

February, 2020

Far West Ski Association

WHO & WHAT'S NEW FOR 2020

Climate Change Is Killing Alpine Skiing As We Know It : Global warming is leaving its mark across the globe, especially at resorts at relatively low altitudes. In *Garmish*, and across the Alps, resort towns depend upon the tourism to help their economy, but with the little snow that those areas are seeing, these towns could soon be in serious trouble! Climate change is expected to cost Austrian tourism 300 million euros a year. In France, authorities in *Tignes* delayed the start of the ski season by several weeks, citing the effects of global warming on the *Grande Motte* glacier. If greenhouse-gas emissions continue at the same level, snow will almost disappear at lower levels by the end of the century.

Juergen Hilla, a school teacher from nearby Frankfurt, predicted that skiing and other winter sports may not be viable in Garmisch in the longer term and that he and his family may have to consider alternatives for their ski vacation. "Probably in 20 or 30 years, it won't have the same role as it does now," he added after a day on the slopes. "The higher runs were in good shape but the lower ones needed cannons spraying artificial snow to keep them passable", Hilla said.

To make up for a lack of natural snowfall, resorts switch on the cannons, although they're energy intensive and unpopular with environmentalists. Producing artificial snow will get harder as temperatures rise. Higher areas will survive, but they will have to invest more in snowmaking and to cope with the additional tourist inflow. Areas most affected by warming are on the outskirts of the Alps—in Austria's east, the foothills in France and Italy and in Germany. They were never as dependent on ski tourism as some regions in the central Alps, and are more attuned to welcoming guests around the year. At Garmisch City Hall, Mayor Sigrid Meierhofer is putting on a brave face, citing the town's brisk conference business. "Of course, we have to come up with concepts to maintain the winter tourism that we still have," she said. "You say it's brown—I say the hiking paths are open."

FAR WEST TRAVEL

2020 MINI SKI WEEK: *There's Still Room for Big White!* *Big White* is the destination for the 2020 Mini Ski Trip. Home to the best snow in British Columbia and the longest season in the Okanagan Valley, they boast the largest totally ski-in, ski-out village. 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.

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. Check with Randy Lew: fwsa13randy@telis.org for more information.

2021 INSIDE PASSAGE CRUISE TO ALASKA: *News is out Now!!* 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.

FAR WEST CONVENTION

THREE 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 *McMenamins, Edgefield*. 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 RECOGNITION AWARDS

Far West Ski Association has numerous recognition awards which members can apply for. The DEADLINE is coming up soon. If you still want to apply for one of the many Awards shown below, HURRY...the dates are as follows!!

FWSA Club & Council Recognition Awards Nominations Due March 15, 2020:

These awards are great ways to have your club or council recognized for your good work--and to honor hardworking volunteers. Applications and instructions for all the awards are on the FWSA website. The award nominations due March 15 are: Charities & Community Service, Communications, and History Recognition Awards.

CHARITIES & COMMUNITY SERVICE RECOGNITION PROGRAM:

DEADLINE: *March 15, 2020.*

FWSA encourages all clubs and councils to get involved with charities and community service. The top two Clubs and the winning Council will be invited to display a picture board at Convention. All groups that apply will be recognized at Convention. Please note: This year there will be no monetary awards. The winners will get electronic medallions to post on their club/council websites and put in their newsletters. Information and applications can be obtained on the Far West website: www.fwsa.org. **CONTACT:** For any Charity & Community Service questions, contact Sigrid Noack at skisig@gmail.com.

COMMUNICATIONS AWARDS:

DEADLINE: *March 15, 2020.*

Club and Council Newsletter and Website and Outstanding Club. The newsletter and website nominations are simple this year. Just send a copy of your newsletter and a link to your newsletter and website to Bill King at: willie2K@comcast.net. Also, you don't have to name a judge. Please consider entering.

HISTORY RECOGNITION AWARDS:

DEADLINE: *March 15, 2020*

In 2008, FWSA launched this program to develop club, league and council histories with the objective to capture important information about skiing from the skier's perspective, especially the club skier. Far West also has a program to recognize our Historic Ski Clubs that have been in operation for more than 50 years.

CONTACT: John Watson, FWSA History Chair at: fwsa.watson@gmail.com.

FWSA Recognition Awards Nominations

DEADLINE: *April 15, 2020:* Applications and instructions for all the awards are on the FWSA website.

