

Far West News *Flash*

January, 2020

Far West Ski Association

WHO & WHAT'S NEW FOR 2020

Far West's Celebration of 90 Years: A focus team convened on December 7, at the Winter Far West Board Meeting in Portland, to work on plans for the birthday plan. The plan is to make the birthday self-supporting yet affordable to the attending member, while offering a memorable experience. One possible idea may be a two-night harbor cruise after a meetup earlier in the day. Plans envision a congratulatory "*memory book*" and pin. If you want to receive bulletins on the progress and plans for the party in San Francisco October 10, 2020, send an email to fwsa.watson@gmail.com with FWSA90 in the subject line. The first informational bulleting should be emailed early next month to those who have "signed up."

Special Offer From Sport's Basement: Our friends at Sports Basement, located in several areas of California (Berkley, Novato, Campbell, San Francisco, Walnut Creek and Redwood City) have come up a "*special deal*" for Far West Members to receive 20% off items purchases on-line between **Now and January 31st**. Check it out at: www.sportsbasement.com. Enter discount code #2050010396479 for the 20% off. This is **ONLY for FAR WEST SKI ASSOCIATION MEMBERS!**

FAR WEST TRAVEL

2020 NORTH AMERICAN SKI WEEK: **HOPE YOU ARE SIGNED UP TO GO!** *Big Sky, Montana* is where our clubs and councils will be headed next **Saturday, January 25th** for a fun-filled week of skiing, boarding, snow fun, wining, dining and fun with friends. Buy a raffle ticket or two for the Athletic Scholarship Program's prize of a Karbon ski outfit. (Just ask Debbie Stewart how she likes hers). Debbie was the winner in 2019. There will an apres party or two, a Welcome Party with door prizes from local Big Sky businesses, a planned luncheon, Council Night on Tuesday and an Award's Night for those who won medals during the week.

2020 MINI SKI WEEK: *Big White* is the destination for the 2020 Mini Ski Trip. *Big White* is home to the best snow in British Columbia and the longest season in the Okanagan Valley, plus the largest totally ski-in, ski-out village. It has 18 on-mountain restaurants cafes delis, pubs, and night clubs. Dates for this trip are March 29-April 3, 2020. Contact Gloria Raminha, Trip Leader, at: garski2011@gmail.com for additional information.

FWSA DAVOS, SWITZERLAND SKI TRIP: **LIMITED AVAILABILITY! ACT NOW!!** on this trip to Davos! If you're interested in going, get in touch with Debbie Stewart **NOW**. The dates for the *Davos Basic Ski Week* are February 28-March 7, 2020. We will be working with *Holidaze Ski Tours*. The *Portugal Extension Trip*, which will be from March 7-13, 2020, is currently sold out. However, there is a **Wait List**, so don't hesitate if you still want to go. For any questions, contact Debbie Stewart, VP of International Travel: FWSAIntTrvl@prodigy.net, or 559-737-0882

FAR WEST 2020 ADVENTURE TRIP: **Waiting List!** Far West is offering an Adventure trip to *Croatia*, September 3-13, 2020. We will be working with *Alpine Adventures* on this particular trip. This will be a land and boat/yacht trip, limited to a minimum of 30, and maximum of 40 participants. Group air will be based out of **LAX**. Ground transportation will be by air-conditioned motor coach. Trip includes: Welcome reception, dinner and Farewell Dinner. Daily breakfast is included, along with 6 lunches, and 4 dinners. Explore Plitvice

National Park, the most famous park in *Croatia*. Guided walking tours, visiting several UNESCO World Heritage Sites, including Diocletian's Palace, Trogir, the highest peak of Croatia – Vidova Gora, with beautiful views of the Adriatic, Korcula, the birthplace of Marco Polo, and much, much more!

2020 DIVE TRIP: *Cozumel* will be the location for the 2020 Far West Dive Trip. The dates will be October 3-10, 2020. Lodging will be at the *Iberostar Cozumel Resort*, and will include 2 cenotes dives on the mainland. Flyers and registration forms are currently being drafted, and will be available by December 1.

2021 INSIDE PASSAGE CRUISE TO ALASKA: North American Travel has planned an *Alaska Inside Passage Cruise* with an optional *Denali Tour*, mid--to late June, 2021. Those on the Denali Tour, will fly into Fairbanks, take a Riverboat ferry cruise in the area, visit the home and kennels of the late four-time Iditarod winner *Susan Butcher*, and see her champion sled dogs in action. From there, we will take an *Alaska Railroad DOME* ride to *Denali National Park*. Spend a full day traveling to the heart of the park viewing wildlife, the historic town of *Kantishna*, and join in a short hike, dog sled, and gold panning demonstrations. The Denali Tour ends with a bus trip along the scenic Alaska tundra of Denali to the cruise ship in *Whittier*. Once on board, travelers will cruise southerly, seeing the *Hubbard Glacier* and *Glacier Bay National Park*, with stops at the ports of *Skagway*, *Juneau*, and *Ketchikan*. The cruise ends in *Vancouver, BC*. Sandy Gaudette with *Skigroup.net*, will be our Tour Operator for this fun trip! Watch for more information on the FWSA.org website.

