

**Spring 2020**

# THE COUNCILMAN

"The Voice of the Western Skier"



**Far West Ski Association  
88th Annual Convention  
San Diego, California  
June 10-June 13, 2021  
See inside for highlights**



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## GLORIA RAMINHA, FWSA PRESIDENT

Greetings,

We have had an unusual and unexpected end to the ski season this year due to Coronavirus restrictions and concerns. However, there still were plenty of stories of fun with great friends and happy travelers.

We did have an incredible season with successful ski weeks in Big Sky, Montana and Davos, Switzerland along with an extension to Portugal.

I'd like to thank Nancy Ellis, our VP of North American Travel, her travel staff and Sports America Tours for a terrific FWSA Ski Week at Big Sky, Montana. It is a very challenging job arranging air and ground transportation, lodging for all the councils and the ski week events, such as racing, welcome party, farewell dinner and dancing and the après party. Additionally, I'd like to thank all the Council Trip Leaders for all they do. There would not be successful ski weeks without the Council Trip Leaders reaching out to their clubs to promote the ski week.

The 2021 FWSA Ski Week will be held in Sun Valley, Idaho, January 30 to February 6. Nancy will be working closely with Sandy Gaudette and Winter Ski & Sports. Sun Valley is home to two ski mountains and a resort village. With more than 3,400 vertical feet and over 2,000 acres of varied terrain, Sun Valley offers skiers and boarders something special on not just one mountain, but two: Bald Mountain and Dollar Mountain. Be sure to book your spot early with your council. There will be lots of skiing, boarding and some fantastic, and fun, FWSA ski week activities.

This year's Mini Ski Trip to Big White, BC, was canceled due to COVID-19 travel and government restrictions. The 2021 Mini Ski Trip next March will be at the Zermatt Resort in Utah where we'll ski Deer Valley, Sundance and possibly another resort in the area. Gloria Saiya-Woods with *Ski.com* and I will be organizing a fun filled trip of skiing and activities. Check the travel section of the website [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org) for more details. Trip pricing and details will be available this summer.

A big thanks goes out to Debbie Stewart, VP of International Travel, who led nearly 90 participants on the Davos, Switzerland ski week with a post trip to Portugal. Debbie has worked closely with Holidaze Ski Tours to create an excellent International winter ski trip and post trip. Please read Debbie's article in this issue of *The Councilman* which will cover more of the exciting adventures of this trip. In 2021, Debbie will take our International skiers to Sölden, Austria with a post trip to Spain.

Be sure to go to [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org) to see where FWSA can take you in your future travels. FWSA trips provide opportunities to see and ski/board with old friends and to make new friends with people of like interests. These trips offer value provided by volume pricing and organized activities and tours, and a trip leader to help you with agenda questions and the unforeseen issues that might arise.

Our Athletic Scholarship Program continues to grow under the leadership of David Krupp. With the generosity of our industry partners, Whitefish Mountain Resort, Averill Hospitality (the owner of The Lodge at Whitefish Lake and the Firebrand Hotel), Schure Sports, Inc, the makers of the Karbon brand ski clothing and Far West Racing Association, we typically award \$15,000 to \$17,000 each year in scholarships to deserving junior racers. Thanks to all who donate to this program.

I want to thank Debbi Kor and the FWSA convention staff, who have worked tirelessly planning our Annual Convention, which

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## FAR WEST SKI ASSOCIATION

### 2020 Convention Update

Far West Ski Association (FWSA) has reached the difficult decision to officially defer our Annual Convention scheduled for May 28 -31, 2020 at the Red Lion on the River Jantzen Beach in Portland, Oregon. We will return to Portland in June 2022. The only other times the FWSA Convention was actually cancelled were in 1943 and 1944 during World War II. We will begin planning for our next convention at the San Diego Marriott Mission Valley in San Diego, California June 10 – 13, 2021.

During the last few weeks of March, we explored various options to avoid postponing the event. We had hopes of delaying it until August, but as the COVID-19 situation has continued to change rapidly and with the uncertainty in the US economy, it made holding the event in August impossible to guarantee and most importantly, impractical for you. We want our members and ski industry partners to have the best experience possible.

Our members and our families have been affected by this pandemic as has everyone in the mountain travel industry. We understand that difficult decisions were made to close resorts, hotels, and cancel trips and tours.

On behalf of Far West Ski Association's team, we sincerely apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused you. We very much appreciate and thank you for your patience and understanding while we worked through this difficult issue.

This pandemic affects us all and we are all in this together. We urge you to do your part and comply with the “Social Distancing” to help slow the exponential spread of the virus. With your help, we can “Flatten the Curve.”

FWSA is one of the country’s largest ski associations in the United States, now with ten active councils representing more than 53,000 skiers and boarders from more than 160 clubs in twelve western states – Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington and Wyoming.

For additional information regarding the Far West Ski Association, please visit our website at [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org).





## Debbi Kor FWSA Convention Chair



SAIL INTO SAN DIEGO  
FWSA CONVENTION  
June 10-13, 2021



The location of the Convention will be at the Marriott in Mission Valley. Mission Valley is the central location for getting to all the tourist areas of San Diego. You can visit Balboa Park, San Diego Zoo and even a baseball game at Petco Park.

The San Diego Council is looking into some optional activities such as Sailing on the Bay, Hang Gliding at the Glider Port at Torrey Pines, a Walking tour of Little Italy and Sunset Gondola Rides in Coronado. The Marriott Hotel has great amenities and is only 15 minutes from the airport. The San Diego Trolley Line is located right behind the hotel. You can take the trolley and be in the Gas Lamp Quarters downtown, Sea Port Village and Old Town in no time.

Please post the date on your Websites and Newsletter Calendars.

***SDCSC FWSA Convention June 10-13, 2021***



***The Councilman, Spring 2020***



***www.fwsa.org***



The Voice of the Western Skier



88<sup>th</sup> Annual

Far West Ski Association

Convention

June 10-13, 2021

Hosted By the  
San Diego Ski Council



### CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

*Travel Expo*

*Silent Auction/Trade show*

*Snow sports/Leadership*

*Academy*

*Public Affairs Panel*

*Saturday Awards Luncheon*

*Celebrity Speakers*

*Saturday Awards Banquet*

*FWSA General Meeting*

*Elections*

### Optional Activities

*Thursday: Sail around  
San Diego Harbor*

*Slice of Little Italy tour  
Taste of San Diego Pub  
Crawl*

*Friday:*

*14<sup>th</sup> Annual Michael*

*German Golf  
Tournament*

*Biking or Hang Gliding  
Optional Activities TBA*

DEBBI KOR  
FWSA CONVENTION  
CHAIRPERSON

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**Sheri Parshall**

## **FWSA Convention Host Council**

2020 CONVENTION, Oh man. What a week it would have been.

From a feast served to you while “Rollin’ on the River,” to a tour of Historic Mt. Hood, to cycling the scenic Columbia River Gorge, sipping the fine wines of Southwest Washington State, to strolling the beautiful grounds of an old restored poor farm while occasionally swinging a golf club and sampling the various libations available, and then gathering in Vancouver, Washington for brews and merriment—it was all going to be epically awesome.

Then came... you know.

We were so ready for you! But enough with the pouting. The show, and Far West Ski Association, will go on. And as most of you know by now, you’ll be coming back to Portland in 2022 – the contract is signed and June 9-12, 2022 should go on your calendars now. We’re not saying everything is going to be the same as it was planned, but we promise you that you’ll be so glad you’re coming.

At this time, I’d like to introduce you to the incredibly hard-working members of our Host Council Convention Committee. These folks deserve a ton of thanks—I can’t tell you how much. Here they are:

**Sandi Shaub – Skiyente Ski Club**

Sandi was my “right-hand woman” and was prepared to be everywhere I couldn’t be during convention weekend. This was going to be her first “deep dive” into working on the convention and she did a great job.

**Chris Ciardi – Mountain High Snowsport Club**

Chris is also the NWSCC President, and this was actually going to be only her second convention. She had a lot of great input on how to make the convention more workable for new attendees, and worked hard on our Casino Night. Chris also worked with Jeanne Reinhardt on our on-line volunteer sign-up service.

**Sue Rimkeit – Cascade Prime Timers**

Sue, the Council’s Vice President, was the chair of our Bike Tour, getting bids and then working with the cycling company. She was assisted by Linda McGavin and Emilio Trampuz, both of Mountain High.

**Steve Coxen – Schnee Vogeli**

Steve was a busy guy! He was chair of both the Mt. Hood Adventure Tour and the wine bus. I think the wine bus was a bigger challenge—so much wine, so little time!

**Jessica Tagliofico – Skiyente**

Jessica was our “Party Suite Queen.” She and her troupe of hard-working volunteers were ready to host all of the suite parties, from the Man Woman of the Year Reception to all of the after-parties to the Eye Opener. One of the toughest jobs to have during convention weekend (I’m hoping she sticks around until 2022!!)

**Shawn Storey – Bergfreunde**

Shawn, with help from Debbi Kor (Mountain High), had the enviable (!) responsibility of planning out our pub crawl. Lots of time was invested in exploring all of the possibilities—it was a tough job, but somebody had to do it and Shawn and Debbi did a fine job!

**Marilyn Sigler and Mary Olhausen – Mountain High Snowsport Club**

Marilyn and Mary were our Goody Bag chairs. Don’t worry—all of those goodies will be waiting for you in 2022!

*(Continued on page 12)*



## Joe Harvis

### VP Communications

Welcome to Spring. I trust all are well and staying socially distant. This pandemic has taken a toll on all our lives. We need to stay vigilant and safe for the sake of our own health as well as others. Enough said.

It's been a year in the making, but our new website went live on February 5th with some quirks when we activated the membership database. But all was ironed out within a day or two and everything is working well. We have received positive comments from the membership which is much appreciated. There is still much more to do in the coming months such as setting up and testing one stop event registration and payments. Currently that process is still using FWSA Connect for the foreseeable future.

There is one thing our members can do for FWSA. Please log into the website with the username and password you were sent when it went live and update your profile, so we have current information. If you did NOT receive this email go to the website and click on "Member Signup" and complete the profile again so we have current information. We thank you in advance for your help in this matter.

Direct members will receive automated email notices when it's time to renew (end of April). Members of our constituent clubs and councils are automatically renewed each year and will not receive any notices. It will be automatic.

Now that our new website is up and running, I would like to thank Catherine Ohl for her many years of service maintaining the former website, as well as, all the help she has provided to many of our committees with their portfolios. Thank you, Catherine. I would also personally like to thank Catherine for the help she has give me over the past 18 months since I became VP of Communications. It has been a pleasure working with you.

This edition of the *The Councilman* is editor Nick Cowell's second edition. Nick came on board last June and produced a great Fall edition. I hope you all took some time to look it over. If not, please do so and send Nick your comments.

Leigh Gieringer and Jane Wyckoff are busy setting up and working on the 2020 edition of the *Far West Skier's Guide*. This time of the year is very busy for them lining up advertising and article submissions from outside FWSA. They both put numerous hours into proofreading all the articles and formatting each issue.

Debbi Kor continues to edit and publish the Far West News Flash each month. If you are not receiving this monthly newsletter, you can find current and past issues on the website under Publications. With changes at Yahoo and Yahoo groups we are moving the mailing list to another vehicle for electronic delivery to the membership. Stay tuned to be able to subscribe online. It will be available soon.

All our publications are in digital format and are accessible from the Far West website at FWSA Publications [https://fwsa.clubexpress.com/content.aspx?page\\_id=22&club\\_id=623165&module\\_id=351544](https://fwsa.clubexpress.com/content.aspx?page_id=22&club_id=623165&module_id=351544).

George Stewart, our multimedia chair, continues to produce more videos and slide shows for us. They can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/user/FarWestSkiAssoc>.

Our Facebook page continues to be updated regularly, but we could stand to beef up our presence there and on our Twitter page too. We are looking for a Social Media chair. Someone who is a guru with social media to join the communications team and help us move FWSA to the forefront on Social Media. If you have someone in your club and council who would be perfect for this position, please reach out to them and get in touch with me.





