



A History
of
Single Ski Club of Los Angeles
on its 50th Anniversary
September 25th, 2010



WELCOME TO ALL SSC'ERS

We gather together with our friends for a 50th Anniversary Celebration of the Single Ski Club of Los Angeles. It has been our honor and privilege to serve as Chairman for this important event.

We were thrilled as we watched the growing number of invitation responses. We have at least 29 Past Presidents of Single Ski Club in attendance at this Celebration. The large number of Single Ski Club members, past and present, that are here is testimony to the special place that Single Ski Club holds in all our hearts.

We believe the club has survived and excelled over the years by providing an atmosphere of fun and camaraderie where one can participate with like-minded individuals in sporting and social activities of all kinds. We laughed and joked and did crazy things that earned us the Turkey Award. As racers, we certainly knew the thrill of victory and the agony of defeat. We had loves won and loves lost. We formed unions and created families. Most important of all, we touched the lives of others in ways we might never know or understand, such as the deaf children who attended the SSC-sponsored Christmas party, the children who received gifts from Toys for Tots, and the victims of Hurricane Katrina.

It is our intent for this booklet to provide an historical and pictorial journey through the past 50 years of our club's existence. Excerpted from at least 600 copies of *The Single Skier*, the *Far West Ski News*; club meeting minutes; the 10th, 20th, 25th and 40th memento books; and "stories" we shared, it provides a lasting memento of our countless activities, achievements, and contributions over the past 50 years.

We wish to express our sincere appreciation for this publication to its originator and producer, Judith Miller, with able assistance from Jane Wyckoff, and special thanks to Steve Markman for his unbelievable graphics expertise.

No matter what paths we travel, or wherever life takes us, we know that we will always remember the friendships we made and the memories we cherish as members of the Single Ski Club of Los Angeles.

Polly & Jack Miller
September 25, 2010

50TH ANNIVERSARY STAFF

Chairman

Polly Miller

Assistant Chairman

Jack Miller

Reception

Linda Mero

Mailing

***Uta Buschor
Charlie Repp***

Program

Jack Miller

Memorabilia

Suzanne Tyoryla

Event Photographer

Peter Mitchell

Souvenir Book

***Text: Judith Miller
 Jane Wyckoff
Graphics: Steve Markman***

HOW IT ALL BEGAN ...

...was in Albany, NY in the fall of '58, as a direct result of the refusal of one of the established clubs to raise their membership quota and allow new singles to join. Ed Barry contacted some of his single friends and suggested a "single club," run by single people for single people, with the proviso that, upon marriage, the member would receive an honorable discharge with full ceremony, and would revert to non-voting status. The idea was received enthusiastically. A pre-organizational meeting took place in November and the "Single Ski Club of Albany" held its organizational meeting on December 5, 1958. The club was an instant success, resulting in 150 charter members and in 3 months 350 members, making it the largest in Albany.

The pre-organizational meeting of the Single Ski Club of Los Angeles was held in January 1960 at 1011 Charter Oak Lane, Beverly Hills. The organizational meeting was held February 18, 1960 at the Café de Paris, 7038 Sunset Boulevard. The club grew slowly and at one time almost floundered but was saved by a providential yacht trip. (More about that below.)

The organizational meeting of SSC of New Haven was on December 11, 1969 in Newport Beach; those organizers included our own John Watson. These 3 clubs started holding conventions in Aspen and an unsuccessful attempt was made to form a "Single Ski Council" under the auspices of USSA. Of these 3, only SSC of Albany and SSC of LA have survived.

Upon the founding of SSC of LA, a committee of eager members formulated a constitution, using Albany's as a guideline and revising it for our particular needs. The "Constitutional Convention" and adoption took place at a club meeting in mid-1960. The club was incorporated June 6, 1961. As the need for changes arose, committees studied suggested revisions. For instance, on August 16, 1961, two amendments were adopted by majority vote of the Board of Directors, one of which permitted waiving of membership requirements. The second revision resulted from the ever-present force of inflation: a dues increase from \$5 to \$7.50! We won't see those days again! By January 1967, Recording and Corresponding Secretary were combined, and Food Chairman became an elected office. In March 1968, revisions affecting the amendment procedure were passed as well as raising dues, adding a provision for filling the office of Past President, and reverting Food Chairman to an appointed position. In

1969, several proposals were defeated, including allowing an associate to fill the post of Past President and allowing associates to be reinstated after a lapse of membership. Adopted changes required Board of Trustees meetings and attendance at those meetings.

An active Board of Trustees and the "something of value" with which it is entrusted are two of the more novel aspects of SSC. Creation of the first came as a consequence of the second. In 1961, a group of SSCers planned an ocean cruise. Their search for a sailing vessel led them to Captain Ralph, who, after promises of having his palm crossed with silver, was persuaded to rent the ship Goodwill (which came to an unhappy end off Baja in '69) to the happy wanderers. No sooner had we set sail than misfortune descended as a quickly over-taking vessel, heavily armed with the Stars & Stripes at its yardarm, told us to "heave to" and allow a boarding party. After a fruitless search for booty, the Goodwill was released to continue on her way. It seems Captain Ralph did not have charter papers for this voyage, and when the SSC loot later materialized, he refused his share for fear of reprisals, his identity and the location of the vessel now being known to his tormenters. Finding themselves in possession of this unclaimed windfall, and unwilling to divide it among themselves, our happy band selected 7 to hold it in safekeeping. As years passed, the nest egg grew, a result of rising interest and inflation as well as the hard work of the original crew and their progeny. With an eye toward building our own ski lodge, we invested in a piece of property at Mammoth, which, as we all know, was sold and will benefit present and future members under the watchful eyes of our current Board of Trustees.



Al Nylen and Ed Barry

THE FIRST TEN YEARS

Ed Barry got things rolling and served as president until Cliff Ford became our first elected president in 1960; Cliff was followed by Ed Schonauer in 1961. Alex Bible was elected in 1962, but didn't get to finish his term because

he got married, at which time Don Becker became president to finish Alex's term. In order to prevent future sitting presidents from getting married before the end of their term, the Anti-Marriage Tie, which was hand painted with wolves, was presented by the out-going president to the new president each year. This worked OK because none of the first 10 presidents got married during his term. The tie apparently lost its power shortly thereafter as all but one got married to SSC girls after leaving office. Al Nylen dated future wife Ruth Klemmedson while in office, and Ruth was affectionately called "First Broad."

The Boardroom was the site for the Club's early meetings, and we later moved to the Kiru restaurant, which was located on West 8th St. in LA and served for several years in the '60s as our meeting place until the fall of 1966 when suddenly and without warning, one Wednesday, hours before the meeting, signs were spotted on the restaurant doors indicating it had closed for good. A couple of blocks down the street was the Boardroom, where arrangements were quickly made to meet that night. Our own signs were posted on the Kiru's doors informing everyone of the change. The Boardroom became our meeting place for about six months and then the Kiru reopened and we went back there for the next few years. In the early '70s, we moved to the Blarney Castle, our home for much of the decade. While each president had his own style of conducting a meeting, they were always lively, informative and entertaining. Dave Tollakson announced "While I'm president, this is going to be a serious year," which met with lots of laughter. There were trip sign-ups, ski movies, reports on recent trips and activities, and fashion shows with the latest in stretch pants and double-laced leather ski boots being the fashion of the day. Many members, applicants and guests would meet before the meetings for dinner and, of course, stay for dancing afterwards to taped music.

In 1969-70, an insignia contest was held to find a more colorful, unusual and descriptive logo for the club. The winner was Dave Tollakson and his prize was a free trip to Mammoth.



Original 1960 logo



New logo thru 1970

Although the main purpose of the club was to promote and provide skiing opportunities at affordable prices at different ski areas such as Mammoth, June, and Aspen, with Heavenly Valley, Squaw Valley and Alpine Meadows available, many other activities were planned. Lots of sports: waterskiing, white water rafting, horseback riding, tennis, volleyball, beer baseball, golf, ice skating, hiking and more. Lots of parties, too: BJ Ranch, Catalina, Las Vegas, Tijuana for bullfights, newsletter parties, and banquets. With all this, it's easy to see how many romances developed and ended in marriages. Once married, the happy couple was given an Honorable Discharge and they became Associates, also referred to as "Old Married Drags," and the tradition of throwing the groom in the swimming pool was born. This created a cat-and-mouse game, the groom desperately trying to avoid being dunked and the dunkers stalking the poor man, grabbing him at just the right time. This could take several months to happen, but happen it would, sooner or later, when he least expected it. It started during Ed Schonauer's term when Tom O'Hare and his best man Hans Taub both got tossed, rented tuxedos and all. If a pool wasn't available, appropriate substitutes were cleverly thought of, such as bathtubs, bota bags, and just plain buckets of water.

In 1960, to get some free publicity, Ed Barry led a group of SSCers down to picket in front of *The LA Times*. Additional publicity was received in April 1963 when *Time Magazine* asked SSC to pose for pictures while having lunch on top of Chair 3 at Mammoth.

MAMMOTH

In the beginning, ski trips were by car pool to local areas, but Mammoth was discovered and became the favorite. Weekend bus trips were organized. The bus left the BofA lot at Wilshire & Robertson on Friday at 7:00pm and made another pick-up in the Valley at Victory Bowl. The entire package consisted of bus transportation, beer and champagne on the bus, lodging, breakfast, lunch at the bus, Saturday hot buttered rum and steak dinner, and a steak dinner at Bo-Bo's in Lone Pine on the way home. In '61 all this cost \$22; in '66, inflation raised the price to \$29.95.

