a whole host of areas
that affect ski area development,
safety, volunteer liability,
transportation, taxation,
ski history, and
consumer advocacy.*

▲ **Crested Butte, CO.** Associate deputy chief for the U.S. Forest Service Gloria Manning (reviewing officer for USFS Chief Tom Tidwell) in July 2010 upheld two earlier decisions to reject Crested Butte Mountain Resort proposal for Snodgrass Mountain by confirming that the USFS Supervisor was not required to conduct environmental analysis to support his decision. May 2010 Level 1 Appeal reviewing officer Jim Pena, USFS Deputy Regional Forester (Region 5) jpena@fs.fed.us reaffirms USFS Supervisor Charlie Richmond's decision to deny expansion onto Snodgrass Mountain (276 acres) stating that Richmond did not exceed his discretionary authority. Appeal of Richmond's decision filed

in December 2009. CBMR had asked Chief of the Forest Service, Tom Tidwell to review this decision and set it aside based upon the issues identified in CBMR's original appeal: that the Forest Service did not follow its own regulations, and Forest Supervisor Richmond made a fundamentally unfair decision in a private process that violated federal law and excluded the public from a watershed public lands decision that determined the future of the ski area and the community. www.liftson-snodgrass.org

▲ **Crystal Mountain, WA.** Crystal Mountain Master development plan Amendment #1 EA – replace High Campbell Basin Chairlift. Environmental analysis expected August 2010, implementation November 2010. Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest Team Leader - Sean Wetterberg swetterberg@fs.fed.us 425-783-6022

▲ **Eclipse Snow Park, CO.** The plan for a new 12 acre beginner ski and snowboard area near St Mary's Glacier in Idaho Springs, CO was rejected in June 2010 by Clear Creek County planning board which cited safety concerns over the small access road to the property. Michael Coors, a descendant of brewery founder Adolph Coors, had purchased the 284-acre property in 2005 for \$1.64 million which was close to the defunct St. Mary's Glacier Ski Area that closed in 1984.

▲ **Heavenly, CA.** Heavenly Mountain Resort 2010 Capital Projects EA. Construct a Lodge at the top of the Gondola, replace Galaxy ski lift, four new ski trails in the Galaxy pod, new snowmaking in the

Galaxy pod. Decision May 2010, implementation expected July 2010. USFS Interdisciplinary Team Leader Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit, Matt Dickinson - matt.dickinson@fs.fed.us 530-543-2769

▲ **Intrawest Corporation** of Vancouver, BC, Canada sold *Panorama Mountain Resort* (all of the resort's mountain and Nordic ski operations plus a 50 per cent stake in Greywolf Golf Course) near Invermere, BC (originally purchased in 1993 for \$7.1 million) for an estimated \$27.5 million to Panorama Mountain Village Inc (a group of 18 investors of mostly local homeowners led by Rick Jensen real estate developer and former three term mayor of Cranbrook) in January 2010. Intrawest also sold *The Village at Squaw Valley* (lodging operations at two condo hotels with about 300 1-, 2-, and 3-bedroom condominium suites; six restaurants; 20 retail shops; full service spa) for an undisclosed amount to Squaw Valley USA in January 2010. Intrawest sold *Mountain Creek Resort, NJ* for an undisclosed amount to owners of nearby Crystal Spring's Resort in May 2010. In April 2010, Intrawest refinanced \$1.4 billion in corporate debt now scheduled to mature in 2014 after earlier missing a \$524 million debt payment in December 2009 and then being threatened by its lenders with foreclosure proceedings in February 2010.

▲ **Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit, CA.** Forest plan revision (recreation use included in revision topics) EIS. Notice of Intent March 2010. Draft EIS NOA expected October 2010 with public comment on Draft EIS October-December 2010. Decision and im-

plementation expected July and October 2011. Bob King - bking@fs.fed.us 530-543-2619 <http://fs.usda.gov/tbmu>

▲ **Laredo Snow Park, TX.** \$65 million snow park proposal by the Dinello Group was tabled by Laredo City Council in January 2010.

▲ **Meadowlands SnowPark, NJ.** The planned indoor snow facility project was rebranded from Xanadu in May 2010 with completion expected by SuperBowl 2014. The 800-foot-long indoor SnowPark will feature a quad chairlift, magic carpets for beginners and a platter lift. www.visitmeadowlands.com

▲ **Mont Orford, Quebec City, Quebec** in Canada put on sale for \$1 in March 2010. A \$4 million security deposit, plus five year commitment to running resort and golf course was required. The province of Quebec would still own the 1,000 acres.

▲ **Okanogon-Wenatchee and Colville National Forests, WA.** Forest plan revision (recreation use included in revision topics) EIS. Currently developing proposal. Estimated Notice of Adjustment (NOA) expected March 2011. Decision and implementation expected June/July 2013. Plan Revision Public Information Specialist Deborah Kelly - dlkelly@fs.fed.us 509-826-3396 www.fs.fed.us/r6/wenatchee/forest-plan

▲ **Rainey Ranch Ski Resort, Richmond, UT.** New 160 acre ski resort proposed in March 2010 to Cache County Planning Commission for an estimated 2,000 skiers, along with a lodge, three ski lifts and a tubing hill located northeast of Richmond in Cherry Creek Canyon in Cache County forest recreation zone. The lodge is proposed to be 10,000 square feet, and the development would include a parking lot with a capacity of 350 to 400 vehicles. Roughly 30 to 40 percent of the 160-acre area would be utilized for night skiing. Logan Checketts, a resident of Dayton, Idaho, is partnering with John Chadwick, a North Logan resident, on the project. Initial response is expected by September 2010.

▲ **Roundhill Ski Area, New Zealand.** The world's longest and steepest rope tow Heritage Express Rope Tow opened in July 2010 at 4,833 feet long with a 2,056 vertical rise and a top elevation of 6,998 feet. This new nutcracker rope tow gives access to Roundhill's Richmond Ridge in the Two Thumb Range. www.roundhill.co.nz

▲ Russian President Dmitry Medvedev announced plans in May 2010 to spend 450 billion rubles, or nearly \$15 billion, to build five world-class ski resorts in the **North Caucasus**. The resorts would be built in Matlas, Dagestan; Mamison, North Ossetia;

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Arkhyz, Karachayevo-Cherkessia; Lago-Naki, Adygeya; and on Mount Elbrus in Kabardino-Balkaria.

▲ **Sierra Summit, CA.** Sale of Sierra Summit for nearly \$4 million closed May 2010 by investor group (China Peak Mountain Resort LLC) led by Kirkwood president Tim Cohee with partners Tom Klein, whose family founded both Kirkwood and Bear Valley ski areas, and Mike Gillfillan, former Vice Chairman of Wells Fargo Bank. The resort will return to its former name China Peak. The resort is 65 miles northeast of Fresno on Highway 168 near Huntington Lake. The site spans 1,200 acres with a base elevation of 7,030, a top elevation of 8,709 square feet for 1,679 vertical feet, and averages 145,000 annual skier visits. Facilities include seven chair lifts, two handle tows, one t-bar and a moving carpet.

▲ **Snowbasin, UT** filed a Master Plan in June 2010 with Weber County's Ogden Valley Destination and Recreation Resort Zone to build a major resort village called Earl's Village near the existing base lodge with hotels, condominiums and townhouses, a retail and restaurant core, ice skating, spas and an amphitheater. The plan calls for up to 2,400 residential units. Also, a significant terrain expansion near the current Strawberry

Gondola is requested, with a second entrance to the ski area to be constructed along Trapper's Loop Road in Morgan County south of the intersection with Snowbasin Road. This new entrance would cut about ten minutes off the drive to the resort from the Salt Lake City metro area.

▲ **Snowbird, UT** filed an amendment to its master plan in May 2010 for expansion into the 780 acre, above treeline Mary Ellen Gulch (west of Mineral Basin) along with a second tram from Hidden Peak to West Twin Peak (11,489 foot) of American Fork Twin Peaks, a lengthening of Mineral Basin Express by 50%, and a third lift from the bottom of Mary Ellen Gulch to Sinners Pass ridge for descent back into Mineral Basin. US Forest Service District Ranger, Cathy Kahlow, is expected to decide by early fall 2010 whether to accept the proposal. If accepted, expansion portions will require a full environmental impact statement and changes to the Wasatch-Cache-Uinta National Forest plan.

▲ **Solitude Mountain Resort, UT.** Solitude's Silver Fork expansion plan was rejected in June 2010 by U.S. Forest Service Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest Supervisor Brian Ferebee because it didn't meet several of the pre-NEPA screening criteria.

Solitude had reduced its expansion request from 695 acres (all of Silver Fork basin) to 182 acres (only east side of the Silver Fork creek removing Meadow Chutes and upper west bowl) in April 2010 which would add to the current 1,418 acres. Benefits included easy access to a glacial bowl at 9,500 feet.

▲ **Stevens Pass, WA.** Master development plan. Scoping letter June 2008, Environmental analysis decision Phase 1 Projects (water treatment system upgrade, five bike trails) April 2010, implementation June 2010. Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest Team Leader, Sean Wetterberg - swetterberg@fs.fed.us 801-733-2685

▲ **Summit at Snoqualmie, WA.** Snoqualmie Pass Master Development Plan Amendment #1 CE. The resort will replace the existing Silver Fir Output with a new lodge. Scoping start July 2010, decision expected October 2010, implementation June 2011. Cecilia Reed - ccreed@fs.fed.us 425-888-8769

▲ **The Falls at Vineyard Mountain, GA.** A million square foot indoor ski resort project which includes Vineyard Mountain Snow Dome or Mount Pegasus near Red Top Mountain State Park, Emerson, GA was put on hold in June 2010 after Governor Sonny



Photo: Michael Holmquist

Choices. Sparkly diamonds
?slopes uncrowded or nightlife Crowded ?diamonds black or
Carved prime rib or carved prime snow? The un-resort resort.

skitaos.org

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Perdue vetoed House Bill 1251. This bill would have provided incentives to developers via sales tax rebates of 25 percent of those dollars the resort generated for 10 years. Developer Steve Winters, managing director of SRW International, said that he would wait for the next governor to try again. The proposed Mount Pegasus would be the longest and highest indoor ski dome in the world at 3,000 feet with a 450-foot vertical drop. www.srwintl.com

▲ **Wasatch Canyons, UT.** Update of 1989 Salt Lake County Wasatch Canyons Master Plan which covers Little Cottonwood (Alta, Snowbird), Big Cottonwood (Brighton, Solitude), City Creek, Emigration, Red Butte, Parley's and Millcreek Canyons. The master plan governs recreation, land use and development, transportation, watershed protection and water quality, natural resource management and public safety. Participate via online surveys, open houses and workshops. Final round online survey available. www.wasatchcanyons.slco.org

Consumer Advocacy

Advocacy on behalf of all recreational skiers consumes a large part of the effort made during FWSA member's visits to all ski areas. But, not only is it important to express the consumer's opinion while "on the mountain", it must also be expressed back home, in the communities that only think of snow skiing in the winter. As the "Voice of the Western Skier", the Far West Ski Association takes its duties very seriously. The Association continues to keep close tabs on a variety of consumer advocacy issues ranging from safety, helmet usage, avalanche awareness, women's ski jumping, Congressional Ski and Snowboard Caucus, injury liability initiatives, youth snowsports development programs, and luggage regulations.

Snowsports Trends & News Updates

▲ Overall dollar sales for entire winter sport market (August 2009 to March 2010) increased about +4% (\$0.12 billion) in dollars to \$2.94 billion (2nd highest in dollar terms) but unit sales declined according to SIA (Snowsports Industries America). Apparel led sales this season with \$1.1 billion (up 2.48% in dollars, down 2.78% in units), with accessories sales totals close behind at \$1 billion (up 7.40% in dollars, down 2.56% in units). Equipment sales totaled nearly \$800,000 (up 2.13% in dollars, down 4.19% in units). Fat ski sales increased more than 30% in units and in dollars sold. Snowsports spe-

cialty sales +4% in dollars to 1.8 billion and -3% in units. Internet sales +9.5% to \$597 million and +1% in units. Chain store sales flat in dollars to \$563 million and -4% in units.

▲ Skier visits increase +4.2% (Pacific Southwest +15.0%, Midwest +7.2%, Southeast +6.7%, Rocky Mountain +3.4%, Pacific Northwest +3.2%, Northeast -2.7%) from 57.4 million to 59.7 million visits (the second best season ever only 1.2% below record of 60.5 million visits in 2007/08) for the 2009-10 season based on preliminary estimates from the National Ski Areas Association released May 2010. This still represents a +3.9% increase over the 10 year season average annual skier visits (Southeast +9.9%, Pacific Northwest +5.7%, Pacific Southwest +4.7%, Rocky Mountain +4.3%, Midwest +2.1%, Northeast +1.1%). Overall snowfall was down 14% (Southeast +98%, Pacific Southwest +8%, Rocky Mountain -20%, Northeast -21%, Pacific Northwest -25%, Midwest -32%).

▲ Women's Ski Jumping USA (WSJUSA) on behalf of 15 elite women's ski jumpers appeal of British Columbia Supreme Court decision to the British Columbia Court of Appeal was dismissed by a three judge panel led by Justice Anne Rowles in November 2009. The Court of Appeal stated "*Under the host city contract, the IOC is recognized as having the exclusive authority to determine what events will be staged at an Olympic Games. VANOC is obliged to host and stage the Games under the direction and control of the IOC. VANOC simply does not have the power to determine what events are included in the 2010 Olympic program. The decision of the IOC not to add women's ski jumping as an event is not a policy that could be or was made by any Canadian government. The charter cannot be so broadly construed as to include policies or practices that no Canadian government has jurisdiction to enact or change.*"

The appeal was based on the argument that VANOC (Vancouver Organizing Committee) must host the Winter Olympics in accordance with the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and not host events on Canadian soil that implement discrimination. In July 2009, the British Columbia Supreme Court Justice, Lauri Ann Fenlon, decision found discrimination by the International Olympic Committee and that VANOC is subject to the Charter when it carries out the activities of planning, organizing and staging the Olympics. However, Fenlon said the decision of whether women's ski jumping is an Olympic event is beyond VANOC's control. www.wsjusa.com

▲ USA sets Winter Olympic record

with 37 medals. Also, Vancouver 2010 is only the second time USA won the Winter Olympic medal count. The last time was 78 years ago at Lake Placid 1932 with 12 medals. Bode Miller wins three medals (gold super combined, silver super G, bronze downhill) to increase his total to five medals (the most decorated U.S. alpine skier and only the fourth man ever to win five alpine skiing medals). Other highlights included Lindsey Vonn with two medals (gold downhill, bronze super G) first ever U.S. women's downhill gold, Julia Mancuso won two medals (silver downhill, silver super combined) for a total of three medals (most decorated female U.S. alpine skier), and Johnny Spillane (silver Nordic combined) first ever U.S. Nordic combined medal. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_at_the_2010_Winter_Olympics

▲ *Truth in Motion* - U.S. Ski Team's Road to Vancouver documentary film was seen on NBC January 2009 by 1.8 million people. Film chronicles the elite skiers of Team U.S.A. and what it takes to excel as world class skiers as they prepare on the training slopes of Portillo, Chile and Saas Fee, Switzerland to qualify for spots on the Olympic ski team. Obtain a free standard or HD download at <http://itunes.com/truthinmotion> and photos at www.truthinmotion-movie.com.

▲ Lindsey Vonn (age 25) is the first woman to win three straight overall titles since Petra Kronberger of Austria in 1990-92 and is tied for second most overall women's titles with Vreni Schneider of Switzerland and Janica Kostelic of Croatia behind Annemarie Moser-Proell of Austria with 6. She also is the first American to win three discipline titles (DH, SG, super combined) in the same season. With 11 World Cup wins in one season (2009-2010) she is tied for second with Anja Paerson of Sweden and Annemarie Moser-Proell behind Vreni Schneider with 14. Vonn now holds the U.S. record for World Cup wins with 33 passing Bode Miller and ties for sixth place on the all-time women's list with Hanni Wenzel of Liechtenstein. Annemarie Moser-Proell leads that list with 62.

▲ Julia Mancuso, three time Olympic medalist, finished third and had the fastest time at Verbier Xtreme freeride competition on the Bec de Rosses slope in March 2010. www.xtremeverbier.com/en/index.php

▲ Winter sports athletes won five of the 35 ESPN ESPY awards in July 2010 including two for Lindsey Vonn (Best Female Athlete, Best Female U.S. Olympian), two for Shaun White (Best Male Action Sport Athlete, Best Male U.S. Olympian), and one for Torah Bright (Best Female Action Sport Athlete).

▲ *Black Diamond Equipment, Ltd.* (backcountry ski and climbing gear specialist) of Salt Lake City, UT signed an agreement in May 2010 to be purchased by *Clarus Corporation* for \$90 million. Clarus Corp is also purchasing backpacking company *Gregory Mountain Products* for \$45 million and expects to merge it with Black Diamond Equipment.

▲ *Skiing Magazine* will reduce annual print issues from six to two (*Buyer's Guide* and *Secrets of How to Get the Most Out of Your Time in the Hills*) for 2010-11. The 65 year old magazine will shift its focus primarily online to *Skiing Interactive* digital edition which will offer six digital "Mag+" issues for iPad, a "10x" digital edition and single topic apps for mobile users. June 2010

▲ *Beaver Creek/Vail* in June 2010 was awarded the 2015 FIS Alpine World Ski Championships. Vail had been the host for these championships in 1999 and 1989. A new women's downhill run will be built to the skier's right of Birds of Prey along with a new stadium in Vail Village.

▲ *Ski.com* tour operator of Aspen, CO bought 47 year old ski tour operator Rocky Mountain Tours (*skithewest.com*) of Pittsburgh, PA in June 2010. Rocky Mountain Tours is expected to operate independently, but utilize *Ski.com*'s back office resources.

▲ *Learn A Snow Sport Month* in January 2010 had extreme skier and snow sports ambassador Glen Plake (three time World Hot Dog Ski Champion, Down Home Tour Ambassador) as the national spokesperson who communicated the excitement and lifestyle benefits of snowsports participation and why it helps to take lessons from a pro when starting out or trying to improve. www.LearnASnowSport.org

Safety Update

▲ Top 12 myths concerning alpine skiing injuries are debunked. Myths included "Skiing is among the most dangerous of activities" and "If you think you are going to fall, just relax and let it happen". Study by Robert J. Johnson MD, Emeritus Professor of Orthopaedics at University of Vermont published in November/December 2009 issue of *Sports Health: A Multidisciplinary Approach*. www.aap.org/sections/sportsmedicine/PDFs/JohnsonSkiMythsRelease.pdf

▲ Helmet use increased to 57% of all skiers and riders (up 9 points from 48% in prior season) according to *National Ski Areas Association National Demographic Study 2009/10 Preliminary Results* was released May 2010. In comparison, during the 2002/03 sea-

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son, only 25% of all skiers and riders wore helmets, and only 18% of young adults 18-24 wore helmets. Helmet usage by age group with point change vs. year ago: 87% (+10 points) of children under 10, 75% (+9 points) children 10-14, 70% (+7 points) adults +65, 43% (+11 points) young adults 18-24.

▲ *Aspen* requires helmets for 2010-2011 season for salaried employees, all ski school students under 18 (up from under 14), all students in a terrain or halfpipe, and any instructor teaching classes where students are required to wear a helmet. May 2010 announcement.

▲ CA Senate Bill 880 which requires helmets for children under 18, resorts to post informational signage, and fines up to \$25 on parents was approved by CA Senate in June 2010 and moved to CA State Assembly. CA Assembly Bill 1652 which requires helmets for children under 18, enforcement of the law by ski resorts, filing of annual safety plans and monthly reports about injuries and deaths was approved by CA State Assembly in June 2010 and moved to CA Senate.

▲ *Intrawest* (Whistler Blackcomb, BC, CAN; Tremblant, Quebec, CAN; Blue Mountain, ON, CAN; Winter Park and Steamboat, CO; Stratton, VT; Snowshoe, WV as of June 2010) announced in October 2009 that it is requiring helmets for all youth in ski school and students of any age in freestyle terrain parks starting this season. Helmets will be included with all children/youth ski/snowboard rental packages. By the 2010-2011 season, on-duty employees will be required to wear helmets in terrain parks or if they are guides or instructors for programs where guests must wear helmets. Also, Intrawest is recommending that all visitors to its resorts wear helmets.

▲ *Jackson Hole Mountain Resort*, WY announced in November 2009 a new helmet policy requiring helmets on resort employees

while working in terrain parks, halfpipe and backcountry starting this season. This policy resulted from conferences between OSHA (Occupational Safety & Health Administration) and the resort about the OSHA citation after Jackson Hole ski patroller, Kathryn Miller, died in March 2009 from a fall in Spacewalk Couloir in the backcountry while not wearing a helmet.

▲ *Vail Resorts* (Vail, Beaver Creek, Breckenridge, Keystone, CO; Heavenly, CA) announced in April 2009 that all employees will be required while working to wear helmets beginning with the 2009-2010 winter season. All children 12 and under will be required to wear a helmet in group lessons and as part of any child's ski/snowboard rental package.

▲ Italy (effective 2005 for children under 15) and Austria (announced August 2009 effective immediately for children 15 and under) made helmets mandatory for children. Increased impetus for the new Austrian law came after Beata Christandl (a 41 year old Slovakian-born mother of four) died of head injuries after a collision at an estimated combined speed of 60 mph with Dieter Althaus (50 year old governor of the German state of Thuringia) who was skiing the wrong direction on a blue/easy trail near the junction of two pistes at the Austrian resort of Riesneralm in January 2009. Althaus was wearing a helmet but Christandl was not. Althaus survived the impact but suffered a skull fracture and bleeding in his brain. He was later found guilty of manslaughter and fined 33,000 euros (\$41,400) plus 5,000 euros for compensation for the relatives of the mother. Italy's helmet law includes a fines ranging from 30 to 150 euros (about \$215).