## Chris Gill

### VP Council Services

The Vice President of Council Services, together with the presidents of the 10 FWSA member councils, manages programs and initiatives that benefit our clubs and the grassroots of FWSA. We have a talented and involved group of council presidents and program chairs that work hard to administer the programs that we manage.

The VP of Council Services has been working with Fran Long, and the outreach committee, to review the existing FWSA Safety and Environmental Awards. Fran Long, Public Affairs Chair, would like to make these two awards into programs. This would not only result in an award, but also have a continued year around promotion of the objectives in both these programs with councils and clubs.

Sigrid Noak, who is our Charity Awards Chair, has decided to make an update to the current Charities and our Community Chair. The VP of Council Services and the Council Presidents were all in favor of changing the Charity Award to Charity Recognition. Sigrid and the Council Presidents felt that this would encourage more participation and showcase all the great work each club and council does for their charities.

Bill King and Todd Hood are looking at ways to add social media to our communication awards. We are hoping to have this available for the 2021 awards. Bill has updated our communication awards submission for the new FWSA Club Express website.

The Councils' Man and Woman of the Year program invites Councils to send an outstanding man and woman from their member clubs to the annual FWSA convention, where they are honored, and compete for the FWSA Councils' Man and Woman of the Year Recognition. Sheri Parshall chairs this program and has made changes to ensure that each candidate has a wonderful convention experience. We are grateful to Big White Ski resort for their sponsorship of this program over many years.

Linda Coxen, who is in charge of our Family and Youth program is looking into the Share Our Winters Foundation as a possible partnership. She is also looking at how to link other clubs together who are running family and youth programs.

Council Services strives to provide our hundreds of FWSA ski clubs with tools and information to successfully serve their members. We welcome ideas and feedback from club members and anyone reading this publication. Please contact me with your ideas and requests for information at [vpcouncilservices@fwsa.org](mailto:vpcouncilservices@fwsa.org). I look forward to hearing from you.





## Debbie Stewart

### VP International Travel

#### **FWSA's 11th Annual Scuba Dive trip to Cozumel**

Signups are being taken for the next amazing adventure trip for the scuba diver and non-diver alike. The dates are October 3-10, 2020, so...register now.

We'll be staying at the beautiful Iberostar Resort, located close to the 2nd largest reef system in the world. The Iberostar Cozumel provides you with all the necessary elements for an unforgettable 5-star vacation in Mexico's Caribbean. Perfectly combining rustic elements with modern touches, this resort features bungalow suites that provide a unique getaway. With a beautiful beach-front location, it is the proud holder of the Green Globe Certification. The beauty and abundant marine life of Cozumel scuba diving has been documented by famous oceanographers such as Jacques Cousteau. Scuba diving in Cozumel is made even more amazing by the ocean's crystal clear waters, providing incredible visibility.

The land package will include 7 nights lodging, in this all-inclusive resort, including all meals and drinks, five 2-tank morning dives, two dives in the Cenotes, one-night dive and complimentary Nitrox. Roundtrip airport transfers to the hotel are included plus all hotel service fees, resort fees and taxes.

Whether you're an experienced or beginning diver, or just want a gorgeous vacation escape...you'll love the FWSA annual dive trips!

#### **FWSA's 11th Annual Scuba Dive trip to the Caribbean**

We're planning...and you should be too! Request for Proposals (RFP's) have been sent out and we'll be designing another amazing trip for both the scuba diver and non-diver.

#### **2020 Int'l Ski/Adventure trip to Davos, Switzerland with Portugal extension trip**

Once again, it was a pleasure working with Holiday Ski Tours while organizing an incredible international ski week in Davos, Switzerland and extension to Portugal for 89 people. Everyone enjoyed the fabulous 5-star Seehof Hotel and expressed overwhelming positive feedback regarding this stunning hotel property, convenient location next to the Paarsenn tram station, excellent customer service, extraordinary meals, great value, wonderful fresh snow and their entire trip experience while in Davos.

We were excited to have over 30 newcomers to join us. Since this was the case, I held a "Newcomers Social" so people had the opportunity to meet others, meet with the FWSA Int'l Travel Team and to discuss many things to alleviate any/all fears of the unknown.

**We were told, if you are looking to go big, then a Davos ski vacation is right up your alley and it was!**

Davos is the largest ski resort in Switzerland and the highest city in Europe, featuring 5 separate skiing areas: Parsenn - the largest with pistes for all levels and the longest downhill run; Jakobshorn - renowned for its snowboarding as well as a variety of skiable terrain; Pisch; Madrisa; and Rinerhorn - all family friendly with many outdoor activities on and off the mountain. Davos is very well



Lucerne's famous covered bridge

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known for excellent skiing, the prestigious conference center which holds the world's Economic Forum and reputation for high quality Wellness Centers. The highlight of the trip for 48 people was the sleigh ride fondue dinner. Six carriages arrived at the hotel to pick up our members and we paraded through town at sunset, heading up the canyon while admiring the silhouettes of the snow covered mountains and feeling the whispering of light snowflakes falling upon us to arrive at our family quaint owned chalet restaurant...a FWSA International Ski Week trip that won't be forgotten.

During the Portugal extension trip we stayed 3 nights in Lisbon and 3 nights in Porto. We ventured out from each of these cities for day tours as well as free days to explore on our own. As soon as we arrived in the capital of Portugal, and Europe's second-oldest capital, Lisbon, we understood why everyone talks about its special light. The almost constant presence of sunshine and the close relation with the River Tejo transforms the Portuguese capital into a mirror of infinite colors – highlighting the city's unique architecture and beauty.

There were so many things to see and do in Lisbon that's how one loses yourself in the streets. As we walked through Lisbon, we found streets filled with heritage monuments, belvederes with breathtaking views, and the narrow typical streets of the old neighborhoods where the city was first developed. The modern side of the city also captivated us, with architectural masterpieces that deserve a stop to be admired. At night, the options were also endless!

We enjoyed the charm of Porto and of course...enjoyed the Port! We hoped that Lisbon would captivate you and be engraved in your best travel memories forever, and it did!

### **2020 Adventure Trip to Croatia**

We knew our FWSA members wanted to go to Croatia, but little did we know that we'd sell out in only 2 ½ weeks and have a waiting list.

FWSA and Alpine Adventures have coordinated this 2020 adventure trip to Croatia September 3 – 13, 2020. We will visit all the must-see locations, such as Split, Zagreb, Plitvice National Park, Dubrovnik, and the beautiful Dalmatian Coast. While in Zagreb, the capital city of Croatia, we will experience the local culture, arts, architecture and, of course, the local gastronomy. The UNESCO World Heritage Sites of Dubrovnik with its 16th century stone-walled old town is popular and known as the "Pearl of the Adriatic". Its popularity has been bolstered to global recognition after serving as the filming location for The Game of Thrones. Split, as the second largest city, offers a similar blend of modern and ancient charm. The spectacular landscapes in the Plitvice National Park will certainly be scenery to remember with its breathtaking terraced lakes and many waterfalls. Plitvice Lakes are a natural phenomenon you won't want to miss, consisting of 16 natural lakes joined by waterfalls that extend into limestone canyons. This too is a UNESCO World Heritage site and we can't wait to explore this area.

This Balkan country adventure trip with its 3,625-mile long Adriatic coastline and over 1,000 islands will certainly be a bucket list item to be checked off.

### **You Spoke...and We Listened!**

### **Planning is underway for the FWSA SUMMER 2021 CHILE SKI/ADVENTURE TRIP!**

We will be going to Valle Nevado, Chile in our summer season 2021, which is their winter. We are eagerly awaiting the announcement of the 2021 pricing and as soon as we can, we will be organizing the marketing materials. This trip will be limited to a small number of 30-36 people, due to the hotel size in Valle Nevado.

Our plan is to travel from the US to Santiago, transfer to Valle Nevado (which currently has a partnership with Alterra, which is offering the IKON Pass – stay tuned if the partnership changes). You will have the opportunity also to ski at nearby resorts - La Parva and El Colorado.

The extension trip will be to the Atacama Desert, which has been likened to the surface of Mars and is one of the driest places on earth with unique and interesting topography.

Keep checking the FWSA website for the latest information.

### **2021 Int'l Ski/Adventure Trip to Solden, Austria and Southern Spain Extension Trip**

Solden, Austria may not be a household name to you, but it will be one that you'll never forget after being there. You'll be fasci-

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nated by the Austrian charm and their incomparable hospitality.

Solden offers 3 areas: Solden, Obergurgl and Hochgurgl. They kick off the winter season with the Audi FIS Alpine Ski World Cup Opening in October. And...it has one of the action-scene sites for the James Bond movie "Spectre". The huge number of slopes and ski trails for all levels and abilities coupled with the perfect grooming with 91 miles of slopes make Solden a truly unique winter sports center; 32 state-of-the-art ski lifts and gondolas with a total capacity of 70,000 persons/hour guarantee ultimate skiing fun without queuing.

**BIG 3 – Think BIG, Think SOLDEN!** Solden is Austria's first resort offering no less than three mountain peaks beyond 10,000 ft. Solden's marvelous BIG 3 peaks mark a new dimension in skiing and experiencing the Alpine scenery, opening new perspectives with their viewing platforms. Snow is guaranteed from October through May thanks to its high alpine location of the slopes up to 10,958 ft., 2 glacier ski areas and excellent snowmaking systems covering about 75% of the slopes with 350 snow guns.

Solden is synonymous with sports and entertainment. Besides the great variety of skiing and snow sport activities, Solden also offers a wide range of entertaining highlights. You will enjoy great après-ski atmosphere as well as weekly events such as night skiing and Solden Party.

Our Southern Spain extension is being planned for a variety of activities and tours. Our goal is to have central hotel locations that will allow us to venture out daily from the hotel, yet not having to pack & move daily. We're planning on exploring Malaga, Sevilla, Tourmalines, Granada and much more!

What's Ahead...A lot! Mark the following trips on your calendars now!

#### **FWSA 2022 Ski Week – Madonna di Campiglio, Italy**

We are planning mid to late February 2022 to go back to the amazing Dolomites.

#### **FWSA 2022 Africa Adventure Trip**

Research is being done for central and east Africa, since we did South Africa last time.

#### **FWSA 2024 Galapagos Adventure Trip**

Research is underway for the 2024 adventure trip to the Galapagos and possibly Machu Picchu or another destination. Stay tuned for the announcement of this trip.

As FWSA VP of International Travel, I realize that your vacation days are precious. The best ones are those that leave you feeling recharged, inspired and that your explorations are worthwhile, ones that your most cherished souvenirs are those that can bring you the grandest memories.

#### **For updates or information on FWSA International Travel Program:**

Debbie Stewart at: [vpinternationaltravel@fwsa.org](mailto:vpinternationaltravel@fwsa.org)

Mobile – 559/737-0882

FWSA Travel Videos: <http://www.youtube.com/user/FarWestSkiAssoc/videos>

(FWSA Convention Host Council Continued from page 7)

#### **Jeanne Reinhardt – Cabernet Ski and Travel**

Jeanne was our Volunteer Chair, and with Chris Ciardi, worked very hard on getting our volunteer sign-ups organized using an on-line service, which would let folks sign up on-line, providing them with all the information they needed to volunteer. I'm sure this would have been incredibly successful and we certainly look forward to using it in the future.

#### **Julie Peck – Skiyente**

Julie was our social media mogul, and was working on our Meet-up and other social media outreach.

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Debbi Kor

VP Marketing and Sponsorship

#### The First Season of a New Decade

Another terrific ski season, but one that had to come to a close much sooner than everyone expected. The *Corona Virus* not only shut down all the ski resorts, but basically shut down the world. However, before all that happened, our clubs, councils and members were able to have some fun in the awesome snow that began coming in early on, and is still going strong. We skied and boarded at: **Mammoth, Big White, Silver Star, Mt. Bachelor, Powder Mountain, Aspen, Whitefish** to name a few places. We've cat-skied and enjoyed all kinds of winter activities. We enjoyed great snow, great apres ski parties, and the chance to spend time in the great outdoors! Thank you to all of our industry partners who provided us with great fun, great lodging, and incredible snow! Let's hope that 2021 will be an incredible "*come back year*" for you all.