Our drivers were either Bob McKeehan or Don DeFord who were so accommodating that we made them honorary members. Shortly after a brief stop at a railroad crossing on 395, Bob or Don would make his way back through the bus to greet the astonished passengers; there didn't appear to be anyone driving the bus! While stopped at the RR crossing, the driver would switch with Billy Jones who

crouched down in front of the driver's seat where he couldn't be seen but could still see out the corner of the windshield, we think. This was perfectly legal since Billy had the appropriate driver's license, so we were told. There wasn't much Billy couldn't do.

We arrived at Sierra Pines around 1:30 am, room and duty assignments having been made by the trip coordinator. Someone was assigned the duty of collecting money for lift tickets and would buy them as a group. Doing that, we got a discount; at one time all-day, all-lift tickets were \$4, our cost was \$3. After a hardy breakfast, we boarded the bus and headed for the slopes, always arriving before the lifts opened to be first in line. We were also last off the slopes in the afternoon, timing each run to get the last ride up, narrowly missing bus departure Sunday afternoon.



Fashion plate Don Becker at Mammoth

Rokka races were popular; everyone could and did participate as they were held in three groups: beginner, intermediate and advanced. It was fun to receive and show off those trophies. Hansel & Gretel races were also fun. In 1961, Karl Unger received the very first costume first place prize as a "gorgeous" bathing beauty.

Bota bags filled with wine or peppermint schnapps were carried or carefully hidden in the snow under a tree to stay cool and provide a refreshing gulp at the end of a run. Chairs 3 and 5 provided the biggest challenge until, after much anticipation, the Gondola was installed, providing

access to Cornice and Climax. As the sun slowly sank behind Cornice, it was time to party and socialize. Hot buttered rum got things started, followed by a delicious steak dinner prepared, served and consumed by a bunch of happy skiers. Mammoth provided excellent night life, so it was off to the Cristiania, Yodler, Arlberg or Fuzz's place for drinking and dancing until the wee hours. The Twist was the "in" dance in '62. On one trip, a missing SSCer was found by the Cristiania cleaning crew in the morning, sleeping on a pool table. He said he fell asleep and when he woke the doors were locked and he couldn't get out.

The trip home left the parking lot at 4:30 pm Sunday. After Bo-Bo's for the steak dinner and a stop in Mojave, the bus would arrive at Victory Bowl by 11:30 pm. In addition to the singing and snoring, the traditional game of Buzz would get started. Original rules said you had to chug a full glass of wine each time you messed up. This resulted in some pretty soused skiers, so Don Becker banned the game for the rest of his term.

ASPEN



Single Ski Club "Convention" in Aspen, 1965

In 1962, several brave and enthusiastic SSC skiers boarded a bus for a ski holiday at Aspen, hailed as the ski capitol of the world. It was a grueling 36-hour trip, but while at Aspen they temporarily forgot about that ordeal due to the tremendous skiing the area provided. After their return, it was obvious they had to do it again, but a 36-hour bus trip was out of the question. Not discouraged, they came up with a plan: fly to Grand Junction and go by bus from there. The Aspen airport at that time would not accommodate any plane of the size required. Our planes got bigger and bigger; by 1970 we carried 99 passengers. As usual, there were liquid refreshments on board the plane and the bus. The price included transportation, lodging, lessons, lift tickets, breakfast, banquet, races, and hot buttered rum parties. You got all this for

just \$165 in '64. Several ski areas were available: Ajax, Aspen Highlands, Snowmass and Buttermilk with a side trip to Vail. Before departure there would be a pre-Aspen get-acquainted party so everyone would know each other.



Aspen Trip - 1968(?) - Ed Rice and Mike Szotyk and others

A THANKSGIVING TRIP

The first ski trip of the season at Thanksgiving always sold out early. Anxious moments were spent up to the last minute watching weather reports to see if we would go or cancel. Funny thing is it always snowed just in time. Onboard the bus, after reading the rules and duty assignments, the keg was opened and the 4-day party began. Next stop was Bo-Bo's and while our driver fueled the bus there, we contributed to Lone Pine's economy.

We arrived around 1:30 am, unloaded, got a few hours sleep before wake-up, and were on the bus to be the first on the hill. A group stayed back to prepare turkey and all the trimmings; their reward was free lift tickets for Friday. Hot spiced wine accompanied the turkey dinner and when both were gone, after a round of applause for chef and crew, we turned in. Friday's noon meal was cooked in the baggage compartment of the bus on alcohol stoves by those skilled at keeping them going. That evening, our driver volunteered the bus for a trip to Hot Creek for physical therapy only; bota bags with wine and peppermint schnapps provided internal warming. The skiing, après ski, fine friends and food continued until the lifts closed on Sunday. We phoned in our orders for Bo-Bo's which seemed like a bright idea until we arrived. "Who had the cheeseburger, no mustard; who had the ham & cheese on rye?" Following dinner, we got back on the bus and began the traditional Buzz game.

BJ PARTIES AND OTHER WEEKENDS



Ginny Foglia and B.J.



"The Famous Dung Sisters"

Tucked away in one of the canyons in Malibu was the Billy Jones or BJ Ranch as we knew it. It was the perfect place for costume parties and other events known as "BJ Blasts." As with the fall "Kick Off" and spring "End of Season" parties, they would start on Friday afternoon as soon as you could sneak from work and would last until Sunday evening. The Ranch had everything: a big rec hall with bar, dance floor, stage, and kitchen with sleeping facilities upstairs. In addition, there was a bunk house, big swimming pool, and facilities for volleyball, horseback riding, skeet shooting, archery, badminton, and more.



(back, l-r) R.G. Reeder, Bernie Verna, Jack McDonald, Doug Campbell, Billy Ziegler, ?; (front) Fran Cantagallo, Janet Reeder, Shirley Verna, Jackie Schnepf, Janet's sister and Ginny Foglia.



Jack Miller & R.G.



Bill Carney & Jerry Rounsavell



Noreen McClennan &
Ruth Nylen



and Blair Clarke to film
it all.



Barry Bernbaum, Doris Struble, Bevnice Verna, Stella
Frysinger, Ginny Foglia and Billy Jones



Doris Struble, Ginny Foglia, Billy Jones, Shirley Donovan

Late evening ballroom dancing and cuddling by the fireplace provided the setting for more romance. Seems every major function resulted in some couple getting married. And sometime in the middle of the night, while everyone, well, maybe not everyone, was sleeping the famous pots and pans marching band would strike up and parade through the sleeping quarters, waking those who thought they might get some rest. On Saturday afternoon, "water skiing" was the thing to do, which consisted of a board with 2 ropes attached and the skier on the board would then be pulled the length of the pool by 3 or 4 guys running as fast as they could on each side.



Ring Master Watson in the Center Ring of beer cans

BJ RANCH – TALENT (?) SHOW



Jim Currans, Ken Adrianse and Dave Tollakson



Madam Feathers and the Scotsmar Girls

OTHER 60s EVENTS



Don Gorden



Al Nylan leading into his one-armed violin routine. Sign in back says:

Dale
Al
Mullins
Nylan



Prez Dave T. samples
Don Becker's brew



SSC parties at the top of Chair 3, shown in *Time*, May '63



SNOW QUEEN

1967

Barbara James

Other major weekend events took place in Las Vegas (one couple got married there in 1963) and to Catalina aboard a sailing vessel.

At the Barbary Coast Blast in 1969, "Madam Feathers" Jane Wyckoff was the MC for the talent show. Gene Jaskulka and Greg Trzaska made their appearance with the assistance of Stella Frysinger and Dale Mullins. Frank Pimentel was found guilty of dancing in a most "over-active" manner and was awarded a stretch apricot girdle.



Believe it or not, the contest was held at Mt. Baldy and the girls had to ski on straw as part of the competition!

THE 1970s

The Single Ski Club of Los Angeles' Tenth Anniversary Banquet was held on Valentine's Day, 1970 at the Tail-of-the-Cock Restaurant in Los Angeles with nearly 200 people attending. Don Becker served as Master of Ceremonies. The cost was \$6.50 per person.

In April 1970, SSC purchased 22,000 square feet of Mammoth property for the astounding price of \$14,500 with an \$8,000 down payment. By November, 1973, it was completely paid for. The idea was we would build a ski lodge. However, over the years controversy arose from some folks who felt we should sell the property and use the proceeds to defray administrative costs.



Wilshire Boulevard Buffalo Hunters from the Moonshiners Cave, Aspen, performing at the Blarney Castle

In June '71, the club held a weekend bus trip to Tijuana. The fruit juice everyone enjoyed turned out to be Lois Regan's secret sangria recipe. In the front of the 43-passenger bus was the songfest led by Jon Locke and in the back was the joke-telling session led by Barbara Park and Ray States. At the motel, the club set up its own band, complete with banjo, gut-bucket, tambourines, Stan Denberg's trombone, and Jon Locke's banjo, in challenge to the mariachis. Saturday afternoon were the bullfights and the band was even more successful that evening.

In the summer of '71, SSC had its best finish ever in Southern (LA) Council's Volleyball Tournament – fourth place with 4 wins, 3 losses (we beat Westwood!). Our team included Allen Elowe, Jackie Evans, Karen Hagadorn, Jack Miller, Jim Pooleish, Bill Ramsey, Larry Sward, George Thurlow, Al Tomei and Jane Wyckoff.