▲ Snowmobilers triggered a size three slab avalanche that killed two and injured 30 while highmarking with three snowmobiles

simultaneously on the same slope at Turbo Hill on Boulder Mountain at Big Iron Shootout snowmobiling event in Revelstoke, British Columbia, Canada in March 2010. Canadian Avalanche Centre had issued special public avalanche warnings for the three weekends prior to and for the weekend of the incident for this area of the Southern Columbia mountains. Avalanche danger level was rated high (second strongest level) when the incident occurred. Become educated about avalanches and always follow safe travel protocols.

Taxation/Insurance/Risk Management Update

▲ All tax exempt organizations are required to file an annual return 990 or for those that qualify an electronic notice 990-N to avoid the automatic revocation of tax exempt status for organizations that fail to file for three consecutive years. May 17, 2010 deadline imposed by Pension Protection Act of 2006 which effectively required filing by almost all tax exempt organizations through the elimination of the old minimum annual revenue requirement for filing of \$25,000. IRS Commissioner, Doug Shulman, said that the IRS will be providing additional guidance in the near future on how it will help these organizations maintain their important tax-exempt status – even if they missed the May 17 deadline. IRS Commissioner Shulman urged these organizations to go ahead and file – even though the May 17 deadline has passed. www.irs.ustreas.gov/charities/index.html Check with your club treasurer about your club's filing status or look up your club in the form 990 online databases such as guidestar.org or <http://nccsdataweb.urban.org/PubApps/990search.php/990search.php>. Please note that it may take many months or longer for the 990 forms to show up in these databases and the databases are not always comprehensive.

Transportation Update

▲ Consult Checked Baggage policy sections of airline websites for further details and Airline Baggage Rules article in Travel section of www.fwsa.org website.

▲ New \$10-\$30 holiday “peak travel” surcharges each way around Thanksgiving, Christmas and other holidays (originally three days, can now be up to 40 days in some cases) started by American in September 2009 and followed by Continental, Delta, Northwest, United, US Airways, Airtran, and Midwest. Peak travel \$30 (six days including Monday after Easter plus some spring break Sundays and Saturdays), \$20 (12 days including two days around Thanksgiving, eight days

around Christmas/New Years, Friday before Valentine's Day, Friday before Memorial Day), \$10 (22 days including some spring break Thursdays through Mondays). This charge is coded Q - Miscellaneous/Other. See Surcharges section of airline websites.

▲ Spirit Air begins carry-on baggage fees up to \$45 effective 8/1/10 for bags that do not fit under the seat.

▲ Ryanair (Ireland) considering coin-operated bathroom charge of one pound (about \$1.50) April 2010.

▲ Allegiant Air added service in 2009 to Grand Junction (near Powderhorn Resort) with twice weekly direct flights from Los Angeles, CA.

▲ United Airlines added service to Telluride/Montrose, CO with Saturday and Sunday flights for the 2010-11 winter season from Los Angeles, CA.

History Update

▲ U.S. Ski & Snowboard Hall of Fame Class of 2009 inductees were named in November 2009.

Chris Waddell (paralyzed from waist down in 1998, 12 medals at four Winter Paralympic Games including a sweep of the gold medals at Lillehammer in 1994, in September 2009 first paraplegic to climb Mt Kilimanjaro, competed in three Summer Paralympic Games and won a silver at Sydney in 2000 in 200m wheelchair event).

Sarah Will (paralyzed from the waist down in 1988, 12 medals at four Winter Paralympic Games including a sweep of the gold medals at Salt Lake City in 2002, started adaptive skiing program at Vail with Chris Waddell, recognized by U.S. Olympic Hall of Fame and Colorado Ski & Snowboard Hall of Fame).

Jack Benedick (double leg amputee from Vietnam War, worked with USSA to create U.S. Adaptive Ski Team, lobbied International Ski Federation to accept adaptive skiing, silver medal winner in the combined at 1984 Paralympic Games).

Stu Campbell (writer, instructor, resort executive, author of six books on ski instruction, instructional editor for *SKI Magazine* for 30 years, raced and coached racers, was recognized by Vermont Ski Museum with the Paul Robbins Award for ski journalism).

Doug Coombs (former ski racer from Montana State University, won first two World Extreme Skiing Championships, popularized adventure skiing, started first heliskiing operation in Chugach Mountains of Alaska with his wife Emily, held steep skiing camps in Switzerland, France and Greenland).

Paul Robbins (ski journalist and U.S. Ski

Team press officer for three decades, was recognized by Vermont Ski Museum with the Paul Robbins Award for ski journalism and by North American Snowsport Journalists Association with the Paul Robbins Outstanding Athlete Award).

Sepp Kober (Father of Southern Skiing, first ski instructor at Weiss Knob - first southern ski area to open a ropetow in 1958, founded Southeastern Ski Areas Association and led it in as a charter member of National Ski Areas Association).

Ansten Samuelstuen (set ski hill jumping record of 316' at Howelsen Hill in Steamboat Springs that stood for 12 years; won three national titles in ski jumping - 1957, 1961, 1962; held four North American ski jumping titles - 1954, 1955, 1957, 1964; competed on two Olympic teams; top U.S. jumper with a 7th place at the 1960 Olympic Games in Squaw Valley). www.skiahall.com

▲ *Arne Backstrom*, 29 year old professional freeskiier from Squaw Valley, CA, died in a fall on the south face of Pisco Mountain (18,897 ft) in the Cordillera Blanca Region of Peru in June 2010. Arne was on a ski-mountaineering trip filming with Sweetgrass Productions to prepare for a descent of the southeast face with two 60-70 degree pitches of Artesanraju, a 19,681 foot peak which is the mountain in the Paramount Pictures logo. Last season, he won the McConkey Cup, the Canadian Freeskiing Championships, and the Backcountry.com Sickbird Award. In April 2009 in Chamonix, he skied Mallory Couloir on Aiguille du Midi and the Himalayan Face, an 11,066-foot run off the west face of Mont Blanc. Arne appeared in ski films including Matchstick Productions *Way I See It* and *Claim* and Warren Miller Entertainment's *Wintervention*, *Dynasty*, and *Off the Grid*. Arne was born in Seattle and started racing at age 11 with the Crystal Mountain Alpine Club, WA.

▲ *C.R. Johnson*, a freeskiing pioneer from Truckee, CA who was 26, died due to blunt force trauma to the head while skiing Light Tower's cliffs and chutes section of Squaw valley's Headwall above the Cornice II lift in February 2010 after appearing to catch an edge on some rocks. He was reportedly wearing a helmet. C.R. had won a bronze medal in big air at Winter X Games 2001, a gold medal in big air plus a silver medal in slopestyle in Winter X Games 2002, bronze medal in superpipe in Winter X Games 2003 and placed third at the Red Bull Linecatcher event - a big mountain freestyle contest - in Vars, France in 2010. He is credited with the first 1440 (four 360 degree spins). He had appeared in numerous ski films including *Seven*

Sunny Days, Ski Movie III, Believe, Front Line, Focused, Every Day Is A Saturday, WSKI106 and Pop Yer Bottlez. Johnson came back from a traumatic brain injury sustained when another skier landed on him while filming at Brighton Ski Resort in Utah in 2005. He spent 10 days in a coma during the 34 day hospital stay and had to re-learn the most basic of motor skills following his accident.

▲ *Dr. Amos R. "Bud" Little* passed away at age 93 in his Montana home in June 2010. He was a talented racer, coach and doctor while serving as an influential leader with FIS, USSA and the U.S. Ski Team. While racing for Dartmouth College, Bud won a national slalom title. He served on the U.S. Olympic Committee (1952-1980) and was the alpine team manager for 1960 Olympics and FIS World Championships (1962, 1967). Bud was a member of the governing board of National Ski Association - now USSA (1948-73), a member of FIS Alpine Committee (1960-67), and a vice president of FIS (1967-88). His honors include U.S. Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame (1965), Julius Blegen Award - USSA's highest award (1960). He is the namesake of the USSA Bud and Mary Little Award, awarded to an individual for their service to the FIS or the USOC.

▲ *"Toni" (Anton Engelbert) Sailer* - the "Blitz from Kitz" - first skier to win three alpine gold medals in the same Olympic Games, died in Innsbruck, Austria on 8/24/09 at age 73 after a four year battle with laryngeal cancer. At age 20, in the 1956 Winter Olympics in Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy, he won the giant slalom by 6.2 seconds (an Olympic record to this day) on a tough 71 gate course where 18 of the first 25 racers fell, the slalom by four seconds and the downhill by 3.5 seconds. The only other skiers to match this triple Olympic alpine gold achievement were Jean-Claude Killy of France in 1968 and Janica Kostelic of Croatia in 2002. Toni also won seven gold and one silver World Championship medals in 1956 and 1958.

He started skiing at age two, competed in his first race at age 10. He won two sausages as the prize for first for his victory at age 11. He was a licensed glazier and plumber and worked in his father's glass shop except in winter when he trained four hours per day. Toni won about 170 times, appeared in 25 movies including as ski double for George Lazenby in the snow scenes for the 1969 James Bond film *On Her Majesty's Secret Service*, and sang in 18 pop music recordings. From 1972-1976 he was Chief Coach and

Technical Director of the Austrian ski team. In 1985, Toni was awarded the International Olympic Committee's highest honor - the Olympic Order. In 1999, he was named Austria's Sportsman of the Century. He was the Kitzbuhel children's ski school director for over 30 years. Videos of his 1956 Olympic runs are available on YouTube. Contact Scott Bowker for links.

The early months of 2010 also saw the loss of three other well-known ski giants. Their tributes begin on page 46.

▲ The 7th Annual Vermont Antique Ski Race benefit was held at Suicide Six Resort in Woodstock, VT on 3/24/10 for the Vermont Ski Museum where past celebrities have included over 35 Olympians and U.S. Ski Team members competing with the general public in Strictly Vintage, Woodies, and Metal/Fiberglass divisions with all skis from 1975 or before.

▲ International Skiing History Association (ISHA) and the U.S. Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame and Museum agree to merge in April 2010 announcement while offering common benefits for a single \$50 membership fee as ISHA relocates its worldwide headquarters from Denver, CO to the Hall of Fame in Ishpeming, MI. ▲



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In Memoriam:



photo courtesy www.skihall.com

**GEORGENE BIHLMAN
(1925 - 2010)**

by Barbara Bryant

It is virtually certain that no one will ever equal the record Georgene Bihlman has compiled in the world of ski racing. She has won more than 850 trophies, awards, and medals in all parts of the world including the U.S., Canada, Austria, France, Switzerland, Italy, Australia, and New Zealand of which approximately 85 % were gold medals. These also included 19-combined National and 15 International titles.

This record was accomplished while holding a full time junior college teaching position and overcoming several life threatening injuries and illnesses. Georgene taught PE for 46 years at Bakersfield Junior College. In 1970, at her own expense, she created a ski hill on the back of the college stadium wall. For the first few years, she laid down cottonseed hulls in order to teach her students how to ski. She then installed an Italian plastic on the hill. There she taught over 2,000 students the fundamentals of skiing. Also, at primarily her own expense, she sponsored and accompanied her students on more than 100 weekend trips to REAL snow at various ski areas in order for them to have the experience of skiing on "natural" snow at an operating ski area, after learning how to ski on the plastic in Bakersfield.

Georgene was a member of the 1960's Women's Olympic Try-out Team that was preparing for the Squaw Valley Olympics. On the way to practice at Mammoth, California, her Olympic hopes were dashed by a serious car accident. She, however, continued her career in veteran and masters racing, winning medal after medal until 1975 when she was diagnosed with cancer. This only delayed her return for one year to her ski instructing and racing career. In 1990, cancer struck again, and as before, in less than a year, she was back racing and winning.

Honors: PSIA Certified Ski Instructor - 1964, FWSA "Outstanding Veteran Racer" Award 1971, Elias Hall of Fame Inductee - 1979, FWSA "Outstanding Master Skier" Award - 1980, North American Journalists' "Outstanding Competitors' Award" - 1993, United States National Ski Hall of Fame Inductee - Class of 2002, Nominee for the Square Valley Institute "Legendary Athlete of the Year" Award - 2003, FWSA Hans Georg Award - 2009

In Memoriam:

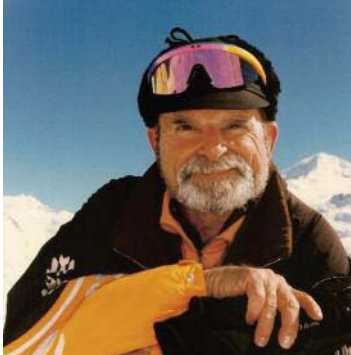


photo provided by John Watson

**JEROLD STANTON SIMON
(1925 - 2010)**

by John Watson

Jerold Stanton Simon, 79, a trailblazer in the promotion and development of snow skiing for fifty years, passed away at his Las Vegas home on July 24, 2010. He was born May 14, 1931 in New York City. In 1964, Simon began co-producing consumer Ski Shows in major US cities, featuring such superstars as Olympic medalists Stein Eriksen, Jean-Claude Killy, and Billy Kidd. Ski Shows were the kick-off to the ski season and introduced tens of thousands of new skiers to the sport. For this, Simon and partner, Harry Leonard, were together acknowledged as "Founders of Skiing USA," alongside originators of ski lifts, equipment, and area development.

In the 70's, Simon knew that safety was key to the growing sport. He developed the Skiing Mechanics and Managers Workshops, a successful training program.

Another 70's brainstorm, the International Ski Film Festival showcased the best of each season's ski movies. In 1992, sponsor Crested Butte created a sleek glass statuette to present to film/video winners and aptly named it the "Jerry." For ski filmmakers, the "Jerry" was their "Oscar."

In 1976, Simon organized a ski travel sales tour called SkiGroup which joined ski resort marketers with group buyers in time to plan the upcoming season. The original 8-city tour developed into a 30-city selling blitz, which thrived 25 years. SkiGroup was an incredible sales aid to ski resorts worldwide. It was so invaluable to Austria that Simon was awarded the "Order of the Eagle" by the Austrian National Tourist Board, who loved the fact that Simon's middle name spelled out their renowned ski resort, St Anton.

Simon's marriage to Barbara Alley was the first wedding on the peak of Jackson Hole Ski Resort. He literally created a career for Alley when he had her narrate an improvised fashion show at the Ski Shows. Years later, he conceived Alley's appearing on TV talk shows with ski fashions modeled by choreographed dancers. These shows toured eleven years, appearing on both local and national programs, including "The Today Show."

Simon's ski industry accolades include the 2004 BEWI Award for "outstanding contributions to the sport of skiing." He and Alley are the only husband and wife to have won BEWIs. In 2005,

he received the NASJA ski writers' Golden Quill Award. In 2008, he and Leonard were given the FWSA's first Snowsports Builder award.

In Memoriam:



photo provided by Sigrid Noack

**JAMES FREDERIC HEUGA
(1943 - 2010)**

by Sigrid Noack

FWSA, and the Ski World, Lost an Olympian and a Wonderful Friend

James Frederic "Jimmie" Heuga was an American alpine ski racer who became one of the first two members of the U.S. men's team to win an Olympic medal in alpine skiing. But, when Multiple Sclerosis prematurely ended his athletic career, Jimmie became an advocate of exercise and activity to combat the disease.

Born on September 22, 1943 to Lucille and Pascal Heuga, a Basque immigrant who ran the cable car at Squaw Valley, Jimmie began skiing at age two and only three years later was competing on the junior circuit. He appeared in a Warren Miller film at age nine. In 1958, at 15, he was named to the U.S. Ski Team, and he remains the youngest man ever on its roster.

As a 13-year old, Jimmie moved to Colorado to train in the Aspen Ski Club program. In 1963 at the University of Colorado, under Coach Bob Beattie, he became a star after winning an NCAA title. Heading into the 1964 Olympic Games, Jimmie was part of a powerhouse team that included Billy Kidd, Bill Marolt, Chuck Ferries, and Buddy Werner with hopes of the first U.S. men's alpine skiing medal in history. Going into the final event, the slalom, the men were still without a medal, but Jimmie and Billy combined to make history, with Jimmie taking the bronze and Billy the silver. In 1968, Jimmie and Billy were pictured on the cover of *Sports Illustrated* before they competed in the Olympics at Grenoble, France. They became lifelong friends.

Three years after earning his Olympic medal, Jimmie began to notice symptoms of MS. He was diagnosed with the disease at 26. After a couple of years following doctors' advice about saving his limited amount of energy, he started to become active again. In 1984, Jimmie founded an advocacy center, The Jimmie Heuga Center for MS, recently

renamed Can Do Multiple Sclerosis, in Edwards, Colorado <http://www.msccando.org>. The center works to raise awareness about MS, recommends new therapies and involves the whole family. All of the Center's programs are based on the philosophy that you can have a chronic condition AND have your health. The organization's programs serve more than 10,000 people annually.

"He was the personification of determination and never giving up - he inspired so many people," said Billy Kidd about his dear friend. "Jimmie's accomplishments on the race course will forever be remembered. But, it's his accomplishments and drive in the fight against MS that will continue to help so many people live their lives. His life is an inspiration."

Jimmie has been honored by the National Multiple Sclerosis Society and received the U.S. Ski Team's Texaco Star Award. He has been on the President's Council on Physical Fitness and was recently inducted into the World Sports Humanitarian Hall of Fame. He is an honored member of the U.S. Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame, (inducted in 1976), the Colorado Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame (inducted in 1987), and the Colorado Athletic Hall of Fame (inducted in 2000). The FWSA named a major Service Award after him in 1987, annually recognizing one individual who, like Jimmie, has demonstrated courage and skill in three areas - the ski slope, the human body, and the courageous heart.

Jimmie Heuga died on February 8, 2010, at Boulder Community Hospital in Boulder, Colorado of complications from Multiple Sclerosis. All of us who had the honor of knowing him and being his friend, will sorely miss Jimmie. ▲

ROLL OF REMEMBRANCE 2010

We have also lost several others wonderful friends and cherished club members including:

ARNE BECKSTROM, Freeskiing Champion

CHARLIE SPERR, Honorary Mayor of Government Camp, OR

C R JOHNSON, Squaw Valley Xtreme skier

IAN BROWN, Seattle Ski Shows

NANCYLEE FURTADO-FUNKHOUSER, FWSA

Convention Silent Auction Accountant

NIC FIORE, Badger Pass icon

NIKOLAI ANIKIN, Nordic skier,

Soviet Champion in the 1950s

STAN WALTON, Past President FWSA ▲

Did You Know?

1905 - National Ski Assn. was formed in Ishpeming, Michigan. It is now the site of the National Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame.

October 7, 1930 - Founding of California Ski Association, which is the father of the Far West Ski Association.

CA Ski Library (www.skilibrary.com)



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Club Charity Involvement

by Sigrid Noack

Charities & Our Community Chair, FWSA

At this year's FWSA Convention, **Skiyente Ski Club**, in the Northwest Ski Club Council, was again the grand winner of the annual "FWSA Charity & Community Service Recognition". What a tough competition it was again this year! The other three finalists were **Altair Ski Club** and **Bend Ski Club**, both also in the NWSCC, and **Fire & Ice Ski & Social Club** in BAC. These clubs displayed very impressive picture boards, showing their involvement with charitable community activities. Industry representatives and ski club delegates expressed their amazement at the variety and the extent of volunteerism and charity support within our FWSA family. A great big THANK YOU and CONGRATULATIONS to all of these FWSA Ski Clubs!

This annual FWSA Ski Club and Council Recognition Award is a \$100 check, which is donated to the winning club or council's favorite charity. Skiyente was actually also the first club to win this special recognition in 2007,

later winners were Arizona Ski Council and Monterey Ski Club of BAC. This is quite an honor for these ski clubs, since there are more than 150 ski clubs within the FWSA family.

Skiyente Ski Club is an all-women's group and has about 75 members. The ladies focus their support mainly on local women related issues and on their mountain community. They seem to enjoy charity work and community support as much as skiing! What a wonderful group of generous and selfless ladies! Their dearest and longest supported charity is their own club's Erin Nicole Scholarship, which honors one of their members' daughter who was lost to AIDS. The scholarship is presented every year to a local up-and-coming female junior racer. But, Skiyente Ski Club also supports many other causes, such as the Oregon Cancer Ski Out, the Mt. Hood Cultural Museum, the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure for Breast Cancer, the Mt. Hood Ski Patrol, US Women's Ski Jumping, Shepherd's Door – a Women's and Children's Shelter, the Medical Team International for Haitian Relief, and twice a year they even do a Highway Clean-Up. Congratulations Skiyente Ski Club! And, keep up the wonderful charity work!

Most of our FWSA councils and member ski clubs are already involved with community

projects and charitable organizations. With our FWSA Charity award, and our new Community Service Awareness Program, we are encouraging even more community service and charitable involvement. My goal is to have 100% of our ski clubs be involved with at least one charity by June 2011, our next FWSA Convention. Please check the FWSA Community Service site for more information at: www.fwsa.org.

FWSA is headed for 100% Community and Charity involvement!

FWSA clubs seem to especially enjoy working with charitable athletic groups for the mentally and physically challenged. The following nation-wide organizations have many chapters within our FWSA region as well as throughout the rest of the US. Check the website or go directly to the charities' websites to find a fun activity in your area, then get your club members excited about it and participate. As I was looking through these charities' websites, getting updated on all of the volunteer opportunities, I was amazed by the many really unique options. I got really excited, when I read about a Plane Pull. I contacted the Special Olympics office to volunteer the next day! What great fun it was, pulling a Fed Ex Airbus

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310! Here are some major options for becoming involved with very worthwhile causes:

Special Olympics is dedicated to empowering individuals with intellectual disabilities to become physically fit, productive and respected members of society. The Special Olympics global community has active programs in 170 countries, including every state within the US, with a total of more than 3.4 million athletes. The program provides year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for persons with intellectual disabilities, eight years of age and older. Special Olympics is humanity's greatest classroom, where lessons of ability, acceptance and inclusion are taught on the fields of competition by our greatest teachers – the athletes. Find the Special Olympics program near you to learn more about what YOU can do to help. <http://specialolympics.org>

Wounded Warrior Project is in partnership with **Disabled Sport USA** and its chapters providing unique, direct programs and services to meet the needs of severely injured service men and women returning from Afghanistan and Iraq. The organization's mission is to honor and empower the wounded

warriors, with core values of fun, integrity, loyalty, innovation, and service.

