Far West Ski Association Far West News Flash April 2013



Who & What's New For 2013

Timberline Lodge Receives Honor

Not only did Timberline Lodge, on Mt. Hood, Oregon, turn 75 years old this year, the National Trust for Historic Preservation has accepted them onto the list of Historic Hotels of America. Rich in history and architectural beauty, Timberline Lodge was built during the depression of the 1930s as part of the Works Progress Administration's "make-work program". The lodge received National Historic Landmark recognition in 1977. It attracts more than two million visitors annually. You can ski Timberline Ski Area 10 months a year, and their Palmer Glacier is the training ground for many Olympic and future Olympic skiers and riders each summer.

Convention News

It's Time to Book your Room for the Convention

Join us for some *Magic Mountain Moments* June 6-9, 2013 at the Far West Ski Association's 81st Annual Convention in Reno, Nevada, hosted by the Bay Area Snow Sports Council. The Convention will be held at the spectacular Grand Sierra Resort and Casino. All registration information and forms are now on the website (http://fwsa.org/Conventions/FW-2013Conv/FW-2013Conv.html), as well as detailed information about the optional events.

A Grand Sierra Standard Room is \$79.00 and the Summit Suites Grand II upgrade is \$104 (double occupancy). To book your reservation, call 800.648.5080 or 775.789.2129 and use the Group Name: *Far West Ski Association 2013*. For booking online, go to <u>https://resweb.passkey.com/go/FarWestSki</u>. No password is required. The Grand Sierra Resort & Casino also has an RV Park located next to the Resort. Call for information and to book a site. There are NO resort fees, FREE parking and FREE in-room Wi-Fi. The Grand Sierra Resort is conveniently located just minutes from the Reno International Airport and offers FREE shuttle service, so come early and stay late!

Optional Activities

The fun begins on Thursday evening, with a River Walk Pub Crawl. Friday's events will include the 7th Annual Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament, Reno Run Whitewater Rafting, Tahoe Rim Trail Hike, Grand Sierra Spa Day, and Grand Sierra Resort Fun Day, followed by a raucous Beach Party in the afternoon, hosted by Central Council, and sponsored by Mt. Bachelor Ski Resort.

Economic Relief

NEW this year is a 2013 Convention PowerPoint Presentation, credit by Mary Azevedo, Dennis Heffley and Catherine Ohl. You can view the presentation on the FWSA website. It has complete details about all of the weekend's events. FWSA is also offering an "*economic relief*" *program* to provide a ski club the opportunity to send more delegates to the Convention. For every six (6) delegates that have paid the full registration package, the club would get a rebate of one (1) paid registration after the convention. If you do not belong to a ski club, you are still welcome to attend the Convention. See the FWSA website for detailed registration information for Direct Members.

Information

For additional information contact

- o Jane Wyckoff, FWSA Convention Chair, janewyckoff1@cox.net, 949-933-9607
- Linda Indreboe, BAC Host Council Convention Coordinator, bac.publicaffairs@skibac.org, 408-248-8426
- Industry members please contact Mary Olhausen, <u>omary52@comcast.net</u>, 503-880-7383.

Elections

Elections of officers will occur at the FWSA Annual Meeting & Convention June 6-9, 2013 at the Grand Sierra Resort & Casino in Reno, Nevada. Delegates will elect their President, Secretary and Treasurer for one-year terms and two (2) Trustee positions for two-year terms. In addition, the following functional Vice Presidents will be elected for two-year terms: VP of North American Travel, VP of Council Services and VP of Public Affairs.

If you are interested in running for any of the above positions, please contact **Linda Westlund**, Nominating Committee Chairman, by email: <u>skierwesty@aol.com</u>. Nominations for any of the open positions will be accepted up to the date and time of elections.

Declared candidates at the date of this publication are:

President	
Treasurer	Linda Coxen *
Secretary	Wanda Ross *
Trustee 1	Jane Wyckoff *
Trustee 2	Steve Coxen *
VP Council Services	Eileen Sanford *
VP North American Travel	Nancy Ellis
VP Public Affairs	

* Incumbent

Awards

Far West Club & Council Communications Competition Awards

DEADLINE: Deadline for judging score sheets are due April 24, 2013 for completed score

sheets for early bird submission to earn bonus points; and <u>April 30, 2013</u> from ALL judges for ALL competitions.