1971 "A" Team: Allen Elowe, Jack Miller, Diane Sherwood, Karen Hagadorn, Al Tomei, and Lloyd Thomas



1970 Southern (LA) Council Sno-Ball

In November '71, SSC had a second-place showing at the Southern (LA) Council Sno-Ball with a first place for table decorations and second place for group costumes. SSC's theme was "Great Lovers of the Silver Screen". Table decorations were a huge movie camera on a tripod and a 4' golden Oscar. We weren't as successful in 1974 with the "Circus" theme although some individuals won prizes.

At the Far West Convention in Fresno in 1971, John Watson was elected president and he served until 1973.

Rokka League held its First Annual Beer Drinking Championships in '72, and the SSC Women's Team took first place. In '73 our Women's Team placed second and the Men's Team defeated the Wailers 21.0 seconds to 21.4 seconds. Team members were Ray States, Al Tomei, Pat Kincaid, Bernie Verna and Dave Tollakson.

In December of 1972 SSC sponsored a Christmas Party at a youth center for deaf children in Los Angeles. Club members donated a Christmas tree, decorations, curtains, furniture, a carpet, toys, candy and cookies. Darrell Johnson and Lloyd Thomas repaired the center's stove. Bill Carney stole the show by drawing the pictures of the deaf children which delighted them. The children sang "Silent Night" in sign language. Single Ski Club maintained a blood bank for the use of the members and their families. Carol Mortier organized donations in April of 1975 for the American National Red Cross in Los Angeles.

In 1973, Jane Wyckoff received the Distinguished Service Award from Southern (LA) Council and the Elizabeth "Schatzi" Wood award at the Far West Convention. In 1974, she became the first woman elected President of Single Ski Club. It was not applicable for her to wear the Bachelor's Tie, so Gordon Erberts, out-going President, presented her with a red velvet chastity belt. Valerie Banks became the second lady president in 1979.



The first woman elected president of SSC receives a chastity belt from outgoing president El Gordo

Bob Barnett Productions originated in 1973-74 with "My Fair Ski Bunny" written, produced and directed by the man himself. It was a three-act play about skiing and après skiing at Mammoth with dialogue and appropriate songs, such as "Get Me to the Slopes on Time" and "It Was Just Hot Buttered Rum". The SSC cast not only performed for the Ski Club at the Blarney Castle, but received invitations to perform at other functions, including the Annual Far West Ski Association Convention.

Single Ski Club provided manpower for the Rokka Ski Swap at the Annual Ski Show, under the leadership of Ellen Loe. SSC's booth placed first at the Ski Show (a ski mountain, with lifts and skiers, built by Shirley and George Coleman) for four years from 1975 through 1978.

In September of 1975, the club had a river rafting trip on which they played volleyball. In October that year, there was the "Tequila Tango" at the Apple Valley Ranch. This time it was water volleyball. We also had horseback riding, swimming, tennis, and a Tequila Drinking Contest where SSC challenged the Tyrolean Ski Club, also in attendance.

Barbara Park arranged for discounted dryland ski lessons to be held at the Sunland Sports Lodge in Beverly Hills, to get us ready for the 1975-76 ski season. In December of 1975 the 3rd Annual Bear Valley Learn to Party, Ski and Race Week was held. This all prepared us for winning the Rokka League Alpine trophy three years in a row beginning in 1977 and retiring the trophy in 1979.



Early '70s SSC men's race team trophy winners

In 1971 SSC broke tradition and began varying the annual trip destination from just Aspen to other places. The first departure from this policy was a trip to Park City, Utah. Jack Miller led 183 SSCers back to Aspen in 1973 for the unimaginable price of \$216!! On the Annual Trip to Aspen in 1976, Single Ski Club defeated the Aspen Highlands Instructors, as well as Single Ski Club of Albany in the BEER-SWALLOWUM. The ladies team consisted of Linda Edelman, Lolly Ramsey, Jacki Borst and Cindy Kunda. Representing the men were Ray States, Bernie Verna, Mike Szotyk and Al Tomei.

In 1977 the Annual Trip was to the Canadian Rockies and skiing Mt. Norquay, Sunshine and Lake Louise. Then in 1978, we had our first international European Ski Trip. George and Shirley Coleman took 30 SSCers to Les Plagnes, France, and Zermatt, Switzerland. George led a

group of skiers one day, telling them to "follow me" as he disappeared over the side of a cliff.

In January '76 we held a Farewell to Charley Boyle Party at the Wilshire Town Club, before he left for France to become a Chef. The '76 Annual Trip was again to Aspen. There were hiking trips to Yosemite, G.A.S. (Grape Appreciation Society) gatherings at San Antonio Winery, beer baseball, a Polack Party, a visit to the Pickwick Ice Rink, trips on the Diosa del Mar to Catalina, horseback rides, Hollywood Bowl concerts, and lots of parties.



Pat Vargo (far right above), SSC Snow Queen for '72, also became SSC's first Southern (LA) Council Snow Queen. SSC hosted the Los Angeles Council Sno-Gala from '75 to '79, and produced record revenues for the council and the club. We introduced the first King contest in '76 with Al Tomei as the first Singles King. Leo Style was crowned "Mr. Los Angeles Council" in 1978. Leo proudly claims the title of the first of the Singles Kings to be "Mr. Far West Ski Association". Howie Wickersham took "kinging" lessons from Leo and was named Mr. FWSA in 1979 (and declared himself the Emperor). Denice Van Gorden was "Ms. Los Angeles Council" in '78, followed by Valerie Banks in '79.

Carl Gunther led the SSC Nordic Race Team, which competed in the Nordic Rokka races. In winter of 1979, the club sponsored the 4th Annual Tannenbaum Cross-Country Race at Mammoth. In the First Annual Grand Marnier Club Race at Mammoth Mountain in 1979, SSC had three teams. Our team #1 took first place. Members

were Jerry Hoefner, Karen Hagadorn, Ron Aguirre, Jane Wyckoff, Don Diener and Cindy Emsbach. Team #3 missed the Finals by 0.10 seconds.

On March 15, 1976, Congressman John H. Krebs issued a news release in Washington, D.C., in which he voiced opposition to the development of Mineral King Valley in California for a year-round recreation site. Thus was launched one of the biggest letter-writing campaigns in the history of the Far West Ski Association's Public Affairs program. John Watson served as a Vice President of the US Ski Association from 1971-73 and Jane Wyckoff was USSA Awards Chairman for clubs and councils.

Single Ski Club was named Outstanding Ski Club in Far West Ski Association in 1970, 1971 and 1972 in Class A. We were moved to Class AA and named Outstanding Ski Club from 1975-1977 and 1979 and 1980. We were named Outstanding Ski Club in the United States Ski Association in 1970, 1971, 1972, 1975 and 1976. In 1971 we captured the Wentworth Outstanding Club Publication Award with editors Steve Emanuel and Laurel Rohrer.

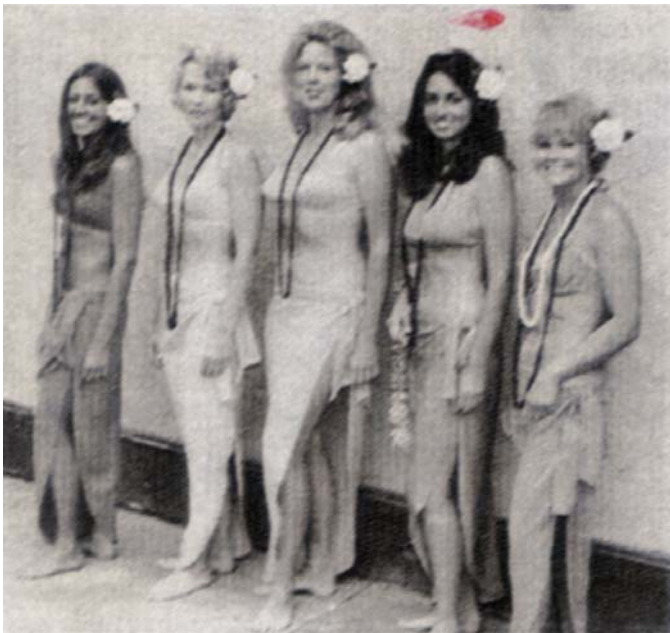


FWSA President Ed MacArthur & George Thurlow, SSC President



Pat Bradley and friends

Additional 1970s photos on the following pages.



Queens Denice Van Gorden, Suzanne Toyryla, Jane Wyckoff, Sheila Johnson and Karen Hagadorn at the Cottontail Ranch.



Bettie Williams, Jon Locke, Don Gordon, Laurie Mitchell, Dale Mullins and Jack Miller jammin'.



First the girls do the hula. . .



A TOAST!!



Then the fellas... Barbara Park coaches from the mike while Darrell & John Radbill try to get their hips to move.



Howie Wickersham and Carol Mortier at a Nordic Race.

HIKING IN YOSEMIITE --
Memorial Day Weekend, 1977



Cindy Emsbach



Keith Thompson, Kent Nelson,
Lynn Bradford, Jerry Hoefner and
Alan Bradford setting out.



Bob Barnett (l) overseeing another of his productions starring
Don Gorden, Lois Regan, Jane Wyckoff and Laurie Mitchell



Don Diener



Vince Olivera



Darlene Cammack



Howard Schechter



Don "Sheik" Gorden



Harolene McLean
SSC 1975 Snow Queen



Aiko



Leo Stytle - Mr. FWSA



Mr. FWSA II Howie Wickersham &
Valerie Banks, Miss LA Council

THE 1980s

At the 1981 Annual Awards Banquet, the members voted to put the Mammoth property on the market. Mammoth had rezoned it for a single-family dwelling, so the idea of a ski lodge was buried forever. We had some meeting location changes during this decade. Leaving the Blarney Castle in the mid-'80s, we endured General Lee's in Chinatown for a short while until we moved to the fashionable Westside and became entrenched at Petrelli's. Pam Bailey and Sigrid Noack became SSC president in '83 and '84 respectively, and from then on it was no longer the men who ruled.