Ski Week 2020 at **Big Sky Resort** was phenomenal! Josh Pelczar and crew did a great job on keeping our Ski Week attendees busy throughout the week. There was good snow, plenty of it, and plenty of fun the whole week long. The Welcome Party provided an evening of socializing, good food, and some great door prizes. A big "thank you" to all of the local businesses in Big Sky who provided door prizes for the Welcome Party, including: *Olive B's Big Sky Bistro, Buck's T-4 Restaurant, Scissorbill's Saloon, Gallatin Riverhouse Grill, Solace Spa, and Big Sky Resort* itself for several VIP Gift Bags and Gift Cards.

Sandy Blackwell, from L.A. Council, filled in for David Krupp getting volunteers to assist with selling raffle tickets for the **Karbon** ski outfit, benefitting the Far West Athletic Scholarship Program. A total of just a bit over \$1,800 was raised for the Scholarship Program. Thank you to all who contributed. The winner of the Karbon wear was *Barbara Gottlieb*, from Sierra Council. Congratulations, Barbara.

Jeannine Davis and I attended the Annual *SIA and Outdoor Retailer Show* January 30 to February 1, 2020, held in Denver. This show has grown twofold, since SIA merged with Outdoor Retailer in 2018. It takes a minimum of two days to cover the area, and visit the booths of all the merchants who cover the 3 floors of the Denver Convention Center. There are so many of whom could become potential partners with Far West. We spoke with many vendors about either coming to Convention, donating items for giveaways or becoming Benefits Partner with us. Between us, we made excellent headway into some, hopefully, long-term relationship.

I look forward to continuing with my position as V.P. of Marketing for another year, but do hope that over the course of the coming year, I will be able to find someone who would like to take over for me, so that I can concentrate my efforts on the Convention. If there is anyone who would be interested in mentoring with me over the next year, I would very much welcome that, in the hopes that person would step in for next year's Convention. I've thoroughly enjoyed my 18 years as VP of Marketing, but it is definitely time to let someone else take a turn at this position. I have more than paved the way for you.



## Michael Bouton

### VP Membership

At this time, February 18, we have 44 Direct Members of Far West Ski Association. They are from all corners of the country. Many are members so that they can take advantage of the great travel benefits that our association offers. Many took advantage of the Ski Week to Big Sky, MT.

Anyone can become a Direct Member of Far West. The cost is only \$30.00 for an individual and \$50.00 for a couple. We have two Direct Clubs that pay \$100.00 per year to allow their members to be qualified for the benefits. Many people renew their memberships every year.

If your club is interested in recruiting some of these folks that are in your area for your clubs, let me know and I'll send you their contact information. We have some that have already joined a club.

Please let your family and friends in other areas of our country know that they can become members of FWSA and travel with your club on the international and North American trips.

Also, if you are having any trouble recruiting new, and especially younger members to your club, send me an email and I'll give you some suggestions as how to do it. I've brought in 12 new members this year, most of them under age 50. Send your thoughts to: [vpmembership@fwsa.org](mailto:vpmembership@fwsa.org).







## Nancy Ellis

### VP North American Travel

#### **BIG SKY SKI WEEK—JANUARY 25—FEBRUARY 1, 2020**

A total of 450 people had a fantastic week at this year's Big Sky Ski Week. Weather was perfect! It snowed late afternoon and overnight so that we had fresh powder each day. People took day drips to Yellowstone where some snowmobiled along roads lined with bison, and others took snow coach tours through the park. The Grizzly and Wolf Sanctuary in West Yellowstone was also a hit!

Barbara Gottlieb, Sierra League, was this year's winner of the Karbon outfit (jacket and pants) in the Athletic Scholarship Fund raffle. We appreciate Shure, Inc. for their generous donation of the Karbon outfit.

A huge thank you to Katie Grice and Josh Pelczar, Big Sky Resort, and Sara Clemons, Kevin and Catherine Kornegay, and Steve Broski of Sports America for coordinating our group activities at Big Sky Resort this year. We appreciate the following merchants for their support by donating to our door prizes at the Welcome Party: Big Sky Resort; Solace Spa; Buck T4; Scissor Bill's Saloon; Olive B's Big Sky Bistro; Shopper's Grubb & Pub.

#### **BIG WHITE MINI TRIP—MARCH 29— APRIL 3, 2020**

The Big White Mini Trip was canceled due to the COVID-19 virus and early closure of the ski resort. We plan to reschedule this trip in 2022. Watch for trip information that will be on the FWSA website in spring of 2021.

#### **SUN VALLEY SKI RESORT—January 30—February 6, 2021**

Councils are selling the Sun Valley Ski Week. Sun Valley has more than 3,400 vertical feet and over 2,000 acres of varied terrain on two mountains. Bald Mountain's consistent pitch, lack of lift lines, and variety of terrain have earned it the reputation as one of the world's best ski mountains. It features 17 chairlifts, 105 runs, and 30 acres of glade ski and boarding terrain for all. Participants can select from the following lodging options: Sun Valley Lodge 2-bedroom and 3-bedroom Apartments; Sun Valley Lodge (Hotel rooms); and Sun Valley Inn (Hotel rooms). Want to take a day off from the slopes? You can use unused lift tickets for a variety of activities such as 1- hour of bowling; Sun Valley dining; 1 hour horse-drawn sleigh ride; \$40 credit off purchases in Sun Valley Resort, a ski tune, or Spa Services; and several other amenities. There are many activities for skiers/boarders and non-skiers/boarders such as ice skating, bowling, sleigh rides, Nordic skiing, and movies. In order to secure your spot and preferred choice of lodging, act quickly to contact one of the Council Trip Leaders noted below.

<b>Arizona Council</b>	Mike Terrey	<i>terrey@cox.net</i>	(602) 284-1766
<b>Bay Area Council</b>	Gail Burns	<i>gailb3098@gmail.com</i>	(650) 255-7883
<b>Central Council</b>	Fran Long	<i>fancat87@gmail.com</i>	(805) 712-5781
<b>Los Angeles Council</b>	Sandy Blackwell	<i>SkiWeek@LACouncil.org</i>	(818) 441-6191
<b>Northwest Council</b>	Rod Robinson	<i>rdrobinsonskier@gmail.com</i>	(541) 344-7170
<b>Orange Council</b>	Jess Gorman	<i>ejessgorman@gmail.com</i>	(714) 743-6521
<b>San Diego Council</b>	Alan Godwin	<i>jargin@gmail.com</i>	(619) 663-6626
<b>Sierra Council</b>	Carlene Boutacoff	<i>cboutacoff@gmail.com</i>	(650) 208-4839

#### **ZERMATT UTAH RESORT & SPA/PARK CITY CANYONS—March 21—27, 2021**

Zermatt Utah Resort and Spa Utah is the location of the 2021 Mini Ski Week. Trip registration begins May 1, 2020 with estimated trip packages starting at \$560/person double occupancy rooms. The trip includes the following:

5 nights lodging in 2-Queen Alpine or 2-Queen Deluxe Alpine Hotel rooms or 2-bedroom Villa units

(Continued on page 16)

Welcome Reception, Farewell Party, Happy Hours

Optional for Purchase: 1 or 2-day lift tickets to Deer Valley & Park City Ski Resorts; 1-day lift ticket Sundance Resort; IKON Pass

Zermatt Utah Resort is a 4-star hotel and Villa property with a full-service spa and wellness center; indoor/outdoor pool & hot tubs; restaurants; Bar and Bakery all on-site. The resort is 45 minutes from Salt Lake Int'l Airport; 11 minutes from Deer Valley Ski Resort; 18 minutes from Park City Mountain; and 20 minutes from Sundance resort. Optional activities include: Crater Hot Springs; Sleigh Rides; Ice Skating; Tubing; Shopping; Cooking and Art Classes.

Registration forms and online payment begin May 1st. Contact Gloria Raminha, Trip Leader, for information: [president@fwsa.org](mailto:president@fwsa.org); 661-800-8229.

### **2021 ALASKA INSIDE PASSAGE & DENALI TOUR—JUNE 19—30, 2021**

Approximately 60 people are signed up for the 2021 Alaska Inside Passage & Denali Tour scheduled for June 19—30, 2021. The Denali Tour will take place June 19-23 and those going on the cruise will board the ship June 23 and sail the inside Alaskan Passage June 24—30th. There are still spots on the trip. Go to the [fwsa.org](http://fwsa.org) “Cruise” travel section to download the registration forms and itinerary for this spectacular trip.

Denali Tour Itinerary June 19-23, 2021:

Saturday & Sunday : Fairbanks River’s Edge Resort 2 Nights with Breakfast

Sunday: Riverboat Ferry Discovery Cruise Fairbanks

Monday: Alaska Railroad DOME train Fairbanks to Denali with full Breakfast & Drinks

Monday & Tuesday: Denali Park Village Hotel River View Rooms

Tuesday: Kantishna Wilderness Trail Tour with Lunch (13 Hour full park day)

Wednesday: Private Bus Denali to Whittier to catch ship for those going on Coral Princess Cruise; Those on Denali Tour only will transfer in Anchorage Airport to fly home

No Host Lunch stop in Anchorage

Board ship before 8:30 p.m. Wed., June 23rd

### **Coral Princess Cruise June 23—30, 2021:**

Thursday, DAY # 1: HUBBARD GLACIER ( Scenic Cruising)

Friday, DAY # 2 : GLACIER BAY NATIONAL PARK ( Scenic Cruising)

Saturday, DAY # 3 : SKAGWAY 7:00a.m. – 8:30p.m.

Sunday, DAY # 4 : JUNEAU : 6:30a.m. – 4:00p.m.

Monday, DAY # 5 : KETCHIKAN 10:00a.m. – 6:00p.m.

Tuesday, DAY # 6 : FUN DAY AT SEA

Wed., DAY # 7 : VANCOUVER DOCKS 7:30a.m.

### **2022 NORTH AMERICAN SKI WEEK BID PROCESS**

Aspen/Snowmass Resorts and Jackson Hole Resort have been invited to participate in the bid process for the 2022 North American Ski Week. Both resorts will submit promotional materials about their resorts and why they should be selected as the site for the 2022 Ski Week. Councils will receive copies of the promotional materials along with a ballot and will submit their vote for the location of ski week. The FWSA Board of Directors will review the results of the voting and then make the final selection at their summer meeting. The announcement will be made shortly after the summer FWSA Board Meeting.

Looking forward to seeing you on one of the Far West North American trips! Contact Nancy Ellis at [vpnorthamerican-travel@fwsa.org](mailto:vpnorthamerican-travel@fwsa.org) or [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org) for updates on the FWSA North American Travel Program.



## Fran Long

### VP Public Affairs

Far West Ski Association is in the process of updating the website to a Club Express website. As you peruse the site, you will find a lot of current information regarding ski area development, consumer advocacy and trends, snowsports history, safety, and environment. Of course, at the time of this writing, the biggest trend in the ski industry is the closure of most ski areas due to the corona virus.

Here are a few other issues regarding ski area development, environment, and consumer advocacy that may be of interest to you:

Kremmling, CO

[Ski resort without lifts planned near Kremmling; Campaign on Kickstarter raises \\$50K](#)

[BusinessDen.com](#)

Erik Lambert and Jeff Woodward will open a ski area called Bluebird Backcountry in mid-February at privately owned Peak Ranch, about 2 1/2 hours from Denver between Kremmling and Steamboat Springs.