RECOGNITION: A special seal for placement on a website and a Certificate suitable for framing.

CONTACT: Crissymarie King, FWSA Club/Council Communication Awards Chair, 559-916-4901, <u>communicationsawards@fwsa.org</u>.

DESCRIPTION: The club and council recognitions are designed to promote excellence and outstanding performance and are open to all clubs and councils within Far West Ski Association. Entries are for the following five competitions: Tollakson Outstanding Club of the Year; Wentworth Outstanding Club Newsletter of the Year; Wentworth Outstanding Council Newsletter of the Year; Outstanding Club Website Award; and Outstanding Council Website Award. This recognition is a work in progress while adhering to careful design created to promote excellence. The link to detailed information and forms is: http://fwsa.org/MemberCorner/Programs/program-communication.html.

Safety Person of the Year Award

DEADLINE: April 19, 2013

RECOGNITION: Since 1998 Aspen/Snowmass, The Gant and Crestwood have donated a 7-night ski package for two with lodging, lift tickets, rentals, half-day group lessons, on-mountain tour, transfers, air transportation and TV Interview with Plum TV.

CONTACT: Richard Lubin DC, FWSA Safety Chair, 925-828-7454, <u>botaboardr@comcast.net</u>.

DESCRIPTION: The FWSA is a proponent of safety in skiing and snowboarding. Every year we hear about tragic deaths and injuries that happen during our favorite winter activities that remind us of the great importance of safety. We have a number of ways in which we promote safety and one of our more viable ways is through the Safety Award. The award is for the individual, within the association, that has done the most to promote safety through a number of criteria. These include articles on slope safety, and other ways to raise safety consciousness. The link to detailed information and entry form is: http://fwsa.org/MemberCorner/Programs/program-safety.html.

Western Ski Heritage Award

DEADLINE: April 26, 2013

RECOGNITION: Since 2000, Steamboat has donated a 5-night ski package for two with lodging, lift tickets, rentals, on-mountain tour, half-day lessons and a lunch at Ragnar's Restaurant.

CONTACT: John Watson, FWSA History Committee Chair, 760-723-6539, <u>geospace@pacbell.net</u>.

DESCRIPTION: The Far West Western Ski Heritage program annually recognizes the best effort in the prior year that communicates the contributions of snowsports to the community at large. The purpose of the Far West Western Ski Heritage program is to raise the

awareness of snowsports participants and non-participants alike of the contributions made by individuals, groups and companies to all aspects of snowsports – competitive as well as that of outdoor winter recreation and fitness. A parallel purpose is to convey the positive role snowsports has had in its contributions to the communities in the West. It recognizes outstanding effort in the area of snowsports history to find, preserve, document and share the history of snowsports in the West. The Award is open to an individual or a group leader (it is not restricted to Far West membership) and can be self-nominated or nominated by a club or club member. Materials and history programs will be evaluated against the objectives of the program by individuals selected for their knowledge of the history of Western snowsports and that of the Association. The link to detailed information and entry form is: <u>http://fwsa.org/MemberCorner/Programs/program-wsh.html</u>.

Far West Historical Recognition Program

DEADLINE: April 25, 2013

RECOGNITION: Certificate suitable for framing.

CONTACT: John Watson, FWSA History Committee Chair, 760-723-6539, <u>geospace@pacbell.net</u>.

DESCRIPTION: The FWSA launched the Historical Recognition Program in 2008 to develop club, league and council histories. The objective of the annual program is to capture important information about skiing from the skier's perspective and especially that of the club skier. Selection for the award is based on digital (preferable) or mailed presentation of club or council history according to a set of weighted criteria and judged by knowledgeable ski historians.

The History Recognition is not for outstanding club or council, although it is anticipated that material may be common to both types of presentations. Think of these histories as museum or library reference resources. The link to detailed information and entry form is: http://fwsa.org/MemberCorner/Programs/program-historical.html.

Far West Councils' Man & Woman of the Year Program

The Councils' Man & Woman of the Year program recognizes top volunteers from each council at the FWSA Annual Convention. Since 2001, Big White Ski Resort has donated a 5-night ski package for two with lodging, lift tickets and transfers for the Councils' Man and Woman of the Year.