For the first time in its history, SSC produced a championship softball team: Roland Bleitz, Elyse Carian, Jane Wyckoff, Pete Daggett, Nick Duvally, Ken Hillman, Vince Olivera, Dan Percival, Dwayne Sitler, Tim Stains, Mike Szotytk, Tina Johnson (Tomlinson), Mike Trudeau, and Peggy Walters, better known as the "Line Drivers." They had a totally undefeated season in '81 and won the LAC "B" division. They were moved to the "A" division the next year and won again. They also placed 2nd in the 1st Annual FWSA Regional Softball Championships.



The Line Drivers

August 30, 1981 was Singles' 2nd Annual 20-mile Bike-A-Thon for Muscular Dystrophy and 19 SSCers showed up with their bikes, smiles, and CASH to ride the 20 miles. Lloyd Thomas came in with the top dollars again with \$150 in backers' money. A total of \$631 was raised for this worthy cause (worth a lot more in those days).

Over Labor Day weekend in 1981, SSC filled 6 houseboats on the Sacramento Delta with much partying and water-skiing, and some unmentionable activities. The '85 Annual trip was to Breckenridge. Banff/Lake Louise

was the destination in '87 and Whistler in '89. We also had lobster fests, yard sales, Halloween parties, and Jacuzzi-filling evenings at ski areas. In 1988, SSC sponsored the LA Council Snow Gala at the Queen Mary.

After the '82 houseboat trip organized by Arlene Madsen, waterskiing really began to escalate. Numerous weekend trips were planned and new member John Davidson began driving his large motorhome to the various bashes, taking 17 bodies on one memorable trip. This also coincided with the invention of the electric blender, enabling SSC members to concoct and patent their own variations of the Ramos Fizz and Piña Colada.



Memorial Day Weekend at Laughlin - McAfee and Jacques



... and others

In December '75, SSCers attended Rokka's Learn to Ski & Race Camp. All had good skiing, good food, and good fun. Some returned home healthy except for Joey Simpson (broken ankle), Al Murray (badly sprained knee), Kathy Milliken (2 sprained shoulders and badly sprained wrist), Roland Bleitz (lower back injury), Nick Duvally (knee injury), Pam Bailey (both knees), and all who had the flu (either kind).



Visit from His Holiness with President Johnson



Hat contest on New Year's 1987-88 Mammoth trip

SSC held its first annual PPP Party (Ping Pong, Pool and Pac-Man) at Ed Garcia's house in the hills of Northridge. Relaxation between the events included backgammon by the fireplace and eating fabulous munchies prepared by Sigrid Noack, Bonnie-Lee, Kari and Diana Lejins.

In '84, we held an International Dinner at which there was a world of tastes. Dishes arrived from the distant reaches of ethnic background, and the highest compliments were extended to the wonderful cooks. Competition for medals was fearsome. Taking first for main dishes was Jessica for her Chicken Paprikash; second went to Gene Fulkerson for his stuffed steak. In the supporting dish category, Stan Stein took first for his Noodle Kuggle and second went to Elaine Dinces for raspberry mousse pie.

We celebrated Steve Dubin's 40th in May '87; nearly two years later, Steve would pass away. We also lost our good friends Pete and Bev Drizin in a plane crash in '88.

The power, agility and cunning of the SSC women tennis players was evident in November '88 at the Racquet Center as they swept the A, B, and C divisions of the Rokka Tennis Tournament with first place wins, along with

a 2nd in A and 3rd in B. We had only two men's teams but they came thru with a 2nd in B2 and 3rd in B1. It is rumored that the lady "netters" will be holding classes on Monday for all the guys who aren't too chauvinistic.

Wedding bells weren't the only ones welcoming in 1989. Past Prez Darrell Johnson surprised Donna Merkow with a "surprise wedding" at Whistler. He shared his surprise plans with all on the trip except his bride. He felt it appropriate, since Donna and he met at Singles, to be married in front of the 32 SSCers on the trip -- some old friends, some new. He requested that all on the trip interrupt their day of skiing to meet at the Round House for the wedding. Everyone there will remember the look on Donna's face when she entered the restaurant to "Here Comes the Bride" played on kazoos. She thought they were to be married on April 22 so Darrell could vote in the elections and finish his term as Past President.



Sigrid's turn for the chastity belt as 1984-85 president

During this decade, three SSCers became president of FWSA: Jane Wyckoff ('81-'85), Janie "Frankie" Hansen ('85-'87) and Howard Wickersham ('87-'88). In April '89, we took the Rokka Championship for the '88-'89 season. That year we also revived the annual service auction.



1988 L.A. Council Championships - SSC is No. 1

MORALS REPORTS FOR THE '80s



Our Morals Chairman Jeff Simms decided the time had come to produce reports on 15 cases that had occurred. Several of these were of importance in guiding members' behavior.

Case 3 – Mammoth

One male member, after leaving the jacuzzi, decided to rinse his trunks (which were on his body) out in the woman's shower across the hall. She was in it!

Judgment: Because of the hot water shortage at the lodge, this practice should be encouraged. In fact, until new water heaters are installed, group showers of two or more will be mandatory.

Case 6 – Mammoth

This is about the lady who wore white ski pants. When she realized that she had forgotten to pack her white underwear, she wore nothing but long johns under her white ski pants. When she fell and hurt her knee, she refused to let the Ski Patrol look!

Judgment: "Mom always said to wear clean white underwear, you never know what might happen." You should have listened to your mother. Immodesty workshop will be given before next ski season.

Case 13 – Whistler

One lady received an express mail package containing a few items of her clothing from a Canadian local after she returned home from our annual trip.

Judgment: All members shall be required to put return address labels in clothing when leaving on out-of-town trips. It never hurts to be prepared!

Case 15

One couple spent so many nights together and had so much fun on all of the trips, they fell in love and GOT MARRIED !!!!!

Judgment: Moral "inturpitude" to the Nth Degree! "Kick 'em out of the club!!"

Jeff's Note: If you feel left out because your cases of moral depravity have been omitted from the report, be sure to squeal on yourself next year.



The view from Lake Louise



Jacuzzi'ing never goes out of style



Good ski buddies



Annual Awards and Installation Banquet 1982



THE 1990s

Under Ginny Fruit's presidency, SSC was voted the outstanding ski club at the FWSA Convention in 1990 with a repeat win in 1993. In addition, in 1990, SSC's racers were Rokka Champions after our huge win in Rokka I. In '98, we came in second in the League. In '97 Rick Malin was voted LAC Man of the Year.



A winning Rokka Team



Jim McAfee, Rick Malin and Burke Mucho hoist the Rokka trophy



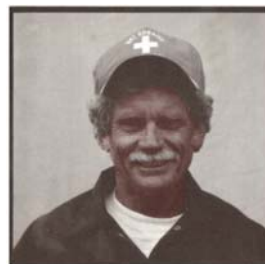
Darrell gets Donna



Donna gets him back

New activities included some memorable moments. At Pie-in-the-Face Night, Donna Johnson bought a pie for Darrell but let her guard down and he gave it to her. She got him back later, however. At Mammoth, Jim McAfee took Carol Francone to the top of Cornice for her first time to show her how to ski it. However, he fell at the top and slid to the bottom. The only "injury" was to his ski clothes and he had to wear his jacket around his waist due to the draft from his split pants. This exposure led him to the Turkey of the Trip Award. In the summers, Jack Tobin took us to the Albuquerque Balloon Festival, to Taos for the Governor's Cup Ski Race, and to Laughlin for waterskiing. We had rafting, sailing, volleyball, Hearst Castle, parties, parties and more parties. We had camping trips in Yosemite, Sequoia, Mammoth, and Kings Canyon. The first grunion run was an education in nature at its most primitive. We had luaus, lobster fests, a Chinatown tour, Labor Day to Catalina and the Delta, and Dodger games.

We'd been meeting at The Breakway in Mar Vista, which had a fire in '91, so we moved to the Velvet Turtle in May, then back to Petrelli's in April. However, by '94, we found a new home at Bruno's. Our new Mammoth home was the Shilo Inn. There were lots of ski trips in addition to Mammoth: Snowmass, Austria, Keystone, Utah, Telluride, Whistler, Zermatt, Aspen, Vail, Tahoe, Park City, New Year's in SLC. We started traditions: June Shaw's winery bike tours and Super Bowl parties. Ray Scott rented a big screen for one and ended up buying it because they got it in but couldn't get it out after the party. Jim and Jan Degner took groups to New Orleans. Victor Vener, Cal-Phil's conductor, became a member and Laura Vahl started the summer concert tables for SSC'ers. Jack and Polly, having married in '97, led more trips to Mexico, one by train. Also in '97, after 20+ year's friendship, Gary Stouffer and Denice Van Gorden got married. Randy Benson got engaged to Bobbie in '99 and they married the following year.