FWSA 2021 SOLDEN SKI WEEK: *Holidaze Ski Tours* has been granted the contract on this trip. Dates are February 19 – February 27, 2021. The trip will have an extension to *Southern Spain*, from February 27 – March 7, 2021. Stay tuned for more information.

FWSA SUMMER 2021 CHILE SKI/ADVENTURE TRIP: *Valle Nevado, Chile* ski trip with extension to *Atacama Desert* is currently being researched for details of Atacama Desert conditions. Possible dates would be late July or August, 2021.

OTHER FWSA INTERNATIONAL TRIPS UNDER CONSIDERATION: FWSA International Ski Week, 2022 to *Madonna Di Campiglio, Italy* was voted on at April, 2019 Board meeting. An *Africa Adventure Trip* has been approved for 2022, going to central and east Africa. And, a *Galapagos Adventure Trip* has been approved by the FWSA Board for 2024.

FAR WEST COUNCILS

San Diego Council of Ski Clubs: Iceland – Land of Fire & Ice: A Mayflower Tour Cruise, Aug 5-11, 2020. Your 7-day trip includes: adventures of volcanoes, waterfalls, Blue Lagoon entrance, whale watching, a full-day Golden Circle tour, Reykjanes Peninsula. Price is \$2,349 without air.

(SDSCC) - Romantic Villages of Alpine Europe-Grand Circle Tour: This trip is OCTOBER 3-18, 2020. Visit Italy, Switzerland, Austria-Germany, 15 days. \$3495 without air. 24 meals, 9 guided tours, 8 Discovery events, with local Grand Circle Program Director. Pre-trip *Lake Como*; Post-Trip: *Salzburg* - priced separately.

FAR WEST CONVENTION

FOUR Months & Counting: Far West Ski Association's 88th Annual Convention is scheduled to take place May 28-31, 2020. Put those dates on your calendar **NOW!** Northwest Ski Club Council is planning a terrific five-day-event for you all next May. The theme will be "*Rollin' on the River*", with a Riverboat Gambler idea in mind. We will START OFF with a *Dinner Cruise on the Willamette River* on Wednesday evening, and follow with a *Mt. Hood Adventure Day* on Thursday, as well as the Annual Far West Pub Crawl on Thursday evening, in "*The Couve*"...just across the interstate bridge in Vancouver, Washington. Friday will bring the "*Not Your Daddy's*" Golf Tournament on Friday morning at *McMennamins, Edgfield*. We are also planning a *Wine*

Tour and a *Bike Ride* on Friday. Along with our typical Silent Auction on Friday evening, we plan to have Casino tables set up for your playing enjoyment. Saturday night, the band: *"Thrillride"* will entertain us. They last played for us in Bend, at the 2014 Convention.

Portland, the *"Rose City"*, due to its' many gorgeous rose gardens, is a beautiful place to visit! You really must plan to come early and stay late. You'll not get tired of the many things to do and see in our fabulous city! We will also be celebrating Far West Ski Association's **90th Anniversary** during this event. Lots of history, lots of stories, and hopefully a few Very *"Special"* Guests from the Pacific Northwest: *A.J. Kitt, Phil & Steve Mahre*, and others. This event will be held at the beautiful *Red Lion Hotel on the River, Jantzen Beach* in Portland, Oregon. See you all there!

FAR WEST HISTORY

Far West Historic Ski Clubs: Far West currently has nearly 30 clubs with 50+ years of service to skiing. They've all been verified by FWSA with evidence of their continuous operation. Looking at all of our clubs and councils, we know that we can double our listings of historic ski clubs. Evidence of eligibility is established by applying, presenting proof of operation (minutes, newsletter, newspaper article, incorporation doc, etc), and submitting a high-resolution, reproducible of your logo to the *History Committee prior to the March 31st deadline*. Go to the Far West web site (clubexpressfwsa.com), click on Recognition/History/ Historic Ski Clubs for info and application. Being a Historic Ski Club entitles your club to use the historic medallion on your web page and stationery. And start using the Historic Ski Club as subtext to your club name in rosters published in the Far West Skiers Guide, council roster and other related placements. If you're entitled to this recognition, make use of it! Start now to find your archival documents and be ready to submit them to the chair before the spring deadline. Certificates of Recognition will be printed and presented at the FWSA convention.