

FAR WEST HONORS ITS CLUB AND COUNCIL VOLUNTEERS

Intermountain Ski Council members Michael Bouton and Kim Hovren were honored as the 2018 FWSA Council's Man & Woman of the Year Recognition Award winners at this year's Far West Ski Association Annual Convention, held at the Atlantis Casino Resort Spa in Reno, Nevada, June 7-10. The Award, generously sponsored by Big White Ski Resort since 2002, rewards the efforts of those ski club members who have been outstanding in service to their clubs, their councils, FWSA and their communities. The fourteen representatives from eight Far West Councils were honored during a special Friday night reception, as well as the Saturday convention luncheon.

Honorees were judged on their participation in club, council, and regional activities. The hard-working judges participating this year were Karen Bonine (Arizona Ski Council), Kat Severin (Bay Area Snow Sports Council), Donn Bryant (Intermountain Ski Council), Sigrid Noack (Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs), Emilio Trampuz (Northwest Ski Club Council), Agnes Johnson (Orange Council of Ski Clubs), Barbara Blasé (San Diego Council of Ski Clubs), and George Stewart (Sierra League and Council).

We're pleased to introduce you to the talented, generous ski club members who have given so much time and energy to the success of their clubs and councils. These are the Council honorees for the 2018 Council Man & Woman of the Year Recognition Award.

ARIZONA COUNCIL

Linda Johnson and Bill Behnke

Linda, a member of Phoenix Ski Club, has been busy for years arranging social hours, captaining the council's annual trip to Telluride, and developing learn-to-ski and environmental programs. Bill partnered with Linda on the Environmental Stewardship Committee, and also serves as ski trip coordinator and trip captain for several club adventures. At press time, Bill is running for president of Phoenix Ski Club.

BAY AREA COUNCIL

Nikki Rubio and Brian Burgess

Nikki is a member, past president and current VP of Rusty Bindings Ski Club, has contributed hugely to annual social organizations /fundraisers sponsored by her Club. Brian, a past board member of Inskiers, continues to work on many activities in support of the current board and its activities. Brian is an active racer and when not racing can be found as a race day volunteer.

INTERMOUNTAIN COUNCIL

Kim Hovren and Michael Bouton

Kim is active on the Bogus Basin Ski Club board, helps manage a local Warren Miller film festival, and is an active Bogus Basin Masters racer.. Michael, also a member of Bogus Basin Ski Club, is an active trip and activities leader, and is working with Bogus Basin Ski Resort to develop a host program.

LOS ANGELES COUNCIL

Hannah Nishimoto and Dennis Leon

Hannah, a member of The Unrecables, is a huge cog in the wheel that allows athletes with mental and physical challenges to enjoy snowsports activities at Mammoth Mountain. Dennis, a member of Wailers Ski, Snowboard and Social Club, is the current secretary of the club, organized this year's "River Bash," and provides assistance to the club Social Secretary when needed.

NORTHWEST SKI CLUB COUNCIL

Jackie Lane and Bill King

Jackie, a longtime member of Cascade Ski Club, has worked hard on much needed improvements and upgrades to the club's historic lodge, including a beautiful fire pit. She's also a longtime PACRAT racer. Bill, a member of Mountain High Snowsports Club, is currently vice president of Mountain High, and treasurer of NWSCC. Bill also participates as a racer in the PACRAT race league.

ORANGE COUNCIL

Carol Kane

Carol, a member of Snowbounders Ski Club, is the trip VP and represents Snowbounders at all Orange Council meetings. Carol is a party queen for Snowbounders, helping to organize many social functions, and is running the pub crawl for this convention!

SAN DIEGO COUNCIL

Jean McCasey and Tom Sekreta

Jean, a member of North Island Snowdrifters, has been instrumental in her club's trips to Mammoth, and other trips outside the state. Jean is also our FWSA convention registrar. Jean is the Race Director for NIS, and has been a great fundraiser. Tom, a member of Action Ski and Snowboard Club, has held several offices including president, VP and editor. For the past two years, Tom has served as vice president of San Diego Council.

SIERRA COUNCIL

Nan Carnal and Bill Ramoni

Both Nan and Bill are members of Cabernet Ski and Race; Bill also belongs to Reno Ski & Rec, and Nan is a member of Tahoe Donner Sr. Alpine Ski Club, where's she's currently the Clinic and Race Chair. Bill works hard as the co-treasurer and head gatekeeper of Sierra League and puts in many volunteer hours as Sierra League Race Director.