Forty-one years of experience has shown that early intervention with active sports results in successful rehabilitation, leading to employment. The Wounded Warriors and their family members are provided many opportunities free of charge, including transportation, lodging, adaptive equipment and individualized instruction in over a dozen different winter and summer sports. The Wounded Warrior Project needs YOUR help: Improving the quality of life for our injured soldiers involves working together and doing whatever we can to help engage warriors in their transition from the battlefield to life back home. This can take many forms, from offering financial support; volunteering your time at a WWP-sponsored event; coordinating an event at your home, social club, or place of employment; or spreading awareness for WWP with flyer distribution. Please check out their website and get involved. www.woundedwarriorproject

Disabled Sports USA was founded in 1967 by disabled Vietnam veterans to provide opportunities for individuals with disabilities to gain self confidence, greater independence, dignity and mobility through sports, recreation

and educational programs. DS/USA is the nation's largest multi-sport, multi-disability organization, which offers nationwide sports rehabilitation programs to anyone with a permanent disability. Most states in the US have at least one DS/USA chapter. There are now 28 DS/USA chapters within our FWSA area, many of them receiving support from one of our ski clubs. With so many wounded service members returning home to our communities, YOUR help is needed more than ever. <http://dsusa.org>

"Team Missing Parts in Action": Check out an amazing event this past summer, when DS/USA executive director, Kirk Bauer, himself an amputee, climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro with two other amputees. Between the three of them, they made this climb on three prosthetics and one real human leg! It's really no surprise that the DS/USA motto is "If I can do this, I can do anything".

Can Do Multiple Sclerosis, formerly the Heuga Center, is a leading provider of innovative lifestyle empowerment programs for people with MS and their support partners. Leveraging the powerful legacy and principles of former Olympian and organizational

continued on page 60 ►

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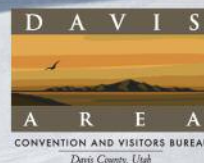
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Thirty million people can't be wrong! But, Where Are The Other 90%?

PART ONE:

by Leigh Gieringer

According to a Ski Industries America (SIA) report released in May, 2010, one in ten Americans say they ski, ride or snowshoe. It is estimated that there are over 300 million people in the United States. Thus, the total estimated size of the US snowsport market has reached 30 million. These numbers were partially based on SIA's 2008-2009 *Snow Sports Participation Report*, indicating a gain of more than 1.5 million participants during that season. Dissected, it included 573,000 more alpine skiers, 309,000 Nordic skiers and 262,000 snowboarders.

More than 20,500,000 individuals participated in at least one snow sport during that season - the last one that has been thoroughly analyzed. Interestingly, about 9,400,000 people who identified themselves as skiers, riders or snowshoers did not participate during that season for a variety of reasons. The number one reason was they did not have time due to family or work commitments, but the number two reason was that they did not have anyone to go with. That's about 884,000 who didn't head for the slopes because they didn't want to go by themselves.

Additionally, *The 1996 National Skier/Boarder Opinion Survey* found that 3% of skiers were 55 or older. At the time, that amounted to 280,000 skiers. By the year 2010, that number was projected to be 380,000 or nearly a 20% increase*. Another statistic of relevance is that it was estimated at the time that 26% of the general public who were 55 plus controlled 80% of the country's discretionary income. What would that mean to ski resorts if they lost the older skier?

About twenty years earlier, an elder skier, named Lloyd Lambert, had reached the mid point of his eighth decade. In 1977 at the tender age of 75, he was ready to hit the slopes as he had done since he was a teen, but his comrades had hung up their skis. He didn't have anyone to ski with. Many had told him: "they didn't give up skiing because they were old, but because they couldn't afford the pricey lift tickets."

He reached out to several nearby ski resorts (New York - New England) who -

**SKIING HERITAGE: A Ski History Quarterly. From the Third Issue 1998 - Volume 10: Number 3, The Seer of Senior Skiing, by Cheryl Thomas about Lloyd Lambert, founder of the 70+ Ski Club.*

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Whether you are a “newbie” or a master; whether you take a private lesson or become part of a class, your skiing abilities will advance. You become more confident on the slopes - thus enjoy them more. - photo / Panorama Mountain Village

after consideration - provided a senior discount program. He started the 70+ Ski Club with 34 charter members. By the mid 1980s, there were over 8,000 and growing. Many more ski resorts participated in discounting their lift ticket prices for seniors over 70, realizing the importance of this market.

No matter what your age, you can find someone with which to ski. With ski clubs throughout the United States, Canada, Australia and much of Europe running trips to the mountains throughout the world, these folks would never have to worry about not having ski, boarding or other snowsport companions. Clubs are filled with members eager to attend a formalized ski week, or just pick up and head for a slope at a moment's notice with a small group of friends or their families.

Ski resorts come in many styles. Some are for the hard-core skier. They have terrific mountains to ski all day, but few on-mountain amenities. After a day of vertical chutes, bumping moguls, gliding through the trees and wandering down long cruisers, a quiet evening is desired, maybe mandatory due to sheer exhaustion.

Some are family oriented resorts, which are wonderful for children of all ages to learn and gain confidence, and at a more modest cost. They may add other activities such as tubing hills, sledding areas, sleigh rides and ice rinks to expand the mountain experience, providing a vast variety of outdoor activities. Still others offer great skiing and a memorable après ski environment. Thus, there is something for everyone at mountain resorts, matching everyone's desires and pocketbook.

But, if only ten percent of the popula-

tion actually says they ski, board or snowshoe, what about the other ninety percent? Does that mean they are not interested in joining their snowsport friends and families at a destination mountain resort? They're definitely missing out.

“I’ve never been skiing. I’m afraid to go.” “I don’t like the cold.” “I’m too old.” “It cost too much.” Ever hear any of these excuses?


Ski resorts are prepared for those who

have never skied, but have a desire to learn. Ski/board schools can take any ability level, including a “never-ever” and teach them to develop a comfort level so they too, can enjoy the bright sunny days, a gentle slope and the quiet mountain surroundings. Or, you may prefer, a gray day with snow flakes kissing your cheeks. You can even master a double black diamond run, if that is your fancy. When you're ready to go to the next level, a ski instructor can take you there. At some point, you can be skiing with all your ski buddies. Or, find others who ski at your ability level. It's a great way to meet new people and develop new memories! Ski clubs offer a wonderful camaraderie.

Because of the altitude, mountain temperatures tend to be cooler - year around, but when the sun shines under a blue sky, you may have to take your outer jacket off. Too warm! It cools off when the sun goes behind the peaks, but you're dressed for it. Besides, the après ski activities begin, so who cares! Thirty million people can't be wrong. Are the mountains calling you yet?


Too old? How old is too old? Lloyd Lambert started a ski club when he was 75. He skied well into his nineties. Many peo-


**we couldn't
HAVE SAID IT
BETTER OURSELVES**




f If you could only choose one place in North America; this is it. The skiing, snow, village, people and scenery are the perfect combination. Until next year...

- Bryant Reiff






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▶ ple have grown up with skiing and will continue to ski as long as they are physically able. However, an adult who has never had the opportunity to spend any time at a mountain resort in winter may dismiss the thought. Be open to a ski vacation. You might decide you really like the cool breezes, the clean air and awesome vistas.

And, the big one? Skiing can be expensive. However, the cost can be reduced by being part of a group. Lodging properties vary by proximity to the slopes, amenities offered, and many other factors. Search out a less expensive property, go in with others to rent a condo where you can make many of your own meals, drive instead of fly, go for four or five days instead of a week, or buy a multi-day pass instead of a daily pass. There are ways to cut the expense! And, if you are a senior, you could qualify for a discount. The age requirement can change depending on the resort.

Still not certain you want to spend time at a mountain resort? Still leary about getting up on one or two boards? Mountain resorts have been expanding their offerings, thus, even if you don't ski, you can find an abundant amount of activities to entertain or in which to participate.

Most resorts have Nordic Centers, and also offer snowshoe rentals. Some trails are easier than others, but they provide an opportunity to enjoy the beauty and solitude of nature. Many resorts have ice rinks or frozen lakes for skating. Take a dog-sled ride or perhaps, a romantic sleigh ride.

The tubing parks are not only for children. But, they can make you feel like you're young - again! Some resorts offer sledding hills, bobsledding or luge tracks for the adventurous. Winter is also a great time to go hot-air ballooning and watch the sun come up over the mountain peaks.

If you're not the athletic type, there is always boutique shopping, searching for thrift store bargains and of course, resorts have always had fantastic and unique restaurants in many price ranges. Enjoy a wonderful and relaxing meal with friends. So many choices, so little time!

Mountain resorts gained in popularity in the middle of the nineteenth century. Back then, they were not too easy to get to. Horses and buggies. Mules and wagons. Some train travel allowed one to get from the bigger cities to small mountain villages, especially in Europe. There were no chairlifts, or even rope tows. One had to walk up the mountain to ski on crude boards by



One of the top spas in Canada is the Willow Stream Spa at the Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel. It is a plush version of the hot springs that beckoned travelers over 100 years ago. Pulsating waterfalls and the mineral pool in the heart of the spa rejuvenate tired muscles. The ultra-luxurious spas are relaxing, comfortable, and sensorial. Imagine re-energizing here. It's fit for a king - or queen - and skiers and boarders visiting Banff, in Alberta. Reservations required.

today's standards. But, one thing they did have was clean air and the most popular destinations also had hot springs promising therapeutic value. Physicians would encourage those who could afford it to travel to the mountains to breathe the pure air, after all, city air was polluted with factory smoke and other hazardous particulates. The mountains became centers to help improve one's health - cure what ailed you.

As skiing became more popular after World War II and into the 1960s and 70s, developing a skiable mountain was the top priority. The infrastructure around it - such as a shopping hub for fashionable ski clothing and fancy restaurants helped bring guests back. As more and more people took to the slopes, the major resorts became bigger and better. Those which couldn't compete faded from the scene, or were bought out by their competition.

It's now turned full circle. Millions of dollars have gone into and continue to go into slope improvements and expansions. Ski towns have provided more activities and opportunities for their guests. Luxury resorts have been and continue to be renovated or developed - many of them slope-side, with numerous amenities. Along with skiers, snowboarders and snowshoers, non-skiers are realizing the advantages of a mountain vacation and enthusiastically arriving to partake in the wonderful atmosphere. Thus, if you belong to the 90% who do not ski, board or snowshoe, and do not want to learn, there is still plenty to attract new visitors to the mountain scene - throughout the year.

One of the most popular attractions - for both snowsports enthusiasts and non participants - are the exquisite spas and health clubs being built at major resorts throughout the world. Most of them in resort communities carry 4- and 5-Star ratings. They are superbly luxurious and elegant, such as the recently renovated Willow Stream Spa pictured above located in the historic Fairmont Banff Springs Hotel. After an energetic day on the slopes, it's time to be pampered. It's beneficial to relax those tired muscles and to prepare for the next day's ski adventure. A combination of massage and stretching decreases soreness and increases flexibility in the muscles used on the slopes. In addition to a relaxing massage, therapeutic saunas, steamrooms or whirlpools can provide tension relief and re-energize the body and soul. Spend an hour or indulge yourself for an entire day with others in your group. There are programs for women, men and couples.

Some resorts include a spa day exchange. One day of a multi-day lift ticket can be used at an associated spa, or use a non-ski day to spoil yourself. Check with the resort/spa of choice to see what treatments are offered or suggested; and what facilities are available such as heated pools, exercise equipment, fitness classes, personal trainers, or indoor sport courts. If you've never experienced a spa day, you will be pleasantly rewarded and reinvigorated.

Appointments are required and each spa has their recommendations for apparel and rules to follow. ▲

See the Digital Edition for Part Two.



Thirty million people can't be wrong!

But, Where Are The Other 90%?

PART TWO :

by Leigh Gieringer

Major ski resorts offer something for everyone throughout the year.



photo / Michael Brown - Solitude, UT

Page 1 of the Digital Edition: Steamboat Ski & Resort will be made more accessible with the addition of Frontier Airlines daily winter service between Denver International Airport (DEN) and Steamboat/Hayden Airport (HDN) for the upcoming 2010/2011 winter season. ©Larry Pierce/Steamboat



TOP PHOTO: Solitude Mountain Resort is located just a short 40-minute drive from the Salt Lake International Airport. With over 1200 acres of skiable terrain, and averaging over 500 inches of annual snowfall, it offers 65 named trails, three bowls and groomers for every ability level. It is a great resort for young children to learn, older children of all ages to enjoy the slopes and terrain park. Off-piste terrain in Honeycomb Canyon can challenge even the most advanced snowsports enthusiasts. All-inclusive, the Nordic Center, restaurants, heated pool, a day spa and ice rink are all conveniently available in this charming, European-styled village. **LOWER PHOTO:** Skiing and riding aren't the only ways to have fun in the snow. Experience the thrills of Gorgoza Park/Park City, featuring the new 390-foot conveyor lift and upper lane rope tow to take participants to the top. The lighted tubing hill is open at night, for more fun and adventure. - photo / Park City Mountain Resort

Ten percent of the American population currently considers themselves to be skiers, boarders or snowshoers according to the May, 2010 SIA industry report as presented in Part One. Last season, there were 471 US ski areas in operation.* During the 1982-83 ski season, 735 resorts were operational. There has been a steady decline ever since, as numerous resorts have closed permanently - unable to compete; or temporarily due to lack of snow. Yet, it is promising to see that the 2008/2009 season resulted in 57.4 million skier visits - the fourth best season on record despite a slow economy. (Data for the 2009/2010 season is not yet available at press time.) That indicates skiers and boarders, as a class, have placed traveling to and participating in mountain activities as a top priority for their discretionary time and dollars.

One of the reasons skier visits are up is that the remaining resorts are developing their brands to be attractive to guests and day time visitors. On-mountain improvements, more trails and off-piste development are on-going projects. New technology gets more skiers to the top - quicker and in more comfort. Advanced technology provides for more snowmaking coverage for lean years, making snow coverage more dependable, and avalanche control when there is too much fluffy white powder from the snow gods. Snowcats prepare the slopes more efficiently and can groom more trails over night.

Lodges, all over the mountain, are being renovated, menus updated and are becoming more luxurious. Snowcat and Helicopter skiing open more territory that is not lift served. Couple that with additional activities like sledding hills, tubing parks, expanded cross-country and snowshoe terrain, world class spas and other resort activities, resorts are drawing more guests - whether they ski or not.

*NSAA 09/10 Kottke National End of Season Survey

There are numerous niche audiences to which resorts cater. Ski club and single skiers of all ages make up a large participation class. Clubs provide planned trips to numerous destinations, at group savings, and provide many ski buddies - old and new - to enjoy the slopes, and other resort activities. As soon as trips are announced, sign-ups begin. Members are eager to participate in group ski trips because they know they'll be able to experience all the ski resorts have to offer and plenty of camaraderie with like minded people.

There are also family oriented ski clubs, and special trips available to families with children, but most families tend to make their own travel decisions and arrangements. They may have their own condos to return often to their favorite resort(s), or select a different one each time they go to experience a variety of fine resorts. In any case, resorts offer great programs for children. They have daycare for infants and toddlers so mom and dad can enjoy the slopes without worry. As a child reaches 3-1/2 years

Starting children to ski at an early age helps them learn good ski techniques and etiquette, but also provides the desire to be a life-long participant. Contact your favorite resort for details on their specific children's programs. Park City Mountain Resort offers the Kids Signature Programs. Students start on a magic carpet if needed, and can progress to any of the three runs off the First Time Lift. - photo / Park City Mountain Resort



old, they can be enrolled in classes where they are taught skiing form, etiquette and lift usage. Many of the programs have sessions on the hill, shared with indoor play, nap and lunch time. These instructors specialize in teaching younger children.

Children who have fond memories of skiing developed as they grow up, have a

greater chance of making skiing a part of their lives as adults. And, on the other end of the age spectrum, those who have been skiing/boarding for decades, consider their sport to be an integral part of their lives. They'll continue to enjoy the mountain atmosphere and thrill of the slopes as long as they are able.

The beauty of the slopes is that not everyone participates in the same way. Pictures of deep powder and extreme skiers jumping off cliffs are amazing to look at, but that may not be within your comfort level. There are those who crave steep, narrow chutes. You do not have to do those either, if that is not your cup of tea.



Powder hounds are invigorated after a snow dump, but if powder isn't your thing, look for moguls, glade skiing, long and gentle cruisers, a terrain park or even the bunny hills. There are plenty of trails and off-piste terrain for all abilities. If an alpine slope looks intimidating, look for a Nordic trail for cross country or snowshoeing. They are all wonderful ways to enjoy a mountain resort. - photo Liam Doran / Breckenridge (Insert) Vail Resort / Jack Affleck



Movies are made of excellent skiers bumping down a mogul field. They are so pretty to watch. And, they make it look so easy, and graceful, but you don't have to venture down those bumps if they intimidate you. There's always an easier way to get to the lodge.

You can meet up with your friends at another lift for a run down a different trail, or meet at one of the on-mountain lodges closer to the summit to relax, refresh and rejuvenate. While you are up there, gaze at the gorgeous scenery. Typically, there is outdoor dining and awesome vistas in every direction. If you have not been to the top of the world - 8,000, 9,000, 10,000 + feet to behold the snow-covered peaks, with their majestic beauty against an azure sky, you don't know what you are missing!

The slopes are meant to be enjoyed at your own pace. And, if you want to improve so you can handle any of the above, ski instructors are there to assist in your skiing aspirations - whether they are to

merely enjoy a gentle, wind-protected slope on a clear, warm day; or efficiently navigate a double-black, very narrow chute for the ultimate thrill, and anything in between.

If you have not been to the top of the world to behold the snow-covered peaks, you don't know what you are missing!

While at your winter resort destination, take advantage of the many resort activities and amenities available after an invigorating day on the slopes. Gather with friends at one of the local watering holes. Many are located at the base lodge or near the base lodge gondola stations. Most lodging complexes offer a hot tub to relax those muscles before the really hard decision of selecting one of the many exceptionally fine dining establishments in the area, or picking a lively night spot for that after dinner cordial and entertainment.



TOP PHOTO: *After a great day on the slopes, there are many après ski activities, including relaxing in the Sunshine Mountain Lodge Hot Tub at Sunshine Village, Alberta, Canada.* - photo /Richard Hallman **LOWER PHOTO:** *Or, investigating all the dining opportunities and boutiques along historic streets like this one in Breckenridge, Colorado.*

- photo / Jeff Scroggins / Breckenridge



Ziplining has become a very popular sport in many resort communities including Whistler, BC; Tamarack, ID; and Park City, UT. Soar above the tree tops as the Park City Mountain Resort ZipRider™ propels one 110 feet above the resort's ski runs at speeds up to 45 miles per hour.

- photo / Park City Mountain Resort

Brundage Mountain Resort, has obtained private ownership of 388 acres of land in and around the base area. Their improvement plan covers a span of 20 years, thus many changes are in store for this Idaho resort. In the summer, many resort mountains are open to biking and hiking.

- photo / Brundage Mountain Resort

Do a little research on numerous resorts before you book. Most offer similar activities, but they are all unique at the same time. Check out their websites for details about each. You will learn about their mountain(s). Larger ones have several peaks to explore. Learn about the degrees of difficulty to enable you to select a mountain you will enjoy the most, since some mountains are more difficult to ski. If you are a beginner, you would be better served on gentler slopes. If you are advanced, you

want terrain that is more challenging. If you have a family with smaller children, there are great learning mountains, although most larger resorts will provide excellent programs for the entire family. Some resorts attract those interested in a swinging nightlife. Others are more quiet and intimate. With over 400 resorts in the United States alone from which to choose, you'll find several to include on your personal bucket list, even if you have members in your party who do not ski.

Resort websites will provide all the pertinent information: details on their mountains, lift ticket costs, equipment rentals, special activities in the area, facts on lodging facilities, dining establishments, reservation numbers, and a lot more. Resorts also offer special pricing for groups. If you are organizing a ski trip for your club, business organization or large family reunion, group sales contact information is also available on resort sites. They can help plan a memorable winter vacation.



Signature Golf Courses abound at mountain resorts. At the higher elevations, golf balls go much further. It's great for your golf score! - photo / Whitefish Lake Golf Club / Ron Wright

Ski resorts used to turn into ghost towns after the lifts closed, but not any more. Many lifts open again in summer. Much of the snow has melted, however, the winding service roads meandering up a mountainside are often put to use again - for mountain bikers and hikers wishing to enjoy the cool mountain breezes, beautiful vistas overlooking valleys below, colorful wildflowers, and nature at its finest. Sight-seers can also take the lifts up, do a little walking along the rims, have a great lunch and return via the lift. Summer is a wonderful time to visit mountain resorts.

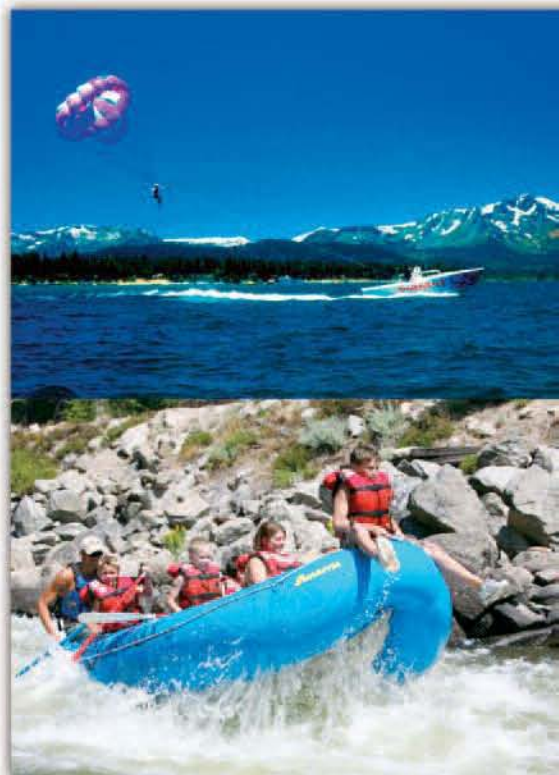
Signature golf courses have been built or remodeled near most ski resort communities in the last decades. Some of the larger ski towns offer more than one course for variety, and to challenge. Your golf score should improve since the air is thinner allowing the ball to travel further.