Dave Tollakson

In 1990, Past President Dave Tollakson received 6 National Ski Patrol regional awards: Regional Director's Award, Wailer Award, Distinguished Service Award, 2 Green Merit Star Awards and a Yellow Merit Star Award for "six years of service to the NSP as Southern California Regional Mountaineering Advisor." He received the

two Green Merit Star Awards "for participating in the rescue of an avalanche victim at Big Pine on February 17" and the other "for his extended and arduous efforts to find a lost boy under conditions of deteriorating weather in hazardous terrain at Ski Sunrise on January 13 & 14". Dave also raised \$2,000 in '91 for the handi-capped skiers at Bear Mountain making 20 runs including one uphill carrying his skis. And, during the '90s, Dave was leaving SSC mementos on the world's highest peaks (Russia, Tibet, Antarctica). However, sadly we lost Dave in 1993 when he fell on a training climb at Mt. San Jacinto. Dave's ashes were left on the top of Mt. Everest by Steve Reneker when he reached the Summit in 1995. (In 2010, Steve was guest speaker at the FWSA Convention and he shared memories of training days with his dear friend Dave.)

Things changed at Mammoth with the introduction of the Mammoth Club Card. The ticket price remained at \$35 but for an up-front payment of \$59, you paid only \$25.

In September '90, SSC won the trophy for Best Participation in the LA Council Picnic & Chili Cook-off. We also took first place for our People's Choice Chili, selling 99 bowls of the 20 gallons prepared by Wally Manning and Frankie Hansen. SSC also won the Rokka mixed doubles tennis tournament narrowly over Beach Cities. And remember Vons "green receipts"? We collected them for Randy Benson so his school could buy a computer. Our services auction was held that year at the Ramada Inn. A first for SSC (and probably last) was the special election in October to replace Ralph Levy, treasurer, and Gina Ebert, Secretary, as the couple were married the following November.

We had a bad snow year in '91 (3 trips were canceled) but had our ski week with FWSA at Breckenridge where SSC won the big race though Albany beat us in the Earl Money race. It was a really good year because we voted Wags in as a member along with Jim Degner and soon-to-be wife Jan. The Inyo National Forest approved Sherwin Ski Area with the possibility of its opening as early as '92!! (Hmmm. What's the latest on that?)

In '92, Mammoth tickets went up to \$37. Volunteers worked the "All Star" Sports Carnival for Children's Cancer Research Fund again and sponsored a lift chair at Mammoth to benefit the junior racers. The club entered the Doo Dah Parade as a bunch of injured skiers. We also won the bowling trophy; in '93 we tied for first and lost it in the tie breaker. But we did have a winning softball

season in '93. Jessica led a large group to Yosemite and we had many hikes.

In '94, the annual trip was to Park City. We moved to Bruno's in January. That year Ellen Loe was the Awards Chair and her monthly columns were highly original with poems and puzzles. It was also the year for more weddings: Mel and Maureen and Glenn Peterson and Kathy tied the knot. Future president Ed Knott finally became a member along with party-house owner Francine Oschin and B.J. Clingan. SSC was again FWSA Outstanding Ski Club. Mammoth lift tickets went up to \$40 and the Club Card to \$60. SSC won Rokka Tennis. That fall, LAC and all member clubs boycotted the ski show because they took the swap away.



President Shirley Stretch-Stephenson awards Bill Carney for his 30 years of service to SSC

In '95, wedding bells rang again, this time for Shirley and Dick Stephenson, Leo and Leslie Stytle, Jim and Jan Degner, Gina and Mike West, and Tony and Carolyn Planick. It was a great snow year and some even skied Mammoth on July 4th. Polly led a train trip to San Juan Capistrano. The earliest arriver at Union Station for the 10:40 am departure was Maureen Vague because Mel dropped her off the night before to be sure she wouldn't miss the train. She was found by Wags, Mary Williamson and Bill Ornellas wandering around the station. Shirley Stretch, our Snow Queen, was voted LAC Woman of the Year. Our Snow King Al Tomei was second runner-up. SSC again supported the Mammoth Junior racers and Toys 4 Tots. In July, Jim Degner took Randy Benson to the hospital for hernia surgery. While assisting Randy, Jim ruptured his own hernia and had to go in himself for surgery.

In '96, Allen Elowe, Jim McAfee and Ron Zelizer participated in the 10th annual MS bike ride to Palm Springs. Allen received a T-shirt commemorating his participation in

all 10 rides. SSC also supported Burke with the USC Swim With Mike fund raiser. In November, we put on a "Membership Ball" to which members were invited to bring a guest or two. It was held at the Yacht Club; Jim Styner was the gourmet cook and around 100 attended and danced til midnight to the DJ's music. Our Snow Queen Laura Vahl won LAC Woman of the Year.



In '97, our annual trip was to Whistler. Steve Skinner had his big run-in with a tree at Mammoth and was severely injured. Fortunately he fully recovered. Ron Zelizer and Jill Linsk led a group on a boat ride and hike to Santa Cruz Island. And, we camped in Sequoia National Park. Wedding bells finally rang for Jack and Polly. Almost 90 people attended the luau at Laura Vahl's. We started offering golf and TGIFs almost every month and sailed to Catalina. SallieBett and Rick Malin were our Snow Queen & King and Rick was voted LAC Man of the Year.

In '98, we had a blast in Aspen, participated in the Revlon Run/Walk for Women to raise funds for ovarian and breast cancer research, "swam with Mike" with over \$1,800, and collected cans to raise \$\$\$ for the Pierce College handicapped skiers program. Dee Everts became a member, and Fern Aroesty and Irv Jacobs became applicants. We got the insurance and had a Labor Day houseboat trip and river rafting event. We won the FWSA newly named Dave Tollakson Award as outstanding ski club. We had our first grunion run, several kayaking trips, Jessica and Ed Knott were selected as our Snow Queen and King. Mammoth began its \$21 million capital improvements (Juniper Springs, new chairs replacing old ones, 18-hole golf course). The prior year, Shirley Geller was hit by a car, flung 50 feet, suffered multiple fractures, underwent several surgeries, but was back with us by the

end of this year. Frankie did a survey and learned that most of our members were Baby Boomers having been born in the '40s. We came out with ski wallets with SSC logo as well as shell jackets.

At the '98 FWSA Convention, *The Single Skier*, edited by Judith Miller, won the Wentworth Award for outstanding publication. In 1999, our annual trip went to Zermatt, Switzerland. We also participated in the FWSA Convention put on by LAC in Manhattan Beach.



Bob Sherman, Judith Sacco, Al Tomei, Carol Francone, Ed Knott, and Donna Johnson in the latest fashions



SSC's contingent at the 1995 Snow Gala



Kayaking – a new sport for SSC

MISCELLANEOUS PHOTOS FROM THE 1990s



Howard Weinberg, Laura Vahl, Alan Gornick, Susan Gruber, Lynda Johnson and Ron Zelizer at the New Orleans Jazz Festival



SSC delegates to the FWSA Convention in San Diego



Now it's Jacquie's turn for the Chastity Belt



SSC past presidents John Davidson, Laura Vahl, Jim McAfee, Howie Wickersham and Joel Stuckey Delta Dreamin'



Installation Banquet 1999 - June Shaw, Mary Williamson, Jessica Freeman, Al Murray, Helene Tropp and Marsha Taylor

Mike Pruznick brings his own Beano to the Chili Cook-off



Line dancing at the Hoedown at Linda Mero's



Al & Sallie Bett, Marsha Taylor, Harry Pollock, and Mun Blake in front, at the Degners' Luau

MORE PHOTOS FROM THE 1990s



Laura Vahl gets the Chastity Belt



Luau at Laura Vahl's: Becky Schreiber, Laura, Burke Mucho, Joel Zwick, and Shirley Geller seated in back



Up, up and away!



In my beautiful balloon ...



A Mexican feast ...



Chris James eyes Laura & June



SSC Past-Presidents: Jane, Laura, Gene, Shirley, John and Sigrid at FWSA Conventior in Portland



Zermatt!!!



South of the Border(l-r) Bill Ornellas, Mary Williamson, Jacquie Nemor, Laura Vahl, SallieBett & Al Tomei, and Polly & Jack Miller



THE 2000s

The long anticipated millennium ushered us into the 2000s, featuring the Single Ski Club Celebration of our 40th Anni-versary on September 17, 2000 at the Brookside Country Club in Pasadena. It was a fabulous event, organized by Jack and Polly Miller.

The 2000s also featured "two-term" presidents, not necessarily serving consecutive terms. Starting off was long-time member Allen Elowe ('00 & '01), Irv Jacobs ('02 & '03), Linda Mero ('04 & '10), and John Dwight ('05 & '07). Single-term presidents included: Sandy Blackwell ('06), Kay Collins ('08) and Judith Miller ('09). At the Election Meeting in March, 2010 when there was no announced candidate for President, Past President Linda Mero stepped up to the plate. Uta Buschor became SSC Treasurer "in perpetuity".

By January of '09 we had found a wonderful home for club meetings at the Marina City Club, but we had quite a few moves before then. In October 2000 we moved from Bruno's to Tony P's. Prez Allen mentioned that we would be next to the fire department, so SSC would be well protected in case we had some really hot meetings. By 2001, we had moved on to Shanghai Red's. We met at the Courtyard by Marriott, moved to Casa Escobar and then back to the Courtyard by Marriott in 2008 when Casa Escobar closed.