Boise, ID

[Bogus Basin joins the clean energy bandwagon, switching to 100% renewables](#)

Arbiter Online, Boise State University Online Student Newspaper

Bogus Basin is known for its peak 16-mile location from Boise and Boise State's campus; it is the area's closest ski mountain and has day and night skiing slopes available. The winter ski mountain announced they will be switching to 100% clean energy and will be buying renewable energy from Idaho Power due to an increase in the production of Idaho-based hydroelectric plants, according to Steve Hubble, the project manager for Boise's Energy Future.

Glenwood Springs, CO

[Forest Service opens public review of Sunlight's proposed East Ridge expansion](#)

Glenwood Springs Post Independent

The U.S. Forest Service is set to begin public review for Sunlight Mountain Resort's plans to build a new chairlift and expand expert terrain on the ski ...

Steamboat Springs, CO

[Protecting winter: Snowmaking has helped Steamboat Resort to combat climate change, but could ...](#)

Steamboat Pilot & Today

Steamboat Ski & Resort Corp. convened a panel discussion last week on its snowmaking operation and, among other things, how it relates to the effects of climate change, but could it have unforeseen consequences?

Utah

[Utah Senate Approves Bill Clarifying Protections For Ski Resorts KPCW](#)

Hemmert says the intent is to provide protection to ski resorts. The most recent version of SB 228 caps the amount of damages a ski resort patron can sue for at one million dollars.

[H.R. 2509: Ski Area Fee Retention Act](#)

**Ski Area Fee Retention Act**

(Continued on page 29)





## Bob Ellis VP Racing

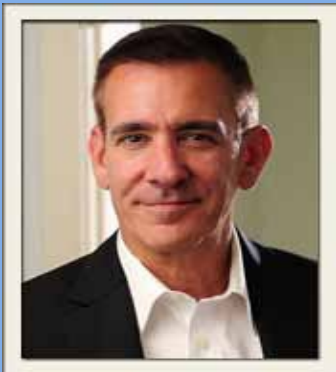
This has been a disappointing year, due to the shortening of the season, due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. I hope all of our friends and relatives stay safe and well in these troubling times of a pandemic.

This year we were able to complete some local races, and our races at Far West Ski Week at Big Sky in January. The races at Big Sky went off smoothly, in spite of the new snow almost every day we were there. In the Council Challenge race, LA Council took first with only 2.43 seconds in time differential, Sierra 1 team took second with 3.95 seconds, and the Travel Staff team took third with 4.93 seconds differential, and Sierra 3 took first place with the best costumes.

We only had one GS race this year, due to the Yellowstone Day, and this year LA Council won the Lake Louise Trophy with 320 points, Sierra Council was second with 224 points, and Arizona was third with 220 points. The Joe Ross Award was won by the Aerospace Club with 162 points, Phoenix was second with 150 points, and Sierra was third with 88 points. The fastest woman on the hill was Melissa House, and the fastest man was Don Shafe.

The Far West Championship Races were scheduled for Mammoth Mountain in April 2020, but have been rescheduled to next year on April 9, 10, & 11, 2021.





## David Krupp

### Athletic Scholarship Chair

The Far West Ski Association Athletic Scholarship Program is entering its 17th year, growing from an initial \$1,500 in scholarships in 2004 to \$15,250 and 18 recipients in the 2019-2020 season. The total awarded since the program's inception is now over \$150,000 to over 130 recipients.

The program is designed to provide financial assistance to junior ski racers throughout the western United States where FWSA has a presence. Applicants must be junior alpine ski racers affiliated with the United States Ski and Snowboard Association (USSA) and must participate in racing programs in states where FWSA has regional councils. These include California, Oregon, Washington, Nevada, Arizona, Idaho, Utah, and Wyoming. Scholarships are awarded based on financial need, athletic performance, academic achievement, and community service.

Skiing is an expensive sport and the costs involved in ski racing cannot be left up to the parents alone to incur. For younger athletes the costs are modest. However, for 16 through 20-year olds, where competition becomes national and even international, the costs can be significant. Without the help of outside resources, many junior racers simply cannot compete. For a top competitor, expenses can reach \$20,000 per year. This is not a seasonal sport for these racers; it includes a full year of ski-related involvement. After the winter race competition has concluded, competitors engage in dryland training; then off to summer camps. Camps typically run about \$1,200 per week, not including transportation.

Winter training costs range from \$1,000-\$1,500 each season. Most applicants work part-time to offset expenses. The demands on their time is significant. They must balance their time between training, competition, school, work, and community service. Despite these demands, the average GPA for these recipients consistently exceeds a 3.9 average. Our scholarships are modest compared to the need, but they do make a difference in the overall scope of the resources they require.

The funding of the scholarships comes from a number of sources: raffles, auctions, club and council partnerships, and direct contributions from club members, clubs, and councils. The FWSA has greatly benefitted from the generous support from its sponsors including Whitefish Mountain Resort ([www.skiwhitefish.com](http://www.skiwhitefish.com)), a year round winter and summer resort; Averill Hospitality, a premier choice in mountain resort accommodations; Schure Sports, Inc. ([www.karbonmail.com](http://www.karbonmail.com)), maker of the Karbon line of snowsports apparel, the US Ski Team, and the Far West Racing Association. Their contributions of vacation packages, snowsports apparel, and cash bring in approximately \$10,000 per year as raffle and auction proceeds, as well as direct cash donations.

In addition, our partnership program through clubs and councils afford us approximately one third of our scholarship funding each year. Finally, the Far West Ski Foundation ([www.farwestskifoundation.org](http://www.farwestskifoundation.org)), a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization, is a valuable resource for encouraging tax exempt donations. For more information on the Far West Athletic Scholarship Program, please visit [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org).





**Sigrid Noack**

**Charities and Our Community Chair**

**“Charity & Community Service Recognition 2020”**

**SHOWCASING is the new term now associated with our Charity Recognition Program. The 14th annual FWSA “Charity & Community Service Recognition” has totally changed.**

No longer is there a lengthy application to fill out, no more competition, and no more having to transport a photo display board to convention!

It's simple and it's easy! It's SHOWCASING!

Hopefully clubs and councils will appreciate our efforts to make this program more appropriate and more user-friendly by participating and sharing their Charity efforts with us.

We will SHOWCASE every club and council that has been involved with charity activities during this past year. With the information, that clubs and councils have sent to us, we are making a video, that was planned to be shared at this year's FWSA convention. But since this convention is cancelled, we will post our video on the FWSA website. To be included in this brand new Charity Recognition SHOWCASING video, clubs and councils, sent us their information by the extended deadline of April 15th.

**Here is what clubs or councils were asked to do, in order to be SHOWCASED in the FWSA Charity video:**

1. Put together one digital page, showing the group's charity activities. Put it together, any way they wished, with photos, as a collage, or as a list with logos, being creative, using their imagination to make it informative and fun.
2. Then put together a digital “Cover Page” to show the club's name and logo and whatever else they wanted to share with FWSA convention attendees.

FWSA wants to continue sharing all the beautiful charity work our members do, as in previous years, but now with much less effort on their part. All participating clubs will receive a medallion to be used on their website and newsletters. All SHOWCASED clubs will also receive a certificate to share with club members.

Most of our clubs and councils have been involved with charity activities every year. Many groups have been sharing their wonderful charity work with the rest of our FWSA family for 13 years. It's amazing how caring the members in our FWSA clubs are. Our delegates, industry friends and other convention guests are always quite impressed by the amazing dedication to charitable work within our FWSA family.

Looking forward to seeing what interesting charitable work our FWSA clubs and councils have been doing this past year. \*\*See you in San Diego in June 2021.\*\* Wishing you and your families best of health.

For questions regarding our Charity Recognition program, please contact Sigrid at [charities@fwsa.org](mailto:charities@fwsa.org).

FWSA is aiming for charitable involvement within all our member clubs!





## John Watson History Chair



The Board of Directors has wisely canceled their spring meeting and the Portland convention. There will remain a health hazard until sufficient therapeutics or vaccines are made available on a universal basis. That means that our members may view group events with concern for a year. But we will be prepared to execute our programs when the time is appropriate; herewith is the current History program. There will be a new committee staff as well.

Historic ski club designation will focus primarily on BAC and LAC this year as a number of their clubs are or have approached the 50-year mark. We will need to reach out to these clubs to put together their documentation for review and where necessary presentation of historic status.

FWSA Western Ski Heritage Prize by Steamboat requires publicity within the councils and clubs to attract submissions of applications. Additional information can be found at [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org).

Club and Council History and Recognition will require promotion thorough the councils and down to each of their clubs. We need the assistance of the councils to frequently remind the clubs that their history is an important part of who they are and the journey the clubs took to get to where they are today.

FWSA Heroes Recognition is a new program under development at this time. We will publish more details as they become available. Stay tuned.

Founders Day is to celebrate the founding of Far West Ski Association 90 years ago this October. We are encouraging our clubs and councils to plan outdoor daytime activities to commemorate this anniversary in early October. This could be a very worthwhile reason to plan these activities throughout the FWSA region especially, after all that we are going through now with this pandemic. Start planning now and hopefully we will be past this crisis and be able to get on with our lives and celebrations.

FWSA2020 will be a celebration of 90 years of FWSA existence. We are planning a celebration for October in San Francisco. This event will require constant promotion and publicity throughout the spring and summer, utilizing all of the Association's resources, such as news releases, *The Councilman* and email blasts. We will request the same from our councils and clubs. See more details in separate article in this publication for the 90th Anniversary.



# **FWSA 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration**

**By John Watson**

The origin of FWSA lies principally in the founding of the California Ski Association 7 October 1930. Since then, the name changed to FWSA in 1948 and owing to the effects of the council movement and with independence from a national ski association, FWSA has grown from 4 to 10 councils in 3 states to 12 states with over 120 clubs and many individual skiers. Behind that simple chronology, there lies 90+ years of stunning achievements by its members, hard work by many thousands of volunteers devoting millions of hours to a set of idealistic objectives. It's a 100-year story full of good times, some strife and hundreds of friends.

So why not go back to the founding place, the Palace in San Francisco, recreate the luncheon, and hear a stimulating speaker and recollections from people who were there when things happened? And the staff of the Skiers Guide and a bunch of authors with expertise in skiing history are creating a "birthday book" for these attendees. We are (or were) aiming for October 10 for the celebration date and book availability. The book will be the first attempt to assemble the history of FWSA in its current form. That may get changed because of Covid 19, availability of cruise amenities available only in San Francisco, Fleet Week and costs of accommodations.

So, stay alert for changes. All must be firmed up or rescheduled by mid-summer. When we are ready to roll this out, you will be required to sign up electronically. Get those credit cards ready! The spot price for the luncheon will be \$90 and if you want to insert a congratulatory advert from your club or council or just you in the book, ads start at \$90 also. All clubs should look at this because this type of memory book has a long lifetime. Press run will be limited. Adverts should be made right now through Leigh Gieringer, Publisher of the *Far West Skiers Guide*. We will publish the proper address for luncheon (and cruise?) reservations when those accounts are made active. Got questions? Email me at [history@fwsa.org](mailto:history@fwsa.org) with FWSA 2020 in the subject line.





## **FAR WEST SKI FOUNDATION**

### **John Watson, President**

FWSF is a companion organization to FWSA for fund raising purposes. FWSF is a public benefit corporation (501c3), allowing some tax advantage to contributors. The Foundation, founded in 1964, was saved in 2009 from abandonment by four intrepid Association veterans: John Watson, John Reinhardt, Dick Shawkey and Alan Christian. Originally intended to support international competitors in the 1964 Winter Olympics. The Foundation still includes this as one of its missions. The missions of the Foundation include youth ski racer development, which has evolved into the FWSA Scholarship program, initiated by resolution authored by Tucker Hoffman in 2003, and to which the Foundation is an adjunct. Scholarships assist athletes who are committed to pursuing a competitive Alpine racing program. Scholarship funds may be used to offset training expenses and competition entrance fees, but may not be used for personal travel or equipment.

The other support missions include that for disabled ski schools who deliver on-snow rehabilitation, international competition – last was Women's ski jumping 2011- Sochi, and finally, preservation and education. Contributors may earmark their contributions for any of these missions or simply make them undesignated and "highest need."