Ziplining has become very popular, and mountain resorts are the perfect location to get a birds eye view of your surroundings. Ride above and through the trees, over quickly moving streams, or ski trails you skied over the winter. Speeds, length of the zip cables and other factors vary by location. There are ziplines - often under similar, but registered names, in Big Bear, California; Durango, Colorado; Tamarack, Idaho; Big Sky, Yellowstone and Whitefish, Montana; and Park City, Provo and Snowbird, Utah; as well as Whistler, British Columbia, among others. Look for more to pop up at your favorite resort.

It's hard to find a blue-sky summer day where you can not see windsurfers sail boaters and parasailers on mountain lakes. The waters may be chilly, but wet-suits are available if you want to water ski, or just brave the cool temps to get your toes wet. River rafting is also a summer treat. Experienced guides take participants down either in a rubber raft or paddle boat where you can actually help steer the vessel over rocks and rushing water surrounded by stoney banks and sometimes canyon walls. Other areas of the stream are calm as you peacefully float with a slower current. Rivers are rated from easy to advanced, and are typically faster in spring and early summer as the winter's snow melts from the slopes. Partake in a day trip, or multi-day adventures, combined with camping along the banks. Reservations must be made, often weeks, months or even years in advance, especially for trips down the popular, exciting and scenic Colorado River.

Kayaking, canoeing, and fishing are

Summer is an excellent time to visit a ski resort!



Lakes around mountain resorts offer adventures such as waterskiing, parasailing, windsurfing, sailing and canoeing. - photo courtesy of Lake Tahoe Visitor's Authority. **Another very popular activity is river rafting and camping on multi-day trips.** - photo courtesy of Tamarack Resort, Idaho.

also big draws to the mountains, but the less adventuresome have reasons to go, as well. In addition to outdoor activities, there are fancy and unique boutiques for shopping, and plenty of dining opportunities in and around a ski town. Most higher end lodging properties have swimming pools, sports courts, day spas for pampering yourselves, and much more.

Resorts are organizing special events to attract summer visitors. Some of the biggest draws are the film or music festivals. Other cultural events can also be found throughout the summer on numerous resort calendars.



During eight summer weeks of 2010, the internationally acclaimed Aspen Music Festival attracted thousands who attended approximately 320 concerts, lectures, operas and more. If you are into music in an idyllic setting, make plans to attend next year's concerts. - photo / Aspen Music Festival

The Aspen Music Festival is probably the oldest and most well known music festival at a western resort, devoting eight weeks to hundreds of classical music concerts and other related events. The hills are alive with the sounds of music from outdoor stages, and indoor venues are packed with guest conductors, orchestras and other great musical programs.

Telluride has their Bluegrass and Jazz Festivals. The Vail Valley Music Festival is another very popular event. More recent additions include the Brundage Mountain, Grand Targhee and Keystone Music Festivals. Sun Valley has their popular film festival, whereas Odgen, sponsors a Balloon Festival. There is little that is more colorful

and beautiful than numerous hot-air balloons rising to the heavens with the mountains as their backdrop! Crested Butte has a very popular Wildflower Festival.

As the summer months wane and the Aspen trees turn yellow, and scrub maples turn to reds, oranges and golds, Alpen Horns can be heard echoing around the slopes of Snowbird at their Annual Oktoberfest. Who can resist, this festive atmosphere: polka bands, bratwurst and flowing beer on tap. It's fun for everyone!

You do not have to ski to enjoy a mountain resort, whether you go in summer to ride the lifts for a easy walk at the summit; or in winter to ride the gondola up for a moonlit dinner. There is so much to

Since 1977, Telluride has been the site of an annual cultural event produced by the Telluride Society for Jazz combining the finest of nature and art that ranks among the world's most memorable music festivals. The intimate format and abundant opportunities to enjoy spectacular alpine recreational activities complement the superb music presented each year at the Telluride Jazz Celebration. The festival combines performances on outdoor stages during the day with theater and club shows at night. Summer is a fantastic time to visit the resort.

- Evening at the Jazz Stage in Town Park - photo / Doug Berry

do for everyone: young and older, singles and couples, skiers and non-skiers.

Ten percent of the US populations already know how wonderful it is to spend vacation time at a mountain resort. The other ninety percent should be open to learning to alpine or Nordic ski or snowboard. Or, they should merely venture out with their skiing/boarding buddies to partake in the other activities offered at mountain ski resorts. Try it. You'll love it!

Many of the advertisers in this issue of the *Far West Skier's Guide* have opted to have an automatic link to their websites. Information for both winter and summer visits are on their sites. Please check them out by clicking on their ad website address.

COMMON SNOWSPORTS INJURIES

Richard Lubin, D.C. 'the Snowboarding Chiropractor'
FWSA Safety Chair

It is a reality that people can get hurt doing snowsports. Injury rates for skiing are comparable to other active sports at a frequency of approximately 3-4 per 1,000 skier days, and slightly higher for snowboarding. The main difference between ski and snowboard injuries is obvious if you look at the sports. Snowboarders don't have ski poles and fall a lot, particularly beginner snowboarders. This leads to a lot of upper extremity and head injuries. Of course, snowboarders and skiers can also have the same types of injuries so this discussion is for everyone. There's just a greater preponderance of some of these injuries in these different, but similar disciplines.

Ski injuries have changed over the years. One may recall the classic broken leg skier sitting by the fireplace drinking the hot toddy. But, with the advent of improved ski boot and binding design, leg fractures are not as common as they once were.

A few basic terms to become familiar with:

- Sprain: tearing or partial tearing of a ligament
- Strain: tearing or partial tearing of a muscle
These are graded by severity I, II, or III. I is a more minor injury, III being severe or completely torn.
- Fracture means the breaking of a bone.
There are many grades of severity and the words chipped, cracked, fragmented, broken all mean the same thing. Again, there are different severities of fractures.

Let's review some of the most common injury areas:

Knee injuries are more common among skiers. Since both legs are moving independently, one may move uncontrollably without your consent into a bad situation. The mechanism of knee flexion (bending) and external rotation (turning the leg outward) can stress the joint a lot. This can tear the anterior cruciate ligament or ACL. This ligament in the knee joint keeps your lower leg from sliding forward. With the advent of shaped skis, these types of injuries are increased because the ski has a greater propensity to turn. In recent years, there has been an offsetting effect because of the trend to shorter skis, which create less torsion.

Typically the individual feels or will hear a loud pop from their knee. They may or may not have pain, but the knee feels like it cannot support weight. Initial diagnosis is made by physical exam, but is definitively made by an MRI. If your knee feels unstable, or continues to hurt, you will probably need surgery. Some individuals tear this ligament and have little pain or instability and continue their activities. This is possible if the muscles around the knee (hamstrings and quads) are strong and the rest of the joint is intact. The author has over 250 days snowboarding on a complete ACL tear (confirmed by MRI).

Other knee injuries include an MCL or Medial Collateral Ligament Sprain. This ligament attaches your inner thigh (femur) to your lower leg (tibia). Pain is noted on the inside part of your knee. As with all ligament sprains, the severity dictates whether it is a minor complaint or needs surgical repair.

Each knee has two rings of cartilage which act like shock absorbers and each of these is a meniscus. These can be damaged and require surgical repair. One may even feel clicking with pain when their knee bends.

Skiers thumb or a thumb sprain can occur if your thumb gets caught and tweaked by your ski pole. This can be pesky and take a long time to heal.

Snowboarders fall a lot especially when learning. Lessons, wrist guards, helmets, and common sense can help to diminish these maladies. Many of these issues are averted once one's skill level improves. The natural tendency when falling is to put your arms out to brace the fall. Herein lays the mechanism of many snowboarding injuries. These include sprains and fractures of the wrist, forearm, shoulder, and even head injuries. Interestingly, the group of beginning snowboarders is the same group that is least likely to wear helmets. A concussion occurs when one's head strikes the ground, or is jolted by force. Even snow can be quite hard. This is like a bruise to the brain. Concussions are responsible for the end of many careers in sports like football.

Shoulder injuries are also common. There are all kinds of joints, ligaments, muscles, and bones that are vulnerable.

The Acromioclavicular Joint (AC Joint)

is a joint on top of your shoulder that joins your collarbone to your shoulder blade. If you land on the point of the shoulder, one can separate this joint.

The collarbone or clavicle can be fractured by falling onto an outstretched hand. The clavicle is the most commonly fractured bone. This sometimes occurs with an AC joint separation. Most of the time, it heals by itself. Commonly, there's a bump later after it heals. If the separation is large or unusual, surgery may be indicated.

A dislocated shoulder occurs when the top of your arm (humerus) comes out of its socket. This often requires a health professional to put it back in place. Often individuals with this tendency can have this occur multiple times. Surgery and/or rehab may be advised.

The rotator cuff, commonly mispronounced as 'cup', is a group of muscles which attach to the top of (head) of the humerus and are responsible for allowing your shoulder to rotate, as in throwing a ball. Falls can damage this area, as well. If serious enough, it can require surgery.

One of the common consequences of any of the shoulder injuries is that it typically makes it hard to sleep. I recommend lots of pillows and keeping an ice cooler next to your bed to make it easy to put ice packs on the injured area.

Back and neck injuries can occur to anyone especially with falls, twists, bumps, and assorted accidents. Go see your chiropractor and get straightened out.

The ankle is not often injured in skiing because of the boots; however, it's more vulnerable with softer less supportive snowboarding boots. In addition to sprains, snowboarders can fracture their ankle. It is sometimes referred to as a snowboarder fracture.

There are so many ways to hurt yourself skiing; laceration, bruises, tree wells, sunburn, avalanche danger, frostbite, etc. Every injury cannot be described in this short article. If you get hurt and it seems more than minor, go see a health professional. The best way to keep safe is to use good judgment, be well conditioned, have good equipment, anticipate dangerous situations, and be aware. ▲

Remember;

SAFETY IS HAVING FUN CONSCIOUSLY.

Far Off The Beaten Path

A Turkish Delight by Jimmy Petterson



I loaded my Salomon Tornados into the basket under the helicopter. They are 76 millimeters under the boot—an excellent all-mountain ski in almost all conditions. The chopper quickly deposited us onto a distant peak, and I followed my guide intrepidly downward. After only a short distance, it was clear that this was the wrong ski for these conditions. The snow was too deep.

After one run, I exchanged my boards for a pair of Scott skis belonging to the helicopter operation—a big-mountain ski measuring 89 mm. under the boot. Now, at least I could turn in the copious amounts of snow, but it was still not easy. The watchword of the day was “lean back”, an improper powder technique reserved for only the most unusual of circumstances. It was just such a day. Only by placing one’s weight entirely on one’s heels was it possible to negotiate some turns that left a track more rounded than a squiggle.

Steeper slopes would have been perfect for this amount of snow—we were sinking about 80-90 centimeters into the powder, even with fatter skis—but the steep slopes were much too avalanche prone such a short time after a snowfall. This storm had dumped close to a meter-and-a-

half of fresh powder onto the upper slopes, and we would have to do the best we could on descents of 20-25 degrees.

Experienced skiers were all leaning against the backs of their boots looking somewhat like water skiers. Some in the group were using much more upper-body motion than they normally would, to try to help the turns around. After each slope, our thighs were burning. One time, I got my weight a tad forward, dug a tip and almost drowned in snow. I poked my head back up spitting and coughing. It was really that deep.

By afternoon, Hervé, George, and Trevor, our three guides, felt the snow had settled enough to attempt a few slopes that were somewhat steeper. We could see by the snow texture where sloughs had self-released during the storm, and we surmised that skiing the locations that had sloughed might mean that the snow would be somewhat more compacted. Pay dirt! Now, instead of sinking in to our waists, we could get a bounce back from the skis at about 60 centimeters of depth. By the time the ski day was finished, we had done 11 runs and skied about 5,500 vertical meters of extremely deep snow, and the hotel bar was full of tired thighs and happy faces.

Where was this heliskiing taking place? The Chugach Mountains of Alaska? The Monashees of Canada? Maybe the Caucasus of Russia? Perhaps the Himalayas of India? All wrong. We were up to our eyeballs in powder in the Kaçkar Range of Turkey!

When I first traveled to Turkey for skiing close to 20 years ago, various friends thought I was nuts. When I returned to this exotic land where Europe meets Asia to heliski in 2010, nuts was just the introduction to my description, which also included crazy and insane. While many friends were perplexed why I would choose Turkey for heliskiing rather than one of the more conventional heliski countries, I was ultimately joined by my Danish friend, watchmaker Jorn Werdelin, another skier with a pioneer spirit. In the end, insane and crazy were appropriate descriptive words—the two of us enjoyed a week of insane powder, which was crazy deep.

Turkey is one of very few countries that have everything – beautiful seashore, spectacular desert, stunning mountains, rich culture, long and interesting history, delicious food and extremely hospitable inhabitants. Most people know about



Much of the heliskiing in the Kaçkars offers views of the Black Sea. INSET: A sunny picnic by the chopper gives us energy for a dose of afternoon powder. BACKGROUND PHOTO: Turkish powder can be outlandishly deep. - photos - Jimmy Petterson

the seaside resorts, many know about the culture and history, some are aware of the good food and the extremely friendly locals, but very few are knowledgeable about the mountains, let alone - the snow.

Turkey is actually full of mountains, including the Armenian Highland of Eastern Turkey that include Mt. Ararat (5165 m), the Taurus and Anti-Taurus Ranges in the south, and numerous other smaller ranges, but perhaps the group of mountains that is most amenable to skiing is the Kaçkar Range that runs along the Black Sea in the northeastern part of the country.

Krasnaya Polyana, the Russian ski resort on the western flank of the Black Sea that will host the ski events at the 2014 Olympics, is legendary for its powder. So it is strange that the Turks have not built a conventional ski resort here in the Kaçkars to take advantage of the many storms that blow in off this large body of water and keep the mountains drenched in fluff all winter long.

In 2003, Swiss born Thierry Gasser discovered the potential of this area for heliskiing. Not long after that, he teamed up with countryman Nicolas Clerc and local entrepreneur Filip

Amram. They established bases in the villages of Ayder and Ikizdere and they brought the first 75 skiing clients to the Kaçkars. According to Nicolas, he was dissatisfied with a heliski experience in nearby Krasnaya, and simultaneously found out from Thierry about his idea to try to build up a heliski business on the Turkish side of the Black Sea.

Nicolas reflects. *"I had only known Thierry for a couple of hours, but I really felt that he was somebody I could trust. I gave him a substantial sum of money, we shook hands, and that was it. Thierry asked me, 'Don't you want a contract?'" but I said it was not necessary. He asked why I should give him money when he did not have a matching amount to invest. I told him, Your experience is worth more than my money."*

"I had spent years involved in international banking. Thierry was not like those people. I remember that my secretary thought I was mad, but I told her, 'Maybe I am doing the best thing I have ever done - I am getting out of this way of life and getting into something that suits me.'"

And, so it was. Since that time, Nicolas has hardly had time to look back and ponder that decision. Everything between he and Thierry has

worked perfectly from the very start. Thierry was responsible for the practical aspect of the operation, including day-to-day operations and guiding, while Nicolas took care of the administrative side of things. He set up the company, took care of the civil aviation aspect, and all the other such boring, behind-the-scenes details that are so necessary in any such operation. In addition, an avid skier, during the season, Nicolas has literally spent hundreds of days sampling his own product - skiing deep powder alongside his clients.

Adding to his own 30-plus seasons of guiding, Thierry has assembled an international team of guides with a myriad of exploits to their names and whose total seasons of experience has to be counted in centuries. One of his guides, Swiss born Erhard Loretan, was the third man to climb all 14 of the 8000-meter peaks and conquered Everest in an astounding ascent that took only 40 hours! Italian Abele Blanc only needs Annapurna to reach the same lofty status, and Jean Troillet has conquered ten of the monster mountains and was the first man to snowboard from the top of Everest. In between expeditions and adventures, these three have spent most of their lives working as mountain guides.

Add to this auspicious lineup, Swiss born George Robbi, who has done about 30 seasons of heliski guiding in Canada, New Zealand, and Turkey, Chamonix native Hervé Thivierge, with 39 years of guiding under his belt, and Kiwi Trevor Streat, who also has more than 30 seasons heliski guiding experience in India, New Zealand and Turkey, and it adds up to well over 200 seasons of ski guiding experience. Suffice it to say that we felt very safe amidst this team of leaders.

Jorn and I flew by way of Istanbul to Trabzon, the largest port on the Black Sea, and were driven for a couple hours along the northern coastline. All along the highway, the snow-covered Kaçkars – only 30 kilometers inland—rose majestically above the rooftops of the drab, rectangular apartment blocks that line the city streets along the seacoast.

Various river valleys stretch upward from the sea toward the mountains including the ones that bring skiers to Ikizdere and Ayder. At first glance, these narrow canyons look quite similar to their counterparts in the Alps. Rushing water glides over rocks and boulders alongside a windy road. Every now and then, a waterfall cascades down over the cliffs to meet the stream, and high above the road, in sporadic clearings that appear in the forest, are small hamlets of old wooden houses.

At closer inspection, however, one immediately notices a number of distinct differences that make it clear that one is not driving up the Aosta Valley or the Val d'Anniviers. Interspersed with various sorts of pines is an abundance of chestnut and linden trees, as well as a myriad of other plants and shrubs that one does not see in the Alps. Abundant stretches of land are covered with a low growing bush that is cultivated along the hillsides here—tea plantations. Instead of the obligatory church steeple that one is used to seeing in the center of almost every settlement in the Alps, here, the pointy tower of a minaret appears around every other bend in the road.

Of course, the women that one passes in the streets of the mountain towns all adorn the obligatory hijab (headscarf). This is not the modern, cosmopolitan Turkey of Istanbul, but the old-fashioned part of the country. This is Asia... the Middle East... a location where long-standing traditions and religious customs live on and flourish.

Before even arriving in Ayder, we were perfectly aware that we would be skiing in a more exotic location than that which we were accustomed to. If we had not been cognizant of that fact, the dawn call-to-prayer from the mosque adjacent to our hotel was a subtle reminder. The breakfast buffet also looked quite different from your standard morning meal in the Alps. Here,



TOP: Jorn and Georg check out the entry into another bowl of endless fluff. LEFT: Trevor Streat shows off his technique. photos - Jimmy Petterson

alongside the cornflakes and eggs was a sampling of four different sorts of olives, a plate of feta cheese and a large chunk of bee's honeycomb.

As I dragged my tired thighs out of bed and prepared myself for day two of our Turkish powder extravaganza, I was still not sure that I had found the best ski solution. I rarely use a wide ski because I love to sink deep into the powder. I adore immersing myself into bottomless fluff, feeling it batter my goggles and spray my face each time I reach the nadir of my turn. But for our second day, I chose to use a pair of fat skis that were 109 millimeters under the boot. It was not that the snow was heavy – it was just so deep!

The week that we had chosen to visit Turkey was not a busy one for Turkey Heliski. Both Nicolas and Thierry were not in Aydur when we arrived, but we did have the good fortune to meet Filip, their silent partner, who was the third skier in our group. The operation uses six-seat Ecureuil B-3 helicopters as well as Bell 407s, which usually make for groups of four skiers per guide, but our team was a small exclusive group of three.

Trevor led us on a few superb runs in the morning – two on a north-facing slope called Kangoo and one more on Tachicule. The snow seemed to have settled a little from the day before and the fat skis served me well as I bounced blissfully down one virgin line after another. Three additional morning runs on the likes of Easy Woman and Arete a l'Ours were all that were

destined for this day, as high winds gusted up and closed down our skiing after two hours and 4000 vertical meters.

With some extra time on our hands, Jorn and I decided to explore a few of the local towns and villages. We got a ride 18 kilometers down to Çamlıhemsin and walked around town, exploring the old teahouses where the local men wile away the hours playing cards, telling tales, and avoiding their wives. We admired the many Ottoman style stone-arch bridges that crossed over the Ayder and Firtina Rivers, and then took a taxi up to the mountain village of Ortan.

While wandering through the pathways of Ortan, admiring the houses with hundreds of years of sunshine burnt into their old façades, a local woman noticed me from her window. Apparently there are only two homes that are currently inhabited year round in the hamlet and she was curious to see a local visitor. Or, perhaps it was just the famous Turkish hospitality that inspired her, but Jorn and I soon found ourselves sitting with the woman and her husband drinking tea in their living room. We came for the powder, but it was very pleasant to also get to experience the local penchant for spontaneous hospitality.

After each ski day, we enjoyed another aspect of the Turkish experience—their excellent cuisine. Turkey is famous for its mezes (appetizers) as well as their kebabs and rich desserts, such as baklava and kadayif. Each evening, the restaurant of the Hotel Hasimoglu laid out a long

buffet table full of enticing salads and mezes and an additional buffet with a choice of Turkish desserts.

After a scrumptious dinner and a deep sleep, the morning sand was still in my eyes as we wandered out to the heli-pad at 8:30. You can be sure that a winter helicopter pick-up is quite a wake-up call for anyone who is still a bit drowsy. The whap-whap-whap began softly and rhythmically from a good distance away until it eventually bombarded my eardrums with an incessant roar. The roar, of course, was accompanied by a blast of manmade Arctic wind that sent the snow swirling and flying in all directions. No matter how I tried to cover my face, all efforts were futile, and by the time the whirring blades had retreated into the distance, I was shaking snow out of my hat, picking bits of ice out of my eyebrows and wiping my face dry.

Now all was perfectly silent. Looking around me, I could see an endless vista of snow-decked mountains and valleys in all directions and beyond the last row of peaks to the north were the blue waters of the Black Sea. The sky above was also a deep blue and one could hardly distinguish the horizon line where the sky met the sea. Small hamlets of old wooden houses almost buried under large pillows of snow were nestled into many of the valleys and along some of the ridges around us.

There was not much time to enjoy the view. The weather and snow were perfect and it was time to ski. George, Trevor, and Hervé are in their fifties, but if the Ironman competition included skiing, they would all be prime candidates for a trophy. They seemed to be of the opinion that heliskiing is an endurance sport. Hervé was our lead guide on day three, and he shifted directly into fifth gear and did not come up for air until lunchtime.