Since the inception of Single Ski Club, we have supported charities and community service projects. In 2000, SSCers participated in the Stroke Association's 2K or 5K Run/Walk in honor of our beloved Lloyd Thomas, who passed away in January. In the fall of 2001 and the tragedy of 9/11, Allen Elowe issued "A Call to Arms" for the Annual Blood Drive for the Red Cross and Jessica Freeman wrote a heartfelt piece entitled "God Bless America" published in the October, 2001 edition of *The Single Skier*. Singles donated \$1,000 to the Red Cross. Irv and Jeanette Jacobs were hosts for a Fundraising Party for the victims of Hurricane Katrina in 2005 and \$3,125 was given to the Salvation Army. Burke Mucho organized support for handicapped athletes, in the Annual Physically Challenged Athletes Scholarship Fund program at USC, commonly known as "Swim With Mike". Starting in 2008, we participated in the Relay for Life and each year raised at least \$1,500 in addition to Sam Hayakawa and Wags completing enough laps to qualify as a

marathon. The "Toys for Tots" program continues to this day, as it has every year throughout most of our existence.



The Marines with our Toys For Tots Committee,
Linda Mero, BJ Clingan and Dee Everets

In 2002, wedding bells rang for two of our Past Presidents. Sharon Schneider married Ed Barrish and Laura Vahl married Ed Gillespie. Sadly, we lost two of our Past Presidents, with the passing of Jim McAfee in 2000 and Don Becker in 2003.

SSC members participated in a wide variety of ski trips. Bus trips to Mammoth are still popular; we stayed at the Shilo Inn for many years until 2010 when we tried the Mammoth Mountain Inn. It seemed quite fitting that the 2010 Annual Trip was to Aspen, Colorado, the location where the SSC Annual Trips began in 1962. Annual trips also included Breckenridge, Whistler, Steamboat, Vail/Beaver Creek, Jackson Hole and Sun Valley. We returned to Lake Tahoe and explored new ski destinations at Snowbasin and even Alyeska! International trips featured: Banff/Lake Louise and Red Mountain in Canada, St. Anton in Austria and Courmayeur in Italy. Chuck Hicks produced a series of articles in *The Single Skier* in 2009-10 of Italian Trip Stories of Annual Ski Trip Travel Adventures.

There were unique and exciting trips and events for the adventurous. Polly and Jack led a busload of fun seekers to the beautiful Mexican coast at Ensenada-Rosarito in 2000. Dinner entertainment was from Mexican Mariachis and their guest star dancer for the evening, Fern Aroesty. There was a "hot" Kayaking Adventure to the Colorado River that same year. Sonia and Ron Pope flew in on their private plane to avoid the hot drive thru the desert. Jeff Simms brought his speedboat along, giving participants the opportunity to cool off on the lake. In the spring of '03

Jim Degner led a New Orleans French Quarter Festival trip and in the fall, SallieBett and Al Tomei took us on a Mexican Riviera cruise. Singles walked thru LA in '04, with Joel Zwick as leader of the trek. Harry Pollock guided kayakers thru the Huntington Harbor Canals and Naples in Long Beach. We took camping trips to many locations, including Mammoth Lakes and a first-ever trip to the Big Bear camping grounds. Summer days were filled with hiking, softball and volleyball. Mary Anne Rolls organized Dodger Nights for the baseball enthusiasts and Sunday movies started in 2007. Labor Day weekends were spent on houseboat and water ski adventures at the California Delta or Lake Mead.

Where haven't we biked yet? Al Tomei, Ron Zelizer, June Shaw, Stan and Sharon Stein and others helped to keep our winter sports legs in great shape on a wide variety of bike tours and rides. Trips included the very popular Annual Winery Bike Tour, Monterey/Carmel Weekend, historic Pasadena bike ride, Palos Verdes Peninsula, Carpinteria to Santa Barbara, Huntington Beach to Laguna Beach and Irvine, Ventura to Ojai, Griffith Park to Glendale, and the list goes on.



More members were taking up golf and golfing with SSC started in 2004, led by Jack Miller. By the end of the decade, some things didn't seem quite the same, with the Wailers discontinuing their Annual June Bash to Parker, Arizona.

And, there were memorable parties and social gatherings! Wags Waghorn, the "Julia Childs" of SSC, hosted a Lobster Champagne Buffet Brunch at Bistro Italia in 2000. The Hawaiian Luau in 2002 at Don and Nancy Clark's home brought back memories of SSC Luau's of days gone by. The Linda and Peter Mitchell's 1st Annual July 4th Party was held in 2008 with great food and fireworks.



Mexican Fiesta

The Annual Summer and Holiday Parties were always festive events, and we had our 50th Annual Awards Installation Banquet at the Marina City Club. Cultural events were always a part of a full calendar of summer activities, including Festival on the Green with the

California Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by SSC member Victor Vener, trips to the Hollywood Bowl, Concerts on the Santa Monica Pier and Laura Vahl's Cal Phil Concerts.



Ski Safety has always been a priority in our club. Ski equipment was ever changing, and we were among the first to draw attention to wearing helmets on the slopes. The March '01 Newsletter carried an article by Judith Miller called "Safety First Helmet Issues". It wasn't until '02, that the NSAA launched its effort to educate kids and parents about helmet use on the slopes. The October '09 issue carried an article from *On the Snow.com* entitled - "Death of Actress Fuels Helmet Debate." A number of our members have taken major crashes on the slopes and were thankful they were wearing a "brain bucket."



Medal winners Patrick Bennett, Harry Hilty, Vivian Wang, Howard Buckley, Sarah Jacobson, Kathy Lewis and Uta Buschor

The SSC Race Team had great success, but as the average age of ski club members in Rokka League increased, so did the number of Vet Classes. In March of

2000, SSC won the LA Council Championship Race at Mammoth Mountain. In 2001, Rokka League's calculations were reworked because of a mistake in the assignment of racers to their clubs during the Rokka 3 Race, which put us 13 points ahead of Westwood, instead of 12 behind. We won the Rokka Championship!



Seated: Irv Jacobs, Chris Jacobson, Kathy Lewis, Jessica Freeman; (Middle) John Dwight, SallieBett Tomei, Sandy Blackwell, Barbara Flanagan, Ron Simandle, Al Tomei, Randy Benson; Back row: Steve Markman, Dennis Frieborn, Allen Elowe, Pat (Holland), Tom Molloy, Jack Miller

The 2002 racing season started out of the gate with seven feet of fresh snow at Mammoth, a highly successful Rokka Race Camp (with Jessica Freeman being named the fastest woman on the hill), and SSC winning Rokka 1 quite handily! We went on to win the Rokka League Championships for a second year in a row. In 2005 we won the So-Cal Championships at Mammoth. In 2007 we captured the Rokka Championship once again.



Chris Jacobson, competition chair (on left), accepts the 2007 Rokka League Trophy from Laura Priess, last season's competition chair.

Keeping up the long-standing tradition of producing outstanding volunteers and leaders, a number of SSCers were named *Los Angeles Council Man or Woman*, including Irv Jacobs (2003), Laura Priess (2005), Jessica Freeman (2006), Kay Collins (2008), John Dwight (2009)

and Judith Miller (2009). Jessica Freeman was recognized for her outstanding services and contributions as the Far West Ski Association Councils' Woman of the Year. John Watson and Jane Wyckoff remained active in the Far West Ski Association over the years. John currently serves as President of the Far West Ski Foundation and Jane is a member of the FWSA Board of Trustees.

The 2000s was the decade of SSC leaders serving as LA Council President. These included Ed Knott ('00-'03), Jacquie Nemor ('03-'05) and Judith Miller ('06-'08). Elected Los Angeles Council VP of Programs, Sandy Blackwell produced the highly successful Snow Gala on the Queen Mary in November '09 and is also in charge of the 2010 event. SSC received the Tollakson Outstanding Club Award in 2000 and again in 2002. At the 78th Annual FWSA Convention in Indian Wells in 2010, Single Ski Club of Los Angeles was one of seven clubs receiving the "Historic Ski Club" designation by the Association, and won the Outstanding Club Website Award.

With the 2000s came a renewed interest in whether Associates (married) members could hold office in the club. At the Annual Meeting in March, 2000, the By-Laws were changed allowing any of the currently five (5) appointed positions on the Board of Directors to be held by either an Active or an Associate member. A proposal to set a maximum age of 65 for new members was defeated. A By-Laws change was proposed in 2002 to abolish the Board of Trustees, and that was also defeated.



Polly Miller and Sandra Mironesco led us to Courmayeur, Italy in 2009

The impact of dwindling club membership combined with the nation's economy as the 2000s came to a close created challenges for the club with meeting attendance, filling Mammoth bus trips and finding new volunteers to hold office. By 2010, a By-Laws Amendment was proposed to allow married couples Active status and to hold any elected or appointed position in the club. The sugges-

ted new name for the club was the Snowsports and Social Club of Los Angeles. The Amendment was defeated.



We came of age with the new technology, with the SSC website going on-line in 2004 at singleskiclub.org. Our Webmaster, Wally Manning, was our resident expert. In 2010 the lead title on the website describes our club as "A Ski, Sports & Social Club for All Seasons". You can now find SSC on-line at Meetup.com. At the Elections Meeting in March 2010, a young man showed up carrying a skateboard. He was local, saw the club listed on the site, and skateboarded over to the meeting at the Marina City Club, because he wanted to learn how to snowboard! Members now receive *The Single Skier* via E-mail or on-line.

Single Ski Club of Albany celebrated its 50th Anniversary in 2008. The Single Ski Club of Los Angeles had its 50th Anniversary Celebration on September 25, 2010 at the Marina City Club, chaired by Jack and Polly Miller. It is exciting to think of what new technological advances are ahead of us in ski equipment and communications the next 50 years. What won't ever change, however, are the wonderful memories we cherish and the lifelong friendships we made as members of the Single Ski Club of Los Angeles.