### **Far West Athletic Scholarship Sponsors**

Whitefish Mountain Resort, Averill Hospitality (owner of The Lodge at Whitefish Lake and The Firebrand Hotel), and Schure Sports, Inc., the makers of Karbon brand ski clothing, and Far West Racing Association, we are able to fund scholarships ranging in value from \$250 to \$1,500.

### **Partners**

Skiyente Ski Club  
Mountain High Snowsports Club  
Northwest Ski Club Council  
Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs  
San Diego Council of Ski Clubs  
Sierra League & Council  
Castro Valley Ski Club

The cancellation of the FWSA annual meeting in Portland this year has reduced our contacts with dedicated contributors. We still need that support because there will be scholarships awarded this September. Contributions may be sent via PayPal to *farwestski-foundation* or by sending contributions to John Reinhardt, Treasurer, 5105 SW Sheridan St. Portland, OR 97225.





## Dr. Richard Lubin Safety Chair

What a difference a year makes. Last year set all kinds of records for snowfall in many ski areas out west. This season started off early with snow getting everything started and resorts doing well through the holidays. In some areas, extreme weather closed some resorts in Summit County, Colorado.

This year, in California, we have had the driest February since the 1860s.

According to [www.avalanche.org](http://www.avalanche.org), so far this season, there have been 17 people killed in avalanches. Of those there were 5 skiers and 1 boarder. As usual, most of them were outside of ski resorts. Sadly, there was a single fatality and a serious injury in bounds at one of my favorite ski resorts Alpine Meadows. No other ski resorts in the US reported any avalanche fatalities.

Alpine Meadows was the last Tahoe resort to have a serious avalanche late in the season on the last day of March in 1982. It occurred at 3:45 PM, just before the lifts closed. If not, there might have been a higher mortality level. Yet, tragically, seven people were lost. The lodge also suffered serious damage.

There are few US resorts with an “A level” avalanche rating. Alpine Meadows records the greatest number of slides of any resort in the US. Of the Tahoe Resorts three of them have a higher risk of slides because of their elevation, snowfall, facing and a number of other factors. In the Tahoe area Squaw and Kirkwood are also in that category.

Resorts take extraordinary measures to control slides or to close an area if it is unsafe. Less than 3% of all resort fatalities are from avalanches. In parts of the Sierras, Colorado, Utah and some others storms can dump fast. The record is an amazing 67” at Echo summit, California, near Sierra at Tahoe. At those kinds of rates, it is a tremendous challenge for an open resort to keep it safe and yet they do. An offsetting phenomenon is that when it is dumping like that many people stay home.

In February 21 people were injured at Mont-Sainte-Anne ski resort outside of Quebec City, Canada when the gondola malfunctioned, stopping abruptly, tossing skiers and boarders, and knocking equipment from outside the cabin. A dozen people were transported to hospitals.

Incidents like these are extremely rare because gondolas have a tremendous safety record. They are in use not only at ski areas but many other attractions around the world. Doppelmayr Garaventa Group, maybe the largest, an Austrian- Swiss company boasting 15,000 installations, has a tremendous safety record.

Another odd incident occurred in British Columbia when roughly 250 people were evacuated by helicopter from Sasquatch Mountain Resort, after a mudslide took out a section of the only route in and out of the Hemlock Valley ski hill. Not exactly heliskiing.



(Continued on page 29)

## **RICHARD LUBIN “The Snowboarding Chiropractor”**

By Randy Lew, FWSA Treasurer / Past President

Dr. Richard Lubin, “The Snowboarding Chiropractor” and FWSA Safety Chair, passed from earth to eternity on March 28, 2020 after a short hospital stay.

As I write this, I am listening to one of the holiday music CD’s that Richard made and distributed. He so loved music and going to music festivals!

Richard’s condition was the result of a bacterial infection that turned into a spinal abscess shortly after the December 2008 Board of Directors Meeting at Sunriver, OR. Richard was hospitalized at that time. However, the antibiotics could not control the spread of the bacteria and Richard underwent spinal surgery that was not successful, leaving him a quadriplegic. About two months after this, he was in his PT session and impressed the Physical Therapist with his spirit, determination and effort. Richard was back and showed the inner strength and determination to get better. At this point he could barely move his hands. Through effort and hard work he got motion and strength back in his hands and arms.

Positive energy lit his spirit – kind, generous, an amazing chiropractor, passionate music lover, football enthusiast, ardent snowboarder, playful sense of humor, and a great friend. He truly touched everyone he met.

Richard was the 2001 and 2002 recipient of the FWSA Safety Person of the Year and was appointed Safety Chair in 2004 by then FWSA President Mike Sanford. Richard served as FWSA Safety Chair from 2004 to 2020 and has been the only FWSA Safety Chair. He has written many safety articles that have been published in the FWSA Councilman and Skiers Guide, developed safety videos, and envisioned and executed the FWSA Safety Thermometer Program with our ski area partners.

He will be missed and his memory will forever be a blessing. R.I.P. my friend.....



was to be held at the Red Lion on the River – Jantzen Beach in Portland, Oregon May 28 – 31, 2020 and hosted by Northwest Ski Club Council. Unfortunately, we had to make the decision to not hold our Annual Convention this year. We will return to Portland, Oregon for our Annual Convention in June 2022. Our convention in 2021 will be held in San Diego June 10 - 13.

Joe Harvis, VP of Communications, was extremely busy working with Club Express all year. Due to all Joe's time and effort, as of February 1, we have gone live with our new website. The new website allows FWSA to better manage our membership, conventions, trips and much more. Please go to the website and check it out.

I would like to thank everyone (Board of Directors, Trustees, Council Presidents and Committee Chairs) for all the work and support they continuously give to FWSA. We have many dedicated volunteers doing great work to improve our FWSA programs. Thanks for your countless hours and continued outstanding efforts in helping to maintain the success of the Far West Ski Association.

I hope wherever you are, whether at home, with loved ones, or on the front lines fighting this pandemic – that you are staying healthy and safe.

*(FWSA Convention Host Council continued from page 12)*

Linda McGavin – Mountain High Snowsport Club

Linda was our transportation guru, identifying a bus company and working with them on all of our transportation needs.

Dale Parshall – Schnee Vogeli

Dale was our golf guru, and was looking forward to having some fun with our "Not Your Daddy's" Michael German Memorial Golf Tournament. We like to think Michael would have chuckled a little...

Eileen Hines (Skiyente), Jean Yates (Bergfreunde), and Tom Arnold (Altair)

Eileen, Jean, and Tom, while without specific duties, came to our committee meetings and provided many ideas and great input to our various project discussions.

Last but certainly not least...

Debbi Kor – Mountain High Snowsport Club

Not only was Debbi in charge of the whole convention AND in charge of getting sponsorships as VP Marketing for FWSA, she also arranged the Wednesday night dinner cruise AND helped out tremendously on the pub crawl. She was, like, triple-dipping!

As we were in Portland, we were also fortunate in that we had the participation of FWSA Convention Chair Debbi Kor, FWSA Treasurer Randy Lew, FWSA Past President Steve Coxen, and FWSA Silent Auction Chair Mary Olhausen, all of whom could attend the committee meetings. This was a huge help as they were able to provide instant input and guidance as decisions were made.

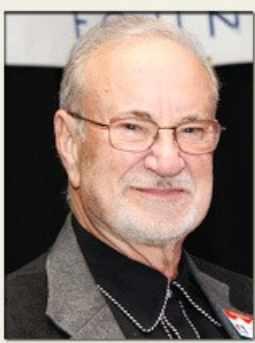
So here they are. Your 2020 Far West Ski Association Convention wouldn't have happened without these folks, and I can't thank them enough. When we can all get together again, I'm going to throw us all a party!

I would also like to thank the Portland Spirit (dinner cruise), Timberline Lodge, Mt. Hood Cultural Center and Museum, Inn at Cooper Spur, Mt. Hood Meadows, and the Lodge at Multnomah Falls, (Mt. Hood Adventure); McMenamin's Edgefield (golf), Maryhill, Bethany and Windy Hills wineries (wine bus), Around Portland Tours (bike tour), Heathen Brewing, Gray's at the Vancouver Hilton and Warehouse 23 (pub crawl), Viewpoint Coach Lines (busses) and of course, the Red Lion Janzen Beach, for all of their assistance in making this what would have been an incredible event.

Everyone please stay safe, stay healthy, and see you in San Diego in 2021!

Sheri Parshall, Northwest Ski Club Council Host Convention Chair





## Steve Coxen

### Nominations Committee Chairman

### 2020 FWSA Officer Elections

The Far West Ski Association Annual Meeting & Convention planned for May 28-31, 2020, in Portland, Oregon has been postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Voting for FWSA Officers and Trustees planned for Sunday, May 31 will also be postponed. The incumbents holding the positions of President, Secretary, Treasurer, VP of Communications, VP of International Travel, VP of Marketing, VP of Membership and two Trustees who were up for election in 2020 have agreed to continue in their positions until elections at the 2021 Convention. Elections for these positions will occur in 2021 and each position will be for a one-year term. This way we can maintain the alternating years of officer elections. The incumbents continuing for one-year terms are listed below:

President: Gloria Raminha

Treasurer: Randy Lew

Secretary: Sheri Parshall

Trustee 1: Linda Westlund

Trustee 2: Tucker Hoffmann

VP of Communications: Joe Harvis

VP of International Travel: Debbie Stewart

VP of Marketing: Debbi Kor

VP of Membership: Michael Bouton

Positions that are normally up for election in 2021 will also be on the ballot. President, Treasurer and Secretary will be elected to one-year terms. Two Trustees and three functional VP's listed below will be elected to two-year terms.

Trustee 1: Jo Simpson (current office holder)

Trustee 2: Tom Bundgard (current office holder)

VP of Council Services: Chris Gill (current office holder)

VP of North America Travel: Nancy Ellis (current office holder)

VP of Public Affairs: Fran Long (current office holder)

If you have an interest in serving as an Officer or Trustee please contact me as follows:

Steve Coxen

FWSA Immediate Past President

Email: [pastpresident@fwsa.org](mailto:pastpresident@fwsa.org)

Cell: 503-679-9022



## Wanda Himler Arizona Ski Council



### **Arizona Ski Council Clubs are very Active!!!**

The Arizona Ski Council (ASC) was formed to promote skiing and friendship among clubs, safety on the slopes and a general education of the skiing community. ASC now represents two clubs with members primarily in the Phoenix metro-area.

Phoenix Ski Club (PSC)

Scottsdale Sea & Ski Club (SS&SC)

Our membership is open to non-profit ski clubs and activity clubs, in the state of Arizona. Our clubs serve skiers, snowboarders, hikers, bikers and social members. Our clubs work together for successful ski seasons. Many members hold memberships in both clubs.

The Arizona Ski Council officers are:

President - Wanda Himler

Vice President - Karen Bonine

Treasurer - Dodi Bailey

Secretary - Jim Nachbar

Past President is Arleigh Meiners

Our clubs have the following representatives: Bill Behnke & Arleigh Meiners – Phoenix Ski Club, and Linda Westlund - SS&SC,

The ASC hosts many Happy Hours during the summer months for all the clubs to participate. We also provide other events throughout the year, including bowling, a bicycle ride and a 'Topless Road Rage', which is a road trip for convertibles. ASC had about 31 people who went on the 2019 FWSA ski week trip to Big Sky, Montana. For more information: <http://www.arizonaskicouncil.org/contact.html>.

Many events have been postponed or cancelled, due to the Corona Virus Pandemic . Many events will be added, once the virus has run its course.

Phoenix Ski Club (PSC), where one good turn deserves another! PSC is more than just skiing. This active adult social club goes full speed ahead with its year-round, non-profit, social and outdoor activities. They pride themselves in offering a variety of amazing activities, to appeal to everyone. They do it all.