He was clearly having as much fun as a kid in a candy store—he still skied with the zest and enthusiasm of a young ski bum spending his first full winter on the slopes. By now, the snow had settled enough that Hervé had no qualms about leading us down slopes up to 35 degrees, and we were sinking in a comfortable 40-60 centimeters. The snow depth was ideal for the slopes we were skiing.

Filip was also in great shape and as a partner in the operation, he knew the terrain here very well. He seemed to have no problem keeping up with Hervé, but for Jorn and I, it was a somewhat different story.

We both ski old-school, pumping out short symmetrical turns in powder. Ten turns... twenty...effortless...thirty...forty...I'm starting to feel my legs...fifty...sixty...doesn't Hervé ever stop to rest?...seventy...eighty...lactic acid overload. I pulled up panting and watched Hervé

bounce merrily onward toward our waiting chariot of the ski gods. I pushed off again as soon as I had caught my breath, but I never really caught up all day. With me bringing up the rear, Hervé had plenty of time to pull out his camera on numerous occasions and snap some wonderful photos of us.

We stayed above the tree line most of the day, landing at around 2700 meters and skiing primarily runs of 700-800 vertical meters. We did many lines on a run called Courchevel—a lovely descent which began with a long pitch of 30-35 degrees and mellowed into a meandering cruiser, ending with some turns between some small trees just below the tree line. We skied Clariere and la Petite Souri and just before lunch, we dove into some steep pitches in the trees on a descent called Arête au Village. By the time the chopper came to rest back at the hotel, we had amassed 11,000 vertical meters and my legs were overcooked spaghetti.

In Turkey, they have just the solution for such a situation. Just a few minutes walk from the hotel was a hammam. While a hammam is usually a steam bath, in this case, the local bath consisted of hot spring water that bubbles out of the ground and into a swimming pool at a soothing 43 degrees C. A relaxing visit to the hammam followed by a few bottles of the local Efes beer and I felt as if I had been the Ironman rather than a shadow trying desperately to keep pace with Hervé. I felt rejuvenated and ready for whatever tomorrow would throw at me.

Tomorrow offered another morning of bluebird. Today, Trevor was our leader, and he must have commiserated a little with my muscle aches, for he softened the pace a bit. After all, there were 400 different runs available here with a myriad of lines on every run, and there was no way we were going to be able to do them all anyway, no matter how fast we skied. Today, we landed somewhat higher on a few runs, up over 3000 meters, and we saw a lot of new terrain in the Polavit and Zikale Valleys. We skied descents called Easy Rider, Alone on the Mountain, Face à la Mer, Face à la Biere, and a brilliant run called Les Masses. I was beginning to get my ski legs. We finished with 11 runs and about 8,200 vertical meters, but I didn't feel nearly as exhausted as the day before.

Into every life a little rain must fall. On our final morning, we awoke to a light drizzle in the village and a snowstorm in the higher mountains, rendering flying impossible. But, we were not secluded away in an isolated lodge. Here in Turkey, a bit of inclement weather only meant a change of program. A day of culture and history can easily be substituted in place of pumping powder. In this case, surprisingly, the day included an unwritten page of snowsports history.

In various villages of the Kaçkars, the locals have been entertaining themselves for four centuries during the long, hard, and isolated winters by gliding around their local mountains on predecessors to the snowboard that they call Lazboards.



The Laz people are an ethnic group from the Black Sea areas of both Turkey and Georgia. I hired a taxi to visit the village of Petra and see the Laz people in action on their homemade boards. photo - Jimmy Petterson

Nicolas had made a phone call to one of the locals to inform them of my visit, and after a long taxi ride that culminated with 12 switchbacks up a steep mountain road, I was met at the village mosque by three or four villagers. They invited me for tea and cookies and then showed me the amazing Turkish sport that apparently beat Jake Burton by about 370 years. Looking very similar to Sherman Poppen's 1965 invention, the snurfer, this forefather of the snowboard is about two feet wide and eight feet long, and looks a bit like a flat toboggan. The rider's feet are not attached with any kind of binding, so he controls the board by holding a cord connected to the front and helps steer by holding a long stick in his other hand, dragging it behind the board like a primitive rudder.

The day was mild and sunny, and after finishing our tea, 53-year-old Ali Kurt took me outside to show me what Lazboarding was all about. I had noticed upon arriving in Petran that the corn snow amidst the ancient farmhouses was rife with strange looking tracks, and my suspicion proved to be correct—those odd markings were indeed Lazboard tracks. According to Ali, 90% of the locals participate in boarding—it is indeed one of the only forms of entertainment that this poor mountain village has to offer their inhabitants, and it has been passed down from father to son for generations.

The hills around the village were gentle, and Ali stood more or less in the middle of the board and glided smoothly down over the snow-covered landscape. He assured me, however, that one can ride a Lazboard in deep snow and on steep slopes as well, but one must adjust one's weight further back for those kinds of conditions. He was skilled and he was confident, and one knew by just watching him that he was in harmony with his board and the mountains around him.

"I'll keep boarding until I'm a hunched over old man..." Ali promised with a chuckle, and I felt a commonality with him, for I certainly feel the same about my skiing.



The famous Greek Orthodox Sümla Monastery traces its founding to 386 AD. It is a major tourist attraction located in the Altındere National Park.

photo - Jimmy Petterson

My time was running out, as I had one more location I wanted to see before my evening flight back to Istanbul — the famous Sümla Monastery close to Trabzon. My taxi driver hurried me off so that I could get there while there was still light. It was well worth the trip. This was still one more amazing site — a 1600-year old monastery built into a cave in a rock cliff about 300 meters above a river gorge in the valley below.

While the rain prevented me from a final day of helisking, I was ultimately grateful for the opportunity to see and experience some extremely interesting chapters of local culture and

history. By the time the last powder dust had settled back onto the mountains and all had been said and done about our trip, we realized that we really had gotten the full value of our visit to Turkey. We had enjoyed some of the deepest snow we had ever skied, but we had also been able to experience many things that are indigenous and unique to this remarkable country.

We skied on many occasions with snow-to-sea views. We enjoyed the delightful Turkish cuisine and local hospitality every day. We indulged ourselves in an extravagant 21st century mountain and sports experience, but at the same time, we were able to go back to the roots and see and feel how local mountain people have lived through a broad period of history.

Mountain folk have always lived an isolated lifestyle. They are separated from large population centers by rugged peaks and valleys, and the snow makes their seclusion during the winter months that much more intense. The early monks chose their rocky environment purposely so that their devotion to God would not be distracted by worldly diversions. The present-day Laz people have inherited their isolated environment from their forefathers, but have inherited, as well, a wonderful pastime with which to enjoy the lonely winter months.

But, we modern-day skiers are different. We may have inherited our snowsports hobby from our parents; or we may have been inspired by friends to learn to ski or board. Most of us, however, live in large population centers. We seek a path away from these crowded habitats—back to nature and to the more solitary but peaceful environments that made up the normal lifestyle of our forefathers.

My mother taught me to ski powder and she also inspired me with a love for deep snow. But, she grew up in Austria in a period of ski history before ski lifts, when untracked slopes were the norm. With a ski-upbringing of that nature, it is not so strange that I and others like me, search far off the beaten path for mountains where a helicopter can drop us into solitude atop a peak where there rarely treads a human foot.

Here in the Kaçkar Mountains of eastern Turkey, it all came together. Jorn and I came searching for the solitude of virgin slopes and we found common ground with the local people of Petran, where an isolated snowsports experience is still a part of their daily winter life. We were forced to make one more realization — perhaps... we are really mountain men at heart and our every day lives in the large western cities that we call home are out of synch with our true nature.

NOTE: For more information, see <http://www.turkeyheliski.com>. Jimmy Petterson is the author of the "Skiing Around the World" book and winner of two FWSA Bill Berry Awards. ▲▲

FWSA Plans for Future Conventions

by Jane Wyckoff

FWSA Convention Chair

The Far West Ski Association has traditionally announced the location of the next year's Convention a year preceding the event. Due to the space requirements needed for the Silent Auction and Travel Expo and financial considerations, it has pushed planning much farther in advance in recent years. We continue to work with other councils across the country to plan our convention weekend dates four to five years in advance, so we are not in date conflict with one another. This provides our industry partners the opportunity to attend as many council events as possible, rather than having to choose which one to attend among those scheduled on the same weekend. An additional advantage for earlier planning is that it enables the host council to better staff and support the event.

At the 2010 FWSA Convention in Indian Wells, the Association announced that the 2012 FWSA Convention will be held June 7-10, 2012 in Ogden, Utah. For the first time, the FWSA's newest council, the Intermountain Ski Council, will host the Convention. Don Anderson, Intermountain President, will be serving as the Host Council Convention Chairman. The council has already selected a western theme — "Cowboy Up".

Ogden City and Weber County provide a community teeming with fun family activities, beautiful mountain vistas and exciting historical significance. The choices for fun, outdoor optional event activities are endless. We will enjoy the unique and vibrant downtown setting and beautiful accommodations provided by the *Ogden Marriott Hotel* and *Hampton Inn & Suites*. Meetings will be held at the state-of-the-art *Ogden Eccles Conference Center*. We are looking forward to working with the *Ogden Convention Visitors Bureau* and community groups as the FWSA Annual Convention will be held at a ski resort.

The Far West Ski Association will be conducting the next Convention in the Bay Area/Reno-Tahoe, hosted by the Bay Area Snow Sports Council, June 6-9, 2013. The next two Conventions are scheduled for June 5-8, 2014 and June 4-7, 2015, with a host selection between the Northwest Ski Club Council and the Arizona Ski Council. The San Diego Council of Ski Clubs, host of the highly successful 2010 FWSA Convention in Indian Wells this past June, is already looking into hotel locations for 2016.

Be sure to mark your calendars for June 9-12, 2011, to attend the FWSA's 79th Annual Convention, to be held at the fabulous Pacific Palms Hotel & Conference Center in Industry Hills, California, hosted by the Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs. ▲▲

Facebook!? MeetUp? LinkedIn!? Twitter?

Seriously?

Yup! For some of us, hey, nobody told us, when we joined our snowsports clubs, that we were going to have to be tech-savvy, or gadget-friendly, and on top of that, own a computer! But, social networking is the wave of the future, and what a wave it's turning out to be. In addition to the simple ones, like your club's website and list-serve e-mail, let's check out a few social networks that work well to communicate and increase your club's membership:

Facebook and MySpace.....

The Granddaddies of social networking, Facebook and MySpace started out as a refuge for young adults; a place where they could see and be seen, and "hang out" in a virtual world free from anyone they chose not to allow as a "friend" (i.e., parental units). Now they're a fantastic tool to tell the virtual universe about your snowsports organization: what you do and when you do it. You can have fans all over the world! Best part of all – it's free!

Yahoo Groups/ Constant Contact.....

Maybe one of the best tools for virtual meetings, chat rooms, and e-news, Yahoo Groups and Constant Contact can be tailored with more specifics than Facebook and MySpace. You can even build your own club "bank," allowing payments for everything from dues to trips to take place on-line. They allow a lot more flexibility for customization for your club, but you'll have to pay for some features.

MeetUp.....

MeetUp is also a great source for a virtual meeting. This one costs a little bit of dough, though...

LinkedIn/Plaxo.....

Although used more often by professionals to network, both of these sites can be used by clubs, as well.

Are your clubs using Social Media to communicate and help increase your membership?

by Sheri Parshall, NWSCC &
Linda Scott, Intermountain Ski Council

Twitter.....

Tweet, tweet, tweet! Twitter, while still wildly popular, may have peaked as a social networking tool. If you use it with any frequency, your tweets start increasing to the point of over-tweetness. Plus, the messages are size-restricted. Still, it's a great way to get a quick message to your members.

These are a few of the most popular social networks out there. Of course, there are more! In addition to all they can do - mentioned above, another cool tool is that they will often keep the administrators updated on new members, page hits, etc.

There are some things to keep in mind when it comes to social networking: You'll need to take care that you don't isolate your techno-phobic membership by making sure those who want to can still receive your hard copy newsletters. Additionally, you'll need to have newsletter editors, website creators, and social network site administrators who are on top of not only the content, but the technology. A website that hasn't been updated in six months is so sad, as well as counter-productive. You will lose your audience since they will figure they have already seen it and will not check back for new entries, scheduling and updates. Ditto with a Facebook page that hasn't had a post in a couple of weeks.

MOST IMPORTANT: Once you've put something into cyberspace, whether it's the date of your next ski trip, or your credit card information, it is in cyberspace forever. You and your club will need to make the determination that the benefits outweigh the risks when it comes to the systems you design to capture the personal information of the membership. Companies that set up your banking processes may sell "security," but just keep in mind that nothing on the Web is 100% secure.

Thank you for picking up the printed version of the *Far West Skier's Guide*. This is a fabulous publication for us west coast skiers and boarders. Although it may be a little "old school" technologically speaking, you get to browse for councils and clubs in your area, and all absolutely wi-fi free*. But, we have to thank our kids and their friends, who are dragging us, kicking and screaming - sometimes - into the 21st Century. *Of course, they may not thank us. Mom and Dad are on Facebook now, too! Tweet that!*

Editor's Note: The *Guide* is even entering the twenty-first century with this issue also being converted into a digital edition. Clubs are invited to add the link to their club websites, Facebook pages and announce the new format by "Tweeting" it to their friends. Contact fwsg@cox.net. ▲

► *Charities: continued from page 49*

founder Jimmie Heuga, Can Do MS has helped thousands of people living with MS reclaim a sense of dignity, control and freedom by empowering them with the knowledge, skills and confidence to transform challenges into new possibilities.

By focusing on what you can do, these individualized and experiential programs provide a whole new way of thinking about and living with MS. You are more than your MS! You have the power to live a full life!

There are many opportunities to volunteer with this wonderful organization. Events like the Can Do MS Vertical Express for MS, the Jimmie Heuga Memorial Golf Tournament in Cordillera, CO and the Annual Autumn Benefit in New York City all rely on the efforts of volunteers. You can plan ahead to participate with your ski club in a 2011 Vertical Express for MS Event happening in your area: *Big Sky*, Montana – February 2011; *Crystal Mountain*, Washington – February 25-27; *Steamboat Springs*, Colorado – February 27; *Squaw Valley USA*, California – March 5-6; *Schweitzer Mountain*, Idaho – in March. Please check out these charities and help where you can. www.msando.org ▲

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reservations@thetimberline.com

Steamboat is actually a complete mountain range: Mount Werner, Sunshine Peak, Storm Peak, Thunderhead Peak, Pioneer Ridge and Christie Peak. The resort's 2,965 acres of permitted terrain offer a diversity of trails for all levels of ability. The gladed areas of Pioneer Ridge, Sunshine and Storm Peak are instrumental to Steamboat's claim to fame, providing legendary Champagne Powder™ snow in the trees for the most avid powder hounds. There are 165 named trails, with the longest run over three miles. The resort is blessed with over 350 feet of snow per year; on average, but just in case, 375 acres are enhanced with snowmaking equipment, creating ideal conditions for snowsports enthusiasts.

photo ©Larry Pierce/Steamboat

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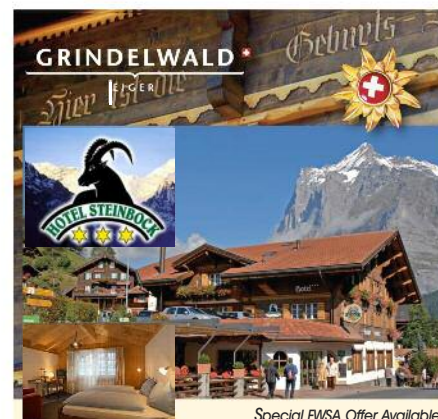


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info@kandaharlodge.com
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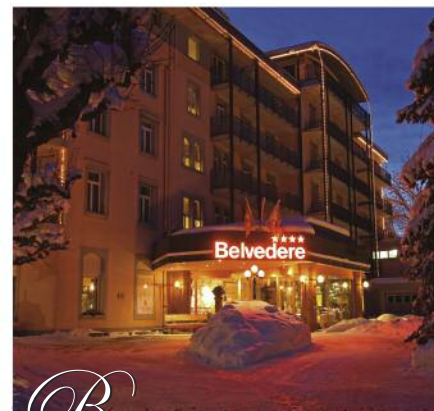
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To be included in the 2011-2012 Far West Skier's Guide / Lodging Guide, please contact Jane Wyckoff at (949) 933-9607 or janewyckoff1@cox.net.



- photo courtesy of Telluride Ski Resort

Something to celebrate! Arizona Ski Council members will make their annual ski trip to Telluride in January of 2011. This year, Telluride continues terrain expansion with the opening of Gold Hill Chutes 2-5. Revelation Bowl opened in 2008-09, along with Gold Hill 1. The resort has expanded by more than 400 acres over the past three seasons, giving the resort a vertical drop of 4,425 feet, with 3,845 vertical feet lift-served – one of the highest in North America.

Arizona Ski Council

by Mike Rogers, President

Arizona has seen changes in the way people spend their leisure time. In order to maximize the benefits to club members within the council, a retreat over this last summer has defined the way clubs interface in reciprocity. What that means to a club within the council might be hosting an event which is open to any person who is in a club within the council. For example, the hiking club is versed in numerous hiking areas of interest for those who like to hike. A ski club member can sign-up and go on the hike without having to join the hiking club. This concept increases the social networking between members and clubs while reducing costs to the individual club member.

Ski trips this year will include Telluride, Beaver Creek / Vail, Park City, Copper Mountain and Winter Park. The council is working with Mt. Bachelor, Brain Head, and Snowbasin/Powder Mountain to provide discounts for a weekend get-away for those who have limited time for trips. Summer events are being planned to cover a number of cultural and relaxing venues, mostly on weekends. The summer trips are being planned to be an escape from the heat.

The AZ Council is looking to expand the number of clubs from a variety of interests to join the council. This would increase the depth of activities people can enjoy. The AZ Council is looking to have clubs in the Flagstaff, Tucson and Yuma Areas join. An example is the addition of a sailing club which would provide ready access to cruises,

bareboat charters and other sea going adventures. Expansion of activities is the key driver for this effort.

The November 6, *Welcome in the Snow Kick-Off Party* is a BBQ event bringing all six clubs together to greet in the 2010-11 season. Warren Miller will also have three showings around November, with the ski clubs present to hand out the *Far West Skier's Guide* to current and potential new members. For the 2010-11 season, the AZ Council presents a ski trip calendar, which is the result of a collaborative effort between the clubs to open the trips to all members. The trip schedule will appear on our council website which will also list a number of local club events to provide the one-stop-shopping for fun and social networking.

The AZ Ski Council clubs demonstrate their philanthropy talents in supporting numerous non-profit events. The Phoenix Ski Club each year sends a team to the MS150 and members provide numerous donations to the Shoe Box Ministry which helps the homeless. Both the Phoenix and Scottsdale Ski Clubs sponsor Adopt-a-Highway and additional support from all the council clubs goes to Toys for Tots, AZ Food Bank, Children's Hospital, to name just a few.

Further expansion into the future has been demonstrated in an effort to increase internet presence through Facebook and other social networking tools. This effort has been with the clubs, as well as the council. Search us out and join the fun.

Arizona Ski Council

www.arizonaskicouncil.org

President: Mike Rogers

(925) 360-4052

President@arizonaskicouncil.org

Arizona Ski and Social Clubs

Member Clubs and Contact Information

ARIZONA OUTDOOR & TRAVEL CLUB

Website: www.azoutdoortravelclub.com

President: John Nichols

480-800-5758

Jnichols13@cox.net

BOEING EMPLOYEES ADVENTURE CLUB

Website: www.boeing.com/companyoffices/aboutus/recreation/mesa.html

Club Representative: Janice Roedel

janice.c.roedel@Boeing.com

EAST VALLEY CLUB

Website: www.evskiclub.org

President: Greg Shaffer

480-940-4876

602-568-1663

gregsphx@cox.net

PARTY TIME SPORTS

President: Gary Giertz

602-799-3062

ggg44@q.com

PHOENIX SKI CLUB

Website: www.phxskski.org

President: Paul Castaldo

480-861-4903

pjc2002@cox.net

SCOTTSDALE SKI & SOCIAL CLUB

Website: www.scottsdale-skiclub.com

President: Jim Nachbar

480-289-5300

president@scottsdale-skiclub.com



"Zonies" stop to admire the awesome view at Snowmass. - photo / Mike Rogers



Gone is the snowboard. It's replaced temporarily by a wakeboard.

- Après Ski Club photo shot at Lake McClure / Scott Bowker

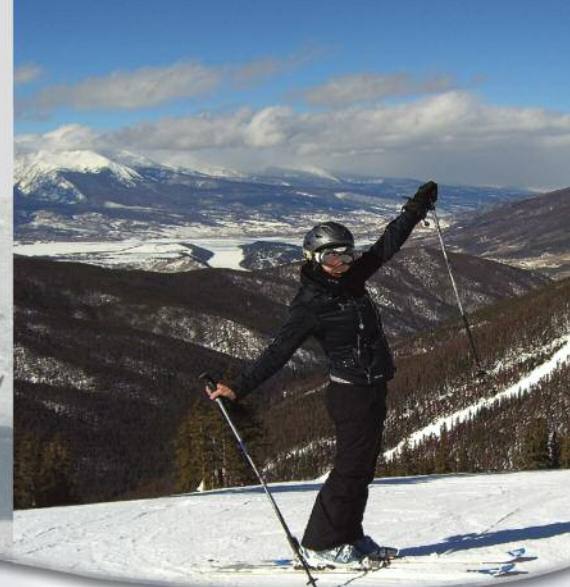
Bay Area Snow Sports Council

by Dennis Heffley, President



Over the years, BAC has raised over \$300,000 for the adaptive ski school at Alpine Meadows through their DSUSA Ski For All fundraiser.

- photo / Scott Bowker



Oh, what a beautiful morning. Oh, what a beautiful day. I have a wonderful feeling, everything's going my way! No, it's not Oklahoma, but the FWSA Ski Week in Keystone, CO.