SINGLE SKI CLUB 2010-2011 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Kay Collins, VP; Judith Miller, Past President; Steve Elkins, Secretary; Linda Mero, President; Allen Elowe, Trips; Melinda Dickinson, Awards; Sandy Blackwell, Programs; Uta Buschor, Treasurer; Suzanne Toyryla, Membership; (front) Laura Priess, Competition, and Danielle Battut, Newsletter Editor



Laura Priess & Sam Hayakawa,
Racers of the Year



Shaun White and Past Presidents





Vail - 2006



Sun Valley - 2008



Aspen - 2010

DON BECKER
1927-2003
By Bernie Verna



Don Becker, one of Single Ski Club's earliest members, passed away on February 10, 2003. The Club's third President got married while in office and had to resign, so Don took over for the remainder of that term. He was then elected as the Club's fourth president. After that, the Club was led by Hallinan, Money, Nylen, Tollakson, etc., but Don was always there providing guidance and encouragement. He was the heart and soul of the Club. In my opinion, the organizational and managerial skills of Don and a few others built the foundation that helped the Club be strong, active and successful for over 40 years. The Club's most prestigious award is named in honor of him. It takes five years of outstanding service for a member to be given the Don Becker Distinguished Service Award.

Even more important was the fun and enjoyment he brought to the Club and his many friends. He was funny, creative, mischievous and full of the dickens. I tried to match wits with him for more years than I can count. I always lost. A blind guy would usually show up before the Club's crazy beer baseball games. He had the dark glasses, white cane, etc., and someone would lead him to a spot behind home plate where he would call out "play ball," and then he would attempt to umpire the game. Of course, that was Don. Even Emmet would have approved of Don's Emmet Kelly the clown costume. He initiated so many fun things that he started calling himself "Con, Inc."

Don was always very active, and as a youngster in Wisconsin even did a little ski jumping. He graduated high school and joined the Army, was trained as a bomber

mechanic and sent to Italy. The war in Europe had ended before he arrived but there was still a shortage of bomber mechanics, so the Army made him an MP (military policeman).

Don worked for Transamerica and learned about business applications when computers were in their infancy. He showed up at a Wednesday night meeting before a Las Vegas trip with a logic diagram system for playing Black Jack. He sold copies for \$.25 and gave the proceeds to Jackie Schnepf, our Vice-President. He told her to use the system and win enough money to buy the Lee Canyon ski area outside of Las Vegas. The Club would then have its own ski area. Jackie wasn't very successful.

To prevent them from getting married while in office, Don started the custom of presenting new Presidents with the Anti-Marriage Tie. I could go on and on but somebody ask Jack Miller about the time Don renamed him "Mr. Fat Wallet."

The Club was good for Don, too, because he met his wife Phyllis through the Club. They retired at a relative early age, moved to Mammoth, and really got serious about skiing and tennis. Don even played some ice hockey. They also lived in Borrego Springs and finally settled in Palm Desert. Catch-and-release fly fishing was Don's latest hobby. He tied his own flies and the Beckers would spend a month each summer at his favorite fishing spot, Georgetown Lake in Montana. They also enjoyed wandering around the country in their motorhome.

Don affected the lives of hundreds of people. We all now have a huge hole in our lives. We will always remember Don Becker, a wonderful, special man.

(A memorial service was held on March 5th, 200d, in Palm Desert in the clubhouse of the Suncrest Country Club.)



Experienced Climber Falls to His Death

By JULIO MORAN
TIMES STAFF WRITER

Chester David Tollakson, who had scaled six of the seven highest mountain peaks in the world, died over the weekend before he could fulfill his dream of climbing the seventh peak, Mt. Everest.

But Tollakson's wife, Lynn, said she will fulfill his dream by having his ashes scattered over Mt. Everest, the world's highest peak, when the other members of his mountain-climbing group make the expedition next year.

"He died doing what he loves," Lynn Tollakson said Monday. "I'm going to make sure that he reaches that peak."

Tollakson, 58, of Studio City, and two friends were climbing Mt. San Jacinto in Riverside County on Saturday in training for next year's expedition to Mt. Everest. The three were about 100 feet from the top of the 10,800-foot-high mountain, in poor weather that limited visibility to 5 to 10 feet, when Tollakson apparently lost his footing and fell several hundred feet down an ice chute to his death.

Steve Reneker, 38, of Riverside, who was climbing with Tollakson, said the three

Please see FALL, B6

Valley

Los Angeles Times

TUESDAY, APRIL 12, 1994 F/CC1

ALSO: LOS ANGELES COUNTY NEWS, EDITORIALS, WEATHER



FALL: Climber Had Scaled 6 of 7 Highest Peaks

Continued from B1

men had started climbing the vertical north side of the mountain at 5:30 that morning. The climbers were not roped at that time, Reneker said, because they felt that portion of the climb was not particularly dangerous.

"Everything was normal; the weather looked pretty good that morning," Reneker said.

But as they climbed higher, Reneker said visibility dropped and the winds began gusting. About 7 p.m.—15 minutes before they would reach the top—he heard the third man in the group, Benjamin Chapman, 36, of Long Beach, yell that Tollakson had fallen.

Reneker said he followed a trail left by Tollakson's tumbling body on the snow-covered mountain-side. In the middle of a bowl, several hundred feet below, Reneker found Tollakson's body. Reneker, a trained emergency medi-

cal technician, said Tollakson had suffered head injuries in the spill and was dead by the time he arrived.

Because of the poor visibility, neither man could seek help immediately. Reneker stayed with Tollakson's body overnight until Chapman could seek help at daybreak.

The Riverside Mountain Rescue unit, along with a helicopter team from the San Bernardino Sheriff's Department, transported Reneker and Tollakson's body from the mountainside. Neither Reneker nor Chapman were injured.

"Climbing all seven summits would have been the highlight of his life," Reneker said on Monday. "It was a fluke. He was the best damn teacher around. He was always concerned about safety first."

Paul Pfau, who in 1986 climbed Antarctica's tallest peak—Vinson Massif—with Tollakson, said Tol-

lakson's death was a great shock to him because of Tollakson's experience.

"He has taught generations of climbers with the National Ski Patrol," Pfau said. "He was one tough, rugged mountaineer. But climbing is like walking across the street in that it carries its own set of risks. Dave was as good as they got in minimizing them."

Although mountain-climbing can be dangerous, Lynn Tollakson said she never thought her husband—a retired Burbank junior high school teacher—was in any real danger because he was so safety-conscious.

"I never tried to discourage him because he loved it too much," she said. "You can't ask someone not to do something that might be dangerous just because it bothers you, because you deny them living life to the fullest."

Don Becker Distinguished Service Award

For outstanding long-term contribution of time and effort to the Club.

1968-69 Don Becker
1969-70 Ed Rice
1970-71 Jerry Hallinan
1971-72 Aiko Kinomoto
1972-73 Pete Drizin
1973-74 Dave Tollakson
1974-75 Dale Mullins
1975-76 Don Gordon
1976-77 Gordon Erberts
1977-78 Jane Wyckoff
1978-79 Dean Goings
1979-80 Jane Wyckoff
1980-81 Gordon Erberts
1981-82 Joel Zwick
1982-83 Valerie Banks
1983-84 Barbara Park
1984-85 Pam Bailey
1985-86 "Frankie" Hansen
1986-87 Jessica Freeman
1987-88 Sherry Blum
1988-89 Sigrid Noack
1989-90 Glenn Peterson
1990-91 Sharon Schneider
1991-92 Jack Tobin
1992-93 Leo Stytle
1993-94 Ellen Loe
1994-95 Al Tomei
1995-96 Randy Benson
1996-97 Burke Mucho
1997-98 Wags Waghorn
1998-99 June Shaw
1999-00 SallieBett Tomei
2000-01 Allen Elowe
2001-02 Laura Vahl
2002-03 Jessica Freeman
2003-04 Al Tomei
2004-05 Jack Miller
2005-06 Linda Mero
2006-07 Judith Miller
2007-08 Sandra Blackwell
2008-09 Uta Buschor
2009-10 Polly Miller

Annual Merit Award

For distinguished service and meaningful contribution of time and effort during the past year.