Some of the events planned by PSC are monthly happy hours, dinners, social meetings, parties, Diamondback Games, Ballet, Lumberjack Ax Throwing, hikes, bicycling, boat trips - Mexican Riviera cruise, Grand Canyon Rafting Adventure, Lake Pleasant Camping, Ski trips – Sun Valley, Telluride, Zermatt Resort Utah, Lake Tahoe, Park City, Copper, Mammoth, family ski event to Flagstaff where kids learn to ski free. Other trips – Tanzania Safari (postponed), Charities we support are Adopt-a-highway, Lake Pleasant Cleanup, Shoebox Ministry, Toys for Tots, Sojourners Center, Phoenix Rescue Mission.

For more information: [www.phxskiclub.org](http://www.phxskiclub.org).

Scottsdale Sea & Ski Club (SS&SC), is the premier activities club in the Valley of the Sun. It is a non-profit social club, run by its members. SS&SC provide year-round activities, including snow skiing/snowboarding, hiking, biking, tubing, kayaking, camping, road trips, golfing, theme parties, and various other amazing trips.

*(Continued on page 29)*

This bill establishes the Ski Area Fee Retention Account. A specified portion of rental charges for ski area permits on a Forest Service unit shall be deposited in such account. Amounts in the fund shall be available to the unit for expenditure without further appropriation for ski area administration, improvements, visitor services, and leasing of administrative sites. Funds may be reallocated only if the rental charges collected exceed the reasonable needs of the unit.

### **Ski Fee Retention Update (GL)**

NSAA requested that the Ski Area Fee Retention Act (SAFRA) be wrapped into the Great Americans Outdoors Act (GAOA), a newly introduced piece of legislation that would fully fund the Land and Water Conservation fund (LWCF) and Address Maintenance Backlog in National Parks.

### **Awards**

Just a reminder, applications for the Environment Award and the Safety Person of the Year Award can be found on the website: [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org). Check them out now, and plan early for your submission in the future. Even if the application for the coming year isn't out yet, you can use the current year's application as a guideline.

What are you/your club doing in the areas of safety and environment? Each award winner receives a nice ski reward for their efforts. Aspen/Snowmass sponsors the Environment Award, and Mammoth Mountain Ski Area sponsors the Safety Award. Check out the applications, and consider applying.

(Safety continued from page 24)

### **FWSA SAFETY AWARD**

We are delighted to have a new sponsor for the Award and it is Mammoth Mountain Ski Area. The winner receives 4 nights lodging with 3-day lift pass to Mammoth Mountain Ski Area

This is the most popular resort for our many Southern and Central California skiers. It is a wonderful place with lots of terrain, lots of snow and a long season. I have snowboarded there several times in June. Our favorite volcano. Have you done anything to educate others about safety? Maybe you or someone you know worked ski patrol, wrote articles, or have done a safety presentation.

You can self-nominate. Fill out an application by going to a [www.FWSA.org](http://www.FWSA.org) go to Awards >Recognition>Safety Person of the Year >Apply for the Safety Award. Get your application in soon.

(Arizona Ski Council continued from page 28)

Some of the events SS&SC are planning are weekly happy hours, monthly dinners & social meetings, boat trips on the Moselle Bike & Boat Adventure, Mamma Mia cruise (postponed), ski trips to Sun Valley, Park City ski college, Telluride, Jackson Hole and Salt Lake City, scuba diving trip to Roatan, Jingle Bell Rock Holiday Light Tour and other trips like Maui, Hawaii. Other events include concerts, baseball games and staycations. For more information: <https://www.scottski.org>.

Feel free to check out any of the club's activities through Facebook or links for the council website ([www.arizonaskicouncil.org](http://www.arizonaskicouncil.org)).

(National Brotherhood of Skiers, Western Region continued from page 34)

### **Announcing Urban Winterfest 2021..."The Torch of Olympic Dreams Burns On"**

Delta Hotels by Marriott, Whistler Village Suites

Whistler/Blackcomb, Canada

January 14-18, 2021

<http://www.UrbanWinterfest.net>

Packages from \$800

- Lodging, Registration, MLK Commemorative Youth Program for the first 100 registrants
- Payments Refundable (minus transaction fees incurred) until 6/1/20

Non-Refundable but Transferable after 6/1/20

Discount Lift Tickets will be offered later for those without EPIC Passes.



## Paul Vlasveld Bay Area Snow Sports Council



***You will always hear how proud we are of the volunteers within the Bay Area Snow Sports Council (BAC)!***

It is amazing that this is already my 6th year as president of this fantastic organization.

By attending the various FWSA board meetings and events, I have learned how BAC can be a force for change in FWSA. In addition, I am learning how to work with my board members to provide the direction for our member clubs.

***With this issue I would like to highlight the activities that some of our member clubs have been involved with.***

### **Rusty Bindings Ski and Social Club**

Rusty Bindings is one of five San Francisco Bay Area Singles League ski and social clubs affiliated with the Bay Area Snow Sports Council and the Far West Ski Association open to singles over 21 years of age. We offer an active winter ski schedule for recreational skiers, downhill racers and snowboarders as well as a year-round social program with a variety of activities including bicycling, volleyball, water skiing, sailing, scuba diving, camping, rafting, softball, tennis, golf, dancing, wine tasting, concerts, picnics and many other great activities organized by members!

Rusty Bindings' renowned ski race team was the Singles League Race Champions in 1991 – 1995, 1997, 1999 – 2011 and yes...2012. The team has an excellent program with ski and race clinics, orientation for new skiers, discounted accommodations and lift tickets, awards, gifts and an opportunity to ski and race with others of the same skiing ability. Our members range from 21 to 60+ with equal numbers of men and women. Many of our members are not skiers but joined the club to participate in our year-round activities with other active singles.

<http://www.rustybindings.com>

### **Monterey Bay Ski and Social Club**

The Monterey Ski and Social Club IS NOT just a great ski club!!

- \* Over 90 active, fun-loving skiers and non-skiers having year-round adventures!
- \* Couples and singles meeting since August 1995.
- \* A non-profit, civic-minded Club that gives back to our world-class community!
- \* Providing volunteers and donations for non-profit events and fundraisers.

<http://www.montereyski.org>



(Continued on page 31)



## Nisei Ski Club

The Nisei Ski club is a non-profit organization founded in the late 1950's by a group of Japanese American Nisei (second generation) skiers interested in promoting the sport of skiing/snowboarding, friendship and fun within the community. The current membership consists of Japanese Americans (Nisei, Sansei, Yonsei), as well as, other Asians and Non-Asians.

<http://www.niseiskiclub.org/>

BAC has had another busy and successful year to date. This is in no small part due to the dedicated cadre of volunteers that have the passion and drive to make BAC the fantastic Council that it is and will continue to be.

The next BAC Board of Directors will be elected at our April BAC General Council Meeting. We have many incumbents who are nominated with hopes of continuing their positions. There are a couple of new people who have also stepped forward. At this time no formal announcements will be made about who our 2020/2021 BAC BOD will be. There might be further nominations the night of our elections!

The BAC is moving forward with having events during the non-ski season to continue a focus on what our council represents and validate why clubs should be part of us. In turn, we are also sharing why people should join our Member Clubs.

The FWSA Ski Week in Big Sky, MT was another big hit! The snow conditions were very good. Gail Burns (BAC Travel Director) put together a Fun Filled BAC Council Night during the trip. Thank you also to Ms. Nancy Ellis (FWSA VP of North American Travel), Bob Ellis (FWSA VP of Racing) and the Entire FWSA Travel Staff for all their contributions and efforts in making this a successful and fun trip!

This year is or has been a Fun & Busy Travel Year for the BAC.

The FWSA Ski Week to Sun Valley, ID in 2021 is already being promoted and deposits will be accepted starting in May/June.

BAC just completed a highly successful Mini trip to Utah. Participants all had a great time.

Later this year in August BAC is running 2 Italy Bike and Barge. The response has been great.

This year we are very proud to be represented by our BAC Man and Woman of the Year. Our BAC Woman of the Year is Marci Lyzun from Inskiers Ski Club. Our Man of the Year is Don Shaver from Modesto Ski Club.

In closing . . . I have had the honor and privilege of representing The Greatest Council in FWSA. The dynamic and diverse people who have been and currently are members of the Bay Area Snow Sports Council and Far West Ski Association Board of Directors that continue to make BAC a thriving and successful Council.





## Michael Bouton Intermountain Ski Council



The ISC is growing. We had two new clubs joining us in the past 4 months. The Northern Wasatch Ski and Social Club was formed and joined the council in October, 2019. The members ski and race at Snowbasin and Powder Mountain. Many of the members live in Mountain Green, UT and are retired from the military. They are forming the Board of Directors and getting By-Laws written.

The second new club is the Sublette County Ski and Snowboard Association of Pinedale, WY. Their club is transitioning from a youth racing team to more of a social and racing club. The club members get discounted lift tickets at Jackson Hole, Snow King and Grand Targhee Resorts. The club also raises money for a high school senior scholarship each year.

We are excited to have these two new clubs participating in our council activities. Together with the other eight clubs, it makes the ISC a very strong and diverse council. The clubs are spread out over four states. The following is a listing of our clubs:

**Black Hills Ski Club- Rapid City, SD**

**Bogus Basin Ski Club- Boise, ID & Treasurer Valley**

**Cheyenne Ski Club- Cheyenne, WY**

**Idaho Falls Ski Club-Idaho Falls, ID area**

**McCall Winter Sports Club- McCall, ID**

**Park City Mountain Sports Club- Park City, UT area**

**Pocatello Ski Association-Pocatello, ID area**

**Prime Timers Ski Club-Boise, ID (males over 60)**

The council hosted a very successful rondeaux ski trip to Sun Valley Resort, January 2020. We had 73 people make reservations during the week of the 8-12th. We even had new snow the final 4 days of the week, and along with the “gun powder”, made it really nice. The after-ski festivities were much fun as well. Some new members learned how to squirm in the snow and jump into the hot pool. Many of the members got together Saturday evening for a wine and cheese social with live entertainment from Ted Hogander, our own famous guitarist.

The council will also be having an election of officers in May for our new Board of Directors. Our President, Paul Markowitz and Treasurer, Michael Bouton will be resigning after 11 years of service to the council. Thank you both for your dedication over those years. It is time for new leadership to direct the council into the future. We have many talented folks to step up into leadership positions.

I know that with the FWSA Ski Week being held in Sun Valley next year the Intermountain Ski Council will be very involved and participating. We hope to see you all there.



## Sandy Blackwell

### Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs



The Los Angeles Council of Ski Clubs (LAC) consists of 24 clubs, which include snow sports, water sports, and a bit more social type of club, that covers a large area from Santa Barbara to the north, the Inland Empire to the east and just south of Long Beach.

Snow skiing/boarding, sailing, biking, socials, movie premieres, ski patrol, you name it, we have a club that does it – and we can because we have the most diverse area that can encompass ALL of those activities. Not every council can boast this mix of activities available to their members.

Mammoth Mountain Ski Area is the Best place for skiing for LAC. It's a five-hour drive from central Los Angeles, and offers an exciting mix of outdoor activities year round (skiing, biking, hiking, camping, jazz concerts, hot springs, and fishing) for the club members. This year the clubs put on 38 (yes 38!!) trips to Mammoth (bus or driving). That's a lot of skiers headed to Mammoth. Many of the clubs also did their own ski week-long trips to other places, such as Winter Park, SnowBird, Telluride, Banff/Lake Louise, and Cervinia, Italy. LAC has lots of clubs that REALLY Like to ski!!

Los Angeles Council always participates in the FWSA Ski Week each year, and Todd Hood, our VP of Travel, keeps making our annual events more and more fun. We just got back in early February from Big Sky, Montana – and what a trip it was: LAC won “best costumes” at the Wildlife Safari themed Thursday evening banquet, and many of our racers were 1st and 2nd place winners in their class for GS and GS Race Legends. Beautiful snow to ski or board in, lots of events to do on the off chance you were not skiing, such as head into Yellowstone National Park on snowmobiles and see Old Faithful, and so much more!