Safety Person of the Year, Western Ski Heritage, and Environment Awards.

SAFETY PERSON OF THE YEAR AWARD:

DEADLINE: *April 15, 2020*

RECOGNITION: Sponsored by Mammoth Mountain Ski Area, donating a 5-night ski package for two with lodging, lift tickets, and a full-day group lesson.

DESCRIPTION: 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:

https://fwsa.org/content.aspx?page_id=22&club_id=623165&module_id=334813

CONTACT: Richard Lubin DC, FWSA Safety Chair, 925-828-7454, safety@fwsa.org.

WESTERN SKI HERITAGE AWARD:

DEADLINE: *April 15, 2020*

RECOGNITION: Since 2000, Steamboat Ski & Resort Corporation 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.

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:

https://fwsa.org/content.aspx?page_id=22&club_id=623165&module_id=334814

CONTACT: John Watson, FWSA History Chair, 760-723-6539, fwsa.watson@gmail.com.

ENVIRONMENT AWARD:

DEADLINE: April 15, 2020

RECOGNITION: Sponsors, *Aspen Skiing Company and Snowmass Tourism, The Gant and Crestwood Condominiums* have donated a 5-night ski package for two with lodging, lift tickets, rentals, and a full-day group lesson.

DESCRIPTION: The Environment Award is designed to encourage good stewardship of our environment. We want to inspire and reward creative efforts to conserve and protect our environment. This award should recognize a special action that the applicant took, or something he or she put in place that made a difference. Some areas to consider are: Volunteering at the community level, particularly in a leadership role; conducting or arranging for an environmental event (s) for the club, council, or public; writing a series of columns regarding environmental conservation, education or protection in your ski club or ski club council newsletter; or being pro-active in environmental protection. The link to detailed information and entry form is:

https://fwsa.org/content.aspx?page_id=22&club_id=623165&module_id=379792

CONTACT: Fran Long, FWSA Environment Chair, 805-712-5781, fancat87@gmail.com.

FAR WEST MEDIA AWARDS

DEADLINE: April 15, 2020

The Far West Ski Association Media Awards are divided into the following categories:

Bill Berry Award for Featured Article – This award is for outstanding Print Coverage of Skiing. This award is given for outstanding service to skiing and is presented to writers for a featured article.

Bill Berry Award for Hard News – This award is for outstanding Print Coverage of Skiing. This award is given for outstanding service to skiing and is presented to writers for hard news.

Warren Miller Modern Media Award – This award is for outstanding Multi-Media Coverage of Skiing. This award is given for outstanding service to skiing by cinematographers, photographers, radio or television broadcasters.

For more information follow the link to:

https://fwsa.org/content.aspx?page_id=22&club_id=623165&module_id=334807

CONTACT: Steve Coxen, FWSA Awards Chair, 503-679-9022, awards@fwsa.org

FAR WEST ELECTIONS

Election of FWSA Officers: Election of officers will occur at the FWSA Annual Meeting and Convention on May 31, 2020. Delegates will elect their President, Secretary, and Treasurer to one-year terms. Two Trustee positions are elected for two-year terms. In addition, the three functional Vice Presidents will be elected for two-year terms. Announced candidates at this time are as follows:

- President –
- Secretary –
- Treasurer – Randy Lew (incumbent)
- Trustee (1) – Linda Westlund (incumbent)
- Trustee (2) –
- VP of Communications – Joe Harvis (incumbent)
- VP of International Travel – Debbie Stewart (incumbent)

- VP of Marketing –
- VP of Membership –

If you are interested in being a candidate for any of the above positions, please contact Steve Coxen, Nominating Committee Chair by email sacoxen2000@gmail.com. For a copy of FWSA Qualifications for the positions of President, Treasurer, Trustee and VP of International Travel, please contact Steve Coxen. All candidates must be members in good standing of clubs affiliated with FWSA or a direct member of FWSA. Qualified nominees for any of the open positions will be accepted up to the date and time of the elections. FWSA By-Laws, Job Descriptions and the Operations Manual are available on the FWSA website at www.fwsa.org. Click on the “About” tab, then click on the “Governance” tab. For information or advice on running for any FWSA office contact any member of the FWSA Nominating Committee:

- Steve Coxen, Nominations Committee Chair – sacoxen2000@gmail.com
- Todd Hood, Succession Planning Committee Chair – todd@itsmailed.com