Far West Travel

North American Travel Program

With ski season winding down for this year, Far West Ski Association would like to remind you and your ski club members, friends, and family of upcoming trips for the Far West North American Travel Program.

Mammoth Summer Fun 2013

o June 27-30 is our Summer Fun Adventure at Mammoth Mountain. More details for

the trip will be posted on the website soon.

Caribbean Cruise 2013

Fall of 2013, we are planning a Caribbean cruise on Norwegian Cruise Lines.
Details, along with dates and pricing will be available on the Far West website soon.

Belize Drive Trip 2013

The 4th annual FWSA Scuba Dive Trip will be to the wonderful island of Ambergris Caye in Belize, and includes seven nights lodging at Ramon's Village (double occupancy), 6 days of 2-tank boat dives, full breakfast daily, plus airport transfers. The cost is \$1,159 per person for divers and \$879 per person for non-divers, excluding airfare. Contact Randy Lew 530-304-0802 or fwsa13randy@telis.org.

International Travel Program

<u>Far West International Ski Week 2014</u>: The RFP has been sent out to seven tour operator companies for FWSA's 2014 International Ski Trip to Zermatt, Switzerland with an extension to Spain and/or Portugal. The last time FWSA went to Zermatt was in 2004, and it's time to return. We are looking at March 2014. The exact details will be provided once a bid decision has been made.

<u>Far West International Adventure Trip:</u> The RFP has been submitted for bids for an African Safari in the fall of 2014. This trip will be an experience of a lifetime, one you will not want to miss! Destination and details to come.

Check the Far West website often to find the most up-to-date travel information.

Far West Clubs & Councils

Central Council

Central Council participated in the recent mini-ski week to Mt. Bachelor. According to one member, she would return to Mt. Bachelor in a heartbeat. "Mt. Bachelor ski resort has a special niche that is working very well for them, and that is the "extra mile" that all of the employees are willing to go. From the mountain ambassador who skied with the group for two hours to acquaint them with the mountain, to the lift operators who made their days funfilled by wearing crazy hats, and dancing to the music pouring out of the loud speakers, to the Tour Guide from Wander Lust Tours who took them on a moonlight snowshoeing adventure. "The mountain is a skiers' delight. When I got off the Summit Lift, all I could say was WOW!"

2013— A Great Season

The Consensus is 2013 has been a good season

Reports from around the US and Europe claim that the 2012/2013 season has been a success and a definite improvement over last season. Flash back to the end of March 2012, with records temps in the 70s, and even 80s, there were only about a dozen ski areas still open. This year, there are four times that, and snow is still coming down in some

parts of the country. Springtime weather patterns will remain in place in the Pacific Northwest, so some of the ski areas are planning to stay open into June and possibly July. Pack your windbreaker, slather on the sunscreen, and break out the sun shades. It's time to do some Sun Skiing.

Jackson Hole and Whitefish Break Records:

Attendance records were at an all-time high for Jackson Hole Mountain Resort this year. The end of season total was approximately 502,000 skier/rider visits. This surpasses the previous record set during the winter of 2008, a winter which saw significantly more snowfall as this year. Whitefish Mountain Resort recorded a record 323,000 skier/rider visits, its' highest in the 65-year history of the mountain. Only 2 other times has the attendance been more than 300,000 in one season.

Get the Best Deal on 2014 Passes Now

For decades, lift tickets and season pass pricing followed a very simple and crude method – raise the price every single year, whether demand was rising or falling. In recent years, there has been a paradigm shift in the ski industry to pre-sell discounted (sometimes heavily discounted) season passes and lift tickets a year ahead of time. Part of the reason is better marketing, while a larger part is savvier buyers who are used to getting better pricing through the Internet within set timeframes.

With all of the new joint passes being offered, from Vail's Epic Pass to the Rocky Mountain Super Pass, to the Ski Salt Lake Super Pass, to the Mountain Collective, which is actually a bundle of 12 tickets good for 2 days at each partnered area, season pass offers can be found at some screaming-deal prices right now. Check on line for your favorite area and get your 2014 pass now.