- photo / Ken Calkins

The Bay Area Snow Sports Council (www.skibac.org) is a very active part of the Far West Ski Association (www.fwsa.org) and the National Ski Council Federation (www.skifederation.org).

This past year, our Race Leagues in the BAC were Champions at the Far West Level. While our Racing Leagues (skiers and snowboarders) are an active part of the Bay Area Snow Sports Council - it is NOT our entire focus. Our focus is Having Fun! One might ask, "who should join a BAC club?" A very simple answer **YOU!**

The variety of trips available through the BAC to go skiing and snowboarding include club trips, council trips and Far West trips. The locations include many Tahoe venues, domestic locations and adventures to Europe. You can kind find members of the BAC going to the slopes just about anytime during the winter!

The BAC has 30 active member clubs based in the greater San Francisco Bay area which extends as far north as the Napa Valley, south to Monterey / Carmel and east to Modesto. We feature two separate leagues within the BAC. Our Singles League is made up of five clubs with their full members being over 21 years of age. Our Open League has twenty-five clubs and welcomes individuals, couples, families and their children! Both of our leagues have a very active Recreational Racing Program and we bring everyone together for the annual NorCal Championships, Far West Championships and the new Aspen Nationals.

Another wonderful part of the BAC clubs and our members is how we volunteer

our time and energy through community outreach and fund raising. Our main benefactor is Disabled Sports USA (DSUSA). We have many annual events with our largest fundraiser being the BAC DSUSA Ski For All benefiting their adaptive ski school at Alpine Meadows Ski Resort. Over the years we have raised over \$330,000 for the program! In 2010, we held our 5th Annual BAC / DSUSA Oakland A's Baseball Game, Tailgate BBQ and Fireworks event. Ninety members of the BAC, their friends and family had a great night. Thank you to the Oakland A's Baseball organization for supporting our efforts!

The history of the Bay Area Snow Sports Council is just as amazing as what is taking place today.

In late 1947, the Bay Area Ski Federation was organized "For the welfare of Bay Area Skiers" and voted to join Far West as the Bay Area Council (BAC) Ski Clubs in 1961. To embrace all snow sports activities, the current name of the BAC is "Bay Area Snow Sports Council".

During all four seasons our BAC clubs are very active!

The Singles League portion of the BAC holds an Annual Snow Ball in November to celebrate the coming winter sports season. This year, we are having our 36th Anniversary of this gala event! The evening consists of a wonderful black tie optional dinner / dance along with a silent auction and an amazing raffle. Our auction and raffle would not be possible without the tremendous support that we receive from the ski industry and resorts!

We, in the leadership of the BAC, are very fortunate to have our clubs and their members associated with us along with having the Lake Tahoe area in our "backyard". Our members are amazing and the amount of history and diversity of places to ski / snowboard is a true gift.

Our Recreational Race Schedules for 2010 - 2011 will be featuring Alpine Meadows, Sugar Bowl, NorthStar-at-Tahoe, Bear Valley, and Squaw Valley! Then, there are the Far West Championships at Alpine Meadows and the National Championships at Aspen, Colorado! Become one of our "racers". Come out and have a great time. Even if you don't race, please join us at the slopes during any of our on mountain events!

In our continued efforts to share information with our BAC members, we have a Monthly BAC general meeting where we welcome and look forward to having guest speakers who talk about their resorts, products and/or travel opportunities. This year, we are also putting a great deal of energy into sharing information on how to improve our various clubs through information and interactive conversations!

If you have any questions or need more information about the BAC, please contact me at bac.president@skibac.org or look at our website at www.skibac.org.

To our members, clubs and those who donate and support our efforts, I always like to say . . .

"You're The One Who Makes The Difference!"

"For the Welfare of Bay Area Skiers"



We can't stay away from those mountains! A group hikes Mt Rose - Apres Ski Club BAC photo / Ed Martin



Bay Area Snow Sports Council

www.askibac.org

President: Dennis Heffley

(925) 825-3262

bac.president@skibac.org

Bay Area Snow Sport Council Ski and Social Clubs

Member Clubs and Contact Information

ALL SEASONS SKI CLUB

Website: www.asscskiclub.org

President: Gary Garrett 209-477-0521

Slim2700@hotmail.com

ALPINEER SKI CLUB

President: Tony Van Winden 707-838-9707

vanwinden@comcast.com

APRES AKI CLUB

Website: www.apres.org

President: Edward Martin 408-245-3024

edatsunnyvale@yahoo.com

BERKELEY SKI CLUB

Website: www.berkeleyskiclub.org

President: Rosemary Johnson 510-245-9735

president@berkeleyskiclub.org

BLADERUNNERS SKI & SPORT CLUB

Lockheed Martin Employee's

President: Monique Huygen 408-946-4676

monique.guygen@lmco.com

BOTA BAGGERS SKI CLUB

Website: www.jaws.com/botabaggers

President: Bob Ellis 530-414-4270

rellis9681@aol.com

CAMBER SKI CLUB

Website: www.skicamber.org

President: Jerry Crawford 831-443-8435

jrcrawford@redshift.com

CARMEL SKI CLUB

Website: www.carmelski.org

President: Stephanie Locke Pintar

831.601.3227

splintar@mindspring.com

CASTRO VALLEY SKI CLUB

Website: www.cvskiclub.org

President: Karen Wehrman 510-538-2872

kwehrman@comcast.net

CISCO SKI CLUB

Cisco Employee's

President: Dana Gauthier 408-527-4862

dagauthie@cisco.com

FIRE & ICE SKI CLUB

Website: www.fireandiceskiclub.net

President: Zeffie Bruce 831-297-2103

Zeffiebruce@yahoo.com

FREESTYLERS SKI CLUB

Website: www.freestylersskiclub.com

President: Wally Baumgartner 916-744-1231

kcoffee1@frontiernet.net

INSKIERS SKI & SNOWBOARD CLUB

Website: www.inskiers.com

President: Ed Pease

eddel4329@aol.com

MARIN SKI CLUB

Website: www.marinskiclub.com

President: John Mouraille

johnmori2001@yahoo.com

MODESTO SKI CLUB

Website: www.modestoskiclub.com

President: Debra Clover 209-613-3410

dlbrace@aol.com

MONTEREY SKI & SOCIAL CLUB

Website: www.montereyskiclub.org

President: Greg Robinson 831-384-3964

gregrobi@ix.netcom.com

NISEI SKI CLUB

Website: www.niseiskiclub.org

President: Morgan Hua 408-242-6981

president@niseiskiclub.org



- photo courtesy of Aspen Skiing Company



photo courtesy of Snowbird

NORTH BAY SNOWONDERS

President: *Mary Redfern* 415-507-1510
themnmns@earthlink.net

OAKLAND SKI CLUB

Website: www.oaklandskiclub.com
President: *Leslie Blaney* 510-530-8452
leslieblaney@yahoo.com

PENINSULA SKI CLUB

Website: www.peninsulaskiclub.org
President: *Steve Heidger* 408-893-8035
sheidger@sbcglobal.net

RUSTY BINDINGS

Website: www.rustybindings.com
President: *Mark Greenberg* 925-705-6792
mark@wtplanners.com

SAN FRANCISCO SKI CLUB

Website: www.sfskiclub.org
President: *Judy Shulman* 415-731-1670
judyshulman@hotmail.com

SAN FRANCISCO VIKING SKI CLUB

Website: www.skvikingskiclub.org
President: *Paul Thompson* 510-759-5896
paul@pthompson.com

SNO*FLAKES SKI CLUB

Website: www.skisnowflakes.org
President: *Roy Braley* 925-516-7815
rebraley@earthlink.net

SNOW DRIFTERS SKI CLUB

Website: www.snowdrifters.org
President: *Pamela Stewart*
president@snowdrifters.org

SNOWCHASERS SKI CLUB

Website: www.snowchasers.org
President: *Walt Kawecki* 707-748-1249
2kawecki@comcast.net

SOUTHBAY SKI CLUB

Website: www.southbayclub.org
President: *Helen Conway*
sbschelen@att.net

SUNBURST SKI CLUB

Website: www.sunburstskiclub.org
President: *Sue Kane* 650-921-7223
matissesue@yahoo.com

SUNDANCER SKI CLUB

Website: www.sundancerskiclub.com
President: *Chuck Peters* 408-295-5498
c1peters@aol.com

THE OLYMPIC CLUB

Private - Member Sponsored
President: *Steve Bard* 650-343-3405
steve@bardfamily.org

TOP OF THE HILL GANG

Website: www.ggtothg.org
President: *Henry Lew* 650-739-0556
henry-lew@att.net

The celebration continues. Christmas and the New Year's Holidays are a fabulous time to visit a ski resort. Although the slopes may be more crowded, there are numerous special activities planned by the resorts including a beautiful fireworks display such as this one over Aspen.

Alta and Snowbird are conveniently accessible for destination travel. Little Cottonwood Canyon is less than an hour from Salt Lake City's airport. Skiers and boarders can fly into the city in the morning and be on the slopes in the early afternoon. Known for it's "dry" snow, this canyon averages around 500 inches annually. A dual resort ski pass can be purchased at Alta.



SLO Skiers take time out from skiing at Telluride for a unique sleigh ride with Rowdy. Pictured left to right are Hal, John, Teri, and Rowdy. - photos provided by Fran Long



SLO Skiers camp and bike during a trip to Ojai. Some of the group enjoy the beach at Ventura before heading back up the hill to Ojai. Pictured from left to right: FRONT Row: Bill, John, Fran, and Bruce; BACK Row: Linda, Lloyd, Lauren, Jean, and Kathleen.

Central Council of California

by Fran Long, President

A common question asked of many Central Council Ski Club members is "Where do you ski around here?" For our coastal clubs, Santa Barbara Ski and Sports Club, San Luis Obispo's SLO Skiers, and Camber Ski Club in Salinas, the answer is, we don't! We travel to ski areas all over California, the Western United States, and the world to ski. One of the greatest advantages of belonging to a ski club is having accessibility to a wide variety of ski and snow sports activities and a group of friends to help you enjoy them. Check the website of any one of the Central Council Ski Clubs to see the variety of local, US, and international ski opportunities available to club members. Most Central Council clubs welcome members of other Central Council clubs on their ski trips.

Skiing/boarding is the passion that brings most ski clubs together, but there is an ever increasing number of club members who don't ski or snowboard. As our clubs become more active year round, they are attracting members who enjoy a wide variety of outdoor sports. A club's summer calendar is now as busy as the winter calendar with camping, hiking, water skiing, volleyball, biking, etc. It isn't uncommon to have 5-10 non-skiers on a ski trip. The non-skiers enjoy all of the other winter activities our resorts have to offer. In addition to skiing, ski weeks are packed with snowshoeing, dog sled rides, sleigh rides, shopping, sightseeing, etc. You don't have to let the fact that you don't ski, and don't think you want to ski, keep you from checking out your local ski and sports club. You may find something just right for you!

For contact information on any one of the six clubs in Central Council: Avalanche in Bakersfield, Fresno Ski Club, Santa Barbara Ski Club, SLO Skiers in San Luis Obispo, Camber Ski Club in Salinas, or Snow Trackers in Exeter, go to the Central Council website.

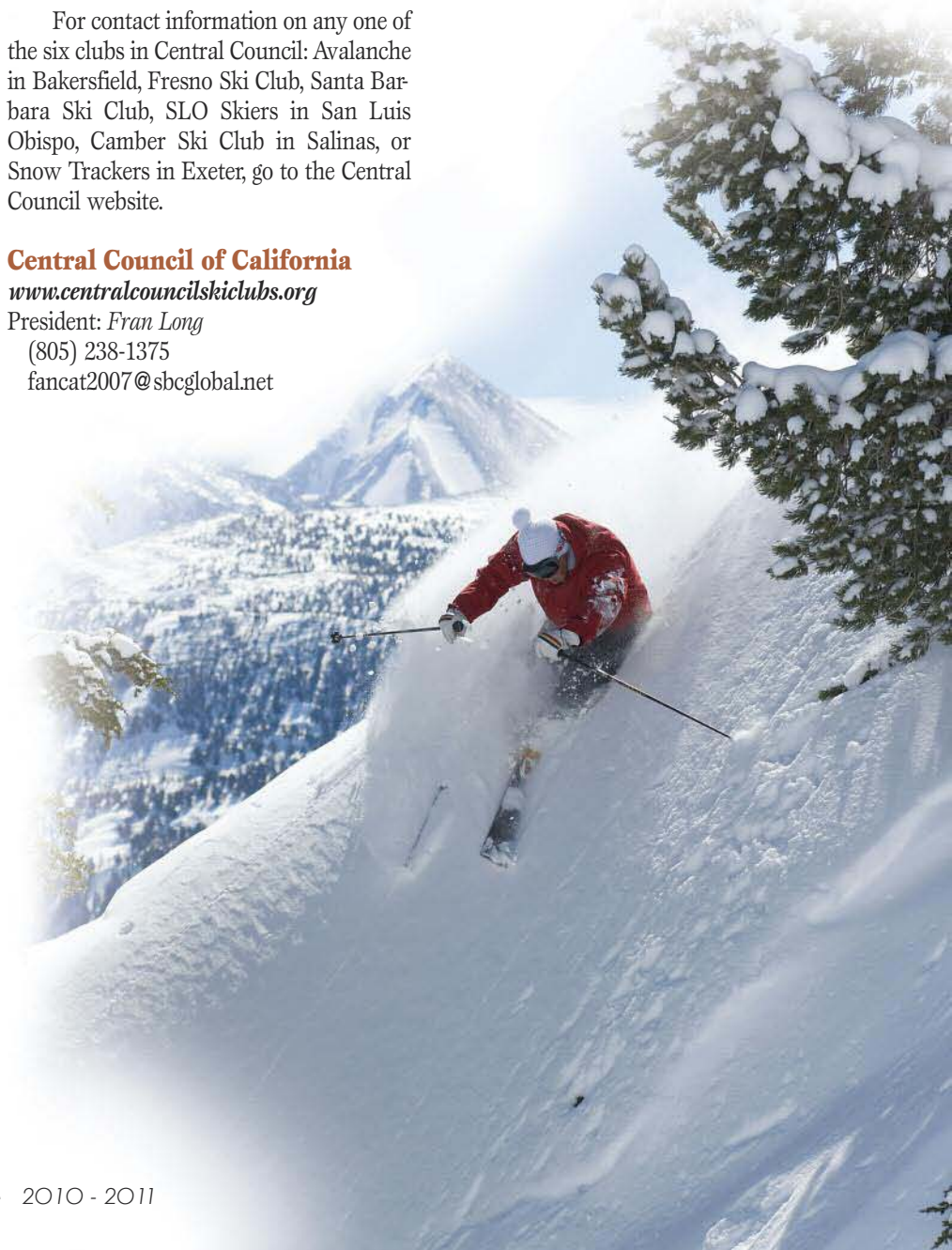
Central Council of California

www.centralcouncilskiclubs.org

President: Fran Long

(805) 238-1375

fancat2007@sbglobal.net



Central Council of California
Member Clubs and Contact Information

**AVALANCHE SKI
AND SPORTS CLUB**

Serving Bakersfield, Kern County
Website: www.centralcouncilskiclubs.org
Contact: Donna Barnes, President
dbarnes@bakersfieldcity.us
Club Hotline: N/A

CAMBER SKI CLUB

Serving the Salinas Valley,
Monterey County
Website: www.centralcouncilskiclubs.org
Contact: Jayne Camic
Ski Trips/Activities Director
camicski@aol.com
Club Hotline: (831) 443-8435

FRESNO SKI CLUB

Serving Fresno County
Website: www.fresnoskiclub.com
Contact: CJ Rouse, President
president@fresnoskiclub.com
Club Hotline: N/A

**SANTA BARBARA SKI
AND SPORTS CLUB**

Serving Santa Barbara County
Website: www.sbski.org
Contact: Michael Mead, President
president@sbski.org
Club Hotline: (805) 895-9697

**SLO SKIERS, A SKI SPORT
& SOCIAL CLUB**

Serving San Luis Obispo, Southern
Monterey, and Northern
Santa Barbara Counties
Website: www.sloski.org
Contact: Hal Rosewall, President
president@sloski.org
Club Hotline: N/A

SNOW TRACKERS

Serving Exeter, CA
Website: www.centralcouncilskiclubs.org
Contact: Helen Salisbury, President
helenzz@aol.com
Club Hotline: N/A

LEFT: Most southern and central California clubs head to Mammoth Mountain often during the ski season for recreational skiing, as well as racing weekends. The resort also has a Ski Club Appreciation Weekend toward the end of the normal ski season. However, their actual season extends well into the summer months.

- photo / MMSA/Peatross



- Keystone photo / Ken Calkins

The FWRA Race Program is a favorite event at FWSA Ski Weeks.

Inland Council Racing League

by Wayne Stolfus, VP. Travel

Inland Council was formed in 1971. The council currently represents five ski clubs from the Inland Empire region of Southern California with the inclusion of the Flatlands Ski Club based in the Midwest. The council and its affiliated clubs actively promote a variety of recreational opportunities specifically designed for non-skiers, skiers and snowboarders. Inland Council and Race League have been active for more than 28 years. We welcome volunteers to help organize and run our council programs. If you have an interest, please contact Wayne Stolfus. The racers from the Inland Council will participate this year by attending the race weekends and events at Mammoth Mountain sponsored by Rokka and Schusski leagues. Some of our racers will also participate in the races offered by the Sierra and Open Leagues in the Lake Tahoe area.

In addition, racers will be a part of the SoCal Championships in March and Far West Championships in April at Alpine Meadows. Sitzmarkers Ski & Social Club attended the great FWSA 2010 Ski Week at Keystone, and we plan to participate at Sun Valley for the 2011 FWSA Ski Week. We look forward to another exciting week with lots of activities, parties, racing and great skiing.

Each club schedules trips to Mammoth Mountain and the Lake Tahoe area during the ski season, plus outings throughout the year to other resorts including Mexico, water ski trips, social gatherings, barbecues, and more. Contact a club near you for more information.

Inland Council Racing League

www.fwsa.org
VP Travel: Wayne Stolfus
909-799-3118
spiderRx@aol.com

Inland Council Racing League
Member Clubs and Contact Information

**CANYON LAKE
ALPINE CLUB**

President: Betsy Weil
betsy@inland.net

FLATLANDS SKI CLUB

President: Dan Crawford
Cell: 816-805-0384
macrci@aol.com

PHILLIPS RANCH SKI CLUB

President: Alan Deines
909-620-7709

**SITZMARKERS SKI &
SOCIAL CLUB**

Website: www.sitzmarkers.com
Info Number: 951-780-0188
President: Chris Clautice
clautice@aol.com

SNO CATS SKI CLUB

President: Chuck Rue
909-985-8856
c.rue@prodigy.net

INLAND COUNCIL RACING LEAGUE

Year around social gatherings and activities: Mountain & Beach Resorts!



The 2010 Intermountain Ski Week was held in Sun Valley. Approximately 125 snowsport enthusiasts eagerly attended. That didn't include the one on the right! - photo provided by Don Anderson



Intermountain Ski Council

by Don Anderson, President

The slow economy has been a big challenge for all our clubs this year with decreases in membership and smaller trips. On a positive note, we welcome resorts to join us as Affiliated Members with Sun Valley and The Canyons and now, newcomers Snowbasin, Telluride and Teton Springs Resort showing their strong support. Our annual council trip was to the Sun Valley Lodge in late February. Highlights included a pub crawl in Ketchum, a fun relay race down Seattle Ridge and our Beach Party with the Shot Ski. Our 2011 trip will be to new Affiliated Member, Telluride January 13-17. Fly, bus, or car pool, just get there to join us and neighboring Arizona Council for a lot of fun. Club bus trips continue to be popular visiting other resorts like Jackson Hole, Big Sky, Telluride, Snowbasin, Brundage, Mt. Bachelor, Grand Targhee, Bogus Basin and Vail. Several clubs have strong Nordic groups that do day and weekend trips into local forest areas and large parks like Yellowstone.

We were proud to present a FWSA Safety Thermometer this year to the Painted Buffalo Inn, in Jackson, WY for their continued support to all of us. (They give all ski clubs a special room rate until April). We have some other candidates as well, so watch for them when visiting resorts.

Being so close to the mountains, our clubs enjoy off-season activities like rafting, camping, hiking, cycling, houseboat and water-ski trips, along with outdoor concerts, picnics and other social events. Most of our clubs

have strong youth and family-oriented activities and sponsorship programs.

The year 2012 seems far in the distance, but since Intermountain has been honored to be named the host council for the FWSA Annual Convention in June, we have already begun our planning. The site will be Ogden, UT near the mountains, yet good proximity to the Salt Lake City airport. The optional activities should be great fun in the mountain setting. The theme will be western so, "Cowboy Up". If you haven't been to Utah lately, the liquor laws have been modernized, so we will be having lots of partying and fun!

This year our website was rebuilt as an "org" instead of ".com". Thank you webmaster, *Lennia Machen*, for all your hard work on our new site.

For more information, visit our website.

Intermountain Ski Council

www.intermountainskicouncil.org

President: Don Anderson

(208) 238-8081

andersonbloom@yahoo.com

Intermountain Ski Council

Member Clubs and Contact Information

BLACK HILLS SKI CLUB

Website: www.bhskiclub.com

President: Joel Landeen

landeen777@aol.com

BOGUS BASIN SKI CLUB, BOISE, ID

Serving Boise and the greater Treasure Valley area

Website: www.bogusbasinskiclubtemp.com

President: Rosie Rosco

rosie.rosco@yahoo.com

Membership: Bonnie Hill

bonniehill51@hotmail.com

CHEYENNE SKI CLUB, CHEYENNE, WY

Website: www.cheyenneskiclub.com

Club e-mail: cheyenneskiclub@gmail.com

President: Pat Lauber

patlauber@naos.org

HILL SKI CLUB, HILL AIR FORCE BASE, OGDEN, UT

Website: www.hillskiclub.com

President: Norm Bates

waterskillington@comcast.net

IDAHO FALLS SKI CLUB, IDAHO FALLS, ID

Serving Northeastern Idaho

Website: www.ifsiclub.com

President: Don Rasch

skibiz@ida.net

PARK CITY MOUNTAIN SPORTS CLUB, PARK CITY, UT

Website: www.pcmsc.org

Hotline: 435-645-5350

President: David Anderson

danderson@dcalaw.org



Dave Miller, Dave Walthall, Ted Hogander, and Alicia Culbertson rest a moment on their European ski venture. - photo provided by Don Anderson

- photo / Brundage Mountain Resort

POCATELLO SKI ASSOCIATION, POCATELLO, ID

Website: www.pocatelloSKI.com

President: Lizbeth Benson 208-232-0054

Membership: Betty Andeson 208-237-8336

UP THE CREEK SKI & REC CLUB, DENVER, CO

Website: www.upthecreek.org

President: Curtis Cloutier

salestrainingdvr@aim.com

WEBER STATE SKI CLUB, WEBER STATE UNIVERSITY, OGDEN, UT

Website: clubs.weber.edu/ski

President: Ryan Davies 801-389-4420

ryandavies@mail.weber.edu

Membership in Weber State Ski Club is open to students at Weber State University only.