1968-69 Pat McLennan
1969-70 Aiko Kinomoto
1970-71 Pete Drizin
1971-72 Al Tomei
1972-73 Al Tomei
1973-74 Laurie Mitchell
1974-75 Barbara Park
1975-76 Gordon Erberts
1976-77 Carol Mortier
1977-78 Dean Goings
1978-79 Denice VanGorden
1979-80 Gene Fulkerson
1980-81 Jessica Freeman
1981-82 "Frankie" Hansen
1982-83 Arlene Madsen
1983-84 Sally Erwin
1984-85 Jessica Freeman
1985-86 Sigrid Noack
1986-87 Sherry Blum
1987-88 Jessica Freeman
1988-89 Darrell Johnson
1989-90 Susan Baugh
1990-91 Michael West
1991-92 June Shaw
1992-93 Bill Ornellas
1993-94 Al Tomei
1994-95 Randy Benson
1995-96 Shirley Stretch
1996-97 Al Tomei
1997-98 Al Tomei
1998-99 Jacquie Nemor
1999-00 Linda Mero
2000-01 Al Tomei
2001-02 Mary Ann Rolls
2002-03 Linda Mero
2003-04 Steve Markman
2004-05 Polly Miller
2005-06 SallieBett Tomei
2006-07 Sandra Blackwell
2007-08 Linda Mitchell
2008-09 Sandra Blackwell
2009-10 Steve Markman

Outstanding New Member

1968-69 John Watson
1969-70 Jane Wyckoff
1970-71 Don Gordon
1971-72 Gordon Eberts
1972-73 Charley Penrose
1973-74 Sharon Mesker
Naomi Altman
1974-75 Jan Thomas
1975-76 Gary Stouffer
1976-77 Ellen Loe
1977-78 Ralph Taylor
1978-79 Valerie Banks
1979-80 John Rosenfeld
1980-81 Arlene Madsen
1981-82 Tina Johnson
1982-83 Sherrie Marco
1983-84 Kay Magil
1984-85 Norm Gallagher
1985-86 Terry Ivan
1987-88 Gail Kadar
1988-89 Ray Scott
1989-90 Ginny Fruitt
1990-91 Pam MacChlerie
1991-92 Wags Waghorn
1992-93 Lily Guevarra
1993-94 Faith Oswald
1994-95 Ed Knott
1996-97 Linda Mero
1998-99 Ginger Caples
1999-00 Rudi Fruth
2000-01 Sheri Penney
2001-02 Christine Noutsios
2002-03 Tom Molloy
2003-04 John Dwight

Lloyd Thomas Good Egg Award

1968-69 Jane Wyckoff Lloyd Thomas	1995-96 SallieBett Tomei Lloyd Thomas
1969-70 Lollie Pierson Gene Jaskulka	1996-97 Francine Oschin Alan Gornick
1970-71 Barbara Park Al Tomei	1997-98 Linda Mero Dave Cristofar
1972-73 Laurie Mitchell Don Gorden	1998-99 Jan Degner Jim Degner
1973-74 Natalie Stephenson Al Tomei	1999-00 Polly Miller Jack Miller
1975-76 Cindy Kunda Carl Guenther	2000-01 Mary Ann Rolls Carl Guenther
1976-77 Cindy Emsbach Jim Foulks	2001-02 Ruby Hsu Dave Cristofar
1977-78 Roseanne Apyan Carl Guenther	2002-03 Jill Linsk Chuck Hicks
1978-79 Mary Jane Wilke Gene Fulkerson	2003-04 Fern Aroesty Steve Markman
1979-80 "Frankie" Hansen Glenn Peterson	2004-05 Petie Zwick Sam Hayakawa
1980-81 Petie Zwick Lloyd Thomas	2005-07 Pat Holland Jim Degner
1981-82 Gordana Popovich Leo Stytle	2006-07 Wags Waghorn Peter Mitchell
1982-83 Sigrid Noack Ed Garcia	2007-08 Jan Degner Jim Degner
1983-84 Sally Erwin Gary Cocayne	2008-09 Dee Everts Charlie Repp
1984-85 Roseanne Apyan Dick Pieron	2009-10 Mary Anne Rolls Chuck Hicks
1985-86 Marie Page Terry Ivan	
1986-87 Gordana Popovich Jack Tobin	
1987-88 Gail Kadar Henry Novotny	
1988-89 Jessica Freeman John Hoffman	
1989-90 Donna Johnson Randy Benson	
1990-91 Wags Waghorn Lloyd Thomas	
1991-92 Susan Green Ray Scott	
1992-93 Wags Waghorn Bill Ornellas	
1993-94 Mary Ann Rolls Sam Hayakawa	
1994-95 Vesta Brue Burke Mucho	

Dave Tollakson President's Recognition Award

1973-74	Glenn Peterson
1974-75	Gordon Erberts
1975-76	Linda Edelman
1976-77	Veronica Folts
1977-78	Jerry Hoefner
1978-79	Dean Goings
	Denice VanGorden
1979-80	Barbara Park
1980-81	Gordana Popovich
1981-82	Bob Hirsch
	Arlene Madsen
1982-83	Sigrid Noack
1983-84	Glenn Peterson
1984-85	"Frankie" Hansen
1985-86	Sigrid Noack
1986-87	Gary Stouffer
	Gwynne Clark
1987-88	Ron Pope
	Sonia Scheimberg
1988-89	Jack Tobin
	Donna Johnson
1989-90	Ray Scott
1990-91	Jack Tobin
	"Frankie" Hansen
1991-92	"Frankie" Hansen
1992-93	"Frankie" Hansen
	Ray Scott
1993-94	Kathy Tannen
1994-95	Dick Stephenson
	Susan Baugh
1995-96	Wags Waghorn
1996-97	"Frankie" Hansen
1997-98	Jacquie Nemor
1998-99	SallieBett Tomei
1999-00	Jessica Freeman
2000-01	Wags Waghorn
2001-02	Sandra Blackwell
2002-03	Linda Mero
2003-04	Al Tomei
2004-05	Joel Zwick
2005-06	Jack Miller
2006-07	Joel Zwick
2007-08	Petie Zwick
2008-09	BJ Clingan
2009-10	Danielle Battutt

Pat Bradley Humorous Award

1978 – 79	Jerry Hoefner
1979 – 80	Tommy Thomason
1980 – 81	Dick Tomlinson
1981 – 82	Arlene Madsen
	Dick Weaver
1982 – 83	Wally Manning
	Diana Lejins
1983 – 84	Mike Fox
1984 – 85	Steve Dubin
1985 – 86	Sonia Scheimberg
	Ron Pope
1988 – 89	Becky Schreiber
1991 – 92	Mike West
1992 – 93	Bill Carney
1993 - 94	Jeff Simms
1994 – 95	Richard Adam
1995 – 96	Dave Cristofar
1997 – 98	Jack Miller
1999 – 00	Rick Arlen
2003 – 04	Becky Schreiber
2004 – 05	Barry Bernbaum
2005 – 06	Chris Christman
2007 - 08	Becky Schreiber

Alpine Racer of the Year

1968-69	Windy Martin Mike Szotyk	1991-92	Barbara Flanagan Gunnar Green
1969-70	Edwina Thompson Mike Szotyk	1992-93	Mary Williamson Randy Benson
1970-71	Karen Hagadorn Doug Campbell	1993-94	Jeanette Richards June Shaw Ron Aguirre
1971-72	Betty Williams Doug Campbell Mike Szotyk	1994-95	Shirley Stretch Ron Pope
1972-73	Judy Ross Don Parsons	1995-96	Susan Hoffman Dave Cristofar
1973-74	Laurie Mitchell Al Tomei	1996-97	Laura Priess Rich Malin
1974-75	Karen Hagadorn Marian Loucks Jerry Hoefner	1997-98	Helene Tropp Steve Skinner
1975-76	Karen Hagadorn Tom Chancellor Jerry Hoefner	1998-99	Sonia Pope Dennis Frieborn
1976-77	Judith Miller Tom Chancellor	1999-00	Laura Priess Allen Elowe
1977-78	Dean Goings Howard Schechter	2000-01	Jessica Freeman Allen Elowe
1978-79	Mary Jane Wilke Ed Nicastrì	2001-02	Jessica Freeman Patrick Bennett
1979-80	Marcie Clark Gary Stouffer	2002-03	Laura Priess Howard Buckley
1980-81	Shelly Rosenfield Mike Kish	2003-04	Laura Priess Sam Hayakawa
1981-82	Kathy Apeldorn Gene Fulkerson	2004-05	Laura Priess Tom Molloy
1982-83	Elaine Dinces Randy Allen	2005-06	Laura Priess Tom Molloy
1983-84	Christine Benzonelli Roland Bleitz	2006-07	Laura Priess Howard Buckley
1984-85	Marie Page Al Tomei	2007-08	Regina Buckley Sam Hayakawa
1985-86	Joyce Clark Al Tomei	2008-09	Sherrie Marco Sam Hayakawa
1986-87	Sherrie Marco Laurie Swind Gregory Duvall	2009-10	Laura Priess Sam Hayakawa & ???
1987-88	Laura Priess Darrell Johnson		
1988-89	Uta Buschor Mel Vague		
1989-90	Maureen Wood Gunnar Green		
1990-91	SallieBett Tomei Sam Hayakawa		

Past Presidents

Year	President	Year	President
60	Ed Barry (Founder)	83-84	Pam Bailey
60-61	Clifford Ford	84-85	Sigrid Noack
61-62	Ed Schonauer	85-86	Jim McAfee (d)
62-63	Alex Bible	86-87	John Rosenfeld
63-64	Don Becker	87-88	Darrell Johnson
64-65	Gerry Hallinan (d)	88-89	Burke Mucho
65-66	Earl Money (d)	89-90	Mike West
66-67	Al Nysten	90-91	Ginny Fruitt
67-68	Dave Tollakson (d)	91-92	Glenn Peterson
68-69	Jerry Garrett	92-93	Sharon Schneider
69-70	John Watson	93-94	Randy Benson
70-71	George Thurlow	94-95	Shirley Stretch
71-72	Don Gordon	95-96	Howard Weinberg
72-73	John Lynch	96-97	Rick Malin
73-74	J. Gordon Erberts	97-98	Laura Vahl
74-75	Jane Wyckoff	98-99	Ed Knott
75-76	Kent Nelson	99-00	Jacquie Nemor
76-77	Charley Penrose	00-02	Allen Elowe
77-78	Gary Stouffer	02-04	Irv Jacobs
78-79	Joel Stuckey	04-05	Linda Mero
79-80	Valerie Banks	05-06	John Dwight
80-81	Howard Wickersham	06-07	Sandra Blackwell
81-82	Gene Fulkerson	07-08	John Dwight
82-83	John Davidson	08-09	Kay Collins
		09-10	Judith Miller
		10-11	Linda Mero

(d) deceased