

Far West Ski Association presents the Elizabeth "Schatzi" Wood Award to

Karen James

Karen James has over 40 years' history of continued service to her ski club, council and Far West Ski Association. Her tireless volunteer efforts are a tremendous service to every snowsports organization she has supported. She became involved with ski clubs in 1973, starting as an FWSA representative for Torrey Pines Ski Club in San Diego Council, before joining Edelweiss Ski Club in Los Angeles Council. She met her husband John, at an FWSA Convention.

Karen's career as an Accountant served her well over the years. She is the current Treasurer of Los Angeles Council, a position she has held for many years. Karen always produces a detailed Financial Statement for distribution at every council meeting, which she makes sure balances to the "penny".

She manages the accounting for all council programs, submits documents with CST information and council insurance, and maintains all the financial records. Reservations for the Annual Snow Gala are sent to Karen, and she manages check-in at the event, being the last one to leave the check-in table to join the fun.

Karen currently holds the position of FWSA Convention Registrar, a position she has held since 2013. She previously served as Registrar for Los Angeles Council hosted FWSA Conventions. A key member of the Convention Committee, she is responsible for maintaining the delegate registration database, managing the registration accounting and making deposits.

She is responsible for the production and distribution of club registration packets, producing special meal coupons, updating the registration job description, training host council volunteers on their job responsibilities, setting up and managing registration every day of the Convention, and producing a final accounting.

Karen is responsible for daily reporting of Convention Registration, in order to manage last-minute meal changes and needs. In addition, Karen is responsible for all reporting involved with the Credentials Report, providing a preliminary Credentials Report for the opening General Session on Saturday. Convention attendees are unaware that she is usually up until one or two oʻclock Sunday morning, producing the final Credentials Reports for the start of the General Session at 8:30 am.

When you register at this year's 84th Annual Convention in Scottsdale, Karen and her Committee will be there at the tables to greet you. Thanks to her efforts, the registration process will be expedient and efficient.

The Elizabeth "Schatzi" Wood Award is presented to a woman who has made a decisive contribution to skiing during a two year period. We are honored to nominate Karen James, who is more than deserving of this award.