Located high in the mountains of Central Idaho, Brundage Mountain is best known for its powder-packed glades and luxuriously wide groomed runs. The resort is blessed with over 320 inches of snowfall annually. The 2010/2011 ski season will mark the resort's 50th season. New this year, Brundage will be opening up a brand new Children's Terrain Garden to help develop the little one's snow skills. For the more advanced, over the summer, a tree trimming project opened 68 acres to glade skiing in select areas of off-piste terrain. Check their website for activities to help celebrate this milestone year.

Compiled by Scott Bowker

2010 WESTERN REGION SKI SHOWS



Seattle SkiFever & Snowboard Show

October 15-17

Washington State Convention Center, Seattle, WA

Boise Ski Swap

November 5-7

Western Idaho Fairgrounds, Boise, ID

Colorado Ski & Snowboard Expo

November 5-7

Colorado Convention Center, Denver, CO

Park City Ski Swap

November 5-7

Basin Recreation Field House, Park City, UT

Portland SkiFever & Snowboard Show

November 5-7

Portland Expo Center, Portland, OR

SnowBomb San Francisco Ski & Snowboard Festival

November 6-7

Fort Mason Center, San Francisco, CA

San Diego Snow Jam

November 12-14

Del Mar Fairgrounds, Del Mar, CA

Ski Dazzle Bay Area Ski Show & Snowboard Expo

November 12-14

San Jose McEnery Convention Center, San Jose, CA

UNR Ski Swap

November 12-14

Washoe County Fairgrounds, Reno, NV

SnowBomb Silicon Valley Ski & Snowboard Festival

November 13-14

Santa Clara Convention Center, Santa Clara, CA

Las Vegas Snow Jam

November 19-21

Cashman Field Center, Las Vegas, NV

Ski Pro Avalanche Ski Sale

November 19-21

Phoenix Convention Center, Phoenix, AZ

Ski Dazzle Sacramento Ski Show & Snowboard Expo

November 20-21

Cal Expo, Sacramento, CA

Ski Dazzle Los Angeles Ski Show & Snowboard Expo

December 2-5

LA Convention Center, Los Angeles, CA

Bay Area Snow Sports Council volunteers help man their council booth at the Ski Dazzle Bay Area Ski Show to introduce their clubs to new members. - photo by Scott Bowker



**Los Angeles Council
of Ski Clubs**
by Norbert Knapp, President

Single Ski Club of Los Angeles had its 50th Anniversary Celebration on September 25, 2010 at the Marina City Club, Marina Del Rey. Shown above are 31 Presidents of Single Ski Club in attendance at the event.

- photo / Peter Mitchell

The Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs, with 29 member clubs, is one of the oldest and largest councils in Far West Ski Association. Together, with our sister councils in Southern California, we enjoy a diverse and wide-ranging home ranging from Mammoth and June Mountains in the Inyo Forest to Mount Waterman and Mount San Jacinto in Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties.

Our 5,000 plus members, from Santa Barbara to Long Beach, enjoy sports of ALL kinds, winter and summer – snow skiing and boarding, water skiing and wind surfing, hiking, river-rafting, softball, volleyball, golf, and tennis. And, we love to participate in the time-honored sport of fine dining, as well!

But to focus on winter sports, many of our larger clubs have several weekend or mid-week trips to Mammoth Mountain, as well as trips scheduled out of state and/or to international destinations. L.A. Council also runs one or more week-long trips to various resort destinations, both in North America as well as Europe or to the Southern Hemisphere. For the 2010-11 season, one of our trips will be combined with the Far West Ski Association trip to Sun Valley the last week of January, 2011. Another trip is scheduled in March to Schweitzer Mountain, Idaho.

The highlight of our year is our Annual Snow Gala at the Queen Mary on Saturday, November 6. More than just a wonderful party, this event is designed to recognize outstanding members of each L.A. Council club. Each club chooses their outstanding man and woman to represent them at the Snow Gala. It provides everyone a chance to learn about each club and about the achievements and contributions of at least two of its members. At the Gala, our council selects a Council Man & Woman of the Year who will go on to compete against other FWSA Council repre-

sentatives at the Annual FWSA Convention in June. Sandy Blackwell, our Vice President of Programs, is in charge of this event.

Once we have skiing on our mind, we start the new season with our annual “Learn to Ski, Race and Board Week” in December at Mammoth Mountain in conjunction with the instructors at the mountain. For a modest fee, individuals receive lodging, lift tickets and group or individual training as conditions dictate. It is THE BEST way to introduce new or novice sports enthusiasts to the wonderful world of winter sports – or to improve skills at any level.

The Los Angeles Council has two race leagues, ULLR and Rokka. (To find out what these mean, contact a local club!) Each league has four races at Mammoth, plus the SoCal Championships. FWRA also holds their Championships at the end of the season. The 2011 event will be held at Alpine Meadows.

Ski clubs are not-for-profit organizations, as is the council. Members recognize the importance of social networking and community involvement. Every club and individual members are encouraged to support local community organizations; and of particular interest is the Adaptive Recreational Program serving snowsport lovers with special needs. The Unrecables Ski Club is comprised primarily of adaptive skiers who we are proud to count among some of our busiest clubs.

I mentioned the FWSA Annual Convention in June. In 2011, Los Angeles Council will host this event at the fabulous Pacific Palms Hotel & Conference Center in Industry Hills, centrally located between the 605, the 10, the 57 and the 60 Freeways just off Azusa Avenue.

Information on all of our events is available on our website, along with links to all of our clubs. Check it out! And – always THINK SNOW!

Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs

www.lacouncil.org

President: Norbert Knapp

(323) 793-4250

lapresident@lacouncil.org

Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs Member Clubs and Contact Information

AEA SKI CLUB (Aerospace)

L. A. South Bay

Website: www.aeacclubs.org/ski

President: Tracy Kaber 310-221-1612

ASIA SKI & BOARDING CLUB OF L.A.

Greater Los Angeles

President: Warren Tanaka

Aboveboard@yahoo.com

AUSLICH SKI & RECREATION CLUB

Belmont Shore/Long Beach

Website: www.auslichskiclub.org

President: Bill Holtz 562-439-4952

auslichskiclub@gmail.com

BEACH CITIES SKI CLUB

L. A. South Bay

Website: www.bcskiclub.org

President: Nick Gillett

president@bcskiclub.org

BUCKHORN SKI CLUB

Los Angeles, Riverside and
San Bernardino Counties

Website: www.orgsites.com/ca/buckhorn

President: Russell Doherty

949-360-3757



Snowcat skiing has been extremely popular at Powder Mountain, Utah. This season, an additional 1,000 acres of expert chutes and bowls have been added to the 2,000 acres already available for their Snowcat Powder Safari. The new area will be known as La Plata, named after a present day ghost town vibrant in the 1890s which was populated by workers in nearby silver mines. Wolf Canyon back-country guided tours will also be available.

- Courtesy of Powder Mountain, Utah. Photo Credit: Simon Peterson

CCSC SPORTS

L. A. County (Santa Clarita, San Fernando Valley, West L.A.)
Website: www.ccscsports.org
President: *Marsha Simpson* 661-259-0410
jimsimpe@sbcglobal.com

CONEJO SKI & SPORTS CLUB

San Fernando Valley / Ventura County
Website: www.conejoskiclub.org
President: *Jim Robertson* 805-368-7964
jrobertson546@gmail.com

EDELWEISS SKI & SPORT CLUB

Los Angeles & San Fernando Valley
Website: www.edelweisskiclub.org
President: *Chuck Cattanaach* 818-802-9933
c.cattanaach@sbcglobal.net

EXECUTIVE BOARD SNOWBOARD ASSN.

Greater Los Angeles
President: *Keith Green* 323-691-1918

GRINDELWALD SKI CLUB

Glendale, San Gabriel Valley, Pomona / Walnut
Website: www.grindelwaldskiclub.org
President: *Bob Wildman* 323-663-4618
YeloroX1@aon.com

HUGHES SKI CLUB

L. A. South Bay
President: *Steve Klinger* 310-802-8190
klingersrmk@earthlink.net

KRONENSTADT SKI CLUB

Pasadena and San Gabriel Valley
Website: www.geocities.com/kronenstadtski
President: *Bruce Bailey* 323-938-4422
bbailey@gwa-architects.com

LONG BEACH SKI CLUB

Long Beach, Orange County
Website: www.longbeachskiclub.org
President: *Don Crawford* 949-851-5896
Cdon2000@sbcglobal.net

LOS PADRES SKI CLUB

Ventura County
Website: www.lospadresskiclub.net
Membership: *Kent Adams*
Kda3@verizon.net

OVER THE HILL GANG LOS ANGELES

Greater Los Angeles
Website: www.overthehillganglosangeles.org
President: *Doris Lion* 818-980-1053
Bendydb@earthlink.net

OVER THE HILL GANG VENTURA

Ventura County
Website: www.vcothg.org
President: *Hal Ross* 805-373-7522
lawking@earthlink.net

PACIFIC RIM ALLIANCE

Southern California & Nevada
Website: www.pacificrimalliance.org
President: *Catherine Ohl* 858-467-9469
ohl@acatmeowz.com

RADAR RIVER RATS (aka HEASB WATER SKI CLUB)

Greater Los Angeles
Website: www.radarriverrats.org
President: *Catherine Ohl* 858-467-9469
ohl@acatmeowz.com

SAGA SKI CLUB

Hollywood, Long Beach
Website: www.Sagala.org
President: *Jim Lawson*
president@sagala.org

SANTA BARBARA SKI & SPORTS CLUB

Santa Barbara County
Website: www.sbski.org
President: *Michael Mead* 805-895-9697
president@sbski.org



Stand at the top of Schweitzer Mountain and you'll see three mountain ranges, Canada and three states. The terrain varies from smooth corduroy groomers to wide open bowls and gladed runs. LAC is planning a trip to this great mountain in 2011 with 92 trails on 2900 skiable acres.

- photo / Schweitzer Mountain Resort



photos / Eric Van Pelt



LEFT: Conventions are not all business. We have fun dancing, too! ABOVE: LAC delegates to the 2010 Convention gather. It will be a difficult task to surpass the Indian Wells Convention, but the council will be the major force behind creating a memorable 79th Annual Convention in Industry Hills - June of 2011.

SINGLE SKI CLUB OF LOS ANGELES

L. A. South Bay, West Side,
San Fernando Valley
Website: www.singleskiclub.org
President: Linda Mero 818-990-8742
limero@aol.com

SLOPE SURFERS SKI CLUB

L. A. South Bay
Website: www.slopesurfers.org
President: Chris Kishida
president@slopesurfers.org

SNOWBUSTERS

Pasadena, San Gabriel Valley
President: Jerry McGhee 626-353-0930
skiermon@verizon.net

SPACE PARK SKI CLUB (formerly TRW)

Southern California
Website: www.therightwayskiclub.org
President: Phil Weisgerber 310-921-9341

TRI VALLEY SKI CLUB

Eastern LA County,
West San Bernardino County
Website: www.trivalleyskiclub.com
President: Sharon Stein 951-532-6500
sharlynst@aol.com

UNRECABLES

Southern California
Website: www.unrecables.com
President: Amade Nyirak 805-300-1451
Amade2@gmail.com

WAILERS SKI CLUB

L.A., Orange, Ventura Counties
Website: www.wailersskiclub.org
President: Susan Carson-Lewis
818-985-7590
president@wailersskiclub.org

WESTWOOD SKI & SPORTS CLUB

Greater Los Angeles
Website: www.westwoodskiclub.org
President: Scott Peer 818-500-0488
scottpeer@aol.com



An Amazing Skier – An Inspiration to All

The Unrecables Ski Club, Los Angeles Chapter of Disabled Sports, USA has a new member, who is an inspiration to all of us. Dianna Digiandomenico put on her first set of skis in January and joined the Unrecables on one of our Mammoth ski trips in March. That's seven weeks later. You can imagine our surprise when she insisted on going to the top with us, to ski Cornice! She did ski it, all the way down with no hesitation! Two months later, Dianna appeared on our Mammoth trip with a snowboard. She had learned to snowboard using outriggers! We were totally amazed and are still in awe - especially knowing that less than four years ago, Dianna was run over by a fully loaded one-ton truck and its trailer.

- Sigrid Noack



Sherrie found a new friend at a Big Sky, Montana Lodge.

- photo / Sherrie Marco



For decades, Taos Ski Valley has been world renowned for its marvelous Ski School, however, for those who want to bone up on special skills in just a short time frame, Taos offers the new and improved, concentrated and condensed mountain sports camps. They are fast, fun, friendly and focused. Race or general ski improvement, steep and deep, mogul camps to conquer the bumps, or expand snowboarding skills, too: they're designed to deliver just what you want to learn. Above, spectators gather to watch an event on Kachina Peak. - Seth Bullington / Taos Ski Valley

New Mexico Ski Club Council

by Diane Stearley, President

NMSCC is one of the eleven member councils of the Far West Ski Association, as well as, the National Ski Council Federation.

NMSCC is made up of three clubs representing approximately 600 members. A club's membership in the NMSCC gives it the triple privilege of Far West Ski Association membership, as well as the National Ski Council Federation. Membership provides many benefits including travel bargains, membership cards, discounts from several ski industry retailers, networking, educational events, participation in FWSA trips and shared activities with other clubs within the council.

NMSCC has a wide variety of clubs, from those with year round activities to ski season only events. We encompass both Alpine and Nordic clubs. There is truly something for everyone. Check out the club page on our website to get a listing and contact information.

As the NMSCC continues to grow, we will see even greater buying power and recognition. If your club is not a member, we want to encourage you to join us and get involved. We still have a lot to accomplish. If you are interested in helping form a racing league, newsletter, safety projects or any new ideas you might have, please contact us.

Looking forward to seeing you in the upcoming ski season!

New Mexico Ski Club Council

www.skinewmexico.org

President: Diane Stearley

(505) 281-3755

dmstear@att.net

New Mexico Ski Club Council Member Clubs and Contact Information

ALBUQUERQUE SKI CLUB

Virtual Club

Website: www.abqskiclub.com

President: Bill Folke

NEW MEXICO CROSS COUNTRY SKI CLUB

Serving the greater Albuquerque area

Website:

www.naturediscovery.org/skiclub.org

President: Janie Gillmaore-Daniels

SITZMARKERS SKI CLUB

Website: www.nmsitzmarkers.org

President Paul Adkin

Michelle Martinez competes in the Santa Fe Snowshoe Classic held in January, 2010. - photo provided by Michelle Martinez





Skiers prepare for a PACRAT race at Mt. Hood, Oregon.



Skiyente Ski Club and friends celebrate snow. - photos provided by Sheri Parshall

NORTHWEST SKI CLUB COUNCIL

Northwest Ski Club Council

by Sheri Parshall, President

Hey Snowriders!

Welcome to the Northwest corner of this year's fabulous Far West Ski Association Skier's Guide. Northwest Ski Club Council is starting its fourth decade of service to winter sports enthusiasts on the Upper Left Coast, and we're ready to rock and roll! We've got a new logo, representing our Northwest volcanoes, and we're ready to explode into winter!

NWSCC clubs represent nearly 10,000 snowsports enthusiasts in the states of Oregon, Washington, Alaska and now Hawaii! And, don't let our name fool you - we're not ALL about skiing. Our member clubs include service organizations (Outdoors for All, Oregon Adaptive Ski Club, and the Mt. Hood Ski Patrol), a museum (Mt. Hood Cultural Center and Museum), as well as clubs representing both Alpine and Nordic skiing. We even have a cycling club and a sailing club (not to mention cool names, like S'No Joke and WIHSKI). Check us out at www.nwskiers.org.

Were you a racer in your younger years (heck, we're all still enjoying our "younger years," right)? NWSCC has its very own race league, the Pacific Northwest Area Recreational Alpine Teams, or PACRAT. The best thing about PACRAT is that you can be a total rookie in the gates, and still score huge for your team! PACRAT is celebrating its 27th year running gates on the slopes of Mt. Hood. Skiers and snowboarders from all NWSCC clubs are allowed to participate. If you like NASTAR, you'll love PACRAT!! PACRAT is

an officially licensed NASTAR franchise, so you'll be able to score NASTAR points while you race for your club! If your club doesn't sponsor a team, we'll find one for you. Check out www.pacrats.org for schedules, photos of past races, and information on racing in the Northwest.

NWSCC clubs are also energetic, generous members of our communities. Not only do we support our non-profit members, we donate thousands of dollars and many hours of time to local charities. Cancer foundations, highway clean-up sponsorships, homeless shelters and scholarship programs are all supported by NWSCC clubs. Northwest Ski Club Council was extremely proud to have two finalists, out of three, in the 2010 FWSA Charities and Our Community Competition: *Altair Snowsports Club* of Eugene, Oregon, and *Skiyente Ski Club* of Portland, Oregon. Skiyente was the winner, for the second time in three years. *Skiyente Ski Club* and *Mountain High Snowsports Club* are also sponsor clubs for the newly created *Far West Snowsports Foundation*, raising and donating funds for up-and-coming junior US Ski Team hopefuls. Together, these two clubs, alone, donated nearly fifteen percent of the scholarship funds awarded in 2010.

Once you join a club, be ready to expand your horizons—literally! NWSCC clubs travelled to over fifty resorts in 2009-2010, both domestically and internationally. And those were just ski trips. From our local Cascade volcanoes to the craters on New Zealand; from Alyeska to the Alps, NWSCC clubs were

there. Traveling with an NWSCC club is the best of all worlds: great fun, great friends and great adventures. Once you join an NWSCC club, you're also invited to all the trips hosted by Far West Ski Association. Join us in Sun Valley in January and Europe in March.

We could tell you we're not your grandpa's (or grandma's!) ski club, but some of us are! Congratulations to Longview Ski Club, who in 2010 celebrated 75 years of service to the skiing community in Longview, Washington. Longview is just one of many snowsports clubs who have provided camaraderie, travel opportunity, and fun to generations of snowriders for over fifty years.

If you're a member of an NWSCC club, to borrow shamelessly from Dr. Seuss, "*Oh The Places You'll Go!*" NWSCC clubs are going to be circling the globe in search of fun. Join us, won't you?

Northwest Ski Club Council

www.nwskiers.org

President: Sheri Parshall

(503) 912-0064

cougskier@aol.com

Northwest Ski Club Council Member Clubs and Contact Information

ALASKA

MATSU SKI & SNOWBOARD CLUB

Location: Palmer, Alaska

E-mail: johninv@mtaonline.cnet



ABOVE: NWSKC skiers enjoy a powder perfect day. RIGHT: PACRAT team "Kiss My Wax" shows off their team bling at the PACRAT Rat Attack.



HAWAII

HAWAII SKI CLUB

Location: Aiea, Hawaii
Website: www.hawaiiisnowskiclub.com
E-mail: pres@hawaiiisnowskiclub.com

OREGON

ALTAIR SKI & SPORTS CLUB

Location: Eugene, Oregon
Website: www.altairsports.org

BEND SKI CLUB

Location: Bend, Oregon
E-mail: bendscc@aol.com

BERGFREUNDE SKI CLUB

Location: Portland, Oregon
Website: www.bergfreunde.org
E-mail: skiclub@bergfreunde.org

CABERNET SKI & SAIL CLUB

Location: Portland, Oregon
Website: www.nwskiers.org
E-mail: johnoreinhardt@hotmail.com

CASCADE PRIME TIMERS SKI CLUB

Location: Portland, Oregon
Website: www.cascadeprimetimers.org

CASCADE SKI CLUB, INC

Location: Lodge at Government Camp, OR
Website: www.cascadeskiclub.org

EBONY ROSE SKI CLUB

Location: Portland, Oregon
Website: www.ebonyroseskiclubportland.com
E-mail: ebonyroseskiclub2002@yahoo.com

FOUR SEASONS SPORTS & REC CLUB

Location: Salem, Oregon
E-mail: 4seasons-of-salem@comcast.net

MT. BACHELOR SKI EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Location: Bend, Oregon
E-mail: mbsef@mbsef.org

MT. HOOD MEADOWS RACE TEAM

Location: Hood River, Oregon
Website: www.meadowsraceteam.org

MT. HOOD CULTURAL CENTER & MUSEUM

Location: Government Camp, Oregon
Website: www.mthoodmuseum.org
E-mail: mthoodmuseum@centurytel.net

MT. HOOD SKI PATROL

Location: Mt. Hood, Oregon
Website: www.mthoodskipatrol.org

MT. HOOD SKIKATS

Location: Portland, Oregon
E-mail: friendhenry@cnwnet

MOUNTAIN HIGH SNOWSPORT CLUB

Location: Portland, Oregon
Website: www.mthigh.org
E-mail: info@mthigh.org

OREGON NORDIC CLUB-PORTLAND CHAPTER

Location: Portland, Oregon
Website: www.onc.org/pdx.html
E-mail: membership@onc.org

PDX SKI CLUB

Location: Portland, Oregon
Website: www.nwskiers.org
E-mail: alwaysislandbound@yahoo.com

PORTLAND UNITED MOUNTAIN PEDALERS (PUMP)

Location: Portland, Oregon
Website: www.pumpclub.org

Members from various clubs and councils are provided the opportunity to get together for fun, too, at the Annual FWSA Convention. See you again next year!