LAC often takes advantage of FWSA's mini-ski weeks, Winter Park, CO last year and Zermatt Resort, Utah next year. We had planned on Big White, Canada this year, but alas it had to be cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. (These trips offer great pricing and unique skiing fun available at some smaller resorts that other states and Canada have) and the international trips which have expanded to a year-round schedule. Still, with all these options, many of our council clubs also offer their own out-of-state and international trips for skiing, biking, bike/barge trips and adventuring.

Los Angeles Council is also involved in a well-organized race season within Far West Racing Association and is comprised of two race leagues: ROKKA and ULLR, headed up by Laura Preiss and Ken Kawahara, respectively. Included on the schedule are Rokka Race Camp, the Ski, Ride & Race Week, three race weekends, the SoCal Championships, and the Far West.

The Council hosted its annual Snow Gala in November, at the Almansor Court, and it was really fun. We had a 60's sock hop theme, and almost everyone came in costume. This event also has the honor of finding out which man and woman-from all the clubs that nominate – will be the Council's Man and Woman of the Year Honoree's in June 2021 when FWSA's next convention is held in San Diego.

The Council's monthly meetings have been announced to the clubs as we visit a few restaurants, or, we also do telephone conference meetings to get the information out to the clubs, but save everyone the problem of navigating the LA Freeway system from up north or down south.

For details regarding all of the Los Angeles clubs and activities, please visit us at [www. Lacouncil.org](http://www.Lacouncil.org)



Todd Hood

## National Brotherhood of Skiers, Western Region

The twelve clubs of the National Brotherhood of Skiers Western Region attended the 47th NBS Black Summit in Sun Valley, Idaho, where 589 registered guests and a number of other attendees enjoyed camaraderie and local Sun Valley hospitality. In addition to the fun, business was conducted. Henri Rivers was elected to be the President of the National Brotherhood of Skiers by the member club presidents.

The Mayor of Sun Valley, Idaho proclaimed Friday March 6, 2020 as National Brotherhood of Skiers Day, and bestowed keys to the city to each of Ben Finley, and Arthur Clay, Founders of the NBS, and Peggie Allen, the outgoing national President. Approximately 60 NBS current and former leaders had planned to return to Sun Valley from March 25-28, 2020 for the US Ski and Snowboard Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony. Far West Ski Association award winners, Ben and Art are being inducted into the hall of fame in recognition of the impact they made to organized snowsports. The ceremony has been rescheduled to December 9-13, 2020 in Sun Valley, Idaho. See <http://www.skihall.com> for details.

During the week, Ski Noir 5280 of Denver Colorado was inducted as the newest club to join the NBS. The SnowPros, a new club of snowsports professionals was recognized as a probationary club. The SnowPros are scheduled to join the NBS Western Region next year. It was also announced that next year's NBS Black Summit will be held February 27- March 6, 2021 in Aspen Snowmass, Colorado. Although many registrants at NBS Black Summit 2020 reported having a wonderful time in Sun Valley, several attendees returned home ill, with some being hospitalized, and a number in Intensive Care. Unfortunately the NBS Western Region has lost four members that attended the trip due to complications related to COVID-19. We pray for health and comfort for those affected by this outbreak and implore all to be patient, stay safe, and follow good guidance.

The Western Region recognizes the following awardees for 2019-20:

- Club of the Year - SnowBusters Ski Club of Pasadena
- Man of the Year - Gary Garrett of All Seasons Ski Club of Oakland
- Woman of the Year - Zeffie Bruce of Fire & Ice Ski Club of San Jose
- Ben Finley Lifetime Legacy Award - Charles Ward of Camellia City Ski Club of Sacramento

While in Sun Valley, the NBS Western Region officially announced that Urban Winterfest 2021 would be held at Whistler/Blackcomb, Canada from January 14-18, 2021. The event will feature a "Onesies in Whistler" Welcome Party, the renowned NBS Mountain Lunch, the Village VIP Voyage, and the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr Commemorative Breakfast Program featuring the Urban Winterfest Youth and an NBS Stars Panel "Family in Fire". Online registration and event information is available at <http://www.UrbanWinterfest.net>

On April 24-26, 2020, a teleconference with leaders of the member clubs of the Western Region of the National Brotherhood of Skiers will be hosted by Four Seasons West Ski and Snowboard Club in Los Angeles for the Spring Presidents Meeting and Operations Improvement Seminar. Among many other topics, the leaders will be debriefed on the status of Urban Winterfest 2020 Vision that was held in South Lake Tahoe, CA from January 16-20, 2020.

To receive information updates directly, readers can subscribe at <http://signup.nbswr.org>

(Continued on page 29)





## Chris Ciardi Northwest Ski Club Council



It was a slow start to the ski season for the Northwest as the weather patterns did not cooperate. It's now going strong with all of our clubs out skiing, boarding, or generally had some fun. We are a council of approximately 30 clubs in four states; Alaska, Hawaii, Oregon, Washington. NWSCC celebrated 40 years, with PACRAT racing celebrating 35 years at a great event in December. We continue our long time tradition of the PIE Auction for charity, and race bib pick-up. Thanks to our board members for bringing many homemade treats to auction. We were able to raise funds to support the Mt. Hood Museum & Cultural Center in our backyard on Mt. Hood. They were thrilled to be supported.

Our council brought 24 participants to the annual FWSA Ski Week in beautiful Big Sky, Montana. It was a fun trip to a beautiful place, with fantastic weather and terrain. Now clubs have been working on filling the summer months with other fun outdoor activities.

We are always looking for new faces and voices for our Council Board of Directors. Our annual election of officers and directors is normally held in June. In 2020 several seasoned board members took over the Industry program. We offered our first of several "On-line Auctions" in support of the council. Many good deals were had. We continue planning events for our new fiscal year.

For 35 years, PACRAT, our racing arm, has provided the exciting opportunity to participate in a recreational alpine racing league on Mt. Hood. Participants have fun racing down the mountain and celebrating their results with many friends. Even novices can learn to compete at their own skill level and watch for improvements through the season. The 2020 race season and award party was canceled.

The COVID-19 pandemic has created lots of change in all of our lives, including all ski resorts. Many ski resorts made the difficult decision to close early for everyone's safety. All skiers were saddened, but totally support the ski industry in their decision. NWSCC was scheduled to host the 2020 FWSA Convention, but, unfortunately, it was cancelled due to the Coronavirus Pandemic. We are looking forward to getting back out there with planning 2022, and look forward to seeing everyone in San Diego June 10-13.





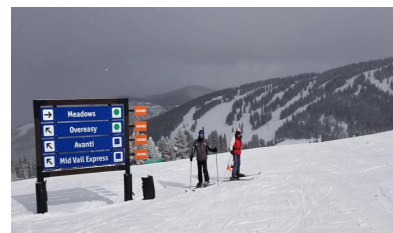
## Sheila Van Guilder Orange Council of Ski Clubs



Orange Council had a very well-attended President's Dinner on Feb. 19, 2020. Brian Papworth, Ski Sales Manager and Stacy Smith, Taos Air, gave us a very nice presentation on the improvements and advantages of skiing at Taos Ski Valley. From new airplanes flying directly from local airports into Taos to the very nice accommodations, all were points of interest to our group. Quite a few people were interested in this adventure.

Our Fountain Valley Ski Club went to Vail this year and here is a brief summary by their President, Jim Wisenbaker.

“We had a wonderful time on our out-of-state trip to Vail. Our trip group was 42 members strong, which was one of the largest groups of people to go on any out-of-state trip in recent memory. The snow was great at both Vail Main and the Legendary Back Bowls, and we had several days of new snow (though it had the corresponding Flat Light to go with it). Our 3 events in the Conference Room were wonderful parties and great ways for people to get to know everyone on the trip. In town, the food was especially good, and available in a huge variety of types. Our members enjoyed shopping and visiting the stores and museums in the town of Vail & Lion’s Head. During the off day, there was a wonderful chance to shop in the town, and see the Vail & 10th Mountain Division Museum. Yvonne Freeman, our trip leader did a great job setting up and planning our activities.” One of Balboa Ski and Sports Club's members will not be able to follow his dream this year. Stan Mullian was planning to join our speaker Jon Kedrowski (from the 2019 Convention) doing the Base Camp trip in Nepal. Like most of our club members plans have changed for the season's end.



Most of our club members have skied out of state. Just pick your spot, either Big Sky, Aspen, Snowmass and/or Jackson Hole. There are some overlaps with the groups. Mostly you would find us at Mammoth Mountain, that great gift we were given by Dave McCoy. The mountain, the town and the community are such great tributes to the wonderful man that Dave was. It was a shame to lose him even at 104. And did he know his SNOW!!! And it is still falling! And we can not enjoy it!

Balboa Ski and Sports Club ended its season in the middle of a Mammoth bus trip when first the mountain was closed by high winds and then closed by the Coronavirus. But we got in a great Friday.

Join us for the FWRA Finals next year at Mammoth. We are also planning to go to Sun Valley with FWSA.

Like in skiing, look ahead, plan ahead and stay safe.



*The Councilman, Spring 2020*







## Chris Gill San Diego Council of Ski Clubs



The San Diego Ski Council has nine active ski clubs in the area. Each club provides a variety of year around activities that include hiking, biking, golf, day trips, bridge and of course skiing. Each club has a general meeting once a month that allows members to gather and receive updated information on current activities.

Several of our ski clubs planned their ski trips in 2020. Action's two flyaway trips were to Banff and Copper Mountain along with three Mammoth bus trips. North Island's flyaway trip was to Jackson Hole with four bus trips to Mammoth. Don Diego hosted three mid week trips to Mammoth. Pacific Rim will be in Big White for the ski season.

The San Diego Council celebrated their 25th year skiing in Aspen. Mike and Eileen Sanford have been the Ski Council trip leaders for Aspen and have had a huge success in taking an average of 45 plus people every year. Mike Sanford was given a Plaque from Mary Manning on behalf of Aspen Ski Corporation and Snowmass.

In November we had our Annual San Diego Ski Council Gala where we honored our Club Man and Woman of the Year. We also gave out the distinguished Joe Harris Award.

The Gala theme was Pirates and Wenches. Everyone came in costume. Club Med and Mayflower tours were our guest and gave a presentation on their companies.

The Man of the Year was awarded to John Walsh of North Island Snowdrifters and the Woman of the Year was given to Eileen Weiner of Don Diego. The Joe Harris Award went to Chris Gill, the president of the San Diego Ski Council.

The San Diego Ski Council was saddened to have learned of the passing away of Helen Harris age 97, who was married to Joe Harris. Helen was a huge part of the Convair Ski Club which later became Don Diego. She served as the President for her clubs, became Woman of Year for the San Diego Council and was also a recipient of the Joe Harris Award. Helen skied well into her eighties. She was a mentor to so many in her clubs. Her husband Joe Harris formed the San Diego Ski Council and was significant in having San Diego Ski Clubs become a part of the Far West Organization.

The San Diego Ski Council will be heading to Germany in July to do a bike and barge trip down the Mosel River. Afterwards there will be a group heading to Iceland with Mayflower Tours.

San Diego Ski Club Council will host the FWSA Convention, June 10-13, 2021.



San Diego Ski Council Gala



Helen Harris



Jo Simpson  
Sierra Council



After soldiering through a period of drought in the Sierra with no snow and warm temperatures, the season abruptly ended because of the coronavirus. We are sad about the turn of events but recognize that this was an unavoidable consequence of the pandemic.

Our racing program has completed four of our six scheduled races and were on track to finish a fifth until the closures. Our Feb. 9 race at Sugar Bowl was cancelled when the resort had to shut down lifts because of winds exceeding 100 miles per hour on the ridge tops.

Our travel director, Carlene Boutacoff, ably led us on a very fun trip to the North American Ski Week at Big Sky. We had fun council happy hours and a dinner in addition to the larger ski week activities. We are already planning for Sierra's participation in Sun Valley in 2021.