- photo by Eric Van Pelt



- Orange Council photos by Steven Breithart

SCHNEE VOGELI SKI CLUB

Location: Portland, Oregon
Contact: Dale Parshall (503) 912-0064
E-mail: dale.parshall@usbank.com

SKIYENTE SKI CLUB

Location: Portland, Oregon
Website: www.skiyente.com
E-mail: skiyente@yahoo.com

WASHINGTON

COWLITZ COUNTY SKI CLUB

Location: Longview, Washington
Website: www.nwskiers.org
Contact: Norvin Peer (360) 423-5422

DESERT SKI CLUB

Location: Tri-Cities, Washington
Website: www.desertskiclub.org
Info Number: (509) 946-4386

LONGVIEW SKI CLUB

Location: Longview, Washington
Website: www.nwskiers.org
Contact: Judy Merila (360) 575-8470
E-mail: lvcruise@adelphia.net

NORTHWEST SKI AND RECREATION CLUB

Location: Bellevue, Washington
Website: www.nwskiclub.org
Contact: Steve Griffith
E-mail: dancinbaer@yahoo.com

OUTDOORS FOR ALL FOUNDATION

Location: Seattle, Washington
Website: www.outdoorsforall.org

SEATTLE SKI CLUB

Location: Seattle, Washington
Contact: 425-434-6565

SKIHAWKS SKI CLUB

Location: Seattle, Washington
Website: www.skihawks.org
E-mail: Skihawks@earthlink.net

S'NO JOKE SKI CLUB

Location: Seattle, Washington
Website: www.snojoke.org
Info Number: (206) 938-5999
E-mail: info@snojoke.org

SEATTLE SINGLES YACHT CLUB

Location: Seattle, Washington
Website: www.ssyjc.com
Info number: (206) 998-5555

SKIBACS SKI & SNOWBOARD CLUB

Location: Seattle, Washington
Website: www.skibacs.org

SKIHAWKS SKI CLUB

Location: Seattle, Washington
Web site: www.skihawks.org
E-mail: skihawks@earthlink.net

STARBUCKS ALPINE SKI CLUB

Location: Seattle, Washington
Contact: Don Guerin
E-mail: dguerin@starbucks.com

VANCOUVER SNOW & SPORTS CLUB

Location: Vancouver, Washington
Website: www.nwskiers.org
Contact: Sandy Schill (360) 887-0329
E-mail: sandyschill@myexcel.com

WIHSKI CLUB

Location: Seattle, Washington
Website: www.afts.com/wihski
E-mail: wihski@afts.com

Orange Council of Ski Clubs by Judy Thurman, President

Since May 5, 1971, Orange Council of Ski Clubs has been addressing the issues of skiers in and around Orange County and Southern California. Originating from the Southern Council to better serve the high concentration of skiers and snowboarders in this area, this motto was established - "Toward Better Skiing". We are and always have been an active member of the *Far West Ski Association*, and we are also a member of the *National Ski Council Federation*.

Orange Council offers great travel adventures, supports disabled skiers programs, including USARC, charities, and continue to be informed on public affairs issues. Some of the other charity and community programs that our ski clubs support are, the Mammoth Mountain Resort Patrol Memorial Fund, Troops Overseas, Free Wheelchair Mission and many other programs.

Orange Council had 25 delegates attend the 2010 FWSA Convention which was held at the Esmeralda Hotel in Indian Wells, California. The council would like to thank *Jess Gorman*, and *Betty Bains*, Orange Council's Man and Woman of the Year nominees for 2009-2010. Congratulations to both of you for all your hard work.

Orange Council and ski clubs travel programs offer a variety of different ski trips. Our ski clubs schedule weekend ski trips to Mammoth Mountain, between December 2010 and March 2011. Many also run out of state and international ski trips.

If you are interested in ski racing, Orange Council is a member of the Schusski Race League, with four races held at Mammoth between December 2010 through March 2011 which leads to the *Far West Ski Championship* to be held at Alpine Meadows on April 1-3, 2011.



OC clubs offer year around fun! The Pacific Ocean and mild weather offer many opportunities for club activities. However, Mammoth Mountain is a convenient drive for Southern Californians throughout the year. It is a favorite destination for club racing programs and recreational skiing. Check out that snow! The Mammoth mammoth is a well known feature to skiers and boarders.

Each year, council members participate in the Far West Ski Association Ski Week. This year's trip will be to Sun Valley Idaho. January 29 – February 5, 2011. This is an annual event that brings together all the ski councils, approximately 500-600 people. The week is filled with lots of skiing, après parties, racing, dinners, and camaraderie. If you come on one these trips and don't know anyone, by the end of the week you will have many new friends. This has always been a fantastic event! It is not to be missed! For information on any of our ski trips please contact *Sheila Van Guilder*, VP. of Travel, svanguil@roadrunner.com.

Currently, Orange Council has 11 ski clubs located in the Southern California - Orange County area. We have approximately 800 members. Clubs are located in different areas to serve the different communities in "THE OC". The clubs in Orange Council have been working together since 1972. Each club is unique and offers a variety of different types of activities ranging from all types of winter sports including skiing, snowboarding, and snowmobiling; to summer sports, such as tennis, beach volleyball tournaments, kayaking, biking, hiking, camping, wine tasting and outdoor concerts. This year, Orange Council is very excited to add Flatlands Ski Club as our 11th club.

This past year, our clubs enjoyed many ski trips within California, as well as out of state. We had club trips to Telluride, Colorado; Whistler, BC Canada; Alyeska, Alaska; and Keystone Colorado. In 2011, some of the out of state trips, will include, Steamboat Springs, Colorado, the FWSA Ski Trip to Sun Valley, Idaho, and Park City, Utah.

Mammoth Mountain is a favorite trip destination for all of our clubs. Clubs offer weekend drive-ups and bus trips starting in December 2010, through April, 2011. Many of our clubs offer three and four day extended weekend trips, as well. Some of our clubs are offering four day trips during the week for those who are retired and enjoy skiing during the week at Mammoth Mountain. All the trip schedules for all the ski clubs are located on the Orange Council website.

Whether you live in North, Central, East or West Orange County, or in one of our beach communities, there is a club especially for you. For more information about our organization and ski clubs, along with all the activities, trips please check out our website.

Orange Council of Ski Clubs

www.orangecouncil.org

President: *Judy Thurman*

(714) 779-8534

ylskicat@aol.com

Orange Council of Ski Clubs

Member Clubs and Contact Information

AUSLICH SKI & RECREATION CLUB

Website: www.auslichskiclub.org

President: *Dodie Soto* 562-432-7249

BALBOA SKI & SPORTS CLUB

Website: www.balboaskiandsportsclub.com

President: *Connie Peacock* 949-721-9316

Luv2sailandski@hotmail.com

FLATLANDS SKI CLUB

President: *Dan Crawford*

Cell: 816-805-0384

macrci@aol.com

FOUNTAIN VALLEY SKI CLUB

Website: www.fountainvalleyskiclub.com

President: *Kristin Sanderson* 951-533-1818

skeetbooty@aol.com

HUNTINGTON BEACH SKI CLUB

Website: www.hbskiclub.com

President: *Dick Thiel* 714 914-3212

rthiel@socal.rr.com

ORANGE COUNTY SKI & SNOWBOARD CLUB

Website: www.ocskiclub.com

President: *Joe Reid* 714-377-0309

joetennis@hotmail.com

SHOOTERS SKI CLUB

Website: www.shootersskiclub.com

President: *Aimee Wong*

Aimee.jwong@sce.com

info@shootersskiclub.com

SNOWBOUNDERS SKI CLUB

Website: www.snowbounders.org

President: *Jake Jacobson* 714-596-5962

sljacob@verizon.net

SNOWFLIERS SKI CLUB

President: *Jim Hughes* 562-593-9905

James.b.Hughes.III@boeing.com

TRI VALLEY SKI CLUB

Website: www.trivalleyskiclub.com

President: *Craig Beshore* 626-335-4178

Beshore75300@roadrunner.com

VAND BAKKE SKI CLUB

Membership: *Gloria Madrid*

casamadrid@earthlink.net



San Diego Council members did a fantastic job as host council for the 2010 FWSA Convention in Indian Wells in June. Kudos to all. - photo / Eric Van Pelt

San Diego Council of Ski Clubs *by Eileen Sanford, President*

San Diego Council of Ski Clubs consists of ten ski/snowboard clubs representing the varied skiers and snowboarders of San Diego County. The San Diego Alpine Race League is also continuing to promote recreational skiing and snowboard racing amongst the people in the San Diego area. The SDCSC won the SoCal Championships this year at Mammoth Mountain. Our clubs enjoy a variety of ski trips each year from Big Bear Mountain to Mammoth to fly away out of state trips. We had destination trips to Aspen, Vail, Keystone, Big White, and Grindelwald, Switzerland in 2009-10. In 2011, we will be going to Aspen, Sun Valley and Austria/Germany for a Bike and Boat trip.

Summertime around the clubs is always busy. Many of the clubs move their meetings outdoors for the season. Members enjoy getting together for Padre Games, Museum tours, biking, hiking, tennis, horse races at Del Mar, Bunco parties, and Summer Pops concerts.

The San Diego Council of Ski Clubs has always supported many charities, such as the Jimmy Heuga Center for MS, the American Cancer Society, American Heart Association, Special Olympics, United States Adaptive Recreation Center, Youth Sports Mentoring Organization and Toys for Tots. We now are working on Habitat for Humanity once a month.

The official start of the ski season be-

gins with our Gala this year on November 6 organized by *Barbara Blasé German* and *Judy Schultheis*. The tickets will be \$49 for dinner and dancing with the band North Star. The event will be held at the Marriott in Claremont Mesa. The evening will honor our SDCSC Man & Woman of the year and the Joe Harris Award winner for longtime service to skiing and snow sports. The 2010 winners, *Hobe Schroeder* and *Helen Harris* will host the contest for the 2010 winners. *Brian Flickinger*, National Sales Manager for Vail Resorts has been invited to attend our 2010 Gala. We would like to thank Brian, and Vail Resorts, for sponsoring the band for us this year.

The SDCSC will continue to work at Snow Jam which will be held at the Del Mar Fairgrounds, November 12-14. This is a great opportunity to earn money to support our race team. The SD Alpine League will have a busy race schedule this year.

We are planning to send 30 members to the SDCSC Aspen trip from December 8-14, 2010. This is the 12th Annual council trip to Aspen. We are also planning to send 32 members to the FWSA Ski Week in Sun Valley from January 22-29. And, we are excited to announce our first SDCSC foreign bike and boat trip down the Danube River thru Germany, Austria, Slovakia and Hungary. It will be September 8-20 and include three days in Munich during Oktoberfest, plus visits to nearby castles. Please see our



You can always spot the fun-loving San Diego skiers and boarders on the slopes and race courses. They'll do something to set themselves apart like this boarder on the Keystone Ski Week. - photographer / Ken Calkins

website for details.

We were very happy to host the 78th FWSA Convention at Indian Wells on June 10-13, 2010. We stayed at the beautiful Renaissance Esmeralda Resort and Spa. It was a great success for FWSA, our ski industry partners and our council volunteers. Thanks everyone for a job well done. For more information about the SDCSC, visit our website, and join us for another great year.

San Diego Council of Ski Clubs

www.skisandiego.org

President: *Eileen Sanford*

858-695-1442

E-mail: esanford@san.rr.com



LEFT TO RIGHT: New trend in ski outfits? Ski trips are a great way to renew friendships between council members. (Keystone - Ken Calkins) Capital Ski and Sports Club members enjoy lunch at Mammoth Mountain. (Pat Ostroff) Las Vegas Ski & Sports members annually hike Mt. Charleston to escape the heat. Organizer Mike O'Connor, has led the hike 38 times. (Photo provided by Las Vegas Ski & Sports)

San Diego Council of Ski Clubs Member Clubs and Contact Information

ACTION SKI & SNOWBOARD CLUB

President: Carmen Jahns
Website: www.actionski.org

BAE SYSTEMS SKI & SNOWBOARD CLUB

President: Ed Langmaid 858-625-5995
2hvgfun@san.rr.com

DON DIEGO SKI CLUB

President: Larry Pickering 858-755-6580
Website: <http://www.ski-dondiego.org>

GET OFF YOUR ROCKERS SKI CLUB

President: Linda Sterger 858-748-7356
Website: <http://www.getoffyourrockers.org>

NORTH ISLAND SNOWDRIFTERS

President: Nick Cowell 619-390-6659
Website: www.nisnowdrifter.com

PACIFIC RIM ALLIANCE SNOW SPORTS CLUB

President: Catherine Ohl 858-467-9469
Website: www.pacificrimalliance.org

SAN DIEGO SKI CLUB

President: Erin Barber 619-825-6295
Website: <http://san-diego-ski-club.org>

SOLAR SKI CLUB

President: Bob Morton 858-292-4136
E-mail: coolbrees@earthlink.net

TORREY PINES SKI CLUB

President: Hobe Schroeder 858-551-9651
Website: www.tpscsd.org

SAN DIEGO ALPINE LEAGUE

President: Eileen Weiner 858-674-5666
Website: <http://www.skisandiego.org/sdal>

Sierra Council & Race League

by Jo Simpson, President

- Have a more interesting skiing experience.
- Make new friends.
- Get group discounts.
- Check out recreational racing.
- Go on trips.

The members of the 12 Sierra Council clubs are looking for new members to join them to ski and ride, and in other social activities. Our larger member clubs offer a variety of year-round activities, including golf, tennis, campouts, hiking, trips to summer festivals, and opportunities for social interaction at meetings, parties and happy hours. Our annual council holiday party in early December provides an elegant start to the new ski season.

A key activity of the council is the Sierra Race League. The League holds eight races each season, including a very popular Super G race that attracts racers from other northern California leagues. Sierra racers span all ability levels. Any skier who can make linked turns can have a fun time on the race course.

Sierra League will be sharing the race hill by joining the Bay Area Snow Sports Council Singles League for our regular season races this season. This collaboration will increase competition and hold down costs for both leagues. Sierra will be offering two race clinics to get new racers started and to help experienced racers improve. Because our top league racers volunteer their time as coaches at these clinics, the clinic costs are minimal for excellent coaching.

Our members enthusiastically participate in Far West Ski Association trips, club ski days and weekend trips.

The Tahoe-Donner Senior Alpine Ski

Club is based in Truckee, as is the Cabernet Ski Club. The Rat Pack club is based on the Lake Tahoe south shore, and the Sugar Bowl Ski Club operates out of that resort. The greater Sacramento area has the Capitol Ski and Sport Club and the Sacramento Fagowees. The Capital club is offering a trip to Crested Butte. The Code 3 club is based in Reno. The Sequoia Ski Club is in Visalia, California. The Las Vegas Ski Club offers trips to Mammoth Mountain, Aspen, Salt Lake City, Ogden and Brian Head, Utah.

The RU Ski Club draws primarily from the Bay Area. In northern Nevada, the Reno Ski and Recreation Club offers a full schedule of social activities throughout the year, and ski days at Lake Tahoe resorts. They have a trip to Aspen/Snowmass scheduled. The Top Gun Ski Club members are primarily active and retired military members in northern Nevada and the Truckee, California areas. Each club offers a different experience. All enthusiastically welcome active adults who enjoy skiing and socializing with others who enjoy skiing and other outdoor activities.

Sierra Council proudly salutes Jim Sommer of the Reno Ski and Recreation Club who was named FWSA Man of the Year. The Man and Woman of the Year candidates from each FWSA council compete for the award. We are so proud to have one of our members receive this high honor. The Reno Ski and Recreation Club won second place in the Class AAA Outstanding Club Competition and third place for their newsletter.

Check out our clubs on the next page. Try racing. It's a fun way to expand your skiing experience and improve your ability while making new friends with members



- photo provided by Kathy Stewart

- photo by Norman Benedict

- photo provided by Kathy Stewart

LEFT TO RIGHT: Capital Club Bike Ride: John Cypher, Dan Simmons, Rich Fullenbach, Jessica Disney, and Kathy Stewart keep in shape. Sacramento Fagowees Cruise: The Sacramento Fagowees cruise the Sacramento River. Capital Ski & Sports Club members enjoy a snowy day at Northstar-at-Tahoe.

of other clubs in the League. Junior racers are welcome if accompanied by a racing parent or guardian and race free. Our racers are generous with their time to introduce new racers to the world of friendly competition, and to help new racers improve.

Visit our website for links to the member clubs, racing information and Sierra Council activities.

Sierra Council & Race League

www.sierraleague.com

President: Jo Simpson
(775) 787-7556
jo_simpson@sbcglobal.net

Sierra Council & Race League

Member Clubs and Contact Information

CAPITAL SKI & SPORT CLUB

Sacramento
www.capitalski.org
President: Kathy Stewart 916-756-5635
Email: capitalskiinfo@yahoo.com

CABERNET SKI CLUB

President: Donn Bryant 530-550-9452
E-mail: gsracer@cebridge.net

CODE 3

Reno
President: Jim Sommer 775-322-5805
E-mail: Sommerskier@aol.com

LAS VEGAS SKI CLUB

www.lasvegasskiclub.com
President: Ronald Williams 702-580-0056
Hotline: 702-458-0469
Email: info@lasvegasskiclub.com

RENO SKI & RECREATION CLUB

www.renoskiandrec.com
President: Monica Palmer 775-856-1616
E-mail: prez@renoskiandrec.com
Hotline: (775) 747-0233

RU SKI CLUB

Campbell, California
President: Pavel Bosin 408-374-1648
E-mail: pavel@bosin.net

SACRAMENTO FAGOWEES

www.sacramentofagowees.org
President: Norman Benedict
E-mail: Norman_1943@att.net
Hotline: (916) 491-5999
Email: sacramentofagowees@sacramentofagowees.org

SEQUOIA SKI CLUB

Visalia, California
www.sequoiaskiclub.com
President: Woody Hogan
E-mail: woodyhogan@hotmail.com
Hotline: (559) 594-5129

SUGAR BOWL SKI CLUB

www.sugarbowlskiclub.com
Norden, California
President: Jim Henderson
E-mail: president@sugarbowlskiclub.com

TAHOE-DONNER ALPINE SENIOR ALPINE SKI CLUB

www.tdski.com
President: Pete Tierney
E-mail: infotdski@prodigy.net

TAHOE RAT PACK

South Lake Tahoe, California
President: Mark Lilly
E-mail: marklilly@aol.com

TOP GUN SKI CLUB

President: Mike Williams
E-mail: willy11@sbcglobal.net

A skier digs into the deep Montana powder at Whitefish Mountain Resort, finding a line between Whitefish's famous Snow Ghosts. - photo courtesy of Whitefish Mountain Resort / Brian Schott, photographer



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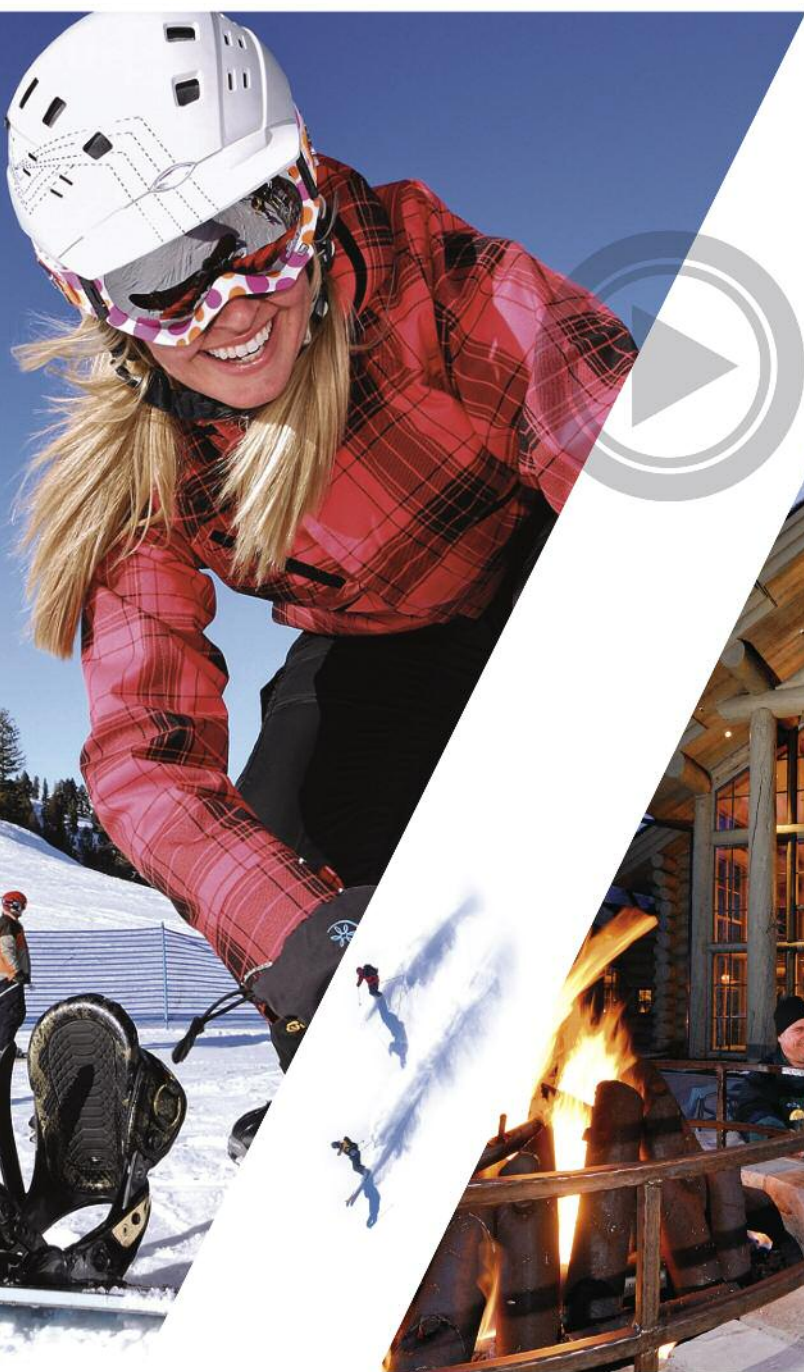
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