Our larger clubs are hoping to have their usual summer activities such as hiking and camping.

We are thrilled to have AJ Hurt return for the third year as the Sierra Council 2019 Frank App Scholarship winner. She graduated from high school this past spring at the end of her second season with the U.S. Ski Team. She is currently in her third season on the World Cup circuit at just age 19!





## *In Memoriam*

It is with deep regret we mourn the passing of our friends & family from the Winter Sports world. Each and everyone had touched our lives and they will be missed.

### **Care for These We Love but Can No Longer Touch**

John Watson

We beseech you, maker of the universe  
And all the things upon it,  
All the things living on, within and above our Earth,  
Hear this, our earnest plea.  
Take into your mansions  
And eternally care for these we love  
But can no longer touch.  
We who remain stand strong  
With the strength you have provided us  
Please hear this, our grateful plea  
Cover us with your grace and glory  
And the power to overcome these troubling times  
Such that we emerge blessed  
For further service in your name

#### *Janet Hansen*

Torrey Pines, San Diego Council  
April 2019

#### *Jim Peet*

Grindelwald, LAC  
August 2019

#### *Helen Harris*

Don Diego, San Diego Council  
FWSA Schatzi Wood Award  
December 2019, age 97

#### *Joseph Parker, Jr.*

U2 Can Ski Club, NBSWR  
May 2019

#### *Ann Larson*

Grindelwald, LAC  
September 2019, age 85

#### *Terry Davies*

Santa Barbara Ski Club, Central Council  
December 2019

#### *Marge Blanco*

Fountain Valley, Orange  
June 2019

#### *Nicholas Carson*

Single Ski Club, LAC  
October 2019

#### *Bill Tuller*

Bogus Basin, Intermountain  
December 2019

#### *Seaton Blanco*

Fountain Valley, Orange  
June 2019

#### *Hal Rosewall*

SLO Skiers, Central  
October 2019

#### *Ed Cardoza*

Bogus Basin, Intermountain  
January 2020

#### *Sherman Robert Poppen*

Inventor Snurfer (snowboard predecessor)  
July 2019, age 89

#### *Jake Burton Carpenter*

Founder Burton Snowboards  
November 2019, age 65

#### *John Fry*

Owner Brundage Mountain, Idaho  
January 2020, age 90

#### *George Stage*

Conejo, LAC  
July 2019

#### *Dr William K Luckow*

Snowbounders Langlaufers, Orange Council  
November 2019

#### *David Pacheco*

Auslich Ski Club, LAC  
January 2020

#### *Victoria Wells*

Fire & Ice, NBSWR, BAC  
July 2019

#### *Muriel Jeanne Hill Pratt*

former downhill ski racer  
FWSA Racing  
November 2019

#### *Tom Born*

Don Diego, San Diego Council  
February 2020

#### *Ted Disberry*

Fountain Valley, Orange  
August 2019

(Continued on page 40)

(In Memoriam Continued from page 39)

*Reuben Rodríguez*

Beach Cities, LAC  
January 2020

*Dave Hegner*

Beach Cities, LAC  
February 2020

*Dave McCoy*

Founder Mammoth Mountain Ski Resort  
February 2020, age 104

*Kenny Brundage*

Mountain High, NWSCC  
Mt Hood Avalanche  
March 2020

*Gene Gage*

A founding member of Phoenix Ski Club, Arizona Ski Council,  
March 2020, age 92

*Charles E Jackson Jr*

BladeRunners, Snowbusters, LAC, NBSWR  
March 2020

*Nate Jackson*

BladeRunners, NBSWR  
March 2020

*Ed Knott*

LAC President, Singles, Westwood  
FWSA Board Member  
March 2020

*Richard Lubin*

FWSA Safety Chair  
March 2020

*Jimmie Nunn*

Ski Patrol Arizona Snow Bowl  
FWSA Snowsports Builder 2016  
March 2020

*Samuel Adams*

SnowBusters, Four Seasons West, LAC,  
NBS, NBSWR  
April 2020

*Julia Alexander*

SnowBusters Ski Club, LAC, NBS, NBSWR  
April 2020

*Judd DeBoer*

Ski Journalist, founder NASTAR  
April 2020, age 81

*Haymon T Jahí*

Fire and Ice, BAC, NBSWR,  
April 2020

*Nancy Kelly*

Castro Valley, Open League, BAC  
FWSA Treasurer  
April 2020, age 81

*Deborah Weller-Walton*

Unrecables, Beach City Ski Club, LAC  
April 2020

*Don Kaiser*

Edelweiss, LAC

*George Martinez*

Vand Bakke, Orange

*Gloria Slate*

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**Skiing Around the World: Volume I (reprint of the original sold out book) &**

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**By Jimmy Petterson**

**Now available in limited quantities for the US market!**

In these two books, Jimmy takes the reader on adventures through seven continents to visit over 500 ski resorts in 70+ countries. Experience world famous resorts, heli-ski destinations, glacier skiing, unique hidden gems, and much more! Be inspired by the variety of Jimmy's experiences as he shares his journeys. Between Volume I (440 pages) and Volume II (616 pages), the books feature approximately 1,500 full-color photos. Each coffee table styled book measures 13.4" x 9.45". Volume II is thicker. More information can be found at [www.skiingaroundtheworldbook.com](http://www.skiingaroundtheworldbook.com). Or, contact: Leigh Gieringer 80.600.6099 / [lgieringer2@cox.net](mailto:lgieringer2@cox.net) for US inquiries and distribution. Or, [jimmy@skiingaround.com](mailto:jimmy@skiingaround.com) in Europe. Since the 2019-2020 ski season has abruptly ended, get your thrills as you read about hundreds of the world's finest resorts; and numerous unknown ski destinations, as well as many others to plan future ski adventures!

**Skiing Around the World by Jimmy Pettersen**

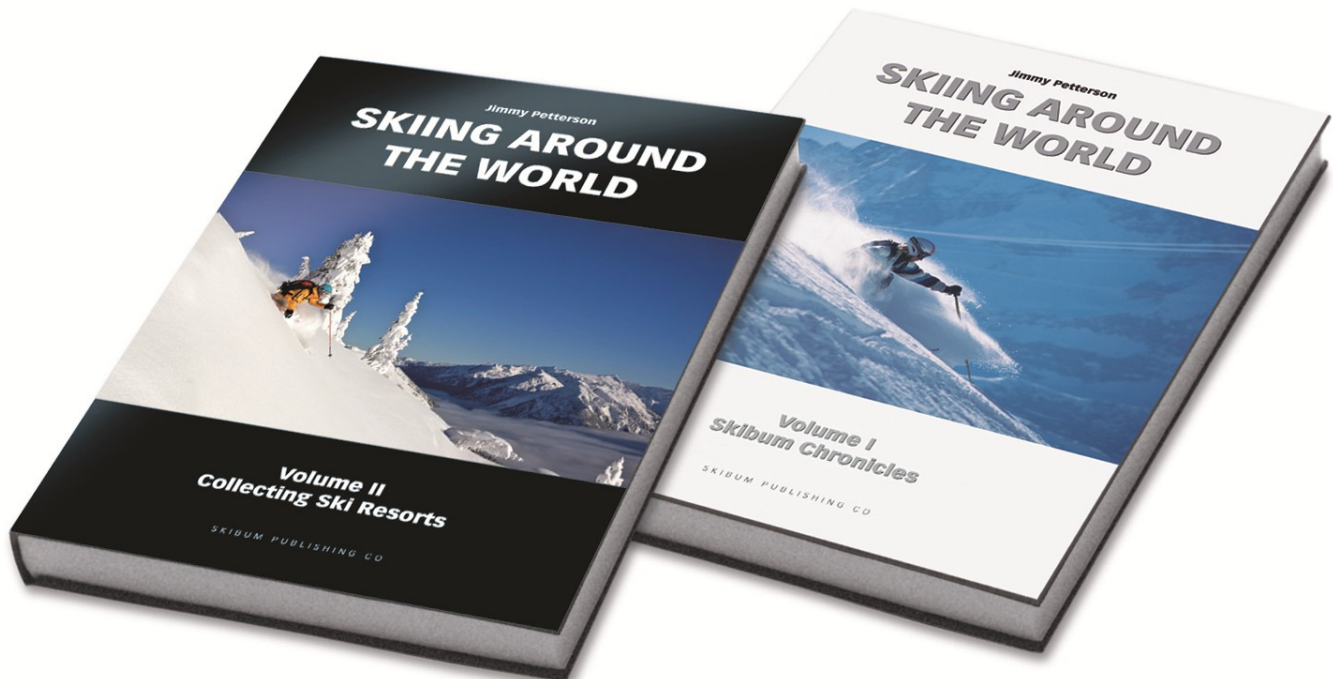
**Review by Jackson Hogan\***

I can't imagine that there exists a compendium of one skier's travels around the world that is as complete, authoritative and personal as Jimmy Pettersen's two-tome odyssey, the aptly titled *Skiing Around the World*. It reminds me of how one might compose a detailed letter to a friend about one's travels, a long-lost art that gives Pettersen's travelogue a sense of place that goes beyond trite "resort reviews". As a bonus, his observations happen to ring true, at least to this local's ears. At \$89 per volume the price may seem as steep as the top of the Hahnenkamm downhill, but they're the ultimate, jumbo-sized, coffee-table books for skiing aficionados.

\*Jackson Hogan, ski writer - printed with permission

based in Reno, NV from his latest mailer

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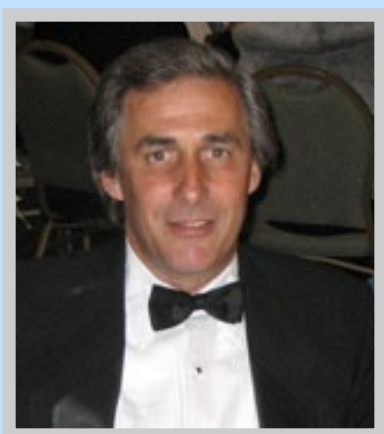
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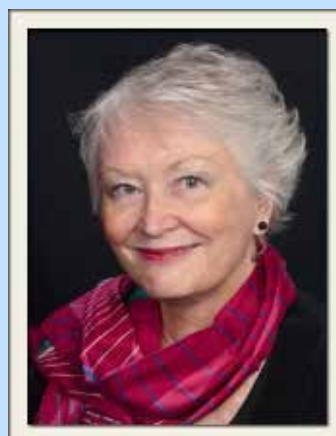
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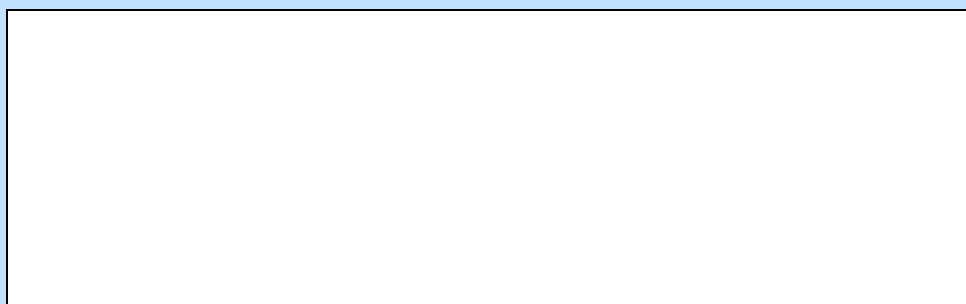


**Leigh Gieringer, Editor  
Far West Skier's Guide**

*FWSA keeps a database on members, clubs and councils. It is important that information in this database be current so that communications are received in a timely manner. Changes in club or council officers; membership addresses and phone numbers; members' club affiliations; club or council meeting location; or, requests for information from the database must be sent to the FWSA President, Gloria Raminha at [president@fwsa.org](mailto:president@fwsa.org). The Far West Ski Association website at [www.fwsa.org](http://www.fwsa.org) has a Ski Club Officer Update Form. Clubs can upload the [Officer Update Form for 2020-2021](#).*

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